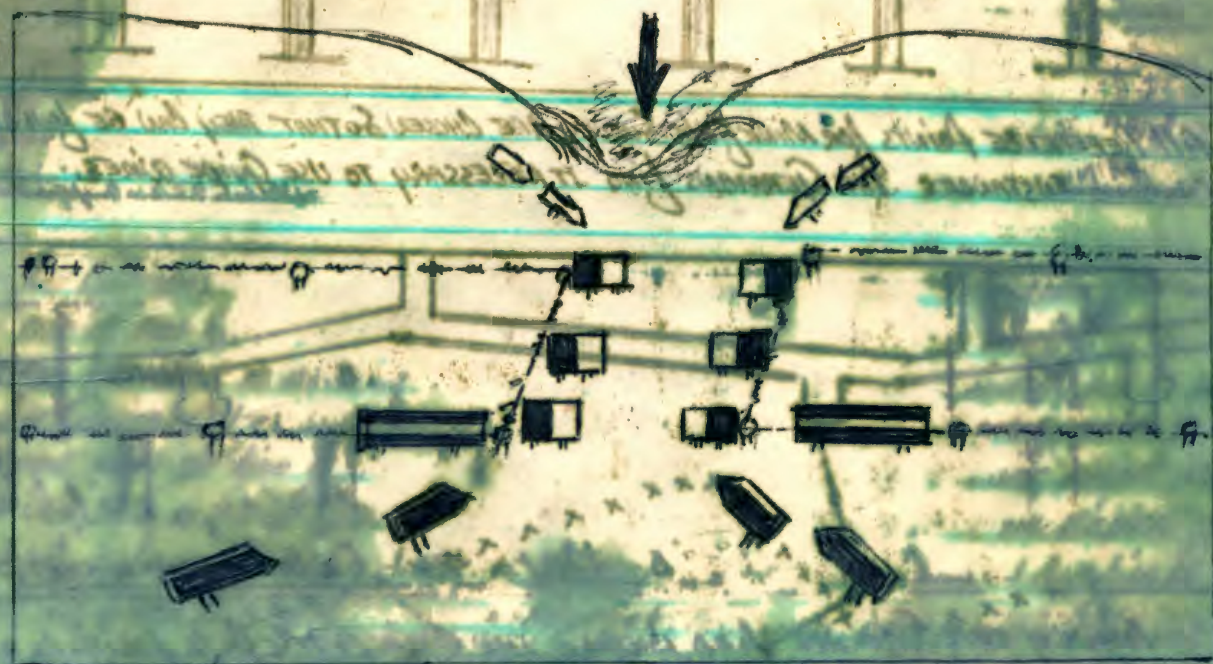


WHEN MARKING A GAP THROUGH A MINEFIELD, THE GERMANS COME UP WITH EXTENDING SOME DISTANCE INTO THE MEAN ON EACH SIDE OF THE FIELD, AS SHOWN IN THE ILLUSTRATION BELOW. THIS IS DONE TO PERMIT ASSAULTING GERMAN TROOPS TO RECOGNIZE THE EXACT POSITION OF THE MINEFIELD IN A SHORT TIME AS THEY ADVANCE, AND THUS AVOID LATERAL MOVEMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE FIELD.



MARKING FOR A GAP THROUGH A MINEFIELD

MINEFIELDS ARE SURROUNDED BY WARNING FENCES OR WIRE OBSTACLES. (THE LATTER ARE VERY OFTEN EMPLOYED IN FRONT OF BELTETS OF RESISTANCE). IN THE CASE OF AN ORDINARY WARNING FENCE, TWO STRINGS OF WIRE USUALLY ARE STRETCHED BETWEEN A SERIES OF FENCE POSTS. THE UPPER STRING IS OF NAILED WIRE, AND THE LOWER, IF BARBED WIRE. ALSO, COLORED WIRE IS WOUND AROUND THE FENCE POSTS. GERMANS TRY TO MAKE ALL WARNING FENCES UNIFORM IN A GIVEN SECTOR, SO THAT THEIR TROOPS WILL IDENTIFY THEM READILY.

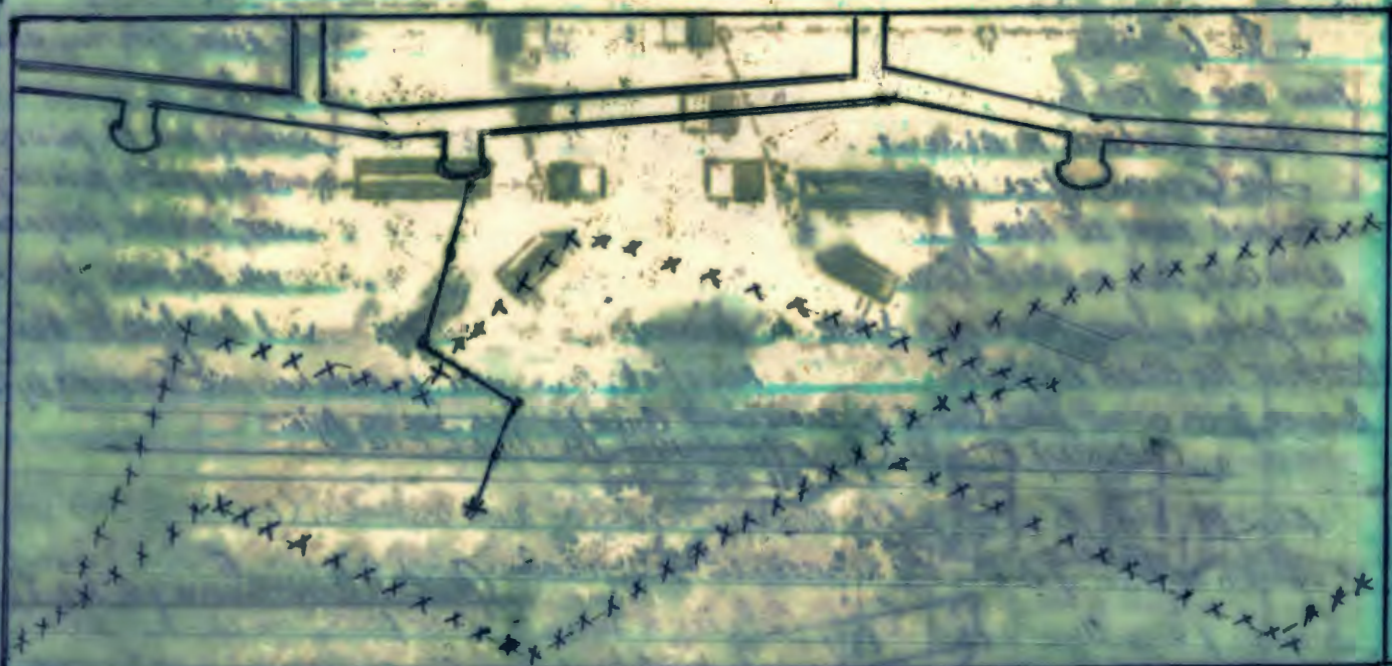


USEFUL NOTES ON SURVEYING

ALTHOUGH IN GENERAL THE GERMAN ARMY'S METHOD OF SURVEYING MINEFIELDS ARE NOT OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO U.S. JUNIOR OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN, IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT AT TIMES THE ENEMY MAY BE INTERRUPTED IN THE MIDDLE OF PERFORMING THIS WORK AND MAY BE FORCED TO ABANDON AN AREA HASTILY, LEAVING BEHIND CERTAIN EVIDENCE WHICH MAY PROVE USEFUL. IT IS THE ENEMY'S POLICY TO SURVEY ALL MINEFIELDS, AND THE INDIVIDUAL MINES WITHIN THE FIELDS, WHILE THE MINELAYING IS BEING DONE. WHILE THIS WORK IS IN PROGRESS THE WIRE OBSTACLES OFTEN ARE MARKED WITH SMALL FLAGS, AS ILLUSTRATED. THESE FLAGS ARE NOT REMOVED UNTIL ALL THE MINES IN THE FIELD HAVE BEEN LAID AND ARMED.



ALL REFERENCE POINTS FOR MINEFIELD SURVEY ARE CHOSEN SO THAT THEY CAN BE FOUND EASILY. IN SOME INSTANCES THE GERMANS FIND IT NECESSARY TO USE GUIDE WIRES.



MINEFIELD WITH GUIDE WIRE

THE GERMAN TRY TO CHOOSE SIMPLE FIX POINTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE — A GRADE CROSSING, FOR EXAMPLE, OR THE INTERSECTION OF TWO ROADS AT THE END OF A VILLAGE. THE ACCURACY OF THE MINEFIELD SURVEY DEPENDS ON THE TIME AVAILABLE AND ON THE TACTICAL SITUATION. MINEFIELDS IN FRONT OF OR IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF A MAIN DEFENSE AREA ARE SURVEYED WITH COMPLETE ACCURACY, TO SAFEGUARD FRIENDLY TROOPS. IF A GERMAN WITHDRAWAL IS

IMMINENT, A HIGHER COMMAND ECHELON MAY RULE THAT ROUGH SKETCHES WILL BE SUFFICIENT. WHEN MINEFIELDS ARE PREPARED IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF A MAIN DEFENSE AREA, THE GERMANS ARE LIKELY TO USE TRENCHES, ROAD MARKS, OR PILL BOXES AS REFERENCE POINTS. SURVEY POINTS ARE ESTABLISHED NEAR THESE REFERENCE POINTS.

SURVEYING ALWAYS PROCEEDS FROM THE GERMAN SIDE TOWARD THE ALLIED SIDE. HERE IS ONE TYPE OF SURVEY POINT (VP) THAT THE GERMANS HAVE FOUND SATISFACTORY. THE FIX POINT ITSELF IS ESTABLISHED IN THE CENTER OF AN EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE WITH THE SIDES 15 X 25 FEET LONG. THE CORNER POINTS AND THE FIX POINT ARE STAKES, RAILS, OR CONCRETE POSTS ABOUT 3 FEET HIGH, WHICH ARE CONNECTED WITH BARB WIRE AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN DRIVEN INTO THE GROUND.



ARTIFICIAL SURVEY POINT

THE GERMANS CONTEND THAT, SINCE EVEN HEAVY SHELLING WILL HARDLY EVER DESTROY MORE THAN ONE OR TWO STAKES, SUCH A SURVEY POINT CAN BE REESTABLISHED EASILY.

SIGNS ARE USED TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR TROOPS TO LOCATE CORNER, SURVEY AND FIX POINTS.

THE GERMANS OFTEN CONSIDER IT ADVISABLE TO MARK CERTAIN POINTS BY POINTS POINTING TOWARD THEM IN LINE OF SIGHT. THESE POSTS ARE PLACED 60 FEET APART, AND ARE PREPARED WITH ONE, TWO OR MORE GROOVES - THE NUMBER INCREASING WITH THE DISTANCE FROM THE MINEFIELD. EVEN IF A STAKE IS DESTROYED, GERMAN TROOPS STILL CAN FIND THE MINEFIELD WITHOUT TOO MUCH DIFFICULTY. MINEFIELDS ARRANGED IN ECHELONS ARE SURVEYED BY USING CORNER POSTS ON THE ALLIED SIDE OF INTERMEDIATE MINEFIELDS AS SURVEY POINTS.



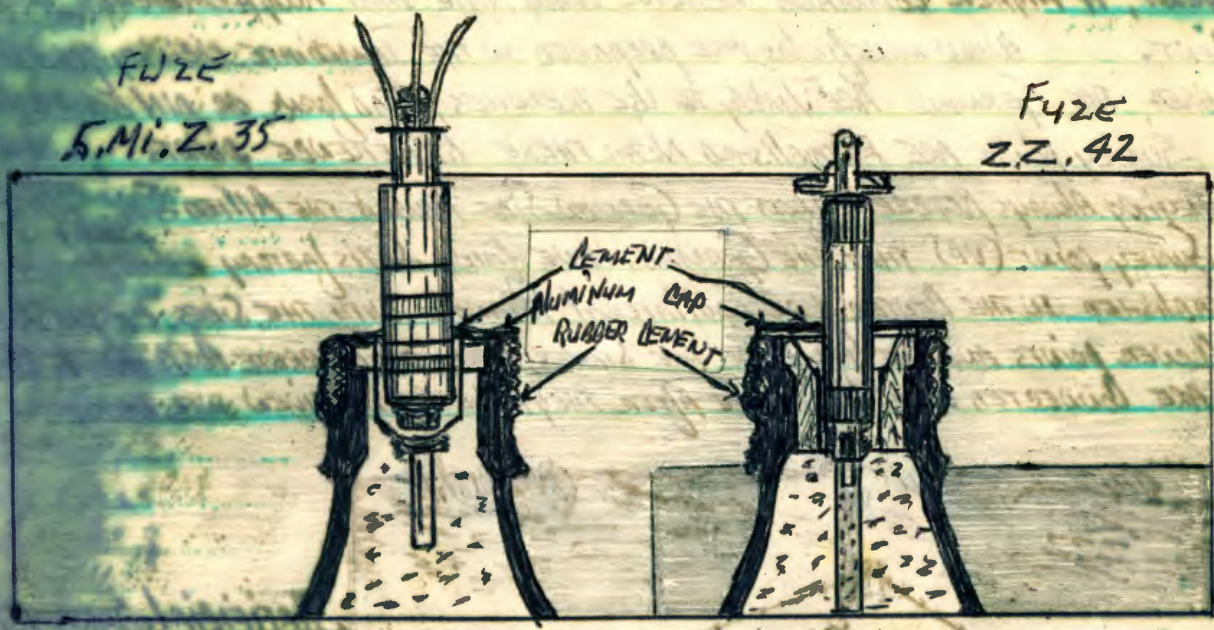
CORNER POSTS FOR MINEFIELD SURVEYING



CORNER POSTS FOR MINEFIELD SURVEYING

Fuze
S.M.I.Z. 35

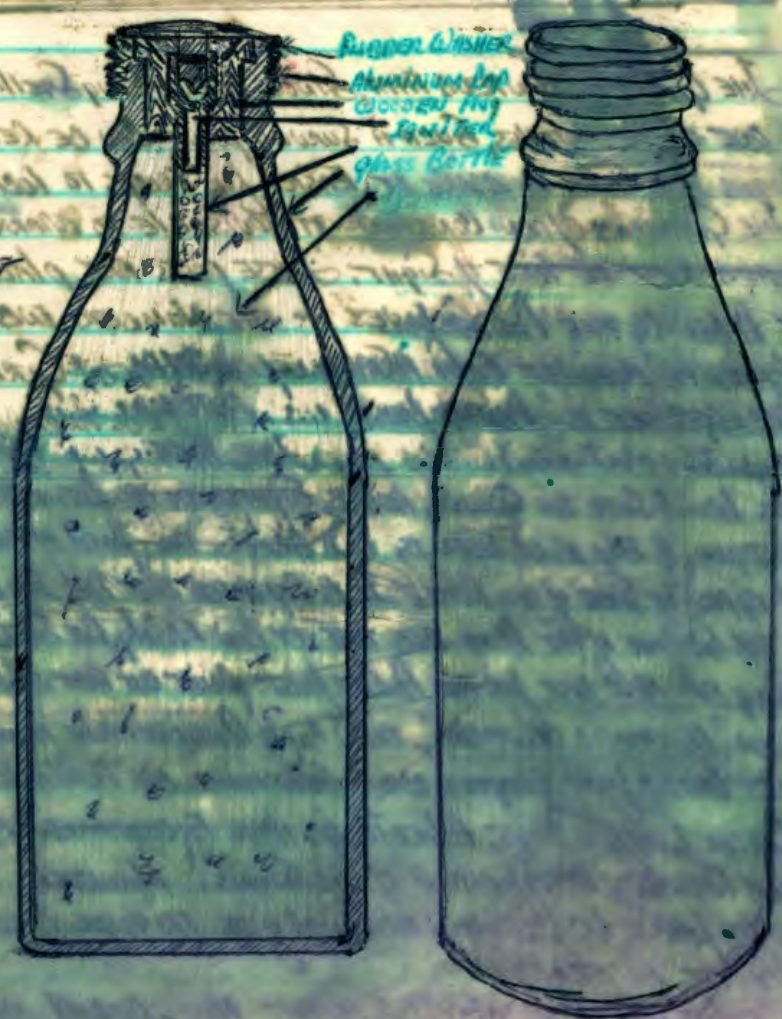
Fuze
Z.Z. 42



THE FISMINE IS NOW BEING LAID AS AN ANTIPERSONNEL LAND MINE.

"Disarming Booby Traps"

Unscrew Aluminum Cap.
 Pull out Igniter and
 Detonator gently.
 Under no circumstances, put
 even the slightest weight on
 pressure types of mine fuze.



THE GERMAN FISMINE

THE FISMINE WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR SUSPENSION UNDER ICE, TO SERVE AS A WATER OBSTACLE, THE GERMAN FISMINE (ICE MINE) NOW HAS MADE ITS APPEARANCE AS AN ANTI-VEHICLE LAND MINE. THE FISMINE, WHICH RESEMBLES A QUART MILK BOTTLE, IS FILLED WITH NEW MINT, A GERMAN EXPLOSIVE MUCH LIKE DYNAMITE. INSTEAD OF BEING EQUIPPED WITH ITS OWN FUSE, AS ORIGINALLY INTENDED, THE FISMINE RECENTLY HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH SUCH FUSES AS THE S.M. Z. 35 AND THE Z Z 42. WHEN USED WITH THE S.M. Z. 35, THE FISMINE IS LAID UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND, WITH ONLY THE 3 PRONGS OF THE FUSE EXPOSED. CASES ARE CAST IN CONCRETE BLOCK, AND THEN LAID IN THE SAME MANNER.

WHEN AN FISMINE IS USED WITH A Z Z 42 FUSE, THE FUSE IS ATTACHED TO A PRESSURE BOARD. PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO NEUTRALIZE THE FISMINE MUST DO SO BY UNSCREWING THE ALUMINUM CAP AND THE IGNITER AND BY REMOVING THE DETONATOR.

THE PANZERFAUST AS A FLYING MINE



VERY THIN TRIP WIRE TO SET OFF THE PANZERFAUST

RECENTLY THE PANZERFAUST HAS BEEN FOUND RIGGED UP AS A DANGEROUS TRIP WIRE TRAP TO OPERATE AGAINST BOTH ARMORED AND UNARMORED VEHICLES. THE GERMAN NAME FOR SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT IS "PANZERFAUST ALS AUTOMATISCHE SPERRE" (Panzerfaust as automatic obstacle). THE TRIGGER OF THE PANZERFAUST IS SECURED TO A FENCE, OR STAKES DRIVEN INTO THE GROUND, AND IS SIGHTED IN THE DESIRED DIRECTION. FROM THE FIRING MECHANISM OF THE WEAPON, A TRIP WIRE THEN IS Laid ACROSS THE PATH OF THE PROSPECTIVE TARGET, AND IS FASTENED ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE ROAD. IT IS REPORTED THAT THE TRIP WIRE USUALLY IS FOUND SUSPENDED 2 FEET ABOVE THE SURFACE OF THE ROAD AND THAT IT CAN EASILY BE SEEN IN THE DAYTIME. GENERAL OBSERVATION COVERING THIS NEW USE FOR THE PANZERFAUST POINT OUT THAT A HAZARDOUS ZONE CAN BE BLOCKED OFF EFFECTIVELY BY SUCH "AUTOMATIC OBSTACLES", THAN BY A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF TELEMINES, AND THAT EVERY UNIT CARRIES PANZERFAUST WEAPONS WHILE TELEMINES ARE AVAILABLE ONLY TO ENGINEERS.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT, ALLIED TROOPS HAVE ENCOUNTERED TRAPS PREPARED ONLY WITH THE PANZERFAUST 30, WHICH REQUIRES COMPLICATION OF THE SIGHTS. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE PANZERFAUST 60, WITH ITS SIMPLIFIED TRIGGER MECHANISM, COULD BE USED VIRTUALLY WITHOUT ALTERATION.

THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE NEW-REBUILT WEAPONS ARE DEVICES KNOWN AS PANZERFAUST. THERE ARE 3 OF THESE: THE LITTLE PANZERFAUST 30, THE PANZERFAUST RLEIL 30 AND THE PANZERFAUST 60.