

RESTRICTED

CHAPTER VI

SMALL ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS

SEARCHING AND DISPOSAL

SECTION 38

THE PROBLEM AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3801. Small anti-personnel bombs may be dropped in very large numbers. They usually remain on or near the surface and if unexploded may still be dangerous. It is as important for troops to be able to recognize dangerous types of enemy and allied anti-personnel bombs as it is for them to be able to recognize anti-personnel mines.

The Butterfly Bomb

3802. The German 4-Ib "Butterfly bomb", presented more problems than any other type of anti-personnel bomb used in the last war and is considered here as representing the "worst case". Some butterfly bombs were designed to explode on or before impact, some were fitted with long delay and some with anti-disturbance fuzes. So sensitive were the latter that a bomb exploding could detonate another 25 yards away. The explosive content weighed half a pound. The splinters were lethal at 50 yards, would wound up to 150 yards. Just penetrate a 3-inch plank two feet away but not a ½ inch steel plate one foot away. The bombs were dropped in large numbers from containers which opened in mid air. One modern bomber could carry 10,000 bombs of the butterfly type and size.

Responsibilities

3803. a. Searching-Search of butterfly bombs will be dealt with in accordance with Appendix A.
- b. Protective works are sometimes required and may have to be erected by troops of all arms.
- c. Disposal will normally be undertaken by Bomb Disposal units when available but may have to be carried out by other Engineer unit or any unit provided with demolition equipment. In emergency where demolition equipment is not available bombs may have to be moved by the unit affected.

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