

CLOUD BUSTER

News Digest ...

Detachments, Arrivals

Three officers were detached from the station during the past week, while two others reported for duty.

Transferred were Lieut. Paul A. Thompson, D-V(S), instructor in essentials of naval service, going to the NRAB at Squantum, Mass.; Lieut. (jg) John W. Morriss, D-V(S), track coach, to the Naval Aviation Cadet Selection Board, New Orleans, La.; and Ens. Jack G. VerLee, D-V(S), platoon officer and sports program coach, to the Squantum NRAB.

Coming aboard were Lieut. (jg) John M. Sink, Jr., A-V(S), reporting from NAS, Quonset Point, R. I., for duty in the academic department here, and Lieut. (jg) George Parke, Jr., MC-V(G), from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, Ga.

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Red Cross War Fund

Contributions to the American Red Cross war fund were made by Pre-Flight personnel last Thursday and Friday at a table prepared for this purpose in Alexander Hall. President Roosevelt has asked the country to give at least \$125,000,000 for carrying on the manifold war services of the Red Cross which form an essential link between the American fighting man and the folks at home.

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Plea for Grass

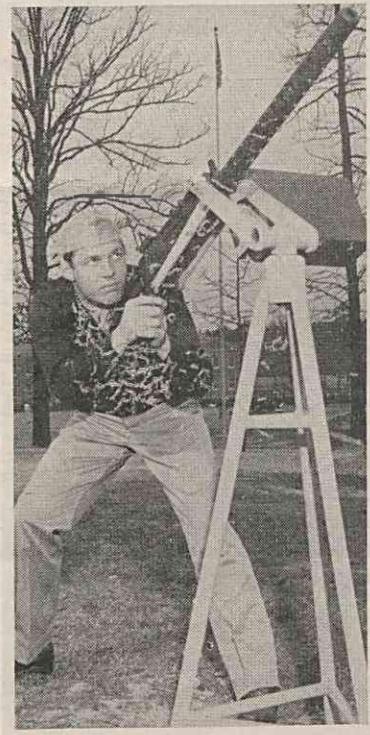
"This spring give the grass a chance. Walk on the walks. Freedom places the responsibility on you." Thus read several signs posted at various places on the University campus this past week.

For the good of the grass, what little there is of it, cadets are asked to follow the walks while on town liberty this weekend. By the first of May we may see green grass—even in Chapel Hill.

Pre-Flight Cadet Faced Enemy Fire At Casablanca

Few if any cadets have traveled as far as Allen H. Freeman for training in naval aviation.

Little more than three months ago, Cadet Freeman was some 3,000 miles away, serving with the blitzing bluejackets who smashed



Cadet Freeman

through the Axis defense and convoyed American troops safely into North Africa. In the first landing party at Fedala—about 15 miles north of Casablanca—he saw at first hand the supreme value of local air superiority. Now as a member of the 19th Battalion he is busily preparing for the day when he will again go against the enemy, but next time from the cockpit of a Navy patrol bomber.

At the Casablanca landing, Freeman was serving as QM3c on a 63-foot aviation rescue patrol

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Lt. Kepler Head Baseball Coach; Practice Starts Here Monday

Cadets Dance In Gym Tonight

Cadets and their dates will hop and swing to the rhythmic offerings of the Pre-Flight band at the regimental dance to be held tonight in Woollen Gymnasium.

Starting time of the affair, arranged by Lieut. Frank L. Gillespie, USNR, assistant welfare and recreation officer, is 2030. The last dance will be over by 2315 and taps will be at 2400.

Members of the senior (15th) battalion will be permitted to wear their blue service uniforms, while the remainder of the regiment will wear khakis.

A guest vocalist is expected to be featured during the evening.

Enlisted Men Make Changes in Ratings

The following advancements in ratings were effected on Mar. 1:

John C. Lennan from S1c to SM3c; Clifton F. Looney from S1c to SM3c; Randolph C. Roper, S1c to SM3c; Eliot C. Read, Y3c to Y2c; Carl W. Bryan, SK2c to SK1c; Ernest O. Edwards, PhM3c to PhM2c; William R. Mabley, Jr., PhM3c to PhM2c; and John S. Phillips, PhM3c to PhM2c.

Joseph H. Waite was changed in rating the same day from Y3c to SK3c.

Movie Schedule

Mar. 6—Free movie at Village Theatre, "I Married a Witch" with Fredric March and Veronica Lake. Feature starts at 1330, 1515, 1930 and 2115.

Mar. 7—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Babes on Broadway" with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland. Feature starts at 1310 and 1515.

Lieut. Don Kepler, USNR, who played major league ball with both the Chicago White Sox and Washington Senators, has been named head coach of baseball here, it was announced this week by Comdr. John P. Graff, USN (Ret.), commanding officer. Named at the same time to serve as assistants to Coach Kepler were Lieuts. (jg) Buddy Hassett, Pete Appleton, and Al Sabo. Others may be announced later.

Coach Kepler stated Thursday that the initial baseball practice of the year would be held Monday afternoon at 1530 on Emerson Field. All cadets are eligible to try for the team, and the first game is scheduled against Catawba college at Salisbury, N. C., on April 3.

While the schedule is not complete, fifteen games have already been arranged. A "rationed league," composed of the Pre-Flight School and three college teams in the Big Five—Carolina, N. C. State, and Duke—has been started and is thought to be the first of its kind in the country. All teams in the league will play four games with each other, two at home and two away.

As yet the calibre of the team is not known, but it is expected that several ball players with previous experience are already here, and that others will report in the next three or four battalions.

Kepler's assistants have all seen action in the majors. Hassett was a member of the famed New York Yankees of last year, Appleton played with the St. Louis Browns during the past season, and Sabo was with the Washington Senators for a while.

The schedule, at present, is as follows:

April 3, Catawba, there; April 6, Carolina, here; April 10, Duke, here; April 13, Carolina, here;

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