

THE BALLAD OF THE GREEN BERETS

Fighting soldiers from the sky,
Fearless men who jump and die.
Men who mean just what they say,
The brave men of The Green Beret.
Silver wings upon their chests,
These are men, America's best,
One hundred men we'll test today,
But only three win The Green Beret.

Trained to live off nature's land,
Trained in combat, hand to hand.
Men who fight by night and day,
Courage take from The Green Beret.
Silver wings upon their chests,
These are men, America's best,
One hundred men we'll test today,
But only three win The Green Beret.

Back at home a young wife waits,
Her Green Beret has met his fate.
He has died for those oppressed,
Leaving her this last request.
Put silver wings on my son's chest,
Make him one of America's best,
He'll be a man they'll test one day,
Have him win The Green Beret.



THE HOME OF ARMY SPECIAL FORCES

Today's Special Warfare Center and School is the product of more than three decades of special-operations development which began at Fort Bragg in 1952, when the Psychological Warfare Center moved here from Fort Riley, Kan. In 1982, two distinct organizations were formed to meet expanding special-operations missions: the Special Warfare Center and the 1st Special Operations Command, which took over responsibility for the conduct of special-operations missions. In May of 1987 the Special Warfare Center came under the operational control of the newly created unified command, the United States Special Operations Command.

The addition of the word "School" to the Special Warfare Center's name in May of 1986 reflects the organization's mission of training most elements of U.S. Army special-operations forces. Historically, special-operations forces have been viewed as operating "deep in the enemy's homeland," for strategic objectives and have been considered to have little relationship to conventional forces. However, the JFK Center and School trains to the theme of integration of special-operations forces with all levels of conventional forces, in support of the AirLand Battle doctrine.

