

918 F.O.

S.S. 503.

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Instructions for the use of 4.5-in. Howitzer Smoke Shell.

The Smoke Shell consists of the Service Chemical Shell of the double diaphragm or container type with the chemical in the body replaced by white phosphorus.

The head or container of the shell is filled with H.E. on the same lines as the chemical shell, but the smoke mixture in the latter is replaced by trotyl.

The shell can be identified by:—

- (i.) Head painted as for H.E.
- (ii.) Body painted green.
- (iii.) Packages painted green.

The fuse to be used is No. 44 and the ammunition with service charges will be supplied under the same conditions as H.E. shell issued for use with No. 44 fuse. The Range Table as for H.E. shell should be used.

The shell bursts with a good smoke effect on graze. The smoke has the appearance and density of white clouds in a blue sky, and spreads out gradually laterally to a considerable width.

With a flank wind of moderate velocity a good frontal screen can be produced by firing groups of shell at intervals of 200 yards, the rate of fire for each group being 8 per minute.

With winds of less favourable direction the shell requires to be concentrated round important points from which it is desired to obscure observation.

It is considered desirable that every reasonable precaution should be exercised to ensure that this type of ammunition is stored and transported separate from other ammunition, and that, if possible, it is not exposed to a high temperature or to the direct rays of the sun.

NOTE.—As the weight of the Smoke Shell is liable to vary to a certain extent, the filled weight is stencilled on the shell to allow of their being grouped before firing.