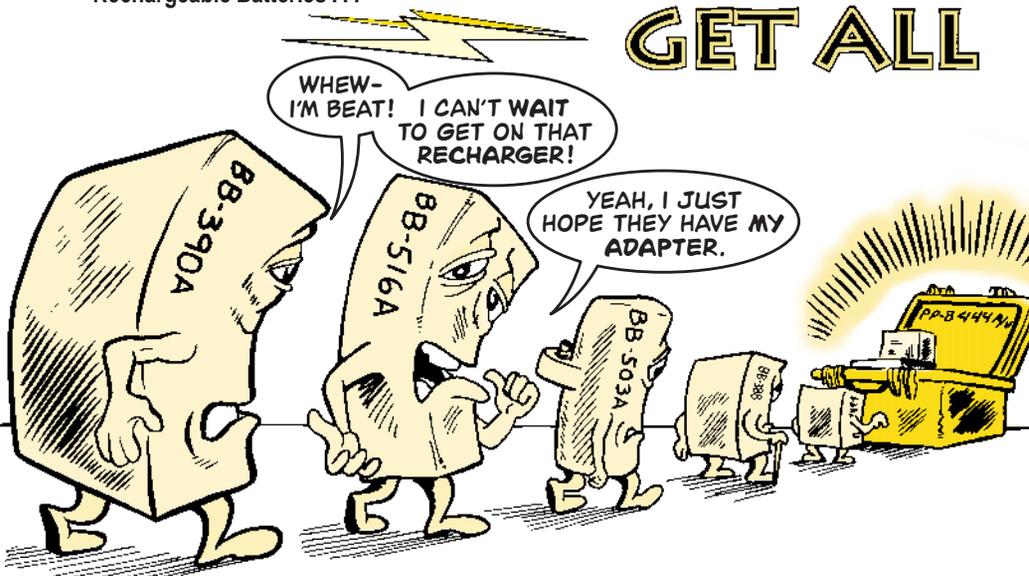


GET ALL

CHARGED UP



Everyone needs a home, a place to kick back after a long, hard day and get recharged for the next day's battle.

Rechargeable batteries need a home, too, a place to rest, to let the remaining energy of the day drain away and to be recharged for the next day's battle.

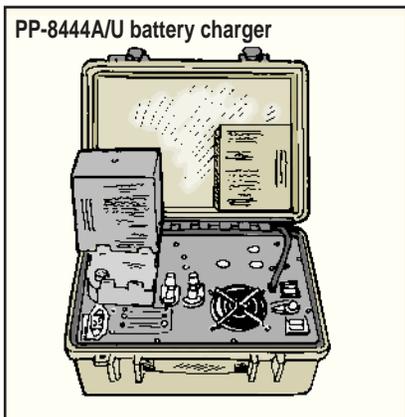
Without recharging, your batteries will run down and die.

The home for rechargeable batteries is the battery charger. There are three in the Army system: two universal portable battery chargers, PP-8444/U, NSN 6130-01-427-9604, and PP-8444A/U, NSN 6130-01-443-0970; and the new charger-on-the-move (COTM), PP-8481/U, NSN 6130-01-467-9465.

All three chargers recharge the BB-390A, BB-388, BB-503A, BB-516A, and the BB-2847 rechargeable batteries. The two portable chargers can also recharge the BB-557 and the BB-2600.

PP-8444/U and PP-8444A/U

These chargers are identical except for their power supply. The PP-8444/U operates on 90-125 volts AC. The PP-8444A/U operates on 100-250 volts AC.



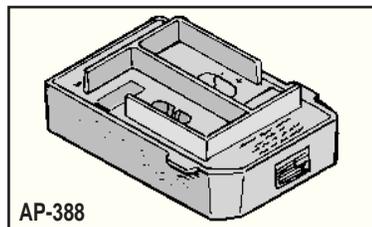
The power supplies are not interchangeable. However, when your DS orders a replacement power supply for the PP-8444/U, they'll get an upgrade kit to convert it to a PP-8444A/U.

You can also power these chargers using the J-6363, 24-volt vehicular cable, NSN 5940-01-427-9395, that lets the charger operate from a vehicle's NATO slave receptacle.

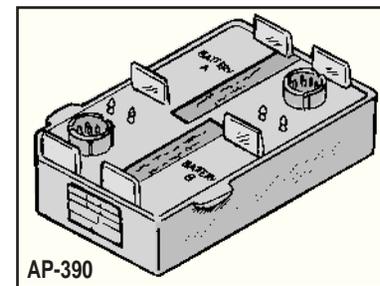
Until recently, you would wait around 2 hours to charge up another set of batteries on the PP-8444. Now there is a multi-station adapter, J-6518/U, NSN 5940-01-467-1176, that will let you line up 8 batteries. Two batteries charge every 2 hours until all 8 are charged.

To use the multistation adapter with either PP-8444, you'll need 4 individual battery adapters in any combination you choose.

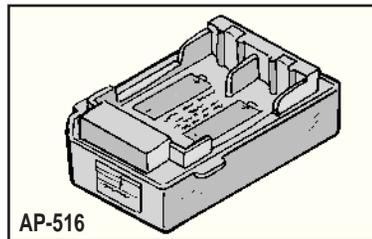
Battery	Adapter	NSN 5940-01-427-
BB-390	AP-390 (J-6358/P)	9110
BB-388	AP-388 (J-6357/P)	8601
BB-516A	AP-516 (J-6356/P)	9183
BB-503A	AP-503 (J-6355/P)	9247
BB-2847	AP-2847 (J-6354/P)	9278



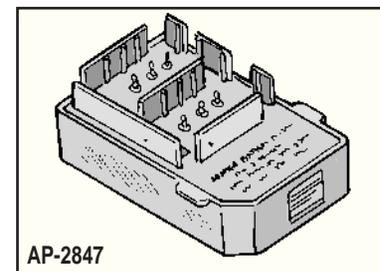
AP-388



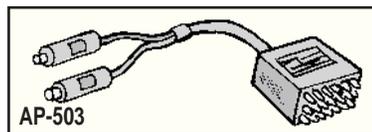
AP-390



AP-516



AP-2847

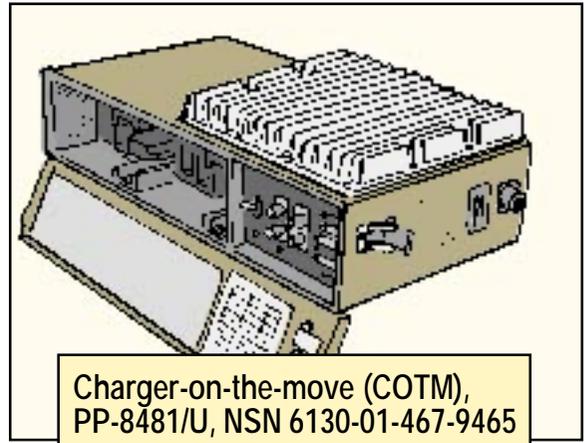


AP-503

PP-8481/U

The PP-8481/U mounts in tactical vehicles and can charge while the engine is running or while it's off. The COTM charges two batteries at a time and holds another two ready for charging. When the first two batteries are fully charged, it automatically switches to charge the second pair.

The COTM can charge four BB-390s in about 4 hours.



Charger Field Requirements

How many chargers your unit needs to take to the field depends on several factors:

- ③ How long a rechargeable battery will last in a piece of equipment. For instance, a BB-390A/U used in your SINCGARS should last between 8 and 18 hours. You need to determine, by your unit's use, where in that range your batteries fall.
- ③ How many battery-powered pieces of equipment you have.
- ③ The amount of daily charging time available to your unit.
- ③ Where the battery chargers are located.

That will help determine the number of backup batteries you will need on hand.

CECOM can help you determine your charger needs. Call or e-mail them at:

DSN 992-4948 or (732) 532-4948

brockeld@mail1.monmouth.army.mil

And check out their website at:

<http://www.monmouth.army.mil/cecom/lrc/lrchq/power/rechargebat.html>

Remember, the days of using non-rechargeable batteries for comms equipment used in training and garrison duties are gone since DA memo DALO-SMR, 29 Aug 97, was issued. Need a copy? Call the Army's Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) at DSN 687-0040 or (804) 734-0040. Or pull it off the above website.

