

SWOAC: What it is and is Not? - Strategic Communication.
by CW5 Matthew Anderson, QM Regimental Chief Warrant Officer

Matthew Anderson writes: Team Warrant, 13 DEC 2007 (1518 hrs)

-- tremendous off line responses to my last post relative to the Senior Warrant Officer Advisory Council (SWOAC). It is apparent to me that many are deeply thirsty for information on what is the make-up and intent of SWOAC and what are we working on.

-- SWOAC represents YOU! We vote on non-proponent (MOS) related topics or cohort-wide issues effecting the complete population of warrants regardless of MOS, or COMPO.

-- We bring a lot of great ideas and topics from our Proponents (typically GO's) and of course from conversation and concerns that you the supported warrants bring to us. What is the message? Write your Regimental Chief Warrant Officer (RCWO) or Chief Warrant Officer of the Branch (CWOB) directly and tell him/her in clear, professional military style what your concern is!

-- Recommended format to let us know your concern so we can better service and address your comment. IDR or Issue; Discussion; Recommendation.

-- Recommendation. Yes! What is you and your peer group thinking would be a fix-it? Cite training POI, cite, DA PAM or REG. Help us, Help you!

-- When should you send the note. Keep the "cards and letters" flowing. SWOAC meets twice a year and we have a great deal of staff work to work the document on your concern prior to presenting to the forum. If it is important to you we will do what we can to get it discussed.

-- Who should you send it to? Send it to your RCWO, or CWOB. You can check typically your Branch Professional Bulletin or go to the home page of your branch. There you will find the contact information.

-- But, I sent it before and feel it did not get addressed. Then send it to me. Regardless of MOS. State your Branch and I will ensure it gets to your Branch WO Boss and the Chairman of SWOAC.

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-- But I am with the Guard or Reserves! Point? We have the CCWO for both Guard and Reserves at SWOAC and frankly they are some of the most eloquent and vocal members. Send it. Waiting on you!

-- What is the process to actually see change in my lifetime? Good question. Generally (there are exceptions), the SWOAC team will review...weigh pros and cons (and please remember we have ALL the enabling arms there...warrants from the offices of: G1, HRC, G3, TRADOC, CSA, Guard, Reserves, each of the 15 Proponents, WOCC, SWOAC Chair and co-chair.

-- After educated discussion the voting members will be asked to vote. Vote is taken. Staffing work then commences, and the topic is briefed to the CAC CDR; TRADOC CDR, Army G3, VCSA, CSA and/or sundry staff and command elements which are appropriate to the topic task!

-- There are also critical forums where the topic may very well enter into discussion: Council of Colonels, General Officer Steering Groups and key one-on-one desk side which each RCWO and CWOB presents to his/her Proponent.

-- In some instances it requires time to enact these changes. Why? Because, frankly the Army is a big Organization and many elements of training, operations, money, guidance, directive, POI development etc has to be touched, briefed and vetted. It may also include legislative change (LAW) and that can take some time too!

-- However, nothing ventured...nothing gained!!

Keeps the cards and letters coming!

Let your RCWO and CWOB know what your concerns are and let us do our jobs to address them.

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