

# Emphasis Placed On Grades In New Air Corps Directive

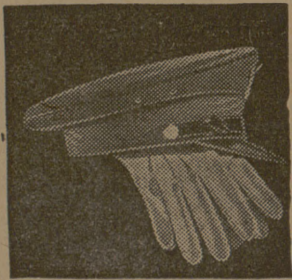
## New Wing Cammander Takes Over

Filling the vacancy left by the departure of A/S Victor Robinson to San Antonio, Mr. Charles W. May officially took over the duties of Wing Commander on Tuesday Jan. 4. Mr. May, who has been here at Texas A. & M. since Sept. 13, proved himself worthy of the position he now holds by serving as Squadron Commander of Squadron III for some three and a half months.

His army career began back in 1941, when he reported to the 17th Infantry division on Jan. 27. At this time the 17th division, which was later destined to capture Attu, was stationed at Fort Ord in California. While at Fort Ord he worked his way up from rifleman to sergeant of a 60mm mortar platoon. After 18 months he was transferred to Camp Swift in Texas to help in activating the newly formed 95th division. After finishing his work at Camp Swift he was sent to Fort Sam Houston where he once more resumed his duties as platoon sergeant.

It was while at Fort Sam Houston that Mr. May applied for transfer to the Air Force in June of 1943. After taking his physical examination, his division moved to Louisiana for 65 days of maneuvers. As fate would have it, the morning of the 65th day he received his acceptance for Cadets and moved on to Sheppard Field. Mr. May was born some 24 years ago in Alameda, Calif., where he spent his leisure time in hunting and fishing. These two sports still remain his favorite hobbies, although he participated in many others. In high school he was active in softball, basketball and football, being Captain of the varsity eleven in his senior year. After the completion of his high school career, Mr. May continued his softball playing with the Shell Oil Co., for whom he worked until entering the service.

Stapler. In Porterville, Calif., William Benedict, out hunting, lined up a couple of deer, bagged them both with one shot.



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### FIRST SCHOLASTIC REPORTS REVEAL

Thirty men in the 308th C. T. D. now boast academic averages of above 90 percent according to the lists posted in squadron orderly rooms Thursday evening.

Leading the parade was Aviation Student William R. Hodge of Squadron V with a 95 average. Leaders in their respective squadrons were Aviation Student R. L. Gaudinok in Squadron III with 94 and Aviation Student Y. C. Greer in Squadron II with 92.

Of the 30 high averages, 16 were in Squadron V, nine in Squadron III and five in Squadron II. Squadron I's records were not figured and the high ranking men in Squadron IV had been moved up with no placements in sight.

At a detachment meeting Thursday afternoon, Capt. Jack Greeson, plans and training officer, emphasized the importance of scholarship and reminded the students that their grades here would go down on their military record.

## BABY BEAVERS REPORT

A cross-section of opinion from Squadron I, which arrived at College Station to join the 308th Detachment two weeks ago, reveals the new Eager Beavers are well satisfied with their new station.

In response to queries on the food, the discipline, the studies, the officers, the instructors, the detachment in general and Aggie land, Squadron I was unanimous in voicing approval.

A/S CLIFFORD KING, of Vienna, Ga., who has been in 23 different stations since joining the army 25 months ago, and therefore should know, thinks the food "couldn't be better."

"Especially," he declares, "When one has been on maneuvers as many times as I have."

A/S King adds: "The discipline is just what it should be in view of what we are being trained for; as long as you stay on the ball it isn't too tough."

Before coming into the army he was a truck driver, before applying for flight training he was crew chief on a bomber. He expects to be able to use the training he will get here after the war "just plenty. Especially the mathematics and physics."

A/S L. V. BRUNETTO, South San Francisco, Cal.—"The food is fine; the weather, almost as good as California; the studies—all new to me and kind of tough."

A/S PRESSLEY MICK, Pochantas, Ia.: "The 308th makes a man out of you or else. The tactical officers are the best I've met in the army. But the history teachers seem to think history is the only thing in the life of an aviation student."

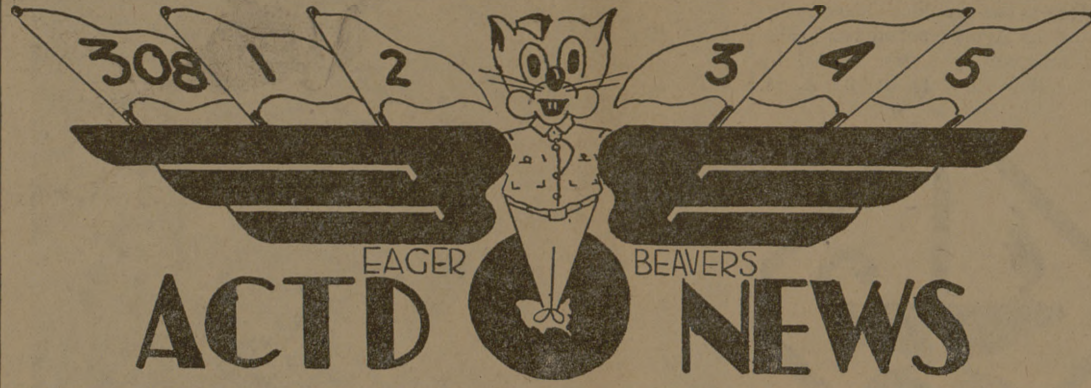
A/S RALPH LAYTON, St. Louis, Mo.: "On of the things this place lacks is sand in the food. I consider myself lucky to have been sent to school at A. & M. I like the way we are treated, and the strictness of the discipline."

### PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

Three promotions among the enlisted personnel of the headquarters staff of the 308th College Training Detachment were announced Thursday by Capt. Sam B. Hill, commanding officer.

Sgt. Norman L. Fox, who works in the service record department, was promoted to staff sergeant; Cpl. Irvin Grossman, who is the file clerk, was made a sergeant; and Pfs. Charles T. Eubanks, who works with the plans and training office, supply, personnel and the tactical training departments, was promoted to corporal.

All three men were among the first to arrive here when this detachment was set up in February 1943. Corporal Eubanks coming here February 18, Sergeant Grossman and Sergeant Fox, both arriving about February 20. Of the three Sergeant Grossman has been in the army for the longest period. Previous to coming here Sergeants Fox and Grossman were both members of the staff of the Pre-Flight School at the San Antonio Cadet Center. Sergeant Fox was a personnel clerk there and Sergeant Grossman was in the file section. Corporal Eubanks came to this detachment from Ellington Field, where he worked in personnel headquarters. Previous to that he was a member of the staff of the recruiting office in Houston.



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## Wing Tips

**SQUADRON II ATTENTION HOT PILOTS—**A/S A. Offenbecker "Force Landing" challenges anyone of you to surdo his record of force landings. As of last Friday his score was two, and by today it will be at least four.

A/S R. THURMOND—(Hot Pilot). Next time you leave the field, lets not walk off with the ship's door. Your pilot may hit the air. You wouldn't want that to happen, WOULD YOU?

A/S A. Hill—Attention please! So sorry—can't punch your T. S. Card. Next time don't have switch on "Contact" and call "Close and Off".

A/S Van Waren—THE idea of shooting landing is to make a three point one, not three bounces, then do a 180 degree turn, and stop your ship with the brakes.

A/S B. N. Edminsten—Will you be FUBAR when you run out of cigars! What will Chapman say? Better yet, what will your flight report say?

**FLYING RUMOR—**A/S Grinstead is contemplating a more drastic step than taking poison. He's taking on a better half. How about that little book you have?

**MR. WAITS—**How can A/S Stogel pass his flight training, when instead of studying his flight maneuvers, he's studying D. R. His grade in that subject is 5. He can't even make a take-off, never the less a three point landing. Tell him to stick to planes, they can't say no.

**NERVOUS LIAN—**Mrs. L. will you get down here and stop Mr. L. from going crazy till you do come? I don't mind it during the day, but at nite when he practices—that's all.

### SQUADRON III

Covering the detachment meeting of Jan. 6th. Much to our regret, when I say our, I mean Squadron III. It looks as though the boys will have to buckle down and study a little harder. If privilage are to be expected, I don't know, but could it be that the Beavers of this squadron aren't as eager as they used to be!

### Military Band News

Membership in the Military Band will number sixty-five when all new Squadron I members secure their instruments, A/S M. B. Elliot, band director, announced Thursday.

Fourteen men from the new squadron have joined the band. The membership should continue to grow according to Mr. Elliot, since only eight men will be lost with the departure of Squadron II, and it is hoped that these will more than be replaced by the new Squadron II.

### TO STAFF MEMBERS

Two War Department Civilian Award ribbons were presented to civilian members of the headquarters staff of the 308th College Training Detachment at the weekly review Friday afternoon, December 31, 1943.

Presentation of these ribbons was made by Capt. Sam B. Hill, commanding Officer of the 308th C. T. D. to Miss Mary Beal, secretary in the plans and training office, and to Mrs. Virginia Spacek, payroll clerk. Mrs. Spacek's husband, Cpl. Edwin Spacek, is the morning report clerk.

These ribbons, which were inaugurated recently by the War Department, are given for at least six months of faithful and effi-

cient service on the part of civilian employee.

Some of the Beavers are going to be disappointed now. No more superman during study period. It looks as though we will have to study from now on and get that old 'on the ball' feeling. What's say we do just that!

**MR. ROY SMITH** seems to be having trouble with tumbling. Seems he has trouble trying to get his feet off the floor. (PS. Must be the Graviety.) Those who were in swimming are finding P. E.—nice (?) now.

A/S R. H. HARDING is a proud papa we see. Mrs. Harding has returned from Eureka, Kansas with their little off-spring.

A/S J. C. COTTRELL and A/S A. D. MONTGOMERY would like to say—HELLO.

**SQUADRON V THROUGH SOME CAREFUL PINAGLING AND THE LOCAL SQUADRON V BEAVERS BEING ON THE BALL — SUCCESS. SQUADRON WINS THE REVIEW RIBBON—AT LAST! ! ! NOW CROW!**

If we can ever get our Messrs. Melton, Butler, Shemroske, and Kopec without too much confusion to the Flight A's, it will virtually be an accomplishment on the part of one Mr. Lightstone. . . . The real eager-beaver a la de luxe—shall we rave on, sir?

A/S JOE TALLAL—fixes glasses, picellos (spelled right?) clocks so that they don't work. He is one of the Slide Rule Commandos so expertly named by local talent.

A/S LAWRENCE BERLOW—has been kind enough to cut out the ARMY AIR CORPS SONG for the convenience of those who would like to sing at the Detachment Meetings. The song is in this issue. Please cut out and place in wallet for general use.

T/Sgt. CAS DISHMAN — A prayer to a chop-chop ball (bawl)! He might have been a beautiful baby, but oh, look at his head—now!

### LIEUTENANT ASKEW LEAVES FOR SCHOOL

Lt. Rual Askew, Jr., who had been acting adjutant for the past two weeks was ordered to report to the Army Intelligence School at Harrisburg, Penn., by Jan. 8.

While there Lieutenant Askew will take the basic intelligence course, which will last for approximately a month and then return to this detachment. He left here Wednesday evening and will begin his school work Monday.

### Wedding of Beaver Takes Place Tonight

A/S ROBERT J. KERRIGAN of Squadron 5, to marry Miss Ann Mullineaux of the state of New York, today at St. Mary's Chapel of College Station. Father Tim Valenta will officiate the wedding. Mr. and Mrs. George Huffman of Indiana will be the best man and bridesmaid in the wedding party. The bride will be given away by Captain Sam Hill.

Mr. Kerrigan and Miss Mullineaux are high school sweethearts. Mr. Kerrigan went to Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, where he played half-back on the varsity football team in 1942.

## Beavers Warned Washouts Possible for Low Averages

### Captain Greeson Tells Detachment Higher Scholastic Rating Expected

In accordance to the latest bulletin received from the Headquarters of the Army Air Forces Central Flying Training Command at Randolph Field, Texas, Capt. Jack Greeson, plans and training officer of the 308th College Training Detachment, informed the detachment about the major change whereby an Aviation Student can be eliminated due to lack of interest, or in course failures.

This policy goes into effect immediately. Classes and their schedules have been slowed up to allow the students to absorb the work more readily. This does not mean that the mid-semester exams will be limited to the mid-semester term. Eliminations can be made before the examinations take place, proving that the obvious cases warrant it.

The military training and military lectures will be longer; physical training also lengthened.

If the grades warrant it and prove that the academic deficiencies are a result of disinterest, in the opinion of the college faculty member, this may be considered grounds under this policy. Students who show special aptitude and are highly proficient in all subjects may thus be moved through the subject matter. This too provides an opportunity of the faster men to go through, providing that the grades prove he can be moved up, and take more work. Students will still take 22½ weeks of work. The academic subjects will be

allowed to run over a 20-week period. Flight period should begin with the 19th week of academic training. There will be a final exam as a standard basis of proficiency at the end of the 18-week period. This is to provide a check on final eliminations for academic deficiencies prior to the flight instructions.

Every effort will be given the man to keep above the average grades and if the man shows signs of honest interest and is applying himself all the time, he will have nothing to fear. As long as he is honest with himself and continues to do his best, then his chances of coming through are better than the average. Each man should know his own weakness and strive to eliminate these weaknesses immediately. If he is weak in some subject there are many men who have more knowledge on the subject who will be only too glad to help.

Applying yourself conscientiously and using all the resources in class that are open to you, you should make the grade. We want pilots, navigators and bombardiers. This is the golden opportunity that so many talk about.

## The Army Air Corps Song

Retrain:  
Off we go into the wild blue-yonder,  
Climbing high into the sun;  
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,  
At 'em boys, give 'em the gun!  
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,  
Off with one helluva roar,  
We live in fame or go down in flame, Boy!

**CHORUS:**  
Here's a toast to the host of those who love the vastness of the sky;  
To a friend we will send a message of his brother men who fly.  
We drink to those who gave their all of old,  
Then down we roar to score the rainbow's pot of gold.  
A toast to the host of men we boast, the Army Air Corps!

Off we go into the wild blue-yonder,  
Keep the wings level and true.  
If you'd live to be a gray-haired wonder,  
Keep the nose out of the blue!  
Flying men guarding the Nation's border,  
We'll be there followed by more,  
In echelon we carry on, Boy!  
Nothing'll stop the Army Air Corps!

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**JANUARY 20**

**8:00 P. M.**