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**TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP 13 September 2016**

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**1. ABCT**

**a. Abrams and Bradley –**  Both teams are participating in various workgroups in support of the Maneuver Conference, held here at Fort Benning this week. Key events include a platform mastery workgroup, and the Master Gunner forum. A summary of outcomes will be provided in next week’s update.

**b. AMPV****.**

1) The AMPV Team is participating in the BAE Human Factors Evaluation in Sterling Heights, Michigan this week. The focus of this event is driver vision sight lines and the third mission command workstation to operator tasks. Initially, this event was to include a look at the sight lines for the vehicle commanders weapon station but, will be completed at a later date due to prototype issues (Currently scheduled for 17 Oct 16). The team will provide a detailed report in next week’s SITREP.

2) The AMPV team also participated in the monthly RAM IPT which finalized and documented the criticality of the environmental control system for the medical variants. In addition, detailed analysis was provided to address decision point criteria used to determine entrance into government testing. The analysis showed minimal increase in confidence at completion of 5,000 miles versus 7,500 miles.

**c. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:**

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

a)  The team has a training analyst at JMRC in Hohenfels from 10-16 September covering down on *Combined Resolve VII*, where elements of 1/3ID are wrapping up their third tour in USEUCOM. *Combined Resolve* exercises began in 2013 as a way for USEUCOM to test its regionally allocated force in a multinational environment. During these large-scale events, U.S. Army units join with NATO and other allied nation armies to learn how to fight more effectively. Learn more here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzsqzJQQnAI&feature=youtu.be>

 b) We completed an Umbrella Week unit visit to FRKS from 06-09 September where we conducted data collection from 2/1ID (ABCT) focused on their recent deployment to Operation Spartan Shield (OSS) in Kuwait. We have provided summary topics to the Armor Commandant for discussion in his forums at the Maneuver Conference.

 c) The Center for Army Lessons Learned has published its July-August newsletter. View it here: <https://call2.army.mil/docs/doc7409/CALL_INSIDER__JULAUG2016.pdf>

 d) The Maneuver Center of Excellence is hosting the 2016 Maneuver Conference this week at Fort Benning. Off-site participants can monitor many of the activities via DCS. Learn more here: <http://www.benning.army.mil/MCoE/ManeuverConference/>

**2) Doctrine, Organization and MC/Network Integration (DOP/MC-Network) -** TCM ABCT’s Network integrator observed NTC 16-09 rotation at Ft. Irwin, CA from 25 Aug-7 Sep. A key observation included the BDE’s concept to reduce BDE Main CP footprints to provide an expeditionary CP model. The Commander’s intent was to employ a more agile and mobile BDE Main CP that provided a smaller footprint and reduced set-up and tear-down times. Observations indicate these objectives were met. There was significant reductions in the Brigade’s Main CP footprint and set-up/tear-down times. The BDE accomplished this by employing four Expandable Vans (M1087A1) that hosted the Plans cell, S2 section, S1/S4 ALOC, and the S6 signal section. There were initial mechanical challenges with some vans but, they were able to work through them. Other areas noted were the CABs, CAV Squadron, BEB and Fires BN Intel Fusion Servers (IFS) remained at the Brigade. The unit S2s did have some success accessing their servers and most S2s believe keeping the IFS at BDE is a good change. Also, the Brigade’s emphasis on High Frequency (HF) Radio training, during homestation training, increased the Brigades communication coverage at longer ranges and helped compensate for the lack of an adequate number of Re-Trans teams. All Network related observations will be included in a future consolidated TCM ABCT report.

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1) Mr. Kuamoo is participating in the FORSCOM hosted Abrams, Bradley, and Stryker Master Gunner Workshop (ABSMGW) during the Maneuver Conference this week at Fort Benning, GA. The purpose of the forum is to strengthen the Master Gunner community through the sharing of information and provide insight to trends and developments. This will be accomplished through presentations and discussions facilitated by subject matter Experts (SME) which will focus on Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTP’s) pertaining to gunnery, maneuver, maintenance, and lessons learned that have or will affect the Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs). Input from the field on their various TTP’s and experiences as well as input from other sources are also critical to the overall success of this workshop.

2) We presented a range update briefing to BG Graves, DCG-O, 8A, Korea, which provided him with on-going efforts to ensure major US gunnery ranges in Korea are containing fragments within the required range borders.

**f. Futures Integration:**

1) The Futures Team attended the CNA FY16 GOSC on 9 SEP. The two ABCT extremely high risk gaps included in the GOSC were the ABCT’s lack of IFVs and IN Squads and the ABCT’s lack of lethality overmatch. The recommended solution approaches to mitigate these gaps include a force design update to add two Rifle Companies to the ABCT and acquisition of a Next Generation Combat Vehicle (NGCV). CNA FY16 results will be briefed to the ARCIC Director on 27 SEP 16 and to the TRADOC CG on 14 OCT 16.

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

1) MAJ Polak attended the 15th ABCT 1-2 Star GOSC last week. MG Poppas (G-3/5/7) chaired the meeting with support from key HQDA G-staff along with MCoE leadership from the Armor and Infantry Commandants office.

2) MSG Kennedy is on travel supporting an AMPV user review in Sterling Heights, MI.

 **h. ARNG LNO:** NGB has tentatively approved/funded two CTC rotations per year for ARNG BCTs. Final decision will be based upon enabler unit availability for ARNG BCT formations. ARNG enabler units are limited and most often not part of the BCT State chain of command requiring outside coordination and unit mission training adjustments for CTC train-up. NGB is currently doing a long range analysis of sustained rotation availability of enabler units to determine feasibility and concurrence of the additional rotation impact to enabler unit readiness.

**2. RECON.**

**Summary:** The SCT PLT O&O Final Draft revisions will be completed this week in preparation for Chief of Armor (CoAR) approval. TCM Recon completed the Initial Draft CAV GRP O&O for submission to ARCIC IAW the 14 SEP 2016 suspense. We are participating in a CATR Synch Session with PM-GS to finalize the CATR MFP and NET Plan and resolve remaining concerns to move forward with the (T) 4 NOV Materiel Fielding Decision in order to maintain the CATR Program Schedule.

1. Maneuver Conference. TCM-Recon continues to support 3-16 CAV in the preparation and presentation of MWFC Working Group #7 "R&S Training and Education", 14-16 Sep. We will lead Day 1 discussions on the Cavalry Squadron and Scout Platoon O&Os and the Cavalry Scout Leader and Soldier competencies concept. The intent of day one breakout sessions will be for participants to prioritize the concept’s competencies to inform future implementation plans.
2. R&S Concepts and Analysis:
3. R&S BCT O&O. The R&S BCT O&O with attached MCoE standard Operating Environment section is in final preparation to meet the 14 SEP O&O submissions suspense to ARCIC.
4. Standard Scout PLT O&O. The O&O Final Draft revisions will be completed this week in preparation for Chief of Armor (CoAR) approval.
5. Cav Troop O&O: Troop O&O development will resume upon completion of the Scout Platoon O&O and the Close Access Target Reconnaissance (CATR) O&O. Troop O&O development is anticipated to resume in October.
6. HHT O&O: To be written upon completion of the Troop O&O.
7. CATR O&O: Completion postponed until Scout Platoon O&O is complete.
8. CAV GRP O&O: TCM Recon completed the Initial Draft CAV GRP O&O IAW the MCoE suspense. The ARCIC O&O submission suspense is 14 SEP 16. The initial draft restructured the Organizational Design and ensured enabling capabilities were integrated into the organic task organization. We are completing the information paper and the briefing slide for the 16 SEP 2016 update to the ARCIC Director, and slide preparation for the 19 SEP 2016 update to the CG, MCoE.
9. Armd Recon & Security Bde O&O. TCM Recon is designated to support MCCoE in the development of the O&O. MCCoE has not received sufficient guidance to begin the task and request specific support from TCM Recon.
10. R&S Analysis and Experimentation.
11. Initial FY17 BCT O&O Seminar Wargame discussions with CDD occurred last week. The topics of discussion were the CAV GRP inclusion in the SWG and COAs for CAV GRP role players. Recommendations for TRADOC to provide the CAV GRP role players (specifically MCoE) were developed based on FORSCOM’s ability to support the FY16 CAV GRP’s Campaign of Learning requirements.
12. R&S CBA: 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.
13. AWA 17 Observer / Analyst (O/A) Support. NO CHANGE. TCM Recon provides one O/A for GMV / MPF / LRV assessments, 11-30 OCT 2016.
14. R&S BCT Excursion. TCM-Recon will present the R&S BCT O&O during 1/4 SBCT R&S Academy, 15-18 NOV at Fort Carson.
15. Scout Sensor Strategy and Development. Updated the Appendix to Scout Platoon O&O based on 9-11 AUG Future Soldier Integration Workshop.
16. Cavalry Scout Leader and Soldier Competencies: The MWfC WG #7 (R&S Training and Education) lead by 3-16 CAV provides an opportunity to present the concept and initial KSAOs to the audience for discussion and feedback. TCM-Recon will lead the Day 1, 14 SEP discussions to provide input into future Competencies implementation work. Requires 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.
17. Recon Knowledge Network. Recon Council: 19 OCT.
18. Senior Leader Updates.
19. 16 SEP 16: CAV GRP O&O Update to the ARCIC Director
20. 19 SEP 16: CAV GRP O&O Update to the CG, MCoE
21. CATR: TCM Recon presented the MCoE Leaders (DOTD, CDID, and CoAR) with the CATR Program of Record update. This week’s CATR Synch Session is designed to work through the remaining concerns with the ability to maintain the Program Schedule and begin NET in DEC 16. We will provide updates upon completion of the synch session and our assessment to maintain schedule and move forward toward the Materiel Fielding Decision (o/a 4 NOV 2016).

**Upcoming Events**.

 a. ABCT

* 13-14 SEP- AMPV HFE Excursion (SHMI)
* 13-15 Sep - CP Summit II (FLKS)
* 14-16 Sep - Maneuver Conference (FBGA)
* 16-18 Sep - Unit visit to 1/34 ABCT (MNARNG) (Minneapolis, MN)
* 19-23 Sep - ACO AoA workshop (FLKS)
* 20-22 Sep - MNVR F2F and PEO GCS/C3T Network Summit
* 10-14 Oct - Visit to EUCOM Theater Sustainment Elements (USAREUR)

b. RECON

* 14-16 SEP: Maneuver Conference (FBGA)
* 11-30 OCT: AWA 17 O/A for GMV/MPF/LRV (FBTX)
* 19 OCT: Recon Council
* 4 NOV(T): CATR Materiel Fielding Decision (FBVA)
* 15-18 NOV: 4ID R&S Academy ISO 1/4 SBCT R&S Excursion (FCCO)

**Email Members of TCM-ABCT/Recon’s staff:**

Director: John W. Miller III

Military Deputy: LTC Ken Reed

TCM - ABCT SGM: VACANT

TCM - Recon: LTC Darrell O’Steen

XO, TCM - Recon: Pete Rose

DOP/AMPV/MC Team: Ron Kuykendall

TLS Team Lead: Carl Johnson

Abrams Team Lead: LTC Rudy Grimes

Bradley Team Lead: George Moore

‘Other Systems’ Lead: MAJ James Polak

Sustainment: Stephen Harper

Engineer/Field Artillery: MSG Myron Kennedy

Futures: Rhett Griner

Large Caliber Ammo: Wakeland Kuamoo

ARNG ABCT LNO: MAJ Jacob Dunn

Office Admin Contact: Ms. Shelelia Wynn

Office Mailing Address: TCM-ABCT and Reconnaissance (ATZB-CIA)

 7533 Holtz Avenue, Suite 4090

 Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Office Number: COMM: 706-545-4461 DSN: 835-4461