

# INFANTRY NEWS



FIELD MANUAL 22-5, Drill and Ceremonies, dated October 1984, is now being revised by the Infantry School. The revision process includes a May 1985 conference at Fort Benning and an Army-wide effort to solicit recommendations for changes. Individuals or units desiring to recommend changes to the manual are asked to use DA Form 2028, Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms.

Until a new manual can be prepared, the October 1984 edition of FM 22-5 is to be used on an interim basis. A field circular (FC) will be published in September 1985, and the revised version of the field manual will be available during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1987.

THE NEW HOT WEATHER battle dress uniform (BDU), previously scheduled for fielding 1 October 1985, will now be fielded at the end of December 1985. At that time the uniforms will be available for sale in military clothing sales stores in the United States and for issue in the clothing bag to new recruits. Overseas military clothing sales stores should have the new BDU by mid-January 1986.

Additional quality assurance measures not previously practiced in the military garment industry have caused the change in the availability dates.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT FADED pistol belts and belts with a red dye have been coming in to certain Department of the Army agencies.

It has been determined that the use of bleach in fixed laundry operations is responsible for the discoloration.

The correct laundering procedures for all web equipment is contained in Field Manual 21-15, Care and Use of

Individual Clothing and Equipment. All nylon load-carrying equipment items, therefore, should be individually cleaned according to the established requirements specified in the field manual. They should not be laundered by a field, fixed, or home commercial-type laundering operation.

THE 9mm BERETTA 92SB-F pistol has won the competition to replace the M1911A1 caliber .45 pistol throughout the Department of Defense.

The Beretta is considered more reliable and performs better than the M1911A1, and it is compatible with weapons and ammunition used by the NATO countries.

The choice of the Beretta was based on a thorough test and evaluation of eight weapons submitted by both U.S. and foreign manufacturers. The Beretta was one of only two weapons to satisfactorily complete the rigorous test program. It weighs 33.8 ounces with an empty magazine in place and 40.9 ounces with a magazine fully loaded with 115-grain bullets. The magazine holds 15 rounds, and a round can be safely carried in the chamber, because the safety mechanism secures the firing pin in place. The safety can be operated either with the left or the right hand, and the magazine catch can be reversed to accommodate left-handed shooters.

The Beretta's sights are similar to those on the M1911A1. The front sight is fixed while the rear sight is adjustable for windage. The weapon will come complete with holster and cleaning kit.

Long range plans call for approximately 500,000 Berettas to be bought to replace the 400,000 M1911A1 and 100,000 caliber .38 pistols in stock.

ARMY REGULATION 700-84, Unit Supply, is now being published as part of the *Unit Supply Update*. It is being reprinted every three months with all the latest changes. Blue pages contain instructions for noting the changes and provide an update bulletin for NCOs and specialists. The publication also includes an *Update Bulletin* as a pull-out sheet to give commanders and NCOs an overview of the changes.

THE 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION (Light Infantry) will be the official name of the newly activated 10th Infantry Division, and soldiers assigned to the division will wear the mountain tab above the division patch.

The activation ceremony for the new division took place on 13 February 1985 at Fort Drum, New York.

While there are no plans at this time for the unit to receive any specialized mountain training, the mountain designation reflects the division's heritage.

THE NAVY'S BLUE KNIT CAP has been adopted by the Army as the standard cap to be worn during outdoor physical training in the winter months.

Soldiers should be able to purchase the cap in clothing sales stores in early 1986. Commanders will be able to requisition the cap in November 1985 and issue it as part of a unit's organizational equipment.

The cap sells for \$1.81 in Navy and Air Force military clothing sales stores.

THE NATICK Research and Development Center, which is the Army's

proponent for food, clothing, shelters, and airdrop systems, has established a user's telephone hotline. The number is AUTOVON 256-5341.

Army issue and supply personnel are encouraged to use the hotline to report, discuss, or resolve problems they encounter with centrally procured and issued food, clothing, individual equipment, aerial delivery equipment, tentage, and rigid wall shelters.

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**QUALIFIED SOLDIERS** can now wear the Ranger or Special Forces tab replica on the uniforms they wear on formal occasions. Army uniform officials recently approved the metal replicas for wear on the blue and white dress uniforms, the blue and white mess uniforms, and the blue evening dress uniform.

Although soldiers may be qualified to wear both tabs, they are authorized to wear only one, whichever they choose. Soldiers should consult Army Regulation 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, for placement instructions.

The tabs will come in two sizes and should be available in clothing sales stores in July 1985. The replicas may not be worn on service, utility, or field uniforms.

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**THE LEGAL AUTHORITY** of noncommissioned officers is the subject of a videotape recently completed by the Office of the Army's Judge Advocate General. This 56-minute tape, "NCO Authority: Destroying the Myths," deals with the subject in clear, straightforward language.

MACOM sergeants major already have copies of the tape. Additional copies are available at the offices of the local staff judge advocate.

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**THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM'S** director has submitted the following news items:

The Museum recently held a reception for the opening of a special exhibit of lithographs depicting military

and other world events during the period 1873-1912, an era known as *La Belle Epoque*. It was, among other things, an era of wars and revolts — the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, the Russo-Japanese War, American Indian battles in the West, and attacks against the French and the Russian rulers.

This interesting collection of lithographs is a gift to the Museum from Colonel (Retired) and Mrs. James G. McConaughy; it will remain on display for a time in the Art Gallery.

A large display of historic artifacts was placed on display at the University of Georgia to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the date on which the University was founded. The display relates to the University and the military services and includes artifacts



from all of the major U.S. military involvements between 1785 and 1985. The exhibit was done in cooperation with the Army ROTC detachment at the University and the University itself.

On display now at the Museum is a U.S. Model M1911A1 caliber .45 pistol that belonged to Colonel Howard R. Johnson, the first commander of the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. He carried the pistol throughout his World War II combat days and was wearing it the day he was killed in action.

When he was taking his unit through jump training at Fort Benning during the early 1940s, Colonel Johnson would make three to five

jumps a day, depending on the weather, and from that earned the nickname of "Jumpy" Johnson.

Other interesting recent acquisitions include the Colt Python revolver used by Colonel Arthur "Bull" Simons during the Son Tay prison raid in 1970; a large German flag that was reported to have flown over Adolf Hitler's home; and a 19th century French pinfire revolver with bayonet.

The accompanying photograph shows a fiberglass packhorse fitted out with a Phillips pack saddle in the manner of those used by Merrill Marauder combat teams in northern Burma during World War II. The Marauders used animals to transport food, supplies, and equipment, and relied on airdrops for resupply. The display is on exhibit in the Ranger section of the Museum.

The National Infantry Museum Society was formed at Fort Benning a number of years ago to help 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.

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**THE DIRECTORATE OF COMBAT** Developments has provided the following news items:

- **Individual equipment items.** The Infantry School will be presenting a ration-heating device/canteen-cup heater and an improved sock for development and type classification to the Clothing Advisory Group.

The canteen-cup heater is used to heat such things as MRE pouches, beverages, and instant soups. The heating device has a ventilation system and an opening at the bottom front in which a trioxane tablet is placed, and it fits around the outside of the existing canteen cup for storage.

The improved all-weather sock, made of state-of-the-art materials, is

intended to replace the current olive green wool sock as a companion to the new combat boot.

• **Draft TOE for Ranger HHC.** The draft table of organization and equipment (DTOE) for the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 75th Infantry (Ranger) Regiment was approved by the TRADOC review board 28 January 1985.

This small elite unit provides a tactical control headquarters capable of deploying with and controlling the Infantry Ranger battalions. It is also capable of acting as a field special operations force headquarters or as the Army component of a joint task force.

The unit provides for S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4, and S-5 sections, a small reconnaissance platoon, a communication platoon, a fire support element, and a medical support element. With a strength of 130, this unit is capable of deploying with or without its seven organic vehicles.

• **C<sup>3</sup>I Automation.** Representatives of DCD are attending a continuing series of workshops to develop command, control, communications, and intelligence (C<sup>3</sup>I) structures for Infantry proponent organizations that will use the latest technological advances in microcomputers, data distribution, and electronics.

The objective of the program is to achieve better communications and command and control with a reduction in electronic signature, a faster, more reliable transfer of information, and a possible reduction in personnel resources. This effort calls for innovative concepts and an increased challenge to industry and military managers alike.

A NEW PHYSICAL FITNESS policy announced by the Army's Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) affects students attending professional development courses at TRADOC's 24 schools.

Before 1 October 1984, students could be given up to 90 days after their school ended to pass the APRT. Now, students attending a professional

development course that lasts for 56 days or longer have to pass an APRT at the end of the course to graduate. Those students who do not pass the test will be designated non-graduates.

In addition, students now will be given a diagnostic APRT during the first week of their courses. Those failing the test will have to take part in a remedial physical training program. A final APRT will be given for record 30 days before a course ends. If a student fails the APRT, he may be retested as often as necessary until the day before his class is due to graduate.

Officer basic course students may be granted a grace period to graduate if they fail the final APRT. But they must pass an APRT within 90 days after their course ends in order to earn a diploma.

THE MEAL, READY-TO-EAT (MRE) has been part of the Army's tactical chow line since 1981. Yet members of the Troop Support Agency's traveling Food Management Assistance Teams have reported that a surprising number of soldiers do not know how to heat the meals properly.

All of the entree items and most of the side dishes in the 12 current MRE menu selections are precooked and vacuum-sealed inside individual packets. Two of the main courses (beef and pork patties) and some side dishes (potatoes and fruit) are freeze-dried.

All of the foods can be eaten either hot or cold. The freeze-dried foods can be heated by pouring hot water directly into the packets and mixing for a few minutes until the foods reconstitute. Cold water is usually preferred for the fruit products. The other MRE items can be heated by simply dropping the unopened packets into hot water.

Soldiers should be warned, however, that the water used for warming the MRE packets should not be used to mix the coffee and hot chocolate beverages. The Office of the Surgeon General has concluded that the packets may contain outside surface contaminants that are potentially hazardous. This water can be used for things

like washing hands or shaving, but it should not be consumed.

MREs can also be heated in other ways. For example, soldiers can heat the main entree packet over an open flame by moving it some two inches above the fire for about five minutes, or they can use the heat from a motor vehicle's intake or exhaust manifold.

While the MRE has met with general approval, soldiers have been critical of certain aspects of the ration. The Army is therefore modifying 5 of the present 12 menus and will increase the size of 7 of the entrees from 5 to 8 ounces. Plans for the future call for introducing a new breakfast item (a ham omelet) and a variety of cold beverages.

In addition, all dehydrated items will be dropped from the MRE. This decision was made because soldiers have said that they do not want to use the water they carry to rehydrate the food and that the packets are difficult to keep propped up when water is added. The dehydrated portions will be replaced by "wet packs." The fruit components will still be in the bendable packets but will also contain a liquid syrup solution.

Plans also call for developing equipment to make it easier for a soldier to heat his MREs.

The Food Management Assistance Teams report that a greater effort in command information is needed to instruct troops in the correct procedures for heating and consuming the MRE menu items.

AS A RESULT OF a series of recent field tests, the Army's Natick R&D Center has recommended that the Army Clothing and Equipment Board approve two new items: a tactical load-bearing vest and a large field pack.

The vest was designed to be a more efficient method of carrying individual fighting equipment. With this vest, instead of having to carry a lot of equipment around his waist, a soldier would have large cargo pockets in front to distribute the weight over his upper torso. Permanently attached

grenade and ammunition pouches are also on the vest, which leave room on the belt for other equipment.

For comfort, the vest's design incorporates laces and straps that allow adjustments to be made for individual torso length and girth. It is made of nylon fabric in a woodland camouflage print and weighs 1.8 pounds empty.

The large field pack was designed to let the combat soldier carry his mission existence load more efficiently under all environmental conditions.



Tactical load-bearing vest and large field pack.

With an internal capacity of 7,500 cubic inches, the pack has side pockets with compression straps located on each side of the pack to carry long narrow objects.

Besides being roomier than the current rucksack, the pack features a separate zippered compartment for the sleeping bag. This allows easy access to the bag and protects it in bad weather. As an added feature, the top flap pocket of the pack is removable and can be attached to the tactical load-bearing vest as a combat patrol pack.

A unique suspension system allows the pack to be custom-fitted to most soldiers. A torso bar allows the pack to be adjusted for length, while the inner frame bars can be bent to match

the contour of a soldier's back. Even with these added features, the large field pack in a light system.

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THE TROOP SUPPORT COMMAND'S R&D Center at Fort Belvoir recently awarded a contract for 45 position and azimuth determining systems (PADS). This is the first military system that can provide "real time" position, azimuth, and elevation data to fire support elements. It consists of three units — a computer/keyboard display, an inertial measurement system, and a power source. It can be installed in a jeep, truck, or helicopter.

This contract is an add-on to previous contracts for 222 PADS. Delivery of all of the units is scheduled to be completed in March 1987.

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THE ARMY HAS COMPLETED contract negotiations for a gamma and neutron personal dosimetry system. This system, which is the first of its kind, is already in large-scale production and service with the British Army.

By using this system, field commanders can calculate the radiation exposure states (RES) of their units. Knowing the RES will enable commanders to carry out realistic planning in theaters of operation where tactical nuclear weapons could be used, or have been used.

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A ONE-MAN OPERATED combat field feeding system, designed by the Natick R&D Center, is intended primarily for company size elements of the new light infantry divisions. The system will provide hot, nutritious meals to 150 people quickly and efficiently.

The cornerstone of the new system is the tray pack ration, which consists of entree, vegetables, starches, and dessert, all of which are thermally processed. The ration can be stored without refrigeration until needed; then it is heated and served.

The current design of the system was demonstrated and approved in January 1984. A single cook, using a minimum of equipment in conjunction with standard field burners and commercially available insulated food carriers and beverage containers, along with a pot and cradle for heating water, can prepare, deliver, and serve one T-ration meal a day. Two MREs (meals ready to eat) complete the daily rations.

The system can be used to support 150 soldiers, including two 25-man units operating at dispersed locations where central field feeding support is not available. When serving has been completed, unopened tray packs can be returned to storage. Empty containers are simply discarded, thereby eliminating the need for KP clean-up.

The kit can be loaded by two soldiers and transported on either a commercial utility cargo vehicle (CUCV), a high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle (HMMWV), a 2½-ton truck, or a 5-ton truck.

The system is now ready for limited type classification and procurement.

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ENGINEER TRAINING in the Army will be consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, according to a recent Army announcement. The U.S. Army Engineer Center and School and the 902d Engineer Company will be moved from Fort Belvoir to Fort Leonard Wood sometime in 1989. Meanwhile, the headquarters of the Army's Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) will move to a new facility on Fort Belvoir, which will permit INSCOM to consolidate its headquarters elements at one location. Some phases of the INSCOM relocation will begin this year.

In conjunction with these relocations, the headquarters of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Army Medical Personnel Support Agency will also move to Fort Belvoir, while the Army's Criminal Investigation Command headquarters will move to Fort Meade.