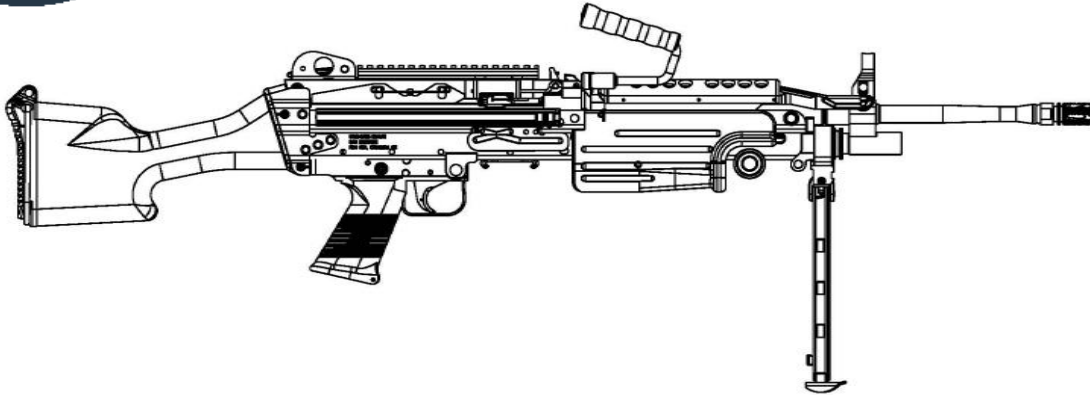


YOU MUST READ THE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL AND THIS ADDENDUM CAREFULLY BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO OPERATE OR USE THIS FIREARM. THE FN M249S® RIFLE OPERATES DIFFERENTLY THAN ANY OTHER RIFLE. DO NOT DISCARD THIS ADDENDUM.



FN M249S® Standard and PARA Safety Addendum

Dear Valued Customer and FN M249S® Owner:

A recent redesign of the FN M249S® slide hammer has changed some of the operating instructions for the FN M249S® Standard and PARA models. Those changes are outlined in this Safety Addendum. This Safety Addendum is meant to replace those sections of the Operator's Manual, which is also included with your rifle. This Safety Addendum must be read and fully understood before handling or firing your FN M249S® and must remain with the rifle and Operator's Manual, even when transferred to a new owner.

Any sections of the Operator's Manual not discussed in this Safety Addendum remain unchanged and are applicable.

WARNING! BEFORE HANDLING, INSPECTING, OR FIRING THE FN M249S®, FULLY READ AND UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL AS WELL AS THIS SAFETY ADDENDUM. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

If you have any questions about these instructions or the safe operation of the FN M249S®, please feel free to contact FN:

1.800.635.1321

or by email at: customerservice@fnamerica.com

There are also instructional videos explaining the operation of the FN M249S® on FN's website:

www.FNAMERICA.com

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

11. COCKING THE SLIDE HAMMER AND CHARGING HANDLE OPERATION

WARNING! THE FN M249S® OPERATES DIFFERENTLY THAN MOST OTHER SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLES. THE SAFETY SELECTOR MUST BE IN THE FIRE POSITION AS THE SLIDE HAMMER IS COCKED. IF IT IS NOT, IT MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE SEAR AND OR SLIDE HAMMER. YOU MUST FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR COCKING THE SLIDE HAMMER.

WARNING! WHEN COCKING THE SLIDE HAMMER ENSURE NO AMMUNITION IS PRESENT AS EXPLAINED IN SECTION 17 OF THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL.

Cocking the Slide Hammer

1. Before cocking the slide hammer, first place the safety selector button in the FIRE position as explained in Section 10 of the Operator's Manual.
2. Then, with the right hand, palm up, pull the charging handle fully to the rear to cock the slide hammer. Be mindful of the ejection port cover below the charging handle as it may interfere with a palm-down grip of the charging handle. See Figure 5.
3. Release the charging handle to allow the bolt and bolt carrier assembly to move forward under the drive spring pressure. Ensure the charging handle is in the forward, locked position.
4. Immediately place the safety selector button in the SAFE position as explained in Section 10. To check that the slide hammer is cocked as shown in Figure 6, open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover as shown in Figure 7.A.
5. Once the slide hammer is cocked in the rearward position, the safety must stay in the safe position until firing is imminent. Loading and charging the FN M249S® rifle is covered in detail in Section 15 Loading.

FIGURE 5

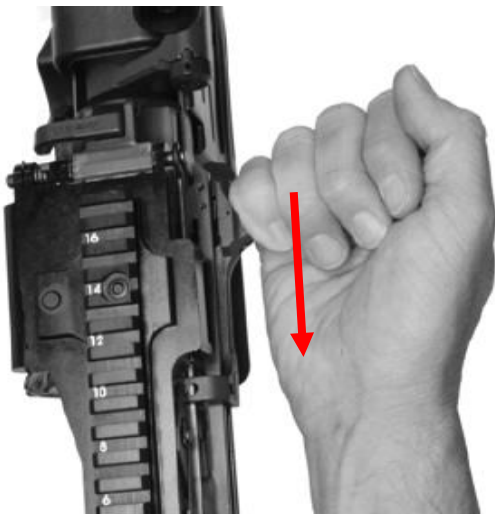


FIGURE 6



12. MANUAL BOLT LOCK DEVICE

The FN M249S® is a closed-bolt rifle that does not feature an integral bolt lock or bolt stop. In order to “lock” or hold the bolt to the rear-open position, a manual bolt lock device is included. The manual bolt lock device is a yellow plastic block that was shipped inserted into the magazine well of the rifle. **Do not discard the manual bolt lock device.**

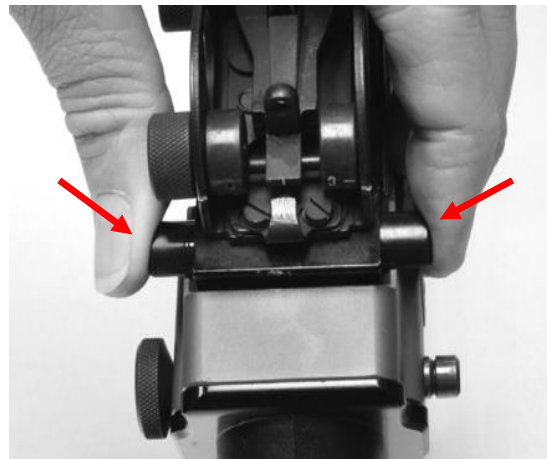


To use the manual bolt lock device to hold/lock the bolt in the open position:

1. Make sure the slide hammer is cocked and the safety selector is in the SAFE position as explained in Sections 10 and 11 and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Clear the rifle as explained in Section 17 and ensure that no ammunition is present in the rifle.

FIGURE 7.A

3. Open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover. See Figure 7.A. Leave the feed tray cover open in the 45° or 90° position.



WARNING! PULLING THE CHARGING HANDLE TOO FAR TO THE REAR WITH THE SAFETY IN THE SAFE POSITION MAY CAUSE THE SLIDE HAMMER TO LODGE AGAINST THE SEAR AND LOCK THE SAFETY BUTTON. DO NOT PULL THE CHARGING HANDLE TO THE REAR SO THAT THE REAR OF THE BOLT CARRIER MOVES PAST THE REAR OF THE EJECTOR. REFER TO FIGURES 7.B AND 7.C.

FIGURE 7.B

BOLT CARRIER TOO FAR

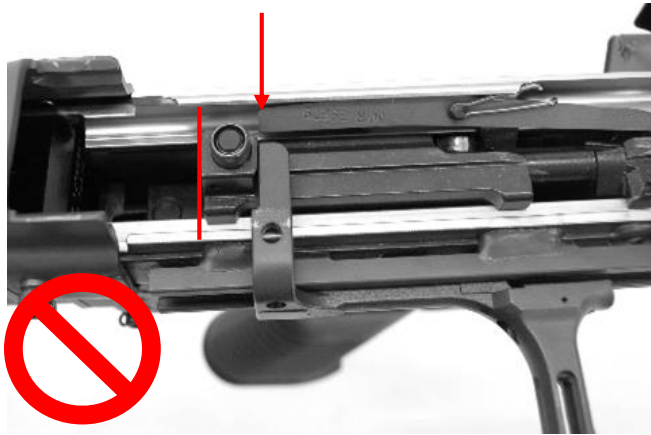
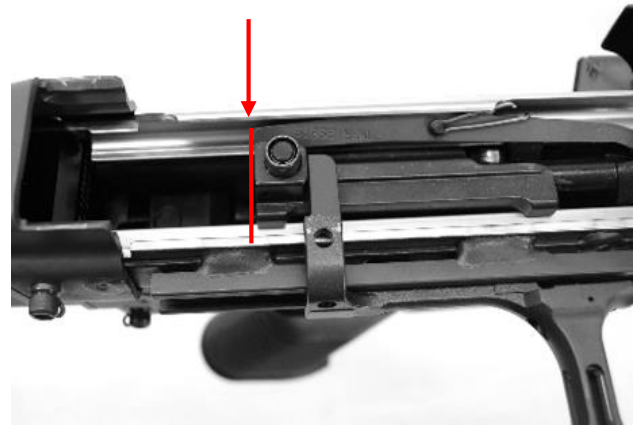


FIGURE 7.C

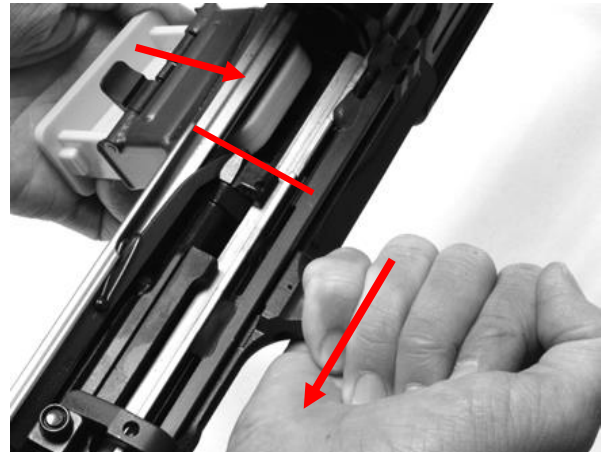
BOLT CARRIER CORRECT



If the slide hammer does lodge against the sear, the safety button will be locked. Refer to Section 15.5 of this Addendum for correcting this malfunction should it occur.

FIGURE 7.D

4. Pull the charging handle partially to the rear with the right hand so that the bolt is just behind the magazine well. See Figure 7.D. Pulling the charging handle to the rear only this amount will not lodge the slide hammer against the sear. Note: bracing the buttstock against your shoulder or hip will aid in holding the charging handle in this position.



5. While holding the charging handle to the rear, insert the manual bolt lock device into the magazine well until it locks into place. The manual bolt lock device will open the magazine well dust cover when inserted into the magazine well. Be careful to not over insert the bolt lock device. Only insert far enough for the magazine latch to lock the device into place. See Figure 7.D.
6. Ease the charging handle forward, allowing the bolt to rest on the rear portion of the manual bolt lock device. Push the charging handle fully forward into the locked position.
7. Close the feed tray cover if the rifle is to be stored or transported.

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

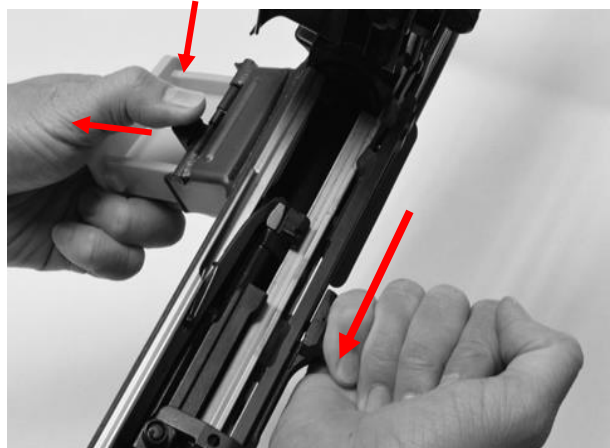
WARNING! THE PRESENCE OF THE MANUAL BOLT LOCK DEVICE DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT THERE IS NO CARTRIDGE IN THE CHAMBER. DO NOT RELY ON THE PRESENCE OF THE MANUAL BOLT LOCK DEVICE TO VISUALLY INDICATE A COMPLETELY UNLOADED AND SAFE RIFLE. THE MANUAL BOLT LOCK DEVICE IS NOT THE SAME AS A FLAG SAFETY WHICH IS INSERTED INTO A RIFLE'S CHAMBER. REFER TO SECTION 17 FOR COMPLETE UNLOADING AND CLEARING INSTRUCTIONS.

To remove the manual bolt lock device:

1. Make sure the slide hammer is cocked and the safety selector is in the SAFE position as explained in Sections 10 and 11, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover. See Figure 7.A. Leave the feed tray cover open in the 45° or 90° position.
3. Pull the charging handle to the rear with the right hand only far enough to pull the bolt off of the manual bolt lock device.

FIGURE 8

4. While holding the charging handle with the right hand so the bolt stays off of the manual bolt lock device, use the left hand to press the magazine release button and remove the manual bolt lock device from the magazine well. See Figure 8.



5. Lift the feed tray and inspect the chamber to ensure there are no cartridges present. Remove any that may exist.

6. Ease the charging handle forward, allowing the bolt to close on an empty chamber. Push the charging handle fully forward into the locked position.

7. Close the feed tray cover.

Refer to your Operator's Manual for Sections 13 through 15.2.

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

15.3 Loading the FN M249S® from the Belt / Ammo Pack

1. Make sure the slide hammer is cocked and the safety selector is in the SAFE position as explained in Sections 10 and 11, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. If not already done, remove the magazine from the magazine well as explained in Section 15.2 of the Operator's Manual.
3. Open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover. See Figure 25. Leave the feed tray cover open in the 45° or 90° position.

FIGURE 25

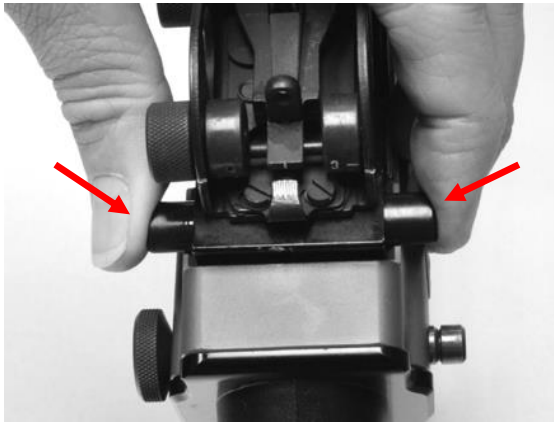


FIGURE 26

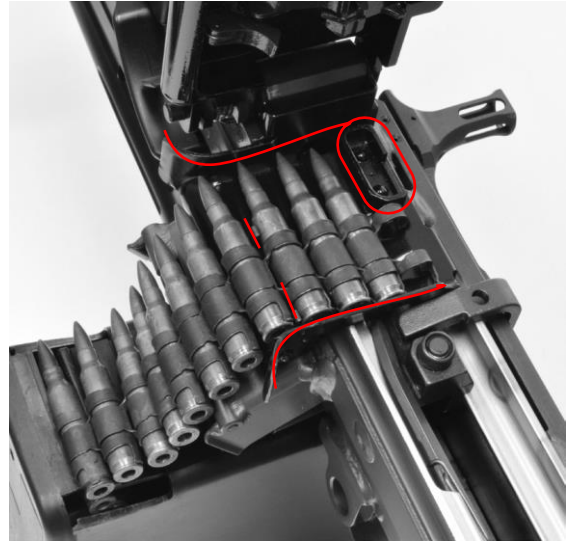


4. Pull the charging handle partially to the rear as explained in Sections 11 & 12 and visually inspect the chamber to ensure that it is empty. Return the bolt to the forward, closed position.
5. Attach a filled box/ammunition pack to underside of receiver by aligning the dovetail on top of the box with the bracket on the bottom of the receiver from the left side. Slide the dovetail to the right into the bracket until the catch locks into place. Pull outward on ammunition pack to ensure that the latch is engaged. See Figure 26.
6. Pull about 10-12 rounds of the belt out of the ammunition pack. Place the linked belt on feed tray assembly with first round fully against cartridge stop. Ensure the closed sides of the links are facing up and the open sides of the links are facing down against the feed tray. In this manner, the belt will be placed on the feed tray “brass to the grass”, where the open part of the links expose the brass of the cartridges to the ground instead of to the sky. Two feed pawls will hold the belt in place. Ensure the belt is not twisted. See Figure 27. Note feed tray with cartridge stop and feed pawls highlighted.

FIGURE 27

7. Firmly close the feed tray cover assembly; ensure it is locked closed.

8. If shooting is imminent, a cartridge can now be moved from the feed tray to the chamber by slowly pulling back on the charging handle and releasing it. The charging handle should only be pulled back until it stops against the slide hammer and resistance is felt. At this point, the top of the charging handle should be aligned with the #1 slot on optical rail. See Figure 27.A



WARNING! PULLING THE CHARGING HANDLE TOO FAR TO THE REAR MAY CAUSE THE SLIDE HAMMER TO LODGE AGAINST THE SEAR AND LOCK THE SAFETY BUTTON.

This can occur if the charging handle is pulled to the rear so its top is just past the rear sight housing as shown in Figure 27.B. If this occurs and the safety button locks up, refer to Section 15.5 for correcting this malfunction.

FIGURE 27.A

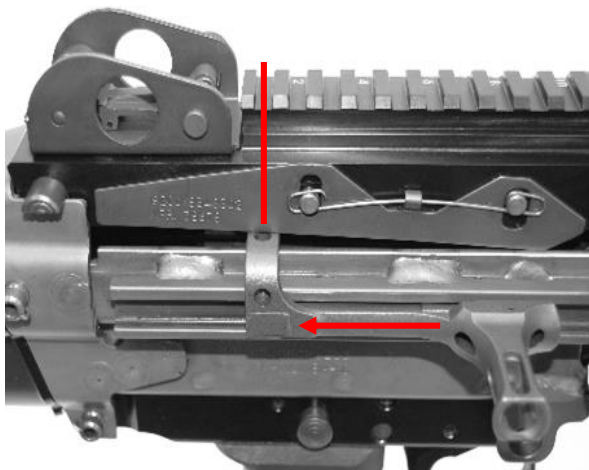
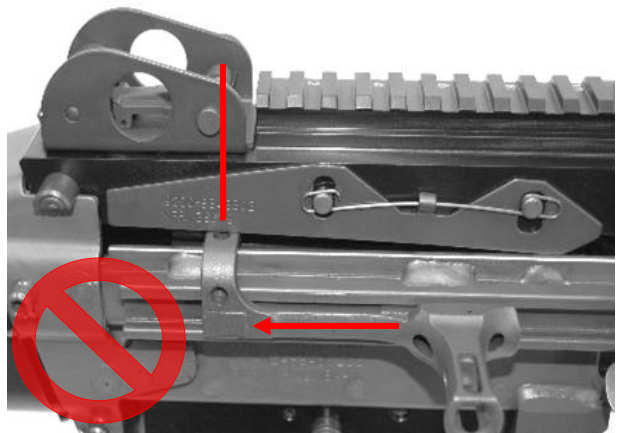


FIGURE 27.B



Allow the bolt to move forward into battery under its full spring pressure, do not “ride” the charging handle and bolt forward. If the bolt is not allowed to close in this manner, there is a possibility that it will not close completely, preventing the rifle from firing. Ensure the charging handle is in the forward, locked position.

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

WARNING! THE RIFLE IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY MOVING THE SAFETY SELECTOR TO THE FIRE POSITION AND PULLING THE TRIGGER.

WARNING! ONLY USE ONE SOURCE OF AMMUNITION WHEN FIRING THE FN M249S®. ATTEMPTING TO USE THE BELT/AMMUNITION PACK AND THE 30 ROUND MAGAZINE AT THE SAME TIME WILL CAUSE THE RIFLE TO MALFUNCTION AND FAIL TO RELIABLY FEED. PERSONAL INJURY AND DAMAGE TO THE RIFLE AND AMMUNITION MAY RESULT.

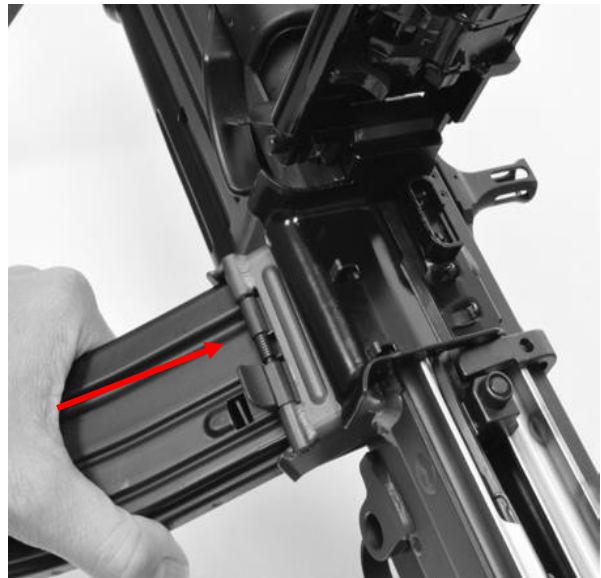
15.4 Loading the FN M249S® from the Magazine

1. Make sure the slide hammer is cocked and the safety selector is in the SAFE position as explained in Sections 10 and 11, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover. See Figure 25. Ensure the feed tray is clear of ammunition and links. Refer to Section 17.1 for clearing the feed tray. Leave the feed tray cover open in the 45° or 90° position.
3. Pull the charging handle partially to the rear as explained in Sections 11 & 12 and visually inspect the chamber to ensure that it is empty. Return the bolt to the forward, closed position.

FIGURE 28

4. Insert a filled magazine into the magazine well until it locks in place and pull to ensure magazine is secured. The magazine will open the magazine well dust cover when pressed against it. See Figure 28. Ensure the projectiles in the magazine point toward the muzzle of the rifle when doing so. Firmly close the feed tray cover and ensure it is locked closed.

5. If shooting is imminent, a cartridge can now be moved from the magazine to the chamber by slowly pulling back on the charging handle and releasing it. The charging handle should only be pulled back until it stops against the slide hammer and resistance is felt. At this point, the top of the charging handle should be aligned with the #1 slot on optical rail. See Figure 27.A



WARNING! PULLING THE CHARGING HANDLE TOO FAR TO THE REAR MAY CAUSE THE SLIDE HAMMER TO LODGE AGAINST THE SEAR AND LOCK THE SAFETY BUTTON.

This can occur if the charging handle is pulled to the rear so its top is just past the rear sight housing shown in Figure 27.B. If this occurs and the safety button locks up, refer to Section 15.5 for correcting this malfunction.

Allow the bolt to move forward into battery under its full spring pressure, do not “ride” the charging handle and bolt forward. If the bolt is not allowed to close in this manner, there is a possibility that it will not close completely, preventing the rifle from firing. Ensure the charging handle is in the forward, locked position.

WARNING! THE RIFLE IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY MOVING THE SAFETY SELECTOR TO THE FIRE POSITION AND PULLING THE TRIGGER.

15.5 Malfunctions While Loading / Chambering

If while loading the FN M249S®, the charging handle is **forcefully pulled fully** to the rear (refer to Figure 27.B), there is potential for the slide hammer to become lodged against the sear, locking the safety into the safe position. In order to free the slide hammer and safety from this unintentional locked position:

1. **Keep the rifle pointed in a safe direction and unload the rifle as described below:**
2. If feeding from the magazine, press the magazine release and REMOVE the magazine. See Figure 32 in the Operator’s Manual.
3. Open the feed tray cover by squeezing in on the cover latches on the rear of the feed tray cover. Leave the feed tray cover open in the 45° or 90° position.
4. If feeding from the belt, remove the belt from the feed tray and remove any loose cartridges or links from the feed tray. See Figure 29 in the Operator’s Manual.
5. Pull the charging handle to the rear to remove the cartridge in the chamber.
6. Hold the charging handle to the rear with the right hand while lifting the feed tray with the left hand to inspect the chamber for the presence of cartridges. Remove any that remain. See Figure 30 in the Operator’s Manual. Verify there are no loose cartridges in the magazine well.

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

7. Allow the charging handle to move forward, closing the bolt on an empty chamber. Please note that the bolt will not automatically lock in the rearward position. As a good safety practice, hold the bolt open and visually inspect the chamber to be absolutely certain a live cartridge is not present in the chamber or anywhere in the rifle.
8. Remove the ammunition pack by pressing down on the locking tab and pulling the ammunition pack off of the receiver to the left. See Figure 31 in the Operator's Manual.
9. If the slide hammer is lodged into the rear-most position, it will appear as in Figure 28.A. Note that the top of the slide hammer is well behind the rear of the ejector. If it is in this position, it will need to be manually dis-lodged. If the top of the slide hammer is in front of the rear of the ejector, it should not be locked but will be held by the sear in the normal position. See Figure 28.B.

FIGURE 28.A

SLIDE HAMMER LODGED

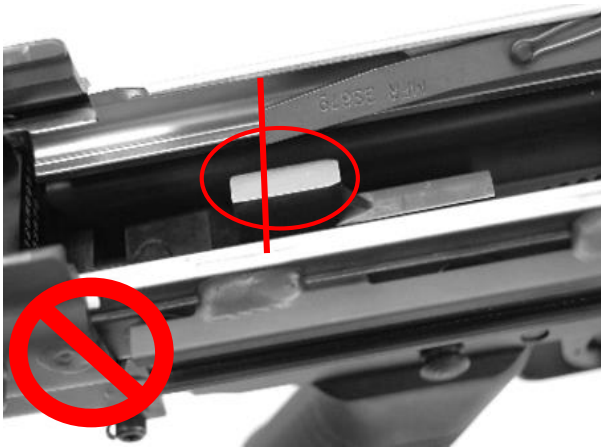


FIGURE 28.B

SLIDE HAMMER NORMAL - COCKED



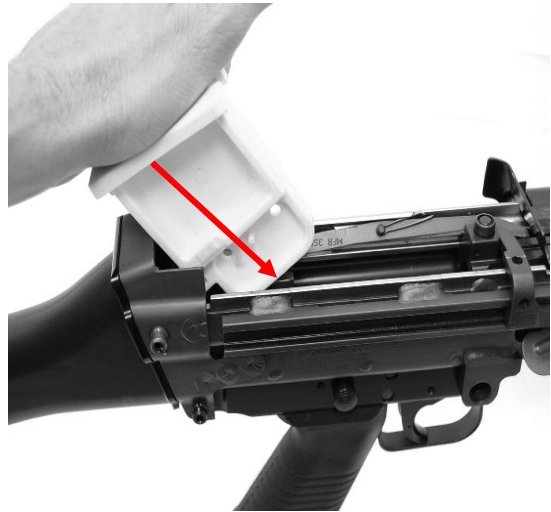
FN M249S® Safety Addendum

10. If the slide hammer is lodged, as shown in Figure 28.A: keeping the rifle pointed in a safe direction, place the FN M249S® on a firm and level surface such as a shooting bench. Ensure the pistol grip or butt stock is resting on the surface.
11. Take the manual bolt lock device and place the top edge of it against the top, rear corner of the slide hammer. See Figure 28.C.
12. Tap the flat surface of the manual bolt lock device with the palm of your hand to free the slide hammer from the lodged position. A click should be heard as the slide hammer moves forward about ½ inch to engage the sear. See Figure 28.D.

FIGURE 28.C



FIGURE 28.D



13. Ensure the safety can now be moved into the fire position and that the slide hammer is in the cocked position. See Figure 28.B. Return the safety to the SAFE position.
14. If shooting is imminent, reload the rifle as explained in Section 15.3 and 15.4 using care when chambering not to pull the charging handle further to the rear than necessary to chamber the first round.

FN M249S® Safety Addendum

Notes:

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