

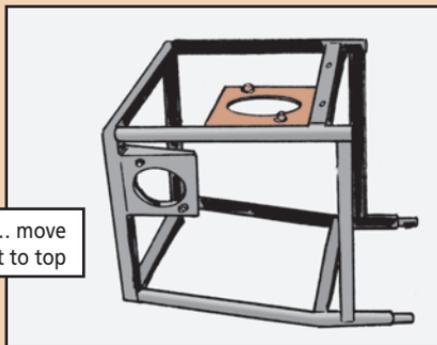
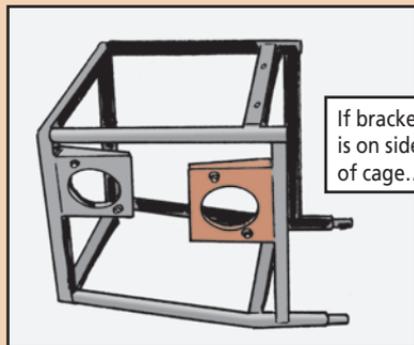
Folding the Kiowa Warrior's M296 machine gun with the umbilical cable still attached to the side-welded aft cage bracket can damage the cable and cage. You can bend or snap off the bracket and pull the connector off the cable.

The cable is not long enough to span the added distance when folding up the universal weapon's pylon (UWP) with the cable connected to the side-welded aft cage bracket.

To make matters worse, the umbilical cable is usually wrapped around the pylon mounting arm to keep it out of harm's way. That just makes the cable even shorter.

The simple solution is to disconnect the cable before folding the gun.

The permanent solution is to move the bracket from the side to the top of the aft cage. The procedure is in Appendix I-2 of TM 9-1090-214-23&P. With the bracket moved to the top of the cage and the cable not wrapped around the UWP, the cable should be long enough to fold without damaging the cage or the cable.



New aft cages from the supply system will have the bracket mounted on the side. Have your support shop remove and weld the bracket to the top of the aft cage to prevent future damage.