Inputs (Location)	Outputs/Benefits
Initial Planning (Home station)	• Get information about the rotation out to everyone on the primary staff and in the support operations (SPO) shop to enable equal emphasis within all sections. • Normal military decisionmaking process (MDMP) outputs that include: —Understanding the problem/mission (facts/assumptions, limitations/constraints, unit/staff tasks, issues, and requests for information). —Ensuring the staff and the battalion commander have a common picture. —Working the mission statement. • Highlight the importance of the rotation—the more time you put into this the more important it becomes and takes on a life of its own.
Planning Conferences (On site at the National Training Center, at home station, or virtual)	• Obtain overall requirements, namely what you need to do to succeed, from various offices at the NTC. • Gain valuable input on anything your unit wants to do and how feasible it is from the NTC's perspective. • Meet the folks your unit will work with during your rotation and obtain their contact information.
Logistics Reconnaissance (On site)	• Make face-to-face contact with logistics leaders and key personnel at the NTC, and trade contact information. • Link up with your observer-coach/trainers (OC/Ts), exchange contact information, and meet the folks who will evaluate the brigade support battalion. • Learn about the NTC and how it operates to support each rotation. • Learn the requirements for obtaining and clearing the equipment and commodities you will need.
Leadership Training Program (LTP) (On site)	• LTP coaches provide superb training on MDMP. • Attendees receive valuable planning products and examples. • Develop the concept of support and complete your unit's plan for the rotation. • 916th Sustainment Brigade coordination includes: —SPO staff linking up with the staff and rotational manager at the sustainment operations center. —Briefing the concept of support to the 916th Sustainment Brigade. • The ability to get out to the maneuver box for route and forward operating base reconnaissance. • Formally meet with the Goldminer OC/Ts.
Draw Grids and Commodity Forecasting (Home Station)	• Stimulates planning and encourages units to plan out what they will need. • Helps units learn the NTC since each type of equipment and commodity has its own point of contact. • Provides a certain sense of logistics confidence. Units that properly forecast can deploy with the assurance that they will receive the equipment and commodities needed to be successful.

Figure 2. The benefits and outputs of planning for a National Training Center rotation.