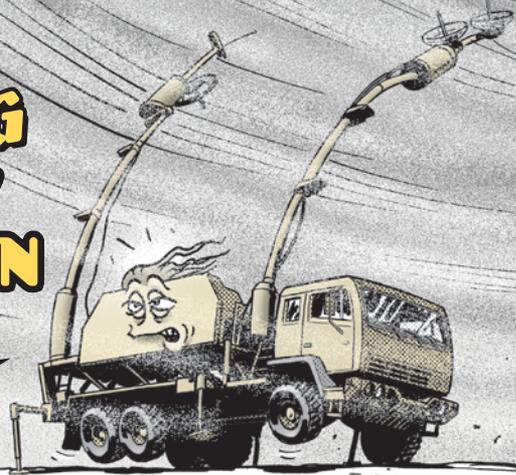


# GIVE AMG a STURDY FOUNDATION

WHOA!! I  
THINK I NEED  
A STURDIER  
FOUNDATION!



Dear Editor,

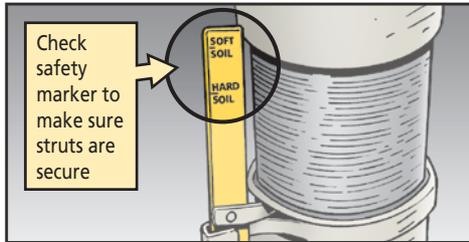
Because the antenna mast group (AMG) reaches so high when fully erected, a secure base is critical. Otherwise, wind can tip it over.

This has become an even greater problem now that the AMG is mounted on the LMTV instead of the 5-ton truck. The LMTV sits several inches higher, which can max out the stabilizer struts, especially in soft soil.

When you're emplacing the struts in soft soil, extend the stabilizer strut until the bottom of the upper strut is aligned with the **SOFT SOIL** mark on the height guide. Do that with all three struts. If you're unsure if the AMG has a firm base, get your repairmen to check it out before you fully erect the AMG.

When you replace the struts, don't jerk them out of the stowage brackets. That can break the stop pin and the strut can come out completely. Do it slow and easy. Report a missing stop pin.

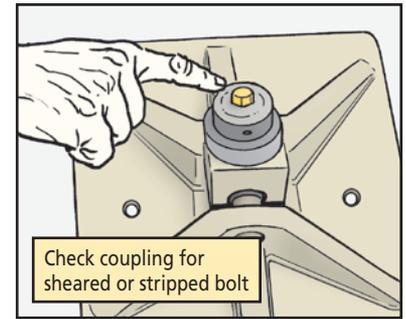
Jerking struts can break stop pin and pull strut out completely



One other good tip is to check the strut couplings for sheared or stripped bolts. These are common problems that leave the AMG unsafe.

Matt Reimer  
Patriot Missile School  
Ft Sill, OK

Editor's reply: No Patriot unit wants an unstable AMG. Thanks for the excellent suggestions, Matt.



## Tracking Help for Small Arms



Dear Editor,

As the armament systems maintenance warrant officer here at Camp Casey, I've noticed that there's often a disconnect from the TM to the armorer to the XO.

To help units stay on the maintenance track with small arms, I've developed a very useful spreadsheet that lists the following:

- Small arms type
- LIN
- TM/NSN
- Nomenclature
- Checkoffs for BEFORE, DURING, AFTER, MONTHLY, QUARTERLY AND SEMI-ANNUAL PMCS
- Gaging inspection intervals
- Rounds dependent

CW2 Ryan Harmon  
302d BSB  
Camp Casey,  
S. Korea

Editor's note: If you would like a copy of the Chief's spreadsheet, email PS at:

[usarmy.redstone.logsa.mbx.psmag@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.redstone.logsa.mbx.psmag@mail.mil) Note:

The spreadsheet doesn't take the place of SAMS-E.

That's still the official way to record small arms services.