



Robert F. Ellzey, '50ba, receives a commission as second lieutenant in the Airforce at Lowry Airforce Base in Denver. Presenting the commission is General Dwight D. Eisenhower, wearing civilian clothing. Lieutenant Ellzey was an Air ROTC student at the University and received his commission after summer training at Lowry Base in 1950. His father is Lt. Col. Carlos Ellzey, '21-'28.

# *Officers for Peace or War*

**What the University is doing through the ROTC programs to train men for a national emergency or for a period of prolonged peace is an eye-opener.**

By David Burr, '50

With troops fighting in Korea, with indications pointing to a movement of troops to Europe and with a national emergency already declared, the University's place in training young men for possible service in the Armed Forces becomes increasingly important. And many young men and certainly the commanders of the Army, Navy and Air ROTC units are conscious of their increasing responsibilities. Not that the ROTC programs have been particularly accelerated or changed. Since they were established for just such emergencies there was no reason for change. But the air seems charged with talk of war and rumors of war and it naturally is reflected in the attitudes of cadets and midshipmen

and those students who can qualify for training under one of these programs.

A short talk with the three commanders reveals that unification of the Armed Forces, at least at the University, is a reality. Their methods may be different but their objectives are the same—to produce officers for regular reserve and national guard duty.

Why the University has such training programs at a school that can hardly be described as military minded is found in a paragraph by Gen. J. Lawton Collins, chief of staff, department of the Army:

"In these days of uneasy peace, it behooves every citizen to examine his future, and to decide in what way he desires to

fulfill his responsibility to his Nation in peace or war. For, if our Nation is to survive, we must integrate into our peacetime pursuits those measures that will contribute to our security without undue interference with our democratic way of life."

It was exactly this line of reasoning that brought the first of the three training programs to the campus in 1919. Two years before, Guy Y. Williams, '06ba, '10ma, and the late Dean S. W. Reaves formed a regiment of student volunteers and organized a training program with wooden rifles. Then with the cessation of hostilities of World War I, an organized program of training in Infantry in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps was established. The same

year a field artillery unit was set up. More recently, training in Ordnance, Engineering and Quartermaster Corps work has been instituted and the Infantry program withdrawn. (At present, unless deferred for physical or other reasons, state law requires two years of ROTC work for every incoming freshman at the University.)

When I went for my interview with Col. Jerome J. Waters, commander of the Army ROTC, I crowded in between two students who wanted to confer with him. The rush of duties imposed by the command of a large military post makes Colonel Waters one of the busiest men on the campus. At the present time he is particularly busy stilling the rumors that keep cropping up. Recently the prevalent whisperings concerned the status of cadets in the basic training phase in regards to the draft. (Advance cadets are automatically deferred.) The cadets chief question at the mid-term was: Should we volunteer for a branch of service that we can select, or should we take our chances of being deferred in the cadet program until we finish school?

Colonel Waters has an answer for their questioning. He told the cadets not to get excited if they were doing well in their school work and military studies. He pointed out that under existing regulations any student maintaining a grade average necessary for graduation was deferred for the remainder of the school year. Also under the existing rules, the ROTC is authorized to defer young men under certain conditions for a longer period of time.

The conditions include a quota which the ROTC is given for deferments of basic cadets. Under a screening board headed by Dean Glenn C. Couch, '31bs, '37ms, University College, freshmen are scrutinized for deferment purposes. Once the basic cadets have been deferred they will so remain until they fail to 1) enrol 2) keep up scholastic requirements 3) fail to meet classes.

As suggested by inference, the ROTC program is divided into two parts. One for freshmen and sophomores who are required to take the basic course. The second part is for advance training of cadets. Chosen from the cadets who have either completed the basic course or from men with previous service, the advance cadet is automatically deferred. The advance course numbers are determined by the quota system. At the present time the quotas for the University's program is running 30 per cent higher than at any other time.

I asked Colonel Waters if the national emergency had brought any particular increase of interest in the advance ROTC course. I thought that here might be the guide to the reaction of draft age men to

the national emergency. Contrary to what I had expected, Colonel Waters believed that there was no particular increase of interest. He outlined for me figures that tended to prove a great interest in both basic and advance ROTC even during the period of the great pacifist movement. "I've found there has always been a great deal of interest in our program at Southwestern Colleges," he said.

As proof of the value of training in the ROTC, Colonel Waters presented some rather startling figures. Shortly after World War II was over and the heavy volume of veteran enrolment began, most (considerably over 50 per cent and on one occasion over 90 per cent) of the advance ROTC quota was composed of veterans. This he says, and with some justification, indicates that the veteran saw the opportunity and need to serve in the highest capacity commensurate with his abilities.

Earlier it was mentioned that some ROTC graduates become regular army officers. It is true that the large bulk of grad-

uates from the program become a part of the Reserve Corps. Yet a select few are accepted as regular officers. The way they are selected runs something like this. During the second semester of their junior year (first year of advance work) some are selected as distinguished military students. At their summer camp that all must take between their junior and senior years, they are carefully considered. If they pass all their tests satisfactorily, they then become distinguished military graduates upon graduation and may be offered a regular army commission.

In addition to Colonel Waters, the O.U. post is administered and staffed by 11 officers and 19 enlisted men. For the last two years the instructor staff has had duties in addition to their work at the University. They have had the responsibility for the summer camp training of the Field Artillery juniors at Fort Sill. There O.U. students were depended upon to set the standard and the cadets and the staff produced in such a fashion that the camp received a



The outstanding quartermaster ROTC senior for 1949, C. D. Story, '50ba, is shown as he receives a key that accompanies the honor from Brig. Gen. Hal Muldrow, '28bus.

commendation from Gen. Mark Clark through the Fourth Army for the excellence of the training received.

With offices in the frame building on Felgar street, the Airforce Reserve Officers' Training Corps is still in the formative stage. Arriving on the campus in 1946, the first training program was a part of the Army's ROTC setup. In 1949, following the reorganization of the defense picture to allow a three-way division—Army, Airforce and Navy—the local Airforce training unit was established as a separate training program. With the same mission of using existing educational facilities for the training of reserve and regular officers as the ROTC, the Air ROTC is schooling the cadets in two important phases of airforce work. When a cadet completes his requirements he is, at present, either commissioned as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer or as an Air Comptroller Officer. In both cases the graduates receive the commission of Second Lieutenant.

An explanation of the type of work the two species of officers will be doing helps indicate the value of the academic training received at O.U. For the AMO's, their duties will run to the technical side allowing them to make full use of their engineering or other technical training at O.U. For the Air Comptrollers, the work will involve staff and administration, statistical control and other duties that business and technical training will help them perform. A third department will be established next fall with the addition of training in air

communications. The future communications officers will become air base signal officers, specialists in electronics, etc.

Heading the Air ROTC program at the present time is Col. Joseph C. Moore. He's a young colonel who came to O.U. in 1948 and heads a staff of seven officers and eight non-commissioned officers.

The Airforce setup is much like that of the Army's ROTC with a basic and an advance course. Again like ROTC some cadets may apply for commissions in the regular airforce. From the ground up the Airforce training numbers are limited by quotas. A quota serves to tell how many applicants may be taken into basic, advance and those to receive reserve and regular commissions. Each year the upper one-third of the advance cadets may apply for regular commissions.

The personable Colonel corrected the interviewer when the word air corps slipped out. "With the reorganization of the Armed Forces we were officially given the title Airforce and a blue, distinctive uniform," he said.

The Air ROTC training program has a facet to its course that makes it especially attractive to young men whether they wish to be pilots (there is no pilot training currently being conducted in the University's Air ROTC), or to continue in the fields in which they are commissioned. Colonel Moore pointed out that graduates who are commissioned and wish to go into training to become navigators or pilots can go through the prescribed courses as commis-

sioned officers with full officers' pay and privileges.

This spring the Air ROTC expects to commission 100 Second Lieutenants and by next year 170. Quite an increase in a year's time. But even now Colonel Moore is expecting an increase in advance students.

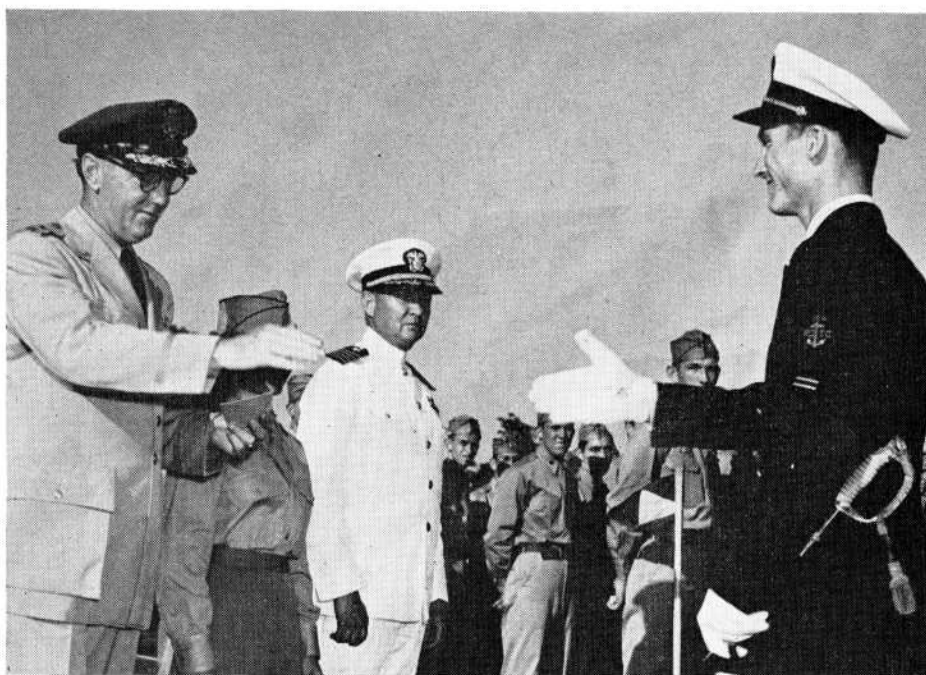
To the question of what effect the national emergency has had on the Air ROTC, Colonel Moore cautiously offered, "I think the students are much more conscious of the possibility of using their training and of the need to be prepared." He too suggested a look at the records to see that as far as people wishing to join the program was concerned the national emergency had little effect. He pointed out that the training had not been changed and that he contemplates few changes due to the emergency.

Colonel Moore is proud as punch of the records compiled by cadets at O.U. In competitive grades among schools offering the Air Comptroller course, O.U. has led two consecutive years. For the past two years the outstanding cadet at Lowry Field, Colorado, where cadets take their summer training, has been an O.U. man. In the summer of 1949, Dan A. Rogers, '50Law, Tulsa, made the best record and in 1950 James W. Snider, received like honors.

Changing the scene once more and navigating a course back to the armory, I visited an office several doors removed from Colonel Waters where a genial Navy captain holds forth. He's directing what might be described as an "extension of the Naval Academy at Annapolis," for that's the purpose and design of the University's Naval Reserve Officers' Training program. Capt. Carl M. Dalton is completing his third and last year at the University. Because of naval policy he will be reassigned at the end of the current academic year.

Actually the major difference between the Annapolis training program and the one at O.U., aside from living under constant discipline, is the intent of the two programs. While the NROTC is producing some regular naval officers, by far the majority will go into the Reserve Corps.

The NROTC's training structure differs considerably from those of the ROTC and Air ROTC. Instead of offering basic and advance courses, a student may, if he is physically and mentally equipped (both physical and mental requirements are duplicates of those given for entry into Annapolis), become a midshipman. About 300 young men are currently entering under a quota system into the program each year. As long as the Middie maintains his scholastic record, demonstrates leadership and good morals, he may remain in training. A Middie in good standing is deferred for



Airforce Major General Crawford presented the Phil Kidd scholarship award to NROTC student Don Leeman, '50bus, at the 1950 ceremonial parade. Capt. Carl M. Dalton, NROTC commandant, (center), looks on. Ens. Leeman is now on active duty.

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too small for the growing library, and he set out to get half a million dollars for the building which we now occupy," Rader recalls.

A year later, in 1929, Dr. Bizzell called Rader to his office and told him he wanted the University to open a school of library science. "You are to be its director," he told Rader. Since the school opened that year, he has schooled hundreds of young men and women in librarianship and helped them in securing employment. It is still the only accredited school of library science in the state.

Rader was born in Missouri but has spent most of his life and all of his professional career in Oklahoma. After receiving his BA degree from the University in 1908, he was named to the post of librarian. He later received the MA degree from O.U. and subsequently studied at Earlham College and the University of Illinois.

"I don't measure the man by his degrees," Rader says. Brushing aside his own academic accomplishments, he comments, "It's what a man can do that counts, not the degrees he holds."

A member of the Oklahoma Library Commission since 1920, he was one of the founders and charter members of the Oklahoma Library Association. Other organizations to which he belongs are the American Library Association, National Geographic Society, Sigma Delta Chi, Sigma Nu and Phi Beta Kappa. He is married to the former Frances Simpson, '10ba, and has one daughter, Virginia Katherine, '36ba, '40ma.

Through the years Jessie Rader has kept up with men just as he has kept up with his books. And when men moved into the air age, he moved right along. He made his first flight, a trip from Dallas to Norman, after a coming out party for his book, *South of Forty*.

"I didn't want to ride home in the summer heat, so I decided to fly back with Joe Coulter, '40ba, University airport manager, in the plane he had flown to Dallas. I questioned my decision when we got into the air and I saw how high up we were." Rader admits he now has no aversion to flying.

His present problem is what to do about getting more space for the library which is filled to stack capacity. "Any library should be built with an eye on the future," he says. "I knew we should have built a larger one while we were at it."

### **Patterson, Dr. DeBarr Die**

Maj. Gen. Robert U. Patterson, first full-time dean of the University Medical School, and Dr. Edwin DeBarr, one of the original four faculty members at O.U., died in December. Their lives represent milestones in the progress of the University.

The only surviving member of the orig-

inal University faculty, Dr. DeBarr, 91, died December 18 in Ellison Infirmary after suffering a heart attack.

During his tenure at the University he organized four of the present schools: pharmacy, chemistry, physics and petroleum engineering. He came to the campus in 1892 along with Dr. David Ross Boyd, first University president.

General Patterson, who served as head of the Medical School from 1935 to 1942, died December 6 in Walter Reed Hospital. He was 73.

He entered the army in 1901 as a first lieutenant assigned to Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland. He became surgeon general of the army in 1931 and served until his retirement when he took the Oklahoma deanship.

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## *Lake Murray Lease Granted*

### **10 Years Ago**

University Board of Regents gave final approval of plans for organization of the University of Oklahoma Research Institute—the first of its kind to be established in the southwest. Although a separate corporation, the institute was so constituted that the major portion of its work would be carried out as an integral part of the research and educational program of the Graduate School.

Also in 1941—a 99-year lease on a tract of ground situated on the south shore of Lake Murray, east of Ardmore, was granted the University School of Geology by the Oklahoma State Planning and Resources Board. The tract comprised approximately 300 acres. It was to be developed as a base for instruction and research in the fields of geology, mineralogy, paleontology and geography. The Lake Murray site was chosen because of its situation in the center of one of the most interesting geological areas in the United States.

David R. Milsten, '25ba, '28Law, Tulsa lawyer, was named national president of Sigma Alpha Mu social fraternity. He was the first president in the history of the fraternity to be chosen from a western state. Previous to his election as president, Milsten served as regional adviser, national director and national vice-president of the fraternity.

Four full-time engineering defense training courses were offered at the University during the spring semester of the 1940-41 school year. The courses were approved by the Federal Office of Education as part of the defense program. Courses offered included aeronautical engineering, material inspection and testing, machine design and engineering drawing.

## **ROTC's . . .**

the full four-year course. He, like the cadets in advance training, receives a monthly stipend and assumes the responsibility of serving his country for a period following graduation, in times of national emergency, or at a time the Navy requires his services.

Each summer during a midshipman's four year college course he must take a training cruise. Captain Dalton explains that the Navy tries to assign trainees to different oceans for their summer cruises. The past two years, for example, O.U.'s midshipmen have been assigned to the Pacific Ocean and to a cruise to Panama. Unless the plan is disrupted by emergencies, they will probably be assigned to the Atlantic Ocean this summer. The cruises are of six to eight weeks duration.

To the question concerning a quickening of interest among the midshipmen due to the national emergency, Captain Dalton said, "Yes, I can see several changes. First by the number of "bull sessions" that are conducted. Secondly the men are thinking progressively and are thinking about being prepared to meet responsibility." As in the case of Air ROTC and Army ROTC there have been no changes at the present time in the training program. Again it is a matter of already being set up to meet the present needs.

Captain Dalton thinks that one of the reasons the midshipmen feel the need for the best possible preparation can be found in the visits of naval officers now on duty who have been commissioned here. Their visits provide conclusive proof that the men, now in school, will soon be needing all the training they can get. Commissioned as ensigns, the graduates will probably see active duty much quicker under a national emergency.

At present, Captain Dalton's staff is composed of seven officers and seven enlisted men who train O.U.'s 1/52 of the NROTC program. There are 52 schools conducting the same program as that found at O.U.

An Annapolis graduate of '27, Captain Dalton appears pleased with the results of the training here. So do Colonel Waters and Colonel Moore. As a part of the faculty they are quick to point out that much of the success of their respective programs is attributable to the general support of their fellow faculty members. Yet it is the interest and support of the students that in the end determines the degree of success the programs enjoy. And all of the commanders seem to feel that the students are doing a good job, one that proves the merit of the three training programs.