

# Not All Cleaning Tanks, Solvents Bad



REMEMBER... NO ULTRASONIC CLEANING AND USE **ONLY** DRY CLEANING SOLVENT...

...AND WHEN YOU'RE DONE I WANT YOU TO BE **COMPLETELY** LUBED!

THE HEADLINE "NO CLEANING TANKS" IN PS 617 (APR 04) HAS MISLED SOME SMALL ARMS FOLKS.

A **BETTER** HEADLINE WOULD HAVE BEEN "NO ULTRASONIC CLEANING TANKS."

AS THE ARTICLE POINTED OUT, **ULTRASONIC** CLEANING TANKS CAN DO **TOO GOOD** A JOB, DAMAGING A WEAPON'S ADHESIVES, SYNTHETIC FIBERS, PROTECTIVE FINISH, AND LOOSENING PRESSURE-FITTED COMPONENTS.

THAT RESULTS IN A **RUINED** WEAPON.

BUT A NORMAL CLEANING TANK CAN DO A **GOOD** JOB CLEANING A WEAPON. YOU JUST HAVE TO **REMEMBER** THAT AFTER A WEAPON GOES THROUGH A CLEANING TANK IT MUST BE **DISASSEMBLED** AND LUBED COMPLETELY.

IF A WEAPON IS STORED WITH **NO LUBRICATION** AFTER GOING THROUGH A CLEANING TANK, IT WILL HAVE **NO PROTECTION** AGAINST CORROSION BECAUSE THE CLEANING TANK REMOVES ALL LUBE.



OH, C'MON!

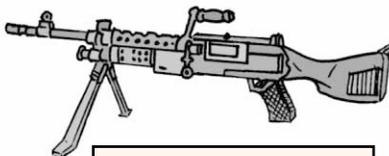


THAT CAN RESULT IN A **RUINED** WEAPON.

IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER **NOT** TO MIX UP PARTS IF SEVERAL WEAPONS ARE CLEANED AT THE SAME TIME.



IF YOU GET THE **WRONG** BARREL ON A MACHINE GUN, IT RUINS THE HEADSPACE, WHICH IS DANGEROUS.



SOMETIMES IT'S **EASY** TO TELL RIGHT FROM WRONG... **SOMETIMES IT ISN'T!**

SOME WEAPONS LIKE THE MK 19 MACHINE GUN HAVE PARTS THAT MUST BE **KEPT AWAY** FROM SOLVENTS THAT COULD WASH LUBRICANT OUT OF THEIR SEALED ASSEMBLIES.

SO KEEP THOSE PARTS **OUT** OF CLEANING TANKS.



**ALWAYS** CHECK A WEAPON'S -23&P TM TO SEE IF THE GUN HAS ANY PARTS THAT SHOULDN'T BE SUBMERGED IN SOLVENT BEFORE PUTTING IT IN A CLEANING TANK.



THE **ONLY** CLEANER TO USE IN A CLEANING TANK IS WHAT THE WEAPON'S TM RECOMMENDS, WHICH IN MOST CASES IS A DRY CLEANING SOLVENT LIKE PD-680.

MANY OF THE CLEANING SOLUTIONS THAT COME WITH THESE CLEANING SYSTEMS ARE WATER-BASED OR HAVE CHEMICALS IN THEM THAT CAN **HARM** WEAPONS.

THEY SHOULD **NOT** BE USED.



AS ALWAYS, YOUR **FIRST STOP** FOR HOW TO MAINTAIN A WEAPON SHOULD BE ITS **TECHNICAL MANUAL**.

IF YOU'VE EVER IN DOUBT ON A MAINTENANCE QUESTION, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TACOM LOGISTICS ASSISTANCE REP.

HE CAN RESEARCH THE QUESTION WITH THE WEAPON SPECIALISTS AT ROCK ISLAND.

