



TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP

12 July 2016

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

1. ABCT

a. Abrams.

1) SFC Shepherd and Tom Tysor are supporting PEO-STRI, PM-LTS, and TCM-Live develop MILES Job Performance Aids (JPA) videos for both Abrams MBT and Bradley FoVs. The MILES JPA video development will be taking place at the Master Gunner Schoolhouse from 12-15 July 2016 with support from 3-16 CAV.

b. Bradley.

1) The Bradley PdM has decided to slip Bradley ECP 2 Developmental Testing (DT) 3 months to allow for the Rev1 vehicle software release to be incorporated at the test centers. The current software is generating an abundance of false faults messages, severely impacting the test centers ability to run daily missions and accumulate mileage necessary to support future production decisions. The R1 release is supposed to correct ~70% of the false fault messages.

2) Our TADSS representative is on-site in San Jose, CA this week working with BAE and CVTESS stakeholders to resolve a TOW firing issue when CVTESS is installed on the vehicle. We'll report the outcomes next week.

3) The team is providing input to the Fires Community at Fort Sill and PEO-STRI regarding the definition and application of the COFT trainer as an institutional trainer. Fort Sill has stated that their COFT trainers should be institutional; this statement informed PEO-STRI that the COFT should be installed into a building rather than in a trailer and scheduled the install as such. However, Fort Sill wants the institutional trainers to be put in trailers rather than in a building which changes the cost of the install. There is a follow-on telecom scheduled between Fort Sill, PEO-STRI and TCM-ABCT to further clarify this issue.

c. AMPV.

1) The AMPV team participated in a BAE hosted Human Systems Integration meeting. During the meeting, BAE presented their plan for a user evaluation to evaluate sight lines of the Driver's Vision Enhancer and from the Vehicle Commander's Weapon Station. NCOs from TCM ABCT and MRD will provide input with the goal of determining optimum views that facilitate vehicle maneuver. Current evaluation date(s) are 13-14 September at BAE's facility in Sterling Heights, MI.

2) The AMPV team will participate in the Test & Evaluation WIPT at APG, MD., 8-12 Aug. The agenda includes developmental testing schedule, operational test planning, RAM, Cybersecurity, and an ABCT organizational update.

d. Formation and DOTLPF Integration:

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

a) TCM ABCT has published its Quarterly Newsletter covering the period April – June 2016. Download a copy here: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-293927>

b) On 5 July the Army Publications Directorate (APD) released a new version of their website at <http://www.apd.army.mil/>. The update includes a new search function to enable the user to search by keyword or doctrine reference number. This update also removed previous capabilities that were very useful for the user including a search by series (TC, ATTP, FM, etc.) and a search by proponent (Armor, Infantry, Intelligence, etc...). TCM ABCT expressed this concern to APD and they intend to reintegrate the previous capability in a future enhancement. TCM ABCT was invited to serve in APD requirements sessions as a user community representative for their FY 17 project, migrating Point & Click into Army pubs. APD asks that if users have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this new update to send inquiries to email usarmy.pentagon.hqda.mbx.apd-subscription-manager@mail.mil

2) Doctrine, Organization and MC/Network Integration (DOP/MC-Network):

a) Organization activities:

- Reviewed and concurred with CDD developed Unit Reference Sheets for the Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB) - Armored organization. This organization design creates a SFAB with a mission to develop the capability and capacity of partnered security forces to strengthen their government's ability to defend against external and internal threats.

- Reviewed and concurred with SBCT Fire Direction FDU that places the FA BN and Mortar PLT FDCs in formation appropriate vehicles.

- Monitored / supported the Assessment of Tactical Wheeled Vehicle reductions. Our Systems and Sustainment section is TCM ABCT's lead for this effort and its associated impacts to formation sustainment mobility. DOP section will continue to support and document actions as required.

b) Network Activities:

- Provided input to TCM MC-BCT's consolidated response to ARCIC RID's follow-up questions in reference to BDE and BDE TAC CP configurations. Our response summarized TCM ABCT's efforts in utilizing the M1068 surrogate vehicle during three NIEs to inform the design/development of the Mission Command AMPV. These events validated existing doctrine and organizational principles while insuring commanders were not overburdened with increased technology.

- Phil Tiemeyer is participating in the classified Assured Position Navigation and Timing (APNT) requirements IPT Workshop IV at Fort Gordon, GA this week. Purpose of this event is to review and modify APNT CDD and Critical Operational Issues and Criteria (COIC) as appropriate for proponent consensus.

- Phil Tiemeyer will participate in the NIE 17.1 and AWA 18 Planning Conferences from 18-22 July. Focus for the MCCoE is on the Home Station Mission CMD Center (HMSCC); focus for the FCoE is on the C-UAS Mobile Integrated Capability (CMIC); and focus for the ICoE/MCCoE is on the Distributed Common Ground System Army (DCGS-A)BN and the CMD Post Computing Environment.

e. Large Caliber Ammo: We continue to support several issues:

1) Updates to the ammunition section of the Abrams Technical Manual (TM-10). This update will include the 5th generation kinetic energy cartridge, M829A4. Additionally, new safety requirements and ammunition handling procedures will be included. The draft version of these changes is now in its second staffing within the ammunition community.

2) Efforts with 8th Army Korea towards range improvements there to best contain fragments from leaving the modified Surface Danger Zone (SDZ). Prototype dimensions of berms to be used on the range has been made available for our initial analysis. An on-site visit to Korea is in final coordination for execution during the first week of August.

3) Observing USMC tank gunnery with emphasis on the training sabot round, M865 with the Advance Case System (ACS) configuration. The field has reported several M865 lots with this ACS configuration leaving excessive residue in the gun breech after live fire.

f. Futures Integration:

1) We continue to work on the Operational & Organizational (O&O) and anticipate no issues with meeting the 14 September ARCIC suspense. TCM ABCT will use the O&O Development SIMEX, scheduled for 25-29 July at the MBL, to analyze possible DOTMLPF changes to the formation and to inform the O&O and upcoming ARCIC Portfolio Assessment (APA).

g. Systems, Sustainment and Logistics Integration:

1) The June 2016 issue of The Preventive Maintenance Monthly (Issue 763) is available here. https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissuesA/PS_763.pdf

h. ARNG LNO:

1) Continuing to coordinate with 1/34 ABCT (MN ARNG) to attend a post-NTC AAR ICW a 34th DIV Strategic Review scheduled for 17-18 Sept at 34th DIV HQ in Minneapolis-Saint Paul, MN.

2) Continuing to coordinate with 155th ABCT (MS ARNG) for a pre-NTC brief by TCM-ABCT in the first quarter of FY 17.

3) CATR fielding to the 33rd ABCT (IL ARNG) may be postponed due to CTC training cycle and extended CATR training requirements. NGB looking for other IBCT options for fielding in the Army National Guard.

2. RECON.

TCM Recon's primary areas of emphasis are reviewing the CATR Life Cycle Sustainment Plan, assisting PM-GS in CATR NET Plan and CATR Materiel Fielding Plan development, preparation and participation in BCT O&O SIMEXs and support to UC 16.2. This week TCM Recon will submit the draft Scout Platoon O&O to DOTD requesting formal editor's review.

a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:

1) R&S BCT Implementation. NO CHANGE. No requests for support from 1/4 SBCT have occurred. 1/4 SBCT simulations officer's last request for information focused on the initial TRADOC analysis that resulted in the R&S BCT task organization concept.

2) Standard Scout PLT O&O. Submitting the draft O&O to DOTD requesting formal editor's review.

3) Cav Troop O&O: NO CHANGE. Troop O&O development will resume upon completion of the Platoon O&O anticipated for the mid-to late July timeframe.

4) HHT O&O: NO CHANGE. To be written (T) AUG - SEP, editing, staffing and approval (T) OCT-NOV 2016.

5) R&S CBA: NO CHANGE. ARCIC approved the FSA on 5 July, 2016. TCM-Recon will now work to update Capabilities Needs Analysis (CNA) database with R&S CBA gaps and solutions, schedule TBD.

6) Support to Unified Challenge 16.2: NO CHANGE. TCM-Recon participates in UC 16.2 planning sessions with the MBL to finalize support requirements and R&S BCT cell manning requirements..

7) 2025 BCT O&O SIMEX: TCM-Recon began observing the three BCT O&O SIMEXs (11-15 JUL SBCT, 18-22 JUL IBCT, and 25-29 JUL ABCT) and participates in key events to gain insights and provide CAV SQDN O&O SME to each formational TCM. We will provide the military role players (MRPs) for the CAV SQDN for the ABCT SIMEX, 21-29 JUL 16.

8) Scout Sensor Strategy: NO CHANGE. Continuing to work with MRD, BCT TCMs to refine the scout sensor strategy. There is no suspense, however the sooner completed, CDID has a document to synchronize efforts between the BCT TCMs, MRD and CDD. The strategy will support future scout platoon FDUs as well as potential mast mounted sensor development.

9) Scout Sensor Development. NO CHANGE. TCM Recon participated in a Night Vision Lab Survey designed to recommend a unified path for near, mid, and far term EO/IR optics development for both mounted and dismounted scout optics. Other elements within CDID and MCoE will also participate. A date for the results to be published has not been determined.

10) Cavalry Scout Leader and Solder Competencies: NO CHANGE. Requires time 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.

11) Recon Council: NO CHANGE. TCM-Recon continues to coordinate with 3-16 CAV in support of support the next Recon Council scheduled for 27 JUL 16.

b. Senior Leader Updates. NO CHANGE.

1) 8 AUG 16: TCM-Recon conducts Scout Platoon O&O Approval Brief to the CG, MCoE for approval to publish the PLT O&O (Date changed from 18 JUL to 8 AUG).

2) 16 AUG 16: CoAR Update. Briefing topics will include an update on all FDUs associated with Cavalry units and initial review of the Troop O&O outline and draft.

c. CATR:

1) NO CHANGE. Priority efforts in order remain: assisting in the development of a CATR NET Plan, completing the review of the CATR Materiel Fielding Plan, CATR Life Cycle Sustainment Plan, and preparing a memorandum for PM Terrestrial Sensors outlining CATR Training Support Package sufficiency, and identifying critical actions that should inform the August 2016 CATR Materiel Fielding Decision. Near term priority actions related to preparing a NET Plan. A subsequent priority task is developing the ECATR Requirements document / MOA and identifying required CATR ASIOE and TMDE. CATR lines of effort include:

2) CATR Technology Refresh: NO CHANGE. Established MILSUITE collaboration site (<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/tcm-recon/projects/catr-tech-refresh>) for units to provide recommendations for tech refresh to facilitate preparation for first tech refresh window in FY18. Recommendations from users must be submitted no later than 11 July 2016. TCM Recon will host a user IPT on 13 July 2016 to discuss unit recommendations. The Tech Refresh IPT with units will be conducted via DCS: <https://conference.apps.mil/webconf/catrtechrefreshfy18>

3) CATR O&O: NO CHANGE. Review of the initial draft of CATR O&O continues. Awaiting inputs from copies sent to division representatives. The O&O will support the development of the training strategy and efforts with PdM.

4) CATR Lesson Plans: NO CHANGE. Providing support to DoTD for the development of CATR CONOP and software lessons plans.

3) CATR BOIP: NO CHANGE. Awaiting GOSC approval of the Organizational Requirements Document Approval Briefing (ORDAB) council of colonels' recommendation to approve the CATR BOIP.

Upcoming Events.

a. ABCT

- 11-15 Jul - TWV Workshop Study (FHTX)
- 11-15 Jul - FSA Workshop (FBGA)
- 11-15 Jul - APNT IPT Workshop IV (FGGA)
- 12-17 July - USMC Tank Gunnery (FKKY)
- 13 July - Maneuver Pre-Command Course Brief (FBGA)
- 18-22 Jul - NIE 17.1 and AWA 18 Planning Conference (FBTX)
- 18-23 Jul - USMC Tank Gunnery (YFC, WA)
- 20-21 Jul - CoE v3 F2F, JBC-P and CERDEC discussions (APG)
- 21 July - ARCIC Portfolio Assessment Action Officer Working Group (FBGA)
- 24-29 Jul - CVTESS SME Support @ NTC 16-08 (1/1ID) (FICA)
- 25-29 Jul - O&O Development SIMEX (FBGA)
- 28 Jul - 05 Aug - Force on Force coverage of NTC 16-08 (1/1ID) (FICA)
- 01-03 Aug - Bradley ECP 2b T&E WIPT (SHMI)
- 04 Aug - Abrams/Bradley ECP 1b/2b Lethality Summit (SHMI)
- 08-12 Aug - AMPV T&E WIPT (APG)
- 15-18 Aug - STE WG (FBGA)

b. RECON

- 7-15 JUL - SBCT O&O SIMEX, MBL (FBGA)
- 13 JUL - UC 16.2 Final Planning Conference
- 13 JUL - CATR Tech Refresh IPT
- 14-22 JUL - IBCT SIMEX, MBL (FBGA)
- 18-29 JUL - CATR key personnel training (Clarksville)
- 18 JUL - PLT O&O Approval Brief to CG, MCoE
- 19-21 JUL - 16.2 Rehearsal of Concept, MBL (FBGA)
- 21-29 JUL - ABCT SIMEX, MBL (FBGA)
- 27 JUL - RECON Council
- 01-12 AUG - UC 16.2 Execution

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