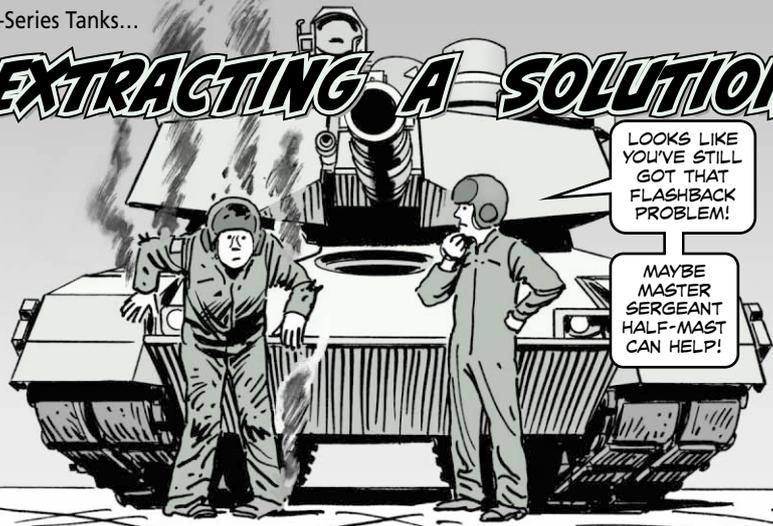


EXTRACTING A SOLUTION



LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE STILL GOT THAT FLASHBACK PROBLEM!

MAYBE MASTER SERGEANT HALF-MAST CAN HELP!

Dear Half-Mast,
We're currently going through gunnery and have had some problems with one of our M1A1 tanks. When the tank fires, the breechblock doesn't drop to allow the aft cap to be ejected from the chamber. Since we have to manually extract the aft cap, there's the additional worry about unburnt propellant and gasses causing flashback in the turret.

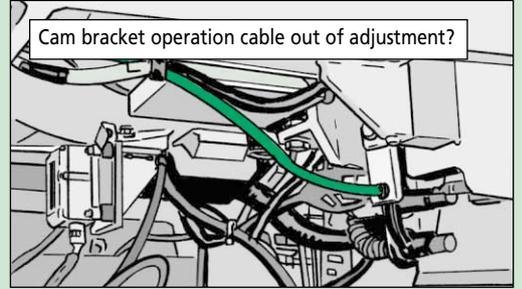
We've cleaned and lubed the breech well. The tank seems to fire and recoil with no problems. Any idea what could be causing the situation?

CW3 J.H.

Dear CW3 J.H.,
From what you've said, it sounds like you may need to adjust the cam bracket operation cable.

If the cable is too far out of adjustment, the crank boss misses engagement with the cam bracket during the counter-recoil stroke. That's what mechanically cycles the breech open so the extractors can expel the aft cap.

The adjustment procedures for the cam bracket operation cable start on Page 8-70 of TM 9-2350-264-20-2-4 (Apr 03), Page 8-55 of TM 9-2350-288-20-2-4 (Aug 95), and Page 8-61 of TM 9-2350-388-20-2-4 (Feb 01).

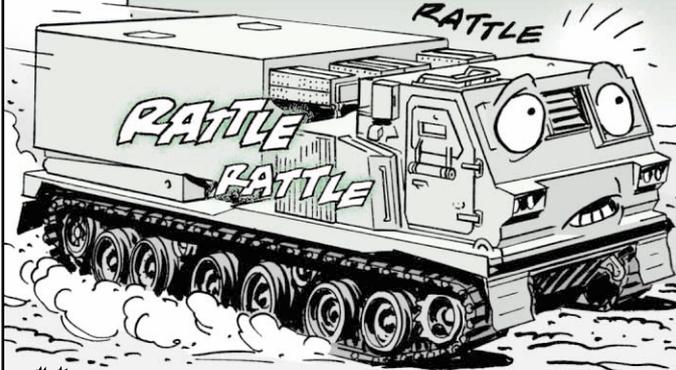


If the ejection problem still exists after you adjust the cable, take a look at the extractors themselves. There is a small lip machined on the upper inside edge of each extractor. These lips are what grab the aft cap and extract it. If they wear down or break, they won't grab like they should.

I'd also suggest that you manually exercise the mount. Use the M-3 oil pump and get the mount out far enough that the lobe on the crank extends past the cam (about 10 inches). With the manual handle in the armed (down) position, you should be able to see the cam snap into position. Then you can let the mount back into battery and watch the breech operation.

M2/M3, M2A2/M3A2 Bradleys, MLRS Carrier...

16 LB-FT IS JUST RIGHT



THE MECHANIC DIDN'T TORQUE MY GENERATOR'S OUTPUT STUD NUT TO 16 LB-FT!

Mechanics, when you're working on the Bradley or MLRS' 300-amp generator, NSN 6115-01-458-0096, have some mercy on the output stud nut.

There should be a decal beside the stud nut that lists the proper torque requirement of 16 lb-ft. When some generators were rebuilt, however, the decal was removed.

As a result, some mechanics don't tighten the stud nut enough while others tighten it too much. Too loose and the nut will vibrate free. Too tight and the insulator may be damaged.

And no Loctite, either. That affects the torque value and can cause damage.

