



CDID ENSURES SOLDIERS RETAIN DOMINANCE ON FUTURE BATTLEFIELDS

DON SANDO

The mission of the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCOE) is to provide the Nation with the world's best trained Infantry, Armor, and Cavalry Soldiers and adaptive leaders imbued with the Warrior Ethos; to provide a power projection platform capable of deploying and redeploying Soldiers, civilians, and units anywhere in the world on short notice; and to define capabilities for the Infantry and Armor to meet the needs of the future force. The Infantry and Armor Schools have a long tradition of training, preparing, and equipping our Soldiers to fight together and win. This culture of teamwork continues as we establish the MCOE.

The new organization within the MCOE primarily responsible for ensuring our Soldiers retain their dominance on all future battlefields is the Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate (CDID). Its mission is to develop operational and organizational concepts, requirements, and integrated capabilities across maneuver formations and into the joint, interagency, and multinational arena. CDID combines Armor, Cavalry, and Infantry capabilities development into a unified, effective team to support our Warfighters.

The director of CDID was recently selected and assumed duties in February 2008. With this move, both centers have taken another critical step toward the MCOE. CDID consists of several organizations responsible for overseeing conceptual development across the warfighting functions, developing and overseeing the fielding and sustainment of the Army's premier fighting vehicles and equipment, and providing the point of entry into the Generating Force for the brigade combat teams to address their issues and needs for the current fight and future requirements.

As early as Fiscal Year 2010, the CDID director will be supported by an integration staff who will assist in the development and transition of the organization. In the interim the staffs are working to prepare each center to integrate into CDID through a series of progressive milestones. Upon approval by the MCOE Board of Directors (chaired by the commanding

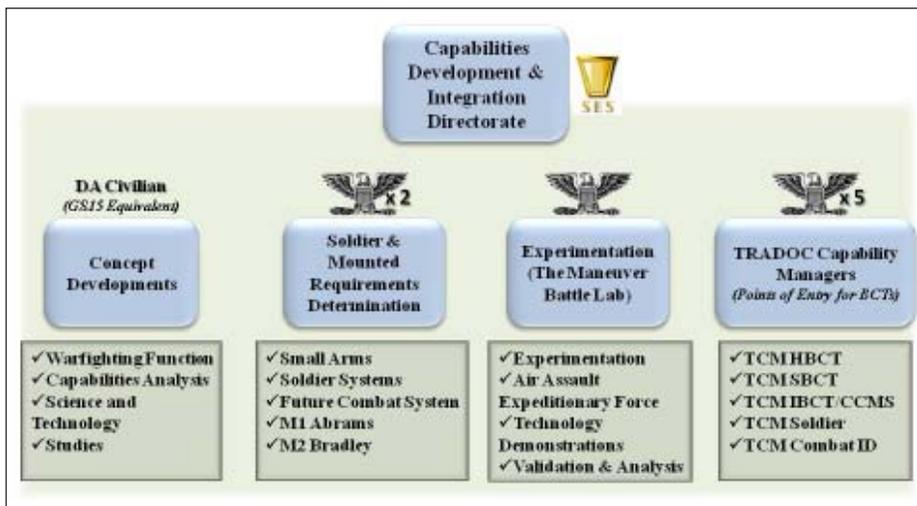


Figure 1 — CDID Organization

generals of the Armor and Infantry Centers), the CDID will establish a virtual operating capability. Equipment and personnel movements to Fort Benning will begin CDID's transition into an initial operating capability. When the transition is complete and CDID is operating under its objective organization, it will have reached final operating capability which will take place before September 15, 2011, according to guidelines in the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) law.

The transitional milestones will continue to be developed as both centers move toward the MCOE. Effective communications will inform the military, civilian personnel and the contracting force of key dates and timelines as CDID comes on line. CDID represents a unique opportunity to put what is best in each organization together to provide unparalleled support to our Nation's Warfighters. "One Force, One Fight."

(Don Sando was selected to the Senior Executive Service in February 2008 and is currently assigned as director of Capabilities Development and Integration for the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Georgia. He is a 1981 graduate of the Military Academy and holds a Master of Science degree in Operations Research from the Air Force Institute of Technology, and a Master of Science degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College. Mr. Sando completed more than 26 years of active duty service.)

2008 INFANTRY WARFIGHTING CONFERENCE SET

The 2008 Infantry Warfighting Conference will be held September 15-17 at Fort Benning, Georgia. The theme for the conference is "The Infantry: Heart of America's Army in the Contemporary Operational Environment." Attendees should RSVP online NLT September 14. For more information, go online to www.benning.army.mil and click on the Infantry Warfighting Conference link or go to www.fbcinc.com/infantry
 For more information, contact the IWC Operations Cell at
 BENN.DOT.Confops@conus.army.mil or (706) 545-4624/5868/0927/8891
 (DSN 835-4624/5868/0927/8891)



Tentative Agenda for 2008 IWC

Monday, September 15

7:30 - 8:50 a.m. — National Infantry Association (NIA) Golf Scramble Breakfast (optional*), Follow Me Golf Club, Fort Benning, Georgia

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. — Travel and Registration, Classroom 50, Infantry Hall or Registration Room, Columbus Convention & Trade Center (CCTC)

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — National Infantry Association Golf Scramble Shotgun Start (optional*), Follow Me Golf Club

6 - 9 p.m. — Icebreaker Reception, Riverside, Fort Benning (Rain Location: Benning Club)

Tuesday, September 16

8:30 - 9:20 a.m. — Infantry Update by the Chief of Infantry, Main Auditorium, CCTC

9:30 - 10:20 a.m. — Senior Army Leader Update Main Auditorium, CCTC

10:30 - 11:20 a.m. — Senior TRADOC Leader Update Main Auditorium, CCTC

11:30 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. — Lunch and view displays Senior Leader Session (by invitation only), Meeting Rooms 103/104, CCTC

1 - 1:50 p.m. — MCOE Update by the Chief of Armor, Main Auditorium, CCTC

2 - 5 p.m. — Lessons Learned from Brigade Combat Team Commanders and CSMs, Main Auditorium, CCTC

2 - 2:50 p.m. — Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Main Auditorium, CCTC

3 - 3:50 p.m. — Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Main Auditorium, CCTC

4 - 4:50 p.m. — Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Main Auditorium, CCTC

6:15 - 7 p.m. — Cocktail Hour, Main Auditorium, CCTC

7 p.m. - UTC — Doughboy Awards Dinner, Dining Gallery, CCTC. See article on awardees on page 5.



Wednesday, September 17

8:30 - 9:20 a.m. — Joint Readiness Training Center Update, Main Auditorium, CCTC

9:30 - 10:20 a.m. — National Training Center Update, Main Auditorium, CCTC

10:30 - 11:20 a.m. — Joint Multinational Training Center Update, Main Auditorium, CCTC

11:30 a.m. - noon — MCOE Futures Update, Director, Capabilities Development and Integration, Main Auditorium, CCTC

12:10 - 1:30 p.m. — Lunch and View Displays, Brigade/Battalion Commanders and CSMs (by invitation only), Foundry Room B, CCTC

1:40 - 2:50 p.m. — Breakout Session: Leaders Panel, Main Auditorium, CCTC

1:40 - 2:10 p.m. — Breakout Session: Post Combat Survey, 2nd Floor, CCTC

2:10 - 2:40 p.m. — Breakout Session: Land Warrior in OIF, 2nd Floor, CCTC

2:40 - 3:10 p.m. — Breakout Session: Stryker Family of Vehicle Upgrades, 2nd Floor, CCTC

3:10 - 4:40 p.m. — Breakout Session: The Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) and Long Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System (LRAS3), 2nd Floor, CCTC

4:45 - 5:00 p.m. — Closing Remarks, Chief of Infantry, Main Auditorium, CCTC

6 - 9:50 p.m. — Grill Your Own Steak Night, Benning Club, Fort Benning

* Not part of the official agenda, no command endorsement of this event is implied.

2008 DOUGHBOY AWARDEES ANNOUNCED

The Home of the Infantry is proud to announce that General (Retired) Henry H. Shelton and Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Gary L. Littrell will be the honored recipients of the 2008 Doughboy Award in recognition of their many contributions to the Infantry. The awards will be presented during a dinner September 16. General Shelton retired from active duty in October 2001 after 38 years of service. He was the 14th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and served in that position from 1997 until his retirement. GEN Shelton began his Army career as a platoon leader with the 2nd Infantry Division and then 1st Cavalry Division, both at Fort Benning, Georgia. He also served as a platoon leader with the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam. Other assignments include serving as Commander in Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, and Commanding General of the 82nd Airborne Division.



GEN Shelton



CSM Littrell

CSM Littrell was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on April 4-8, 1970, in Kontum Province, Republic of Vietnam. A sergeant first class at the time, Littrell was serving as an Infantry advisor with the 23rd Battalion, 2nd Ranger Group, South Vietnamese Army. According to his Medal of Honor citation, "SFC Littrell exhibited near superhuman endurance as he single-handedly bolstered the besieged battalion. Repeatedly abandoning positions of relative safety, he directed artillery and air support by day and marked the unit's location by night, despite the heavy, concentrated enemy fire... Assault after assault was repulsed as the battalion responded to the extraordinary leadership and personal example exhibited by SFC Littrell as he continuously moved to those points most seriously threatened by the enemy, redistributed ammunition, strengthened faltering defenses, cared for the wounded and shouted encouragement to the Vietnamese in their own language."

FCS CAPABILITY ACCELERATED FOR IBCTs

C. TODD LOPEZ

Soldiers in infantry brigade combat teams (IBCTs) now get the first crack at Future Combat System (FCS) technology, Army officials said June 26.

That capability, initially meant to be delivered first to heavy brigade combat teams, will now be delivered to IBCTs by fiscal year 2011 — three years earlier than previously planned.

"As a result of capability gaps found in these IBCTs, the Army is accelerating the FCS complementary programs to provide capability to infantry units first," said

Lieutenant General Michael A. Vane, director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center. "These capabilities will increase their capability and survivability in offense, defense and stability operations."

Included in the equipment meant to be fielded to Soldiers are the tactical and urban unattended ground sensors, the Non Line of Sight-Launch System, the Class I unmanned aerial vehicle, the small unmanned ground vehicle and network kits for the Humvee platform.

Also closely associated with this initial

2011 spinout of FCS equipment will be the Ground Soldier Ensemble. Though the ensemble is not part of the FCS lineup, it does contribute to Soldier effectiveness, and it will be accelerated so it can coincide with the FCS spinout.

"A key part of this is enabling the Soldier, so part of this decision is to take the Ground Soldier Ensemble — the kit that enables the Soldier to be brought into the network — to bring that developmental timeline in line with the FCS program," said Lieutenant General N. Ross Thompson III, military deputy to the acting assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology.

Thompson also said the change in schedule would not change FCS program costs.

Lieutenant General Stephen M. Speakes, deputy chief of staff for programs and Army G8, said the change will have a dramatic affect on the way Soldiers today can fight in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"This re-evaluation is based on seven years of sustained combat," he said. "We believe that the change materially improves upon the capabilities we will provide to Soldiers, and has direct relevance to the current war fight."



TRADOC photo

An Army Evaluation Task Force Soldier at Fort Bliss conducts training with an unattended ground sensor. The sensors are expected to be fielded to infantry Soldiers by 2011.