THE GERMAN UBOAT MINE ASSEMBLY

September 1945

DOCLASSIFIED
COD DIR 8200.9

DTIC SELECTED
AUG 3 1984

AD-A953 446

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U.S. NAVAL TECHNICAL MISSION IN EUROPE  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
New York, N.Y.

File: A9-16(3)(40/Hi)  
Serial: 922

UNCLASSIFIED
7 September 1945

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THE GERMAN UMA/K MINE ASSEMBLY

SUMMARY

This report contains general information on the German moored-contact surface mine assembly designated UMA/K.

September 1945

U.S. NAVAL TECHNICAL MISSION IN EUROPE

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THE GERMAN UMA/K MINE ASSEMBLY

1. Introduction.

The German UMA/K mine assembly was designed and developed in late 1942 to defend the sea approaches to Northern Europe from Allied attack. It replaced the EMG mine assembly which was considered unsatisfactory for the defense of such waters and was used operationally until 1944 when it was in turn replaced by the OMA/K.

A German pamphlet on this assembly was forwarded to the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-16-PT) by letter of transmittal, serial 801 of 20 August 1945.

2. General.

(a) Description of the UMA/K Assembly.

The UMA/K consists of a normal UMA mine case with the lower horns blanked off, a cast-iron 48 kilogram weight and a cast-iron anchor weighing 250 kilograms. The assembly of the above components before and after laying is shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

(b) Minimum and Maximum Laying Depths.

The assembly is so designed that the mine case remains on the surface regardless of the stage of the tide. It may be laid in depths of 25 to 50 meters. For depths of 25 to 45 meters a 20 meter mooring cable is used between the mine case and weight; for depths of 30 to 50 meters the mooring cable length is increased to 25 meters. In both cases, the mooring cable between the anchor and weight is 50 meters in length.
3. Contents of the German Pamphlet on U/M/K.

The following is a translation of the table of contents of this pamphlet:

(A) Text.
   (a) Type and Purpose of Mine.
   (b) Possible Uses.
   (c) Method of Assembly.
   (d) Laying Depths.
   (e) General Data.

(B) Illustrations.
   (a) Mine Case and Anchor.
   (b) Mine Case and Weight.

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UMA/K CASE AND ANCHOR

Fig 1