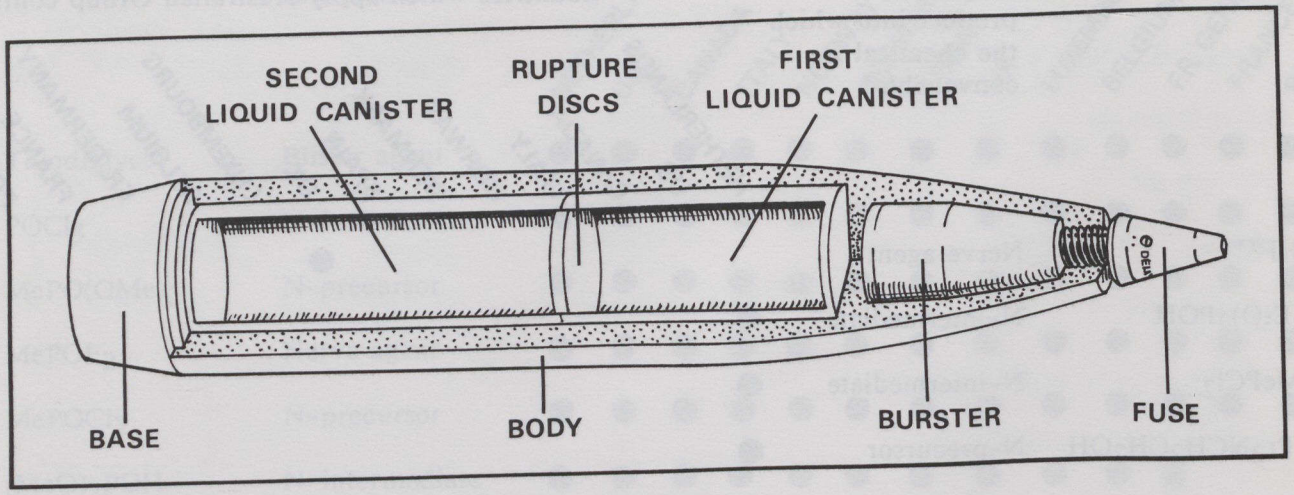
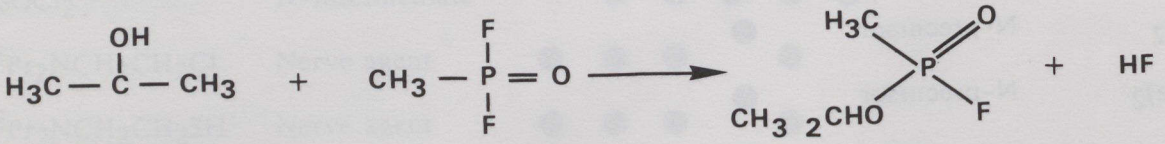
BINARY WEAPONS



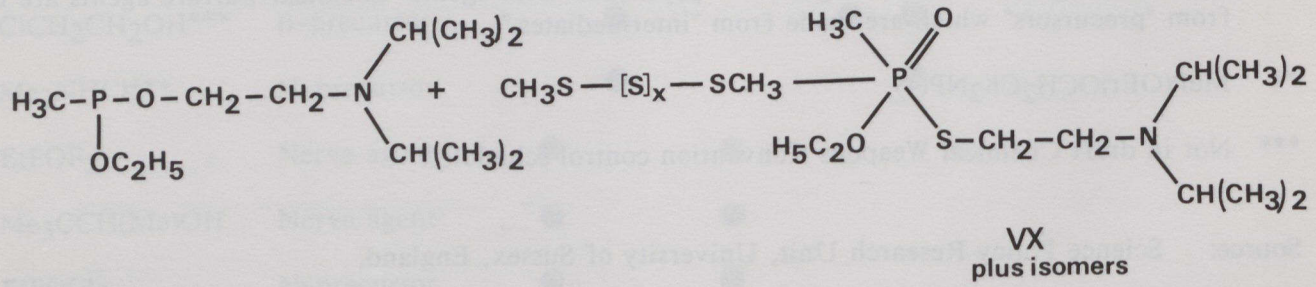
A binary chemical weapons artillery shell holds two canisters. Each canister contains a nonlethal ingredient. The shock of firing ruptures the discs which separate the two canisters. The reactants begin to mix. The spin of the shell in flight continues the mixing of the reactants. The result of the reaction is a lethal nerve gas -- either Sarin (GB) or VX.



SARIN

⬆ 155 mm Shell

⬇ 8 inch Shell



VX
plus isomers

From: Chemical and Engineering News, 15 December 1980, p.25.