

INFANTRY NEWS



SINCE EARLY 1980, the Infantry School's Infantry Liaison Team (ILT) has been visiting infantry units in the field. The team's purpose is to find out first-hand what those units think of the School's course graduates (IOAC, IOBC, ANCOB, and OSUT, for example), its training literature (such as ARTEPs and Soldier's Manuals), and its tactical and doctrinal literature. The visits not only help the School to improve the way it does things, it also gives the people in the field a chance to voice their opinions about what the School is doing.

Usually, the ILT has three people, and its membership is tailored for the unit it is to visit and that unit's probable areas of interest — maintenance, perhaps, or tactics, or training developments. During its visit, the ILT members interview numerous members of the unit, from its commander to selected soldiers from its ranks. It then develops, through various statistical analysis techniques, the data it collects from these interviews to show how that particular unit perceives the School's graduates and its publications.

When the ILT returns from a visit, its chief prepares a trip report that lists the specific areas of the School that received either positive or negative marks. Copies of his report are sent to the various interested parties in the School so that they can see and comment on that unit's reactions to what the School is turning out.

The ILT also provides limited amounts of new training materials to the units they visit. For instance, the team takes with it a number of fact sheets that cover such subjects as the Basic Rules for Combat, the Army Standardization Program, and how to obtain programmable chips for the TI-59 mortar calculator. Team mem-

bers also try to answer specific questions about the Infantry — if they have been given the questions beforehand — and sometimes can help a unit solve specific training difficulties.

Thus far in Fiscal Year 1983, the ILT has visited units in Panama and Germany, units at Forts Lewis and Campbell, and units of the California National Guard. Future trips are planned to Forts Dix, Polk, Hood, and Bragg.

Additional information about the School's ILT is available from the Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization, USAIS, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905, AUTOVON 835-1589.

AMONG THE MANY "NEW" AND INTERESTING items now being shown in the National Infantry Museum is the largest collection in this country of World War II Italian arms and equipment.

The Museum also has large exhibits of German and Japanese items, and it has expanded its Vietnamese and Korean exhibits. There are other exhibits of foreign items as well — uniforms, weapons, and other military articles from France, England, Canada, Spain, Russia, Communist China, and Switzerland. One especially interesting foreign item is a Russian truck, 1948 model, which was captured in Korea in 1950. In the back of the truck is a Russian 120mm mortar, which was also captured in Korea.

The Museum provided a special exhibit on the Medal of Honor for the Columbus Post Office in connection with the issuance of a Medal of Honor Commemorative Stamp by the U.S. Postal Service. It also provided another exhibit for the dedication of

the Vietnam War Memorial in Eufaula, Alabama, on Memorial Day. General William Westmoreland was the principal speaker for the latter occasion.

An important and original oil painting by W. Gilbert Gaul depicting World War I soldiers was recently purchased by the Museum. And a number of pieces of original art work have been donated to the Museum by INFANTRY Magazine, some of which are now on display. Of excellent quality, these will be invaluable to the Museum in portraying the history of the Infantry.

A unique World War II German weapon that is currently on loan to the Museum is a small pistol concealed in a belt buckle. The belt buckle swings open with a flick of a finger, which moves the pistol into firing position. The gun is then fired with another flick of a finger.

All runners are invited to participate in the Third Annual National Museum Five-Mile Run in October. They can obtain information by calling the Museum at the number listed below.

The National Infantry Museum Society, which was 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, Georgia 31905, AUTOVON 835-2958, or commercial 404/545-2958.

THE NEBRASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD became the first Reserve Component unit to use

the mechanized platoon testing program with MILES equipment. The aim of the program was to see if a Reserve Component unit could use the test effectively for combat training purposes. In the test, which was undertaken this past June by the 1st Platoon, Company A, 2d Battalion, 134th Infantry, the Guardsmen proved that they could successfully complete all of the 13 problems thrown at them, including planning operations, fire control, maneuvering, reacting to opposing forces, leadership, teamwork, and a tactical road march.

THE BRITISH ARMY has adopted a new helmet for its parachute forces. The helmet was developed to provide greater ballistic protection and comfort than the conventional steel helmet.

It has a completely smooth surface



that prevents snagging by parachute cords, a soft lining, and reduced weight — only 1.2 kilograms.

The shell is made of resin-impregnated nylon fabric. Internal padding, a height adjuster, and two types of chinstraps — general purpose and winter — allow for more individual comfort.

THE ARMY HAS RECEIVED 70 of the LAW 80 antiarmor weapons, which were ordered as part of a joint Army-Marine Corps evaluation that began in May 1983.

LAW 80 is a British weapon and was originally developed for use by the British military services. It is one

of a number of weapons being tested at Aberdeen Proving Ground in a formal evaluation that could lead to the selection of a new light antiarmor weapon for the two U.S. military services.

LAW 80 is a shoulder-fired weapon that consists of a single preloaded rocket and a built-in spotting rifle for adjusting aim before firing the rocket. It weighs less than 20 pounds, is approximately five feet long with its telescoping launch tube extended, and can be carried by infantrymen in addition to their usual individual weapons. It is discarded after its single firing.

THE ARMY'S TRAINING SUPPORT CENTER has distributed its new 1983 edition of its Extension Training Materials Catalog. The red-covered eight-chapter catalog lists those ETM products that support various phases of Army training.

Active Army or Reserve Component units that have not received the catalog, or that need additional copies, should write to: Department of the Army, AG Publication Center (USAAGPC), 2800 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21220. The order should be submitted on DA Form 4569; a publications standard single account (SSA) number is required and may be obtained from the unit's publications stockroom.

Comments, questions, or suggestions concerning the catalog should be sent to the Commander, U.S. Army Training Support Center, ATTN: ATIC-ETO-PP, Fort Eustis, Virginia 23604, or called in to AUTOVON 927-4701, or commercial 804/878-4701.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY Pamphlet 350-18, Individual Handbook on Physical Fitness, was published on 1 May 1983. It contains excellent guidance for soldiers who are not participating in an organized physical fitness program.

THE IMPROVED 81mm MORTAR, one of the few weapon systems to undergo a joint developmental program between the United States and another country, has completed its developmental testing at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The "I-81" is made up of a combination of selected components from mortars from both the United States and the United Kingdom. Its baseplate, M64 sight unit, fire control equipment, and multi-option fuze on the high explosive round are from the United States. Its cannon, bipod mount, and high explosive rounds minus the fuzes are from the United Kingdom.

The I-81 has a greater range than the present U.S. 81mm mortar — 5,600 meters for the I-81 to 4,800 meters for the present mortar — and has a sustained rate of fire of 12 to 15 rounds a minute. It weighs six pounds less than the present 81mm mortar and is transportable.

The M734 multi-option fuze is from the U.S. 60mm lightweight company mortar system and offers four ways of functioning — proximity, near-surface, impact, and delay.

A NEW ARMY CORRESPONDENCE COURSE CATALOG (DA Pamphlet 351-20) was mailed out in April 1983. This catalog, dated 1 March 1983, replaces all 22 volumes of the previous DA Pamphlet 351-20 series.

Active Army soldiers, sergeant and below, get one promotion point for every five hours of correspondence course credit they earn. National Guard and Army Reserve officers and enlisted soldiers receive one retirement point for every three hours of correspondence course credit they earn.

Units that have not yet received the new catalog or that need extra copies can order directly from the AG Publications Center, 2800 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21220. A completed DA Form 4569 is required, as is a publications standard single account number.

Questions about the Army's correspondence courses should be addressed to the Institute for Professional Development, U.S. Army Training Support Center, Newport News, Virginia 23628.

CREWMEN FROM Company D, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, at Fort Hood, recently swam all 13 of their Bradley Fighting Vehicles. The exercise went off without a hitch as each vehicle conducted a pre-dip and then a free float.

Unlike the M113 carrier, which swims with all of its hatches closed,



the Bradley swims with its hatches open. The Bradley also uses a swim barrier, which resembles an inverted skirt and wraps around the entire top of the vehicle. This barrier prevents any large amounts of water from washing over the deck and into the open hatches.

If water should get into the vehicle's interior, bilge pumps would get rid of it and keep the Bradley afloat.

THE ARMY HAS LET A CONTRACTOR AM General Corporation of Detroit to buy a total of 54,973 high mobility, multi-purpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWVs, or "HUMVEEs") during the next five years. (See *INFANTRY*, November-December 1981, page 5.)

The HUMVEE will replace vehicles in the ¼-ton to 1¼-ton range, including jeeps, M880-series pickup trucks, M561 Gama Goat all-terrain vehicles, and M274-series Mule platform vehicles. Together with the CUCV, a light duty commercial pickup truck, the

two will eventually replace some 112,000 vehicles that are near the end of their expected lifespans.

The HUMVEE comes with a basic chassis that can be fitted with different body designs. The three main HUMVEE configurations are the weapons carrier, the utility truck, and the ambulance.

THE ARMY'S TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND is developing and publishing a series of operational concepts on logistics and other subjects. Once approved, they are published as TRADOC pamphlets in the 525-series. Thus far in 1983, seven such pamphlets have been published: 525-22, Medical Support Operations in a Chemical Environment (31 January 1983); 525-23, Battlefield Spectrum Management (18 February 1983); 525-24, Public Affairs (4 February 1983); 525-25, Wartime Personnel Replacement Operations (21 February 1983); 525-26, Religious Support in Combat Areas (15 March 1983); 525-27-1, Forward Support Maintenance (21 May 1983); and 525-31, Civil Affairs (10 June 1983).

A concept is now being developed at the Army Logistics Center that seeks to replace the Army's present four-category maintenance system with a three-category system. The new system is being designed to be more responsive, to improve operational readiness, and to increase battlefield mobility and flexibility. If the concept is adopted, the three maintenance categories will be:

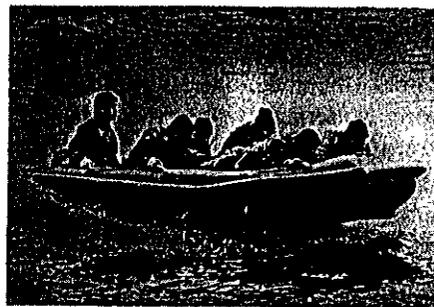
- Unit Maintenance. The maintenance tasks performed are the same as current organizational maintenance.

- Intermediate Maintenance. This category has two levels — forward and rear. Intermediate forward equates to the present direct support maintenance category. Forward maintenance units will be organic to the divisions, assigned to the corps, and located at echelons above corps. Intermediate rear replaces general support, except that all intermediate rear

units will be at echelons above corps. The relocation of the traditional general support maintenance mission from the corps area should significantly improve mobility.

- Depot Maintenance. This category has not changed.

THE ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE CORPS are taking part in a joint project to develop a new military reconnaissance boat, called the Military Amphibious Reconnaissance System (MARS). An inflatable craft that can carry a squad of seven men and their equipment, it can be pushed out of the hatch of a nuclear submarine or dropped from a C-130 cargo plane or from a helicopter. It can be inflated in less than a minute and completely assembled in less than half an hour.



What makes this craft unique, though, is its outboard motor. The 35-horsepower engine is completely submersible, and has a special valve that allows the operator to drain water from the fuel system and restart the motor if it has been dropped over the side of the boat or if the craft is deployed under water. It is believed to be the only engine of its kind with this capability. The motor has a solid-state ignition and a range of 20 miles at its top speed of 25 miles per hour.

