

WHERE IS THE GAGING REQUIREMENT?



Dear Half-Mast,

We have weapons in our unit that haven't been gaged in more than a year. I believe that means they are NMC, but I can't find where it states that in the TMs. The Soldiers in my unit want to fire the weapons and I can't prove to them that they shouldn't.

SSG S.G.

Dear SSG S.G.,

Since you are part of an Active Army unit, you are absolutely right: the weapons shouldn't be fired if they haven't been gaged in more than a year. Every small arms -23&P TM has this statement:

"All Army small arms are to undergo gaging by Direct Support (or equivalent for Aviation units) one year from receipt in accordance with the applicable technical manual. This is NOT a part of initial services to be performed upon receipt of the weapon. **Active Army** small arms will, as a **minimum**, undergo subsequent gaging on an annual (every year) basis. **Guard and Reserve** small arms will, as a **minimum**, undergo subsequent gaging on a biannual (every two years) basis.

These prescribed gaging intervals are, as stated, **the minimum required to assure the safety, operability, and reliability of Army small arms.** Any small arm may be inspected/gaged on a more frequent basis. It is recommended that weapons used in training be gaged after each training cycle has been completed."

In the M16 rifle's TM 9-1005-319-23&P, this statement appears at the beginning of the manual after the General Warnings. It's usually in the same place in the other small arms TMs.

Half-Mast