

Issue 73

PS

1958 Series

THE
PREVENTIVE
MAINTENANCE
MONTH





When you've got a job to do—but no instructions on how to do it—things can get pretty rough.

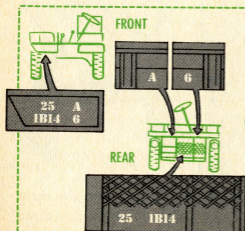
That's the deal a lot of guys run into putting unit markings on their vehicles. Been quite a few asking: How can we put 'em on when we don't know where they go?

Naturally, the place to look for guidance is AR 746-2300-1 (29 Dec 55), "Marking and Packing of Supplies and Equipment." It has a lot of pictures and instructions on where to put markings.

But, chances are your outfit has some equipment that isn't pictured in the AR. Take the Mechanical Mule as an example. It's pretty new, and there's no picture or discussion of it in AR 746-2300-1. So, what to do?

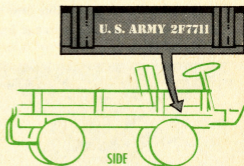
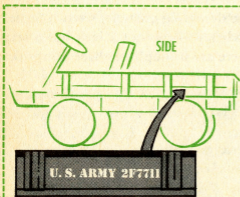
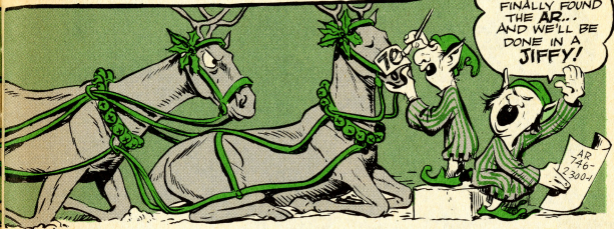
Para 7d of the AR, plus a little horse sense, solves the problem. And the AR gives you a lot of leeway to use horse sense.

It says this:



"The unit identification markings will normally appear on both the front and rear of each vehicle, usually on the bumpers of vehicles so equipped. Where a more suitable surface is available, such surface may be used provided that the location is not in conflict with the location of other prescribed markings. . . . Where no suitable surface is available on the front or rear of a vehicle, unit identification markings will be applied in an appropriate location on each side of the vehicle. When necessary, such markings may be applied to the mounted equipment."

YOUR MARK



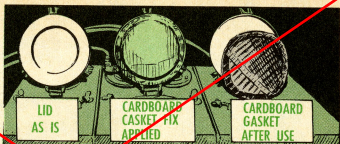
You can see that a lot is left up to your judgment. So, when you've got to mark a piece of equipment and can't find specific instructions in the AR, look for a good place on the front and rear. If there is none, try the sides. And, if there are no marking places at all on the item itself (an unusual situation, but a marking place is hard to find on some trailers), the AR says it's OK to put the markings on the mounted equipment.

So, where there's any doubt about where to put unit markings, get your CO, or whoever has the say, to decide where the markings will go. Then, naturally, you mark all similar equipment in the same place for uniformity.

Take a look at how this Mule is marked in the front and rear. They're the most logical places for your unit markings to go.

No point to delay in putting unit markings on your equipment for lack of instructions. Para 7d of AR 746-2300-1 gives you the authority to pick the right spot.

To keep that lube where it belongs—in its can—just get a cardboard box and cut out discs to the inside diameter of the lids. Then, before closing the lids, place the discs between the inside of the lids and the holes. The discs act like a gasket and keep the lube down in its receptacles.



CWO Bob La Cour
New Jersey National Guard

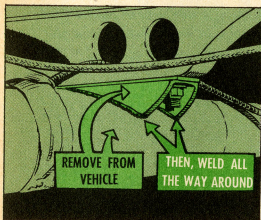
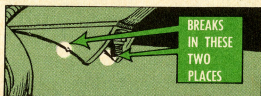
(Ed Note—You're right on the beam with your idea, but you can get yourself something better than cardboard to use as discs. If your lube trailer doesn't have gaskets on those lids—and they're now coming off the production line with gaskets—get yourself some Packing, Sheet, 1/16x12x24 inches, FSN 5330-224-4681 (Eng). You can cut your gaskets from this stuff—it'll stand up much better than cardboard. To stick the gasket material to the container lids, use rubber cement. FSN 8040-266-0830 (Ord) gets you a quart—FSN 8040-266-0831 (Ord) is good for a gallon.)

OUTWIT YOUR OUTRIGGERS

Dear Editor,

The outriggers, or support tubes, on our Mechanical Mule have a bad habit of cracking and breaking after a couple hundred miles of cross-country driving.

In eyeballing our vehicle, we noticed that the outriggers are only spot welded at points of contact with the body of the vehicle. This could be dangerous, to say the least.



We fixed our Mule up, though, by welding those spots of stress all the way around, instead of just havin' 'em spot welded. Haven't had a bit of trouble since.

Earl Bernhart,
James Copeland and Ben Stotz
Aberdeen Proving Gd, Md

(Ed Note—Good idea if you've got one of the early production models. Later models have solid welds around the outriggers.)