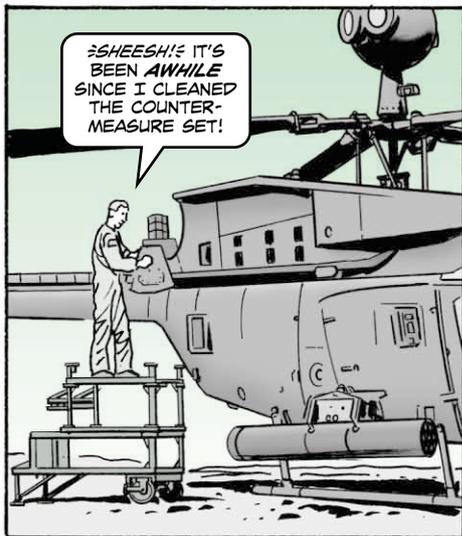


COUNTERMEASURE SET



YOU CAN NEVER DO ENOUGH PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE ON THE ALQ-144A/C COUNTERMEASURE SET, **ESPECIALLY** IN THE HOT DESERT.



However, be careful how you do it. The set gets really hot and even more so in the desert. After a mission, it's a good idea to allow it to cool down before putting on the cover, NSN 5865-01-109-1800.

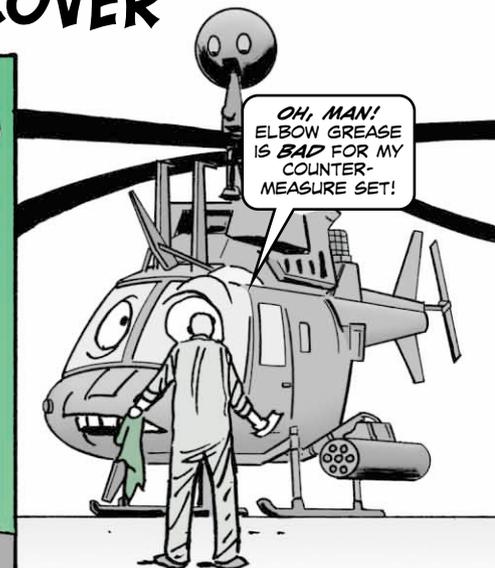
That's because covering the countermeasure set immediately after you shut down your bird can burn a hole through the cover. Then the ALQ-144A/C is left without protection.

In the desert, clean the mirrors regularly. Desert heat and the extreme heat generated by the countermeasure set itself will bake on grit, sand and dirt that's hard to remove.

If you break a mirror pane trying to clean baked-on crud, remember it's \$36 to replace each one.

Also, when you're working topside on your bird, be careful not to kick the countermeasure set or drop tools on it. That spells curtains for the set and it has to go to AVIM or depot for repair.

TOO HOT TO COVER



If you have a cracked mirror pane or a broken countermeasure set, make sure you fill out DA Form 2308-33-1 completely and turn it in with the set. An incomplete form or no form turned in at all means that AVIM cannot track the set's repairs. So they'll end up repairing everything on the unit's dime.

Bottom line: Be careful when working around the set. Before each takeoff and after each landing, clean the mirrors like it says in Chap 4 of TM 11-5865-200-12. And keep it covered when the bird is parked.

