

Frenchmen gather to commemorate Rudder

'Brave one who came so far to liberate us'

The dateline is Pointe du Hoc Normandy, France. The setting is a monument surrounded by shell-marked bunkers that serve as a reminder of the war fought for the cliffs between Utah and Omaha beaches and the fanatical bravery that led a young West Texan and the members of the 2nd Ranger Battalion into the D-Day carnage to capture

them. James Earl Rudder led the Ranger battalion in the Normandy invasion in one of the most courageous and costly operations of the war. Directed to send his troops up the 90-foot cliff of Pointe du Hoc, Rudder insisted on leading them instead. He was wounded twice but remained in command.

President of TAMU, General Rudder died four years ago but Frenchmen and Americans gathered at Pointe du Hoc this month on the anniversary of his death in the nearby Croqueville church to honor his memory. The priest, l'abbe Marie, evoked the memory of General Rudder and his soldiers and asked the congregation to pray for "those

brave ones who came from so far to liberate us." After the mass, the bearers of the French and American flags who were in the chancel area of the church, took their places on each side of the central aisle for the unveiling of a marble plaque draped by the American, French and Normandy flags. The inscription on the plaque reads,

"Christians, do not forget the American soldiers who risked and sacrificed their lives for you on this cliff, June 6, 1944. The steeple of this church guided them. You owe them faithful prayers that God will welcome them." Preceded by the many flags, all the people in attendance assembled at the monument to the dead

and a French government minister told of the heroic assault of General Rudder and his Rangers. "It has been thirty years," he said. "The Committee of Debarquement (landing) has seen to it that his memory does not fade away. We want all of the younger generation to be well informed as to what took place here in 1944." The memorial ended with the

reading of a letter from Mrs. Rudder of Bryan. "My family and I appreciate very deeply the honor you are paying to Earl Rudder and his valiant Rangers who landed at Pointe du Hoc... He and all those who fought with him never forgot the kindness of the French people in your region.

"This commemorative mass demonstrates again the profound friendship between the French and American peoples. We pray that this sincere gesture will contribute to helping our two governments reach a common ground for establishing a closer relationship."

Radio features tape interviews

Interviews with President Jack Williams and Fred D. Thompson, chief minority counsel for the Watergate Committee, will be featured by SG Radio Thursday.

Williams will discuss current issues on campus in the taped interview while Thompson will talk about his part with the Watergate investigations.

"We want to discuss government neglect in relation to the president's actions," said Jim James, interviewer for SG radio.

The show can be heard by those on Midwest Cable, 107.5 f.m. It will be on the air at 9 p. m.

Next week, the interview is planned as a live question-answer session with Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services.

bulletin board

TONIGHT
A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB will elect officers at 7:30 p.m. at the Old College Station City Hall, 101 Church Street.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOPHYSICS will present Dr. John R. Brobeck of the University of Pennsylvania at 4 p.m. in Room 114 of the Herman Heep Building.

TAMU FACULTY-STAFF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP will present Dr. John R. Brobeck at 7:30 p.m. in Room 225 of the MSC.

STUDENT "Y" ASSOCIATION will present the Pinewoods Singers at 7:30 p.m. at the All Faiths Chapel.

THURSDAY
STUDENT "Y" ASSOCIATION will present the Pinewoods Singers at 7:30 p.m. at the All Faiths Chapel.

PENTAGON AREA HOMETOWN CLUB will meet in Lounge "D" (between Dorm 6 and Dorm 8) at 7:30 p.m. This is an organizational meeting, and anyone living in the Maryland or Virginia area is invited to attend.

FRIDAY
MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION will meet in Room 402 of the Rudder Tower at 8 p.m. Dr. Muhammad Ishaq will speak on "Industrial Potential of the Islamic World."

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