APPENDIX C

Weapon Systems Replacement Operations

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BATTALION

WSRO provides a doctrinal mechanism to optimize the number of major weapon systems and crews available to the commander. It calls for designation of a weapon systems manager at every level from battalion to theater army. The WSM uses his knowledge of unit weapon system shortages and available assets to fill requirements IAW command priorities. The key to WSRO is the joint managing, reporting, and monitoring of weapon and personnel systems status at every level. WSRO also requires establishment of a link-up point where the weapon systems will be made ready to fight and linked up with its crew. The link-up point will normally be in the DSA, but this will vary based upon METT-T. See Figure C-1 for an overview of WSRO.

DIVISION

The division provides replacement weapon systems directly to battalions. Efficient allocation of limited resources is accomplished by managing weapon systems rather than focusing on personnel and equipment components separately. At division, the DISCOM commander will assign a WSM to the DMMC as a full-time position with primary skills in supply and maintenance management. The individual assigned will be the division WSM. The division AG designates a person to be responsible for coordinating, managing, and providing crew members or crew replacements. This individual will react to the unit’s critical shortages. Ultimate assignment of personnel and equipment is based on priorities established by the division commander.

WEAPON SYSTEMS

The primary link-up point for weapon systems is at the MSB S&S company in the DSA. As the weapon system arrives in a read-for-issue state, the crew need only perform those tasks needed to make the system ready to fight. This concept recognizes the fact that the tactical situation may permit a partial crew to perform the above tasks and drive the system to its unit. If the system is being transported to the unit location, crews should move at the same time. However, only complete weapon systems will normally move forward of the DSA.
Figure C-1 WSRO Overview
The WSM will closely monitor crew assets available. Available crew members will be returned from the unit to the DSA to receive the weapon system and link up with new crew members. The WSM must coordinate closely with the maintenance management officer of the DMMC to verify the status of systems being repaired in DS maintenance units and the number of crew members with the system. Replacement crew members can join a system crew at the maintenance facility and, as part of a crew, can assist in expediting crew maintenance.

The corps assumes the linkup responsibility in the event the tactical situation precludes linkup in the DSA. Linkup would then take place at the corps heavy materiel supply company or its equivalent.

OPERATIONS

The MSB S&S company supply platoon (class II, III (P), IV, and VII section) establishes an assembly area (class VII supply point) for major end items. This assembly area is normally located adjacent to a rail line or the MSR from corps when one is available. The MSB light and heavy maintenance companies and the replacement detachment are normally located close enough to the assembly area so that coordination between all elements remains quick and dependable. The corps notifies the DMMC that weapon systems are being delivered to the division by a specific corps unit. In accordance with priorities established by the division for issue, the DMMC alerts the MSB S&S company, the maintenance companies, and the replacement detachment of the division AG element. At the same time, the DMMC also provides this information to the appropriate FSB for planning purposes.

The WSM at the DMMC verifies crew member shortages available in the receiving unit. The AG WSRO representative contacts the replacement detachment for specific unit replacements and has the personnel placed in a standby status, available for pickup by the receiving unit. The WSM contacts the FSB to have crew members of the receiving unit report to the class VII supply point and to pick up replacement crew members at the replacement detachment.

Incoming weapon systems are off-loaded at the class VII supply point by the class II, IV, and VII section of the MSB S&S company. This section notifies—

- The DMMC for property book action. The DMMC property book and class VII section will immediately identify the battalion to be assigned each new weapon system based on division priorities.
- The replacement detachment for coordination of the crews with the system.
- The WSM that the incoming weapon systems have arrived.
- The MSB maintenance companies for coordination of maintenance support teams who conduct required system checks with the new crews.
- The DISCOM movement control office to arrange forward HET transportation to the receiving battalion when required.

At the same time, the S&S company notifies the supply company of the FSBs what time the systems will be delivered to the receiving battalion. The FSB supply company advises the receiving battalion of the expected delivery time.