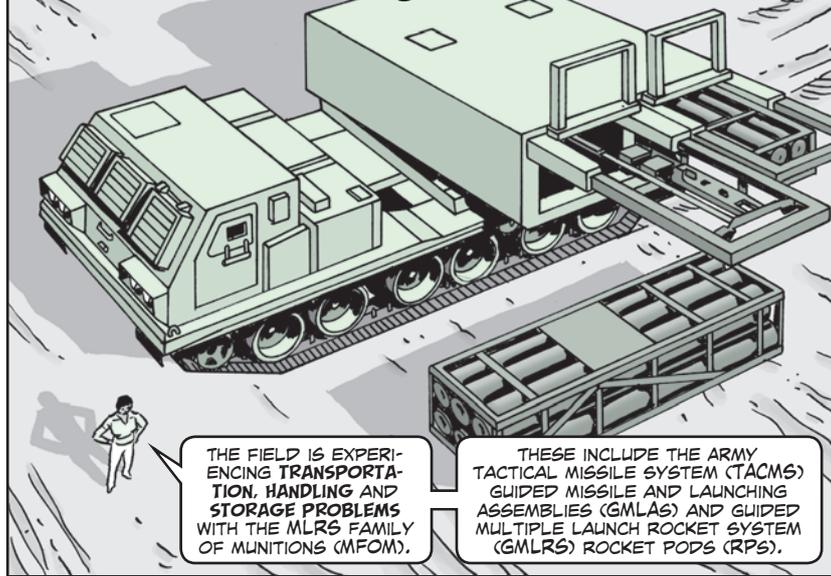


Safe Handling and Storage of MLRS Family of Munitions



THE FIELD IS EXPERIENCING TRANSPORTATION, HANDLING AND STORAGE PROBLEMS WITH THE MLRS FAMILY OF MUNITIONS (MFOM).

THESE INCLUDE THE ARMY TACTICAL MISSILE SYSTEM (TACMS) GUIDED MISSILE AND LAUNCHING ASSEMBLIES (GMLAs) AND GUIDED MULTIPLE LAUNCH ROCKET SYSTEM (GMLRS) ROCKET PODS (RPs).

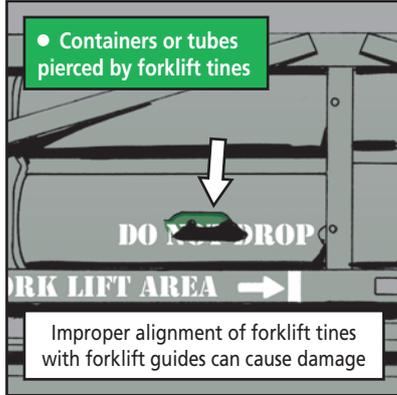
ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE TO GMLAs OR RPs USUALLY OCCURS DURING HANDLING OPERATIONS.

WHILE MOST COSMETIC DAMAGES DO NOT AFFECT MISSILES, SOME TYPES OF DAMAGE REQUIRE THAT ITEMS BE RETURNED TO THE DEPOT FOR REPAIR.

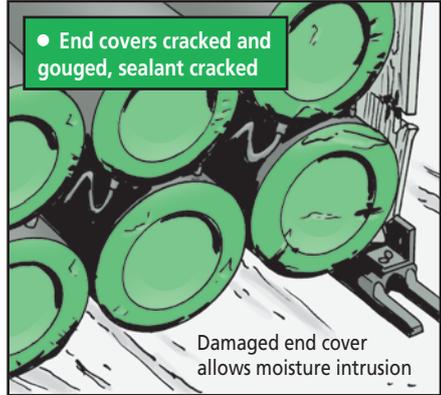


Examples of commonly reported damages are...

- Shunting plug (W1J1) damaged
- Inadequate or missing dunnage between pods
- Skid assemblies bent or missing
- Camouflage panels damaged
- Shorting plug missing
- Canvas covers ripped/fasteners broken
- W350 harness and/or connectors damaged
- Igniter wires broken or damaged
- Skid assemblies ground strap broken



Improper alignment of forklift tines with forklift guides can cause damage



Stacking Guidance

HERE'S SOME GUIDANCE FOR STACKING!

When stacking GMLAs or RPs, the alignment holes in the shock isolator (rubber) skids of an upper container must be properly aligned with the stacking pins of a lower container. That prevents undue stress on the shock absorbers and frame and stabilizes the stack.

Shock isolator skids **do not** adequately support a stack of two or more assemblies. In these cases, pod support dunnage must be installed directly behind the skids of the lower container(s) if stacks are two or more high.

Pod support dunnage **must** be used behind the skid feet of the lower RP (but not against RP radius blocks) if stacks are two or more high. Pod support dunnage is **not** required for a one-high assembly stack, or between the top two assemblies of stacks more than one high. Extra dunnage is not necessary for the top pod as the skids below it provide strong enough support.

Pod support dunnage consists of two 4-in. x 4-in. x 41¹/₂-in. wood boards placed adjacent (towards center) to the vertical brace and the lifting rings if stacking two or more containers.

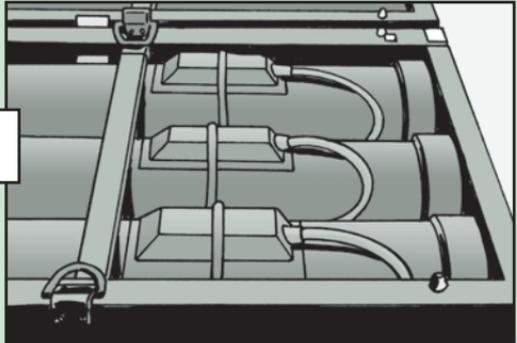
For stability, skids on lower containers should support a portion of the upper container weight when stacking.

Do not stack GMLAs or RPs more than three high in the field, or more than four high when storing them inside magazines or igloos.



GMLA and RP Handling Guidelines

- Lift only one GMLA or RP per move
- Always use a 6,000-lb (or heavier) forklift
- Position forklift tines properly and ensure forklift guides are securely attached to GMLAs or RPs
- When forklift tines extend past the bottom rail of the opposite side, position dunnage between the forklift and GMLA or RP to prevent damage to adjacent containers during stacking
- Never lift from either end of GMLAs to prevent connector and/or end cover damage



- Place dunnage between GMLAs or RPs. Ensure skids are attached

- Be sure stacking pins are aligned with holes in skids
- Use a strap to stabilize GMLAs or RPs when moving over rough terrain
- Do not walk or stand on top of GMLAs or RPs
- Do not drop, tumble, drag, pull or push GMLAs or RPs

Use caution when placing dunnage to prevent damage to end covers and radial blocks located on top and bottom of FWD end of the GMLAs or RPs

Caution

Do **not** mix different skid types on a container. Skids PN 13031726 and PN 13365803 should **not** be mixed due to differences in their height.

Storage Temperature Limits

Temperature limits are -30°F to 160°F (-35°C to 71°C). Missiles or rockets exceeding these limits are to be placed in Condition Code J and reported to AMCOM LCMC via the Ammunition Condition Report.

