



Nord SS.11 fired from Bell HU-1A Iroquois during US Army trials at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

Anti-tank

All the weapons in this section are guided by operator command signals transmitted through wires paid out by the missile. Missiles are arbitrarily classed as light (up to 25lb firing weight), medium (up to 50lb) or heavy.

BANTAM

Light infantry weapon

PRIVATE VENTURE

DEVELOPMENT of this exceptionally light missile by A.B. Bofors was completed this year, and it is now fighting to achieve success in what is by far the most competitive guided-weapon field. Bantam can be combined in batteries on a vehicle, and an infantryman can carry a back-pack containing the missile (wings folded) and 33ft cable, the control unit being separate. The latter contains a system-test button, tracer selector (one or all four traces), missile selector (up to three can be connected at a time), safety firing button, monocular sight and joystick. The missile is fired from its case, as follows: battery activated; gyro pellet fired; booster ignited; gyro uncaged; missile leaves container (0.35sec); wings fully spread (0.45sec); sustainer and tracers ignite (1.1sec); fuze armed (2.5sec); impact up to 6,500ft (24 sec). The head is detonated by electrical contact between the two nose skins, even with glancing blows of 10° angle. Penetration exceeds 450mm (18in), and 500mm (20 in) is anticipated. During recent demonstrations for the Swedish Army and subse-

quently for 12 other nations, 17 hits were obtained with 20 rounds under very trying conditions. Bantams are "being supplied to various countries" for field trials, and bulk production will begin next summer.

COBRA

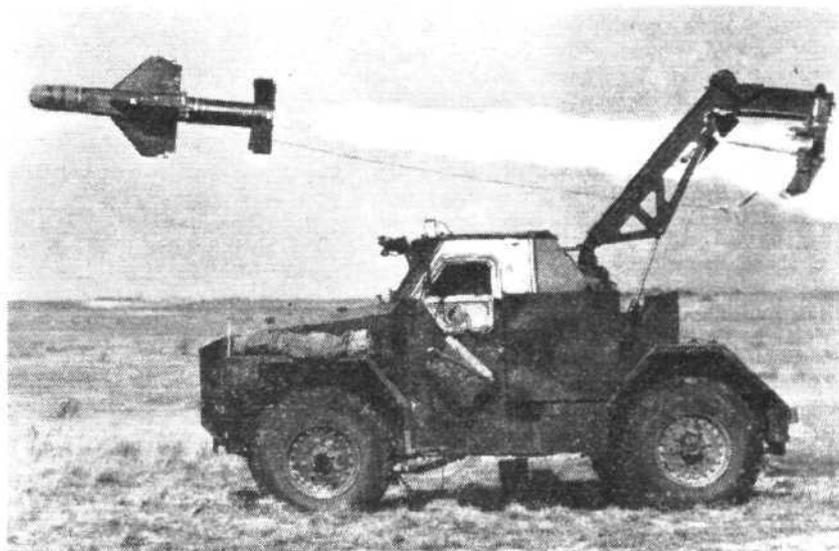
Light infantry weapon

FEDERAL GERMAN ARMY

IN an informative account of this weapon in our October 19 issue (page 617), the manufacturers, Bölkow-Entwicklungen, were quoted as saying that Cobra "is by far the lightest and cheapest weapon so far available, and is

already in production." One unique feature is that its angled boost charge gives it a jump-start from bare ground to a height of 10ft; and during this leap the gyro is spun-up by a cord fixed at its other end to a stake in the ground. Two missiles, 65ft extension cables, junction box and firing box can be set up by one man in under 2min; up to eight can be coupled to one firing box, and batteries of six or ten can be vehicle-mounted. Most of the airframe is reinforced plastics, alternative warheads are connected only by a quick-thread, and the fuze is armed by boost acceleration. Up to 24in penetration is being obtained. Large orders are being fulfilled for

Launch of Malkara from air-portable Royal Armoured Corps vehicle



ANTI-TANK MISSILES: 1, Nord SS.10; 2, Nord SS.11; 3, Mosquito; 4, Entac; 5, Malkara; 6, Cobra; 7, Bantam; 8, Vigilant; 9, Python

