

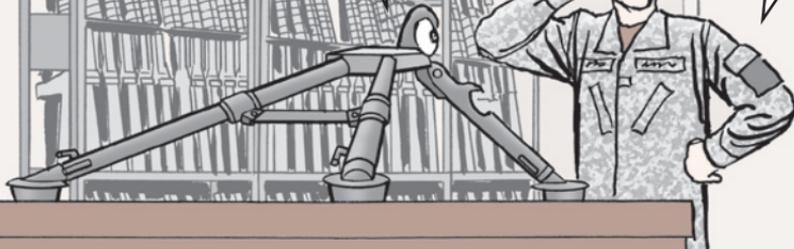
Where's Your T&E?

HEY, WE DEPLOY NEXT WEEK AND I CAN'T FIND MY T&E.

WHERE THE HECK DID YOU PUT IT?

SKRITCH

GOSH, I KNOW I'VE SEEN IT AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.



Dear Editor,

Many units when they are getting ready to deploy are finding that they are missing parts for their M3 and M122/M122A1 machine gun tripods. Without the traversing and elevation mechanism (T&E) or the pintle or the adapters for the various machine guns, the tripods can't be used.

These parts usually disappear because of sloppy storage practices. You can stop these losses by getting something like the mechanic's tool pouch, NSN 5140-00-329-4306, and keeping the tripod's accessories in it. Mark the tripod's ID on the bag and use a bungee cord to attach it to the tripod during storage. That way the accessories always stay with the tripod.

CW3 (retired)
Defense Supply Center
Columbus, OH

Editor's note: Thanks for the suggestion, Chief. It will save lots of pre-deployment headaches. The mechanic's pouch costs \$23. Armorers can probably find something cheaper at their local discount store. Remember to remove the pouch before firing.

Mortars...

Tight, But Not Too Tight

It's a great idea to check the tightness of clamps and any nuts, bolts, and screws on your mortars. But if you get carried away tightening these fasteners, you cause more harm than good.

If you muscle them too tight, you can strip the threads or break the nuts, bolts, or screws, which makes your mortar NMC. The usual victims are the 60mm's mortar barrel/handle clamp and the 120mm's cross-leveling clamp handle. Tighten these items snug and then stop. That's tight enough.