

# Antenna Peak Points



Here are some pointers to keep your mast antenna doing its job for you:

Use all the guy assemblies. Make sure they're staked and tied right and tight.

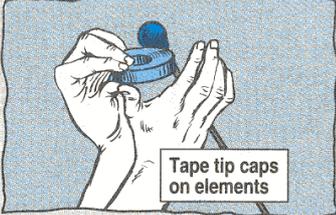
For soft or sandy soil, drive the top of the ground stake at least 2 inches below the surface. That leaves the anchor hook just above the ground.

In hard ground, drive in the stakes until only the cable connection hole shows.

## Safety First

Put safety first when erecting this antenna. Put tip caps, NSN 5985-00-930-7223, on all the elements. Wrap them in place with electrical insulation tape, NSN 5970-00-816-6056.

In a pinch, you can tape other items, such as tennis balls or rubber tubing, onto the antenna elements.



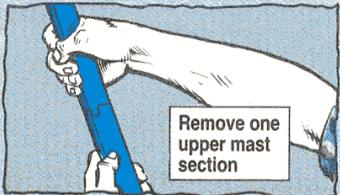
Tape tip caps on elements

## Erection Tip

Keep the antenna away from overhead electric power lines. Pick a spot that's at least twice the mast's height away from power lines.

CECOM SOU Msg AMSEL-SF-SEC 201800Z Mar 90 authorizes the removal of one upper mast section to help take stress off the entire mast. Reducing the mast height means you need to shorten the lower pulling guy wire.

Since one section is removed, the antenna can be raised by one person using the assembly procedures in Para 2-6 of TM 11-5985-357-13.



Remove one upper mast section

## Mast Sections Matter

The feedcone on the mast top may look like a good substitute for a football, but it's too fragile to be tossed like one. Handle it carefully.

Check the mast sections for cracks before you store them. If you find an open crack that's longer than 1/4 inch, replace the section.

Also, clean the sections before slipping them together for storage. Otherwise, you'll have a hard task pulling them apart later.



Feed cone is fragile. Don't toss it around

Notch guy plate...



## Nighttime Notch

...and swaging sleeve here

For night erection, save time by notching the top guy plate.

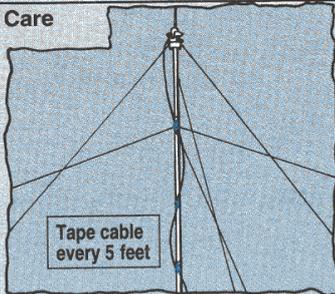
Cut a small notch in the red plate and on the swaging sleeve of each of the red guy wires. You can then pick them out quickly in the dark.

## Cable Care

Take the strain off the coax cable and its connector by using the PF-211 strain relief.

Then, tape the cable to the mast just below the feedcone. Tape it every 5 feet or so.

Protect your cable at ground level, too. Hatches, doors and vehicle wheels can damage the cable and cause you to lose your commo signal.



Tape cable every 5 feet



HERE ARE SOME MORE TIPS TO KEEP YOUR CABLE WELL!

- ⚡ Put a block next to the cable to keep it out of tight places.
- ⚡ Never run the cable along the ground in heavy traffic areas.
- ⚡ Run the cable over the roadway using lance poles. If you must lay the cable on the roadway, put boards or limbs on the ground beside the cable and protect it.