

Antenna PM's a Tall Order

PM for your OE-254 antenna group centers on the RF cable and the feedcone assembly. Treat them with care for a strong signal.

CG-1889 RF Cable

The CG-1889 RF cable is the lifeline between your radio and the antenna. Regular inspection keeps it in top shape. Be on the lookout for:

Connector pin missing, bent or broken



Connector dirty, corroded or rusted

Cuts in insulation or exposed wire that could ground out cable during transmission



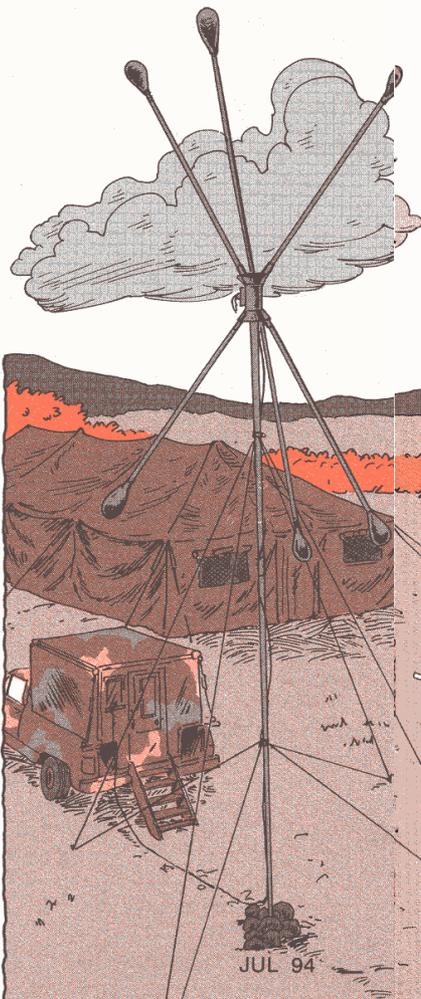
If you find any of these problems, report them to your unit repairman.

Take the strain off the cable and its connectors by attaching a PF-211 strain relief clamp, NSN 5975-00-563-0229, to the upper guy plate. Paragraph 2-4 of TM11-5985-357-13 shows you how.

For more strain relief, tape the cable to the mast just below the feedcone. Continue to tape it about



Tape cable to mast every 5 feet to relieve strain



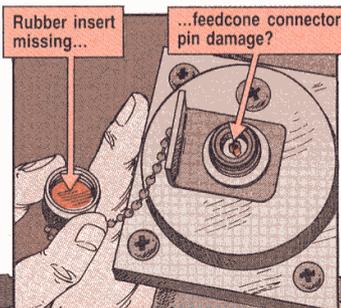
every five feet. You'll find the electrical tape, NSN 5970-00-419-4291, listed in Appendix E of the TM.

Install an elbow connector adapter, NSN 5935-01-375-5085, on the receiver-transmitter's antenna connector. The elbow connector makes hooking up the RF cable a little easier. It also keeps the cable and its connector from extending out past the panel guards, where they're more likely to get banged up.

AS-3166 Feedcone Assembly

The AS-3166 feedcone needs regular PM, too.

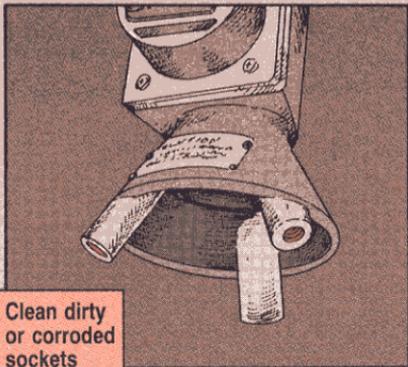
Start with the RF connector. Is the connector dirty or corroded? Receptacle pin bent or broken? Is the rubber insert inside the connector cover missing? Is the cover itself missing? Report any problems to your unit repairman.



THAT ANTENNA COULD BE CAUSING YOUR COMM PROBLEMS.

THE ANTENNA? WHAT COULD GO WRONG WITH THAT?

Look at the sockets, where the antenna elements are installed. If the sockets are dirty or corroded, clean them with isopropyl alcohol, NSN 6810-00-753-4993, and foam swabs, NSN 7045-01-154-1317.



Clean dirty or corroded sockets

The same goes for the antenna elements themselves. Clean the contacts,

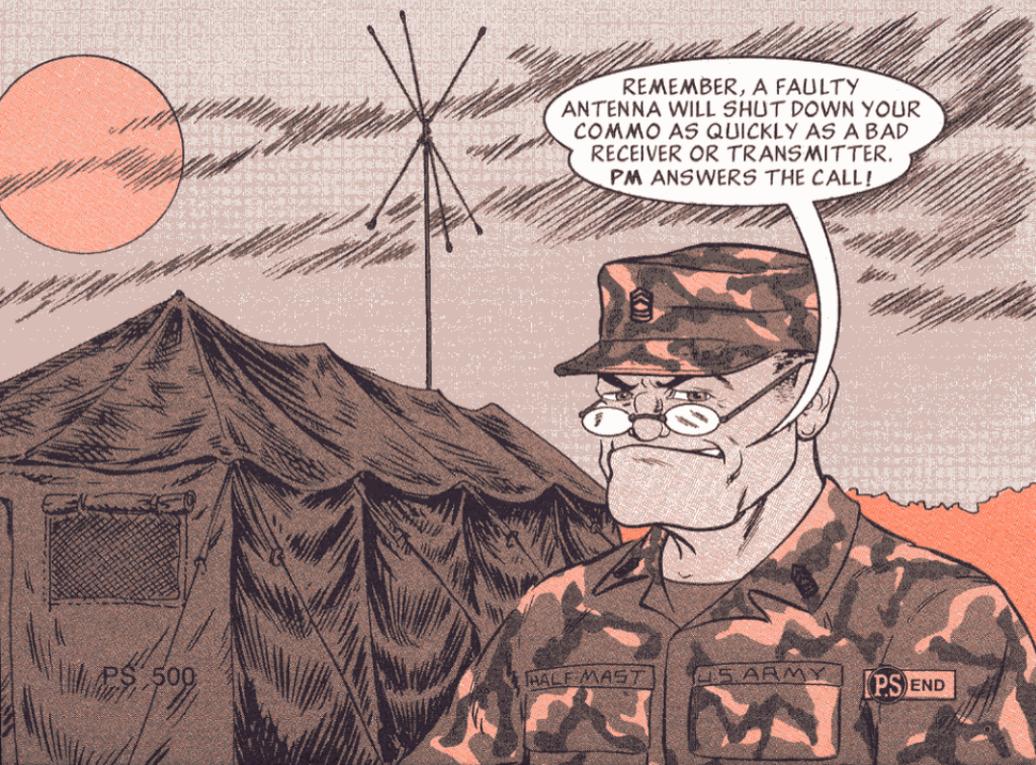
then spray them with water displacing compound, NSN 6850-00-142-9409. Follow that up with a coating of silicone compound, NSN 6850-00-880-7616. That's the formula for protecting contacts against moisture and corrosion.



Electrical tape moisture-proofs antenna connections

For added protection, wrap electrical tape around the joints of the assembled antenna elements.

You can also use electrical tape to help moisture-proof mated RF connectors on the feedcone. Paragraph 2-8 of the-13 TM has the taping instructions.



REMEMBER, A FAULTY ANTENNA WILL SHUT DOWN YOUR COMMO AS QUICKLY AS A BAD RECEIVER OR TRANSMITTER. PM ANSWERS THE CALL!