

From The Editor

KEEPING OUR BALANCE

Over the last several issues, we have run a good number of articles on the light infantry force and the issues that concern it. We have also focused on a number of other issues common to both light and heavy infantry. This is probably appropriate, given the role of light infantry in operations other than war, the experience gained from infantry operations in Somalia, and the common concerns in such areas as logistics, weapons, and training. But what about the heavy infantry force and its unique concerns such as tactics, gunnery, and logistical support of deployed units, to name but a few?

Bradley units were at the leading edge of the force during combat in the Gulf War, and today are deployed around the world, from Korea to Bosnia. The firepower and mobility of the Bradley will enable U.S. units to seize and retain the initiative against the toughest heavy forces the enemy can muster, and we need to make sure our soldiers and leaders are up to date on the latest training, doctrine, and equipment changes that affect the Bradley force. That is where INFANTRY Magazine comes in, and I need your help.

Assignments to light infantry units do not always prepare an officer for the challenges that he will face in a follow-on assignment to the mounted arm of our branch. To be sure, formal courses such as those for leaders, master gunners, and crew members of units equipped with Bradley Fighting Vehicles will go a long way toward bridging the gap, but the time available in the programs of instruction does not always allow for the discussion and exchange of ideas that can only come from experience, and INFANTRY offers the best forum in which to share that experience.

We have featured articles on lessons learned during the Gulf War, at the National Training Center, and at bases around the world, and we need more of them, particularly on the heavy infantry force. If INFANTRY is to remain an effective, relevant branch bulletin, it must continue to support the *entire* infantry force and present a balanced coverage of branch-related issues for our readers. Regardless of where you may be stationed, you have skills and knowledge that can be put to good use by your fellow infantrymen.

If you are reading this in a Korea-based Bradley unit, you have winter experience that your counterparts in Bosnia may need, and those of you already in Bosnia can use the pages of INFANTRY to pass along tips and recommendations that will help other members of the mounted infantry force prepare for similar possible deployments. But in order to do this, you need to write about it. If you have an idea for an article, write or call me, or if you already have a draft down on paper, send it to me and I'll read it and get back to you. That is how we can continue to assure our readers of a balanced format that will cover the needs and concerns of the U.S. Infantry, wherever they may be on the face of this turbulent world.

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