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A map is oriented and the foe located

Recon soldiers spurt forward in assault exercises



The aggressor is spotted en route and appropriate action taken



1st Recon Co

Literally a one-company army, the 1st Recon Co has the ability to act as a completely separate and sustaining force for a limited period of time. This forward unit of military experts in the art of probing provides within its specialized ranks a composite of vital abilities that give to the 1st Div the world's most accurate "eyes and ears."

Speed, maneuverability, fire power—these are the first requirements of any military force. They are particularly important to a reconnaissance group whose primary mission is the gathering of information that will provide the commanding general with a continued source of facts that help him to decide the moves of the component parts of his division.

Led by Capt John J. Briscoe, the 1st Recon Co is a malleable force that can pound itself into varied shapes to perform varied functions in hairline minimum time. Accuracy in the field is not easily come by. Day after day, week after week, the troops are subjected to an intensified training that schools them in basic requirements and then backtracks to add to common knowledge with specialized instruction in the intricate art of intelligence combat.

The Recon soldier must learn when he is meant to be seen and when he is not meant to be seen; he must learn when to move under cover of darkness and when urgency of mission precludes movement by night and requires daylight movement and the utilization of whatever natural cover may be available. He must learn to be an expert shot-to hit what he fires at the first time and to hit it in the right place. In short, he must learn to be as near perfect a soldier as it is possible for any human being hardened to an outdoor life and accustomed to discipline to be.

This skilled group of able young soldiers, hardened and sharpened by a deliberate and intensive program of training, represents the Big Red One at its peak of smashing fighting power.

