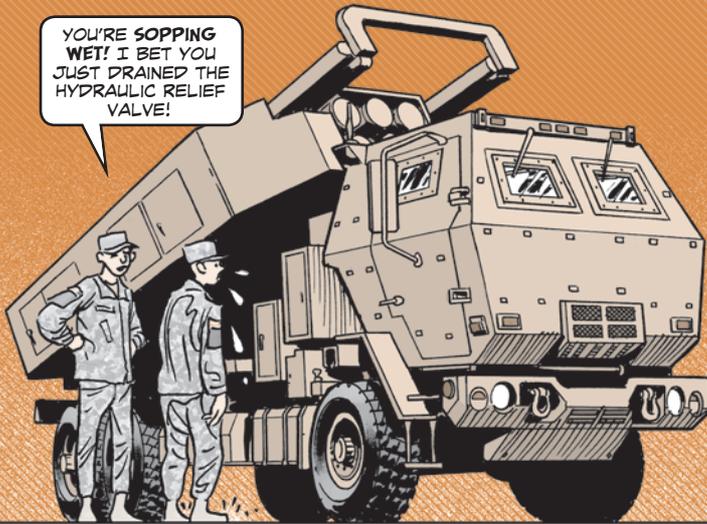


HIMARS...

# POINT DRAIN COCK DOWN

YOU'RE SOPPING  
WET! I BET YOU  
JUST DRAINED THE  
HYDRAULIC RELIEF  
VALVE!



Dear Editor,

The drain cock for the HIMARS' hydraulic relief valve has a problem: It points straight out. When you open the valve, the fluid sprays right on you, which creates a mess. It's not a great idea to get hydraulic fluid on your clothing or skin.

Prevent that mess by installing an elbow pipe fitting that makes a 90-degree turn and points down. NSN 4730-00-720-3170 (P/N 115-B, CAGE L2409) gets the fitting. That way any fluid goes right into a container.

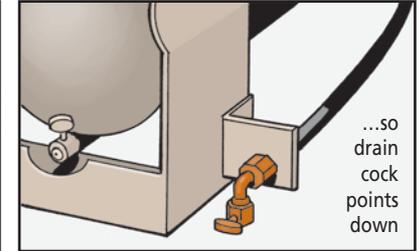
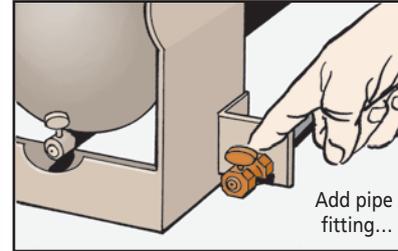
Bleed the air system daily, including the launcher hydraulic system bleed valve at the rear of the three vehicle air tanks.

John Sanders  
Lockheed Martin  
Ft Sill, OK

**Editor's note:** Great way to prevent a hydraulic bath! Remember that bleeding daily prevents fluid buildup. Your support needs to follow the procedures from IETM 9-1055-1646-13&P for removing the old air bleed valve and installing the 90-degree pipe fitting. It goes like this:

**WARNING:** Isopropyl alcohol vapors are toxic. Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of vapors or contact with skin. Use adequate ventilation. Solvent is flammable and should not be used near an open flame. Fire extinguishers should be readily available when isopropyl alcohol is used.

1. Use an acid brush and isopropyl alcohol to clean the threads of the bulkhead adapter pipe elbow and the replacement air system bleed valve. Make sure all sealant is removed from the bulkhead adapter.
2. Use the acid brush to apply a thin coat of pipe sealant, NSN 8030-01-218-0321, to the threads of the bulkhead adapter and pipe elbow.
3. Install the pipe elbow on the bulkhead adapter and hand-tighten it. Make sure it points down.



Then follow the rest of the air bleed valve installation procedures called out in IETM 9-1055-1646-13&P [see "Hydraulic Fluid Reservoir Air Bleed Valve Removal and Installation"], including the HCS maintenance follow-on procedures [see "HCS After Maintenance Follow-on Procedure"].

HIMARS...

# RESERVOIR RELIEF

LISTEN  
UP TO THIS  
GOOD ADVICE  
FROM THE  
HIMARS  
FOLKS AT  
FT SILL!



Dear Editor,

We've found it's important with the M142 HIMARS to drain the hydraulic fluid reservoir daily. If you don't, air pressure can build up in the reservoir and cause incorrect fluid readings. The pressure can eventually damage the reservoir.

But before you drain the hydraulic fluid reservoir—or add hydraulic fluid—you need to first drain the air tank, which is right beside the reservoir. Otherwise, the air pressure can cause the hydraulic fluid to spew out. That can be dangerous if the fluid gets in your eyes.

SPC Charles Whalen  
578th FSC  
Ft Sill, OK



Drain air tanks before  
draining or adding  
hydraulic fluid

**Editor's note:**

Good tip, Specialist. Always remember to drain the air tank **before** the hydraulic reservoir, HIMARS folks. If you need to fill or bleed the reservoir, see the **HYDRAULIC RESERVOIR FILL/BLEED** procedure in IETM 9-1055-1646-13&P.