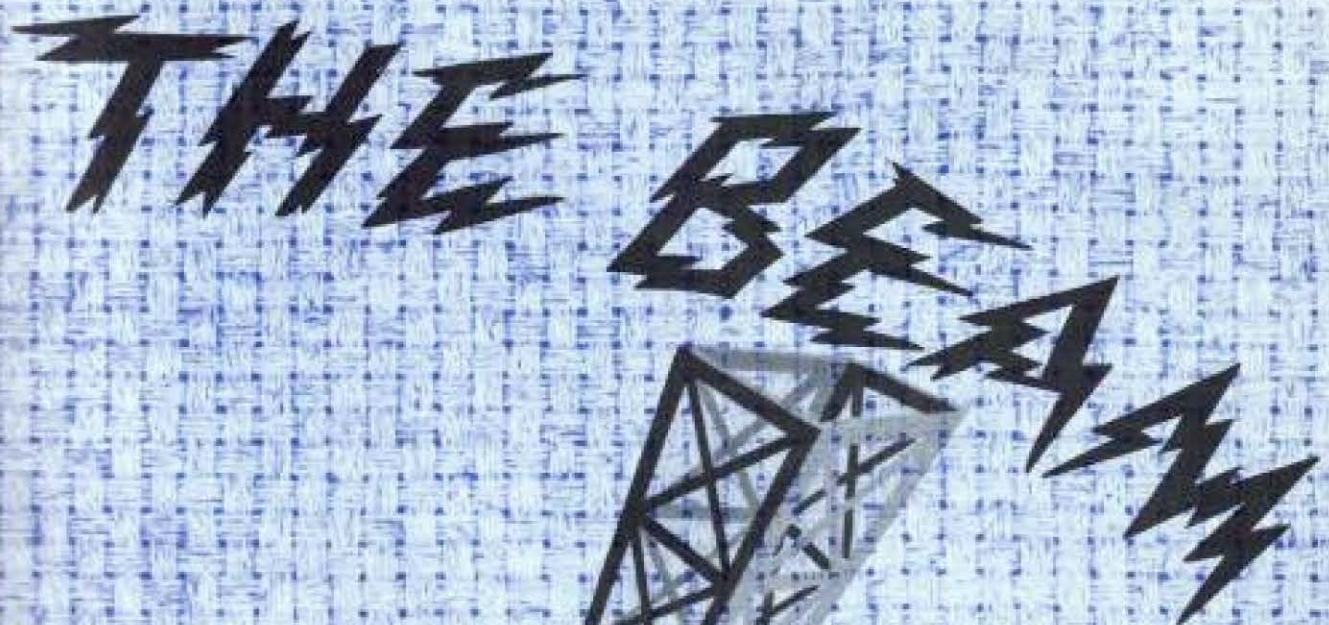


THE BEA



TRUAX FIELD
MADISON, WISCONSIN

W. Howard R. Stelton

ARMY AIR FORCES CENTRAL TECHNICAL TRAINING COMMAND

APPRECIATION

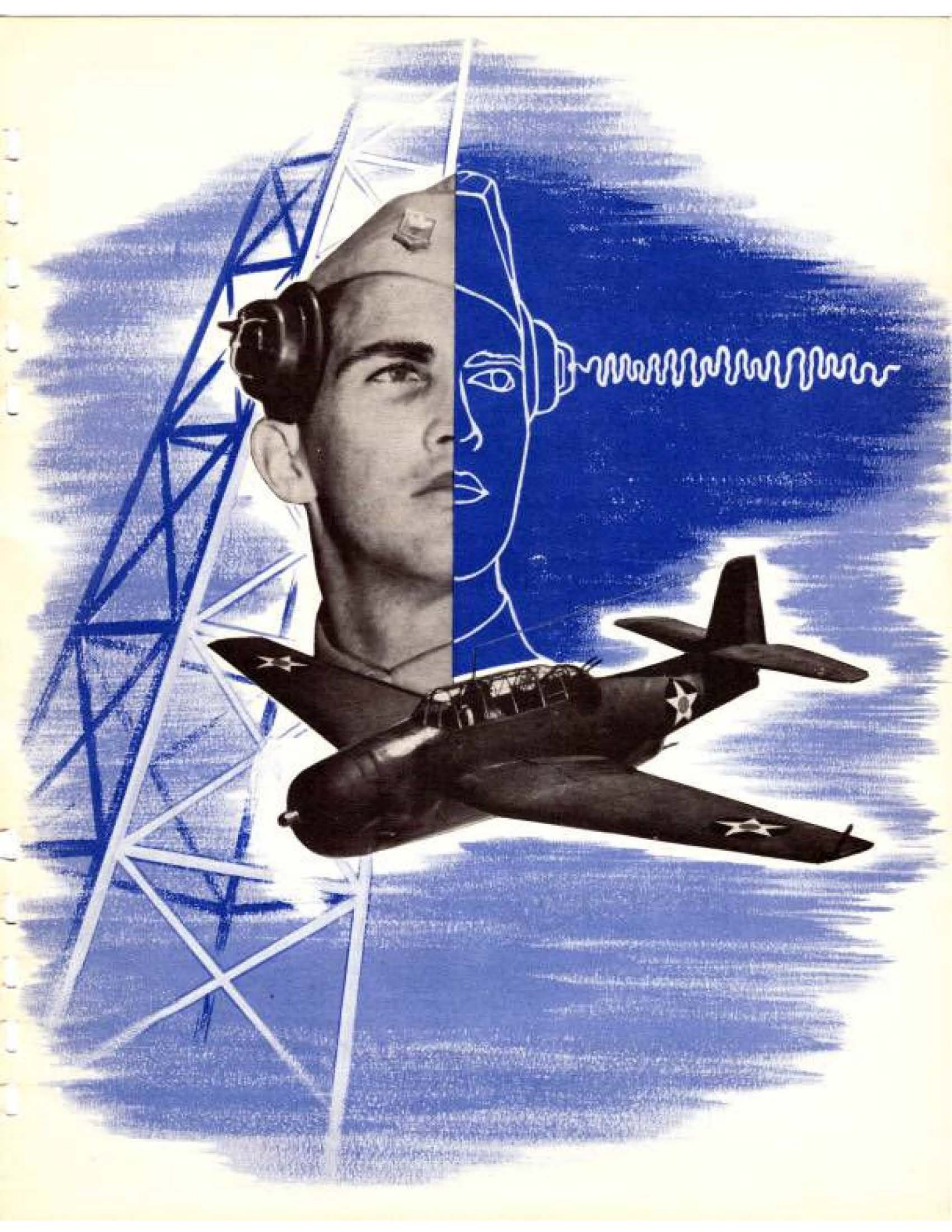


**FOR ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION OF THE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE, AFTTC, MADISON,
WISCONSIN ON COMPILING DATA FOR THIS BOOK.**

IN

Published by

THE EVERETT SCHNEIDER CO. AMBASSADOR BUILDING., ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI





Dedication . . .

The Army Air Forces' contribution to winning the global war is an overwhelming air force and the necessary trained personnel to operate and service it.

As the Technical Training Command of the Army Air Forces expanded, a new mid-western location for a radio school was necessary and after an exhaustive survey, it was decided that Madison Wisconsin was the ideal place. Ample water and electric power facilities, friendly people and many other things entered into the selection.

After many names were submitted for this new field, the committee decided with the help of Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin on the name of one of Madison's own heroes.

Lieutenant Thomas L. (Bud) Truax was the man chosen for the signal honor of having an air field named after him. Lieut. Truax, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, received his basic training at Kelly Field and his advanced training at Randolph Field, Texas. Before realizing his ambition of fighting the Japs over China, he was killed in an air crash near San Francisco.

To Lieutenant Truax, Army Air man, who has given his life to the U. S. Army Air Forces and his name to Truax Field, this book is dedicated.

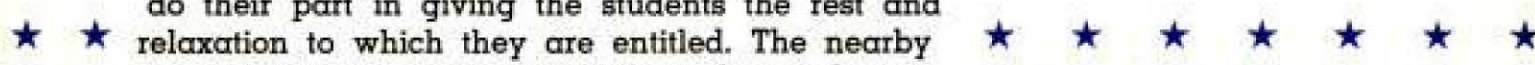


Foreword . . .

Truax Field, while young, is rapidly earning a reputation as an outstanding Technical School, and has recently been selected as THE basic training center for students who will later attend advanced courses in radio and communications.

There is a unique atmosphere about Truax Field, because by its very nature, the military end of the training has been made secondary to the technical course which is so important. Our military training and drill is accomplished in the barracks and in marching in formations to classrooms, mess halls and sport events. The consistent concentration on practical rather than theoretical radio training primarily has already begun to pay dividends as our graduates who are now in the field are showing results of this highly concentrated and practical experience of which Truax Field is justly proud.

In spite of this, life at Truax Field is not all work and no play. The numerous day rooms, service centers, theaters and gymnasium on the field all do their part in giving the students the rest and relaxation to which they are entitled. The nearby city of Madison, which the students have always claimed to be one of the friendliest cities they have ever visited, has achieved the reputation for hospitality and generosity which we have yet to see excelled.



TRUAX FIELD . . .



7RUAX Field's contribution to U. S. air power cannot be overestimated. Thousands and thousands of Radio Operators and Mechanics have left this post well founded in the fundamentals of communication systems, and after advanced training, are taking their

AND U. S. AIR POWER



places with pilots, navigators, bombardiers and air mechanics in forming plane crews which are blasting the enemy out of the skies in all parts of the world.

The men of Truax Field are proud of the growing importance of the part they play in U. S. air power.





Franklin Delano Roosevelt
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES



General Henry H. Arnold
COMMANDING GENERAL
ARMY AIR FORCES



Major General Barton K. Yount
COMMANDING GENERAL
AAF TRAINING COMMAND



Major General Frederick L. Martin
COMMANDING GENERAL, AAF CENTRAL
TECHNICAL TRAINING COMMAND



A graduate of George Washington University in 1907, he entered the United States Army on December 20, 1911 as a Second Lieutenant, Coast Artillery Corps. In 1917 he transferred to the Air Corps, and served as a pilot in World War I.

He was Commanding General of the African Middle East Wing, Air Transport Command, before taking this command. Rated: Command Pilot.

Brigadier General
Shepler W. Fitzgerald
COMMANDING GENERAL

POST STAFF



Executive Officer
LT. COL. S. W. WEBSTER



Post Adjutant
MAJOR DANIEL MCCOY



S-1
MAJOR RUSSELL C. MORRISON



S-2
MAJOR H. H. RADTKE



S-3
LT. COL. R. S. WATTS



S-4
LT. COL. R. A. ILLSLEY



Post Judge Advocate
MAJOR W. A. EDMISTON



Quartermaster
MAJOR H. N. BIRBY



Post Surgeon
LT. COL. M. U. PRESCOTT



Post Engineer
CAPT. WALTER E. WHELAN



Mess Officer
MAJOR PHILIP I. TRUSDEK



Special Service Officer
CAPT. J. O. CARSON II



Public Relations Officer
MAJOR HAROLD A. PATTERSON



Station Air Inspector
MAJOR THOMAS W. SAVAGE



Provost Marshal
CAPT. WILLIE H. BEACH



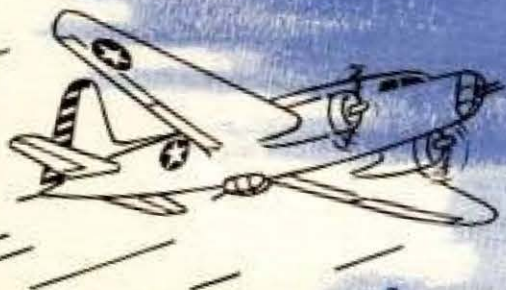
Signal Officer
MAJOR H. B. PITNEY



Post Chaplain
MAJOR RUSSELL L. SHAY



Director of Physical Training
MAJOR NEVILLE B. BOLZART



Finance Officer
CAPT. J. M. RUDDY



Exchange Officer
MAJOR F. J. BONCHETTI

POST STAFF



Civilian Employment Officer
LT. COL. IVAN C. JACKSON



LT. COL. S. M. BREWSTER



MAJOR FREDERICK ULAM



LT. COL. O. B. WALLACE



Group Commander
MAJOR BERT D. PAINE



Group Supervisor
MAJOR THOMAS GRAHAM



**RADIO
SCHOOL STAFF**



Col. Fay O. Dice
DIRECTOR OF TRAINING



Secretary
MAJOR R. H. BOMBERS



Acting Director
Dept. of Radio Mechanics
CAPT. KENNETH D. COLEMAN



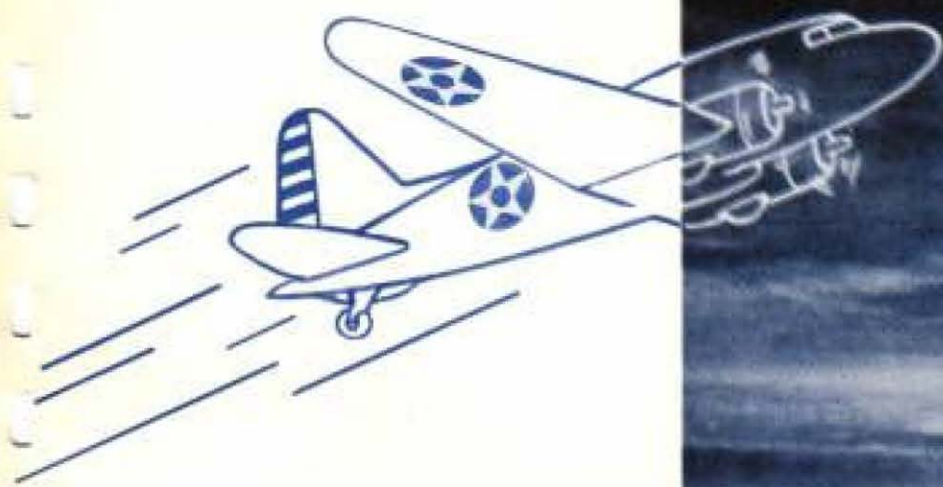
Director
Dept. of Radio Operators
MAJOR C. V. ROSE



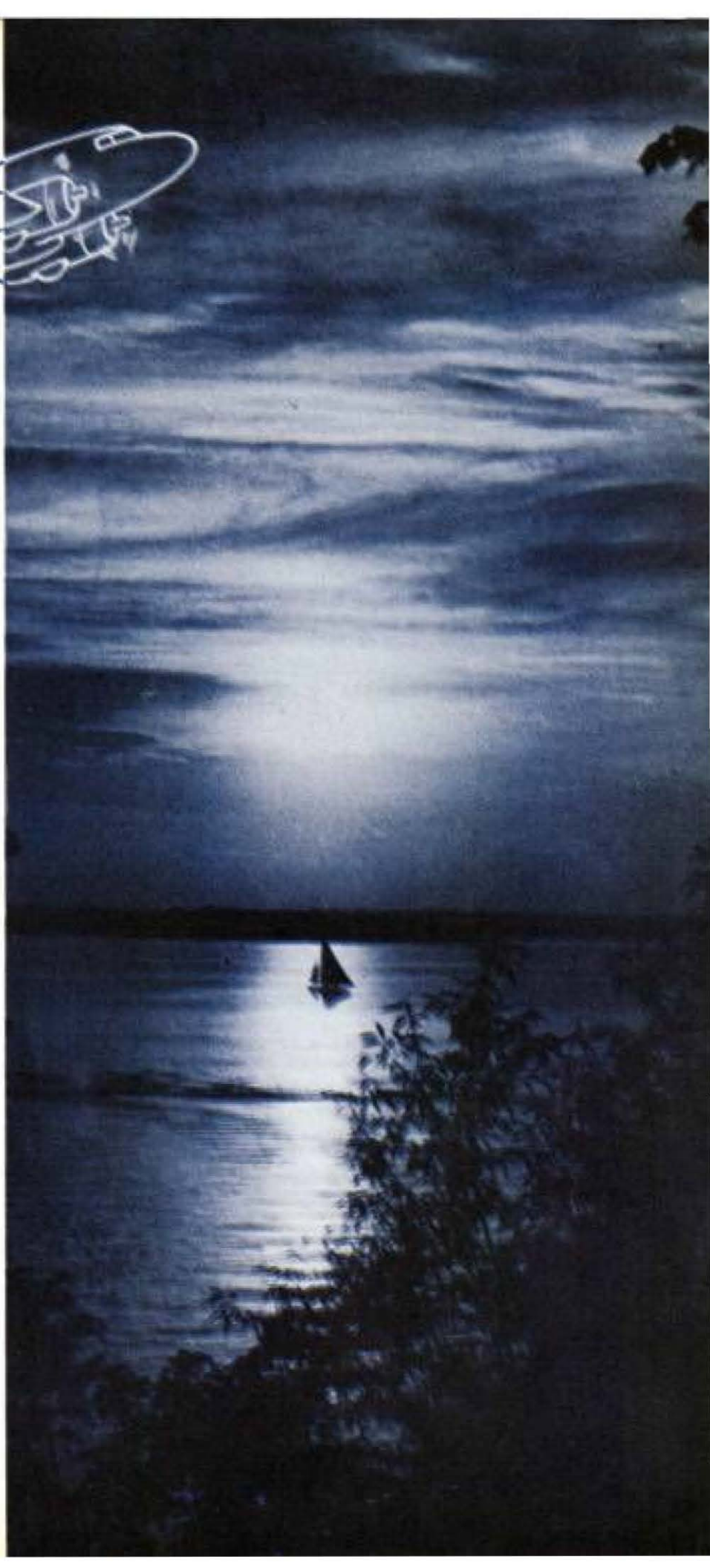


A RADIO POST IN THE HEART OF A STATE CAPITOL

The selection of a site for a new Radio Communication School brings up many important problems. An ample supply of water, electric power, sewage disposal facilities, transportation for men and supplies are important factors. When the surveying officers inspected Madison, Wisconsin they knew that this, the State Capitol, was the place they had been seeking.



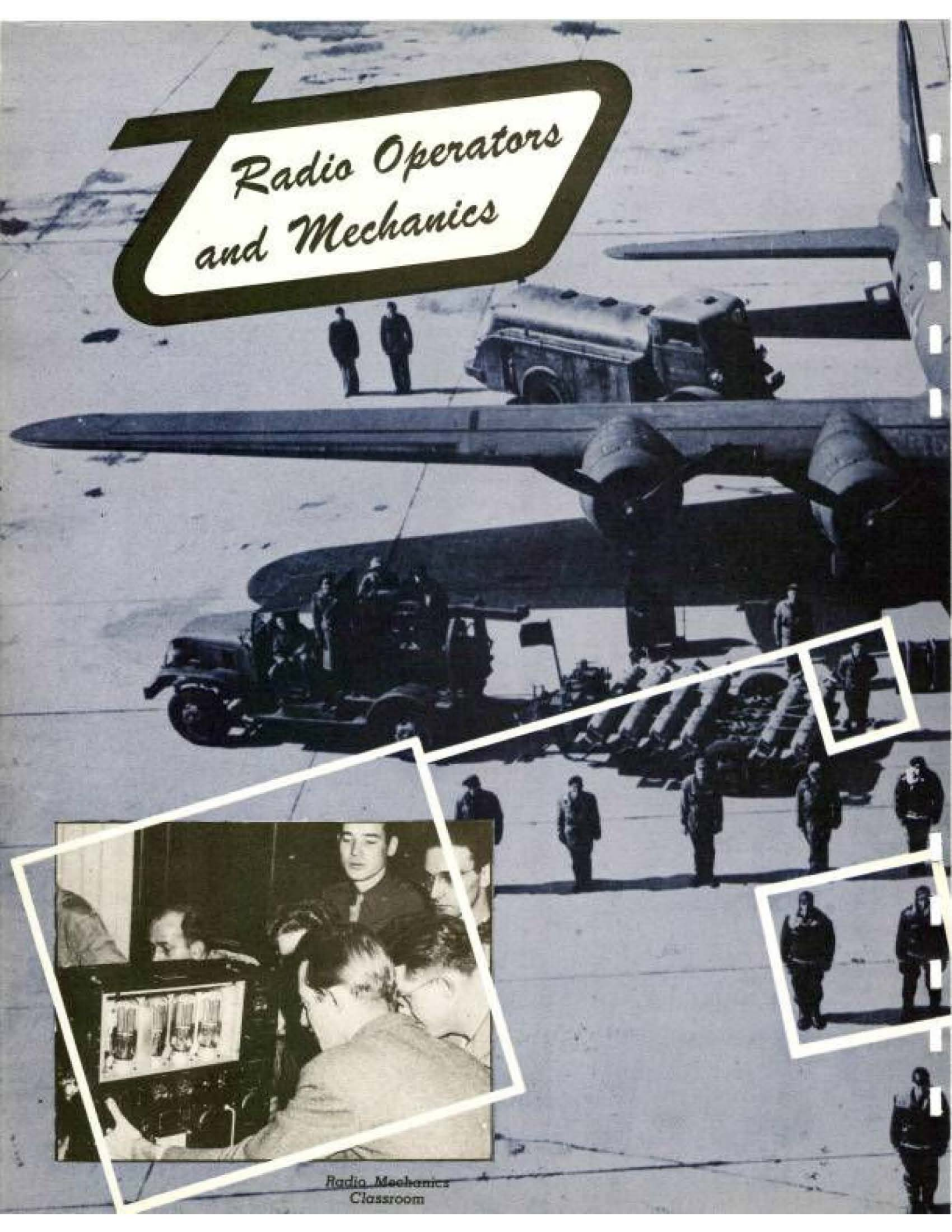
A broad expanse of farm land in May, Truax Field miraculously sprung up almost over night. Streets were laid out, buildings erected, equipment installed and, after a thorough course of study, the first class of Radio Mechanics and Operators graduated late in October. A fine tribute to the advantages of a school in a State Capitol.

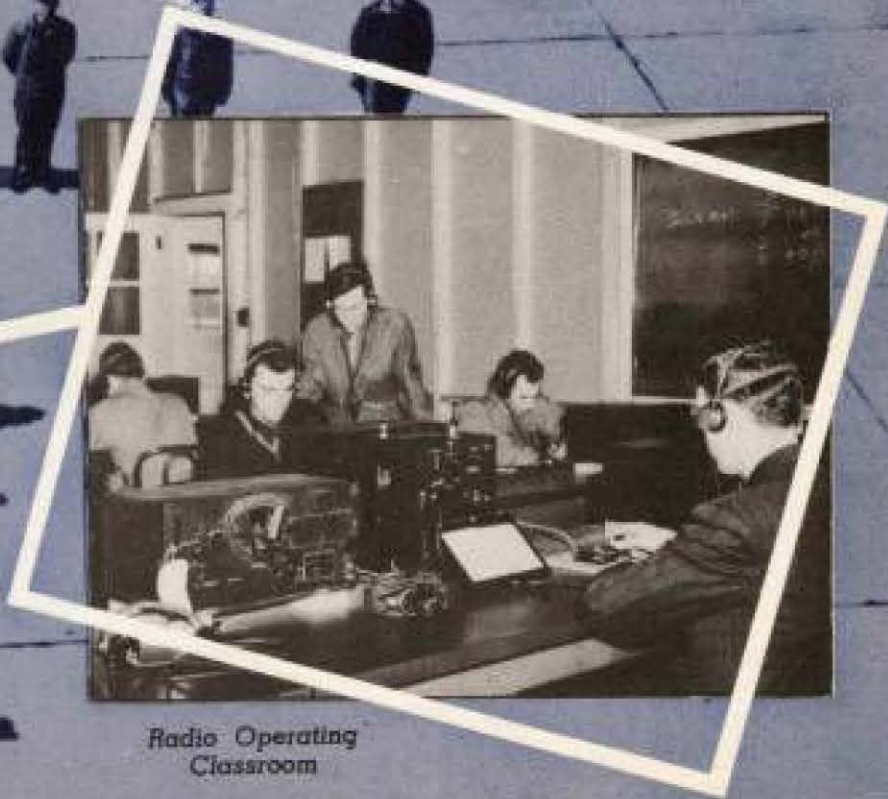


Radio Operators and Mechanics



Radio Mechanics
Classroom





Radio Operating
Classroom



WINGS OVER TRUAX FIELD




Radio Important in Modern War

Shortly after war actually reached into the American home, Truax Field had begun to do its part in America's expanding defense. The flow of young men from all over America has been progressing at an ever-increasing pace. The role of the Radio Operator and Mechanic in modern warfare is vital. Without it, there could be no widespread battles, either on the ground or in the air. Radio is necessary



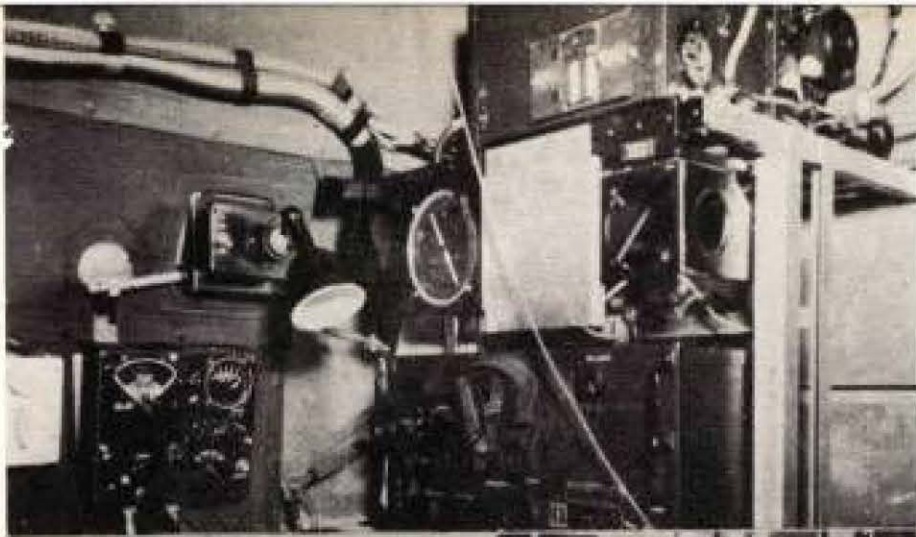


in coordinating attacks, and keeping alive the essential plane-to-ground communication that so often spells a difference between victory and defeat. For every plane in the Air Force today, with the exception of pursuit ships, two radio men are necessary. Theirs is a part without glory, without headlines, without fame, and often without appreciation from the civilian population. But to the pilots, who depend upon the beam to get them safely home, who depend upon perfect radio signals and messages to guide them, the role of the Radio Operator and Mechanic is not to be taken lightly. It is a part to be played with pride, with apologies to no one. Truax Field is supplying such men now.



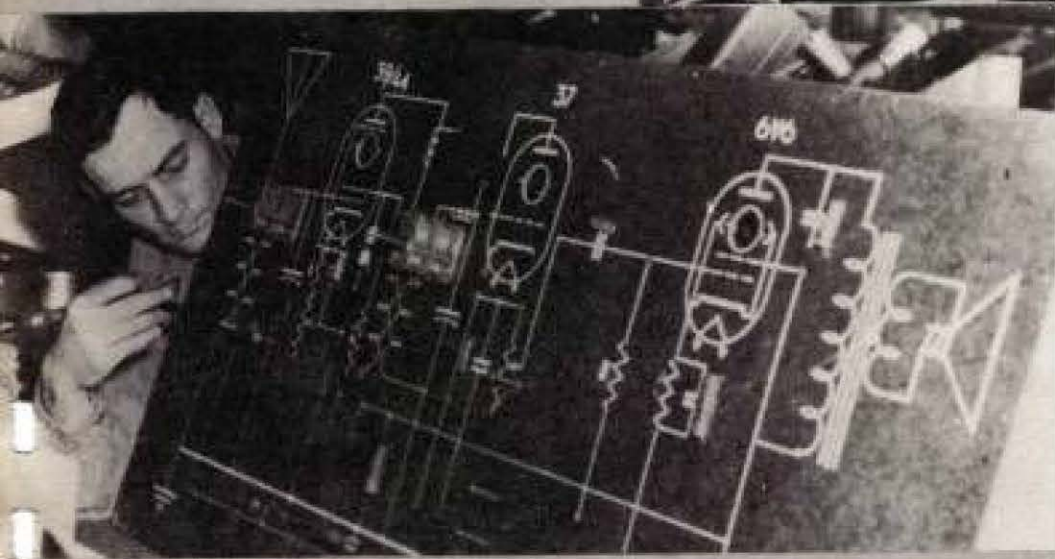
Radio School

IN the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command Radio Schools the student learns to become a radio operator and mechanic under many and varied conditions. He must be able to operate in a black-out or at a desk under the high pressure of heavy traffic handling or to keep his head during a rush hour in a control tower. At this school the student receives the basic knowledge of the use and maintenance of radio equipment based on his code speeds and grades, of going into many different branches of service. From here he goes to advanced training school for combat or service units. He may become a member of a combat crew on a bomber or part of a vital unit handling a control tower in a big flying field; he may attend a further training school to handle "radar" or radio-locator equipment. This school is just the beginning preparatory step in this radio training.



High-power liaison transmitter and receiving equipment installation in a bomber.

High-power transmitter in.



Demonstration Board showing relation of actual parts of a receiver to the schematic diagram studied in receiver fundamentals.



Radio operating while wearing the G.I. "nose-bag" or gas mask.

Telephone procedure and operation.





The student enters mock-up with a new set of tuning coils preparatory to taking off on a theoretical flight.

This is an advanced class in radio operating in which each student is provided with a communications receiver. Traffic is handled through three different control stations.



In the maintenance and repair department of the aircraft radio branch the sets are deliberately thrown out of balance or repair by instructors. The students then struggle to locate and repair the trouble.

Controls of an interphone communication panel on a bomber installation.



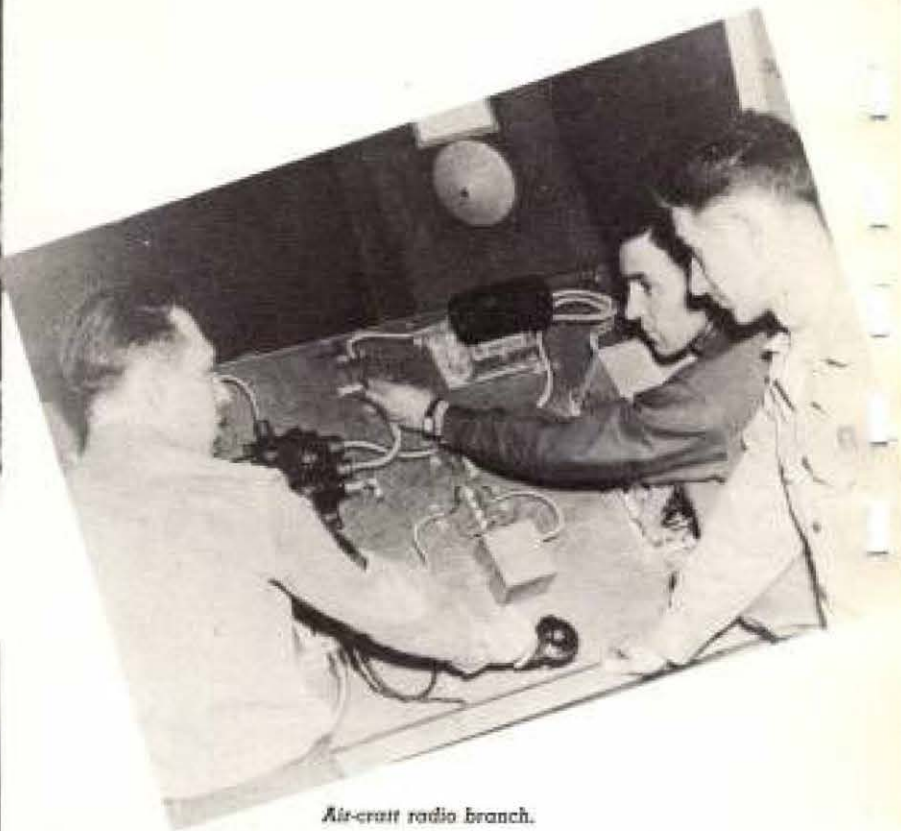
Students on the inside of a mock-up study transmitter installation.



Students assemble a basic transmitter in the Radio Fundamentals Branch.

Bread-board receiver design in the Radio Fundamentals Branch.





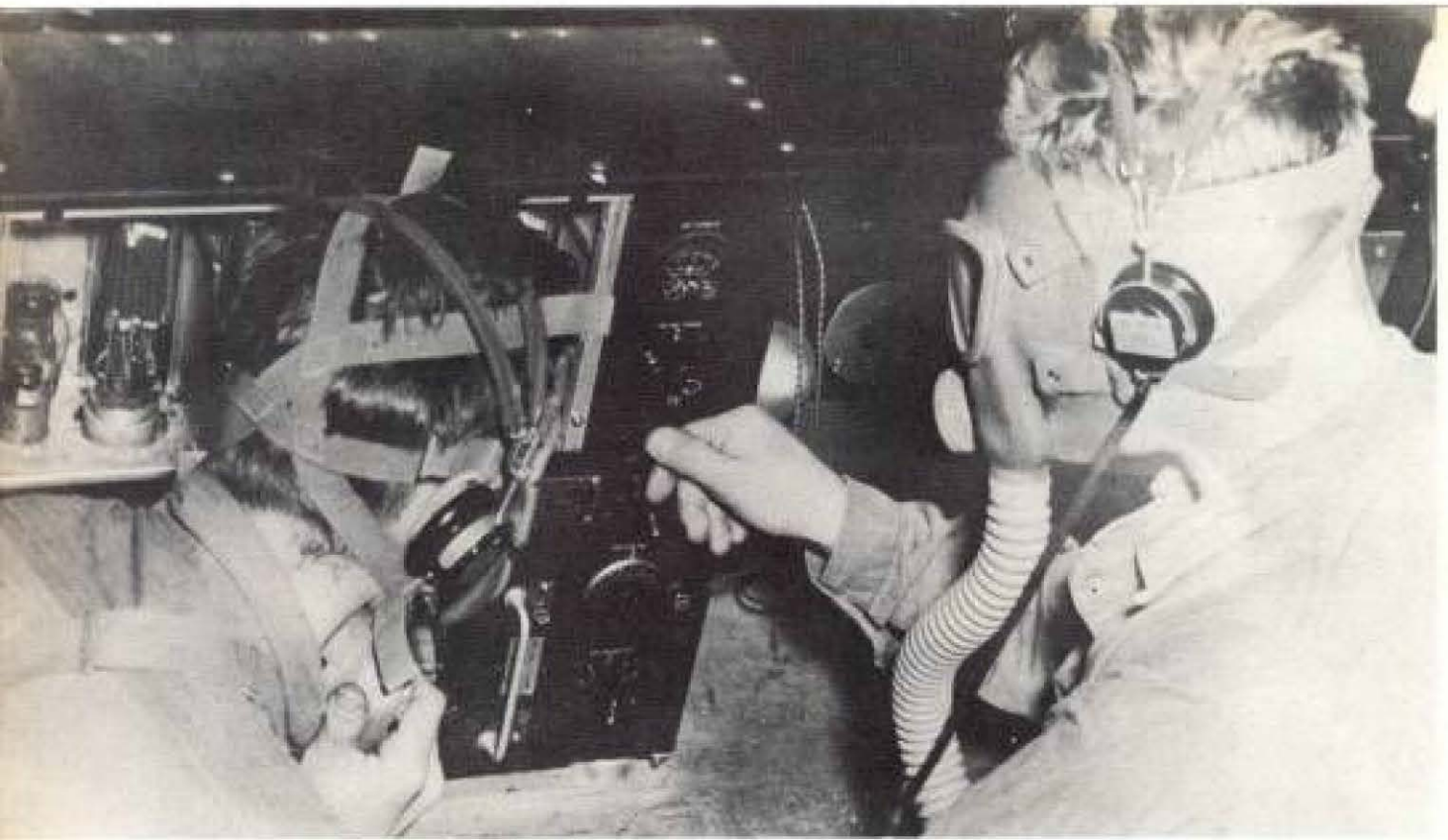
Air-craft radio branch.



Basic receiver lab.

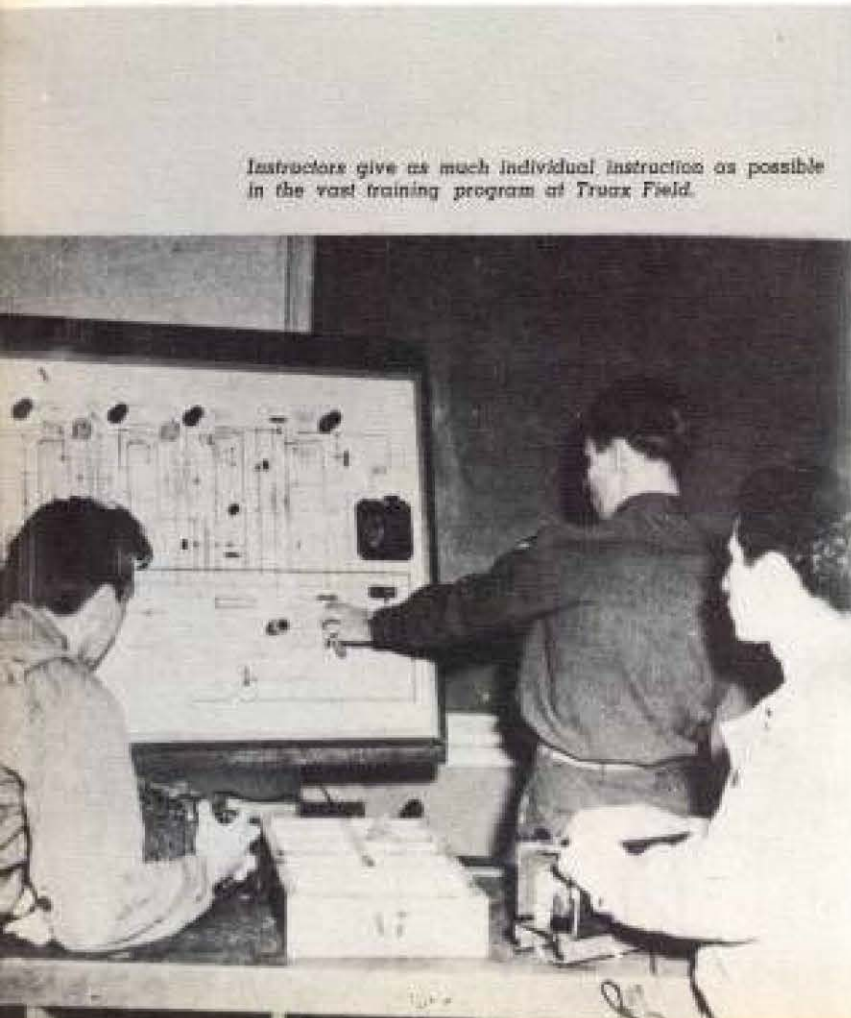


Every genius has his day.



Working under simulated gas conditions, men of Truax don their gas masks in one of the radio mech. labs.

In the Radio mech. labs, the student is "All Work", as he well knows the knowledge he receives at Truax will be invaluable after he is graduated from this school.

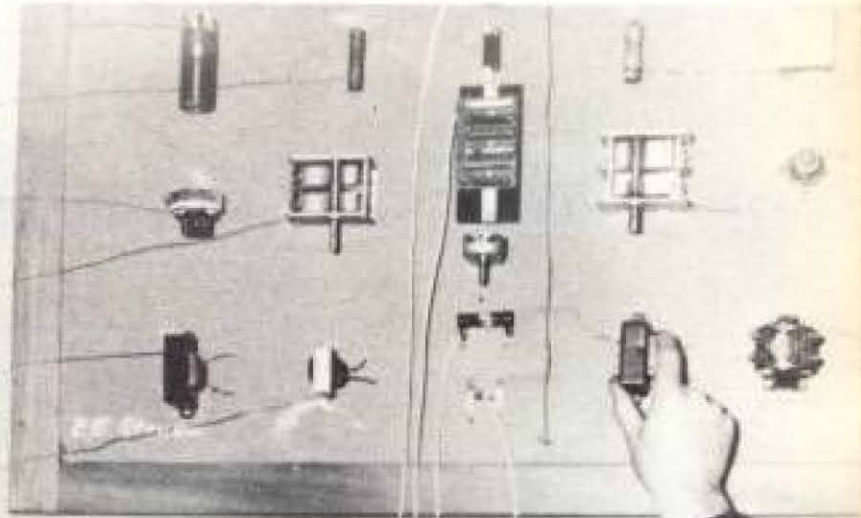


Instructors give as much individual instruction as possible in the vast training program at Truax Field.





At the beginning of a course in radio the basic fundamentals are stressed and the students become familiar with the electrical parts and equipment used in building the sets that are later operated. This is a lay-out demonstration board showing individual parts used in radio construction.



This is one of the blinker towers in which the advanced students get training in sending and receiving code visually. Several of these towers form a circuit around the field, and a message is started at one end and finishes up at its source.

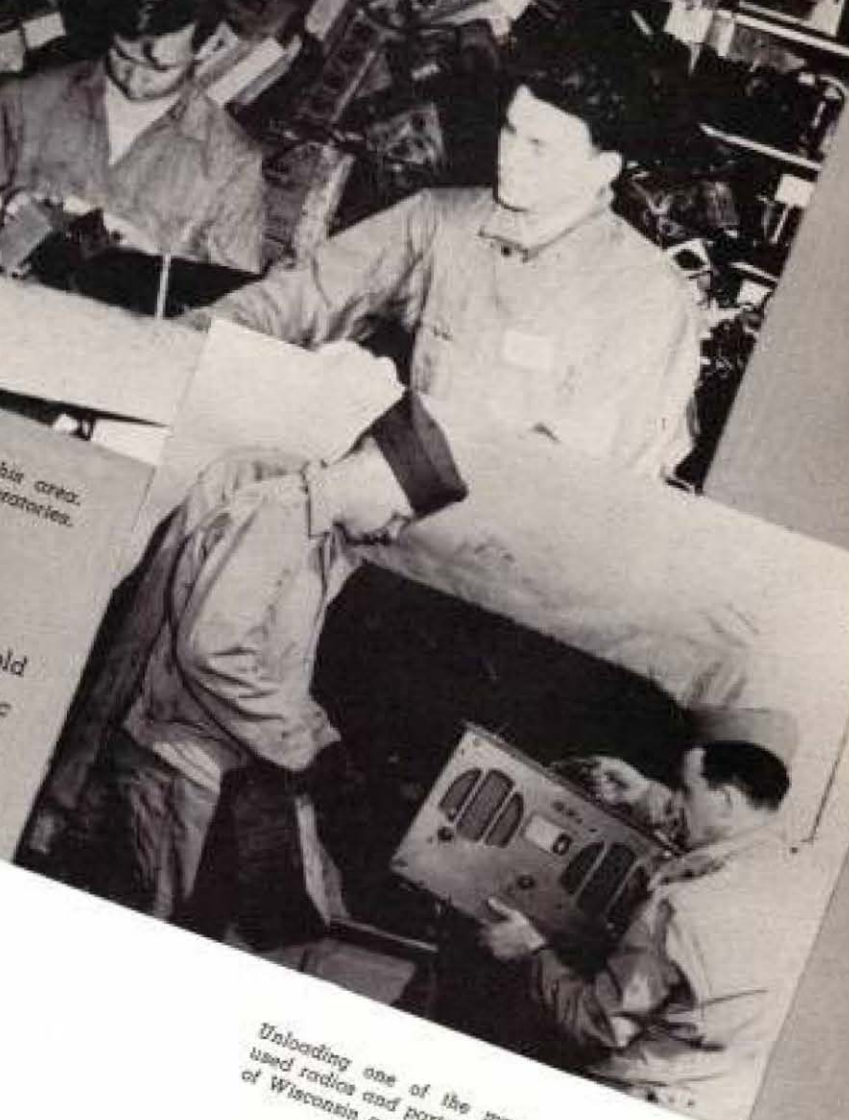
Old Radios



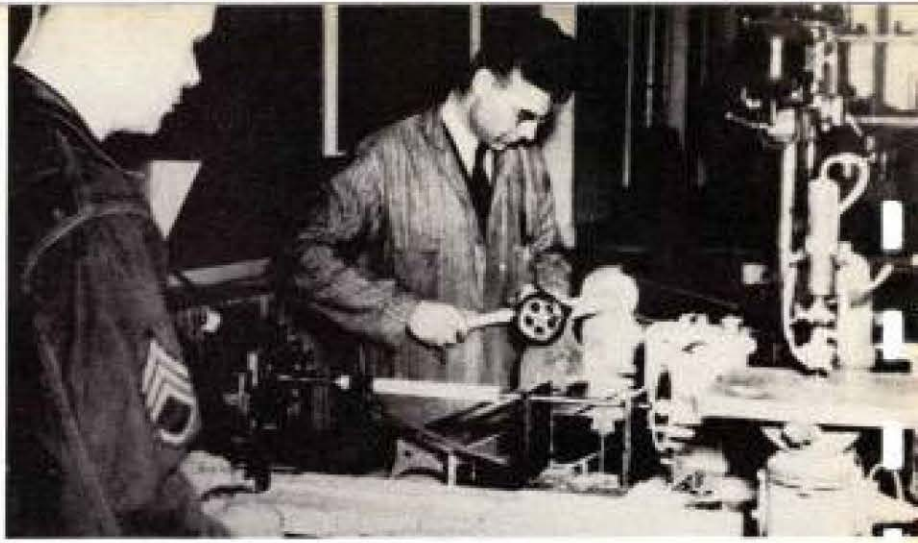
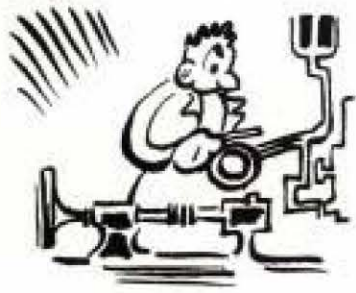


Sorting the old radios contributed by the generous public of this area. The parts will be used in the radio school's training laboratories.

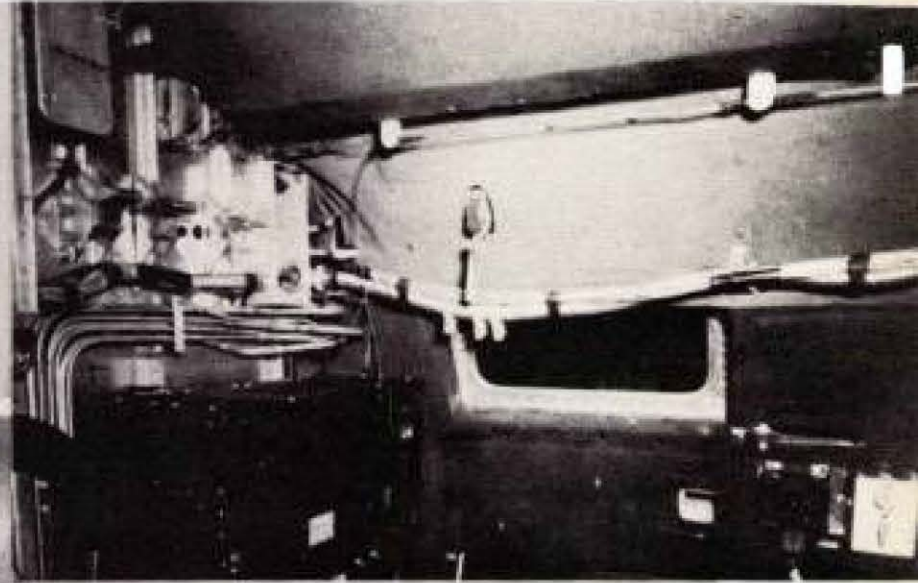
7 THOUSANDS upon thousand of old radios were collected from patriotic citizens of Madison, Milwaukee, St. Paul and all Wisconsin, even from Michigan, in response to the newspaper and radio-broadcast drives for these used sets which are broken down and used in the training laboratories of the Truax Field Technical Training Command. Everyone responded nobly — small boys, grown-ups, and institutions. The second drive brought an even greater response than did the first, in an apparently unending flood.



Unloading one of the many truck-loads of used radios and parts donated by the citizens of Wisconsin and nearby states.



Major General Frederick L. Martin arrives to inspect Truax Field; is greeted by Commanding Officer and aides.





High-power liaison sets, mock-ups, actual aircraft installations, "briefing" or pre-flight instructions, and radio operating with gas masks on to simulate difficult conditions go to make up the varied life of the radio student.



In the mock-ups the students get "briefing" or pre-flight instructions. Each mock-up is assigned a course and a position in a flight. The students get their instructions and "take off", remaining in constant contact with their central control stations with whom they work out all necessary traffic problems.



WEEK after week, the railroads bring students to Truax Field from other stations and training centers in all parts of this country. The central meeting place of these men and the first place to which all soldiers report is the well-known Casual Office. It is here that they are lined up and counted to make sure that none are missing; and should the arrival be in the evening, their names are called out and they are assigned to the various squadrons for administration, rations and pay. Their bedding is issued to them and they are assigned their barracks which are to be their homes for the months to come.

Again, when the course is completed, students again find themselves at the Casual Office. Their names have been entered on orders, and with the other members of their graduating class, they fall into

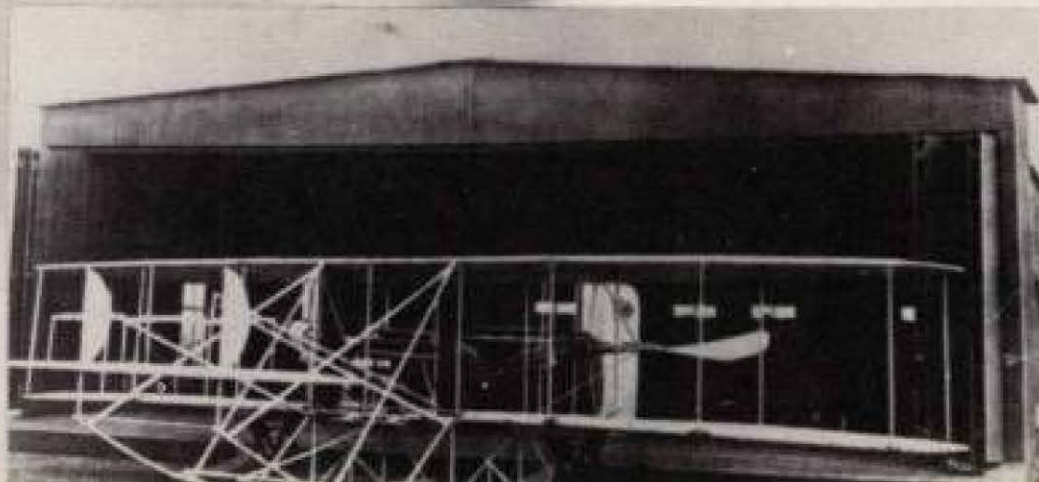
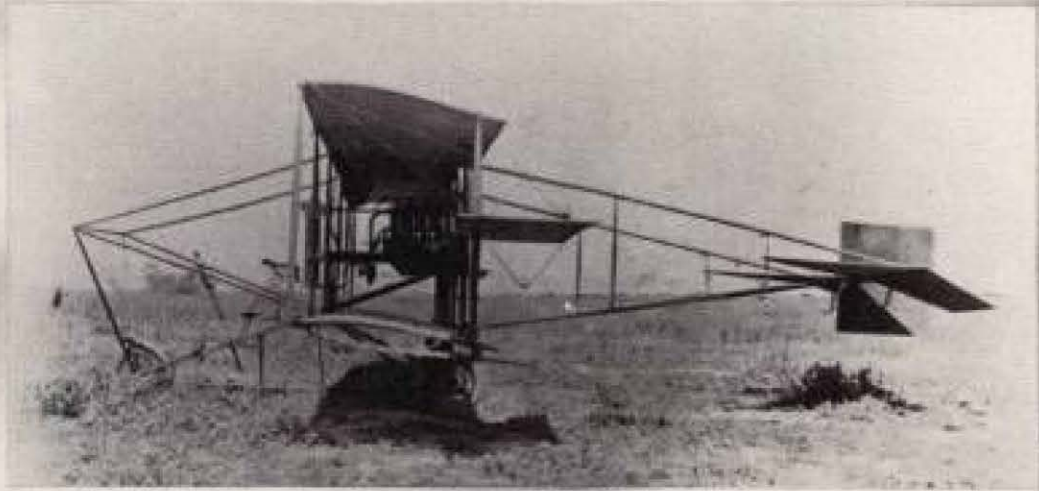


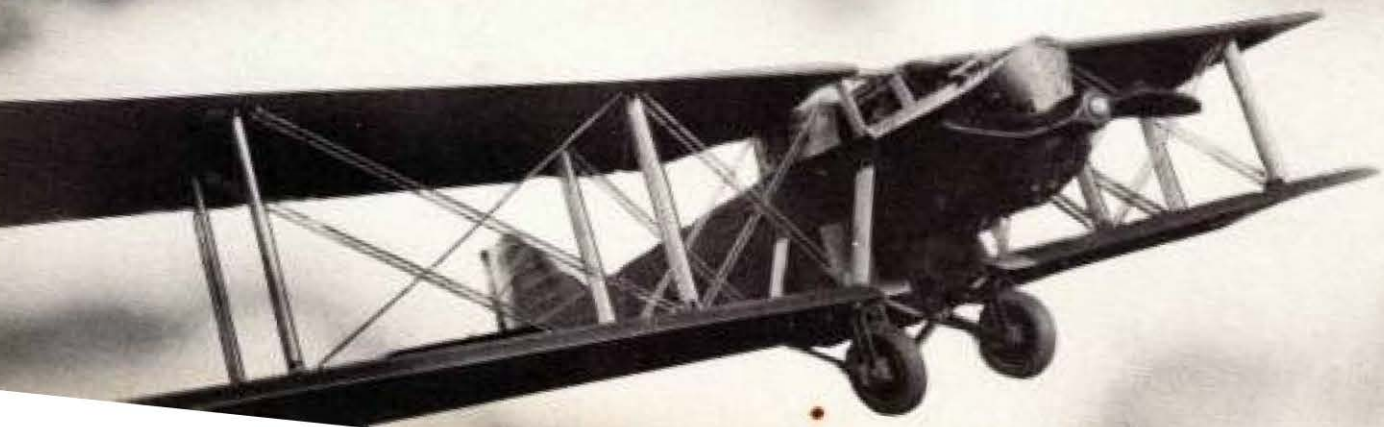
formation and are assigned to a rail-road car for transportation to their next post. Time and time again, classes have been broken up and buddies have been sent to opposite ends of the country and many a fond farewell has been said in the barracks of the Casual Office.

New Arrivals have first roll call in their squadron attachment at Truox Field. Allocation to Barracks is next.

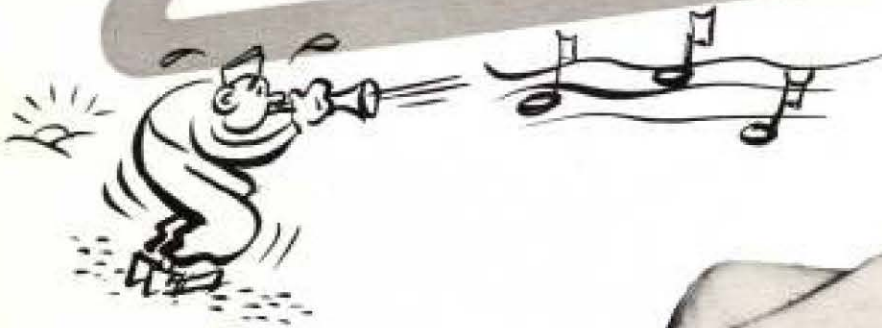


Just off the Train — hot, tired, dusty, they arrive at Truox Field from all parts of the United States, to become members of Uncle Sam's great combat teams.





Another Day

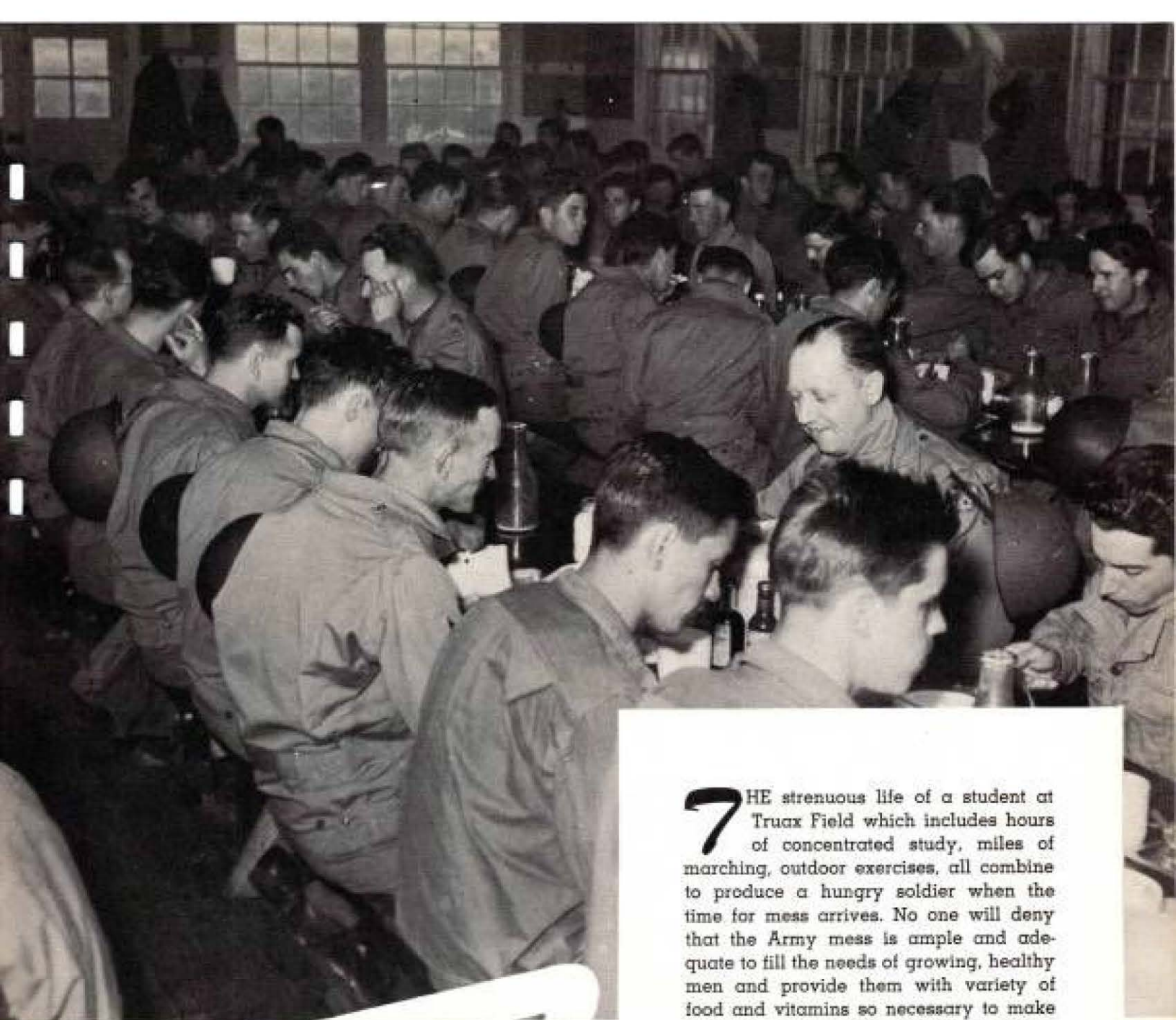


"FIRST CALL"—Time to roll out and hit the floor. In the wee, small hours, the job begins of training men for war.



Every day is wash-day in this man's army, and those who care to may do their own laundry in their free time.

"A GOOD SOLDIER IS A CLEAN SOLDIER",
and the Army latrines are where cleanliness starts — personal cleanliness.



7 HE strenuous life of a student at Truax Field which includes hours of concentrated study, miles of marching, outdoor exercises, all combine to produce a hungry soldier when the time for mess arrives. No one will deny that the Army mess is ample and adequate to fill the needs of growing, healthy men and provide them with variety of food and vitamins so necessary to make them into the type of men which the Army stands for. Top quality food is purchased after rigid inspection and the most modern of equipment is used to prepare this into tasty, appetizing dishes which the men's appetites prove they really enjoy. No trip to an Army post is complete without a visit to a mess hall and every visitor is impressed with the cleanliness and efficiency with which the vast amount of food necessary is prepared and served in a minimum amount of time. No soldier has ever left the Army without vivid and lasting impressions of his many trips to the mess halls.

Mess





SUPPERTIME, WHEN EATIN' IS EASY, and the day's work is over, so no one's in a hurry.

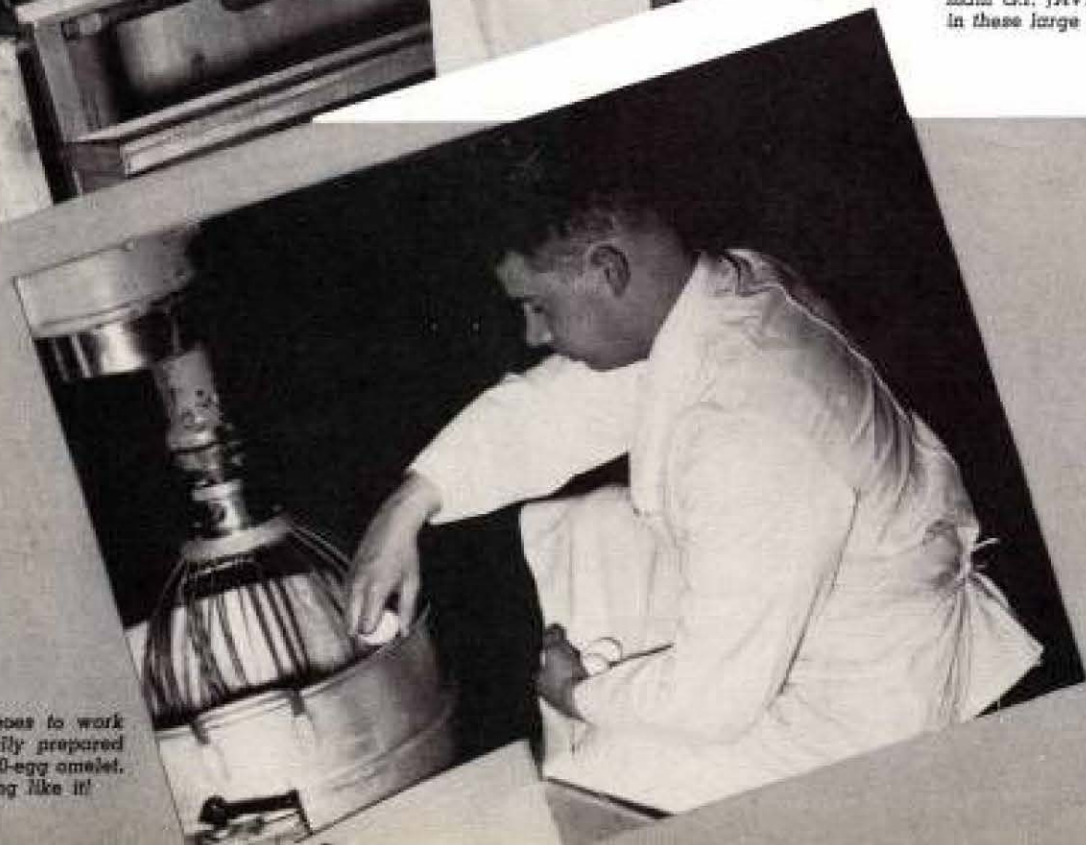


"Mess Attendants," in this mechanized way peel the "spuds" a new way — with much less waste than with former methods.



▲ The Army Cook bakes meat loaf, from yesterday's left-overs, so that nothing is wasted . . . and delicious, too.

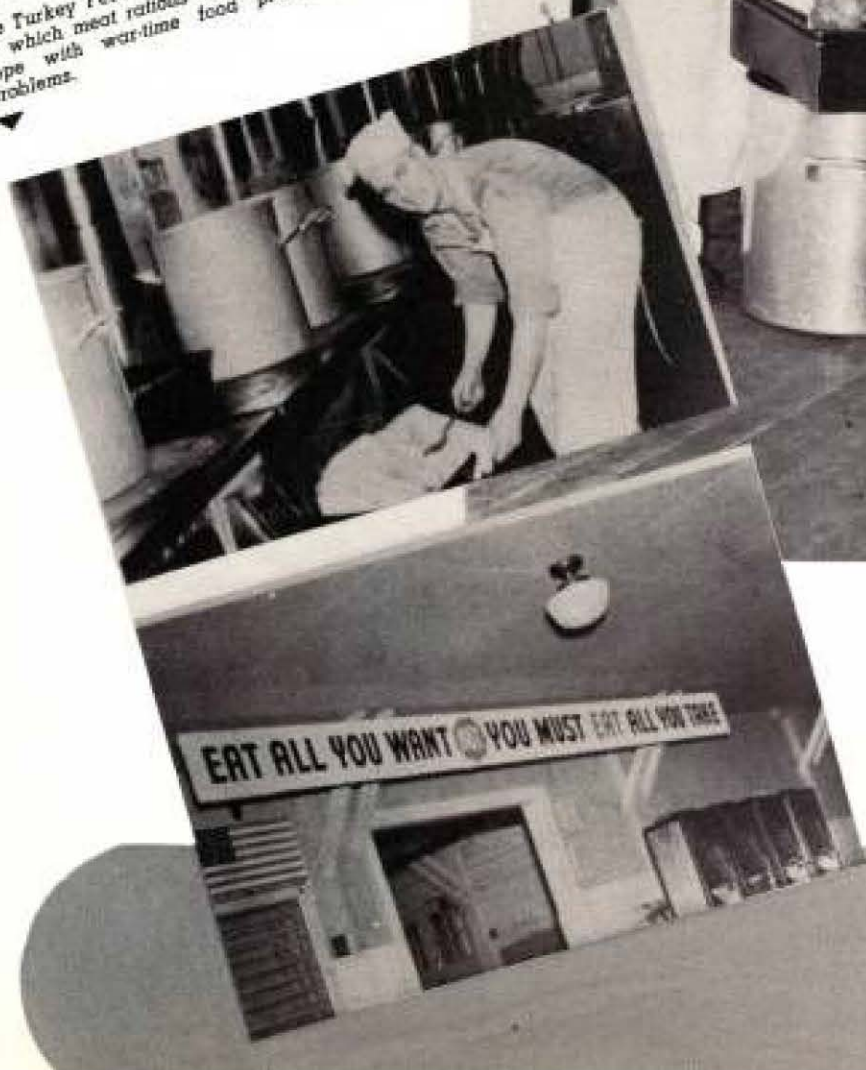
◀ Contrary to most polls, the favorite beverage of troops was and will remain G.I. JAVA, such as is brewed in these large urns.



The "chef" goes to work on his specially prepared recipe for 1000-egg omelet. There's nothing like it!

Thoroughly equipped, the modern Army mess hall uses up-to-date devices for the saving of material and man-hours.

The Turkey Feast — one of the means by which meat rations are extended to cope with war-time food production problems.



The crux of war-time's battle against waste is pictured at left — "Eat all you want BUT you must eat all you take."



7 HE soldier's quarters on the post is his home away from home and to meet the rigid Army inspection for cleanliness and neatness, a period of time is allotted each day for making beds, mopping floors, sweeping, dusting, and a general police-up which serves a double purpose, in that, it keeps the quarters presentable but also instills qualities of carefulness and tidiness which last long after the soldier has left the Army.



Though it may not be "Home Sweet Home," the Army quarters its men in well lighted, well ventilated barracks.

Quarters



"Shine, mister?" — preparing for inspection, the men polish their boots to a high lustre; part of the epic and span conditions required by the Army.



Marching to Classes



THE strenuous course in radio, taught at Truax Field, eliminates most of the military formations and drills which take place on other posts. But the effect of this is to accentuate the marching to and from classes and to those soldiers who spent only a short time in basic training centers, this marching was their chance to polish up on military maneuvers.



Study



Study hall, where quiet is the rule, so that ROT students may get their "home-work" done.

AMPLE time and facilities are provided at Truax Field for the careful home study and review of things which were taken up in the day's classes. Many day rooms marked "QUIET" are available for this purpose throughout the field.



Study and reading room, maintained for after-hours "cramming," in relaxing surroundings.



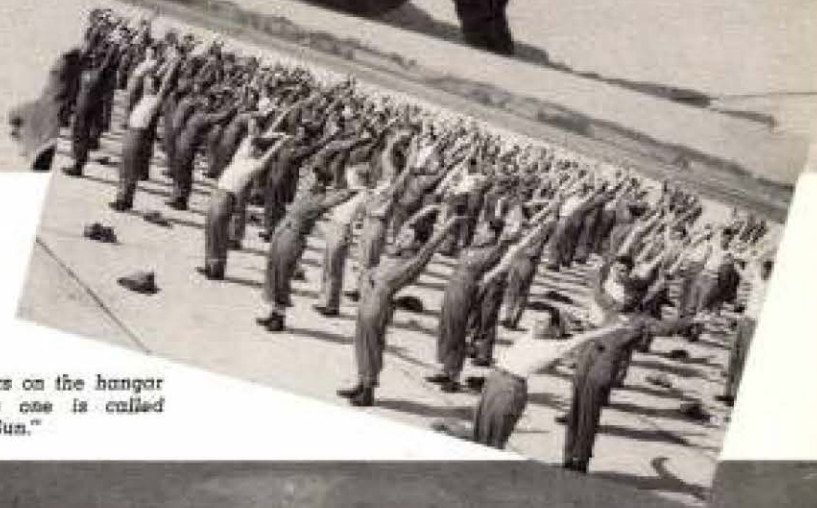
Squadron Orientation lecture — given to acquaint soldiers with current events, and their place in the scheme of things.



Push-ups as practiced in the daily calisthenics drills which are routine in Truax Field training schedules.



Calisthenics



More calisthenics on the hangar aprons — this one is called "Hymn to the Sun."

ALL the training a student could learn in school would be of no avail if he were not physically in shape to put it into effect when the proper time came. With this in mind, a carefully prepared schedule of drill and calisthenics has been drawn up to exercise a soldier's body and harden him for the job he will soon be called upon to do.



Sports are called for in the Truax physical training program — here the soldiers do boxing drills.



Spring comes to Trux Field, as the winter storm windows are taken down and washed before being stored.

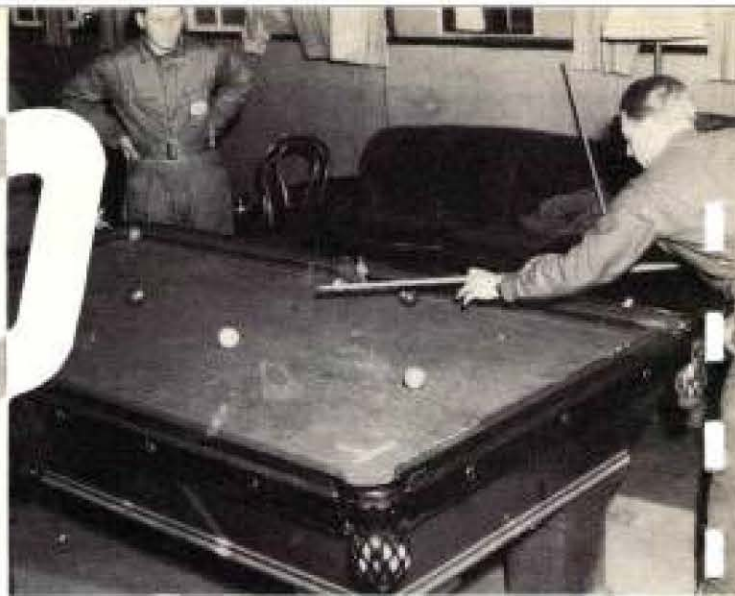
Squadron Duty

ANY well-run building or institution requires maintenance, cleaning and repair. In the Army, these duties are designated as "squadron duty". Each day, details of men are to be seen sweeping, dusting, mopping the floors and in general maintaining the high standards of neatness the Army requires. The duties vary with the seasons. Sometimes there is grass to be cut and sometimes there is snow to be shoveled; but a visit will show that "squadron duty hour" sees it done.

The ravages of winter are repaired, and the squadron streets are "prettied up" for the Annual Inspection by the brass hats.



Day Rooms



Billiard tables in the day rooms are gifts of generous Wisconsin citizens. Proceeds from pool checks buy the squadron small luxuries from time to time.

EACH of the school squadrons at Truax Field is provided with four day rooms which are used by the students as game rooms, and as space to relax. Pool tables, ping pong, darts, puzzles and cards are available. For those who wish them, books and magazines are provided. It is truly said that many a happy hour has been spent, and many a letter home has been written in the squadron day room.

The furnishings of these rooms are frequently gifts of church groups, women's clubs and many towns and villages, all anxious to do their part in maintaining the morale of Uncle Sam's fighting forces.



Day rooms, comfortably furnished, with phonographs and pianos from generous civilians.

Games are available in all day rooms, where the soldiers may relax code-wearied brains over a quiet game of checkers or chess.



Cards and music, a place to read; these are the attractions of the handsome day



The Squadron Orderly room with the bustle that attends squadron administration. "Cooperation" is the watchword.

Orderly Room and Supply Room

Subdivision of the Orderly room is the squadron supply room, from which is issued the non-personal equipment the soldier needs.

HERE the business of the squadron is conducted by army personnel. Every student record is instantly available. Here the men come for sick call, for passes, furlough, pay, etc.

* * *

QUARTERMASTER supplies reach the individual soldier through the Supply Officer, and supply room of each squadron. They stock enough G.I. issue for the needs of a squadron.



Service Club



The service club hostesses look on approvingly as a "Boogie" artist "jams" the ivories.

TRUAX Field's Service Club resembles, and is, a gentlemen's social clubhouse. Men spend hours on end within its walls. There are two tremendous, beautifully furnished service clubs at Truax Field. Magazines, easy chairs, sofas and radios make the club a coveted spot for spare time activity. Each club has a huge dance floor, capable of holding two hundred and fifty couples. A large cafeteria, serving wholesome food at attractive prices, attracts personnel daily. Many hundreds of activities take place within the service club portals, such as book reviews, broadcasts, dances, singing groups, various club activities, letter writing, squadron dance orchestras, squadron parties, and impromptu gatherings of all sorts. The Service Club serves as an excellent meeting place for the servicemen and their families and friends.



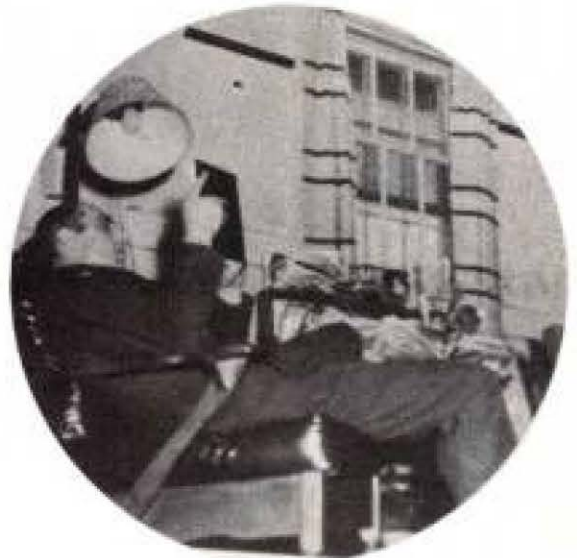
Corner of the service club library reading room reserved for letter-writing, and taking notes on school work.



The service club senior hostess office, showing Miss Cirkle, surrounded as usual!

Jam session 'round the piano by the Christmas tree. "Jam Sessions" are a daily diversion at the Service Club.

The "Eight Ball" is ever in evidence on the Service Club billiard tables — or is it pool?



G. I. demonstrates the proper use of the service club library reading room where comfortable chairs invite relaxation.



At the service club dances, most of the young ladies are hostesses from the Madison Hostess units.



Service Club cafeteria, which serves approximately 1500 meals daily, exclusive of "snacks."

Library



Mrs. Elaine C. Davis,
post-librarian



Quiet reading nook in the service club library show typical "stacks" of books.

7 RUAX Field is fortunate to have a modern, fully equipped library located in Service Club Number one and at the disposal of the soldiers at all times. The number of books on hand number more than 13,000 and that quantity is being added to all the time. A competent staff is always on hand to advise and aid the book-seeker in finding literary entertainment.



General view of "stacks" at service club library with work table at which "researchers" go bookworming.

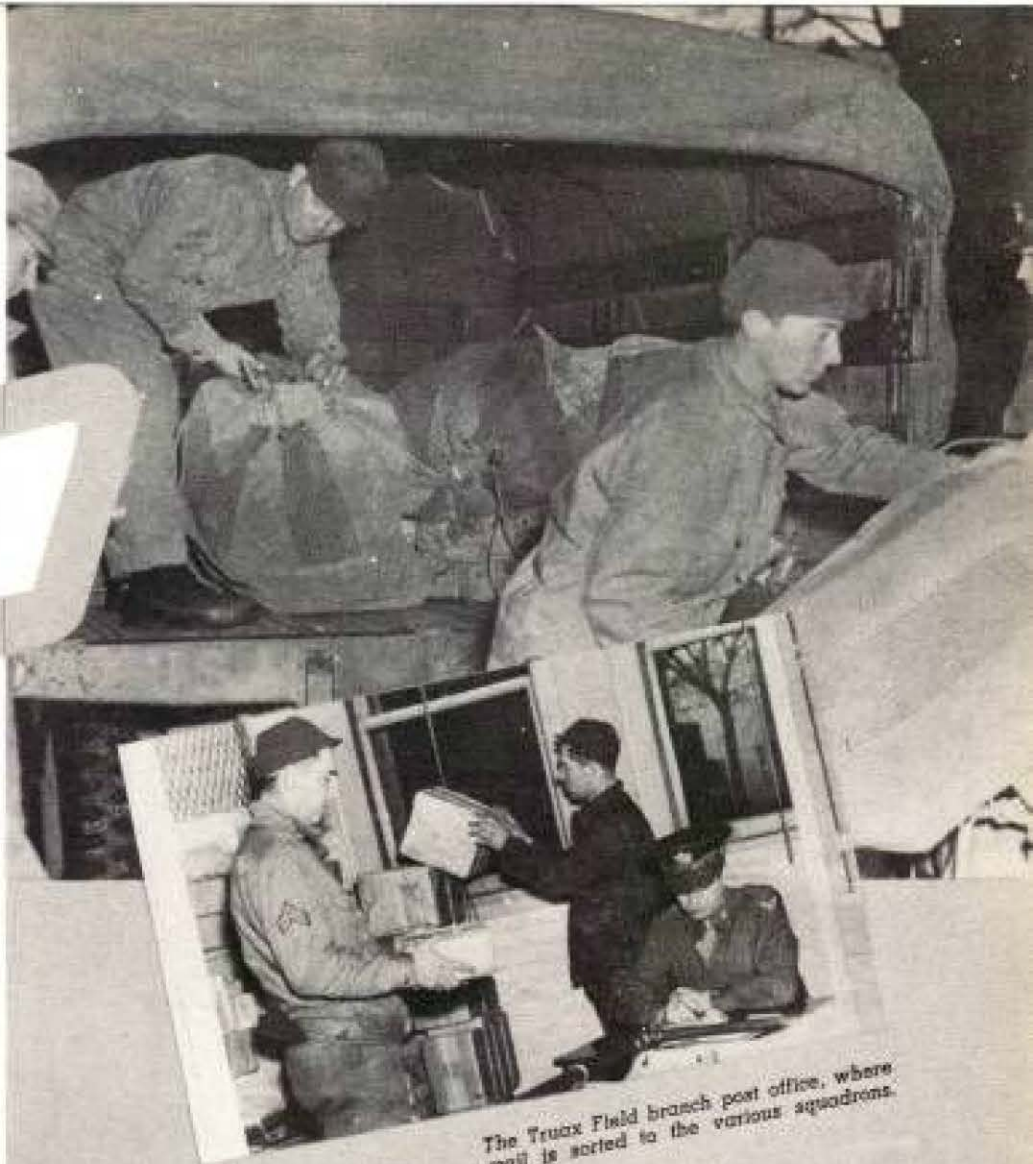
Postal detachment loads presents and mail for their buddies, from the Madison Post Office.



Post Office

ONE of the most important sections of any army field is the post office. Here at Truax Field the quantity of mail handled is equal to that of a large town. There is also a well-patronized bond agency connected with the main post office. The competent and speedy handling of the mail by the experienced staff is a credit to those in charge.

Soldiers SEND mail too, as is shown in this view of the customers side of the Truax Field branch post office.



The Truax Field branch post office, where mail is sorted to the various squadrons.





Theatre

Typical Truax Field War Department Theatre audience—whether it be for movies, broadcasts, or USO shows, the field theatres nearly always play to full houses.

7 HERE are two War Department Theatres on Truax Field so that movie entertainment is practically perpetual. Beside the daily showing of all of the first run motion pictures, the theatres are also used for graduating halls and, periodically house the special legitimate shows emanating both from Camp Shows, Inc., as well as shows put on by the soldiers themselves. The weekly broadcast is performed from the stages of one of the theatres.





Demonstration of modern fire-fighting equipment in use at the Truax Field fire department installation.



ALL of the modern fire-fighting equipment necessary is ready to spring forth from strategically located fire stations at a moment's notice. Truax Field is justly proud of its "fire eaters" as they have already demonstrated their ability to cope with an emergency.

"Truax Field's Own" — The Fire-Chief and his smoke-eaters pose for "The BEAMS" cameraman.





Chapel

General view of the "Roman Catholic Chapel", Truax Field, where masses are said on an almost 24-hour war-time schedule.

7 RUAX Field's several chapels provide spiritual homes for men of all faiths during their tours of duty at this post. The sanctuary of each is so arranged that by changing the altars, or retracting them completely and opening the doors of the tabernacles built into the sanctuary walls, the service may conform to the ritual of any faith—Jewish, Roman Catholic, or any of the Protestant beliefs.

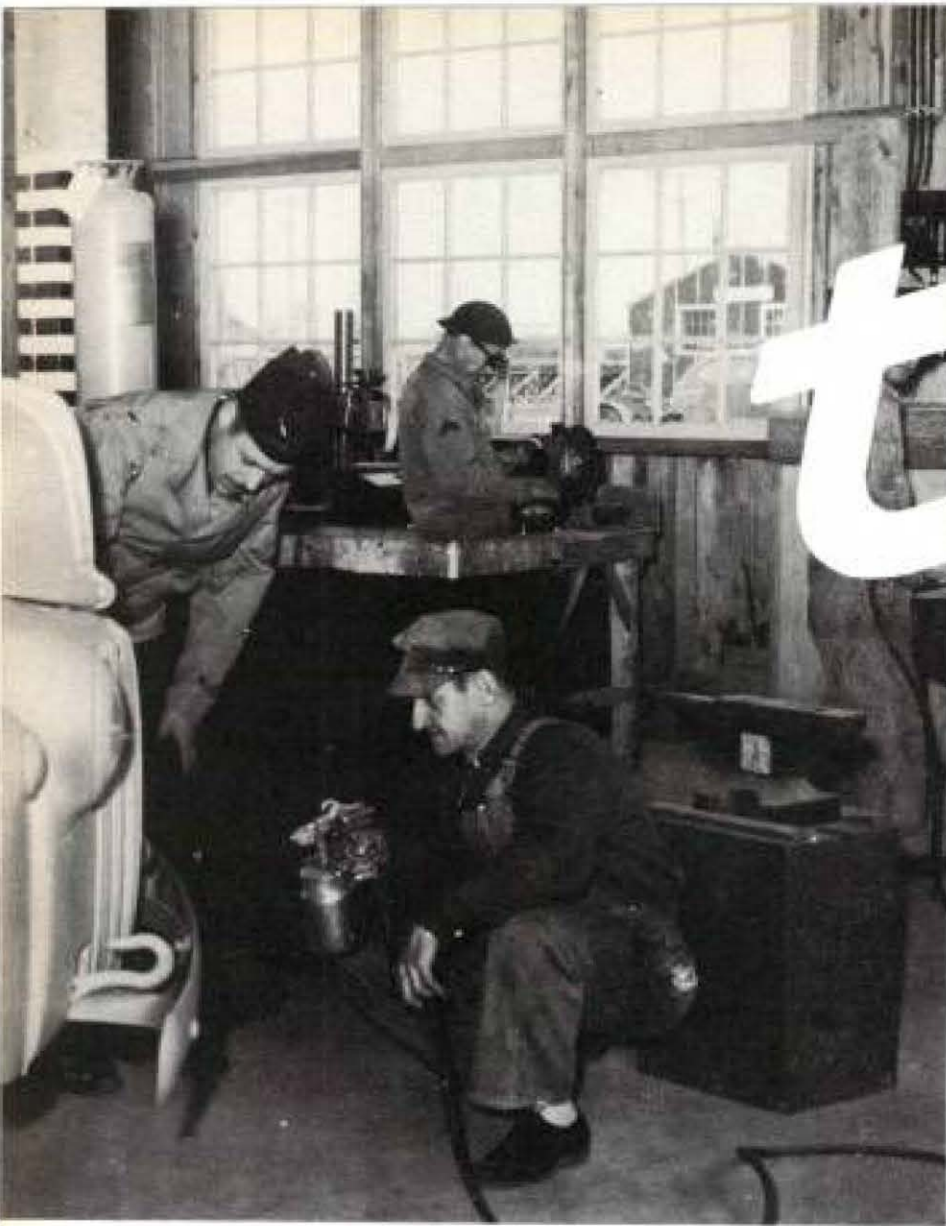




Military Wedding in a Trux
chapel — a post chaplain
officiating.



Service in a
post chapel.



Motor Pool



Painting, service, and repair section of the Motor Pool.



Row on row, the staff cars are lined up like soldiers.



Military standards of cleanliness apply here too—The daily bath.

7 HE Motor Pool at Truax Field is a fine example of military organization and functional planning. From the parking areas, where trucks, jeeps, staff cars, and other equipment are stored, to the service sections where cleaning, lubrication and motor servicing are carried out, and on to the dispatching section, every function moves on with assembly line precision. The Motor Pool is the heart zone of Truax Field's transportation system.



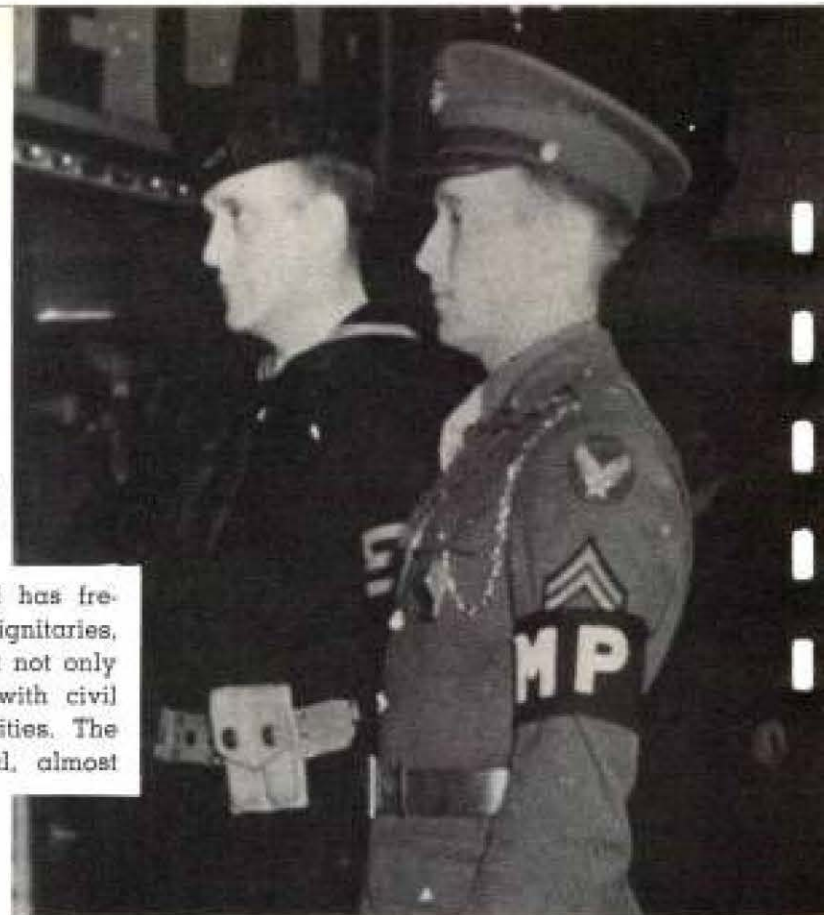
The truck section of the motor pool, lined up for inspection.



Service, and lubrication racks at the motor pool.



7 HE Military Police detachment at Truax Field has frequently been commended by visiting military dignitaries, and has done a notable job in the enforcement not only of military regulations, but also in its cooperation with civil authorities in maintaining order in nearby communities. The military police, whose chief is the Provost Marshal, almost exactly parallel civilian police functions.



▲ Army and Navy cooperate to keep Madison's reputation just as the services found it.

◀ All civilian employees are fingerprinted in the identification section of the Provost Marshal's office.

▼ Every person requiring personal identification is "mugged" in the lens of the Provost Marshal's identification camera.





The field military police cooperate fully with the civil authorities in policing the city.



▲ *The Military Police check passes as the special buses for soldiers entrain for Madison.*

▼ *M.P.'s report to the Madison Police Station for duty "downtown."*



Hospital Nurses



7HE station hospital at Truax Field, under the direction of Lieut. Col. Manfred U. Prescott, is one of the finest equipped field hospitals in the U. S. Army Air Forces. It is complete in every respect — the dental clinic, with its divisions of surgery, prosthetics, prophylaxis, X-ray, etc.; the hospital proper, with its department of surgery, psychiatry, specialists clinics, and numerous wards categorized in terms of the pathologies which they serve; the hospital mess with its special diet kitchens, and the Red Cross wing in which is housed a library, for the patients, a small theatre for the entertainment of ambulant cases, and the offices of the Red Cross hospital unit. Even a branch post exchange and barber shop are maintained for the patients' well-being.

Miss Marylouise Brock, Red Cross Asst. Field Director at Station Hospital; Lieut. Col. M. U. Prescott, Post Surgeon; Lieut. Josephine Motl, Chief Nurse, Station Hospital, Truax Field.

View of corner of ward at Truax Field Base Hospital.



Army Nurses Corps backs the Red Cross Drive to the limit.





X-ray technician and male nurse take X-ray photograph of patient's skull, Base Hospital, Truax Field.

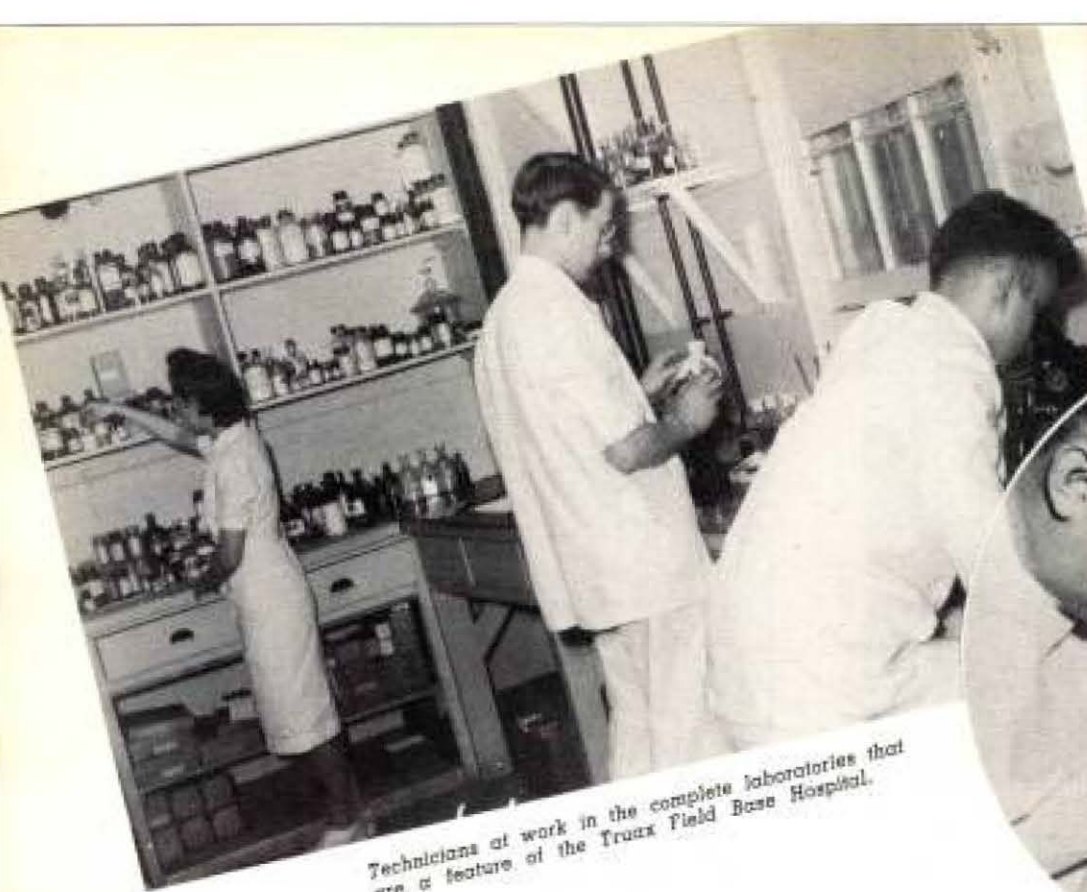


An appendectomy in one of the superbly equipped operating rooms of the Truax Field Base Hospital.

separate unit composes the barracks of the residents of the Nurses Corps, without which an Army hospital, like any other, could not function, for these are the "angels of mercy" about whom so much that is fine has been written and said.

Innoculation and immunization are a regular Army procedure.



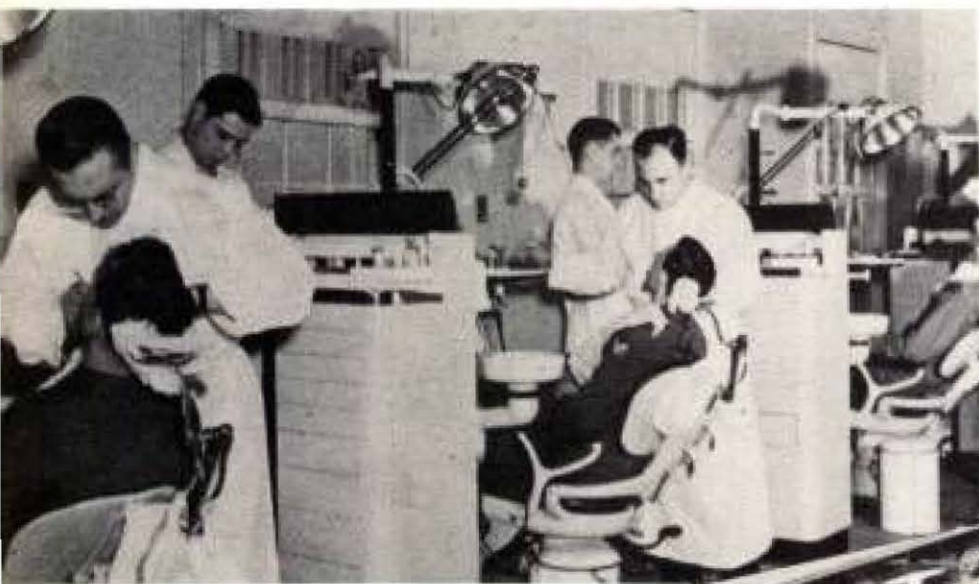


Technicians at work in the complete laboratories that are a feature of the Truax Field Base Hospital.

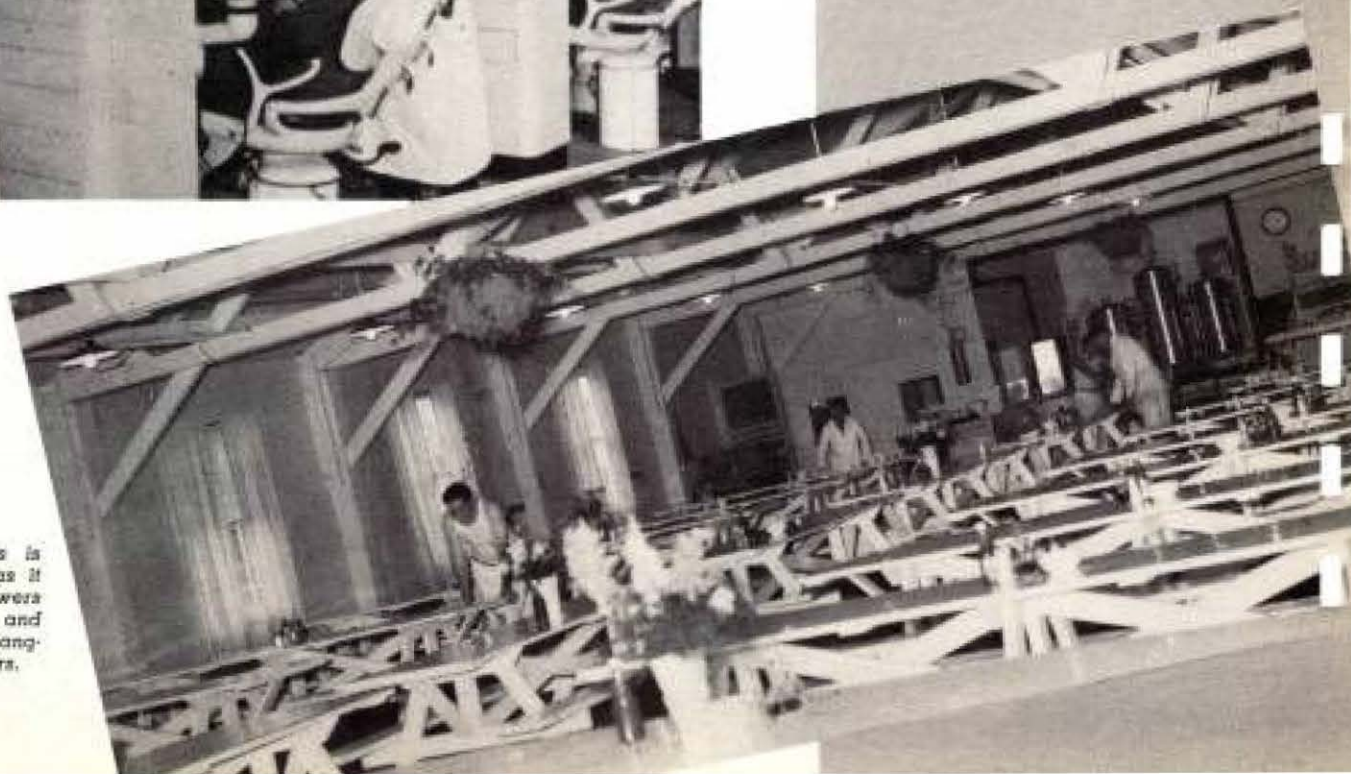


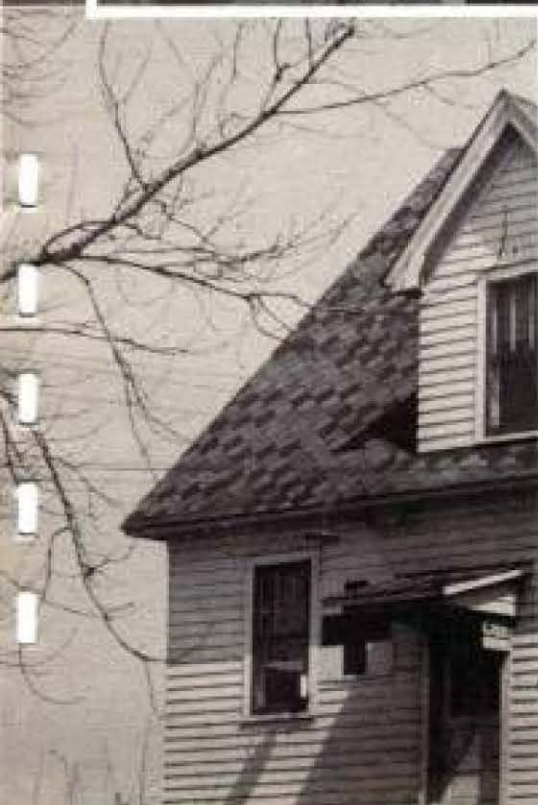
Dental officer, assistant and patient in the dental clinic AAFTC, Truax Field, base hospital.

Thousands of servicemen receive modern dental treatment at the field dental clinic.



The hospital mess is kept as cheerful as it is kept clean—flowers on the tables, and baskets of vines hanging from the rafters.





RED CROSS

SOLDIERS know better than any others the many virtues and mercies of which they are the benefactors from the hands of the American Red Cross which serves them at all stations and on all fronts. It is the American Red Cross to whom the soldier turns in the absence of father, mother, brother, sister or wife. It is the Red Cross who cares for the sick, heals the wounded, and provides off-duty entertainment for the men in the battle zones — thus justly earning the name: "The Great Mother."



Band



THE 16th AAF Band unit stationed at Truax Field, under the direction of Warrant Officer Ashley B. Miller, distinguishes itself on all occasions, playing for all camp shows, guard mount formations, Truax Field's several radio broadcasts, parades and other special events. Most of the personnel of the band, prior to entry into the Army, were associated with prominent bands and orchestras all over the United States, and included are several concert artists.

Truax Field's 16th AAF Band concertizes in the service club lounge under the direction of CWO Ashley B. Miller.

Down the Squadron street, stepping high, marches the 16th AAF Band of Truax Field.



The 16th AAF Band, under the Baton of CWO Miller performs on the stage of War Dept. Theatre No. 1



Entertainment



▲ Truax Field's Valentine Broadcast delivers a "Valentine for Hitler," airing.

◀ NBC's three Dinning sisters, Jean, Ginger and Lou, serenade the air audience on Truax Field's weekly airing.



▲ George M. Cohan's "Yankee Doodle Boy" was the hit of a Truax Field all-soldier cast minstrel show "Dots 'N' Dashes"

◀ "Baldy" the harem, stole the show when one of the USO camp shows recently visited Truax Field.



Among the many stars of Trux Field minstrel show "Dots and Dashies" were these lanky top dancers.

The quartet that stopped all field shows on which they appeared with their low, authentic singing of spirituals and "boogie."



The company of minstrels from the cast of "Dots 'n' Dashies."

Stars of a recent USO camp show at Trux Field.



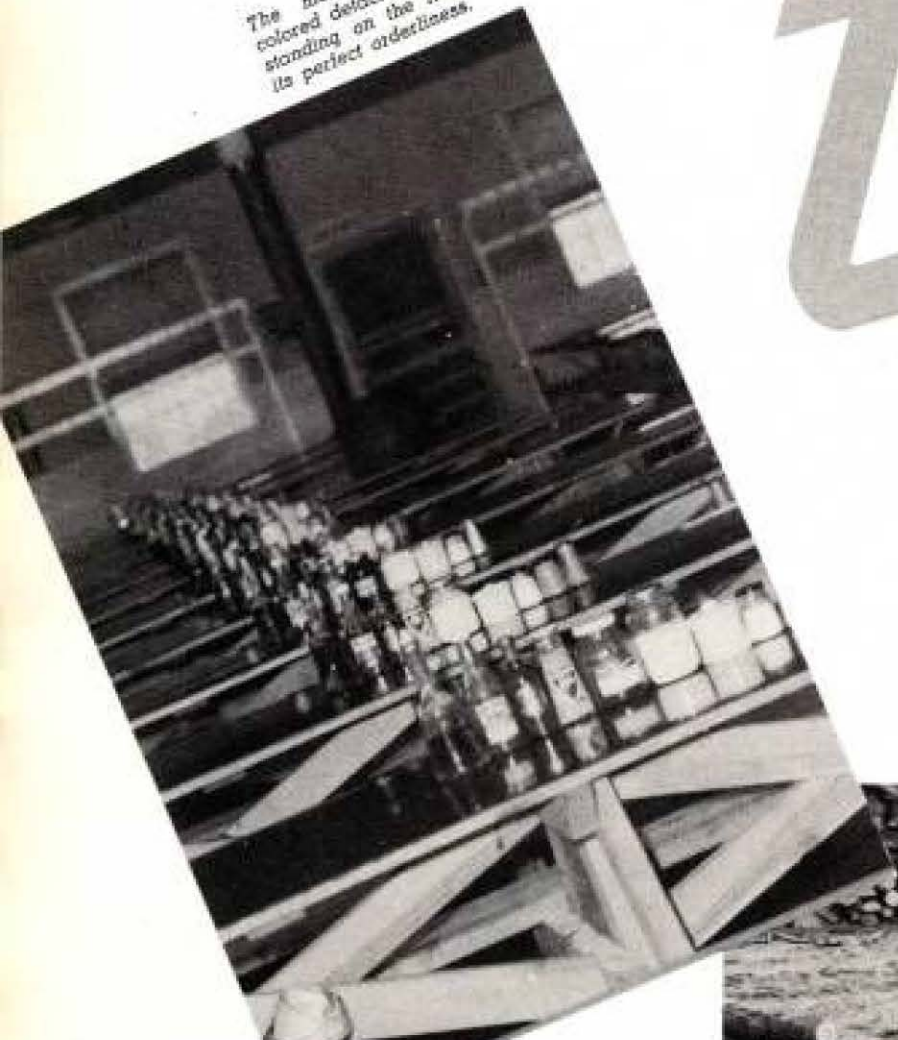
Trux traction in the
squadron show — this
is the turn of the
100th Sqdn.



NBC's vivacious Eileen Palmer, "Queen of the Soap Operas" guest-stars on a recent broadcast "Trux Field Calling."

Comedy duo from a USO Camp Show recently staged at Trux W. D. Theatre No. 1.

The mess hall of the colored detachment is outstanding on the field for its perfect orderliness.

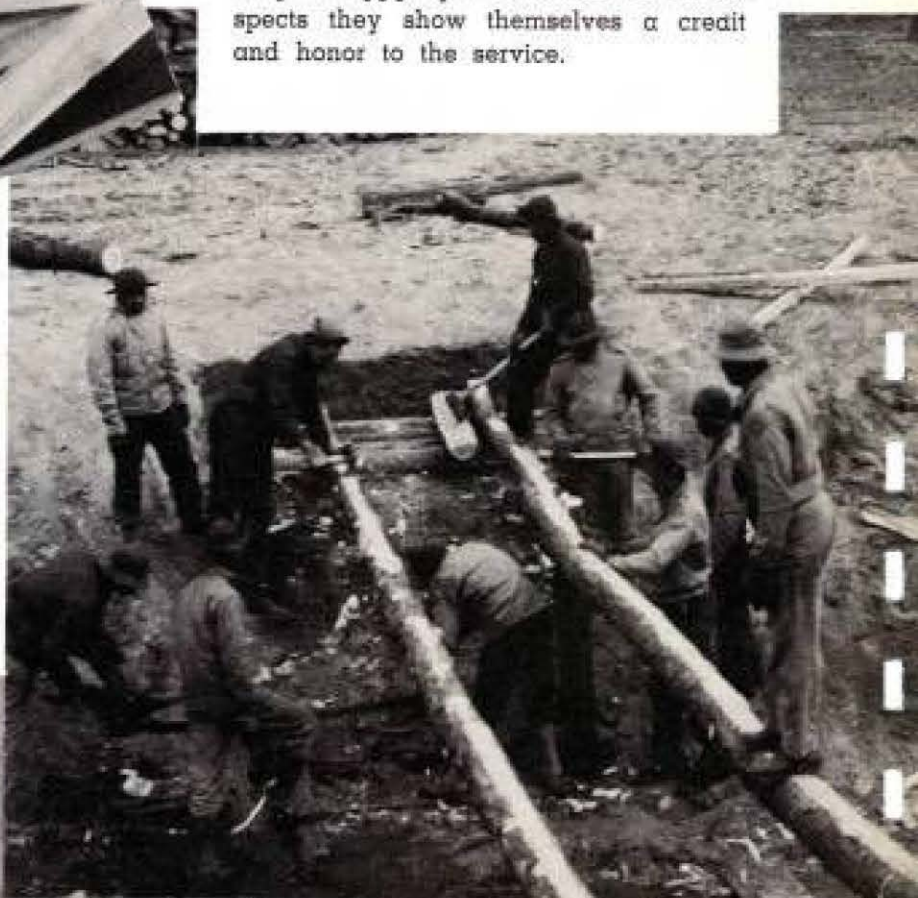


Colored Detachment

IMPORTANT military services have been the contribution of the negro detachments at Truax Field — building bridges across the waterways that bisect the installation, and working as maintenance crews, truck drivers, and other special services. In drill formations these negro troops come to the fore with truly "snappy" performances. In all respects they show themselves a credit and honor to the service.



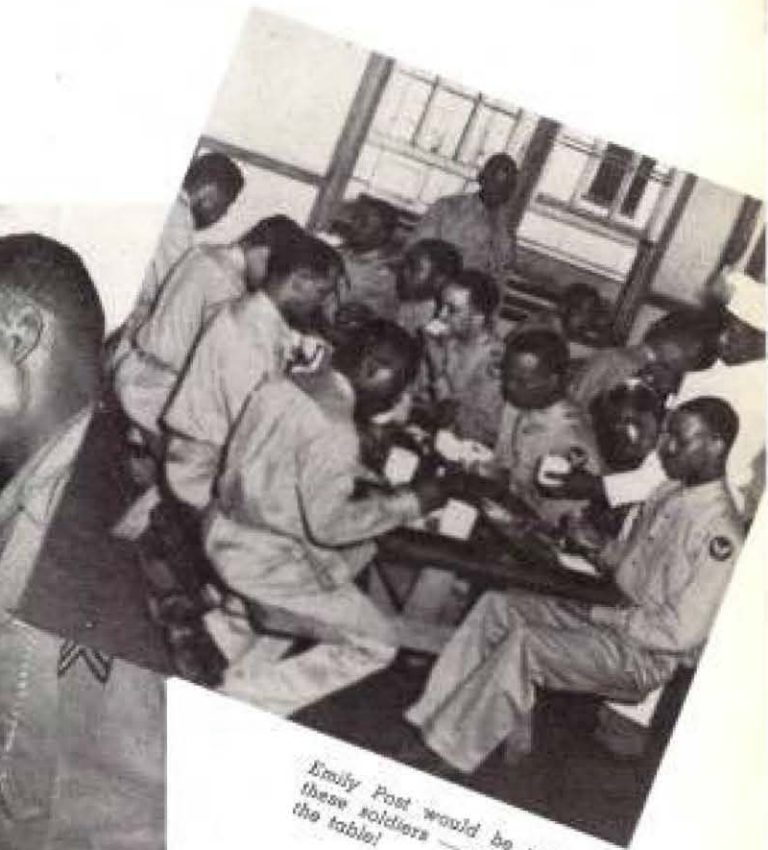
Duty as "Mess Attendants" doesn't seem to phase these soldiers — they take it in stride — just another round of duty.



Engineer's work being done across one of the Truax Field waterways by members of the field colored detachments.



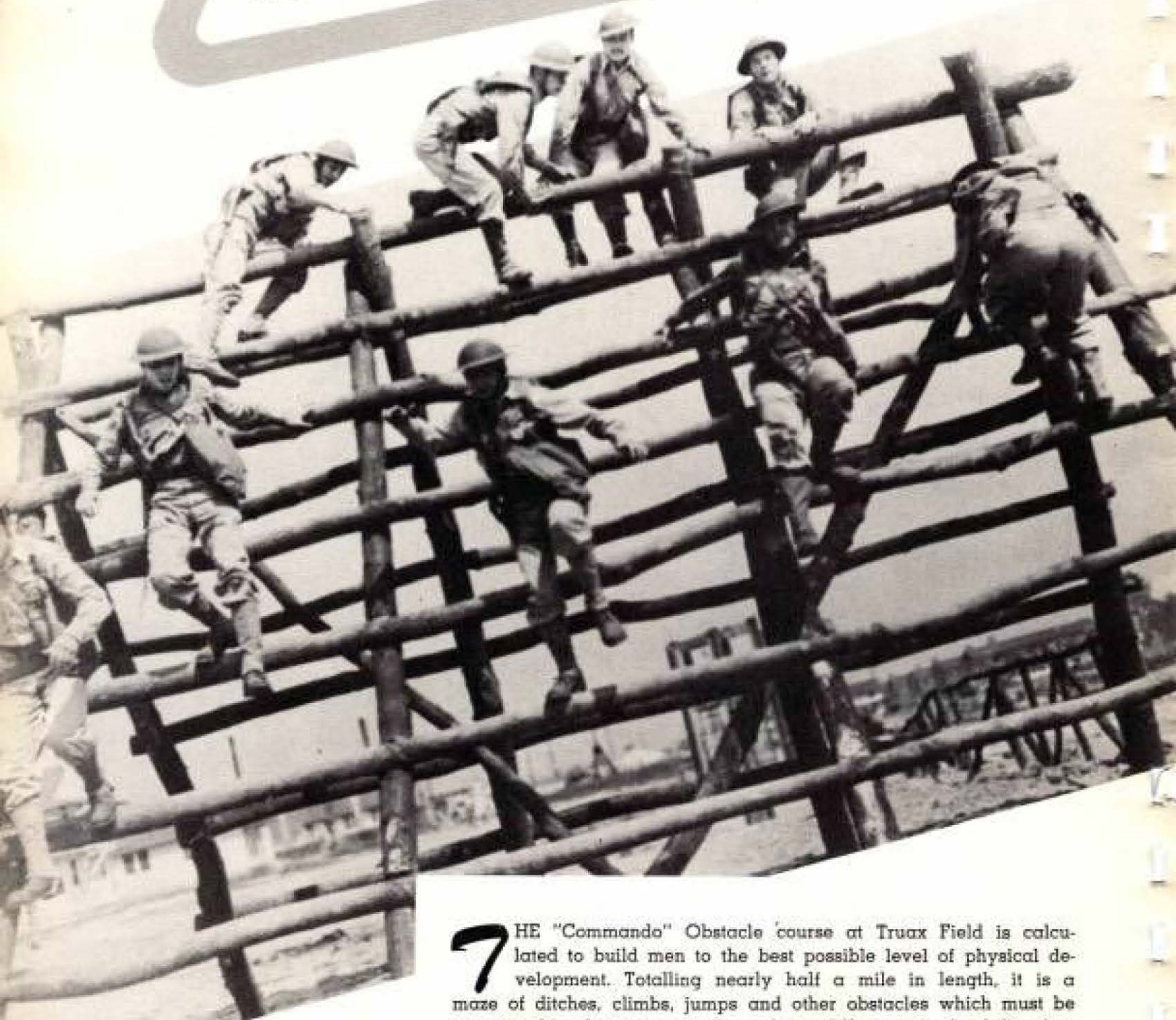
Master Sergeant Hubert Manlove, for 26 years a soldier pre-eminently, counsels his scribe on "Squadron News".



Emily Post would be proud of these soldiers — no elbows on the table!

The best fve, jamming and boogie to be heard on Truxx Field comes from these enthusiastic soldiers.

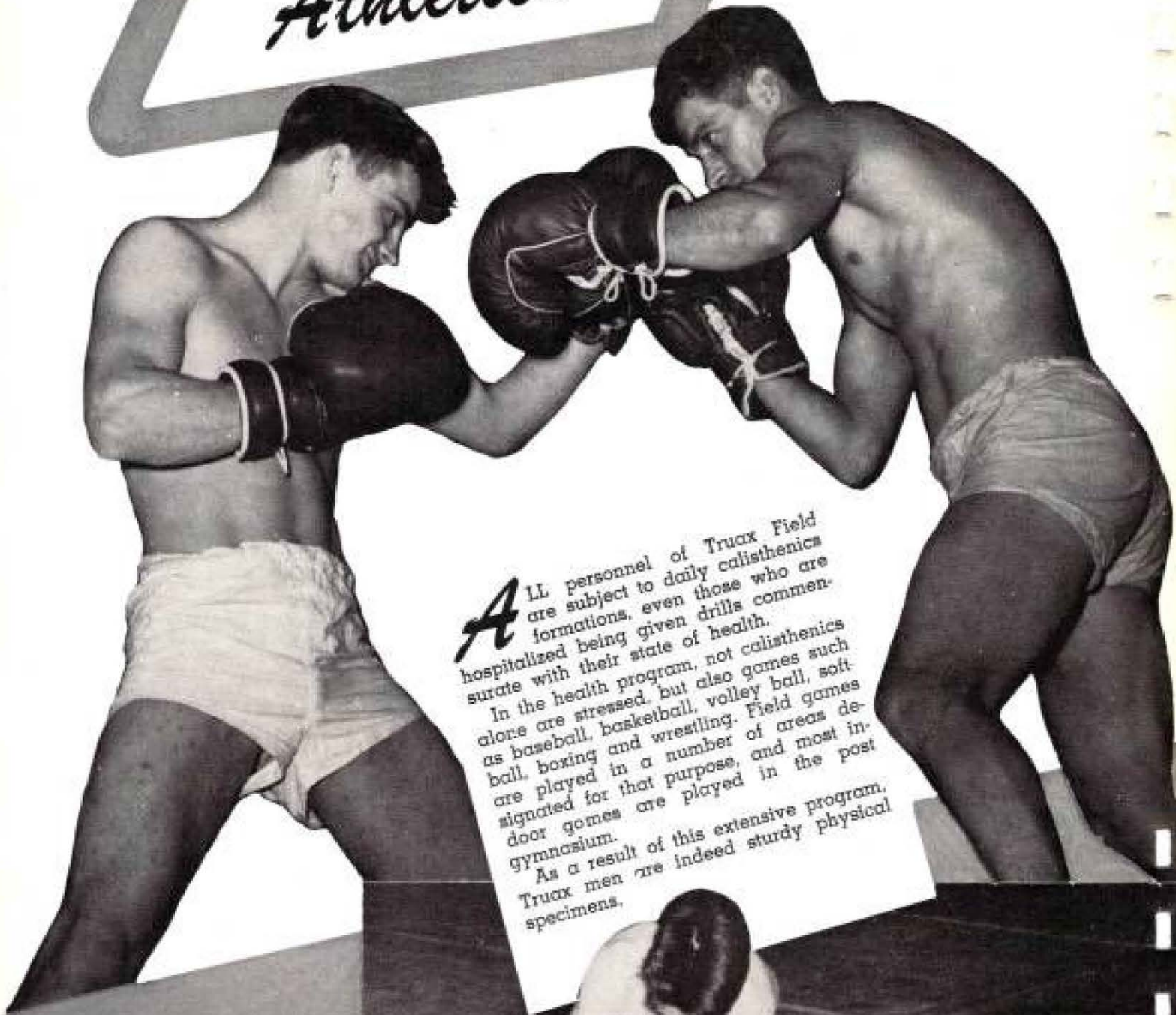
Obstacle Course



THE "Commando" Obstacle course at Truax Field is calculated to build men to the best possible level of physical development. Totalling nearly half a mile in length, it is a maze of ditches, climbs, jumps and other obstacles which must be negotiated by the trainees in "record time." Frequently the drill orders require that the whole course shall be travelled with the troops wearing gas masks. To further simulate the conditions of combat, the men go "over the tops" in whole platoons, almost on full invasion scale — thus is developed the sense of looking for both the self and the other fellow.



Athletics



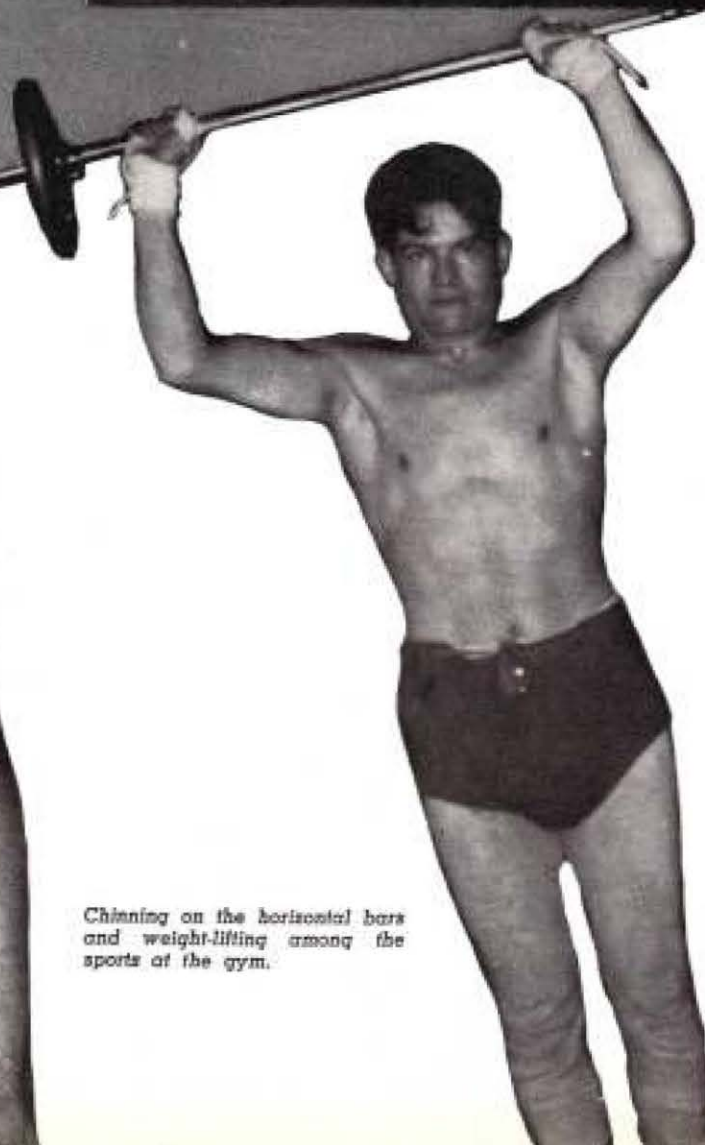
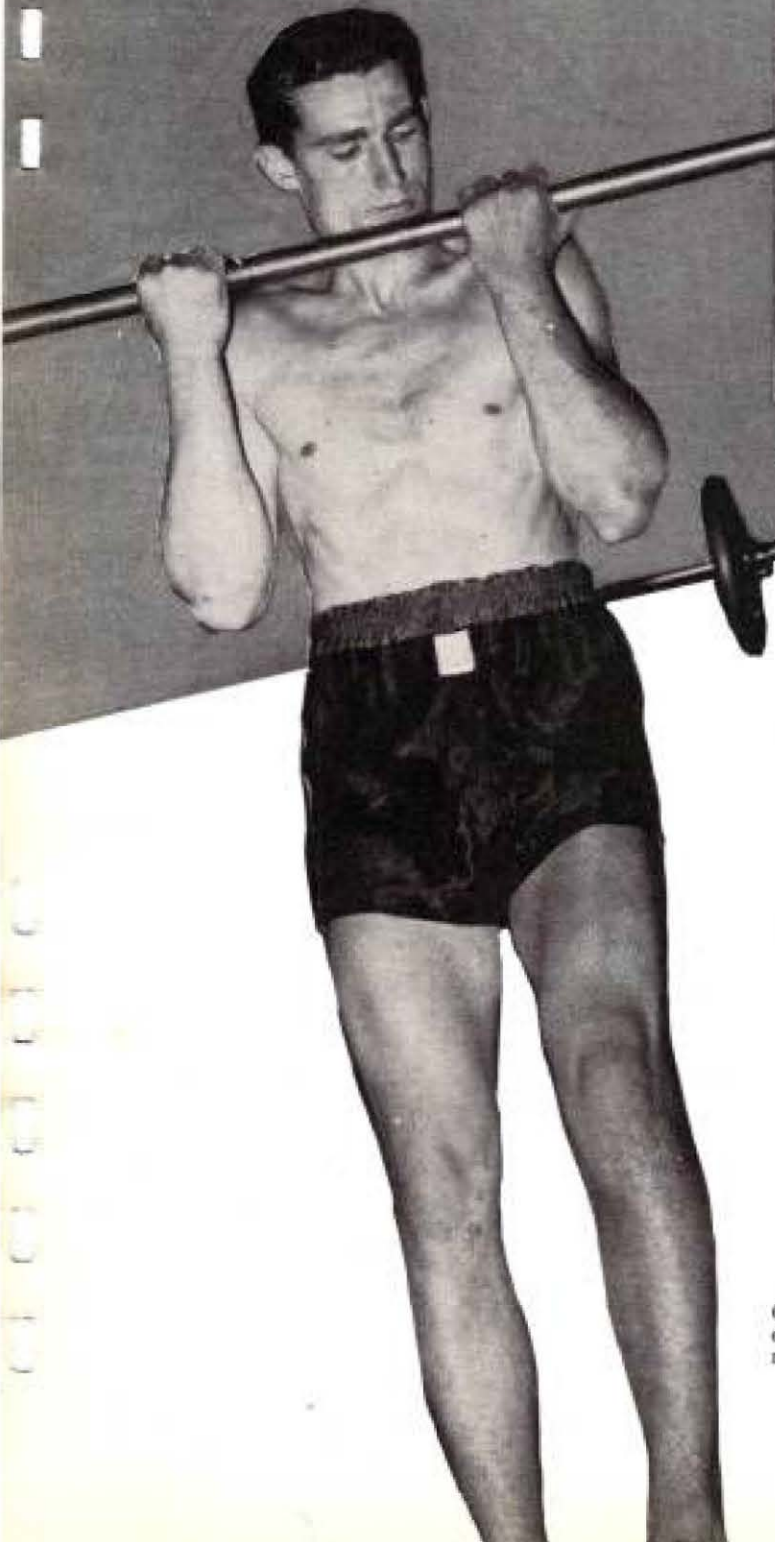
ALL personnel of Truax Field are subject to daily calisthenics formations, even those who are hospitalized being given drills commensurate with their state of health. In the health program, not calisthenics alone are stressed, but also games such as baseball, basketball, volley ball, softball, boxing and wrestling. Field games are played in a number of areas designated for that purpose, and most indoor games are played in the post gymnasium. As a result of this extensive program, Truax men are indeed sturdy physical specimens.



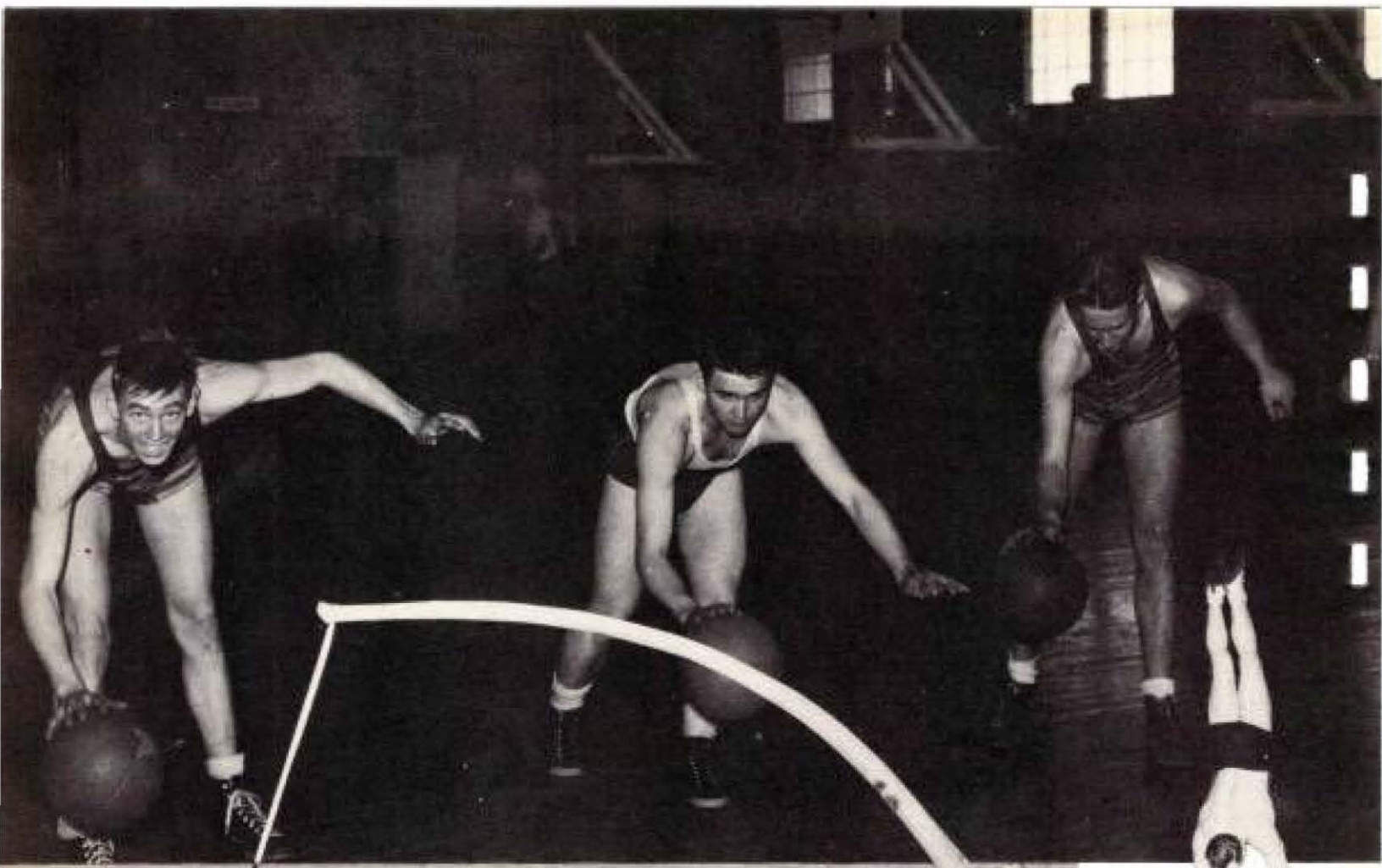
Intra-Squadron wrestling matches are regular features in Post Gymnasium programs.



*Intro-Squadron basket ball tournaments
play off at post gym.*



*Chinning on the horizontal bars
and weight-lifting among the
sports at the gym.*



Archery, basketball and precision gymnastics are among the many activities of the post physical training and recreational programs.



Tossing a high one during the basket ball practice period.



Badminton enthusiasts.



Intra-squadron boxing tournaments play-offs.



Intra-squadron boxing tournament matches.

Reclamation

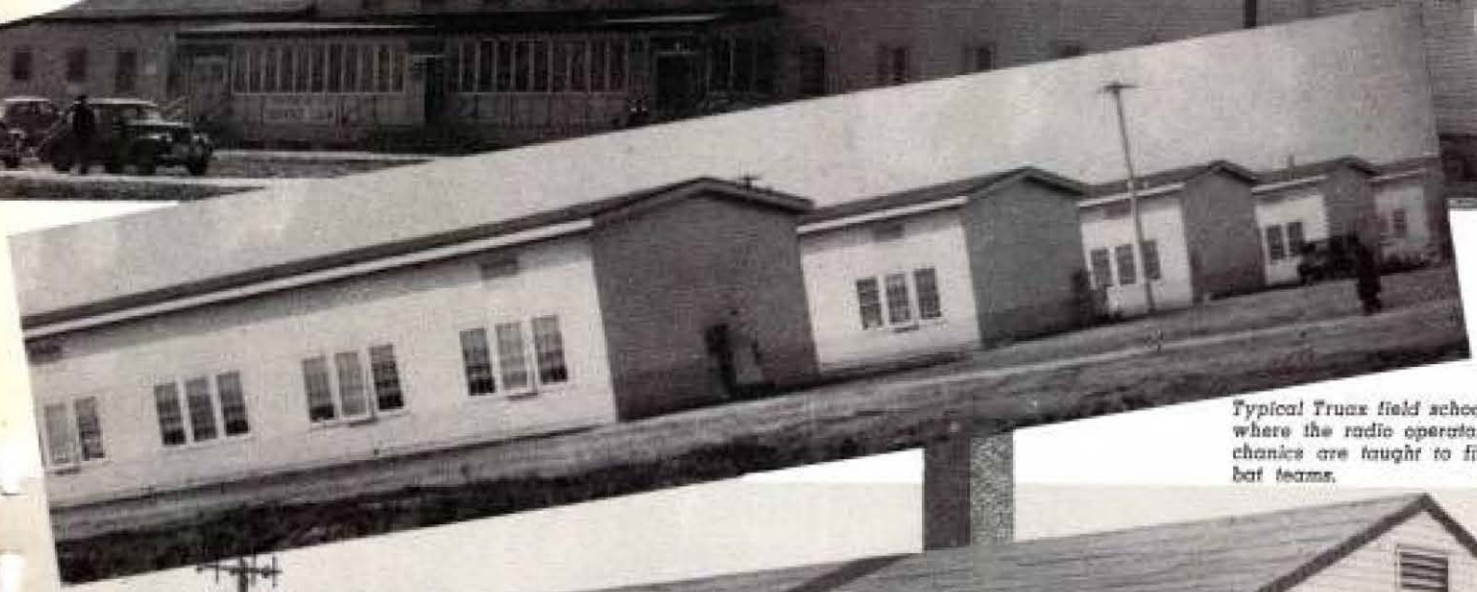
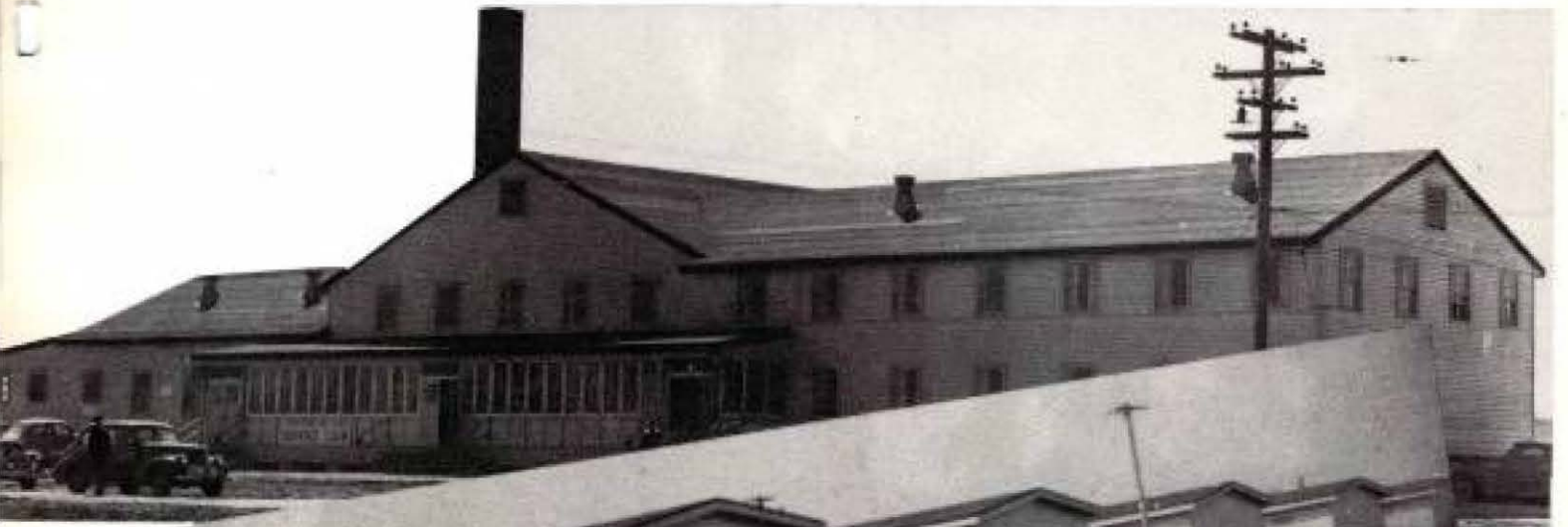


THE reclamation section of the Quartermaster Corps operating at Truax Field does an all-over job of repair, salvage, and disposition of G.I. equipment and clothing.

Shoes are repaired, clothing patched to re-issue for fatigue duty, mattresses repaired, and materials past reclamation are properly prepared for final disposal, such as the scrapping and sale of useless metals, the sale of badly damaged woollens for re-processing and re-weaving, and the contracting for sale and collection of garbage and junk refuse.

Buildings

Trux Field service club, social center and hub of relaxation for the enlisted men on the post.



Typical Trux field school buildings where the radio operators and mechanics are taught to fit into combat teams.





Clothing and accessories shop of the
Trux Field Post Exchange stores.

Post Exchange



Post Exchange tailor shop where
cleaning, pressing and alterations
are done at reduced rates to service
men.



The "snack bar" of one of the Trux
Field post exchange stores.



The "notions" counter in post exchange "stores" where soldiers may buy anything from tooth-paste to pencils.

EVERY community needs a general store and on an Army post, a post exchange or PX as they are called fills that need. It is here a soldier goes for candy, cigarettes, coke and sandwiches. The Post Exchange is soldier-owned and any profits that are made are returned in the form of entertainment, day room decorations and similar benefits.

Such items such as greeting cards, writing paper, shoe polish, shaving needs are always available at popular prices. Many PX stores carry clothing and shoes, insignia and numerous other things that soldiers need.

The convenient location and type of merchandise carried combine to make the PX a real community center.

The post exchange barber shops are where the soldiers get their "G.I." haircuts — more sanitary than pretty.

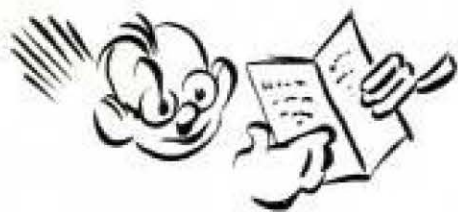


Corporal
A.W.O.L.



CORPORAL AWOL is to Truax Field, as the mule is to the Army, the goat to the navy and the Bulldog to the Marines. He is their nationally famous mascot, he is their symbol of "Esprit de Corps," and he is a heavy buyer of War Bonds, which are bought in his name by the soldiers of his squadron. After the war, proceeds from these bonds will go to the AWOL estate, when he is returned to the Madison zoo where he was born.

The dances at the USO are popularly attended, with music supplied by volunteer bands and orchestras; following which the juke box plays tirelessly.



U. S. O.

THE USO in Madison is the finest expression of the work done by the local civilian population in absorbing the military into their lives and civic program. All forms of recreation are available there, from social activities such as dancing, festivals and group singing, to the more personal recreations of reading, letter writing, music appreciation, etc.

All services are represented in attendance — WAACs, WAVEs, SPARs, Marines, Army, Navy, and Air Corps.



The library and reading room of the USO enjoys a heavy traffic in seekers after learning and relaxation.



Group singing is a perennially popular feature of the main USO lounge, accompanied by anyone who will volunteer.



The main lounge of the USO is backed by a "snack bar" which is heavily patronized. The Madison Boy Scout units serve in various volunteer capacities.

LOOKING AROUND

★ ★ ★ MADISON



7 HE boy meets girl story is as good in Madison as anywhere else from Kamchatka to Peoria.

The soldier meets a girl to whom he was introduced at the USO, and together they wander through Madison, that four lake city built on an isthmus shaped like a chicken bone. That city with its maze of streets that run up and down hills and take interesting unexpected turns. A city of theatres, political liberals, and university characters. A capitol city that eats cheese three times a day.



From the steps of Bascom Hall, acropolis of the University of Wisconsin, Boy and Girl survey the whole city of Madison.





▲
*Pausing on the lagoon bridge in
Tenney Park.*

◀
*Couple pause in the park, planning
where to spend their last evening.*



▲
*Strolling down Main Street of Madison
at night.*

▲
*Looking out over Lake Mendota, from
the terrace of "The Most Beautiful
Theatre in America."*

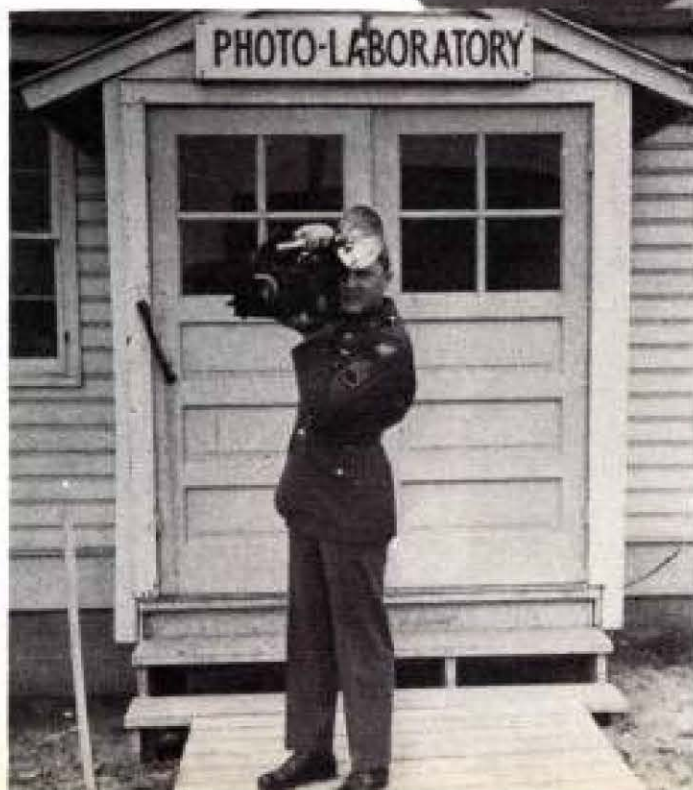




◀
Sec'y of the State of Wisconsin greets the couple on their visit to the State Capital.

The Vilas park zoo attracts the strolling couple with its variety of wild life—fortunately caged.





A fully-equipped photographic laboratory is a necessity on every army post. It is here that all the pictures of the buildings, soldiers at play and at work, pictures of formations and visiting dignitaries are developed, printed and enlarged. The men in charge of these laboratories were in most cases professional photographers in civilian life and are familiar with the procedure involved of taking both indoor and outdoor photographs, some in black and white and some in color. They are thoroughly experienced in processing these prints, enlarging or reducing the size as the case requires.

All the pictures of aircraft, tanks, munitions of all kinds and the soldiers in action have at one time or another passed through the photographic laboratory.

Quartermaster

THE general merchant of the entire Army is the Quartermaster. He is the man who procures and distributes everything a soldier has, wears, and eats. Every article of food used by the Army throughout the world has been selected, purchased and distributed by the Quartermaster. He is the man who provides all forms of transportation for the supply lines of the Army, no matter how remote the location. In fact everything you can think of is an item which the Supply Officers draw for their troops from the Quartermaster.



Everything — including brooms to keep the barracks clean — is tested by the Quartermaster Corps before being supplied to the Truax Field Schools. AAFTC.

Meat for the Army — The Quartermaster at a big post like Truax Field, AAFTC, must buy, store and distribute meat by the ton.

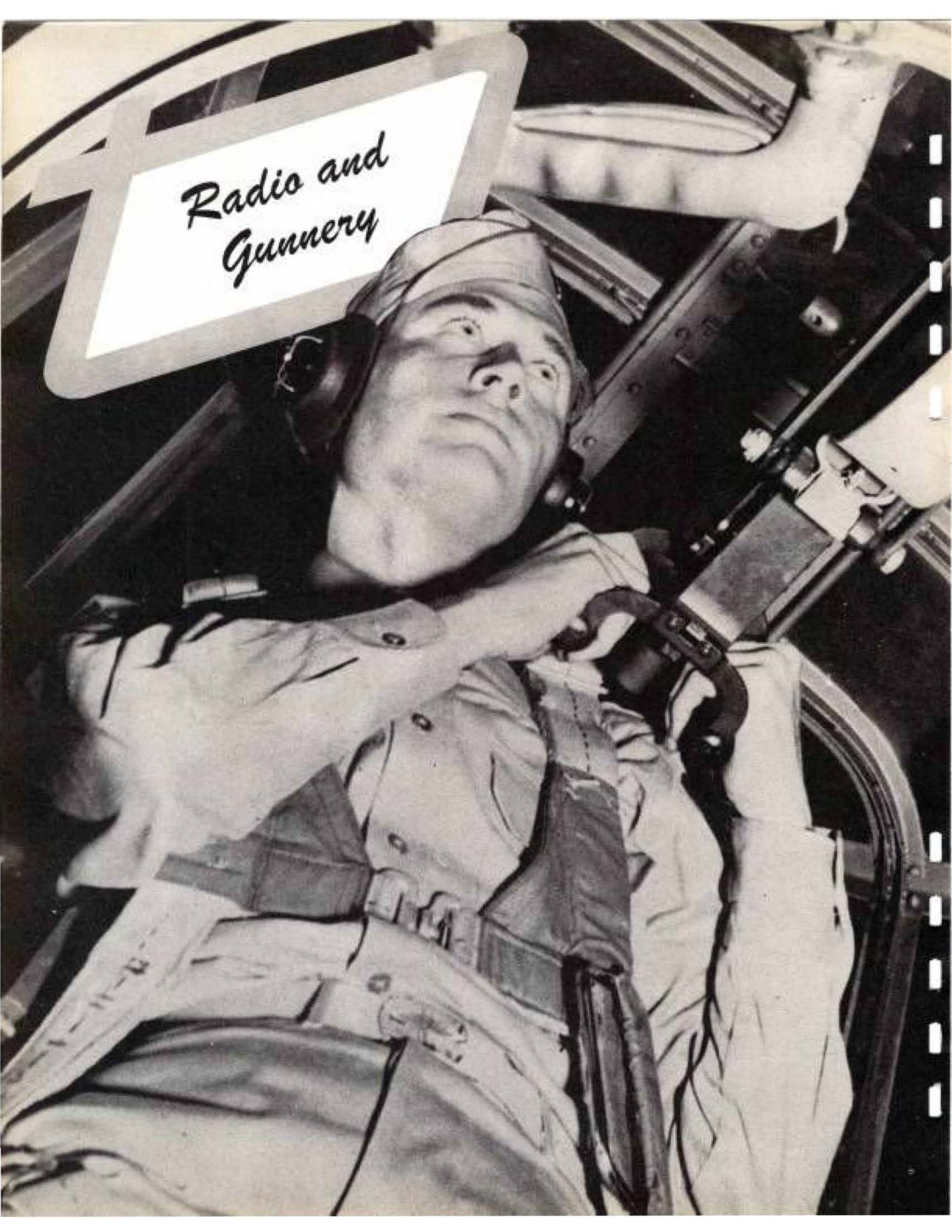


Everything from helmets to galoshes passes through the tremendous stores of the Quartermaster at Truax Field.



Truax Field student-soldiers get plenty of coffee—and it's good. Shown is a group of expert army coffee tasters and blenders sampling the coffee destined for Truax.

*Radio and
Gunnery*



TRUAX FIELD



Bonta, D. Flashman, W. A. Overocker, W. J. Smith, R. W. Sprinkle, N. W.

TRUAX FIELD



Ames, G. R. Barragan, J. C. Bowles, A. R. Carey, D. E. Christensen, F. D.



Cohen, J. Deamicis, N. Diehl, B. H. Dillon, C. W. Dockall, W. D.



Dolak, S. W., Jr. Doyle, E. J. Ellis, E., Jr. Everitt, W. K. Feemster, W. S.



Feltmann, E. H. Ferreira, E. A. Fisk, E. D. Foster, A. G. Friend, R. F.



TRUAX FIELD



Galbraith, H. L. Gargiulo, E. S., Jr. Gifford, E. R. Godak, S. W. Green, K. W.



Greene, D. W., Jr. Hassell, P. O., Jr. Heacox, R. R. Hotard, P. N. Irish, D. W.



Johnson, A. E. Journey, D. E. Kaeser, F. W. Kaiser, A. C. Kaliher, D. W.



Keeler, G. R. Keriakos, J. A. Knight, D. L. Knight, K. K. Kibler, C. P.

TRUAX FIELD



Knoblock, J. Leggett, V. D. LeGros, E. E. Leinwand, M. S. Leppel, L.



Liljedahl, G. W. Long, R. Lynn, E. E. Malone, B. L. Mark, N. H.



Marquis, D. E. Mast, R. E. McCabe, A. E. McClure, E. L. McGaffie, G. W.



McGlone, D. E. Meacham, E. D. Mechlin, R. N. Menicucci, C. R. Michelsen, R. F.

TRUAX FIELD



Moffatt, E. R. Moore, R. R. Morrison, J. E. Osher, E. J. Peila, M. P.



Polisky, A. A. Proskaner, A. J. Reichenbach, P. E. Robb, L. M. Romano, L. P.



Rosinski, H. H. Rowland, H. J. Rush, R. Rutherford, R. H. Rzepecki, H. M.



Salley, W. L. Scesney, F. W. Signore, M. A. Simmons, O. B. Six, B. B.

TRUAX FIELD



Smith, H. D. Smith, N. H. Spaneas, S. N. Sperrazza, J. S. Stelter, H. C.



Streng, J. F. Strohm, J. F. Theriot, J. Thompson, J. A. Thorp, J. J.



Tipton, O. Tomola, P. T. Toomey, J. E. Tucker, J. A. Vejnoska, R. G.

TRUAX FIELD



Ablecop, S. Allen, R. D. Amenda, L. W. Anton, W. R. Archer, J. A.



Bailey, L. G. Blanchard, J. F. Bootzin, L. Bourbon, R. J. Bowen, L. B.



Brown, P. F. Buchanan, J. C., Jr. Caspary, G. L. Cathcart, C. W. Deardurff, L. R.



Delaney, S. J. Difalco, C. A. Eggleton, R. F. Englehart, R. H. Feldman, B. L.

TRUAX FIELD



Ferriell, W. L. Francel, R. D. Francis, C. W. Geier, R. E. Gilbert, J. A.



Graham, P. D. Hepburn, W. H. Hinz, A. W. Hoff, M. L. Horak, J., Jr.



Howland, J. J. Hudson, W. E., Jr. Hurley, J. E. Ivey, G. F., Jr. Jann, E. G.



Jantzen, R. H. Johnson, R. M. Jones, D. R. Kennerly, F. M. Kime, D. C.

TRUAX FIELD



King, R. D. Kluger, W. A. Koscik, E. F. Lee, O. B. Leonard, J. L.



Lewandowski, E. S. Lisbeth, L. J. Macchi, I. A. Maddigan, A. T. Magruder, P. J.



Maple, W. R. Marks, J. S. Marshall, H. J. Martin, R. G. McAdam, R. G.



McCurry, J. B. McMillan, B. F. Messer, R. A. Miller, V. C. Moore, J. A.

TRUAX FIELD



Morrison, F. R. Muller, R. F. Murphy, M. E. Myers, E. G. Nelman, D. P.



Neppl, W. J. O'Connor, M. F. Olive, R. J. Ori, L. Osborne, F.



Parkins, W. R. Pepkin, E. Reed, J. D. Reedy, A. Richey, E. L.



Scardigli, A. J. Shank, L. C. Shepherd, R. M. Sklar, M. Smith, R. R.

TRUAX FIELD



Strasser, C. L. Swarens, R. D. Swindle, C. F. Tahner, F. A. A. Tenney, E. L.



Thiebout, E. L. Thorpe, H. L. Trenta, F. J. Tucker, F. M. Utley, E. C., Jr.



Van Pelt, W. T. Vedovini, F. L. Wahl, R. A., Jr. Walrabenstein, E. M. Warner, H. M.



Warren, B. L. Weener, S. S. Weinberg, N. Weiner, V. N. Wheeler, D. H.

TRUAX FIELD



Winn, H. L. Yacenda, A. M. Yacenda, M. W. Zahner, R. V., Jr. Zito, J. P.

TRUAX FIELD



Belote, R. A. Garner, B. Grammer, J. H. Johnson, C. W. Neel, J. E.



Smith, A. H. Smith, A. J., Jr. Wilborn, H.



Battle, G. B. Hutchinson, D. B. Juhasz, E. S.



Yessen, L. T.

TRUAX FIELD



Dreher, H. E. Fix, C. J. Hernandez, M. J. Hettinger, H. L. Ingram, H. L.



Kwast, E. E. Patterson, E. A. Purtell, W. H. Strausborger, H. R. Taylor, D. S.



Thaxton, F. C.



Williams, E. I.

TRUAX FIELD

CRACK-UPS



Hey, Joe! Let's knock off . . .
I can't work wit dis infernal
racket goin' on.



-ANDREWS-

How to get a life time job.



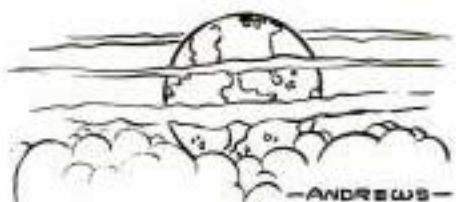
When I say rest you gotta
keep one foot in place!



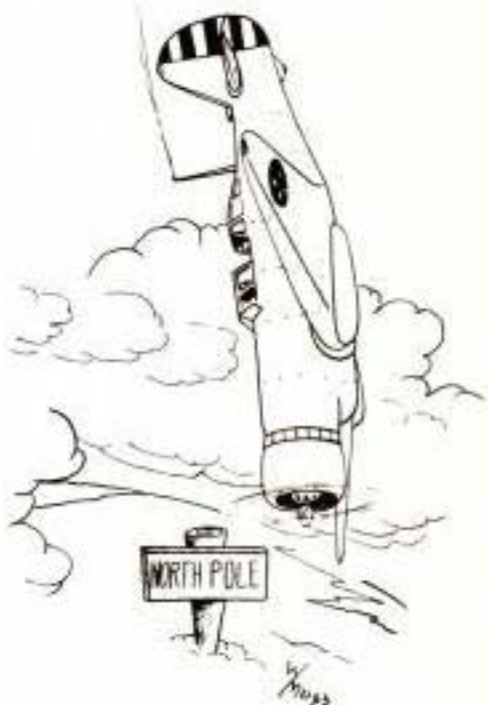
But Honey . . . won't you kiss
me just once?

TRUAX FIELD

FLIGHT



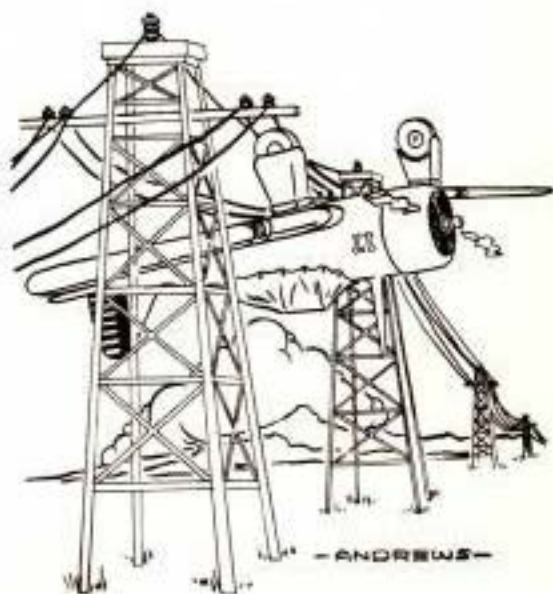
Let's see now . . . at what altitude was I supposed to start using oxygen.



Never mind cosmic disturbances, what's wrong with the compass?



I can't figure out what became of that guy who was crankin' my prop.



Say! This blind flying is a cinch.



Autographs



Snapshots