From the Editor

ON DIVERSITY

Ours is a diverse branch. From the light infantry that made up the Continental Army, we have evolved into mechanized, airborne, air assault, Ranger, and light forces. Although the types of infantry may differ in the way the soldiers travel into combat, in their relative firepower, and in the size and composition of their units, their mission is still to close with and destroy the enemy. None of the separate forms of infantry can be expected to deal with the whole spectrum of threats in today's world by itself; the diverse nature of our infantry is therefore a great strength, because it allows us the flexibility to respond to varied contingencies while having commonality among a good number of our weapon, command and control, and logistical systems.

We are trying to maintain a similar diversity in the subject matter that appears in INFANTRY, and I need your help to do this. This issue is weighted toward the mechanized force, because this is a time of considerable change for that field. In past issues, we have highlighted light forces and have included articles on Ranger training and airborne units. It is equally important to offer articles of interest to the infantry as a whole—such as land navigation, leadership, professional development, administration, and logistics—and we have done so. In this way we hope to maintain the interest of our readers in each and every issue of INFANTRY.

But who writes all of these great articles? The answer is simple: *You* do! A quick glance at the biographic note for each of our authors will show that few of them are staff writers at the Infantry School, and that still fewer are professional writers. (That's fortunate, since we do not pay for published articles.)

If you have been reading INFANTRY and feel that your own area has not received its share of attention, you can do something about it. Our branch is strengthened by the discussion and sharing of experience gained by infantrymen around the world. An example: Very little has been written about the MOUT operations our forces conducted during Operations JUST CAUSE and URGENT FURY; yet events in the Balkans are revealing an environment in which urban operations comprise a significant part of the action. Our readers have contributed *some terrific items to our Swap Shop and Training Notes sections as well.*

Don't worry about length. If your material is relevant and has value, we'll work with you to get it out to the field. Do we publish everything we get? Of course not. But if you are interested, drop us a line and I'll send you a copy of our writers guide to outline our standards.

The only way INFANTRY can maintain its appeal to an audience as diverse as our branch is to continue to offer articles on a broad range of subjects. You have the expertise and the experience, and we have a magazine with world-wide distribution. Let's get together.

RAE

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