

Mk248 Mod 0 Sniper Round

Executive Summary

- Snipers will use the Mk248 Mod 0 cartridge in conjunction with the M2010 Enhanced Sniper Rifle (ESR) to defeat specified targets at greater ranges and with improved accuracy compared to current sniper systems.
- DOT&E assessed the Mk248 Mod 0 as lethal.

System

- Army snipers use the Mk248 Mod 0 cartridge in conjunction with the M2010 ESR to engage enemy targets at extended ranges.
- During Operation Enduring Freedom, the Army identified the need for an upgraded sniper rifle capable of firing at longer ranges and with improved accuracy than currently fielded sniper weapons. The Army determined the M2010 ESR, a reconfigured M24 Sniper Weapon System modified to fire a .300 caliber Winchester Magnum cartridge, was the preferred solution.
- The Mk248 Mod 0 .300 caliber cartridge, fired from the M2010 ESR, will replace the use of the 7.62 mm M118LR cartridge fired from the M24 Sniper Weapon System.

Mission

Snipers firing the Mk 248 Mod 0 cartridge with the M2010 ESR will engage designated enemy targets in accordance with applicable tactics, techniques, and procedures.



Major Contractor

Alliant Techsystems Inc. Federal Cartridge Company – Anoka, Minnesota

Activity

- The Army successfully completed live fire testing of the Mk248 Mod 0 in March 2013. Testing was conducted in accordance with the DOT&E-approved live fire strategy and test plans.
- The Army used gelatin targets to obtain data as inputs for complex computer modeling of Mk248 Mod 0 performance. Testing also included shots against light material barriers and other targets to determine the projectile's ability to perforate the target.
- DOT&E published a classified lethality report for the Mk248 Mod 0 in June 2013.

Assessment

- The Mk248 Mod 0 demonstrated adequate performance and lethality when fired from the M2010 ESR.

- The June 2013 classified lethality report contains additional assessment details.

Recommendation

- Status of Previous Recommendations. This is the first annual report for this program.
- FY13 Recommendation.
 1. The Army should continue to improve the complex computer models it uses to model small caliber ammunition performance.

ARMY PROGRAMS