

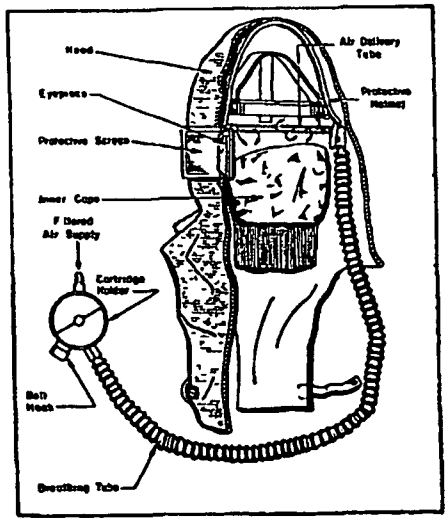

Fig. 36-18. Lightweight hood is designed for abrasive blasting. Parts and connections are given in diagram.

A window of glass protected from the abrasive by a fine wire screen should be provided. The window should be of impact-resistant glass. It should also be free from color and other defects. Both the window and the protective screen should be easily replaceable, preferably without the use of tools.

Gas masks

The gas mask type of respirator consists of a facepiece connected by a flexible tube to a canister (Fig. 36-19). Contaminated air is purified by chemicals in the canister. No one chemical has been found which will remove all gaseous contaminants, so the canister must be carefully chosen to fit the user's needs. Table 36-C lists the general characteristics of gas masks and their canisters.

Canister gas masks with full facepiece are for emergency protection in atmospheres immediately dangerous to life. They do *not* provide protection against oxygen deficiency. Their effectiveness is limited to use in atmospheres containing at least 16 per cent (by volume) oxygen and not more than 2 per cent of most toxic gases except ammonia for which the limit is 3 per cent.

The life of a gas mask depends on the amount of chemicals provided in the canister and on their characteristics.

Each person who has to use a gas mask should first undergo a physical examination, with particular check of heart and lungs. Since the gas mask ordinarily is used as emergency equipment, under conditions of strain and excitement, those who use it should be carefully trained.

How to make sure that the mask fits tightly is one of the first lessons. The wearer should

1. Remove the seal from the bottom of the canister and put on the head piece.
2. Adjust the head straps until the mask fits closely and comfortably.
3. See that there are no kinks in the tubes or the hose.
4. Breathe naturally and observe the amount of resistance to inhalation.
5. Grasp the hose tightly and close off the air intake. Breathe deeply until the facepiece collapses. If correctly adjusted, the facepiece will remain collapsed until the intake is opened.