

Seymour Daily Tribune
April 2, 1943

Maj. Weiland Is Executive Officer

Major George W. Weiland has been named post executive officer at Freeman Army Air Field according to an announcement made by Colonel E. T. Rundquist commanding officer. Major Weiland succeeds Lieutenant Colonel Ora M. Baldinger who has become post engineer liaison officer.

Before his entry into the service, Major Weiland was employed by the Pan-American Airways and at one period of this employment he was in Brazil where he built airfields for the company. During the first World War he saw action overseas with the French army and was in several major engagements.

Freeman Field Dedication On Thursday

**"Open House" from
8 a. m. to 4 p. m.,
Planned—Ceremony
To be at 10 O'clock**

Freeman Army Airfield today was a bee-hive of bustle and activity as the finishing touches were being put on plans for the graduation-dedication day program which is to be featured by an "open house" at the field Thursday.

Brigadier-General Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Air Forces Flying Training Wing, is to be present to give the dedication address, and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, will deliver the graduation address.

The graduation-dedication ceremony will begin at 10 o'clock Thursday morning, and will be held in or in front of one of the big hangars on the field.

Air Review Scheduled.

At the conclusion of the ceremony an aerial formation, headed by Capt. Robert Tyler, Freeman Field's director of flying, will fly in review.

"Open house" hours, during which the public will be admitted to the air field, will be from 8 o'clock Thursday morning until 4 o'clock that afternoon.

Program Is Announced.

Opening the graduation-dedication ceremony will be the National Anthem, played by the 405th AAF Band. Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson will give the invocation, after which Col. Rundquist will introduce Gen. Nowland. Following the general's dedication address he will present Ab Freeman, father of the late Capt. Richard S. Freeman, of Winamac, Ind., for whom the field has been named.

The band will play "March Freeman Field," dedicated to Col. Rundquist, after which Major William B. Poe, director of training, will present Col. Rundquist for the graduation address.

Will Present Wings.

Major Poe will then present the wings to members of the graduating class of cadets, after which Major Albert E. Hughes will administer the Oath of Office. The Rev. C. W. Burkart, pastor of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, will pronounce the benediction, after which the band will play "The Army Air Corps." The aerial review will conclude the ceremony.

Officers of the school are as follows: Col. Rundquist, commandant; Lieutenant-Colonel O. M. Baldinger, assistant commandant; Major George W. Weiland, executive officer; Major Poe, director of training; Major Peter P. Leone, senior flight surgeon; Major Hughes, commandant of cadets; Captain Tyler, director of flying; Captain Henry F. Bailey, director of the ground school, and Captain James Moore, school secretary.

Guests during the day will be allowed to visit the unrestricted sections of the field during the "open house" period, and will have an opportunity to inspect one of the trainer planes which will be placed on exhibit.

Special Guards Planned.

Special guards will be on duty on the field, on highways leading to the field, and in Seymour, both to direct traffic and to provide information for visitors to the field and city. In addition to members of the field's guard squadron, the service will be provided by state police, city police and members of Seymour's civilian defense organization. Members of the civilian defense drivers' corps, of which Mrs. John L. Blish is chief, will meet all incoming trains and busses to provide information service and to direct visitors to the air field.

Traffic enroute to the field will be routed west on U. S. Road 50 to what used to be known as the old airport road. It is now a newly paved highway, leading south from Road 50 to the main entrance to Freeman Field. Traffic to the field will use that route, and traffic leaving the field will use both the main entrance and the Walnut street gate.

Indianapolis News
April 28, 1943

Captain Freeman's Air Exploits Won Him a Page in Army Annals

SEYMOUR, Ind., April 28 (Spl.)—Pioneering Alaskan skyways, Capt. Richard S. Freeman, for whom Freeman army airfield, advanced twin engine flying school is named, blazed a historic trail in the frozen wastes.

The field will be dedicated Thursday, when the first class of cadets is graduated. Brigadier-General Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th army air forces advanced training wing, with headquarters at George field, will give the dedication address. Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman field, will give the graduation address.

Captain Freeman, born at Winamac, was killed in the crash of his "flying laboratory" plane February 6, 1941, near Lovelock, Nev.

His flying career was marked by many honors, and when the air forces were given the difficult assignment of conducting experiments in the arctic, Captain Freeman was named commandant of Ladd field near Fairbanks, Alaska, where the United States' first experimental air field was established.

The first army pilot to fly non-stop from McChord field, Washing-

ton, to Fairbanks in a B-17 Flying Fortress, Captain Freeman made the flight over perilous peaks and rutted gorges.

Ladd field provided adequate accommodations for the men, but there were no hangars. The planes were lashed to the snow when not in use in winter. Temperatures of 60 degrees below zero are not uncommon at Fairbanks, so the fliers' first problem was the business of tethering planes in the open.

Captain Freeman went on numerous experimental flights into the far north country, and having earned a reputation as a "high altitude" pilot, it was not unusual for him to take a plane out for cold weather tests. He also made flights over the Aleutian islands and snow-covered Mt. McKinley, which juts up 20,000 feet. Despite only a few hours of daylight during the months of December and January, full working orders were a part of the routine. Experimental flights were made to Ft. Yukon and to the Arctic sea.

Captain Freeman and his men did much to further the cause of military aviation and insure the safe and efficient operation of aircraft in the Alaskan territory.

City to "Close Up" Half a Day To Attend Airport Dedication

Seymour will have virtually a half-holiday Thursday as local residents "move out" to Freeman Army Air Field to the dedication-graduation ceremonies.

Schedule at the Seymour postoffice has been changed so that city carriers and those employed at the office may go to the airport Thursday morning. The Seymour city schools and part of the parochial schools, will remain closed until noon and drug stores, which normally are open both on Sundays and holidays, have been added to the list of downtown business establishments which will not open until 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

City mail carriers will make one complete delivery Thursday, W. H. Droege, Seymour postmas-

ter, said today, but this delivery will be in the afternoon instead of in the morning as is the usual schedule.

The general delivery and stamp window will be open from 7:30 until 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning to accommodate early mailers and it will open again at 12 o'clock noon, to remain open until 6 o'clock Thursday afternoon, the usual hour. All other service windows of the postoffice will not open until noon and will close at 5:30 o'clock, the usual time. Rural carriers will make their deliveries as usual and outgoing mail will be dispatched as usual.

To Stamp Collectors

A new cancellation stamp, reading "Freeman Army Airfield, Ind." will be used for the first time Thursday in the branch post office at Freeman Field, W. H. Droege, Seymour postmaster, announced today.

All mail deposited in the branch postoffice at the field will bear that cancellation for the first time. Postmaster Droege now has ninety-one covers that have been sent him so they will get the first day's cancellation and it is expected many local stamp collectors will want to mail letters at the field Thursday to get a first day-cover for their collections.

No school sessions will be held Thursday morning at any of the city grade schools, it was learned from N. J. Lasher, city school superintendent, in order that students and teachers may attend the ceremony at Freeman Field. The classes will convene after noon as usual.

Drug stores today were added to the list of downtown business establishments which will remain closed Thursday morning for the ceremony. It had been previously announced by William Topie, secretary of the Seymour Business Men's Association, that practically all establishments except restaurants, drug stores and similar establishments would remain closed until 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Banks and other financial institutions will be closed.

As a result of the general half-holiday in the business section, downtown Seymour is expected to head for Freeman field Thursday morning to take advantage of the opportunity to see the army post which has been constructed near Seymour so quickly. It is understood it is seldom the public is permitted to attend an army airport dedication in war time.

Air Forces to Dedicate Freeman Field Today

General Nowland To Be Speaker



CAPT. RICHARD S. FREEMAN

Seymour, Ind., April 28 (AP)—Officials at the Freeman Army Air Field, named for a native Hoosier, Capt. Richard S. Freeman, said today plans were complete for a formal dedication of the field tomorrow.

The dedication will be in connection with the graduation of the first class of cadets trained at the field's Advanced Twin Engine Flying School.

The principal address will be given by Brig. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding the 28th Army Air Forces Advanced Training Wing, with headquarters at George Field, Lawrenceville, Ill. Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, will give the graduation address.

The field a year ago was rolling Indiana farm land. A topographical survey, began April 11, 1942, marked its first development into the present field. On May 6 last year the Army announced the area had been selected as an air base, and it was activated officially December 1, 1942.

Captain Freeman, a pioneer of the Alaskan Airways, was born at Winamac, Ind., and died when his flying laboratory plane crashed near Lovelock, Nev., February 6, 1941.



Official Army Air Forces Photo.

Brig. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, Left, and Col. E. T. Rundquist.

Graduation-Dedication Exercises Lure Throng

15,000 On Hand As 1st Class At Freeman Finishes Course.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., April 29.—Between 15,000 and 20,000 persons were expected to attend the graduation-dedication exercises at Freeman Army Air Field here today.

Many of the visitors are relatives and friends of members of the first graduation class here, but the bulk of the crowd are persons from Southern Indiana who came to see the field for the first time. The public has been invited to "open house" at the field between 8 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock this afternoon. All Seymour business establishments were closed until 1 o'clock so their employes could visit the field and attend the graduation ceremony at 10 o'clock this morning with Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, delivering the address to the field's first class of cadets. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Forces Flying Training Wing, headquarters George Field, Vincennes, was to deliver the dedication address.

ONE-WAY TRAFFIC.

The air field's regular guard squadron was augmented by city

and State police and members of Seymour's auxiliary civilian defense police for the event. Information centers were set up downtown and special parking arrangements prepared. A State police car equipped with a public address system cruised through the airport during the day to aid in traffic handling. All traffic was routed into the field on one road and left by another entrance.

Freeman Army Air Field is named in honor of a flying diplomat, Capt. Richard S. Freeman. An honored guest at the ceremony was the late flyer's father, Ab Freeman, Winamac, Ind.

FLIERS THRILL CROWDS.

The 405th A.A.F. band played for the ceremony and Chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson, stationed at the field, gave the invocation. Colonel Rundquist was introduced for the graduation address by Maj. William B. Poe, director of training, who later presented wings to the members of the class of cadets. Maj. Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets, administered the oath of office. The Rev. C. W. Burkart, pastor of St. Ambrose Church here, pronounced the benediction.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, an aerial formation, lead by Capt. Robert Tyler, Freeman Field's director of flying, flew in review. The ceremony took place in front of a hangar at the field.

Dedication Speaker



Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman army airfield, made the graduation address for the first cadet class at dedication exercises at the field Thursday.

1ST CLASS LEAVES FREEMAN FIELD

General Dedicates Bomber School in Honor of Hoosier Flyer

SEYMOUR, Ind., April 29 (Spl.)—A general who knew the late Capt. Richard S. Freeman Thursday dedicated the new army post near here as Freeman army air field in honor of the pioneering flyer who was killed in the crash of his "flying laboratory" in Nevada in 1941. An honored guest at the ceremony, attended by more than 15,000 persons, was the flyer's father, Ab Freeman, Winamac, Ind.

Brigadier General Robert E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th army air forces flying training wing, George field, Vincennes, made the dedication address, urging the men to carry on with the four qualities which characterized Capt. Freeman—courage, the pioneering instinct, love for fellowmen and fighting spirit. General Nowland was post adjutant at March field, California, when Captain Freeman reported there for duty late in 1939.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, presented General Nowland and Capt. Freeman's father. He later gave the graduation address for the first cadet class of the twin-engine bomber pilot training field.

The 405th A. A. F. band played for the ceremony and Chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson, stationed at the field, gave the invocation. Colonel Rundquist was introduced by Major William B. Poe, director of training, who later presented wings to the cadets. Major Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets, administered the oath of office. The Rev. C. W. Burkart, pastor of St. Ambrose church here, pronounced the benediction.

After the ceremony, an aerial formation led by Captain Robert Tyler, Freeman field's director of flying, flew in review. Hundreds of relatives and friends of the cadets from almost every state in the union attended the ceremony.

Open house was held in the unrestricted areas. Seymour business establishments and schools were closed during the forenoon.

DAILY TRIBUNE

THE WEATHER
Warmer weather
and tonight.

noon

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1943.

PRICE TEN CENTS

WORLD DEDICATED TODAY

High-Ranking Officials Are Present to Take Part in Ceremony—Visitors Are Admitted To Field During "Open House" Period

The vanguard of a crowd of several thousand people thronged into Freeman Army Air Field at 8 o'clock this morning when the gates of the new airport were thrown open to the public for the first time in connection with the graduation of the first class of aviation cadets and the formal dedication of the field.

With the actual ceremony starting at 10 o'clock this morning, high ranking army officials as well as leaders in civilian life were among those present.

Brig.-Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Air Forces Flying Training Wing, was present to deliver the dedication address, and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, delivered the graduation address to the members of the class.

Downtown Business Halts.

Although downtown business was at a standstill during the morning hours, such was not the case with traffic, for automobiles by the hundreds moved through the streets of the city during the morning hours, bound for the field. Stores, banks and offices—just about every business establishment in the downtown section except restaurants—were closed during the morning, and were reopened at 1 o'clock this afternoon to resume business.

While the largest number of people were on the field during the graduation-dedication ceremony, it was believed the area would be well filled with visitors from this vicinity and from cities even in other states through the entire "open house" period, which was to end at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

General Speaks.

General Nowland's dedication address had as its theme a tribute to the late Captain Richard S. Freeman, for whom the field was named. General Nowland revealed that he had known Captain Freeman as a flier at March Field, California, where he arrived for a tour of duty late in 1939.

The general said he was very much impressed by Captain Freeman's splendid military bearing and many other soldierly qualities.

"He was an inspiration to the whole command," declared General Nowland.

Captain Freeman was described as a true pioneer of the air. Courage, pioneering spirit, love for his fellow men, and a fighting spirit, were cited as four outstanding features of the late of-

Gen Nowland,

family. Mr. Freeman was introduced during the program.

Included in Mr. Freeman's party which came here for the ceremony were the following in addition to himself:

Mr. and Mrs. James Freeman of Winamac; Captain and Mrs. Robert Cissel, of Cincinnati; Mrs. Henry Shank and her daughter, Grace, and son, the Rev. Bernard Freeman, of Michigan City; The Rev. Fred Rothmel, of St. Johns, Ind., and Miss Anne Murray, secretary to Mr. Freeman.

Special guards were posted both on the airport and on highways leading to the field to direct traffic and provide information service for the visitors. Other guards were on duty in the downtown section of the city. The regular guard squadron at the field was augmented by state and city police and members of the Seymour civilian defense auxiliary police, auxiliary fire and air raid warden services. Members of the civilian defense drivers' corps met all incoming trains and busses to provide information service for out-of-town guests.

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"He was an inspiration to the whole command," declared General Nowland.

Captain Freeman was described as a true pioneer of the air. Courage, pioneering spirit, love for his fellow men, and a fighting spirit, were cited as four outstanding features of the late officer's character. Gen. Nowland, after sketching a history of Captain Freeman's life up to his death in his "flying laboratory" plane in 1941, charged his hearers to "work and pray" that qualities such as those of Captain Freeman "will guide us to an early, crushing defeat of the axis powers and restore peace to the world."

Col. Rundquist Speaks.

Col. Rundquist, in speaking to the class of graduating cadets, described the day as "a climax to our planning and to our work," but at the same time "just the beginning." Reminding the fliers that their training "has been tough," he went on to point out that it will stand them in good stead when they reach combat.

"You will have the finest training and equipment in the world," the commanding officer declared, in pointing out that the men will be going out for combat, and must be ready "for it is kill or be killed."

Addressing his remarks to parents of the fliers, the colonel declared that the men will have, in addition to their fine training and equipment "the ingenuity of a free-thinking people, and you can see that there will be no doubt as to the outcome."

Mr. Freeman Is Presented.

Ab Freeman, father of Captain Freeman, was present, with some other members of the Freeman

Thousands at Dedication of Freeman Field

Cadets Receive Wings in Impressive Ceremony Thursday At New Field

Favored by excellent weather conditions and a big crowd which numbered several thousand people, Freeman Army Air Field's graduation - dedication program which was held Thursday in connection with "open house" at the field, was a decided success from every standpoint.

The many thousands of people who had been wanting to get a look inside the big advanced twin-engine training center got their chance, and officers, cadets and enlisted and civilian personnel to show their pride in the new school.

Gen. Nowland Is Present.

Closing with an aerial review in which eighteen planes put on a thrilling show of formation flying, the graduation - dedication ceremonies were held in one of the large hangars where a crowd estimated at some 5,000 people had gathered.

Brig. - Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Air Forces Flying Training Wing, delivered the dedication address, and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, gave the graduation address.

In the crowd were families and friends of the cadets who received their wings, as well as many others who were on hand just to witness the ceremony. Among the most interested civilians present was Ab Freeman, of Winamac, Ind., and a party of members of his family and their friends.

Freeman Field was named in honor of Mr. Freeman's son, Captain Richard S. Freeman, who was killed with members of his crew when their "flying laboratory" crashed in Nevada in 1941.

Impressive Scene.

An impressive scene was enacted as the members of the field's first graduating class received their wings after completing their course of advanced twin engine training.

A large platform, decorated in bunting, was situated in the rear of the huge hangar, and members of the class were seated in front of the platform. There were hundreds of seats for others who attended the ceremony.

Fliers Receive Oath.

After Col. Rundquist had completed the graduation address, Major William B. Poe, director of training, presented each man with his wings as the class members marched onto the platform. Major Albert Hughes, commandant of cadets, administered the oath of office to the men. Most of them received second lieutenant's commissions, while some in the group already held commissions.

The 405th Army Air Forces band played while the class members sang The Army Air Corps song, after which there was a rush of parents, wives and friends to congratulate the newly graduated officers.

Many Tour Field.

During the "open house" hours from 8 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, thousands of visitors looked over the field, inspected three twin-engine planes which had been set up for exhibition purposes, and had a peek into many of the buildings.

Colonel Extends Thanks.

Today Col. Rundquist said he was highly appreciative of the fine spirit of cooperation on the part of both the military personnel at the field and the residents of this community for helping to make the day a success. Field officials also expressed appreciation to those townspeople who opened their homes to accommodate visiting relatives and friends of cadets.

April 30, 1943



Four-year-old Gary Nathaniel Moody pins the wings on his daddy, Lt. William N. Moody, a member of the class of cadets graduated from Freeman Army Air Field Thursday. The Moodys are from Caldwell, Calif., and Mrs. Moody and Gary Nathaniel came here to attend the graduation.—(Army Air Forces Photo).

Indianapolis News
April 30 1943

Crowd at Freeman Airfield Dedication



—Official Air Forces Photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., April 30 (Spl.)—A cross-section of the huge crowd which attended the official dedication Thursday of Freeman army airfield, advanced twin engine flying school, is shown here. Typical were the family reunions held after the exercises, many fathers, and mothers, young wives and husbands being united after many months' separation.

Air Field Officer Goes Up as A Captain, but Comes Down A Major

Robert A. Tyler, director of flying at Freeman Army Air Field, took to the air a captain when he led the aerial review at the dedication-graduation Thursday, but he came down a major.

Notice of his promotion awaited his arrival back at his office "on the line."

Major Tyler, a native of Fresno, Calif., formerly lived at 156 Vine street, Delrey, Calif. He attended Selma high school, Selma, Calif., and Fresno State college at Fresno, and prior to entering the service Dec. 26, 1939 at March Field, Calif., he was an aircraftsman at Lockheed Aircraft, Burbank, Calif.

He has served as an instructor at Kelly Field, Texas; Maxwell Field, Ala., Turner Field, Ga., and at Moody Field, Ga., he was group operations officer, group comman-

der and school squadron commander.

Mrs. Tyler, the former Lila Martin, and their young son, Robert Gary, are living at 520 East Seventh street with Major Tyler.

Other recent promotions include that of Lieut. Lewis R. Liddle, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Liddle, 553 Forest street, Wyandotte, Mich. Lieutenant Liddle was promoted from second to first lieutenant. He is cadet physical education instructor. Lieutenant Liddle is a graduate of Roosevelt high school Wyandotte, and later received a B. S. degree from Wayne university, Detroit. Prior to entering the service Feb. 14, 1942 he was a member of the Auburn Heights, Mich., high school faculty, where he was a coach.

Mrs. Liddle and their two children, Jill and Lewis, Jr., are living in Seymour.

April 30, 1943

Mrs. Rundquist Honored At Birthday Party

Wives of the officers stationed at Freeman Army Air Field entertained informally Wednesday afternoon in the Officers' Club at the Post as a birthday anniversary compliment to Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, wife of Colonel Rundquist, commanding officer at the Field.

Mrs. Rundquist's birthday anniversary was Thursday.

Mrs. Beckam Garrett and Mrs. Thomas Peterson, of this city, were guests.

Throngs of Visitors Attend Freeman Field Dedication

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Seymour, Ind., April 29.—Thousands of people visited Freeman Army Air Field today for the graduation of the first class of aviation cadets, coupled with formal dedication of the field. Open house hours were from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the graduation-dedication ceremony at 10 o'clock.

Downtown business establishments here were closed until 1 p.m. to permit employes to attend the ceremony.

The Freeman Field guard squadron was augmented by State and City police and members of the Seymour Civilian Defense auxiliary fire, police, air raid warden and drivers' corps services in helping to handle traffic, patrol the field and streets and highways leading to it, and provide information service at bus and railroad stations in the downtown section.

Hoosier Flier Given Praise.

Brig. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Air Forces Flying Training Wing, delivered the dedication address, and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of

Freeman Field, gave the graduation address.

Ab Freeman, father of the late Capt. Richard Freeman, Winamac, Ind., for whom the field was named, was present together with several members of his family.

General Nowland's dedication address was a tribute to Captain Freeman. The general said he had known Captain Freeman as a flier at March Field, California, where he arrived for a tour of duty late in 1939.

"He was an inspiration to the whole command," General Nowland said of Captain Freeman, whom he described as a true pioneer of the air. Courage, pioneering spirit, love for his fellow men, and a fighting spirit, were cited as four outstanding features of the late officer's character.

General Nowland, after sketch-

ing a history of Captain Freeman's life up to his death in his "flying laboratory" plane in 1941, charged his hearers to "work and pray" that qualities such as those of Captain Freeman "will guide us to an early crushing defeat of the Axis powers and restore peace to the world."

"Kill Or Be Killed."

Colonel Rundquist, in speaking to the class of graduating cadets, described the day as "a climax to our planning and to our work," but at the same time "just the beginning." Reminding the fliers that their training "has been tough," he went on to point out that it will stand them in good stead when they reach combat.

"You will have the finest training and equipment in the world," the commanding officer declared, in pointing out that the men will be going out for combat and must be ready, "for it is kill or be killed."

Addressing his remarks to parents of the fliers, the colonel declared that the men will have, in addition to their fine training and equipment "the ingenuity of a free-thinking people, and you can see that there will be no doubt as to the outcome."

Walter Camp III Receives Wings

A member of a famous sports family, Walter Camp III, received his silver wings and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Air Forces at Freeman Army Air Field Thursday.

Lt. Camp celebrated the acquisition of his bars and wings with his wife, the former Charlotte Murphy of New York City, and their twin sons, Walter IV and William Graham Sumner, who will be eight months old May 3. Mrs. Camp and sons have been living in Seymour while Camp was taking his advanced training. Camp's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Camp II are dead.

All three Walter Camps, I, II, III, attended Yale University at New Haven, Conn., and all were prominent in athletics. The fame of the original Walter Camp is universal and a position on his All-American Football team is still the most coveted of athletic honors. Construction is under way at the Richmond Shipyard in Virginia of several Liberty ships to bear the names of a time sport's immortals. Walter Camp will share in that honor along with Knute Rochne, George Gipp and James J. Gorbett.

Indianapolis
April 30, 1943

Father Hears Deeds of Capt. Freeman Eulogized at Dedication of Army Airfield

Seymour, Ind., April 29.—(Special)—Thousands visited Freeman army airfield today for the graduation of the first class of aviation cadets and to inspect the new flying school formally dedicated today.

From Winamac came Ab Freeman, father of the late Capt. Richard S. Freeman, for whom the field was named and he heard his son's deeds eulogized by Brig. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 38th Army Air Forces flying training wing.

Gen. Nowland revealed he had known Capt. Freeman as a flier at March field, California, where he arrived for a tour of duty late in 1939. "He was an inspiration to the whole command," declared Gen. Nowland.

"True Pioneers."

Capt. Freeman was described as a true pioneer of the air. Courage, pioneering spirit, love for his fel-



AB FREEMAN.

low men, and a fighting spirit were cited as four outstanding fea-

tures of the late officer's character.

Gen. Nowland, after sketching a history of Capt. Freeman's life up to the time his "Flying Laboratory" crashed in 1941, charged his hearers to "work and pray that qualities such as those of Capt. Freeman will guide us to an early, crushing defeat of the axis powers and restore peace to the world."

"Climax to Planning."

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commandant, in speaking to the graduating cadets, described the day as "a climax to our planning and to our work, but at the same time just the beginning." Reminding the fliers that their training "has been tough," he went on to point out that it will stand them in good stead when they reach combat.

Addressing his remarks to the parents of the fliers, the speaker declared that the men will have, "in addition to their fine training and equipment, the ingenuity of a free-thinking people, and you can see that there will be no doubt as to the outcome."

Southeast Training
Center News
May 1, 1943



"SHOT" BY A BEAUTIFUL NURSE—Such is the luck of Cpl. Dana Blodgett in the hospital at Freeman Army Air Field, Seymour, Ind. Lt. Helen E. Taylor, who handles the needle, tried out for the part of Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone With the Wind."

FREEMAN FIELD'S FIRST LADY TAKES ARMY LIFE IN STRIDE



The family of Col. and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist shown in their quarters at Freeman army air field, Seymour, where the colonel is commanding officer. Standing are (left to right), Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, Col. E. T. Rundquist and Howard Rundquist. Sitting, Peter Rundquist, Mrs. Emily Rundquist and baby Mary Ellen Rundquist. (Official Air Force Photo.)

The life of the average army family is just one move after another. That has been the experience of Col. and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist of Freeman army airfield at Seymour. Col. Rundquist is the commanding officer of the field, which is a twin-engine advanced flying school.

Freeman field, which is used to train pilots, was the scene of dual ceremonies Thursday when the field was dedicated officially and the first class of aviation cadets to train at the field was graduated.

Army life is not a new story to Mrs. Rundquist, for she was born the daughter of a colonel on the now-abandoned Indian post of Fort Wingate, New Mexico.

Is Widely Traveled.

Mrs. Rundquist, as well as the other members of her own family, has traveled widely. She has lived in the Philippines, Honolulu, Australia and Panama, and, with Col. Rundquist, sailed from Panama on that fateful Dec. 7, bound for the

United States; their ship following a zigzag course because of the possibility of prowling axis submarines.

Col. and Mrs. Rundquist met at a party in San Antonio, Tex., at the time the colonel was stationed at Kelly field, and later were married there. Their children, Howard, 17 years old; Peter, 13, and Mary Ellen, 4 months old, and Mrs. Emily Rundquist, the colonel's mother, comprise the first family of Freeman field.

Works Miracle With Home.

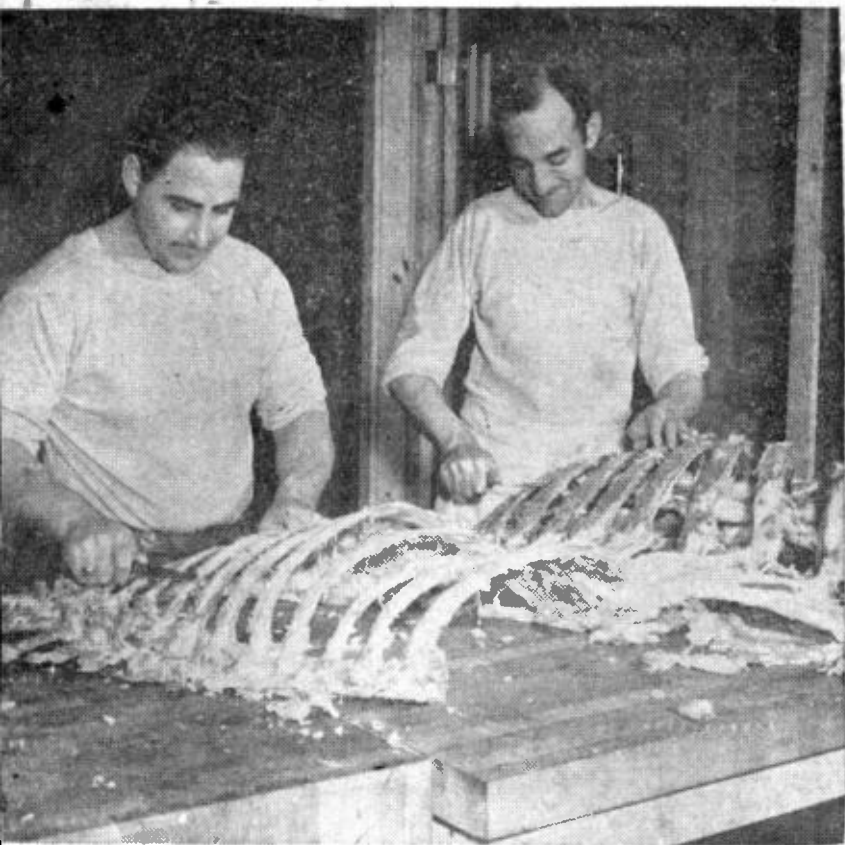
Mrs. Rundquist has worked miracles with their home at the field; her experience as a stylist in Sydney, Australia stands her in good stead. Already their spacious ivory frame house has that enviable "lived in" appearance. The combination living-dining room is painted a soft sage green, a striking contrast to thick pile Chinese rugs in burgundy shade. Hardy ivy plants trail over the white brick fireplace, and the draperies pick

up the sage green of the walls and the warm red of the rugs.

Incidentally, if those draperies could talk, they'd have some mighty exciting tales to tell, for they were purchased in Panama a year ago by Mrs. Rundquist's brother, Lieut. Hugh H. Lewis, commander of a submarine. Lieut. Lewis stowed them away in his locker aboard ship, where they remained through seven or eight major sea battles before he reached a port from where he could mail them to his sister.

Col. Rundquist's flying career has run a close parallel to the development of army aviation. In 1924 and 1925 he was a student, first at Brooks field and then at Kelly field. He later served at fields including France field, Panama; Fort Riley, Kansas, and Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland.

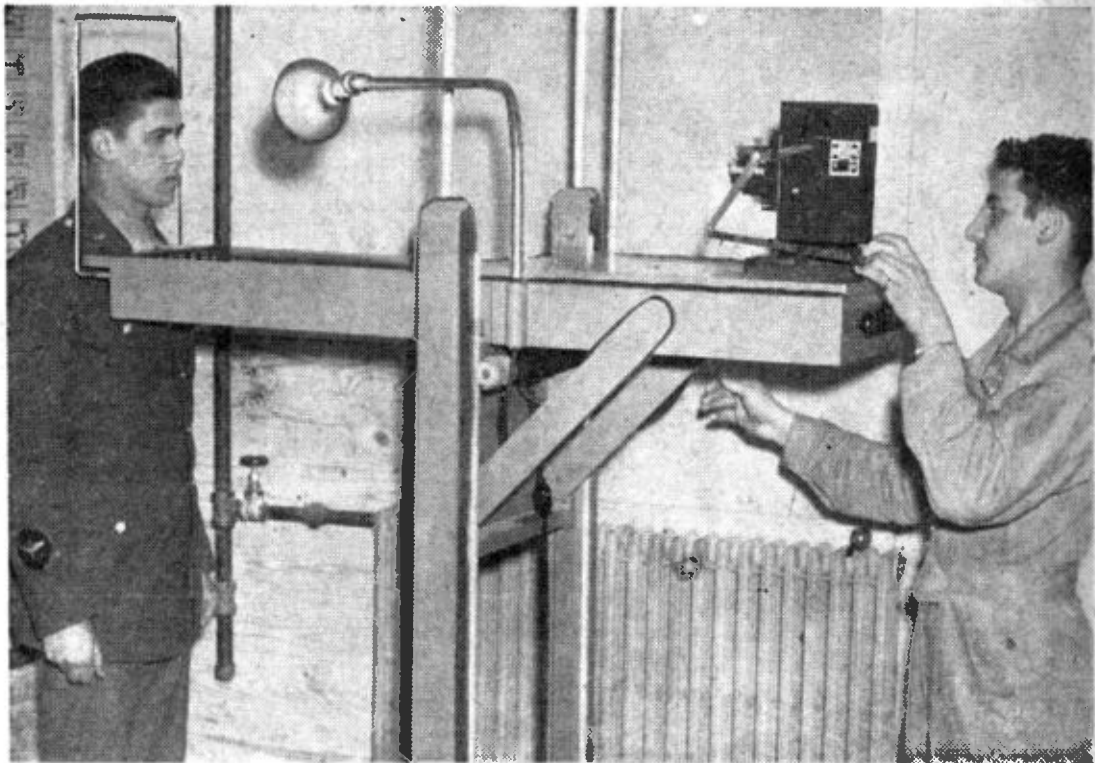
A native of Harvey, Ill., the colonel was all-Western tackle and captain of Illinois football team in 1917 and the same year won all-American honors.



ARMY WARS ON WASTE—War on waste is a watchword with the pots and pans division at Freeman army air field at Seymour, Ind. Private First Class Vincent R. Caputo (left) and Corporal Francis F. Farina are shown scraping the last vestiges of meat from two front quarters of beef. (United States Army Photo.)

Louisville Times
May 12, 1943

'MUGGING' PART OF CADET'S LIFE



Official Air Force Photo.

Photo Is Used On Identification Passes.

Seymour, Ind., March 12.—The processing of new cadets at the Advanced Flying School here includes "getting mugged" for identification purposes. Cadet Joseph F. Meder, Northampton, Mass., is shown here being photographed. He was one of the first cadets in the initial class to go through the base photo processing station. The photographer is Pfc. James Orlando, Buffalo, N. Y.

Freeman's Chief Has Had A Colorful Life In Service

Colonel Rundquist Knows Most Minute Details Of His Job

This is the twenty-fifth in a series of weekly illustrated articles on the commanding officers of the various posts and training detachments throughout the Southeast Training Center.

SEYMOUR, Ind. — A veteran Army man, Col. E. T. Rundquist, who has had many varied and colorful experiences in his career, is the commanding officer of Freeman Army Air Field which was the scene of graduation and dedication ceremonies April 29.

The field was named in honor of Capt. Richard S. Freeman, who was killed in a crash in Nevada early in the war. Brig. Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Wing, with headquarters at Vincennes, Ind., gave the dedication speech.

Colonel Rundquist made the graduation speech to the first class of aviation cadets to train here.

The Colonel's Army career has been packed with years of study, training and command, which qualify him to guide the destinies of



COL. E. T. RUNDQUIST

this field. Because of his untiring energy and interest, he is familiar with the most minute details of his command.

Colonel Rundquist is keenly aware of the welfare of the personnel of his command. Choice entertainment is provided for the leisure hours of the men, featuring USO shows, motion pictures, dances and athletics. Under his guidance and participation a complete sports program has been organized with an emphasis on inter-group and inter-squadron competition.

He began his Army service as an aviation cadet in the first World War. He took his ground school training at the University of Illinois, his alma mater, in May, 1918, and received his first flight training the same year at Carruthers Field, Texas. On completion of flying training he was rated a Reserve Military Aviator. In 1919 he became a member of the Air Service Reserve and was rated Junior Airplane Pilot. He remained on reserve status until 1924, when he joined the Regular Army as a second lieutenant.

His flying career closely parallels the development of Army aviation. In 1924 and 1925 he was a student first at Brooks Field and then at Kelly Field, Texas. After completing his pilot training, he was rated an airplane pilot and became assistant operations officer and Air Corps supply officer at Langley Field where he remained until 1927. His next move was back to Kelly Field as assistant post engineering officer from 1927 to 1931.

Subsequent assignments and duties were France Field, Panama, tactical officer, 1931 to 1934; Marshall Field, Texas, commanding officer of 61st School Squadron, 1938 to 1939; France Field, operations officer, 1939 to 1941; Howard Field, Panama, operations officer and administrative inspector, August to December, 1941; Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, commanding officer of the Army Air Forces Detachment, December, 1941 to October, 1942. During these periods he advanced through Senior Pilot to Command Pilot and Combat Observer.

Colonel Rundquist was assigned to Freeman Army Air Field early in October, 1942, when it was in the formative stage of development. Before the field was activated he was the project officer. He became commanding officer Dec. 1, 1942, when the field was activated.

May 17, 1943

Aviation Cadet Is Killed in Plane Crash

Co-Pilot Escapes With Minor Injur- ies in Mishap at Freeman Field

An aviation student was fatally injured this morning at Freeman Army Air Field when a training plane in which he was the pilot crashed. The co-pilot of the plane escaped with minor injuries.

Name of the student killed will not be released until the next of kin has been notified.

Board to Investigate.

Cause of the accident has not been determined, but a qualified board of investigators has been appointed to investigate the accident.

It was the first major accident and the only fatality to occur at Freeman Field.

Flight training was started at the field early in March and thousands of hours of flying time have been recorded by the aviation cadets and the instructors.

VIGILANT GUARD AGAINST WASTE



Official Air Force Photo.

Freeman Airfield Men Sort Paper Bags.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., May 18.—“Salvage will help win the war” is the theme at Freeman Army Air Field, where salvage crews are always on guard to save materials. The men shown here are preparing paper bags for the paper baler. When a sufficient amount is collected, the paper is shipped out to paper mills where it is reprocessed. The bags had contained fertilizer used on the Victory Garden.

May 18, 1943

Seymour Greets Waac Vanguard

Enlistees to Follow 2 Officers to Freeman.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., May 18.—Two Waac third officers, Martha T. Riley and Elizabeth R. Houpt, have reported to Freeman Army Air Field and enlisted Waac personnel is expected soon.

Arrival of the officers was coincidental with the first anniversary of the W.A.A.C., celebrated Sunday.

Third Officer Riley will command the detachment. She is from Lexington, Ky., a graduate of the University of Kentucky and prior to entering the service was a school teacher at Versailles, Ky.

She entered the service at Cincinnati on September 5, 1942, and attended officers' candidate school at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. Third Officer Houpt's home is Ben Avon, Penn.

Daily Tribune
May. 19, 1943



Col. M. E. Jennings (right) who is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Jennings, North Walnut street, Thursday afternoon made his first visit to Freeman Field where he met Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer. This is Col. Jennings' first visit to Seymour since 1940.

Col. Jennings is director of the War Department Civilian Protection School at Occidental College, Los Angeles. He was on duty at Hickam Field, near Pearl Harbor, at the time of the Japanese attack.

He was called to Washington for a conference and is on his way back to Los Angeles. (Army Air Forces Photo).

Seymour Daily Tribune
May 22, 1943

Rundquist Fourth In State Meet

Howard Rundquist, son of Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist of Freeman Army Air Field, placed fourth in the state track meet held at Indianapolis Saturday and won the only points garnered by the Shields high school team.

Running in what is considered to be the most select high school track company in the entire country, Rundquist displayed plenty of ability and fight to push the winners. In the finish drive, just a shade separated the first, second, third and fourth place performers.

This is the first year Rundquist has competed in a state meet.

Indianapolis News
May 22, 1943

Seymour Air Officers Boost Bond Sales



SEYMOUR, Ind., May 22 (Spl.)—Hastening the day of victory, Lieutenant Colonel Ora M. Baldinger, engineering liaison officer at Freeman army air field here, is shown adding to his fast-growing collection of War bonds. Lieutenant Jack Elkan, War bond officer, is making the presentation. Both officers and enlisted men at Freeman field are doing their stint to help the American Legion of Jackson county go over the top in its May War bond drive.

Louisville Times
May 24, 1943

WAACS REACH FREEMAN



Official Army Air Forces Photo.

Post Adjutant Greets New Arrivals.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., May 24.—A warm welcome is extended the first contingent of Waacs to arrive at Freeman Army Air Field. Shown being greeted by Capt. Rudolph Brannan, post adjutant, are Lieut. Martha T. Riley, left, commanding officer of the detachment, and Lieut. Elizabeth R. Houpt, mess and supply officer. Lieutenant Riley's home is in Lexington, Ky., and Lieutenant Houpt is from Ben Avon, Penn.

Daily Tribune
May 26, 1943



—(Army Air Force Photo.)

It's mail call for the Waacs at Freeman Field. Here's one of the first group photos of the newly-arrived Waacs. It appears that they're about as anxious as soldiers to get letters from home.

Pilot Class at Freeman Field Is Graduated

Ceremony Is Held In Post Theater— Address Is Given By Rep. Wilson

Freeman Army Air Field graduated Class 43-E its second class of advanced twin engine pilots, in a ceremony held in the post theater at 10 o'clock this morning.

Rep. Earl Wilson, Ninth Indiana District Congressman, delivered the graduation address, after being presented by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field.

The 405th Army Air Forces Band opened the program by playing the national anthem, after which Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson gave the invocation.

Wings Are Presented.

Following Congressman Wilson's address the fliers received their wings from Major William B. Poe, director of training, and Major Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets, administered the oath of office. Dr. A. A. Cohn, pastor of the First Baptist Church, gave the benediction, after which the band played "The Army Air Corps."

In addressing the members of the graduating class Congressman Wilson told them:

"You are not really just pilots of twin engine planes, you know you are the "pitchers" in the greatest baseball game of all times.

"You are the key men, you flying men, and you are playing to the greatest gallery the world has ever seen. The cheering section for your side includes every man, woman and child who dares to lift his voice in the cause of liberty, freedom and justice. Confidentially, there are a lot of rooters in the stands on the other side who are praying our team will win, too.

"It is an old and established truth, in fact the statement is as old as baseball itself, that "as the pitching goes, so goes the game." As I said before, the ball is in your hands, you are ascending the pitcher's mound, ready to let go with all you have. The eyes of every spectator and every other player will be focused on you. You, the men who have learned to "set her down" on a tablecloth, are the fellows who will "call signals." You will control the scoring of the other side, and most important of all, you are the boys who will "strike 'em out!"

"I know you are going to spread your wings eagerly. I know that you will take to the skies, confident that you are the best-equipped, best-trained, best-informed fliers in all the world. The courses you have just completed have equipped you in every way to "dish it out," and since you are American boys, of American stock, remember, you are born and bred of people who have always been able to "take it."

"Your task as the nerve center of our Air Force, is not going to be an easy one, but if you had been frightened by hard assignments, you wouldn't be here today to graduate, therefore, I don't think that the difficulty of the job will worry you any.

"You do have one serious obligation upon your shoulders and that is to be worthy of the flying men who have blazed trailways in the air before you. They have covered themselves with honor and glory by their magnificent deeds of valor, so, their's is a record for you to aim at. They have, at the same time, created a respect for their abilities which is shared alike by the Allies and enemies of the United States.

"To summarize the deeds of your predecessors, we may say that the fliers before you have proven to the world that American airmen can fly the paint off the fins of the best ships in the world and they can whip the pants off anything or anybody whom the enemy cares to put in the same sky with them.

"You are backed and supported by the best backers in the world. First of all, there is your own

Mom and Pop and your kid sister and your freckled faced brother who ranks you right along with Jimmy Doolittle or Eddie Rickenbacker. There is your girl, who wears your wings and maybe has learned to put rivets in those planes you have learned to fly. That's a winning combination for each of you individually right there, but that's not where en-

thusiasm stops in this country. In fact, that's only the beginnin', fellows, only the beginnin'.

"You've really got a cheering section on your side, there's the butcher, the baker, the candlestickmaker; the farmer, the bookkeeper, the clerk and the druggist; the housewife, the school teacher, the editor and hairdresser; the artist, the singer, the bartender and salesman; the lumberjack, the policeman, the preacher and barber. Mist'ers, you have plenty of folks who believe in you and whose chests will be swelling with pride when you are "givin' 'em hell" all over the world. Those folks know that in your sensitive hands and clever minds you hold the key to our kind of civilization and they'd do anything to provide you with the planes, guns and other equipment you may need to whip the yellow devils who started this fight.

"You men, as pilots of our ships of air and space have brought Europe and America as close as Indiana and Illinois. The space between continents all over the world is shrinking through your activities.

"Like busy little spiders you are leaving a web behind every flight you make and when enough of these aerial cables are woven, we will find that the land of the Earth has been tied forever together and that the water of the Earth has been spanned with indestructible bridges of fellowship, friendship, and a great spirit of community feeling.

"This is the beautiful picture which we hope to see come true after the war and after certain criminal tendencies of certain uncooperative nations have been controlled. But immediately, you must answer the cry of "help" which is rising from the throats of thousands of your countrymen who search the skies for signs of deliverance. You are the angels of release for whom they are waiting. Before we can build aerial commerce for the enrichment of man's life, we must deal death to those who refuse to believe in freedom as the right of the common man. Before we can fly for the joy of flying, we must answer a call to duty, dirty duty, it's true, but the boys left on Bataan; our captured brothers of Corregidor and the men who tried to hold Java will rise up, both the dead and the living, and call you "blessed."

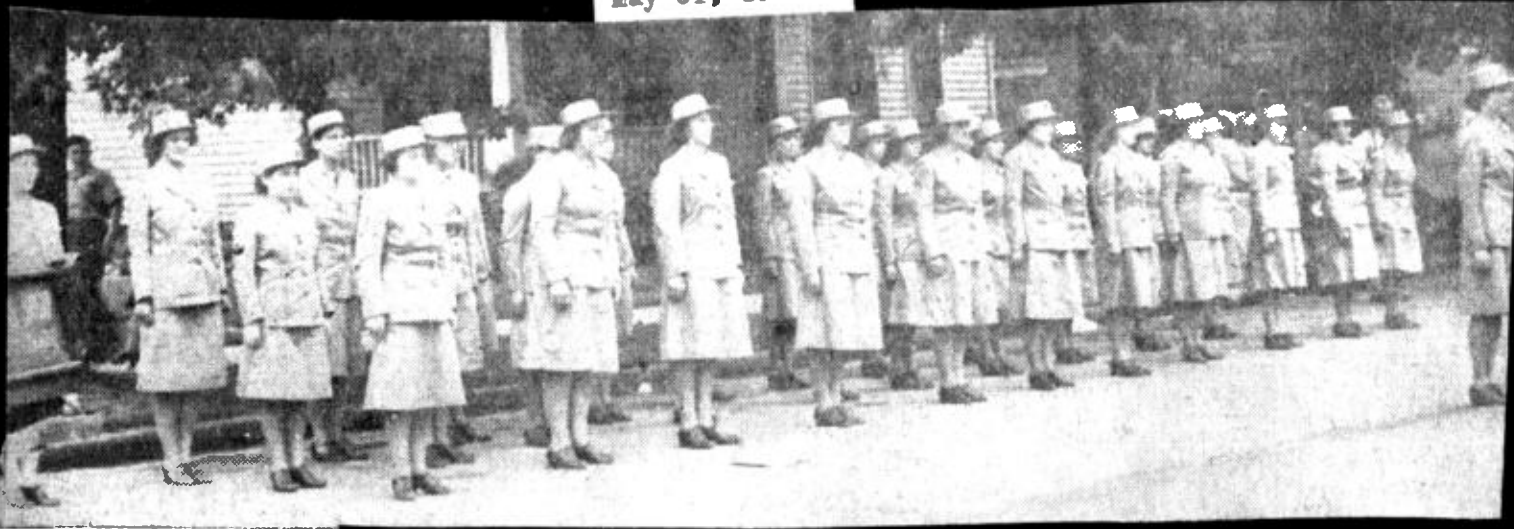
"There's no doubt but that the stage is set, the baseball diamond gleams white and precise in the

Daily Tribune
May 31, 1943



Presentation of the Colors took place immediately before the Memorial Day parade started towards Riverview Cemetery Sunday afternoon. Capt. Rudolph Brannan, adjutant at Freeman Field, (foreground) was parade commander. Members of the Color Guard (left to right) Forrest Herrmann, Harry Kreite, Elgin McConnell and a soldier from Freeman Field.

Daily Tribune
May 31, 1943



The Women's Auxiliary Army Corps for the first time in Seymour participated in the Memorial Day services Sunday. The group shown above is from Freeman Field. In the foreground is Lt. Martha Riley.

Daily Tribune
May 31, 1943

CHARTING AIR COURSE TO TOKIO



Official Air Force Photo.

Busy Scene In Chart Room At Freeman.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., May 31.—Here is one of the reasons American airmen are the best trained in the world. These young men, future pilots who will help bomb the Axis powers into submission, are students in a navigation course which is a part of their pilot training at Freeman Army Air Field, a twin-engine advanced flying school. Lieut. Byrl King (center) is teaching the men how to plot a course on a map.

Newsman Tells Of Doolittle Raid On Tokio

**Robert Bellaire, U. P.
Correspondent,
Thrills Audience at
Freeman Field**

The score which the United States has to settle with Japan is not only with a small handful of militarists, but with the Japanese people, asserted Robert Bellaire, United Press correspondent, in an address at Freeman Field today. He was living in Tokio when war was declared and immediately was placed under guard and hustled to a concentration camp. He was held prisoner for six and one-half months.

Bellaire was introduced to the officers, cadets and men at the field by Col. E. T. Rundquist.

Within an hour after war was declared, Bellaire said, all Americans then in Japan were placed under arrest. He was told that as a correspondent his privileges under international law would be respected, but that he would be under constant guard. The mere statement, he asserted, was as far as any respect of international law went. Policemen were thrown around his home and the first night one police officer slept across the foot of his bed while two others slept on the floor on either side of him. The next day under guard of sixteen policemen he was taken to a concentration camp where prisoners were grouped according to nationality. Thirteen Americans were placed in a small room where living conditions were congested. Food was meager, consisting of a little fruit, fat whale meat, alfalfa, a little rice and barley soup and occasionally meat balls, which prisoners suspected were made of cat and dog meat which were served in the principal hotels in Tokio.

The Japanese are masters of mental torture Bellaire said. They endeavor to strip their prisoners of self respect and confidence and then give them bits of poison propaganda in an effort to break their will.

The American prisoners were told at different times that California had surrendered, that Detroit had been leveled, that the President had been assassinated and the United States government taken over by forces friendly to Japan. Americans, Bellaire said, seem to hold up better than other nationalities, due to their sense of humor. Many times, he said, after hours of cruel torture some member of the group would come forward with a 'wise crack' and their morale would again be lifted. One Japanese guard remarked that he could not understand the Americans for the worse they were treated the more they laughed.

Bellaire described the water cure, and told how prisoners were beaten with rubber hose until their bodies were swollen with welts and cuts. He said the Japanese insisted that American war correspondents send out dispatches telling of the splendid treatment they received. When he refused to comply with their demands they gave him what he described as the wall bouncing punishment. Two or more men threw him against a wall in a small room with such force that his body would rebound to the opposite wall before settling to the floor. After one of these treatments he said he wrote a story which he thought would be so fantastic that the public would understand the circumstances under which it was written. It seemed to please the censor, however, particularly his statement that the Japanese had extended friendly hands to all nations of the world.

Bellaire described the motion pictures of the surrender of Singapore which were released for propaganda purposes. In these scenes everything possible was done to humiliate the enemies of Japan.

He gave a vivid description of the bombing of Tokio, declaring it followed a practice attack of the city. He said the thirteen American prisoners looked up and saw the planes coming low over the city and recognized them as

(Continued on page 8, column 4)

American ships. All were silent for three or four minutes as each thought he had lost his mind. The raid lasted ten minutes and none of the American bombers was shot down in Tokio. Several Japanese planes attempted to down one American bomber and Bellaire said that the civilians who were killed lost their lives because of the machine gun fire of the Japanese planes.

Bellaire expressed confidence that Japan will be leveled and that the Doolittle raid was only a sample of the heavier and more destructive attacks to follow.

Louisville Times
June 4, 1943

SPUR AIR GRADUATES



Official Air Force Photo.

Col. E. T. Rundquist With Representative Earl Wilson.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., June 4.—Principals in the recent graduation exercises at Freeman Army Air Field, advanced twin-engine flying school, were Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, and Representative Earl Wilson, Ninth Indiana District Congressman, commencement speaker, who reminded his audience that their task as the nerve center of America's Air Force is not going to be an easy one.



GETS OFFICER BROTHER'S DOLLAR—The first enlisted man to "highball" his newly commissioned officer brother was the honor of Private John A. Manter (right). He is also receiving a dollar bill from Second Lieutenant Harold Manter, who recently re-

ceived his commission and silver wings after being graduated from advanced pilot training at Freeman army airfield at Seymour. It is customary for all newly commissioned officers to give \$1 to the first enlisted man who salutes them.



"WE LOOKED UP AND COULD HARDLY BELIEVE WHAT WE SAW, for the planes were those of the Doolittle raiders coming into Tokio." Robert Bellaire (right), foreign correspondent, who was imprisoned in Tokio at the time of the raid, told a group of aviation cadets and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman army airfield at Seymour. The cadets (not identified by field officials) are in the advanced phase of their pilot training and soon will join the legion of American fliers who are making it "hot" for the axis powers. Mr. Bellaire, who spoke recently to a large group of military personnel at Freeman field, was a prisoner of the Japs for over six months. He said the score the United States has to settle with Japan is not with just a small group of militarists but with the entire population, for they are convinced the white race is on the downgrade. (Official Army Air Force Photo.)

Bumper Radish Crop Produced at Airfield



—Official Air Force Photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., June 9 (Spl.)—The Victory farm at Freeman army air field is producing top-quality vegetables for consumption by the personnel of the field this summer. Here Major Ralph E. Hollister, supervisor of messes, is inspecting a bumper crop of radishes freshly picked by Pfc. Curtis S. Stripling, left, and Private Oliver W. Heath.

'UNDER' I FLAG' BROUGHT TO LIFE



Official Air Force Photo.

4 Nations Represented In Group At Freeman Field.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., June 14.—“We’re all fighting under one flag now,” say Freeman Army Field soldiers born in four different countries of the United Nations. They are, from left, Staff Sergt. Jose A. Escamilla, Coahila, Mexico; Sergt. Samuel Sall, Kiev, Russia; Auxiliary 1st Class Irene M. Wood, a Waac, Nova Scotia Province, Canada; Sergt. Martin Portner, Russia, and Pvt. Aaron J. Liachoff, France.

The Louisville Times
June 15, 1943

WASTE BACK IN SERVICE

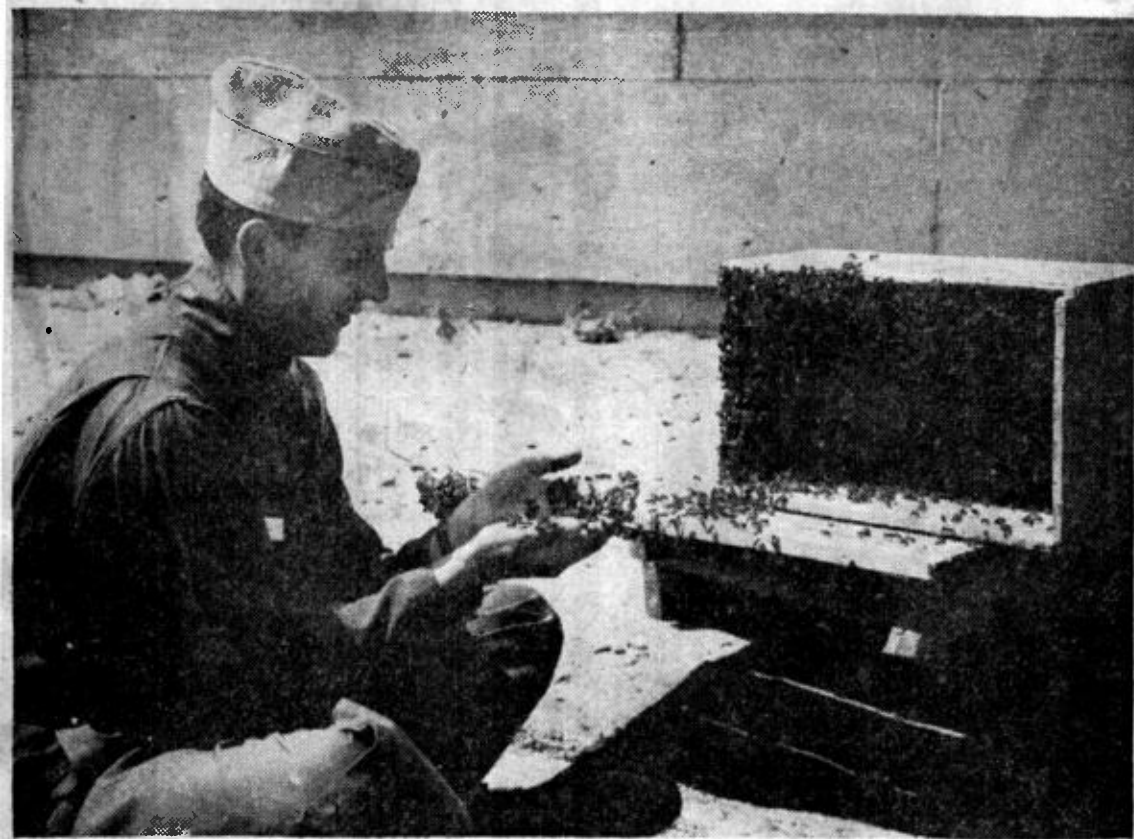


Official Air Force Photo.

Freeman Salvage Crews Busy.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., June 15.—Off to the paper mills goes a truckload of waste and corrugated paper and craftboard collected by salvage crews at Freeman Army Air Field from squadrons, warehouses, property warehouses and the sales commissary. The paper is re-processed and proceeds turned in to the Treasury Department's general fund. Lieut. Louis Albanese, at right, is inspecting the load.



Aviation Cadet Gathers in Swarm Of Honey Bees at Freeman Field .

When Aviation Cadet John H. Doyle, of Buffalo, N. Y., saw a swarm of bees flying toward him on the flight line the other day, he was only three stings away from becoming the official bee keeper at Freeman Army Air Field.

For Cadet Doyle remembered that someone had once told him that bees could be "inveigled" to light, so he set to work, suffering only three bites in the attempt, and lured them into a makeshift hive of old box crates where the bees are now contentedly at work manufacturing honey.

The young cadet, shown here in a picture made by a photographer of the Base Photo Section at Freeman Field, has other flight interests too. His hobby is birds and he used to train hawks for falconry. After the war he hopes to study either ornithology or engineering at Cornell university.

A graduate of Kensington high school in Buffalo, Cadet Doyle enlisted in October, 1942. He has a brother, James Doyle, 17, who is going into the Navy submarine branch in July.

War Bonds Displace Cigars at Airfield



—Army air force photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., June 24 (Spl.)—The climax of "sweating out a promotion" by soldiers at Freeman army airfield used to be celebrated by handing out cigars. But now the men have adopted a patriotic procedure and pass out War stamps. Shown here are two soldiers demonstrating the old and the new. The soldier on the left with the War stamps is Sergeant Wilbur Shaheen, Louisville. Sergeant Robert Schlosser, Brooklyn, N. Y. (center), has the cigars. Sergeant Forrest E. Duray, Fayette, Ia. (sitting), accepts a War stamp which he will add to his book. Shaheen and Schlosser were recently promoted from the rank of corporal.

Class 43-F to Graduate Soon

Exercises at Freeman Field Set for Wednesday, June 30

Graduation of aviation cadet class 43-F at Freeman Army Air Field will be held Wednesday, June 30, at 10 a. m. in the post theater, according to an announcement made by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field. This will be the third class of pilots to be graduated from the twin-engine school.

Major William B. Poe, director of training, will give the address. Invocation will be given by Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire, and benediction will be by Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson. Wings will be presented to the graduates by Major Poe and oath of office will be administered by Major Albert Hughes, commandant of cadets. The program is subject to change.

Friends and relatives of the graduates, many of whom have already arrived in Seymour, have been invited to the ceremonies.

Class 43-G, now the lower class in training at the field, will become the upper class after the graduation of 43-F and a new class of cadets will be assigned to the field.

June 26, 1943

More Insurance Sold At Freeman Field

Nearly one million dollars worth of additional National Service Life Insurance was sold by a single squadron in the drive at Freeman Army Air Field., to have every enlisted man and officers subscribe to the maximum amount of \$10,000 worth of insurance.

Pointing out the many advantages of this insurance, squadron commanders at the field personal-

ly interviewed every man who either did not carry any insurance, or who carried less than the maximum. Emphasizing the low cost, the benefits to the men themselves, as well as their families, and the temporary waiver until August 10 of the physical exam, the concerted campaign will continue at Freeman, with interviews, poster displays, and daily and weekly spot announcements in the field publications. At present, nearly 84 per cent of the men carry either National Service or United States Government Life Insurance, and the campaign will continue on a com-

petitive basis—to
squadron will be first to
per cent \$10,000 coope

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE

June 26, 1943

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petitive basis—to see which squadron will be first to have 100 per cent \$10,000 cooperation.

Youths Will be Freeman Guests

17-Year-Olds In- vited to "Open House" At Field on July 4

There is a real treat in store for seventeen-year-old young men of Seymour and vicinity Sunday, July 4, according to an announcement just made by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Army Air Field, for on that day an "open house" and conducted tour of Freeman Field will be held just for them.

At the "open house" which will be held from 9 a. m. to 12 noon, the young men will be taken on a conducted tour of the post where they will be able to inspect the twin-engine ships used in the advanced flying training program. They will have the opportunity to meet and talk to Colonel Rundquist and other flying officers of the command who have colorful aerial backgrounds. They will talk with the aviation cadets who are in training at the field, learning to pilot the sleek twin-engine ships, and they will be treated to a special aerial review, planned just for them.

In addition to these features, there will be a review and parade by cadets and a mass calisthenics program of cadets. Also on the schedule will be a tour of the many interesting areas on the field including line production maintenance hangars where ships are completely serviced in a chain of activities, a typical mess hall, barracks, theater, gymnasium and chapels.

The "open house" and conducted tour will familiarize seventeen-year-olds with the U. S. Army Air Forces. Men who are now seventeen but who have not yet turned eighteen are eligible to volunteer for enlistment in the Air Corps Enlisted Reserve for future training as aviation cadets. As a member of the Air Corps Enlisted Reserve, one may remain on inactive status until he is eighteen. In the meantime he may continue with his education or civilian occupation. When he becomes eighteen he will be eligible to begin pre-flight training. If he is a college or high school student, call to active duty may be postponed until the end of the current semester, provided it is completed not later than six months after the eighteenth birthday.

Enlistments in the Air Corps Enlisted Reserve may be made at any Aviation Cadet Examining Board or United States Army Recruiting Station. There is an Aviation Cadet Examining Board at Freeman Field.

Freeman Field is one of the many schools of the vast training program now being conducted by the flying training command which is participating in the "open house" to familiarize youths with the Army Air Forces.

Parents who accompany their sons to Freeman Field will be admitted to the area.

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Seymour Daily Tribune
June 26, 1943

Schricker Names Col. Rundquist

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, has been invited by Henry F. Schricker, governor of Indiana, to serve on a general committee for nurses' recruitment week in the Central Indiana area.

Governor Schricker has designated the week of June 27 to July 3 as recruitment week, which will be climaxed by a nurses meeting July 3 on the Ball estate in Indianapolis. Colonel Rundquist, Capt. George E. Crum, chief of medical service at the base hospital, and Lieut. Winifred J. McKinny, chief nurse have been invited to attend the July 3 program. Capt. Crum will be one of the speakers. A total of 500 more nurses from the Central Indiana area is the goal set to meet the yearly quota for the area.

Louisville Times
December 7, 1944

Proud G.I. Father Donates Blood

The Times Special Service.

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Private X had gone home to Canton on an emergency pass to get a first glimpse of his nine-pound son. It was 10:30 in the morning, and he was feeling in an expansive mood after seeing his offspring. The missus was doing fine, too. The world was a pretty good old place, after all.

But, leaving the hospital, he noticed a soldier seated on the steps, his head held in his hands. Going over he patted him on the shoulder and asked, "What's up, soldier; are you sweating out the same thing I just did?"

"No," was the weak reply, "the baby's all right—fine girl—but my wife's pretty bad. She needs a blood transfusion. The hospital doesn't have her type. They're trying to find a donor, but if he doesn't show up soon, I'm afraid it'll be too late."

"Gosh, that's too bad," said the private. "What type blood is it?"

"Type 4."

"That's what I have," replied the Freeman man. "I'll be glad to give a transfusion."

That night the soldier rushed up to Private X and grasped his hands. "Thanks, thanks a lot; you've saved her life. Thanks!"

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Seymour Tribune
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Freeman to be Open To Visitors for Two Hours on Anniversary

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The retreat will begin at 4:15 o'clock and will be held on the parade ground in the cadet area. Open post for visitors will be from 3:30 to 5:30 o'clock and no passes will be required.

In case of inclement weather the retreat may be cancelled. Visitors planning to attend are advised to call the Public Relations office, telephone 135, to learn if the retreat is to be held.

Dances and a USO show will be held at the field at night for military and civilian personnel of the command.

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President Thompson said that a secret committee to pass on proposed advertising schemes in Seymour has been named and warned merchants not to purchase advertising unless previously approved by the committee. He said that as chairman of the committee to study the water and fire protection in Seymour appointed by Mayor C. W. Burkart at the recommendation of the chamber, he plans to call a meeting of committee soon. He also announced that a meeting is to be held in Seymour soon with regard to a proposed Shoals dam flood-control project. He said maps of the proposed project show that dams would be around Cortland and Medora and that acres of land in this county would be flooded.

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The speaker pointed out and illustrated that no one person is so essential people can't get along without him but that he can't get along without other people. "If we Americans keep our feet on the ground and our heads in the air, other nations of the world will be envying us 1,000 years from now just like they are now," he said.

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Crowd Attends Dinner Meeting Of C. of C.

Brief Business Ses- sion Is Followed by Humorous Talk by "Dusty" Miller

A total of 144 members of the Chamber of Commerce of Seymour, one of the largest groups ever to be present at a dinner meeting of organized business and professional men and women in this city, attended a dinner of the organization Wednesday night in the dining room of the First Methodist Church, which was addressed by "Dusty" Miller, nationally known humorist from Wilmington, Ohio.

During a brief business session which preceded Mr. Miller's speech, a treasurer's report given by Don M. Bellingher showed the Chamber of Commerce to be in excellent financial condition. Harold S. Hobson, vice-president and chairman of the postwar planning survey steering committee, was introduced by J. Ralph Thompson, chamber president, and briefly explained that results of the survey committee's work predict an optimistic future for Seymour. He pointed out that Wednesday's announcement from Washington regarding the proposal of future use of Freeman field as a major postwar airport removes one of the largest unpredictable factors in the postwar report. Mr. Hobson pointed out that improvement should be made in some of the civic functions of Seymour and that recommendations had been and will be made to city officials along that line.

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Three Promoted At Field Here

According to an announcement made by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, one flying officer, a chaplain and a nurse have received promotions. They are Capt. James W. Fuller to major, First Lieutenant Russell M. Hall to captain and Second Lieutenant Mildred P. Ringel to first lieutenant.

Major Fuller is the director of flying at Freeman Field. His home was in Memphis, Tenn., where he was graduated from Messick High School. Later he received an A. B. degree from Union University at Jackson, Tenn. Prior to entering the service on September 3, 1941, he was pastor of the First Baptist Church at Fulton and Corbin, Ky. Major and Mrs. Fuller and son, James, live at 327 North Chestnut.

Chaplain Hall is a former resident of Wichita, Kan. Before entering Chaplains' School at Cambridge, Mass., November 5, 1943, he was pastor of the First Baptist Church, Russell, Kan. Chaplain Hall received ministerial training at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., and Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Kan. Chaplain and Mrs. Hall and their two children, Richard Maurice and Beverly Anne, live at Ridgeview Apartments.

Lt. Ringel's home is Johnson City, N. Y. She was graduated from Merris High School, Morris, Pa., and was a general duty nurse at Greenpoint Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., before joining the Army Nurses Corps on October 30, 1943.

Officer, Nurse Are Transferred

Captain James H. Estes and Second Lieutenant Maryellen K. Mirasola have been transferred recently from Freeman Field and assigned to Buckingham Army Air Field, Fort Meyers, Fla., and Nichols General Hospital, Louisville, Ky., respectively.

Capt. Estes was one of the first men to arrive at Freeman where he was statistical officer. At Buckingham AAF he will take a course in flexible gunnery.

Having been graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School, Long Beach, Calif., he attended Long Beach Junior College. Prior to entering the service on August 31, 1942, he was a mortgage examiner for the Federal Housing Administration at Washington D. C., and from September 5 to October 17 of that year he was in Officer Training School at Miami Beach, Fla. He was supply officer at Maxwell Field, Ala., before coming to Freeman, in early December, 1942.

Capt. Estes is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Estes, Redlands, Calif., and while in Seymour, he and his wife, Vivian, resided in the Voss Apartments at Fourth and Chestnut streets.

Lt. Mirasola, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Knight, Shadyside, Ohio, was graduated from Shadyside High School and completed a course at Elliott Commercial College, Wheeling W. Va. Before joining the Army Nurses' Corps at Freeman Field, April 2, 1943, she was a general duty nurse at Ohio Valley Hospital, Stubenville, Ohio.

Replacing Capt. Estes as statistical officer is Second Lieutenant Elmer J. Stefany of Chicago, Ill. Lt. Stefany was graduated from J. S. Morton High School, Cicero, Ill., and employed by J. S. Bache and Co., Chicago, before entering the service May 12, 1943. He and his wife, LaVerone, are living at 314 Emerson Drive, Seymour.

Seymour Tribune
December 9, 1944

Newsy Paragraphs

Chaplain and Mrs. S. E. Decker are the parents of a daughter born Thursday at the station hospital at Freeman Field. The baby has been named Sara Sue. Lt. Col. Decker is serving with the armed forces in France in the 12th armored division headquarters. Mrs. Decker is the former Miss Sara Hatton, former Seymour resident.

Browntown Banner
November 29, 1944

2nd Anniversary To Be Celebrated

At Freeman Field Friday,
December 1 — Program To
Start At 4:30 P. M.

FREEMAN FIELD, Ind. Nov. 29—Celebration of the second anniversary of Freeman Field will be observed Friday, Dec 1, with the civilian and military personnel of the field participating in the ceremony.

Beginning at 4:30 p. m., a formal retreat will be held on the parade grounds in the cadet area to which civilian employees and visitors will be special guests. Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, will take the retreat and will speak briefly commending both the civilian and military members of the command for their work and cooperation in making Freeman Field one of the outstanding installations in the AAF Training Command.

In the evening festivities will be held in the post gymnasium and in the Section F recreation hall. A USO show, "Just for the Ride", will be presented in the post gymnasium beginning at 8 o'clock and will be staged in the Section F recreation hall at 9:30 o'clock and will be followed by dancing. Refreshments will be served at both places.

A giant birthday cake will be made by Cpl. Morris Simon of Section A. The cake he prepared for the occasion last year was a miniature relief map of the field.

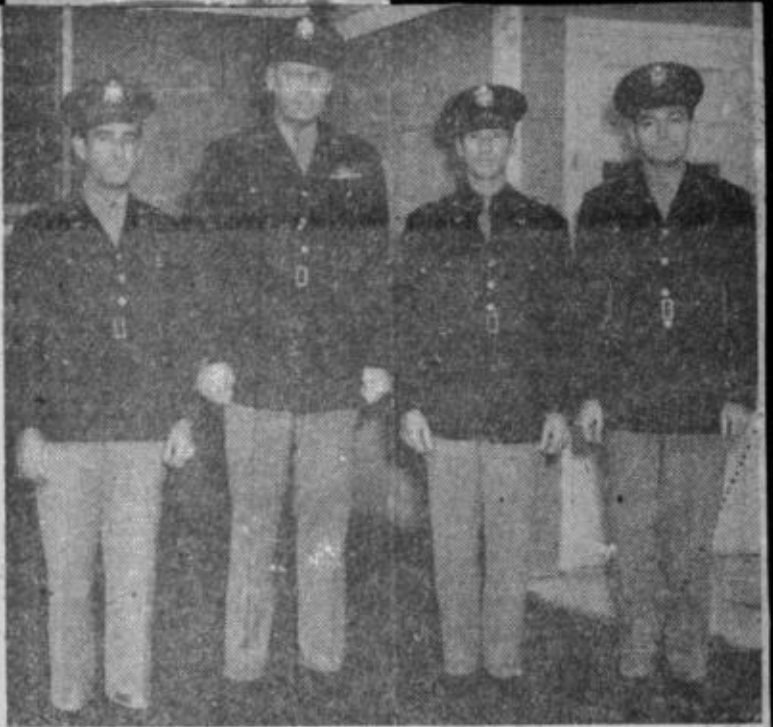
A feature at the dance will be the sale of War Bond. Booths will be established and personnel wishing to buy bonds may get immediate delivery.

Members of the program committee in charge of arrangements for the celebration are Capt. Julian Lytle, chairman, Capt. William H. McLeod, Capt. Russell Wenzel, Capt. William Hartman, Lt. Kenneth Knight and T/Sgt. Frank J. Masterson.

Major Cecil N. Rogers and Major Edward Tyminski will be in charge of the review.

Other committee members are refreshments—Lt. Leiland Jackson, Lt. George Graff, Lt. Oscar Komeo, S/Sgt. Jack Greenberg, Sgt. William Baxter, Cpl. Morris Simon; dance—Major Raymond Howard, Lt. Verena Simpson, Mrs. Dorothy Riley, Mrs. Kathryn Hudson, Miss Helen Demas, Miss Pat O'Connor and enlisted members of the Special Service council; War Bonds—Lt. Richard Ehrick; publicity—S/Sgt. Edward Smither.

Seymour Tribune
December 2, 1944



Of twelve officers and four enlisted men at Freeman Field on December 1, 1942, only four officers remained Friday to take part in the second anniversary of the local field. They are, pictured left to right: Capt. William H. McLeod, adjutant; Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer; Capt. Russell A. Wenzel, Section C adjutant, and Capt. William F. Hartman, public relations officer.

Crowd at Birthday Ball Climaxes Freeman Field's Second Anniversary

Hundreds of military personnel and civilian employes at Freeman Field crowded the post gymnasium Friday night to attend a birthday ball which climaxed the second anniversary of Freeman Field, activated on the morning of December 1, 1942.

Master of ceremonies for the ball, which followed presentation of a USO camp show entertainment, was Capt. Julian Lytle, chairman of the committee arranging the observance.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, cut the first piece of a huge birthday cake, four and one-half feet square and weighing 350 pounds. Baked by Cpl. Morris Simon, of the cadet mess hall, the cake was centered with a large replica of the air corps insignia cleverly executed in its icing.

Music for the dance was by the post orchestra and the gymnasium had been suitably decorated for the occasion. The USO show, "Just for the Ride," starred Marty Collin and Harry Peterson. Dancers, harmony singers, comedy acrobats and a xylophone novelty and puppet act also were on the bill.

Program went off as scheduled with the exception of the formal retreat Friday afternoon which was cancelled because of the inclement weather. Many local residents who had planned to attend called the field public relations office in the afternoon to see if it would be held. A number of visitors surveyed the post Friday afternoon, as the grounds were open to the public for two hours, no passes being necessary between 3:30 and 5:30 o'clock.

St. Louis Post
December 9, 1944

Helicopters Moved From Indiana Field

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 8. — (7) — Transfer of the helicopter pilot training program from Freeman field, Seymour, Ind., to Chanute field, Illinois, was announced here today at headquarters of the AAF Eastern Technical Training Command.

The transfer of training helicopters, other instructional equipment and administrative and teaching personnel from Freeman to Chanute field now is under way.

The second anniversary of

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Louisville Times
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Soldiers' Hospitality Center Here Celebrates Its Second Anniversary

The Soldiers' Hospitality Center sponsored by the First Baptist Church and its friends, under the leadership of Dr. Alvin A. Cohn, director, celebrated its second anniversary, Sunday. The center opened December 8, 1942. It has rendered continuous service every afternoon and night for the two years. The celebration Sunday began at the morning worship service when Major J. W. Fuller delivered an inspiring message which he commended the Soldiers' Hospitality Center.

Open house was held Sunday afternoon from 2 until 4 o'clock. During that period, the house mothers presented a program which included solos by Mrs. Francis L. Jordan, drum solos by Philip Jordan, and a duet sung by Anita and Janet Jordan, all accompanied by Miss Maxine Deputy. Mrs. Clyde Peters, of Val-

onia, gave two readings and Miss Anita Jordan sang a solo. A solo was sung by Mrs. Hayes Webster, accompanied by Miss Betsy Cohn and Miss Margaret Lou Taskey played two trumpet solos, accompanied by Miss Jeanne Blair. A trio number by Mrs. Jordan and her two daughters, Anita and Janet, concluded the program.

Tea and wafers were served by house mothers during the afternoon.

The center was transformed into a banquet hall for the anniversary dinner served by wings and luncheon hostesses. A delicious two-course dinner was served to two hundred soldiers, soldiers' wives and personnel of the center. Dr. Cohn was master of ceremonies and Dr. Clyde S. Black-

of Trinity Methodist Church, gave the blessing for the dinner. Pfc. Charles Brown of Freeman Field sang two numbers during the dinner hour accompanied by Miss Betsy Cohn. Mrs. Hayes Webster sang two numbers, also accompanied by Miss Cohn. The luncheon speaker was Chaplain Russell Hall of Freeman Field, who delivered an appropriate message, highly commending the Soldiers' Hospitality Center for its service to service men and their families.

During the anniversary dinner a call of the states was made and service men from eighteen states were present.

The evening service opened at 7:00 with an inspiring service of music by the chorus choir and the congregation accompanied at the organ by Miss Cohn and at the piano by Miss Jeanne Blair. Chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson brought the anniversary sermon. His message was inspiring, encouraging and uplifting. He spoke very highly of the Soldiers' Hospitality Center and its service.

The day closed with a stirring band concert given in the Sol-

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diers' Hospitality Center by the Freeman Field Band, under the direction of W/O Mitchel Chetel.

The luncheon hostesses, assisted by the Wings, served the entire evening audience delicious refreshments.

The center was beautifully decorated with the season's colors consisting of a great "V", which extended from one end of the center to the other, suspended from the ceiling. The entire building was gaily decorated with Christmas decorations, large lighted Christmas tree, ferns, palms, flowers, Christmas candles and everything which made the place

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St. Valleys Hospital, Stubby, Mo.

Replacing Capt. Estes as statistical officer is 2nd Lt. Elmer Stefany of Chicago, Ill. Stefany was graduated from J. Morton high school, Cicero, Ill., and employed by J. S. Bache & Co., Chicago, before entering service May 12, 1943. He and wife, LaVerone, are living at 1000 N. Drive, Seymour.

Helicopters to Operate From Chanute Field

Pilot Training Is Transferred from Freeman Field, Where It Had Been Conducted

The helicopter pilot training program is being transferred from Freeman Field to Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, announced today.

Information received from headquarters of the Army Air Forces Training Command at Fort Worth, Texas, states that the transfer will become effective within the next few days and will move the jurisdiction of the helicopter pilot training program from the Eastern Flying Training Command to the Eastern Technical Training Command. Headquarters for the EFTC are Maxwell Field, Alabama. ETTC headquarters are at St. Louis, Missouri.

Announced September 6.

An official War Department news release was made September 6, announcing the establishment of the helicopter pilot school at Freeman Field. It was the first school of its type in the United States Army Air Forces.

Earlier in the year officers, enlisted personnel and equipment had arrived at Freeman for the establishment of the school. Key officer personnel of the helicopter section here were Major John J. Sanduski, director of training; Capt. Bert Thrasher, operations officer, and Capt. William Moore, department commanding officer, and Capt. Kermit J. Koenig, engineering officer.

Personnel of the section had made many friends in Seymour, Brownstown and other communities where a number of them had established their residence.

Newsy Paragraphs

Pfc. and Mrs. Charles A. Brown, of this city, are the parents of a son, Charles A. Brown, Jr., born Saturday in the station hospital at Freeman Field. Home of Pfc. and Mrs. Brown is in Maryland but they are residing here while Pfc. Brown is stationed at Freeman Field, where he is in Section F.

Brownstown Banner
December 13, 1944

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Freeman Field Unit Being Sent To Chanute Field, Rantoul, Ill.

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Lt. Henry Eagle, who made his home in Brownstown, was among the officer personnel to transfer to Chanute Field.

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Seymour Tribune
December 19, 1944

Class 44-J to Be Graduated Saturday Here

Brig. Gen. William D. Old, Burma Campaign Veteran, to Address Freeman Ceremony

Members of Freeman Field aviation cadet Class 44-J will receive their wings and appointments as flight officers or commissions as second lieutenants at graduation exercises to be held at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, December 23, in the post theater. Ceremonies have been moved up from December 28 to the 23 in orders that members of the class may be home over the Christmas holidays.

The 705th Band under the direction of W/O Mitchell Chetel will open the program with the National Anthem after which Chaplain P. B. Henderson will give the invocation. The commencement speaker, Brig. Gen. William D. Old, will then be introduced by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field.

Brig. Gen. Old, veteran of the Burma campaign with more than ninety combat missions to his credit, is Commanding General of the First Troop Carrier Command, Stout Field, Indianapolis, Indiana. Regarded as one of the most skillful pilots in the area, he returned last June from the China-Burma-India theater, where he was commander of the Provisional Troop Carrier Command which distinguished itself in the aerial penetration of Burma in the spring of 1944.

Twenty Years With AAF.

A graduate of Texas A. & M. College and a native of Uvalde, Texas, General Old has nearly twenty years' service with the Army Air Forces. He had served in observation, heavy bombardment and fighter components of the Air Forces prior to his assignment to Troop Carrier Command work.

In recognition of his services overseas, General Old has been awarded the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak-leaf Cluster, the Air Medal and the British Distinguished Service Order. He also wears the decoration of the Southern Cross of Brazil, presented as the result of his participation in the good-will flight to Rio De Janeiro made by USAAF units in November, 1939.

Names of graduates will be announced by Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, and Lt. Col. Howard Williams, director of training, will award the wings. Lt. Rosenthal will administer the oath of office followed by the benediction pronounced by Major James W. Fuller.

Crowd Attends War Bond Sale Premiere Here

**Tickets Represent
Bond Sales in Excess
Of \$100,000—Free-
man Field Gives Show**

Jackson county's war bond premiere at the Majestic Theater Wednesday night was a big success, with the theater so crowded that a second showing of the feature picture was necessary. Tickets received represented war bonds, mostly of the "E" Series, in excess of \$100,000.

A feature of the premiere was the presentation of a stage show from Freeman Field with Warrant Officer Mitchel Chetel, director of the 705th Army Air Forces Band, as master of ceremonies. The theater, thrown open at 6:30 o'clock to those holding special bond tickets given only on the purchase of a war bond between December 4 and December 13, filled so rapidly that Harry M. Palmer, manager, announced at 7:25 o'clock that the feature premiere picture, "Lost in a Harem," starring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, would be shown before the stage show, and it began immediately. The stage presentation, which began shortly after 9 o'clock, lasted for more than an hour and the picture was shown a second time at its conclusion.

Montel School Winner.

Harry Montel, Shields High School varsity basketball player, was winner of a \$25 war bond for selling the largest number of bonds of any city school student during the sale period preceding the premiere. He sold forty bonds. Winners at each school, each of whom received special term passes to the Majestic Theater, are Marcella Ann Crawford, Riley School; Billy Foreman, Lincoln School; Jimmy Hudson, Washington School; Glen Water and Charlotte Hill, tied for first, in Shields Junior High School; Elsie Cordes, Emerson School and Cyril Van Fossen, St. Ambrose

Catholic School. The presentations were made on the stage by N. J. Lasher, city school superintendent

Miss Keith Wins Quiz.

Miss Ellen M. Keith, West Third street, won the musical quiz program with a perfect score, conducted by W/O Chetel and was presented with a \$25 war bond. Others participating in the contest, selected, Mr. Palmer said, by pulling names from a hat, were Miss Bebe Thomas, Miss Elizabeth Hubbard, Earl C. Parker, Exalted Ruler of the Elks who was in charge of the lodge's war bond sales committee cooperating in the war bond premiere: Lt. Edwin

Carlsten and Robert Bottonff.

Following a selection by the Freeman band, the dance orchestra of the 705th band played and Cpl. George Goodman sang two solos. Following another selection by the dance orchestra, PAC Clyde Phipps, who played a vibraphone on the Major Bowes national radio program from New York recently, played two xylophone solos. Pfc. Clyde Bagley, colored vocalist who also sang on the Major Bowes program, sang two solos and Cpl. Emile Acitelli played a clarinet solo. Cpl. Acitelli and Sgt. Erwin Klocko, who also appeared as a duo on the Major Bowes program, played a clarinet duet and the "Hoosier Hot Shots" of the band gave a specialty number. PAC Charles Brown gave vocal accompaniment to "White Christmas" played by the band and "Red" Gomber, stationed at Freeman Field, and Miss June Moren gave an exhibition of jiving while the orchestra played a "boogie-woogie" number.

The program was well received by the audience, which, led by Cpl. Goodman, sang "God Bless America" to conclude the show.

Medal Presented At Retreat Here

**Austin Couple Get
Decoration at Freeman
For Captured Son**

An Air Medal and an oak leaf cluster were presented to Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Kelly, of Austin R1, at retreat ceremonies at Freeman Field Wednesday afternoon in honor of their son, Technical Sergeant Absolam Kelly, of the air corps, who is reported to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

The presentation was made by Lieutenant Colonel Howard Williams, deputy for training and operations. Capt. W. H. McLeod, adjutant, read the citation.

Freddie Kelly, a younger son of the Kellys, Miss Viola Colby and Mrs. Dan Hill, of Austin, were present for the ceremony.

Ex-Instructor Here Missing

Lt. Keith Foster, who received his pilot's wings and commission at Freeman Field here early last spring, and later returned as an instructor at the local field, has been missing in action over Germany since November 8, according to information received Thanksgiving Day by his wife, Mrs. Jo Foster, who now lives in Creston, Iowa.

While a cadet at the field, Lt. and Mrs. Foster lived at 619 West Fourth street. Following his return here as an instructor, Lt. Foster, his wife and their young son, Kevin, lived at the C. E. Manuel residence near Uniontown until early fall, when he went overseas.

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM D. OLD

Brig. Gen. Old, who returned last June from the China-Burma-India theater, where he was commander of the Provisional Troop Carrier Command which distinguished itself in the aerial penetration of Burma, paid tribute to industry's excellent record of production and to the coordination of effort which enabled the air forces to provide pilots, air crews and ground crews to keep the resulting planes flying, and thus build "the most powerful and efficient air force ever known."

The speaker paid tribute to the many cadets who preceded today's class in the Eastern Flying Training Command. "They have helped to start the ball rolling—and I might point out that there's a chain attached, for the German and Japanese war criminals," he stated. Gen. Old told the graduates they have the opportunity of pitching in to finish the job. "But remember — it was a man-size job to start with, and it still is," he added.

Brig. Gen. Old paid tribute to Troop Carrier Command and cited statistics from its record in World War II. "The Troop Carriers are the boys who fly the parachute and glider troops to their destinations, supply them from the air, and evacuate casualties from frontlines to base hospitals in ambulance planes," the general explained. "We're proud of our reputation as workhorses of the air."

Lt. Col. Howard Williams, director of training, presented the awards and wings and Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, administered the oath of office to the new second lieutenants and flight officers. The benediction was pronounced by Major James W. Fuller and a selection by the band concluded the ceremony.

The ceremony was held five days early, in order that the young officers may spend the Christmas holidays at home.

Class 44-J To Receive Wings

Ceremonies Moved Up From December 28 to 23 In Order That Class Members May Be Home For Christ- mas Holidays.

Members of the Freeman Field aviation cadet Class 44-J will receive their wings and appointments as flight officers or commissions as second lieutenants at graduation exercises to be held December 23, at 9 a. m. in the post theatre. Ceremonies have been moved up from December 28 to the 23 in order that members of the class may be home over the Christmas holidays.

The 705th Band under the direction of W/O Mitchell Chetel will open the program with the National Anthem after which Chaplain P. B. Henderson will give the invocation. The commencement speaker, Brig. Gen. William D. Old, will then be introduced by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field.

Brig. Gen. Old, veteran of the Burma campaign with more than 90 combat missions to his credit, is Commanding General of the First Troop Carrier Command, Stout Field, Indianapolis, Indiana, regarded as one of the most skillful pilots in the area, he returned last June from the China-Burma-India theater, where he was commander of the Provisional Troop Carrier Command which distinguished itself in the aerial penetration of Burma in the spring of 1944.

A graduate of A and M College and a native of Uvalde, Texas, General Old has nearly twenty years' service with the Army Air Forces. He had served in observation, heavy bombardment and fighter components of the Air Forces prior to his assignment to Troop Carrier Command work.

In recognition of his services overseas, General Old has been awarded the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with Oakleaf Clusters, the Air Medal and the British Distinguished Service Order. He also wears the decoration of the Southern Cross of Brazil, presented as the result of his participation in the good-will flight to Rio De Janeiro made by USAAF units in November, 1939.

Names of graduates will be announced by Lt. Louis Rosenthal, School Secretary, and Lt. Col. Howard Williams, Director of Training, will award the wings. Lt. Rosenthal will administer the oath of office followed by the benediction pronounced by Major James W. Fuller.

Friday night at 9 o'clock in the post gymnasium a dance for Class 44-J members, their immediate guests and Freeman Field officers will be held.

G. I. Joes And Gals Christmas Dinner Menu

The menu for the Christmas dinner for the G. I. Joes and Gals in the Armed Forces has been announced by Cooks at Freeman Field as follows:

M E N U

- Grapefruit Cocktail
- Roast Turkey - - - Giblet Gravy
- Sage Dressing - - Cranberry Sauce
- Mashed Potatoes
- Candied Sweet Potatoes
- Creamed Asparagus-Buttered Peas
- Fresh Fruit Salad
- with Mayonnaise dressing
- Celery - Pickles - Olives
- Hot Rolls - - - Butter
- Christmas Layer Cake - Ice Cream
- Mince-meat Pie - - Pumpkin Pie
- Assorted Fruits, Nuts, Candy
- Coffee - - - Milk

Seymour Tribune
December 23, 1944

Graduates Can Aid to Bring Peace Nearer

Brig. Gen. Old Ad- dresses 44-J Class At Freeman Field Cadet Commencement

"It doesn't look like it's going to be a very merry Christmas for the Axis powers, and that little situation is due in a large part to the Army Air Forces," Brig. Gen. William D. Old, commanding general of the First Troop Carrier Command, Stout Field, Indianapolis, told members of aviation cadet class 44-J of Freeman Field and others at graduation exercises this morning in the post theater.

"Peace on earth isn't destined for this Christmas, but you men can have a part in bringing it closer by the time the next Yuletide rolls in," Gen. Old continued.

He was introduced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman, after the playing of the national anthem by the 705th AAF band and invocation by chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson.



BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM D. OLD

Seymour Tribune
December 21, 1944

WASPS Disband---Those Stationed at Freeman Field Return to Homes

Six of the seven WASPS who have been stationed at Freeman Field left for their homes this morning following the de-activation of the Women Air Force Pilots Wednesday. The seventh will remain here with her husband, stationed at Freeman Field.

Disbandment of the WASPS was ordered October 3 to be effective December 20, ending a colorful chapter without precedent in the nation's military history. Gen. H. H. Arnold, when ordering the WASP disbanded, said they have done "outstanding work, even exceeding our expectations" and that approximately 1,000 women of the service dis-

tributed among the AAF, were capable of operating all types of aircraft, including the fastest fighters and the B-29 Superfortresses. Most of them plan to continue flying.

The disbandment was ordered because sufficient male pilots are available to fill all flying assignments in the country and overseas, the Associated Press reports. Thirty of the WASP corps have been killed in service.

Mrs. Robert Foster, wife of Second Lieutenant Robert Foster, an engineering officer at Freeman Field, is the former WASP remaining here. The other six, who returned today to their respective homes, are Miss Mary Breidenbach, who will first visit relatives in Chicago before going to her home in Atlanta, Georgia; Miss Mary Baldner, who will go to Scott Field, Illinois, where her father, Major John G. Baldner, is stationed; Miss Mary McDonald and Miss Elizabeth Hubbard, to homes in Chicago; Miss Sarah Allshouse, to Pittsburgh, Pa. and Miss Margaret Parish, to Raleigh, North Carolina.

Seymour Tribune
December 23, 1944

Delicious Christmas Menus Planned At Freeman Field, Local Institutions

Personnel of Freeman Field will feast on Christmas Day. Under the caption, "What's Cookin' For Christmas", a menu has been published which will be served from 10:45 o'clock Christmas morning to 12:45 o'clock Monday afternoon.

Beginning with grapefruit cocktail, the air force members will be served roast young turkey, sage dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, creamed asparagus, buttered peas and cranberry sauce. Fresh fruit salad with mayonnaise dressing

will accompany the repast as well as celery, olives, pickles, hot rolls and butter. For dessert, Christmas layer cake, mincemeat pie, pumpkin pie and coffee will be served and the dinner will be topped off with assorted fruit, nuts and candy.

Seymour Tribune
December 19, 1944

Lt. A. Smith Is Prisoner of War

Word has been received by Mrs. August Cordes, 218 West Third street, that Lt. Alfred Smith, who graduated from Freeman Field in November, 1943, has been missing since August and has been listed recently as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Lt. and Mrs. Smith made many friends during their stay in Seymour and who will be glad to know that Lt. Smith is alive.

Outstanding Christmas Eve Program At USO Greatly Enjoyed by Soldiers

One of the most outstanding Christmas Eve programs held for men and women in the armed forces featured the Christmas program of the Seymour USO Club, 205 South Chestnut street, Sunday.

Several of the soldiers in the large group enjoying the program expressed to officials at the center that it "seemed almost like home". Motto of the USO is "a home away from home" for the servicemen and the Christmas program, like other programs at the center, was designed for that purpose.

The six-hour Christmas Eve

program opened at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon with the playing of classical records. At 5:30 o'clock, a vesper service was held with the playing of a recording of Dickens' Christmas carol and a ten-minute address by Chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson, of Freeman Field. At 6:30 o'clock, a buffet luncheon with a variety of good food was served to nearly 300 servicemen and women by all groups of the Mothers' Service Organization of the USO, under the general chairmanship of Mrs. Francis L. Jordan. At 8 o'clock, a variety hour was held. A number

Seymour Tribune January 9, 1945

Officers' Daughters Hostesses at Dinner

Mary Ellen Rundquist, daughter of Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, and Mrs. Rundquist, and Judy Nichols, daughter of Captain and Mrs. Clarence D. Nichols, were two years old Monday and in celebration of the anniversary entertained at a five o'clock dinner party Monday evening at the Colonel's home.

Mary Ellen and Judy were the first children born to Freeman Field military personnel after the field was activated.

Guests at the dinner party were Diane and Carol Ann Champion, daughters of Major and Mrs. Walton T. Champion; Nancy Butler, daughter of Captain and Mrs. R. M. Butler; and Carol and Patsy Prochaska, little daughters of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Charles J. Prochaska.

Mary Ellen's and Judy's birthday cakes were center notes for the prettily appointed dinner table.

Seymour Tribune January 9, 1945

Officers Go to Take Training

Major Robert J. DuChaine, post operations officer at Freeman Field, left Monday for Columbia, South Carolina, for training in the operation of the A-26, new medium type bomber. Also leaving for similar training from Freeman were Lts. Woodrow J. Lane and William C. Weldon.

Major DuChaine's position as post operations officer is taken by Lt. Donald M. Bowers, who formerly held the title of assistant operations officer.

Major DuChaine had been at Freeman Field since February, 1943, and served as a flight commander and member of the advisory training board until he became post operations officer in June, 1943. He performed the duties of deputy for training and operations for a time following the transfer of Lt. Col. William H. Poe last September, but recently returned to his old duties. Prior to coming to Freeman, he had completed primary training at Spartan School of Aeronautics, Muskogee, Okla. and took his basic training at Randolph Field, Texas. In May, 1941, he received

his wings and commission as a second lieutenant at Barksdale Field, La. He was an instructor at Barksdale and later at Columbus, Miss., before coming to Freeman.

Lt. Bowers, new operations officer, received his introduction to flying as a civilian pilot, receiving private license five days after entering the service on January 28, 1942. He was commissioned in January, 1943, at Turner Field, Ga. and was an instructor at Turner Field for two months until coming to Freeman on April 25, 1943. After being an instructor here, he became operations officer and commanding officer of Flight 4. He was appointed assistant post operations officer September 28, 1944. He was affiliated with a bond and investment company prior to entering the service.

Seymour Tribune
December 19, 1944

Ex-Instructor Here Missing

Lt. Keith Foster, who received his pilot's wings and commission at Freeman Field here early last spring, and later returned as an instructor at the local field, has been missing in action over Germany since November 8, according to information received Thanksgiving Day by his wife, Mrs. Jo Foster, who now lives in Creston, Iowa.

While a cadet at the field, Lt. and Mrs. Foster lived at 619 West Fourth street. Following his return here as an instructor, Lt. Foster, his wife and their young son, Kevin, lived at the C. E. Manuel residence near Uniontown until early fall, when he went overseas.

Seymour Tribune
December 29, 1944

Posthumous Air Medal For Sgt. Tungeitt Given

An Air Medal and one oak leaf cluster were presented posthumously Thursday by Col. E. T. Rundquist to Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Tungeitt, Seymour R1, in honor of their son, Sgt. Charles W. Tungeitt, who was a gunner in the Army Air Forces and was shot down in combat in Europe in June, 1944.

Attending the presentation, which was held in the colonel's office in post headquarters, at Freeman Field, were Mr. Tungeitt and son, Floyd, age eleven; Capt. William H. McLeod, adjutant, and Lt. Verena Simpson, personal affairs officer.

The Tungeitts have two other sons in the service, one of them in New Guinea, and the other in the European theater.

Louisville
Courier-Journal
December 25, 1944

Air Officers Told to Fight For Peace

Brig. Gen. William Old Is Speaker At Seymour

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 24.—"It doesn't look like it's going to be a very merry Christmas for the Axis powers, and that little situation is due in a large part to the Army Air Force," Brig. Gen. William G. Old, commanding general of the Troop Carrier Command at Stout Field, Indianapolis, told members of the graduating class of 44-J at Freeman Field yesterday.

The exercises were moved up five days in order that the new officers might spend Christmas holidays at home.

Williams Awards Wings.

"Peace on earth isn't destined for this Christmas, but you men can have a part in bringing it closer by the time the next Yuletide rolls in," said General Old, who has more than 90 combat missions to his credit. He returned last June from the China-Burma-India theater, where he was commander of the Provisional Troop Carrier Command which distinguished itself in the aerial penetration of Burma in the spring of 1944.

Lt. Col. Howard Williams, director of training, awarded the wings to the graduates and Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, administered the oath of office.

Seymour Tribune
January 19, 1945

Two Freeman Cadets Die in Plane Crash

Power Service in Vicinity, Disrupted By Mishap Near Road 50, Has Been Restored

Two Freeman Field aviation cadets were killed when their AT-10 training plane crashed five miles west of Seymour at 11:45 o'clock Thursday night.

One of the dead is John S. Rush, age twenty, of Johnson City, Tenn., who is survived by his mother, Mrs. Bertha Rush, of the same address.

Name of the other cadet is being withheld by field officials pending notification of next of kin.

Plane Strikes Power Line.

The plane which was wrecked but did not burn, struck a high tension power line parallel to U. S. Highway 50 and landed in a field on the Martin Schneider place. Power service was disrupted by the accident but has been restored.

Farmers living in the vicinity of the accident report they heard the crash.

Lt. Col. Howard Williams, assistant post commander, who is in command of Freeman Field during the temporary absence of Col. E. T. Rundquist, said a board of qualified officers has been appointed to investigate the accident. The two cadets were on a combat training flight.

Seymour Tribune
January 22, 1945

Church Board Hears Chaplain Henderson

Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson, of Freeman Field, was the speaker at the annual meeting of the board of the Reddington Christian Church Friday night.

Following a supper spread by the wives of the board members, the chairman, Herman Swengel, acted as master of ceremonies for the meeting. He introduced the Rev. W. L. Thompson, pastor, and two of the elders of the church, Homer Davis and George Baldwin, who gave short talks regarding the program for the coming year.

Chaplain Henderson told about some of his work as a chaplain and then told the group what he thought the service man expects of the church both now and upon his return. He said "the church must have a witness, a cause, and a challenge" if it is to enlist the loyalty and support of returning service men.

About twenty members of the church were present as well as Mrs. Henderson, the chaplain's wife.

Seymour Tribune
January 13, 1945

Field Officers Are Transferred

Recent transfer orders have carried eight prominent Freeman field officers to new duties and assignments at stations in scattered sections of the South.

Heading a list of four officers reporting to instrument school, Bryan, Tex., for indoctrination prior to reassignment to auxiliary instrument school at Lubbock, Tex., was Capt. Robert E. Maggart, post OCF and tower officer.

Veteran of fifty combat missions over North Africa and Sicily and holder of the Air Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, Capt. Maggart was commencement speaker at graduation exercises for Class 44-H last September.

Leaving with Capt. Maggart on similar orders were Lt. Mervin J. Liedtke, veteran Freeman officer and member of the instrument advisory training board, Lts. Eugene H. MacMurray, Jr., and Joseph D. Stoecklein, flying instructors.

Departing for Keesler Field, Miss., and assignment to Emergency Rescue Squadron 6 upon activation for training prior to subsequent overseas shipment were Lt. Reuben J. Graham, Jr., assistant Consolidated Mess officer, and Lt. Joseph J. Donovan, adjutant of Section C.

Ordered to Buckingham Army Air Field, Ft. Myers, Fla., where he will be permanently assigned following completion of an instructor's course in basic flexible gunnery, was Lt. Johnny M. Davis, post range officer.

Lt. Robert L. Tiemann, medical supply officer, was transferred this week to Tyndall Field, Panama City, Fla.

Seymour Tribune
January 19, 1945

Brownstown Club Tours Freeman

More than twenty-five members of the Brownstown Lions Club attended the club's weekly dinner meeting Thursday night, which was held in the officers' mess at Freeman Field. Following the dinner, they were escorted on a tour of the field by Capt. William F. Hartman, field public relations officer.

The members gathered at Brownstown and came to the field in a caravan of automobiles, arriving at the post at 7 o'clock. After the dinner, a brief meeting was held in charge of Dr. Roy P. Clark with the roll call by W. R. Robertson. Dr. G. R. Gillespie, taitwister, was active at the meeting. Dr. Clark introduced L. A. Brodhecker, who presented Capt. Hartman. The public relations officer spoke briefly, expressing the appreciation of the field's command and army personnel for assistance which Brownstown people have given the field since it has been located here.

The group then was taken on a tour of the field, with stops at an enlisted men's mess hall, a hangar where planes were being repaired and at the apex of the runways, where flying activity on the field could be observed from the vicinity of the control tower.

Seymour Tribune
January 22, 1945

Col. Rundquist Back From Officers' Course

Col E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, returned to Seymour Sunday from Orlando, Florida, where he attended a twelve-day senior officers' course at the AAF School of Applied Tactics.

Transfer Three Freeman Officers

**Cpts. Wenzel, Wolf,
And Lt. Crimmins, Go
To Southern Stations**

Special orders carried three prominent Freeman Field officers to new assignments and duties at southern stations this week.

One of the four remaining officers who was present at the field's activation, Capt. Russell Wenzel, has been assigned to a school at Orlando AAF, Fla. Capt. Wenzel, a former resident of Hillsboro, Ohio, attended Withrow High School and Cincinnati University in Cincinnati, Ohio. In his youth he travelled and lived in the west, at one time working as a cowboy on a large ranch in Arizona. Prior to entering the service in 1938, he was associated with the Cincinnati Gas and Electric Co. In the organizational stages of the field, Capt. Wenzel filled several different positions and at the time of his departure was adjutant for Section C.

Leaving with Capt. Wenzel on similar orders was First Lieutenant Charles V. Crimmins, cadet supply officer. A native of Harrisville, N. Y., Lt. Crimmins was graduated from Watertown High School, Watertown, N. Y., and received an A.B. degree from Notre Dame University where he was captain of the baseball team in 1941. Active in sports at Freeman, he played an infield position with the "Blue Devils" and guard with the officers' basketball team.

The marriage of Lt. Crimmins to Miss Grace McDonald of Watertown was the first to be announced at Freeman Field. Lt. and Mrs. Crimmins and their young daughter, Carol Ann, lived in Seymour.

Capt. Michael Wolf, post mess supervisor, was transferred to Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga. A veteran of World War I and former resident of Des Moines, Ia., Capt. Wolf reported to Freeman Field on December 2, 1942. He attended Waterloo High School and college, Waterloo, Ia., and was the owner and operator of a restaurant-luncheonette in Des Moines before entering the service. He and Mrs. Wolf resided in Seymour.

Reveal Identity Of Second Cadet Killed in Crash

Kenneth J. Pocta, age nineteen, of Cleveland, Ohio, was the second Freeman Field aviation cadet killed when an AT-10 training plane crashed near U. S. Road 50 five miles west of Seymour about midnight Thursday, it was revealed today.

Identity was withheld pending notification of next of kin. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pocta, arrived here late Friday afternoon and returned to their home Friday night. Accompanying the body of their son to Cleveland as escort will be Aviation Cadet John Keep, of Elyria, Ohio.

Accompanying the body of the other cadet killed in the crash—John S. Rush, age twenty, of Johnson City, Tenn.—will be Aviation Cadet John Robertson, of Akron, Ohio.

A board of qualified officers from Freeman Field is investigating the accident.

BULLETIN!

Freeman Field On Temporary Inactive Basis

Washington, January 24—(AP)—The War Department has ordered Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., placed on temporary, inactive basis.

This was announced today by Senator Willis. There was no indication as to what future use might be made of the field, which was established early in the war for training purposes.

The above announcement may not necessarily mean that all activity will cease at Freeman Field. It has been known generally for some time that the training program is to be discontinued shortly, and there have been many rumors as to what purposes the field may be used.

It is understood that when a field is placed on temporary, inactive basis, until final decision is reached.

Field headquarters here were without official information relative to the status of the field.

Two Auxiliary Air Fields Are To Be Leased

**Tracts at Grammer
And Zenas To Be
Offered for Grazing
And Agriculture**

Two of the five auxiliary airfields which have been used in connection with training at Freeman Field will be offered for lease for agricultural or grazing purposes, according to an announcement by Col. C. L. Hall, division engineer of the Ohio River division, corps of engineers, U. S. Army, at Columbus, O. The fields to be leased are those at Grammer, in Bartholomew county, and at Zenas, in Jennings county. Neither was equipped for night flying.

Release of these fields for agricultural purposes was due to the desire of the government to get every possible acre of land not urgently needed for war purposes into food production, it is stated. The Army Air Forces have decided that the Grammer and Zenas fields will not be needed at this time and that the land can be used for agricultural purposes.

640 Acres in Each Field.

The two fields each contain about 640 acres. Of this amount approximately 500 acres will be available for grazing and 140 for production of crops. Col. Hall's announcement stated that all the grazing land had received heavy applications of fertilizer and seed, consisting of blue grass, rye and lespedeza.

The Grammer field is located about one-half mile south of the town of Grammer, and the Zenas field is about two miles west of the town in Jennings county.

Leases for Three Years.

The land will be leased only to citizens of the United States, and rental will be on a cash basis, payable quarterly or annually in advance, depending upon the amount of the rental. Leases will be made for a period of three years, if the farmers desire. On the agricultural land, tenants will be required to follow a reasonable crop rotation program, it was stated. It is not likely that the

field was activated.

Freeman Field is considered to be one of the leading schools of its type in the Training Command and has achieved many records. The Training Command is divided into three flying training commands — the Western, Central and Eastern.

Senator Raymond E. Willis, of Indiana, announced from Washington, Wednesday that the War Department has ordered Freeman Field placed on a temporary, inactive basis, and The Tribune carried the first story about the change Wednesday.

Later in the day Earl Wilson, representative in Congress from the Ninth Indiana district, informed The Tribune of the change giving additional information which is in line with the announcement from Freeman Field today.

Mr. Wilson's telegram stated:

"Have just learned that Freeman Field is soon to be placed in an inactive status. Only personnel to remain will be maintenance staff, due to fact that training programs in this country are almost complete. Many such installations are being so classified.

"Use of term inactive status strongly indicates postwar use of field. Will advise you further when other information becomes available."

Freeman Field Will Be Transferred to ATSC

Announcement has been made by Lt. Gen. Barton K. Young, commanding general of the AAF Training Command, with headquarters at Fort Worth, Texas, that Freeman Field, advanced two engine pilot school here, will be transferred to the Air Technical Service Command by March 1. Headquarters for ATSC are at Wright Field, O.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, said it is expected that all military personnel, with the exception of a few officers, will be transferred by March 1.

Civilian Personnel.

The colonel said a member of the staff civilian personnel section at headquarters of Eastern Flying Training Command, Maxwell Field, Ala., will arrive in the next few days to assist the civilian employes in transferring and placing them in new positions.

In order to help prevent the flow of rumors, Colonel Rundquist said, "Any additional information received will be given the command as soon as it is received."

Information is not available about the use of the field by ATSC.

Field Activated Dec. 1, 1942.

Freeman Field was activated December 1, 1942, and pilot training was started March 3, 1943. Members of the first class, 43-D, received their silver pilot wings April 29, 1943, at dual exercises which featured the graduation and dedication of the station. Colonel Rundquist gave the graduation address and Brig. Gen. Bob Nowland who now is the commanding general of the Ferrying Division of the Air Transport Command, but who was then a wing commander of the EFTC, gave the dedication address.

Exercises for Class 44-K, the nineteenth class to be graduated from Freeman Field, will be held Thursday, Feb. 1.

Colonel Rundquist came to Freeman Field early in October, 1942, during the construction phase of the post. He was the project officer and became the commanding officer when the field was activated.

Freeman Field is considered to be one of the leading schools of its type in the Training Command and has achieved many records. The Training Command is divided into three flying training commands — the Western, Central and Eastern.

Senator Raymond E. Willis, of Indiana, announced from Washington, Wednesday that the War Department has ordered Freeman Field placed on a temporary, inactive basis, and The Tribune carried the first story about the change Wednesday.

Later in the day Earl Wilson, representative in Congress from the Ninth Indiana district, informed The Tribune of the change giving additional information which is in line with the announcement from Freeman Field today.

Brownstown Banner
February 7, 1945

Last Class At Freeman Graduates

**Col. E. T. Rundquist Delivers
Address—More Than 4,000
Pilots At Freeman During
22 Months Of Operation.**

Sounding a warning against over-optimism in his address to the members of class 44-K who were graduated in exercises held Thursday morning at the post theatre, Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, said that everyone must continue to work and fight hard for the eventual defeat of the axis powers. The class was the nineteenth and last to be graduated from Freeman Field.

This was the second class to whom the colonel delivered a graduation talk. He addressed the first class to be graduated from the field, class 43-D, on April 29, 1943.

To give an idea of the extensive training conducted at Freeman Field during the past twenty-two months, Colonel Rundquist said over 4,000 pilots had been graduated and while in training they had flown approximately 372,957 hours. Based upon a cruising speed of 150 miles per hour, 55,943,595 miles have been flown. This mileage is equal to 2,200 times around the world.

The speaker congratulated the men upon their performance at Freeman Field and the attainment of their silver pilot wings, but told them never to stop learning.

Major James W. Fuller, director of training and operations, introduced the colonel and presented the awards and wings. Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, administered the oath of office. Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson pronounced the invocation and benediction. The Shields high school band under the direction of Paul W. Rigsbee, furnished the music.

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Exercises for class 44-K, the nineteenth class to be graduated from Freeman Field, will be held Thursday, Feb. 1.

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made as the First President of this Association and your continued unselfish interest in furthering the progress of our aims and ideas. . . ."

Gary placed first in the municipal fire department rating by the association, followed by Anderson and Terre Haute. Nappanee placed first among volunteer departments while Carnegie-Illinois at Gary, was first in industrial plants. The Kingsbury plant at LaPorte placed first among ordnance plants.

Presentation of the trophy at a dinner will be made by Governor Ralph F. Gates.

Chief Hutsell, prior to coming to Freeman Field to organize the department in 1942, had been retired since 1940 after serving thirty-six years on the Indianapolis fire department, working his way up through all the ranks, after starting as a substitute fireman, until he served as chief of the Indianapolis department. He was first president of the Indiana Fire Chiefs' Association.

Filling the role of the new defunct 705th Army Air Force Band at Freeman, the Shields high school band Seymour, under the direction of Paul W. Rigsbee, music supervisor in the city schools, will open the last graduation ceremonies with the national anthem, after which the invocation will be given by Chaplain Phillips Brooks Henderson.

Col. Rundquist will be introduced by Major James W. Fuller, director of training and operations. Names of the graduates will be announced by Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, and Major Fuller will present awards and wings. Following the oath of office administered by Lt. Rosenthal, Chaplain Henderson will pronounce the benediction, and the program will end with the playing of Army Air Corps song by the high school band.

Col. Rundquist has had a colorful and varied army career, serving in many capacities at stations in the United States and Panama. He began his army service as an aviation cadet in World War I and his subsequent flying career closely parallels the development of military aviation.

Many parents and friends of cadet members of the class are expected to arrive in Seymour for the graduation ceremony.

ATSC To Take Over Freeman Field By March 1

Seymour Field To Be Placed
On Temporary, Inactive
Basis After February 1,
When 19th Class Gradu-
ates.

Announcement has been made
by Lt. Gen. Barton K. Yount,
commanding general of the AAF
Training Command, with head-
quarters at Fort Worth, Texas,
that Freeman Field, advanced
two-engine pilot school at Sey-
mour, Ind., will be transferred to
the Air Technical Service Com-
mand by March 1. Headquarters
for ATSC are at Wright Field, O.

Senator Raymond E. Willis of
Indiana, announced from Wash-
ington, D. C. Wednesday that the
War Department has ordered
Freeman Field placed on a tem-
porary, inactive basis.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, com-
manding officer at Freeman
Field said, "It is expected that
all the Military personnel, with
the exception of a few officers,
will be transferred by March 1."

The colonel said a member of
the staff civilian personnel section
at headquarters of Eastern Fly-
ing Training Command, Maxwell
Field, Ala., will arrive in the next
few days to assist the civilian
employees in transferring and
placing them in new positions.

In order to help prevent the
flow of rumors, "Colonel Rund-
quist said, "Any additional infor-
mation received will be given the
command as soon as it is received."

Information is not available
about the use of the field by
ATSC.

Freeman Field was activated
December 1, 1942, and pilot train-
ing was started March 3, 1943.
Members of the first class, 43-D
received their silver pilot wings
April 29, 1943, at dual exercises
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and dedication of the station.
Colonel Rundquist gave the grad-
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ords. The Training Command is
divided into three flying training
command—the Western Central
and Eastern.

Freeman Field Fire Service Ranks First

Governor to Present Trophy at Indiana Fire Chiefs' Banquet For Achievement Here

The Freeman Field Fire Depart-
ment, of which Jesse A. Hutsell
is chief and which is composed of
a number of local civilian men of
Seymour and vicinity, has been
chosen as the highest ranking fire
department at any military post
by the Indiana Fire Chiefs' Asso-
ciation, and will be presented with
a trophy at the annual dinner of
the association at the Lincoln-Ho-
tel, Indianapolis, March 8, it was
announced today.

The trophy will bear the names
of Col. E. T. Rundquist, com-
manding officer of Freeman Field;
Major Walter W. Scott, post en-
gineer, and Chief Hutsell, who or-
ganized and trained the depart-
ment and has since directed its
activities under the post engineer
and Col. Rundquist.

Chief Is Lauded.

Notification of the award was
made by Frank L. Orr, business
manager of the association, in a
letter to Mr. Hutsell.

"I am very happy to advise you
that Freeman Field has been
chosen for a very high honor in
Fire Prevention and Protection
Activities, due to your able direc-
tion of a progressive and protec-
tive policy which has gained not
only state but national recognition.
In keeping with the policy I es-
tablished in 1940, the Indiana Fire
Chiefs will award prize trophies
again this year. . . ."

"As you will recall, this will be
the second time that the Indiana
Fire Chiefs' Association have had
an occasion to pay their respect
and esteem to you, in appreciation
for what you have done for the
Fire Service and our Association
in the State of Indiana. Previous-
ly, you were presented with a
beautiful plaque symbolizing the
constructive contribution you
made as the First President of
this Association and your continued
unselfish interest in furthering
the progress of our aims and
ideas. . . ."

Gary placed first in the municipal
fire department rating by the as-
sociation, followed by Anderson
and Terre Haute. Nappanee placed
first among volunteer departments
while Carnegie-Illinois at Gary,
was first in industrial plants. The
Kingsbury plant at LaPorte placed
first among ordnance plants.

Presentation of the trophy at a
dinner will be made by Governor
Ralph F. Gates.

Chief Hutsell, prior to coming
to Freeman Field to organize the
department in 1942, had been re-
tired since 1940 after serving thirty-
six years on the Indianapolis
fire department, working his way
up through all the ranks, after
starting as a substitute fireman,
until he served as chief of the

Sgt. Reed, War Vet. Killed When Struck By Car At Freeman

Freeman Field.—S/Sgt. Leo J.
Reed, age 42, Columbia, New Jer-
sey, was killed about midnight
Thursday when struck by a car
on the post headquarters road at
Freeman Field.

The name of the driver of the
car, who was a soldier, and de-
tails of the accident were not re-
leased by army authorities.

An overseas returnee, Sergeant
Reed, has been stationed at Free-
man Field since November 5,
1944.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist stated
that a board of qualified officers
has been appointed to investigate
the accident.

Last Class To Graduate Feb. 1

At Freeman Field, Seymour —Col. Rundquist, Com- manding Officer Of Field, To Deliver Address To Nineteenth Class.

FREEMAN FIELD, Ind.—
Freeman Field's nineteenth class of
aviation cadets, Class 44-K, will
receive silver wings and appoint-
ments as flight officers or com-
missions as second lieutenants at
graduation exercises to be con-
ducted Thursday morning, Feb-
ruary 1, in the post theater.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, command-
ing officer of Freeman Field, will
deliver the graduation address at
the exercises which will mark the
completion of the training of the
last class of pilots at the field un-
der the present two-engine school.
Col. Rundquist, believed to be one
of the few commanding officers
who has opened a field of this
type and also has remained in
command at its close, delivered the
address when the first class of
cadets were graduated April 29,
1943, at dual exercises which fea-
tured the graduation and dedica-
tion of the station.

Filling the role of the new
defunct 705th Army Air Force
Band at Freeman, the Shields
high school band, Seymour, under
the direction of Paul W. Rigsbee,
music supervisor in the city
schools, will open the last gradua-
tion ceremonies with the national
anthem, after which the invocation
will be given by Chaplain Phillips
Brooks Henderson.

Col. Rundquist will be introduc-
ed by Major James W. Fuller, di-
rector of training and operations.
Names of the graduates will be
announced by Lt. Louis Rosenthal,
school secretary, and Major Fuller
will present awards and wings.
Following the oath of office ad-
ministered by Lt. Rosenthal,
Chaplain Henderson will pronoun-
ce the benediction, and the pro-
gram will end with the playing of
Army Air Corps song by the high
school band.

Col. Rundquist has had a color-
ful and varied army career, serv-
ing in many capacities at stations
in the United States and Panama.
He began his army service as an

Feb. 8

Field Officers Attend Farewell

Relatives of Late Capt. Freeman, Former Officers Here at Fete

Officers' personnel of Freeman Field, military and civilian guests from Seymour and other cities were entertained at a dinner-dance Wednesday night at the Officers' Club at the field. The party was in the nature of a farewell as the Freeman military personnel is to be assigned to duty at other fields in the near future. Among the guests were several officers who played a prominent part in Freeman Field's early history.

About three hundred guests were presented for the dinner and later danced to the music of Belle's Sharps and Flats, popular dance band from Indianapolis.

Among out-of-town guests for the occasion were Mrs. Emily Rundquist, of Harvey, Ill., mother of Colonel E. T. Rundquist, who has been the commanding officer at Freeman Field since the field

was opened two years ago; Mrs. F. A. Thompson, of San Antonio, Texas, mother of Mrs. Rundquist; Ab and Jim Freeman, of Winamac, Ind., father and brother of the late Captain Richard Freeman, for whom Freeman Field was named; Lt.-Col. George Weiland, who was the first officer at Freeman Field and later executive officer, and who recently returned from overseas duty; Lt.-Col. William B. Poe, the first director of training at Freeman, who is now air inspector training of the 76th Flying Training Wing with headquarters at Smyrna, Tenn., and Major John J. Sanduski, director of helicopter training at Chanute Field, who formerly held the same position when the helicopter program was at Freeman Field.

Among civilian guests were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tillman of Wright Field, Dayton, O., and H. W. McKenzie, of Detroit, Mich. Mr. Tillman and Mr. McKenzie were connected with construction phases at the field.

Other visiting officers were present from the Eastern Flying Training Command headquarters.



JAMES E. GHEEN

Feb 14-45
Speaker at an appreciation dinner of the Seymour Chamber of Commerce in honor of administrative officers of Freeman Field, to be held at 6:15 o'clock Thursday night in the dining room of the First Methodist Church, will be James E. Gheen, New York City public relations counselor.

Reservations made for the dinner meeting, at which no business is to be transacted, indicate a large attendance.

Mr. Gheen, who delighted his audience at an appreciation dinner here for manufacturers several years ago, is outstanding as a philosophical humorist. A former reporter, columnist, feature writer, steel business man for fifteen years and later secretary of Chambers of Commerce in three large New York and Pennsylvania cities and the state of Florida, he has spoken in forty-three states and Canada in 784 different cities and towns to all types of audiences.

Program For Graduation at Freeman Field

Col. Rundquist, Who Gave First Address, To Deliver Last at Exercises February 1

Freeman Field's nineteenth class of aviation cadets, Class 44-K, will receive silver wings and appointments as flight officers or commissions as second lieutenants at graduation exercises to be conducted next Thursday morning, February 1, in the post theater.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, will deliver the graduation address at the exercises which will mark the completion of the training of the last class of pilots at the field under the present two-engine school. Col. Rundquist, believed to be one of the few commanding officers who has opened a field of this type and also has remained in command at its close, delivered the address when the first class of cadets was graduated April 29, 1943 at dual exercises which featured the graduation and dedication of the station.

Shields Band to Play.

Filling the role of the now defunct 705th Army Air Forces Band at Freeman, the Shields High School band, under the direction of Paul W. Rigsbee, music supervisor in the city schools, will open the last graduation ceremonies with the national anthem, after which the invocation will be given by Chaplain Phillip Brooks Henderson.

Col. Rundquist will be introduced by Major James W. Fuller, director of training and operations. Names of the graduates will be announced by Lt. Louis Rosenthal, school secretary, and Major Fuller will present awards and wings. Following the oath of office administered by Lt. Rosenthal, Chaplain Henderson will pronounce the benediction, and the program will end with the playing of the Army Air Corps song by the high school band.

Former Officers Here Visit Freeman Field

Lt. Col. George Weiland and Major and Mrs. Monty Harris, formerly of Freeman Field, arrived today to visit friends at the field.

Lt. Col. Weiland was project officer before Freeman Field was activated and was later executive officer until he was sent overseas. His home is in New York.

Major Harris, post exchange officer while here, is stationed in Detroit. His home is in Wheeling, W. Va.

Col. Rundquist has had a colorful and varied army career, serving in many capacities at stations in the United States and Panama. He began his army service as an aviation cadet in World War I and his subsequent flying career closely parallels the development of military aviation.

Many parents and friends of cadet members of the class are expected to come here for the graduation ceremony.



Air Force Photo.

THESE THREE INDIANAPOLIS MEN, shown here studying a feature of a training ship, were graduated from Freeman Army Airfield, advanced two-engine pilot school at Seymour, and received their silver pilot wings yesterday. Members of the sixth class of aviation cadets to be graduated from Freeman Field, they are, from left, Second Lt. Jean L. Kerr, Second Lt. Patrick G. Brann and Flight Officer Beryl H. Stevens.



Tribune
2 October 1943

Tag Day Held Here Today for Non - Commissioned Officers Club

With the formal opening of the Freeman Field Non-Commissioned Officers Club set for tonight, members of the Psi Iota Xi sorority here, who are providing the furnishing and decorating for the inside of the club are conducting a tag day today in downtown Seymour.

Members of the sorority are

selling tags, with the money received to be used in paying for the furnishings and decoration of the new club.

The club's formal opening has been set for 8:30 o'clock tonight, but because of the expected demand for space on the part of members, invitations will not include civilians or any male officers or military personnel.

Each member of the club will be allowed one printed invitation and it can be used for admission for his date to the club. Later, it is planned to have a special party for the civilians who have helped make the club possible.

An exceptionally fine program of entertainment has been arranged for tonight's opening.

Tribune
27 September 1943

Freeman Wives Give Much Aid To Surgical Dressing Program

Two hundred and thirty-one women volunteered their services during August for the preparation of Red Cross surgical dressings, according to a recent report submitted to the Seymour chapter by Mrs. John J. Lucas, chairman of surgical dressings for the Freeman Field unit of the American Red Cross.

Volunteer workers, most of whom were wives of officers, also included wives of enlisted personnel at the field and civilian employes. The 231 women worked a total of 653 hours.

A total number of 121 hours was volunteered by the 17 women who aided the work of the Red Cross mobile blood donor unit

when it visited the field last month. The 14 volunteers for sewing worked 44 hours, while six women volunteered to take the instructor's 30 hour course.

The report of the knitting committee, headed by Mrs. Julian F. Lytle, covers a three month period, with 18 volunteers completing 15 regulation sweaters, seven mufflers and two helmets.

Mrs. E. T. Rundquist is president and Mrs. Phillips B. Henderson secretary of the Freeman Field Woman's club. Red Cross volunteers meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 to 4 p. m. and Tuesday from 7 to 9 p. m. in the Woman's Club to prepare surgical dressings.

Three Indianapolis men will be among the members of the graduating class at Freeman Air Field here Friday. The three capital city members of Class 43-I are shown here, left to right: Cadets Jean L. Keyr, Patrick G. Brann and Beryl H. Stevens. (Freeman Field Photo).

Tribune
30 September 1943

Tribune
27 September 1943



Facts of the fight were brought home to aviation cadets and officers at Freeman Field recently when flying officers who had been in the various theatres of operation explained the methods used by the enemy in his attempts to combat the B-25. Lt. C. R. Wildner is shown here explaining the nature of the Jap. Lt. Wildner was the navigator on the second ship to take off from the carrier which participated in the raid on Tokyo. His was also the second ship to make a bomb run over the city. (Freeman Field Photo).

Tribune

27 September 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Brooks
Madison, Earl C. Coppess, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Coppess.

Civilians as well as military personnel are eligible to apply for aviation cadet training, and may apply to the aviation cadet examining board at Freeman Field. Married men are eligible to qualify, providing their dependents can be self-supporting during the training period.

27 September 1943

Six Officers Are Promoted

Freeman Field Men Advanced, Col. Rund- quist Announces

Six flying officers and a ground officer of Freeman Field have received promotions according to an announcement made by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer.

Myron J. Miller and Harold A. Schuler were advanced from the rank of first lieutenant to captains. Promoted from second to first lieutenants are Paul G. Buskey, Robert R. Rector, Robert E. Holloway, Frank B. Brooks, Jr., flying officers, and Howard E. Hall, assistant property officer.

Captain Miller is a former resident of Uhrichsville, O., where he attended high school, later graduating from Miami university at Oxford, O. In civilian life he was plant manager for the Universal Concrete Pipe Co., Norristown, Pa.

A former resident of Swea City, Ia., Captain Schuler attended Swea City high school, later receiving his B. A. degree at Western Union college, LeMars, Ia.

Lieutenant Buskey's home is in Fitchburg, Mass., where he attended Fitchburg high school, later being graduated from Middlebury college, Middlebury, Vt., with a B. S. degree. Prior to entering the Army he was a chemist at Louis DeJonge Coated Paper Co., Fitchburg.

A native of Conneaut, O., Lieutenant Rector is a graduate of Rowe high school, Conneaut, and later attended Findlay college at Findlay, O.

Lieutenant Holloway is from Upper Montclair, N. J. He is a graduate of Montclair high school and before entering the service was a title examiner for the Essex Title Guaranty and Trust Co., Montclair.

Lieutenant Brooks, who formerly lived in Philadelphia, is a graduate of Simon Gratz high school in that city.

A former resident of Grand Rapids, Mich., Lieutenant Hall is a graduate of Central high school there, later receiving his B. S. degree at Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill. Prior to entering the service January 29, 1942, he was an account executive with the Jaqua Co., advertising agency in Grand Rapids. He is a graduate of quartermaster Officer Candidate school at Camp Lee, Va.

27 September 1943

Four Quality For Training

A Seymour resident and three enlisted men stationed at Freeman Field have passed physical and mental examinations, given at Freeman Field, qualifying them for aviation cadet training.

They are awaiting orders to report to a field where they will receive two months of basic training, and later will be sent to college for a five months' course. Academic subjects which they will study include mathematics, physics, geography, modern history and English.

George P. Ferry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roma J. Ferry, 102 West Laurel street, has qualified from Seymour.

Freeman Field soldiers who have met aviation cadet requirements are Cpl. James T. Darling, husband of Mrs. Darling, Ridgeview apartments, Seymour, and son of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Darling, Lawton, Okla.; SSgt. William J. Cherniske, husband of Mrs. Cherniske, New Milford, Conn., and son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Cherniske, New Preston, Conn., and Cpl. Clarence M. Kidd, husband of Mrs. Kidd, Greenville, N. C.

Don O. Tueller, stationed at Camp Atterbury, Ind., son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Tueller, Ogden, Utah, also has qualified.

In addition, the following men from towns near Seymour also have qualified: North Vernon, Verne M. Garrett; son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville W. Garrett; Columbus, William E. Solomon, son of Mrs. George Huffman, Neal E. Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Murphy, Theodore C. Coons, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. Coons, Robert E. Brooks, son of

1 October 1943

Class 43-I Is Graduated Here

Major Kilgore Is Speaker at Exercises At Freeman Field

Members of Class 43-I were graduated at exercises held at Freeman Field at 11 o'clock this morning.

Major Joe M. Kilgore, formerly of the Ninth Air Force in North Africa, was the graduation speaker.

He told the men they can be assured that they will have the finest ships and fighting equipment available when they go into active service, and urged each of them to accept his individual assignment after leaving this school with a feeling of responsibility. He pointed out that some will be sent into training for combat service, while some will be assigned to posts as instructors or to other posts in this county, and pointed out that these jobs are just as necessary as the ones at the controls of the fighting ships.

He pointed out that the training received by fliers in this country is the best possible, and urged them to go ahead in their work with a feeling that as long as they fly they will be learning.

Among the men graduating today was William K. McKain, of the Cortland vicinity, west of Seymour. He is the first Jackson county man to receive his advance two engine pilot's training at Freeman Field.

The 405th Army Air Forces Band opened the program with the National Anthem, after which the invocation was given by Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, introduced Major Kilgore.

Major William B. Poe, director of training, presented awards and pilot wings to the members of the graduating class, and Major Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets, administered the oath of office.

Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire gave the benediction, and the band closed the program with the Army Air Corps song.

a shoulder bouquet of Talisman roses completed her costume.

Immediately following the service the young couple received their friends in the chapel foyer.

Later in the afternoon Flight Officer McKain and his bride left for a wedding trip. The bride traveled in a two piece black velvet frock having a pink bow tie and matching buttons with rhinestone accent. Her accessories, which were black, included a velvet calot, and her flowers were Belmont gardenias.

Out-of-town guests here for the wedding included Mr. and Mrs. Mann, parents of the bride, Freetown; Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Mann, Franklin; Mrs. David Kysar, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Schneider, aunt and uncle of the bridegroom, Mr. and Mrs. George Grindstaff, Columbus; Cpl. and Mrs. Oren F. Shade, Camp Crowder, Neosho, Mo., formerly of Seymour; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lower, Miss Helen Crackenbush, Newark, N. J.; Miss Willie Minor, Anderson, Ind., and Warren Buher, Bedford.

Among those who entertained for the popular young couple were the bride's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Wineinger, who were hosts at the bridal breakfast this morning in their home on West Fourth street. Covers were laid for members of the immediate families and the bridal party.

Mrs. McKain is a graduate of Shields high school and is a prominent member of the First Methodist Church, where she is secretary of the evening group of the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Flight officer McKain, a graduate of Cortland high school, served for a year and a half with the U. S. Air Forces in the Panama Canal Zone and while there was accepted as an aviation cadet and returned here for training. He took his preflight training at Maxwell Field, Ala; his primary at Avon Park, Fla., and his basic at Cochran Field, Ga.

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Tribune
1 October 1943

Miss Alma Mann Becomes Bride of Flight Officer McKain

A wedding of much beauty and dignity was solemnized at noon today in the post chapel at Freeman Field when Miss Alma Mann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Mann of Freetown, became the bride of William Kenneth McKain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mead McKain, of Cortland.

Flight officer McKain is a member of Class 43-1 aviation cadets at Freeman Field and received his silver wings and appointments as a flight officer at graduation exercises this morning at the field.

Lieut. James W. Fuller, head of the Link trainer department at the field and former pastor of First Baptist churches in Corbin and Fulton, Ky., read the impressive service in the presence of a large company of guests.

The altar, before which the young couple exchanged their nuptial vows, was decorated with bouquets of white chrysanthemums, which carried out the patriotic motif chosen by the bride as the keynote of her wedding.

Mrs. Phillips B. Henderson, wife of the chaplain, presented a

program of organ music before and during the ceremony.

The charming bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was lovely in her bridal gown of chalk white silk jersey, a street length model, designed with low neckline, short sleeves and gathered waist, marked by self stitching. The graceful knife pleated skirt fell in soft folds and in her hair she wore a white satin ribbon. She carried a white prayer book and at her shoulder was a corsage of American Beauty rosebuds.

Miss Eleanor Mann, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She was gowned in a royal blue velvet, a two piece model, having a white satin dickey and long sleeves. A corsage of Belmont gardenias and a small brooch, the gift of the bride, completed her smart ensemble.

The bridesmaid, Miss Alverda McKain of Cortland, sister of the bridegroom chose a two piece ensemble in flag red velvet, fashioned with a high neckline and short sleeves. Tiny white lace buttons marked the front of the bodice and in her hair she wore a white flower. Her corsage also was of Belmont gardenias and her only jewelry was a bracelet, the bride's gift.

T'Sgt Thomas Minor of Bluffton, Ind., who is attached to the 35th group at the field, served as best man for Flight officer McKain, and the bride's brother, Leroy Mann of Franklin, Ind., and Robert Grindstaff of Columbus, Ind., ushered.

Mrs. Mann, mother of the bride chose for her daughter's wedding a sagebrush green crepe dress with which she wore a black felt toque and a corsage of yellow roses.

The bridegroom's mother, Mrs. McKain, selected an ensemble in British tan. A black felt hat and

a shoulder bouquet of Talisman roses completed her costume.

Immediately following the service the young couple received their friends in the chapel foyer.

Later in the afternoon Flight Officer McKain and his bride left for a wedding trip. The bride traveled in a two piece black velvet frock having a pink bow tie and matching buttons with rhinestone accent. Her accessories, which were black, included a velvet calot, and her flowers were Belmont gardenias.

Out-of-town guests here for the wedding included Mr. and Mrs. Mann, parents of the bride; Freetown; Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Mann, Franklin; Mrs. David Kysar, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Schneider, aunt and uncle of the bridegroom, Mr. and Mrs. George Grindstaff, Columbus; Cpl. and Mrs. Oren F. Shade, Camp Crowder, Neosho, Mo., formerly of Seymour; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lower, Miss Helen Crackenbush, Newark, N. J.; Miss Willie Minor, Anderson, Ind., and Warren Buher, Bedford.

Among those who entertained for the popular young couple were the bride's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Wineinger, who were hosts at the bridal breakfast this morning in their home on West Fourth street. Covers were laid for members of the immediate families and the bridal party.

Mrs. McKain is a graduate of Shields high school and is a prominent member of the First Methodist Church, where she is secretary of the evening group of the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Flight officer McKain, a graduate of Cortland high school, served for a year and a half with the U. S. Air Forces in the Panama Canal Zone and while there was accepted as an aviation cadet and returned here for training. He took his preflight training at Maxwell Field, Ala; his primary at Avon Park, Fla., and his basic at Cochran Field, Ga.

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TREAT a recent visitor to Freeman Field who has occasion to visit other fields in the command said recently, "I am always happy to come to Freeman Field. I have never been any place where one feels more welcome. The spirit here of all the personnel is wonderful. One thing in particular I have noticed is the way the men and women of Freeman take advantage of their privilege and salute. I always have to keep on the alert here so that I won't miss any salutes."



"Oh, oh! It's that tough Colonel! Just pretend we don't see him!"

Debt of Gratitude Owed Those Folks Who Helped Build New NCO Club

Words which we put here could hardly begin to describe the new NCO club which will open tomorrow night. The invited guest and member entering the building will marvel at the spaciousness of the interior—the color scheme of a stained wainscoting and painted upper walls and ceiling—the homelike atmosphere created by the indirect lighting—the L shaped bar—the polished dance floor—the wood burning fireplace and the rich looking draperies.

Behind this finished product lie months of effort and hard work on the part of many men and women who have unselfishly given of their time and money. Foremost among these are the men who actually did the building. These men, under the direction of M/Sgt. Leslie M. Nestor have been on the job for better than two months and expect no further reward than the knowledge that they have done a good job.

Artisans all, they "begged borrowed or stole" to bring the job to a successful conclusion. M/Sgt. Leslie M. Nestor, a veteran on the construction of two other clubs, was an exacting taskmaster. He insisted that the men working with him give just a little more than their best—and the results justify the means. The men who built the club took pride in their work and it is to them that the members of the club must give a rousing vote of thanks. The men who have been "on the job" are: Sgt. William S. Randall, 447th; Sgt. William D. Shields, 1080th; Cpl. Harold N. Stommen, 1079th; Cpl. Lee Wallis, 447th; Sgt. Charles A. Poulquette, 1080th; Sgt. Roland Roberts, 35th; Sgt. Ernest Jannarone, 466th; Sgt. Harold Watts, 466th; Pvt. William W. Thompson, 447th; Pvt. Jerry M. Van Ness, 447th; and Pvt. Stanley Ward, 85th.

Officers' Help Appreciated

Col. E. T. Rundquist and Major George Weiland are also among those who must be remembered when the votes of appreciation and thanks are given, for both these officers have closely followed and aided the members of the club from the beginning. Another officer, to whom the organization owes a debt of gratitude is Capt. John Lucas, post engineering officer, who supplied much of the building material used on the structure.

Sundberg Active

Without its strongest booster the club as it stands today, would never have come into being. This man is W/O Edward P. Sundberg, officer in charge of the non-commissioned officers club. Mr. Sundberg, incidentally, celebrates his birthday and third wedding anniversary October 2. As the club's first secretary-treasurer, he was responsible for laying the groundwork in making the organization a strong, growing one. It could be said that Mr. Sundberg watched every nail that was put into the new building—for it was he that helped draw the original plans for the building and saw them carried out.

Lastly, but not least, to be commended are the women of the Psi-Iota-XI sorority in Seymour who have furnished and added the finishing touches to the interior. Improvising curtains here, and adding draperies there they have provided that "woman's touch" to make the club more than four walls and a ceiling. Headed by Mrs. Karl T. Nessler they are continuing their work and raising funds for more furnishings to make it more homelike. Members of the group who are working with Mrs. Nessler are Mrs. Harold Graessle, Mrs. Gordon Shibe, chairman of the finance committee, Mrs. Harold Hall, Mrs. Lynn Faulkoner, Mrs. J. Ralph Thompson, Mrs. W. L. Surface, Mrs. George Laupus, Mrs. Durbin Day, Mrs. John H. Conner, Mrs. Don Mills Bollinger and Mrs. Burton Swain.

Col. Rundquist Completes Year At Freeman Army Air Field

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Army Air Field, and his family celebrated an anniversary Monday. They arrived in Seymour one year ago October 4.



COL. E. T. RUNDQUIST

At the time Colonel Rundquist was on leave status after reporting to headquarters at Maxwell Field, Alabama. He took active control as project officer at Freeman Field October 14, relieving Major George Weiland who became assistant project officer and is now executive officer. Colonel Rundquist became the commanding officer when the field was activated in December.

Progress and achievement have marked the command of Colonel Rundquist. The field is considered to be one of the best in the Eastern Flying Training Command and has established records in many departments.

Since the beginning of pilot training in March, six classes of aviation cadets have been graduated. Many of the graduates are now serving in theaters of operation.

Always cognizant of the welfare of his personnel, Colonel Rundquist has provided opportunities for them to study, to improve themselves physically and to have wholesome entertainment.

The field has gained a wide reputation for its neat and orderly appearance, and guests have commended on the hospitality they have received at the field.

Perhaps one of the most significant achievements is the morale of the personnel. Officers, cadets and enlisted men and women are unanimous in their praise of Freeman Field and Seymour.

In commenting on his one-year at Freeman, Colonel Rundquist said he wished to thank all of the personnel at the field, civilians as well as military, for their excellent cooperation and untiring efforts to make Freeman Field one of the best in the country.

"I particularly want to thank the people of Seymour for the help they have given us," he said. "The work individuals and groups have done has been of inestimable value, and we want them to know we appreciate their cooperation. I have heard many comments from our people on the excellent treatment they have received in Seymour. Through the close cooperation of the citizens of Seymour and Jackson county, with the personnel of Freeman Field, we can do our part in helping to win the war."

Prior to his assignment at Freeman, Colonel Rundquist was commanding officer of the Army Air Forces Detachment at Edgewood Arsenal, Md. Much of his colorful and interesting military life has been spent in Panama.

Colonel and Mrs. Rundquist and their family have made many friends in southern Indiana. Sons Howard and Peter are students at Shields High School where Howard is a member of the football team. A daughter, Mary Ellen will be a year old in January.

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QUEER LINGO ON WAC MENU STUDIED

BILLIE'S CHOW DIRECTOR!

1. POOR WHIMPY (IT'S ROASTED)
2. IRISH PEOPLE'S DELIGHT
(PLUS A DASH OF GRASS)
3. CANNED BUCKSHOT
4. MODERN BIRD'S NEST!
5. SOY BEANS ON RAFT!
6. FROZEN MUD JUICE w/ HAY
7. JUNIOR COMMANDO'S SPECIAL



Official Air Force Photo.

Freeman Air Field Rookie Learns Canned Buckshot Just Peas.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Oct. 5.—Double talk? No, but one would have to be a Wac to be able to decipher the lingo on the blackboard in the Wac mess hall at Freeman Army Air Field. And sometimes it even keeps the Wacs themselves guessing. However, when all is said and done, it provides that necessary

bit of humor so important in the daily "diet." Crepes Suzette definitely are not on this menu, but what else isn't? Translated, the Wac jargon reads, top to bottom: roast beef, potatoes with parsley, peas, salad, bread and butter, ice cream and cookies and hot cocoa.

7 January 1944

Mary Ellen Rundquist To Have First Birthday

Saturday will be a red letter day for little Mary Ellen Rundquist, who will observe her first birthday anniversary.

Mary Ellen, daughter of Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, and Mrs. Rundquist, was born at Fort Sam Houston hospital, San Antonio, Texas, where Mrs. Rundquist had been residing with her mother, Mrs. F. A. Thompson, and Major Thompson, U. S. Army retired.

Mary Ellen, who will celebrate the occasion at a family gathering, was the first baby born to the family of an officer stationed at Freeman.

Field

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ant word.

Field Is A City.

eman Field, through the
of an Army wife who has
little experience in military
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rs and broad expanse of
ys. The drone of the silver
d twin-engine planes, land-
nd taking off, is like music
ears after a week or so on
ld, and the handsome, clear-
cadets who fly them inspire
with even greater confidence
s grand land of ours.

Officers' club, where the
fficers convene during lunch
-and after work, is an at-

tractive room, with comfortable
lounge chairs, tables for cards and
a pool table. Here, on Saturday

nights, officers, their wives and
guests meet for dancing or in-
formal parties.

Doctors Guard Health.

Then there is the theater, new-
est addition to the field, with its
modern sound equipment, and the
hospital, where white robed doc-
tors and nurses keep a watchful
eye on the health of their mili-
tary patients.

Row after row of portable bar-
racks buildings spell "home" to
enlisted men and cadets for the
duration of their stay at Freeman,
and they keep their "four by
four" rooms in spotless order; in-
surance against that dreaded
weekly inspection.

Near one end of the field are
the sub-depot warehouses, where
airplane parts and accessories and
office supplies are "filed" away in
bins, awaiting requisition. The
girls who man the bins learn to
be dexterious, for they do quite a
bit of climbing about among the
shelves.

Like a silent sentinel, the oper-
ations tower stands guard over all
the field, guiding the cadets to a
happy landing.

When George Washington be-
came president of the United
States, the nation had no navy.

Col. Rundquist Is Head of Freeman Field

Veteran Army Man Commanding Officer at Twin-En- gine Training School

A veteran Army man, Colonel E. T. Rundquist, who has had many colorful and varied experiences, is the commanding officer of Freeman Army Air Field, scene of a dual ceremony this morning—the dedication of the field and the graduation of the first class of aviation cadets.

Colonel Rundquist's Army career has been packed with years of study, training and command, which well qualify him to guide the destinies of Freeman Army Air Field. Because of his untiring energy and insatiable interest, Colonel Rundquist is familiar with the most minute details of his command.

Charge of All Departments.

As commanding officer, all departments and divisions of the post are under his direct supervision. One of his main responsibilities is the pilot training program which is the chief function of Freeman Field.

Colonel Rundquist is keenly aware of the welfare of the personnel of his command. In leisure hours choice entertainment is provided for the men, featuring USO shows, motion pictures, dances and athletics. Under his guidance and participation a complete sports program has been organized with an emphasis on intergroup and inter-squadron competition, stressing rough body contact.



COL. E. T. RUNDQUIST

Begins Flying in 1918.

• He began his Army service as an aviation cadet in the first World War. He took his ground school training at the University of Illinois, his alma mater, in May, 1918, and received his first flight training the same year at Carruthers Field, Texas. On completion of flying training he was rated a Reserve Military Aviator. In 1919 he became a member of the Air Service Reserve and was rated Junior Airplane Pilot. He remained on reserve status until 1924, when he joined the Regular Army as a second lieutenant.

Career Parallels Air Development

His flying career closely parallels the development of Army aviation. In 1924 and 1925 he was a student first at Brooks Field and then at Kelly Field, Texas. After completing his pilot training, he was rated an airplane pilot and became assistant operations officer and Air Corps supply officer at Langley Field where he remained until 1927. His next move was back to Kelly Field as assistant post engineering officer from 1927 to 1931.

Subsequent assignments and duties were France Field, Panama, tactical officer, 1931 to 1934; Marshall Field, Fort Riley, Kansas, operations officer, 1934 to 1938; Kelly Field, Texas, commanding officer, of 61st School Squadron, 1938 to 1939; France Field, operations officer 1939 to 1941; Howard Field, Panama, operations officer and administra-

tive inspector, August to December, 1941; Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, commanding officer of the Army Air Forces Detachment, December, 1941 to October 1942. During these periods he advanced through Senior Pilot to Command Pilot and Combat Observer.

Colonel Rundquist was assigned to Freeman Army Air Field, October 14, 1942, when it was in the formative stage of development. Before the field was activated ne was the project officer. He became the commanding officer December 1, when the field was activated.

FREEMAN ARMY AIR FI

First Class of Cadets Graduated From School

**High-Ranking Officials Are Present to Take Part
in Ceremony—Visitors Are Admitted To Field
During "Open House" Period**

The vanguard of a crowd of several thousand people thronged into Freeman Army Air Field at 8 o'clock this morning when the gates of the new airport were thrown open to the public for the first time in connection with the graduation of the first class of aviation cadets and the formal dedication of the field.

With the actual ceremony starting at 10 o'clock this morning, high ranking army officials as well as leaders in civilian life were among those present.

Brig.-Gen. Bob E. Nowland, commanding general of the 28th Army Air Forces Flying Training Wing, was present to deliver the dedication address, and Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, delivered the graduation address to the members of the class.

family. Mr. Freeman was introduced during the program.

Included in Mr. Freeman's party which came here for the ceremony were the following in addition to himself:

Mr. and Mrs. James Freeman, of Winamac; Captain and Mrs. Robert Cissel, of Cincinnati; Mrs. Henry Shank and her daughter, Grace, and son, the Rev. Bernard Freeman, of Michigan City; The Rev. Fred Rothmel, of St. Johns, Ind., and Miss Anne Murray, secretary to Mr. Freeman.

Special guards were posted both on the airport and on highways leading to the field to direct traffic and provide information service for the visitors. Other guards were on duty in the downtown section of the city. The regular guard squadron at the field was augmented by state and city police and members of the Seymour civilian defense auxiliary



Brig.-Gen. Bob E. Nowland, left, is shown being greeted at Freeman Army Air Field by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, when Gen. Nowland visited the field recently.

Field Here

Honors Capt.

R. S. Freeman

Advanced Twin Engine School Bears Name of Famed Pilot of "Flying Laboratory"

Capt. Richard S. Freeman, whose tragic death in the crash of his "flying laboratory" near Lovelock, Nev., early in the war cut short a brilliant flying career, lives again in the hearts of his countrymen, where his memory has been commemorated at Freeman Army Air Field.

Father Lives at Winamac

Captain Freeman, son of Ab Freeman of Winamac, Ind., gained fame for his "mercy flights" to Chile, when he and other members of a B-15 bomber crew carried 3,250 pounds of serum and antiseptics to earthquake sufferers. Flying 4,933 miles through bad weather and darkness, the ship reached Santiago, the capital of Chile, in record time, with its precious cargo of vaccines and other Red Cross supplies arriving intact. In recognition of this feat Captain Freeman and his crew were awarded the Mackay trophy by the War Department for the most outstanding flight in that year.

Pioneered In Alaska

Winner of many honors, Captain Freeman also pioneered the Alaskan skyways, where he conducted winter flying experiments at Ladd Field, Fairbanks. As commander of the 36th Bombardment Squadron, Captain Freeman and his "flying laboratory" aides paved the way for

operations of other squadrons which followed them into the frozen wastes to establish a powerful air force.

Taking off Sept. 27, 1940 from Tacoma, Washington, Captain Freeman flew 1,607 miles non-stop, his crew including five pilots, 24 mechanics and radio operators. Two four-motored Boeing bombers carried the fliers northward, the huge warbirds bearing the insignia of a polar bear clutching a bomb.

Pilot for Diplomacy

Captain Freeman participated in the Good Will mass flight of B-17 Flying Fortresses to Buenos Aires in February, 1938, for the inauguration of President Ortiz, and also piloted a B-17 bomber from Miami to Bogota, Colombia in August, 1938 to greet Dr. Eduardo Santos, chosen president of Colombia.

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for meritorious service in flying, Captain Freeman flew with General Henry H. Arnold on a mass flight of 10 Martin bombers from Washington to Fairbanks, Alaska, and was a member of a crew flying a B-17 in filming the movie, "Test Pilot."

While stationed at Fort Shafter, T. H., he flew on a now historic flight of an Army Air squadron to the leper colony, across the Kaiwi channel to Molo-kai, from whence the remains of Father Damien, founder of the colony, were taken to be placed on a transport vessel and sent to

his native Belgium.

Pioneer of low temperature and high altitude flying, he had 6,000 hours flying to his credit. An expert command pilot, bombardier and navigator, he was proclaimed by Army and government officials as "one of the U. S. Army's finest and most expert Flying Fortress pilots."

A graduate of Winamac high school, Captain Freeman attend-



CAPTAIN FREEMAN

ed Notre Dame University for one year, later going to the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he starred in football and basketball. Captain Freeman was graduated from Brooks, Kelly and Langley fields, and later was assigned to duty as one of the pioneers of the Army air mail service.

Wife of Commanding Officer Was Born on An Army Post

Born on an Army post, the daughter of a colonel, Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, wife of the commanding officer at Freeman Army Air Field, literally has grown up in the Army.

The colonel's lady is descended from a long line of Army ancestors. Her grandfathers fought in the Civil war, and her father, Col. J. H. Lewis, retired, of San Diego, Calif., is a veteran of two wars. He served with Gen. John J. Pershing during the Mexican encounter, and fought in the Spanish-American foray. During World War one, he was stationed at Camp Meade, Md.

Mrs. Rundquist Widely Travelled.

Mrs. Rundquist has seen a fair-sized corner of the globe through the eyes of the Army, migrating from her birthplace on the now-abandoned Indian post of Fort Wingate, N. M., to stations both east and west, north and south. She has lived in the Philippines, Honolulu, Australia and Panama, and, with Colonel Rundquist, sailed from Panama on that fateful Dec. 7, bound for the States; their ship following a zig-zag course because of the possibility of prowling Axis submarines.

Her formal education, because of numerous changes of station, was of necessity acquired from, as she puts it, more schools than she can count or remember. She later worked as a fashion model in both San Francisco and New York, later going to Sydney, Australia, as a stylist.

Has Artistic Tastes.

As Army wife and mother, her flair for the artistic finds expression in creating a home, no matter where the Rundquists roam. She has worked miracles with their present home on the field, and already it has that enviable "lived in" look. The combination living-dining room is painted a soft sage green, a striking contrast to thick pile Chinese rugs in burgundy shade. Hardy ivy plants trail over the white brick fireplace, and the draperies pick up the sage green of the walls and the warm red of the rugs.

Incidentally, if those draperies could talk, they'd have some mighty exciting tales to tell, for they were purchased in Panama a year ago by Mrs. Rundquist's brother, Lieut. Hugh H. Lewis, commander of a submarine. Lieutenant Lewis stowed them away in his locker aboard ship, where they remained through seven or eight major sea battles before he reached a port from where he could mail them.

No Rank Among the Women.

Mrs. Rundquist is a firm believer in the premise that women have no rank in the Army, and proves it by her democratic attitude, which has made her so popular at Freeman Field. An Army wife's first obligation is to her home, she contends, and she should be able to make a home wherever her husband is stationed and under any circumstances. The young woman, to whom Army life is yet new, would do well to borrow Mrs. Rundquist's recipe for Army housekeeping—building a home around a few permanent possessions, plus ingenuity.

The Rundquist children, like their parents, have lived in many states. Howard, the eldest, is 17, and was born in San Raphael, Calif., Peter, 13 years, and Mary Ellen, four months (the darling of the family) both saw the first light of day in San Antonio, where Mrs. Rundquist's mother, Mrs. F. A. Thompson, wife of Major Thompson, retired, now lives.

LOCA

Chronological Review of Its History Traced

Files of Daily Tribune Since April 1, 1942, Tell Highly Interesting Story

Prior to April 1, 1942, the people of Seymour and Jackson county had no intimation that any kind of a government project in this area was under consideration. On that date the first inspection was made of sites in this vicinity with the view of locating a flight training center. From then on events moved rapidly, other inspections were made, survey parties moved in and thirty-six days later announcement was made officially that a training school would be located here.

The tract which now comprises Freeman Field, at that time, was fertile farm land, highly improved, and regarded as one of the most productive areas in Jackson county.

The rapidity with which construction work progressed together with the many changes which came to the community as a result of the training center, are shown in a chronological review of events compiled from the files of the Seymour Daily Tribune from April 1, 1942 until the end of the year, a month after the Field was activated:

April 1942

April 1—Small group of army officers came here unannounced in a plane on an inspection trip of several sites in Southern Indiana, looking towards the selection of a favorable location for a flight training center.

April 6—Col. W. A. Maxwell and party of officers, members of a site board, inspected the airport location. Col. Maxwell met with farmers at the Farmers' Club and explained the procedure to be followed in acquiring the ground, if

strategically so there would be no lost motion and precious time when the training program started.

Obstacles which would have been insurmountable to builders in a former era proved to be just interesting problems to the engineers and contractors. Examples of their science are the ribbons of smooth runways, aprons, and taxiways which are an intricate geometrical design.

Colonel Rundquist Arrives.

Early in October, Colonel E. T. Rundquist who was to become commanding officer, arrived with a skeleton staff of officers. Before the field was activated he was the project officer and supervised the final stages of the construction program.

The field was officially activated December 1, and the Stars and Stripes were raised for the first time at post headquarters. Troops arrived at the field a few days later and the area started to bustle with activity. During the first few weeks the soldiers were kept busy with squadron duties.

Additional men and officers reported in to the field at frequent intervals and were soon welded into the organization of the post which has developed a friendly cooperative spirit, a spirit that is becoming a legend.

Squadrons Keen Rivals.

Soon after their arrival at the field, the squadrons entered a keen competition for the efficiency award presented weekly to the squadron with the best record for the week. Ratings are made on cleanliness of the squadron area and barracks, military courtesy of the men, etc.

Provision was made for the leisure hours of the enlisted men. USO clubs for white and colored soldiers were opened in Seymour and an NCO club was organized at the field.

The religious life of the military personnel has been well provided for on the post. Services for Protestants, Catholics and Jews have been held regularly since the field was activated. Churches in Seymour encourage military personnel to attend their services.

A small building near the Officers' Mess building was made available for the recreation of the officers. Later the "club" was moved to the Officers Mess hall. Dances, card parties and informal get-togethers provide most of the entertainment.

Cadet Class Arrives.

By March 1, when the initial class of cadets, 43-D, arrived, the field was functioning smoothly. All of the various departments were synchronized to operate efficiently. The first flight by a cadet from the field was made.

ONE

Modern "City" Springs up in Just A Year

Careful Planning And Hard Work Wrought Change in Few Short Months

Gently rolling Indiana farm land that once grew abundant corn crops is now producing "bumper crops" of pilots and technicians. The transformation from a pastoral scene to one alive with the activities of a twin-engine advanced training school was accomplished in a few months by careful planning and hard work.

Starting April 11, 1942, a preliminary topographic survey was made of the site where the field is located, and official announcement that the area had been selected for the field was made May 6, 1942. The first building contracts were let the latter part of June and the contractors moved in within the next few days. With the contractors came scores of workmen from many sections of the country.

Army City Is Modern.

From the united efforts of the civilian army, a city for an army of air corps personnel sprang up, a city complete with the utilities and services of a modern community. Almost immediately warehouses, barracks, mess halls, and other buildings began to take form. The city was planned to utilize every square foot of the area. Buildings were placed strategically so there would be no lost motion and precious time when the training program started.

Obstacles which would have been insurmountable to builders in a former era proved to be just interesting problems to the engineers and contractors. Examples of their science are the ribbons of smooth runways, aprons, and taxiways which are an intricate geometrical design.

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Lieutenant's Wife Writes of Her Impressions of City and Field

(Editor's Note: The following impression of Seymour and Freeman Army Air Field is written by the wife of a lieutenant who is stationed at the field. The writer is employed at the field.)

Born a Buckeye, I guess I was just a little reluctant to move to Indiana from Ohio, but when my second lieutenant husband was stationed here, I was glad he was stationed at Seymour.

Since moving here I have learned that the town grows on one. There is a friendly spirit which is contagious, and it doesn't stop with the townspeople. Even those who render personal services—the butcher, the baker, the boys who deliver the newspaper

and the laundrymen—all have a pleasant word.

Field Is A City.

Freeman Field, through the eyes of an Army wife who has had little experience in military life, is like a separate city with its two white steepled chapels, its hangars and broad expanse of runways. The drone of the silver winged twin-engine planes, landing and taking off, is like music to the ears after a week or so on the field, and the handsome, clear-eyed cadets who fly them inspire you with even greater confidence in this grand land of ours.

The Officers' club, where the post officers convene during lunch hour—and after work, is an at-

tractive room, with comfortable lounge chairs, tables for cards and a pool table. Here, on Saturday

nights, officers, their wives and guests meet for dancing or informal parties.

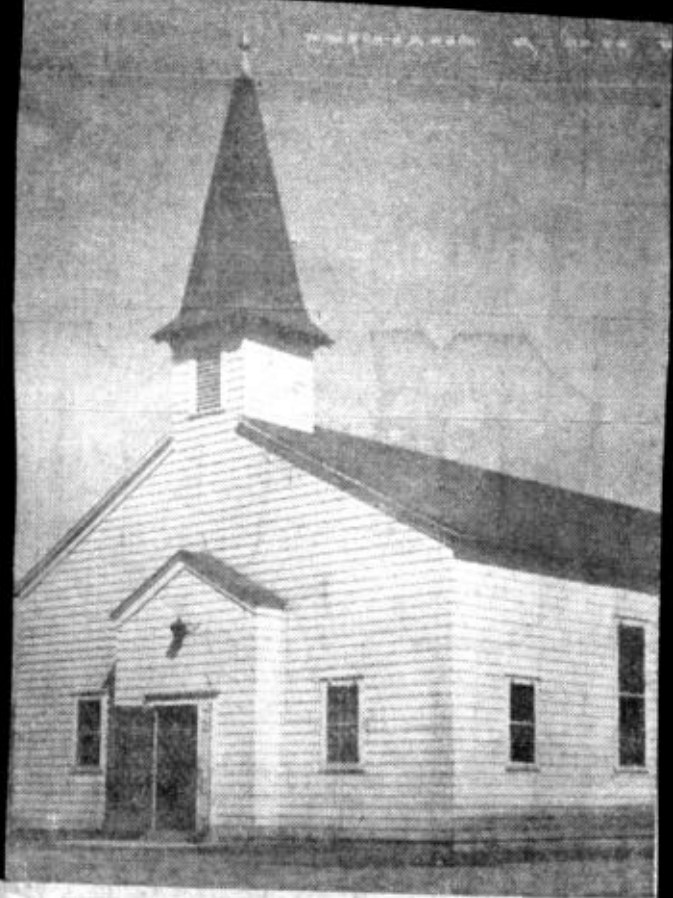
Doctors Guard Health.

Then there is the theater, newest addition to the field, with its modern sound equipment, and the hospital, where white robed doctors and nurses keep a watchful eye on the health of their military patients.

Row after row of portable barracks buildings spell "home" to enlisted men and cadets for the duration of their stay at Freeman, and they keep their "four by four" rooms in spotless order; insurance against that dreaded weekly inspection.

Near one end of the field are the sub-depot warehouses, where airplane parts and accessories and office supplies are "filed" away in bins, awaiting requisition. The girls who man the bins learn to be dexterious, for they do quite a bit of climbing about among the shelves.

Like a silent sentinel, the operations tower stands guard over all the field, guiding the cadets to a happy landing.



Here is a photo of one of the two chapels at Freeman Army Air Field.

Visitors Find Many Changes As They Look Around Airport Area

Southern Indianans rubbed the sleep from their eyes, blinked hard and gasped, almost to the man. "Why, I remember when this was all farmland, and not so very long ago, either," was the comment heard this morning at the dedication-graduation exercises at Freeman Army Air Field.

The arrival of troops, the rumble of olive drab trucks along the streets, crowded restaurants, a housing shortage and the roar of twin-engine ships all have made Seymour conscious that the Army has taken over. Until today, however, what went on behind the backs of the MP's who guard the gates to the field was a comparative mystery.

"Open house" at Freeman Field opened the eyes of many an old

timer around Seymour, and thousands of residents of this city, as well as, Reddington, Medora, Cortland, Vallonia, Freetown, Crothersville and Brownstown trekked to the air base for the dedication and first cadet graduation. Many visitors from nearby counties also were here.

A man from Reddington, who always has had a hankering to take a ride in "one of them carn-sarned airplanes" was on hand for the ceremonies, but he didn't hear much of what went on, so interested was he in inspecting the twin engine jobs.

A woman from Medora, was shown the house where Col. E. T. Rundquist and his family now

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live.

"Why, that's where the Chester Millers used to live," she exclaimed as she gazed at the spacious cream-colored frame house.

"Right over yonder is where the old Kasting school used to be, remember, Joe?," a county resident exclaimed as he pointed across the field. "Many's the time we played baseball over there, and we used to have a great team."

A Freetown man recalled that the old municipal airport used to be on the north side of the field, and remarked about the "dandy new paved highway that has taken the place of the airport road."

"Oh, that's the old Ben Surenkamp home," Mrs. Brunow Ahlbrand explained as she drove past the house that offices O'Driscoll and Grove, Inc., contractors.

"And right over there is where the federal air port used to be," another old timer related. "The field wasn't used a great deal," he continued, "but was an emergency landing field for flights south from Chicago. There were two turf runways, green and red guide lights and a beacon, and pilots used to land transports here when forced down by bad weather."

Officers Prove Popular Speakers

Many of the officers at Freeman Army Air Field have spoken to local and southern Indiana clubs and civic meetings since last fall. These organizations include the Lutheran Club, Rotary and Lions clubs, American Legion, and various school organizations.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, spoke to the Rotary club early in October. He outlined the purpose of the field and told the members the personnel of the field appreciated all the courtesies that had been extended to them by the people of Seymour.

Armistice Address Given

Lt. Col. Ora M. Baldinger, post engineer liaison officer, gave an Armistice Day address at Shields high school. The title of the talk was "The Challenge to Youth" and it compared the freedom and education of boys and girls in the United States to the rigid discipline imposed upon the youth of the Axis countries. Col. Baldinger also addressed the Business and Professional Women's Club. In this talk he stressed the importance of an all-out program for all of the people in the United States if they are to do their part in defeating the Axis. He also spoke to a civic club in Salem, Indiana.

Captain Brannan, post adjutant, spoke to a young people's group of the Methodist church on the subject "Cooperation." He pointed out how it is necessary for the personnel of an army post and the civilians of a city near an army post to cooperate. "By cooperation," he said, "we can all do our part in the war program."

Lt. Roland O. Davis, special service officer, addressed both the Rotary and Lions clubs. In his speeches he thanked the clubs for their efforts in furthering the entertainment of the enlisted men.

McLeod Talks at Church.

A talk on Freeman Field was given by Lt. William H. McLeod

to the Fireside Club of the First Baptist church. Lt. McLeod told the members how the air field functions in the military program.

At the weekly luncheon of the Rotary and Lions clubs, the members have heard talks from other officers of the field, including, George Rose, Red Cross field director, Captain Norman Wood, squadron commander, Captain Henry F. Bailey, ground school director, and Major Lyle C. Hedman, dental corps commander.

Captain Cecil Rogers, squadron commander and provost marshal, has addressed the American Legion members and the schoolmasters of southern Indiana.