

Issue 51: November & December 2015

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Happy
Holidays

REDLEG Update

The United States Army Field Artillery Branch's Newsletter

FROM the CMDT's DESK: Update on the Fires Targeting Center

10th Mountain Division Artillery activates

“Big Red One’s” Division Artillery is back

Bold Quest ‘15

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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.

Official Distribution: The *Redleg Update* is distributed by the Commandant of the U.S. Army Field Artillery to key members of the Field Artillery chain of command across the U.S. Army. Past and current editions are also archived on FKN @

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William A. Turner

William A. Turner
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commandant,
United States Army Field Artillery School

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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Inside This Edition

{Click on pg # to jump to corresponding page inside}

Page 3-4: From the FA CMDT's desk: Update on the Fires Targeting Center

Page 5: Veterans Day Message

Page 6: Happy Holidays

Page 7-8: Bold Quest '15

Page 9: 10th MTN DIVARTY activates

Page 10: 10th MTN Division deploys to Afghanistan

Page 11-12: "Big Red One" DIVARTY

Page 13: Valued Asset returns to Big Red One

Page 13: This Month in History: August

Page 14-18: In a complex world, winning matters

Page 19-20: FORSCOM boss: After two wars, Army must rebuild core competencies

From the Commandant's desk

Update on the Fires Targeting Center & DIVARTYs

I would like to start off by saying please take the time to pay tribute to all veterans: present, past and future. While we should all thank our Soldiers for their service every day, find ways to give back to those who have served and protected our country.

Happy Holidays to everyone. This time of the year passes quickly. Please remember to take time to reflect and express thanks for the many great things happening around you. Today's events will be tomorrow's most cherished memories. The holidays are about making good memories; take advantage of every opportunity to make the time count.

As always we are working on multiple initiatives, but in this edition I would like to update you on what's happening with our Fires Targeting Center (FTC).

The Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) tasked the Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE) to conduct an Operational Targeting Study to identify gaps in Army targeting. The study compared the Army's abilities against the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center and the Air Force Targeting Center, focusing on areas such as target intelligence; target validation; developing no-strike entities, and conducting collateral damage estimation

The three recommendations from the study were to establish a targeting center, assign proponentcy over targeting matters to the FCoE, and conduct leadership education focused on targeting.

So in order to bring the Field Artillery and the Army in line with Joint targeting standards, a Fires Targeting Center was created.

It is anticipated that the Fires Targeting Center will transition into the Army Targeting Center in the coming year. This change also requires DA approval and will ultimately represent the Army's targeting requirements and greatly enhance Army targeting capabilities. The FTC will be the Army's lead for Joint targeting issues, policy, doctrine, and training.

Recently, the FCoE has gained approval for a change to AR 5-22, "The Army Force Modernization Proponent System" which designates the CG FCOE as the Army force modernization proponent for Targeting. This is great news. AR 5-22 now assigns FCoE

the responsibility for coordinating targeting related DOTMLPF-P functions as well as serve as the user representative for the Army. The FTC is the lead FCoE agency managing these AR 5-22 responsibilities.

Targeting transcends multiple war fighting functions – it encompasses maneuver, intelligence, cyber/electronic warfare, military information support operations, and mission command. This leads the Targeting Center to naturally want and need to partner with other CoEs, including though not limited to the Intelligence, Mission Command, Cyber, and Maneuver Centers of Excellence, as well as the Army operational force, the Joint force, and Combatant Commands.

We have been working diligently to reach out to those we see as partners – Cyber CoE and Intel CoE visits are already complete along with visits to the Naval Air Warfare Development Command, or Navy Targeting Center, and the USAF's 363rd ISRW, formerly called the Air Force Targeting Center. We intend to continue with more visits to socialize what we are doing and to seek active partners in this important Army mission. These partners will be, in our conception, the charter members of an Army Targeting Working Group which will vet ideas, issues, and proposals internally before the Army Targeting Center engages with the joint targeting community as the service's spokesperson.

In this edition, I would like to invite you to read about ***Bold Quest*** [{See page 7}](#). Soldiers of Bravo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, 18th Field Artillery Brigade, participated in a capabilities demonstration between Bravo Battery and several NATO partners. The exercise served as an interoperability training opportunity for our Field Artillery Soldiers, and was a prime opportunity to practice our Combined, Joint and coalition integration efforts.

Bold Quest occurs once a year and participating nations included artillerymen from Norway, Britain, Denmark, Germany, France and Italy. ***Bold Quest*** helped create strong bonds with NATO countries and opened dialogue and showed their similarities in how we conduct our Field Artillery missions.

Continued on Page 4, see FA CMDT

FA CMDT

...continued from Page 3

I am proud to report that the last two of our DIVARTYs have activated. 10th Mountain Division and the Big Red One's Division Artilleries are back. [{See pages 9 and 11}](#). We now have all 10 DIVARTYs in place and look forward to providing highly-trained and proficient FA Soldiers with exacting standards, leaders and formations.

Along with 'Big Red One's' DIVARTY activation comes praise for this force structure from a highly-respected Maneuver Commander, MAJ GEN Wayne W. Grigsby Jr. [{See Page 13}](#). Beyond improving support to the Maneuver Commander, the DIVARTY force structure allows us to provide oversight for training all our Field artillery men and women.

Leading from the front are our Field Artillerists from 10th Mountain Division as they have now taken over a mission in eastern Afghanistan [{See Page 10}](#). They are now in charge of training, advising and assisting the Afghan National Defense Forces.

Over the past several years, we have been working on modernizing and strengthening our core competencies as a branch. However, it is important to know we are not alone in this endeavor. Across the Army, other branches are working on restoring their fundamental core warfighting capabilities, too.

GEN Abrams who took command of FORSCOM in August [{See Page 19}](#) stated, "Our fundamental focus is really on restoring our fundamental core warfighting capability. I go back to the example I gave you about a staff sergeant company master gunner who has fired all of three gunneries in his eight-year career. You can choose any branch, and they are going to tell you similar stories."

We are bringing a lot of energy and vigor into developing standards across the FA branch, and we are improving daily. Our DIVARTYs are playing a substantial role in those improvements. Maintenance and readiness have improved significantly.

DIVARTYs across the Army are accomplishing this by instituting standardization letters and Red-books. These documents direct a common standard for cannon, mortar, fire direction and fire support sections for training and certification up to the battalion collective level. There is power in consistency and standardization provides consistent training results.

DIVARTY leaders are enforcing these standards, providing mentorship, direct oversight, and evaluation. Additionally, peer-to-peer mentoring and competitive-

ness is now challenging young officers and NCOs to aggressively learn their profession as DIVARTYs provide detailed focus.

The duties and responsibilities of the DIVARTYs are defined in FM 3-09 and soon to be released ATP 3-09.90, DIVARTY. The FORSCOM Commander further defined their roles and responsibilities in FRAGO 1 to the US Army FORSCOM Division Artillery Implementation Order with DIVARTY Key tasks:

1. Improve the Division Commander's ability to deliver operational and tactical level fires.
2. Serve as the Force Field Artillery Headquarters for the Division. The DIVARTY Commander serves as the Division FSCoord.
3. Develop standardized approach to training and integrated fires to ensure accomplishment of operational and tactical level fire support tasks.
4. Provide support to the BCT commanders with FA subject matter expertise. Coach, mentor and develop artillery commanders and leaders, and provide readiness assessment and advice to maneuver commanders.

The bottom line: DIVARTYs are the Fires integrators for the Division and BCT commanders. Through stringent training and certification programs they ensure standardization across the division in the employment of fires assets. Their success is incumbent on building strong relationships across the Division and with Joint Fires resources to ensure the Fires teams deliver over-match to the Division and BCT Commanders.

Finally, in this edition, is an article detailing the Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A Milley's priorities for our future Army. It is a good read, and provides us with a road map for what will be in store for us in the future as a part of the America's fighting force and how we must prepare [{See Page 14}](#).

Please have a joyous holiday season. Stand tall, hold your heads high and be proud!

**King of Battle!
Fires Strong!**

Brigadier General William A. Turner



Veterans Day Message from the Chief of the Field Artillery



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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730 NW SCHIMMELPFENNIG ROAD, SUITE 172
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

09 November 2015

Veterans Day Message from the Chief of the Field Artillery

FORT SILL, Okla. – On Veterans Day we take time to remember and celebrate those who are part of our history and those who are presently serving to protect our future.

For more than two centuries, the Veterans of this nation have been willing to serve and to sacrifice for a country and a cause they love more than their own lives.

While members of other professions engage in dangerous tasks, only members of the Armed Forces are required routinely to deploy and place their lives in peril anywhere and anytime when ordered. That's our job; our mission in life, to help defend our freedom and others who can't seem to help themselves.

Today we honor the brave men and women who have served in places such as Gettysburg, Shiloh, Appomattox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, the cane fields of the Philippines, the rice paddies and jungles of Guam, Okinawa, Japan, Korea and Vietnam. We also honor those who have served more recently in places like Panama, Somalia, Haiti, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our democracy continues to depend on the willingness of its finest men and women to step forward and serve, to dedicate themselves to a greater cause, the cause of protecting our democracy. This has not changed and will not change.

For more than 14 years, our Armed Forces have proven themselves in one of the most difficult environments this nation has ever faced. They have displayed mental and physical toughness, but most importantly, courage under fire. I am proud to be a part of that, but especially today, I am proud to have the opportunity to serve.

Veterans Day is equally important for non-veterans, because it is an opportunity for the American people to learn more about the great sacrifices that have been made on their behalf – especially during the past 14 years of war.

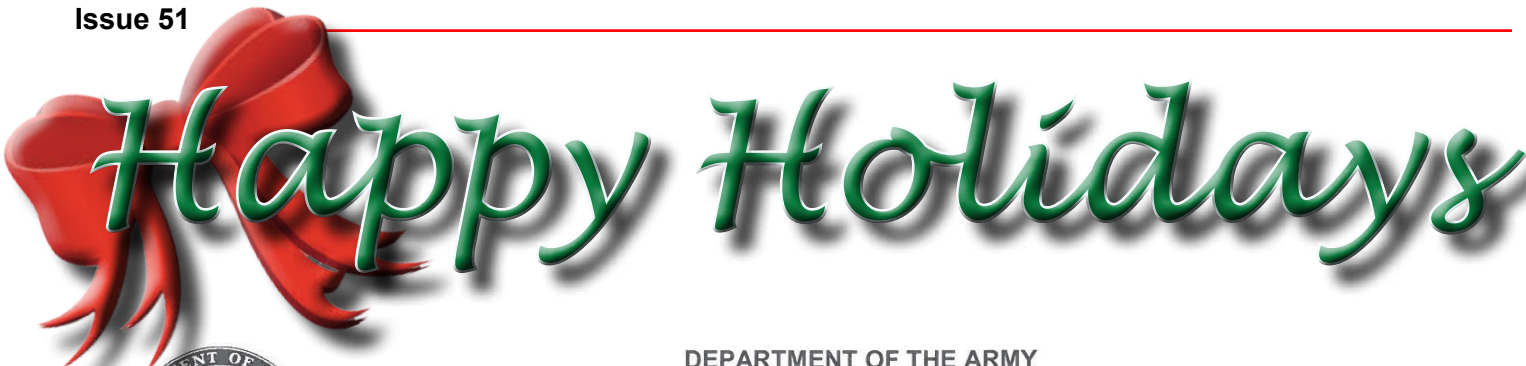
From the oldest Veterans to the men and women currently serving our Nation, all Americans who have served in uniform deserve the Nation's appreciation and respect on this uniquely special American Day.

May God bless our heroic men and women of our Armed Forces, the Families that support them, and may God continue to bless the United States of America. Stand tall, hold your heads high and be proud!

Team Sill! Oklahoma Pride! Fires Strong! King of Battle!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. A. Turner".

William A. Turner
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U.S. ARMY
COMMANDANT,
UNITED STATES ARMY FIELD ARTILLERY SCHOOL



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FIELD ARTILLERY SCHOOL
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 November 2015

Happy Holidays from the Field Artillery

Leaders and Soldiers,

The holidays are a perfect time to spend with Family and friends. Between now and the first of the year, time will pass extremely fast as we take part in a myriad of holiday festivities, starting with Thanksgiving Day extending through New Year's Day.

We would like to extend best wishes to you and yours during this holiday season. After more than a decade of conflict, there is still work to be done, but we would like everyone to take a moment and remember those who are separated from their Families during this time of the year, and the many more who are preparing for deployments. Our Field Artillery units have been and will continue to be deployed across the world expertly performing their missions.

We ARE the "King of Battle," thanks to the leadership, adaptability and versatility of our Soldiers, NCOs and Officers. Your service is essential, and we appreciate the sacrifices each of you make.

We must pause to remember the individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation. The holidays will be difficult for their Families and friends. We ask that you please make the time to provide words of comfort and care, and words of appreciation for their loved one's service and sacrifice.

Finally, as you celebrate this holiday season, please do so SAFELY. As you travel or attend celebrations, be mindful of your actions and surroundings, keeping safety and responsibility to your teammates and Families in mind.

We wish you and your Families a happy holiday season, prosperous New Year and look forward to a great start to 2016. Next year will likewise be a busy year in the Field Artillery community. We need everyone to be fit to fight. Be smart and be safe, and most of all enjoy yourself, Family and friends.

Best wishes to you and your Families for continued good health, happiness and success. Stand tall, hold your heads high and be proud!

Fires Strong! King of Battle!

ROBERT G. LEHTONEN II
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Bold Quest '15

3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment demonstrates capabilities at multinational exercise Bold Quest

by Sgt. Benjamin Parsons, 18th Field Artillery Brigade

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – Soldiers of Bravo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, 18th Field Artillery Brigade, participated in the Joint Staff sponsored Bold Quest 15.2 Coalition Live Fire Event at Fort Bliss, Texas from September 28 to October 2.

Bold Quest was a capabilities demonstration between Bravo Battery and several NATO partners and also served as an interoperability training opportunity for the artillery soldiers. The exercise occurs once a year and participating nations included artillerymen from Norway, Britain, Denmark, Germany, France and Italy.

Staff Sgt. Theodore France served as a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) launcher chief during Bold Quest and oversaw the firing of 24 rockets in just over an hour while receiving consecutive firing missions from each of the NATO countries present for the event.

“Bold Quest proved that HIMARS can play a pivotal role in a NATO task force,” said France. “I heard it said that we weren’t there to train as much as we were there to conduct a mission and support a system that can now integrate NATO systems into HIMARS.”

“Bold Quest was a huge success,” said France. “It proved the capabilities of the systems we have to our NATO allies and civilian organizations that were present for the event.

Artillery for the exercises included two HIMARS launchers from Bravo Battery, 3-27 FAR, along with five Paladin Self-Propelled Howitzers from the 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment based at Fort Bliss, and Paladins from Norway. The remaining



Partner Nations evaluate digital call-for-fires at Bold Quest. U.S. Army photo released.

NATO partners provided fire support and targeting data to the HIMARS and Paladin crews.

A full day was devoted to the HIMARS and Paladins conducting live fires while receiving targeting information from the partner nations. A hot panel mission was also carried out with one of Bravo Battery’s HIMARS and a C-17. The C-17 would land and drop off a HIMARS to carry out a fire mission, and then the HIMARS would load back on the plane. The C-17 would take off and then land again so the HIMARS could execute another fire mission.

Sgt. 1st Class Robert Wilson, the Digital Master Gunner for the 3-27 FAR Fire Direction Control, was responsible for coordinating the communications and call-for-fire between the NATO partners.

“The battalion provided the first ever rocket fire support as part of an Artillery Systems Cooperation Activities, or ASCA, demonstration,” said Wilson. “I

Continued on Page 8, see Bold Quest





Photo by Nancy Jones-Bonbrest, Public Communications for U.S. Army PEO C3T, U.S. Army released.

Bold Quest

... Continued from Page 8

interacted directly with our partner nations and enabled U.S. Joint Fires Observers, or JFO, to interface with Norwegian Paladins.”

ASCA is a software system that links the artillery systems of partner nations and allows each nation to interact with each other’s artillery systems. ASCA improves their ability to utilize fire support internationally.


“The training was awesome,” said Wilson. “It really drives home coalition partnership and the fact we can accomplish anything and keep moving forward.”

“This really gave our coalition partners the confidence to give rocket call for fire if needed,” continued Wilson.

“It was encouraging to be in that environment, a new place, and have foreign countries working with us,” said Capt. Gene Uhler, the Bravo Battery com-

mander. “We can rely on these guys and they are just as competent as us, and they’re team players. We got to share our different experiences.”

“They definitely sent their best and brightest soldiers to train with us,” added Uhler. “Regardless of who we support or what environment we’re in, it is important to recognize the value of being able to interact with others.”

“Missions like Bold Quest should be done more often,” said France. “It is more realistic with the time constraints and us rapidly receiving firing missions and being able to reload and fire. Bold Quest helped create strong bonds with the NATO countries that were there and opened dialogue and showed similarities with countries around the world.” 



Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Bannister, 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Fort Drum commander, and Col. Donald L. Paquin, 10th Mountain Division Artillery commander, uncased the DIVARTY colors during a ceremony Oct. 16 at Magrath Sports Complex on Fort Drum in which the division colors were cased for deployment. Photo by Spc. Osama Ayyad, 10th Mountain Division Public Affairs.

10th Mountain Division Artillery activates

For the first time in more than a decade, the 10th Mountain Division Artillery colors were uncased and displayed during a ceremony that symbolizes a new beginning and a return to a state of readiness for warfare that requires the synchronization of “massed artillery fire.”

Maj. Gen. Jeffrey L. Bannister, 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Fort Drum commander, and Col. Donald Paquin, 10th Mountain Division Artillery commander, and their command sergeants major, Command Sgt. Maj. R. Ray Lewis and Command Sgt. Maj. Dwilyn Dasher, respectively, uncased the DIVARTY colors during a ceremony that marked its activation Friday at the Magrath Sports Complex on Fort Drum.

Division artilleries consolidate the operations of artillery units across a division under a single command. The 10th DIVARTY was intended to deploy rapidly, plan and coordinate fire support, and provide timely and accurate fires to support 10th Mountain Division (LI) combat operations.


Since DIVARTY’s inactivation in 2004, as part of the Army’s Modular Force restructuring, the 10th Mountain Division’s artillery battalions have provided fire support for their respective brigade combat teams, which trained, maintained and deployed their artillery alongside infantry and cavalry units for counterinsurgency operations.

As the Army moves toward decisive action operations, in preparation for force-on-force situations, division artilleries have been reactivated to maximize affectivity of their organic fire support.

“A resurgent adversary has shown us, in Eastern Europe, high-intensity conflict is more than a probability and much more lethal with modern technology,” Paquin said. “We must recognize what we will ask (DIVARTY) Soldiers to do, and that is to destroy, neutralize and suppress the enemy by cannon, rocket and missile fires.”

While the division headquarters prepares for the upcoming deployment to Afghanistan, Bannister made note of the roles the division will have to fulfill despite challenging circumstances.

“As the world’s trajectory of instability continues to increase, we must be prepared to answer that call,” Bannister said. “Building and sustaining readiness for our forces in the future will be very challenging unless our nation thwarts the looming sequestration that will result in much deeper Armywide downsizing and significant budget cuts.”

DIVARTY, which received its “baptism of fire” during historic assaults on Italy’s Riva Ridge and Mount Belvedere during WWII, is a proven combat unit, Bannister said. He added that DIVARTY will bring world-class indirect fires capability to the 10th Mountain Division. 

Soldiers of 10th Mountain Division take over mission in eastern Afghanistan

By MAJ Isaac Taylor, 10th Mountain Division PAO

LAGHMAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan (Oct. 8, 2015) -- Starting early in the morning Oct. 6, a steady flow of helicopters began shuttling in NATO, U.S. and Afghan military leaders from the surrounding area to Tactical Base Gamberi to witness the transfer of authority ceremony for Train, Advise and Assist Command -- East, or TAAC-E.

The outgoing unit, made up of elements from the 3rd Infantry Division and 3rd Brigade Combat Team "Rakkasans," of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), handed over responsibility of the TAAC-E mission to elements of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) from Fort Drum, New York, and its 3rd Brigade Combat Team "Patriots" from Fort Polk, Louisiana.

In the symbolic military tradition of handing over responsibility, Col. J.B. Vowell and Command Sgt. Maj. Walter Tagalicud cased their brigade colors, and Col. Guy Jones and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Ferrusi uncased theirs, signifying the Rakkasans had completed their mission and had responsibly handed it off to the Patriots.

After the casing ceremony, Lt. Gen. Tim Radford, deputy commander of Resolute Support, led the passing of the TAAC-E colors from Brig. Gen. Christopher Bentley to Brig. Gen. Michael Howard, symbolizing the relinquishing of operational authority from one leader to another.

Soldiers of 10th Mountain Division are now in charge of carrying out the mission of training, advising and assisting the Afghan National Defense Forces so in the future they can be self-reliant and capable of stopping terrorism and securing the people of Afghanistan.

During his speech, Radford said that Bentley's team had done a superb job and accomplished a lot during the past year. Their hard work had gained the admiration and respect of the coalition partners, the Afghan security forces and the Afghan people.



Soldiers of 10th Mountain Division take over mission in eastern Afghanistan. U.S. Army photo released.


Radford also touched on the 10th Mountain Division's long history and many accomplishments in Afghanistan.

"I can think of no better team and no better leader to continue on with the Resolute Support mission in eastern Afghanistan," he said.

Jones also thanked both the 3rd Infantry Division and 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, for their professionalism in preparing his unit for deployment.

"You can depart with full confidence that [10th Mountain Division] will continue to make a difference each and every day as you have done this past year," Jones said.

Howard ended his speech by providing the Afghan leadership with a simple message that 10th Mountain Division Soldiers are ready to make a difference every day.

"Don't worry about us. We learn fast, and [we] will be there for you, just like the Rock of the Marne Soldiers and the Rakkasans. I guarantee it," Howard said. 

“Big Red One’s” Division Artillery is back

By Amanda Kim Stairrett, 1ST INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Division Artillery is back. After its inactivation 10 years ago in Germany, the “Big Red One’s” Division Artillery is back and ready to resume the mission of effectively synchronizing joint fires across Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division.

Reactivating 10 of the Army’s division artillery units is a process that began more than a year ago, and the 1st Inf. Div.’s will be welcomed back Oct. 16 at a ceremony on Cavalry Parade Field.

The Big Red One DIVARTY is one of the last two to stand up this year, Col. Thomas Bolen, DIVARTY commander, said.

“We feel privileged to be activated to be the DIVARTY,” Bolen said. “There’s such a great team already in place.”

From warfighting prowess to community outreach, Bolen said the goal was for DIVARTY to complement what the Big Red One already does.

WHAT IS DIVARTY?

Bolen said DIVARTY fills a unique role in the division. Leaders continue to work to educate people about what DIVARTY brings to the mix. Most people are familiar with artillery,

Bolen said, but what DIVARTY does is standardize artillery training by training and certifying sections and enabling higher-level exercises.

DIVARTY will work with the 1st Inf. Div.’s fires section and field artillery 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, and 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team. These units can and have already done great training, Bolen said, but DIVARTY will help to coordinate even larger exercises.

That added capability will bring a degree of synchronization as the division, its brigades and its battalions move forward in their training “that maybe we haven’t done in previous years,” the colonel added.

In the future, that could expand to synchronizing training between general support units on and off post, the Air Force and their attack aircraft and the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, he added.

Another aspiration is creating a force fires headquarters, supervised by DIVARTY, with which any fires unit could train. Those units could include elements from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, or the Kansas National Guard, Bolen said.

DIVARTY’s return doesn’t mean area residents will see an increase in big equipment on the post. The

division’s two field artillery battalions will maintain their guns and radar equipment. The biggest pieces the DIVARTY will bring are radar and communications equipment, Bolen said.

BUILDING DIVARTY

While the Oct. 16 ceremony marks DIVARTY’s official return to the Big Red One, Soldiers and leaders are already in place at Fort Riley to move its mission forward. As of this week, the unit is continuing to build its formation with an expectation to be at 90 percent strength by January, according to information from the unit.

Those Soldiers came from other units across Fort Riley — namely, the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, which inactivated this spring. One of those to shift from the “Dragon” brigade to “Drumfire” was Maj. Charles “Skip” Turner.

Turner has some experience standing up units. He was the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th IBCT’s fire support officer when it activated in 2006 at Fort Riley.

He returned to Fort Riley in July 2013, helped inactivate the 4th IBCT’s 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Brigade, and moved to DIVARTY in June. That experience helped “tremendously,” Turner said. As DIVARTY’s operations officer, Turner and other leaders are facing the same hurdles he experienced in 2006. The key, he said, was to establish good systems right away to ensure things like personnel and equipment flow went smoothly. The fruits of that hard work will pay off in the long term, he said. Soldiers were busy signing for inventory — everything from vehicles to radar to office equipment — and getting it up to standard, said Sgt. 1st Class Albert De La Garza, DIVARTY master gunner and operations noncommissioned officer. De La Garza served as a platoon sergeant in 2nd Bn., 32nd FA Regt., before moving to DIVARTY in April. The early weeks and months found leaders signing for buildings in their new footprint and welcoming new Soldiers.

Spc. Christian Kim, a new DIVARTY Soldier, arrived this summer at Fort Riley. As an intelligence analyst, Kim is one of those who helps field artillerymen get a clear image of the battlefield. On the garrison side of the house, he helps Soldiers in process and get their security clearances up to date.

Continued on Page 12, see Big Red One



Big Red One ...continued from Page 11

PASSING ON THE DIVARTY LEGACY

Like most newer Soldiers, Kim has never served in a DIVARTY.

“I was pretty excited to be in something new,” Kim said of his arrival. He and the others are learning about the unit’s history and current role from senior officers and NCOs who have served in or alongside DIVARTY. De La Garza’s last DIVARTY experience was while serving as a private in 1998 in Korea. He said he learned a lot about its purpose then from his chain of command and is now working to pass that knowledge down to those who have never served in a traditional field artillery world.

“There’s just a handful left who were part of DIVARTY,” De La Garza said. De La Garza said DIVARTY’s history was a huge deal and he was excited to be part of standing it back up.

Bolen said imparting that legacy started right when new Soldiers arrive at Fort Riley. Leaders work to greet them immediately “so they know that they belong to a unique organization,” Bolen said.

Aside from seasoned officers and NCOs, one of the most valuable assets are DIVARTY veterans — many of who reside in the communities surrounding Fort Riley. As leaders worked on preparing the unit for new Soldiers, they also reached out to local veterans for their insight and input. All showed a tremendous amount of interest in the stand up, Turner said.

“They are extremely excited,” he said of the DIVARTY veteran community. “Once you reach out to veterans, it’s amazing ... what comes out.”

Retired Col. John Seitz has deep ties to DIVARTY. Aside from serving as a career “redleg,” his father, retired Brig. Gen. Andy Seitz, commanded 1st Inf. Div. Artillery from 1958 to 1961 at Fort Riley before serving briefly as the division commander. Seitz is donating many of his father’s treasures from that period to DIVARTY for historical displays.

“Field artillerymen, active and retired, are very pleased that the Army has finally recognized the need




The 1st Infantry Division Artillery reactivated Oct. 16 at a ceremony on Cavalry Parade Field. U.S. Army photo released.

for the division artillery and is doing something about it,” Seitz said.

He and other veterans host and attend a yearly Big Red One DIVARTY reunion. This year’s is set for later this month in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Bolen and Command Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Stephens, DIVARTY senior NCO, are scheduled to attend. The 2016 reunion is set to take place in Junction City and Fort Riley, Seitz said.

It is important for Seitz and his fellow field artillery veterans to maintain the branch’s legacy through events like the reunions and the Artillery of the 1st Infantry Division Association. Traditional artillery balls and Saint Barbara events help do that, too, he said.

“Having a colonel-level commander for the field artillery units gives the field artillery Soldiers equal footing with their maneuver, aviation and logistics contemporaries in the other brigades of the division,” Seitz said. “Having an experienced field artillery colonel to mentor the field artillery Soldiers will help them hone their professional skills.”

Bolen said DIVARTY’s outreach mission fits right in with something the Big Red One already does: working with all the folks in the Flint Hills region. Soldiers and leaders are working to establish a role in the community like every other brigade headquarters, “so we want to be a part of that,” he added. 

A valued asset returns to the 'Big Red One'

Maneuver Commander praises the "Return of DIVARTY"

As you all are aware, the 1st Infantry Division has seen its share of farewells in the past two years. In 2014, we said goodbye to our 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Fort Knox, Kentucky, and the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team this past summer. The Duke and Dragon Brigades joined the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade on the list of units from the 1st Infantry Division who have moved on to the inactive rolls.

Thankfully, we can stop saying goodbye and instead say "welcome back" to Drumfire as the Big Red One's Division Artillery makes its triumphant return to our formation.

DIVARTY fills a unique role in the division. They will standardize artillery training by certifying and teaching sections and enabling higher-level exercises. This added

capability will bring a degree of synchronization to the BRO that will allow our brigades and battalions to move forward with training in ways we have not been able to in previous years.

I welcome the Drumfire command team, Col. Thomas Bolen and Command Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Stephens, to the Big Red One family. They bring decades of leadership experience as well as the technical and tactical know-how that will bring untold success to the DIVARTY.

Drumfire's story is our story. While they are new to Fort Riley in the present era, their roots date back to the earliest days of the Division's establishment in 1917. DIVARTY fired the first artillery rounds from American units in combat during the campaigns of Lorraine in 1917 and 1918 during World War I. Elements of the

Drumfire team landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day along with other 1st Infantry Division units. In Vietnam, DIVARTY participated in 11 campaigns and fired over six million rounds in support of maneuver units. They were there for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and while still based in Germany, elements of Drumfire also participated in operations in Kosovo, Bosnia and Operation Iraqi Freedom II. I know Big Red One Redleg veterans across the world join me in wishing the DIVARTY a hearty "welcome back" and we all look forward to seeing the Drumfire's legacy build into the future.

"Duty First"
Wayne W. Grigsby Jr.
Maj. Gen., USA
Commanding General

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY "NOVEMBER"

7 November 1966, The beehive round was fired for the first time in combat by Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery in Vietnam.

10 November 1775, The official birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps.

11 November 1918, The doughboys of Battery E, 11th Field Artillery carefully loaded the 95-pound shell into Calamity Jane, the name of their favorite 155mm Schneider artillery piece. With the round in place, the men locked it into the breech and prepared to pull the lanyard. An officer, looking at his watch, stepped forward. Raising his hand, he kept his eye on his watch, waiting for the second hand to reach twelve. When it did he dropped his hand. A soldier yanked

the lanyard. Calamity Jane fired. It was 1100 hrs, 11 November 1918. World War I was over.

14-17 November 1965, At the Battle of the Ia Drang in Vietnam, American field artillery demonstrated air-mobile artillery's and aerial rocket artillery's ability to furnish effective fire support and played a key role in defeating more than 3,000 North Vietnamese Army/People's Army of Republic of Vietnam regular forces. The artillery units involved were 1-21 FA (towed 105mm), 2-17 FA (towed 105mm), and 2-20 FA (Aerial Rocket Artillery).

18 November 1967, PFC Sammy L. Davis, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery, distinguished himself on that date to earn a Medal of Honor for action against the Viet Cong battalion ground assault on the fire base.

MANDATORY READING

In a complex world, winning matters

By Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley

Today, the Soldiers of America's Army are deployed and engaged around the globe -- in places like Iraq, Afghanistan, Korea, Eastern Europe, Africa, throughout the Pacific, the Baltics and Latin America. Acting as part of one joint team, they are simultaneously deterring adversaries and assuring allies, building increased partner capacity and responding to regional challenges, providing humanitarian support and disrupting terrorist networks.

Wherever they are, America's Soldiers are displaying true courage, commitment, and character. They are demonstrating unparalleled competence and agility. And no matter the challenge, no matter how complex the environment, or how dangerous the situation, our Soldiers win wherever they are. We are, and must remain, the world's premier ground combat force, ready to fight today and prepared to fight tomorrow.

A timeless priority for our Nation is to ensure that our Army is ready and maintains its edge over our adversaries. Readiness to win in ground combat must remain the Army's number one priority. We were unprepared for the Civil War, Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the post-invasion Iraq insurgency, and many other military operations throughout our history. In each of these cases, we paid the price. The price for our unpreparedness was the blood of our Soldiers and we placed at risk achieving our National objectives. We must recommit ourselves to avoiding our long National history of failing to anticipate and prepare our ground forces for the next war. We collectively owe it to the Soldiers we lead and the Nation we defend to ensure we organize, equip, man, train, and lead our Army to prevail in the unforgiving crucible of ground combat. In the summer of 1950, North Korea attacked across the 38th Parallel. The U.S. responded by deploying 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, known as TF Smith, to the Korean peninsula. They



Russia's air strikes have mostly focused on areas of western Syria where most of the country has been lost to insurgents, including Islamic State (Isis). Men on motorcycles inspect a site hit by what activists said were airstrikes carried out by the Russian air force in the town of Babila, in the southern countryside of IdlibKhalil.

were rapidly committed to combat and they were quickly overrun as the North Korean People's Army continued south to the Pusan Perimeter. The American Soldiers of TF Smith and many others in the follow-on units paid the price in blood because we failed them. They were undermanned, equipment was missing or in disrepair, and they were poorly trained for ground combat against a capable enemy. We can never have another TF Smith.

Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, ISIS, and radical violent extremist organizations that currently challenge the U.S. each in their own way will likely continue for some time into the future. These security challenges exist within a wider global context of rapid technological change, significant demographic shifts, economic uncertainty, and geostrategic power dynamics of historic proportions. These conditions intensify the level of uncertainty, the pace of change, and raise potential for significant inter-state conflict to higher

Continued on Page 15, see Winning Matters





A U. S. Soldier works on marksmanship skills. U.S. Army released photo.

Winning Matters

...Continued from Page 14

levels than at any time since the end of the Cold War.

The contemporary security challenges, paired with the lessons of history, require the U.S. Army to always be ready to deploy at any moment to fight and win. Therefore, America's Army must focus on three initial priorities: be ready today, prepare for tomorrow, and ensure we care for our Soldiers, Families, and Civilians.

My #1 priority is readiness across the Total Force. There is no other #1. Readiness to fight and win, in ground combat is -- and will remain -- an inviolate benchmark; no American Soldier must ever deploy to combat unready. The Army must also set the conditions to increase our effectiveness to meet challenges of the future. Our transformation to the future force begins now. We will set the conditions to maintain overmatch against future adversaries while enhancing our ability to adapt to unforeseen challenges. All of this is achievable because of our most valuable asset - our people -- the Soldiers, Families, and Civilians who dedicate their lives to the selfless service to their Nation. We will keep their faith.

READY TO FIGHT TODAY

Winning the Nation's wars as part of The Joint Force is what the United States Army is all about. Which is why readiness is my #1 priority. Our Soldiers remain currently engaged in active contingency operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan. And there exists a very real possibility we will be called upon in many other areas as well. The U.S. is a global power with worldwide responsibilities and interests, and consequently it is the solemn obligation of all leaders

to prepare our Soldiers for combat against multiple adversaries in varied locations. Our Soldiers, our Nation's sons and daughters, will have the necessary training, leadership, and resources to win. To do so, we will refine our training programs to execute tough, realistic training based on warfighting fundamentals that build capability in our Soldiers and leaders. We will discriminately apply our resources to sustain our current equipment, technological, and training overmatch. We will enhance our leadership development and education at all levels to produce adaptive, agile, innovative, and flexible leaders of character and competency. And we will do so as a Total Force in order to win anywhere, anytime, against any enemy.

The key to victory lies in building and maintaining readiness across the Total Force. The last 14 years of integrated operations have demonstrated that we are, in fact, one Army. Our Army readiness must reflect both sufficient capacity to meet the demand for Army forces and proficiency in the multitude of capabilities that enable the Army to accomplish its diverse missions. Given limited resources, we must strike the right balance of capacity and capability across the Active, Reserve, and National Guard forces, and train and work together as a team. Together we provide the criti-

Continued on Page 16, see *Winning Matters*



Winning Matters

...Continued from Page 15

cal manpower depth, keep our edge over any adversary, and ensure the Army provides timely global response to support Combatant Commanders.

Building sustainable readiness is a long-term task. A unit that is ready today did not get there instantaneously. It took time and predictable resources. It involves individual and collective training, multiple exercises, and constant repetition. Units must be manned

at combat levels, and equipment must be upgraded, modernized, and maintained. Our goal is to ensure 60-70% of the Army is at combat levels of readiness as a routine steady state. Once achieved, we must do all we can to sustain the highest levels of readiness across the entire Army. That is a tall order, but to do less is to place our Soldiers and Nation at risk.

Based on history and recent trends, my estimate is the demand for U.S. ground forces will increase as the global environment continues to be uncertain and increasingly unstable. This demand is not limited to responding to conflict or war, but also includes an increase in demand for forces to assure allies and deter adversaries. U.S. Army readiness is related to the readiness of our allies as we integrate to achieve shared security interests across the globe. It is imperative that we continue to train, develop, and fight alongside our



"The demand for U.S. ground forces will increase as the global environment continues to be uncertain and increasingly unstable. This demand is not limited to responding to conflict or war, but also includes an increase in demand for forces to assure allies and deter adversaries..." said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley. U.S. Army photo released.

allies because our combined efforts strengthen resolve and enable deterrent effects. Operating by, with, and through our allies and partners is a reality and necessity, and it is likely to grow in the future.

U.S. Army readiness is also directly related to our Nation's ability to deter adversaries. If our adversaries know that the U.S. Army can rapidly project combat power and will overmatch them in any conflict, then they are less likely to militarily confront the U.S.

The Army will always operate as part of the U.S. Joint Force. We provide Joint Force commanders with the force uniquely capable of winning decisively on land and sustaining operations over time. Equally important, we provide the foundation of the Joint Force

Continued on Page 17, see Winning Matters



Winning Matters

...Continued from Page 16

in communications, intelligence, sustainment, mission command, and many other critical functions. Additionally, we will continue to integrate personnel and units from all three components to provide our Joint Force commanders with the best Army force composition for the mission. And finally, we provide Combatant Commanders with those capabilities needed to provide depth and versatility to The Joint Force in order to provide more effective, interoperable, flexible and rapidly deployable forces for employment.

FUTURE FORCE -- PREPARING TO WIN TOMORROW

The coming years will bring to the forefront the challenge of maintaining tactical and operational advantage over our adversaries. The Army currently benefits from an overmatch that enables a historically small number of Soldiers to accomplish significant objectives while minimizing casualties. However, this advantage has a shelf life and our adversaries are sufficiently wary to avoid our strengths. The technologies that give us the advantage today are increasingly available to state and non-state adversaries at dramatically lower cost than even a decade ago. As this overmatch degrades, the risk to Soldiers and mission increases.

A decade and a half of war has taught us that the Army must constantly adapt to the missions assigned and the operating environment. Our adversaries recognize the limits of our capabilities and capacity and have employed novel countermeasures, created by combining increasingly available military and commercial technologies. Accordingly, our enemies are increasingly using "hybrid warfare" methods that blend aspects of conventional and irregular warfare to threaten neighbors and destabilize regions across the globe. As our Army continues to demonstrate the ability to innovate in Iraq and Afghanistan, our future force must also leverage this knowledge to adapt and expand our training to include conventional core skills, truly preparing us for the full spectrum of conflict.

We have been fighting for over a decade in a singular typology of war -- counterterrorism and counterinsurgency primarily in the defined specific geographic areas of Iraq and Afghanistan. We must not repeat the reflexive mistake of making the linear assumption that our next conflict will look like the fights we all have been engaged in for so long. Future warfare may well take on similar characteristics, but it is more likely

that it will not. We as an Army must make a rigorous analytical assessment and refocus to the new realities and be flexible enough to change quickly if or when we get it wrong.

I envision carrying this spirit of innovation forward by setting the conditions and climate for a robust culture of innovation, inquiry, and rigorous experimentation to determine the optimal future force. This includes enhancing the organizational foundation and nurturing the intellectual talent of the Army to explore in depth what the future might be and the possibilities that could present themselves.

Establishing this culture starts now with the development of a deliberate science and technology strategy that seeks to exploit research that has the potential for leap ahead capabilities. There are a wide variety of emerging technologies that may have significant impact on ground warfare including technologies in communications for mission command, robotics, nano-technologies, human performance, explosives and propellants, hypersonics, directed energy, cyber, protective materials for personnel and equipment, and a variety of developments in weapons technologies. The Army will explore these in depth to assess applicability.

CARING FOR OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET -- OUR PEOPLE

I have huge confidence in our Army and it reflects the strength of our Nation as it has since June 14, 1775. Right now, we have an incredible generation of combat-proven leaders and Soldiers that have shouldered the challenges of 14 consecutive years of war. Soldiers and leaders that know first-hand the challenges, complexity, and sacrifice of real war. We have the most combat experienced leaders and the most skilled Army in our Nation's history. We recognize this and will harness this decisive advantage for the future. We will keep trust with our Veterans, Soldiers, and their Families. The Soldiers of our All-Volunteer Army have not been through this alone. Our accomplishments are strengthened by our Families and supported by a cadre of Civilian professionals. It is this shared, unshakable commitment that enables our Army to be where we need to be, when we need to be there. People are our

Continued on Page 18, see Winning Matters






"We have the most combat experienced leaders and the most skilled Army in our Nation's history. We recognize this and will harness this decisive advantage for the future...." said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley. U.S. Army photo released.

Winning Matters ...Continued from Page 16

most valuable asset and their well-being of absolute importance. All deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and be afforded the best quality of life, health-care, and an equal opportunity to excel based on their merit.

Winning in a Complex World

We are the best-equipped, best-trained, and best-led Army in the world. But we cannot rest on our laurels. We must get better. The world is rapidly changing and the future is unpredictable and uncertain. We will adapt, we will change - that is a given for our Army. We will build capacity now to set conditions for future

growth and capability to respond to any threat. We are an organization that has changed to meet the challenges for over 240 years and we will change yet again to meet the challenges of the future. When called upon, we will be ready to win with tough, ethical, competent, and well-led Soldiers who will fight anywhere, anytime, against any foe as the world's premier ground combat force - an Army that remains the most versatile and lethal land force on earth, valued by our friends and feared by our enemies. The Army delivers mission success in this complex world. Winning matters; there is no second place in combat. 

FORSCOM boss: After two wars, Army must rebuild core competencies

By Michelle Tan

Soldiers must get back to the basics as they train and prepare to face an increasingly volatile world, the top commander of Forces Command said.

“With the complexity of the world, we honestly don’t know when we’re going to get called on to go do something else in a big way,” said Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, who took command of FORSCOM in August. “We know we’re not as good as we need to be in our core competencies, so that is why we started this three-plus years ago, sort of refocusing.”

Soldiers who are not preparing to deploy to Iraq or Afghanistan are going to train to “fight and win in a decisive action environment,” Abrams said.

This means intensive home station training paired with high-level collective training at the Army’s combat training centers, which will prepare soldiers for any contingency anywhere around the world.

“We have just gotten just about every brigade combat team in FORSCOM through at least one rotation through the training centers,” Abrams said. “We

are starting on our second, but it is going to take time to rebuild that baseline core competency of readiness.”

On a recent troop visit, Abrams met a young staff sergeant who recently graduated from the tank master gunner course. The staff sergeant, who had been in the Army for eight years, had participated in just three tank gunnery exercises during his career, Abrams said.

“Our training strategy says that armor units shoot gunnery twice a year, minimum,” Abrams said. “So, conservatively, he probably should have participated in 15 gunneries since he has been in the Army, but he has been busy doing other things.”

The Army’s noncommissioned officers have “a ton of skills that NCOs 20 years ago did not have,” Abrams said.

“They are great communicators, they are comfortable in ambiguity, they do not really need clear guidance, they can operate under mission-type orders, they work well with host nation security forces, and you can throw civilians at them, and be comfortable,” he said. “But simple things, like their core competen-

cies, they just lack the experience. It is going to take what I refer to as not only repetitions but also sets of those repetitions. It takes reps and sets to rebuild this core competency in our fundamentals.”

As the Army rebuilds its core skills, soldiers remain busy, Abrams said.

“At the unit level, they are turning just as fast as they were, or their predecessors were, at the height of the surges” in Iraq and Afghanistan, he said.

Because of this optempo, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley’s No. 1 priority is readiness, and “it is not just a bumper sticker,” Abrams said.



A soldier assigned to A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, loads M107, 155mm projectile ammunition for an M777 Light Towed Howitzer during calibration for Decisive Action Rotation 15-10 at the National Training Center, Sept. 10, 2015. (Photo: Army/Spc. Ashley Marble)

Continued on Page 20, see Core Competencies



Core Competencies

...Continued from Page 19

“Everyone knows how uncertain the world is today,” he said. “It is much more unstable, volatile and complex than it was even two years ago.”

And as the Army has downsized the force, its commitments have increased, with soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Pacific, Europe, Africa and elsewhere, Abrams said.

To meet the growing demands, the Army is studying a new concept to manage its readiness.

During the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the service implemented the Army Force Generation Model, which progressively resets and trains units for possible deployments.

The ARFORGEN model is similar to an assembly line, Abrams said.

“We would take a brigade at the beginning of an assembly line and strip it down,” he said. “We know that we have a production date on that assembly line to have it ready by this date. It does not need to be ready two months before that, three months, or four months.”

As a unit moved down the line, it would get new equipment and new personnel before ramping up its training.

Once deployed, “we basically sent it to a demolition derby,” Abrams said, and at the end of the tour, the unit would return to the U.S. and begin the reset and train-up process all over.

“Basically the unit would go to the lowest level of readiness ... [and] start over again,” he said. “It was about readiness built for a specified time for a specified location, specified mission.”

That model doesn’t quite work as well anymore, as the Army send soldiers on short-term missions or new missions to new locations around the world, so the service is looking at what is being called the Sustainable Readiness Model.

Under this model, which is still pending final approval by the Army secretary, units are given all the equipment they need and are then required to maintain it as they go.

“Sustainable readiness is not about being ready at one specific time. It is about building and sustaining readiness over long periods of time,” Abrams said.

With ARFORGEN, units would go through periods of very high readiness and periods of very



An M1 Abrams with the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, puts lethal fires downrange during recent gunnery training at Fort Hood, Texas. (Photo: Army/Maj. Adam Weece)

low readiness, with “a very wide variance sine curve,” Abrams said. The idea behind the Sustainable Readiness Model is to flatten the curve, he said.

“So we’re going to use [units], but the key difference is we want to maintain the equipment, we want to maintain the people, we want to maintain our warfighting skills while we’re using it doing regionally-aligned forces, while we are using it in Kuwait, while we are using it here, while we are supporting [Northern Command],” Abrams said.

Under the Sustainable Readiness Model, some soldiers could potentially leave a deployment to attend professional military education courses. They also might focus on individual weapons qualifications and service their vehicles while away from home.

“With sustainable readiness, mostly the challenge is going to be between the ears,” Abrams said. “The temporal shift is, ‘hey, I need to be ready all the time. I have to be ready, my squad needs to be ready, my equipment needs to be ready, my personal individual issue equipment needs to be packed and ready. I need to have a go-bag. I do not know when we are going to be called.’”

In the months ahead, FORSCOM will continue to focus on growing that mindset and reinforcing the basics, Abrams said.

“Our fundamental focus is really on restoring our fundamental core warfighting capability,” he said. “I go back to the example I gave you about a staff sergeant company master gunner who has fired all of three gunneries in his eight-year career. You can choose any branch, and they are going to tell you similar stories.” 