



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP (week of 05 October 15)

07 October 2015

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1. ABCT

a. Abrams - The Abrams Advisor is preparing for the Abrams User Nation Group (ABRUNG) at Sterling Heights, MI to be held 27-29 October. In light of recent foreign nation combat operations with the Abrams tank, our office has been requested to provide technical information on tactical employment of the Abrams tank.

Our Training and TADSS lead will be attending a meeting on 15 October at APG, MD with PdM Abrams and PEO STRI to determine the path forward to fix the compatibility problems with LP CROWS and the CVTESS MILES transmitter identified during the LP CROWS User Excursion.

b. Bradley.

1) SFC Shepherd and Mr. Derek McCrea (TLS) participated in the semi-annual ABCT Combined Arms Training Strategy (CATS) review held at FBGA on 06 October. Mr. Dan Huell chaired the working group with support from NFOCUS Solutions' CATS analyst team, 3-16 CAV, and the Office Chief of Armor. The review focused on whether or not identified CATS tasks are applicable to HQDA directed METL, and whether tasks should be removed or added. The review took a look at tasks from brigade down to platoon level. DOTD and NFOCUS CATS analysts have captured key points of discussion for review and will send out their findings when complete.

c. AMPV.

1) AMPV Team supported the monthly RAM IPT. The meeting discussed impacts to the program based on post PDR assessments and the CSB. MRD was asked to look at the specific language of Attribute 48 due to specifics of the chosen BFV derivative chassis. MRD provided TCM ABCT with proposed language change which was reviewed and sent back to MRD with recommendation for concurrence. Language has not been finalized yet but will be incorporated into predictive analysis for PMCS Tasks for the AMPV when approved.

2) The scope of BAE's AMPV MANPRINT event has been significantly reduced from what was originally planned. This event looks at driver station accommodation, commander's station accommodation, the mission space in the Mortar Carrier as well as ingress and egress and the mortar operational space. The original event was scheduled for five full days but has been reduced to two on the 17 & 18th of November in Santa Clara.

d. Formation and DOTLPP Integration:

1) Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net) - Ron Kuykendall and SFC Tyler are continuing RSOI at Ft. Bliss, TX prior to assuming duties as

observer/ analyst for the expeditionary command post and as an observer/ controller for 1/6 during AWA 16.1. Initial report on exercise is expected the week of 12 October.

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

a) TLS is assisting DOTD and the Armor School in providing support to a DoD IG Audit Team conducting a visit to 1/34 ABCT (MNARNG) between 15-24 October at Camp Ripley, MN. The audit objective is to determine whether military units have the ability to perform their mission essential tasks. Specifically, this audit will evaluate Army National Guard (ARNG) training proficiency at the company and cavalry troop level.

b) **Combined Resolve V** is underway in USAREUR, and will feature more than 4,600 participants from 10 NATO allies including Albania, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, and the United States, and three partner nations - Georgia, Montenegro and Serbia. The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Raiders), stationed on Fort Stewart, Georgia, is the U.S. Army's regionally-aligned brigade to Europe and will participate in Combined Resolve V as the primary U.S. training unit. The 4th Infantry Division Mission Command Element will provide higher command and control functions for the exercise. Learn more here: <http://www.eur.army.mil/JMTC/CombinedResolve.html>

e. Large Caliber Ammo: Mr. Kuamoo is continuing work on several projects:

1) Primers being considered for production of 120mm ammunition. A recently produced LOT of primers did not pass a government test requirement for corrosion. The user's position is not to use these primers for ammunition intended for the field. Current response from PM-MAS defines this action as a low risk to the Soldier and maintains production schedules; evaluation of this issue continues.

2) Development of a crew level ammunition spill clean-up procedure for 120mm rounds. This procedure would be used in the event the propellant containment bag is compromised inside or outside of the vehicle.

3) Coordinating efforts to provide ARDEC technical support at Ft Benning. This effort is being generated in response to A-BOLC and 1-81 Armor reports of excessive residue in the gun systems after firing M865 training sabot rounds. This residue has resulted in preventing 2 M831A1 training HEAT-TPT rounds from being fully chambered into the gun. Target dates for this evaluation is during the next 1-81 Armor live fire the week of 2-6 November.

4) Assisting MRD in a visit to Ft Benning by ARDEC personnel during the week of 2-6 November. The purpose of "ARDEC Greening" is designed to familiarize new engineers on operations of mounted systems in the field. Activities include classroom briefings, vehicle hands-on (non-firing) familiarization, simulations training, and viewing of live fire exercises on unit range for the visitors.

f. Futures Integration:

1) The team continues to develop the ABCT learning demands and essential elements of analysis derived from the Army Warfighting Challenges and the Combat Vehicle Modernization Strategy. The learning demands will be incorporated into the analysis plan of the modeling and simulation effort supported by the Maneuver Battle Lab to inform the ABCT OMS/MP, O&O, and the APA/CPR which reflect the new K-series TO&E and Abrams and Bradley vehicle modernization efforts.

2) The team continues to monitor the CSA Divestiture Study which identifies LIN which are no longer relevant to the force. The 3-Star GOSC briefing packet recommended divestiture of 22 LIN. Although recommended for divestiture, TCM-ABCT recommended retention of 2821

M231 Firing Port Weapon as a possible solution for the weapon integrated on the Bradley Commander Independent Weapon Station in ECP2b.

3) The team began planning an experiment, probably a tabletop map exercise, based on operations in an immature theater against a peer/near-peer threat with periods of threat air superiority and overwhelming threat fires superiority. Terrain will be a mix of unimproved roads, agricultural fields and urban centers with multiple river and gaps. Operations are characterized by long logistical lines of support. The experiment will most likely occur in February 2015.

g. Sustainment and Logistics Integration:

1) Mr. Harper and MSG Kennedy participated in the M88 Op Mod Quarterly VTC. Items of discussion included FY16 fielding plans, and testing procedures being conducted on headlight assemblies. We offered our help with gathering and submitting user feedback, helping coordinate PM team visits and limited item Soldier testing prior to production of future equipment.

2) MSG Kennedy is coordinating personnel to support AMPV Human Factors team in an evaluation of AMPV variant(s) Soldier space. This event is tentatively scheduled for 16-19 November at BAE's Santa Clara facility and will use vehicle mock-ups to gain Soldier inputs in terms of physical space required to conduct various tasks. A joint team from TCM ABCT and MRD will support the event.

2. RECON.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

- 1) Scout of the Future (SotF): TCM Recon leads the MCoE Working Group to write the SotF Concept and knowledge, skills, and attributes (KSAs) at core, individual and unit levels in order to gain MCoE approval and incorporate into the R&S CBA.
- 2) R&S CBA: FSA ongoing – will incorporate SotF requirements from the working group.
- 3) CAV SQDN O&O: Draft complete and in team review.

b. R&S, LRS Support:

- 1) R&S BCT Implementation (ARCIC): Awaiting decision on re-introduction in next QRF
- 2) CIEF/QFR Prep (CDD): Collaboration ISO AWfC #11 Paper – Conduct Air-Ground Reconnaissance
- 3) R-LL Work Group (316 CAV BDE): Participation in the R-LL Work Group in preparation for WG outbriefs to the CG on 27 OCT.

3. Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 15 Oct - LP CROWS / CVTESS fitment excursion (APG)
- 15-23 Oct - Support to DoD IG Audit Team (1/34 ABCT) (Camp Ripley, MN)
- 27-29 Oct - Abrams User Nation Group (Warren, MI)
- 21-22 OCT - Co-Site Interference/ Force Protection
- 02-06 Nov - Multifunction Vehicle Port CMUR Form, Fit & Function (Warren) (T)
- 16-19 Nov - AMPV Human Factors (MANPRINT) Testing (Santa Clara, CA)
- 30 Nov-05 Dec 15 - Unit Visit to 8A/2ID RAF (2/1CD) (ROK)

b. RECON

- 21 SEP-17 OCT: NIE 16.1, FBTX (MAJ Dankyan)
- 7 OCT: SotF WG#1
- 13 OCT: SotF Update to ARSCH DEPCMDT
- 4 NOV: Cavalry Council / Warfighter Forum, FBGA

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