

A Crucial Question



Dear Half-Mast,

We faithfully read your magazine and try to follow all your maintenance tips, but recent articles on commo shelters have us puzzled.

In articles about the inside of the shelter, you say to limit what we store there to prevent equipment damage.

In articles about the outside of the shelter, you say not to put anything on top of the shelter or we'll harm the roof.

So, our question is, where in the world do we store all the stuff we have to take to the field with us?

SGT Y.Y.

Dear Sergeant Y.Y.,

Equipment storage problems during transportation have been around since Napoleon was a private. And, just like then, when it's time to move out, equipment gets tossed into and onto any area that's available. The consequences at the time seem inconsequential. However, robbing Peter early will mean paying Paul later. If you're pulling a generator trailer, you have some storage areas on it. Use 'em, but keep the weight within these limits: On the PU-751 with a 5-KW generator, you can store up to 555 lbs of stuff; on the PU-753 with a 10-KW generator, 160 pounds is the limit.

The vehicle carrying your shelter has some storage capacity. Make the best use of it and consider making an over-the-cab storage rack. It should be light weight and non-interfering with a load-limit of around 150 pounds. After you make it, though, you must get approval from C-E LCMC to use it.

Got an idea already? Email: @us.army.mil

It's a must to have a load plan that covers all your equipment. Practice implementing the plan before you deploy so you'll know what to do when you must move out in a hurry.

Limit your personal items. Some of those things may seem more important to you than the radio equipment you're hauling, but personal items are space eaters.

Half-Mast