U.S. Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration

COLT M16 RIFLE

Operation and Field Maintenance Handbook

1. Operationin Extreme Cold

In climates where the temperature is consistently below O'F, (-18'C)it is necessary to prepare the Ml6 for cold-weather operation. The Ml6 should be lubricated with MILITEC, a high grade, synthetic lubricant,or LSA.

Exercise the various controls through their entire range at intervals to keep them from freezing in place

2. Operation in Extreme Heat

When operating in hot climates,MILITEC lubricant or LSA should be frequently placed on the surfaces of the bolt carrier group and lower receiver components.

Perspiration contributes to corrosion because it contains acids and salts. Afterhandling the rifle,clean, wipe dry and oil using MILITECor LSA.

3 Hot, Dry Climates

Clean and oil the bore and bolt of the Ml6 more frequently when operatingin hot, dry climates.

4. Operating in Dusty and Sandy Areas

Clean and lubricate the Ml6 more frequently. Exercise particular care to keep sand out of the mechanisms when inspecting and lubricating weapon. Shield parts from flying sand or dust during disassembly and assembly operations. Clean and lubricate after operating theM16. Cover theend of the barrel with a protective cap.

NOTE: Protective Cap. A cap is designed so that a bullet will pass through the end without affecting accuracy and without causing a safetyhazard to the user.

A cap can be purchased at local firearms dealers or a balloon may be utilized.

Do not place the cap on a hot M16. The plastic will become soft and form into the grooves of the flash suppressor making it difficult to remove.

5. Operations Under Hot, Rainy or Very Humid Conditions and in Salt Water Areas

Inspect the Ml6 more frequently when operating in hot, moist areas.

When the Ml6 is in use, clean and lubricate the bore and chamber and exposed metal surfaces more frequently than prescribed for normal service. A very thin film of lubricant is prescribed for the chamber and bore.

Moist and salty atmospheres have a tendency to mix with oil and grease and destroy their rust preventive qualities. Inspect all parts frequently for rust or corrosion.

When the Ml6 is not in use, cover all metal surfaces with a thin film of MILITEC or LSA.

Section 8. Ml6 Functional Checklist

General. A complete functional check of the Ml6 consists of checking the operation of the Ml6 with the Fire Control Selector in the SAFE, SEMI and AUTO positions. The following is a rapid and complete check. Any portion of the check may be used separately to determine the operational condition of any specific selector position.

Step 1 Clear M16.

Step 2 Set Fire Control Selector on SAFE.

Step 3 Pulltakedown pin and open receivers.

Step 4 Pull trigger, hammer should not fall.

Step 5 Set Fire Control Selector on SEMI.

Step 6 Pull trigger, hammer should fall.

Step 7 Hold trigger to rear,recock the hammer manually and the hammer should be engaged by the Disconnect.

Step 8 Release trigger and the hammer should be released by the Disconnect and drop to engagement by the Trigger Sear.

Step 9 Set the Fire Control Selector on AUTO.

Step IO Pull trigger and the hammer should fall.

Step 11 Hold the trigger to rear and manually cock the hammer. The hammer should be engaged by the Automatic Sear.

Step 12 With trigger still held to rear, push the top of the Automatic Sear forward and hammer should drop.

Step 13 With the trigger still held to the rear, manually cock the hammer and the hammer will be engaged by the Automatic Sear.

Step 14 Release the trigger and push the top of the Automatic Sear forward. The Automatic Sear should release the hammer and the hammer should drop to the engagement with the Trigger Sear.

CHAPTER 5. Ml6 OPERATOR MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Section 1. Pre-Functioning Lubrication

General. Prior to operation of the M16, the following lubrication procedure is to be performed. The recommended lubricant to be used is MILITEC or LSA.

Application Areas

Coat all components of the lower receiver and the Bolt Carrier Group with a light coating of MILITEC equivalent using a lightly oiled cotton wiping cloth, cleaning swabs and pipe cleaners.

NOTE: The weapon is compatible with and will function properly using any good grade of oil and bore cleaner. Except in cases of extreme emergency, NEVER fire the Ml6 with a dry Bolt!

Section 2. Operator Maintenance Procedures, Usual Conditions

General. This section describes maintenance procedures to be performed by the operator under usual conditions. Usual conditions are defined as conditions of moderate temperature and humidity.

Disassembly (Field Stripping)

The extent of disassembly required for the performance of maintenanceby the operator is as follows:

Step-Action

A. Place weapon on safe.

8. Remove magazine, clear Ml6 and allow the Bolt to return forward.

C. Separate the rear of the upper receiver from the lower receiver by pulling out the rear takedown pin.

D. Remove the Charging Handle by depressing the spring latch pulling it to the rear and lifting it out of the dimple indents in the upper receiver.

Upper Receiver

1 . Place several drops of gun solvent on a .223 caliber brush and clean the barrel from the chamber to the muzzle.

NOTE: Never clean any rifle barrel from the muzzle to the rear. The rifling may be damaged causing the weapon to fire inaccurately .

2. Replace the bore orush with a chamber brush and clean the chamber and lugs with solvent.

3. Brush any carbon build-up on the flash suppressor with a toothbrush dipped in gun solvent.

4. Run numerous oiled and dry patches through the barrel until free of residue.

5. Place two drops of MILITEC or LSA on a clean patch and lightly coat the barrel.

6. Brush and wipe all remaining residue from the inside of the upper receiver and Charging Handle rail. (See photo.)

7. Wipe the Charging Handle free of residue and place two to three drops of MILITEC on the exterior.

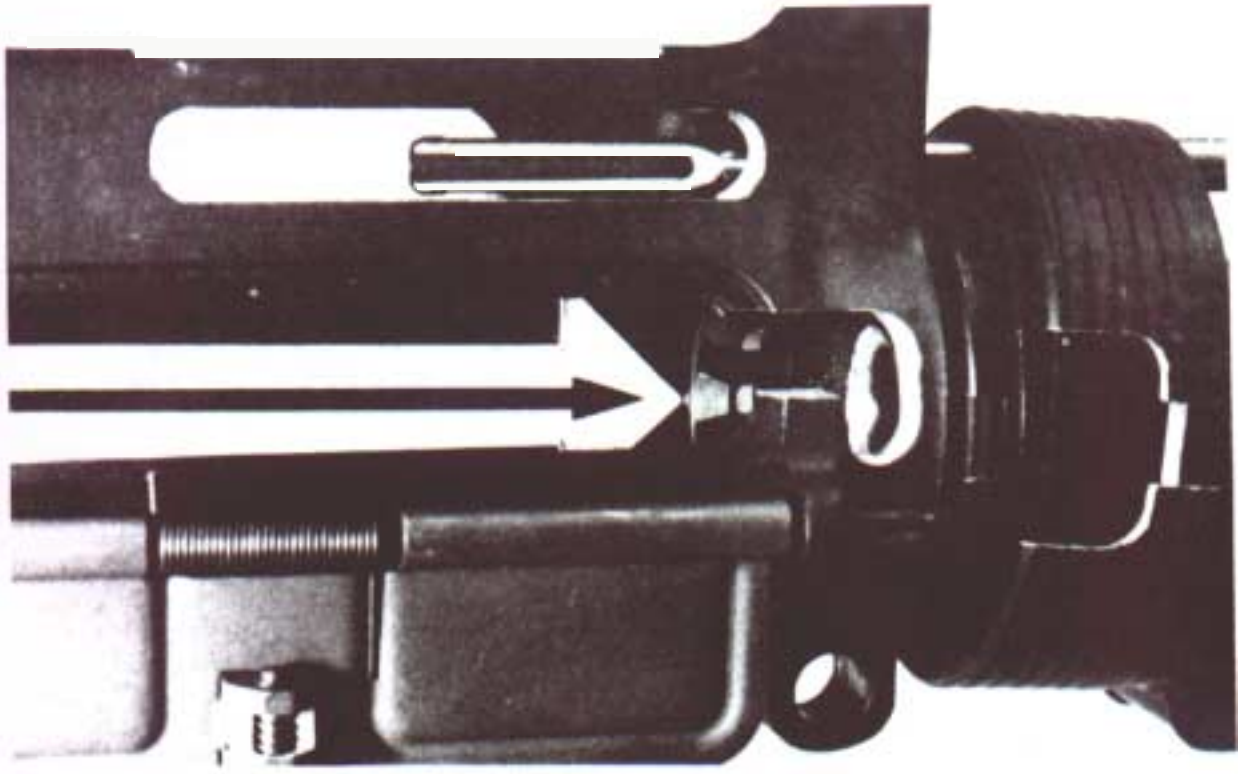

Photo 28. (Cut-away) View showing the arrow pointingto the Chamber and Locking Lugs. This area should be thoroughly cleaned to prevent weapon malfunctions.