



**31 January 2013**

**HeavyNet**

**Volume 6, Issue 1**

1. **Purpose:** The intent of this newsletter is to provide ABCT leaders and Soldiers with informational highlights that will be beneficial to their individual, collective, and leader development training efforts as well as highlights on activities occurring throughout the Armored BCT community.

**2. Director's Corner:**

Greetings to All,

I would like to take time to welcome LTG Mark A. Milley as the Commander of III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, and as the Senior Mentor for the Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT). LTG Milley comes to us from 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and Fort Drum, NY. He is an absolute Warfighter and assumes command of Phantom Corps at a very turbulent time in our Army. As he readies the Corps for deployment to Afghanistan I know that he is committed to ensuring the best possible mentorship for our ABCT commanders. To that end, our January symposium provided Warfighters an update on Decisive Action and Security Force Assistance best practices and observations.

I would like to thank all of you who participated in our Senior Mentor Symposium, in particular those who took time to present their observations and lessons learned. Please download the presentations or view them on DCO-S by following the links provided on the "Announcements" section of this newsletter.

Two enduring projects that AWFF is currently engaged in include: Mission Command on the Move and the Armored Reconnaissance Squadron—structure and capabilities. As we continue to train towards our core capabilities, we will solicit your feedback on best practices for Mission Command on the Move platforms and Tactical Internet connectivity. In regards to the ARS, we continue to monitor force design updates and provide input to the generating force; however we need ARS commanders to come up on the net and give us their input.

Very Respectfully,

LTC Rob Rodriguez  
Director, ABCT Warfighters' Forum

### 3. Announcements:

A. The **26<sup>th</sup> ABCT Warfighters' Forum (AWfF) Senior Mentor Symposium** was hosted by the ABCT Senior Mentor, LTG Mark A. Milley, Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood, TX, on **15 January 2013**. Topics/presentations included: "Army Safe is Army Strong" by LTC James Smith, Director, Ground Directorate, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center; "JRTC SFAB/SFAT Trends" by COL Randall Harris, Deputy Commander Operations Group, Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, LA; "JRTC 12-09 SFAB Rotation and RC-E Lessons Learned" by COL William Benson, Commander, 4<sup>th</sup> ABCT, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division; "NTC DATE Rotation" by BG Terry Ferrell, Commanding General, National Training Center and Fort Irwin, CA; and "NTC 13-02 DATE Rotation Lessons Learned" by COL Joel Tyler, Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. View the presentations, Executive Summary, and Minutes at: [AWfF Senior Mentor Symposium, 15 January 2013](https://www.dco.dod.smil.mil/private/act/viewConnect.cfm?urlpath=/p4675012/). A recording of the session is available on DCO-S: <https://www.dco.dod.smil.mil/private/act/viewConnect.cfm?urlpath=/p4675012/>.

B. The **Project Manager (PM) Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT)**, Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), informs of impacts to Garrison Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) as a result of the Army's budget situation. The current support contract with General Dynamics Land System (GDLS) which provides each of the brigades Field Support Representatives (FSRs), welder, scheduled service team, and unscheduled subject matter experts (SMEs) for the MGS and NBCRV platforms; ends on 28 February 2013. ABCTs will retain regional FSR to support their NBCRV platforms; however, after 28 FEB 2013 GDLS will no longer provide SME for the NBCRV platform, scheduled service support to include labor and parts, accident damage vehicle assessment support, or GDLS Welding support.

C. The AWfF team recently returned from Fort Carson, Colorado where we completed post rotation interviews with the leaders of **3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT, 4 ID**. The Iron Brigade recently returned from an SFAB mission in Afghanistan. We are analyzing the information we collected from the brigade and will post a written report on HeavyNet in the near future. We congratulate the **Iron Brigade** for a job well done and wish all leaders and Soldiers the best of luck in all future endeavors.

4. **Highlights recently posted** to [HeavyNet](#) include:

#### A. In the News:

1) [Thunderbolt Blast, December 2013](#), is the Armor School and Chief of Armor Newsletter. This bulletin contains articles of interest to the Armor force, links for continued dialogue between the Armor community, Armor School and Chief of Armor, and news updates from the Armor Schools.

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- 2) [Counter- IED Newsletter 08 January 2013](#), published by the Army Counter-IED Professional Forum, provides a series of links to lessons learned, reports, news, training topics, and other counter IED newsletters.
- 3) [Maneuver Net Newsletter, January 2013](#), provides updates, contributions, and discussion on items of interest to the Maneuver Net community. To subscribe, follow the link on the latest update.
- 4) The [Mission Command Newsletter, January 2013](#), highlights links to previously published articles that have a mission command theme: Understanding Afghan Culture; 35ID FSX Knowledge Management Observations, Insights, and Lessons Learned; Knowledge Management "Then and Now;" Reframing Army Doctrine: Operational Art, the Science of Control, and Critical Thinking; Reintegrating the Army's Civil Affairs Force; and Harnessing Initiative and Innovation - A Process for Mission Command.
- 5) [BFSB Monthly, December 2012](#), is published by the TRADOC Capability Manager - Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (TCM-BFSB) Warfighters' Forum for the benefit of the BFSB community.
- 6) [IWfF Newsletter, January 2013](#), addresses key topics that include the next SMS Symposium, and shares best practices and lessons learned by IBCTs from their recent deployments to Afghanistan.
- 7) [Stryker Bulletin, 21 December 2012](#), and [Stryker Bulletin 1-13, 14 January 2013](#), provide brief sets of notes on the SBCT community of purpose (CoPu) actions and Stryker Warfighters' Forum (SWfF) activities, as well as call attention to resources available to SBCTs to support their endeavors throughout all phases of the ARFORGEN process.
- 8) [Fires Net Newsletter, 27 December 2012](#) and [Fires Net Newsletter, 25 January 2012](#), are provided for situational awareness and reflects information from the period of 17 November 2012 - 17 January 2013.
- 9) [CALL Fires LL Newsletter, January 2013](#), is published by the CALL Fires Lessons Learned team. Of note in this issue are Fires trends observed at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters of FY12.
- 10) [Redleg Update, January 2013](#), is the US Army Field Artillery Commandant's Newsletter. In this month's issue the Commandant highlights and congratulates B Battery, 1<sup>st</sup> BN, 77<sup>th</sup> FA, Schweinfurt, Germany, winners of the Henry A. Knox Award for best active duty battery; B Battery, 2<sup>nd</sup> BN, 218<sup>th</sup> FA, Oregon National Guard, winners of the Alexander Hamilton Award for most outstanding battery in the National Guard; and SFC Thomas Robinson from 1<sup>st</sup> BN, 377<sup>th</sup> FA (AA), 17<sup>th</sup> Fires Brigade, Joint Base Lewis-McCord, WA. for winning the Edmond L. Gruber award for his significant contributions to or the enhancement of the field artillery's warfighting capabilities, morale, readiness, and maintenance.

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11) [Army Safety Net Update, 15 January 2013](#), is published by the Army Safety Network and provides situational awareness to our community on issues such as risk management, explosive safety training, MRAP safety, and other significant safety issues, trends and updates.

12) [KM Net Newsletter, January 2013](#), is published by the Knowledge Management Network in an effort to improve Operational Knowledge Management across the force.

13) [Defense Logistics Agency \(DLA\) Lessons Learned Newsletter, January 2013](#), informs readers about past and present crisis response efforts from Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HA/DR) efforts that are well documented within observations, AAR, and Communities of Practice (COPs) by searching [JLLIS](#). Another item of interest addressed includes DLA's support operations for the Afghanistan Drawdown and offers a JLLIS link that compiles lessons learned from past drawdown operations.

14) [Sustainment WfF Lessons Learned Newsletter, January 2013](#), contains a cross section of sustainment-related documents: two safety alerts, both relating to improper ammunition storage and a newly released explosives handbook. Other items include the 593d Sustainment Brigade, also known as the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element; the 18<sup>th</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion external SOP to assist units in preparing their property for retrograde disposition; and, the 401st Army Field Service Brigade's pocket guide to assist units with turning in retrograde equipment to the Redistribution Property Assistance Team (RPAT) yards.

15) The [ADA Lessons Learned Newsletter](#) is a quarterly publication of Lessons Learned through observation, insights, lessons (OIL), tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) to support unified land operations where appropriate. The purpose of this Newsletter is to provide the Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE) and the Air Defense Community with relevant information that assists the Air Defender in accomplishing their mission, staying informed and current with ongoing events, as well as issues pertaining to Air and Missile Defense.

16) [MCTP Newsletter, 28 January 2013](#), is published by the Mission Command Training Program (MCTP) in an effort to enhance its mission to conduct or support combined arms training that replicates Joint-Interagency-Intergovernmental-Multinational Operations in a full spectrum Contemporary Operational Environment.

### B. Doctrine:

#### 1) Recently Published Doctrine:

a. The ABCT Doctrine Branch would like to announce the publication of **ATP 3-20.15, Tank Platoon, dated 13 Dec 2012**. The ATP can be found on CAC

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protected site at: [https://armypubs.us.army.mil/doctrine/New\\_Releases\\_1.html](https://armypubs.us.army.mil/doctrine/New_Releases_1.html)  
and on the ABCT Doctrine Branch Website at:  
<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/abctdoctrine>.

b. **Field Manual (FM) 3-53, Military Information Support Operations**, replaces FM 3-05.30, *Psychological Operations*, as the keystone doctrine manual for United States (U.S.) Army Military Information Support Operations (MISO) and MISO forces. This publication serves as the authoritative reference for the U.S. Army in influencing foreign target audiences (TAs) across the range of military operations. The principles contained in this revised publication are linked to higher-level joint doctrine described in Joint Publication (JP) 3-13.2, *Military Information Support Operations*.

c. **Field Manual (FM) 3-22, Army Support To Security Cooperation, 22 January 2013**, provides doctrine for Army support to Department of Defense security cooperation. It explains how Army forces conduct security cooperation, from theater army through brigade level, including support from Headquarters, Department of the Army, functional Army Service component commands, major commands, and direct reporting units. This FM supersedes FM 3-07.1, Security Force Assistance, 01 May 2009.

d. **Army Doctrine Update 1-13, 07 January 2013**, is published by the United States Combined Arms Center and highlights recent and upcoming changes to doctrine as well as providing information related to doctrine use. This *Doctrine Update* also provides information on the overall Doctrine 2015 strategy.

### 2) Doctrine Under Review:

a. The MSCoE Military Police doctrine team requests your participation in the review for **Program Directive (PD) for Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-37.2, Antiterrorism**, NLT 16 Feb 2013. The revision addresses fundamentals for antiterrorism (AT) operations across the range of military operations and is based on lessons learned from terrorist attacks, wartime engagements, and existing and developing AT strategies and doctrine. ATP 3-37.2 provides operational force commanders, staffs, and AT officers with the tools and expertise needed for AT operations. Submit comments using the linked matrix to MAJ Taran Myrick, [taran.g.myrick.mil@mail.mil](mailto:taran.g.myrick.mil@mail.mil).

b. The MCoE request your review of **FM 3-97, Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) Operations (Final Draft)**, NLT 01 March 2013. FM 3-97 provides doctrinal guidance; describes relationships within the SBCT; organizational roles and function; capabilities, limitations, and responsibilities for the SBCT during unified land operations. Send comments to MAJ Cornelius O. Granai at: [cornelius.o.granai.mil@mail.mil](mailto:cornelius.o.granai.mil@mail.mil) or Mr. Richard Choron, [richard.t.choron.civ@mail.mil](mailto:richard.t.choron.civ@mail.mil).

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c. The US Army Signal Center of Excellence, Doctrine Branch requests your assistance in reviewing [Draft \(ID\) of FM 6-02, Signal Support to Operations, NLT 27 March 2013](#). Comments can be sent to [usarmy.gordon.sigcoe.mbx.gord-fg-doctrine@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.gordon.sigcoe.mbx.gord-fg-doctrine@mail.mil) using the linked comment matrix.

### C. Training:

1) The **TRADOC Capabilities Manager - Armored Brigade Combat Team (TCM-ABCT)** offers a monthly update to the ABCT community on recent TCM-ABCT activities and site visits. Noteworthy for January is that TCM-ABCT sent representatives to Fort Carson, Colorado in order to conduct Post-deployment interviews with 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (ID). 3-4 ID recently returned from completion of a Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB) mission in RC-South. Read the latest update at: [TCM-ABCT Update, January 2013](#). Attached also find an AAR from TCM-ABCT's observations of JRTC Rotation 13-01 at: [A 2-69 AR 13-01 JRTC PRI](#). These observations focus on combined arms integration of an armored/mechanized company team into airborne operations.

2) [Army Training Network \(ATN\)](#) contains training packages which include videos and slides to enable effective training management. It also contains the most current training doctrine available and provides the warfighter the ability to go to one website and seek training solutions. AKO user name and password or CAC access is required. Read the January ATN Newsletter at: [ATN Newsletter, 20 January 2013](#).

3) The Afghanistan Training Community of Interest (TCoI) was hosted by CJ7, ISAF Joint Command (IJC), via SVTC on 16 January 2013. Briefings included: "TF Paladin C-IED Training" by LTC Malcolm Hook, UK, DCO UK CJTF Paladin, IJC; and "Female Engagement Team (FET) Lessons Learned and Way Ahead" by MAJ Katherine Kennedy, USA, Commander, 320<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Company. See the slide presentation at: [TCOI, January 2013](#).

### D. Materiel:

The [MRAP Recovery TTP](#) attached is the updated MRAP Recovery TTP manual. Updates include updated warnings and cautions tow bar adapter updates and hyperlinks and procedural changes. MRAP recovery TTP provided by the TRADOC Project Office for Battlefield Recovery (APG), COMM: 410-278-4474/4115.

### E. Leadership:

1) [LeaderNet Newsletter, January 2013](#), is provided for the situational awareness of our leaders.

2) [NCO Net Newsletter, January 2013](#), is provided for the situational awareness of our Noncommissioned Officers. Participation on this forum is strongly encouraged as this is a professional forum that benefits all leaders.

3) [\*\*S3-XO Net Newsletter, January 2013\*\*](#), contains newly posted documents, contributions, collections, and RFIs to the S3/XO Forum.

**F. Lessons Learned:**

1) From 22 October to 16 November 2012, **1<sup>st</sup> ABCT, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division executed the second Decisive Action** operations rotation against a high end/near peer threat at the National Training Center. In support of this exercise, 4<sup>th</sup> ID deployed a Division TAC to serve as the higher level C2 node, re-blue themselves in the Division level aspects of Decisive Action operations, and formulated TTPs and Division level processes to effectively conduct these types of operations above the Brigade level. Their observations are available at: [\*\*4th ID - NTC Decisive Action Rotation NTC 13-02 Senior Leader Observations\*\*](#). The following link contains an Executive Summary from Post Rotation Leader Interviews conducted by AWfF about the same DATE rotation: [\*\*1-4 ID DATE Leader Interviews Executive Summary, 21 December 2012\*\*](#).

2) [\*\*TF Balkh AAR, 23 September 2012, 1-30 IN Village Stability Operations \(VSO\) Mission, OEF\*\*](#). On 15 February 2012, in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan, 1-30th Infantry was officially designated as TASK FORCE BALKH, becoming the first mechanized conventional Battalion to effectively serve as a Special Operations Task Force with assigned United States Special Operations Forces (USSOF) Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen under its command. For the next nine months, the Special Operators, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and Contractors of the Task Force learned while in contact, developing key concepts and ideas for General Purpose Forces (GPF) and Special Operations Forces (SO F) integration.

3) [\*\*3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division SFAT AAR, Team 39, 3-4ID\*\*](#) (2/205th ANA Security Force Assistance Team (SFAT) End of Tour AAR). The purpose of memorandum is to provide a wide audience of users an after action review of the 2/205 ANA SFAT operations in Zabul Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan as part of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM from April – December 2012.

4) [\*\*Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) Discussion Questions Response in Regards to 2/1 ID Regionally Aligned Brigade \(RAB\) to AFRICOM, 03 January 2013\*\*](#). The purpose of this memorandum is to provide responses to GAO questions in preparation for their visit to 2/1 ID at Fort Riley, Kansas, to increase their knowledge of the Regionally Aligned Brigade's preparation and readiness to assume Security Force Assistance Missions.

5) The Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF LL) and the Army Lessons Learned Forums (AL2F) meet weekly to discuss issues pertaining to OEF and Army emerging issues, trends, and observations enabling continuous improvement of Army Forces. Find the most recent documents from these forums at: [\*\*OEF-Army LL Forum GOSC Executive Summary, 30 January 2013, Army LL Forum GOSC, 30\*\*](#)

[January 2013, OEF LL Forum GOSC, 30 January 2013](#). View other related documents at: [HeavyNet OEF-Army LL Forum](#).

**G. Personnel:**

Recently published, revised, and approved publications available on the **APD website**, <http://www.apd.army.mil/>, include:

a. AR 700-142, Type Classification, Materiel Release, Fielding, and Transfer, 17 January 2013, [http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r700\\_142.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r700_142.pdf).

b. AR 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program, 28 December 2012, [http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r600\\_85.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r600_85.pdf).

**5. RFIs, Notes, Notices and Upcoming Events:**

**A. AWfF Request for Information (RFI) Procedures:** Visit the AWfF homepage at: [HeavyNet](#), and follow the "Submit RFI" link located on bottom right of page. The AWfF will acknowledge receipt of RFIs within 24 hours and will attempt to provide an answer within 72 hours.

**B. Upcoming Events:**

1) **ABCT FA Battalion Warfighter Forum Symposium**- 19 April 2013 via DCO: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/hbctfabnwff>.

2) Afghanistan **Training Community of Interest (TCoI)** – 20 February 2013 (0900 CST) via S-VTC.

3) **MI Senior Mentor Symposium**- 31 January 2013 (0700-0830) AZ Time via DCO. Topics include Foundry, 35Q ALC, and OCMI updates. Log-on to the session at: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/misms>.

4) **IWfF Senior Mentor Symposium**- 12 March 2013(T) (0900-1030 EST) via DCO-S.

5) **SWfF Senior Mentor Symposium**- 14 March 2013 (1200-1400 CDT) via DCO-S.

6) **Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE)** events at Fort Benning, GA:

a) **2013 U.S. Army Small Arms Championship**- 28 January-08 February 2013. Go to <http://www.usamu.com/> for more information.



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b) Inaugural **Gainey Cup**- 01-05 March 2013. To register or for more information, contact CPT Joshua Hearn at: [joshua.s.hearn.mil@mail.mil](mailto:joshua.s.hearn.mil@mail.mil) or (706) 626-8169, or visit <http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/GaineyCup/index.html>.

c) **30<sup>th</sup> Annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition**- 12-15 April 2013. For more information, contact CPT Andrew Sharp at [andrew.m.sharp.mil@mail.mil](mailto:andrew.m.sharp.mil@mail.mil) or (706) 544-7212.

d) **Armor Ball**- (TBD) September 2013. More information will be provided when available.

e) **Sullivan Cup**- 03-06 September 2013 (T). More information will be provided when available.

7) CASCOM will host its 5th annual Combat Training Center (CTC) professional development **Reverse-Collection and Analysis Team "R-CAAT"** event on 5 February 2013. Senior sustainment Observers, Coaches, and Trainers (OC/Ts) from NTC, JRTC and JMRC will provide firsthand feedback on sustainment BCT formations from recent rotations. Go to the Sustain Warfighters' Forum Page at URL: <https://ako.us.army.mil/suite/page/372426> and SKN LIVE to find how to participate.

### 6. AWfF Points of Contact:

Name	Telephone	Email
LTC Robert M. Rodriguez Director, AWfF	254-287-1584; DSN 737	<a href="mailto:robert.m.rodriguez26.mil@mail.mil">robert.m.rodriguez26.mil@mail.mil</a>
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7. Our website is <https://heavynet.forscom.army.mil>. We are also on [Facebook](#), [milBook](#), and [Twitter](#). Please visit these sites to collaborate with our ABCT community of practice. AWfF thanks those who have provided announcements, notices, articles and lessons learned. Additionally, **submit articles for inclusion to any of our AWfF portals and this newsletter**. If you have a story of interest or wish to initiate a discussion on any topic or issue facing the ABCT community, contact Mr. Randal Alston, [randal.c.alston.civ@mail.mil](mailto:randal.c.alston.civ@mail.mil), 254-287-4140.