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Technical Report ARWEC-TR-98009

DEMILITARIZATION PLAN FOR XM767 INFRARED ILLUMINATING ROUND

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August 1998

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ENGINEERING CENTER

Warheads, Energetics & Combat-support Armament Center

Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey



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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGEForm Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 2202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave Blank)	2. REPORT DATE August 1998	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED
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4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE DEMILITARIZATION PLAN FOR XM767 INFRARED ILLUMINATING ROUND	5. FUNDING NUMBERS
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6. AUTHOR(S) E. David Shoua, Paul Betts, and Diane Scheneck
--

7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) ARDEC, WEAC Armament Systems Process Division (AMSTA-AR-WEA) Picatinny Arsenal, NJ 07806-5000

8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER
--

9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) ARDEC, WECAC Information Research Center (AMSTA-AR-WEL-T) Picatinny Arsenal, NJ 07806-5000

10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER Technical Report ARWEC-TR-98009
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11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE

13. ABSTRACT This report contains an evaluation of the current demilitarization plan of the XM767 infrared illuminating round and provides recommendations for implementing an alternate method that involves the adoption of a chemical recovery process to recycle the illuminating composition. Although the use of open burning/open detonation (OB/OD) is the primary methods for destroying obsolete pyrotechnic rounds because of its simplicity and low cost, the recommended chemical recovery method is more desirable. This is due to the fact that this method will provide royalties to the Army and at the same time substantially reduce the environmental emissions. It is anticipated that this step is in accordance with any new forthcoming limiting Environmental Protection Agency regulations, which will substantially reduce and possibly eliminate the use of OB/OD in the future.

14. SUBJECT TERMS Demilitarization Pyrotechnic Infrared Recovery
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15. NUMBER OF PAGES 14

16. PRICE CODE

17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT UNCLASSIFIED

18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED
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19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED

20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT SAR

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of the demil assessment for the 60-mm XM767 Infrared (IR) Illuminating Projectile is to provide the Project Manager (PM), Mortar System an assessment of the current demilitarization plan and offer alternative methods of demilitarization where applicable. The PM for Mortar Systems, being responsible for the life cycle of the XM767 IR projectile, is required to plan for the demilitarization of this item during its development. As such, the PM for Mortar Systems tasked the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center's Armament Systems Process Division (ASPD) and the Logistics Systems Engineering Division (LSED) to conduct an evaluation of the current demilitarization procedures for the XM767 projectile. With the environmental regulations and laws associated with the demilitarization of munitions under a constant state of change in recent years, it is expected that the traditional demilitarization methods, i.e. open burning/open detonation, will eventually no longer be a viable process. The ASPD is responsible for the development of new demilitarization technology and also retains personnel with expertise and knowledge of the current laws and regulations, which govern these activities.

This report provides an evaluation of the current demilitarization plan and provides recommendations developed by ASPD and LSED for implementing an alternate method, which involves implementing a recovery process to recycle a portion of the pyrotechnic composition. As a result, the PM for Mortar Systems is provided a realistic strategy for achieving a process to demilitarize this munition in a safe, cost effective and environmentally acceptable manner.

Current Demilitarization of IR Illuminating Round

The structural design of the XM767 shown in figure 1 is modular in design. It consists of an M776 time fuze (fig. 2) that is screwed to a fuze adapter which is attached to the body tube by eight steel retaining pins that are equally spaced around the circumference of the tube every 45 deg. The body holds the IR illuminating canister and is attached to the tail cone assembly by four brass pins that are equally spaced 90 deg apart. The M27 aluminum fin assembly is screwed on the tail cone assembly, which holds the parachute expulsion spring. The M702 ignition cartridge is then screwed in place inside the M27 fin assembly. Four M204 propellant increments are fitted onto the outside of the fin assembly.

The current demilitarization plan for the cartridge calls for open burning of this round and transferring all the scrap metal to the Defense Reutilization Marketing Office (DRMO) for disposal. This demilitarization plan does not address the following concerns:

- The amount of air pollution generated from open burning of the IR illuminating composition. With EPA environmental limits becoming increasingly tighter, this is not expected to remain a viable demil option for an indefinite time.
- The Depot Maintenance Work Requirements (DMWR) require the removal of items containing precious metals prior to the demilitarization disposal operation, if economically feasible. Such an analysis was lacking in the current plan, and is the object of this report.

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF 60-mm XM767 COMPONENTS

M776 Time Fuze

Each M776 time fuze costs the Army \$125.00* to procure. It contains approximately 0.18 g of detonator mixture and a maximum of 2.92 g of black powder. These compositions are usually sold at about \$5.00 a pound or a maximum of 1.5 cents a gram. Salvaging this fuze is not economically feasible since the energetic materials have no significant recovery value and the fuze has no other end item application. The recovered metal from the fuze would weigh approximately 1 lb and is worth approximately 25 cents.

Infrared Chemically Filled Canister

The IR canister loading assembly shown in figure 3 consists of 12 g of first fire composition and 260 g of IR illuminating composition. Approximately 70% of this composition is cesium nitrate, which is procured by the government for about \$20.00 a pound when purchased in large quantities of approximately 10,000 lb. Consequently each of the IR canisters contain chemicals that are worth a minimum of \$8 to \$10 and up depending on the quantity demiled and the purity of the recovered cesium nitrate. Open burning these canisters could eventually be environmentally undesirable and at the same time, an economic loss to the government. It is possible to chemically recover the cesium nitrate for reuse either by the government or sold for resale for other commercial applications. Based on the procurement projections within the next few years, it is feasible to develop and implement an economically profitable chemical recovery process for recovering cesium nitrate and other chemicals at a Flexible Chemical Recovery facility.

Tail Cone Structure

The tail cone structure shown in figure 4 is designed to carry the parachute pack and the parachute expulsion spring. Since the parachute assembly has no commercial value or use, it can only be salvaged as scrap. The total weight of the stainless steel in the entire round is close to 3.75 lb. Stainless steel scrap is sold for 25 cents per pound and consequently the recovery cost by DRMO of the entire scrap is almost \$1.00 per round.

Tail Ignition Cartridge

The tail ignition cartridge shown in figure 5 is essentially composed of a 0.4 gr of percussion primer and 3 g of black powder. At \$5.00 a pound the cost of these pyrotechnics will amount to only a few cents. Attached to the longitudinal axis of the ignition cartridge are four propelling charges (fig. 6). Each contains 125 gr or a total of 32.4 g of propellant charge, which sells for approximately \$5.00 per pound and consequently is only worth a few cents.

*All money referred to in this report is from FY 98.

SHORT TERM PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

It is apparent from this evaluation, that the only valuable component of the M767 IR illuminating round is in the IR composition filled canister. Since the DMWRs call for removing all valuable materials prior to disposal of the item, it is recommended that the disposal strategy of this item be modified to adapt the following scenario:

- Prior to disposal of the item, drill the four brass pins at the bottom end of the tube cylinder to disassemble this round.
- Remove the canister that holds the IR composition and store it for future chemical recovery of the cesium nitrate.
- The only components left in this round that contain energetics are the fuze and the tail ignition cartridge both of which could either be detonated, open burned, or placed in an incinerator in order to dispose of the black powder, the primer, and the propellant charge.
- The scrap metals remaining after disposal of the pyrotechnics will be sent to DRMO for sale as scrap.

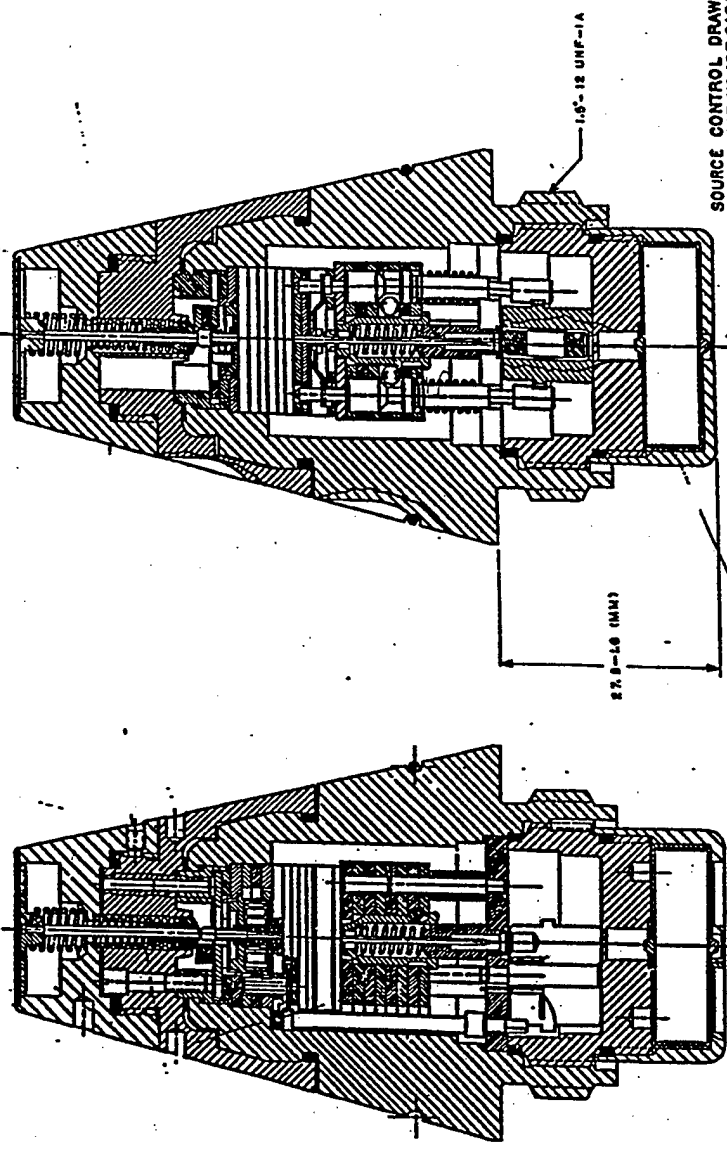
LONG TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

For the long term, it is recommended that a program be funded to determine the optimum process parameters needed to define the appropriate chemicals required by the hydrolysis reaction for the recovery of the cesium nitrate from the infrared illuminating compositions. Once an optimum recovery process has been established, it will be integrated into a flexible Chemical Recovery Facility. An effort to construct a flexible Chemical Recovery Facility has been proposed by Armaments Systems Process Division through the Demil Technology Office in FY 98.

PRODUCTION RELEASE	DATE
END WORKSHEET	

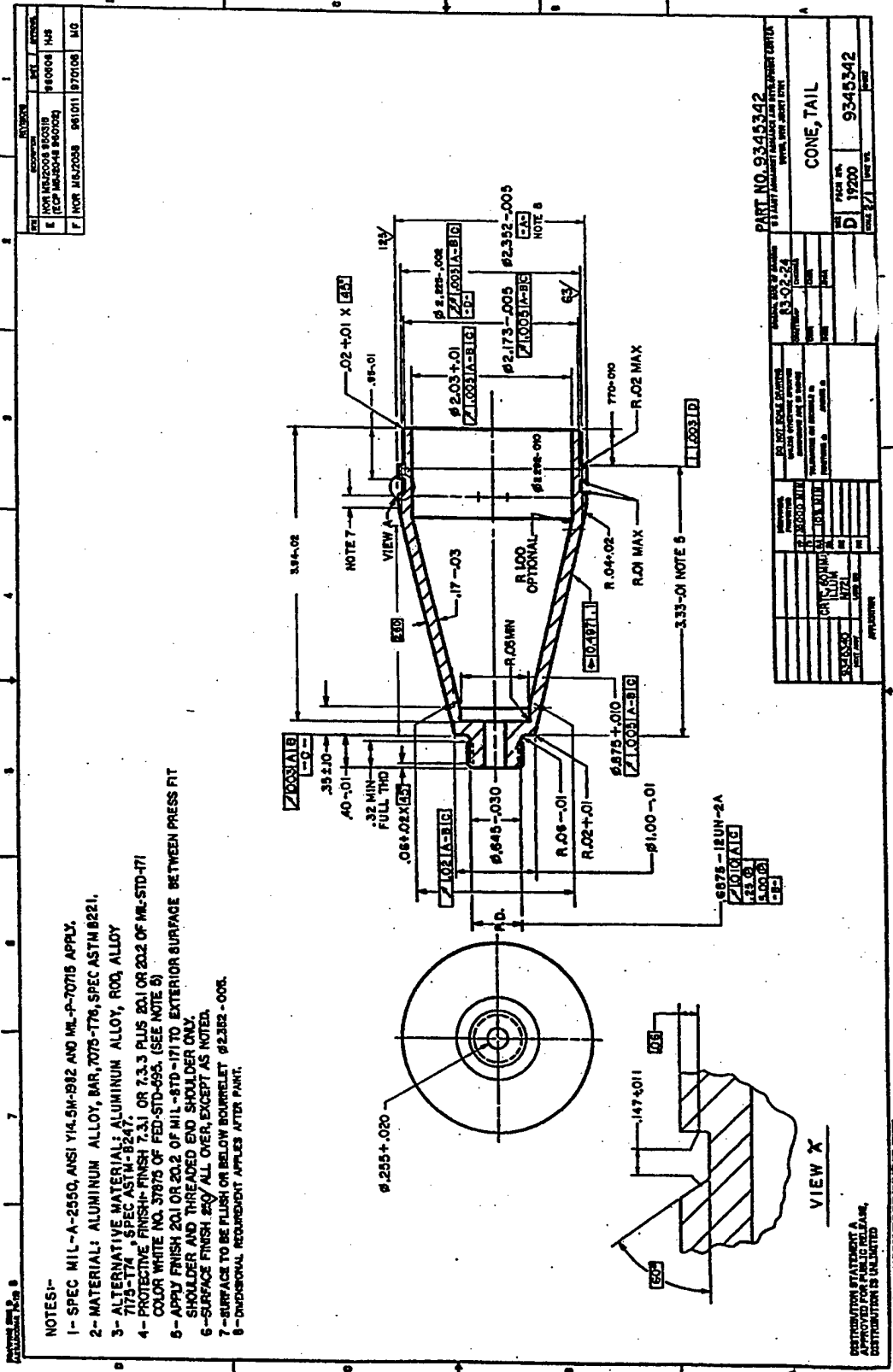
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- 1- REQUIREMENTS AS STATED IN THIS DRAWING APPLY.
- 2- ONLY THE ITEM DESCRIBED ON THIS DRAWING WHEN PROCURED FROM THE VENDOR LISTED HEREON IS APPROVED BY ARDEC FOR USE IN APPLICATION SPECIFIED HEREON. A SUBSTITUTE ITEM SHALL NOT BE USED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL BY ARDEC.
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 - POSTFACH 100-150
 - D 7830 SCHRAMBERG
 - FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
 - PART NO. 908.01



SOURCE CONTROL DRAWING PART NO. 12361000	
DATE	12361000
REV	
BY	
CHECKED	
APPROVED	
FUZE, M776, M776	

Figure 2
M776 time fuze



NOTES:-

- 1- SPEC MIL-A-2550, ANSI Y14.5M-92 AND MIL-P-70715 APPLY.
- 2- MATERIAL: ALUMINUM ALLOY, BAR, 7075-T76, SPEC ASTM B221.
- 3- ALTERNATIVE MATERIAL: ALUMINUM ALLOY, ROD, ALLOY 7075-T74, SPEC ASTM B247.
- 4- PROTECTIVE FINISH: FINISH 7.31 OR 7.3.3 PLUS 20.1 OR 20.2 OF MIL-STD-171 COLOR WHITE NO. 37875 OF FED-STD-595. (SEE NOTE 6)
- 5- APPLY FINISH 20.1 OR 20.2 OF MIL-STD-171 TO EXTERIOR SURFACE BETWEEN PRESS FIT SHOULDER AND THREADED END SHOULDER ONLY.
- 6- SURFACE FINISH 20/ ALL OVER, EXCEPT AS NOTED.
- 7- SURFACE TO BE FINISH ON BELOW BOURRELET #2.352-008.
- 8- DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENT APPLIES AFTER PAINT.

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD
E	REVISED TO ADD DIMENSIONS	10/01/04	148	
F	REVISED TO ADD DIMENSIONS	08/01/04	148	

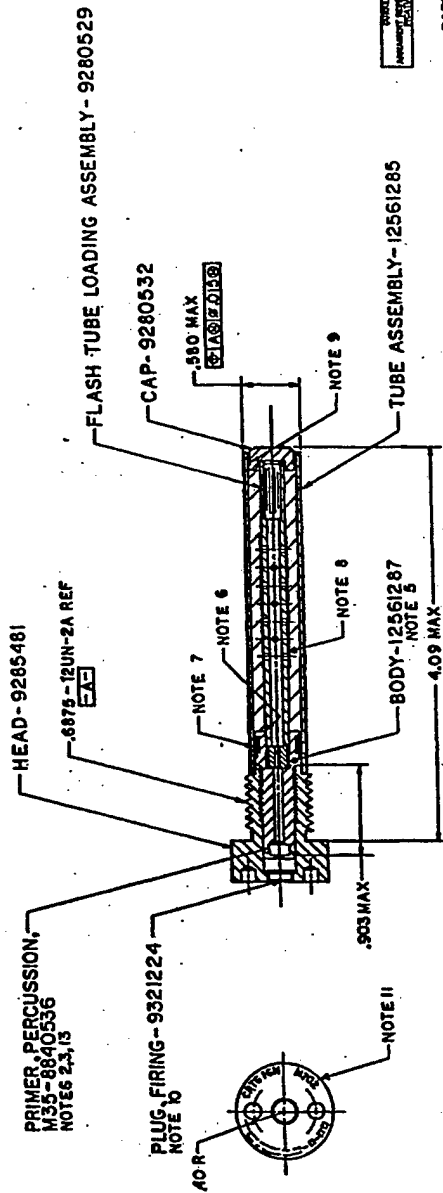
PART NO. 9345342		CONE, TAIL	
REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
D	REVISED TO ADD DIMENSIONS	10/01/04	148

Figure 4
Structure of tail cone

CONTROL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL
A DIVISION OF CALTECH INDUSTRIES
CONTROL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	REPLACES REV 2 WITH CHARGE	11-29-66	11-29-66
2	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
3	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
4	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
5	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
6	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
7	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
8	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
9	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66
10	NO. 1234567890	11-29-66	11-29-66

- NOTES:-
- 1- SPEC MIL-A-2850, ANE1 Y1A, 6-1973, SPEC MIL-C-48161 AND SPEC MIL-C-48162 APPLY.
 - 2- PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY, STORE ALL PARTS OVERNIGHT IN HEATED DRYHOUSE KEPT AT 100° F.
 - 3- PRIMER TO ASSEMBLY MAY BE ABOVE FLASH OF TOP OF BODY PRIMER CAVITY.
 - 4- SEALER/PRIMER OF PRIMER MUST BE AFTER SEATING, WITH LACQUER, CELLULOSE NITRATE, TYPE I OR II (TINTED) SPEC MIL-L-10287.
 - 5- LACQUER PERMITTED ON FACE OF PRIMER.
 - 6- ASSEMBLE BODY TO HEAD AND STAKE IN 2 PLACES APPROXIMATELY 180° APART, STAKE TO BE ON T.02 ± 0.04 ± 0.02 X 0.2 ± 0.1 DEEP.
 - 7- PLACE FLASH TUBE LOADING ASSEMBLY INTO BODY, THEN APPLY A BEAD OF ADHESIVE AND SEALING COMPOUND CELLULOSE NITRATE BASE, TYPE II, UNCOLORED, SPEC MIL-A-1051, 360° AROUND BODY CAVITY.
 - 8- APPLY ADHESIVE SEALANT RTV 732, SPEC MIL-A-46106, TO GROOVE IN BODY, 360° WHILE WET ASSEMBLE TUBE ASSEMBLY.
 - 9- LOAD WITH POWDER M9, SPEC MIL-P-63195 EXCEPT FOR WEB THICKNESS WHICH SHALL BE .006 ADVISORY - CHARGE WEIGHT, SO GRAINS THE CHARGE WEIGHT TO BE DETERMINED BY ASSESSMENT TO MEET VELOCITY REQUIREMENTS OF SPEC MIL-P-63195 AFTER CHARGE WEIGHT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED THE TOLERANCE SHALL BE ± 1 GRAIN.
 - 10- ASSEMBLE CAP AND FILL CHANNEL WITH ADHESIVE SEALANT RTV 732, SPEC MIL-A-46106 360° AROUND BODY WHILE WET, REMOVE EXCESSIVE ADHESIVE.
 - 11- PLUG, FIRING MUST BE LOOSE AFTER ASSEMBLY, AND MUST BE FLUSH OR BELOW SURFACES OF HEAD.
 - 12- PLUG, FIRING APPROXIMATELY .062 HIGH AND .010 DEEP, LOT NUMBER, DATE (MONTH AND YEAR) LOADED AND DESIGNATION AS SHOWN, PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY.
 - 13- ALTERNATIVE PRIMER: SEE DRAWING C9395813.
 - 14- ASSEMBLY AND SEALING OF BARRIER BAG PROCESS SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN A HUMIDITY-CONTROLLED ROOM MAINTAINED AT 40% MAX RELATIVE HUMIDITY (RH) AT 72° F.



SEE SEPARATE PARTS LIST 9280553

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	REV
1	PRIMER, PERCUSSION, M35-8840536	EA	1
1	FLASH TUBE LOADING ASSEMBLY - 9280529	EA	1
1	CAP - 9280532	EA	1
1	TUBE ASSEMBLY - 12561285	EA	1
1	BODY - 12561287	EA	1
1	PLUG, FIRING - 9321224	EA	1

DO NOT SCALE DIMENSIONS

DATE: 15 JAN 1973

DESIGNED BY: K. RUSSELL

CHECKED BY: D. KATZ

PART NO. 9280553

CARTRIDGE, IGNITION, M702

LOADING ASSEMBLY

REV: D 19703

9280553

SCALE: 2:1

Figure 5
Ignition cartridge

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