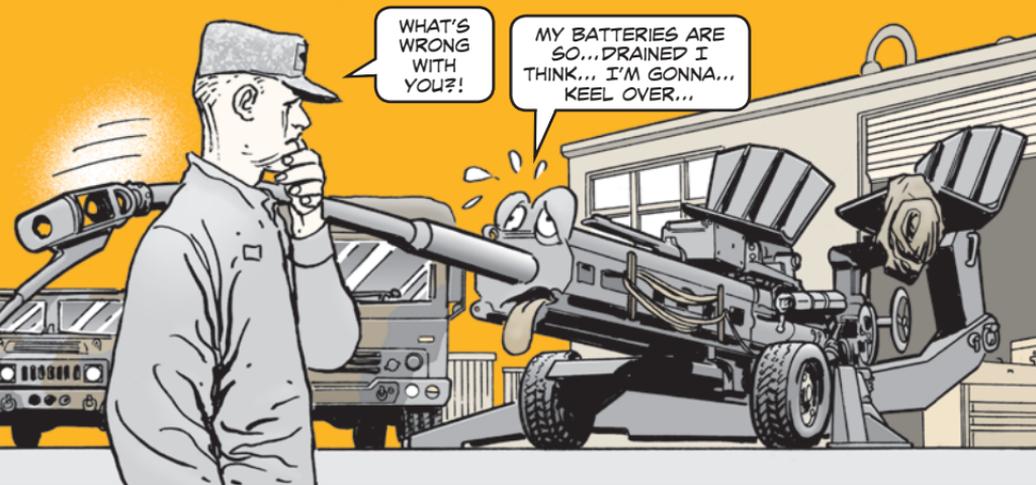


CHARGE AHEAD ON BATTERIES



The M777 howitzer operates on a 24-volt system with two 12-volt batteries. Those batteries are crucial to the operation of the howitzer.

Unfortunately, howitzers can spend many days sitting in the motorpool between uses. The batteries slowly drain until they're useless when it's time for the next mission.

Of course you could drive the prime mover to each of the guns, hook it up and run the vehicle (700 rpm for the FMTV and approximately 850 rpm for the M939-series 5-ton) until the batteries are charged. But that can take a lot of time, especially if you have a whole battalion of howitzers. And with the cost of fuel nowadays, keeping the batteries charged that way is almost more expensive than buying new batteries.

That's why a solar battery charger is available in the howitzer's BII. You'll find the charger listed as Item 76 on Page B-16 of TM 9-1025-215-10 (Jun 06 w/Ch 2, Oct 07).

There are three NSNs available. NSN 6130-01-540-3380 gets the charger, case and solar panel. NSN 6130-01-521-1387 gets the charger and solar panel, but no case. Get just the charger with no case or solar panel with NSN 6130-01-521-1329.

Use solar charger to keep batteries charged

