

Issue 104

PS

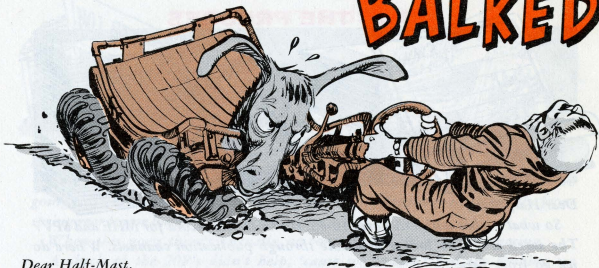
1961 Series

THE  
PREVENTIVE  
MAINTENANCE  
MONTHLY



WILL  
EISNER

# BALKED



Dear Half-Mast,

*You've heard about the horse that stopped because a shoe was thrown because a nail was lost. Well, we've got a potfull of M274 Mules that're dead-lined because of missing quick-disconnect couplers on the cable controls. We're bung up with due-outs and bounced requisitions, mostly because of arguments about nomenclature and our support unit's uncertainty about which tech service has 'em.*

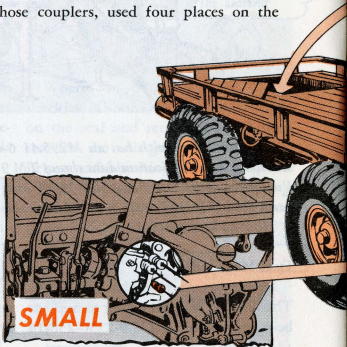
SFC P. L. M.

Dear Sergeant P. L. M.,

I looked into this whole deal, and I can really see why you're having trouble. Here's the story as good as I can make it out:

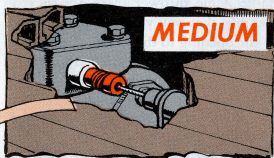
There are three different sizes of those couplers, used four places on the Mule.

The smallest is used on the throttle control cable. TM 9-2320-213-20P (26 Apr 60) calls this a high-mortality organizational maintenance item, and lists it as CONNECTOR, QUICK DISCONNECT: throttle control cable, FSN 2590-697-3704. Back in the old superseded TM 9-8034-20P (5 Aug 57) it was called CONNECTOR, throttle control cable. You get it from Ordnance. You may have a hard time making anybody believe this, tho, because you won't find it listed in either the SM 55-1 or SM 9-1 series. But, Ordnance it is, and you're entitled to it.

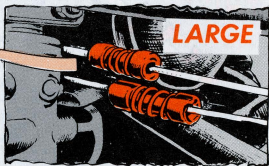


# MULES

The middle one of the three sizes is used at the back end of the starter cable. It's called **COUPLING, WIRE ROPE, QUICK DISCONNECT**: steel; 1.44 in. lg of body, FSN 4030-698-6944. You're really in trouble here because the current -20P and -35P both fail to list it. The fact that it was in the old TM 9-8034-20P on page 8 as Quick Disconnect, Starter Cable, might help you some. You get this one from the Transportation Corps . . . it's SM 55-1-4000 (7 Jun 60) Part 1 Alphabetical List, page 72, Index Number 8400.



The largest of these quick-disconnects is used in two places on the Mule —on the clutch and brake cables. But you'll only find it listed as a high mortality organizational maintenance item for one application in the current -20P. It's shown there as **COUPLING, WIRE ROPE, QUICK DISCONNECT**: service brake, FSN 4030-698-3241. You may have trouble, tho, because your Ordnance support boys have it listed in their -35P as a quick-disconnect for the loom cable for **organizational** level on page 25 and again, just as a quick-disconnect, on page 26 as a **field maintenance** item. You get this one from the Transportation Corps. They list it in SM 55-1-4000 Part 1 Alphabetical List, page 72, Index Number 8390 as: FSN 4030-698-3241 **COUPLING, WIRE ROPE, QUICK DISCONNECT**: steel; cadmium plated; 2.380 in. lg of body.



Hope that helps you.

Some people have suggested drilling small holes in those quick-disconnects so you can lock 'em with a cotter pin —or even tape 'em. One way out of requisitioning difficulties is to hang on to the ones you've got—if you can.

*Half-Mast*