

INFANTRY NEWS



THE INFANTRY SCHOOL'S Infantry Proponency Office wants everyone in the field to know about the two excellent sources of information it is offering—The Infantry Issues and Lessons Learned database and the Infantry Safety Lessons Learned database. (See "Infantry Issues and Lessons," by Jan Chervenak and Eric J. Lynam, *INFANTRY*, July-August 1988, pages 11-12, and news items in the July-August 1989 issue, page 6.)

The Infantry Issues and Lessons Learned System provides unclassified, Infantry-related observations and issues from NTC rotations, major exercises, military operations, special events, unit initiatives, historical sources, and TRADOC-sanctioned unit visits. It consists of a software package and database that runs on IBM-compatible personal computers.

Infantry units, battalion level or higher, in the Active Army, Army National Guard, or Army Reserve may obtain copies of this database by sending either six blank 3½-inch microdisks or ten blank 5¼-inch disks to Commandant, U.S. Army Infantry School, ATTN; ATSH-ES, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5420.

The Infantry Safety Lessons Learned database is designed to help commanders and leaders meet their responsibilities for conducting safe training and operations. It is available either through the same system as the Infantry Issues and Lessons database or by modem through the Safety Information Library in the Army Safety Management Information System (ASMIS).

Questions concerning either package may be directed to the Infantry Hotline, AUTOVON 835-7693, or commercial (404) 545-7693.

THE TRENDLINE Analysis Program (TAP) is a part of a continuing effort by the Training and Doctrine Command

(TRADOC) and the Army Research Institute to collect and manage data generated at the combat training centers during unit rotations.

The Infantry School is initiating a program to examine issues on a quarterly basis through research efforts and focus rotations at the National Training Center.

The link between the databases of TAP, Infantry Issues and Lessons, and the Center for Army Lessons Learned will give TRADOC and the integrating centers data that will influence or assist in doctrine, force management, systems development, and training matters.

THE INFANTRY SCHOOL is initiating a change to the table of organization and equipment documents for the infantry rifle company (other than mechanized and airborne units) to consolidate medium antiarmor weapons under the company headquarters. This change will establish a company weapons section consisting of a Dragon section and the company mortars. The Dragon section will include three teams, each composed of two systems, two gunners, an assistant gunner, and an NCO team leader.

This change is a result of a year-long study to determine the most favorable method of organizing to improve combat effectiveness and training and also the most adaptable structure for task organization.

A DEDICATED SNIPER SQUAD in the headquarters company of infantry and air assault battalions is another result of the rifle company antiarmor reorganization (see item above).

The sniper squad will consist of three two-man teams, each consisting of a sergeant and a sniper. One of the three sergeants will actually be a staff sergeant and will serve as the sniper squad leader.

Although infantry units today normal-

ly have existing personnel serve as non-dedicated snipers, this new organization will provide the first opportunity in a number of years for evaluating the difference, if any, between designated and dedicated snipers.

THE RESERVE COMPONENT Advisors at the Infantry School are now Colonel Rodney W.K. Morris, the U.S. Army Reserve Advisor, and Lieutenant Colonel Richard A. Wright, the Army National Guard Advisor.

Both can be reached at AUTOVON 835-7113/5741, or commercial (404) 545-7113/5741. Their telefax number is AUTOVON 835-7837 or commercial (404) 545-7837.

THE CHIEF OF THE DOCTRINE Division, Combined Arms and Tactics Department, at the Infantry School is frequently asked various questions about doctrine. Some of those questions, along with the answers, may also be helpful to others:

What is doctrine? Some say that doctrine is what half of the force does. Others say it is what is written in field manuals. To some, doctrine is the "codification of common sense" or the documentation of lessons learned from experience.

JCS Publication 1 defines doctrine as the "fundamental principles by which military forces or elements thereof guide their actions in support of national objectives. It is authoritative but requires judgment in application."

The four critical elements of doctrine are that it is written, is developed by people especially selected for their positions, is approved by competent authority, and is relatively enduring in its effect.

How is doctrine influenced and developed? Doctrine is influenced by many things, including technology, the

threat, national security policy, and history.

Doctrinal publications are developed in stages, or steps, prescribed by TRADOC Regulation 11-7. Initially, research is done and an outline is drafted. Then the outline is revised into a preliminary draft that reflects the input of all the departments at Fort Benning. Next, a coordinating draft is written and sent to the field and other TRADOC schools to get their feedback. Finally, before publication, a final draft is written and approved.

Does doctrine change? Yes. Doctrine is greatly influenced by the factors noted above. Doctrinal "principles" such as the Principles of War noted in FM 100-5 are slower to change, but tactics, techniques, and procedures are always changing. The combat training centers (NTC, JRTC, CMTC) are playing a big role in that change process.

What doctrine has been written recently at the Infantry School? Together, the Infantry School at Fort Benning and the Armor School at Fort Knox have recently published three critical "71-series" manuals (for "mounted" units)—FMs 71-3, 71-2, and 71-1. In addition, manuals have been published on the employment of Long-Range Surveillance Unit Operations (LRSU/FM 7-93) and Anti-Armor Platoons, Companies, and Battalions (FM 7-91).

What doctrine is being written today at the Infantry School? The School is developing four critical "7-series" manuals (for dismounted units)—FMs 7-8, 7-10, 7-20, and 7-30. These manuals, which replace manuals written in the early 1980s, discuss the employment of dismounted Infantry units—squad through brigade—on the AirLand Battlefield. Most of these manuals are in the coordinating draft stage.

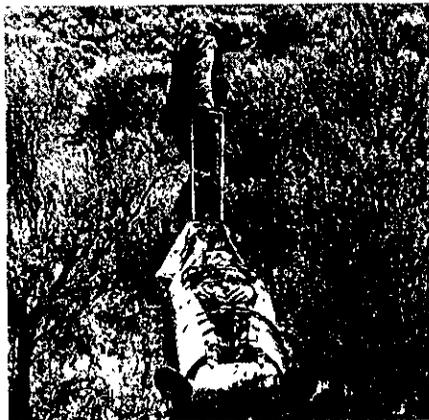
What doctrine will be written in the future? A lot of thought is being given to the role of the infantry in "low-intensity" conflict. For instance, what is the role of infantry units in counterinsurgency/insurgency, peacekeeping, terrorist response, and peacetime contingency operations? What should the role of infantrymen be in drug interdiction, security assistance, or foreign internal defense?

The Infantry School is examining these issues as it works to update low-intensity doctrine in publications such as FM 90-8, Counterinsurgency Operations. The School also envisions other doctrine related to dismounted scouts, mortar employment, combat in built-up areas, and fighting the Bradley infantry fighting vehicle.

Further comments or questions on doctrine may be directed to Chief of Doctrine, USAIS, ATTN: ATSH-B-ID, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5410 or AUTO-VON 835-7162/7155.

THE RAPIDLY EMPLOYABLE Lightweight Litter, referred to as the SKEDS litter, is designed to be used as a rescue system in almost all types of terrain, including mountain, jungle, heavily wooded areas, waterborne operations, and on snow or ice.

The SKEDS litter, a GSA catalog item, is made of durable plastic and available in a subdued green color. It can be rolled and carried in a woodland camouflage pattern carrying case. The basic SKEDS litter weighs 16 pounds complete with camouflage case, straps, snap link, and 30-foot kenmante rope. Other special optional items such as the spine immobilizer and flotation system increase the weight to 32 pounds.



Using the SKEDS litter, one soldier can pull a casualty over most types of terrain, while a field expedient poncho litter or the semi-rigid poleless litter requires two soldiers or more. Up to four soldiers can use hand loops to carry a SKEDS litter containing a seriously injured casualty or a very heavy load across difficult terrain.

During a recent Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) rotation, elements of the 75th Ranger Regiment successfully demonstrated that, in addition to its medical use, the litter can be used to move equipment, ammunition, and, in general, heavy loads to and from drop zones, landing zones, and objective areas during combat training operations.

The SKEDS litter is listed in the GSA Federal Supply Schedule, March 1989, FSC Group 42, Part 1, Section B, Special Item Number 463-10, Emergency Stretchers, Brand SKEDCO Incorporated, page 8.

THE ARMY'S NEW M22 Binoculars are now being produced at the rate of 5,000 a month. The binoculars, encased in green rubber, replace the old metal M19 version.

The body is made of lightweight, temperature resistant, and unbreakable fiber-reinforced polycarbonate. It has no carrying case and sports a special filter to neutralize laser attacks. A specially modified commercial version, the field glasses were developed over a three-year period. They cost \$190.28 each, including the laser protection inserts.

Unlike its predecessor, the M22 is basically a "nonrepairable" item; that is, if the body breaks it will be totally replaced. The only exchangeable items are the eye cups, eye lens cover, carrying strap, front covers, and laser filter.

At 3.5 pounds with the laser filter, it weighs less than one-half pound more than the M19 with its carrying case and, like its predecessor, it has a 130-meter field of view at 1,000 meters. It comes with a removable neck strap and covers for both the eye lenses and front glass and has foldable eyecups that are said to be safer because of the cushioning. An adapter ring permits the user's optical characteristics to be set in both eyepieces, and require no further adjustment.

One of the telescopes includes a horizontal and vertical reticle graduated in 10-mil increments. The reticle is used to determine range on the basis of known target widths.