

COOL OFF COOKOFFS



YOU'RE GONNA NEED TO CHANGE MY BARREL **MORE OFTEN** IN THIS HEAT.

A HOT BARREL CAUSES **COOKOFFS** FOR YOUR M249 MACHINE GUN, AND **HOT WEATHER** LEADS TO AN EVEN **HOTTER** BARREL.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO **COOL OFF** COOK-OFFS...



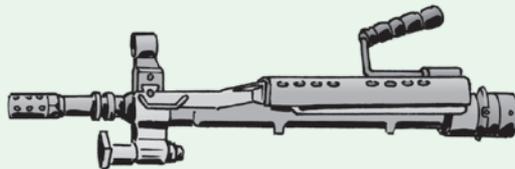
Change barrels

Regardless of the weather, change the barrel every 200 rounds. If it's a hot day, change the barrel more frequently. A barrel should be cool enough before you reinstall it that you can touch it with your bare hand. On a hot day, this could take 30 minutes.

If you're using just a few M249s for a whole unit to test fire for qualification, consider having additional barrels headspaced for those M249s. That way you will always have a cool barrel to install. Just make sure to keep track of which barrels are headspaced for which M249s. If you use the wrong barrel, the M249 could be damaged.

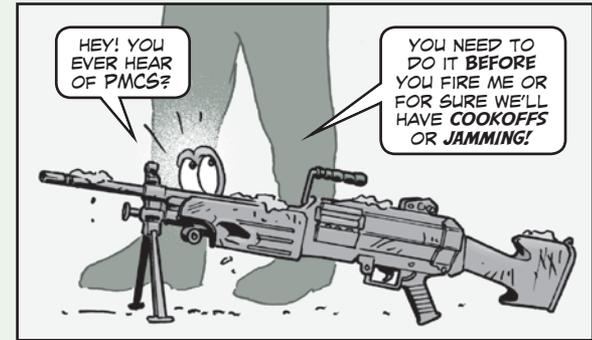


Barrel should be cool to touch with your bare hand **before** you reinstall it



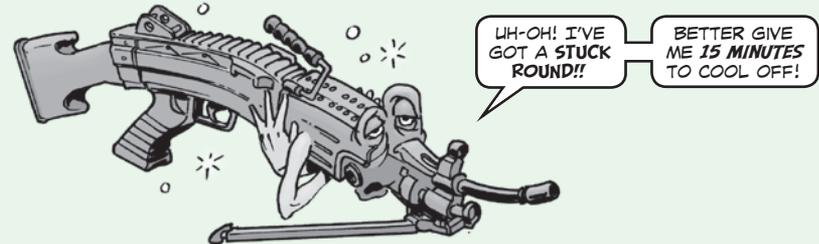
Do PMCS

A dirty, poorly lubed weapon is more likely to have a cookoff or other firing problems. Carefully do the **BEFORE**, **DURING** and **AFTER** PMCS in TM 9-1005-201-10. Be sure to take copies of both the -10 and -23&P to the field in case any questions come up.



Take extreme care with stuck rounds

If a hot M249 malfunctions, assume there's a stuck round in the chamber, especially if the bolt is stuck closed. With the feed tray closed, point the M249 in a safe direction and let it cool for 15 minutes. Then follow the procedure in Pages 2-16 through 2-18 in the -10 to clear the weapon.



IF A STUCK ROUND CAN BE CLEARED IN LESS THAN 10 SECONDS, FIRING CAN RESUME IMMEDIATELY.

BUT **REMEMBER** THAT A ROUND THAT HAS BEEN IN A HOT BARREL CAN COOK OFF FOR **UP TO 15 MINUTES** AFTER IT'S BEEN REMOVED FROM THE CHAMBER.

IT SHOULD BE TREATED AS A **LIVE ROUND** AND STORED IN A SEPARATE AMMO CONTAINER.

DO NOT TRY TO REUSE THE ROUND!

