

LOW BATTERIES & BLOWN FUSES

THERE ARE SOME NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK WHEN IT COMES TO LARGE TACTICAL QUIET GENERATOR (TQG) SETS. THESE KIDS ARE EQUIPPED WITH DIGITAL CONTROL SYSTEMS (DCS).

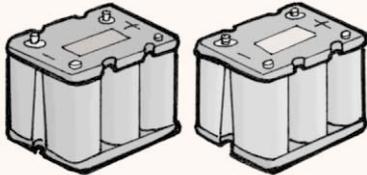
WE'VE NAMED THESE KIDS
 THE MEP-805B (30-KW, 50/60 HZ), NSN 6115-01-461-9335;
 MEP-815B (30-KW, 400 HZ), NSN 6115-01-462-0290;
 MEP-806B (60-KW, 50/60 HZ), NSN 6115-01-462- 0291;
 AND MEP-816B (60-KW, 400 HZ), NSN 6115-01-462-0292.



These new guys are pretty cool, but like all kids, they can be a bit cantankerous at times. One of those times is when the charge on the batteries is low.

When the batteries are low (from excessive cranking and not starting and operating the generator on a regular basis) and in need of a charge, operators reach for the NATO slave cable and get a battery boost from their vehicle.

Batteries get low from being cranked



CRANK switch in the CRANK position, the R2 relay coil is energized to initiate engine cranking without energizing any other starting or control functions.

1.16.13.1.4 The generator set can be started without batteries by connecting an external 24 VDC power source to the NATO/SLAVE RECEPTACLE. The generator set can also supply power to another set through the NATO/SLAVE RECEPTACLE.

1.16.13.1.5 The batteries are charged by the battery charging alternator which is belt driven by the engine. The CIM display screen BATTERY

So far, so good. But when the slave cable is removed and the generator is started, the 30 AMP in-line alternator fuse blows! The fuse will blow as soon as the battery charging alternator has an opportunity to charge the batteries. According to the digital readout on the display panel, 50-60 AMPS are pulsating through that fuse. With that much amperage, the fuse is going to do its job and blow. Then your generator is down for the count.

Keep Extra Fuses

If you're operating one of these new DCS TQGs, keep extra fuses, NSN 5920-00-644-0366, on hand.

If you are in an emergency situation, you can jump around the fuse with some 16-gauge wire. Or run a second 30 AMP fuse in parallel with the first from the positive side of the battery to the positive side of the alternator. For safety reasons, neither of these are recommended as permanent fixes, though, and the generator should be restored to the single in-line 30 AMP fuse when the emergency has passed.)

Check for an ECP that increases the size of the wire to safely carry the full potential output of the battery charging alternator—it's rated at 45 AMPS continuous—and replaces the fuse with a 50 AMP slow blow circuit breaker. It also moves a wire so the batteries won't be drained if the fuse or circuit breaker should blow on start up. This should permanently fix the problem.

When these new generators arrive at your unit, bone up on the info in their TMs. TM 9-6115-671-24P handles the 30-KW and TM 9-6115-672-24P takes care of the 60-KW. They also have operator's manuals, TM 9-6115-671-14 and TM 9-6115-672-14.

IT'S ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO CONTACT YOUR LOGISTICS ASSISTANCE OFFICE (LAO) AND GET A CECOM POWER GENERATION LOGISTICS ASSISTANT REPRESENTATIVE (LAR) ON THE JOB.

WE LARS WILL KNOW THE INS AND OUTS OF YOUR NEW GENERATOR AND CAN PASS ON SOME GOOD INFO.

