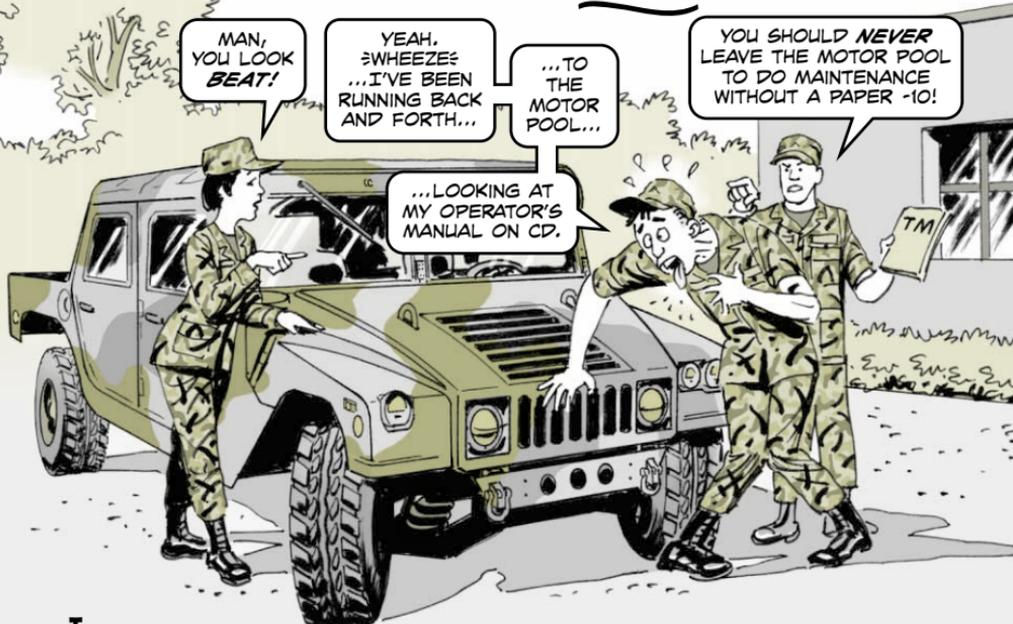


OPERATOR TMS SHOULD BE *WITH* OPERATORS



The paperless Army is the next big thing. But there's some controversy about how much of the -10 manual operators need to operate a piece of equipment. Will PMCS charts alone suffice or should unit operators have complete -10 paper manuals in their hands?

Some unit pub clerks have already answered that question by not bothering to order -10 operator manuals anymore. Some have decided to only put CD-ROMs on their pubs distribution accounts, citing the "paperless Army" as the reason to not order hard copy operator manuals.

Less paper may sound good, but if you think operators can run back and forth to the motor pool or the pubs office to look at the -10 on a computer to perform operator maintenance, you're dead wrong.

For example, what happens if they're in the field performing maintenance under unusual conditions, like extreme cold or hot weather or wet climates? PMCS charts won't do any good in the middle of nowhere.

Operator's manuals are more than PMCS charts. They contain lubricating, cleaning, inspection and operating instructions. PMCS charts alone won't give you the lowdown on equipment characteristics and data, descriptions and use of operator controls.

The -10 manuals contain information needed to keep equipment mission ready.

So, until the Army decides on a uniform policy on paper or paperless -10s, every operator should always have a hard copy of the manual on hand to maintain or repair equipment.