



## TCM-ABCT & RECON SITREP [week of 09 May]

10 May 2016

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### 1. ABCT

#### a. Abrams.

1) Team Abrams executed a LP CROWS demonstration for GEN Abrams and GEN Perkins on 6 May 2016. The demonstration consisted of a CROWS II tank, LP CROWS tank and a FLEX tank. The intent was to allow the FORSOM and TRADOC commander's the opportunity to fire and utilize all systems in order to make a comparison. The demo went extremely well and initial feedback reveals that GEN Abrams has reassessed his initial decision to halt CROWS II production/fielding based upon the new information, and supports moving forward with LP CROWS. TCM ABCT continues to await official notification to continue with LP CROWS production. Depending on when that decision is received, first unit fielding would not be until March/April 2017. The team is working through determining if this still needs to go to an Army Requirements Oversight Council (AROC).

2) Team Abrams participated in a trade study to determine placement of the TROPHY system on the Abrams platform as part of the Army's Non-Developmental Integration (NDI) Active Protection System (APS) effort. The Integrated Product Team (IPT) determined a preferred mounting location that presents the least amount of interferences with other systems and crew's ability to conduct normal crew functions. We also participated in a Joint System Engineering Integration Team (SEIT) discussion that had participation from GDLS, TARDEC, and PM Organizations. The primary focus was based upon power requirements and distribution. The engineers believe there will be issues with recharging the system post initial event in order to prepare for a follow on launch. Of the options presented (draw power from CREW or CROWS) we think drawing power from the CREW/DUKE system is the best alternative in regards to the tactical situation a tank would be in when the APS system would be required to launch. We continue to be involved in this effort in order to ensure the applique chosen is the least intrusive to the Abrams crew.

#### b. Bradley.

1) Mr. George Moore is providing a coordination link between KSNG and the PM to develop a plan in order to update the training software on the KSNG vehicle. Their vehicles have not received the patch that will allow them to fire the TOW missile in the dry fire mode during training without having to use a workaround that distracts from training TOW engagements. Currently the only unit that has received the patch is the 34th ABCT in MN to support their NTC rotation. This software patch is only required in the ODS-SA and will be resident in the upcoming VVID update in FY 17.

2) Mr. George Moore has completed the coordination between ATSC, PM AFV and the TASC at Camp Roberts to provide a CVTESS kit to BAE that is supported and continually updated as software changes happen with vehicle and device. This has habitually been an issue with

vendors getting LRIP kits and no support because the kit is not issued through a TASC facility who can accept and return defective components for repair.

3) Mr. George Moore has provided NET training times to the FORSCOM MG. Active Component takes on average 2 1/2 months to complete a company size element (15 Vehicles) NG Component on average takes 13 months, has been done quicker, is all based on how the unit can or wants to execute the POI. The last NG unit that has A2's is the 1-221st NVNG which starts their OPNET in July and is scheduled to be complete in Aug 17. The only other A2's that I am tracking belong to the 11th ACR at Fort Irwin, currently know of no plans to replace their M2A2 ODS.

**c. AMPV.**

1) The AMPV Team is participating the AMPV Variants IPRs at Sterling Height, MI. this week. These events establish the final engineering designs of the five variants of the AMPV program, prior to the program's Critical Design Review (CDR) in 20-24 June 16. Several "side-bar" discussions are also planned during this period. The team will provide details in next week's SITREP.

**d. Formation and DOTLMPF Integration:**

**1) Doctrine, Organization, Personnel and MC-Network (DOP/MC-Net):**

a) The network team is prepared to assist TCM MC-BCT and CDD in developing O&Os for Company Command Posts, in response to an ARCIC Director request. Guidance includes no growth in personnel and identify DOTLMPF implications/solutions.

b) The Doctrine and Network teams are reviewing several documents that have suspense within the next week. These include TRADOC Regulation (TR) 71-20, Concept Development, Capabilities Determination, and Capabilities Integration (S:23 May), Mounted CE IS CDD (S:18 May) and Coalition Interoperability IPT feedback (S:11 May). All reviews are nearing completion.

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

a) TLS and CDIDs Test and Analysis Office (T&AO) are convening work groups to conduct DOTLMPF-P assessments for the Denied Degraded Disrupted Space Operating Environment (D3SOE). CDID is the lead effort for the assessment, and the subject will be a focus during the next Army Lessons Learned Forum (ALLF) GOSC in June 2016. Work group products are on a JLLIS binder at <https://www.jllis.mil/apps/index.cfm?do=cops.view&copid=1038>

b) Team TLS is preparing for three separate unit visits to ABCTs conducting CTC and RAF training activities; 1/3ID(-) participating in *Combined Resolve VI* at JMRC (Hohenfels) from 13-25 May <http://www.eur.army.mil/jmtc/CombinedResolve.html> ; 1/3ID participating in *Operation Anakonda* in Poland from 5-16 June <http://www.eur.army.mil/roadtoanakonda/> ; and 1/34 ABCT (MNARNG) at NTC Rotation 16-07 from 15-24 June.

c) The team continues to review CO-BDE collective tasks with the MCoE DOTD Collective Training Branch. Common ABCT tasks are being used as a baseline to build IBCT and SBCT tasks. To eliminate redundancy, a few tasks are being revised to affect all formation types. During this process, we are including BCT specific examples to ensure leaders understand these differences.

**e. Large Caliber Ammo:**

1) Mr. Kuamoo completed monitoring performance of main gun ammunition during the Sullivan Cup competition. One incident of a stuck round (M831A1, training HEAT-TPT) occurred. Excessive residue in the gun appeared to be the cause for this incident. The round was cleared, the gun chamber cleaned out and the tank returned to live fire, no further incidents. Tank crews were reminded to keep their gun systems properly maintained.

2) Mr. Kuamoo completed a Request for Variation (RFV) from the Joint Munitions Command (JMC) involving two new lots of M865 training sabot ammunition. Both lots displayed excessive residue during Lot Acceptance Testing (LAT). Upon further review, the gun being used to fire this exercise displayed excessive grease in the chamber. The chamber was wiped clean and the test re-fired, no residue was observed. JMC has requested this RFV to allow these lots to be accepted into the government system. TCM-ABCT has concurred with this RFV however, highly recommended additional sampling of both lots before full release to the field.

#### **f. Futures Integration:**

1) Mr. Griner represented TCM-ABCT at the Unified Quest 16 Staff Exercise and Deep Future Wargame (DFWG) at Carlisle Barracks. Participants will assess operational and organizational (O&O) concepts across multiple scenarios (Europe, Pacific, Africa, and Homeland) set in 2030.

2) The Futures Team continues to develop learning demands and task organization for the ABCT SIMEX conducted by MBL 5-29 July 2016 at Fort Benning, GA. This is a human in the loop experiment to focus on initial future maneuver force operational and organizational concepts using a constructive simulation exercise (SIMEX) in order to ensure the future force reflects the required capabilities and core competencies capable of operating within the tenets of the Army Operating Concept in 2030.

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

1) SFC Shepherd and MAJ Polak participated in the Future Vertical Lift Improved Turbine Engine Program Survey. The survey was meant to capture the operational perspectives across multiple Military Occupational Specialties on the required capabilities needed for both utility and attack helicopters. Rotary wing aircraft have experienced weight and power demand increases much like our combat vehicles systems have over the past 10 years. These increase demands have reduced the capability of the aviation platforms to perform their missions as intended. TCM Future Vertical Lift is looking at potential improved engine solutions that will regain lost capabilities such as time on station & time to complete missions, logistics, situational awareness, lethality, and survivability. Support provided by the team will help inform the future development of Army Aviation capabilities.

2) Mr. Tom Tysor and MAJ Polak participated in off-cycle Evolution of Training (EoT) working group meeting to discuss affordability impacts coming out of LIRA 19 and proposed changes to Synthetic Training Environment (STE) and other Program of Records (PoRs).

Prior to this meeting the Training Support System Enterprise (TSSE) TRIAD (CAC-T, PEO STRI, DAMO-TRS) conducted a series of AO/O6/GS15-level In Progress Reviews (IPRs) in an attempt to reduce costs of legacy programs and maintain funds to develop future capabilities. Recommendations are based on resource informed, flexible, and executable Army training capabilities that will keep the Close Combat Tactical Trainer in a production status to maintain concurrency until 2027 or a suitable replacement is developed. The STE strategic way ahead is to develop incremental capabilities that will be integrated once matured. The first capability drop will be in 2024 and will include the common operating environment, network, terrain, and gaming engine. Capability Drop 2 is anticipated to come online in 2027, same time CCTT is anticipated to transition into Sustainment, and would represent the next generation of Collective Virtual

Trainers. There are three more anticipated Capability Drops that will be integrated over the following ten years which will include the Individual Soldier Trainer, Mission Command, and Platform/Live Trainers. TCM ABCT will participate in an ITE WG next week which is intended to develop the draft requirements for the future Synthetic Training Environment (STE).

3) MSG Kennedy continues to support Network Integration Exercise (NIE) 16.2 as an Observer Controller until 17 MAY 2016.

#### **ARNG LNO:**

1) 1/34th ABCT (MN ARNG) in final stages of NTC 16-07 rotation (box dates 11-24 June) Rail Operations begin 14 May with BCT Torch hitting the ground on 23 May. Advon scheduled to arrive 30 May. The three Main body lifts will begin arriving 03 June with RSOI 06-10 June. Mission Operations are scheduled 11-24 June. Highlights for the week of 13-21 June; rotating 6 day Force on Force/ 3 day CALFEX beginning with TF 1-145 AR, TF 1-194 AR, & TF 2-136 IN. 22-24 June BDE FoF. Recovery OPs 25-28 June with 3 Phase Main body departure ending 28 June. Trail Recovery will remain until 08 July and final rail download is scheduled for 9-17 July in MN.

2) The ARNG M1A1 Master Gunner ASI add on course is approved. The new course is an ATTRS stand-alone 10 day course funded by NGB and taught at the Warrior Training Center, FBGA. The course will immediately follow the M1A2 MG course which will be a prerequisite. This additional course will give ARNG MG both A8 M1A1 and K8 M1A2 MG ASIs. ARNG MG in M1A1 units track will be 2 week ATAC (Abrams Training Assessment Course or pre-MG course) taught at the WTC, followed by the M1A2 MG course, then returning to the WTC for the 10 day M1A1 course. Throughput annually expected to be about 10 Soldiers.

## **2. RECON.**

### **a. R&S Concepts and Analysis:**

1) R&S BCT Implementation: NO CHANGE: TCM-Stryker leads the 1/4 SBCT R&S BCT Excursion. We will continue to collaborate with TCM-Stryker and 1/4 SBCT to complete mission analysis and begin development of the MCoE support plan for the R&S BCT Excursion.

2) Standard Scout PLT O&O: Standard Scout Platoon O&O completed DOTD editorial review and will begin staffing after final coordination with USAARMS this week.

3) R&S CBA: The Functional Solutions Analysis (FSA) submitted to ARCIC on 11 April 16. TCM-Recon received ARCIC validation review Comment Resolution Matrix (CRM) on 4 May – no major issues, currently updated FSA EXSUM and Report to return to ARCIC by 25 May suspense. After ARCIC approval, TCM-Recon conducts follow-on effort to update Capabilities Needs Analysis (CNA) database with R&S CBA gaps and solutions.

4) Support to Unified Quest 5-13 May. NO CHANGE: Requirements are to provide two action officers to serve as the OIC for the R&S Syndicate Cell and the SME for the R&S BCT and the Cavalry Group O&O efforts.

5) Support to Unified Challenge 16.2: NO CHANGE: TCM-Recon participated in the UC 16.2 Initial Planning Conference (IPC) on 28 April 16. UC 16.2, 1-12 Aug, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 GAMEXs designed to help refine O & O development and drive analysis of the A2020 force. TCM Recon's anticipated support requirements are still TBD at this time.

6) MCoE Focused Assessment (FA) – Scout Section, 16-20 MAY (FBGA): NO CHANGE: TCM Recon will observe the Scout FA focused on demonstrating a scout section employing ground sensors, ground surveillance radar, and Soldier Borne UAS. The event includes two system training days with vendors, two days of mission sets employing the sensors, and AAR on the final day.

b. Senior Leader Updates. NSTR.

c. CATR: TCM-Recon, DOTD, and PdM GS continue development of lesson plans in support of CATR NET and Fielding. We are preparing for a tentative CATR Synch Meeting with PdM GS on 26 MAY 16 to discuss the training development process and review way forward to enable the upcoming AUG 16 fielding decision.

1) CATR O&O: Review of the initial draft of CATR O&O continues. The O&O will support the development of the training strategy and efforts with PdM.

2) CATR Lesson Plans: Continuing to support the development of CATR overview and tagging tracking and locating lessons plans. Continuing review of proposed device lesson plans.

3) CATR Task List: ICW DoTD, developing CATR new equipment training critical tasks to inform the NET Plan, DTT Plan, and facilitate the upcoming teleconference.

4) CATR BOIP: Tentatively scheduled to complete staffing process 25 MAY 16.

5) CATR Program Documents: Reviewing the material fielding plan and life-cycle sustainment plan.

### **Upcoming Events.**

#### **a. ABCT**

- 09-13 May - AMPV Variants IPRs (SHMI)
- 10-11 May - Abrams PMR (TACOM)
- 11-13 May - Bradley CVTESS SME Support (FCCO)
- 13-25 May - Unit Visit to 1/3ID(-) @ Combined Resolve VI (Hohenfels)
- 15-27 May - Abrams SW 4.6 Beta Test (APG, MD)
- 16-20 May - Integrated Training Environment Working Group (FLWKS)
- 05-10 Jun - CVTESS SME Support to 1/34 ABCT MNARNG (FICA)
- 05-16 Jun - Unit Visit to 1/3ID @ Anakonda 16 (Drawsko Pomorski, Poland)
- 06-17 Jun - Abrams SW 4.6 Beta Test (APG, MD)
- 07-08 Jun - M88 PMR (TACOM)
- 15-24 Jun - Force on Force Coverage of NTC 16-07 (1/34 MNARNG) (FICA)
- 15-24 Jun - LP CROWS Technical Manual VAL/VER (Picatinny Arsenal)

#### **b. RECON**

- 5-13 MAY: Unified Quest (Carlisle Barracks)
- 10 MAY: EOIR Working Group (FBGA)
- 12 MAY: EOIR Recon Sensor Performance Analysis Brief (FBGA)
- 16-20 MAY: MCoE Focused Assessment – Scout Section (FBGA)
- 16-20 MAY, CATR Analyst Course Development (Clarksville, TN)
- 16-20 MAY: Unit Visit (JBLM and FHTX)
- 26 MAY CATR Synchronization Meeting with PdM GS
- 31 MAY – 2 JUN: MCoE Focused Assessment – Micro-Doppler Radar (FBGA)
- 06-16 JUN: CATR Operators Course (FBNC)
- 16 JUN, UC 16.2 Mid Planning Conference
- 13 JUL, UC 16.2 Final Planning Conference

- (T) 13 JUL, RECON Council
- 19-21 JUL, 16.2 Rehearsal of Concept
- 01-12 AUG, UC 16.2 Execution

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