

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 18TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE
APO 96491

REGULATION
NUMBER 190-8

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MILITARY POLICE

Military Police Operations

1. PURPOSE: To provide guidance to commanders and provost marshals on the concept of military police employment in the Republic of Vietnam as it applies to elements of the 18th Military Police Brigade.
2. RESPONSIBILITIES: The 18th Military Police Brigade, a major subordinate command of Headquarters USARV, exercises command and control over all non-divisional military police resources.
3. MISSION: To provide complete military police support, to include physical security and criminal investigative service throughout South Vietnam for US Army forces, within resources; and to exercise command and control of assigned and attached military police units unless otherwise provided.
4. ORGANIZATION: The 18th Military Police Brigade is organized under COSTAR. It consists of two military police groups, the 16th, 89th and one Criminal Investigation Group (Provisional). All military police are employed on an area support basis. Area support is defined as the conduct of military police operations on a routine basis in a designated geographical area where supported units are located. On occasion, the support may be of a more direct form to a specific unit, however such support is normally for short periods and is on a mission type basis.
 - a. The 16th Military Police Group, consists of the 504th Military Police Battalion (19-35F), the 93rd and 97th Military Police Battalions (19-500E), 981st Military Police Company (SD) and the 177th and 178th Military Police Detachments (19-500E). With these resources the 16th Military Police Group provides area military police support within the I and II CTZ's.
 - b. The 89th Military Police Group, consists of the 716th and 720th Military Police Battalions (19-35F), the 92nd and 95th Military Police Battalions (19-500E), the 212th Military Police Company (SD) and the 179th and 90th Military Police Detachments (19-500E). With these resources, the 89th Military Police Group provides area military police support within the III and IV CTZ's. Operational control of the 716th Military Police Battalion

*This regulation supersedes 18th MP Bde Reg 190-8, 20 January 1968. This regulation rescinds 18th MP Bde Ltr, SUBJECT: Relocation and Reallocation of Brigade Resources, 10 September 1967.

and the 90th Military Police Detachment is the responsibility of the United States Army Headquarters Area Command, Saigon.

c. The Criminal Investigation Group (Provisional) provides centralized command and control over all non-divisional criminal investigation activities in Vietnam. It is composed of the 40th, 87th, 147th, and 252d Criminal Investigation Detachments. These detachments are located in II and III CTZ's and provide criminal investigation support in the I, II, III and IV CTZ's.

d. In addition, the 458th Transportation Company (PBR), is assigned to and under the operational control of the 18th Military Police Brigade. This company provides security of ports, vessels and inland waterways throughout the four corps tactical zones.

5. OPERATIONS: Military police support is provided on an area basis to relieve combat commanders of police responsibilities not directly associated with combat missions; control and security of base camp areas; and insure complete area coverage.

a. In accomplishing the above, the Commanding Officer, 16th Military Police Group functions as the Provost Marshal, I and II CTZ's, while the Commanding Officer, 89th Military Police Group functions as the Provost Marshal, III and IV CTZ's. Commander/Provost Marshal responsibility thus becomes a dual role for the incumbent (See Appendix A).

b. Each battalion is assigned an area of responsibility based upon its strength, organization and capabilities. The missions performed include: combat operations in an assigned tactical area of operations, combat support provided directly to combat units, PW evacuation, physical security, convoy escort, route reconnaissance, sentry dog operations, military police operations in built up areas, and other routine military police services. Normally, combat support will be provided on a direct support basis as opposed to OPCON or attachment, and the amount provided will be based upon mission requirements.

c. Battalion commanders function as area provost marshals in their assigned geographical areas of responsibility. Provost marshals operating in cities and installations within a battalion area of responsibility will function as assistant or deputy provost marshals under the command and supervision of the battalion commander/provost marshal. The battalion commander/provost marshal will establish military police stations at those locations within his area of responsibility where military police operations are not of sufficient magnitude to justify a provost marshal. The senior military police officer/non-commissioned officer at these locations will function as the station commander.

d. Commanders will insure that the Vietnamese National Police are advised of the conduct of all US investigations wherein the Government of Vietnam has a vested interest. They will be offered the opportunity to participate in a

combined investigation, if desired, and will be kept completely informed, within security limitations, during the progress of all investigations. In addition, the results of each investigation will be discussed with the Vietnamese counterpart to include the actions taken.

e. Commanders/provost marshals at all levels will upon receipt of this regulation insure that major commanders, local senior commanders, Vietnamese law enforcement counterparts and other FVMAF police agencies are briefed on this concept of military police operations and the variety of support available to them. Subsequent briefings will be presented as often as required. These briefings will point out the increased response, flexibility and advantages of the area concept of operation (See Appendix A).

f. Provost marshals at all levels will monitor the criminal investigation program and activities within their areas of responsibility. In addition, each provost marshal and local criminal investigative element will establish procedures to insure both are informed on all complaints and CI cases being conducted.

6. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:

a. Relocation of units.

(1) Group commanders may relocate on a permanent basis platoon size units, military police stations, and CI field offices without prior approval of this headquarters. Report such action to this headquarters within 24 hours after movement, to include location by grid coordinate.

(2) Group commanders may further delegate this authority to battalion commanders and CI detachment commanders, as appropriate.

(3) The brigade commander retains the authority to relocate company size and higher units as well as the relocation of provost marshal detachments and CI detachments.

b. Commitments.

(1) Group commanders are authorized to make personnel adjustments in existing missions, reporting such action to this headquarters within 24 hours.

(2) Group commanders may assume commitments of short duration involving units of platoon size or smaller.

(3) The brigade commander retains the authority to assume new missions of a permanent nature, all commitments having possible political implications, and commitments involving units larger than a platoon. Termination authority for these same missions and commitments also rests with the brigade commander.

c. Emergencies. In the event of local emergency, group commanders may commit up to one company or equivalent size force for a period not to exceed ten days, immediately notifying this headquarters of action taken.

7. COMMAND RESPONSIBILITY: Inherent in the commander/provost marshal concept is the philosophy that command takes precedence over staff responsibilities. In this connection, commanders/provost marshals will avoid becoming involved in the routine day to day administrative functions of their subordinate provost marshals. Subordinate provost marshals are responsible for the conduct of all military police activities within their assigned geographical areas, and as such, will be appointed as staff provost marshals to the local area/installation commanders. The commander/provost marshal will provide the necessary overall direction and supervision to all subordinate provost marshal activities.

8. PRIORITIES: Brigade resources will be employed in consonance with the three principal priorities of combat, combat support and combat service support as established below:

a. Combat. Offensive and defensive operations within an assigned Tactical Area of Responsibility or Area of Operations.

b. Combat Support.

(1) Direct combat support provided to combat units.

(2) Evacuation of PW's from division and separate brigades and control of PW's in US custody.

(3) Specialized physical security measures critical to accomplishment of combat operation (Examples: security of vessels, ports, inland waterways, pipelines, ammunition depots, supply convoys moving through hostile territory, lines of communication, and tactical operations centers of major headquarters).

(4) Other physical security measures requiring specialized military police techniques or equipment (Examples: security of high value items and major supply depots, other facilities currently using sentry dogs).

(5) Security of installations from hostile attack, wherein units employ techniques of combat units.

c. Combat Service Support.

(1) Discipline, law and order, to include prevention and investigation of crime, confinement of US prisoners, identification and control of individuals entering or exiting major installations, and military police customs operations at selected locations.

(2) Specialized physical security measures for sensitive installations and classified material (Examples: classified weapons or ammunition, radio relay sites).

(3) Security measures capable of being performed by interior guards.

d. Since contingency functions (VIP escort, rear area security, etc.) are not continual functions they will be assigned a priority depending in each instance on the importance or urgency of the task.

9. RELATIONSHIPS AND REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT:

a. The 18th Military Police Brigade will provide military police on a mission type basis operating in a direct support role. Priorities as stated in para 8 are established for all brigade elements and provide the basis for the employment of military police when requirements exceed capabilities.

b. Direct coordination between military police group commanders and the field forces provost marshals and between battalion commanders and division provost marshals is authorized and encouraged. Under normal conditions, requests for support from division provost marshals will be channelled thru the field force provost marshal to the appropriate military police group commander (See Appendix B).

10. SUMMARY: The military police concept in Vietnam is one of flexibility and response. It is based on satisfying the total needs of all US Army elements in Vietnam. The intent of the area concept is to avoid static commitments on a continual basis. It dictates a need to review periodically personnel and equipment resources against mission requirements. Further, it insures the proper and effective utilization of manpower and material in the accomplishment of the overall mission of the military police in the Republic of Vietnam.

11. REFERENCES:

- a. AR 195-10.
- b. MACV Directive 190-1.
- c. USARV Regulation 190-1.
- d. USARV Regulation 195-10.

(AVEGC)

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2 Appendices
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