



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP [week of 01 February]

03 February 2016

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1. ABCT

a. Abrams.

1) The Technical Advisor is coordinating with PdM Abrams and Aberdeen Test Center in preparation for the Abrams M1A2 SEPV3 user jury scheduled for 7-15 March 2016 and the Abrams software version 4.6 scheduled for 16-27 May 2016. The M1A2 SEPV3 User Jury is the first opportunity to shake down the new hardware and software associated with (ECP1a) SEPV3. Testing will assess general mobility, power management, mounted surveillance, command & control, ADL, training device interface, embedded training main weapon performance, secondary armaments, sighting systems, target acquisition, target designation, diagnostics, AACs, degraded operation, and Soldier-machine interface. The objective of the version 4.6 beta test is to verify and validate the software update is fully functional, combining the Ammunition Data Link, JCAD integration and LP CROWS. Crews will conduct a live fire consisting of 30 scenarios that validate the FCS through various fully operational and degraded states. This includes validation of the Ammunition Data Link (to include firing the M829A4 round), LP CROWS, Battle Command software, AACs, training device compatibility and general mobility.

b. Bradley.

1) The TCM Bradley Master Gunner is attending the annual Orbital ATK (OATK) Bushmaster User Conference from 02-04 Feb 2016 at OATK's facility in Mesa, AZ. The User Conference is showcasing their current weapon systems and ammunition with a live-fire demonstration of the M230LF 30mm Apache chain gun from the EOS R-400 Remote Weapon Station mounted on a MATV. They will also be demonstrating the MK44 in both 30mm and 40mm configuration with ammunition consistent with both configurations (HEDP, HEIT and TPT ammunition types). There are also informational briefs being conducted to showcase ABM upgrade kits and M242 Bushmaster enhancement kits including re-manufacture techniques that have been adopted by OATK that improve upon the M242.

2) ATCM continues to provide reviews to the PdM and LOGSA and the EPCO for the Technical manuals and has a meeting date to review of 10 Feb 2016. During this review the ATCM will provide our purposed changes and edits for a logical flow in the manual.

3) ATCM TADSS lead has been informed that as of 1/28/2016 the contract to purchase the COFT-SA in order to pure fleet the Army with one simulator and provide the AC Bde's 3 each Bradley Table Top training systems that provide a deployable capability for ABCT's that will fit in a HMMWV verses pulling a semi-trailer with the simulator.

4) ATCM Test and Requirement lead Mr. Dave Rogers attended the Bradley Program Management Review (PMR) at BAE Systems, Sterling Heights, MI. The PMR is a semiannual event designed to bring key stakeholders together in a single forum with the intent of bringing all parties up-to-speed on the current state of the program and where it's projected to be in the near

future. This PMR provided a key status update on the readiness of the Bradley ECP 2 program to enter government Developmental Testing (DT) testing beginning in March. There are currently 29 test entrance criterion required to be completed prior to entering DT testing and 9 of those 29 are at risk to be completed. The PM is willing to accept the risk as long as there's a clear path forward for their eventual resolution.

c. AMPV.

1) Mark Andrews (MRD) and Ron Kuykendall assisted PM AMPV in reviewing a draft Directed Requirement memorandum for the acceleration of AMPV to support European Activity Set (EAS) requirements. The team recommended clarification of specific requirement(s) and language. The vehicle NET concept was also a key discussion point and will continue to be refined throughout the staffing process.

d. Formation and DOTLFP Integration:

1) Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net):

a) Mike Sjoström participated in VIC-5 nuclear hardening (EMP) survival brief to COL Milner, PM AMPV. Decision is to hold course for EMD and wait for the Army to determine if the VIC-5 has a future or if it will be replaced with a different solution. Background: VIC-3 only supports 6 channels and is in sunset with the only path to the future being VIC-5. VIC-5 failed the EMP test. VIC-5 may not have a future. Current AMPV solution requires up to 6 channels on the mission command variant which would leave no room for the VOIP phone or future network growth.

b) The Network Team assisted PM AMPV in hosting the Command Post Summit here on 2 and 3 February. Participants included the Cyber COE, MCCoE, MCoE, SoSE&I, CERDEC and several network and platform PMs. The event provided clarification of future network Computing Environments (CE), programed improvements and their impact(s) on AMPV, Stryker and JLTV development. A detailed summary will be provided next week.

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

a) The 2016 Sullivan Cup; Best Tank Crew Competition hosted by the Maneuver Center of Excellence, the US Army Armor School, and the 194th Armored Brigade will be held 02-06 May 2016 at Fort Benning, Georgia. An overview of the competition, projected social events, and a tool to track the competition can be found here: <http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/sullivan/index.html> Follow the proceedings on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/USAARMS>

b) Article; **7 Changes to Army NCO Professional Development.** "NCO 2020 Strategy represents an analytical, data-driven process for evolving the Noncommissioned Officer Education System of today into the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System of tomorrow." ~CSM David Davenport [TRADOC Senior Enlisted Adviser] Review the changes here: <http://www.tradocnews.org/7-changes-to-army-nco-professional-development/>

c) TCM-ABCT visited three units in the past 60 days (2/1CD in Korea, 1/3ID upon return from RAF EUCOM, and 3/4ID upon return from OSS in Kuwait). One common theme in interviews with leaders/master gunners involved Task 2 of the Gunnery Skills Test, "Threat/Friendly/Theater-Specific Vehicle Identification." In EUCOM, several of our NATO partners employ some of the same combat platforms as our potential adversaries. The consensus is the force may need to consider recommendations aimed at standardizing NATO vehicle markings, employing common Combat Identification Panel (CIP) kits that utilize reverse polarity technologies, and applying a common NATO paint scheme. TCM ABCT believes it's time for an

update to the ROC-V software, which is frequently used for GST testing, and the resurgence of the ATSC-produced deck of GTA cards that depict modern-day vehicles and aircraft for all NATO militaries as well as our potential adversaries, who over the past 10 years have substantially upgraded their combat platform capabilities.

d) The Infantry School has updated USAIS Pam 350-6, Expert Infantryman Badge. At a recent unit visit to Fort Carson, infantry company commanders from 3/4ID (ABCT) disclosed challenges in finding enough EIB-qualified personnel across the installation to conduct grading to standard. To remedy this, BDEs/DIVs should consider consolidating EIB-qualified personnel at installation level to grade the events until the EIB population at lower echelons can be built up. Access USAIS Pam 350-6 here: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-250418>

e. Large Caliber Ammo:

1) We're continuing support to 8A and USFK to ensure direct fire munitions meet range safety standards involving the 25mm M-910 training rounds. Once USFK provides a task list on engagements for the M910 round, we will refer it to ARDEC to perform escapement probabilities. Results will be sent back to Korea for use in the commanders risk assessment prior to live fire.

f. Futures Integration:

1) LTC Jasper and Mr. Jackson led two breakout sessions in support of the RDEC-MCoE Collaboration Workshop on 2 and 3 FEB. The breakout sessions focused on increasing the ABCT's ability to conduct CEMA and Counter-UAS operation. Breakout session back-briefs will be presented the morning of 4 FEB to the main conference audience.

2) Mr. Griner supported the newly commissioned Russian Next Generation Warfare study group (focusing on the Tactical Level). TCM ABCT will conduct a Functional Area Analysis (FAA) NLT 15 FEB to determine and prioritize the ABCT's Collective Tasks that will be assessed during the Functional Needs Analysis (FNA).

g. Sustainment and Logistics Integration:

1) TCM ABCT participated in the Council of Colonels along with ARCIC SUST/MSPD/MASD, cross functional CoEs & TCMs, as well as representation from PMs with the intent to gain a consensus and TRADOC position for HQDA and POM 18-22 on:

- Solutions to M1A2 FOV impacts on M88A2 HERCULES, Heavy Equipment Transporter System (HETS), and Military Bridging.
- Prioritization of solutions.
- Combined solution approach based on limited funding and M1A2SEPV3 fielding.

Prioritization should be based on the nature of the gaps, but the solution must be an integrated combination of M88, HETS, and Bridging, synchronized with M1A2v3 fielding. The TCM ABCT suggested priority is to upgrade M88A2 recovery, upgrade HET, HET New Start, JAB, and Composite Bridging. Participants did not counter or reject this position and it was designated as the groups position moving forward. ARCIC-SUST then briefed BG George on 2 February but no decision was made. BG George's guidance was to go forward with a white paper that provides the operational context of funding or not funding these system in the POM 18-22. The White paper should help inform what it means in operational context to the Commander on the ground. Additionally it should outline the risks associated to funding each at a reduced amount in a constrained budget environment. ARCIC-SUST is the lead for this white paper and TCM ABCT will support them in the white paper development and staffing process.

2) The team participated in the Maneuver Support Vessel (Heavy) (MSV(H)) Requirements Integrated Process Team (RIPT) which met to discuss the continued process of developing MSV(H) capabilities and capturing those capabilities into the proper JCIDS documentation, adjust the requirements documentation where required, and set in motion analysis activities where required. The lead for this IPT was the Sustainment Center of Excellence who focused discussion on the staffing of their drafted Requirements Management and Analysis Plan and Requirements Integrated Product Team Charter. TCM ABCT does not have signature authority on either of these documents but will remain involved to ensure the ABCT Commanders concerns and demands are accounted for.

h. Assistant Director - ARNG:

1) The staff continues to await the results of the DoD IG Audit Team evaluation conducted on the 1/34th ABCT (MNARNG) Cavalry Squadron. The evaluation was completed in November and December on Armor, Infantry, and Cavalry Co/TM training readiness during battalion collective training events at Camp Ripley, MN. The 1/34th ABCT continues to conduct monthly teleconference across states with organic and supported units in preparation of their NTC rotation. The next 1/34th ABCT NTC 16-07 Planning Synch Meeting scheduled 091030Feb16.

2) ARNG ABCT force structure changes continue to develop. Currently, the focus is on MTOE changes in the 278th ACR (TNARNG) and 116th ABCT (IDARNG). Over the next two years, the ARNG will reduce to five ABCTs with the inactivation of the 55/28th ABCT (PAARNG) by the end of FY16, and the conversion of the 81st ABCT (CA/ORARNG) to a SBCT by August 2016.

2. RECON.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

1) R&S BCT O&O Implementation: Provided recommendations to ARCIC Force Design Directorate's "Opportunities Papers" written to support the March Executive Committee session. Concurrently TCM Recon remains in contact to assist FORSCOM staff officers in preparation of the updated R&S BCT designation risk assessment.

2) CAV SQDN O&O: TCM-Recon submitted the CAV SQDN O&O to the Chief of Armor on 3 FEB 16 for concurrence and forwarding to ARCIC for approval.

3) Scout PLT O&O: Preparing for the 17 FEB guidance session with the CoAR. The three outcomes of the session are to gain CoAR concurrence on:

. The Scout PLT O&O outline.

a. The study / analysis plan for assessing Scout squad TOE documentation COAs and recommending a definition for a Scout squad and the subsequent manner in which to document scout squads on TOEs and MTOEs.

4) R&S CBA: **NO CHANGE:** The team continues to prepare for the 17 FEB 16 FSA Azimuth Check with the CoAR.

5) 19D Scout Sniper. Next step is to gain CoAR's concurrence with the study / analysis plan for developing the concept for the Cavalry Scout Sniper, including related scout platoon collective tasks and individual tasks. This effort is being worked in conjunction with the USAARMS and 3-16 CAV SQDN's related efforts to integrate Scout Sniper employment into the Army Reconnaissance Course.

6) Russian New Generation Warfare Study: TCM Recon is participating in a support role with TCM ABCT. The participants are currently involved in literature review and providing RFIs to the study's G2 participants IOT gain a common understanding of the threat.

b. Standard Scout Squad Force Design Update (FDU) Preparation. **NO CHANGE**: ON HOLD PENDING Scout Squad Definition Analysis, date TBD: Completed initial draft of A-I-S BCT Cavalry Squadron Scout Platoon Standardized TOE reflecting both current and future Organizational designs and began coordination with OCOA & TCM S & I. continuing work on standardizing Battalion Scout Plt TOE and organizations.

c. CATR: O&O. **NO CHANGE**: Completion on hold due to competing requirements.

1) CATR Lesson Plans: Developing CATR Overview lesson plan. Continue to update Tagging tracking and locating lessons plans. Developing CATR critical task list.

2) CATR integration into functional courses. **NO CHANGE**: 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.

3) CATR technical and audio video (TAVS) **NO CHANGE**: training is scheduled to be conducted 16-19 FEB.

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

d. Sensor Capability Development. Actions complete.

Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 02-03 Feb - Command Post Summit (FBGA)
- 02-04 Feb - RDEC Collaboration Workshop (FBGA)
- 02-04 Feb - Bushmaster Weapon User WG (YPG, AZ)
- 10 Feb - Bradley TM review with LOGSA & EPCO (Redstone Arsenal, AL)
- 11 Feb - TCM ABCT/Recon Off-site (FBGA)
- 15-19 Feb - PM-MAS/AMSAA Visit to MCoE (Abrams/MGS Training and Gunnery)
- 21-24 Feb - Command Post Integration Sync Meeting (FBTX)
- 07-12 Mar - TCM-ABCT Seminar War game (FBGA)
- 07-11 Mar - Assured PNT WG (APG, MD)
- 07-15 Mar - Abrams User Jury (APG, MD)
- 05-08 Apr - JAB User Forum (Warren, MI)
- 26-29 Apr - JAB Start of Work Meeting (Warren, MI)

b. RECON

- TBD JAN: Scout Sniper Concept and Task Analysis (TCM-R/USAARMS/DOTD)
- TBD FEB: LRS CBA way ahead teleconference
- 4 FEB: HF-TTL PM Special Reconnaissance IPT (ST Petersburg, FL)
- 4 FEB: RNGW G2 Threat Brief
- 8-12 FEB: RNGW Tactical Team Exercise; Olive Hall
- 16-19 FEB: CATR technical and audio video training
- 17 FEB (T): TCM Recon Update to Chief of Armor
- 2 MAR (T): TCM Recon Update to Chief of Armor

Email Members of TCM-ABCT/Recon's staff:

Director: [John W. Miller III](#)
Military Deputy: [LTC Joseph Jasper](#)
TCM - ABCT SGM: [SGM Quentin Barber](#)

TCM - Recon:	LTC Darrell O'Steen
XO, 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
'Other Systems' Lead	MAJ James A. Polak
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