

Air Force Academy Eases Some of Its Rigid Discipline To Keep Students

By CARLTON WILSON
United Press International
Colorado Springs, Colo.—(UPI)—The U.S. Air Force academy, faced with a drop-out rate of nearly one in three cadets its first four years, has eased some of its rigid discipline and begun to offer a wider variety of academic courses to challenge students.

But the major test is yet to come as each succeeding class completes four years of active duty and the men decide whether to go on to a military career.

The present senior class, who will receive bachelor of science degrees and regular Air Force commissions as second lieutenants in June, is the first to have spent all four years at the present \$166 million campus in the shadow of the rampart range in the mountains of central Colorado. It was also the first full-sized class of 750 cadets.

Three small classes of approximately 300 each entered the academy during the first three years of its existence and another class of 454 entered in the summer of 1958. After the full-sized classes began entering in 1959 they brought the cadet wing to its full authorized strength of 2,512 in 1962.

Counting on Men
It is these men that the Air Force is counting on to elect for careers and become the military leaders of the nation. The general most directly responsible for military orientation of the cadets himself resigned from the service this month. He is Brig. Gen. William T. Seawell, commandant of cadets, who leaves the military to take a high-paying job in the aviation industry.

The Air Force spends an estimated \$12,000 a year per cadet, a total of \$28 million annually to run the academy. The program is changed regularly to improve the investment.

At first, for example, enough time was spent on navigation training to award graduates wings as aerial observers along with their degrees. Now only a limited flying program is offered. The academy does not have an air field. There is an F100 jet fighter on permanent display near the cadet classroom building to remind the two million visitors a year to the campus that the school is part of the Air Force.

Graduates Go On
About 9 out of 10 graduates go on to flying training, however, and earn their wings with only half the usual 30 per cent of "wash outs." Military training motivation was revealed last summer

when 85 of the present cadets gave up their leave to take paratroop training at Fort Benning, Ga. All won jump wings. One cadet was first in the total class of 700 that mostly was made up of Army paratroopers.

Some of the military hazing has been cut out. Freshmen, or fourth classmen, still eat at attention in the 2,600-seat dining hall named after Gen. Billy Mitchell, one of the first advocates of an Air Force academy. But the "doolies" get to eat their 5,400 calories a day without being constantly interrupted to recite senseless essays.

Stems From Order
The nickname "Doolie" stems from an order to "do it, Willie," attributed originally to an Air Force general who had a distasteful assignment to get done.

And cadets get to rate every meal on suggestion slips that go to T./Sgt. Charles Edwards of Rochester, N.Y., dining hall supervisor. He says the favorite food is hamburgers and the

most hated in creamed beef on toast.

In the classroom, almost equal emphasis is placed on the sciences and the humanities. To graduate, a cadet must have 186 credits—143½ in academics and the rest in military and athletics. Every cadet must participate in a rigorous program of sports.

While 68 credit hours are requested in basic and applied sciences, a program of accelerated courses and credit for previous work or training allows most cadets room in their crowded schedules to take elective courses.

The "enrichment" program was partly an answer to the problem of resignations because some cadets felt they were not given a broad enough education. Up to 30 per cent of the cadets were dropping out because of academic or military reasons, but current projections are for an elimination rate of about 18 per cent.

The faculty of all officers lacks the educational depth of older civilian schools. Only

48 of the 340 teachers listed in the academy catalog hold the PhD degree, although most have a masters.

Brig. Gen. Robert F. McDermott, dean of faculty, says the cadet "receives a broad liberal education and a good knowledge of the sciences applicable to his service."

Features Varsity Teams
The athletic program features varsity teams in 15 intercollegiate sports and a rugged intramural program of competition in 14 sports between the 24 squadrons.

Dates for cadets are plentiful, with Colorado Springs nearby and Denver just 60 miles away for weekends.

At all times cadets must abide by a basic honor code. It is: "We will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate among us those who do."

A cadet is given every educational opportunity—small classes of no more than 18, the best training aids, required study hours and individual instruction if desired. The "curve" of grading allows only 5 per cent failures, according to one professor.

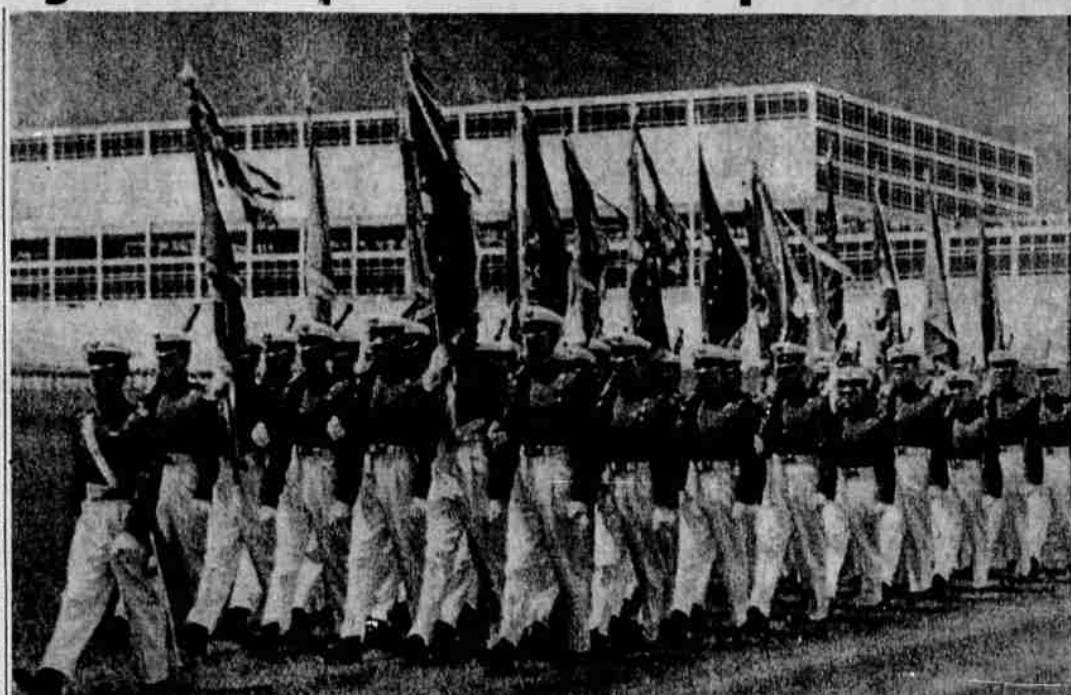
Summer Vacations
Two summer "vacations" are spent in military training and one with a trip overseas, dubbed "couth and culture," where cadets get to practice

their foreign language. Courses are offered in French, German, Spanish, Chinese and Russian. One cadet, on a trip to Berlin, was able to talk a Russian guard out of his military hat.

The campus, on nearly 18,000 acres of former ranchland, is of modern architecture with liberal use of glass windows in its aluminum buildings. The commanding structure is the chapel, with its 17 spires rising to 150 feet. Subdivisions in the chapel have 1,000 seats in the Protestant nave, 500 in the Catholic section and 100 in the Jewish synagogue.

Eventually the academy hopes to be able to grant advanced degrees, although it faces opposition from Pentagon brass, Congress and other schools. Enough credits are now offered in the fields of astronautics and international affairs, however, that up to 50 cadets hope to earn a master's degree in those fields after six months of graduate study at other schools.

And the academy also hopes to build an air field, because the only flying now done at the school is by its mascot falcons.



GRADUATION PARADE—A U.S. Air Force Academy color guard enters the parade grounds in front of the academy's buildings during graduation parade in June 6, 1961. Faced with a high drop-out rate in its first four years, the academy has eased up in rigid discipline and begun to offer a wider variety of courses to challenge students academically. (UPI)

Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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HOW DOES A STOCK INVESTMENT COMPARE?
The most comprehensive study of stock prices in history is nearing completion at the University of Chicago's Center for Research in Security Prices. When the initial results start coming out in early May, you'll have the basis for finding out for the first time ever:

- (1) How much you might have earned a year on an investment in any or all stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange during a 35-year period from 1926 to 1960. A good guess is that the rate of return you could have earned on stocks will turn out surprisingly high.
- (2) How the rate of return you could have earned on stock compares with what you could have earned via other popular mediums of investment—ranging from a savings bank deposit to a mortgage. A good guess is that a common stock investment will be revealed in an exceedingly favorable light.
- (3) How much you could have gained or lost on a purchase and sale of any or all of the NYSE listed stocks at various key dates during this prolonged period. We have nothing even approaching adequate information on this.
- (4) How valuable, if at all, are the familiar stock market forecasting techniques—such as the famous Dow Theory. Wall Street pros have been arguing pro and con on the familiar theories for years with no reliable evidence to decide the arguments one way or the other.
- (5) Whether stock prices react to or signal in advance major developments here or abroad. If a connection is shown between stock price movements and events beyond the scope of a technical theory, the forecasting techniques will be even more suspect. Or if no connection is shown, it could be vice versa.
- (6) What effect the dividend rate a corporation pays on its stock has on its stock price in contrast to what effect its earnings rate has on the stock price. This is of vital significance to corporations with outstanding stocks, but there has been no worthwhile scientific attempt up to now to prove the difference in effect.
- (7) How helpful or misleading are the stock price averages on which so many rely to tell them what the stock market is doing. There's plenty of argument about these averages too, but no trustworthy evidence to settle the question.
- (8) How good or bad an investment adviser's performance has been over a period—another delicate question, to put it mildly.

We never had had research to guide us to answers to these crucial questions—and with the number of us who directly own stocks moving toward 20 million in the U.S. alone, and with tens of millions of others indirectly involved in stocks through the investments made by their pension funds, insurance companies, etc., the need for the data is indisputable.

It was three years ago this month that Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., the largest brokerage firm in the world, made a first grant to the University of Chicago to establish a permanent center for independent, basic research in securities which could settle such provocative questions as I've pinpointed above. Since then, dedicated researchers have been working around the clock to gather the needed material under the direction of University of Chicago professors J. H. Lorie and L. Fisher.

Now the center has on computer tapes hundreds of thousands of stock quotations and calculations. As Lorie put it in New York City yesterday, this study "deals with a universe, not a cross-section" of stocks. Now, in the center's laboratory is data covering a period including both booms and depressions, both war and peace, so valid conclusions can be reached on how an investor would have made out in the worst and best of possible times. Now a huge and constantly increasing volume of statistics will be available to find out the answers to countless other questions affecting the investing public.

The statistics to be released in May will represent only a beginning, and I'll be back with an interpretation of them. This report is to alert you to what is on its way—for the implications of this research can be enormous to us, as investors, to the tools we use to assist us in reaching sound decisions and to the organizations and individuals who advise us on and manage our investments.

Ammonia Gas Line Break Kills One

Memphis, Tenn. — (UPI) — "I turned and saw it coming through the door from the hall cooler—a white living cloud."

Roy Orman, 59, was the first person to see the deadly ammonia gas leaking into a local meat plant Tuesday from a broken refrigeration line in a cooling room. One man died.

Orman shouted for the 400 other employees to get out of the plant. "It was a stampede," he said. "One whiff of that knocks you down."

Orman himself didn't make it out under his own power. Firemen with gas masks dragged him and four other men overcome by the fumes from the plant.

Francis Maben, 53, died. The others were hospitalized. Orman and Lloyd Watkins, 21, in fair condition and Everett Murray, 19, and Roy Fisher, 43, in critical condition.

Plant Manager D. G. Koenig said the three-inch round ammonia pipe probably was broken when a workman accidentally pushed a small fork-lift truck against it.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

SALES MANAGER: AH, ROSEWATER... BACK EARLY, EH? WERE YOU ABLE TO SELL THE BARK AND CHIRP PET STORE AN AD?

ER-UH-NO, SIR—NOT YET—BUT—ER—THEY SOLD ME A PLUVIANG PUPPY AND A SINGAPORE PARAKEET—UH— I THINK WE'RE BUILDING UP GOOD RELATIONS THERE, SIR...

YESTERDAY HEARTLESS HARDWARE SOLD HIM A POWER LAWN MOWER— AND HE LIVES IN A FURNISHED ROOM DOWNTOWN....

THAT'S NOTHIN' WHEN HE WAS PEDDLING VACUUM CLEANERS SOME DAME SOLD HIM A ROUND OF CARPET NAP....

GOOD RELATIONS, MY AUNT HERMIONE! THEY WOULDN'T BUY AN AD FROM THEIR MOTHER— THEY TEACH THEIR PARROTS TO PLUG THE STORE

THE GUY WHO DREW THIS CARTOON SHOULD SHADDUP! HE WAS A SALESMAN WHO THOUGHT HE COULD BECOME A CARTOONIST!

FEELING FOR THE SALESMAN WHOSE RESISTANCE IS MINUS....

THANKS, AND A TIP OF THE HATLO HAT TO MURKIE COOPER, (1963) SO, EUCLID 21, OHIO

♪ sing along with White Satin ♪

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White Satin sweet teen * She floats into the kitchen * Lovely and serene * Fills pots and pans and pie tins * She's a baking queen *

WHITE SATIN growing in Oregon for 25 naturally sweet years