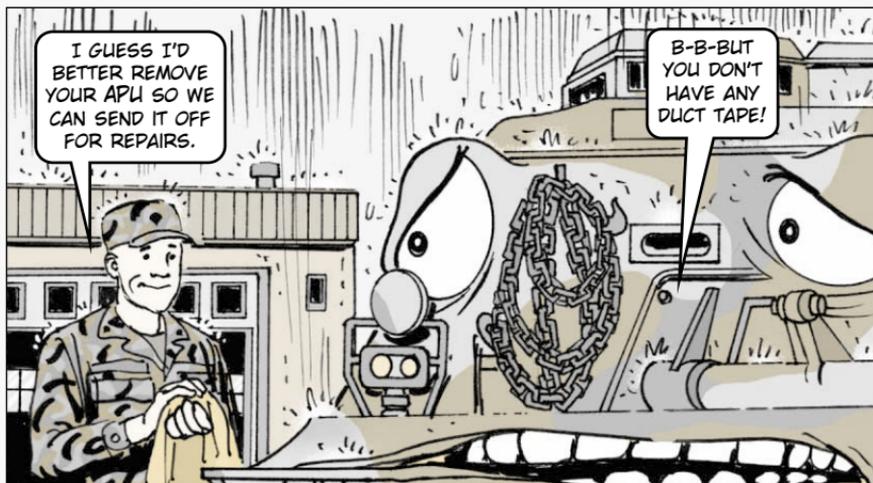


TAKE TIME TO TAPE APU



Dear Editor,

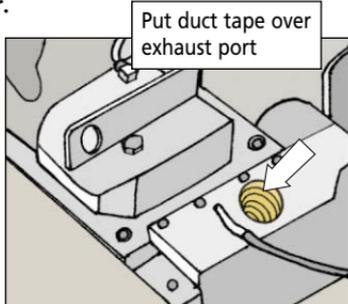
We repair the M88A1's auxiliary power unit (APU), NSN 6115-01-047-9330, under the National Maintenance Management Repair Program. We've noticed that more and more APUs arrive needing extensive (and expensive) repairs to the engine block because of water damage.

When the APU is removed, the exhaust port is left wide open. That lets water—from rain, condensation or any other source—inside the APU. The water seeps past the exhaust valves, enters the combustion chamber and rusts the piston to the side of the cylinder.

To fix this damage, we have to hone the cylinders and fit oversized pistons and rings. All that dramatically increases repair costs.

Most of this damage could be prevented if mechanics would seal the exhaust port with a piece of duct tape immediately after removing the APU. That keeps water out and damage to a minimum.

Robert A. Hamme
Ft Knox, KY



**From the
desk of
the Editor**

That little piece of duct tape sounds like a good investment! It's probably a good idea to further protect the APU by shrink wrapping it before shipment to the repair site.