

THIS AIR FORCE Academy site shows the entire academic area complex and part of Douglas Valley housing. Buildings from left to right, are Fairchild Hall (academic building), with the Aeronautics Laboratory and Mitchell Hall (cadet dining hall) behind it; Vandenberg Hall (cadet dormitory); Harmon Hall (administration building); Arnold Hall (cadet social center); and the Planetarium (dome at right).

Qualification Plus

Each Member of Congress is authorized to nominate six candidates to compete for each of his authorized vacancies.

Tight Rules Govern AFA Admission

To be considered for admission to the Air Force Academy, a young man must do more than simply apply for admission. He must first obtain a nomination from a source authorized by law to recommend qualified candidates for Academy appointments.

Curriculum

This curriculum chart gives a breakdown of a cadet's four years in academies. The optional courses and labs are required semester hours for each cadet.

Table with 4 columns: Class (1st-4th), Subject, and Hours. Lists subjects like Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, and various sciences with their respective credit hours.

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Academics

Courses Train Air Force Leaders of Tomorrow

The seeds of Air Force leadership are sown high on the east slope of central Colorado's Rampart Range at the Air Force Academy where the mission is the education of bright young men who may someday direct military battles fought in the vast reaches of space.

In an area made famous by the exploits of the nation's early pioneers, the AFA, newest of military education, is boldly carving its place in the annals of military education. It was singled out for accreditation months before its first class graduated in 1953.

Every cadet must take a program totaling 16 2/3 semester hours — a heavy load, compared to the 120-130 semester hours usually required by the nation's leading engineering schools.

ADDED TO THE cadets' academic studies are military training and physical education courses which push the total semester hours at the Academy to 19 1/2 — essentially a five-year course crammed into a four-year period.

Air Force Academy cadets, living in a scheduled, military atmosphere, attend school 11 months of the year, compared to eight and one-half to nine months for civilian university students.

The Academy combines many elements of engineering and liberal arts. The curriculum is almost evenly balanced between the basic and applied sciences and the humanities and social sciences.

THE AIR FORCE Academy pioneered in the first departure from the traditional prescribed courses in service academy education by establishing a curriculum enrichment program in 1957. Under the program, cadets with previous college training or exceptional ability may advance as fast and as far as they are able.

By taking courses in the enrichment program, cadets may broaden their knowledge or specialize in a subject area and complete a major to the bachelor of science degree in Military Management, International Affairs, Basic Science or Engineering Science.

Two MASTER'S-LEVEL programs are in operation at the Academy in Astronautics and International Affairs. Until the AFA receives legislative authority to award master's degrees, the transcripts of the cadets will state that they have completed graduate-level work.

As an interim measure, the Academy has made cooperative arrangements with Georgetown and Purdue universities for master's programs of several months' duration for cadets who complete one semester of graduate work prior to their graduation from the Academy.

The Academy's first four classes have ranked first or second, academically, among the 231 colleges and universities which administer the tough Graduate Record Examinations.

Under Applied Sciences are grouped the Departments of Aeronautics, Electrical Engineering and Mechanics. In the Division of Humanities fall the Departments of English, History and Foreign Languages; Basic Sciences include Chemistry, Mathematics, Navigation and Physics; The Social Sciences are Economics and Geography, Law, Political Science and the Behavioral Sciences.

Academy's Sixth

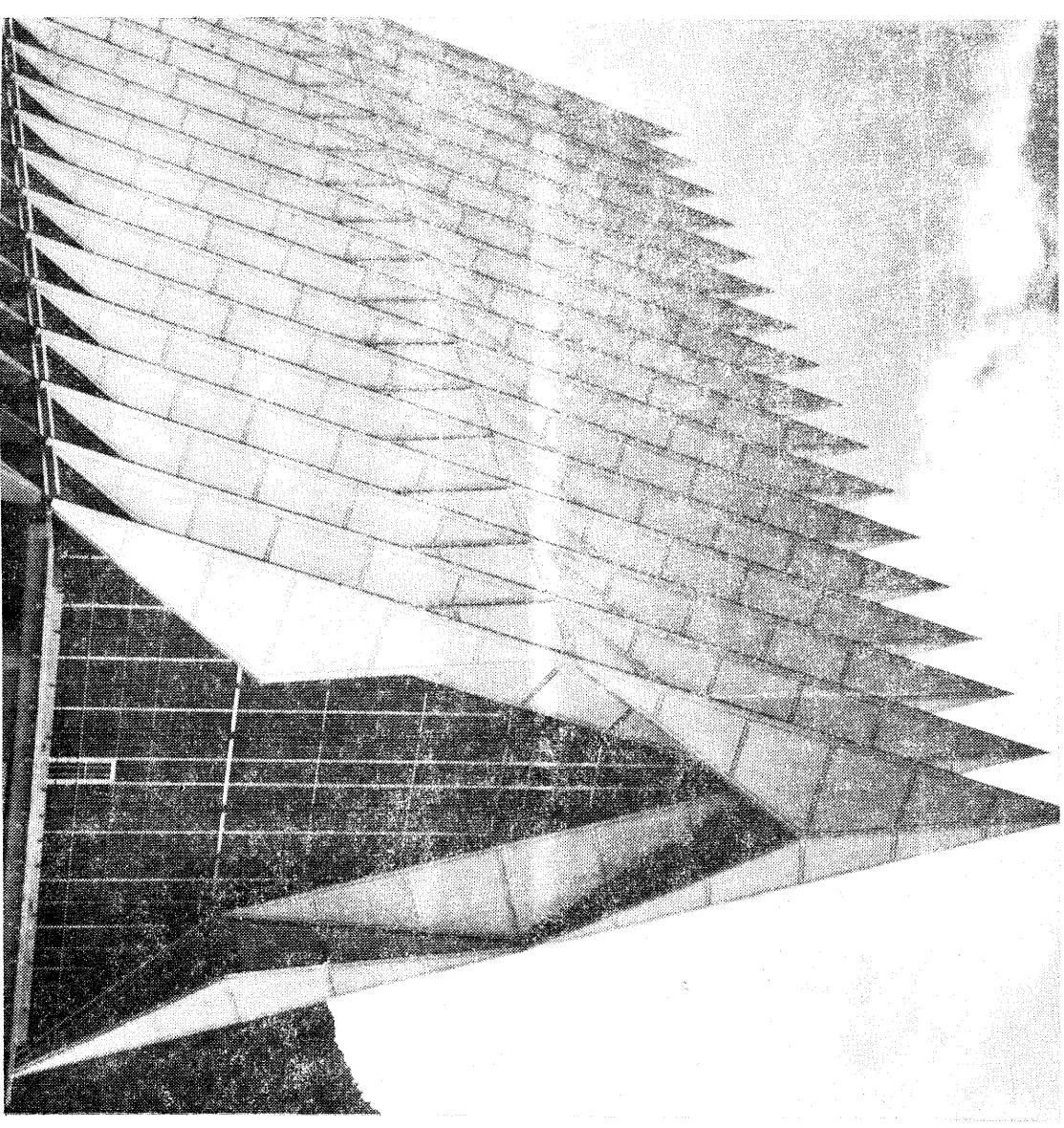
Cadet Sam W. Westbrook, the year's class, and one from this year's class.

Class of 1963's top scholar, is the sixth Rhodes Scholar the Academy has produced during its short history. By virtue of Westbrook's selection, the Academy places among the top four colleges in the nation for percentages of graduates so honored.

A single Rhodes Scholar was chosen from the Academy's first graduating class in 1950, one from the class of 1960, three from last year's class.

General McDermott's Background Old and New

The background and experience of Brig. Gen. Robert F. McDermott, Academy Dean of Faculty, is the old and the new of heritage and tradition. He attended the oldest public university, military college, Norwich University, and graduated from the oldest service academy, West Point. He holds a Master's Degree from the oldest university, Harvard, and a Doctor of Laws Degree from St. Louis University, the oldest university west of the Mississippi.



THE ACADEMY'S most distinctive structure — the tripartite chapel — will be open for inspection today. The chapels' 17 spires, rising 150 feet, make it the commanding edifice at the Academy. The multi-spired structure provides separate chapels for Protestants, Catholics, and Jewish faiths — with a combined capacity of more than 1,500 — under one roof.

Only Nation's Top Calibre Young Men Have Chance to Wear Cadet Uniform

The 755 members of the Class of 1966 provide a representative picture of an entering cadet class at the Air Force Academy.

Scholarship-wise, this class, as the academy is proud to say, is the most distinguished to enter the Academy thus far. More than 85 percent of the group graduated in the top quarter of their high school class. 79 percent were in the top fifth, and 56 percent in the top tenth. A total of 68 of the 755 were number one graduates at their schools.

Ever since the Air Force Academy admitted its first class in 1953, the scholastic standing of entering cadets has been steadily improving.

Cadets of the Class of 1966 participating heavily in high school extracurricular activities. The office of class president was held by 18 percent; vice president, 11 percent; student government president, 16 percent; and over 40 percent held supervisory positions on school papers or year books.

Outstanding student awards went to 36 percent of the class citizens. The top quarter of the group graduated in the top quarter of their high school class. 79 percent were in the top fifth, and 56 percent in the top tenth. A total of 68 of the 755 were number one graduates at their schools.

Although the proportion of cadets entering with college experience has been decreasing, the number entering with preparatory school backgrounds is on the increase. Classes of 1959-62 entered with a maximum of 10 percent with preparatory school backgrounds.

Following his (15-minute) address, the President will present diplomas to the distinguished graduates. The last to receive his diploma will be the last man on the General Order of Merit or the so called "Tail Gunner."

Gen. Robert Strong, Academy Commandant will in turn administer the Oath of Acceptance. The National Anthem will be played, followed by the Benediction by Chaplain (Col.) George J. Cameron, Protestant Cadet Chaplain.

General Strong will dismiss the class signifying the traditional throwing of the caps high into the air. President Kennedy will reenter his car and depart the stadium, and four the Academy Area prior and later the procession halt.

June Week— June Week rushed on toward today's climax with the Superintendent's Reception for members of the class of 1963, their parents and guests at the superintendent's residence, Monday. Other highlights of the day included the individual Awards ceremony. The evening was devoted to honoring members of the class of 1964. The ring presentation and dining-in preceded the traditional Ring Dance.

MODERN JET aircraft streaked overhead and the annual graduation parade was held as June Week's momentum carried it into Tuesday.

The Tapping ceremony at the 100-year honor roll was held during which time Cadet Sam W. Westbrook III, who finished first in this year's class, was tapped by the 1st. Another Tapping ceremony—this one at the Civil Air Patrol hour roll—honored Cadet Kenneth D. Kopke, the outstanding former member of the CAP of the class of 1962.

The June Week activity wound up yesterday—except for today's climactic ceremonies—as members of the graduating class and their guests attended a buffet.

A Dream Come True— AFA Becomes Reality

The signing of the Air Force Act on April 1, 1954 by President Eisenhower brought to fruition the long held hopes and dreams of Air Force graduates dating back to the days of Brig. Gen. William Billy Mitchell.

It had been clearly demonstrated on many a battle field and in many a campaign of World War II that control of the air had spelled the difference between victory and defeat. With the conclusion of hostilities, no one doubted that the Air Force had come of age and was the equal if not superior of the land and sea forces.

BOTH THE Army and the Navy had service academies which had trained and educated selected young men in their areas of specialization. It was obvious that the Air Force also would need such an academy if it was to fulfill the high mission assigned to it by the American people. From 1945 to 1953, responsible Air Force officers and outstanding civilian educators surveyed prospective sites and made plans for an Air Force Academy—its installations and a four-year program of instruction peculiar to Air Force needs.

IT WAS decided that the Academy would start with a small entering class of freshmen (Fourth Classmen) and gradually build up to its full strength. This would be in the summer of 1962. The Academy was to be located on an existing Air Force base and its permanent home could be built.

The Academy was activated at Lowry AFB, Denver, Colo., on August 14, 1954. Present on that historic first date were Lt. Gen. Herbert R. Harron, the Academy Superintendent, five officers and one master sergeant. The actual physical facilities were limited to two rooms.

Days of feverish activity followed. A staff and faculty had to be recruited, programs of instruction prepared and formalized, and buildings to be demolished to house and educate the cadets.

On July 1953, the Air Force Academy opened its doors to the first class of cadets. To guide and train the cadets by precept and example, the Air Force selected junior officers to serve as Air Force instructors. Every instructor, whether in academic or airmanship subjects, was a volunteer and highly qualified in the area in which he was to teach.

SIXTY MILES to the south, under the direction of the Air Force Academy Construction Program, the foothills of the Rampart Range were leveled. Roads, utilities and buildings were being planned and built on land that had hitherto had the grazing grounds of Indians or the grazing fields of herds of cattle. Gradually they began to arise, buildings of sturdy masonry.

At the close of the first academic year, 1954-1956, General Harron retired. He was a very ill man. In the fall of February, he died. The Air Force Academy is a living memory of Herbert R. Harron.

Mal, Gen. James E. Briggs, succeeded General Harron as Superintendent. Under his leadership in August 1958 the Academy moved from a 17,000 acre site, some 10 miles north of Colorado Springs. The Academy was re-named the Air Force Academy. This was the North American Association. This was the North American Association. This was the North American Association.

At the close of the first class, they were far. In June 1959, the Academy graduated its first class. In the summer of 1959, Mal, Gen. William Briggs, as Superintendent, replaced General Briggs as Superintendent. Mal, Gen. Robert H. Warren became Superintendent. The Cadet Wing reached its full authorized strength of 2312 cadets. Present plans call for an expansion of the Cadet Wing to 4500 cadets, subject to the approval of Congress.

Highly Decorated WW II B-24 Pilot Heading Academy

An officer who graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1944, is heading the new Air Force Academy Superintendency. He is Mal, Gen. Robert H. Warren, who assumed his post here last July after assisting as commander of the 777th Proving Ground Center at Lowry AFB, Colo., and as senior member of the UN Command Air Force Commission in Korea.

THE GENERAL received his B.S. degree upon graduation from the Air Force Academy in 1944 and was assigned to Mitchell Field, Tex., during the early days of World War II.

During 1944 and 1945 he was assigned to Far East Air Force Headquarters in Manila. He returned to the United States in 1953 and served at USAF Headquarters as Executive Vice Chief of Staff, later as Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force, and, for two years, as Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

He is holder of the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, and Military Cross of Greece.

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