

**TECHNICAL MANUAL  
UNIT MAINTENANCE MANUAL  
FOR  
MILITARY PYROTECHNICS**

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**HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**JANUARY 1995**

Technical Manual )

No. 9-1370-203-20 )

HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Washington, DC, 19 January 1995

## UNIT MAINTENANCE MANUAL FOR MILITARY PYROTECHNICS

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\*This manual supersedes TM 9-1370-203-20&P, dated 17 November 1978, including all changes.

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### SECTION I GENERAL

#### 1-1. Scope

- a. These instructions apply to military pyrotechnics and are for use by unit maintenance personnel.
- b. Operating instructions are contained in:
  - (1) Pyrotechnic Signals (TM 9-1370-206-10).
  - (2) Pyrotechnic Simulators (TM 9-1370-207-10).
  - (3) Photoflash Cartridges, Surface Flares, and Miscellaneous Pyrotechnics (TM 9-1370-208-10).
- c. For operator and unit maintenance instructions on the MK 45 MOD 0 Aircraft Parachute Flare, refer to TM 9-1370-201-12.
- d. For operator maintenance instructions on the M206 Aircraft Countermeasure Flare refer to TM 9-1095-206-23&P.

#### 1-2. Forms, Records and Reports

- a. *Forms.* Forms required by unit maintenance personnel are listed in appendix A and in DA Pam 25-30. Department of the Army maintenance forms and reporting procedures are prescribed in DA PAM 738-750.
- b. *Field Report of Accidents.* Accidents involving injury to personnel or damage to materiel will be reported on DA Form 285 in accordance with AR 385-40. Malfunctions will be reported in accordance with AR 75-1.
- c. *Report of Damaged or Improper Shipment.* Material received in damaged or otherwise unsatisfactory condition because of deficiencies in preservation, packaging, marking, loading, storage, or handling will be reported on SF 364 in accordance with AR 735-11-2. Reports of improper shipment or damage caused by transportation discrepancies will be reported on SF 361 in accordance with AR 55-38.

#### 1-3. Destruction of Military Pyrotechnics to Prevent Enemy Use

Destruction of military pyrotechnics, when subject to capture or abandonment, will be undertaken by the user only when, in the judgment of the unit commander concerned, such action

is necessary in accordance with orders of, or policy established by the Army commander. (Refer to TM 750-244-5-1).

#### 1-4. Safety

- a. *Requirements for Safety.* Requirements for safety, care, and handling of pyrotechnic items and accessories are included in AR 385-64, DA PAM 385-64, TM 9-1370-201-12, as applicable.

- b. *Specific Safety Precautions.*

- (1) Pyrotechnics are more dangerous than many other types of ammunition because they are more easily initiated. Items with primers should be guarded to prevent a blow on the primer, because such a blow could activate the item.
- (2) Pyrotechnics must never be exposed to moisture. Items showing any signs of moisture should be forwarded to authorized personnel for disposal.
- (3) Protect pyrotechnics from temperatures below -65°F or above 140°F.
- (4) Pyrotechnics (except standard emergency use items) should not be left indefinitely in aircraft. They should be removed and restored to their original condition and packing.

#### 1-5. Care and Handling

- a. Military pyrotechnics must be handled with care at all times. Besides the hazardous pyrotechnic composition, pyrotechnics are composed of sensitive elements, such as, friction compositions and primers.
- b. In order to keep military pyrotechnics in a serviceable condition and ready for immediate use, the following general rules apply.
  - (1) Store pyrotechnics in a dry, well-ventilated place, out of direct sunlight, and protect against excessive or variable temperatures.
  - (2) Handle pyrotechnics with care and protect against shock.