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PUBLICATION

EXAM-TM40F-PRE



PRE-TEST — SL 4F: MISSION COMMAND

Maven Smart System (MSS) — USAREUR-AF

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE AND AFRICA
(USAREUR-AF)
Wiesbaden, Germany

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PRE-TEST — SL 4F: MISSION COMMAND

MAVEN SMART SYSTEM (MSS) — USAREUR-AF

Field	Detail
Course	SL 4F: Mission Command WFF Track
Form	Pre-Test
Level	SL 4F (WFF Track)
Audience	G3/S3 staff, battle captains, XOs, CDRs; prerequisite: SL 1 + SL 2 + SL 3 complete
Time Allowed	20 minutes
Passing Score	N/A — diagnostic only

INSTRUCTIONS

This diagnostic assessment establishes your baseline knowledge before training. Your score does not affect course eligibility. Answer honestly — results help the instructor tailor instruction to identified gaps.

SECTION 1 — MULTIPLE CHOICE

Circle the letter of the best answer. (2 points each)

1. The primary purpose of the Common Operating Picture (COP) in Mission Command is to:

- A. Provide all echelons a shared understanding of the operational environment based on reported status
- B. Automatically generate course of action recommendations for the commander
- C. Replace the Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield (IPB) process
- D. Record all orders and annexes for post-mission review

2. A Commander's Critical Information Requirement (CCIR) is best described as:

A. A data feed that automatically updates the COP in real time B. Any piece of intelligence information rated as Priority Intelligence Requirement (PIR) C. A standing report submitted daily by all subordinate units D. Information the commander needs to make a critical decision or take a decisive action

3. In the context of MSS, "data currency" refers to:

A. The cost of a data subscription in Foundry B. How recently the data displayed was last updated from its source C. Whether the data meets the unit's classification requirements D. The number of records in a dataset

4. Which of the following best describes the relationship between MSS and the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP)?

A. MSS replaces MDMP by automating course of action development B. MSS is used instead of MDMP for time-constrained operations C. MSS provides data and visualization support within the operations process — it does not replace staff judgment or MDMP D. MDMP is only used when MSS is unavailable in degraded operations

5. A CCIR configured in MSS alerts the battle captain when equipment readiness drops below 70%. The alert fires, but the underlying readiness data is 12 hours old. The battle captain should:

A. Immediately brief the commander that readiness has dropped below 70% B. Dismiss the alert since the data is stale and recheck tomorrow C. Disable the CCIR and wait for fresh data before reconfiguring it D. Verify data currency, contact the source unit to confirm current status, and characterize the uncertainty when briefing the commander

6. During a CP displacement, which action is most important to coordinate with the S6 before moving?

A. Archiving all MSS dashboard screenshots to a local drive B. Ensuring MSS network connectivity continuity so the COP does not experience data gaps during displacement C. Deleting all temporary user accounts from the training environment D. Exporting all current CCIR configurations to a PDF for manual tracking

7. The difference between "reported status" and "assessed status" in a commander product is:

A. Reported status is what the data shows has been submitted; assessed status is the commander's judgment about actual conditions, which may differ B. Reported status is classified; assessed status is unclassified C. Reported status is real-time; assessed status is from the previous reporting cycle D. They are synonyms and can be used interchangeably in a BUA product

8. Which of the following is a correct OPSEC procedure for distributing an MSS BUA product?

A. Distribute via personal email to all attendees before the briefing B. Screenshot the dashboard and post to the unit's open SharePoint site C. Share via MSS Workshop with read-only permissions set for authorized accounts; apply correct classification marking before distribution D. Print and distribute physical copies without classification markings since the data is training data

SECTION 2 — SHORT ANSWER

Answer in 2–4 sentences. (5 points each)

9. You are a battle captain preparing for the morning BUA. You notice that the readiness data on the COP has not updated since 1800 yesterday. What actions do you take before the BUA, and what — if anything — do you brief to the commander?

(Write your answer below)

10. Describe what information you would expect to see in each section of a properly formatted BUA read-ahead product. What element, if missing, would automatically disqualify the product?

(Write your answer below)

SECTION 3 — SCENARIO (10 POINTS)

Read the following scenario and answer the question.

Your commander has verbally stated the following priorities at the last planning sync: "I need to know the moment any battalion falls below 75% equipment readiness, and I need an alert if we get any significant contact event inside the training AOR." You have MSS access and permission to configure CCIRs.

11. Describe how you would configure these two CCIRs in MSS. For each CCIR, specify: (a) the data source you would select, (b) the threshold or condition, and (c) who you would route the notification to and why.

(Write your answer below)

Total points: 30. Diagnostic only — score does not affect course admission.

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ANSWER KEY — INSTRUCTOR USE ONLY

Do not distribute to students. Use to identify baseline gaps and tailor Day 1 instruction accordingly.

Multiple Choice:

1. A — The COP provides all echelons a shared understanding of the operational environment based on reported status; it does not generate recommendations or replace IPB.
2. D — A CCIR is information the commander needs to make a critical decision or take a decisive action; it is not a data feed, a standing report, or limited to intelligence information.
3. B — Data currency refers to how recently the displayed data was last updated from its source; not cost, classification, or record count.
4. C — MSS provides data and visualization support within the operations process; it does not replace staff judgment, generate COAs, or substitute for MDMP.
5. D — Verify data currency, contact the source unit to confirm current status, and characterize the uncertainty when briefing the commander; do not brief stale data as fact, dismiss the alert, or disable the CCIR.
6. B — Ensuring MSS network connectivity continuity is the most important action before CP displacement; loss of COP continuity during displacement creates a command and control gap.
7. A — Reported status is what the data shows has been submitted; assessed status is the commander's judgment about actual conditions, which may differ; they are not synonyms and must not be combined without explicit labeling.
8. C — Correct OPSEC: share via MSS Workshop with read-only permissions for authorized accounts; apply correct classification marking before distribution. Options A, B, and D are distribution control violations.

Short Answer Guidance:

SA-9. Full credit (5 pts): Escalate to the data steward and S6 to diagnose the pipeline failure; attempt to reach subordinate unit S4s by primary comms to obtain a current verbal readiness update with a DTG; during the BUA, brief with an explicit caveat: "Readiness display is current as of 1800 yesterday — data feed has not updated since that time. Current assessed readiness is [X] based on [verbal reports / extrapolation from last reporting cycle]." Do not brief stale data as current to the commander. Partial credit (3 pts): identifies the need to caveat but does not describe escalation or how to characterize uncertainty to the commander.

SA-10. Full credit (5 pts): A properly formatted BUA read-ahead has four sections: (1) readiness status by element with C-ratings and data-as-of; (2) operational situation summary covering key events since last BUA and CCIR status; (3) intelligence summary with threat activity and PIR status; (4) next 24-hour outlook with planned activities and CCIRs to watch; the element that would automatically disqualify the product is absence of data-as-of timestamps — without timestamps, the commander cannot assess the currency of any displayed information and may make decisions on stale data. Partial credit (3 pts): correctly describes three of four sections; or identifies disqualifying element without describing sections.

Scenario Guidance:

Q-11. Full credit (10 pts): Must address both CCIRs with all three elements (a/b/c) for each.

Readiness CCIR — battalion below 75%: (a) LOGSTAT equipment readiness reporting dataset; (b) threshold: reported readiness for any battalion drops below 75% in the most recent LOGSTAT submission; (c) route to CDR (primary decision authority for readiness actions) and XO (action officer for recovery and follow-up).

Contact event CCIR — significant contact in AOR: (a) operational reporting dataset — significant activity (SIGACT) or contact report feed; (b) condition: any event categorized as "significant contact" or above appears within the training AOR boundary polygon; (c) route to CDR and S3 — CDR is the reaction decision authority; S3 manages operations and synchronization of the response.

Partial credit (6 pts): one CCIR described correctly with all three elements; second CCIR partial or missing routing justification. Minimum acceptable: data source, threshold/condition, and routing for at least one CCIR.

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