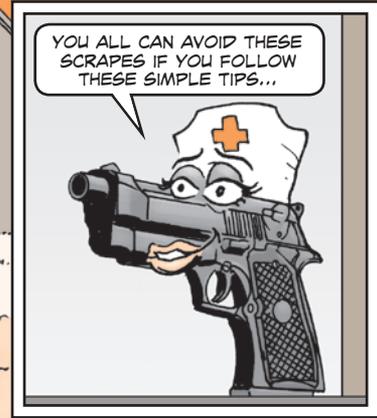
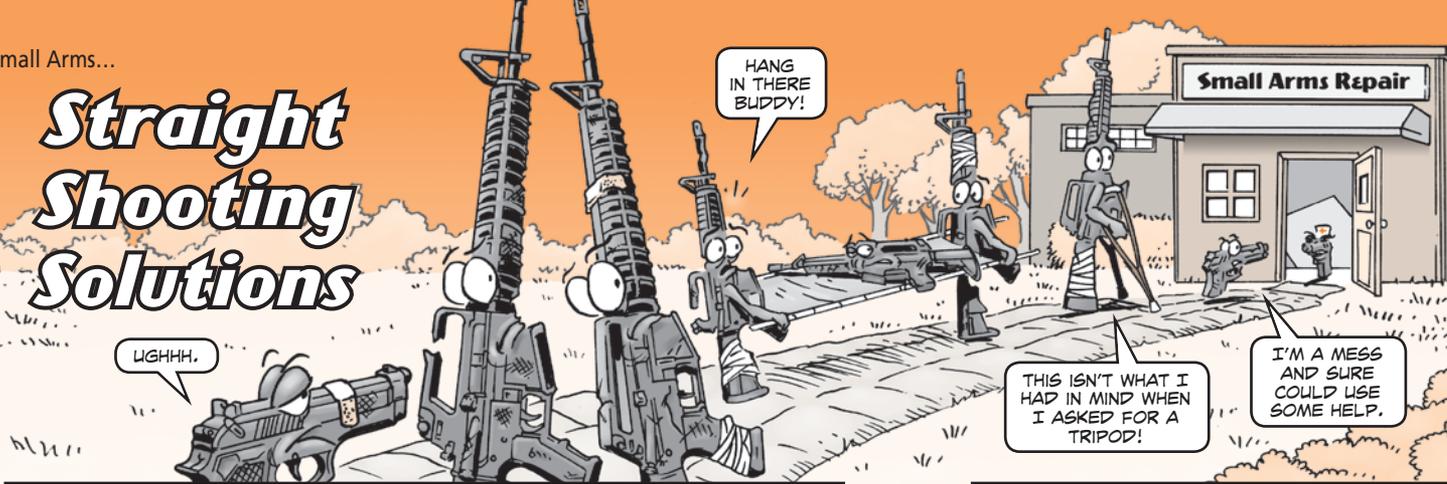


# Straight Shooting Solutions

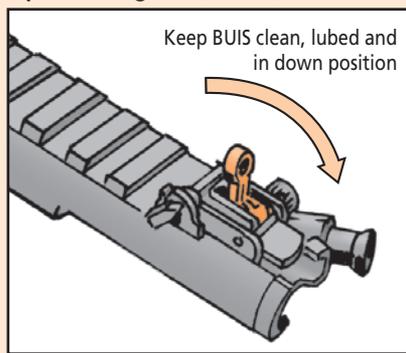


Dear Editor,

We do much of the small arms repair work at Ft Leonard Wood and we've noticed a few problems that are easily preventable:

### **Broken M16/M4 back up iron sights (BUIS).**

Sometimes we replace as many as 40 of these a week! The best way to protect the BUIS is to keep it in the down position when you're not using it. If it sticks up, it catches and bends on stuff like your pack's straps. Keeping the BUIS in the down position also helps to keep it clean and lubed. If it becomes gunked up with dirt or rust, it's hard to position and you end up bending it. Don't play with the BUIS either. If you idly flip it back and forth, the nub catches the side's blade and gets worn off.

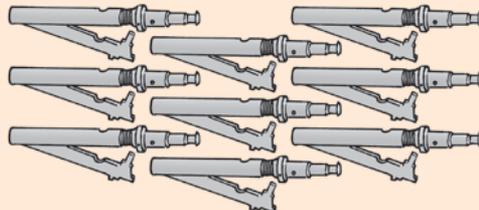


### **No scrapers.**

We see too many units that don't have enough gas system scrapers for their M240 and M249 machine guns. Without the scrapers, it's impossible to totally clean the gas system and soon it plugs up.

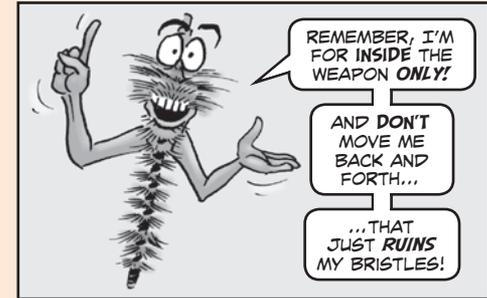
Armorers should order extra M249 scrapers, NSN 5120-01-598-4301, and the three M240 scrapers, NSN 4933-01-047-3394, NSN 4933-01-033-1504, and NSN 4933-01-033-1503. The scrapers get lost in the field, so it's a good idea to keep replacements on-hand.

You'll need extra scrapers, so order them!



### **Wrong use of bore and chamber brushes.**

The brushes are intended for use only *inside* weapons. If you use them to clean the outside of weapons, they take off the weapon's finish that protects against corrosion. And don't reverse the direction of the brush when you run it through the weapon either. That ruins the brush eventually. Run the brush straight through, then remove it before pulling out the rod.



Charles Dutton  
Christopher Wilson  
DOL  
Ft Leonard Wood, MO

**Editor's note:** This is good advice for Soldiers to target. Thanks for sharing.

