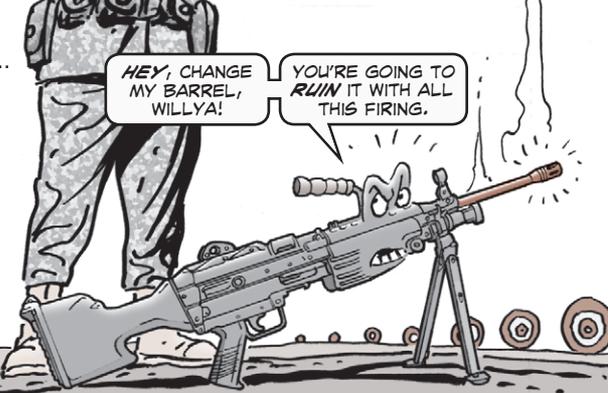


DON'T FORGET SECOND BARREL



Dear Editor,

I'm a small arms inspector in Kuwait, where I've noticed problems with the second barrels for the M2, M240, and M249 machine guns.

Many deploying units are shipping the second barrel separately from the machine gun. The second barrels never catch up to the weapons they belong to. Gunners are forced to fire with only one barrel, which can quickly ruin that barrel when there's lots of firing. They also risk a cookoff. And a machine gun without a second barrel is deadlined.

Plus when they turn in the weapon for services, they don't have the second barrel. Gauging can't be done without the second barrel.

We've also found that even when the unit has the second barrels they often don't take them to the field, which means they can't change barrels. Or even worse, they don't use the second barrel the weapon was headspaced for. They just grab any barrel. That can cause the weapon to explode.

Please alert gunners to the importance of keeping and using the second barrel that was headspaced for their machine gun. That will save weapons and lives. Both barrels should be marked with the gun's serial number so there won't be any doubt about which barrel goes with which gun. Put on the serial number with paint or put it on a dogtag. *Don't* etch it in the barrel!

Kuwait

Editor's note: Excellent advice,

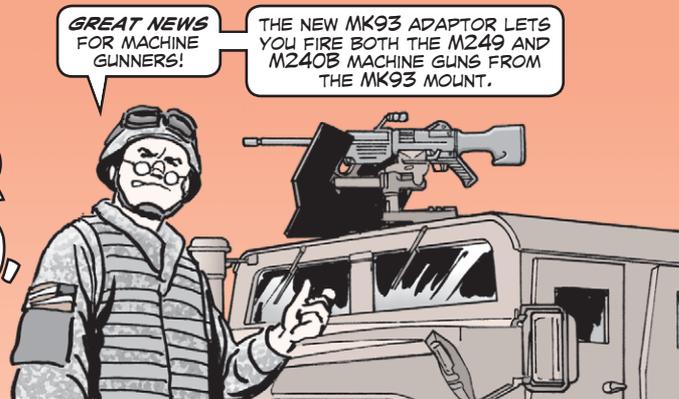
For any gunners who have forgotten the rules on changing barrels, use these intervals for both live and blank ammo:

M2—If you're firing single shot, wait until the end of the day to change barrels. If you're firing 40 rounds or fewer per minute, change the barrel every hour. If you're firing 200 rounds or more per minute, change the barrel every half hour.

M240—Change the barrel every 10 minutes during sustained fire (100 rounds per minute) and every two minutes during rapid fire (200 rounds per minute).

M249—During both sustained fire (50 rounds per minute) and rapid fire (100 rounds per minute), change the barrel every 200 rounds.

MOUNT ADAPTOR FOR M249, M240B



That means you can quickly and easily switch from an M2 or MK19 heavy machine gun to the lighter M249 or M240B when firing from the MK93.

The adaptor also provides an ammunition bracket capable of holding a 200-round 7.62-mm metal or 5.56-mm plastic ammunition container.

No tools are required to install the adaptor. Instructions come with the bracket.

Order the MK93 adaptor with NSN 1005-01-531-1676 and the ammunition bracket with NSN 1005-01-531-1666.

