

INFANTRY NEWS



TWO DRILL MANUALS for Bradley squads and platoons have been developed by the U.S. Army Infantry School — TC 7-8, Bradley Fighting Vehicle Crew Drills, dated December 1985, and FC 7-21B, Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle Squad and Platoon Drills, dated May 1985 (with an errata sheet dated 29 July 1985).

Because the basic level of tactics for Bradley infantry is the platoon, most of these drills are oriented at platoon level. Some of them, however, are written to be applicable to both squad and platoon levels. This enables a squad leader to train his soldiers on their portion of a drill within the context of a platoon drill or operation. A few drills, such as "Conduct Initial Breach of a Mined Wire Obstacle," focus only on the squad. (See INFANTRY, July-August 1985, pp. 2-3, for details on Bradley organization and tactics.)

TC 7-8 provides a set of drills for the Bradley crew that are oriented on the Bradley system (both M2 and M3), including its weapons. FC 7-21B provides a set of battle drills and tactical drills (referred to in the FC as tactical training drills) for the Bradley squad and platoon leaders.

Battle drills are rapid, reflexive, immediate-action responses by a small unit to a critical combat situation. They are designed to be done the same each time to one Army-wide set of performance measures. Battle drills provide small units (team, squad, section, platoon) with a course of action they can take spontaneously in response to enemy contact (direct or indirect) or to the likelihood of contact in order to survive and win on the battlefield. They require minimal consideration of METT-T conditions or leader actions.

Tactical training drills are collections of critical individual or leader tasks that require quick but not immediate action responses to enemy contact. These drills

require more extensive consideration of METT-T conditions and leader involvement than battle drills.

FC 7-21B is to be converted to Training Circular (TC) 7-21B with a projected fielding date not later than December 1986. It will be available on pin-point distribution, and units can requisition the number they need. TC 7-21B will show which drills are considered battle drills and which tactical training drills. Meanwhile, an interim message has been sent to the field with this information. (See "Drills," INFANTRY, July-August 1985, for more details on the characteristics of drills and how to conduct drill training.)

THREE COURSES now offered at the U.S. Army Infantry School train personnel on the technical and tactical aspects of the Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle:

The BIFV Commanders Course trains personnel in BIFV-equipped units in the skills they will need to operate and maintain the total system as well as to engage targets. The course provides transition training for squad leaders up through company commanders in the individual and collective skills they will need to perform their duties in a BIFV unit. The training includes maintenance, gunnery, and tactical tasks.

The BIFV Gunners Course prepares selected enlisted personnel to serve as gunners on the BIFV. It provides progression training for soldiers in MOS 11M and transition training for those in MOS 11B20 to become proficient in Skill Level 2 gunnery tasks.

The first phase of training instruction and practical exercise includes turret operation and maintenance along with weapons operations and maintenance. The second phase develops the gunnery skills a student needs to acquire and defeat threat targets. This training culminates in live fire training exercises.

The BIFV Master Gunners Course prepares a selected number of highly qualified noncommissioned officers to assist BIFV company and battalion commanders in planning and implementing gunnery training programs and maintenance training (turret and fire control).

Active Army and Reserve Component sergeants, staff sergeants, and platoon sergeants/sergeants first class who are qualified in MOS 11M and who are assigned to BIFV units are individually selected by the battalion commander to attend.

A BIFV Master Gunner receives extensive training on maintenance, gunnery, training management, range preparation, and tactics. (See article in this issue for details of this training.)

LIGHT INFANTRY field circulars, posters and infantry material without numbers are available to units from the Training and Support Division, Office of the Secretary, USAIS, Fort Benning, AUTOVON 835-2141/1823 or commercial 404/545-2141/1823.

Units with questions pertaining to the light infantry concept may write to Commander, USAIS, ATTN: ATSH-I-V-LITF, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5007, or may call AUTOVON 835-4590/5298 or commercial 404/545-4590/5298.

THE FOLLOWING NEWS ITEMS were furnished by the Directorate of Combat Developments:

- **TOE 07245J410.** The Bradley-equipped mechanized infantry battalion table of organization and equipment (TOE) has been adjusted several times since the Division 86 study group formulated the design. Most of the changes have been made under the banner of Army of Excellence (AOE). These changes, completed during October 1983, streamlined the battalion's combat

service support while reducing robustness and resiliency.

Several new changes were implemented during the most recent cyclic TOE update in October 1985. These were made to align the battalion's TOE, as much as practical, with the TOE of an M1-equipped tank battalion. The most significant changes made to the Bradley battalion are the redistribution of the administrative/logistical command post vehicle from the S-1 section to the S-4 section and an increase in the number of pack radios for the transportation section of the support platoon. Additional changes either implement agreements for the basis of issue of night vision goggles and camouflage nets or are administrative in nature.

Future versions of the TOE will incorporate the combat field feeding system (CFFS) and will add master gunners to the rifle platoons. A platoon master gunner will be the platoon leader's present gunner, but that NCO's rank will be raised from sergeant to staff sergeant. He will also be a graduate of the master gunner's course and will become the rifle platoon's primary gunnery trainer.

The CFFS will give the battalion 16 food service personnel, 4 two-and-a-half ton trucks, 2 mobile kitchen trailers, and 8 water trailers. It will require augmentation in unit dining facilities for garrison feeding; in the field, the system calls for the operation of two teams, each of which can provide one hot tray pack and two MREs daily to the battalion's soldiers.

• **Bayonet.** A new multipurpose bayonet is expected to be issued to the field in October 1987. It is a significant improvement over the present M7 bayonet in that it has a wire-cutting capability and can be used as a combat field knife. (See *INFANTRY*, January-February 1986, page 9.)

The initial issue of the new bayonet will be restricted to infantry units, to close-combat forces in Special Forces operational battalions, and to selected combat engineer units.

• **SMAW.** The Directorate recently established requirements to field the shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon (SMAW) as an interim weapon for the multipurpose individual munition. The SMAW is in production and has

been fielded by the U.S. Marine Corps.

The SMAW was designed for use against fortified positions, but it has also been found to be effective against light armored vehicles. It consists of two major components — a launcher and an encased dual-mode warhead.

Priority of issue will be to light infantry forces (light infantry battalions, Rangers, and airborne and air assault units). The weapons will be used by dedicated antiarmor teams in the arms room concept as an alternative to the Dragon. Based on the expected threat, a commander will decide which weapon will be deployed into an operational area.

FORT KNOX SUPPLEMENTARY Material 17-3-2, *Armor in Battle*, has been published by the Armor School. It is a 240-page anthology that discusses small unit armor actions from 1916 to the present.

Copies of FKSM 17-3-2 may be obtained from the Army Wide Training Support Branch, Fort Knox, KY 40121; AUTOVON 464-2914/5715 or commercial (502) 624-2914/5715. The FTS number is 354-2914/5715.

More information about this publication is available from Captain Gregory Smith, Leadership Branch, USAAS, Fort Knox, KY 40121; AUTOVON 464-5450 or commercial (502) 624-5450.

THE 205TH INFANTRY BRIGADE, U.S. Army Reserve, has been designated the roundout brigade for the new 6th Infantry Division (Light) in Alaska. Each division in the roundout program has two Active Brigades and one Reserve Component. All of the Army's other roundout brigades are National Guard units.

Headquartered at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, the 205th is in one of the coldest regions of the continental United States and has the special cold weather equipment required in Alaska. It also has had previous planning and training relationships with the Active Army's 172d Infantry Brigade, which is based in Alaska and which will form the nucleus of the 6th Division.

The major units of the 205th that will convert to the new light structure include

the 3d Battalion, 3d Infantry; the 1st Battalion, 410th Infantry; and the 3d Battalion, 14th Field Artillery.

When fully organized, the 6th Infantry Division (Light) will consist of a headquarters and headquarters company, three light infantry brigades, a division artillery, a combat aviation brigade, a division support command, and various support units.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. Army Infantry Board has given us the following news items:

Squad Automatic Weapon. A joint working group met at Fort Benning in September 1985 and proposed a series of modifications it felt should be made to the squad automatic weapon (SAW). It was determined that those modifications that could be made within six months would be tested by the Infantry Board during a concept evaluation program (CEP) test in December 1985, and that those modifications that required longer than six months to complete would be tested at a later date.

These were the modifications that were tested by the Board in December 1985:

- Changing the zeroing procedures so that the front sight can be adjusted by a spanner wrench that will be made available at the unit level.

- Increasing the clearance between the rear sight plate and sight knobs and replacing the detent pins with ball bearings to permit freer movement and better wear.

- Removing the link ejection port cover to eliminate the danger of the gunner's cutting his hand on it.

- Correcting magazine feed well tolerances and emphasizing the magazine insertion procedures listed in FC 23-10 to reduce the number of stoppages.

- Increasing the spring tension in the bipod to retain the bipod legs in the folded position.

- Crimping the last coil of the firing pin spring to prevent the inadvertent separation of the spring from the firing pin.

- Testing an improved tracer round that had a brighter signature and longer trace duration.

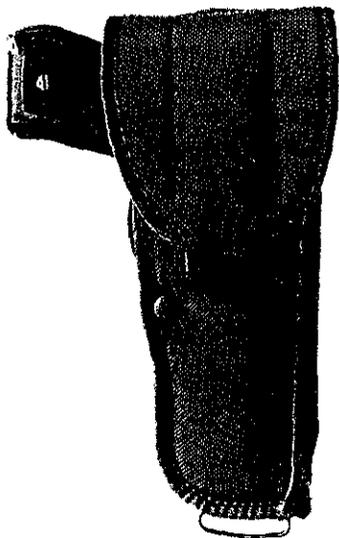
The test results will be used by the

Infantry School during its evaluation of the SAW modifications.

Testing of the additional modifications is planned to take place in July 1986. Among those modifications will be a barrel heat shield.

A CONTRACT WAS AWARDED recently to a commercial concern to produce the new official U.S. armed forces M-12 standard hip holster for the newly adopted 9mm handgun.

This ambidexterous holster features a completely modular design, allowing it to be worn on a wide or narrow belt, with or without flap, on belt or shoulder, and cross- or side-draw. The new holster is



made of an olive drab ballistic nylon fabric outer facing over a non-absorbent, closed-cell polyfoam core. It weighs eight ounces, is water resistant, and incorporates a flexible cleaning rod for the pistol's barrel.

The contract also calls for refining the M13 chest harness, which will enable a wearer to convert the M-12 from a hip holster to a chest holster for use in tanks and other military vehicles.

A pistol magazine pouch that incorporates the holster's quick-lock belt fastener is also included in the contract.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE National Infantry Museum at Fort Benning has furnished the following news items:

A French 75mm artillery piece and

caisson has been restored and displayed on the Museum grounds. Designed in 1897, this model weapon played an important role in World War I. It was considered the finest field piece in the world at the time because of its mobility and accuracy and the fact it could spit out 15 to 20 rounds a minute. In a postwar demonstration at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, a crack American gun crew achieved a firing rate of 25 rounds a minute. By World War II, however, a number of artillery pieces had been developed that outmatched it.

A Union sharpshooter's .50 caliber sniper rifle with telescope has been added to the Museum's Civil War section. It is part of a collection of articles used by Sergeant J.C. Nobel of Albion, New York, who was a member of Company G, 1st Battalion, New York Sharpshooters from August 1862 to June 1865. Other items in the collection are the bullet mold and powder flask that Nobel used, and letters that he wrote to his wife during that time. Also shown is a pair of wire-rimmed sharpshooter's glasses. Made especially for snipers, they have only a small circular viewing area cut in the lenses.

New additions to the airborne display section are a rare "balloon cloth" jump suit that was introduced in late 1941 by the 501st Parachute Battalion, and the jump uniform worn by Sergeant Hiram Duncan, Company E, 2d Battalion, 503d Parachute Infantry Regiment during a World War II combat jump into Markham Valley, New Guinea, on 5 September 1943.

Other recent acquisitions include a hunting knife used by a member of Merrill's Marauders in the China-Burma-India theater of operations during World War II; an unusual Nazi political flag that was taken by the donor in 1943 from the Bank of Rome Building in Naples, Italy; a World War II British parachutist's jacket; a Viet Cong flag captured by Advisory Team 43 in the spring of 1963; the uniform and jump boots worn by Colonel John B. Pratt when he parachuted onto Noemfoor Island on 4 July 1943; a pipe that belonged to Frank Merrill; some Chinese arrows that were fired at U.S. Infantrymen during the Boxer Rebellion; and a German MP40 subma-

chinegun captured at Anzio during World War II by a member of a Ranger unit.

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 31905-5273, AUTOVON 835-2958, or commercial 404/545-2958.

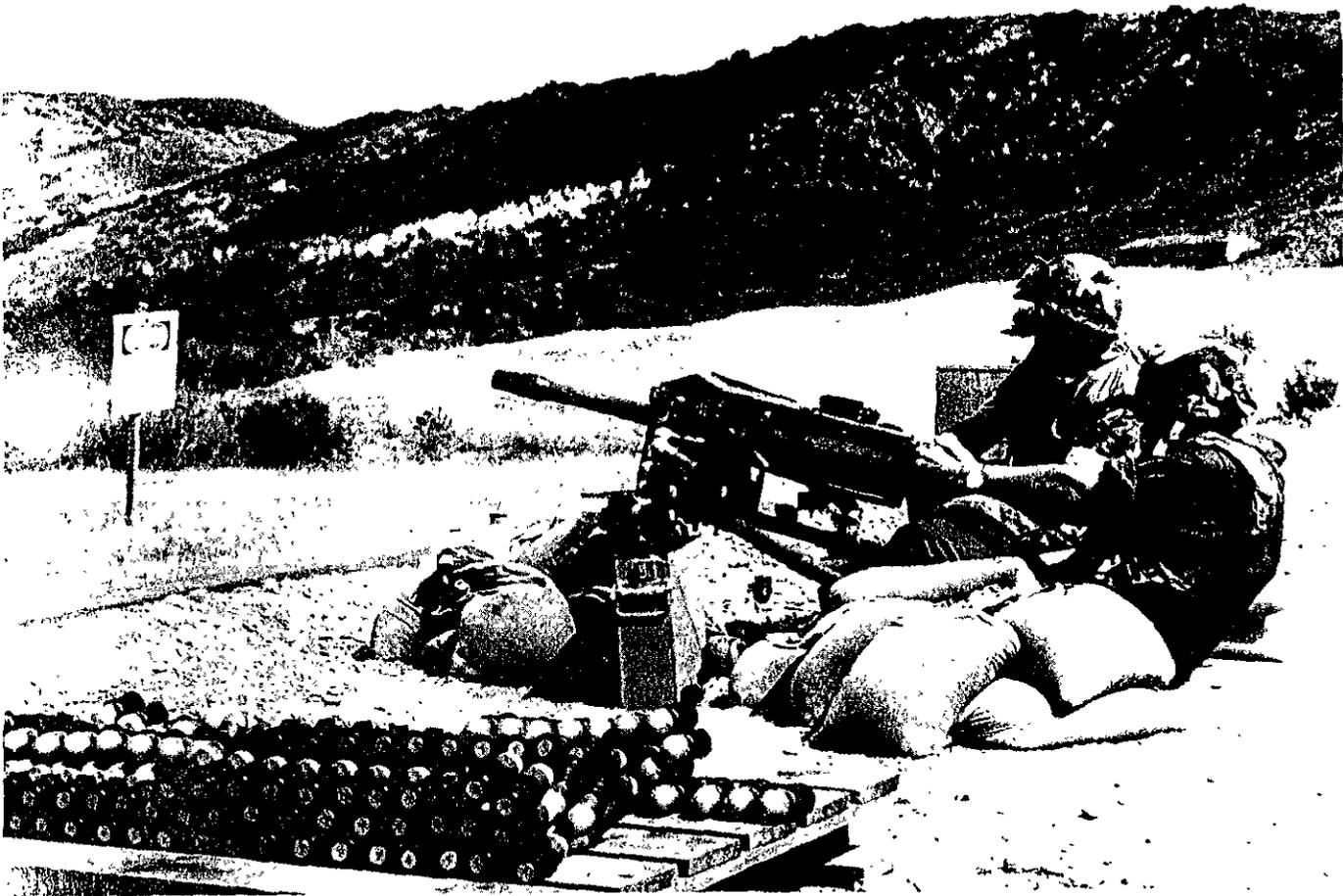
THE ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND (AMC) has chartered a product manager (PM) office for mortar systems. This office, called PM Mortars, is responsible for managing all mortar systems, including developing, producing, fielding, and supporting 6 weapon systems and 79 munition items.

It is located at the Armament, Munitions, and Chemical Command's Armament Research and Development Center, Dover, New Jersey.

A 40mm GRENADE MACHINEGUN used for some time by the U.S. Navy has been modified for Army use by the Armament, Research, and Development Center (ARDC). The weapon was developed in response to the 9th Infantry Division's need for a lightweight, man-portable weapon that could be used against enemy troops and lightly armored vehicles. Although the Navy weapon met that basic need, the gun required some modification to meet the extreme climatic conditions Army units expect to encounter in combat.

The modified version, a fully automatic, air-cooled machinegun, has a firing rate of about 350 rounds per minute. It is a multipurpose gun — antimateriel and antipersonnel — that can be used for offensive and defensive operations such as protection during movements of troops and supplies.

In addition to the ammunition currently used in the grenade submachinegun, the



Soldiers field test the 40mm grenade weapon system.

ARDC has developed a dual-purpose round to meet the weapon's antimateriel and antipersonnel requirements. This ammunition is now in production.

Upon detonation, the grenade projectile can fulfill its two missions simultaneously: A penetrator, formed by the force of the detonation, will destroy most lightly armored vehicles at a maximum effective range of about 1,500 meters (with an overall range of 2,200 meters); and the grenade projectile's serrated body

will break into many small fragments, disperse, hit, and incapacitate enemy soldiers within a 15-meter radius of the point of detonation.

A practice training round has also been newly developed to simulate the flash, smoke, and sound of the grenade.

The grenade machinegun with its required ammunition can be transported easily on jeeps, trucks, or armored personnel carriers. In the 9th Division, it will be mounted on high mobility multi-

purpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWVs).

Because the weapon is lightweight, 7.6 pounds, two people can remove it from a vehicle mount and set it up on a ground mount within five minutes. Gunners zero in on and attack a target by firing three-to-five-round bursts.

The 9th Infantry Division is scheduled to get about 200 of these grenade machineguns with ammunition this summer.

