



AIR MOBILITY



RUB-A-DUB-DUB,
YOUR BIRD'S
IN THE TUB, FOR...



The next time you find yourself loaded down with buckets, mops, brushes, sponges, rags, hoses and cleaners, remember—washing a dirty bird is a mighty important piece of preventive maintenance.

A clean bird reduces in-flight drag, helps prevent corrosion, lets your favorite throttle jockey see where he's headed, and highlights leaks on malfunctioning equipment.

A good cleaning also reveals pin cracks in the skin hidden by dirt and grime, reveals strains and cracks in engine mounts by showing up broken and chipped paint hidden by grease, and those loose rivets and fasteners often overlooked in an eyeball going over.

Choose Your Weapons

When it comes to picking the cleaning compounds and solvents to battle

dirt, you're likely to find yourself in the same dilemma as a dependent at the commissary—one thousand and one cleaners to choose from! But which one is right for the job? That's the rub.

Your best bet is to take a gander at the cleaning section of the maintenance manual for your bird, backed up by the cleaning poop in Chapter 1, Section II, of TM 55-405-3 (10 May 62), "Maintenance of Aircraft Systems."

Cleaners called out in one manual may differ from another and you may even find it hard to lay your hands on some of the old types. But you can't go wrong if you use any of these approved cleaners.

NOMENCLATURE	SPECIFICATION	FSN	SOURCE	USE ON
Cleaning Compound—Alkaline Waterbase	MIL-C-25769	7930-543-4532 (55-gal drum)	FSC C6-17-SL (1 Nov 62)	Exterior metal and fabric
Solvent, Dry-Cleaning	Fed Spec P-5-661	6850-264-9038 (Type 1, 5-gal pail) 6850-264-9037 (55-gal drum)	FSC C-6800-1L (1 Jul 62)	Exterior metal and fabric (with MIL-C-25769) Engine Electrical components Upholstery
Detergents, Nonionic	MIL-D-16791	7930-282-9699 (1 gal)	FSC C6-17-SL (1 Nov 62)	Transparent plastic (used with T-N-95) Upholstery
Cleaning and Polishing Compound, Transparent Plastic	MIL-C-18767 Type I	7930-634-3340 (1 pt bottle)	FSC C6-17-SL (1 Nov 62)	Transparent plastic (interior and exterior)
Cornstarch (edible)	Fed Spec N-C-541	8920-140-6165 (1 lb carton)	FSC C-8900-SL (1 Jul 62)	Upholstery
Soap, Toilet, Powdered	Fed Spec P-5-626	8520-228-0985 (5 lb box)	FSC C6-19-SL (1 Oct 62)	Transparent plastic