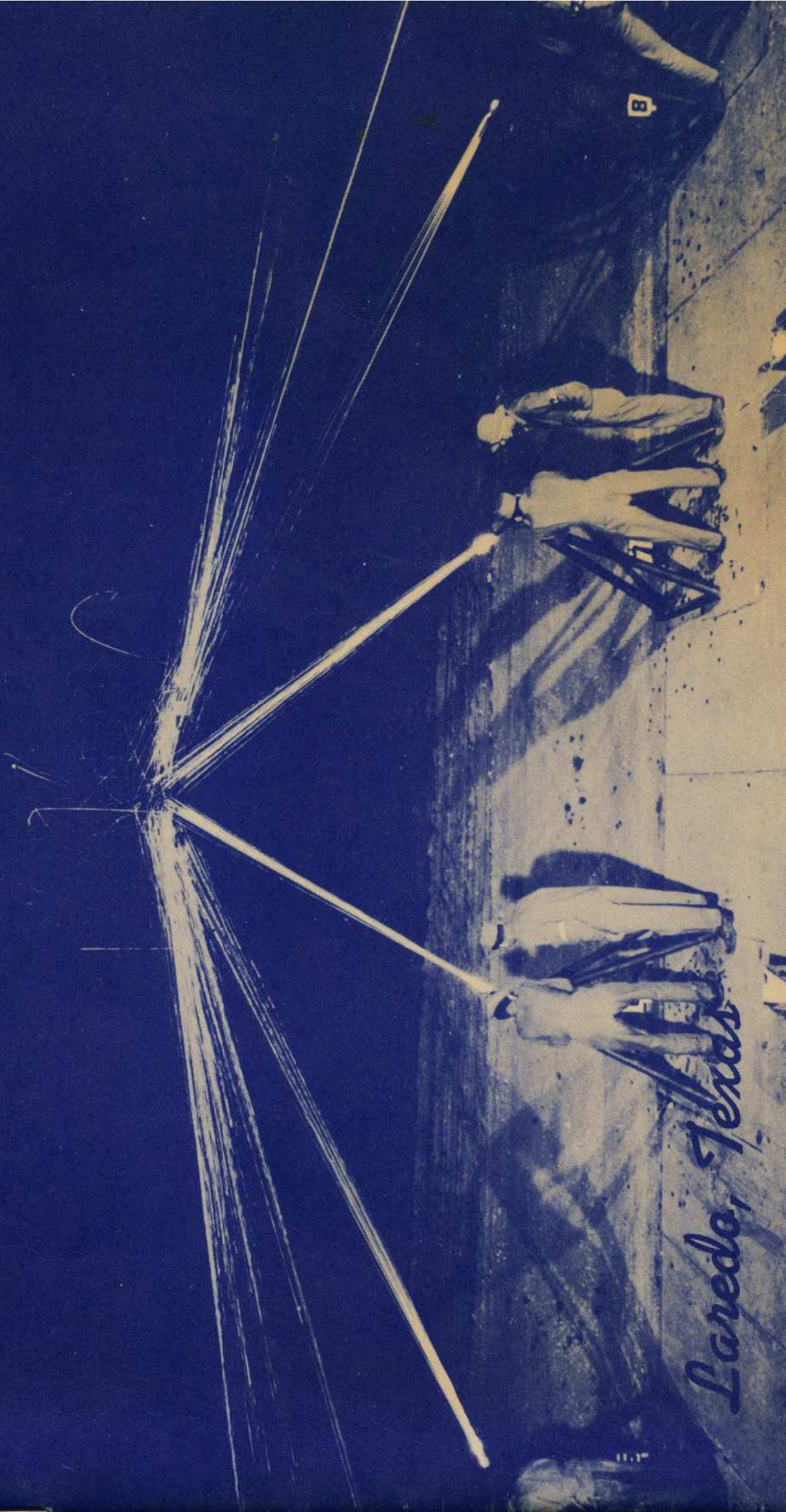


Laredo Army Air Field



Laredo, Texas

The gun totin,' lead slingin,' fancy booted bandito of the border is gone, but in his place and over the same ranges has grown up a new and deadlier aristocracy of death dispensers. For a long time, after the disappearance of the "old days," nothing was to be found on the wild areas around Laredo. Mesquite, Chapparel, sagebrush, and plenty of rattlers and jack-rabbits. However, when the United States became hard-pressed for aerial gunners; and it was evident that more schools would have to be opened, the Laredo area came into favor because of its exceptionally good flying weather.

When the site was selected in July of 1942, there was nothing on the barren ground, yet a few short months later, a factory had sprung up. A factory unique among a land of surprises. For here was taken raw material, from all corners of our land, all manner of men, trained in every conceivable trade; and in a few short weeks, they were turned into a homogenous group of deadly gunners and air crew members.

In this volume will be found a pictorial record of the men and machines who make these changes, their ways of eating, living, and working and resting, and the way they take time out from their work.

It is to these men, the officers and enlisted personnel of Laredo Army Air Field, and to the many students who have gone through and are going through now that this record is dedicated. They have made LAAF what it is and have every right to be proud of their work.

CHARLES G. PEARCY
Colonel
Commanding



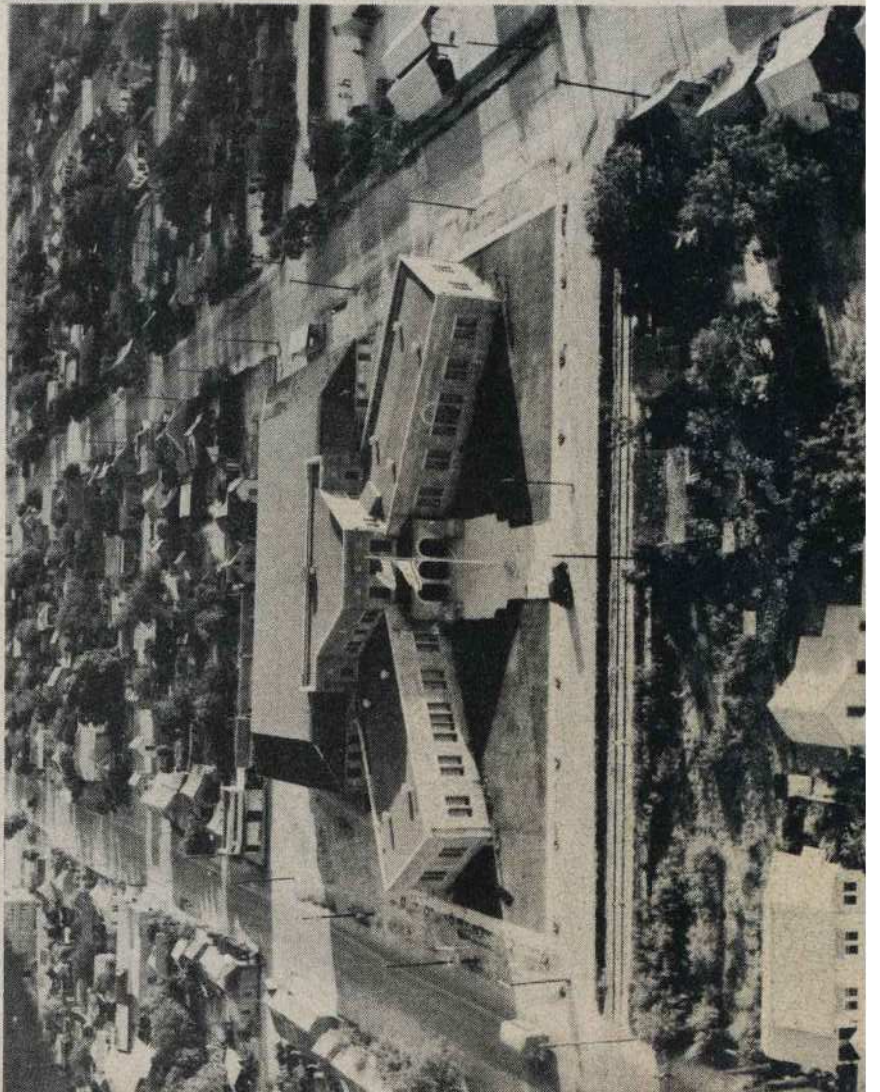
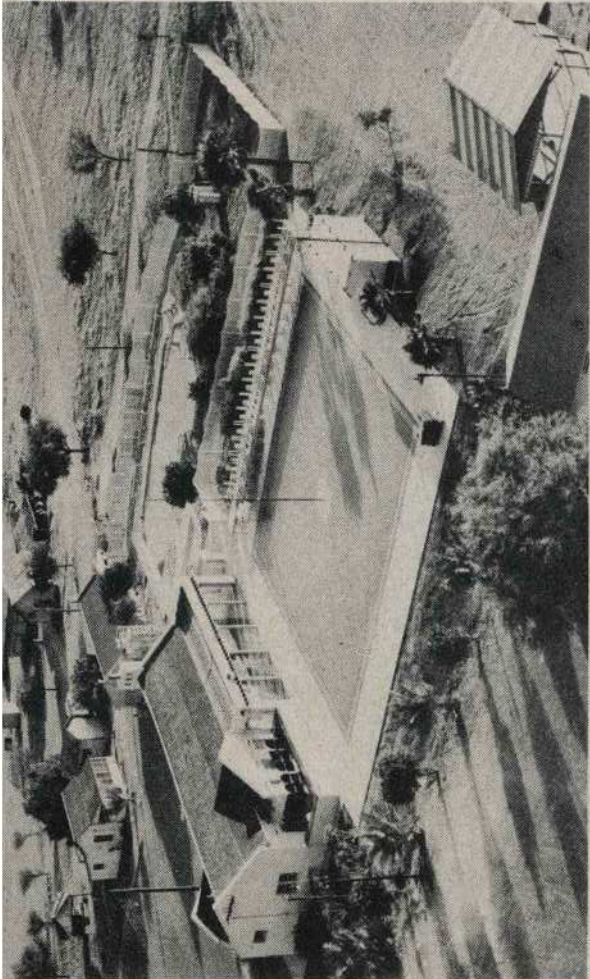
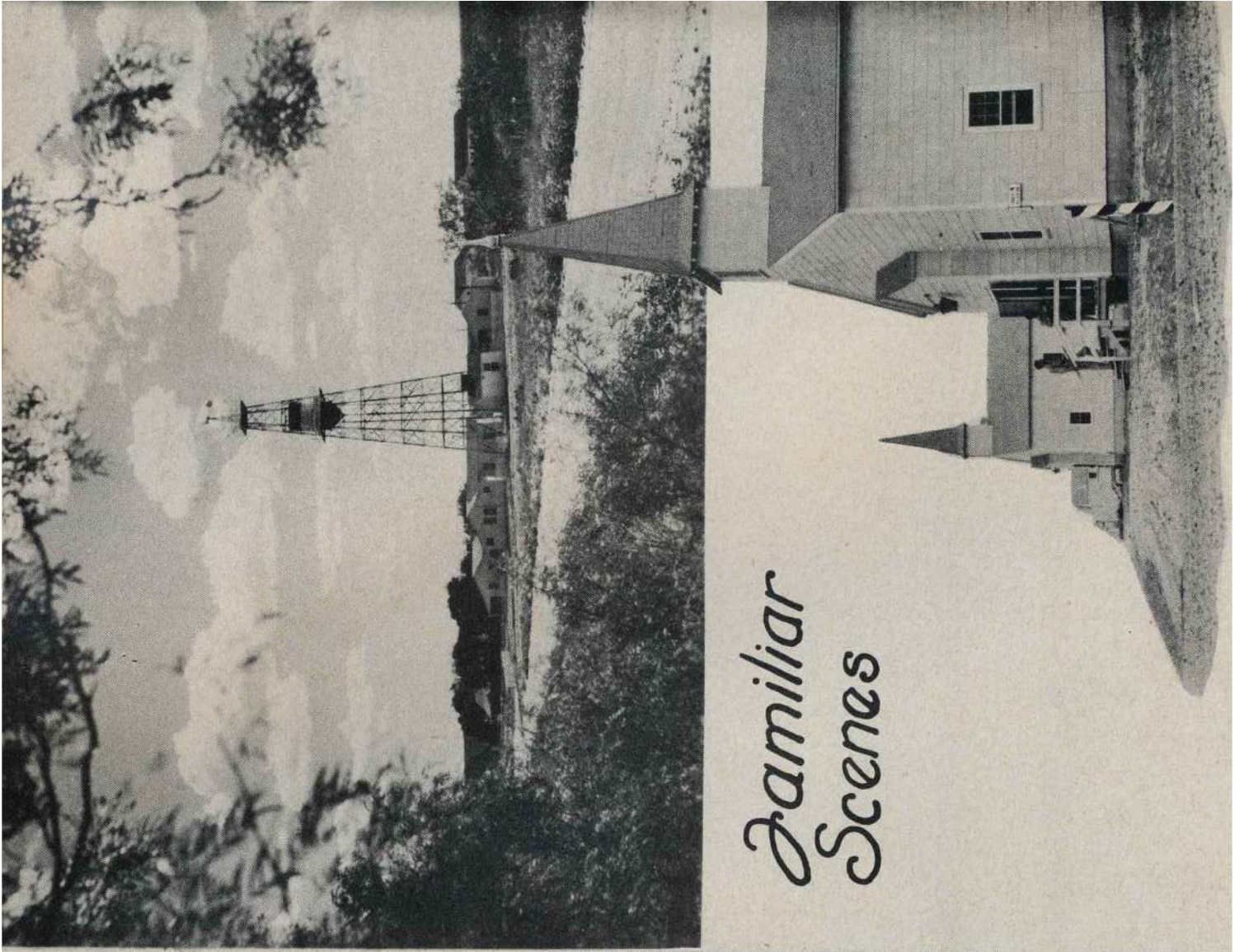
CHARLES G. PEARCY
Colonel
Commanding

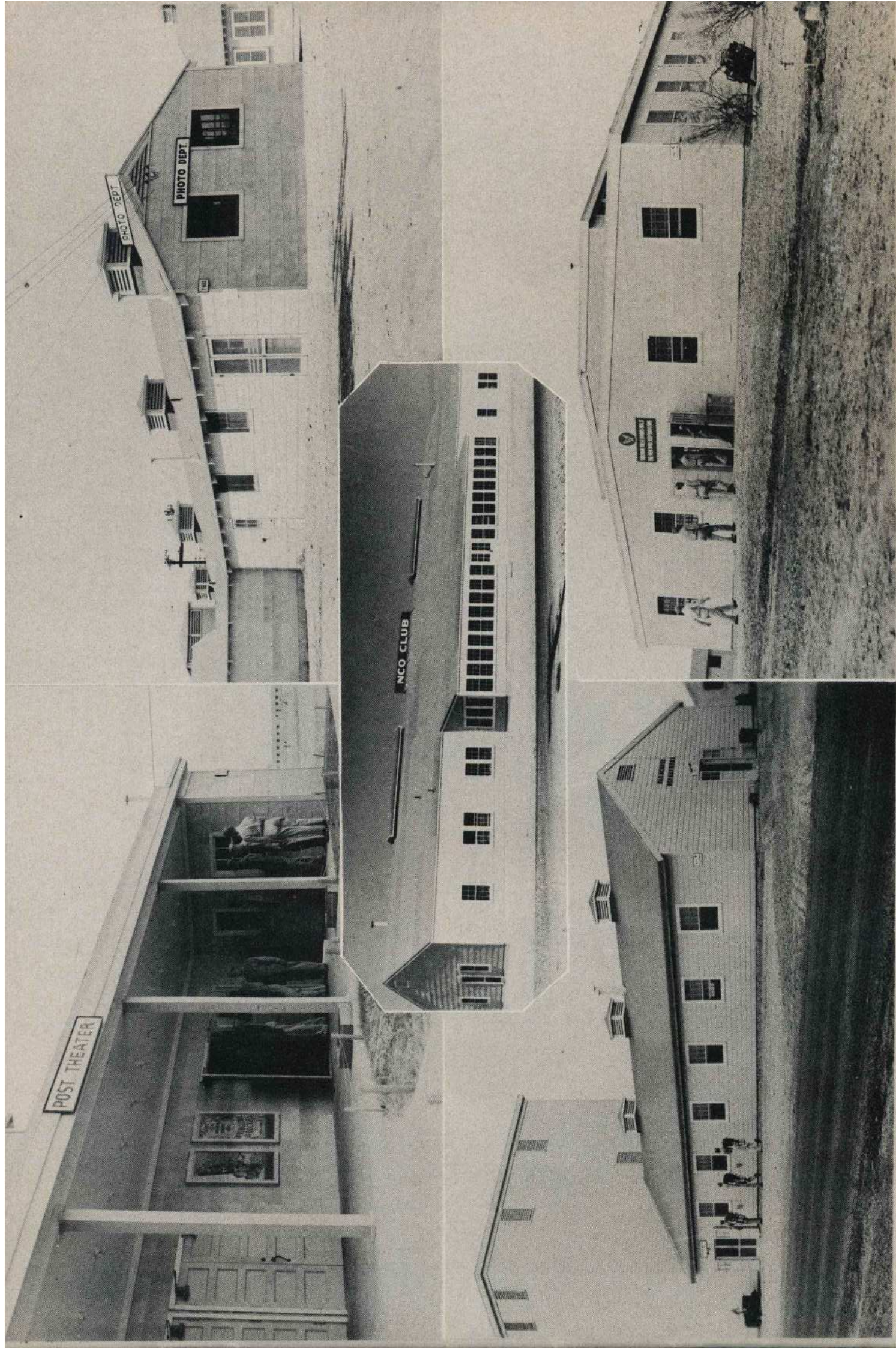


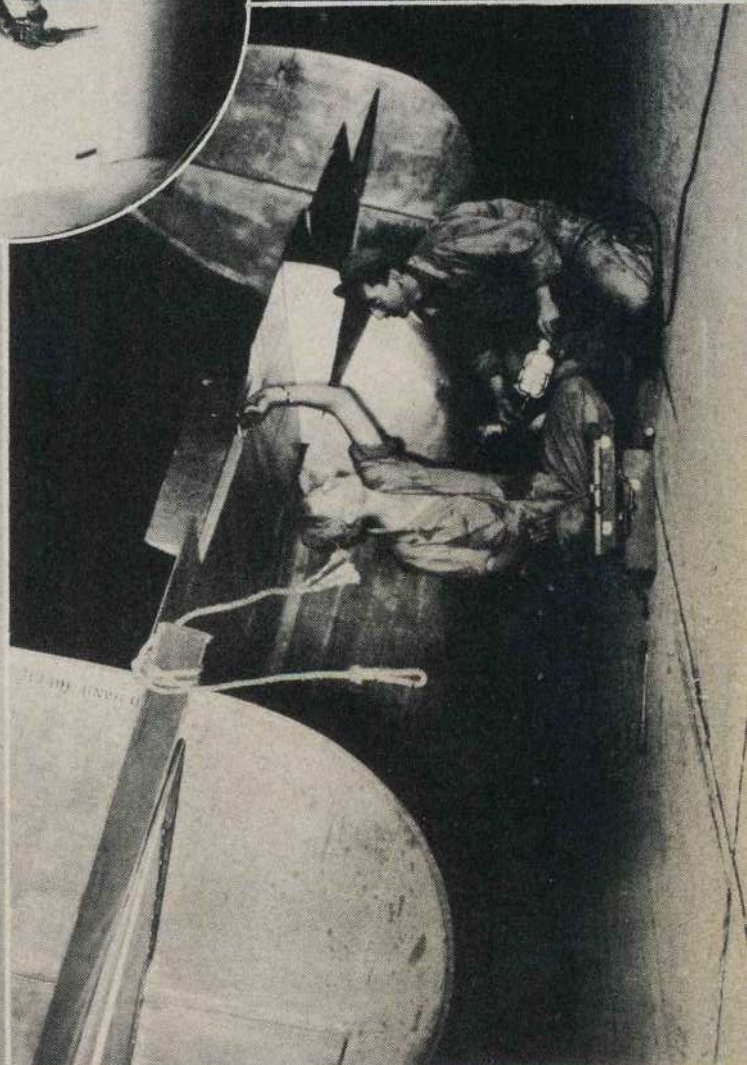
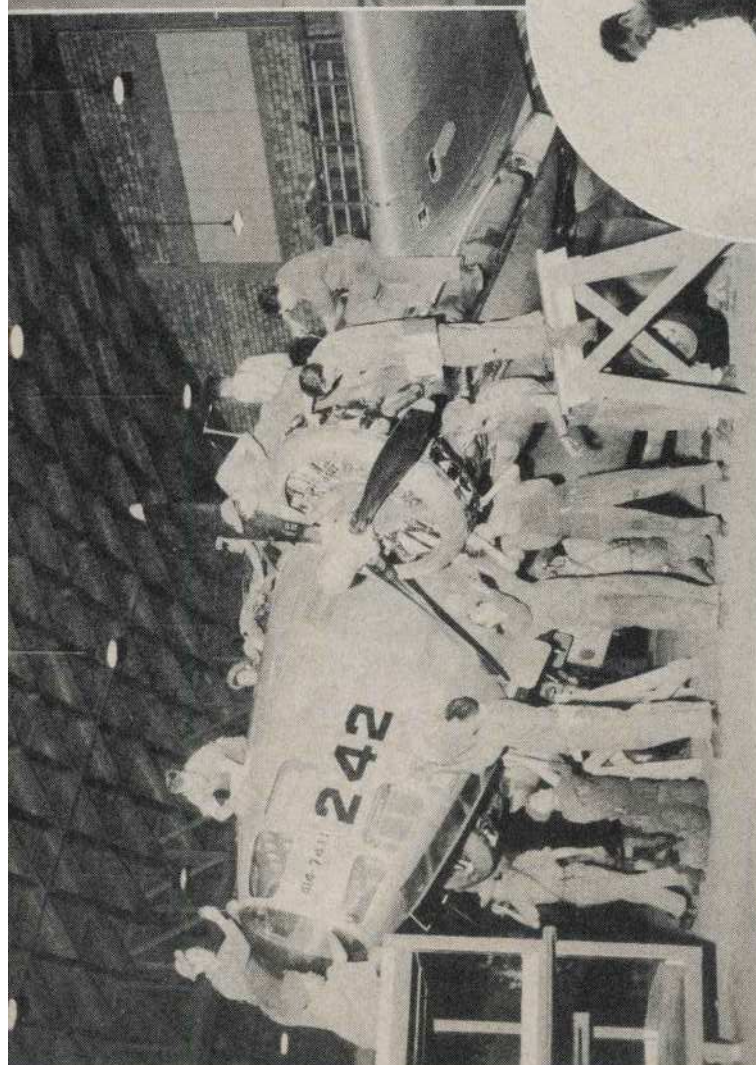
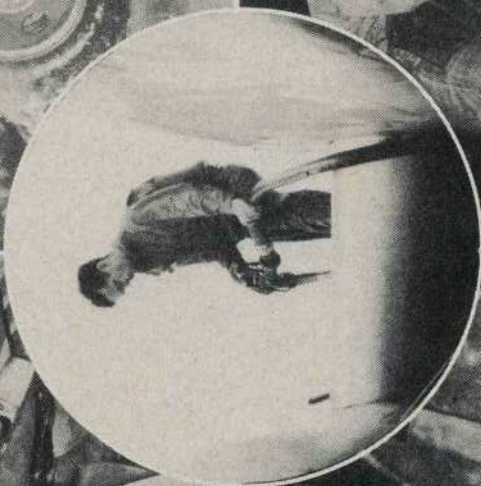




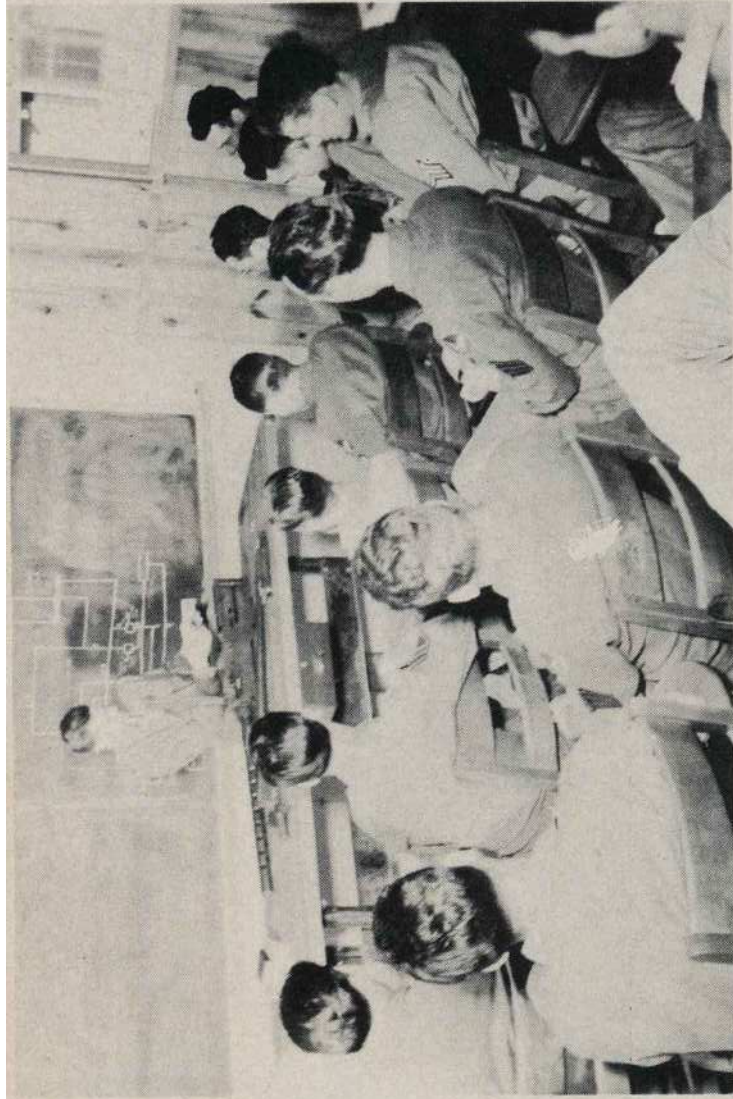
*Familiar
Scenes*





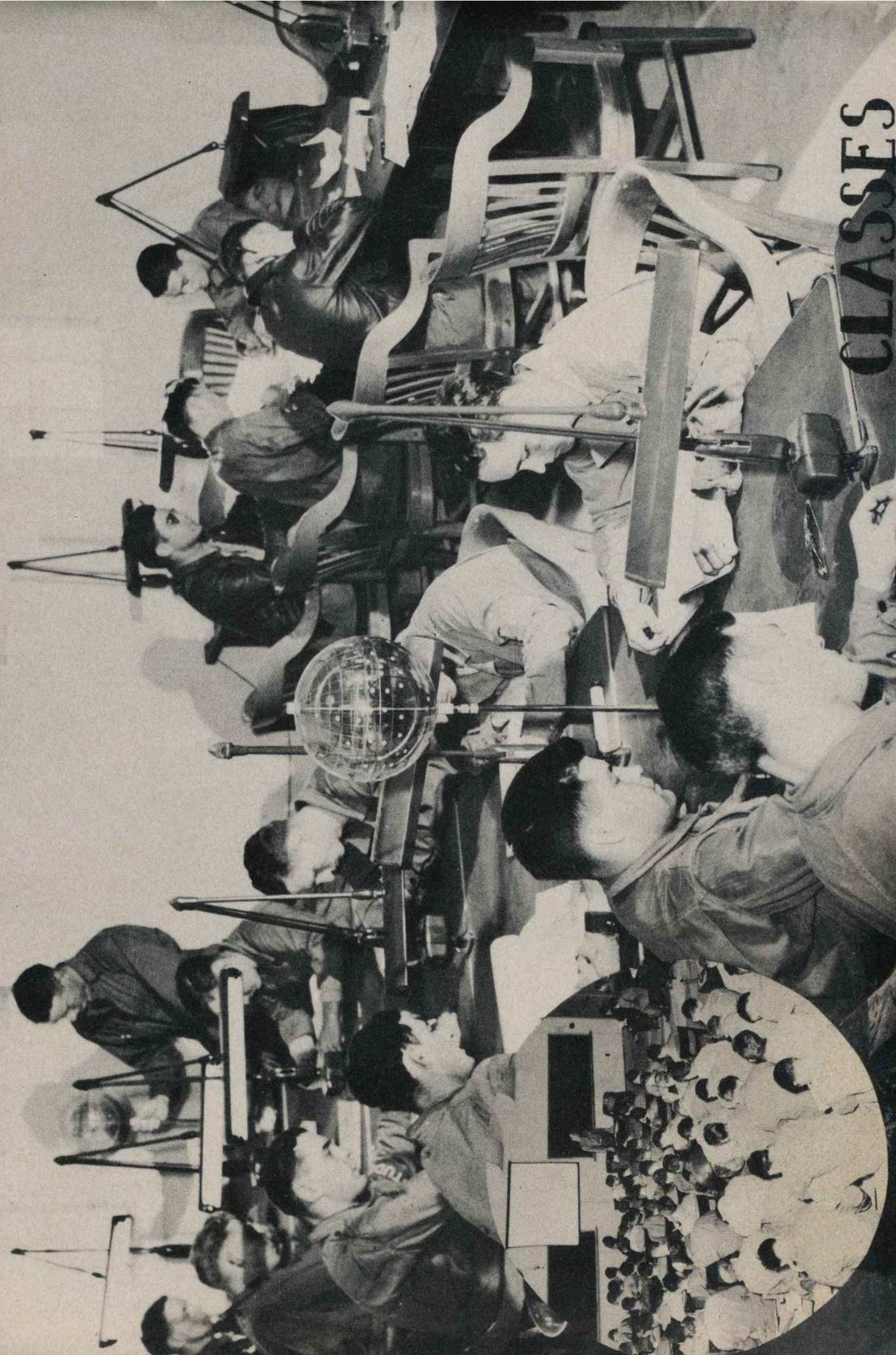


MAINTENANCE



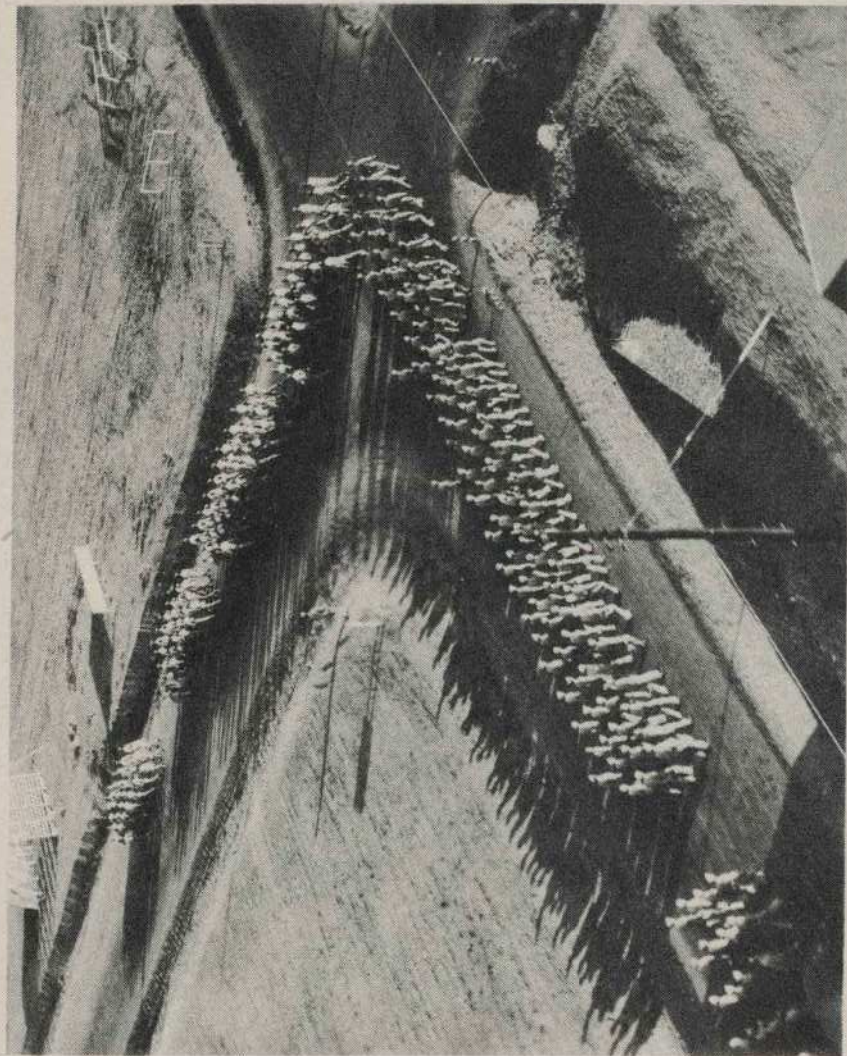
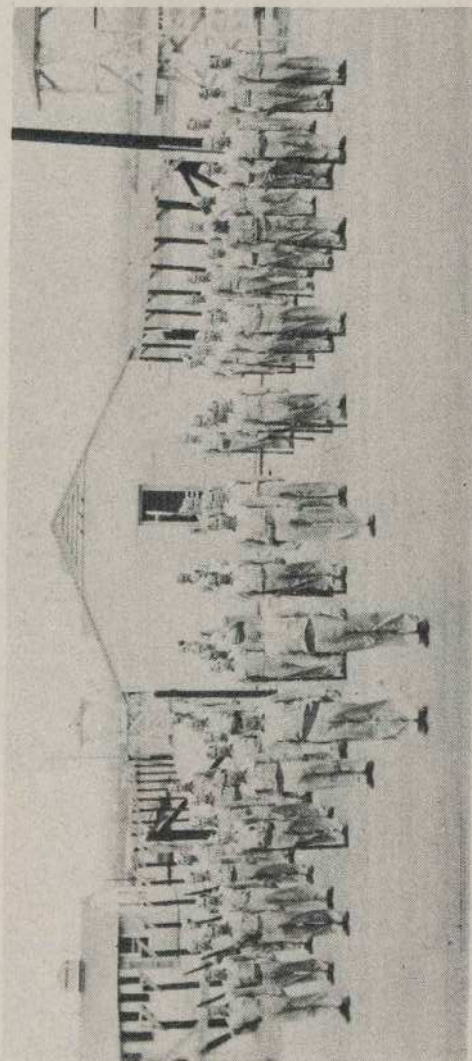
INSTRUCTION

CLASSES

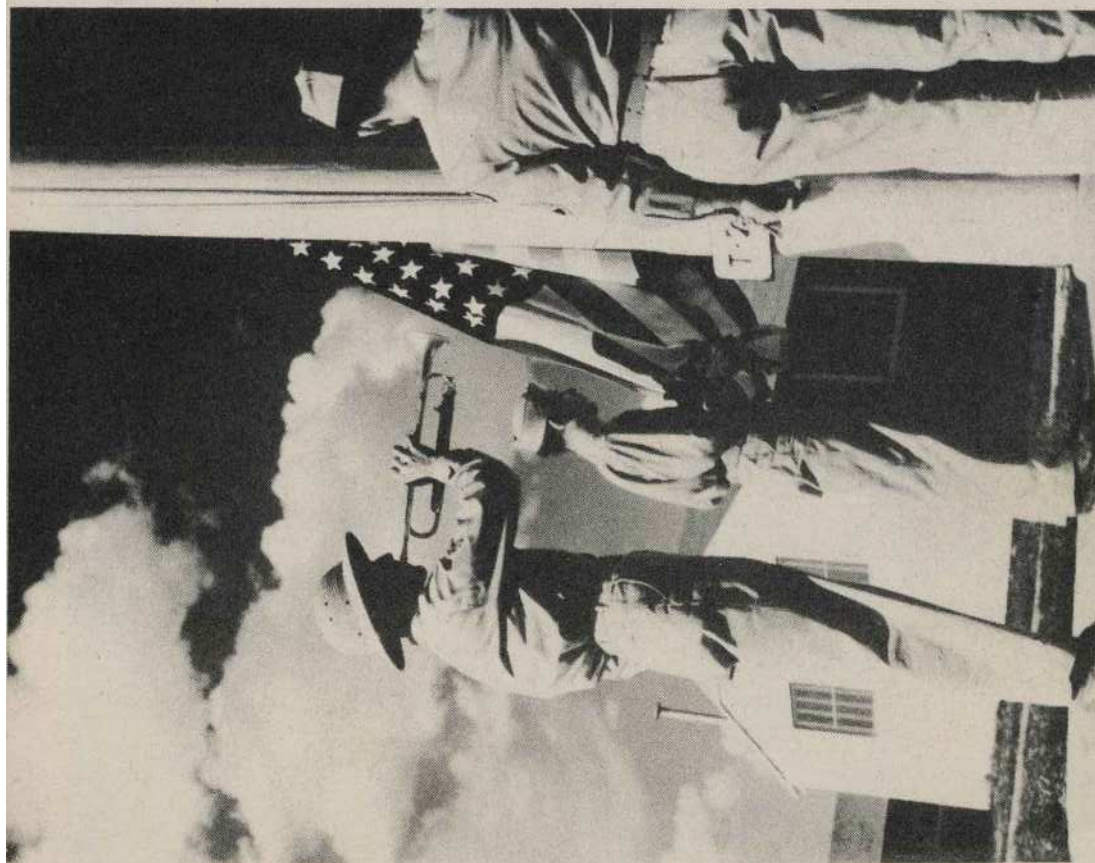


PATROL



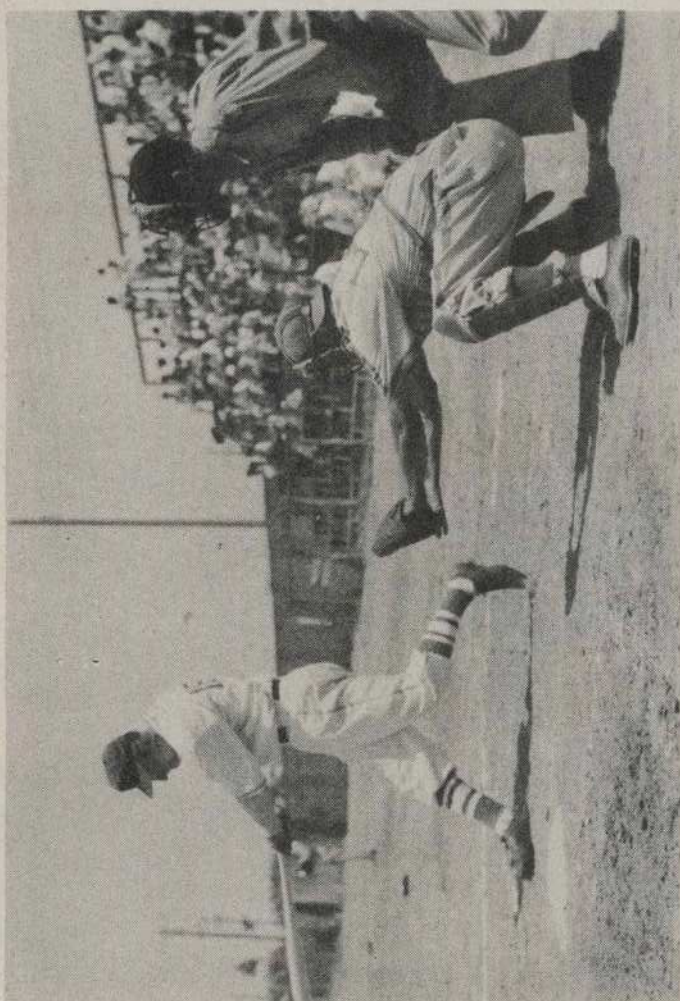
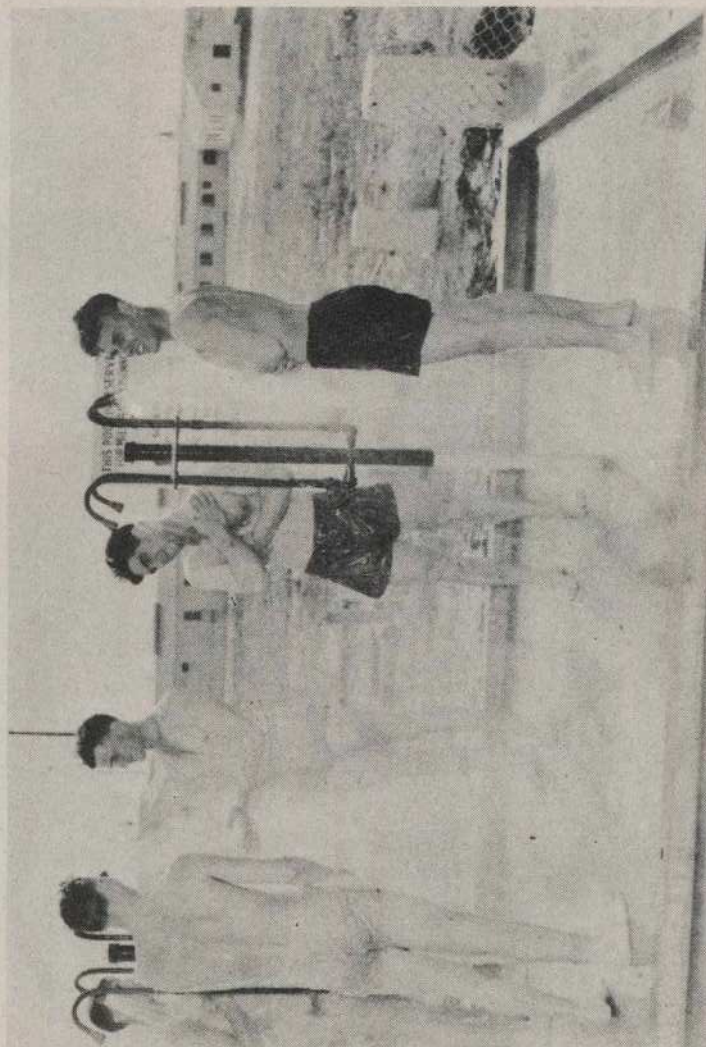


Review

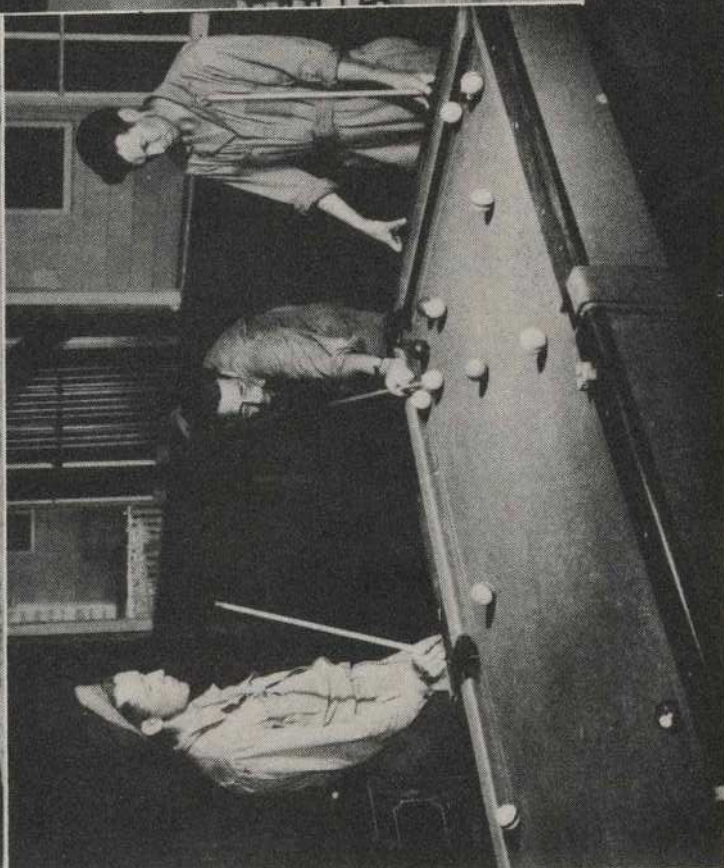
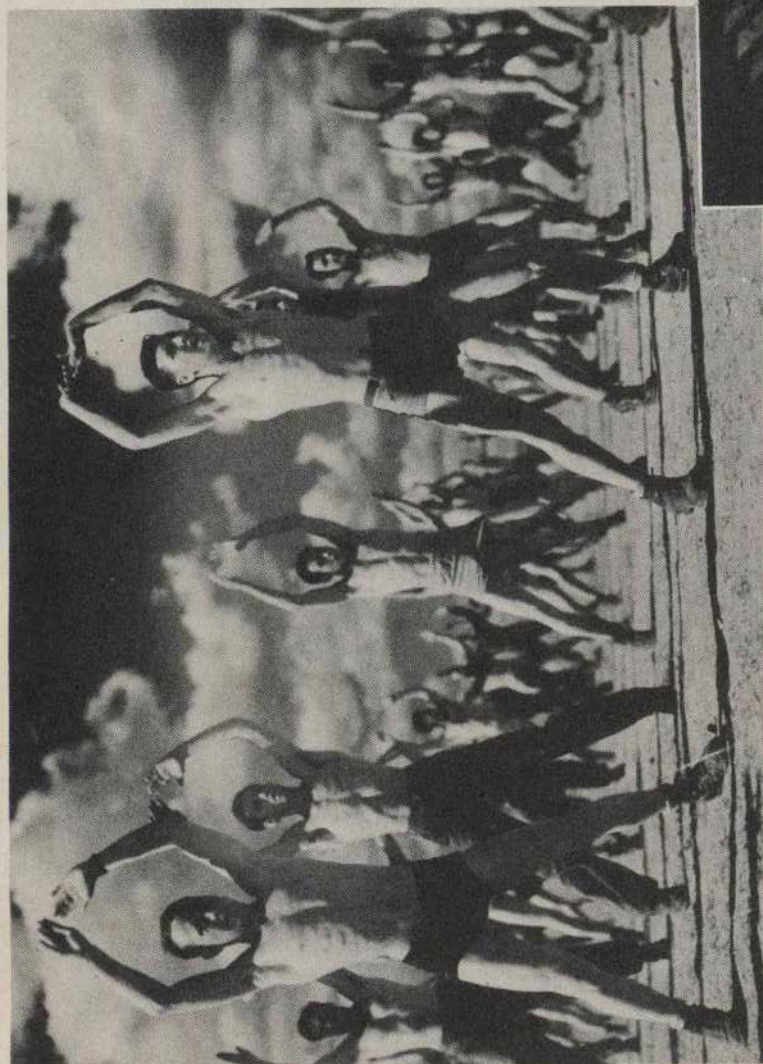
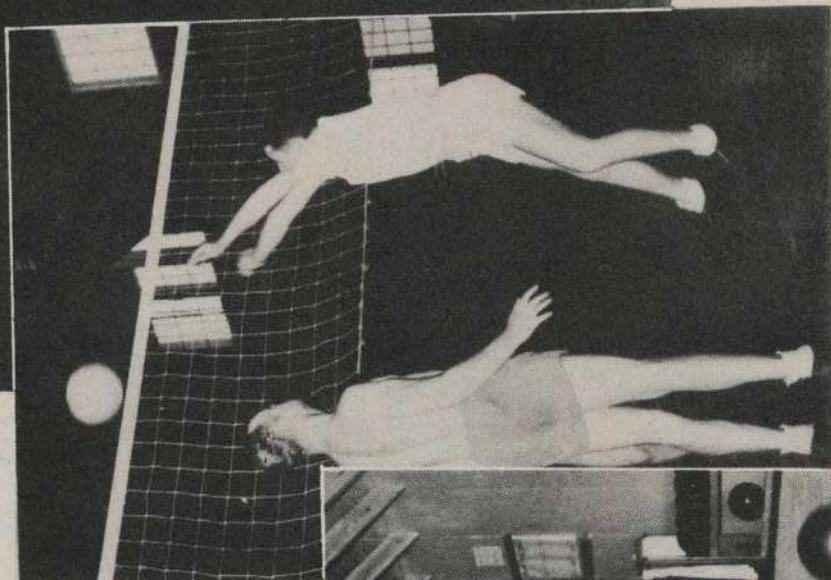
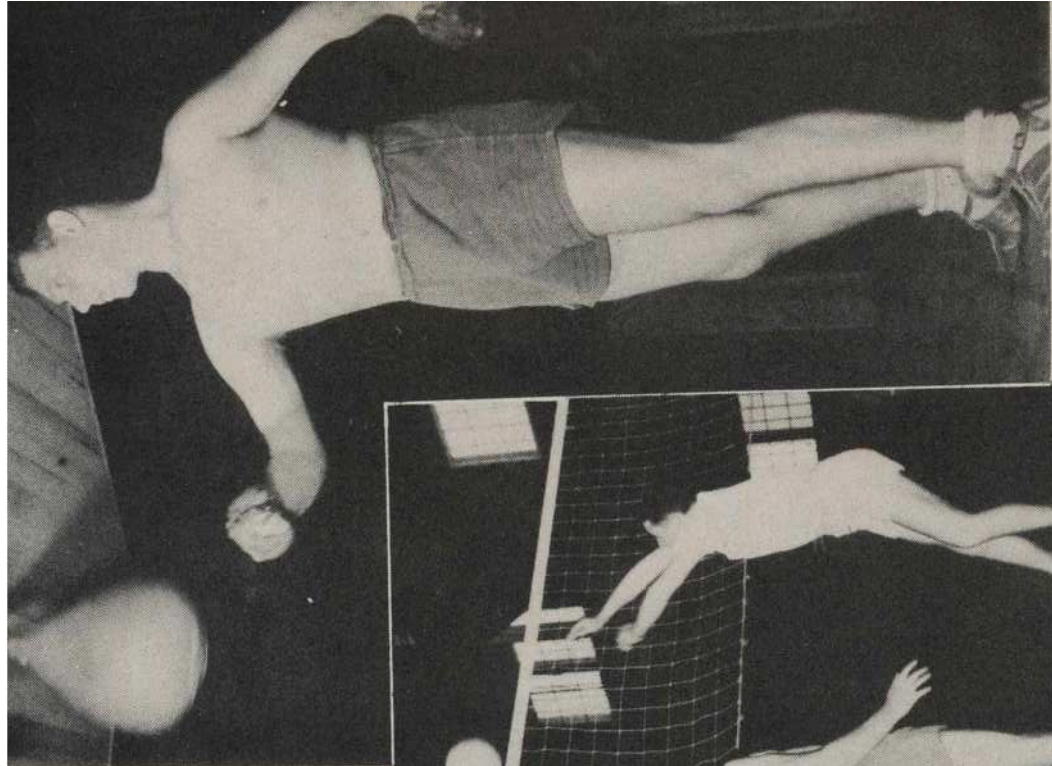


Parade





RECREATION

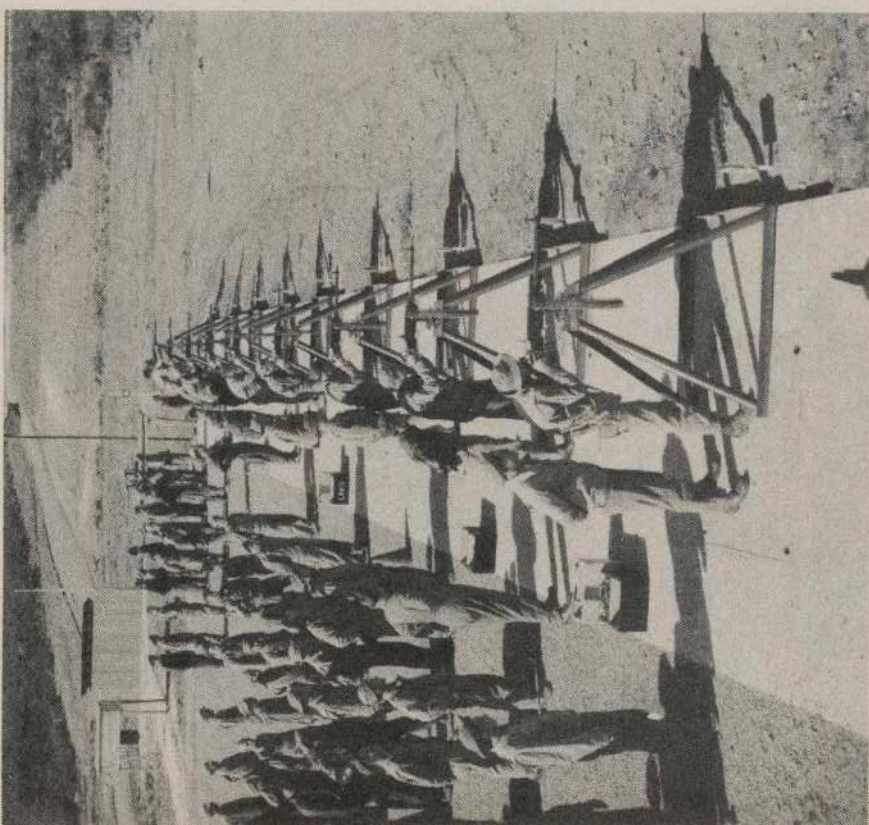
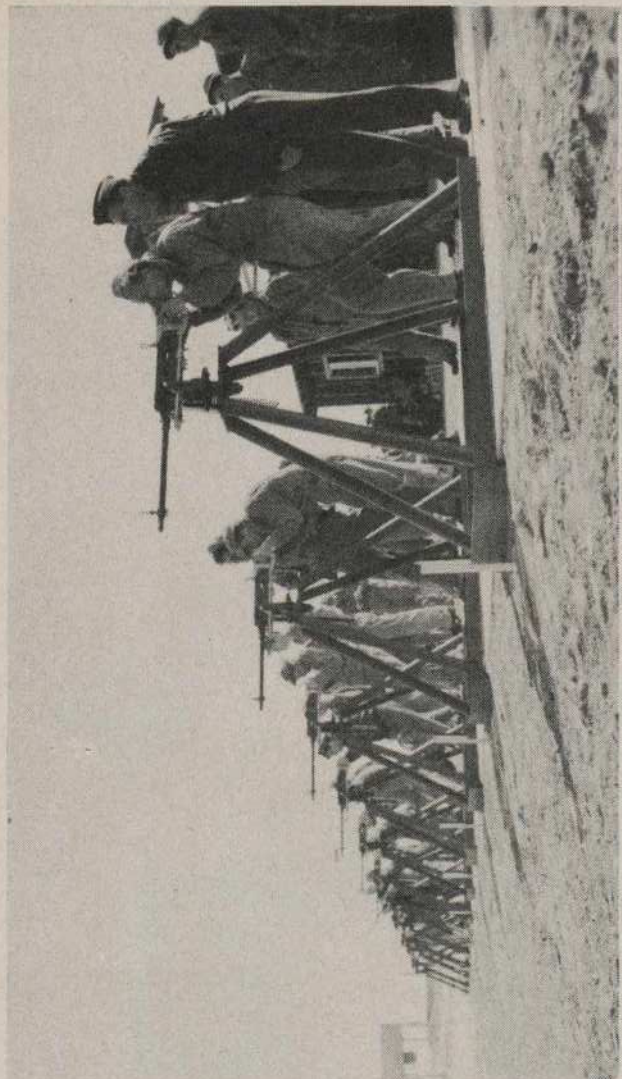


Skeet Shooting now-slaps later





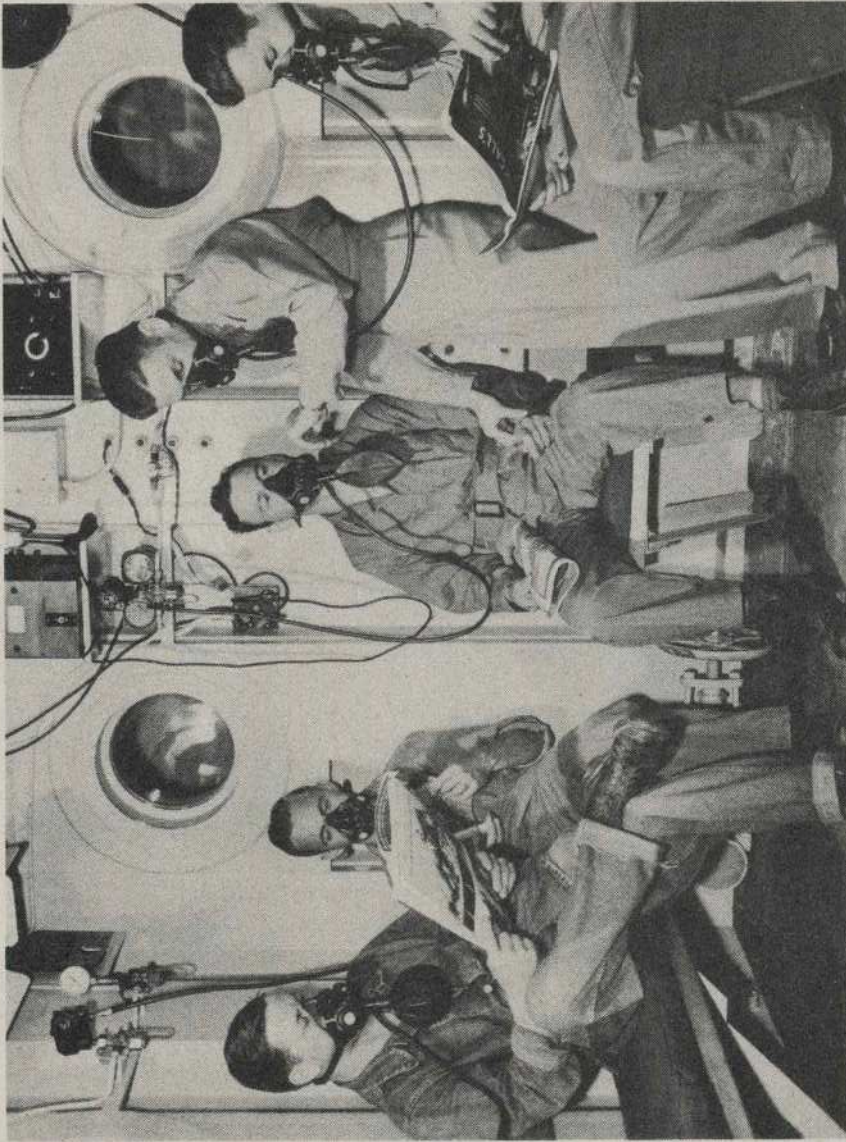
on the RANGE







STUDENTS CHECK OUT OF READY ROOM
TO BEGIN AIR FIRING

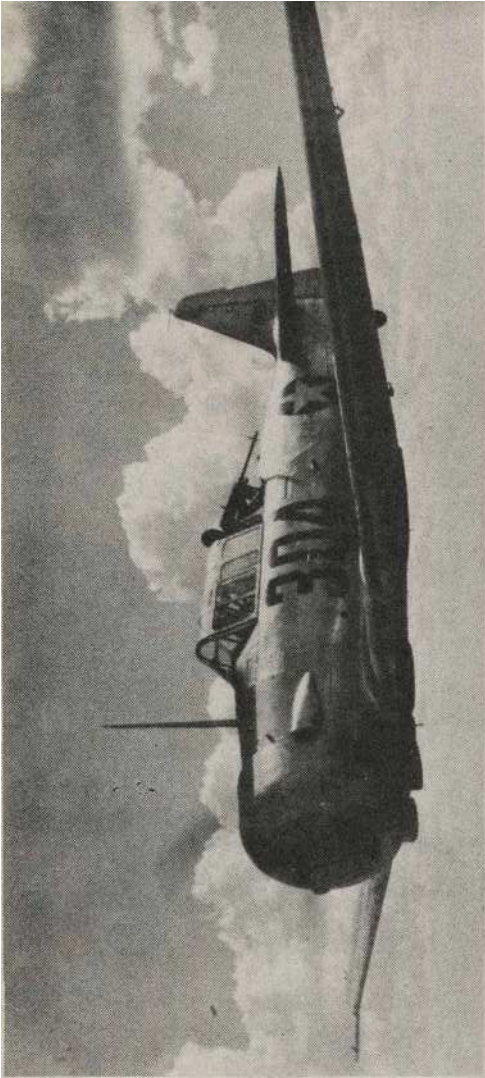


Altitude Flying

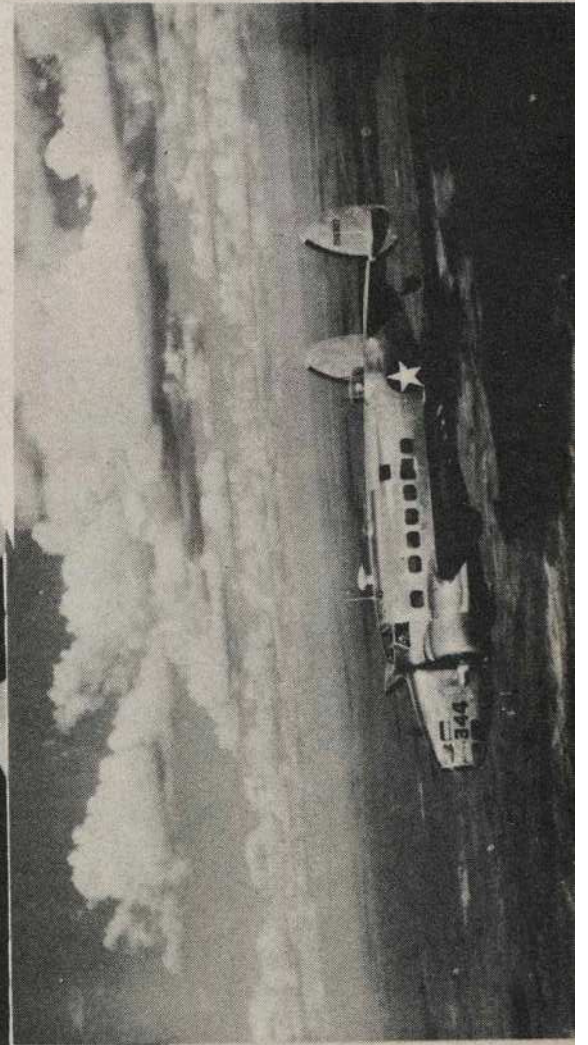
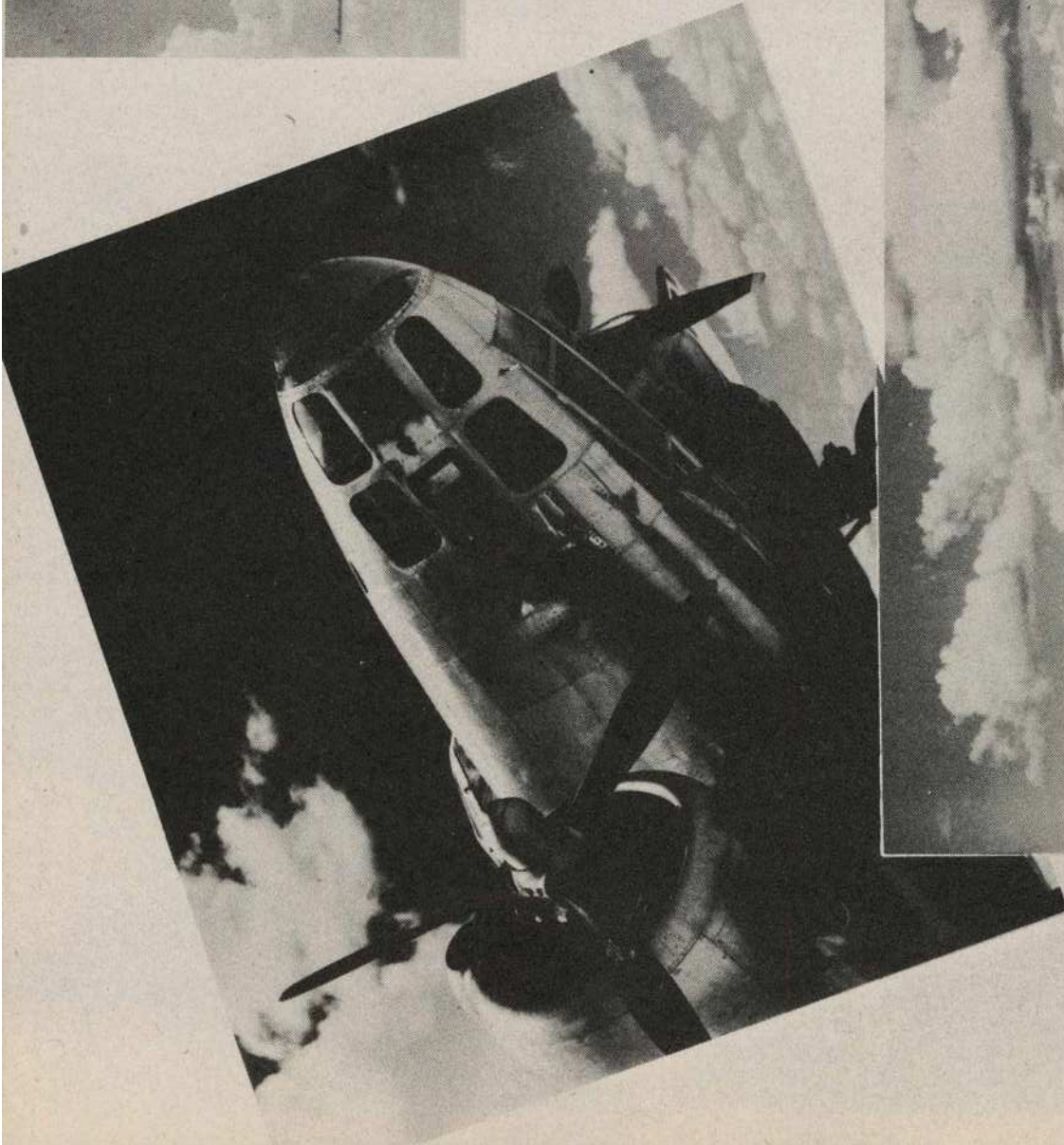
Flying in the cellar is the manner in which your ability is tested. The success of a mission may depend on this training.



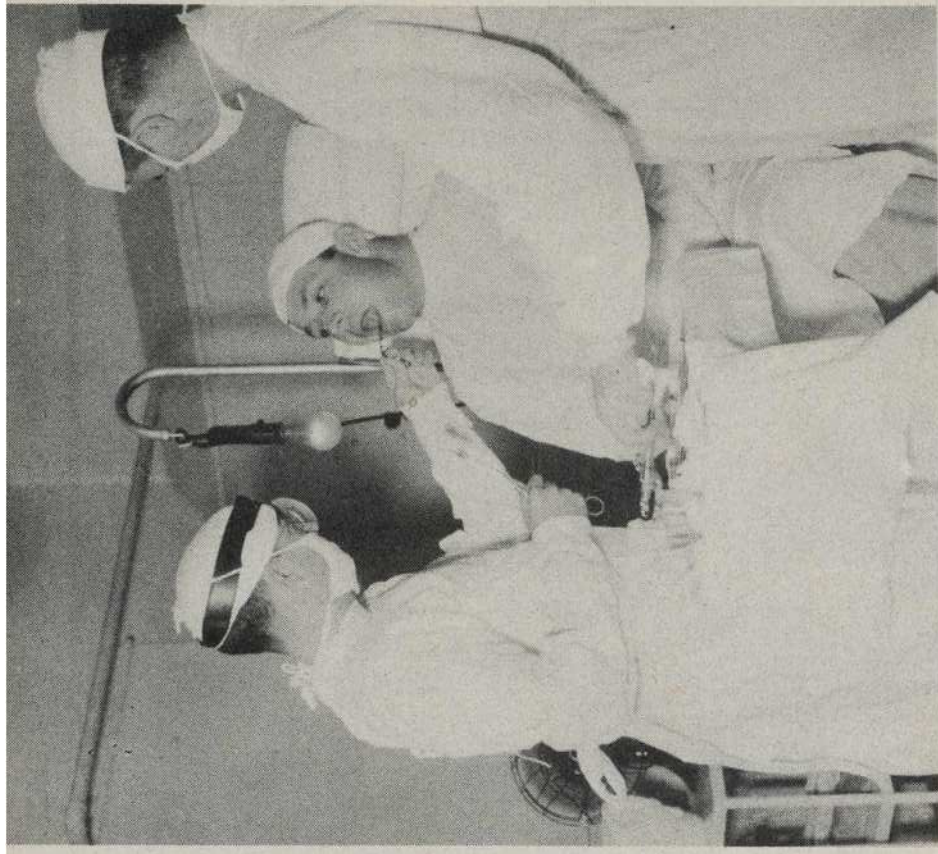
Welding



OUT
OF
THE
BLUE

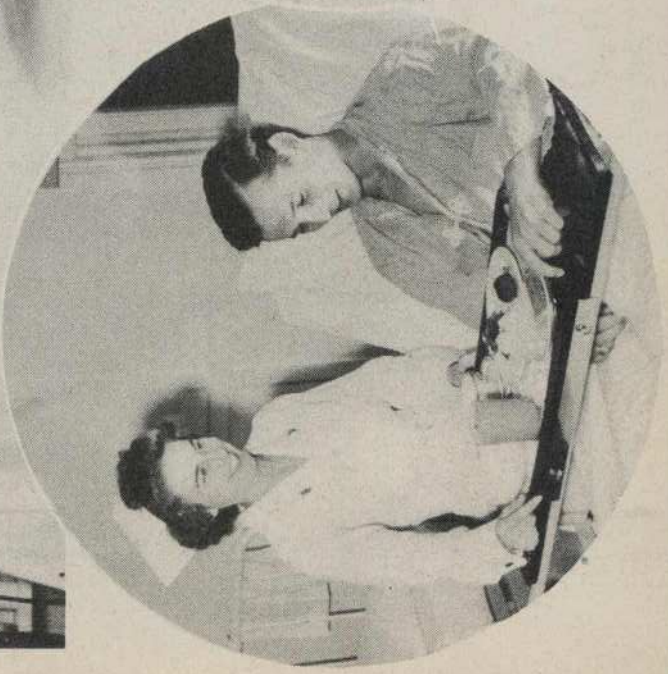
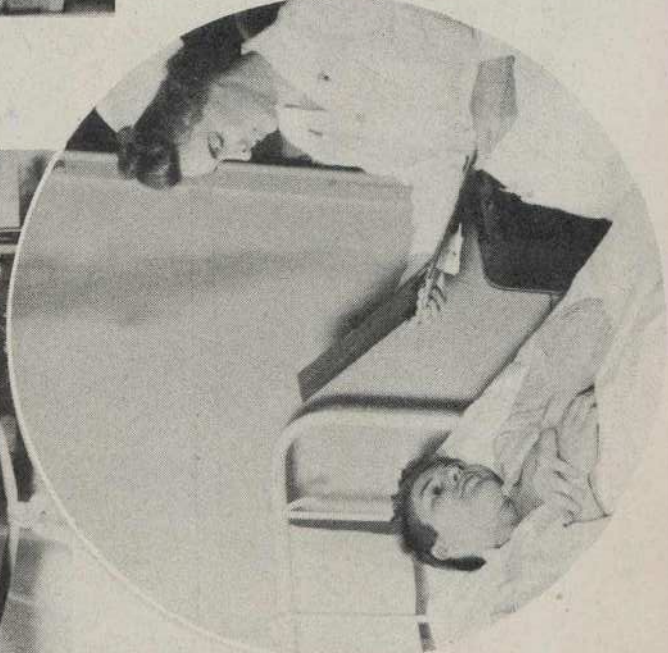
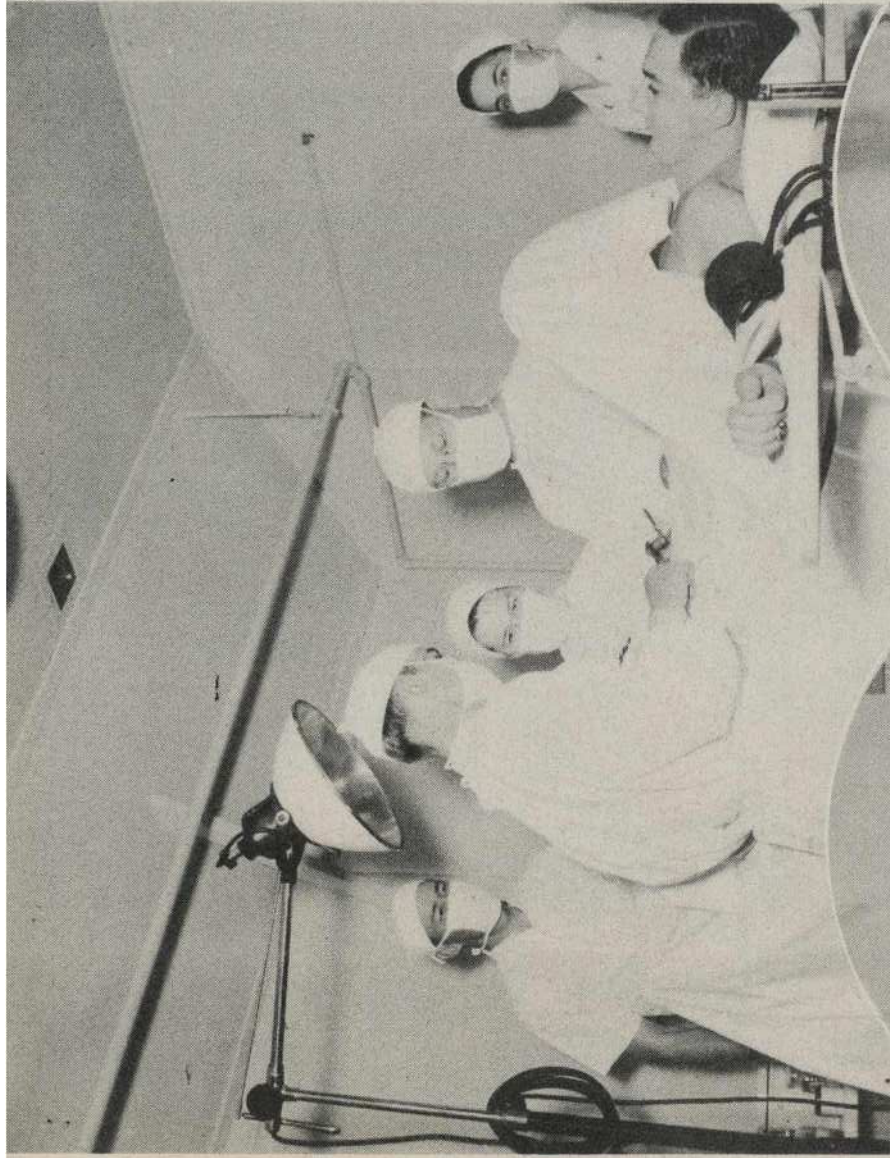


Night Firing

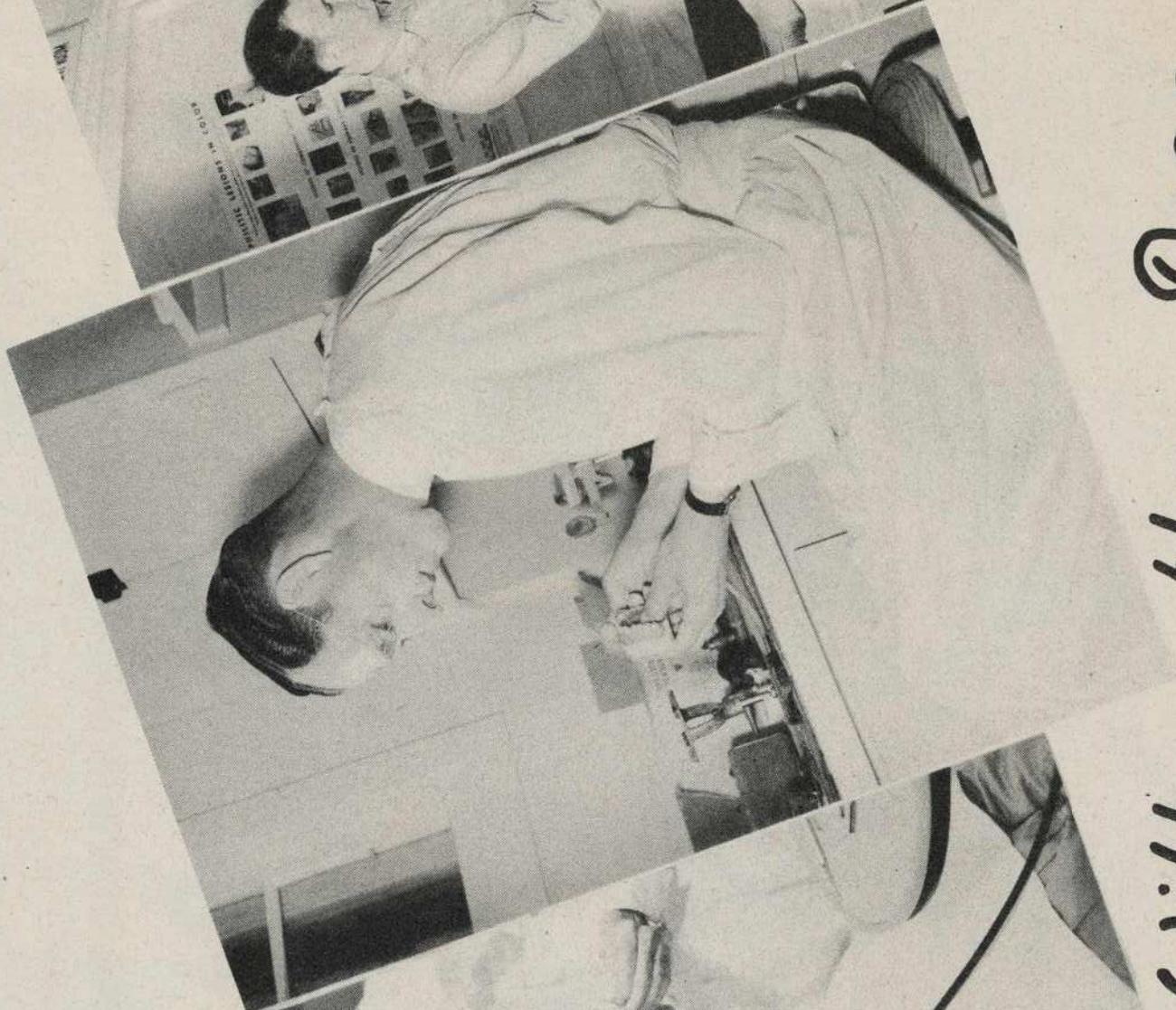
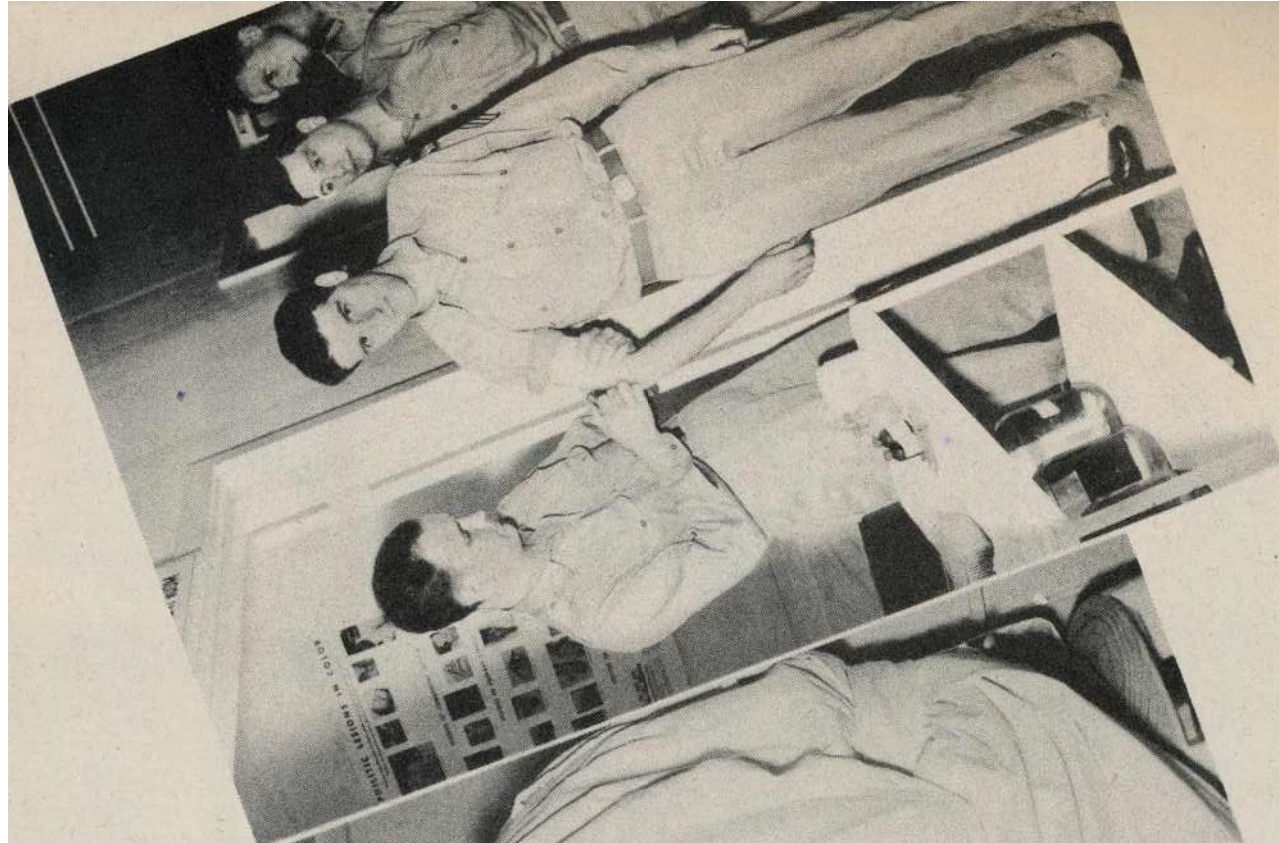


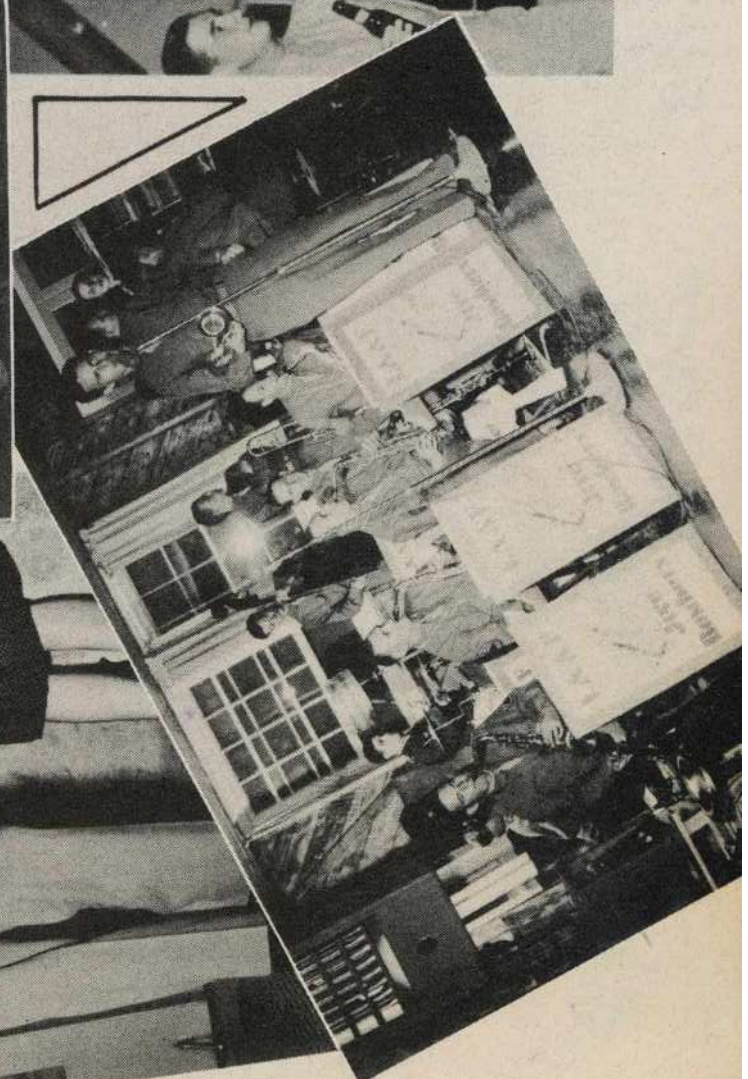
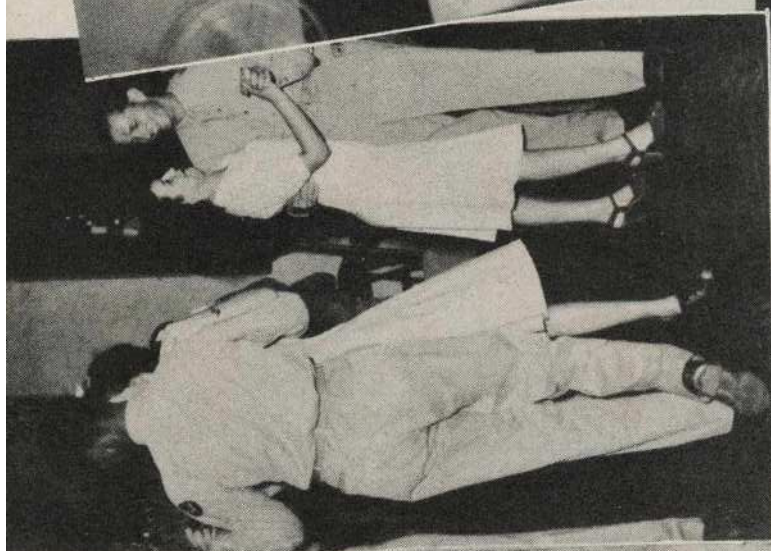
STATION HOSPITAL

Health is an all-valuable commodity among a group of men being trained to fight, and in this connection Laredo Field is especially proud of its large, well staffed and well-equipped hospital. Its doctors and nurses are prepared to meet anything from a blistered heel to an emergency case requiring major surgery.



With the Docs

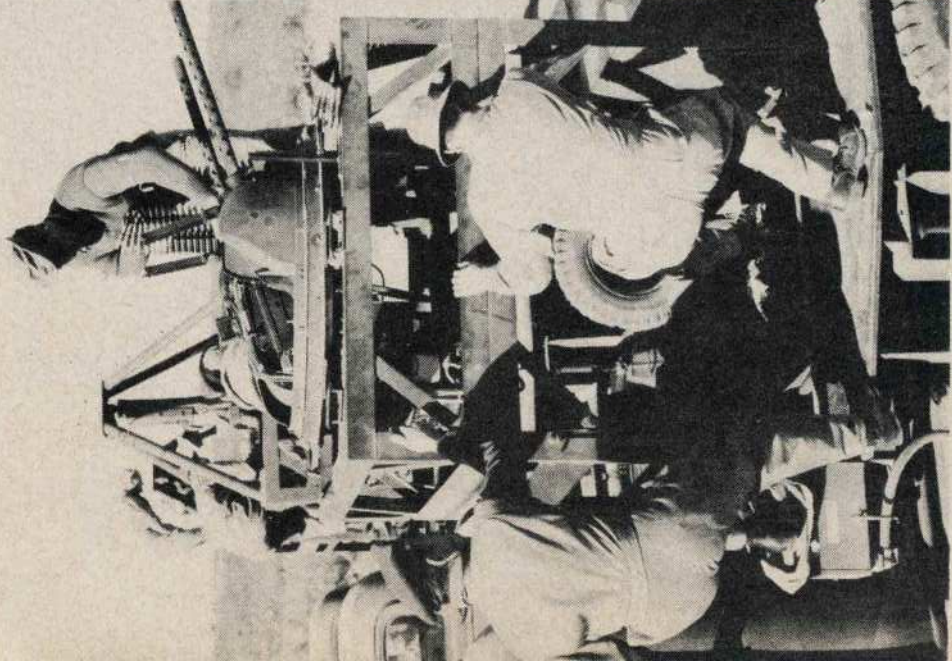
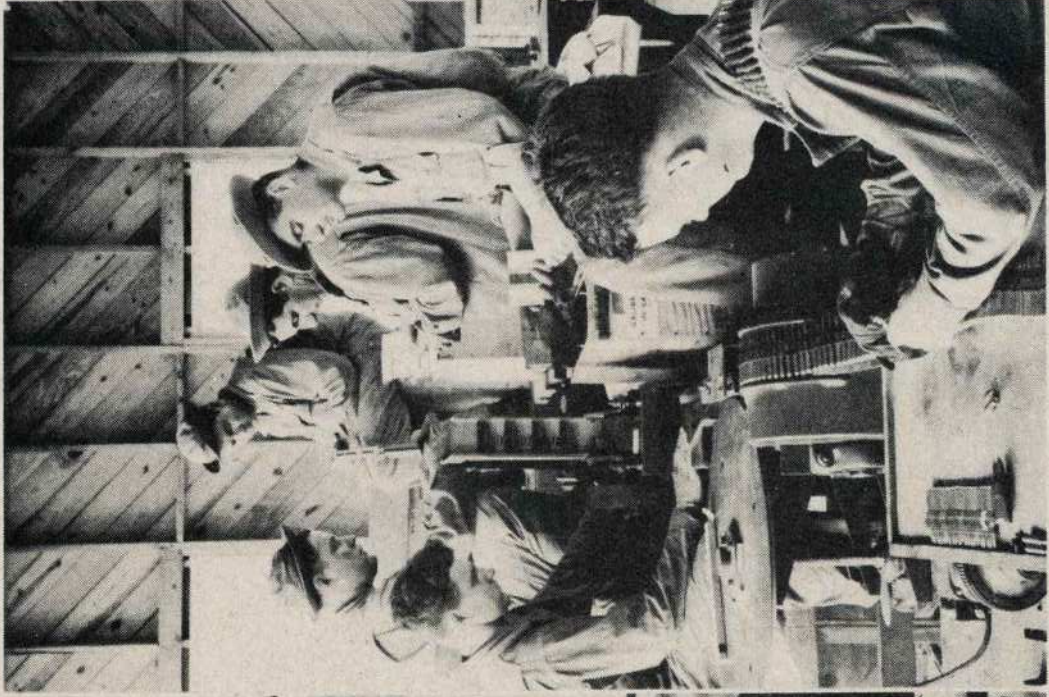
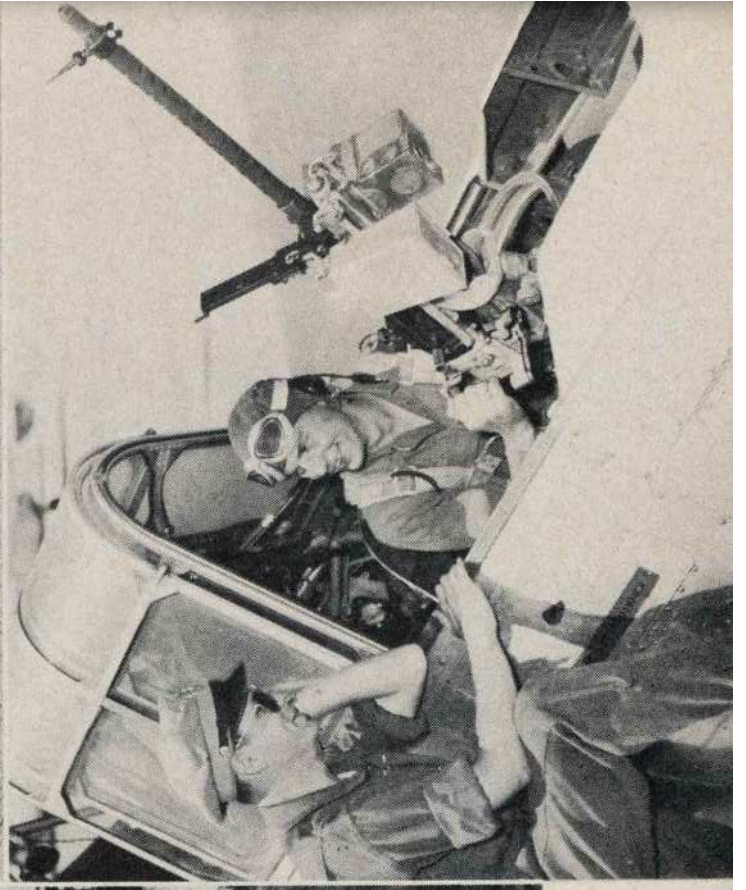




Entertainment

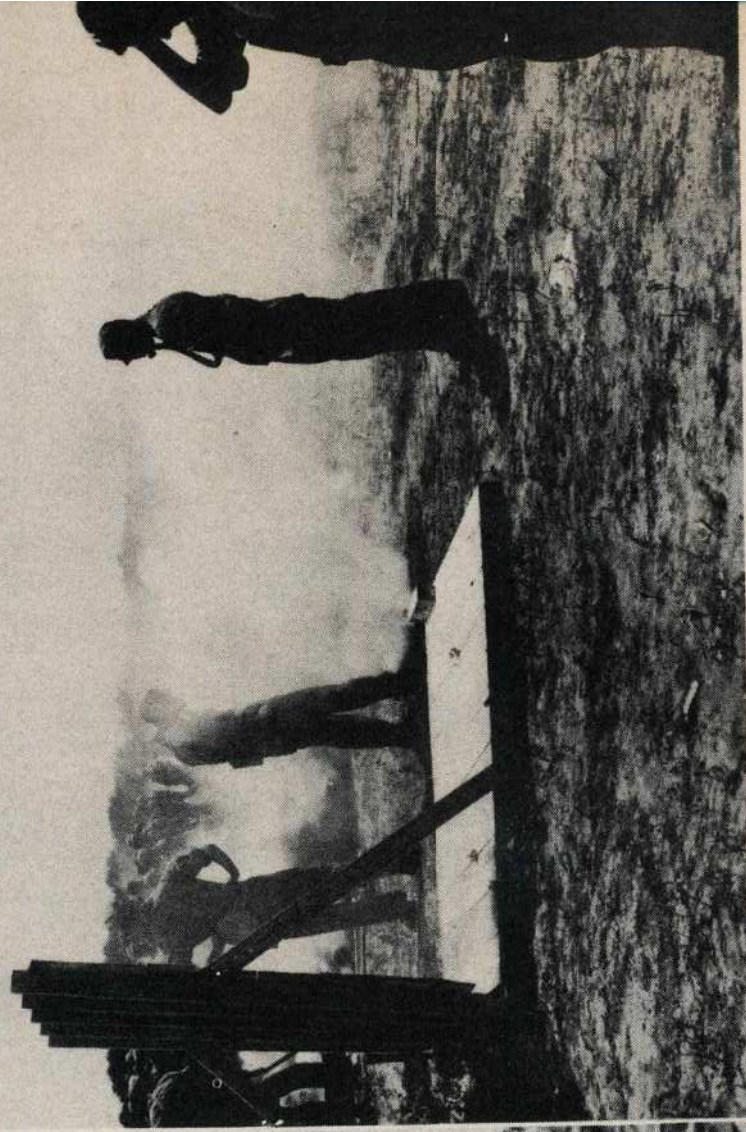
INSIDE LOOKING OUT





Pass the Ammunition !

GAS DRILL



As part of concentrated chemical warfare training at Laredo. Men are required to wear the gas masks so that their bodies will become accustomed to the restricted breathing during performance of their duties.

Let's Eat Department

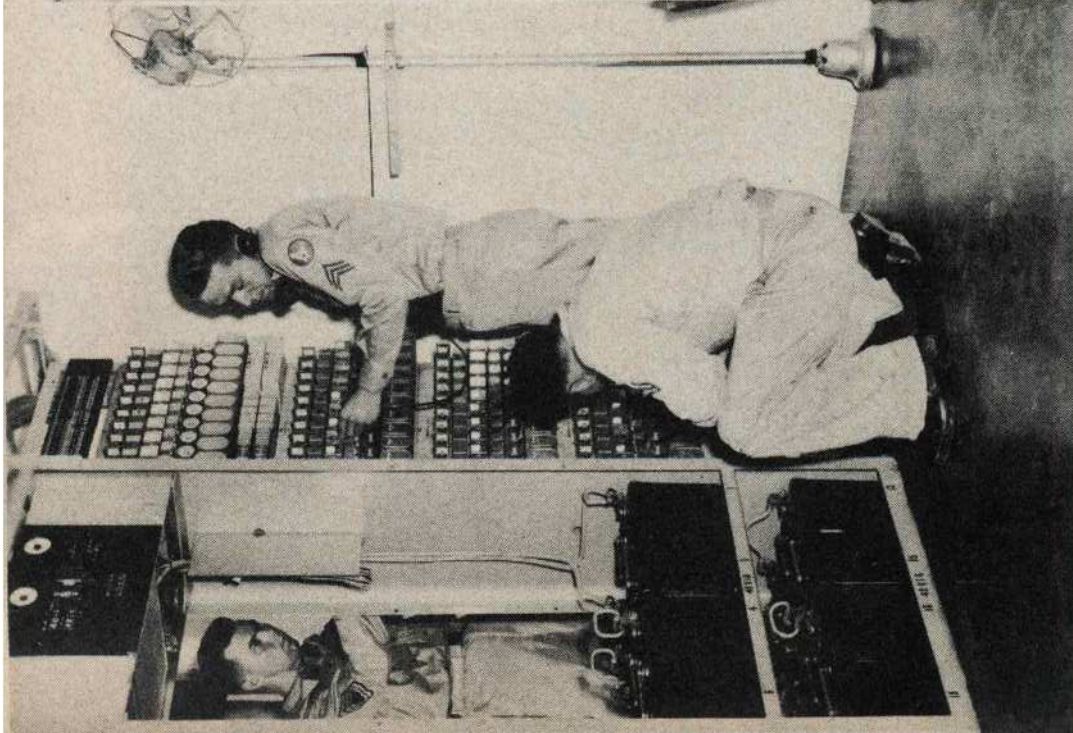
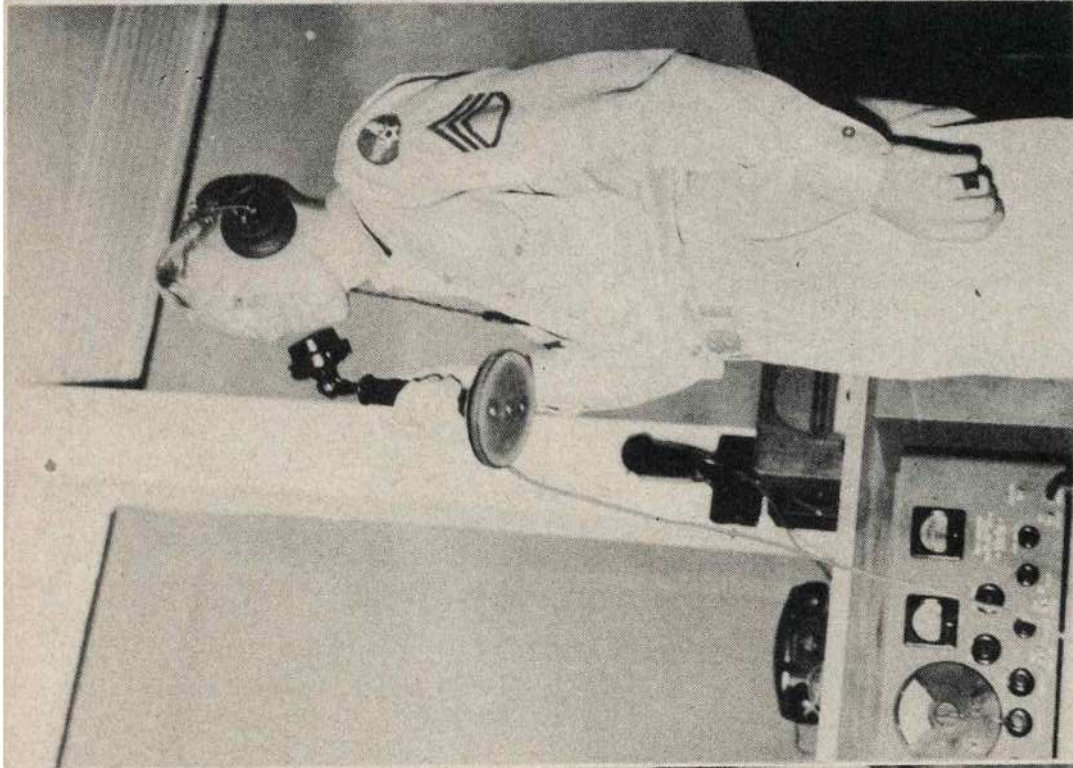
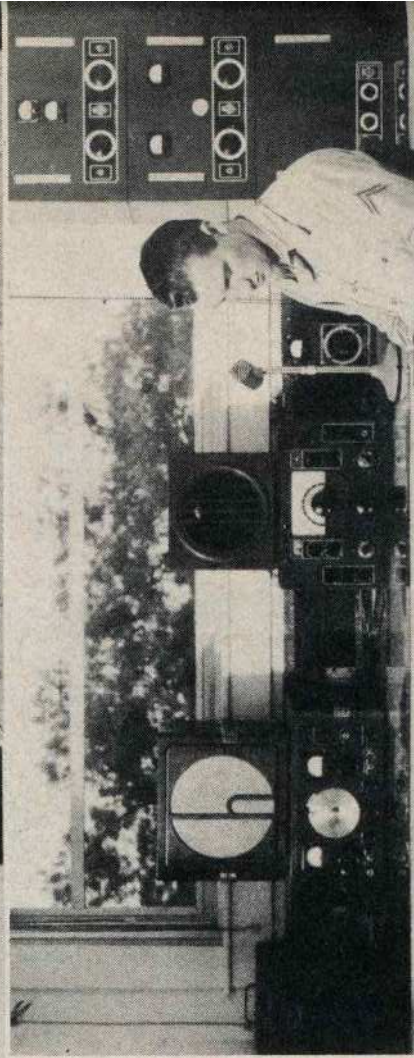
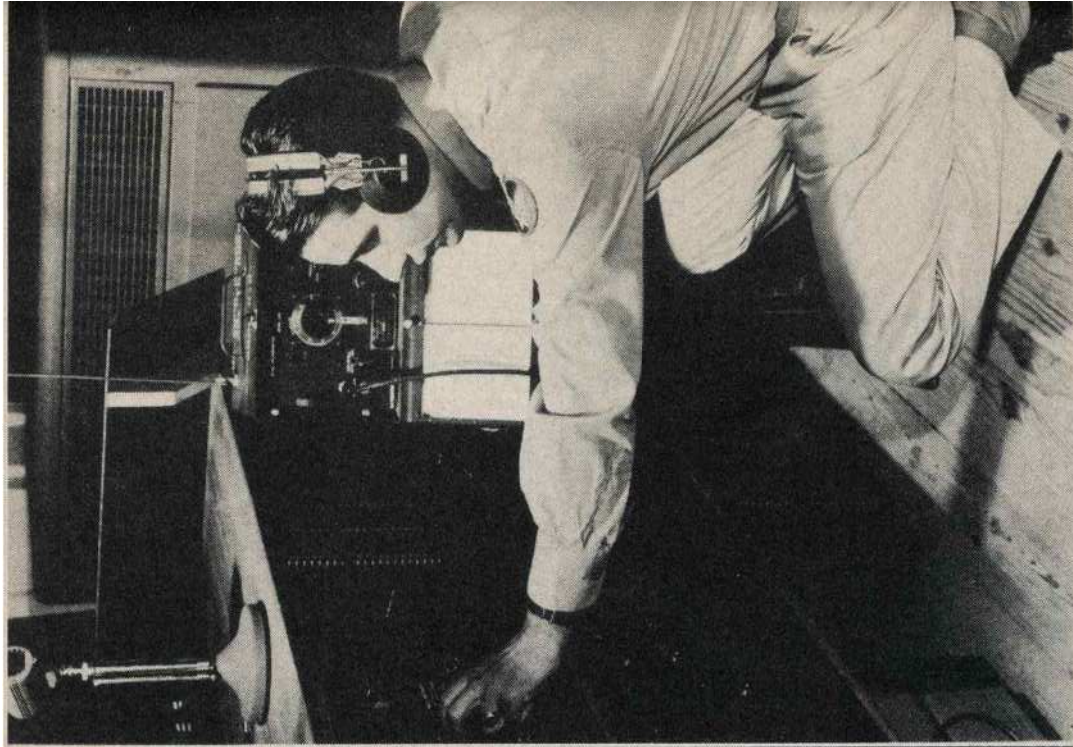




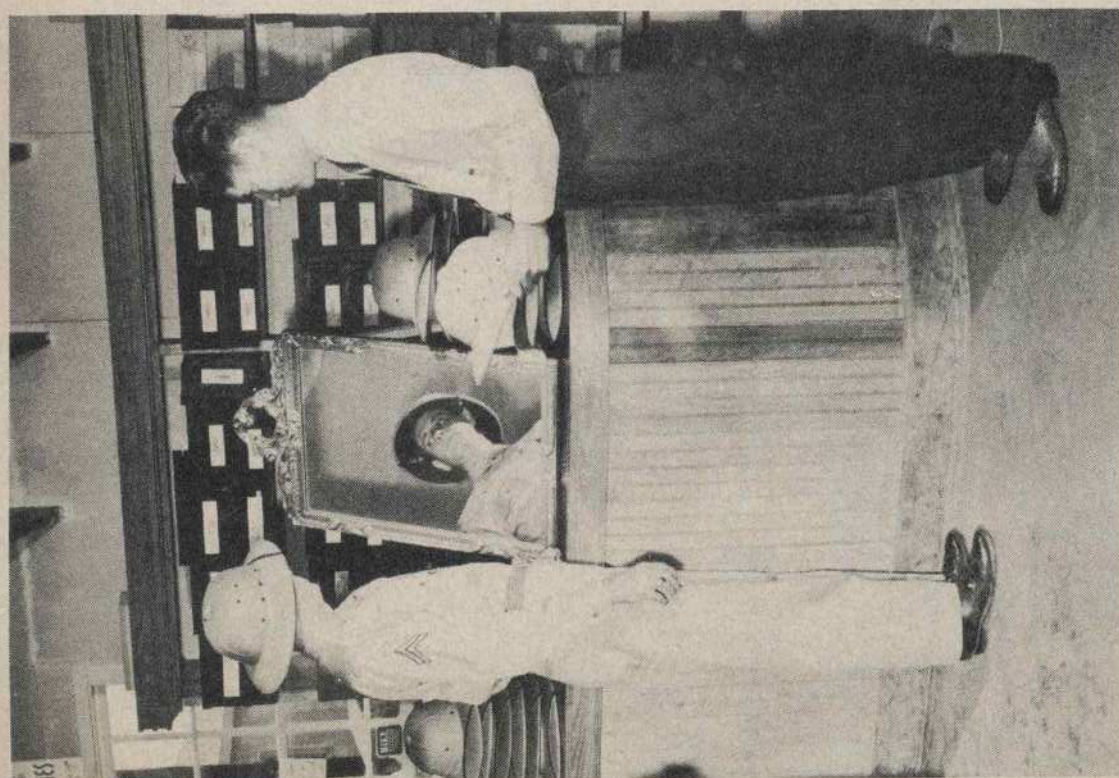
Parachutes

Working with parachutes is an exacting job. Every task must be performed with perfection; any error could mean the life of a cadet.

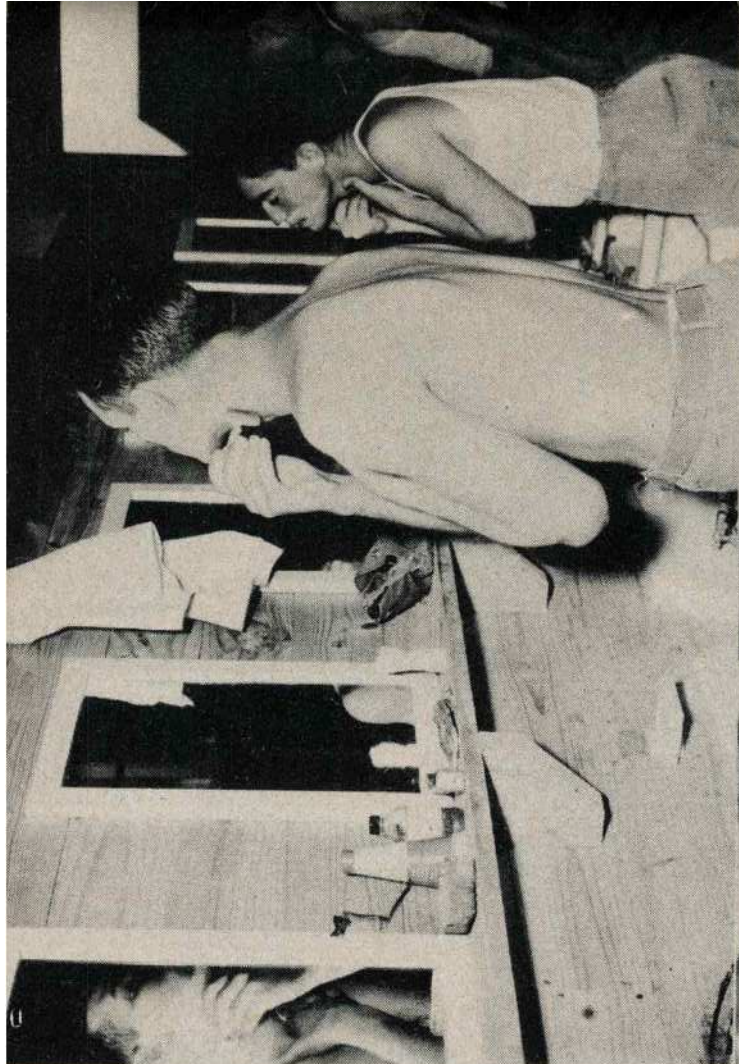




COMMUNICATIONS



QUARTERMASTER



Baracks Life ...



Autographs

Autographs

Paste your photo here . .

Mail this book home.
You will appreciate it
. . . in years to come

NAME

Squadron

Date

