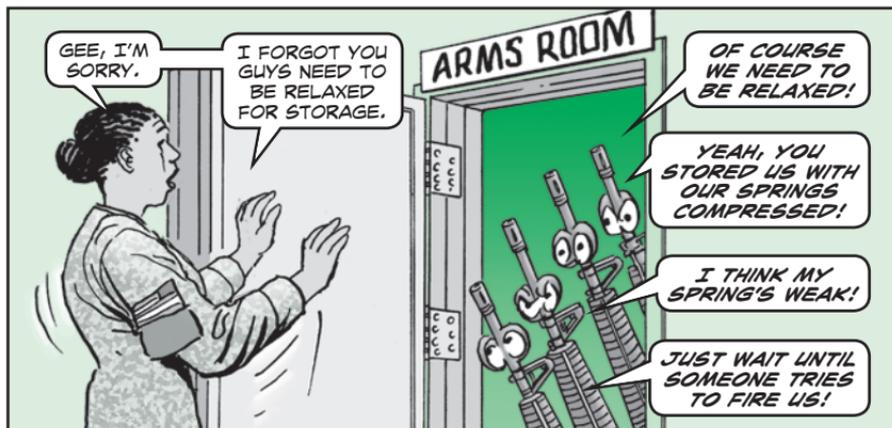


STORE WEAPONS PROPERLY OR SUFFER CONSEQUENCES



Dear Editor,

Could you remind your readers about the proper way to store rifles, machine guns and pistols? We repair many of the weapons here at Ft Sill and we're seeing too many weapons coming into the shop because they weren't stored with the hammer uncocked and the bolt forward.

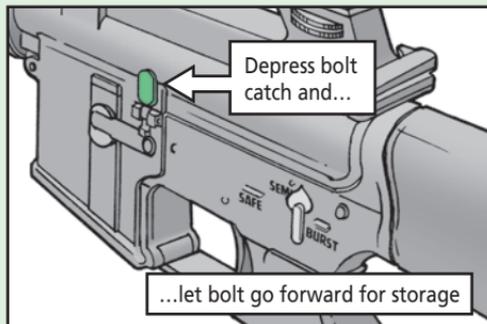
If an M16, for example, is stored with the hammer cocked and the bolt locked to the rear, its hammer and trigger springs soon lose their strength and need replacing.

The rifle may also fail the trigger pull test, which means the hammer and trigger pins must be removed and then reinstalled. When the pins have to be removed too often, their holes enlarge and fail gaging and the lower receiver must be coded out.

If the bolt's left locked back, the recoil spring will weaken and the rifle could jam in battle. *Not a good thing.*

Armorers just need to remember to *always* leave the bolt or slide forward, the selector on SEMI and the hammer uncocked for storage. That leaves all the springs relaxed...and strong.

SFC G.F.
MATES
Ft Sill, OK



Editor's note: Excellent advice. Just think relaxed, armorers, when it comes to storing your weapons.