



Executive Summary
 Squad Foundation of the Decisive Force (SFDF)
 Integrated Capabilities Development Team (ICDT) Update
 14 November 2013



2 December 2013

Background

The SFDF goal is to enable Squads across all formations to obtain overmatch regardless of the operational environment. When the Squad obtains overmatch, the ripple effect enhances and improves combat effectiveness throughout all formation levels. SFDF directly supports the MCoE number one priority to improve combat effectiveness of brigades through the SFDF initiative and addresses the Maneuver Warfighting Challenges (MWFC). Additionally, the 2013 Army Strategic Planning Guidance identified the Soldier and Squad as the Centerpiece of Army Modernization. There are several key stakeholders collaborating in the pursuit of achieving Squad overmatch to mitigate or resolve the Squad Capability Based Assessment (CBA) Gaps.

Opening Remarks

The SFDF ICDT is comprised of the Chairman, COL Barnett, and the following teams within the MCoE: the Measures of Effectiveness (MOE) team from the Maneuver Battle Lab (MBL), Training and Leader Development team from DOTD and the Materiel team from Soldier Division. The Chairman’s opening comments stressed the importance of maintaining transparent collaboration with all Centers of Excellence (CoE) and key stakeholders to mitigate Squad Gaps and achieve overmatch.

SFDF, Bottom Up Approach

The Chairman briefed the SFDF “bottom up” approach concept to obtain Squad overmatch. The Squad CBA is the source document that is cross-walked to several MCoE and Army priorities. These include: required capabilities from the individual Soldier to echeloned formation levels; Mission Essential Tasks List (METLS) across formations; Warfighting Functions (WfF); Maneuver Warfighting Challenges; the Human Dimension; Combined Arms Maneuver and Wide Area Security (CAM/WAS) and the Army Strategic Planning Guidance (2013).

Measures of Effectiveness (MOE) Fire Team:

Dr. Cynthia Forgie briefed impacts to the Squad from findings in the [Army Expeditionary Warrior Experiments \(AEWE\) Spiral-H Final Report](#) and findings from the SFDF-Dismounted Non-Network Enabled Limited Objective Experiment (DNNE-LOE).

Her briefing on Spiral-H force effectiveness highlighted that a well-trained force supported by effective communications and sensor capabilities can significantly increase a unit’s ability to attain force effectiveness and mission success. The most dramatic increase was at the company and battalion level where Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) assets provided capabilities to increase the network footprint through radio retransmissions, but lacked integration into the network to maximize near real time situational awareness (SA) for leaders. Also noted was that friendly forces lacked doctrinal, training, materiel, and leader development solutions to engage and defeat enemy UAS threats. Additional AEWE observations included:

- **Lethality: Spiral-H, Counter-UAS:** conduct a Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leader Development and Education, Personnel and Facilities (DOTMLPF) review of C-UAS requirements.

Stake Holders
USPACOM
8 th Army CSM
Army G-3/5/7
FORSCOM
MCoE
FCoE
SCoE
ACoE
ICoE
MSCoE
CASCOM
MEDCOM
ARDEC
CERDEC
PEO
ARCIC/ACD
AMSAA
DARPA
TRAC WSMR

- **Lethality: Spiral-H Small Unit Solutions:** identify technologies that integrate multiple functions, exchange hardware with software, consolidate and replace existing equipment components, and offer the greatest potential to enhance Soldier and Small Unit effectiveness.

The DNNE LOE experiment focus was on the assessment of a dismounted Squad for 72 hours with a 2013 baseline capability followed by a 72-hour assessment of the Squad enhanced with capabilities for comparison of effectiveness, in a non-networked environment. The final report is due out in December 2013. Dr. Forgie highlighted the following initial insights from the experiment:

- **Lethality: DNNE LOE:** the Lightweight Small Arms Technology (LSAT) had significant weight and recoil reduction benefits that provided the Squad more precise fires, particularly when the Gunners were firing from standing or kneeling positions.
- **Lethality: DNNE LOE:** the Maneuver and Fires Integrated Application (MaFIA) provided the Squad the capability to develop a category 1 (CAT 1) grids for precision fires; however the system requires expanded training.
- **Mobility: DNNE LOE:** LSAT's weight reduction over the Squad's heaviest weapon system enabled the formation to maneuver/move more swiftly to a position of advantage, and enhanced survivability and lethality.
- **Power (energy): DNNE LOE:** the Solar Blanket is not compatible with the ideal patrol base requirements.
- **Power (energy): DNNE LOE:** the Universal Battery Chargers (UBC) physical shape and lack of modularity are not ideal for dismounted Squads.

Dr. Forgie's closing remarks identified current and future experiments that affect the Squad and provided recommendations for soliciting the community's participation for focused analytical and experimental efforts. Additionally she recommended that the ICDT leverage the Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity's (AMSAA) Infantry Warrior Simulation (IWARS) system to determine non-materiel and materiel solution feasibility to address gaps.

Training & Leader Development Fire Team

COL William Butler, Training Development Division (TDD), briefed the most recent MCoE leader development initiatives and updates from a number of strategies, courses, and programs that impact training and leader development at the Squad level. The brief updated the community on Advanced Situational Awareness Training (ASAT), Engagement Skills Trainer II (EST II) and Counter Improvised Explosive Device (CIED) training. Additional topics included:

- A current Dismounted Soldier Training System (DSTS) challenge is throughput at various locations due to an inappropriate number of systems fielded. A decision is pending on the consolidation of DSTS suites at select installations to serve as a "hub" for outlying locations. Future fielding will be done in platoon sets (3 suites) so an entire Infantry Platoon can train together.
- FORSCOM Training Guidance, TRADOC 350-50-1 and 350-50-2 are being updated to reflect that the DCT-MT Master Trainer course will be required at Company and Battalion levels prior to any Combat Training Center (CTC) rotation.
- Virtual Battlespace 2 (VBS2) will soon be replaced by VBS3, and work is ongoing to integrate Jungle and Arctic training scenarios.

Materiel Fire Team:

COL Dan Barnett briefed initial findings of the Squad Gap review to clarify gap statements. The SFDF Team recommended:

- The importance of taking into account the tasks, conditions and standards of each gap.
- Combining Squad Gap 8.01 and 8.02.
- Transfer Squad Gap 9.01 to the TRADOC Capability Manager (TCM) Formations because it is not within the scope of the Squad.
- Synchronize ICDT collaborative efforts with action officer level working groups to identify/assess levels of achieving gap mitigation.

COL Barnett also briefed the ongoing collaboration effort between the MCoE, the Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE) and the Accelerated Capabilities Division (ACD), Army Capabilities Integration Center (ARCIC) concerning the SFDF-Maneuver, Fires Integration Exercise (MFI).

- The focus areas of the MFI are to obtain overmatch in Situational Awareness, Fires, Protection, C-UAS and Generate Power.
- Directed that the community be provided the MFI [nominated solution quad charts](#) for their awareness.
- He reiterated that the MFI solution cutoff date is 10 Dec 2013.

SFDF-ICDT Closing Remarks

COL Barnett commented:

- Continue to collaborate with USPACOM, the CoEs, Key Stakeholders, and DA to synchronize efforts.
- Consider government funding implications and its impact on gap mitigation with non-materiel and materiel solutions.
- A major challenge is the synchronization and streamlining of multiple lists and documents across the community to prevent redundancy.

8th Army, CSM Ray Devens commented:

- As the focus continues to shift to the USPACOM region, implement capability training at home station to include Jungle and Arctic scenarios.
- Consider that Wide Area Security (WAS) and Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) will also affect non-maneuver Squads in future operations.
- Engage with TRADOCs Asymmetric Warfare Group (AWG) on their initiatives for Squad Leader success in Weapons of Mass Destruction Effect (WMDE) operations and subterranean warfare that we are recognizing will be a challenge for our small units as they operate decentralized.
- Collaborate with 8th Army G3 to develop forward area assessments.

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