

Munitions of all types and bulk containers are moved in a special van from a nearby storage area to a revetted munitions holding area on the CAMDS site. This holding area is designed to store approximately a one-day supply for destruction operations.

As needed, munitions are transferred with a special transporter vehicle from the munition holding area to the unpack building area of CAMDS. Here munitions are removed from their shipping and storage containers and prepared for the demilitarization process. The unpack area at CAMDS has a number of different configurations for handling bulk containers and different munition types (i.e., 115 mm rockets, mines, 105 mm burstered projectiles — i.e., 105 mm burstered projectiles containing an explosive charge to burst open the munition — 105 mm non-burstered projectiles, 155 mm burstered projectiles, 155 mm and 8-inch non-burstered projectiles, 4.2-inch mortar cartridges).

From the unpack area, all munitions containing explosives travel to the explosive containment cubicle, where explosive components (e.g., propellant; fuse; burster) are removed. These components are destroyed by incineration in a deactivation furnace. Next, the munitions are transferred by conveyor to the projectile disassembly facility. Munitions without explosives are sent directly to this facility from the unpack area, bypassing the explosive containment cubicle.

In the projectile disassembly facility all munitions are processed through a device which removes the nose closure from non-burstered projectiles and pulls the burster well from all items ("burster well removal machine"). It can also be used to drain GB and VX from the projectiles.

For in situ incineration, the projectiles coming from the projectile disassembly facility are loaded into an "egg-carton" tray. (This tray holds 48-75 items, depending on the type of item.) The projectile-filled tray is transferred into the metal parts furnace on a small charge car. Bulk items, which arrive directly from the munition holding area, are also placed on a wheeled platform ("charge car") for transfer into the furnace.

The metal parts furnace processing system includes a rotary hearth furnace, a primary fume burner, an auxiliary fume burner, and equipment for removing destruction products from the exhaust gases. The furnace is made up of three chambers: a punching chamber, a chamber for controlled volatilization of agent, and a final burnout chamber for incineration of any agent remaining on metal parts.