

The Hood Panther

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Tank Destroyers



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Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

WAAC DIRECTOR HONORED—Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, center, was honored at a dinner at Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Friday night. She is shown with Maj. Gen. A. D. Bruce, left, and Governor Coke R. Stevenson. She was a Camp Hood visitor Saturday. See story below.

BUTC Moves Into North Camp Hood

Movement of Basic Unit Training Center battalions into North Camp will be completed this week-end, Col. Harry F. Thompson, commanding officer, said yesterday.

Two battalions are walking in from Camp Bowie, 107 miles. The battalions are hiking from 12 to 15 miles per day, or night, as a form of field training, and will arrive at North Camp when their facilities are ready for them.

The BUTC will have a maximum of 16 battalions at a time in the northern half of the new cantonment, with two being activated each week and two turned over to the AUTC at the main camp each week.

Actual construction on the camp is scheduled for completion Monday, and formal opening has been fixed for May 29.

New Chief Of TDC Staff

Col. G. S. Meloy, has been assigned as chief of staff to Maj. Gen. A. D. Bruce, commanding general of the TD center.

A West Point graduate in 1927, Col. Meloy, formerly executive officer of the TD school, replaces Col. Charles Miller who left for Washington.

Coming to Camp Hood in its early days, Col. Meloy brought a wide military background, having served with the 12th Infantry at Ft. Washington and the 27th Infantry in Hawaii. He was a member of the Army's first anti-tank battalion and attended Infantry officer's school at Ft. Benning and the Command and School Staff school at Ft. Leavenworth.

It was as executive in the TD school that Col. Meloy again served under Brig. Gen. Hugh T. Mayberry, with whom he had served in the Hawaiian islands.

WAAC Director Dinner Guest

Major General A. D. Bruce, commanding general of the Tank Destroyer Center, Coke R. Stevenson, governor of Texas, and Thornton Hall, president of the Texas Newspaper Publishers Association, were among guest speakers at a banquet honoring Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, director of the WAAC and former student at Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Friday night.

Educator Will Speak To OCS Class

Dr. Thomas O. Walton, LLD, President of Texas A&M since 1925, will be the guest speaker at the graduation exercises of the 29th Officer Candidate School Class at the Tank Destroyer School, Friday.

A native of Carthage, Texas, Dr. Walton is closely connected to the Tank Destroyer Center through Major General A. D. Bruce, Commanding General of the Tank Destroyer School; Lt. Col. C. H. Booth, Assistant G-2, and with many other Texas A&M alumni assigned to the Camp and the Tank Destroyer School. Colonel E. J. Howell, commanding officer of the Officer Candidate Regiment, and Major J. V. Rollins, school secretary, are both prominent A. & M. graduates. Lt. Colonel Howell was registrar there prior to his entry into the service, and Major ("Dough") Rollins was head track coach and assistant football coach for eight years.

Teachers Added

The Tactics department has announced the addition to the teaching staff of Major Stanley Dettmer, Captain James T. Dover, Jr., and 1st Lt. James E. Bolin. They are all assigned to the command staff and logistics committee.

Col. Hobby was born near Killen and attended Mary Hardin-Baylor College. The site of her birth place is now within the limits of the Camp Hood military reservation.

Saturday, Col. Hobby was a guest at Camp Hood, and Saturday night spoke at the Temple city park following the downtown parade of Camp Hood's two WAAC companies.

General Ward To Join TDC

Recently returned from the North African campaign, and recovered from wounds received in action, Major General Orlando Ward will join the Tank Destroyer Center next week.

It is expected that General Ward will eventually head the Tank Destroyer Center when Major General A. D. Bruce leaves the command sometime in the future.

Plans Formation Of Glee Club Here

Warrant Officer Roger A. Harris of the Tank Destroyer Center, is putting into shape plans for a glee club to represent the post. He plans to gather and train a chorus of 40 voices.

Largest representation is expected from the Tank Destroyer school, according to Mr. Harris, because many of the school's overhead are former college men who were glee club members.

Specialized Training Course Now Available To More Enlisted Men

Examining Boards In Each Unit Replace Former System Of Tests Given Candidates; Courses Run From 18 Months To Four Years

Radical changes by the War Department for the selection of enlisted men to go to college under the Army Specialized Training Program are being rushed into effect throughout Camp Hood. The changes in regulations will open to many more soldiers the chance to get a scientific or professional education leading to commissions or technical ratings.

Test Is Discontinued

Men had been selected on the basis of a special test, which was given to all soldiers with certain educational qualifications. This test, the OCT-3, has been discontinued. Those who took the test and failed will be re-interviewed by field selection boards for possible ASTP work. The results of the test are to be entirely disregarded, either for or against a man.

Elimination of the examination leaves picking of qualified men in the hands of the selection boards. Camp Hood will have seven boards, one for each of the major organizations in camp, such as RTC, Training Brigade, or Station Complement, which will interview and process men in their own commands. Only the man's general eligibility for ASTP will be determined. Previously, specific courses of study were recommended at this time.

STAR Units Set Up

To do the job of selecting men for definite study courses in special fields, and to see that the most use is made of each man's abilities, the army has established STAR units. (Specialized Training and Reassignment) to which soldiers will go who are recommended by field selection boards. Camp Hood has already sent more than 100 men directly to the colleges under the old plan and to STAR units.

STAR units for the Eighth Service Command are at Texas A. & M. Okla., A. & M. and Louisiana State University. Here the actual specific testing and examination for the different courses of study will be administered by skilled psychologists and educators. Candidates will not necessarily attend the same college as the one where the STAR unit is located. This new breakdown will assure a more accurate determination of the soldier's background and future aptitude than with the system used before. From the final screening at the STAR units men will be sent to medical, engineering, psychology, or foreign language area courses at colleges chosen by the War Department.

Will Go In Grade

One of the objections of the old ASTP plan was that it provided for the reduction to the grade of private of all non-commissioned officers who took the advanced phase of training. Now non-commissioned officers taking this phase will go in grade.

At present, the heaviest demand is still for engineers. But eligible men for all fields will be sent to STAR units as fast as they are processed by the boards here in camp.

Courses Are Long

Plans now being made indicate that the shortest course will run 18 months; the longest programs, for the professional fields like medicine, are expected to cover four years when arrangements for this type of study have been completed. Each week at college will have 59 hours of supervised study, athletics, and drill. The physical work, including military drill, will take about 25 per cent of the total work hours. It has been emphasized that the men are soldiers and no vacations are planned in the intensive curricula. However Saturday afternoons and Sunday will be free and there may be a short break between terms.

Both general and limited service men are eligible for the ASTP.

Qualifications Listed

For both the basic and advanced courses men must have an ACT test score of 115, they must have completed their basic training, and it must be shown that the best interests of the army would be served by their assignment to ASTP.

Candidates taking the basic phase must be under 22, must be a high school graduate and must not have had more than two years of college work unless their courses include either one year of college mathematics, or one year of college physics, or three courses in psychology, or they have a speaking knowledge of a modern foreign language.

Men detailed to the advanced phase must have passed their 22nd birthday, have had at least one year of college work including a year of mathematics, and must not have had more than three years of college or graduated from college unless their work included three courses in psychology, or they have a ready speaking knowledge of a modern foreign language.

(See Editorial, Page 4)



'DRY RUN' RAILWAY—Members of Officer Candidate Class 29 secure vehicles to flat cars of the "Tank Destroyer School Railway" as part of the practical work in the TDS Tactical Department course on vehicle loading and rail movement. See story below.



Chapel Services

Protestant, Non-Denominational
Sunday 9:30 A. M.
268th & Service Drive
162nd near Battalion
50th at Hqts.
37th at Hqts.
Red Cross Bldg., Sta. Hosp.
10:00 A. M.
Rec. Hall, Bn., at 69th
52nd at Hqts.
Brigade at 164th
Brigade at 168th
162nd near Battalion
50th at Hqts.
37th at Hqts.
Bn. in TD School Area
6:30 P. M.
50th at Hqts.
162nd near Battalion
37th at Hqts. (both)
Bn. in TD School Area
Bn. at 69th
Bible School
37th at Hqts., 10 a. m.
162nd, Bn., 10:30 a. m.
Roman Catholic
Masc., Sunday.
Hospital, 6:30 a. m.
37th at Hqts., 7 a. m.
Brig. at 68th, 9:30 a. m.
Theater No. 4, 9:30 a. m.
Hood Road Theater, 11 a. m.
162nd St. Theater, 11 a. m.
Mass Weekdays
Morning Mass daily except Friday. Chapel 902, 6:30 a. m.
Evening Mass: Monday, Stockade, 7:30 p. m.
Tuesday, 162nd & Bn., 6:30 p. m.
Wednesday, 268 & Ser. Dr. 6:30 p. m.
Friday, Brig. & 168, 6:30 p. m.
37th & Hqts., 6:30 p. m.
Saturday, Brig. & 164, 6:30 p. m.
Confession Before and After Weekday Mass
Saturday, 6:00 to 9:00 p. m.
50th & Hqts., Brig & 164th.
Protestant Non-Denominational For Colored Troops
Battalion at 69th—10:45 a. m.
6:30 p. m., Sunday School at 9:30 a. m.
Episcopal
Brig. at 170th, Sun., 6:30 p. m.
Jewish
50th at Hqts., Orthodox, 7 p. m.
Regular, 8 p. m. (Sunday.)
37th at Hqts., Saturday, Orthodox, 6:30 p. m., and Sunday, 8 a. m.
Chapel 2109, 37th & Hqts.
Lutheran
Communion Service, 52nd & Hqts., Sunday, 6:30 p. m.
Christian Science
37th & Hqts., March 18 8 p. m.; Sunday, 8 p. m.

Class In Vehicle Loading For Rail Movement Unusual

One of the most interesting courses of instruction at TDS, "Vehicle Loading For Rail Movement," taught by the Tactics Department.

A practical work course, where student officers and officer candidates have the actual experience of loading a train, the instruction includes an indoors conference, followed by a three-hour session on the "TDS-RR," which includes three dummy flat cars and a complete kitchen car. The flat cars are loaded by the students with Tank Destroyer vehicles, and the kitchen car is a demonstration showing the proper kitchen set-up.

Are Told 'Why'

The initial lecture shows the student clearly why definite procedure in loading must be followed. Strict compliance with approved Army procedure based on experience and Railway Commission regulations is of prime importance. The explanatory lecture concluded, the class moves to the field where small groups are assigned their loading duties, one to build the loading ramp, one to lash the vehicles to the cars, one to inspect the loaded vehicles, while still another group inspects the kitchen car.

In a quick and efficient sequence of orders and moves, the crew assigned to build up the ramp lays up a platform of old ties against the rear car, with other ties set between the dummy rails to provide a level roadway for the vehicles. Each vehicle is spotted on its car by the motor sergeant, after the guides have directed the driver up the ramp and across the cars. Space between vehicles and the brake wheels at the ends of the cars is an important item to be checked. With each vehicle, from the massive M-10 to the motorcycle, in its proper place, weight and bulk evenly distributed, the loading is completed.

Take Turns Lashing

Next, the lashing details goes into action, with instructions as to the exact method of securing the different vehicles, and with the proper equipment for the task. A small group is assigned to each vehicle, and the lashing is done with a minimum of effort and a maximum of speed, after which each lashing is tested and inspected closely. Lashing crews vie closely for the best and fastest job. Those assigned to tie down the M-10's invariably groan, while those detailed to fasten down the light motorcycles are happy over their assignment. As the work progresses, however, the

tables are quickly turned—the M-10's requiring little in the way of fastening because of their great weight, while the motorcycles are the most difficult to secure safely.

Each move and each order is performed and is the result of long practice. No non-essential moves are made and each vehicle goes directly to its exact position and stays there safely, until the unloading crew is ready to deliver it at its new destination, ready for action.

Is Now C. O.

First Lt. Clyde W. Burton, Co. C, 823rd Bn., has been appointed company commander, succeeding Capt. Roy A. G. Tulane, who is now battalion S-3 officer.

Acting Mess Sergeant

Cpl. Clayton Kitts, Kenton, Ohio, has been made acting mess sergeant of Company B, 822nd TD Bn.



TO BE GENERAL—Col. Harry F. Thompson, commanding officer of the TD Basic Unit Training Center, has been nominated by the U. S. Senate for the rank of Brig. General.

Sherman Wrong, Says This G. I. College Boy

By Pvt. Julian F. Granger
Staff Correspondent

COLLEGE STATION, Tex.—For three weeks now, some 750 soldiers from Camp Hood and similar Army training centers in Texas have been streaming onto the Texas A. & M. College campus here to become candidates in the Specialized Training program soon to begin in countless colleges and universities across the nation—and to learn that General Sherman, as a Civil War hero, was the all-time champion of overstatement, or a reasonable facsimile of the original.

Paradise Regained?

At any rate, no complaints as yet have been registered with the management that private rooms, or fresh, wholesome food—and plenty of it, too—or the lack of any kind of fatigue duty do not become a doughboy, or one of the STARS, as these candidates henceforth will be known.

Given to believe that these wooded plains would be their home, for possibly nine to 12 months of intensive study, the STARS arrived to find, at first, that they would be subjected to several tests in their respective fields before they might be qualified to begin courses elsewhere.

It is, so to speak, a reception center, not unlike those to which Selective Service sends inductees to be classified and assigned for basic training.

Rules Are Relaxed

Then, as too many became "washouts" under this plan of additional testing, entrance rules were relaxed to a point where now a high score on the preliminary Army Specialized Training examination given select men at their home camps, and a good background of technical training are qualification enough.

And, as a result, the STARS—a misnomer, if you're talking in terms of the Hollywood garden-variety—have been living like kings.

Except for an hour-long calisthenics period every morning for those candidates not being interviewed or otherwise classified, the STARS' daily agenda calls for nothing more strenuous than putting one foot in front of the other marching to the mess hall. The nearest approach to drill is a business known as covering off on your bunk, executed in the manner of a night watchman with the day off, in two counts. And K-P and guard duty, they like to think, are items which went out with long hikes, overnight bivouacs and the commando course.

Needles to say this carefree life has caused a sensation unparalleled since the advent of Lydia E. Pinkham and her vegetable compound. It is, in fact, a paradise which will cease to exist, apparently, only upon the arrival of moving orders.

According to Major Wallace T.

Bond Sales At Hood P. O. Large

A total of \$56,168.75 went into bonds during the past four months at the headquarters postal sub-station alone, it was revealed this week by Lt. H. P. Grounds, Postal Officer. Other tabulations and figures covering the Jan., Feb., March and April period are as follows:

Money orders sold	....\$946,635.23
Stamp Sales	..... 22,864.49
Registered Letters (outgoing)	..... 6,988.00
(Incoming)	..... 18,953.00
Insured Parcels (outgoing)	..... 9,849.00
(Incoming)	..... 63,015.00
First Class Mail (Letters received)	..... 9,142,918
Letters dispatched	..... 7,179,414
Parcels (No. of sacks received)	..... 36,078
No. of parcels received	..... 307,392
COQ Mail (Incoming)	..... 3,279
Letters Given Directory Service	..... 190,700
Cards in active file	..... 61,000
Cards in transfer file	..... 45,000
Cards in Dead file	..... 17,000

Pieces of first class mail forwarded to transferred battalions ran to a total of 106,120 for the single month of April. Second, third and fourth class mail following the same route totaled 52,000 for the month of April.

Wait, chief of the reclassification and assignment station here, those candidates billeted first for Texas A. & M., regardless of their choice of subject study at their previous station, most likely will become engineers.

That is unless he speaks at least one modern foreign language fluently, the specialist-to-be who selected language study, for instance, as his major study, may be assigned to basic engineering classes if his previous education qualifies him.

Or, if he has sufficient background in medicine, he may be entered as a medical specialist when schools for them are organized.

Theater Schedules

Hood Road and 24th St. Theaters

Thurs.-Friday, May 13-14: White Savage.
Saturday, May 15: This Land Is Mine.
Sun.-Mon., May 16-17: Slightly Dangerous.
Tuesday, May 18: Springtime In The Rockies.
Wednesday, May 19: Double Feature: Redhead From Manhattan and Chatterbox.
Thurs.-Fri., May 20-21: Lady of Burlesque.

162nd St. and 37th St. Theaters

Wed.-Thurs., May 12-13: Slightly Dangerous.
Friday, May 14: Springtime In The Rockies.
Saturday, May 15: Double Feature: Redhead From Manhattan and Chatterbox.
Sun.-Mon., May 16-17: Lady Of Burlesque.
Tuesday, May 18: Night Plane From Chungking.
Wed.-Thurs., May 19-20: Assignment In Brittany.
Friday, May 21: Holiday Inn.

72nd Street Theater

Thursday, May 13: This Land Is Mine.
Fri.-Sat., May 14-15: Slightly Dangerous.
Sunday, May 16: Springtime In The Rockies.
Monday, May 17: Double Feature: Redhead From Manhattan and Chatterbox.
Tues.-Wed., May 18-19: Lady Of Burlesque.
Thursday, May 20: Night Plane From Chungking.

Park 'Country Club' For Enlisted Men; Facilities Unusual

An "Enlisted Man's Country Club." That describes, perhaps better than any other phrase, Panther Park, Tank Destroyer Recreation Center near Lampasas. Here, in 120 acres of wooded, grass-covered country side, the opportunity to "get away from it all" and relax.

soldier anytime. The "club-house," or pavilion, now houses a service club downstairs and an ballroom, the sides of which open to furnish ventilation, upstairs.

Col. Martin Is Executive Officer, TDS

Colonel Paul M. Martin, former Director of the Weapons Department, was assigned last week as Executive Officer of the Tank Destroyer School, Colonel Guy S. Meloy, Jr., Executive Officer at the school for the past seven months, has been made Chief of Staff at the Tank Destroyer Center.

Colonel Martin came to Camp Hood early in January, with a reputation as an outstanding weapons expert. He has been a student of almost every conceivable type of weapons since his entry into the Service in the last war. In 1927 Colonel Martin attended the International Shooting Matches in Rome, Italy.

In 1928, he was one of the foremost marksman on the Olympic Team which won the Amsterdam Matches. General Douglas MacArthur was captain of that team.

The new executive officer began his Army career before World War I as an enlisted man in the National Guard in 1916. He entered the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School and was commissioned, serving in that branch during the war. Following the Armistice, he was transferred to the Cavalry and headed the Weapons Department at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he continued his study of firearms.

Officers Organize The "Sad Sacks"

Company officers of the Academic Regiment have organized "Sacks," under the guidance of two volley-ball teams: the "Sad commanding Officer Joel I. McGregor, and the "Panthers," headed by Major Luzerne M. Tidd, executive officer. The loser of each weekly series plays host to the winner. With a current standing of four games to two, the not-sosad "Sacks" are well on their way to an evening's entertainment at the expense of the "Panthers."

Interest In TD's Brings Commission

A product of the University of Louisiana, Lee Kincaid came to Camp Hood six months ago from Fort McClellan. He was assigned to the Headquarters and Service Company, Student Regiment, as a corporal.

From the moment he arrived he began to take real interest in Tank Destroyers, even though his sole work in those early days at the camp, was to take details out on yard-bird expeditions.

Major William B. Francis, his C. O., appreciated his work which sometimes took Kincaid along after dark and on Sundays, uncomplainingly. A little more than three months ago, Major Francis advised that he enter Officer Candidate School.

Last Thursday Kincaid's sincerity and desire to further his services in the Army brought him his reward—a commission as Second Lieutenant.

Now A Colonel

Lt. Col. James J. Deery, commanding officer of the 12th Tank Destroyer Group, has been promoted to the rank of Colonel.

The pavilion stands beside a large pool through which flows fresh spring water. The pool, in itself, is well worth the 50-minute trip to the park from camp.

Water Is Fresh

Built of cement, the pool is of ample size for almost any number of swimmers. The water is always fresh, for millions of gallons flow through it daily. The pool is floodlighted and remains open until 11:30 p. m. Saturday nights.

The service club provides cold drinks, sandwiches, candy, etc., and bathing suits and lockers are rented to swimmers for 25 cents. Dances are held in the ball room Saturday nights with music furnished by bands from camp.

The housing problem has been handled efficiently and at reasonable cost. If a single, enlisted man wishes to stay overnight, he may register and draw clean bedding for 25 cents. He is then assigned a bunk in one of the barracks situated among the trees on the park grounds. He is free to go to bed and arise when he wishes. Showers and shaving facilities are available in each barracks.

Services Are Provided

A cafeteria, serving foods at low prices, operates within the park, as does a PX, which provides shaving equipment, tobacco, soap and other articles which may have been forgotten by a soldier when he left camp.

Soldiers who wish to bring their wives or parents to the park, may make reservations for one of the cottages, which are rented for three days at a time.

Buses to Lampasas may be taken at the Central Bus depot in camp. At Lampasas, a shuttle bus operates Saturday afternoon and Sunday to the recreation camp, which is a mile from town.

The park was donated to Camp Hood by the City of Lampasas for the duration.

Now Attends OCS

1st. Sergeant William G. Miller of Headquarters Company, 822nd TD Bn., left recently for O.C.S. Tech. Sgt. Marshal Clifford Epperson is now acting 1st. Sergeant.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

BATTALION BIRTHDAY CAKE—T/5 Mathew Chudy, baker, Headquarters Co. mess, 814th TD Bn., puts the finishing touches on a 40-pound anniversary cake he baked last week on the first anniversary of the battalion's activation. Note the Tank Destroyer emblem. The frosting decorations were red, white and blue. S/Sgt. George Matz is mess sergeant of the Headquarters Co. Commanding Officer of the 814th is Capt. W. W. Land.

Anti-Choker Plan Used At Air Base

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Comfort rather than formality is the new order as headquarters of the New Orleans air base issued a memorandum calling for no ties with khakis on the base.

Ties will still be worn with the khaki uniform off the base unless the officer or enlisted man is en route to or from work. If he is work-bound the open collar is strictly G.I.

Former Panther Reporter Gets Bars

Lieutenant Fred Wells, commissioned last week at TDS, was formerly a clerk at the student regimental headquarters and the regiment's news reporter, serving in that capacity for four months. Lieutenant Wells comes from New York City and returns from leave this week for his first assignment as a commissioned officer.

RTC Private Sold Shoes Around World Before Joining Army

From peddling a boatload of a million pair of shoes around the world, to serving in the American and French armies is the career of Private Rudolf Meisel of Company B, 131st Bn. RTC.

Private Meisel was born in Olmutz, Checho-Slovakia and was educated in Vienna, Austria where he also attended the Academy Commercial.

He was later employed by the Bata Shoe Company of Zlin, Checho-Slovakia where his duty was to open chain stores in Europe, India, and the Far East.

Sails With Shoes

In 1932 he was placed in charge of a boatload of a million pair of shoes. His ship, the S. S. Morava, left from Gydnia, Poland and headed through the Baltic Sea to Antwerp, Belgium. From Antwerp he sailed past Gibraltar and stepped at Oran and Algiers in North Africa and Alexandria and Port Said in Egypt.

Going through the Suez Canal the ship touched at Aden and took a course for India. There he sold many shoes in Bombay and Calcutta. He also made stops in the East Indies at Singapore, Batavia, and Saigon.

From the East Indies the S.S. Morava went back through the Suez Canal and the Dardanelles to the port of Galatz in Roumania. The million pair of shoes had all been sold and the steamer brought back a cargo of rubber and buffalo skins from the Far East.

Sees Sacred Cows

One of the most interesting memories of Pvt. Meisel's trip to the Far East was that of seeing the sacred cows of India. The cows often get on railroad tracks and hold up traffic and no one can drive them off, since they are regarded as sacred. He also saw the world's highest mountain, Mt. Everest, and the Tower of Silence in Bombay, and the Taj Mahal in Asia.

He enlisted in the French Army in October, 1938. He was not called to the army but sent to a concentration camp for four months. He later was called into the Army and was sent to Fort Saint Jean at Marseilles, France, where he was attached to the Foreign Legion and sent to Kreider near Oran in North Africa.

After the fall of France in 1940,

Pvt. Meisel was attached to the headquarters of the Foreign Legion at Sidi-Bel-Affes. There he worked in the Bureau Du Major in the reception center because he spoke and wrote fluently in English, French, German, and Czech.

Comes To America

In November, 1940 the Fort was demobilized and he was sent to unoccupied France. As Vichy leaned more and more to the Axis he was in danger of arrest and shipment to Germany. So, with the aid of friends he escaped from France in June, 1942, and landed in Baltimore in July, 1942.

Pvt. Meisel came to the United States with nothing as the Nazis confiscated all his belongings in Paris.

Pvt. Meisel was inducted into the Army of the United States in January, 1943. He says he owes a lot to Uncle Sam and is happy to serve in our army.

Wedding Bells

Central Chapel was the scene of the first wedding to take place in the new North Camp. The two principals were Miss Mary Helen Wiegell, whose home is Little Rock, Arkansas, and 2nd L. Willis J. Fryer of the 3rd Regiment headquarters.

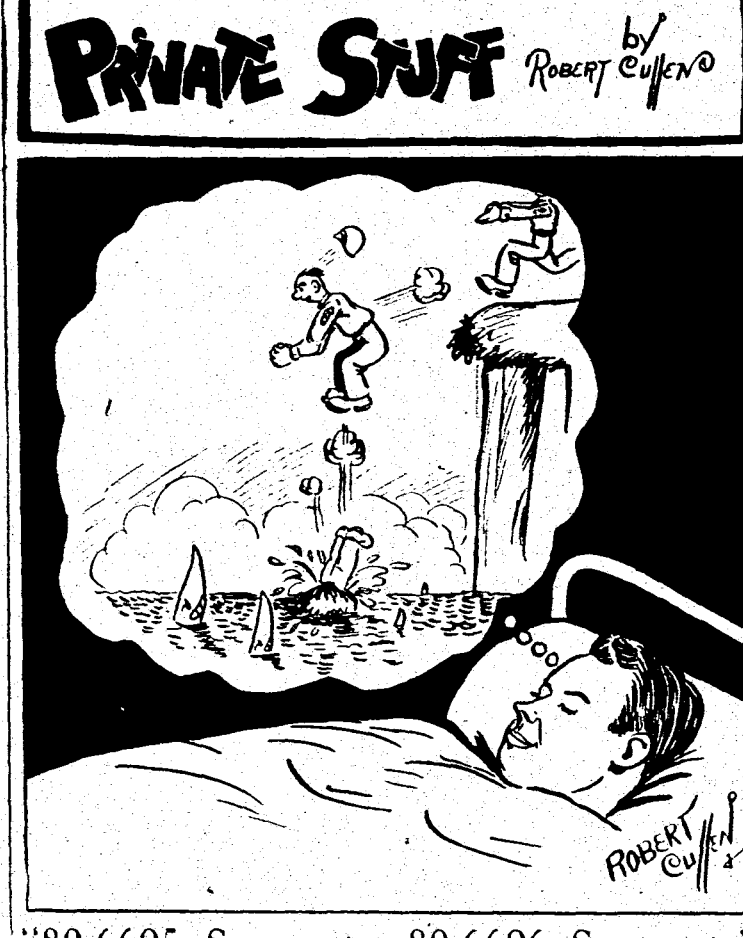
Chaplain Raymond B. Meyer officiated.

Genevieve Ratkowski and Sergeant Thaddeus Zebrowski were married at North Camp Hood Sunday May 9, 1943. Chaplain Raymond B. Meyer officiated.

Sgt. Zebrowski is with Company C, 134th Bn. RTC, North Camp Hood.

Married, Promoted

Private G. E. Gerber returned to Tank Destroyer School headquarters from furlough, bringing his bride to Texas. On his arrival at camp he was greeted with T/4 stripes.



"80,6695. Sergeants, 80,6696 Sergeants"

The Hood Panther

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To A Free, New World

WE THINK IT FAIRLY clear now in the minds of most servicemen that ours is the task of fighting two wars.

We are now involved in a global war to defeat those who would enslave the world.

We shall thereafter be engaged in a long, tiresome struggle to establish the kind of world in which all men can live in peace and security.

That this global war is but the first, the physical part of the world-wide struggle for REAL liberty of all the people is widely recognized.

That the next phase—the mental, moral, educational phase—may be much more intricate, and demand greater mental effort, is fast becoming clear.

Trained Men

To make this world "One World" in spirit, in the guarantees of freedom for all men, as it will be in physical relationship, will require specialists in every field of human activity.

Ours, then, is not alone the task of fitting ourselves to win the victory, but training ourselves whenever and wherever possible for the task of physical, moral and mental reconstruction in which we must lead the world.

We who make up the American Army have, of course, put behind us our civilian life with its daily tasks, formed habits and viewpoints.

We have gained, however, an opportunity which comes to too few men—an opportunity to view objectively that life which was once ours and which someday we will regain, to weigh its value in relation to our contribution to the world.

Opportunities Are Offered

If you desire to contribute much to a peaceful world why not take advantage of the opportunities which the Army has to offer you instead of burying yourself in a bog of self-pity for that which you have lost?

This issue of The Hood Panther might be termed an "Educational Issue." In it are many stories of the Army's Specialist Courses, of training in trades within battalions. Not listed, but just as important to the thinking, ambitious soldier, are the libraries, the classes in current events, the open-forum discussions in many companies.

To no man is denied the opportunity of leaving America's Army after victory a finer, better-skilled, wider educated citizen, well-armed in the political and educational struggle for world freedom.

America's youth is looking ahead "to a free, new world!"

Sunday Marks First Birthday Of WAACs

Sunday will mark the first anniversary of the organization of the WAAC.

What kind of women are these which have joined the men in battle?

To obtain composite picture of a WAAC, the Post Public Relations office recently sent out questionnaires to all WAACs stationed at Camp Hood.

These disclosed this picture of a WAAC:

She may have been a stenographer, clerk, teacher, secretary or even a nurse.

She's mostly single, although she may be married and her husband may be serving overseas.

Looking every part a soldier, she enrolled in the WAAC to take a more active war role; maybe to travel a bit.

With swimming and horseback riding first choices, she is a good athlete, knowing that physical fitness will help her in taking a man's job with the Army.

No, she's not interested in teas and luncheons, but she likes a dance with service men for company.

She has been specially trained at the WAAC center in Des Moines for clerical and administrative jobs, but she also cooks

and supplies her own group.

She's a Southwesterner for the most part, but may call Vermont or Oregon home.

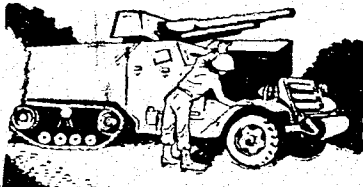
Above all, the WAAC at Camp Hood is a soldier, intent on doing an efficient job.

Officers End Tactical Class

Friday morning, April 30th, saw the graduation of 92 officers from Officer Basic Tactical Class No. 7 and of 52 from Officer Advanced Tactical Class No. 2, at TDS. Brigadier General Mayberry addressed the Officers Basic Class, stressing the practice of the fundamentals of TD employment—movement, surprise and the use of reconnaissance and security screens. "Your success will depend on your judgment, and your judgment is the result of your process of reasoning," concluded General Mayberry, as he advocated the use of common sense in the interpretation of tactical doctrines for combat use.

The graduation exercise and presentation of certificates for each class was preceded by an Open Forum and discussion of the contents of the course.

Looking UNDER THE HOOD



Like Father, Like Son

Colonel Douglas C. McNair, son of Lt. Gen. Leshe J. McNair, chief of the Army ground forces who was wounded seriously in North African fighting, is commanding officer, second TD training group, here in camp.

Characteristically, Col. McNair was "too busy being a field soldier" to talk to a Panther reporter this week. Incidentally, Col. McNair wears the same silver wings his noted father wore when a colonel in Texas years ago.

Star's Son Here

Pvt. Reginald S. H. Venable, Co. B, 127th TD Bn., RTC, is the 19-year old son of movie and stage actress Fay Bainter. . . She now lives in Santa Monica, Cal. . . Will be remembered most recently for her roles in "The War Against Mrs. Hadley," "Mrs. Wiggs of The Cabbage Patch."

Incidentally, in the same barracks with Pvt. Venable, an ex-Stanford student, are nine former Stanford men!

How About This?

Axis propaganda lies took a beating in Co. B, 824th TD Bn. Easter Sunday when the Jewish soldiers voluntarily took over all K. P. and other details so the other men could attend services and observe the holiday.

Quote Of The Week

"With this fearful strain of war upon me night and day, if I did not laugh I should die."—Abraham Lincoln.



Editor, The Panther:

My son is stationed with Co. B, 610th TD Bn., and sends me the paper every week. I read every word of it and enjoy it very much. It has given me the lowdown on what's going on in camp, and I'm glad to know that my boy is in such a wonderful camp. Charleston, West Va. Ed's Mom

Editor, The Panther:

My brother is stationed at Camp Hood and he sends me the Hood Panther regularly. I enjoy every bit of it and I think you are doing a swell job as editor.

How about giving "Sweetie" a little publicity so that I can show it to all his friends here at home? He is Pvt. Norman N. Sweet, Co. A, 127th TD RTC, Buffalo, N. Y. Florence Sweet

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is it.

Editor, The Panther:

Here goes again!

I am the little woman who wrote that "repulsive little paragraphlet"—good word—in the form of a letter.

Sorry to have steamed up Co. C, 137th Bn. My apologies.

I liked that poem by Cpl. Raymond McAshon to the tune of "Trees," called "No Apologies Necessary."

If you have a TD song will you please send me a copy? If not



Staff Photo By Pvt. Norman Perlstein

"... To A Free, New World"

Quip Lashes

by I. A. S.

Grapefruit, which is often on the Army menu, is said to contain valuable vitamins. It seems there's more to the fruit than meets the eye.

*

We now hear of a girl who couldn't decide whether to marry a baseball player or a poet. She didn't know whether to take a husband for batter or for verse.

*

The fellow who has no aim in life usually shoots the breeze to kill time.

*

People who don't think it important to correspond with you once you're in the Army should consider that the only difference between friends and friends is a letter.

Changes Announced

Recent changes in the duties and personnel of the BUTC Hq. at North Camp Hood named Lt. Col. Henry B. Margeson as executive officer; Major Clifford W. Butt, S-1; Capt. Vernon R. Simpson, assistant S-1; Capt. Milton D. Berlin, assistant S-3; Lt. Jack Kraning, range officer; and Lt. Anthony W. Miller, assistant classification officer.

WAAC's at BUTC were lectured on "Safeguarding Military Information" and shown training films. Major Peter L. Molinari gave the talk.

During the week, Maj. Gen. A. D. Bruce, commanding general of TDC; Lt. Col. John Lemp, Army Ground Forces general staff; and Lt. Darrell B. Rippeteau, instructor at the Armored Force School at Ft. Knox, Ky., visited the BUTC. Lt. Col. Lemp was formerly with S-1 of BUTC.

Now Warrant Officer

Master Sergeant James McTaggart of the OCS Regiment was made a Warrant Officer last week. Mr. McTaggart, 26, has been in the army two years. He is married and his home is in Flint, Mich.

why don't some of the fellows dream up some lines? I might be able to dig up some music.

Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Mrs. Joseph Rooney

Army Quiz

1. What is the color of a dishonorable discharge certificate in the U. S. Army?
2. How much food does one person in the U. S. eat in a year?
3. What does crime cost the U. S. yearly in actual money?
4. Can a soldier stationed overseas get married without obtaining permission from his commanding officer?
5. What special attraction has the island of Hondo, in the Pacific, for every American flier?
6. Does an enlisted man ever salute an enlisted man?

Answers Page 7

At The Libraries

Books on Sports take over the limelight this week at the Libraries. Mrs. Myrtle Johnson, librarian at the 162nd St. Service Club Library, offers readers the following:

1. "The Story Of The Olympic Games"—John Kieran.
 2. "Swimming The American Crawl"—Johnny Weissmuller.
 3. "It's Fun To Keep Fit"—Fred P. Barton.
 4. "Down The Fairway"—Bobby Jones and O. B. Keeler.
 5. "Volley Ball"—Arthur F. Noren.
 6. "Masters Of The Chessboard"—Richard Reti.
 7. "Sports"—William H. Baumgardner, Jr.
 8. "Sport For The Fun Of It"—John Tunis.
- Catherine Sattle, librarian at the 37th St. Service Club Library, lists the following Sports panorama for readers:
1. "The American Sporting Scene"—Kieran and Golinkin.
 2. "Baseball"—Daniel E. Jesse.
 3. "History Of The Colt Revolver"—Haven and Belden.
 4. "Track and Field"—Ray Conger.
 5. "Boxing"—Edwin Haislet.
 6. "The Story Of The Olympic Games"—John Kieran.
 7. "Mastering Of The Rifle"—Morris Fisher.
 8. "Sports For Recreation"—E. D. Mitchell.
 9. "Tales Of Fishes"—Zane Grey.
 1. "Ju-Jitsu Combat Tricks"—Hancock.
 2. "Basketball"—Carlson.
 3. "Wrestling"—Stope.
 4. "Baseball"—John W. Coombs.
 5. "The Negro In Sports"—Henderson.

Chinese-American Soldier Describes Jap War Methods

Pvt. Henry Grant managed a difficult escape from Axis persecution. Pvt. Grant, found a strange bond in a TD battalion, a bond with other men who had suffered from inhuman attacks by the baby of the Axis, Japan. This is the story of an American-Chinese, in the TD RTC, one of 150 men from Boston and New York who enlisted in the army to help bring a quick victory to the allies. Pvt. Grant tells the story of the spirit of the Chinese.

His name is Wong Sick Toy. He left China five years ago. Wong lived with his mother in Canton and went to school there. With the aid of relatives in America, Wong and his family got along well considering the after effects of the civil wars and the Japs pressures from stolen Manchuria.

When long ago Japan went to war with China, Wong and his brothers left Canton for Hongkong and a ship to America. The train was filled with civilians. 10 Jap bombers blasted the train and strafed the passengers.

Such brutality is not new to the Chinese. Still the sight of women and babies dying, killed in lust without a chance to fight, left a mark on Wong. He watched the Chinese calmly exchanging food, giving comfort to the wounded. He watched and made a pledge to get revenge as soon as possible.

Japs Use No Rules

Wong added new testimony to tales of Jap barbarism. Yes, he said, they have no rules, they tie Chinese prisoners and let them be torn by wild dogs; Chinese guerrillas get special treatment, cut by Nipponese knives or bayoneted to death. For the girls and women, only savage murder after lust-mad soldiers of the Emperor have violated and attacked them. These actions, Wong says, are the perfection of the "new order" for Asia. But now China has strong Allies; Americans will make the long fight worthwhile. American understanding and arms will aid China.

When the Chinese who were under the Jap heel refused to raise food for the conquerors, their own food problem became acute. The flooded rivers made starvation and tragedy a common sight. This was the China of war.

Education Blamed

Jap education is blamed by Wong for the criminal acts of the Japanese army. Children of the Emperor are shown Chinese fruits. If they want them, the children are taught to take them from China. Such is the new understanding and neighborliness of the Japanese liberators.

Under Chiang Kai Shek, Chinese patriots, outlaw generals, people of China have forged their whole strength to beat back the invader. The Chinese fight as they can, from the hills, from within the enemy in the cities, from the farms, from the all that is the Chinese love for peace. Today there is misery and young children and old people and young people are hungry. Prices are high—\$35 for a chicken.

Big Chinese firms which are in the occupied areas buy all they can from the farmers, paying in worthless Jap money. If the results aren't satisfactory, the Japs make an example out of the offenders who didn't have enough "love for Japan."

Opium Is Used

Chiang Kai Shek, fought the use of opium, the poison of the people. Controls were strict. Now the Japs force the Chinese to use the drug, keeping millions in a stupor and making easier their subjugation.

All these foul tricks Wong knew

Complimented On Moving

Company "A" 141st TDTB did a fine job in the difficult move to North Camp, getting the compliments of their CO, Lt. Daniel J. Bilitz, for the all-around cooperation.

But when the move was completed, the men still found spirit to put on a boxing match. Pvt. Fione and Sgt. Allen were the best performers.

well. "This is our enemy; China will never stop sacrificing," he said, until with the aid from America, the Jap is pushed into the sea."

Plan Play In Tactics

Carpentry shop at the Tank Destroyer school is constructing imitation tree trunks for the third presentation of the Tactics Department three act play, "He Dood It."

Based on staff procedure in TD Units, it is to be given before the Officers Advanced Tactical Class 3, May 21st at the 24th Street Theatre.

Lt. W. C. Eubank is directing rehearsals for the partially changed cast.

Additions are Major R. B. Moran, Captains J. P. Guess, H. L. Harris and Lt. E. H. Marshall. Major E. Schmierer is the author, Lt. J. O. Harmon, stage director, and Captain R. A. Murray, in charge of properties.

Central Bus Depot Now Operating Here

A more rapid bus service between camp and Temple, Belton, Lampasas, and Gatesville is being provided now with the central terminal south of the Field house in full operation. The success of the camp's station depends on the men going there and not boarding buses at Killeen for other points.

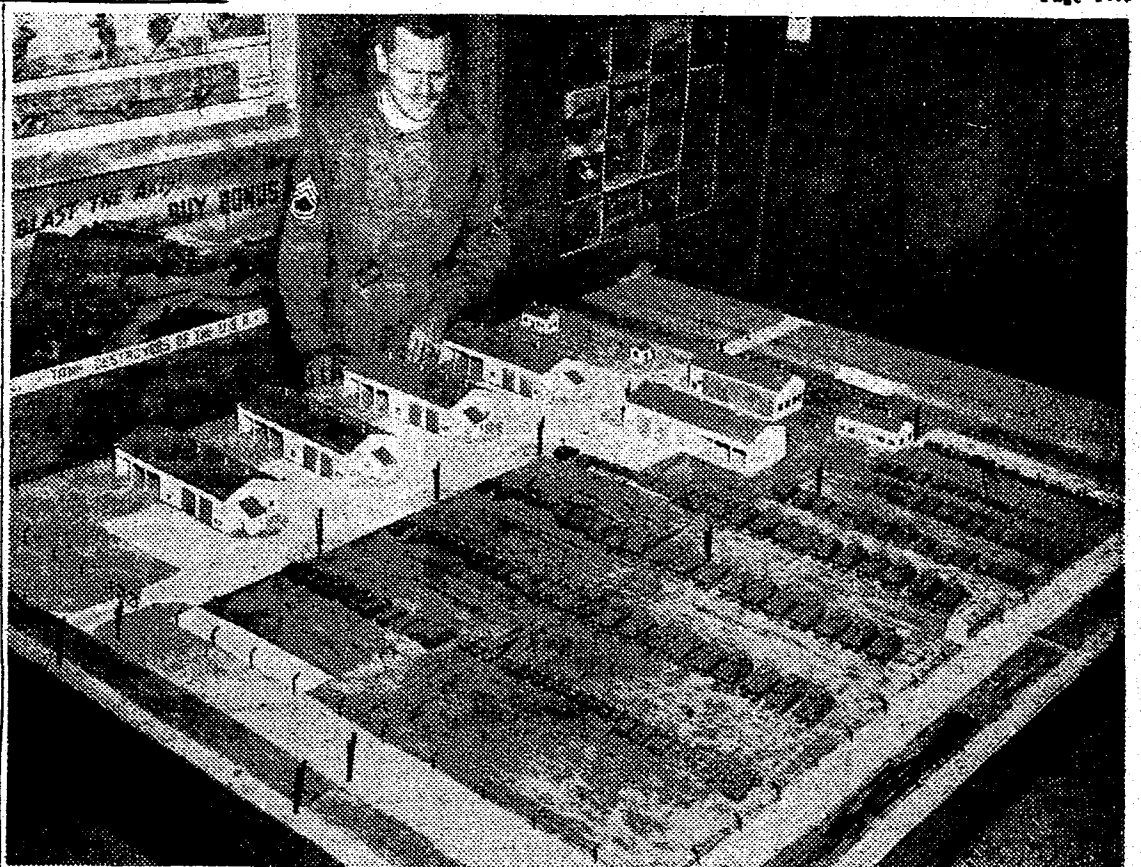
Buses are being taken away from Killeen and it will be increasingly difficult to make connections from there. Buses will be loaded to capacity in camp.

To ease the traffic jams leaving the post, men will be taken out of camp from the central station as fast as possible.

'Camel Caravan' Show Here For Three Days

The "Camel Caravan," musical and comedy show, will be in Camp Hood for three days, May 17, 18 and 19. The noted show, consisting of one of the widest varieties of entertainment in show business, will make its initial appearance at North Camp, Monday evening, May 17, where two performances will be given at 7 and 9 p. m. The Caravan will then journey down to Hood's huge Field House, where it will give two performances each night, May 18 and 19.

The Caravan cast consists of the following members: Michael Harmon, singer and emcee; Bob Kuhn, band leader; Orville Rand, musician; Arthur Swanson, musician; Art oppe, musician and the company's manager; Mary Waskell, cigarette girl; Janice Elliot, cigarette girl; Clyde Hager and Eddie Owens, comedians; Alma



MAKE MODEL MANEUVERS—Men of the 801st TD Bn., can take their motorized equipment out on a maneuver anytime and not burn a gallon of gasoline. Built 1/100th its actual size, a model of the battalion motor pool has been constructed by non-coms of the S-3 Section working under the direction of Tech/Sgt. Robert Lehan, battalion Intelligence Sergeant. T/4 Albert Rochelle, T/5 Robert Payne and T/5 H. Kahler whittled the model vehicles out of wood and constructed the buildings of pasteboard. Models are used on a sand table to duplicate actual field problems. Col. E. Horsfall is C. O. of the battalion.

Not The Dope If You See Twice As Much

A patient in dental clinic No. 2 in the Tank Destroyer school area, might well be seeing double, when, at the call: "Pvt. Taute!" two attendants, looking exactly alike, come a-running. But the patient needn't blame his molars. From Erick, Oklahoma, via Fort Sill, the Taute twins, Ray and Roy, inducted and trained together, promoted to Pfc. on the same day, were transferred to Camp Hood together and were recently assigned to the dental clinic—together. Their serial numbers are one digit apart.

Perhaps This G. I. Will End Up Here

Tech. Sgt. Harold Eberhart of Chicago, in charge of the Message Center at TDS headquarters, has reported that his younger brother, Donald, 18, was inducted last week at Camp Grant, Illinois. The sergeant had also been inducted there.

That's not all. Pvt. Eberhart is now at Camp Robinson, Arkansas—in the same regiment, same battalion—and the very same company where Sergeant Eberhart trained!

Private In TD RTC Was Deep Sea Diver

Formerly a deep sea diver, Pvt. Vincente Folguera, a member of the 662 Tank Destroyer Bn., Camp Bowie, claims he was the first to confirm the tragic death of the 26 men who went down with the U. S. Navy submarine "Squalus" when it sank off the New England coast in 1939.

Folguera has had many thrilling experiences as a professional deep sea diver—a business he entered when he was 20 years old. Although he has never weighed more than 100 pounds, he has learned to use the heavy equipment he must wear.

Down For Four Hours

In describing his descent to the sunken "Squalus," Folguera explained that he was under water at a depth of more than 200 feet for more than four hours. He said he was the first diver to report that all hands trapped in the lost craft were dead.

A licensed sea pilot as well as an expert diver, Folguera owns four fishing craft which he keeps docked in Miami, Fla.

Among his many thrilling experiences was his rescuing of survivors of a vessel torpedoed by a submarine 50 miles off the Florida coast. Folguera was fishing less than a mile away when the torpedo, believed launched by a lurking German U-boat, crashed into the vessel, killing nine members of the crew and sinking the craft.

Folguera was once invited to appear on the popular radio program "We the People" to describe how he once plunged 75 feet from the Bahia Monda Bridge in Florida to rescue a drowning person weighing 200 pounds.

Has Fought Sharks

During the many times he has descended to the ocean floor Folguera has had numerous encounters with sharks, many of them measuring between six and eight

feet in length. He reports having killed 50 of these man-eating monsters with a knife. Once on a diving mission he battled the Lion shark—one of the most vicious of sea killers.

Folguera likes diving and the \$25.00 per hour it pays for every hour spend under the waves. When the war is over, he hopes to return to his small fishing fleet and his exciting profession of exploring the "deep blue."

Bookstore In TDS Busy

"An important feature in the life of all Officer Candidates and students is the bookstore in TDS Headquarters, which is also patronized by personnel from all Camp Hood.

The store had its beginning in March of 1942, when sales were made from a desk drawer at the original TD School, then in Temple.

"So You're Going to OCS?" and "The Officer's Notebook," the two military volumes now most in demand, will soon be available at the store. Both books, recently published, show signs of topping the popular "Officer's Guide," which, to date, has been the Bookstore's largest selling item.

The stock now includes many items not elsewhere available in camp or in the surrounding towns. Many publications of interest to TDS are carried: "Get Tough," by Major Fairbairn; "The Army Wife"; "Guerilla Warfare"; "How the Jap Army Fights"; "American vs German"; Spotters guides, Field Manuals, and Service Journals. Also in great demand are the many technical and classroom supplies necessary to TDS students and instructors.

Located in the rear of TD School Headquarters, in 24th Street, between Central and Park Avenues, the Bookstore is readily available. Business hours are from 8 a. m. to 9 p. m. week-days, and from 9 a. m. to noon Sundays. The store is staffed by four enlisted men, headed by Corporal R. E. Washburn.

Mailing Rules Are Stressed

A warning to the men in camp against violating the rules governing the free mailing of first class letters was made by the Camp Post office because of the trinkets and handkerchiefs found in letters leaving the Post.

Only personal correspondence may go free. Letters from other persons may not be included.

Unless "free" mail conforms to the regulations, it was pointed out, measures will be taken to remove the privilege.

Is Transferred

Second Lieutenant Ralph Mattson, Minneapolis, Minn., has been transferred from Company B, 822nd TD Bn. to the 663rd TD Bn.

Jean Wilson, Bette Lee Ambler and Betty Jane Gilbert, singers;



THE THREE DEBS

Bob and Maxine Clayton, dancers; Charlie Master, drummer.

Enlisted Men In 747th Tank Bn. Learn Trade While On Duties

The Army isn't all routine drill, K. P. and guard duty.

Not that there isn't plenty of that, but today's Army, more than ever in history, is an Army of specialists, men trained in specific duties—duties which may well become professions and businesses once the war is won.

Opportunity Is Here

Men ambitious enough to avail themselves of it, may receive here, training which the necessity of earning a living and the excessive cost in civilian life, may have been impossible for them.

Enlisted men, in this instance

in the 747th Tank Battalion, now stationed at Camp Hood, learn these varied trades while undergoing training for their regular duties.

All Trades Represented

These duties are widely varied and include nearly every trade used in civilian life. Training in tank and wheeled vehicle maintenance, radio operation, first aid and medicine and cooking are a few of the trades in which enlisted men are becoming more proficient daily while serving in the armed forces.

North Camp Move Done In A Week

A continuous stream of traffic, twenty-four hours a day, for six days, marked the movement of all personnel and equipment of the TDRTC from Camp Hood to their new home at North Camp Hood, 23 miles away. The move was carried out speedily and smoothly without mishap.

On Saturday, May 1, when the last contingent arrived, Colonel Walter A. Dumas, Commanding Officer of the TDRTC, spoke to all of the RTC officers in a field meeting at which time the Colonel commended them upon their efficiency in the mass movement, and further discussed future plans.

On Sunday, May 2, all personnel remained on duty, policing the area. Monday, one week after the trek started, training was resumed, and the normal program was carried out, in spite of minor inconveniences.

A temporary PX has been set up, athletic fields are being marked off and Saturday a competitive athletic program was in session.

At present the theaters and recreation halls are in the process of completion and consequently no movies have been shown, however a Tabloid Blue Circuit USO Camp Show was presented to 1,600 trainees May 4 and 5.

TDS Library Gets Latest War Volumes

Recent books of interest in the Tank Destroyer School Library include:

"Retreat With Stilwell," by Jack Belden. This book is a solid piece of workmanship which vividly evokes the heat, sweat, fatigue and heroism of that weird campaign which was the opening of the war in Burma. It is a first-hand eyewitness account of one of the great retreats in military history.

"Vichy, Two Years of Deception," by Leon Marchal. A recounting of the action of the French Government from the time of the armistice signed in Compeigne Forest to the landing of the Americans in North Africa. To those who believe that Vichy is not only the tool of Hitler, but a willing ally, this book will bring ample justification.

"War Discovers Alaska," by Joseph Driscoll. An exciting story of a New York Herald Tribune correspondent who interviewed everybody from admirals and generals to buck privates and natives in our jumping-off place for Tokyo. He presents new and startling information about that hard and lustrous frontier—a vital part of America which is the right wing of the Pacific Front.

Patients Gardening

Under the supervision of the Red Cross recreational staff, patients in several wards are planting flowers and victory gardens. Edith Blake and Ruth Elder, recreation workers, have been directing this activity.

Ashby I. Lohse, Capt., Cavalry, is the new C. O. of Company B, 823 T. D. Bn. Captain Lohse was previously Battalion Adjutant of the 823rd. He replaces Capt. Gerhard P. Kreher, F. A., transferred to Automotive School, Camp Hood. 1st Lt. Willard I. Coulson, who has been acting C. O. since Capt. Kreher's transfer, stays with the Company.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

THEY LEARN BY DOING IN THE ARMY—A graphic illustration of the valuable training which a man can obtain in the Army if he is ambitious enough to take advantage of it, is shown by the photos taken in the 747th Tank Battalion, Training Brigade, by Signal Corps Photographer PFC James P. Keith, working under the direction of Capt. C. A. Jordan, battalion public relations officer. The pictures were used to illustrate an article for a national magazine written by Pvt. Wilfred Weiss, a former magazine writer. At top, Capt. Donald Munzer interviews PFC Gunter Gammisch a candidate for training in the maintenance section. Instruction in lubrication is given by Cpl. Adam Urbanovitch. Student Cook T/5 Gilbert Wallach receives instruction from S/Sgt Gerald Pettit, mess sergeant. Below, S/Sgt. Edward Craftchow instructs a class in radio operation and T/4 William Farrell administers "shots," while Sgt. Alex Williamson and Tech. Sgt. William Filinuk type blood. See story above.

New Band Has Strings

In its first public appearance since coming here from Camp Bowie, the 824th TD Battalion dance orchestra played at the 50th Street Officer's club for the weekly dance Friday evening. The orchestra, under the baton of Pvt. Oscar H. Foote, Reconnaissance Co., is the only one at Hood featuring a string section.

Men taking solo spots were: PFC Frank J. Giaramita, trumpet; Pvt. Arthur A. Koretz, accordion; and Pvt. Howard N. Nelson, drums. 7-5 Lester Riggs entertained on the electric guitar.

Trio Entertains Hospital Patients

An instrumental trio, composed of patients, has been recently organized by Elizabeth Hibbs, Red Cross staff recreation worker in the hospital. The trio composed of bass viol, guitar, and accordion has been active in entertaining patients in the Red Cross recreation hall in addition to the non-ambulatory patients in the wards.

The trio is composed of Corp. Norman J. Knuth Co. A, 612th Bn.; Sgt. James H. Ellis, Hdq. Co. 758th Bn. and Pvt. Carson J. Whitaker, Co. C, 815th Bn.

Former Czech Officer Now Private In BUTC

A lieutenant in the Czechoslovakian Army who fled his home when the Germans invaded and later joined a Czech fighting force battling the Nazis when they marched on Poland, today is a private in the Army of the United States and is anxious to get "another crack at those bums."

He is Pvt. J. Pollak who is going through his basic training with a Tank Destroyer Bn., at Camp Bowie. His home is at 2529 Colling St., Blue Island, Ill.

Pvt. Pollak was born in this country but at the age of 10 went with his parents to their home in Czechoslovakia. Educated in Czech schools he later joined the Army and rose from the ranks to be commissioned a lieutenant.

When the Huns entered Czechoslovakia, Pollak fled to Poland where he joined Czech compatriots in a futile attempt to stem the march of Hitler's Army.

Pollak witnessed the bombing of Warsaw. Fifth column activities and superior air and ground forces enabled the Germans to over-run both Czechoslovakia and Poland, Pollak said.

When Poland was no longer able to stave off the strong German

forces, Pollak, with the assistance of the Czech underground army, fled to America.

Pvt. Pollak is more than anxious to make the return trip to his home over there and help drive the Nazis to defeat.

Bought First Ticket On New Railway

Lt. John L. Slezinger, assistant special service officer of RTC at the North Camp Hood, bought the first coupon ticket at the new Cotton Belt R. R. station at the North Camp. The officer was the dinner guest of Mr. W. C. Hazelwood, superintendent of the railroad, in the latter's private car. Lt. Slezinger was on leave to see his twin brother in the army in North Carolina.

Forty-five soldiers rode the first train to Waco before the official opening.

823rd Battalion Entertains WAACs At Dinner, Party

Sunday, April 25, Reconnaissance Company, 823rd TD Bn, was host to 30 auxiliaries from the 164th WAAC Post Hdq. Company at dinner and afternoon entertainment.

The dinner was presided over by Cpl. Lorne F. O'Donnell, master of ceremonies. He introduced the officers present of the two organizations. Those present were Third Officer Elfriede Wandrey, officer in charge of the guests, Capt. Ashby I. Lohse, battalion adjutant, 2nd Lt. Warren R. Pfaff, Rcn Co. executive officer, and 2nd Lt. Clarence E. DeFreest, mess and athletic officer of Rcn Co.

The afternoon entertainment was furnished at the Battalion Recreation hall by members of Headquarters and Reconnaissance Companies and included quiz contest between auxiliaries and TDs. The entertainment was followed by juke box dancing.

Acting First Sergeant Commanding Officer No

S-Sgt. Earl Wood, Co. C, 823rd Bn., recently took over the duties of First Sgt. Russell Thomas, who has been transferred to the Eighth Service Command.

Band Wants Musicians

The 113th Cavalry Band is in need of several good musicians, according to recent word from the band's authorities.

The band is interested in lining up a tenor saxhorn player, a leading alto-sax and two trombone players. Dance musicians are preferred.

Vacancies in the 113th band have been caused by certain members being sent off to schools and other military setups.

Musicians interested in playing

Entire Family Of Tank Destroyer Devotes Effort To Winning War, Both In Service And Home Front

The Lackeys are not lacking when it comes to serving Uncle Sam.

T-5 Wayne R. Lackey, Headquarters Co., Training Brigade, isn't by himself in our country's march to complete victory, for he has two brothers and a sister giving their all-out efforts, too.

with the 113th band are requested to get in touch with S-Sgt. Harlan Schuler, 170th and Battalion avenue.

Here's the family score, according to T-5 Lackey.

The sister, Auxiliary Mozelle T. Lackey, who enlisted in the WAAC on Feb. 7, last, receiving her basic training at the second WAAC training center, Daytona Beach, Florida. Mozelle has now been assigned to the medical unit, Post Hospital, at Daytona Beach.

Brother In Navy

Then there's Coxswain Murphy W. Lackey, who enlisted in the Navy in November 1939, getting his basic training at Norfolk, Va. He has been in foreign service and has taken part in a number of battles since the outbreak of the war. He is now somewhere on the Atlantic.

Next of the non-lacking Lackeys is Pvt. Allen R. Lackey, who enlisted in the army in 1941. He has been in foreign service for two years, but is now stationed at Camp Williams, Lehi, Utah.

Another brother, Harold C. Lackey, has been in defense work overseas for the past two years and is still so employed over there.

And still another brother and sister are keeping the home front intact by raising a bumper crop of food.

Such is the contribution of one mother, Mrs. O. M. Lackey, of Booneville, North Carolina.

Quiz Answers

1. Yellow.
2. It is computed that 1355 pounds of food is consumed during one year by each adult in the United States.
3. It has been figured that the total annual levy that crime places on the United States amounts to \$10,000,000,000—which is about 12 times the annual cost of the Army and Navy in peace time.
4. No. All overseas marriages must have an official OK. To be on the safe side permission should be sought in writing two months before the intended wedding.
5. Hondo; or Honshu, is the island on which Tokyo is located.
6. Yes. At Reveille and Retreat when a non-com reports his organization.



The 894th Tank Destroyer Battalion of the American Ninth Army was the first outfit to enter Bizerte in the capture of the key Tunisian port, Associated Press reports revealed this week.

The 894th was originally the Fourth anti-tank battalion at Ft. Benning, Ga. Col. Stanley Meloy of the TDC was one of five original officers of the battalion and formerly its executive officer.

Press reports related that "they were greeted rapturously by the civilians, who garlanded their vehicles with flowers."

American Tank Destroyers have done a magnificent job, according to Major Allerton Cushman, Field Artillery, just returned from three months' duty in North Africa, the War Department announced this week.

Major Cushman studied TD units in action for the Tank Destroyer center here, the War Department said.

"The Germans are just as wily and tough in armored warfare as the Japs are treacherous in the jungle," Major Cushman said. "They've had a good four years of all-out combat experience, and that fact alone gives the man advantage over our soldiers new to battle conditions."

American soldiers have now overcome this German edge in experience, he feels. "We learned the hard way, but we learned, and tank destroyer units have proved themselves by whipping some of the crack tank units of the German panzer corps," he asserted.

First WAAC-Soldier Wedding Held Here

Camp Hood had its first WAAC-EM wedding Friday when the marriage of Auxiliary Janet Zastoupil, 21, of Dickinson, N. Dak., and Private Ralph Gordon, 23, of Ironton, Ohio, took place.

They met a year and a half ago, in Dickinson, while Pvt. Gordon was on furlough. Then Janet joined the WAAC, Jan. 9.

She was sent to Fort Des Moines, Iowa, for basic training. Meanwhile Pvt. Gordon was at

Camp Hood, driving a truck in the Range Section.

The two were writing and there was some talk of marriage, but few definite plans. Then, 24 hours before she was to leave Fort Des Moines to work in the field, she was told her destination would be Camp Hood.

She arrived with the 164th WAAC Company April 2, was assigned as a requisition clerk to the motor pool, and some two weeks later she and Pvt. Gordon were engaged.

A Pledge

What have you done to help today?

To clear the chips, to smooth the way.
Of the path that leads to the open door.
Of our rich and poor and homes galore.

We pledge our hearts and pledge our souls.
For things we admire or we adore.
But what have you pledged for Uncle Sam?
He's asking now, so do what you can.

A few little stamps, a bond or two,
If you haven't the cash, a pledge will do.
Co A, 136th Bn., RTC —Pvt. Daniel F. Vidas

The Gold Brick

You'd know him if you saw the way—
The funny way he'll strut.
You'd know him if you heard him say,
He's in an awful rut.
"What fellow mops the floor?" he asks
"That is a woman's job!
And who obeys the Army's law?
That's for the common mob!"

You'll never see him lift a broom,
Or do what others do.
But when he knows he has to march
He looks so awful blue.
"What fellow shines his shoes?" he asks
"Why any kid does that!
And only men with baldy heads
Will ever wear a hat!"

He would complain of everything
And some said he was thick
But everyone who knew him well
Called him a Pure Gold Brick!
Yes, here's the thing that makes me mad;
Yes, here's the bitter rub!
No matter when; no matter where
He was the first for grub.
Hg. and Service Co. Student Regt.
—Pvt. George Cunningham

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, Creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

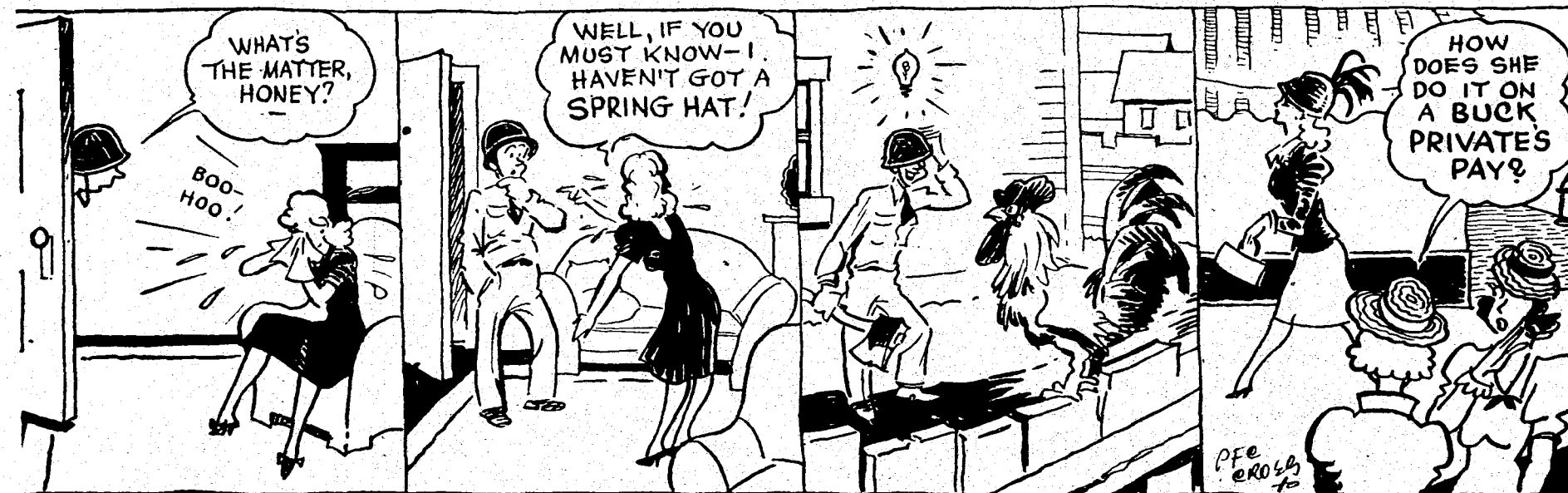


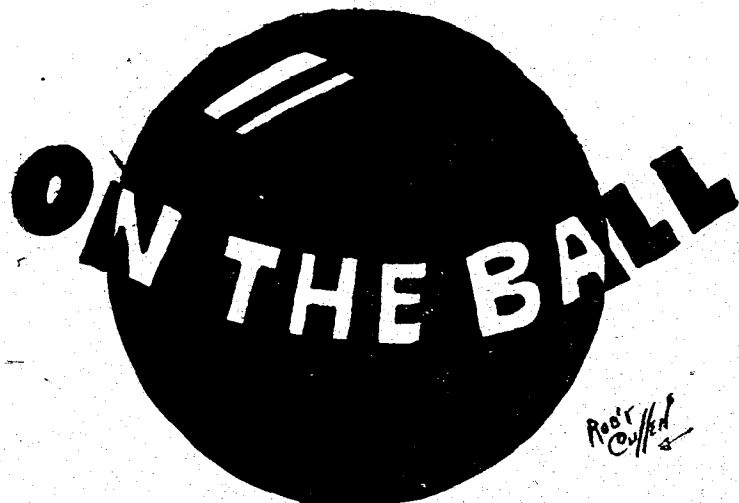
Wearing Pinks, No Doubt



Private Bolo, Officer Material

By PFC. John Cross, Academic Regt





With Pvt. Keith Quick

Their Turn At Bat

"Shades of Babe Didrikson" . . . That's what caught our all-seeing sports eye the other afternoon when we paused for a few moments to watch the WAAC lassies go through a practice session of softball . . . We'll have to say that the gals are no "powder puffs" when it comes to wielding the willow. And the same goes for running the bases, too, bud. Reminded me of the all-time girls softball aggregation I picked several seasons ago, a team that would be no easy competition for most of the men's teams around the country. The team went something like this: Ruth Osborn, former Olympic star, at the initial sack; Frances Williams, second base; Babe Didrikson, world's foremost woman athlete, shortstop; Freda Savona, third base; Olympia Savona, catcher; Ruth Marshik, left field; Mary Carter, center field;

Ann Varner, right field; Ann Harnett, second-shortstop and tall, lithe Ruth Mitchell, a portsider, on the hillock. Yep, there's a gals' team that could wade through the toughest of opposition when it comes to playing the game of softball. We wonder how our Camp Hood WAAC lassies would fair in a game against an aggregation like it . . . it might be a nip-and-tuck tussle, but we dare not say a word about the final score!

Servicemen Win Meet

Servicemen gave a good account of themselves in the recent Penn Relays staged at Franklin Field, Pa. Major Chester Cruickshank, Camp Pickett, Va., won the hammer throw; Eulace Peacock, Manhattan Beach, N. Y., Coast Guard, took the running broad jump; Cpl. Joshua Williamson, Camp Pickett, Va., was first in the high jump and Garland Adair, Brooklyn Navy Yard, captured the javelin throw. Other point scorers were: Pvt. Barney Ewell, Camp Lee, Va., who took second place in the 100-yd dash and came in fourth in the running broad jump and Pvt. Walt Galliford, U. S. Marines, who ran fifth in the century. Yep, that's one time our colleges had to take a back seat, for the servicemen stole the entire show.

Former Champ Here

Hal Haig, former diving champion, now touring with the USO Blue Network shows recently at Camp Hood, is a fellow with lots of pep and enthusiasm, despite his getting along in years . . . During his recent stay here, Hal paid this corner a visit and gave us a showering of his Olympic data and days of reaping international acclaim. Haig has been around the world and has gathered enough medals to fill a whole G. I. barracks. When asked what his greatest thrill had been during his many years as a diving great, Hal replied, "The time I performed before King Albert in the 1920 Olympic games at Antwerp, Belgium." Haig holds the world record of 60 ft. in the famous back dive. He gave a short exhibition of his prowess at Panther Park pool during his recent appearance here.

Was Practice Catcher Of Philadelphia Team

By PVT. MASON GOULD,
Company C, 139th TD Bn. RTC.

The forgotten man in baseball is usually the batting practice pitcher or catcher—the man who works for little pay and no glory. Such a man is, or was, Pvt. Henry Cooper, Company C, 139th Bn. RTC, North Camp Hood, a native of Philadelphia, Pa.

Pvt. Cooper, a roly-poly 195-pounder standing 5 feet, 7 inches, was batting practice catcher for the Philadelphia Athletics from 1930 through 1932, and he talked himself into the job by hounding Connie Mack, the venerable manager of the A's, until the latter just had to give in.

Handled Fast Ones

There are not many catchers who have experienced the thrill of handling the sizzling fast ball of the great Walter Johnson, but Cooper is one of them. Strangely enough, however, Cooper does not consider Johnson the fastest thrower he has ever caught, but Jimmy Foxx, the veteran first baseman now the property of the Chicago Cubs in the national league. When Foxx was a star with the Athletics, he often took a turn on the mound during batting practice, and it was then that Cooper had a chance to handle his stuff. Other hurlers whom Cooper

has caught include "Lefty" Grove, George Earnshaw, Herb Pennock, Rube Walberg, Leroy McHaffey and Tony Freitas, all stars of another day.

Pictured With Ruth

Says Pvt. Cooper, "My biggest thrill outside of catching Johnson, was having my picture taken with Babe Ruth just before the Yanks clinched the 1932 pennant. It was during batting practice and I got a real close-up of that famous home run swing."

Cooper, who hopes to manage the Company C baseball club now being organized, has always been especially interested in developing pitchers. The chubby backstop considers Connie Mack one of the shrewdest men he has ever met—amazingly clear of mind for a man of 80. "Mr. Mack can watch a player go through two or three paces and tell immediately whether he's a real ball player or just another guy," says Cooper.

Cooper has played lots of baseball, both semi-pro and professional, and there's no greater baseball fan in the country. He follows the box scores every day of the Philadelphia Athletics, and admits that he would live very much to be back at Shibe Park, "just to watch a game."



SPORTS PAGE



Baseball Team Has Collegians

Company C, 139th
Team Managed
By Former Catcher

Company C, 139th TD Bn. RTC, now of North Camp Hood, is organizing a baseball club, according to Pvt. Mason Gould, sports authority for the battalion. The club hopes to get into action within the next few weeks, and will issue a challenge to all other companies in North Camp as soon as the ball diamonds can be completed and are ready for play.

Former Catcher Manages

The Company C aggregation will be managed by Pvt. Henry Cooper, former batting practice catcher for Connie Mack's American leaguers, the Philadelphia Athletics.

Several of the candidates up for starting positions have had college experience. Pvt. Mason Gould heads the list. Gould is a former University of Michigan southpaw hurling star. Others gunning for a start slot on the club are: Sgt. Hans Spurrier, who once performed behind the platter for the Mankota, Minn. State Teachers College nine; Pvt. Jerome Andrukitis and Eugene "Mike" Martz, who played center field and shortstop, respectively, for the Shipensburg, Pt. State Teachers College team last season; Pvt. Bill Richert, former first-sacker of the Tabor College club at Hillsboro, Kansas, and Pvt. Julius "Tex" Farek, a member of last year's freshman nine at Texas A&M College.

Four Added To Staff

Ruth Stenvick, asst. field director, has announced the addition of four workers to the hospital Red Cross staff. Two recreation workers, Betty Hibbs of Oskaloosa, Iowa and Ruth Elder of Jefferson City, Mo. Two social workers Ramona Coghlan of Mandan, N. Dakota and Susan Aunet of South Range, Wis. have been added. All workers are new to Red Cross and have been sent here following a special training course in Washington, D. C. The staff is being increased to meet the expansion of the Red Cross program in the hospital and at North Camp Hood. Both units are under one administration.

OCS Student Was Soccer Coach

Officer Candidate John A. Ori of the 36th class, TDOCS, was born in Rumania and was educated there, majoring in Political and Commercial Science. Soccer is the major sport in Rumania and Ori mastered every angle of it, becoming a professional star, thus paying for his education.

On arriving in the United States he made his home in Buffalo, N. Y. He joined the Buffalo city GOP team, and after a few months was appointed coach of the team on its tour of the nation.

12 TD Tank Group Seeks Competition

The 12th Tank Destroyer Group has organized a softball team and desire to compete against any teams in camp that are looking for some fast competition. Teams interested are requested to get in touch with officials at the 12th TD Group headquarters.

Field Day Marks First Anniversary Of 827th; C.O. Commends Progress

April 20, the 827th TD Bn. observed its first anniversary by sponsoring an inter-company field day in which at least 70 per cent of the battalion participated, some few men being unavoidably absent performing various school demonstrations.

C. O. Gives Talks

Athletic contests were prefaced with a 20-minute speech by the Battalion Commander, Col. John W. Darrah, Jr. By punctuating his speech with citations of actual accomplishments of the battalion, the battalion commander emphasized the necessity of conditioning one's self to actual combat conditions.

Pvt. George Fagon, of headquarters company, served as MC and conducted the afternoon's athletic program.

Sgt. Glover, Co. A, alternated with Pvt. Fagon in organizing and handling the various events. The meet consisted of running, jumping, tug-of-war, climbing and unattached miscellaneous (egg-catching, pie-eating, etc.) events, and was won by Company B with a total of 37 3-4 points; Headquarters company, Reconnaissance Co. and Co. A trailing with 27 3-4, 20 3-4 and 18 1/2 points respectively. Sgt. Shearer, of Co. B, was presented a trophy, symbolic of the coordinated efforts in his team's winning performance, and also as an added incentive to rival companies in future competitive programs.

Dinner Is Climax

The celebration was climaxed with an "anniversary supper," including refreshing beverages, and the presence of the battalion commander at the headquarters company mess.

He Won't Use It Very Often In Camp Hood

A season pass to a Broadway theater is one of the recent acquisitions of Pvt. John C. Predari, Company B, 823rd TD.

After Private Predari left his home in Salt Lake City, Utah, to don one of Uncle Sam's V-uits, his father became manager of the Halsey Theater on New York's famed Broadway. One of the first acts of the new manager was to send his boy in the Service a long-term "Annie Oakley," good for any performance at the Big City showhouse.

"The only trouble is," sighs the ex-Utahan, "New York is just too doggone far from Camp Hood to make it on a week-end pass."

Son Is Born

1st Lt. Stephen M. Kew, Asst. Adj. TDRTC, North Camp Hood, announced the birth of 8 lb., 1 oz. Michael William Kew, May 2nd.

New Baseball Films Ready

The American League of Professional Baseball clubs is presenting a series of baseball films to be shown in Camp Hood during the current month. The films, 16 and 35 mm. type, to be shown are: "The Ninth Inning," "Batting Around The American League," "First Century of Baseball" and "Touching All Bases." Each film runs about an hour in length.

"The Ninth Inning" baseball movie is dedicated to the memory of the late Lou Gehrig, former diamond idol of the New York Yankees. All four of the films bear a large cast of famous American League ball players.

Any battalion in camp wishing to have the series of baseball movies shown in their area has been requested to contact Pvt. Theodore Shanbaum, post special services office, phone 729.

824th Bn. Team Enters

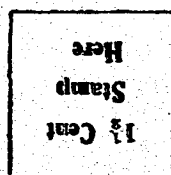
Lt. Richard K. Gage, athletic director of the 824th TD Bn. has announced the entrance of this battalion in the Camp Hood baseball league race, and assigned T-5 Herby Karpel of Hq. Co. to take command of the pitching mound.

T-5 Karpel a southpaw, was slated to join the New York Yankee's pitching roster this season. In his first season with Kansas City in the Double "A" league he won eleven games and lost only one. His splendid pitching record, coupled with his timely hitting and fielding ability, won him the "Most Valuable Player" award in the minor league, and a place on the "All Star Team."

Promoted To Major

According to the Tactics Department, TD, four promotions, all from the rank of captain, were recently received by Majors I. M. Sleet, D. W. Coons, T. D. Driscoll and R. Schmierer.

Mail Your 'Panther' Home!



Camp Hood, Texas

From: