

Authority NND 73501742 NADA Date 6/3/03

C.O. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exec. O. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asst. D. E. \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Pers. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Surg. \_\_\_\_\_  
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HEADQUARTERS 315TH ENGINEER BATTALION  
 90th Infantry Division

Camp Barkeley, Texas,  
 September 7, 1942.

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 5 )

GAS S-O-P

1. General Instructions:

a. Precautions for defense against chemical attack will be habitual with the battalion. All personnel of this battalion will be equipped with the service gas mask, and will be thoroughly familiar with the standing instructions.

b. Company commanders are responsible for the training, instruction and gas discipline of their companies. The battalion gas officer will assist in coordinating the training, and will make periodic inspections to determine the state of training of the companies, delivering a report of any deficiencies to the company commander concerned.

c. Gas defense plans will be coordinated by the battalion gas officer.

2. Gas Danger Zone.

a. The service gas mask will be carried in the theatre of operations at all times. While sleeping, the mask will be placed within easy reach, but never used as a pillow. The mask will never be used as a dust respirator.

b. The mask will be put on immediately upon the sounding of the unit gas alarm or other indication of a gas attack and not removed until directed by a commissioned officer or a gas NCO. In the case of personnel on detached missions, the individual test for gas will be made before removing masks.

c. Each company will keep gas alarm devices hung in the company area at all times. These devices will be issue type if available, or improvised. There will be enough alarm devices provided to equip all gas sentries.

d. Company commanders will be responsible for the construction of gas proof shelters for their command. Order of construction: Company cp, kitchens, troop shelters.

e. During prolonged chemical attacks squads will be rotated through the gas proof shelters for food and rest, until sufficient shelters can be provided for all personnel.

3. Administration and Personnel.

a. The 315th Engineer Battalion Gas Officer will be the S-3. Each company will appoint not less than two, nor more than six gas non-commissioned officers. Duties will be as listed in FM 21-40 Par. 44 and 45 respectively.

b. Any changes in personnel of company gas non-commissioned officers will be reported to the battalion gas officer immediately, who will forward notification of change to Division Chemical Officer.

c. Gas sentries will be appointed by company commanders from time to time as the situation requires. This duty will be rotated to avoid undue strain. Duties of the gas sentries will be as listed in FM 21-40 Par. 47.

d. Gas sentries and military police noting any violations of gas discipline will determine the name, grade and organization of the offender and report the violation and all pertinent facts to the battalion gas officer.

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## 4. Chemical Intelligence.

- a. Details of enemy gas procedure will be disseminated to company by the battalion gas officer as soon as learned. All known gassed areas will be posted on the S-3 situation map.
- b. The battalion gas officer will report all gas shelling promptly to the Division Chemical Officer giving time, location, weather and; number, size, and kind of shell used; and casualties.
- c. The battalion gas officer will be responsible for all other reports and records to be kept on chemical defense of the battalion.
- d. Any information obtained from prisoners being processed to the rear concerning enemy gasses, imminence of attack, casualties etc. will be reported immediately to the battalion gas officer, who will report the information to the chemical officer.

## 5. Chemical Defense Operations.

- a. Defensive installations will habitually include an alternate position for the orderly withdrawal of troops who have been gassed out of their original position by a highly persistent agent. Occupation of alternate positions will not be made until directed by the commanding officer of this battalion.
- b. During chemical attacks all movement will be held to a minimum. Troops will prepare to repel an assault. After any gas attack preparations will immediately be made for a second attack immediately following the first.

## 6. Procedure for Gassed Areas.

- a. Gassed areas that are discovered will be reported to the battalion gas officer, who will in turn report to division headquarters. The area will be marked with a sign indicating the date and hour of discovery and the agent, if identified. If necessary, sentries will be posted around the area to prevent other friendly troops from entering.
- b. Before occupying any position, bivouac, water point, supply point, or upon selection of routes of march, routes of approach etc., advance reconnaissance will be made to determine whether the positions or routes are contaminated. Before beginning construction on bridges etc. the same reconnaissance for contamination will be made.
- c. Decontamination of small areas, weapons, ammunition etc. is the responsibility of company commanders. Gas NCO's will be trained in decontamination operations.

## 7. Gas Casualties.

- a. During or immediately following a chemical attack, first aid will be rendered to gas casualties.
- b. Upon discovery of a gas casualty resulting from a persistent agent care will be exercised to prevent contamination of the personnel rendering first aid.
- c. Casualties from lung irritants will be treated as pneumonia cases.
- d. A gas casualty will in no case be allowed to walk, but will be considered a litter case.
- e. Front line first aid will be rendered to gas casualties as prescribed during training, and the casualty evacuated through the battalion aid station.
- f. Records of the casualty will be kept by the battalion medical detachment.

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8. Supply.

a. Protective appliances which are TBA items for the battalion will be procured and stored by the S-4. Issue of items to companies will conform to TBA's.

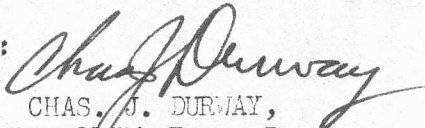
b. Periodic inspection of all masks, protective clothing and decontaminating apparatus will be made by the battalion gas officer, company commanders, and gas NCO's, to insure adequacy of supply and proper condition of equipment.

c. Any items unfit for use will be immediately salvaged through the S-4.

By Order of Major STILWELL:

G. R. FIRBUNG,  
Capt., 315th Engr. Bn.,  
S - 3.

OFFICIAL:

  
CHAS. J. DURWAY,  
Capt., 315th Engr. Bn.,  
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - Div. Chem. Cff.
- 1 - C.O.
- 1 - S-1.
- 1 - S-2.
- 1 - S-3.
- 1 - S-4.
- 1 - MTC.
- 1 - F.S.
- 1 - Med. Det.
- 6 - Each Co.
- 1 - File.