

# Field Manual FM 11 MCRP 37-1B NTRP 11-32 AFTTP 55: Potential Military Chemical Threats

Chemical warfare has been a major concern for military forces for over a century. In the past, chemical agents have been used in numerous conflicts, including the First World War, the Iran-Iraq War, and the Syrian Civil War. Today, the threat of chemical warfare remains a serious concern, as many countries possess chemical weapons or have the capability to develop them.



## Field Manual FM 3-11.9 MCRP 3-37.1B NTRP 3-11.32 AFTTP (I) 3-2.55 Potential Military Chemical/Biological Agents and Compounds January 2005

by United States Government US Army

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Lending : Enabled



This field manual provides essential information on potential military chemical threats, including their properties, detection, protection, and treatment. This information is critical for military personnel who may be exposed to chemical agents in the course of their duties.

## Properties of Chemical Agents

Chemical agents are substances that can cause harm to humans through inhalation, skin contact, or ingestion. They can be classified into three main types: nerve agents, blister agents, and choking agents.

- **Nerve agents** are the most toxic of the chemical agents. They work by inhibiting the action of an enzyme that is essential for nerve function. This can lead to a rapid loss of consciousness, paralysis, and death.
- **Blister agents** cause severe burns to the skin and mucous membranes. They can also cause damage to the eyes and respiratory tract.
- **Choking agents** damage the lungs and airways. This can lead to difficulty breathing, coughing, and death.

Chemical agents can be delivered in a variety of ways, including through bombs, rockets, artillery shells, and sprayers. They can also be used to contaminate food or water supplies.

## Detection of Chemical Agents

There are a variety of methods that can be used to detect chemical agents. These methods include:

- **Chemical detectors** are devices that can detect the presence of chemical agents in the air or on surfaces.
- **Biosensors** are devices that use living organisms to detect the presence of chemical agents.

- **Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)** is a laboratory technique that can identify and quantify chemical agents.

The choice of detection method depends on the specific chemical agent that is being sought and the environment in which the detection is being conducted.

## **Protection from Chemical Agents**

There are a variety of ways to protect against chemical agents, including:

- **Gas masks** are devices that protect the respiratory system from chemical agents.
- **Protective clothing** is clothing that protects the skin from chemical agents.
- **Decontamination** is the process of removing chemical agents from the body and clothing.

The choice of protection method depends on the specific chemical agent that is being used and the level of exposure that is expected.

## **Treatment of Chemical Agent Exposure**

There are a variety of treatments that can be used to treat chemical agent exposure, including:

- **Antidotes** are drugs that can counteract the effects of chemical agents.
- **Decontamination** is the process of removing chemical agents from the body and clothing.

- **Supportive care** is the provision of medical care to help the body recover from the effects of chemical agent exposure.

The choice of treatment depends on the specific chemical agent that was used and the severity of the exposure.

Chemical warfare is a serious threat to military forces. This field manual provides essential information on potential military chemical threats, including their properties, detection, protection, and treatment. This information is critical for military personnel who may be exposed to chemical agents in the course of their duties.



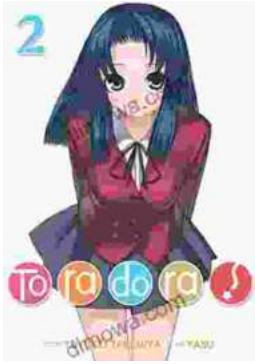
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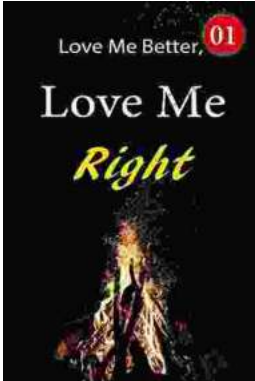
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