

WHY STICK YOUR NECK OUT?

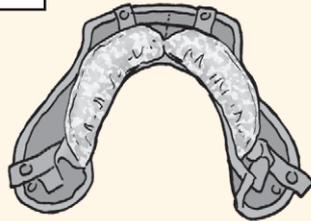


A Level 2 military operational protective posture (MOPP) requires both torso and neck protection against fragmenting munitions and 9mm rounds. That means you need to wear the interceptor body armor's (IBA) vest, collar and throat protector.

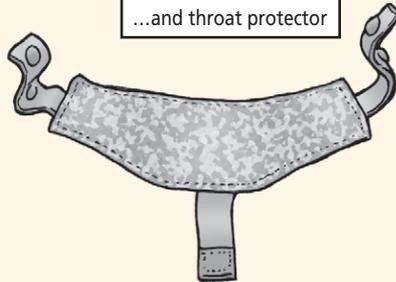
Wear vest...



...collar...



...and throat protector



SOME SOLDIERS NEGLECT TO WEAR THE COLLAR AND THROAT PROTECTOR.

THEY GIVE A WHOLE LIST OF REASONS...

C'MON!

THEY'RE *SO* UN-COMFORTABLE! THEY RUB THE NECK RAW AND CAUSE SORENESS.

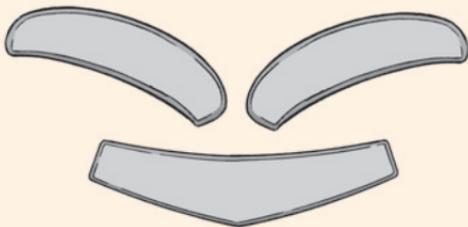
THEY'RE HOT TO WEAR—ESPECIALLY IN THE DESERT. HEY, I ALREADY SWEAT ENOUGH.

THE COLLAR AND THROAT PROTECTOR RESTRICT HEAD MOVEMENTS, SO YOU CAN'T COMFORTABLY ASSUME A PRONE FIRING POSITION.

BUT THESE ARGUMENTS CAN'T STAND UP TO ONE VITAL FACT: **THE COLLAR AND THROAT PROTECTOR SAVE LIVES!**

IEDs and car bombs have inflicted a growing number of neck wounds on soldiers who didn't wear the collar and throat protector. Even light fragmentation can sever a vein or artery in the neck. If that happens, you can bleed to death in a matter of minutes.

So wear your collar and throat protector when the MOPP demands it. But before you put them on, inspect their soft ballistic panels. Turn them in and get replacements if they've been hit by fragments or small-arms fire, or they have any holes, punctures, cuts or tears in them.



Inspect soft panels for fragments, holes, tears

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO MAKE WEARING THE COLLAR AND THROAT PROTECTOR MORE COMFORTABLE...



- Make sure the vest is centered on your torso. The webbing on the left front panel should line up evenly with the webbing on the opposite panel. One side should not be higher than the other. That should keep the collar and throat protector from riding too high and chafing the neck.
- When it's safe, remove the throat protector so you can cool off.
- Likewise, unfasten the hook and loop fastener on the front of the vest. Hold open the front panels to release body heat and let in cooling air.

- If you're sweating a lot, remember to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water.



PS
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