

How to properly change inventory from commander to commander

By Capt. Matthew Johnson

In January of 2017, the Quartermaster School, Logistics Training Department, began work on an initiative to create a Property Accountability Virtual Playbook (PAVPB); a computer-based training resource that promotes property accountability and improves Army readiness.

Army leaders have the responsibility to achieve and sustain Army readiness, and to ensure Soldiers have the right types and quantities of equipment needed to fight and win on the battlefield. The Department of the Army's excess equipment and Financial Liability Investigations of Property Loss (FLIPLs) derived from inventories indicating that the Army is attacking the problem, but that challenges remain with Soldier knowledge of property accountability principles.

To address the knowledge gap, the U.S. Army Quartermaster School assembled a team of experts spanning several different organizations to design and develop an interactive training product, the PAVPB, with an overall objective of improving property accountability across the Army.

Interactive training

The PAVPB is an online computer-based interactive virtual 3D training resource designed to teach users about property accountability by demonstrating the proper way to conduct a change of command inventory. The target audience for the PAVPB is non-logistician leaders across the Army from commanders to sub-hand receipt holders.

The change of command is one of the most important types of inventories conducted at the tactical level. It is the one time that a company commander will be fully dedicated to property accountability for all the equipment in the unit. It forms the baseline inventory process for not only change of command, but all types of inventories to include cyclic and sensitive items. The user will learn about the people, property and processes that are encountered during the pre-inventory, inventory and post-inventory phases of a change of command inventory.



The Property Accountability Virtual Playbook (PACPB) displays virtual representations of an M2 .50 caliber machine gun, an M250B machine gun and an M110 sniper weapon system. Soldiers attending the U.S. Army Quartermaster School participate in the computer-based training. (Courtesy illustration)

Resources

PAVPB users will participate in interactive inventories of a Stryker ICV, Abrams Tank and three different weapons systems. It includes tactics, techniques and procedures and best practices that have been collected from units and subject matter experts across the Army. It explains the roles of the officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers who are involved in the change of command process and work to help ensure property accountability. With the Army's transition from the Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced to the Global Combat Support System – Army (GCSS-Army), the PAVPB will familiarize the user with new terminology inherent to GCSS-Army. It will also link users to valuable property accountability and Command Supply Discipline Program resources and references to assist all who have responsibility for property.

Collaboration

The collective efforts of numerous organizations, to include the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Ga., the Ordnance School at Fort Lee, Va., and GCSS-Army developers in Midlothian, Va., yielded impressive results toward the creation of the final product, the PAVPB. Great care was taken to ensure the program is user friendly and does not require CAC card access to use. It's also adaptable for mobile versions and touch screen deployment in the future. The PAVPB can be published on multiple platforms to include Sustainment One Stop, Army Training Network and additional public facing websites. After receiving feedback from the field and incorporating the results of beta testing, PAVPB was made available across the Army. The Property Accountability Virtual Playbook provides Soldiers with a valuable resource that delivers training on property accountability and promotes Army readiness. It can be accessed at <http://www.cascom.army.mil/index.htm>.

Capt. Matthew Johnson is the Logistics Training Department deputy director for the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va.