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Shortly after World War Two, the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad that ran through Coalfire, Al started dumping German helmets, hand grenade shells, casings and lots of other war stuff on the right of way and later covered the stuff with dirt and gravel. All that stuff was meant of be right of way fill, and it was, except that a few of us kids from Coalfire beat the crew that was to cover that stuff up to the equipment. Cecil Bonner, Virgil Bonner and myself, to name a few, carried off as much of that stuff as we could. The three of us got German helmets for sure, and a couple of grenade shells each, I don't remember now all we did get.....Those grenade shell casings were difficult to throw as they were pretty heavy, so we used them for looks. Anyway, on with the story,.... that started us playing war games. And with those spiffy helmets we needed some real action, so we got some dry ice, pint fruit jars with the tops. By putting some water in the jars, adding dry ice, screwing the cap on tightly, counting to about ten or so and then throwing the jar at our enemy, (probably Harold or Billy Ray or who ever else we could recruit ) the jar would explode filling the air with a loud pop and a lot of cascading glass raining down all around the victim..... Yeah, I know it was pretty stupid, but at the time it fell in the FUN category. The GM&O railroad provided us some good toys for a while. I don't know what happened to all that stuff. Some of it is still buried on the tracks between Coalfire Creek and McShan I imagine.[1](#)

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