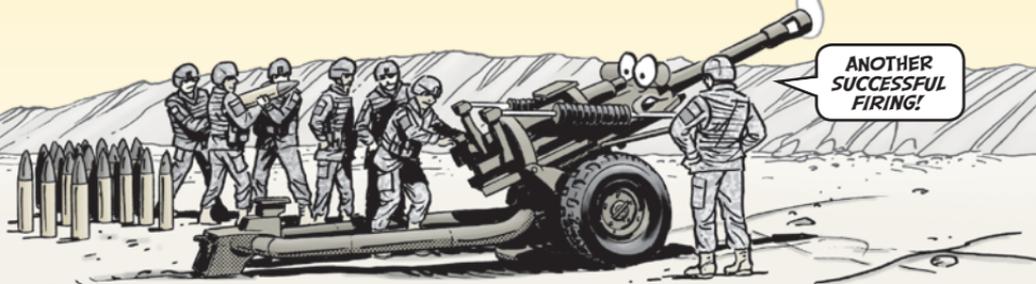


CHECK THOSE RETAINING PINS



Dear Editor,

We're seeing a lot of M119A2 howitzers come into our shop with loose firing pins caused by worn-out retaining pins.

A worn retaining pin, NSN 5315-01-342-0442 for the A2 and NSN 5315-01-616-3457 for the A3, can allow the firing pin to slip out of position and fall into the breech block.

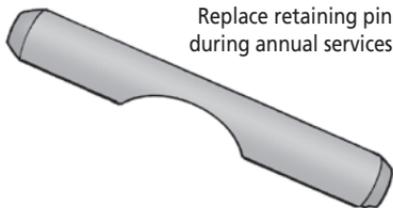
When that happens, it's tough to get the firing pin back into the right position. Also, the firing mechanism can't be turned or removed as long as the firing pin is out of position.

It's a good idea to perform the firing pin protrusion test every time after firing. Also, we think it's a good idea to replace the retaining pin during annual service.

Pirmer Hans-Juergen
Maintenance Activity Vilseck
Vilseck, Germany



Loose firing pin can fall into breech block



Replace retaining pin during annual services

Editor's note: Thanks for the great information. Crewmen, you'll find instructions for the firing pin protrusion test in WP 0043 10 of TM 9-1015-252-10 (Sep 10) for the A2 and WP 100 12 of TM 9-1015-260-10 (Oct 14) for the A3.