



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 426

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INTO AMORY DISTRICT*Commercial Appeal*
7-14-46
Bombs Leak, Poison Fumes
Are Freed At Rail Siding

Special to The Commercial Appeal
AMORY, Miss., July 13.—A carload of captured German mustard gas bombs, which began leaking on a Frisco Railroad siding near the heart of town Saturday, gave Amory a scare.

The captured bombs, en route to an Army proving ground in this country for testing, were in a box-car that was cut from a freight train arriving in Amory Friday night.

Early Saturday railroad employees smelled mustard fumes, and discovered that some of the bombs were leaking. The car was quickly moved to a remote sidetrack at Bigbee, two miles from Amory, and headquarters of the Army's Third Service Command at Atlanta notified.

Pending arrival of experts from the Chemical Warfare Service, soldiers equipped with gas masks took over, to guard the car and keep spectators at a safe distance. One soldier was overcome and several railroad men reported their eyes were smarting and that they were suffering from headaches.

The gas, in liquid form, dripped to form a small pool under the car, and from this the fumes arose.

Capt. Ralph Saenz of the Military Police Detachment at Memphis dispatched a detail of 17 men equipped with gas masks to guard the leaking car until a decontamination squad from the Chemical Warfare Service arrived by plane from Edgewood, Md., to take charge of the situation.

Sergt. Abraham Steinberg, the soldier overcome at Amory, was flown to the Fourth Ferrying Group's hospital at Memphis after receiving preliminary treatment by Dr. John Murphy, returned Army physician of Amory. Hospital officials said Sergeant Steinberg's condition was not serious.

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