ITB Research Brief to DACOWITS

Col Mayer (TECOM, HQMC)

ITB Research

- The Committee requests a briefing from the Marine Corps on the status and results of the ITB experiment, to include how the USMC expects to use the experiment in deciding whether to recommend that any MOSs or units remain closed to women. Accordingly, please include in the briefing information on the process by which the ITB standards that all ITB trainees are expected to meet were validated as reflecting the “knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary” for service members serving in infantry enlisted MOSs or units, as required by Chairman Dempsey’s January 9, 2013 Women in the Service Implementation Plan.

Standards Development and Review

- Systems Approach to Training (SAT) is the process for standards and training development in the Marine Corps
  - Occupational and operational standards are reviewed and validated on a cyclical basis - generally every three years
  - Review process maintains currency of established Training and Readiness Manuals and MOS schools Programs of Instruction (POI)
  - Accounts for advances in war-fighting technology and equipment, lessons learned from the operating forces for tactics, techniques, and procedures, and input from the schoolhouses

Infantry Training Battalion (ITB)

Mission: Assess performance of female enlisted volunteers at the ITB, School of Infantry – East (SOI-E) in order to derive institutional baseline data that informs potential policy decisions on the assignment of female Marines to the infantry occupational field

Key Research Points:

- Research period covers one-year (Sep 13 - Aug 14)
- Involves the 0300 (Basic Rifleman) / 0311 (Marine Infantryman) POIs
- Volunteers evaluated against existing ITB standards
- Data Collection
  - Propensity and reasoning for volunteering (or not)
  - Performance on graded events
  - Attrition rates

Current Status:

- First 3 females graduated ITB on 21 November
- 49 volunteers currently in ITB training

Questions?