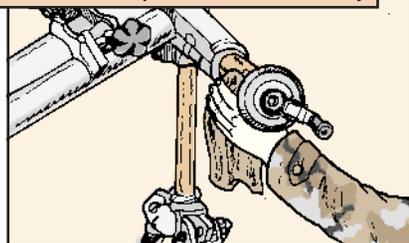


If your M224 mortars sit for months in the arms room unnoticed and uncared for, they eventually stop working. Lack of lubrication causes moving parts to bind and then freeze. Then when it's finally time to fire, the M224s give you the Big Freeze.

To prevent the Big Freeze, pay attention to lubing, mortarmen and armorers. Of course, follow the lubing instructions beginning in Work Package 17 in TM 9-1010-223-10 (Sep 98). But give the bipod extra attention—it needs it.

Lube the bipod's unpainted parts weekly with general purpose lubricant

Put GPL on unpainted surfaces weekly



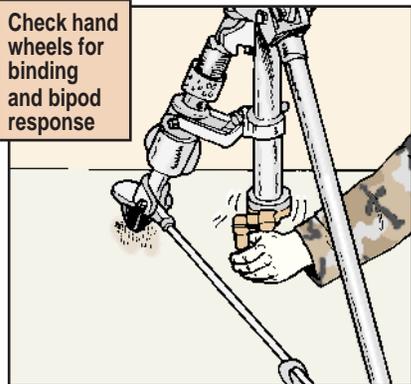
(GPL). Fully extend the left leg and run the traversing, cross leveling and elevation mechanisms through their full range so you can get at all unpainted areas.

If any of these mechanisms bind, the bipod needs to go to support. Only support can clean and lube them.

# The Big

Support also needs to look at the handwheels if they can be turned more

Check hand wheels for binding and bipod response



FORGET ABOUT ME AND I WON'T BE READY WHEN YOU NEED ME.

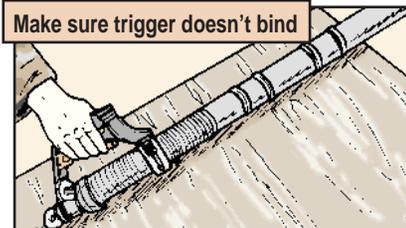


# Freeze

than 1/8 turn without the bipod responding. Something's wrong.

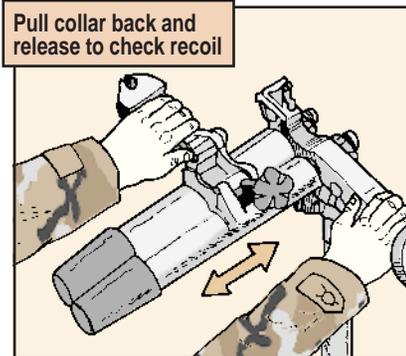
Weekly, lube the firing mechanism with LAW through the fitting on the top of the handle. Lube the trigger and firing selector, then work the trigger back and forth until it moves freely. If the trigger still binds, support needs to look at it.

Make sure trigger doesn't bind



Pull the collar shock absorber assembly back and release it. It should return slowly and smoothly. If it doesn't, support needs to clean and lube it.

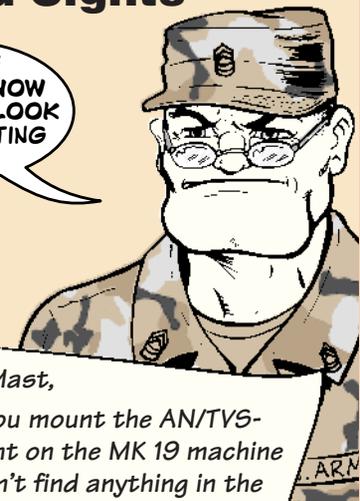
Pull collar back and release to check recoil



Test the M7 baseplate for 360° rotation and the M8 baseplate latch for smooth operation. If they bind, lube them with GPL.

## Mounting Lights and Sights

YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR MOUNTING INFO.



Dear Half-Mast,

How do you mount the AN/TVS-5 night sight on the MK 19 machine gun? We can't find anything in the MK 19 TMs on this.

1LT R.R.

Dear Lieutenant R.R.,

Rarely will you find mounting information for a night sight or aiming light in the TMs for the rifle or machine gun it's mounted on. Mounting info is always found in the TMs for the sight or light.

For example, mounting info for the AN/TVS-5 mount, NSN 5855-01-045-5482, is found on Page 2-8 of the AN/TVS-5's TM 11-5855-214-23&P.

If the night sight or aiming light TM is not listed in Appendix A of the weapon's TM, look for it in DA Pam 25-30, Consolidated Index of Army Publications and Blank Forms.

Half-Mast