

So your tour in Iraq is finally up and you can hardly wait to get back for some of Mama's home cookin'.

Before you start drooling too much, you'd better make sure you removed and turned in all the ammo from your combat vehicle at one of the designated collection points.

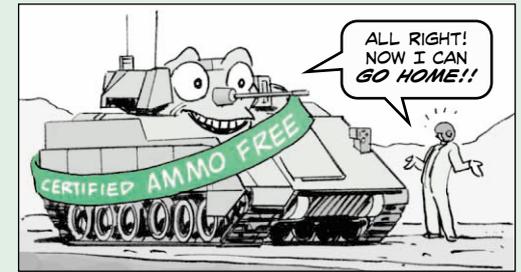
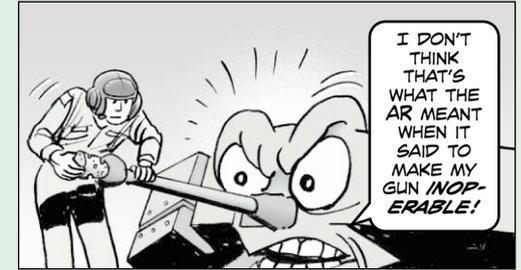
There have been several instances of live ammunition or explosives being found on vehicles after they returned home from Southwest Asia. In one case, a Bradley arrived with a live round still in the feeder of the fully operational 25mm chain gun!

Turning in all ammunition and explosives is only the first step. You also need to follow the requirements in AR 190-11, *Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition and Explosives*.

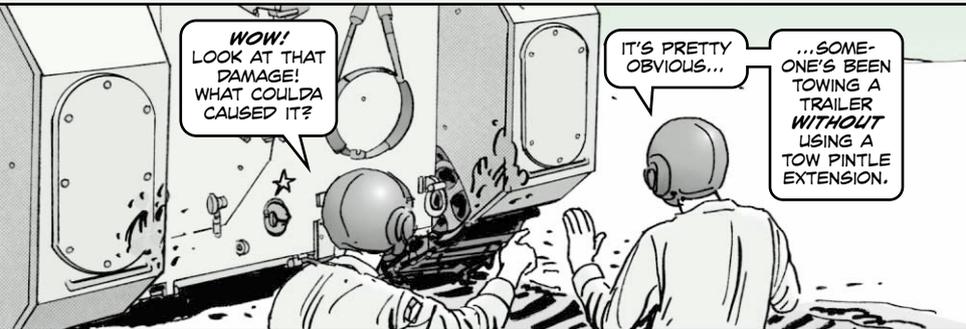
Chap 4 says all unmanned weapon systems installed in tanks, vehicles or aircraft are to be made inoperable by removing the barrel or other essential firing component. The components should then be locked inside a separate container within the vehicle.

For the Bradley, that means removing the bolt and track assemblies from the 25mm chain gun. Removing and securing the firing pin from the main gun is recommended for M1-series tanks.

It's each unit's responsibility to make sure all vehicles are clear of ammunition and all gun systems are disabled. So have your safety folks set up a plan to inspect and certify all vehicles as part of the redeployment process. See TACOM SOUM 05-002 for more information.



S-T-R-E-T-C-H



YOUR REACH

Banged-up fuel pods on your M113A3 personnel carrier are a sure sign that you've been towing recently.

Whenever you make sharp turns, the trailer arm hits the back inside corners of the fuel pods.

A new tow pintle extension, NSN 2540-01-458-4846, is the solution. The extension increases the reach of the tow pintle and keeps the trailer tongue from hitting the fuel pods during sharp turns.

Repair parts for the tow pintle extension are listed in Fig 398 of TM 9-2350-277-24P (Oct 03).

