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MANDAY CONCEPT OF VALUE

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A well-balanced military force in the combat area is composed of men of various talents and machines capable of various functions. By analysis of maintenance and operations required for all these machines, it is possible to apportion a value of man days to each machine (weapon or vehicle or system). Destruction of the machine (or delaying its entrance at its assigned point in the battlefield) would render its apportion of manday value unproductive to the enemy. If all machines were rendered unproductive, the military force ceases to exist. If some of the machines were rendered unproductive, the military force capability would be degraded.

The value of mandays for Blue machines can be used as a measure of cost to Blue of Maintaining and Operating his machines; the ability of Blue machines to render Red machines unproductive (measured in cost to Red to M&O his machines) can be used as a measure of effectiveness of the Blue machines.

Two examples:

- 1) If two Blue weapons have the same capability in denying Red forces productivity mandays, the Blue weapon with least M&O mandays is more valuable to Blue.

- 2) If two Blue weapons have different capabilities against Red targets (in Red mandays) but each Blue weapon costs the same in Blue M&O mandays, the Blue weapon which denies Red the greatest number of mandays is more effective.

Two additional reasons for the use of mandays:

- a) The procedure introduces the vital factor of time into combat considerations.

- b) The manday unit allows us to compare widely different military functions. (For example; What is the comparative utility of a fund of mandays used for supply delivery, versus the same amount expended in interdiction?).