

Survey may have spurred land request

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Army acknowledged Tuesday that a government survey of possible surplus lands may have encouraged it to seek additional acreage for Ft. Hood, Tex.

Lt. Gen. R. M. Shoemaker, the post's commander, told a House subcommittee that a General Services Administration review of land requirements occurred at approximately the same time in 1972 as his predecessor began a study that indicated more land was needed.

He responded to a suggestion that the base commander, faced with the government survey, had become sensitive to the possibility of losing land and had countered by claiming more was needed.

"The GSA may have had a triggering effect; I'm sure it did," Shoemaker told the House Armed Services subcommittee on military installations and facilities.

The Army is seeking \$36.5 million to acquire 59,300 acres of additional training and maneuver area adjacent to the post's western boundary.

"This area was far better than any other site," he said.

He said land to the north and

northeast would include the town of Flat and would not permit battalion-sized maneuvers.

To the east, Lake Belton forms a border for the post and to the south, the towns of Killeen and Copperas Cove block further expansion.

"We have not been able to find another training area that would not cost several million dollars more," Shoemaker said.

"This land is needed to provide adequate training and maneuver area for two active Army armored divisions, a National Guard armored division, and air cavalry brigade," said Maj. Gen. W. R. Wray, assistant chief engineers.

The study by Shoemaker's predecessor said an additional 58,000 acres was needed. But Shoemaker could not say whether any other study had been undertaken.

"We have found references to studies," he said, but that he had not located any "detailed, bound study, with tabs A to Z."

He also acknowledged that an alternative to acquiring the 59,300 acres west of the post, which will displace 165 families, was the possibility of acquiring approximately

15,000 acres to the northeast. He said this land, although used by fewer families was less desirable.

Shoemaker said he attended a meeting Saturday with local landowners who will be affected by the 59,300-acre acquisition and most "voiced loud opposition."

"They have waged a vigorous campaign that the Army has not shown an urgent need for the land," he said. "One can't help feel extreme sympathy with the landowners, with roots so deep in the soil they can't bear to think of selling at any price."

"The Department of the Army will not take any actions without considering the concerns of these fine Americans," he said, but he stressed that he was "duty bound" to consider the nation's need for additional training ground.

He said that one alternative to buying the land is a costly, time-consuming procedure of removing unexploded, dud shells from the post's major target area at its center.

The target area includes 62,000 acres used for artillery and small arms fire from 85 firing ranges.

To remove the duds, he said, thousands of soldiers must form

skirmish lines covering the entire area over several weeks before the land can be used for battalion maneuvers.

Subcommittee Chairman Richard H. Ichord, D-Mo., questioned whether the \$36.5 million land acquisition figure was realistic, and suggested that it could be much higher if the land owners continue to balk at selling their property and force the matter into court.

A condemnation proceeding, in which a local jury would set a fair market price for the land, could raise the price considerably, he said.

Wray said that if the price be-

comes too inflated, the Army would be precluded from buying the land.

"We would hope the procedures would arrive at a fair price," he said.

The size of the post has not increased since 1953, but the number of soldiers stationed there has increased from about 2,000 to 47,500, with 3,000 temporarily stationed in Europe. The number of tanks and other tracked vehicles has doubled.

Shoemaker said the terrain of the property on the northwestern side is perfect for training for combat in a temperate zone. He said only one town, Pidgeon, would be included in the purchase.

Nominees announced for Academy Awards

The nominees for the 48th Academy Awards presentations have been announced. The nominees in the following categories are:

Best Movie:
"Barry Lyndon"
"Dog Day Afternoon"

Best Actor:
Walter Matthau for "The Sunshine Boys"
Jack Nicholson for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
Al Pacino for "Dog Day Afternoon"
Maximilian Schell for "The Man in the Glass Booth"
James Whitmore for "Give 'Em Hell, Harry"

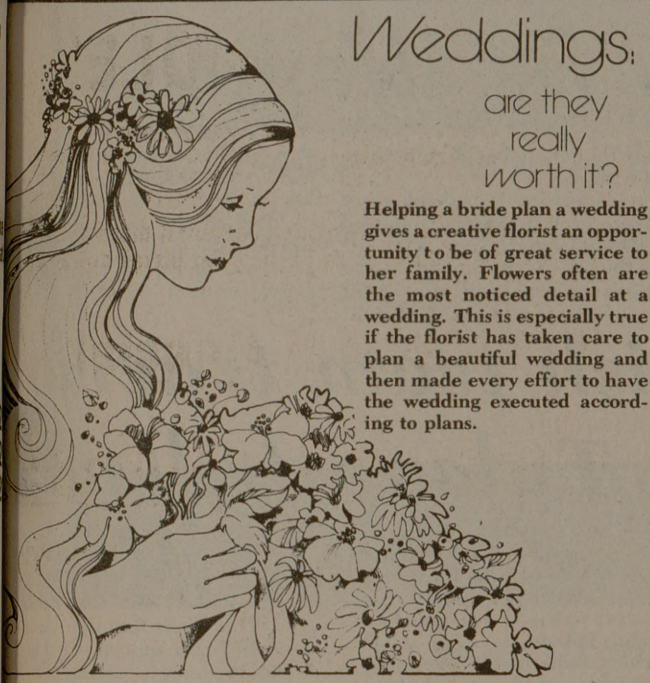
Best Actress:
Isabelle Adjani for "The Story of Adele H."
Ann-Margret for "Tommy"
Louise Fletcher for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
Glenda Jackson for "Hedda"
Carol Kane for "Hester Street"

Best Director:
Robert Altman for "Nashville"
Frederico Fellini for "Amarcord"
Milos Forman for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
Stanley Kubrick for "Barry Lyndon"
Sydney Lumet for "Dog Day Afternoon"

Best Supporting Actor:
George Burns for "The Sunshine Boys"
Brad Dourif for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
Burgess Meredith for "Day of the Locust"
Chris Sarandon for "Dog Day Afternoon"
Jack Warden for "Shampoo"

Best Supporting Actress:
Ronee Blakley for "Nashville"
Lee Grant for "Shampoo"
Sylvia Miles for "Farewell, My Lovely"
Lily Tomlin for "Nashville"
Brenda Vaccaro for "Once is Not Enough"

"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" garnered the most nominations with nine. The winners will be announced March 29 on a nationwide telecast from the Los Angeles Music Center.



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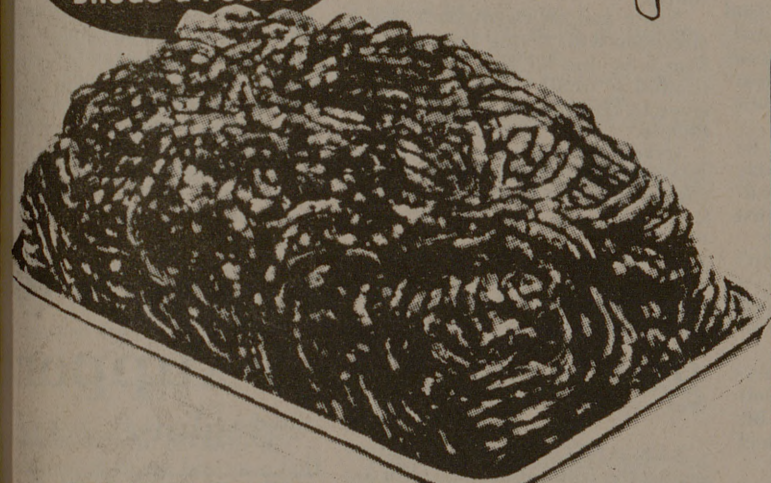
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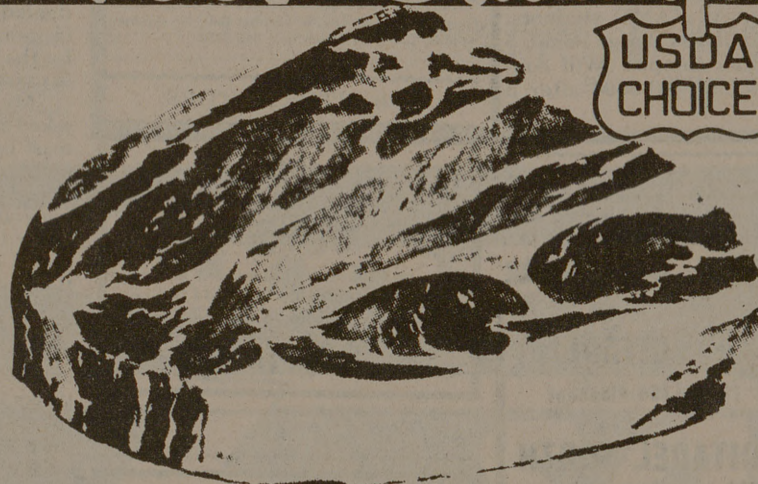
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Rodeo arena to be replaced by new center

After over 20 years of usage, the Aggie Rodeo Arena will be replaced. A new equestrian center including a new arena, horse stables, a polo field, and a jumping course will replace the structure.

The new center will be located on a 65-acre tract of land on Turkey Creek Road.

It will serve three purposes, says Dr. Gary Potter of the Agricultural Extension Service. First, it will improve facilities for teaching. More classwork could be done there in the courses relating to horses.

It also would improve the facilities for horse research. Contractors building similar equestrian centers for subdivisions would be able to look at the center and get estimates on cost.

A design architect has been assigned to the project. Potter said the cost and the date of completion are not yet known.

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