

Bandit Troop

Crew Phase

B Troop, 2-16 CAV trains Armor Lieutenants on the platforms from which they will be expected to fight. The training centers on the M1 series Abrams Main Battle Tank and the M3 series Bradley Fighting Vehicle. In Phase II, the Students gain the technical knowledge to succeed not only during ABOLC, but also at their first unit of assignment.

Students spend the first 12 training days of Phase II learning about and training on the Abrams and the Bradley. Each Student receives a 5 day block of instruction on each vehicle that includes hands-on training and simulator training. Day 11 of Phase II is a comprehensive day of testing that includes the Gunnery Skills Test and Gunnery Table I. Completion of this event signifies a Student's readiness to execute live fire. The last day of platform instruction includes OPDs on gunnery scoring and vignettes on leadership. Also included is the Phase II writing assignment in which Students prepare an initial counseling for their first Platoon Sergeant.

During the range density of Phase II, each Student will have the opportunity to execute Machine Gun Baseline, Tank Live Fire, and Bradley Live Fire. Machine Gun Baseline serves as a bridge between the simulated engagements that the Students have been executing and actual execution on the platform. During Tank Live Fire and Bradley Live Fire, Students execute 5 distinct engagements that will test their comprehension of the tasks that they have been taught as well as demonstrate all of the skills that are necessary to succeed in crew-level gunnery at their first unit.

When not on the range, the Students execute training in the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT) focused on their ability to process information and make decisions. This cognitive assessment puts Students into stressful situations in order to spur future growth. Students are able to see what their natural reaction is to stressful situations and work to improve. While the training does not yet focus on tactical ability, it sets the stage for further training.

The final event in Phase II is in the CCTT, this time with a focus on mission planning and execution. In Phase I, Students were able to plan and brief the mission, but did not execute. During this portion of Phase II, the Students must receive, prepare, brief, and execute the mission according to doctrine and instruction. Successful completion of this event proves a Student's readiness to move to Phase III and continue towards ABOLC graduation.