

Wet Manifold a Rusty Problem



YOU'LL BE CLEAN AS NEW WHEN I GET FINISHED!

SPLASH

GLUB! CLEAN, YES!

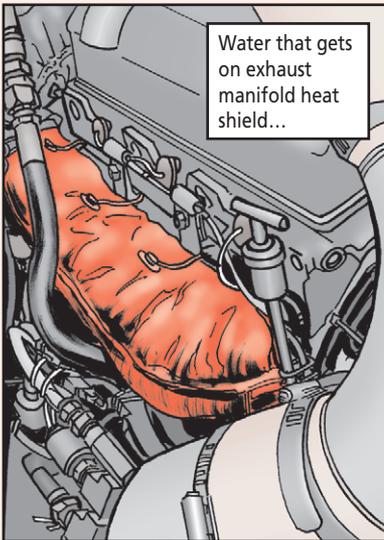
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DAMAGE TO MY EXHAUST MANIFOLD!?

Dear Half-Mast,

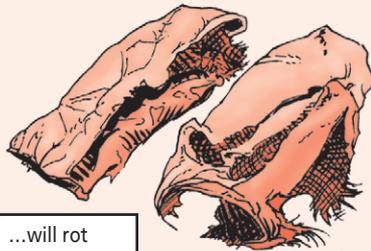
We've come across a problem with the exhaust manifolds on several of our M113A3 personnel carriers.

The heat shield covers seem to be retaining water from rain and vehicle washing. Over time, that water causes rust, resulting in holes and even splits in the exhaust manifold.

The heat shield covers don't fare too well either. They're rotting from the inside out.

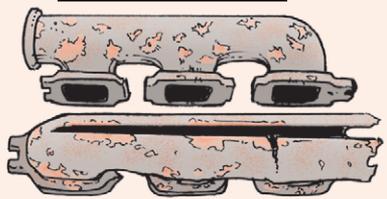


Water that gets on exhaust manifold heat shield...



...will rot heat shield...

...and rust out manifold



Is there something we can do to prevent this damage?

SSG R.M.G.

Dear Sergeant R.M.G.,

You bet!

As you mentioned, there are two main culprits that lead to heat shield cover and manifold damage—rain and wash water.

Rain is pretty easy to beat. First, you'll need to make sure you keep the engine grille buttoned up with grille cover, NSN 5120-01-105-0779 (green) or NSN 2510-01-496-9646 (tan). Just don't forget to remove the grille cover before operating the vehicle.

Second, cover the vehicle with a tarp whenever it's stored outdoors. NSN 8340-00-841-6456 brings a 12x17-ft green tarp. NSN 2540-01-330-8062 gets a 12x17-ft tan tarp. Both are listed in the -10 TM's Additional Authorized List (AAL).

When it comes to washing the vehicle, your best bet is to avoid spraying wash water directly onto the engine as much as possible. However, if the heat shield cover **does** get wet, run the engine at fast idle afterward. The heat generated will dry out the cover and lessen moisture buildup problems.

Half-Mast

M113A3 Steer Lock Conversion

Mechanics, hold off on replacing a bad electrical steer lock solenoid, NSN 5945-00-933-8450, on the M113A3 FOV. Instead, get your support to install the new electrical-to-mechanical conversion kit, NSN 2520-01-434-8596. At around \$573, the kit costs more than a new electrical solenoid, but it also lasts a lot longer.