

## CHAPTER 6

### DESTRUCTION OF MATERIEL

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#### **85. Authority.**

The decision to destroy ordnance materiel to prevent its capture and use by the enemy is a command decision.

#### **86. Principles Governing Destruction.**

The following are the fundamentals to be observed in executing an order to destroy small arms.

*a.* The destruction must be as complete as the circumstances will permit.

*b.* If there is insufficient time for complete destruction, the parts essential to operation of the weapon must be destroyed, beginning with those parts most difficult for the enemy to duplicate.

*c.* The same essential parts of each weapon must be destroyed, to prevent the reconstruction of a complete weapon from several damaged ones.

#### **87. Training in Destruction.**

Before reaching the combat zone, soldiers must be trained to quickly and adequately destroy their individual weapons in an established and uniform sequence, based on the principles stated in the above paragraph. Training will not involve actual destruction of materiel.

#### **88. Method for the Destruction of the Submachinegun.**

Remove and dispose of the bolt and guide rod group. Smash the receiver and stock against a tree, rock, or other hard surface until bent and twisted. Smash or burr the threads of the barrel collar.

#### **89. Destruction of Ammunition.**

When time and materials are available, ammunition may be destroyed as follows: Break out all packed ammunition from boxes

or cartons. Stack the ammunition in a pile. (If possible, the pile should be placed in a depression or hole, to lessen the danger to personnel performing the destruction operation.) Stack or pile all available flammable material, such as scrap wood or brush, over the ammunition. Pour gasoline or oil over the pile. Sufficient flammable material must be used to insure a very hot fire. Ignite the material and take cover. A period of 30 to 60 minutes will be required to destroy the ammunition carried by small combat units.