



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

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BOMB SQUADS AT WORK ON GAS LEAKS: NINE CASUALTIES

Decontamination squads continued to work on Nazi liquid mustard gas bomb leaks in Memphis and near Amory, Miss today, as one more casualty was added to the list making a total of nine.

Seven of the men who suffered mustard gas burns were railroad men and two were soldiers. None is regarded as in serious condition, tho four remain hospitalized.

Two decontamination squads from Edgewood Arsenal, Md., are working on the decontamination of leaking 500-pound bombs in three of eight boxcar loads in Memphis, while another squad from Edgewood is at work on a car with a single leaking bomb at Bigbee, on the Frisco near Amory, Miss.

Eight Cars in Memphis

The gas is all part of one big shipment from the Gulf Coast. Some of the cars were diverted. The eight cars that are in Memphis were consigned to the Pine Bluff, Ark., arsenal from New Orleans. Others, including the single car at Bigbee, are consigned to an eastern arsenal.

The Army wants to study the Nazi mustard gas airplane bombs. The situation is reported under

control. The eight cars in Memphis were sent to the Memphis General Depot for decontamination.

The first Edgewood squad flew into Memphis Saturday night, and a second squad was flown in last night. They are working under the direction of Lt. Charles A. Meyer, chemical warfare officer of Edgewood Arsenal, and will remain on the job with their decontamination truck until the gas is completely neutralized. The cars are in a large restricted area at the depot, and there have been no casualties in Memphis, tho three of the victims from elsewhere are in Memphis hospitals.

His Leg Burned

Sgt. Stanley Woronowicz, who was riding as a guard on a gas train, suffered burns on the leg in Alabama, but did not realize they amounted to anything until he arrived in Memphis. He is now at Kennedy Veterans Hospital, where his condition is reported "not serious."

Sgt. Abraham Steinberg, another train guard, is reported "resting easier" today at Fourth Ferrying Group Hospital. His eyes were af-

fectured by gas fumes at Amory Saturday, but his condition is not serious, the hospital reports.

Guy Rorie, Frisco conductor from Amory, is at St. Joseph's Hospital, where his condition is reported good, and Paul Wright, a Frisco brakeman, is recovering in a hospital at Columbus, Miss. The other trainmen who suffered minor burns were not hospitalized.

Expert Arrives

Capt. James Whittenberger, medical officer who is an expert in treating gas casualties, was flown to Memphis from Edgewood and is checking on all of the victims.

Cause of the leaking bombs is being investigated by technicians from Washington, who are working with Maj. Otto J. Spahn, Memphis General Depot chemical warfare officer.

It is believed that the extremely high temperature in the boxcars of bombs caused some expansion of the gas which resulted in the leaks.

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