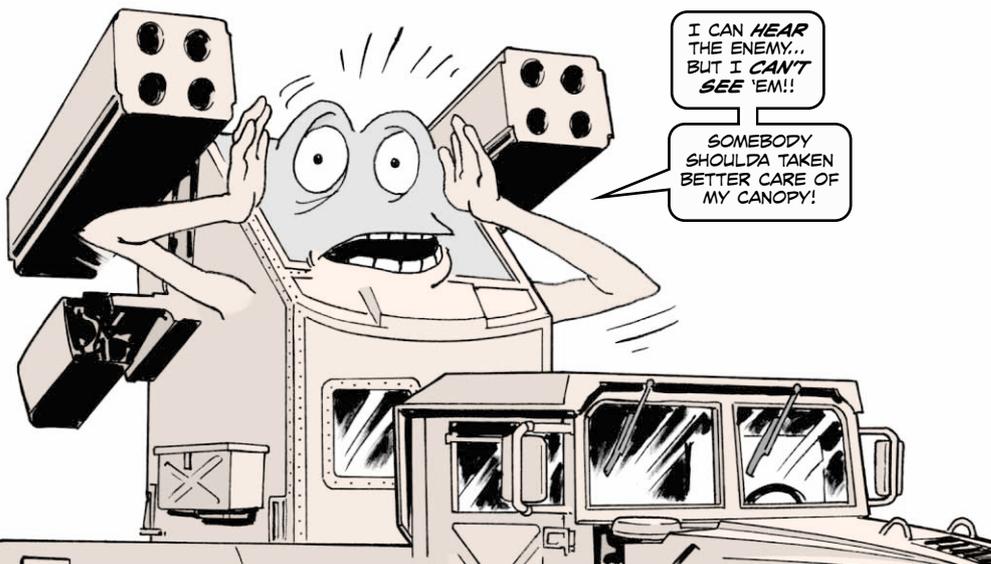


CANOPY CARE GIVES 20-20 VISION



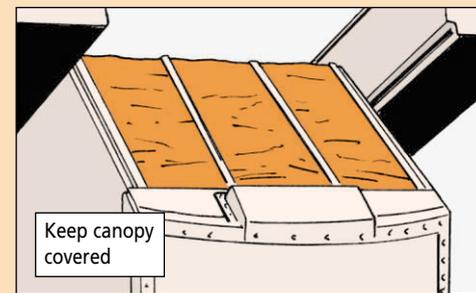
It's tough to hit enemy aircraft if you can't see. That's the situation Avenger gunners will be in if they don't pay attention to canopy care.

The biggest reason canopies turn from clear to cloudy is that operators grab just anything to clean it, stuff like rags, window cleaner, and multi-purpose cleaner. It would be better not to clean the canopy than to use those items. They strip off the canopy's infrared coating. Soon it's time for a new canopy, which costs more than \$6,000.

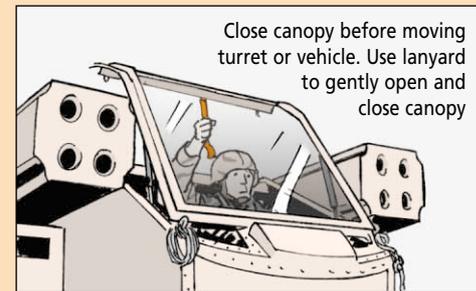
TM 9-1425-433-10 is very specific about cleaning the canopy. Flush the canopy with lots of water, then use your bare hand (no rings!) and hand dishwashing detergent, NSN 7930-00-880-4454, to clean the canopy. Flush it again with lots of water and blot it—don't wipe it—dry with a clean cloth.



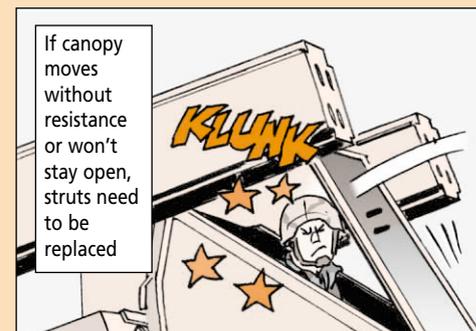
Of course, it's also important to keep the canopy covered as much as possible. Blowing sand and rocks can scar the canopy so badly it must be replaced. Some units cut an old sleeping mat in half and put the pieces under the tarp to give the canopy even more protection.



Never move the turret or vehicle with the canopy open. That throws the canopy out of alignment or damages the mounting brackets for the canopy struts. Shut and latch the canopy before you move.



When you shut or open the canopy, use the lanyard to gently guide the canopy into position. If you let it spring open or slam shut repeatedly, the mounting brackets are damaged. But don't use the lanyard as a handhold. That damages the mounting brackets, too. If the canopy moves without resistance or won't stay open, tell your repairman. The struts need to be replaced.



If the canopy doesn't seal out exhaust, you can be in a world of hurt. Here's an easy way to check how well the canopy is sealing:

- Put 6x1-in pieces of paper half in and half out of each front corner of the turret.
- Close and lock the canopy.
- Pull on the paper.
- If either piece slips out easily, the canopy isn't sealing. Tell your repairman.

