

VOL. 1

NO. 9

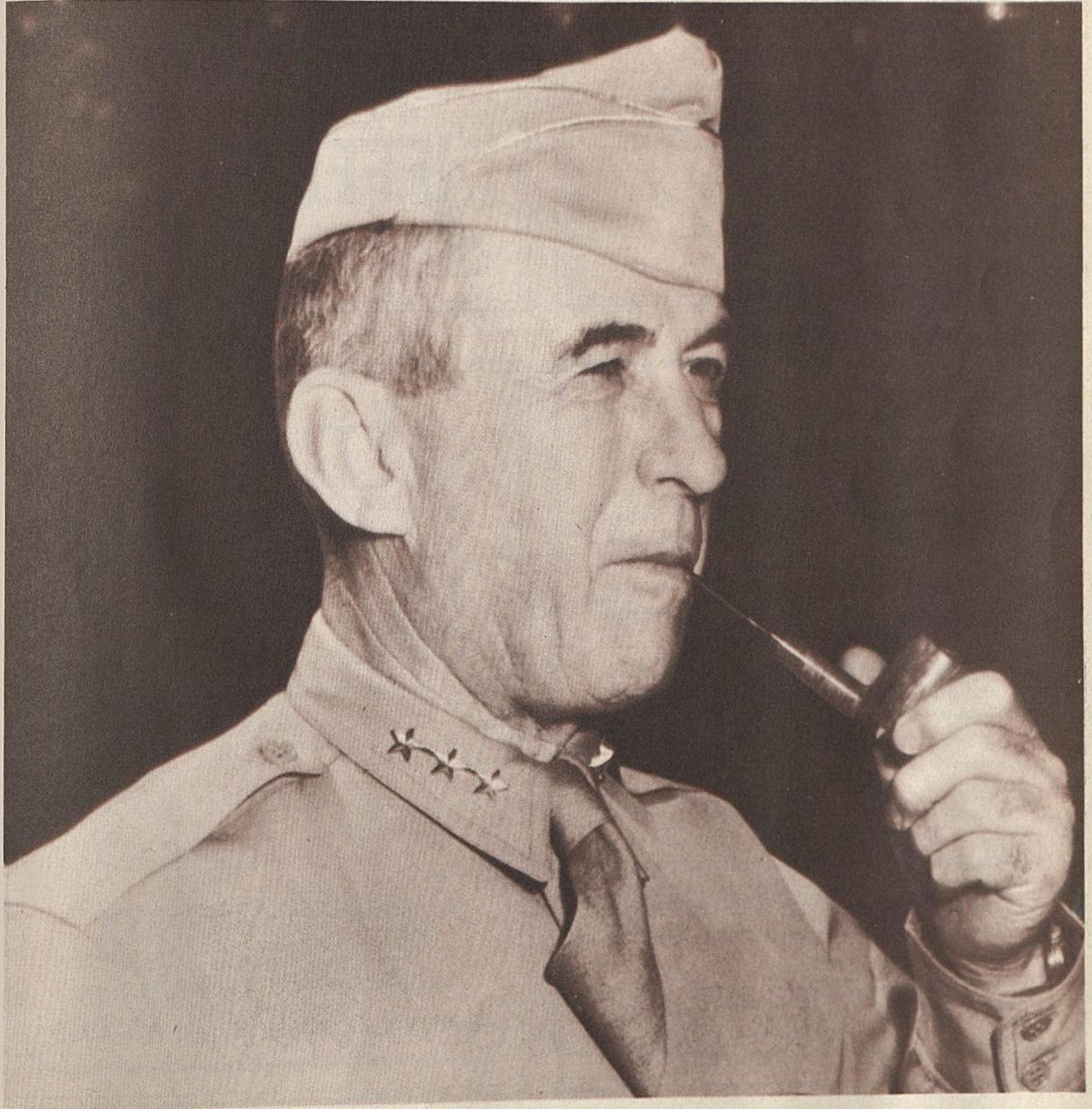


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FEBRUARY 1944
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Guardsmen

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS STATE GUARD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION



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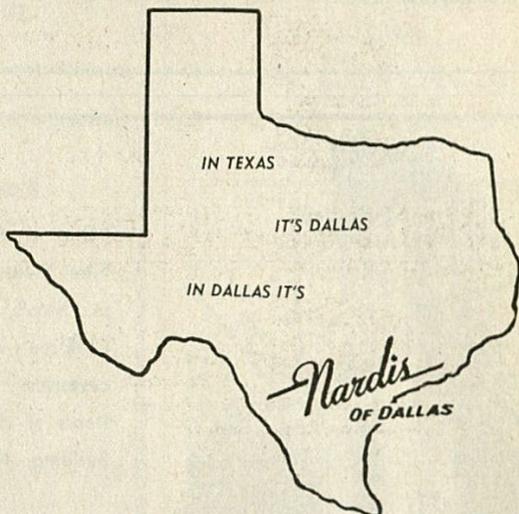
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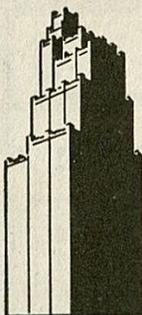
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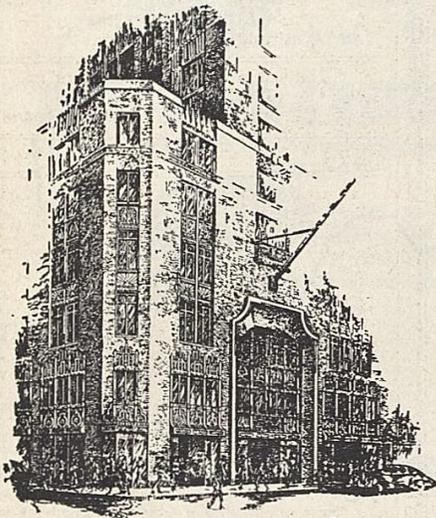


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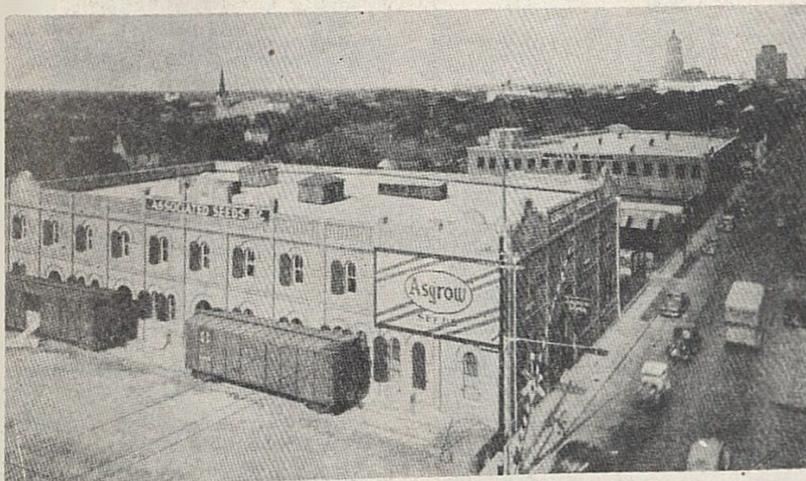
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"A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."—Article Two, Bill of Rights, from the Constitution of the United States.

ANOTHER MILEPOST

By LT. ALBERT NIBLING



Brig. Gen. Julian W. Cunningham who commanded army forces which invaded Arawe Peninsula.

Captain Edward Wright, Jr., of Dallas, who led the unit which attempted to storm the Arawe beaches in a flanking attack.



Captain William H. Laird, of Houston, who led the commando unit which captured Pelelo Island.

Lt. J. W. Batts, Jr., of Bryan, who succeeded in getting farthest toward shore in the ill-fated flanking attack on the Arawe beaches.



To the shining mileposts of heroism that highlight the history of Texas — The Alamo, San Jacinto, the Argonne, and Salerno — add another name — Arawe.

There, too, Texans were in the forefront of battle—fighting in the Texas tradition; fighting for freedom, and winning.

Hardly had the world quit hearing of the feats of Texans who stormed the beaches at Salerno in the face of withering German fire before the name of Texans again, on Dec. 15, blared from halfway around the world — Texans again were in the vanguard of triumphant American armies.

At Arawe as at Salerno, Texans clambered from landing boats under deadly enemy fire. At Arawe, as at Salerno, Texans helped make it possible for the tide of battle to be turned against the foe.

The American Sixth Army, which invaded New Britain Island, was commanded by General Walter Kreuger, who spent several years in Texas, at San Antonio as commander of the Third Army.

A band composed principally of Texans, commanded by Captain Edward Wright of Dallas, was sent to make the first beachhead at Arawe. It was the task of this group to slip away from the main landing party and make a flanking beachhead to cut off the retreat of the Japs.

Like the Texans at Salerno, this group found the enemy waiting. Murderous machinegun fire ripped into them when they approached the shore. A large portion of their small force was blown out of the frail rubber rafts.

Corp. Roy C. Jackson of Dallas succeeded in rescuing many of the men desperately trying to survive in the surf while machinegun and cannon shot flailed the air.

That was a bloody spot for Texans that day. A newspaperman in the party declared:

"You see men dying all around you. You see heads, arms and legs blown off. You see men become hysterical and drown."

After the battle, Captain Wright said to the newsman who reported the battle: "I'm sure enough glad to see you." There were two holes in his helmet, big enough to shove a pullet egg through.

Capt. William H. Laird of Houston led a group of Commandos who captured Pelelo Island off Arawe Peninsula. He approached his commanding officer after the raid and reported:

"Mission accomplished, sir. We killed 15 of the enemy for the loss of one man."

Major Harry Wermer of Dallas dug foxholes and cursed about what happened to Wright's men.

Brig. Gen. Julian W. Cunningham, who led the invasion of Arawe, with a regiment of Texans, also spent much of his time in Texas. He started training the Texans he led as a cavalry regiment at Fort Clark.

Lt. Joseph Batts of Bryan unfurled the Texas flag his father gave him alongside the Stars and Stripes and the speculation grew in

IN TEXAS HISTORY



TEXANS LEAD AGAIN!

the South Pacific war zone that Texas, or Batts, had seceded from the Union, the Associated Press reported. Batts led a part of the wave of rubber boats under Captain Wright, and was credited with having gotten closer to shore than any of the men in the party.

From Tarawa, in the Gilbert Islands, came word from a Texan, Pvt. Connor O. Armstrong of Giddings. This Texas Marine used his allotment of two sheets of paper to write his wife:

"I can't help but laugh when I remember how we bought a bond a month and really thought we were being big toward the war effort. I am laughing now at quite a few people I know who are doing the same."

Private Armstrong lost everything he owned in the action which secured Tarawa for the Americans but was able to write home that "we had a fairly tough time."

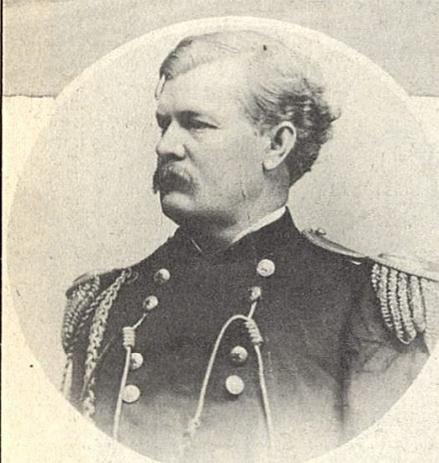
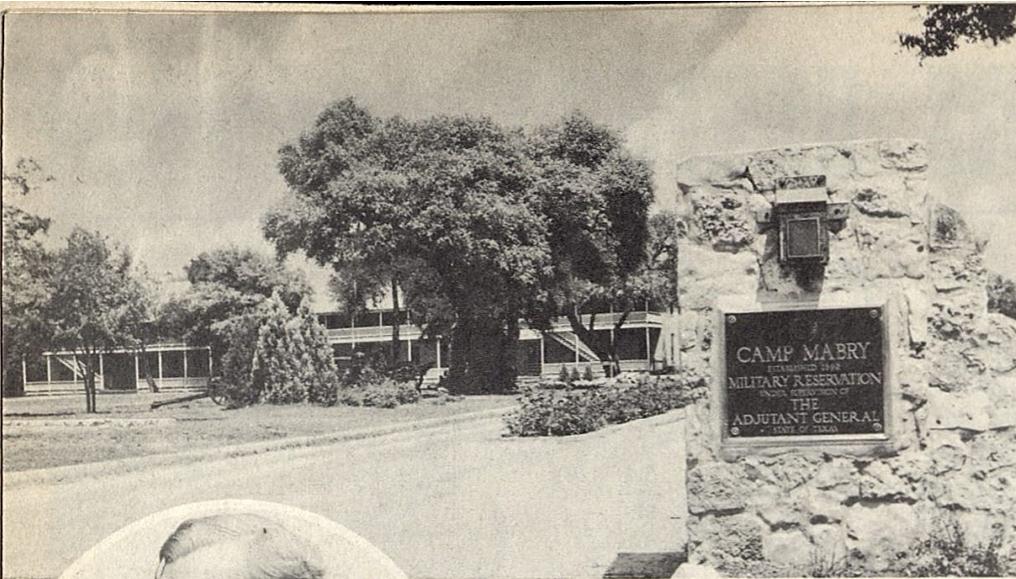
Camp Bowie at Brownwood takes special pride in the Sixth Army and General Walter Kreuger who commands it.

Bowie claims one of the largest monuments to a living general, Kreuger Hill, which overlooks the entire camp area.

The origin of the name "Kreuger Hill" is generally credited to Maj. Gen. Claude V. Birkhead, who commanded the 36th Division while it was stationed at Camp Bowie.

The newly won air strip on Betio Island in the Tarawa Atoll was officially named "Hawkins Field" in memory of Marine Lieut. William D. Hawkins, EI

(Continued on Page 30)



Beautiful oak trees form a setting for the entrance to Camp Mabry, owned by the State of Texas. In the background is the southern style administration building, which houses the office of the post commander, Lt. Col. Sidney Mason, and the personnel section of the Texas State Guard.

Few days after Col. Teddy delighted his Rough Rider soldiers in Austin by riding a wild bronc, he was snapped in Colorado Springs, Colo., by Brig. Gen. J. Watt Page, now head of state selective service. Mayor Hall is introducing the colonel. The date, May 8, 1905.

Col. W. H. Mabry, for whom Camp Mabry was named, fought with Col. Teddy Roosevelt in the war against Spain as a soldier of 1st Texas Infantry, U. S. Army, later was adjutant general of Texas.

HISTORY HAS BEEN MADE AT CAMP MABRY

By CAPT. STEWART HARKRIDER
and SGT. JOE SMALL
5th Battalion, Austin

The little man with the black mustache and the snapping brown eyes looked at the rough frontier soldiers and smiled. He looked at the big black stallion that had just been turned loose in the corral. The horse went thundering around from fence to fence, shaking his mane, eyes flashing, nostrils flared. The animal paused, looked at the little man, pawed the ground and snorted.

Calmly the little colonel waved his hand. The horse was roped, held steady. The big black's shanks were stiff and wide when the Colonel crawled on. The grinning soldiers turned their heads slightly and winked at dubious comrades. There were rollers in the stallion's nose. His flanks trembled and there was a peculiar creeping movement about the horse's withers. The boys knew that the little Colonel had hell by the tail. He ought to have known better than to ride a horse like that.

The boys melted away then and the horse was free. His head dropped instantly. He stood still a split second. Then the big horse snorted into the dust and erupted.

Immediately the bucking bronc was a twisting, squealing hell-on-hoofs. He bounced up and down like a rubber ball, hitting the ground on stiff legs with

jolts that tied knots in the rider's stomach. The little Colonel's head jerked and bobbed. His chaps popped against the saddle leather like the sound of a quirt. The fighting black drew up in a knot suddenly, then tensed powerfully, and unfolded with the sensation of a TNT explosion. He leaped, wrenched, twisted and reared.

The soldiers were going crazy with excitement. They yelled out, beat their hats against uniformed thighs and gripped the corral fence with hands that grew white with tightness.

The big black played his ace then. He sprang up, writhed in the air and came down with a sickening jar. He was trying to spank the rider to death with his own saddle.

But the little Colonel stuck fast. He began to work on the horse himself now. It was too much for the big black. He gave up, trotted around the corral fence with a docile swing of his mighty head.

The boys were quiet for a moment—quiet in their unbelief, their utter shocked amazement. Then they yelled. They yelled and threw up their hats and took the little Colonel off the big black. They carried him out of the corral on their shoulders.

They were proud of their commander-in-chief, these Rough Riders—proud of Theodore Roosevelt, the only president of the United States who could ride the last trickle of furious fight out of a wild-eyed bronc, then sit up there on their shoulders and smile like he'd just rode in on the 5:15.

Teddy, the boys will tell you, was one hell of a swell guy—

This is only one of the many significant events that took place at historical old Camp Mabry near Austin, and now the home of the 5th Battalion, Texas State Guard.

The history of Camp Mabry, whose parade grounds have felt the tramping feet of thousands of Texas Volunteer Guards, Rough Riders, Spanish-American and World War I soldiers, and National Guardsmen, begins in the office of Gov. J. S. Hogg. In 1892 a committee of the Texas Volunteer Guards waited upon the Governor. The committee was headed by Col. W. H. Mabry, then adjutant general of Texas.

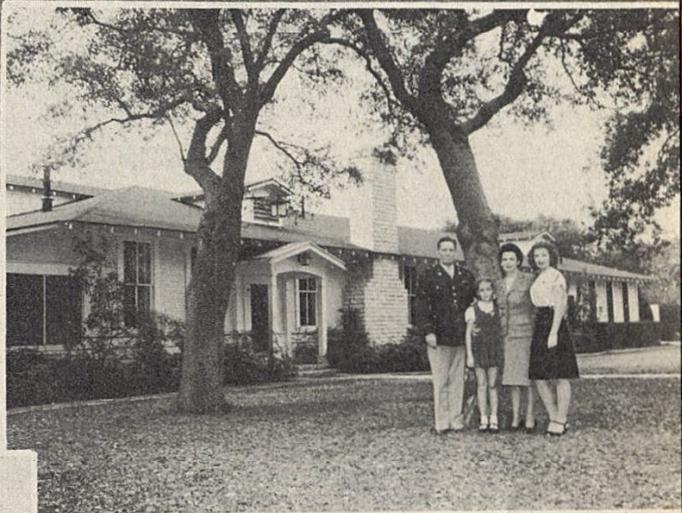
With the hearty approval of Gov. Hogg, the committee reported its selection of a place for a permanent encamp-

(Continued on Page 24)

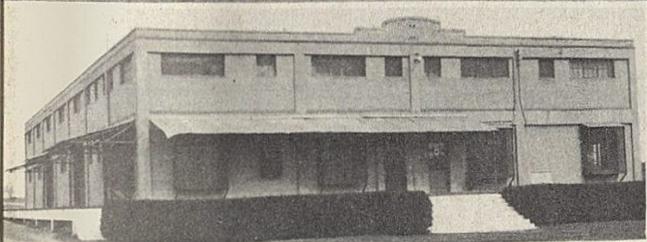


Lazy Texas clouds gather over the parade grounds of Camp Mabry where almost a half century ago the Texas Volunteer Guards marched and trained. This is the spot where yelling Rough Riders cheered their beloved leader, Col. Teddy, with the words "Ride 'em, Cowboy!"

Looking west from the parade grounds; the buildings house the State Department of Public Safety; and in the distance, the hills of the Colorado River. Between the buildings and the hills is the rifle range, used both by the 5th battalion and the army for rifle practice.



The home of the adjutant general of Texas is on the state-owned military reservation of Camp Mabry. Shown under the beautiful oak trees which surround the house are Brig. Gen. Arthur B. Knickerbocker and his family.



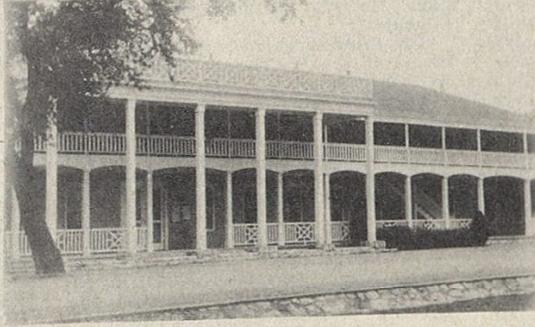
Millions of dollars worth of equipment has flowed through this drab building, the arsenal. Soldiers of world war days declared only two sizes were issued: "Too big, and too little." This was the distributing point for all National Guard supplies, and today from this building comes all equipment for the Texas State Guard.



Galloping Rough Riders have charged across the historic old parade grounds of Camp Mabry, and these same grounds have felt the tramping feet of thousands of Texas Volunteer Guards, Spanish-American, World War I and National Guard soldiers, and Texas State Guardsmen. Marching guardsmen of the 5th battalion pass the reviewing stand in above picture.



Col. Sidney Mason, post commander Camp Mabry, who was retired from the army a short time before his old outfit, the 36th division, went overseas.



Striking southern style architecture features the administration building. This building served as headquarters for Major Walter Channing and his staff during World War I days when he commanded all the military forces in Austin.



Uniforms, ammunition, and other equipment for the far-flung Texas State Guard battalions are sent on their way by Capt. John Tyson, in charge of the arsenal, a veteran of World War I.

SHOTGUNS

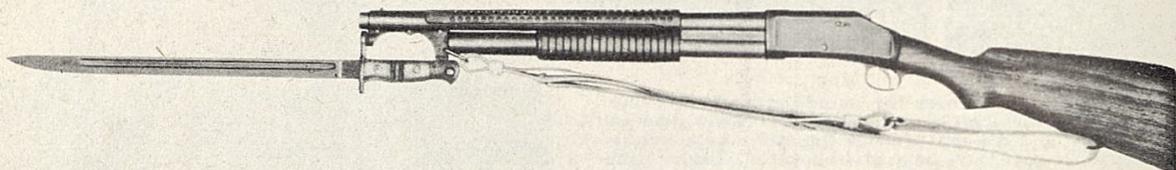


Figure 1—Gun with Bayonet, Hand Guard and Sling—Left Side View—Riot Type (Solid-Frame)—Winchester Shotgun M97

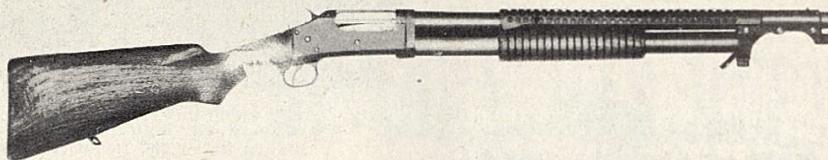


Figure 2—Gun with Bayonet Attachment and Hand Guard—Right Side View—Riot Type (Solid Frame)—Winchester Shotgun M97

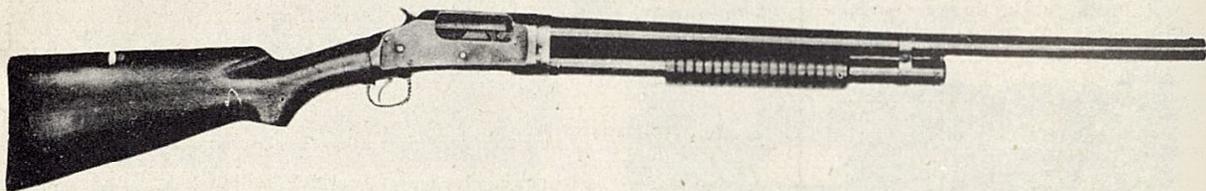


Figure 3—Right Side View—Sporting Trap Type (Take-down)—Winchester Shotgun M97

The following is a general comparison of eleven different models of shotguns of five nationally known makes, namely: Winchester M97-M12, Stevens M620A-M520-M620, Ithaca M37, Remington M10-M31-M11, Sportsman, and Savage M720.

All are 12-gauge guns and are manufactured in three general types: Riot type, Sporting Skeet type, and Sporting Trap type, except the Remington M10 which is not manufactured in the sporting skeet type.

The bore of the riot type is cylinder, of the skeet type is improved cylinder, and the trap is choke bored.

The type action is slide action in all except the Remington M-11 and Sportsman, and the Savage M-720 which are semi-automatic. This feature prevents the installation of the bayonet attachment and hand guard on the riot type

guns. However, all may have the sling attached.

The firing mechanism is hammerless except in the Winchester M-97, which has a hammer.

The type magazine is tubular in all and the capacity of the magazine is five shells, except in the Ithaca M-37, Remington M-31, M-11, and Savage M-720, which will take four shells and the Remington Sportsman takes two only.

The length of the barrel in all makes and types is the same, all riot type being 20 inches, Sporting Skeet 26 inches (except Remington M-10 which is not manufactured in this type), and the Sporting Trap has a 30-inch barrel.

The length of the assembled gun in eight of eleven makes is: riot 40 inches, skeet 46 inches, and trap 50 inches. The Winchester M-97 is shortest, being one inch shorter than the above standards.

The Remington M-31 and the Savage M-720 are one-half inch less than the above standards.

The weight of the assembled gun varies: Riot type without bayonet assembly and hand guard 6 to 8 pounds, skeet 6½ to 8½ pounds, and trap 6½ to 8½ pounds.

The bayonet M1917 weighs 1½ pounds, the M1905 weighs 1 pound, and the new short bayonet (M1-20-2B-54) weighs slightly less than 1 pound.

The semi-automatic Remington M-11, Sportsman, and Savage M-720 do not permit the fastening of the bayonet assembly and hand guard.

SHOTGUN AMMUNITION

Based upon the use, shotgun shells are classified as (1) guard or combat load containing nine No. 00 or twelve No. 0 pellets weighing 1½ ounces (buckshot); (2) skeet load containing

SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR DESCRIBING A SHOTGUN

This is a 10-12-16-20 gauge
single
double

(make) (model)
barrel repeater or semi-automatic
shotgun, riot, sporting skeet, or
sporting trap type. The bore is
cylinder, improved cylinder, choke
or full choke. It is a slide operated,
hand operated, breech loading or
semi-automatic gun and the firing
mechanism is a hammer or hammer-
less. The magazine is tubular, and
will take _____ shells. The barrel
length is: riot type _____, sporting
skeet _____, sporting trap _____
The length of the stock and receiver is:
riot type _____, sporting
skeet _____, sporting trap _____
The length of the assembled gun is:
riot type _____, sporting skeet _____,
sporting trap _____.

The weight of the assembled gun
without bayonet is: riot type _____,
sporting skeet _____, sporting
trap _____.

This gun (does, does not) permit
of fitting the hand guard and bay-
onet attachment and the M1917
bayonet weighs 1½ pounds and
M1905 weighs 1 pound.

The shells for this gun are _____
(types), and weigh

(ounces or drams)

Nos. 7½ or 9 chilled shot weighing 1½ ounces; (3) trap load containing No. 7½ chilled shot and weighing 1½ to 1½ ounces; (4) hunting load containing any of the above loads; (5) rifled slug load, weight about one ounce; (6) gas load; (7) flare. The powder charge will be about 3 drams. The marking on the closing wad will indicate the weight and size of the load and the marking on head will show manufacturer, gauge, and trade name of the shell.

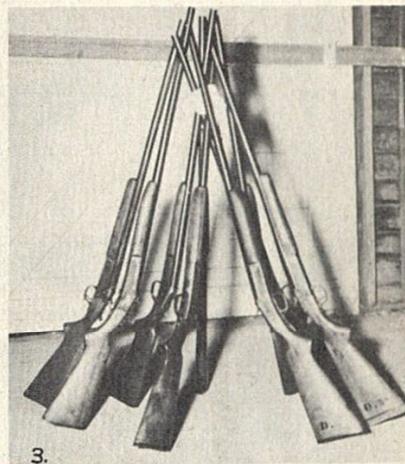
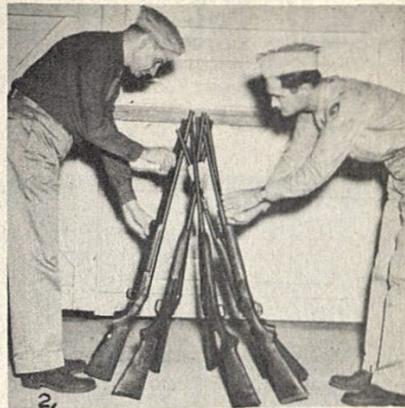
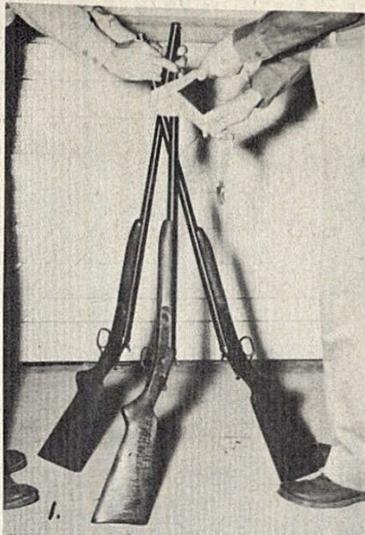
The shell consists of a brass or steel head, a primer, a water-proofed paper case shell body. In the past some shells have been made with all brass cases for use in combat, guard duty or appropriate type of hunting.

Guard or combat shells (12 gauge) contain 3 drams of smokeless powder and nine No. 00 or twelve No. 0 buckshot weighing 1½ ounces. The overall length of the shell is 2.33 inches and it weighs 800 grains. The chamber pressure when discharged is 11,000 pounds per square inch and the velocity over a range of 40 yards is 1,030 to 1,070 feet per second.

The pattern of the shot group in a 30-inch circle at 5 to 30 yards will be 100% in the circle with the 30-inch choke bore or the 26-inch cylinder bore barrel; however, at 60 yards the pattern will be 35% with the choke and 25% with the cylinder bore barrel. The spread of the pattern beyond 30-yard range is ¾ inch per yard with the choke bore and 1 inch per yard for the cylinder bore and the maximum effective range is 60 to 70 yards.

Cases have been known where a No. 00 buckshot at 50 yards has gone through four inches of bar soap (which has a resistance comparable to that of human flesh), and then continue on and pass through a one-inch pine board.— (Prepared by 2nd Training and Research Unit, Texas State Guard.)

HOW TO STACK SHOTGUNS ILLUSTRATED



These pictures show how to stack the shotguns.

A belt is used in picture No. 1, but a rope or tie of any kind is acceptable. Picture No. 1 shows how three guns are pyramided and secured by tying. Picture No. 2 illustrates how more guns are placed about the initial stack of three. Picture No. 3 shows the completed stack of eight or more guns.

STOPPAGES AND IMMEDIATE ACTION

STOPPAGES:

1. Gun fails to fire.
2. Gun still fails to fire.
3. Fed shell fails to chamber.
4. Gun fails to fire. (Shell fed and ejected when gun is operated.)
5. Gun fails to fire. (Trigger fails to pull.)
6. Gun fails to fire. (Hammer un-released.)

IMMEDIATE ACTION:

1. Reciprocate action slide or retract and release operating slide and fire.
2. Glance into magazine. If empty, reload gun and fire.
3. Retract action slide handle or operating slide, remove fed shell from receiver; check chamber for shell or ruptured case. Remove obstruction, load, and fire.
4. Inspect primers of ejected shells. If normally indented, faulty ammunition is indicated. Reload gun and fire. If lightly indented, broken or obstructed firing pin is indicated.
5. Check position of safety. Shift to fire position on safe. Release and again pull trigger in Remington M-31 and other auto-loading guns.
6. Check position of safety. Reciprocate action slide handle or retract and release operating slide and fire.

CAUTION: (1) When gun fails to fire, point muzzle to a safe spot and turn ejection opening towards the ground before operating to minimize the effect of a possible hang fire shell.

(2) Any serious malfunctions of ammunition must be reported to the ordnance officer under whose supervision the material is maintained or issued.

26th BN. Forms First Service Detachment Co.

GENERAL KNICKERBOCKER COMMENDS
GUARD UNIT AT HARLINGEN



Good men pass the rigid physical examination.



Capt. Heslop swears in the new 26th Battalion Service Detachment.



New recruits gather in a social session after the induction.

THE COMMENDATION

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO: Commanding Officer,
Hqs. 26th Bn., TSG,
Mercedes, Texas.

1. Recommendation for State recognition of Service Detachment, 26th Battalion, and supporting records were received in this Headquarters in very good order. The persons responsible for this fine organizational effort are to be highly commended.

2. It will no doubt be of interest to you and your entire command to know that the Service Detachment of the 26th Battalion is the first new Detachment authorized by the revised Table of Organization to receive State Recognition.

3. General Order officially recognizing this Detachment will be issued immediately.

By direction of the Adjutant
General:

(Signed) Wallace E. Adams,
Captain, AGD, TSG,
Personnel Adjutant.

The Service Detachment Company of the 26th Battalion, Texas State Guard, at Harlingen, has been commended by Commanding General Arthur Knickerbocker for being the first fully organized and recognized unit of its kind in the state.

The company was organized under the direction of Major J. B. Taylor, commanding officer of the 26th, and is commanded by Capt. Dan Heslop and Lt. J. W. Denson. Its enlisted personnel consists of 50 Harlingen citizens, many of them business and professional men prominent in the civic affairs of this Valley metropolis. Included in the personnel are 14 veterans of World War I and World War II.

The Service Detachment Company will function as the supply and transportation unit of the 26th Battalion. In the event the 26th Battalion is called into active duty, this company will be in charge of the supply and mess and transportation equipment for the entire battalion which consists of Company A, Harlingen; Company B, Raymondville; Company C, Mercedes; and Company D, Weslaco. Heretofore each company was responsible for its own supplies and transportation equipment.

Official inspection of this new unit was made by Major Taylor in the capacity of inspecting officer for the Texas State Guard. The inspection revealed the character and quality of the men to be excellent. Major Taylor's inspection report indicated. The fact that the majority of the men in this new company are mature and seasoned citizens, not subject to immediate military call for service in the armed forces tends to create stability and permanency in this organization designed to assist in the

(Continued on Page 20)

after recognition, Sentinel says: **ADVANCE SOLDIERS.** All are allowed to pass if found to be **Secure.**

a. Guards may be furnished from the Main Guard for the colors when unfurled and posted out of doors. For this purpose guards are detailed and governed by the same regulations as apply to other members of the main guard.

G. Formations. (Study Plate 3, Forming a Relief.)

H. The Posting of Reliefs. (Study Plate 4, Posting a Relief.)

1. To Form and Post a Relief, Employing a *Fixed System of Sentinels.* The commander of the guard the corporal, the first relief ready in formation. Note that this relief is already in formation from guard mounting and that the commands, **FALL IN, INSPECTION ARMS** and the report to the commander of the guard are omitted. Members place themselves according to the number of the corporal. Numbers 2, 4, 6 and so on, are in the front rank in order named from right to left; numbers 1, 3, 5 and so on, in the rear rank. At the command **CALL OFF**, given by the corporal from his post *two* paces in front of the corporal, the ranks march forward alternately, alternating rear and front ranks, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and so on. If in single rank they call off from right to left. (If arms are to be loaded it should be done at this point). The corporal then commands: **RIGHT!** 2. **FACE.** 3. **FORWARD.** 4. **MARCH.** The corporal marches on the left and the ranks march on the right to the march. The relief proceeds around the cordon of sentinels, in their numerical order. b. The corporal, in the old relief (THE ONE ON POST) marches on the right of the leading file and takes command when the last old sentinel is relieved, changing places with the new corporal. (Note that the corporal always marches on the right, and posted that the change in command takes place.)

c. The sentinel halts and stands facing the relief at right shoulder arms when it is 30 paces away. When the relief arrives at 30 paces from the sentinel, the corporal commands: **HALT!** **FACE!** and then the sentinel to be posted. The new sentinel who is always in front, steps out and halts 1 pace from and facing the old sentinel or the man to be relieved. Both execute port arms. The corporals advance and place themselves facing each other opposite the sentinel on the right of the old sentinel, the corporal on the right of the new sentinel, the new corporals remain at right shoulder arms. They see that the old sentinel correctly transmits his instructions, etc. Where a guard has been established in a new camp, the special orders for the post, are frequently passed on in this manner. This is done as follows: The new corporal is in the guardhouse. The new corporal next commands: **POST.** Both sentinels resume the right shoulder, face toward the new corporal, and step back to allow the relief to pass in front. The new corporal then commands (to the relief): 1. **Forward.** 2. **MARCH.** The old sentinel takes his place in the guardhouse. The new sentinel passes him. The new sentinel steps out at the right shoulder, until the relief has passed 6 paces beyond, when he will start walking his post. The corporals take their places as the relief passes. The new corporal should see that the two rear men of the post are in the guardhouse. In the posting of a relief is the same, except that the corporal halts his relief when challenged.

other guards when specifically directed and is charged with the execution of all orders given by the commanding officer. He is in command of the guard. He merely supervises the guard in all its duties but does not command it. His actual tour of duty begins when he receives the instructions of the commanding officer and ceases when he has been relieved by the same authority.

3. The commander of the guard, an officer if there is one available, but often a noncommissioned officer, is responsible for the discipline and instruction of the guard and the manner in which its duties are performed. If there is no officer, the senior sergeant commands the guard, and also usually present at the guardhouse and formations of the guard.

4. The Corporal of the Guard.
a. The Corporal of the Guard receives and obeys orders only from the commanding officer, officer of the day, officers of the guard, and noncommissioned officers of the guard.
b. Buglers of the Guard.

a. As many buglers of the guard are detailed as the commanding officer may direct.
b. Buglers of the guard remain at the guardhouse during their tour unless otherwise directed by the commanding officer.

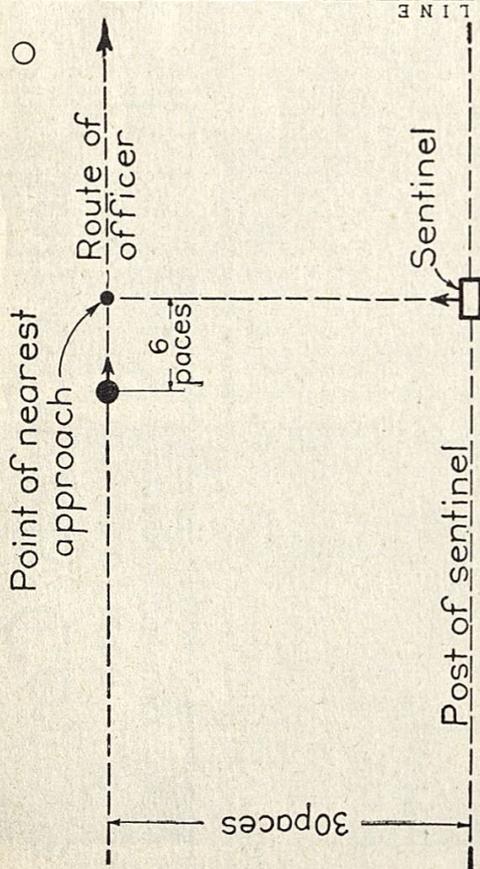
a. A man going on guard must thoroughly clean his arms and equipment, remove spots from clothing, shine his shoes; in short, present a neat and soldierly appearance. b. He should know his **GENERAL ORDERS**, which are as follows:
(1) To take charge of this post and all equipment attached to it.
(2) To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
(3) To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
(4) To be vigilant and attentive from posts more distant from the guardhouse than any other.

(5) To quit my post only when properly relieved.
(6) To receive, obey, and pass on to the sentinel who relieves me, all orders from the commanding officer, officer of the day, and officers and noncommissioned officers of the guard.
(7) To talk to no one except in line of duty.
(8) To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
(9) To call the corporal of the guard in any case not covered by instructions.

(10) To be especially watchful at night, and during the time for challenging to challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.
c. While the private of the guard is off post, he is to be in an arm rack provided for his relief, that he can procure it quickly when needed.

d. He must not leave the vicinity of the guardhouse without permission from the commander of the guard, usually given through the corporal of the relief.
e. Privates are not changed from one relief to another without proper authority. f. No private is to be without the equipment or clothing without permission. The equipment is allowed to remove gloves, hats and overcoats while in the guard room or tent. (Study Plate 2 for relative positions.)

7. Challenging.
a. An example of a challenge:
Sentinel: **HALT! WHO IS THERE?** One of the soldiers: **SOLDIERS.** Sentinel: **ADVANCE ONE TO BE RECOGNIZED,** and



Sentinel faces and salutes when relative positions are as shown.

Plate 2. Relative Positions, Sentinel Saluting an Officer.

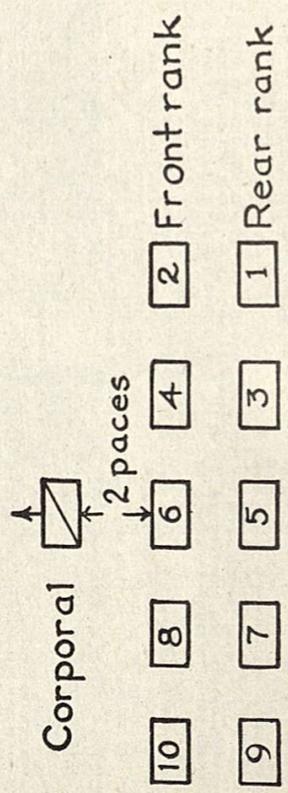


Plate 3. Forming a Relief.

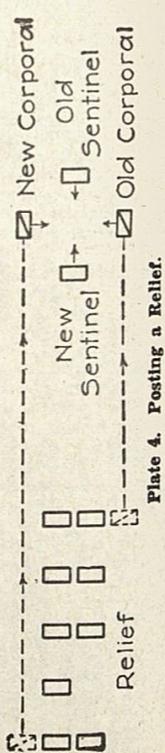


Plate 4. Posting a Relief.



BOOK REVIEWS

By CAPT. JOSEPH M. MURPHY — S-1, 2nd Battalion, Houston



"THESE MEN SHALL NEVER DIE,"
by Lowell Thomas, (John C. Winston
Co., \$2.00.)

This is a book that should be in every American home and in every school library for years to come. For it is an unforgettable record of blazing valor, a pageant of the unprecedented courage of the American fighting men.

The 72 heroes of this book represent a cross-section of men who distinguished themselves in America's first year of the war. These men have been selected by competent military authority for inclusion in the list, which includes officers and enlisted men of the Army, Air Corps, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine.

"They were fighting virtually with their bare hands," an officer told Lowell Thomas. "They were short of weapons, short of ammunition, short of medical supplies, short of food. Their air support was a mere fraction of what they needed. The flying force was short of planes, short of armament, short of spare parts, short of flying fields, short of everything in the way of elaborate equipment that is needed for air power. The cry was, 'Send us something!' They were begging, pleading with their backs to the wall."

This drastic statement applies in general to the American at the fighting front during the first year of war. The nation was taken by surprise, was caught unprepared. During that first tragic year, America, now the world's master producer of armament, had to depend on the raw courage of naked American flesh—the mere heart of its fighting men.

Passing in review are such never-to-die heroes as: Lieut. Commander Edward H. (Butch) O'Hare, who took off from the carrier Lexington and single-handedly fought nine attacking Jap bombers, who were out to sink the "Lex." He shot down five, badly damaged the sixth, and quit only because he was out of ammunition.

And there was Major James P. S. Devereaux, USMC, the heroic defender, with 400 Marines, of Wake Island. Just 400 tough, brave Americans against an empire!

And Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr., Air Corps, who gave his life to permit his crew to parachute to safety, after his plane was shot up and on fire after sinking the Jap battleship "Haruna."

And Lieut. Colonel Hewitt T. Whelless, Air Corps, the man whose story President Roosevelt told in one of his radio reports on the progress of the war. He bombed Jap transports, in spite of a badly damaged plane, and with half his crew killed, fought a hard, 75-mile running fight with Jap planes, and finally brought his plane home, with two engines gone and the controls almost entirely shot away.

Then a Texas boy, former A. & M. student, Ensign George H. Gay, USNR, only survivor of Torpedo Squadron 8, after his squadron sank a 27,000-ton Jap carrier and chased away a naval task force at Midway that included two other big carriers.

Thomas sums up the reasons why this book was written, in this one sentence: "These stories tell of men who too often had to fight with courage alone, and they bid America never again to send forth its heroic manhood insufficiently armed."

There are plenty of pictures in the book; of the men whose feats are detailed and of some of the action in the first year of the war.

* * *

"COMBINED OPERATIONS, The Official Story of the Commandos," by Hilary St. George Saunders, (The Macmillan Co., New York, \$2.00.)

This is an interesting book, because it clears up a lot of misinformation about the British task forces we are prone to label simply "Commandos."

This from the foreword by Vice-Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten: "The term Combined Operations is vague and does not convey more than a general meaning; but their scope is definite and precise. A Combined Operation is a landing operation in which, owing to actual or expected opposition, it is essential that the fighting services take part together, in order to strike the enemy with maximum effect at the chosen point and at the chosen moment. To help the services to do this a Combined Operations Command was formed, whose primary function is to train officers and men of the Royal Navy and Marines, the Army, and the Royal Air Force in the conduct of amphibious warfare. It is also the task of this command to plan and execute all kinds of raids, small or large."

There in 124 words is a complete description of the purpose and mission of Combined Operations, and coming from Mountbatten we see why he is one of the outstanding military leaders of this present conflict.

Through Combined Operations training centers also pass others, U. S. troops, Fighting French, Norwegians, Czechs, Poles, Dutch, and Belgians.

U. S. Navy, Marine, Army and Air Corps officers form part of Combined Operations Headquarters, and U. S. Rangers operate side by side with British Commandos.

It was apparent early in this war that amphibious attack would be the major factor in winning this war, and that is why a study of Combined Operations is important in understanding that the work of the Commandos was not and is not intended to be confined to a small group of glamour boys making desperate raids just to put fear into the enemy, or to make headlines for an anxious world.

Commando raids harassed the enemy and removed certain key objectives from the enemy's resource list, but greater than that, they gave an insight into enemy tactics and reactions to amphibious attack, so that these observations might be incorporated into plans and training for D-day, wherever and whenever it might come.

This official British document is a great study of the formation of Combined Operations, of details of training, with many photographs. Also included, (and the book is largely devoted to this phase) are the plans, maps, and tactics used in raids, such as the ones on Vaagso, St. Nazaire, Diego Suarez, and Dieppe.

An interesting story is told of the raid on Rommel's headquarters, and how, but for the fact that Rommel was away celebrating with the Italians, the German general would have been captured or killed.

There is also a breathtaking word picture of the Combined Operations undertaking in getting Lieut. General Mark Clark landed by submarine on the North African coast for the purpose of meeting French officers and civilians preparatory to the big invasion.

Some of the final words of the document are most impressive in evaluating the work of Combined Operations: "The first troops of World War II to carry out a combined operation against the enemy were borne in eight motor boats. Those who went with the expedition to North Africa sailed in convoys numbering hundreds of ships. Such is the measure of the growth of Combined Operations in the past 30 months, and the end has not been reached—perhaps not even the end of the beginning."

* * *

"OUR ARMY TODAY," by Kendall Banning. (Funk and Wagnalls, New York, \$2.50.)

Here is a book to be enjoyed by both civilians and soldiers. Banning takes a typical soldier, following his career from the day of his induction, and giving a broad and interesting picture of what he might see if he were serving in various branches simultaneously.

The book has been brought up to date, to include the Battle of El Alamein in this present war. Much interesting information about our new weapons is contained in the book, although, for reasons of military security, some information about them is passed over.

Here is found a clear description of the infantry, artillery, air forces, and other branches of the service. There is quite a bit of factual information contained in the book, such as the estimated cost of turning out a military pilot, some \$25,000; the fact that a \$1,000,000 sixteen-inch coast artillery piece is good for about seven seconds of actual firing.

There are plenty of pictures, good pictures, of weapons and methods. You'll learn a lot from this book. You'll also unlearn a few things that you got through various sources.

Some comparisons are drawn between equipment used in the Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II, all of which help to understand why this great industrial nation will, by coupling productive capacity with military genius and the will to be free, crush its enemies.

LIEUTENANT TESAR DRILLS SNAPPY SCHOOL CORPS

Feeling that military training has a definite place in the public schools, Lt. Jerry Tesar, 31st Battalion, has put his ideas into action and the result is the Mission High School Victory Corps—a snappy, well drilled bunch of youngsters who have won high praise from military men.

Taking in students from the junior as well as senior high school, Lt. Tesar now has a corps of three platoons, numbering around 90 boys.

Three times a week the Corps is drilled under the supervision of Lt. Tesar and Sgt. George R. Boyle, Co. A, 31st Bn., who is a member of the school board and who takes time from his geological work to train the junior soldiers.

Every member of the Corps buys his uniform and the school bought caps and provided wooden guns.

Lt. Tesar put in a lot of time and study in arranging a basic training manual for the Corps which was published by the Mission American Legion Post and distributed to cadets at Mission and Sharyland, which also has a corps. He is working on another manual that will deal solely with military courtesies.

Lt. Tesar and Sgt. Boyle make the appointments for officers in the Corps on the basis of interest in the program, attendance at drill, ability to lead and other qualities. From time to time the company is deployed in squad formation and each boy in the squad is given the opportunity of commanding the squad. This creates greater interest and builds self-confidence.

The Mission Corps has enjoyed inspections and visits during 1943 by Majors Bryant, Spencer and Linde of the TSG. From time to time officers of the regular army, while on visits to the valley, have been invited to look over the corps.

Similar corps are being instructed at Sharyland by Lt. L. A. Smith, Co. A, 31st Bn., and at Edcouch-Elsa High School by Capt. Harold D. Stuart, Co. A, 31st Bn.

Through the training they have received, many members of the Victory Corps have become interested in the Texas State Guard, resulting in a good source of recruits for Company A.

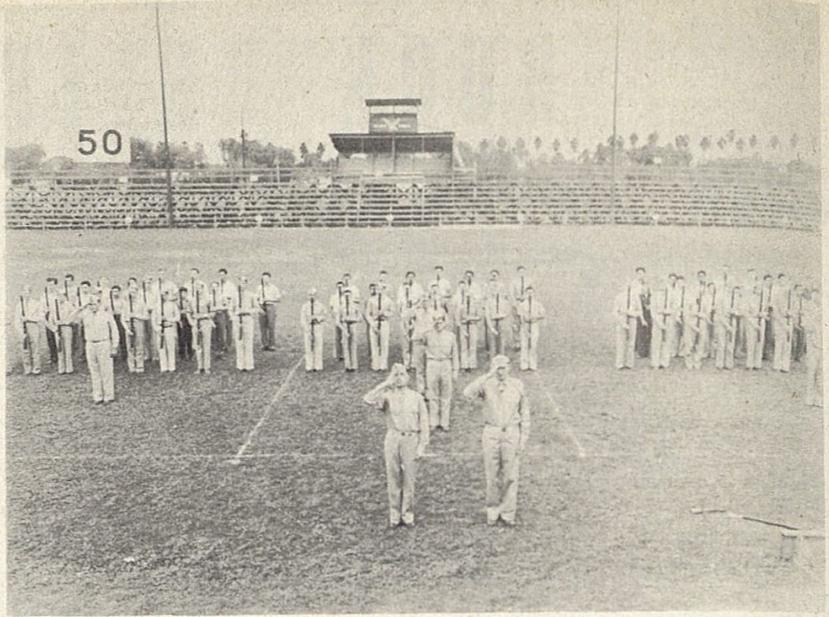
Lt. Tesar became interested in military training for school boys when he was a member of the military corps at an Omaha, Nebr., high school. He has carried his interest through the years and formed a corps that is a great credit to the school as well as himself.

PORT ARTHUR GUARDSMEN CAPTURE SANTA CLAUS

When Company C, 9th Battalion, of Port Arthur, held a Christmas party instead of drill, they went about it in true military fashion. They set up outposts and guess who they captured? You're right—Santa Claus.

The old gentleman, impersonated by Staff Sergeant C. G. Williams, was taken under guard to party headquarters where Captain Runte heeded the pleas of the children present and turned him loose. Under the guidance of Staff Sergeant J. R. Landry he shook hands with the kids and distributed sacks of fruit, candy and nuts.

In keeping with the military idea, enlisted men under the direction of First Sergeant J. H. Cheney put on an exhibition of drilling for the women and children and Staff Sergeant J. H. Cheney kept the mess contingent busy serving coffee and doughnuts.



Mission High School Victory Corps at present arms.

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COMPANY D, 16TH BATTALION, DEDICATES ITS NEW ARMORY

Company D of the 16th Battalion, with headquarters at Liberty, celebrated the opening of its new armory building December 8 with a parade, inspection, review and demonstration.

Other companies of the 16th turned out in force to assist Company D in the program.

The armory building was turned over to the company by the Liberty school board.

This building is adjacent to their old armory and to the football field which has been used by Company D for drill purposes since their organization. The building is approximately 50 feet wide by 130 feet long, with a concrete floor, storeroom, ordnance room, kitchen, and offices.

Arrangements were made by Captain G. W. Adams, commanding Company D, his officers and men, to hold the "Open House" and to furnish barbecue to the visiting Guardsmen and their guests.

Arrangements were made by the battalion commander and his staff with Captain R. E. Soderberg, commanding the U. S. Military Band at Ellington Field, to render a concert just before dusk in the town square, and to furnish music during a Battalion parade, inspection and review.

Following the concert, the battalion formed for the parade at Company D headquarters, moving off at 7:15 P.M. to and through the business district of the town and return. This was followed by a barbecue.

Immediately following the barbecue, the band and battalion were formed on

the field for inspection by Major Edward D. Konken of the 2nd Battalion, Houston, who was designated by the Adjutant General to represent his department. This was followed by induction of all new recruits, the oath of allegiance being administered by Major Konken. This was immediately followed by a review of the battalion, after which the troops marched off the field to prepare for unit demonstrations.

The first exhibition was given by Company B, consisting of the various movements involved in dismounted drill, including Marine drills and intricate manual of arms. This company demonstrated a very high degree of training.

The second exhibition was given by Company A, consisting of extended order drill. This company also demonstrated a very marked degree of training.

The third exhibition was given by Company D, and consisted of all the various riot formations. They were all well executed.

The fourth and last exhibition by the Battalion was given by Company C, consisting of a "County Fair," displaying the various types of arms used in State Guard Units, breaking them down, and showing how they are used. These demonstrations included the automatic rifle, Springfield, single and double barreled shotgun, and the throwing of hand grenades.

This was followed by demonstrations in the use of gases which proved interesting to both spectators and members of the Guard.

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EDITOR OF HOME STUDY COURSE



The Home Study Courses appearing in the Guardsman each month are prepared and edited by Captain Lawson H. Richardson, (above), Executive Officer of the 2nd Training and Research Unit, Texas State Guard. Upon completion of each new course they are submitted to Lt. Colonel George D. Thomas, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 (Operations and Training Officer of the Texas State Guard) for his approval, and are then forwarded to the editor of the Guardsman.

Captain Richardson has been Headmaster of the Peacock Military Academy since 1935. He holds the Master's Degree in Education from the University of Texas. Before joining the Staff of Peacock he was at one time Social Science Instructor and Athletic Coach at Lytle High School and Superintendent of schools at McMahan, Texas. He has also taught at Buda and the University of San Antonio (now Trinity University).

In addition to his duties as Headmaster at Peacock and Executive Officer of the 2nd Training and Research Unit, he is Instructor of Pre-Flight Aeronautics at the Academy, and is an expert on this subject. He is also a graduate of the Eighth Service Command State Guard School at Camp Bullis.

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PRAYER FOR STATE GUARD

By LT. F. J. WIGGINTON
Chaplain, 2nd Training &
Research Unit

O, Lord God, Heavenly Father, give Thy grace this day, we beseech Thee, to all the members of the Texas State Guard. To those in authority, grant wisdom and strength to lead the men under them in the right way. To those who are led, grant courage and obedience to carry out their duties to the best of their ability.

Bless all who serve in the Guard, merciful Father, with the indomitable will for justice and truth; that right, not might, may prosper in the land. Help us to defend our liberties and to preserve our unity. Save us from pride and arrogance and from all ungodliness. Give us that sure and certain faith, that though we be asked to face death, when out of this life's turmoil shall be brought forth the harvest of peace, we may know that we have served faithfully and well.

All this we ask in Thy son's name, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHANGES IN FOURTH



Former Major Robert E. McBride, Jr., left, and Major Travis J. Johnson.

Major Robert E. McBride, Jr., has resigned as commanding officer of the Fourth Battalion, Texas State Guard, at El Paso, and moved to Houston. He was transferred to Houston by the Standard Oil Company of Texas.

Major Travis J. Johnson, a resident of El Paso since 1929, who is with the El Paso branch of the Federal Reserve Bank, has become commanding officer of the Fourth Battalion.

Major McBride, a resident of El Paso since 1927, was commissioned a captain in the Texas State Guard in October, 1940, when he organized El Paso's first guard unit, Company D, with headquarters in Austin High School.

Major Johnson enlisted in the Fourth Battalion of the Texas State Guard as a private in 1940, the first enlisted man in this battalion.

Both Major McBride and Major Johnson were active in organizing the Texas State Guard Air Corps unit in El Paso, prior to the time this unit was mustered out of service and incorporated in the Civil Air Patrol.

WEST TEXAS OFFICERS FIRST IN GAS COURSE

Major E. G. Burgess, Alpine, and Lt. Lawson Goodrich, Pecos, are the two first State Guard officers to complete the Gas Reconnaissance Agent's Course developed recently by the Eighth Regional Office of Civilian Defense and being presented under the direct supervision of the Chemical Warfare Branch, Eighth Service Command.

Diplomas were awarded these two officers at Fort Bliss certifying they had satisfactorily completed the necessary requirements to qualify as instructors in the above course. Twenty-five hours of instruction were received in Basic Civilian Defense, Gas Defense, Decontamination, Fire Defense, and Gas Identification.

Others taking the course were civilians from New Mexico and El Paso, and regular army personnel. Lt. Isaac W. Ussery, of the 34th Battalion, Texas State Guard, took most of the course, but was called home due to the serious illness of his wife.

Burgess and Goodrich plan to present the course to State guardsmen in their respective battalions, the 3rd and 46th, and to civilians taking part in civilian defense work. Both believe that as the war progresses, the state guard, especially in small towns where most civilian defense organization is not functioning, will have an opportunity to be of service to these communities, both as teachers of latest developments in Chemical Warfare, and in having an effectively organized group to combat situations arising from the enemy's use of poison gases.

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I thought non-coms were advanced or made according to ability and length of service and not what lodge or office they are in. I think we of the Guard should copy more after the army, than we do and get more pep in our duties and drill and also get some younger blood in as leaders. I for one, although I am an old ex-soldier from World War I, would be willing to take orders from a younger man if he will pep things up.

Why can't we of the State Guard have a non-com school where we can learn military rules and regulations and also military strategy? I for one would like to get to know what the duties this business of being a soldier is all about. I don't like to be a dead stick dressed in a uniform, I think everyone should study for advancement. Whether we ever get advanced or not is no excuse for getting discouraged and throwing up the sponge.

We are fighting free for freedom, boys, so let's put more pep into it and quit being deadheads. It seems to me as though some of the boys and also some of our officers think that because we are not getting paid for the job that it doesn't matter whether we put much effort into perfecting our organization, but I say if we are going to play the game, let's play it right, regardless of whether we get any action or pay.

S/Sgt. W. N. Livingston,
Co. C., 6th Bn., TSG,
Burnet, Texas.

26TH BATTALION

(Continued from Page 12)

control of civil and domestic law and order, the inspecting officer pointed out.

Valuable assistance in the organization and training of the Service Detachment Company has been given by the Harlingen Army Air Field, commanded by Col. John H. Morgan.

"Harlingen is very fortunate in having this state guard company since the supply and transportation activities of the 26th Battalion will be centered at this point," Major Taylor said. It is contemplated that a permanent state guard armory may be located at Harlingen which will eventually revert to the National Guard at the end of the present national emergency.

The Nazi merchant skipper was explaining to the claims court in Berlin just how he lost his ship.

"We were torpedoed in the Baltic by a British submarine," he commenced.

"Just a minute, just a minute," interposed an SS man at the hearing. "There are no British submarines in the Baltic. You must mean your ship struck a mine."

"All right," conceded the skipper, "we hit a mine."

The court then pressed the merchantman for more details of the sinking.

"Well," said the skipper, "the mine gave us 15 minutes to take to the lifeboats."

Thought: "A soldier's tongue is loosest when he's tightest."

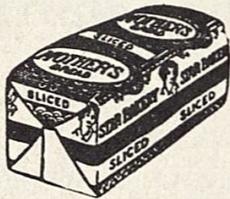
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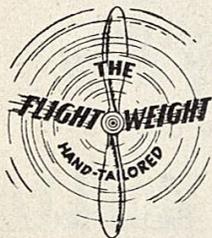
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APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

NAME	PMTD. TO	UNIT
GARNER, Chester A.	1st Lt.	Hq. 9th Bn.
McELROY, Clyde W.	2nd Lt.	Co. A, 9th Bn.
PARR, Charles R.	2nd Lt.	2nd Tr. & Res. Unit
BOGARD, James T., Jr.	1st Lt.	Co. B, 13th Bn.
REAGAN, Leslie J.	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 37th Bn.
BARTLAM, Ernest P.	Captain	Hq. 7th Bn.
GIBBONS, James P.	Major	3rd Tr. & Res. Unit
JONES, Thomas P.	Captain	3rd Tr. & Res. Unit
ELLIS, George C.	1st Lt.	3rd Tr. & Res. Unit
ROES, Henry S.	2nd Lt.	3rd Tr. & Res. Unit
BURNS, William C.	2nd Lt.	3rd Tr. & Res. Unit
BRAUNSTEIN, Joseph	1st Lt.	Co. E, 36th Bn.
OLIVER, Nelson C.	1st Lt.	Hq. 28th Bn.
COTTLE, Charles E.	1st Lt.	Co. D, 43rd Bn.
PETERSON, Howard S.	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 43rd Bn.
ABRAMSON, John H.	1st Lt.	Hq. 35th Bn.
WIGGINTON, John F.	1st Lt.	2nd Tr. & Res. Unit
CHILDRESS, William T.	2nd Lt.	Co. B, 28th Bn.
BILLINGSLEY, William B.	Captain	Hq. 38th Bn.
NELSON, Oscar K.	1st Lt.	Co. D, 6th Bn.
SMITH, Lee C.	1st Lt.	Co. B, 31st Bn.
LOVITT, Harold F.	Captain	Hq. 38th Bn.
HAMMACK, J. B.	2nd Lt.	Co. A, 38th Bn.
BRYANT, Cecil B.	1st Lt.	Hq. 1st Bn.
YEAGER, Rembert A.	1st Lt.	Co. D, 28th Bn.
ANDERSON, Claire J.	Captain	Co. D, 46th Bn.
NUTT, Loddie H.	1st Lt.	Co. D, 46th Bn.
BRYANT, Hu G.	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 46th Bn.
MASSEY, Joel W.	2nd Lt.	Co. C, 17th Bn.
WHERRY, Gerald L.	2nd Lt.	Co. F, 14th Bn.
FENSKE, Carl A.	2nd Lt.	Co. E, 36th Bn.
McBRIDE, William D.	1st Lt.	Co. B, 48th Bn.
KEITH, Walter T.	2nd Lt.	Co. B, 48th Bn.
BESSONETTE, William V.	1st Lt.	Hq. 15th Bn.
LIMERICK, Homer W.	Captain	Co. G, 28th Bn.
VETTERS, Charles W.	1st Lt.	Co. G, 28th Bn.
BLANTON, Weaver A., Jr.	2nd Lt.	Co. G, 28th Bn.
MEYER, Harold G.	1st Lt.	Hq. 46th Bn.
SAUNDERS, Marvin R.	1st Lt.	Co. A, 14th Bn.
BURGESS, Robert B.	2nd Lt.	Co. C, 14th Bn.
THOMPSON, Latha A.	1st Lt.	Co. B, 43rd Bn.
WILLIAMSON, Collin	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 47th Bn.
ALEXANDER, Samuel C.	1st Lt.	Hq. 13th Bn.
BOYKIN, Rudolph R.	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 35th Bn.
McBRIDE, Henry J.	1st Lt.	Hq. 3rd Bn.
STOCKTON, L. D.	1st Lt.	Hq. 3rd Bn.
TREBEE, Angus A.	1st Lt.	Hq. 4th Bn.
SHULMAN, Edward J.	1st Lt.	Hq. 20th Bn.
COPELAND, Elmer R.	2nd Lt.	Co. B, 31st Bn.
THORPE, Fuller C.	Captain	Co. A, 35th Bn.
FLANDERS, Thomas J.	2nd Lt.	Co. A, 51st Bn.
McCain, Harry	Captain	Co. E, 39th Bn.
McCLURE, Samuel B.	1st Lt.	Co. E, 39th Bn.
ELLIOTT, Charles P.	2nd Lt.	Co. E, 39th Bn.
GRUNDY, Allen C.	Captain	Co. D, 41st Bn.
MONTELLA, Fred	Captain	Hq. 7th Bn.
SULLIVAN, Rex E.	2nd Lt.	Co. B, 41st Bn.
HALFIN, Constance D.	Captain	Co. A, 49th Bn.
BURNS, Johnnie M.	1st Lt.	Co. A, 49th Bn.
HAZLEWOOD, William G.	Major	AGD, TSG
BROWN, Montelle I.	Major	Hq. 5th Bn.
GRAHAM, Fred E.	Captain	Hq. 5th Bn.
HOLCOMB, Lorenzo E.	2nd Lt.	Co. A, 27th Bn.
LEE, Hugh E.	2nd Lt.	Co. D, 28th Bn.
LENTZ, John F.	Captain	Hq. 33rd Bn.
JOHNSON, Alfred C., Jr.	1st Lt.	Hq. 33rd Bn.
MOCK, Presley J.	Major	Hq. 49th Bn.

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Arrogant and contemptuous, the "superman" surveyed the short stumpy Yank and then launched a long detailed account of his exploits. And to crown it all he roared: "And I've shot down 162 planes. How many have YOU shot down?"

The Yank airman, who had been listening, timid and uncomfortable, to all this, finally raised his eyes and said simply:
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When the Texas State Guard produces better marksmen they'll have to outshoot two members of the Second Battalion, of Houston.

For if Major Ed Konken, commanding the 2nd, wanted to pin a marksmanship medal on every member of his battalion, he would have just about enough if he'd use the collection of Lt. Josh Bailey and Sergeant Frank C. Wood.

They'd almost have enough silver loving cups to serve the battalion individually.

Lt. Bailey, shown above at the left with his medals pinned to the long cloth, also has a table full of cups won by his prowess with pistol and rifle.

He has twice been individual pistol champion of Texas and was grand aggregate champion of Texas with rifle and pistol in 1921.

In 1919 at Caldwell, N.J., he fired on a five-man pistol team for the team championship of the United States. They won the championship and set a world record for team score.

He attended the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, (Government small arms firing school) in 1918, 1919, 1921 and 1922, and matches at Caldwell.

Lt. Bailey is not only a crack pistol and rifle shot but also is an expert with the shotgun and submachine gun.

He has been awarded a certificate of proficiency entitling him to instruct with the service pistol and spends much of his

(Continued on Page 28)

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THE CAPTAIN'S FACE WAS RED!

Corporal J. F. Horton, Co. F, 11th
Battalion, at Eden, relays this interest-
ing if probably not a little embarrassing
story about how the company raised
funds for company activities.

Like most embryonic organizations,
Co. F started without any funds, and,
also like all other organizations, it soon
became evident that a little back-log of
cash would come in handy, so the of-
ficers and enlisted personnel agreed to
sponsor and carry through a raffle, using
a beautiful Shetland pony as the "bait."

The night of the big drawing was
Oct. 14, up to which time something
over four hundred \$1 tickets had been
sold. It had been agreed previously
that no member of the State Guard or
any member of their families would be
eligible to receive the horse if their
name should be drawn. And therein
lies the story!

Capt. H. M. McElroy was master of
ceremonies and conducted the drawing.
Imagine, then, his confusion and the
pandemonium amongst the some eight
hundred spectators when the little girl
who had been blindfolded reached in the
box and pulled out the name of Mrs.
H. M. McElroy! Consequently, the
horse was put up for auction and
fetched \$235 additional in wild and
hectic bidding.

In connection with the raffle, the Com-
pany staged a game night with bingo
and refreshment booths. Counting in-
come from these sources and from the
sale of the horse, over \$750 was realized
from the enterprise. This fund is being
used for emergencies.

During November, the two platoons
engaged in a contest, the loser to fur-
nish a feed for the other. Points were
awarded on attendance, athletic con-
tests, and rifle score. With attendance
and athletic points even, No. 1 platoon
edged out the No. 2 platoon in rifle
practice. The feed was a barbecued
lamb supper. Visitors included Maj. Olney
H. Bryant, Inspector, AGD; Maj. Emmett
D. Cox, Capt. Rodney Gibson (Chap-
lain); Capt. H. H. Batjer, Plans and
Training; and Capt. James D. McKin-
ley, Adjt., all of whom except Maj. Bry-
ant are 11th Bn. officers, and from San
Angelo. About 60 were present.

The contest between platoons proved
so effective as a tonic to attendance that
it is to be tried again in the near future.
Four rifle shoots have been staged so
far, and a target range has been rigged
up on the lighted drill field for night
shooting.

Officers of Co. F are: Capt. H. M.
McElroy, 1st Lt. George Chisholm, and
2nd Lt. M. B. McVay.

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CAMP MABRY
(Continued from Page 8)

ment grounds for the Texas Volunteer Guards near Austin.

The site selected consisted at that time of 90 acres and was rich in natural beauty. The open parade grounds were surrounded by beautiful and picturesque scenery. Its beauty was enhanced by clearing the grounds for the convenience and comfort of the Texas Volunteer Guards during their annual tour of duty.

The adjutant general's department possessed the prerogative of naming the camp, but gave the honor of naming the camp to the companies of the Texas Volunteer Guard. In the vote, 51 of the 59 companies cast their choice for the name "Camp Mabry" in honor of the adjutant general of Texas.

During this period, the frontier force was very active in keeping law and order in Texas. In those days, its job was mostly to chase down stolen stock and return it to the rightful owners.

The Texas Volunteer Guard was in a good state of organization and development as the days of the Spanish-American War approached. Regardless of the apathetic attitude of the legislature and the public, the Volunteer Guard was to prove its value in the days to come.

Soldiers of the Texas Volunteer Guards used the old pot and soup kettles of the period. They contrast sharply with the modern field equipment and ranges used by the National Guard soldiers at a later date. Col. Teddy's eyes would have flashed with excited interest had it been in his power to observe the modern use of radio and telephone for communications, in contrast to the slow foot and horse messengers of his Rough Rider and Texas Volunteer days.

The National Guard replaced the Texas Volunteer Guard as the state militia by act of Congress in July, 1903.

After the National Guard moved in and carried on their training at Camp Mabry, there were many pitched battles in the field between the various units of the guard. The soldiers received some valuable training in these sham battles. The conflicts were often staged on the "battle grounds" between the little town of Taylor and the Capital City of Austin. The conflicts often took on a more or less bloody hand-to-hand aspect between individuals who took advantage of a sham battle as an excuse to get even with someone they had a grudge against.

The most significant moment in the history of the Texas National Guard came on the morning of May 8, 1916. Adjutant General Henry Hutchins strode into a meeting of non-commissioned officers of the guard then in training at Camp Mabry and read the order from President Wilson calling the National Guard into active service for the Mexican border trouble.

Many and famous are the names of the generals who spent part of their military careers on the historic old post. Brevet Lieut. Gen. John A. Hulen was one of the most famous personages connected with the Texas National Guard. Brig. Gen. Claude Birkhead, Brig. Gen. J. Watt Page, Gen. Holman E. Taylor, Col. John J. O'Reilly, were among other notables who were at one time connected with Camp Mabry, and the National Guard.

During World War I, Camp Mabry served as a training school for ground aviation troops, and also housed truck repair shops. Huge buildings were constructed for these repair shops, and when the National Guard moved out for foreign fields, the 5th battalion of the Texas State Guard moved in, and they

(Continued on Next Page)

serve today as the home of the 5th battalion.

By act of the 36th legislature in 1919, Camp Mabry was rededicated to the heroes of the Texas National Guard "In commemoration of their services, sacrifices, bravery and patriotism who died in Flanders Field, and over whom the lilies of France will ever be a perpetual monument, and the flag of 'Old Glory' will ever be their emblem, and Camp Mabry their alma mater—"

It is fitting that an officer of the 36th Division, and a soldier who has had a long and distinguished military career should today command Camp Mabry. Such a man is Lt. Col. Sidney Mason, who was retired from the army two years ago.

Camp Mabry today is one of the most beautiful military reservations in the state. An imposing and beautiful southern style building meets the eye of the visitor as he enters the post by the south entrance. This building is the home of the personnel section of the Texas State Guard, and houses the offices of Col. Mason.

To the left of the entrance, under a number of large spreading oak trees, is the home of the Adjutant General of Texas, Brig. Gen. Arthur B. Knickerbocker.

In recent years, barrack buildings constructed to house the World War I soldiers have been used by the State Department of Public Safety. A fine rifle range has been constructed between the camp and the Colorado River.

In the red brick building on the railroad tracks is the state arsenal, in charge of Capt. John Tyson, another soldier of the National Guard, and a veteran of World War I. Over the desk of Capt. Tyson flows the orders for supplying the fifty-odd battalions of the

Texas State Guard with uniforms and other equipment.

As the men of the Texas State Guard gather for their training period at Camp Mabry, when the purple hills of Austin begin to turn black at dusk, they realize that they have a great tradition to uphold. They know that among their predecessors were such men as Austin, Houston, Crockett, the many brave and gallant Texas Rangers, and many other illustrious characters who bore arms under the banner of the Lone Star State. When threatened, they can still respond as did the men at Gonzales, with the words, "Come and get it!"

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If you'd take a vote on the Army's favorite piece of equipment, the M-I helmet and liner would win hands down.

For instance, here are some of the uses that soldiers returned from the battlefronts made of the helmets.

"You can fill your helmet with water, make coffee, wash clothes and soak your feet," says Sgt. W. L. Crelia, Bonham.

"I used mine for shaving and it made a pretty good seat," says Corp. Raymond Harris, Temple.

"I have used mine for everything but light housekeeping," says Pfc. Arthur Egan, Del Norte, Cal. "Brother, could I dig a foxhole in nothing flat with that baby."

Sgt. Ralph Spence, Logan, Ohio, pulled the long suspension liner down and used it for a pillow.

The new helmet is seven inches deep compared to the old depth of four. It weighs not more than three pounds and will withstand a 45-calibre bullet fired at point blank range.

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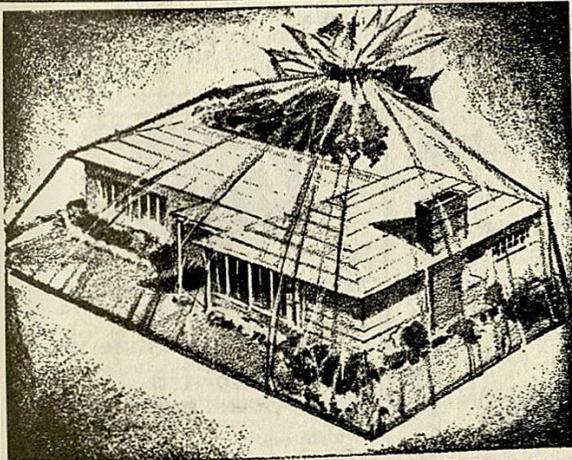
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HOTEL EODON	Big Spring
HOTEL SETTLES	Brownwood
HOTEL BROWNWOOD	Brownwood
HOTEL SOUTHERN	Cisco
HOTEL LAGUNA	El Paso
HOTEL CORTES	Fort Worth
HOTEL TEXAS	Galveston
HOTEL BUCCANEER	Galveston
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Co. C, 6th Bn. of Burnet, Texas, volunteered a bus load of blood donors to deposit with the bank at San Antonio. This bank, under the auspices of the Red Cross, draws a pint from each donor, which is banked and distributed to the fronts where needed. A bank is being established in Dallas, and North Texas companies will soon have an opportunity to serve.

Company C is composed of three officers and 65 enlisted men. Captain Ray Wingren has piloted the company from its organization. Intermittently the company has enlisted 175 men. Thirty-six discharged men went into the service of the U. S. directly, others indirectly. Many others left for "preparedness program."

Following is a list of volunteer donors: Captain Ray Wingren, Lt. Edgar Seidensticker, 1/Sgt. John W. Crow, S/Sgt. Cullen G. Brewster, S/Sgt. Louis S. Chamberlain, S/Sgt. William N. Livingston, S/Sgt. William P. Norvell, Sgt. William C. Debo, Sgt. Newton F. Ellett, Sgt. Robert O. Holley, Sgt. Melvin W. Kincheloe, Corp. Honnie R. Huggins, Corp. Oran R. Kincheloe, Corp. Wilson H. Travis, Pfc. Alton L. McDaniel, Pvt. Herbert H. Crooks, Pvt. Arthur Hays, Pvt. Walter M. Knox, Pvt. Robert R. MacArthur, Pvt. George O. Newlin, Pvt. Robert C. Plevans.

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1st Lt. James M. Moreau, Adm. Medical Det. 39th Bn., and his son, S/Sgt. Ira Walker Moreau, Mess Sgt., Hq. Det., 39th Bn.

31ST BN. NOTES

A new headquarters plant in which activities of the 31st Bn., TSG, headquartered at Mission at present, will be centered has been made available by the City of McAllen, which recently became owner of a former National Youth Administration war training plant a mile south of McAllen.

The property includes one large, all-steel building about 50 by 120 feet in size which will be suitable for indoor drills, a small office building and one other structure. Around the buildings is enough open ground for an outdoor drill field as well as for mess equipment and other facilities.

The battalion, commanded by Major Lloyd M. Bentsen of Mission, is now completing plans to place the buildings in use by the Guard. In addition, Co. B of McAllen will use the buildings, as will the newly organized headquarters, service and medical detachments of the battalion. All of these four units are presently located in McAllen and they will share the use of the buildings on their regular drill nights and for other purposes.

Present plans call for landscaping of the grounds, with a large drill field to be sodded and a number of trees to be planted.

The plant is expected to be in readiness for use during February.

S. Sgt. Edward E. Martin, official scribe of Co. B, 31st Bn., of McAllen, vouches for this one:

Interior guard duty was the theme of a recent regular drill session.

A brand new man was placed on the first post. He was given specific instructions, which reached considerable length, to challenge any person who came on or near his post. The man who was put on the second post, which started where the first one stopped, also was given definite instructions to follow the same procedure. He, too, was a new man.

A couple of minutes later simultaneous shouts of HALT! boomed out over the night air.

The sentries were challenging each other, as if they had not met before in ranks!

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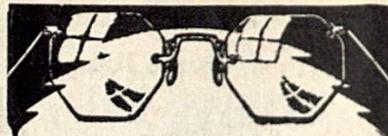
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HONOR ROLL

Headquarters Company, 39th Battalion, Lubbock headed the honor roll for attendance during December with a grade of 96, according to Captain Wallace E. Adams, personnel adjutant of the Texas State Guard.

Three companies were close behind in a three-way tie for second place with 94. They were Co. B, 4th Battalion, El Paso; Co. C, 34th Battalion, Crane, and Co. E, 45th Battalion, Lockhart.

Institution of the HONOR ROLL is designed to give merited recognition for the units whose attendance entitles them to be listed as well as to serve as an inspiration to other units by showing them what can be done.

CO. & BN.	HOME STATION	GRADE
Hqs., 39th Bn.	Lubbock	96
Co. B, 4th Bn.	El Paso	94
Co. C, 34th Bn.	Crane	94
Co. E, 45th Bn.	Lockhart	94
Co. D, 7th Bn.	Houston	93
Hqs., 19th Bn.	Dallas	92
Co. C, 26th Bn.	Mercedes	92
Co. G, 28th Bn.	Corpus Christi	92
Co. C, 14th Bn.	Amarillo	92
Co. D, 18th Bn.	China	89
Co. G, 31st Bn.	Rio Grande City	89
Co. A, 6th Bn.	Lampasas	88
Co. B, 19th Bn.	Dallas	88
Co. C, 35th Bn.	Dallas	88
Co. C, 51st Bn.	Dallas	87
Co. D, 37th Bn.	Palestine	86
Hqs., 51st Bn.	Dallas	84
Co. D, 43rd Bn.	Orange	83
Co. A, 24th Bn.	Brownsville	82
Co. D, 35th Bn.	Dallas	82
Hqs., 48th Bn.	Houston	80
Co. D, 14th Bn.	Pampa	78

HONORABLE MENTION

CO. & BN.	HOME STATION
Co. E, 1st Bn.	Grandfalls
Co. C, 10th Bn.	Moran
Co. B, 15th Bn.	Ranger
Co. A, 18th Bn.	Beaumont
Hqs., 23rd Bn.	Henderson
Co. D, 26th Bn.	Weslaco
Co. C, 28th Bn.	Robstown
Co. D, 45th Bn.	Cuero

MARKSMEN

(Continued from Page 22)

time instructing members of the Texas State Guard.

Sergeant Wood, at the right, holds with Charles Hanson the two-man rifle championship for Texas. They won the event two years straight. He has been competing in the State Rifle 30 Calibre Matches since 1935 and in 1937, 1938, 1940 he made the State Rifle Team and was sent to the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry.

He received a certificate from the War Department Small Arms Firing School, Basic Course in 1937 and 1938, and in 1940 he received the certificate in the Advanced Course. He also won a leg on the Distinguished Marksman trophy in the National Individual Rifle Match in 1938, as well as many state and local matches.

He is now Chief Range Officer of Bayou Rifles and has been since 1936. He has acted as Chief Range Officer for the following:

Galveston Rifle and Pistol Club from 1939-1941; State Police Pistol Matches in 1941; Houston Police Department in 1938; Texas Defense Guard 1941-1942, 1943; Bayou Rifles every year from 1936 to 1942 in all registered National Rifle Ass'n Matches.

He has supervised the instruction of Rifle Marksmanship in the Texas Defense Guard since 1941.

Tenshun!

The Guardsman staff has been getting around the state quite a bit recently and has heard a lot of things that are interesting.

For instance, one non-com said that he thought The Guardsman was a magazine for officers only.

Nothing could be farther from the truth.

The Guardsman is interested in the activities of every member of the guard, from the lowliest rookie to General Knickerbocker, himself.

A Houston captain said he thought that one weakness of the magazine lay in the fact that not enough news was being carried about what guard battalions over the state are doing.

"We'd like to know what they are doing on maneuvers and in all activities," he said. "I have no doubt but that we could learn a lot by exchanging information through the columns of The Guardsman."

Another officer said that he saw stories from practically the same battalions every month.

Those battalions are on their toes. They are proud of what they are doing. They see that The Guardsman hears about it. The same opportunity exists for each battalion in the state.

In checking our map showing contributions to The Guardsman, there are some sections that are blank. There's no reason for it. Each battalion is active and deserves recognition for its work.

You all are doing splendid work. Don't be bashful.
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This Month's FRONT COVER

Lt. General Walter Kreuger, who commanded the Sixth Army which carried out the attack on Arawe Peninsula, is shown on this month's cover. Many Texans are in the Sixth Army under General Kreuger, who spent much of his professional career in Texas.

OUR AIMS

1. Adequate equipment for proper training and performance of duties.
2. Legal protection for Guardsmen in case of injury or other losses occurring in the course of training or the performance of duties.
3. Adequate funds to be appropriated by the Texas legislature to finance the proper operation of the Guard.

SERVICE RIBBONS AVAILABLE

Ribbons for one year's service in the Texas State Guard are now available. All orders should be addressed to the Personnel Section of the Adjutant General's Department. Names and enlistment date of each person entitled to ribbon should accompany the order along with a check payable to Joseph's Mens Shop, Austin. The ribbons cost 25 cents. They should be worn on the left breast, red to the right. Any questions can be answered by referring to General Order No. 41, December 11, 1943.

ANOTHER MILEPOST

(Continued from page 7)

Paso, who destroyed six Japanese machine gun and rifle positions and was wounded three times before being killed in action.

The field was named by Maj. Gen. Julian C. Smith, commanding general of the Second Marine Division, with the approval of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet.

Hawkins, commanding a sniper scout platoon, destroyed a Japanese machine gun position at the end of the pier before the first wave of assault troops went in through the surf.

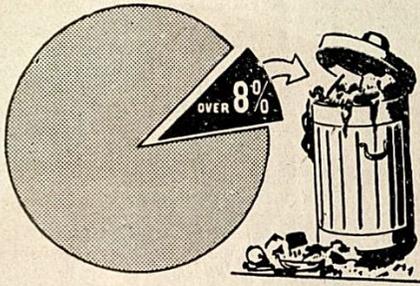
Witnesses said that he individually attacked a number of machine gun nests, crawling to their entrances, emptying automatic rifles at the Japs, then tossing in sticks of dynamite before moving on to the next nest.

Hawkins refused to leave the lines although hit three times. A sergeant in the Guadalcanal campaign, he later was commissioned as a result of his daring scouting and sniping missions.

EYES OPEN NOW

A German youngster told his school teacher that his cat had given birth to seven kittens. "And," he added, "they're all Nazis." Impressed by his loyalty to Hitler, the school teacher asked the boy to repeat his story during a visit of the principal several days later.

"They're all democrats," the boy said. "But, Heinle," the shocked teacher replied, "you told me they were Nazis." "That was Tuesday," said the Heinle. "Now their eyes are open." — Camp Polk Communique.



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