



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP [week of 15 February]

17 February 2016

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1. ABCT

a. Abrams.

1) The Abrams TADSS Analyst provided a Crew Modular Unit Recorder (CMUR) Thru-Sight Video overview to Master Gunner instructors during certification training at the Abrams Master Gunner School. Instruction on CMUR is now part of the common core phase of Master Gunner School, and this class of students are the first to receive the instruction.

b. Bradley.

1) Our TADSS Analyst participated in a phone conf. to identify areas that will be discussed during the COFT-SA start of work meeting with PEOSTRI, PM Bradley and to provide the contractor detailed information relating to the functions required in the gunnery simulator to meet the requirements to train skills needed to obtain, maintain and sustain gunnery proficiency at home station. The group also discussed during deployments that will be addressed with the Bradley Table Top Trainer.

2) ATCM Bradley and TCM Systems Lead conducted additional Bradley TM review with LOGSA, TACOM EPCO, CASCOM, and Pdm Bradley on 10 February 2016. TCM-ABCT developed a DRAFT revision of the current Final Draft Electronic Publications (FDEP) manual distributed for comments with above stakeholders. During the meeting the main comment from LOGSA was the duplication of general instructions as well as operator tasks in multiple volumes, which were deemed to be non-compliant with the MIL STD 40051-2. Team is developing courses of action for directorate guidance that will inform future TM revisions for publication.

3) The Test and Evaluation SME along with key stakeholders PM ABCT, OSD, DOT&E, and ATEC participated in the Test & Evaluation Working Integrated Product Team Test Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP) review for Bradley FoV Engineering Change Proposal 2 (ECP2) at Yuma Proving Ground, AZ. Key takeaways were the Bradley program has officially transitioned from the engineering phase to the testing phase. YTC Event plan already delivered, DTRR has slipped to 3 May. User Jury (OPNET 1 week, User Jury 2 weeks) began 17 JAN. TRR entrance / exit criteria established: 28 required, 3 complete, 24 on track, 1 not expected to be complete (all LRU's fully qualified). TRR group to decide if all have to be met. Redlined TM to be available 30 days prior to TRR

- 679 Work Packages; consists of ECP 2 specific Operator & Maintenance WP markups completed thru Provisioning Conference 3.
- Group will identify which tasks won't be complete and their associated impacts
- Embedded Maintenance Training (EMT)
 - o 17 scenarios done
 - o 4 scenarios added with R1

P-Spec review between PM and Test Centers tomorrow. BRAT and Behind Armor Debris (BAD) testing is on-going. Phase I LFT approved and the test centers will run double shift YPG RAM only and APG single shift. Vehicle level issues (IPRs) that are not resolved through hardware or software change will be managed through awareness and training via Technical Brief. There is an engine oscillation difference between A3 and A4; PM not comfortable with fielding it the way it is today. The engine fails to lower RPMs as quick as the A3 which causes the transmission to jerk (lunge). Unintended movement is a safety issue. Test vehicles; G-3 (WSMR) will be configured differently. Not having the exact same configuration will not impact the testing. G-1 ship target March 4, G-2 ship target is March 18, G-4/G-5 on site at YPG, G-6, G-7, G-8, G-9 on schedule, and G-10 ship target February 19. In closing, the revision to the Transmission Oil Cooler (TOC) has failed shaker table testing. The revision was intended to correct the failures that occurred at Camp Roberts during Contractor testing. The PM is trying to ascertain how to modify the current brake fade test. The PM had argued during the last brake fade test that the testing was operationally unrealistic and causing unnecessary damage to the transmission in some cases causing a total loss at 400k each

c. AMPV.

1) The AMPV team is working with MRD and MSCoE to develop COAs to achieve a mutually desired end state of replacing all current Bradley Engineer vehicles in ABCT BEBs and M113s in EAB Engineer companies with an Engineer variant of an AMPV. This will require HQDA and DoD level decisions to adjust timelines to divest the M113 FoVs from EAB elements. Mr. Sando and BG Raymer, Commandant Engineer School, will conduct initial discussions on this subject 19 Feb 16.

d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:

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

a) TCM ABCT's Network team hosted a Platform Command Post Summit 2-3 Feb 16. The summit allowed Platform and Network program managers and related TRADOC Capability Managers to discuss current and future network integration initiatives, to increase awareness of specific program and requirement activities. All participants agreed the summit was productive and are better informed as a result. This Summit ensured that the Command Post and Common Operating Environment Version 3 (COEv3) schedules and requirements were understood by Platform and System PMs and TRADOC Capability Managers, and increased awareness of the capabilities and projected changes of various command post platforms. Discussions focused on the risks / gaps in program schedule synchronization to support Command Post and COEv3 integration into the various vehicle platforms. Summary of this event was published 8 Feb 16 and is available on TCM ABCT's milbook at: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t>

b) Phil Tiemeyer is supporting a DA G3 directed, TRAC Leavenworth executed Army Wideband Satellite Communications Bandwidth Study. The scope of the study is to determine wideband SATCOM bandwidth required to support the protected and unprotected communications requirements at all echelons of Army forces; this includes combat support and combat service support. TRAC Leavenworth is hosting bi-weekly telecom's with a workgroup at Fort Leavenworth beginning the week of 21 March. TCM ABCT is gathering source data from OPS GRP NTC and select FORSCOM units to provide operationally sound information exchange requirements to inform the study.

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) The Maneuver Center's ABCT Doctrine Branch has published Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-90.5, *Combined Arms Battalion*, dtd 05 February 2016. ATP 3-90.5 describes the techniques and procedures to tactically employ combined arms battalions (CAB), the primary maneuver force of the Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) in unified land operations. Access it here: http://armypubs.army.mil/doctrine/DR_pubs/dr_a/pdf/atp3_90x5.pdf

c) TLS is providing support to the DOTD Collective Training Branch to review ABCT-wide collective tasks following the HQDA approval of CO-BCT standardized METL. This effort supports a DA directive, the Cost of Training Readiness Program, linked to the CSA's #1 Priority – Readiness. The MCoE team has a suspense to develop / revise ABCT METL collective tasks to "Objective-T" standards and revise the ABCT Combined Arms Training Strategy (CATS) by 30 MAR 16.

e. Large Caliber Ammo:

1) Mr. Kuamoo is supporting events during a visit by AMASS and PM-MAS representatives to Ft Benning this week. The purpose of the visit is to provide mounted familiarization training to ammunition and accuracy engineers from APG, Maryland and Picatinny Arsenal.

2) Mr. Kuamoo is conducting final coordination with the 204th Regional Training Institute (RTI) at Gowen Field, ID in preparation for a site visit from 19-23 February to observe crew training and gunnery activities with 120mm tank ammunition.

f. Futures Integration:

1) The Futures Team briefed the Armor Commandant on the Seminar Wargame scheduled for 7-11 March at the Maneuver Battle Lab. BG McKean's guidance included is to keep the seminar (U) unclassified, minimize the number of attendees, VTC as much as possible, and focus on logistics and doctrinal distances.

g. Sustainment and Logistics Integration:

1) The team participated in the SCoE Operational View development helping them describe the tasks and activities, operational elements, and information exchanges required to conduct HETS operations as the ABCT reaches the Sea Port of Debarkation (SPOD) and executes Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration. This effort will support the HETS POM 18-22 submissions and justifications for funding for both a mid-term upgrade to improve the systems Military Classification Load and a long-term new start program that will correct the axil load limitations current HETS experience, both CONUS and OCONUS.

h. Assistant Director - ARNG:

1) Army National Guard (ARNG) identifies three long-terms concerns that TCM ABCT could help analyze and generate viable solutions for:

a. **Interoperability** – Over time, capability gaps will widen between AIM-SA and SEP variant tanks. Gaps in Network, Lethality, and Survivability capabilities may lead to interoperability disconnects. What interoperability disconnects exist now, or will

develop, between “digital” and “analog” fleets of Abrams and Bradley variants? How can disconnects be avoided or mitigated?

b. **Training** – M1A1 AIM-SA crews require 440 hours of training to deploy on M1A2 SEPV2s (per PM Abrams OPNET POI). How can M1A2 SEPV2 pre-deployment training requirements be reduced for M1A1 AIM-SA crews?

c. **Sustainability** – Operational costs of M1A1 AIM-SA tanks will increase over time, and readiness may be impacted by decreased availability of repair parts and components. How much will M1A1 AIM-SA operational costs increase over time? Will the industrial base continue to produce AIM-SA parts and components to sustain readiness?

2) 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 is scheduled on or about 08March2016. There was no major capability gap issue during the 9February2016 meeting.

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

2. RECON.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

- 1) CAV SQDN O&O: Confirmed receipt of CAV SQDN O&O is at ARCIC Concept Development. They have begun review and will provide feedback upon completion of review.
- 2) Scout PLT O&O: Conducted initial azimuth check of PLT O&O with CoAR to review outline, current efforts, and timeline.
- 3) R&S CBA: Completed read ahead EXSUM and submitted to CoAR for review prior to the 2 MAR FSA brief.
- 4) 19D Scout Sniper. **NO CHANGE:** 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.

b. Standard Scout Squad Force Design Update (FDU) Preparation. **NO CHANGE:** ON HOLD PENDING Scout Squad Definition Analysis, date TBD.

c. CATR:

- 1) CATR O&O. The team will review initial draft of CATR O&O and continue efforts to complete in order to codify the requirements for the CATR program. The O&O will support the development of the training strategy and efforts with PdM Ground Sensors.

- 2) CATR Lesson Plans: PdM Ground Sensor CATR Master Trainer is providing training to select TCM-R and DOTD NCOs as part of the NET Lesson Plan validation. Continuing to support the development of CATR critical task list.
- 3) 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.
- 4) CATR BOIP: **NO CHANGE**: Adjudicating comments from USASOC and USAFMSA.

Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 19-23 Feb - Site Visit to Gowen Field, ID (204 RTI)
- 21-24 Feb - Command Post Integration Sync Meeting (FBTX)
- 22-24 Feb - Abrams ECP1a (SEPV3) Familiarization Training (APG)
- 24-26 Feb - M88 User jury & Quarterly MOD Synch meeting (Ft. Lee, VA)
- 07-18 Mar - Abrams M1A2 SEPV3 User Jury (APG)
- 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

- 16-19 FEB: CATR technical and audio video training
- 22 FEB- 4 MAR: Capabilities Dev Course (FBGA), O'Steen, Dankyan & Horais
- 2 MAR: TCM Recon Update to Chief of Armor
- TBD MAR: Scout Sniper Concept and Task Analysis (TCM-R/USAARMS/DOTD)
- 1-3 MAR: UC 16.1 GAMEXp Rock Drill (Dunn)
- 14-24 MAR: UC 16.1 GAMEXp (Fowler – Leavenworth)
- (T) 16 MAR: TCM Recon Update to Chief of Armor

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

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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
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