

STATIC CHARGE ON THE ANTENNA



SO, YOU SEE... THE FORCE BETWEEN TWO CHARGES IS EQUAL TO THE PRODUCT OF THE TWO CHARGES DIVIDED BY THE SQUARE OF THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM.

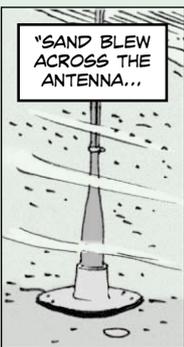


UNTIL THAT KIT COMES, HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF A SANDSTORM OR ELECTRICAL STORM IS HEADING YOUR WAY...

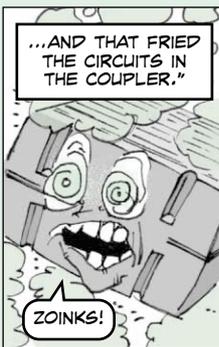


WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE RADIO, BACK IN THE DESERT?



"SAND BLEW ACROSS THE ANTENNA..."



...AND THAT FRIED THE CIRCUITS IN THE COUPLER."

ZOINKS!

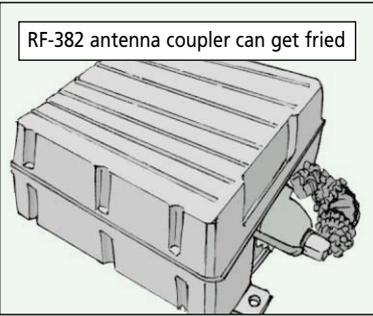
Even your AT-1011, the 32-ft whip antenna used with the AN/PRC-150 family of radios, is subject to laws.

One of those is Coulomb's Law, "The force between two charges is equal to the product of the two charges divided by the square of the distance between them."

What that means in English (and soldier) is a static charge can accumulate on your antenna when sand blows across it or before a rain or electrical storm.

That charge makes a high voltage electrostatic field that when discharged can fry the circuits in the RF-382 antenna coupler.

Since the radio is procured commercially, the manufacturer is sending a bleeder resistor kit to slowly discharge any surface charge build-up on the antenna.

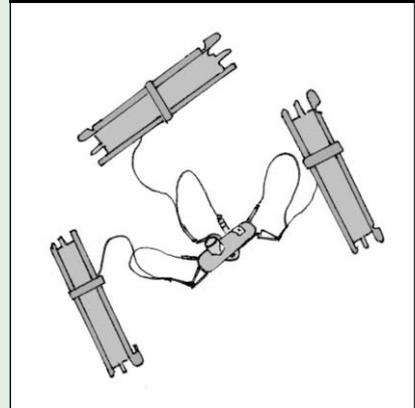


RF-382 antenna coupler can get fried

If you can, shut down the radio and take down the antenna.



If you must operate, your best option is to switch to the RF-1941 antenna.



This is a center-fed wire dipole antenna that gives less surface area for the charge to build on.

If you can't switch antennas, shorten the AT-1011 to 8-12 feet to reduce the surface area. The antenna will be less efficient, but will still tune and work.

REMEMBER, TOO, THAT EVEN IF THE RADIO IS OFF, THE RADIO IS AT RISK IF THE ANTENNA IS STILL WAVING.

IT'S BETTER TO LEAVE THE RADIO ON WITH THE COUPLER TUNED TO GIVE SOME BLEED PATHS FOR THE ELECTROSTATIC CHARGE.

