



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP [week of 29 Feb-04 Mar]

02 March 2016

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1. ABCT

a. Abrams.

1) The Abrams and Bradley teams are working with their associated Product Managers to change inoperable Driver's Viewer Enhancer from a normal deficiency to a Non-Mission Capable (NMC) status for both vehicles.

2) Team Abrams participated in the M1A2 SEPv3 familiarization training at APG, MD. The training consisted of hands on overview of the ECP-1a technologies and occurred on BFT with JCB-P software, the Under Armor Auxiliary Power Unit, HMS JTRS Radios, all displays, the Battery Monitoring System and Embedded Training (ET). We conducted several iterations with the ET system, and it has the ability to conduct opportunity gunnery training on the platform.

b. Bradley.

1) Team Bradley is updating the Bradley Reactive Armor Tile (BRAT) memorandum to state training requirements for the inert training tiles for home station BRAT II. As the tiles have been upgraded to include side skirt protection, there is a need to train not only the installation and maintenance of the tiles but also train vehicle maintenance. Tasks include daily checks required to prevent build up that could cause thrown track, tension adjustments as well as break and join track. One set of the inert tiles will be assigned to each installation containing an ABCT and a training video will be developed and placed on the Army Training Network.

2) ATCM attended the start of work meeting for the Bradley Conduct of Fire Trainer (COFT) that will pure fleet the Bradley force with a single type of gunnery trainer using the TC 3-20.21 scoring modules that will begin fielding 3rd qtr FY17. There were three areas that needed discussed during the software review.

c. AMPV.

1) The AMPV team continues to conduct an EAB and BEB Engineer mission analysis in support of MSCoE's requirement to replace Engineer M113 FoVs. The team is developing a white paper detailing COAs.

2) The AMPV team continues to support MRD's preparation for an AMPV CSB, 4 May 16. This CSB will identify recent and pending changes to the AMPV Capability Development Document (CDD) resulting from design and affordability limitations as the program nears Critical Design Review (CDR) and prototype development. There are numerous items being discussed as requirement modifications to the AMPV CDD supporting System Design lock for the Critical Design Review (CDR). The MRD/TCM team will update Mr. Sando, 8 Mar 16.

d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:

1) Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net) – Ron Kuykendall will brief PM WIN-T, TCM MC-BCT and General Dynamics representatives on Armor platforms, their mission roles and any need(s) for WIN-T capabilities on these vehicles, 9 Mar 16. This brief will provide better understanding of challenges ABCT Commanders face when required to manage additional network tools and information. A concern is the increased burden on commander's cognitive abilities, while simultaneously commanding an armored combat platform and directing subordinate elements during common, complex, tasks in support of decisive actions (i.e. Assaults, Breaches, Area Security).

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

a) Team TLS is examining data collected from unit visits to ABCTs who were deployed to COCOM mission requirements in Kuwait, Germany, and Korea. One area of particular interest involves NATO/Coalition/Threat Armored Vehicle Identification techniques. The team is exploring four separate actions involving updates to ROC-V software, resurrecting old GTA cards, developing a smart-phone mobile application, and a future Training Circular (TC). The Fires Center of Excellence at Fort Sill recently published TC 3-01.80 (dtd 29Feb16), **Visual Aircraft Recognition**. The Air Defense Artillery Branch prepared the publication. Download it here: http://armypubs.army.mil/doctrine/DR_pubs/dr_a/pdf/tc3_01x80.pdf Activities interested in contributing or supporting this initiative can contact Carl Johnson at 706.545.4652 or carl.r.johnson32.civ@mail.mil.

b) Team TLS will attend the second annual Army Lessons Learned Synchronization Workshop on 22-23 March at the Frontier Conference Center on Fort Leavenworth to discuss the Army Lessons Learned Program (ALLP) and integrate topics, products, and collection efforts across the force in FY17.

e. Large Caliber Ammo: Our ammo lead continues to coordinate a visit to the General Dynamics ammunition production facility in Marion, IL for Soldiers and Master Gunners. The intent of the visit is to allow these Soldiers to learn firsthand how 120mm tank ammunition is produced. The Soldiers will also engage directly with senior management personnel and workers on the line to discuss their experience with tank ammunition both in training and in combat.

f. Futures Integration - The Futures Team hosted an Action Officer Working Group (AOWG) for the ABCT Seminar Wargame on 3 March. The seminar is scheduled for 7-11 March at the Maneuver Battle Lab and will be conducted at the SECRET level.

g. Sustainment and Logistics Integration:

1) Team Systems participated in an M88 Mini Model System user panel at Fort Lee, VA on 25 February 2016. Product Manager M88 is exercising an independent contract to execute this Mini Model System which is a subset of the Whole Systems Trade Tool that has been used on past combat vehicle programs and is intended to be one of many data points that will help inform trade analysis based on holistic design choices while understanding the opportunity cost of each choice. Model results are anticipated to be complete by the end of April 2016.

2) Team Systems participated in the Tactical Wheel Vehicle Board of Directors (TWV BOD) via VTC on 01 March 2016. Participants included SCoE, PEO CS&CSS, TWV PM Offices, ARCIC, ASA (AL&T), HQDA G4 and G8. There were many topics covered regarding the TWV portfolio but of specific interest was the Heavy Equipment Transport System (HETS) briefing that covered the programs plan to meet developmental requirements due to Abrams weight growth and Highway Transportability. The current short-term plan, though unfunded at this time, is to

execute an upgrade program to a select number of the tractor and trailer systems to properly accommodate the total payload requirement needed to transport the heavier Abrams tank. Goal of this upgrade is to provide the capability in FY20 simultaneously aligning with SEpv3 fielding's. The longer-term plan, also unfunded at this time, is to execute a new start program to meet the full transportability requirement and limitations (payload and axle weights).

h. Assistant Director - ARNG: The staff at TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance welcomes MAJ Jacob Dunn as the new Assistant Director, Army National Guard. MAJ Dunn comes to us from the Maneuver Center Headquarters, where he previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Deputy Commanding General-Army National Guard.

1) Army National Guard (ARNG) identifies three long-terms concerns that TCM ABCT could help analyze and generate viable solutions for:

a. **Interoperability** – Over time, capability gaps will widen between AIM-SA and SEP variant tanks. Gaps in Network, Lethality, and Survivability capabilities may lead to interoperability disconnects. What interoperability disconnects exist now, or will develop, between “digital” and “analog” fleets of Abrams and Bradley variants? How can disconnects be avoided or mitigated?

b. **Training** – M1A1 AIM-SA crews require 440 hours of training to deploy on M1A2 SEpv2s (per PM Abrams OPNET POI). How can M1A2 SEpv2 pre-deployment training requirements be reduced for M1A1 AIM-SA crews?

c. **Sustainability** – Operational costs of M1A1 AIM-SA tanks will increase over time, and readiness may be impacted by decreased availability of repair parts and components. How much will M1A1 AIM-SA operational costs increase over time? Will the industrial base continue to produce AIM-SA parts and components to sustain readiness?

2. RECON.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

1) R&S BCT O&O Implementation: Unified Quest 16.1 activities in March will provide the opportunity to update the R&S BCT O&O to reflect K series TOEs.

2) CAV SQDN O&O: The CAV SQDN O&O is at ARCIC Concept Development for review and approval. No date for completion of the review has been established.

3) Scout PLT O&O: Currently fleshing out the O&O outline. Major RFIs related to writing the O&O include scout squad definition and developing a scout sniper concept

4) R&S CBA: Updating recommendations to align with the Cav Sqdn O&O and Cavalry Scout Leader and Soldier Competencies, concurrently coordinating recommendations with DOTMLPF lead's at MCoE in preparation for the 2 MAR review with the CoAR.

b. CATR:

1) CATR O&O: Review of the initial draft of CATR O&O continues. The O&O will support the development of the training strategy and efforts with PdM.

2) CATR Lesson Plans: Continuing to support the development of CATR overview and tagging tracking and locating lessons plans. Continuing to support the development of CATR critical task list.

3) CATR integration into functional courses: ICW with CATR Master Trainer continuing discussions with instructors from RSLC and Sniper course to determine a way ahead to incorporate familiarization training. Conducted office call with ARC course manager.

4) CATR BOIP: Adjudicating comments from USASOC and USAFMSA.

Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 07-09 Mar - MBT survey PEO-GCS (FSGA)
- 08-10 Mar - Abrams SEpv3 TADSS User Jury support (APG, MD)
- 07-18 Mar - Abrams M1A2 SEpv3 User Jury (APG)
- 07-11 Mar - TCM-ABCT Seminar War game (FBGA)
- 07-18 Mar - Abrams SEpv3 User Jury (APG, MD)
- 09-11 Mar - General Dynamics Ammo Production Visit (Marion, IL)
- 21-23 Mar - Army Lessons Learned Synchronization Workshop (FLWKS)
- 05-08 Apr - JAB User Forum (Warren, MI)
- 26-29 Apr - JAB Start of Work Meeting (Warren, MI)

b. RECON

- 22 FEB- 4 MAR - Capabilities Dev Course (FBGA), (O'Steen, Dankyan & Horais)
- 2 MAR - TCM Recon Update to Chief of Armor
- 1-3 MAR - UC 16.1 GAMEXp Rock Drill (Dunn)
- 7-11 MAR - ABCT Seminar Wargame (FBGA) (Cason, Dunn, Fowler & Rose)
- 14-24 MAR - UC 16.1 GAMEXp (FLKS) (Dunn & Fowler)
- 28-31 MAR - UC 16.1 GAMEXp Analytics Scrum (FLVA) (Dunn)
- TBD APR - Scout Sniper Concept & Task Analysis (FBGA)
- TBD APR - Scout Squad Definition Analysis

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