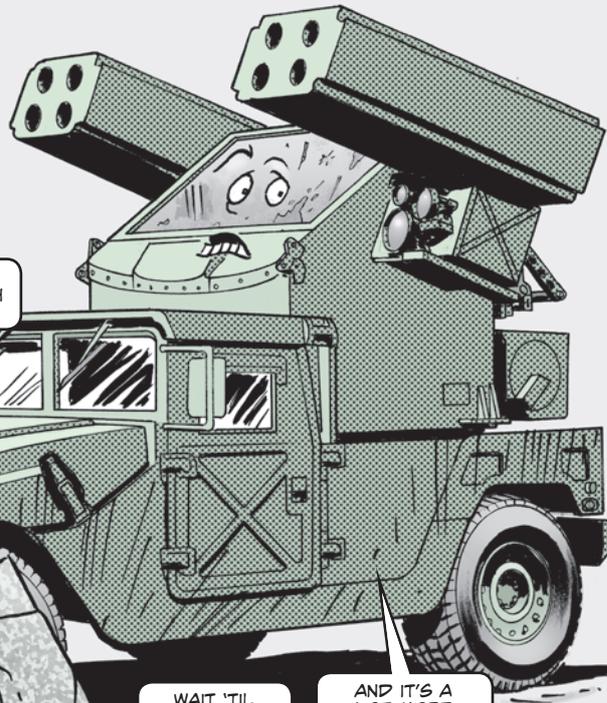


# The ABCs of Canopy Care



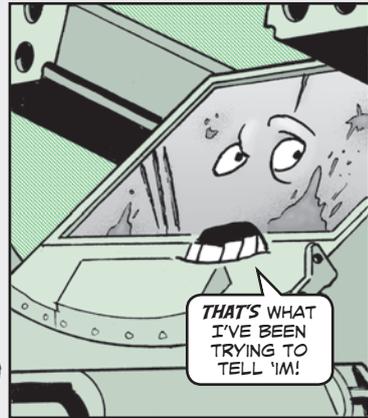
MY GOSH!  
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING THROUGH THESE GLASSES!!

WAIT 'TIL YOU TRY TO SEE THROUGH MY CANOPY!  
AND IT'S A LOT MORE EXPENSIVE TO REPLACE THAN YOUR GLASSES!



EVERYONE KNOWS HOW DIFFICULT AND IRRITATING IT IS TO TRY TO SEE THROUGH DIRTY, SCRATCHED GLASSES!

IT'S JUST AS DIFFICULT AND IRRITATING TO TRY TO SEE THROUGH YOUR AVENGER'S CANOPY IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW THE ABCS OF CANOPY CARE.

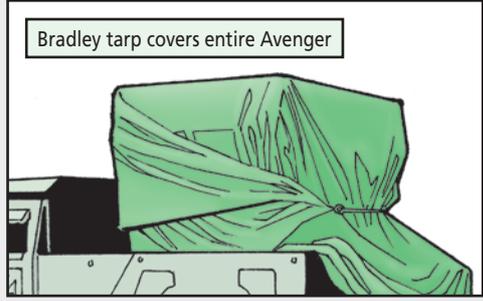


THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL 'IM!

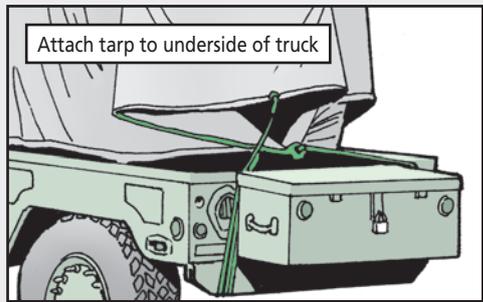
The first rule of canopy care is to protect it. If you leave the canopy uncovered day after day as it sits in the motor pool, blowing sand and dirt will scour its surface. Soon you can't see through it and your unit has to spend big bucks replacing it.

If your Avenger's canopy cover is shot or missing, it's hard to get a replacement because it doesn't have an NSN. You're better off using an old Bradley tarp, which will cover not only the canopy but the entire turret. A green Bradley tarp comes with NSN 2540-00-587-2532 and a tan one with NSN 2540-01-330-8062. Either one will set you back \$150, so it's much cheaper to local purchase a tarp or have your canvas shop make one measuring 12x17 feet.

One caution: Don't tie off the tarp inside the truck. That ruins the door seals. The best way to tie it off is to attach bungee cords to the tarp's ropes and connect them to the underside of the HMMWV.



Bradley tarp covers entire Avenger



Attach tarp to underside of truck



ALL THAT PROTECTION IS FOR NOTHING IF YOU JUST GRAB ANYTHING TO CLEAN THE CANOPY.

STUFF LIKE RAGS, WINDOW CLEANER, AND MULTI-PURPOSE CLEANER WILL STRIP OFF THE CANOPY'S INFRARED COATING.

The right way to clean the canopy is to first flush it with lots of water. Then use your bare hands (minus rings) and liquid dishwashing detergent, NSN 7930-00-880-4454, to clean off dirt. Flush the canopy again with lots of water and blot it—don't wipe it—dry with a clean cloth.



Use bare hands and dishwasher detergent to clean canopy

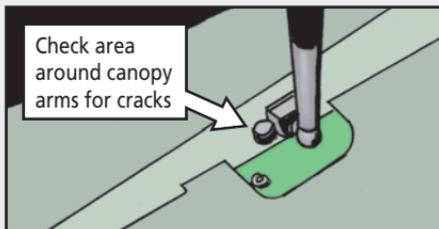
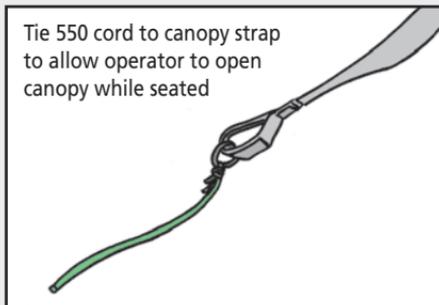
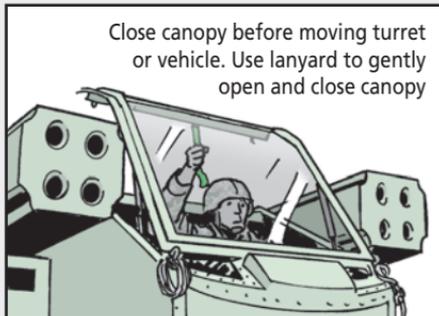
## A Line on Alignment

It doesn't take much to knock the canopy out of alignment and then it can't seal out fumes. That's why you should never move the turret or vehicle with the canopy open. That not only destroys the canopy's alignment but also the mounting brackets for the canopy struts. Shut and latch the canopy before any movement.

For the same reason, don't let the canopy spring open or slam shut. Use the lanyard to guide the canopy all the way up or down. Gunners often don't guide the canopy all the way up because the canopy lanyard is too short for them to do it while they're seated. So they let it go. An easy fix for that is to lengthen the lanyard by tying 550 cord to it.

Any time the canopy moves without resistance or won't stay open, you've got bad struts. Get them replaced.

A good weekly PMCS tip is to check for cracks around where the canopy arms attach to the blocks mounted on the turret wall. If you catch cracks while they're small, they're easily fixed. But if the cracks get a chance to grow, the arms can rip right out.



## The Seal of Approval

You certainly want to make sure the canopy has a good seal so you don't get missile exhaust in the turret. Here's an easy check:

- Put 6x1-in pieces of paper half in and half out of each front corner of the turret.
- Close and lock the canopy.
- Pull on the paper.
- If either piece slips out easily, you've got a bad seal. Tell your repairman pronto.

