


The M16A1 Rifle

OPERATION AND PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE



DO ME A
FAVOR, TIGER...
DO A QUICK
BEFORE-
OPERATIONS
CHECK ON
YOUR RIFLE
BEFORE WE
COUNTER ATTACK.

HEY, SARGE!
GET THIS COPY
TO THE MAN
WITH THE RIFLE

Will Eisner

You want to know her inside out, every contour and curve, every need and whim, what makes her tick.

No better time to get all-over acquainted than when you disassemble/assemble her for servicing.

Take it easy, no force . . . you could damage your chances in a showdown.

Eye-check the parts as you handle 'em. Get to know 'em by name and make sure they're OK for action.

Lay the parts down on a clean tarp or something in left-to-right order so that you won't lose any. Know how far you can strip, and stop right there.

OK, by the numbers now, start stripping—but gently. The orange numbers are for taking it apart; the black for putting it together.

GETTIN'
TO KNOW
ALL ABOUT
YOU . . .

HOW TO






STRIP

YOUR BABY

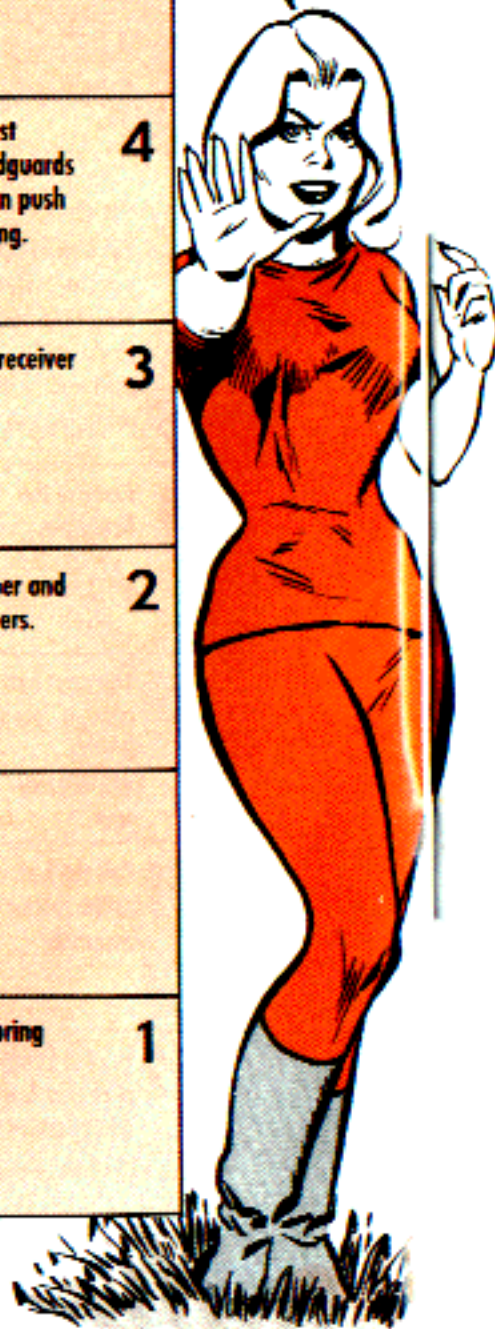
COMES A
FIREFIGHT-
YOUR M16A1
RIFLE'S YOUR
DEAREST NEXT
O'SKIN-BAR
NONE!

DISASSEMBLY		ASSEMBLY
1 Remove magazine.		Insert and seat. 16
2 Open bolt, check chamber for ammo.		
3 Press takedown pin to right with cartridge or finger.		Be sure selector lever's on SAFE or SEMI-AUTO before closing upper and lower receivers. 15
4 Pull back on charging handle and bolt carrier assembly.		Shove 'em in in reverse order. 14

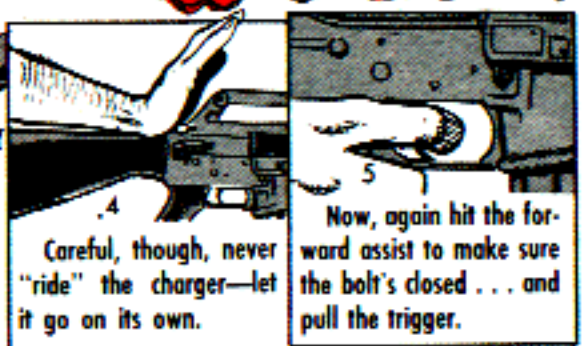
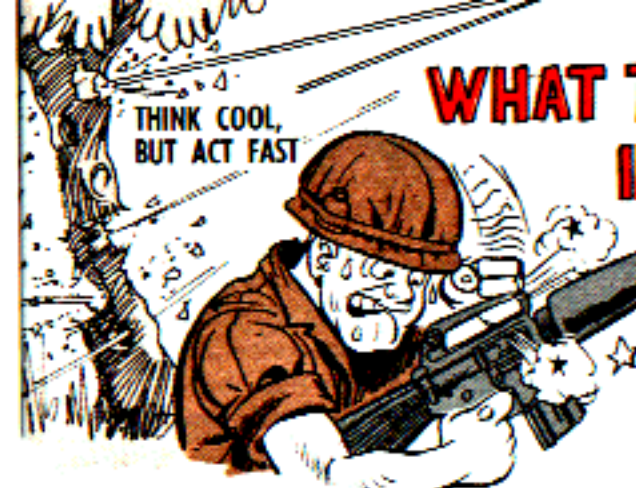
DISASSEMBLY		ASSEMBLY
5 Take out the bolt and carrier assembly.		Put 'em back the same way, but be sure the bolt's unlocked. 13
6 Remove the charging handle.		Hook the handle in, then shove it in. 12
7 Push out the firing pin retaining pin.		Insert firing pin retaining pin, like so: Put the firing pin forward. The retaining pin goes in back of the large shoulder of the firing pin. Turn the retaining pin as you install it. 11
8 Put bolt in LOCK position. Heed this: Never open or close the split end of the retaining pin.		
9 Remove the firing pin.		Install firing pin by dropping it in the hole. 10
10 Take out bolt cam pin, give it a 1/4 (90 degree) turn.		After you install the cam pin, give it a 1/4 (90 degree) turn. 9
11 Pull the bolt out of the carrier assembly.		When you install the bolt, be sure you stagger the ring gaps to prevent gas leakage. 8
12 Use the firing pin to push out the extractor pin.		Insert the extractor pin. 7

DISASSEMBLY		ASSEMBLY	
13	Remove extractor and spring assembly for cleaning only. Remember not to lose, damage or separate them.		If you goofed and separated the spring from the extractor, insert the large end of the spring in the extractor and seat it. 6
14	Remove the sling.		Install the sling. 5
15	Take handguards off by first pulling down on the slip ring.		Install by first putting handguards in place, then push up on slip ring. 4
16	Use the firing pin to release the receiver pivot pin.		Engage the receiver pivot pin. 3
17	Separate the upper and lower receivers.		Join the upper and lower receivers. 2
18	Push the buffer assembly in about 1/4 inch, press in on the buffer retainer, then release the guide.		
19	Take out the buffer assembly and spring.		Insert the spring and buffer assembly. 1

AND THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU'RE ALLOWED TO GO! **STOP RIGHT HERE!**



WHAT TO DO IN A JAM



Careful, though, never "ride" the charger—let it go on its own.

Now, again hit the forward assist to make sure the bolt's closed . . . and pull the trigger.

If your M16A1 rifle refuses to pop off—or quits popping sudden-like—you've got a stoppage that needs immediate action.

Immediate Action: Instinctively doing the right thing to clear your weapon and get it firing again, soonest!

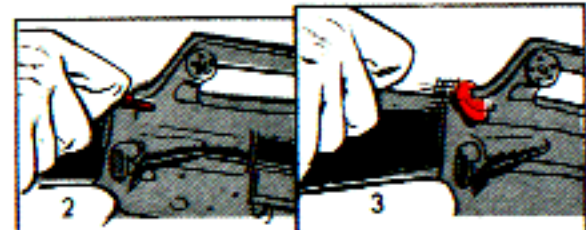
Here's a slow motion of the procedure you'd best make second nature:



If she won't fire, now look for the cause . . . a bad round, busted firing pin or hammer spring, or whatever. Table 3-3 in your -12 TM covers causes and cures.



If no cartridge or case ejects, first look for a round in the chamber. If none's there, once more release the charging handle to feed a round. Next hit the forward assist and again pull the trigger.



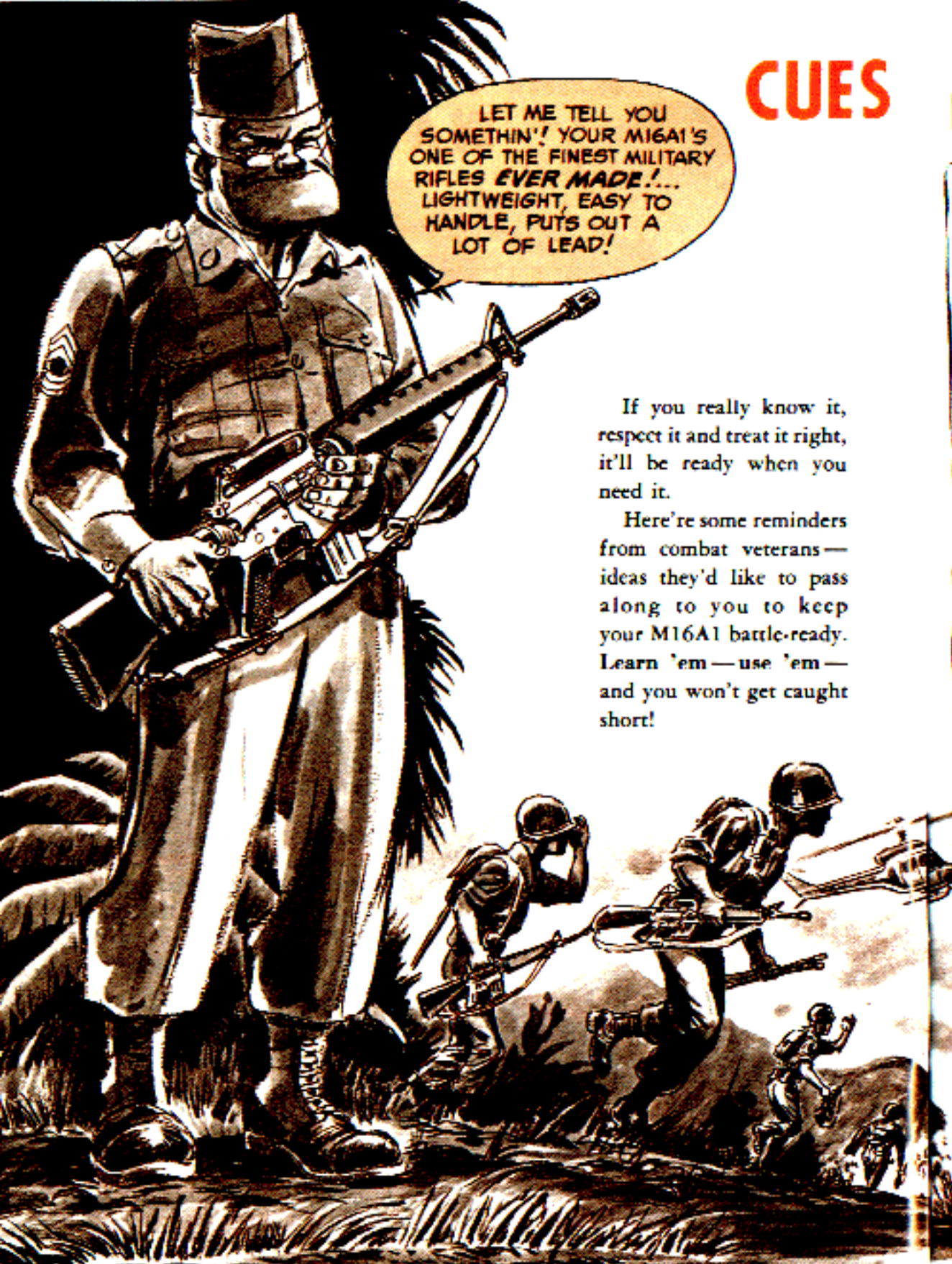
Now pull the charging handle all the way back and see if a whole cartridge or case comes out.

If a cartridge or case is ejected, release the charging handle to feed a new round.

If she still won't fire, do what your TM says on trouble-shooting.

However, if you do find a cartridge or case in the chamber, be sure you remove it before you try to reload and recycle your weapon.

Now, remember, get these steps down pat.



LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHIN'! YOUR M16A1'S ONE OF THE FINEST MILITARY RIFLES EVER MADE!... LIGHTWEIGHT, EASY TO HANDLE, PUTS OUT A LOT OF LEAD!

CUES

FROM GUYS WHO KNOW!

If you really know it, respect it and treat it right, it'll be ready when you need it.

Here're some reminders from combat veterans—ideas they'd like to pass along to you to keep your M16A1 battle-ready. Learn 'em—use 'em—and you won't get caught short!

1 Keep your ammo and magazine as clean and dry as possible. The only part of the magazine that gets any lube is the spring — and it gets only a very light touch of LSA. Oil it up and you're headed for trouble.

TOUCH LIGHTLY, PLEASE.



2 Inspect your ammo when you load the magazines. Never load dented or dirty ammo. Remember, Never load over 20 rounds.



3 Clean your rifle every chance you get — 3-5 times a day's not too often in some cases. Cleanliness is a must — and it may save your life!

AH, SWEET 16... AND YOU'VE NEVER MISSED!



4 Be sure to clean carbon and dirt from those barrel locking lugs. Pipe cleaners help here and inside the carrier key.



AND STAY OUT...

5 Never be bashful about asking for cleaning materials when you need 'em. They're available. Get 'em and use 'em!

REMEMBER... THE IMPORTANT THING IS... KEEP IT CLEAN!

6 Check your extractor and spring often. If they're worn or burred, get new ones ASAP.



7 Lube your rifle, using LSA only. It's the most. A light coat put on with a rag after cleaning is good. Working parts need generous applications often. The chamber and bore need only a light coat after cleaning.



Worry a little more about your rifle . . . like, baby it a bit. F'rinstance, when you're out in the boonies, be careful where you put it down and how you put it down. Never drop it in mud or water or sand. Just keep in mind that you may have to use it before you get a chance to clean it.

