

Part II

M16A2 Rifle



Chapter 3

Field Maintenance

Rifle field maintenance must be practiced daily. A poorly maintained rifle will have frequent stoppages causing a Marine to perform immediate action repeatedly. A properly lubricated and well-maintained rifle will fire when needed. Therefore, a Marine must inspect his rifle daily for evidence of rust and overall serviceability.

3001. Limited Field Preventive Maintenance

Limited field preventive maintenance is performed when detailed disassembly and cleaning is not practical due to operational tempo or the level of threat. To perform limited field preventive maintenance, a Marine—

- Places the rifle in **condition 4**
- Breaks the rifle down "shotgun style" by removing the rear take down pin and rotating the upper receiver and barrel forward.
- Removes the bolt carrier group. (Do not disassemble the bolt carrier group further.)
- Cleans the bolt carrier group.

- Cleans the upper and lower receiver groups (without further disassembly).
- Lubricates the rifle in accordance with TM 05538C-10/1A.

3002. Cleaning the Bore

If time and the situation permit, a Marine uses the cleaning procedures outlined in the M16A2 operator's manual (TM 05538C-10/1A). A Marine uses the following cleaning procedures if time is limited or the level of threat does not permit detailed cleaning:

- Assemble the cleaning rod and attach the bore brush.
- Soak the bore brush with CLP.
- Push the bore brush completely through the muzzle from the chamber end.

WARNING

Ensure the bore brush passes completely through the bore and compensator before retracting the bore brush. Do not attempt to pull the brush back before it has cleared the muzzle. This can cause the bore brush to

- Pull the bore brush back through the bore until it clears the chamber. Repeat this step as necessary to loosen all carbon and fouling from the bore.
- Remove the bore brush from the cleaning rod and attach the patch holder.
- Push the patch from the chamber end all the way through the muzzle. Remove the patch from the patch holder.
- Pull the cleaning rod back through the bore. Run additional patches through the bore as necessary until the patch come out clean.
- Attaches the chamber brush to the handle section of the cleaning rod.
- Inserts the chamber brush into the chamber.
- Twists the chamber brush clockwise while pushing and pulling the brush in and out of the chamber.
- Removes residue from the chamber area with a patch on the cleaning rod.

3003. Cleaning the Chamber

To clean the chamber, a Marine—

3004. Preventing Corrosion Due to Salt Water

If the rifle comes in contact with salt water, a Marine should wash the rifle with fresh water and as soon as the situation permits, clean the rifle in accordance with TM 05538C-10/1A.