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                    by
                    Agrajag the Prolonged
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This article will deal with the production of type 'C' plastic explosive compound. If you have not read my other two articles, you will need to so you can get some safety precations and the recipe for making R.D.X.

All of the type 'C' plastic explosives (that includes C-2, C-3, and C-4) are exceedingly powerful and should be used with utmost care. (See K.I.P.E. Part II for detonation chart).

This explosive is just a copy of a British explosive that was adopted early in WWII. This explosive is the choice explosive of the type 'C' compounds becuase of its relative ease of maufacture and the easy aquisition of the plastizer compound. This explosive was available in standard demolition blocks.

This explosive was standardized and adopted in the following composition:

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R.D.X.......................... 88.3%
Heavy mineral oil.............. 11.1%
Lecithin.......................   .6%
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(All percentages are by wait)

In this composition, the lecithin acts to prevent the formation of large crystals of R.D.X. which would increase the sensitivity of the explosive. This explosive has a good deal of power and is relatively non-toxic, (except when ingested).

It is also plastic from 0-40 degrees celcius. Above 40 degrees the explosive undergoes extrudation and becomes gummy although its explosive properties go realatively unimpaired. Below 0 degrees celcius it becomes brittle and its cap sensitivity is lessened considerably.

Manufacturing this explosive can be done two ways. First being to dissolve the 11.7% plastisizing in unleaded gasoline and mixing with the R.D.X. and allowing the gasoline to evaporate until the mixture is free of all gasoline.

The second method being the simple kneading of the plastisizing compound into the R.D.X. until a uniform mixture is obtained.

This explosive should be stored in a cool-dry place. If properly made the

plastique should be very stable in storage even if stored at elevated temparatures for long periods of time.

It should be very cap sensitive. A booster will be a good choice, especially if used below 0 degrees celcius.

This detonates at a velocity of 7900 M/second.

Live long and don't get caught,
Agrajag

This information was orignally written by Tim Lewis in a book called, "Kitchen Improvised Platic Explosives". You can obtain a copy od this book, or a catalog by wrtting:

Information Publishing Company
Box 10042, Odessa Texas
79762

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%    How to make type 'C-2' and 'C-3'   %
$       plastic explosive compound.     $
%$%$%$%$%$%$%$%$% Written %$%$%$%$%$%$%$%$%
                  by
                  Agrajag the Prolonged
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This article will cover the production of plastic explosives of the type 'C-2' and 'C-3'. These are highly undesirable because of certain trait each has and they don't produce as much power as 'C' and 'C-4' compounds.

It is not recamended you make these two types of plastique, this article was written for imformatative purposes only. (Just so you can act like you know what you are doing).

Composition 'C-2' is harder to make than 'C-4' and is TOXIC TO HANDLE. It is also unstable in storage and is poor choice for home explosive manufature. It also has a lower detonation velocity than either 'C-4' or 'C-3'.

It is manufactured in a steam jacketed (heated) melting kettle using the same procedure used in incorperation of 'C-3'. Its composition is as follows:

R.D.X..... 80%
  (Equal parts of them following:)
        Mononitrotolulene
        Dinitrotolulene
        T.N.T. guncotton
        Dimethylformide..... 20%

(See Below for rest of recipe)

'C-3' was developed to eliminate the undesirable aspects of 'C-2'. It was standardized and adopted by the military as following composition:

R.D.X..... 77%
Mononitrotolulene.... 16%
Dinitrotolulene..... 5%
Tetryl..... 1%
T.N.T. guncotton..... 1%

'C-3' is manufactured by mixing the plastisizing agent in a steam jacketed melting kettle equipped with a mechanical stirring attachment. The kettle is heated to 90-100 degrees Celcius and the stirrer is activated. Water wet R.D.X. is added to the plastisizing agent and the stirring is continued until a uniform mixture is obtained and all water has been driven off. Remove the heat source but continue to stir the mixture until it has cooled to room temperature.

This explosive is as sensitive to impact as is T.N.T. Storage at 65 degrees Celcius for four months at a relative humidity of 95% does not impair it's explosive properties.

'C-3' is 133% as good as an explosive as good as an explsive as is T.N.T. The major drawback of 'C-3' is its volatility which causes it to lose 1.2% of its weight although the explosives detonation properties are not affected.

Water does not affect explosives preformance. It therefore is very good for under-water demolition uses and would be a good choice for such an aplication.

When stored at 77 degrees Celcius considerable extrudation takes place. It will become hard at -29 degrees Celcius and is hard to detonate at this tempurature.

While this explosive is not unduely toxic, it should be handled with care as it contains aryl-nitro compounds which are absorbed through the skin.

It will reliably take detonation from a #6 blasting cap but the use of a booster is always suggested. This explosive has a great blast effect and was still is avaliable in standard demolition blocks.

Its detonation velocity is approximately 7700 M/second.

Live long and prosper,
Agrajag