

Military Past Dates Back To 1876 Opening

Since 1876 when A&M first opened its doors with six students has been a military school. The university has shouldered the hearty its responsibilities teaching military training under the National Land-Grant Sys-

For many years A&M has had

★ ★ ★ Aggie Flyer Loses Life

In Cold War

In addition to the hundreds of Aggies who died in both world wars and Korea there have been Cold-War casualties. Among these was Capt. Condon Terry, '57, who was killed June 27 while serving as a technical advisor to the Vietnamese in their flight against Communist Viet Cong troops. He was part of an air commando group. Terry and his pilot were shot down by ground fire while on a strafing run.

Letters from the Aggie-ex and statements from his wife were each quoted in the weeks just after Terry's death.

"It is not a waste as far as I am concerned," said Mrs. Terry. And that was the way her husband felt about it.

In the next to the last letter his wife he said, "We are the most fortunate people in the world to live in our great America. This is what we fight for and I am proud I have a fine country and way of life to fight for."

In a letter to her husband's commanding officer Audrey Terry said, "There are no doubts in my mind that if this had happened, this is the way Condon wanted it."

The flyer was buried the day following the Terry's 10th wedding anniversary.

In addition to his widow he left two sons, Condon H. Terry III, 8, and Dennis Terry, 5.

the largest military school in the United States. It is now one of six military universities.

At least two years of military training are required of all students, except veterans, physically handicapped, foreign nationals, men over 21 years of age and transfer students with more than 30 credit hours.

ORGANIZED IN military units and living under military supervision, the cadets wear their uniforms throughout the school year. In World War I 52 former students died in military service.

Following the war the New York Sun, in an analysis of war participation by American colleges and universities, declared that A&M had furnished a greater proportion of its alumni as commissioned officers than any other school.

An illustration of the group were the 46 young Texans, A&M-trained reserve officers, on duty at Corregidor and Bataan. Their epic of fighting ability in the face of insurmountable odds is military history.

IN ADDITION to some 7,000 reserve officers trained and commissioned at A&M, the university takes pride in at another 7,000 officers of World War II.

Six former students of A&M have been awarded the Medal of Honor for exceptional bravery in World War II—all but two of the awards being posthumous.

The Reserve Officers Training Corps was inaugurated at A&M in 1920. Since that year basic military training and understanding has been given to more than 41,000 young men.

AT THIS TIME training is offered in both the Army and Air Force.

Advanced ROTC training, leading to commissions in the U. S. Army Reserve, was given to approximately 7,000 men before the program was discontinued under the emergencies of World War II.

By December 7, 1941, some 5,000 reserve officers, trained at A&M were already on active duty helping to weld the army that was to win World War II.



Familiar Site At A&M
Members of the Corps of Cadets prepare to march in review in honor of a visiting military dignitary. Oftentimes the high-ranking Army or Air Force leaders are former students at Aggieland, and have marched on the same drill field.

Aggieland Owes Its Origin To 1862 Act Of Congress

A&M, like land-grant institutions all over the United States, owes its origin to the Morrill Act.

Approved by Congress July 2, 1862, the act provided for the donation of a specified amount of public land which was to constitute a perpetual fund, the principal of which should remain forever undiminished.

On April 17, 1871, the state legislature accepted the provisions of the Act and provided for the establishment of The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.

A commission created for the purpose of locating the college accepted the offer made by citizens of Brazos County and located the institution on a tract of land 2,416

The acquisition from time to time of additional land has increased the acreage owned by the university in Brazos and Burleson counties to approximately 9,600 acres and the value of the physical plant of A&M to around \$50,000,000.

The institution was formerly

opened at College Station and instruction began Oct. 4, 1876. It educational activities have been enlarged as the need for such expansion became evident.

Although the school has actually had university status for many years, the title has only this year been changed (see Section 1, Page 1.)

A&M University itself comprises four colleges—Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Agricultural and Veterinary Medicine—and the graduate school.

A&M Is Run According To New 'Blueprint'

A&M now operates under a "Blueprint for Progress" initiated last November. The blueprint, announced by the Board of Directors at the Century Study Convocation here, is to serve as a guide for the future of A&M University.

The blueprint was the result of a 19-month internal and external study to guide development of the school until its 100th anniversary in 1976.

It is based on data contained in two board-directed reports: an internal "Aspirations Study," conducted by faculty, staff and students; and an external "Search of the Century" by 100 citizens appointed to the A&M Century Council.

Eugene B. Darby, then president of the Board of Directors, introduced the blueprint, saying it would "direct A&M toward achievement of prominence among institutions of higher education."

The blueprint calls for the following programs to be instituted or strengthened:

1. Programs to secure the highest caliber of faculty members with provisions to reward individual achievement.
2. Selective development of strong programs of instruction in engineering, natural and ap-

plied sciences, agriculture, veterinary medicine and liberal arts with stress on space-related fields of study.

3. Attraction of students characterized by outstanding intellectual capacity, maximum integrity and dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge.

4. Additions and improvements to physical facilities, particularly those used in the sciences and technologies of the space age.

5. Strengthened research efforts both as instructional technique as well as a service to the state.

6. Close relationships between researcher and extension educator to better disseminate laboratory discoveries to the fields and factories where they can be applied.

7. Find new financial resources to support heavy expenses required in college development and apportion available money in light of goals and aspirations of the school.

8. Inform the people of Texas of the services as well as the needs of the institution.

9. Insistence upon excellence as the watchword of every aspect of college activity.

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