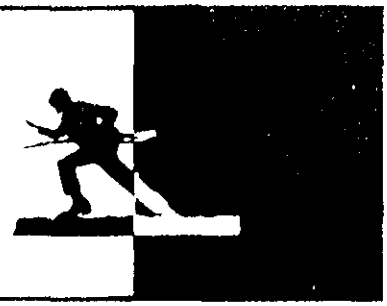
INFANTRY NEWS



THE INFANTRY'S FIRST master gunners were graduated recently after 11 weeks of training at Fort Benning. Formerly, the title of master gunner belonged exclusively to the Armor branch.

The term itself — master gunner — implies more than gunnery. The noncommissioned officers who attended the course and graduated from it are now back in their companies and battalions where they are helping their commanders train soldiers on the Bradley infantry fighting vehicle.

A TANK BATTALION at Fort Knox is testing a new filing system that may eventually replace the Army's 30-year old functional file system. It is called MARKS, for Modern Army Record Keeping System, and it makes filing easier by keying the files to the numbered administrative publications they fall under.

More testing with MARKS is scheduled in 1984. The new system could be adopted for use by 1986.

THE U.S. ARMY Armament, Munitions and Chemical Command (AMCCOM) was formally established on 1 July 1983 with its headquarters at Rock Island, Illinois.

The new command incorporates the missions and resources of the Army's Armament Materiel Readiness Command (ARRCOM), whose headquarters was at Rock Island, and the Army's Armament, Research and Development Command (ARRADCOM) at Dover, New Jersey.

AMCCOM's primary mission is the life cycle management of weapons, ammunition, and chemical materiel. It is also the single manager for the procurement, production, supply, maintenance, and transportation of conventional ammunition for the Defense Department.

AMCCOM is a major subordinate command of the Army's Materiel Development and Readiness Command (DARCOM).

THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM has ordered stained glass panels that depict the patches of the 71st Infantry Division and the 172d, 193d, and 199th Infantry Brigades. These panels will be added to those now on display, which show the patches of the Active Army infantry divisions.

The Government of Switzerland recently donated to the Museum four Swiss military forces combat and duty uniforms. These have been added to the collection of Swiss weapons the Museum now has, a collection that includes a 16th century two-handed edged weapon. The presentation was made by the Swiss Military Attache to the United States during a recent visit to Fort Benning.

A number of other items of interest have been added to the Museum's collection. One is an M1903 Springfield rifle that was won by the late Brigadier General Claudius M. Easley (then a captain) in 1924 for establishing a world record with that weapon. A range at Fort Benning is named in honor of General Easley.

Two other weapons — a Model 1912 Winchester riot gun and a Winchester Winder musket — were also given to the Museum by Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) C.M. Easley, Jr., the General's son.

Veterans of the 503d Parachute Infantry Battalion have given the Museum the first U.S. flag that was raised over Corregidor following the recapture of the island by American forces. The flag is tattered and stained, but it is a precious reminder of the men who gave their lives in defense of the freedom of their country. The flag will be displayed in the Museum's airborne section.

Other items of interest that the Museum has recently added to its collection include books, swords, a 4th Infantry flag staff finial, two 19th century French revolvers, a Greek flintlock pistol, a World War II Women's Army Corps uniform, and a Revolutionary War matchlock pistol.

The Museum is planning an exhibit to honor the Army's Rangers and is in the process of collecting material for display. It has also launched a project to secure a complete World War II military glider or, if that is not possible, a portion of a glider, such as a wing, a tail section, or a complete cockpit. This will be used as part of an exhibit that will honor Airborne Infantrymen.

The Museum recently placed on loan with the Battleship Memorial Park on Mobile Bay a number of artifacts and display support items, including World War II and Korean War period military clothing and equipment. These will be displayed aboard the battleship USS *Alabama*.

The National Infantry Museum Society, formed at Fort Benning a

POSTAL REGISTRATION

1. **Date of Filing:** 30 September 1983.
2. **Title of Publication:** INFANTRY Magazine.
3. **Frequency of Issue:** Bimonthly.
4. **Location of Known Office of Publication:** U.S. Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-I-V-M, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.
5. **Location of the Headquarters of the Publication:** U.S. Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-I-V-M, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.
6. **Publisher and Editor:** Albert N. Garland, INFANTRY Magazine, P.O. Box 2005, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.

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.

THIS PROTECTIVE SUIT, which was developed by the Army's Natick Research and Development Laboratories, consists of five components: coat, trousers, helmet, bonnet, and one-piece chest and face plate. The

suit forms a protective system that is effective and functional for soldiers who must defuse and dispose of explosive devices.

Future testing of this protective suit will provide the data that will be needed to make any alterations and modifications to ensure that the Army's needs are met.

THE FOLLOWING NEWS ITEMS were submitted by the Infantry Board:

• **High Technology Light Division (HTLD).** The 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington, is to be reorganized as a High Technology Light Division (HTLD) by 1985. To accomplish this, the Division has been experimenting with organizational and operational concepts to refine its force structure requirements and its tactical doctrine.

The HTLD must be capable of deploying rapidly anywhere in the world to conduct contingency missions. It must also be a highly mobile fighting force that is capable of conducting mounted actions against all types of enemy anywhere on the extended AirLand battlefield.

The Infantry Board, in conjunction with the Army's Development and Employment Agency (ADEA), recently evaluated the light motorized infantry battalion (LMIB), the light attack battalion (LAB), and the assault gun battalion (AGB) during an eight-day division field test exercise (FTX) at Yakima Firing Center, Washington.

The FTX was a free-play exercise using predetermined scenario events. The battalions, as parts of a High Technology Light Brigade (HTLB), first conducted a tactical lodgment exercise. This was followed by movement to contact, deliberate attack, delay in zone, defense, counterattack, and deep strike missions. All the battalions operated as task forces and were opposed by an OPFOR that consisted of elements of a motorized rifle regiment reinforced with armor, artillery, airmobile, attack helicopter, close air support, and NBC assets.

Each of the three battalions was individually evaluated as it performed its various missions. Before the battalion tests, the LMIB conducted squad, platoon, and company exercises, and the LAB and AGB conducted company level exercises, all at Fort Lewis. The test objectives included training; mobility; deployability; firepower; command, control, and communications; logistics; administration; organization; intelligence; mission performance; human factors; and survivability.

The LMIB consists of three light motorized infantry companies, the troops of which are mounted in high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWVs); one light motorized antiarmor company; and a headquarters and headquarters company. The battalion must be capable of conducting mounted, dismounted, and airmobile operations; providing long-, medium-, and short-range antiarmor fires; providing direct and indirect antipersonnel fires; and operating on all types of terrain in any weather condition during the day or at night.

It must also be able to conduct hasty attack, deliberate attack, deep strike, raid, reconnaissance, ambush, airmobile, screen, counterattack, delay, withdrawal, defense, rear area combat operations (RACO), and military operations on urbanized terrain (MOUT) missions. Upon contact with an enemy force, or when in a defensive position, its infantrymen will dismount and use their vehicle-mounted weapons in the support role.

The LAB consists of three light attack companies, the troops of which are mounted in fast attack vehicles (FAVs); a combat support company; and a headquarters and headquarters company. Its mission is to destroy, degrade, and disrupt an enemy force through offensive maneuvers and stand-off attacks by fire. In the close-in battle, the LAB will take part in offensive, defensive, or retrograde operations. In restrictive terrain, the LAB elements will conduct such missions as controlling lines of communication, security, and other like activities. The LAB must be able to conduct hasty attack, deep attack, raid, reconnaissance, ambush, airmobile, screen, counterattack, delay, withdrawal, RACO, and MOUT missions.

The AGB consists of three assault gun companies, the troops of which are mounted in light attack vehicles (LAV-25), and a headquarters and headquarters company. The LAV is armed with a 25mm gun. A battalion must be capable of conducting mounted operations; providing long-, medium-, and short-range antiarmor fires; providing direct and indirect

antipersonnel fires; and operating on all types of terrain in any weather conditions during the day or night.

The AGB must also be able to conduct hasty attack, deliberate attack, attack by fire, deep strike, raid, reconnaissance, ambush, airmobile, screen, counterattack, delay, withdrawal, defense, RACO, and MOUT missions. Its primary mission is to destroy enough enemy vehicles to disrupt an enemy attack and to slow an enemy's movement by forcing him to dismount his infantry, which can then be engaged by other weapon systems. The AGB elements will assault an objective only after enemy antiarmor and heavy automatic weapon systems have been suppressed or destroyed.

All three battalions must be highly mobile, maneuverable, deployable (both in a strategic and an intratheater way), and capable of surviving and being sustained on a modern integrated battlefield. They must also have the necessary firepower to carry out their assigned missions.

Although the LMIB and the AGB must be capable of conducting combat missions when in a pure configuration, they will normally operate as task forces.

• **XM40 Protective Mask.** The Army has identified a need for a new protective mask that would provide increased protection against field concentrations of chemical and biological agents. A new mask, which would replace all of the field masks now in use, would also have to reduce the logistical burden on the supply services and have better storage characteristics.

Different models of masks have been tested during the past few years, but none have improved over the masks they were intended to replace. The Chemical Research and Development Center, though, has recently designed and fabricated a prototype XM40 mask that combines the desirable features found in the masks that had been previously tested.

The Infantry Board tested this prototype mask to provide the Center with data on the mask's compatibility with infantry equipment, on its optical properties, and on its design and safety considerations.

The XM40 masks that were tested used a green silicone faceblank and nose cup assembly with integrally molded harness tabs and an adjustable headharness. A natural rubber panel was bonded over the faceblank, which contained the side-mounted filter canister, outlet valve and cover, and two voicemitters.

The M17 and M25A1 field protective masks were used as comparison (control) items during the test.

The test soldiers were riflemen, machinegunners, mortar crewmen (including fire direction center personnel), TOW gunners, and armored vehicle crewmen. Six times they fired their assigned weapons according to published familiarization tables — once not wearing a mask, once wearing an appropriate control mask, and once wearing each test mask. The crew-served weapons gunners also fired a night familiarization course using night sights while completely unmasked, then wearing a control mask, and finally wearing each test mask.

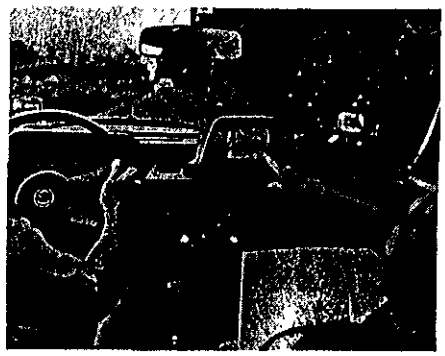
Drivers alternated the use of the test and control masks at night to provide the data needed to assess the compatibility of the test mask with night vision goggles and night vision periscopes.

Combat spectacles were worn by selected test soldiers to see if the test masks provided enough face relief.

The Chemical Research and Development Center will use the test results to formulate decisions concerning the full scale development of the XM40 masks.

THE ARMY IS developing a simple, rugged, low-cost battlefield navigation aid to assist vehicle drivers in traversing the highly mobile and ever-changing battlefield of the future.

The aid uses fluidic technology pioneered by the Harry Diamond Laboratories two decades ago. Fluidics is a way to build sensing and control systems that have no mechanical parts. It can produce systems that have low initial costs, high reliability, and little or no maintenance requirements.



The first all-Army fluidic navigation aid will consist of a heading reference unit. This will let a vehicle operator enter manually the bearing of his vehicle into the unit, while a sensor will keep track of changes in that bearing.

By early 1984, the Army expects to have a first-generation battlefield navigation aid system that will use a state-of-the-art flat panel display and a heading reference sensor to perform a more complex navigation function. This system will display a vehicle's position, heading, and course as a series of luminous dots on a display screen, and will provide a printed standard digital readout of coordinates and bearing.

THE ARMY RESERVE Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) became operational on 1 October 1983 at St. Louis, Missouri. It is a field operating agency reporting directly to the Chief, Army Reserve.

The functions ARPERCEN performs were transferred to it from the Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center (RCPAC). ARPERCEN is located with RCPAC at 9700 Page Boulevard.

The following RCPAC elements were transferred to ARPERCEN: Reserve Officer and Enlisted Personnel Directorates; Physical Evaluation Office; Removal and Transfer Branch; Evaluation Reports and Inquiry Division; Chaplain's Office; General Officer Management Office; Surgeon; Long Tour Management Office; and Comptroller.