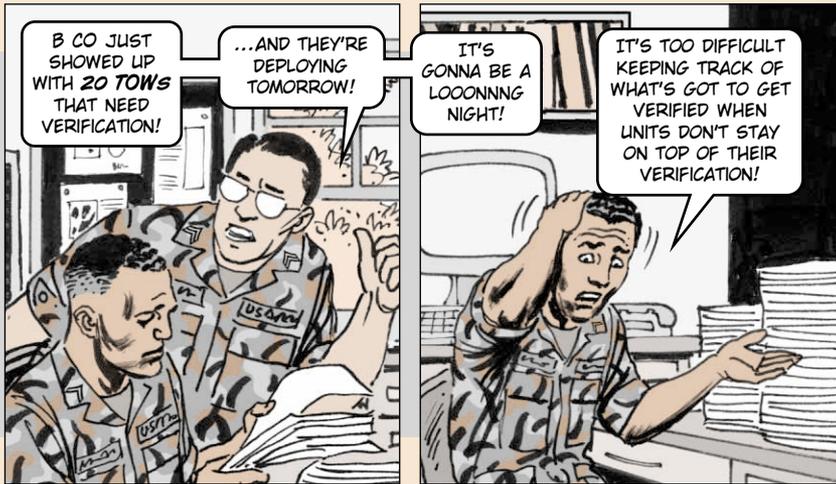


LET COMPUTER



TRACK VERIFICATION



Dear Bonnie,

Missile units and their direct support can testify how difficult it is to stay on top of the verifications required semiannually or annually for components like the sights. In the press of other business, units let verifications slide—until it's time to deploy. Then support must play catch up, which means long hours.

Our support unit decided to let the computer track verifications. Using Microsoft Excel, we created a data base to track every missile system we support. This is for TOW, but the data base can be adapted for any missile system. Here is how we arranged it:

TOW

OWNING UNIT	<input type="text"/>	COLLIMATOR (serial number)	<input type="text"/>
BUMPER NUMBER	<input type="text"/>	TUBE (serial number)	<input type="text"/>
STATUS	<input type="text"/>	SYSTEM VERIFICATION	<input type="text"/>
NIGHT SIGHT (serial number)	<input type="text"/>	(last verification date)	<input type="text"/>
MGS (serial number)	<input type="text"/>	SYSTEM DUE (date)	<input type="text"/>
TU (serial number)	<input type="text"/>	OP SIGHT VERIFICATION	<input type="text"/>
TRIPOD (serial number)	<input type="text"/>	(last verification date)	<input type="text"/>
OP SIGHT (serial number)	<input type="text"/>	OP SIGHT DUE (date)	<input type="text"/>

Your local computer expert can set up a data base like this in no time. Once you have the information entered, you can quickly scroll through the data base at the beginning of each month and see which systems are due for verifications and then notify the unit.

The data base also saves time if the verification stickers that go on the sights and system disappear. Instead of having to repeat the verifications, you can just check the data base for the date and fill out another sticker.

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