

Paul Lobe



SOUTHER FIELD

AMERICUS ★ ★ ★ ★ GEORGIA

FOREWORD

In the following pages we shall attempt to present life at Souther Field with its aviation cadets, officers, enlisted men and civilians.

It is our earnest hope that the photographs will appeal to our friends and relatives as well as serve to refresh our memories of Souther Field when the world is blessed again with peace.





HISTORY OF SOUTHER FIELD

The property known as Souther Field during the first World War was originally part of the world's largest peach orchard. It was purchased by the citizens of Sumter County and deeded to the United States Government in 1917. An aviation field was constructed immediately and was used with its full quota until after the Armistice. The field was named in honor of Major Henry Souther of the United States Army who was a pioneer in the development of airplane engines.

The field was closed in 1921 and finally sold to Sumter County in 1928. It was used for county purposes until the present program was put in operation.

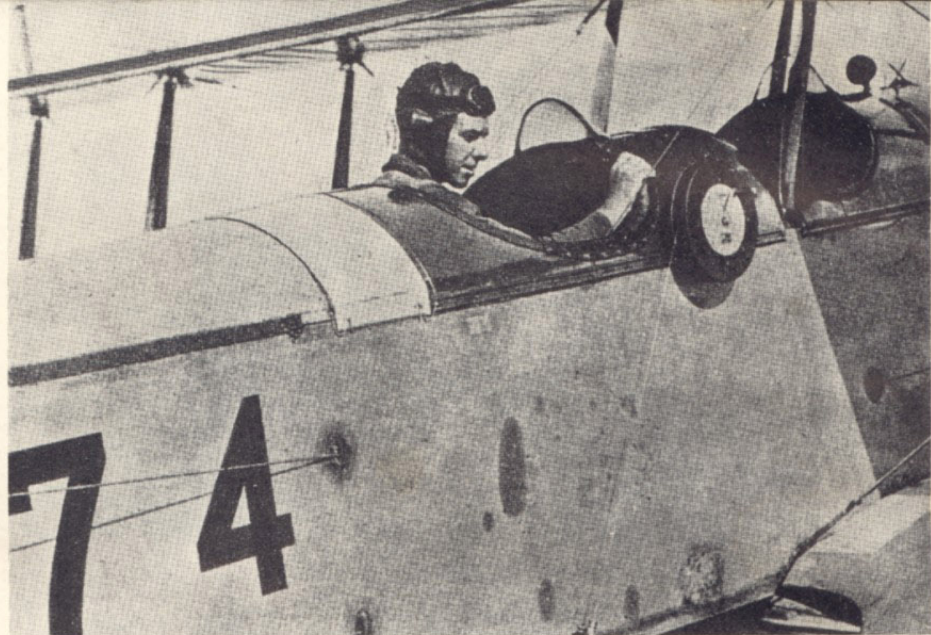
When the original field was completed it consisted of a brick and wooden warehouse with wooden siding, barracks and officers quarters for two thousand men, fifteen wooden hangers, hospitals, incinerator and numerous smaller buildings. The field was constructed for all-way landing. A system of macadam roads connected buildings and hangars.

Perhaps the most famous of fliers to come in contact with Souther Field is Charles A. Lindbergh. "Lindy" made his first solo flight from this field in a Curtiss "Jenny" which he purchased here at government auction when the field was closed.

More flying hours were available from Souther Field during the last war than from any other field in the United States. The reasons for this fact are; exceptional air conditions and almost perfect drainage. There is no record of a wind storm of any consequence in the past one hundred years of Americus' history. All buildings were removed from the post after the Armistice.

Work for the present school began December 1, 1940 by the Graham Aviation Company which had been granted a contract with the War Department to give primary training to Army Aviation Cadets. The first class of cadets arrived on March 22, 1941.

1918

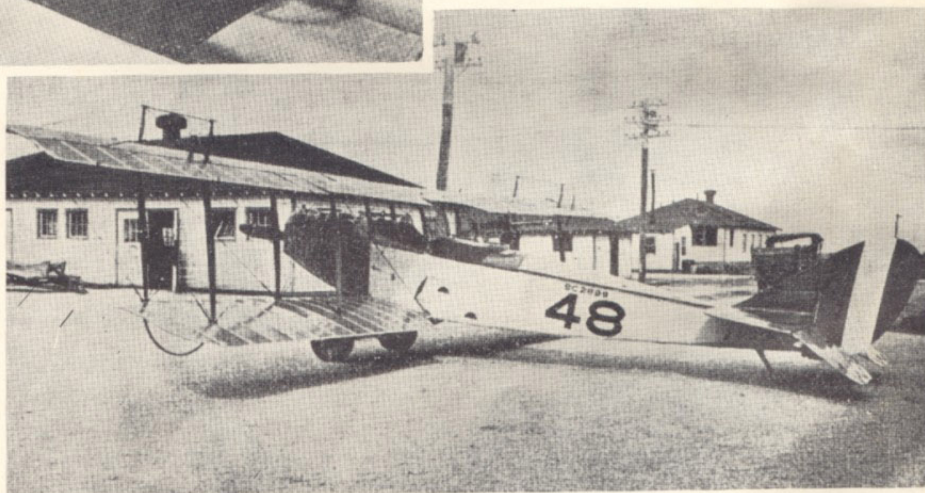


RADIO SHIP



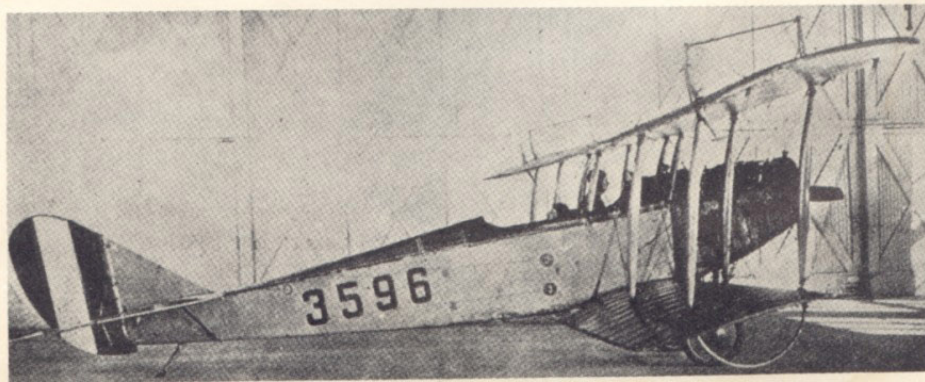
GUN TURRET

Photographs on this page were copied from the "Souther Field Flipper", a monthly publication of the post in 1918 and 1919.



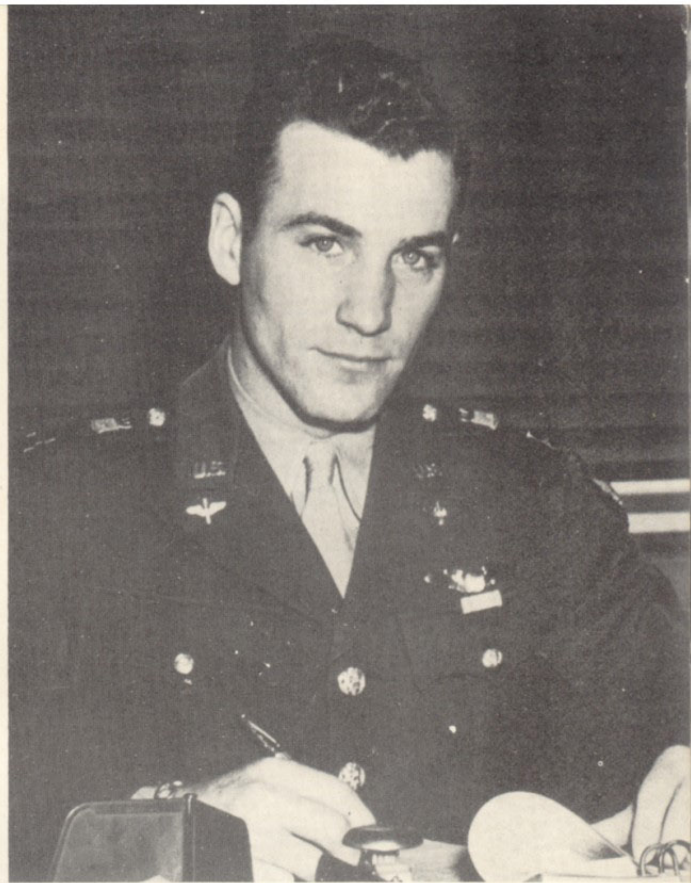
GUNNERY SHIP

HOSPITAL SHIP

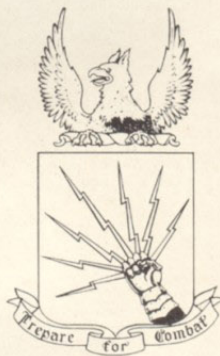




WM. J. GRAHAM, President Graham Aviation



CAPT. JOHN D. PRODGERS, Commanding Officer

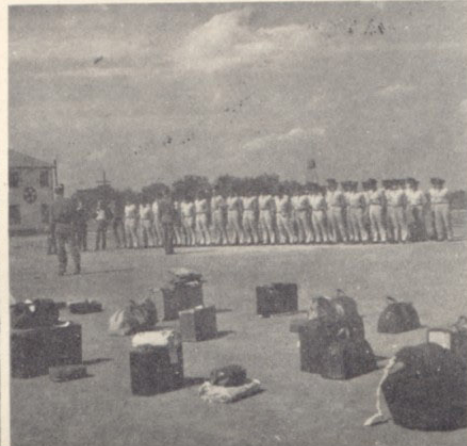
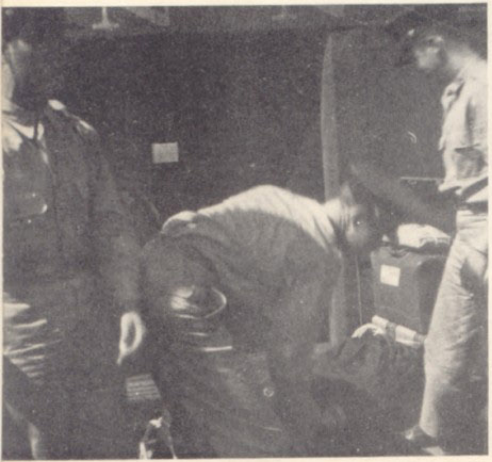


56TH ARMY AIR FORCES FLYING TRAINING DETACHMENT





ARRIVAL

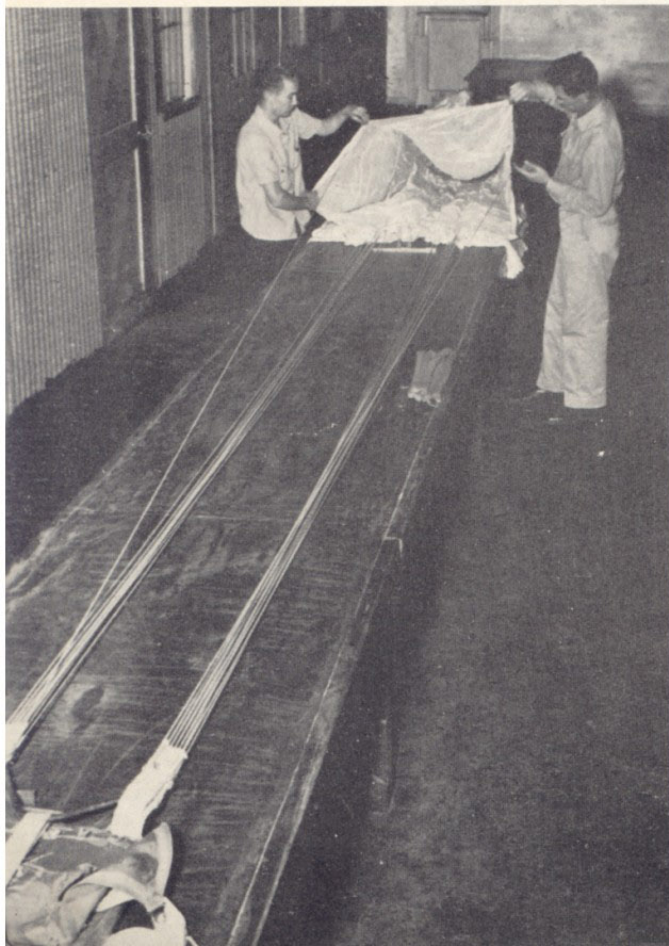


GETTING ACQUAINTED





'CHUTE ROOM





TO THE FLIGHT LINE





FLIGHT





LINE





BUILDINGS



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



BARRACKS

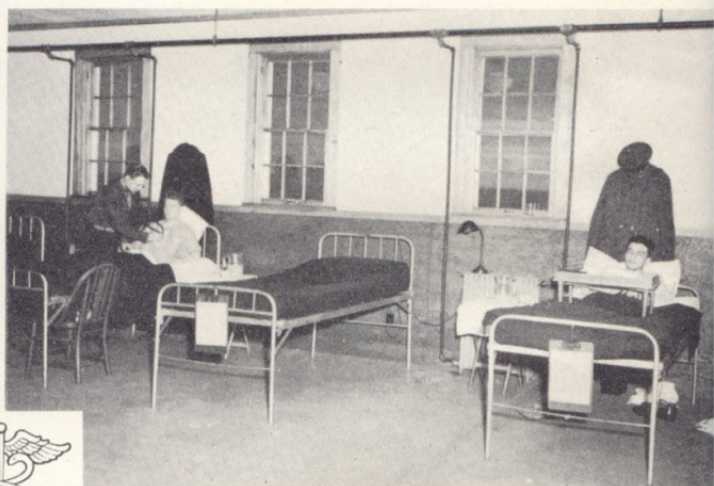


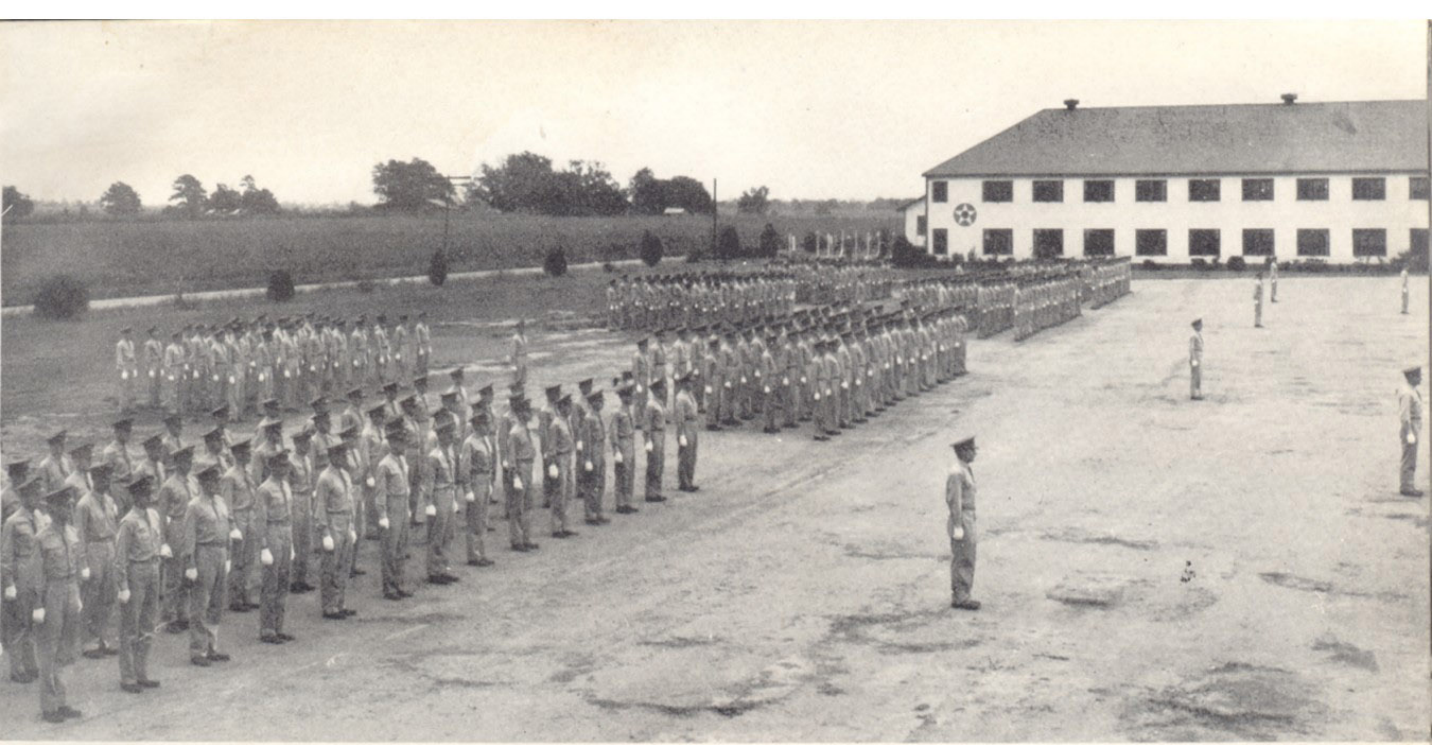
LINK BUILDING





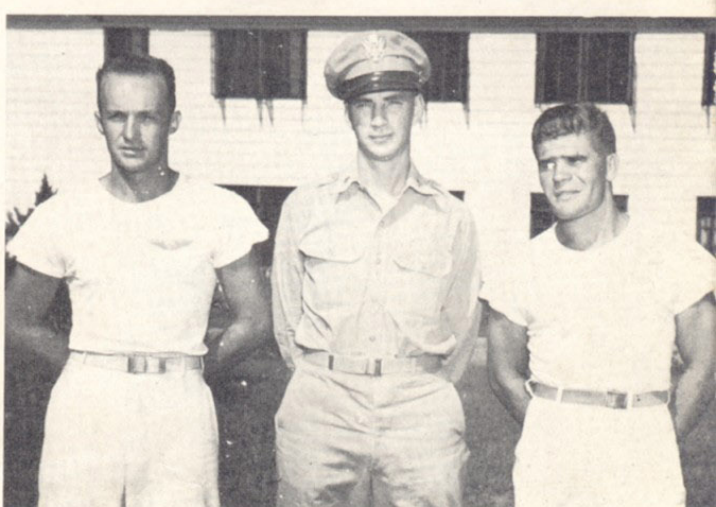
MEDICAL





H. H. MYERS
Group Commander

R. N. KIKER
Assistant Group Commander



Squadron Commanders R. E. KING, D. W. BALDWIN,
A. R. SESSI and M. L. PETERSON

Physical Training Instructors LT. R. V. FORMANEK,
LT. H. V. ANDERSON and SGT. J. WARGO



A/C M. H. SHERMAN
Squadron Commander



A/C K. M. KNOWLES
Supply Officer



A/C H. W. ROSE
First Captain



A/C W. W. ROWE
Adjutant



A/C J. C. BUTNER
Squadron Commander



Squadron Commander R. E. King and Cadet T. J. Sykes and Group
Commander R. N. Kiker and Cadet J. G. McNamara



Squadron Commander M. L. Peterson and Capt. H. D. Oaks and
Squadron Commander E. R. Sessi and Cadet W. A. Sullivan

44B



Instructor J. L. Blazek and Cadets J. J. McGrail, C. A. Parmeley,
W. E. Paul and M. C. Reynolds



Instructor I. C. Scott, and Cadets S. D. Bettes, Capt. G. F. Maxton,
W. J. Winefski, L. J. Bissell, and R. D. Draper



Cadets G. R. Lewis, H. E. Sayle, C. K. Mitchell, L. E. Ledger,
G. R. Ruff and Instructor G. L. Gibson



Instructor H. Morgan and Cadets M. Lash, J. N. Satterwhite,
J. M. Lewis, J. M. Shellenberger, P. L. Munn



Instructor A. R. Lord and Cadets N. F. Small, R. M. Jacobson,
H. R. Jackson, F. E. McElwee and J. E. Jodoin



Second Lt. R. A. Penny and Cadets C. J. Taborkiewicz,
E. R. Meisenheimer, C. A. Meadows and Instructor
S. F. Swebston



Instructor E. A. Avery and Cadets A. T. Minichiello, R. L. Spaeth,
H. H. Jackson and J. S. Mitchell



Cadets W. Bauman, M. L. Bulion, I. Berejansky, S. G. Bennett,
M. H. Axler and Instructor H. C. Nichols



Cadets R. E. Bollman, P. H. DeWyngaert, Jr., D. T. Greaves and
Instructor H. E. Bowers and Cadets R. W. Davenport and
J. P. Dock



Instructor J. R. Thompson and Cadets E. K. Bacigulupo, A. R. Gregory,
A. L. Druss, H. A. Griesemer and A. H. Goldbert

44B



Instructor P. E. Lohr and Cadets T. R. Weeks, C. R. Van Cleave, Jr.,
G. I. Willett, H. W. VanderVen and First Lt. E. W. Oviatt



Instructor T. W. Anderson and Cadets J. F. Ryan, M. B. Nichols,
L. F. Phipps, M. R. Nielsen and P. J. Robinson



Instructor W. D. Morgan and Cadets C. P. Raney, G. D. Tate,
G. B. Potter, R. M. Page, J. M. Humbrecht



Cadets A. D. Wright, W. H. Steffey, Second Lt. J. J. Perysimeno and
Cadets W. S. Ising, J. Richlitsky and Instructor J. S. Wooten



Instructor I. A. Inglis and Cadets R. L. Daly, S. S. Greenberg,
H. C. Burbridge, R. G. Fletcher and G. C. Burns

44B



Instructor J. L. Lombard and Cadets P. B. Sullivan, J. I. Wentz,
J. W. Arnold, Second Lt. D. H. Morrill and Cadet L. N. Brue



Instructor M. Bettcher and Cadets B. J. Terpening, F. E. Testi,
N. J. Thorwart, J. E. Tilton and E. R. Taft



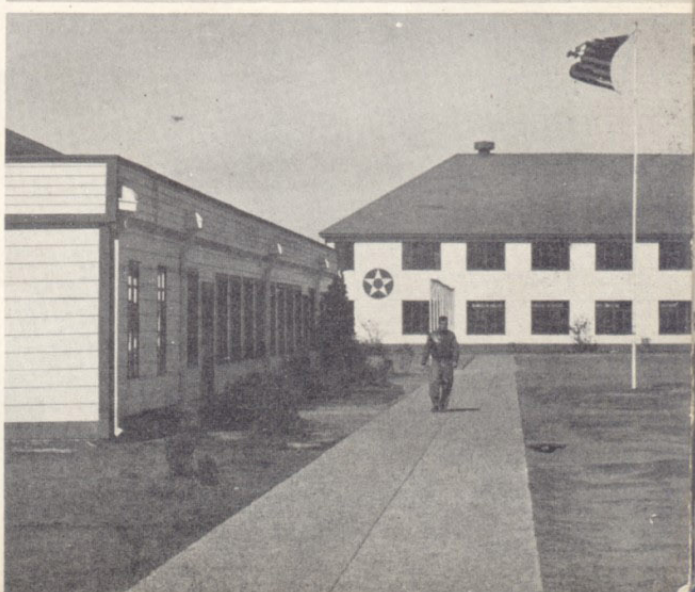
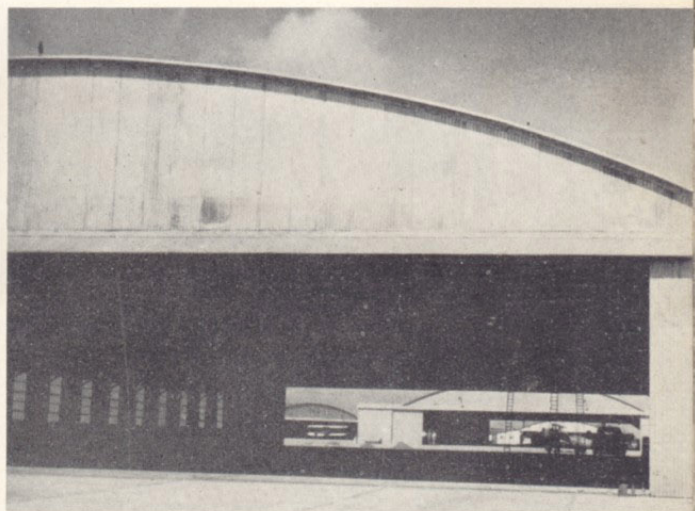
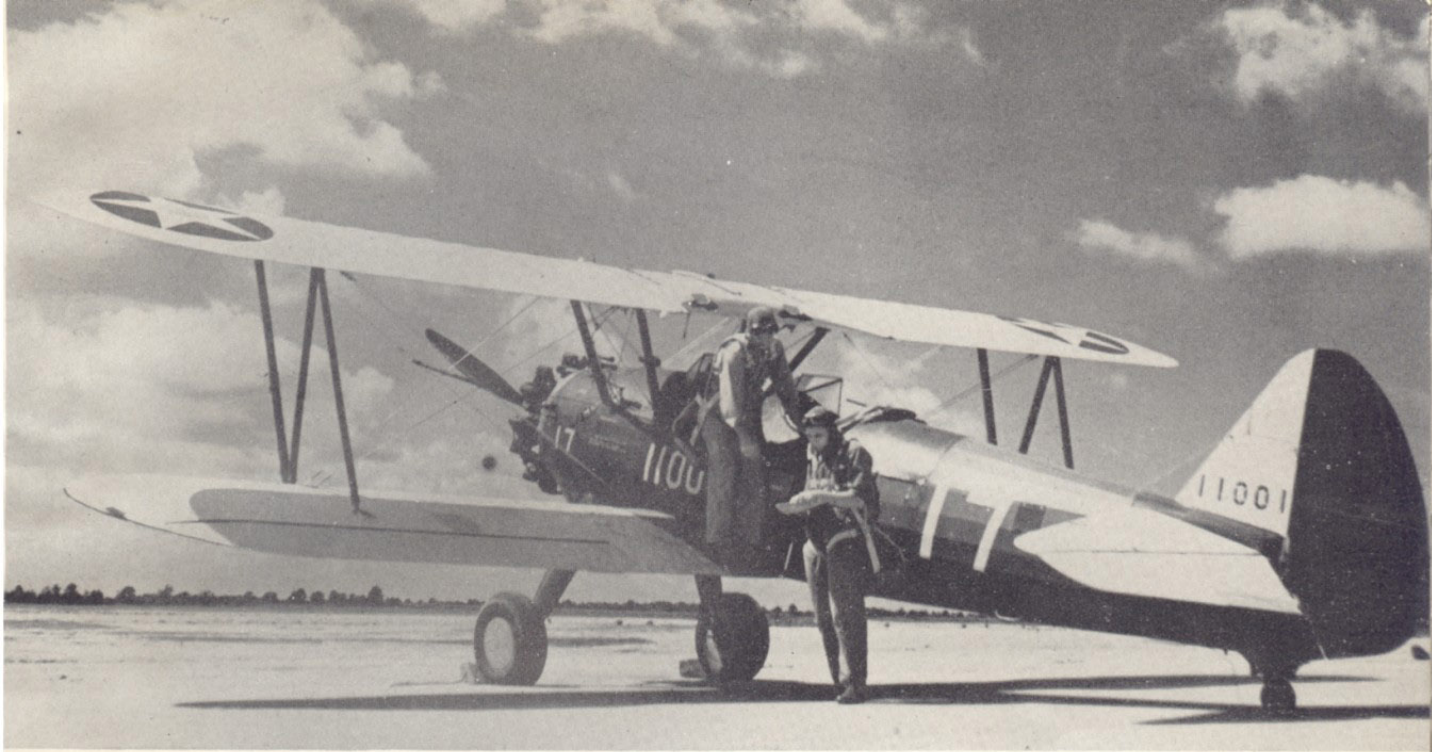
Instructor S. Cserpnyak and Cadets R. G. Babbitt, J. R. Bothe,
H. V. Byroads, M. I. Albin and S. V. Biezis



Cadets S. J. Pytel, I. A. Keefe, A. M. Karman, J. Paller and
H. Altschuler and Instructor J. D. Bald



Instructor J. W. Foster and Cadets J. F. Lamme, W. M. Piel
M. M. Lowenthal, Jr., and C. H. LeRoy



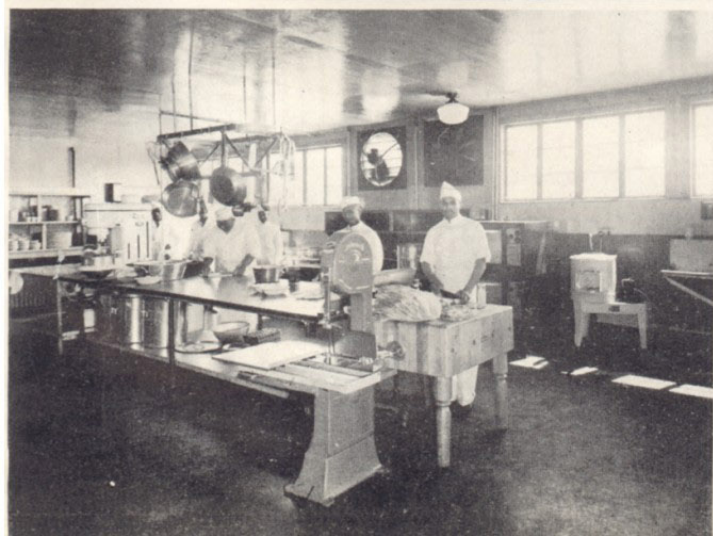
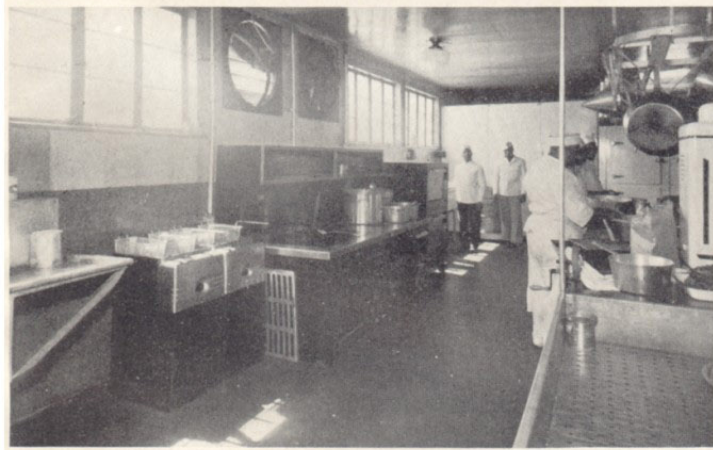


MESS





HALL



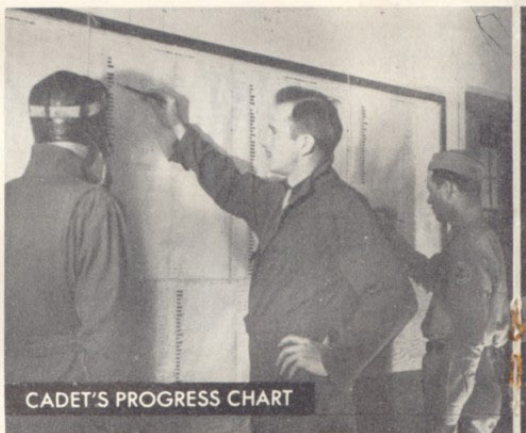


Paul

INSTRUC



INSTRUCTOR'S CLUB



CADET'S PROGRESS CHART



INSTRUCTOR'S ROOM



FACTORS



C. R. LITZENBERGER
Chief Pilot



FLIGHT LINE

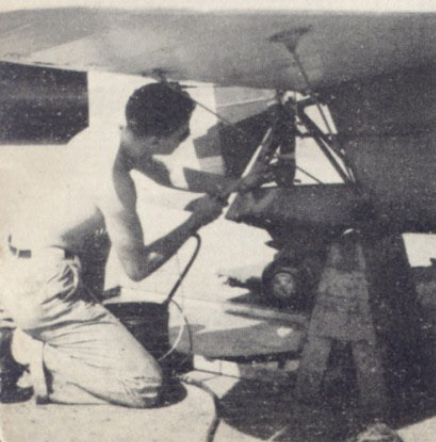
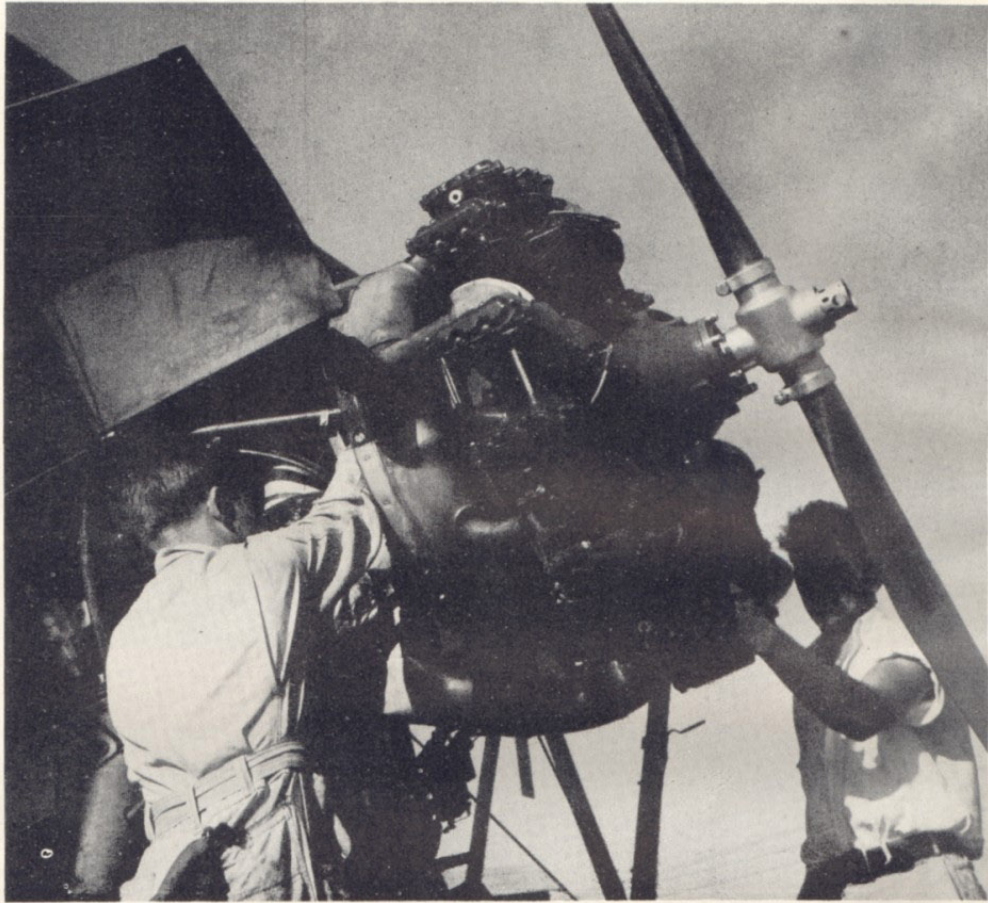


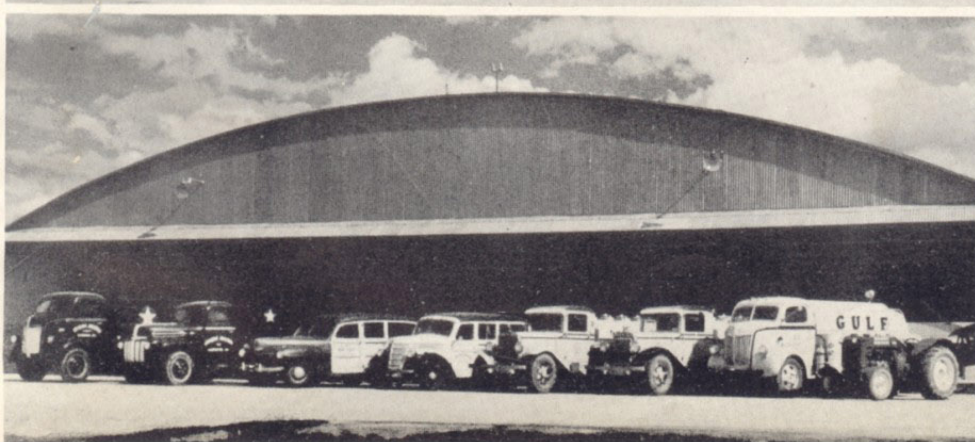
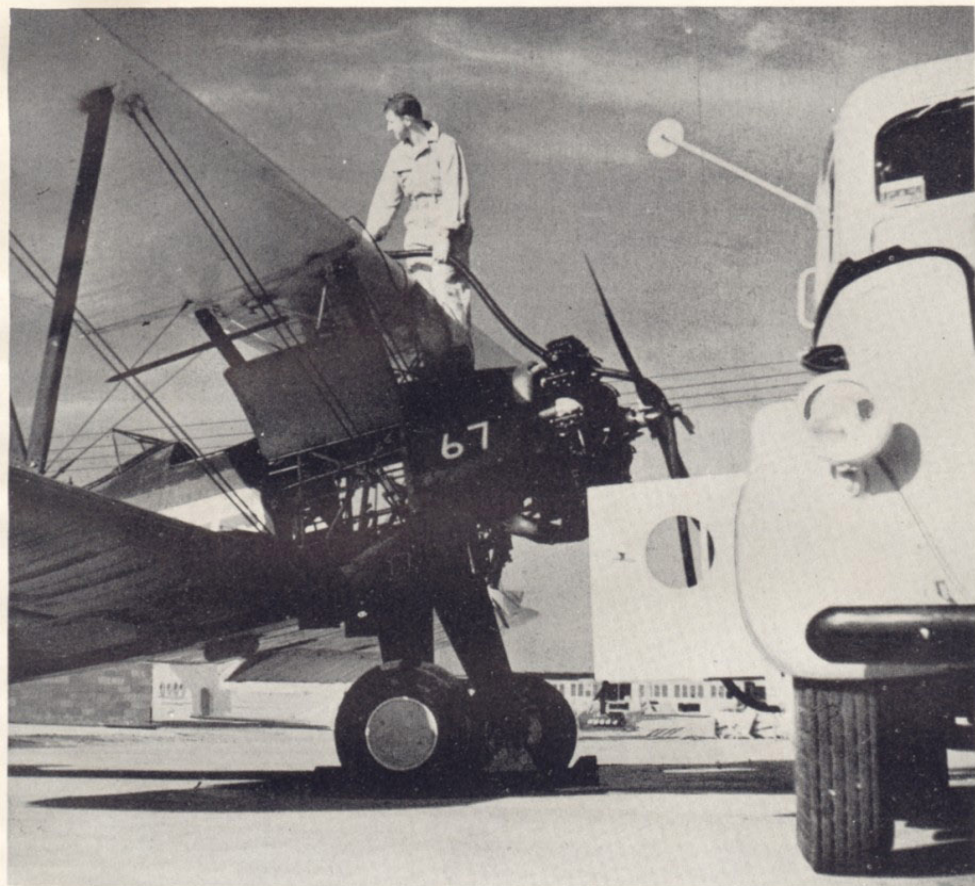
LOCKER ROOM

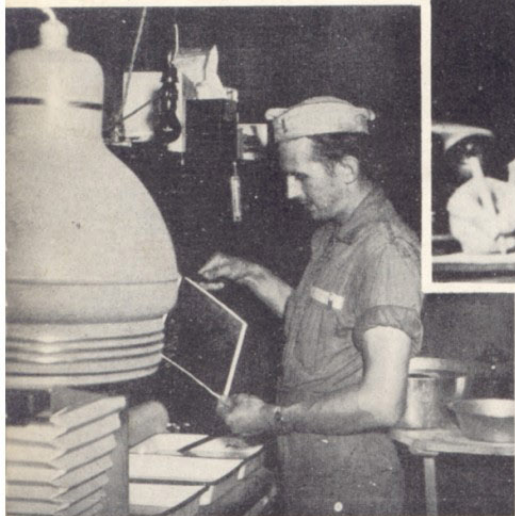
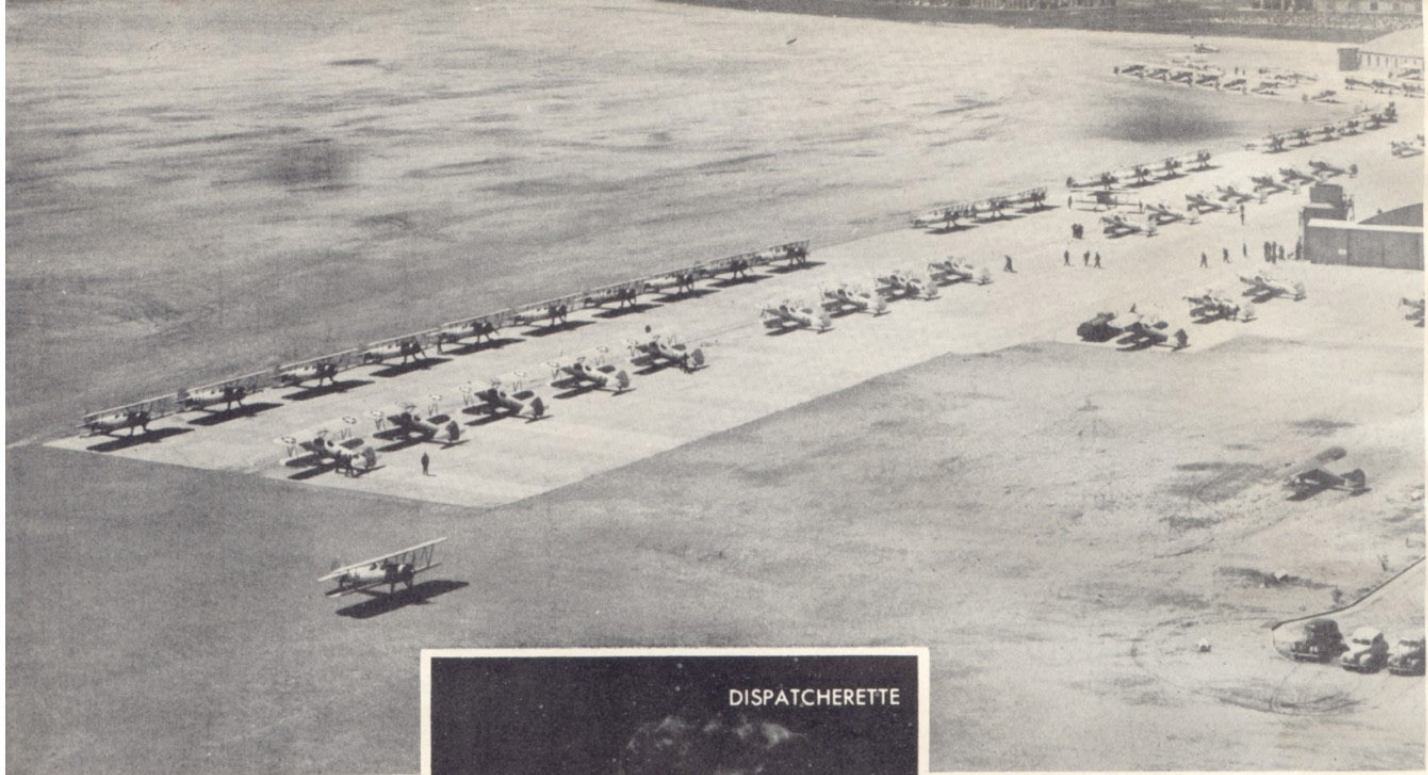


FLIGHT COMMANDER'S OFFICE

MAINTENANCE









Cadets N. R. Dahlstrom, F. B. Campbell, T. W. Beck, V. C. Bovelie, E. L. Boone and Instructor W. B. McKinley



Cadets R. Peters, Second Lt. J. T. Cobb, Cadets D. R. Johnston, K. R. Schmalz, and R. E. Schwettman, and Instructor A. P. Knieriemen



Cadets F. Potcher, Jr., J. H. Stanton, F. J. Lamark, G. P. Pappas, R. D. Lane and Instructor A. N. Haney



Cadets H. Galletly, Jr., W. R. Anderson, R. E. Haney, E. L. Antinoph and G. R. Anderson and Instructor R. C. Hullender

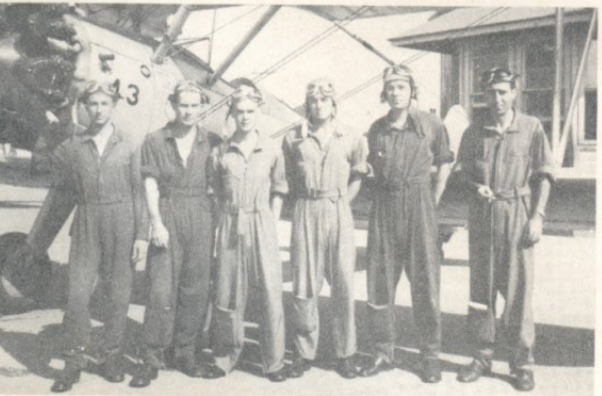
44B



Cadets R. F. Benjamin, E. Correa, E. R. Granitzki, H. G. Farman, J. Gorman and Instructor C. F. Windhausen



Instructor J. T. McKenzie and Cadets C. L. Jones, J. H. Koerber, A. E. Little, R. P. Nichols and K. R. Mott



Cadets J. Locke, J. F. Moriarity, D. E. King, C. Kerrison and C. A. Nix and Instructor M. J. McCarthy



Instructor H. A. Strutz and Cadets J. Kuchta, C. A. Steele, J. G. Shea, R. M. Platz and Capt. J. H. Flowers



Cadets N. M. Graham, R. Evdo, S. DeLafayette, P. M. Boger,
W. H. Burgess, Instructor R. T. Brown



Instructor K. C. Myers, Cadet J. H. Noonan, Jr., Capt. R. S. Hosman,
Cadets R. B. Hocter, J. R. Pequignot and J. A. Jungwirth

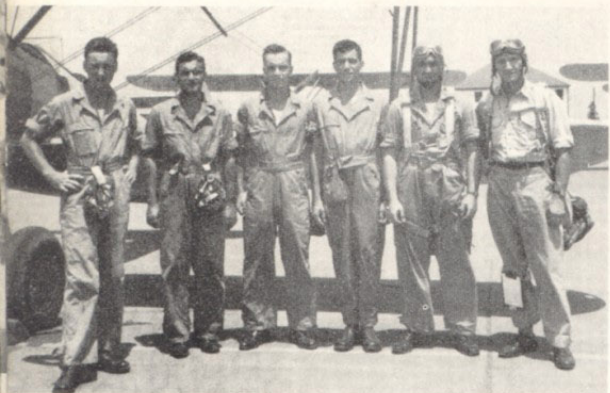


Instructor C. E. Smith and Cadets R. W. Nunnally, R. D. Lawrence,
C. I. Nowakowski, C. F. Rice and H. L. Karst



Instructor W. A. Manfrass and Cadets W. A. Vandermoere, A. D. Ridge,
E. D. Shaw, W. J. D. Leavitt and J. D. Plankey

44B



Cadets W. J. Miller, J. C. Rose, W. S. Peck, R. H. Langdon,
F. J. Honold and Instructor T. Bohichik



Instructor A. H. Schwartz and Cadets O. R. Merryman, J. B. Parkell,
J. E. Smith, O. E. Pennington and R. F. Schick



Cadets A. F. Brault, H. C. Fisher, Second Lt. E. H. Staedtler,
Instructor J. O. Goodrich and Cadet E. S. Love



Instructor N. E. Boddorf and Cadets R. M. Maxey, J. C. Rogala,
R. O. Nugent, First Lt. W. A. Chadwick and Cadet
O. M. Newsbigle



Cadets D. L. Carter, G. E. Ernst, J. A. Farquhar, R. A. Bugge,
C. W. Barolet and Instructor H. Demiere



Instructor C. L. DeVaughn and Cadets K. A. Larrivee, T. M. Hastings,
D. W. Thorn, R. C. Reid and B. J. Levie



Instructor V. H. Sandak and Cadets E. D. Belisle, B. N. Katz,
K. H. Bonczkowski, D. S. Archer and W. V. Anderson



Instructor R. O. Delaney and Cadets M. H. Gould, I. L. Griffin,
S. F. Urbanowski, E. H. Groenereld and E. K. Grempler

44B



Cadets D. R. Trout, W. L. Holladay, M. A. Goldy, D. F. Eastman,
V. E. Cichocki and Instructor H. L. Stutz



Instructor M. J. Purpura and Cadets R. Pasquale, W. D. Joslyn,
C. P. Wilder and L. F. Taylor





Instructor C. M. Griffith and Cadets H. W. Schlobohm, N. R. Lash, H. H. Phillips, R. W. Schneider and W. Q. Snow



Instructor M. Rigdon and Cadets R. H. Chamberlain, C. R. Groblebe, J. Toomey, Jr., W. S. Charlton and R. H. Weaver



Instructor W. H. Hodges and Cadets M. F. Beran, H. K. Beidler, D. W. Evert, R. R. Baldwin and L. T. Angelich



Cadets W. H. Baxter, G. S. Collins, J. D. Clark, A. J. Wellen, W. L. Cole and Instructor W. E. Smith

44B



Cadets R. E. Bloss, V. P. Bash, D. R. Chase, O. L. Goodlander, and J. E. Gauthier and Instructor R. F. Shay



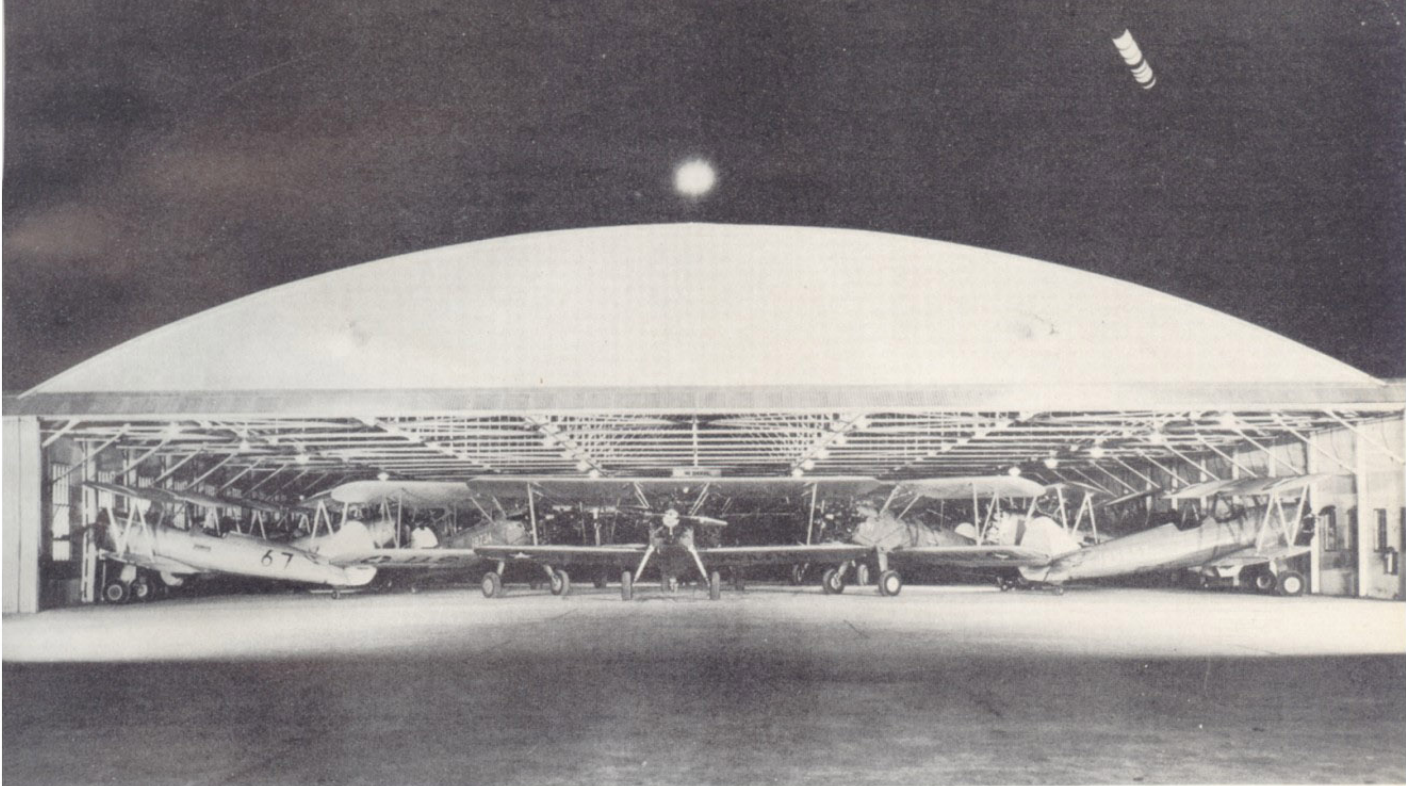
Cadets H. A. Enzer, E. Benschine, Jr., S. A. Classon, D. H. Grieb, L. Ackerman and Instructor E. J. Lentz



Cadets R. J. Chester, A. A. Amodeo, D. L. Gregg, R. L. Griffith, H. R. Goshler and Instructor W. D. Anderson



Cadets L. L. Porter, R. J. Roper, H. M. Smith, D. W. Richards and H. R. Paul and Instructor H. W. Roy



SIGNAL LIGHT

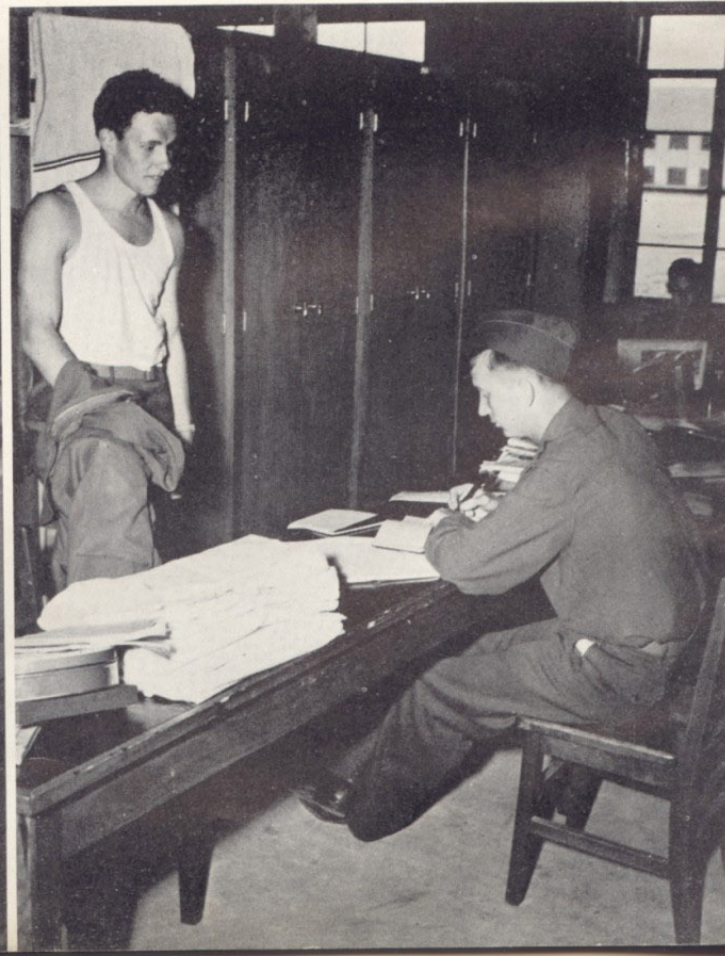


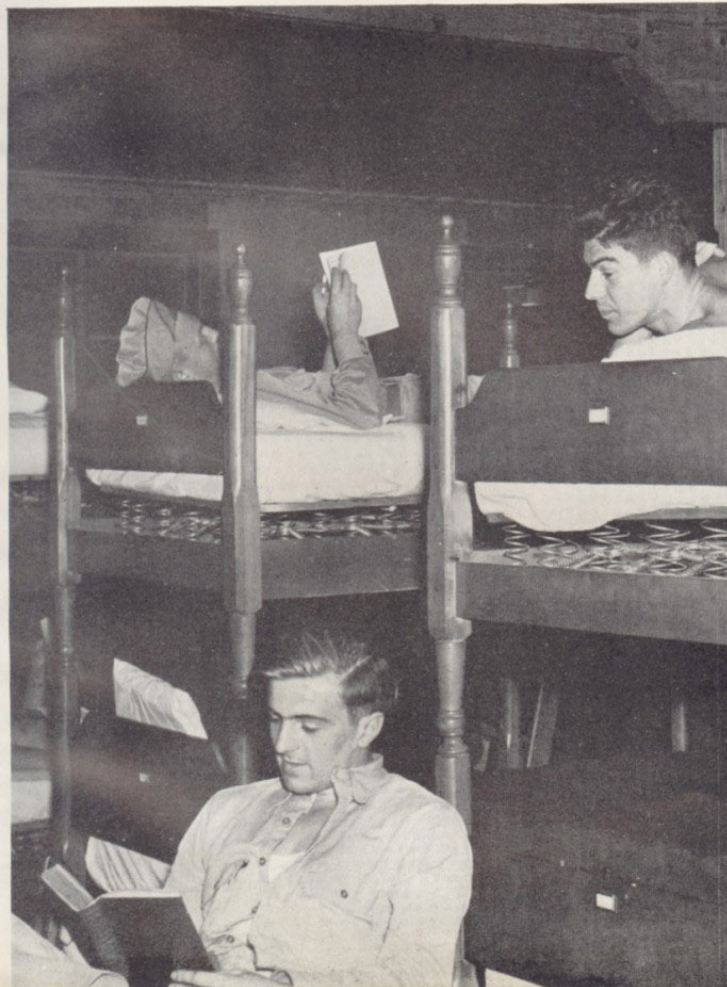
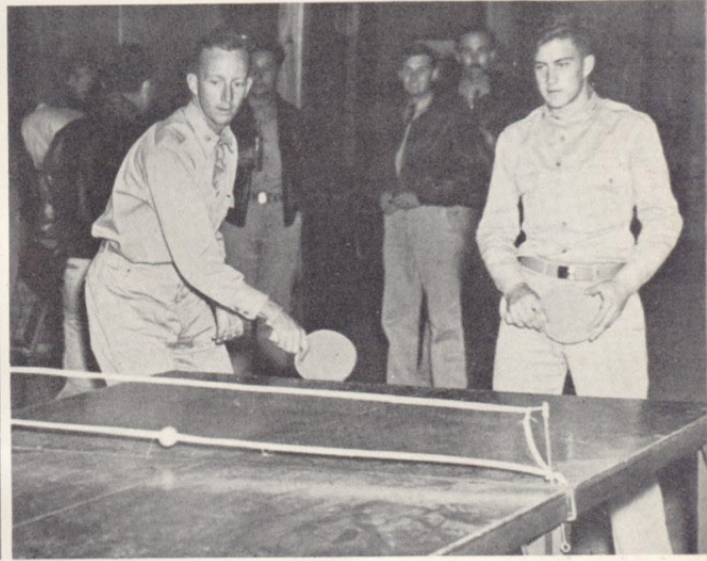
NIGHT FLIGHT





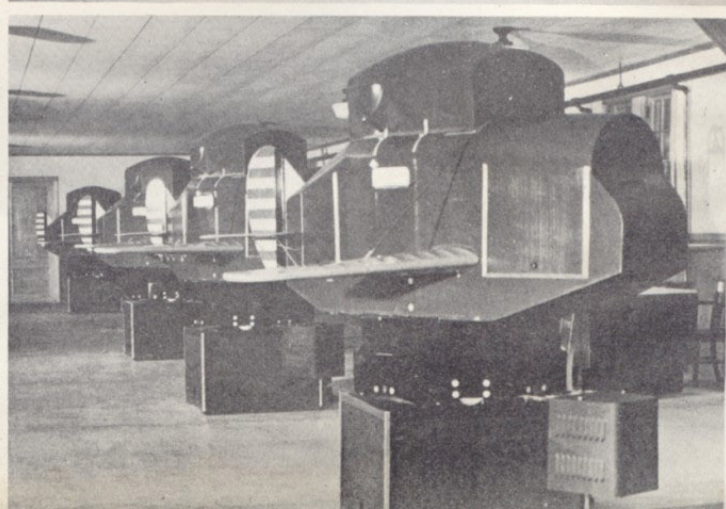
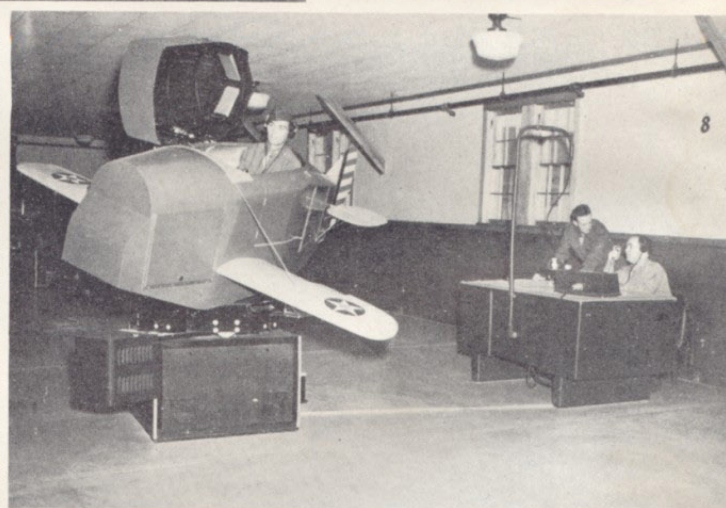
BARRACKS

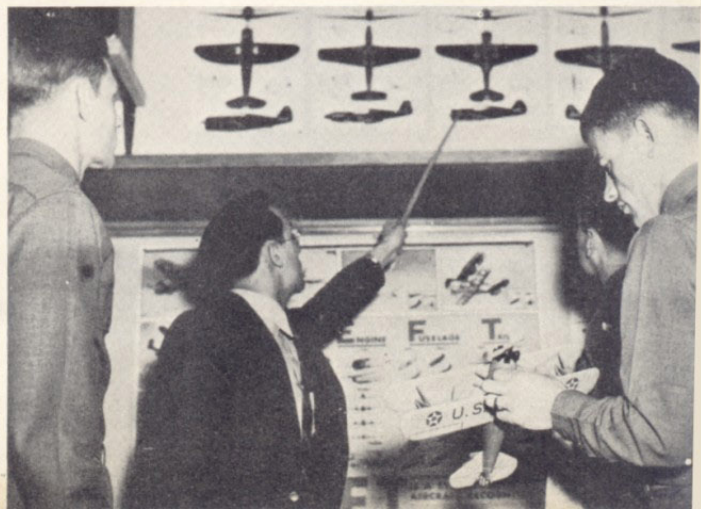
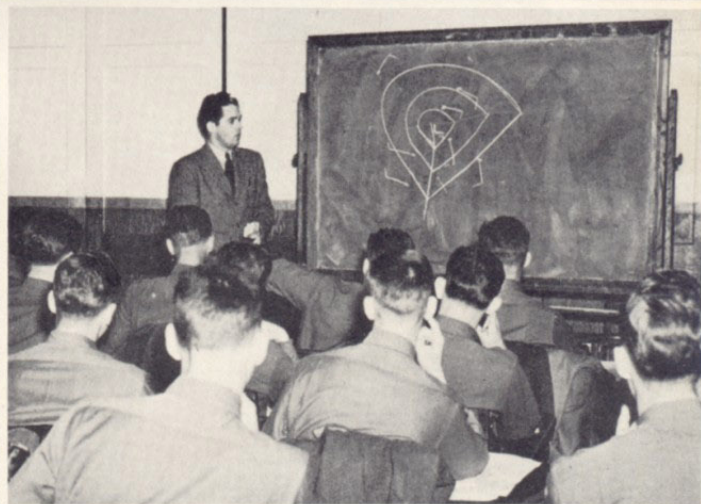
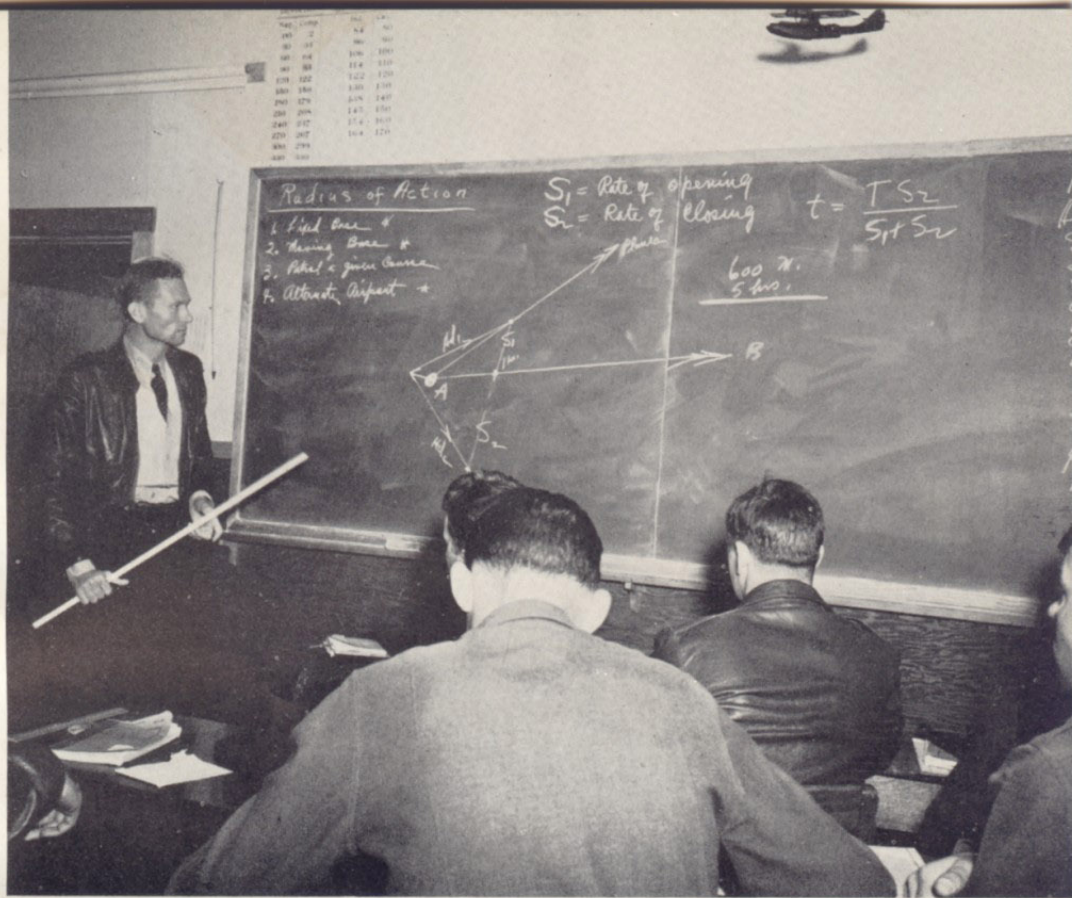






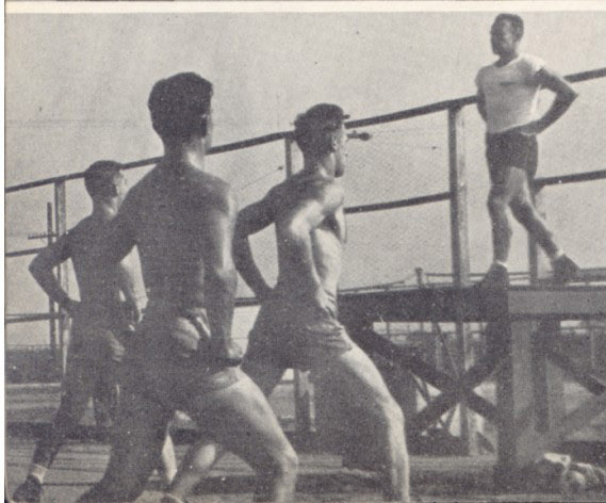
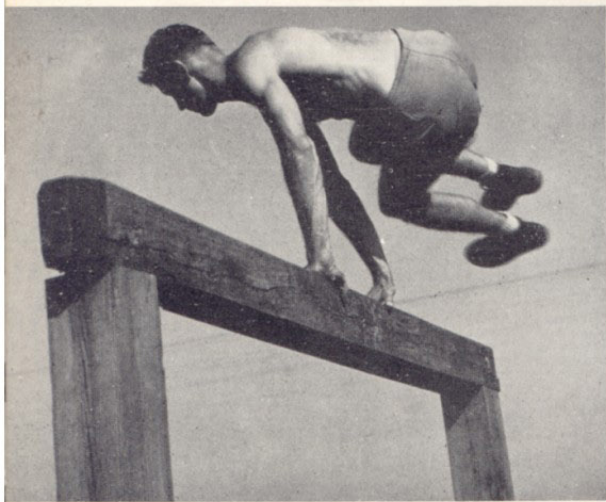
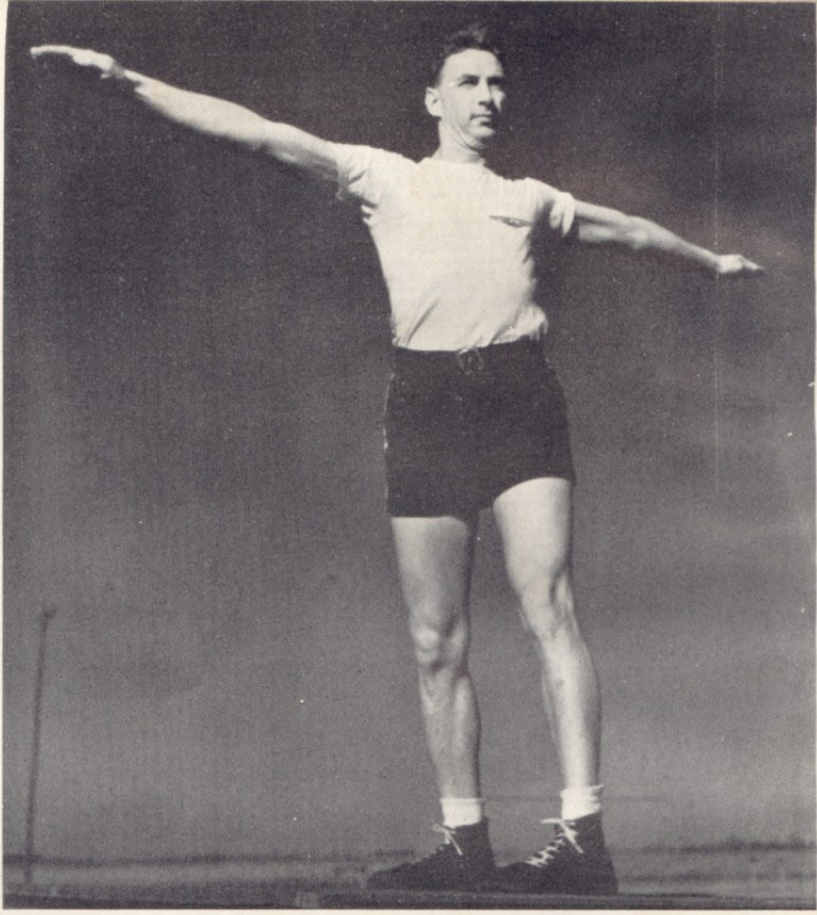
GROUND SCHOOL







PHYSICAL TRAINING







RANDOM SHOTS





"GIG"



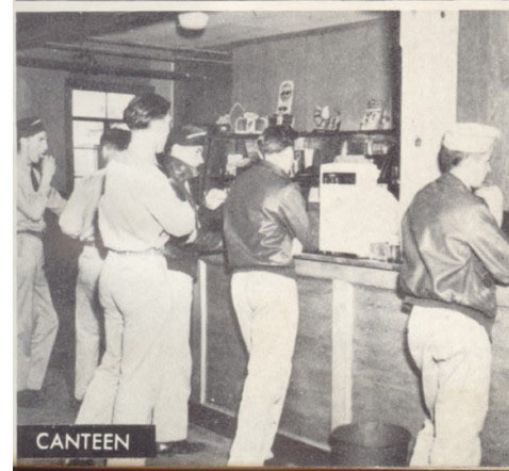
O.D.



MAIL



RAF

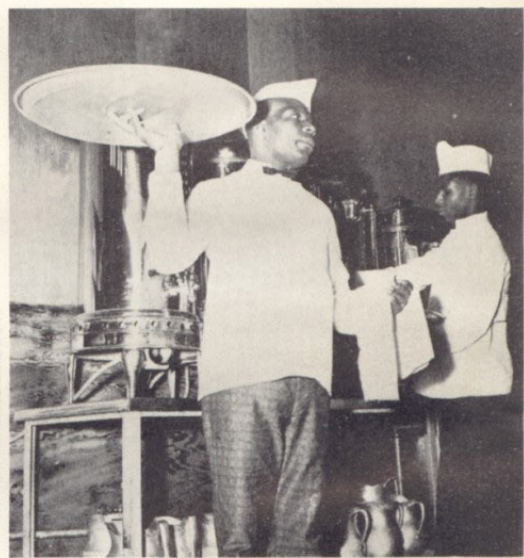


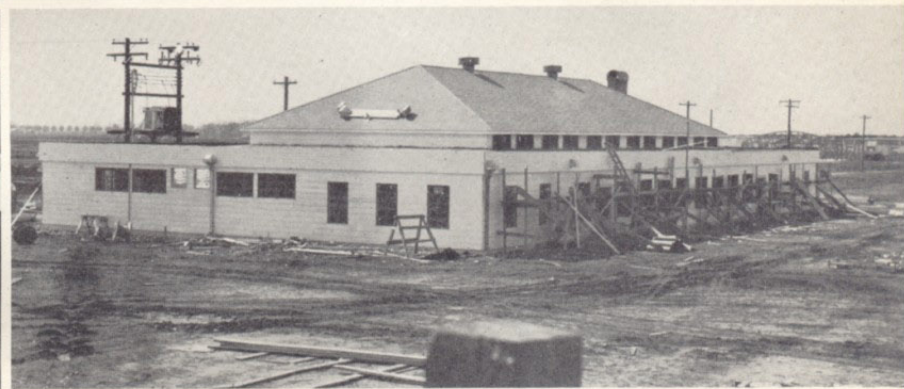
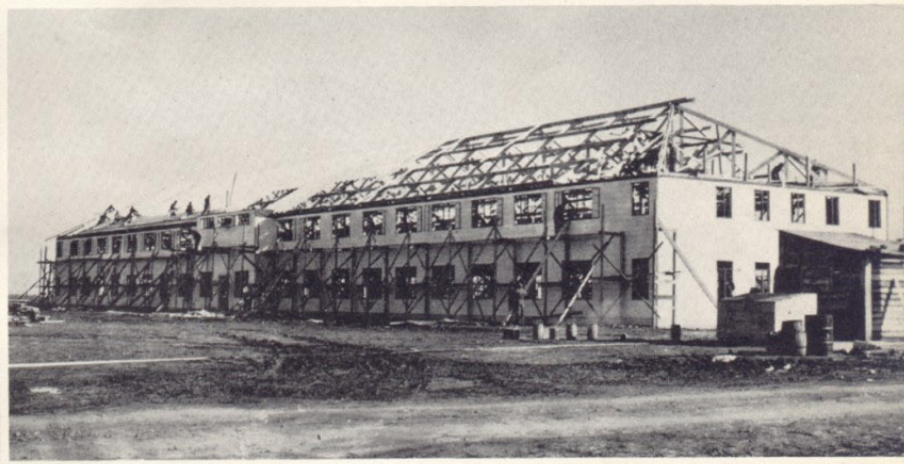
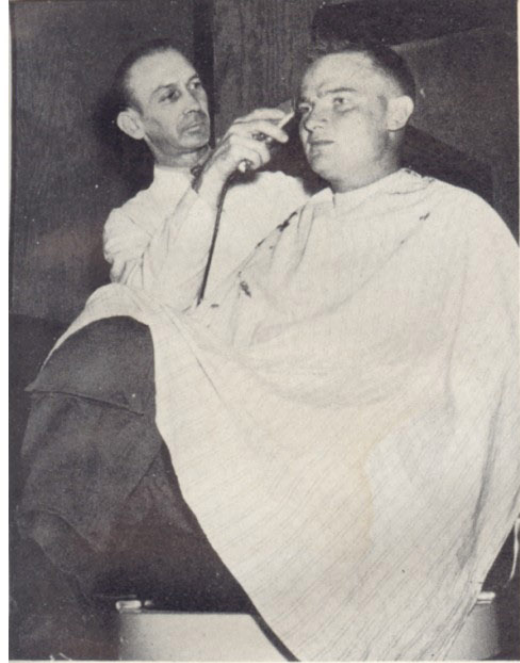
CANTEEN





RANDOM SHOTS

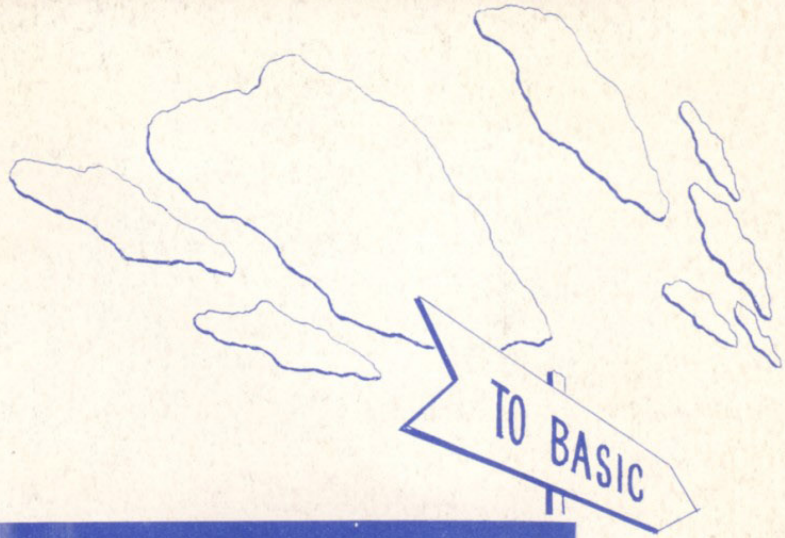






DEPARTURE





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GRAHAM AVIATION



"WE KEEP 'EM FLYING"



SOUTHER FIELD

1918

U.S. ARMY AIR FORCE FLYING TRAINING DETACHMENT

44B

44B

44B

44B

44B

44B

44B

44B

44B

