

SECURE THOSE

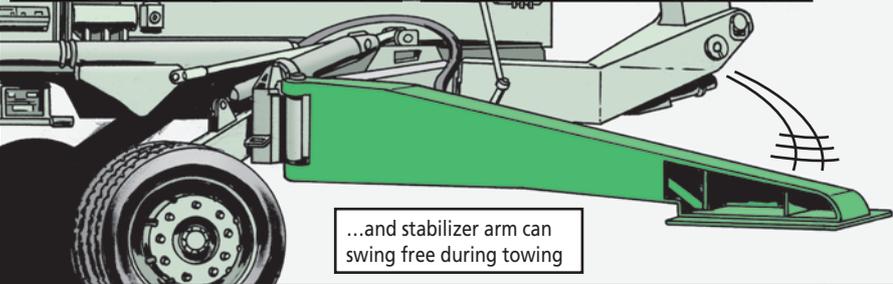
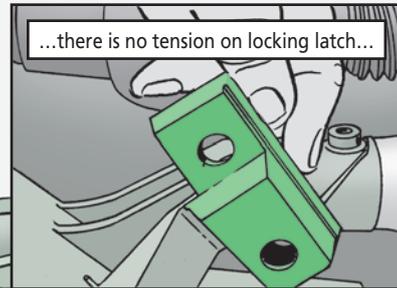
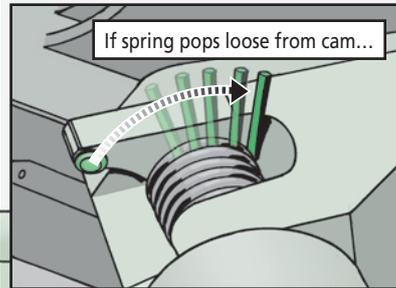
FLAPPING ARMS!



Dear Editor,

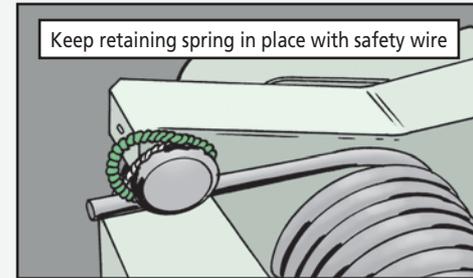
We've had a couple of close calls lately with the stabilizer arms on our M777A2 howitzers coming free and swinging out during transport. Those arms can swing out pretty far, so needless to say, it's a real danger to anyone on the side of the road as well as to any traffic passing by.

The locking lever retaining spring hooks under a cam to keep tension on the locking latch. If that spring pops loose, the locking latch releases and the stabilizer arm swings free.



My team developed an easy, low-cost solution to this problem that we use every time we transport the howitzer:

1. Make sure the retaining spring is tight and in place.
2. Get your mechanic to use his safety wire pliers to secure the retaining spring to the cam with .041 gage safety wire, NSN 9505-00-076-8640.



3. Make checking the safety wire part of your safety checks when hooking up the howitzer for towing. Then, double-check the safety wire again when you secure the stabilizer arms for the return trip after firing or emplacing the howitzer.

CW3 Harold R. Peck, Jr.
SGT Elias Martinez
SPC Maurice Sparks
B Co, 702d BSB, 4/2 SBCT
Ft Lewis, WA

THAT'S A QUICK AND EASY FIX TO A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS PROBLEM!

GOOD WORK, GENTLEMEN!

