

Searching for the Combat Lock



Dear Half-Mast,

A lot of the newer drivers of M113-series vehicles don't realize that the power plant access door has a combat lock. So when it's time to do PMCS, the driver can't figure out why the access door won't open.

Time is wasted when a mechanic is called in to fix a non-existent problem. Since time is money, can you let drivers know when and how to engage and disengage the combat lock?

MAJ C.G.

Dear Major C.G.,

You bet, Sir!

Part of the problem is that the combat lock is so well hidden. If you didn't know it was there, you'd never find it.

Drivers, you'll find the lock behind the cannon plugs above the accelerator pedal in the driver's compartment. To engage the lock, rotate the handle to the vertical position. To disengage, rotate the combat lock handle to the horizontal position.

The combat lock should always be engaged during operations and while parked in the motorpool. That protects the engine compartment from unauthorized access.

Half-Mast

