

# Army Intelligence School Silent as Sphinx at Door

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BALTIMORE.—Outside the two-story headquarters building at Fort Holabird, the home of the United States Army Intelligence School, squats a statue of a golden sphinx. As a symbol of silence, it is well-placed.

Col. Marshall L. Fallwell, the commandant of the school, which is called USAINTS by the military, declares:

"This is just another Army school."

Among the recent graduates of USAINTS, however, were six of the eight Green Berets who were under arrest in Saigon for the alleged murder of Thai Khac Chuyen, a reported double agent. Charges against all eight were dropped by the Army when the Central Intelligence Agency declined to permit its agents to testify.

The enlisted men and officers attending the school—about 2,000 at a time, according to Colonel Fallwell—are immersed in such courses as interrogation, intelligence analysis, area studies and intelligence photography.

There is, for example, a course called DAME, an acronym for Defense Against Methods of Entry. In teaching prospective agents how to protect secret documents, it also gives them a background in how to pick locks.

Another course, named DASE for Defense Against Sound Equipment, instructs students in the detection of electronic eavesdropping equipment. The students also become proficient, as a by-product, in the techniques of successful bugging.

At nearby Fort Howard on the Patapsco River, the school trains combat intelligence agents amid the thatched huts of a mock Vietnamese village named Duchuc.

"That's where they teach the bad guys," said one officer at the school. "The good guys are here at Holabird." He did not elaborate.

## Old Grads Silent

Both officers and enlisted men refused to talk about the secret activities at Fort Holabird. Even men who had attended the school and who

are now out of the Army, while tacitly conceding that some types of "irregular indoctrination" were taught, declined to describe them.

Officers at USAINTS, including Colonel Fallwell, deny that any militarily improper courses are taught at the school. They voiced anger at a statement of a lieutenant who filed suit in Federal court earlier this year in an effort to gain a discharge as a conscientious objector.

In his suit, the officer, Lieut. Francis T. Reitemeyer, who now works in the financial section at Fort Holabird, asserted that while a student at the school he was taught to use "the most extreme forms of torture" on Vietnamese civilians.

The six-page statement charged that instructors had told him that he would be assigned as an adviser to mercenaries in Vietnam whose duties would include "eliminating civilians, political enemies and Vietcong sympathizers."

The case is still pending. At the time the suit was filed, a spokesman for the school issued a statement saying that USAINTS was not teaching "principles in violation of the Geneva Convention."

Situated in southeast Baltimore, adjacent to the workingman's suburb of Dundalk, Fort Holabird is a 96-acre complex surrounded by a fence topped by barbed wire. It is one of the few "closed" Army installations, and visi-

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tors must obtain permits at the front gate.

"Demonstrations without the prior written consent of the command are prohibited," reads a sign on the wire fence, a warning presumably directed at any antiwar protesters who might assemble on the street. "No trespassing" and "restricted area" are other warnings on display.

Inside the fence are the buildings usually associated with military living—new and old barracks, a post exchange, brick and cinder-block classroom buildings and a chapel. A few barnlike buildings at the southern end of the post are locked and visitors are discouraged. "Interrogation Committee" reads a sign on one such building.

Some 8,000 men a year graduate from the intelligence school. Most of them are trained in the often tedious work of counterintelligence, including the protection of secret documents.

## 'Doorbell Ringers'

Many of the graduates are sent to various points around the country where, usually dressed in civilian clothes, they carry out security clearances on individuals doing business or working for the Army. These agents are known as "doorbell ringers" in the spy trade.

Other graduates of USAINTS working in various intelligence analyzing and planning centers in Washington or in such places as the highly secret base on

Fords Island in Hawaii's Pearl Harbor.

Colonel Fallwell said that subjects taught at USAINTS broke down into three major fields: counterintelligence, combat intelligence and strategic intelligence.

He described counterintelligence as the "attempt to block enemy activities aimed at subverting people or securing information." Combat intelligence, he said, was designed to furnish information needed immediately to conduct a military operation.

The third field, strategic intelligence, was described by the school commandant as "total intelligence—the over-all picture of a foreign nation including biographies of its leaders, its sociological make-up and anything of value."

Fort Holabird, named for Brig. Gen. Samuel S. Holabird, Quartermaster General of the Army from 1883 to 1890, was established in 1917 as Camp Holabird. During both world wars, it was used primarily by the Transportation Corps.

The Army jeep was designed, tested and built at Holabird, as was the amphibious vehicle known as the duck. The first intelligence school was established at the installation in 1945.

Fort Holabird also houses an induction center, the scene of several antiwar demonstrations in recent years, as well as such units as the Electronic Warfare Service, the Office of the Judge Advocate General and the Army Imagery Interpretation Center.

It is also the repository of thousands of records on military investigations and dossiers on alleged subversive individuals and organizations.