EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

13 MAY 2015

USAARMS Reconnaissance Seminar, 07 MAY 2015

The Armor School hosted the 2015 Reconnaissance Seminar on 07 1300-1700 MAY15 corresponding with the Gainey Cup competition. The seminar included a panel with representatives from TCM-RECON, TCM- SBCT, TCM-ABCT, TCM-IBCT, MRD, CDR-5-15CAV, CDR-3-16CAV, DOTD, and the Deputy Armor Commandant. In attendance were MG (R) Terry Tucker, COL (R) Bill Hanson, COL Thigpen (CDR, 316CAV BDE), and command representatives from 4-2CR, 4-3CR, 11ACR, NTC OPS GRP, and 3-3ID. Several leaders from across the Army participated including JMRC in Germany via DCO Connect. The purpose of the seminar was to foster discussion and gain insight from the operational force on current initiatives to shape Cavalry capabilities to Win in a Complex World. The Seminar’s objectives were to inform the force on all finalized Cavalry Squadron FDUs, DOTLMPF implications of adding tanks to ABCT Cavalry Squadrons, SBCT Cavalry Squadron lethality, and the light reconnaissance vehicle (LRV). Primer questions included:

1. How will the ABCT Cavalry Squadrons adapt to employ tanks?

 2. How can we improve the lethality of our SBCT Cavalry Squadron vehicles?

 3. What requirements does the LRV need to support the IBCT’s ability to conduct R&S?

 4. What is the “Scout of the Future” and how can the Scout better support the RAF construct**?**

The first discussion centered on how increased lethality for CAV Squadrons enables fighting for information. Challenges highlighted included sustainment, with fuel and ammunition distribution a major concern. The issue is centered on a requirement to distribute fuel across wider zones and sectors, not necessarily on total lift capacity.

The second discussion focused on increasing Stryker lethality. Comments centered on defining the purpose of the Stryker cavalry platform when lethality is increased (30mm or LRAS-Javelin). Several of our senior retired leaders highlighted the potential to focus on defeating targets with direct fire vs. accomplishing reconnaissance missions. Revised doctrine with R&S training emphasis will mitigate.

The third discussion centered on the future LRV and the interim plan using the JLTV. Potential priorities for LRV capabilities include: 1. Payload, 2. Mobility, 3. Recon Platform, 4. Lethality, 5. Protection, and 6. Mobility. IBCT representatives offered Mobility then Payload as their first two priorities. MG (R) Tucker iterated that most, if not all platforms, ever produced by the Army had protection and lethality as the top two priorities. He asserts that as soon as a platform fails to protect the Soldier it stops being used.

The last discussion was led by representatives from USAJFK SWCS regarding the Volkman and Roosevelt team concepts. The intent was to generate ideas to drive further discussions on the scout of the future and to challenge ourselves now to define training methodology and future application of the scout. This latter discussion is the catalyst for an OPT on the Scout of the Future.

 MAJ Javier Lopez, CIG, USAARMS / (706) 626-0748

Francisco.j.lopez30.mil@mail.mil

 APPROVED BY: BG Scott McKean