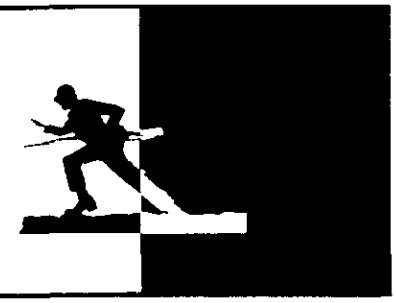
INFANTRY NEWS



CHIEF OF INFANTRY UPDATE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Infantrymen are encouraged to comment on the items that appear here and to suggest topics they would like to see covered in the future. Address suggestions to Commandant, U.S. Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-TDI, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5593, or call DSN 835-2350/6951 or commercial (404) 545-2350/6951.

THE M4 CARBINE is a gas-operated, air-cooled, selective fire shoulder weapon. It is fed by either 20- or 30-round M16 magazines, and its function is identical to that of the M16 family of rifles.

Eighty-five percent of the parts found in the M4 carbine are compatible with those in the M16A2 rifle, which greatly simplifies training, maintenance, and supply. It is ten inches shorter and one and one-half pounds lighter than the M16A2 rifle but has the same accuracy and maximum effective range.

The M4 carbine will replace all M3 submachineguns and selected pistols and rifles. A one-for-one swap of M4 carbines for M16A2 rifles in the 82d Airborne Division is planned. This will be more clearly defined when a new basis of issue plan (BOIP) is created.

The M4 was type classified in March 1991, and is scheduled to reach the field in the second quarter of FY 1994.

The Infantry School POC is MAJ Witty, DSN 835-1644, commercial (404) 545-1644.

RIFLE OPTICS will be mounted on the M16A2 rifle, which will then be called the M16A3. Optics will also be placed on the M249 squad automatic weapon and the M4 carbine.

By enabling a soldier to sight better, these optics will improve his marksmanship, allow him to detect and more closely identify targets at extended ranges, and improve his ability to engage targets in low light conditions.

They will provide magnification between three-power and four-power with an illuminated reticle. The weapons will be altered to allow a soldier to maintain a correct spot- or stock-weld. Current plans are to equip light infantry soldiers at platoon level and below with the optics.

Final testing to select the best candidate will take place this summer. New marksmanship training programs that will make the most of rifle optic benefits are now being developed. The first unit is scheduled to be equipped during the second quarter of FY 1992.

The School POC is Major Witty, DSN 835-1644 or commercial (404) 545-1644.

THE BRADLEY FIGHTING vehicle is ten years old and has accounted for itself well since its initial fielding in 1981. At that time, it carried one infantry squad consisting of a three-man crew and a six-man dismount element, while providing armor protection against small arms projectiles and artillery fragments. It mounted a 25mm cannon that could defeat any equivalent fighting vehicle, carried TOW missiles that could defeat any known armor in the world, and was powered with a 500-horsepower diesel engine that gave it the speed and mobility it needed to keep up with the new turbine-powered Abrams tank.

The TOW was put on the Bradley because analysis showed that the 12 improved TOW vehicles (ITVs) in the antiarmor company were not enough to overwatch the threat and to add the tactical flexibility of eliminating the requirement to attach tanks for protection against threat armor.

Subsequently, firepower on threat fighting vehicles and tanks was improved in an effort to render both the Bradley's 25mm cannon and the TOW missile ineffective.

In response to this threat, a more powerful armor piercing round was developed for the Bradley's 25mm cannon, which allowed more firepower without the expense and added weight of a larger cannon. The TOW missile was improved to defeat the upgraded armor on threat tanks, and the Bradley's armor was strengthened to provide a level of protection against the threat's improved firepower capabilities.

Unfortunately, the strengthened armor resulted in a substantial increase in weight and a corresponding reduction in the Bradley's speed and mobility. That problem was then resolved by the installation of an improved 600-horsepower engine.

The Bradley now enjoys the same advantages it had when it was first fielded. Current tactics call for one full infantry squad, split between two Bradleys, to be transported under what is known as the 2x2 concept. Two Bradleys operate as a team transporting two fire teams, the squad leader, and the crews. The Bradley still serves as a highly mobile troop carrier while providing an increased level of armor protection. Its firepower remains effective against the threat fighting vehicles

and tanks now in the field, and the Bradley continues to have the necessary speed and agility to permit it to be used with the Abrams tank.

The Bradley has matured well during its first ten years and appears to have the growth potential to maintain its role well into the next century.

The School POC is Mr. Brabston, Directorate of Combat Developments, Mobility Branch, DSN 835-1618 or commercial (404) 545-1618.

THE HMMWV INTERCHANGE mount system (HIMS) will give units equipped with M966 HMMWV (high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle) TOW carriers low cost, quick, and effective options for tailoring their forces.

The system gives a commander options for deploying an automatic weapon platform instead of a TOW carrier on the basis of contingency missions. The HIMS contains two parts.

Part one is a pintle/panel assembly that mounts on the M1025 armament carrier. The assembly, without modifications, is interchangeable with the missile guidance tray on the M966 TOW carrier.

Part two consists of a locally fabricated internal floor stowage plate that has automatic weapon stowage bracketry already mounted for faster emplacement. After selected items of the TOW bracketry have been removed, this plate is mounted in the floor of the TOW carrier (using the six cargo tie-down bolts).

A concept evaluation program was conducted by units of the 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg during February and March of 1990. The results of the program indicated that 11H crewmen can be trained first to install the interchange mount system weapons mounting (MK19 40mm and M2 .50 caliber machineguns), then to ground mount them, and to return them to the mounted TOW configuration. This training can be conducted at the unit level by the platoon leader and platoon sergeant.

The crew and personnel load plans now used with the TOW configuration need only minor modifications. The additional firepower that the interchange mount system provides on the battlefield makes this system suitable and desirable.

The HIMS procedures were given a safety certification by the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, in June 1990. A technical data package and an instructional video were recently distributed to the field.

The Infantry School POC is Mr. Boozer, Mobility Branch, Directorate of Combat Developments, DSN 835-1618 or commercial (404) 545-1618.

NO DEDICATED HOUSING is now available at Fort Benning for Infantry Officer Advanced Course (IOAC) students. Students should report seven days before their classes are scheduled to begin so they will have time to find housing.

The Department of the Army authorizes seven days of permissive TDY (temporary duty) in conjunction with a PCS (permanent change of station) move. This policy will be annotated on the PCS orders of incoming IOAC students.

A recent survey of IOAC students determined that it takes two or three days to find suitable housing in the Columbus, Georgia, area. Fort Benning authorizes four days of temporary lodging allowance for incoming PCS students to use while house hunting.

Incoming IOAC students will receive an Army Community Services welcome packet that provides housing information for the Columbus area, along with a welcome letter from the commander of the 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry, 90 days before the starting date for their class.

Further information is available from Company C, 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry at DSN 835-2903.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL Catalog 91 offers a complete list of the instructional materials available from the Infantry School to support individual, unit, and staff training. The materials listed have been screened and carefully selected for their content, their teaching value, and their adaptability to individual unit training requirements.

The publications listed are updated and revised continually in close coordination with the School's resident instructional departments. This assures units the latest in instructional materials and learning innovations.

The materials include special texts, programmed texts, pamphlets, maps, and cards.

Copies of the catalog are available from the U.S. Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-TDR-N, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5593.

THE INFANTRY LEADER Course (ILC), originally called the Light Leader Course and designed to train light infantry leaders, has been modified to provide dismounted training for mechanized, light, airborne, and air assault infantry units.

The standard course length is four weeks (28 days), but both the length and the subject matter can be modified to meet the needs of a unit. A mobile training team variant is also available for units that prefer to train at their home stations.

The course "reblues" and trains company level leaders to standard on selected individual and collective tasks. It emphasizes leadership, team building, troop leading procedures, command and control, communications, and individual and crew-served weapon proficiency. This training is accomplished through the use of drills, situational training exercises, and field training exercises.

The ILC, by providing an environment free of distractions, promotes unit cohesion and a singular focus on doctrinal training standards.

Class quotas are open for Classes 1-92 (beginning 8 October 1991) and 2-92 (beginning 12 November 1991).

For information concerning unit quotas or mobile training teams, units may call MAJ Bailey, Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), at

DSN 680-5601, or Mr. Ikner, Ranger Training Brigade, at DSN 784-7212/6980.

A HIGH QUALITY Infantry force is still being maintained as the Army "builds down." Commanders can look forward to receiving second lieutenants with outstanding potential.

When the FY 1991 ROTC/DA selection and branching board was held, more cadets requested Infantry than any other branch, and there was a considerable increase over last year in the number of engineering and science majors who requested Infantry. It was a decidedly competitive group, with two applicants for every active duty position. Infantry branch cadets were also near the top of the advanced camp and Professor of Military Science score averages for all branches.

A TRADOC-directed review of selection policies and procedures showed an emphasis on branch satisfaction for FY 1991. In fact, 95 percent of the Infantry officers coming on active duty had requested Infantry as their first choice of branch.

RANGER COURSE SCHEDULE FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	DATES	
1-92	14 Oct 91	20 Dec 91
2-92	4 Nov 91	24 Jan 92
3-92	2 Dec 91	28 Feb 92
4-92	13 Jan 92	20 Mar 92
5-92	10 Feb 92	17 Apr 92
6-92	9 Mar 92	15 May 92
7-92	30 Mar 92	5 Jun 92
8-92	11 May 92	17 Jul 92
9-92	8 Jun 92	14 Aug 92
10-92	6 Jul 92	11 Sep 92
11-92	10 Aug 92	16 Oct 92
12-92	7 Sep 92	13 Nov 92

MORTAR INDIRECT FIRE teams will soon have short range practice ammunition for their 60mm, 81mm, and 120mm mortars. The 81mm M880 short range training round (SRTR) is scheduled to be fielded in December 1991 and the 60mm M840 SRTR in the first quarter of FY 1993.

The 81mm M880 — a heavy wall, hollow core, steel round without a high explosive (HE) filler — simulates the M821 HE round. When used with the M29A1 sub-caliber insert (now under development), the 81mm M880 round can be fired from the 120mm mortar.

The 60mm M840 SRTR, which has a die cast zinc alloy body without an HE filler, simulates the M720 HE round. With the 60mm sub-caliber insert, it can be fired from the 4.2-inch mortar.

Both rounds have the M751 impact fuse (PD), which simulates the M734 multi-option fuse. Upon impact, the rounds have a signature consisting of a flash, bang, and smoke. No shrapnel is generated.

The SRTRs are designed to be fired on a 1/10-scale range, recovered, refurbished, and refired at least nine times. The rounds give mortar crews inexpensive and realistic training in handling ammunition and putting their weapon system through its full range of functions. They also enable forward observer, fire direction control, and mortar crews to train as a team.

THE REQUIREMENTS FOR BURIAL in Arlington National Cemetery have been a subject of inquiry in recent months.

If you are interested in learning about these requirements for future reference, write to Department of the Army, Arlington National Cemetery, ATTN: Chief, Interment Services Branch, Arlington, VA 22211-5003 and ask for free copies of two pamphlets titled *Interment in Arlington National Cemetery* and *The Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium.*

These pamphlets should answer any questions you may have. If they do not, don't hesitate to write to the office mentioned above. The people in that office have proved most helpful.

THE M157 SMOKE GENERATOR set — mounted on a HMMWV (high mobility multipurpose, wheeled vehicle) — is the first wheeled vehicle system for producing smoke while in motion.

The smoke set can move 15 to 20 miles per hour and can be turned on and off from a control panel in the cab of the vehicle. It creates smoke from fog oil to provide a screen or a means of deception on the battlefield.

The M157 has been fielded to light infantry divisions and corps smoke units throughout the Army.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF STUDIES on retrograde actions is available to authorized personnel. Requests should be made to DLSIE, ALMC, Fort Lee, VA 23801-6043; DSN 687-4655 or commercial (804) 734-4655.

THE REMOTE SENSING Chemical Agent Alarm (RSCAAL), the world's first "early warning" chemical agent detector, is now being produced under a U.S. Marine Corps contract. An Army contract is also expected.

The alarm uses infrared technology to detect chemical agents at greater distances and lower levels of concentration than any other detector. It detects agents at five kilometers and more, compared to a maximum of 400 meters for the systems the Army now uses.

It uses a spectroradiometer to scan for the infrared signatures given off by a wide range of chemical agents — both nerve and blister, including mustard gas — night and day, through dust, sand, and adverse weather.

The soldiers simply turn it on and point it in the direction to be scanned — usually upwind of their location. It operates unattended, automatically and continually. If it detects an agent, it sounds an alarm and gives a visual readout of the type of agent and the direction from which it was detected.
