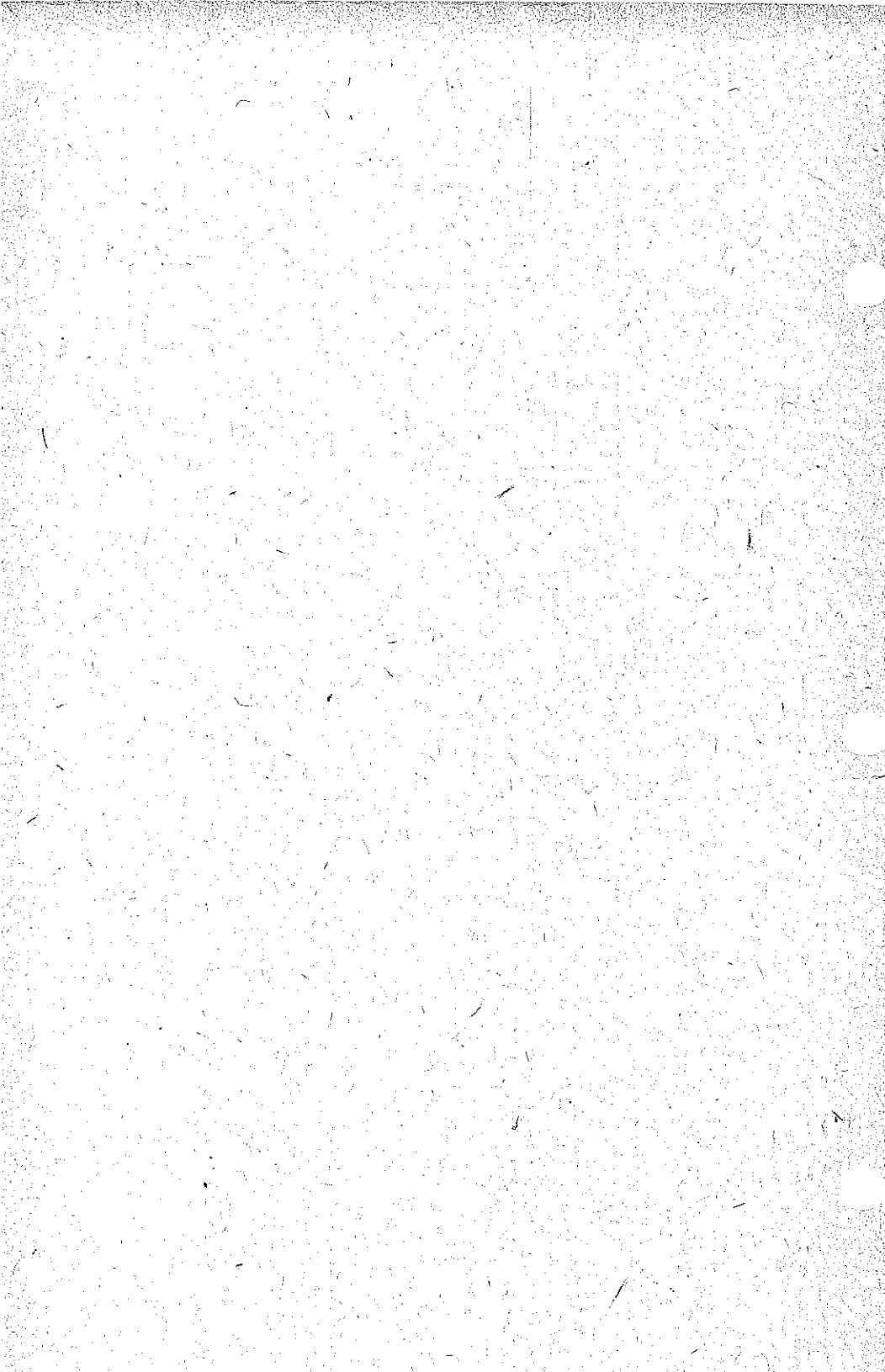


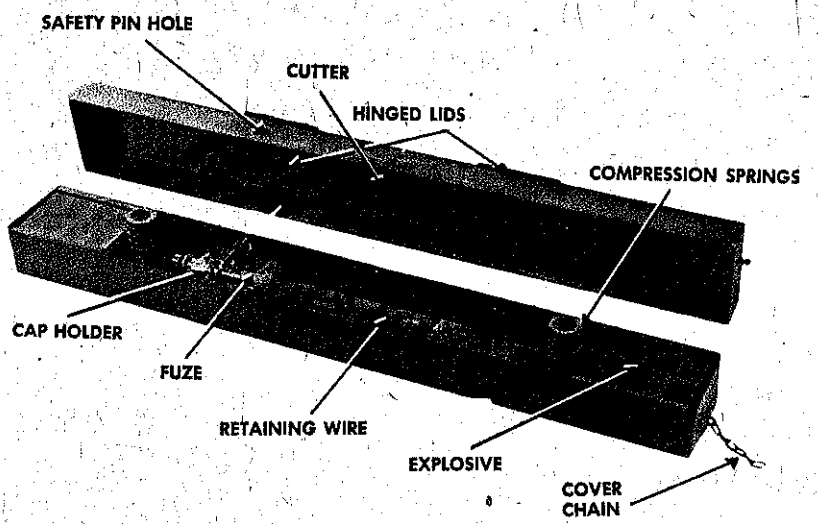
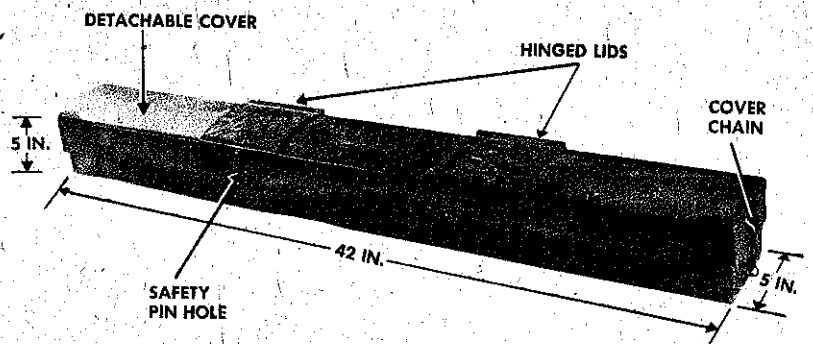
**CHAPTER 10**

**ITALIAN**

**MINE TACTICS, MINES,  
AND FUZES**



# ITALIAN B-2 MINE



**TYPE.** Light antitank mine

**COLOR.** Black

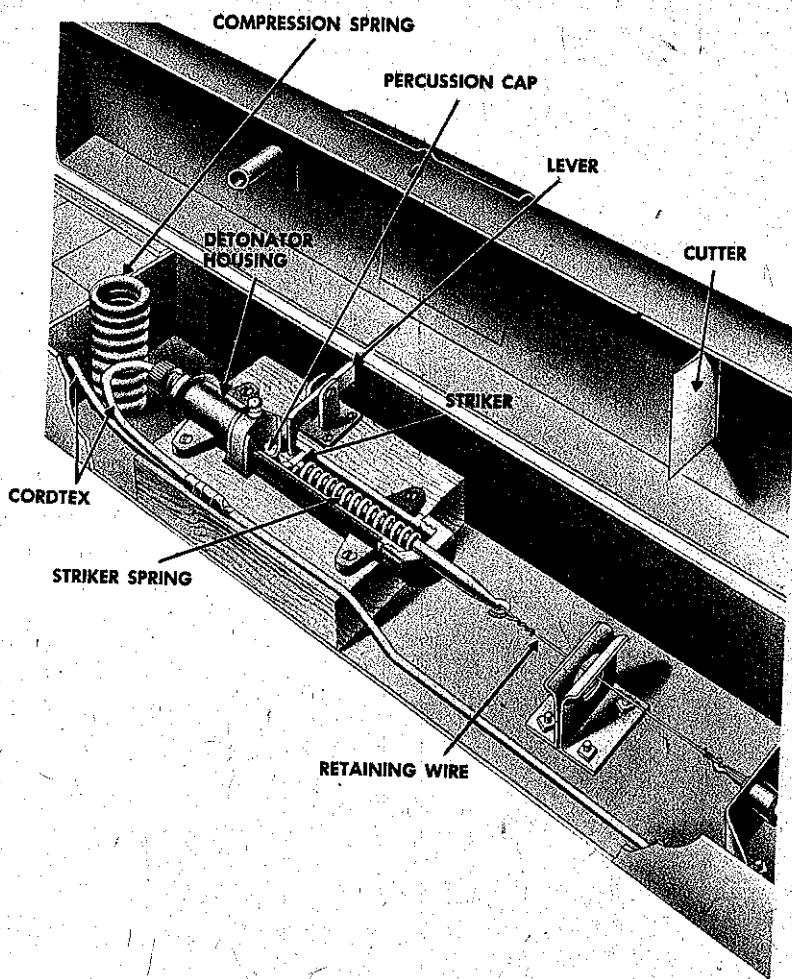
**CASE.** Welded sheet steel

**WEIGHT.** 33 pounds

**EXPLOSIVE.** Two 4-pound charges, probably TNT

**EFFECT.** Disables tanks

# ITALIAN B-2 MINE



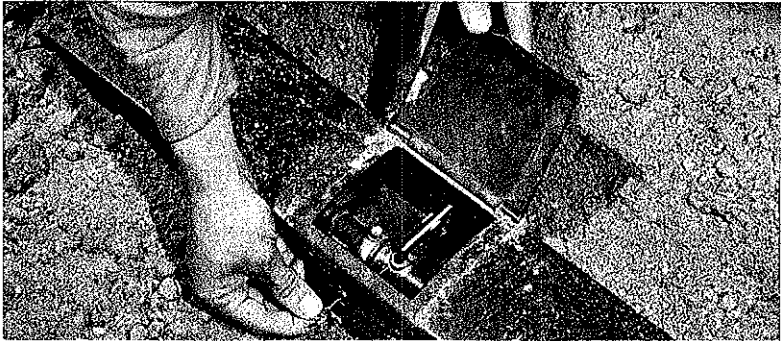
## FUNCTIONING

1. Pressure of 300 pounds or more moves cover downward against compression of springs.
2. Edge of cover moves end of lever enough to free its hold in striker. At same time cutter shears wire, releasing striker.
3. Striker spring forces striker against percussion cap.
4. Flame from cap ignites detonator which sets off two cordtex fuzes—charges.

## ITALIAN B-2 MINE

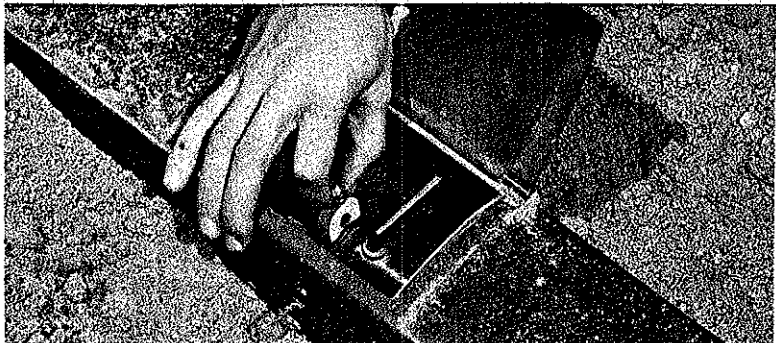
### DISARMING

1. Uncover mine, feeling for trip wires. Attach 50-yard rope or wire to both lids and pull open from cover position.



2. Insert strong wire through safety pin hole in side of cover, case, and fuze housing.

### DEFUZING



1. Remove cap holder and cap.



2. Withdraw safety pin and lift off cover.
3. Unscrew and remove detonator.
4. Release tension on striker spring by turning screw head.

# ITALIAN B-2 MINE

## INSTALLING AND ARMING

1. Open hinged lids of cover, and cock striker spring by turning knurled thumb screw until safety lever falls.
2. Insert detonators and attach cordtex.
3. Insert safety pin in hole through side of box.
4. Insert cap in removable holder and place in slot opposite detonator.
5. Close the lids, cover mine with earth, and from safe distance withdraw safety pin.

## PACKING AND TRANSPORTING

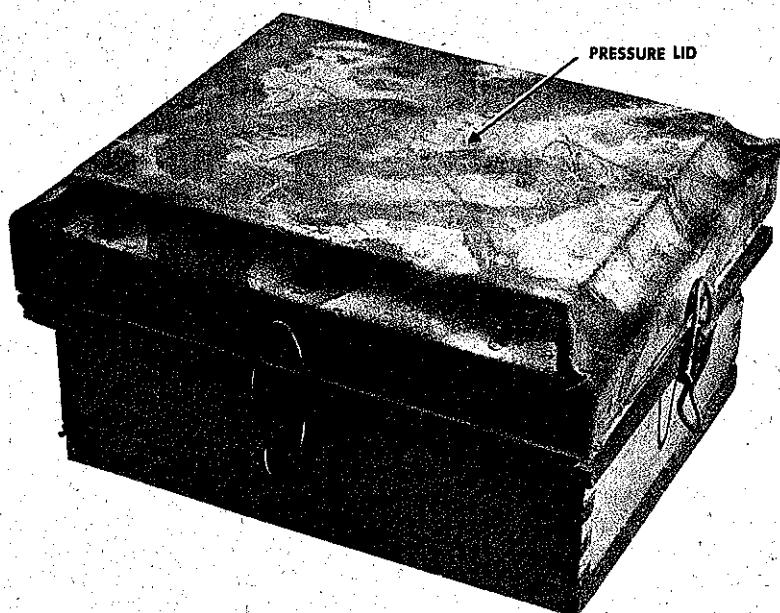
Mine always is defuzed completely before packing or transporting.

## RE-USE

Examine mines for evidence of deterioration, or damage caused by blast or handling.

## SPACE FOR NOTES

## ITALIAN FOUR-FUZE MINE



**TYPE.** Antitank mine

**COLOR.** Camouflage-painted

**CASE.** Wooden box

**WEIGHT.** 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds

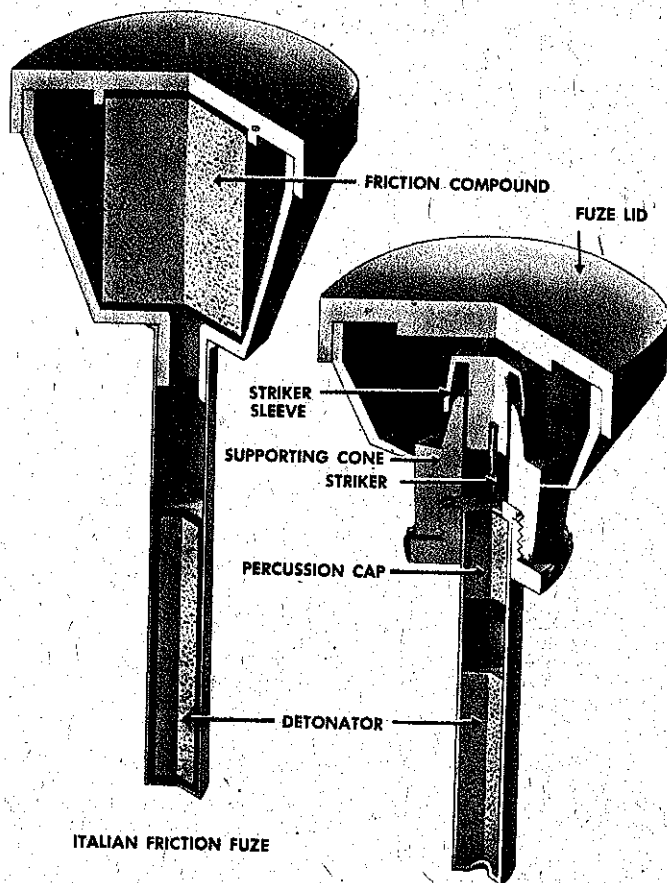
**EXPLOSIVE.** 11 pounds of TNT

# ITALIAN FOUR-FUZE MINE

## FUNCTIONING

*When armed with friction fuze*

1. Pressure of 100 to 360 pounds on cover crushes one or more fuzes.
2. Flash from friction compound in crushed fuze explodes detonator.
3. Detonator explodes mine.



ITALIAN FRICTION FUZE

ITALIAN PERCUSSION FUZE

*When armed with percussion fuze*

1. Load on cover forces fuze lid downward.
2. Fuze lid crushes bakelite supporting cones and forces strikers down.
3. Upturned cone at base of striker breaks apart bakelite striker sleeve, permitting striker to continue downward.
4. Striker fires percussion cap.
5. Flame from cap explodes detonator—main charge.



# ITALIAN FOUR-FUZE MINE

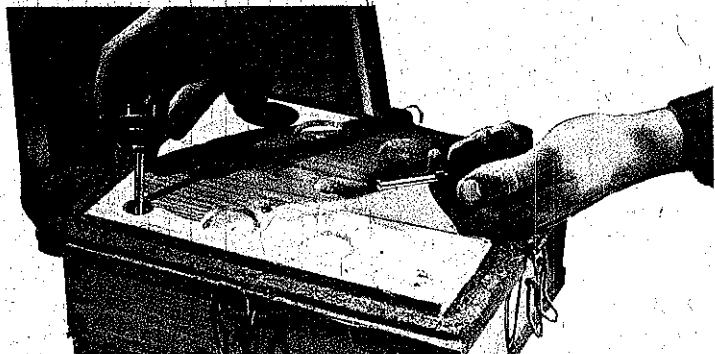
## DISARMING

Avoid applying pressure on false pressure lid. If mine appears deteriorated, or has been disturbed by blast or artillery fire, destroy by hand-placed charges.

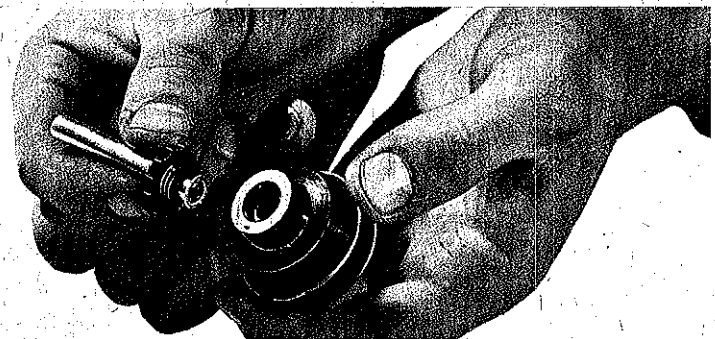
## DEFUZING



1. Open clips and remove cover.



2. Remove fuzes and detonators.



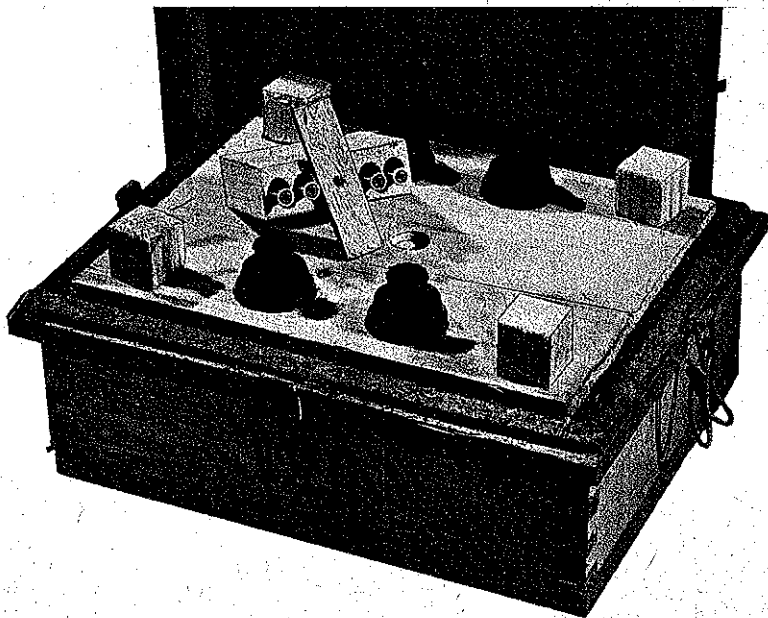
3. Detach detonators from percussion type fuzes. Detonators are not detachable from friction type.
4. Plug arming holes and prepare mine for transport.

# ITALIAN FOUR-FUZE MINE

## INSTALLING AND ARMING

1. Remove cover.
2. Remove detonators and fuzes from storage recesses.
3. Fasten detonators to fuzes and insert into corner holes.
4. Replace cover and fasten clips.
5. Place mine in hole, with cover 2 to 3 inches below ground surface.
6. Cover with earth, and camouflage.

## PACKING AND TRANSPORTING



Before transporting, each mine is packed as follows:

1. Insert wooden spacer cubes with pins in four fuze holes.
2. Place fuzes upside down in circular recesses in lid piece.
3. Store detonators in wooden block. Lug on block fits into another circular recess in lid piece.

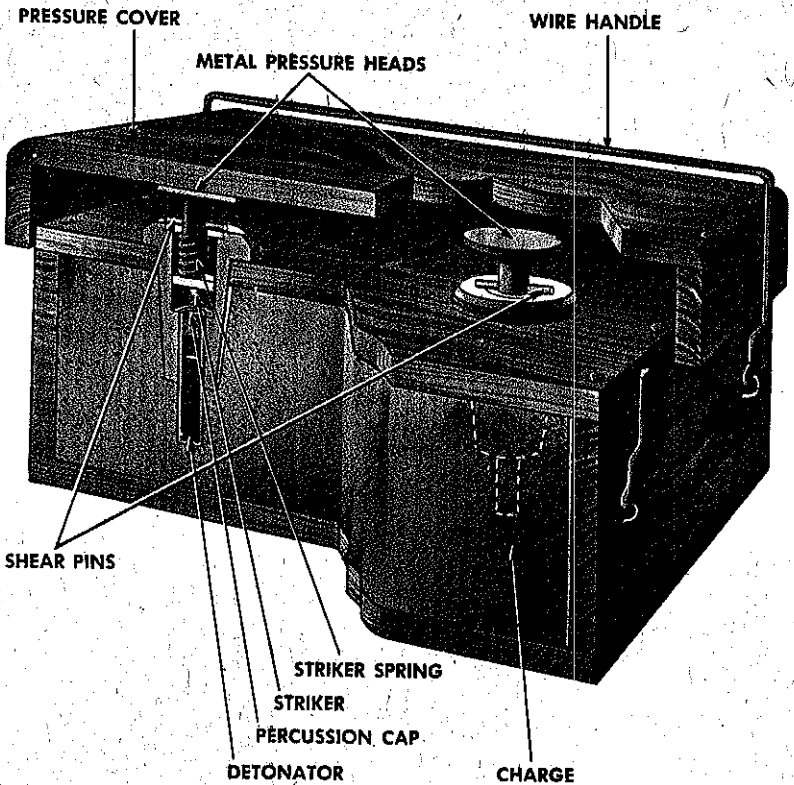
## RE-USE

Make sure dowel pins in cover are not partially sheared. Inspect fuzes for cracks.

## NOTE

Mine was designed to avoid detection by mine detectors. However American detector detects mine at 6 inches.

# ITALIAN WOODEN-BOX MINE



**TYPE.** Antitank mine

**CASE.** Wooden box

**EXPLOSIVE.** 5½ pounds gelignite

## **FUNCTIONING**

1. Pressure of 185 to 380 pounds on cover shears copper shear pins.
2. Springs drive strikers onto percussion caps.
3. Caps explode detonators—main charge.

# ITALIAN WOODEN-BOX MINE

## DISARMING

Inspect for booby traps before moving.

## DEFUZING

1. Remove cover.
2. Lift out fuzes.
3. Remove detonators.

## INSTALLING AND ARMING

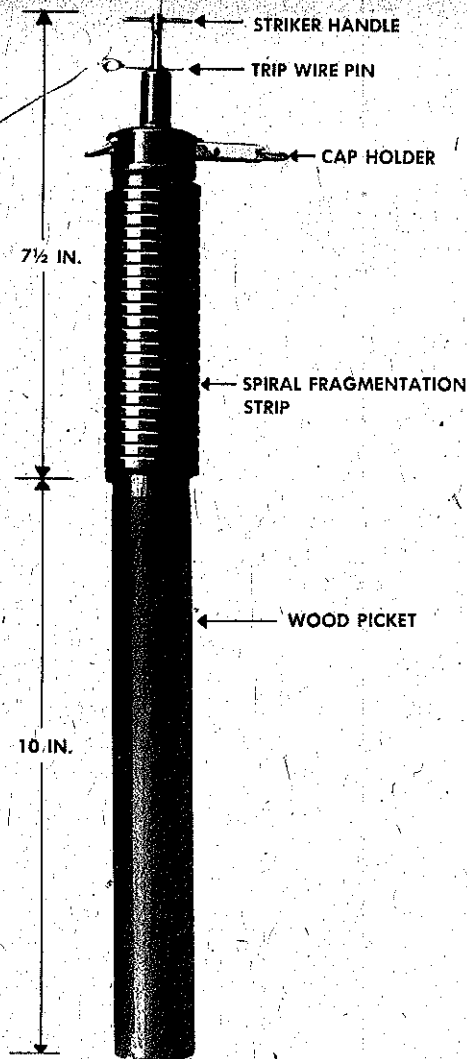
1. Remove cover.
2. Insert detonators in holes in mine lid.
3. Place fuzes in detonators.
4. Replace cover and fasten with wire handles.
5. Bury and camouflage.

## RE-USE

Make sure shear pins are not partially sheared.

## SPACE FOR NOTES

# ITALIAN PICKET MINE



**TYPE.** Antipersonnel mine and booby trap

**COLOR.** Gray

**CASE.** Sheet metal surrounded by steel spiral

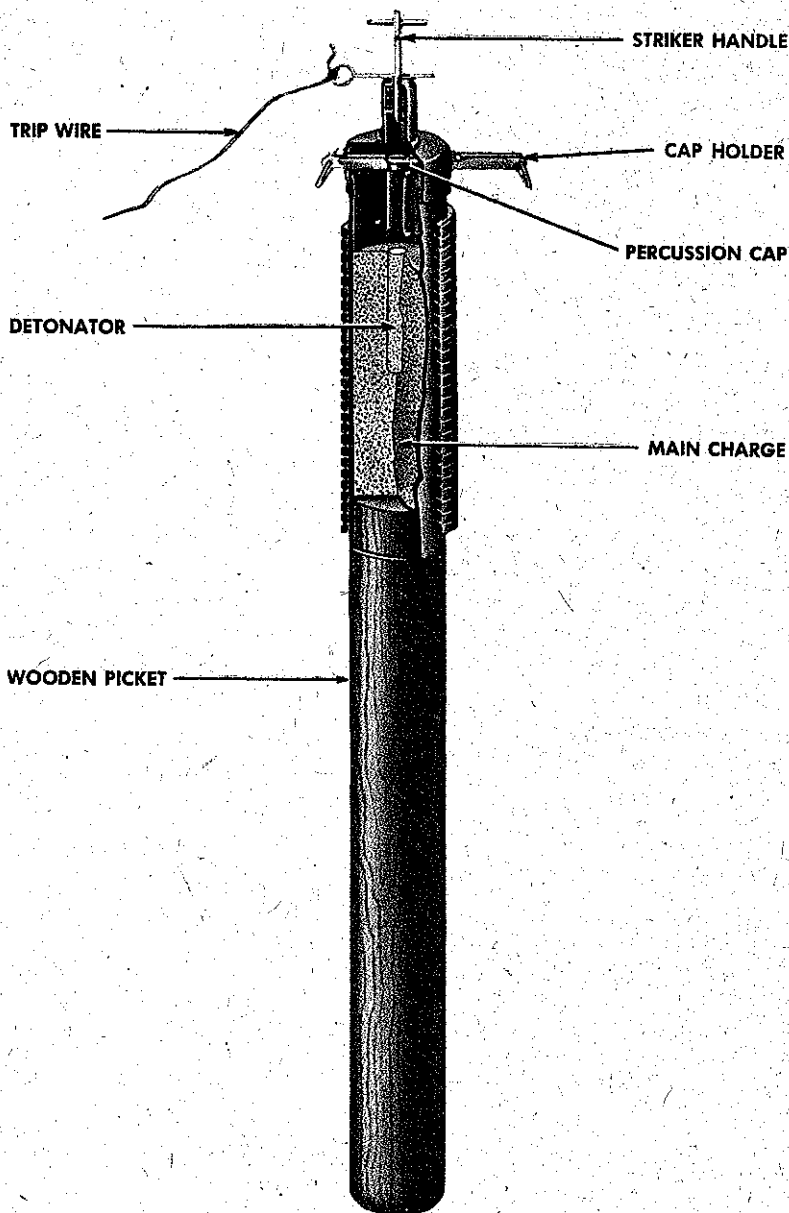
**WEIGHT.** 1 3/4 pounds

**EXPLOSIVE.** 3 1/2-ounce borehole charge

**EFFECT.** Effective fragmentation within radius of 10 yards; dangerous at greater distances.

**EMPLOYMENT.** As antipersonnel mine in forward areas.

# ITALIAN PICKET MINE



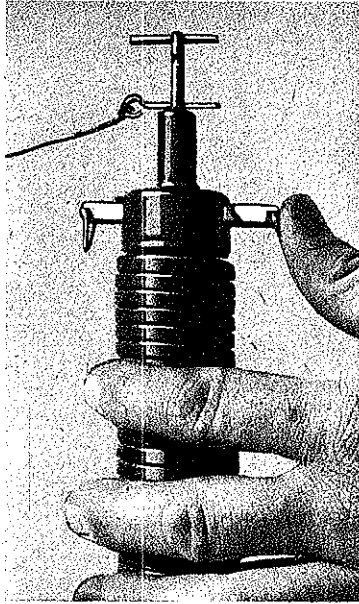
## FUNCTIONING

Trip-wire pin holds striker in cocked position.

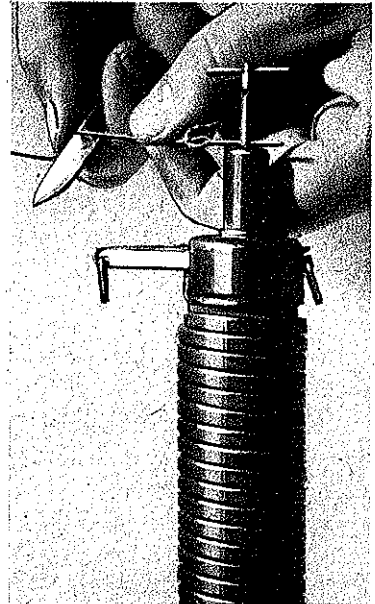
1. Pull on trip-wire pin releases striker.
2. Striker driven by striker spring sets off cap—detonator—main charge.

# ITALIAN PICKET MINE

## DISARMING



1. Avoid all trip wires and slide cap holder to safety position.

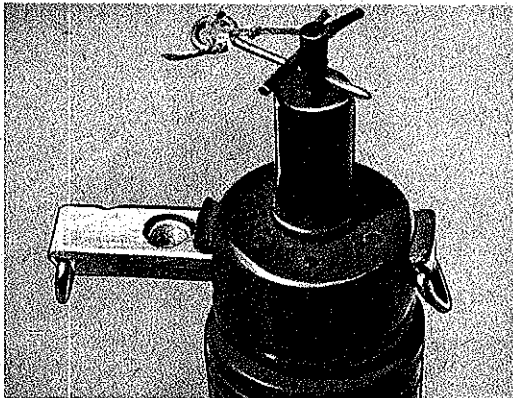


2. Cut trip wires.

3. Remove pin and lower striker gently. Notch in cap holder engages end of striker when holder is in safe position.

4. Replace pin in upper hole.

## DEFUZZING



1. Remove percussion cap from holder.

2. Unscrew striker group and remove detonator.

# ITALIAN PICKET MINE

## INSTALLING AND ARMING

1. Drive metal-covered picket in ground to form hole for mine. Remove.
2. Place mine upright in hole, with  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches extending above ground.
3. Insert detonator and screw on striker group.
4. Lay trip wire and anchor other end.
5. Raise striker and insert pin in bottom hole.
6. Attach trip wire to pin.
7. Camouflage.
8. Place cap in cap holder, and push to armed position.

## PACKING AND TRANSPORTING

Wooden box contains 20 mines, one mallet, and one metal-covered wooden picket 15 inches long and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.

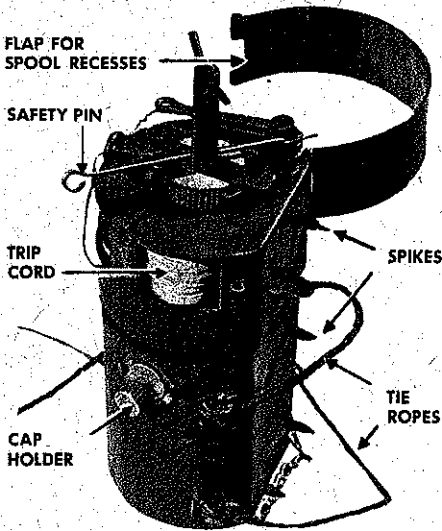
## NOTE

It is possible to arm this mine by inserting the safety pin in the top hole. Disarm by pulling up on striker and sliding cap holder to safe position.

## SPACE FOR NOTES



# ITALIAN B4 MINE



**TYPE.** Antipersonnel mine

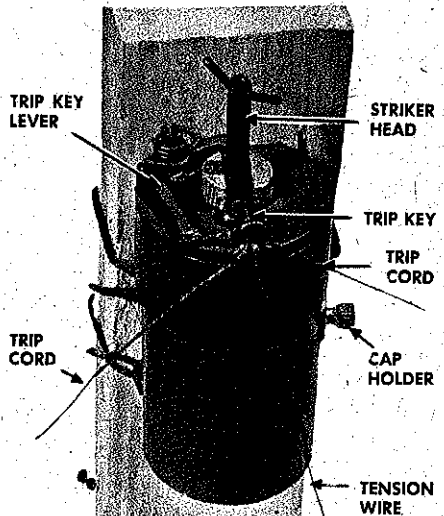
**COLOR.** Black

**CASE.** Sheet metal

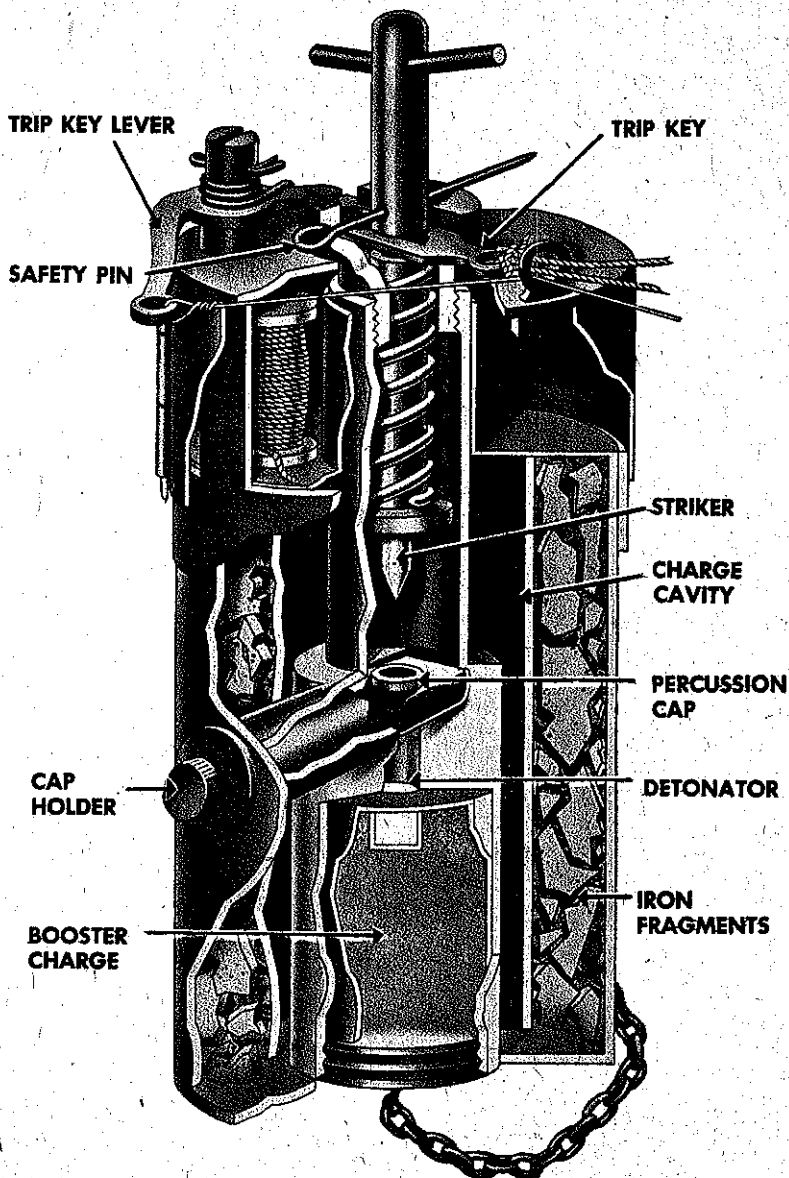
**WEIGHT.** 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds

**EXPLOSIVE.**  $\frac{1}{4}$ -pound powdered TNT

**EFFECT.** Causes casualties within radius of 10 to 15 yards.



# ITALIAN B4 MINE

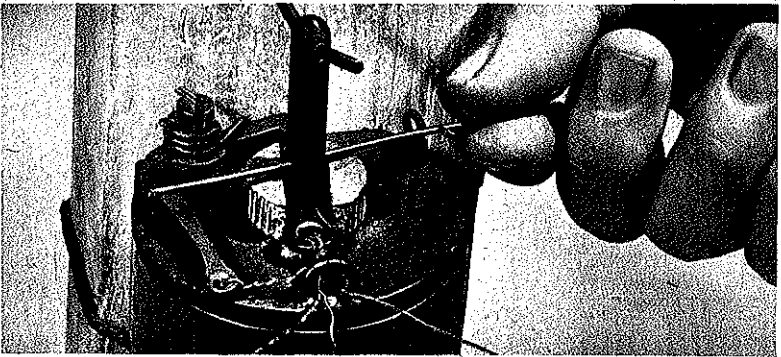


## FUNCTIONING

1. When tension wire is released, or either of two trip cords is pulled, keyhole slot in trip key disengages striker.
2. Striker, driven by striker spring, sets off percussion cap—detonator—booster—main charge.

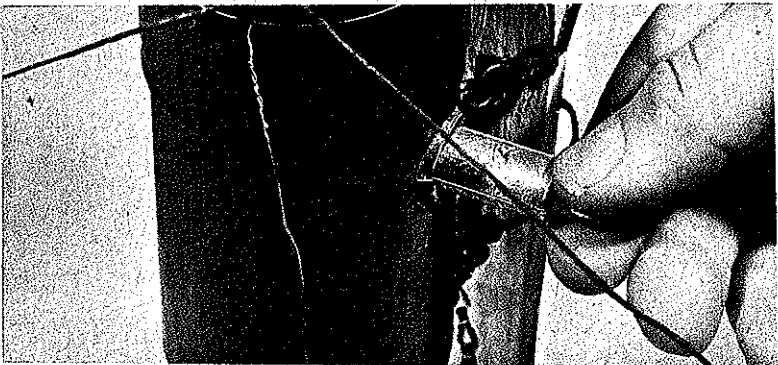
# ITALIAN B4 MINE

## DISARMING

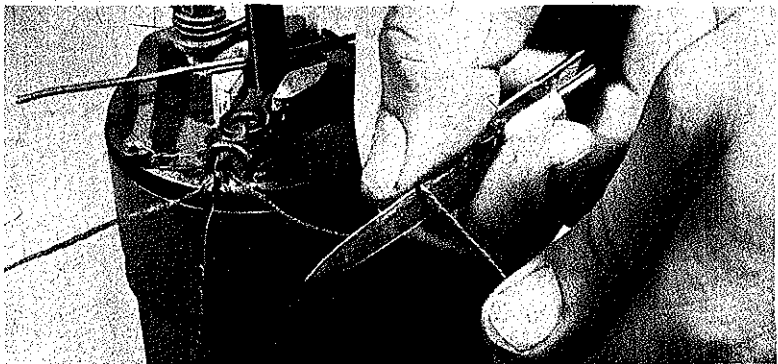


Do not cut cords or wires. Insert nail or stout wire in safety-pin hole in striker.

## DEFUZZING

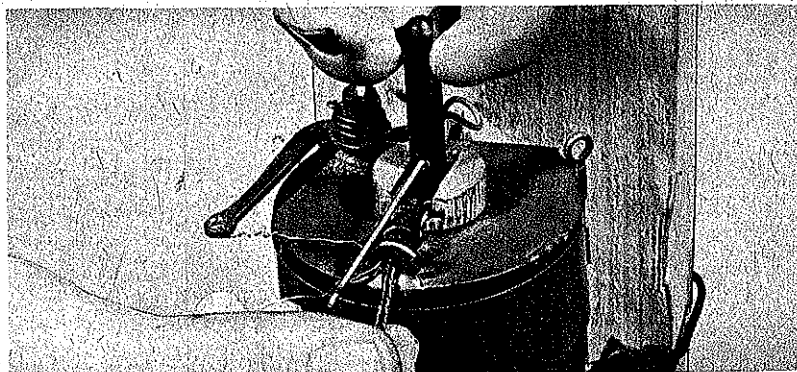


1. Pull percussion-cap holder straight out of side of mine.



2. Cut cords and wire.

# ITALIAN B4 MINE



3. Disengage key from striker.

## EMPLOYMENT

In antitank mine fields, laid in irregular line in front of field. In wire obstacles, spaced about 5 yards apart. In antipersonnel mine fields, laid 7 to 10 yards apart in combination with a few German "S" mines. As booby traps.

## INSTALLING AND ARMING

1. Anchor far ends of cords and wire to wooden pegs, bushes, or the like.
2. Attach other ends of pull cords to trip key, and other end of tension wire to lever, passing all three through guide ring. Leave pull cords loose, tighten tension wire until there is a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch gap between trip key and nose of lever.
3. Insert safety pin and engage trip key with striker.
4. Insert cap and cap holder in side of mine. Make sure holder is turned so cap is directly below point of striker.
5. From safe distance, withdraw safety pin by a long cord.

## PACKING AND TRANSPORTING

Mines are shipped in wooden packing boxes  $22 \times 25\frac{1}{2} \times 5$  inches. Each box holds three rows of seven mines, on their sides. Mines are shipped complete except for percussion caps.

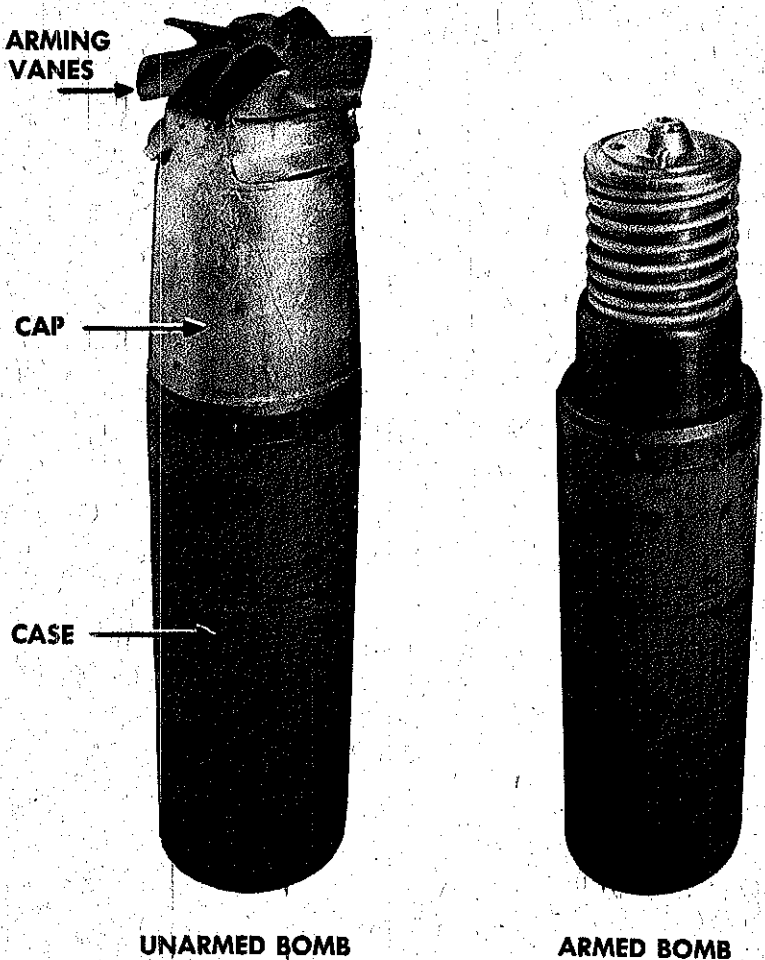
## RE-USE

1. Remove base screw plug and make sure booster charge has not leaked out.
2. Make sure percussion cap is fitted to cap holder.

## NOTES

1. Spools of cord and wire are stored in recesses in top section of mine.
2. Pin from flap can be used as a safety pin.

# ITALIAN THERMOS BOMB



**TYPE.** Antipersonnel bomb

**COLOR.** Buff or green

**CASE.** Metal cylinder resembling thermos bottle

**WEIGHT.** 8½ pounds

**EXPLOSIVE.** 1⅓ pounds TNT

**EFFECT.** Causes casualties to personnel up to 150 yards

**EMPLOYMENT.** Dropped from planes in large numbers; design indicates use as antipersonnel mine.

# ITALIAN THERMOS BOMB

## FUNCTIONING

1. As bomb falls, vanes rotate, unscrewing aluminum nut holding cap on.
2. Cap is pulled off by projecting tabs.
3. Removal of cap releases six clips which partially arm bomb.
4. When bomb lands, it is fully armed by internal action in a few seconds.
5. Bomb now will explode if moved.

## DISARMING

Do not try to disarm it; destroy it.

1. Explodes by small-arms fire from safe distance, or by small charge next to it.

2. Coil rope on ground around bomb without touching it, and jerk on rope from safe distance.

If bomb must be moved, carry it gently and *horizontally*, never vertically. Destroy in safe place.

## RE-USE

Impossible.

## CAUTION

When armed, bomb is extremely sensitive to any jerk or jolt. Never touch it except in extreme emergency, and then only with greatest care. If it is to be exploded, soldier exploding it, or any nearby installations, can be protected by sandbags.

## SPACE FOR NOTES