

THE 1917 GERMAN LONG DELAY ACTION FUZE FOR DEMOLITION PURPOSES.

(From German Documents.)

This fuze, screwed into an ordinary H.E. shell, is intended for destroying guns, battery positions, dug-outs, etc., or to blow up ammunition dumps abandoned to the enemy.

Description.—The mechanism is the same as that of the "German Automatic Detonating Device," described in Ia/31582 of the 5th April, 1917, that is, it depends on the action of a corrosive liquid eating through a wire. The fuze contains a detonator and an exploder charge.

It differs in appearance from the "Device," which was about 6 inches long and 1 inch in diameter, with a head $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, and was painted black, in being exactly similar outside to the Gr. Z. 04 gun fuze ($8\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and over $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, usually used with the 10-cm. gun, 15-cm. and 21-cm. howitzers, and not used in any field artillery shell); with the difference that **the gaine of the demolition fuze is painted red** and that of the gun fuze lacquered blue.

Means of recognition.—The fuze, when in a shell, being marked like the gun fuze Gr. Z. 04, cannot, as the gaine is concealed, be distinguished from an ordinary fuze.

All German shell, however, are issued fuzed. To prevent the fuze working loose, its lower edge is stabbed with a centre punch (usually in four or six places) into corresponding nicks in the top of the shell; or else, as in gas shell, the fuze is set in cement. The absence, therefore, of punch marks on the edge of the fuze, and of cement, may give an indication of the presence of a demolition fuze.

Removal.—The fuze can be screwed in by hand, and, therefore, may be removable in the same manner, but can be removed by an adjustable spanner, as there are two flats on it.

If the fuze has been stabbed, a small hand drill will also be required.

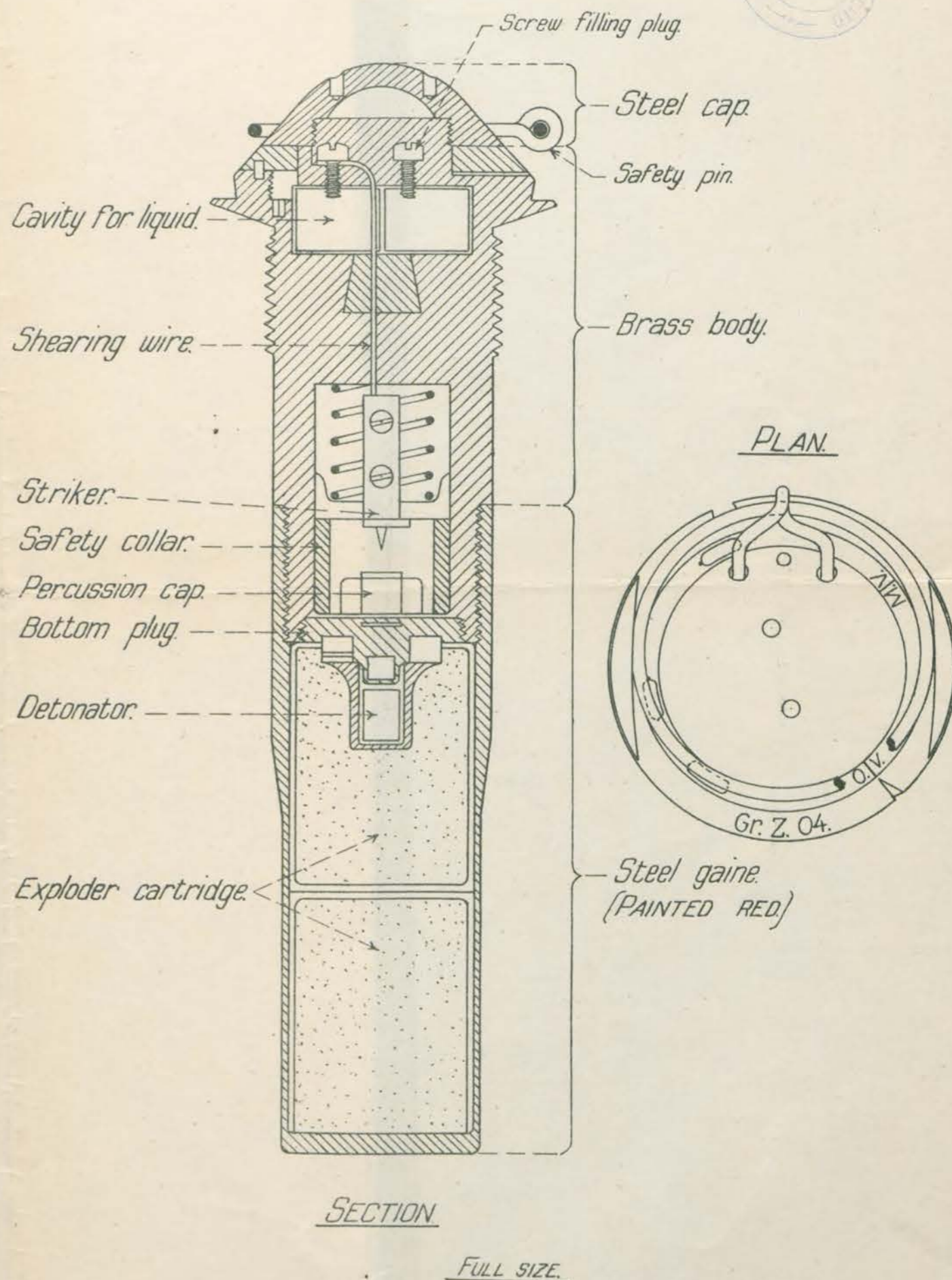
Delay.—The fuze, by using different tubes of corrosive liquid, may be set for 1, 2, 24 or 72 hours delay.

Packing.—The fuzes are packed two together in a special box. On the label in red is:—

Lgz. Z. 17. Nicht verfeuern, nur für besondere Zwecke.

(1917 pattern long delay action fuzes. Not to be fired; only to be used for special purposes).

The liquids employed to ensure these "delays" are pale blue in colour and are issued in glass tubes about $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter and 6 inches long. The tube is drawn out and sealed at each end and is marked either 1, 2, 24 or 72.



General Staff (Intelligence),
General Headquarters.
13th August, 1918.