

AVLB

COLD WEATHER OPERATION

This abbreviated checklist is not to be used as a replacement for the -23 series Tech Manual or any other PMCS guide.

TM 5-5420-202-10 and TM 5-5420-226-10 contain detailed PMCS instructions for proper maintenance and operation.

NOTE: You must prepare your Equipment when you are scheduled for operation in extreme cold. Generally, extreme cold will cause lubricants to thicken; freeze batteries or prevent them from retaining enough current to start the engine; crack insulation and cause electrical short circuits; prevent fuel from vaporizing to form a combustible mixture for starting; and will cause some materials to become hard, brittle, and easy to damage or break.

ENGINE OPERATION IN EXTREME COLD

1. You shouldn't suddenly move a sighting instrument from warm to cold temperatures. Moisture caused by this action could cause cloudy optics and rust internal parts.
2. Always watch for indications of weather effect on equipment.
3. Watch engine and transmission oil temperature and pressure lights closely.
4. Thick lubricants may cause failure of parts, warm up engine by driving vehicle slowly for 100 yards to warm up lubricants
5. See LO 5-5420-202-12 for lubrication and FM 9-207 for instructions, handling and storage of fuels and lubricants in cold weather
6. Tracks and suspension should be kept clean of mud, snow and ice.

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ENGINE OPERATION IN EXTREME COLD (continued)

7. Batteries could freeze in extreme cold. See FM 9-207 for detailed maintenance for batteries.
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HALT AND PARKING

When you stop for short shutdown periods, park your vehicle in a sheltered spot away from wind. If you cannot find a sheltered, park so that the front of vehicle faces the wind. This keeps rain, snow, and sleet from entering engine compartment through rear grill. When you shut down for a long period, and cannot find dry ground, park vehicle on a footing of planks or brush to prevent tracks from freezing to ground.

Additional Parking Info:

1. Place control Lever in neutral to prevent possible freezing in an engaged position.
2. Cover all grille doors to retain heat and prevent snow from entering.
3. Open Hull drain valves to drain melted snow while engine heat is present. Close to prevent freezing after draining.
4. Clear mud, snow and ice from vehicle as soon as you can after stopping.
5. Check for excessive water in fuel tank.
6. Applying parking brake, could cause linkage to freeze.
7. Tracks and suspension should be kept clean of mud, snow and ice.
8. Covering with Canvas covers can present problems when weather conditions are cold. When ever possible, try to cover in a warm area. This will help to smooth wrinkles when they occur.
9. Keep ends of canvas off the ground to prevent canvas from freezing to the ground.

Bridge

1. Check all Hydraulic Cylinders and cables for ice build up, clean if necessary.
2. Make sure bridge and components are properly lubricated.