A&M cadets earn honors at Ranger, airborne schoo

heaped more laurels on the Ag- the 140-member Reserve Officer gie legends this summer.

Thomas M. Stanley of Mount Pleasant successfully completed the Ranger School at Fort Benning and Daloniga, Ga., and Eglin AFB, Fla.

Two of the cadets-Jan C. Bertholf of Annandale, Va., and Ste-

Seven Texas A&M cadets were named honor graduates of and Duane H. Spain, Houston. Training Corps class going The group headed by 1971-72 through the Ranger course for Corps of Cadets Commander the first time. Swanner was also the outstanding leader in his pla-

Also earning the yellow and black tab of the U.S. Army Ranger were Richard D. Curb of Houston; John R. Dye, Fort Sam Houston; 1971-72 head yell leadphen O. Swanner of Pasadena- er Jimmy D. Ferguson, Garland,

Six of the seven Aggies earlier this summer qualified for Airborne by completing jump school at Fort Benning. Dye injured his foot in early summer jump school, lost a week and planned to go back for the Airborne patch after the 10-weeks Ranger train-

Col. Thomas R. Parsons, commandant at Texas A&M, said Ranger School substituted for

Rigid qualifications established for the Ranger tab were not swamps of Florida, where jungle lightened for the ROTC cadets, though additional training such as weapons qualification was re-

Requirements of the course included long runs over Fort Ben- tary Science Department. He atning's red clay that turns into sticky mud. The cadets climbed across the face of Mt. Ono, looking 3,000 feet down into the val-

summer camp at Fort Riley, Kan. leys of North Georgia. They slogged through the coastal survival training is conducted.

"If you've got more like them, send them to us," a Ranger school officer told Sgt. Maj. John R. McDonald of the A&M Militended the Ranger class gradua-

"One of the cadre didn't know anything about Texas A&M," the sergeant major commented, "but he does now. He was very impressed with our guys."

The first Army ROTC group to start Ranger School numbered 240 on June 10, beginning of the 10-week course. The 140 who pinned on the Ranger tab "are Rangers in every sense of the word," said Col. John P. Geraci, Ranger Department director when the course started.

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Texas A&M started seven graduated seven, more than other college or university. § institutions had two gradus but most had one.

Thirty-three Texas A&M dets also successfully fin airborne training at Benning, of 35 who started. Two rec minor injuries and expected return for a later jump so after the Fort Riley camp.











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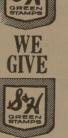
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