

FM 23-23

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FIELD MANUAL

ANTIPERSONNEL MINE M18A1 AND M18 (CLAYMORE)

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ANTIPERSONNEL MINE M18A1 AND M18 (CLAYMORE)

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* This manual supersedes TC 7-3, 5 October 1962.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Section I. GENERAL

1. Purpose and Scope

a. This manual provides guidance for commanders and instructors presenting instruction and training on the functioning, installation, and employment of the antipersonnel mine, CLAYMORE.

b. This manual describes the M18A1 antipersonnel mine, CLAYMORE, its functioning, and installation. It provides a basis for conducting training utilizing the electric firing system issued with the mine. It also gives guidance for tactical employment and safety requirements. An earlier model of the CLAYMORE antipersonnel mine, the M18, is covered in appendix II.

c. The material contained herein is applicable without modification to both nuclear and nonnuclear warfare.

d. Users of this manual are encouraged to submit recommended changes or comments to

improve the publication. Comments should be keyed to the specific page, paragraph, and line of the text in which the change is recommended. Reasons should be provided for each comment to insure understanding and complete evaluation. Comments should be forwarded direct to the Commandant, United States Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga. 31905.

2. Roles of the Antipersonnel Mine, CLAYMORE

The number of ways in which the CLAYMORE may be employed is limited only by the imagination of the user. The CLAYMORE is used primarily as a defensive weapon, but has its application in the offensive role. It must be emphasized that when the CLAYMORE is referred to as a weapon, this implies that it is employed in the controlled role. In the uncontrolled role, the CLAYMORE is considered a mine or boobytrap (FM 20-32).

Section II. DESCRIPTION

3. General

The M18A1 antipersonnel mine was standardized in 1960, and replaced the M18 antipersonnel mine (app. II). Both mines are similar in appearance and functioning. The M18A1 (fig. 1) is a directional, fixed-fragmentation mine. When employed in the controlled role, it is treated as a one-shot weapon. It is primarily designed for use against massed infantry attacks; however, its fragments are also effective against light vehicles. The M18A1 mine is equipped with a fixer plastic slit-type sight, adjustable legs, and two detonator wells.

The mine and all its accessories are carried in the M7 bandoleer (fig. 2). The instruction sheet for the M18A1 is shown in figure 3.

4. Casualty Effects

When detonated, the M18A1 mine will deliver spherical steel fragments over a 60° fan-shaped pattern that is 2 meters high and 50 meters wide at a range of 50 meters (fig. 4). These fragments are moderately effective up to a range of 100 meters and can travel up to 250 meters forward of the mine. The optimum effective range (the range at which the

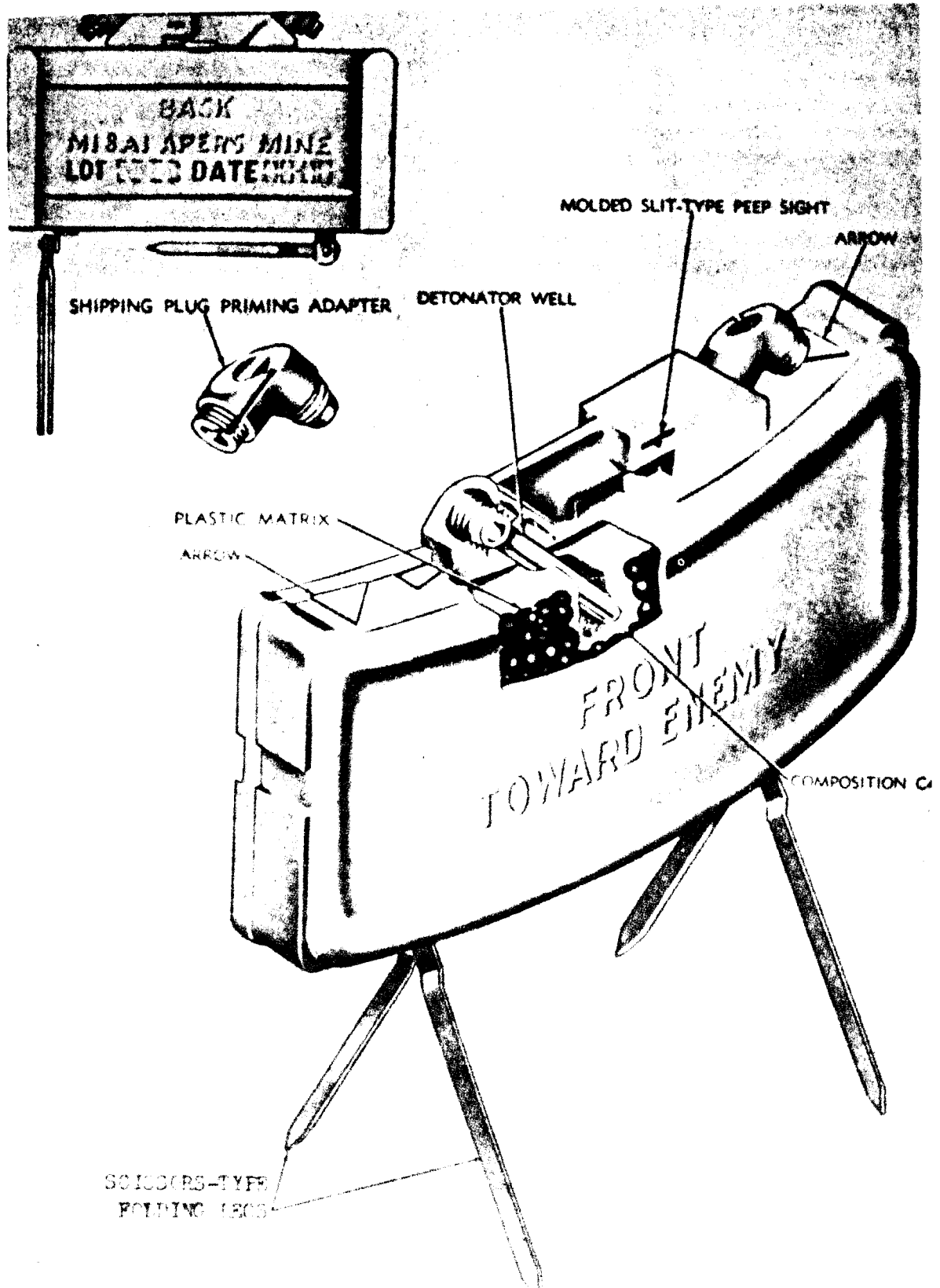


Figure 1. The M18A1 antipersonnel mine (CLAYMORE).