

ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF WEARING ANTI-GAS HELMETS WHEN WIND IS FAVOURABLE FOR A GAS ATTACK (SEE II, PARA. (f))

1. Put the helmet on in the usual way. Pin the front edge of the helmet and the top edge of the opened waterproof satchel to the shirt with two safety pins in such a manner that the helmet may be readily pulled on and off the head without removing the pins, the satchel hanging loose below it.

2. Leaving the safety pins in position, remove the helmet and fold it to the usual width, keeping the valve horizontal and flat. Now roll up the helmet and tuck it inside the jacket. Cover with the waterproof satchel by pulling up the latter so that it lies in front of the helmet, and button up the jacket with the exception of the top two buttons.

3. On the gas alarm sounding, pull out the helmet, pull it over the head, and adjust in the usual manner. The waterproof bag hangs suspended by the pins and is ready for use if required.

The adoption of this method avoids the irritation of the forehead that sometimes follows wearing the helmet rolled up on the head.

3. Gas Alarm.

Appliances for giving the alarm in case of gas attack must be carefully organized in advance. These require to be of two kinds: The first in the form of gongs, rails, etc., at each sentry post, which will be beaten directly gas is detected and will arouse the men in their immediate vicinity, the signal being passed along by all sentries as soon as heard. The second kind will be for the purpose of conveying the alarm to troops in support or reserve lines, such as hooters worked by compressed air (Strombos horns), in order to supplement telephonic communication and in case the latter breaks down. No reliance can be placed on methods of communication involving the use of the lungs, e.g., bugles or whistles. Sentries must be prepared to give the alarm on the first appearance of gas, as a few seconds delay may involve serious consequences. Empty compressed air cylinders for Strombos horns should be returned for recharging to the Heavy Mobile Workshop of the Army concerned.

4. Action to be taken on gas alarm signal.

- (a) All ranks put on tube helmets (or box respirators in the case of units equipped with them).