



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

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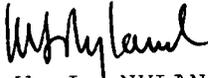
MROC DECISION MEMORANDUM 38-2003

Subj: MINE COUNTERMEASURES (MCM) WORKING GROUP CHARTER

Ref: (a) MRBSM 05-2003 of 02 December 2002
(b) MROCSM 17-2003 of 10 February 2003

Encl: (1) Mine Countermeasures Working Group Charter

1. Purpose. To obtain MROC approval to adopt the Mine Countermeasures Working Group Charter. Enclosure (1) is the proposed MCM Working Group Charter.
2. MROC Staffing Results. All Advocates concurred.
3. Decision. The MROC approves the MCM Working Group Charter.


W. L. NYLAND

CHARTER

MARINE CORPS MINE COUNTERMEASURES (MCM) WORKING GROUP

1. The Marine Requirements Oversight Council (MROC) hereby charters the Marine Corps Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Working Group. Within the context of this charter the terms “mine warfare” and “mine countermeasures” refer to the employment and neutralization of both mines and obstacles.

2. Background

a. Mine warfare poses perhaps the most significant challenge to the Navy/Marine Corps team’s ability to conduct Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare (EMW) -- from the stern gate, over water, across the beach, and to objectives ashore.

b. The Marine Corps depends upon the Navy to field the family of systems required to detect and avoid (when possible) or breach (when necessary) Very Shallow Water (VSW), Surf Zone (SZ) and Beach Zone (BZ) mines and obstacles. Marine forces crossing a beach must be delivered on or beyond the beach in a manner that allows deployment and subsequent movement ashore. It is important to note that, even when the Naval Service achieves its goal of a sea-based ship-to-objective expeditionary fighting force, certain forces, equipment and supplies will, in most cases, have to cross the beach. There will not be enough airlift and surface maneuver space, in most situations, to go over and around landing beaches fouled by VSW/SZ/BZ mines and obstacles. The Navy’s current capability in this key mission area is inadequate – particularly in the surf zone.

c. Once ashore, the Marine Corps has an absolute requirement to ensure the MAGTF’s mobility through mines and obstacles employed individually or as part of an integrated defensive barrier plan. The Marine Corps’ current ground MCM capability is not adequate to meet the MAGTF’s mobility requirements. The capability gaps are several, spanning the MCM capability spectrum: detect, breach, clear, proof, mark, and information dissemination.

d. The Marine Corps’ most critical MCM capability gaps are:

- 1) Stand-off minefield detection (surface and buried)
- 2) Close-in mine detection (especially non-metallic)
- 3) Minefield/obstacle belt assault breaching
- 4) Tactical small area clearance

e. The Marine Corps’ current MCM programs of record are the Assault Breacher Vehicle (ABV), the Coastal Battlefield Reconnaissance and Analysis (COBRA) sensor, and the Advanced Mine Detector (AMD). These systems, if successfully fielded, will address some MCM capability gaps, but will not provide a comprehensive “family of systems” that provides a credible, comprehensive, and tactically effective ground counter-mine and counter-obstacle capability.

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f. The effort to achieve this capability has been hampered by a number of factors. Chief among them is the absence of a MCM master plan that creates the framework necessary to guide MCM-related efforts and take the Marine Corps to the future. The formulation and execution of a comprehensive Marine Corps MCM Master Plan is a priority.

3. **Vision.** By 2015 the MAGTF's mine countermeasures capabilities will support the execution of all aspects of Expeditionary Warfare, enabling the Marine Corps to remain the Nation's expeditionary force of choice.

4. **Mission.** The MCM Working Group will write and oversee the execution of a Marine Corps MCM Master Plan designed to provide and maintain an effective ground counter-mine and counter-obstacle capability.

5. **Work Effort and Products.** The MCM Working Group will:

- a. Develop the Marine Corps MCM Master Plan
- b. Obtain MROC approval of the MCM Master Plan
- c. Oversee execution of the MCM Master Plan
- d. Update and revise the MCM Master Plan as required
- e. Brief MROC annually and as required to report MCM Master Plan progress and seek approval of recommended updates and revisions

6. **Scope.** The MCM Working Group will:

- a. Develop a comprehensive plan that addresses all MCM-related issues across the Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership Development, Personnel, and Facilities (DOTMLPF) spectrum.
- b. Identify MCM capability gaps and make specific recommendations to fill them.
- c. Focus upon MCM to support mobility. However, when unifying factors such as doctrine, organization, and equipment link them, address counter-mobility and survivability issues as well.
- d. Analyze and make recommendations concerning the direction and scope of future experimentation and S&T efforts related to MCM.
- e. Examine and make recommendations concerning the Marine Corps' interface with the Navy, particularly with respect to assuring the effective transition of MCM responsibilities and leveraging Navy MCM systems with Marine Corps ground MCM applicability.

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f. Examine and make recommendations concerning the Marine Corps' interface with the Army, particularly with respect to interfacing with the Army's Counter-Mine/Counter-Booby Trap Center and leveraging Army MCM systems with Marine Corps ground MCM applicability.

g. Examine and make recommendations concerning the Marine Corps' interface with the Air Force, particularly with respect to airfield-related MCM issues.

h. Conform its recommendations, to the extent possible, to action timeframes associated with the budget formulation cycle and upcoming Future Year Defense Plans.

7. Membership

a. Working Group members will be a field grade officer or civilian equivalent from the following organizations:

- 1) Deputy Commandant for Combat Development
- 2) Deputy Commandant for Aviation
- 3) Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies and Operations
- 4) Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics
- 5) Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources
- 6) Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs
- 7) Commanding General, Training and Education Command
- 8) Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory
- 9) Commanding General, Marine Corps Systems Command
- 10) Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Engineer School
- 11) Director, Expeditionary Force Development Center
- 12) Director, Doctrine Division
- 13) Director, Total Force Structure Division
- 14) Director, Equipment Requirements Division
- 15) Commanding General, MARFORLANT
- 16) Commanding General, MARFORPAC
- 17) Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division, OPNAV(N75)

b. Representation by Marine Corps and other military/civilian organizations not listed above will be requested from time to time for matters under their purview.

c. It is anticipated that the MCM Working Group will meet monthly during the MCM Master Plan development process, and quarterly thereafter.

8. Lead Agent

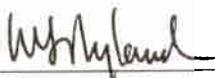
a. The Deputy Commandant, PP&O has the lead in developing the MCM Master Plan. His representative in the MCM Working Group is the MCM Officer, Expeditionary Policies Branch, Operations Division, PP&O.

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b. The Lead Agent representative will:

- 1) Provide administrative support to Working Group members.
- 2) Maintain liaison among Working Group members, coordinate meetings, and ensure briefing materials are disseminated in a timely manner.
- 3) Document proceedings and promulgate minutes.
- 4) Draft, staff, revise, and prepare the final draft of Marine Corps MCM Master Plan.
- 5) Present the proposed Master Plan to the MROC for approval.



(Signature Block)

4.4.03

(Date)