

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910154715703321
Autore	Smith Susan Lynn <1960->
Titolo	Toxic Exposures : Mustard Gas and the Health Consequences of World War II in the United States // Susan L. Smith
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, NJ : , : Rutgers University Press, , [2017] ©2019
ISBN	0-8135-8612-7 0-8135-8611-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (209 pages)
Collana	Critical Issues in Health and Medicine
Classificazione	HIS027010MED039000SCI034000HIS027100POL035010HIS036060
Disciplina	615.9/1
Soggetti	HISTORY / United States / 20th Century POLITICAL SCIENCE / Political Freedom & Security / Human Rights HISTORY / Military / World War II SCIENCE / History MEDICAL / History HISTORY / Military / Biological & Chemical Warfare Gases, Asphyxiating and poisonous Chemical weapons - United States - Testing Mustard gas - Toxicology Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction: Health and War Beyond the Battlefield -- Part I. Preparation for Chemical Warfare -- Chapter 1. Wounding Men to Learn: Soldiers as Human Subjects -- Chapter 2. Race Studies and the Science of War -- Part II. Toxic Legacies of War -- Chapter 3. Mustard Gas in the Sea Around Us -- Chapter 4. A Wartime Story: Mustard Agents and Cancer Chemotherapy -- Conclusion: Veterans Making History -- Notes -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	Mustard gas is typically associated with the horrors of World War I battlefields and trenches, where chemical weapons were responsible for tens of thousands of deaths. Few realize, however, that mustard gas

had a resurgence during the Second World War, when its uses and effects were widespread and insidious. Toxic Exposures tells the shocking story of how the United States and its allies intentionally subjected thousands of their own servicemen to poison gas as part of their preparation for chemical warfare. In addition, it reveals the racialized dimension of these mustard gas experiments, as scientists tested whether the effects of toxic exposure might vary between Asian, Hispanic, black, and white Americans. Drawing from once-classified American and Canadian government records, military reports, scientists' papers, and veterans' testimony, historian Susan L. Smith explores not only the human cost of this research, but also the environmental degradation caused by ocean dumping of unwanted mustard gas. As she assesses the poisonous legacy of these chemical warfare experiments, Smith also considers their surprising impact on the origins of chemotherapy as cancer treatment and the development of veterans' rights movements. Toxic Exposures thus traces the scars left when the interests of national security and scientific curiosity battled with medical ethics and human rights.

---