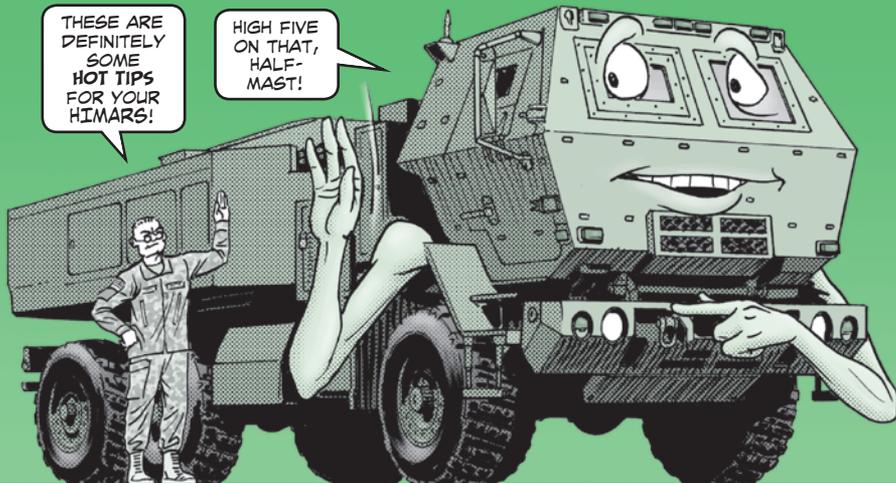


HOT TIPS FOR HIMARS

THESE ARE DEFINITELY SOME HOT TIPS FOR YOUR HIMARS!

HIGH FIVE ON THAT, HALF-MAST!



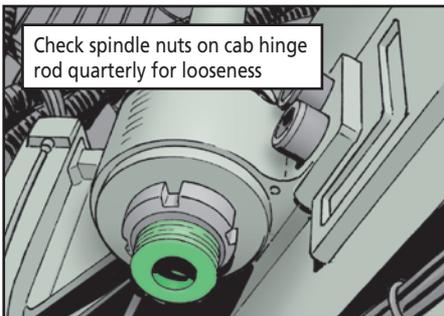
Dear Editor,

While repairing and maintaining the M142 HIMARS at Ft Sill, we've come up with a few tips for keeping it firing and rolling:

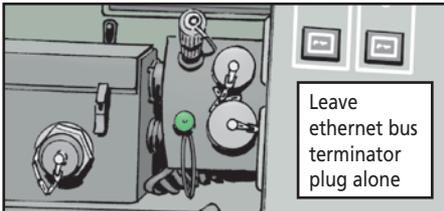
Check the spanner nuts on the cab's front support assembly at least quarterly. They are Items 7 and 8 in Fig 1240 in TM 9-2300-310-14&P. When replacing cabs, we've found the nuts so loose that they could be turned by hand. That means the cab could slide around on the front support assembly. If you find loose nuts, apply sealing compound, NSN 8030-00-148-9833, before torquing them to 138-163 lb-ft.

Hands off the ethernet bus terminator plug. The plug is part of the fire control system and lets the components communicate with each other. Leave the plug alone because it's very easy to damage its pins. Then you'll get faults when you try to operate.

Check spindle nuts on cab hinge rod quarterly for looseness

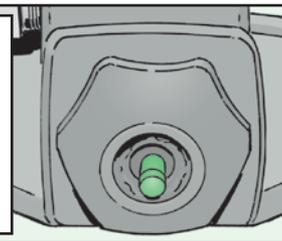


Leave ethernet bus terminator plug alone



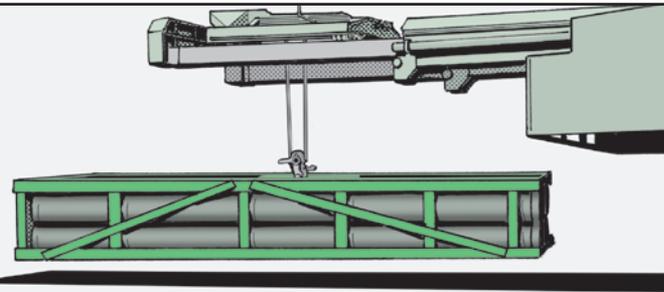
Make sure the cab lock is unlocked before you lift the cab. If the lock hasn't released, the cab and the locking mechanism can be damaged. Just check to make sure the cab lock pin is sticking out. That indicates the cab is unlocked and OK to lift. It's a good idea to paint the pin a bright color so it's easy to see. For more info, see the raising/lowering work package in the -14&P.

Check that cab lock pin is sticking out before lifting cab



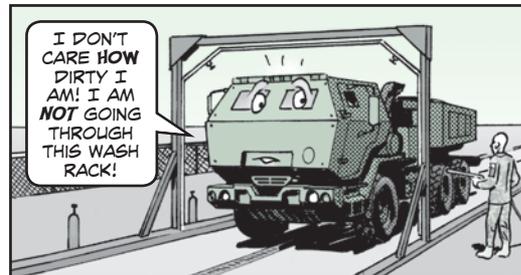
Load and unload pods straight up and down. If you do the job at an angle, you will soon be replacing the lifting cables.

Load and unload pods straight up and down



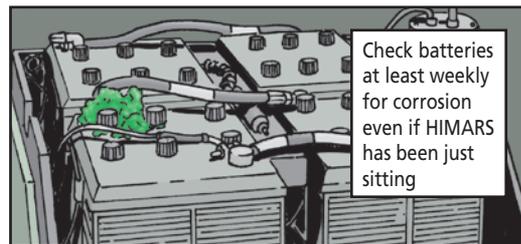
Stay out of the wash rack. The starter isn't waterproof. Going through the wash rack can force water inside the starter. Rust sets in and soon the starter won't work. It's a good idea to start HIMARS at least weekly. That helps the starter keep starting.

I DON'T CARE HOW DIRTY I AM! I AM NOT GOING THROUGH THIS WASH RACK!



Pay attention to the batteries. They need to be checked at least weekly for corrosion, even if the HIMARS has just been sitting. A quick once-over with a wire brush is usually enough. Batteries are part of the weekly PMCS for both the launcher and vehicle.

Check batteries at least weekly for corrosion even if HIMARS has been just sitting



CW2 John Kuehny
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MATES
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Editor's note: High five for your HIMARS tips. Thanks for the help.