

## **Stay Alert, Stay Alive**

Opening: Okay, move out!

Narrator: Below is the United States Army base in the Republic of Vietnam: the usual layout, the usual equipment, the usual tents. But here too is the unusual, for here begins a four-phase training program that gives the soldier his baptism of fire before he engages with the enemy, a program dedicated to his combat survival with the theme stated in four simple words:

Text: *Stay alert, Stay alive*

Narrator: The program's phase one starts with the arrival of replacements assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. Few minutes elapse before the replacement hears the key words that will dominate his existence for as long as he remains in the brigade

Sergeant: Move out! At ease. I'm Sergeant Wilkins, First Sergeant, Replacement Training Company. I want to welcome you to 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, Phan Rang, Vietnam. Our theme here is: stay alert, stay alive.

Narrator: Stay, alert, stay alive. It will be repeated, and repeated often, for it is the guiding philosophy of the six day, 80-hour training period now ahead of the replacements. Most of the hours will be allotted to intense, rugged, strenuous activity. An early few, however, are used for orientation and indoctrination, and it is during this period that the replacement meets his new [...]