

PM Worth Saluting



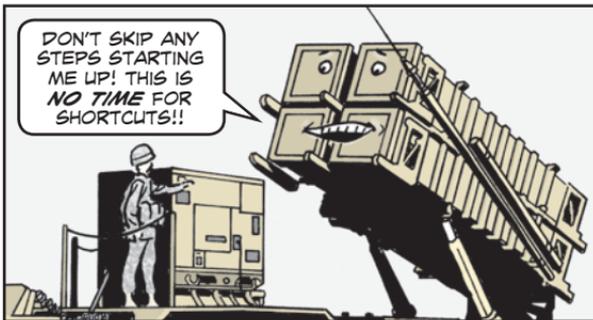
YOUR PATRIOT MISSILE SYSTEM WILL SALUTE YOU IF YOU REMEMBER THESE PM POINTERS...



Launcher

It's critical that you strictly follow the procedures for powering up and powering down the launcher. If you don't do the steps in the correct sequence, you risk damaging expensive power supplies and circuit cards.

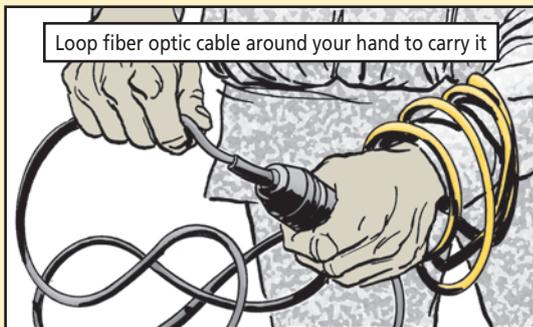
DON'T SKIP ANY STEPS STARTING ME UP! THIS IS **NO TIME FOR SHORTCUTS!!**



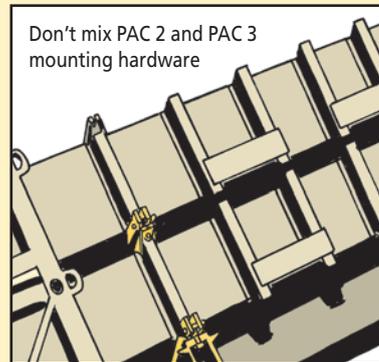
For the same reason, make sure you've completed all the steps to shutdown before turning off the generator. That's also a good reason to make sure the generator fuel tank is full before you power up the launcher. If the generator runs out of fuel, the sudden power loss damages the launcher.

PS MORE

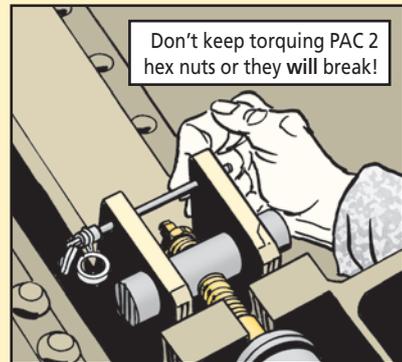
Be careful with the fiber optic cable that runs between the launcher and engagement control station (ECS). It's easy to bend the cable's pins if you force it on. If you drag the cable by its connector, you can pull the cable's wiring loose. Coil the cable around your hand to pull it.



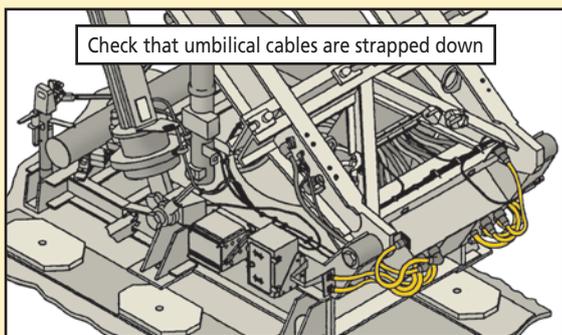
Do not mix PAC 2 and PAC 3 components on the missile tiedown hardware. The PAC 3 hardware doesn't have the PAC 2's breakable hex nuts, which means mixing the hardware can be unsafe.



Do not over-torque the hex nuts on the PAC 2 missile canisters. The hex nuts should be torqued to 60 lb-ft and that's it. Crews often torque the nuts again and again during crew drills. The nuts break and can't hold the missiles in place.



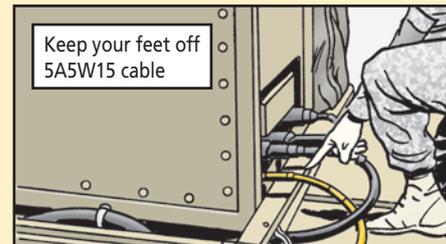
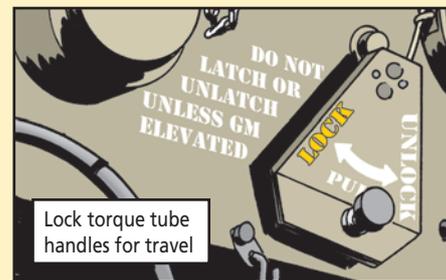
On the PAC 3 launcher, make sure all the umbilical cables for the launching station are strapped down tight during weekly PMCS. If the cables are left dangling, they can be ripped loose when the launcher rotates. That puts down the whole launcher.



When you're preparing to transport the PAC 2 launcher, make **very** sure the torque tube handles are locked before you hit the road. If they're not, the missiles can actually fall off the launcher during travel.

When you're climbing on any of the Patriot components, but particularly the launcher, don't use cables as handles. That ruins many cables. Use the handles on the outriggers for climbing instead. Also make sure you don't step on the 5A5W15 cable that goes to the launcher's electronic module below circuit breaker 1. It snaps off easily.

Never bypass the launcher limit switches. It may seem convenient to bypass the switches when they are bad or out of adjustment. But if you bypass them, you lose the protection the limit switches provide. If an outrigger limit switch is bypassed, for example, the outrigger could malfunction and cause the actuator drive motor to burn out. If a limit switch is bad or out of adjustment, report it.



AN/MPQ-53 Radar

Whether you're taking the radar's shroud off the radome to operate or putting the shroud back on at the end of operations, make sure all the shroud's straps are secured tight. If the shroud flips back down during operations, it could catch on fire from the trapped radar waves.

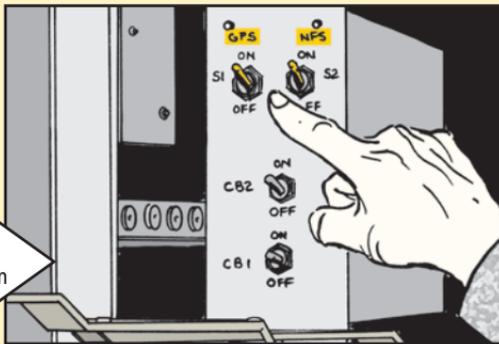
If you don't securely strap down the shroud at the end of operations, it can bunch up when you stow the antenna. That can engage the limit switch and cut off power to the antenna completely. The radar shelter itself can also be punctured, which lets in moisture.



If straps are missing, get them replaced.

If you remove the GPS or NFS, make sure to turn off its circuit breaker. If you forget, circuit cards may be fried next time you power up.

Remember to turn off GPS or NFS circuit breakers if you remove them



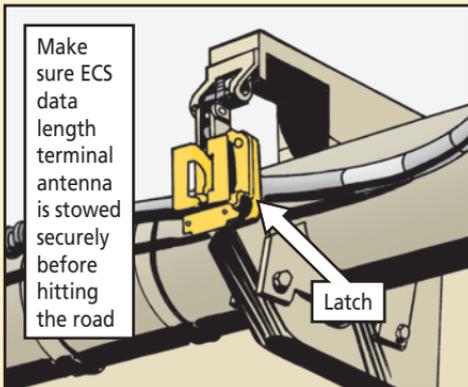
Antenna Mast Group

Some crews think hydraulic fluid is what you put in the antenna masts. That's wrong. Use 10W oil only.

Before travel, make sure the ECS data length terminal antenna is stowed securely. One unit forgot to stow the antenna, which caught power lines along the road and knocked out power to a large section of the base. Think they were popular? After you stow the antenna, make sure the latch for the antenna's swing arm is secure. If it's not, the swing arm won't hold the antenna and the antenna will bounce around during travel and be damaged.

ECS

Make sure ECS data length terminal antenna is stowed securely before hitting the road



Wash Rack

There's one simple rule for Patriots and wash racks: Keep them apart. If you take any of the Patriot components through a high-pressure wash rack, water gets inside expensive items like the data link terminal module (DLTM) processor and very expensive damage follows. Don't use high-pressure water on any Patriot trailer above the wheel wells. Use a bucket and mop to clean above the wheel wells. Your Patriot will appreciate it.

Going through the wash rack forces water in DLTM processor. Expensive damage follows!



PS END