

# The Hood Panther

Published For

Tank Destroyers

VOL. 1

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NO. 28

## Fire Crew Holds Camp Loss Down

**Few Fires With Small Loss Is Camp Hood Record**

Fire Prevention Week, to be observed throughout the nation, starting Oct. 3, makes it timely to reveal the notable record of the Camp Hood Fire Department in holding fire losses here to a remarkably low point. Since the fire department was organized by Lt. Col. Homer G. Olmsted former camp engineer, now retired, with W. V. Easterling as fire chief on July 1, 1942, the total estimated fire loss to building has been \$3,580 and to contents, \$569, or a total annual loss of \$4,107 which corresponds to an approximate loss per square foot of 0.000587.

### Guard Large Area

In addition to the millions of square feet of floor space in Camp Hood, fire protection is provided a large number of buildings for housing prisoners of war, Hood Village and also a housing development of trailer units.

Despite many fire hazards or rates of risks not found in civilian communities, such as the widespread use of gasoline and the inflammable nature of camp construction, fire losses at Camp Hood are far below the usual percentages.

In asking that all camp personnel observe at all times, and especially during Fire Prevention Week, the usual fire prevention measures, Major Ross Boas, camp fire marshal and camp engineer, stated that "the keynote of keeping fire losses at a minimum is proper inspection to make certain that no fire hazards are permitted to occur.

"Fire hazards," added Major Boas, "can be eliminated or held to the lowest possible minimum only by constant and vigilant inspection on the part of all concerned."

## Sandwich Man Longs For Spot Behind Counter

Pvt. John B. Meixner, of the 143rd Army Specialized Training Battalion, is casting a calculating eye on the sandwich business done at the post exchanges in the Replacement Training Center area at North Camp Hood.

For Pvt. Meixner is an old sandwich man from "way back, at least as far back as the three years he spent at Duke University before a draft board tagged him.

The trainee managed a sandwich business at Duke which netted him \$120 profit per week. He says his sole franchise was "legalized" by the Student Council. As a sideline he sold flowers for a local florist.

## Party Rededicates 1848 WAC Dayroom

The WAC Detachment, 1848 Unit, inaugurated its newly-rededicated day room Wednesday night with a party held jointly with the 489th MPEG Company.

Staff Sgt. Ruth Huber and Sgt. Richard Becker were in charge of arrangements.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

**EVACUATION UNDER FIRE**—Medical detachment men from UTC battalions are learning to bandage wounded men with real machine gun bullets zinging overhead for the first time in this country, on Camp Hood's famous battle conditioning courses. More spectacular is their training in evacuating wounded by means of rope, pulley and stretcher from inaccessible spots. For more details of this unusual training, see Page Six.

## May Alter War Godwin Advises TD's

The Tank Destroyers were cited Friday as a "weapon which may revolutionize this war" by Earl Godwin, nationally famous Washington news commentator, speaking at the graduating exercises of the Tank Destroyer School's 47th officer candidate class, of which his son, Harry E. Godwin, was a member.

The noted news analyst described the Tank Destroyers as being typically American in their quick-thinking tactics and accurate marksmanship, both of which, he pointed out, are an American heritage.

"There is no room now for anything mediocre in your personal affairs, your military life, or in combat," Mr. Godwin continued. "No great American ever got there the easy way, and neither will you."

His address was broadcast by the Texas State Network. Headed by the commanding general, Major General Orlando Ward, military personnel and civilian guests thronged the War Department theater.

## Bond Certificates Exchanged For Cash At Camp Agencies

From now on it's "Bonds on the Barrelhead" according to an announcement by camp bond sales officials. Bond purchasers in camp will receive the bond when they pay for it in the future, instead of having to wait for the actual bond as in the past.

Bonds may be purchased for cash in camp at the Fiscal Agency, the post office and the finance office.

## Will Go To School

PFC's Steve Picinich and Lido Capagrosse, Co. B, 662nd Bn., UTC, have been selected to attend the Army Intelligence School in Wash., D. C.

## Field Jacket .. Can't Be Worn When On Pass

An announcement from the Post Adjutant states that AR 600-40, change dated April 29, 1943, paragraph 30 as amended rescinds the previous order which allowed men from Camp Hood to wear field jackets while in town.

This means that no one may wear his field jacket off the post when on pass or furlough. But it may be worn in town when on assigned duty.

## Last 13-Week OCS Class Graduated

Graduation of the 47th Officer Candidate School Class Friday marked the last 13-week OCS Class to pass its men on as second lieutenants.

All OCS classes starting with the 48th, embody a 17-week curriculum, with the additional four weeks allowing for more thorough instruction in the many courses, at the same time providing the candidates with additional time for studying and relaxing.

The new schedule calls for two incoming classes each month, and two classes graduating each month, starting Nov. 5th with the 48th Class.

## Fiscal Agency Open Tuesday, Thursday Nights From 5:30-7:00

For the convenience of enlisted men, and officers, who are busy with training and unable to make use of the camp fiscal agency during regular hours, the agency will be kept open extra hours, officials announced this week.

The fiscal agency is now open during the following hours:

Monday through Friday, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Saturday, 10 a. m. to 1 p. m.

Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7 p. m.

## Finance Boys Buy Plenty Of War Bonds

It looked as if the men in the Finance Detachment had overreached themselves when they set a goal of \$100 per man in their War Loan Drive campaign. However, they started off with a bang when Sgt. Sam Mizel bought \$1,500 worth.

That gave them a push, and they breezed in when T-Sgt. Roland Sutton agreed that if every man in the detachment bought at least a \$25 bond, he'd increase his own to \$500.

They hit the goal last Friday when the Detachment total reached \$2,500 for 23 enlisted men and two officers.

The drive was sparked by Lt. Douglas Culpepper.

## 665th Bn. Ready For Advanced Training; Spirit Is High

By S-SGT. MICHAEL GRASHA

Looking back over the period of orientation which the Army calls "Basic Training," we view mentally a life which our erstwhile fillers should long remember. By diligent application in the essentials of training, the 665th TD Bn. is ready for advanced training in UTC.

Off the production line has come a soldier who will uphold the expression, "Fighting Yank."

The words "CAN DO" and the 665th Bn. have become and will continue to be synonymous.

## Hq. Co., 664th Bn. Has Firing Record To Set Gun Companies Alert

Hq. Co., 664th Bn. moved into the south camp with a firing record that disproves the idea that only gun companies can be marksmen.

The men of Hq. Co. topped the battalion in the .30 cal. machine-gun, came second in the .30 cal. rifle, and didn't lose a man in the long hike to the new cantonment area.

## Fewer Men Will Attend Army OCS's

**Army Administration Closed, Enrollment In Others Limited**

Fewer enlisted men are being accepted for the various Officer Candidate Schools, since the need of commissioned personnel for a rapidly expanding Army has been largely met, the War Department announced this week.

Since inauguration of the school more than 286,000 officer candidates have been graduated and now are serving in virtually all arms and services of the Army in grades ranging from second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel.

While a few of the schools, such as the Army Administration Officer Candidate Schools, have been closed, the majority will continue in operation, but with curtailed enrollments. The emphasis has been switched to the sole basis of quality.

Final selection will be based on the quality of military leadership the applicant has demonstrated, predicated on an adequate education, either formal or gained through experience, which assures quick, sound and logical decisions.

Also to be taken into consideration will be personality and character, with emphasis on such traits as devotion to duty, unquestioned honesty, and moral and intellectual, as well as physical, courage.

## The Sgt. Gave Orders; But Not For Sampson

By T-5 H. E. WHITT

The "gate-crashing" exploit of T-5 Ralph Sampson of the 16th TD Group, UTC, still has everyone chuckling. It didn't happen in the usual prosaic way with Sampson slipping into some forbidden GI shindig for an evening twirl with one of Colonel Hobby's girls. This was a decided deviation from the usual gate-crashing procedure.

Sampson, pursuant to orders from the 1st Sergeant, blithely nursed his quarter-ton from Camp Hood to North Camp where he was to pick up a released prisoner at the stockade. At North Camp he was directed, or rather misdirected, to his objective.

According to Sampson he pulled up at the stockade, went through the usual trip ticket formalities, and asked the guard for his prisoner.

With a look reminiscent of a GI physichrist examining a suspected Section 8, the guard gently informed Sampson of his error:

"This is the prisoner of war stockade."

Exit Sampson.

## Men Of 671st Bn. Set High Standards In Firing, Buying

The 671st Battalion, 23rd Group, really has reason for their contention that they're "on the ball". Every man not on furlough or in the hospital qualified on the rifle range while firing the 1903 rifle. In the recent 23rd Group Insurance campaign the outfit really "went over the top", for every man in the battalion has a \$10,000 insurance policy.

# New Military Govt. School Available

Details Of School At Ft. Custer, Mich. Are Announced By WD

Detailed information, giving desired qualifications of enlisted men who want to attend the Provost Marshal's school to train for military government in occupied territory, is available in a War Dept letter from the Adjutant General's office.

The first class for enlisted men has already started, according to the letter, AGO 220.63, dated Aug. 16, 1943. It is not known now when the next class will be opened but requests have been made for this information. Camp authorities believe that classes will be continuing in a regular series.

## School For MP's

The course is being conducted for men on duty with the military police and, as pointed out previously, transfers to that unit can be arranged through channels with the EM stating in his transfer request, a desire to attend the Provost Marshal School.

Those selected will preferably possess at least two of the following qualifications with emphasis on (1) and (2):

(1) College Graduate, (2) those who speak, write and translate at least one foreign language; (3) 35 years or under; (4) those who have lived or traveled in foreign countries.

Classes are held at Fort Custer, Mich. Enlisted Men were warned that there are no accommodations for dependents near Ft. Custer.

## Officers Are Sought

In addition to the procedures to be followed by officers who wish to fill out the personnel placement questionnaire, form 0850 and its duplicate. These must be attached to the application requesting that the officer be detailed to the school. New information will be published in the Panther as soon as possible.

The officer's classes will run until Sept. 1 of next year. All current facts are found in W-350-206-43, WD memorandum dated 7-22-43.

## Words Without Music

Decca, according to Hollywood Variety, has reached an agreement with the American Federation of Musicians, under which Decca will resume cutting disks.

Eddie Howard's is the Spotlight Band for tonight, Al Donahue tomorrow night, and Teddy Powell Saturday, 8:30 on Blue network.

Bing Crosby will be singing down Paramounts roads until 1946, under his new contract—according to a poll taken in Washington, Bing is still the most popular groaner in those parts, topping Syrup Sinatra and Dick Haymes.

Latest report on Fred Allen says his doctors will allow him to return to the radio in January.

Florence Halop, sister of Dead-end Kid Billy, gets the part of Miss Duffy, on Duffy's inclusive tavern—10:30 on Blue.

Xavier Cugat starts his new program, Your Dubonnet Date, Oct. 2nd on Blue.

Charley Spivak at the Palladium in Hollywood—Sonny Dunham at Tunetown in St. Louis—Duke Ellington opening at Philadelphia's Academy of Music—Ted Lewis also in Quaker City, at Shingri-La—Jerry Wald at the Sherman Panther Room in Chicago—Red Norvo getting ready for a theater tour with Mildred Bailey—Bill McCune at the Palm in Detroit.

Gracie Fields starts her "Vic-



**THE LITTLE GIRL WHO WASN'T HERE**—This is Dottie Reid. She sings. At one time she was supposed to appear in camp with Jack Teagarden. The Teagarden band didn't appear. Neither did Dottie. Even if the band had, she wouldn't. She left it to go to New York on her own. We had her picture engraved. Look at her face and you'll see a "pretty" good reason for publishing it any way.

## 19th Group Sets Mark

Headquarters of the 19th TD Group UTC, now has the distinction of being the first organization at Camp Hood to receive 100 per cent in the Army Postal Service test for unit mail clerks. The Group was informed of this in a commendatory letter from the postal branch of the Adjutant General's Department, which administered the test on September 13.

PFC. Alfred G. Dickheiser and Pvt. George R. Pehling share the credit for bringing this new honor to the Group, which was complimented by those administering the test for the quality of its mail clerk personnel.

## 664th Bn. Recon. Co. Sets Good Mark

Reconnaissance Company of the 664th is still upholding their record of excellent firing on the range. They have always made exceptional scores on any and all ranges and arms they fired. Although there was some doubt recently as to their being able to maintain their average, they fired the 30 Cal. Tactical Machine Gun Range U. T. C. and finished by establishing an average of 32 per cent.

tory Show" Oct. 11th 8:15 on Blue.

Carrier Pigeons report that Bob Hope told the men in Africa that he once bet two bucks on the nose of a Bing Crosby horse—and, claimed Hope, the horse ran all the way as if he were balancing the two bucks on his nose.

Frankie Masters will have his band on the Fitch Bandwagon, Sunday, Oct. 3rd, 6:30 on NBC. Bob Crosby's soloist, next Sunday at 9:30 on NBC, will be a WAC, blonde, blue-eyed Eleanor Person.

## The Colonel Now Wears Two Stripes

The Lt. Governor of Texas visited Camp Hood yesterday. While here he saw his good friend Cpl. Sam A. Parker, and that poses a question:

Should Cpl. Parker salute himself when he shaves? When Lt. Governor John Lee Smith was acting governor last June he appointed Parker, an old friend, a full colonel on the governor's staff.

There is, of course, the question of whether a member of the army may be appointed to a governor's staff, but the fact remains that Parker has his engraved certificate of appointment, and that the Hon. John Lee Smith called to see him while he was here.

Meanwhile the question of Parker's status did not interfere with the visit. The Lt. Governor was greeted by Maj. Gen. Orlando Ward, Commanding General of TDC, and Col. C. M. Thirkeld, Camp Commander. He was the luncheon guest of Gen. Ward at the 50th St. Officers' Club.

## Cpl. Aubrey Catlett Wins Pass, Prize For Firing Skill

Making a score of 290 out of a possible 300 on the 3 inch gun, 1,000 inch anti-tank range at Pilot Knob earned Cpl. Aubrey M. Catlett, Company B, 662nd TD Battalion, UTC, a three-day pass and a five-dollar cash award.

In awarding the prize, Lt. C. W. Lynch announced that the second platoon made the highest score with 270 out of 300. For this achievement the second platoon has earned the right to post the "Victory Wreath" symbolic of leadership on its bulletin board.

## OCS Grad Is Prisoner Of Germans

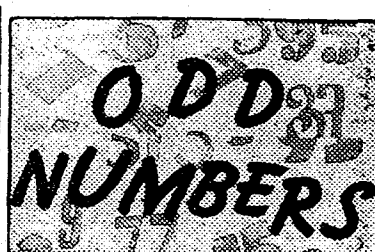
Via news releases it has been learned that Lt. Frank N. Aten is a prisoner of war in Germany. For his gallantry in action that led to his capture in Tunisia, the Silver Star has been presented to his wife, Mrs. Frances Aten of San Antonio.

Lt. Aten came to Camp Hood in July, 1942. He was a member of the 2nd OCS Class here, receiving his commission when the class graduated last October. He went overseas in December.

According to the citation accompanying the award, when a company was forced to withdraw during the fighting in Tunisia, five of its vehicles were left stuck in the mud. After the company reassembled, a group of men returned to recover the vehicles. Lt. Aten saw the enemy start a tank attack that would cut off the group and he went forward to warn them and lead them back. Upon reaching the group he and the others observed some wounded men located approximately 1,200 yards to their front. Although the enemy tanks were in their vicinity, they went forward to the wounded men and administered first aid treatment. While preparing to evacuate them, Lt. Aten was surrounded by enemy tanks and foot troops and captured. He has disclosed in letters to Mrs. Aten that he has already made two unsuccessful efforts to escape.

## Gets His Commission

Lt. David Proctor, Jr., who received his commission last Friday with the 47th Tank Destroyer Officer Candidate School Class, had been a sergeant in the Opera-



Ambulating Albert, our office woodstick, who brags he has never spent a weekend under a rock in camp, is rather dizzy as he reports having met one Pvt. Charles Roy Althouse, 658th Bn., who has been in the army since April 7th and hasn't once left camp on pass.

As we recall, the old maid who kissed the purple cow claimed everyone has the right to his own taste.

Albert met two swallows on their way to Capistrano who told him that the WACs at TDC in North Camp had a fudge party to which they invited about 100 enlisted men.

We can't tell you what a fudge party is, since we don't get around in the best circles and weren't



invited. However, one of the swallows told Albert that the men were allowed in the WAC PX that night—so perhaps it's more fun to make than eat WAC fudge.

Albert, who is an addicted trooptrain rider, shakes his head every time he reads a magazine or sees a movie like The Human Comedy. "Where," Albert asks querulously, "do they get their ideas? I never rode a troop train with plush and chromium. And those pretty guys in pretty uniforms in musical comedies—I ain't never seen none like that around camp."

We're weary of apologizing for Albert's grammar.

This is a rather common story, and we probably wouldn't print it if Albert hadn't pulled his rank, insisting we run it because one of the characters is a friend of his:

Pvt. Glenn Murray, Hq. Co., 23rd Group, saw a pretty pussy out in the field, and not until he had taken it into his arms did he see the stripe.

That damned Albert.

We don't know what happens to that woodstick once he crawls under a rock, except that he's lately telling us in a superior voice, "I meet some very interesting characters." He's been getting dreamy lately and talking of settling down, even to wanting to build a home. He has his eye on Pvt. Jim Paulos, 662nd Bn., UTC—waiting for Pvt. Paulos to discard one of his size 13 shoes, which, says Albert, "will make an ideal home for me and my bride, and my family. And I can rent out the rest out as apartments to several friends."

## Station Hosp. Chief Nurse Becomes Major

Promotion of Captain Dorothy Kurtz, principal chief nurse at the Camp Hood Station Hospital, to a majority, was announced here today. Major Kurtz, wife of Lt. Col. Daniel J. Berry, M. C., commanding officer of the 184th General Hospital at Camp Devens, Mass., has had an interesting career as a member of the United States Army Nursing Corps for about 17 years. During that time she saw service from Newfoundland to the Philippines.

tions Department at the School, prior to going to OCS.

Before his induction, Lt. Proctor practiced law in Kansas City, Mo.



# ITC Teaches Men Reading, Writing And Arithmetic

By PVT. GEORGE H. STRALEY  
Provisional Battalion, ITC, North  
Camp Hood

Readin', 'ritin,' and 'rithmetic, taught not to the tune of the lyrical hickory stick but with the sympathy and understanding of personal tutoring, are helping to condition the soldiers of North Camp Hood for potential combat service.

Taking a temporary holiday from the routine of strict field soldiering, a selected group of men from various battalions of the Individual Training Center has been recruited to form a Provisional Battalion which is being operated in conjunction with the Army Service Forces' nation-wide system of Special Training Units. Situated in an ITC training area on the North Camp reservation, the Provisional Battalion lives under canvas. By dint of hard pioneer labor, the locality has been transformed from a region of woods and tangled under-brush to a cheerful outdoor schoolroom, where soldiers whose regular training has been impeded by a lack of fundamental academic learning are given the opportunity to make up the deficiency.

Major Robert D. Rodes is the commanding officer of the Provisional Battalion. His assistants include 1st Lt. Mario Fortuna, 1st Lt. Neil T. Goble, and 1st Lt. Joseph C. Belleau, who was one of the pioneer workers in Army Special Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in 1941. Other battalion officers are Second Lieutenants Cecil A. Darnall, Harold D. Joiner, and Clark H. Judy.

## Results Are Notable

The Provisional Battalion has accomplished notable results in a relatively short space of time. Launched on August 1st, the original training course of from eight to 13 weeks is now rapidly drawing to a close. By the time the deadline is reached, many men who entered the Army with little or no knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic will have "graduated" and returned to their individual outfits, equipped to cope with most of the problems involving the three R's.

Uniform text books are supplied by the Army Service Forces, under the War Department's Special Training program. Classrooms consist of long tables and benches set up under the trees, and here, in groups of 10, the trainees pore over their studies in an atmosphere of restful informality. Many of them are learning, for the first time, that "c-a-t" spells "cat", that the United States is a part of the continent of North America, and that three times three is nine.

Typical of the soldier students is Private Roy Belt, of Missouri, who "never had much time to go to school." Well along in his thirties, Private Belt vows that he would be the happiest man in his outfit if "I can make up for some of the education I missed when I was a boy."

## Instruction Is Individual

Because it is hard to find two trainees who have had exactly the same identical background and experience, instruction in the Provisional Battalion is more a matter of dealing with individuals than with classes, and for this reason classes are held to a maximum of 10 men each. Some of the men have had from three to six years public schooling. Several of them attended two years of high school, but were unable to complete their schooling for various reasons. A few have never gone to school at all.

Particular attention is given to foreign-born men, some of whom have had no formal schooling in either native or adopted countries.

Perhaps the most interesting student instructors have met is Private Richard W., who was living in Poland when the Germans overran that country a few years ago.

He was seized by the Nazis, and spent six months in a concentration camp. With the horror of the Hitler conquest of Warsaw fresh in his memory, he was forced to back-breaking labor in the fields for from 15 to 16 hours a day. Once, when he failed to speak with required reference to a Gestapo officer, he was severely beaten as scars on his face to this day testify. At the end of six months W profited by an exchange of prisoners, and came to New York. Subsequently he was taken into the Army of the United States, and found himself with the Tank Destroyers at North Camp Hood. Now he's attending classes with the Provisional Battalion, and is learning to read, write, and speak English. He's eager to learn and to qualify as a good soldier. "I want to get in the fight," Private W said the other day. "I'd like nothing better than to return to Europe as a soldier of the United States, and fight the Germans."

## Follow Pete's Adventures

The model and mythical hero of the Special Training Unit is "Private Pete", principal character of the Army Reader text book, whose exploits and adventures in a typical Army camp form the nucleus of the reading course. From the subtly worded text, the trainee learns to recognize, pronounce and spell such words as barracks, uniform, and sergeant, and at the same time exposes himself to the example of good habits and clean living as suggested by the conduct of "Private Pete."

From the Army Arithmetic Manual the trainee learns how to add, subtract, multiply and divide, and how to do simple and practical problems involving these functions. Many of the trainees have had considerable grade school ground-work in arithmetic, but through lack of practice have become mentally sluggish. For these the course is merely a refresher. Others, having little or no formal schooling, are learning their "tables" for the first time.

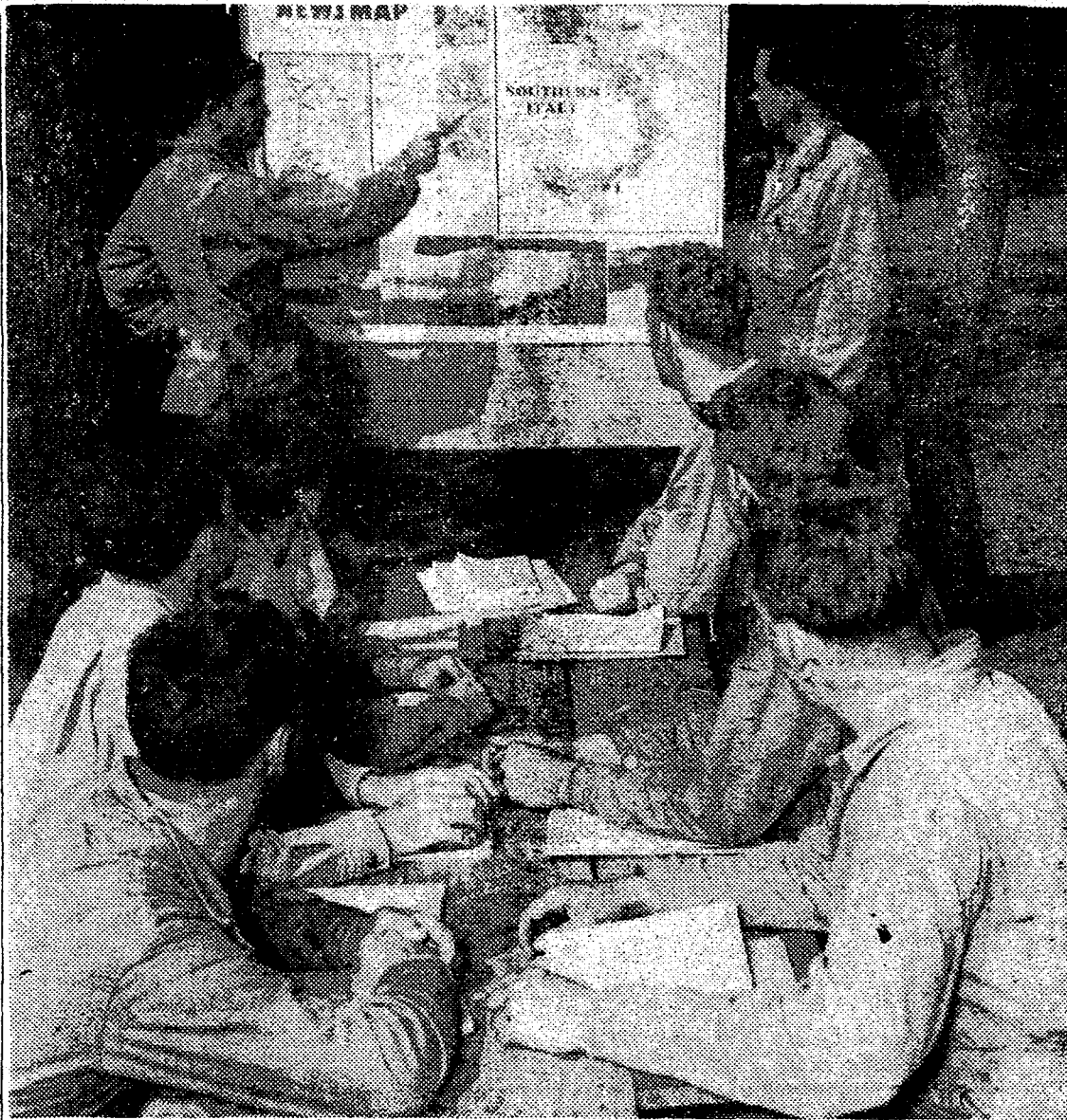
Biggest hurdle of all for the average trainee to clear is the instruction in writing. Many who read passably well, and who can perform fundamental arithmetic problems with a certain facility, are unable to write legibly. Hence, particular emphasis is placed on this subject, with the result that most trainees now are able to write intelligent, if limited, letters to their families and friends back home.

Instructors with the Provisional Battalion are mostly corporals and privates first class. All have had pre-war college training, and some were teachers in civilian life. Typical of the staff is Corporal John Phillips, of Amsterdam, N.

Y., a graduate of Union College, who before the war taught at a private school in Arizona. Among other former teachers on the staff are Corporal Donald Churchill of Illinois and Corporal Herman Craig of Mississippi. Some of the instructors—like PFC Thomas Boston, of Hollywood, Calif., formerly connected with the Columbia Broadcasting System—were identified before the war with occupations at least remotely affiliated with education. A few, like PFC Albert P. Cage, have exceptional qualifications. Cage, before coming to North Camp Hood, had experience with Special Training at Camp Claiborne, La., and during his service there he helped write and compiled a set of Special Training text books, which were in use prior to the War Department Army Service Forces text books now available. He is now assistant supervisor of training for the Battalion's Company C.

## Have Military Training

Running parallel with the academic instruction given by the Provisional Battalion is a course in military courtesy, field sanitation, first aid, and similar subjects. Calisthenics are practiced regularly, as well as close order drill and interior guard duty; thus the men continue to keep physi-



**SPECIAL TRAINING**—The Tank Destroyer Individual Training Center has developed a Provisional Battalion to instruct selected soldiers in the fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic under the Army Service Forces Special Training Program. Classes are held to a maximum of ten soldiers each, thus assuring individual attention where necessary. See story at left.

## 'Chorus Girls' Featured In Station Hospital Show

By Pfc. Irving Hirsch

Real night-club atmosphere including chorus-girls, entertainment and drinks, all strictly G. I., featured the program sponsored jointly by the Red Cross and Patients of Station Hospital in the Red Cross auditorium Friday and Saturday nights.

Although the chorus dummies had just shed their bathrobes for tights and wigs, and the remainder of the cast offered nurses and Red Cross uniforms as well as the

cally fit, and in close touch with Army techniques and regulations, during the academic interlude in which they are separated from their regular outfits. Military subjects are taught by cadremen who work with instructors in keeping the two-fold program on an even keel.

Every opportunity is used, too, to develop and foster the self-confidence of the individual soldiers, to promote coordination of mind and body, and to teach the men how to take care of themselves. They are given every opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and put into practice the things they learn. Letter writing is encouraged, and drill and command exercises are required of each trainee.

## Have First Retreat Parade In Hood Since Arrival Here

By T-4 R. F. DAVIS

At retreat parade, Thursday, men of the 664th and 665th Battalions, 20th Group, passed in review for Colonel Crane. It was the first retreat formation for both battalions since they arrived at Camp Hood. One of the high lights of this parade was music furnished by the "Hell Cats," a new bugle and drum corps of the 664th Bn., under the leadership of Lt. Clark.

Rcn. Co. 664th Bn. has been awarded the General Proficiency Pennant by 20th Group for the best all around company in the Group. Command of the company was recently taken over by Capt. Clair Thurston. Re-awards of the pennant will take place each month.

red robes, the entire program was applauded by the enthusiastic audience of patients, with many encores requested.

Master of Ceremonies James Pardee kept the entire program moving at a rapid gait, besides offering several novelties. Opening with a solo by John White, "Asleep In The Deep," this was followed by a mixed quartet of Lt. Russell, A. Paris, F. Walker and Miss Piltingrud, who presented the song, "I Don't Know Why."

Following a solo by Miss Elder, the Dancing Dolls unveiled their mop-wigs and hairy legs in their only chorus routine. A novelty song closed the first half, with the chorus appearing off-stage to offer refreshments.

The latter portion of the program had M. C. Pardee offer candy sticks as prizes in a musical quiz. A patients quartet of White, Paris S., Furnari and Walker offered a number, while a solo by William Stovall, "Sweet Sue," was well-received. A skit, "The Captain's Dilemma," with Robert Steinman, Art Bornak and Jim Loring, drew many laughs. Lt. Petty then sang "In The Blue of the Evening." The finale featured an original song, with the audience joining in.

The performance was directed by James Pardee and Dalluzzio Santini for the patients and Miss Margery Oberschulte of the Red Cross. The Dollies chorus included James Loring, Ed Hills, James Wiseman, Charles Stevens and Charles Sobacki, while also aiding in the production were O. Dingus, C. Devite, J. Dobson, J. Parynch, H. Steinman, M. Mornak, M. Scott, J. Gillespie, M. Palapack and A. Capillo. M. Mackintosh furnished the musical background at the piano.

## Party For 16th Gp. Men

The 16th TD Headquarters Company "rolled out the barrell" Friday night with beer and a Dutch supper in the Group mess hall.

T-5 Edward Jackman, entertainment director of the 16th TD Group, made all arrangements for the party and acted as master of ceremonies.



# The Hood Panther

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Editor  
T-Sgt. Ivan Smith

Sports Editor  
PFC Keith Quick

Associate Editors  
Cpl. Norman Perlstein  
Pvt. Wilfred Weiss

## Citation In Sand

We'd like to pay tribute this week to a fellow you've probably never heard about, but know intimately. He's a soldier in the U. S. Army, but he's never distinguished himself in any particular way.

He didn't leave his desk as head of some big organization to come into the army. He was called from his job at the service station, on the farm, or perhaps, from the steel mills. His was not an irreplaceable position, although he'd made a lot of friends there, he liked his work pretty well and his boss thought he was doing a good job.

His family didn't send letters to some Colonel asking him to give "their boy" a break someplace. They just stood at the station when the train pulled out a little misty-eyed and plenty empty-hearted, wishing him the best of luck.

### He Adjusts

When he came into the army he found the adjustment a little difficult. Getting used to taking orders which didn't make sense to him was a little hard, especially the way they were given, but he managed to adjust himself fairly well. While he griped a little about some of the things which seemed stupid to him, he realized that the army was a big organization, temporarily established, and that it would have its faults.

He wrote lots of letters home, and dropped into the service club now and then. Once and a while he managed to wrangle a week-end pass, but found all the nearby towns full of men, transportation inadequate and prices high.

Soon he found that he had enough intelligence to attend Officer Candidate School, but decided he didn't care to be an officer. He wasn't that interested in the army.

Sweat, mud, dust, cold and the blank wall of routine are the things he lives with daily.

Now in Italy, the Aleutians, New Georgia and all the miserable man-made hells the newspapers call "battle fronts" he is fighting the elements and the enemy to win a victory for the Allies.

He's never been decorated for "heroism under fire" or "meritorious conduct". Not that he doesn't merit it. There are just too many of him.

### Name Is Unknown

He has no particular name. It may be Brown or Piazza or Finklestein. He's just one of the millions of young American men who's laid aside his civilian clothing for the duration and six months.

He's just another soldier. But he's THE soldier. Without him there would be no heroes, no parades honoring "brass hats," no Army.

He's no saint and he's no sinner. He's certainly not the kind of soldier you see in the advertisements and movies, all freshly washed and pressed.

He, and millions like him, are helping win the war today.

## Sad But True

I have read your Dallas papers,  
Read your Fort Worth Telegram,  
And it seems that only Texas  
Or Texans are worth a dam!  
You print your stories on the war,  
"Texas wins again."  
Somebody should let you know,  
That in other states are men.  
Before we came, we heard tall tales  
About your hospitality.  
But the letters on your doormat  
Are dollar signs to me.  
You like to trade with servicemen,  
(They never heard of O.P.A.)  
And for your freedom,  
They're dying every day.  
And now, about the climate,  
Quite distant from the best.  
You say, "This isn't Texas,  
"Go a little farther west."  
We love your dust and chigger bites,  
And scorpions and snakes.  
When Uncle Sammy sent us here,  
It was you who got the breaks.  
Of the other forty seven states,  
Give me any one but this.  
It doesn't matter where it is,  
I would be a state of bliss.  
Let me add this parting thought,  
On the error of your ways.  
As long as we're in Texas,  
I will be the serviceman who pays!  
—S-Sgt. Harry A. Dunshee.  
Hq. 1st Tng. Group.



There has been a lot of talk about servicemen's organization, and the purpose and possibilities of servicemen cooperating after the war. With that in mind, a Panther reported asked several soldiers around camp:

DO YOU THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY ADVANTAGE IN SERVICEMEN WORKING TOGETHER AFTER THE WAR?



Pvt. Herman L. Robbins, Hq. Troop, 106 Cav. (Mech.) — "I think we should, for working conditions, to make sure we get jobs and good jobs, and to

make sure that we have good working conditions. By working together after the war I think we'll have a better chance to get those things."

Pfc. John D. LaMothe, Co. B, 635th Bn.—

"I imagine so.

By working together we'll have a better chance for peace. It would also help us get better jobs, and we could work together for better living conditions. Yes, I think we ought to work together after the war."



Sgt. Mike D. Copingro, Co. C, 653rd Bn.— "Could you get them together? I don't think you can. But it would be smart if you could. It would help us get better living conditions. I'd like to belong



to a group if you could get it together."

T-5 William J. Fouraker, Hq. Co., 668th Bn.—

"I believe that servicemen will have to work together after the war, if they want to make a success of their civil life. We've learned how it can be done during the war, and we ought to continue working together after—there's just as much reason to continue."



S-Sgt. Samuel N. Marino, Hq. Co., 670th Bn.— "Cooperation is necessary to the success of anything. And that will be especially true after the war. We'll have to



work together if we want it to be a better world after the war."

T-5 Mike Radovich, Hq. Co., 23rd Group—"Yes, I think it would be an advantage. We've learned cooperation with one another while in the army, and if we carry that over into civil life, and work together after the war, it will make civil life a lot easier."

### Sergeant A Father

T-Sgt. Gerald P. Crittenden, 603rd Bn., Supply Sergeant, joined the ranks of fathers this week. He has received word that his wife gave birth to a six pound, nine ounce boy in Hollywood, California.



By T-Sgt. Marvin Glyn, Hq. Co., ETO  
"The Long, The Short And The Tall"  
(See Editorial At Left)

## Army Quiz

1. How is the distance a pilot can see in the air determined?
  2. How far can observers in a plane at 25,000 feet see in clear weather?
  3. Who were the first prisoners of war to land on American soil since the American Revolution?
  4. What does it require to move an infantry division of 15,000 men and their equipment?
  5. Why are PT boats practically free from danger from marine mines?
  6. How many dentists does the Army have, and what has been one of their major duties?
- (Answers Page Seven)

## Quip Lashes

by I. A. S.

We know of one fellow who's such an isolationist he won't eat spaghetti. Says he wants to avoid all entangling foreign alliances.

That reminds us of the fellow who knew so little about popular music that he thought "Tuxedo Junction" was the place where the coat and pants met.

Then there's the drill sergeant we know who's been in the Army so long he can't count above "four."

All these are topped, however, by the gal who refused to accept a watch from her boy friend because she thought he was trying to give her the works. She'll bear watching!

summer quarter, there hasn't been too much to do. But what with marching to classes, drill and odds and ends, ASTP is not for loafers.

I thought this might help to give you a more complete idea of the actual set-up in ASTP from the time you are sent to STAR unit right up to the actual college training.

I'm learning a lot by spending about two days in the excellent state laboratories, which are available to us on the campus.

Our stay here is limited to about three months and we are to be recommended for some future activity. I have tried to qualify for the medical program but don't know yet.

I was recommended for release to an essential war industry. This has gone to Washington. No one knows what may come of this yet. I was also asked to fill out a questionnaire that may mean a commission in the Sanitary Corps. So you see there are many opportunities in ASTP.

While we are sweating out all those possibilities, we are to be shipped out. That seems to mean return to duty with troops.

So I may next write from a battalion. We've learned a lot from this program so far and I hope to get into interesting work. I've enjoyed your articles on ASTP and would appreciate any further news of Camp Hood and ASTP.

Sincerely,  
PFC. F. Browner  
Co. G. AST.  
University of Minn.



Editor Hood Panther:

As far as I'm concerned, these last few months that I've been at the Univ. of Minn. (ASTP) have been heaven spiced with plenty of work.

I've been put in an advanced chemistry program and when I got here I was assigned to Public Health work. I've been taking civilian classes and working with an advisor and doing the things I've liked to do. Some of my courses are in chemistry and some in public health.

We live in what used to be a fraternity house under most pleasant conditions. Quite a difference from my old TD Bn. at Camp Hood. But though most of the advanced students are allowed some freedom, we have a tough schedule to keep us busy.

The food is good and Minneapolis is full of women. The pity is only the lack of time and money.

Our study program is mostly left to our own handling. However, there is closer supervision for the basic students. Yet the Army seems to be very understanding in combining the military with the student life.

Since exams which ended our



# Adventures Of TD's In African Battle Told By 827th C. O.

By S-Sgt. James E. Haines

An amazing story of how the 601st tank destroyer battalion turned back the crack German 10th Panzer division during the African campaign, and of fierce Arab soldiers who hunted Italians and Huns at night with long, sharp knives and brought back their enemies' ears for a reward of \$4 a piece by the French, was told recently by Lt. Col. Herschel D. Baker, new commander of the 827th battalion.

Col. Baker was former commanding officer of the 601st, which fought all through the Tunisian campaign. More than 200 of its officers and enlisted men received the Purple Heart. Four or five were recommended for the DSC for extraordinary heroism in action. At least 35 were awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action. Col. Baker received the Silver Star for the El Guettar battle.

## Cradled The Panzers

Greatest achievement of the 601st came on March 23, 1943, near El Guettar, when they turned back the crack German 10th Panzer Division, a unit never before defeated in Poland, France, or on the Russian Front. For this attack the Panzers employed over 100 tanks including some of the big Mark's VI's while the 601st had only its normal complement of weapons.

Sent over primarily to execute TD missions, the Colonel's old outfit was called on in many other capacities. The 601st did a good job of carrying out their varied missions—Assault, Gun behind Infantry, against Mortars, Machine Guns, Artillery indirect fire missions, advance guards, outposts, etc.—All of which substantiates Colonel Baker's conviction that a TD Battalion should be ready to do anything.

Total "certain" enemy tanks knocked out by 601st was 52. The battalion also inflicted heavy casualties on personnel; machine gunning infantry and tank crews, knocking out many infantry heavy weapons as well as armored cars, AT Guns, artillery pieces, self propelled guns, trucks, and shooting down 10 enemy planes.

## Saw More Action

The 601st, Colonel Baker believes, saw more action than any other TD's in North Africa. Although impossible to obtain an accurate account of enemy losses, and usually difficult to make a good estimate, Colonel Baker feels sure that in all actions, the enemy's losses were at least three times as great in men and vehicles as those suffered by his unit. The Colonel says: "I had the greatest confidence in my battalion before we went to North Africa. The results proved beyond by highest expectations that this confidence was well placed."

In one battle he saw the crew of a badly hit and burning destroyer stick by their guns until they succeeded in knocking out two German tanks at a range of less than 300 yards. They abandoned it only when their shirt tails were on fire and their ammunition about to explode. This courageous stand earned these men the Silver Star.

On another occasion during an encounter in the Ousseltia Valley sector, a company to the 501st was attacked at dusk by a battalion of German tanks and at least one battalion of Hun Infantry supported by Artillery. The company was forced to make a night withdrawal.

During the withdrawal a gunner had his gun blown from under him and was thrown into a ditch, where he lay for some time partially stunned.

Aided by the moonlight, the enemy tanks kept advancing, with Hun infantrymen walking between them. One German saw the dazed gunner and kicked him severely, causing him to move. The German collared his helpless victim, pulling him to his feet. Later the Hun called one of his comrades who spoke English.

## He Drove The Truck

A pistol was thrust into the American's midsection and he was ordered to drive a captured American 3-4-ton truck. When the

soldier told the Boche he could not drive the truck, his captors retorted: "Oh, yes you can; all Americans can drive trucks. Unless you drive, we'll kill you." Left with no alternative, the American was forced to drive his enemies until daylight, when he was put on a truck with other American prisoners and slightly-wounded Germans who were being moved to the rear. This gunner later asked the Colonel: "What would you have done, Colonel, with a gun in your belly?" The Colonel's reply was, "I would have driven the truck."

While moving north up Ousseltia Valley, the truck drew machine gun fire from guns operated by Arab (French) soldiers. The machine gun bullets struck the truck. Setting it on fire, but the 601st gunner still escaped miraculously without being wounded.

Half of the Arabs pursued and killed the fleeing Germans, cutting off a few ears, while the other half assisted in removing the Americans from the burning truck, tended their wounds, and carried them over the mountains to safety. These fierce Arab soldiers were very fond of hunting Italians and Huns at night with long, sharp knives. They cut off and brought in their victims' ears. For this gruesome trophy they were paid a reward of 200 francs about \$4.00 by the French.

## Train Now, Warning

The Colonel has this word of advice and warning to TD units in training: "Training time is short and must not be wasted. It is just too damn late to increase the speed and accuracy of gun squads when they are face to face with enemy tanks. A split second may mean the difference between a dead tiger (German Mark VI) or a dead M-10."

"Tiger hunting was good in North Africa," Colonel Baker says. "If you don't believe me, ask the 601st."

## If The OD Ain't Hep To The Jive This G'll Do Six To The Bars

Editor's Note: We lifted this from the Fort Bliss News, which in turn took it from the Patterson Field "Postings" which got it from a program given by an OCS graduating class at Miami Beach, Fla. We think it's still good, though, and if you're hep to jive talk you'll understand the patter, but if you're a square, you'd better go by the general orders in your manual.

1. To take charge of this mellow post and all government stach in view.
2. To lay down the hard show leather in a military manner, keeping always in the groove and digging everything that don't grow.
3. To rat on the rats that ain't living by the good book.
4. To repeat all short orders from posts more distant from the big house than the rut I'm in.
5. To cut out only when another cat cuts in.
6. To dig, obey, and lay onto the cat what cuts in all fine talk from the Big Boy, Big Boy of the Day, and all Big Boys and Little Boys of the congregation only.
7. To jive with no 'gator what ain't cookin' with coke.
8. To blow my top when the heats on or in case the joint falls in.
9. To stem my pipes from the corporal of the guard to square any beef I ain't hep to.
10. To bend the elbow when I



**TROPHY FROM AFRICA**—A command post sign of a MKN German Tiger Tank Bn. captured during the defeat of the German Panzers in Tunisia is shown by Lt. Col. Herschel D. Baker, new commanding officer of the 827th Bn., to PFC Stephen Wilkerson, Pvt. Napoleon Colvin, Pvt. Walter Johnson, and S-Sgt. J. E. Haines. Story at left.

## Service Club Cafeteria Has Birthday Event

September 27 marked one year of service for the 162nd Street Service Club Cafeteria. This Cafeteria is operated for the enlisted men, their families and friends, and the civilian personnel of Camp Hood.

Under the management of Mrs. Lois Dennis as Hostess, it has outgrown its original quarters and additions to provide ample space have had to be added for fountain room, kitchen, and store-room. Now an office is being planned.

Mrs. Dennis, is a dietician, and all food is served with an eye for quality as well as attractiveness.

Starting with 11 employees, the payroll now contains the names of 50 civilians besides the details

## The War Gave Us Some Odd Allies, Eh?

In Kansas City, the A. P. reports, Capt. E. Eugene Grossman felt pretty fancy as he strolled through a hotel lobby in Marine dress uniform.

And then a bystander spoiled it by asking:

"Pardon me. But of which of our allies are you a member?"

of enlisted men. Five of the original 11 employees still remain: Rita Kelley, Laura Goddard, Margie Goddard, Wrena Gurtman and Estebel Dillingham.

## Two New Groups March In Review

Marching for the first time in a UTC Road Review this week were the 20th and 21st TD Groups, the 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 666th, 667th and 668th Td Bns.

These new units combined with the remainder of UTC marched in review before Maj. Gen. Orlando Ward, and his staff, in an impressive ceremony Friday. The south column lead by the 106th Cavalry Band under the direction of WO. Thomas J. Madden, included the Commanding Officer of Troops, Col. Thomas J. Heavey, his staff, the 16th, 18th and 19th TD Groups. The north column, under the command of Col. Douglas L. Crane, was made up of the 17th, 20th and 21st TD Groups.

## Capt. Donahue, New Commanding Officer For 1848 WAC Unit

Capt. Nina E. V. Donahue of Quincy, Mass., has reported at Camp Hood to assume the duties of commanding officer of the WAC Detachment, 1848 Unit.

A graduate of the first Officer Candidate School, at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, August 29, 1942, she was in civilian life a handicraft inventor and manufacturer. She attended Portia Law School at Boston.

Before coming to Camp Hood, she was in charge of statistics in the prisoner of war branch, 8th Service Command, at Dallas.

## Transfer To Ski Troops Available

The Army still needs men for its mountain troops, and the National Ski Association of America, which has been given authority by the War Dept. to contact men interested in this branch of the service, has released new information for servicemen who wish to transfer to the 10th Division at Camp Hale, Colo.

All men interested in training with mountain troops must submit applications to the Ski Association on a form which can be secured by writing to the National Ski Association of America, 415 Lexington, Ave., New York City.

The Association has pointed out that it can not guarantee transfer to the mountain troops, but if the form is filled out and the soldier makes a routine request for transfer through channels, with the consent of his commanding officer, his application will be given immediate attention.

It is not necessary to have had mountain or ski experience, but these backgrounds are helpful.

Men who have not completed basic training and are not yet assigned, should apply to the Ski Association as early as possible in their training. If approved, the men will be assigned to the 10th Division at Camp Hale on completion of basic.

ASTP men are not eligible for this branch.

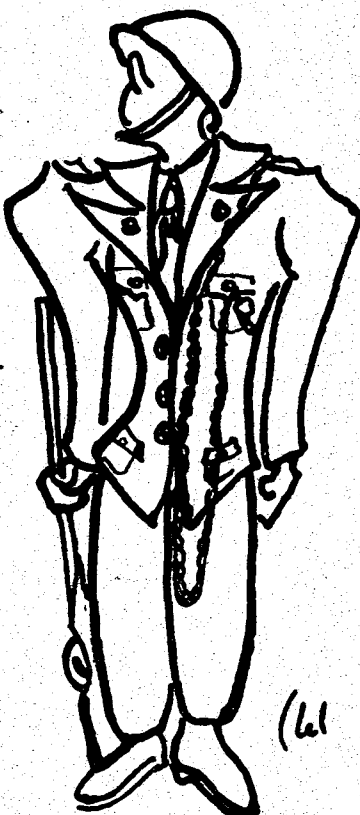
## Young Bugle, Drum Corps Makes Good Record For 668 Bn.

Under the watchful eyes and ears of Lt. Wildley of Headquarters Co. and Private Travers of B Co., who is subbing for Private Loos of the same company, the 668th Bn. Drum and Bugle Corps has made some surprising strides in a relatively short period of time.

The men have devoted much of their extra time and energy to achieve the form they have developed.

## Go To ASTP

Technicians Fifth Grade Waldo D. McDonald, 20, of Carbondale, Illinois; John W. Flannery, 21, Janesville, Wisconsin, and William E. Decker, 20, Piedmont, Ohio, of the 23rd TD Group have been approved by the local field board for ASTP training.



dig all brass hats and all Betsy Rosses, without zoot suit.

11. To be especially on the beam during the early black, and, during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post, to let no cat by without a proper ticket.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

## UTC Medical Detach. Men Learn Duties Under Fire

(Photos Page One)

Out on Camp Hood's nationally famous battle conditioning courses men from the medical detachment of each Battalion in UTC are learning a new phase of training.

For the first time anywhere in this country, men from medical detachments are learning to evacuate wounded under fire—are learning to bandage wounded men with real machine gun bullets zinging inches over their heads—with land-mines going off only a few feet away. Even more spectacular is their training in evacuating wounded by means of rope, pulley and stretcher from inaccessible spots on cliffs and mountains.

### Provides Real Practice

This new course, instituted by Captain G. N. Myers under the direction of Major Ralph W. Sleator, Director of Battle Conditioning, is giving the "medics" a real taste of battle practice. Formerly these detachments, a part of each Battalion, went to the Battle Conditioning Course with their unit, and went through the same grind of strenuous "commando" training as the rest of the battalion. It's true they bandaged the usual crop of minor cuts, bruises, and strains, but they had no practice in evacuating wounded or giving first aid under fire.

To get the full picture of the cliff side evacuation of wounded, imagine a two-hundred foot declivity on which a mountain goat would feel ill at ease. At the top is a "Nazi Village" which TO sol-

diers are attempting to storm.

When they are almost to their goal an "enemy" sniper's rifle cracks and a man, previously designated, slumps to a narrow shelf with a serious "wound." The cry goes back: "Aide Men."

The aide men have been following the attackers closely, in a few seconds one reaches the wounded man and administers first aid.

### Work As A Team

The medic on the spot looks over the situation, sees that the wounded man cannot be reached by stretcher bearers—realizes he must have expert medical attention—soon. He calls back for help, and in no time more aide men are clambering up the cliff bearing a four hundred foot length of rope, a snatch, block, and another shorter length of strong manilla, which are quickly rigged to a nearby tree.

The stretcher is fastened to the pulley, and at the cry of "All set" the "wounded" man is trolleyed gently and carefully across the depression to the medical vehicle where the battalion surgeon meets the "casualty," looks him over, and accompanies him to the rear. This whole complicated process takes only 15 minutes from the time the aide men are first summoned till the "casualty" is safely on the way to the field hospital in the rear.

On the infiltration course itself where men in training advance over a hundred yard course covered by machine gun fire, dotted with land mines, and tangled with strips of barbed wire, the aide

men also perform their mission of mercy. Here again designated men are wounded and the call comes back for the "medics." Four aide men answer the call and, dragging a stretcher, they creep and crawl to the casualty.

### Have Tough Job

After the wounded men are given first-aid, tagged, and rolled on the stretcher, the "tough" part of the evacuation job starts. The four aide men still flat on their stomachs, move the "wounded" man off the course. With one at each corner they alternately push and pull their heavy awkward load till they're safely off the course, often a distance of 50 yards or more.

The aide men's new training is completed by instruction in woods fighting, and street fighting where they are taught to advance taking advantage of all cover and concealment.

## Civilian War Bond Drive Nears End With Race For Flag

With only a few more days until the end of the Third War Bond Drive, officers in charge of the Camp Hood War Bond activities, are exerting all possible effort to win the right to fly from the camp flagstaff the Minute Man emblem, symbol that all civilians employed here have cooperated 100 per cent in the campaign.

Civilian personnel in 23 sections have already reached their goal but each section is still working to surpass the mark they have already attained. Only nine sections employing civilian personnel, as of Tuesday afternoon, had not reached their goal but confidence was expressed that they could be depended upon to do their part in helping to win the Minute Man flag for Camp Hood.

Those sections that were within sight of, but had not fully attained the 100 per cent participation goal, were Ordnance PA, Ordnance PD, Billeting, T.D.C., Signal, Engineer, Reclamation, Salvage and Classification, A T Rail and the Auto Advisors.

As the Third War Bond Drive neared the close, Lt. Joseph Morris, Camp Hood Bond Officer, asked that every person in Camp Hood consider carefully the 38 words capitalized below—and then give an honest answer to the question: "Am I doing all that I really can?"

**EVERY DOLLAR PUT INTO WAR BONDS DOES THREE VITAL JOBS:**

1. IT HELPS TO WIN THE WAR QUICKLY.
2. IT PROTECTS YOUR OWN FUTURE AS AN INVESTMENT.
3. IT PROTECTS THE NATION AGAINST INFLATION — DURING THE WAR AND AFTER.

### Father Of Girl

S-Sgt. Charles D. Champagne, Hq. Detch, DEML, is the father of a girl born in Temple yesterday morning, weighing eight pounds, four ounces.

## Food, Fun At Soiree

Eighteen women from Copperas Cove, Georgetown and the South Camp Hood WAC Detachment, highlighted the celebration on the first Company Party of the Nineteenth Group Headquarters Company, UTC, on Friday evening, at Recreation Building No. 1148. The ladies and their soldier hosts were entertained by the music of Frank Nicolais and his Tank Destroyer Band for three hours of dancing, old fashioned and modern.

The party was made possible by the co-operation of all the members of the company, who worked together for their first really big time as a unit; but special credit was given to the efforts of Lt. Lyle H. Bate, Commanding Officer of the Company for organizing the party and obtaining hostesses, and to PFC Jerry Yunger, for his direction of the party and entertainment.

In addition to music and dancing, the party featured a well-patronized refreshment bar and numerous spontaneous specialty numbers by members of the company. The affair was concluded with a luncheon in the Company Mess Hall, at which sandwiches, doughnuts and hot chocolate were served.



(A summary of the week's news prepared by Panther Editors)

President Roosevelt called the fall of Foggia on southern Italy the most important strategic success of the war for the Allies.

The Allies won 13 intact airfields, and placed themselves in a strong spot to hit Naples by taking Foggia.

The Russians sprinting after the Germans captured a couple of thousand villages, and continued to bat the Nazis from all sides.

The French went on mopping up Corsica, capturing Aleria, and pinning up the Germans in the port of Bastia.

Berlin claimed to have forced the Yugoslav and Italian troops out of the Adriatic port of Split.

The RAF continued to pound Hannover, Emden, Brunswick and other German industrial cities.

### German Fury Will Increase

An Associated Press dispatch reported that Army leaders in Washington declared that while the German high command has abandoned hope of victory, the Nazis' combat strength is greater than it was four years ago, and that we expect the Germans to fight with increased desperation and fury.

Indication that Japan is running short of food was seen by Cecil Brown, in a radio broadcast in which he reported that Tojo had called upon the Japanese in Manchuria to attain self-sufficiency in food requirements.

The Japs, making a last ditch stand at Finschhafen, are being completely encircled by Australian and other Allied troops. At the same time seven Japanese ships were sunk in Wewak harbor, on New Guinea, by Allied bombers.

### New Italian Capital

The king and Premier Badoglio set up a new capital somewhere in southern Italy. Details of the armistice between the Allies and the Italian are being worked out here.

It was learned that Italian soldiers in the Dodecanese islands have been extremely cooperative and accepted as co-belligerents by the British there.

From other fronts, though, reports indicate that most soldiers are opposed to letting Italy become an ally, and get a free ride on the gravy boat without paying for her part in blowing up the world.

Mussolini, according to German claims, has returned to Italy, in an effort to rally forces loyal to fascism.

### Nazis On Tl. Run

At present time reports were that the Germans were in full flight across Naples plain, and that the Fifth Army was expected to enter Naples momentarily, following the capture of the naval base at Castellammare.

Generals Giraud and De Gaulle were reported to have developed serious differences over an allegation that Giraud knew in advance of the Italian armistice, and did not notify the French committee.

Pushing on relentlessly, the Russian army hurled defeated German troops to their death in the swift-flowing Dnieper as they smashed on to Kiev.

### Russians Push On

In their push the Russians captured entire railway trains stocked with food and military equipment.

Berlin admitted that some Russian troops had already crossed

the 1400 foot wide river, which would put the Russians on the first lap of actual encirclement of the Ukraine capital.

The Eighth U. S. airforce staged its first doubleheader in 14 months of operation when Flying Fortresses bombed docks and shipyards at Nantes, France, twice in one day, while Maurauder bombers made two forays into France.

The Army and Navy, in Washington, backed higher government payments to children of servicemen, but opposed a boost for childless wives.

Testifying before the House Military Committee, Maj. Gen. Mille G. White opposed a suggestion that payments be withheld from wives who are financially independent or who prove unfaithful.

The senate passed and sent to the White House a bill to appropriate money for the aid of wives of enlisted men who become mothers.

Leon Henderson, former OPA administrator, spoke against the use of Fascist officials by the Allies.

The OPA announced that civilians will have of winter six instead of four months between new pairs of shoes.

Edward R. Stettinius was appointed undersecretary of state, replacing Sumner Welles, who resigned.

Gen. George C. Marshall declared that criticism of the Army in certain newspapers and in congress is impeding the program of the war.

Dick Tracy arrived too late, find Mrs. Pruneface dead, killed by the Mayor's invalid wife.

## School 'Pioneers' Fought Strong Temptations Of Music, Kitchen When Hq. Was In Temple Bldg.

The smell of cooking hamburgers and the blare of a juke box seeped up through the floor to envelope the girls in a maze of sound and kitchen smells that was anything but conducive to concentrated efforts on military matters. These were among the minor distractions early "pioneers" of the Tank Destroyer School staff brushed aside to bring the institution to its present high standing in military circles. This was before September 18, 1942—an important day for the Tank Destroyer Center—for it was on that date, a year ago, that Camp Hood was formerly dedicated by the War Department. Miss Ruth Holmes, secretary to Brig. Gen. H. T. Mayberry, School Commandant, can smile now as she recalls those hectic days of February 1942, when the School offices were cramped into quarters on the second floor of the Wortham Building in Temple.

"There was a restaurant downstairs," she explained, "and every afternoon the overwhelming savor of food from the kitchen became so strong that we continued our work only by dint of superman effort. And as if that weren't

enough, there was the 'Beer Barrel Polka' blaring forth from a juke box downstairs from morning until night. At least to the patrons of the restaurant that tune was definitely the hit song of the day."

Even with the move of the office to camp the secretaries and stenographers were not safely through their "pioneering stages." Before their quarters were ready at camp they commuted daily from Temple by bus. This meant arising at 5 a. m. to arrive at work by 8 o'clock. "The streets were not completed," continued Miss Holmes, "and the bus drivers were not yet familiar with such streets as were ready for use, so they just set their sights on the School headquarters building and we went bouncing, jouncing across country until we were deposited at the office door, dusty and thoroughly shaken, but for the most part without anything more serious than minor bruises." Things took a turn for the better when the office staff was housed in officers' barracks until the day arrived when their own quarters were completed off Headquarters Avenue at 52nd Street.





## Chapel Services

### PROTESTANT (NON-DENOMINATION)

9:30 A. M.  
Chapel 176-164th and Brig.  
Chapel 639-62nd St.  
Chapel 902-50th St.  
Chapel 2109-37th St. East.  
Hospital-Red Cross Bldg.

11:00 A. M.  
Post Chapel-52nd St.  
Chapel 115-268th St.  
Chapel 289-170th and brig.  
Chapel 639-62nd St.  
Chapel 2209-School Area.  
Chapel 1156-37th St. West.

6:30 P. M.  
Chapel 115-268th St.  
Chapel 639-62nd St.  
Chapel 1156-37th St. West.  
Chapel 2209-School Area.

### COLORED TROOPS

Chapel 513-70th St.  
Worship Services  
10:00 a. m., 11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday school-9:00 a. m.  
Musical hour, Tuesday, 6:30 p. m.

### EPISCOPAL

Chapel 289-170th and brig., 6:30 p. m.

### LUTHERAN

Post chapel-52nd St., 6:30 p. m.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Chapel 1156, Thursday, 8:00 p. m.  
Sunday, 8:45 a. m.

### Enl Men's Bible Class

Chapel 639-62nd St., 10:30 a. m.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

Mass, Sunday  
Hospital Red Cross Bldg.-6:30 a. m.

Chapel 902, 50th St.-7:00 a. m.  
Chapel 1156, 37th St. West-7:00 a. m.

Chapel 176, 164th & brig.-8:00 a. m.  
Post Chapel, 52nd St.-9:00 a. m.

24th St. Theater-9:00 a. m.  
Chapel 902, 50th St.-11:00 a. m.

37th St. Theater-11:00 a. m.  
162nd St. Area, Field Mass-11:00 a. m.

Novena Service-6:30 p. m.

9M&U...-HUB...-SA... H MF RW  
Sunday Chapel 176-164th and brig.

Monday Chapel 1156-37th West.  
Tuesday Chapel 902-50th St.

### MORNING WEEKDAY MASS, 6:30 AM

Chapel 176-Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat.  
Chapel 1156-Wednesday, Saturday.

Chapel 902, Monday, Friday, Saturday.

### EVENING WEEKDAY MASS, 6:30 PM

Chapel 176, Tuesday, Friday.  
Chapel 1156, Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.

Chapel 902, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.

### CONFESION

Before Every Weekday Mass  
Sat., Hospital Red Cross Bldg., 3-4 p. m.

Chapel 1156, 37th St. West-4-6 p. m.  
Chapel 1156, 37th St. West-6:30-9 p. m.

Chapel 902, 50th St.-4-6 and 6:30-9 p. m.

Chapel 176, 164th & brig.-6-9 p. m.

### LATTER DAY SAINTS

Chapel 639, 62nd St. Sunday-7:30 p. m.

Stockade-2:00 p. m.

## Wins Banner

Academic Regiment, TDS, issues a banner, enclosed in a glass frame, to the company that emerges from the Saturday inspections with the best showing. The past week has found this coveted emblem hanging in the dayroom of Company 'D'.

# Telephone Center Opened In 37th St. Library; Eight Booths Built For Calls

To furnish more personalized telephone service for the soldiers of Camp Hood, a Telephone Center has been opened in the Library Reading Room of the 37th Street Service Club by Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

The Telephone Center consists of a bank of eight telephone booths and a counter at which operators make change, call soldiers to the telephone when their calls are completed, and assist personnel in getting their calls through. A supply of out-of-town telephone directories is available at the Telephone Center.

The Telephone Center will add to the conveniences of Camp Hood soldiers in making their telephone calls since the operators will be on duty to answer calls as they are completed and page the soldiers over the loud speaker system which will be installed. Four of the booths will be used only to place calls and the other

four will be used when the calls are completed.

Operators will be on duty at the Telephone Center during the busy hours each day and all day on Sundays to help soldiers complete their calls. The telephones are available at all hours the Service Club is open.

A similar Telephone Center is under construction in the Library Reading Room of the 162nd Street Service Club and should be ready for service within a few days.

## Men In RTC See Monday Night Shows

The RTC Special Service Office, headed by Capt. S. Howard Van Dyke, has been putting on a consistently good brand of entertainment for the past two months, with their every Monday feature at the Central Rec. Hall, North Camp.

The 'Habber Dabber' show this past week was no exception. Using a typewriter, tables, lumber from the scrap pile, sheets borrowed from the Red Cross and a wealth of enthusiasm, a new type setting was staged for "The Pill Pushers."

Pvt. John Gordon, Hq. Co., RTC, wrote the four act burlesque on a typical day in a G. I. dispensary, which pictured the trials and tribulations of Pvt. Johnny Tankbuster, who in a quick change of scene became involved in an operation room skit that howled the house.

Sgt. Harold Wolf, Co. B., 141 RTC Bn. and Sgt. Albert Hoy, Post Ordnance, created many laughs dispensing a loan company blackout. An effective television effect introduced dancer Pvt. Tom Mahoney, Co. E, 129 RTC Bn. and singer Cpl. James McNailey, Co. B, 141 RTC Bn. Helen Mannheim of the Leon Drive Service Club sang.

Drs. Bloodandgoo and Liverwurst as portrayed by Sgt. George Hall and Lt. John L. Slezinger, put on a comedy act and were in and out during several of the other skits as well.

## Father Of Boy

Lt. Francis A. Pommett, Co. B, 635th Bn., is the father of a boy born Sept. 16.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo  
**SHE LANDED SAFELY**—When her plane ran out of gas Dorothy Hopkins, ferry command pilot-trainee, sat her plane down in the ITC area. She was later joined by Lt. James R. Blackburn, check pilot of Avenger Field, who arrived to fly the plane back to its base. See story below.

## Makes Emergency Landing In ITC When Gas Runs Out

Miss Dorothy Hopkins, Ferry Command pilot-trainee, has reason to be thankful. For when she ran into trouble with her airplane on September 14th and had to land at North Camp Hood, she found Maj. Milton D. Berlin, assistant S-3 of the Individual Training Center, waiting for her in a command car.

Brig. Gen. Harry F. Thompson, commanding the ITC, had just left his headquarters for lunch when he noticed Miss Hopkins' plane circling over the ITC training area. Sensing that something was wrong the general dispatched Maj. Berlin to get as close as he could to the plane when it landed, and to render any aid necessary.

Miss Hopkins, whose home is in New Jersey, was forced to make an emergency landing when her airplane ran out of gas. She made a perfect landing on the difficult terrain of the ITC Hand Grenade Range, and found the major waiting for her. She is a member of the WASPS, the Women's Air Supplementary Pilot Service, and has been in training since April at Avenger field, Sweetwater, Texas.

Cpt. Harry T. Pinson, Special Services Officer for ITC, escorted the young flier around North Camp Hood, as 1st Lt. James R. Blackburn, AAP, check pilot at Avenger Field, arrived to fly the plane back to its home base. The lieutenant was not so fortunate, for as he taxied the plane across the range he bogged down in a fox-hole.

"Am I embarrassed," the young pilot said. "After 1,400 hours in the air without a crack-up or even scratching a plane, I finally had to wind up in a fox-hole!"

Miss Hopkins and Lt. Blackburn expressed deep appreciation for the cooperation they received from the Army Service Forces and Army Ground Forces.

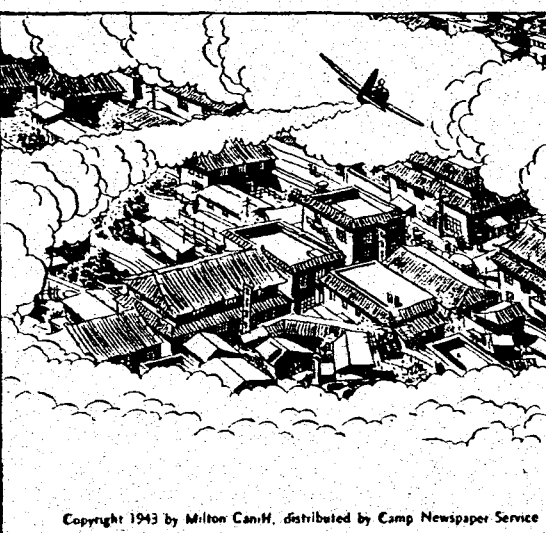
## Men Headed For ASTP

Friday, September 17th, saw four men leaving Camp Hood to begin ASTP training at the A&M College of Texas. They were Pvs. 1st class Donald Blubaugh and Gordon Edington and T-5 grade Densyl Smith and Richard Jones, all of the 21st Gp.



## Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of Terry and the Pirates



## Magnetic Azimuth





With PFC Keith Quick

**FOOTBALL!** the sound of a cleated-foot against pigskin, smash of brawn against brawn, letting melodies of a band, shrill shouts of comely coeds, gay prancing of majorettes, Hiram Walker's warmth against Jack Frost, screaming wild-eyed throngs; it's all here again, folks—football time! Camp Hood will crank up the season next Tuesday evening when two newly-organized elevens, the UTC Headquarters and 665th Bn. gridiron machines, will lock horns in the opening tussle. The game will be played on the athletic field located near 56th Street . . . A few issues back, this corner, plus one Pvt. Sam Miller, of the Station Hospital, suggested the idea of Camp Hood having a golf course. That suggestion went over about as well as Mussolini's jabbering to the Italian people. But we're coming back with a new one with Keesler Field, Miss., as our supporter. If a full-pledged golf course is definitely out of the question, why not construct a miniature golf layout! Keesler Field is the latest Army site to open such an enterprise, and it's going over in a big way. They have a 450-foot 9-hole miniature setup, with balls and clubs furnished free. Keesler Field is no better than Camp Hood—or is it! . . . The World Series, same as last year. Yanks versus Cards. The two league masters will open up next Tuesday afternoon in Yankee Stadium. Three games will be played in "the house that Ruth built," while the remaining four games, if necessary, will be decided in the Redbird's Sportsman's Park, St. Louis. How do we pick 'em. It'll be the Cards, four games to two! . . . Speaking of baseball, we think Sid Hudson's 18 wins against one loss for the Waco Flyers this season is something to write home about. Sid was stingy all season, and Camp Hood should long remember him, for it was none other than Hudson who stole the home bag against Hood's all-stars to give the Flyers a 5 to 4 10-inning victory in the American Legion benefit encounter played in Waco several weeks ago. Following that spectacular game, Sid and the Flyers went down to Houston, where he turned back the Houston All-Stars, 2 to 1 to climax a brilliant campaign on the hillock. Not only did Sid pitch superbly, he also belted the pelota for a .313 average, which is something out of ordinary for a moundsman. Hats off to Sid Hudson, former pitching ace of the Washington Senators!

## NC Starts Basketball

According to word from North Camp Hood athletic officials, an all-North Camp basketball team has been organized and has started practice sessions in the Avenue "D" Rec. Bldg.

The newly-formed team will participate in the USO basketball league at Waco, which will be an eight-team league, consisting of teams from the Waco Air Field, Blacklands Army Flying School, Baylor University and several other surrounding teams.

The North Camp quintet boasts numerous stars from such schools as, Long Island University, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., Indiana Univ., New York's City College, San Diego State, Washington State, Illinois, and Stanford University.

## 635th Wins From 603rd

The 635th Bn. baseball team defeated the 603rd Bn. nine, 3 to 0, in a game played last week on the former 113th Cavalry diamond.

Pvt. Bob Shepard was on the mound for the victors, pitching 1-hit ball.

The 635th Bn. club, despite the late hour of the season, is still in the market for a few more games. Clubs interested in playing the 635th may contact S-Sgt. Delmar Senne, Hq. Co., 635th Bn., phone 2519.

## 4th Rgt. Officers Fling Challenge To Softball Teams

Having shown superiority over all competition in North Camp, the 4th Regiment, RTC, officers' softball team issues a challenge to the leading officers' team in South Camp for a play-off to decide the all-Camp Hood championship among officers' softball teams.

Any outfit desiring to lock horns with the North Camp aggregation may make arrangements by calling Lt. Col. Farmer, of the 4th Regt., phone 3264-W.

## Champs Honored

The members of the Student Regiment baseball team, recent winners of the Camp Hood championship, were honored at a banquet recently, given by officers of the regiment.

Lt. Col. John Farnsworth, regimental commander, made a brief talk, commenting on the splendid showing of the team.

Each player received two pictures of the team, and Sgt. Alan Rose presented the officers with baseballs autographed by the players. A hundred guests were present to enjoy the steak dinner and entertainment that followed.

## Boxers, Wrestlers Work Out In TDS Classroom Gymnasium

Classroom No. 38 at the Tank Destroyer School closely resembles an athletic club nowadays, as boxers and wrestlers flock there for workouts.

Eight small rings on the floor, for sparring practice, a large ring on the platform, mats, sandbags, and punching bags are the paraphernalia used by the boxers and grapplers eager to get into shape for early appearances in the amphitheater ring.

Capt. Leslie Wood, athletic director of the Tank Destroyer School, has charge of the gym and is encouraging all fighters and wrestlers to report for workouts.

The boxing card for Friday night's matches at the TDS amphitheater ring has been announced as follows:

Mitchell, Stud. Regt., 165 lbs. vs. Walker, 635th Bn., 160 lbs.  
Dunlap, Stud. Regt., 140 lbs. vs. Genaro, Stud. Regt., 142 lbs.  
Ritchie, Stud. Regt., 145 lbs. vs. Johnson, 635th Bn., 145 lbs.  
Alexander, Stud. Regt., 160 lbs. vs. Holden, North Camp, 160 lbs.

Garten, Stud. Regt., 155 lbs. vs. White, 664th Bn., 155 lbs.  
Romano, North Camp, 135 lbs. vs. Hall, 635th Bn., 135 lbs.

# District Golden Gloves Tourney May Be Held In Camp In January

Plans to hold the Temple District Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament in Camp Hood sometime during January are now under

## UTC Football Team Will Play 665th

One of the first football games of the season at Camp Hood will feature the UTC headquarters enlisted men's newly organized gridiron team against a rugged aggregation from the 665th Bn. The game has been set for next Tuesday evening, Oct. 5, on the athletic field near 56th street, just off Headquarters Avenue.

It is believed the 665th eleven will have a slight edge in the forthcoming encounter, as the club has been in practice sessions for the past three weeks, while the UTC team entered its initial session last week.

Lt. Walter H. Leo, former pigskin star of Missouri University, is head coach of the UTC eleven. His assistants are Lt. Samuel Bier and M-Sgt. James A. Gorsuch.

### Use Aerial Attack

The Leo machine is fast rounding into shape. Several former high school stars dot its roster, and Lt. Leo is concentrating on an aerial attack for his youngsters to toss at the invading 665th.

UTC squad members include seven backs and 14 linemen. The first team ball carriers will be picked from the following performers:

M-Sgt. Estel Snyder, Sgt. J. N. Lott, Sgt. L. A. Chesurin, Cpl. R. L. Nave, Cpl. E. R. Nero, Cpl. Joe Zaby and Pvt. N. G. Strosser. The following men are battling it out for positions in the forward wall: T-Sgt. J. E. Fiala, S-Sgt. V. W. Harris, Sgt. A. C. Salmina, Sgt. F. J. Roberts, Sgt. C. G. Kuchar, Sgt. R. J. Meyer, Cpl. C. B. Avance, Cpl. N. G. Rose, Pfc. N. C. Larson, Pfc. J. C. Stookey, Pfc. R. A. Webster, Pfc. E. L. Snyder, Pfc. A. J. Dooley and Pvt. R. C. DeVany.

The UTC team wants to schedule games with other Camp Hood gridiron teams. Teams interested in games with the UTC eleven may contact Lt. Bier, phone 2417.

## Boxing Matches At NC Hospital

Before a large audience at the North Camp Hood Station Hospital, boxers from RTC and 659th Bn. staged a top-flight boxing show last week. The show, the first of its kind ever to be staged before a hospital gathering, was sponsored by the RTC Special Services and Red Cross.

Feature bout of the evening saw Cpl. Joe Muscato, 149th RTC Bn., and Pvt. Lou Villante, 129th RTC Bn., deliver a fast-stepping exhibition which drew wide applause from the crowd. Several good preliminary bouts preceded the main event.

Lt. Bernard Tarabino, RTC athletic officer, was announcer for the program.

## Inter-Battalion Game Ends With 18-2 Score

The 635th Bn., UTC, baseball team defeated the Battalion All-Stars of the 635th Bn., 18 to 2 in a game played last week. Pitching honors went to Sgt. Ray Stevenson, who hurled six-hit ball for the victors. Stevenson also collected three hits in five trips to the plate.

The All-Stars were an aggregation chosen from different companies of the 635th Bn.

discussion and have received endorsement of Col. C. M. Thirkeld, camp commanding officer.

The tourney, if held here, will be under the direction of camp officials and will be known as the Camp Hood-Temple district tournament, according to the plan recommended to Flem Hall, sports editor, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, and state tournament director.

### Soldiers May Enter

If held here, Hood men will have the advantage of easy entry into the contest to pick champions in eight weight divisions for the state tourney in Ft. Worth in February. Fans will have an opportunity to witness from two

to four nights of high-class fighting.

Sponsored by the Temple Telegram in this district, the tournament was formerly staged in the Temple YMCA. Since this has been converted to a USO for the duration, boxing facilities are no longer maintained there. In the past the Temple district has produced two national champions, and in 1941 won the team title.

Plans, now under discussion by Post Athletic Director Lt. John R. Varnall and tournament director Flem Hall, call for the awarding of prizes to winners and runners up. Complete details are expected to be announced soon.

## Wrestling Featured In Amphitheater Show

In a fest of biting, gouging, twisting, and anything just short of mayhem, Cpl. Dick Rains, of TD RTC, pinned Roy Graham, Corsicana grappler, to give the Tank Destroyer School amphitheater sports attendants their first real wrestling exhibition last Friday evening. Rains won in two straight falls, the match being a best two out of three falls affair, one hour time limit.

Rains tipped the scales at 230 pounds, while Graham weighed in at 250. The fans saw real action in the first fall which went to Rains in 13 minutes, 55 seconds. In the second fall, it was Rains again; he took the measure of Graham in 35 minutes, 50 seconds.

### Referee Can Take It

Rains was in trouble several times, but managed to twist himself free and start anew. The referee, Lt. George Stautz, saw plenty of action throughout the melee. Once during the hectic match, Lt. Stautz was pinned for almost three minutes beneath the 480 pounds of beef, as both Rains and Graham lay on top of him.

For a while it looked as though the match would be a three-sided affair, but displaying more agility than either of the huge behemoths, Lt. Stautz wriggled free of the puzzle of arms and legs and resumed his feet.

### Challenges Fred

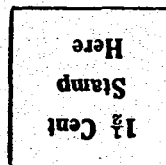
The exhibition saw almost every hold known in the grunt-and-groan game used to the extreme. At one time during the match, when Graham, the loser, put in a plea for intervention by the referee and was refused, he offered to take on wholesale lots of the spectators. This brought a loud

## Hospital Team Loses

The Station Hospital softball team traveled to Florence, Texas, last week and came back on the short end of a 10 to 4 count. Sgt. Don Gibson was on the mound for the Hospital ten and was pounded freely by the Florenceites.

Walter "Red" Barber, veteran sportscaster, who has covered seven consecutive World Series, will do the play-by-play report. Barber's announcing colleagues will be announced shortly.

## Mail Your 'Panther' Home!



Camp Hood, Texas

From: