



Not mass mayhem but Field Day at the Air Force Academy. It marks the end of seven weeks of basic training which each new class takes. Pushball is one of eight events in which the various squadrons compete. It is typical of the physical conditioning cadets receive while training to become Air Force officers.



Formal dances are not too frequent but they are one of the highlights of cadet life. Most such activity is centered around June Week and the Christmas holiday season. All Fourth Class cadets receive regular instruction in social customs and courtesies.

## Carbiders sons doing all right at Air Force Academy

Nestled firmly among the foothills of the Rocky Mountains on 17,900 sprawling, picturesque acres lies America's monument to the space age . . . the United States Air Force Academy.

There each day more than 2500 smartly-uniformed cadets hand picked from the cream of our country's high schools are conditioned and trained to become the leaders in the Air Force of tomorrow.

If you look closely at the clean-shaven, bright-eyed faces of the members of the cadet wings you may recognize a couple of them. Two of these cadets hail from Texas City and are the sons of Texas City Carbide employees. Second Classman William F. Bryant Jr., is the son of x-operator Bill Bryant. Fourth Classman Clinton B. Robertson is the son of operator Arnold Robertson.

Both young men are well on their way to receiving an education equal to that given by any university in the country.

An academy for Air Force career officers has long been a dream of this nation's pioneer air men. Brigadier General Billy Mitchell tried in vain to interest both government and private groups in such a venture.

However it wasn't until 1954, that Congress passed the law establishing the Air Force Academy. A committee traveled 20,000 miles and inspected possible sites in 22 different states before deciding on the one just 10 miles North of Colorado Springs.

A crash construction program was started and the first cadets who had been temporarily quartered at Lowry Air Force Base moved in during 1958.

Entering the Academy is not easy. Most cadets are selected from applicants nominated by Senators and

Representatives. All have to pass certain physical requirements and competitive examinations. Anyone interested in complete admission procedures should write: The Registrar, Air Force Academy, Colorado.

In addition to his education the cadet receives quarters, medical and dental care and an allowance of \$111.15 a month.

To graduate, a cadet must successfully complete 189 semester hours in his four years. He then earns a Bachelor of Science degree in one of four major areas. For those who can cope with the extra load, a Masters degree may be earned at the same time by taking an additional 55 hours.

All graduates receive navigators wings and are commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Air Force. Cadets do not receive pilot training at the Academy but most graduates take full scale military pilot training after leaving.

There are no summer vacations for cadets who are busy with field trips, overseas trips, and specialized military training including a tough survival test in the Rockies.

The mission of the Academy is stated: "To provide instruction, experience, and motivation to each Cadet so that he will graduate with the knowledge, character, and qualities of leadership essential to his progressive development as a career officer in the United States Air Force."

To help achieve this goal the cadets themselves have adopted a strong honor code similar to the other academies. It goes "We will not lie, cheat, or steal, not tolerate among us anyone who does."

Texas City cadets Bill Bryant Jr. and Clint Robertson stride by the famed Eagle statue on the Academy campus. Bryant, a Second Classman, is attending Pilot Training Indoctrination at Vance Air Force Base this summer. At the Academy he is active in the Rifle Club, the Gun Club, and the Bowman's Club. Robertson is a first year man and is currently on the Superintendent's Merit List for excellence in both academic and military studies. Both boys are graduates of Texas City high school.