

INFANTRY NEWS



THE ARMY TRAINING EXTENSION COURSE (TEC) has begun distributing TEC audiovisual and audio-only lessons with Student/Supervisor Instructions (SSI), pre-test, post-test, and answers all in one package. This new process is gradually replacing the original Student Instruction Sheet (SIS) and Lesson Administrative Instructions (LAI).

The SSI is contained in a small booklet that fits inside the front cover of the TEC kit. Although it has been designed to be permanent, it is not fastened to the kit. The SSI can be reproduced on an office copier and distributed to students. The original SSI should not be written on.

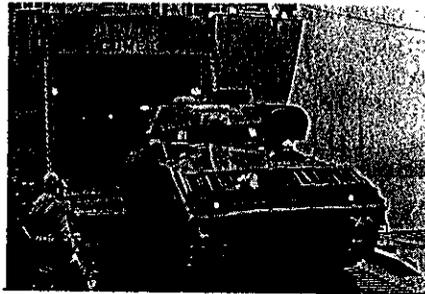
Because the SSI is brand new, it will take some time before all of the old material in the existing TEC lessons has been rewritten. In the meantime, LAIs and SISs should be kept in TEC libraries for the lessons that have not been issued in the new format.

If you have any questions about the SSI, please call AUTOVON 927-2141/3728 or commercial (804) 878-2141/3728.

ARMY AVIATION has been approved as a new Army branch. The new branch's headquarters will be at the Army's Aviation Center, Fort Rucker.

The decision to create a separate branch resulted from a study of Army aviation requirements by the Army's Training and Doctrine Command. That study showed that the new battle doctrine has broadened aviation's role as a combat maneuver element. Personnel management considerations also played a part in determining that aviation should be a separate branch.

THE FIRST SHIPMENT of Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles arrived in Germany in March and were immediately transported to the Seventh Army Training Command at Vilseck. The 17 vehicles in this shipment are being used for transition training. Maintenance personnel from the infantry battalions that are scheduled to receive the BIFV began



their transition training in June; unit transition training for those same units will begin in September.

The BIFV fielding complements the European introduction of the Abrams tank, which took place more than a year ago. Five tank battalions have now been trained and equipped with the Abrams in a process that will go on into the 1990s.

THE ARMY'S Mobility Equipment Research and Development Command has awarded a contract to a commercial firm for the design and fabrication of prototypes of a new assault bridge for the Army's light infantry divisions.

The new assault bridge will be 25 meters long and of a double-fold

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The 1982 index to INFANTRY has been prepared separately and is available to anyone who requests a copy. Please address your request to: Editor, INFANTRY Magazine, PO Box 2005, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.



scissors type that can support 30 tons. Constructed of aluminum, it will weigh approximately 8,000 pounds. It will be mounted on and launched from a trailer that can be towed behind any standard vehicle with a 15,000-pound towing capacity.

The first prototype is scheduled for delivery in June 1984.

THE ARMY RECENTLY APPROVED the acquisition of M16A2 rifles, and it is expected that the first of the new rifles will be issued to Army units in the mid-1980s.

The M16A2 rifle, an improved version of the 5.56mm weapon, has several new features that improve its range, durability, and handling. It has been designed to fire the new NATO 5.56mm round, the same the recently adopted SAW weapon fires. With a 30-round magazine, it weighs 8.2 pounds, compared with the M16A1's 7.9 pounds.

The rifling of the barrel has been changed from one turn in twelve inches to one turn in seven inches; a burst control device limits automatic fire to three rounds; a muzzle brake compensator replaces the flash suppressor; there are new front and rear sights; there is a heavier and more rugged barrel; a deflector near the ejector port has been added to assist left-handed firers; and there are several stronger plastic components.

With the new round and barrel, the effective range of the rifle has been increased to 800 meters.

THE ARMY HAS AWARDED a contract to the Emerson Electric Company for 80 prototype Fast Attack Vehicles (FAVs). The vehicles will undergo extensive testing by the 9th Infantry Division's High Technology Test Bed (HTTB).

The FAV, which is based on a world class off-road racing vehicle, can travel at more than 80 miles per



hour. It will be equipped with a weapon station, and it meets the HTTB's requirement for an armed vehicle that can be quickly and easily transported by helicopter or airplane.

Possible weapons for the FAV include the TOW missile, a 30mm cannon, a .50 caliber machinegun, and an MK 19 grenade launcher.

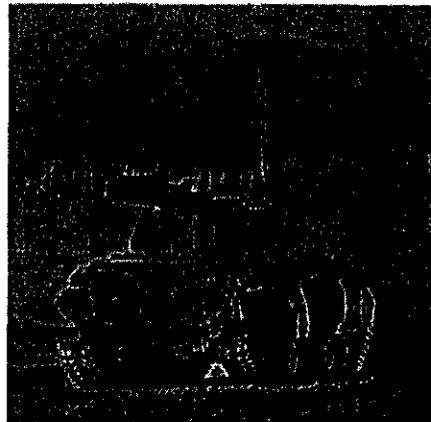
THE CURRENT FALL-AND-ROLL technique taught to infantrymen has been used for several decades. It works well on soft ground, but it is certainly not suited for hard terrain or built-up areas where the infantryman stands to damage not only his weapon but his body as well.

Here is a new technique that protects both the infantryman and his weapon, and if it is assumed at a moderate or slow forward speed, it places the infantryman in a prone position quickly and safely. It does, of course, forfeit forward momentum to gain position.

The infantryman assumes the position by grasping his rifle with his firing hand and holding it parallel to the

ground. He then, simultaneously, accomplishes the following actions: He extends his non-firing arm, palm down, and squats and thrusts his legs to the rear much as if he were conducting a "squat-thrust" exercise. He then lowers his body to the ground as quickly as possible by bending his extended arm while keeping his weapon close to his body with his firing hand. If necessary, he can roll to one side or the other before he takes up a correct prone firing position. (This item was submitted by Captain Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr.)

BRADLEY INFANTRY FIGHTING VEHICLE (BIFV) crews tested the BIFV this past winter at the Army's Cold Regions Test Center, Fort Greely, Alaska, to see how the vehicle and its various systems would



perform in arctic and subarctic conditions.

The BIFV testing program included cold starts, mobility, and weapon firing, which included the vehicle's 25mm cannon, 7.62mm machinegun, firing port weapons, and smoke grenades.

THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM had the grand opening of its renovated third floor on 1 July, and with this additional space, it plans to offer a number of new displays in the months to come.

The Third Annual National Infantry Museum Run will be held in October, and a good turnout is

expected. Individuals and teams from other installations are invited and encouraged to take part. The Director of the Museum will furnish more information about the race to anyone who is interested in participating. He can be reached at AUTOVON 835-2958 or commercial (404) 545-2958.

The Museum also continues to add interesting and important pieces to its collection. For example, it has received a number of artifacts related to Colonel Ray M. O'Day's internment as a prisoner of war in the Philippines. Colonel O'Day, now deceased, was captured on Bataan in 1942.

Retired Colonel Maurice Shapiro has donated a large number of World War II items that he acquired during his service in Europe. Among them is a piece of brown Italian marble that had been part of a large table that stood near Adolf Hitler's desk in the New Reich Chancellery building in Berlin. The table had been broken up by the Russians, and Colonel Shapiro, who was then serving with the 2d U.S. Armored Division in Berlin, managed to get this piece of it.

The Museum has also recently acquired by donation a Civil War period percussion musket that is in exceptionally good condition, together with its history.

A ceremony commemorating General Henry Lewis Benning's birthdate was held in April, and this was followed by a tea honoring the United Daughters of the Confederacy. One thousand tulip bulbs had been planted earlier for blooming by that date.

The Museum also prepared a number of special exhibits: one marked the Treaty of Paris and the 200th anniversary of the end of hostilities in the Revolutionary War. Others honored the Infantry School, INFANTRY Magazine, Black History Week, and George Washington.

The National Infantry Museum Society, formed at Fort Benning a number of years ago to assist the Museum with financial and volunteer support, is open to anyone who is interested in joining. The cost is \$2.00

for a one-year membership, or \$10.00 for a lifetime membership.

Additional information about the Museum and the Society is available from the Director, National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, GA 31905, AUTOVON 835-2958 or commercial (404) 545-2958.

THE INFANTRY BOARD has submitted the following news items:

- Extended Cold/Wet Clothing System. Part of the mission of the 9th Infantry Division is to organize and equip one of its brigades by 1985 as the nucleus for a High Technology Light Division. To do this, the Division is conducting experiments with new organizations, tactics, equipment, concepts, and doctrine.

One objective of the Division's experiments with new equipment is to find cold weather clothing that weighs less and is less bulky than the clothing now used but that also provides equal or greater protection against the cold. The Infantry Board, in support of these experiments, was given the task of testing the military utility of four extended cold/wet clothing systems (ECWC). One is a modified Standard A cold weather system, while the other three consist of state-of-the-art, commercial cold weather clothing.

The U.S. Marine Corps has also been looking for an improved individual combat clothing and equipment system to support its Marines in amphibious and cold weather operations and in operations in the mountains. In fact, the Corps had contracted with the Army's Natick Laboratories and the Army's Human Engineering Laboratories to procure and test a cold/wet clothing system at the Corps' mountain warfare training center in Pickel Meadows, California, in January 1983.

In September 1982, representatives from the Infantry Board, the Marine Corps, Natick Laboratories, and the Human Engineering Laboratories met and agreed to combine the testing and also agreed that the Infantry

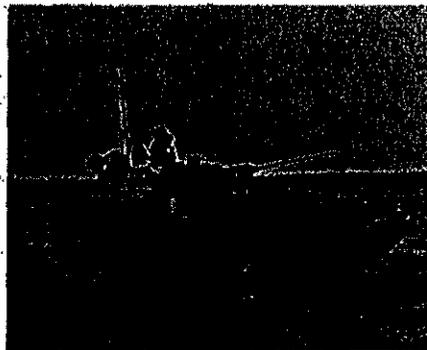
Board would serve as lead test agency.

The test was conducted at Pickel Meadows, as scheduled, in January 1983. It consisted of four 72-hour scenarios during which the members of four test squads alternated wearing the four systems. The test personnel were 24 Army infantrymen and 24 Marines.

Test directorate personnel used forms, questionnaires, and interviews to collect information pertaining to human factors, safety, and performance throughout the test program.

The Infantry School and the Marine Corps will use the test results to recommend candidate items for further testing.

- LAV-25(A). The Operational Test IIA (OT IIA) of the Light Armored Vehicle-25 (LAV 25(A)) was a non-comparative test conducted by the Board at Fort Benning from 15 February through 13 March 1983. (See INFANTRY, January-February 1983, Page 5.) It was conducted to



provide data on certain unresolved issues that had surfaced during the combined Army and Marine Corps OT II conducted at Twentynine Palms, California, from 1 December 1981 through 28 May 1982. The data from OT IIA will be used to support a decision concerning the vehicle's production and production rate.

The LAV program is a multiservice, accelerated procurement effort that is designed to provide an immediate solution to mobility and firepower deficiencies that now exist in the light division.

The vehicle itself is an eight-wheeled combat vehicle with a two-man turret. Its primary weapon is the

electrically-powered M242 25mm gun. The stabilized turret also has a coaxially mounted M240 7.62mm machinegun. The crew consists of a driver, a gunner, and a vehicle commander. Its specifications state that it will have a maximum forward speed of 62.5 miles per hour and a maximum operating range of 437 miles.

The OT IIA included live fire and representative tactical missions. It focused on the stabilized firing abilities of the weapon systems — both from stationary positions and while on the move — and on the vehicle's response to various tactical situations. Limited NBC and hostile EW situations were also presented during the tactical exercises.

Each test crew consisted of an Army vehicle commander, an Army driver, and an experienced Marine gunner. Player personnel also included Army automotive and turret mechanics.

A SERIES OF supply training workshops for Active and Reserve Component soldiers will be going to the units beginning in September.

The program consists of three coordinated workshops, each requiring about 16 hours to complete. The workshops will be held for individuals ranging from the holder of the sub-hand receipts to the battalion commander.

Called the Organizational Supply Management System (OSMS), the workshops have been modeled on the successful Battalion Training Management System (BTMS).

Each workshop was designed and developed by the Quartermaster School to meet the Total Army's supply training requirements. The Primary Supply Managers Workshop is intended for property users and first-line supervisors. The Supervisory Supply Managers Workshop is designed for company commanders and unit supply personnel (property book level). The Command Supply Managers Workshop is provided for battalion commanders and selected staff officers.