

# Ernie Pyle Gave True Picture Of American GI, Say College Residents

In less than one week American have suffered from the death of two of its greatest personalities, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Ernie Pyle. Ernie Pyle, sometimes known as the 'doughboys' war correspondent, was killed Tuesday by a bullet from a Japanese machine gun on a small island just ten miles west of Okinawa.

Although the cadets as a whole do not keep up with Pyle's column, it is read by practically all of the faculty members and their families, many of which knew him personally.

Dean F. C. Bolton expressed his opinion that Pyle was perhaps the greatest human-interest correspondent the world has known.

He said that Pyle had a way of writing his stories so that everyone at home felt that they really understood the life of the combat soldier. Pyle, said Dean Bolton, has given us a picture of our fighting men that has never been given before.

Dean T. D. Brooks, who follows his column in the Dallas Morning News, said that he believes Ernie Pyle has done more to show us on the home front what is really going on over there more than anyone else. He remarked that Pyle shows the war as it really is to the GI Joes and their comrades.

Dean Brooks said that President Truman was just about right when he made this statement up-

on hearing the word of his death. "No man in this war has so well told the story of the American fighting men as American fighting men wanted it told."

Mrs. Gibb Gilchrist stated that she read Pyle's column regularly and has for some number of years. She feels that his articles are very true to life and that he shows the moms and dads, sweethearts and wives how their loved ones are really living, and dying. Mrs. Gilchrist said that his news stories are just like letters that are sent home by the boys over there that are in the thick of battle.

Mrs. G. B. Wilcox says that we are really going to miss him because he writes about the everyday life of the plain soldier, a story that we are all eager to listen to and know about. Mrs. Wilcox said that more of us are interested in the life of the GI more than anything else, and that Pyle was the only correspondent that has really been able to give us a complete and authentic picture of it.

Mr. G. B. Wilcox, head of the Student Personnel Office, said that it will be quite a loss to the readers that used to keep up with their loved ones through the column written by Ernie Pyle. Mr. Wilcox, who has been reading Pyle's column for quite some time, feels that he was the "doughboy's" interpreter of the news. He believes that Pyle has shown a kind of sympathetic

understanding of the GI that has never been shown by any other correspondent in this war.

Byron Winstead, Publicity Director of the College, said that he met Pyle personally when he was inaugurated into the Whittler's Club of Houston a number of years ago, and he feels that no other correspondent has brought the news home as straight forward and in such an understanding way as Pyle. Mr. Winstead said that Pyle was very close to A. & M. through his association with Major R. L. Elkins, formerly with the Ag. Eco. department and now with the Tank Corps. Pyle met Maj. Elkins during the African campaign, and they became good friends, in fact it

was through Ernie Pyle's column that the people on the Campus found out about Maj. Elkins being wounded in action.

Mr. Winstead said that Pyle wrote in a language that could be understood by everyone, and the boys that he wrote about were just like the kid next door, or the boy down in the next block. Pyle usually filled his column with personal items about the soldiers that were of interest to everyone who had any relatives or loved ones in the service. Mr. Winstead said that Pyle gave more credit to the Infantryman than any other correspondent has done in this war. He knew what he was talking about when he wrote of the hardships

that the boys were going through, because he was living with them and going through their same daily routines of life on the front lines.

And that is why, said Mr. Winstead, that Ernie Pyle was the best loved war correspondent of the soldier and civilian, because he liked what they liked and wrote what they wanted him to write.

President Truman sums up his comment on Pyle's death by saying that nobody knows how many individuals in our armed forces and at home he has helped through his writings. But all Americans understand now how wisely, how warmly, how honestly he served his country and his profession. He deserves his nation's gratitude.

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College

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## Muster Ceremonies In Guion Saturday Night Cadet Wiegand To Be Decorated At Formal Review General Marshall Says ROTC Program To Be Expanded

### Strengthening of Courses After War Is Scheduled

In a letter addressed to President Gilchrist, General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, announced that the present plans of the War Department are to expand the ROTC program well beyond its enrollment before the war and to strengthen it by raising the courses to the college level.

He made this statement in regard to the doubt of certain colleges and universities as to the continuance of the ROTC program and the participation in this program by those colleges and universities engaged in the program at the present time.

A. & M. will be offered the opportunity to continue its affiliation with the War Department in this important phase of our Military preparedness, continued Marshall. The five star Chief of Staff added that the War Department will notify college officials promptly as soon as details of their post-war plans in this respect have been formulated.

At the present time the universal military training bill is being debated and upon its outcome will probably depend the continuance of College ROTC after the war.

The text of General Marshall's letter:

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
Washington

2 April 1945

Dear President Gilchrist:  
I have been advised that certain colleges and universities maintaining Army ROTC have some doubt (See COURSES, Page 6)

As Cadet Corps Observed Muster In '44



The Corps celebrated its first Muster a year ago by having as guest speaker, Mr. E. E. McQuillen, Executive Secretary of the Former Students Association, who is shown at the above left delivering his address. The Cadet Committee is shown at the upper right.

### A.&M. Men Once Again To Join Hands Around World At 1945 April 21 Muster

#### Colonel Welty To Decorate Cadet For Gallantry in Italy

In a review to be staged by the Cadet Corps Saturday, April 21, Aggie Muster Day, Cadet A. F. Wiegand will be presented the Bronze Star for "conspicuous bravery in action." Colonel Welty has been designated by the commanding general of the 91st Division, of which Wiegand was a member during the first stages of the Italian campaign, to make the presentation of the award.

Scheduled to begin promptly at 1:30, the review is to be attended by all cadets. All residents of the surrounding area and all visitors to the campus at that time are invited to be present as this is the first time an award such as this has ever been presented to a student on the campus of the College. The formation will be the same as all other reviews and the uniform will be No. 2.

In the reviewing stand will be the Deans of the various schools, the visiting members of the Class of '95, and the wives of the officers. In all there are expected to be about 75 people in the stand. It is urged that more faculty members turn out for the affair, for the number of faculty members attending previous reviews has been very small.

The review is to be part of the Muster Day program which will be continued Saturday night by ceremonies in Guion Hall.

#### Invitation

Hank Avery, Aggie Muster Chairman, has issued a special invitation to all Aggie dates to come to the Muster ceremonies Saturday night in Guion Hall. Also, all Brazos County Exes are especially invited to be present as joint Brazos Co.-Cadet Corps ceremonies will be held. Lt. Chamberlin, '39, who attended the Aggie Muster on Corregidor will be the principal speaker, said Avery.

#### Former College Employees In Army Will Be Honored

The Honor Roll plaque bearing the names of College employees and staff members on leave for military service has been hung on the wall of the main floor hall of the Administration building. On the plaque appear the names of more than 370 men and women who have been granted leave from the College in order to take their places in the Army, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard.

The plaque is made up of a heavy plywood backboard which has been finished in natural color. On this are mounted cast aluminum plates showing the seal of the College, the designation of the (See FORMER, Page 6)

#### Lt. Chamberlin '39 Is Guest Speaker At Student Ceremonies

Saturday night at 8 p.m. the joint Cadet Corps Brazos County Muster will be held in Guion Hall. Plans for the 1945 April 21 ceremonies are practically complete and all is in readiness for the program Saturday night. On the campus for their golden anniversary, the class of '95 will be honor guests at the program. Also, all other former students of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas all over the world will gather on April 21, for their annual San Jacinto day muster. Wherever two or more Texas Aggies get together on that day, the muster will be official, according to E. E. McQuillen, executive secretary of the Association of Former Students.

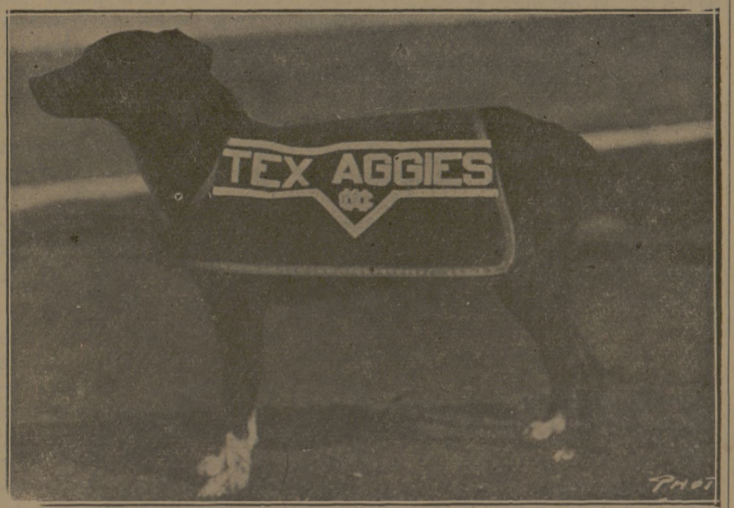
In Europe, according to word received by McQuillen, a race is on between Aggies in Paris and those mustering on the outskirts of Berlin. World-wide is the scope of the known musters for word has been received from the Canal Zone, India, Burma, Chungking, Manila and other Pacific outposts that the word has been passed down the line for Aggies to gather. An outline for a ceremonial observance common to all musters has been sent out by McQuillen.

Large musters will be held in Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle, Kansas City, St. Louis, (See MUSTER, Page 6)

## Huntsville All-Girl Orchestra To Play For Reveille Show And Corps Dance Friday Night

### Saturday Nite Dance To Be Held In Grove

One of the few really talented all girl orchestras will be on the campus of A. & M. Friday evening to play for the Reveille show that is to be held in Guion Hall at 8:00 o'clock Friday, April 20. This fine group of girl musicians is from Sam Houston State Teachers College at Huntsville and is known all over the state as a top ranking school orchestra. Sam Houston State Teachers College itself is famous for producing outstanding instrumentalists. Along with the fifteen piece orchestra is coming a group of dancers, specialty acts and a glee club, all made up of girls. The show, which is expected to be quite a thing in entertainment for Aggie land, is expected



to last around an hour or an hour and fifteen minutes. After the show in Guion Hall the Orchestra will

### Friday Night Dance To Be Held In Sbis

hear a dance band that picks you up with its slow and sentimental music and knocks you out with its hot jazz.

Blue Rain is the orchestra's theme song, and a few of the other numbers they are expected to play are: St. Louis Blues, Pistol Packin' Mamma, Her Tears Flowed Like Wine, In the Mood, and a few more that are sure to go over big. Prissy Frederick will give some readings and do some imitations. Ree McCulloch will play the drums and Jane White will give a piano solo.

The purpose of the show is to raise money in order that a monument can be purchased for Reveille's grave. All Aggies and residents of College Station know



how much Rev meant to the Corps, will be quite a number of persons in order to make the "Reveille Drive" a big success. and so it is expected that there turning out for the performance