



## TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP

25 October 2016

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### 1. ABCT

#### a. Abrams.

1) Mr. Hay and LTC Grimes attended the Abrams WIPT hosted by APG on 17-20 Oct 16. The WIPT covered the entire test program for the Abrams platform over the past year and upcoming events. TCM ABCT provided an update that relates to user and planning for future testing.

2) The Abrams TADSS analyst supported TCM Live with a form fit function test with Combat Vehicle Tactical Engagement Simulation System (CVTESS) at APG, MD. The test was to install the W-13 cable to the Mission Control Unit. It is recommended to change the installation instructions in the Operator Manual. TCM Live will review the photos and approve what the path forward is going to be. Future test of the mounting location of the Target Interface Module to insure the new radio antenna doesn't interfere with the operation of the CVTESS.

**b. Bradley.** Mr. Rogers and CPT Shoaf attended the Bradley ECP2 (A4) Logistics Deep Dive meeting 17-21 Oct 16. The event focused on the current plan for log demo, software, TM, and VHMS. The purpose of the trip was to review the ECP 2 Logistics plan and strategy and solicit feedback from all key stakeholders. The working groups focused on Logistics Overview/Programmatic Schedule, Fault Insertion Plan, and Logistics Requirements specific to areas of the log demo.

**c. AMPV.** The AMPV Team participated in a BAE Human Factors Evaluation in Sterling Heights, Michigan, 18-20 Oct 16. The team included SFC Shepard, SFC Tyler and Scott Williford. This event was a follow-on to the group's visit last month when they evaluated the driver vision sight lines and the third mission command workstation. The group evaluated the employment of all weapon systems utilized in the vehicle Commander's Weapon Station (CWS). The participants conducted install, load, unload, and reduce stoppage tasks on the various weapon systems while also aiming at maximum and minimum elevation / depression. Participants provided feedback to PM AMPV and the OEM that will optimize the design for operational use. In addition, anthropomorphic data was gathered on the participating Soldiers by ARL and the OEM while conducting the weapons tasks. The event will inform future design changes to the CWS.

#### d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:

##### 1) Training, Leader Development, and Safety Integration (TLS):

a) The team is conducting initial coordination for unit visits to 1/3ID and 3/4ID to capture and share lessons learned and best practices from regionally allocated force mission requirements for EUCOM in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. View all current updates of Atlantic Resolve here: <http://www.eur.army.mil/atlanticresolve/>

b) TCM ABCT has published its quarterly newsletter covering staff activities between July and September 2016. Read it here: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-314794>

**2) Doctrine, Organization and MC/Network Integration (DOP/MC-Network):** Ron Kuykendall participated in a CTC OPFOR Surrogate Vehicle (OSV) work group meeting, led by BG Gervias (DCG, CAC-T) at Ft. Leavenworth, 18-19 Oct 16. This group's focus was: to begin development of a strategy to refresh and/or replace the current fleet of M113 based OSVs at CTCs; and to provide the OPFOR safe, reliable vehicles that can oppose BLUFOR with near-peer capabilities. Participants included representatives from TRADOC CAC-T and G2, PEO GCS, TACOM, PM Live, NTC, and JRTC. The group had conducted preparatory teleconferences, prior to this event, which established four COAs. These COAs included rebuilding the existing fleet, replacing with Bradley vehicles and modifying the fleet with two different designs based on CROWS. Using these COAs as a base for discussions, the group concluded that a two phased approach is required. In the near term, we need to provide a viable solution that will maintain the existing OSVs automotive performance and replace its main sights. For the far term, we will need to develop requirements that ensure the fleet maintains a near-peer capability into the future. Current plan is for CAC-T to maintain lead on this effort with support from designated organizations, as required.

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1) Assisting Fort Benning Ammunition personnel in recovery and possible recycling of sabot petals from downrange areas on post. The issue is that these petals are damaging grass cutting equipment and range managers want them recovered and disposed properly. Picking up the petals will most likely fall to the firing units. Disposal of the petals is another issue, as there is no formal recycle program in place. We are looking into how or can these petals be recycled. The other alternative is to turn them into DRMO for scrap metal waste as is done with expended aft caps.

2) Completed changes to the ammunition section of the Abrams TM-10 and sent out for a final review. Feedback from key personnel on these changes is due back this Thursday. Once feedback is received, it will be consolidated and provided to ARDEC for their push to PM-Abrams and inclusion in the next scheduled updates to the TM-10.

**f. Futures Integration:**

1) The Futures Teams continues to monitor the Strategic Portfolio Assessment Review (SPAR). TCM ABCT provided feedback on the mitigation strategy for our high risk gaps which include a force design update to add two Rifle Companies to the ABCT and acquisition of a Next Generation Combat Vehicle (NGCV).

2) The Futures Team reviewed the Infantry Company Team (2 Mech Platoon and 1 Tank Platoon) force design used in the NGCV Spiral C Experiment, 28 Nov - 16 Dec 2016, to ensure an accurate task organization is replicated in the experiment. The experiment's overall goal is to assess and compare the effects of NGCV survivability enablers within an ABCT to inform combat vehicle protection requirements.

**g. Systems, Sustainment and Logistics Integration:**

1) Multiple operational energy assessments identified power generation as a major energy consumer. The Army Audit Agency has recommended that each proponent determine power requirements using the FMSA process. Mr. Harper was appointed the TCM-ABCT point of contact for the Tactical Generator Assessment, which will involve the following primary tasks.

- a) Assessment of each authorized tactical generator (2-60kW) to validate requirements.
- b) Determine if there is a continuing need for the 2kW generator.
- c) Identify applications that could benefit from micro grid technology for power distribution.

TCM-ABCT has provided CDD with a detailed list of tactical generators for the following ABCT formations: BDE HQ, CAV SQDN, IN and AR BNs. CoEs will complete this data tool assessment by the summer of 2017 with ARCIC completing its final report in June 2018.

2) Mr. Miller attended the ABCT AROC on 21 OCT. The originally scheduled oversight activities and receipt of guidance did not occur, so the principal staff held a discussion focusing on the Abrams Armor package, the capabilities it brings to the force, and the Abrams modernization strategy. There were no decisions made and the G8 will reschedule the AROC with tentative dates early this December so that the CSA can provide his guidance.

**h. ARNG LNO: NSTR.**

**2. RECON.**

TCM Recon continues to support CDD in the HQDA tasking to ARCIC to develop options for operational level reconnaissance and security formation. Initial draft organizational designs are developed and currently under senior leader review. CDD FDD is developing draft Unit Reference Sheets (URS) for draft organizational designs. TCM-Recon continues analysis of capabilities, preparation of presentations, and development of URS input for the Regimental and CAV Squadron units. TCM Recon participated in a combined discussion PM-GS and the G8 on CATR future requirements on 19OCT. The CATR program of record is at risk based on HQDA review of current programs and potential reductions to support higher priority programs. The Materiel Fielding Decision (MFD) is currently scheduled for 18 NOV 16 and the CATR Team continues preparing for fielding to begin in DEC 16.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis. NO CHANGE: O&Os are ordered in priority of effort to write or revise:

1) Recon & Security Strike Group (RSSG) O&O. The draft O&O was distributed across TRADOC and other stakeholders to facilitate the ACR redesign effort. COEs have reviewed and provided some initial comments. Upon completion of the ACR/RSSG (-) COA development, the RSSG O&O will be revised based on input received in the ACR redesign effort.

2) Standard Scout PLT O&O. NO CHANGE: Delayed until completion of ACR redesign effort. We have received USAARMS review and will address remaining concerns in preparation for the Chief of Armor (CoAR) approval (TBD).

3) Close Access Target Reconnaissance (CATR). NO CHANGE: Completion postponed until Scout Platoon O&O approval process and concept to DOTMLPF development handover are complete, along with TCM Recon end of base year and execution of option year contract tasks are complete (o/a 10 OCT 2016).

4) Cavalry Troop O&O. NO CHANGE: Troop O&O development will resume upon completion of the CAV GRP O&O, Scout Platoon O&O and the Close Access Target Reconnaissance (CATR) O&O. Troop O&O development is anticipated to resume in November.

5) Squadron Direct Fire Company (Tank, MPF, MGS/ATGM) O&O. NO CHANGE: To be written after the completion of the Cav Troop O&O.

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6) HHT O&O. NO CHANGE: To be written upon completion of the Squadron Tank Company / Direct Fire Troop O&O. One of the primary functions of the O&O will be to address the lack of standardization between squadron command posts and staffs.

7) R&S BCT O&O. NO CHANGE: The R&S BCT O&O now includes the MCoE standard Operating Environment section; no other revision is anticipated until after the completion of the 1/4 SBCT (R&S) Excursion which will occur in AUG or SEP, 2017.

b. R&S Analysis and Experimentation.

1) We are participating in the UC17.1 orders writing workshop at FLKS this week, 17-21 OCT, to refine the RSSG scheme of maneuver and appropriate orders.

2) R&S CBA: NO CHANGE. For FY 17, TCM-Recon will continue working with TCM-BCT representatives to update the Capabilities Needs Analysis (CNA) database with critical R&S CBA gaps and solutions.

3) AWA 17 Observer / Analyst (O/A) Support. NO CHANGE. TCM Recon provides one O/A for GMV / MPF / LRV assessments, 4-30 OCT 2016.

4) R&S BCT Excursion. NO CHANGE: Established contact with the 1/4 SBCT lead planner to coordinate the support for the R&S BCT O&O discussion during the 15-18 NOV R&S Academy at Fort Carson. 1/4 SBCT has lead and TCM-Recon is in support. Further coordination is required to identify 1/4's specific desire for the O&O discussion.

5) Scout Sensor Strategy and Development. NO CHANGE. Updated the Appendix to Scout Platoon O&O based on 9-11 AUG Future Soldier Integration Workshop.

6) Cavalry Scout Leader and Soldier Competencies: NO CHANGE: Once the Scout Platoon O&O is approved by the Chief of Armor TCM Recon will recommend a way ahead for concept to DOTMLPF development process. The actual development process will require time and personnel yet to be identified to conduct mission analysis / coordination, dates to be determined, with OCOA and DOTD to determine a way ahead. Platoon, Troop (TBP), HHT (TBP) O&Os will inform the effort.

7) Army Lesson Learned (LL) Forum: NEW. TCM-Recon continues to support the TRADOC/CAC Army LL Forum following the 12 Oct Council of Colonels approving the R&S Operations subtopic areas of BCT Security Area Establishment and BCT R&S Planning. At the CoC, the forum recommended tabling the subtopic of Div/Corps R&S Ground Capability until the RSSG & ACR O&Os / FDU's are developed and approved in order to discuss the supporting efforts of Training and Education. During the 19 Oct Action Officer Working Group (AOWG), the forum reviewed initial problem statements for the two R&S subtopic area listed above.

c. Recon Knowledge Network. NO CHANGE. Recon Council: 19 OCT.

d. Senior Leader Updates.

1) 26 OCT: CG, MCoE ACR redesign update

2) 31 OCT: DIR, ARCIC ACR redesign update

e. CATR:

1) TCM-Recon prepares for a combined PM-GS and TCM-Recon discussion with the G8 on CATR future requirements, currently scheduled for 19 OCT, as well as the Materiel Fielding Decision (MFD) currently scheduled for 18 NOV 16.

2) CATR Type Classification. NO CHANGE: Thirty days after PEO IEW&S approval of the CATR LCSP, PEO IEW&S is projected to approve CATR Type Classification.

3) CATR Materiel Fielding Decision. 18 NOV is the date scheduled for the PEO IEW&S to make the CATR Materiel Fielding Decision.

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4) Tech Refresh. Priority action is preparing the prioritized recommendations for tech refresh, identifying requirements based on user recommendations.

5) CATR Training: ICW DotD, TCM Recon is developing and staffing training evaluation outlines for NET.

**Upcoming Events.**

a. ABCT

- 31 Oct – 4 Nov: Observe 2/1CD Tank Gunnery (FHTX)
- 2-4 Nov: Idaho Nat'l Labs visit w/CoAR
- 16 Nov: Picatinny Arsenal visit w/CoAR

b. RECON

- TBD: CATR Depot Visit (BGAD, KY)
- 11-30 OCT: AWA 17 O/A for GMV/MPF/LRV (FBTX)
- 31 OCT – 4 NOV: CATR NET Validation (Clarksville, KY)
- 1 NOV: [ACR Redesign options due to HQDA](#)
- 1 NOV: UC17.2 WMSL Input to MBL
- 8-10 NOV: UC 17.1 Seminar Wargame Army Issue Review Board
- 15-18 NOV: 4ID R&S Academy ISO 1/4 SBCT R&S Excursion (FCCO)
- 15-18 NOV: UC 17.1 MPC
- 18 NOV: CATR Materiel Fielding Decision (FBVA)
- 6-9 DEC: UC 17.1 Orders Writing WG

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