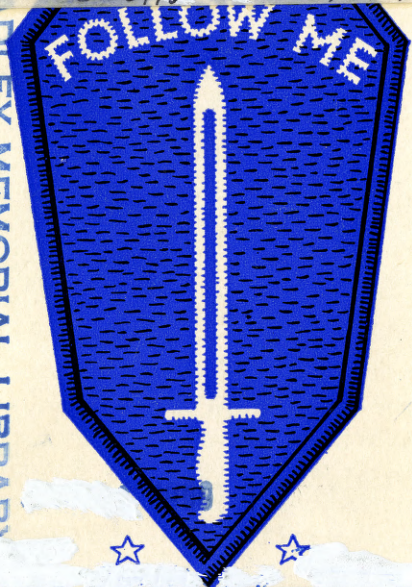


Columbus File Ft. Benning

-- Miscellaneous, 1950's

ADLEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA



VERTICAL FILE

FORT BENNING
AND
LAWSON FIELD

C O L U M B U S , G E O R G I A

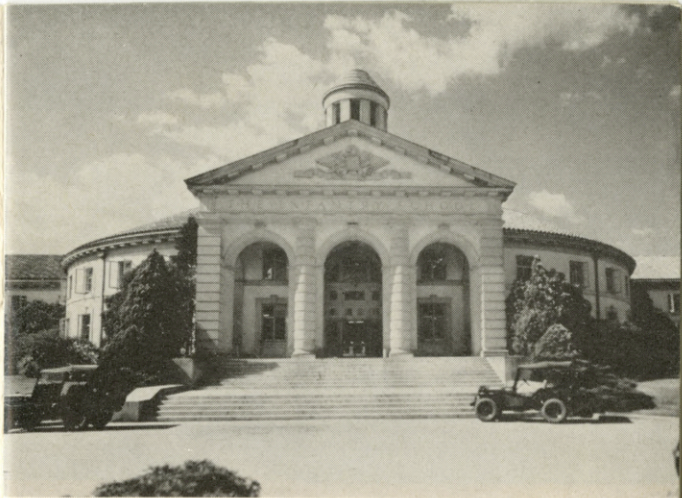
Grateful acknowledgement is made to the Public Information Office at Fort Benning and to the Columbus Chamber of Commerce for their helpful cooperation in the preparation of this booklet.

It has been published by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, who, in cooperation with the Post Signal Section, operate and maintain the Public Telephone Service on this Post. Its purpose is to give you information about the Post and Columbus and vicinity and to help you in placing your telephone calls.

We hope your time at Fort Benning and in Columbus will be pleasant.

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

All photos are through the courtesy of the U. S. Army Signal Corps and the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

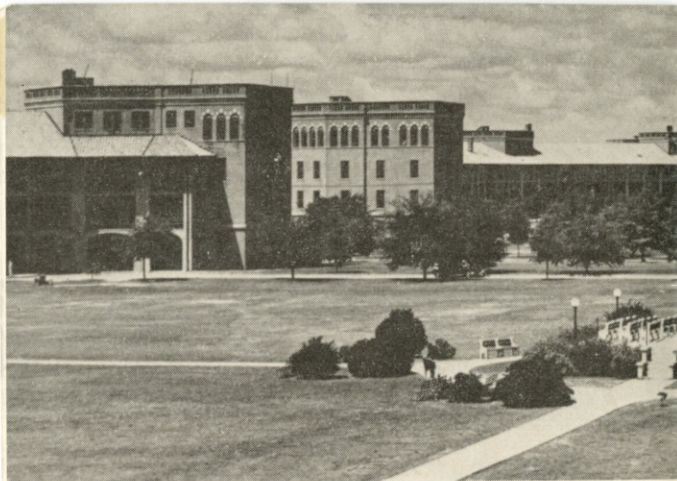


The Infantry School Building

THE INFANTRY CENTER

FORT BENNING, long synonymous with infantry, has risen from a small camp established in 1918 to its present position as America's "Most Complete Army Post."

Known as "The Infantry Center," it is located nine miles south of Columbus and 125 miles from Atlanta. Fort Benning, named after Brig. Gen. Henry L. Benning, Confederate military leader and native of Columbus, was established as Camp Benning, in 1918. It became a permanent establishment in 1922. Since its inception it has grown

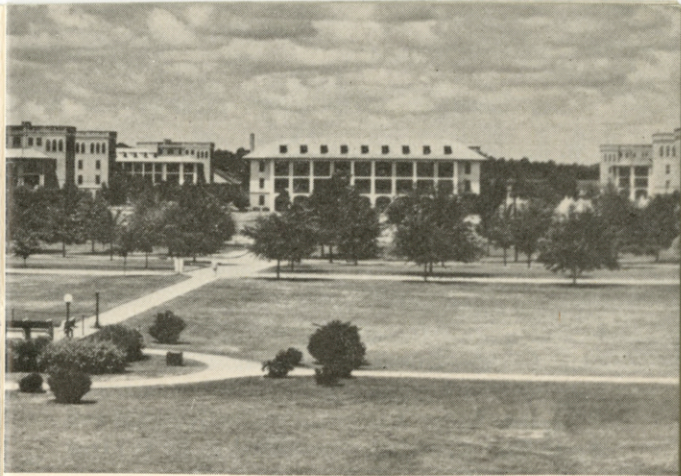


Main Post

from an original acreage of 97,000 to 182,000 acres or 284 square miles.

All terrain features, along with streets and avenues, are named for famous battles, divisions and individuals.

During World War II some 60,000 second lieutenants of Infantry were graduated from the Officer Candidate School, and a total of 100,938 officers and enlisted men were graduated from various resident courses. In addition, 90,237 airborne personnel completed training under tutelage of the Airborne Department of The Infantry School.



Cuartels

Following World War II there was a brief leveling-off period, and the Officer Candidate School was moved to Fort Riley, Kan.

With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea the Infantry Center once again girded itself for national emergency. Courses are expanding and being speeded up. The Officer Candidate School has returned as the need for large numbers of second lieutenants increased.

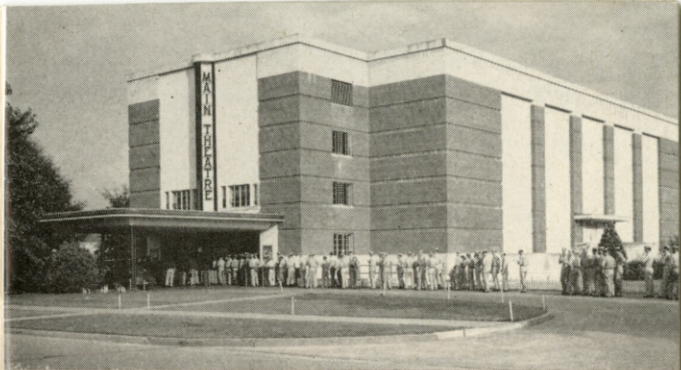
In addition, greater numbers of National Guardsmen and Reserve Officers are now being trained, and a Ranger Department has been added to the school.

LAWSON AIR FORCE BASE

With the mission of serving The Infantry School's Airborne Department and furnishing Air Force requirements for the Ground Forces Air Transportability training at Ft. Benning, Lawson Air Force Base is located two miles south of the Main Post proper. One of the original Army airfields in the South, it was initially used for observation balloons for The Infantry School in 1918. It was designated as Lawson Field in 1931 in memory of Captain Walter Lawson, a native Georgian and World War I hero who was killed in an airplane crash in 1923 in Ohio.

Outpost No. 1, Main entrance to Post





Main Post Theater

GENERAL INFORMATION

Banks: Two Columbus banks have branches on the Main Post where they operate on a regular banking schedule. They are located in the Finance building on Vibbert Avenue. Both banks are open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekdays and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Another Columbus bank has a branch in the Harmony Church area on Kinney Street open from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Guest Houses: Soldiers may reserve rooms at one of four Guest Houses for their visitors to spend a few days. Two Guest Houses are located on the Main Post and one in each of the two other major training areas. The Main Post Guest House for white visitors is located on Vibbert Ave., next



Finance Building on Main Post

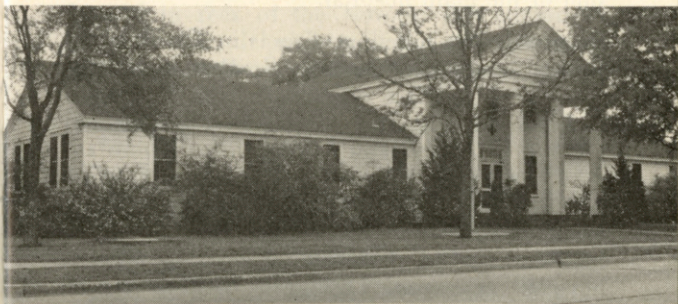
to the Red Cross Headquarters and the one for colored on Loughlin Road across from Huth street. The Sand Hill Guest House is located near Service Club No. 2 and the Harmony Church Guest House is located just off Hershey Road.

Libraries: There is a main post library with over 15,000 books and six branch libraries with about 5,000 books each. The Main Post Library is located on Wold Avenue next to the Main Theater; the two branches, in the Hospital and Army Education Center. In the Harmony Church area the branches are in the Officer Candidate School Area and Service Club No. 3. The Sand Hill branches are on 14th Street and across from Service Club No. 2. In addition to the recreational libraries there is a large reference library in The Infantry School building.

Laundry and Cleaning: Ft. Benning has one of the most completely equipped laundries in the army, located at the junction of Indianhead Road,

Marchant and Anderson Streets. Enlisted personnel may make arrangements through their Supply Sergeant, while officers and dependents may deliver and pick up their laundry on a cash and carry basis. Also, many dry cleaners are located throughout the Post, operated as civilian concessions under supervision of the Post Exchange Officer.

Hospitals: The Ft. Benning U. S. Army Hospital, on Bartzell Ave., was built in 1935. Erected to serve military personnel and dependents, the hospital has a 1,500 bed capacity, an out-patient



The Red Cross Headquarters

clinic and an eye-ear-nose and throat clinic. There are also troop dispensaries throughout the Post and a dispensary in the Martin Building in Columbus. The downtown dispensary is primarily



Book Department on Main Post

for benefit of dependents and operates on a 24-hour basis. Plans are underway for large expansion of the main hospital.

Housing: The billeting office is in The Infantry Center annex, at Sigerfoos Road and Vibbert Avenue. This office coordinates the assignment of family type quarters on the Post to a limited number of officers and enlisted men. There are over 1,000 family type units on the reservation. A branch billeting office is maintained at 1130 First Avenue (Trinity Episcopal Church) in Columbus to assist personnel in securing off-post housing. A continual program to provide adequate housing is conducted. It is advisable for military personnel to leave their families at home, for a brief period until housing can be secured.

Post Office: The Main Post Office is on Hall Street at Vibbert Avenue. Thirty U. S. postal clerks handle about one million letters and fifteen thousand packages each month. It has facilities to

handle mail for a population of over 50,000. It uses a Ft. Benning post mark.

There are five branch offices located near troop concentrations on the Post. Each military unit has a unit mail section and there are mail boxes in all Service Clubs.

Motion Pictures: The latest movies are scheduled for regular runs at each of Ft. Benning's many theaters. Admission to each is 25 cents. Movie schedules are posted in day rooms, service clubs and post exchanges.

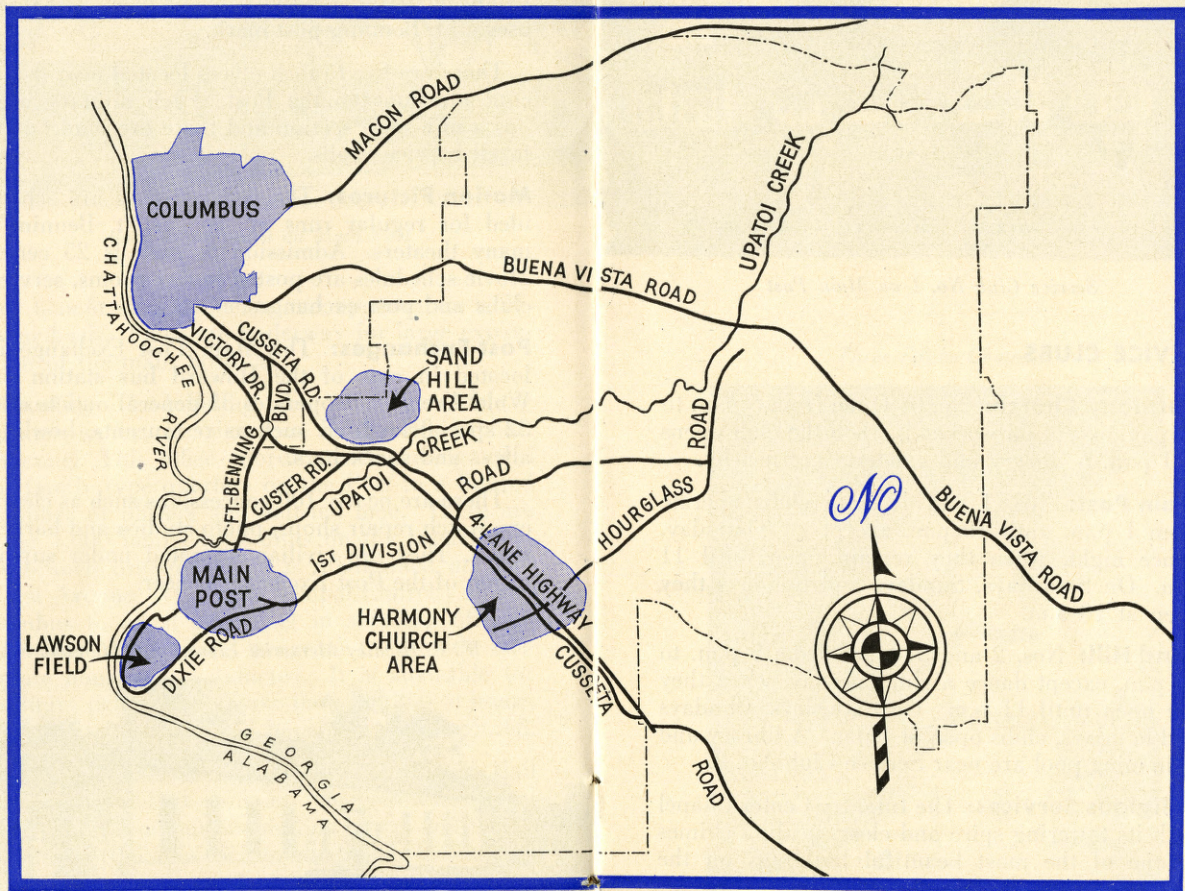
Post Exchanges: The Main Post Exchange is located in rear of the Howard bus station on Wold Avenue. It operates 35 general outlets and 22 special facilities such as restaurants, bowling alleys and snack bars.

There are nearly 100 concessions such as cleaners, watch repair shops, photo studios and barber shops. They are civilian operated under supervision of the Post Exchange Officer.

W. C. Bradley Memorial Library in Columbus



FORT BENNING RESERVATION





Service Club No. 1 on Main Post

SERVICE CLUBS

Harmony Church: No. 3; Open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. except on weekends when the club opens at 1 p.m. A library and cafeteria are nearby.

Main Post: Nos. 1 and 4; Both clubs operate from 1 p.m. until 10 p.m. except on Thursday, dance night, when they remain open until 11 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays they open at 10 a.m.

Sand Hill: Nos. 2 and 5; Open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. except dance night, Tuesday, when they are open until 11 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, clubs open at 1 p.m. A library and swimming pool are near Service Club No. 2.

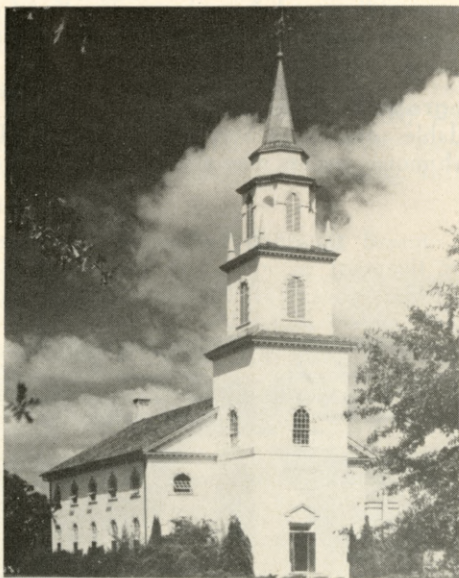
Religious Services: The Infantry Center Chapel with its towering spire and clear, pealing chimes is one of the most beautiful buildings on the

Post. It was built in 1935 and dedicated as the Three Faiths Building.

During World War II it was necessary to construct another chapel on the Main Post. This was built just a few hundred yards away, on the same street, and is known as the Catholic Chapel.

Normally there are nine chaplains operating from the main chapel, six Protestants, two Catholics and one Jewish.

Three Faiths Chapel



Soldier Aid Agencies: The Personal Affairs Officer, together with Army Emergency Relief, at the Infantry Center Annex on the corner of Sigerfoos and Vibbert Avenue, is prepared to render counsel, advice and assistance to soldiers and their dependents.

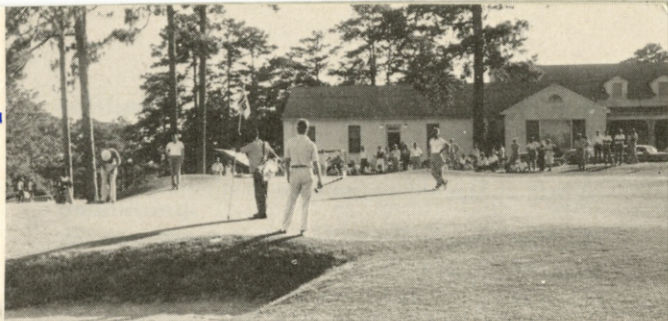
The U. S. Army Hospital personnel section has an individual available who is well versed in the affairs and operations of the Veterans Administration. Contact with the U. S. Employment Office may also be gained through this person.

The American Red Cross with Headquarters at Vibbert and Ingersoll Avenues, also offers services to soldiers and dependents. The Red Cross has branch offices in the hospital and at other locations on the Post.

Telegraph Service: Telegraph facilities are available adjacent to Service Club No. 1. Telegraph money orders may also be cashed there.

Main Post Officers Club





Several golf courses provide ample recreation for all who enjoy the sport

SPORTS FACILITIES

Athletic Office: Post sports are coordinated through TIC sports office, located in the west end of Doughboy Stadium on Ingersoll Street.

Baseball: Gowdy Field, Main Post, a permanent park lighted for night play and seating 3,800 in the grandstand. About three games a week starting in April and running through August.

Basketball: Excellent floors at Briant Wells Field House and Old Gym on Ingersoll Street, Main Post, and at Harmony Church Field House. All units compete in the post league, January through March.

Bowling: Eight alleys in the bowling building on Ingersoll Street, Main Post. Open weekends and night. Used by two post leagues October through April. Cost 20 cents per line.

Boxing: Excellent facilities and seating for 2,500 at Briant Wells Field House. Weekly series of championship bouts. Also outdoor bouts can be held at Doughboy Stadium in summer.

Fishing: Twenty-six well stocked ponds with 55 boats available on the reservation. All arrangements must be made with Ft. Benning Fish and Game Association, Main Post. Tel. 4-4229.

Football: Biggest sport on Post played at 10,500 seat Doughboy Stadium, Main Post. Post League competes September through November, with games every Sunday afternoon.

Golf: Ft. Benning Country Club, Main Post, is rated one of the South's finest. Nine holes also available at Sand Hill. Open all year with all equipment and supplies available.

Gymnastics: Briant Wells Field House is one of the most modern in the South. Complete facilities for all indoor athletic and recreational purposes. Steam heated.

Handball: Two four-wall courts available at Briant Wells Field House.

Hunting: Well stocked ranges with guides and dogs available. Seasons conform with Georgia and Alabama law. No rifles permitted. All arrangements through Ft. Benning Fish and Game Association.

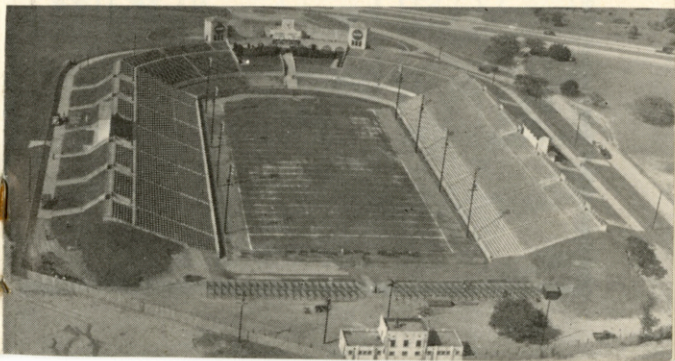
Softball: Leagues organized on a post-wide as well as company-level basis. Sixty-five fields available.

Swimming: Two pools at Officers' Club. Olympic-size indoor pool at Briant Wells Field House. Outdoor pools open May through September. One pool is located in Sand Hill and two (Russ and Youngs Pools) are on the Main Post.

Tennis: Adequate number of courts on Main Post and Sand Hill areas.

Track: Excellent cinder track and other facilities for field events in Doughboy Stadium. Post track meet in April.

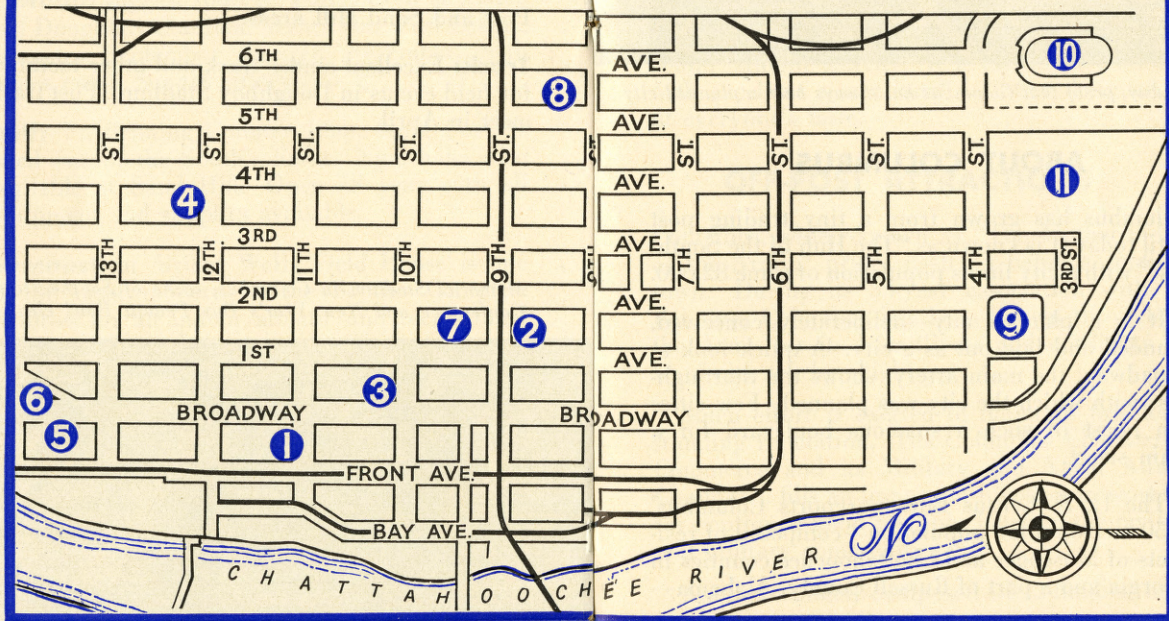
Memorial Stadium in Columbus, scene of Southeastern Conference and New Year's Day Peanut Bowl classic



DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

1. Armed Services YMCA, 16 West 11th Street.
2. N.C.C.S. Club, 100 9th Street.
3. Travelers' Aid, 1000½ Broadway.
4. Bus Station, 12th Street and 4th Avenue (Fort Benning and Greyhound Buses).
5. Union Bus Terminal, 1329 Broadway (Trailways and other bus lines).

6. Chamber of Commerce, 1338 Broadway.
7. Courthouse and City Hall, 10th Street and 1st Avenue.
8. Colored Armed Services YMCA, 841 5th Avenue.
9. Golden Park, 324 1st Avenue (Home of Columbus Cardinals).
10. Memorial Stadium, Victory Highway and 6th Avenue.
11. Fairgrounds, Victory Highway and 4th Avenue.





Broadway, proof that Columbus has always been a planned city

ABOUT COLUMBUS

Columbus has grown from a tiny trading post until today it is known as "The Hub of the Southeast" with a city limits population of some 82,000.

It is a planned city—deliberately conceived, founded and laid out as a city. A quick look at Broadway, the main artery, shows the thoroughness with which the city was planned. Few cities can boast of such a spacious boulevard for a main street.

The U. S. Census Bureau reports Columbus' 1950 metropolitan population—composed of residents of Muscogee and Chattahoochee counties in Georgia and a part of Russell County, Alabama—

totaled 170,143. Phenix City, Alabama is located just across the Chattahoochee River from downtown Columbus.

Columbus' strategic geographic location in the Southeast makes it a logical site for manufacturing and distribution facilities. Early tabbed "the Lowell of the South" because of the large cotton textile industry here, Columbus no longer is confined to this industry alone. Today its plants employ more than 20,000 persons.

The city's moderate winters encourage year-round outdoor activity. It is abundantly blessed with excellent recreational facilities designed to fit everyone's taste.

OFF-POST ATTRACTIONS

Columbus, widely-known as "The Mother-in-law of the Army," prides itself on being a soldiers' town. During its 35-year association with Ft. Benning, Columbus has been known throughout the Army for its friendliness and cordiality towards its nearby neighbors.

Much effort is exerted to maintain this long-standing reputation. The Columbus Chamber of Commerce and its Military and Naval Affairs Committee fills an important function in working for continued good relations between the civilian and military communities.

Another council composed of Columbus busi-

ness and civic leaders meets monthly with Fort Benning and Lawson Field officials to discuss problems common to both groups. Truly it can be said that relations between the two groups remain ever harmonious.

Churches: There are churches of many denominations to which servicemen are invited. Schedules of church activities can be found in local papers or by consulting your chaplain. Many churches offer recreational and social activities each week.

Movies: There are 17 motion picture theaters in and around Columbus.

Servicemen's Centers: Three servicemen's centers offer an abundance of recreational facilities and personal services. These include snack bars, dormitories, electric irons, safekeeping facilities, check cashing service, money order, check room, sewing and package wrapping services.

They offer billiards, dark room materials, parlor games of all types, stationery and libraries. In addition, there are dances and dance classes, card parties, craft classes, discussion groups, picnics, group singing, bingo, vesper services and counselling, and servicemen's wives' clubs.

The Armed Services YMCA, open 24 hours a day, is at 16 West 11th Street; the National Catholic Community Service Men's Club at 100 9th Street, and the Colored Armed Services YMCA at 841 5th Avenue.

Other Clubs: In addition to the above facilities many of the churches operate servicemen's clubs at various times during the week.

MUNICIPAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Swimming: Municipal pool, 38th Street and 6th Avenue on North Highland Bus Route; St. Elmo Pool, Cherokee Avenue; Colored Pool, Woodland Pool, Glade Road.

Parks: Weracoba Park and Wildwood Playfield, reached by Wildwood Circle Bus, offers tennis courts, miniature golf, shuffleboard, horseshoe pitching and picnic grounds with outdoor ovens and tables. Both areas are illuminated at night and are attended by recreational employees.

Baseball: The Columbus Cardinals, affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals Baseball chain, make their home in Golden Park at 324 1st Avenue. Columbus' new 5,000-seat concrete and steel park is well lighted for night baseball in the exciting Class A Sally (South Atlantic) League.

Memorial Stadium: At Victory Drive and 6th Avenue, this stadium is the scene of the annual grid classic between the University of Georgia and Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn). Seating 25,000 persons, it is also the scene of the

annual New Years Day Peanut Bowl Game with competition furnished by an outstanding Georgia high school team and an out-of-state opponent.

WARM SPRINGS

The Warm Springs Foundation, nationally-known hospital for the treatment of infantile paralysis, and the Little White House, owned by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and scene of his death, are at Warm Springs 39 miles northeast of Columbus.

Southwest of Warm Springs some nine miles is Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park where outdoors-lovers can find thousands of acres of scenic Georgia countryside over which to romp. Picnic facilities, cabins, boats, swimming and hotel facilities are available.

The Little White House at Warm Springs





*Typical of Columbus' transportation facilities is the new
Muscogee County Airport*

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Between Columbus and Ft. Benning: The Columbus terminal for Benning buses is the Howard Greyhound Bus Station at 12th Street and 4th Avenue. Service is provided by a privately-owned company which operates on rapid regular schedules. At the post the bus terminal is near the Main Post Exchange on Wold Avenue. Buses also run from Columbus to the Sand Hill and Harmony Church areas.

Airlines: Eastern, Delta and Southern Airways operate regularly scheduled flights in and out of Columbus. Connections can be made for any part of the world. The Columbus terminal is at Muscogee County Airport, reached by bus or taxi from downtown Columbus. A Delta ticket office is in the Ralston Hotel. Tickets may also be obtained at the airport where all three lines maintain ticket offices or from the Travel Bureau in

the Ralston Hotel. There is also an airlines office on the Main Post.

Buses: Several bus companies operate through Columbus. The Trailways Bus Terminal is at 1329 Broadway. Tickets and schedule information can be obtained by telephoning 7-4391. Trailways and other lines use this terminal.

The Greyhound Line operates from the Howard Bus Station (see above).

Railroads: Columbus is served by the Central of Georgia, the Southern Railway, and the Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company. The Union Station is at 6th Avenue and 12th Street. Ticket and schedule information is available by calling 3-5658.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Telephone Centers: Telephone centers with attendants on duty to help put through calls, to make change and to furnish information regarding telephone service are open week-day evenings, Saturday afternoons and evenings and Sundays. Here facilities are provided to assist you in making long distance calls. Booths are also available for making local calls. You will find centers in the following locations:

Main Post: Hall Street, rear of Finance Building.

Sand Hill: Corner Scott Avenue and 7th Street.



Placing Long Distance calls at a Telephone Center

Harmony Church: 1. Corner of Cusseta Highway and El Caney Street.

2. Kinney and Douglas Streets opposite Finance Building. (Officer Candidate Area)

Long distance calls should be placed with one of the Center attendants. When the call has been put through, she will notify you by means of the loudspeaker and assign you to a booth.

Booths are located outside of the Telephone Centers for use when attendants are not on duty. In addition, there are other booths located at service clubs, hospitals, guest houses, officers' and non-commissioned officers' clubs and other convenient places where local and long distance calls can be placed.

To help you pass the time pleasantly while

waiting for your calls to go through, there is provided at each Center a selection of popular magazines, stationery for writing letters, and post cards. You will also find a Personal Number folder in which to record the local and long distance telephone numbers you frequently call.

If you are in doubt about the number you wish to call in some other city, please refer to the Center's directory library. Here you will find telephone directories for many cities of the nation.

We hope you will sign our Guest Register, which will be found in each Center, and give us any comments or suggestions you may have about the Telephone Centers or our telephone service.

Telephone Managers: Two experienced telephone men serve as full-time Telephone Managers for the post. They are here to assist you and see that public telephones serve you as effectively as possible. If you have questions, suggestions, or criticisms, they will be glad to receive them. The Managers' office is located in the Main Post Telephone Center behind the Finance Building.

FACTS ABOUT LONG DISTANCE CALLS

How to Place a Call: When placing your call with the attendant on duty at a telephone center, tell her the name of the town and state you're

calling and give her the telephone number, if known—otherwise give the name and address under which the telephone is listed.

Remain in the Center until the attendant notifies you that your party has been reached. You'll find magazines, writing paper and games for your convenience while waiting.

If you are calling from a public telephone booth, dial "O" and when "Operator" answers, give her the above information. Instructions are on the telephone.

Collect Calls: Upon your request, your call can be billed to the called party, if they are willing to accept the charges. If you wish to have the charges made "collect," please make this request at the time you place your call.

Station-to-Station Calls: A Station-to-Station call is one when you merely ask to be connected with a certain telephone in a distant city. The charges begin when that telephone is answered.

Person-to-Person Calls: A Person-to-Person call is one when you ask to be connected with a particular person at a distant telephone, or with a particular station on a private branch exchange. Charges on a Person-to-Person call do not begin until the person you want reaches the telephone or the P.B.X. telephone answers. It will speed up your call if you furnish the called telephone number.

How to Avoid Rush Hours: For faster service, calls should be made during the day. Rates are slightly higher then, but you will avoid the busy evening hours and the night rush. Generally you'll find that calls placed before 6 p.m. go through faster.

Night and Sunday Rates: Calls placed after 6 p.m. and before 4:30 a.m. on weekdays and all day on Sunday and certain holidays carry a reduced rate.

Lines Are Crowded: There is such a heavy demand for the long distance telephone lines that traffic jams sometimes occur, especially after 6 p.m. Calls are delayed and you may have to wait for your call to go through.

We are sorry that these delays occur, but we want you to know that we will do all we can to get your call through as quickly as possible. On the next three pages are some suggestions as to how you can help us give you the most efficient service. Following them will help speed your calls.

How to Call Between Columbus and Fort Benning: To call from a public telephone on the Post to Columbus telephones, dial the Columbus number just as you would dial from one Columbus telephone to another. You may use the coin-box public telephones in the Centers for local calls.

To call from Columbus to official telephones on

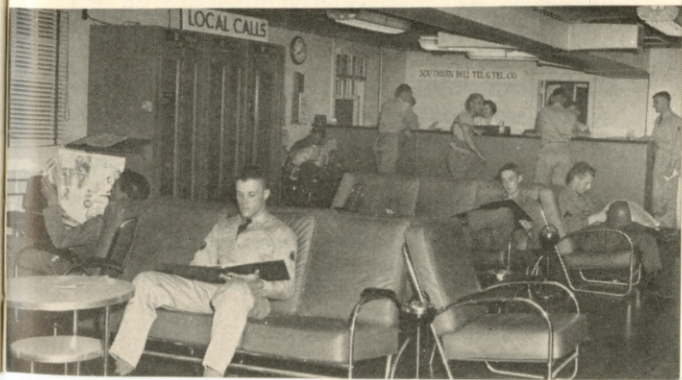
the Post, first—be sure to dial 6631, then give the Fort Benning operator the Fort Benning extension number desired. If the extension number is not known, ask for “Information,” after reaching Fort Benning.

To call a Fort Benning number from any public telephone, dial 6631; ask the Post Operator for the extension desired.

Remember, you have reached the called number when the Fort Benning operator answers, regardless of whether the extension you want is busy or does not answer—your money will be collected.

To call Columbus from an official Fort Benning telephone, dial 9 after hearing the first dial tone, and then dial the Columbus number after the second dial tone is heard. For detailed informa-

Harmony Church telephone center





Writing a letter home on telephone center stationery

tion about use of official telephones, see Fort Benning telephone directory. Telephones on the Post, other than public telephones are provided by the Post Signal Office.

LONG DISTANCE TIPS

Avoid the rush when you can. Lines are most crowded, as a rule, after 6 p.m., so call earlier if it is possible to do so.

Call by number when you can. It helps speed up service in general. When you must make a call and don't know the number, be sure to obtain it from the operator for future use.

Many out-of-town directories for larger cities are available at the Telephone Centers. Post

telephone numbers may be obtained from the post telephone directory published by the Post Signal Office.

Call instead of being called. It's almost always quicker to complete a call by placing it from the post rather than having the folks back home call you. It's because they have a fixed location.

Plan your call in advance in order to say the most and "find out the most" in the shortest time. Being brief helps others get a line quicker.

If you're placing the call collect (you can do so when the called party is willing to accept the charges), be sure to tell the operator so when you *place* your call.

Wait near the telephone if your call is delayed. At the Centers, magazines and letter-writing material have been supplied to help you pass the time pleasantly. If you go away, the operator has no means of reaching you—and you may miss the call when it comes through.

Have proper change, if possible, when calling from the public telephones. At the Centers, operator-attendants will make change and accept pay for your calls.

Your comments or suggestions regarding the public telephone service at Fort Benning will be most welcome. Please let us have them.

FROM _____

FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

**PLACE
STAMP
HERE**

TO _____

