

RESTRICTED

SECTION 33

CONTAINERS

3301. Containers are used to drop to large numbers of small missiles in effective concentrations or to ensure that small missiles with sensitive fuzes are well clear of the aircraft before being freep.

Description

3302.

- a. Containers used to give concentrations of missiles are generally bomb shaped and are called aimable containers. The cover may completely enclose the contents or may be an open work of struts and bands (Fig 33-1)



Fig 33-1: German “Amiable” Container, Holding 620 Two-Pound Incendiary Bombs

- b. Where the contents are to be widely scattered and it is required merely to carry them clear of the aircraft, the container is rarely bomb shaped. It is usually a simple latticework or consists only of a few metal straps.

Fuzing

3303. a. Aimable containers are usually opened in the air by a small burster-charge operated by an airburst or proximity fuze.
- b. Non-aimable containers may be operated by airburst or proximity fuzes or may be opened by a line attached to the aircraft.

Reconnaissance

3304. a. When a container fails to open in the air it frequently splits open on impact . The contents may be widely scattered particularly if some have exploded. If dangerous they must all be accounted for.
- b. A container which has function and is found empty, should be examined in an attempt to determine what its contents were. If these may have been dangerous a search must be instigated (see chapter VI).
- c. The contents of a container which does not open on impact may sometimes be identified from markings on the case or if the case is of open construction (Fig 33-1) by inspection.
- d. Where the contents contain high explosive and function in bulk on impact a crater may be formed although explosion is indicated, some of the contents may have been scattered without exploding and be in a very sensitive condition. A search for them must be instigated.

Precautions

3305. a. If found closed do not disturb.
- b. If the container has merely broken on impact the fuze and burster-charge may still be capable of functioning.

Action Required

3306. The necessity to report, mark and take other precautions if a container is found depends so much on circumstances and whether the contents are dangerous or not, that no hard and fast rules can be laid down. The local commander must use his discretion.

3307-3400 Reserved.