



TCM-ABCT & Reconnaissance  
Fort Benning, Georgia

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# BFSB Monthly

## Director's Message

By Mr. John Miller III  
Acting Director, TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance

BFSB Community,

Monthly greetings to our extended BFSB Community from the Army's Maneuver Center of Excellence. I want to bring everyone up to speed on some of our current efforts.

First off, TCM-Recon is currently conducting a Reconnaissance Capabilities Based Assessment. The purpose of the CBA is to confirm and possibly identify new required capabilities for our reconnaissance forces, identify capability gaps in our forces ability to execute reconnaissance tasks and missions and finally to begin developing and prioritizing possible solutions and mitigations across the DOTMLPF domains that address these gaps. TCM Recon recently briefed the MCoE Commanding General on their efforts and he provided additional guidance that has helped focus their efforts. The team will keep the reconnaissance community informed as the process continues.

TCM Recon conducted recent unit visits to gather post deployment lessons learned and to bring the BFSBs up to speed on ongoing efforts and the future of the Battlefield Surveillance Brigades. The team conducted visits with the 201st BFSB at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and the 560th BFSB, Georgia Army National Guard, at their new armory in Cumming, GA. We extend our thanks to the leadership of these units for their hospitality. The team will continue this process in an effort to build and maintain these relationships.

I'd like to encourage you to continue to submit articles to the BFSB Monthly, we are proud to showcase your achievements.

If you haven't already done so, please take the time to register with the BFSB Warfighter Forum Collaboration Site on milBook (link on page 3). If you have a specific topic you'd like to discuss with the BFSB Community, this is a good place to do it.

In closing, I ask you continue to keep in mind those BFSB Troopers from the 525th BFSB – with their Military Intelligence Battalions' Soldiers deployed in support of Operation enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Brigade and Cavalry Squadron Soldiers recently deployed to Kosovo, along with individual deployers who are augmenting other deployed units.

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## Disclaimer

The **BFSB Monthly** is published by TCM ABCT & Reconnaissance, Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate (CDID), Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE), Fort Benning, Georgia. The purpose of this newsletter is to share information provided by members of the BFSB Community of Interest. Contents of **The BFSB Monthly** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U. S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, MCoE, the MCoE CDID or TCM-ABCT & Reconnaissance.

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## R&S Squadron Collaboration Session

On 9 May, 2-38 CAV and 3-38 CAV presented the following topics for discussion during a Reconnaissance & Surveillance Squadron Collaboration Session broadcast over Defense Connect Online (DCO):

- BFSB R&S Squadron Employment
- Doctrine, Personnel and Materiel changes that need to be made
- GRF Training Glide Path
- Training Integration of Recce Troops and MI Enablers
- Mission Command and Training of varying skill sets

In addition to these presentations, LTC Lowry, Director of TCM-Reconnaissance, gave an

update to the BFSB Community regarding the “future of the BFSB.”

A recording of this DCO event can be viewed by clicking on the image below, or by going to: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/p9dtbxug6cu/> (DCO account required to access).



*Click on the above image to view the recording*

## 109th and 502nd MI Battalions’ OEF Post-deployment Lessons Learned Symposium

The 109th and 502nd Military Intelligence Battalions, 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, presented their OEF Post-Deployment Lessons Learned to the BFSB Community in an online broadcast over Defense Connect Online– Secret (DCO-S) on 14 May.

A link to a recording of the symposium, can be found in the Announcements section of the BFSB WfF homepage on AKO-S, which can be found by using link on Page 3 of this newsletter. In order to view the recording, it is required to have a DCO-S account. If you do not have an account, you will first have to register for a DCO account by going to: <https://www.dco.dod.mil/>.

If you need assistance, please contact [derek.p.larson.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:derek.p.larson.ctr@mail.mil).

## 201st BFSB Lessons Learned Week trip report

The R&S Squadron Collaboration Session on 9 May, and the 109th & 502nd MI Battalions’ OEF Post-deployment Lessons Learned Symposium on 14 May provided the lessons-learned teams from TCM-Reconnaissance, and the Intelligence Center of Excellence with valuable data. These teams were also involved in several small group sessions during the week of 6-10 May, during which they met with Soldiers and leaders from the various MI teams who recently deployed to Afghanistan.

A copy of the trip report from the TCM-Reconnaissance team has been posted to the BFSB WfF Collaboration Site on milBook (see link on page 3). If you are not currently a member of this site, you will be required to open a milSuite account by going to <https://www.milsuite.mil>.

Please feel free to post comments or suggestions on any of the topics that are posted, in order to enhance the capabilities of the collaboration site and to provide possible solutions to some of the DOTMLPF challenges BFSBs face.

Additional products from the lessons learned week will be posted there, once they become available.



German Army Major General Volker Halbauer, the commander of Kosovo Forces, presents the guidon to U.S. Army COL David J. Woods, the commander of the 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade and the incoming commander of the Multinational Battle Group-East, during a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Bondsteel, June 1. (U.S. Army Photo by SPC Samantha Parks, 4th Public Affairs Detachment)

## South Carolina National Guard unit hands off command in Kosovo to the 525th BFSB

Story by SPC Samantha Parks,  
4th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo – For the first time in nearly a decade, an active duty U.S. Army unit assumed command in Kosovo during a transfer of authority ceremony held at Camp Bondsteel, June 1.

The 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, stationed out of Fort Bragg, NC, took command of Multinational Battle Group-East from the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a National Guard unit based out of Charleston, SC.

U.S. Army COL Waymon B. Storey III, a native of Plum Branch, SC and the commander of the 218th MEB, transferred authority of MNBG-E to U.S. Army COL David J. Woods, a native of Denbo, PA, and the commander of the 525th BFSB.

COL Storey congratulated his soldiers and commended them on a job well done.

“These men and women have served with distinction over the past nine months,” COL Storey said. “They have remained committed to providing a safe and secure environment while also fostering relationships, which have helped set conditions for positive change in Kosovo.”

The commander for Kosovo Forces, German Army Major General Volker Halbauer, similarly praised the work of the 218th MEB for their efforts throughout the deployment.

“You have successfully completed all missions and thus decisively contributed to the overall accomplishments of KFOR, moving us all ‘Forward Together,’” said Major General Halbauer.

COL Storey also reflected on the relationships that were built while in Kosovo and the lasting impact of their work.

[Read more](#)

(Editor’s notes) Three articles were published in May about the 525th BFSB’s deployment to Kosovo: [525th BFSB prepares for unique mission in Kosovo](#) (4 May), [Troops complete training, head to Kosovo](#) (12 May), and [JRD-East changes hands for KFOR mission](#) (26 May). Click [HERE](#) to watch a video taken during the training at the JMRC.

### Other newsletters of interest

Click to download a newsletter from the following:

- IWfF (13 May 2013)
- SWfF (18 May 2013)
- MI WfF (June 2013)

Note: It may be necessary to join the newsletter’s Community in order to download.

### BFSB Warfighter Forum (WfF) Links

- BFSB WfF Homepage (Includes links to BFSB unit homepages)
- BFSB Collaboration Site NEW!
- BFSB Warfighter Forum on Facebook.
- BFSB WfF on AKO-S:  
<https://www.us.army.smil.mil/suite/page/21502>



MCoE Doctrine and Training Division,  
Reconnaissance Branch



## 2-38 Cavalry helps 163 Military Intelligence Battalion prepare for deployment

Story by Erin Rogers,  
Fort Hood Sentinel

CAMP BULLIS, TX - The 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion of the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade finished up their battalion-level certification May 9-16 in preparation for their upcoming fall deployment to Afghanistan.

The battalion-sized training was the final phase of preparation for the unit, and took place at Camp Bullis, near San Antonio.

Over the past year, the 163 MI BN has worked from individual-level certifications, up to company-level certifications and finally their battalion-level certification exercises, and included everything from weapons and equipment qualification to human intelligence and signals intelligence training.

“Our mission is to try and expose them to as much realism as possible,” said COL Chuck Hensley, 504th BFSB brigade commander. “We try to do our best to make sure our Soldiers won’t be seeing anything for the first time in Afghanistan.”

COL Hensley said getting the kinks and issues out now, before their deployment, is the key, and working with their sister unit, 2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment, is an incredibly important part of the 163rd’s training.

2-38 CAV has been with the 163rd at Camp Bullis supporting their training and working with the MI unit as a team so the military intelligence Soldiers can become familiar with working with maneuver units, which they will be doing in Afghanistan.

“We’re here supporting the integration of the intelligence teams with maneuver forces on the ground to synchronize intelligence efforts on the battlefield,” said MAJ Frank Adkinson, 2-38 CAV executive officer. “It gets these guys working with different assets on the battlefield, becoming familiar with battlefield efforts and scenarios.”

Part of the certification exercise for the 163rd was entering a simulated village with role players playing Afghan villagers and finding out information by developing a relationship with village elders and gaining access to search buildings without any kind of force.

“Developing a relationship, a rapport, with the villagers is important because having that

trust is helpful to finding out information throughout a deployment,” COL Hensley said.

While the 2-38 CAV secured the perimeter and determined the village safe, the 163rd teams began talking to village elders and building a relationship which would later allow them to calmly and safely search the village and gain more intelligence on the situation.

When first entering the village, the combined efforts of the 163rd and 2-38 units conducted battle damage assessments and key leader engagements – identifying village elders and establishing rapport in case the houses and buildings did require a search or high value targets needed to be identified.

“We have a unique relationship among our units,” said LTC John Cogbill, 2-38 CAV squadron commander. “The brigade as a whole is greater than its individual parts – the magic really happens when they come together.”

“The battlefield surveillance brigade has the ability to use our 2-38 troopers to team up with our MI counterparts and really get practice working together. This is also great for our junior leaders, it gives them the opportunity to step away from the garrison and execute these missions – it forces them to think.”

LTC Cogbill and the 2-38 also took advantage of being at Camp Bullis to do some opportunity training for themselves, taking the time to conduct ranges and qualifications within the squadron.

The 2-38 CAV worked on everything from medical training and airborne training to staff and weapons training while out at Camp Bullis in support of the 163rd MI BN.

Being at Camp Bullis was the perfect opportunity to train for their own future missions and deployments, said 2-38 CAV’s command sergeant major, CSM Curt Cornelison.

“With the budget issues, an opportunity to come to a place like Camp Bullis is not something every unit gets in today’s Army, so taking the opportunity to train while we’re down here is a plus,” CSM Cornelison said. “Helping our sister battalion with their certification is the main goal, but this is a great opportunity for us to train and hone our battlefield skills, as well, while supporting the 163.”

*“We have a unique relationship among our units. The brigade as a whole is greater than its individual parts – the magic really happens when they come together. The battlefield surveillance brigade has the ability to use our 2-38 troopers to team up with our MI counterparts and really get practice working together.”*  
- LTC John Cogbill, 2-38 CAV Squadron Commander

### Upcoming Symposia

13 June: 0700–0830 AZ time (1400–1500Z) **MI Senior Mentor Symposium** (MI SMS) via DCO

27 June: 20th **IBCT Senior Mentor Symposium** from 0900- 1030 (Eastern) on DCO-S.

13-14 August: **Stryker Symposium XX**

