

## ***Combat-Related Equipment***

From the CENTCOM requirements, we identified three types of combat-related equipment necessary to complete the CENTCOM unit training requirements: wheeled vehicles, crew-served weapons, and the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS). For a complete listing of the equipment included in the scope of this audit, see Appendix A.

High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs) are tactical vehicles that can be configured in numerous ways to carry troops, armament, or shelter. Several variations of the HMMWVs include unarmored, armored, and up-armored models. For our audit, we reviewed unarmored models, such as the M998 and M1097; armored models, such as the M1025 and M1026; and up-armored models, such as the M1114 and M1151. Up-armored HMMWVs have increased armor plus blast protection. Because of its blast protection, the up-armored HMMWV is a key asset in the ongoing security and stabilization operations in OIF.

Other armored wheeled vehicles include improvised explosive device-resistant or ambush-protected vehicles and mine detection vehicles, such as the Buffalo (or Mine Protection Clearance Vehicle), Cougar, Husky, and Meerkat vehicles. For example, the Buffalos are considered counter-improvised explosive device equipment because they can identify, detect, and remove live ordnance, using robotic arms and iron claws. Both NTC and JRTC maintain prepositioned fleets of wheeled vehicles for training. FORSCOM regulations require units training at the CTCs to use the prepositioned fleet when possible.

Crew-served weapons are various lightweight and heavy weapons used during combat operations. They include machine guns, grenade launchers, sniper systems, and remote weapon systems. Army regulations do not require NTC or JRTC to maintain a prepositioned stock of crew-served weapons for training. Although NTC maintains a pool of crew-served weapons, units generally brought their own crew-served weapons to NTC in order to train on the same weapons they would use in theater. Therefore, we did not evaluate whether units had enough crew-served weapons for training.

SINCGARS are secure, reliable radio systems with voice and data capability that are used to support command and control operations. SINCGARS have jam-resistant features and provide interoperable communications between surface and airborne command and control assets. SINCGARS sets include radio mounts, antennas, radio kits, and speakers. Army policy does not address SINCGARS for NTC, but for JRTC, it states that HMMWVs in the prepositioned fleet at JRTC are to be equipped with mounts for the SINCGARS. Units, however, are required to bring their own radios. Neither JRTC nor NTC maintains a prepositioned stock of complete SINCGARS sets. Therefore, we did not evaluate whether units had enough SINCGARS for training.