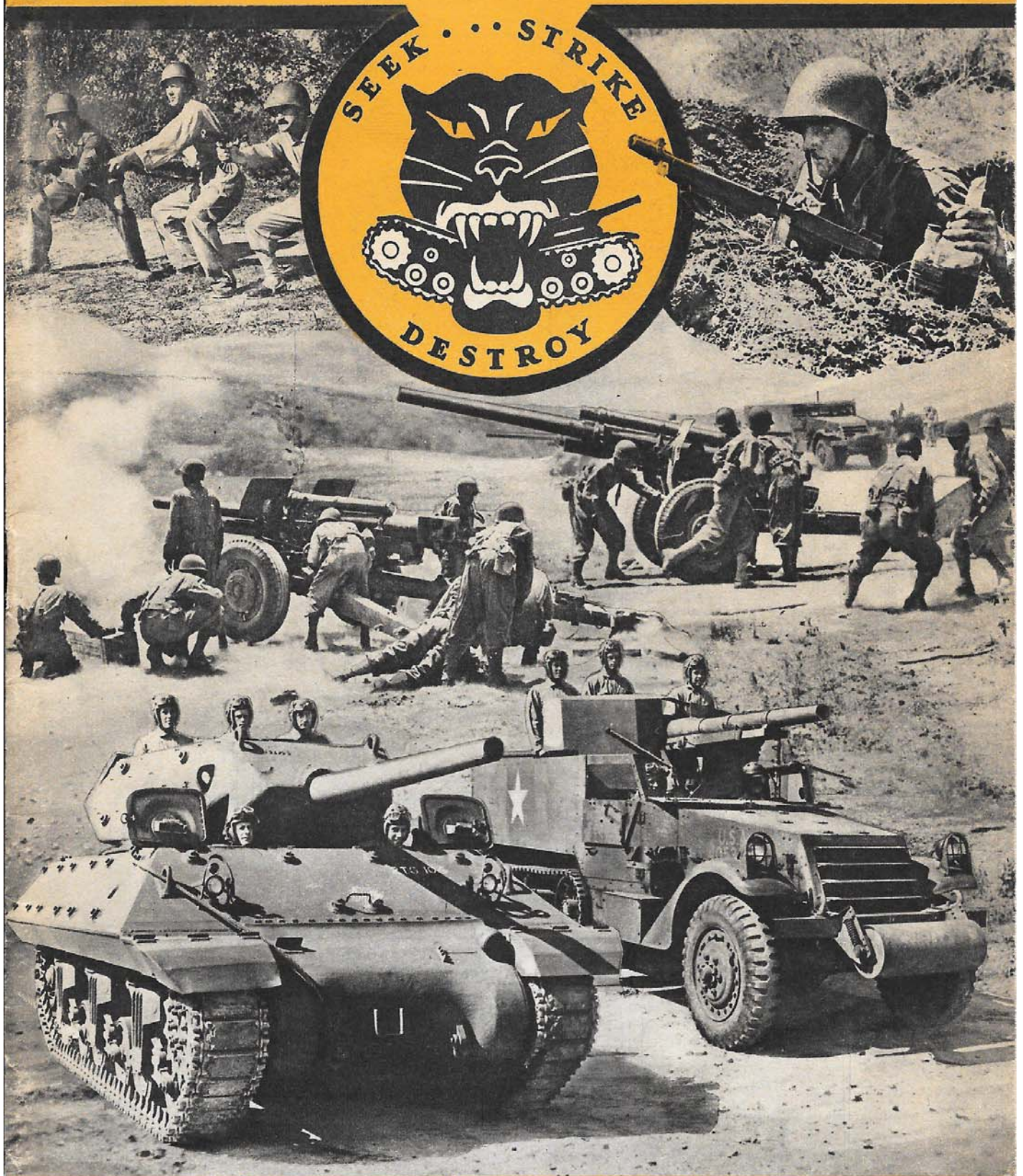


# THIS IS CAMP HOOD



A CAMERA TRIP THROUGH THE ARMY'S TANK DESTROYER CENTER





The M-3 Tank Destroyer, original model and grand-daddy of the modern M-10.

Entrance to Camp Hood. The Tank Destroyer shoulder insignia depicts a black panther devouring a tank, the mission of this force being the destruction of enemy tanks by accurate gunfire from stealthily occupied positions.



combat weapons.

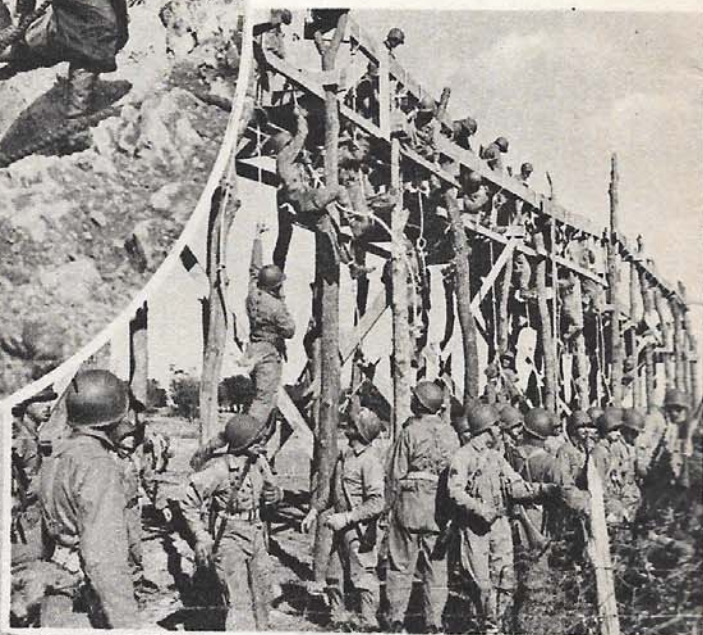




Over the river on ropes is taught. It's harder to do than it looks. Some get a ducking.



Over the ridge—on one of the camp's many Obstacle Courses.



Learning to climb on Obstacle Course builds muscles and self confidence, for the day when their need will be all-important.



Learning to crawl under barbed wire. A man's life and a great battle may depend on knowing how to do this right.



# *This is a Picture Story of Camp Hood*

**H**ERE the spirit of the black panther is instilled into tough combat teams to break the chains barbarians would put on free men. Here his cunning and stealth—his knack of killing from ambush, is combined with all the modern technique of war.

Here the newest mechanized equipment and men toughened by intensive training are brought together—the primitive blends with the modern way of war, the human factor with the armored, quick-hitting war machines, to the end that enemy tanks shall be smashed into scrap.

No matter where we may go to finish our part of the job, we'll remember the constant drive of activity at Camp Hood, the Tank Destroyer Center; along the avenues and streets, across the fields to the bivouac areas—every energy aimed at our primary job—the destruction of hostile tanks by superior marksmanship.

Little more than a year ago Camp Hood was a rolling plain in Central Texas that stretched to the horizon, a vista scarcely broken by any human touch. And then, overnight it seemed, buildings arose as if by magic; roads and courses took shape, and the men of the Tank Destroyers moved in.

By May, 1943, Camp Hood had become one of the largest military installations in the country, with a reservation of 160,000 acres designed to provide the special training which has made the Tank Destroyers one of the most feared Arms of Service today. North Camp Hood had been set up, providing a second cantonment on one of the finest natural sites for Army training in the country . . . a training ground unmatched for its variety of terrain and climatic conditions to fit the men for battle anywhere in the world.

Like a modern factory, the Tank Destroyer Center uses a multiple assembly line method in training. On one line we may be trained as individual replacements; another line turns out units fully trained as such, and the final assembly line sends these combat teams out to the battlefronts as a cohesive, striking force. It is an elastic system, one which can turn out

battalions, groups, regiments or brigades, shaping its product to the current needs of the combat theaters.

We may enter this assembly line as raw material from the induction centers—to be trained as individuals with the replacement training center, at North Camp Hood, or we may be assigned to other groups to join our fellow soldiers in combat teams, later to be sent to the Unit Training Center at Camp Hood; we may join the Training Brigade to act as part of the demonstration platoon, or we might become specialists in the Tank Destroyer School.

We will come to appreciate the careful planning which has gone into the making of this Center as we learn to drive, to maneuver the tank destroyers over difficult terrain, to handle the basic weapons of the TDs.

From the first battle-conditioning and infiltration courses in the Army we learn combat discipline, self-preservation, offensive measures; to conquer fear and to have confidence in the techniques we have learned on Hood's far-flung acres. When the time comes for us to face the enemy our utilization of this knowledge and training will be invaluable effective.

Constantly improvements are being made in instruction methods as reports come in from all over the world of the achievements of Tank Destroyer battalions—"the first to march into Bizerte."

That is what we are trained for here—to meet the enemy wherever we can surprise and way-lay him—to match him or better him, weapon for weapon, man to man, hand to hand—and to emerge the victor!

That is the Tank Destroying Panther's job—to "Seek, Strike, Destroy!"

Many of these pictured scenes we'll soon know from experience—they'll be treasured later when we return home, after we have utilized the benefits of our Camp Hood training to help destroy, forever, the Evil Forces of Germany and Japan that made it imperative for America and our Allies, in the interests of honor and self preservation, to depart from our normal ways of peace.





Street fighting is taught as trainees "take" Nazi village.



Advancing through barbed wire as real bullets whiz close overhead, simulated battle conditions prepare trainees for the real thing.

Infiltration at the Battle Conditioning Course. Men learn to stay down as they advance under machine gun fire and bombs.





Instruction in "dirty fighting." Unarmed combat is an essential part of the Tank Destroyer training as American soldiers learn how to beat the enemy at his own game.



Trainees fire pistols at targets in pitch black tunnel, learning the technique of night firing.



Instructor explains makeup of "sticky grenade" and "Molotov Cocktail" to trainees.



Trainees climb down rope net and ford stream at this obstacle course.





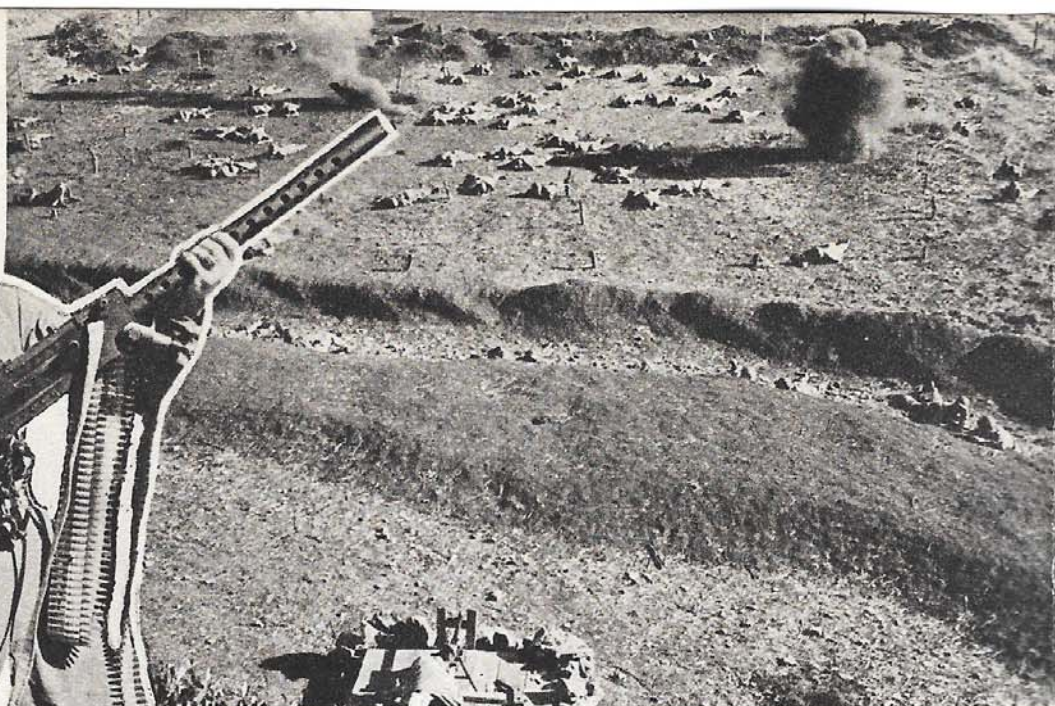
Battle firing positions. Quick, accurate firing is achieved by these methods.



Soldiers learn to trust the protection afforded by their fox holes through graphic demonstration on the Tank Destroyer School's infiltration course.

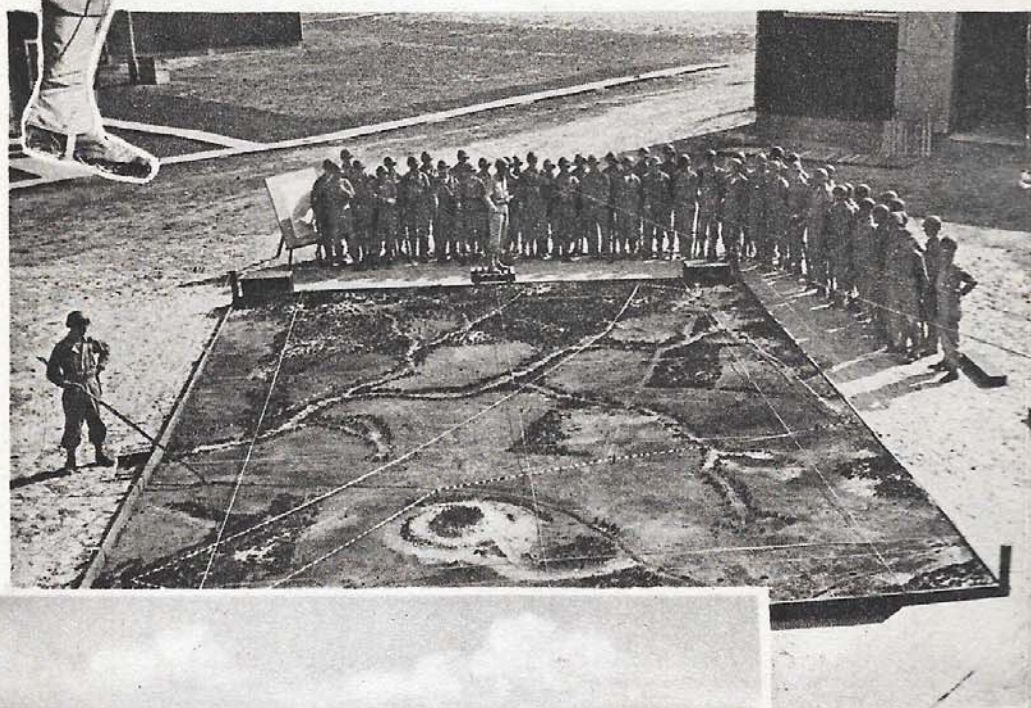


(below) Tank Destroyer soldiers are taught expedient firing for close combat.



Simulated battle condition is achieved as these men advance under machine gun fire and bombs.

Trainees at Camp Hood study a terrain plot prior to going out on a problem.



Trainees learn battle fire positions with rifles.







Coming!

## TAKING A SENTRY OUT OF ACTION IN THREE ACTS

Gone!



Going!







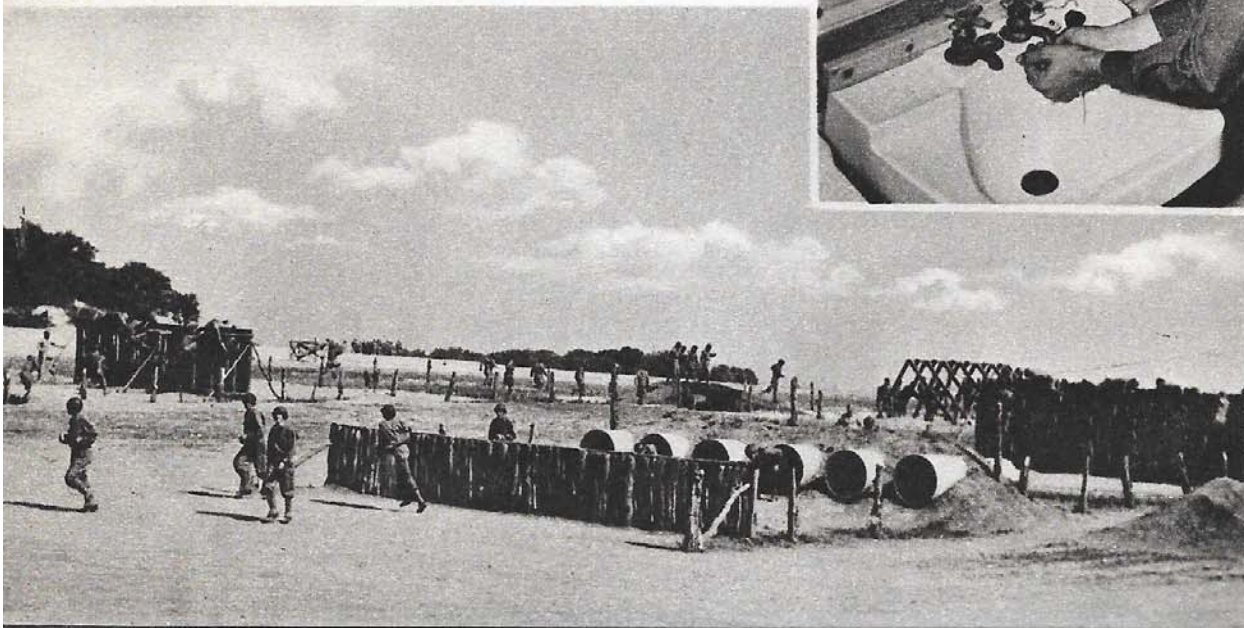
Tug of war builds muscles and teamwork.



Obstacle Course. Beginners must take the little jumps first.

A frequent reminder. This training aid was originated at Camp Hood.

Trainees running a preliminary Obstacle Course. Larger courses extend 2½ miles of varied obstacles; they'll be hurdled later in the training period.







Officer candidates are given orientation before a night march.

Instructor shows new trainees half-track and other equipment to be used in training program. First orientation lecture on equipment.



Automotive instruction — taught from the ground up.

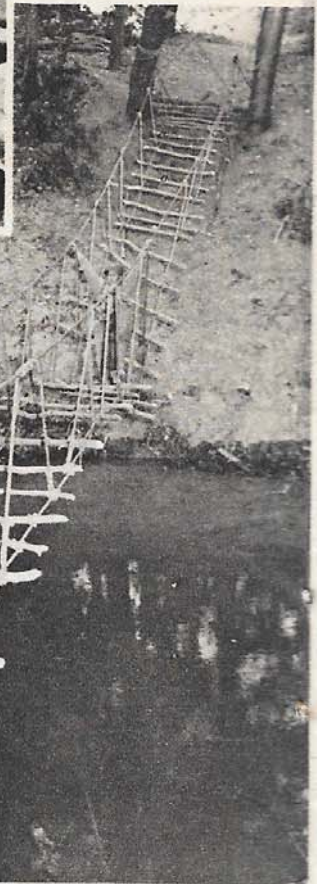
A new Tank Destroyer officer receives his commission as a Second Lieutenant at Officer Candidate School graduation ceremonies.



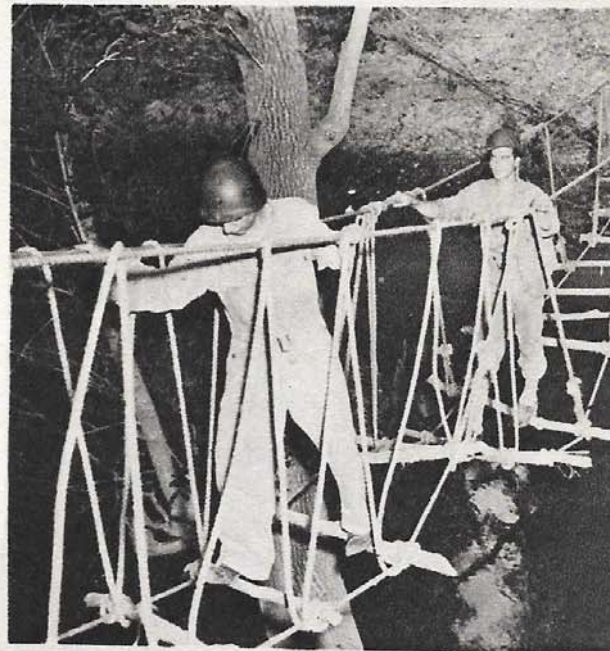




"Chow" line in the field.



Crossing the river on rope catwalk made by troops.



A battalion in bivouac. Here soldiers learn to live under actual field conditions.





Tanks Pass in Review. Tank Destroyers are pitted against all types of attack for training purposes.



Nerve center of the Tank Destroyer School.





Placing towed 3" gun in action. These towed guns can knock out any tank.



Firing the 3" gun. Every man has an important job to do.



Firing the Cal. 30—on the rifle range.



Officer Candidates on the 50 Cal. machine gun range.





Preliminary instruction in operation of the M-3 Tank Destroyer.

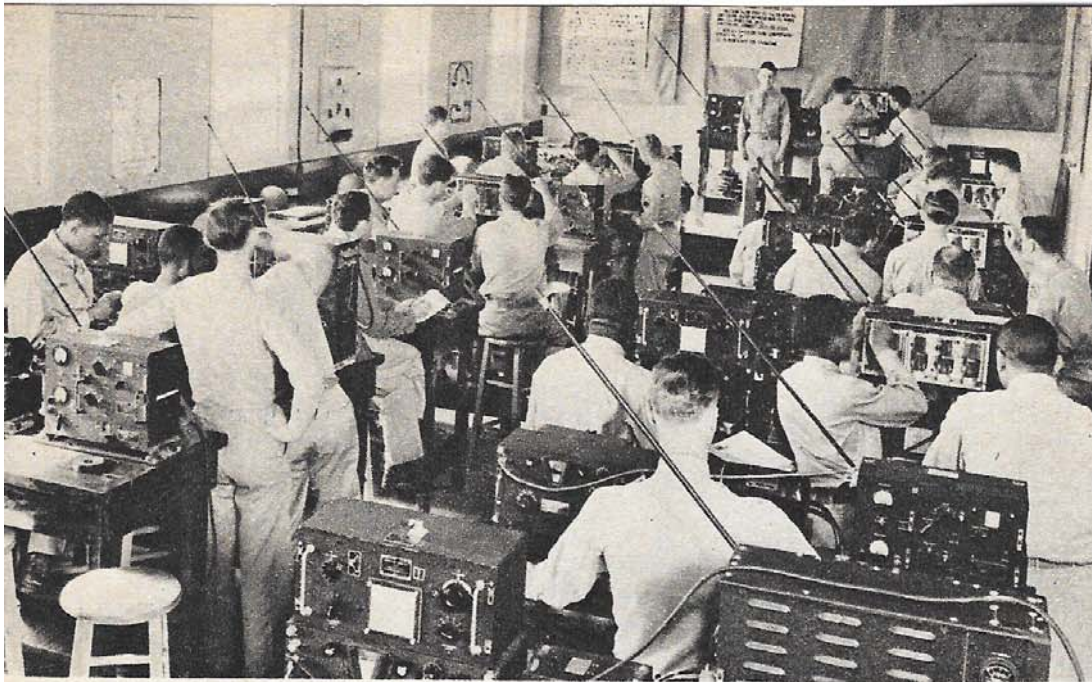


Weapons instruction as taught specialists and Officer candidates at the School.

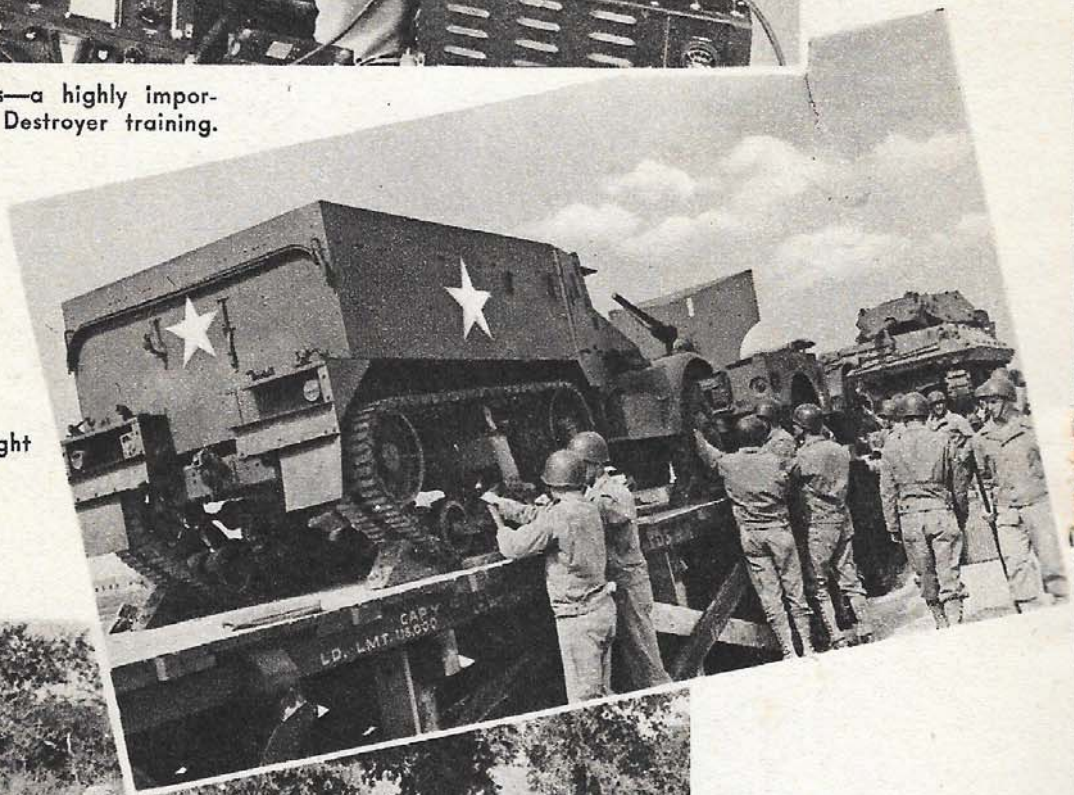
Tommy gun instruction—assembly and disassembly.







Communications class—a highly important phase of Tank Destroyer training.



Train loading as taught Officer candidates.



Engineer soldiers throw a dam across a creek.



Student soldiers in a provisional battalion learn fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic in a special training unit.

Father and son train together in this modern Army, where 37 and 18 meet on an equal basis.

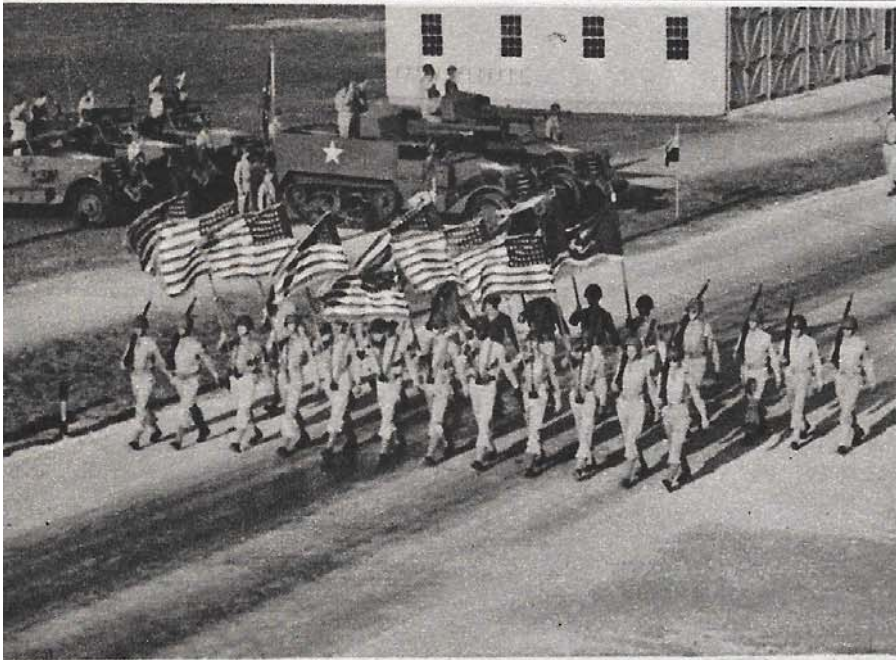


The Tank Destroyer School recreation park on the southern extension offers pleasant relaxation from arduous training.



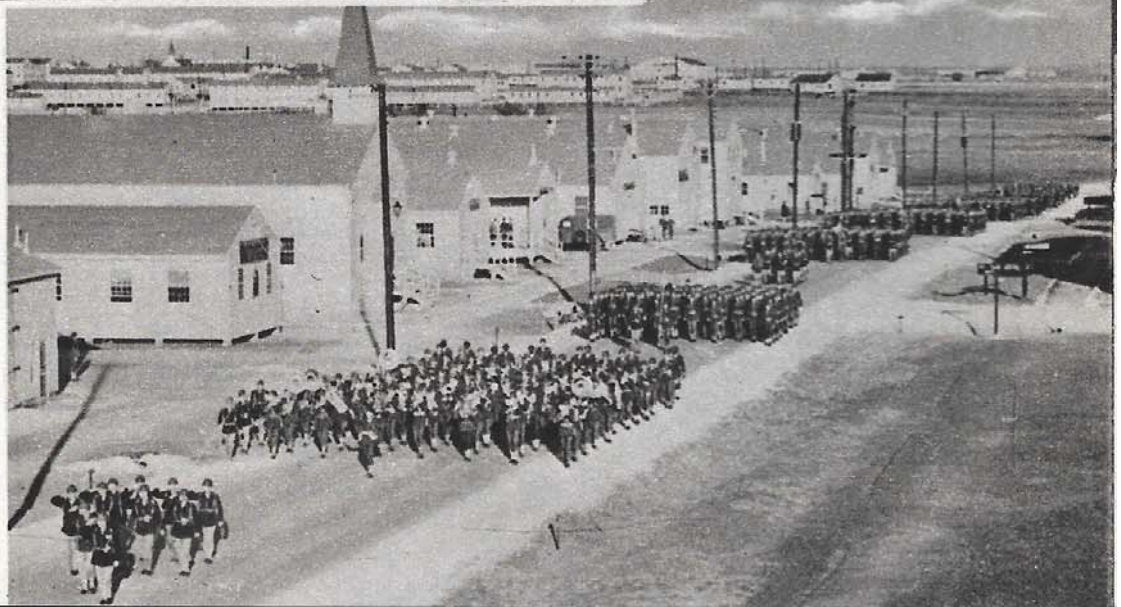


Review of troops.



Massed colors pass in review.

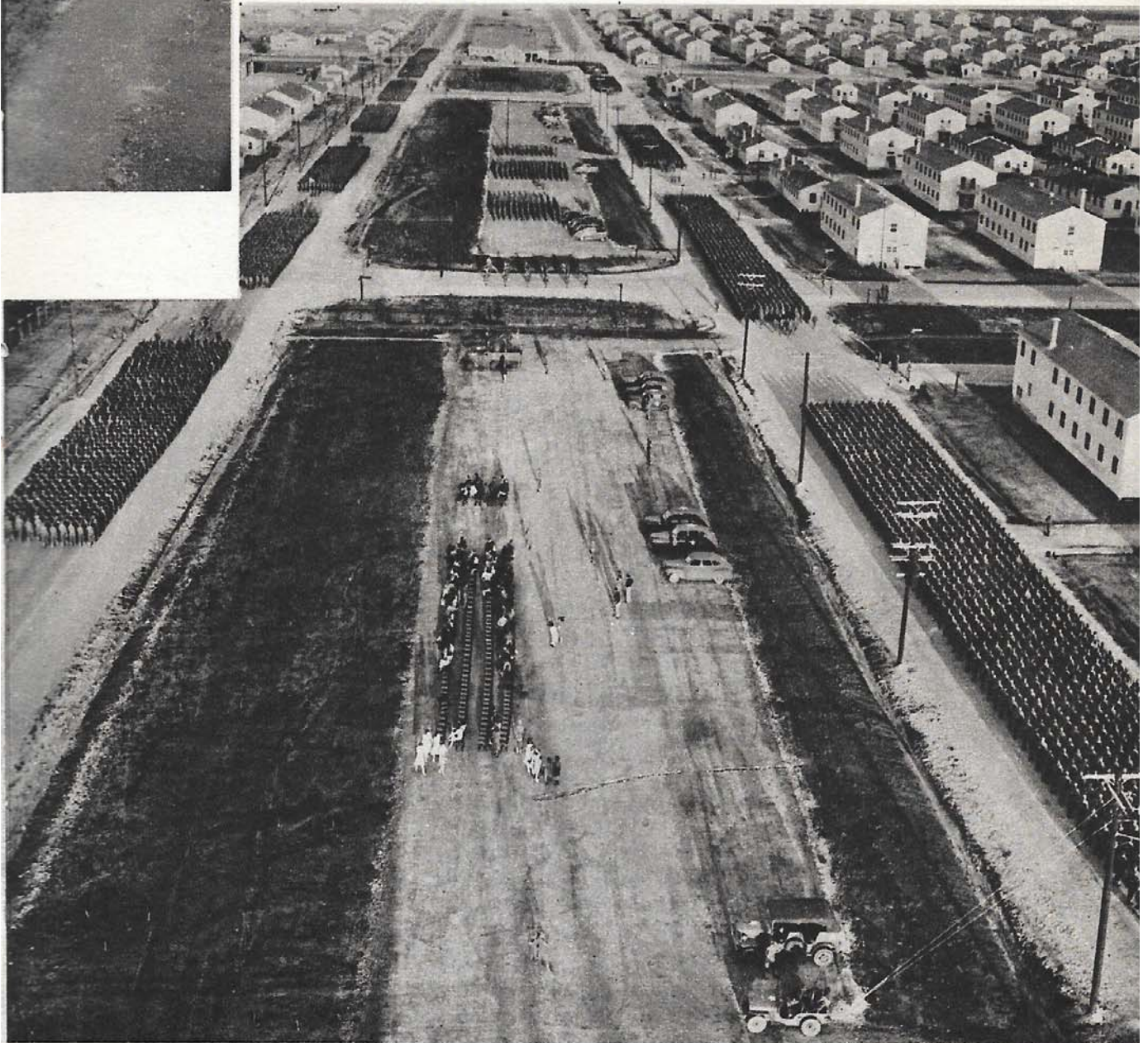
Tank Destroyer troops  
parade on foot.





# THE CADENCE OF MARCHING FEET

Reviews are an important function in Army life. At Camp Hood the tank destroyer on foot prides himself in the precision of his formations and his military bearing.



Looking down on a typical massed road review at Camp Hood.





Looking west on Headquarters Avenue. Headquarters of the Tank Destroyer Center is shown on the right. New personnel reports here.

A familiar scene showing the camp headquarters in the center, the finance office on the left and the chapel on the right.





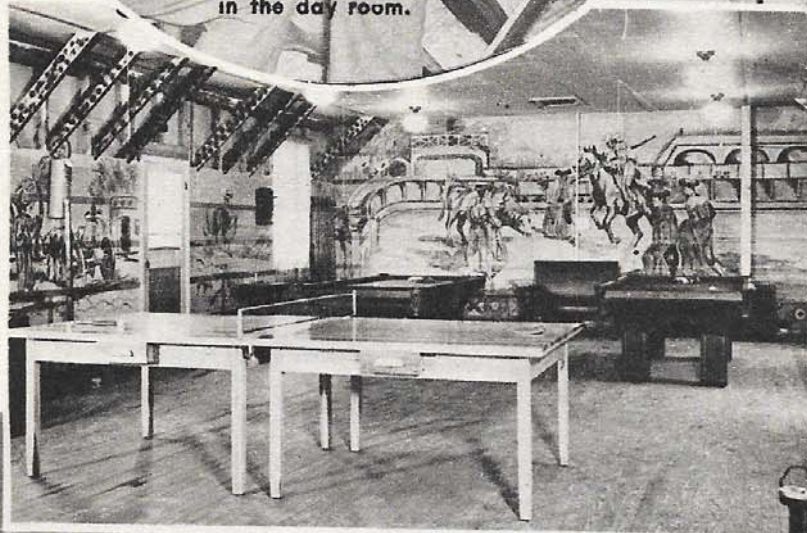
A row of barracks show typical battalion area at Camp Hood.



"At Ease." "Off hours" in the day room.



Officer Candidates set an example in neat and well kept quarters.

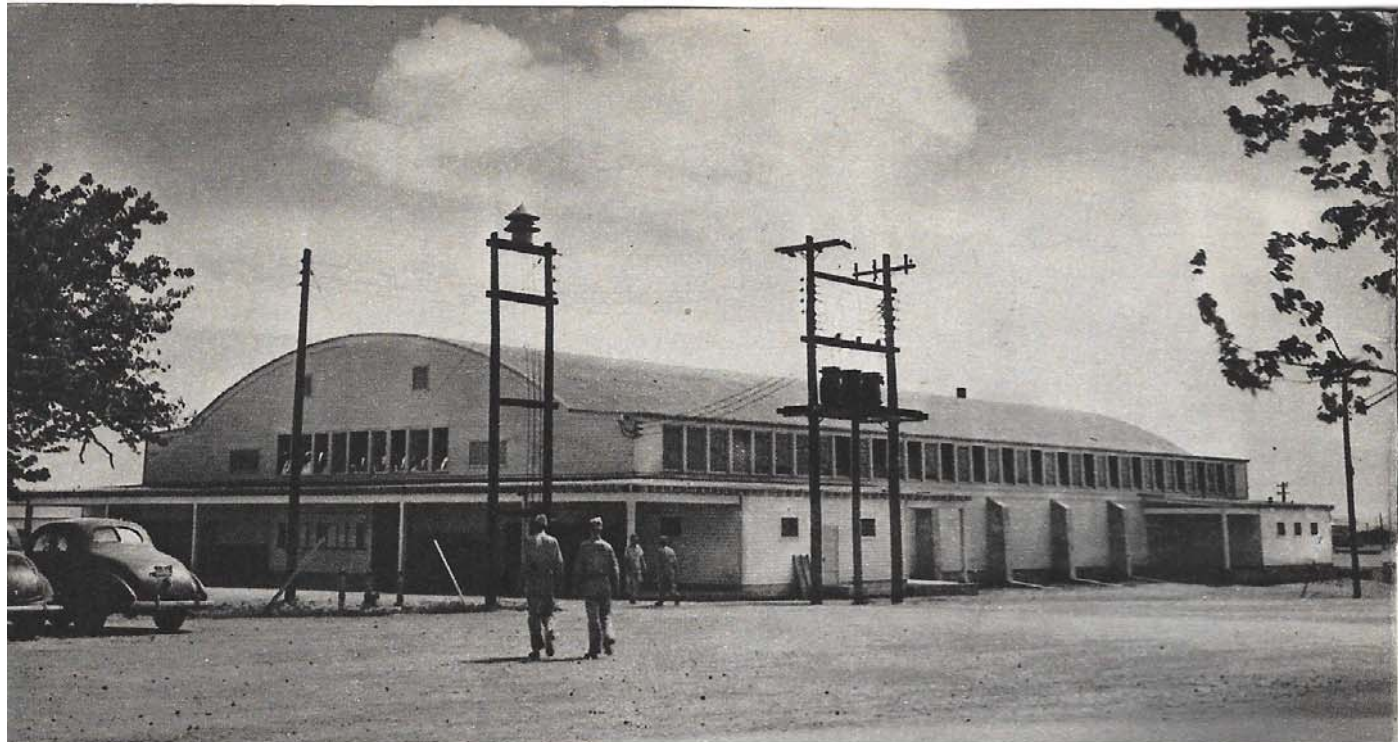


A decorated day room in the Training Brigade. Each company is proud of its day room where the boys relax after a hard day's work.



Company street showing day rooms — mess halls—and rear of barracks.





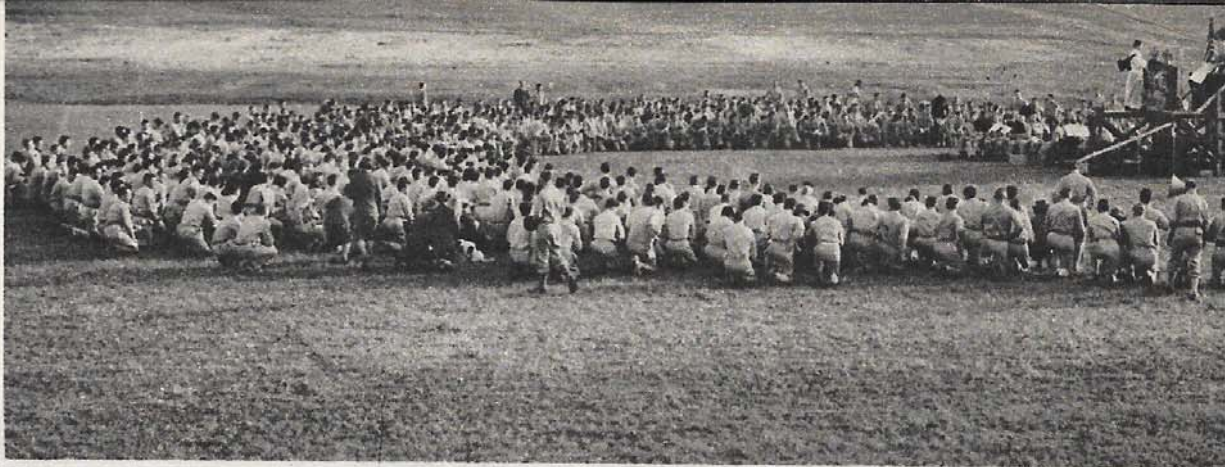
Field House for recreation seats 4500.

The Field House is Camp Hood's biggest dance floor. Enlisted men dance to the tune of the nation's "hit" bands.

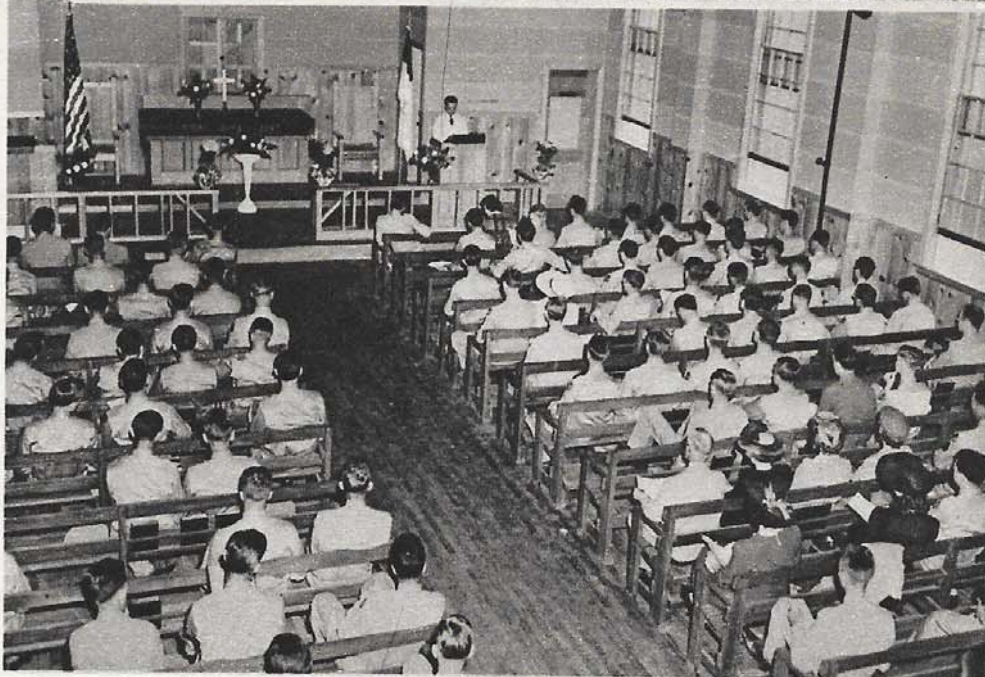
Soldiers enjoy USO shows and other entertainment at the Big Field House.





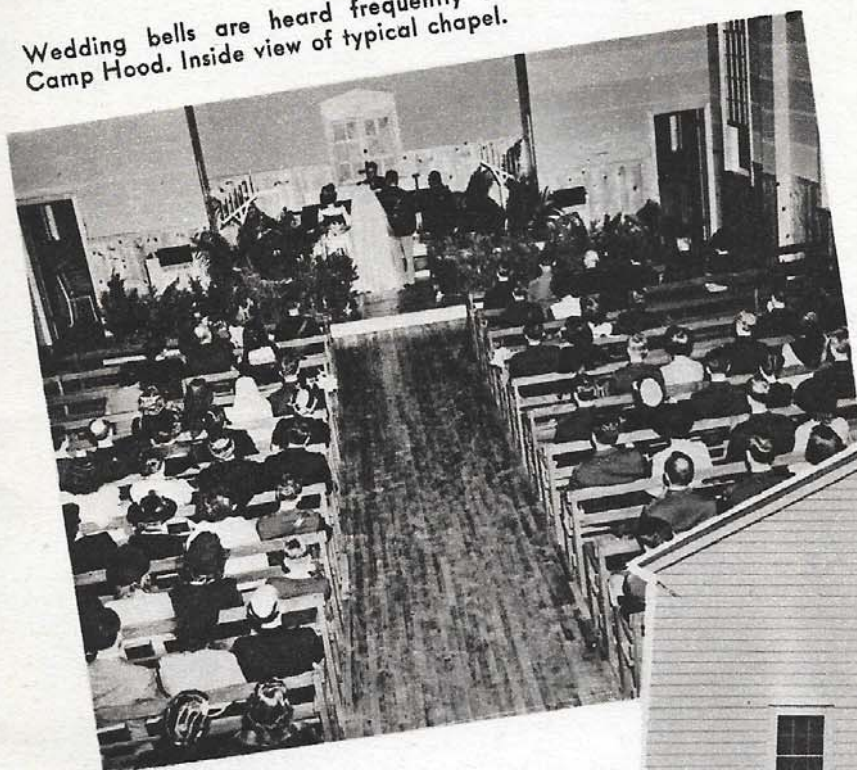


Field Mass—Easter Sunday.



Religious obligations are faithfully observed; church attendance is above average at Camp Hood.

Wedding bells are heard frequently at Camp Hood. Inside view of typical chapel.



For every creed, Catholic, Protestant or Jewish, there is a chapel such as this.







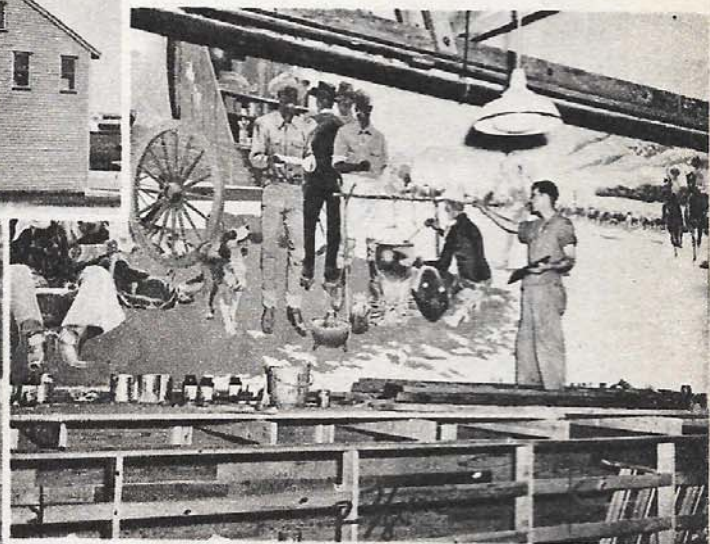
Central Bus Station. The camp's bus facilities have been highly organized to meet peak load demand.

Buses are loaded quickly and efficiently for inter-camp stops and for nearby communities.

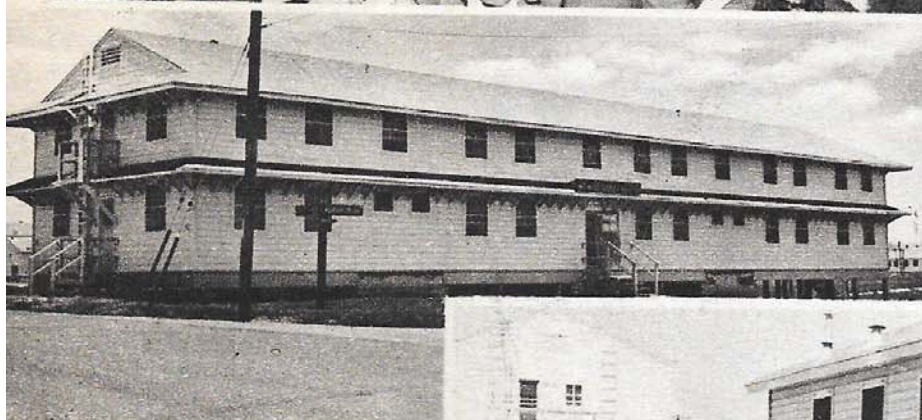
One of the many Service Clubs for enlisted men.



Enlisted Men dance at Service Club. Girls are imported by special services from nearby towns.



A talented enlisted man uses his spare time in painting a mural for the service clubs. Mural is designed to depict a typical scene of the tradition-filled part of the country.



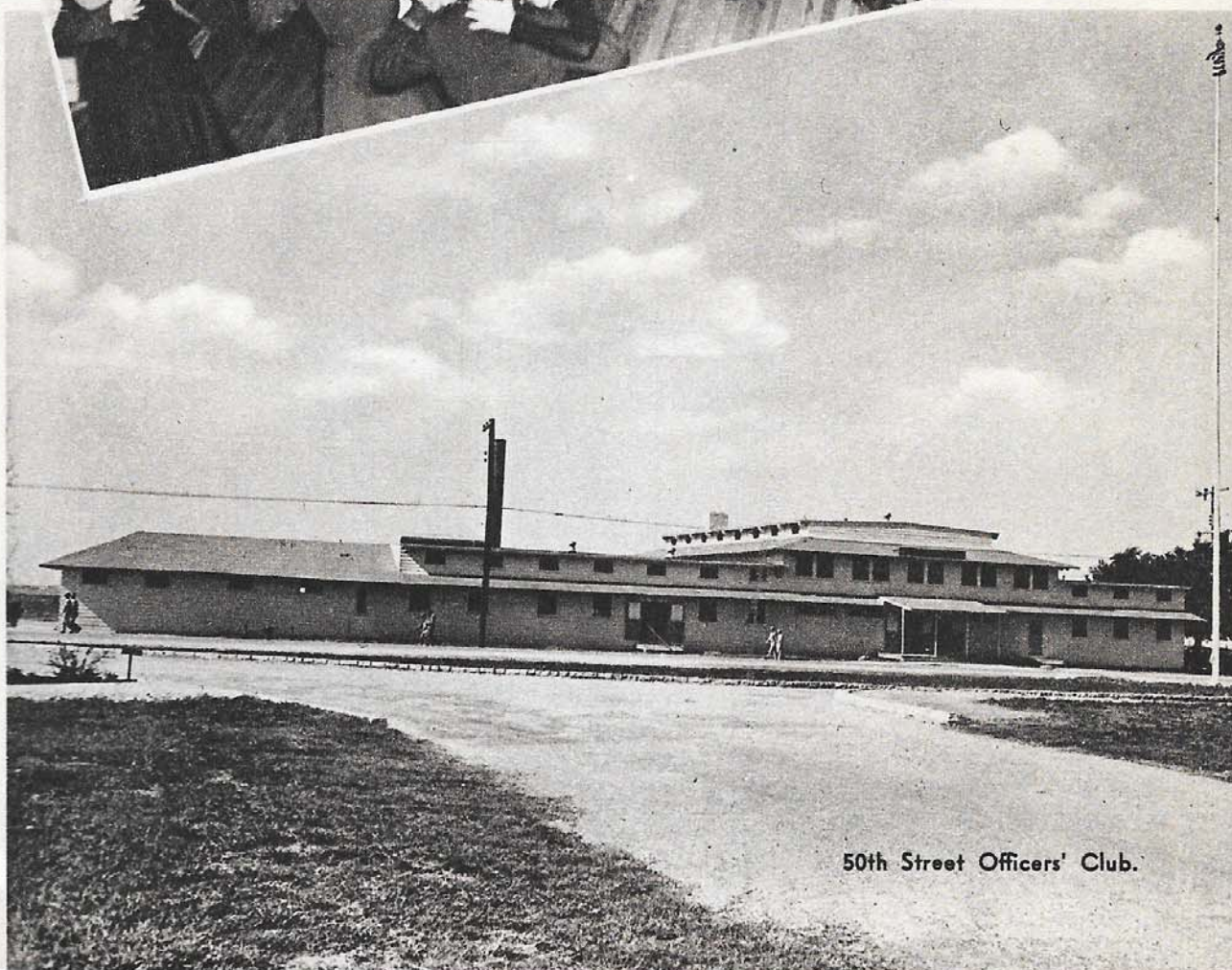
One of the many Guest Houses where soldiers' families may stay while visiting Camp Hood.

"Chow" call—





Dance at Officers' Club. Note mural done  
on club wall by Tank Destroyer Officer.

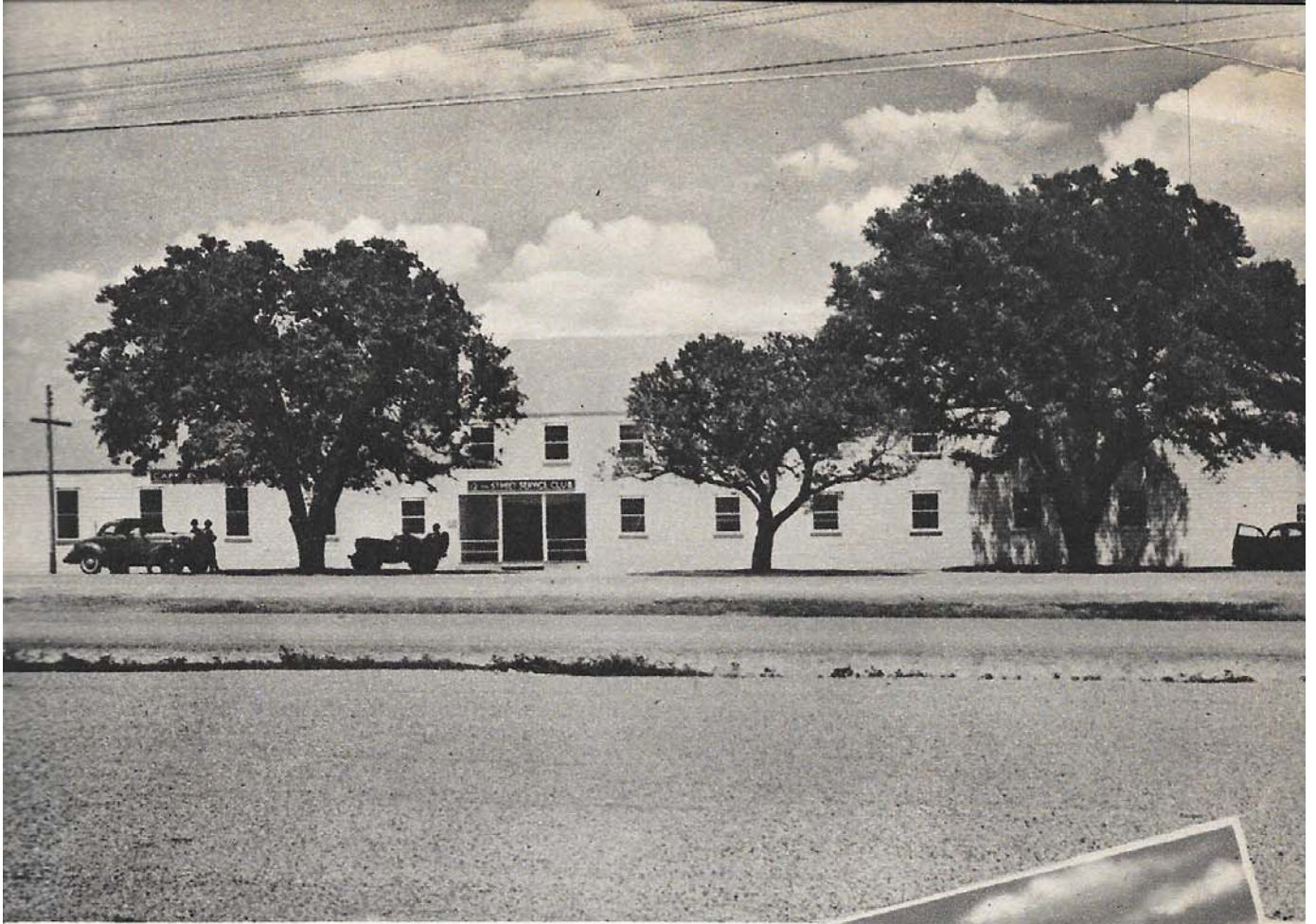


50th Street Officers' Club.









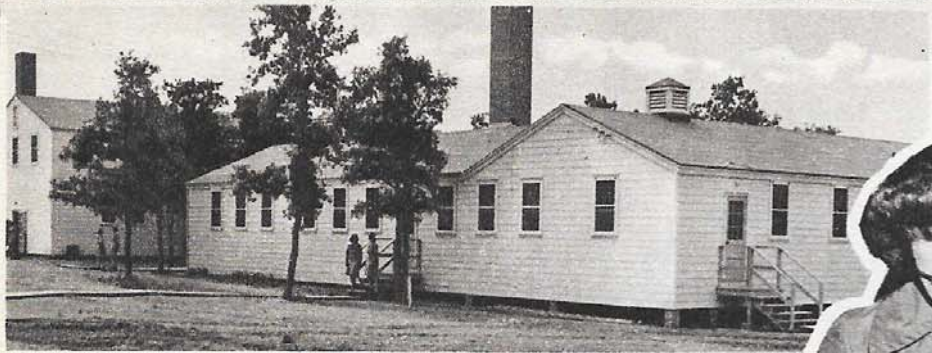
Service Clubs at North Camp Hood are surrounded by beautiful live oak trees.



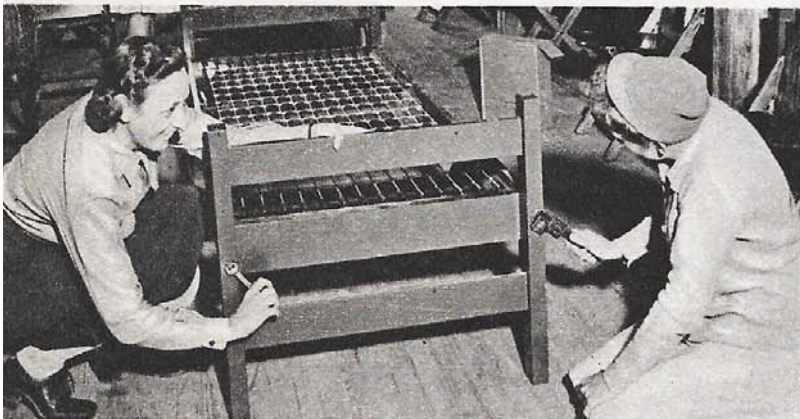
Officers' Club at North Camp Hood, meeting place in off-duty hours for Commissioned personnel and their guests.



WACs on Parade. Their marching is "tops."



WAC Headquarters at North Camp Hood.



The WACs set up their living quarters in the barracks.



In addition to their duties, from which they have relieved soldiers for active duty, the WACs do company duty like any other soldier.



The WACs have to eat, too. Food is prepared in WAC kitchens in regular army style.



Interior, typical barracks, North Camp Hood.

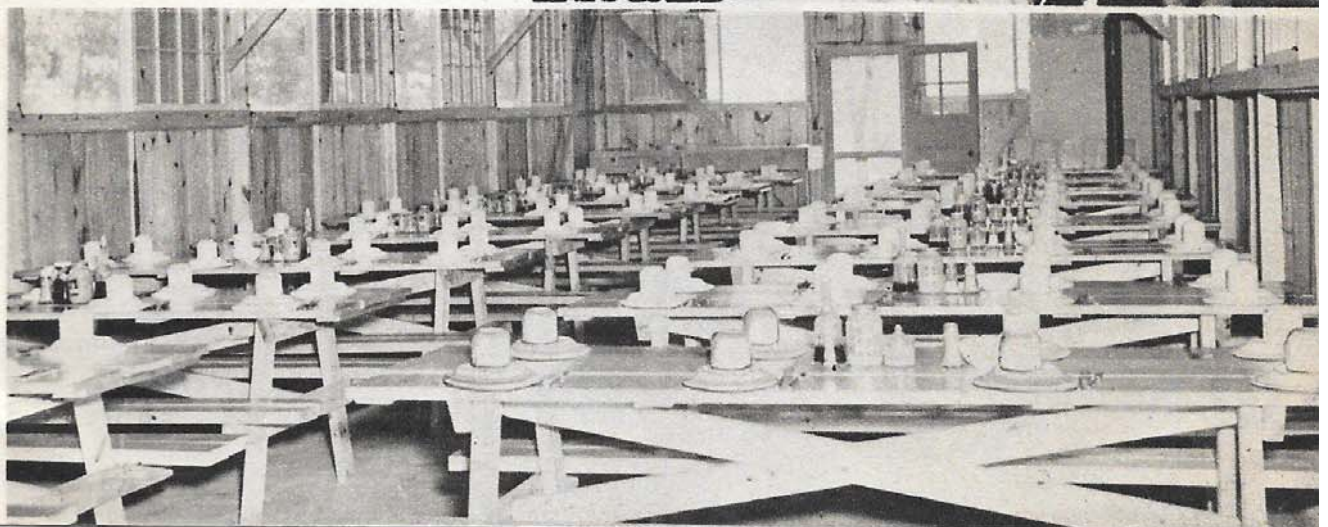


New Soldier gets lesson in making a bed.

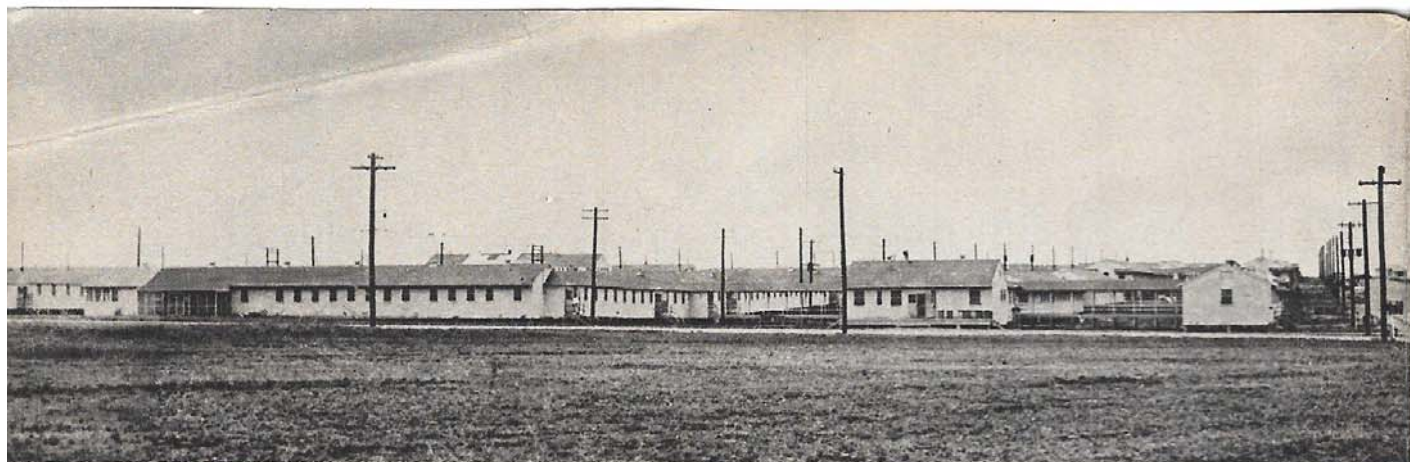
The lines are busy and so are the WACs who operate the switch-boards at North Camp Hood.



Typical mess hall, North Camp Hood.







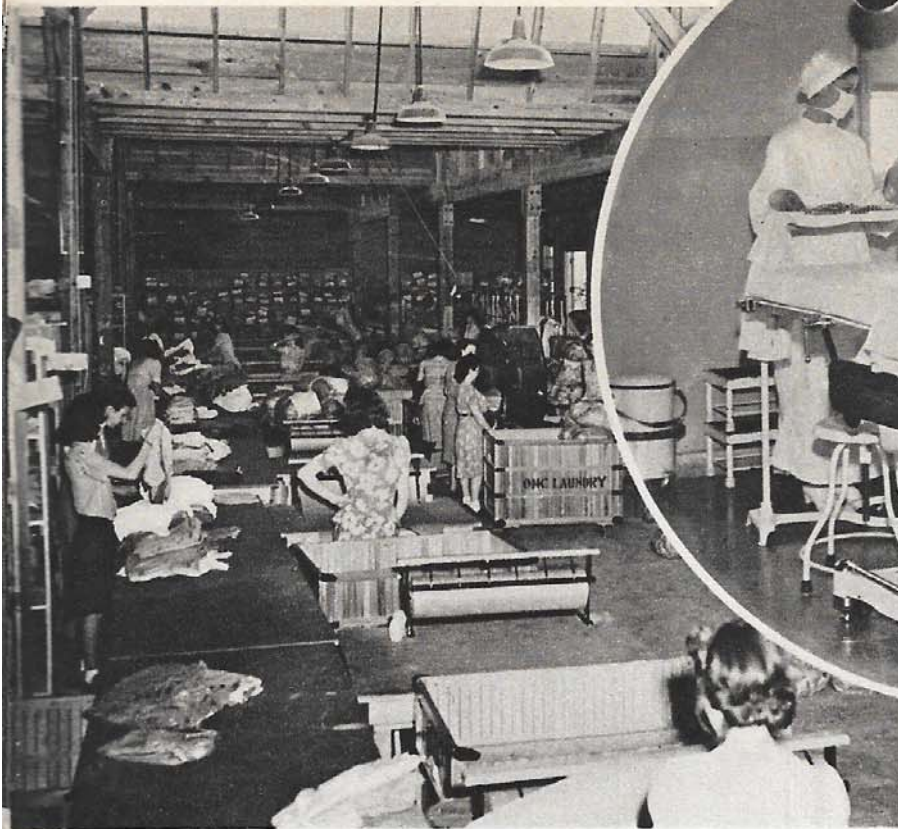
Station hospitals at both cantonments have 1500 beds each, and are modern in every detail.

Soldiers receive the best of treatment at the Station Hospital.

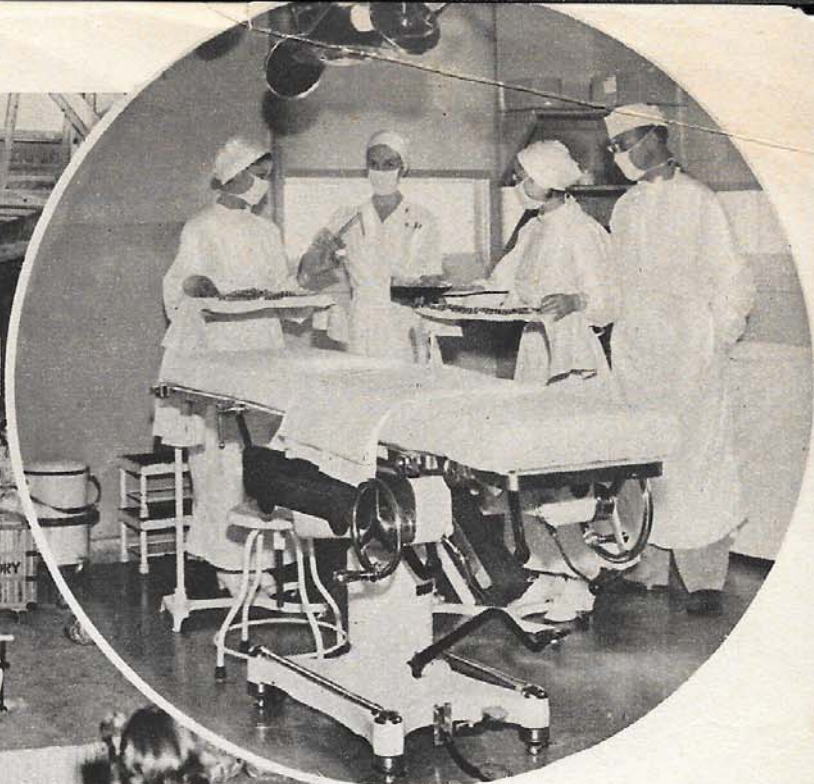


Mess Hall, Station Hospital—and the food's really good.



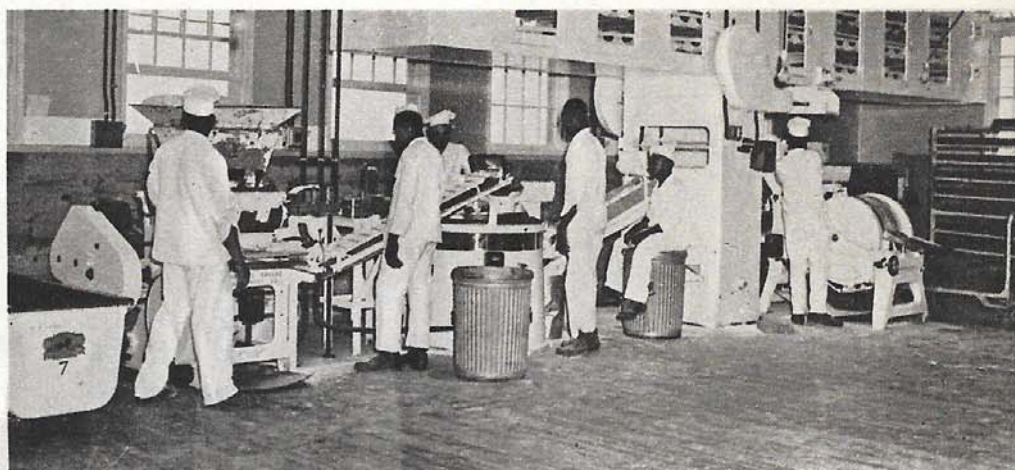


Two big camp laundries turn out thousands of bundles of clean clothes every day.



Operating rooms at the Station Hospital are modern in every detail. The staff includes selected doctors from the country's best.

This modern bakery bakes the bread for Camp Hood.



Visitors Room, Station Hospital. These rooms at convenient locations brighten the day for the convalescent.



The Tank Destroyer M-10. The 3" gun and the 50 caliber machine gun spell trouble for the enemy.



A Tank Destroyer in field firing practice.

