

The Battalion

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Telephone 845-2226

SAC Chief Speaker for Commissioning

Gen. Bruce K. Holloway, Strategic Air Command commander-in-chief, will be the commissioning speaker for Texas A&M's fall semester commissioning Jan. 17, announced A&M President Earl Ladd.

A&M cadets who complete degree work this semester will be commissioned second lieutenants in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy.

As SAC commander, General Holloway heads the United States long-range strike force composed of combat aircraft and intercontinental ballistic missiles. The four-star general who flew with the famed "Flying Tigers" of the

American Volunteer Group in China during World War II has commanded SAC since August, 1968.

The Knoxville, Tenn., native earned status as a fighter ace during his China tour, shooting down 13 Japanese planes. In addition to the pilot wings earned at Kelly Field, San Antonio, in 1938, the U. S. Military Academy graduate received wings from China, Germany, Korea, Thailand and Brazil.

Holloway, 57, has devoted 32 years to U. S. military service. His first assignment following flight training was a two-year tour with the 6th Pursuit Squad-

ron and 18th Pursuit Group in Hawaii.

The general commanded the Air Force's first jet-equipped fighter group in 1946, performing pioneer service in the field of tactical jet operations.

Following graduation from the National War College in 1951, Holloway progressed through key



HOLLOWAY

Aggies Help Kids Learn Safety

College Station youngsters who ride bicycles to school at College Hill Elementary are more safety conscious, thanks to a group of A&M students.

The Aggies conducted a bicycle safety class for 75 College Hill students, second, third and fourth graders, emphasizing bike condition, handling and proper marking for riding on the city's streets. It was conducted in two-hour sessions by 21 sophomore and senior A&M students in a safety education course instructed by Mrs. Palmer.

"We have a dangerous situation around College Hill Elementary," explained Mrs. C. K. Leighton, principal. "With the area growing fast, through new home construction and families moving in, we have a lot of little kids riding in heavy traffic."

"I believe I can see improvement already in the way the

children are handling themselves on their bicycles," she added. "If it saves one child's life, Mr. Palmer's program is well worth the time and effort."

Students in the Health and Physical Education Department course inspected the youngsters' bikes, checking for proper brake and chain adjustment, tire inflation and safety devices.

Skill tests were conducted in which the bicycle riders' stopping ability, balance, bike control and stability were checked. Most of the bikes were marked with reflector tape provided by the 3M Company through the local VFW post, Palmer said.

"We hope to be able to repeat the class project during the spring at South Knoll Elementary," he said.

"The little ones learned many fine lessons I hope will carry over when they begin driving cars," Mrs. Leighton added.

staff assignments in operations and development at Headquarters U. S. Air Force, in 1961 became deputy commander of the U. S. Strike Command at MacDill AFB, Fla., and assumed command of U. S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) in 1965. He was vice chief of staff of the Air Force a year before taking the throttle of SAC.

Among decorations of the husband of the former Frances Purdy of Scarsdale, N. Y., are the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross and top awards of China, Germany, Thailand and Brazil.

He studied engineering two years at Tennessee before going to the Point and post-graduate training at Cal Tech.



YULE LIGHTS IN LONDON

London traffic passes beneath illuminated arches of peacocks, Christmas decorations along the city's Regent Street.

The annual decorations were recently turned on by American actress Ginger Rogers. (AP Wirephoto)

2-Year Air Force Plan Accepting Fall Sign-Ups

Applications for entrance into the two-year Air Force ROTC program next fall at Texas A&M are now being taken at the Aerospace Studies Department.

The two-year program, like the traditional four-year program normally entered into by freshmen, has the objective of placing on active duty lieutenants who have the knowledge and potential to become competent leaders and managers, according to Col. Keith C. Hanna.

The professor of aerospace studies explained that the two-year program offers a means of becoming a commissioned Air Force officer to students who have only two years of academic work remaining.

"It can be at either the undergraduate or graduate level, or a combination of the two," Colonel Hanna stated.

He pointed out that successful entry into the program next September carries the standard ROTC deferment.

Entry is on a competitive basis, with applicants required to meet several criteria for consideration. Early application is necessary to complete the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test, Air Force physical exam and an interview with officers of the Aerospace Studies Department.

Selectees must also attend a six-week field training course next summer.

"Those who successfully complete the training and meet all requirements may then enroll as cadets in the Professional Officer Course upon return to the campus in the fall," Hanna added.

He noted that emphasis is placed on career areas most needed by the Air Force: pilot, navigator and technical or scientific majors, in that order.

Several advantages accrue to the POC cadet, the ranking A&M

Air Force officer pointed out. He receives \$50 per month in non-taxable pay, can apply for an Air Force Financial Assistance Grant which is a \$1,000 a year scholarship (plus an additional \$300 for out-of-state students) and may qualify for the Flight Instruction Program. The FIP consists of 36½ hours flying in light aircraft and can lead to an FAA private pilot's license, at Air Force expense.

Trainees attending the summer field training receive travel pay both ways, about \$128 per month for the training period and are

provided uniforms and textbooks.

Active duty commitments for AFROTC graduates who enter pilot or navigator training are five years upon completion of basic pilot or primary basic navigator training. Other graduates are committed for four years.

Students interested in complete details on the two-year AFROTC program should contact Maj. Ray Copus (two-year program representative), Colonel Hanna (PAS) or Lt. Col. G. P. Jones (assistant PAS) at the Trigon.

Through YMCA's Family Adoption Plan Students Help Bring Cheer To Families in B-CS Area

Hayden Whitsett
Battalion Staff Writer

"This is it," called out one of the men as he checked the address on the mailbox with a sputtering cigarette lighter. "It must be that one over there," he said, pointing to an unpainted, and rapidly decaying house beside the gravel road.

A small Latin-American man stood on the front porch and stared at the tall Corps senior approaching across the yard.

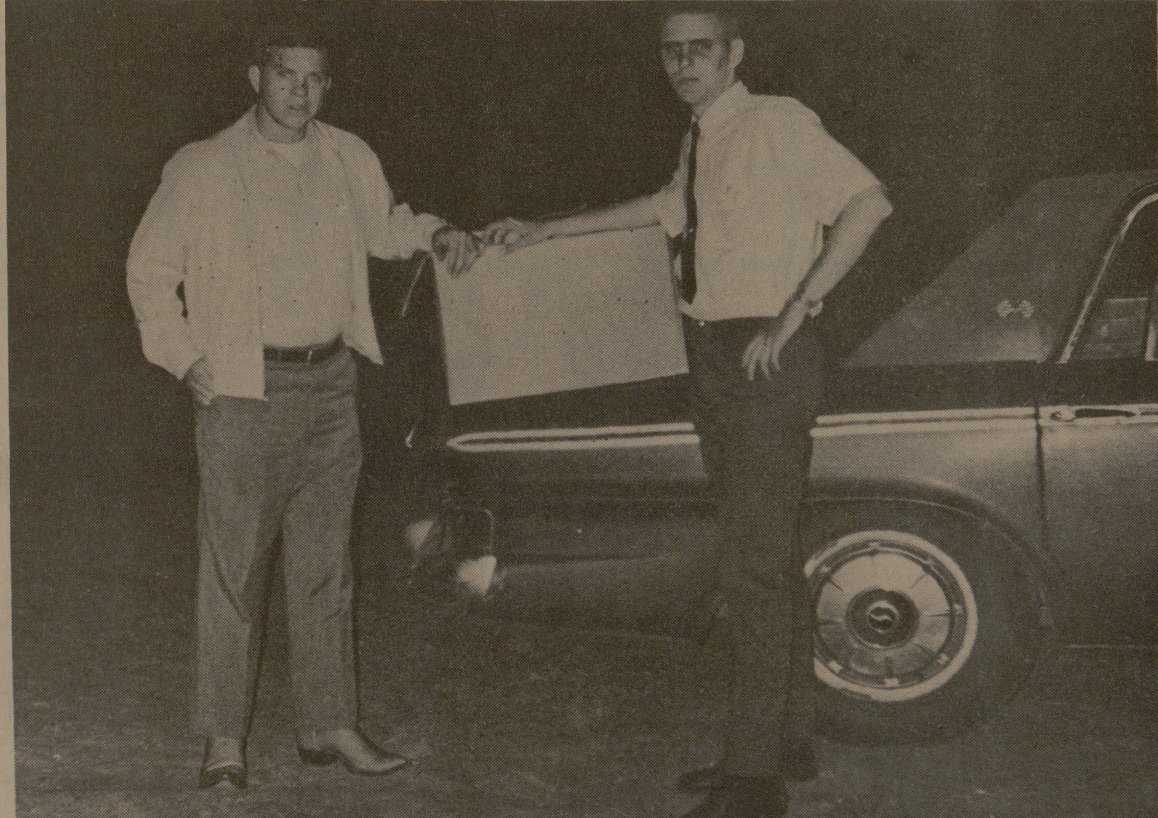
Moments later, the look of curiosity changed to one of happiness and amazement when the senior explained what the group was doing and asked if he could take the food filled box with him inside. Behind him a woman with three children in her arms duplicated her husband's look.

The man was so excited he could hardly speak. All he could do was stare at the box of canned goods and toys and say, "Thank you," over and over again.

Four times Tuesday night needy Bryan residents opened their doors to hear, "Howdy, we're A&M students and we've been told that you might need a

little help this Christmas. We'd like you to take these gifts and we hope that they might make your Christmas a little happier and brighter."

The incidents were part of a YMCA program designed to help out the needy in the Bryan-College Station area. Each Christmas (See Student Help, page 3)



DELIVERING THE GOODS

Food and clothing for needy families in the Bryan-College Station area is loaded Tuesday night for delivery by Monty Goff, left, YMCA secretary, and John Maury, Delta Y president. The YMCA annually compiles a list of needy families for student organizations to "adopt" for Christmas. (Photo by Hayden Whitsett)

More Contracts Offered For Non-Flying Officers

Previous limitations on the number of Air Force contracts available to A&M students have been considerably loosened and better chances for contracts in all three categories are now in effect.

A&M's AFROTC has received a large increase in the number of contracts that can be awarded for the Professional Officer Course (POC), announced Col. Keith C. Hanna, professor of aerospace studies.

The ranking Air Force officer at A&M said the drastic alteration came in recognition of outstanding academic and military training future officers receive at Texas A&M.

"In the past, it has been impossible to award contracts to many deserving cadets because of the extremely limited number of contracts for those cadets not qualified to fly," Colonel Hanna pointed out.

"Beginning immediately," he added, "and for the foreseeable future, cadets who do not meet flying requirements may compete for the greatly increased number of Category II and III (non-flying) POC contracts."

Science and engineering majors receive Category II contracts, liberal arts and related degree fields, Category III. Category I contracts, on which no limit was previously placed, are awarded cadets qualified for flying, regardless of major.

Colonel Hanna noted the Air Force needs flying officers and strongly encourages any cadet

who meets the qualifications to fly to enlist in Category I.

"The Air Force's primary mission is flying and therefore opportunities for attractive assignments and future career advancement are afforded those officers who fly," the PAS commented.

"However, cadets who could not previously receive a flying contract due to physical or other limitations can receive a contract and train to become a non-flying officer in the U. S. Air Force," Hanna said.

The POC is the training course for juniors and seniors. Basic en-

trance qualifications include completion of the general military course (freshman and sophomore air science), passing grades on the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test, meeting Air Force physical standards, at least "C" average academic standing and a record of demonstrated leadership qualities as well as good moral character.

Hanna, who noted that further information is available at the Aerospace Studies Department, warned that increased contract quotas will not abide any lessening of admission standards.

Christmas Spirit Arrives Thursday

Texas A&M officially gets the Christmas spirit Thursday evening with the lighting of a 30-foot tree and an outdoor carol sing sponsored by the YMCA Student Cabinet and All Faiths Chapel.

Edward Donnell of Freeport, cabinet president and civilian student chaplain, said the 7:30 program on the east steps of the System Building is open to the public.

"We hope a large number of local residents, including children, will come out and join us for this event," noted Donnell, senior psychology major. "Of course, we also hope for maximum participation by A&M students, faculty, and staff."

The Singing Cadets, directed by Robert L. Boone, and the A&M Consolidated High School Choir, under the direction of Frank Coulter, will each present four Christmas carols. The audience will then be invited to join in singing two other Christmas songs.

Donnell, who will conduct a brief meditation, said the program will conclude with the lighting of the giant Christmas tree on the System Building lawn.

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