**TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP (week of 18 May 15) 20 May 2015**

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**1. ABCT.**

**a. Abrams**

 1) Team Abrams continues to work issues related to the Advanced Gunnery Training Systems (AGTS) realignment. ATSC, an organization with-in CAC-T, is requesting specific dates that units deactivate in order to execute the realignment plan. TCM ABCT is requesting ATSC redistribute AGTS systems to coincide with recent force structure changes in accordance with the BOIP in the 1994 ORD, 1 per BN/SQRD. TCM ABCT has asked G 3/5/7 to provide dates when units will no longer need the AGTS based on deactivation. Additionally, we are asking G3/5/7 to adjudicate the request to Korea to keep 5 AGTS. This would deny 3 CONUS BNs an AGTS per the BOIP. PM Abrams secured funding to purchase an additional 4 AGTSs to cover rotational units in Korea and Germany not covered by the BOIP in the Abrams ORD. TCM ABCT supports 2 AGTS in Korea and 2 in Germany based on rotational units deployment status of T-1.

 2) Team Abrams conducted an IPR the week of 11 May at FT Hood TX to discuss the future of CCTT and to observe ongoing concurrency upgrades. TCM ABCT reiterated our position that CCTT should not enter the sustainment phase of the Acquisition lifecycle until the Army tests and fields a suitable replacement. CAC-T and PEO STRI are recommending de-scoping the CCTT CPD as a mechanism for moving CCTT into sustainment. TCM ABCT is staffing a memorandum for the CG MCoE non-concurring with the de-scoping actions.

 3) The Abrams technical advisor and Master Gunner assisting with an Abrams transportability user excursion at APG, MD. PM Abrams is conducted the excursion in order to determine time required to remove and reinstall the Abrams skirts. Due to the increased weight of the M1A2 Abrams SEPv3, the Abrams will no longer be air transportable by C5/C17 in a combat ready configuration because of the aircraft ramp limitations. Future TTPs for air transport will require removal of the Abrams ballistic skirts in order to meet the weight limits. The test will determine times to reconfigure the tank, and will provide commanders a baseline for planning air transport operations of the Abrams SEP v3. The excursion is structured using two scenarios. The first scenario is a full tank crew with maintainer support and the second is two crewmen with maintainer support using only the equipment organically available within the ABCT (10 ton wrecker).

 4) Abrams and Bradley TADSS analysts are providing SME support to PEO-STRI in the production of Interactive Multimedia Instruction (IMI) for the Crew Modular Unit Recorder (CMUR) thru-sight video. The purpose of the IMI is to develop a video and pocket type user guide to assist Soldiers with the install, operation and the proper procedure of the AAR computer. PEO STRI is conducting the data collection at the Bradley Instruction Facility on Harmony Church.

**b. Bradley.**

1) The ATCM and the Bradley Senior Technical Advisor are in Detroit, Michigan attending the Bradley ECP2 Program Management Review. This PMR is providing a key status update on the logistics support scheduling, contractual deliverables, organizational changes, and is reviewing the logistical processes, management tools, and product status of ECP2. The logistics support effort is well on its way in the planning and documenting phases for testing support to include Technical Manual development/updates, RAM analysis and performance, diagnostics, IETM development and validation, provisioning, and training. The Bradley PdM has stressed to the team that logistical planning and integration be involved early in the program and the team has adopted the strategy to ensure all 12 Integrated Product Support Elements are incorporated. RAM engineering has been well established with predictions to meet the performance requirements throughout the vehicles lifecycle but all aspects will be analyzed in planned test events starting in FY16. The second day of the PMR will focus on the vehicle test support, test preparation, along with vehicle build and integration status. Management tools and processes are in place and will continue to me exercised to ensure that the ECP2 A4 is successfully fielded on schedule in FY20 and is a supportable system that enables the ABCT as intended.

2) The Bradley Training Advisor is providing Crew Module Unit with Recorder (CMUR) SME support to PEO STRIs in their effort to develop an interactive multimedia support product. This interactive media will help instruct Soldiers during the installation, operation, and removal of the system. The system developer, AKIMI, has been capturing data using camera and video feed in order to create a combination of video, picture, and 3D representations of the components which will provide and an easy to understand instructional tool that enables repeatable soldier actions and will help alleviate previously experienced user errors. This support product is in the initial stage of development which but is on schedule for testing and product completion at the beginning of CY16.

3) The ATCM met with project members from PEO GCS, TARDEC, USAMMDA, and ASRC Federal Primus whose team has been developing a prototype medical evacuation vehicle using the Bradley chassis as a baseline. The turret has been removed and the occupant compartment has been kitted with a medical equipment package and two (2) litter lift systems that can be quickly configured to accommodate a combination of mission demands ranging from four (4) litter patients to six (6) ambulatory patients. This project was initiated in 2012 with funding from USAMMDA and in addition to a prototype vehicle, it has developed numerous government owned technical data packages that have potential leveraging in follow-on government contracts. Additional R&D and funding would be needed to finalize the prototype design before it would even be ready for testing. The project team understands that the AMPV has already been programmed to provide ground medical evacuation capability to the ABCT and has no intent to compete against its mission role. Instead, they have stated that the capability is targeted as an affordable kit application for Army funding and fielding flexibility with the highest potential for EAB incorporation.

**c. AMPV.**

1) Scott Williford submitted recommendations to DOTD for the AMPV System Training Plan based off of TADSS meeting conducted at Ft. Benning, GA. The recommendations centered on the CASCOM decision to use the 91M as the AMPV system maintainer and leveraging the existing BFV training devices to minimize facility impacts. Also, the comments highlighted the need to verify the various Centers of Excellence vehicle requirements for training based on comments from the AMEDD and CASCOM. Final vehicle institutional training requirements are expected by 21 May 2015.

**d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:**

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

 1) Mike Sjostrom supported the Maneuver Center of Excellence’s Network Seminar, hosted by TCM-BCT Mission Command with participation from other CoEs, Operational Force members and multi-national partners. This event provided a forum to confirm and identify the Army Mission Command Network 2020 capability gaps that will exist at the Company, Battalion, and Brigade organizational levels in FY 2025 and identify the DOTMLPF-P recommendations to assist in mitigating those gaps. TCM-BCT Mission Command will provide a report summarizing specific details at a later date.

2) Ron Kuykendall informed PM MBTS and PM AFV that TCM ABCT will no longer pursue evaluations of BFT objectives, submitted for NIE 16.1. These objectives are: Latency between BFT2 and BFT1 and TARDEC's Bradley BFT2 solution. TCM ABCT coordinate for an operational evaluation of the Bradley BFT2 solution at another location.

3) TCM ABCT’s network team will continue to monitor 1CD’s transition from EPLRS to BFT based systems within their ABCTs. One unique action is the transfer of 1/5AR in 2/1CD to become 1/37AR within 2/1AD. The unit is currently an EPLRS BN. This BN will require a transition from EPLRS to BFT, at Ft. Bliss or Ft. Hood TX., IOT achieve compatibility within 2/1AD.

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

1) Mr. McCrea and Mr. Granen are supporting *Operation Combined Resolve IV*, where the Army will exercise its regionally aligned forces to Europe (1/3ID ABCT) at the Hohenfels training areas from May 25th to June 4th. Combined Resolve is a series of bi-annual USAREUR exercises designed to train participants to function together in a multinational and integrated environment and train Army rotational forces to Europe to be more flexible, agile and better able to operate alongside Allies and partners in the region. Combined Resolve IV will feature more than 4,700 participants from 10 NATO Allies including Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Slovenia, and 3 partner nations of Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia. Learn more here: <http://www.eur.army.mil/jmtc/CombinedResolve.html>

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1) Mr. Kuamoo observing tank gunnery with B company, 1-81 Armor at Hastings Range. This gunnery is in support of new Soldier training, main gun ammunition performing as designed.

2) Mr. Kuamoo finalizing mission to accompany 8 armor Master Gunners to visit the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in Burlington, IA

**f. Sustainment and Systems Integration****:**

1) Mr. Harper is currently working ABCT fuel issues voiced by BDE and BN CDRs. It was noted that 1 CD is receiving 5K and HEMTT tanker turn-in or lateral transfer instructions. The new (current) MToE reflects the Tank Rack Module (TRM) will replace a number of HEMTT tankers. The BSB will lose 15 M969 5K tankers which will be replaced by 18 HEMTT fuelers and 18 TRMs. This action causes the BSB fuel capacity to drop by 20K GLs. The TRM has not have a full material release (FMR). If the TRM passes IOT&E, fielding probably will not start until 1QTFY16. PM-PAWS is still working on the manuals and training material. As of today DAG8 does not even have a fielding schedule for the TRM.

**g. Futures:**

1) Mr. Rhett Griner attended the Training Readiness and Reporting Workshop at Carlisle Barracks, PA from 11-15 May 2015. The workshop was scheduled to support a tasking from the Chief of Staff of the United States Army (CSA), and the goal was to facilitate Forces Command's (FORSCOM) development of Essential Task Lists (ETLs). The senior representative was BG Johnson, the Army's Director of Training (DOT).

SUMMARY/OUTCOME: The working group spent the majority of our time establishing "business rules" for the development of Essential Tasks. The proposed methodology currently consists of: Paring down the Universal Task List (UTL) to a smaller list of Core Tasks, Identify up to 7 Core Tasks as Essential Tasks, the unit will focus its training or this ETL. TCM ABCT also presented a list of ABCT capabilities. Below are the capabilities that we presented for the ABCT.

- Optimized for offensive operations against conventional, irregular and hybrid forces in all types of terrain.

- Operational speed and tempo provided by main battle tanks, Infantry Fighting Vehicles and Self-propelled Artillery supported by improved mobility capability (BEB).

- Mobility, protection, long range precision and scalable firepower are unmatched.

- ABCT operates equally well in heavily populated urban areas as it does on open rolling terrain.

- Excellent mobility and firepower and protection allows CDRs to rapidly scale response to threat.

- Employ joint, army and multi-national fires.

- Provides excellent logistical capability.

The capabilities came from TCM ABCT's Capabilities Portfolio Review (CPR) and from SBCT's CPR (they had a slide that compared the A, I, and S BCTs); our products are draft and need to be approved by the CDI Director and the Commandants. There is a follow up workshop 8-12 June and the results and final products will be briefed at the ATLDC 14-16 July.

**2. RECON**

**a. R&S BCT and Supporting Experimentation**.

15 Jun – 2 Jul – Performing Action Officer Coordination in preparation for UC 15.2 Seminar/Wargame Phase III, FBGA (Rose, Fowler, Dunn) **(No Change)**

**b. R&S Capabilities Based Assessment (CBA).**

1) Anticipating compressed timeline for Sqdn O&O. May begin work 27 May with completed O&O submitted to ARCIC o/a 29 June, two months earlier than projected

2) Functional Needs Analysis (FNA): **No Change:** Organizing FNA capability gaps and their associated solutions within the FSA according to an operational priority of core Squadron mission sets and then enabler and Army-wide gaps.

3) Functional Solutions Analysis (FSA): **No Change:** Internal and external CoE colonel level review of relevant areas of the R&S CBA FSA is currently ongoing with no significant issues raised. Upon completion of this staffing, TCM-Recon will begin BCT Command Team staffing through Division G3s o/a 26 MAY, with a requested suspense of 23 JUNE. TCM-Recon then adjudicates staffing comments and completes final draft FSA Report o/a 30 JUNE.

3) Draft DOTMLPF Integrated Change Recommendation (DICR). **No Change:** Under development; goal is to submit a draft with the FSA for ARCIC’s concurrent approval to speed up the CBA’s approval.

**c. Future Vertical Lift (FVL) and H47 Analysis of Alternatives (AoA).**

1) Participating in H-47 AoA at Ft Rucker 18-22 May.

2) FVL: **No Change:** Next action scheduled is 23-24 JUN: FVL RIPT Working Group #13: FVL Attribute Study Update, CONOPS Development, Telecon (Fowler).

**d. BCT Design Options / Analysis.**

**No Change:** Army Senior Leader decisions expected in or around June 2015.

**e. LRS DOTMLPF Development & Integration**.

LRS Capability Assessment: Conducted initial coordination with XVIII ABC POC on concept of assessment. TCM Recon has developed study plan and will complete assessment NLT 31 JULY.

**f. Recon Knowledge Network (RKN).**

1) **No Change:** Next action is support of the MCoE Cavalry Council o/a 17 JUNE.

2) **No Change:** Currently preparing the Reconnaissance and Long Range Surveillance Newsletter.

**g. Material. Close Access Target Reconnaissance (CATR) Key Actions:**

1) CATR Policy IPT Workgroup. Published initial coordinating draft policy for field review. The policy is approximately two – thirds complete, due to limited IPT members at the MCoE workshop.

2) Requirements Review: **No Change:** Next briefing to Deputy TCM ABCT / Recon is scheduled for 29 MAY 2015. A follow-on briefing to TCM ABCT-Recon is to be scheduled; this will be in preparation for the signing of an MOA between TCM ABCT – Recon and PM Terrestrial Sensors agreeing on required capabilities met by the current CATR basic set.

3) CATR Sustainment IPT. **No Change:** Reviewing and providing recommendations for Section 9 of Life Cycle Sustainment plan.

4) CATR system training plan (STRAP). **No Change:** DOTD and TCM Recon are adjudicating comments made by Armor and Infantry School Commandants.

5) CATR DOTMLPF Assessment. **No Change:** Action is temporarily on hold due to work load.

6) CATR Architecture. **No Change:** No action required at this time.

7) CATR STAR: **No Change:** Coordinating with MCoE G2 in order to determine if an additional threat assessment is required for the program.

8) Upcoming unit visits. **No Change:**

* 18 June (Tent). I Corps Tech Surveillance Unit, CATR Facility and Corps LRS visit to be coordinated. (Cason & Rose)

9) CATR ONS Tracking. **No Change:**  TCM Recon is continuing to work with division CATR OIC at 1AD, 3ID, and 82nd Airborne regarding ONS requirements.

10) Security Classification Guide (SCG). **No Change:**  PM Ground Sensors is currently staffing the document.

11) Net Plan Development. **No Change:**  Coordinating with PdM Ground Sensors to determine program of instruction (POI).

12) Upcoming briefs:

**No Change:**  Coordinating with DOTD to provide CATR overview and doctrine /training requirements associated with the CATR program (MAY).

1. **Upcoming Events**.

 a. ABCT

* 24 May-05Jun - JMRC 15-04 Force on Force data collection (1/3ID) (Combined Resolve IV @ Hohenfels, GE)
* 01-03 Jun - Tank Ammo Plant tour (Rock Island, IL)
* 15-19 Jun - AMPV Preliminary Design Review (PDR), (SCCA)

b. RECON

* 18 JULY (Tent): I Corps Tech Surveillance Unit, CATR Facility and Corps LRS visit, JBLMWA (Cason & Rose)
* 15 JUNE - 2 JULY: UC 15.2 SIMEX Execution Phase IIIA, MBL, FBGA (Dunn, Fowler & Rose)
* 23-24 JUN: FVL RIPT Working Group #13: FVL Attribute Study Update, CONOPS Development, Telecon (Fowler)
* TBD JUN: Unit Visit 3ID & CATR Facility, FSGA
* 25-26 AUG: FVL RIPT Working Group #14: CONOPS Development, Telecon (Fowler)
* 14-25 SEP: UC 15.3 GAMEX Phase III CAM-WAS, MBL FBGA

c. CATR Training Events

* + - * **No Change:** TBA pending replacement of contract personnel

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

Director: COL Christopher W. Wilbeck

Deputy Director: Mr. John W. Miller III

TCM - ABCT SGM: Vacant

TCM - Recon: Vacant

TCM - Recon XO: Pete Rose

DOP/AMPV/MC Team: Ron Kuykendall

TLS Team Lead: Carl Johnson

Abrams Team Lead: MAJ Robert M. Brown

Bradley Team Lead: MAJ James A. Polak

Systems (EN/FA/LG): Vacant

Sustainment: Stephen Harper

Engineer/Field Artillery: MSG Myron Kennedy

Futures: Rhett Griner

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