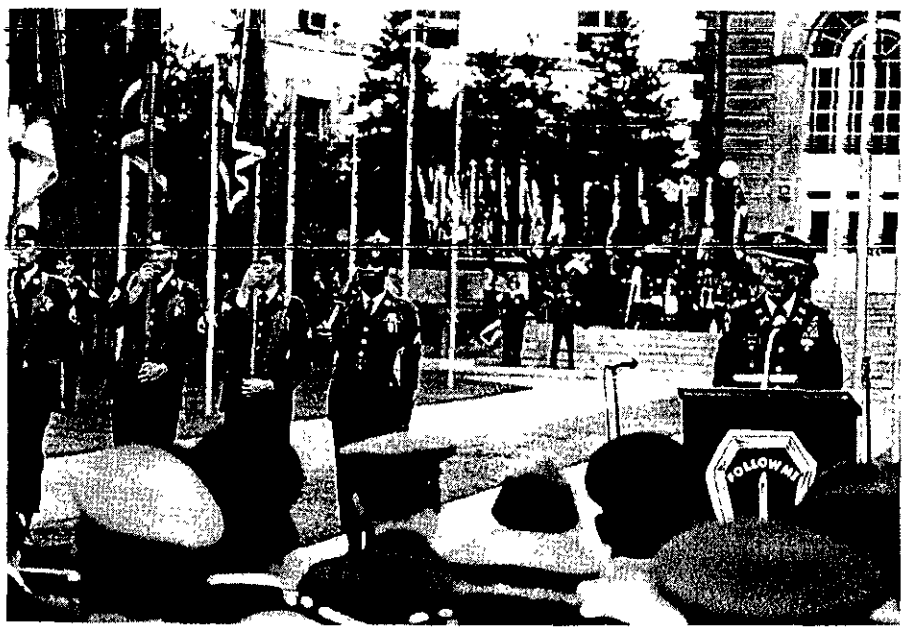
INFANTRY NEWS

THE U.S. ARMY SCHOOL of the Americas (USARSA) was formally welcomed to its new home in a ceremony in November 1986, after Fort Benning was selected as its permanent location. The school's mission is to train Latin American military personnel in various military and professional development skills designed to contribute to their countries' internal defense and national development.



Major General Edwin H. Burba, Jr., formally welcomes the School of the Americas to Fort Benning.

The School, which had operated in the Republic of Panama for 38 years, was moved to Fort Benning on a temporary basis in December 1984.

A unique U.S Army service school in many ways, it has provided instruction and training to more than 46,000 students over the years. The instruction, based on U.S. Army doctrine, is taught completely in Spanish. The subjects range from individual and small unit techniques to high-level command or general staff service, joint operations, and resource management.

The commandant of the school and his staff are members of the U.S. Army, while the deputy commandant is a Latin American officer requested from a different participating country every two years. The school has a multinational instructor group made up of both commissioned and noncommissioned officers. Although most of the instructors are from the Armed Forces of the United States, about 40 percent are requested from Latin American countries to serve tours of from one to two years at USARSA.

Each participating country was honored in the ceremonies as its flag was unfurled and raised on the school's grounds.

THE FIVE-QUART COLLAPSIBLE canteen (FSN 8465-141-0924), which was available in the Vietnam era, is reentering the supply system. It is expected to be in the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) stocks by June 1987.

Units will be able to buy this item using OMA funds. It will be listed in CTA 50-900, Clothing and Individual Equipment.

THE U.S. ARMY INFANTRY Board, during November-December 1984, conducted an operational assessment of commercially available night vision goggles (NVGs). On the basis of this test and of a market survey by the Center for Night Vision and Electro-Optics, a decision was made to purchase two types of commercial NVG for testing. These NVGs have been designated the AN/PVS-7A and AN/PVS-7B.

Both models are lightweight (about 1.5 pounds) image intensification (I^2) devices using a single tube instead of two (binocular) tubes as are used with the AN/PVS-5 NVG. They can be head-mounted, by means of a head harness and face mask, or detached and used handheld.

The two models were provided in versions using second- and third-generation I^2 tubes. The second-generation tubes amplify light within the visible spectrum, while the third-generation tubes amplify light beyond the visible spectrum ranging into the infrared light bands.

During a follow-on evaluation, conducted 20 October through 16 December 1986 by the Infantry Board, the functional performance of the AN/PVS-7A and 7B was compared with that of the AN/PVS-5 NVG. The performance of the second- and third-generation versions of the NVGs was also compared. Performance testing included target detection and recognition, night firing, and night movement (mounted and dismounted). Data on training; human factors and safety; reliability, availability, maintainability; and logistics were obtained concurrently throughout testing.

The Infantry School will use the test results to support further procurement decisions.

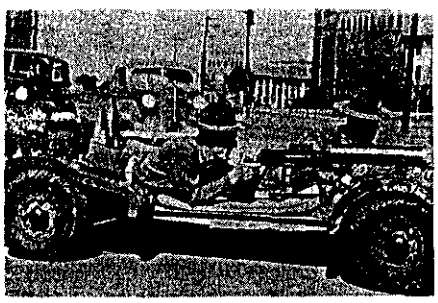
THE NATIONAL INFANTRY Museum has added some important and interesting items recently to its store of unique artifacts used to depict the military history of the infantry.

One item is a rare World War II M22 "Locust" tank, a lightweight armored vehicle used to support airborne units. The tank, which was air-delivered by glider during a combat jump of the British in March 1945, is the only M22 light tank to be found at a U.S. Army museum. It was donated by a private citizen who is also a military collector.

Also donated by a private citizen was a rare German 9mm carbine, Serial Number 2, with scope and silencer.

A G-3 Portuguese Army assault rifle, which had been presented to U.S Army Chief of Staff General John A. Wickham, Jr., by the Chief of Staff of the Portuguese Army, was then presented to the museum by General Wickham to be added to its large collection of firearms from around the world.

Acquired by transfer from the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor at Fort Knox is a vehicle called the "Belly Flopper," which was designed, built, and tested at Fort Benning in the mid-1930s.



The "Belly Flopper."

The vehicle was invented by Captain Robert G. Howie and a Master Sergeant Wiley, who worked to assemble it from spare parts and used an Austin Bantam engine to power it.

It is a low, lightweight, motorized platform to be used as a carrier for a .30 caliber water-cooled machinegun. It earned its nickname because the bottom of the vehicle scraped as it traveled over rough terrain.

After extensive testing, it was determined that the vehicle was too low for cross-country travel and too light for rough use. Nevertheless, it is considered the forerunner of the Jeep because the Chief Engineer of Willys Overland Motors, on seeing a demonstration of the "Belly Flopper" at Fort Benning in early 1940, saw possibilities for the development of a lightweight, flexible military car.

A rare Hudson .50 caliber machinegun, tested during the mid-1920s and weighing nearly 200 pounds, was recently transferred from the Fort Meade, Maryland, museum.

Other donations include:

- An important collection of 19th and early-20th century medals received by an infantryman who fought in the Spanish-American War.
- Historical information and photographs of Company C, 6th Infantry Regiment at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, in 1935.
- A large number of pages on military subjects from the Civil War newspapers *Harper's Weekly* and *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*.
- A World War II Polish paratrooper's uniform, complete, and Polish paratrooper and glider badges, along with printed information about Polish paratroopers.
- A British spike bayonet, No. 4MK*11, with metal scabbard.
- Korean period "Ike" jackets.
- A large, enameled 25th Infantry shoulder patch.
- World War I items—a pair of wool leggings, a canvas "housewife," and a webbed pistol belt used by the donor's father, a member of Battery F, 6th Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division.
- Vietnam items including a small notebook with daily notations of an operation, booklets, and an ID tag of the type used for enemy prisoners or materials.
- A bronze bust of Adolf Hitler.
- An 1847 edition of a manual called *The Recruit*.

The Museum has also purchased other items to help round out its collection: an 18th century British pistol, a U.S. pistol (circa 1800), and a pair of winged type epaulettes of the War of 1812 era.

A ceremony dedicating the Bond Gallery on the Museum's third floor is planned for March 1987. General William R. Bond's late wife's family and other dignitaries will be present for the unveiling of a large, handsome oil painting of the general and a bronze plaque. The Bond Gallery was furnished using funds from the estate of General Bond's widow, which were given to the Museum by her family.

A major exhibit is being prepared to honor the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States. It, too, is planned for March.

The National Infantry Museum Society, formed at Fort Benning a number of years ago to assist 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.

FOUR CASUALTY REGULATIONS have been consolidated into one—AR 600-8-1, Casualty and Memorial Affairs and Line of Duty Investigations. It was published and distributed to the field late last year, with an effective date of 17 October 1986.

This regulation, the first in a series of personnel and administrative function work center publications, fully consolidates AR 600-10, Army Casualty System; AR 638-40, Care and Disposition of Remains; AR 638-1, Disposition of Personal Effects; and AR 600-33, Line of Duty Investigations.

It also consolidates policies and procedures for investigating the circumstances of the disease, injury, or death of Army personnel, including Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers.

The requirement to conduct psychological investigations of the facts surrounding all suicides and attempted suicides of soldiers is new to the investigation process. It is directed by the Army's Suicide Prevention Plan.

A HOOD/MASK COMBINATION has been developed to protect our soldiers' dependents (or any civilians nearby) from the effects of chemical or biological warfare in Europe, should the need ever arise. The soldiers themselves would wear the standard field protective masks.

Developed by the U.S. Army Laboratory Command's Human Engineering Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, the mask protects the head, face, shoulders, and respiratory system against the full range of chemical and biological agents. It offers protection regardless of beards, long hair, or moustaches and even allows spectacles to be worn with it.

The compact, commercially-designed equipment consists of a durable hood, an integral lens, a nasal breathing compartment, a neck seal, and a canister. It weighs two pounds, which is less than the soldier's mask, and takes up only half as much space.

Since it also has been shown to have military applications, it is conceivable that both soldiers and their spouses could wear the compact hood and mask in the event of a chemical or biological threat.

THE INTEGRATED TRAINING Area Management (ITAM) program has been developed to help installations manage their training grounds. ITAM offers an organized approach for ensuring that these areas continue to support realism in training both now and in the future.

ITAM is a unique approach in that it has integrated several existing land management technologies to form a single, structured program. As a long-term effort, ITAM operates on the principle that it is more cost-effective to maintain property than to repair or replace it. The program has an impressive scope, potentially affecting more than 11 million acres of training lands in the United States alone.

The program is designed to support the installation land managers and environmental officers who oversee training grounds. It has been field-tested at Fort Carson, Colorado, since fiscal year 1984 and is being implemented at the Hohenfels Training Area, West Germany (FRG).

ITAM also supports the installation training mission. The goal is to create a cooperative atmosphere between environmentalists and military leaders so that all sides of the problem receive equal consideration. Using ITAM, a land manager can make a series of trade-offs that will satisfy mission-critical demands and ensure realistic training grounds over the long term.

For more information on this program, contact Dr. William D. Severinghaus or Dr. Edward W. Novak, U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, P.O. Box 4005, Champaign, IL 61820; telephone (217) 373-7744/7231; FTS 958-7744/7231; or toll free 800-USA-CERL (outside Illinois), 800-252-7122 (within Illinois).

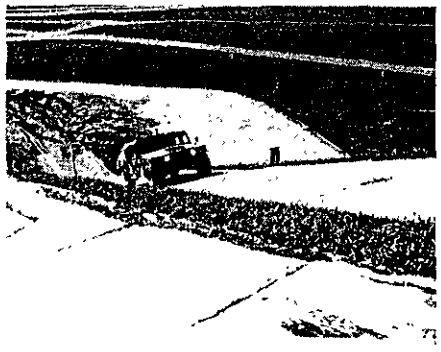
THE XM138 DISPENSER (Flipper)—being loaded with mines in the accompanying photo at the Cold Regions Test Center, Fort Greely, Alaska—consists of a launcher, case, and support mounting hardware.

Mines are fed into the launch exit post and launched on edge, discus style, to ensure that they come to rest in proper orientation. The launcher can be manually rotated to the right and left to permit dispensing on each side of the mission vehicle.

THE INDIVIDUAL MULTIPURPOSE shelter is demonstrated in its different configurations by soldiers from the 2d Battalion 187th Infantry, U.S. Army Tropic Test Center, Republic of Panama.

The shelter is part of the Individual Integrated Fighting System Program. The soldier on the left is wearing the poncho that converts into the one-man tent (behind soldiers).

THE HIGH MOBILITY Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), which replaces the jeep, travels up a 40 percent slope at the Munson Test Area, U.S. Army Combat Systems Test Activity, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. The



1¼-ton truck is designed to meet the Armed Forces' need for mobility in a tactical environment.