

Hellfire  
Missile  
System...

# KEEP THE FIRE IN YOUR HELLFIRE

IF YOU  
DON'T START  
SHOWING US  
MORE  
ATTENTION...

...YOU CAN  
FORGET ANY  
'FIRE' IN THESE  
HELLFIRES!

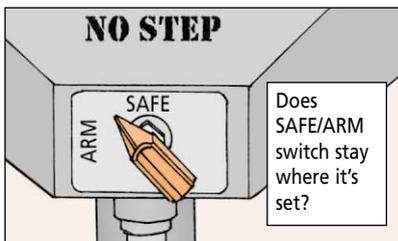
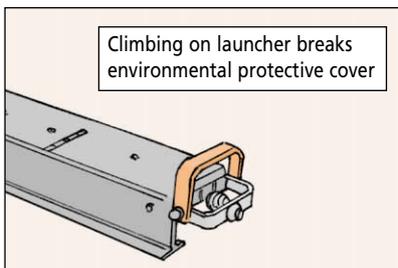
HERE'S WHAT  
YOU NEED TO  
DO TO KEEP  
YOUR HELLFIRE  
HAPPY.



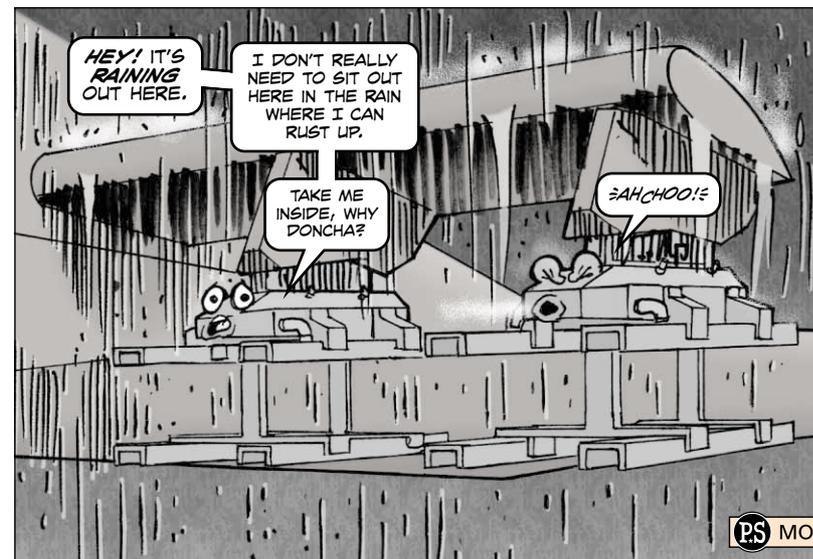
In order for your Hellfires to be fired up for firing, you must pay attention to PM for the launcher and the missiles. Otherwise, things just go to...well, you know.

The launcher is not a ladder. If you use it to climb up and down on the Apache, you can count on damaged environmental protective cover connectors or a busted SAFE/ARM switch. Keep your feet off the launcher.

A good PMCS check is to turn the SAFE/ARM switch to see if it stays where you set it. If it flops back and forth, someone has stepped on it and you have no way to tell what the switch is set at. Report a busted switch. Of course, sometimes you can't turn the switch at all because corrosion has frozen it. If that is the case, follow the instructions in Para 2.16 in TM 9-1425-475-23&P for cleaning and lubing the switch. If the switch needs to be replaced, see Para 2.51.



You can stop corrosion in general and make taking care of the launcher easier by not leaving it on the Apache when the bird is just sitting for weeks outside. Remove the launcher and store it inside.



When you do remove the launcher, check for corrosion on the two suspension lugs that help hold the launcher in place. Clean off any with a wire brush and green pads and then give the lugs a coat of CLP.

Also look for the dust cover on the purge switch. It disappears and without the cover the environmental control system processors are more likely to suffer water damage. You can order more dust covers with NSN 5930-00-064-2455. They're cheap, so keep extras on hand.

Eyeball the launcher rails for end caps, NSN 1055-01-262-1775. They disappear fast. It's a good idea to keep extras on hand. The caps help keep moisture and dirt out of the inside of the rails.

When it does come time for loading missiles, you and a buddy—don't try to do the job yourself—should pick up a missile by its body. If you use a fin as a hand-hold, it can break off. Holding the rear end of the missile can break off the graphite that burns in flight. Keep your fingers off the laser seeker dome, too. Fingerprints can hurt the laser's effectiveness.

