

■ PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S call for "greater ability to deal with guerrilla forces, insurrection, and subversion" is being answered by the Army Special Forces, a ready-for-anything group of fighting men whose distinctive emblem is their jaunty green berets. Other outfits—particularly the Marines—also deal with this problem as one of their responsibilities. But for the ASF, it is the job: a special job for very special soldiers.

I'd like you to meet one of these men, Master Sergeant Paul M. Darcy. He's 32 years old—10 years in the Army, nine of them in the ASF. He stands six feet, three inches,

weighs 175 pounds, and has the lean, rugged look that is characteristic of ASF men. He's married, has three children, and comes from my old home town, Brooklyn.

Sergeant Darcy joined the ASF in Korea and has served with it in Germany and Southeast Asia. In between, he has been helping train ASF teams at the Army Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, N.C. That's where I met him recently and asked him this question: "Sergeant, what's so special about the Army Special Forces?" The result was this story.

—George Fielding Eliot

I TRAIN AMERICA'S

WHAT'S SPECIAL about the men I train for the Army Special Forces? First and foremost, they are individuals.

Every man who has earned the privilege of wearing our green beret is a personality in his own right—a man who has been through a hard-grinding mill and proved that he belongs in an outfit composed of the most self-confident soldiers in the world.

We who train these men ask ourselves every minute of every gruelling day: would I be willing to trust my life to this man's courage and good judgment? If one of us says no—just once—good-bye green beret. Where the ASF goes, there's no margin for error.

Where do the "green berets" go? Anywhere that a free



Hand-to-hand combat is an important part of Army Special Forces training.

When a brush-fire war flares up, the U.S. now can call out its "green berets"—a rugged outfit that specializes in hit-and-run, sudden-death fighting

GUERRILLAS

By M/Sgt. PAUL M. DARCY

Introduction by GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT

people are in danger from Communist subversion, infiltration, guerrilla attacks. Our mission is to teach such people how to defend themselves. We're doing that today in South Vietnam; we may be doing the same thing tomorrow in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, or even Eastern Europe.

Our first task when we arrive in a threatened country is to win the confidence of the people we've come to help: people who probably aren't of our race and certainly have different values and ways of looking at things. We have to prove to them that, if they'll let us help them, they can defend themselves and their homes.

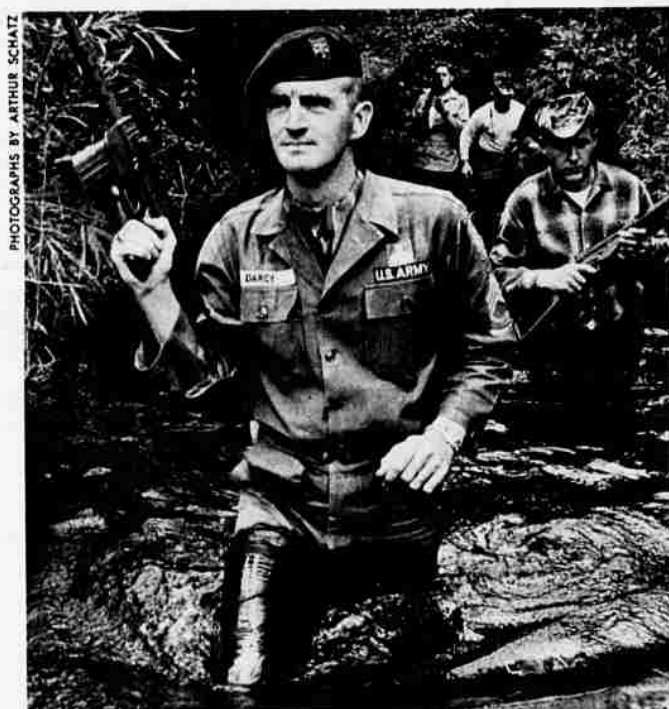
The day the village people take gun in hand and start shooting at guerrillas instead of running away is the day

the guerrilla is out of business in that neighborhood. Guerrillas can't operate unless the local people help them, hide them, feed them, give them information.

Another thing that's very special about the Army Special Forces is our team organization. Our basic team consists of two officers and 10 enlisted men. These teams are area-oriented: that is, each is trained to operate in a particular part of the world and is capable of training and directing a battalion of local troops of up to 1,200 men.

Of the 10 men, two are specially trained in operations and intelligence (they must be leaders, have combat experience, and know the country, language, local customs, and terrain); two are communicators (able to handle any kind of

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Sgt. Darcy leads crew through muddy water during marching session.



Guerrillas spring into action on a training mission (left) after parachuting behind enemy lines for surprise attack. Sgt. Darcy (right) demonstrates the correct judo hold to apply to an enemy captive while simultaneously searching him for hidden weapons.



Sgt. Darcy (left) sprawls on a railroad bridge while directing men in demolition practice. The group of guerrillas (above) prepare to evacuate a beachhead after simulated attack.