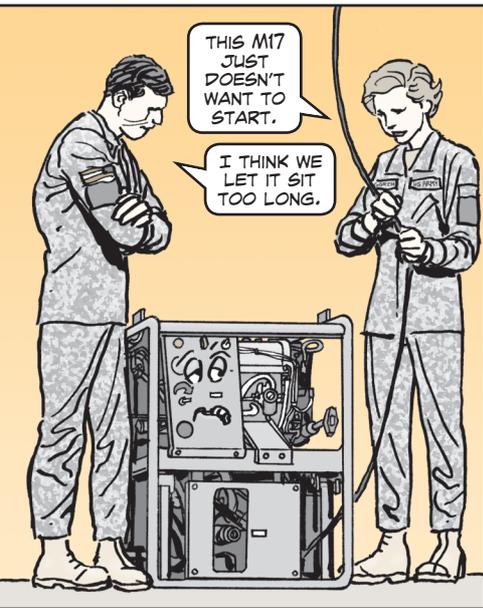
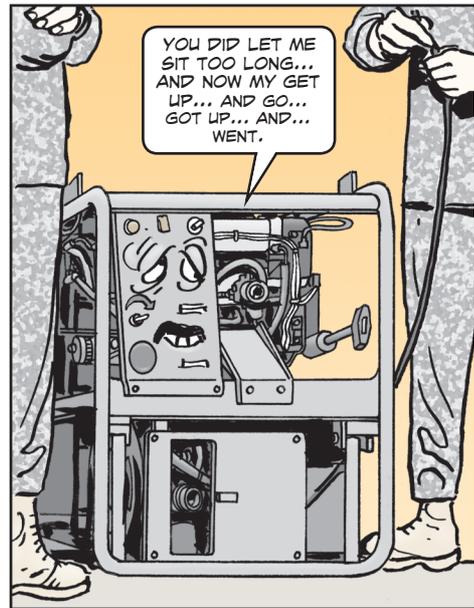


Stop *Start-up* Problems



THIS M17 JUST DOESN'T WANT TO START.

I THINK WE LET IT SIT TOO LONG.



YOU DID LET ME SIT TOO LONG... AND NOW MY GET UP... AND GO... GOT UP... AND... WENT.

Dear Editor,

Getting the M17 started is often the hardest part of deconning, especially if it has sat unused for a long time. Here are a few suggestions to stop start-up problems:

Using the wrong fuel in the M17's engine is one of the biggest problems. The *burner* can run on MOGAS, diesel fuel or JPB, but the *engine* runs only on MOGAS mixed with one pint of oil per five gallons of MOGAS. So a good check before you try to start your M17 is to look at its fuel filter. If you've got the correct fuel going to the engine, the fuel in the filter will be a bluish green. If it's not, you've got either the wrong fuel or the wrong fuel-oil mixture.

Check fuel filter for bluish green fuel

Any other color and you've got the wrong fuel

If the fuel is OK but the M17's burner engine won't start, it could be that the fuel pump has locked up. That sometimes happens if the M17 has not been run for weeks. An easy way to check the fuel pump is to pull out the burner return fuel line while you're trying to start the M17. If nothing comes out, you've probably got a bad fuel pump.

The engine will usually be easier to start on cold days than the heater because MOGAS ignites easier than JPB or diesel fuel. It's a good idea on cold days to first start the engine and let it run for 5-10 minutes. The engine exhaust warms up the burner and helps its fuel ignite.

If you make sure to get all the fuel out of the fuel system at shutdown, you will have an easier start next time. Otherwise, fuel that stays in the fuel system thickens and clogs the carburetor. The best way to completely empty the M17 at shutdown is to pull out the fuel hose and hold it up until the M17 sputters off.

One safety note: Wear hearing and eye protection while operating the M17. It's very loud and can damage your hearing if you're not wearing ear plugs. And you don't want whatever you're spraying to get in your eyes.

SGT D.V.
21st Chemical Co
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Editor's note: Get started on these start-up suggestions, deconners. Thanks, Sergeant.