

# THAT'S THE WAY WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT

## *When Was The Last Time You Evaluated Your Way of Doing Things ?*

The following story may or may not be true. The fact that it *might* be true, however, is an interesting comment on human nature.

A delegation of artillery officers from NATO was visiting their British comrades-in-arms. The foreign officers were treated to a magnificent display of motorized artillery in action. After all the sound and fury, a rather perplexed visitor approached one of the British officers and asked why one of the soldiers in each of the gun crews had stood at attention throughout the exercise doing absolutely nothing.

*"Why?"*  
the Britisher answered,

*"That's No.6.*

*He always stands at attention when the gun is in action.*

*That's his job."*

The visitor persisted.

*"If that's the case, what do you need six men in each gun crew for?*

*Wouldn't five be enough?"*

There was no instant answer from the hosts. Finally, their own curiosity aroused - and after hours of research in field manuals dating back quite a few years - they came up with the answer.

It seems the job of gun crew member No. 6 had always been to hold the horses' reins.

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