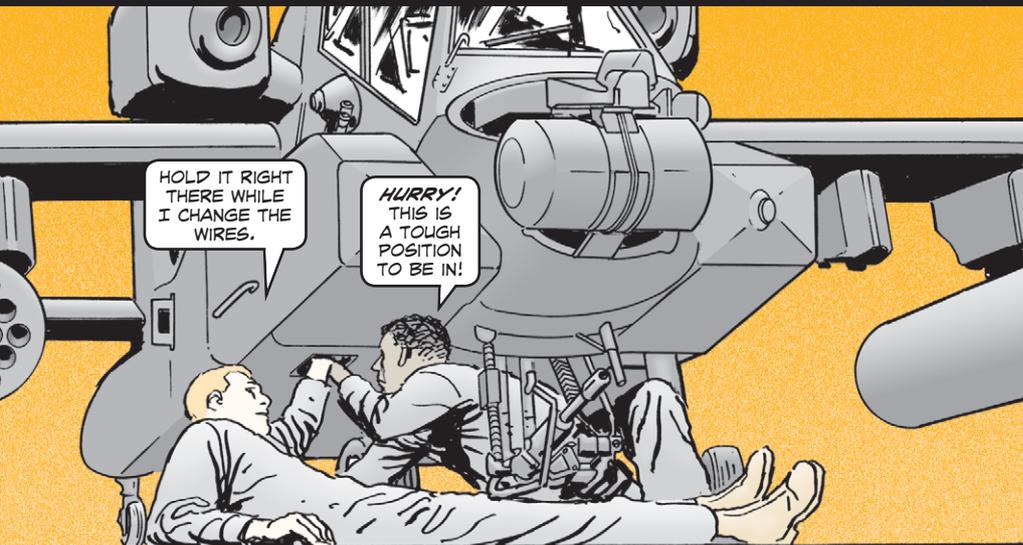


HOLD UP THE LIGHT



HOLD IT RIGHT THERE WHILE I CHANGE THE WIRES.

HURRY! THIS IS A TOUGH POSITION TO BE IN!

Dear Sergeant Blade,

The searchlight underneath the nose of the AH-64D is a delicate piece of equipment. When it's time to replace the light, we have three options:

1. After disconnecting the light, let it hang by the wiring. Doing it this way puts stress on the wires which can cause breaks.

2. Use tie-wraps to hold up the light to keep stress off the wires. But this method creates another problem. Using tie-wraps makes it difficult to change or switch wires because the light is swinging and unstable.

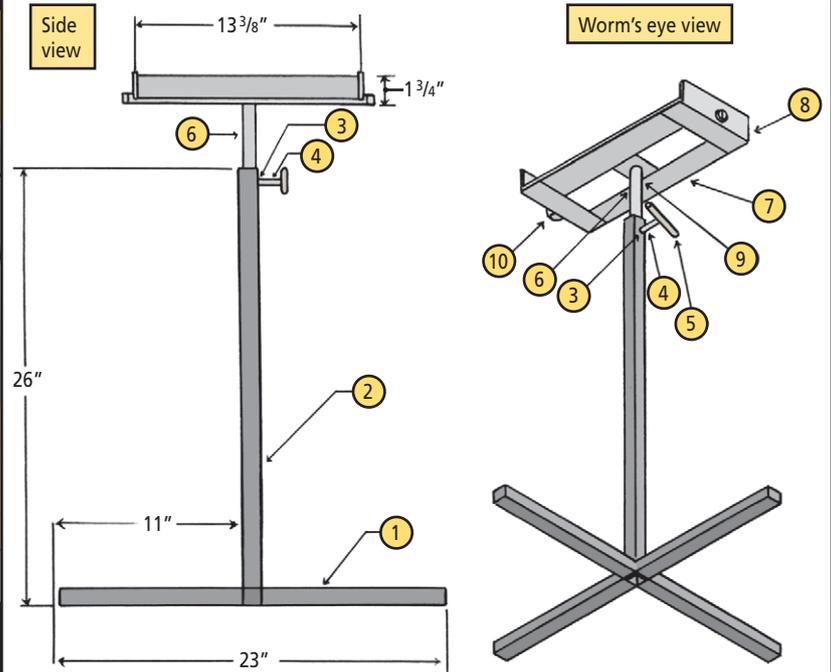
3. Make it a two-person job. One mechanic sits on the ground and awkwardly balances two lights over his head while the second mechanic switches over eight individual wires to the new light.

None of these options worked for us.

We've come up with a fourth option that does! We made a height adjustable searchlight stand that we place under the searchlight. It makes changing and switching wires to a new searchlight simpler and one mechanic can do it by himself.

To make the stand, we welded together various tubing. It has a stable base, it's adjustable and has a platform large enough to fit two searchlight assemblies side by side. The sides and back are 1-in high to keep the unattached searchlights from falling off. We also use a bungee cord to secure the two searchlights. We can adjust the stand to the height we need to change searchlights.

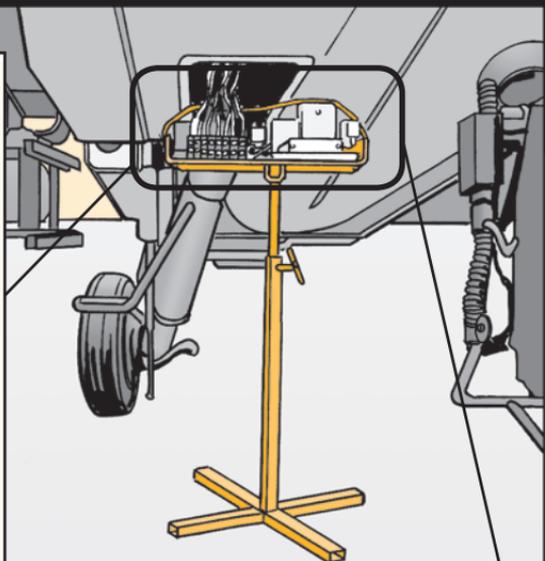
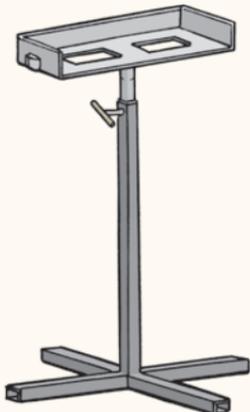
Just check the drawings and you can see it doesn't require much effort for a shop to make the stand. Our mechanics have used this stand for a long time and they love it! Here are the plans for the stand and what the finished stand looks like and how it's used.



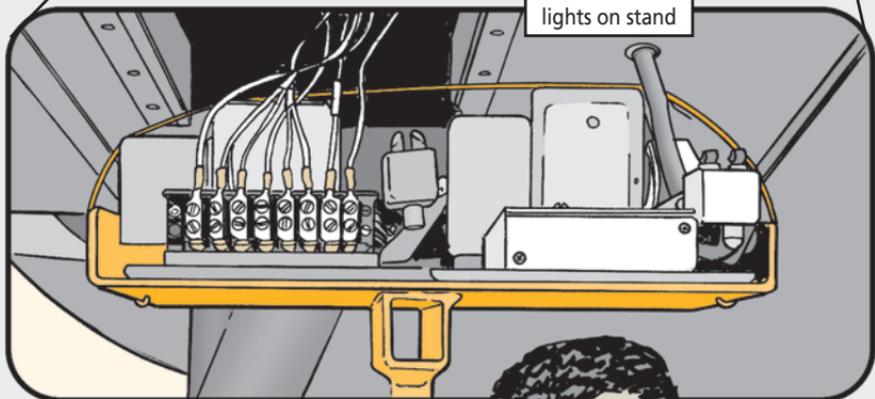
Parts List		
Item	Qty	Description
1	4	1" x 1" x 11" steel tubing
2	1	1" x 1" x 26" steel tubing
3	1	5/16" nut
4	1	5/16" NC x 1 1/2" long bolt
5	1	5/16" x 3" rod
6	1	3/4" dia. x 22" long CRS
7	2	1/8" x 1 3/4" flat bar
8	2	1 3/4" x 1/8" angle bar
9	1	Flat bar
10	2	1/2" NC nuts



Stand looks like this when complete



Place search lights on stand



A.B.
Ft Rucker, AL

MR. B.,
THAT'S A GREAT
IDEA! LOOKS LIKE
YOU MADE A STAND
ON MAINTENANCE.



PS
END