

THIS SAND AND HEAT ARE TERRIBLE!

I'M GOING TO NEED EXTRA CARE OUT HERE...

...OR WE'RE BOTH GOING TO BE IN BAD TROUBLE!

# Breathe Easier

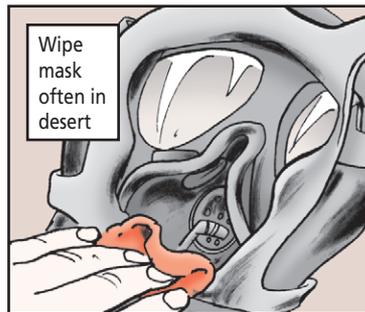
The sand and heat of Southwest Asia can do a real number on your M40- and M42-series masks. Sand can plug airways, while heat and the desert sun can shorten the life of some mask parts. This advice, though, can provide your mask an oasis in the desert:

**Keep it clean.** The fine sand of Southwest Asia will penetrate every part of your mask, which could lead to poor breathing or seeing. The only ways to fight sand are to keep your mask in its carrier as much as possible and to clean the mask often.

Areas you want to pay special attention to when cleaning are around the outlet valve disc, the inside lenses, the canister's air intake, and in the mask's inner lining. You can shake out or blow out much of the sand and use a dry, clean cloth to wipe out the rest.

Of course, if your mask is really caked with sand the best option is to wash it. Remove the hood, outserts, outlet valve disc and cover, second skin and canister. Dip a clean cheesecloth in clean water and wring it almost dry. Then use the cloth to clean out all sand inside and outside the facepiece. Wipe the mask dry with a dry cloth. Make sure the mask is completely dry before you put it back in the carrier.

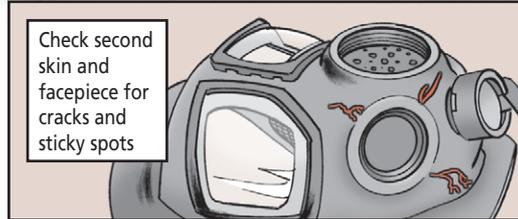
If the mask is really filthy, mix liquid soap, NSN 8520-00-228-0598, in the water. After cleaning with the soap-water mixture, wipe out the mask with a clean cloth that's been dipped in clean water. Then wipe out the moisture with a dry cloth.



# in the Desert

## Second skin and facepiece.

Check both the skin and facepiece for cracking or sticky or soft areas. Pay special attention to the parts of the skin where it is stretched, such as around the canister, the voicemitter, and eyelenses.



## Outserts.

Use them. They protect the eyelenses from blowing sand that will scratch up the lenses and make it difficult for you to see. Scratched outserts can be replaced quickly. Scratched eyelenses mean you need a new facepiece.



**Water only.** If you drink anything other than water through the drink tube, the drink tube will gunk up. That doesn't make for a pleasant drinking experience. And keep the drink tube coupling stored in the outlet valve cover at all times to help it stay clean.

