

# DRY UP HUMIDITY THREAT



AWW... I'M JUST NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR THIS JOB.

THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN EVER SUCK UP ALL MY MOISTURE!



BWA-HA-HA!

HOPE YOU'RE THIRSTY!

NOT SO FAST, MR. HUMIDITY!



TAKE A REST, LITTLE BUDDY.

I'M TAKING OVER!

SHHHOOOP!

ARG!!!

Dear Half-Mast,  
Our Reserve unit was moved to a consolidated Reserve center where our weapons are now stored in a large arms room. I cleaned and lubed my M16 just like the TM says and then stored it in the arms room. When I checked it again two months later, I found **RUST**. When I checked the humidity level inside the arms room, it read 51 percent. Is there any official guidance on how much humidity is acceptable?  
SGT K.S.

Dear Sergeant K.S.,  
There is no Army reg on humidity in an arms room, but humidity certainly should be way below 51 percent—35 to 45 percent would be more like it.  
Your problem is likely that the dehumidifier in your arms room is too small. Most home dehumidifiers hold only 15 pints, which is too small for many arms rooms, especially consolidated ones.  
Get a 30- to 60-pint dehumidifier. Industrial supply houses like McMaster-Carr or Grainger and large home supply outlets have a wide selection. You might also want to consider buying one with an integral drain so that water can be run directly to a building drain.

If your commander doesn't want to spend the money on a big dehumidifier, point out how much it costs to replace a single M2 machine gun because of corrosion—\$12,685. You can buy many dehumidifiers for much less.  
Remember that dehumidifiers start to lose their effectiveness above 95°F. So keep the room temperature below that.  
Dehumidifiers should be positioned on the floor since moist air settles. Circulation helps fight humidity, too, so running a fan is a good idea, especially if it blows into corners.  
Another good investment is a humidity meter. You can get a good one for \$25. The meter lets you directly monitor the humidity. Shoot for 35 to 45 percent to prevent corrosion.

OF COURSE, YOU ALSO NEED TO FOLLOW THE PMCS IN THE TECHNICAL MANUALS...



...ESPECIALLY THE PARTS ON LUBING AND CHECKING STORED WEAPONS AT LEAST EVERY 90 DAYS FOR CORROSION.