



CHIEF OF

FINANCE

CORPS

SENDS



Financial Management Warriors,

The “Chief of the Corps Sends” is a message that I am sending to highlight key events. As I reflect on my first year as the Commandant and Chief of the Corps, I have noted several important events which have impacts across the branch. This message supplements other communication methods (FMNet, Quarterly Council of Colonels, Army Financial Management Week, etc.) to ensure that I provide significant information to our FM Warriors.

FM 3-0 (Operations) and Large-Scale Combat Operations

In October 2017, the Army published FM 3-0 (Operations) which places an emphasis on large-scale combat operations (LSCO). This was necessary because over the last 15+ years, the Army’s ability to conduct LSCO against a peer adversary atrophied due to the focus on stability and counter-insurgency (COIN) operations. During that time, peer adversaries have studied our TTPs, modernized their forces, and developed capabilities to counter the multi-domain advantages the Army and the Joint Force have enjoyed since the end of the Cold War. The benchmark for Army readiness, as directed by the Army Chief of Staff, is its ability to conduct large-scale ground combat operations against a peer threat. FM 3-0 does not fundamentally change the way the Army fights or the way Sustainers provide support on an expeditionary battlefield. However, it does introduce a vastly different operational environment that requires the Sustainment community to change its focus from operating in a static, stability operations-based environment to one in which large-scale combat operations are widely dispersed, fast-paced, chaotic, and highly lethal. In the absence of an Army Sustainment Field Manual that aligns with FM 3-0, CASCOM began rapid development of FM 4-0 (Sustainment Operations) to nest and align closely with FM 3-0 with specific emphasis on executing Sustainment operations in LSCO. FM 4-0 explains how the entire Sustainment community, to include Financial Management, will support LSCO. The FMS has been working hard to ensure the full representation and accurate portrayal of all FM equities. CASCOM will publish FM 4-0 in early FY19 and it will serve as a foundational document to inform a total re-write of FM 1-06 (Financial Management Operations). FMS, with your input and multiple reviews, to include discussions at the Pre-Command Course and the Army Financial Management Workshop, will complete the new FM 1-06 NLT 30 SEP 19.

Rigor in Training

Changes in the operational environment have led to increased challenges that Financial Management Warriors will face on the next battlefield. TRADOC, CAC, CASCOM, and SSI Commanding Generals are pressing to increase the rigor, lethality, and warfighting capabilities within our courses. As a result, all students attending FM AIT/ALC/SLC/BOLC/CCC courses at Fort Jackson will experience increased rigor across every facet of their training; we will continue to harden and sharpen our Warrior Ethos. Accordingly, we revamped our course maps which increases time in the field with additional training on Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills. We must train Soldier skills first in order to fight and survive on the battlefield. Soldiers attending FM courses are initially operating in a contested and disconnected environment, then transition to connected operations to conduct the full spectrum FM operations. Every FM class is ‘deploying’ into a Corps, Division, or Brigade Support Area to support maneuver units in LSCO against a peer/near-peer competitor in a multi-domain operation.

“Instill a Warrior Ethos; focus all training on large-scale combat operations”

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FM Force Experimentation and Redesign

In March 2018, the Financial Management Experimentation Rehearsal of Concept examined organizations, structure, roles, responsibilities, and authorities in support of LSCO. Facilitators led the team through five focus areas (operational readiness; contingency planning; setting the theater; support to economic infrastructure and development; and degraded communications) and identified multiple observations and gaps. Based on these, the FMS team developed COAs to determine the FM force structure and command alignment needed to satisfy a Theater Army Commanders' FM requirements throughout the four strategic Army roles identified in FM 3-0. This led to a Force Design Update which proposes FM brigades, battalions, and companies to replace our FMSCs, FMSUs, and FMSDs to support LSCO. MTF...

Financial Management Tactical Platform (FMTP)

Laptops associated with the FMTP are outdated, out of warranty, do not meet ARCYBER Security requirements, and require lifecycle replacement. To provide a near-term fix, the Army Budget Office and the US Army Financial Management Command provided funding to PM GFEBS in order to acquire 1,696 laptops. By the end of October, Dell Federal Systems will deliver the laptops to the Hardware Software Integration Facility (HSIF), which will load our stand-alone FM software and package the laptops for shipment to Property Book Officers worldwide. The HSIF expects to ship the laptops in early 2019 with the specific date TBD. Accordingly, all ASCC/Corps/Div G8s and FMSCs/FMSUs/and FMSDs will receive new and completely updated FMTP laptops in 2019. Disposition instructions for the old laptops will be forthcoming from your PBO.

One-Card Solution

Fiscal Services, a Bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury, is working to deliver a single-solution stored value card for all branches of the Armed Services. For the Army, the One-Card Solution will replace the EagleCash Card. Fiscal Services is processing the request for One-Card Solution training equipment to replace the current EagleCash training equipment for all FMSCs, FMSUs, and FMSDs across all components of the Army. The Financial Management School will incorporate training on the new equipment throughout all applicable courses at Fort Jackson and units will need to implement training on the One-Card Solution after receipt of the training sets, expected during the summer of 2019 with a specific date TBD.

There are many initiatives and ongoing actions that affect our FM Warriors. In future editions I will provide information on topics such as data analytics, fiscal stewardship, standardized business processes, and our results for the Total Army Analysis. Thanks for your service and what you do every day!

To Support and Serve!

RICHARD J. HOERNER
Colonel, FI
Chief of the Corps

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