



01 JUN 2013

HeavyNet

Volume 6, Issue 3

1. **Purpose:** The intent of this newsletter is to provide ABCT leaders and Soldiers with informational highlights that will be beneficial to their individual, collective, and leader development training efforts as well as highlights on activities occurring throughout the Armored BCT community.

2. Director's Corner:

Greetings to All,

I would like to welcome MG Anthony Ieari as the senior mission commander for III Corps and as the Senior Mentor for the Armored Warfighter Forum. MG Ieari comes with a breadth and depth of knowledge on our armored formations that will ensure the community of purpose remains relevant.

Thanks to all who participated in our Senior Mentor Symposium; in particular those who took time to present their observations and lessons learned. Please download the presentations or view them on DCO-S by following the links provided on the "Announcements" section of this newsletter.

Two enduring projects that AWFF is currently engaged in include: Mission Command on the Move and the Armored Reconnaissance Squadron—structure and capabilities. I will attend the Mission Command Seminar hosted by AUSA later this month. Our intent is to capture all of the briefings—in particular those associated with mission command on the move at the operational and tactical level and share those with the community of purpose.

Our July symposium promises to be a good one. As my team looked across DOTMLPF we noticed that in previous symposiums we were focused heavily on training, materiel, and organizational impacts to the force. For this next symposium we look forward to hearing from the Commanding General Human Resources Command and the Department of the Army Secretariat as well as the Commandants for Infantry, Armor and Field Artillery. We will also provide you an update to recent ABCT doctrine. I encourage all ABCT commanders to have their subordinate commanders down to company level participate in this next symposium. It will be enlightening to hear from our senior accessions leaders that impact our formations on a daily basis.

Very Respectfully,

LTC Rob Rodriguez
Director, ABCT Warfighters' Forum

3. Announcements:

1) **Regionally Aligned Forces (RAF) Binder on ALLIS.** The purpose of this binder is to collect information and documents for Regionally Aligned Forces. The organization of the overall binder will be by COCOM and region to include country and cultural field guides, and soldier training materials for security assistance purposes. Visit the binder at:

https://www.jllis.mil/ARMY/index.cfm?disp=binder.cfm&doit=view&bind_erid=2007. Find more RAF documents at the DAMO-SSO portal for

Regionally Aligned Forces at:

<https://g357.army.pentagon.mil/SS/SSO/Pages/RegionallyAlignedForces.aspx>, and at the FORSCOM RAF Page at:

<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/regionally-aligned-force-raf>.

2) The next **AWfF Senior Mentor Symposium** will be hosted by the III Corps Senior Commander, Fort Hood and Commanding General 1st Cavalry Division, MG Anthony Iearidi and CSM on **30 July 2013 from 1330 to 1500 CST**. Tentative topics include: Personnel (New OER highlights and OML Cmd Selections Process); State of the Branches; and the ABCT Manual Update.

3) Please follow this link to download or view previous [2013 AWfF Senior Mentor Symposiums](#).

4. **Highlights recently posted** to [HeavyNet](#) include:

A. In the News:

1) [Counter-IED Newsletter, 10 May 2013](#), published by the Army Counter-IED Professional Forum, provides a series of links to lessons learned, reports, news, training topics, and other counter IED newsletters.

2) [CALL Movement and Maneuver Newsletter, May 2013](#), provides updates, contributions, and discussion on items of interest to the Maneuver community. Included in this month's newsletter you will find topics on massing effects of combat power, ABCT deliberate defense lessons learned at JRTC and security cooperation and force assistance.

3) [The CALL Mission Command Newsletter, May 2013](#), is the latest edition of the Center for Army Lessons Learned, Mission Command Newsletter. The newsletter contains links to informative articles previously published that highlight Mission Command on the Move. Included in the newsletter is a capability set website sponsored by CALL that provides opportunity for commanders, staff,

Armored Warfighters' Forum Newsletter

leaders, and Soldiers to provide capability set lessons learned, best practices, tactics-techniques-procedures (TTP), and observations.

4) [BFSB Monthly, May 2013](#), is published by the TRADOC Capability Manager - Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (TCM-BFSB) Warfighters' Forum for the benefit of the BFSB community.

5) [Stryker Bulletin, 18 May 2013](#), provide brief sets of notes on the SBCT community of purpose (CoPu) actions and Stryker Warfighters' Forum (SWfF) activities, as well as call attention to resources available to SBCTs to support their endeavors throughout all phases of the ARFORGEN process.

6) [Redleg Update, 05-13 May 2013](#), is the US Army Field Artillery Commandant's Newsletter. This month's issue contains topics on FA Warrant Officer Accessions Strategy and recruiting, and an update on the Precision Guidance Kit (PGK) and its implementation in contingency operations in Afghanistan.

7) [MCTP Newsletter, 29 May 2013](#), is published by the Mission Command Training Program (MCTP) in an effort to enhance its mission to conduct or support combined arms training that replicates Joint-Interagency-Intergovernmental-Multinational Operations in a full spectrum Contemporary Operational Environment.

8) [IWfF Newsletter, April 2013](#), addresses key topics that include the next SMS Symposium, and addresses IBCT Scout Plt and Squadron Redesign.

9) [CALL Fires Newsletter, April 2013](#), is provided for situational awareness.

B. Doctrine:

1) Recently Published Doctrine:

a. [ATP 3-20.98 Reconnaissance Platoon, published 4/5/2013](#). Army Techniques and Procedures (ATP) 3-20.98 provides the techniques for employment of reconnaissance platoons of the reconnaissance squadrons in the Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT), Infantry brigade combat team (IBCT), Stryker brigade combat team (SBCT), and battlefield surveillance brigade (BFSB). This manual also applies to the reconnaissance platoons of the combined arms battalion (CAB), Stryker Infantry battalion, and the Infantry battalion of the IBCT, and provides techniques for the employment of the reconnaissance platoons throughout the range of military operations.

b. [ATP 3-20.16 Mobile Gun System Platoon, published 2/15/13](#). Army Tactics and Procedures (ATP) 3-20.16 covers the mobile gun system platoon's organization and functions; its internal roles and responsibilities as well as its roles

within the Stryker brigade combat team Infantry rifle company; the platoon's capabilities and limitations; and the doctrinal guidance, tactics, and procedures the platoon uses in unified land operations.

2) Doctrine Under Review:

a. **[FM 3-90.5 Combined Arms Battalion](#)**. The ABCT Branch is starting the Front End Analysis (FEA) for the rewrite of FM 3-90.5, Combined Arms Battalion. This FM will be designated as Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-90.5, Combined Arms Battalion. This ATP will contain the techniques that are required to execute the Tasks in support of Unified Land Operations. As the Branch starts the FEA, we are looking for any collaboration/feedback from the community on thoughts of what should be included in the ATP. Please contact; LTC Stephon Calhoun ABCT Branch Chief stephon.calhoun.mil@mail.mil, Mr. Bruce Moore ABCT Deputy Branch Chief bruce.m.moore2.civ@mail.mil ABCT Branch NCOIC/Senior Writer Timothy Mariner Contractor/Writer timothy.m.mariner.ctr@mail.mil

b. **[3-21-71 Mechanized Infantry Platoon and Squad \(Bradley\)](#)**. The ABCT Branch is starting the Front End Analysis (FEA) for the revision of ATTP 3-21-71, Mechanized Infantry Platoon and Squad (Bradley). This ATTP will be designated as Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-21-71, Mechanized Infantry Platoon and Squad (Bradley). This ATP will contain the techniques that are required to execute the Tasks in support of Unified Land Operations. As the Branch starts the FEA, we are looking for any collaboration/feedback from the community on thoughts of what should be included in the ATP. Please contact; LTC Stephon Calhoun ABCT Branch Chief stephon.calhoun.mil@mail.mil, Mr. Bruce Moore ABCT Deputy Branch Chief bruce.m.moore2.civ@mail.mil ABCT Branch NCOIC/Senior Writer Timothy Mariner Contractor/Writer timothy.m.mariner.ctr@mail.mil

C. News Articles:

1) **[Gray Eagle unit will be assigned to each of the Army's 10 active-duty divisions](#)**. This article is relevant because the Gray Eagle is a tactical UAS solution designed to meet challenging service requirements for persistent Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (RSTA) and attack operations. It is dedicated to direct operational control by Army field commanders. Its expansive mission set includes, but is not limited, to wide-area Intelligence Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR), convoy protection, Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detection and defeat, close air support, communications relay, and weapons delivery missions.

2) **[Cavalry in the Future Fight: An Environment for Cavalry Forces](#)**. This article highlights the growing need for a force capable of conducting reconnaissance

and security operations for the BCT. This need creates a vacuum that a cavalry force will most effectively fill.

3) **Combined Arms Breaching in the Decisive Action Environment**. This article reports on combined breaching observations and training recommendations from first rotation conducted at NTC in March 2012 with the Army's newly fielded Assault Breacher Vehicle (ABV).

4) **Echelons Above Brigade (EAB) Redesign**. This article examine the establishment of engineer forces in EABs with the creation of organizations such as the Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB) in order to look at what formations and capabilities remained to support the developing concept of the Army of 2020.

D. Training:

1) **ALARACT 117/2013, Structured Self Development (SSD) Prerequisites Policy Update, 6 May 2013**, informs all personnel of course prerequisites for attendance to the corresponding level of Non-Commissioned Officer Education System (NCOES).

2) **ALARACT 126/2013, Army Airlift Clearance Procedures and Shipment of Weapons Parts, 13 May 2013**, informs shippers to offer all air eligible shipments to the Army Air Clearance Authority (AACAA) through an advance submission of a Defense Department (DD) Form 1384 (Transportation Control and Movement Document) via the Financial and Air Clearance Transportation System (FACTS).

3) **ALARACT 127/2013, Digital Training Management System (DTMS) Recording of HAZCOM/GHS Training, 14 May 2013**, directs all personnel who work with hazardous chemicals to complete the Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) / Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Training. The completion of this training must be recorded in DTMS.

4) **ALARACT 133/2013, Policy Update to AR 350-32, Army Foundry Intelligence Training Program: Multinational Foundry Training, 20 May 2013**, addresses the policy update to AR 350-32, Army Foundry Intelligence Training Program. According to the update, all Army units are permitted to use Foundry personnel, facility and equipment to enable intelligence training for multinational military personnel for the purpose of enhancing coalition intelligence military personnel for the purpose of enhancing coalition intelligence operations.

5) **ALARACT 138/2013, Initial Instructions – Army Training and Leader Development Conference 2013, 28 May 2013**, informs all personnel of the

initial administrative guidance for the 2013 Army Training and Leader Development Conference (ATLDC) and the Sergeant Major of the Army (SMA) Huddle.

6) **TRADOC Capability Manager (TCM) Armored Warfighters' Forum (AWFF)** – Offers a monthly update to the ABCT community on recent TCM-ABCT activities and site visits. Noteworthy for June is that TCM-ABCT conducted a test of the MILES XXI at the Aberdeen Test Center by mounting two sets on an M3A3 BFV and M7A3 BFIST vehicle to determine the root cause of failures and malfunctions experience by units over the past two National Training Center rotations. See Attached document for more information.

a) Last month, TCM-ABCT conducted Post-deployment interviews with 3rd Brigade 3rd Infantry Division (ID). 3-3 ID recently returned from deployment in support of Operation Spartan Shield. TCM-ABCT will publish the EXSUM from the unit visit upon completion.

View activities and products available from TCM-ABCT by following our milBook location at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t>

7) **MILES XXI Troubleshooting**. Bradley crews reported four main issue's with the vehicle when the MILES XXI was connected at the NTC:

1. When transferring from silent watch to combat, the LASER would not fire.
2. Connecting MILES XXI caused various malfunction codes on the Commander's Tactical Display (CTD).
3. Raising the TOW launcher caused a missing module fault on the CTD.
4. Connecting MILES XXI tripped circuit breakers on the BFIST vehicle.

Actions to Date: In May 2013 TCM-ABCT conducted a test of the MILES XXI at the Aberdeen Test Center by mounting two sets on an M3A3 BFV and M7A3 BFIST vehicle to determine the root cause of failures and malfunctions. The key issue the team discovered was a lack of maintenance on the Bradley ATWESS Firing Fixture (BAFF). Once the team adjusted the BAFF to properly make contact with the ATWESS and new batteries were installed the system powered up and did not cause any faults over two days of testing. The team tested the other reported issues but did not experience any of the faults. TCM-ABCT is scheduled to continue to evaluate

Armored Warfighters' Forum Newsletter

this reported issue during NTC Rotation 13-08. We are working with the Program Manager to provide MILES XXI Graphic Training Aids (GTAs) to ABCTs.

Recommendations:

1. Maintainers should test all system batteries installed (VCU&BAFF) with multi-meter prior to installation and at turn in. Inspect and replace batteries at required intervals. Maintain MILES XXI replacement batteries at platoon level as part of the CL IX load plan.
2. Maintainers should conduct inspections of the locking levers and arm safe switches on the BAFF prior to installation and at turn in.
3. Crews need to understand that silent watch continues to drain vehicle batteries and once a point is reached the vehicle will have warnings pop up and system may not function. Maintaining a watchful eye on voltage is a key to success.
4. Crews should review installation and operation instructions prior to use of MILES XXI systems and understand basic troubleshooting procedures.
5. Crews should know proper power up procedures, the key to MILES XXI functioning properly is to turn on the MILES XXI first.
6. Inspect MILES XXI upon receipt for broken pins and/or dirty connections. Ensure the TOW BAFF makes contact with the ATWESS.
7. Enforce strict cleanliness and maintenance inspections when MILES XXI is received and returned.
8. Continue to conduct MILES XXI train the trainer at home station to include installation, maintenance, operation and troubleshooting procedures.
9. Do not tighten connections with pliers. Repeated tightening with pliers has caused connectors to wear making it difficult to turn the connection clockwise by hand.
10. Install connectors on the Training Device Interface Panel (TDIP) from

Armored Warfighters' Forum Newsletter

right to left. If you install from left to right, the final connection is difficult to install. If all cables are not fully tightened and clean the MILES will not function properly.

View activities and products available from TCM-ABCT by following our milBook location at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/t>

3) [Army Training Network \(ATN\)](#), contains training packages which include videos and slides to enable effective training management. It also contains the most current training doctrine available and provides the warfighter the ability to go to one website and seek training solutions. AKO user name and password or CAC access is required.

E. Leadership:

1) [LeaderNet Newsletter, May 2013](#), is provided for the situational awareness of our leaders.

2) [NCO Net, May 2013](#), is provided for the situational awareness of our Noncommissioned Officers. Participation on this forum is strongly encouraged as this is a professional forum that benefits all leaders. CSA GEN Raymond Ordierno provides guidance on combating sexual assault and sexual harassment. [CSA on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment](#).

F. Lessons Learned:

1) The Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF LL) and the Army Lessons Learned Forums (AL2F) meet weekly to discuss OEF and Army emerging issues, trends, and observations in order to enable continuous improvement of Army Forces. Find the most recent documents from these forums at: [OEF and Army LL Forum EXSUM, 8 May 2013](#), [OEF LL Forum CoC Minutes, 8 May 2013](#), and [Army LL Forum CoC Minutes, 8 May 2013](#). View other related documents at: [HeavyNet OEF-Army LL Forum](#). See the presentations at: [Army GOSC and OEF LL, May 08 2013](#).

2) [NTC Warfighting Functions](#) : A guide for commanders from Brigade to Company to have a successful Decisive Action Rotation at the NTC. Provides a walkthrough of how the process of a rotation at the NTC works as well as suggestions to the units on what should be trained, broken down by Warfighting function.

Armored Warfighters' Forum Newsletter

3) **Protection:** A breakdown of recommendations of what to train on with limited assets like engineers and Military Police to prepare for offensive and defensive operations. Based on observed trends Engineers often train "in a bubble" and coordination with SPO and S4 happens too late. MPs often used for "additional combat power" in the close fight and should be looked at more for Wide Area Security.

4) **Intel:** Information on what products the S2s should be focusing on during the MDMP to ensure a more synchronized "sensor to shooter" plan is developed. Discusses the importance of communication between the different Intel levels to ensure all possible options are incorporated in the planning stages.

G. Personnel:

1) **[ALARACT 120/2013 – Repeal of Automatic Enrollment in Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance \(FSGLI\) for Members of the Armed Forces Married to Other Members](#)**, informs all personnel of the elimination of the automatic enrollment of FSGLI spouse coverage for members of the Armed Forces married to other members on or after 2 January 2013.

2) **[ALARACT 121/2013, Assignment Incentive Pay \(AIP\) Program Guidance for Calendar Year 2013 \(CY13\)](#)**, provides program management guidance for Commanders, Program managers, and Finance Offices. In addition, this message provides broad policy guidance for each AIP Program.

3) **[ALARACT 123/2013, Heat Illness Prevention for 2013 Heat Season](#)**, informs Commanders, Supervisors, and Soldiers at all levels of the need to implement protective measures in order to prevent heat illness during the 2013 heat season.

4) **[ALARACT 128/2013, Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness Resilience Reporting Requirements in the Unit Status Report, 16 May 2013](#)**, informs leaders at all levels of the new reporting requirements to measure and comply with the Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2) Program Guidance.

5) **[ALARACT 130/2013, FRAGO 2 TO HQDA EXORD 155-10 Army Cyberspace Operations and the Establishment of an End State Army Forces Cyberspace Command, 17 May 2013](#)**, informs Commanders at all levels of the transfer of administrative control (ADCON) of Kodiak Cyber Operations Teams (KCOT) from US Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (USASMDC/ARSTRAT) to Army Cyberspace Command/2nd Army.

6) **[ALARACT 134/2013, EXORD 138-13 Army Threat Integration Center \(ARTIC\) Concept](#)**, informs Commanders at all levels of the US Army initiative to transform the Antiterrorism Operations and Intelligence Cell (ATOIC) to the ARTIC Construct in direct support to HDQA, DCS, G-3/5/7.

7) **[ALARACT 135/2013, HQDA EXORD 149-13 Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program Army Workspace Inspection, 21 May 2013](#)**, informs all personnel of the Army's intent to conduct workplace inspections and report finding to USD (P&R) NLT 31 July 2013 in accordance with Secretary of Defense 5 May 2013 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Memorandum.

8) **[ALARACT 137/2013, Call for Nominations for the Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program \(DOD ELDP\) Class, 23 May 2013](#)**, informs all personnel of the call for nominations for the 2014 Class of the DOD ELDP.

9) **[ALARACT 139/2013, Transportation Priority 4 \(TP-4\) Movement Request Procedures, 29 May 2013](#)**, provides an overall description of the TP-4 Program and Policy on moving TP-4 Cargo on channel missions. In addition, this message provides shipping procedures within the Defense Transportation Regulation.

10) **[ALARACT 140/2013, Postal Core Competencies Update, 30 May 2013](#)**, informs all personnel of the requirements for Custodian of Postal Effects (COPE) and military postal clerks.

11) Recently published, revised, and approved publications available on the **APD website**, **<http://www.apd.army.mil/>**, include:

a. AR 700-142, Type Classification, Materiel Release, Fielding, and Transfer, 17 January 2013, **http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r700_142.pdf**.

b. AR 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program, 28 December 2012, **http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/r600_85.pdf**.

5. RFIs, Notes, Notices and Upcoming Events:

A. **AWfF Request for Information (RFI) Procedures:** Visit the AWfF homepage at: **[HeavyNet](#)**, and follow the "**Submit RFI**" link located on bottom right of page. The AWfF will acknowledge receipt of RFIs within 24 hours and will attempt to provide an answer within 72 hours.

Armored Warfighters' Forum Newsletter

B. Upcoming Events:

- 1) **IWfF Senior Mentor Symposium**- 27 June 2013 (0900-1030 EST) via DCO-S.
- 2) **SWfF Senior Mentor Symposium**- 13-14 Aug 2013 (0900-1030 PST) via DCO-S.
- 3) **2013 Maneuver Conference**- will be held at the Columbus Ironworks in Columbus, Georgia from 09-13 September 2013. Intent is to integrate a Master Gunner Workshop into the agenda consisting of 1-2 days of information sharing including doctrinal publication updates, observations-insights-lessons learned from CTCs, home station training strategies, training in live-virtual-constructive environments, training devices, and current policies from the Master Gunner schools.
- 4) **Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE)** events at Fort Benning, GA:
 - a) **Armor Ball**- (TBD) September 2013. More information will be provided when available.
 - b) **Sullivan Cup**- 03-06 September 2013 (T). More information will be provided when available.

5. AWfF Points of Contact:

Name	Telephone	Email
LTC Robert M. Rodriguez Director, AWfF	254-287-1584; DSN 737	robert.m.rodriguez26.mil@mail.mil
SSG Ryan Anderson NCOIC, AWfF	254-286-4160; DSN 737	ryan.anderson3.mil@mail.mil
LTC Scott A. Shaw, Deputy Director, AWfF	254-287-4493; DSN 737	scott.a.shaw12.mil@mail.mil
MAJ Anibal Colon, AWfF Integrator	254-286-5388; DSN 737	anibal.colon.mil@mail.mil
MAJ Kevin M. Nogle AWfF Integrator	254-287-2849; DSN 737	kevin.m.nogle.mil@mail.mil
CPT Jess F. Chargualaf AWfF Integrator	254-287-4140; DSN 737	jess.f.chargualaf.mil@mail.mil

6. Our website is <https://heavynet.forscom.army.mil>. We are also on [Facebook](#), [milBook](#), and [Twitter](#). Please visit these sites to collaborate with our ABCT community of practice. AWfF thanks those who have provided announcements, notices, articles and lessons learned. Additionally, **submit articles for inclusion to any of our AWfF portals and this newsletter**. If you have a story of interest or wish to initiate a discussion on any topic or issue facing the ABCT community, contact SSG Anderson, ryan.anderson3.mil@mail.mil, 254-287-4160.