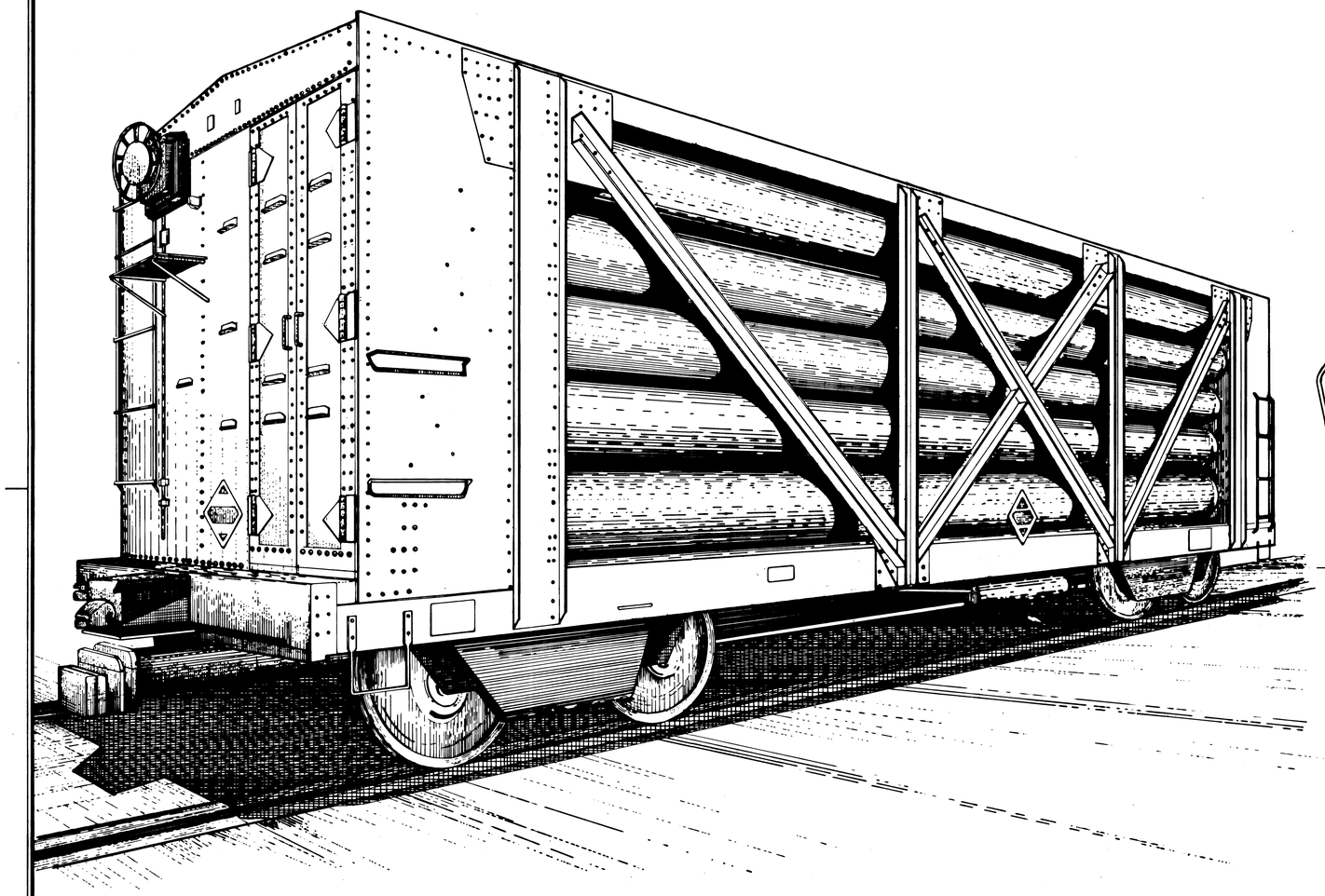
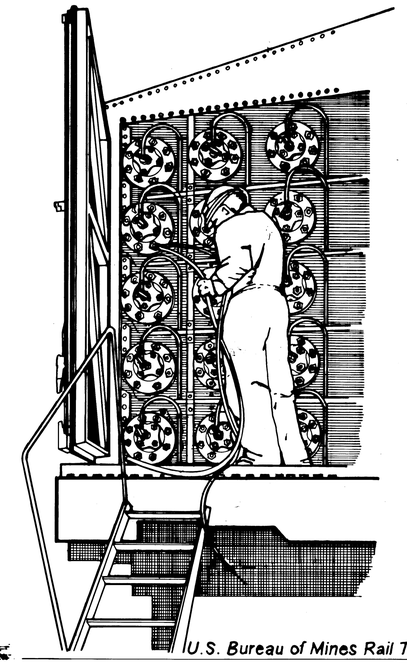
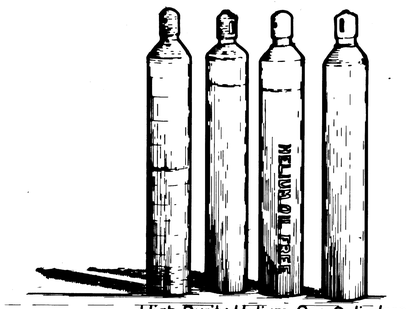
TRANSPORTATION OF HELIUM

Exell Helium Plant

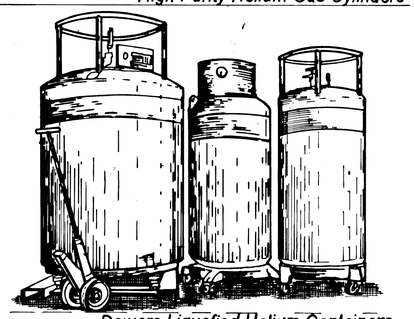




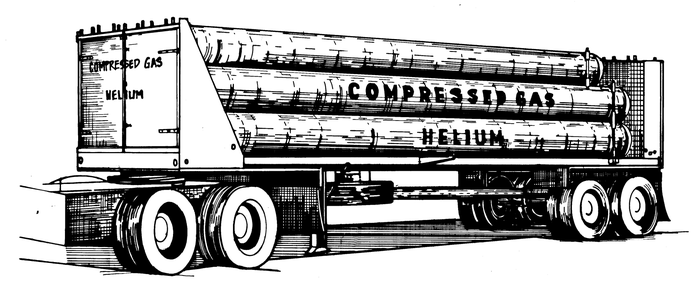
U.S. Bureau of Mines Rail Tank Car



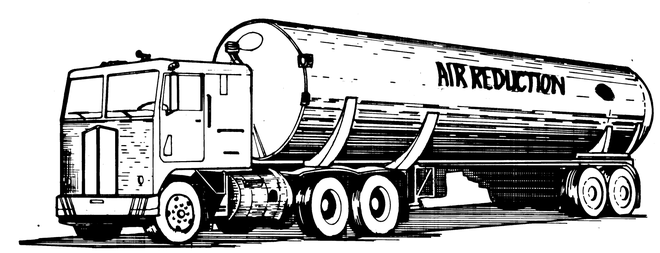
High Purity Helium Gas Cylinders



Dewars Liquefied Helium Containers



Helium Gas Transport Trailer



Liquefied Helium Transport Trailer

One of the main concerns of the U.S. Bureau of Mines was the shipping of helium. To ensure that the helium was inescapable during shipment, Bureau scientists initially designed special small cylinder tanks and rail tank cars.

In an effort to cut costs and promote greater accessibility to the varied markets on or near the new federal interstate highway system (built between 1956-1970), some gas was delivered using trucks and trailers converted to haul compressed helium gas.

Throughout these boom years, administrators grew concerned with shipping costs, which had increased commensurate with the 500 mmcf yearly demands of federal and private defense contractors. To curtail these rising shipping costs, administrators implemented liquid helium shipment in both vacuum insulated dewars and larger over-the-road trailers. By the time of the Exell plant operational shut down in the mid-1990s, of the 300 to 500 mmcf of helium delivered annually, approximately 80 mmcf was in liquefied form.

DELINEATED BY: DOMINGGUS PALILANG 2001

HELIUM ACTIVITIES RECORDING PROJECT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. BUREAU OF MINES, HELIUM PLANTS, EXELL HELIUM PLANT 1943
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MOORE COUNTY
TEXAS

SHEET 8 OF 9

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