

BE CLEAR ON MAINTENANCE OPERATION CHECKS

LET'S GET THESE MOCs DONE!

I'M WITH YOU ON THAT!

NOT QUITE YET, YOU GUYS! SOMEONE NEEDS TO DO A WALK-AROUND TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE ALL CLEAR!

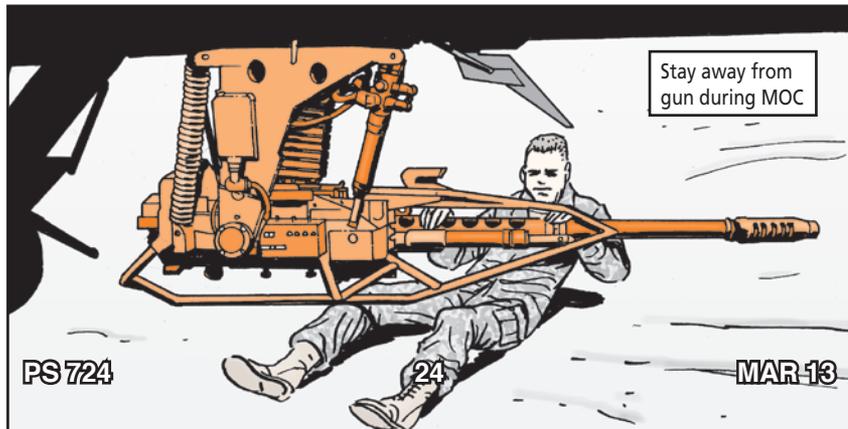
YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL DO THE WALK AROUND RIGHT NOW.

Maintainers, PMCS on your AH-64's M230 gun is important to maintain straight shooting. But pay particular attention to the before firing Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services in Para 4-5-1 of TM 9-1090-208-23-1-1 or in IETM 1-1520-Longbow/Apache.

Always make sure you do a thorough area weapon system maintenance operational check (MOC) like it says in TM 9-1090-208-23-2 or in IETM 1-1520-Longbow/Apache.

MOCs are important. That's because they allow you to verify your weapon system is fully mission capable after a problem has been corrected or prior to any live fire exercise. Remember to visually check the round guide and the bolt carrier assembly breech for any 30mm rounds. If you find rounds present, clear the gun.

Since the MOC requires hydraulics, it is important for personnel to stay clear of the gun travel area when power is applied. Gun subsystem failure could cause the gun turret to move when power is applied and if anyone is in harm's way, they will get injured.



As dynamic tests are taking place, other things can happen during the MOC that can cause the gun to slew. For example, the M230 will also be slaved to the target acquisition designation sight (TADS), allowing the gun to slew wherever the TADS is looking. During this process, always make sure the forward avionics bay (FAB) panels are shut and maintenance stands are removed from the gun travel area during the dynamic tests or before the gun is actuated to avoid damage to the panels or equipment.

Walking around the aircraft to make sure all is clear and no one is working or doing maintenance near the M230 gun before MOC gun checks is the smart thing to do. Keep in mind to use caution when working in the right hand aft avionics bay at the load maintenance panel with the R295 open. The vanexial fan blades are exposed and turning. Keep your fingers out of the fan blade area or you could lose them.

Because the gun turret operates with 3,000 pounds of hydraulic pressure, anyone near the gun can be hit by the barrel or crushed against the ground if they are underneath the aircraft. Not only does the gun rotate left to right, but it also depresses. If the aircraft is "spoofed" or the elevation resolver on the turret is out of tolerance, the gun can strike the ground and lift the aircraft or crush a person. That's deadly!

So make sure the area is called clear before MOC checks are done to avoid injury and damage to equipment.

