6pp (BEWARE 6) UNEXPLODED BOMBS 31/19

THE UNEXPLODED BOMB, NO. I

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tonight, tomorrow or any time in the near future this city and your home may be bombed. When enemy planes come over, you may expect to hear the crash of high explosive bombs and see fires started by incendiaries.

But do you know that after the enemy planes have been shot down or have flown away, the raid may go on, and on, for hours or even days? The bomb dropped today or tonight may not explode until next week. These are unexploded bombs, the U X B's, perhaps the most devastating and dangerous of all weapons of warfare.

We present here the first of a series of articles, authorized by the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense for the Ninth Civilian Defense Region, to acquaint you with the UXB and your responsibility in helping to protect yourself, your family and your city.

Most of the bombs which whistle down on this city when enemy planes fly overhead will explode with the accompanying destruction for which they were desighed.

But some of them will crash through buildings, paved streets and factories or bury themselves deep in the earth. These are known as unexploded bombs, or UXB's, to the military and civilian defense officials who have to deal with them.

UXB's are divided into two types, time bombs which are set to explode hours or days after plowing their way into the ground, or bombs in which the detonating device has at least momentarily failed to work.

Sometimes these unexploded bombs are cleverly placed by the enemy where they are calculated to do the most damage possible. One may be dropped in a railroad switch yard or in the midst of a factory which is working around the clock on war production.

It would be bad enough if the bomb actually exploded on impact. It's worse when it doesn't, because activity in the immediate area of the UXB must cease until the bomb has been rendered harmless and removed. Other UXB's may land in residential districts, which likewise must be evacuated until the bomb is removed. This disruption of civil life and of national production facilities makes the UXB the most dangerous and devastating of war weapons.

No one knows or can tell when the unexploded bomb will go off. And until it has either exploded or been removed the air raid is, in effect, still on. Unexploded bombs planted throughout the city are just as dangerous to you and your family, to our porduction for war as if squadrons of enemy planes still flew overhead.

The Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, the Ninth Regional U. S. Office of Civilian Defense and your Civilian Defense Council have developed a simple reporting and operating system on the West Coast to defend you

against these death dealing instruments of war.

In this system you, too, have a function, and a very vital one. In subsequent articles on the UXB we will tell you about this system of rendering inactive the enemy's most dangerous weapon and where your responsibility lies in this method of defense.

THE UNEXPLODED BOMB, NO. 2

EDITOR'S NOTE: Did it ever occur to you that in the event of an air raid your home may survive the raid with no damage whatsoever, and that a day or two after the enemy bombers have departed, it may be blown to bits?

That may happen. Then it does, the answer will be the unexploded bomb, the UXB. In yesterday's article we told you about the UXB and why it is the most dangerous and evastating of modern war's weapons. In this article, one of a series authorized by the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense, for the Ninth Civilian Defense Region, we will will tell you about the organization working to render these bombs impotent.

Unexploded bombs which have come howling down out of the skies during an air raid are not found lying on the surface of the ground.

Instead they will come crashing through the roofs of homes, factories, or buildings, tear through the limbs of trees and bury themselves from 15 to 60 feet deep in the ground.

Almost always they leave indications of their passage. It is these indications, which if promptly reported, begin a series of coordinated and planned operations in your defense. When your Air Raid Warden has reason to believe that an UXB has fallen in his area, he has been instructed to immediately call the control center of your civilian defense council. The Control Center will dispatch a Bomb Reconnaissance Agent to make a thorough investigation of the scene and decide whether the hole through the roof, the living room floor, basement or pavement was caused by the passage of a bomb, or whether it was caused by a chunk of concrete blown from an actual nearby explosion.

Bomb Reconnaissance Agents have been carefully chosen by your Civilian Defense Council and given a special course of training by the U. S. Army to prepare them for their duties. If the Bomb Reconnaissance Agent decides that an UXB does exist, he will instruct the Air Raid Wardens to remove the residents from the area where the UXB has planted itself. Thus you will be told that you must grab a suitcase of clothes and move out of your home, along with your family and your neighbors for a considerable area around the unexploded bomb.

You will have to find residence somewhere else in the city. Maybe your won't enjoy doubling up with Aunt Minnie's family for a week or ten days, but it will be a lot better than sitting on the proverbial "keg of Dynamite" that may go off at any moment and blow up you, your family and the whole neighborhood. If you have no place to go, your Civilian Defense Council will assist you in finding quarters.

Auxiliary police will be sent to the scene to rope off the area, direct traffic from the evacuated territory and to police the neighborhood so that

your home possessions will be protected while you are away. The control center of your Civilian Defense Council will also notify the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense headquarters nearest your city, which in turn will call for the expert assistance of the Bomb Disposal Unit of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army.

At this point the U. S. Army will take over and it will be the Army's job to take such measures as may be necessary to remove the planted bomb. In case a number of UXB have fallen, it may be a week or more before the Army can take care of the one which has disrupted your life. But you must stay away from your home until you are notified by the authorities that it is safe for you to return.

Every citizen has a responsibility to perform in connection not only with the UXB but with all other instruments of war which may fall during an air raid. This reponsibility will be outlined in tomorrow's article. If you fail in your responsibility, in performing the simple part you have to play, the rest of the protective force set up to save you, your family and neighbors, probably won't have a chance to function and you all may be killed. It is your responsibility to know what to do and to do it when the moment for action arrives.

THE UNEXPLODED BOMB NO. 3

EDITOR'S NOTE: Unexploded bombs, those which are dropped by enemy airmen but do not explode immediately on impact, are the most devastating and dangerous of war weapons. Part of the effect of UXB is psychological, the disrupting of war production, the feeling that you and your neighbors are figuratively sitting on a "keg of dynamite" which may explode at any moment.

Much of the devastating effect of the UXB can be controlled and its fangs can be drawn if every man, woman and child plays his part in starting the machinery set up by the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army and the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense for the Ninth Civilian Defense Region. In this article we will tell you about your part and your responsibility in this phase of warfare.

One of the foremost rules of Civilian Defense is complete cooperation with your Air Raid Warden. He has been selected and trained to perform a number of duties for your protection and safety. He may have to require you to do things during and after an air raid for which you may not recognize the need or justification. Your best bet is to do them anyway and as soon as he has requested you to do them.

In dealing with unexploded bombs you too have a responsibility, which for your own safety you must not neglect. This responsibility is to give information to your Air Raid Warden about the suspected presence of unexploded bombs.

UXB do not bury themselves deep in the ground, rip through buildings or homes without leaving some disturbance behind. It may be a hole in the roof and floor of your home. It may be a small or large crater in your yard. It may be a hole in the sidewalk or street pavement.

All of these disturbances may indicate that an unexploded bomb has buried itself deep under them.

Your job, and the job of every man, woman and child, is to call these evidences immediately to the attention of your Air Raid Warden. If he cannot be located immediately, tell the nearest policeman.

From there on the UXB is NOT your responsibility. A trained and perfected organization is ready to go into immediate action to safeguard you and your family as soon as it has been determined that an UXB has planted itself in your neighborhood. But the trained staffs cannot safeguard you, if they have not been informed of the possible location of an unexploded bomb. It is therefore necessary that you tell your Air Raid Warden immediately whenever you find any of these disruptions after an air raid. If the Bomb Reconnaissance Agent determines the crater or hole was caused by an unexploded bomb, follow his instructions, those of the Air Raid Warden and Auxiliary Police to the letter. If you don't, you endanger yourself and your family.

After a bombing a number of other articles strange to you may be found near your home. These may be pieces of shrapnel, unexploded anti aircraft shells, unburned or partly burned incendiary bombs, auxiliary airplane gasoline tanks, air plane cannon shells, partly burned or unburned flares or parachute mine caps.

Don't let your collector's instinct get the best of you. Any one of them is potentially dangerous and may go off just at the moment you pick it up for a mantlepiece decoration. These may also be valuable information of the enemy for our armed forces. The rule for you to follow is (1) leave them alone, and (2) inform your Air Raid Warden about them with explicit directions as to location. Let him take care of the details of collection.

To reiterate, if after an air raid you find any evidence of the possible passage of an unexploded bomb, tell your Air Raid Warden. If you find other evidence of the air attack, strange shells, etc., leave them alone and again, tell your Air Raid Warden.

If you follow these simple instrations you will be helping safeguard yourself and your family--and you will be helping to win the war.