

# GETTING THE WET OUT!



Dear Half-Mast,  
We're constantly finding standing water inside the ammo compartments of our tanks.

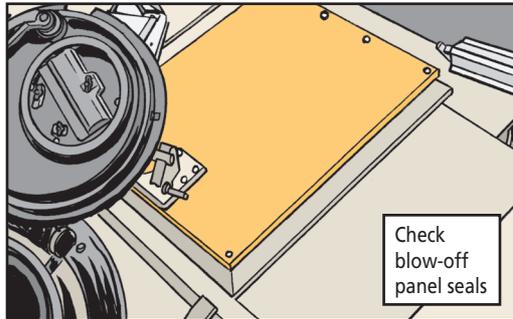
We thought it was simple condensation, so we used desiccant bags, NSN 6850-00-264-6571, like you said on Page 7 of PS 685 (Dec 09). That helped some, but we kept getting more water than the desiccant bags could handle.

Any ideas on what could be causing this water problem and what we can do to stop it?

SSG H.M.P.

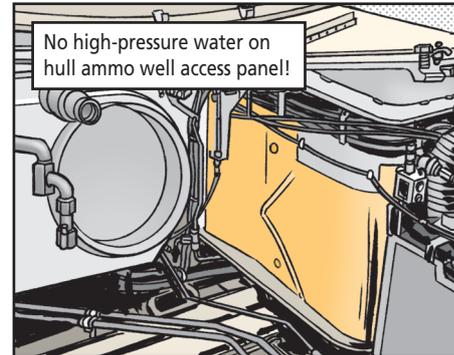
Dear Sergeant H.M.P.,

I've got a few ideas that might help. Take a close look at the blow-off panels. Sometimes the seals under these panels wear out and allow water to leak through to the ammo compartment.



There's also a small environmental cover to the rear of the blow-off panels you should check. Cracked welds, broken or missing bolts, or a leaky seal can all lead to water problems in the ammo compartment.

If those aren't causing the problem, are you using high-pressure water or steam to clean the engine compartment when the powerpack is removed? That can force water past the gasket on the hull ammo well access panel and into the ammo compartment. Check the gasket and try to avoid spraying this panel in the future.



Last, but not least, make sure you keep your tank covered with a tarp, especially when it's going to be stored for a while.

There are two new form-fitting tarps available for M1A1 tanks that work especially well. Use NSN 2540-01-568-9376 to get a tan tarp. NSN 2540-01-568-9379 brings a green tarp. NSNs for specially designed M1A2 tarps aren't yet available, so use the tarp from your BII.

Keep using the desiccant bags, too. They really help.

*Half-Mast*