

# BLOWUP OVER A BLOWOUT



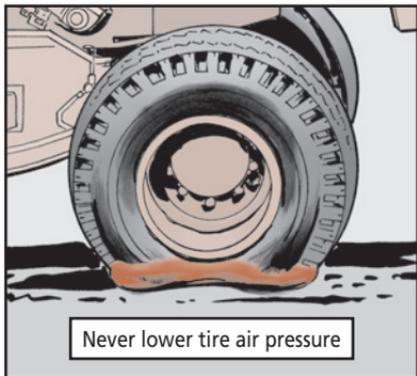
**I**s there anything that'll make you blow your top faster than a tire blowout on your M198 towed howitzer during maneuvers? Don't blow up at the tires, though. It may not be their fault.

Improper tire inflation and unsafe towing speeds are the main cause of tire damage on the M198.

**Never**—even during cross-country towing—lower the tires' air pressure. The lower the pressure, the hotter the tires get. That causes tread separation and fatigue breaks in the body cords.

While cornering, the wheel rims on under-inflated tires are forced outward. That puts a lot of pressure on the sidewall and could cause the tire to blow or come off the wheel.

Lessen the chance of these problems by keeping your tires properly inflated. The correct pressure to use for cold inflation on radial tires, NSN 2610-01-281-0675, is 120 psi.



The maximum highway towing speed for your howitzer is 45 mph. Go any faster and tire temperature rises dramatically, permanently damaging the tire cord.

Never go faster than 30 mph on secondary roads or 15 mph cross-country. Since the howitzer does not have a suspension system, excessive speed causes the tires to bottom out. That damages the rims and results in handling problems.