

Freshmen to Make Branch Selections

For the third consecutive year, The Battalion is publishing a summary of activities of various branches to aid freshmen in making selection of the branch they will do advanced work in next year. Pictures for this page have been furnished by the AFROTC. Air Force instruction is not repeated next year all AFROTC cadets will get course of instruction.)

Freshmen will have an opportunity to select the branch of service they will do in basic military classes. This act will determine their entire future military career of the individual. He will be trained, commissioned, and active duty in that branch, said Col. Shellenbarger, PMS&T.

Selection to branches is based on three factors of importance: 1) Desire of the individual; 2) Course of study and academic ability of the students and 3) quotas of students in each branch of the Army. A freshman now wears the "brass" of the Infantry branch has no bearing on his selection.

lection, said Col. Myers. Newly assigned freshmen wear the insignia of upperclassmen in their company for administrative purposes only, he added.

Two Major Divisions

The Army is divided generally into two basic groups, depending upon their mission; combat arms, including Infantry, Field Artillery, Anti-aircraft Artillery and Armor; and the services of which seven are available at A&M. They are Quartermaster Corps, Signal Corps, Army Security Agency, Transportation Corps, Ordnance Corps, Chemical Corps, and Corps of Engineers.

The Army's mission is to force upon the enemy the will of the nation. To accomplish this we must close with the enemy in mortal combat, wrest from him the land on which he stands, and force him to submit to our will. This mission can be accomplished only by the Infantry.

Closely supporting and sharing in the hardships and glories of the Infantry are the other "Arms." The Armor, drivers and operators of tanks, pro-

vides the Infantry with mobile cover and shock power. The Artilleryman is the long arm of the Infantry. They are the people who can reach out and tag the enemy before the Infantry ever sees him. The Engineers, while classified technically as a service, build bridges, remove mines, and fight in close support of the Infantry-Tank-Artillery team.

Service Branches

It has often been said an Army travels on its stomach. To keep our modern, technically equipped and operated teams effectively working in the field requires much more than food. The various services provide for the technical "know how" and operation that goes to support the combat arms. Research, design, development, procurement, and testing of the thousands of items used by the Army are responsibilities of the services.

To clothe and feed the Army we have the Quartermaster Corps. To provide vehicles, guns and munitions and the repair services for them we have the Ordnance Corps. The development of protective

equipment and defensive tactics as well as offensive weapons pertaining to bacteriological, chemical and radiological warfare are among the missions of the Chemical Corps.

Troop housing and utilities, construction of routes of communication, civil works construction, and the building and maintenance of air fields is charged to the Corps of Engineers. Signal communications of all sorts, radio, telephone, etc., are in the realm of the Signal Corps. The Transportation of men, material, and equipment in a constant effective flow so as to get to the right place at the right time is the job of the Transportation Corps.

Men with training in certain specialized fields fit well into the services.

Mechanical engineers for the Ordnance Corps, civil engineers for the Corps of Engineers, electrical engineers for the Signal Corps and Army Security Agency, chemical engineers for the Quartermaster Corps, experts in all branches of distribution (aerial, maritime and ground) for the Transportation Corps.

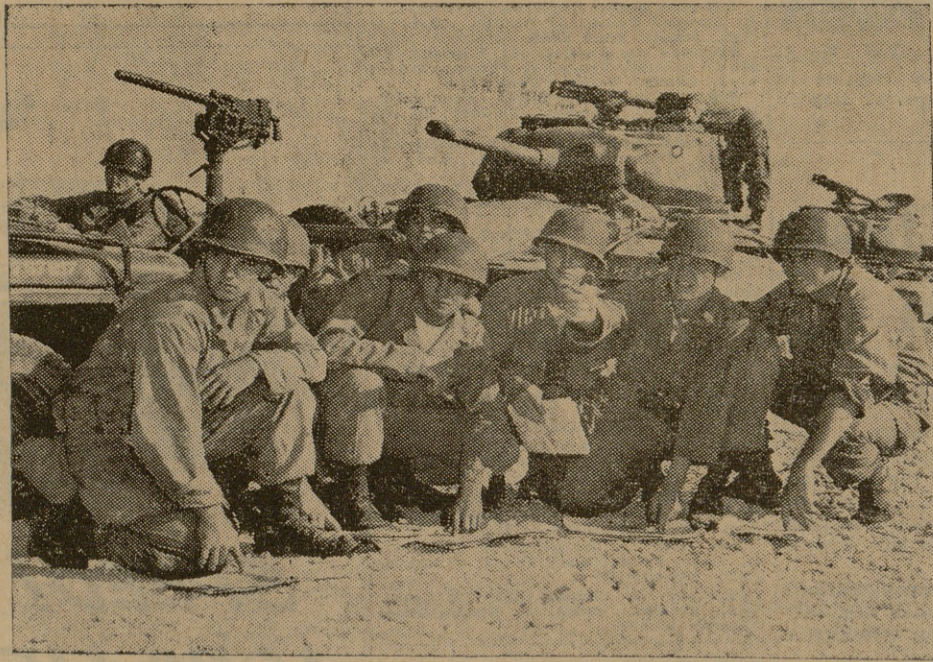
Anti-Aircraft

Anti-aircraft Artillery (former Artillery) is that part of the United States Army which provides land defenses against the attacks of hostile aircraft and guided missiles.

A variety of weapons are used to accomplish this mission. They include .50 caliber machine guns, 40mm and 75mm recoilless rifles, 90mm and 120mm mortar, and guided missiles capable of seeking "homing" on a target.

A variety of rockets and guided missiles are being developed for the anti-aircraft artillery to cope with the higher altitudes of modern

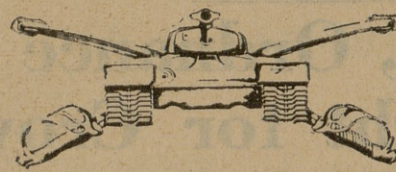
weapons and equipment of anti-aircraft Artillery offer a great interest to the individual in the fields of science and engineering.



MAP STRATEGY—Armor cadets at ROTC summer camp map strategy on a tank problem they are engaged in as part of their training prior to commission in the Armor.

Armor

ARMOR is the branch of the combat arms which leads and supports the actions of the other



ground arms through the use of armored and mechanized equipment. Armor personnel make up armored units from the Infantry regimental tank company to the medium and heavy tank battalions in Infantry and Armored divisions.

Armor personnel also form the reconnaissance companies of Infantry divisions and the reconnaissance battalions of Armored regiments and divisions.

Leadership standards are high in Armor, for a lieutenant must have a knowledge of gunnery, radios and telephones, motors and mobile tactics. Armored units are characterized by mobility, fire power, and shock action.

No special academic course is necessary for enrollment in Armor.



ON GUARD—Cadet Charles (Bubba) Blank practices a bayonet thrust at Infantry ROTC summer camp at Fort Benning, Ga.

Infantry

THE INFANTRY officer in his daily duties comes in contact with men under the most trying conditions. As a result, he develops the type of leadership necessary to handle large groups under any circumstances. By mastering minor tactics and learning how to handle himself in operations, he develops a battlefield cunning, which helps reduce the large number of casualties that come to his colleagues, who do not have that training.

The Infantry officer is the jack-of-all trades in the Army. His experience forms so basic a part in his military education that he is qualified for all types of highest education and positions of high responsibility. Eisenhower, Bradley and Collins all began their careers as second lieutenants in the Infantry.

The mission of a battle is to seize ground . . . and it is the Infantry that seizes the ground. All other units are auxiliaries to the mission.

Infantry instruction is open to students of any major field.

Quartermaster

QUARTERMASTER Corps is concerned with supply and service to the troops.



Supply includes research and development, buying, storage and distribution of food, clothing, petroleum products, and items of supply such as tents, blankets, cots and kitchen equipment.

The above supplies include 70,000 items, handled by a nationwide organization located in camps, depots, laboratories, and market centers.

The term "Quartermaster Service" includes the operation of petroleum tank farms and petroleum storage, drum manufacturing, salvage collection and repair, laundry and dry cleaning, mobile bath units, bakeries, operation of the food service program, refrigeration and sales store.

It also includes gardens and farms, operation of baggage warehouses, maintenance and repair, graves registration service, animal care and transportation and many other services that make the American soldier the best-fed, best-clothed and best-equipped soldier in the world.

Field Artillery

FIELD Artillery is the branch of the combat arms which provides concentrated, accurate fire power to crush the enemy on the battlefield.



From the assault guns of the middle ages, Artillery has developed into a family of specialized weapons, capable of delivering a great mass of steel in the form of bursting shell fragments on enemy positions.

Modern Field Artillery has as its mission the support of the ground forces (Infantry, Armor). Usually located in the rear of its supported unit, out of range of rifle fire, it deals devastating blows on the enemy.

Officer personnel operate the fire direction center, controlling the fires of many guns; and the actual fire of the pieces. As ground observers or air observers in liaison planes, they become the eyes of the artillery in adjusting the fire on the enemy.

A mathematical background is desirable of students enrolling in this branch.

Army Security Agency

ARMY Security Agency, a field agency of the intelligence division, has two broad interlocking functions. These two functions are signal intelligence, which comprises the production of intelligence from enemy communications, and communication security, which comprises the protection of information which might be derived by others from our own communications.

To accomplish the mission of communication security, the Army Security Agency is responsible for the preparation, publication, storage, distribution, and accounting of all cryptosystems employed by the Army; the development and maintenance of cipher machines, the promulgation of communication security doctrine; the monitoring of friendly radio traffic in order to detect and correct violations of communications security; the inspection of cryptocenters; and the surveillance of programs of cryptographic instruction.

Transportation Corps

TRANSPORTATION Corps, one of the youngest of all services, performs transportation functions for the Army and provides such transportation service for the Air Force or Navy as may be agreed to jointly.



Recently, the Transportation Corps was assigned responsibility for the procurement and maintenance of aircraft for all Army branches.

Cargo helicopter companies are operated by Transportation Corps personnel. Transportation officers are the Army's traffic managers as well as highway and railroad executives. Constant improvement in the movement of men and supplies throughout the world challenges the initiative, leadership, and ingenuity of transportation officers in command or staff capacities, many of which are closely allied with civilian occupations.

The academic courses which more nearly parallel this type of work are industrial engineering and business administration. However, no special academic course is necessary for admission to this branch.

Chemical Corps

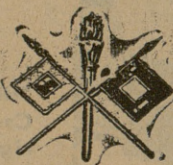
CHEMICAL Corps is one of the seven technical services of the Army which operate directly under the assistant chief of staff for logistics, G-4. It is charged with the investigation, research, design, development, and supply of all chemical warfare items.

The Chemical Corps is responsible for procurement and supply of chemical Corps equipment for the entire Army.

It furnishes advice to all elements of the Department of Defense on chemical, biological warfare, and radiological defense; analyzes and disseminates information on foreign chemical, biological, and radiological developments and activities; trains chemical staff officers and Chemical Corps troops and units; supervises training of Army personnel in biological and chemical warfare (offensive and defensive) and radiological defense; and manufactures chemical munitions and agents.

Signal Corps

SIGNAL Corps operates a world wide communications network, linking Army units everywhere with the Pentagon, and capable of sending a message around the world in less than ten seconds.



Signal personnel are assigned at division and higher headquarters where they install and operate all communications facilities, to include the latest in radio, radio relay and telephone carrier equipment designed by the Signal Research Laboratories.

In addition, the Signal Corps also provides photographic coverage and short range weather predictions for the Army.

Aviation in the Signal Corps has been re-established and signal officers now pilot light planes and helicopters in their own units.

Corps of Engineers

CORPS of Engineers is neither a combat arm nor a service—it is both. Its personnel are trained to be skilled Infantrymen as well as Engineers. Their job is threefold:



1) to increase the combat power of our front line fighting forces by combat construction and destruction; 2) to perform all construction, maintenance, repair and Engineer supply for the Army and 3) to construct all operating facilities for the Air Force.

The Corps of Engineers not only performs this military function, but is the responsible federal agency for flood control works and the maintenance and development of our rivers and harbors for navigation.

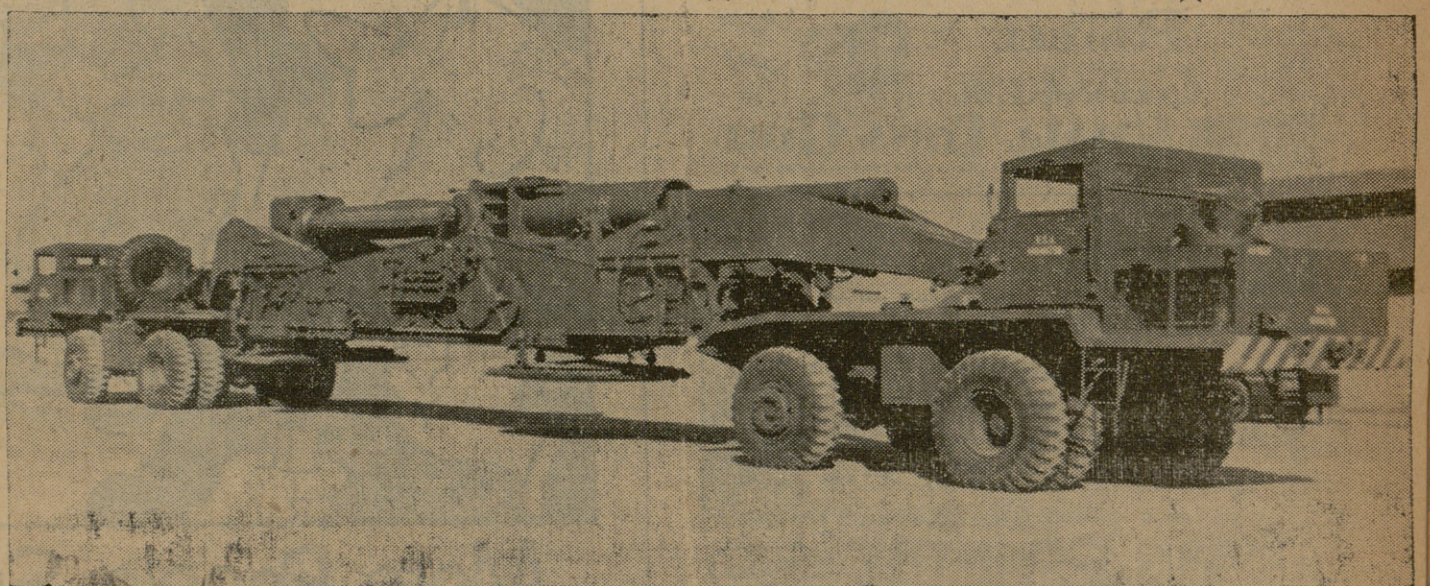
Because of the highly technical engineering skills required, Engineer officers are restricted to personnel engaged in engineering or some similar scientific pursuit and must meet the same physical requirements as the combat arms.

Ordnance Corps

ORDNANCE Corps provides the Armed Forces of our country with material for firepower and mobility—rifles, machine guns, artillery, ammunition, tanks, and trucks. Ordnance material ranges from time pieces to radar controlled automatic anti-aircraft guns; from jeeps to ponderous tank transporters; from pistol cartridges to twenty-ton bombs, pyrotechnics, and guided missiles.

A large part of this type material is supplied by the Ordnance Corps.

The Ordnance procurement program involves more expenditure of funds than all other Army services together. Ordnance research projects require millions of dollars annually.



ATOMIC ARTILLERY—This is a 280mm gun which will soon be used by the Field Artillery in test firing shells with atomic war heads at Frenchman's Flat, Nev.