



CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
OF COLD WAR PROPERTIES

FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

AUGUST, 2005

Report Prepared By  
Thomason and Associates  
Preservation Planners  
P.O. Box 121225  
Nashville, TN 37212  
Tel and Fax: 615-385-4960  
e-mail: [thomason@bellsouth.net](mailto:thomason@bellsouth.net)

Report Prepared For the US Corps of Engineers, Savannah, Georgia  
and the Cultural Resources Management Program, Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Principal Investigator, Philip Thomason

---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

List of Figures.....	iii
Abstract.....	iv
I. Introduction.....	1
II. The Cold War Context of Fort Bragg .....	8
III. The Cold War and National Register Eligibility .....	36
IV. Fort Bragg’s Cold War-Era National Register Eligible Properties .....	48
V. Summary .....	66
VI. Bibliography .....	67
APPENDIX A - Resume of Principal Investigator .....	71
APPENDIX B – Inventoried Properties Determined Ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places .....	74

## LIST OF FIGURES

---

Figure 1: Location of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.....	2
Figure 2: Location of Fort Bragg, Camp Mackall, Simmons Army Air Field and Pope AFB.....	3
Figure 3: General plan and layout of Fort Bragg. The Old Post Historic District is outlined in pink in the center of the installation .....	4
Figure 4: Map of National Register – eligible Simmons Army Air Field .....	6
Figure 5: View of the Special Warfare Center Historic District showing Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall. In the background are the identical barracks buildings of Moon and Hardy Halls .....	48
Figure 6: Location of the Special Warfare Center Historic District.....	51
Figure 7: View of the Special Warfare Center ca. 1975 showing Kennedy Hall, Bryant Hall, the Memorial Plaza, and a battalion and regimental headquarters buildings ( <i>Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives</i> ).....	52
Figure 8: Kennedy Hall under construction in 1965 ( <i>photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives</i> ).....	53
Figure 9: Dedication of Bryant Hall in 1972 ( <i>photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives</i> ) .....	53
Figure 10: Memorial Plaza and Bryant Hall, ca. 1975 ( <i>photo courtesy of the Special Operation Forces Archives</i> ).....	54
Figure 11: Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall, ca. 1975 ( <i>photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives</i> ) .....	54
Figure 12: Kennedy Hall, south and west elevations .....	55
Figure 13: Kennedy Hall, south and east elevations .....	56
Figure 14: Kennedy Hall, east elevation .....	57
Figure 15: Kennedy Hall, north elevation .....	57
Figure 16: Building D-3206, Bryant Hall, north and west elevations .....	58
Figure 17: Bryant Hall, view of the north elevation.....	59
Figure 18: Building D-3116, John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, south and west elevations.....	60
Figure 19: Building D-3116, JFK Memorial Chapel, east elevation .....	62
Figure 20: Building D-3116, JFK Chapel, view of the sanctuary.....	63
Figure 21: The Prayer Window in the sanctuary.....	63
Figure 22: The JFK Chapel (Building D-3116) grounds include a number of commemorative markers including this tribute to the Special Forces by actor John Wayne .....	64
Figure 23: Building D-3215, south and east elevations .....	64
Figure 24: Location of Building D-3116, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel .....	65

## ABSTRACT

---

Fort Bragg is owned by the US Government, is home to the Army's Airborne and Special Operations Forces, and is one of the largest military installations in the world. Established in 1918, Fort Bragg is presently home to the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, the US Army Special Operations Command, and numerous other support units. The post has been continually expanded and enlarged throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century and now consists of a vast infrastructure of buildings, firing ranges, airfields, training areas and drop zones.

As a federally-owned property, Fort Bragg is under obligation to comply with Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This review process is outlined in the US Code of Federal Regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. During the past decade the historic resources of the facility dating from 1918 to 1950 have been inventoried and evaluated for their eligibility to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In 2000, an update of Fort Bragg's resources by Ruth Little identified one historic district, the Old Post Historic District, as meeting the criteria of the NRHP. In 2000 and 2004, two other studies identified the NRHP eligibility of the Overhills Historic District and Simmons Army Airfield Historic District. In addition to these properties seven individual properties are also either listed on, or considered eligible for, the NRHP. The rehabilitation, preservation, and maintenance of these properties are administered by the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program. In order to evaluate additional historically and architecturally significant properties, this study of Cold War-era period properties at the base was commissioned in 2004.

The Army's definition of the Cold War period is from 1946 to 1989. This time period begins with former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's 1946 Iron Curtain speech and ends with the demolition of the Berlin Wall in 1989.<sup>1</sup> During the Cold War, America developed extensive offensive and defensive weaponry including both nuclear and conventional capabilities. These decades also witnessed America's involvement in two major wars, Korea and Vietnam, and several other interventions.

In 2004, the Savannah Corps of Engineers contracted with Thomason and Associates to complete the Cultural Resources Survey of Cold War resources at Fort Bragg. Buildings and structures at the post which appeared to possess significance during the period of the Cold War were evaluated and inventoried in accordance with North Carolina state survey standards. Under Army guidelines Cold War resources are those that relate directly to the Cold War itself, not just to the Cold War period. The majority of these resources are less than fifty years of age and must be evaluated not only for their significance in the Cold War but also be of "exceptional significance" in order to qualify for listing in the NRHP. These standards were utilized in the evaluation and assessment of the Cold War era properties at Fort Bragg.

All properties constructed between 1946 and 1989 at Fort Bragg were reviewed for their potential to meet NRHP eligibility within the Army's context of the Cold War. Of these properties, twenty-two were inventoried in accordance with standards set forth by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. From these properties, the Cold War survey and assessment identified one historic district and one individual building which met the Army's Cold War significance, NRHP Criterion A, and Criteria Consideration G: the Special Warfare Historic District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel.

---

<sup>1</sup> Mary K. Lavin, *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of US Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties*, (Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland: Army Environmental Center, 1998), 9.

The Special Warfare Center Historic District was identified as meeting NRHP criteria for its role in the development of the Army's Special Operations Forces. This proposed district is located along Ardennes Street and includes two contributing buildings, Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall, which were the center of the Army's Special Forces strategic planning and training during the Cold War. The Army's Special Forces were developed in response to Cold War military demands and played a significant role during the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Associated with the Special Warfare Center is the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel which is significant under NRHP Criteria Consideration A for its artistic merit. This building contains notable stained glass windows and has served as the religious and commemorative center for the Special Forces since its construction in 1966. With the exception of the Special Warfare Historic District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, no other properties were identified as meeting the Army's criteria for Cold War significance.

# I. INTRODUCTION

---

## *A. Overview*

Fort Bragg is located in the Sandhills region of the south-central section of North Carolina approximately 90 miles northwest of the Atlantic Ocean and 50 miles southwest of the capital city of Raleigh (Figure 1). The facility is ten miles northwest of downtown Fayetteville, North Carolina (2000 population 121,015). Fort Bragg's reservation extends across portions of six North Carolina counties: Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Moore, Scotland, and Richmond. The main Cantonment area is located in Cumberland County while the Range and Training Areas are located primarily in Hoke, Moore, and Harnett Counties. Camp Mackall, consisting of an airfield and training area is located approximately 6.6 miles west of Fort Bragg in Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties (Figure 2). Altogether the Fort Bragg Reservation contains 160,760 acres. As of August of 2003, Fort Bragg's real property inventory contained more than 4,900 buildings.

Fort Bragg is the world's largest airborne facility with over 45,000 military personnel and the post is widely known as the "Home of the Airborne and the Special Forces." Fort Bragg houses the 82nd Airborne Division, assigned here in 1946 after returning from Europe, and the XVIII Airborne Corps, reactivated here in 1951. The Psychological Warfare Center - now the US Army Special Operations Command - was established here in 1952, and other Fort Bragg units include the 1st Corps Support Command, 44th Medical Brigade, XVIII Airborne Corps Artillery, 18th Aviation Brigade, and 35th Signal Brigade. Fort Bragg is a rapid deployment post with a mission of being ready to fight anywhere in the world within 18 hours from notice to deploy.

The main Cantonment of Fort Bragg is divided into various zones of use (Figure 3). In the center of the installation is the NRHP-eligible Old Post Historic District which is comprised primarily of buildings constructed in the 1930s and 1940s. This district includes the historic command complex of the post as well as the residential areas of Bastogne Gables and Normandy Heights. Directly to the west of this area is the Womack Army Medical Center complex. To the east and west of the Old Post Historic District are large residential areas of Wherry and Capehart Housing built from the 1950s to the 1960s. Between Ardennes Street and Gruber Road is the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division command and barracks area. Ardennes Street is also the location of the Army's Special Operations Command. The Simmons Army Airfield is located on the eastern edge of the post and to the north is Pope Air Force Base.



Figure 1: Location of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



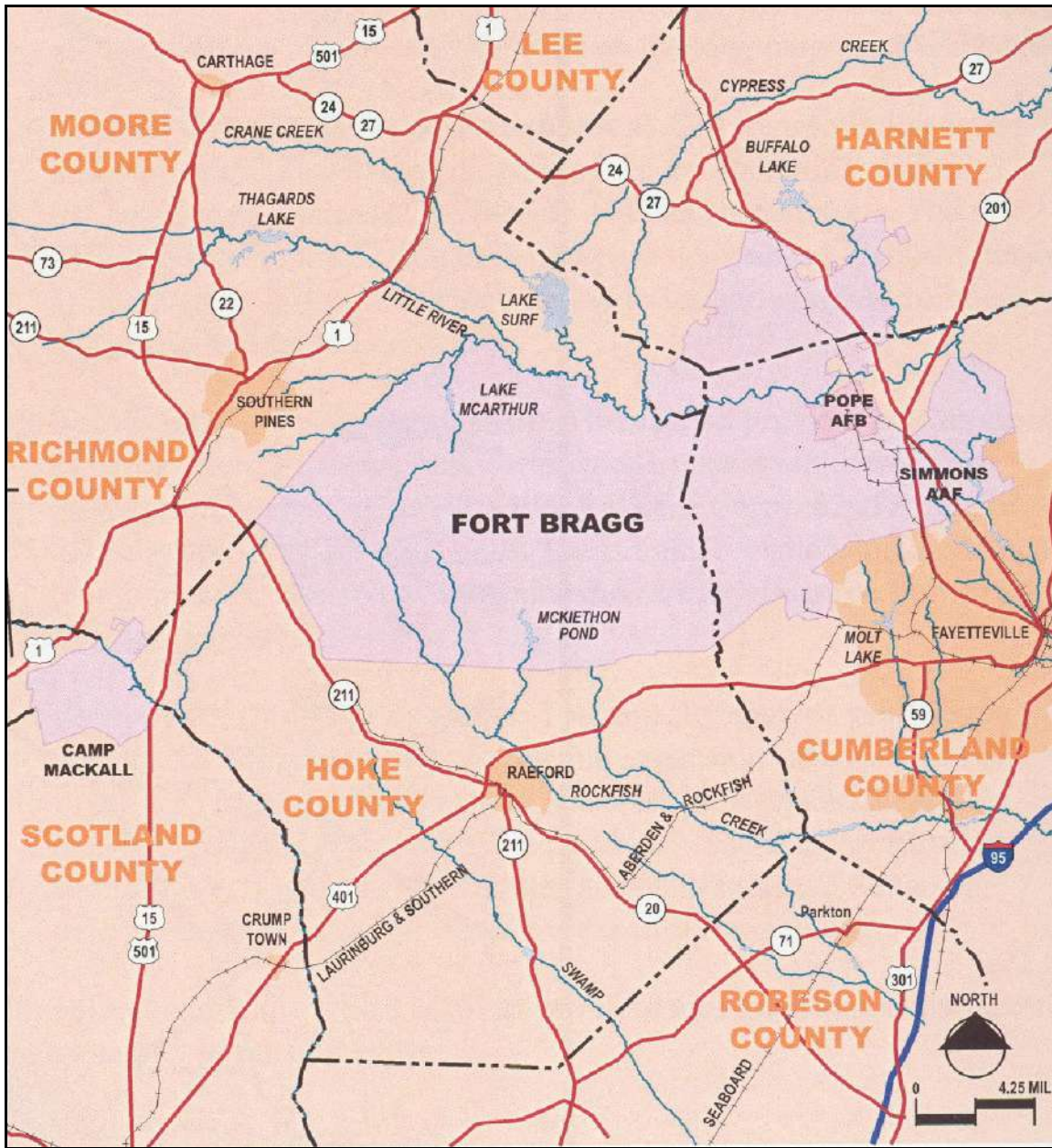


Figure 2: Location of Fort Bragg, Camp Mackall, Simmons Army Air Field and Pope AFB.



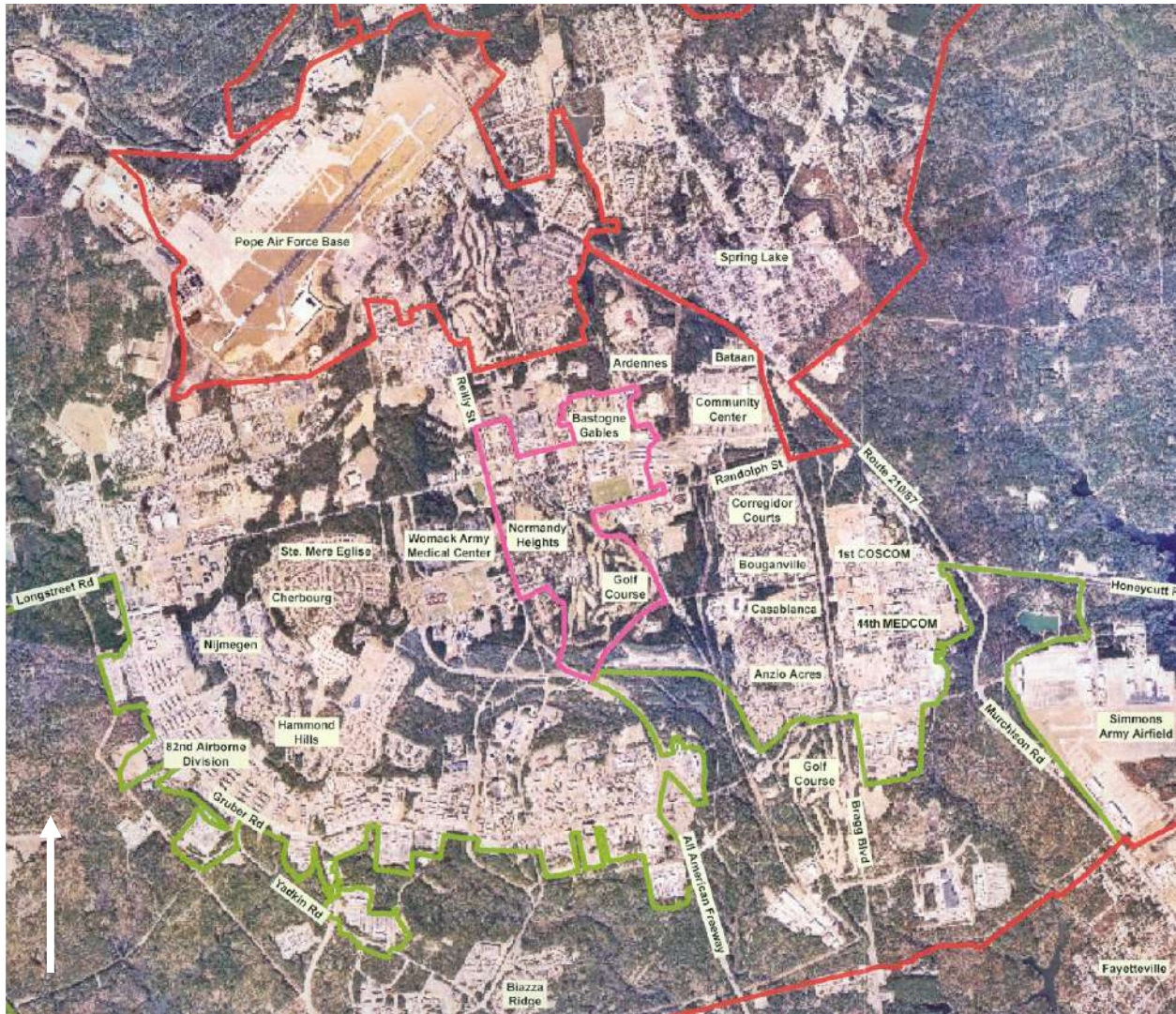


Figure 3: General plan and layout of Fort Bragg. The Old Post Historic District is outlined in pink in the center of the installation. (Source: *Master Plan, Long Range Component, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 2004*).

## *B. Fort Bragg and its Cultural Resources*

The historic and architectural resources of Fort Bragg are managed by the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program (CRMP). The mission of Fort Bragg's CRMP is to facilitate the continued readiness training of the XVIII Airborne Corps while ensuring compliance with Federal legislation and Army regulations intended to foster excellence in cultural resource stewardship. The CRMP integrates the legal requirements for historic preservation compliance with the planning and accomplishment of military training, construction, and other mission essential activities, as well as providing guidance for real property and land use decisions on Fort Bragg. Past survey and planning efforts have identified three historic districts and seven individual properties meeting NRHP criteria at Fort Bragg between 1918 and 1950. These properties are:

### **The Old Post Historic District**

The NRHP-eligible Old Post Historic District contains the historic cantonment area of Fort Bragg which was built after it was designated as a permanent facility in 1922. Largely constructed between 1927 and 1939, this area is illustrative of a planned community and contains administrative buildings, family housing, and community and recreational facilities. Many of the streets are curved and the area was also planned with open green space. The buildings were designed in the Spanish Eclectic and Georgian Revival styles favored by the military in these decades. The Old Post Historic District is comprised of 298 contributing buildings, structures, and elements including residential, administrative, and support buildings. Three of the properties are planned landscapes; the Ryder Golf Course and Polo Fields 1 and 2.

### **The Overhills Historic District**

In 1997 the Army acquired approximately 10,500 acres of land from the Rockefeller family. The Overhills tract included a number of historic resources, identified during surveys in 1999. Of these resources, many date to the first quarter of the twentieth century, including several vernacular resort structures, and a Donald Ross designed golf course. The Overhills Historic District is comprised of 53 contributing, and 53 non-contributing resources. In 2001, Fort Bragg initiated an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider uses for the property.

### **Individually Listed or Eligible Properties**

One property, the Longstreet Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, was listed on the NRHP in 1973. This church was built ca. 1847 in the Greek Revival style to the west of the cantonment area near the Sicily drop zone. Six additional properties have been identified as potentially eligible for the NRHP at Fort Bragg. These are properties which are associated with various historic contexts predating the Cold War. These properties are:

1. Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church and Cemetery
2. Barber Steamship Company Hunting Lodge No. 2
3. Water Treatment Plant Complex (4 buildings/structures)
4. Bus Station
5. CMTC Mess Hall Building
6. Stryker Golf Course



### C. Fort Bragg and Previously Surveyed Cold War Properties

The only Cold War study previously completed at Fort Bragg was a NRHP assessment for the Simmons Army Airfield. Completed in 2004, this study was authored by Duane Denfeld and Michelle Michael of the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program (CRMP). This airfield was constructed in the early 1950s and it was surveyed and evaluated as it reached fifty years of age. The Simmons Army Airfield had its origins in Exercise Test Drop to determine the feasibility of parachuting heavy equipment into a combat zone to support airborne troops. A 4,000 foot runway was built in August of 1952 in the vicinity of Smith Lake on land newly acquired by Fort Bragg. The Test Drop Exercises refined heavy equipment parachute delivery and these experiments played an important role in the airborne tactics and operations.<sup>2</sup> Over the next several years a number of permanent aircraft hangars and other facilities were built at the airfield. During this time the airfield also played an important role in the development and refinement of air assault warfare through the increased use and mobility of helicopters.

The Simmons Army Airfield was identified as meeting NRHP criteria A and C for its historical and architectural significance. The historic district contains fourteen contributing buildings and structures associated with Army aviation such as aircraft hangars, runways, and support facilities (Figure 4). The period of the significance extends from 1952 to 1957 when extensive training and experimentation in heavy equipment tactics took place.

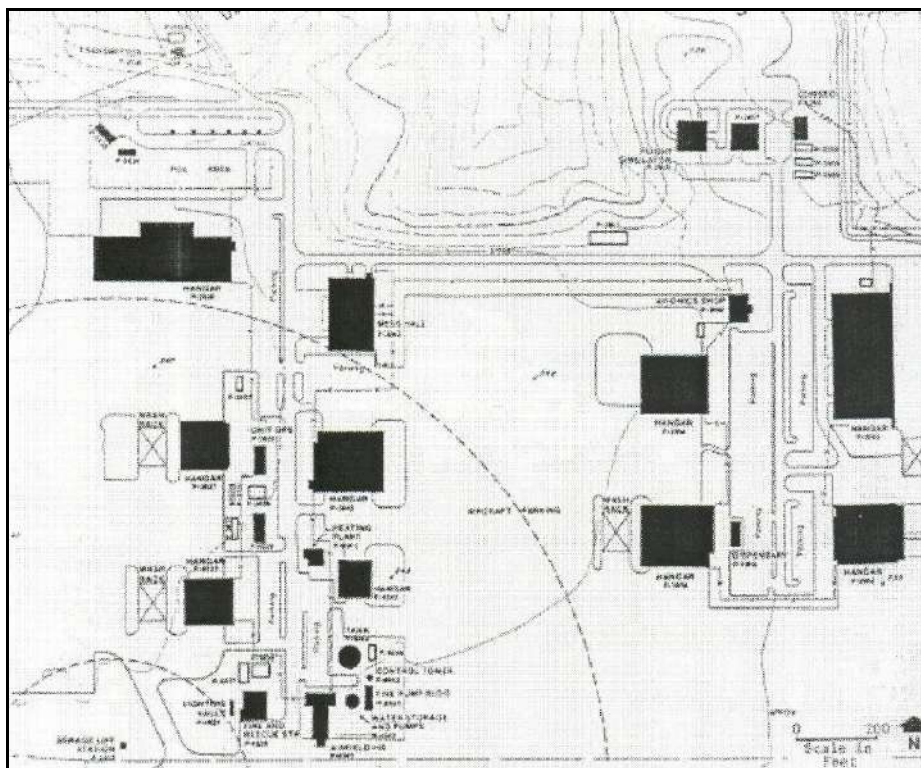


Figure 4: Map of the National Register-eligible Simmons Army Air Field.

<sup>2</sup> Duane Denfeld and Michelle Michael, *Simmons Army Airfield Inventory and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation*, Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 2004, 30.

#### *D. Cold War Survey Methodology*

This study was coordinated with the Fort Bragg CRMP under the direction of Michelle Michael and Jeff Irwin. In the initial stages of this survey files relating to the history of Fort Bragg were reviewed in the CRMP office and in the office of Real Property and Planning. Information relating to the history of the facility and its architectural development during the Cold War was obtained through resources such as Master Planning Reports, Property Cards, and maps of the base from the 1940s to the 1980s. A list of all properties built between 1945 and 1989 was prepared by the CRMP and reviewed.

Numerous published histories concerning the XVIII Airborne Corps, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Special Operations Forces and other units were reviewed at Fort Bragg's John L. Throckmorton Library and North Carolina Archives in Raleigh. Specific annual histories of the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were reviewed at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office through the assistance of Historian Donna Tabor. History related to the Special Operations Forces was provided by Dr. Kenneth Finlayson at the United States Army Special Operations Forces Archives. Overall contexts for the Army's Cold War properties were also reviewed as part of this study.

Personal interviews concerning Cold War significance were held with the following individuals:

Donna Tabor, XVIII Airborne Corps Historian;  
Dr. Kenneth Finlayson, Special Operations Forces Historian;  
John Aarsen, Curator, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division War Memorial Museum;  
Roxanne M. Merritt, Curator, JFK Special Warfare Museum, and;  
John Duvall, Curator & Museums Chief, Airborne and Special Operations Museum.

As a result of these investigations, buildings with the potential to be significant in Cold War history were identified and surveyed in accordance with North Carolina state standards. This included architectural descriptions of the property, mapping, and photographic documentation. Properties were then assessed for their NRHP eligibility.

As part of this project, three barracks buildings were photographed to the standards of the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) at the request of the Fort Bragg CRMP. These three barracks are representative of three distinct barrack building types constructed between 1955 and 1976. Building C-4224 was built in 1955 in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division area between Ardennes Street and Gruber Road and due to its profile it is referred to as a "Hammerhead." Building D-3151 was constructed in 1971 between Ardennes Street and Gruber Road and due to its profile it is known as a "Rolling Pin." Building H-5454 is representative of three-story barracks constructed in 1976 on Smoke Bomb Hill and this barracks type is known as "VOLARS." These three barracks buildings were recorded to HABS standards by photographer George Hornall.

## II. THE COLD WAR CONTEXT OF FORT BRAGG

---

### *A. Fort Bragg Before the Cold War, 1918-1945*

America formally entered World War I in April of 1917, and began constructing new military bases across the country. One of these was Camp Bragg which was established by the War Department on August 21, 1918, as the Army's fifth field artillery training center. Construction began in September and by the end of the year hundreds of temporary wood frame buildings were built. Although World War I came to an end in November of 1918, work continued to finish the post in February of 1919. Camp Bragg became a permanent post and was renamed Fort Bragg on September 30, 1922.<sup>3</sup>

By 1925, the wood-frame World War I cantonment had deteriorated beyond repair. The decision to construct a completely new Fort Bragg offered the opportunity to plan and design an effective community. The Quartermaster Corps, responsible for construction, made Fort Bragg a self-contained community, not just a group of buildings. Engineers, architects, and landscape architects worked together to create a unified and utilitarian design that blended with the natural setting. The planners were influenced by the City Beautiful Movement that promoted the application of classical French *Beaux-Arts* principles of landscape and urban design with grand streets, vistas of monumental buildings, classical ornamentation, and clear divisions of activities.

Two architectural styles Georgian Revival and Spanish Eclectic dominated the 1920-1930s permanent construction. Buildings in the Georgian Revival style are found in the northwest quadrant of the Old Post with its monumental steel-framed buildings clad in brick veneer. The southeast quadrant of the Old Post adopted the Spanish Eclectic design. The buildings, constructed of ceramic tile faced with rough stucco, feature arched porches, paved patio and decorative tile work ornamentation. The Fort Bragg cantonment was constructed between 1928 and 1939, and provided a complete Army post of permanent buildings including barracks, chapel, Officers' houses, Non-Commissioned Officers' houses, Bachelors' Officers Quarters, Officers' club, post hospital, bakery, commissary, warehouses, mule barns, and stables. Most of these buildings survive and constitute the Old Post Historic District.

During the 1920s and 1930s, Fort Bragg was the home to the Army's Field Artillery Board and the installation was the Army's Field Artillery Laboratory. The Army's Field Artillery regiments utilized the large reservation for its training and firing exercises. This mission was the dominant activity at the base in these decades and by 1940 Fort Bragg had a population of 5,400 officers and enlisted men.

The aggression by both Germany and Japan in 1940 led to concerns over America's military strength and the first peacetime draft in America was instituted. Army posts across the country began expansion to provide for the huge influx of soldiers into the ranks. Fort Bragg opened a Reception Center which was able to process 1,000 new recruits on a daily basis and the troops stationed at Fort Bragg would increase from 5,400 to 67,000 by the summer of 1941.<sup>4</sup> Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the number of troops increased further and numerous units began training at the installation such as the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division. In April of 1942, Fort Bragg was chosen as the site for the newly activated Airborne Ground Forces and was the training ground for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. In 1943, Fort Bragg was the site of the first regimental airborne jump when 2,000 men of the 505<sup>th</sup> Parachute

---

<sup>3</sup> *History of Fort Bragg*, Headquarters, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Manuscript on file with the Cultural Resources Management Program, 50.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 88.

Infantry Regiment participated in the exercise. Airborne training was one of the prominent missions at the base until the end of World War II.

## *B. The Origins of the Cold War, the Truman Era, and Korea, 1946-1952*

### *Political Context*

The Cold War rose out of the settling dust of World War II as the United States and the Soviet Union emerged as leading international powers in the new era of atomic weaponry. Fundamental differences in the political and social ideologies of communism and democracy fueled mutual distrust between the two countries, and they became entwined in a global power struggle that dominated world politics and military developments throughout most of the late twentieth century.

The Cold War did not rapidly erupt over a particular incident or dispute but rather evolved over many years as distrust and hostility grew between the two superpowers. Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union were tenuous at best throughout the early twentieth century. American leaders regarded the communist regime with caution due to the absolute, and often ruthless, rule of its leaders, Vladimir Lenin followed by Josef Stalin. The agreement between the Soviets and the Germans at the end of World War I caused bitter resentment in the West, and it was not until 1933 under the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt that the United States with guarded optimism established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The United States and the Soviet Union became allies during World War II, but it was an alliance developed out of necessity due to sharing a common enemy. As one author put it, rather than refer to the anti-Nazi effort as the Grand Alliance, it is more accurate to say that “the United States and Great Britain, on the one hand, and the Soviet Union, on the other hand, fought Germany simultaneously.”<sup>5</sup> Throughout the conflict the relationship between the Soviets and the Western powers remained guarded as tensions between them continued. Disagreements on strategies, negotiations, and resolutions intensified the growing hostilities, and each side was wary of the other’s long-term intentions and goals. The West was aware of Stalin’s desire for a complete Socialist Europe and familiar with his ruthless tactics. The Soviets perceived the West as imperialistic and thus a threat. Distrust between the two countries was evident in the United States keeping the Manhattan Project, its efforts in developing nuclear weapons, a secret from the Stalin and not including the Soviets in key tactical discussions.

Various British and American actions during the course of the war intensified Stalin’s suspicions of an imperialist West led by the United States. Chief among these was the long delay in opening a second front to ease the pressure on the Red Army, which was confronted by a massive German attack. Instead, Roosevelt had accepted the preferred British strategy of fighting the German troops in North Africa followed by an invasion of Italy. Meanwhile, the Soviets were battling over ten times the number of German forces British and American troops were in North Africa. Stalin interpreted this strategic choice as an effort to severely weaken and deteriorate the Red Army so that they too could be conquered.<sup>6</sup>

Negotiations at the end of the war brought more conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. At the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences of 1945 the initial boundaries of spheres of influence began to emerge as each country sought to gain power in postwar Europe and Asia. At Yalta, agreements were

---

<sup>5</sup> Benjamin Frankel, ed. *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, (Detroit: Gale Research, Inc, 1992), 54.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 54-55.

reached on occupation zones in Germany, Austria, and Korea, and the Soviet Union regained territory it had lost to Japan in the 1904-1905 Russo-Japanese War. In turn, Stalin agreed to invade Japan following the defeat of the Germans. The future of Poland, however, remained a strong conflict between the Soviets and the Anglo-Americans. Stalin felt that Eastern Europe needed to be under Soviet control in order to insure Russia's security. Churchill and Roosevelt, on the other hand, felt strongly about the need for self-determination in the region and did not think it would threaten the security of Russia. The Soviets, however, controlled Poland and there was little the Western leaders could do to influence its future. Dissatisfied with the final agreement made at Yalta, they settled with a Soviet promise to hold elections in Poland.<sup>7</sup>

By the meeting at Potsdam in July of 1945, the loosely held alliance between the countries had further deteriorated. Within the five months since Yalta, Roosevelt had died and had been succeeded by Harry Truman, US nuclear development had proven successful, and the Soviets had secured a communist regime in Poland, an apparent violation of the Yalta agreement. Each of these three events weakened the already strained relationship between the two nations. Truman did not have an established history with Stalin and lacked the rapport Roosevelt had developed with the Soviet leader. With the strength of successful nuclear arms development, the United States no longer required the Soviet's military assistance against Japan, thus lessening the need for their alliance. Soviet tactics in Poland confirmed the West's views of Stalin's designs on Eastern Europe, which the British and Americans found unacceptable.<sup>8</sup>

Separate spheres of Soviet and Anglo-American influence quickly emerged following the end of World War II and set the stage for the Cold War. While Great Britain and the United States exercised the greatest influence in Western Europe, the Soviets gained control over much of Eastern Europe, particularly Poland, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany. Yugoslavia and Hungary also became communist states. Changes were also taking shape in Asia. Japan's defeat in the war led to the division of Korea, a Japanese colony, between the United States and the Soviet Union. The French Indochina War erupted as Ho Chi Minh seized power in Vietnam, and the Chinese Civil War resumed between Chiang Kai-shek's nationalist government and communists led by Mao Zedong. Tensions and hostilities between the United States and the Soviet Union increased dramatically as their spheres of influence widened and both came to regard the other as a severe threat, and by the end of the 1940s, the atmosphere of the Cold War was firmly entrenched in world politics and military operations.

The Cold War quickly emerged in the late 1940s as relations between the United States and the Soviet Union became more divisive. Speeches given by Stalin and British leader Winston Churchill in early 1946 made manifest the opposing positions and all but declared the start of the Cold War. In his "Two Camps" delivered on February 9, 1946, Stalin stated that communism and capitalism were of two different camps that were "fundamentally incompatible and irreconcilable, and that peace was impossible until capitalism was vanquished and replaced by communism."<sup>9</sup> The following month, Churchill made what became known as his "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. Churchill claimed that an iron curtain had fallen across the European continent and divided East from West. He called for an alliance between Great Britain and the United States based on common cultural values and shared concerns against the Soviets. Churchill's speech played a large role in persuading the American public of a Soviet menace and the need to treat the Soviets firmly.<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 288-289.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., 237.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 56.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. 56, 173; Thomas S. Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, (New York: Facts on File, Inc., 1994),



The Truman administration's approach to the Soviet Union was also heavily influenced by the observations of Foreign Service officer George F. Kennan. In February 1946, Kennan sent a lengthy telegram to Washington in which he analyzed the Soviet Union. In the telegram he argued that there was no use in trying to be diplomatic with the Soviets and pointed to the Soviet authoritarian leadership who justified cruel tactics to achieve their goals. Kennan emphasized the need for Americans to understand that the communist regime was:

a political force committed fanatically to the belief that with [the] U. S. there can be no permanent *modus vivendi*, that it is desirable and necessary that the internal harmony of our society be disrupted, our traditional way of life be destroyed, the international authority of our state be broken, if Soviet power is to be secure.<sup>11</sup>

Kennan stated that military conflict could be avoided, and that the Soviets, who were responsive to “the logic of force” would yield if the US held sufficient power and demonstrated its ability and willingness to use it. Kennan reasserted his position in an influential article in the July 1947 edition of *Foreign Affairs*, in which he recommended a policy of containment in the face of continued Soviet expansionism.<sup>12</sup>

The Truman administration ultimately adopted such a containment policy in the early years of the Cold War. Truman essentially set the tone for US foreign policy throughout the Cold War with the Truman Doctrine. In a speech to Congress on March 12, 1947, in which Truman called for aide to Greece and Turkey in their war against local communists, the president linked the national security of the United States to international peace and order and declared that the US must stray from its isolationist tendencies and assume a leading role in international politics. Truman pointed to totalitarian communist regimes as the most significant threat to world order and that it was in the best interest of the United States to aide countries against communist movements. He proclaimed:

We shall not realize our objectives. . . unless we are willing to help free people to maintain their free people to maintain their free institutions and their national integrity against aggressive movements that seek to impose upon them totalitarian regimes. This is no more than a frank recognition that totalitarian regimes imposed upon free peoples by direct or indirect aggression, undermine the foundations of international peace and hence the security of the United States.<sup>13</sup>

The Truman administration also produced the Marshall Plan to provide financial assistance to war-torn Europe. The plan called for billions of dollars to be distributed to European countries over a four-year period to boost their economies and help in their rebuilding efforts. The Soviets viewed the plan as a US imperialistic tactic and refused the financial support. The Soviet Union also prevented Poland and Czechoslovakia from participating.

The Soviet threat became increasingly apparent in the spread of communism in Eastern Europe and Asia. With strong Soviet influence Romania and Czechoslovakia became communist states in 1947 and 1948. Also in 1948, the city of Berlin became the focal point of the growing conflict between Eastern and Western powers as disagreements escalated over the economic and political structure of Germany. Seeing no possibility of reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain

---

<sup>11</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 56.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 56-59; Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 321.

<sup>13</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 58.

moved toward establishing a West German state. The Soviets interpreted these developments as hostile and on June 24, 1948 initiated a blockade of all land routes to West Berlin essentially disallowing shipments of any kind to the region. In response, British and American planes airlifted massive food and other supplies to West Berlin to support the 2.5 million people living there. The Soviets finally called off the blockade in May of 1949. During the nearly year-long blockade the foundations were laid for the governments of East and West Germany.<sup>14</sup>

In Asia, the Chinese Civil War had resulted in Chiang Kai-shek's nationalists fleeing China and reorganizing in Taiwan. In October of 1949, Mao Zedong proclaimed rule and established the communist People's Republic of China (PRC). The Soviet Union immediately recognized the new regime and Chiang Kai-shek curtly severed relations with the Soviet Union. During the Chinese conflict the United States was reluctant to support either side and made an effort to reconcile the two opponents. The failure of this effort damaged any possibility for a positive relationship between the US and the Chinese communists. Following the formation of the PRC, the US continued to recognize Chiang's government and not the PRC. The US did not officially recognize the PRC until 1979.<sup>15</sup>

In order to contain the threat of the Soviet Union and the spread of communism, the United States and its western allies created various economic and defense pacts. Foremost among these was the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Signed in April 1949 by the United States and eleven other countries, NATO was a significant defense pact in which each country agreed that an attack on one was an attack on all. A key element in the US containment strategy, the treaty served as the primary defense of Western Europe against a Soviet attack. Over the following years, the United States positioned tens of thousands of troops in Europe with most stationed in West Germany, and introduced numerous nuclear weapons to the region.<sup>16</sup>

In the fall of 1949, the Soviet Union successfully tested an atomic bomb, escalating the Cold War and the potential ramifications of international conflict. The United States had misjudged the Soviets' ability and had thought it would take several years before they reached this achievement. This new development shocked the West and caused major concern. Previously, the United States' monopoly on nuclear weapons had held the Soviet Union in check and compensated for the American's inferior numbers in conventional forces. The Soviets newfound power spurred the United States on to develop the hydrogen, or "superbomb," which had the potential to be thousands times more powerful than the A-bomb used in World War II.<sup>17</sup> The Soviets quickly embarked on a similar endeavor, and the nuclear arms race between the two countries commenced.

This latest development caused the United States to broaden its containment policy to a strategy of perimeter defense. Memorandum-68 of the National Security Council (NSC) issued in April 1950 assessed the Soviet Union as a military threat, where previously it had largely been regarded as more of a political threat. The memo, known as NSC-68, emphasized the need for a perimeter defense to protect all areas not within the Soviet sphere of influence from Soviet encroachment. Until this point, the US focus on containing the Soviet influence had concentrated in Europe. Author of the memo, Paul H. Nitze, argued that the "US had to place itself on a wartime footing in peacetime to deter the Soviets from launching a surprise attack" and pointed to the threat of "piecemeal aggression" of the Soviets in Third

---

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., 59; Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 52-53.

<sup>15</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 61-62.

<sup>16</sup> Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 435; Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 60.

<sup>17</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe* 62.

World countries.<sup>18</sup> Nitze called for further production of nuclear weapons, increased military spending, and an increase in conventional military forces. Initially hesitant to accept this approach, the Truman administration shelved the idea until war broke out in Korea in June of 1950.

Korea had been divided into north and south at the 38th parallel following World War II with the north developing a communist regime. Both the United States and the Soviet Union withdrew troops from the area, but tensions between North and South Korea climbed as the ruler's of both claimed jurisdiction over the entire peninsula. In June of 1950, North Korean troops crossed the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel and launched an attack on South Korea. North Korea had the support of the Soviet Union and China, and the United Nations member countries supported South Korea. With authority to send troops for a limited "police action" under the support of the UN, Truman immediately sent American forces to Korea without a formal declaration of war, which he thought would escalate the conflict. Heavy fighting continued in Korea for months as attacks and counterattacks forced troops up and down the peninsula. In the spring of 1951 the lines were re-stabilized at the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel and China and the United States entered negotiations. The talks dragged on for two years until an agreement was reached in late 1953 under the administration of Dwight D. Eisenhower.<sup>19</sup>

### *Military Context*

World War II ushered in a new era of military developments in the United States including the use of nuclear weapons and the development of special forces and psychological warfare. The Manhattan Project, the United States secret effort to develop an atomic bomb, came to fruition at the end of the war and forever changed the meaning of international relations and potential warfare. Possession of such a tremendous capacity for mass destruction, and the proven willingness to use it, made the United States a leading military world power.

The seeds of US Special Forces also took root during World War II with the creation of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). The OSS was established largely due to the efforts of Colonel William J. Donovan, who had visited Great Britain and the Middle East and was impressed by their systems of intelligence and counterintelligence, which involved psychological warfare and special operations. Formed in June 1942, the OSS was a governmental agency that was led by civilians with Army personnel participation. The OSS mission was to coordinate and consolidate wartime information and psychological warfare activities with a focus on strategic intelligence and subversive operations.<sup>20</sup> Colonel Donovan met with much resistance against the organization, especially in the upper ranks of the military. The OSS introduced new and different methods, involved civilians, and was not essentially "military" in nature. Many thought its subversive tactics were in sharp contrast to American democratic values, and overall the military was reluctant to support the idea of an organization that was separate from the standard branches of the armed forces. Despite bureaucratic problems and personality conflicts, and with the staunch support of President Roosevelt, Colonel Donovan succeeded in establishing the OSS, which came to involve around 13,000 personnel. The organization was divided into three areas of concentration (1) intelligence, which involved research and analysis, secret intelligence, and counterespionage; (2) special operations, which included sabotage, guerrilla warfare, and psychological warfare; and (3) training.<sup>21</sup>

At the time, Special Forces in the Army included Ranger battalions and the Special Service Force (a US/Canadian organization), which were offshoots of the British Commandos, but these were not

---

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., 63.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., 64-65.

<sup>20</sup> Alfred H. Paddock, Jr. *US Army Special Warfare: Its Origins* (Lawrence, KS: The University Press of Kansas, 2002), 3, 24-25.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., 25-26.

unconventional warfare organizations. Prior to World War II, the Army did not employ psychological warfare and had no official office designated to this tactic. However, in reaction to German propaganda during World War II, the Army formed the Psychological Branch (later renamed the Psychological Warfare Branch) to analyze Axis propaganda. The first Army psychological warfare units were created in late 1942 and largely consisted of radio services that issued Western propaganda. As this new field of military technique emerged, it had difficulty in defining its goals and tactics within the conventional theater of war. Psychological warfare was slow to be accepted, but it gradually gained respect from military and political leaders as an effective tool.<sup>22</sup> A key person in the development of psychological warfare in the US Army was General Robert McClure, who in 1942 was appointed chief of intelligence for the European theater of operations. Under General McClure, psychological warfare was more precisely defined.<sup>23</sup>

President Roosevelt approved and supported the new developments in military tactics throughout World War II. He also saw a need for an organization such as the OSS to continue as a permanent agency that operated during peacetime. He asked Colonel Donovan to consider the arrangement and composition of such an organization, and Colonel Donovan recommended an intelligence organization that reported directly to the president. Before such an organization could be formed, Roosevelt died. His successor, Harry Truman, was not fully aware of the position of the OSS or its possible future role and he dissolved the organization on October 1, 1945.<sup>24</sup>

In the post-World War II era, the United States military largely dedicated its attention and manpower to the occupation of Western Europe, Japan and other territories involved in the conflict. It was important to American interests that these regions remain under the West's sphere of influence and an underlying interest of the European occupation was the region's economic recovery. A major reduction of the US military occurred under the Truman administration. The administration relied heavily on the country's monopoly on nuclear weapons to address its security goals and saw a reduced need for conventional forces. In addition, most servicemen had been drafted and public demand for their return was strong. Initial cuts resulted in the release of four million servicemen, equivalent to half of the Army. Another two million were released in 1946, and the government chose to let the draft lapse. Thus as the Cold War began, the United States military was armed with nuclear weapons, but stood at reduced numbers.

During the Korean War, the US enhanced its military force, which had dwindled considerably during the early years of the Truman administration due to large cuts in defense spending. Congress reinstated the draft in 1948 and troop numbers increased during the 1950s in response to the conflict in Korea. Significant structural and administrative changes in the military occurred during this period. Congress passed the National Security Act (NSA) in 1947 which formed the Air Force as a separate and equal service. The NSA designated the Air Force, Army, and Navy as executive departments led by civilian secretaries, and created the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National Security Council, Secretary of Defense, and other departments. The new organization of the military placed less relevance on the Army, and although the Army played a significant role in Korea, the US emphasized its Air Force and Navy strength.

Advancements in military weaponry largely occurred in the field of nuclear weapons. Both the Soviet Union and the United States pursued the development of the hydrogen bomb with the US first testing its weapon in 1952 and the Soviet Union in 1953. Rapid advances were made in nuclear artillery, and the nascent rocket program was initiated under the Truman administration for the delivery of nuclear weapons, which led to the initial steps in the formation of a national space program. Few changes

---

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 6-20.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., 11-12.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., 31.

occurred, however, within the realm of conventional military weapons, and the Army continued to make use of WWII era equipment such as Sherman tanks, M-1 rifles, and 105-mm howitzers.

The rising Cold War also boosted military interest in the developing fields of unconventional and psychological warfare. The perceived threats of communism and a heightened focus on national security fostered interest in these new military tactics among US leaders who sought to improve American capabilities. Initial developments included the formation of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 1946.<sup>25</sup> The CIA was given responsibility for covert psychological, political, paramilitary, and economic activities. Many former OSS personnel joined the CIA with as many as one third of the organization being former OSS by 1949.<sup>26</sup>

Psychological warfare is defined as “those activities planned and conducted to influence the opinions, emotions, attitudes, and behavior of the enemy, the indigenous population, and neutral or friendly groups to help support United States objectives.”<sup>27</sup> Debate continued in the Army whether or not to establish a separate staff section devoted to psychological warfare. The idea met resistance especially during peacetime. Those opposed argued that the US population would not accept covert psychological warfare or accept its association with the armed forces. Secretary of the Army, Kenneth C. Royall, was particularly cautious of the Army’s involvement. General McClure was the leading advocate for a psychological warfare division. General McClure, who was recognized as an authority in psychological warfare, relentlessly pushed for an Army-supported centralization of psychological warfare activities, and it slowly gained favor among Army administrators. In 1949 a civilian consultant prepared a study of the Army’s role in psychological warfare and recommended a separate unit for the technique. With this report Secretary Royall conceded somewhat and became at least willing to consider the Army’s limited involvement. Another report completed in 1950 revealed that some progress had been made in operational planning, but psychological warfare still remained to be developed within the Army. The report addressed the needs and problems associated with such development. Among them was a need for a school and training facility dedicated to the techniques and doctrine associated with psychological warfare. In the spring of 1950, Frank Pace, Jr. became the new Secretary of the Army. Secretary Pace held an interest in psychological warfare and pushed for its development in the Army.<sup>28</sup>

The Army was also reluctant to embrace unconventional warfare on a major scale. This tactic “primarily encompassed guerilla operations and subversion to be carried out within enemy or enemy-controlled territory by indigenous personnel, supported and directed by United States forces.”<sup>29</sup> The Army was somewhat ambivalent toward unconventional warfare in the early years of the Cold War. It considered covert operations similar to the OSS prior to the development of the CIA, and interest mounted as tensions with the Soviet Union increased. However, political sensitivities remained in developing covert tactics during peacetime, and the military as a whole largely snubbed the technique. Regular Army personnel typically regarded unconventional warfare “as a sideshow of no great consequence. To the orthodox, traditional soldier, it was something slimy, underhanded, illegal, and ungentlemanly. It did not fit in the honor code of that profession of arms.”<sup>30</sup> When the CIA was formed in 1946 unconventional warfare largely shifted to that organization, and the Army focused on conventional warfare while agreeing to assist the CIA in its organization and training.<sup>31</sup>

---

<sup>25</sup> The CIA was originally named the Central Intelligence Group or CIG in 1946 and a year later was renamed CIA under the NSA.

<sup>26</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 39-40.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, 2.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 48-57, 61-62.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, 2.

<sup>30</sup> Aaron Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret: The Birth of Special Forces*. (Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1986), 132.

<sup>31</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 75.

Still, General McClure and others felt a special unconventional warfare organization was needed in the military and needed to be active during peacetime. Their primary argument was that a force needed to be trained and ready to deploy quickly. To be most effective, special warfare teams needed to infiltrate areas at the outset of hostilities for at this point enemy forces were not fully organized and secure. Also more indigenous people were typically available to recruit as guerillas early on in a conflict because the enemy had not yet recruited a significant number. Having forces trained prior to the outbreak of hostilities was essential, particularly in the area of language fluency and knowledge of foreign cultures. Basic unconventional warfare training could be done in a three-month crash course if necessary, but language development took much longer.<sup>32</sup>

The beginning of the Korean War in 1950 found the Army still ill prepared in the fields of psychological and unconventional warfare. Army Secretary Pace was impatient with the lack of progress and continued to emphasize the need for, and importance of units dedicated to these techniques. In a letter to the Army Chief of Staff, Secretary Pace insisted on the necessity to make these special warfare units permanent and that the Army must go forward in providing the necessary fiscal and personnel requirements for such units before a crisis erupted that required their formation. General McClure was brought in to advise the Chief of Staff on the organization and concept of a psychological warfare division and met with Washington and Army officials in late August of 1950. The division was approved the following September.<sup>33</sup>

The Office of the Chief of Psychological Warfare (OCPW) was formally established in the Army in January 1951, the first organization of its type in Army history. General McClure was selected to head the new division. He believed that unconventional warfare should also be included and organized the unit into three subdivisions: psychological warfare and operations, unconventional warfare and special operations, and requirements such as training, research and logistics. Finding capable personnel proved to be an immediate problem as at the time there were only seven officers on active duty who were qualified in psychological warfare. Another issue was combating the general attitude toward the newly established technique. Although it had received official acceptance, there remained a lack of respect and understanding of psychological warfare within the Army. In his first meeting with division personnel, General McClure warned them that “As a general policy, all officers assigned to this work should watch their step as there is an opinion prevalent among individuals not conversant with psychological warfare that anyone connected with the function is a ‘long-haired, starry-eyed’ individual.”<sup>34</sup> Secretary Pace, however, continued to support the development of psychological and unconventional warfare as key tactics in the war against communism. In a memo to General Matthew B. Ridgway, Commander in Chief in Korea, Secretary Pace declared that “psychological warfare can and must become one of our most effective weapons in combating communism.”<sup>35</sup>

In the Korean Conflict psychological warfare largely involved the creation and disbursement of tactical propaganda. The first detachment consisted of approximately twenty people. The propaganda was aimed at groups in the forward battle areas and supported localized operations. A common method was the use of loudspeakers on vehicles and aircraft circling Chinese troops and encouraging them to surrender. The unit also engaged in the production of newspapers, leaflets, and radio broadcasts.

Initial training of psychological warfare personnel included a seventeen-week course at Georgetown University. In the winter of 1950, McClure requested courses dedicated solely to psychological warfare,

---

<sup>32</sup> Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 130-131.

<sup>33</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 90-93.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, 94.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, 98.

and in the spring of 1951 an initial course was begun at the Army General School at Fort Riley. The intensive course lasted approximately seven weeks and served as a general introduction to psychological warfare, strategic intelligence, foreign army organization, and psychological operations. Between June 1951 and April 1952 six officer classes graduated with a total of 334 students. The recruits came not just from the Army but also from the Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and students from allied countries such as Great Britain and France. In addition training programs were established for the general indoctrination of all military personnel in psychological warfare. All Army schools were requested to include general instruction in psychological warfare in their curriculum.<sup>36</sup>

The success of the Psychological Warfare Division can be largely attributed to the efforts of General McClure, who remained adamant about training and equipment needs and insisted on special staff status for the OCPW, which gave them greater access to top decision makers. McClure recruited experts in special operations including former OSS member Colonel Aaron Bank and Colonel Russell W. Volckman. Colonel's Bank and Volckman were assigned the task of creating the organizational and operational concepts for the new division. One of their major obstacles was clearly defining the exact mission and role of the division. After reviewing all material concerning unconventional warfare since the deactivation of the OSS, Colonel Bank was dismayed at the lack of understanding and confusion regarding unconventional warfare. He later noted that "Annoyingly, the Army remained unable to visualize the type of organization which would be properly suited for preparing in peacetime to execute a wartime unconventional warfare role."<sup>37</sup>

Colonel's Bank and Volckman pooled their knowledge and experience in unconventional warfare to create a precise organization and identity to the new division. They agreed that the organization should be based on OSS operations. They also struggled to find a name that defined the organization's unique role and capabilities as distinguished from other divisions, and finally arrived at the term "Special Forces".<sup>38</sup> Once clearly defined, a training center devoted to Special Forces operations was required. General McClure began to think a single school dedicated to both unconventional warfare and psychological warfare was needed. A combined training center was approved in September of 1951 with Fort Benning, Georgia, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and Fort Bragg, North Carolina as initial prospects. After surveying various posts, General McClure and his staff selected Fort Bragg. Approval of the training center at Fort Bragg came on December 4, 1951.<sup>39</sup>

General McClure, aware of the Army's financial restraints and the wariness with which many regarded psychological warfare, requested modest facilities for the new center. The survey team sent to Fort Bragg to select the site chose the Smoke Bomb Hill area. This location had buildings left over from WWII that would be adequate for barracks, classrooms, library, mess hall, and administrative offices. Only a modest investment of \$151,000 was required to rehabilitate the facilities. The Psychological Warfare Center was formally activated on May 1, 1952. The initial faculty and staff of 173 was increased to 362. The psychological warfare school and units at Fort Riley, Kansas were moved to Fort Bragg.<sup>40</sup>

---

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., 116-118.

<sup>37</sup> Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 142.

<sup>38</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 119-120; Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 151-158.

<sup>39</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 128-137.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid., 136-140.



## *Fort Bragg Context*

With the surrender of Japan in August of 1945, America's armed forces began rapidly discharging men and women back to civilian life. The drastic reduction in Army personnel also led to several studies which recommended bases to be closed or maintained. The War Department's review of Fort Bragg concluded that due to the previous expenditures on land and buildings, that the installation was "quite satisfactory for post war retention."<sup>41</sup> On January 19, 1946 the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division returned from Europe and took up station at Fort Bragg. Drop zones were established in the woodlands west of the cantonment area as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne continued its training in the years following the war.

Like many other military bases across the country, Fort Bragg was faced with an acute housing shortage after World War II. Trailer parks were established near Pope Field and a number of the barracks were converted into family housing. In recognition of this shortage nationwide, the US Congress passed the Wherry Act in 1949 which allocated funding for new base housing. At Fort Bragg, the large housing complexes known as Anzio Acres and Corregidor Courts were begun in 1950 under the provisions of the Wherry Act.

The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne was the only major unit stationed at Fort Bragg from 1946 to the beginning of the Korean War in 1950. A headquarters command, the Headquarters V US Army Corps came to Fort Bragg in 1946. Its mission was to assist the Army in overall planning and training and the inspection of General Reserve units located across the country. During these years many of the post's buildings were placed in a caretaker status and only a small section was occupied. The Replacement Training Center at the base was closed in 1947 and in 1948 the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne's strength was 874 officers and 14,561 enlisted men.<sup>42</sup> In these years the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne and Headquarters V Corps provided training and instruction to personnel of the 80<sup>th</sup>, 100<sup>th</sup>, and 108<sup>th</sup> Airborne Reserve Divisions and to the National Guard's 30<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. As part of these training exercises, a demonstration drop was held for President Harry Truman and his staff at Fort Bragg on October 4, 1949. Overall, the years following World War II were ones of consolidation and continued airborne training.

In June of 1950, the army of North Korea invaded South Korea and United Nations forces, including those of the United States, came to South Korea's defense. The outbreak of hostilities resulted in the drafting of new soldiers and members of the Army Reserve called to active duty. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division was not sent to the Korean War as both Presidents Truman and Eisenhower deemed it necessary to keep the division as a strategic reserve in the event of a Soviet ground attack anywhere in the world. The Division remained "on call" during the Korean War in case a larger conflict arose elsewhere. As new recruits came into the armed forces, numerous buildings at Fort Bragg were taken out of caretaker status for utilization in the housing and training of soldiers. In 1952, 122 mobilization-type barracks in the Old Division Area and eighty-eight in Smoke Bomb Hill were rehabilitated for extended use.

The XVIII Airborne Corps was reactivated at Fort Bragg on May 21, 1951 and in July the Headquarters V Corps was transferred to Europe. With the establishment of the XVIII Airborne Corps alongside the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne, Fort Bragg became widely known as the "Home of the Airborne."<sup>43</sup> Also in 1951, Fort Bragg became home to the Army's Air Support Headquarters whose mission was to coordinate and plan for joint air/ground operations. In October of 1951, the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division was attached to the XVIII Airborne Corps further increasing the troop strength at the post.

---

<sup>41</sup> *History of Fort Bragg*, 115.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, 123.

A significant action by the XVIII Airborne Corps was the creation of Fort Bragg's own airfield. With the Korean War underway, the air operations at Pope Field increased significantly. Concurrently, a variety of tests and exercises were planned at Fort Bragg but due to the high volume of air traffic at Pope Field these exercises had to be held elsewhere. One of these, Exercise "Test Drop" was conducted at Fort Bragg to study the potential of airborne delivery of equipment and material. One of the aspects of "Test Drop" was the parachute drop of grading and other road equipment. The dirt strip was deemed inadequate for this type of training and a paved airstrip was authorized for construction. In addition to the construction of the paved airfield, a number of aircraft hangars and administrative buildings were also erected. Named the Simmons Army Airfield, this facility soon became a center for airborne operations.

One of the most important actions at Fort Bragg during the Korean War was the establishment of the Psychological Warfare Center and the Special Forces. As the threat of Soviet and Chinese expansion increased in the early 1950s, the US Congress passed Public Law 597, popularly known as the Lodge Bill in June of 1952. The Lodge Bill mandated the formation of specialized units that were capable of conducting unconventional warfare operations behind enemy lines. Adopted as the US Army Special Regulation 600-160-10, the Lodge Bill was implemented on April 25, 1952. Two months later, on June 19, 1952, an unconventional warfare unit, the 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, was formed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina under the command of Colonel Bank.<sup>44</sup> The Special Forces Group was created to train versatile, multi-skilled soldiers who could increase US power by coordinating with America's allies.<sup>45</sup> The Special Forces Group was initially housed in World War II barracks buildings on what was known as "Smoke Bomb Hill."

The original intent of the Special Forces Group was to train and assist partisan forces in Europe in the event of a Soviet invasion. The focus of Special Forces training was to establish "stay behind" teams which would work with our allies to attack Soviet troops in rear areas.<sup>46</sup> Given the emphasis on Europe, the Special Forces had minimal involvement in Korea. Special Forces officers served under the conventional Army command structure and "...most were assigned as replacements in regular Army divisions, where they had no noticeable impact on the war."<sup>47</sup> In 1953, the majority of the 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group was transferred to Bad Tolz, West Germany to prepare for resistance operations in the event of a Soviet invasion. The Special Forces soldiers remaining at Fort Bragg were organized into a new unit, the 77<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, some of whom were sent to assist the Army of South Vietnam against a growing communist insurgency.<sup>48</sup>

### *C. The Eisenhower Era and the "New Look," 1952-1960*

#### *Political Context*

A shift in the US foreign policy came with the election of Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower as president in 1952. At this time McCarthyism was at its height and public fear of communism was strong. President Eisenhower was critical of the Truman administration's foreign policy as being too reactive and expensive and he sought to regain the upper hand in the Cold War at lower costs. Rather than contain communism, Eisenhower promised to roll it back, but his concerns about the weakening US economy

---

<sup>44</sup> Marc Cerasini, *The US Special Ops Forces*, (Indianapolis, IN: Alpha Books, 2001), 66.

<sup>45</sup> Samuel A. Southworth and Stephen Tanner, *US Special Forces, A Guide to America's Special Operations Units*, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Da Capo Press, 2002), 106.

<sup>46</sup> Thomas K. Adams, *US Special Operations Forces in Action*, (Portland, Oregon: Frank Cass Publishers, 1998), 56.

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, 57.

required him to lower costs of national security. This was to be accomplished by means of technological and nuclear superiority, covert action, and diplomatic maneuvering.

President Eisenhower's "New Look" strategy of steadily developing defense in a manner that would not compromise the national economy resulted in an enhanced reliance on nuclear weapons in response to the Soviet threat. Conventional military weapons and techniques were viewed as too expensive, whereas a policy of "massive retaliation" would be "more bang for the buck."<sup>49</sup> Nuclear stockpiles steadily increased as the Eisenhower administration reduced defense spending by over ten billion dollars by 1955. The Army was also reduced from 1.5 million to 1 million.<sup>50</sup> Covert actions were also less expensive than traditional military techniques and the administration placed more emphasis on clandestine operations to advance America's political agenda. The CIA's budget was increased and the group experienced successes in toppling governments in Iran and Guatemala.<sup>51</sup>

Another key element of Eisenhower's New Look policy was its emphasis on building anti-Soviet defense alliances. Among the US agreements were the Baghdad Pact, Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), and security agreements with the Korean and Taiwanese governments. The US strategy emphasized the use of rhetoric and the psychological power of words. The concepts of liberation and "captive nations" emerged during the Eisenhower years as the US actively encouraged those countries under Soviet domination to liberate themselves.<sup>52</sup>

As shifts were being made in American politics, changes were also occurring in the Soviet Union. The death of Josef Stalin in 1953 led to the Soviet leadership of Nikita Khrushchev by 1955. Khrushchev's attitude toward the West was much different from that of Stalin and he called for a peaceful coexistence with the United States. Washington, however, was suspect of the Kremlin's conciliatory gestures and reacted coolly. Khrushchev's rough personal manner and administrative actions sent a conflicting message. Like the US, the Soviet Union strengthened its alliances and in 1955 signed the Warsaw Pact with seven other countries – Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, and Romania. Khrushchev also thought it best to negotiate from a position of strength and embarked on a policy of "strategic deception" that proliferated propaganda exaggerating Soviet nuclear capability including long-range bombers. It was not until much later that Americans found out that Soviet nuclear power had been weaker than they proclaimed.<sup>53</sup>

Throughout the 1950s, mutual distrust between the United States and the Soviet Union continued as each continued to stockpile nuclear weapons to deter an advance by the other. Still, relations between the two countries did improve somewhat due to the shift in Soviet leadership. In 1956, Khrushchev denounced Stalin in a "secret" speech to party insiders and condemned Stalin's murderous political tactics. The memory of the communist leader until that time had been preserved and used by party hard-liners to block reforms. After the content of Khrushchev's speech leaked to the public, many oppressed Eastern European nations rebelled against their rulers whom Stalin had brought to power.<sup>54</sup> In July of 1955, the first détente occurred as Eisenhower, Khrushchev, and British foreign secretary Anthony Eden, met in Geneva. Although few concrete agreements resulted from the meeting, both powers recognized a need to

---

<sup>49</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 67.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid., 67-68.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., 69; Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 327-328, 454.

<sup>54</sup> Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 329.

avoid resorting to nuclear war, and it was a diplomatic success as an initial step toward improving East-West relations.<sup>55</sup> In 1959, Khrushchev visited the United States, the first Soviet leader to do so.

While Eastern Europe largely maintained a status quo during this period, events in Africa and Asia began to dominate international relations. By the mid-1950s, conflict in Indochina had escalated and Eisenhower, like Truman before him in the Korean Conflict, committed American troops to aid in the fight against communism. American forces joined those of the French in Vietnam in the spring of 1954. Eisenhower declared that communism must be contained in Southeast Asia in order to prevent nations from falling like a “row of dominoes.” In 1956, a crisis erupted over the Suez Canal between Great Britain, France, and Israel on the one hand, and Egypt, which had strong ties to the Soviet Union, on the other. The US, after initially trying to encourage negotiations, took a strong stance against France and Britain, who eventually had to withdraw.<sup>56</sup>

The limited progress made between the Eisenhower administration and Khrushchev during the 1950s was impeded by events such as the shooting down of an American U-2 spy plane over Soviet air space in 1960. Pilot Lieutenant Francis Gary Powers, rather than destroy the plane and swallow a suicide pill as instructed, was captured and subsequently confessed. The incident was quite embarrassing for the US, which at first unaware of Lieutenant Powers’ confession and the Soviet possession of reconnaissance film, claimed that the aircraft was a weather plane that had drifted off course. Khrushchev denounced the flights as “aggressive provocation” and insisted on an apology, which Eisenhower refused to give. The event occurred two weeks before a planned summit in Geneva between the two leaders and severely damaged any chance of advancing negotiations between the two countries.<sup>57</sup> As Eisenhower left office in 1960, relations between the US and the Soviet Union had again reached a low point.

### *Military Context*

Weapons research and development dominated military strategy in both the United States and the Soviet Union during the 1950s. The Soviet program was somewhat less aggressive and proficient as that in the US, but Soviet propaganda and American fear of communism led the United States to think otherwise. The United States exploded its first hydrogen bomb in 1952 and the Soviets did the same the following year. This development led to the research and production of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), air defense and radar networks, and antiballistic missiles (ABM).

Space exploration also heightened tensions between the two superpowers and a space race accompanied the arms race. In October of 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the world’s first artificial satellite. A month later, Sputnik 2 was launched. The United States launched its first satellite, Explorer I in January 1958. Although the satellites had no military purposes and were intended for the collection of scientific data about space, they exacerbated Cold War tensions as the technology involved in the satellites could be used for war.<sup>58</sup> The space race led to the US creation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Mercury Project, the first program designed to put man in space.

During the 1950s, the US military continued to shift to a focus on preventing warfare and an emphasis on the Air Force and Navy above the Army. Although ground forces remained relevant, nuclear warfare was considered to be the coming trend of war and air and naval strategies were believed to be the best

---

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.; Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 69-70.

<sup>56</sup> Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 533-534; Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991*, 70-71.

<sup>57</sup> Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 467-468.

<sup>58</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 258.

retaliation to nuclear strikes. Nuclear weapons of a tactical and battlefield nature were also introduced into the Army. The 1950s was also a period of continued organization and development in the newly organized field of unconventional warfare. The first Special Forces group organized was designated the 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, which was activated June 19, 1952 under the command of Colonel Bank. Training at Fort Bragg was extensive and included individual and team phases, lengthy field maneuvers, and off-base specialized training. Many of the initial recruits for Special Forces were former OSS, Rangers, and Airborne men.<sup>59</sup> Initial recruiting was slow as Special Forces remained a relatively unknown and understood segment of the military, which was reluctant to extend its respect to the new division. As a result, Special Forces initially drew few regular officers, but instead received many “innovators and imaginative people who wanted to try something new and challenging, who chafed at rigid discipline, and who didn’t care what the career managers at the Pentagon said or believed.”<sup>60</sup>

The training program covered a wide range of unconventional warfare tactics, including “organization of resistance movements and the operation of their component networks; agent training, to include espionage, sabotage. . . ; security; escape and evasion; guerrilla warfare, . . . codes and radio communication; survival, the Fairbairn method of hand-to-hand combat; and instinctive firing.”<sup>61</sup> Special Forces were organized into teams, with the basic structure being the Special Forces Operational Detachment A, or A Team as it became commonly known. The A Team consisted of eight men, each highly trained in a military specialty such as operations and intelligence, weaponry, communications, demolitions, and field medical care. Team members also cross-trained in the skills of their teammates and had to learn to teach his special skills to the others. Because Special Forces would be operating behind enemy lines for extended periods, ability in radio communications and codes was essential. Teams at Fort Bragg were assigned to study specific geographic areas of operations. This included becoming knowledgeable in the language and culture of the area as well as becoming familiar with potential guerrilla base areas, possible escape and evasion contact points, and other information. Physical training included strenuous hikes with seventy-pound packs and efficiency in parachute jumping in rough terrain.<sup>62</sup> The rigorous program, severe guidelines, and demanding standards and requirements resulted in a unique unit consisting of an elite group of “only the most rugged, capable, dedicated, and motivated” men.<sup>63</sup>

### *Fort Bragg Context*

With the end of the Korean War and the inauguration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the operations at Fort Bragg continued to center around readiness and training of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. The expanding personnel of the post resulted in the construction of new barracks, housing units, and administrative and support buildings. No military actions were required by the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, however, Special Forces played an increasingly important role in the growing conflict in Southeast Asia.

The readiness and training at Fort Bragg during these years was demonstrated by the growing emphasis on helicopters and their potential impact on the battlefield. In 1955, new helicopters were delivered to the 509<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company of the 8<sup>th</sup> Helicopter Battalion.<sup>64</sup> This battalion was the first regular

---

<sup>59</sup> Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 169-170.

<sup>60</sup> Charles M. Simpson III, *Inside the Green Berets, The First Thirty Years, A History of the US Army Special Forces* (Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1983), 21.

<sup>61</sup> Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 175-176.

<sup>62</sup> Simpson, *Inside the Green Berets*, 36-40.

<sup>63</sup> Bank, *From OSS to Green Beret*, 177.

<sup>64</sup> *History of Fort Bragg*, 125.

organization of its kind in the Army and planners at Fort Bragg experimented with the utilization of helicopters in the tactical deployment of infantry.

In the late 1950s the Army was reorganized under the “pentomic” concept which allowed a division commander to oversee up to five subordinate units. A Pentomic Division would consist of five separate combat groups, each comprised of an enhanced infantry battalion. In 1956, the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Campbell served as the prototype for the Pentomic Airborne Division and the next year this reorganization was utilized for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne. As a result of these efforts, the US Army in 1957 consisted of 19 Divisions: 12 Infantry, 4 Armored, and 3 Airborne. The units at Fort Bragg included the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, the Special Warfare Center, XVIII Airborne Corps, 77<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, the 1<sup>st</sup> Logistics Command, the Airborne and Electronics Board, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Missile Command, and Army Aviation Units assigned to Simmons Field.<sup>65</sup>

During the Eisenhower Era almost \$63 million was spent on various construction efforts on the post. This construction took place largely to the west and southwest of the Old Post area and transformed the appearance of the installation. These projects included the building of fifty-five barracks which housed 13,380 troops, 258 family quarters, BOQ’s for 200 officers, unit administration buildings, tank and motor repair shops, warehouses, post exchanges, dispensaries, a fire station, a post office, aviation facilities and ammunition storage facilities.<sup>66</sup> Other construction included 1,867 units of Capehart family housing as well as five elementary schools and a junior high school funded by the US Department of Education.

One of the large group of barracks constructed during this era were those built between Ardennes Street and Gruber Road. These three-story barracks were constructed of concrete and with one-story lateral wings containing kitchen and mess facilities. Built to house 173 enlisted men, most of these barracks were completed in 1955 at a cost of \$290,000 each and became known as “Hammerheads” because of their profile from the air.<sup>67</sup> One of the buildings, C-6525, was used as the headquarters for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division from 1955 until 1982. Another major building project of the era was the construction of the nine-story Womack Army Hospital in 1958. This hospital was built with 500 beds and provided modern medical facilities to the base. Ridgway Hall (Building C-7620) was constructed in 1958 to serve as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division’s Non-Commissioned Officers’ (NCO) Club.

Operating in the World War II buildings on Smoke Bomb Hill, the Special Forces underwent important command changes in the late 1950s. On December 10, 1956, the Psychological Warfare Center was renamed the US Army Special Warfare Center and School which reflected the increasing combat-related emphasis of these units. The growing communist insurgencies in Southeast Asia also led to a redirection of training for jungle guerilla warfare. Soldiers were assembled into a new unit, the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group, which was activated at Camp Drake, Japan in June of 1957 under the command of Colonel Frank Mills.<sup>68</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group was immediately transferred to Okinawa where it set up Mobile Training Teams to instruct Asian allies to counter communist aggression. This training eventually led to the insertion of Special Forces in Vietnam in 1960 to assist the South Vietnamese government and train the Army of South Vietnam in counterinsurgency tactics.

---

<sup>65</sup> *History of Fort Bragg* 129.

<sup>66</sup> *Fort Bragg Master Plan*, Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office, 1972, 4.

<sup>67</sup> *Facility No. 6329*, Real Property Record on file at the Real Estate Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

<sup>68</sup> Adams, *US Special Operations Forces in Action*, 58.

## *D. Flexible Response and Vietnam, 1960-1975*

### *Political Context*

Tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union escalated during the Kennedy administration in the 1960s. The issue of Western occupation in Berlin was called into question by the Soviets, who demanded the US step out. The Soviets made various threats and the US reinforced its troops in West Berlin. The dispute resulted in the Soviet construction of the Berlin Wall in August of 1961 to cut off East Berlin access to West Berlin. Nine-foot high, topped with barbed wire, and guarded by armed soldiers, the wall proved to be one of the most physical manifestations of the Cold War.<sup>69</sup>

This era also saw the Cold War extend to Latin America as Fidel Castro rose to power in Cuba in 1959 and established a communist regime. Cuba's close physical proximity to the United States and its close political and ideological relationship with the Soviet Union caused alarm in American leaders. Cuba was quickly regarded as a serious threat to US national security, and the Kennedy administration reacted by instigating the Bay of Pigs Invasion, a CIA operation involving Cuban exiles in an attempt to overthrow Castro. The invasion's failure was a humiliating defeat for America.<sup>70</sup> Cuba again came to the forefront of the Cold War during the Cuban Missile Crisis in October of 1963 when the presence of Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba brought the two superpowers close to the brink of thermonuclear war. Negotiations between Kennedy and Khrushchev resulted in the removal of Soviet missiles and a US agreement not to invade Cuba.<sup>71</sup>

The crisis sobered leaders in both nations and brought about a shift in their foreign policies. By this time the US had become aware of the Soviet Union's overstatement of its nuclear arsenal, and both nations turned more toward overtly stabilizing and improving relations. Communications between the two countries improved, the US began to sell wheat to the Soviet Union, and the Soviets recognized the "Open Skies" policy. Mutual vulnerability led to a partial test ban treaty on nuclear weapons in 1963 and the mutual assured destruction (MAD) doctrine of the late 1960s. Still, in order to keep on equal footing with the United States, the Soviet Union continued its arms development and reached nuclear parity with the United States by 1968. Shifting international relations also included a split in the alliance between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, which criticized Khrushchev for his leadership during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Soviet criticism resulted in the removal of Khrushchev from power in 1964 and the rise of Leonid Brezhnev as the Soviet leader. Brezhnev maintained the new spirit of détente between the US and the Soviet Union.<sup>72</sup>

Despite moves toward a peaceful coexistence, possibilities of confrontations between the two nations developed, particularly in Southeast Asia. Ho Chi Minh seized power in Vietnam in the 1950s and French efforts to retake the colony met with defeat. During the 1960s, the Soviet Union provided support to the communist regime of North Vietnam in its effort to gain control of the South. The United States supported South Vietnam's leader, Ngo Dinh Diem and during the Kennedy administration played an advisory role in the conflict. America's involvement increased significantly under President Lyndon Johnson after two US Destroyers off the coast of North Vietnam were attacked by the North Vietnamese in 1964. The United States sent ground troops in 1964 and began to bomb North Vietnamese targets in

---

<sup>69</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 114-115.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid.*, 113.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*, 75.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, 75-76.



early 1965. The number of US troops committed to the conflict rose steadily reaching 184,000 by 1966 and 500,000 by 1968.<sup>73</sup>

Despite America's role in Vietnam, the spirit and policy of détente between the Soviet Union and the United States continued into the 1970s under the administration of President Richard M. Nixon. The Soviet's achievement of nuclear parity no longer gave the US a military advantage and Nixon and his national security adviser, Henry Kissinger, sought to "manage" the Soviet Union through a combination of strategic and economic agreements that were linked to responsible Soviet behavior. Nixon also sought to normalize US relations with the People's Republic of China. This other large communist regime had also entered the realm of nuclear weapons, having tested an atomic bomb in 1964 and a hydrogen bomb in 1967. The relationship between China and the Soviet Union had deteriorated, and instability in China posed a threat to both US and Soviet interests.<sup>74</sup>

Nixon's diplomatic successes included a trip to China in 1972 where he reestablished formal relations with the communist regime through a series of trade and friendship treaties. Later that same year Nixon also met with Soviet leader Brezhnev in Moscow, which resulted in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) I Treaty to control and limit each superpower's offensive nuclear weapons. This was expanded in the SALT II negotiations, which were initiated in 1974 and concluded in 1979. The two nations also entered various trade agreements.<sup>75</sup> Around this same time the US struggled to exit the conflict in Vietnam. Negotiations between the US and North Vietnam continued to breakdown until the December 1972 bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong and a cease-fire was declared in February of 1973. The US withdrew its forces while communist troops remained in South Vietnam. Following the resignation of Nixon in 1974, President Gerald Ford gained the presidency. With almost all of America's forces withdrawn, North Vietnam launched an offensive against South Vietnam in January of 1975. This offensive resulted in South Vietnam's surrender on April 30<sup>th</sup> and the end of the Vietnam War.

### *Military Context*

The US defense policy shifted from one of "massive retaliation" under the Eisenhower administration to one of graded, "flexible response" under the Kennedy administration. Under Kennedy, military spending increased and more emphasis was put on the ability to defeat the enemy on conventional as well as nuclear arenas. Developments in missile and nuclear technology continued as the arms race escalated with increasingly lethal weapons of mass destruction.

The Kennedy administration also brought new interest in and appreciation of unconventional warfare. Kennedy had a strong interest in the field, particularly counterinsurgency, and believed it could play an important role in the West's battle to stop the spread of communism. In a speech to the West Point graduating class of 1961, Kennedy voiced his strong support for this new type of warfare:

This is another kind of war, new in its intensity, ancient in its origins – war by guerillas, subversives, insurgents, assassins; war by ambush instead of combat; by infiltration instead of aggression; seeking victory by eroding and exhausting the enemy instead of engaging him. It requires a whole new kind of strategy, a wholly different kind of force and therefore a new and wholly different kind of military training.<sup>76</sup>

---

<sup>73</sup> Ibid., 278-279.

<sup>74</sup> Ibid., 77-79.

<sup>75</sup> Ibid., 80-81; Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 528-529.

<sup>76</sup> Martin C. Arostegui, *Twilight Warriors: Inside the World's Special Forces* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995), 16.

Kennedy's interest in unconventional warfare brought much needed support to the Special Forces. In the early 1960s, Kennedy visited Fort Bragg to see first hand the achievements being made there. It was this visit that secured the "Green Beret" as the official headgear of the Special Forces and singled them out as an elite group. Members of Special Forces teams had begun to wear the beret in the field in a nod to the OSS who preceded them and as a distinguishable symbol of their unique role. Prior to Kennedy's visit, the beret was unauthorized and at first was concealed from commanding officers. As more men started wearing them, it became more open; however, it was not fully accepted by some in the upper ranks. Brigadier General William Yarborough took the risk of having his men wear the green berets for the presidential visit. The troops strongly impressed Kennedy and he stated later that the beret stood out as a "symbol of excellence, the mark of distinction, the badge of courage," and the beret soon became the official headgear of the Special Forces.<sup>77</sup>

Kennedy's strong support of Special Forces and counterinsurgency increased both military and public interest in the field. The Pentagon expanded the Special Forces to approximately 1,500 men in each of the three groups and planned additional groups for assignments in the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America. Graduates of the Fort Bragg Special Warfare School, now under the command of Brigadier General Yarborough, increased from around 400 a year to nearly 3,200. Missions overseas increased in numbers and scope and the concept of the Special Action Force (SAF) developed. These were specialized detachments that focused on areas such as civil affairs, psychological operations, medical skills, engineering, and intelligence.<sup>78</sup>

The focus of the Cold War shifted to Southeast Asia and US Special Forces began to operate in Vietnam in 1957. The 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group was activated at Okinawa on June 24, 1957 and trained 58 men of the Vietnamese Army at the Commando Training Center in Nha Trang. In May of 1960, thirty Special Forces instructors were sent to South Vietnam to establish a training program for the South Vietnamese Army. The 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, which eventually became responsible for all Special Forces operations in Vietnam, was activated at Fort Bragg on September 21, 1961. The primary mission of Special Forces in Vietnam was the development of paramilitary forces among the minority groups. Teams provided training and advisory assistance in what became known as the Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG) program.

The CIDG program centered on establishing development centers in remote areas where there was little government control. Working with Vietnamese Special Forces, they helped to establish defense of a village. Civic action and psychological operations were also conducted to raise the local standard of living, encourage loyalty to the government, and develop active support in fighting insurgents. Locals were trained in the use of simple tools, methods of planting, care of crops and blacksmithing. Medical clinics were also established. One Special Forces soldier reflected, "We are social workers with rifles. . . . a military version of the Peace Corps."<sup>79</sup>

Over 80 CIDG camps were established in South Vietnam between 1961 and 1965, primarily in the Highland area. The US Special Forces were to serve in an advisory capacity to the Vietnamese Special Forces, but problems often arose in establishing the chain of command. This was complicated by language barriers. Although the program experienced some success, it was largely hampered by attacks of the Viet Cong, lack of motivation among local peoples, and an insufficient number of qualified US soldiers to supplement the Special Forces. In 1964, the Special Forces in Vietnam introduced Studies and Observation Groups (SOGs) and crossed the borders into the neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia. There they conducted espionage activities to determine the concentrations of enemy troops. In

---

<sup>77</sup> Simpson, *Inside the Green Berets*, 30-33.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.*, 66-70.

<sup>79</sup> Hans Halberstadt, *Green Berets Unconventional Warriors*. (Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1988), 17.

1965 they initiated Mobile Strike Force teams, which attacked Viet Cong training camps in Laos and Cambodia.<sup>80</sup> US Special Forces pulled out of the Highland area in the early 1970s and the last was withdrawn in 1971.

### *Fort Bragg Context*

From 1960 to 1975, Fort Bragg recorded a period of significant growth and evolving missions. The role of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division remained largely the same during these years. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division remained “on call” to respond to any threat anywhere in the world. This responsiveness would be tested in 1965 when units of the Division were sent to the Caribbean nation of the Dominican Republic to restore order and defend against a communist insurgency. Following the Tet offensive in 1968, the Division’s 3rd Brigade was rushed to Vietnam to help counter the North Vietnamese forces. This brigade remained in Vietnam until December of 1969. This period also witnessed the emergence of the Special Forces as an intrinsic part of Fort Bragg and the construction of the Special Warfare Center. Extensive modernization of the post also took place during these years with the construction of many new barracks buildings, family housing, and administrative buildings.

The focus of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division continued to be one of training and combat readiness in the early 1960s. Troops participated regularly in parachute jumps on the post’s many drop zones as well as training in weaponry and tactics. In support of these activities, construction funds of \$18.1 million were spent in 1964 and 1965 on building additional aviation facilities for Simmons Army Airfield, a permanent 192-man barracks for the hospital, and a 10-EM (enlisted men) barracks complex. Non-appropriated fund construction projects between 1960 and 1970 amounted to nearly five million dollars and included NCO open messes, bowling centers, banks, an exchange warehouse, a field house, a gymnasium with an indoor pool, a guest house and youth center.

The post’s family housing was also improved in the early 1960s through the construction of hundreds of units of Capehart Housing. In 1965, Fort Bragg’s family housing was located in five areas of the post. Housing built prior to 1945 included the 128 NCO units in the Bastogne Housing Area and the 165-unit officers’ quarters in the Normandy Housing Area. The Anzio and Corregidor Housing Areas were constructed in the 1950s as two 1,000-unit Wherry housing projects. These were built adjacent to NC Highway 87 and were constructed at this location so it could be separated from the post and sold as a private housing development if the Government requirement for the housing ceased to exist.<sup>81</sup> The fifth area was the Hammond Housing Area (Hammond Hills) which was sited to the west of the Old Post area. Also developed in the 1950s and 1960s, this area included 1,829 Capehart housing units and 246 other units for officers and NCOs.

The growing unrest in the Caribbean nation of the Dominican Republic led to President Lyndon Johnson’s decision to intervene and restore order. As part of the planning for this intervention, elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne conducted Operation “Quick Kick VII” which was an airborne-amphibious operation on Vieques Island off the coast of Puerto Rico. This operation provided an actual dress rehearsal for the rapid deployment of the Division.<sup>82</sup> On April 29, 1965, soldiers of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were deployed to the Dominican Republic to aid in the evacuation of US citizens known as Operation Powerpack. These troops remained in the Dominican Republic as part of the Inter-

---

<sup>80</sup> Paddock, *US Army Special Warfare*, 15-16.

<sup>81</sup> *Fort Bragg Master Plan*, Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office, 1965, 14.

<sup>82</sup> 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, *Summary of Activities, 1965*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), n.p.

American Peacekeeping Force (IAPF) sponsored by the Organization of American States until they returned to Fort Bragg on September 21, 1966.<sup>83</sup>

With the widening war in Vietnam, training for jungle combat conditions became a large part of exercises conducted by the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne in the mid-1960s. In November of 1966, a 3,000-man parachute assault exercise was conducted in the Camp Mackall area. The Division employed counter-guerrilla/counter-insurgency tactics in imitation of tactics utilized in Vietnam.<sup>84</sup> As part of the training during the Vietnam War, several mock villages were constructed at Fort Bragg. These villages approximated the type of combat conditions which would be encountered if troops of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were deployed to Vietnam.

In 1966, the build-up for the Vietnam War required the activation of Fort Bragg's Army Training Center. The Old Division Area (Area A) was utilized for this effort and some \$10.6 million was spent in providing housing, support, and training facilities for this function. Much of this work consisted of rehabilitation and alteration of World War II mobilization-type buildings and the addition of pre-fabricated metal buildings for storage and academic uses. That same year, millions of dollars were spent on building Post Engineer maintenance facilities, a dental clinic, a 40-man BOQ, and a 1,000-seat auditorium.

The Tet Offensive of February, 1968 resulted in significant losses for South Vietnamese and American forces. The Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army captured a number of cities in South Vietnam including the provincial capital of Hue. In response, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division was deployed to the Hue/Phu Bai area on February 13<sup>th</sup>. President Lyndon Johnson made a surprise visit to Fort Bragg in early February to see the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade depart for the war.<sup>85</sup> Once deployed, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade performed combat duties in the Hue - Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector. Later the brigade was moved south to Saigon, and fought battles in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border. After serving nearly 22 months in Vietnam, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade troopers returned to Fort Bragg on December 12, 1969.

In addition to the missions abroad, units of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were also sent to several US cities to restore order following race riots. These deployments included service in Detroit in July of 1967 and in Washington D.C. and Baltimore following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in April of 1968. The growing movement against the Vietnam War led to many large-scale demonstrations in Washington and units of the Division were sent to the capitol in 1971 to maintain governmental operations.

In addition to the operations of the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, the 1960s also witnessed the development of the Special Forces Center at Fort Bragg. When John F. Kennedy was elected president in 1960, he possessed a different perspective on the nature of war than did Truman or Eisenhower. Kennedy believed that conventional warfare would become less likely and that guerilla warfare would increase through support by the Soviet and Chinese regimes. In October of 1961, Kennedy visited Fort Bragg and was impressed by the training and operations demonstrated by the Special Forces Group. Kennedy supported the elite nature of these forces, standardized the headgear used by the Special Forces, and they became known as the "Green Berets."

---

<sup>83</sup> *History of Fort Bragg*, 140.

<sup>84</sup> *82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Summary of Activities, 1966*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 1.

<sup>85</sup> *Annual Historical Supplement, 1968, Headquarters, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 21.

With increased support by Kennedy and others in the administration, the size and scope of Special Forces at Fort Bragg increased significantly. Twenty World War II barracks buildings were converted in 1961 and 1962 to operational use by the Special Forces and money was allocated for the completion of permanent buildings at the planned Special Forces Warfare Center. In 1963, money was set aside for the design and building of a Headquarters and Academic Building and in the next year additional funds were allocated for two 275-man student BOQ's, an Officers' mess, two classified study buildings and a central heating plant. The first building constructed at the Center, Kennedy Hall, was completed in 1965 as the main academic and administrative building for the Special Forces. In 1966 and 1967, over a dozen new brick buildings were constructed along Ardennes Street to house the headquarters of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Groups and various battalion commands as well as a medical clinic for the Center. The John F. Kennedy Chapel was also built during these years to serve as the church for the Special Forces Warfare Center.

The Special Operations Forces based at Fort Bragg played an important role in the Vietnam War. The primary mission of Special Forces in Vietnam was the development of paramilitary forces among the minority groups. Teams provided training and advisory assistance in what became known as the Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG) program. Over 80 CIDG camps were established in South Vietnam between 1961 and 1965, primarily in the Highland area. In 1964, the Special Forces in Vietnam introduced Studies and Observation Groups (SOGs) and crossed the borders into the neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia. There they conducted espionage activities to determine the concentrations of enemy troops. In 1965 they initiated Mobile Strike Force teams, which attacked Viet Cong training camps in Laos and Cambodia.<sup>86</sup>

The profile of the Green Berets was heightened on January 30, 1966 when Staff Sergeant Barry Sadler, stationed at Fort Bragg, appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show to sing a song he wrote called "The Ballad of the Green Berets." This song went on to become the number one selling record in the country. In April, actor John Wayne visited Fort Bragg and toured the Special Warfare Center as part of his interest in making a movie based upon the Green Berets. This project moved forward and the Army provided the use of helicopters and other equipment to make the film. Starring and co-directed by Wayne, the Green Berets was largely filmed at Fort Benning and released in 1968. In gratitude for the Army's cooperation, Wayne financed a stone commemorative marker which was placed in front of the John F. Kennedy Chapel.

By the early 1970s, President Nixon's policy of "Vietnamization" resulted in the pullout of American troops along with an increase in the size of the South Vietnam army. As part of this policy, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne returned back to Fort Bragg in December of 1969 and the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group returned in 1971. When it left Vietnam, the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group was the most decorated unit of the war. Never numbering over 2,400 men, the unit came out of the war with 2,658 purple hearts.<sup>87</sup> Once back home the Special Forces expanded the Warfare Center through the addition of the six-story Bryant Hall. Bryant Hall was completed in 1972 to serve as the main academic and training building for the Special Forces at Fort Bragg.

As America's role in the Vietnam War came to an end, the draft was abolished and the military began its reliance on an all volunteer (VOLAR) Army. Fort Bragg was designated a VOLAR test organization on January 25, 1971.<sup>88</sup> Over the next two years approximately 8.6 million dollars was appropriated to finance projects that would improve Army life and enhance training conditions including the authorization of \$983,000 for a Skill Development Center. Other base improvement programs included the allocation of

---

<sup>86</sup> *Origins of the Special Forces*, 15-16.

<sup>87</sup> Southworth and Tanner, *US Special Forces*, 115.

<sup>88</sup> *Annual Historical Supplement, 1971, Headquarters, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 21.

\$36.2 million in 1974 for the funding of a 1,649 enlisted men barracks complex to include company, battalion, group administrative facilities, a dispensary, and a consolidated dining facility. Constructed on Smoke Bomb Hill, these barracks replaced dozens of World War-II temporary wooden buildings and barracks. The barracks constructed under this program were completed in 1975 and 1976 at a cost of over one million dollars each. Of concrete and brick construction, these three-story buildings were originally designed to house 264 enlisted men.<sup>89</sup> Also provided was the modernization of 15 barracks buildings in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division area, an administrative facility for the First ROTC Region Headquarters and Readiness Group Bragg, and two tactical equipment shops with support facilities and hardstand.

In addition to the continued training on base, the troops of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne participated in two overseas exercises during 1971. Operation “Freedom Vault” was conducted in Korea and demonstrated the capability to rapidly deploy United States Strike Command units from America to an overseas area for immediate tactical operations. The other exercise, Operation “Deep Furrow” was held in Turkey and a battalion was deployed to train and maneuver with Turkish troops.<sup>90</sup>

The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division was placed on alert status in October of 1973 as a result of tensions developing during the Arab-Israeli Yom Kippur War. President Richard Nixon feared Soviet intervention in the Middle East as a result of the conflict between the Israelis and Arabs. Nixon ordered a military response to send the message to the Soviets that any unilateral action would not be tolerated. By midnight on October 25th, he ordered the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to raise the alert of US forces to Defense Condition 3 (DEFCON III). In addition, more than 50 B-52 strategic bombers were ordered to move from their base in Guam to the continental United States, placing them closer to the crisis zone. Airborne tankers, which provided the lifeline for long-range strategic bombing missions, were dispersed and prepared for action. In another show of force, Nixon ordered the carrier *USS John F. Kennedy* into the Mediterranean. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division was put on alert and told to be ready to deploy by 6:00 a.m. on the 25th.

Nixon hoped that these alerts would deliver a message to the Soviets. Washington never publicly announced the alerts, but instead counted on Soviet intelligence to intercept the increased signals traffic they generated. This approach worked and the Soviet Union halted any planned intervention in the Middle East. Some of the initial aircraft of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division left the ground on their way to the Middle East but were called back once tensions eased. The Division received praise from the Army Chief of Staff, General Creighton Abrams, on its ability to launch the initial aircraft of troops within eighteen hours of notification.<sup>91</sup>

## *E. Détente and the End of the Cold War*

### *Political Context*

Following the end of the Vietnam War, the late 1970s saw a deterioration of the détente policy between the two superpowers. Weaknesses in the negotiations began to chip away at the foundation of the détente. Primary weaknesses included a fundamental difference in the understanding of the relationship of the superpowers on the part of both nations. Americans viewed it as a way to manage the Soviet Union while maintaining their international power and superiority. Soviets saw it as a way of coexisting peacefully, but continuing their international social and political agenda. Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev pursued

---

<sup>89</sup> *Facility No. H-5454*, Real Property Record on file at the Real Estate Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina

<sup>90</sup> *1971 Historical Summary, Headquarters 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 2.

<sup>91</sup> *1973 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 1.

the so-called “Brezhnev Doctrine” which supported communist expansion into Third World nations and the permanence of communist regimes.

Human rights became an increasingly important negotiating tool under the administration of Jimmy Carter who was elected President in 1976. A staunch humanitarian, Carter linked human rights considerations to allocations of American aid and political support, which increased American criticism of Soviet Bloc countries. Carter also had an uneasy relationship with the Soviet Union. As a Washington outsider, Carter did not have the rapport with Soviet leaders as did his predecessors. The conservative Soviet government was cautious and skeptical of this unknown and his focus on human rights above a balance-of-power diplomacy.<sup>92</sup> Carter reacted harshly to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in late 1979, and in addition to increasing American forces in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, he initiated a Western boycott of the upcoming Moscow Olympics, suspended the SALT II Treaty, and put a hold on the US-Soviet grain trade agreement.<sup>93</sup>

With the administration of President Ronald Reagan came a resurgence of the earlier Cold War era atmosphere of tension and confrontation. In 1983 in a speech to Christian clerics, Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as the “evil empire,” and American anxiety of a possible nuclear conflict escalated.<sup>94</sup> The United States increased military spending under Reagan and developed the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) missile defense system. President Reagan also signaled an end to any acquiescence to the Brezhnev Doctrine when he ordered the invasion of Grenada in October of 1983 to overthrow its communist government.

Dramatic changes in Soviet leadership in the mid-1980s had significant consequences on the Cold War. Following Brezhnev’s death in 1982, first Yuri Andropov followed by Konstantin Chernenko briefly led the Soviet government. However, it was under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev that the Soviet Union experienced real reform and revitalization. Unlike his predecessors, Gorbachev was well educated and cosmopolitan. He realized that the “Stalinist state had crippled the Soviet Union economically and socially and in its dealings with the West; he would undertake to dismantle the apparatus and provide a new ‘socialism with a human face’ in order to save the Communist party.”<sup>95</sup> He initiated domestic reforms with the concepts of glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructuring). His foreign policy included a “conciliatory tone” toward the United States and the West, and supported arms reduction and control. Gorbachev first met with Reagan at Geneva in November 1985. The two leaders met several times in the following years and in 1987 signed the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty to eliminate short- and medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Under Gorbachev’s leadership, change quickly came to the Soviet Union and much of Eastern Europe. Gorbachev put an end to the Brezhnev Doctrine, which gave Eastern bloc nations greater autonomy. Democratic movements swept through Eastern Europe as Soviet support of communist dictatorships ended. The year 1989 proved to be a watershed year as democratic uprisings led to the ousting of communist governments in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Hungary. The Cold War culminated in East Germany in November 1989 with the opening of all East German borders and the destruction of the most symbolic manifestation of the Cold War, the Berlin Wall. The dissolution of the Warsaw Pact in March 1991 ended the threat of a Soviet invasion of Western Europe and brought a formal end to the Cold War.

---

<sup>92</sup> Arms, *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*, 103-104.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*, 104-105.

<sup>94</sup> Frankel, *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe*, 90.

<sup>95</sup> *Ibid.*, 91.

### *Military Context*

Nuclear weapon development remained at the forefront of defense systems as the Soviet Union and the United States reached nuclear parity. During this period both countries developed long-range missile systems and Multiple Independent Reentry Vehicles (MIRVs). Treaties and negotiations focusing on arms control and reduction dominated the period to the end of the Cold War. Development of missile systems in both the United States and the Soviet Union served as bargaining chips during the SALT agreements as each side sought to strengthen their position. During the Reagan administration, the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program, popularly known as “Star Wars,” was put forward. The program involved the development of missile shields and was heavily criticized for its projected expense and technical infeasibility.

The increasing sophistication and capabilities of weapons deepened the consequences of war. Future wars promised to be more violent and Western forces would most likely face enemy forces much larger than themselves. The focus on counterinsurgency lessened as the military concentrated on preparing for future conflicts involving intense artillery, and a fluctuating battlefield requiring a high degree of mobility. The Vietnam era brought a new focus on air mobility and the role of helicopters in coordinating with ground forces. As a strictly volunteer army, the military continued to emphasize technology and weapon power over manpower in the post-Vietnam era.

### *Fort Bragg Context*

From 1975 to 1989, the mission of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division continued to be that of a combat ready unit which could be rapidly deployed as needed across the world. Throughout the 1970s the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division maintained its alert status through a series of Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises (EDRE). These exercises consisted of the alert and marshalling and deployment of a Divisional unit on a no-notice basis followed by a parachute assault.<sup>96</sup> In 1976, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division supported more than 96,000 parachute jumps within its drop zones and there were five major joint and command post exercises.<sup>97</sup> In August of 1977, the largest Division field exercise held in several years took place called “Neptune II.” This exercise was conducted at both Fort Campbell and Fort Bragg and featured soldiers from both the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions. The premise of the mock attack was to parachute into a friendly island country to defend against an enemy aggressor.

In addition to the parachute training, soldiers at Fort Bragg also worked to become proficient with advances in weapons and armaments. Antiarmor training continued with an emphasis on the M-220 Tube-launched, Optically tracked, Wire-guided missile or “TOW.” The TOW anti-tank missile was introduced for service in the US Army in 1970. It was primarily used in antitank warfare, and was a command to line of sight, wire-guided weapon. TOW was used to engage and destroy enemy armored vehicles, primarily tanks. To add realism to the training at Fort Bragg an antiarmor complex was built to provide soldiers with antiarmor tactics.<sup>98</sup>

The large rapid influx of Army Aviation units to Fort Bragg in the early 1970s resulted in overcrowding of airspace at the post. To help alleviate this overcrowding, the development of new facilities at Camp Mackall was planned in 1976. In 1976, the existing facilities at the airfield consisted of three 5,000’ by

---

<sup>96</sup> FY 77 *Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 16.

<sup>97</sup> *1976 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), n.p.

<sup>98</sup> *1975 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 1.



150' concrete runways with a 900' by 300' parking apron constructed in World War II for support of glider and airborne training. Existing support facilities in 1976 included a 20' wooden control tower with a mobile control cab, a 10' 12' wooden crash rescue shed and a radio beacon shed. In order to upgrade the airfield the master plan of 1976 proposed modifications to the existing runways, construction of a permanent control tower, construction of aircraft rapid refueling and automotive refueling stations, development of a permanent communications facility, construction of an airfield crash and rescue station, and other support facilities for airfield operations and maintenance.

The Special Forces Warfare Center continued to be the main campus for Special Forces with training grounds also developed at Camp Mackall. In 1976, Camp Mackall supported the training of Special Forces students in tactical operations, unconventional warfare techniques, and marshland/swampland land movement techniques. A large percentage of the 6,542 acres within the reservation boundaries were used for this purpose. In 1976, this mission involved the cycling of over 1,800 officers and enlisted students through the program. The training operations were supported by 40 wood buildings constructed in accordance with standards for temporary wooden buildings in the late 1960s and early 1970s. A well, pump house, shower facility, two latrines, a permanent telephone exchange, a 28 station confidence course and 154 foot communications tower and relay station comprised the balance of facilities for the mission support structures.<sup>99</sup>

In 1979, the primary mission of Fort Bragg was to “provide advanced tactical training to airborne troops.”<sup>100</sup> Fort Bragg provided the facilities for training, logistical and mobilization deployment of the XVIII Airborne Corps; control and deployment for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division and the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky). In October of 1979, the XVIII Airborne Corps was designated the Army Force Headquarters for the Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) with Corps units forming the nucleus of this force.<sup>101</sup> This designation allowed for greater command and control over various units available to mobilize and deploy on short notice. The intent of this force was to provide even greater efficiency in deploying lead elements within 18 to 24 hours to a threatened area.

The rapid responsiveness of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne was again in evidence when units were called upon in August of 1980 to serve as the primary security/reaction forces to end disturbances at the Cuban Resettlement Center at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. During early 1980, Cuban President Fidel Castro allowed Cubans to leave for the United States. The resulting “Freedom Flotilla” from the Cuban port of Mariel resulted in over 125,000 Cubans traveling by boat to Florida. In order to house and process these emigrants, several reception centers were opened across the country. One of these was at Fort Indiantown Gap which opened its reception center in May and was soon filled with over 18,000 persons. Frustration with their incarceration and processing led hundreds of Cubans to riot at several reception centers. A disturbance on August 5<sup>th</sup> led to the deployment of three infantry battalions from Fort Bragg to Fort Indiantown Gap where the troops quickly restored order.<sup>102</sup> Units from the Division remained at the reception center to maintain security until the facility was closed in October.

---

<sup>99</sup> Master Plan for Camp Mackall, North Carolina, Installation Planning Board, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 1976, (Report on file at the Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), n.p.

<sup>100</sup> *Analytical/Environmental Assessment Report, Master Plan Future Developments, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*, (Savannah, Georgia: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1979, Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office), 2.

<sup>101</sup> *Annual Historical Supplement to XVIII Airborne Corps Histories, FY 80*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), iii.

<sup>102</sup> *FY 80 Historical Supplement, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 4.

Airborne training continued on a world-wide scale in 1980 and 1981 including the participation of XVIII Airborne Corps units in exercise “Bright Star 81” which was conducted in Egypt. This was the first US/Egypt Training Exercise sponsored by the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force.<sup>103</sup> In 1982, the Corps participated in five major training exercises and numerous Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises.<sup>104</sup>

The major combat operation of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division during the 1980s was “Operation Urgent Fury” in the country of Grenada. Grenada occupied a strategic location in the Caribbean Sea and in the early 1980s its government signed a treaty allowing the Soviet Union to use the island for their long-range reconnaissance planes. Cuban military engineers, using Soviet heavy construction equipment began building a 9,000 foot runway capable of accommodating both civilian jumbo jets and long-range military aircraft. The new airfield was also planned to be used as a refueling depot for aircraft supplying the 40,000 Cubans stationed in Africa. By 1983, Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop had moved his government to a more pro-America stance which caused divisions within his government. A pro-Soviet and Cuba faction led a revolt against Bishop and on October 19<sup>th</sup> he was executed along with members of his cabinet. There was fighting in the streets and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) requested that the United States intervene in Grenada in order to protect island residents. There was also concern over the fate of hundreds of American medical students enrolled in the medical schools on the island.

The XVIII Airborne Corps was notified on October 21<sup>st</sup> that plans needed to be prepared for the deployment and occupation of the island.<sup>105</sup> The Corps was given the assignment to provide one to two airborne battalions to assist in the evacuation of Americans and other foreign nationals, to neutralize hostile Grenadian forces, to stabilize the island, and to maintain the peace. Units from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were to be utilized in this force. These forces would also coordinate with other units from the Marines, Navy and Air Force.

Planning in both the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Corps Headquarters resulted in a deployment based on a ten hour notice. Under the guise of a standard Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise (EDRE) order, this notice was given on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Grenada was attacked by various units the next day including the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne’s 2-325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Battalion. The country’s airfields were secured in these initial attacks allowing the landing of thousands of troops by air. Fierce resistance was overcome in the first days of the assault with units of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne responsible for killing or capturing hundreds of Grenadian and Cuban soldiers. On October 27<sup>th</sup>, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne along with other American troops, attacked the last Cuban stronghold at the Calivigny Barracks. After a short assault the barracks were surrendered and organized resistance on the island came to an end. The next day additional units arrived from Fort Bragg giving the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne six full battalions on the island.

After October 29<sup>th</sup>, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division was responsible for searching the island for weapons and rounding up Cuban and Grenadian prisoners. The troops captured several resistance leaders and established military control throughout the island. Hostilities were declared over on November 4<sup>th</sup> and three of the Division’s battalions were redeployed back to Fort Bragg. Gradually all of the Division’s combat forces left the island with the final units landing at Fort Bragg on December 12<sup>th</sup>.<sup>106</sup> The

---

<sup>103</sup> *Annual Historical Supplement to XVIII ABN Corps and Ft. Bragg Histories, FY 81*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), v.

<sup>104</sup> *Historical Review FY 82, XVIII Airborne Corps and Ft. Bragg*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), iv.

<sup>105</sup> *XVIII Airborne Corps Annual Historical Review, Fiscal Year 1984*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 58.

<sup>106</sup> *Ibid.*, 66.

Division's Military Support Elements remained on the island for an additional period to equip and train Grenadian police and security personnel.

In the late 1980s the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division continued to maintain its training and readiness to respond as needed. In March of 1988, a large scale Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise, "Operation Golden Pheasant" was conducted. This exercise was designed to demonstrate America's resolve to support the government of Honduras and 3,100 personnel from the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg were deployed to Honduras within 55 hours.<sup>107</sup> Also in 1988, the Division participated in over fifty training exercises including a Division level exercise called "Market Square II." This exercise was the largest airborne operation of the late 1980s and included over 6,400 personnel drops and 139 heavy equipment platform drops.<sup>108</sup>

Following Vietnam, the Special Forces troop strength was reduced from 13,000 to 3,000 as the role of the Special Forces was reassessed and redefined. With the rise in international terrorism, a new emphasis was placed on an elite secret unit which could respond rapidly to a hostage or terrorist situation. This led to the creation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Operational Detachment Delta in 1977. In 1979, the Delta Force participated in the ill-fated Iranian hostage rescue which ended in failure. Delta Force was also part of the initial invasion of Grenada alongside the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division in 1983.<sup>109</sup>

Overall, the Special Forces spent much of the 1980s projecting US military doctrine and training throughout the world. Known as Foreign Internal Defense (FID), the Special Forces provided training, weapons, and other resources to countries threatened with Soviet or Cuban sponsored destabilization. Special Forces soldiers were sent to Honduras and El Salvador to counter guerilla efforts by the Nicaraguan Sandanistas.<sup>110</sup> Additional funding and troop strengths for Special Forces were enacted by Congress in 1986 through the creation of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). This law mandated the creation of an interservice special-operations command responsible for doctrine, training and equipment common to all DoD special forces.<sup>111</sup> As the Cold War came to an end in 1989, the increased emphasis in international terrorism marked a new era in Special Forces operations with participation in the first Gulf War and other military operations to the present.

---

<sup>107</sup> *Annual Historical Review, FY-88, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), vii.

<sup>108</sup> *FY 88, Historical Supplement to 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division History*, (Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), 1.

<sup>109</sup> Southworth and Tanner, *US Special Forces*, 128.

<sup>110</sup> *Ibid.*, 117.

<sup>111</sup> Adams, *US Special Forces Operations in Action*, 201.

### III. THE COLD WAR AND NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY

---

#### A. The Cold War and National Register Eligibility

The Army's Cold War resources are those that relate directly to the Cold War itself, not just to the Cold War period (1946-1989). Many of these resources will be less than fifty years of age and must be evaluated not only for their significance in the Cold War but also be of "exceptional significance" in order to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The majority of the Army's Cold War properties constructed from 1955 to 1989 must also be evaluated under this "exceptionally significant" criteria.

Exceptionally significant properties must meet at least one of the NRHP criteria by which properties are assessed under the standard fifty-year rule. These standards are discussed in NRHP Bulletins 15 and 22. *National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, states that be assessed under Consideration G, a property must (1) be less than fifty years of age, (2) continue to achieve significance into a period less than fifty years of age before the nomination to the NRHP, (3) be more than 50 years old, but have had no significance until the period less than 50 years before the nomination, or (4) be an integral part of a historic district in which the majority of the properties or the most important period of significance is less than 50 years.<sup>112</sup> *National Register Bulletin 22, Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties That Have Achieved Significance in the Last Fifty Years* also provides criteria for assessing properties less than fifty years old.

Properties that may be important in the Cold War and also may meet the exceptionally significant criteria include the following:

##### *National Register Criterion A: Events*

A property can be eligible for the NRHP if it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. A property must be associated with one or more events important in Cold War history. The property must be associated with a specific Cold War event or have physical features that clearly illustrate an important Cold War theme. The NRHP program and the exceptional importance criteria outlined in *Bulletin 22* require that evaluations of significance "demonstrate that sufficient historical perspective and scholarly, comparative analysis exist to justify the claim of the exceptional importance."<sup>113</sup>

##### *Criterion B: People:*

A property may be eligible if it is associated with the lives of persons significant to the past. A property must illustrate a person's significance in Army Cold War military-industrial history.

##### *Criterion C: Design:*

The NRHP guidelines state that a property may be eligible if: it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; represents the work of a master; or possesses high artistic value. For an Army Cold War property to be considered under this criterion, the design must be directly associated with the Army and the Cold War and must be related to one of the identified themes. Properties significant in engineering as well as architecture may also be eligible under this criterion.

---

<sup>112</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1991), 41.

<sup>113</sup> *National Register Bulletin 22, Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years*, (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 11.

#### Criterion D: Potential to Yield Information

This criterion generally applies to known archaeological sites that have yet to be excavated or studied. It is possible, though unlikely, that there are many Cold War sites that would be evaluated as archaeological resources.

To be considered under NRHP Criteria Consideration G, a property must possess integrity of its period of significance. Integrity is defined as “the ability of a property to convey its significance.” Integrity is based upon possessing seven qualities which the NRHP identifies as materials, setting, location, feeling, workmanship, association, and design. A property must demonstrate the majority of these qualities in order to possess integrity. Changes or alterations to a Cold War property does not necessarily mean that a property has lost integrity. A property may have required constant alterations or additions in order to meet changing technology or accommodate additional commands or missions.

### **B. The Army and Cold War National Register Guidelines – Overall Criteria**

An overall study of the US Army’s Cold War properties was completed in 1998 by the Army Environmental Center in Aberdeen, Maryland. The purpose of this study was to provide a national historic context for the US Army’s military-industrial involvement in the Cold War (1946-1989). The goal of the project was to: (1) to develop a thematic study on historic properties associated specifically with the military-industrial theme of the Cold War and (2) to provide guidelines for the identification and evaluation of Cold War era military-industrial historic properties in the Army.<sup>114</sup>

From 1946 to 1989, the primary mission of the Army was to deter or defeat communist growth in conjunction with other services and allied nations, without using strategic nuclear weapons. A secondary mission was to support America’s defenses through antiaircraft missiles and antiballistic missiles.<sup>115</sup> During the Cold War the Army played an essential role in combating communism in Europe, Asia, and the Western Hemisphere. As the nation’s largest military power, the Army provided ground forces in Europe alongside its NATO allies to counter the communist threat. In Asia, the Army fought a successful war to preserve the independence of South Korea and an unsuccessful war to prevent the communist takeover of South Vietnam. Between the end of the Vietnam War and the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Army was involved in smaller military actions such as in Grenada and Panama to prevent the fall of governments friendly to the United States.

To support its mission, the Army required the construction or use of thousands of buildings and structures as well as training areas. These properties comprise the physical and built environmental legacy of the Army during the Cold War. Many of these properties were built specifically during the Cold War era while others were earlier buildings and structures which were adaptively reused during this period.

The US Army’s Cold War study of 1998 identified properties that are directly related to the Cold War military-industrial context. These properties are those that:

1. Were specifically constructed or used prior to 1989 to:
  - Meet the perceived Soviet/communist military threat;
  - Project a force designed to influence Soviet policy; and,
  - Affect global opinion of the relationship between the superpowers.

---

<sup>114</sup> Lavin, “*Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of US Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties*,” 2.

<sup>115</sup> Ibid.

2. Through their architectural or engineering design, clearly reflect one of the Cold War themes.
3. Are directly related to the United States/Soviet relationship through association with a milestone event of the period.
4. Are directly related to a United States/Soviet relationship through association with the life of a person during the Cold War period.

All Army property from the Cold War period that **does not** fit into the definition of a Cold War-Military-Industrial property are those that:

1. Within the context of standard Army development, would have occurred whether or not the Cold War had taken place;
2. Within another Cold War context, such as the increase in housing construction that occurred as a result of increased size of the Army, or;
3. Within a context not originally related to the Army, such as the Navy or Air Force during the Cold War (some Navy and Air Force Cold War properties were transferred to the Army).<sup>116</sup>

The Army's Cold War study developed a number of themes associated with its mission during the Cold War. These themes are as follows:

1. Basic Scientific Research (Laboratories)
2. Materiel Development (Research, Development, and Engineering Center and Proving Grounds).
3. Wholesale Logistical Operations
4. Air Defense, Ballistic Missile Defense, and Army Missiles
5. Command and Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence
6. The Army School System
7. Operational Forces
8. Army Medical Activities
9. Miscellaneous Themes (Nuclear Power Program, Army Aviation, Activities Associated with Other Services or Department of Defense Agencies)

The themes of Basic Scientific Research, Materiel Development and Wholesale Logistics are all related to obtaining the necessary quantities of technologically superior equipment for the Army's forces. The theme of air defense reflects the Army's responsibilities for America's defense and its use of missiles on the battlefield. The theme of command control, communications, computers, and intelligence shows the interconnection of these topics and how they assisted the Army during the Cold War. The theme of the Army school system provides information on how soldiers were trained to perform under battlefield conditions. The theme of operational forces reflects the requirements of the Army to produce troops that could be deployed to the battlefield. The miscellaneous theme includes topics of interest for cultural resources management that do not fit into the other categories.<sup>117</sup>

---

<sup>116</sup> Ibid., 4.

<sup>117</sup> Ibid., 63.

### C. Previous Army Cold War Eligibility Studies

Over the past fifteen years, there has been a growing interest and emphasis on the identification and evaluation of Cold War resources by the DoD. In 1994, the DoD published “*Coming in from the Cold, Military Heritage in the Cold War*,” which detailed the historic contexts and variety of property types found at installations across America. During the late 1990s numerous studies were completed by the Air Force, Navy, and Army of their Cold War resources in order to meet federal historic preservation requirements. As previously noted, an overall context for the Army’s Cold War resources was prepared in 1998 and this context has since been used to assess the National Register eligibility of properties at a number of Army installations. These and other assessments provide insight into the types of properties which may meet Cold War eligibility at Fort Bragg.

#### *Related Study: The Cold War in South Carolina, 1945-1991*

This study was completed in 1996 and provides an inventory of Department of Defense Cold War era cultural and historical resources in South Carolina. The study was designed to create an inventory of resources, establish historic contexts for these resources, and discuss the significance of these resources within the state.<sup>118</sup> Twelve DoD installations were inventoried in the state including the Army’s Fort Jackson in Columbia, the Army’s anti-air defense complex at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, and Shaw AFB in Sumter. Although the study did not directly identify specific buildings, structures or sites as NRHP-eligible, it did provide sufficient context for these evaluations to occur in the future. As of March 2005, the only Army-related, Cold War property identified as National Register-eligible was the anti-missile complex at the Savannah Nuclear Plant.<sup>119</sup> This complex was built as part of the missile defense system for the Savannah Nuclear Plant south of Aiken, South Carolina.

#### *Related Study: Fort McClellan, Alabama*

Fort McClellan is located near Anniston, Alabama and was established in 1917. The fort served as an infantry training center in World War I and the post was extensively upgraded in the 1920s and 1930s. During World War II, Fort McClellan expanded to house those trained as infantry in the Army’s 27<sup>th</sup> and 92<sup>nd</sup> Divisions. The fort was also the home to two Women’s Army Corps (WAC) detachments. Following World War II, Fort McClellan was used as a demobilization center and was on inactive status until 1950. With the increasing tensions with the Soviet Union, the facility was once again activated to support National Guard training. In 1951, the fort was chosen to host the US Army Chemical Center and School. In 1954, the Women’s Army Corps Center and School was transferred from Fort Lee to the post. The Military Police School was also transferred to Fort McClellan in 1975.

In 2000, an evaluation of the World War II and Cold War properties at Fort McClellan was completed for the US Army Corps of Engineers. Completed by New South Associates, all of the Cold War resources were assessed within the contexts established by the Army in 1998. The Cold War property types at Fort McClellan generally fell under the category themes of the Army school system and Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). The study identified the resources associated with the three primary tenants of the facility during the Cold War; the Women’s Army Corps Center and School, the US Army Chemical Center and School, and the Military Police School.

---

<sup>118</sup> *The Cold War in South Carolina, 1945-1991, An Inventory of Department of Defense Cold War Era Cultural and Historical Resources in the State of South Carolina, Final Report*, (Columbia, South Carolina: USC Legacy Project, University of South Carolina, 1996), 1.

<sup>119</sup> Tracy Power, National Register Officer, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Telephone Interview, 14 January, 2005.

It was the study's assessment that most of these facilities were not eligible for the National Register since they did not have a direct Cold War association.<sup>120</sup> Most of the buildings and structures associated with these three schools were determined to be of administrative or support functions and did not possess historical or architectural characteristics that would qualify them for exceptional significance. One property, the Chemical Decontamination Training Facility (CDTF), was identified as meeting NRHP criteria. Completed in 1986, this was the only known facility of its kind in the world when it was built. The CDTF's purpose was to safely train service members to operate in a toxic agent environment using standard protective gear. This technologically advanced building provided realistic training in modern chemical warfare techniques. The facility consisted of a laboratory, incinerator, administrative building and other support buildings. It was recommended as eligible under NRHP criteria A and C and was determined to possess integrity of its original design. A second facility, Building 3192, was also reviewed for its role in radiological studies at the base. Although of historical significance, this building has been extensively modified in recent years and was determined to no longer possess integrity from its period of significance. No other properties at Fort McClellan were identified as meeting NRHP criteria in the context of the Cold War.

*Related Study: Wherry and Capehart Military Family Housing*

In the years following World War II, the DoD was faced with a significant shortage of adequate housing for its personnel. In order to rectify this deficiency, two programs were initiated in the 1940s and 1950s which resulted in the construction of almost a quarter-million military family housing units. The first of these was the Wherry Housing Program which spanned the years 1949 to 1955. Legislation for this housing program was passed in 1949 and named in honor of its sponsor, Senator Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska. Over the next six years a total of 83,742 housing units were built for the Air Force, Army and Navy. The military's expansion in the Cold War resulted in a second wave of housing construction known as the Capehart Housing Program. Passed in 1955, this housing program was named for its sponsor, Senator Homer Capehart of Indiana.<sup>121</sup> Between 1955 and 1962, approximately 162,000 housing units were built under this program. When the Capehart program came to an end in 1964, nearly 250,000 units of Wherry and Capehart had been built for the military at its installations. At the end of 1994, about 175,000 of these homes were still in existence.

With the large number of these buildings requiring constant upgrading and remodeling, the DoD sponsored an evaluation and assessment of their NRHP eligibility. As a result of the NRHP assessment of the Wherry and Capehart Housing, a Programmatic Agreement outlining a streamlined approach to the management of these resources was signed between the Advisory Council and the Department of Defense in May of 2002. The streamlining allows the Army to consider the treatment of the housing on an Army-wide basis instead of on a case by case basis. Overall, these properties are not considered to be NRHP-eligible. Fort Bragg has one of the nation's largest collections of Wherry and Capehart Housing with thousands of housing units represented in such residential neighborhoods as the Corregidor Courts, Anzio Acres, and Hammond Hills.<sup>122</sup> The ineligibility of the Wherry and Capehart housing units at Fort Bragg are addressed within the stipulations of this agreement.

---

<sup>120</sup> *Historic Context Study: World War II and Cold War Era Buildings and Structures, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, (Stone Mountain, Georgia: New South Associates, 2000), 106.

<sup>121</sup> Virge Temme, *For Want of a Home: The History of Wherry and Capehart Housing*, (Champaign, Illinois: United States Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratories, 1996), 4.

<sup>122</sup> [www.achp.gov/news-capehartwherry.html](http://www.achp.gov/news-capehartwherry.html), 1.



*Related Study: Overview of the Historic Context for the Cold War at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky*

In 2003, the Louisville District of the US Army Corps of Engineers funded the completion of a historic context study for Cold War properties at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. This installation is the home of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne and shares many of the same themes and command structure as Fort Bragg. The report examined the military contexts associated with the post and provided a framework for the evaluation of properties for their NRHP eligibility. One property on the installation, the Clarksville Base, was previously identified as meeting NRHP criteria within the Cold War. The Clarksville Base is a well preserved example of an early nuclear storage and maintenance facility. Established in 1948, the Clarksville Base was built to store nuclear weapons stockpiled for the US Navy. Operations at this base were under the control of the US Air Force and were entirely separate from the Army's operations at Fort Campbell.<sup>123</sup> The Clarksville Base was closed in 1965 and its property was assumed by the Army.

Two other properties were identified in this report as potentially eligible under the theme of Army Aviation; the Campbell Army Airfield and the Sabre Heliport. The Campbell Army Airfield was constructed during World War II and used for Army operations. Following the war, the air base was transferred to the US Air Force and operated as a part of Strategic Air Command (SAC). In 1959, the Air Force transferred the airfield back to the Army which enhanced its facilities in the early 1960s. The Sabre Heliport was a separate facility built in the 1970s to house and service the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne's fleet of helicopters. Both the Campbell Army Airfield and the Sabre Heliport may have sufficient significance to meet NRHP criteria for their role in Army aviation training during the Cold War.

*Summary*

The studies completed for the Army's Cold War resources in South Carolina, at Fort McClellan, and at Fort Campbell reinforce the emphasis on *exceptional significance* above and beyond the overall operational commands and missions at these installations. In South Carolina, the identified NRHP property is the anti-missile defense complex at the Savannah Nuclear Plant. The plant was one of several installations built in the early 1950s to counter the growing Soviet threat. The one property identified as eligible at Fort McClellan was the only facility of its kind when it was completed. Of Fort Campbell's three eligible properties, two have significance through themes of the Navy and Air Force. The third, the Sabre Heliport, is associated with the theme of Army Aviation which has particular significance in the evolution of air mobility tactics and operations.

---

<sup>123</sup> *Overview of the Historic Context for the Cold War at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, (Draft Report)* (Louisville, Kentucky: US Army Corps of Engineers, 2003), 34.

## **D. Fort Bragg and Cold War Themes**

As noted in the previous studies, the Army has identified a number of themes associated with its operations during the Cold War. Many of these, such as scientific laboratories and ballistic missile defense, do not appear to be applicable for the Cold War missions at Fort Bragg. Themes and property types which may be applicable are as follows:

1. Command and Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence
2. The Army School System
3. Miscellaneous Themes (Army Aviation)

### **1. Command and Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence**

Facilities associated with command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence support the Army's global communications programs and its tactical communications programs. The Army also provides contingency support to the national command authority in the potential event of nuclear war. Intelligence facilities are used to intercept and analyze the communications of potential adversaries, as well as to collect other sources of information. Buildings, structures, and sites associated with this theme may include:

*a. Antennae arrays;*

Used as communications stations or for intercepting communications traffic of potential adversaries.

*b. Code breaking facilities;*

Computerized facilities to crack enemy codes.

*c. Command and control facilities;*

Headquarters buildings and hidden command facilities consisting of underground chambers with communication capabilities.

*d. Installation communications facilities;*

Smaller facilities used for communications at an installation level

### **2. The Army School System**

As the potential for combat with Warsaw Pact, China and other communist forces pervaded the Army's Cold War culture, Army leaders continuously sought means to confront a numerically superior foe. Training personnel became a principal means of ensuring a qualitative advantage. As the Cold War progressed, training became increasingly important as weapons and equipment became more technologically sophisticated. Buildings, structures, and sites associated with this theme may include:

*a. Classroom and administration buildings*

The typical Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) post contains a large building that serves as the central classroom and administrative building with offices for the commander and staff.

*b. Outdoor training devices*

Typical schools contain obstacle courses, towers to teach rappelling, and other structures for challenging soldiers and building confidence.

*c. Small arms ranges and large caliber ranges*

*d. Chemical training facilities*

**3. Miscellaneous Themes (Army Aviation)**

During the Cold War, Army aviation consisted of both fixed and rotary wing aircraft. Helicopters especially have offered a technological advantage and the Army developed tactics in these years to transport troops, provide fire power, perform reconnaissance, serve as air ambulances and as command posts. Typical properties associated with Army aviation include:

*a. Airfields*

*b. Maintenance facilities*

*c. Research and development activities*

*d. Schools*

**E. Fort Bragg and Cold War National Register Eligibility**

*1. Introduction*

Through the application of the Army's Cold War criteria, most buildings and structures built between 1946 and 1989 at Fort Bragg can be eliminated from consideration as National Register-eligible. At the end of World War II, Fort Bragg was assessed for its contributions to the US Army and it was determined to keep the post operational and as the home for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. The post's large size and terrain made it suitable for airborne training and operations, and this mission dominated Fort Bragg in the post-war years. The large construction programs which occurred at the installation in these years reflected this commitment to improving and upgrading the housing, administrative, and training facilities for the XVIII Airborne Corps, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, and related units. The vast majority of buildings and structures constructed at the post during this period are associated with the overall airborne mission context and do not meet the criteria as exceptionally significant in the Cold War.

Based upon the Army's eligibility criteria, previous studies, and existing research and information, this project resulted in the inventory of twenty-two (22) buildings, structures, and sites which were assessed for their significance in the Cold War. These buildings and structures are as follows:

1. 1-1326
2. C-6525 (Demolished in January of 2005)
3. C-7620, Ridgway Hall
4. D-2302
5. D-2307
6. D-2502
7. D-2507
8. D-2609
9. D-2612
10. D-2815
11. D-2919
12. D-3004, Kennedy Hall
13. D-3022
14. D-3116, John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel
15. D-3206, Bryant Hall

16. D-3215
17. D-3225
18. D-3404, Mess Hall
19. D-3601, Moon Hall
20. D-3705, Hardy Hall
21. O-9055, Gap Filler Radar Station
22. Memorial Plaza

All of these properties are described in detail in Appendix B of this report. In addition to these properties, buildings and structures within the NRHP-eligible Simmons Army Airfield were previously surveyed in 2004.

The Special Warfare Center Historic District is eligible under the theme of the Army School System and Command and Control. Building D-3116, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, is individually eligible for its artistic merit within the theme of the Army School System. As noted in 2004, the Simmons Army Airfield is eligible within the theme of Army Aviation. As scholarly research continues on the Army's Cold War themes additional properties may be identified as eligible at Fort Bragg in the future.

### *1. Eligibility under Command and Control*

During the Cold War, the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division were on continuous alert to support the 7<sup>th</sup> US Army and other NATO forces in Europe. The 7<sup>th</sup> US Army maintained between 150,000 and 250,000 troops in Europe during much of the Cold War. Always at the ready was the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division which was regarded as “The largest and most capable of NATO’s airborne forces...”<sup>124</sup> During the Cold War, one battalion was always at eighteen hours’ notice to deploy with the remainder of the brigade at twenty-four hours’ notice. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division had the ability to take off from America, fly across the Atlantic and then drop straight into a tactical area in West Germany. The forces would then have the ability to operate for three days before requiring resupply.

As the home to the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg was the platform for the deployment of its troops to Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, and Grenada. Within the Cold War theme of Command and Control, the headquarters buildings of the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division served as the command centers for planning and logistics of these operations from 1946 to 1989. While planning and support also occurred at the battalion, regiment, and brigade level, exceptional significance is primarily associated with the highest command centers for these forces.

Building 1-1326 was originally constructed in 1932 as the Post Hospital. The building was remodeled in 1957 and 1958 to serve as the headquarters for the XVIII Airborne Corps. As the headquarters for the Corps, the building housed the command and control center for Cold War airborne operations in Vietnam, the Dominican Republic and Grenada. Planning, logistics, and overall execution of these operations by the Corps took place in Building 1-1326. This building was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building in the Old Post Historic District in 2001.

Two other buildings were also assessed for their ability to meet NRHP criteria under Command and Control: Building C-6525 and Ridgway Hall (Building C-7620). Building C-6525 was originally constructed in 1955 and served as the headquarters of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division until 1982. The building served as the center for planning, logistics and deployment of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division during its involvement in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam. Headquarters operations left the building in 1982 and it then became occupied for use as both administrative offices and barracks. Funding for the

---

<sup>124</sup> David Miller, *The Cold War, A Military History*, (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1999), 241.

demolition of this building was authorized in 1994 as part of Fort Bragg's barracks modernization program. The NRHP assessment of this building determined that it did not meet the Army's criteria for significance in the Cold War under the theme of Command and Control. From 1955 to 1982, the majority of the primary logistical planning for the deployment and operations of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division took place at the XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters, Building 1-1326. Following its survey in January of 2005, Building C-6525 was demolished as part of the replacement and upgrading of barracks at the base.

Building C-7620 was originally constructed as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Non-Commissioned Officers' (NCO) Club in 1958. This building served as the NCO Club until it was remodeled as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Headquarters in 1982. The building was enlarged at this time with the addition of a wing which served as the Division's command and control area. Although the building served as the Division's headquarters from 1982 to 1989, the NRHP assessment determined that it did not meet the Army's criteria for significance in the Cold War under the theme of Command and Control. While the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division played an important role in the invasion of Grenada in 1983, the overall planning and coordination of this action took place in the XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters, Building 1-1326. Building C-7620 was designed by architect Dan McMillan and its architectural significance should be assessed after it reaches fifty years of age in 2008.

## *2. Eligibility under the Army School System*

Numerous buildings, structures, and sites were built at Fort Bragg during the Cold War to serve as classrooms for soldiers. Training also took place in weaponry such as at small arms ranges, large arms ranges, and at drop zones for airborne operations. Buildings, structures, and sites associated with airborne training are generally not considered of exceptional significance during the Cold War. These training operations were part of the overall mission of the XVIII Airborne Corps, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, and other post tenants, and were a continuation of the post's designated role as a center for airborne troops since World War II.

In contrast, the creation of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center was in direct response to changes in tactics and operations which evolved in the Cold War. The Special Operations Forces based at Fort Bragg played an important role in the Vietnam War as they developed paramilitary forces among the South Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians. The Special Forces provided training and advisory assistance in what became known as the Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG) program. CIDG camps were established throughout South Vietnam and by 1963 the program had secured several hundred villages and hundreds of thousands of civilians.<sup>125</sup> CIDG strike teams crossed the borders into the neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia and conducted espionage activities to determine the concentrations of enemy troops. In 1965 they initiated Mobile Strike Force teams, which attacked Viet Cong training camps in Laos and Cambodia.

The early years of the CIDG program are generally considered to have been successful and the program initially denied large areas of Vietnam from control by either the Viet Cong or North Vietnamese Army.<sup>126</sup> However, as hundreds of thousands of conventional forces were introduced into Vietnam the Special Forces operations were subsumed within the constantly evolving war effort. As one historian noted, "The success of the CIDG concept caused it to be altered by the high command in Saigon, to the program's detriment."<sup>127</sup> In another assessment an historian felt that one of the failures in Vietnam was that "counterinsurgency operations never assumed a priority anywhere near that given more conventional operations; the establishment of a low-level commitment to combating the insurgency was never

---

<sup>125</sup> Andrew F. Krepinevich Jr., *The Army and Vietnam*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1986), 71.

<sup>126</sup> Adams, *US Special Forces Operations in Action*, 145.

<sup>127</sup> Southworth and Tanner, *US Special Forces*, 111.

expanded upon to include significant numbers of main-force Army units.”<sup>128</sup> As America’s involvement in Vietnam came to an end, all Special Forces soldiers were removed from Vietnam by 1971. The lessons learned from Vietnam were utilized by the Special Forces in their later operations in other countries during the Cold War.

Because of the significance of the Special Forces during the Cold War, two buildings at Fort Bragg, Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall, meet NRHP eligibility under the theme of the US Army School System as well as Command and Control. Kennedy Hall, built in 1965, and Bryant Hall, constructed in 1972, are the primary training and classroom buildings for the Special Forces. These two buildings are connected by an enclosed corridor and are the main buildings within the Special Forces campus on Ardennes Street. These two buildings collectively represent a theme of exceptional significance and meet National Register criteria as an historic district. Thirteen additional properties associated with the Special Warfare Center campus were also surveyed for this project. These properties are primarily battalion and regimental support facilities and were determined not to meet the Army’s criteria for Cold War significance.

In addition to Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel also meets National Register Criteria Consideration A and G within the theme of the US Army School System for its artistic merit. Constructed in 1966, this chapel was built in a standardized Army plan for religious buildings. Its overall design, plan, and materials are similar to many other chapels built by the Army during the Cold War. What distinguishes the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel are its seven stained glass windows which were designed and installed specifically as part of the heritage and mission of the Special Forces. The main stained glass window above the entrance depicts a Special Forces soldier and is inscribed with the Special Forces prayer. The other six windows commemorate individuals or actions historically associated with the origins and actions of the Special Forces. The building has not been altered since its construction and it retains integrity of its original design. Built to serve as the chapel for the Special Warfare Center, the building also possesses numerous commemorative monuments on its grounds dedicated to events and individuals in the history of the Special Forces.

### *3. Eligibility under Army Aviation*

The Army’s airborne operations underwent continual refinements during the Cold War to strengthen its offensive and defensive capabilities. The importance of airborne operations was proven during World War II and in the Cold War testing and training continued to refine and improve the mission of the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. During the Korean War these refinements led to the construction of the Simmons Army Airfield at Fort Bragg.

The Simmons Army Airfield had its origins in Exercise Test Drop to determine the feasibility of parachuting heavy equipment into a combat zone to support airborne troops. A 4,000 foot runway was built in August of 1952 in the vicinity of Smith Lake on land newly acquired by Fort Bragg. The Test Drop Exercises refined heavy equipment parachute delivery and these experiments played an important role in the airborne tactics and operations.<sup>129</sup> Over the next several years a number of permanent aircraft hangars and other facilities were built at the airfield. During this time the airfield also played an important role in the development and refinement of air assault warfare through the increased use and mobility of helicopters.

The Simmons Army Airfield retains much of its appearance from its construction era of the 1950s. The airfield consists of aircraft hangars, a control tower, paved runways and numerous support buildings. The

---

<sup>128</sup> Krepinevich Jr., *The Army and Vietnam*, 260.

<sup>129</sup> Denfeld and Michael, “Simmons Army Airfield Inventory and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation,” 30.

Simmons Army Airfield was identified as meeting the criteria of the National Register in 2004 for its significance in the Cold War within the theme of Army Aviation.

## IV. FORT BRAGG'S COLD WAR-ERA NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

---



Figure 5: View of the Special Warfare Center Historic District showing Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall.

### 1. Special Warfare Center Historic District

#### *History and Significance*

The Special Warfare Center Historic District consists of two contributing buildings historically associated with the development of the Special Forces in the 1960s and 1970s. The district is located on Ardennes Street and is bounded on the east by Reilly Street and on the west by Zabitosky Street. The district contains the academic campus of the Special Warfare Center which consists of the Army school buildings Kennedy Hall, built in 1965, and Bryant Hall, completed in 1972.

As the threat of Soviet and Chinese expansion increased in the early 1950s, the US Congress passed Public Law 597, popularly known as the Lodge Bill in June of 1952. The Lodge Bill mandated the formation of specialized units that were capable of conducting unconventional warfare operations behind enemy lines. Adopted as the US Army Special Regulation 600-160-10, the Lodge Bill was implemented on April 25, 1952. Two months later, on June 21, 1952, an unconventional warfare unit was formed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina under the command of Colonel Aaron Bank.<sup>130</sup>

The birth of the US Special Forces owes much to Colonel Bank who became convinced during World War II that America needed its own guerilla-style military group. He felt that special soldiers were needed which could operate behind the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe to counter the Soviets.<sup>131</sup> The Special Forces Group (SFG) was created to train versatile, multi-skilled soldiers who could increase US power by

---

<sup>130</sup> Cerasini, *The US Special Ops Forces*, 66.

<sup>131</sup> *Ibid.*, 65.



coordinating with America's allies, and operating if need be behind enemy lines.<sup>132</sup> Colonel Bank was allocated 2,300 personnel to form his special unit, the 10<sup>th</sup> SFG. Many of the recruits were immigrant soldiers from Eastern Europe who were fluent in Russian and other languages and who possessed previous military experience. One of the motivations for forming the 10<sup>th</sup> SFG was the expectation that if the Soviet Army invaded Europe the Special Forces would work with partisans behind the lines to strike at communications and supply centers. The training for these troops emphasized infiltration, sabotage, communications, intelligence gathering, weaponry, and guerilla tactics.

In 1953, half of the 10<sup>th</sup> SFG was moved to Germany and the other half was re-designated as the 77<sup>th</sup> SFG based at Fort Bragg. This group was initially housed in a set of abandoned World War II wooden barracks in an area known as Smoke Bomb Hill.<sup>133</sup> Beginning in 1956, the 77<sup>th</sup> was requested to form several Special Forces Operational Detachments to be sent to the Far East. The following year these forces were consolidated into the new SFG which was based in Okinawa.<sup>134</sup>

During the mid-1950s the psychological-warfare component of the Special Forces took a back seat to the purely military aspects of the command. This was emphasized by a name change which took place on December 10, 1956 when the Psychological Warfare Center was renamed, and divided into a headquarters, the US Army Special Warfare Center, and a school, the US Army Special Warfare School.<sup>135</sup> Soldiers within the Special Warfare Center and School became increasingly concerned over the rising incidence of communist sponsored subversion around the world in the late 1950s and early 1960s. There was growing recognition that these types of unconventional insurgencies would be far more common in the future than conventional warfare. To counter such insurgencies would require not only a military response but also social, economic and political responses as well. As one author noted, "... it was hard to get anyone in the Army to listen except for a handful of eccentrics on Smoke Bomb Hill in Fort Bragg."<sup>136</sup>

When John F. Kennedy was elected president in 1960, he brought with him a differing view of warfare than his predecessors. Kennedy believed that conventional warfare would become less likely and that guerilla warfare, supported by the Soviet and Chinese regimes, would increase. In the first year of his presidency, Kennedy visited Fort Bragg and emphasized the role the Special Forces would play in the future. Kennedy supported the elite nature of these forces, standardized the headgear used by the Special Forces, and they became known as the "Green Berets." During Kennedy's tenure as president, four new Special Forces Groups were created, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> (the 77<sup>th</sup> was re-designated the 7<sup>th</sup>). The 5<sup>th</sup> SFG was sent to Vietnam and they would remain there for a decade.

The 5<sup>th</sup> SFG supported a CIA-sponsored pilot program that would become "the largest most innovative and effective unconventional warfare program in Vietnam: the Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG)."<sup>137</sup> The CIDG program was designed to train indigenous units in self defense, contest communist control of the strategic central highlands, and relieve some of the South Vietnamese Army's defense responsibilities. The 5<sup>th</sup> SFG's primary mission was to train and organize guerilla bands behind enemy lines and to guard against communist infiltration.<sup>138</sup> Beginning in February of 1962, the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG

---

<sup>132</sup> Southworth and Tanner, *US Special Forces, A Guide to America's Special Operations Units*, 106.

<sup>133</sup> Adams, *US Special Operations Forces in Action*, 55.

<sup>134</sup> Southworth and Tanner, 107.

<sup>135</sup> Adams, *US Special Operations Forces in Action*, 57.

<sup>136</sup> *Ibid.*, 64.

<sup>137</sup> John S. Bowman, ed., *The Vietnam War, An Almanac*, (New York: World Almanac Publications, 1985), 453.

<sup>138</sup> Harry G. Summers, Jr. *Historical Atlas of the Vietnam War*, (New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1995), 78.

eventually established 24 camps during its first year, each with a basic 12-man Special Forces A-Team. The group set up headquarters at Nha Trang on October 1, 1964. At its peak strength the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG controlled 84 CIDG camps with more than 42,000 strike forces and Regional Force and Popular Force militias.<sup>139</sup>

During Vietnam the size and scope of Special Forces at Fort Bragg increased significantly. In 1963, money was set aside for the design and building of a headquarters and academic Building and in the next year additional funds were allocated for two 275-man student BOQ's, an Officers' mess, two classified study buildings and a central heating plant. The first building constructed at the Center, Kennedy Hall, was completed in 1965 as the main academic and administrative building for the Special Forces. In 1966 and 1967, over a dozen new brick buildings were constructed along Ardennes Street to house the headquarters of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Groups and various battalion commands as well as a medical clinic for the Center. The John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel was also built during these years to serve as the church for the Special Forces Warfare Center.

The completion of the Special Forces Warfare Center coincided with the gradual withdrawal of US forces from Vietnam. The CIDG program ended in December of 1970 with the transfer of CIDG troops to the South Vietnamese Ranger Command.<sup>140</sup> In February of 1971, the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG left Vietnam as part of the US withdrawal from the war. As the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG returned to Fort Bragg, the Center's new six-story building, Bryant Hall, was completed in 1972. The lessons learned from Vietnam were utilized by the Special Forces in their later training and studies at the Special Forces Warfare Center and in their operations in other countries during the Cold War.

The Special Forces Warfare Center Historic District meets NRHP criterion A under the theme of the US Army School System as well as Command and Control. Constructed in 1965 and 1972, Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall served and continue to serve as the primary training, command center and classroom buildings for the Special Forces. The Special Forces played a significant role in the Cold War, especially during Vietnam and the Grenada invasion. The Special Forces Warfare Center Historic District also meets NRHP Criteria Consideration G for exceptional significance during the past fifty years. Both Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall are less than fifty years of age but their significance falls within this time frame. Both buildings have been the predominant classrooms and headquarters for the Army's Special Forces which were established in direct response to the Soviet threat.

Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall may also be potentially eligible under NRHP criterion C for their association with noted North Carolina architect Arthur G. Odell, Jr. The firm of A.G. Odell Jr. and Associates was formed in 1939 and during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century the firm designed a number of notable buildings throughout the state and the Southeast. At his retirement in August of 1982, Odell was described as the Carolinas' most prolific and influential modern architect. The first building to win his firm national attention was the 1950 Charlotte Coliseum and Odell was the first Southerner to be elected President of the American Institute of Architects in 1965. As historical research and contexts are developed for this firm on a statewide or regional basis, both Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall may be identified as architecturally significant for their association with Odell.

An additional area at Fort Bragg, Camp Mackall, was utilized for Special Forces training from the late 1960s until the end of the Cold War. A series of temporary wooden buildings was constructed at Camp Mackall in the late 1960s and early 1970s for administrative and training purposes. All of these properties were replaced in the early 1990s with new steel buildings and Camp Mackall no longer possesses integrity from the Cold War-era.

---

<sup>139</sup> Ibid.

<sup>140</sup> Ibid., 121.

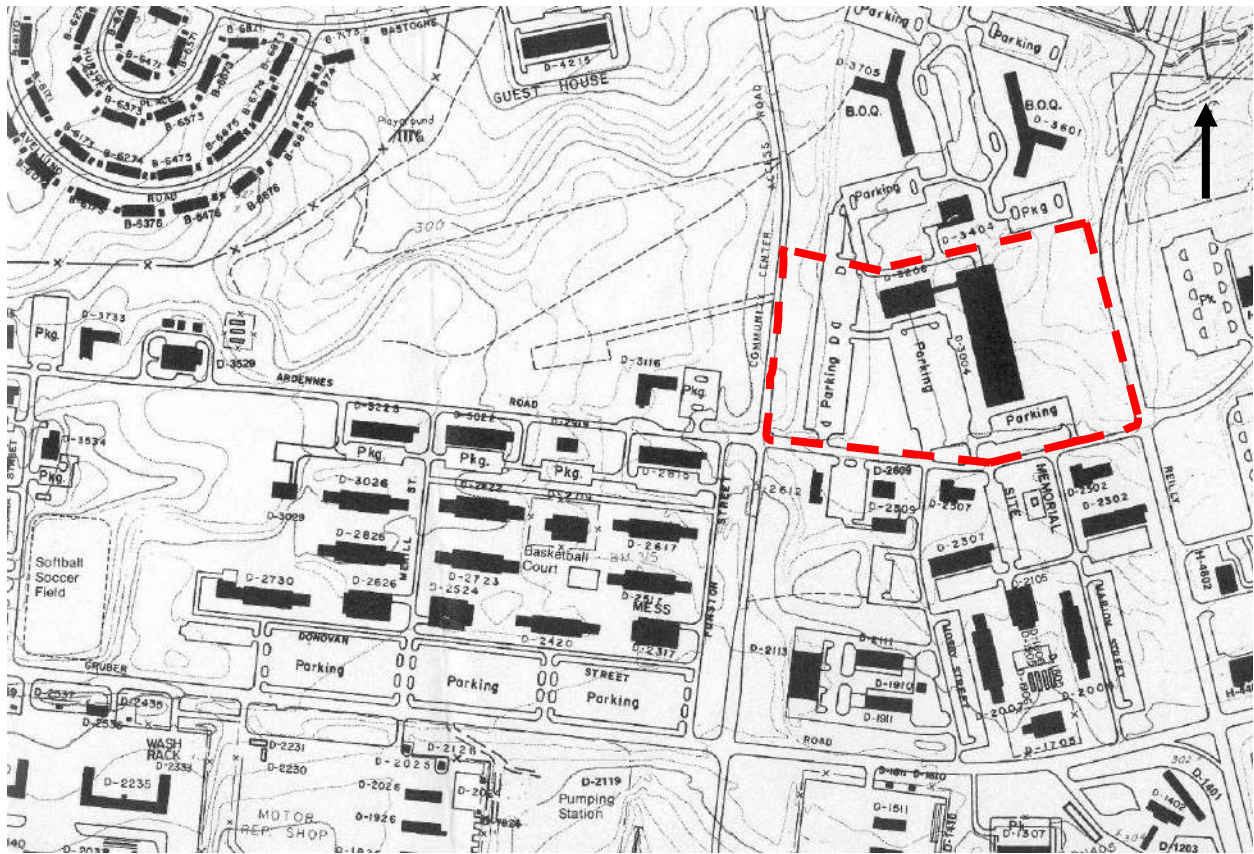


Figure 6: Location of the Special Warfare Center Historic District.



Figure 7: View of the Special Warfare Center ca. 1975 showing Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall.  
*(Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives)*





Figure 8: Kennedy Hall under construction in 1965. *(Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives)*



Figure 9: Dedication of Bryant Hall in 1972. *(Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives)*



Figure 10: Memorial Plaza and Bryant Hall, ca. 1975. *(Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives)*



Figure 11: Kennedy Hall and Bryant Hall, ca. 1975. *(Photo courtesy of the Special Operations Forces Archives)*



Figure 12: Kennedy Hall, south and west elevations.

### **Special Warfare Historic District, Building D-3004, Kennedy Hall**

Building D-3004 was constructed to serve as the main administration and academic building in the Special Warfare Center. The building was completed in 1965 at a cost of \$1.5 million and designed by the noted architectural firm of A.G. Odell Jr. and Associates of Charlotte, North Carolina.<sup>141</sup> The building was named in honor of President John F. Kennedy and dedicated on May 29, 1965. The dedication was attended by Robert F. Kennedy and various members of the Kennedy family.

Kennedy Hall is a one-story, rectangular plan building of concrete and steel construction. It has a poured concrete foundation, a flat roof of rolled asphalt roofing, and exterior of concrete panels. The south section of the building has a raised, sloping flat roof of crimped steel panels which is above the auditorium. The main (S) façade has a recessed entrance with ca. 1980 aluminum and glass double doors. This entrance has two-light sidelights and a rectangular transom. This façade is twelve bays in width. Windows on this façade and throughout the building are original, tri-part aluminum and glass design. The windows are composed of a central window with an operable hopper design lower panel with a fixed panel above. This central window is flanked by fixed aluminum and glass windows. The windows rest on concrete sills and below the sills are rectangular panels with louvered vents. Above the windows is the projecting concrete roofline with a plain soffit panel and aluminum coping.

The east elevation of the building has forty window bays and two entrance bays. Both entrance bays are accessed by concrete staircases with steel railings. Both entrances have paired aluminum and glass doors added ca. 1980. These doors have rectangular transoms and two-light sidelights. This elevation has a

---

<sup>141</sup> Facility D-3004, Real Property Records and Blueprints, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

concrete and brick patio at the base of the south entrance. A concrete skirt wall encloses a section of this patio. The windows on this elevation are grouped together in sections of three and are divided by rectangular concrete panels. Paired concrete piers divide each window and entrance bay.

The north elevation has twelve window bays on the first floor. These windows are similar to those throughout the building and are divided by concrete piers. The basement level on this elevation has an entrance with ca. 1980 solid steel double doors. This entrance opens onto a concrete loading dock which has a partial-width steel railing. The west elevation of the building has thirty-five window bays and an entrance bay. The entrance bay has two sets of paired aluminum and glass doors. The doors were added ca. 1980 and have aluminum and glass sidelights and transoms. Leading to this entrance is a ca. 1990 concrete handicapped access ramp.

The lobby and some hallways of the building have terrazzo floors. Hallways have concrete block walls, dropped acoustical tile ceilings, and some hallways have carpeted floors. The doors leading to the individual offices spaces are original solid wood design. The building is distinguished by its interior rectangular, open-air courtyard. This courtyard has a brick floor with a concrete deck and staircase. In the center of the courtyard is a raised concrete planter and the deck has various chairs and tables for outdoor sitting space.



Figure 13: Kennedy Hall, south and east elevations.





Figure 14: Kennedy Hall, east elevation.



Figure 15: Kennedy Hall, north elevation.



Figure 16: Building D-3206, Bryant Hall, north and west elevations.

### **Special Warfare Historic District, Building D-3206, Bryant Hall**

Bryant Hall was built to serve as the primary academic building for the Special Warfare Center. The building was completed in April of 1972 at a cost of \$2,233,882 and designed by the noted architectural firm of A.G. Odell Jr. and Associates of Charlotte, North Carolina.<sup>142</sup> It was named in honor of Sergeant William H. Bryant of the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968 and posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.<sup>143</sup> Located to the northwest of Kennedy Hall, the two buildings are connected via an enclosed hallway. The building has continued to serve as a training and academic building since its construction. The building was undergoing remodeling when it was inventoried in December of 2004.

Bryant Hall is a six-story steel and concrete building with a flat roof of gravel and tar, a poured concrete foundation, and exterior of concrete panels. The south façade has an entrance with sliding track aluminum and glass doors added in 2004. A concrete and steel canopy in the shape of a parachute was added to this entrance in 2004. The first floor has an entrance bay and four window bays with fixed, vertical light aluminum windows added in 2004. The upper five floors have seventeen window bays. Each window bay has three fixed anodized aluminum windows. Dividing the windows are concrete piers. This façade also displays six prominent full-height concrete piers. At the roofline is a projecting concrete roof with a plain soffit and metal flashing at the roofline.

---

<sup>142</sup> Facility D-3206, Real Property Records and Blueprints, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

<sup>143</sup> John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Museum – Memorializations, [www.soc.mil/swcs/museum/Bmem.shtml](http://www.soc.mil/swcs/museum/Bmem.shtml)

The west and east elevations have nine bays of similar windows on the upper floors. These elevations lack the oversized concrete piers found on the north and south elevations. On the first floor of the east elevation is an enclosed hallway which connects with the northwest corner of Kennedy Hall. This hallway is seven bays wide and has a central entrance bay. This entrance bay has an aluminum and glass door added in 2004. The remaining bays have three aluminum and glass windows added in 2004.

On the north elevation is an entrance with sliding track aluminum and glass doors added in 2004. A concrete and steel canopy in the shape of a parachute was added to this entrance in 2004. The first floor has an entrance bay and four window bays with fixed, vertical light aluminum windows added in 2004. The upper five floors have seventeen window bays. Each window bay has three fixed anodized aluminum windows. Dividing the windows are concrete piers. This elevation also displays six prominent full-height concrete piers. The interior of the building was undergoing remodeling when surveyed in December of 2004. This remodeling includes the addition of new wall, ceiling, and floor finishes throughout the building. The overall floor plan including its corridor and office arrangement will not be significantly altered.



Figure 17: Building D-3206, Bryant Hall, view of the north elevation.





Figure 18: John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, south and west elevations.

## 2. Building D-3116, John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel was built to serve as the chapel for the Special Forces and Airborne troops at Fort Bragg. It was completed in October of 1966 at a cost of \$206,000 with a seating capacity of 300 and designed by J. Hyatt Hammond Associates, Architects of Asheboro, North Carolina.<sup>144</sup> The church was designed with stained glass windows depicting events in world history and the history of the Special Forces. The building continues to serve as a chapel.

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel is significant under NRHP Criteria Consideration A and G for its artistic merit and for its significance within the past fifty years. As a religious property, the building meets Criteria Consideration A for its artistic merit. The building's design is based on standardized plans used for Army chapels across the country during the 1960s. The building is of brick veneer construction and was designed with a large sanctuary and a lateral office and classroom wing. Planned to serve as the chapel for the Army's Special Forces, the building is distinguished by its seven stained glass windows which were specifically commissioned to depict aspects of Special Forces history and its mission. Each window is finely crafted, especially the main sanctuary window over the building's entrance which contains a figure of a Special Forces soldier and the Special Forces prayer. The building continues to be used as the religious center for the Special Warfare Center and Special Forces at Fort Bragg.

Constructed in 1966, the building meets Criteria Consideration G for its artistic merit and association with the history of the Special Forces. The Special Forces were created in the 1950s in direct response to the

---

<sup>144</sup> Facility D-3116, Real Property Records and Blueprints, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Soviet threat during the Cold War. The increased importance of the Army's Special Forces led to the creation of the Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg in the mid-1960s. The John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel was named in honor of President John F. Kennedy who had a particular interest in the development and operations of the Special Forces. The building was designed not only as a place of worship but contains stained glass windows and markers on the ground which commemorates aspects of Special Forces history and its soldiers. The significance of the Special Forces within US military history is within the past fifty years and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel is part of this recent heritage.

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel was designed with a sanctuary in a north/south axis and a lateral wing extending on the east elevation which contains administrative offices and classrooms. It has a poured concrete foundation, exterior of tan stretcher bond brick, and a gable roof of rolled asphalt roofing. On the south façade is the primary entrance with four original aluminum and glass single-light doors. This entrance is recessed and above the doors is a shed roof metal and frame canopy. Above the entrance and canopy is a large stained glass, twenty-five light window. The central entrance is within a projecting gabled bay.

The west elevation has five bays, four of which are window bays with rectangular nine-light stained glass windows. At the southwest bay of this elevation is an entrance with original paired three-light glass and wood doors. Above the doors are two rectangular leaded glass multi-light transoms. Each bay is framed by narrow brick pilaster strips. On the east elevation of the chapel at the southeast bay is an entrance with original paired, three-light glass and wood doors with paired rectangular leaded glass, multi-light transoms. This elevation has two stained glass windows.

At the ell of the sanctuary and educational wing is a two-story rectangular tower and paneled metal steeple. The tower has three narrow stained glass windows on the primary façade. The first floor of the tower has an entrance with original double doors of three-light glass and wood design and paired, leaded glass rectangular transoms. The lateral educational wing has an entrance on the south elevation with an original three-light glass and wood door. Windows are ca. 1985 one-over-one vinyl sash design. The windows are grouped in sections of three and have brick sills. On the east elevation of the educational wing are three, one-over-one vinyl sash windows. On the north elevation is an entrance in this wing with an original three-light glass and wood door. This elevation also has five window bays with one-over-one vinyl sash windows. The north elevation of the sanctuary lacks fenestration and has four bays divided by narrow brick pilaster strips.

The interior of the sanctuary has a carpeted floor, walls of concrete block, and exposed wood ceiling. The ceiling is supported by four frame buttresses which extend from both walls to form an arch at the gable peak. The sanctuary's most prominent features are the seven stained glass windows which depict themes common to the Special Forces. These windows are:

1. The Prayer Window – This window is on the main façade of the building and is the largest in the chapel. It displays a Special Forces soldier, various insignia and the Special Forces Prayer.
2. The Francis Marion Window – Shows the figure of Revolutionary War hero, Francis Marion, who instituted guerrilla warfare against the British.
3. The Printing Press Window – Depicts an 18<sup>th</sup> century printing press and the inscription, "The truth shall make you free." This illustrates the role of the press and communication in effective psychological warfare.
4. The Gideon Window – Designed to show the Biblical story of Gideon blowing his horn outside the camp of the Midianites, an early example of psychological warfare.

5. Darby's Rangers Window – This shows the Cathedral Square in Gela, Sicily during World War II which was the headquarters for Darby's Rangers, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> US Ranger Battalions. This was the first ranger battalion activated in the US Army.
6. Merrill's Marauder's Window – Depicts various soldiers of the famed "Merrill's Marauders" unit from World War II. Officially the 5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Unit, this force gained recognition for its fighting in the jungles of the Pacific.
7. The John F. Kennedy Window – Depicts an eternal flame and the words, "We shall pay any price, bear any burden, to assure the success of liberty, JFK."

The interior of the educational wing has a sheet vinyl floor in some common areas and carpeted floors in offices and classrooms. Walls are of exposed concrete block and ceilings are of plaster and drywall. In the hallway is a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. Doors leading into the hallway are original single-light glass and wood design.

The grounds of the JFK Memorial Chapel include five commemorative markers which honor Special Forces personnel and operations. These include markers to those killed in action and in honor of those who fought in the Son Tay prison raid. One of the markers was erected in 1968 by actor John Wayne in recognition of the Special Forces operations in Vietnam.

At the rear of the chapel is a one-story brick storage building, D-3215, constructed in 1966. This building has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of asphalt shingles, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the south façade is an entrance with original steel double doors. There is no other fenestration.



Figure 19: Building D-3116, John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, east elevation.



Figure 20: Building D-3116, John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, view of the sanctuary.

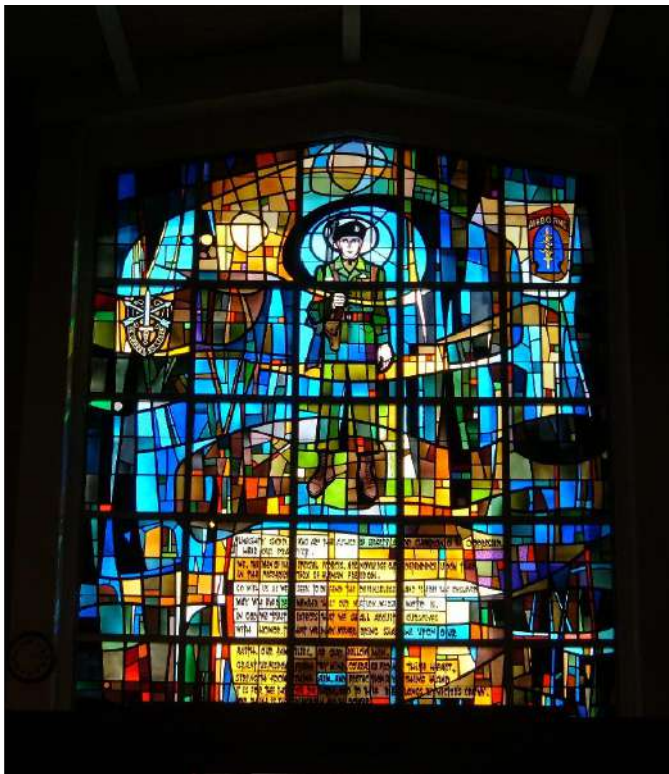


Figure 21:  
The Prayer Window in the sanctuary.





Figure 22:  
The grounds include a number of commemorative markers including this tribute to the Special Forces by actor John Wayne.



Figure 23: Building D-3215, south and east elevations. This building is located to the rear of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel.



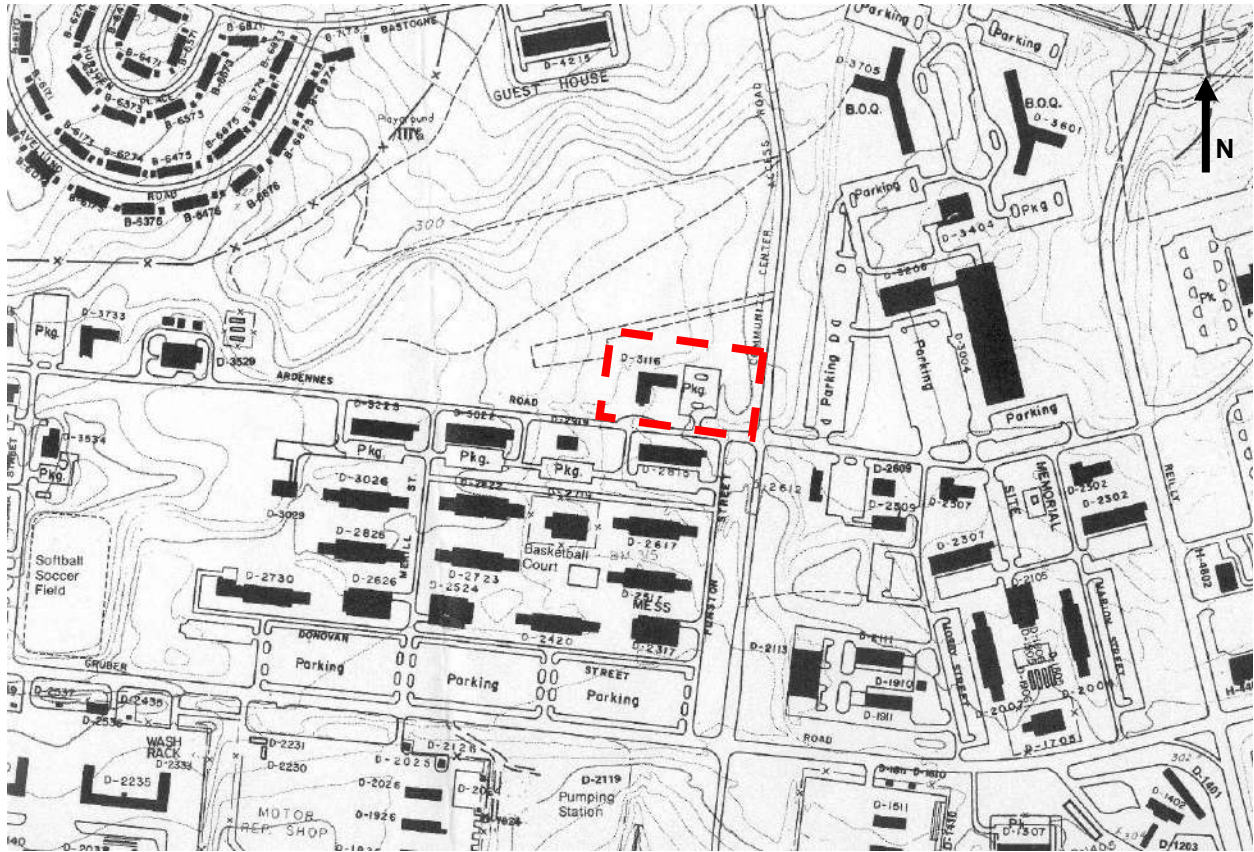


Figure 24: Location of Building D-3116, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel.

## V. SUMMARY

---

Fort Bragg is a federally owned facility established in 1918. It is presently home to the Army's Airborne and Special Operations Forces, and is one of the largest military installations in the world. The post's major tenants are the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, and the US Army Special Operations Command. As a federally-owned property, Fort Bragg is under obligation to comply with Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This review and management process is administered by the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program. As part of the management responsibilities of the Cultural Resources Program, a study of Cold War-related properties at Fort Bragg was initiated in 2004.

The Army's definition of the Cold War is from 1946 to 1989. This time period begins with former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's 1946 Iron Curtain speech and ends with the demolition of the Berlin Wall in 1989. During the Cold War, America developed extensive offensive and defensive weaponry including both nuclear and conventional capabilities. These decades also witnessed America's involvement in two major wars, Korea and Vietnam, and interventions in the Dominican Republic, Grenada, and other countries.

In 2004, the Savannah Corps of Engineers contracted with Thomason and Associates to complete the Cultural Resources Survey of Cold War resources at Fort Bragg. Buildings and structures at the post which appeared to possess significance during the period of the Cold War were evaluated and inventoried in accordance with North Carolina state survey standards. Under Army guidelines Cold War resources are those that relate directly to the Cold War itself, not just to the Cold War period. The majority of these resources are less than fifty years of age and must be evaluated not only for their significance in the Cold War but also be of "exceptional significance" in order to qualify for listing in the NRHP. These standards were utilized in the evaluation and assessment of the Cold War era properties at Fort Bragg.

All properties constructed between 1946 and 1989 at Fort Bragg were reviewed for their potential to meet NRHP eligibility within the Army's context of the Cold War. Of these properties, twenty-two were inventoried in accordance with standards set forth by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. From these properties, the Cold War survey and assessment identified one historic district and two individual buildings which met the Army's Cold War significance, NRHP Criterion A, and Criteria Consideration G: the Special Warfare Historic District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel.

The Special Warfare Center Historic District was identified as meeting NRHP criteria for its role in the development of the Army's Special Operations Forces. The Army's Special Forces were developed in response to Cold War military demands and played a significant role during the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Associated with the Special Warfare Center is the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel which is significant under NRHP Criteria Consideration G for its artistic merit. This building contains notable stained glass windows and has served as the religious and commemorative center for the Special Forces since its construction in 1966. With the exception of the Special Warfare Historic District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, no other properties were identified as meeting the Army's criteria for Cold War significance.

## VI. BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

- Adams, Thomas K. *US Special Operations Forces in Action*. Portland, Oregon: Frank Cass Publishers, 1998.
- Analytical/Environmental Assessment Report, Master Plan Future Developments, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*. Savannah, Georgia: US Army Corps of Engineers, 1979. Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office.
- Annual Historical Review, FY-88, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Annual Historical Supplement, 1968, Headquarters, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Annual Historical Supplement, 1971, Headquarters, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Annual Historical Supplement to XVIII Airborne Corps Histories, FY 80*. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Annual Historical Supplement to XVIII ABN Corps and Ft. Bragg Histories, FY 81*. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Archer, Chalmers, Jr. *Green Berets in the Vanguard, Inside Special Forces, 1953-1963*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2001.
- Arms, Thomas S. *Encyclopedia of the Cold War*. New York: Facts on File, Inc., 1994.
- Arostegui, Martin C. *Twilight Warriors: Inside the World's Special Forces*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995.
- Bank, Aaron. *From OSS to Green Berets: The Birth of Special Forces*. Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1986.
- Bowman, ed., John S. *The Vietnam War, An Almanac*. New York: World Almanac Publications, 1985.
- Cerasini, Marc. *The US Special Ops Forces*. Indianapolis, IN: Alpha Books, 2001.
- The Cold War in South Carolina, 1945-1991, An Inventory of Department of Defense Cold War Era Cultural and Historical Resources in the State of South Carolina, Final Report*. Columbia, South Carolina: USC Legacy Project, University of South Carolina, 1996.
- D'Souza, Dinesh. "How the East Was Won: Why Ronald Reagan Won the Cold War." *American History Magazine*, October, 2003.
- Denfeld, Duane, and Michael, Michelle. "Simmons Army Airfield Inventory and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation," Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 2004.

- XVIII Airborne Corps Annual Historical Review, Fiscal Year 1984.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- “82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Summary of Activities, 1965.” Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- “82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Summary of Activities, 1966.” Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Emerson, Steven. *Secret Warriors: Inside the Covert Military Operations of the Reagan Era.* New York: G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1988.
- FY 77 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- FY 80 Historical Supplement, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort. Bragg, North Carolina.
- FY 88, Historical Supplement to 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division History. Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Flanagan, E.M., Jr. *Airborne, A Combat History of American Airborne Forces.* New York: Ballantine Books, 2002,
- Fort Bragg Master Plan.* Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office, 1965.
- Fort Bragg Master Plan.* Document on file at the Fort Bragg Real Property Office, 1972.
- Frankel, Benjamin, ed. *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, China and the Third World.* Detroit: Gale Research Inc., 1992.
- Frankel, Benjamin, ed. *The Cold War 1945-1991, Leaders and Other Important Figures in the United States and Western Europe.* Detroit: Gale Research Inc., 1992.
- Halberstadt, Hans. *Green Berets Unconventional Warriors.* Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1988.
- Historic Context Study: World War II and Cold War Era Buildings and Structures, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama.* Stone Mountain, Georgia: New South Associates, 2000.
- Historical Review FY 82, XVIII Airborne Corps and Ft. Bragg.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- “History of Fort Bragg.” Headquarters, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Manuscript on file with the Cultural Resources Management Program.
- John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Museum – Memorializations,  
[www.soc.mil/swcs/museum/Bmem.shtml](http://www.soc.mil/swcs/museum/Bmem.shtml)
- Krepinevich Jr. Andrew F. *The Army and Vietnam.* Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1986.

- Lavin, Mary K. *Thematic Study and Guidelines: Identification and Evaluation of US Army Cold War Era Military-Industrial Historic Properties.* Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland: Army Environmental Center, 1998.
- MacDonald, Peter. *The Special Forces: A History of the World's Elite Fighting Units.* Secaucus, NJ: Chartwell Books, Inc., 1987.
- Master Plan for Camp Mackall, North Carolina. Installation Planning Board, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, 1976. Report on file at the Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Miller, David. *The Cold War, A Military History.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999.
- National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.* Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1991.
- National Register Bulletin 22, Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years.* Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1996.
- 1971 Historical Summary, Headquarters 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- 1973 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- 1975 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- 1976 Historical Summary, Headquarters, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division.* Report on file at the XVIII Airborne Corps History Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
- Overview of the Historic Context for the Cold War at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, (Draft Report).* Louisville, Kentucky: US Army Corps of Engineers, 2003.
- Paddock, Alfred. *US Army Special Warfare: Its Origins.* Revised ed. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2002.
- Power, Tracy. National Register Officer, South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Telephone Interview, 14 January, 2005.
- Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Facilities 1-1326, C-6525, C-7620, D-2302, D-2307, D-2502, D-2507, D-2609, D-2612, D-2815, D-2919, D-3004, D-3022, D-3116, D-3206, D-3215, D-3225, D-3404, D-3601, D-3705, H-5454, and O-9055.
- Simpson, Charles. *Inside the Green Berets: The First Thirty Years.* Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1983.
- Southworth, Samuel, A. and Tanner, Stephen. *US Special Forces, A Guide to America's Special Operations Units.* Cambridge, Massachusetts: Da Capo Press, 2002.
- Sullivan, George. *Elite Warriors: The Special Forces of the United States and Its Allies.* New York: Facts on File, Inc., 1995.

Summers, Jr. Harry G. *Historical Atlas of the Vietnam War*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1995.

Temme, Virge. *For Want of a Home: The History of Wherry and Capehart Housing*. Champaign, Illinois: United States Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratories, 1996.

**APPENDIX A**  
**RESUME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**

**PHILIP J.M. THOMASON**  
**PRINCIPAL/THOMASON AND ASSOCIATES**

**EXPERIENCE**

**1982 - 2005 Historic Preservation Consultant - Thomason and Associates, Nashville, Tennessee**

**Military Installation Cultural Resource Consultant**

Responsible for the analysis and evaluation of cultural resources at fifteen military bases. Evaluation includes the preparation of preservation plans, National Register nominations, and Programmatic Agreements. Consulting services provided to the US Navy at Memphis NAS and Corpus Christi NAS; US Air Force at Randolph AFB, Scott AFB, and Warner Robins AFB; and US Army at Fort Benning and Fort McPherson.

**Tax Certification Consultant**

Provided assistance, research and consultation necessary for projects utilizing the 20% Investment Tax Credit. This included involvement in the certification of fifty historic projects in Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina.

**Historic Preservation Plans, Ordinances and Design Review Guidelines**

Authored plans, ordinances and design review guidelines for fifty communities throughout the country.

**National Register Nominations**

Author of National Register Nominations including Multiple Resource Area nominations for Hardin, Hopkins, and Pulaski Counties, Kentucky; Eastside MRA, Covington, Kentucky; Williamson County, Tennessee; Gaffney, South Carolina; Grenada Mississippi; and Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Over forty district and individual nominations have also been prepared resulting in over 10,000 structures placed on the National Register.

**Cultural Resource Surveys**

Directed surveys of historic structures in the Southeast and Midwest in districts, cities and counties. Areas surveyed include Hopkins County, Kentucky; Bardstown, Kentucky; Grenada, Mississippi; Grundy County, Tennessee; Bonne Terre, Missouri; and Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Properties surveyed total over 20,000 structures.

**Historic Structure Reports**

Authored or co-authored historic structure reports recommending proper restoration techniques. Properties include the Benham Theatre, Benham, Kentucky; Christian County Courthouse, Hopkinsville, Kentucky; Sapphire Inn, Sapphire Valley, North Carolina.

**Historic Survey Publications**

Responsible for writing, research and layout for historic survey publications. These include survey publications for Hardin and Pulaski Counties, Kentucky; McCormick, Greenville and Spartanburg, South Carolina.

**Section 106 Review and Mitigation**

Conducted research and report writing for Section 106 mitigation including the Burkville Plantation Historic District, Lowdes County, Alabama, for the US Army Corps of Engineers; Kentucky River Survey and Analysis for the Tennessee Valley Authority; Memphis I-40/240 Interchange and Route 840 for the Tennessee Department of Transportation.



**1980-1982, Preservation Planner - Building Conservation Technology, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee.**

Projects included:

Historian, Columbia Reservoir Historic Resources Survey  
Author, Murfreesboro, Tennessee--Plan for Revitalization  
Historian/Principle Author, Rugby Master Plan for the US Army Corps of Engineers.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Board of Directors, Preservation Action, 1991-2002  
Board of Directors, Tennessee Heritage Alliance, 1983-1993.  
Board of Directors, Historic Nashville, Inc. 1982-1987/1992-1993.  
National Trust for Historic Preservation

**EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Arts - Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, 1975  
Master of Arts - History, Emphasis on Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University, 1981

**AWARDS**

First Award - Urban Planning and Design for contributions to the Rugby Master Plan. Awarded by Progressive Architecture, 1986.  
Certificate of Merit - Historic Nashville Inc., 1986.  
Certificate of Merit - Tennessee Historical Commission, 1988, 1990.

**APPENDIX B**  
**INVENTORIED PROPERTIES DETERMINED INELIGIBLE FOR THE**  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**



Building C-6525 in 1960, (Photo courtesy of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Museum).

## 1. Building C-6525, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Headquarters, 1955-1982

### *History*

Building C-6525 was constructed in 1955 and served as the headquarters of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division until 1982 (demolished, January 2005). The building was one of a series of 225-men enlisted barracks designed by the architectural firm of Louis & Henry of Louisville, Kentucky.<sup>145</sup> The building served as the center for planning, logistics and deployment of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division during its involvement in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam. Headquarters operations left the building in 1982 and it was occupied for use as both administrative offices and barracks until its demolition in January of 2005. The building was demolished as part of the removal and replacement of barracks buildings on the base.

### *Architectural Description*

Building C-6525 was a three-story concrete and steel building with a full basement constructed in 1955. The building was designed with a long rectangular section with a one-story lateral wing on its east façade. The building's floor plan and shape earned this barracks style the nickname, "hammerhead." The building was designed with a poured concrete foundation, a flat roof of asphalt and an exterior of textured concrete. The east and west elevations were divided into eleven bays which were divided by full height concrete piers. There were two entrance bays on the west façade accessed by concrete steps with steel railings with paired single-light wood and glass doors. Each window bay was designed with a row of six, two-light, original horizontal sash, steel and glass windows. The windows were hinged awning design with rectangular, single-light transoms above. Numerous windows had added windows

---

<sup>145</sup> Facility C-6525, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



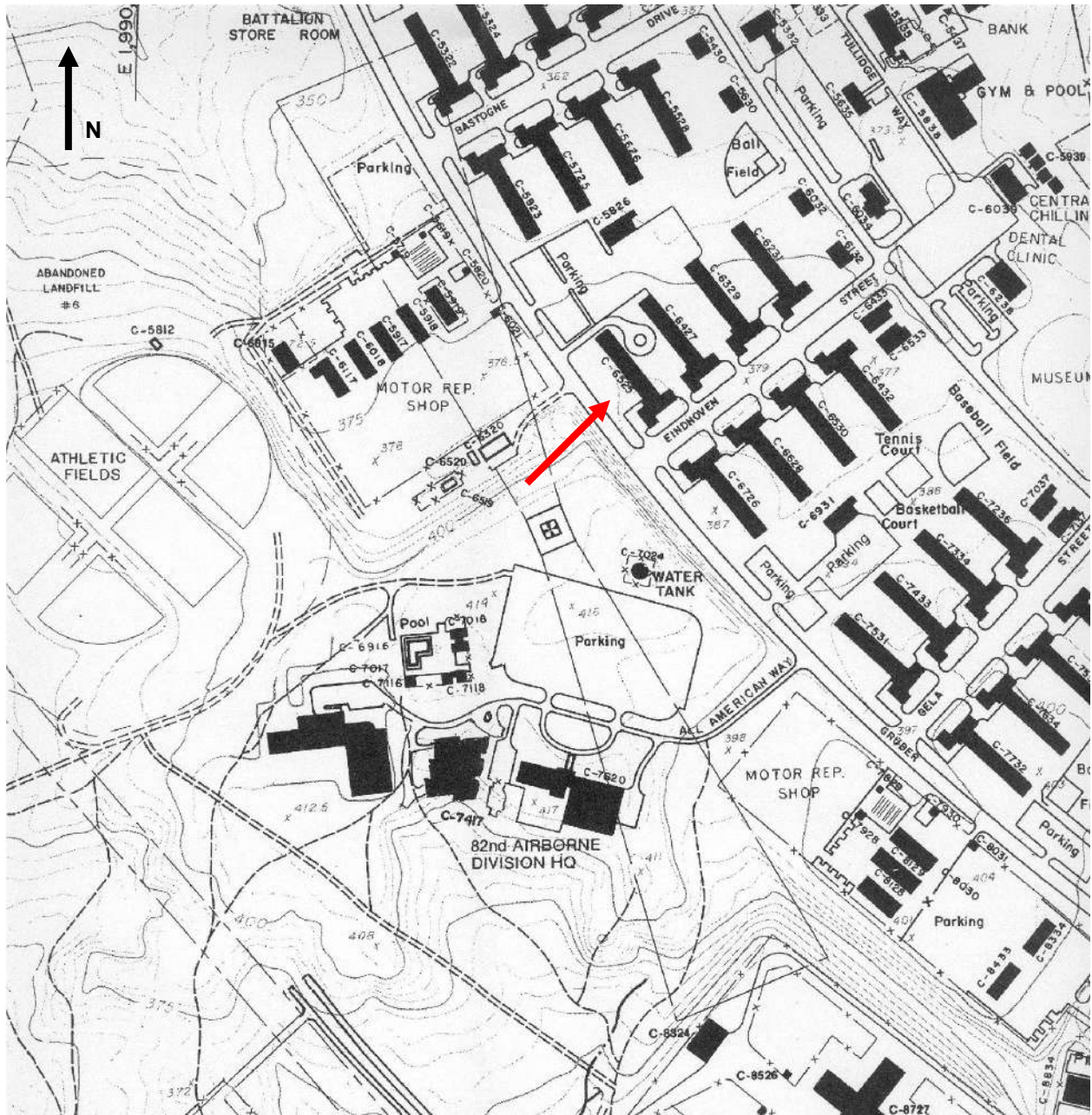
Building C-6525 in 1958, (*Photo courtesy of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Museum*).

A/C units. The basement level had a textured concrete surface with inset metal grilles. The north elevation lacked fenestration. Each floor was divided by concrete belt courses and there were two rectangular vent openings in the basement level.

On the one-story lateral wing the windows were ca. 1982 anodized aluminum, two-light awning design. These windows had glass lights below and rectangular transoms above. The upper panels in the window bays were of wood. On the north façade of the west lateral wing was a recessed entrance with original steel mesh screen doors and original glass and wood doors. On the west elevation of the one-story wing was a loading dock platform and a recessed entrance with original glass and wood double doors. Windows on the south elevation of the one-story wing were ca. 1982 anodized aluminum design and each window bay was divided by a concrete pier.

The interior retained its original central corridor with flanking offices. The corridor had an original linoleum floor, a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and concrete block walls. The walls in the corridor had an exterior wainscot surface of fiber and a chair rail. All of the offices were remodeled with dropped acoustical tile ceilings and carpet. All doors were replaced ca. 1982 with solid core doors.





Former location of Building C-6525.



Building C-6525, west façade.



East elevation of Building C-6525.





West and north elevations of Building C-6525.



South elevation of the one-story wing on Building C-6525.



View of the main (north) façade of Ridgway Hall.

## **2. Ridgway Hall (Building C-7620), 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Headquarters, 1982-Present**

### *History*

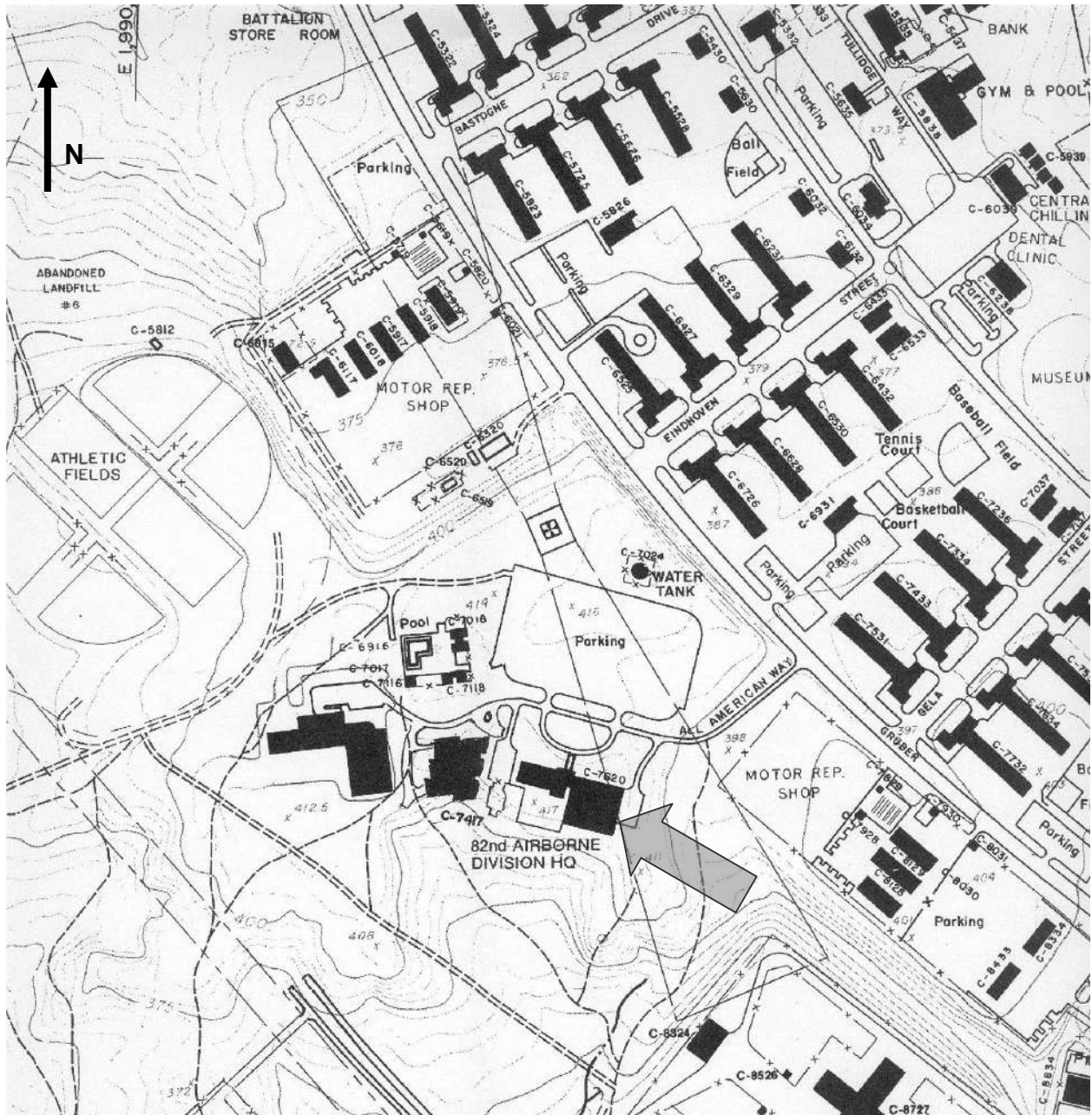
Ridgway Hall (Building C-7620) was constructed in 1958 to serve as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division's Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Club. The building was designed by Fayetteville architect Dan McMillan and built by the Anderson Construction Company of Dunn, North Carolina. The NCO Club was financed in large part by the soldiers at the base. The building cost \$594,680 and the Army Central Welfare Fund supplied \$500,000 for its construction which was paid in full in July of 1968.<sup>146</sup> From 1958 to 1981, the building remained in continual use as the NCO Club. The building contained administrative offices, lounges, a kitchen and dining hall, and a ballroom wing on the south façade. The ballroom was designed with large, sliding track doors to allow ready access to the brick and concrete patio. The patio was built with a bandstand to accommodate live performances and dances

Few changes or alterations took place to the building until January of 1982 when it was remodeled into the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Headquarters. This conversion cost almost \$240,000 and resulted in the removal of the kitchen, and subdivision of the dining room, lounges, and ballroom into administrative offices. A one-story wing to house command and control functions was also added on the east façade. Since 1982 the building has been utilized as the Headquarters for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. When the building became the headquarters it was named Ridgway Hall in honor of General Matthew B. Ridgway. With the exception of the upgrading of the heating and cooling system and bathroom remodeling, few other changes or alterations have occurred to the building since 1982.

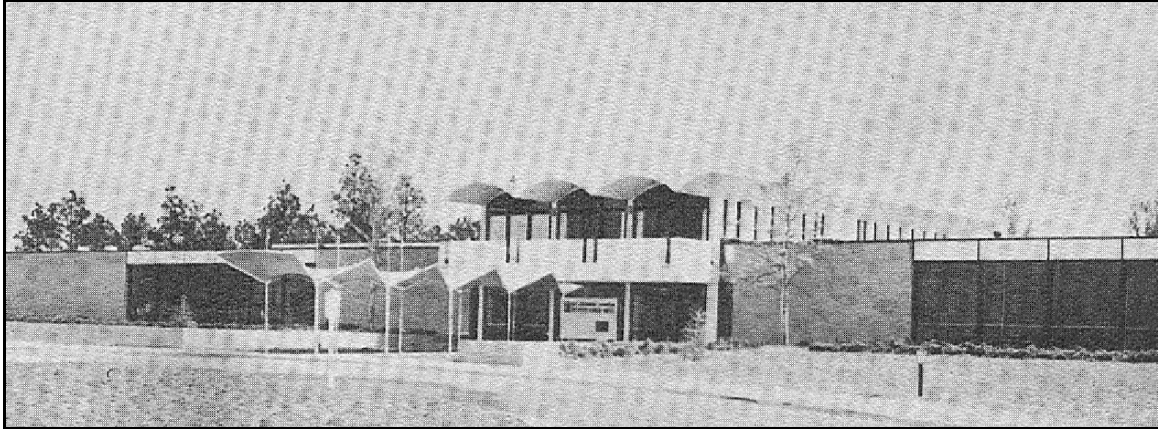
---

<sup>146</sup> Facility C-7620, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

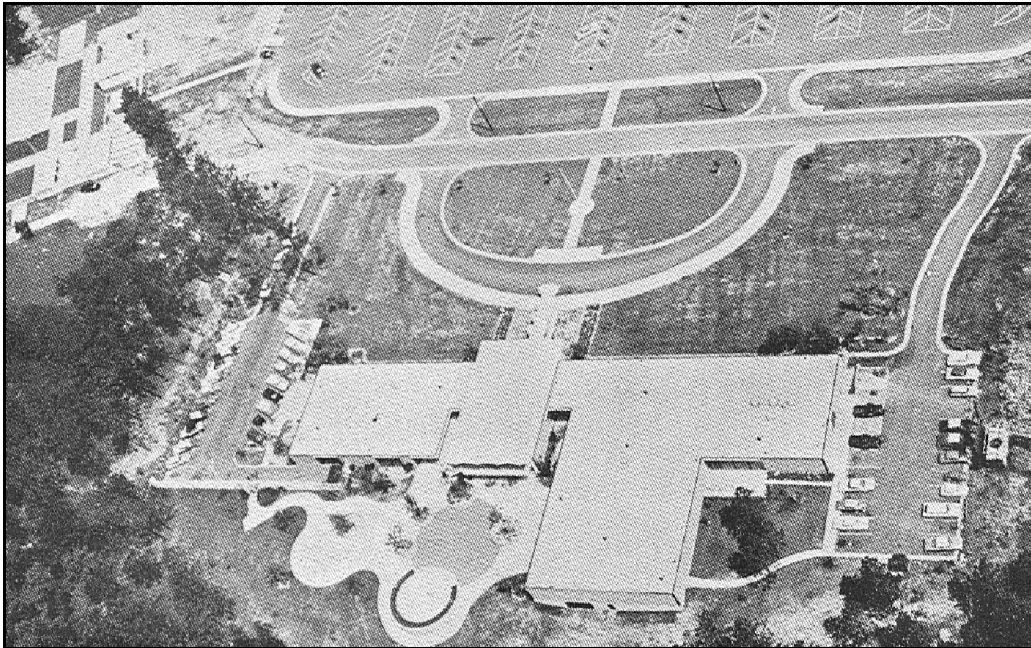




Location of Building C-7620, Ridgway Hall.



The NCO Club in 1960 (*Photo courtesy of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Museum*).



Aerial view of the NCO Club in 1960  
(*Photo courtesy of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Museum*).

### *Architectural Description*

Ridgway Hall is a one- and two-story building of concrete and brick veneer. The building is composed of a central two-story block with one-story lateral wings and a rear one-story ell. The building has a concrete foundation, a flat roof of asphalt and an exterior of tan stretcher bond brick. On the main (N) façade, the main entrance is located in the central two-story section. There are two entrances on the main façade, which have aluminum and glass doors added in 1982. Between these two doors is a brick skirt wall and five fixed light aluminum and glass windows added in 1982. Flanking the doors are single-light fixed windows and above the doors are rectangular transoms. The wall above the entrances is a smooth concrete.

The second story of the main block has three window bays on the main façade. Each window bay is arched and has three fixed-light aluminum and glass windows. Beneath the windows is an aluminum belt course. Above the windows is a concrete cornice with arches above the windows. The north and south elevations of the second story section have an elliptical overlay or canopy. Also on the north and south elevations of the second story are eighteen narrow aluminum and glass fixed windows.

The one-story lateral wings have exteriors of solid brick walls with a central window bay containing six steel and glass windows. Above the windows are concrete panels below the roofline. On the west elevation of the west wing is an entrance with a ca. 1982 aluminum and glass door. This door has a rectangular aluminum and glass transom and two-light sidelights. This elevation has a window bay with fixed two-light windows. Above the windows and entrance are concrete panels below the roofline. On the south elevation of the north wing is a recessed bay which contains three entrances. Each entrance has a ca. 1982 solid steel door and the bay also displays an original sliding track, two-light steel and glass window. This elevation also has a window bay with a fixed, two-light steel and glass window. A window in the south bay of this elevation was enclosed ca. 1990 with wood panels and a steel and glass door.

The second story on the south elevation has an original curved staircase leading to the second floor. On the second floor are two entrances with original single-light steel and glass doors. Flanking the doors are fixed light sidelights. This elevation also has a window bay with fixed three-light steel and glass windows. The arched transoms above the window and entrance bays have ca. 1982 wood panels. A triple arched concrete canopy extends over each bay. The porch on this second floor level has a concrete railing. The first floor of the central section on the south elevation has a central entrance bay with an original steel and glass door. This door is flanked by steel and glass sidelights. This elevation also has two window bays with three original steel and glass fixed windows in each bay. At the corners of this elevation on the first floor are narrow fixed single-light windows. Dividing each bay on both floors of this elevation are concrete piers. The windows on the east and west elevations of the second story have purple tinted glass and above the windows are rectangular tinted glass transoms. Two of the windows on the west elevation were removed for the installation of a HVAC unit and ductwork.

The west elevation of the ballroom wing has a projecting concrete canopy supported by steel posts. This elevation is composed of a continuous row of fixed steel and glass original sliding track doors. There are four sliding track doors composed of plate glass. At the north and south bays are original single-light glass and wood doors. Above all of the doors are large steel and glass transoms that extend to the ceiling. The doors on this elevation open onto an original concrete patio. The south wall of the ballroom wing lacks fenestration. At the southeast corner of this wing is a ca. 1984 addition of steel and concrete which lacks fenestration. The east elevation of this wing has three entrances with solid steel doors. The east elevation of the east wing has a concrete loading dock and two entrances which original led to the kitchen. These entrances have steel doors added in 1982. On this elevation is a steel and wood platform added in 1982 containing antennae.

The interior of the building retains its original terrazzo floors in the lobby and hallways. Most office spaces have carpeted floors, original plaster walls, ceilings with acoustical tile, and original solid wood doors. The building's original floor plan has been left largely intact with the exception of the subdivision of the ballroom and lounge areas. The ballroom retains a section of its original stage and the partition walls in this space are only partial height. On the east façade of the building is a one-story wing of concrete construction which was built in 1982 to house the Division's command and control operations.

Directly in front of the main entrance to the building is a concrete patio which has elliptical panels of embedded gravel and concrete. In the center of this patio is a memorial to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, which is protected beneath an aluminum plexi-glass panel. On either side of the patio are three rectangular marble markers which commemorate the following:

- Operation Market Garden
- Operation Just Cause
- “America's Guard of Honor”
- Operation Neptune
- Operation Avalanche
- Operation Huskey

East of the plaza is a circular driveway outlined with brick. In front of the building is a brick and wrought iron wall which separates the building from the parking lot.

On the south side of the building and originally accessed by the ballroom doors is a patio and courtyard. This patio and courtyard are landscaped with raised circular brick planters containing trees and flowering shrubs. The courtyard has a raised section reached by brick steps and a large circular dance floor of red tile. The west section of the courtyard has a circular raised band shell with brick walls and a red tile floor.



Main entrance at Ridgway Hall.



West elevation of Ridgway Hall.



South elevation of Ridgway Hall.



View of the ballroom wing and courtyard of Ridgway Hall.





Ballroom wing and south façade of Ridgway Hall.



82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Memorials in front of Ridgway Hall.



Building D-2302, north façade.

### 3. Building D-2302

Building D-2302 is one of five identical plan brick buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center area in 1966 and 1967. It was completed in September of 1966 at a cost of \$139,500.<sup>147</sup> The building currently houses Headquarters, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

Building D-2302 has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of rolled roofing material, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building was designed with a one-story section facing the street, behind which is a raised two-story section. The north façade is composed of 21 bays, five of which are entrance bays. Each entrance bay has a ca. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. Above each door is a rectangular single-light transom. The entrance bays are framed by a surround of four courses of header bond brick. The central entrance bay has a metal and canvas awning. Windows on the façade are paired one-over-one aluminum sash design added ca. 1990. The raised second story section on the façade has twenty window bays. Most window bays have original, single-light fixed windows. Some windows have been enclosed with exhaust vents while others have added paneling and window air conditioners.

On the rear (S) elevation are twenty bays; ten entrance bays and ten window bays. Two of the entrances on this elevation have original, paired two-panel solid steel doors and another two are original four vertical light and single-panel steel and glass design. The remaining six entrance bays have ca. 1990 solid steel doors or doors of single-light steel and glass design. Windows on this elevation are ca. 1990 one-over-one aluminum sash design. On the east façade the one-story section projects from the main block of the building. The south elevation of this projecting bay has an original two-panel solid steel door. There is no fenestration on the west elevation of the building.

---

<sup>147</sup> Facility D-2302, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.





Building D-2307, north and east elevations.

#### 4. Building D-2307

Building D-2307 is one of five identical plan brick buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1966 and 1967. It was completed in September of 1966 at a cost of \$139,500.<sup>148</sup> The building currently houses Headquarters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

Building D-2307 is a two-story brick veneer building and has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of rolled roofing material, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building was designed with a one-story section facing the street, behind which is a raised two-story section. The north façade is composed of 21 bays, five of which are entrance bays. Each entrance bay has a ca. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. Above each door is a rectangular single-light transom. The entrance bays are framed by a surround of four courses of header bond brick. Windows on this façade are paired one-over-one aluminum sash design added ca. 1990. The raised second story section on the north façade has twenty window bays. Most window bays have original, single-light fixed windows. Some windows have been enclosed with exhaust vents while others have added paneling and window air conditioners.

On the rear (S) elevation are twenty bays; ten entrance bays and ten window bays. All of the entrances on this elevation have ca. 1990 solid steel doors or doors of single-light steel and glass design. Windows on this elevation are ca. 1990, one-over-one aluminum sash design. On the east elevation the one-story section projects from the main block of the building. The south elevation of this projecting bay has an original two-panel solid steel door. There is no fenestration on the west elevation of the building.

---

<sup>148</sup> Facility D-2307, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-2502, north and east elevations.

## 5. Building D-2502

Building D-2502 is one of two identical plan battalion administration buildings constructed in the Special Warfare Center (D-2502 and D-2507). The building was completed in October of 1967 at a cost of \$115,677.<sup>149</sup> The building served in an administrative function until 1978 when it was converted into the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Museum. The building continues to serve as a museum and it is currently undergoing interior remodeling for new exhibits. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

The building was extensively remodeled in 1997 and 1998 into its present form. This remodeling resulted in the replacement of original doors and windows throughout the building. On the north façade is an added brick and concrete patio, added brick pilasters and decorative brick, and a handicapped access ramp. The interior of the building was also remodeled at this time with museum facilities, and added offices and bathrooms. This building no longer resembles its design from its original construction.

---

<sup>149</sup> Facility D-2502, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-2507, north and east façades.

## 6. Building D-2507

Building D-2507 is one of two identical plan battalion administration buildings constructed in the Special Warfare Center (D-2502 and D-2507). The building was completed in October 1967 at a cost of \$155,677.<sup>150</sup> The building is currently used as Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

This one-story brick veneer building has a gable roof of rolled asphalt roofing, a poured concrete foundation, and an exterior of stretcher bond brick veneer. The building was designed in a “T” plan with a projecting gabled bay on the north façade. This façade has a recessed entrance with ca. 1980 double doors of aluminum and glass design. This entrance has single-light sidelights and a rectangular transom also added ca. 1980. There are also two ca. 1990 solid steel doors at the secondary entrances on the north façade. Above the steel doors are rectangular transoms. Windows are ca. 1990, one-over-one vinyl clad sash design. Below the windows are steel panels.

On the east elevation are three window bays. The central window on this elevation has a one-over-one sash window and the two other window bays have three, one-over-one sash windows resting on steel panels. At the rear of the lateral wing on the south elevation are nine, one-over-one aluminum sash windows. The south elevation of the gabled bay has an original four-panel steel door above which is a louvered vent panel. Flanking this entrance is a one-over-one sash window. On the west elevation is an original entrance opening which has been enclosed with brick. A second entrance on this elevation remains intact and has a ca. 1990 steel door.

---

<sup>150</sup> Facility D-2507, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.





Building D-2609, north façade.

## 7. Building D-2609

Building D-2609 is one of two identical plan three-story headquarters buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1967. This building was completed in October of 1967 at a cost of \$230,541.<sup>151</sup> The building, originally the Headquarters of the 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, was named Alamo Hall in honor of Master Sergeant Gabriel Alamo in 1978. Alamo served in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne and Special Forces and was killed in action in July, 1964 in South Vietnam. The building currently houses Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

The three-story building was designed in a rectangular plan with a poured concrete foundation, flat asphalt roof, and an exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the north façade is an entrance with paired ca. 1990 single-light steel and glass doors. Flanking the doors are two-light sidelights and above the entrance is a three-light rectangular transom. Leading to the entrance are concrete steps and at the entrance is a concrete deck with a steel railing. Over the entrance is an original concrete canopy.

The north façade is divided into five bays. The central bay contains the entrance with original flanking fixed light aluminum windows. Above the entrance are six narrow bands of aluminum windows and panels. Windows are original fixed, single-light design with upper and lower panels of awning design. Between the windows and entrance are rectangular aluminum panels, some of which have inset exhaust panels. Flanking the central bay are paired windows on each floor with the windows divided by brick piers. These windows are the same design with fixed panels and upper and lower awning lights. At the corner bays is a vertical row of single windows and metal panels which extends the height of the building. At the roofline is a concrete belt course and metal gutter.

---

<sup>151</sup> Facility D-2609, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-2609, south and west elevations.

On the east elevation are four window bays with the two central bays containing paired windows divided by brick piers. The two corner bays are single-light design. The rear (S) elevation has two entrance bays; the central entrance has a ca. 1990 solid steel door while the SW entrance bay has paired solid steel doors added ca. 1990. This elevation has six window bays with the four central bays containing paired aluminum windows and panels divided by brick piers. The corner bays are single-light design. On the west elevation are four window bays with the two central bays containing paired windows divided by brick piers. The two corner bays are single-light design.



Building D-2612, north and east elevations.

### **8. Building D-2612, Medical Building**

Building D-2612 was constructed to serve as a medical facility for the Special Warfare Center. It was completed in October of 1966 at a cost of \$92,860.<sup>152</sup> The building was designed by Levy & Kiley Architects of Savannah, Georgia. The building was converted to its present use in 1993. It is currently occupied by the Delta Detachment, 126<sup>th</sup> Finance Battalion Customer Service. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

This building is a one-story, brick veneered asymmetrical plan building. The building has a concrete foundation, gable roof of rolled asphalt roofing and exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the east façade is the primary entrance with ca. 1990 double doors of single-light glass and aluminum design. Over the door is a rectangular single-light transom. A secondary entrance on the north elevation has a solid steel door. Windows throughout the building are ca. 1990, one-over-one aluminum sash with concrete sills. On the south elevation are three window bays with one-over-one aluminum windows. On the west elevation are eight window bays with one-over-one aluminum windows. On this elevation is an entrance with paired solid steel doors added ca. 1990.

---

<sup>152</sup> Facility D-2612, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.





Building D-2815, north and east elevations.

## 9. Building D-2815

Building D-2815 is one of five identical plan brick buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1966 and 1967. It was completed in September of 1966 at a cost of \$139,500.<sup>153</sup> The building currently houses Headquarters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

Constructed in 1966, this is a two-story building which originally served as an administrative building for the Special Forces. The building has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of rolled roofing material, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building was designed with a one-story section facing the street, behind which is a raised two-story section. The north façade is composed of 21 bays, five of which are entrance bays. Each entrance bay has a ca. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. Above each door is a rectangular single-light transom. The entrance bays are framed by a surround of four courses of header bond brick. Windows on the façade are paired one-over-one aluminum sash design added ca. 1990. The raised second story section on the façade has twenty window bays. Most window bays have original, single-light fixed windows. Some windows have been enclosed with exhaust vents while others have added paneling and window air conditioners.

On the rear (S) elevation are twenty bays; ten entrance bays and ten window bays. Three of the entrances on this elevation have original, paired two-panel solid steel doors. Two are original, four vertical-light and single-panel steel and glass design. The remaining five entrance bays have ca. 1990 solid steel doors or doors of single-light steel and glass design. Windows on this elevation are original four-light, paired steel and glass design. Across the width of this elevation is a full-width shed roof aluminum canopy added ca. 1990. On the east elevation the one-story section projects from the main block of the building. The south elevation of this projecting bay has an original two-panel solid steel door. There is no fenestration on the west elevation of the building.

---

<sup>153</sup> Facility D-2815, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-2919, north and east elevations.

## 10. Building D-2919

Building D-2919 is one of two identical plan three-story headquarters buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1967. This building was completed in October of 1967 at a cost of \$230,541.<sup>154</sup> The building was originally the Headquarters of the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group. The building currently houses the 35<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade Headquarters. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

The building is three-stories and was built in a rectangular plan with a poured concrete foundation, flat asphalt roof, and an exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the north façade is an entrance with ca. 1990 single-light steel and glass doors. Flanking the doors are two-light sidelights and above the entrance is a three-light rectangular transom. Leading to the entrance are concrete steps and at the entrance is a concrete deck with a steel railing. Over the entrance is an original concrete canopy.

The façade is divided into five bays. The central bay contains the entrance with original flanking fixed light aluminum windows. Above the entrance are six narrow bands of aluminum windows and panels. Windows are original fixed, single-light design with upper and lower panels of awning design. Between the windows and entrance are rectangular aluminum panels, some of which have inset exhaust panels. Flanking the central bay are paired windows on each floor with the windows divided by brick piers. These windows are the same design with fixed panels and upper and lower awning lights. At the corner bays is a vertical row of single windows and metal panels which extend the height of the building. At the roofline is a concrete belt course and metal gutter.

---

<sup>154</sup> Facility D-2919, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-2919, south and west elevations.

On the east elevation are four window bays with the two central bays containing paired windows divided by brick piers. The two corner bays are single-light design. The rear (S) elevation has two entrance bays; the central entrance has a ca. 1990 solid steel door while the SW entrance bay has paired solid steel doors added ca. 1990. This elevation has six bays with the four central bays containing paired aluminum windows and panels divided by brick piers. The corners bays are single-light design. On the west elevation are four window bays with the two central bays containing paired windows divided by brick piers. The two corner bays are single-light design.





Building D-3022, north and east elevations.

## 11. Building D-3022

Building D-3022 is one of five identical plan brick buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1966 and 1967. It was completed in July of 1967 at a cost of just over \$136,000.<sup>155</sup> The building currently houses B Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group (A). No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

This two-story building has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of rolled roofing material, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building was designed with a one-story section facing the street, behind which is a raised two-story section. The north façade is composed of 21 bays, five of which are entrance bays. Each entrance bay has a ca. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. Above each door is a rectangular single-light transom. The entrance bays are framed by a surround of four courses of header bond brick. Windows on this façade are paired one-over-one aluminum sash design added ca. 1990. The raised second story section on the north façade has twenty window bays. Most window bays have original, single-light fixed windows. Some windows have been enclosed with exhaust vents while others have added paneling and window air conditioners.

On the rear (S) elevation are twenty bays; ten entrance bays and ten window bays. The entrance bays have ca. 1990 solid steel doors or doors of single-light steel and glass design. Windows on this elevation are ca. 1990, one-over-one aluminum and glass design. On the east elevation the one-story section projects from the main block of the building. The south elevation of this projecting bay has an original two-panel solid steel door. There is no fenestration on the west elevation of the building.

---

<sup>155</sup> Facility D-3022, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-3225, north and west elevations.

## 12. Building D-3225

Building D-3225 is one of five identical plan brick buildings constructed as part of the Special Warfare Center in 1966 and 1967. It was completed in July of 1967 at a cost of just over \$136,000.<sup>156</sup> The building currently houses the Headquarters of the 35<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

This is a two-story brick veneer building which has a poured concrete foundation, shed roof of rolled roofing material, and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building was designed with a one-story section facing the street, behind which is a raised two-story section. The north façade is composed of 21 bays, five of which are entrance bays. Each entrance bay has a ca. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. Above each door is a rectangular single-light transom. The entrance bays are framed by a surround of four courses of header bond brick. Windows on this façade are paired one-over-one aluminum sash design added ca. 1990. The raised second story section on the north façade has twenty window bays. Most window bays have original, single-light fixed windows. Some windows have been enclosed with exhaust vents while others have added paneling and window air conditioners.

On the rear (S) elevation are twenty bays; ten entrance bays and ten window bays. The entrance bays have ca. 1990 solid steel doors or doors of single-light steel and glass design. The one exception is the entrance at the southwest corner of the building which has original two-panel steel double doors. Windows on this elevation are ca. 1990, one-over-one aluminum and glass design. On the east elevation the one-story section projects from the main block of the building. The south elevation of this projecting bay has an original two-panel solid steel door. There is no fenestration on the west elevation of the building.

---

<sup>156</sup> Facility D-3225, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Building D-3404, east elevation.

### 13. Building D-3404

This was constructed in 1965 as an Officers' Mess Hall for the JFK Center.<sup>157</sup> No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War. This is a one-story, rectangular plan building of concrete and brick veneer. The building has a poured concrete foundation, a flat roof of gravel and tar, and an exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the east façade is a recessed entry bay with original paired steel and glass single-light doors. There are two pairs of these doors on opposite sides of the recessed bay. Above the doors are original rectangular single-light transoms. Flanking the entrance bay are original, paired single-light, fixed aluminum and glass windows. These windows are divided by brick piers. The windows have hopper design lower panels and the windows rest on concrete panels. The two remaining window bays each have similar design windows which rest on concrete aprons.

The north elevation has six bays with an entrance bay and five window bays. The entrance has an original three-light steel and glass door. Above the door the rectangular transom opening has been enclosed with a metal panel. On this elevation two of the window bays have paired windows while the remaining bays have single windows. On the west elevation a driveway leads to what was originally the kitchen entrance. This entrance has ca. 1980 steel double doors. Over the doors is an original rectangular transom. A secondary entrance on this façade has original steel double doors. This elevation has two window bays; one window bay has paired windows and the other has a single window. Attached to this elevation is an original enclosed brick and concrete mechanical area. The wall, which encloses this area, is of brick with numerous rectangular open panels of tile. On the south elevation are five bays; one entrance bay and four window bays. The entrance bay has an original three-light steel and glass door. Above the door is a steel panel which encloses the transom. Flanking the door is a single-light window. The four window bays

---

<sup>157</sup> Facility D-3404, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



have two sets of paired aluminum and glass windows and two sets of single windows. Above the window bays is a projecting concrete roof with a plain soffit panel and metal coping.

The interior of the building has several added partition walls, original linoleum floors and exposed concrete block walls in the dining area. The kitchen area has an original tile floor and tile and concrete walls. Most areas throughout the building have dropped acoustical tile ceilings.



Building D-3404, south elevation.



Building D-3601, Moon Hall, south and west elevations.

#### **14. Building D-3601, Moon Hall**

Building D-3601 was constructed to serve as barracks and temporary housing for soldiers and visitors to the Special Warfare Center. The building was completed in October of 1966 at a cost of approximately \$1,661,000.<sup>158</sup> The building was one of two identical plan barracks buildings constructed for the Special Forces (D-3601 and D-3705). Moon Hall was named in honor of Major Walter H. Moon of the 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group who was killed in Laos on July 22, 1961. The building continues to be used as barracks and temporary housing for the Special Warfare Center. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

Moon Hall is a six-story steel and concrete building designed in a “Y” shape. The building has a poured concrete foundation, flat roof of gravel and tar and exterior of stretcher bond brick veneer. The west façade has three entrances with ca. 1990 paired, sliding track steel and glass doors. Over this entrance is a flat roof concrete canopy supported by concrete piers. This façade has 21 bays with those on the first floor comprised of 18 window bays and three entrance bays. On the five upper stories are 21 window bays. Windows throughout the building are ca. 1980 one-over-one, aluminum and glass design which rest on lower steel panels. Between each floor are wide concrete belt courses. At the roofline is concrete coping and metal flashing.

On the north and south elevations are full-height enclosed stairwells. These stairwells are accessed on the first floor by a ca. 1980 steel door. This door has a flanking steel and glass sidelight. Windows in the staircases are original one-over-one aluminum fixed design. These windows are divided by concrete belt courses. The northeast elevation of the building has 20 window bays with ca. 1980 one-over-one aluminum sash windows divided by concrete belt courses. The interior of the “Y” elevation has fourteen

---

<sup>158</sup> Facility D-3601, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

bays; thirteen of which are window bays and a bay in the junction of the “Y” has louvered metal vents. On the first floor of this elevation is the Canopy Lounge (originally the Stillwell Lounge) and is accessed via ca. 1990 aluminum and glass sliding track doors on the first floor. There are also two secondary entrances with ca. 1990 sliding track doors that lead to an outdoor patio. This patio has a concrete floor and canvas awning. At the roofline is a raised brick and concrete elevator penthouse with a flat roof.

The interior lobby of the building was remodeled in 1993 with added wall, ceiling, and floor finishes. The quarters have been remodeled several times over the past forty years but the original plan and layout of the upper floors remains intact.



South elevation of Building D-3601 showing its “Y” shaped configuration.





East elevation of Building D-3601.



West elevation of Building D-3601.



East elevation of Building D-3705, Hardy Hall.

### 15. D-3705, Hardy Hall

Building D-3705 was constructed to serve as barracks and temporary housing for soldiers and visitors to the Special Warfare Center. The building was completed in October of 1966 at a cost of approximately \$1,661,000.<sup>159</sup> The building was one of two identical plan barracks buildings constructed for the Special Forces (D-3601 and D-3705). Hardy Hall was named in honor of Captain Herbert F. Hardy of the 1st Special Forces Group who was killed in Vietnam on March 4, 1964. The building continues to be used as barracks and temporary housing for the Special Warfare Center. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

Hardy Hall is a six-story steel and concrete building designed in a “Y” shape. The building has a poured concrete foundation, flat roof of gravel and tar and exterior of stretcher bond brick veneer. The east façade has three entrances with ca. 1990 paired, sliding track steel and glass doors. Over the main entrance is a flat roof concrete canopy supported by concrete piers. This façade has 21 bays with the first floor containing 18 window bays and three entrance bays. On the five upper stories are 21 window bays. Windows throughout the building are ca. 1980 one-over-one, aluminum and glass design which rest on lower steel panels. Between each floor are wide concrete belt courses. At the roofline is concrete coping and metal flashing.

On the north and south elevations are full-height enclosed stairwells. These stairwells are accessed on the first floor by a ca. 1980 steel door. This door has a flanking steel and glass sidelight. Windows in the staircases are original one-over-one aluminum fixed design. These windows are divided by concrete belt courses. The northeast elevation of the building has 20 window bays with ca. 1980 one-over-one aluminum sash windows divided by concrete belt courses. The interior of the “Y” façade has fourteen bays; twelve of which are window bays and two are entrance bays. One entrance on this façade has paired

---

<sup>159</sup> Facility D-3705, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

ca. 1980 aluminum and glass doors and the other entrance has a pair of solid steel doors. At the roofline is a raised brick and concrete elevator penthouse with a flat roof. The interior of the building was remodeled in 1999 with added wall, ceiling, and floor finishes.



East and north elevations of Building D-3705.





Building D-3705, west elevation.



Building D-3705, main entrance on the east façade.



## 16. Building No: 0-9055

This building was constructed in 1958 by the Air Force to serve as a gap filler radar station for air surveillance along the Atlantic seaboard. After serving the Air Force for eleven years the radar station was transferred to the Army on May 8, 1969.<sup>160</sup> The building continues to be used as a radar installation by the Army. No major changes have occurred to the building since its construction. This property does not appear to meet National Register criteria within the context of the Cold War. The radar station was one of numerous such installations built along the east coast of the United States as part of the US Air Force's defense system. The building does not possess architectural or engineering significance and is typical of similar radar stations built throughout the country during this period. No exceptional significance is associated with this property for its role in the Cold War.

This is a one-story concrete block building constructed in an L-plan in 1958. The building has a concrete block foundation, flat roof of metal panels, and exterior of concrete block. On the north façade, the projecting bay has an entrance with original, paired two-panel steel doors. At the northeast corner is a bay with a louvered vent and exhaust pipe. The east elevation also has an entrance bay enclosed with a steel panel and two exhaust vents. On the south elevation is an entrance with ca. 1990 paired solid steel doors. A ca. 1980 wood staircase on this elevation connects with the building's roof. This elevation also has an exhaust vent with a metal hood. On the north elevation's recessed wing is an exhaust vent with a metal hood. The radar tower has three steel struts which rest on concrete piers. A steel staircase extends around the perimeter of the tower. At the top of the tower is a flat steel platform. To the north of the building is a temporary steel storage building. The site is surrounded by a chain link and wire fence.

---

<sup>160</sup> Facility 0-9055, Real Property Records, Real Property Office, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



View of the Memorial Plaza to the south from Ardennes Street.

## **17. Memorial Plaza**

The Memorial Plaza is located on the south side of Ardennes Street directly in front of Kennedy Hall. The Memorial Plaza was dedicated on November 26, 1969 and is the first Vietnam War memorial created in America. The centerpiece for this plaza was originally the sculpture called “The Special Warfare Soldier” designed by artist Donald De Lue. In 1999, the Memorial Plaza was reconfigured and redesigned. The original statue was moved to another location on the post and a new bronze sculpture of Colonel Arthur “Bull” Simons was added in its place. This statue was designed by artist Larry Ludtke and several wayside exhibits were also added along the perimeter of the plaza which provides information on Colonel Simons and the Special Warfare Forces.