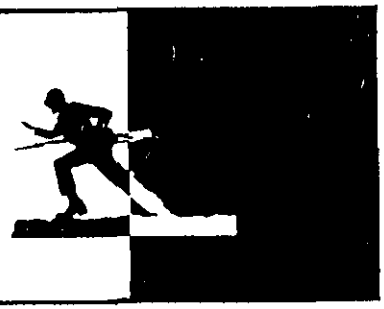
INFANTRY NEWS



THE U.S. ARMY INFANTRY SCHOOL recently designated the Director of its Weapons, Gunnery and Maintenance Department as the School's single point of contact for the Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle (BIFV) and the new equipment training team (NETT) concept of training.

The Director's responsibilities include:

- Responding to all requests for BIFV mobile training teams and all requests from units that are equipped with the Bradley.
- Providing training as scheduled under the NETT concept.
- Updating or writing new training manuals for the BIFV. These responsibilities will be fully coordinated with other departments, directorates, and offices to provide units in the field with timely, accurate BIFV data.

Correspondence concerning the BIFV, therefore, should be addressed to:

Commandant
United States Army Infantry School
ATTN: ATSH-W-BFV
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Important BIFV telephone numbers at Fort Benning are:

BIFV Division, WGMD:
AUTOVON 784-7116/6225
Master Gunner Team:
AUTOVON 784-6201

THE 1984 SKILL QUALIFICATION TEST (SQT) for the Infantry MOSs (11B, 11C, and 11H) will be conducted between 1 March 1984 and 31 May 1984.

The SQT is a written test only. It is designed to assess a soldier's proficiency in his entire MOS and skill level, not just his current duty position. The results of the test will be used in making personnel management decisions.

The tasks that are tested in the SQT are taken directly from the Infantry Soldier's Manuals. The SQT requires a soldier to know how to perform a task according to the standards in the manuals, not the shortcuts so often used today.

The 1984 Infantry SQT notices have been distributed to the field units. If you have not received a notice, you should contact your unit training standards officer.

EACH YEAR, MORE THAN 100,000 people visit the National Infantry Museum. A large number of Fort Benning's infantry trainees are given a glimpse of our country's history and traditions through scheduled visits, as are ROTC students and school children from throughout the surrounding area. Foreign dignitaries and official visitors to Fort Benning are also given a tour of the Museum when their schedules permit.

The Museum staff has recently compiled a complete inventory of its collection. With over 30,000 artifacts, this was a major undertaking. And the collection is increasing almost weekly as items are donated or purchased for addition to the collection.

The Museum, for example, recently acquired a rare infantry regimental drum that features a painted American eagle. The drum was lost by the regiment during the First Battle of Bull Run and was not returned to the U.S. Government until 1921. It is one of only a few painted U.S. Army drums known to have survived the Civil War.

Other recent Civil War acquisitions are a rare Civil War flag of the 1st Brigade, 2d Division, 9th Army Corps, and a silver pitcher presented to Captain H.V. Breneman by the men of Company B, 50th Regiment, on 15 August 1863.

Also added to the Museum collection was a sword made during the period 1750-1770 and carried during the Revolutionary War by Major Amos King of Peabody, Massachusetts. Major (Retired) Thomas H. Burt donated a collection of edged weapons used by the Moros and collected by his grandfather, Colonel James G. Hannah, during his service in the Philippines near the turn of the century. Major Burt also donated his grandfather's service sword.

Brigadier General (Retired) Oscar C. Hudson gave the Museum personal papers documenting his military and civilian service, including photographs, badges and insignia, unit histories, and mementos.

Finally, the Second Armored Division Association presented to the Museum a large framed color photograph of the Division's Altar of Battles, which the Association erected at Valley Force and dedicated to those soldiers who served with the 2d Armored Division during World War II. James M. Burt, a Medal of Honor recipient, made the presentation.

The Museum enjoys broad support from many areas and appreciates this support, knowing that the National Infantry Museum could not be the tremendous historical repository and showplace it is without that support.

The National Infantry Museum

INDEX

The 1983 index to INFANTRY has been prepared separately and is available to anyone who requests a copy. Please address your request to Editor, INFANTRY Magazine, Box 2005, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.

Society was formed at Fort Benning a number of years ago to assist the Museum with financial and volunteer support. It 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 AVIATION BRANCH was approved by the Secretary of the Army on 13 April 1983. Since that date, a branch implementation plan has been developed and approved by the Chief of Staff of the Army, and a transition team has been established at the Army's Aviation Center at Fort Rucker to implement the plan.

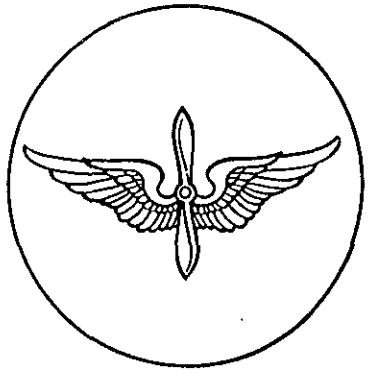
Most of the previously unresolved issues have now been resolved and the public affairs office at Fort Rucker has been publishing numerous items of interest for all Army aviators. For example, a special edition of "The Army Flier" for 3 September 1983 contained a special feature on the new branch.

Additional information can be obtained from the Public Affairs Office at Fort Rucker; telephone numbers are AUTOVON 558-4117 or commercial 205/255-4117.

THE NEW AVIATION BRANCH colors and insignia were recently approved.

The "crossed wings and prop" insignia symbolizes Army Aviation from its beginning. It will be worn by both officers and enlisted soldiers.

The officer insignia is a silver propeller between two gold wings that spread one and one-eighth inches. Enlisted soldiers will wear similar insignia, except that it is centered on a one-inch gold disk.



The colors for the new branch will be ultramarine blue and golden orange. The colors will be used for flags, guidons, and coats of arms of aviation units as well as for various uniform accoutrements — unit crests, shoulder patches, braid, shoulder boards and straps, and lapel facings.

THE INFANTRY BOARD HAS SUBMITTED the following news items:

• **Water Flavoring Powders.** Soldiers on extended field maneuvers or in combat may have to purify their drinking water by using iodine or chlorine pills. Some soldiers have gone so far as to use Kool-Aid or some other commercial mix to make disinfected water taste better. Unfortunately, the Vitamin C in some of the mixes has negated the purifying effects of the disinfectants.

Accordingly, Natick Laboratories has developed a flavoring powder that is compatible with the disinfectant pills, and the Infantry Board recently tested it to see if soldiers liked the flavor, if they voluntarily drank the flavored water, or if they still preferred disinfected but unflavored water. The soldiers who took part in the test were trainees in their third week of one station unit training at the Infantry Training Center at Fort Benning.

Natick Laboratories will use the test results to make a decision as to any further development of the flavoring powder.

• **Camouflage Face Paint.** The Infantry School and the U.S. Marine Corps have established a requirement for a product-improved camouflage face paint that incorporates infrared suppressive characteristics similar to those incorporated into the battle dress uniform.

Natick Laboratories developed such a face paint, as well as a new compact container to hold the paint. Although the new face paint appears to be the same as the standard camouflage paint now in use, it is softer and easier to apply. It is in a dark green, reclosable, plastic container that has a stainless steel mirror inside its top and four compartments in the bottom for different colored paints.

The Infantry Board tested the new paint and container in comparison with the standard camouflage paint stick. Ranger students and their instructors were used as test soldiers. The test was designed to address functional performance, human factors, and the test item's safety. The test lasted for six weeks, and data was obtained during the test by observation and by interviews.

Natick Laboratories will use the data in formulating a production decision.

• **Infantry Remoted Target System (IRETS).** The Army needs a new target system for use in its marksmanship training. Its current Trainfire equipment is becoming obsolete, it is a maintenance liability, it lacks a moving target capability, and it does not adequately represent a dismounted enemy threat to the rifleman.

The Infantry Board recently conducted a test of the Infantry Remoted Target System (IRETS), which is designed to covercome the inadequacies of the Trainfire system.

IRETS consists of a range control station (a programmable computer located in a range tower) that controls pop-up stationary and moving targets,

night muzzle flash simulators, and hostile fire simulators. The desired target behavior such as sequence, exposure time, and direction of movement of the moving targets can be programmed to meet the user's needs. Additionally, target hit data is collected by the computer and a printout of each firer's results, by target exposure, can be provided after each firing order.

During the IRETS test, the Board obtained information to assess the training support effectiveness and operational suitability of the IRETS.

The Board considered training support effectiveness in terms of the capability to conduct instructional and qualification firing on an IRETS range using the same training programs and scoring criteria that are currently being used in rifle marksmanship training on the Trainfire ranges. Too, the test program compared the advantages of conducting moving target marksmanship training with and without the use of IRETS moving targets.

The Board's test of operational suitability addressed the operation of the IRETS components in their intended environment, their ability to meet reliability and maintainability criteria, and their response to the demands of the appropriate scenarios when operated and maintained by typical civilian employees. Suitability also addressed the adequacy of operator training, training for those responsible for maintaining IRETS, and safety and human factors associated with training, operating, and maintaining IRETS.

IRETS is designed to provide standard cost effective equipment to satisfy individual and collective rifle marksmanship and gunnery requirements to include Bradley infantry and cavalry fighting vehicle ranges; combined arms ranges; basic rifle marksmanship, annual arms qualification, and sustainment training; and individual tactical training.

IRETS will be distributed in various configurations: *a modified field fire range* to replace the current field fire range, with each lane having two stationary pop-up targets and three moving pop-up targets; *a defense test range* to replace the current record-fire range, with each lane having 11 stationary targets and 6 moving targets; *a fire and movement range* to replace the current individual tactical training range, with soldiers moving downrange and engaging targets as presented, with each lane having seven stationary targets and four moving targets; and *a multipurpose range complex* that is a collective training range to support live fire exercises conducted by squads, platoons, and companies.

The Infantry School will use the test results to present an independent evaluation to an in-process review to determine whether to proceed with full-scale development.

• **Hot/Dry Clothing and Equipment, Improved Fighting Load, and Mission Existence Load Systems.** A major effort is under way in the Army to lighten the load of the individual soldier and to better equip him for the modern battlefield.

One concept that is being looked at is the elimination of unnecessary items, the development of items that weigh less and are less bulky, and the improvement of the load carrying system.

The Infantry Board recently conducted a series of tests on some of the proposed items to assess their military use.

The hot/dry clothing and equipment system (HDCES) that was tested is designed to provide environmental protection in the 110-degree to 40-degree temperature range. It is also designed to provide an informal sleeping system that will replace the current sleeping bag when it is combined with the clothing system. Its specific components were the current standard desert dress uniform; a desert parka (a reversible garment with day and night camouflage patterns); a camouflage pack cover, which also functions as an individual camouflage net and sun screen; a system for carrying the fighting and existence loads of water that held two standard two-quart canteens with carriers and two one-and-one-half gallon water containers; two informal sleeping systems; and desert boots.

The improved fighting load system that was tested is designed to provide a more efficient system for carrying the fighting load. Its specific components were a load-bearing vest (two different types were tested); a cutting device; and an NBC equipment carrying system.

The mission existence load that the Board tested is designed to provide a soldier with existence equipment (tent and stove) so that he can live in the field for extended periods of time, and the Board also tested a means of carrying that equipment (a rucksack). The components of the system were a hybrid rucksack, a fire team tent, and a multifuel stove.

The Board conducted the test program at Yakima Firing Center, Washington, under the prevailing weather conditions. The highest temperature recorded during the test period was 99 degrees, and the lowest humidity was 16 percent.

Both Army and Marine squads wore the clothing and carried the equipment while participating in two 12-day field exercises. Data on performance, human factors, and safety were collected during the test activities through personal observations and the use of data collection forms, questionnaires, and interviews.

The Infantry School and the Army's Development and Employment Agency will use the test results to recommend those items that should be further developed for military use.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED for admission to the United States Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS), which is located at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, for the 1984-1985 academic year, which begins in August 1984.

Additional information can be obtained from Army Regulation 351-12 or by writing to the Commandant, USMA Prep School, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703.