

*Second
Anniversary Edition*
Section Two

**THE
REV-METER**



*Second
Anniversary Edition*
Section Two

Volume Three

Denver, Colorado — May 28, 1943

No. 2

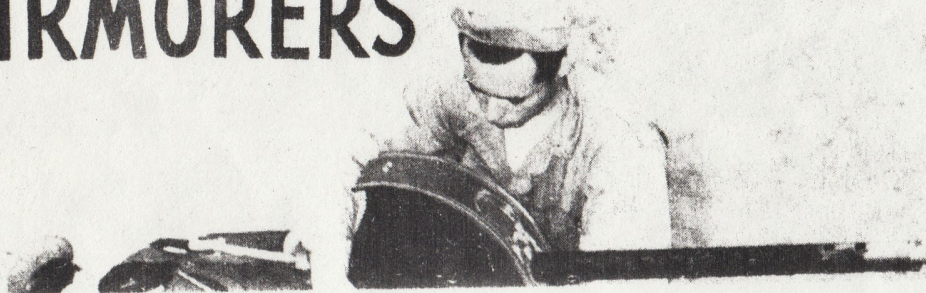
ARMY AIR FORCES TECHNICAL TRAINING COMMAND

LOWRY FIELD

**ARMAMENT
SCHOOL**

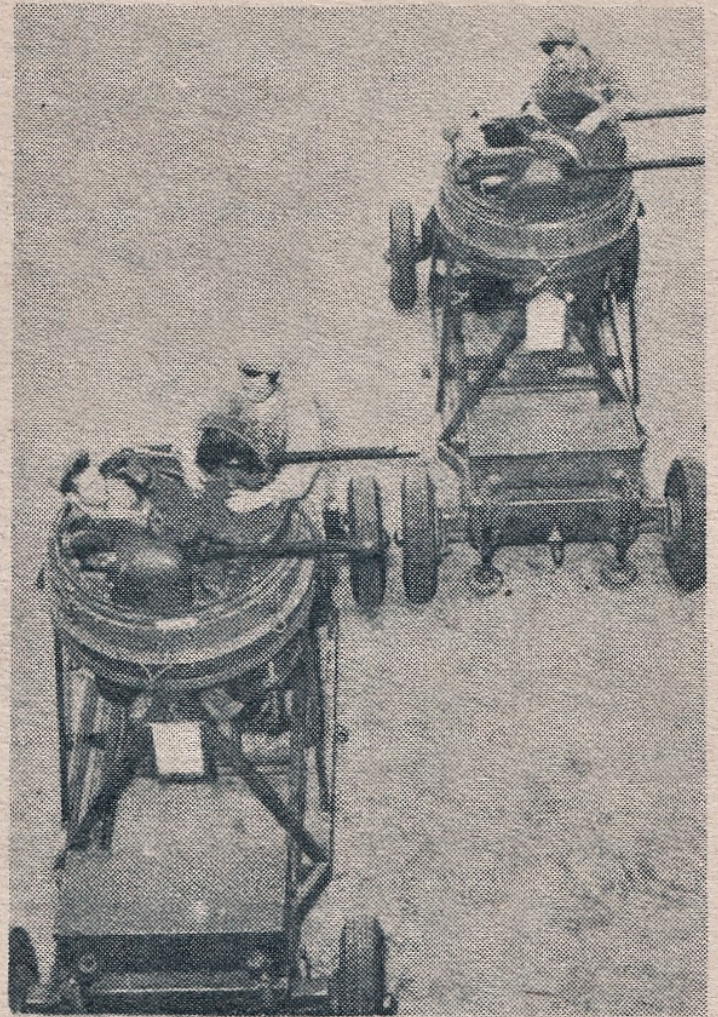
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

ARMORERS



The Front Cover

No better example of the methods used in Lowry Field's technical schools exists than that shown on the cover of this Armament School Section. Those two lethal looking vehicles are portable Martin power-operated gun turrets—and each day, around the clock—they serve as “host” to hundreds of Lowry AAFTTC students bent on the enemy's destruction. The students making adjustments are all slated for aerial gunnery school. Those on the lower left turret are PFC William E. Key (inside) and PFC Ernest L. Maine. On the upper right turret are PFC Fair C. Laurence (inside) and PFC George Seidel. The photograph was taken by Staff Sgt. Clifford L. D. Cessna, Base Photo NCO.



Sperry Sight Is a Genius; It Can Think for Itself

When PFCs Ralph E. McCloud and John D. Speakman walked into the Sperry computing sights phase that first morning, they heard the instructor say: "Now, fellows, the Phi-sub-s you'll hear about means the vertical ballistics built into the sight, but Delta—ah, that's different, that's the lateral ballistics. Remember that when we start on three dimensional cams, on cosines and Phi-sub-s."

McCloud looked at Speakman. The latter moaned. "What's it all about?" "It's Greek to me," said McCloud.

Represent Greek Symbols

And though they didn't know it at the time, the odd sounding names used on some of the Sperry sight parts represent Greek symbols—and after a week in the classroom both McCloud and Speakman were rattling off those Greek symbols like ancient warriors.

The Sperry automatic computing sights are marvelous devices used in the Sperry upper local and lower ball turrets. They are 85 per cent effective under ideal conditions—and give a caliber .50 machine gun an effective range of 1,000 yards.

The McClouds and Speakmans coming to the Sperry sights phase—the last week of Lowry's AAFTTC armament school—have heard all sorts of rumors about this sight.

It Becomes Clear, Logical

The rumor got around that it had 4,000 parts—that its inventor did this or that or the other thing. When they come into the classes, and look at schematic drawings and parts lists, they swear up and down they'll never understand it. Yet in an incredibly short time—a matter of hours—the mathematic certainty and ballistic predictions incorporated in the sight become clear and logical.

Bullets drop after being fired—winds deflect bullets—guns aiming at a moving target must take a lead on the target to hit it. All these factors are translated into deadly accurate predictions—and built into the Sperry sight for accurate firing. All a gunner has to do is estimate the size of the enemy ship—and keep it lined up in the sight.

'Practice Makes Perfect' Is Motto in Armament

By Cpl. Charles Lehman

THIS is the story of Lowry's bombardment armament students—and while it is concerned with all the technical addenda at Lowry Field—it is primarily about the student himself. Only insofar as the student's aptitude and ability merge with the material he learns will the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command's program be successful in those far-off combat zones. The success or failure—and only a misguided 100 per cent optimist will not admit the possibility of failure—of the Army Air Forces mission in Africa, India, Europe, Russia and every other theater of war hinges on how well Joe Armorer knows his job.

The bombs have to be placed in the bomber strictly according to Hoyle—and in the Air Forces Hoyle goes under the equally well-known name of Tech Orders. The rounds of ammunition which make those caliber .50 Browning machine guns spit death and destruction into the enemy have to be loaded properly. A short round can win a Tunney a heavyweight championship—but if Joe Armorer puts a short round into a gun turret's link belt, it spells a knockout for America when constant firepower is absolutely essential.

The material in this section, then, is a coordinated story. It tells about the intensive training given at Lowry Field's Army Air Forces Technical Training Command bomber armament school—carries you through all the work-packed hours and weeks necessary in training an armorer—and in revealing the story of the training—actually reflects all the hopes and aspirations of the student himself. Joe Armorer came here as a clerk, baker, butcher, mechanic or white collar worker—and when he leaves Lowry Field a few weeks later, he knows about cams and circuits, solenoids and switches, turrets and toggles. A lot of "stuff" is apparently "crammed" into him, but brother, they tell us out on the line that the Lowry Field armorers are making damn good teammates to pilots and other combat crew members.

Like Lowry's armament course itself, we've given you some of the theory here at the start. Follow through now, and watch how the practice packed into the curriculum builds up to the armament school theory that "PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT ARMORERS!"

Armorers Must Know Turret As Well as Gunner Does

All the way through the first phases of Lowry's Army Air Forces Technical Training Command bombardment armament school, the word "Sperry" looms like a cop's night stick. By the time the student gets into Sperry power-operated gun turrets, he forgets that all he will study here is a turret—not the whole family of Sperry devices.

The Martin and Consolidated turrets are now safely out of way. The potential armorer or gunner has sat in a turret—operated it—elevated its guns—listened to the whine of its power. Now he is in Sperry turrets—surrounded by schematic drawings and parts. When he finishes three days on the upper local turret, the average student will have amassed a great deal of technical knowledge and practical application of theory.

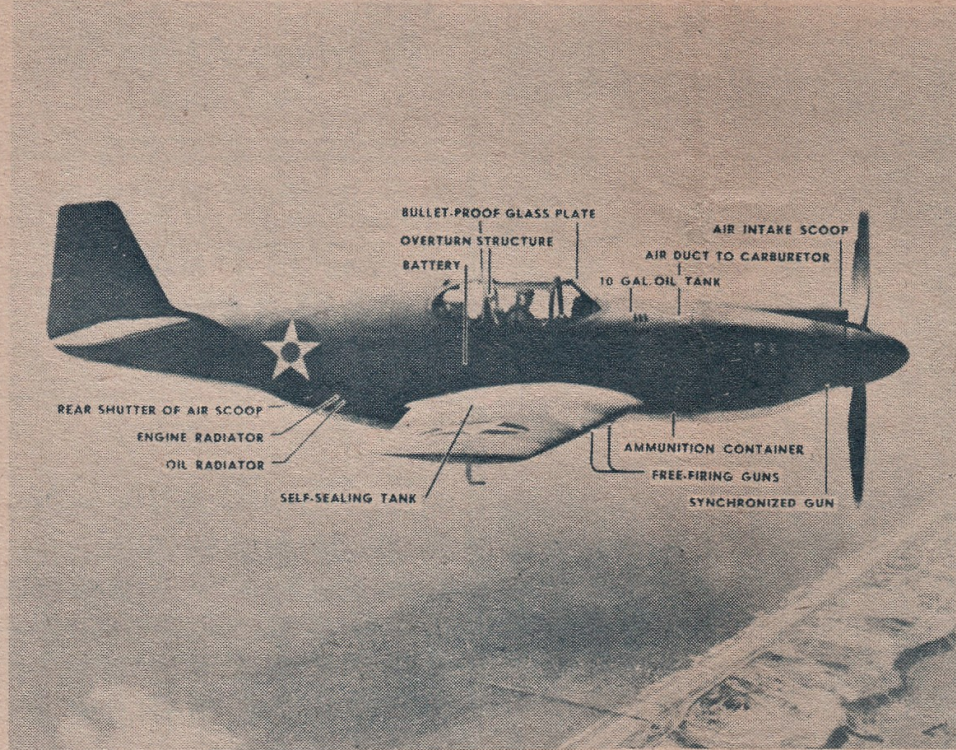
In three days he'll learn the height, weight and speed of the upper local. He'll make adjustments for creep—that turret Grem-

lin that makes a Sperry spin around slowly when it should be sitting still. He'll make elevation limit stop adjustments so that when his guns elevate they won't go clear through the dome of the turret.

The instructor will explain the restricted areas of the upper surface of the Flying Fortress—show the students why an automatic device has to be built into the mechanism of the Sperry turret so that when it is slewing around in azimuth the guns don't shoot off the vertical stabilizer.

It hardly seems possible to train armorers so quickly—but Lowry is doing the impossible every day in the week. And when you ask students in Sperry turrets to make adjustments, trace the turret's wiring system, load ammunition, mount and dismount the guns, and a lot of other items—after but three days on the upper local you can watch those lads—and you'd swear they'd been living with Sperry all their lives.

Designed by Battle



LOW FLYING P-51 MUSTANG FIGHTER, showing locations of specially designed parts, is shown above. First war plane built entirely from information gathered from battlefields, it is a slim-lined, low-wing monoplane with a wingspan of about 37 feet, an overall length of 32 feet $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches and a height of 8 feet 8 inches. The wing is designed to combat shock waves. Its unique construction, with the highest surface point near the center of the wing, enables the plane to resist destructive velocity of the air at limiting speeds. —AIR TECH MAGAZINE.

New Treetop Level Fighter Described

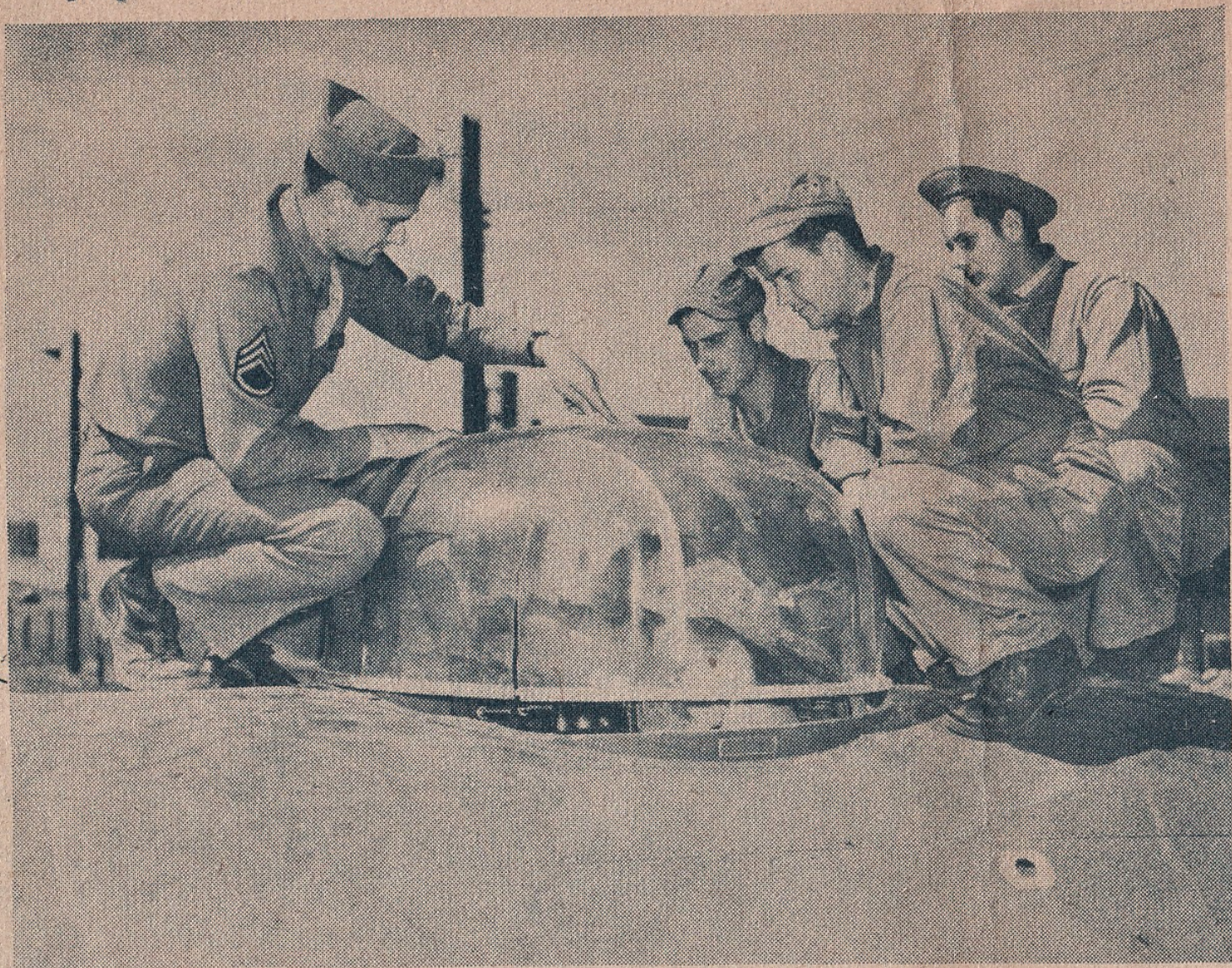
Unique Design of P-51 Combats Shock Waves

The most revolutionary set of engineering ideas assembled in the framework of one airplane in the last 10 years is responsible for the phenomenal success of the P-51 Mustang, famous treetop level fighter plane, according to an article in the current issue of Air Tech Magazine, published in the interests of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command.

Outlining principles behind the ship's construction, the article shows why and how North American's P-51 was able to win the distinction of being the first plane to succeed in knocking down a Focke-Wulf 190, current pride of the Luftwaffe.

order to accomplish this it was necessary for the plane to jump 70 mph. in cruising and nearly 100 mph. in top speeds over existing aircraft. The special laminar flow wing was developed to counteract the shock waves which these speeds

Upper Turret at Close Range



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF ARMAMENT from the top of a practice bomber is given students by Staff Sgt. Claude E. Lowry, Field Exercises instructor in Lowry Field's AAFTTC aircraft armament school. Sgt. Lowry is shown pointing to the working parts of a gun turret, while looking on, from left to right, are PFCs Angelo A. Naso, Edward J. Kellerman and Henry W. Barnholtz.

Fusing Is Delicate Task



BOMBS AWAY, PROPERLY FUSED, at Lowry Field's aircraft armament school will serve as a forerunner of bombs away, properly fused, somewhere in the combat zones. These future armorers are shown practicing correct fusing of practice bombs as a part of their Field Exercises instruction.

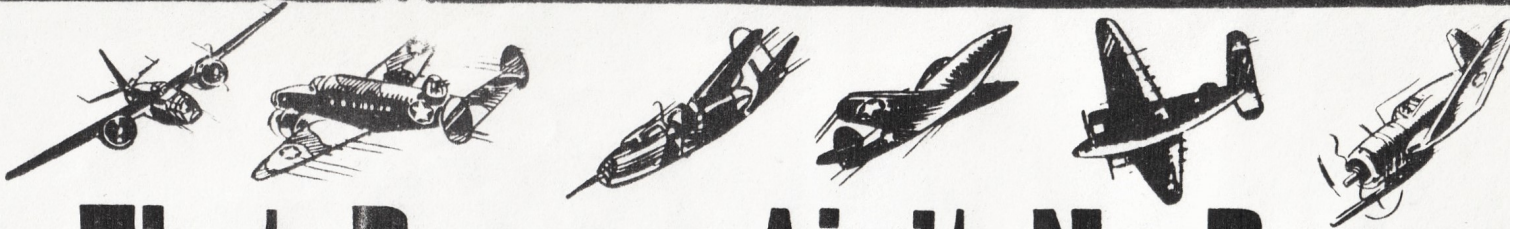
Tail Turret Is Vital Spot



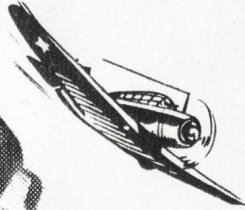
TAIL GUNNERS DELIGHT, the Consolidated tail turret deals in death and destruction for any enemy ship coming in behind a Liberator (B-24) bomber. Cpl. Harold D. Brown, Consolidated instructor in Lowry's armament school, is shown in front demonstrating correct loading of ammunition. Students watching Brown, from left to right, are PFC Jules M. Lambre, Edwin M. Liles, Carl E. Phillips, John F. Johnson and Walfred C. Koski. Barely discernible inside the turret is Sgt. Frank A. Lopez.

Here's Amazing Feat

One of the most amazing feats of



That B-z-z-z Ain't No Bee...



ADOLPH!

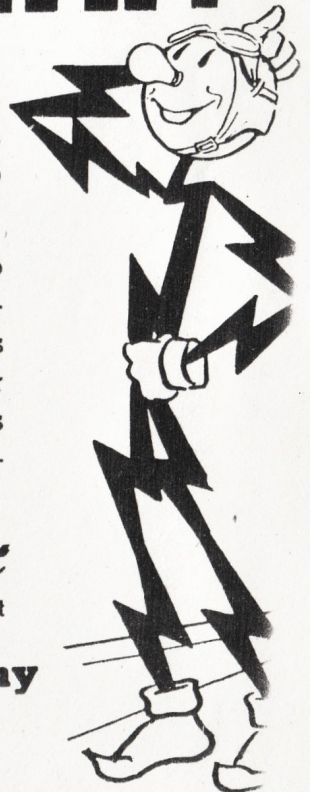
It means that more and more planes are being made—bigger, better, faster. And tanks, ships, guns, bombs and ammunition to go with them.

Electric Power is helping to speed the production of this military equipment . . . and there has been plenty of Electric Power for war needs and for home needs because of long-range peacetime planning.

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Did You Know

That the name "Rev-Meter" was given to this paper by Maj. William L. Snowden, a former Lowry officer, during a contest to determine the paper's name in May, 1941, that upwards of 1,000 entries were considered, and that the major won a \$10 prize for his efforts?



THE REV-METER

Published in the Interests of the Personnel of Lowry Field, Denver, Colo.

Bible Thought

"Take heed not to practise your good before men, in order to be seen by them; otherwise you shall have no reward with your Father in heaven."

—St. Matthew.

Volume Three

Denver, Colorado — May 28, 1943

No. 2

Rev-Meter Adds a New Stripe, Year of Experience

Today adds another stripe to an honored friend of Lowry Field, the Rev-Meter. Today puts the second candle on its birthday cake.

Launched two years ago as a civilian enterprise, the Rev-Meter has retained that status, publishing news each week "in the interests of the personnel at Lowry Field, Colo." News matter, available for general release to any news media, is furnished by the Public Relations Department and free Rev-Meter copies are given enlisted men by the publisher.

During its existence, 1192 pages of informative, timely and entertaining features have been published—one 52 page anniversary edition a year ago—48 pages at Christmas time—and two 24-page papers, an average of 12 pages weekly.

The Rev-Meter won the Seventh Service Command award for the "best camp newspaper coverage" in the area. Camp Newspaper Service gave it a Certificate of Achievement. Local newspaper and radio officials have commended it time and again. The little noncom has earned its stripes through merit.

Public Relations Office, cooperating with Base Photo, Special Service, Physical Training, and Training Schools, and other departments, supplies the news. The publisher furnishes the paper free to enlisted personnel.

And it all adds up to two years of good journalese for Lowry GI's.

Lowry Branch Bank Office Opens Tuesday

Lowry's own bank, which will offer field personnel all the facilities of downtown banking institutions, will be opened Tuesday in the new addition to the Post Finance office, building No. 355. Through an arrangement worked out with the

NCO Training Program Off to Encouraging Start

Lowry Men Took Big War Role During Eventful '42

By Staff Sgt. Richard Vigil

"The sun never sets on a Lowry-trained soldier." That well might keynote the importance and far-reaching significance of the role played during the last 12 months by Lowry Field in the war objectives assigned it by the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command. For today, both soldiers and officers once stationed at the field are in all theaters in which the Army is operating. They are serving with the 5th Air Force in Australia, with the 8th in England, the 12th in Africa, and the 14th in China. In short, with all 14 units of the widely scattered AAF.

No Further Expansion Anticipated

With the program for training enlisted technicians for the Air Force having reached its peak during the past 12 months and no further expansion of facilities for this purpose anticipated, the program for the next 12 months indicates that future training activities will be conducted with a view to furnishing replacement to maintain the strength of combat organizations on fronts around the world.

How this broad plan and purpose have been applicable to Lowry can be seen by the fact that the tremendous building program started after Pearl Harbor had leveled off, and that the job of training replacements, which of necessity must continue on a large scale so long as the war lasts, is being accomplished with the training and housing facilities

Colonel Perley, Training Director, Explains School

The Lowry Field NCO school has completed its indoctrination course in which training teams from the various groups on the field were instructed in the duties of NCO training and the second phase of the field-wide program is now underway.

These training teams, composed of one officer and two noncoms from each group, are now beginning the instruction of noncoms in their groups. In this phase training teams for each squadron will be instructed.

Available To All Men

Through this rapidly expanding method, all the permanent party men on the field will have the opportunity to attend NCO school in their own organizations within a relatively short time.

The first group of trainees, who are the nucleus of the program, re-

WAAC Photo Detachment Is Important Lowry Unit

It was on a cold day last January when the first WAACs arrived at Lowry Field, sent here from basic training centers to take the photography course and become photo lab technicians in the Army Air Forces.

The first class of feminine soldiers graduated from school and were shipped to duty at Air Forces fields all over the nation, where they are taking the places of male technicians who became available for overseas duty. Late in April a new class of WAACs arrived from Des Moines and Daytona Beach, WAAC training centers, to take their places and this second class has already completed about half of the photography course.

The girls take exactly the same course as the men in the photo school do and are trained to fill lab technicians jobs either in the United States or overseas, wherever they may free a physically fit man for combat duty. They also undergo their daily share of marching and calisthenics, those twin horrors of the desk-soldier; and, in fact, reviewing officers have said that there are no snappier marching soldiers at Lowry Field than the WAACs.

Unofficial reports indicate that training of WAAC photo lab technicians will continue at Lowry, and it is considered likely that more WAAC classes will be added.

The Air Forces has requested more than 300,000 WAACs this year, it was announced in Washington recently, and undoubtedly a large proportion of the WAACs assigned to the AAF will be trained in the various schools of the Technical Training Command. This may mean that the other schools at Lowry will have WAAC classes, although there has been no official announcement in that connection.

Commanding officer of the WAAC photo detachment at Lowry is Second Officer Elizabeth Johnston. Her rank corresponds to that of first lieutenant. Her adjutant is Second Officer Dorothy Starbuck. Administrative noncoms in the unit are Mary Redden, first sergeant; Helen Derek, supply sergeant, and Frances Lee, detachment clerk.

Wives of Enlisted Men To Get Free Medical Care

The Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, has announced a health service to provide free medical service for wives and dependents of enlisted men. Practically all the states will have the plan in operation this month. Congress recently appropriated \$1,200,000 for the current year, ending June 30, to provide medical care of expectant mothers whose husbands are of the prescribed ranks in the armed services. The President has asked for an additional \$6,000,000.

Any enlisted man's wife in a state using the plan is eligible for medical and hospital maternity services when similar care is not available through Army facilities in the vicinity, or through official state or local health agencies. Provision is also made for medical and hospital care for a child under one year whose father is an enlisted man of the same rank limits, sergeant and below.

Application for this service should be made by servicemen's wives through the physician now attending the case, to American Red Cross chapters in the communities in which the wives reside, or through state or local health agencies. Blanks to be filled out will be obtainable from the Red Cross or local public health nurses, and will be sent by the doctor to the State Health Department. These blanks will indicate, among other information, the grade, name and serial number of the husband.

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"How can I become an Aviation Cadet?"

Here is the answer, step by step. Any student or permanent party man at Lowry Field between the ages of 18 and 26, inclusive, may apply for cadet training. There are no educational requirements, but a mental examination is given.

Here Are The Answers

1. Obtain from your squadron commander Application for Appointment as Flying Cadet, WD-AGO Form No. 60.

2. Obtain a certified copy of your birth or baptismal certificate.

3. Have three letters of recommendation from reputable non-related citizens.

4. File application and other data with your squadron commander.

5. You will be notified by the Aviation Cadet Board when to appear for mental examination.

6. If you pass the mental examination you will be advised when to report to the flight surgeon for a physical. (Must pass physical examination for flying — WDAGO Form No. 64 furnished by flight surgeon.)

Board Interviews Men

7. If you pass the physical you

will be advised when to appear before the Aviation Cadet Board, composed of officers.

If you are found qualified you will be held at this station pending start of training, which covers a period of 15 months. It starts with five weeks of basic training, followed by six months of college. Then you are classified and appointed as Aviation Cadet, following which actual flight training starts for (1) a pilot, (2) bombardier, or (3) navigator.

Enter Course in Grade

Enlisted men enter training in grade. After being appointed an Aviation Cadet, you receive a flat \$75 a month until completion of the course.

A top percentage of the cadets in the graduating class are commissioned 2nd lieutenants, with total pay and allowance amounting to \$246 a month for single officers and \$327 a month for married men.

The balance of the members of the class of cadets, upon satisfactory completion of the course, are appointed Flight Officers, with same pay as a 2nd lieutenant.

All Aviation Cadet (Air Crew) graduates wear the silver wings of the Army Air Forces.

Any enlisted man's wife in a state using the plan is eligible for medical and hospital maternity services when similar care is not available through Army facilities in the vicinity, or through official state or local health agencies. Provision is also made for medical and hospital care for a child under one year whose father is an enlisted man of the same rank limits, sergeant and below.

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