

RESTRICTED

SECTION 36

AA SHELLS

3601. All AA shells are designed to explode in the air and some, failing that, on hitting the ground. With the large numbers fired however, inevitably the failures are numerous.

Fuzing

3602. Various types of fuze may be used. The most dangerous in an unexploded round is one in which a striker has buried itself in a cap without firing it. A jolt or a movement which makes the striker move and rub against the powder in the cap may detonate the round.

Reconnaissance

3603. a. A falling AA shell is usually spinning and often makes a deceptively large hole. Careful inspection will show that the hole tapers as it deepens.
- b. AA shells which explode on the surface form small craters which are often reported as entry holes of bombs. Proof to the contrary is provided by signs of explosion and firm base to the crater.

Precautions

3604. a. Some fuzes used in AA shells may be operative for a short period after falling. Do not approach for five minutes.
- b. Shells which are partially buried should be pulled out of the ground by remote control. They may then be removed by hand.

Action if Unexploded

3605. a. Buried AA shells should be reported through the usual channels for disposal by Engineers.
- b. In the absence of instructions to the contrary it may be assumed that AA shells lying on the surface may be removed by troops of all arms to a convenient site for subsequent demolitions by AOC or Engineers.

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