****

**TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP (week of 24 August 15) 26 August 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 Abrams TADSS lead is participating in the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT) concurrency IPT at Fort Riley, Kansas. This stakeholder working group is providing current CCTT status and the plan through FY21. The outcome will determine the recommendation whether to do another round of concurrency, and what items will be included in the next round of upgrades and concurrency. The group is going to recommend that the Abrams ECP1a be included in the next round of upgrades and the course of action for Abrams ECP1b will be included in the next generation collective training device, which is the Synthetic Training Environment (STE) solution.

**b. Bradley -** In FY13, ECP-I testing revealed the current HMPT 500-3ECB transmission in the Bradley FoV could no longer support current and anticipated Gross Combat Weight (GCW). The HMPT 800 Hydro-mechanical Transmission currently being used by the PiM has been identified as the transmission to replace the HMPT 500 transmission. The HMPT 800 transmission initially received a Marginal-Probable Hazard (RAC 3-B, SERIOUS Risk) rating due to transmission failure during “Brake Fade” testing of the Bradley at GCW and at anticipated future GCW. On 24 August 2015 ATEC, TACOM, PdM Bradley, and PM AFV came to common agreement on the assessed hazard classification of the HMPT 800 Hydro-mechanical Transmission. The current agreement will establish an assessed hazard classification of Marginal-Occasional (RAC 3-C, MEDIUM Risk) level of risk for integration of the HMPT 800 transmission on the Bradley FoV. With this level of risk, PM AFV will accept, through risk management, risks associated with the test findings allowing for unrestricted fielding of the HMPT 800 transmission based off of the added capability the component will provide.

**c. AMPV.**

 1) Mike Sjostrom continues to participate in the AMPV software IPT in which one particular topic of discussion involves a ‘VICTORY’ software version for AMPV. Version 1.4.1 and 1.6.2 are the two versions available. PM AMPV is exploring government provided software from TARDEC versus a BAE development (significant cost savings if TARDEC version 1.6.2 is possible).

 2) Mike also participated in the weekly AMPV GP/Mission Command IPT. Focus was on the vehicle interface panel (VIP). One concern is the security requirement of the physical spacing between secret and unclassified lines (5 cm). A possible solution is using fiber optic-like solutions; BAE will provide concept drawings NLT early next week along with pros/cons of the COA.

**d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:**

1. **Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net) -** Ron Kuykendall is participating 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 this week. This effort is in response to G3/5/7 memo that directs this study be conducted to determine the operational effectiveness of ABCT formations when the MNVR is hosted on an alternate C2 vehicle, the Bradley Fire Support Team (BFIST) vehicle and Commanders’ Bradley vehicles. This study will inform MNVR acquisition decisions and fielding strategies for ABCTs. TRADOC Is required to provide the final report NLT Jun 16.

1. **Training, Leader Development, and Safety Integration (TLS):**
	1. MILPER MESSAGE 15-263, UPDATES AND PROCEDURES TO DA FORM 2166-8 .PDF-F NCO EVALUATION REPORT, ISSUED: [25 AUG 15]. This message provides procedures for use of recently updated DA Form 2166-8, dated August 2015, version 1.00 .pdf-f NCO Evaluation Report. This form update provides administrative corrections and additional security measures to those currently embedded within the .pdf-f form, and prevents content entered on the form from being altered once a rating official’s digital signature is applied. Content specific to each rating official’s section of responsibility becomes “locked” once entered on this form and a rating official’s digital signature is applied. Effective 15 October 2015, DA Form 2166-8, dated March 2015 NCOERs will no longer be accepted by HRC Evaluations Branch for processing official filing in an NCO’s AMHRR. <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-220741>
2. Members of Team TLS have completed their coverage of NTC Rotation 15-09 in support of the 116th CBCT (IDARNG). Consolidated observations, insights, and lessons learned will be delivered to unit leadership during a projected unit visit to their homestation location. Dates of the visit are TBA.
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, agendas, directions, lodging, and participation via DCS, visit <http://www.benning.army.mil/mcoe/maneuverconference/index.html>
4. Select-Train-Educate-Promote, also known as STEP, is a policy that represents the Army's investment in Soldiers' professional military education through a deliberate, continuous, and progressive process. Since 2008, the Army has required master sergeants to graduate from the Sergeants Major Course before attaining eligibility for promotion to sergeant major. Effective Jan. 1, 2016, the Army will expand this standard for promotion eligibility to other NCO ranks by requiring Soldiers to complete appropriate levels of PME before being determined fully qualified. Learn more at: <http://www.army.mil/standto/archive_2015-08-24/?s_cid=standto>
5. 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.

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1. Mr. Kuamoo has completed assistance in the development of the M1002 Frangible Nose (FN). Procedures for the User Handling Test (UHT) have been completed and the test will be conducted from 24-27 August, 2015 at the Yuma Test Center, AZ. Successful conclusion of this UHT allows continued development of the FN with a target date for first rounds available to the field (2ID-Korea) in summer 2016.
2. Coordination continues for a two day Master Gunner Conference to be conducted in tandem with the 2015 Maneuver Conference from 14-17 September at Fort Benning. The formal announcement of this conference has been distributed to the field for their information and planning considerations.

**f. Sustainment and Systems Integration** **-** The Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS-Army) is a new information system that will improve every warehouse, supply room, motor pool, and property book office in the Total Army. GCSS-Army is based on a commercial software program and will ultimately be the largest enterprise resource planning (ERP) system in the Department of Defense. ERPs have long been used by the business community to store and share information among users. GCSS-Army has all the benefits of its commercial ERP counterparts, but it is designed specifically for the unique needs of the Army. Learn more: <http://www.army.mil/standto/archive_2015-08-19/?s_cid=standto>

**g. Assistant Director-ARNG -** The ARNG LNO concluded support to Team TLS as they covered down on the IDARNG 116th ABCT NTC rotation. Consolidated observations, insights, and lessons learned will be delivered to unit leadership during a projected unit visit to their homestation location. Dates of the visit are TBA.

**h. 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 Protection-Assured Mobility and Sustainment Service Support portfolios.

**2. RECON.**

1. **LRS DOTMLPF Development:**

1) LRS Assessment external staffing is complete, awaiting comments from CDD review.

2) After consideration of CDD review, the next step will be approval by the Deputy to the Commanding General date TBD.

1. **Close Access Target Reconnaissance:**

1) CATR Materiel Customer Test: Updated the draft CATR Critical Operational Issues and Criteria (COIC) based on outcomes from workgroup at APG MD.

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

1. **Analysis and Experimentation -** UC15.3. (Unified Quest):

1) LRS Assessment external staffing is complete, awaiting comments from CDD review.

2) Next activity scheduled date TBD 8-10 will be a MCoE - USAACE VTC Review of Seminar Concept and Vignettes which will support the two-day Air-Ground Operations Seminar, 21-22 September during the 2nd week of the UC 15.3GAMEX.

1. **BCT Cav Sqdn O&O:**

1) Army Division staffing produced no changes to document.

2) Document goes into final TCM Recon review, followed by DOTD editor’s review.

3) Final review will be with Director Doctrine Development and then Chief of Armor.

1. **USAACE UAS Analysis:**

1) Awaiting response from USAACETCM Recon provided USAACE action officer copies of the scout platoon and cavalry squadron O&Os and is preparing to provide information from the R&S CBA FAA and FNA to assist with USAACE action officer mission analysis.

2) TCM Recon will also collect information from BCT TCMs and CDD that may be useful in answering USAACE RFI.

1. **Upcoming Events**.

 a. ABCT

* 07-11 Sep - LP CROWS User Excursion (FHTX)
* 12-18 Sep - Unit Visit to 8A/2ID RAF (2/1CD) (ROK)
* 17 Sep -10 Oct - NIE, Ex CAB TAC CP evaluation (FBTX)

b. RECON

* TBD: Unit Visit 3ID & CATR Facility, FSGA
* TBD: Reconfigurable Integrated Weapons Pedestal DEMO, Redstone Arsenal AL
* 25-26 August: FVL RIPT Working Group #14: CONOPS Development, Telecon
* 1 SEP: CATR PEO IEW&S MDD Management Review Telecon
* 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

c. CATR Training Events: **No Change**: TBA pending replacement of contract personnel

**Email Members of TCM-ABCT/Recon’s staff:**

Director: John W. Miller III

Deputy Director: MAJ James A. Polak

TCM - ABCT SGM: SGM Quentin Barber

TCM - Recon: Pete Rose

DOP/AMPV/MC Team: Ron Kuykendall

TLS Team Lead: Carl Johnson

Abrams Team Lead: Robert Hay

Bradley Team Lead: George Moore

Sustainment: Stephen Harper

Engineer/Field Artillery: MSG Myron Kennedy

Futures: Rhett Griner

Large Caliber Ammo: Wakeland Kuamoo

ARNG Representative: MAJ Matthew Dankyan

Office Admin Contact: Ms. Shelelia Wynn

Office Mailing Address: TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance (ATZB-CIA)

7533 Holtz Avenue, Suite 4090

 Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Office Number: COMM: 706-545-4461 DSN: 835-4461

