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**TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP (week of 31 August 15) 02 September 2015**

View activities, updates, and products available from TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance by following our milbook location at [**https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t**](https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t)

**1. ABCT**

**a. Abrams -** The TCM ABCT Abrams Team has finalized preparation to conduct the Low Profile CROWS (LP CROWS) User Excursion at Ft. Hood 8-10 Sep 2015. This is a two day event that includes a static demonstration of the LP CROWS and a maneuver lane on the second day where 6 tank commanders will command the tank over a 4-5 kilometer cross country and MOUT lane. TCM ABCT will collect feedback at the end of the event to collect data that will inform PdM Abram’s production decision.

The Abrams Transportability IPT convened telephonically on 1 Sep 2015. The IPT team will develop instructions along with a Maintenance Advisory Message (MAM) for transporting the Abrams mine plow separately from the tank due to failures noted during the rail impact test. PM Heavy Tactical Vehicle (PM HTV) is preparing a decision brief for the PEO regarding the path forward for the Heavy Equipment Transport (HET). They will be recommending that we continue to use allied transport assets in the near term during peace time and a new system developed in the long term to address increased payload and axle overweight problems.

**b. Bradley -** Team Bradley continues to monitor upgrades to CCTT facilities, and provide information and support to installations fielding CV-TESS.

**c. AMPV.**

 1) SFC Tyler and Scott Williford received and reviewed the Training Support Requirements Document (TSRD) from the Sustainment Center of Excellence that included a signed cover letter from BG Kurt J. Ryan, Chief of Ordnance. This document identifies their TADSS based training strategy and training requirements for the 91M and 91P Military Occupational Specialty (MOS), and the 915A and 913A Warrant Officer Maintenance Technicians. SFC Tyler continues to coordinate with the Bradley Training Division (FBGA) to insure these requirements support institutional training strategies at MCoE. During a follow-on meeting with all stakeholders (DOTD, CASCOM, Bradley Training Division, and PM-AMPV) it was determined that CASCOM has no requirement(s) for actual vehicles to conduct maintenance tasks. CASCOM prefers use of TADDS as a more efficient training method and cost saving strategy. Further coordination is required to determine impacts of the CASCOM strategy on projected TRADOC AMPV vehicle allocations. We will continue to monitor this activity to insure successful integration of AMPV into the formation.

**d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:**

1. **Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net) -** Ron Kuykendall participated in the Measurement Space Workshop (MSW) for the Mid-tier Networking Vehicular Radio (MNVR) Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) Platform Integration Study at TRAC WSMR, NM last week. Discussions determined that ABCTs will not receive the current version of MNVR identified in the study guidance. The next version of MNVR is projected to begin fielding in FY20, and may include enhanced capabilities that could affect the study’s outcome. The study group agreed to focus on the FY22 timeframe in order to include AMPV in the formation. By not fielding the current MNVR to ABCTs, it impacts the originating question from last year’s Bradley CSB (moving the current MNVR from some Bradley platforms) due to irrelevance in terms of Form/Fit within these platforms. The current study group’s plan is to focus on the WNW waveform versus a specific radio within the formation, and TRAC WSMR will present the “change in radio and capabilities” issue during the TSAG later this month.

1. **Training, Leader Development, and Safety Integration (TLS):**
2. TCM ABCT has published its Semi-Annual Report (15-02) which documents lessons learned collected during five events, including one ABCT unit visit, one Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) rotation, and three National Training Center (NTC) rotations. This report is an analysis of reoccurring and emerging trends, and recommends mitigation strategies for consideration. We encourage distribution of this product to battalions, companies and platoons to help educate leaders on trends and recommendations to improve the formation. The report can be accessed here: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-221537?sr=stream>
3. Fort Benning will host the 2015 Maneuver Conference here from 14-17 September with all events scheduled to be held in McGinnis-Wickham Hall (Bldg 4). The theme this year is “Future Maneuver – Building Soldiers, Leaders and Formations that are Smart, Fast, Lethal, and Precise.” For registration, an updated agenda, directions, lodging, and participation via DCS, visit <http://www.benning.army.mil/mcoe/maneuverconference/index.html>
4. The next ABCT Warfighters' Forum Senior Mentor Symposium will convene Thursday, 01 October 2015 (time TBD). The symposium will be hosted by the ABCT Senior Mentor, LTG Sean MacFarland, Senior Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood, TX and CSM Alonzo Smith, CSM, III Corps and Fort Hood, TX. Topic presentation remains in the planning phase.

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1. Mr. Kuamoo is visiting the General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems (GDOTS) ammunition facility in Marion, IL this week to discuss their production process for tank ammunition and future visits by active duty military personnel.

**f. Sustainment and Systems Integration** **-** Mr. Harper attended NTC 15-09 in which the 116th CBCT (IDARNG) conducted a decisive action rotation, and collected sustainment-oriented observations, insights, and lessons learned. TCM ABCT is projected to conduct a post-rotation unit visit to their home station to conduct key leader interviews and deliver observation to the chain of command. Highlights include proficiency in medical operations and fleet readiness rates due to the unit brining their home station ASLs and SSLs.

**g. Futures Integration:**

1) The futures team continued to support the CDID Test and Analysis Office tasking to support the VCSA System Divestiture Study. Mr. Jackson supported the LIN Divestiture study make-up sessions addressing LINs in the Sustainment Service Support portfolio.

2) The futures team met with representatives from the Maneuver Battle Lab to discuss possible support for TCM ABCT’s efforts to inform the Armored Brigade Combat Team Operational Mode Summary/ Mission Profile (OMS/MP) and the ARCIC Portfolio Assessment (APA). The futures team is currently working on the Operational and Organizational (O&O) Concept and developing learning demands to support experimentation.

**2. RECON.**

1. **LRS DOTMLPF Development:**

1) The LRS assessment was approved by the Deputy to the Commanding General on 31 August 2015. The assessment is in line with anticipated TAA actions which indicate the retention of six ARNG LRS companies.

1. **Close Access Target Reconnaissance:**

1) PEO IEW&S Management Council conducted, and TCM Recon participated via teleconference, in the final review prior to the upcoming CATR Materiel Development Decision (MDD) briefing; no significant issues were noted.

2) CATR Milestone Development Decision Briefing to PEO IEW&S remains scheduled 14 September (APG, MD), Acting TCM Recon will participate.

1. **Upcoming Events**.

 a. ABCT

* 07-11 Sep - LP CROWS User Excursion (FHTX)
* Unit Visit to 8A/2ID RAF (2/1CD) (ROK) > POSTPONED until 30 Nov – 05 Dec 15
* 20 Sep -17 Oct - NIE, Ex CAB TAC CP Evaluation (FBTX)

b. RECON

* 14 SEP: CATR MDD Decision Briefing to PEO IEW&S, APG, MD
* 14-25 SEP: UC 15.3 GAMEX Phase III CAM-WAS, MBL FBGA
* 21 SEP-17 OCT: NIE 16.1, FBTX

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