

VIETNAMESE



MILITARY POLICE SCHOOL

By Capt Peter Slusar

MAAG Advisor to the MP School

"Welcome to Danang, home of the first Military Police School established in Vietnam." Although not as elaborate nor fully endowed with training devices as the US Army Military Police school in Fort Gordon, Georgia, the spirit "Of The Troops And For The Troops" has found its place in this southeast Asian country of communist-fighters.

The mission assigned to Captain Vu Van Dan, the Commandant of the Vietnamese Military Police School, is to train the best soldiers to become top notch military policemen. Although the Vietnamese Military Police Corps is in its infancy, it is rapidly demonstrating its capabilities by the manner in which escorts, town patrolling, POWs, traffic control, and road and bridge security are handled.

A short intensive course of instruction was given in April of this year to the Vietnamese officers, senior NCOs, and other cadre men assigned to the Vietnamese Military Police School. The instruction was geared to further develop the cadre and the instructors assigned to the school. In May, dividends of the instruction began, as 113 students arrived for their basic military police training. By July the students were well on their way to becoming a member of the "Quan Canh," as they passed their eleventh week of training on mili-

tary police subjects. This first portion of their training consisted of a pre-breakfast 5-mile run, judo, hand to hand combat, military police operations and functions, traffic control, riot control, motor and foot patrols, physical security, handling of POWs, and .45 caliber pistol firing on the FBI qualification course.

The program of instruction placed special emphasis on practical exercises, over 75% of the instruction being conducted in that manner. In military police operations and functions for example, the students were divided into four platoons, one platoon performed as a regular MP patrol on duty, the second acted out various incidents as directed by assistant instructors, and the remaining students observed the actions and made notes on the errors committed by the student MP patrols. The platoons rotated and critiques were held after each problem by the instructors and students. For realistic training and experience, arrangements were made with the local mayor and chief of police to have the students participate in traffic and riot control exercises within the city of Danang. For one whole afternoon the students controlled all the key traffic points in the city. It soon became evident that the students had made quite a favorable impression on the local police department,

(Above left) "Quan Canh"—Vietnamese MP directs traffic within the Military Police School compound in Danang, Vietnam. (Below left) Vietnamese students practice a platoon wedge formation during riot control training. (Below right) M/ST Bo, Judo Instructor, uses a hip throw against a student during a judo session.

