

in Focus

ARMY SIGNAL CORPS
ARMY PICTORIAL CENTER

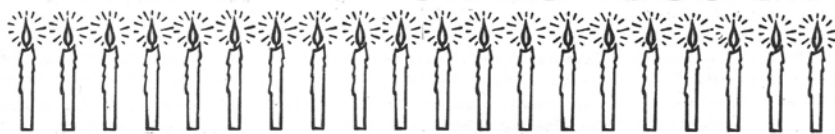


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SPECIAL



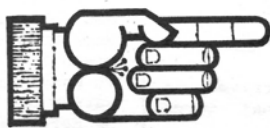
ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!!

ARMY

PICTORIAL CENTER

BIRTHDAY

1942



1962



Col. M. E. Gillette



Col. R. B. Randle

EARLY PRESS CLIPPINGS ON ARMY MOVIE MAKERS REVIEWED

From the moment the word leaked out to the nation's press corps the public read thousands of lines of type and viewed numerous photographs about the Army entering the magic realm of motion pictures to produce training films.

It all started with the first printed lines speculating as to when and where the Army would set up its venture in the realm of celluloid.

The endless stories in newspapers and trade journals followed the purchase of Paramount's Astoria studios, the Army moving in, formal dedication ceremonies and on and on.

Below are some of these stories picked at random from historical files.

'WAR DEPT. EYES STUDIOS IN NY FOR CIVILIAN PIX'

"New York.--The War Dept. is now reported considering the takeover of Warner's Brooklyn studio for the production of training and civilian films, with a decision on either the Warner's plant or Paramount's Long Island studio expected this month." (Printed 8 Jan 1942)

'ARMY TAKING OVER ASTORIA PLANT AS LAB'

"New York, Jan. 13.--It is understood that a deal has virtually been set for the Army to take over Paramount's Eastern Service Studios at Astoria, Long Island, for a Signal Corps film production laboratory.

"Technicians from the Signal Corps probably will be moving in within the next couple of weeks, with the expansion of its facilities at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, for the production of Army pictures." (Printed 14 Jan 1942 in Variety)

'SIGNAL CORPS NY STUDIO NO H'WOOD COMPETITION'

"Lt. Col. Darryl Zanuck has been advised by the War Dept. that the acquisition of a New York studio for the Signal Corps will not affect the production of training films now being made by the Academy's Research Council, as elaborate production facilities will not be established in the East." (Printed early in 1942)

'ARMY FILM MAKERS SET UP CAMERAS HERE'

A WHITE ELEPHANT FINALLY PAYS OFF'

"Whatever hopes Mayor La Guardia and certain independent film producers might have entertained about setting up a miniature Hollywood in New York were finally and completely crushed last week. For it was announced in Washington that the War Department has acquired for the exclusive use of the Army Signal Corps the only motion picture studio in these parts that has the necessary floor space for any extensive film production. The Signal Corps has requested that the name of the studio and its location be treated as a military secret, but revealed that the Army Training Film Laboratory, now quartered in Fort Monmouth, N. J., will transfer its activities to the new headquarters. The Training Film Laboratory, commanded by Lt. Col. Melvin E. Gillette, has in the last three years expanded from prac-

(Cont'd Next Col)

60 CIVILIANS CELEBRATE 20 YEARS AT CENTER

Changes in command, new faces by the score, numerous innovations in production and other changes have been witnessed by 60 employees who were here when the Center opened for operations in 1942 and are still here today. These employees and the month they arrived are:

FEBRUARY--Amedeo Chianese, Post Engineer.

MARCH--Philip Kandel, Assistant Chief, Studio Branch; Frederick E. Leppert, Chief, Building Grounds and Utilities; John M. Jorgenson, Tech Maintenance; and Gregory Rutledge, Props.

APRIL--William Toth, Carpenter Shop; and Edward F. Flaherty, Chief Engineer. MAY--Edward F. Stack, Stage Section; William T. Kipp, Chief, Grip Unit; John A. Pagano, Grip Unit; Arthur H. Koenig, Chief, Studio Props; Rosalie Scaglione, Chief, Props Management Section; Marion Adams Monahan, Writers Branch; Walter Holloran, Lab; and Blanche Davis, Lab.

JUNE--Martin C. Hall, Chief, Studio Branch; Amos Savage, Chief, Printing and Publications; and Mary O'Connor, Chief, Civilian Personnel.

JULY--Fred M. Weiler, Construction Unit; William J. Doran, Grip Unit; Custer J. Del Grosso, Studio Props Unit; Mary Chiappani, Lab; Gerard B. Shaw, Lab; Kenneth Smith, Distribution; Kenneth F. Styles, Electrical Studio; Robert Mathews, Editorial; and Michael Salko, Editorial.

AUGUST--Charles J. Carlotti, Chief, Art Unit; Nicholas Falco, Chief, Review and Evaluation; Martin T. Curtin, Property Management Section; William H. Smith, Building Guard; Morris Garber, Lab; Alexander Lawrow, Tech Maintenance; and Matthew Keenan, Tech Maintenance.

SEPTEMBER--John H. Wiegand, Post Engineer; Robert H. Dworsky, Editorial; Emily Cocheo, Tech Services Branch; James Murray, Editorial Branch; Charles French, Lab; Frank Kosmider, Post Engineer; Samuel Besner, Chief, AMPD Branch; Emma Becker, Lab; John Klinkowitz, Tech Maintenance; and Sam Deutscher, Sound Section.

OCTOBER--Alvera M. Green, Operations Control Office; Joan Mirante Stein, Distribution Branch; Edith Rendell Morris, Negative Cutting Branch; Joseph G. Sisti, Lab; Agnes Mahon, Printing and Publications; and Conrad F. Moroski, AMPD Branch.

NOVEMBER--Martha Goodman, Studio Props; Thomas Neill, Lab; Paul V. Gabbamonte, Storage and Issue; Alessio Avitable, Finance and Accounting; Marlin E. Sculley, Building Guard; and Norton Parker, Writers Branch.

DECEMBER--Frederick C. Gordon, Carpenter Shop; Samuel Hedman, Lab; William N. Kessel, Tech Maintenance; and Sam Robbins, Writers Branch.

tically a one-man undertaking into an organization now composed of approximately 250 soldiers and 35 officers. It is to this unit that many draftees from the motion picture industry have been assigned.

"Because of the importance commanders in the field have lately attached to motion pictures as visual aids in training soldiers and in acquainting troops with the working of various instruments of war, the T.F.L. has had in recent months to step up its activities beyond the capacity of its present production facilities. The Army film makers are scheduled to move into their new home here in March. Meanwhile the main building of the new headquarters, which houses the studio stages and other facilities, will be re-conditioned and the workshop building will be converted into a barracks for the soldiers." (Printed 1 Feb 1942 in the New York Times)

'SIGNAL CORPS SEEN AS STAYING IN EAST'

"New York, Aug. 18.--Washington reports that Major General Dawson Olmstead, chief Signal Corps officer, is coming to Astoria late in September to install the first permanent motion picture Signal Corps is seen as scotching rumors that the photographic corps would move from New York to the Coast. Reports were born of the wishful thinking of the rank and filers at Astoria, many of whom hail from Hollywood and would prefer being headquartered there." (Printed 18 Aug 1942 in Variety)

'MAYOR LA GUARDIA WELCOMES SIGNAL CORPS MOVIE CENTER'

"His Honor, the Mayor, arrived at the United States Army Signal Corps

(Cont'd Next Col)

Photographic Center in Long Island City yesterday on the dot of 4:30 p.m. to officially welcome via NBC hookup "this very important Army post in our town. I've been trying to get moving pictures back in this shack for a long time."

"Mayor LaGuardia's brief broadcast, reiterating previous speaker Major General Dawson Olmstead's invitation to men interested in all means of communication, film production, and photography, to enlist in the Signal Corps, followed a two-hour inspection tour of the plant by some hundred members of the press. Colonel M. E. Gillette, commanding the Signal Corps, acted as host, and m.c.'d the radio program, which was climaxed by the screening of a nostalgic compilation of clips from ancient Paramount films, and three short Signal Corps subjects." (Printed 23 Sept 1942 in the New York Post)

'CIVILIAN WRITERS ON SIGNAL CORPS FILMS'

"New York.--Practically all script material for Army and Air Force Film will in the future be turned out at the Signal Corps' photographic center at the Astoria studios on Long Island, and civilian writers are being hired to speed up the work, it was learned here yesterday. Approximately 50 civilian writers will be brought on from Hollywood and will be paid at the rate of \$20 per day plus \$6 daily for sustenance." (Printed 12 Nov 1942)

SERIES E BONDS EXCHANGEABLE

Holders of Series E bonds who wish now to receive regular income may exchange their E for Series H bonds. These yield 3 3/4 per cent when held 10 years to maturity. Income tax on interest earned on E bonds thus exchanged may be deferred until the H bonds are cashed.

CENTER ENTERS 20TH YEAR OF MAKING FILMS FOR ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

CENTER RICH IN HISTORY, MEMORIES, STUDY REVEALS

Twenty years! The end of March brings to a climax the salute from approximately 700 civilian employees and 300 military personnel to Army Pictorial Center as it goes into the 20th year of producing training and information films for troops around the world.

It was 20 years ago that a small detachment of service men came from the Training Film Production Laboratory (TFPL) at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey, to Astoria on 1 March to take possession of the old Paramount studios.

Little did this small band of soldiers realize they not only were occupying buildings extremely rich in history of the fascinating world of entertainment but taking part in a venture that would be emblazoned in the annals of Army archives.

Early Use Of Films

But this wasn't the beginning of the move by Army technicians entering the business world of producing motion pictures. It started years before.

During World War I, this branch of service made use of films in training through social hygiene pictures made by medical units. By 1918 nearly 100 reels of training films had been acquired by the Signal Corps before the Armistice was signed.

Production slackened and finally ceased until 1928 when the Army again went into the motion picture field.

Production was disrupted once more with the coming of that age of "talkies". After 1932 a steady schedule of training films was produced in the Signal Corps Photographic Laboratory at the War College in Washington, D. C.

This unit later moved to quarters at Ft. Monmouth. Then came the year 1940. Hundreds of thousands of men were being drafted into service. The film program expanded so that special arrangements had to be made for its housing.

Adequate Facilities

Paramount's Eastern Service Studios in Astoria came into the picture. After searching for adequate facilities the Army closed its option on the purchase of the Paramount studios--built at an

(Cont'd Next Col)



Top names were featured in many of the films produced early in the Center's history. One such personality was comedian Zero Mostel, right, who not only entertained troops who viewed the film but stage hands and cameramen also.



This group of men shows the number of technicians involved in producing films in 1942 at the Center. In the picture are Ed Dreyer, Chief of Sound Section, Tom Hanlon, Sound Section, the late Lawrence Tibbett, famous baritone, and Gus Anderson, retired last year. Can you pick these men out as they were 20 years ago?

estimated price of \$10 million--on 27 January, 1942.

Although possession of the studios was taken on 1 March, actual work on extensive alterations to permit the housing of troops and adaptation of the buildings to Army film production requirements wasn't begun until 22 March.

WPA workers were brought in to help clean up the buildings. Department of Sanitation trucks from New York City were lined up outside the buildings in the mornings to carry away unwanted articles.

On 8 May TFPL and the motion picture section of the photographic school moved from Ft. Monmouth to the studios to be known as the Signal Corps Photographic Center (SCPC). They were followed on 26 May by the school's still picture section.

Facelifting Process

Colonel Melvin E. Gillette became the first Commanding Officer of the studios where only a few years before Walter Wanger reigned over his Paramount regime.

This original band of officers and enlisted men witnessed a complete facelifting of the Paramount facilities which had stood in comparative idleness for quite some time after the company moved its headquarters to Hollywood. This progress was also seen by 60 civilians still working at the Center who

(See Center, P. 4)



Vocalist Eileen Woods and famous conductor Paul Whiteman are seen in a clip from one of the Signal Corps' early films. A replica of Hollywood Bowl was constructed on main stage for this scene.

RAY BOLGER CAVORTS, HAZEL SCOTT SINGS TO ENTERTAIN TROOPS FOR ARMY

CENTER'S 20 YEARS (Cont'd From P. 3)

came here in 1942.

Studios previously used to produce such firsts as a big feature musical--"Coconuts" starring the Marx Brothers--and a full-length sound picture--"The Letter" with Jeanne Eagles--changed appearances for Army purposes.

The areas where the Post Exchange and TV Maintenance are now located were made into living quarters for the service men. The wooden buildings behind the present cafeteria were constructed for barracks (original plans for a four-story brick building were discarded). Military personnel were also housed in hotels throughout the city.

Famous Personalities

The orderly room was located where TV studio's control room is now.

The present post cafeteria was then a mess hall. A troop recreation area was installed in the spaces now occupied by TV Operations and Intelligence Office.

Dressing rooms previously used by such famous personalities as Walter Huston, Maurice Chevalier, Billie Burke, Gertrude Lawrence, Charles Ruggles, Rudolf Valentino, Eddie Cantor, Ed Wynn, Tallulah Bankhead, Preston Foster, Richard Dix, William Powell, Gloria Swanson, Frederick March, Gary Cooper, Claudette Colbert, Ginger Rogers, Lionel Barrymore and many more were converted into working areas for the deluge of employees to come.

The acquisition from Paramount included just the studio areas located in Buildings One and Two. Other buildings were later leased or purchased as the demand for them grew.

Building Locations

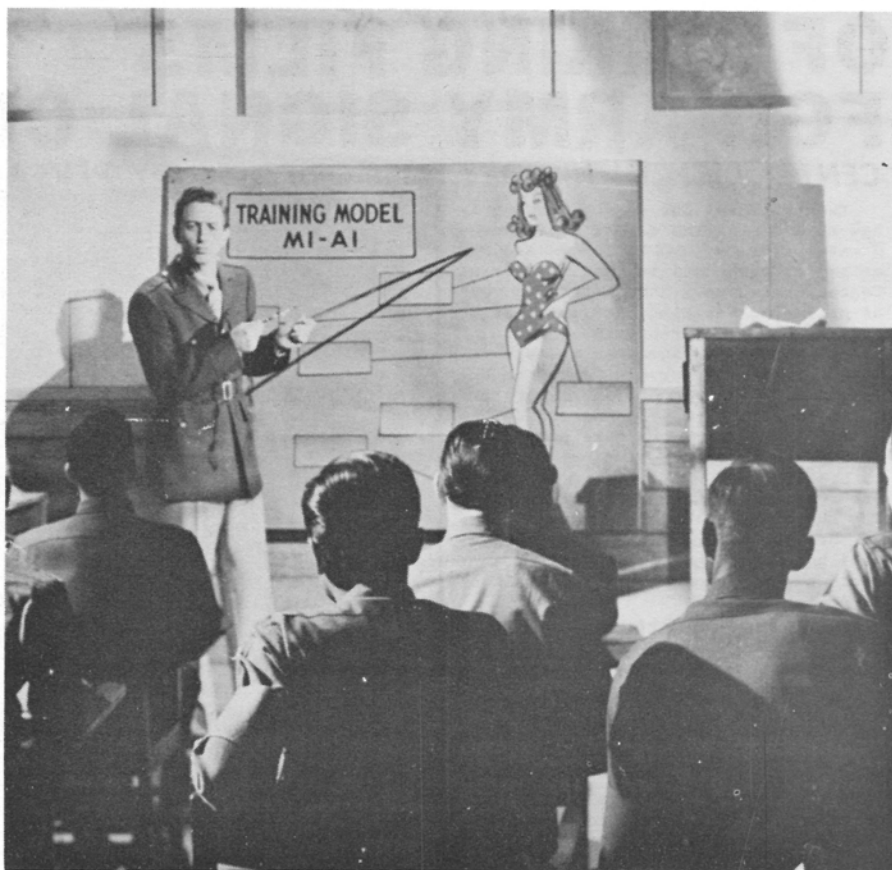
Building 13 was used by a civilian firm as an aeronautical school to teach Air Force recruits before being purchased for use by the Center.

The photography school was conducted a few blocks away on Broadway. An obstacle course was built elsewhere in Long

(Cont'd Next Col)



The beauty of pianist Hazel Scott, backed up by a combo, was in the spotlight for one production at the Astoria studios.



Ray Bolger, still a top name attraction today as he was back in 1942 and 1943, brought humor to training films in such scenes as the demonstration above in which he tells how to work "by the numbers." Guffaws from GIs were heard around the world.

Island City to train cameramen for combat duties. Animation was housed in Manhattan on the top floors of a 13-story building at 32nd Street close to Lexington Avenue. Film was stored in a building on Crescent Street in Astoria.

The smaller buildings on 35th Street opposite the rear gate of Buildings One and Two were leased to house the Motor Pool until the APO building at 48th Street and Northern Boulevard was made available by the Army.

The present barracks in Building 24 were constructed by Army engineers in 1953. Before that time the space had been used as a parking lot.

Military Remembrances

There are 12 men employed here today who came to the Center in 1942 as military personnel. They tell of the times when they had to fall out in the mornings for reveille on 36th Street--also for inspections and drill. They remember marching up and down this street early in the morning shouting cadence. On days when weather was bad such drills would be held on the main stage.

Autograph hounds would line up outside the rear gate during the early years of the Center hoping for a chance to see their favorite movie idols who were stationed here as service men. Many Hollywood personalities, including actors, technicians and directors were at SCPC in 1942 and 1943.

(See Center, P. 5)



In yet another scene from a "demonstration film" Ray Bolger evoked humor for GIs in lavish productions from SCPC. Obviously all work during the Center's early years couldn't be called tedious even though films were produced at an extremely high rate of speed.

TOP NAME PERSONALITIES, HOLLYWOOD TECHNICIANS HELP TO PRODUCE FILMS



A lavish set on main stage for Christmas, 1944, was highlighted by contralto Marian Anderson, Leopold Stokowski and the Westminster Choir. A closer look at the photo will reveal familiar faces still at the Center: Ed Dreyer, now Chief of Sound Section operates the boom; the PFC (lower center) is Dick Allen, Information Films; and Johnny Pagano, Grip Unit, (lower center in the white shirt.) Some of these imaginative sets can still be found today stored somewhere around the Center.



Even though old-timers can't remember the name of the attractive entertainer in the above picture, the graceful bird in the foreground warrants some attention in yet another film produced at the Center.

CENTER'S 20 YEARS (Cont'd From P. 4)

Formal dedication ceremonies of the Center were held 22 September, 1942, with such dignitaries as New York City's Mayor F. H. La Guardia and Major General Dawson Olmstead, Chief Signal Officer on hand with Col. Gillette for speeches.

The occasion, with liberal coverage by the nation's press, was described as not only being "an important one for the military services, but it was a historical occasion for the cinema industry, recognizing, as it did, the part that visual education plays in our modern, mechanized streamlined Army."

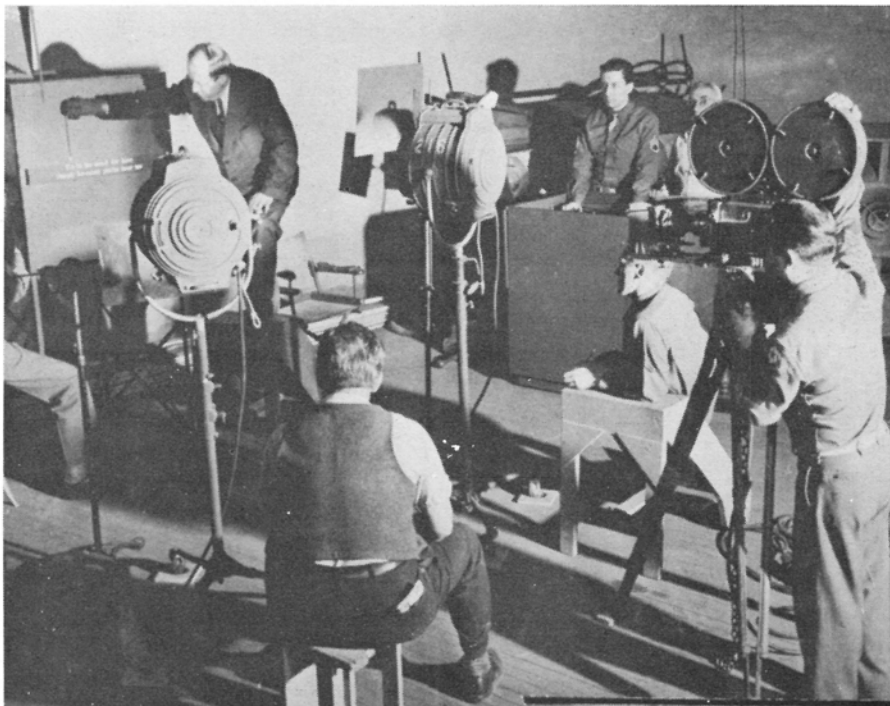
Production Program

The ceremonies were broadcast by radio station WJZ, the Blue Network's 50,000-watt outlet in New York, and picked up by 140 stations on a coast-to-coast hook-up.

SCPC had a two-fold mission during the war: To produce training and educational films which would help to teach men soldiering quickly and to teach photographers the art of making combat pictures. Personnel reached an approximate strength of 3,000 during the war.

With today's personnel force around one-third the size it was then, a year's production program and the selection of film subjects is not a hit-or-miss affair, but a well-considered, well-planned decision based on the training needs of the Army's various agencies, weighed and evaluated in reference to the needs of the entire Army.

(See Center, P. 6)



Today's "Sing Along With Mitch" is certainly nothing new. Dave Fleischer, one of the originators of the "bouncing ball sing alongs", is shown during a scene, urging GIs to follow the ball to the familiar and old favorite words, "I'm in the mood for love, simply because you're near me." One of the technicians assigned to the production was Ken Stiles, Electrical Studio, seated. At the sound console is another familiar face, Tech Sgt Tom Hanlon, Sound Section.

ARMY'S MOTION PICTURE KNOWLEDGE RECOGNIZED BY HOLLYWOOD WITH THREE 'OSCARS'



Pianos and lovely chorus girls gathered around to sing seemed to be among the favorite scenes in many of the pictures produced at the Center during the last World War. Blind pianist Alec Templeton, above, was among the famous entertainers seen here.



Winner of the nation's most famous beauty contest, Jean Bartel, crowned Miss America of 1944, is surrounded by other lovelies in yet another clip from a SCPC film. Background music was conducted by Andre Kostelanetz.



Actress Nancy Walker plays the part of the "cabbie" surrounded by a bevy of beauties in a segment from "On the Town," produced for Screen Magazine.

CENTER'S 20 YEARS (Cont'd From P. 5)

After the final decision has been made, scripts are rewritten, casting done, stages set, and film shot, developed, edited and synchronized with sound. The job couldn't be called completed until distribution of these training and information films is made through a network of film libraries throughout the world.

The Army has been rewarded not only by speeding up training of its soldiers but has been honored by numerous organizations for films produced at the Center.

Among the top honors were three "Oscars" awarded by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. "Seeds of Destiny" in 1946 and "Towards Independence" in 1948 were termed as the most outstanding documentary short subjects. "Prelude To War" in 1942 also won an "Oscar" for its "outstanding achievement."

Other Honors

The film "Operation Blue Jay" was nominated for another "Oscar" in 1953 as the best documentary short subject.

Among other honors are these top awards: The U. S. Camera Achievement Award in 1942 in recognition of outstanding achievement in photography; National Headliner's Club Award for "best newsreel reporting" in 1944; National Committee on Films for Safety accorded highest honors in the general safety field for non-theatrical films produced or released in 1950 for "Once Too Often" and again in 1953 for "On Post Safety"; Venice International Exhibition of Cinematographic Art first prize for natural science film "Rodent Control" in 1951 and "Schistosomiasis" in 1948; Freedom's Foundation Award for the film "Voices of the People" in 1949, "Communism" in 1950 and "International Communism" in 1953.

Talents and professional skills of Hollywood celebrities stationed at SCPC as military personnel during its early years were put to good use in many of

(See Center, P. 7)

OFFICERS, NCO CLUB PARTIES CLIMAX CELEBRATIONS OF CENTER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY



Parties celebrating the Center's 20th anniversary in making films for the Signal Corps were held throughout the Center during the later part of March. At a party on 24 March, attended by over 300 members and guests of the Officers Open Mess, highlight of the evening was cutting of the Center's

birthday cake by Col and Mrs. Robert B. Randle. Another feature of the evening was a specially produced historical film, causing the Post Cafeteria to rock with laughter. The evening before, approximately 200 enlisted men and their guests gathered for festivities in the NCO Club.



Technicians required to operate equipment of the Center's first color television unit gather around the large van after it was delivered in 1958. Another color van, with up-to-date equipment, was received this year.

CENTER'S 20 YEARS (Cont'd From P. 6)

the films produced here.

Among these personalities were William Saroyan, John Huston, Frank Capra, William Holden, Carl Laemmle, Jr., Jesse Lasky, Jr., and Harry Warner, Jr.

Another important phase of production at the Center is the work done by Television Division. Although a comparatively new-comer to the Army, television has left a definite mark.

Television came to the Center on 13 July 1951, with the assignment here of a mobile TV unit. This was detached to Fort Monmouth until adequate facilities and manpower could be attained.

Originally this unit was equipped with four bus-type vans. After a few trips to the field, the vans were termed impractical and were converted to tractor-trailers in 1953.

Kinescope recording equipment was authorized shortly thereafter when Washington was convinced that such facilities would be advantageous in that filmed programs could be shown over and over again.

TV Studios Added

This new equipment was anything but idle in its infancy at the Center. Personnel would hardly get a chance to take a quick look at the installation before they would leave with the field unit once more.

During this time television was proving to military leaders its significance to the Army.

Perhaps the year 1954 was the one of greatest expansion for TV Division. Other mobile units were added and a complete, modern studio was installed where the troops slept before Building 24 was constructed.

During 1954 both CBS and NBC television networks used the facilities, equipment and personnel in the studios here for coast-to-coast hook-ups. One of these shows won NBC and the Army Signal Corps the coveted "Peabody Award" for its presentation.

In 1956 the first television cameraman's class was started. This successful course was conducted for two years and discontinued because it was felt the supply of cameramen was sufficient.

Color Unit Received

Through the years TV cameras manned by Center crews have been trained on many important events, including: parachute jumps of tactical exercises with a portable camera; launching of missiles; Armed Forces Day celebrations; national defense exercises; and the presidential inauguration ceremonies of both Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1957 and John F. Kennedy in 1961.

Another first in the Army was achieved in November 1958 when APC received a mobile color television unit--among the first in the entire TV industry. History repeated itself again in the month of the Center's 20th anniversary when yet another color van was delivered.

Advancement continues today in the TV studios and field units as more and more technical knowledge in telecasting is continually strived for.

A history of the Center couldn't be complete without the mention of another

(See Center, P. 11)

SEVENTEEN MEN ON WORK FORCE AT CENTER SINCE ITS OPENING 20 YEARS AGO

'REMEMBER THE DAYS'

There are currently 17 men on post who can say, "Remember the good old days?" and know what they are talking about for they are the only employees here today who were at the Center the month it opened 20 years ago.

Of this original band of 17, 12 of them came to the Center from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, where they were stationed with the Signal Corps.

First of the military personnel to arrive were Joe Lipkowitz, now Chief of Camera Branch, and Jim Kennedy, in Tech Maintenance.

They came ahead of the contingent of troops to arrive later for one of the Army's favorite details--clean-up.

They laughingly remember how they managed to set up temporary residence in apartments where Information Films offices are now located. Somehow they kept the apartments for a few weeks after the troops arrived.

Then came that inevitable day when they had to move into the barracks, lo-



Joseph Lipkowitz, Chief of Camera Branch, shows an antique lantern slide projector to James Kennedy, Assistant Chief of Tech Maintenance.

cated where television crews man cameras now.

Shortly after came: Ed Dreyer, Chief, Sound Section; Tom Hanlon, Sound Section; Jack Rabovsky, Editorial; Richard Brophy, Editorial; Ray Harris, Writers Branch; Sigmund "Zeke" Myerson, Props; George W. Wood, Sound Section; Mark Brennan, Animation; Harry C. Kreider, Camera Branch; and Ted Crawford, Editorial.

These soldiers were joined by five civilians who are still employed today at the Center, 20 years later.

They include: Amedio Chianese, Post Engineer; Philip Kandel, Assistant Chief, Studio Branch; Frederick E. Leppert, Chief, Building Grounds and Utilities; John M. Jorgensen, Tech Maintenance; and Gregory Rutledge, Props.

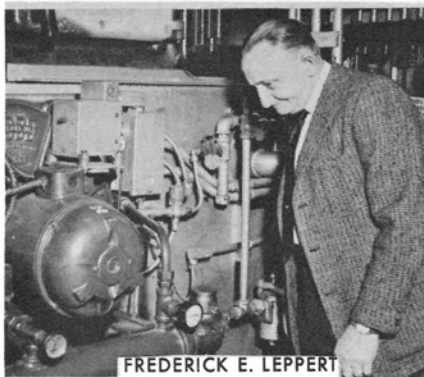
Some of these men were unavailable for photographs on the day the photographer for "In Focus" made the rounds.



JOHN M. JORGENSEN



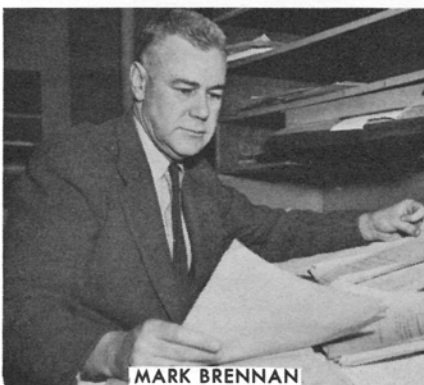
PHILIP KANDEL



FREDERICK E. LEPPERT



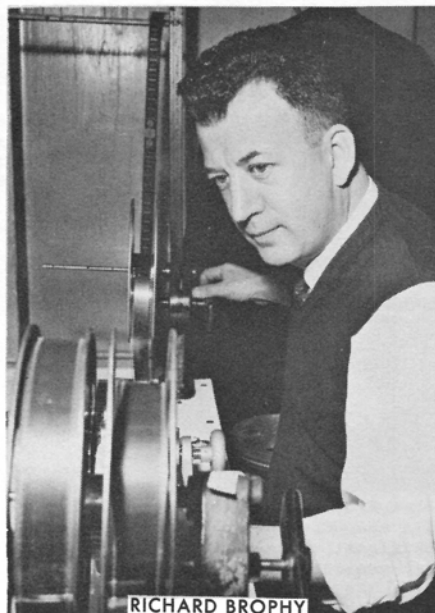
GEORGEWOOD, TOM HANLON, ED DREYER



MARK BRENNAN



SIGMUND 'ZEKE' MYERSON



RICHARD BROPHY



AMEDIO CHIANESE

COMMANDER'S TROPHIES, 20-YEAR LENGTH OF SERVICE PINS, SUGGESTION AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONIES COINCIDE WITH CENTER'S 20TH BIRTHDAY

The name of M/Sgt Percy D. Ricks, Jr., will be inscribed on the Commander's Trophy as the "man in uniform", who has contributed the most in furthering the Army Pictorial Center mission.



M/Sgt Percy D. Ricks, Lab Branch is congratulated by the Post Commander, Col Robert B. Randle after receiving the Commander's Trophy. Looking on is Lt Col Robert Nothdurft, Chief, Service Division.

on. At a ceremony in the cafeteria on 23 March, he was the recipient of the trophy in lieu of his accomplishments in '61.

In 1941, after graduating from Booker T. Washington Evening High School, M/Sgt Ricks was inducted into the Army at Fort Benning, Georgia. From there he was sent to Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming, for basic training.

Promotions Come Fast

Upon leaving basic training, M/Sgt Ricks rose from the rank of private to first sergeant in the short span of 12 months. He was then assigned to special cadre training troops at Fort Carson, Colorado.

In 1943 he was sent to North Africa on a mission to transport bombs, food and gas for 8th Army Air Corps, and later transferred to Cagiglia, near Italy where again his mission was the support of the 12th Wing of the 8th U. S. Army Air Corps.

Thirteen months later he and his com-
(Cont'd Next Col)



At the awards ceremony in the cafeteria on March 23, Col Robert B. Randle, Post Commander, (pictured above) presented incentive awards and checks to (l-r) Spencer Russell, Gerard Clement, Richard Wilhelm, and James Many.

pany were transferred to the Italian mainland to support the 5th Army and 12th Army Air Corps. After serving 12 months in Italy, he was sent back to the United States to be discharged.

From there he went to Fort McPherson, Georgia, where he reenlisted in the Signal Corps, serving there and at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, as Senior NCO Platoon Sergeant. He was then assigned to the Signal Corps Photographic Center at the rank of First Sergeant.

Receives Commendation

At SCPC, now the Army Pictorial Center, M/Sgt Ricks was the First Sergeant for approximately three years before being assigned to the motion picture laboratory. Before being assigned to the lab, he received a commendation from the commanding officer for his handling of the troops.

From 8 June 1946, except for a tour of duty in Korea, M/Sgt Ricks has been stationed at the Center. In the years that followed since 1946, he has served the lab in an all around capacity. He is currently assigned to the lab as a photographic laboratory specialist.

To insure his work is of a continuing high standard, M/Sgt Ricks has further pursued his education, taking courses at Morris Evening High School in the Bronx and at New York University. M/Sgt Ricks resides at 137-30 172nd Street, Springfield Gardens, Long Island.

In recognition of the civilian who best exemplifies the spirit and ideals of the Federal service, the Commander's Trophy was awarded to George Lewin on March 23. The trophy is presented to



George Lewin, Photo Instrumentation is presented the Commander's Trophy by the Post Commander, Col Robert B. Randle. Looking on is Lt Col Frederick Hall, Chief, Pictorial Engineering and Instrumentation.

that civilian who contributes the most to the accomplishment of the Army Pictorial Center mission.

George Lewin, born in New York City in 1903, received a degree in electrical engineering from Cooper Union Institute in 1925. After a brief interlude as a professional musician he decided engineering was his game.

Recording Activities

Lewin then joined Paramount Pictures Corporation in 1928, where he supervised film recording operations on the very first sound picture ventures. He contributed to the early improvement of film recording, rerecording, and film processing techniques.

For the next 12 years Lewin continued his sound recording activities in various capacities, both in New York and Hollywood, with Warner Brothers Pictures, General Service Studios, Eastern Service Studios, and Audio Productions.

In 1944, Lewin joined the Signal Corps Photographic Center, now the Army Pictorial Center, where he served consecutively as: Chief Transmission Engineer, Chief Recording Engineer, Chief of Sound Branch, and from 1955-60 as Chief of Pictorial Engineering. He is now a pictorial engineer with the PI&E Division.

Contributions Recognized

Early last year, while working with 16mm striped film, he discovered the infrared transparency of magnetic tracks. Because of this discovery, Lewin received a patent, and a Fellowship at the Audio Engineering Society Convention.

Along with the many engineering articles Lewin has had published, he has been well recognized for his contributions to the engineering field. In 1958, he received the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to sound for motion pictures.

George Lewin now resides with his wife, Sylvia, in Brooklyn. They have two children, Leone and Richard, both married, and three grandchildren.

OCS was opened to all qualified EM from 18-45 years old 20 years ago.



Across the stage of the cafeteria and to the front of the poster announcing the 20th Anniversary of the Army Pictorial Center, stand the recipients of the Twenty-Year Length of Service Awards. These awards were presented by Post Commander, Col Robert B. Randle, on March 23. Standing from left to right with Col Randle are: Andrew Tersaga, Dominick Baffa, Philip Kandel, Michael Marra, Lyle Cron, Herman Richards, John Jorgensen, Joseph Mandese, Gustave Koffler, John E-vola, Amedeo Chianese, and Joseph Schriffin.

in Focus

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Col Robert B. Randle

Commanding Officer

George B. Schuyler, Chief of Information

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SSgt Clarence A. Greene.....Editor
Pvt Loren R. Tate.....Assistant Editor
Pvt Richard J. Fabian.....Reporter
Miss Eve Mark.....Assistant

NEW BOOKS

The following new books have been received at the Enlisted Men's Library in Building #24 and are now ready for circulation.

ELIZABETH AND LEICSTER.....Jenkins
THE MEDAL.....Donovan
HE'S MY BOY.....Gilbreth
SHOOTING OF STOREY JAMES.....Clifford
CACTUS AND THE CROWN.....Gavin
THEY'RE NOT HOME YET.....Rydell
THICKER THAN WATER.....York
PRODIGAL RAKE.....Hickey
SEADRAGON.....Steele
SWEEPING WIND.....de Kruif
SAVAGE SAM.....Gipson
COMPLETE BOOK OF CAMPING.....Miracle
SUCCESSFUL SUPERVISOR.....Van Dersal
IRREVERSIBLE DECISION.....Batchelder
GENIAL STRANGER.....Mac Kenzie
EXCITEMENT OF SCIENCE.....Platt
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF
SAFE DRIVING.....Sports Illustrated
MARINE.....Davis
ROBBERY AT THREE WELLS.....Kimpel
INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC.....Lilienfeld
UNDER THE SKIN.....Bennett
STAR-RAKER.....Gordon
THERE'VE BEEN SOME CHANGES IN
THE WORLD OF SPORT.....Meaney
BULL FROM THE SEA.....Renault
DUST ON THE PAW.....Jenkins
BUTTONWOOD.....Wolff
DEATH OF A RACEHORSE.....Creasey
LILY AND THE LION.....Druon
COUNTY KILL.....Gault
WHISPERING LAND.....Durrell

PX PROFITS USED FOR TROOPS

Post Exchanges profits are used to stock libraries, furnish day rooms and service clubs, equip hobby shops, outfit athletic teams and defray the cost of music programs and variety shows.

BOOK REVIEW

HE'S MY BOY

by Frank Gilbreth, Jr.

The author of "Cheaper By The Dozen," which made the best-seller lists some years ago and was transformed into a movie, has emerged from his Charleston, South Carolina, newspaper office long enough to produce another very human, touching and at times uproarious book. And, like the previous success, this one is based on the antics of himself and various members of his immediate family.

"The best time of life to be the father of a boy is when a man himself is middle-aged. Old men are apt to hold their sons in awe, and young men to take them for granted. But fatherhood at middle age is opportunity's second knock--a mirror of one's own tarnished innocence," the author declares, as he discovers that he relives his own boyhood in the adventures of his four-year-old son, Teddy.

Among the various and varied events that feature Teddy, his toys and companions are his fourth birthday party, the visit to the barber, a family reunion which includes an introduction to poison ivy, a loose tooth, those television programs, learning to tell time via the dial telephone, the first electric train and the arrival of a new baby sister. These happenings are described in the typical humorous vein that Mr. Gilbreth employs so well.

The book, of 179 pages, can be read easily during an evening, and has no particular plot. The hero, of course, is Teddy, and his antics have a definite relationship with "Dennis the Menace" of cartoon and TV fame. At any rate, it is a delightful switch from the prevalent westerns and who dunnits--and certainly one that can be read and enjoyed by all the family. (GBS)

5 DIVISIONS ADDED TO STRAC;

NEW HEADQUARTERS CREATED

The Strategic Army Corps of US Continental Army Command has been increased from three to eight divisions, and a new corps headquarters has been created to exercise tactical control over the new STRAC units.

General Herbert B. Powell, Commanding General of USCONARC, is charged with training and maintaining the operational readiness of the enlarged STRAC, in addition to his other continental Army responsibilities.

Two active National Guard divisions and three Regular Army divisions are the new major units which have been added to the Strategic Army Corps, previously composed of the 82d and 101st Airborne and 4th Infantry Divisions.

This marks the first time in history that Army National Guard and Reserve units have been assigned to a strategic striking force in peacetime.

The two National Guard divisions, the 49th Armored and 32d Infantry Divisions, and the 4th Infantry and 2d Armored Divisions will make up the newly-activated III US Army Corps (STRAC), with headquarters at Fort Hood, Texas. A commander for the new corps has not, as of press time, been named.

LEGISLATION PROPOSED TO ALLOW INCREASE FOR BAQ

Proposed legislation designed to amend the Career Compensation Act of 1949 was sent to Congress March 19 by the Secretary of Defense.

It would provide an increase in the basic allowance for quarters (BAQ) for members of the uniformed services to meet the increased costs of housing in civilian communities.

Current basic allowances for quarters are essentially those established by the Act of May 19, 1952.

The proposed increases in BAQ are based in large part upon those recommended by the Advisory Panel on Military Family Housing Policies and Practices in its report of Nov 15, 1961.

ARMOR ASSN. SPONSORS TANK DESIGN CONTEST

A tank design contest open to enlisted men, officers and industry to help the Army find a future main battle tank is being sponsored by the Armor Association.

First prize winner is to receive a \$500 savings bond, with the next top entries being awarded \$300, \$200 and \$100 bonds.

Entries are to be mailed to Armor Association, 1757 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C. by 31 August. The Armor Center at Fort Knox will screen all entries and then forward worthy ideas to the Chief of Research and Development, Lt Gen Arthur G. Trudeau.

Revolutionary Change

Gen Trudeau has stated he was convinced that the "modern Army needs a new and revolutionary change in land development philosophy."

Maj Gen R. W. Grow, who led the world War II 6th Armored Division, has stated "What we really need is a break-out."

Contest judges will be the Chief of Research and Development, the Armor Center commandant and Gen (Retired) W. G. Wyman, Armor Association president.

Contest rules are being approved by the Army, according to Lt Col Thomas J. Cunningham, Jr., editor of the association's Armor magazine.

TWO FORMER NCO'S AT CENTER SEND GREETINGS TO FRIENDS

Two former APC members, former "top kick" C. H. Watkins who retired five years ago, and M/Sgt Paul M. Cimino, pillar of strength in the Military Personnel Office of a few years back, have sent greetings to their friends at the Center through "In Focus".

Watkins, enjoying his well-deserved retirement in Bellflower, Cal., promises to sit down and write an article telling of the glories of retirement, reminding us that he was First Sergeant before the advent of Vito B.

Cimino, now with the Intelligence Support Bn., 66th Intelligence Corps Group, APO 403, New York, is apparently enjoying his overseas assignment. We know he is doing his customary good job wherever he may be.

NCO WIVES CLUB PLANNED

Plans are now underway to form an NCO Wives Club in Troop Command 6440 in connection with the Center's NCO Open Mess.

Wives of members of the NCO Club who hold the rank of E-4 or above are eligible to apply for membership if there are enough interested applicants. The proposed NCO Wives Club would be associated with the NCO Club.

Anyone interested in such a club being formed at the Center should contact S/Sgt William W. Wright, club secretary, at telephone extension 459.

SAFETY DEVICES INSTALLED

IN PICK-UP, PANEL TRUCKS

In compliance with Army orders, the Center's Transportation Office has installed seat belts in all of its 12 pick-up and panel trucks. Installation must be on a funds available basis, the Army advised, but orders were that it be carried out as quickly as possible.

Yet to be installed were seat belts in sedans, but this would probably occur within the week. The seat belts should be installed on all motor vehicles operated by military and civilian personnel on public highways.



In the above picture, Major Joseph K. Fleischer, Transportation Officer, points to a newly installed seat belt being demonstrated by driver examiner James E. Carter.

The number of seat belts to be installed in each vehicle will depend on passenger load. Major Fleischer stated, "I am an advocate and firm believer in seat belts, not because they prevent accidents, but because they do minimize injuries to persons involved in mishaps."

EVIDENCE OF MAN'S HONESTY COMES TO LIGHT AT CENTER

It's indeed encouraging to know that another evidence of man's inherent honesty has come to light here at the Center.

Recently Ed Murphy, Camera Section, found \$60 in good American currency on the floor in one of the rooms in Building No. 1, with nothing to indicate who the rightful owner might be. Instead of pocketing the cash and saying nothing, Ed very properly turned it over to Chief Ofrias of the Guard force.

Soon John Pagano, Grip Section, visited the Guard office to report the loss of \$60 in bills. Upon identification, money and owner were reunited, and everybody lived happily ever after, especially John Pagano.

CROFT, TWITTY MISSING ON ILL-FATED PACIFIC FLIGHT



S/SGT CROFT



SFC TWITTY

The search has been abandoned for the ill-fated Flying Tiger 1049A Super Constellation that disappeared over the Pacific with 107 persons aboard, including two former APC soldiers.

Hundreds of planes have crisscrossed the Pacific for more than a week in search of the missing aircraft that took off from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., 9:45 am, March 14, bound for South Vietnam, via a mid-Pacific route.

The two APC soldiers aboard the airliner were SFC James E. Twitty and S/Sgt Lucius D. Croft, enroute to a mission. Twitty was the NCOIC of Camera Branch and Croft was his cameraman.

There has been speculation as to what actually happened, whether the Super-Constellation was hijacked or sabotaged. It is the hope of loved ones and friends at the Center, that the plane may have been hijacked, therefore giving hope that the two soldiers may some day be found.

Lt Col Frank P. Bellusci, executive officer, and 1st Lt David R. Coates, troop commander, were notified of the incident and visited Mrs. Twitty at her home.

The U. S. Internal Revenue Service urges taxpayers to retain their copies of returns filed during the current tax period. Records of income and expenses used in preparation of the return also should be kept.

LENSE CAP

BY clarence 'SCOOP' greene

The staff of "In Focus" extends its thanks to Robert Von Achen, Animation Branch for a splendid job of designing and laying out our special anniversary issue cover, on his own time. We started out fighting a losing battle when it was suggested that birthday candles be used in the original layout. But Robert reconsidered and came up with what we think is a very fitting design. Also we would like to thank Pvt Richard Ellescas for the artwork on Col Randle and Col Gillette.

Major Leonard Piekarski, Post Engineer has struck a fire under the military members of the post bowling league and Special Services Section, as he has made it known that he will take five of the best bowlers up to West Point to the First U.S. Army Bowling Championships.

Talking about championships, a team left earlier this month to compete in the basketball championships. In our first game we lost to Ft. Jay by a score of 105 to 25. Jay went on to the semi-finals to take the third place award. Our second game was lost to Ft. Slocum by a score of 66 to 32. Ft. Dix defeated Ft. Devens in the finals to win their tenth basketball crown.

Plans are underway to mark off a portion of the parking lot to be used as a volleyball court after duty hours. The Special Services office expects to see a lot of participation as the "Top Kick" is going to be one of the first out in the evenings.

We know that next month Easter will be creeping up on us. And if you see an Easter Bunny hopping down the street and you don't know what to say, just stop it and ask, "Did you know that we will adopt Daylight Saving time at 0200 hours, Sunday April 29, 1962?"

Voluntary enlistments in the U. S. Army during 1961 show a steady advance during the past four years. During the fiscal year of 1961 there were 116,093 no prior service enlistments, compared to 102,114 in the fiscal year 1960.

CENTER'S 20 YEARS (Cont'd From P. 6)

new phase of pictorial science--photo instrumentation.

Such a mission was assigned to APC in 1959. Photo instrumentation involves the application of photography to scientific or engineering purposes. It is the recording on photographic film and other light or radiation sensitive materials of phenomena under scientific observation, which later can be analyzed and measured.

This division of the all-important work day after day here also continues to be analyzed and the stress is on constant improvement of services.

Indeed, as history was once made here by commercial filmmakers, it will continue to be made by the Army as production continues at a high rate of speed. There are approximately 300 to 350 projects in some phase of production per fiscal year with over 600 reels completed a year and film processed at the rate of four to five million feet per month.

HIT THE JACKPOT

COMMENDATIONS FROM THE FIELD PRAISE PERSONNEL

Apparently it's either feast or famine with regard to receipt of commendations from the field for APC personnel. After a barren two months, the Center hit the jackpot in March, probably designed to coincide with the 20th anniversary celebration.

For example, from the Office of the Commanding General, First Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, comes a letter of commendation for Pvt Richard Ellescas, Animation Branch, for his demonstration of rare artistic talent in a number of projects when the latter was assigned to the "Big Red One".

From the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs there arrived a letter, through Signal Corps channels, signed by Arthur Sylvester praising APC for its work on "The Eagle's Talon", the first annual film report of the Secretary of Defense. Particularly cited were Col Randle, Lt Col Nothdurft, Robert Matthews and Ben Stelson. Maj Gen R. T. Nelson, Chief Signal Officer, and Col A. A. McCrary, Chief, APD, added their commendatory comments.

Air Force Happy

Major "Tony" Suglia, of the White House Army Signal Agency, sent a letter of appreciation to SFC (E-7) Yukio Tashiro, Animation Branch, for his "outstanding ability as a commercial artist and layout man" in satisfying the technical aspects of a requirement for the White House agency.

It takes Television Division to make the Air Force happy. Witness the letters of appreciation from Major William I. Hammond, USAF, Commander, Det. #1, 2200th Support Sq., Mitchel AFB, for the "installation and removal of the house audio and tape recording system for the public hearings conducted by the Federal Aviation Agency at Mitchel AFB on 16-17 January 1962." Recipients of praise were CWO Charles E. Lilley, John F. Mitchell, and the following EM: M/Sgt Charles Fisher, S/Sgt Ralph O. Hendershot, Sp-5 Israel A. Garfinkel, PFC Charles A. Barnes, Pvt Fred J. Breitenram, Pvt Kenny R. Garner and PFC Larry L. Massey.

TV Commended

Our old friend, Lt Col Ellis Smith, OIC of II U. S. Army Corps Mob. Des. Det. #20, himself one of the original APC veterans, has commended Lt Col Hugh C. Oppenheimer and a group from TV Division for a presentation on "Operation and Mission of TV Division, APC." Col Smith goes on to say, "The vigor, enthusiasm and consummate interest in television shown by your TV personnel command the respect and admiration of even the most callous motion picture specialist. This fine spirit deserves our highest praise and can only lead to splendid accomplishment."

In addition to Col Oppenheimer, others cited were Maj M. C. Lewey, Capt E. F. Holland, 1st Lts R. B. Brown, W. B. Marshall and James Walter, 2d Lt R. B. Davis, Sp-5 Salvatore Albanese, Sp-5 Kenneth Blaylock, Sp-4 Frederick Bodeker, Sp-4 Rolla Breed, Sp-5 Prince Cooper, PFC Samuel Cox, Sp-5 Teddy Dangel, S/Sgt Edmond DeLage, PFC Martin Edlefsen, Sp-5 Donald Edmonds, Sgt Clarence Edmondson, PFC Ray Ford, PFC Charles Giordano, PFC Joseph Kasper,

(Cont'd Next Col)

PFC Alvin Nowak, PFC Larry Parker, Pvt Will Rogers, SFC George Rosencrans, S/Sgt Eugene Stough, PFC Dean Vogler and Kenneth D. Coburn.

Brig Gen A. H. Manhart, commanding general, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) wrote that he wished to express his "appreciation to Mr. Wald, Mr. Howell, Mr. Wanks, Mr. Guile, Mr. Rader and Mr. Graves. They worked hard and efficiently and I am of the opinion that there should be a fine coverage of the activation of the Division."

From Rossford Ordnance Depot, Toledo, Ohio, comes a letter from C. Y. Best praising the work of Sp-5 Steven Irvin in assisting the Joint Military Packaging Training Center in connection with the preparation of photos for filmstrips.



Lt Col Frank P. Bellusci, Executive Officer, presents a Certificate of Achievement to Sgt John F. Kenny, Editorial Branch, now in civilian life, as Lt Col James Malone, left, Chief, Production Division and Capt Laurence Souville, Chief, Editorial Branch, watch.

Last, but by no means least, was a letter of appreciation from Col A. A. McCrary, Chief, APD, for the work of Distribution Branch for providing special information for the Department of Defense on short notice, resulting in a favorable reaction on the part of the DOD officials. Lt Col Nothdurft and Lester A. Binger were cited for their parts in rendering this fine service.

NEW LAW PROVIDES LEGAL

HELP FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

Public Law 87-258, approved 21 September 1961, provides for Federal employees to be defended against suits arising out of their operation of motor vehicles in the scope of their employment.

This means that any Federal employee involved in an automobile accident while driving on official business, whether the vehicle is Government or privately owned, will be considered an agent of the Government. Any suit for damages arising from an accident which occurs while an employee is driving on official business will be defended by a Government attorney.

This new law emphasizes the supervisor's responsibility for providing the safest possible vehicles and assuring that all drivers are physically, mentally, and mechanically fit to drive. The legislation in no way relieves drivers from adhering to the highest standards of safety and attention to the job at hand.

The way that you suggest may turn out to be the best.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FOR RED CROSS FUNDS HELD

While looking through material for the 20th Anniversary Issue of "In Focus", a staffer found a paragraph on the Red Cross in a Daily Bulletin dated, 6 April 1949.

The article asked for contributions so that it might continue the work for which it was founded, "a channel through which compassion might find neighborly expression in the relief of human suffering...across the street, across the nation, across the world."

And so once again, the Army Pictorial Center, in conjunction with the American National Red Cross, has been conducting its annual campaign for funds during the month of March. Leading the drive for funds is its chairman, Captain Frank Hursey, Supply Officer.

In a message delivered on January 22, 1962, President John F. Kennedy, Honorary Chairman stated, "A strong Red Cross is vital to our Nation in these critical times. Employees of the Federal Government and members of military establishments are urged to continue their fine support of the Red Cross so that it can serve today and be prepared for tomorrow."

Key Men Listed

All military and civilian personnel have been afforded the opportunity to contribute through the Key Men in the various divisions, branches, and sections. The following were Key Men: Military; 2/d Lt Douglas Sinsal, 2d Lt Thomas Steger, 2/d Lt Fred I. Smith, SFC Ray Meade, SFC Conrad Dougherty, S/Sgt Willard Smith, S/Sgt George Rosencrans, S/Sgt Michael Potter, S/Sgt Charles Lyner, Sp/5 Robert Brownstein, Sp/5 Ken Blaylock, Sp/5 John Reynolds, Sp/4 Phil Wahl, PFC James Sterling.

Key Men for civilian personnel were: Hazel Rothenberg, Betty Augello, John Evola, Marsha Wilkins, Harry Rubin, Mary Weber, Blanche Davis, Robert Dworsky, Phil Kandel, Helen Walsh, Mary Ferguson, David Druyan, Frank Supeck, Michael Groia, William Ofrias, Patricia Courtney, Frederick Hicks, Martha Goodman, Ann Marie O'Connor, Harry Novak, Lillian Wachtel, Alyse Klein, Emily Cocheo.

PRIZE WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS

SET FOR EXHIBITION HERE

A two-week long exhibit of the 1961 First U. S. Army Photography Contest, in which pictures by two enlisted men stationed at the Center will be included, is scheduled here for 8-22 April.

Among the works on display will be pictures by Sp-4 John Lapak, Message Center, who won three prizes, and Sp-4 Roger Tuch, Photo Instrumentation. Another prize was won by James C. Higley who has since been discharged.

The exhibit will be held in the Post Cafeteria. Lt Allan D. Rosenberg, new Executive Officer of Troop Command 6440, is planning arrangements for the photo feature.

The first Post Exchanges were authorized 66 years ago by General Order No. 46, a directive of the Secretary of War, dated July 25, 1895.