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CONSTRUCTION OF TWO EXPERIMENTAL SHORT FORMS OF THE GENERAL INF--ETC(U)  
JUN 61 R G BERKHOUSE , H KAPLAN , J DEJUNG  
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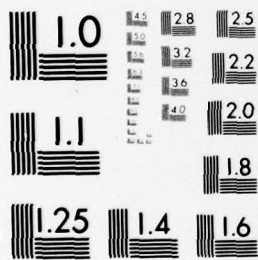
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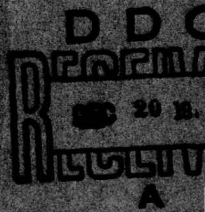
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MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART  
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Short Forms of the  
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9 Research Memorandum 61-8

6 CONSTRUCTION OF TWO EXPERIMENTAL SHORT FORMS OF THE  
GENERAL INFORMATION TEST

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14 AGO-HFRB-RM-61-8

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## CONSTRUCTION OF TWO EXPERIMENTAL SHORT FORMS OF THE GENERAL INFORMATION TEST

Research in progress since 1949, including studies involving actual Korean combat, led to the conclusion that effective combat selection is most likely to result from measuring not only skills and abilities, but also such personal factors as motivation, interests, attitudes, and activities. This research resulted in the inclusion of two new measures in the Army Classification Battery: the Classification Inventory (CI), a personality questionnaire which is part of the Infantry Combat Aptitude Area (IA), and the General Information Test (GIT), an interest measure which is part of the Artillery, Armor and Engineer Combat Aptitude Area (AA).

### OBJECTIVE

The Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel has directed additional differential screening at Armed Forces Examining Stations of Category IV personnel (percentiles 10 to 30 on AFQT) in order to avoid induction of men who will not achieve a standard score of 90 on two or more aptitude areas. To meet this requirement in the Combat Aptitude Areas, construction of short forms of the Classification Inventory and the General Information Test was undertaken. The present Research Memorandum describes the construction of two experimental short forms of the General Information Test.

### ITEM SELECTION

Approximately 200 items not included in the operational forms of the General Information Test were collected--or constructed--and classified according to content area. From this pool, two 70-item pools were selected on the basis of available validity information, duplication of content area in the operational long forms, and the addition of new content judged to be predictive of combat potential.

The following sources were used:

1. Unused items from experimental forms developed for HFRB by the American Institute of Research for the operational forms of the GIT.
2. Items from a series of General Information Tests, bearing the collective designation DOL 7-X, developed as experimental predictors for the Officer Prediction Task.
3. Additional items constructed to meet shortages in specific content areas.

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Using the basic rationale of the General Information Test--that men with strongly masculine interest patterns (measured indirectly through knowledge achieved about masculine-type sports and activities) make better combat fighters than men who do not show masculine interest patterns--the minimum number of items hypothesized to cover the content of this rationale were selected judgmentally from the two 70-item pools. This resulted in two experimental 30-item short forms of the General Information Test, GIT-2QX and GIT-3QX.

#### RESULTS

Table 1 gives the content areas covered by the two 70-item pools and the two experimental short forms, GIT-2QX and GIT-3QX. Item content of the two operational long forms of the GIT is also shown for purposes of comparison. The items of the 70-item pools, appropriately keyed and coded by content area, were duplicated on individual item cards and are available in HFRB files. The reverse side of each card gives all available item statistics.

Short Form GIT-2QX is included as Section I (Items 1-30) of Test Booklet PT 4125. GIT-3QX is included as Section I (Items 1-30) of Test Booklet PT 4127. These experimental instruments, along with other experimental booklets designed for use as alternate forms of the Army Qualification Battery, are being administered to 2000 EM (N = 1000 for PT 4125 and 1000 for PT 4127) at ten Armed Forces Examining Stations (Input Quality Task A-12). Administration of the battery started in June 1961, and data collection is expected to be completed by the end of August 1961. Analysis of the data is intended to establish norms, develop conversion tables, and provide information concerning the relationship among the tests of the AQB.

Table 1

GENERAL INFORMATION TEST EXPERIMENTAL SHORT FORMS COMPARED WITH  
OPERATIONAL LONG FORMS

(Content Areas and Number of Items in Each Area)

Content Area	Operational Forms <sup>a</sup>		Short-Form Pools		Short Forms <sup>b</sup>	
	GIT-1	GIT-2	A	B	GIT-20X	GIT-30X
<b>I. Active Sports</b>						
<b>A. Team Sports</b>						
1. Baseball, Softball	2	2	3	3	2	2
2. Basketball	1	2	2	2	2	1
3. Football	1	1	3	3	2	
4. Hockey			2	1	2	1
5. Volleyball	1					
6. Soccer				1		
7. Lacrosse		1				
<b>B. Individual Sports</b>						
1. Camping and Hiking	3	3	5	5	1	2
2. Bowling	1		1			
3. Boxing	1	1	1	1	1	1
4. Boating	1	1	1	1		
5. Diving			1			
6. Horseback Riding and Racing		1		2		
7. Stock Car Racing	1		3			
8. Skiing				2		
9. Swimming	2		2	1	1	1
10. Track	1	1	2	2		1
11. Wrestling			1			
12. Fishing		1	2	2	1	1
13. Other			1			

Table 1 (Cont'd)

Content Area	Operational Forms <sup>a</sup>		Short-Form Pools		Short Forms <sup>b</sup>	
	GIT-1	GIT-2	A	B	GIT-2QX	GIT-3QX
<b>II. Hobbies and Pastimes</b>						
A. Auto Driving and Motor-cycling	8	11	8	11	3	2
B. Gambling	2	2	3	3	2	2
C. Firearms and Hunting	8	5	9	10	5	5
D. Pool	1					
E. Tools and Mechanical Equipment		1	1	2	1	1
F. Models (Car, Plane, Train)	2	2	2	1	1	1
G. Smoking and Drinking		1		2		
III. Knowledge of the Military	14	14	17	15	6	9
TOTALS	50	50	70	70	30	30

<sup>a</sup>Operational Forms: GIT-1, DA Form 6117; GIT-2, DA Form 6118.

<sup>b</sup>Experimental Short Forms: GIT-2QX, PT 4125; GIT-3QX, PT 4127.