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# REDLEG Update

The United States Army Field Artillery Branch's Newsletter

## 2017 Fires Conference Wrap Up

### MOS 13J Conversion

### What Does It Mean to Shoot Degraded?

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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  
Brigadier General, 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 Public Affairs officer, (580) 558-0836.

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# From the Commandant's desk

## 2017 Fires Conference Wrap Up

*“We must continue to focus on the sophisticated and elegant design of the battlefield...”*

“Thank you” to all those who attended the 2017 Fires Conference, either in person or virtually.

This year’s conference focused on what we are doing now and our efforts to expand the capabilities of Cross Domain Fires in support of Multi-Domain Battle. If you missed the conference, the slides and DCO recordings are available on FKN at URL <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/folder/47887390>. During our Field Artillery Breakout session we engaged in presentations by fellow Redleg warriors. These included COL Marcus Jones, the 8th Army Chief of Fires, who gave us a rundown on what’s happening on the Korean peninsula and how our forces conduct operations; COL Dave Lee, Commander, the 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment and U.S. Army Europe FSCOORD, talked about what it’s like to work closely with NATO partners in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve; and COL Tom Bolen, Commander, 11D DIVARTY, gave us an great update on operations in Iraq and how the Field Artillery supports Operation Inherent Resolve. We closed out the session with COL Andy Rendon’s rundown of how the Strategic Management System, tied to DTMS, can provide near real-time provide quantitative feedback on unit training and readiness.

Throughout our discussions, one topic of note which continues to be a challenge is how we must get better at managing the balance between air control measures (ACMs) and fire support coordination measures (FSCMs); regardless of theater or level of conflict, we must standardize the complexity of air-space management through doctrine, training, and technology.

We must continue to focus on the sophisticated and elegant design of the battlefield, to include FSCMs and ACMs, the electromagnetic spectrum that enables permissive cannon and rocket fires, and air support at critical times and locations to allow the maneuver commander to bring all assets to bear simultaneously

at a time and place of their choosing.

All these moving pieces do not synchronize themselves by accident. It takes a deliberate and concerted process and a lot of practice. There was a time when this was “old hat” for our force. Going forward, we must continue to get reps and sets under our belts so designing the battlefield will again become second nature. To do this, we must train hard and repetitively to rebuild muscle memory. We must also share lessons learned throughout the force, while we train and while we fight.

In closing, I want to assure you that we are a Field Artillery force who genuinely cares about getting better at what we do. We will never settle for the status quo, nor will we allow ourselves to stagnate.

We are the world’s premier Artillery force - modernized, organized, trained, and ready to integrate and employ Army, Joint, and Multinational fires because of the tremendous efforts of you, our Soldiers,

24/7/365,  
Regardless of weather,  
In any terrain,  
Quickly, Accurately, and Danger Close! 

*BG Stephen J. Maranian*





# From the Desk of the Field Artillery CSM

## Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 13J Conversion

By now, every Redleg has heard that the MOS 13D and MOS 13P will merge into MOS 13J. What isn't clear, based on questions I'm asked when I engage units is how this is going to work. Folks have concerns and I hear the 'we're assuming risk' statement too often. Let me calm the fears and shine some light on the way forward.

First off, let's put the 'assuming risk' to bed. The basis for this mistaken fear seems to lie in the fact that rockets and cannons are different. Well, I'm glad that was pointed out for me, I might not have gotten there on my own. Back in the day (probably before most who are raising this issue could even spell Army), there were significant differences in equipment and processes that required two separate MOSs. However, emerging technologies and efficiency gains have narrowed operational gaps and technical differences between these two specialties. Simply put, the requirements for maintaining these two specialties do not exist today as they did in the past. So much of the angst exhibited revolves around 'what they don't know'. Regardless of where the Soldier or NCO comes from, I'd bet you there may be some gaps. That's where leaders get involved – assess and train you'll close those gaps. You may also discover during assessment that there's other skills they bring to the table. Just one example is 13Ps tend to work with multiple commo systems not prevalent in cannon units, there's an advantage you can capitalize on.

So what's the real fear? It's change. Yep, some leaders may have to step out of their comfort zone and do things a little different. Soldiers may have to do something a little different to adjust. Neither is gonna kill anyone. Heck, if the Army didn't force us to change every once in a while, we'd still be wearing pointy hats and firing muskets. Change is ok, embrace it – own it – the ability to do so is what keeps us ahead

of our adversaries. Besides, training one bubba to potentially go to two different formations ain't new – we been doing it with Lieutenants forever, we do it with 13Bs – and they seem to turn out alright, because they get to a unit and the leaders there keep on training them, and they validate their training and the cycle repeats. Ain't no different with your Soldiers, get over it. Assess them when they arrive, start training them and keep training them to make them the best at what they do, train them to take your job one day.

So now that we've settled that, let's discuss how this is going to work. There isn't going to be some flip of the switch come FY18 that magically transforms everybody to 13J. There's a process, and it's already been going on for some time now. There's some parallel efforts so I'll try to keep it as much in order as I can starting with the training strategy. All Soldiers awarded MOS 13P prior to 1 OCT 15 will be assigned a transitional Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) Y2. ASI Y2 will expire 31 MAR 18 (at the end of 2nd QTR FY18). NCOs that have completed their respective NCOPDS courses by 1 OCT 17, will not be required to attend 13J NCOPDS. However all skill levels must have successful completion of training required to delete ASI Y2; requirements consist of the completion of 3 blackboard based modules (Fires Modernization Theory and Concepts, Profiler, and Centaur). Completion of required training will consist of a culmination exam requiring a minimum score of 80% (training requirements for personnel with ASI Y2 @ <https://elc.learn.army.mil>). Once training requirements have been met, Soldiers must submit a DA form 4187, signed by the first LTC in the chain of command thru unit Personnel Servicing Centers to CDR, HRC. Soldiers failing to complete qualification training by 31 MAR 18 will be reclassified to support the needs of the Army.

*Continued on Page 5, See FA CSM*



## From the FA CSM ... Continued from Page 4

Yep, don't procrastinate, you have a shelf life.

We're leaning forward at the schoolhouse, all 13D and 13P AIT students in training now are getting the training necessary to change their MOS to 13J. The reclassification of personnel for establishment of MOS 13J may be accomplished during the 1-30 September 2017 Reclassification Management of Change window. Effective date of establishment of MOS 13J would be 1 October 2017. The start of FY18 also brings position recoding to reflect 13J, changes to TOE and TDA, to include duty titles, grades and identifiers. Finally, 13J AIT and NCOPDS (ALC, SLC) courses start on/after 1 OCT 17, so graduates after 1 OCT 17 will be trained 13J.

Hopefully this provides the background and de-

tails to generate shared understanding and appropriate action across the team. Additional information is available in the Notification of Future Change to DA PAM 611-21 memo (NOFC E-1510-09\_Memo 13DPJ.doc), which I've hung in the files section on the CMF13 Community page on ACT (<https://actnow.army.mil/communities/community/enlisted-cmf13>). Talk to your Soldiers and your peers, let them know the real deal. Embrace the change and get after it, decisive action and lethality are in your hands.

**King of Battle!**  
**Redleg 7**

*CSM Berk Parsons*



## MOA, bilateral relations with German Army Joint Fire Support Training Division

The Commandants of the United States Army Field Artillery School and the German Army Joint Fire Support Training Division recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in an effort to continue to strengthen and expand the bilateral relations between their institutions.

By signing the MOA, both Commandants agreed to improve shared understanding and promote the exchange of information in the fields of Interoperability, Joint Fires Observer (JFO) Training, and Field Artillery Training.

"In the last few years, the role of the JFO has increased in importance, especially when considering employing Joint Fires," said COL Stephen J. Maranian, the USAFAS Commandant. "We here at USAFAS want to make sure our German allies have access to all our JFO training as well as other professional military education presented here at the United States Army Field Artillery School."



*U.S. Army photo released*

The MOA also outlined the need to meet regularly at senior leadership levels to define a mutually agreeable "topic of the year" to serve as the basis for continued professional engagements and sustained exchanges of information.



# What does it mean to shoot degraded?

***Degraded operations at the platoon and section level are perishable skills. It is imperative that unit leaders institute training programs to exercise operations in degraded mode in order to maintain proficiency.***

As we continue to develop more and more sophisticated and advance methods for integrating and delivering fires on the battlefield it is important that we don't forget that systems sometimes fail or capabilities can be denied. Knowing this we must continue to prepare ourselves for the inevitably that we may be temporarily degraded, but at the same time we must continue to be able to deliver effective fires.

To be prepared to operate degraded you must train iteration in a degraded mode. Commanders must drive what and how degraded they want to train based on the conditions they expect to encounter during their deployment. Ultimately, this flexible mindset will drive us to be the ultimate Artillerists that we are.

This document is intended to spark thought on how to plan for and train to continue to maintain firing capability even when all our digital and precision capabilities are not fully functional. As a Branch we have always been known for our ability to support Maneuver regardless of the conditions. This is what we must train and prepare for degraded operations. This document outlines the many tools and doctrine available to assist commanders in developing their unit's training plans.

*Editor's Note: Due to this white paper's length it has been posted on FKN at the following link*  
<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/47720274> 



*U.S. Army photo released*

# Army crafting strategy to reduce logistics tail

By Jen Judson, Defense News

WASHINGTON — In the future operational environment, up against near-peer adversaries, the U.S. Army will be expected to be able to operate in smaller, more dispersed units far away from well-established military posts that offer creature comforts as well as essentials like fuel, water, ammunition and energy.

So the service is crafting a strategy to reduce the logistics tails for units expected to operate at the tactical edge.

“I don’t think we are going to have the luxury of having this massive amount of logistics behind us in future higher-end, higher-intensity conflicts, in my view,” Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley said at a May 4 Atlantic Council event in Washington.

The Army’s relatively new war fighting concept — multi-domain battle — acknowledges the battlefield is interconnected across domains from space to land to air to sea and even to cyberspace. The battlefield is expanding not just across geographic space but also the electromagnetic and cyber spectrums. Adversaries will be more closely matched in capability with U.S. forces and therefore smaller units will be expected to maneuver quickly semi-independently from larger formations during small windows of advantage.

This means dragging a massive amount of stuff needed to sustain a unit isn’t going to be possible, but soldiers still need water, fuel, power and equipment to survive and operate. The service is taking a hard look at how to reconcile such a conundrum through a concept it is calling demand reduction.

The Army Capabilities Integration Center held a demand reduction summit last month to help inform the strategy it is developing to address reducing the sustainment and logistics tail of the Army in multi-domain battle.

The goal is to “improve our ability to maintain freedom of movement in action during sustained and



U.S. Army photo released

high [operational tempo] operations especially at the end of extended lines of communication in austere environments,” Col. Stephanie Gradford, the ARCIC Sustainment Division chief, told reporters in a teleconference May 2.

As the Army and the Marine Corps examine multi-domain battle, they are “recognizing that reducing vulnerabilities inherent in deployment and sustainment activities also supports resiliency of U.S. forces,” she said. “We must pursue demand reduction efforts to create units needing less fuel, energy, water and other supplies.”

The Army doesn’t see reducing supplies and logistics as taking away capability from the force but rather as a “combat enabler that extends and enhances a brigade combat team’s ability to maintain a pace and tempo the enemy cannot sustain,” Gradford said.

ARCIC is tapping into technologies gaining momentum in the commercial and military worlds to help reduce logistics from additive manufacturing and 3-D printing to alternate fuels and advanced power generation to autonomy and artificial intelligence and even laser weapons to reduce the amount of ammunition

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## Logistics ... Continued from Page 7

needed on the battlefield.

The Army sees near-term promise in a variety of technologies that could reduce and streamline logistics on the battlefield, according to Col. Mark Simerly, Combined Arms Support Command Capability Development and Integration chief.

“For instance, the Army’s fuel automated management system,” Simerly said, “this is a capability that is going to allow us to understand how much fuel we have, where it is, and then be more precise in our understanding of how far our operations can extend and are better able to reprogram some of our resupply folks.”

The Army also sees near-term promise in additive manufacturing “to reduce demand at the point of need and allow us to produce combat spares or other critical items near the point of need or point of repair so we won’t need to have a reliance of a supply chain that can be over-extended,” Simerly said.

Tactical power generation and micro-grid technology are also developed to the point where such capability could be incorporated into operations in the near-term, he added.

## Hydrogen fuel cell technology could bring stealth to Army vehicles

Autonomous distribution of supplies, particularly from the air, would also come later down the road, Simerly noted. Platforms that can deliver supplies 110 to 150 kilometers out with a payload up to 1,500 or 2,000 lbs “probably wouldn’t be available until the mid-term and potentially the far-term depending upon the advancements of certain artificial intelligence technologies that allow them to be fully autonomous,” he said.

The Army will experiment near-term capabilities likely to play a part in the demand reduction strategy at the Joint Warfighting Assessment in Germany next year in late April and early May.

Among the capabilities are additive manufacturing, small unit water purification, microgrids, the Joint Tactical Autonomous Aerial Resupply System (JTARS) and a tactical power management concept, according to Gradford.

Farther afield, the service envisions incorporating alternative sources of energy such as hydrogen. While the technology is available now, it likely won’t be integrated into combat vehicles until the mid- or long-term, Simerly noted.

Milley said at the Atlantic Council event that the Army relies on carbon-based fuel and that will likely remain the primary fuel for the time being. “Carbon-based fuels are here today and it is unlikely in terms of scale and scope that we will transform the U.S. military to something other than that in the near future -- defined as inside of 10 years,” he said.

While alternative power-generation exists now from electric cars to nuclear powered naval vessels, alternative fuels aren’t ready for prime time when it comes to large-scale Army use, Milley said, adding the service is doing a lot of research on it.

For instance, the U.S. Army’s Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center and General Motors have partnered to build a hydrogen cell-powered demonstrator and are bringing the technology to soldiers for testing over the course of this year. 

The Army Research Laboratory and industry is working on a futuristic concept for aerial resupply — a small rectangular-shaped quadcopter called the Joint Tactical Aerial Resupply Vehicle or “hoverbike” — that could order and receive supplies to the battlefield rapidly.

Also underway is a three-month maneuver support exercise at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where a semi-autonomous, leader-follower concept will be demonstrated for cargo resupply. Several unmanned tactical vehicles in a convoy will be equipped with sensors that allow it to autonomously follow a manned vehicle, Gradford said.

The demand reduction strategy is expected to be completed by the end of the year, Gradford noted, with last month’s summit serving as the first stepping stone in the process of shaping concepts for the final document. 

# Joint Operational Fires and Effects Course Schedule

*\*\*training dates subject to availability*

*\*\*course dates subject to change*

**ATTRS information: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc/>**

**FY: 2017**

School: 061

Course: 2E-SIL8/250-ASIL8

Course Title: JOINT OPERATIONAL FIRES AND EFFECTS

Length: 2 Weeks

Schedule:

Class	Report Date	Start Date	End Date
001	26 Nov 17	27 Nov 17	8 Dec 17
002	28 Jan 18 2	9 Jan 18	9 Feb 18
003	25 Mar 18	26 Mar 18	6 Apr 18
004	10 Jun 18	11 Jun 18 2	2 Jun 18
005	12 Aug 18	13 Aug 18	24 Aug 18

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## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY "MAY/JUNE"

**4 May 1955**, Fort Sill's The Artillery Officer Candidate School was renamed the Artillery and Guided Missile Officer Candidate School.

**9 May 1916**, The War Department closed the School of Fire for Field Artillery and sent instructors and students to the Mexican border for duty with the Pershing Expedition into Mexico. The school did not open again until July 1917 to begin preparations for training officers for duty in France during World War I.

**20 May 1918**, General Peyton C. March, an artilleryman, became the 9th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.  
**25 May 1953**, Troops from Fort Sill fired the world's first atomic artillery round at Frenchman's Flat, Nevada, from a 280-mm. gun. The 280-mm. gun, known as Atomic Annie, was moved to Fort Sill for permanent display.

**27 May 1827**, The famous mystery writer, Edgar Allen Poe, enlisted in the Army as a private. He was soon promoted to "artificer," an enlisted tradesman who prepared shells for the artillery. After serving for two years and attaining the rank of Sergeant Major for Artillery (the highest rank a noncommissioned officer can achieve), Poe was discharged then entered

West Point as a cadet. He was later court marshaled and removed from West Point for gross neglect of duty and disobedience of orders for refusing to attend formations, classes, or church.

**30 May 1941**, Brigadier General Edmund L. Gruber died on this day. He wrote the song, "The Caissons Go Rolling Along" while assigned to the 5th Field Artillery in 1908.

**3 June 1911**, War Department General Order No. 72 authorized opening the School of Fire for Field Artillery at Fort Sill.

**6 June 1944**, During the D-Day invasion, the 111th Field Artillery Battalion floated its guns to shore on Omaha Beach and lost all but one gun. The 7th Field Artillery Battalion lost six pieces. The 7th and 111th were only two of many field artillery units that participated in the D-Day assault.

**20 June 1995**, General Dennis J. Reimer, a field artillery officer and former Deputy Assistant Commandant of the Field Artillery School, became the 33rd Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. 

# BCTFOC to continue in 2017

Following two successful pilots last year, the FORSCOM CG requested the FCOE sustain the Brigade Combat Team Commander Fires Orientation Course (BCTFOC) and conduct three classes in FY 17 for all AC and RC BCT Commanders. The course was developed to mitigate the Fires experience gap for new BCT Commanders while employing, training, and maintaining Fires within the BCT.

The BCT PCC is a three-day course conducted at Fort Sill, OK which incorporates critical and complex Fires topics while SME-facilitated for maximum benefit. The learning outcomes required by the FORSCOM, CG include: 1.) Establish a comprehensive understanding of the Five Requirements for Accurate Fire (5RAF), 2.) Increase understanding of how to train the Fires Warfighting Function to effectively employ and deliver Fires, and 3.) Understand the principles of conducting targeting and Fires Integration to effectively achieve Lethal and Non-Lethal effect on the enemy. These outcomes are achieved by various methods including senior leader engagements, classroom discussions, and live fire exercise.

The audience for each class consists of approxi-

mately 12 current and incoming BCT CDRs, both AC and RC, and includes DIVARTY and Combat Aviation CDRs to support the diverse discussions. Lessons are facilitated by SMEs and are supported by the FCoE CG, FA CMDT, ADA CMDT, and senior FA mentor.

Receiving student feedback is critical to improving the course for maximum value.

“This course has allowed me to better see my formation and create a priority of work to move towards effectively planning for, synchronizing and fighting with Fires,” said one participant in the course. After each repetition of the pilots, participants were invited to provide comments in order to improve future classes, however, to keep the feedback as candid as possible, those who provided observations were allowed to remain anonymous.

“Outstanding course,” said another participant. “Extremely useful to me.”

The BCTFOC course is slated for two more times in FY17 (20-22 Jun, and 26-28 Sep 17).

If interested in attending, contact FORSCOM DCoS, G3 LDD at (910) 570-7149/7702.

