

Big Tips for Small Arms



HERE'S SOME GREAT ADVICE FROM FT POLK TO KEEP YOUR WEAPONS IN GREAT SHAPE!



RIGHT! THESE TIPS WILL HELP SOLDIERS AND THEIR WEAPONS!

Dear Editor,

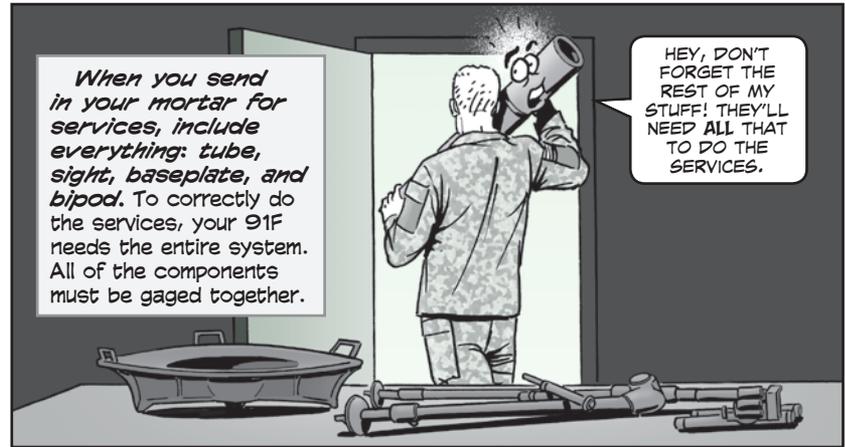
While repairing small arms at Ft Polk, I've come up with several tips that will help units keep their weapons on the active list.

Don't slam the M2 machine gun feed cover shut. That causes several problems. Soldiers forget to first put the extractor in the down position and then the extractor is damaged. Slamming down the cover can also bend the feed lever and cause the lever to take out chunks of the bolt. The best way to load the M2 is to first guide the cover into the locked position. Then push the rounds into the feed tray with your fingers and cycle the weapon twice. You're ready to fire.



OUCH!!! THERE GOES MY EXTRACTOR!

When you send in your mortar for services, include everything: tube, sight, baseplate, and bipod. To correctly do the services, your 91F needs the entire system. All of the components must be gaged together.



HEY, DON'T FORGET THE REST OF MY STUFF! THEY'LL NEED ALL THAT TO DO THE SERVICES.

Don't forget the traversing mechanisms and tripods for the M2, M240, M249 and MK 19 machine guns. They are often ignored and end up rusted and ruined. Include the tripods and traversing mechanisms in the quarterly inspections. When you send in your weapons for services, also send in the traversing mechanisms and tripods so they can be gaged together.



I WISH THEY WOULD PAY ME A LITTLE ATTENTION.

I NEED PMCS JUST AS MUCH AS THE MACHINE GUNS!

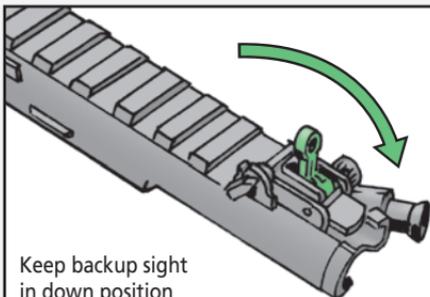
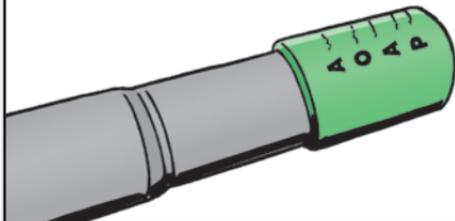
WEAPON RECORD DATA		REQUIREMENT CONTROL SYMBOL CDSGL-1001	
For use of this form, see DA PAMs 735-750 and 738-751; the proponent agency is DSC/OG			
1. TUBE SERIAL NO.	2. CANNON TYPE, MODEL OR SERIES	3. ORGANIZATION (IC)	4. SPECIAL LIFE DATA
<p>If your unit has mortars, M1-series tanks or howitzers, make sure someone in your unit has access to the TULSA site. It's not only important to fill out the DA Form 2408-4, Weapons Record Data Card, every time you fire, but also to enter the information in TULSA. That's impossible if no one has access to it. This often happens when Soldiers rotate out of a unit. Go to: https://tulsa.tacom.army.mil/guncard/index.cfm</p>			

Protect M2 barrel threads. M2 barrels are constantly being tossed in trucks. That bangs up the barrel threads. If the threads become too damaged, the barrel is ruined. The best barrel thread protection is the protective cap, NSN 5340-01-552-0082. But if you're missing the caps a good temporary fix is an AOAP bottle. Just cut off the end of the bottle and screw it on the barrel. A sports drink bottle works, too, if you clean it out first.

Store the M4/M16 backup sight in the down position...and leave it on. If you leave the sight up, soon it's broken off. But if you remove it, you don't have a backup sight if your main sight fails.

CW2 Levi McClure
94th BSB
Ft Polk, LA

Old AOAP bottle protects M2 barrel threads



WHEW, CHIEF! YOU'VE JUST GIVEN SMALL ARMS FOLKS A LARGE AMOUNT OF HELP. THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE.

YOU'RE WELCOME, BONNIE. I'M GLAD I COULD HELP!

