TECHNICAL MANUAL

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

DOCUMENT DESTROYER,

EMERGENCY INCENDIARY, M4

NSN 1375-00-078-0450

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SEPTEMBER 1976

WARNINGS

Combustion of plastic materials results in production of toxic vapors. Stay upwind to avoid breathing vapors.

Do not operate in a closed building, due to fire hazards involved and risk of asphyxiation from breathing dangerous carbon monoxide fumes.

Never put petroleum, oils, and lubricants in the document destroyer. The combination of the oxidizer and the petroleum, oils, and lubricants could form an explosive mixture.

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

Section I. GENERAL

1-1. Purpose and Scope

This publication is for your use in operating and maintaining the Document Destroyer, Emergency Incendiary, M4, which is used for the rapid destruction of paper (paper products), photographic film, recording tape, magnesium or aluminum reels, and cryptographic devices (printed circuit boards) made of plastic. Hereinafter, this equipment will be referred to as the document destroyer.

1-2. Record and Report Forms

Equipment Maintenance forms and procedures for their use are prescribed in TM 38-750.

Section II. DESCRIPTION AND DATA

1-3. Description

a. General. The document destroyer (fig. 1-1) consists of a 55-gallon metal outer drum, a screen cover, oxidizing agent, a fiberboard inner drum, 3 igniters, 2 railroad fusees, an outer drum cover, lever lock ring, gasket, inner drum cover, instruction sheets, plastic foam spacers, and miscellaneous packing material.

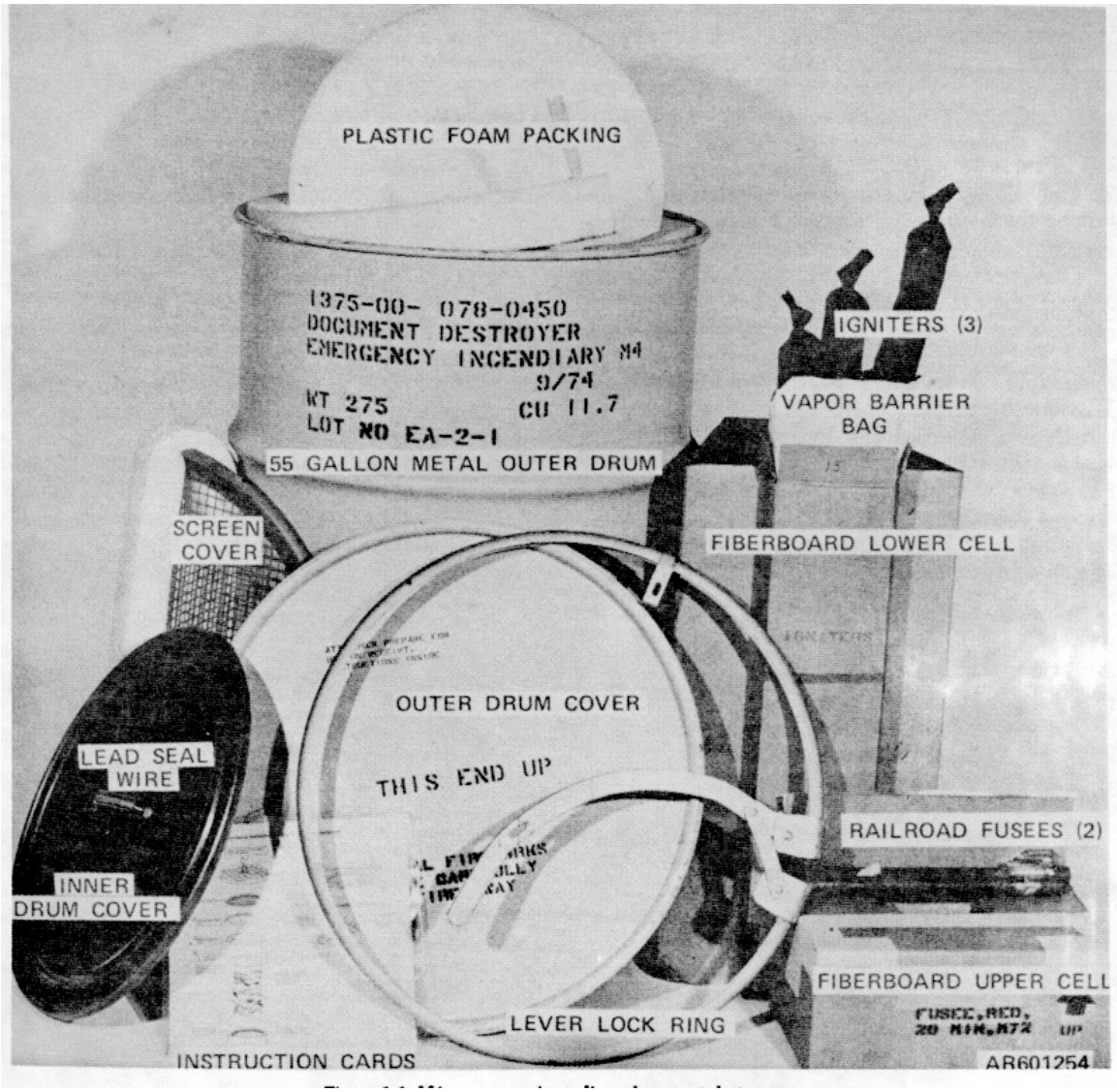

Figure 1-1. M4 emergency incendiary document destroyer.

b. 55-Gallon Metal Outer Drum. The 55-gallon metal outer drum, with removable cover, is used as an incinerator into which up to 120 pounds of documents can be burned. The drum also serves as the shipping and storage container. The drum is shipped with a drum cover/gasket and lever lock ring secured in place with a wire lead seal. Operating instructions are attached to the underside of drum cover.

(1) *Outer drum cover*. The outer drum cover is of one piece formed steel with an outer lip. When installed on the metal outer drum, it fits over the bead of the open end of the steel drum body. When the lever lock ring is installed, the drum is sealed.

(2) *Lever lock ring*. The lever lock ring is a half-round metal ring, which fits over the outer lip of the cover, and is equipped with a lever that draws or loosens the ring. The lever rests in a catch to hold it closed.

(3) *Gasket* The gasket is a round, synthetic rubber ring approximately 23-1/ inches in diameter. The gasket is cemented to the outer drum cover.

c. Screen Cover. The screen cover consists of a disk of a 2mesh lh6-inch stainless steel wire cloth welded to a steel cover band. The screen cover is folded so that it fits inside the fiberboard inner drum.

CAUTION

Never remove the fiberboard inner drum from the 55gallon metal outer drum.

d. Fiberboard Inner Drum. The fiberboard inner drum is a cylindrical packing drum with a metal drum cover. The six plastic foam spacers position the fiberboard inner drum inside the metal outer drum. The metal inner drum cover is provided to close the fiberboard inner drum.

e. Oxidizing Agent The oxidizing agent is either sodium nitrate coated with calcium phosphate or prilled sodium nitrate. The oxidizing agent fills the space between the fiberboard inner drum and the metal outer drum. It provides the oxidizer required to support combustion of the documents being destroyed.

*f. Igniters.*The igniter is contained in a black plastic bag. The igniter consists of a mixture of sodium nitrate, sugar, and charcoal. The sugar and charcoal provide the fuel and the sodium nitrate provides oxygen. Three igniters approximately 3 inches diameter by 22 inches long are packed in a vapor barrier bag. The vapor barrier bag is packed in fiberboard box which is attached to the lower cell.

g. Railroad fusees. Two railroad warning fusees are provided in each document destroyer. They are packaged in the fiberboard upper cell. The fusees have been modified by the addition of a hook which allows them to be hung on the edge of the inner drum after they are unpacked.

h. Instruction cards. Two instruction cards, one for preparation of the document destroyer and one for operation of it, are contained in a plastic envelope under the outer drum cover. In addition, a second instruction card for operation of the document destroyer is cemented to the underside of the outer drum cover.

i. Miscellaneous Packing Material Miscellaneous packing materials such as corrugated fiberboard are used to fill the void spaces and to retain the parts in place during shipping and storage of the document destroyer.

j. Markings. The markings for the document destroyer are stenciled on the outside surface of the 55gallon metal outer drum and the drum cover. Some of these markings are shown in figures 1-2 and 1-3. The markings also identify the document destroyer. The box containing the igniters (f above) is marked IGNITERS in red. The vapor barrier bag is also marked IGNITERS in red.