



## TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP

23 August 2016

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### 1. ABCT

#### a. Abrams.

1) Participated in the ABCT Lethality Summit, hosted at Ft. Benning, with the purpose of obtaining a consensus path forward for ECP1b that is affordable within current funding levels with program offices working internally to cross-level resources. The recommended path forward was briefed to the MCoE CG, MG Wesley, as part of the GOSC that maintained the majority of our minimally desired capabilities within current funding levels and was: cost informed, synchronized and executable COA for the Affordability Knowledge Point (KP1) and Lethality AROC; synchronized with M1A2 SEPv3 and Bradley A4 production rates to align ABCT fieldings; and "right-sized" for FY19-23 production rates to maximize operational capabilities inserted into lethality ECPs.

2) Provided support to the PdM Abrams in preparation for the Abrams Configuration Steering Board (CSB) currently scheduled for 27 September 2016 with the pre-brief to the Deputy for Acquisition and System Management (DASM), MG Thurgood, taking place on 23 Aug 2016. Abrams has no requirement de-scope, clarification or deferrals and is only briefing special topic updates that include; ECP1a, ECP1b, ExAPS and the TIGR engine update.

3) The Abrams TADSS analyst is providing SME support for the fielding of a new Advanced Gunnery Training System (AGTS) in Grafenwoehr, Germany, to support European rotational units.

#### b. Bradley.

1) George Moore attended the Synthetic Training Environment STE Working Group (WG) conducted at Collins training center 17 – 18 Aug. During the MCOE brief there was a reference to micro terrain that provides Soldiers with a more realistic environment to operate in i.e. see minute details of trees buildings and roads, DOT will provide a more defined explanation of this. Another area that will need more definition is BIO metric data that was recommended to be induced into the simulator in order to make leaders take Soldiers individual capabilities into consideration during planning. By inputting your PT data, weapons qual data the simulator will act accordingly to provide a more accurate representation of the individuals capabilities loaded into the database. If you are slow in PT you will be slow in simulation. If data says you are a level 7 you are a level 7.

2) George Moore attended the initial planning meeting for the development of the Bradley Reactive Armor Tiles (BRAT) I and II training video that will replace the current one developed on the ODS vehicle in the late 1990's that does not include the lower skirt armor instructions. The production will take place at the Vehicle Maintenance Instruction (VMI) building during the first week of Oct at Harmony Church. The PM, Maintainers, TARDEC and the unit were all in attendance to lay out and agree to the path forward for the production.

3) SFC Shepherd participated in the Bradley ETM Manual Start of Work meeting held on 17 August 2016. The meeting was hosted by BAE via webex with key stakeholders from TACOM, CASCOS, LOGSA, PM AFV, and PM Bradley in attendance. Main effort of the meeting was to establish criteria for development of the Bradley FoV 23&P Electronic Technical Manuals (ETM) and Val/Ver criteria. TCM topics of interest centered on the logical flow of the -10 manuals for the operator. Previously all key stakeholders had agreed upon a single volume -10 manual (waiver required) with a logical flow of the manual content. As of this meeting there appears to be an issue with both of these previously agreed upon courses of action going forward for operator level technical manual development. There is a meeting scheduled 29 August 2016 with PM AFV to discuss this issue and the sequencing structure of future technical manuals.

4) SFC Shepherd and Scott Williford dialed into HFE meeting with BAE and PM AMPV on 19 August 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to confirm the list of tasks to perform during the User Jury being held 13-14 September 2016. User Jury tasks will give the PM and BAE informed data about the level of direct fire vulnerability a vehicle commander could be exposed to while conducting tasks inside the cupola of the AMPV, driver ground intercept while using the DVE, and the third workstation ingress/egress in the mission command variant.

5) Mr. Dave Rogers is attending a Test & Evaluation Working Integrated Product Team at Troy, MI. User Jury update. A four week DT with Soldiers will be conducted at YPG. (8 Jan 2017 -11 Feb 2017). Purpose: This event will provide the data to support the AEC evaluation and early Soldier feedback for PdM Bradley on the M2/M7A4. Two A3 and one A3 BFIST FS3 qualified crews will be provided with Operational New Equipment Training (OPNET). The duration of the OPNET is estimated at 10 days, which precedes the two week test duration. Test exercises will be conducted In Accordance With (IAW) a modified OMS/MP.

**c. AMPV.** The AMPV team participated in a Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) meeting with Air Force (AF) and PM AMPV members. Discussions included force structure and equipping of TACP AMPVs that support ABCTs. Current ABCT organization identifies 6 TACPs. The number of AF personnel that provide ABCT TACP support will remain at current levels. All agreed that the 5 teams that support BDE, CAB and CAV SQD TACs are equipped with AMPVs and 1 (at BDE Main) is equipped with HMMWV/JLTV. At the current level of manned ABCTs, this equates to equipping 70 TACP AMPVs, AC 45 / 25 NG. AF members will provide recommendations for equipping unmanned APS at a later date. One consideration is "A" kits pre-installed, to provide a "plug-and-play" capability. AF members requested a MCcmd, mission role #10 (CAV XO) AMPV, minus the SNE, as the base vehicle design to integrate their equipment. AF current integration plan includes replacing the HMS MP and MNVR radios and mounts with AN/PRC-117G. Currently, these radios use the same mounts but, we have yet to see the FRP design(s).

**d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:**

**1) Training, Leader Development, and Safety Integration (TLS):**

a) The team completed its visit to NTC 16-08 (1/11D). During this visit our team served dual roles, as analysts for TCM-ABCT and on the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) Collection and Analysis Team (CAAT). Our observations will be published in Initial Impressions Report (IIR) and later in a Combat Training Center (CTC) Newsletter on the Joint Lessons Learned Information System (JLLIS). The team is now planning for tiered coverage of NTC Rotation 16-09, with observations during RSOI, force on force, and AARs involving 3/4ID from FCCO. 3/4ID's training at 16-09 will focus on their deployed requirements in support of EUCOMs Regionally Aligned Force mission set ISO Atlantic Resolve.  
<http://www.eur.army.mil/atlanticresolve/>

b) Fort Benning hosts the 2016 Maneuver Conference from 14-16 September. The theme for this year is "Future Maneuver: Facing the Russian Threat." View the agenda, read ahead materials, information on participation through DCS, and registration information here: <http://www.benning.army.mil/MCoE/ManeuverConference/>

c) Following release of the standardized Decisive Action (DA) Mission Essential Task List (METL), the Army has changed training readiness reporting from T-P-U to Objective – T Standards. There are now five training readiness codes; T / T- / P / P- / U. A new objective task evaluation criteria matrix is being added to all collective task T&EOs. As part of this new standard, a percentage of authorized leaders must be present at training. A leader is the owner of the formation and other leaders and staff that contribute to achieving METL proficiency. Leaders present for training standards: T (≥85%), T- (75-84%), P (65-74%), P- (60-64%), U (≤59%). For details on the new Objective - T Standards visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-301278>

d) TCM-ABCT has created a JLLIS binder for our products at <https://www.jllis.mil/apps/index.cfm?do=binders:binder.summary&binderid=23346>, which is in line with the Army's goal for JLLIS to serve as the system of record for the Army.

## **2) Doctrine, Organization and MC/Network Integration (DOP/MC-Network):**

a) Phil Tiemeyer will observe NTC 16-09 at Ft, Irwin, CA., 25 Aug-7 Sep. Key observations will include challenges with current network. Specific areas of interest are DCGS-A usage at Battalion level, vehicle BFT 6.5 and CP JCR interoperability impacts and Signal Soldier augmentation to Brigade and Battalion S6s.

b) Phil Tiemeyer will attend MCCoE's CP Summit II, 13 and 15 Sep 16, at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. This is a follow on meeting to CP Summit he participated in 13-17 June at Ft Bliss, TX, hosted by BMC. CP Summit II will complement the DA G-3 Mission Command Network Refinement Summit, conducted 14 Sep at the Lewis and Clark Building, hosted by MCCoE and led by HQDA G-3/5/7. We expect to leverage insights and guidance from this forum that can be included in the CP 2040 Strategy.

## **e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1) Continued coordination for the Master Gunner Workshop during the Maneuver Conference in September.

2) Continuing efforts to update the ammunition section of the tank operator's manual.

3) Observing tank gunnery with ABOLC at FBGA, no issues at present.

**f. Futures Integration:** The futures team participated in the Analytical Scrum for UC 16.2 at the MBL 15-19 August. One of the key insights from the exercise is the need to invest now to determine the Next Generation Fighting Vehicle capabilities in terms of Power Generation, Composite Armor, Directed Energy, and fully integrated Active Protective Systems that defend against a wide range of threats. This insight and others will inform the ABCT Operational and Organization concept.

## **g. Systems, Sustainment and Logistics Integration:**

1) The July 2016 issue of The Preventive Maintenance Monthly (Issue 764) is available here: [https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissuesA/PS\\_764.pdf](https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissuesA/PS_764.pdf)

2) The August 2016 issue of The Preventive Maintenance Monthly (Issue 765) is available here: [https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissuesA/PS\\_765.pdf](https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissuesA/PS_765.pdf)

3) Mr. Harper is assisting the PM-Abrams with input on a future PM Monthly article explaining proper Abrams wash rack and stream cleaning procedures.

4) The team continues to participate in Action Officer IPTs to help shape the ABCT Enabler CSBs and AROC. There are only special topics planned for the CSB and no descoping is being requested. The Deputy Chief of Staff G8 is chairing the IPT for the AROC and in its infancy, the IPT is scoping efforts to help inform leadership of the enabler gaps as well as provide them recommended prioritization of capabilities for resourcing. The AROC is scheduled for 28 OCT 2016.

5) Mr. Harper is currently pursuing with Team Leader-Food Service Equipment, PdM-Force Sustainment Systems and CASCOM on why some ABCT units turned in their respected Multi-Temperature Refrigerated Container System (MTRCS). During research it was found the MTRCS is not even on the ABCT K series MTOE.

**h. ARNG LNO:** We continue to coordinate a staff visit to 1/34 ABCT (MNARNG) in Minneapolis the weekend of 17-18 September to gain insights into lessons learned from their recent NTC rotation.

## 2. RECON.

**Summary:** TCM Recon's primary area of emphasis is completing the Scout Platoon O&O Final Draft based on the 18 AUG 16 CoAR update brief, CAV GRP O&O update IAW ARCIC O&O submission suspense of 14 SEP 16, and development of CATR Senior Leader Brief.

a. Maneuver Conference. TCM-Recon supports 3-16 CAV in the MWFC Working Group #4 "R&S Education", 14-16 Sep. A portion of this work group will examine the Cavalry scout leader and Soldier competencies concept as described in the SQDN and SCT PLT O&O. This work group will provide an opportunity to discuss this concept with MWFC WG attendees and set conditions to continue development of the implementation plan and USAARMS and DOTD actions required.

b. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

1) R&S BCT O&O. The R&S BCT is one of the five O&Os from MCoE to be submitted on the 14 SEP O&O submissions to ARCIC. The base document will not change. Current plan is to attach the MCoE standard Operating Environment section. The current agreement with TRADOC and FORSCOM is to retain the current version throughout the 1/4 SBCT R&S BCT Excursion to control versions and allow the stakeholders to complete the Comment Resolution Matrix (CRMs) to enable a holistic revision upon completion of the excursion.

2) Standard Scout PLT O&O. Completed CoAR Update on 18 AUG and received guidance. The CoAR concurred he is the approval authority for MCoE approval of the Troop, HHT, and PLT O&Os. Incorporating CoAR guidance on Final Draft version of the O&O. Estimated completion is COB 24 AUG. Based on CoAR's guidance for final review, the updated Final Draft will be provided to 316 CAV, 3-16 CAV, and the USAARMS staff for review. Upon completion of this final review, TCM-Recon will prepare final version and Approval Memo for CoAR's approval.

3) Cav Troop O&O: NO CHANGE. Troop O&O development will resume upon completion of the Scout Platoon O&O and the Close Access Target Reconnaissance (CATR) O&O. Troop O&O development is anticipated to resume in October.

4) HHT O&O: To be written upon completion of the Troop O&O.

5) CATR O&O: NO CHANGE. Completion postponed until Scout Platoon O&O is complete.

6) CAV GRP O&O: TCM-Recon was identified to update the initial draft of the CAV GRP O&O to be submitted through MCoE to ARCIC IAW ARCIC O&O Submission Suspense of 14 SEP. The O&O will be updated using insights from UC 16.1, UQ 16, and UC 16.2, along with initial guidance received from the CoAR. This has become a priority task for TCM-Recon and shifted priorities of work on other O&O efforts until the CAV GRP O&O is revised.

7) Armd Recon & Security Bde O&O. TCM Recon is designated to support MCCoE in the development of the O&O. MCCoE has not received sufficient guidance to begin the task and request specific support from TCM Recon.

c. R&S Analysis and Experimentation.

1) R&S CBA: Beginning the week of 29 AUG, TCM-Recon will resume working with TCM-BCT representatives to update the Capabilities Needs Analysis (CNA) database with critical R&S CBA gaps and solutions.

2) AWA 17 Observer / Analyst (O/A) Support. NO CHANGE. TCM Recon provides one O/A for GMV / MPF / LRV assessments, 11-30 OCT 2016.

3) R&S BCT Excursion. TCM-Recon will present the R&S BCT O&O during 1/4 SBCT R&S Academy, 15-18 NOV at Fort Carson.

4) Scout Sensor Strategy and Development. Updated the Appendix to Scout Platoon O&O based on 9-11 AUG Future Soldier Integration Workshop.

5) Cavalry Scout Leader and Solder Competencies: NO CHANGE. Work to be done. Requires time and personnel yet to be identified to conduct mission analysis / coordination, dates to be determined, with OCOA and DOTD to determine a way ahead. Platoon, Troop (TBP), HHT (TBP) O&Os will inform the effort.

d. Recon Knowledge Network. Recon Council: NO CHANGE. Next event, TBD will be a planning session to synch preparation for the 15-18 NOV 4ID R&S Academy at FCCO.

e. Senior Leader Updates. (TBD) CATR Program Update: TCM-Recon prepares a CATR Program Senior Leader Brief to provide update and current status of CATR Program of Record.

f. CATR: 16 AUG TCM Recon conducted an initial meeting with PdM Ground Sensors to identify technical refresh requirements. The review was based on requests for information from the operational force on CATR capabilities and technical refresh options.

**Upcoming Events.**

a. ABCT

- 22-23 Aug - pre-CSB AOIPT (Abrams)
- 22 Aug - 06 Sep - Force on Force coverage of NTC 16-09 (3/4ID) (FICA)
- 06-09 Sep - FC Umbrella Week visit to 2/1ID (FRKS)
- 13-15 Sep - CP Summit II (FLKS)
- 14-16 Sep - Maneuver Conference (FBGA)
- 16-18 Sep - Unit visit to 1/34 ABCT (MNARNG) (Minneapolis, MN)

b. RECON

- TBD: CATR Materiel Fielding Decision (FBVA)
- 11-30 OCT: AWA 17 O/A for GMV/MPF/LRV (FBTX)
- 13-16 SEP: Maneuver Conference (FBGA)
- 15-18 NOV: 4ID R&S Academy ISO 1/4 SBCT R&S Excursion (FCCO)

**Email Members of TCM-ABCT/Recon's staff:**

Director: [John W. Miller III](#)  
Military Deputy: [LTC Ken Reed](#)  
TCM - ABCT SGM: VACANT  
TCM - Recon: [LTC Darrell O'Steen](#)  
XO, TCM - Recon: [Pete Rose](#)  
DOP/AMPV/MC Team: [Ron Kuykendall](#)  
TLS Team Lead: [Carl Johnson](#)  
Abrams Team Lead: [LTC Rudy Grimes](#)  
Bradley Team Lead: [George Moore](#)  
'Other Systems' Lead: [MAJ James Polak](#)  
Sustainment: [Stephen Harper](#)  
Engineer/Field Artillery: [MSG Myron Kennedy](#)  
Futures: [Rhett Griner](#)  
Large Caliber Ammo: [Wakeland Kuamoo](#)  
ARNG ABCT LNO: [MAJ Jacob Dunn](#)  
Office Admin Contact: [Ms. Shelelia Wynn](#)

Office Mailing Address: TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance (ATZB-CIA)  
7533 Holtz Avenue, Suite 4090  
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905  
Office Number: COMM: 706-545-4461 DSN: 835-4461