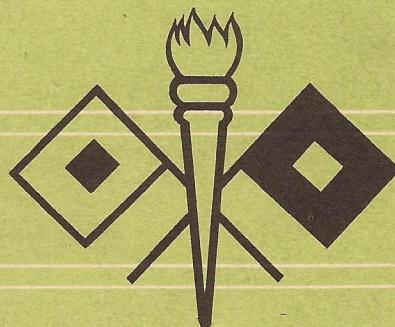


Pvt. Robert E. Schmitt

CENTRAL SIGNAL CORPS REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER



CAMP CROWDER

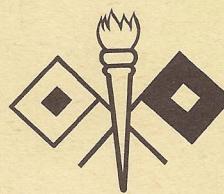
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI



DEDICATION

Dedicated..

TO THE MEN WHO
DIED TO "GET THE
MESSAGE THROUGH"



FOREWORD

7 HE story of a Replacement Center is not easy to tell. A month, two months, three months, whatever it is—and to each man

it is a particular story.

In that sense, this book cannot hope to tell the stories of the men in the Replacement Center. Personaliza-

tion is impossible. At best, it can hit the high points, or perhaps better, the common points of these months.

School, recreation, drill, comradeship—each man who enters Crowder experiences them. He will tell you

his particular angle himself in his letters, and later on, in the quiet evenings that follow the war. And perhaps,

in a certain sense, this book will help his story. He will



turn to this picture and that to aid him in visualizing to

his hearers the experiences he has undergone

It is in that way that this book has been conceived.

The editors have attempted to build up a logical step by

step picture of the Replacement Center as it is. The

soldier arrives; he is classified; he undergoes basic train-

ing; he graduates from basic to specialist school; and

so on until he leaves Crowder. This is the experience of

thousands of men compressed into a few pages.

Thousands of men—the Replacement Center at

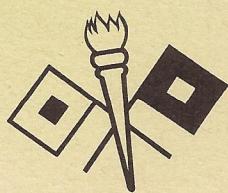
Crowder is the largest Signal Corps Replacement Train-

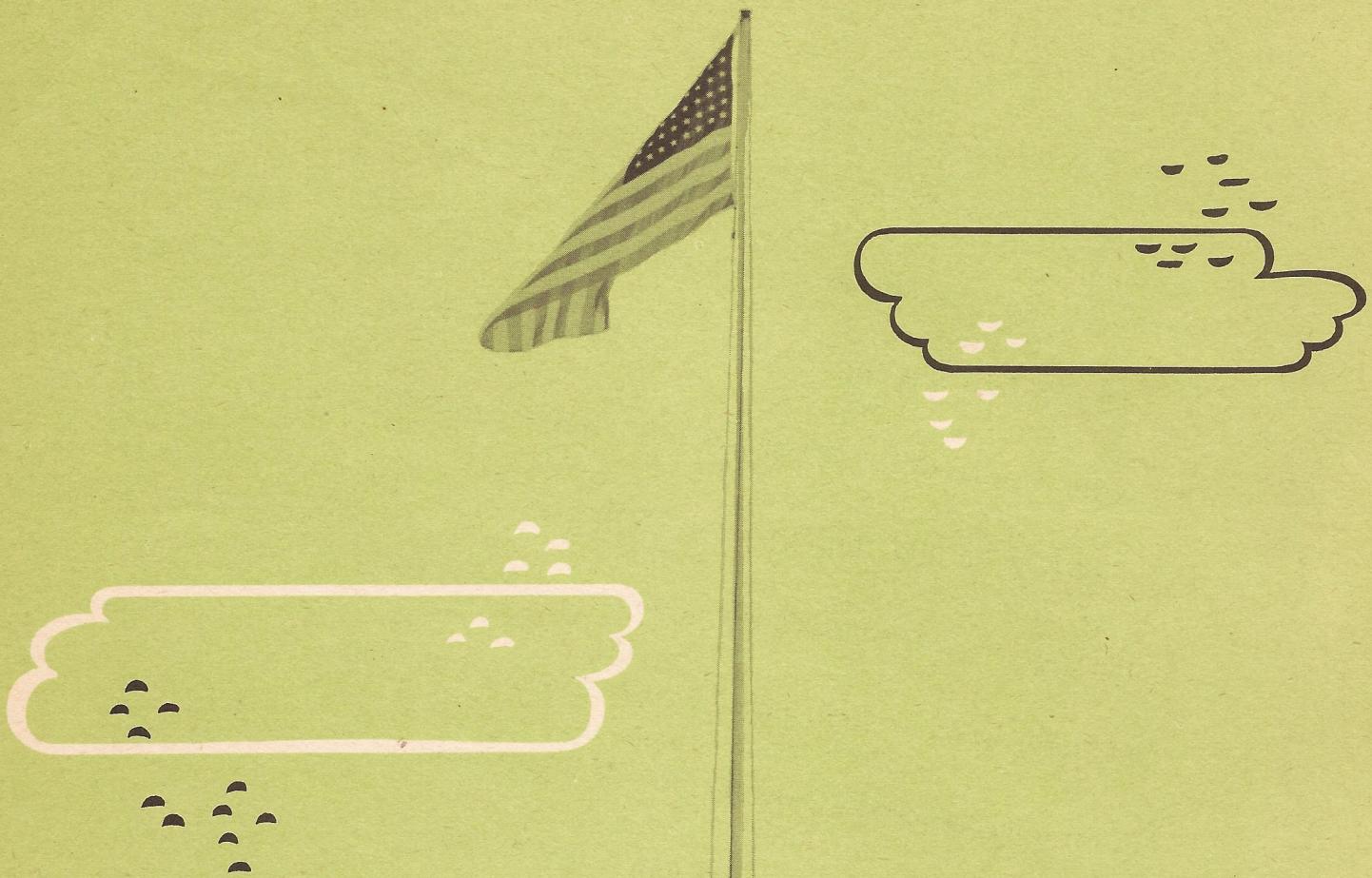
ing Center in the country—Wiremen, Radio Operators,

Message Center men, Clerks, Cooks, Aircraft Warning

specialists, the innumerable trades and vocations that

make up the Signal Corps.



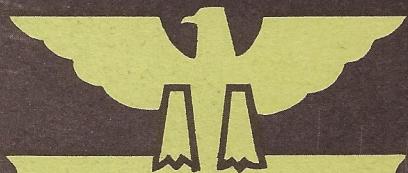


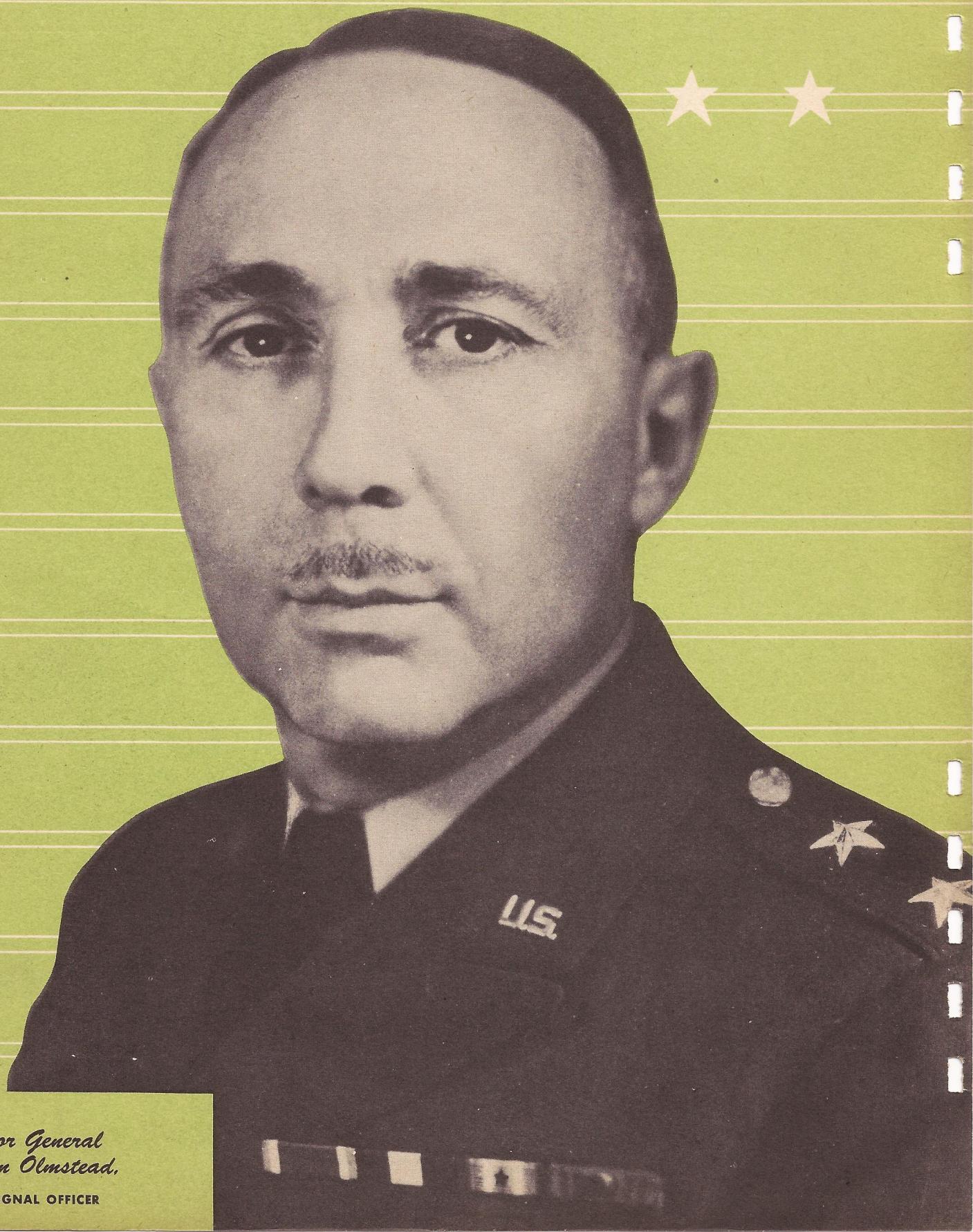
"Our Flag"



OUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF

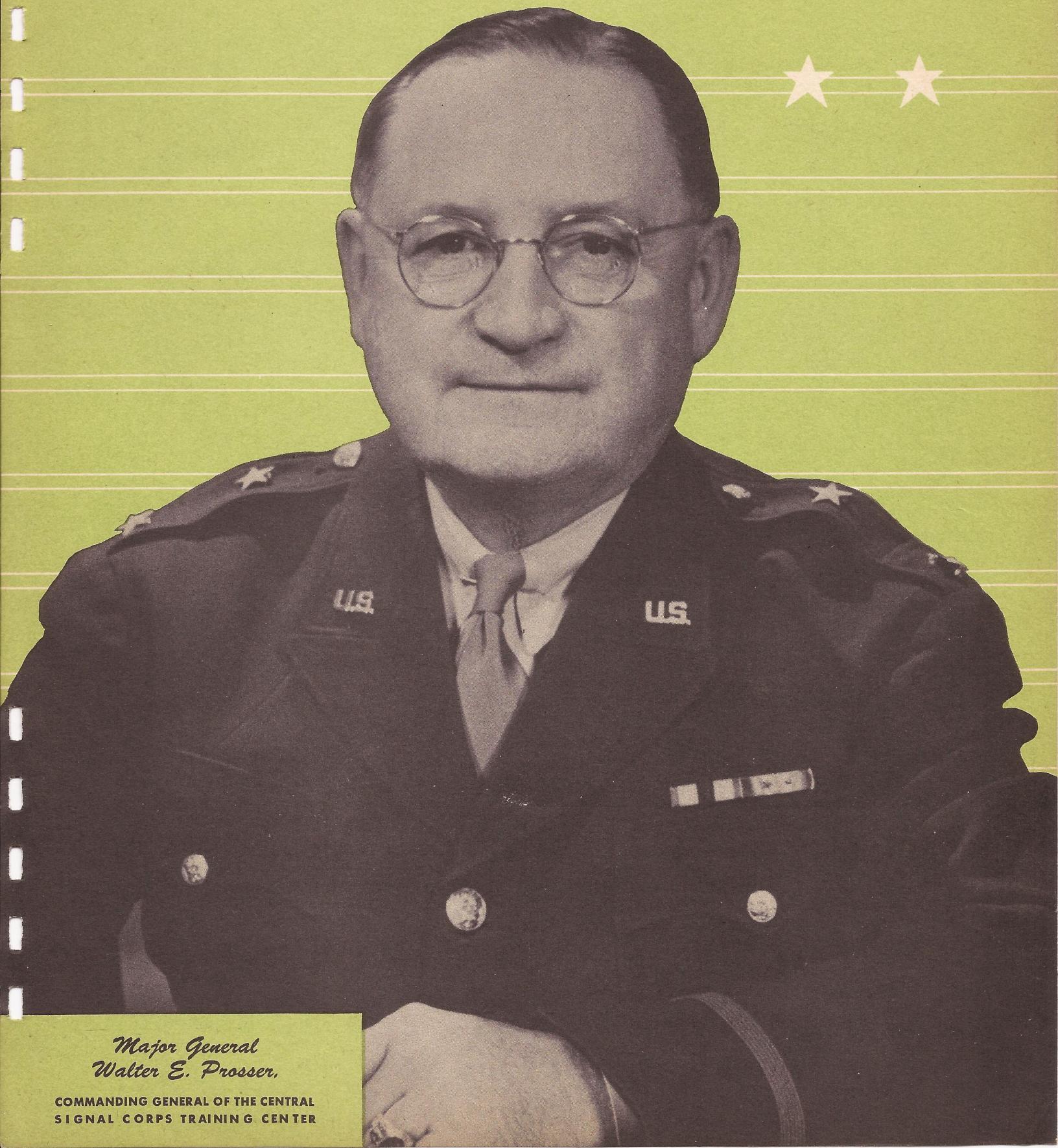
*President
Franklin D. Roosevelt*





*Major General
Dawson Olmstead.*

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER



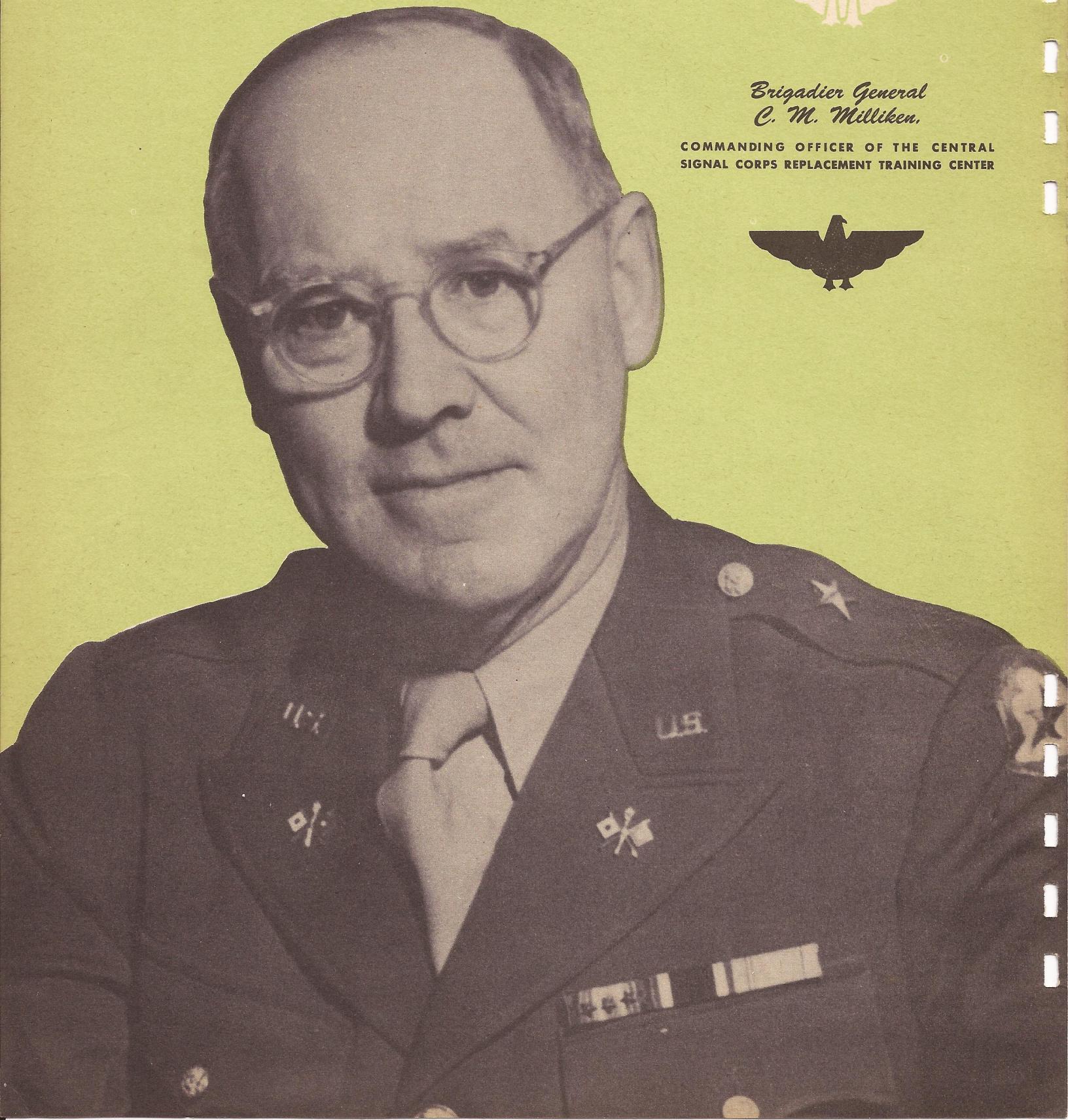
*Major General
Walter E. Prosser.*

COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL
SIGNAL CORPS TRAINING CENTER



*Brigadier General
C. M. Milliken.*

COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE CENTRAL
SIGNAL CORPS REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER





SIGNAL CORPS

Actually the Signal Corps is one of the youngest children of war. It is true, of course, that visual signalling was known to the Greeks, and methods of communication have been used in warfare since time immemorial. But in that sense nothing is new. If you wish, the elephants that Hannibal of Carthage drove into battle before him was the first armored force, and the Greeks coming out of the stomach of the Trojan Horse must have seemed very much like parachute troops. The Signal Corps as we know it was born some eighty years ago during the Civil War.

Strangely enough it was a medical man, Major Albert J. Meyer, who was the Corps' founder. Major Meyer had become interested in signalling as a young man and after entering the army as a surgeon had devoted more and more time to its development.

But although Major Meyer's foresight and shrewdness cannot be underrated, the Signal Corps was on the program of the day and even without his efforts would have inevitably arisen. Warfare had suddenly become more complex and swift.



The Industrial Revolution with its astounding new technological developments had not only revolutionized the instruments of peace, but the instruments of war as well. Out of the Civil War came armored boats, troop trains, higher powered explosives. Armies using these implements could no longer manage with smoke signals and mounted couriers. Swifter and more precise information was required. And the Signal Corps was the answer with its telegraph and visual signalling.

But it was not until the twentieth century and the age of electricity and the gasoline combustion engine that the Signal Corps really came of age. The child of technology, as technology advanced, the need for the Signal Corps increased and the Corps in turn drew from the new inventions food with which to grow to full stature. The first Signal Corps had used as its principle instruments the telegraph and the crossed flags adequate enough for the Armies of Gettysburg and Antietam—but completely insufficient for the Armies of Chateau-Thierry and the Argonne.

Such armies required communication systems as complex as those of large cities. The telegraph remained but the crossed flags had gone and in their place were the telephone, the radio, pigeon communication, the heliograph, pyrotechnics, message center-communication deluxe to fit every possible situation.

During the World War the Signal Corps grew from one hundred and fifty-five officers and one thousand and seventy enlisted men to more than thirty times its size, a grand aggregate of over fifty-five thousand officers and men.

As an example of its achievements the following figures will suffice: In the year and a half in which America was engaged, the Signal Corps strung one hundred thousand miles of wire in France, constructed two thousand miles of pole line, installed some forty thousand miles of combat lines, operated two hundred and eighty-two telephone exchanges and one hundred and thirty-three complete telegraph stations, not including stations in the combat zone.

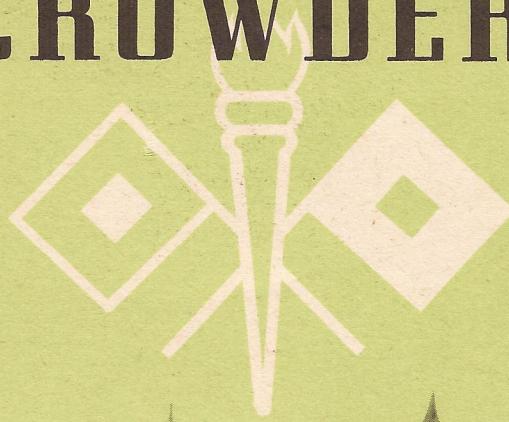
This, one might think would be the ultimate; further expansion would be impossible, and yet the present war finds the Signal Corps still growing. Again new techniques, the Signal Corps' eighty-year-old history. Aircraft Warning with its secret equipment, high frequency radio—who knows what new instrument tomorrow?—A world of men engaged in the dangerous war-time pursuit of "Getting the Message Through."

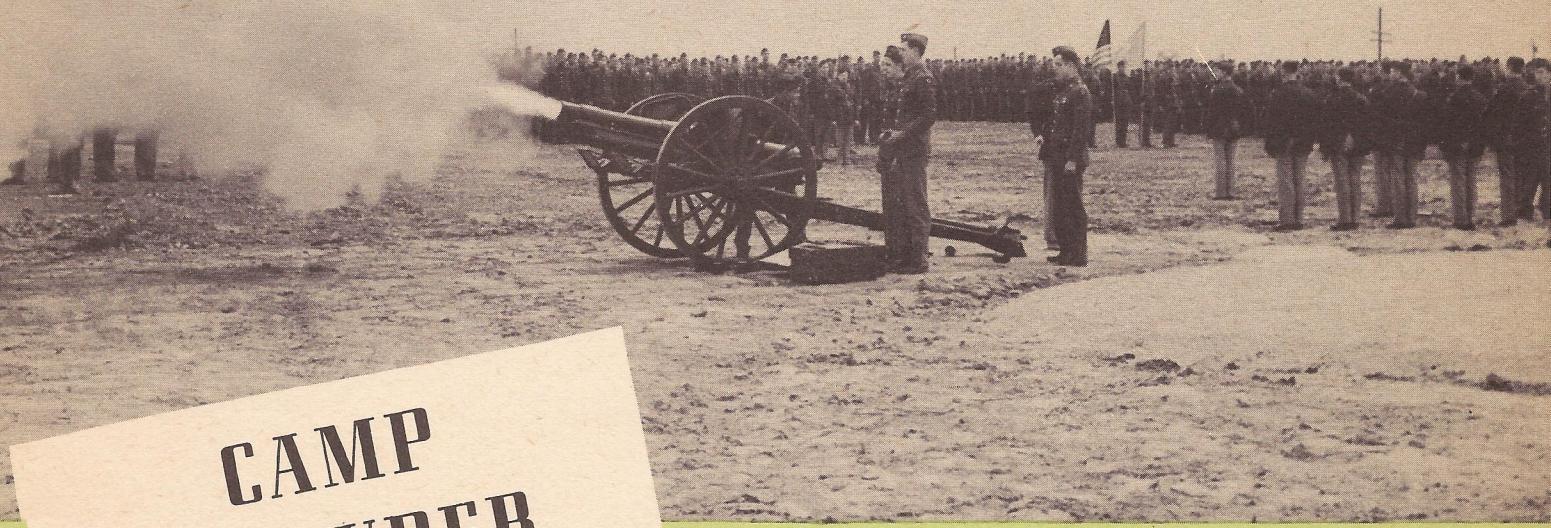


GET THE MESSAGE THROUGH



CAMP CROWDER





CAMP CROWDER

When Pearl Harbor was in flames only one military station in the United States was training Signal Corps men—Fort Monmouth. But with selective service and army expansion, it had become apparent that Monmouth would prove incapable of carrying on the job itself.

And so while Pearl Harbor was being devasted by hostile aircraft, in the hills of Missouri, work was progressing on a new Signal Corps camp—Crowder—named after General Enoch Herbert Crowder, the man who had drafted the Selective Service Act in the First World War.

The transformation of the rolling hills of the Ozarks into a mighty Signal Corps training unit in a period of only a few months was little short of a construction miracle. During that small space of time, a dot on an engineers map became an Army camp. The Ozarks were pushed back, and almost overnight barracks, orderly rooms, administration buildings, class rooms, chapels, post exchange buildings, theaters, and every other type of building necessary for an Army city appeared.

On January 10, 1942, one month after the Japanese aggression, the first part of the camp, the Replacement Training Center, was opened with the arrival of 300 Signal Corps men. This was Crowder's first administrative and training cadre come to clean up and get things in order for the trainees that were to follow.

Thereafter, for several months the Replacement Center and Crowder were identical. But in the meantime work had been progressing on a new section of camp, the Central Signal Corps School. And again, in record time Central was activated.

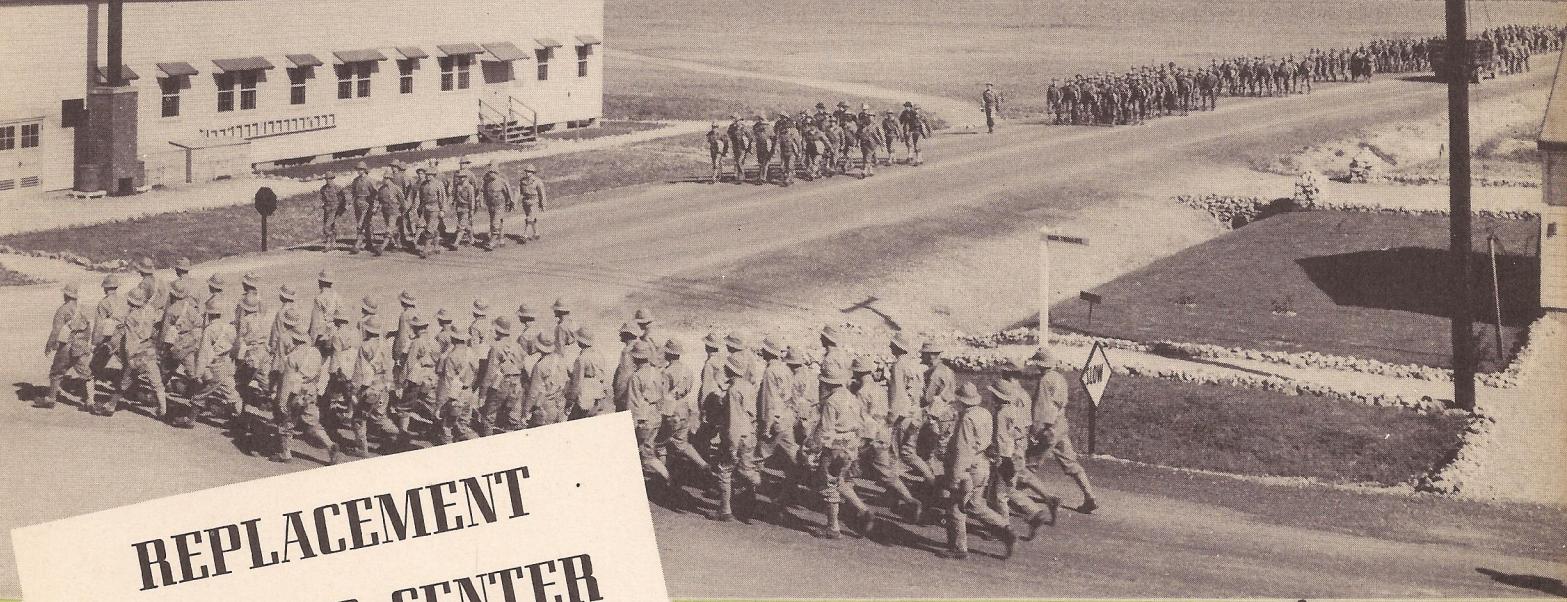
And it was in this way with section after section being opened, that Crowder developed into the complex structure that it is.

In the center of camp is the Replacement Training Center where the basic is transformed into a soldier and a Signal Corps man. At the north end is a Central Signal Corps School where advanced students are taught the more complex intricacies of wire and radio. Close by is the Central Signal Corps Unit Training Center where technical units are formed, and trained prior to being shipped out to combat zones.

In a sense, Crowder can be compared to a huge factory city in which the raw material comes in, is roughly moulded in one shop, smoothed out in another, and then assembled into final form in the third. Only not every man who enters the camp goes through the complete process at Crowder. Some take their advanced training at other stations.

The entire training program is at present set up under the head of the Central Signal Corps Training Center with Major General Walter E. Prosser, Commanding General.





REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER

Crowder is a large camp stretching over thousands of acres of Missouri foothills. In it a man can progress from the basic essentials of soldiering to the most specialized training. But the heart of Crowder is the Replacement Training Center, the largest Signal Corps Replacement Training Center in the country.

Here the new soldier gets his second taste of army life. His first has been a rather hurried one at the Reception Center. Often it has consisted of only a day in which he has received a uniform, been classified, inoculated, and finally shipped. Generally the new soldier arrives glad to be any place but where he has just been.

Work at the Replacement Center is not easy. It is learn, learn, learn, until it does not seem possible that another thought can be digested. First those parts of soldiering which are common to every branch, how to march, salute, fire a rifle, creep on the ground, walk silently at night, keep oneself hidden from the view of the enemy — and then the soldier's Signal Corps specialty, radio perhaps, or wire, or maybe message center, or possibly administrative work. A grind, yes, but a necessary one with the insistent demand for more Signal Corps men coming from every front.

There is another side to the Replacement Center almost equally important. Imperceptably the soldier learns how to fit into the army pattern of life. He adjusts himself; he gets "wised up" until by the end of his training he considers himself an "old soldier." Now he looks with wonder at the new recruit, the basics, who are coming to take his place, as the new material the Replacement Center must mould into shape. And it seems almost impossible to him that he could ever have been as raw and awkward as they appear.

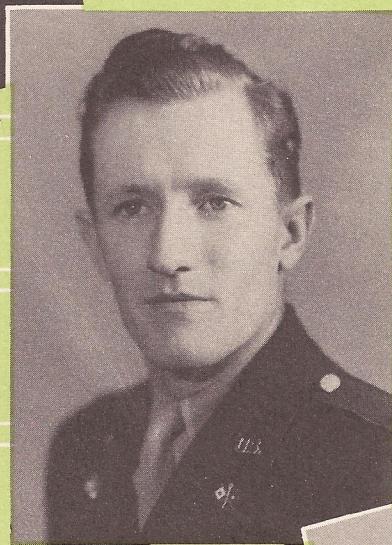
For those who display special aptitude and skill, further training is available. At the north end of camp is the Central Signal Corps School which is to the Replacement Center what college is to high school. But for the more average student the end of his training sees him attached to some tactical unit there to begin the practice of his newly-learned craft.



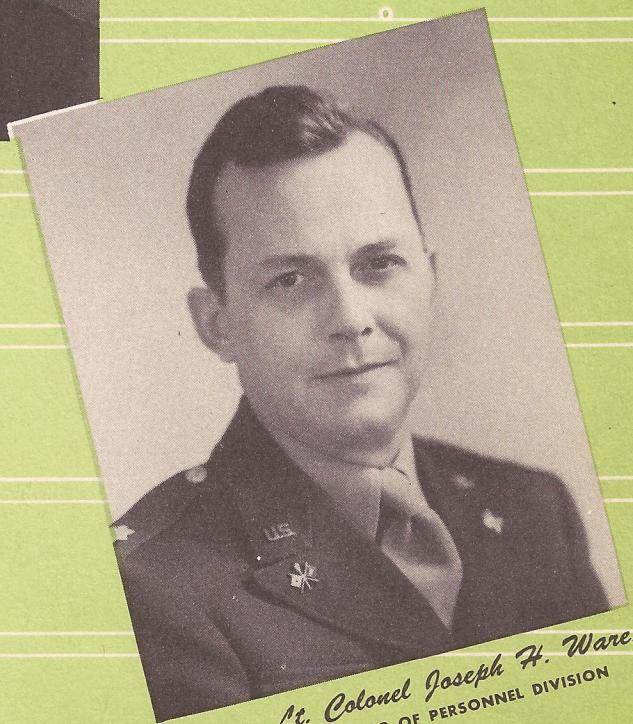
REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER STAFF



Lt. Colonel Donald M. Shute,
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Captain Glenn D. Rierson,
ACTING ADJUTANT



Lt. Colonel Joseph H. Ware,
DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL DIVISION

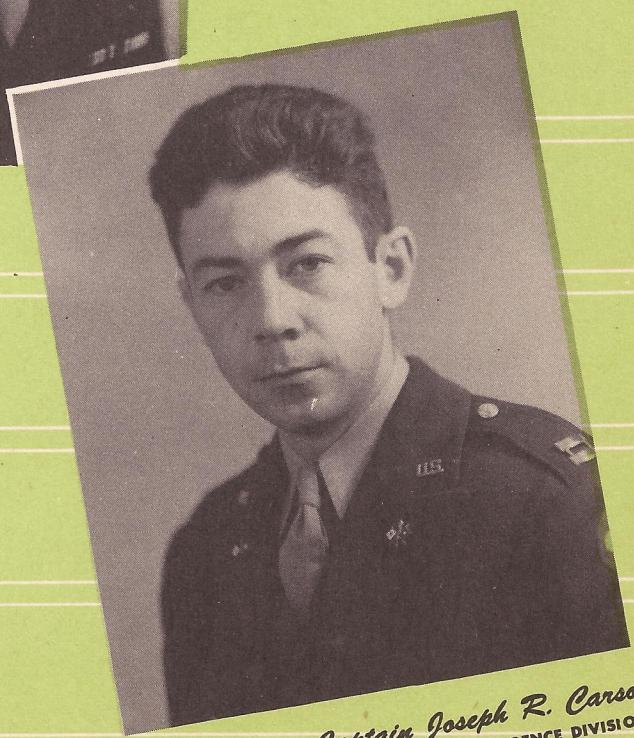
REPLACEMENT CENTER STAFF



Lt. Colonel Richard B. Bean,
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND TRAINING



Lt. Colonel Ben Sain,
DIRECTOR OF SUPPLY DIVISION

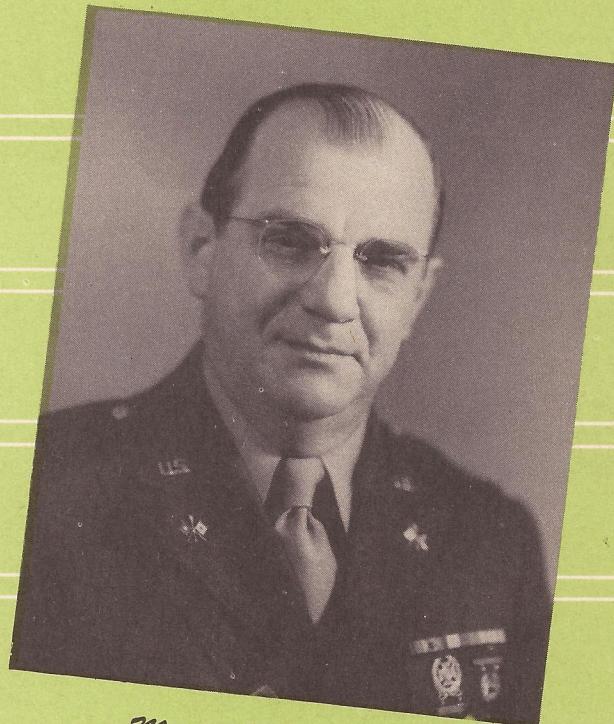


Captain Joseph R. Carson,
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

SPECIAL STAFF



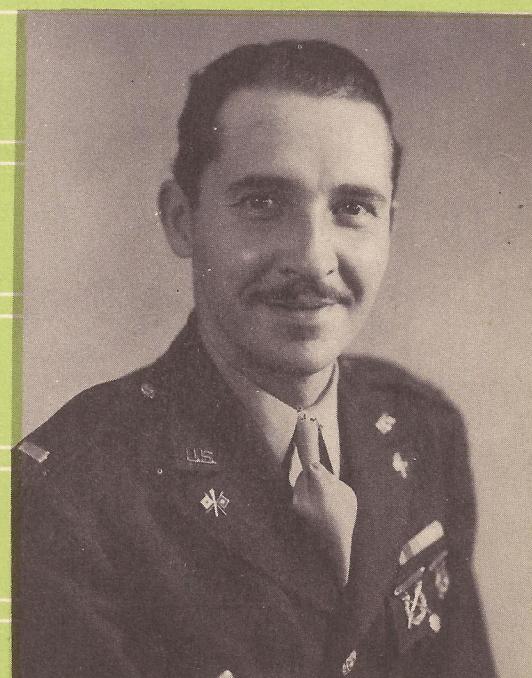
Lt. Colonel Ola E. McKenzie,
INSPECTOR



Major John B. Boltz,
ACTING STAFF ADVOCATE



Capt. Bernard W. Mann,
DIRECTOR SPECIAL SERVICE DIVISION



Lt. George H. Frobig,
POLICE OFFICER

UNIT COMMANDING OFFICERS



Colonel George W. Daley,
COMMANDING OFFICER, SIXTH REGIMENT



Colonel Charles T. O'Neill,
COMMANDING OFFICER, EIGHTH REGIMENT



Colonel Barndt A. Anderson,
COMMANDING OFFICER, SEVENTH REGIMENT



Lt. Colonel Sumter A. Porter,
COMMANDING OFFICER, NINTH REGIMENT

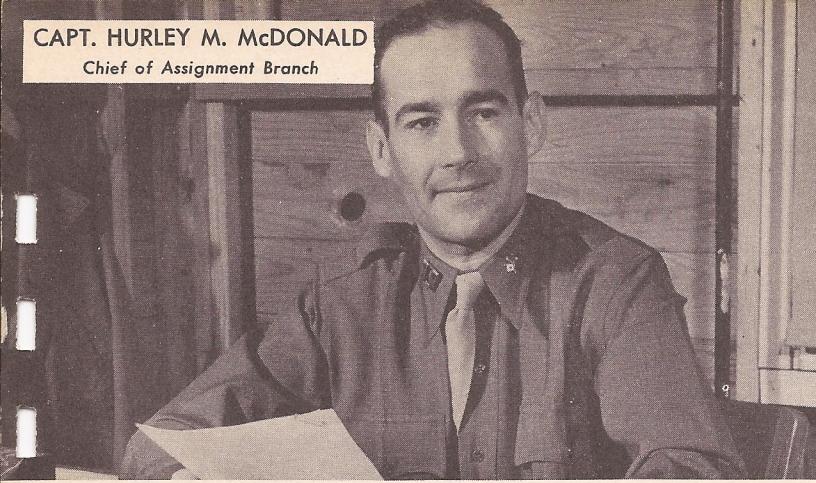


Major Carl W. Bartling,
COMMANDING OFFICER, 38th BATTALION

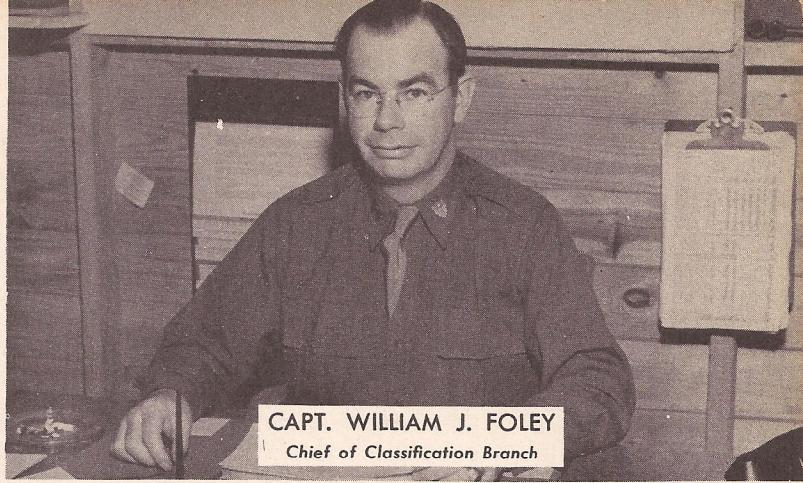


Capt. T. W. Heilala,
COMMANDING OFFICER, HEADQUARTERS CO.

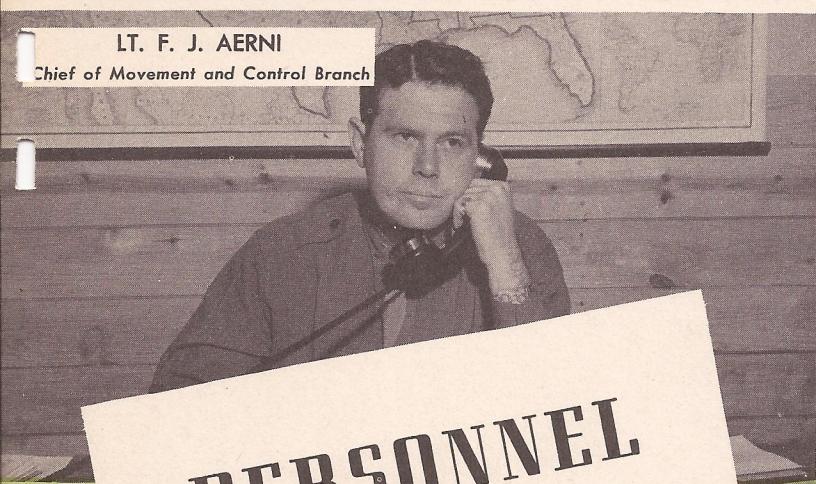
CAPT. HURLEY M. McDONALD
Chief of Assignment Branch



CAPT. WILLIAM J. FOLEY
Chief of Classification Branch



LT. F. J. AERNI
Chief of Movement and Control Branch



LT. JOSEPH HENDERSON
Chief of Machine Records Branch



PERSONNEL

The personnel section of Headquarters has probably worked late the night preceding the soldiers arrival determining to which of the Replacement Centers' Regiments he should be assigned.

And the personnel section of his regiment will probably work late the following night bringing his individual records up to date. These records were begun at the reception center — the service record and the classification card will follow him throughout his entire army career.

The staff of each regiment is necessarily large as with men constantly going and coming, a Replacement Center puts an unusual strain upon its personnel sections. Men who come to the Replacement Center are placed in the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th Regiments, or in the 38th Battalion which is made up of cooks.

PERSONNEL

The first step in the soldier's life at the Replacement Center after he has been assigned to his company is the personnel section. His army personnel record began at the induction center and a complete picture of his experience, education, and background were listed on his classification card and service record.

These two record forms follow him throughout his army career, with additions being added as he progresses.

A large staff is necessary for each regiment in order to keep up the records of the individual soldiers.

**PERSONNEL OFFICES
6TH. REGIMENT
7TH. REGIMENT**

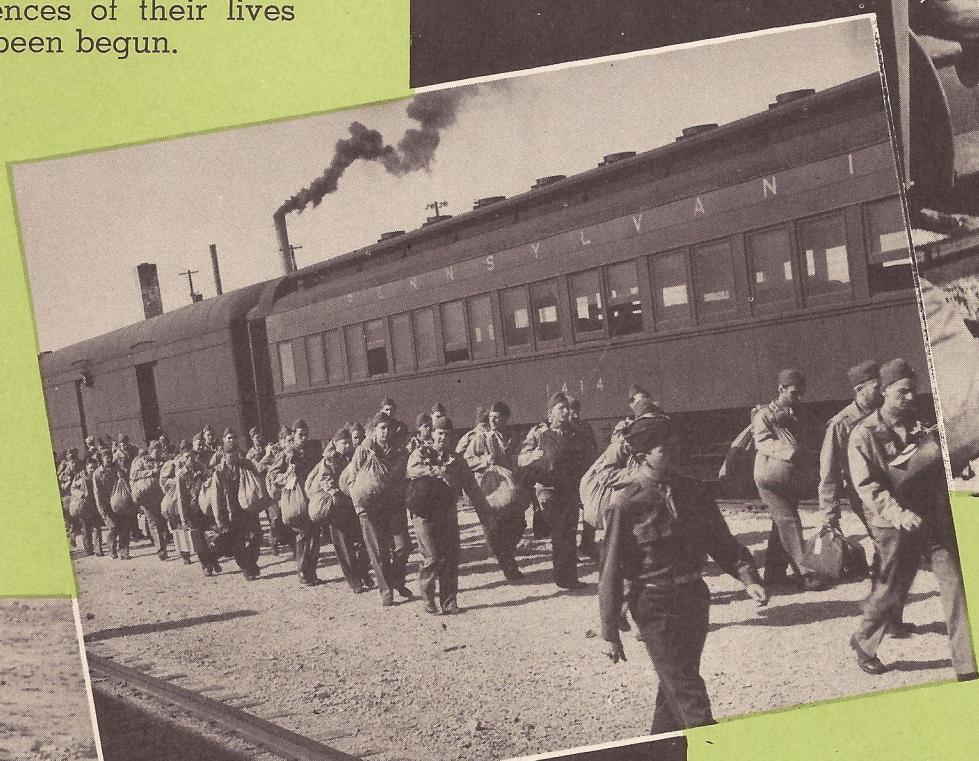
**PERSONNEL OFFICES
8TH. AND 9TH. REGIMENT.
HQ.CO. AND 38 BN.**



ARRIVALS

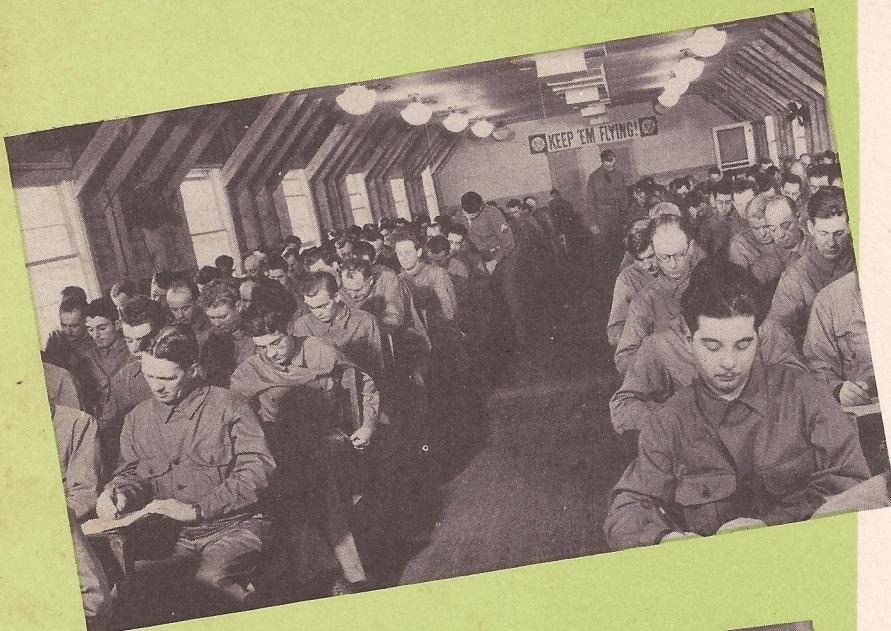
Sometimes you see them coming in at night, merely the silhouettes of men. And at other times they come in by day, arriving from every state of the union, and from as many walks of life.

Their reactions are as many and as varied as the temperaments they represent. Mostly they are a bit bewildered, but that is to be expected. One of the greatest experiences of their lives has been begun.



This is the raw material out of which armies are built. Two, three months hence the bewilderment, the rawness will have left them, and they will move with the sure firm step of the trained soldier.

CLASSIFICATION



Much time is spent in the modern Army placing a soldier in the particular branch of the service best adapted to his personality, experience, and education. At the Reception Center he was classified for a particular arm of the service.

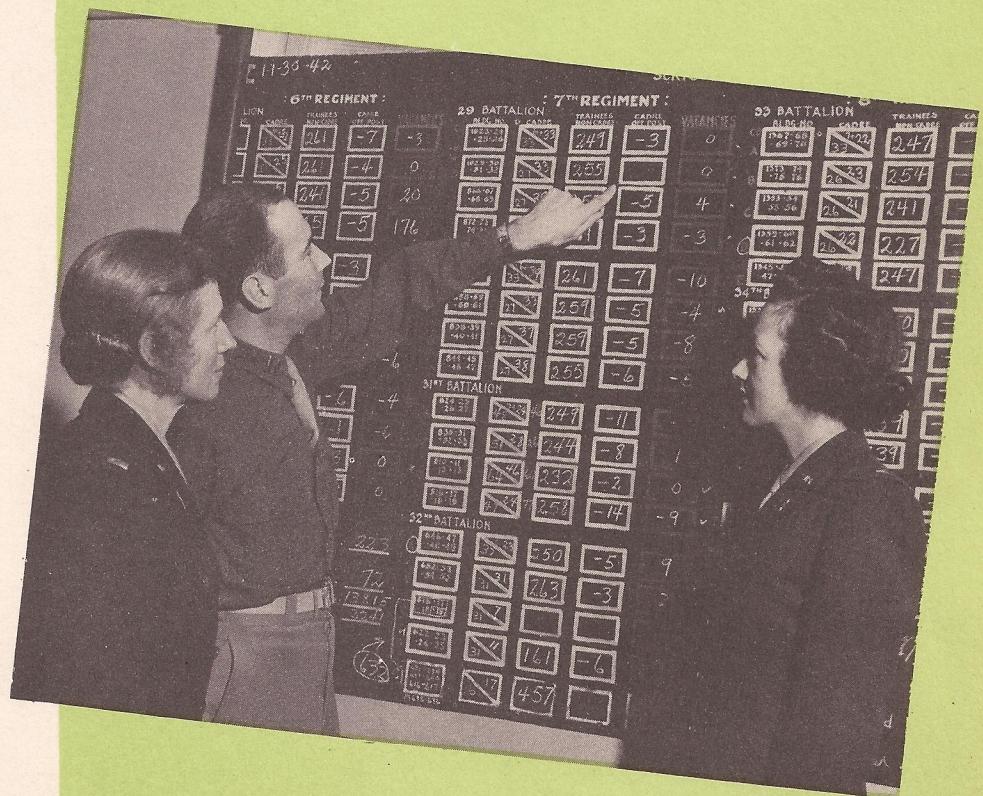
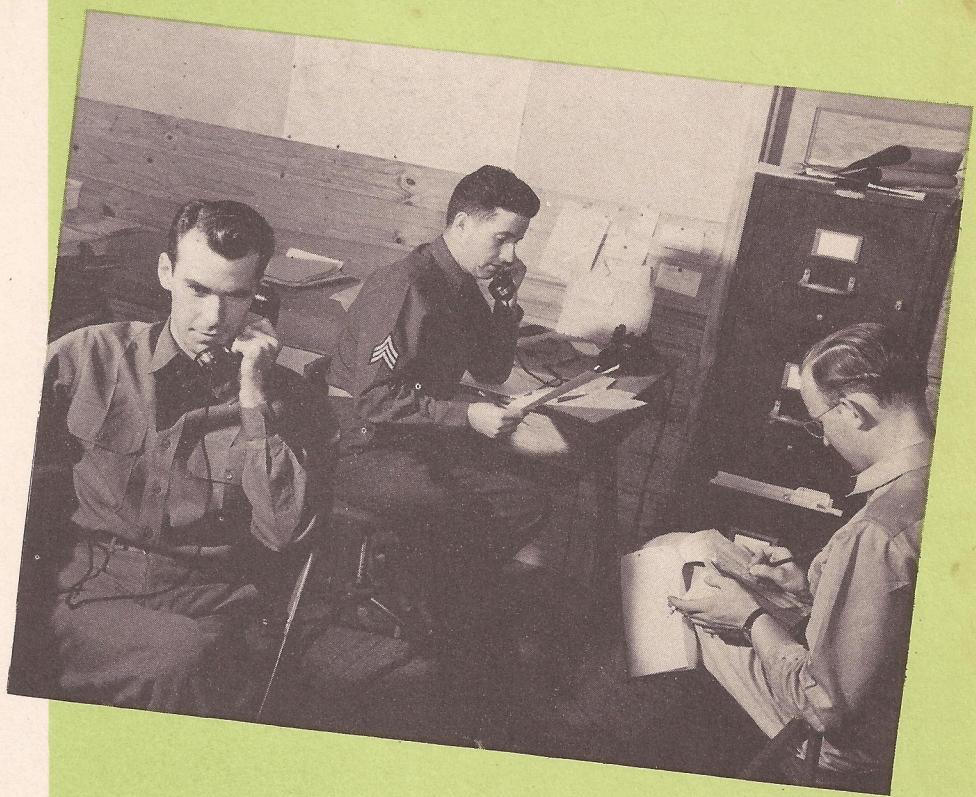
At the Replacement Center, before his training begins, each soldier is carefully interviewed, and his Signal Corps specialty is determined.

A series of aptitude tests followed by a personal interview gives the information by which the army makes the proper selection.

ASSIGNMENT

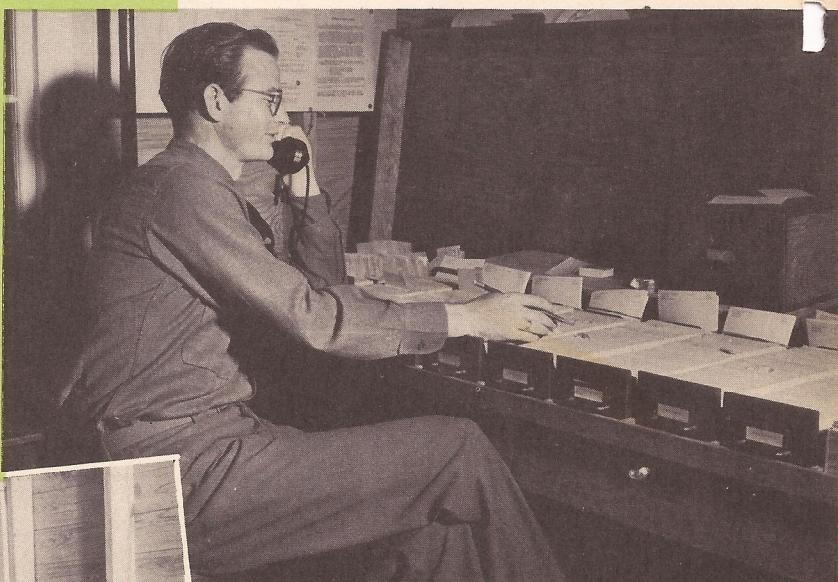
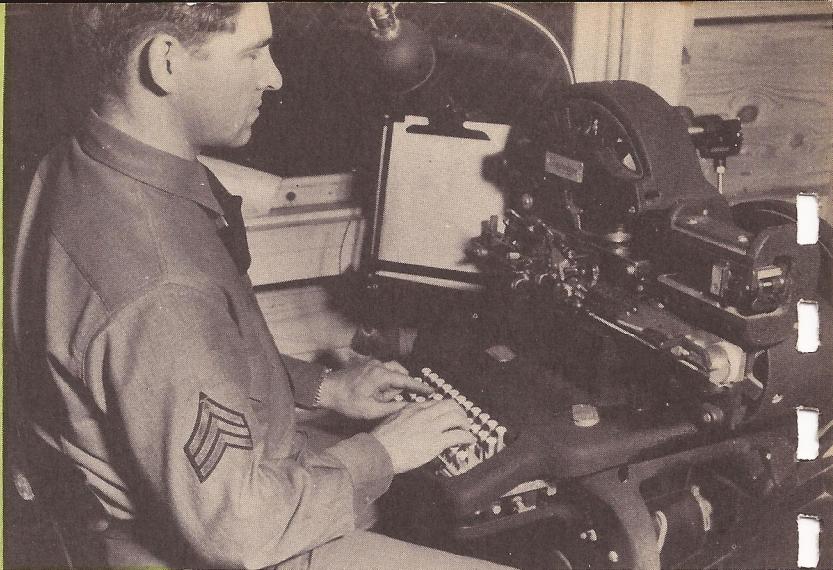
Classification and assignment are twin sisters. But there are a few skeptics that claim they are not on speaking terms. You will be told about the intimate friend of "so and so" . . . absolutely the "best pole climber in the world," who is "sweating it out" at Radio School. Or the brilliant young Public Relations man who has been "reduced" to Radio Repair.

But if you investigate further, you will discover that not over one per cent of total assignments made are questionable. On the whole, men who come into the Replacement Center are assigned skillfully, scientifically, painlessly. There are no attempts to make truck drivers or pole climbers out of musicians. Men who have had a background in a particular branch of work are assigned to his job in the Army as near parallel to what they have been doing in civilian life as possible.



RECORDS

Those who handle the assignment section are careful and experienced in the handling of men. Both officers and enlisted men give careful consideration to the men they are assigning. The results of the endless tests, the exhaustive interviews are computed, and on the basis of these results, the men are placed in the particular jobs in which they can be most helpful.



At the Reception Center the soldier generally has been issued his dog tags which he wears on his person at all times. But some few arrive without identification tags, and are taken care of at the Replacement Center.

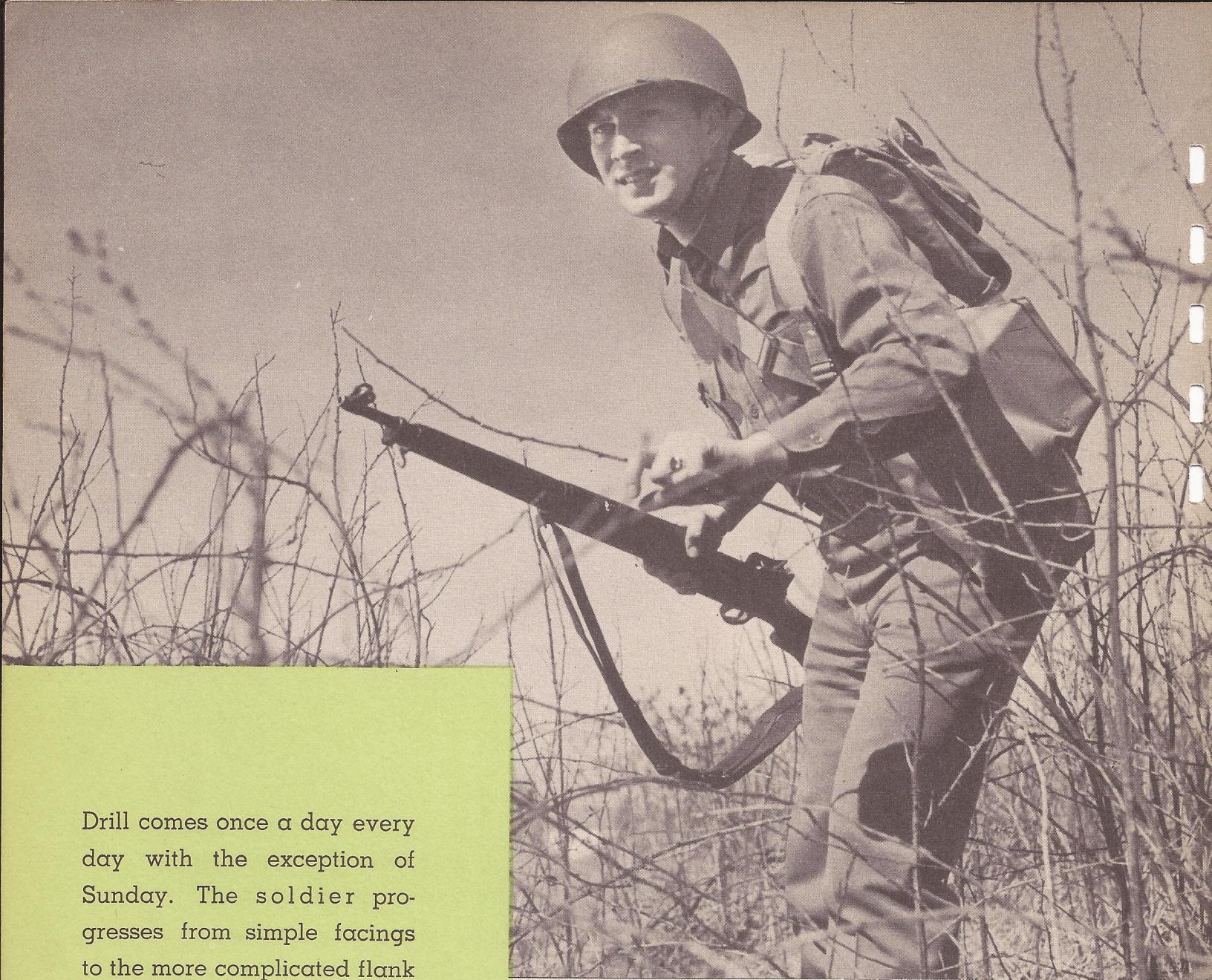


BASIC TRAINING

Soldiering is one of the world's oldest crafts and it has heritages and traditions all of its own. For instance the salute—a soldier without the salute seems almost like a soldier without a rifle. And the intricate ballet of drill, pleasant to watch, but purposeful in its precision since through drill the soldier acquires the poise and discipline required in combat. Basic training puts its emphasis on these. It takes the civilian unaccustomed to fitting into a rigid pattern and adapts him to military life.

But Basic Training does more than this. It teaches the soldier the fundamentals of his trade. This is a war of fast movement, of stabbing attacks, and even the technicians must be able to protect themselves. Therefore the trainee under the guidance of his platoon lieutenant learns how to shoot, how to take cover, what to do in case of aerial, mechanized, chemical attack, ten or fifteen other subjects all of which are 'musts' for the modern soldier.





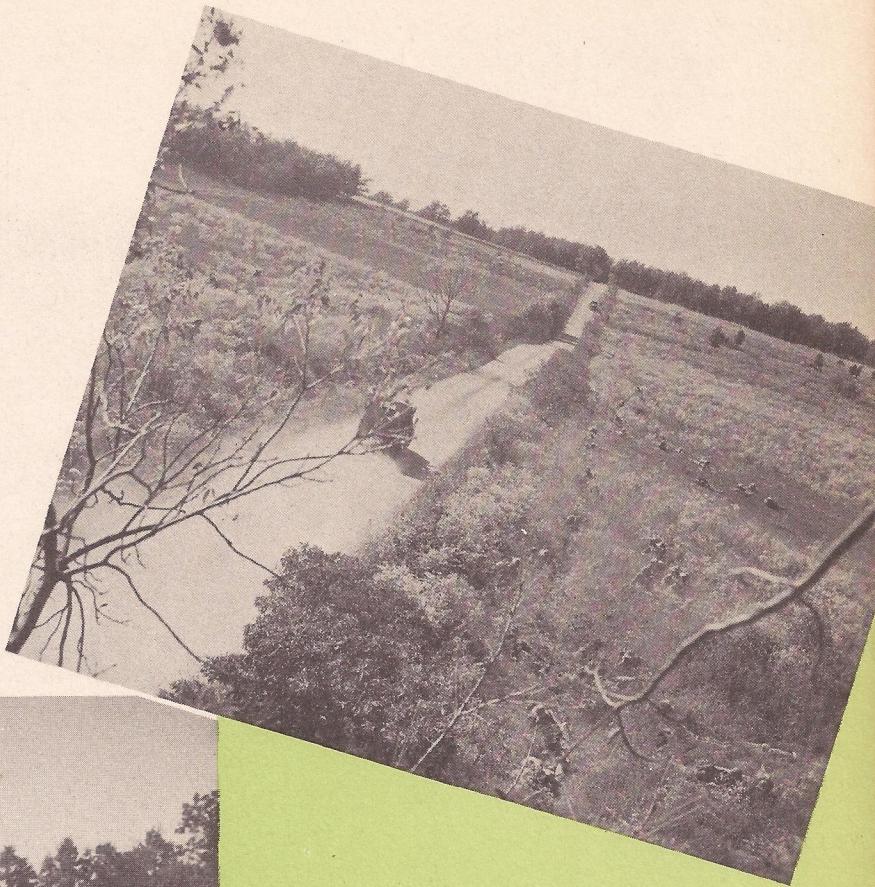
Drill comes once a day every day with the exception of Sunday. The soldier progresses from simple facings to the more complicated flank movements, and finally to the most difficult of all, maneuvers in the massed Company and Battalion.

Through drill, coordination and discipline, two of the things most required by the soldier, are developed.



DEFENSIVE TRAINING

The airplane and tank, fearful new weapons of the offense, can be combated by the individual soldier if he has been properly trained. Therefore, considerable time is spent in teaching the basic the funda-



mentals of defense against air and mechanized attack.

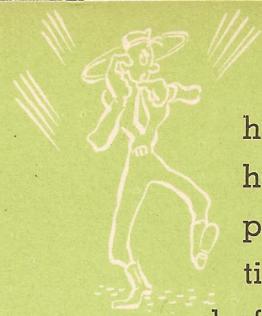
In a matter of a few seconds after the air raid siren has announced the approach of hostile aircraft, the marching columns of soldiers disperse and the airmen find small pickings for their bombs and machine guns.

CHEMICAL WARFARE

The very first day the soldier is in the Replacement Center he is issued his gas mask. While in basic training he carries it constantly.

One fourth of the casualties in the last war were gas casualties, and America is making certain that it does not happen to our men again.





First the soldier is taught how his mask functions, then how to use it. He is made to practice "masking" time after time until he acquires split second efficiency.

And, finally, to give him confidence in the protection his mask will give, he is marched through a heavy concentration of tear gas. He comes forth with dry eyes, completely unharmed, and from then on his faith in the gas mask is unshaken.



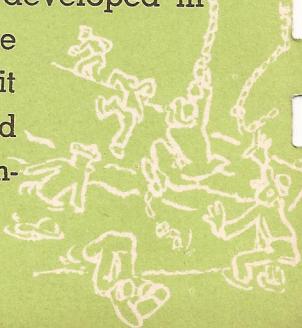
OBSTACLE COURSE

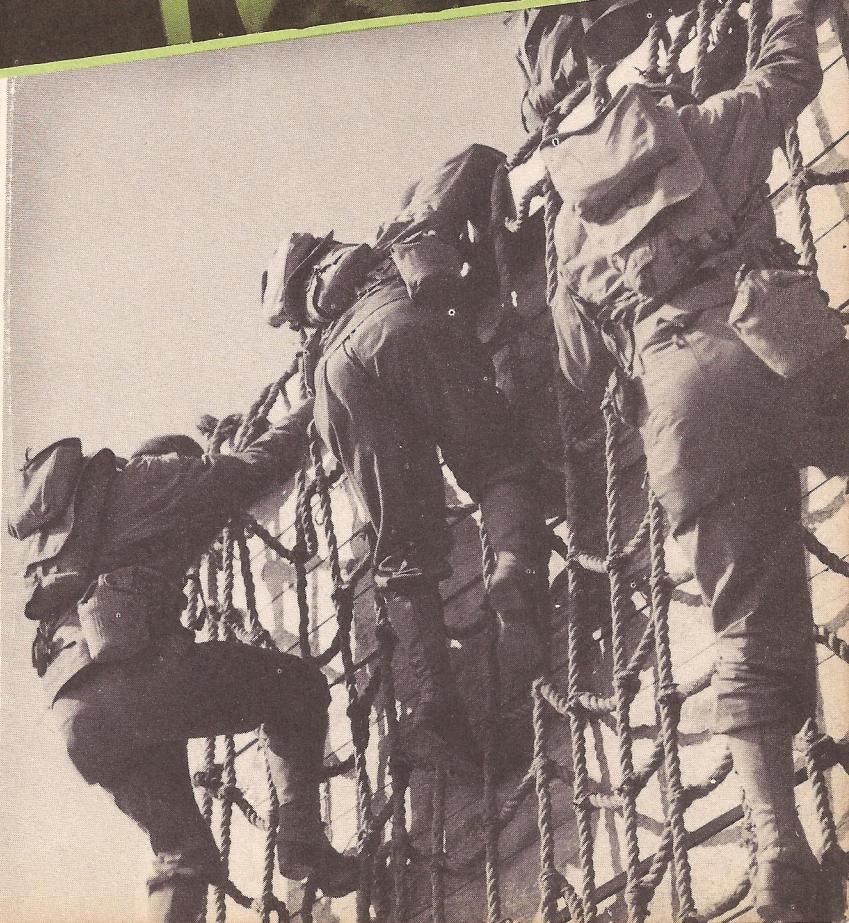
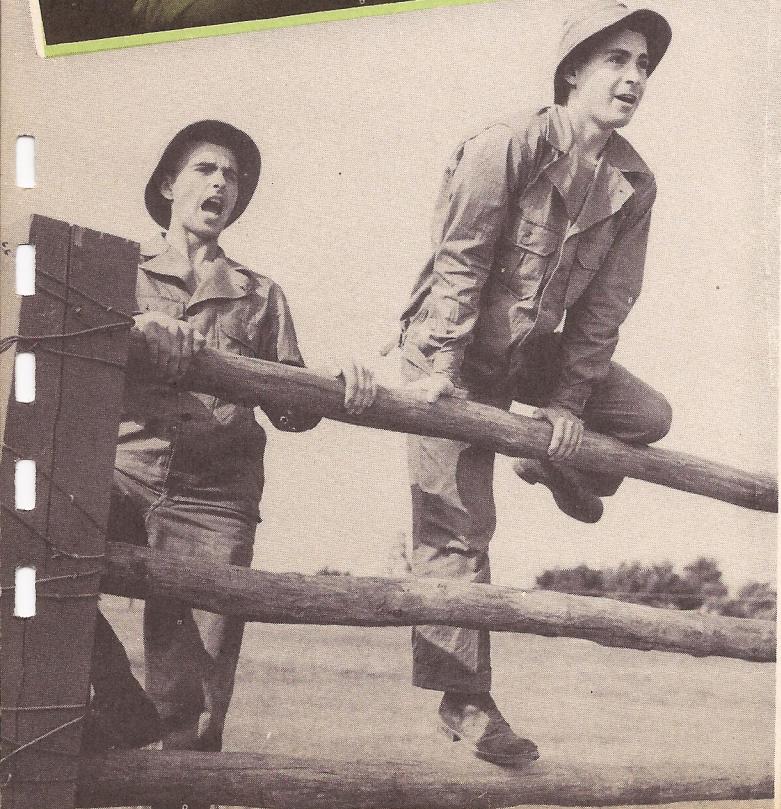
Streamlined though warfare is, it still requires the utmost in endurance, speed and dexterity. And so each Saturday the soldier runs the obstacle course wearing a full field pack.



The course is three quarters of a mile long, consisting of walls, hurdles, culverts, streams and barriers, a more formidable combination than anything he will find in the field.

Such training is invaluable for developing an alertness of mind and body that could not be developed in any other way. And like anything else with a spirit of competition connected with it, the soldier enjoys it.

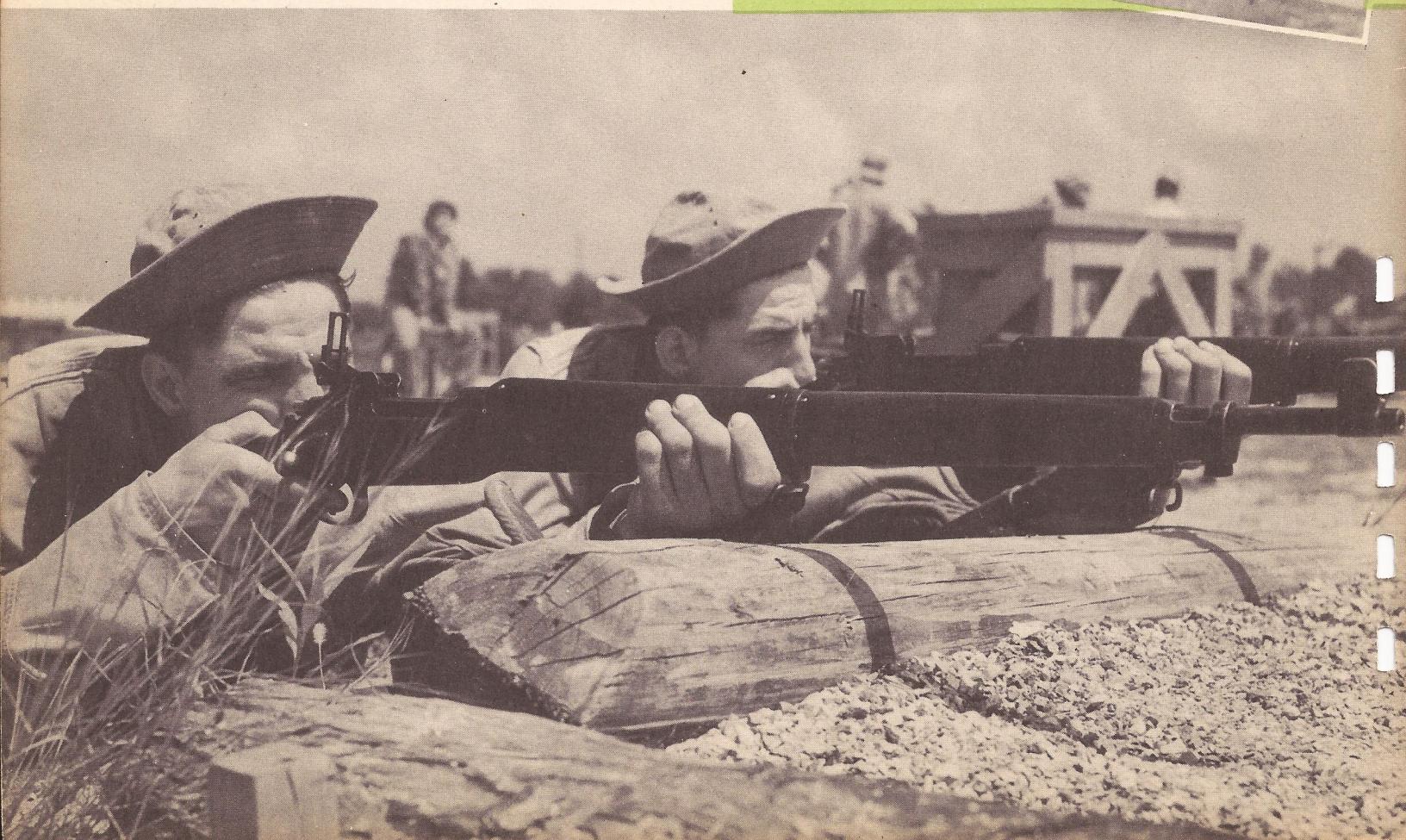
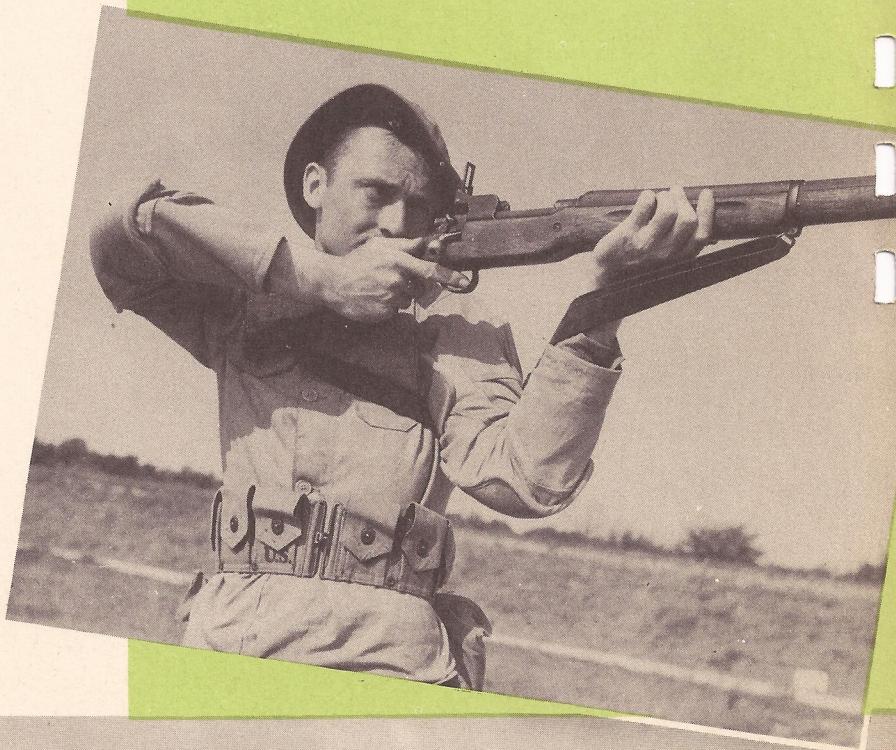




RANGE

Once upon a time a soldier was handed a rifle and told "shoot." But that sort of learning by 'error' has gone forever. Now the soldier is taught scientifically so that before he even fires a shot, in a sense he is an experienced rifleman.

First he is instructed in the various parts of the piece and their functioning. Next he learns how to align his sights and the correct method of squeezing the trigger. With these mastered he becomes





RANGE

adept in contorting his body into the various positions that good marksmanship requires. And then finally all that he has learned so far is coordinated in a practice session on the simulated range using dummy ammunition.

Only then is the soldier taken to the range and issued live ammunition. Speak to him coming home that evening after having qualified and he will assure you that shooting is the simplest thing in the world.

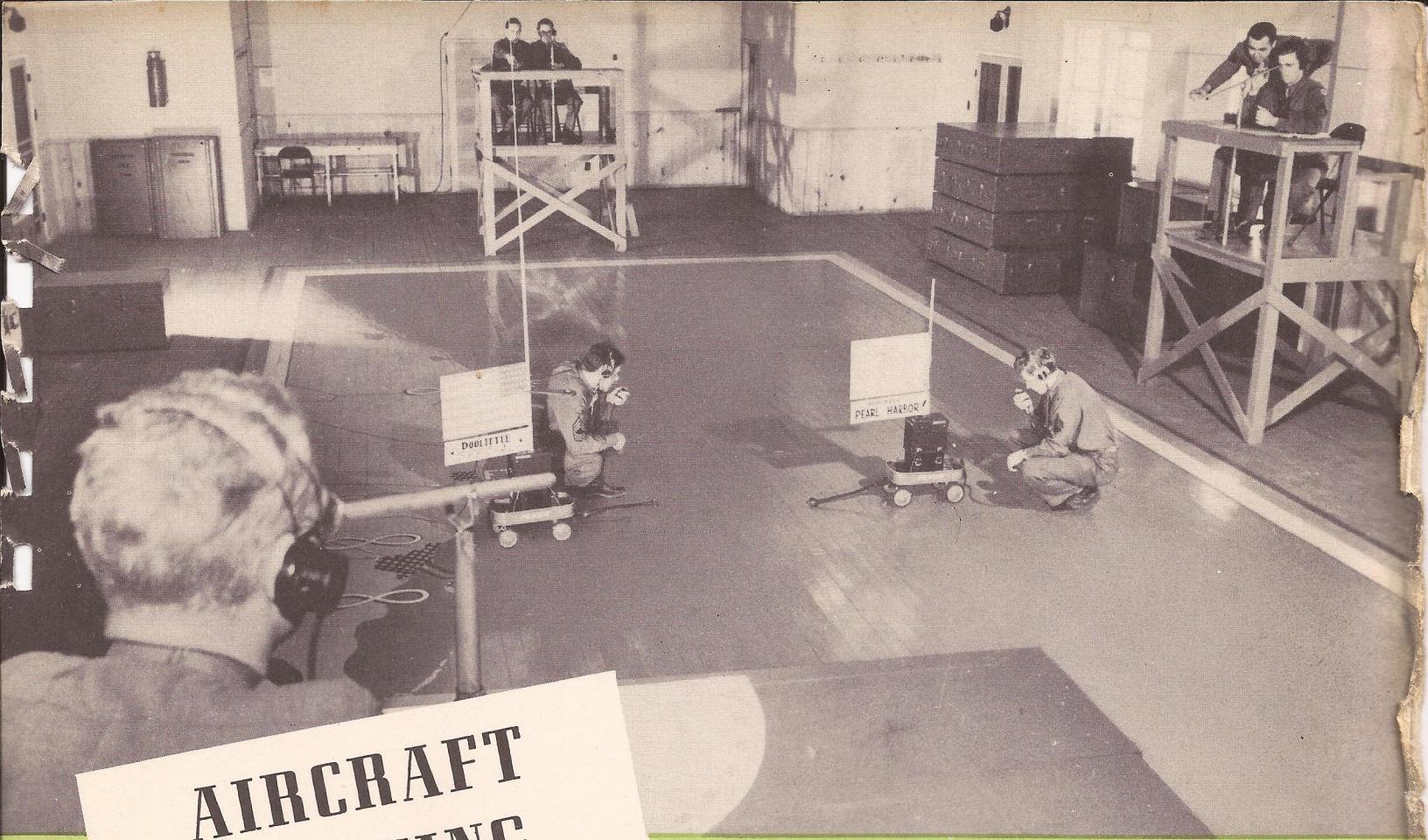
INSPECTION

Mothers would throw up their hands in amazement if they could see the bed that their son now makes and the amazing dexterity with which he handles a mop. Cleanliness is next to Godliness and also a sure way of steering clear of the Company Commander's wrath.

Each day the barracks are inspected and on Saturday there is a special inspection in which the men are present and are inspected personally.



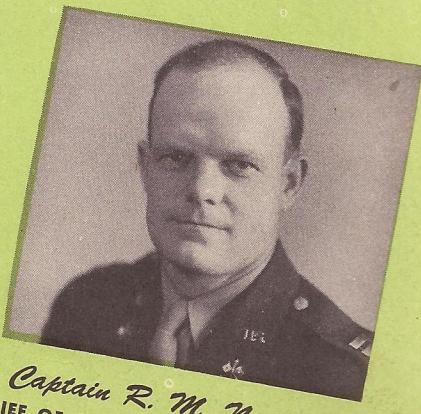
Should he fail to pass inspection, the soldier will unquestionably find himself on the "gig" list, which in plain language means that that evening he will likely as not be raking the company area.



AIRCRAFT WARNING

The "hush-hush" pet of the Signal Corps, like the gal next door that "we just don't talk about," aircraft warning is one of the Signal Corps' most secret devices; one of its most vital as well. The ears of the Army, it reaches up into the sky detecting the approach of hostile aircraft.

Aircraft Warning operators are trained for speed and efficiency. In a minute information is old. In five minutes it has faded into history. Hundreds of selected soldiers are trained each month at the Replacement Center for this vital branch of the Signal Corps. The requirements must be rigid as A. W. is too important to the security of the nation to be put in the hands of the second rate. Following the completion of their work here, these men are shipped to other points where they receive group training and then are assigned to combat units.



*Captain R. M. Newsome,
CHIEF OF AIRCRAFT WARNING SECTION*





RADIO SCHOOL

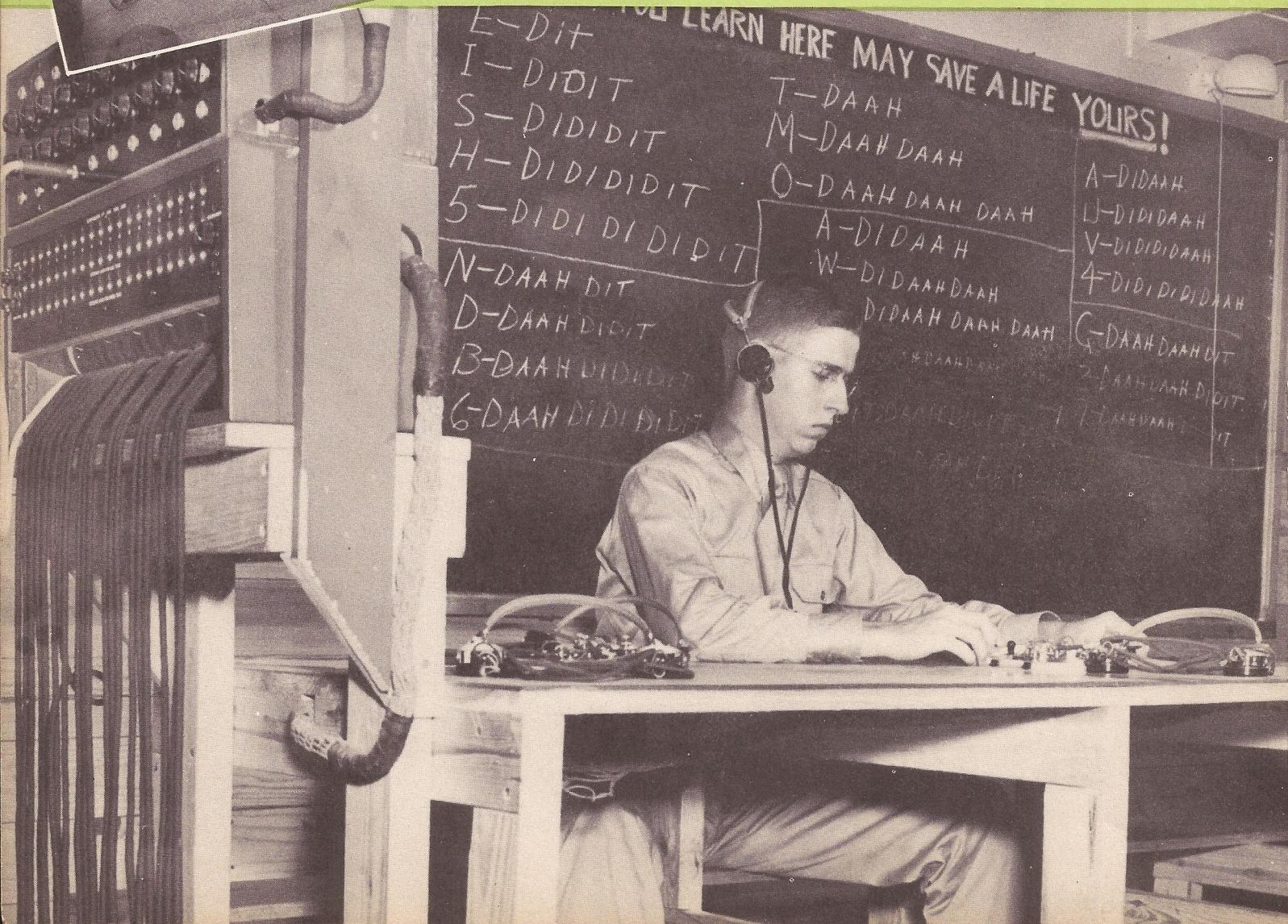
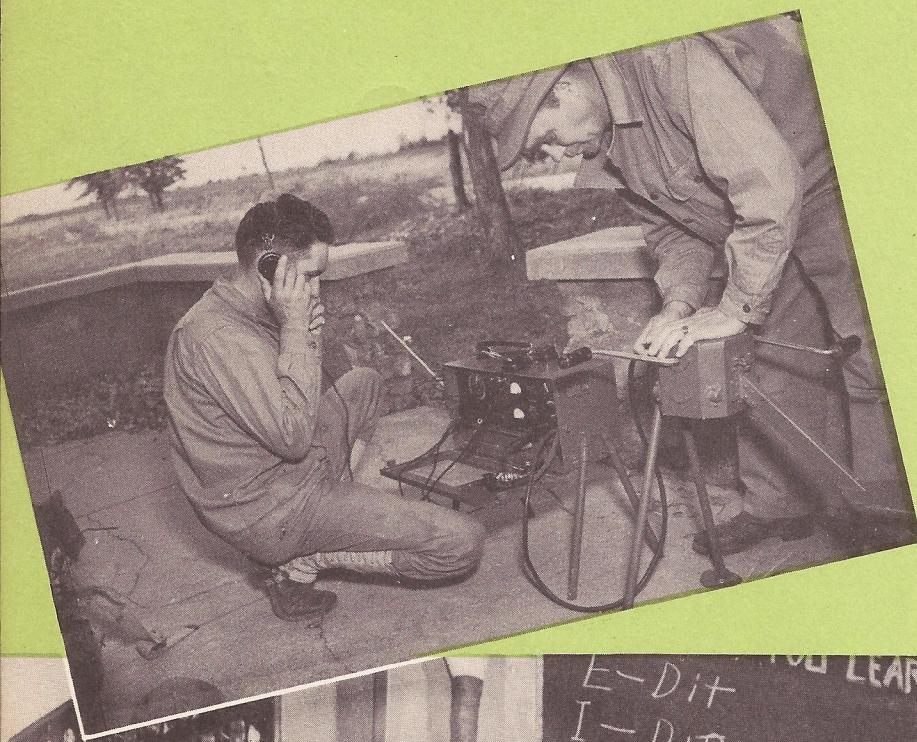
*Major P. W. Sims,
CHIEF OF RADIO SCHOOL SECTION*

Radio men rightly maintain that radio waves cannot be destroyed. But radio instruments must be operated and maintained and it is the job of the Radio School at Replacement Center to train the men who operate and maintain them. The men are given a course which begins in the code room with the mastery of code and then takes them out into the field where they gain skill under conditions which simulate those of combat.

Most of them will go to Division Signal Companies to function as part of the radio section. The radio section of a division maintains communications between the division and lower and higher headquarters.

Besides being skilled in radio, the radio man must also know how to operate "Panels" and "Blinkers." It is no easy matter to become a skilled radio man, and the men in the Radio Schools are kept under constant pressure.

RADIO SCHOOL

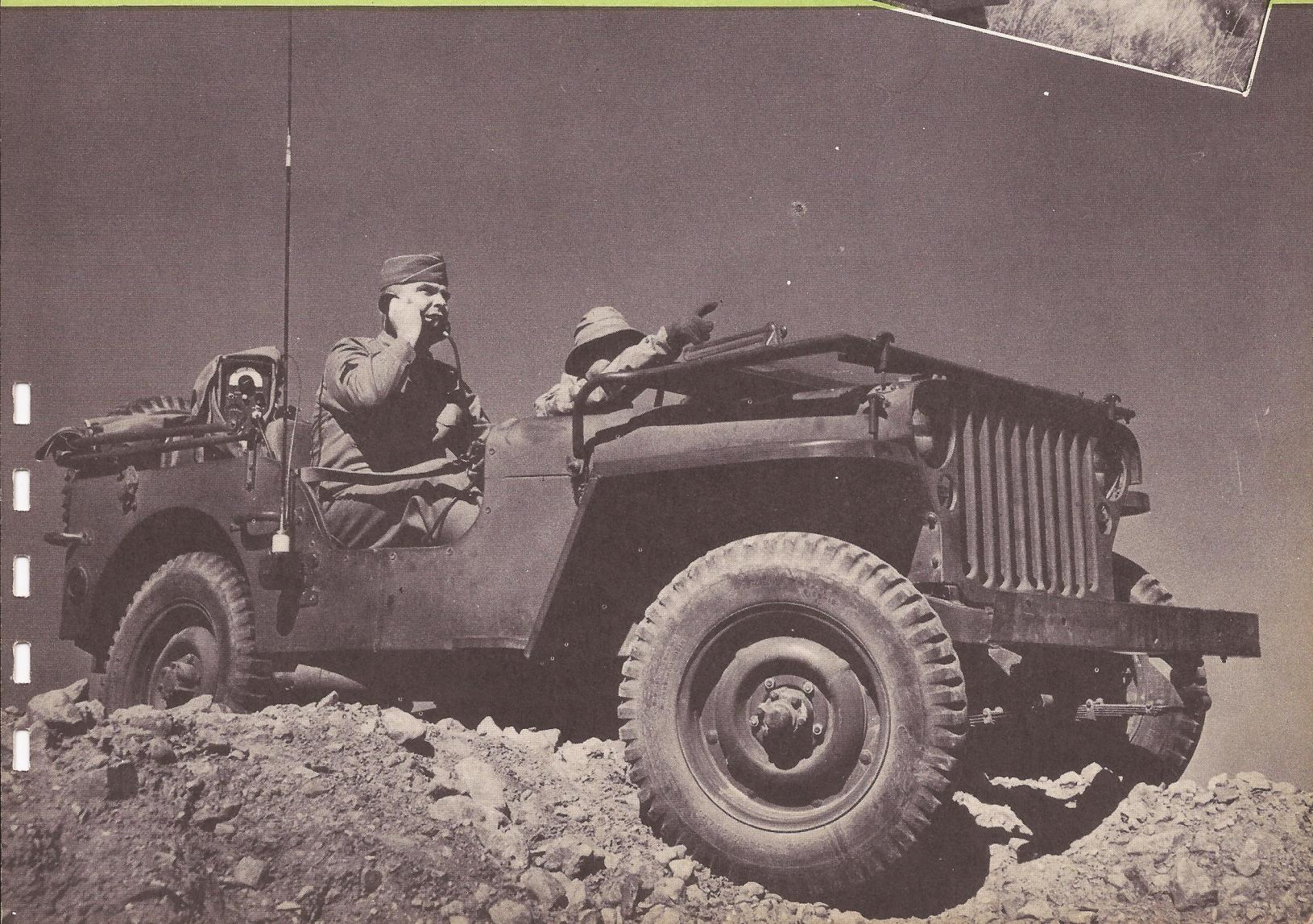


The Reconnaissance Car with its vehicular radio is as fast as anything on wheels. It can keep up with the movement of an army and maintain its communications. In a more stable situation, the Portable Radio, with its greater range, takes over the duty. And the famous "Walkie-Talkie" and

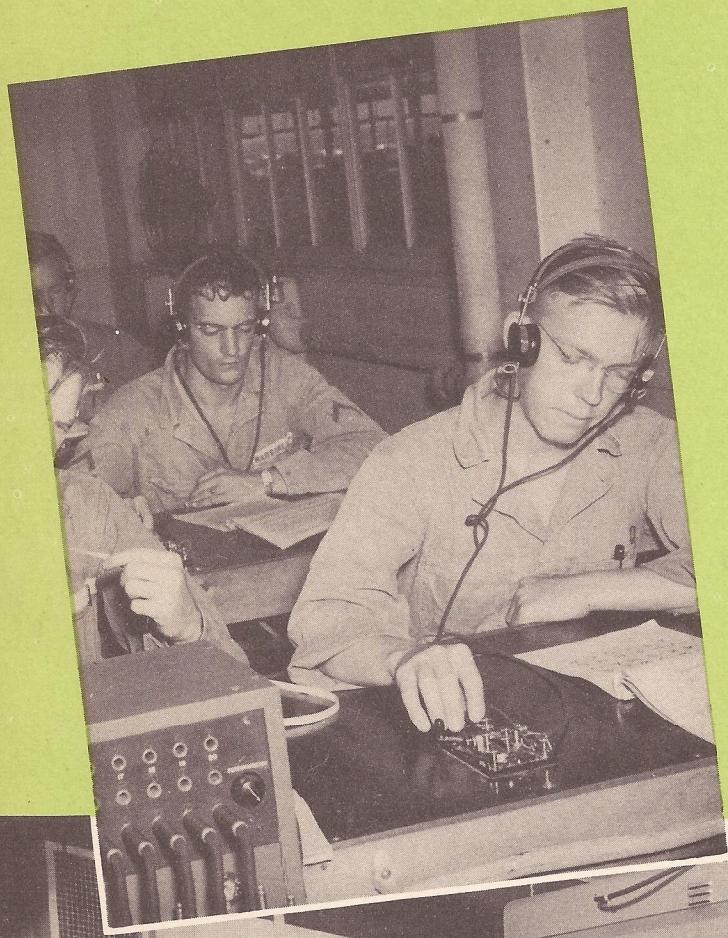
RADIO SCHOOL

the less known "Handie-Talkie" are invaluable as auxiliary radios to keep in touch with patrols, outposts and advance units.

There is still another class of radio set, the comparatively mammoth ones used in the fixed stations of the War Department Network. But the men who operate them are trained at Central.



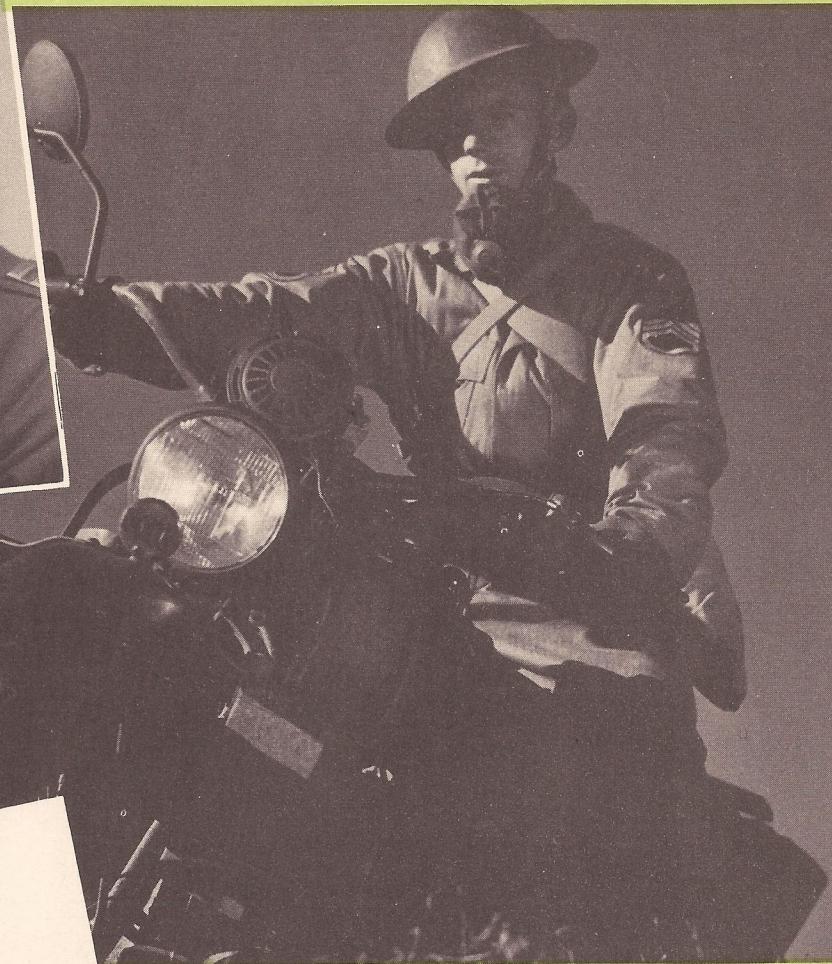
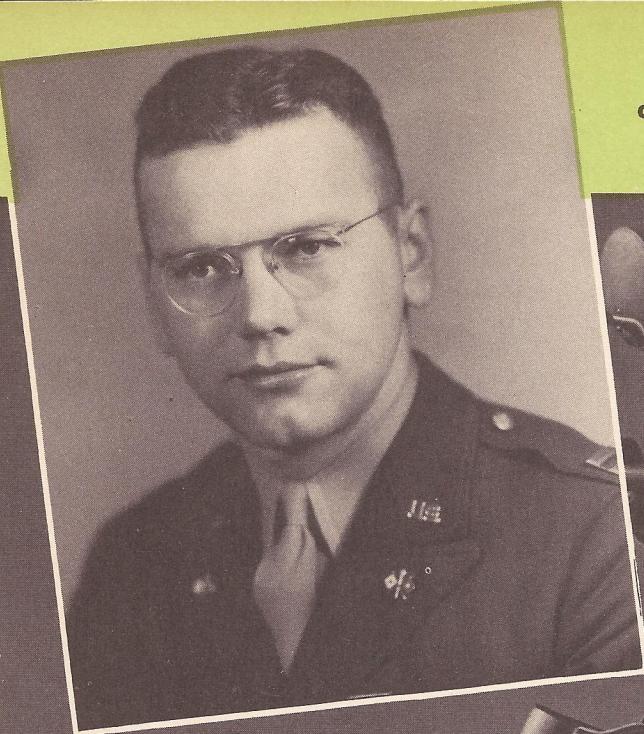
RADIO SCHOOL



The International Morse Code is still generally used in preference to voice. It can carry further and is easier to pick up through static. Thousands of radio operators are trained at the Replacement Training Center.



Captain T. S. Farrell,
CHIEF OF MESSAGE CENTER SECTION



MESSAGE CENTER

Heart of a Division's communication system is its Message Center. There is nothing quite like it in civilian life.

By means of the Message Center the various methods of communication are coordinated. Messages come to the Message Center, and it is its business to "Get Them Through."

During combat operations, it is the work of the Message Center to keep communications flowing so that all of the units are informed at all times of movements, new orders, and other vital information.

Generally, the Message Center chief decides what type of communication should be used — radio, wire, teletype — or the Message Center's staff of messengers.

MESSAGE CENTER

During the training period Message Centers are set up under simulated combat conditions. Old houses, cellars, or other out of the way places are used.

Speed is stressed in handling messages as it is very important that the Message Center function swiftly and accurately.





This is no easy task as each of the hundreds of messages pouring out of Message Center presents an individual problem. Very few are to be sent in clear text, and so they must be encoded, the chief must decide upon their method of transmission, records must be kept of the message and to what headquarters it is going and all this must be achieved in a few minutes so that communication will not be interrupted.

WIRE SCHOOL
POLE LINE CONSTRUCTION
S.C.R.T.C.





WIRE SCHOOL



*Lt. Colonel E. E. Knowlton,
CHIEF OF WIRE SCHOOL SECTION*

The great telephone companies of the United States supplied many of the Signal Corps men of the last war. And in this war, history is being repeated. Wire is one of the important means of communication that a modern army uses and it is wire school's business to supply the technicians who construct the telephone and keep them open.

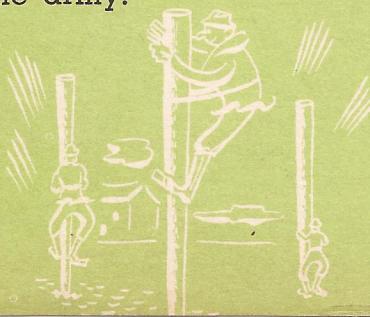
Only men of great courage and agility are chosen for this type of work as it is often hazardous and exacting. But those who are chosen are given an exhaustive course which fits them to carry on their specialty under all conditions.

With the completion of their training the greater part are sent to a Division Signal Company to make up its wire section.

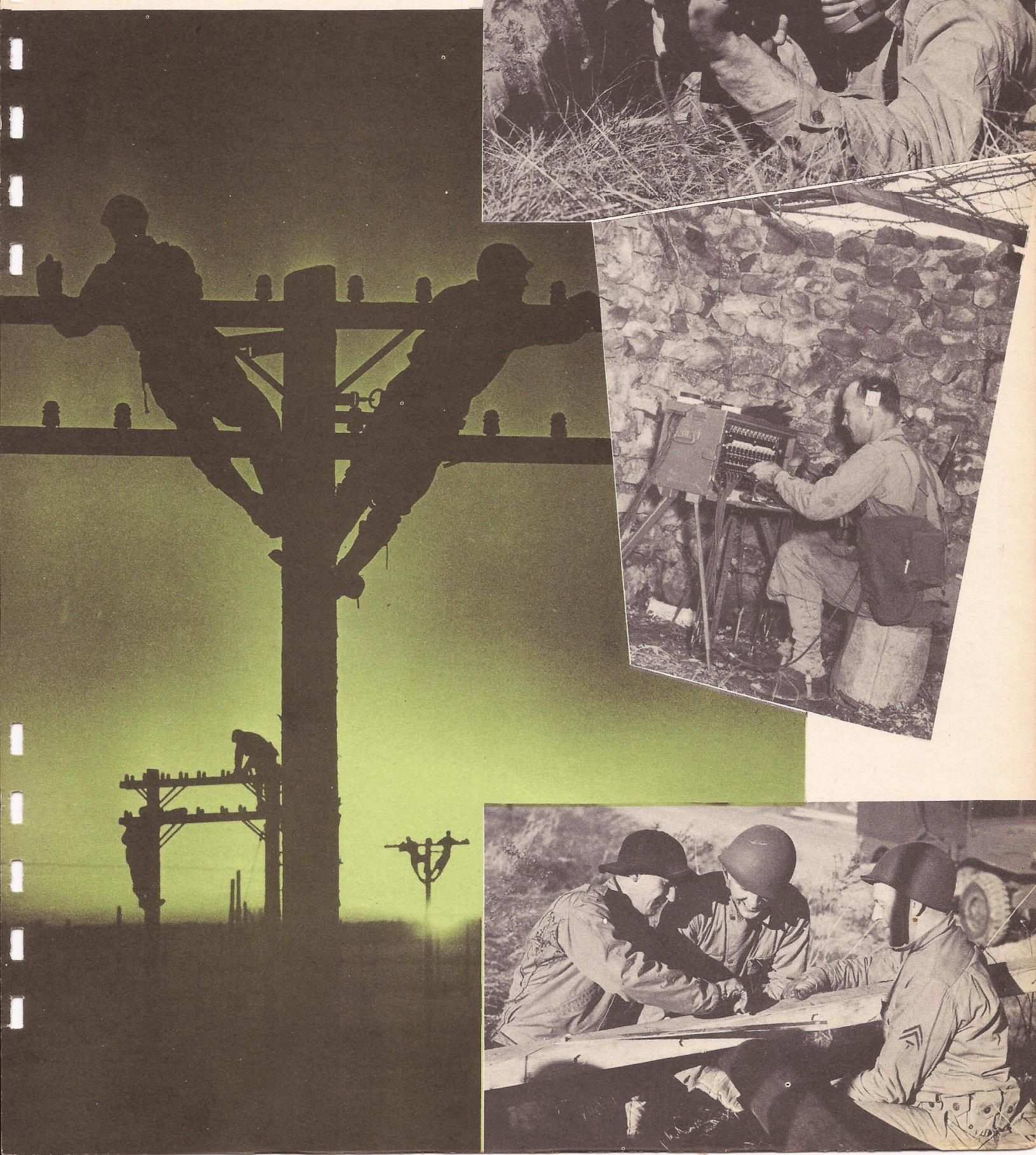
WIRE SCHOOL

Installing and operating field telephone switchboards under the most adverse conditions is one of the jobs of the soldier in the wire division . . . his training must be such that he is able to put the message over the wire, receive calls and keep the system functioning under intense fire.

The telephone communications system still holds the greater part of the personnel of the Signal Corps. Its importance has not waned in spite of the ever-increasing importance of radio. The two means of communications exist side by side . . . each playing its particular part in the life of the army.



WIRE SCHOOL



Typist and Teletypewriter School

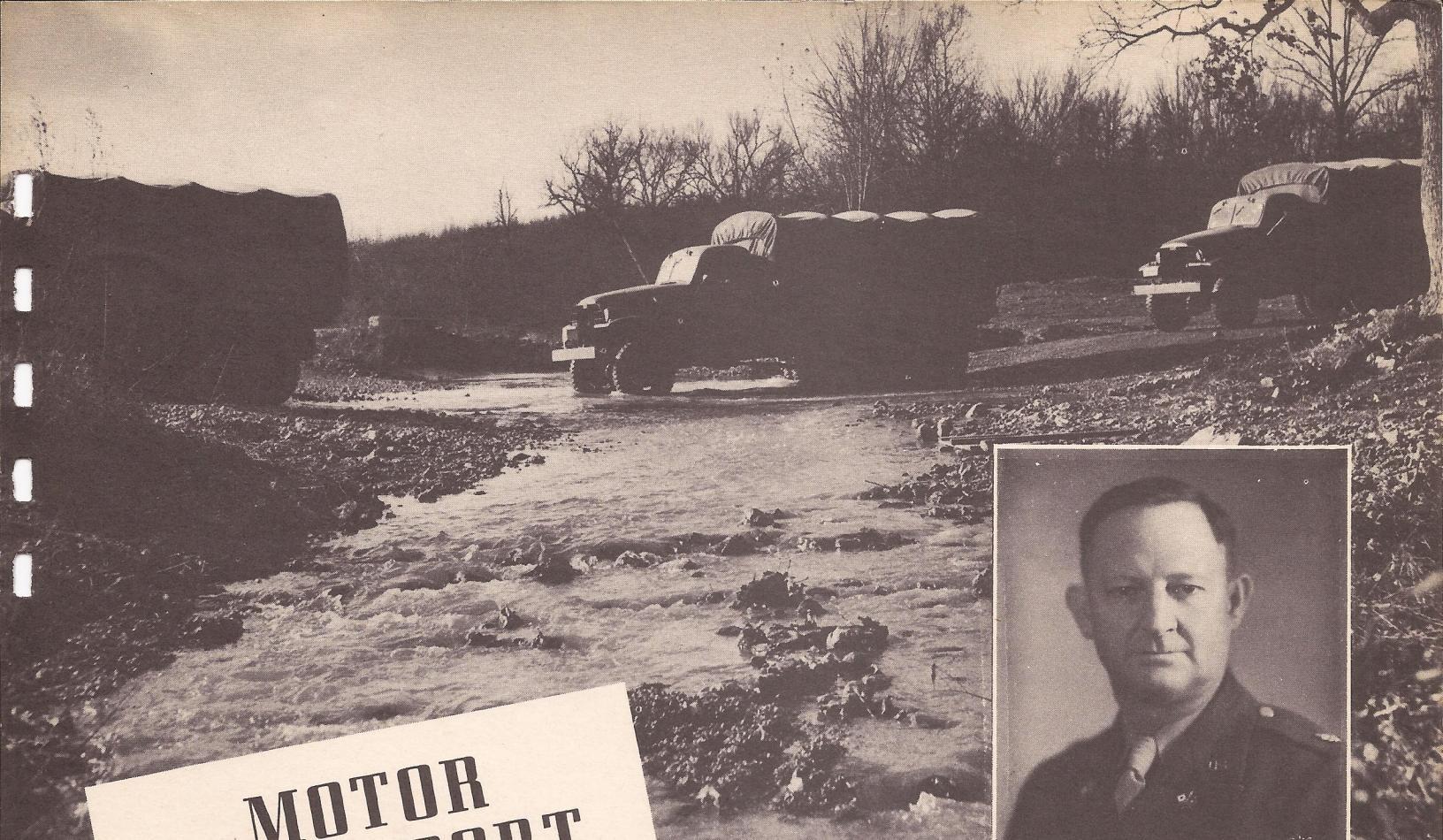
Thousands of typists and teletypists are required in the army. Typists are used in all administrative duties besides being necessary as Message Center Clerks, Code Clerks, Personnel Clerks, etc.

Teletypists are being used in increasing numbers in communications between field units and the War Department. Many typists and teletypists are trained at the Reception Center and sent out to become parts of tactical units.



Lt. W. Franzel,
CHIEF OF TYPIST AND
TELETYPEWRITER SCHOOL SECTION





MOTOR TRANSPORT



Lt. Colonel W. A. Briscoe,
CHIEF OF MOTOR TRANSPORTATION SECTION

Less spectacular than the airplane or tank, the automobile is just as vital to modern warfare. Motor Transport School trains the men who drive the trucks and other wheeled vehicles for the Signal Corps.

The course is thorough and complete, chauffeurs being trained to drive under all possible conditions.

Motor Transport School also trains the repairman who maintains the vehicles. Complete repair shops which are capable of schooling hundreds of students are always in operation and the students' knowledge of his subject comes from actual work upon motors.

MOTOR TRANSPORT

Problems of all kinds are simulated for the motor transport crews. Trucks are "stuck" in mud holes and lodged behind high banks . . . and with these problems, it is not "can" but "how".



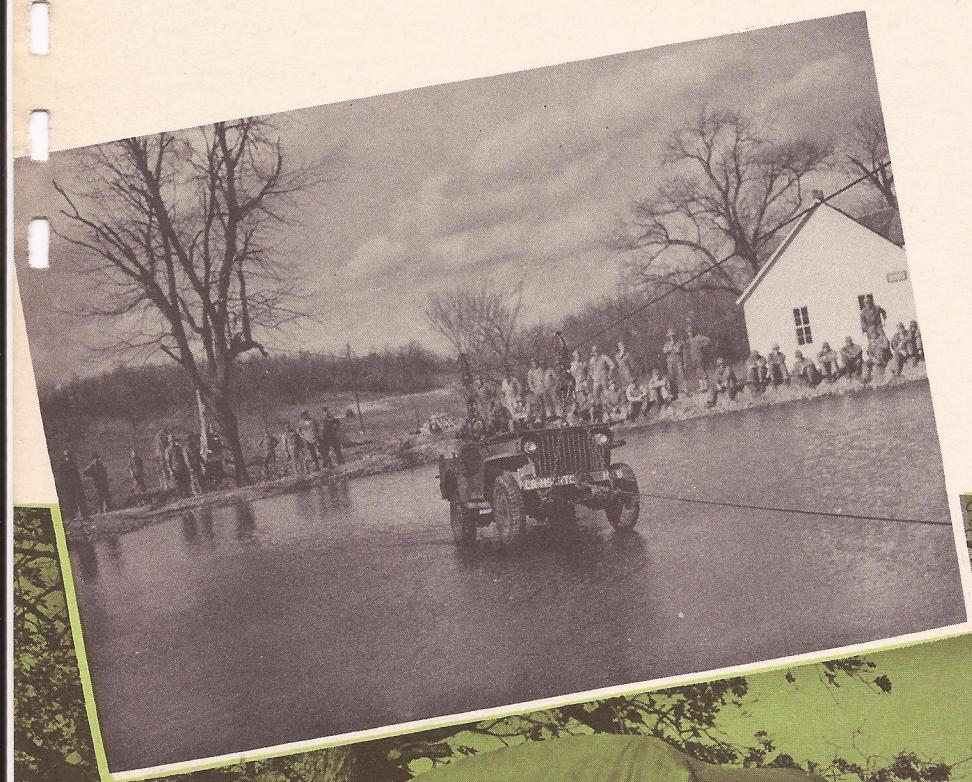
Getting motor transport equipment over bodies of water is just one of the many problems, and when the soldier completes his training in this branch of the service, he knows all of the tricks of "keeping 'em rolling."



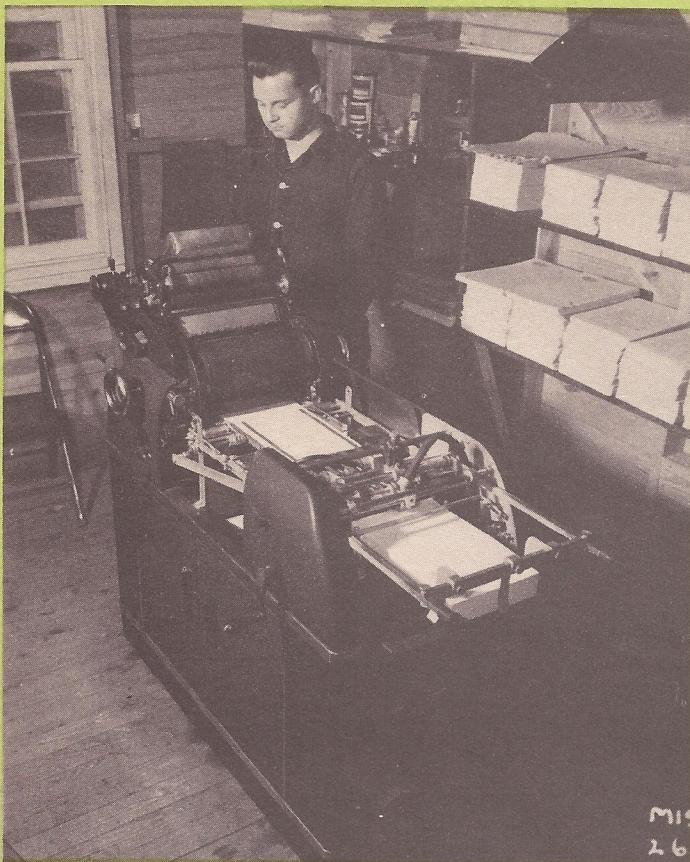
MOTOR TRANSPORT

Upon completion of his course the chauffeur or repairman is assigned to a field unit where he begins the practice of what he has learned.

By this time he has become skilled in his specialty and one of the first things he realizes is that he is an important cog in getting a valuable cargo through.



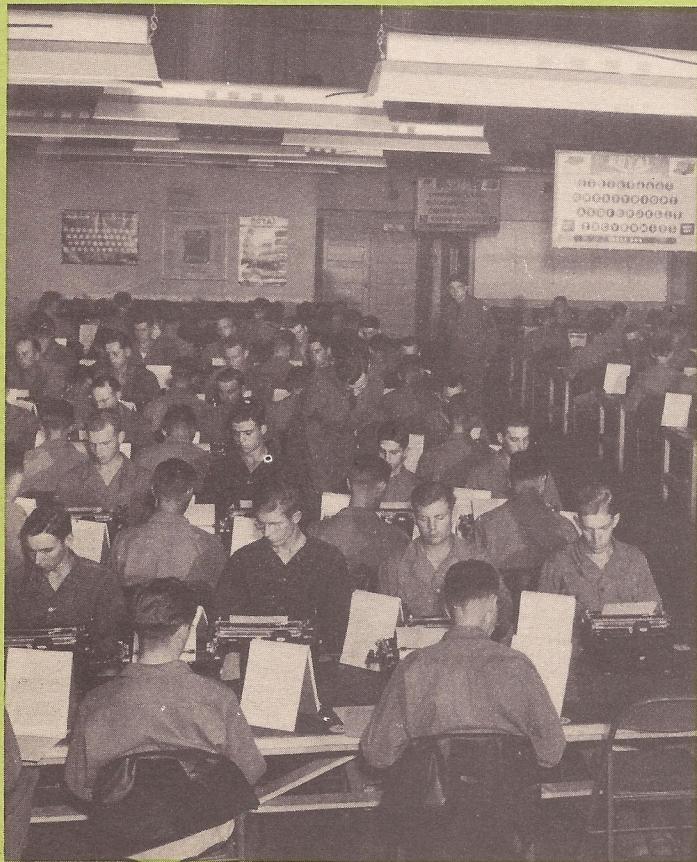
CLERK SCHOOL



Clerks are common to every branch of the Army. Huge machine that it is, it must be administered, supplied, recorded. For this purpose numerable clerks must be trained. They are the men



Capt. C. L. Tune,
CHIEF OF CLERK SECTION



who make it possible for the men who fight to make fighting a 24-hour job. Not that the clerks are safe "non-combatants." Clerks are necessary at the front as well as behind the lines, and they are soldiers who, if necessary, can pick up a rifle and give a good account of themselves.



COOK SCHOOL

CHOW! That familiar word is the sweetest music in the Army . . .

Napoleon's classic remark was that an army moves on its stomach. And anyone who has observed how rapidly the chow line forms with the call to mess will bear witness to the truth of his appraisal.

In the Replacement Center the 38th Battalion is the Cook's Training Section. Here men who have been cooks in civilian life and some few with no experience are trained in the specific art of military cooking.

There is no doubt but that our Army is the best fed in the world, and while the best possible food is supplied, there must be cooks to transform it into "chow."

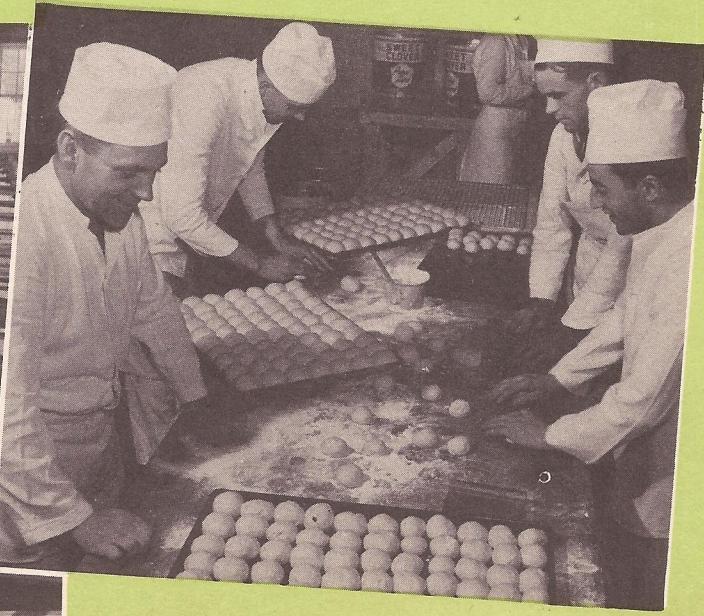
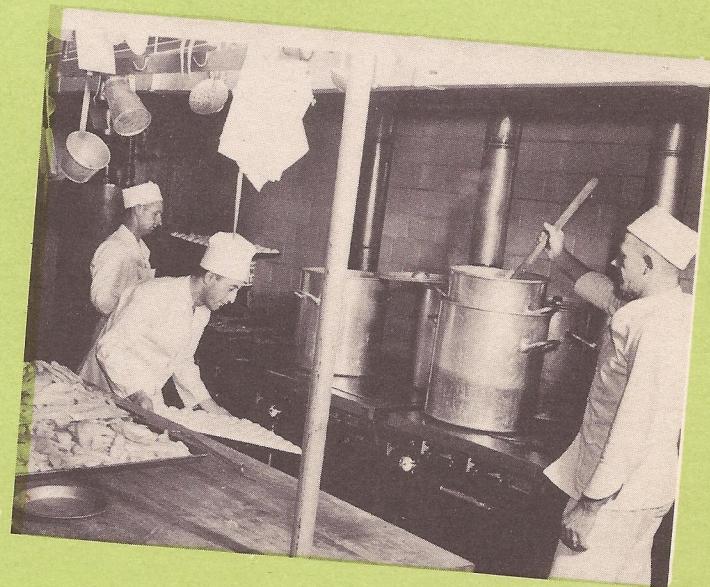
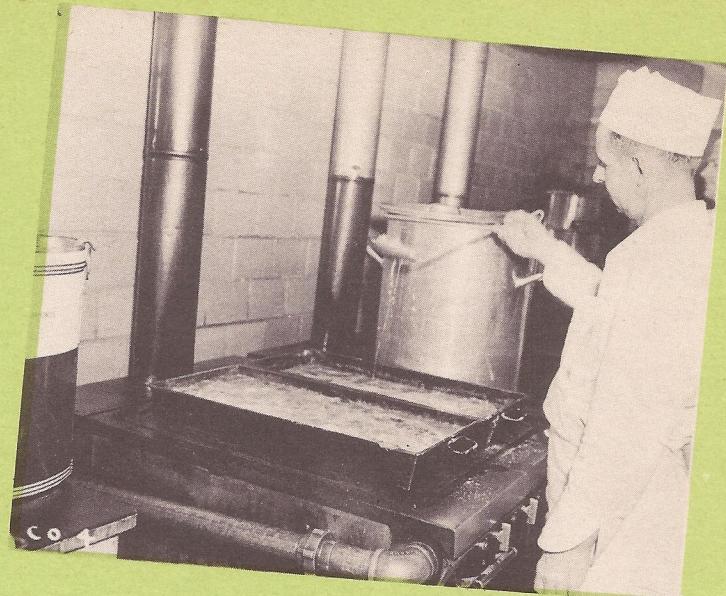


Capt. J. J. Timberlake,
CHIEF OF COOK'S SECTION

COOK SCHOOL

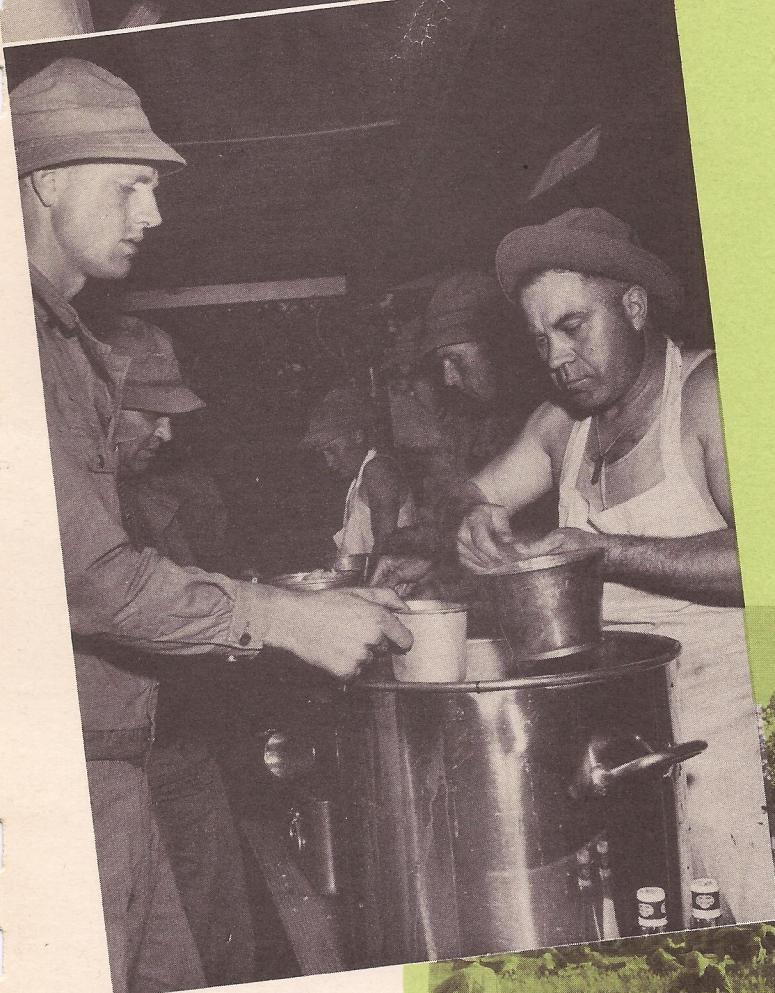
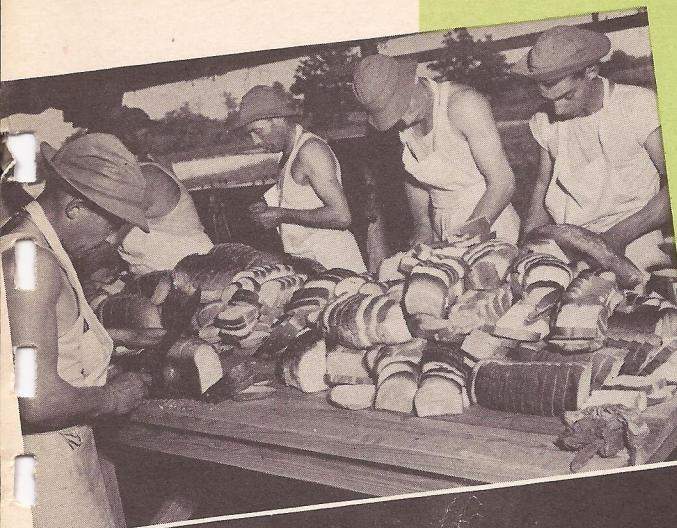
The Army Cook must be trained to prepare large quantities of food in a short period of time and yet keep the meal well balanced.

The cook's section has a perfect laboratory for its training . . . the mess halls of the Replacement Center companies.



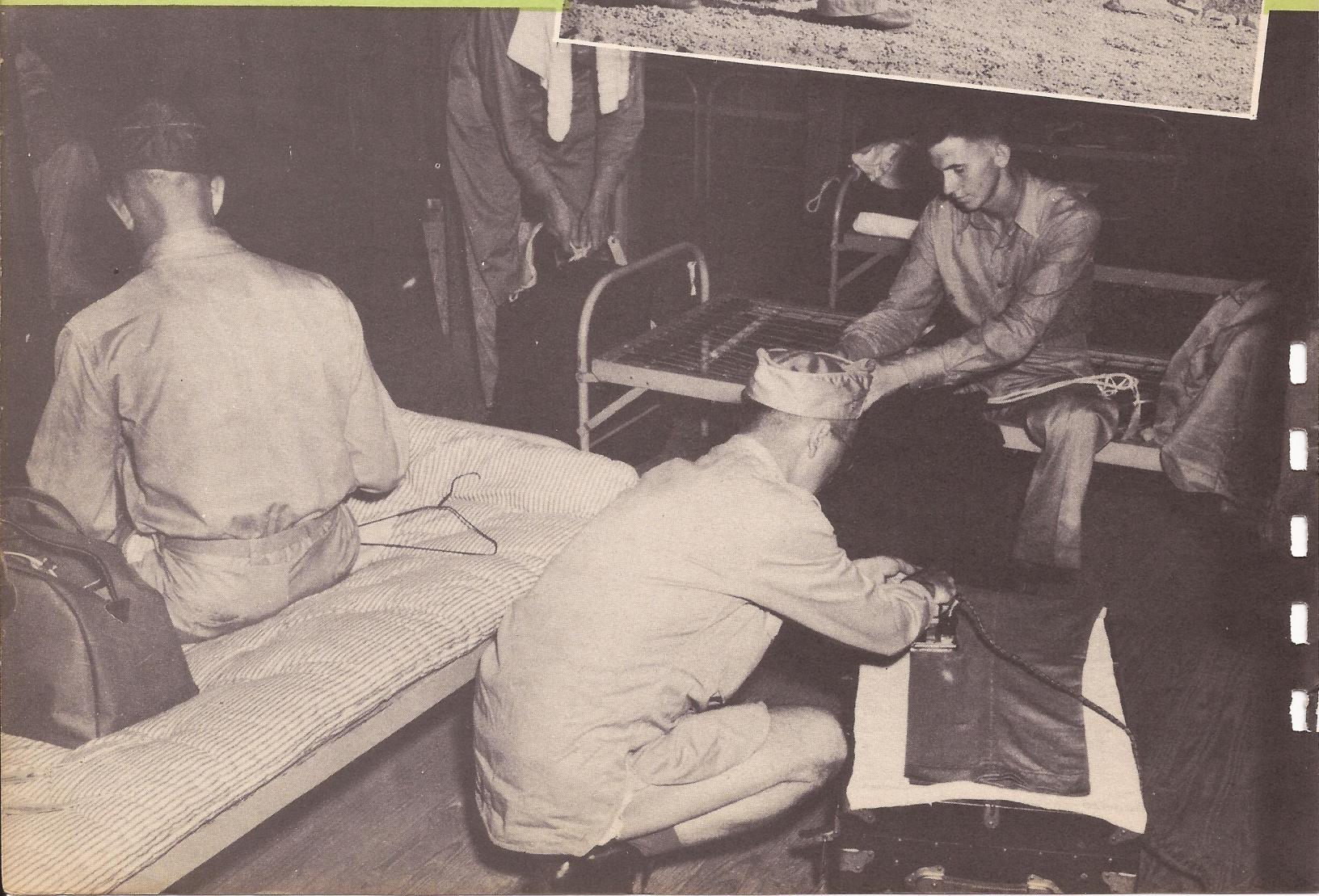
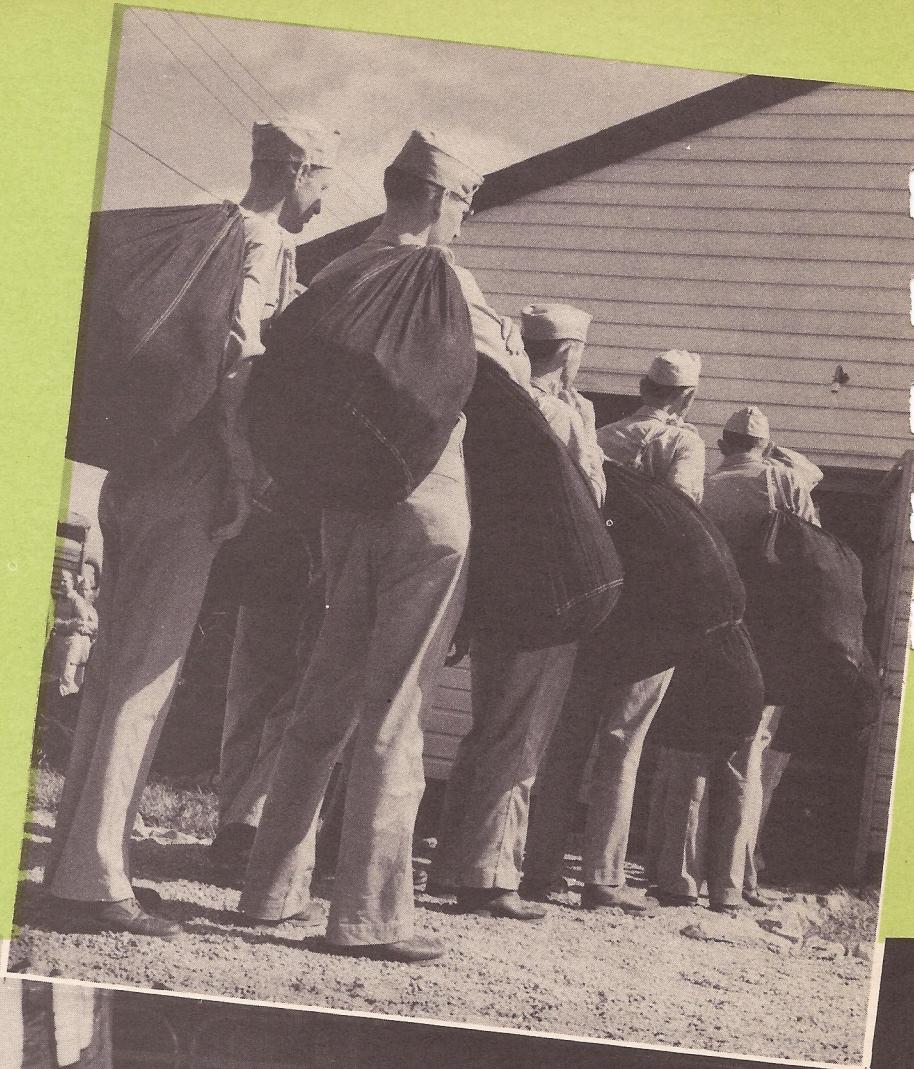
COOK SCHOOL

All of the Army cooks work is not inside the mess hall . . . on many occasions mess must be prepared out in the open either in a bivouac, or while an army is on the move . . . but the cook is trained to have mess ready even under the most adverse conditions . . . and the soldiers will be waiting for that . . . "CHOW."



ADVANCED TRAINING SECTION

For those who show special aptitude in leadership, Advanced Training offers possibilities of a commission. Here selected men are trained in Signal Corps fundamentals and those with the most marked ability are sent to the Officer Candidate Schools.





ADVANCED TRAINING SECTION



Capt. R. R. Hall,
CHIEF OF ADVANCED TRAINING SECTION

Advanced Training is highly competitive, and only one out of three men who enter the school are selected for further training. But even for those who fail to make the grade, it has been valuable. They come out schooled non-commissioned officers who will be invaluable in the field. Although drill is far from being the only means of judging a man's leadership, it is considered an important index and is stressed. Each man is given command of a platoon several times during the course and is marked on how he conducts it.

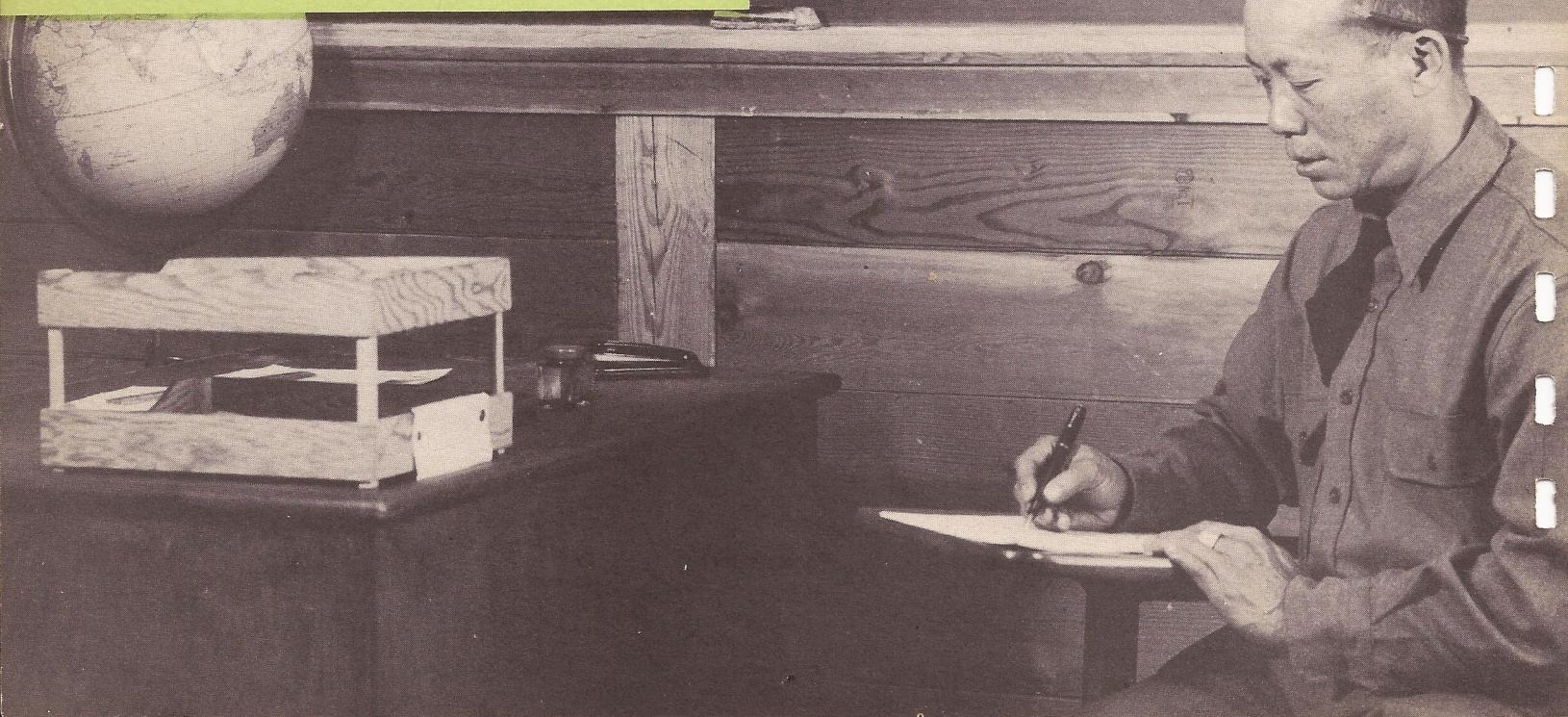
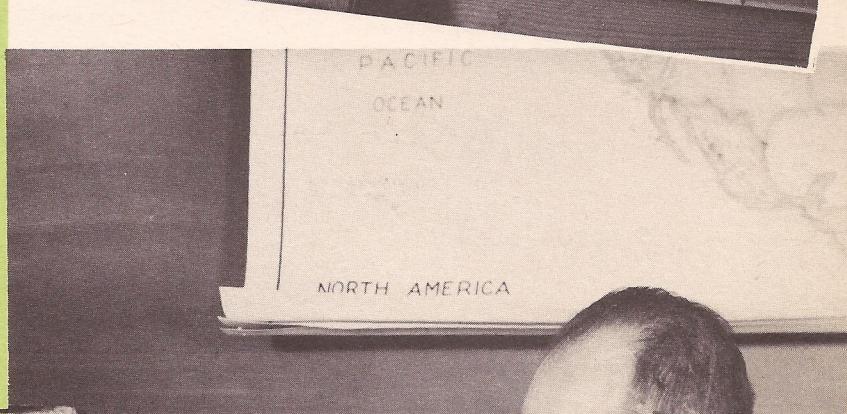
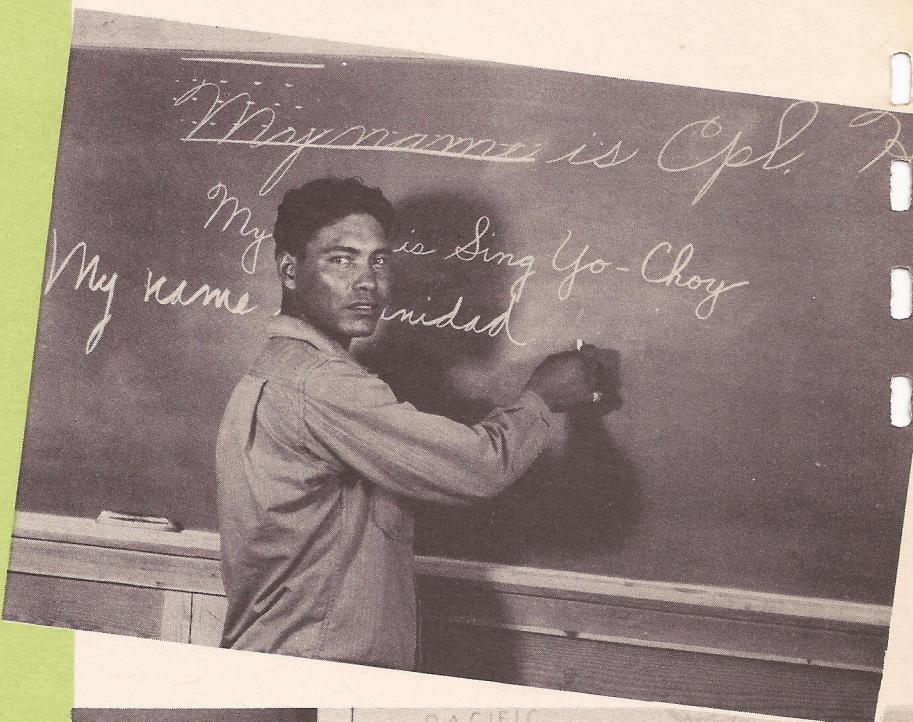
Other methods of judging the calibre of a man is how well he is thought of by his fellows, his scholastic ability, and the cleanliness and neatness of his appearance.

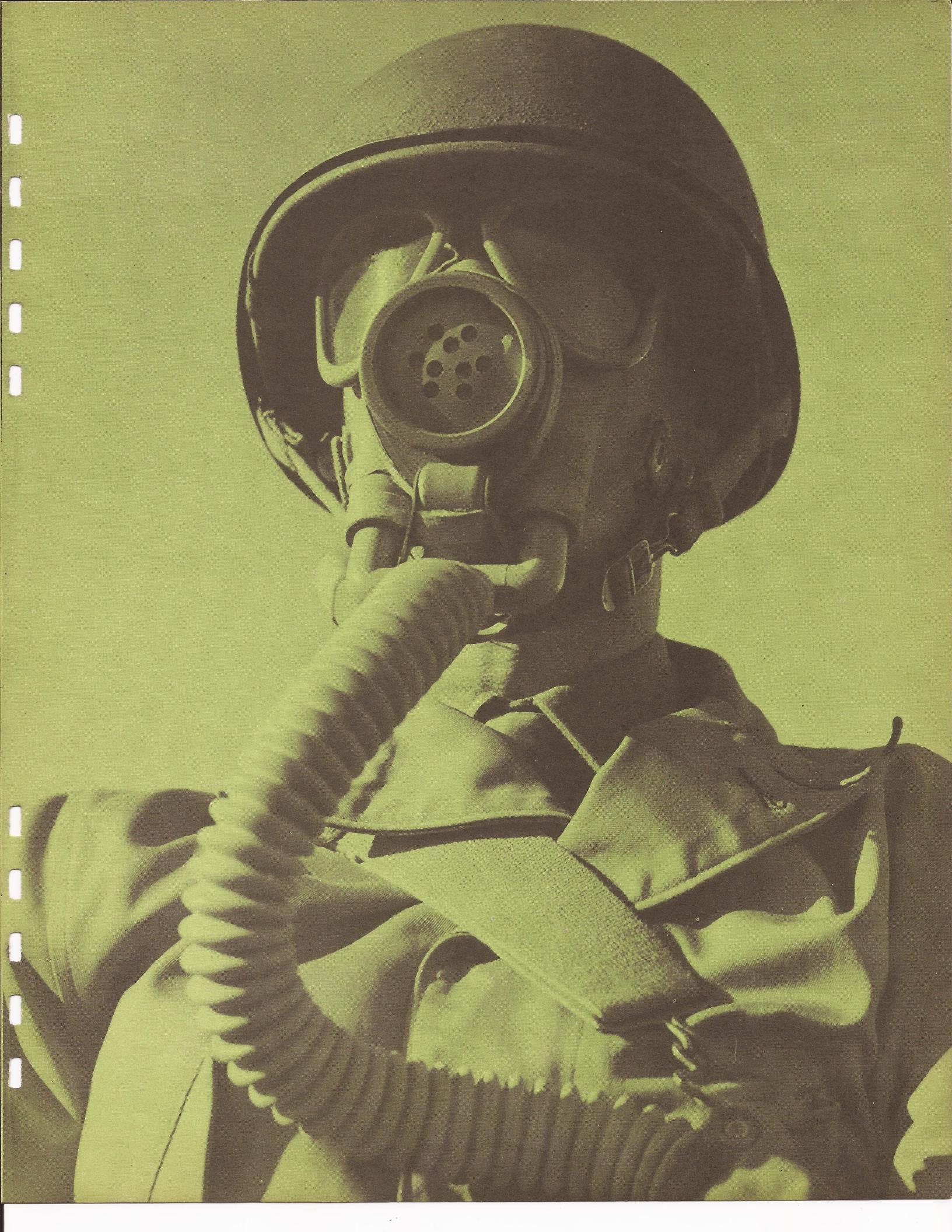
SPECIAL TRAINING UNIT



*Capt. Vincent J. Morea,
CHIEF OF SPECIAL TRAINING UNIT*

Literate country though America is, there are still those who are unable to read or write. The Special Training Unit functions for these and for those foreign born who have not as yet mastered English. Here the Army puts on the dress of the school marm and brings them up to date in their 'reading, writing and arithmetic,' so that they are better able to pursue the specialist courses offered in the Replacement Center.







COMPANY LIFE

Focal point of Army life is the company. It is the unit which feeds the soldier, clothes him, houses him. In his basic phase it is where he receives his training. In a sense, the company is like the family with the company commander occupying the position of head of the household.

Life in the company is just what the soldier, individually, makes it . . . He develops a routine of living just as he would were he in civilian life, although everything he does in the Army is on schedule. Through the medium of his company, each soldier develops a routine of life.

BARRACKS

The barracks that the soldiers live in are no make-shift affairs. Solidly constructed, they are well heated, well ventilated, with showers and hot and cold running water. So long as the soldier does not insist upon "Swank" he will find his new home more than adequate.

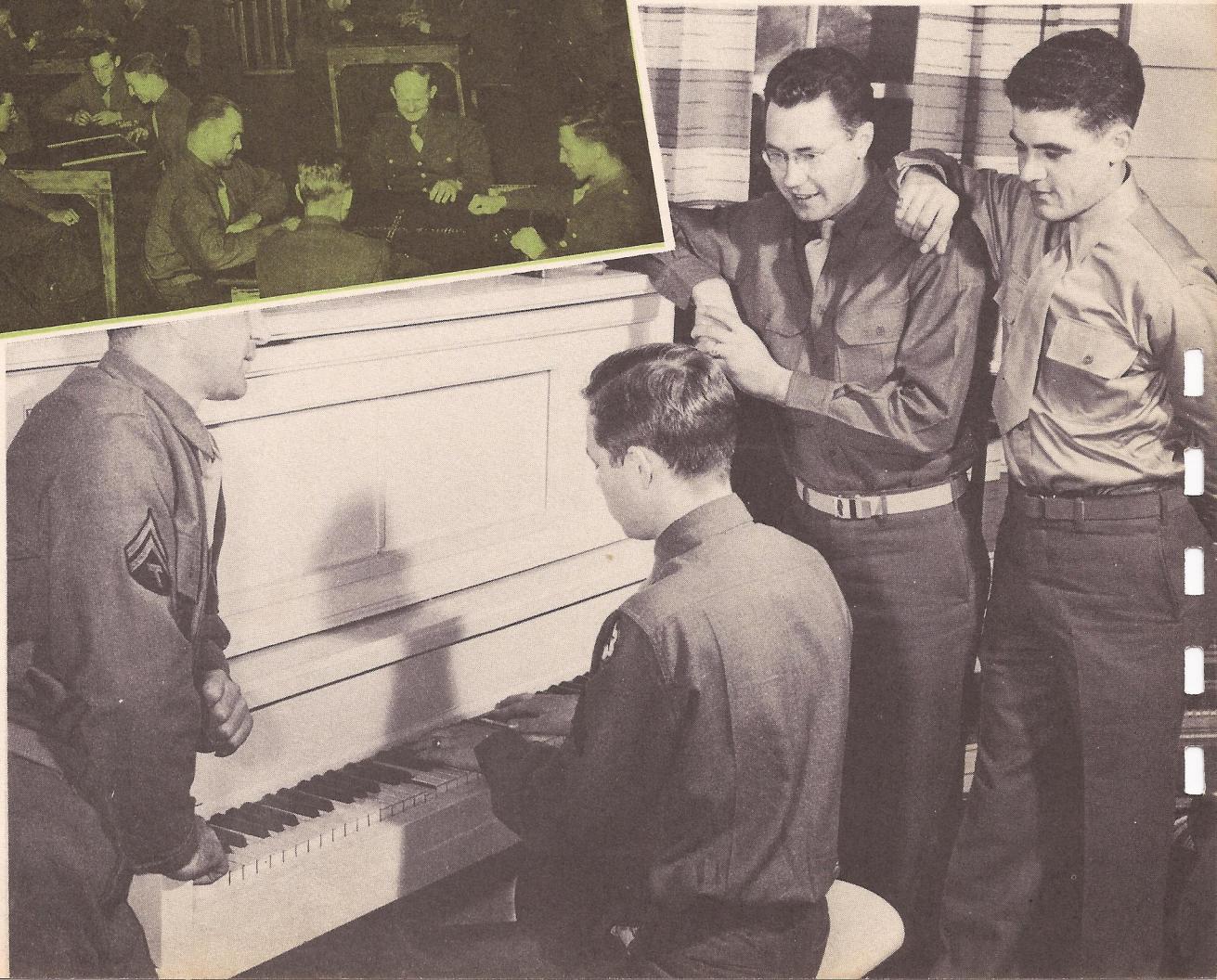
Many an army "bull session" has originated with a group just sitting on their bunks thinking out loud of the days back home . . .



DAY ROOMS

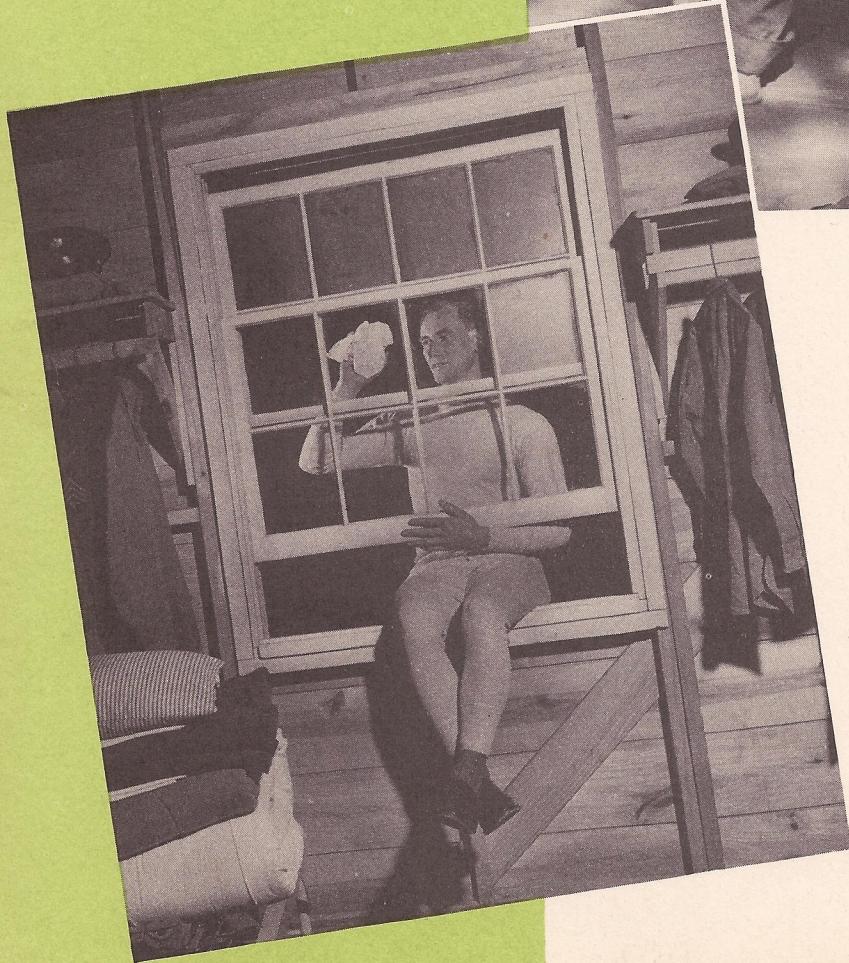
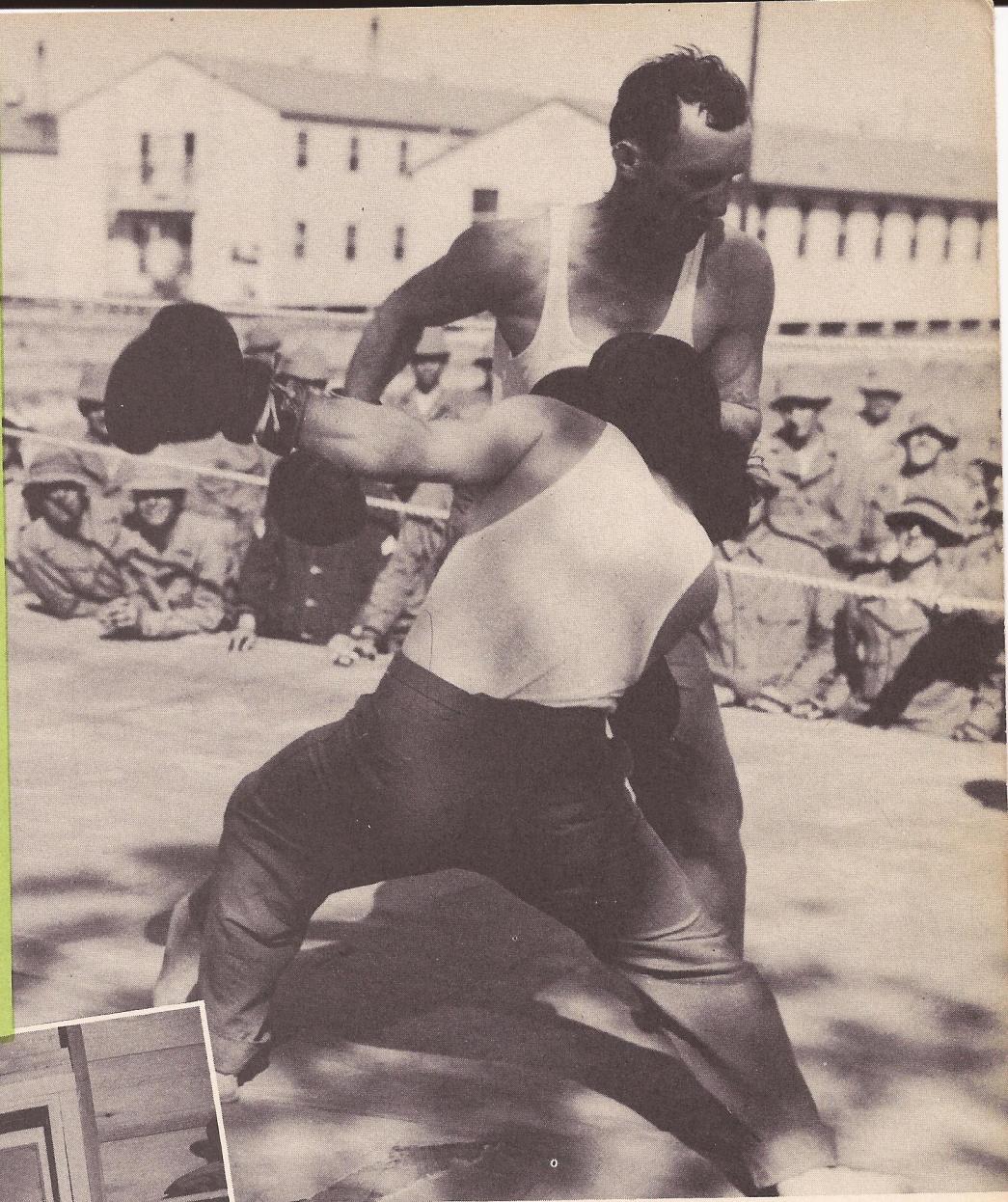
For the recreation of the soldier each company has its own day room. Here, if he wishes, he can come on an evening to read, or perhaps to write a letter home.

If he is in a more strenuous mood ping pong and pool are available. Or if he merely wishes to talk he will find those who are only too willing to while away an evening discussing this subject or that.

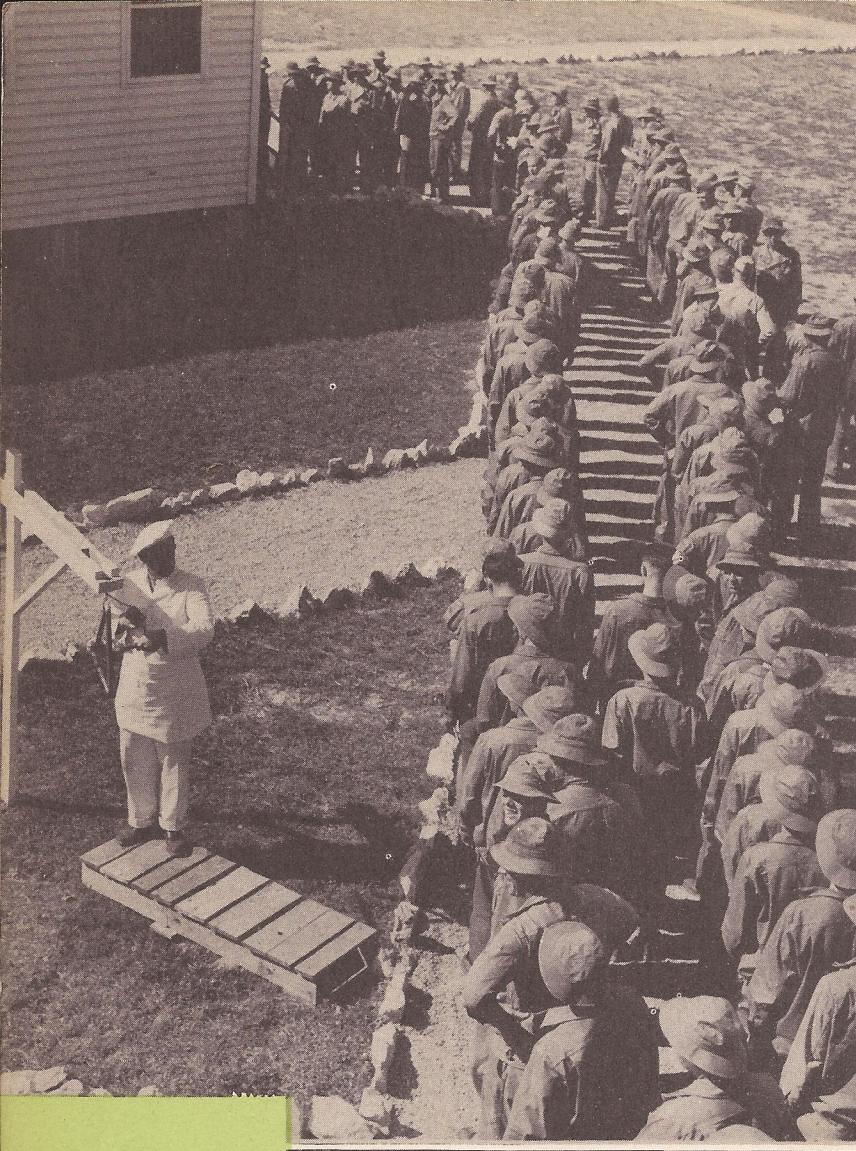


COMPANY LIFE

In the company the soldier forms his friendships. Men who have known each other for only a few days acquire an attitude towards each other which in civilian life would have taken months. It is only natural that this should be. Communal life lends itself to the creation of strong bonds. Sleeping



close to each other, standing mail call together, receiving the same pay, possessors of the same problems, each is able to participate in the emotions of the other.



CHOW TIME

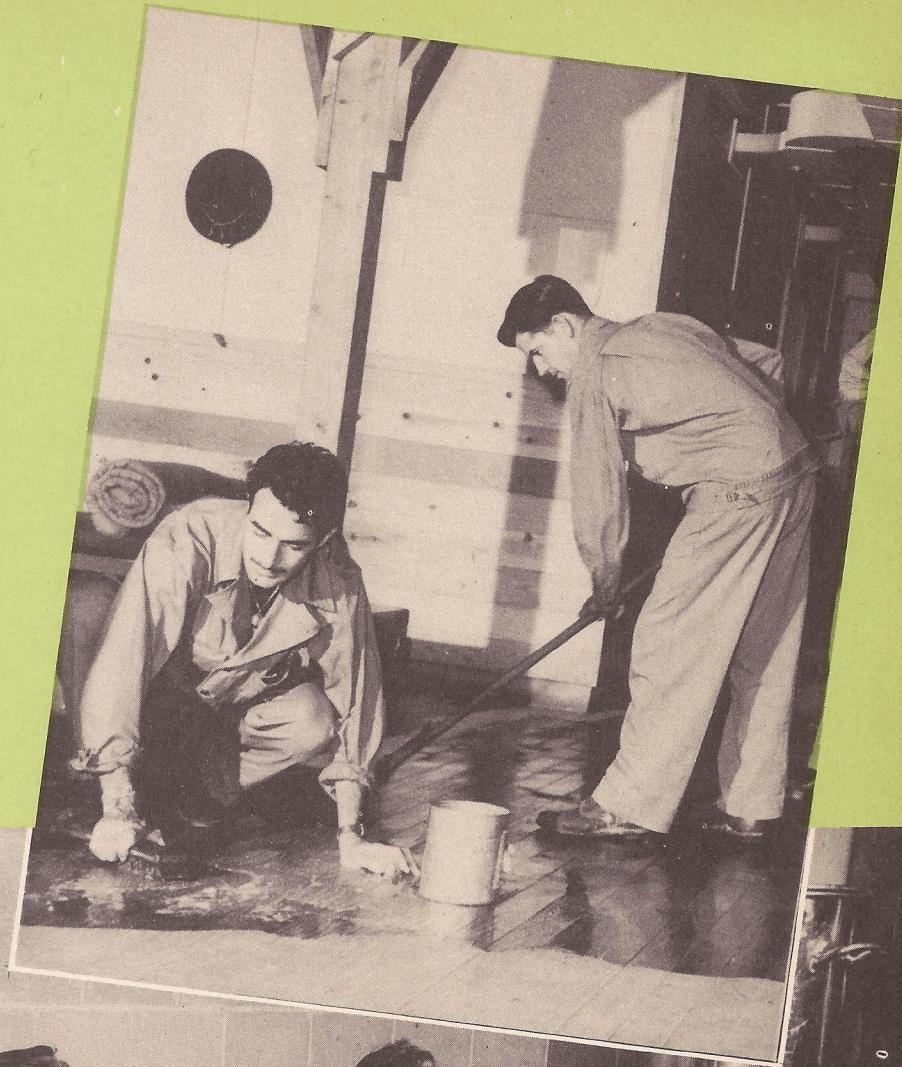
Chow time is one of the most important parts of the soldiers' day. Chow is always looked forward to eagerly . . . and it is one of the most widely discussed subjects in the Army . . . the big mystery . . . what'll be on the chow list for tonight.



K. P.

K.P. . . . One of the oldest ghosts of the Army . . . the horrors of the recruit . . . the brunt of many an Army joke . . . the new private and K.P.

But everything has its compensation. It is really one of the truly wonderful feelings to know that you have done your K.P. for the month and ahead of you are thirty K.P.-less days until K.P. rolls around again.



THE BAND

Military music is an art in itself and an important art to the soldier. There is something about marching to the music of a band which makes one feel vital and alive. A bandless parade is like a talking picture without dialogue.

And so the Replacement Center has its own band which turns out for all important occasions. Led by Master Sergeant W. Pilkington, twenty-eight strong, it has some of the best band and orchestral talent in the country.

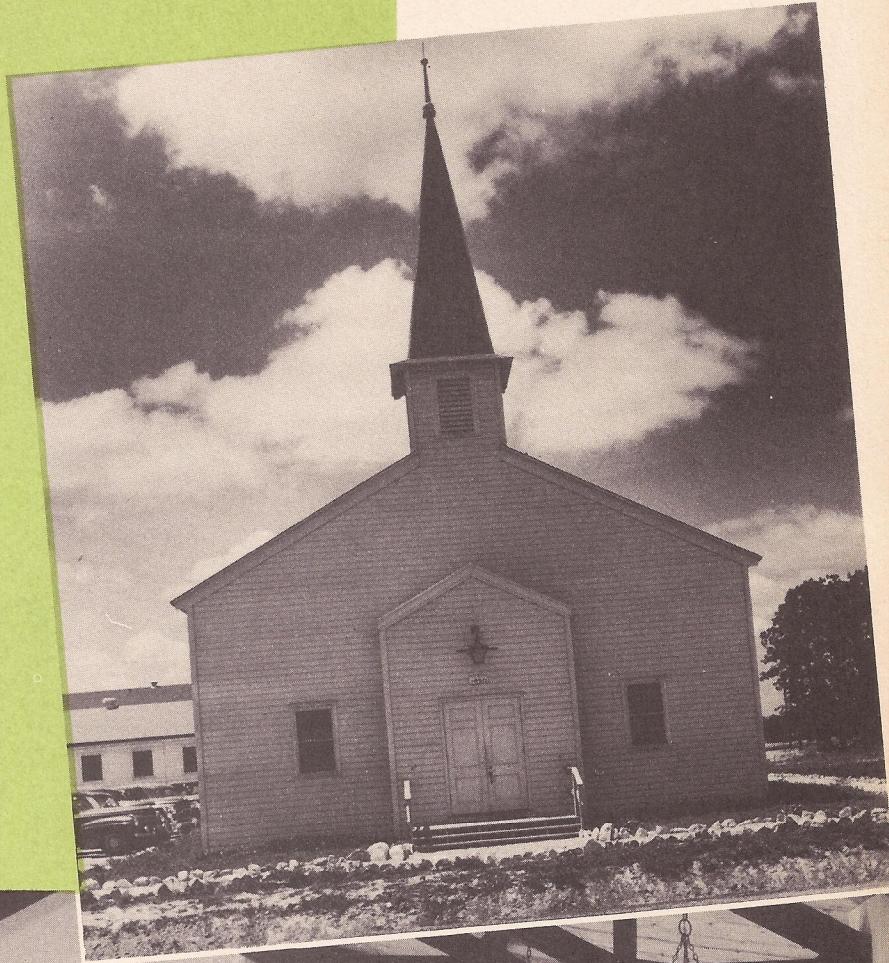


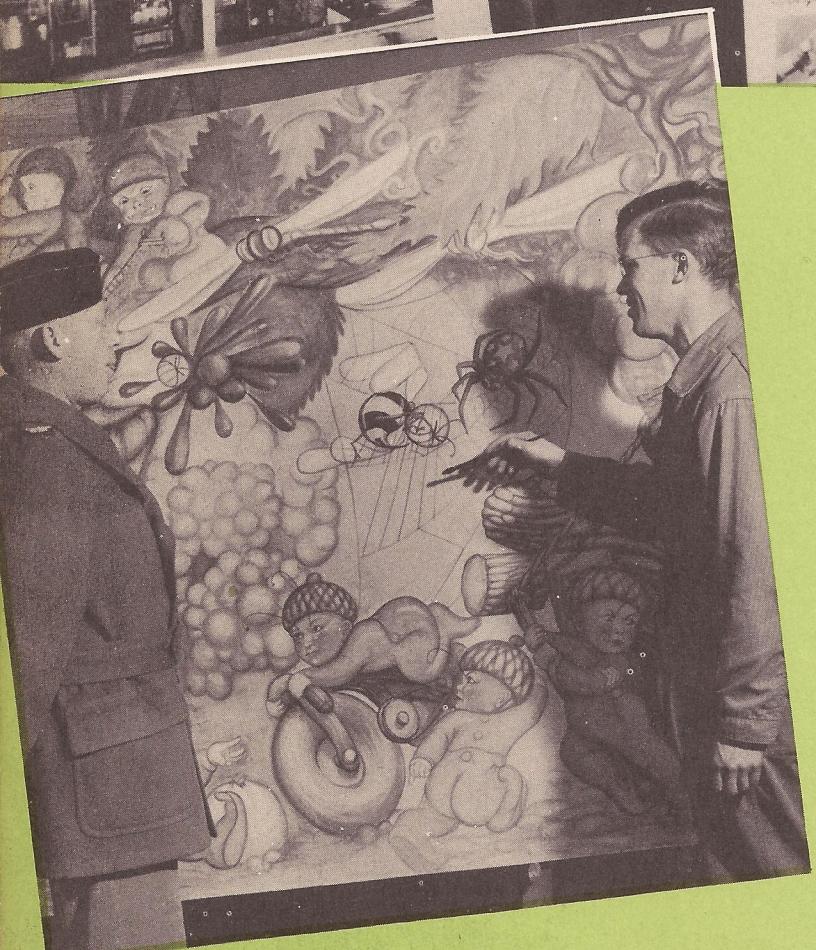
CHAPEL

Sunday the melodic bugle call that signifies church, sounds all morning. Catholic and Protestant arise and go to their respective services. Chaplains officiate, and if the soldier wishes he may consult them concerning his individual problems.

Jewish services are held Friday night, and men of that faith are encouraged to attend their services then.

The chapels are all constructed according to the same plan so that they may be adapted to the services of any denomination.





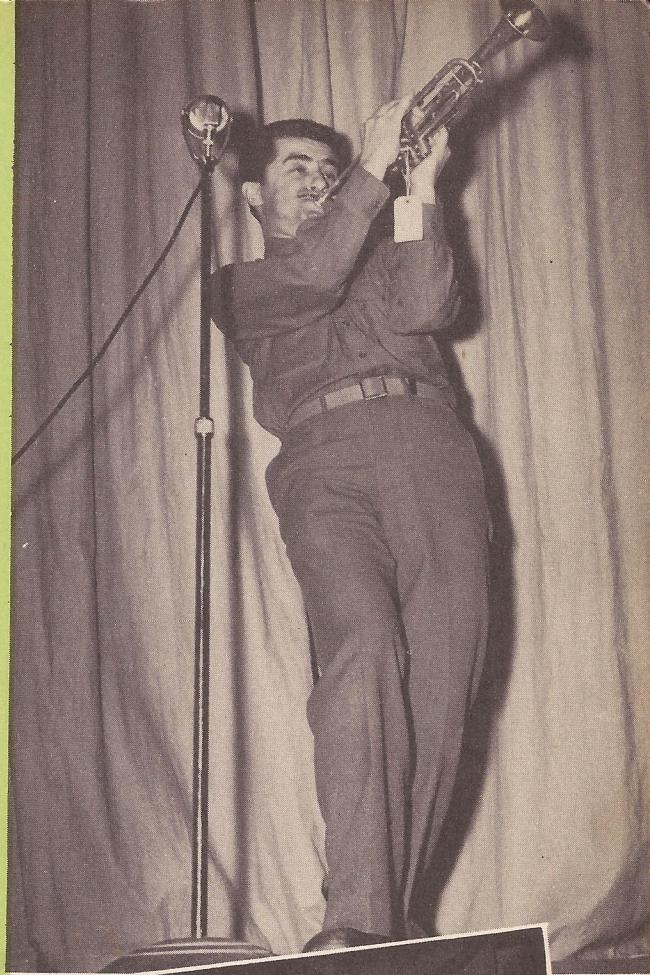
CAMP ART

Those who were artists in civilian life can 'keep their hand in' at the Art Workshop. Both purely creative work and work useful in the training program is turned out. Several artists are assigned to the shop permanently.

ENTERTAINMENT

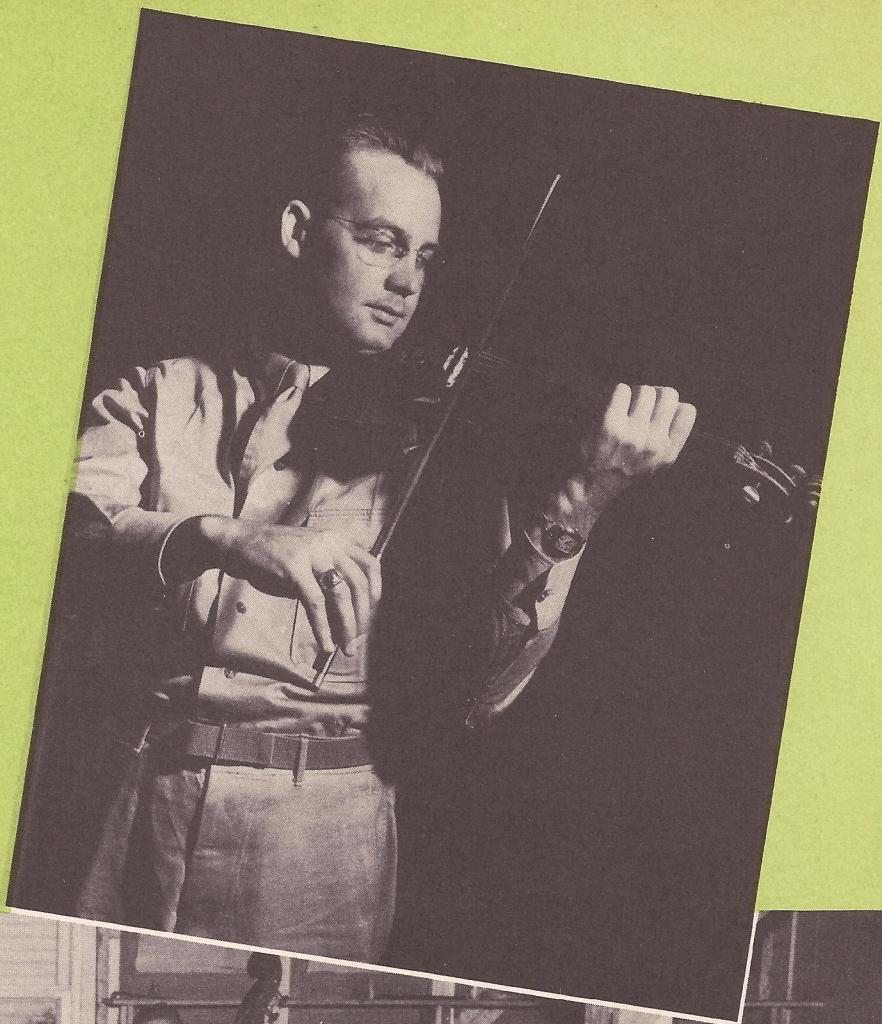
Sometimes walking along one of Crowder's streets in the evening near some Recreation Hall you will hear the sound of music. And then you know that one of the Regiments or Battalions is giving a dance.

If you enter the hall, you will see a swirling mass of soldiers and girls moving rhythmically to the dance tune. And if you should decide to stay awhile, later on you will be amused by an excellent 'floor show' whose talent has been recruited from the men themselves.



MUSICAL

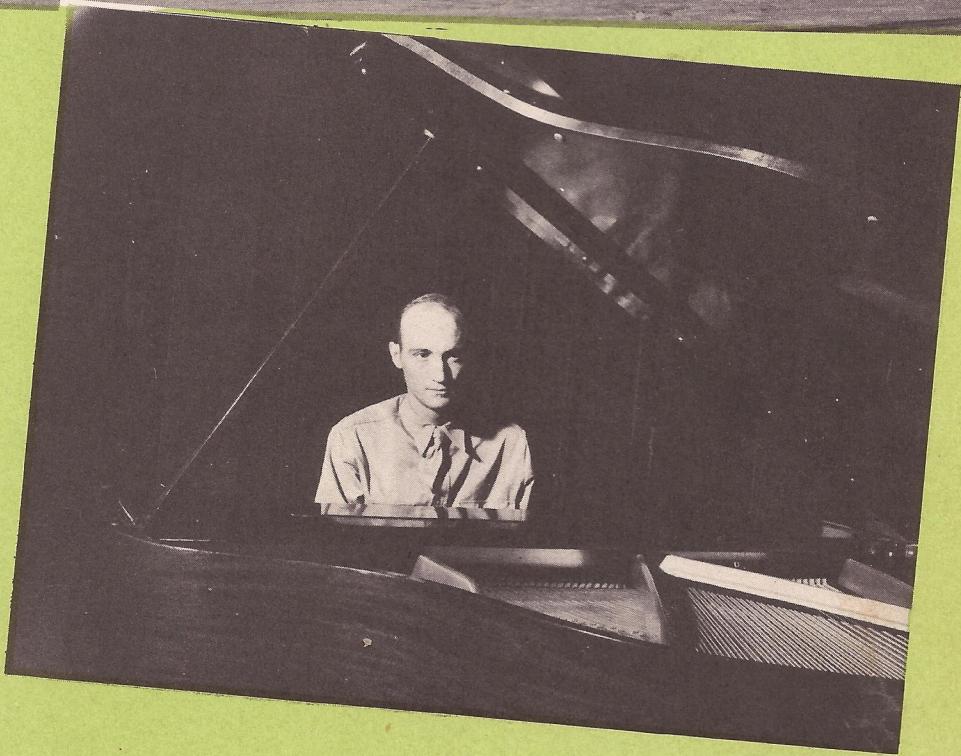
For those who like to listen to music as well as dance to it, there are musicals. The Replacement Center has had its share of well-known musicians who have received their army training here and these men have been only too glad to perform for their comrades.

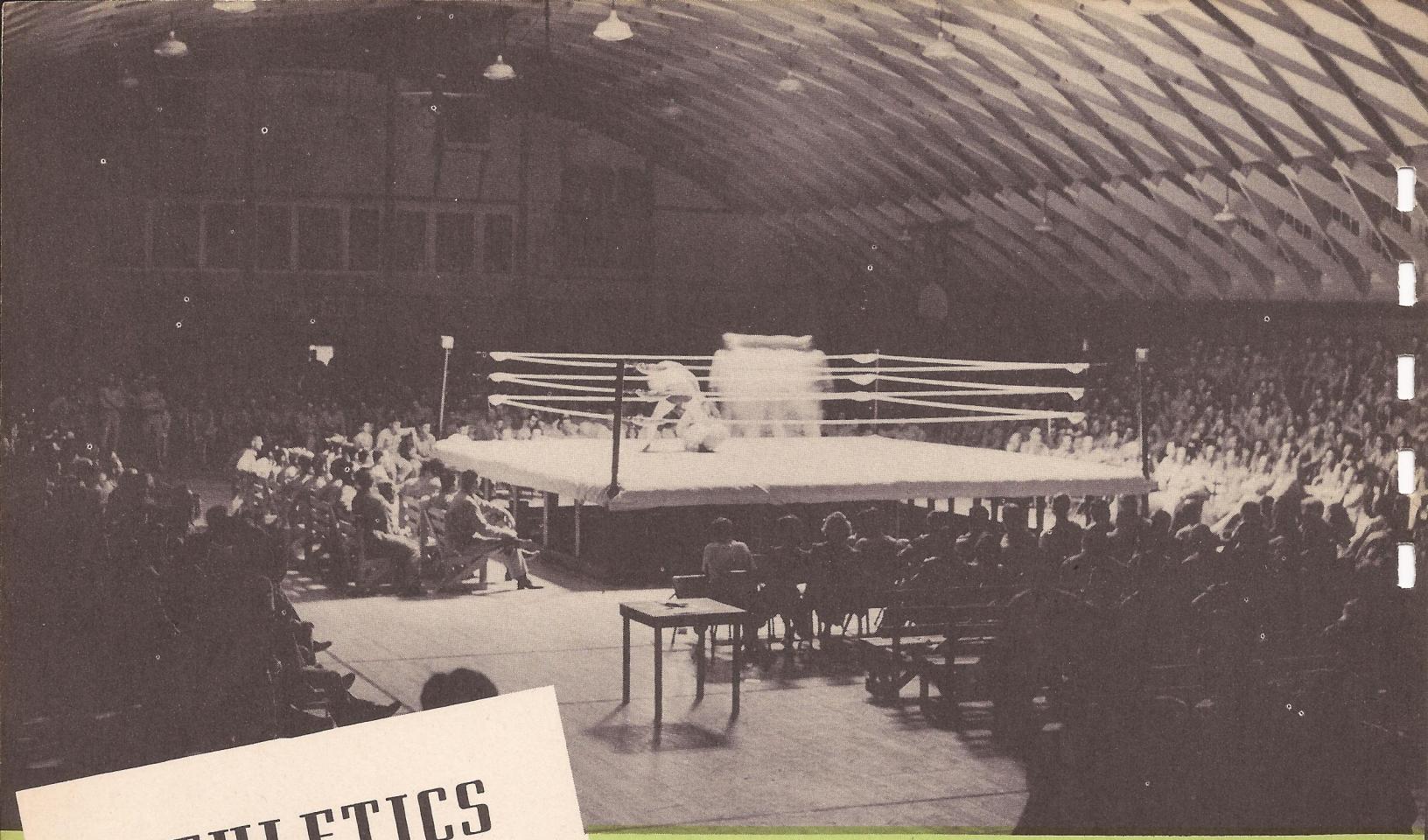




ACTIVITIES

In the evening if the soldier is bored, if a company day room does not suffice, there is always the movies or perhaps a play or show is being done at one of the War Department theaters. Almost every type of entertainment is provided for soldiers so that as much as possible each may have the sort that fits in his particular tastes.





ATHLETICS

Sports rank second only to the movies in popular interest throughout the United States. It is only logical, therefore, that an adequate sports program should have been developed for the soldiers.

At the Replacement Center the Athletic Department arranges inter-company and inter-regimental sports schedules, secures equipment, and arranges competition with teams from other posts.

Baseball, Touch Football, Track and Field meets, Basketball, Tennis, Handball, and many other sports are scheduled.

Competition at an Army camp is keen. The spirit in the company is largely responsible for that. Each soldier feels that his outfit is superior, and he will play his heart out on the Softball diamond or Football field to prove it.

Numerous top-notch boxing and wrestling matches have been scheduled at the huge Field House at Crowder and these matches always draw a packed house. The Golden Gloves boxing tournament is one of the most popular sports events held at the camp. Inter-regimental track and field meets have been very popular with the men.

Intercompany and inter-regimental matches in all kinds of athletics are very popular. Besides developing a keen competitive spirit among the soldiers, such contest builds up the physique better than most any form of exercise.





Many athletes who have distinguished themselves in college and high school athletics make their appearance in the various companies.

All American football players and other top notch athletes have gone through the training program at the Replacement Training Center. Dick Crayne, All American back from Iowa, is in one of the companies, as is Richard Barthelomew, famed ice skating champion from Minneapolis, who has continued his long string of ice skating victories from Camp Crowder.

Track meets, both inter-regiment and intercompany bring out many former athletes, and a lot of keen competition.

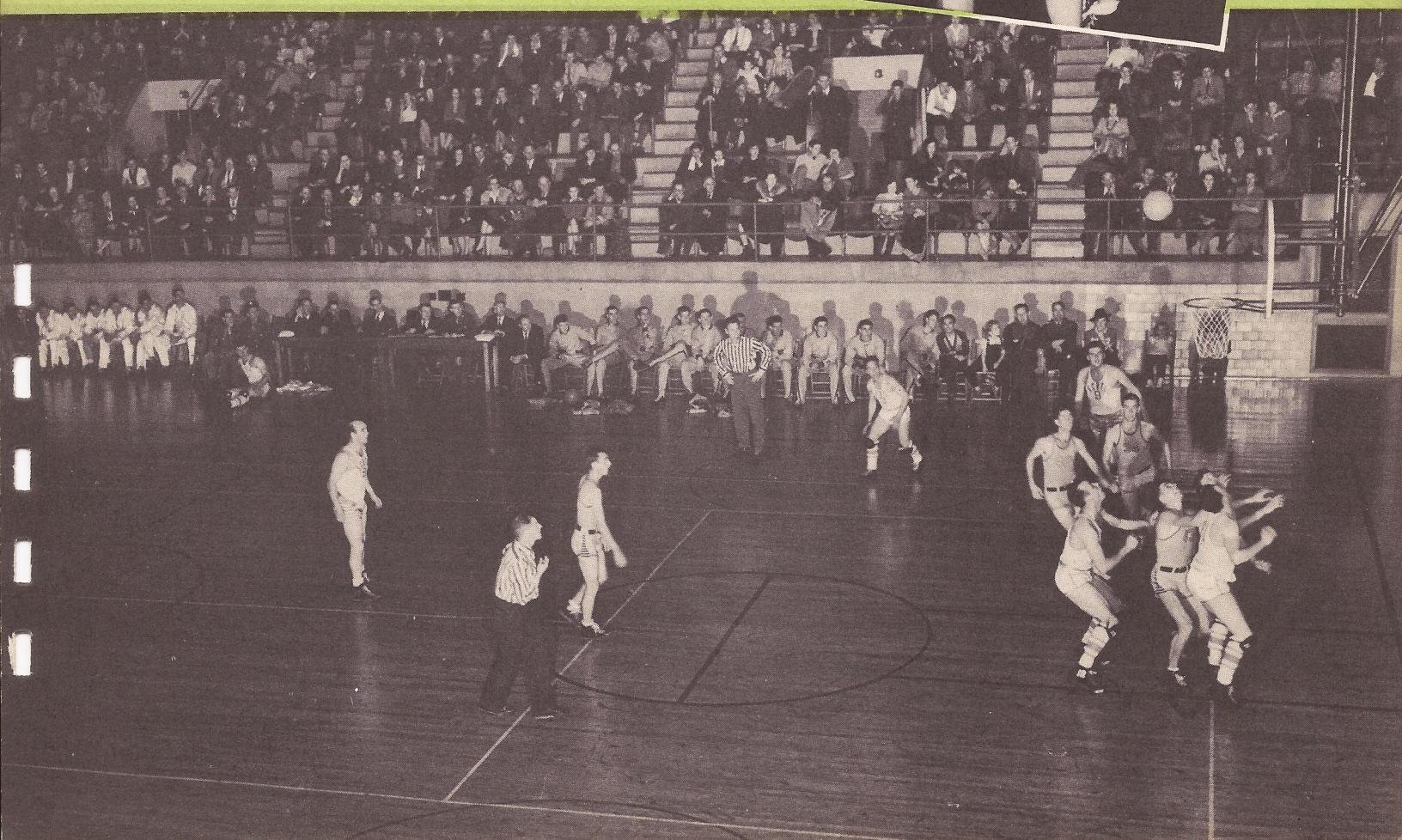
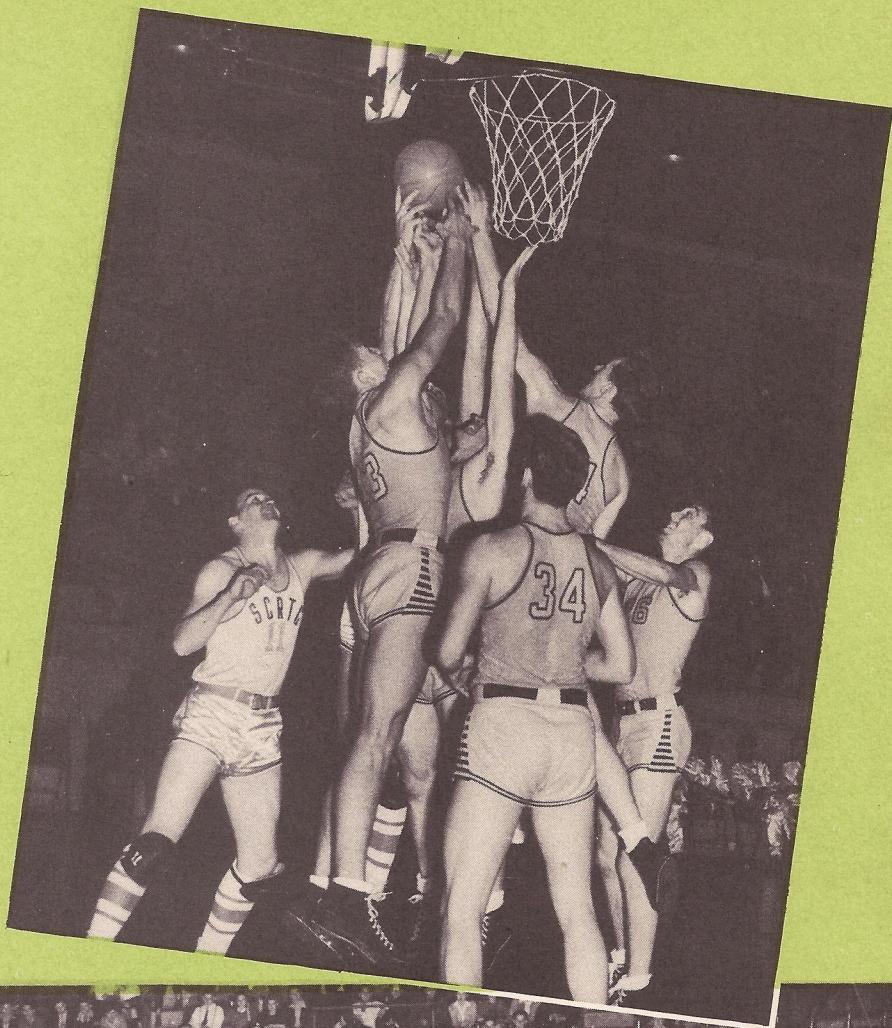


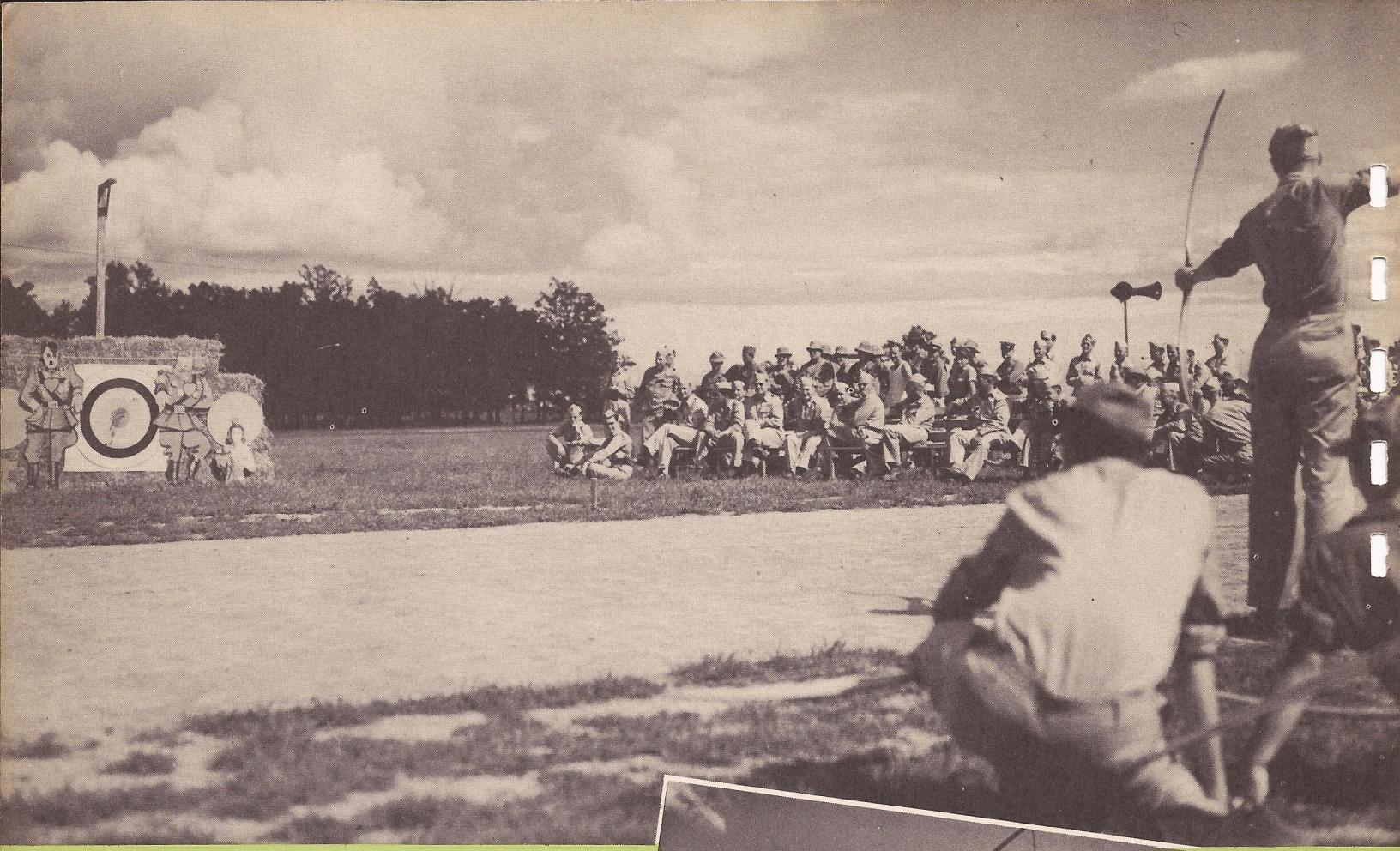
ATHLETICS

Basket-ball, in army camps, as well as in civilian life, provides the keenest competition and has the most participants of any sport.

Besides the company and regimental teams, a Camp Crowder team is selected which plays outside college teams during the basket-ball season.

The action on this page was taken at the game between Camp Crowder and Kansas State Teachers College during the last season.

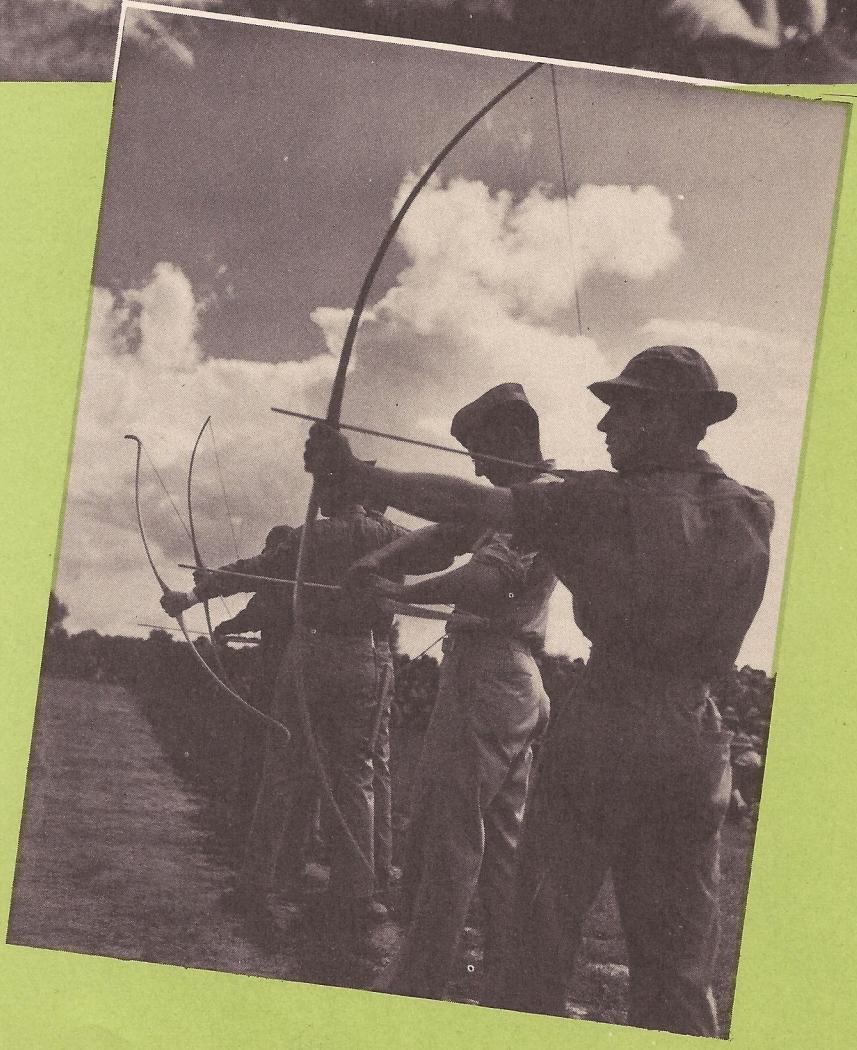




ATHLETICS

No matter what sort of an athletic contest is staged at Camp Crowder there is a large audience. An athletic program sufficient to replace the competitive desires of the majority of men is carefully planned.

Archery is a popular sport in the army, and through the ranks are many experts.

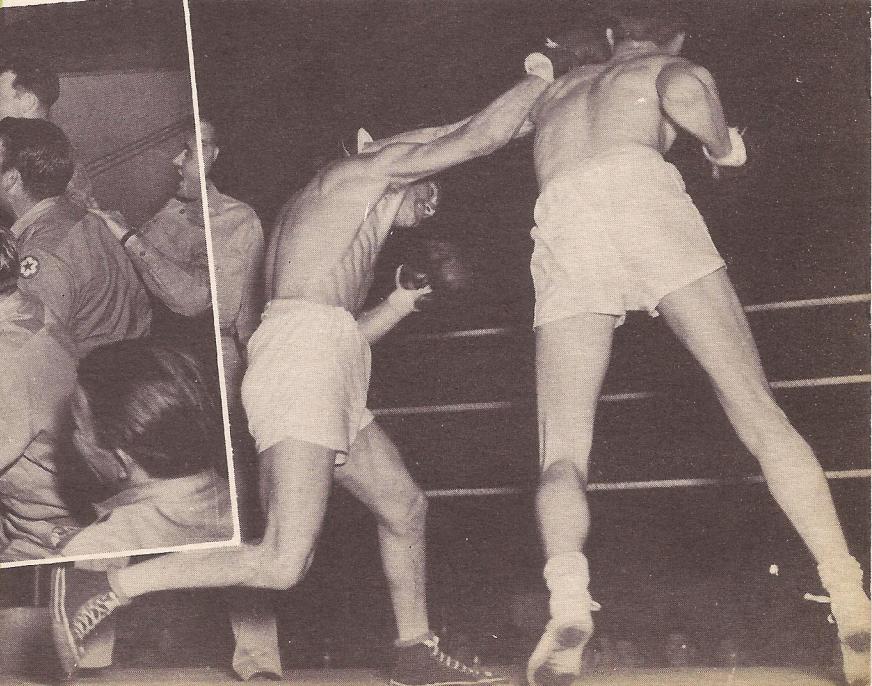
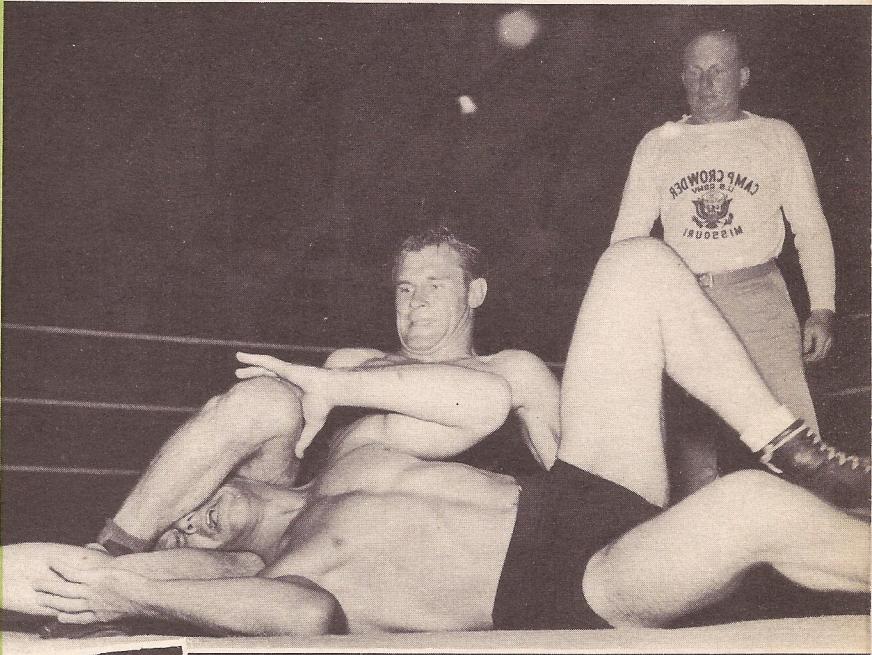
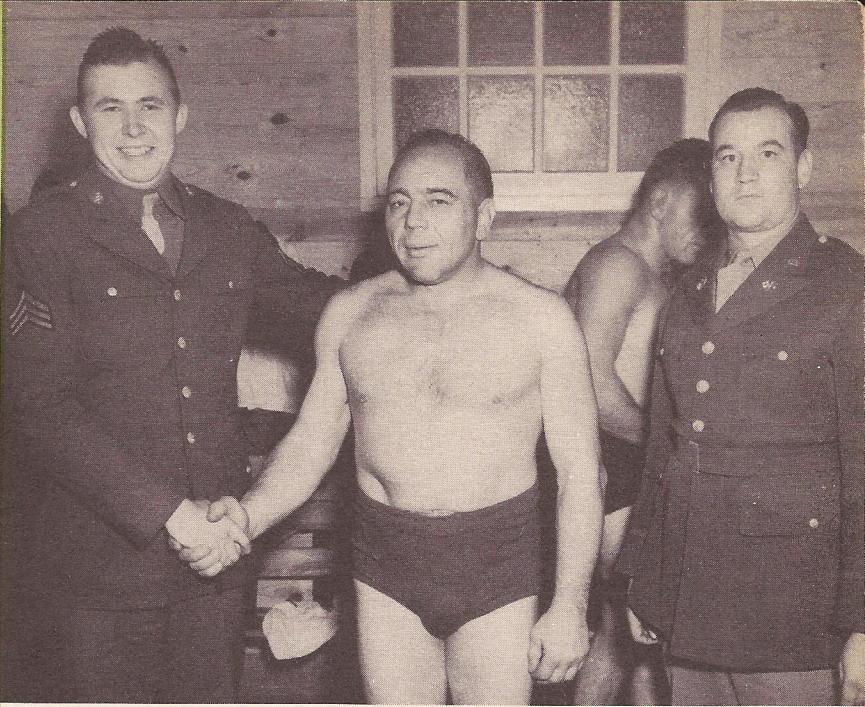


Many a top-notch wrestling match has been held in the Camp Crowder fieldhouse. And a number of top wrestlers have been found in the ranks.

Boxing is urged more and more by the war department for it is through such training that many of the defensive and offensive tactics of individual combat warfare are formulated.

A well-rounded athletic program is considered one of the best aids to high morale, and well as most important to the training program.

As in civilian life, victory calls for the proverbial banquet . . . in the army its a special chow.





ON PARADE

With the possible exception of retreat, the review is the most beautiful ceremony in the army. And when a review and retreat are coupled together, it surpasses anything else that the army has to offer.

The band marches first leading the companies. The men move in time to the music. The companies line up across the field and stand at attention as the colors are lowered. And then, with the command 'Pass in Review,' the band once more strikes up and the review proper is on.

The spectacle is one of hundreds of men moving in unison, turning in unison. The soldier, small cog though he is in the huge display, cannot help but feel a lift, swinging along with the hundreds of others.

Many distinguished visitors, both military and civil have been the guests of honor at the Replacement Training Center.

A review for a visiting officer gives the old soldier and the new recruit a new pride in his outfit.

Above all, the soldier who knows that his home folks are among the spectators feels a surge of pride he has never known before.

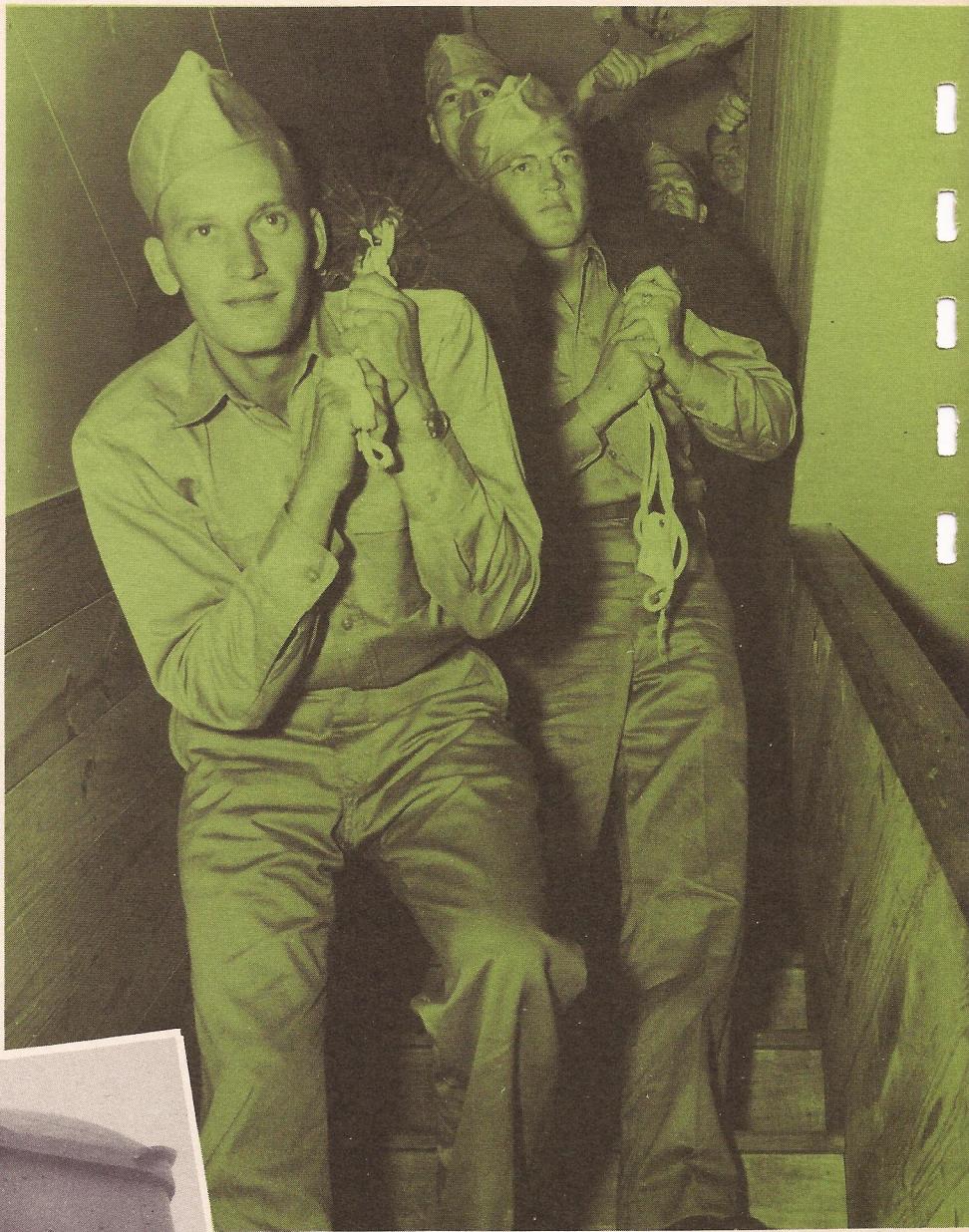


DEPARTURE

The days move quickly at the Replacement Center. Caught in the swirl of events, the soldier almost forgets that there will be an end to this too. Until one day, it is the end, and he finds himself packing his barracks bag preparatory to leaving.

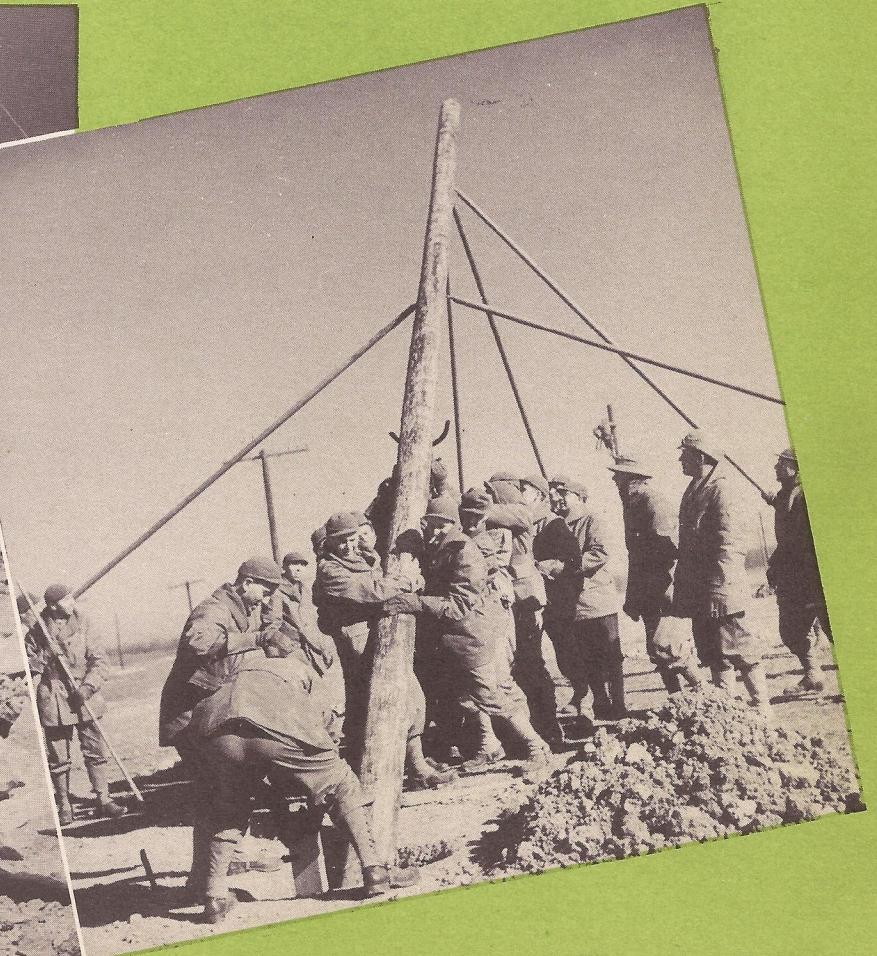
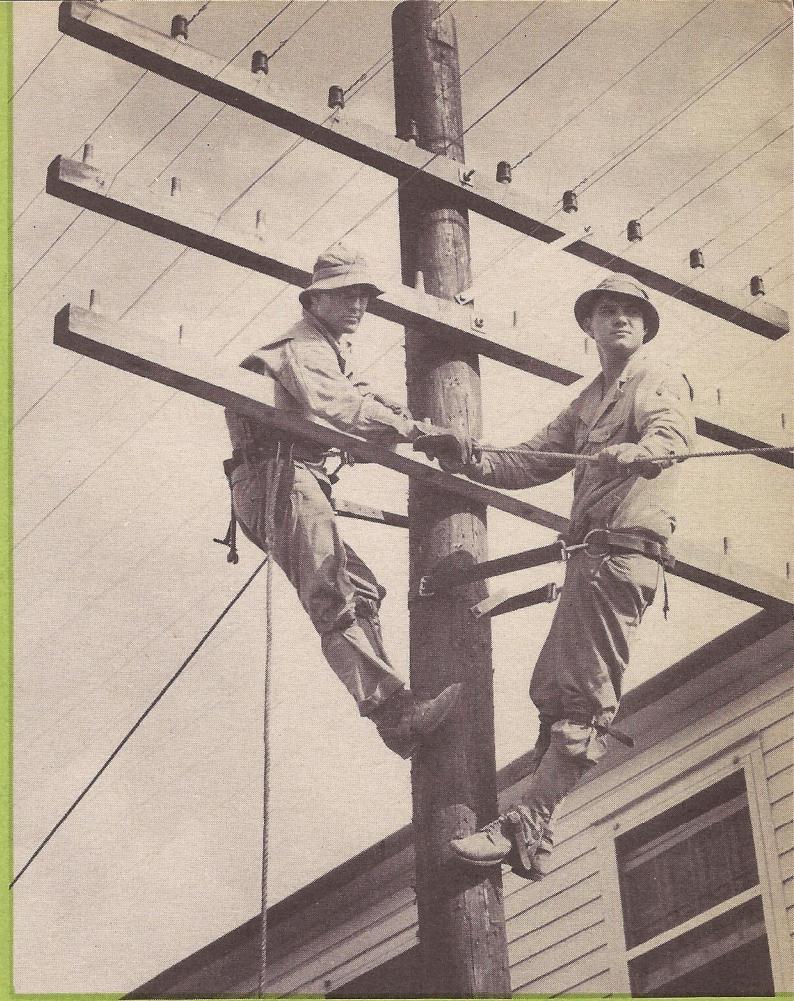
There is deep sentiment in the army, but little time to express it. Good-byes, if they are said, are never long, and very rarely either heroic or mock-heroic.

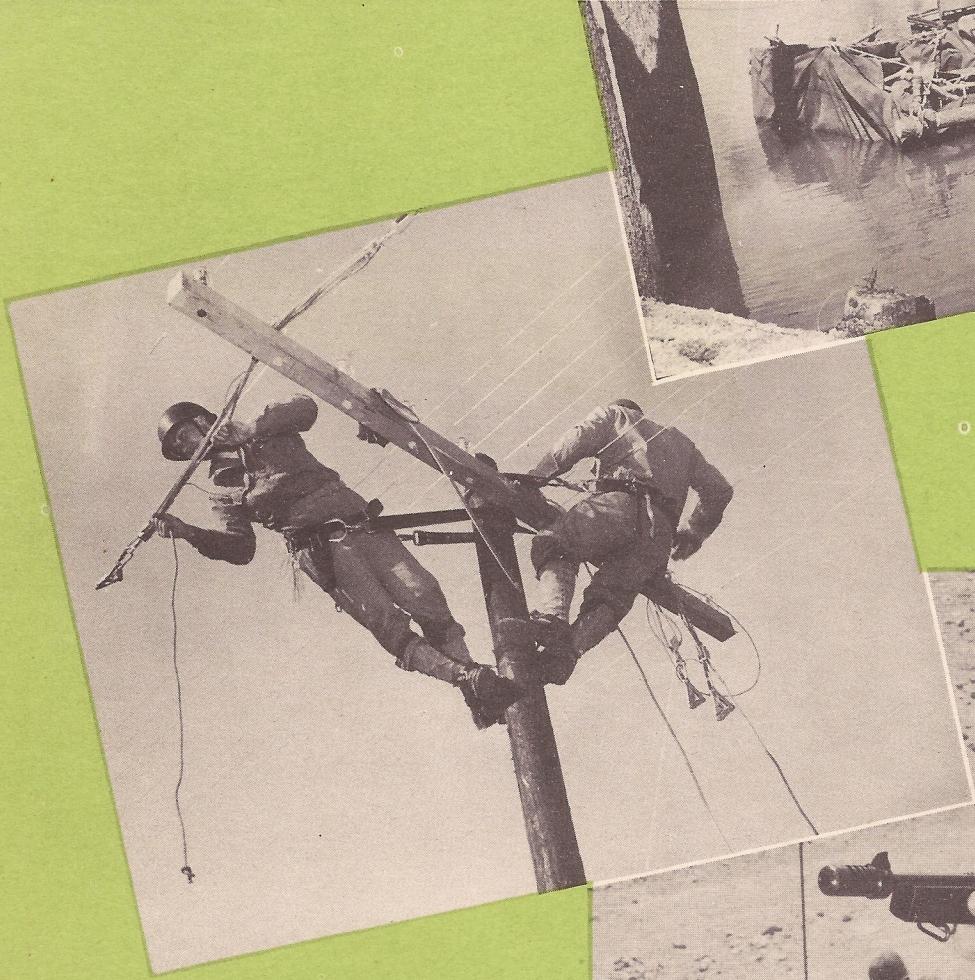
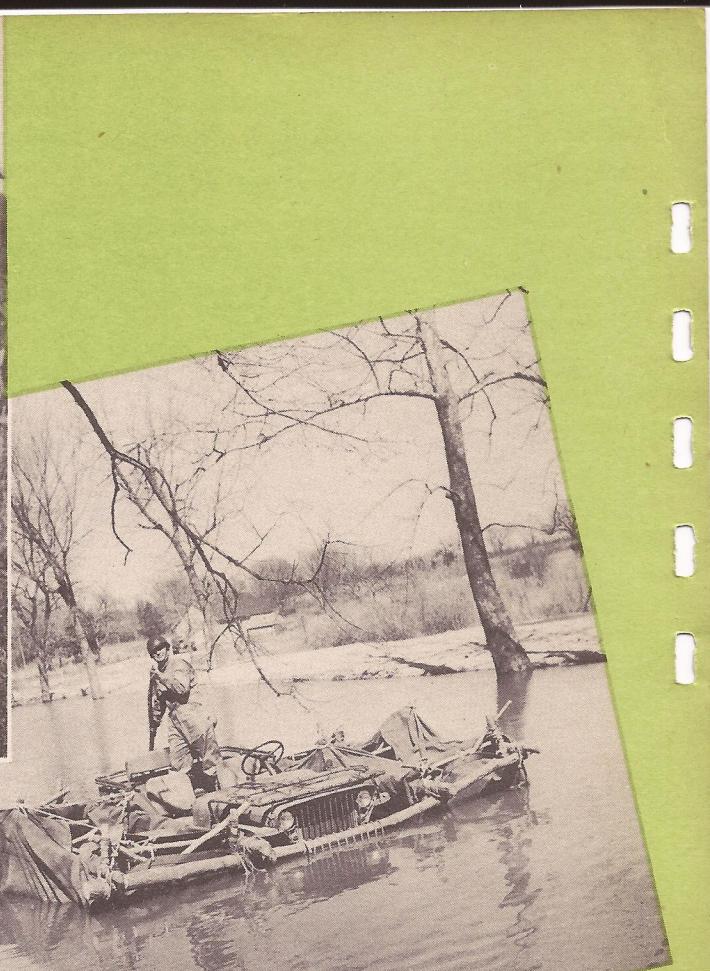
Sometimes even, there are no good-bys. Between break-



fast and lunch the soldier is gone while his friends have been busily engaged in their particular duties.

As he looks back from the train at Crowder receding into the distance, he knows that the Replacement Center represents to him one of the most important and valuable experiences in his existence.









CAMP CROWDER

29th BATTALION HEADQUARTERS • STAFF •



MAJOR F. E. TUXWORTH
Battalion Commander



CAPTAIN E. A. McCARTHY
Adjutant



CAPTAIN F. E. FISHER
Director Training Division



CAPTAIN W. A. SAYRS
Assistant Director Training Division



Sergeant
JOHN G. THORNBURGH
Cadre



1st LT. M. J. GROMET
Assistant Director Training Division



Corporal
MARION J. BECK
Cadre

CAMP CROWDER

29th BATTALION COMPANY A



CAPTAIN A. T. PICKLOW
Company Commander



2nd LT. R. M. THARP
Administrative Officer



2nd LT. J. B. FERRE
Basic Instructor



2nd LT. J. A. LEVENSTEIN
Basic Instructor



2nd LT. R. A. WHETSTONE, Jr.
Basic Instructor



2nd LT. J. S. MOORE
Basic Instructor



2nd LT. J. S. ISEMAN
Basic Instructor



2nd LT. L. L. DAVIS
Basic Instructor

CAMP CROWDER

CADREMENT—COMPANY A



1st SGT. ROBERT J. PLARR



S/SGT. JOSEPH UNGER



SGT. T. F. ROJECKI



S/SGT. J. B. FERGUSON



S/SGT. T. H. ENGLISH



CPL. R. W. HELLER



CPL. F. E. NAYLOR



CPL. GEORGE SIMON



CPL. L. D. SCOBLE



CPL. G. P. McINTYRE



CPL. STEVE DANKO



CPL. C. W. REED



CPL. W. D. VANORDER



CPL. L. S. RIGSBY



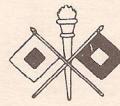
CPL. N. T. BENNETT



CPL. J. L. FERRIS



CPL. R. I. MCKENZIE



CPL. W. H. THOMAS

CAMP CROWDER



Accettura, A. R. Allen, E. W. Allen, W. S. Anderson, G. G. Anderson, P. M.



Anderson, T. N. Armistead, J. C. Armstrong, C. A. Austin, H. A. Axelson, M. W.



Bailey, J. W., Jr. *With Barry* Barry, M. J. *At Hogan, Wis.* Beck, L. B. Beverly, P. F. Borowick, W. H.



Bostick, A. V. Boyd, S. W. Brantler, D. L. Brauer, R. C. Breland, M. L.

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Brew, J. R. Brown, C. F. Brown, I. K. Brown, J. A. Brown, T. W.
Thomas W. Brown



Brumlow, J. T. Bryant, L. L. Buchen, J. G. Bullock, G. L. Buntley, L. F.

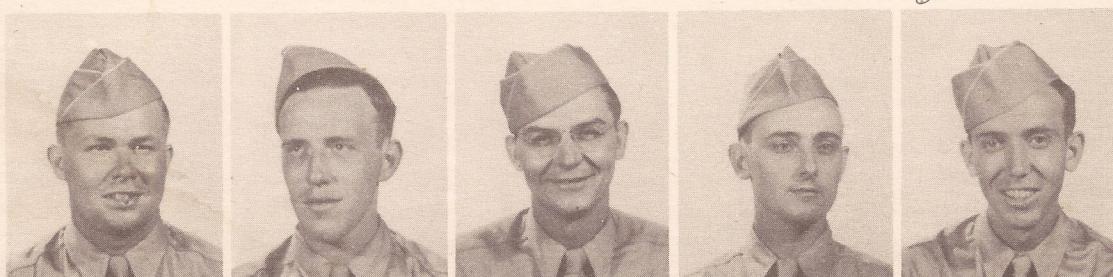
John G. Buchen



Burgess, R. N. Cage, H. D.

Calkins, C. R. Camhi, J.

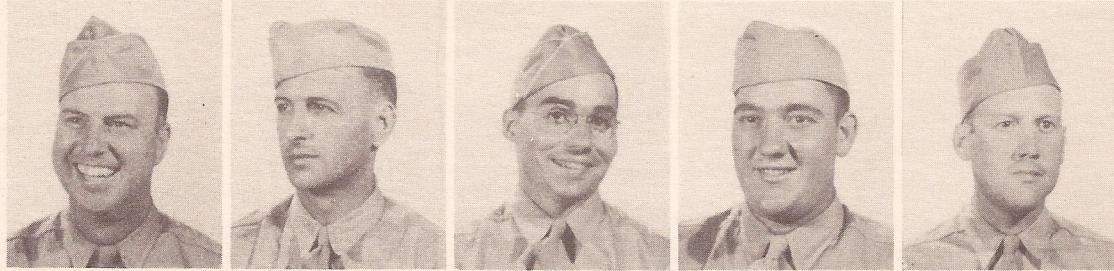
Joe Camhi



Carlson, E. L. Carr, J. K. Carter, A. L. Carter, H. E. Cassetty, P. P.

*James K. Carr
Chicago, Ill.*

CAMP CROWDER



Cassetty, R. M., Jr. Cathey, J. Christensen, J. H. Clark, H. E. Clark, L. J.



Clark, W. S. Clements, H. B., Jr. Cole, P. E. Corn, F. L., Jr. Coley, N. C.



Coppock, H. W. Courtney, K. Damron, C. W. Danley, N. N. Darnell, J. D.



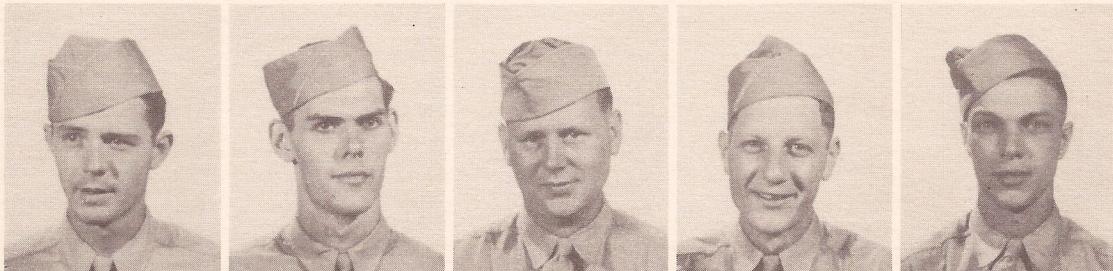
Dattel, S. L. Davis, B. R. Day, D. G. Dixon, J. W. Drinkard, W. G., Jr.

S. L. Dattel

CAMP CROWDER



Eagles, L. J. Emerson, L. F. Erickson, C. H. Ervin, S. S. Faris, W. L.



Farmer, J. M. Field, C. S., Jr. Fitzgerald, R. W. Flexer, P. H. Fontana, W. C.



Foster, H. Fudge, R. L.

Fuson, R. E. Gabard, J. C.



Garland, J. P., Jr. Garriott, L. M. Germany, O. Gessley, N. Gibson, M. B.

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Giles, C. N. Gordon, G. Graves, M. C. Grimes, T. K. Grimm, M. L.



Groenewoud, C. Hackney, B. H. Haile, C. M. Hall, R. C. Hall, R. J.



Halmontaller, W. W. Hinkle, R. E.

Harding, J. D. Harris, L. D.



Harris, W. Haste, J. I. Hartranft, J. L. Haynes, W. C., Jr. Hedge, J. T., Jr.

John Haste

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Heft, H. B. Hendershott, C. L. Hickman, R. W. Hicks, R. L. Hines, M.



Hirschfield, J. Hix, E. L. Huck, W. V. Huckabee, H. H. Husslein, W.



Jackson, O. W. Jacobs, H. J. Johnson, A. K. Johnson, E. T. Johnson, E. W.



Johnston, J. C. Katsekes, S. G. Kelly, S. K. King, R. L. Kirk, A. E.

CAMP CROWDER



Klann, H. Kogen, W.



Kornstein, J. G.



Kort, K. H. Kramer, P. H.



*Good Luck
Jewell & Deamer
Gill*



Lafferty, R. J.



Laws, C. M.



George Leggett



Leibowitz, E. E.



Leonard, S. A.

Stanley A. Leonard



Lueck, R. L.



Lyons, W. R.



Malloy, W. M.

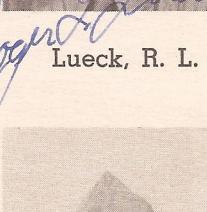


Mandel, H. S.

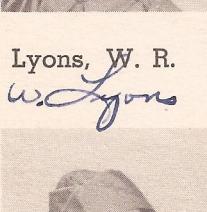


Markley, R. L.

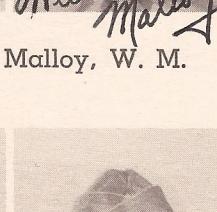
*Best of Luck
R. L. Markley*



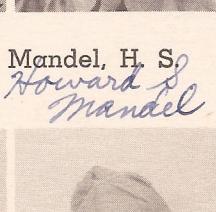
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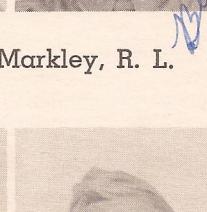
w. Lyons



Mattar, G.



McConnell, J. R.



McDermed, W. O.

Bill McDermed

CAMP CROWDER



McInnis, L. F.

*Deer
McKoskey*



McKoskey, D. L.



McMann, R. C.



McRae, G. M.



McWilliams, T. A.

*John
McMann*

John M. McRae



*John
Mehail*

Mehail, S.



*Marcos
Melone*

Melone, M. P.



Mitchell, L. A.



Mondy, J. P.



Monger, J. A.



Moore, J. H.



Morris, H. M.



Muchnick, S.



Mueller, W. R.



Murphy, K. J.

F. Murphy



*Bon
Musikantow*



Nathan, B. Z.



Nickerson, C. W.



Northam, J. I.



Norton, E. R.

*Bon Z. Nathan
Princeton, Ill.*

Jack Northam

CAMP CROWDER



James O'Brien



Nick O'Bryan



Robert O'Keefe
7-10-43



Robert Pearson



Ted Perrine



Fred Persson



Charles Petchel



Charles Pink



Robert Porod



Michael Ratkowsky



Eino Ristola



John Rogers



Alvin Rose



Burton Rosefelt



Andrew Ross



Samuel Ross



Harry Rudolph



Al Sacco

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Howard Saltberg



Saltberg, L.

R. P. Schweich



Schweich, R. P.

C. J. Schultz



Schultz, C. J.



Shaw, H. E.

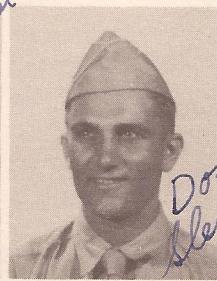
Frank Simon



Shellabarger, R. D.



Simon, F. B.



Don Sleske



Smith, W. F.



Spears, L. B.



Specktor

Specktor, L. H.



Stammer, J. A.



Sutchar

Sutchar, M.



Thompson, J. L.



Toberman, A. J.



Pat Harvey Turner

Turner, H. W.



Urbanus, E. J.



Vasselos, D. E.



Warfield, R. H.

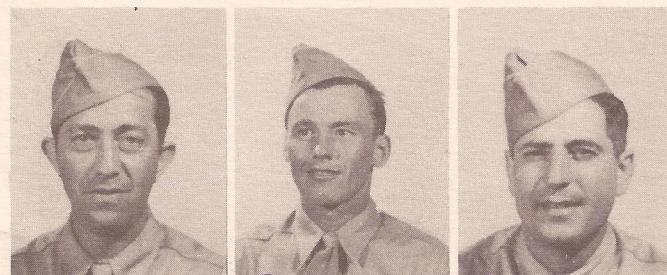


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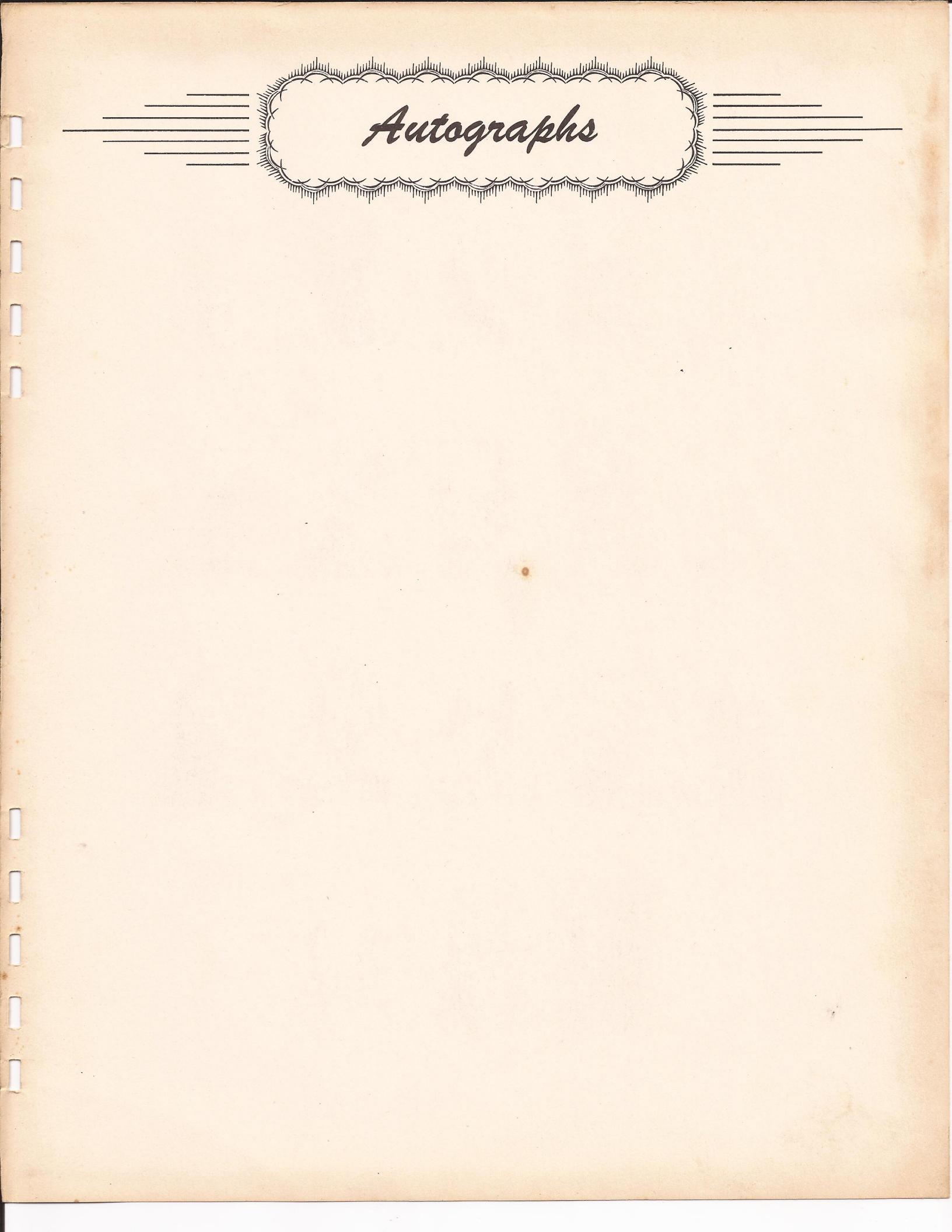
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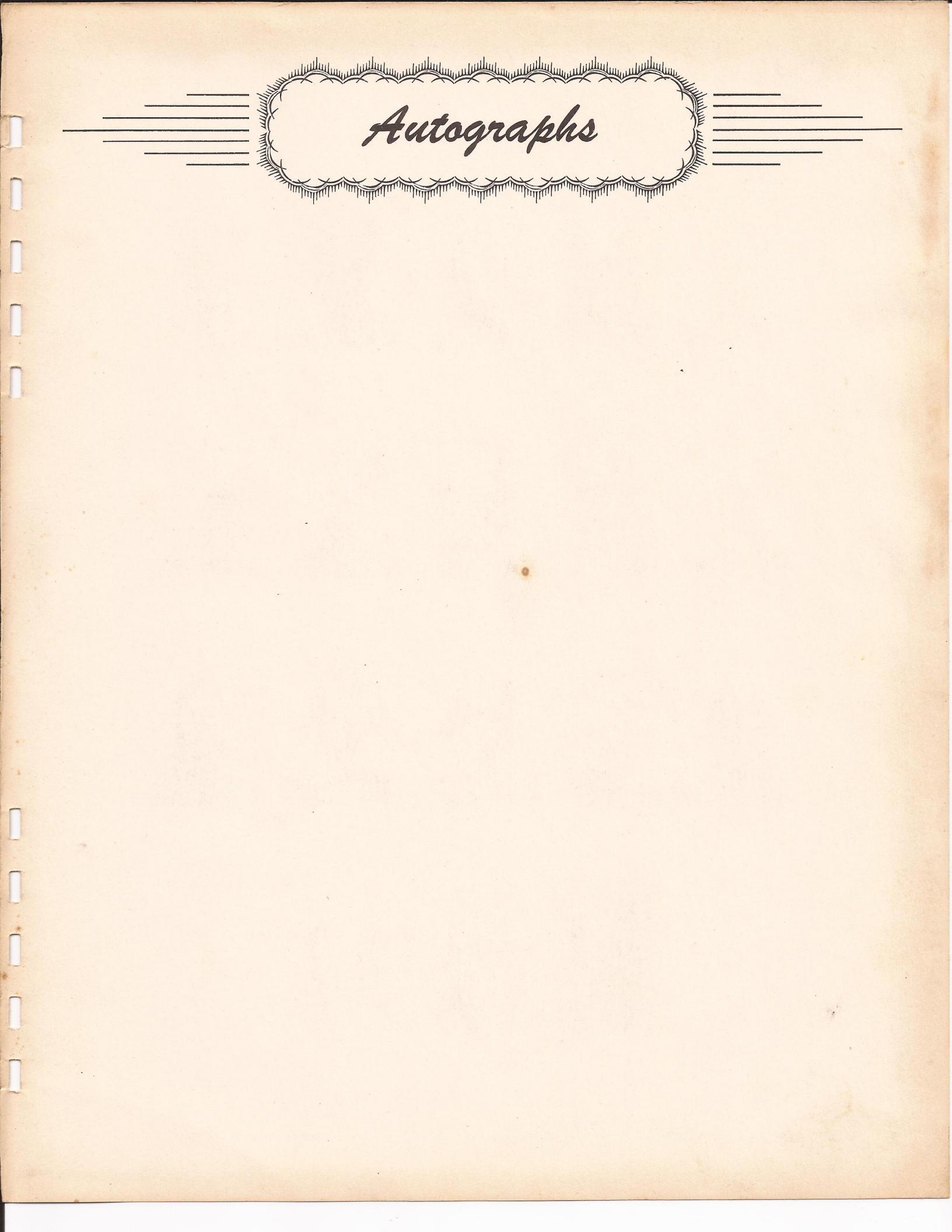
Witherow



*Raymond
Rikkola*



Autographs



Autographs

Snapshots



