



TCM-ABCT & Reconnaissance  
Fort Benning, Georgia

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# Reconnaissance & Surveillance Newsletter

## Director's Message

By COL Christopher Wilbeck  
Director, TCM-ABCT & Reconnaissance

Greetings to the Army Reconnaissance and Long Range Surveillance Communities!

Last month, LTC Eric Lowry departed Fort Benning for a 12-month tour in the CENTCOM Area of Responsibility (AOR). Mr. Pete Rose is the Acting Team Chief of TCM-Recon until LTC Lowry's return.

TCM-Recon's efforts in support of the Reconnaissance Capabilities Based Assessment (CBA) continue. The ARCIC staffing of the Functional Needs Analysis (FNA) is currently awaiting ARCIC Director's approval. Copies of the FNA and Functional Area Analysis (FAA) are posted on the [Reconnaissance Knowledge Network](#) site on MilSuite. The FNA is part of an Army and DoD process that identifies gaps, challenges or deficiencies in our formations. We have received input from the field that will help us complete the third phase of the analysis which will identify doctrine, organization, materiel, training, leader and personnel related solutions.

The 316 CAV BDE hosts the next Cavalry Council which is scheduled to meet on 11 Feb 2015. Topics to be discussed include: 1) 19D OSUT initiatives from 5-15 CAV, 2) CLC synchronization efforts with the Aviation Center of Excellence and, 3) JRTC Reconnaissance lessons learned in recent rotations. The intent of the Cavalry Council, hosted by 3rd Squadron, 16th Cavalry on Fort Benning, is to bring together the various entities working at the MCoE, and across the Army, to discuss critical Cavalry initiatives leading to future doctrine and capabilities. A portion of this event will be broadcast over Defense Connect Online (DCO).

2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment is hosting a an R&S Seminar at Fort Hood from 18-20 Feb 2015. Lessons lessons from this event will be posted on the [Reconnaissance Knowledge Network](#) and in the next edition of this newsletter. In addition to sharing Peace Support Operations (PSO) lessons learned from the unit's 2014 deployment to Kosovo, this event serves to educate the senior leaders of III Corps on the capabilities and requirements of the Long Range Surveillance Company. See page 2 of this newsletter for additional details on this event.

The United States Armor School is once again hosting the Gainey Cup in an effort to determine the Best Scout Team in the United States Army. The dates for the competition are 4-8 May 2015. 316th Cavalry Brigade is providing transportation for the event from Harmony Church to each of the events. Team scores and standings will be updated throughout the competition on the [event website](#) as well as on the [Gainey Cup Facebook page](#).

It looks like there is traction concerning Army National Guard Long Range Surveillance Units. The first step was the submission of an emerging growth requirement by NGB. TRADOC is teaming with NGB to hopefully reverse the scheduled inactivations. This is the first positive news I've received.

As always, TCM ABCT/Recon is here to serve you. Do not hesitate to contact me or my team for assistance.

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### TCM-Recon Newsletter Point of Contact

Mr. Derek Larson  
7533 Holtz Street  
Fort Benning, GA 31905  
Phone: 706.545.8825 (office)  
E-mail: [derek.p.larson\\_ctr@mail.mil](mailto:derek.p.larson_ctr@mail.mil)

## TCM–Reconnaissance Points of Contact



Team Chief (Acting), TCM-Recon

Mr. Pete Rose  
Phone: 706.626.2443  
E-mail:  
peter.w.rose4.civ@mail.mil

NCOIC, TCM-Recon

MSG Curlee Kelley  
Phone: 706.626.2431  
E-mail: curlee.kelley2.mil@mail.mil

Materiel Integrator

MAJ Nayari Cameron (**NEW**)  
Phone: 706.626.1120  
E-mail:  
nayari.n.cameron.mil@mail.mil

Doctrine & Training Integrators

Mr. Dave Hinzman  
Phone: 706.626.2438  
E-mail: david.f.hinzman.ctr@mail.mil

Mr. Mike Dunn  
Phone: 706.626.2442  
E-mail: michael.d.dunn.ctr@mail.mil

Analyst & CAC LNO

Mr. Andy Fowler  
Phone: 913.306.2258  
E-mail: fowler\_andrew@bah.com

CATR DOTMLPF Integrator

Mr. Wayne Cason  
Phone: 706.545.2906  
E-mail: wayne.d.cason.ctr@mail.mil

## Does your unit have HF radios, but no experienced operators?

A recent thread on the NTC Cobra Team MilSuite site titled, "HF Radio Basic Setup, Fundamentals, and Theory Observations and Trends," by CPT Michael Hefti, discusses how the Army has lost the ability to operate an HF radio. Observations at NTC also highlight that there is still a large need for HF communications.

To assist leaders to overcome this deficiency, CPT Hefti posted the following references and links on the Cobra Team site:

- *Radio Operator Handbook (No 10-33, Oct 2010, Center for Army Lessons Learned)*
- *Radio Communications in the Digital Age (Sep 1996, Harris Corporation)*
- *Short HF Theory Class (Dec 2014)*
- *HF Antenna Class (Jan 2015)*
- *RSLC Commo Class (Feb 2011)*

- *Harris Premier website (new users click [HERE](#) to create an account)*

SFC Nicholas Pitz of the Maryland Army National Guard's Long Range Surveillance Company, C Company, 1-158 CAV, 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, recommends the following resources:

- *Operational Concept and Procedures for HF Radio in the Brigade Combat Teams*
- *Marine Corps Field Antenna Handbook, MCRP 3-40.3C (1999) (Formerly called MCRP 6-22D)*
- *ARMY COMMUNICATOR MAGAZINE, SPRING 2004 - article entitled "AN/PRC-150 HF Radio in Urban Combat"*

Join the conversation by becoming a member of the NTC Cobra Team site on MilSuite. Also, please feel free to share anything beneficial to the Reconnaissance Community on the Reconnaissance Knowledge Network.

## 2-38 CAV hosting an R&S Seminar at Fort Hood from 18-20 February 2015

The 2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment is conducting an after-action review (AAR) at Fort Hood, Texas from 18-20 February 2015 in order to facilitate communication about lessons learned, training, support, and requirements from the unit's deployment to Kosovo.

This event is also intended to educate Fort Hood partners on the capabilities and require-

ments of a Long Range Surveillance Company (LRS) through information briefs, Peace Support Operations (PSO) lessons learned, and networking with the greater BFSB/LRS and TRADOC communities.

If you would like additional information about this event, or would like to attend, contact the unit POC, MAJ Damasio Davila.

## 2015 Gainey Cup, 4-8 May 2015

The United States Army Armor School is hosting the 2015 Gainey Cup from 04-08 May 2015. 19Ds will compete to determine the "Best Scout Team" in the United States Army.

Click on the image to the right to watch a promotional video of the event.

For more information, visit the Armor School website: <http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/GaineyCup/>





*The 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade concludes the largest joint exercise in unit's history with Operation Gryphon Longsword (U.S. Army photo by SGT Philip Velez).*

## JBLM units prepare for 'WMD component' missions

*Story by SSG Bryan Dominique,  
20th Public Affairs Detachment*

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. – In what was described as historic, Operation Gryphon Longsword brought to bear the capabilities of some 1,400 service members and three units for the first exercise of its kind.

"In my 30 years in the Army, this exercise, from my observation, is the most complex operation I've seen performed by any unit at home station," said Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Fanelli, command sergeant major of the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade.

The 201st is one of three active duty BSFBs in the active Army, and for Operation Gryphon Longsword, they led the charge.

Soldiers and equipment were spread across more than 200 miles of training areas. The operation utilized the Yakima Training Center, the SATSOP Nuclear Facility in Elma, Washington, and JBLM as the command hub for operations.

"When we decided to take this on, people said it's too complicated, it's too complex. I refuse to dumb it down," said Col. Daniel E. Soller, commander of the 201st BSFB.

"What may be new to some isn't new to us, because we routinely train like this," he added. "The way we fight is at the team level. We have to be ready to go at a moment's notice."

The 201st BSFB isn't a typical military unit that moves and fights as a collective entity. Small teams are often required to deploy individually to enable maneuver forces with intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

However, Gryphon Longsword was successful in integrating the capabilities of maneuver forces into an operation that was largely dependent on those enablers.

"You [have to] integrate with maneuver," said Soller. "To try and do it without maneuver is like trying to do rollover drills in chairs. You just don't get the same sense."

One of Soller's goals was to train platoon leaders on the capabilities his Soldiers bring to the fight.

*(continued on page 4)*

### Other newsletters and documents of interest

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Click on the item to download one of the following documents:

- Thunderbolt Blast (NOV/DEC 2014)
- Special Doctrine Update 1-15

### TCM-Recon Forum Links

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- Reconnaissance Knowledge Network
- TCM-ABCT
- AWfF
- IWfF
- Stryker Net
- NTC Cobra Team

### RKN & TCM-Recon events

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- CAV Council, 11 FEB 15
- 504th BFSB Kosovo Lessons Learned, FHTX, 18-20 FEB 15
- Gainey Cup, 4-8 MAY 15

### R&S CBA Updates

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The EXSUMs from the Reconnaissance and Security Capability Based Assessment (R&S CBA) Functional Area Analysis (FAA) and Functional Needs Analysis (FNA) have been uploaded to a folder on the Reconnaissance Knowledge Network. Please take a look at these documents by going [HERE](#).



## JBLM units prepare for ‘WMD component’ missions

*(continued from page 3)*

“What we have to be able to do is seamlessly integrate enablers into operations; ISR drives operations,” Soller said. “I talk to [maneuver] leaders out here and they tell me this is the best exercise they’ve ever done, because they’re able to tap into these enablers and drive these operations.”

Ultimately though, the exercise was to certify the 201st BSFB as an Army contingency force capable of providing enablers to support an array of missions.

The capstone event of the exercise brought infantryman from JBLM’s 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment and enablers from the 201st BSFB to the SATSOP Nuclear Facility.

There, infantryman cleared the way for the 201st to collect intelligence on enemy activity, and exploit or eliminate a weapons of mass destruction threat.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord has been building its capacity to serve as an expeditionary force for the Pacific theater as the U.S. looks to rebalance its focus to that area of the world.

“There are potential missions in the Pacific that have a WMD component,” said Soller.

Gryphon Longsword downloads available on the Recon Knowledge Network: [EXSUM](#) and [Exercise Summary](#). The original article can be found [here](#).

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*“When we decided to take this on, people said it’s too complicated, it’s too complex. I refuse to dumb it down,” said Col. Daniel E. Soller, commander of the 201st BSFB. -- Operation Gryphon Longsword article begins on page 3*

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## Janovic assumes command of 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade

*Story by Rose Thayer, Herald Staff Writer*

The last time Col. Ryan Janovic was assigned a command at Fort Hood, he spent three days on post. He took command on Cooper Field, then moved his battalion to Fort Knox, Ky.

“I’m glad to stay longer,” he said with a smile Friday after assuming command of 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade in a ceremony on Sadowski Field.

Janovic is a 1993 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. He is a military intelligence officer and joins Fort Hood, along with his spouse, Shannon, and 7-year-old son Ryan Jr., from the National War College at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C., where he completed graduate studies. The former Fort Hood unit he took to Fort Knox was the Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

“He has the education, experience and passion that will not only maintain the fantastic levels of readiness and success that the 504th has established and attained, but he will inspire to lead it to new heights as they prepare to train for missions in (the U.S.) and abroad,” said Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, deputy commander of III Corps and Fort Hood and reviewing officer for the command-change ceremony.

He also said he served as Janovic’s math teacher his freshman year at West Point.

Janovic replaced Col. Charles Hensley, who held the brigade’s top spot for 27 months.

[Read more](#)

*Photo (left): MG Kendall P. Cox, deputy commanding general of III Corps and Fort Hood, passes the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade guidon to incoming Brigade Commander, COL Ryan M. Janovic during the brigade’s change of command Friday, December 5, 2014 at Fort Hood’s Sadowski Field.*



*Photo (above): The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, GEN Frank J. Grass, visited with Long Range Surveillance (LRS) Soldiers from C Company, 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Georgia Army National Guard (GAARNG) on 8 JAN 2015. GEN Grass was taken on a unit tour and briefed by the company commander, CPT Gregory Koester, on the capabilities of LRS, the Symposium from last summer, and current challenges. From left to right: GEN Frank Grass, BG Joe Garrard (The Adjutant General, GAARNG), LTC Michael Lipper (SCO, 3-108th CAV), CPT Gregory Koester, CSM Phillip Stringfield (CSM, GAARNG), and 1SG Jason Underhill (1SG, C CO, 3-108th CAV).*

## A cavalry tradition lives on with the 2-1 CAV Spur Ride

*Story by 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division Public Affairs,*

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - The infantry have the Expert Infantryman Badge, the medics, the Expert Field Medical Badge and for the cavalry, the Silver Spur.

Soldiers with 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, conducted a Spur Ride on Fort Carson Nov. 19-22, 2014.

The Spur Ride has its roots in the middle ages and the way of life of Knighthood. Traditionally, a squire would have to “win his spurs” in order to become a Knight. During the 1800s, new Cavalry Soldiers were given a horse with a shaved tail to indicate he was new to horse mounted operations and spurs would be too dangerous to use for a new rider. Only after the Soldier demonstrated he could control the horse and conducted mounted operations did the Soldier earn the right to wear the spurs. As in the past, the Soldiers of 2nd Sqdn., 1st Cav. Reg., 1st SBCT, 4th Inf. Div., had to prove they had the mettle, stamina, and knowledge to earn their spurs. The event is used to imbue the traditions and history of the Cavalry.

The purpose of the spur ride is, “to instill the Cavalry spirit (in Soldiers), and to teach and maintain the Cavalry traditions,” said Maj. Jason Gallardo, an Operations Officer with, 2nd Sqdn., 1st Cav. Reg., 1st SBCT, 4th Inf. Div.

To begin the Spur Ride, Soldiers had to conduct a physical training test under the watchful eyes of the squadron’s spur holders Nov. 19. The test consisted of push-ups, sit-ups, and a 3-mile run, those that passed the test moved on to the Spur Ride.

For the Soldiers who made the cut, Nov. 21-22 consisted of events that would test the Soldiers at every level.

[READ MORE](#)

## Arctic Wolves migrate deeper into the desert

*Story by 1/25 ISBCT Public Affairs,*

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - Soldiers from the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team “Arctic Wolves” disembarked from logistical support area Warrior in route to multiple tactical assembly areas at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, Jan. 18, 2015.

The mass movement tested the brigade’s ability to conduct convoy operations and establish a forward command post to support each battalion’s combat mission.

“This movement provide the Soldiers with in-depth training during the 18-day rotation,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Omar Deleon, all source technician with 1st SBCT. “This is the first time we have done this rotation usually it is 14 days.”

During the rotation the Soldiers will perform various tasks that will hone their skills and prepare them for deployment.

“This provides us with a stepping stone for upcoming deployments,” Pvt. Sergio Gallardo, a food service specialist with 70th Brigade Engineer Battalion. “Having never deployed myself, it provides a feel for what a deployment would be like.”

With each battalion specializing in different tasks, this NTC rotation will provide each unit with the opportunity to gain knowledge on their specific job.

[READ MORE](#)