

INFORMATION PAPER

C47
1 Nov 2018

Subject: Reinstating the Small Arms Weapons Instructor Course

1. Purpose. To provide Commanding General (CG) Training and Education Command (TECOM) with overview, considerations, and initial actions required to reinstate the Small Arms Weapons Instructor Course (SAWIC).

2. Major Points

a. 1995 to 2007: Small Arms Weapons Instructor Course (SAWIC) trained Marine Small Arms Weapons Instructors (EMOS 0932) in range design, small arms weapons instruction, range operations, development of small arms training plans, and familiarity with foreign weapons.

b. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 09XX Training and Readiness Manual rewrite process identified that emerging courses created redundancy with SAWIC's tasks; leading to declining participation. SAWIC was discontinued in September 2007.

c. The FY15/16 Combat Marksmanship Symposium (CMS) identified operational force shortfalls in: expeditionary range design, expeditionary range operations, and the development/execution of comprehensive small arms training plans.

d. The FY19 CMS and Infantry Operational Advisory Group 2-18 recognized the need for Small Arms Weapons Instructors across the Marine Air Ground Task Force, primarily within non-ground units, to safely and efficiently establish and conduct expeditionary live fire ranges. The CMS recommended Weapons Training Battalion (WTBn) convene an operational planning team (OPT) to conduct capability gap analysis, requirements validation, and course development and redesign for reinstating SAWIC.

3. Discussion

a. WTBn current staffing status is 'pro-share' and would not support a large increase in throughput. Adding an additional requirement without an increase in personnel is only supportable if the total number of annual Combat Marksmanship Coach (CMC), Combat Marksmanship Trainer (CMT), and Foreign Weapons Instructor (FWIC) courses are reduced.

(1) Marksmanship Training Company (MTC), WTBn is currently manned at 66% of its T/O; MTC personnel are responsible for the instruction of the CMC, CMT and FWIC courses.

(2) In addition to the these courses, MTC personnel support all Annual Rifle and Pistol Training (ART/APT) for Marines located in the National Capital Region and the Entry Level Marksmanship training for the Basic Officers Course (BOC).

(3) MTC conducts (7) CMC courses, (3) CMT courses, and (8) FWIC courses compounded with (7) Annual Rifle (ART) and Pistol Training (APT) and (7) BOC Marksmanship Training.

(4) Additionally, Gunners are currently the only Marines that possess the resident knowledge to teach the skills required for SAWIC. In order to establish an instructor cadre, the vacant Gunner billet at MTC would need to be filled to develop and supervise the instructors.

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b. Reinstating SAWIC would fulfill a training gap not provided through CMC, CMT, and FWIC, such as expeditionary range design and training on all T/O weapons to include light, medium, and heavy machineguns.

c. The reinstatement of SAWIC should not be focused toward a specific community, but operationally driven with the intent to have "Gunner-like" expertise at a lower level throughout all communities.

4. Action. No later than (NLT) 16 November 2018, Training Command (TRNGCMD), in conjunction with WTBn, convenes and oversees an operational planning team (OPT) to conduct capability gap analysis, requirements validation, course development and redesign.

a. The OPT will identify necessary course cancellations and non-manpower resources if required to execute redesigned SAWIC courses with existing manpower structure.

b. The OPT will identify all resource requirements, to include additional manpower structure, in order to execute redesigned SAWIC without cancelling existing courses.

c. NLT 19 December 2018, CG TRNGCMD will provide an in progress review to CG TECOM.

d. Two courses of action will be prepared for briefing no later than 15 January 2019.

7 Nov C47
~~24 Oct 2018~~

Subject: Reinstating the Small Arms Weapons Instructor Course

1. Purpose. ~~Obtain Training and Education Command (TECOM) Commanding General (CG) decision to reinstate the Small Arms Weapons Instructor Course (SAWIC).~~

To provide CG Tecom with overview, considerations and initial actions required to reinstate the Small Arms...

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d. The FY19 CMS and Infantry Operational Advisory Group 2-18 recognized the need for Small Arms Weapons Instructors across the Marine Air Ground Task Force, primarily within non-ground units, to safely and efficiently establish and conduct expeditionary live fire ranges. The CMS recommended Weapons Training Battalion (WTBn) convene an operational planning team (OPT) to conduct capability gap analysis, requirements validation, and course development and redesign for reinstating SAWIC.

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(4) Additionally, Gunners are currently the only Marines that possess the resident knowledge to teach the skills required for SAWIC. In order to establish an instructor cadre, the vacant Gunner billet at MTC would need to be filled to develop and supervise the instructors.

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b. Reinstating SAWIC would fulfill a training gap not provided through CMC, CMT, and FWIC, such as expeditionary range design and training on all T/O weapons to include light, medium, and heavy machineguns.

c. The reinstatement of SAWIC should not be focused toward a specific community, but operationally driven with the intent to have "Gunner-like" expertise at a lower level throughout all communities.

4. Recommendation. Convene a Training Command (TRNGCMD) ~~led~~ ^{convenes and oversees an} ~~WTBn~~ ^{led} operational planning team (OPT) to conduct capability gap analysis, requirements validation, course development and redesign. ~~The OPT will provide two courses of action (COA) no later than 15 January 2019 with an In-Progress Review brief to CG TECOM no later than 19 December 2018.~~

^{The OPT} a. ~~COA 1~~ will identify necessary course cancellations and non-manpower resources if required to execute redesigned SAWIC courses with existing manpower structure.

^{The OPT} b. ~~COA 2~~ will identify all resource requirements, to include additional manpower structure, in order to execute redesigned SAWIC without cancelling existing courses.

c. ~~CG, TRNGCMD recommends:~~

d. ~~CG, TECOM decision:~~

CG, TECOM decision:

Approval _____

Disapproval _____

Other _____

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Other _____

(c.) No later than 19 Dec 18 ^{CG} TRNGCMD will provide an in progress review to CG TECOM. ^(d.) No fewer than two courses of action will be prepared for briefing no later than 15 January 2019.