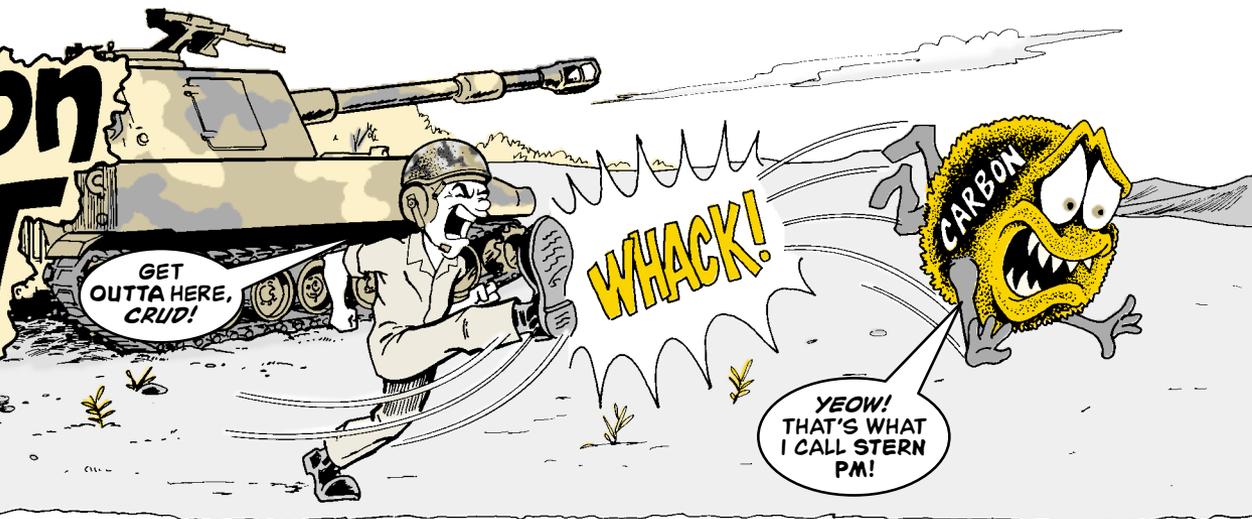


Give Carbon the BOOT



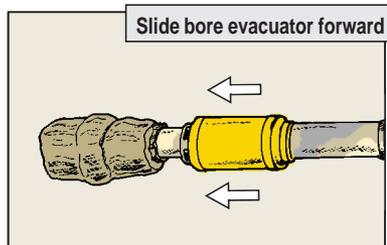
Crewmen, keeping the bore evacuator clean and lubed is one secret to trouble-free shooting with your M109A2-A5 howitzer.

Each time the cannon is fired, a little carbon builds up inside. If you wait too long to clean it, carbon accumulates and freezes the bore evacuator in place. It becomes almost impossible to remove.

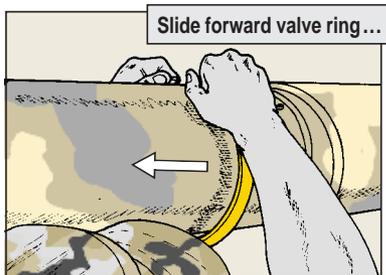
Avoid that sticky problem by cleaning and greasing the bore evacuator daily during firing periods and monthly during non-firing periods.

Here's what to do:

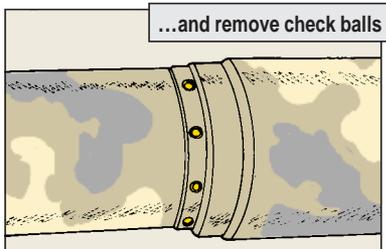
1. Loosen and slide the bore evacuator forward on the gun tube following the instructions in Appendix G of TM 9-2350-311-10.
2. Slide the valve ring forward and remove the check balls. Remember, your howitzer is NMC if any check balls are missing, per TACOM SOUM 00-011.



Slide bore evacuator forward



Slide forward valve ring...



...and remove check balls

Clean the check balls, evacuation vents, three metering holes, valve ring, and the unpainted surface of the cannon tube. Use the CLP and bore evacuator brush comes with the artillery cleaning kit, NSN 1025-01-196-2172.

3. Wipe off the loosened carbon and CLP with a clean cloth. Then lightly coat the check balls, valve ring, and the unpainted surface of the cannon tube with general purpose grease, NSN 9150-00-985-7316, or molybdenum disulfide grease, NSN 9150-00-754-2595.

4. Be **very** careful not to plug the metering holes with grease while lubing the cannon tube. When the howitzer is fired, propellant fumes are expelled through the metering holes and out the end of the gun tube.

If the holes are plugged, the fumes travel back down the gun tube and inside the howitzer when the breech is opened. Those fumes contain lead and aren't good for your health.

5. Reassemble the bore evacuator.

