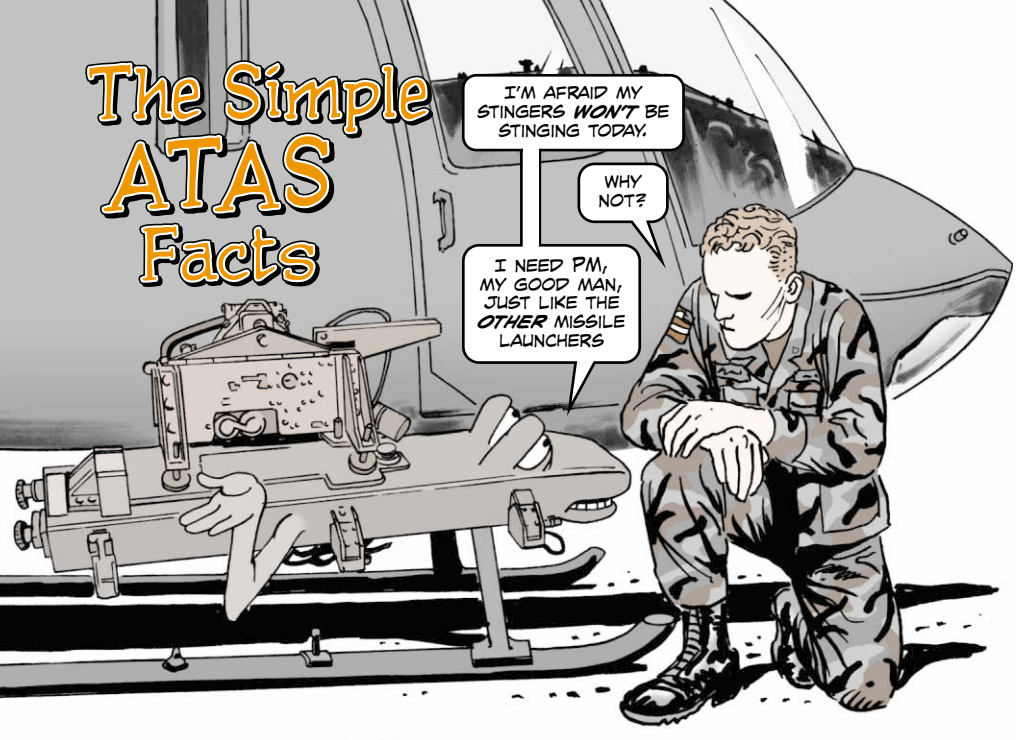
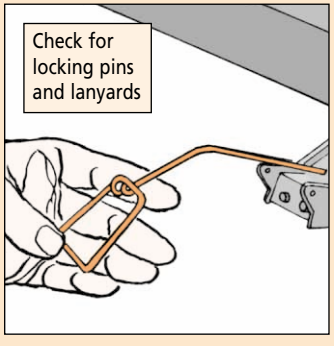
The Simple ATAS Facts



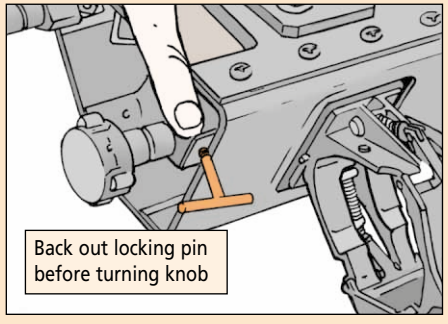
Check locking pins for missile holding arms

The launcher has three locking pins for each of the two missiles and if even one pin is missing the missile won't be securely locked on the launcher. Unfortunately, the pins often disappear during loading and unloading. Make sure all six pins are present before a mission. And check that every pin has a lanyard that's secured to the launcher. If a lanyard is missing, the pin will soon be too. It's a good idea to keep extra pins and lanyards on hand. Order pins with NSN 5315-01-309-9500 and lanyards with NSN 4010-00-246-0382.



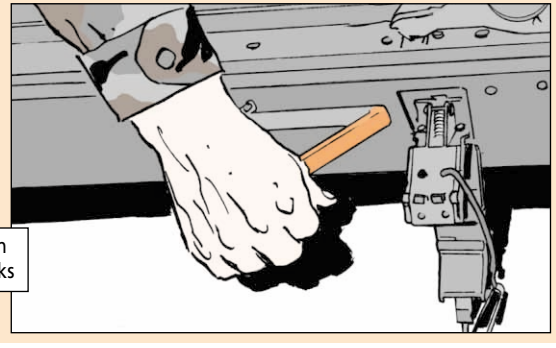
Check two argon bottle knobs and locking pins

When crews install or remove the argon bottle, they sometimes forget to back out the pins before they turn the knobs. That breaks the pin or strips the knob. Either way, the argon bottle won't be secure. Report a broken pin or stripped knob. Prevent knob damage by first backing out the pin before turning the knob. The pin hangs loose when it's far enough out.



Easy does it with securing clamp handle for argon bottle

If you muscle it, you can break it. Gently push the handle down until you hear it click. The click means the argon bottle is released and can be pulled out.



Make sure holding arms actually latch

Sometimes you think the arms are latched when they're not. That could cost you a missile. Once you've latched the holding arms, give them a gentle tug to be sure they're latched.