M4 comments:
- Soldier ratings highly positive and increasing
- Preferred weapon due to compact size and modularity
- Some problems with magazine reliability

M249 SAW comments:
- Soldier ratings moderately positive and increasing
- Soldiers like its high rate of fire and target effects – vehicle/personnel
- Soldiers like the SAW improvements: shorter barrel; collapsible stock
- Weapon age has created reliability, durability, & maintainability issues – significant overhaul program underway

M203 comments:
- Soldier ratings moderately positive but decreasing
- Need better sights day & night
- Trigger and safety very susceptible to failure from sand/dust/dirt

M9 Pistol comments:
- Soldier ratings neutral and decreasing
- Pistol & magazines have frequent malfunctions
- Does not have enough “stopping power”
- Sights are inadequate
M240B Medium Machine Gun comments:
- Soldier ratings consistently highly positive
- Great rate of fire and target effects
- Good durability

M2 Heavy Machine Gun comments:
- Soldier ratings consistently highly positive
- Great performance; durable and reliable
- Failures due to improper headspace & timing

Mk19 Grenade Machine Gun comments:
- Soldier ratings moderately positive but decreasing
- Great weapon in open terrain
- Limited in the close urban fight (ROE, arming distance, dud rates)

Sniper weapons comments:
- Soldier ratings highly positive
- M24 -- need higher rate of fire
- M107 – effective; heavy; needs improved scope & suppressor
Overall Small Arms Strategy

• **Train the force**
  – Sustain increased frequency and realism of training
  – Resource training support and facilities

• **Sustain the current small arms fleet**
  – Resource rebuild & refurbishment to sustain the current fleet
  – Produce weapons to fill wartime and transformation needs
  – Product improve existing systems as able

• **Modernize the force**
  – Develop the next generation of weapons and ammunition
  – Accelerate new systems when ready
Weapons Development Strategy

Near Term (0-2 years)
Sustain through refurbish/rebuild, product improve, leverage off-the-shelf technology

- Rebuild M249s
- Increase M4 Issue
- Grenade Launcher
- Modular Shotgun

Mid Term (2-5 years)
Modernize by spiraling new systems against key gaps, initiating a common approach

- Light Machine Gun PIP
- Personal Defense Weapons (PDW)

Far Term (5+ years)
Integrate new technologies; reduce Soldier load, improve lethality, and improve small unit flexibility

- Counter-defilade technologies
- Commonality / Family Concept
- Light Weight Small Arms Technology ATO (Caseless/CTA Ammo)
Individual Small Arms Strategy

Sustained fleet ... with added spiraled capabilities ... enables the Future Force.

- M249 SAW (w/ Product Improvements)
- M16A2/A4/M4 MWS
- M9/M11 Pistol
- M203
- 12 Ga Pump Shotgun
- Light Machine Gun PIP
- M4 MWS Sights & Accessories
- PDW Role Weapons
- Grenade Launcher
- Modular Shotgun

Future Weapon Family with Advanced Capabilities

Family Concept Remains a Desired Future Capability
Crew Served Small Arms Strategy

Future Crew-Served Weapon Capabilities (Pending Further Analysis)

- M60
- M240B
- M2
- MK19
- M107
- M24
- M2A1 PIP
- M240E6 PIP
- M240H
- Semi-Automatic Sniper Rifle
Small Arms Sight Strategy

Near Term (0-2 years)
Sustain: Field existing & commercially available solutions

Mid Term (2-5 years)
Modernize: improved capabilities, common batteries

Far Term (5+ years)
Integrated capabilities, improved power sources

1x Close Combat Optic (Rifle)
4x Machine Gun Optic
4x Rifle Combat Optic

Multi-Purpose Sight 1x-4x (Rifle & LMG)

Day/Night Sight with Fire Control

Current Thermal Weapon Sights

Conceptual Fuzed I2/Thermal Weapon Sight
Small Arms Ammunition Strategy

**Near Term (0-2 years)**
Assess off-the-shelf solutions

- Commercial 5.56mm Assessment
- M1001 40mm Flechette

**Mid Term (2-5 years)**
Product improve within existing ammunition

- 5.56mm PIP
- 40mm PIP, 40mm Breaching Munition
- XM1022 .50 sniper

**Far Term (5+ years)**
Improved performance, longer range & lighter weight systems

- Bursting Munitions
- Extended Range Non-lethal Munitions
- Light Weight Technologies

*Joint Service Wound Ballistics Studies*
Areas of Interest

- Weapon Product Improvement
- Sights & Fire Control
- Suppressors
- Personal Defense Weapons
- Counter-Defilade Technologies
- Sniper Accessory Kit Items
- Reduce Size, Weight, Power
Points of Contact

MAJ GLENN DEAN*
Chief, Small Arms
deang@ 706-545-1910

Individual Weapons
Mr. Charley Pavlick
Individual & Specialty
Weapons
pavlickc@ 706-545-5039

SFC Bill Harper
Ind Wpns NCO
M230/XM320/CQB
bill.harper1@ 706-545-1078

Crew-Served Weapons
Mr. Troy Harris
Crew-Served
Weapons
ACSW/M2/E50/RCO
harrist@ 706-545-6978

SSG Robert Jones
CSW NCO
M249/M240/Mk19/RFI
robert.e.jones@ 706-545-4867

Ammunition
Mr. John Amick
Small Arms Ammunition
9mm – 40mm
amicki@ 706-545-4867

Mr. Bryan Newman
Soldier Munitions
Grenade/Smoke/Claymore
newmanb@ 706-545-4867

Future Technology
Mr. Olsen
SEP & ATO, JSSAP
SASS/Suppressors/
LSAT ATO
olsenc@ 706-545-2459

Mr. Doug Hughes
Electronics & Special
Developments
Night Vision
hughesd@ 706-545-4950

Email addresses: [name]@benning.army.mil  * Replaced by MAJ Garret Verser effective 2 JUN 06.  verserg@