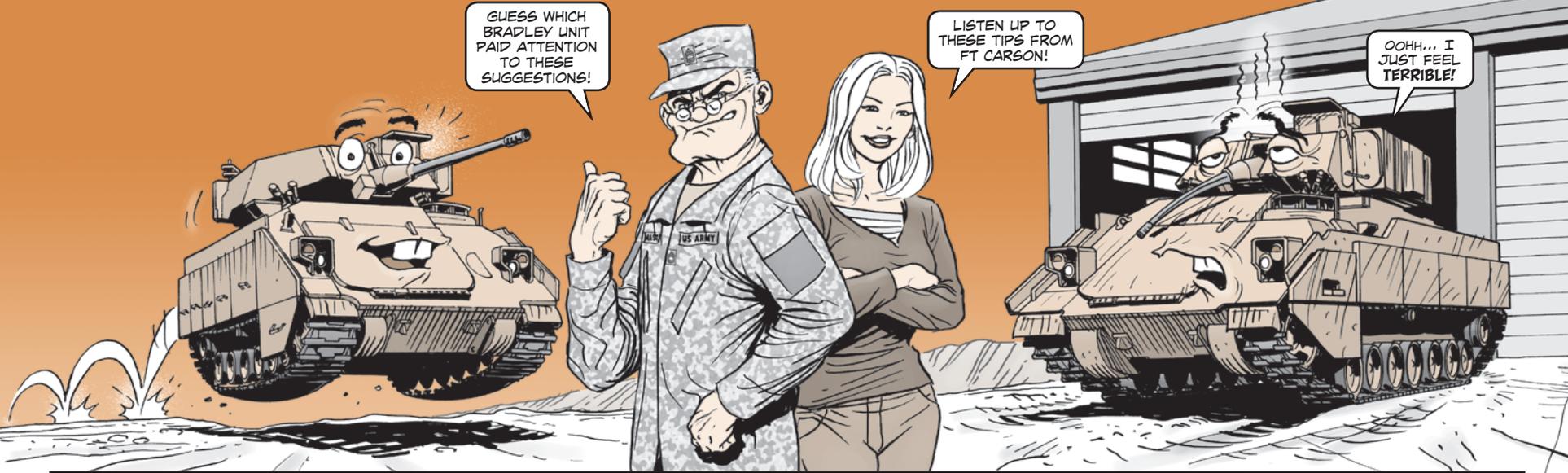


# PM Keeps Bradley

# Bouncing Along!

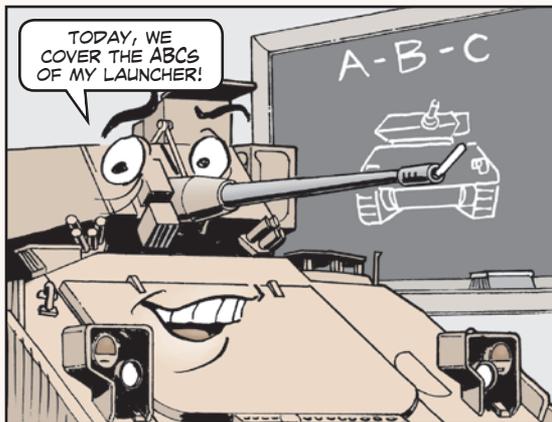


Dear Editor,

We've found while supporting the Bradleys here at Ft Carson that remembering a few simple rules can keep Bradleys bouncing down the trail instead of deadlined in the motor pool:

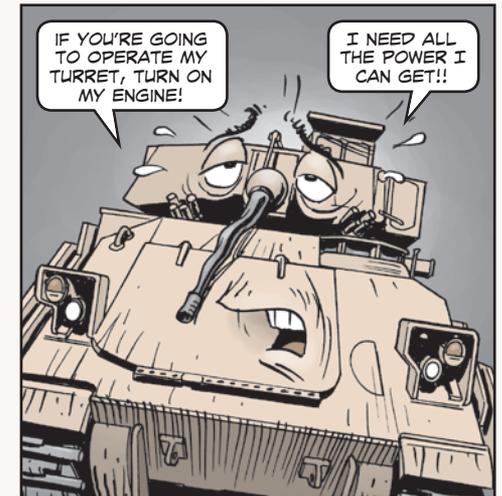
### *Train, Train, Train.*

When Bradley units aren't deployed, they go for long periods without using the Bradley's armament. Soon Soldiers become hazy on how to operate and maintain components like the M242 gun or the TOW launcher. A bit of monthly refresher training during Sergeants' Time can keep Soldiers' skills sharp.



### *Turn on the Engine When You Power Up the Turret.*

The Bradley is a power-hungry beast. If you run the turret without the engine on, you soon have either dead batteries or low voltage. Low voltage causes turret malfunctions and failures in the PCM1, PCM2 and turret power box. If the firmware in those components is affected, it has to be replaced at a cost of thousands of dollars. Low voltage can also make you think you have major problems with the LRUs. You waste time doing needless troubleshooting. All of that can be avoided if you just turn on the engine when you turn on the turret.



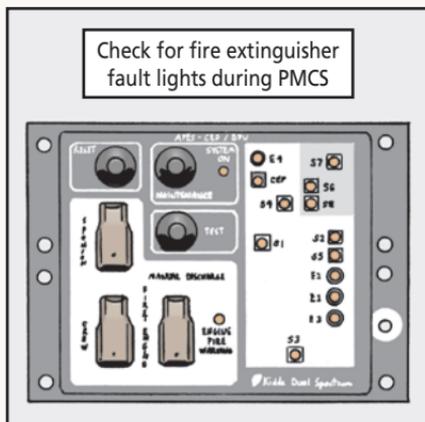
### *Lube Road and Idler Arms at Least Every Six Months.*

To do the job properly, you must remove all the plugs, install grease zerts and relief valves, lube the arms and then reinstall the plugs. Too often, units don't go to all that trouble. As a result, the bearings for the arms wear out fast. It's a big, expensive job to replace them. Do the job when you're supposed to do it and those bearings will last.



### *Pay Attention to the Automatic Fire Extinguisher System.*

Crews often fail to check the control electronics panel during BEFORE PMCS for fire sensor faults. If a fire were to start, the system could fail, leaving the crew and the Bradley in big trouble. If a fault light comes on, it's usually either a dirty sensor or a bad fire extinguisher bottle. Find the problem and get it fixed.



Dave Whithee  
Mike Wood  
Bradley Field Support  
Ft Carson, CO

*Editor's note: These are excellent ways to keep Bradleys bouncing along. Thanks for the suggestions!*