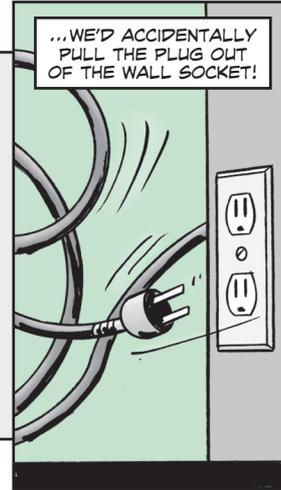
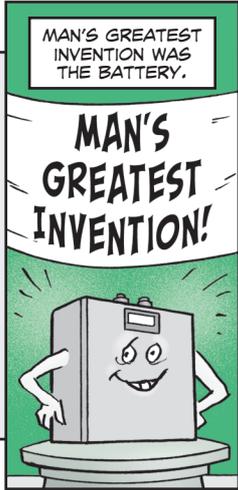


SIX THINGS TO AVOID!



1. Avoid extended storage. Every Soldier likes to stockpile supplies and equipment. It's better to have too much than not enough, right? But batteries need to be used. Lying around is not their thing. The chemicals in batteries never really rest. Stuff is happening inside a battery that reduces its powering capacity. The key to always having fresh batteries is knowing your unit's battery usage and meeting that need, but not piling up excess. And remember, "first in, first out."

2. Avoid heat. High storage temperatures will ruin a battery. Even commercial batteries like double As, Cs, and Ds can be cooked in the heat. So, it's up to you to help batteries keep their cool. Don't leave batteries in direct sunlight. Don't store batteries in hot CONEX boxes or MILVANS. If you're suffering in the heat, your batteries are, too.

3. Avoid storing batteries with different chemistries together. Like a divorcing couple, some batteries don't get along and their relationship can be explosive! Check the MSDS for every battery type you use. Know their chemistry. Lithium batteries should always be segregated from other types. They just don't play well with others!



4. Avoid removing battery packaging before using the battery. Keep batteries in their original packaging until needed. The original packaging helps you identify the batteries and does offer some protection from crushing, puncturing and shorting.

5. Avoid using non-authorized batteries. It seems like every country on the earth makes batteries. Of course, all batteries are not created equal. If you're getting a non-authorized battery on the cheap, chances are it's a poorly made, short-lasting, possibly-exploding battery.



6. Avoid surprises by checking your batteries before use. Check new batteries for a good charge prior to issuing them to make sure high heat has not fried them, or a lengthy storage has not drained them. Checking the equipment is better than nothing, but a battery tester like the ZTS tester, NSN 6625-01-494-9163, is better.