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FIELD ENGINEERING
PAMPHLET No-9
BOMB RECONNAISSANCE AND PROTECTION
AGAINST UNEXPLODED BOMBS
PART I (All Arms)
CHAPTER I
RESPONSIBILITIES
SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

0101. Despite the advent of the atomic bomb and advances which are being made in other forms of aerial warfare, it is probable that missiles similar to those employed in the 1939-45 war will still be used in any war occurring in the near future. Many of the difficulties to be met will, therefore, be similar to those of the past.

0102. It must be realized that the dangers associated with an air raid do not necessarily cease when the planes have passed on. In a large scale raid at the end of the 1939-45 war 5,000 or more high explosive bombs might be dropped within a few square miles. Up to one-tenth of this number might fail to explode-a proportion because they were designed for delayed action and the remainder because of mechanical defects or through errors made by armorers or the air crew. These 500 or so UXBs together with unexploded incendiary bombs, flares, photographic flashes, aircraft ammunition, AA shells and other AA device constituted a considerable post-raids source of danger and a formidable problem.

0103. The aims of this ATP are:-

- a. To enable all arms to detect the presence of unexploded air warfare missiles and appreciate the dangers associated with them, so that-
 - (1) Measures may be taken for the protection of personnel, equipments, vital structures and services.
 - (2) Adequate information on which base plan for disposal may be passed speedily to higher authority.
- b. To enable Engineer units, where operationally necessary and where no bomb disposal units are available, to gain access to and to dispose of unexploded air-warfare missiles.

0104. In the absence of technical details of future missile, the scope of this pamphlet is necessarily limited and is mainly confined to basic principles. Lessons from the past have, however been included wherever they are likely to apply in the future. The first eight chapters are intended for all arms. The last three are intended for Engineer units.

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0105. Other military publications connected with this subject are ME Vol XII and its supplements which contain information required by Bomb Disposal unit of Corps of Engineers. In addition, in the early stages of hostilities, information on current air-warfare missiles and the safety precautions required will be issued to all arms.

SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES

0106. The Civil Defence Organizations are responsible for the reporting of all unexploded bombs, shells and mines except those in service areas, where it is the services responsibility. For this purpose, the country had been divided into areas and sub-areas. Government is responsible for deciding priorities within areas.

0107. The division of responsibility between the three armed services are defined in Appendix A.

0108. Within the Army, bomb disposal is primarily the responsibility of the Bomb Disposal unit of the Corps of Engineers (Appendix B). When operationally necessary and when Bombs Disposal unit is not available, any Engineer may be called upon to destroy a UXB in situ and on rare occasions to gain access to a buried UXB or to remove a UXB which cannot be blown up. It is not intended, at present, that Engineer units other than Bomb disposal units, shall be provided with special bomb disposal equipments. If it is operationally necessary to remove a bomb, the bomb must be removed without defusing and risk accepted.

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