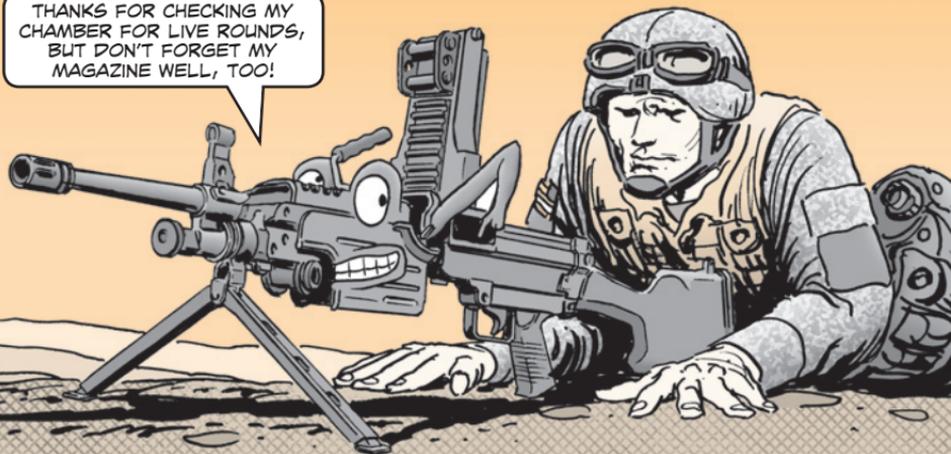


CHECK MAGAZINE WELL, TOO

THANKS FOR CHECKING MY CHAMBER FOR LIVE ROUNDS, BUT DON'T FORGET MY MAGAZINE WELL, TOO!



Dear Editor,

Every good M249 gunner knows at the end of firing you need to check if a round is left in the M249's chamber to prevent an accidental firing. To do that, you lock the bolt back, put the M249 on SAFE, raise the feed cover and eyeball the chamber.

We suggest one other check. We had an actual case at Ft Polk of a round being accidentally left in the magazine well. So it's a good idea after you've checked the chamber to open the feed tray cover and feel in the magazine well for a round. Better safe than sorry!

Martin Weaver
Alexander Zelich
546th Maint Co
Ft Polk, LA

Editor's reply:

Yes, surprises are no fun when it comes to live ammo. Thanks for the tip. It's also a good idea to run a cleaning rod down the muzzle to make sure no rounds are stuck in the barrel.

Feel in magazine well for round

THANKS, FOR CHECKING, GUYS!

