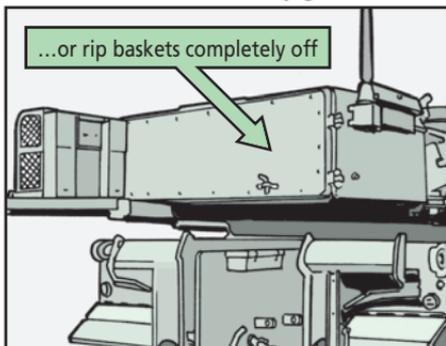
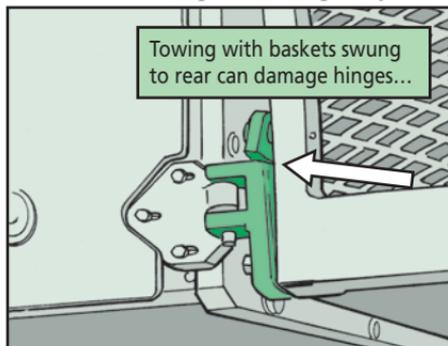


How you prepare a disabled M109A6 Paladin for towing may determine whether or not you're a basket case by the time you get back to the motor pool.

If the Paladin's stowage baskets are locked in the rear position and a tow bar is used, the baskets may hit the M88A1 recovery vehicle during turns. That can damage the baskets or even rip them completely loose. It doesn't do the M88A1 any good either.



So lock the baskets in the forward position to keep them out of the way during towing.

That step makes the baskets the widest portion of the howitzer, so you may need to return them to the rear position when towing through a narrow area. Just remember to lock the baskets in the forward position once you're back in the open.

Any time you must tow a Paladin with the baskets in the rear position, use a ground guide to prevent damage during turns.