

Advice for Armorer's from COMET



Dear Editor,

In our work here at the Ft Hood Command Maintenance Evaluation and Training Team (COMET), we spend much of our time training and assisting armorers. From our experience, we offer this advice for armorers and their commanders:

Get to know the small arms repair people at your support unit. We see armorers who aren't getting their weapons' annual gaging done because they don't know who's supposed to do it. One of the first things a new armorer should do is meet the small arms support repairmen. If possible, have the previous armorer introduce you to them. Support will be able to help you with many of the problems that you will face.

HELLO, I'M JOE THE ARMORER.

AND I'M JONES, YOUR SUPPORT. I'M HERE TO HELP.



Be aware that you are responsible not only for weapons, but also for their BII. BII that you and your unit need to keep track of include the M2 machine gun headspace and timing gages, the MK 19 machine gun round removal tool, and the -10 TM for each weapon. If you're missing BII, you will be gigged on that during inspections.

Find out what MWOs need to be done on your weapons. We regularly find weapons that haven't received required modifications, like the MK 19's MOD 3 upgrade or the change to the M2's trigger block or the new M249 rail system. Your local TACOM LAR or COMET can get you a list of the MWOs.

Get modified racks certified. Any time a rack is modified, like adding a locking bar for the M4 carbine to the M16 rifle rack, the rack must be certified by a TACOM LAR if your unit is active Army. National Guard and Reserve units should contact TACOM-RI for instructions at DSN 793-1797 or (309) 782-1797. This is required by AR 190-11, which covers arms room security.

Keep your property book current. If part of your unit has deployed and taken their weapons with them, get those weapons taken off your property book. If you're storing weapons belonging to another unit, you need to have on file a memorandum of agreement from both unit commanders authorizing this.

Fill out SF 702, Security Container Check Sheet, correctly. This is the form on the arms room door. Armorers initial the OPENED BY and CLOSED BY boxes. Someone else initials the CHECKED BY box. The armorer can't initial that box.

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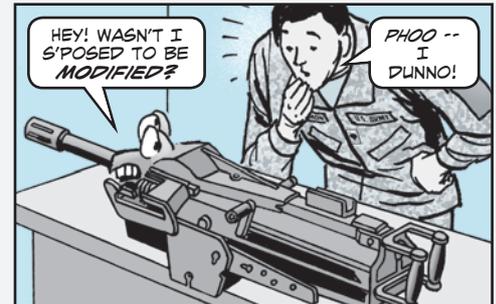
WHERE ARE THE TMS FOR YOUR M1GS?

THE THING IS, I DIDN'T REALIZE I HAD TO KEEP TRACK OF THOSE.



HEY! WASN'T I SUPPOSED TO BE MODIFIED?

PHOO -- I DUNNO!



Editor's note: Armorers, save yourselves lots of grief and follow these COMET tips. And a tip of the hat to you, Vernon and Shirley, for your helpful advice.