



**28 February 2013**

**HeavyNet**

**Volume 6, Issue 2**

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:**

I want to bid farewell to three very dedicated members of the AWFF team. From its inception Randy Alston, Brenda Hall, and Fernando Rodriguez have been the catalyst for ensuring that the Armored Brigade Combat Teams remained informed across DOTMLPF. Their support and hard work truly has made AWFF a unique and efficient medium to discuss doctrine and emerging TTP's. I will miss their professionalism and contributions as I am sure all the Armored Brigades in the Army will.

The AWFF charter to support ABCT's will continue, however as with all organizations that are feeling a tightening of the current fiscal situation we will move to a quarterly newsletter vice a monthly newsletter. The AWFF website will remain active and we will continue to post lessons learned and DOTMLPF changes and pertinent information to assist the Warfighter. Post Rotation Leader Interviews that have been scheduled during umbrella weeks will more than likely occur over Defense Connect Online, our symposiums will continue and I am looking forward to our April 2nd symposium. As always, my charter is to support the Warfighter—please feed your comments and DOTMLPF issues/RFI's to me so we can continue to be an impetus for change.

Finally, much has been made about ABCT's future going forward with the current fiscal situation, new officers and Soldiers will learn their craft in an Army that has increased budget scrutiny and challenges to train to the same exacting standards with less money. As a former Chief of Armor once said, "if we define our business as mobile ground combat, then we in the ABCT community have much to offer our brothers in the other BCT designs, for our business encompasses theirs. We have a stake in the design of practically every weapons system and in the configuration of almost every combat and support organization or unit whether armored or light." Regardless of fiscal concerns this will remain the AWFF charter and intent—to ensure we are the voice for the armored force in all issues concerning DOTMLPF.

Very Respectfully,

LTC Rob Rodriguez  
Director, ABCT Warfighters' Forum

### 3. Announcements:

A. The **28<sup>th</sup> ABCT Warfighters' Forum (AWfF) Senior Mentor Symposium** will be hosted by the ABCT Senior Mentor, LTG Mark A. Milley, Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood, TX, on **02 April 2013**. Topics/presentations include: "Regionally Aligned Force (RAF) Mission Preparation Lessons Learned", by COL Jeffery Broadwater, Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> ABCT, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS; "BCT Fire Support Re-organization", by Commandant, U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Fires Center of Excellence, Fort Sill, OK; "Scout Platoon Configuration and Equipment", by MG H. R. McMasters, CG, Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, GA; and "3/1 CAV Deliberate Defense NTC Rotation 13-03", by COL David A. Lesperance, Commander, 3/1 CAV.

B. The civilian employees of the AWfF team would like to thank all of you for the outstanding support you have given this Forum for the last five years and for everything you do for our Nation and our Army. As our association with this Forum is terminated, we congratulate all of you for all your success and for a job well done. We wish you all the best of luck in all future endeavors.

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

#### A. In the News:

1) [Thunderbolt Blast, January 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.

2) [Counter-IED Newsletter, 15 February 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) [CALL Movement and Maneuver Newsletter, February 2013](#), provides updates, contributions, and discussion on items of interest to the Maneuver community. Included in this month's newsletter you will find two perspectives on leadership; first, from General Omar Bradley, and second by Lieutenant General Karl W. Eikenberry.

4) The [CALL Mission Command Newsletter, February 2013](#), is the latest edition of the Center for Army Lessons Learned, Mission Command Newsletter. The newsletter contains links to informative articles previously published that highlight Mission Command Simulation Training. The topics contained in this newsletter provide insight into the Mission Command Staff Trainer, gaining the maximum training benefit from simulations conducted in the classroom, a battle captain guide and smart book, and simulations for classroom use

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5) [BFSB Monthly, January 2013](#), is published by the TRADOC Capability Manager - Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (TCM-BFSB) Warfighters' Forum for the benefit of the BFSB community.

6) [Stryker Bulletin 2-13, 08 February 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.

7) [Redleg Update, February 2013](#), is the US Army Field Artillery Commandant's Newsletter. This month's issue contains and update on the Paladin Integrated Management Program.

8) [MCTP Newsletter, 14 February 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.

9) [UTAP Newsletter, February 2013](#), provides updates and new equipment training material available for download and training web links. New content includes information on the MSD V-3 Video and a G-4 news article related to DLA's DRASH Repair Parts.

10) [Maneuver Net Update, 27 February 2013](#), provides updates, contributions, and discussion on items of interest to the Maneuver Net community. To subscribe, follow the link on the latest update.

11) [Fires Net Newsletter, 27 February 2013](#), is provided for situational awareness and reflects information from the period of 17 January to 19 February 2013.

### B. Training:

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. Read the latest update at: [TCM- ABCT/BFSB SITREP, 18-22 February 2013](#).

### C. Materiel:

[Ammunition Information Notice \(AIN\) 023-13, 07 December 2012, Use of the Operational Tank Gunfire Simulator TGS or Hoffman, Device, ITGS, ATKS, and Simulator, Flash, Arty M21](#), informs that premature firing or inadvertent ignition of the M21 Simulator could and has resulted from electrostatic discharge, radio transmissions, mechanical failure, defective simulators, or human

errors, causing severe injuries to personnel. Soldiers shall be trained to identify and mitigate the hazards associated with Pyrotechnic Ammunition.

### D. Leadership:

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

### E. Lessons Learned:

The Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF LL) and the Army Lessons Learned Forums (AL2F) meet weekly to discuss OEF and Army emerging issues, trends, and observations in order to enable continuous improvement of Army Forces. Find the most recent documents from these forums at: [OEF LL Forum CoC Minutes, 20 February 2013](#), and [Army LL Forum CoC Minutes, 20 February 2013](#). View other related documents at: [HeavyNet OEF-Army LL Forum](#).

### F. Personnel:

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

a. AR 195-5, Evidence Procedures, 22 February 2013, [http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r195\\_5.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r195_5.pdf).

b. AR 740-26, Physical Inventory Control, 22 February 2013, [http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r740\\_26.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r740_26.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)** – 13 March 2013 (0900 CST) via S-VTC.

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

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

5) **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.

b) Inaugural **Gainey Cup**- 01-05 March 2013. 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.

### 6. AWfF Points of Contact:

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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**