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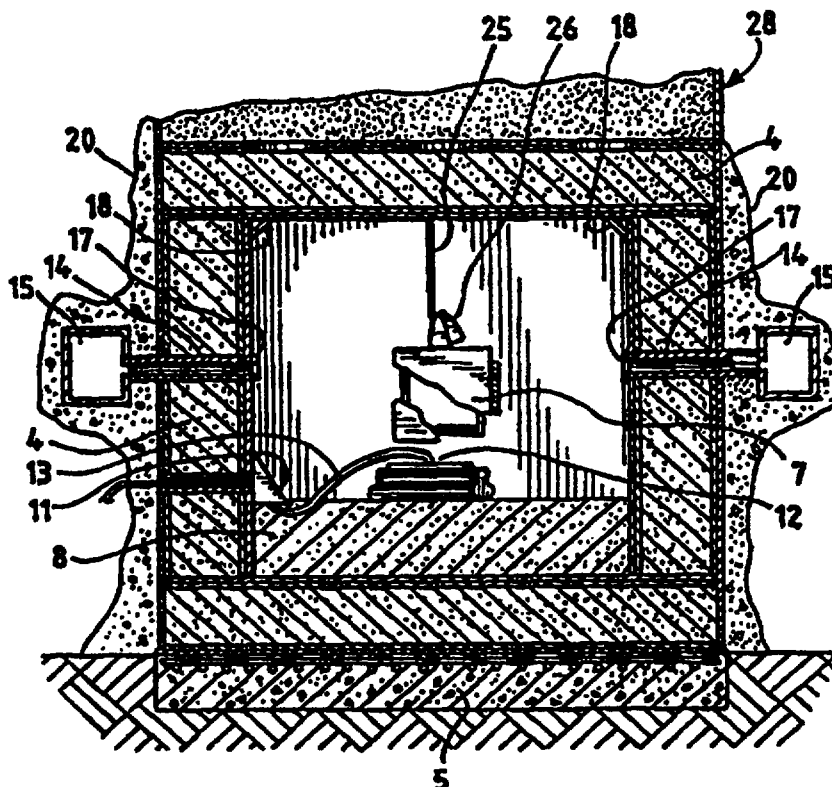
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTAINING AND SUPPRESSING EXPLOSIVE DETONATIONS ✓

(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus for enclosing, controlling and suppressing the explosive destruction of munitions, particularly cluster-bomb munitions in an explosion chamber. The explosion chamber (28) comprises a double-walled steel explosion chamber in which the walls and access doors are filled with granular shock damping silica sand (4). The munition is placed in an open-topped fragmentation containment unit (37) within the chamber on the chamber floor which is covered with granular shock-damping pea gravel. Plastic bags of water (26) are suspended within the chamber over the detonation area and filled with an amount of water chosen according to the type and amount of explosive in the munition. A starter charge (12) and ignition wires (13) are electrically activated to detonate the explosive. A woven steel blast mat (42) is secured to the chamber roof for the purpose of catching debris and a scrubber system (27) is in communication with the chamber for the purpose of further cooling and treatment of gaseous combustion products resulting from the detonation.



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