

1950 - 1959

The Bulletin of the U.S. Army Medical Department and the Naval Medical Bulletin consolidated and published its first issue in January 1950 as The United States Armed Forces Medical Journal.

(Officer Reserve Corps (ORC) Training Bulletin, Medical Department U.S. Army, published by the Medical Field Service School (MFSS), FSH, TX, October 1950, pg 3)

WAC Uniform

On 6 April 1950, members of the Women's Army Corps (WAC) student detachment were given an opportunity to view the WAC uniform which was contemplated for future issues.

(AMSS Annual Report, 1950, pg 16)



During a two-week active duty training at the MFSS, 103 members of the Officers' Reserve Corps saw demonstrations of an ambulance shuttle system. The training covered manual carries of patients, improvised litters, and conversions of standard Army vehicles to patient carriers. A variety of vehicles were involved, including the 2 1/2, 1 1/2, and 3/4-ton trucks; a 1/4-ton jeep with trailer; a half-track armored vehicle; a scout car, and the M29C, commonly called the "Weasel."

(ORC Training Bulletin, Medical Department U.S. Army, published by the MFSS, FSH, TX, 1 September 1950, pg 1)

A large influx of wounded from Korea in the fall of 1950 increased the need for Red Cross housing on post, forcing female officers who served as instructors to obtain off-post quarters.

(AMSS Annual Report 1950, pg 19)



Ambulance, circa 1952

(U.S. Army Photo, Fort Sam Houston Museum Photo Collection)

MSG Edward Austin shows clippings of MFSS activities to a young newcomer, PVT Donald Sedlaw, of Detroit, MI, age 17. MSG Austin served MFSS most of his 32 years in the Army, first at Carlisle Barracks, then BAMC.

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)

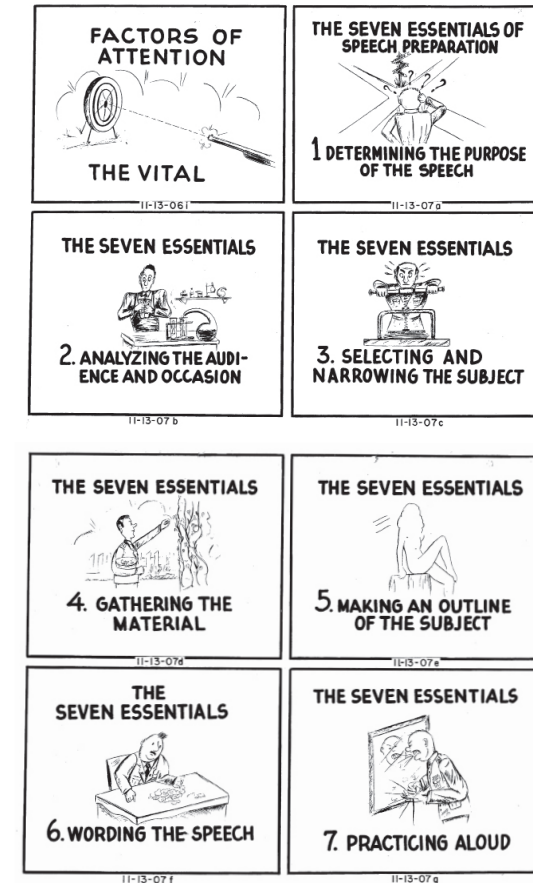


The Graphic Arts Section was key to education and training at MFSS during the 1950s. It created displays and exhibits for Armed Forces Day, the San Antonio International Trade Fair, and exhibits throughout the school. It designed and built numerous training aids for the newly activated Medical Replacement Training Center and developed a three-dimensional aids shop that produced models, mock-ups and three dimensional training aids that illustrated effects of atomic explosion and anatomical models. It also prepared a Training Aids Catalog which contained training charts and diagrams readily available through their department.



The MFSS 1950 football team, the "Comets"

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)



The Seven Essentials

A training aid for speech preparation from the 1950 Training Aids Catalog.

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950, pg 16)



Guest Speaker, Dr. Earl Elkins, Director of Physical Therapy Department at Mayo Clinic, with Major Snyder and Lt COL Tate

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)

1950

The Vu-Graph overhead projector was adopted by the MFSS as a training device, opening a whole new field of graphic training aids.

(AMSS Annual Report, 1950, pg 21)

The MFSS implemented a Civilian Components Section in compliance with Army-wide policy. The primary mission of the section was to coordinate the preparation and distribution of instructional material to civilian components — Officer Reserve Corps (ORC), Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), and National Guard (NG).

(ORC Training Bulletin, Medical Department U.S. Army, published by the MFSS, FSH, TX, 1 August 1950)



Inspection of WAC Detachment by General Martin & COL Hallaren

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)

Women Officers Basic Class on the steps of the School of Aviation Medicine

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)



Women Officers Basic Class at calisthenics

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)



Organization Day

MG Martin addresses the troops during Organization Day.

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)

Muster

Troops of the MFSS muster in formation in the Quadrangle to hear MG Martin deliver School Commandant's Organization Day Speech.

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)



U.S. Navy

The Navy assigned more than 600 Naval Reserve doctors to Army posts nationwide to ease a shortage of physicians. Several of the doctors-on-loan served at the MFSS.

(U.S. Army Photo, 1950)



Amphitheater

Students attend tactical maneuver training in the "new" amphitheater classroom at the MFSS.

(AMSS Annual Historical Report, 1950)



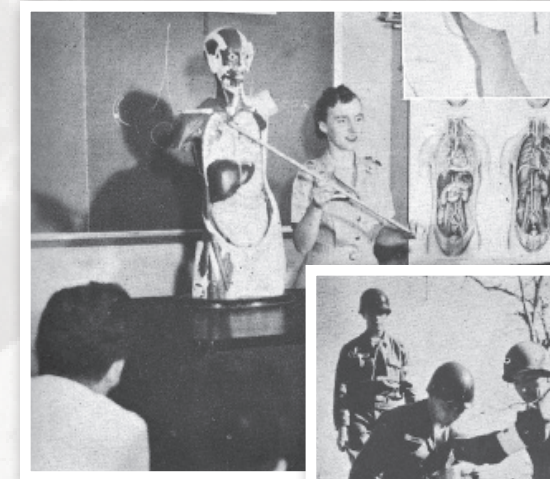
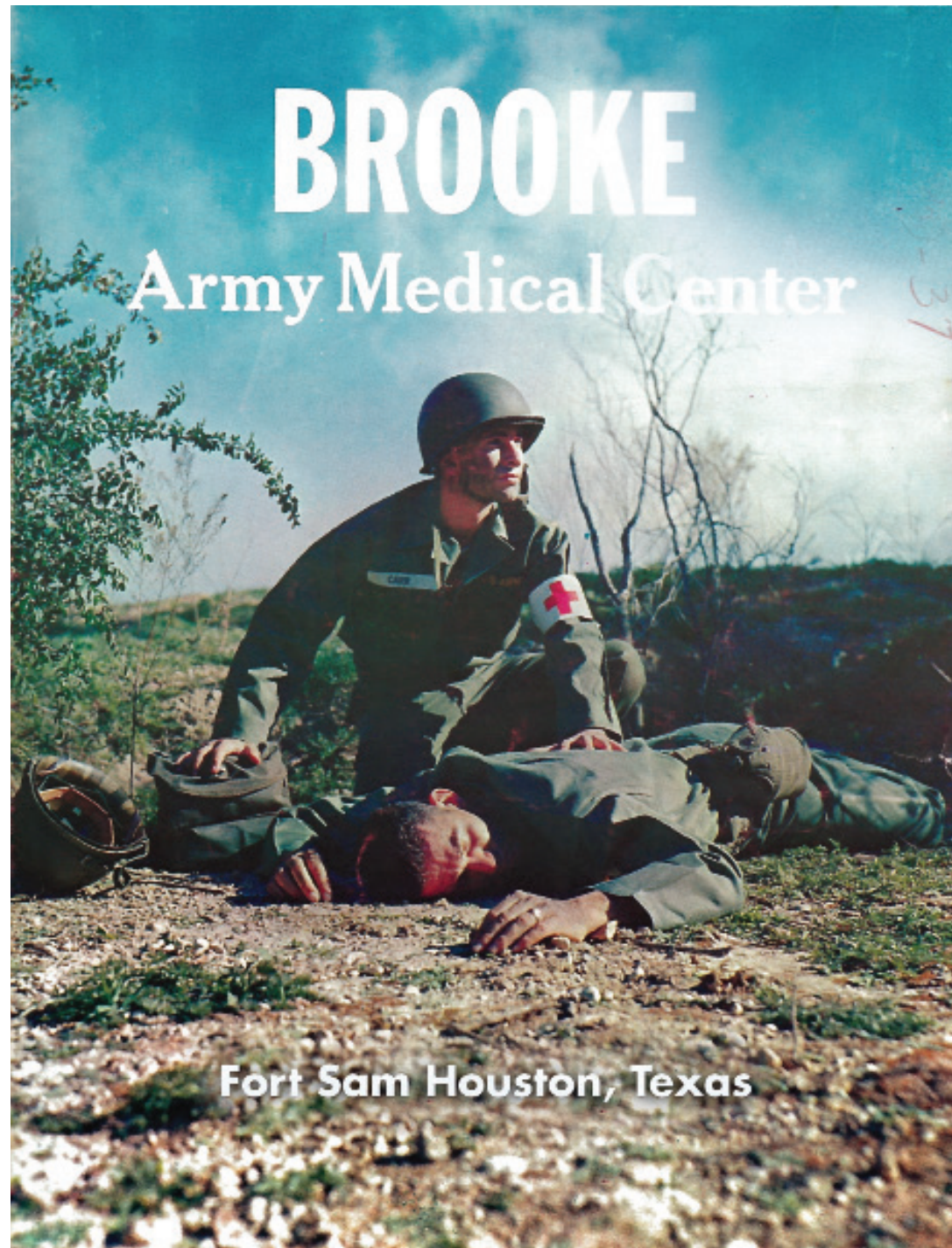
Class 168, Company A, 3rd Battalion, MFSS Surgical Technician Course

This image from October 1950 includes a number of Air Force troops (male individuals in khaki uniforms are Air Force personnel).

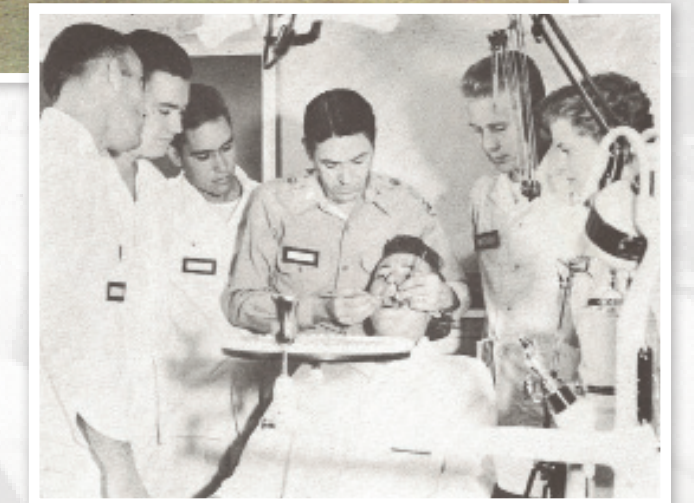
(U.S. Army Photo, Fort Sam Houston Museum Collection)

1950

In 1950, BAMC produced a view book documenting research, training, and technology at the MFSS and BAMC.



1950 Viewbook
A collage of images from the 1950 Viewbook highlighting MFSS training.



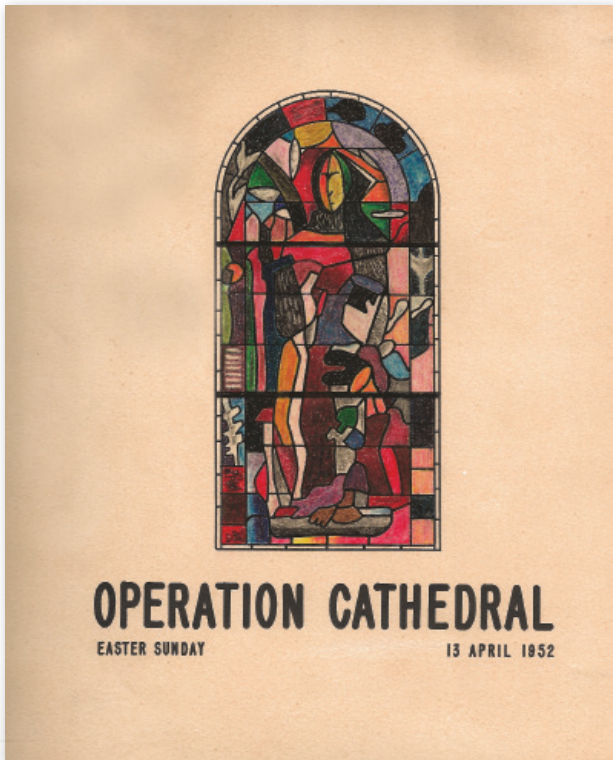
1952

In July 1952, the MFSS became the first Army medical installation to add helicopters to its training facilities. LT Joseph L. Bowler was appointed head of the MFSS aviation section. At the time, LT Bowler held the record for the most casualty evacuations during the Korean War.

“Two ‘Flying Windmills’ Added As MFSS Shapes Aviation Section,” Army Post Times, 11 July 1952)

The MFSS held its first “Think Fast and Then Act Deliberately” course. An all male officer course, it involved both day and night field exercises designed to teach students tactics against guerilla techniques.

“Think Fast! Act Deliberately!,” ORC: the Army Medical Service Training Bulletin, Vol III, No. 1, BAMC, FSH, TX, April 1952, pg 2)

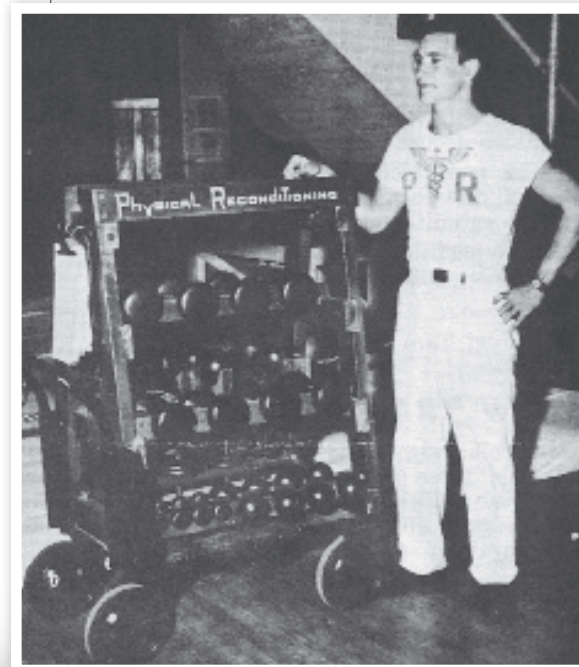


Seminarians from the De Mazenod Seminary and members of the San Antonio Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus participated in the Easter Sunday pontifical field mass on MacArthur Field. The mass was part of an overall Easter weekend program named “Operation Cathedral.”

(Operation Cathedral OPORD, 1952, Stimson Library Special Collections)

A portable weight rack was devised and put into use at BAMC by MFSS students with the Physical Therapy Program as a time and labor-saving device.

“Portable Weight Rack,” ORC: the Army Medical Service Training Bulletin, Vol. III, No. 2, BAMC, FSH, TX, July 1952)



“Medical aid men” begin their training on the new ambulance truck M43, designed to accommodate five litter or eight ambulatory patients.

“New Ambulance Type Truck,” ORC: the Army Medical Service Training Bulletin, Vol. III, No. 4, October 1952, pg 3)



H-13 helicopters land on a mission to BAMC, circa 1952.

(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection)

1952

Two hundred and forty-eight pharmacy and veterinary ROTC Cadets completed a six-week training camp at the MFSS in August of 1952. They attended courses on Military Courtesy, Organization of the Army, Chemical Warfare, Dismounted Drill, and Map Reading. The veterinary students completed their training with a three-day exercise at the King Ranch in Kingsville, Texas.

(“ROTC Summer Camp,” ORC: the Army Medical Service Training Bulletin, Vol. III, No. 2, BAMC, FSH, TX, July 1952)



Aerial view of the 9th Infantry Quadrangle, 1952

(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection)



Army Nurses in the Women’s Officer Basic Course receive instruction on water purification. 6 May 1952

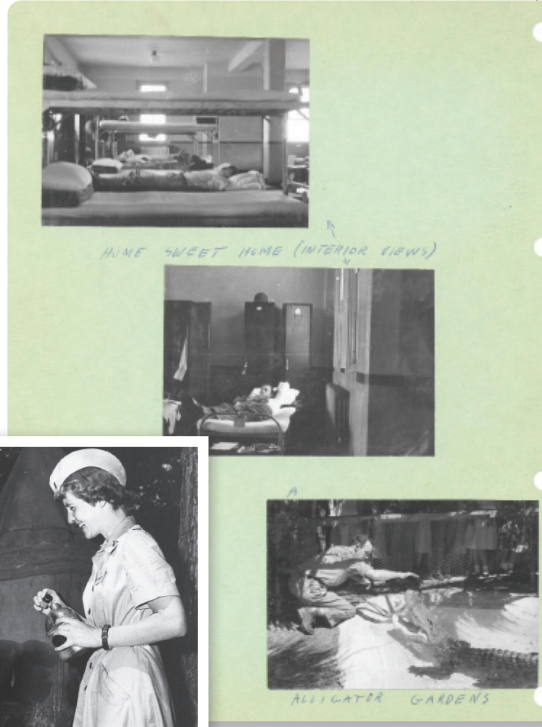
(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

Medical Replacement Training Center, 1952, in mobilization barracks area along Garden Street between Schofield and Hardee Roads

(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection)

A scrapbook page shows the difference between what the Army wanted the MFSS student barracks to look like and what they really looked like in 1952.

(FSH Museum Photo Collection)



A logistical command post exercise and map maneuver designated as LOGEX 52 1/2 was conducted at Camp Bullis by the MFSS from 2-13 September 1952. LOGEX 52 1/2 was a scaled-down version of previous training exercises and allowed more observation of students by proctors. Two hundred total personnel participated, in comparison to the 1,500 participants of the LOGEX 52 carried out earlier in the year.

(“LOGEX 52 1/2,” ORC: the Army Medical Service Training Bulletin, Vol. III, No. 4, BAMC, FSH, TX, October 1952)



The barber shop was located in building 615

(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)

The chow line at one of the many mess halls

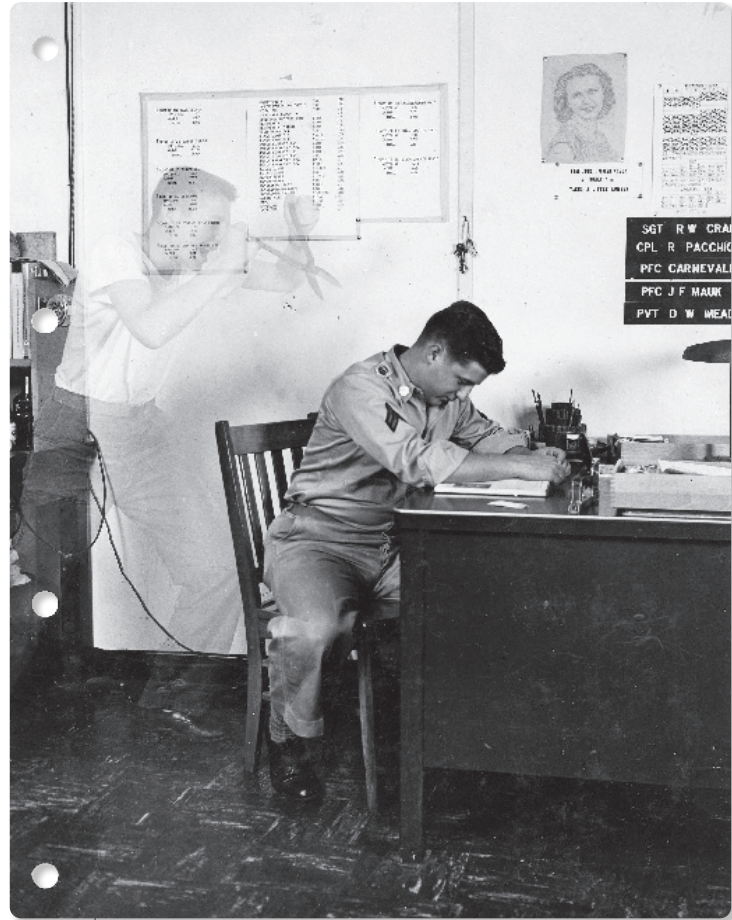
(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)



Shots

(U.S. Army Photo, FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)

1952



Student Pranks

Soldiers working the photo lab of the Training Aids Department playing around with a "ghost" image.

(FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)

Student Photo Memoirs

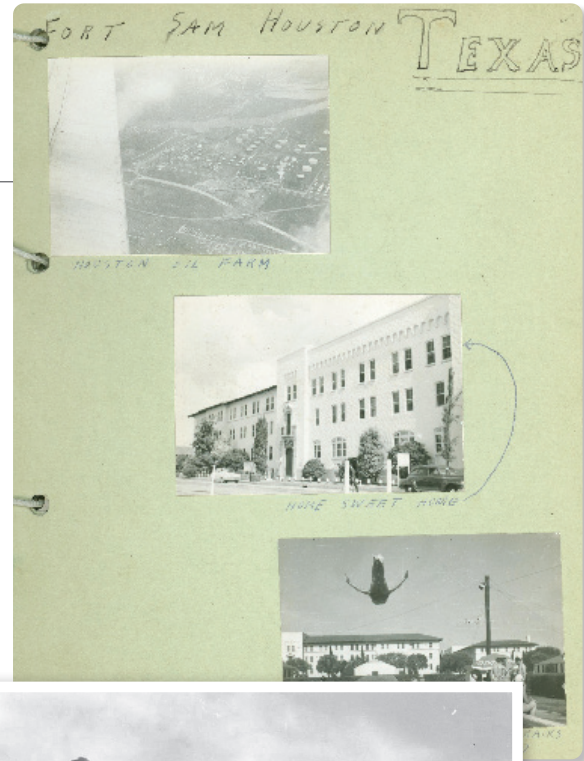
A former student's photo album reveals fond memories of the pool and MFSS carnival.

(FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)

Swing

The 323rd Band performs at Organization Day 19 May 1952.

(Organization Day File, 1952, Stimson Library Special Collections)



Student Life

The MFSS sponsored a carnival that involved students, cadre, and civilians alike.

(FSH Museum Photo Collection, 1952)

1953

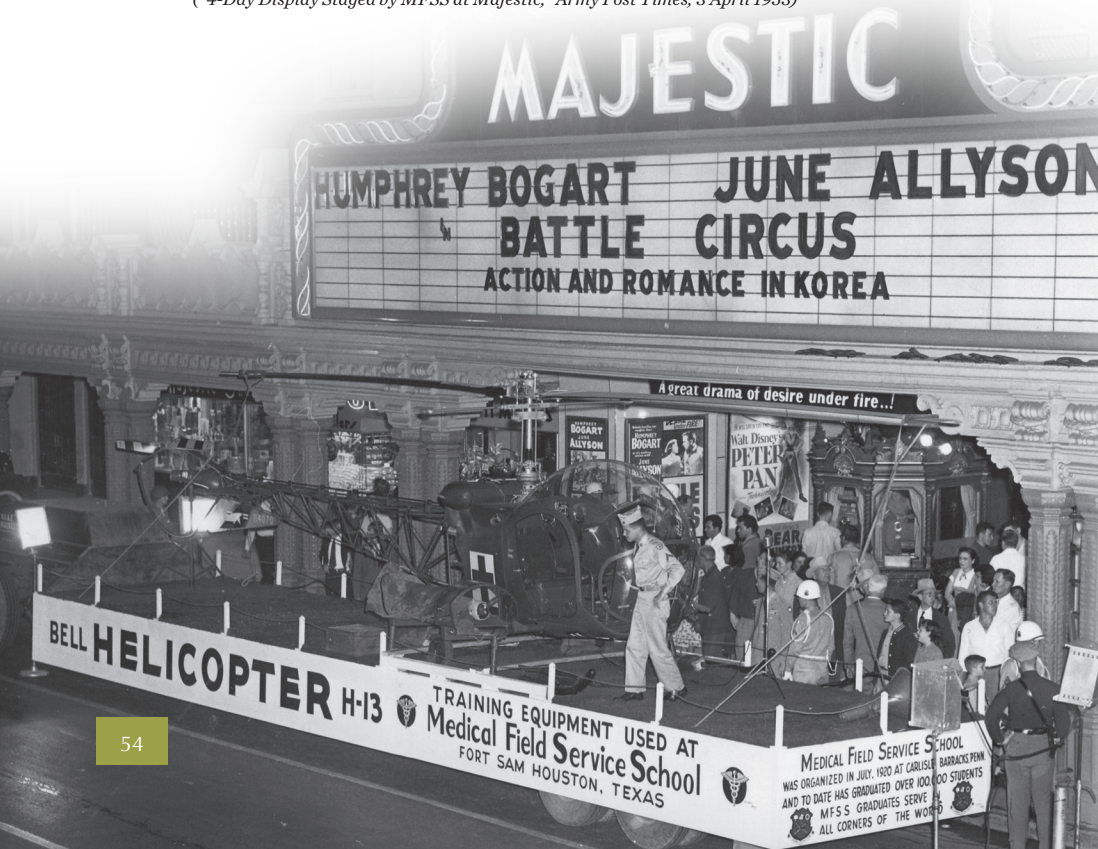
The Stimson Library obtained a medical exhibit on loan from the Armed Forces Medical Library detailing President Grover Cleveland's secret operation for jaw cancer aboard the yacht Oneida. It was the first time the documents had been seen outside of Washington, D.C.

("Medical Journal Being Displayed at MFSS Library," Army Post Times, 10 April 1953)

The Majestic

The latest methods and equipment used by the Medical Field Service School were staged at a four-day display in front of and within the Majestic Theater in downtown San Antonio in conjunction with the premiere of the Humphrey Bogart and June Allyson movie "Battle Circus."

("4-Day Display Staged by MFSS at Majestic," Army Post Times, 3 April 1953)



BG James P. Cooney

Major General Joseph I. Martin, Commandant of the MFSS and Deputy Commanding General of BAMC, assumed command of BAMC in April of 1953. He was succeeded at the MFSS by BG James P. Cooney.



Stimson Library

Long time civilian librarian, Mrs. Beth Simpson (third from right), is seen searching the card catalog in the Stimson Library, January 1953.

(MFSS Scrapbook 1950-1953, Stimson Library Special Collections)



An exercise in the practical application of emergency medical treatment

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 70)

In June 1953, the MFSS added a Piasecki H-25, "Army Mule," to its fleet of H-13 helicopters. The H-25 was the Army's latest means of transporting the sick and wounded. A demonstration of the aircraft was conducted by the Medical Service Branch, Department of Tactics, Techniques and Logistics, at Camp Bullis. Camp Bullis provided a perfect setting for such training because the rough terrain resembles much of Korea. The H-25 joined the "big three" of front line casualty evacuation: the litter, the litter jeep, and the ambulance. The H-25 was a critical addition because it could provide speed, which was essential in battlefield pick-up.

("MFSS Hosts Tandemeer Editor," Army Post Times, 5 June 1953; "Army Medics Demonstrate Use of H-25," Tandemeer, July-August 1953)

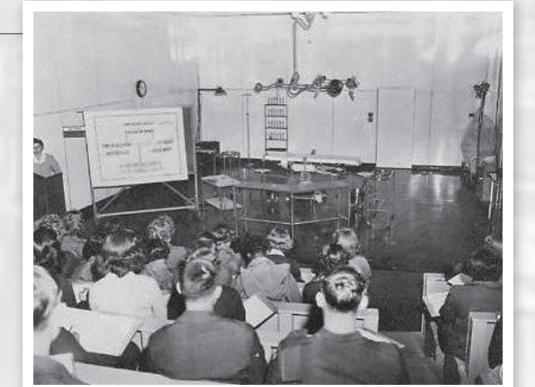
Medical Intermediate Course immunization practical application

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 71)



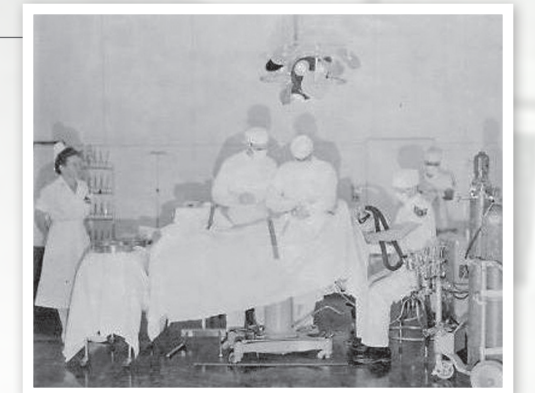
Practical demonstrations of operating room techniques during enlisted hospital procedures training

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 70)



Medical Intermediate Course mock appendectomy

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 71)



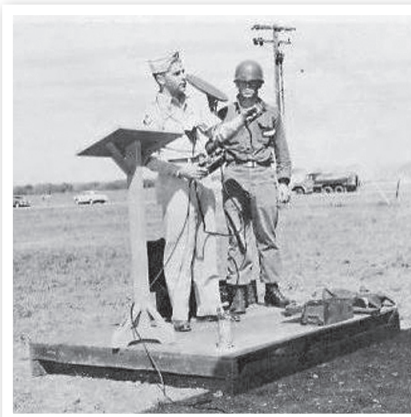
1953

The addition of the H-25 coincided with the initiation of a helicopter pilot program for Medical Service Corps officers. Announced in the Standard Garrison Organization (SGO) Circular, No. 82, 2 July 1953, the program consisted of 22 weeks of pilot training at the Army Aviation School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Successful completion of the program qualified the officer as an Army aviator and awarded him MOS 1066, Helicopter Pilot. Follow-on assignments were to units at Brooke Army Medical Center, overseas commands, and a few to the staff and faculty of the MFSS and the Army Aviation School at Fort Sill.

(The Army Medical Service Reserve Training Bulletin, Vol IV, No. 3, BAMC, FSH, TX, July-Sept 1953, pg 2)

That summer the utility of helicopters for air evacuation was demonstrated by three H-13 helicopters from the MFSS 53rd Medical Detachment who participated in the week-long 6th Annual International Aviation Exposition in Detroit.

(“MFSS Sends Helicopters to Perform in Exposition,” Army Post Times, July 30)



Instruction in mine warfare

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 73)

Medical Intermediate Course use of sphygmomanometer practical application

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 72)



Occupational therapy workshop

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 73)



Explanation in the operation of a respirator for operating room technicians

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 72)

Medical Service officer personnel entering active duty received eight hours of training in weapons familiarization and battle indoctrination as part of the Basic Course at the MFSS. The weapons instruction covered the nomenclature, characteristics, capabilities, disassembly and assembly, care and cleaning, operations, function, safety factors, and safety precautions of the U.S. Carbine, Caliber .30.

(The Army Medical Service Reserve Training Bulletin, Vol IV, No. 3, BAMC, FSH, TX, July-Sept. 1953, pg 3)

MG William E. Shambora, MC, Assistant Commandant of the Medical Field Service School in 1946, returned to Fort Sam Houston to serve as Commander of Brooke Army Medical Center.

(The Army Medical Service Reserve Training Bulletin, Vol. IV, No. 4, BAMC, FSH, TX, Oct-Dec 1953, pg 1)



Instruction in map reading

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 74)

Medical Field Service School's second annual field dental clinic exercise in minor dental operation

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 75)



Preventive Medicine Course demonstration

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 74)



Exercise in treatment to a battle casualty by company aid man

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 76)



1953

Civilian consultants were noted as having an increasingly important role in the Army Medical Service since the civilian consultant program was established just prior to WWII. Their numbers had risen to 1,553 consultants (approved by the Surgeon General) in 1953. Many of these served at the MFSS. The important benefits of civilian consultants were listed as:

1. Promoting better integration of civilian and Army surgeons during a national emergency.
2. Introducing improved methods of diagnosis and treatment of the sick and wounded and advances in the field of preventive medicine.
3. Playing a prime role in Army residency training programs and care of patients at the hospital level.
4. Augmenting Army medical research.
5. As an advisory body on medical personnel and administrative matters, consultants were considered to be of inestimable value to the Surgeon General and other levels of Army Medical Service commands.

(The Army Medical Service Reserve Training Bulletin, Vol IV, No. 3, BAMC, FSH, TX, Oct-Dec. 1953, pg 3)



Entering the Battalion Aid Station for treatment

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 77)



A demonstration in the arrival of a helicopter at the Battalion Aid Station for seriously wounded casualties

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 78)



Loading of a seriously wounded casualty at the Battalion Aid Station

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 79)



How to execute the evacuation of a patient by litter jeep from the Battalion Aid Station to the Collecting Station

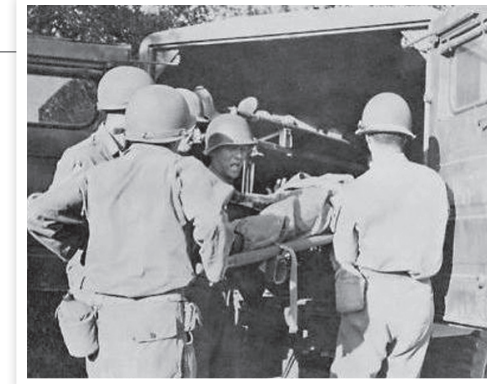
(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 78)

“Realistic” is the only word that was used to describe the MFSS field demonstration which showed the work of the medical service of an infantry battalion under fire at Camp Bullis. Members of the 37th Medical Battalion participated in the exercise providing aid station, litters, jeep ambulances, and air evacuation.

(“True to Life Training,” San Antonio Express Magazine, Dec. 11)

Training in the evacuation of a seriously wounded casualty from the collecting station

(U.S. Army Medical Service School Annual Report of Army Medical Service Activities, Fort Sam Houston, 1953, pg 79)



MSgt Piederella points out on the chart the best point to place a skeletal tracion pin on a model, 5 July 1953.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

DEPT OF PROFESSIONAL SCIENCES (CONT'D.)	
Diseases of Military	100-106
Importance	107-111
Sanitation & Water Treatment	112
Insect & Rodent Control	172
Army Veterinary Service	
Veterinary Inspection of Foods of Animal Origin	173-177
DEPT OF MILITARY SCIENCES	
Military Leadership	34-36
Military Courtesies & Customs of the Service	37-39
Methods of Instruction	40-45
Map & Aerial Photo Reading	46-53
Training Management	54-57
Land Mine Warfare	59-63
Field Medical Service	113-122
Special Weapons	123-127
Logistics, General	128-138
Command & Staff Procedures	139-145
Orientation, Foreign Armies	146-148
Signal Communications	149-151
Field Engineering	152-153
Intelligence	154-158
Air Force	159-161
Combined Arms	162-166

Abdominal Injury	
1. Care in the division area.	
2. Pre-operative measures at the MASH. General, time factor, diagnostic measures.	
3. Exploratory laparotomy. Incision, exploration, peritoneal lavage, antibiotics, drains, wound closure.	
4. Injuries involving special organs.	
Ref: TM MSD 147, par 13, 14, 23; Forsee.	
Review of Anatomy in Relation to the Perforated Vascular System	
1. Arteries and veins of the upper extremities.	
2. Arteries and veins of the trunk.	
3. Arteries and veins of the lower extremities.	
Ref: Standard anatomy texts.	

Syllabus 1,2,3

Hip-pocket syllabi were a common teaching tool in the 1950s.

(Stimson Library Special Collections)

Military Justice	
Unit Supply	
Medical Records & Reports	
DEPT OF DENTAL SERVICE	
Operation of the Dental Service	197-210
DEPT OF PROFESSIONAL SCIENCES	
Emergency Medical & Surgical Procedures	211-216
Veterinary Food Inspection Service	217-220
Veterinary Animal Service	221-228
Veterinary Laboratory Service	229-230

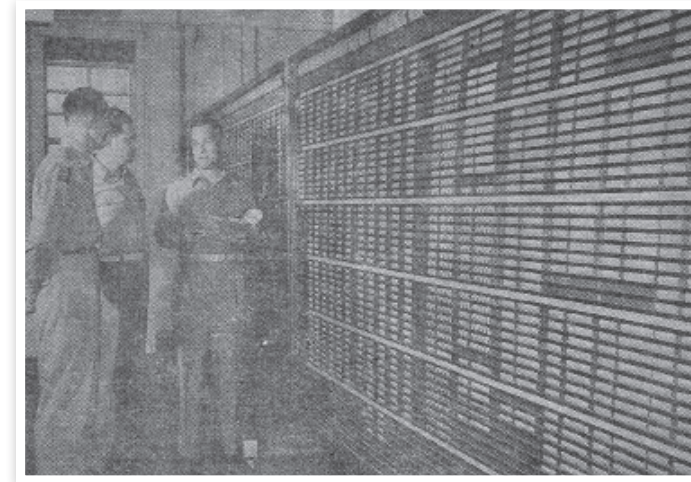
1954

“6,100 theater size tickets arranged in kaleidoscope pattern of colors on a huge plywood panel control the activities of 2,500 MFSS students every week. These ticketed boards give students an ‘at-one-glance’ picture of sequence of instruction among other things.”

“6,100 Tickets Control All Brooke Center Student Work,” San Antonio Express, 13 Jan 1954)

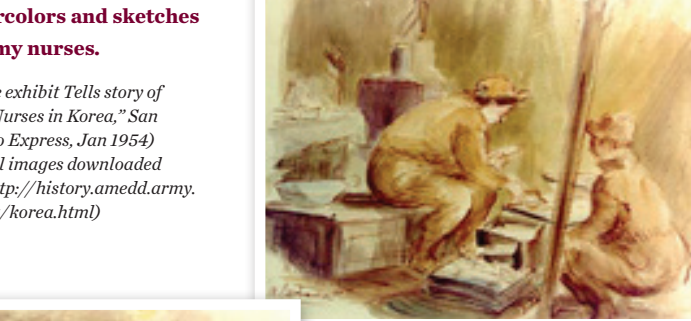
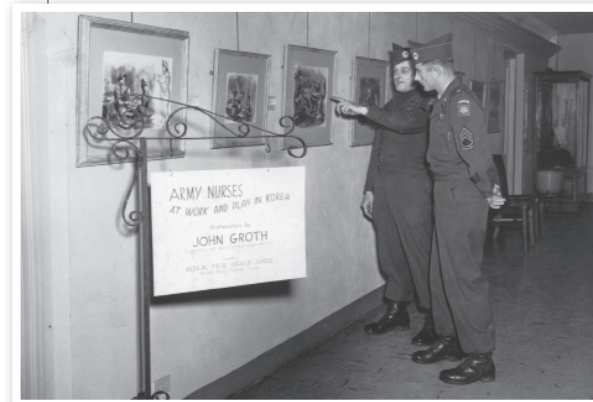
Witte Memorial Museum exhibited John Groth’s sketches and watercolors of Army nurses, at work and play. The pictures were part of a permanent collection of the MFSS and loaned to the museum in honor of the 53rd Anniversary of the Army Nurse Corps.

“Witte Exhibit Tells Story of Army Nurses in Korea,” San Antonio Express, Jan 1954)



Watercolors and sketches of Army nurses.

*“Witte exhibit Tells story of Army Nurses in Korea,” San Antonio Express, Jan 1954)
(Digital images downloaded from <http://history.amedd.army.mil/art/korea.html>)*



The MFSS conducted a demonstration of the transportation of the sick and wounded at the 12-21 February San Antonio Livestock Exposition. The aim of the exhibit was to educate the public in the transporting of patients from the most forward combat zone through medical channels to the main general hospital.

San Antonio Livestock Exposition Report cover

(San Antonio Livestock Report 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)



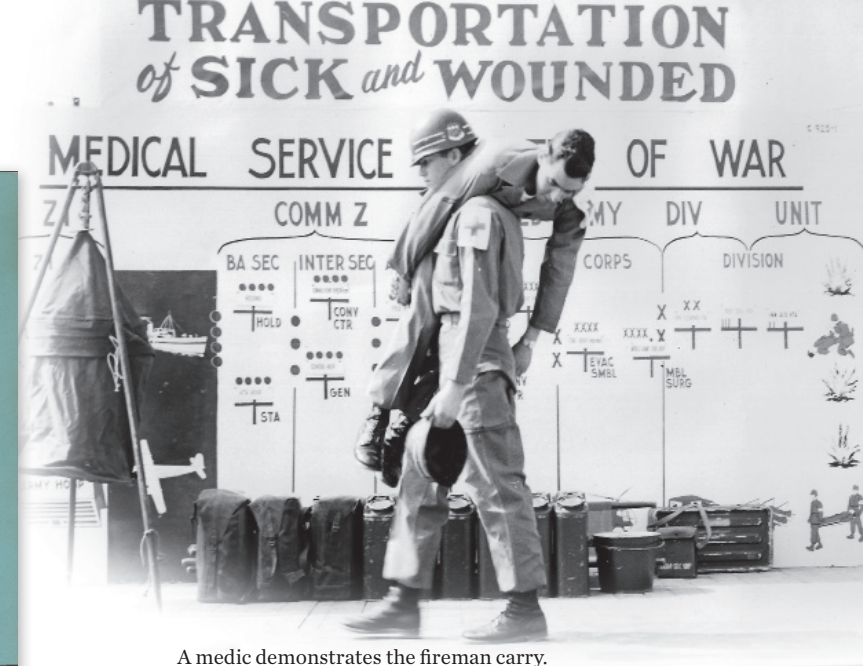
The H-13 air evacuation exhibit captivated a couple of young livestock go-ers.

(San Antonio Livestock Report 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)



The ¾ ton ambulance, ½ ton ambulance and H-25 Piasecki Helicopter can be seen in the background of the exhibit.

(San Antonio Livestock Report 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)



A medic demonstrates the fireman carry.

(San Antonio Livestock Report 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)



The litter demonstration included exhibits of 12 different kinds of litters: straight wood pole, aluminum, steel pole, stokes, litter mounted on skis, blanket, blanket with poles, field jacket with poles, sandbag with poles, door, rafts with poles, and a 7-litter raft.

(San Antonio Livestock Report 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)

1954

Mrs. Lucille Leone, Assistant Surgeon General and Chief Nurse Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education & Welfare (HE&W), visited Brooke Army Medical Service School to address students at the MFSS on nursing education in the U.S.

(“Chief Nurse Officer of U.S. Public Health Service Visits,” Army Post Times, Feb 1954)

In March 1954, MG William E. Shambora, BAMC Commander, activated the Medical Training Center, the Army’s only basic training unit for combat aidmen and hospital corpsmen. The Medical Training Center was made a component of BAMC and was placed under the command of Brigadier General L. Holmes Ginn, Jr. MG Shambora also activated a unit within the Medical Training Center for training conscientious objectors for Army duty. The unit was the only one of its kind within the Army. Men in the unit were given eight weeks of basic military training with the exception that they were not required to train with weapons. Three hundred and ninety-seven conscientious Soldiers were trained by October 1954.

(“MFSS Has Only Unit of Kind For Training Conscientious Objectors For Army Duty,” Military Service Review, 8 October 1954)

Approximately 338 ROTC students attended the Army Medical Service Summer ROTC Camp. The ROTC cadets received training in the professional and technical procedures of military medicine. The primary purpose of the summer camp training was to familiarize the cadets with their responsibilities and duties as prospective officers in the armed services.

(“ROTC Camp Opens Here for Medics,” Army Post Times, June 1954)



Buckle up

A class of Medical Service Corps officers learns how properly to strap a patient and litter on an H-13 helicopter, October 1954.

(U.S. Army Photo. Digital image downloaded from www.history.amedd.mil)

In June 1954, 11 helicopters from BAMC’s 274th and 57th Helicopter Detachment, as well as the Aviation Section of the MFSS, evacuated 85 passengers, hundreds of pounds of baggage, and U.S. mail stranded on a train from the flood-hit Del Rio, Texas area. For two weeks, the BAMC and MFSS helicopters (H-25s and H-13s) continued disaster relief efforts to areas stricken on both sides of the Rio Grande of Nuevo Laredo and Ciudad Acuña. The smaller of the helicopters, the H-13, was able to make roof top landings to deliver supplies. Rescued people sang the praises of the entire operation, particularly the helicopter pilots.

(“Operation Copter Follows Flood Crest Down Rio Grande,” San Antonio News, June 1954; “Brooke Helicopters Join in Flood Rescue,” Army Post Times, 1 July 1954; “Brooke AMC ‘Chopper’ Continues Mercy Flights,” Army Post Times, 8 July 1954)

The new enlisted “Medical Records” class began at the MFSS the second week of July 1954. Specifically designed to train administrative personnel for supervisory positions, the course included instruction in medical records, office statistics, admission, disposition, and the hospital command operations.

(“New ‘Medical Records’ Class Begun this Week,” Army Post Times, 8 July 1954)

The first Turkish dental officer, MAJ Enver Plumer, began studies at the MFSS in September 1954.

(“First Turkish Dentist Starts MFSS Course,” Army Post Times, 2 September 1954)

COL Irene Galloway made her first visit to Ft. Sam Houston as the WAC Director. She conferred with commanders and was the guest of honor at a meeting for all enlisted WAC personnel.

(“WAC Director Makes First Official Visit,” Army Post Times, April 1954)

A six-mule train team was temporarily assigned to Fort Sam Houston from Camp Carson, Colorado, for use in the ROTC Veterinary Training Program.

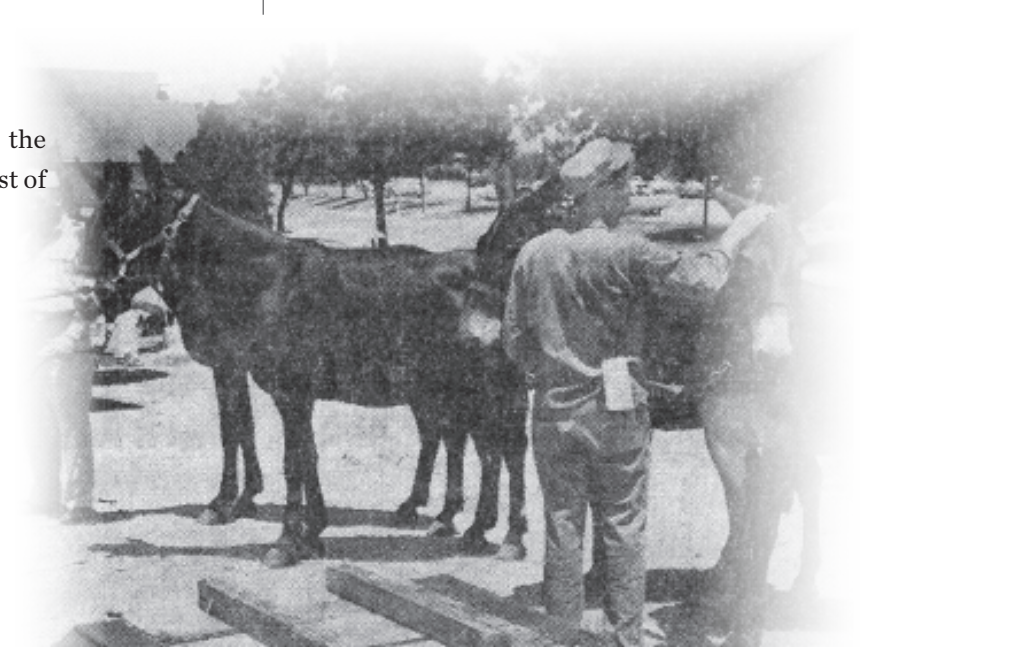
(“Sounds of Mules Braying at Fort Sam Thrills Vet,” San Antonio Express, 12 Aug 1954)



Passenger rescued

An MFSS pilot flies a passenger stranded on a train during the floods caused by Hurricane Irene to safety.

(U.S. Army Photo)



1954

The first enlisted course in Meat and Dairy Hygiene began in the Fall of 1954. Graduates of the eight-week course became Food Inspection Technicians and were eligible for assignments throughout Army installations worldwide.

("Meat, Dairy Course to Start Here," 9 September 1954)

The first three Japanese officers to train at the MFSS arrived in September of 1954.

(Army Post Times, 8 September 1954)

A litter obstacle course was designed and installed at Camp Bullis in October 1954. Developed to train and remind the medical community that despite the advancement of helicopter ambulances and motor vehicles which "go anywhere," the first transportation of a wounded soldier consists of aidmen and litter bearers.

("Serving the Troops, Military Service Review," 8 Oct 1954)

The Brooke Nursing School becomes the first accredited vocational nursing school in the San Antonio area in October of 1954.

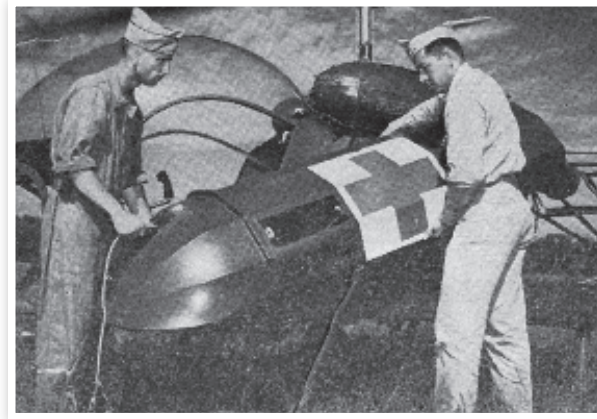
("Brooke Nursing School First Accredited in SA," Army Post Times, 28 October 1954)

In early October, Turkish Surgeon General, MG HawzaVahit Gogen, began a 14-day visit to observe basic medical training at the Medical Training Center, advanced instruction at the MFSS, treatment of burn patients at the Surgical Research Unit's ward, and operations of the centralized medical laboratories at Fourth Army. The Turkish general's visit was the first of a series of consultations between medical officers of the United States and members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Later in the year, BG Hak-Shin, the first Surgeon General of Korea, and BG Jesus Lozoya-Solis of Mexico conducted similar visits.

("BAMC Host To Turkish General," Army Post Times, 7 October 1954; "Brig Gen. Hak-Shin at BAMC," Army Post Times, 9 Dec 1954; "Top Mexican Medical Head to Visit S.A.," San Antonio Express, 12 Jan 1955)

Miss Stortz of the MFSS Library, CPT Edward Crane, and LT Frank O'Toole peruse the stacks.

(MFSS Scrapbook 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)



The Bell Helicopter Corporation debuted its new H-13 ambulance helicopter at the MFSS on 18 August 1954. The new ambulance helicopter was designed to convert between carrying cargo and patients.

("New Ambulance 'Copter' Shown," San Antonio Express, 18 August 1954)



On 9 December, student officers at the MFSS watched airborne medics of the 11th Airborne Medical Battalion, part of the 11th Airborne (Angels) Division stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. drop over 15,000 pounds of equipment from six C-119 Flying Boxcars at Brooks Air Force Base.

("Student Officers Watch Airborne Medics Perform," Army Post Times, 10 December 1954)



Mrs. Simpson, Chief Librarian, and PFC Johnson assist LT Jay Blank at the MFSS Library. The library was named "Section" of the month in October of 1954.

(MFSS Scrapbook 1954, Stimson Library Special Collections)

1955

In February 1955, the MFSS began maintaining the U.S. Army Medical Museum.

Full military honors were accorded to BG Jesus Lazoya-Solis, director of the Central Military Hospital of Mexico City, when he visited BAMC for a general tour and briefing on hospital operations.

“Top Mexican Medical Head visits BAMC,” San Antonio Express, 12 January 1955

“Nurses from the MFSS show their appreciation for the apartments by the care and concern with which they furnish them. Originally designed as minimally furnished barracks, most of the girls prefer to augment the apartments with their own trimmings and basic items of their own choice.”

“Army Nurses Preserve Gracious Living Niceties,” San Antonio Express, Jan. 30, 1955



Brooke Army Medical Center in early 1950's, Korean War era. Army nurse with helicopter crews. COL Agnes Maley, ANC, meets a medical transport helicopter at BAMC.

(U.S. Army Photo. Digital image downloaded from <http://history.amedd.army.mil/art/korea.html>)



BG Elbert DeCoursey, the new commanding general of the MFSS, peers into a microscope. “I like a microscope. They teach us a lot and that’s just it, we get right back to teaching. What good is research if you don’t learn from it? MFSS is the best assignment of my career and is the ultimate opportunity to teach military medicine.”

“MFSS Commander Likes Microscope Best,” San Antonio Light, 2 August 1955

The Army adjusted its enlisted personnel management system to separate Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) from “Specialists” in upper enlisted grades. The system adjustment reinforces the NCO’s authority, responsibility and respect by making a distinction between leadership responsibilities and positions of technical expertise.

“New MOS System to Begin Soon,” Army Post Times, 5 May 1955

In October 1955, the MFSS name was changed to Army Medical Service School (AMSS) again.

“Medical Field Service School Has New Name,” San Antonio News, 2 November 1955

Breaking the ice

The Army’s first commissioned male nurse, reports to Brooke. 2LT Edward Lyon’s arrival was no surprise as he had been the subject of news stories, radio interviews and television appearances. “Someone had to break the ice,” Lyon said of his unique role.

“First Army Male Nurse Now Training at Brooke,” San Antonio Express, 20 October 1955



1956

A platoon of the 520th Medical Ambulance Company was sent to Ft. Greeley, Alaska to take part in a maneuver exercise involving evacuation of battle casualties. The purpose was to experience real world training in sub-zero weather.

(“49 BAMC Soldiers Take part in Exercise Moose Horn in Alaska,” San Antonio News, 1 February 1956)

38 paramedics from the 307th Airborne Medical Battalion, Ft. Bragg, N.C. set up a medical clearing station in 16 1/2 minutes after both men and equipment were parachuted from “flying boxcars” during a demonstration at Brooks Air Base for 500 student officers, including MFSS students.

(“Para-Medics Make Jump for 500 Student Officers,” Talon, 5 February 1956)

The 520th Medical Clearing Company, 566th Medical Ambulance Company and the 712th Preventive Medical Company (all from the 37th Med BN at the AMSS) received unit decorations for outstanding service during WWII. More than 3,000 soldiers marched in the parade following the awards.

(“Three Medical Units Get Unit Decorations,” Talon, 8 March 1956)

MAJ Edith Aynes, a nursing instructor at the AMSS, retired after 22 years of service. A popular class director and instructor, she concerned herself with the problems and challenges of the Army Nurse Corps. She is also widely known as the author of the Army Nurse’s Pledge and the song, “The Nurse’s Prayer”

(“Famous Nurse Retires after 22 Years,” Talon, 3 May 1956)

BG Elbert DeCoursey, left, Commandant of the AMSS, and MAJ Wu David Tachin, Republic of China, review training aids in preparation for arrival of non-English speaking Chinese students.

(“Chinese Army Office...MAJ to Translate AMSS Course,” Talon, 8 November 1956)

The Nurse’s Prayer

Hear my prayer in silence before Thee as I ask for courage each day.

Grant that I may be worthy of the sacred pledge of my profession

And the lives of those entrusted to my care.

Help me to offer hope and cheer in the hearts of men and my country,

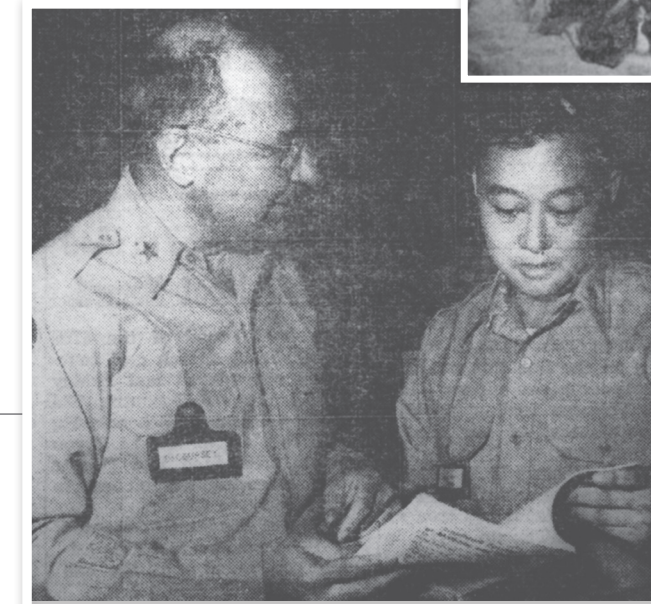
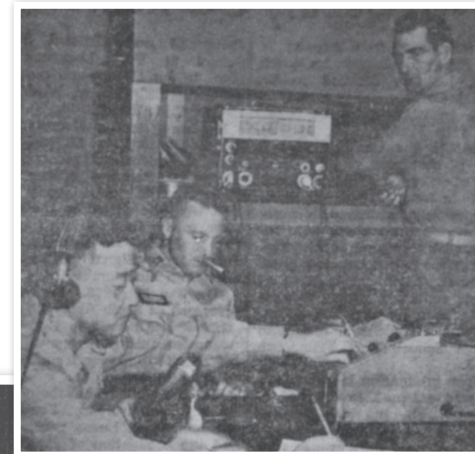
For their faith inspires me to give the world and nursing my best.

Instill in me the understanding and compassion of those who led the way,

For I am thankful to You for giving me this life to live.

MAJ Wu David Tachin, Chinese language interpreter, (left) makes a tape recording of a Chinese translation of an American Army training film as CPT Walter C. Franzen, (center) instructor in the Department of Military Sciences, follows the American script. Adjusting the sound on the training film to coincide with MAJ Wu’s directions is CPT Hugh E. Morrison, Facilities Officer.

(U.S. Army photo, AMSS Scrapbook, 1956-1957)



COL Egberto Bermudez, Chief Surgeon of the Nicaraguan Army and personal physician to the President of Nicaragua, spent 4 days touring BAMC. He was briefed on the mission and daily operations of BAMC and also observed basic and advanced medical training at the MTC.

(“Nicaraguan Chief Surgeon Tours BAMC,” Talon, 21 June 1956)

In 1956, the 3273rd Air Force Technical Training Squadron was a component of the Army Medical Service School. COL Jacob B. Martin, a former Medical Administrative Corps Army Officer, who transferred to the United States Air Force in 1950, was assigned command of the squadron.

(“COL Martin is New CO of AMSS AF Squadron,” Talon, Aug 1956)

Major Leo K. Nonn became the first medical officer in the Federal Army of Western Germany, officially organized 1 January 1956, to visit Brooke Army Medical Center. Major Nonn made the AMSS his headquarters during his three week stay.

(“From New Army...German Officer Visits Here,” Talon, 6 September 1956)

Five Chinese medical and dental officers arrived at BAMC to serve as translators for 25 top ranking Chinese students scheduled to attend classes at the AMSS in January of 1957. The group was preceded by their liaison officer who was also a translator, Major Wu David Tachin. Major Tachin and the group worked in conjunction with instructors and other personnel to have reference materials, films, and training aids translated for student use before the students’ arrival.

(“5 Translators Arrive at BAMC,” Talon, 21 November 1956)



Learning to carry the great tradition

Serving the sick and wounded are trainees from the Brooke Army Medical Center. A simulated casualty is treated by the light of a lantern during a field problem.

(U.S. Army photo, AMSS Scrapbook, 1956-1957)

1956

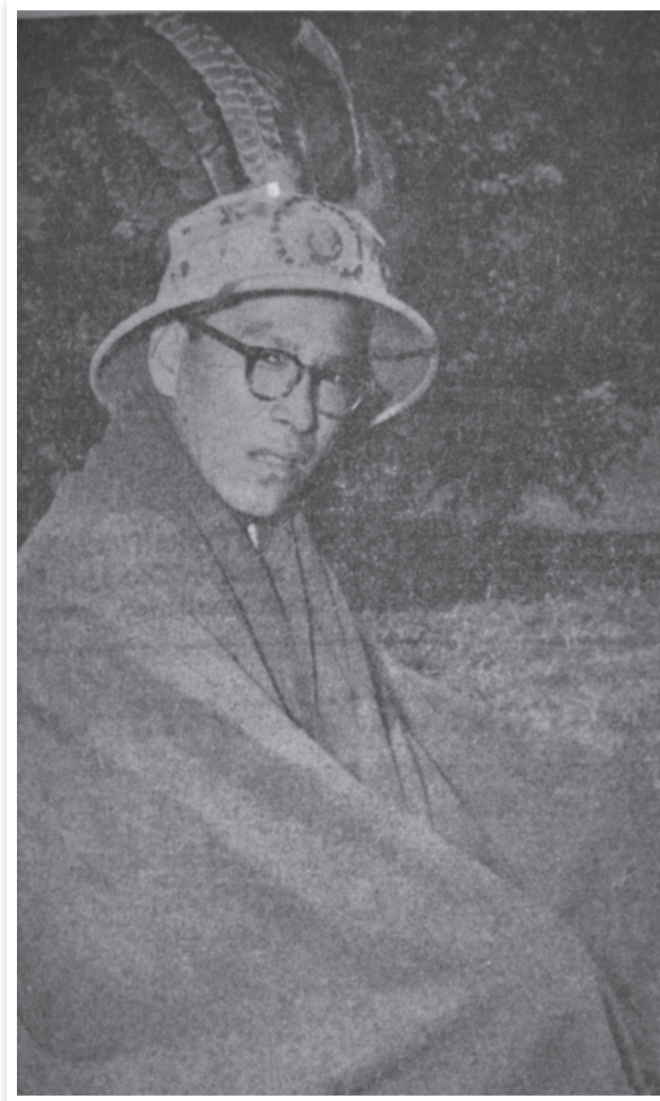
Effective December 1956, the Department of Professional Sciences was reorganized into the Department of Medicine and Surgery, the Department of Neuropsychiatry, and the Department of Preventive Medicine.

(AMSS News Bulletin No. 2, 23 January 1957)

Trying to stay warm

37 soldiers from the 520th and 12 soldiers from the 57th Med Det (helicopter ambulance) provided medical support during the Arctic maneuver.

(U.S. Army photo, MFSS Scrapbook 1955-56, Stimson Library Special Collections)



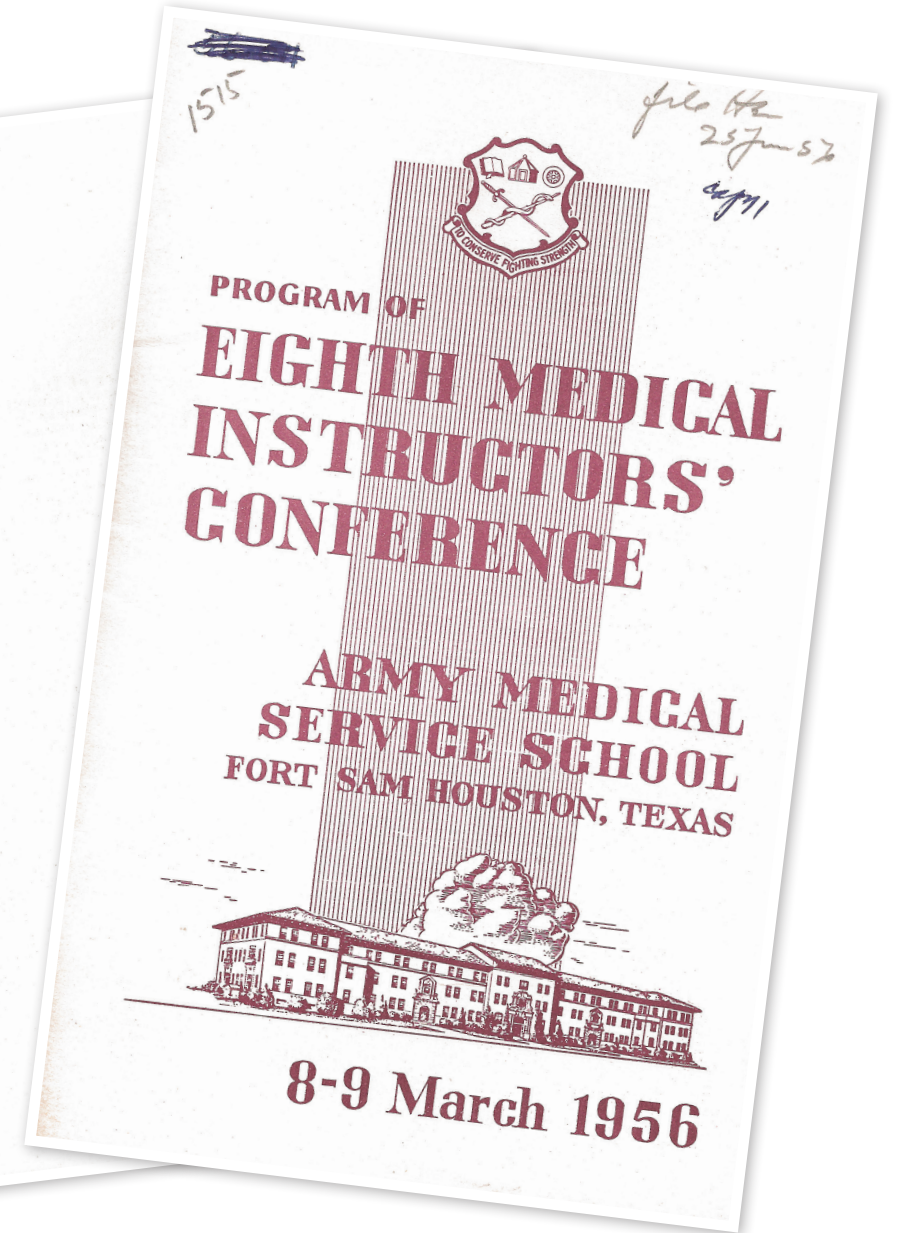
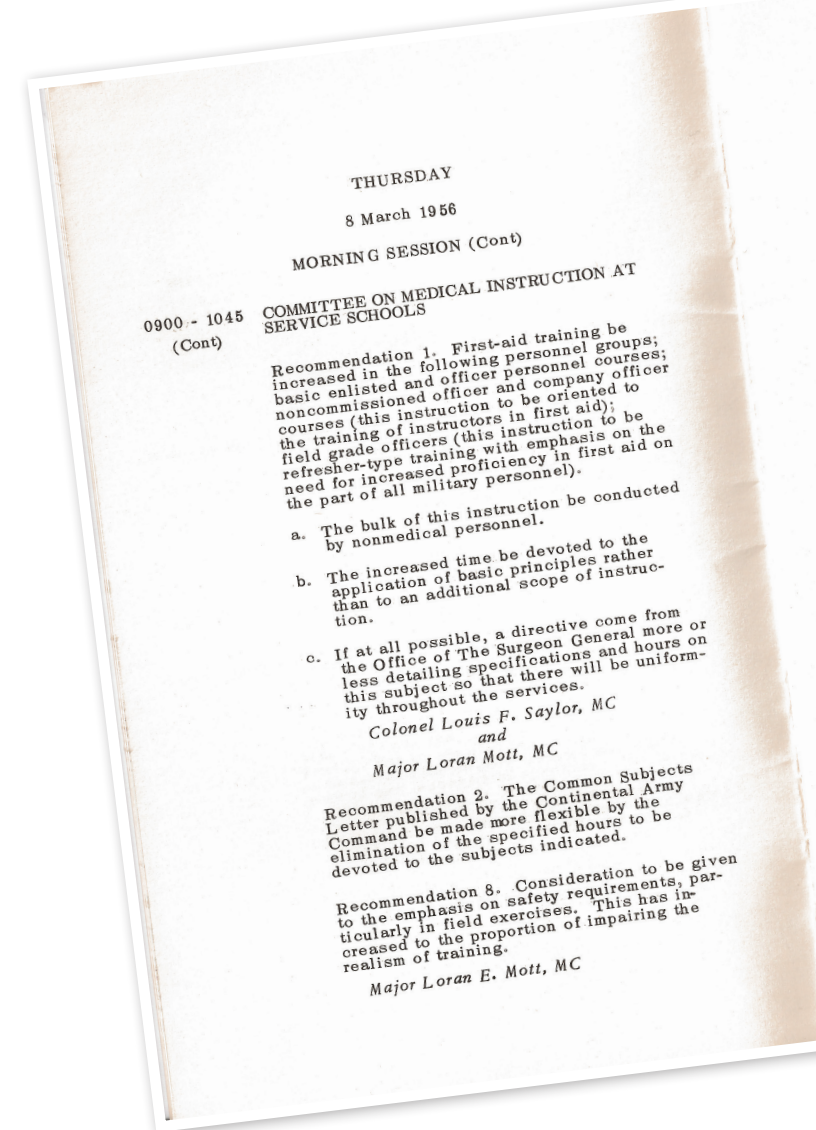
Cooling off

PVT Peter Mahmeah, a Kickapoo Indian from Shawnee, Oklahoma, demonstrates what he says is an old Indian system of keeping comfortable in the summer by covering up with a blanket to keep out the heat. He is a dental technician student at the AMSS, BAMC.

(“Cooling Off,” San Antonio Evening News, 7 August 1956)

The program for the Eight Medical Instructors’ Conference hosted at the AMSS.

(Stimson Library Special Collections)



Color May Alter Your Whole Personality

By MARGIE TAYLOR
Do you always reach for the bread in the red wrapper? Do you keep buying the candy in the blue box, even though your family takes ages to get it up?

Don't be surprised—there's a reason for these habits, according to Lt. Col. Vincent L. Hack, chief of the Training Aids and Simulation Branch at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, according to the psychology of color, a new field of personality analysis and adjustment.

When a red light is used and once around at the advent of the color in coming from the eye, there follows the reaction that the color will be causing their hair and eyebrows shades of blue, green, orange—in other words, different colors than normally characteristic. There will be perceptible changes in their mood.



COLOR CHANGES PERSONALITY, ANALYST DEMONSTRATES Mrs. Annabelle Ahrens' blood pressure checked by Lt. Col. V. L. Hack with color flashes.

As a basis for his beliefs, Col. Hack said, obtain a physical, psychological or physiological reaction to a color line after time, and obtain a significant result. He believes in certain eye tests which he has not proved.

There can be a powerful force, he contends, a force which can cause a complete personality change, or cause mental disturbance. As many people realize the results of color in their lives, either as a child, he explains, being associated to feelings.

For instance, a woman is going to "love" her personality in the eyes. Women with quick temper are usually associated with red hair. When a red light is used, it causes the hair to turn red, or reddish. The hair will curl, and women with wavy hair will become straight. A woman can, when using a color light, be observed to change her hair color, and when she is in a red light, she will be observed to change her hair color.

A red dress can do wonders for a woman. Tests with men at Brooke showed that, when they were shown a good looking woman in a white light, there was little or no change in their response. The same woman under a red light, however, made their hearts beat faster, blood pressure rise, and their respiratory rate increase a great deal. Compliments were heard under red light; worst under blue.

Red objects appear more, faster, white, industries that have changed to blue-colored packaging find the package more of an eye-catcher.

Tests have shown that people associate shapes with colors. A circle, 80 per cent of all cases and both sexes will see it as red. Squares are called blue. Triangles are yellow.

What was referred to in the past as "good looks" now has a scientific background. Before experiments with it were made, people seemed to "have the feeling" for colors; hence red has become the sign of danger and means stop, green is soothing, yellow is traffic lights for instance means "go ahead."

In color preference, women usually choose red; men prefer blue. Children of either sex choose red. The red color is called from what Col. Hack calls a "blue sensation" and choose blue above all other colors. Only the color of the eye, made up of minute cones, are receptive to the wavelengths of the different colors. Children, for instance, have eyes completely made of cones, and the extra sensitivity to what makes them get up at daylight and retire when it's dark. But, when eyes are all rods, have extreme sensitivity and therefore require sleeping habits.

Through his studies, the 407 members of Brooke has been tried and a color chart prepared to suit their personalities. Contemporary colors are used to suit the individual. They are also shown how to use color during the day; a stimulating red color and a soothing blue, offering them and given the chance which follows in preparation for physical training exercises.

Col. Hack will arrange to the members of the psychology of color at a public lecture at 8 P. M. this Sunday at Revere Hall, La Vista, under the auspices of the Capital Academy of Fine Arts.

1957

January 1957 marked the beginning of the expanded Allied Officer Program at AMSS. The school initiated a special course for non-English speaking students. Twenty-five Chinese nationals, supported by LTC Choa as their interpreter, were the first to attend the course.

(AMSS News Bulletin No. 1, 16 January 1957)

Dental facilities were updated and enlisted dental students were offered two highly specialized courses; advanced dental laboratory procedures and dental assistant.

(“For AMSS Dental Courses: Modern Facilities Provided,” Talon, 17 January 1957)

The Surgical Research Unit, added in 1947, became a separate unit in 1953 to conduct extensive research, especially in burn treatment.

The Army Field Medical Service Development Unit, added circa 1957, worked under the Office of the Surgeon General.

(“BAMC Observes 11th Anniversary Friday,” Talon, 31 January 1957)

BG Elbert Decoursey, MFSS Commandant, addressed the International Medical Assembly of Southwest Texas in January 1957 on the increased use of radioactivity. His presentation discussed the hazards and benefits of the use of radioisotopes for everything from industry to medical treatment.

(“Radioactivity Use Increased,” San Antonio News, 28 January 1957)

OPERATION BLOWUP: The mass casualty exercise of 1,000 simulated casualties from a thermonuclear bomb blast took place over a five day period the last week in February at Camp Bullis.

(“Top Officers Talk on Nuclear Effects,” Talon, 28 February 1957)

LTC Vincent Hack and the Training Aids Section's BAMC float win two trophies in the Battle of Flowers and Flambeau Parades in 1957. The floats were designed to represent Atlantis and underwater scenery based on the movie “Beneath the 12 Mile Reef.”

(“BAMC Float Takes Two Trophies in SA Fiesta,” Talon 2 May 1957)

“Pete,” BAMC's famous bleeding dummy was a feature of the Army's static displays at the Armed Forces Day Open House. At his last public appearance, over 25,000 watched him go through his routine of demonstrating many types of open wounds. He was used at the Medical Training Center for instruction of basic medical aidmen and corpsmen.

(“Bleeding Dummy Part of Exhibit,” San Antonio News, 17 May 1957)



A RADAC and Nuclear Yield Calculator Set (model: ABC-M28AI) used to calculate downwind hazard (predictor) for nuclear weapons detonation.

(Courtesy of Preventive Medicine Department, AMEDDC&S)

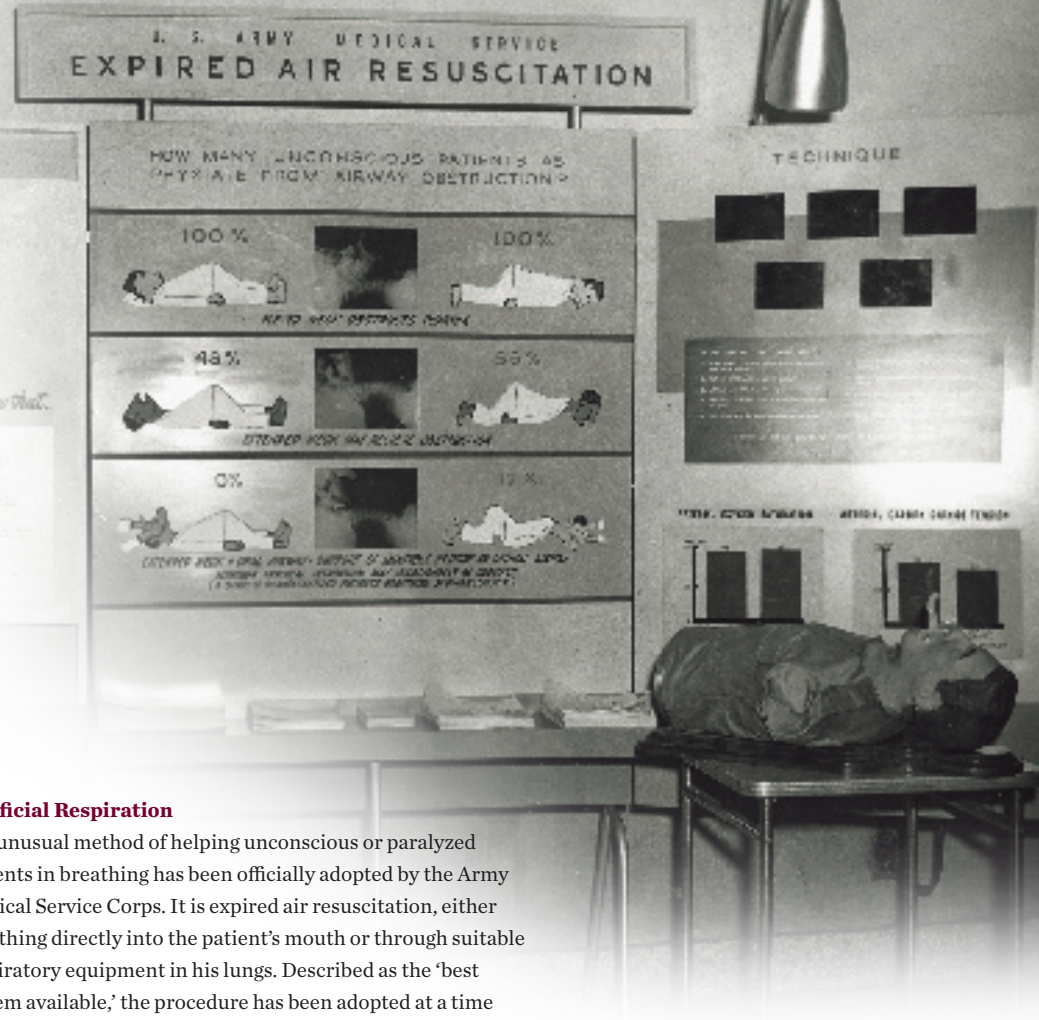
1958

First LT Ulka Sema Aran was the first woman to become an officer and a doctor in the Turkish Army. She was also the first allied woman physician to enroll in the 22-week course for company officers at the Army Medical School.

“Turkish Woman Doctor is the ‘First’,” *Talon*, 31 July 1958

BAMC was first in the San Antonio area to present an exhibit about some of the peaceful applications of atomic energy in the fields of industry, agriculture, and medicine.

“AEC Exhibits ‘Peaceful Atom’ at Stimson Library,” *Talon*, 14 August 1958

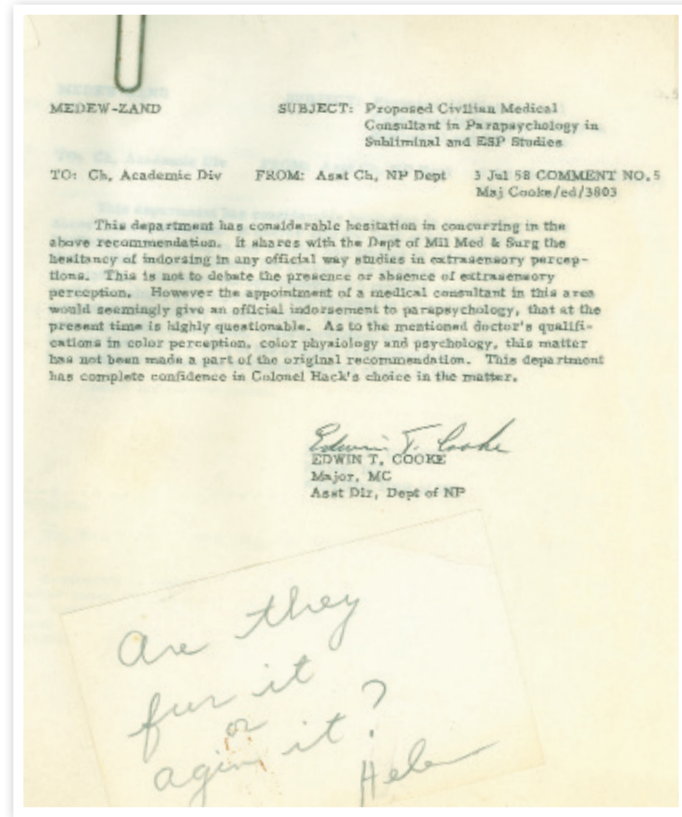


Artificial Respiration

“An unusual method of helping unconscious or paralyzed patients in breathing has been officially adopted by the Army Medical Service Corps. It is expired air resuscitation, either breathing directly into the patient’s mouth or through suitable respiratory equipment in his lungs. Described as the ‘best system available,’ the procedure has been adopted at a time when new weapons could cause a greater number of casualties than ever before. The process is new only in recognition, for medical history has recorded resuscitation by mouth-to-mouth as much as 200 years ago.”

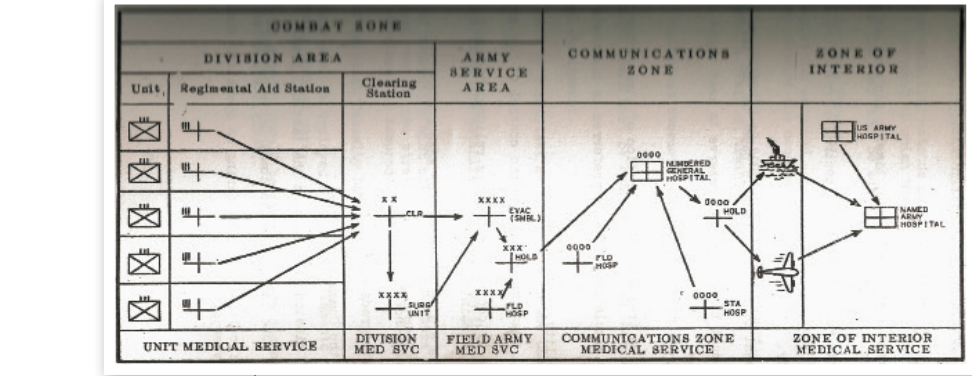
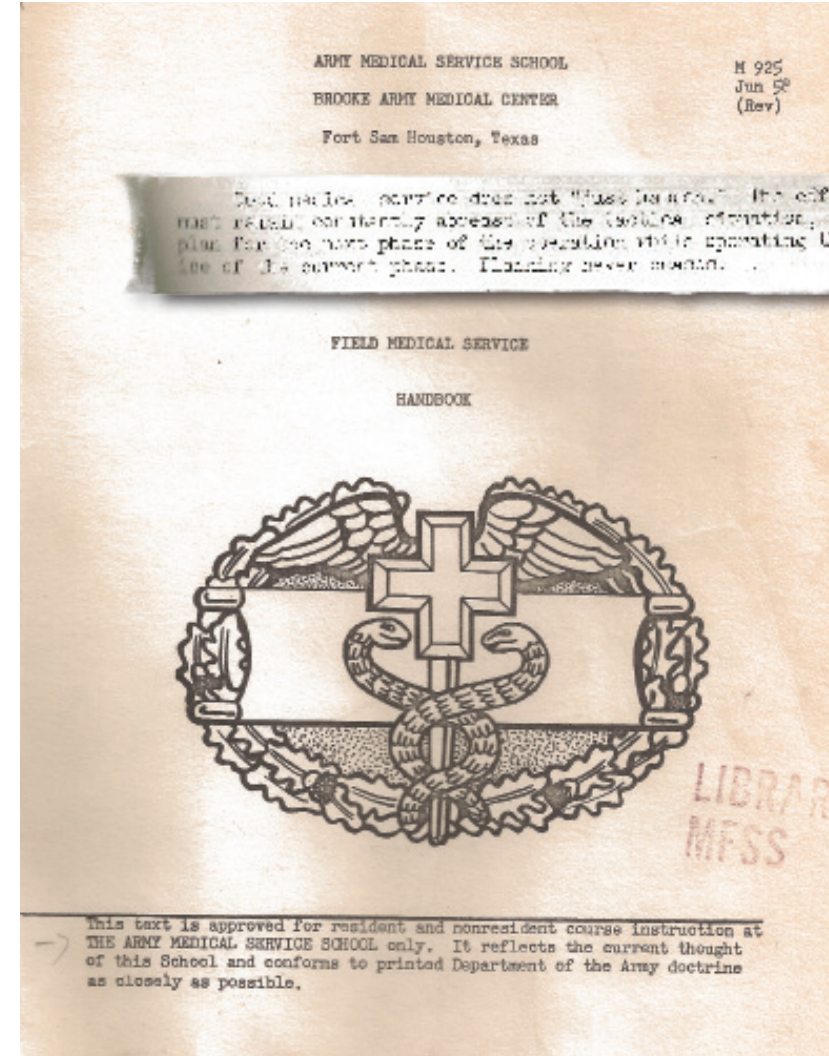
“Army Adopts a Better Way of Artificial Respiration,” *Talon*, 17 July 1958 (Image from the 1959 AMSS Livestock Show AAR, Stimson Library, Special Collections)

In June 1958, LTC Vincent Hack, one of the AMSS innovators during the 1950s and 1960s, sought to hire a civilian medical consultant to conduct a study on extra sensory perception and subliminal color perception. The accompanying note, suggests he met with an indeterminate response.



“SP4 Loren Henley, an instructor of basic medical lab procedures at the AMSS, was the first enlisted man at BAMC to be accepted for the Army’s new college training program for enlisted personnel. Upon completion of the program, he will owe two years of service for each year of college training.”

“AMSS Instructor First to Attend College,” *Talon*, 11 Sept 1958



Levels of Medical Service

“Field Medical Service Handbook, Army Medical Service School, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, M925 Jun 58 (Rev), pg 9 Stimson Library Special Collections”



“Field Medical Service Handbook, M925 Jun 58 (Rev), Pg 37, Stimson Library Special Collections”

M3 Bag, circa 1958

The canvas M3 Combat Medic Bag made its first appearance about 1948. It was replaced by the rubberized M3 in June 1958. The Nylon Duck M3 arrived 12 years later in November 1971.

“AMEDD Museum Collection. Dates obtained from QM change memos”

1959

Designed for emergency care of nuclear and other casualties, the Armed Services Devise First Aid Medical Packet was designed to meet conditions immediately following a military disaster when it is assumed that no direct medical aid would be expected.

“Armed Services Devise First Aid Medical Packet for Use by Wounded,” Talon, 16 January 1959)

AMSS claimed to have the best instructors possible due in part to the Academic Training Unit (ATU). The ATU training program lasted a minimum of three weeks during which time it prepared and perfected potential AMSS instructors’ teaching techniques.

“Instructor Training / Instruction Pays Off,” Talon, 29 Jan 1959)

CPT Manuel Santa Ursula of the Spanish Army and a student of the C4 AMSS program wished to pay tribute to San Antonio and rendered a colorful interpretation of his feelings as a temporary native. “I read, several days ago, that San Antonio is feminine. All right. She is shamefully sentimental. Delightfully flirtatious. Outrageously seductive. Dangerously engaging and at all times, charming. She is half a saint and half hussy, and I love her madly. So will you if you are not careful.” Even though his intent was sincere in the best of ways, he acknowledged that he “was not careful” (in his choice of words).

“San Antonio, Flirtatious, Half Saint...Half Hussy,” Talon, 26 March 1959)

1LT Johnson and 2 LT Larsen were the first male candidates to be selected for and attend AMSS training for their future assignments as Army dietitians, an MOS previously restricted to women.

“Army’s First Male Dietitian,” Talon, 20 April 1959)

“Potential use of paper-based clothing items is being studied by the Quartermaster Corps during an extensive user test at BAMC. Medical personnel will wear-test during normal operations and the test data is expected to form the basis for consideration of further material development requirements.”

“Disposable Paper-Based Clothing Tested at BAMC,” Talon, 11 June 1959)



Medical Training Center Patch

Soldiers assigned to the Area Support Medical Company received a new patch in March of 1959 (ASMC).

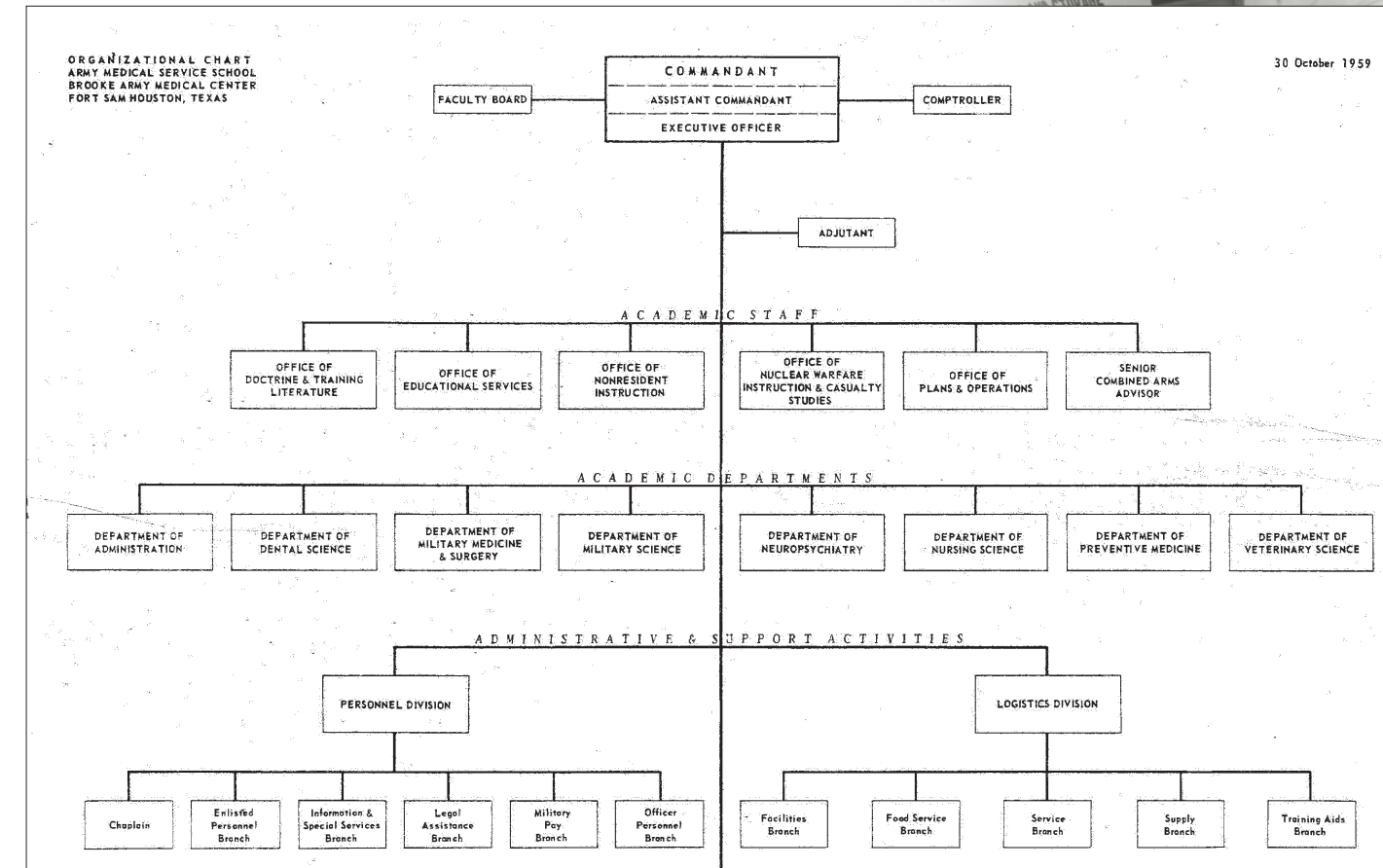
“Medical Training Center gets Patch,” Talon, 19 March 1959)
(Patch from the AMEDD Museum Collection)

Dr. Monohan of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and Filipina nurse, Alderita Peregrino, were both promoted at a ceremony at BAMC. Of the thousands of allied officers who attended the AMSS over the decades, CPT Monohan and 1LT Peregrino were the first to be promoted here.

“Two Allied Officers First to be Promoted at BAMC,” Talon, 22 Oct 1959)

The Faculty Development Course was established in 1959 to educate instructors in teaching methods for the staff and faculty of the Army Medical Service School.

“FDU Teaches the Teachers,” The San Antonio Light, 10 Dec 1972, pg 5-1)



A Vet Corps Officer discusses the merits of a boneless beef carcass to a viewer at the 1959 San Antonio Livestock Show. *(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)*

Organizational Chart, Army Medical Service School, 1959. *(Annual Report of Army Medical Service School Activities 1959, Stimson Library Digital Collections)*

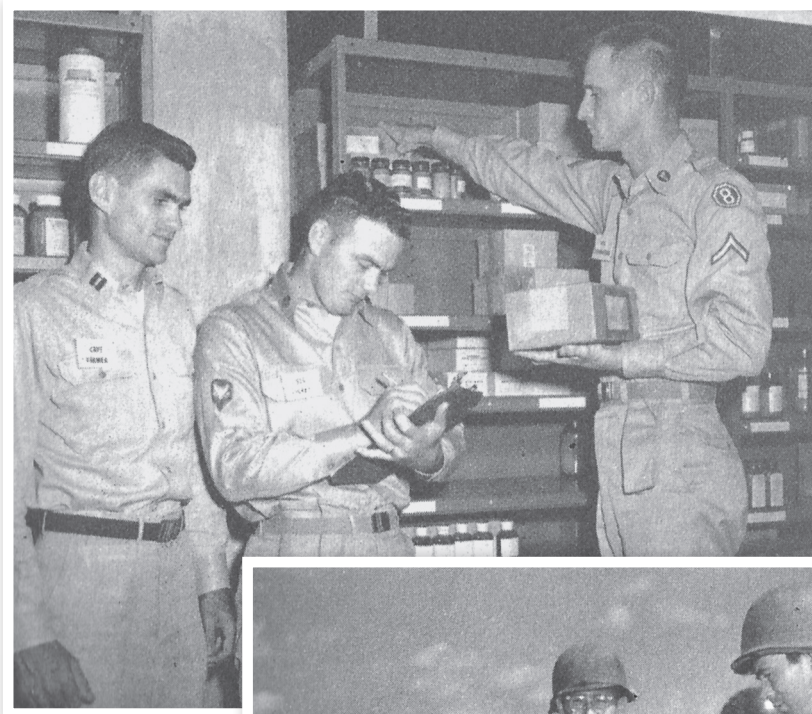
1959

Annual Active Duty for Training of the 807th Hospital Center was held at the AMSS, BAMC, 31 May through 13 June 1959. This was the third consecutive year that the unit trained at the AMSS. It was the first time the 807th Hospital Center annual active duty training included a field exercise at Camp Bullis.

(807th Hospital Center: Annual Active Duty for Training 1959 After Action Report, Stimson Library Special Collections)

Weapons training at Camp Bullis

(Photos from: 807th Hospital Center: Annual Active Duty for training 1959, After Action Report, Stimson Library, Special Collections)



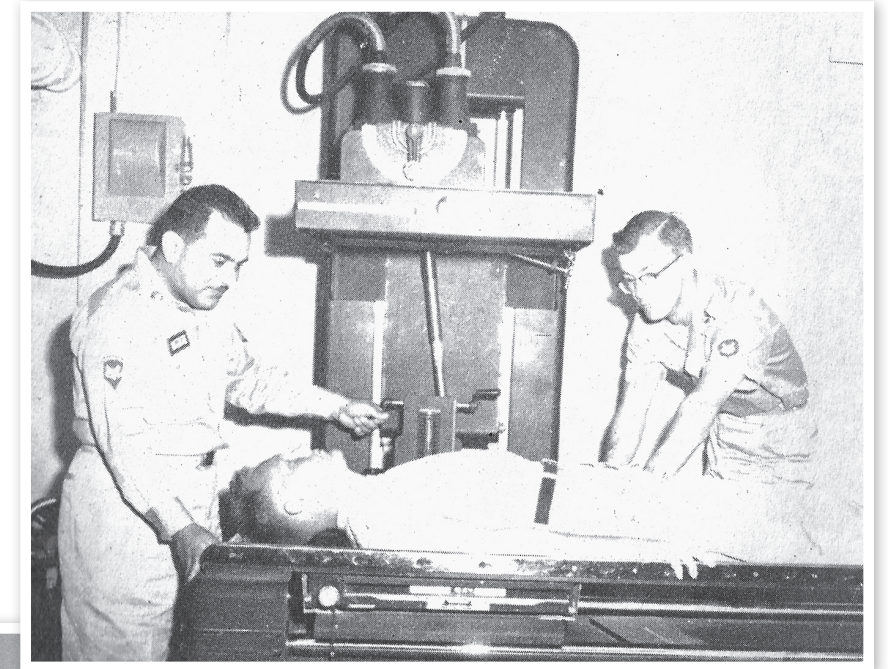
Checking pharmacy stores



Drawing ammunition



Administrative duties

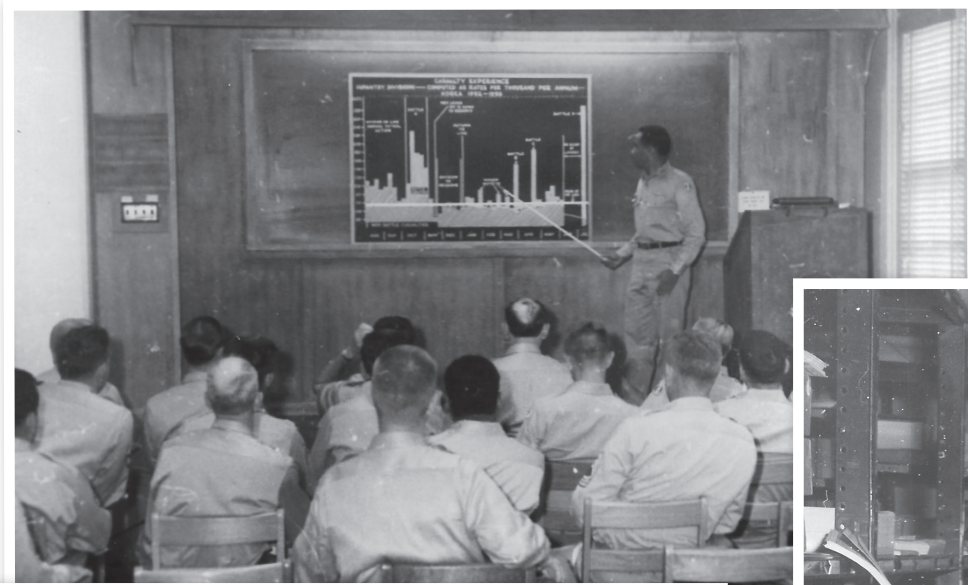


X-ray training



Briefing the chief

1959



On-the-job training

(Photos from: 807th Hospital Center: Annual Active Duty for Training 1959, After Action Report, Stimson Library; Special Collections)



Saturday morning inspection



Recreation