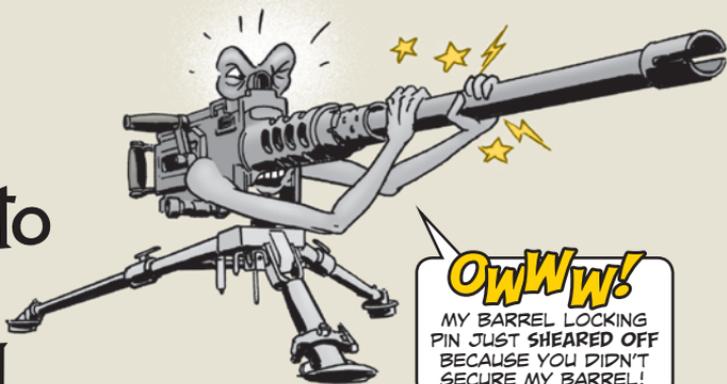


Raise Cover to Save Barrel



OWWW!
MY BARREL LOCKING PIN JUST SHEARED OFF BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SECURE MY BARREL!

Dear Editor,

I've noticed with the new M2A1 machine gun that Soldiers sometimes don't secure the barrel correctly. As a result, the barrel shifts during firing and the locking pin shears off. Then you must replace the whole \$1,200 barrel.

If Soldiers will first completely raise the feed tray cover, they can easily see whether or not the locking pin is secured in the retention slot. That quick check will save barrels of trouble.

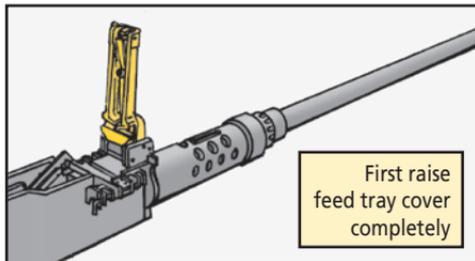
CW2 Gerard Clohessy
501 Sustainment Bde
Camp Carroll, S. Korea

Editor's note:

Good point, Chief.

Soldiers need to follow the barrel installation procedure that begins on WP 0005-00-2 in TM 9-1005-347-10.

Raise the feed tray cover all the way up. Grasp the retracting slide handles to align the barrel locking spring lug with the $\frac{3}{8}$ -in hole in the right side of the receiver while inserting the barrel.



Insert the barrel into the barrel support until the locking pin engages the camming slot.

Then rotate the barrel clockwise and secure the locking pin in the retention slot.

Release the retracting handle and allow the bolt to go forward. Then place the weapon on automatic fire. Charge the weapon to ensure that the barrel moves back and forth freely. Making sure the barrel moves back and forth while charging verifies the barrel is secure.

