

RESTRICTED

SECTION 14

CAMOUFLETS

1401. When a bomb penetrates beyond a certain depth the force of the explosion is no longer sufficient to throw out the plug of earth above it and form a crater. Instead, an underground cavity or camouflet is formed.

1402. There are two types of camouflet (Fig 14-1).

a. **Shallow Comouflets.** When the force of the explosion is almost sufficient to form a crater the earth is lifted into a mound. The earth surface is invariably cracked.

b. **Deep Camouflets.** When a bomb explodes beyond a certain depth no distortion is evident at the surface.

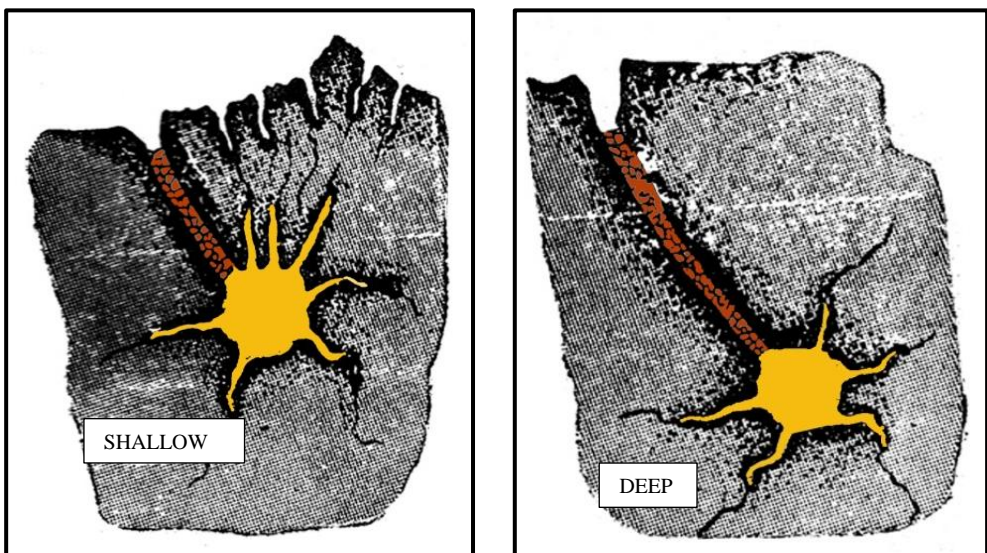


Fig 14-1: Camouflets

Detection

1403. a. It is often possible to locate the entry hole of the bomb at the side of a camouflet, for a bomb rarely travels vertically through the earth. A deep camouflet can sometimes be detected from the surface by a black sooty deposit in the mouth of the entry hole (Sec 15, para 1).



Fig 14-2: Shallow Camouflet in Open Ground



Fig 14-3: Shallow Camouflet Under a Roadway.

- b. Earth shock damage may be expected in association with both types.
- c. Collapsed camouflets are easily distinguished from craters formed by explosion. The top surface of the ground remains uppermost and there is no surrounding debris or blast damage.

Warning

1404. a. The gases which are produced during detonation of a bomb contain a high proportion of carbon monoxide which is lethal in quite small concentrations. The gas may continue to seep up through cracks in the surface for a long time after the camouflet is formed and can cause severe headaches, illness or even death if a person remains in the area for long.
- b. The greatest danger occurs if the camouflet collapses and someone falls into the cavity. Anyone knowingly working near a comouflet must wear a safety line. It is useless to attempt rescue without safety lines and even when roped, a rescuer must not stay in the camouflet for more than a few seconds.

(The standard service respirator affords no protection against carbon monoxide).

1405-1500. Reserved.