

I HAVEN'T SPOTTED AN ENEMY.

I HAVE... IT'S OUR SUPPORT TEAM!

THEY'RE USING ONLY ONE GENERATOR!

ONE IS NOT ENOUGH!

Dear Half-Mast,

We have two 5-kW generators as part of our rapid aerostat initial deployment (RAID) system. Each generator is supposed to run 12-hours on and 12-hours off. Unfortunately, one of our generators is down for maintenance and we're running one generator all the time! I think this defeats the purpose of the RAID system. What do you think?

SGT D. L. A.

I'M BEING WORKED TO DEATH!

ALL I NEED IS A PART TO DO MY PART!

Dear Sergeant D. L. A.,

You are right! Both generators must be mission capable at all times. Hear me all troops using the RAID system! Your system may have two 5-kW generators or two 15-kW generators. Both must be in working condition. If one is not, **immediately contact your field service representative (FSR) for the RAID system.** If you need help finding that representative, call DSN 318-847-2423 or email:

RAID_helpdesk@mnd-b.army.smil.mil

The grapevine has been singing to me that too many of you are sticking the inoperative generator in a corner and forgetting about it. Then, you're running one generator 24/7. Stop doing that!

Also, start doing preventive maintenance. Here are the technical manuals for the 5-kW generators: TM 9-6115-641-10; TM 9-6115-641-24; TM 9-2815-252-24; and LO 9-6115-641-12. And for the 15-kW generators: TM 9-6115-643-10; TM 9-6115-643-24; TM 9-2815-254-24; and LO 9-6115-643-12. These manuals will get you on track for doing regular lubes; inspecting the oil, fuel, and battery electrolyte levels; checking all the filters and cables; and knowing when to, and how to, purge the fuel-water separator.

One final word on generator maintenance: be alert to wetstacking! Wetstacking happens when unburned fuel passes directly into the exhaust system. The cause of wetstacking is running your generator at too low of a load for too long of a time.

If you notice a wetstacking problem, load your generator up to at least 80 percent of its capacity. You can do this by operating your air-conditioning unit or heater. Run the generator for at least an hour or until the engine starts running smoother and the exhaust port is no longer wet.

Half-Mast