

# VOX MILITIS "The Voice of the Soldier"



## Top Stories:

- Cavalry Squadron O+O
- "K" Series TOE

## Inside this issue:

<b>Cavalry Squadron O+O</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Unit Basic Load (UBL) Plan</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Ammunition Briefings</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Bradley Advanced Training System (BATS)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>"K" Series TOE</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CVTESS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CP Summit</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Seminar Wargame</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>I20 MM Ammo</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Recovery Crew Training Course</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>ABCT Mobile Command Posts</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Maneuver Leader Maintenance Course (MLMC)</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Doctrine Update</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Office of the Chief of Armor</b>	<b>8-9</b>

Volume 4, Issue 1

January - March 2016

## Director's Comments

TCM ABCT continues to work hard to improve the combat capabilities of the Army's Armored Brigade Combat Teams. Recently, TCM ABCT completed three unit visits with 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division and an umbrella week at the National Training Center (NTC). Over the past year we have completed trend analysis from five separate DATE rotations at CTCs, six unit visits/ umbrella week data collection efforts, and multiple leader engagement sessions with ABCT officer and NCO leaders attending training at FBGA.

During our unit visits, our primary function is to collect observations, insights and lessons (OILs), identify impacts that will help mitigate gaps in ABCT formations, and document trends in material, training, leader development, personnel, facilities (DOTMLPF), safety, and sustainment in decisive action training environments. Upon return from our travels, our staff conducts research and analysis to recommend ways ABCTs and TRADOC Centers of Excellence can assist to improve unit effectiveness and readiness.

Upcoming unit engagements include Joint Multi-national Readiness Center rotation 16-05 for Combined Resolve VI. TCM-ABCT will continue to work as the user representative to DA for the ABCT community. We look forward to providing OILs and Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTP) collected during this next year. As always, TCM-ABCT is here to serve you. Do not hesitate to contact me or my team for assistance. VOX MILITIS!

## The Cavalry Squadron Organizational and Operational Concept

The Cavalry Squadron Organizational and Operational (O&O) Concept was approved by the Director, Army Capabilities Integration Center (ARCIC) on 29 FEB 16. The Squadron O&O concept establishes the requirement for the Cavalry squadron. This O&O delineates the role of the Cavalry squadron and the context in which the squadron operates. It identifies the squadron missions, describes how the squadron sets conditions within a joint framework, and lays out the objective standard Cavalry squadron design applicable to the

three types of BCTs: Armor, Stryker, and Infantry. It also describes the leader, Soldier, and unit competencies required to effectively conduct reconnaissance and security missions.

The O&O is posted on the Reconnaissance Knowledge Network (RKN) milSuite site. Join RKN, milSuite site for the latest R&S updates and discussions. <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/tcm-recon> Requests for approval are typically granted with 24-48 hours. To download a copy of the CAV SQDN O&O, go to the Organizational and Opera-

tional (O&O) concept Folder on the right side of the home page under categories.

Point of contact for this O&O is LTC Darrell O'Steen, [rog-er.d.osteen.mil@mail.mil](mailto:rog-er.d.osteen.mil@mail.mil) and Mr. Pete Rose, [pete.w.rose4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:pete.w.rose4.civ@mail.mil).

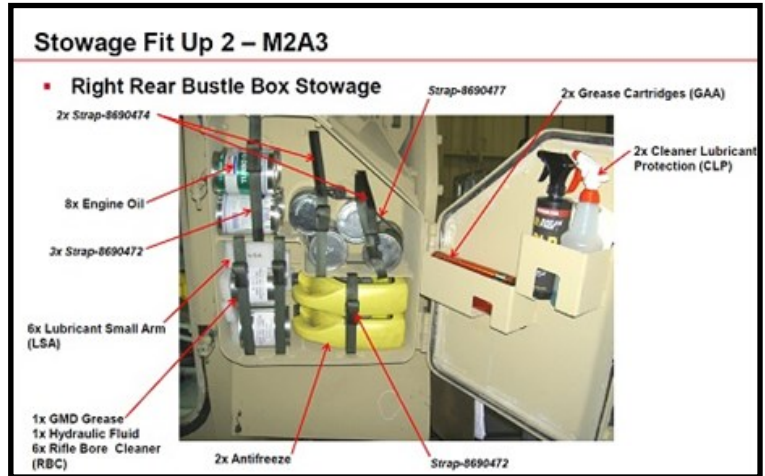


## Platform Class III(P) Unit Basic Load (UBL)

TCM ABCT spends a significant amount of time and resources to support the Soldier, especially those assigned to an ABCT. Part of that support involves fourteen Combat Training Center (CTC) rotations observing units in action gaining lessons learned in order to share them with you. Has your vehicle or have vehicles in your unit been stranded due to a lack of CLIII(P) readily available to conduct proper preventive maintenance? If not, you're one of the lucky ones as our staff observes these type of events every rotation. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that units are not carrying the appropriate amount of CLIII(P) at the vehicle and section level ensuring key automotive, track, and suspension components are properly lubricated thus preventing vehicle break-downs and loss of OPTEMPO.

To accomplish its mission, ABCTs must be prepared to conduct close combat tactical tasks during decisive action operations in a Joint Combined Arms Maneuver (JCAM) environment and be able to transition and conduct Wide Area Security (WAS) tasks. Once transitioned to WAS, it makes tactical sense to reduce CLIII(P) loads in order to reduce risk of secondary fires and catastrophic losses. Formations do not have that freedom in a CAM environment and must be prepared to support itself for up to 72 hours without needing emergency LOGPACs for sustainment.

The Army does not have a single source manual of CLIII(P) requirements by vehicle type. Unit



SOPs often do not address the CLIII (P) basic loads required by vehicle platform. Don't worry, we are here to assist you and have done the hard work for you. Our staff has over 60 years of operational experience in Armored Brigades, conducted the needed technical manual research's, and collected enough lessons learned through unit training observations to provide you expert insights. TCM ABCT has put together a CLIII(P) UBL for a few of the ABCT major combat systems. Click the hyperlink to see what your vehicles and sections have been missing.

Click on the link for recommended UBL list:  
[CLIII\(P\) Basic Load for Abrams, Bradley, & M113.](#)

## TCM-ABCT :Ammunition and Platform briefings



**TCM-ABCT SGM, SGM Quentin Barber** provides a formation update to Soldiers at Fort Carson

Soldiers and civilians from TCM-ABCT provide updates to the Abrams and Bradley platforms as well as tank ammunition briefings to units in the field. These briefings provides information on current as well as future capabilities pertaining to these platform systems. Tank ammunition briefings include current inspection and handling procedures as

well as capabilities against a variety of target sets. Information on future training and tactical ammunition is also provided as a look ahead at future capabilities these rounds will provide to the force. The briefings are provide to units at no cost and designed to keep the force informed of current and future trends and developments.

Point of contact for this article is Mr. Wakeland Kuamoo @

[Wakeland.k.kuamoo.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Wakeland.k.kuamoo.ctr@mail.mil)

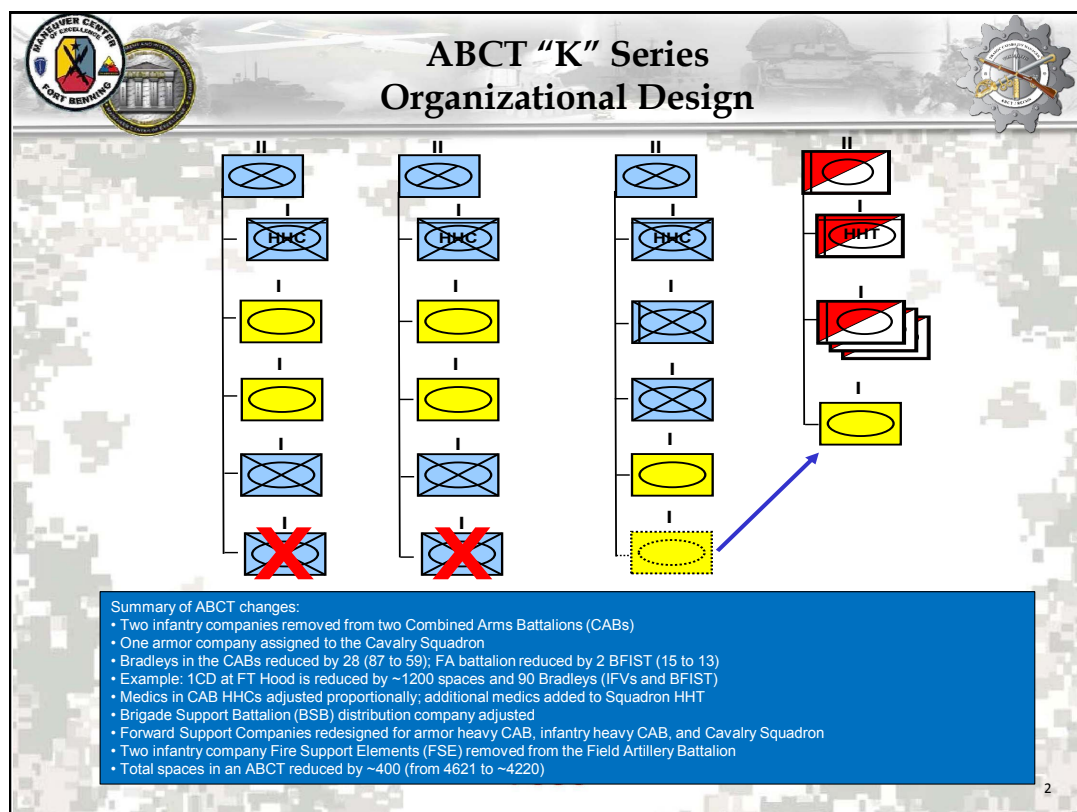
## Bradley Advanced Training System (BATS)

The Bradley Advanced Training System (BATS) has been in the force since 1998 and is in need of some upgrades due to components getting hard to repair and replace. A contract was signed in January that replaces all BATS with the new Bradley Conduct Of Fire Trainer (COFT) by July 2018. FT Riley and FT Hood have already received replacements for some of your BATS. Along with the COFT, each ABCT will receive three Bradley Table Top Trainers (TTT) that provide a sustainment capability that can be deployed without having to ship 38 ft trailers; currently each ABCT is fielded one tabletop system. The remaining BOI will be fielded when units receive their COFT. Planned fielding begins in July 2017 and completes by December 2018.



## ABCT "K" Series Organizational Design

ABCTs are in the process of converting to the "K" Series TOE IAW Army Structure Memorandum 18-22, approved by the Secretary of the Army on 9 July 2015. This action resources a total of nine Active ABCTs, five ARNG ABCTs, two ABCT Preposition Stocks, and two ABCT Equipment training sets. The Active force "K" series TOE conversion is complete by the end of FY17. This conversion replaces Cavalry Squadron Platoon HMWWVs with M2A3 Bradleys, resulting in six Bradleys per platoon. This provides re-



quired protected mobility to our Scout Platoons. The conversion also inactivates two Infantry Companies and reassigns one Tank Company to the Cavalry Squadron. Other changes include some BCT and BN HQ reductions, and consolidation of Company Intelligence Support Teams (CoIST) in the MI Company within the Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB). These actions also require some redesign of Forward Support Companies that support the Cavalry Squadron and the Armored and Infantry Combined Arms Battalions (CABs).

## Combat Vehicle Tactical Engagement Simulation System



**“CVTESS provides you better training fidelity for combat vehicle systems.”**

The Combat Vehicle Tactical Engagement Simulation System (CVTESS) I-MILES, next generation of I-MILES is here. It is a laser-based training device to be used on Abrams, Bradley, and Opposing Forces (OPFOR) tanks and fighting vehicles to provide real-time casualty effects. The new system has been engineered with wireless detectors and laser transmitters to decrease the number of cables. Unlike the older MILES, there are no belts hanging off the

vehicle. The cables going into the vehicle that interfered with normal operations are gone. The amount of time that you need to install and un-install, as well as maintaining the training device has decreased to allow for more time to train maneuver skills. CVTESS provides better training fidelity for combat vehicle systems; it reinforces crew duties and rewards proper engagement techniques. It provides unit commanders an integrated training system in force-on-force and force-on-target training events at home station and is compatible with Home station Instrumented Training System (HITS). CVTESS has been approved and funded to complete the pure fleetings of the force in CY 17. CONUS units will complete fielding in September of this year, followed by Europe, Korea and Kuwait.



**Two Soldiers align a laser on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle**

## Command Post Summit

TCM ABCT hosted a Command Post Summit on 9-10 Feb 16 at Fort Benning. This event 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 requirement activities. All participants agreed the summit was productive and are better informed as a result. This event 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.

## Seminar Wargame

TCM-ABCT hosted a Seminar Wargame from 7-11 March to assess the ABCT's ability to conduct Joint Combined Arms Maneuver (JCAM) and Wide Area Security (WAS) in an immature theater against a near-peer/hybrid threat with periods of threat air superiority and overwhelming threat fires superiority. The seminar included four working groups. Working Group 1; focus were requirements for setting the conditions for the deployment of ABCTs to Europe in support of unified land operations. Working Group 2: focus was the ABCT's ability to: conduct the reconnaissance and security fight with the current Cavalry squadron organization, synchronize and integrate attachments/enablers, conduct shaping operations, and sustain the ABCT. Working Group 3: focus was a battalion, with enablers, ability to shape the terrain / influence the enemy's maneuver; conduct an area defense; and to conduct area security. Working group 4: focus was a battalion's ability to conduct a breach and gap crossing while conducting an attack and to conduct area security.

TCM-ABCT is currently compiling the report from the seminar, and once approved it will be posted at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t/content?filterID=contentstatus%5Bpublished%5D~category%5Btcm-abct-futures%5D>.

## Proper handling procedures for 120MM Tank Ammunition

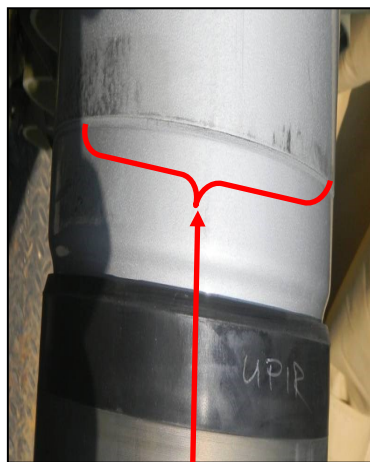
Tankers are reminded that IAW their current Technical Manuals (TM-10), inspections of the combustible cartridge case (CCC) include any indications of exposed nitrocellulose (NC) as rendering the cartridge unserviceable. The M865 training sabot round now utilizes a new CCC design called the Advance Case System (ACS). The ACS is located at the aft cap end of the round as opposed to the original joint located at the forward portion. The ACS will make the overall CCC more robust and less prone to damage at the skive joint. The end product is a CCC which is safer for the Soldier. Proper handling procedures for the M831A1 training round allows carrying the round by the spike (never by the projectile nose) if additional stabilization is required and only for short periods of time. Using the original carry position by the body of the round is also still authorized. The other hand must be placed on the aft cap fully covering the primer electrode.

Point of contact for this article is Mr. Wakeland Kuamoo @

[Wakeland.k.kuamoo.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Wakeland.k.kuamoo.ctr@mail.mil)



NC Exposure



ACS joint at the aft end



Authorized carry position  
For the M831A1 TP-T

**“ABCTs typically have about 50% of the required school trained maintainers in recovery sections with the Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) H8.”**

## Recovery Crew Training Course

During Combat Training Center rotations and during unit visits, leaders express consistent challenges due to not being fully manned with recovery qualified maintainers. ABCTs typically have about 50% of the required school trained maintainers in recovery sections with the Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) H8. There are a total of 357 platform maintainers



in the BSB, of which 192 (54%) should be qualified in recovery operations and possess the H8 ASI. We understand the OPTEMPO ABCTs face on a daily basis and know it is a challenge to find the time and resources to send your maintainers to appropriate training. If you are sending them, great! It will only benefit the Soldier and your units Operational Readiness reports. To help you we have teamed up with Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) to identify a potential mitigating solution for you. The most common location that most units are aware of is the Fort Lee, Virginia's Regional Training Site-Maintenance (RTS-M) course, but are you aware that there are seven (7) other RTS-M locations that provide H8 ASI courses?

Take a second to click on the following link ([RTS-M locations and POCs](#)) to view the actual map of all the RTS-M locations. The locations that offer the H8 training are highlighted with a yellow star. You may find one near your installation that you were not aware of. In some cases, due to geographical co-location, units have been able to send students to these courses for free or at greatly reduced costs.

As usual, in order to attend any of these courses you must have an approved ATRRS slot. To request and reserve your Soldiers training, go to ATRRS at the following link (<https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrs2.aspx>). Next, click on Course Catalog in the upper right corner. On the following screen labeled “Search the ATRRS Course Catalog”, select H\* in the Enlisted ASI drop-down. Finally, click the Search button. It will provide you the list of all available courses with the corresponding locations and course dates. Support your Soldiers professional development and your unit’s readiness by sending them to these courses and ensuring your unit has the appropriate number of recovery qualified maintainers.

## ABCT Mobile Command Posts



TCM-ABCT continues to work with PM AMPV to support development of a Mission Command variant of the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (MCmd AMPV) to replace the aging M1068 CP carriers. The MCmd AMPV will increase commanders’ mission command capabilities while away from fixed command posts by providing enhanced warfighting functions that travel with commanders as part of CAB/CAV TACs and BCT command groups. The ABCT Objective Mobile Network will support these operations by providing functional network capability to allow ABCTs to fight with their command posts forward. Each command post element will have MCmd AMPV variants, tailored to support specific command post functions.

## Maneuver Leader Maintenance Course (MLMC)

"Feedback from senior leaders and combined training centers have consistently reported that junior leaders lack the knowledge and skills to master the fundamentals of Army maintenance systems and maintenance operations. The trend demonstrates that leaders are challenged in building and sustaining combat power in joint CAM in an expeditionary operating environment as part of a joint task force or BCT. The MLMC fills a capability gap with junior leaders in mastering fundamentals of maintenance systems and operations to build and sustain combat power in an expeditionary operating environment. MLMC instructors train maintenance management at the company and battalion level; manage and implement a command maintenance - discipline program; and enhance knowledge on maintenance information systems and how to conduct tactical field maintenance/tactical planning considerations and operations." [Excerpt from the Oct-Dec issue of eARMOR magazine]

The course is open to all Active Army and Reserve Component Officers in the ranks of Lieutenant thru Captain with branches of Armor and Infantry. Soldiers in the rank of SFC thru MSG with the MOSs of 11Z/B/C or 19Z/D/K may attend with waiver.

Pilots course dates are scheduled for:

- (1) Pilot class one, class# 01-16 (P) 2 May 2016, thru 13 May 2016.
- (2) Pilot class two, class# 02-16 (P) 13 June 2016 thru 24 June 2016.
- (3) Pilot class three, class# 03-16 (P) 15 August 2016 thru 26 August 2016.

Learn more at: [http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/eARMOR/content/issues/2015/OCT\\_DEC/Hatch.pdf](http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/eARMOR/content/issues/2015/OCT_DEC/Hatch.pdf)

---

## Junior Leaders and the use of printed doctrine

Since 2012, incomplete application of doctrine by junior leaders continues to be one of the most persistent challenges reported by ABCT leaders during interviews and surveys. In summary the greatest challenges were associated with:

- Analysis shows that printed doctrine is essential for platoon and below units to rebuild core competencies. In December 2015, 70% of ABCT leaders surveyed expressed that their platoons/sections do not have a printed library of all current and relevant doctrine. However, 67% of leaders surveyed prefer printed MOS specific pocket-sized manuals distributed to units by the Army to learn doctrine and conduct SGT's time training. Few leaders interviewed were aware that the unit SI publications officer can order printed doctrine, at no cost to the unit, from the APD Point and Click Ordering System at the following website: <https://dol.hqda.pentagon.mil/ptclick/index.aspx>

- Most interviewed are knowledgeable on using the Combined Arms Training Strategy (CATS) and ATN, however, most do not understand how to utilize the full spectrum of doctrine manuals available in digital or printed format for training (STPs, TCs, FM's, ATPs, and ATTPs). This sometimes results in using a checklist only for planning, evaluating, and executing individual and collective training.

We recommend each platoon maintain a complete printed library of doctrine related to their MOS and skill level. A recommended list of armor, infantry and cavalry platoon doctrine list is at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/141413?sr=stream>. The MCoE Directorate of Training and Doctrine is currently scheduled to release 24 doctrinal revisions from now through FY 16, available at website <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-211303>.

To view an information paper on the study results and recommended strategies to improve this skill-set download the complete TCM-ABCT Information Paper on the subject at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-266903>.

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES  
TO BE THE BEST?



To sign up visit:

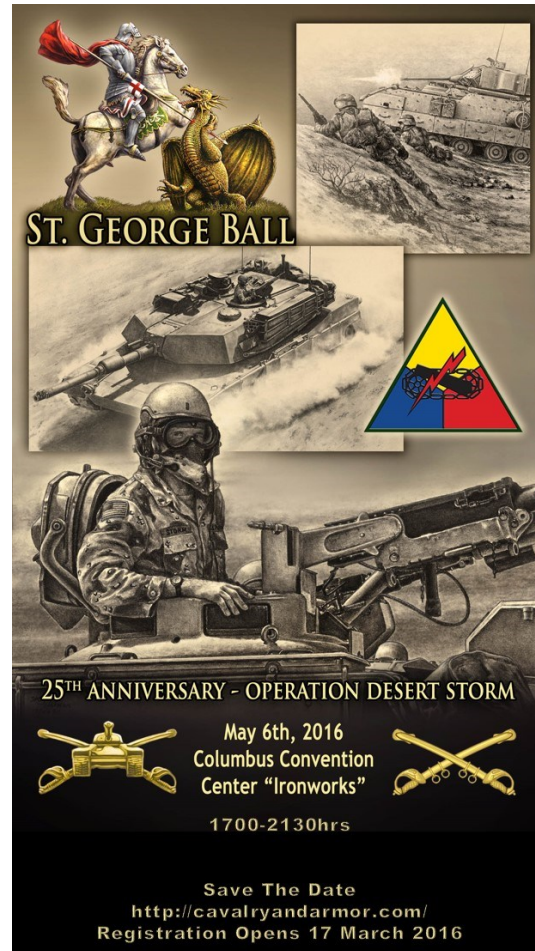
<http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/sullivan/index.html>

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook:

<https://mobile.twitter.com/SullivanCup>

[https://www.facebook.com/sullivancup/info?tab=page\\_info](https://www.facebook.com/sullivancup/info?tab=page_info)





## Office of the Chief of Armor requests your support: 19K Survey

The 19K task surveys are in preparation for a 19K Critical Task Site Selection Board (CTSSB) 20-24 June. The survey links below for 19K PVT-SFC tasks are active now through 6 May and can be completed by any rank (senior NCOs and Officers can also complete a 19K survey):

19K10 Series Task Selection Survey 2016

<http://www.ssi.qa.army.mil/Community/se.ashx?s=705E3EC81CA36C50>

19K20 Series Task Selection Survey 2016

<http://www.ssi.qa.army.mil/Community/se.ashx?s=705E3EC8738E72E7>

19K30 Series Task Selection Survey 2016

<http://www.ssi.qa.army.mil/Community/se.ashx?s=705E3EC87A3D86AA>

19K40 Series Task Selection Survey 2016

<http://www.ssi.qa.army.mil/Community/se.ashx?s=705E3EC84C624C83>

## VOX MILITIS "The Voice of the Soldier"

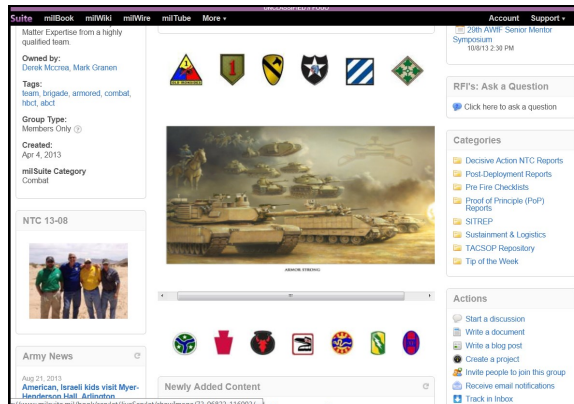
*The TRADOC Capability Manager-Armored Brigade Combat Team (TCM-ABCT) acts as the TRADOC conduit and user representative for FORSCOM and the ABCT communities. We perform ABCT GAP analysis across Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership & Professional Development, Personnel and Facilities (DOTMLPF) through data collection and post-rotation interviews (PRI) with ABCTs following return from deployments and Combat Training Center (CTC) rotations.*

TCM-ABCT  
7533 Holtz Street  
Room: 4090  
Fort Benning, GA  
31905

Phone: 706-545-4461  
DSN: 835-4461  
Fax: 706-626-2441

### Upcoming ABCT Events:

AWfF Senior Mentor  
Symposium: 18 MAY (T)



Follow us on MilBook@

<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t>

Director: [Mr. John W. Miller III](#)

Military Deputy: [LTC Kenneth J. Reed](#)

TCM-ABCT SGM: [SGM Quentin T. Barber](#)

TCM-Recon: [LTC Roger D. Osteen](#)

ABCT ARNG LNO: [MAJ Jacob Dunn](#)

TLS Team Lead: [Carl R. Johnson](#)

DOP Team Lead: [Ron D. Kuykendall](#)

Abrams Team Lead: [Mr. Robert Hay](#)

Bradley Team Lead: Vacant: [MAJ James Polak](#)

Sustainment & Logistics: [Stephen J. Harper](#)

Engineer & Artillery: [MSG Myron Kennedy](#)

Large Caliber Ammo : [Wakeland K. Kuamoo](#)

Editors: [Mark B. Granen](#) & [Derek D. McCrea](#)

