



# ALERT!

Nine o'clock of a Tuesday morning and all is well at headquarters. The call to arms breaks the stillness with a ringing insistence. The call to arms . . . ALERT!

Movement is swift, sure, studied. There is a practised calm about the rapidity that negates any suggestion of mayhem. Clerks, typists, stenographers leave their desks quickly for the billets. Class A's are discarded for field uniform, weapons are drawn, horseshoe rolls strapped to backs. In ten minutes the vans have pulled up outside of headquarters buildings and essentials—field desks, maps, defense weapons, tents, ammunition—are loaded. Everyone knows his place, everyone knows his job.

. . . In the alert areas defense perimeters are established, tents set up, guards posted. Sometimes it lasts an hour; sometimes two or three or more. The 1st Div is ready, night and day at any hour. It will not be caught off guard.

## 1st Div Hq & Hq Det

Headquarters and Headquarters Co is the housing unit for key clerical personnel attached to 1st Div headquarters. It billets, feeds, trains and disciplines the behind-lines enlisted man who keeps the paper work in order, the van running, the public informed, the athletic fields busy, the money straight.

It is not an easy command. Capt Carl Bernard, CO, handles the lead

reins with experience. Somehow, he manages to get the sections coordinated and all personnel present for TIE lectures and out on the firing range. Heavy section work loads often call for sudden shifts in plans. These are met with ever-ready alternatives.

The 410 enlisted men, nine officers and two warrant officers whose essential mission it is to administer and service Division Headquarters are a coordinated experienced group of soldiers who are at home in the field or behind a desk.

## 1st Div MP Co

The 1st Military Police Company is a blinding aggregation of spit and polish and efficiency. The MPs perform myriad duties — courtesy patrol, road guard, special security guards, honor guards. They are responsible for keeping order, for proper public appearance of personnel.

Commanded by Maj R. S. Bentley, the unit has won repeated commendations, among them one from President Eisenhower, for extraordinary perform-

ance of assigned mission. Polite, willing, well-informed—men of this unit are friends in need, ever-ready to guard the safety of the enlisted man and officer.

Special duty this year included the posting of guards at the Big Four Conference in Berlin and an honor guard for Gen Marcel M. Carpentier, Commander of Allied Land Forces Central Europe, during the latter's visit to Wuerzburg.

Alert, ever-ready—the 1st MPs are first of their kind.