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THE PANTHER

Vol. 22

Prairie View A. & M. College, Prairie View Branch, Hempstead, Texas, March, 1948

No. 3

CADETS PREPARE FOR ARMY DAY

DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATES INTERVIEWED BY ARMY BOARD

A Military Board, composed of United States Army Officers, interviewed the five Cadet officers of Prairie View's R.O.T.C. who have been designated "Distinguished Military Graduates."

Under the provisions of Department of Army Memorandum 605-7-1, 29 Dec. 1947, five persons were designated by Colonel West A. Hamilton, Professor of Military Science and Tactics here at the college as Outstanding Military Students. These were Colonel Walter Redd of Cameron, Texas; Major Clifton F. Vincent of Houston, Texas; Captain Jew D. Bony of Rockdale, Texas; Captain Clarence Jackson of Pittsburg, Texas; and Captain Wilbur J. Newsome of Houston, Texas.

These five persons are eligible under the provisions of Department of Army Memorandum 605-7-7, for direct appointment as Second Lieutenants in the Regular Army. There are some three or four hundred vacancies to be appointed July 1, of this year. On March a board of Officers met here to interview these candidates. Composing the board were Colonel West A. Hamilton, P. M. S. & T. Colonel Horner of Headquarters Military District of Texas, and Captain Wejay S. Bundara, Assistant P. M. S. & T.

Military Staff

West A. Hamilton, Colonel, Infantry
Maxwell W. Vails, Captain, Infantry
Wejay S. Bundara, Captain, Infantry
Jafus P. Cavil, 2nd Lt., Infantry
William Knox, M-Sgt., Q.M.C.
Winthrop J. Boulware, T-Sgt., Infantry
Eugene Gardner, S-Sgt., Infantry
Robert B. Watson, S-Sgt., Infantry
Samuel M. Jones, Sgt., C.E.
Charles E. Patterson, Cpl., C.E.

Unit Maps Plan For Honorary Lady Cadet Colonel

Plans are being made by the ROTC unit for the selection of an honorary cadet colonel to officiate at army day celebrations on the 6th of April, and the annual ROTC

(Continued on Page Three)

Commands P. V.'s R.O.T.C. Battalion



Cadet Lt. Col. Walter W. Redd, Commanding Officer of Prairie View's R.O.T.C., is a senior in the Division of Agriculture and is from Cameron, Texas.

Col. Redd is an honor student, having been on the honor roll constantly since his enrollment at the institution. He holds the highest average in the senior agriculture and senior R.O.T.C. classes.

Col. Redd, who also is a recipient of one of the Jesse Jones Agricultural Scholarships, plans to study for the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.



GENERAL HENRY I. HODES

P. V. Graduate on Active Duty Here

Second Lieutenant Jafus Pitt Cavil, May '47 graduate of Prairie View A. & M. College, and former Battalion Commander of the Cadet Corps, reported for active duty here March 1, to serve as one of the assistants to the Professor of Military Science and Tactics.

Lieutenant Cavil, who received his Reserve appointment last October, had previously distinguished himself as top rifleman out of a group of 560 cadets during R. O. T. C. Summer Camp at Camp Hood, Texas the previous summer.

Since his graduation last May, Lieutenant Cavil has been employed in the Division of Natural Sciences at Prairie View.

He is one of the first men to receive a Reserve Commission as a result of completing the Reserve Officer Training Corps training at the institution.

This issue of the PANTHER is sponsored by the R. O. T. C. of Prairie View A. & M. College.

General H. I. Hodes to Witness Army Day Activities April 6

General Henry I. Hodes, Chief of Staff of the Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, will be greeted with an appropriate eleven gun salute when he arrives at Prairie View April 6 to witness Army Day activities as executed by the R.O.T.C. Battalion.

General Hodes, whose illustrious service record parallels that of many of America's great soldiers, is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. After graduation in 1920, he was promoted to first lieutenant and transferred to the Cavalry where he was discharged as first lieutenant and appointed second lieutenant on December 15 1922. He was promoted to first lieutenant on December 17, 1925; to captain on August 1, 1935; to major on July 1, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) on December 24, 1941; to colonel (temporary) on February 1, 1942; to lieutenant colonel (permanent) on July 2, 1943; to brigadier general (temporary) on January 8, 1945.

General Hodes has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star, and the Distinguished Service Medal, served in the European and Asiatic-Pacific theaters of operation during World War II.

Former Cadet Receives Commission

William M. Farris, senior Mechanic Arts Division, received a reserve commission in the United States army recently. Although Lt. Farris did not receive his commission as a direct result of R.O.T.C. training here at Prairie View, he was an active participant in the unit and held the rank of cadet captain during the school year 1946 and 1947.

Lieutenant Farris' commission comes as a result of the army's new plan for commission of the three "top pay grades" — that is, the three highest ranks of sergeants who were mustered out at the close of World War II.

THE PANTHER

"Voice of the Students"

Published monthly by the students of Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College of Prairie View, Texas.

STAFF FOR THIS EDITION

Editor-in-Chief.....Capt. Clarence Jackson
Associate Editor.....Capt. C. E. Isaac
Feature Editor.....Capt. Wilbert Newsome
Sports Editors

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Make-Up Editors

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Lt. Winston Teal

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Advisory Board: West Alexander Hamilton, Col. U.S.A.; Maxwell W. Vails, Captain, U.S.A.; Wejay S. Bundara, Captain, U.S.A.

R.O.T.C. Offers

Many Advantages

To a young man entering college, enrollment in the R. O. T. C. offers several advantages. History proves that the average man is very likely to become a member of the military service, temporarily at least, at some time during his adult life. The R. O. T. C. offers you the opportunity to prepare yourself so that you may serve your country under the most advantageous conditions, to your country and yourself. Thus, even though you plan to become a lawyer, engineer, surgeon, businessman, or poet, it is to your advantage to take the R. O. T. C. instruction offered at the college you select for your education. The R. O. T. C. demands comparatively little of your time, and makes you eligible for appointment as a second lieutenant (reserve) of the Army of the United States, if you complete the entire course.

The subject of Military Science, as taught to members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps, is especially designed to teach leadership. Regardless of the business or profession for which a college or university student is preparing himself, he will find in later life that few of his studies have been more helpful to him in reaching the top in his chosen field than the leadership he learned in R. O. T. C.

As an R. O. T. C. graduate, and member of the Organized Reserve Corps, he will also share with his fellow officers the satisfaction of serving as an integral part of his country's citizen soldiery and contributing to national security and world peace. If, despite our efforts, peace should not endure, he would be ready to discharge his duty to his country at a level consistent with his capabilities as a leader.

—The New R.O.T.C.

What is a Scholar?

By ROSALIND JOYCE WILSON

Since there seems to be some controversy as to just what a scholar is, and who a scholar is, this article is written for the purpose of defining a scholar and elaborating on the definitions given. Quite often we hear the following statements about scholars: "he studies all the time," "he is a bookworm," "she acts peculiar," and many other similar ones. However, the people who make these statements do not realize that a scholar is in constant pursuit of knowledge. Now just what is a scholar?

According to Webster a scholar is: "One who learns of a teacher; one who is under the tuition of a perceptor." "One who gains knowledge in anything." According to Emerson a scholar is: "Man thinking and the principal instruments of his education are three—nature, books, and action."

First let us consider the first definition. According to Webster, all of the students in colleges and universities are under the tuition of perceptors or teachers and have equal chances of developing into scholars. Provided with these chances it is horrifying to see so many students seemingly miss the point in the classroom, it is horrifying to see so many students seemingly miss the point of college entirely. The purpose of college is to guide and direct learning so that one may be better prepared for life. However, it is up to us to take advantage of the opportunities which have availed themselves to us.

The second definition given, "one who gains knowledge in anything," is a true definition of a scholar. However, it seems that this particular definition can be broadened to read, "one who gains knowledge in anything which is beneficial or, will prove beneficial to him in later life." This definition expresses the idea that we should not always be concerned with that knowledge obtained in books but we should seek other knowledge also. We should have a desire for knowledge concerning prevalent happenings and achievements of our race, current events, scientific findings and advancements, art, literature and other things which prove aesthetically and culturally beneficial.

Emerson's definition of a scholar is indeed the broadest of the three. Emerson refers to "man thinking." It is debatable at times as to how many of us actually think. In order to become a scholar, one must have some reasoning power. One should be able to apply the powers of con-

A Look at Universal Military Training

Recent developments in our foreign policy, designed to secure peace for the years ahead, make it imperative that this nation maintain the military leadership that none of the other nations is at present able to provide. We cannot abdicate this military leadership. We must use it to guide the nations of the world to an era of stability and permanent peace. This entails personal sacrifice on the part of all our people—more taxes and more inconveniences now, rather than blood and tears later. The means for peace and victory are the same. It is better to use these means for peace than for victory.

"Quite apart from the military phase that must necessarily be the core of the training program, the young man receives an education in the humanities that goes far beyond what he would normally acquire in civilian life. U. M. training is a maturing experience; one in which the young man himself determines values, and begins to feel his value to society. It emphasizes the dignity of the individual. If America is to grow up, it young leaders must have some such maturing experience. Education means more than grades and credits. It is a learning process in the broadest sense; it stimulates

ception and perception. One must be able to take the abstractions which are acquired in the classroom and make concrete applications of them to everyday life.

The three instruments which man uses according to Emerson are: nature, books, and action. Nature is to be used to understand the laws of the universe and of human nature so that we can be better able to cope with them. Books are not to be used merely to make bookworms but to provide an avenue for us to secure valuable knowledge that will prove helpful in achieving success in life. Francis Bacon writes in his Essay, *On Studies*, "read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, not to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider." That should be the main objective of our reading and the purpose of securing books so that we may be able to "weigh and consider."

Action is our means of expressing our intellectual attributes. It is only through our actions that we can exemplify our learning. Thus, a true scholar will always act the

the individual to acquire more knowledge. It develops in him an eagerness for living, a sense of responsibility to himself and to his country. These objectives are not peculiar to the classroom. They are more likely to flourish when the student sees them against the perspective of a rich human experience and reaches for them of his own volition. Above all, the young man learns, and passes on to others, the kind of teamwork that his country must have if we are to build a peaceful world on standards of decency and respect.

In a world desperately eager for strong leadership, the young American trainee is given perspective, and is shown, in terms of his own strength and maturity, the role he may be privileged to play in securing the peace."

"Let us dedicate ourselves to the principle that a strong America requires an effective military force, that we cannot have a strong America without a strong National Guard and Reserve, and that we cannot have a strong Guard and Reserve without universal military training. And universal military training, to complete our all-round defense, is our next step on the path to permanent peace."

—GEN. JACOB DEVERS

part of one who is learned, cultured, refined, and efficient. A true scholar will not always be satisfied with what other men have done in the past but he will desire new advancement, new achievements and through his actions, will be able to accomplish these things.

In view of the definitions given, how many of us are actually scholars?

In closing let's remember this: "Is not the true scholar the only true master?" Taken from Emerson's essay, *The American Scholar*.

What the Generals Said . . .

GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER:

"I have seen Negro soldiers in this war . . . they have rendered very valuable contributions and some of them with the greatest enthusiasm . . . they have done the job given them."

* * *

GENERAL GEORGE S. PATTON:

"The Negro soldiers were damn good soldiers, of whom the nation could be mighty proud."

ARMY DAY

By LONNIE HUFF

We observed this day, April 6, 1948, as Army Day, because on this occasion we pay tribute to the men and women of our valiant army, to their glorious achievements and to the victory they have won. These men have earned the plaudits of a grateful nation.

It is fitting to look back at our Army and its future on this Army Day. Due to the industrial genius of our nation, and of the courage, ingenuity and devotion of the men who make up our fighting forces, and men who knew nothing of the arts and science of war when they first took up arms, made it possible for us to achieve and accomplish victory in both the European and Pacific theaters of operation. This war was won by a winning combination never before attained in history—an operational coordination of land, sea, and air forces.

Army Day was inaugurated by the order in 1928 under the auspices of Col. Thatcher I. P. Luquer. The first observance of Army Day was held on May 1st. Later on it was felt that April 6th, the anniversary of America's entry into World War I, would be a more suitable date.

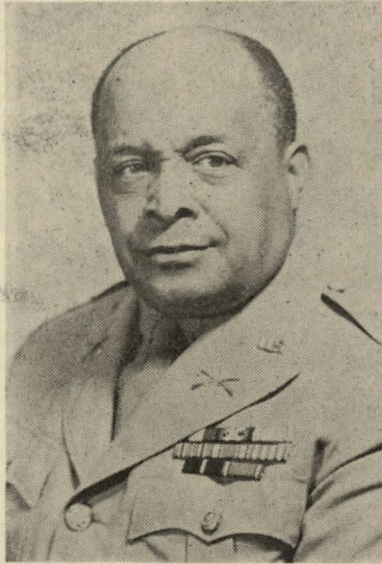
Since we have cited a few formal statements, let us now look into the history of our subject.

Army Day last year was observed on Prairie View A. & M. Campus as spectators from the grandstand on the athletic field witnessed a glorious parade given by the R.O.T.C. unit in the afternoon and followed by an address from Col. Landon L. Lockett. A dance, which was given that night in favor of the R.O.T.C. battalion, ended the affairs, as Army Day at Prairie View A. & M. College. We will have as our guest speaker on this Army Day, General Henry I. Hodes, Chief of Staff, from Fourth Army.

It is granted that this University was not founded for the purpose of educating soldiers, but if it can imbue citizens with all that is good in soldiers, and fit them to be soldiers in time of need, who shall say that its results will not be commensurate with its high purposes, and its influences as beneficent, as the efforts to extend them are self-sacrificing and earnest?"

From a Military Order published in 1868 for students in Military Science and Tactics.

Professor of Military Science and Tactics



WEST ALEXANDER HAMILTON
Colonel, Infantry, P. M. S. & T.

National Guard, Reserve Duty with Regular Army—1905 to present.

All grades in Army: Corporal—Colonel.

Commanded Co. C 372nd Infantry, A. E. F. World War I. Sectors Argonne West, Vauquois, Mort Homme; Meuse Argonne Offensive—(France 1918-19)

Commanded Reserve Rgt. 428th Inf., 1925-41; 1941-1942 366th Inf.; 1942-1943 Prairie View; 1943-44 Assistant to Chief of Staff, 8th service Command; 1944-1945 (Part year) Fort Sam Houston and Prairie View; 1945-1946—Secretary of War's Discharge Review Board, Washington, D. C. Protestant Episcopal; Omega Psi Phi; American Legion; F. A. A. M. (Prince Hall); Y. M. C. A.

Virginia State College Commissions Cadets

Captain Robert M. Hendrich, Jr., Commanding Officer of the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, announced recently that 52 cadets received commissions in the Cadet Corps at that institution.

The R. O. T. C. unit at Virginia State is a new addition to the list of units at Negro colleges. It was activated last September.

Principal speaker for the commissioning exercises, held in the Virginia Hall Auditorium, was Lt. Col. J. I. Coffey, Infantry, Quartermaster School, Camp Lee, Virginia.

Veterans to Receive Medals

Adjunct to the Army Day ceremonies to be held here April 6, will be the presentation of awards to certain veterans of World War II. These awards, in the form of medals, are symbolic of a grateful nation's appreciation of the valorous service of these veterans while defending their native land against the inroads of those who would destroy our way of life.

These medals, many of which are in recognition of services performed during World War II, are to be presented by Colonel West A. Hamilton, P. M. S. & T.

P. V. Students Attend National A.K.M. Convention

Miss Rosiland Wilson, Miss Doris June Williams, Miss Izola Fedford and Mr. Ray Harrison were the students who represented the Local Alpha Kappa Mu Chapter at the National convention of the Alpha Kappa Honor Society held at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on February 12-13. Mr. W. A. Samuels, faculty advisor for the chapter and Captain W. S. Bundara also made the trip.

The convention was a success and the members returned with many new ideas and helpful hints for executing the work of the local chapter. The general theme of the convention was, "The Roll of the Scholar in Interpreting Civil Rights in the American Democracy."

Delegates were present from twenty-eight Negro colleges from all sections of the Central and Eastern United States.

National Scholarship Week, April 25

By ROSALIND JOYCE WILSON

National Scholarship Week will be observed by the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society the week of April 25 to May 1, 1948. The Alpha Pi Mu Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society located on the campus is making very definite plans for the observance of this week. Among the many activities now being sponsored by the Alpha Pi Mu Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Mu is the student tutoring program. We are asking that the students and faculty cooperate with us in this program in order that we may help those who are desirous of, and in need of help in their studies.

Officers Plan Grand Fiesta Ball

The night of April 30th will set the stage for another outstanding affair of campus society. On that night approximately 300 lucky young ladies will be the guests of Cadet Officers at the Annual Officers Fiesta Ball.

This event will be the sixth in a series of affairs that have been increasing in splendor with the years. Because each year's crop of Cadet Officers are determined to out-do their predecessors, they prepare for their annual ball with as much fervor as do the citizens of New Orleans for the Mardi gras.

At the beginning of each academic year, the Professor of Military Science and Tactics examines his roster and determines by certain criteria the men who will be the leaders of the battalion. These names, in turn, are submitted to the Dean of the College and to the Registrar for verification. It is in this manner that cadets receive appointments as commissioned officers in the Cadet Corps.

The newly appointed Cadet Officers are given every opportunity to display their leadership abilities and to develop their natural talents along creative lines. They introduce new ideas relative to making the Annual Officers Ball one of the best social functions of the year.

The menu of the officers ball has been the most impressive of any other formal affairs at Prairie View for the past several years.

Unit Maps Plans

(Continued from Page One)

ball to be held the night of the same date.

Three to five contestants are to be selected from each class with the class winner being selected on the basis of popular vote. The four remaining candidates are to be voted on in a similar manner with voters from each of the classes being represented.

In order to offset unnecessary class meetings, a voting college is to be selected comprised by equal voting strength from each class to serve as voters.

The contest winner is to wear a complete WAAC officer's uniform with colonel bars and suitable ornaments.

GENERAL MARK CLARK:

"I needed the 92nd Division and if anyone had tried to take it from me I would have protested loudly . . . they were glorious."

SPORTS REVIEW

By RAY HARRISON

During the first part of the season, the Panther Basketball team lost five conference games, but the boys got command of themselves and won the rest of the games to finish in a tie for second place with Bishop and Texas College. It can be seen that the team had a very successful season.

* * *

The 1948 Edition of the Panther Tennis team is now hard at work preparing for the Intercollegiate Relays and Tennis Tourny to be held April 9-10. Besides last years returning lettermen, Leon Woods, Alonzo O. Sargent, and Harold Adams, there are many promising newcomers out for this years team. The greatest competition is expected from a revamped Southern.

On February 9th about 20 tennis enthusiasts from Prairie View attended the World Championship Matches now being played all over the country by Jack Kramer, Bobby Riggs, Dinny Pails and Pancho Segura, played in Houston.

* * *

Bad weather has not hindered the Prairie View thinly clads from

whipping muscles into shape. If one were to visit the gymnasium these days he would find members of the team hard at work, preparing for the Prairie View Relays to be held here April 9-10.

* * *

Mr. Leon English, Panther sprint champion, who has finished his college eligibility, will not participate with the team this year. He will, however, participate in the Prairie View Relays and will go to the A.A.U. trail meet June 25th to be held in San Antonio. It is also possible, that Mr. Eural Davis, Prairie View broad jump champion, will get a crack at the Olympic trails. To accomplish this Davis must repeat and win his event in the Texas A.A.U. and place no lower than sixth place in either the N.C.A.A. or the National A. A. U. meets. Good Luck—Eural!

* * *

As we go to press the campus Intramural Basket Ball Tourny is getting underway and we are unable to predict the outcome.

Thus we have used our last film for this time on our sports camera.

Cadets Prepare For Summer Camp

If spring comes, can summer be far behind! The coming of June 21, 1948 is viewed with mixed emotions by fifty-seven stalwart young male Prairie Viewites. These are the members of our local R. O. T. C. Advanced unit who are scheduled to depart for summer camp at Camp Hood, Texas, come June 21.

Summer Camp affords the R. O. T. C. cadet opportunities for the practical application of the theories learned in the military science classrooms. The course of training is constructed so as to afford each cadet as many as possible of the experiences likely to be encountered under conditions of actual warfare. Included are marches, bivouacs, map problems, and intensive instruction in the operation and maintenance of the weapons of warfare.

The period at summer camp is not, however, conducted without attention to the establishment and sustenance of the morale factor in the combatants' personalities. In recognition of the importance of wholesome recreational facilities

to morale building, summer camp provides ample opportunity for athletics, the social activities, and just plain relaxation.

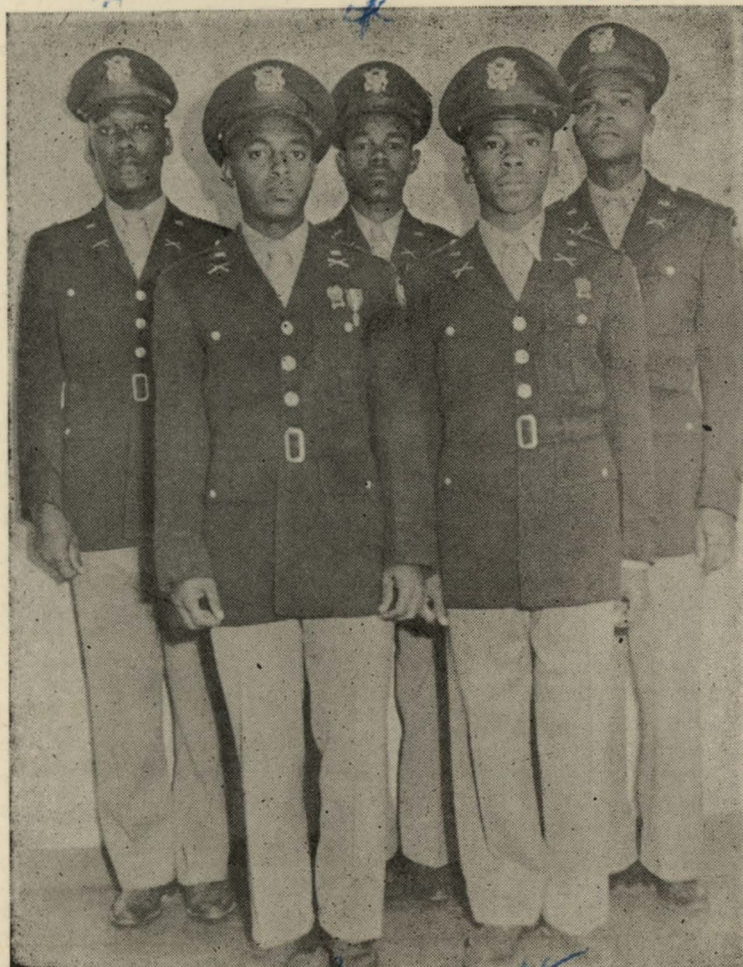
The cadets will find that in addition to its physique and character building advantages, the stay at summer camp is also financially profitable. While at camp the cadets are paid \$75 per month, and travel allowance of five cents per mile all at government expense.

The Prairie View cadets attending summer camp this year follow in the footsteps of Prairie View's precedent-shattering contingent of twenty capable young men who last summer established so noteworthy and illustrious a record of achievement during their stay at Camp Hood. Like these young men, the present group is composed of men of courage, ability, intellect and irreproachable character. It is expected that their contributions to the furthering of our National Security will be equal or more outstanding.

How can you live without your wife?

Much cheaper.

Distinguished Military Graduates



FRONT ROW—left to right: Lt. Col. Walter Redd, and Major Clifton F. Vincent. BACK ROW—left to right: Captain Jew D. Bony, Captain Wilbur J. Newsome, and Captain Clarence Jackson.

Cadets to Attend Summer Camp

Abrams, Larry C.
Ayers, Alvin M.
Baker, Vernon L.
Bias, James L.
Bigsby, Edwin M.
Blanton, George W.
Bradley, JJames T.
Brooks, Philip S.
Cook, Charles W.
Cross, Clifford E.
Davis, Melvin S.
Davis, Theodore R.
Dillard, Ward Jr.
Dorsey, Thurman E.
Elmore, Herbert J.
Gerald, William R.
Gray, Howard P. Jr.
Greenwell, William C.
Harden, Harold M. Jr.
Harrison, Ray A. Jr.
Henly, Van T.
Huff, Lonnie R.
Hunt, Alexander H.
Jackson, Woodrow W.
James, Chleo A.
Johnson, David E. Jr.
Johnson, Oscar B.

Jones, Roscoe Riley
Kirk, Leon
Kirk, McKinley H.
Lacy, Albert W.
Lavert, Ralph C.
Martin, D. W. Jr..
Martin, Grover W.
McFadden, Frank E.
McVea, Clifton C.
Mercer, George Jr.
Mooring, Leon
Morgan, Roy N.
Neal, Hubert E.
Pace, Arthur
Patton, Roy L.
Powell, Lathell C.
Reed, James W.
Rodgers, Joe Jr.
Sapenter, Reginald J.
Smith, Howard
Sneed, Burton S.
Solon, Thomas R. Jr.
Turner, Rufus B.
Wallace, Grady T.
Ware, William D.
Whitson, Frank
Williams, Clarence
Williams, Winston A.