



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP (week of 06 July 15)

08 July 2015

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1. ABCT

a. Abrams

1) Abrams TADSS analyst reviewed and submitted comments for the Abrams SEpv3 POI - Operator Training (for Government Testing). The Abrams M1A2 ECP1a (for V3) Operator Training Program of Instruction (POI) "DRAFT" is generated by GDLS under contract. This POI is 1 of 3 developed iterations focused primarily on operator training of Army testers. The POI is in contract format, and the final version will be the best feeder data for TRADOC to develop/update applicable POIs.

b. Bradley

1) The Bradley Senior Technical Advisor is in Sterling Heights, MI supporting the Bradley ECP2 Interactive Electronic Technical Manual (IETM) Verification. The event will verify the navigation and usability of the IETM (loading and linking), and the technical accuracy of tasks through hands-on or desktop verification of Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS) and all new or modified tasks derived from the newly modified Bradley. The PdM, BAE, and CASCOM administer the event and use soldiers from the operational force to execute the maintenance tasks. The team is executing a line by line review of all tasks and procedures in order to verify that the contractor has developed accurate tasks and linked material properly assessing the usability of the IETM on the Maintenance Support Device (MSD). Through this hands-on process, the team will identify any shortfalls in the written tasks, ambiguous or misleading procedures, and linkages in the software program that are not working properly. The verification will ensure the adequacy, accuracy, and usability of the Bradley Common IETM.

2) The Bradley Training Advisor participated in a Combat Vehicle Tactical Engagement Simulation System (CVTESS) IPT meeting with the Program manager and BAE to develop a test plan designed to fix an issue experienced on the M2A2 ODS-SA vehicles when the CVTESS is connected. When the CVTESS was recently connected to the Minnesota ARNG vehicles, the TOW weapon system was not available for selection creating a gap in units training. Currently, BAE is conducting a contractor test in order to develop a better understanding of the root cause. Preliminary thoughts from the team think it is a messaging error on the vehicles 1553 data bus but the TCM will continue to monitor the testing progress to ensure these training issues are resolved.

3) Both the Bradley and Abrams Training Advisors are reviewing the CMUR Interactive Multimedia Instruction being developed by PEO STRI which will allow the user to complete all install and remove task reviews for the CMUR on a computer prior to executing the tasks on the vehicle. This product will be a job aid to support CMUR sustainment training. This training shortfall has been identified by both AC and RC units as well as observed during unit visits and rotational training support events. The CMUR is not used on a daily basis and mainly supports unit gunnery twice a year which is why the knowledge and device proficiency is low requiring training support.

c. AMPV

1) Mike Sjostrom and Ron Kuykendall will assist in a CERDEC briefing to COL Milner (PM AMPV) at Ft. Bliss, TX the week of 27 July.

2) Ron Kuykendall provided the Product Manager for the General Purpose (GP) AMPV a Memorandum for Record describing the operational need for NETT Warrior GPS repeaters integrated into the GP variants.

d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:

Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net):

1) The Expeditionary TAC-CP (M1068) AMPV MCcmd surrogate vehicle was shipped from CERDEC at APG back to Ft. Bliss, TX. 6 July, in preparation for its participation in NIE/AWA 16.1

2) Phil Tiemeyer continues to work with SOSI&E, G3/5/7 and associated Platform PMs to resolve ABCT Network Modernizations Issues. Challenges include:

- Integration and testing timeline for HMS MP on Bradley IFVs. Integration is completed for LRIP HMS-MP with initial fielding in FY-19

- Modernization of ABCT platforms is not synchronized - partial capability will incrementally field to the ABCT from FY-15 to FY-21

- Abrams modernization is limited to 58 vehicles per year (less than one ABCT per year)

- WIN-T not integrated on tracked vehicles until FY 22 (AMPV IOC)

- BDE/BN WNW net not viable until FY22 - BFISTs are currently the only planned combat platform to host MNVR (FY19) until AMPV attains IOC (FY22). Based on potential non-availability of JTRS manpack radios for the Bradley may require NRE to re-integrate legacy SINGARS.

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

1) With the recent publication of Field Manual (FM) 6-22, **Leader Development**, the Army is helping Army leaders understand how to develop other leaders, their units, and themselves. Intended for leaders at brigade level and below, FM 6-22 integrates doctrine, experience, and best practices, drawing upon applicable Army doctrine and regulations, input of successful Army commanders and noncommissioned officers, recent Army leadership studies, and research on effective practices from the private and public sectors. Learn more and download the FM here: http://www.army.mil/article/151526/Army_publishes_new_doctrine_about_leader_development/?from=RSS

e. Large Caliber Ammo:

1) Mr. Kuamoo continues efforts to assist in the development of the M-1002 Frangible Nose; ricochet testing is on-going

2) Mr. Kuamoo continues investigation of a report by 194th Armor of erratic M831A1 training HEAT rounds during live fire gunnery. Formal report stated rounds are hitting short of intended target. While it's not a safety issue at this point, if no field issues are found during the evaluation period, our recommendation will be to lift the current malfunction report.

f. Sustainment and Systems Integration:

1) MSG Kennedy continues to work with PM-GCS and CASCOM on the M88 Modernization strategy. Currently, CASCOM is working on converting the M88 ORD to a CPD for staffing and approval to get the M88A2 back to a single vehicle recovery platform, as it was

intended to be. The requirement is based off the M88 being able to perform single vehicle recovery of the current M1A2 and the M1A2 SEPv3, which is scheduled to be fielded FY20.

2) MSG Kennedy attended a BAE-hosted M88 FoV Program Management Review (PMR). Also in attendance for the PMR was Mr. DiMarco (PD MBTS), Mr. Tile (BAE M88 PD), Mr. Burton (CASCOM Recovery), Mr. Boak (PdDM M88) and Mr. Stocker (PM88, Modernization). The review covered topics such as program overview, DASC update, TCM update, customer feedback and action plans, production, Op Mods, engineering, and fielding. Takeaways for TCM-ABCT were:

- The importance and need for the PMs to work with TCM-ABCT to ensure that its Soldier/User feedback that drives requirement or change to platforms, and the TCM is involved through all phases RDT&E and fielding. One Scenario that was discussed was the fact that units are currently receiving Op Mods that TCM-ABCT was not involved with. PD MBTS expressed concern on whether the Op Mods provided, “bang for the buck.” PM discussed ability to fund travel in support of data/feedback collection in the future.

- Voiced TCM-ABCT’s position of any M88 Modernization must address; “Single Vehicle Recovery of the MBT” and “Importance of the M88 to be able to keep pace with the ABCT”. CASCOM agrees with TCM-ABCT position and will ensure that the correct verbiage is used in the CPD.

g. Futures Integration:

1) Mr. Jackson and Mr. Griner continue to support the CDID Test and Analysis Office tasking to support the VCSA System Divestiture Study. The intent of the study is to identify the risk of divesting entire LINs from the Army inventory. The Movement and Maneuver-Ground portfolio includes the Bradley, Abrams, and M113 platforms and is scheduled for review on 09 July.

h. Assistant Director-ARNG:

1) The ARNG LNO will begin conducting a conference call with ARNG maneuver leaders to share information and discuss relevant topics to the force. The first call is scheduled for August 2015, and the topics will be NTC Rotation Trends, ADL/Network for tanks, and updates from the major ABCT shareholders.

2. RECON.

Continuing to operate without two critical positions filled: The LTC, TCM Reconnaissance and the MAJ, Acquisition Officer, neither position projected to be filled in the next three months.

a. O&O Development.

1) Scout Plt O&O. Key actions in sequence:

- Completed review of scout of the future text by the Armor School SIG and Cav Doctrine Branch final review on 29 June.
- Completed DOTD editor’s review on 8 July.

Current & Future Actions with No Change:

- Armor & Infantry School, Director, DOTD review and concurrent info paper to CG, MCoE.
- Operational force and BMID staffing.
- Initial indication from Brigade Modernization Integration Division (BMID) is the O&O is not required until the 10th of August.

2) BCT Cav Sqdn O&O. Key actions in sequence:

- Completed Cavalry Squadron Organizing Principles on 26 June.
- Initial draft of Operational Concept to be completed o/a 8 July.

Current & Future Actions with No Change:

- Organization Concept under review by 316 Cav Bde team member.
- Awaiting refinement of Scout of the Future Concept from Armor School, TBD.
- DOTD editor's review occurs after first draft completed.
- Draft ready for operational force staffing, TBD.

3) R&S BCT O&O. Key actions in sequence:

- Adding new appendix to reflect lessons learned during UC 15.2.
- The appendix will not be completed until HQDA makes a determination on implementing the ABCT redesign (3 Company CABs).

b. LRS DOTMLPF Development.

Key actions for LRS Assessment in sequence:

- Staffing with Armor and Infantry Commandants continues. Received OCOI concurrence, still waiting on OCOA and both CMDTs concurrence; suspense is 15 July.
- Staffing with I, III and XVIII Corps, NGB, CAC and FDD began on 2 July; suspense is 15 July.

Current & Future Actions with No Change:

- Review by Deputy to the CG (T) 16-17 July.
- Forward to CG, MCoE o/a 20 July.
- Submission to ARCIC following CG, MCoE approval.

c. Support to Force Design Efforts.

- Standardized Dismounted Scout Squad TOE Paragraph FDU Jr. projected completion slips to week of 13 July. This is due to action officer coordination delays.

d. Close Access Target Reconnaissance.

- Priority is support the completion of the first CATR Employment Policy.

e. Working actions with no significant change in status.

1) Analysis and experimentation

- Army Warfighting Assessment (AWA) 17, 24 October – 4 Nov 16, FBTX. Submitted recommendation for AWA to examine the lightweight, man-portable GSR employed at scout platoon and scout section level.

2) Cbt Veh Mod Strategy Campaign of Learning.

- ARCIC formulating plan. TCM Recon support to this effort will include providing copies of scout platoon, cavalry troop, cavalry squadron, R&S BCT O&Os to the ARCIC lead.

3) CATR. (No change due in large part to the loss of our Acquisition Corps Major)

- Current Requirements Review: CATR Baseline Requirements MoA (TCM ABCT – Recon and PM Terrestrial Sensors) is awaiting final signature from PM Terrestrial Sensors.
- Policy IPT Workgroup. Published initial coordinating draft policy for field review. The policy is approximately two – thirds complete, due to limited IPT members at the MCoE workshop.
- CATR architecture development.
- CATR STAR. Coordinating with MCoE G2 in order to determine if an additional threat assessment is required for the program.
- Upcoming unit visits. TBD June (Tent) 3ID CATR Facility (Cason, DOTD rep)
- CATR ONS Tracking. TCM Recon is continuing to work with division CATR OIC at 1AD, 3ID, and 82nd Airborne regarding ONS requirements.
- Security Classification Guide (SCG). PM Ground Sensors is currently staffing the document.
- Net Plan Development. Coordinating with PdM Ground Sensors to determine program of instruction (POI).

4) Reconnaissance Knowledge Network (RKN / WfF).

- Supporting XVIII ABC task formulation concerning potential recommendation for a two person FDU to LRSCs.
- Supporting Ghillie Suit BOIP development.

5) Support to Doctrine Development. No new actions.

f. Actions without activity due to competing requirements.

1) R&S CBA

- Functional Needs Analysis (FNA): Organizing FNA capability gaps and their associated solutions within the FSA according to an operational priority of core Squadron mission sets and then enabler and Army-wide gaps.
- R&S CBA Functional Solutions Analysis (FSA): Internal and external CoE colonel level review of relevant areas of the R&S CBA FSA is currently ongoing with no significant issues raised. Upon completion of this staffing, TCM-Recon will begin BCT Command Team staffing through Division G3s. TCM-Recon then adjudicates staffing comments and completes final draft FSA Report. This staffing is on hold pending completion of Cavalry Squadron and Scout Platoon O&O's and LRS Assessment.
- R&S CBA Draft DOTMLPF Integrated Change Recommendation (DICR). Under development; goal is to submit a draft with the FSA for ARCIC's concurrent approval to speed up the CBA's approval.

2) CATR. (Due in large part to the loss of our Acquisition Corps Major)

- Sustainment IPT: reviewing and providing recommendations for Sections 2 and 5 of Life Cycle Sustainment plan.
- CATR system training plan (STRAP). DOTD and TCM Recon adjudicated comments and forwarded document to DOTD Systems Branch Team chief for review.
- CATR DOTMLPF Assessment.

3. Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 07-17 Jul - Bradley Common IETM desk top review (Detroit, MI)
- 13-17 Jul - Bradley Sync Meeting PdM, TCM and HQDA (Arlington, VA)
- 19-23 Jul - Maneuver Fires Integration Exercise (Fort Sill, OK)
- 20-24 Jul - Bradley A4 Stowage Fit-Up (Sterling Heights, MI)
- 20-23 Jul - Abrams ECP1a Operator Training (Warren, MI)
- 27-31 Jul - LP CROWS User Jury (APG, MD)
- 27-31 Jul - AWA 16.1 prep/COL Milner (PM AMPV) TAC-CP brief (FBTX)
- 28-30 Jul - Armor Threat Coordinating Group – NGIC (Charlottesville, VA)
- 03-07 Aug - ECP2 Stowage/HFE fit up event (Detroit, MI)
- 17-27 Aug - NTC Rotation 15-09 (116th CBCT - IDARNG) (FICA)
- 17-19 Aug - Bradley 101 Information Brief (Detroit, MI)

b. RECON

- TBD July: Unit Visit 3ID & CATR Facility, FSGA
- 6-10 JUL: HF-TTL testing (PM Ground Sensors), FHAZ
- TBD August: Reconfigurable Integrated Weapons Pedestal DEMO, Redstone Arsenal
- 25-26 August: FVL RIPT Working Group #14: CONOPS Development, Telecon
- 14-25 September: UC 15.3 GAMEX Phase III CAM-WAS, MBL FBGA
- 21 September-17 October: NIE 16.1, FBTX

c. CATR Training Events

- **No Change:** TBA pending replacement of contract personnel

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

Director:	Vacant
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TCM - ABCT SGM:	Vacant
TCM - Recon:	Vacant
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TLS Team Lead:	Carl Johnson
Abrams Team Lead:	MAJ Robert M. Brown
Bradley Team Lead:	MAJ James A. Polak
Systems (EN/FA/LG):	Vacant
Sustainment:	Stephen Harper
Engineer/Field Artillery:	MSG Myron Kennedy
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