



TCM-ABCT/BFSB
Fort Benning, Georgia

Volume 1, Issue 6
June 30, 2012

BFSB Monthly

Director's Message

By COL Gary R. Nicoson
Director, TCM-ABCT and BFSB

BFSB Community,

Greetings from TRADOC Capability Manager (TCM) Armored Brigade Combat Team and Battlefield Surveillance Brigade. We have another great newsletter to help keep you informed about activities in the BFSB community.

I am continuing to take pleasure in introducing new members of the TCM BFSB Team. Joining the team are MAJ Tony Thornton (AKO email: tony.lapatrick.thornton@us.army.mil) and Mr. Phil Cheatham (malcolm.p.cheatham.civ@mail.mil). Both will give us much needed Materiel requirements and integration support to the overall BFSB capabilities development process. As you work with the TCM BFSB team you will find Mr. Bob Silva (robert.c.silva.ctr@mail.mil) has shifted efforts from BFSB organization and materiel integration to Close Access Target Reconnaissance materiel integration.

Please find in this news letter an overview of the 20 June 2012 BFSB WfF NIPR On Line Symposium. In addition to presentations on BFSB / R&S Brigade developments and TRADOC's Network Integration Exercise (NIE) mission, NIE 12.2 objectives and tentative results of the NIE regarding Reconnaissance & Surveillance Operations. You will also be provided a link to the Defense Connect On Line (DCO) "podcast" which recorded the symposium. This podcast also captures cross-talk between the Commanders of 201 BFSB and 504 BFSB, which may be the best hour ever recorded covering BFSB operations. This is a must review.

You will find a number of reports from units including an article from the role-player's perspective on TRADOC's Gain and Maintain Operational Access (GAMOA) experiment. At this point I'd like to express my thanks to the Commander, XO and S3, 142 BFSB (ALARNG) and S3, 2-162 Cavalry, 219 BFSB (INARNG) for their personal participation in the GAMOA experiment. GAMOA gave TRADOC the opportunity to "test drive" the R&S Brigade force design and help us determine what changes we should consider as we hone the force structure to be a critical component of Army 2020. Looking to upcoming events, it is not too early to consider participating in the upcoming Maneuver Warfighting Conference 19-20 September, 2012, at the Iron Works Convention Center, Columbus, Georgia.

Inside this issue

III Corps Warfighter Exercise ...	2
TCM-BFSB points of contact	3
Other Wff newsletters	4
Task Force Raptor updates	4
CATR points of contact	5
Symposium information	6
KFOR updates	7

Disclaimer

The BFSB Monthly is published by TCM ABCT & BFSB, Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate (CDID), Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE), Fort Benning, Georgia. The purpose of this newsletter is to share information provided by members of the BFSB Community of Interest. Contents of **The BFSB Monthly** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U. S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, MCoE, the MCoE CDID or TCM-ABCT & BFSB.

BFSB Warfighter Forum & Monthly Newsletter Points of Contact

Mr. Derek Larson
Phone: 706.545.8825 (office)
770.557.4666 (cell)
E-mail: derek.larson@us.army.mil

Mr. Chris Smith
Phone: 706.545.7382
E-mail: christopher.smith180@us.army.mil

219th BFSB Shoulder Sleeve Insignia



Description: On a vertically divided through the center arrowhead-shaped item, blue and red, displaying in the center a vertical black sword, edged yellow and pointed up, superimposed across the top by three yellow lightning bolts, diagonally from right to left, the middle lightning bolt surmounting the blade.

Symbolism: The arrow-shaped insignia, adapted from the U.S. Recondo School, highlights the Recondo/Reconnaissance philosophy of integrity, developing the traits of smart, skilled, tough, courageous, and confident soldiers. The divided background colors of blue and red signify the unit's lineage to the 38th Infantry Division. The black sword outlined in yellow emphasizes the stealth required for proper intelligence collection, indicating missions along the forward edge of the battlefield and the Brigade's readiness to sustain the tip of the battlefield. The lightning bolts symbolize the three tenants of the 219th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade's responsibilities of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.

Background: The shoulder sleeve insignia was approved effective 1 September 2008. (TIOH Dwg. No. A-1-959)

This information was obtained from The Institute of Heraldry website, [here!](#)

MCTP conducts III Corps Warfighter

*Story by Dave Larsen,
III Corps and Fort Hood Public Affairs*

Fort Hood, Texas — More than 5,500 service members and civilians are taking part in the Army's first corps-level, full-spectrum unified land operations training exercise in 10 years at Fort Hood.

The III Corps Warfighter Exercise, which began June 11, is designed to exercise III Corps' mission command functions and systems and help set the conditions for the execution of future operations.

"It ranges from anything from peacekeeping all the way to major combat operations," said COL Todd Buchs, III Corps operations officer. "The last 10 years, we've been fighting counterinsurgency-centric stability operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Unified land operations entail fighting in those different environments simultaneously."

As III Corps is replicating an Army forces command for the exercise, interservice cooperation and coordination occurs throughout the simulated scenarios, Buchs said.

"We're working under a joint task force and alongside coalition forces," he said. "This exercise has allowed us to develop ourselves as a staff to learn how to fight in a coalition environment and the complexities associated with that, but also how to fight with our joint enablers, and more importantly, fight effectively."

The exercise scenario itself, generated by the Mission Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth, took III Corps and its subordinate units to a fictional country, which was invaded by a neighbor. Following requests for assistance, U.S. and allied forces began offensive operations to expel the simulated enemy.

Though III Corps has many veterans of previous combat tours, fighting at the corps level is new to many of them.

"It's demanding," said MAJ Julia Harvey, operations officer with the III Corps Engineers. "Much of my experience is at division level and below. Here, you have to quickly assess the situation in order to provide your best staff estimate in support of on-going operations."

Buchs agreed.

"There is a difference, and that's why we do exercises like this. Many officers and noncommissioned officers spend the majority of their careers at the tactical level," Buchs said.

"That's why it's important to understand our doctrine. Leading up to this, we held more than 30 'brown-bag' lunches and leader development programs so our staff understands how to do operations as a staff at this level." Harvey said that though the exercise has been demanding, the training benefit is important. "The systems we're using here in this simulation," she said, "are the same ones we'd use to prosecute a real war."

Her commanding general, LTG Don Campbell Jr., of III Corps and Fort Hood, told Central Texas media members at a press briefing June 18 that he's been pleased with his staff's capabilities during the Warfighter Exercise.

"If we had to go to war tomorrow," he said, "we're ready."

One division commanding general echoed that sentiment.

"The III Corps Warfighter Exercise over the last two weeks gave us a great opportunity to work with our higher headquarters and practice the art and science of mission command," said MG James C. McConville, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division out of Fort Campbell, Ky. "The exercise allowed us to refine our staff processes and improve our ability to synchronize our battlefield operating systems. Overall, it was extremely helpful in getting us ready for our next rendezvous with destiny."

The 101st brought 149 Soldiers to Texas from Kentucky. The division set up its tactical operation center in tents across the street from a construction site for the installation's new hospital. While more than 5,500 troops are taking part in the exercise, it takes a small Army of role-players, evaluators and trainers to manage the on-going simulation.

"It's very realistic," Buchs said of the simulation scenarios his staff faces around the clock.

COL Charles E. A. Sexton, commander of MCTP at Fort Leavenworth, is in charge of directing the exercise.

"We run about 45 different exercises each year," he said at a press briefing June 18 in III Corps headquarters, noting that his organization trains units from brigade level and higher to prepare for their wartime missions. "This is the largest one of its kind."

"We run about 45 different exercises each year," he said at a press briefing June 18 in III

(Continued on Page 3)



Above: The 201st BFSB Brigade Staff spent three weeks at Fort Hood, Texas supporting the III Corps Warfighter Exercise.

(Continued from Page 2)

Corps headquarters, noting that his organization trains units from brigade level and higher to prepare for their wartime missions. "This is the largest one of its kind."

Sexton said by running this full-spectrum training exercise with III Corps, the Army is able to evaluate the changes it has made regarding personnel, logistics and doctrine over the past 10 years.

"Over the past 10 years, we've changed from a division-centric organization to a brigade-centric organization. We've changed how many people we have in units, or whether units exist anymore," Sexton said. "We've made all these changes, but we've never had the chance to exercise them at this higher echelon, more complex environment."

Other units, like the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, didn't exist 10 years ago. Buchs said this exercise validates to the Army how to use units like the 504th in unified land operations, making this exercise even more important.

"This isn't just for III Corps or the units conducting this exercise with us," he said, "but it's also about informing the Army about things they haven't been informed on in the last 10 years

because of the fight we've been in, a very specific kind of fight in Iraq and Afghanistan."

But as with any fight, the combatants are there to win. Is III Corps winning?

"Yes, we are," Buchs said. "But I think the real win is: did we grow as a staff? Did we inform the Army? Did we get great training value out of this? Those three things are happening, plus we're kicking (the enemy's) butt."

Editor's note: At the conclusion of the BFSB Warfighter Forum Symposium 02-2012, held on 20 June, COL Paul Norwood, Commander of the 201st BFSB, discusses the III Corps Warfighter Exercise with COL Gary Johnston, Commander of the 504th BFSB. Both Commanders also discussed the roles and missions their parent commanders had given them, and their units' effectiveness, strengths and gaps and resulting lessons. The discussion lasted for forty-eight minutes and provided rare and highly useful insights informing the BFSB community and TRADOC's DOTMLPF development efforts. This session is worth reviewing by any TRADOC field grade or action officer working BFSB development (minutes 1:21:22- 2:09:42 of Defense Connect Online (DCO) recording). Go to Page 6 of this publication for more information on how to access the recording. If you current do not have a DCO account, it will be necessary to register beforehand (CAC required).

TCM-BFSB Points of Contact

7533 Holtz Street
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Assistant Director:

LTC Anthony Lowry
Phone: 706.545.7040
E-mail: anthony.e.lowry.mil@mail.mil

XO, TCM-BFSB:

Mr. Pete Rose
Phone: 706.626.2443
E-mail: peter.rose@us.army.mil

Material Integrator:

MAJ Tony Thornton
Phone: 706.626.2442
E-mail:
tony.lapatrik.thornton@us.army.mil

Material Integrator:

Mr. Phil Cheatham
Phone: 706.545.4952
E-mail:
malcolm.p.cheatham.civ@mail.mil

Get added to the distribution list!

To get added to the distribution list of the BFSB Monthly, please register on the BFSB Collaboration Site by clicking [HERE](#).

How to submit an article

If you'd like to submit a BFSB-related article to be published in this newsletter, contact one of the BFSB Warfighter Forum contacts on Page 1. It's that easy!

Have an idea for a BFSB WfF Symposium?

Please contact one of the members of the BFSB WfF staff on page 1 if you have an idea for, or would like to present a topic, during one of the BFSB Warfighter Forum Symposiums.

Other WfF Newsletters



SWfF Newsletter (22 Jun 12)



IWfF Newsletter (28 Jun 12)



AWfF Newsletter (21 Jun 12)



Texas National Guardsmen, Uganda Peoples Defense Force NCOs Mentor Soldiers

Story and photo by SSG Malcolm McClendon, Task Force Raptor Public Affairs

SINGO, Uganda -- When U.S. Army Sgt. Krystal Earles became a non-commissioned officer, she immediately learned the importance of accountability. Ever since then, she has passed on this fundamental leadership skill to junior NCOs.

“Where are your soldiers?,” that was the first thing my senior sergeants would ask me when I was promoted,” said Earles, team leader, Task Force Raptor, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard. “I immediately realized how fundamentally important this was. To best lead your soldiers, you have to know where they’re at, not only geographically, but physically and mentally as well.”

According to Earles, this was the basis of an exchange in Peace Support Operations soldier Skills Field Training she and fellow U.S. soldiers held with their Uganda Peoples Defense Force counterparts, May 7 – June 8.

For the month they were there, Earles, Sgt. 1st Class Curtis Stille, Staff Sgt. Matthew Lewis, and Cpl. Michael Strickland, Task Force Raptor, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, shared their experience and best practices on basic

infantry skills.

“We discussed topics like maneuvering through the jungle, establishing a support-by-fire position, guiding your soldiers through suppressive fire, breaching an obstacle, and finally, reaching the objective,” Earles said.

The discussions were followed by practical exercises conducted by the Ugandan soldiers. Stille appreciated the motivation and professionalism in which these were carried out.

“It was good to see how well the Ugandan soldiers performed during the live-fire exercises,” Stille said. “They were very motivated to put all that was discussed to the test. You could tell they were very proud of how they performed the assaults and tasks given.”

The Ugandan and U.S. Army non-commissioned officers worked together to help mentor more than 3,500 Ugandan soldiers. Earles believes the union, with the different leadership styles and varied experiences, contributed to the success.

“It was interesting to see how Ugandan non-commissioned officers worked with their soldiers,” Earles said. “When it was my turn to share my experiences, I immediately referred to my beginnings as an NCO and simply asked them, “Where are your soldiers?””

Below: Uganda Peoples Defense Force Soldiers and CPL Michael Strickland, Task Force Raptor, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, conduct military operations in urban terrain drills. The UPDF invited the U.S. Soldiers to participate in a best-practices exchange May 7-June 8. The Texas National Guardsmen conduct various military-to-military exchanges in support of Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, whose mission is to build partnerships with nations in East Africa.





Above: SPC Joshua Morgan (right), Task Force Raptor, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, and Tanzanian military medical professionals exchange combat casualty care techniques, May 21 - June 8.

Texas National Guardsmen, Tanzanian Medics Exchange Best Practices

Story and photo by SSG Malcolm McClendon, Task Force Raptor Public Affairs

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania – Two soldiers from two different continents share one common goal: taking care of their fellow service members.

Tanzania People’s Defense Force medical professional, PVT Baltazary Ambrose Mroso, U.S. Army SSG Miles Bizzell, clinic non-commissioned officer in charge, and SPC Joshua Morgan, medic, Task Force Raptor, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, came together to share best medical practices in a combat casualty care exchange here, May 21 – June 8.

The exchange was broken up into two parts over two weeks. The first week involved a discussion between military medical professionals, followed by sharing of information gathered from meeting with Tanzanian infantry soldiers.

Bizzell was impressed by the level of participation and involvement displayed by the Tanzanians.

“I remember the Tanzanian soldiers being very attentive as we shared our medical skills with them,” Bizzell said. “They had great questions

and soaked up all the information. They would even come up to us in between sessions to continue the discussion; we almost had to force them to go on break.”

Mroso, grateful for the exchange, compared the meeting to his favorite sport.

“I’m very proud to be able to participate and bring my experience to this meeting between medics from two great countries,” Mroso said. “If this were a soccer match, it could be compared to Manchester United and Barcelona Football Club coming together and displaying their best abilities.”

The binational union of the medical professionals concluded with the certification of more than 40 Tanzanian infantry soldiers in basic combat casualty care skills — one more professional achievement Bizzell will value the rest of his life.

“I have taught many U.S. soldiers before, but to be here in Africa, working with fellow medical professionals is a great experience,” Bizzell said. “It’s also very encouraging to know that military medics like me are the same no matter what country we’re from. We care for the health and welfare of our soldiers and will do our best to bring them home safely.”

BFSB Warfighter Forum (Wff) Links

- [BFSB Wff Homepage](#) (Includes links to BFSB unit homepages)
- [BFSB Collaboration Site](#) (CAC required to register)
- [BFSB Warfighter Forum on Facebook.](#)
- SIPR info: The BFSB Warfighter Forum on AKO-S can be found by going to <https://www.us.army.smil.mil/suite/page/21502>.

Upcoming Events

- 17 Jul: ICoE Symposium
- 20-23 Aug: CATR IPT
- 21-23 Aug: 504th BFSB Post-deployment Lessons Learned Week (Tent.)
- 2012 Maneuver Conference, 18-19 Sep at the Iron Works Convention Center in Columbus, Georgia.

CATR Points of Contact

CATR Program Manager:

Mr. Rick Huber
813.826.7403 (office)
E-mail: huberr@socom.mil

MCoE CATR SME:

Mr. Keith Frawley
706.545.7388 (office)
931.801.8258 (mobile)
E-mail: keith.frawley@us.army.mil

MCoE CATR Materiel Integrator:

Mr. Robert Silva
706.545.2243 (office)
254.368.1005 (mobile)
E-mail: robert.c.silva.ctr@mail.mil

To receive CATR training, contact:

Mr. Danny Linville
813.826.7417 (office)
813.390.9951 (mobile)
E-mail: danny.linville.ctr@socom.mil

Other Publications and downloads



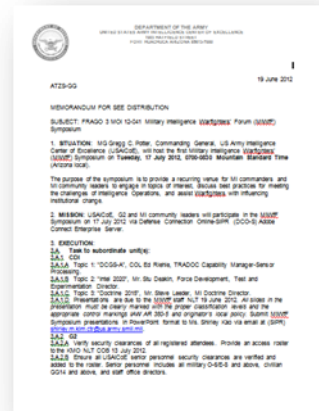
MIWfF Newsletter (1 Jun 2012)

Military Intelligence Warfighters' Forum (MIWfF) Symposium, 17 July

MG Gregg C. Potter, Commanding General, US Army Intelligence Center of Excellence (USAI CoE), will host the first Military Intelligence Warfighters' (MIWfF) Symposium on **Tuesday, 17 July 2012, 0700-0830 Mountain Standard Time (Arizona local).**

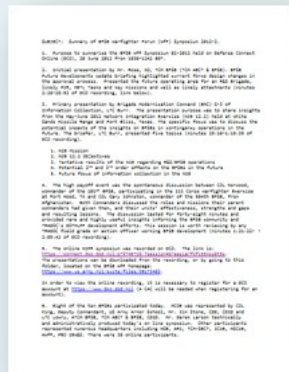
The purpose of the symposium is to provide a recurring venue for MI commanders and MI community leaders to engage in topics of interest, discuss best practices for meeting the challenges of Intelligence Operations, and assist Warfighters with influencing institutional change.

Download a copy of the MOI by clicking the image on the right



"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." - Michelangelo

Recording of BFSB WfF Symposium 02-2012



(click on the image above to download a summary of BFSB WfF Symposium 02-2012)



To view the recording of BFSB Warfighter Forum 02-2012, featuring presentations from Mr. Pete Rose, XO/TCM-BFSB, and LTC Burr from the Brigade Modernization Command at Fort Bliss, Texas, click on the image below, or go to: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/p79746719/>.

It is necessary to have an active account with Defense Connect Online (DCO) prior to logging on to the recording, which can be done by

going to: <https://www.dco.dod.mil/> (CAC required to establish account)

A summary of the symposium can be found by downloading this document: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/37007743>.

If you have trouble accessing any of these files, please contact one of the BFSB WfF staff.





KFOR removes roadblock near Rudare, Kosovo

RUDARE, Kosovo - Kosovo Force (KFOR) removed a roadblock on the outskirts of Rudare preventing freedom of movement to the people of Kosovo, June 1, 2012. Two KFOR soldiers were injured by gunfire during the operation after unidentified individuals in a violent crowd opened fire on security forces providing a cordon around roadblock removal efforts. KFOR forces responded in self-defense, using tear gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jim Wagner)



June 2012 edition of *The Guardian* is available for download: [Click on the image below to learn about what the Multinational Battle Group- East Soldiers from 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, 560th BFSB, of the Georgia Army National Guard have been doing lately.](#)

Above: Soldiers from the 3-108th Cav, 560th BFSB, Georgia Army National Guard, assigned to Kosovo Force (KFOR), assisted in the removal of a roadblock on the outskirts of Rudare, Kosovo. To learn more about what the 3-108th is doing downrange download a copy of *The Guardian* (U.S. Army photos by SFC Jim Wagner).



(click on the image above to download a copy of *The Guardian*)



Left: Members of the 109th MI BN pose for a photo while visiting a site in Afghanistan. Last month, the 109th MI BN and the 502nd MI BN, of the 201st BFSB, deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

