



# VIEW FROM THE BLOCKHOUSE

## First women join Pershing training

"You've got to realize you're a novelty. They just don't know how to treat you." MAJ D. J. Middleton, Chief of Pershing Division, Weapons Department, was talking to the first four women to train in the Pershing Missile Crewman course, MOS 15E.

"They" are the men the women deal with every day — instructors, drill sergeants, and male classmates.

"Everytime you take a step here it's new terrain because people are always resistant to change. And there's a lot of old prejudice about women in combat arms," said Middleton.

Because the Pershing crewman is traditionally a male job, the girls expected more resistance from the men at the beginning. But the competition came later in the course.

"At first there was no jealousy problem," said PV1 Lynn Murray. The guys all thought it was "cute" to have women in the missile course. But then the resentment began to grow.

One reason for the feeling is the men think "We get more attention. They think we get away with more because of our sex," said PV2 Marla Cleator.

The women all shine in classroom work. Murray tied for honor graduate of class 7-78. They have more education. All the women have high school diplomas and three of them have some college.

"The men think we're all doing so well because the drill sergeants look out for us," said Cleator.

"Having us here has brought out the fatherly instinct in our drill sergeants and they treat us like daughters — sometimes like 12-year-old daughters," said PV1 Deborah McCarthy.

The men seem to change their behavior trying to be protective when the women are around. "The men don't

like watching their swearing but always say, 'Shut up. She's around,'" said Murray.

Much of the work on the Pershing system is physical, hard and heavy. Cables may weigh 60 pounds each. "Sometimes it takes me longer because the stuff is heavy, but I can do it. I get mad when the guys come up and try to grab the tools out of my hands because I'm slow. Some of them are slow too," said McCarthy.

The women said they don't like this feeling of competition and resentment. They want to feel more like a member of the team.

"I don't feel like I'm competing against the guys but against my own weakness," said McCarthy.

"I think you have a responsibility more to prove to yourself than to the Army that you can do it," Cleator added.

"We're going to see more women in the Army and what we're seeing right now is just a little over-reaction to the big change of having women in combat arms," Middleton feels. (SP4 Charlane Busse)

## Watch that pocket calculator!

Pocket calculators can explode with sufficient force to knock a person down according to a recent warning in the *Journal of Environmental Health*. Research has shown that any metal object that comes in contact with the unprotected battery charge contact points will cause a thermal runaway. This, in turn, shorts out the nickel-cadmium batteries causing an explosion.

To prevent such an accident, pocket calculators should be carried in their cases.

## BOC TOE changes

Consolidated Change Table 300-64 dated 20 April 1978 contains equipment changes in the Tables of Organization and Equipment for both the self-propelled and towed howitzer battery operations centers (BOC). Firing battery headquarters is now authorized one radio set AN/VRC-46 and two AN/VRC-47s, with towed units authorized an additional 1½-ton truck. Equipment can be obtained by submitting appropriate requisitions.

## FM 6-20 is here!

FM 6-20, Fire Support in Combined Arms Operations, is now being distributed to field units and service schools Army-wide. This comprehensive manual explains the relationship between the maneuver commander and the fire support coordinator (FSCOORD) and the integration of all fire support into combined arms operations. It was written by maneuver and fire support personnel and is designed for all members of the combined arms team.

The doctrine contained in FM 6-20 is the basis for instruction at TRADOC installations and for unit training. FM 6-20 is not a tactics manual; rather, it is the total fire support manual for the maneuver commander and the FSCOORD. It will be followed by two other how-to-fight productions: FM 6-21, Field Artillery Cannon Battalion; and FM 6-22, Division Artillery, Field Artillery Brigade, and Field Artillery Section (Corps). When these manuals are published, they will form the link between FM 6-20 and FM 6-50, Field Artillery Cannon Battery, to cover field artillery/fire support units and operations at all levels.

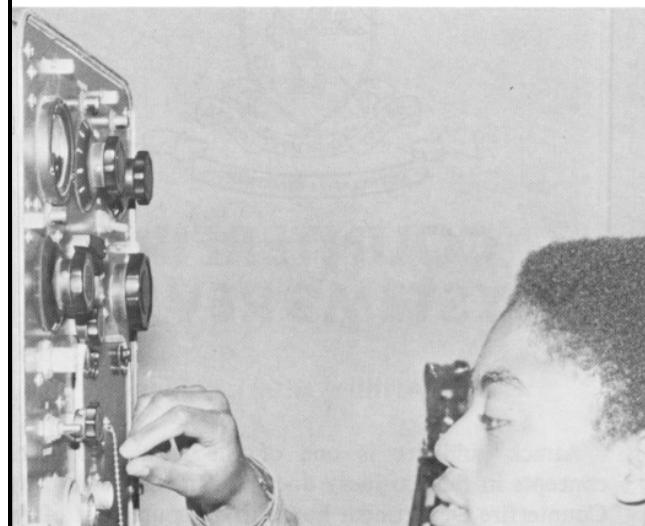
Units that have not yet received FM 6-20 through pinpoint distribution should check pinpoint accounts for currency and accuracy. To do this, write to Commander, USA AG Publications Center, 2800 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21220, or call AUTOVON 584-2562. If additional copies are required, they may be ordered on DA Form 17, addressed through publications channels and sent to the above address.

## First women commissioned in Field Artillery

For the first time in the history of the Field Artillery, women are wearing officer's crossed cannons. 1LT Elizabeth Tourville and 2LT LaFrancais Hayes have been commissioned in the Field Artillery and will attend the Field Artillery Officers Basic Course (FAOBC) beginning in July. Following FAOBC they will both attend the Pershing Officer Course and be assigned to Germany.

Three additional women are scheduled to receive Field Artillery commissions this summer and attend the FAOBC and Lance Officers course. Four of the five new lieutenants are receiving their commissions through ROTC. The fifth, 1LT Tourville was transferred from Ordnance Branch on 6 April, making her the first woman officer in the Field Artillery Branch. A recent DA decision permits women to be assigned to all Field Artillery units except cannon.

An electronic distance measuring device is studied by PFC Maryann Johnson during one phase in the 21 areas of study required to complete the Field Artillery Surveyor course. PFC Johnson completed the self-paced course in just over four weeks to become the Army's first woman FA surveyor. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree and taught in an elementary school before joining the Army. She is slated to go to Germany from Fort Sill. (Photo by SP5 Dave Knapp)



## View From The Blockhouse

### Maintenance evaluation packet ready

The November-December 1977 *FA Journal* (page 35), announced that a logistics management diagnostic evaluation package was being developed for unit commanders' use. The evaluation packet will be available 1 August 1978. This management tool was developed as a result of tests administered to FAOAC students and comments received from commanders. It was field tested and validated by units at Forts Sill and Riley.

The evaluation package has two sections. Section I contains the Administration Instructions and the Diagnostic Practical Exercise. Section II contains the Solutions and Remedial Guidance. Copies may be ordered by requesting the "Logistics Management Diagnostic Evaluation" from: Commandant, US Army Field Artillery School, ATTN: ATSF-CR-TS, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

This package is not a panacea for solving maintenance problems with a unit. It is, as the name implies,

*"A tool to measure the degree of expertise or level of knowledge of personnel engaged in those critical areas that support a viable maintenance program."*

When the package is used in this context, commanders can determine the maintenance management proficiency of their officer and NCO personnel. By analysis of the results, the commander and the individual are able to identify weak areas, and appropriate training can be developed to alleviate the deficiencies.



## COUNTERFIRE SYSTEMS REVIEW

### Field Artillery attack guidance

Attack guidance is one of the least understood concepts in field artillery doctrine. In this review, the Counterfire Department hopes to clear up most of the misunderstanding and provide a preview of what FM 6-22, Division Artillery, FA Brigade and FAS (Corps),

will have to say about attack guidance when it is published.

The division artillery commander is responsible for counterfires, interdicting fires, air defense suppression, and the traditional mission of close support. To keep the proper balance of fires to each of those areas is not an easily defined task. It is usually done through FA organization for combat and attack guidance.

But what is attack guidance and how can it help?

Attack guidance is simply those instructions given by the division artillery commander with guidance from the division commander for the attack of targets. This guidance will be used by the div arty tactical operations center (TOC) to direct the engagement of targets by those units over which div arty exercises control.

In the formulation of attack guidance, the div arty commander's first consideration is the guidance from the division commander combined with recommendations from the div arty S3 and other staff members, based on these factors:

- Mission of the supported force.
- Time available to deliver fires.
- The air situation (friendly and enemy).
- The value of planned fires versus immediate attack of targets as they are located.
- Ammunition available.
- The enemy's artillery capabilities, to include number and type weapons, state of training, mobility, ability to reinforce, and vulnerability.
- The enemy's current tactics and techniques of artillery employment.
- Friendly versus enemy target acquisition capabilities.

Once the div arty commander has considered these factors he must include in his attack guidance, as a minimum, instructions for:

1) *How to attack:* Targets are attacked to achieve suppression, neutralization, or destruction effects (may also be expressed as a percent of damage or casualties desired). This does not mean that a blanket suppress, destroy, or neutralize statement will be issued in attack guidance. The guidance could, and very likely will, designate different categories of targets for different levels of attack, depending on the importance of each target category.

2) *When to attack:* Targets are to be attacked when acquired, or they are planned — on call or scheduled. Once again, this does not mean that a blanket "as acquired, on call, or scheduled," will be issued, but will indicate categories the div arty commander wants to attack at different times, depending on their ability to affect our operation.

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3) *Restrictions:* This part of the attack guidance explains any restriction the div arty commander may want to place on the attack of targets such as:

a) Restricting the amount of ammunition expended.

b) Restricting certain units from firing.

c) Specifying other conditions which must be met before engaging a target (e.g., "Attack category 1 and 2 targets only when receiving casualties from those targets.").

An example of attack guidance is: "Attack 122-mm MRLs as acquired to a level of destruction. Suppress all other targets on call only when fires from those targets are inflicting casualties. Direct support and reinforcing units will not fire until the attack begins."

It is not implied that once attack guidance is issued that it cannot be changed. The div arty TOC will continually evaluate the original factors and recommend changes to attack guidance as necessary. In addition, the S3 may expand it to provide more detailed guidance to personnel in the TOC and under the control of div arty.

Attack guidance allows personnel in the div arty TOC to act on targets as soon as they are developed, in a manner that the commander desires. Once a target is passed to the fire control element, the decision has already been made as to the disposition of the target because we know how and when to attack the target and know the restrictions on the attack. Attack guidance expedites the disposition of targets by allowing immediate reaction at the lowest possible level.

Attack guidance is not the solution to all of the div arty commander's problems. It is, however, a tool that he can use to standardize procedures he might otherwise have to personally supervise.

### **Longer life power supply developed for calculators**

A power supply adapter for the Texas Instruments SR-56 hand-held calculator organic to survey sections, has been developed by the Counterfire Department. The adapter fits into the battery compartment of the SR-56 and allows the theodolite night lighting power pack to be used as the calculator's power source instead of the commercial battery.

The theodolite power pack is powered by six discardable BA-30 batteries and has an operational life of about 36 hours compared with two hours for the rechargeable commercial battery. The new adapter is

compatible with the SR-59 which is being considered as a replacement for the SR-56.

Production of the power supply adapter is underway at the Fort Sill Training and Audiovisual Support Center. The initial production run will be distributed by the Counterfire Department. Pending TRADOC approval, a graphical training aids number will be assigned to the adapter so that units may order them through their local TASC.

### **NCOs . . . Army still needs TARTs**

TART . . . another acronym to add to your list. It stands for Target Acquisition Radar Technician, the title of warrant officers holding MOS 211A. The problem is that there are not enough people with that MOS. There has been an intensive effort to recruit eligible personnel but the field is still wide open and should remain that way through October.

Warrant officers in this specialty are involved in both operational employment and organizational maintenance of weapons support radars. This requires them to be thoroughly familiar with the FA units they support.

Another important aspect of the radar technician job is advising commanders on the technical considerations affecting employment of FA radars. It is an interesting and challenging field. The prerequisites are in SP 611-112 and DA Circular 601-73. See your PSNCO and take that first step toward becoming a TART!

### **Met MOS changes made**

Under the new EPMS structure, the Meteorological Equipment Mechanic (35D20, organizational maintenance) and the Meteorological Equipment Repairman (35D30 DS/GS maintenance) MOSs have been eliminated. Replacing these MOSs are the 93F10/H1 and 26B10.

Personnel must first attend the 8-week, self-paced Artillery Ballistic Meteorology Course (93F10). Twenty percent of the graduates are then selected to attend the H1 portion of the 93F10/H1 course. This is a 9-week, and 3-day self-paced course. Upon graduation, the student is awarded the additional skill identifier H1.

This combined course qualifies the student both as an artillery ballistic met crewman and an organizational maintenance technician. The DS/GS maintenance of meteorological equipment is now performed by 26B (radar maintenance) personnel who are trained by adding a 5-week training period to the 26B course.