

## Letters Lend Leadership Incentive In 2/327th Inf.

A real leader giving a class on Leadership can be as effective as a guerrilla teaching guerrilla warfare. Such was the case last week in the 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry as Sergeant Major Curtis Duco called in his non-commissioned officers of the battalion and lectured on leadership and its related fields.

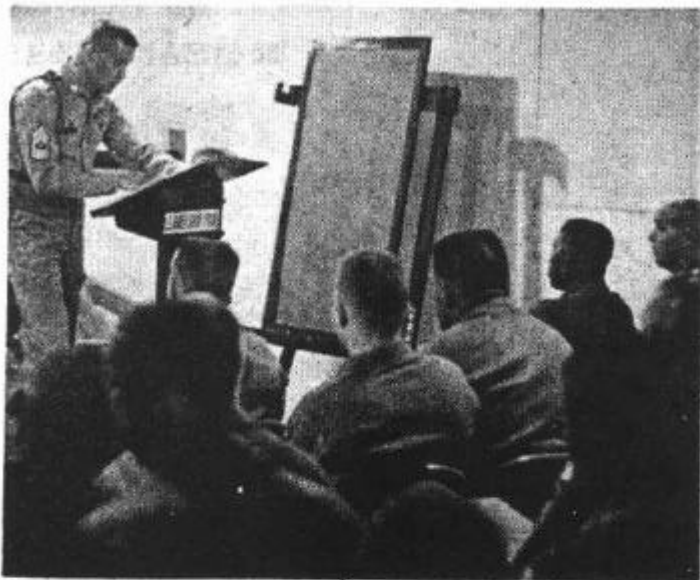
No dull speaker, Sergeant Duco read from letters he had received during the Korean War from his former basic trainees. They were faced with such tactical obstacles as Pork Chop Hill and the Chosin Reservoir. "...yes, I am a platoon sergeant now," wrote one fellow who had recently graduated from Sergeant Duco's basic training. "I thought you were rough on us Sergeant Duco, but

now I wish you'd been rougher. . . you ought to see some of the guys here who didn't get the training. . ." Many times the difference between living and dying in combat is the difference between listening to a good instructor and sleeping through poor instruction. The top NCO pointed out mainly that good leadership breeds good soldiers and more good leaders.

The sergeant major quoted from other letters, including one from a man who was an ammo bearer. "We are near Pork Chop Hill, as they call it. Maybe you've heard of it. Some of the guys (mentioned by name) are with me. . . thanks for making us learn, I wish I'd listened harder. . ."

The sergeant major finished his class by noting that although many of the NCOs and their privates would not plan an Army career, they'd do well to learn leadership in case of general war,

"you and your private soldier will be back here. . . as cadre, teaching the hordes of new trainees. . . and whether they live or die depends a great deal on your leadership. . ."



**READING A LETTER** sent to him in 1951 from Pork Chop Hill in Korea, Sergeant Major Curtis Duco of the 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry, tells his junior NCOs his lives and fortunes of the private soldier rests largely with the leadership they see and learn here, were the battalion committed to combat. The letters were sent to Sergeant Duco by his ex-trainees, praising the "no play" leadership furnished by him during their basic training period. A sergeant major, Duco said, "I only wish I'd listened more . . ."