

AIRBORNE MISSILE LAUNCHER (LAU-93) ACTIVE  
AIRBORNE WEAPONS CORRECTIVE ACTION PROGRAM

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**NOTE:** OPEN problems denoted by asterisk (\*) following problem number.

30-NOV-01

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PROBLEM NO: 16924 CLOSED

	NOMENCLATURE	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	MISSILE LAUNCHER	A51K9001-21	1440	01-131-1436	

EI CNTRL NO: 01-0007

PROB BRIEF : LAU-93; MISSILE FELL FROM LAUNCHER

PROBLEM : ATM-54 Missile fell from launcher while aircraft was on parking ramp.  
DESCRIPTION

PREVENTIVE : None Determined.  
ACTION

CORRECTIVE : None determined.  
ACTION

	SOURCE	TYPE	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	DR STATUS
OCCURRENCES:	NWTS PT MUGU	EIR	N39788-01-0014	07FEB01	CLOSED

ACTION :	NWTS PT MUGU	EIR	N39788-01-0014	07FEB01	CLOSED
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	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	A51K9001-21	1440	01-131-1436	
	NOMEN: MISSILE LAUNCHER			
	S/N: KPQ054Q			
FAILED PART:	A51K9001-21	1440	01-131-1436	
	NOMEN: MISSILE LAUNCHER			

**DESCRIPTION:**

F-14B aircraft returned from flight with ATM-54 missile. Squadron ordnancemen dearmed aircraft at dearm area. Aircraft taxied to aircraft parking ramp without event. Aircraft went through normal shutdown procedures and while engines were winding down, ATM-54 missile fell from station 8B.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

12FEB01: Initial response accepting Engineering Investigation for action. RTSC requested launcher, photos and EHR card and providing shipping instructions.  
21FEB01: EI exhibit arrived at RTSC on 21 FEB 01. EI in process.  
20MAR01: Findings: Liaison with AMB senior member indicated: Launcher positive launch pin was extended at mishap, arming cup on missile pulled 1/8-inch above missile surface, missile suspension lugs not worn and MK107 CAD was not installed in launcher (normal for ATM-54). RTSC examination of LAU-93 launcher revealed all applicable modifications were incorporated and no improper parts or parts installation. Hook latch mechanism operated normally. Tension on bellcrank overcenter spring (P/N 3198581) was in accordance with

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**PROBLEM NO: 16924**

**(Continued)**

drawing specification. Hook release system adjustment in accordance with technical manual specification and launcher suspension hooks were not worn. Examination of LAU-93 launcher revealed no defects. Launcher arming and release mechanisms operated normally and no evidence of binding, damage, or improper movement was observed. Attempts to induce uncommanded unlocking and hook release were unsuccessful. No AWCAP/DRLOG history this type incident. Conclusion: launcher operates normally. Most probable cause of incident was induced movement of release linkage from undetermined source. The positive launch pin position described in para 7a(1) and 7a(2) indicates the launcher was not in the SAFE position at time of mishap. The possibility of a spontaneous or non-induced release on a safed LAU-93 launcher is extremely remote due to the series of blocks and interlocks in the release linkage. Recommend: NWTs Point Mugu AIMD perform 224-day inspection on subject launcher and return to ready for issue status. NWTs Point Mugu's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b>		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO	INVESTIGATE REPORT		COMPLETE 20MAR01

<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
		NWTS PT MUGU MESSAGE 071814ZFEB01	PROBLEM REPORTED
		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 121445ZFEB01	INITIAL RESPONSE
		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 211445ZFEB01	INTERIM RESPONSE
		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 201345ZMAR01	PROBLEM CLOSING