

REDLEG Update

The United States Army Field Artillery Branch's Newsletter

From the Commandant's desk:

Mission Command and the Field Artillery Vision are designed to keep the Force on course

131A Mission Command/Sensor (System Integrator)

Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System gets dramatic upgrade

Update on the Joint Air Ground Integration Center

Knox, Hamilton and Gruber 2016

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Purpose: Founded in 2011, the *Redleg Update* provides past and present Field Artillery leaders with a monthly update of informational highlights to assist in their individual, collective and professional training efforts, as well as report on activities occurring throughout the Field Artillery community.

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Stephen J. Maranian
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commandant,
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Stephen J. Maranian

RFIs, Notes, and Notices: To submit a Request for Information (RFI), please email the POC listed below.

Points of Contact:

We appreciate those who have provided announcements, notices, articles and lessons learned.

Additionally, if you have a story of interest or wish to initiate a discussion on any topic or issue facing the Field Artillery community, contact Mr. John Folland, (580) 558-0831, or the editor of the *Redleg Update*, Ms. Sharon McBride, Field Artillery STRATCOM officer, (580) 558-0836.

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From the Commandant's desk

Mission Command and the Field Artillery Vision are designed to keep the Force on course

Field Artillery Leaders,

First of all, thank you to all the Commanders and Command Sergeants Major who participated in the Field Artillery Senior Commander Forum held on 28 Jul 16. This turned out to be an excellent venue to present timely and relevant material and discuss matters of importance to the branch. We will continue to do these events quarterly and as a change, I want to open up the presentation portion to a larger audience as a leader professional development opportunity, but we will still have conversation with brigade-level commanders and CSMs at the end. Upcoming forums and accompanying topics will be announced in the near future, so if you are interested in recommending a topic, contact COL Heyward Hutson, the USAFAS Assistant Commandant.

In this edition of the Redleg Update, I want to highlight three information papers I sent out to Field Artillery leaders in August that discuss key elements of mission command. These papers touch on three key initiatives that are either currently being implemented by the Operational Force or will soon be enhancing our Fires forces capabilities. The first discusses the transition of our branch technicians, [131A Warrant Officers, to the role of Targeting System Integrators](#), and the second, which further enables the 131A initiative, provides a broader understanding of the capabilities of the next version of [Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System \(AFATDS v6.8.1.1\)](#). This new version of AFATDS will greatly enhance the Fires community's ability to accomplish our three key tasks; conduct targeting; integrate all forms of Army, Joint and Multinational fires; and deliver fires. The third white paper discusses the [Joint Air Ground Integrating Center \(JAGIC\)](#), its continued development, and what it offers to the force.

As the JAGIC concept continues to develop, it is important for those units going through the Mission Command Training Program (MCTP) to make sure they share their lessons learned across the force.

Also in this edition is an update on where we are with the funding for the [Joint Operational Fires and Effects Course \(JOFEC\)](#). The first pilot course is slated for the second half of FY 2017. This is a very important opportunity of our Joint and multinational partners to receive training in the Army targeting process, as well as for our Soldiers and leaders who need training for working in Division and higher Fires cells or Battlefield Command Detachments (BCDs).

Lastly, I want to draw your attention to our Field Artillery Vision [{See page 4}](#). The vision will inform the FY'17 Field Artillery Training Strategy which will be published this Fall. This, in turn, will inform the FA Modernization Strategy which we will work to publish in cooperation with the Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE) Capability Development Integration Directorate (CDID).

The vision and its associated products will guide us as branch for the next several years. It outlines where we need to grow and improve, as well as what we need to sustain. It is intended to give a sense of purpose and will in turn drive modernization and continued professional of the FA force. It takes into account where we have been and defines where we intend to go in the future. Thank you for being part of this vision and for being part of the team. 

**King of Battle!
Fires Strong!**

COL Stephen J. Maranian

The Field Artillery Vision: Be the world's premier Field Artillery force; modernized, organized, trained, and ready to integrate and employ Army, Joint, and Multinational fires, across multiple domains, enabling victory through Unified Land Operations.

| LINES OF EFFORT | | SUPPORTING EFFORTS | END STATE |
|------------------------|--|---|---|
| SUPPORT THE WARFIGHTER | LOE 1: Enable the Operational Force | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage Army and Joint leaders with relevant FA themes and messages Strengthen Field Artillery / Fires posture across the Total Army Force Collect and Disseminate Lessons Learned Streamline / Enhance the Fires Knowledge Network repository and user interface Provide opportunities for branch-wide discussion and collaboration Leverage Foreign Liaison Officers to strengthen multinational understanding | The US Army Field Artillery enables maneuver commanders to dominate in Unified Land Operations through effective targeting, integration, and delivery of fires. |
| | LOE 2: Educate & Train Competent and Adaptive Professionals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attract, assess, and retain high-quality cadre Transform the Master Gunner & Fire Support Vehicle Courses Emphasize Field Artillery Core Competencies in all training domains Transform MOS 131A - Field Artillery Warrant Officer into a Systems Integration expert Update the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course Program of Instruction (One Army School System) Deliberately Transform the 428th FA Brigade as part of the FCoE Transformation Plan | |
| | LOE 3: Modernize the Force | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a long-term DOTMLPF-P roadmap for Field Artillery branch modernization out to 2030 Achieve Overmatch - Range / Capacity / Sufficiency / Precision Enhance FA Relevance Through Strategic Portfolio Assessment Review (SPAR) Enable FA / Fires Formations (DIVARTYs, FABs, BCDs, Fires Battalions) Improve and integrate Beyond Line Of Sight sensor capability - Precision | |
| | LOE 4: Advance Targeting and Joint/Multinational Fires Integration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and Codify the Army Targeting Enterprise Build the FCoE Infrastructure to advance the Army Targeting Center Provide Army input to Joint targeting policy, training, and doctrine Advance Joint and Multinational Fires integration and interoperability | |
| | LOE 5: Personnel Development and Talent Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimize talent management across the Field Artillery population Continually shape the 13 series MOSs Attract and retain a quality Field Artillery force Enhance self-development venues and credentialing | |

"The Mission Of The Field Artillery Is To Destroy, Defeat, Or Disrupt The Enemy With Integrated Fires To Enable Maneuver Commanders To Dominate In Unified Land Operations" (ADRP 3-09) Version 1.0 AUG 16

ARMY CAREER TRACKER




ACT is the leadership development compass that will guide your from Basic Training to the Sergeants Major Academy. ACT will consolidate and organize data from the Army's existing training, education, and experiential learning systems into a single, interactive, and easy to use portal. For questions, call FAPO at 580-442-0947/3031.

131A Mission Command/Sensor (System Integrator)

Field Artillery Warrant Officers slated for transition from Radar Technicians to Targeting Techicians by 2017

As the Field Artillery branch continues to modernize, the MOS 131A, Field Artillery Targeting Technician is also undergoing an modernization. 131As are on schedule to transition from Radar Technicians to Targeting Technicians by assuming the role of Mission Command Systems and Sensors integrators by 2017. This transition will enable our Warrant Officers to better facilitate the targeting process and fire support planning to deliver accurate and timely fires in support of the Commander's scheme of Maneuver. 131As will use the modernized Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) as the central Fires Mission Command tool. This will dramatically improve integration of organic and Joint targeting sensors and effective data sharing of Army and Joint Mission Command systems.

This effort is intended to solve a significant technical capability gap that continues to grow with the rapidly increasing numbers and complexities of Army and Joint Interagency Multinational (JIM) targeting sensors and Mission Command systems. Today, technology doubles in capability every 18 months. In order for the Army to achieve overmatch in a near peer conflict we must have the ability to keep pace with technological advancements that allow the Fires community to rapidly integrate all assets through our automated systems within Cyber and Electronic Warfare (EW) contested computing environments.

The 131A Warrant Officers are considered the true technicians of the Field Artillery Branch. With the advancement of Radar technologies that simplified Radar maintenance — coupled with highly trained NCOs, the need for on-site technicians has become obsolete. The transition of our 131As to targeting Technicians embedded within the Fires Cells from battalion to Echelons Above Corps (EAC) provides both the stable source and technical abilities to solve this critical capability gap; integration of Army and Joint Mission Command systems and sensors to enable targeting and fire support planning and execution.

As a Systems Integrator, the 131A will fully understand the existing intelligence capabilities resi-

dent in Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A) and how best to utilize those capabilities in the targeting process. They will also know how best to integrate the ADAM Cell systems which consist of the Air and Missile Defense Work Station (AMDWS), Forward Area Air Defense Command and Control (FAADC2), the Air Defense Systems Integrator (ADSI), and AVN Cell Tactical Airspace Integration System (TAIS) to facilitate Air/Ground integration and the clearance of fires process. They will provide the Maneuver Commander with a Fires Common Operational Picture (COP) overlaid on the Maneuver COP to enable the Commander to Visualize, Describe, Direct intent for fires into the scheme of Maneuver.

The 131A Systems Integrator will fully understand the sensor capabilities that reside organic at their Echelon as well as Joint and National Sensor capabilities accessible through Mission Command coordination processes and integration through the Targeting Process. This thorough understanding of Mission Command Systems and Sensor capabilities is intended to facilitate the Fires Processes to include; Deliberate and Dynamic Targeting; Collateral Damage Estimation; Weaponing; Target Mensuration; Target Material Production; facilitating proactive fires and the Counter-fire fight.

With the FA Warrant Officers currently in the Fires Cells from FA Battalion to EAC few if any organizational modifications are anticipated to meet the current systems integrator capability gap. There is a current analysis being conducted to determine if replacing the 13A Assistant Targeting Officer at the Maneuver Battalions with a 131A Targeting Technician is feasible.

Implementation of Systems Integrator tasks into Institutional training and education will not require additional time to the current Program of Instruction (POI) since the Joint Automated Deep Operations Coordination System (JADOCS) and radar maintenance blocks will be utilized for the Mission Command and

Continued on Page 6, See 131As



131As ...Continued from Page 5

Sensor integrator instruction. The AFATDS will be utilized throughout the Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC) and reinforced during the 131A Warrant Officer Advanced Course (WOAC). Since the 94M has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of the Q53/50, the Warrant Officer Instruction Branch (WOIB) will utilize the allocated time that was traditionally spent on the AN/TPQ-36/37 maintenance for the Mission Command System and Sensor Integrator blocks of instruction. The new POI is currently being developed and it is anticipated the Mission Command (Systems Integrator) instruction will begin in Fiscal Year 2017.

Due to major software update(s) of the AFATDS,

to include merging of the legacy JADOCs capabilities into the AFATDS, the Targeting Technician is now able to utilize a single Army Battle Command System (ABCS) instead of multiple systems to perform their assigned duties. The AFATDS allows the Targeting Technician to clearly integrate with the entire ABCS Software Suite, organic sensor feeds, as well as gain access to Joint Mission Command and sensors greatly amplifying situational awareness throughout the operational environment. 

Editor's Note: POCs are CW3 Luis O. Martinez and CW5 Robert D. Wilson

Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System gets dramatic upgrade

With new software upgrades to include version 6.8.1.1, the Fires Mission Command System (AFATDS), will now have increased capabilities allowing it to dramatically improve integration of organic and joint targeting sensors and effective data sharing of Army and Joint Mission Command systems. This will enable the targeting process and fire support planning to deliver accurate and timely fires in support of the Commander's scheme of maneuver.

AFATDS v6.8.1.1, Software is to be released during the first quarter of FY17. Here are a few facts about what this upgrade will provide:

Commander's Guidance

AFATDS v6.8.1.1. can implement user provided commander's guidance governing how targets are attacked (e.g. target selection standards, high payoff targets, system attack parameters). It will streamline target delivery from sensor to which shooter using Mission Routing guidance, Mission Prioritization, and Munition Restrictions.

Mapping Display Abilities

Using WorldWind map engine and Digital Terrain Elevation Data (DTED) v6.8.1.1. Provides

a visual 3D display of all friendly units, enemy SI-TEMP, geometries, FSCMs, Air Coordination Measures (ACMs), Range fans, and munitions flight path (MFPs) for surface-to-surface fires. The enhanced mapping allows for Commanders to visualize the operational environment with proper altitudes and elevations providing near-real display of the Modified Combined Obstacle Overlay (MCOO).

Fire Support Planning & Attack Analysis

It will provide the Commander the ability to incorporate several JADOCs target managers (e.g. Joint Time Sensitive Target manager, Fires manager, Inter-AOC Manager). It will also give the Commander the capability of conducting a Fire Support Planning Course of Action (COA) Analysis with his assigned shooters. The FS COA displays tube strength, munitions required for mission success and system, by type, utilization. Attack Analysis will allow a by-type, by-target of when each tube will be engaging each target displayed on the scheduling worksheet.

ASL, ACO, and ATO Management

It will also manage the Air Strike List established

Continued on Page 7, See AFATDS



AFATDS...Continued from Page 6

at any echelon and can import/export DD form 1972 Joint Tactical Air Request (JTAR) as a fillable excel spreadsheet. The manager provides red/amber/green visual display of what is requested, JIPTL approved, flown, and BDA received. Air Control Order (ACO) can be imported over the communications protocol and displayed in 3D on the AFATDS system.

Interface with Mission Command Systems and Intelligence Systems/Databases

This has improved connection capabilities, namely the Link16 protocol. It allows AFATDS to connect to any device/platform/sensor that uses the JREAP messaging service. These items include the airspace defense system integrator (ADSI), JWACS, JSTAR, Sentinel Radar system as well as organic FF radar systems (Q-53 and Q-50). The units as well as FF radars can be managed for movement from the AFATDS for movement and range fan manipulation. Connections to Theater Battle Management Core Systems (TBMCS), ADSI, Air and Missile Defense Workstation (AM-DWS), Airspace information Service (ASIS) are now capable.

Precision Strike Suite Compatibility

It will be able to tie a target grid location to precision strike suite software allowing the user to mensurate the target receiving corrected LAT/LONG and adjusted altitude of the target location. This allows for precision target planning to occur all on one system.

Modernized Integrated Database (MIDB)

Can receive inputs from MIDB allowing the Commander to adjust his priorities of fires against what the enemy SITEMP and adversary facilities are within his operational environment.

Future Software Updates

After the 6.8.1.1 release in FY17 AFATDS the following features will be enhancements designed a software updates. Currently the Capabilities Development Document (CDD) has been staffed and approved however, bids for development have not be incorporated.

The AFATDS Increment 2 will be capable of us-

ing the full array of tactical, operational and strategic communications systems available within the theater of operations to support the needs of the maneuver and fires commanders. This includes but not limited to Warfighter Information Network-Tactical (WIN-T), VHF, HF, UHF, SATCOM, commercial and tactical internets and wireless wave forms developed to support Joint Battle Command-Platform (JBC-P).

It will also use adaptable software that will learn and change behavior, over time, based on how it is used, under what conditions, and its internal knowledge base in order to assist the operator to more effectively execute fires functions/tasks. AFATDS requires the capability to integrate technology advances that would enhance cognitive processes (e.g., reasoning and decision making), as well as incorporate intelligent software agents.

AFATDS web services shall be able to select an application and/or wizard that will permit the user to query data repositories resident on the Battle Command Servers or any data repository, regardless of service affiliation. Collaboration Service will provide automated rehearsal of the FA Support plan to validate planned and immediate targets against all managed lists.

The system will be able to conduct fratricide avoidance and collateral damage estimates and alert notifications within a single screen/presentation/user-interface. Digital Imagery Exploitation Engine (DIEE), will be hooked into AFATDS v7.0 incorporating a suite of software to include DCiDE (Collateral Damage Estimate tool), JMEM Weaponing Software (JWS) and Precision Strike Suite software.

AFATDS Increment 2 users will have the capability to publish software updates and/or patches by download for the syst4em; and the system will automatically check for any other required application or security updates at user specified times per Commander's guidance. This will allow the system to remain up-to-date and connected to other non-AFATDS systems during at all times.



Editor's Note: POCs are CW4 Trevor Meier and CW5 Robert D. Wilson

Update on the Joint Air Ground Integration Center

JAGIC is magic for Joint Fires

During the 2009 Army and Air Force Warfighter Talks, the Chief of Staff of the Army and Chief of Staff of the Air Force agreed upon the definition of the Joint Air Ground Integration Center (JAGIC) as a modular and scalable center designed to integrate and coordinate joint fires and air operations within the Army's senior tactical echelon (nominally the division) assigned airspace. The JAGIC collocates decision making authorities from the land and air components at the highest tactical echelon to support the maneuver commander's concept of operations. Beginning in fiscal year 2011, the United States Air Force began habitually aligning its Air Support Operations Center (ASOC) capabilities with each active duty Army division. Twelve (12) ASOCs (one per division and two Air National Guard ASOCs) are projected to become operational by fiscal year 2019.

The following are a few facts about JAGIC and what it provides to the Combatant Commander:

The JAGIC provides commanders a concept to coordinate, integrate, and control operations in division assigned airspace. It also co-locates decision making authorities from the land and air component to support the maneuver commander's objectives and intent. Essentially, the JAGIC facilitates effective mission execution while reducing the level of risk.

The JAGIC is designed to support and enable division-level current operations through the rapid execution and clearance of fires and airspace. As a modular and scalable entity, it is designed to integrate and synchronize fires and airspace control in the

division area of operations in accordance with guidance from the division commander, the joint force air component commander (JFACC) and airspace control authority (ACA).

The JAGIC is an execution cell that co-locates the capabilities of the ASOC with the fires cell, air missile defense, Army aviation, and airspace element in the division's current operations integration cell (COIC).

ATP 3-91.1, AFTTP 3-2.86, The Joint Air Ground Integration Center, 18 June 14, will undergo revision and publication in FY17. The Mission Command Center of Excellence (MCCOE) is the JAGIC publication proponent. As part of the COIC, the JAGIC is not resourced to conduct planning.

Specific functions of the JAGIC include fires, airspace control, interdiction coordination, friendly force identification, and information collection. All JAGIC functions are in support of current operations.

The fires function integrates division fires with other complementary and reinforcing functions for achieving air-ground integration. In the JAGIC, fires cell personnel rapidly and efficiently respond to requests for Joint fires by coordinating with the necessary air and ground forces to enable the delivery of joint fires in a timely manner. The JAGIC Chief is typically a Deputy Fire Support Coordinator (DF-SCOORD) or a Assistant Fire Support Coordinator (AFSCOORD).

Editor's Note: POC is

Mr. Anthony V. Gonzales and Mr. John Scott



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Update on Joint Operational Fires and Effects Course

JOFEC funded for 2017 - Classes starting in Feb. 2017

The Joint Operational Fires and Effects Course (JOFEC) is designed to educate leaders from all services on Joint capabilities and targeting methodology to create both lethal and non-lethal effects. JOFEC is an excellent opportunity for Joint and Army personnel to receive training on the joint and service targeting processes. It also facilitates the rebuilding of the Total Army Force for Decisive Action by ensuring Fires are properly integrated into Combined Arms Maneuver as part of the overall push to improve readiness.

The operational impact of JOFEC is significant and tangible. JOFEC helps fill a gap in leader education on Fires at the Operational level in support of Joint Force Commander Mission and priorities. This course was created because Combatant Commands repeatedly requested that action be taken to fill a leader education gap. JOFEC accomplishes this by providing students the baseline knowledge of Joint Service Fires capabilities, platforms, doctrine and the Joint Target-

ing Process allowing them to function at an Operational level and execute the Targeting process.

JOFEC is also the only educational opportunity for Soldiers and leaders to receive training working in Division and higher Fires cells or Battlefield Coordination Detachments (BCDs). This is significant with the return of the Division Artilleries (DIVARTYs) and the need to reestablish core Fires capability and competencies.

Additionally, the need for these competencies has been most evident during rotations at the Combat Training Centers (CTC) and in the Mission Command Training Program (MCTP) in which units were lacking these core competencies. The course will soon be available for registration in the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) with available dates. Contact your S3 Training NCO for more information. 

Social Media Best Practices

If a Soldier or leader uses a social networking site where he or she is or may be identified or associated with the U.S. Army, they must remember how they appear to represent their organization and the United States of America. UCMJ and other guidelines and regulations still apply.





From the Desk of the Field Artillery CSM

Knox, Hamilton and Gruber 2016

The deadline for the United States Army Field Artillery School's Knox, Hamilton and Gruber award program is almost here. On Nov. 1, by close of business, all nomination packets must be received by the Field Artillery Proponent Office located at Fort Sill, Okla. As the deadline nears, the question we must often get is...what should be in the packet?

All submission narratives of the unit's or individual's achievements should cover the period of FY16 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016), and should be formatted in accordance with AR 25-40, Preparing and Managing Correspondence. All submissions must use Arial font, 12 points, single spaced, and must be a minimum of one page. Submission packets should include JPEG photos of the units/individuals to support the narrative. The photos should have captions to describe what the photo is about. All submission narratives should be accompanied with a Brigade and Battalion Commander's Letter of Endorsement. Each packet will be graded on its own merit by a carefully selected panel of senior Colonels and Sergeants Major. Be sure that the write-ups address the appropriate criteria for the award (para. 5b. and 5c. of MOI). The more detail, examples, and achievements that are directly related to or attributed to the criteria, the easier it is for board members to score the submission; and the better chance you have. Bottom line -- if there are no mentions of results -- there will be no points. I understand there may be cases where the unit or Soldier might not have accomplished something in one of the areas listed in the criteria and that's OK. What doesn't help is to have a full page of 'stuff' versus stuff that is related to the criteria.

There is a rich history of units and individuals receiving these awards throughout the years. The MOI for the competition is posted online on the USAFAS internet page located at <http://sill-www.army.mil/USAFAS/index.html>. Scroll down and hit the "Knox, Hamilton, Gruber MOI" tab and the link will open to a PDF. As always, please do not hesitate to

contact FAPO or myself if you have questions about how to compose a nomination packet or a question about the submission process.

This program is designed to promote, sustain and recognize excellence within the U.S. Army Field Artillery. Commanders, First Sergeants, Command Sergeants Major, don't miss out on this opportunity to make your unit shine and get the recognition your people deserve!

The Henry A. Knox award is given to the best active duty battery, while the most outstanding battery within the Army National Guard is presented the Alexander Hamilton award. An individual whose thought and innovation results in significant contributions to or the enhancement of the field artillery's warfighting capabilities, morale, readiness, and maintenance is awarded the Edmund L. Gruber award.

The Henry A. Knox Award is named after the first Chief of Artillery, and first Secretary of War, Major General Henry A. Knox. Originally called the Knox Trophy and Medal, the awards were established in 1924 by the Chief of Field Artillery and presented annually. The Trophy recognized the best artillery battery and the Medal recognized the best enlisted Artillery Soldier based on performance, excellence, leadership, and proficiency. The awards recognized hard work, talent, determination, and high standards that resulted in the highest performance. Before World War II, the awards were not presented. In 2002, the Knox Trophy was reinstated and the Medal was replaced with the Gruber Award to recognize the individual Soldiers. In 2015, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division Artillery, Fort Bragg, N.C., received the Knox award.

The Alexander Hamilton Award recognizes the best Army National Guard (ARNG) Battery. It was created in 2002 and is named after American Statesman and Continental Army Artilleryman Alexander

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KHG ...Continued from Page 10

Hamilton. Alexander Hamilton was an outstanding artillery battery commander and a skilled cohort of General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. Hamilton helped write the U.S. Constitution and served as the nation's first Secretary of the Treasury. In 2015, the Hamilton awarded was presented to Alpha Battery, 3rd Battalion 197th Field Artillery Regiment (HIMARS) with the New Hampshire Army National Guard.

The Edmund L. Gruber Award is named after Brigadier General Edmund L. Gruber, a noted Field Artillery Officer, who as a First Lieutenant in 1908 composed the "Caisson Song," which the Army adapted as "The Army Song" (The Army Goes Rolling Along) in 1952. The Gruber Award was estab-

lished in 2002 to recognize individual Field Artillery Soldiers for innovations that result in significant contributions to enhance the Field Artillery's war fighting capabilities, morale, readiness, and maintenance. In 2015, the Gruber award was presented to SFC Jorge A. Moraguzman of C Battery, 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.

We want to have a record amount of entries this year!

**King of Battle!
Fires Strong!**



CSM "Berk" Parsons

2016 KNOX, HAMILTON & GRUBER

**Click picture to go
to 2016 MOI**



DEADLINE IS 1 NOVEMBER 2016!

2-166th Regiment Regional Training Institute Pennsylvania Army National Guard conducts first 13B30 ALC One Army School System Course

The Advanced Leaders Course (ALC) started on 22 March 2016 and conducted the live fire portion of the course on all three Howitzer platforms (M109A6, M119A3, and the M777A2) on April 11-13. The course concluded on April 15 with 15 Red-leg graduates (12 AC and three ARNG). This was the first of three 13B ALC OASS courses, training 40+ AC and ARNG Soldiers conducted in the 2016 training year by RTIs located in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. The students in attendance were from numerous locations across the Army to include: B BTRY 3-7 FA/NO Schofield Barracks, HI, 217/NO JBLM, 1-5 FA/NO FT Riley KS, A 1-9 FA/NO Fort Stewart, 2-319 AFAR/NO Fort Bragg, B BTRY 1-41 FA FT. Stewart, GA, F CO. 1-28 IN/NO Fort Benning, 4-319 AFAR/NO Grafenwoehr, Germany, HHC 1 SBCT/NO Augusta Recruiting Station, C BTRY 1-41 FA FT Stewart GA, HHB 4-27 FA IAD Fort Bliss TX, Indiana ARNG, and Michigan ARNG. The course was run concurrently with 22 students from a 061-13B10 (R) MOS Transition course which gave the 15 ALC students a great opportunity to not only hone their technical skills but to also train, lead, and mentor Soldiers transitioning to the 13B MOS by sharing their experiences and knowledge.

The course taught and tested these NCOs on all aspects of the: M109A6, M777A2, M119A3 Howitzer platforms, 2408-4 Weapon Record Data Card, ASPTs, Aiming Circle, GLPS, Supervising FCAT procedures, FTX and written and hands-on testing.

“Each active and guard component Soldier brought a variety of background knowledge and experiences to the class which significantly enhanced the overall learning experience,” said lead instructor SFC Charles Gundrum of RTI-PA. The course was taught at a fast pace.

“Having active component Soldiers in the course greatly increased peer competition among



ALC students conduct live fire. U.S. Army photo released

students and day to day operations for the instructors was easier,” said SSG Charles Stover of RTI-PA.

The end of course critiques submitted by the students spoke praises of RTI-PA and their instructors for their professionalism, technical expertise, and for being able to deliver the blocks of instruction to a student at any level.

The course finished with a very high academic average and a 100 percent graduation rate. The ARNG Field Artillery training institutions have seen an increase of AC training allocations from 40 this training year to 510+ in training years 2019 and 2020, adding seats for 13B30, 13B40, 13F30, 13F40, 13J30, 13J40, 13M30, 13M40, and 13R30. This increase has contributed to the success of the courses.

“With the implementation of STEP and the co-location of some FA RTI’s at some AC installations, the ARNG provides another option for our Soldiers to get trained and stay closer to home at a significant cost savings for many units and Soldier,” said 1SG Micheal Seefeld of the ARNG-TRI FA SME cell.



**Editor’s note: Article by 1SG Micheal Seefeld
ARNG-TRI Field Artillery**

This Month in History September & October

9-10 September 2005, B Battery, 3-13th Field Artillery fired GMLRS to destroy insurgent strongholds Tal Afar from a distance of more than fifty kilometers. This was the first time that Guided MLRS rockets were fired in combat.

13 September 1954, The Artillery School began classes in the newly constructed Snow Hall. The classes were taught in the academic (B) wing of the building.

15 September 1911, The School of Fire for Field Artillery officially opened its doors to its first class of officers.

18 September 1917, the School of Aerial Observers at Fort Sill began its first class for training airplane and balloon aerial observers for duty in France.

21 September 1933, The War Department announced that the Public Works Administration had allotted \$4 billion for construction at Fort Sill. Among other things, the funding paid for constructing a new administration building, later named after Lieutenant General Lesley McNair in 1944.

7 October 1879, The first telephone lines were installed at Fort Sill. This was only three years after the telephone had been invented.

10 October 1965, The 1st Cavalry Division began combat operations near Pleiku, Vietnam. For the Field Artillery, this was a groundbreaking experience. All of the division's field artillery was airlifted (105mm towed howitzers) by helicopters or was aerial rocket artillery (armed helicopters). The division contained 434 helicopters and had the capability to move one-third of its combat power at one time into terrain inaccessible to normal infantry vehicles.

15 October 1997, Training Command on Fort Sill signed a memorandum of agreement to bring one Digital Training Access Center on line to store the digital record copy of approved training materials, to install more computer-enhanced classrooms to support institutional training and serve as a platform to export training to distance learning facilities, and to construct three computer-enhanced classrooms dedicated to distance learning.

20 October 2006, A mobile training team from the Field Artillery School completed conducting its first Tactical Information Operation Course in a mobile training team format before deploying to Iraq. The course trained key personnel how to identify a target and select the appropriate lethal or non-lethal effects to generate the desired effects and taught them how to integrate information operations into the military decision making process.

23 October 1917, C Battery, 6th Field Artillery, equipped with the French 75mm field gun, fired the first field artillery round for the U.S. Army in World War I in the Lorraine. Corporal Robert Bralet of the Sixth Artillery became the first U.S. soldier to fire a shot in the war when he discharged a French 75mm gun into a German trench a half mile away.

23 October 1983, Four members of the Field Artillery School Target Acquisition Battery were killed and one was wounded when the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, was bombed by terrorists. The Target Acquisition Battery was composed of staff and faculty of the Field Artillery School and had been deployed to Beirut, Lebanon on 4 August 1983 in support of the 24th Marine Amphibious and the Multi-National Peacekeeping Force.



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