

AH-64/D...

Rounds In, Fingers Out!

IT WAS PAINFUL
WHEN MY FINGER
GOT SMASHED,
BUT NOW I
KNOW BETTER!

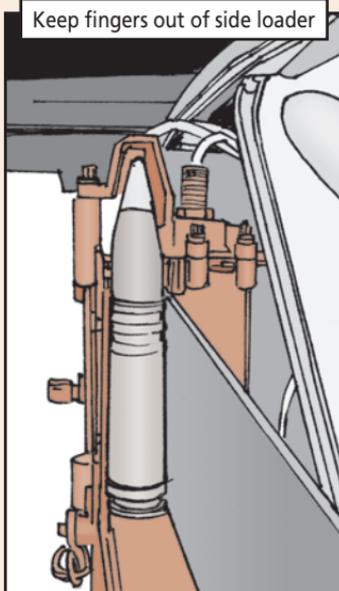
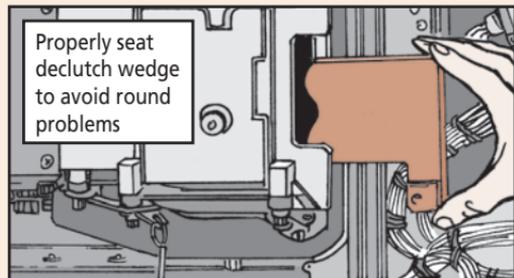
GOOD,
BECAUSE I
FELT YOUR
PAIN, TOO.

Armorers, it is not a good feeling to have your fingers caught in the AH-64's sideloader while loading 30mm ammo.

To help you remember that your fingers are important, place a warning label with black lettering on the side loader as a reminder. It should say, **“WARNING: Keep fingers clear of side loader.”**

During field exercises, and because of the rapid pace of the forward area, ammo refueling point (FAARP), Soldiers don't always pay attention to the warnings or cautions in the IETM about the sideloader.

The lip inside the loader is damaged when the declutching block is inserted wrong. When ammo trays are damaged, rounds won't load correctly and may fall out. Sometimes Soldiers also try to manually load single rounds.



In either case, an armorer might try to push rounds into the loader with a finger while uploading, and then CRUNCH! Their finger gets smashed or cut off between the round and the loader.

Be safe rather than sorry. Keep your digits clear of the side loader gears and sprockets. And never load damaged ammo or wear gloves while loading.