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UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
WEAPONS TRAINING BATTALION
TRAINING COMMAND
27211 GARAND ROAD
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5036

LESSON PLAN

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE PISTOL

CPP.2

COMBAT PISTOL PROGRAM

CID XXXX

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APPROVAL _____

DATE _____



INTRODUCTION

(ON SLIDE #1)

1. GAIN ATTENTION. To engage targets effectively with the service pistol, the Marine must first be familiar with the weapon, its operational capabilities, and features. This knowledge will give the Marine confidence in his weapon and his ability to employ it properly in any situation.
2. OVERVIEW. This lesson will cover the service pistol to include operational characteristics and capabilities, ammunition, and procedures for donning pistol gear.
3. INTRODUCE LEARNING OBJECTIVES
 - a. TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE. Given a service pistol, (3) magazines, magazine pouch, dummy ammunition, unit-issued holster, and personal protective equipment (PPE), without the aid of references, perform weapons handling procedures without violating the four safety rules IAW MCRP 3-01B.
 - b. ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVE. Without the aid of references, identify the characteristics and nomenclature of the service pistol IAW MCRP 3-01B and TM 1005A-10/1.
4. METHOD. This lesson will be taught in a classroom setting using lecture and demonstration.
5. EVALUATION. Topics from this lesson will be evaluated continuously throughout this course via interaction with Combat Marksmanship Trainers (CMT) and Combat Marksmanship Coaches (CMC).

TRANSITION: The service pistol is designed to permit the Marine to engage targets at close range with accurate fire. To employ the pistol effectively, the Marine must become familiar with the weapon's components, features, nomenclature, and the types of ammunition fired from the weapon.



BODY

1. (15 MIN) SERVICE PISTOL OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND CAPABILITIES

(ON SLIDE #2)

a. Description. The service pistol is a semiautomatic, magazine-fed, recoil-operated, double action pistol, chambered for the 9mm ball, NATO M882 round.

- 1) The pistol can be fired single action or double action and is designed to fire one round each time the trigger is pulled. When the last round is fired, the slide automatically locks to the rear.
- 2) The service pistol has a maximum effective range of 50 meters (54.7 yards).
- 3) The magazine holds 15 rounds and has a reversible magazine release button.

(ON SLIDE #3)

b. Nomenclature

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE: Point out each component of the pistol as it is identified.

- 1) Decocking/safety lever
- 2) Firing pin block
- 3) Extractor/Loaded Chamber Indicator. The extractor pulls the brass from the chamber after the round is fired. When a round is in the chamber, the upper surface of the loaded chamber indicator protrudes from the right side of the slide. This protrusion can be felt by touch to verify that there is a round in the chamber.
- 4) Disassembly Button. This component permits quick disassembly of the pistol. While depressing the disassembly button, rotate the disassembly lever down.
- 5) Front Sight. The front sight is a nonadjustable (fixed) sight.



- 6) Slide assembly
- 7) Disassembly lever
- 8) Slide Stop. The slide stop holds the slide to the rear after the last round is fired. It can also be manually operated to lock the slide to the rear or to release the slide.
- 9) Rear Sight. The rear sight is considered a fixed sight.
- 10) Hammer
- 11) Receiver
- 12) Grip
- 13) Lanyard loop
- 14) Magazine. The magazine holds fifteen rounds. Rounds are visible through holes in the back of the magazine in five-round increments.
- 15) Magazine Catch Assembly (Magazine Release Button). This component secures the magazine in place when loading and releases the magazine from the pistol when unloading. The magazine catch assembly is designed for both right- and left-handed Marines. For right-handed Marines, the magazine release button should be on the left side of the pistol. (Reversal of the magazine catch assembly for left-handed Marines can be performed by a qualified armorer.)
- 16) Trigger

(ON SLIDE #4)

c. Major Components

- 1) Slide Assembly. The slide assembly houses the firing pin, firing pin block, striker, and extractor, and cocks the hammer during recoil.
- 2) Barrel Assembly. The barrel assembly houses the round for firing, it directs the projectile, and it locks the barrel in position during firing.



3) Recoil Spring/Recoil Spring Guide. The recoil spring and recoil spring guide absorbs recoil and returns the slide assembly to its forward position.

4) Receiver. The receiver supports the major components, controls the functioning of the pistol, and holds the magazine in place. The front and back straps of the grip are vertically grooved to ensure the hand does not slip when firing.

d. Safety Features. The safety features of the service pistol include the decocking/safety lever, firing pin block, and half-cock notch.

(ON SLIDE #5)

1) Decocking/Safety Lever. The decocking/safety lever permits safe operation of the pistol by both right- and left-handed shooters. As the decocking/safety lever is moved to the safe (down) position, the firing pin striker moves out of alignment with the firing pin. This movement prevents the pistol from firing as the hammer moves forward.

NOTE

In the fire (up) position, a red dot is visible, indicating the pistol is ready to fire.

(ON SLIDE #6)

2) Firing Pin Block. The firing pin block rests in the firing pin notch and prevents movement of the firing pin until the trigger is pulled. As the trigger is pulled, the firing pin block moves up and out of the firing pin notch. This movement allows a round to be fired when the hammer strikes the firing pin.

(ON SLIDE #7)

3) Half-Cock Notch. The half-cock notch stops the forward movement of the hammer during a mechanical failure.



(ON SLIDE #8)

e. Functional Capabilities. When the service pistol is taken off safe, it can be fired in the single action and double action mode.

1) Single Action Mode. The single action mode is a functional capability of the pistol that allows the pistol to be fired when the hammer is cocked; single action requires the hammer to be cocked to the rear before the trigger is pulled. The hammer can be manually cocked or it can be mechanically cocked. The hammer is mechanically cocked after the first shot is fired.

2) Double Action Mode. The double action mode is a functional capability of the pistol that causes the hammer to move to the rear as the trigger is being pulled.

f. Cycle of Operation. Knowing the cycle of operation of the pistol will help the Marine to identify the cause of a stoppage should the pistol stop functioning. There are eight steps in the cycle of operation for the service pistol:

(ON SLIDE #9)

1) Firing. Once the decocking/safety lever is off and the trigger is pulled to the rear, the hammer falls on the firing pin striker, which strikes the primer and ignites the round.

(ON SLIDE #10)

2) Unlocking. As the slide assembly moves to the rear, the locking block rotates out of the notches in the slide.

(ON SLIDE #11)

3) Extracting. As the slide moves rearward, the extractor withdraws the cartridge case out of the chamber.

(ON SLIDE #12)

4) Ejecting. As the face of the slide passes over the



ejector, the case strikes the ejector and is knocked upward and outward through the chamber area.

(ON SLIDE #13)

5) Cocking. As the slide moves rearward, the hammer is pushed back allowing the sear to engage the hammer hooks, cocking the hammer to the rear and placing the pistol in the single action mode.

(ON SLIDE #14)

6) Feeding. The slide starts forward, pushed by the recoil spring. The face of the slide makes contact with the cartridge at the top of the magazine, stripping it from the magazine and pushing it toward the chamber.

(ON SLIDE #15)

7) Chambering. As the slide continues forward, it pushes the cartridge into the chamber.

(ON SLIDE #16)

8) Locking. As the slide assembly continues to move forward, the locking block lugs move into the locking block recesses on the right and left sides of the slide.

(ON SLIDE #17)

g. Ammunition. 9mm ball (NATO, M882) is the only ammunition authorized for the service pistol. For training purposes, dummy ammunition can be used, if available. A dummy round is identified by a hole drilled in its side and the absence of a primer. Ammunition must be cared for just as the pistol is maintained -- in a high state of readiness. To care for ammunition:

1) Keep ammunition dry and clean. If ammunition gets wet or dirty, wipe it off with a clean dry cloth.

2) Wipe off light corrosion as soon as it is discovered. Never use ammunition that is heavily corroded, dented, or has the projectile pushed in.

3) Do not expose ammunition to the direct rays of the sun for long periods of time.



4) Do not oil or grease ammunition. Dust or other abrasives that collect on greasy ammunition may cause damage to the operating parts of the pistol. Oiled cartridges produce excessive chamber pressure.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: Once the Marine understands the operational characteristics and capabilities of the service pistol, he must learn how to wear the gear properly. The proper placement of the gear will help ensure safety and aid the Marine in effectively handling and employing the weapon.

2. (5 MIN) WEARING OF PISTOL GEAR

DEMONSTRATION: (5 Min) Demonstrate wearing of gear. The demonstration requires (1) pistol, (2) magazines, (1) holster, and magazine pouches.

STUDENT ROLE: The students will be in a good position to view the demonstration and will hold all questions until prompted at the end of the demonstration.

INSTRUCTOR ROLE: The instructor(s) will conduct the demonstration. They will ensure that all students can view the demonstration and that the safety rules are followed at all times throughout. The instructor must Unload, Show Clear and let at least one other individual inspect the weapon and all magazines before commencing the demonstration.

1. **Safety Brief:** (From the ORAW) Brief the shooters on what to do if there is a mishap.

2. **Supervision and Guidance:** The instructor(s) will explain every step of the procedure/technique. The instructor(s) will demonstrate at half speed so all shooters can follow every step.

3. **Debrief:** The instructor(s) will provide overall feedback, guidance on any misconceptions, and review the learning points of the demonstration.



Pistol equipment should be worn as follows:

(ON SLIDE #18)

a. Holster. The holster consists of the holster and a leg and belt attachment device. A retention release button is located on the outboard side of the holster. The weapon is released from the holster by pushing the release button with the index finger.

1) The holster should be placed just forward on the belt or side of the leg. To check for proper placement of the holster, allow the strong arm to hang freely. The holster should be placed so the palm of the hand is centered on the holster just below the pistol grip to permit easy access to the pistol upon presentation.

2) Gross adjustments may be made to rotate the holster forward or back on the rig. To adjust the holster:

a) Lift up on the two locking tabs and rotate the holster adapter counter clockwise. Lift and remove the holster from the female adapter on the rig.

b) Place the holster adapter in the desired location, align the tabs, insert it into the female adapter, and rotate the holster clockwise until it clicks in place.

(ON SLIDE #19)

b. Magazine Pouch (Ammunition Pocket). Magazine pouches must have an external or internal retention device. The magazine pouch is attached to body armor or to the belt on the side opposite the holster, forward of the side in a position that best permits ready access with the support hand for reloads. A magazine should be stored in the magazine pouch with rounds down and pointed inboard.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: Before the Marine can learn to fire the service pistol effectively, he must become familiar with its operational features, capabilities, and nomenclature. This knowledge, combined with adherence to the four safety rules, provides the



Marine with the foundation he will need to employ the weapon safely and effectively in any combat situation.

OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS:

(1 MIN)

1. Respond to questions from the class.
2. Prompt Marines with questions to the class.
 - a. QUESTION: What are the three safety features of the service pistol?

ANSWER: The decocking/safety lever, firing pin block, and half-cock notch.
 - b. QUESTION: What ammunition is authorized for the service pistol?

ANSWER: 9mm ball, NATO M882. Dummy rounds may be used for training purposes.
 - c. QUESTION: Which mode of fire requires the hammer of the pistol to be cocked to the rear before the trigger is pulled?

ANSWER: Single action.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE: Ask Marines as many questions as necessary to ensure they fully understand the material presented in this lesson.

SUMMARY:

(1 MIN)

To employ the service pistol effectively, the Marine must have a basic understanding of the pistol and how it functions. This knowledge will provide the Marine with the foundation he will need to learn and develop pistol marksmanship skills.