

//UNCLASSIFIED//  
241931Z Nov 15  
FROM CDR JMC ROCK ISL IL//AMSJM-QAS//  
740 (A)

SUBJECT: AMMUNITION INFORMATION NOTICE (AIN) 016-16 POSSIBLE EARLY FUNCTIONS WITH M783 PD FUZED MORTAR CARTRIDGES (DODICS BA14/BA17/BA45/CA43/CA44/CA63)

1. AIN 015-16 WAS TRANSMITTED ON 191822Z Nov 15

2. THIS AIN SUPERSEDES AIN 036-15.

3. DODIC: BA14, BA17, BA45, CA43, CA44, CA63

4. REFERENCE:

A. TM 9-1010-223-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR LIGHTWEIGHT COMPANY MORTAR 60MM, M224 (NSN 1010-01-020-5626); DATED 1 OCT 2012.

B. TM 9-1010-233-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR LIGHTWEIGHT COMPANY MORTAR, 60-MM, M224A1 (NSN 1010-01-586-2874); DATED 28 FEB 2011.

C. TM 9-1015-200-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR MORTAR, 81-MM, M29A1 (NSN 1015-00-999-7794); W/CH 5, DATED 15 APRIL 1996.

D. TM 9-1015-249-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR MORTAR, 81 MM, M252 (NSN 1015-01-164-6651); W/CH 1, DATED 10 AUG 2012.

E. TM 9-1015-257-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR MORTAR, 81-MM, M252A1 (NSN 1015-01-586-2135); DATED 25 AUG 2014.

F. TM 9-1015-250-10 OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR MORTAR, 120 MM: GROUND MOUNTED M120 (NSN 1015-01-226-1672) AND MORTAR, 120 MM: CARRIER-MOUNTED M121 (NSN 1015-01-292-3801); DATED 30 APRIL 2012.

G. TM 9-1015-256-13&P OPERATOR AND FIELD MAINTENANCE MANUAL INCLUDING REPAIR PARTS AND SPECIAL TOOLS LIST FOR MORTAR, 120MM, M120A1 (NSN 1015-01-554-0749); DATED 31 AUG 2012.

H. TM 9-2355-311-10-3-3 OPERATOR'S MANUAL VOLUME 3 OF 3 FOR STRYKER MORTAR CARRIER VEHICLE (MCV), M1129A1 (NSN 2355-01-505-0871); W/CH 1, DATED 30 MAY 2008.

5. REQUEST DISSEMINATION OF THIS AIN TO ALL USING UNITS, RANGE SAFETY OFFICERS, AND AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT PERSONNEL.

6. MORTAR CARTRIDGES WITH THE M783 PD FUZE ARE KNOWN TO DETONATE EARLIER THAN INTENDED ON RARE OCCASIONS. DETONATIONS HAVE OCCURRED IN THE UP-LEG AND DOWN-LEG

PORTIONS OF FLIGHT, BUT OUTSIDE OF THE FUZE'S ARMING DISTANCE. MECHANICAL SAFE AND ARMING ASSURES THAT FUNCTION CANNOT OCCUR DURING THE FIRST 100 METERS OF FLIGHT.

7. THESE EARLY FUNCTIONS ARE DUE TO A DESIGN LIMITATION IN THE M783 PD FUZE. TESTING HAS SHOWN THAT THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN DEBRIS IN THE FUZE TURBINE AIR INLET, OR A DAMAGED TURBINE, INCREASES THE PROBABILITY OF EARLY FUNCTION INCIDENTS. PRESENCE OF FOREIGN DEBRIS IN THE FUZE MAY PRODUCE AN AUDIBLE NOISE DURING FIRING. USERS ARE ADVISED OF THE FOLLOWING TO MINIMIZE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EARLY FUNCTION:

A. DO NOT LAY FUZE END OF MORTAR CARTRIDGE DIRECTLY ON GROUND AND KEEP CARTRIDGES COVERED PRIOR TO FIRING TO PREVENT SAND, DUST, DIRT, SNOW, ICE, AND ANY OTHER DEBRIS FROM GETTING INTO THE FUZE TURBINE AIR INLET (SEE ATTACHMENT AIN016-16A).

B. PRIOR TO FIRING, USERS MUST VISUALLY INSPECT EACH CARTRIDGE TO ENSURE THAT NO DIRT, DEBRIS, DAMAGE, OR OBSTRUCTION RESTRICTS THE AIRFLOW OF THE TURBINE. INSPECT THE FUZE TURBINE INLET AREA FOR ANY SAND, DIRT, MUD, SNOW, ICE, OR OTHER DEBRIS VISIBLE IN THE TURBINE INLET. DO NOT FIRE ANY MORTAR CARTRIDGE THAT HAS DEBRIS.

C. MORTAR CARTRIDGES SHOULD NOT BE FIRED INTO SAND OR DUST STORMS OR HEAVY SNOW OR ICE STORMS EXCEPT IN A COMBAT EMERGENCY.

8. USERS WILL SUBMIT AN AMMUNITION MALFUNCTION REPORT, DA FORM 4379, IF EARLY FUNCTIONS AND/OR OTHER ABNORMAL FUNCTIONS OCCUR. IF MULTIPLE REPORTS OF EARLY FUNCTIONS OCCUR WITHIN THE SAME FUZE LOT, RESTRICTIONS OR SUSPENSIONS, LOCAL AND/OR WORLDWIDE, MAY OCCUR.

9. THE PERTINENT MORTAR OPERATOR'S TECHNICAL MANUALS IN REF 4A TO 4H WILL BE UPDATED TO INCORPORATE THE ABOVE INFORMATION.

10. TECHNICAL POC FOR THIS AIN IS MR. ANDREW DE BLOCK, RDAR-EIL-LM, DSN 880-5707, (973) 724-5707, EMAIL: ANDREW.J.DEBLOCK.CIV@MAIL.MIL. POC FOR DISTRIBUTION IS MS. ORAWAN DE VERA, AMSJM-QAS, DSN 793-6423, (309) 782-6423, EMAIL: ORAWAN.DEVERA.CIV@MAIL.MIL.

11. THIS AIN EXPIRES 30 NOV 2017 UNLESS OTHERWISE RESCINDED OR SUPERSEDED.

//SIGNED//

JEAN-MICHEL W. SERRA

CHIEF, AMMUNITION SURVEILLANCE DIVISION