

Derrick Lee

The Quartermaster Culture of accountability is a critical component for fighting and winning the nation's wars. The principles of sustainment, as defined in FM 4-0, provide a framework for all echelons of command to develop successful, sustainable logistical support in a large scale combat operational (LSCO) environment. Additionally publications such as FM 6-22 and FM 7-0, provide detailed components of leadership and soldier attributes that support the development of highly trained and disciplined formations. The synergy between the different levels of the QM culture of Accountability is Paramount.

The system level of accountability (meso) is driven by the sustainment principles of integration, anticipation, responsiveness, simplicity, economy, survivability, continuity, and improvisation (FM 4-0). The institutional accountability at this level provides a framework to lower echelons that paves the road for sustaining warfighting functions. The analysis of strategic data enables decisions to be made, and pertinent information to be distributed, further enhancing discipline throughout to QM Corp.

Leaders at the macro level of accountability are charged with understanding the guidance, scope, and direction of the meso level. Leaders develop leaders through systematic, evidence based practices as defined in FM 6-22.

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Commanders establish training guidance to support the METL of higher echelons sustainment needs. At this level of accountability, Leaders are held accountable for instilling discipline while refining and honing technical and tactical proficiency.

At the micro level, Soldiers are learning and applying critical warfighting functions. This is the foundational level of accountability where trust is built, and discipline is paramount.

Initial entry Soldiers receive basic skills and technical proficiency at the institutional learning domain. Once arriving at home station the macro (leader) level is responsible for operational learning domains, and skills. Instructors play a critical role in cultivating Soldiers who are stewards of the profession, and who display unwavering technical proficiency in their respective warfighting functions.

As an instructor for the 92F Petroleum Supply Specialist course, I am responsible for not only ensuring my students demonstrate mastery of their MOS critical tasks, but also that they develop the ability to critically think. I do this by incorporating Operational Environment variables into the course. Changing certain variables while conducting Drill + Practice tasks, not only changes operational scenarios, however it also forces the student to adjust, adapt, and overcome further enhancing their critical thinking abilities.



There is not a "one size fits all" method for fighting and winning our nations wars, just as there is not one way to sustain accountability through the QM corp. Many variables are in play starting with the individual Soldier, doctrine, organization framework and capabilities. Given the amount of systems and processes in play, leaders and specifically instructors must engrain the ability to creatively and critically think into every Soldier. Every leader within QM corp is responsible for their piece of the pie. Leaders must be educated on the direction of the system so they can effectively shape, mold, and guide the Soldier. This alone is why the leader role in accountability can never waiver or fail as it is the glue that holds QM culture of accountability together.

Trust between instructors and students is built through rigorous tasks, while developing technical proficiency. The principles of sustainment illustrate the dynamic ever changing nature of our job, and emphasize the importance and necessity for well rounded, highly qualified, dynamic and versatile, Soldiers. Instructors are the catalyst of information at the institutional level that pave the highway for a career of learning. Operational readiness depends on institutional knowledge and real word experience, and without these there can be no accountability.