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B O N A V E N T U R E

COMPANY A

3217 S. C. S. U.

ST. BONAVENTURE COLLEGE

ST. BONAVENTURE, N. Y.

TO OUR ASTP TRAINEES:

GREETINGS and BEST WISHES

YOUR presence on this campus may have been brief in its duration, but its significance will stretch over a long period in both your lives and ours. You came here to train for the art of warfare, and you have done well. At the same time you learned the works of peace, and you have assimilated them with equal success. Our hope is that you will be brave soldiers in wartime and worthy citizens in peacetime.

What we ardently desire has come to pass: St. Bonaventure College has become our second home. If you have learned to love this home, the men in it, its atmosphere, spirit, and environment, rest assured that an equal measure of mutual affection has grown up in our hearts. For months we have practically lived under the same roof: you followed your program which is of recent origin: we followed ours which has the stamp of centuries. And yet our lives, interests, and feelings became interwoven in a synthesis of mutual good will, respect, and appreciation. It is too bad that the rest of the world has not the sound common sense which it is our privilege to share.

Some day the present strife will cease, and the world will be normal again. When that day comes do not forget that education is a priceless treasure. Resume where you have left off, and remember that you will be most welcome at St. Bonaventure. We train young men to become scholars or writers, lawyers or doctors, scientists or business men; but most of all we seek to instill into the hearts of our young men, regardless of race or creed, a genuine, abiding and wholesome philosophy of life which will guarantee them happiness both here and hereafter.

Very truly yours,

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS STAFF





REV. FR. THOMAS PLASSMANN, O.F.M.
President of St. Bonaventure College

DEDICATION

The BONASTU is gratefully dedicated to the Very Reverend Thomas Plassmann, O.F.M., whose enthusiastic spirit, warm congeniality, and sympathetic understanding, endear him to the men of Company A, SCSU 3217.

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*These professors left before the termination of the ASTP.



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Vice President and Director of Studies

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LT. WILLIAM C. DAVIS
Adjutant



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T/5 Warren H. Moat, 511 Front St., Binghamton, N. Y.	Med
Cpl. Morris L. Steinberg, 102 East 39th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.	DEML
T/5 Joseph T. C. Cipriano, 52 Main St., Tonawanda, N. Y.	DEML
Sgt. Howard R. Petrie, 78 North Harlem Rd., Snyder, N. Y.	DEML

SECOND ROW

Pfc. Benjamin H. Kaplan, 41 Wilson St., Rochester, N. Y.	Med.
M/Sgt. John F. Wursch, 60 East Main St., Allegany, N. Y.	FA
Pvt. Leonard Pickarsky, 1775 Walton Ave., Bronx, N. Y.	Sig. Corps
Pfc. James S. Browne, Lakemont Drive, RFD, Augusta, Ga.	Med.
S/Sgt. William M. Long, 113 North 7th St., Olean, N. Y.	DEML

THIRD ROW

Sgt. Joel H. Kohn, 403 East 26th St., Paterson, N. J.	Med.
Sgt. Charles S. Yurek, 81 Royalton Rd., Brecksville, Ohio	FA
Pfc. James W. McAdam, 311 Rosedale Blvd., Eggertsville, N. Y.	DEML
Cpl. John T. Stedman, 121 Rocky City Rd., Olean, N. Y.	FA



SECTION ONE

FIRST ROW

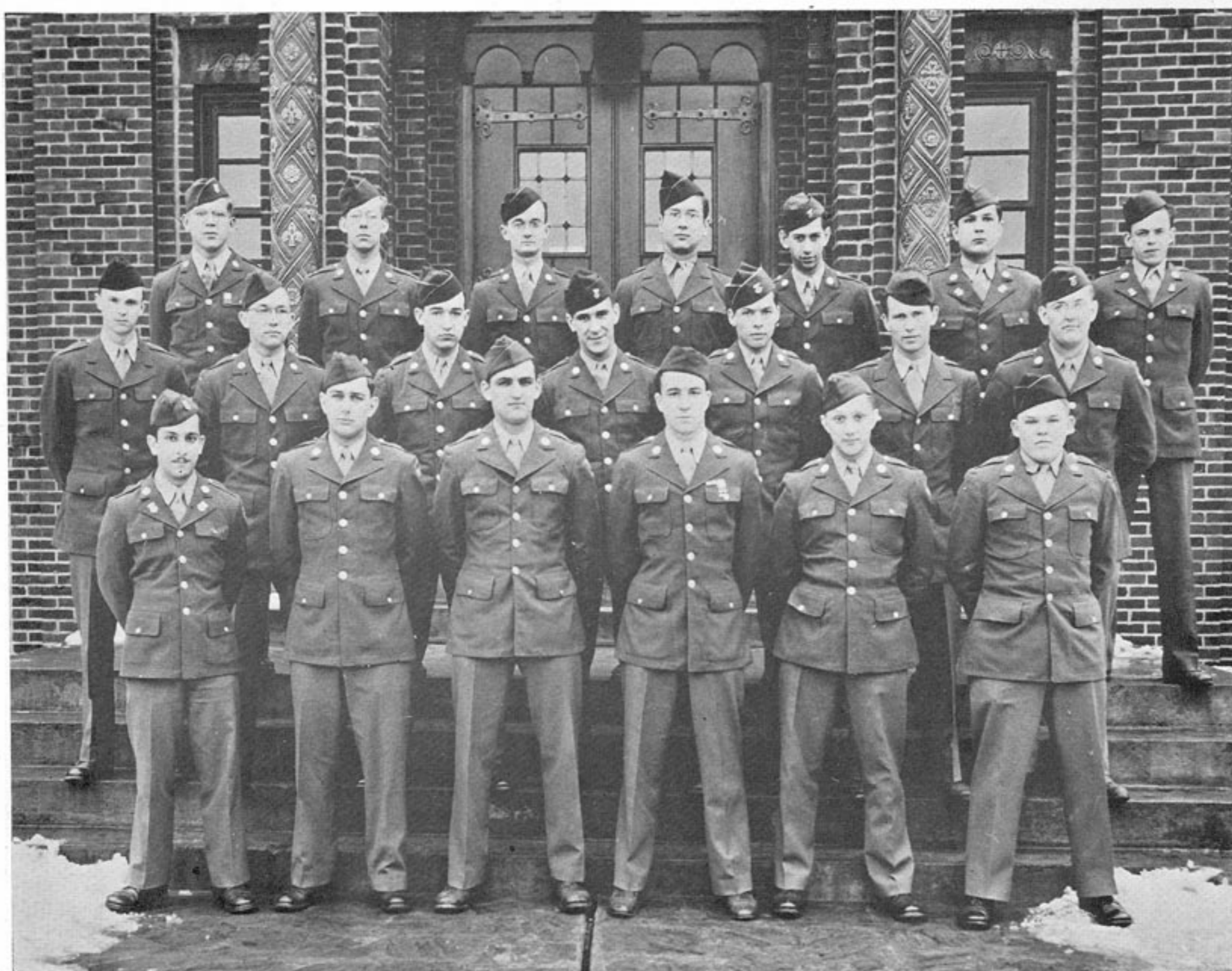
Henderson, Charles, 1019 25th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla.	AAF
Simonds, John, 442 Woodland Ave., Orlando, Fla.	Inf.
Strauss, Nathan, 4213 Granada Ave., Baltimore, 15, Md.	Medics
Czarniewicz, Casimir, 131 Eckford St., Brooklyn, 22, N. Y.	TC
Colline, Elwood, Isanti, Minn.	AAF

SECOND ROW

Bolek, Charles, 1808 South 55th Ave., Cicero, Ill.	AAF
Finch, Elmer B., Box 266, Doniphan, Mo.	Inf.
Humphries, Charles, Box 692, Hollywood, Fla.	AAF
Kelly, Thomas, 663 Meadowbrook Ave., Detroit, Mich.	AA
Rose, Ralph, Box 1330 Moreau Drive, Jefferson City, Mo.	Inf.
Wood, Alonzo, 1510 Russell St., Lynchburg, Va.	AAF

THIRD ROW

Wright, John, 1012 Lyon St., Flint, Mich.	AAF
Paul, James, 743 South 10th St., Allentown, Penna.	QM
Henderson, Robert, 815 College Place, Plainfield, N. J.	FA
Coyle, Richard J., 45 Oak St., Wellsville, N. Y.	AAF
Blackford, Charles, 1826 Walnut St., Anderson, Ind.	Inf.
Dockery, Bill D., 5219 Fall Ave., Richmond, Calif.	AAF



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FIRST ROW

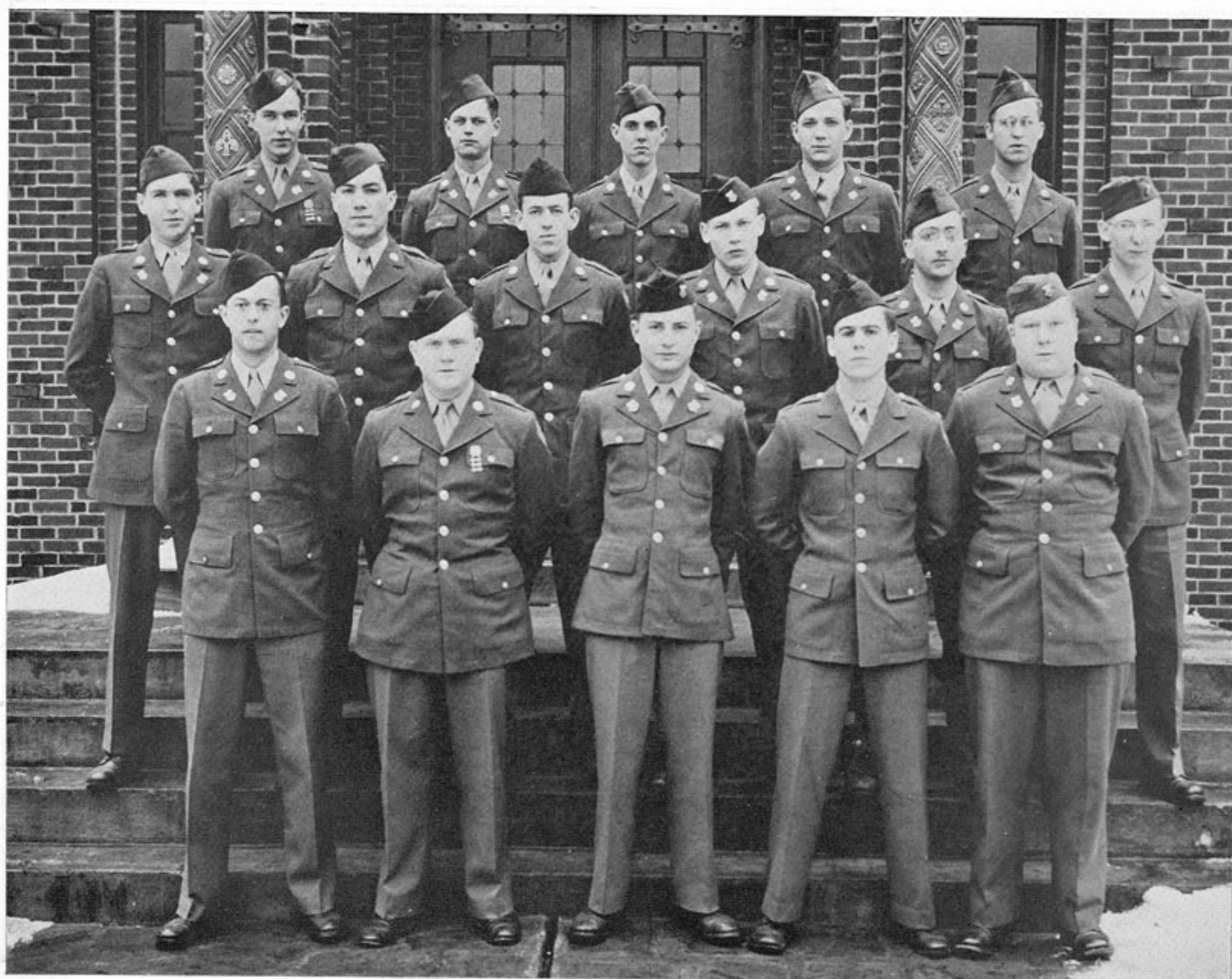
Rosecrans, Rudolph, 1667 Rotary Drive, Los Angeles, Cal.	AA
Zingley, William, 136 Madison St., Freemansburg, Pa.	AA
Keune, Vernon, 312 North Sixth St., Manitowoc, Wis.	Sig. Corps
Fletcher, Bennie, 1527 North Wakefield St., Arlington, Va.	Ord.
O'Keefe, James, 305 Broadway, McKees Rocks, Pa.	AA
Wolfe, William, 202 West Chelsea St., Tampa, Fla.	AAF

SECOND ROW

Menut, Edward, 16 Berryman Drive, Snyder, N. Y.	AAF
Lambrecht, Howard, 102 Central Ave., Oshkosh, Wis.	Medics
Douglas, Arthur, 904 West St., Union City, N. J.	AAF
Mogle, Byron, 323 West 17th St., Tyrone, Pa.	AA
Dickenson, Billie, 815 North Beall St., Belton, Texas	Cavalry
Alexander, Claud, 1376 Delaware Ave., Detroit, Mich.	Inf.
Sage, Enos, R. D. No. 3, Bradford, Pa.	CAC

THIRD ROW

Ahrens, Paul, 4507 Natural Bridge Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.	QM
Kauffman, Charles, 1725 Clover Lane, Upper Darby, Pa.	Medics
Givens, John, 8 Maiden Lane, Matawan, N. J.	AAF
Hinck, Robert, 3831 Bowen St., St. Louis, Mo.	Inf.
Stillinger, Phillip, 760 Thornhill Drive, Cleveland, Ohio	AA
Casey, Robert, 25 Nicholson St., Buffalo, N. Y.	AAF
Hersey, Dwight, Williamstown, Vt.	AAF



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FIRST ROW

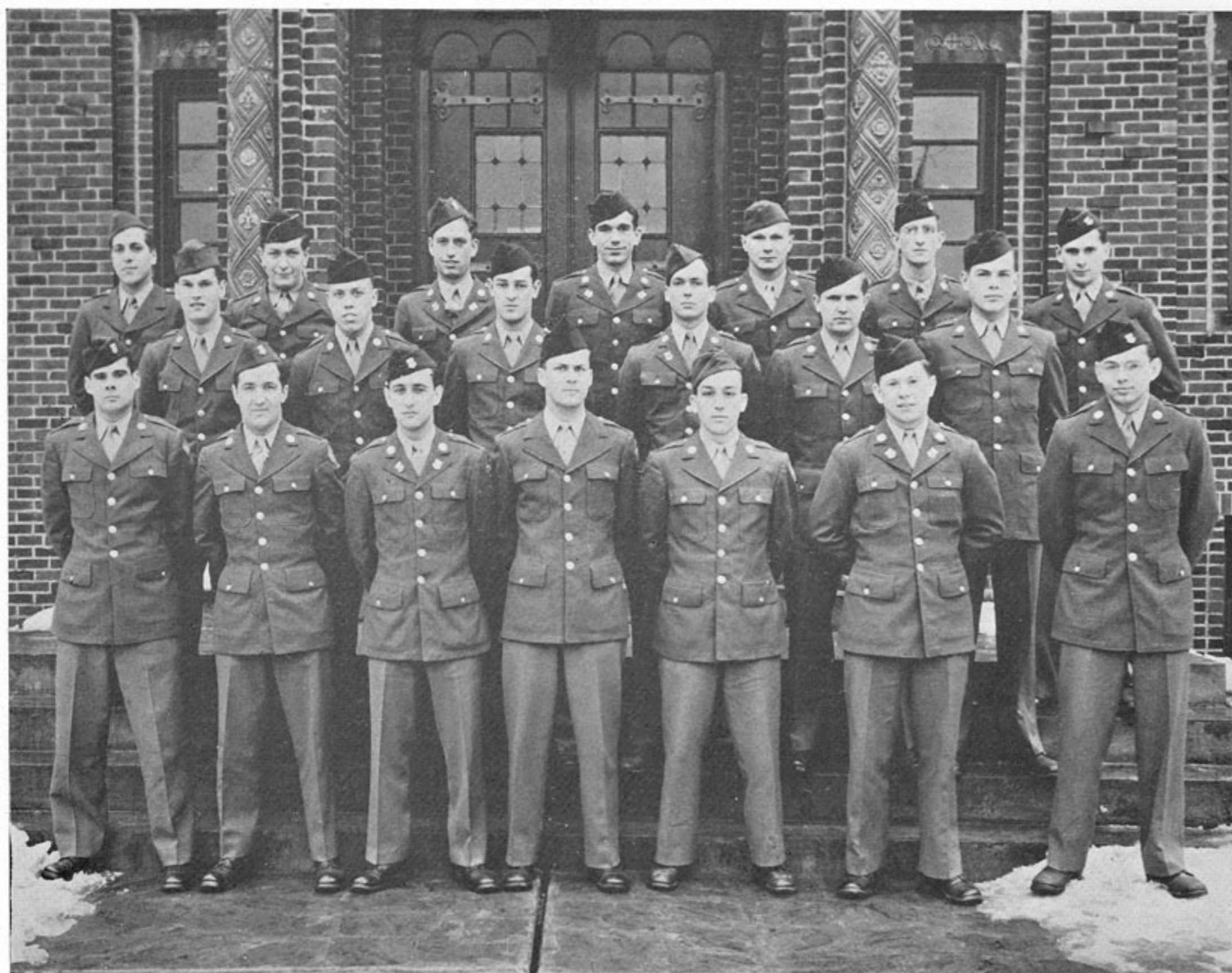
Cunningham, Milburn, 1508 North St., Washington, Ind.	Ord.
Scott, Samuel, 46 East Main St., Penna Grove, N. J.	AA
Mistachkin, Alan, 4122 College, Kansas City, Mo.	Medics
Sprouse, James, 113 Joseph Ave., Williamson, W. Va.	AAF
Glaeser, Robert, 3231 West 14th St., Cleveland, Ohio	AA

SECOND ROW

Fahr, Luther, 1245 Madison Ave., Memphis, Tenn.	Ord.
Davis, Joseph, 1920 South 57th St., Philadelphia, Pa.	CWS
Witanek, Stanley, 327 West Green St., West Hayleton, Pa.	FA
Coy, Richard, 130 East 9th St., Horton, Kansas	Inf.
Carioti, Vincent, 15522 Clifton Blvd., Lakewood, Ohio	AAF
Fleming, Shirley, Bay City, Wis.	Sig. Corps

THIRD ROW

Morrill, Robert, RFD No. 2, Bethel, Maine	AA
Imfeld, Clement, 1029 Clinton Ave., Hamilton, Ohio	Inf.
Lane, Paul, 1702 9th Ave. N., Nashville, Tenn.	Inf.
Herzer, William, 1828 North Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.	AA
McAdams, James, 603 West Front St., Burlington, N. C.	A/B



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FIRST ROW

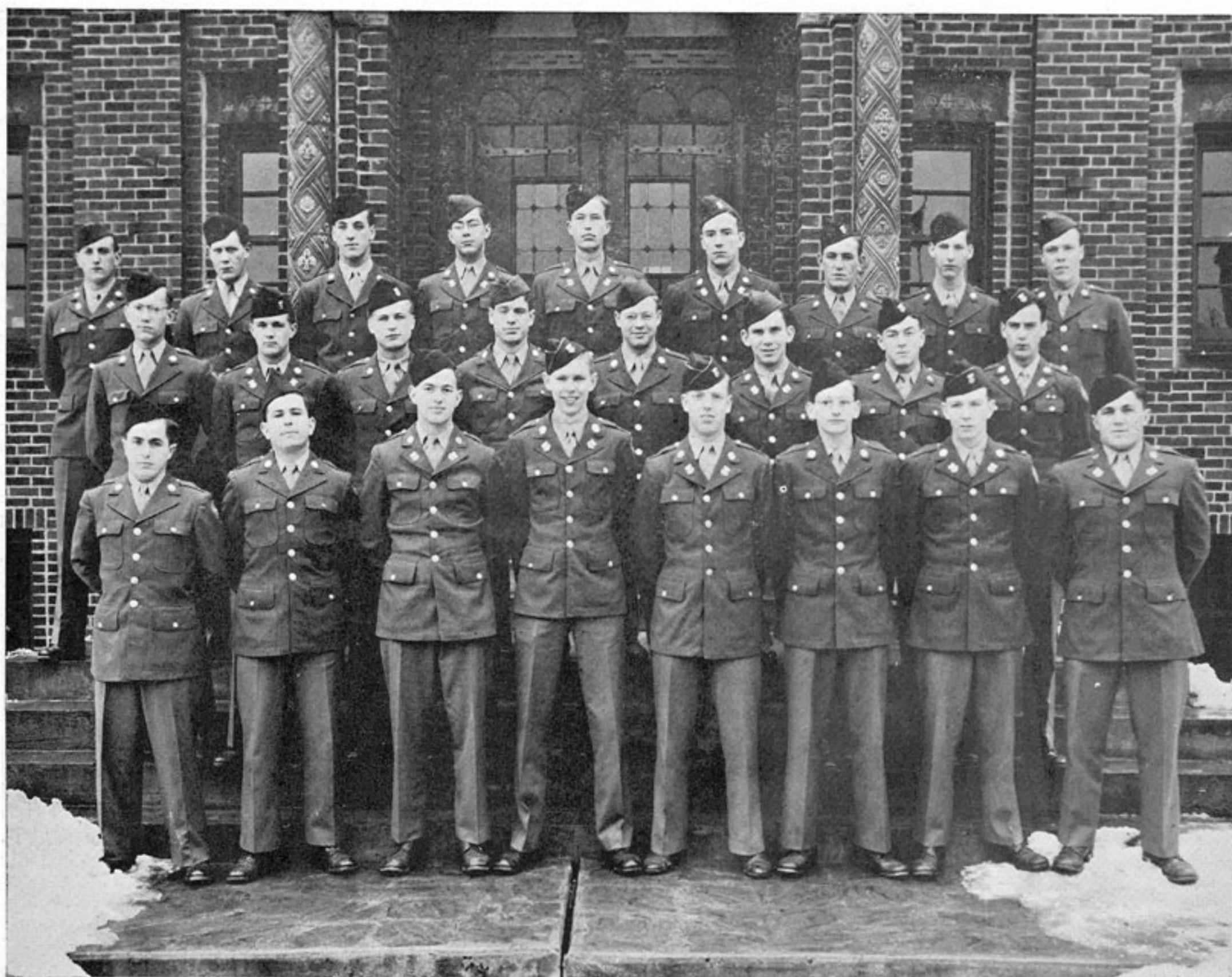
Brady, Thomas, 86-13 144th St., Jamaica, N. Y.	FA
Brady, Joseph, 85-44 159th St., Jamaica, N. Y.	FA
Borowsky, Herman, 241 East Mosholu Parkway, N., New York City, N. Y.	FA
Cooley, Tenal, 15 Arrowhead Drive, Stilwater, Okla.	Inf.
Bell, Olen, 1605 Linwood Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla.	Sig. Corps
Shemon, Richard, Lucan, Minn.	AAF
Clark, Donald, 6724 Paseo Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.	Inf.

SECOND ROW

Fauc, Warren, 341 East 22nd St., Minneapolis, Minn.	AA
Hacket, Charles 434½ Chestnut St., Allentown, Pa.	AA
Amann, Richard, 612 "F" St., Sparrows Point, Md.	AA
Collins, Paul, 902 Angle Road, Fort Pierce, Fla.	AAF
Kubinec, John, 238 Bennett St., Luzerne, Pa.	AA
Lowe, James, Clyde, Kansas	Inf.

THIRD ROW

Gallo, Raphael, 116 Grove St., Brooklyn, N. Y.	Eng.
Brown, John R., 2415 West Okmulgee St., Muskogee, Okla.	Inf.
Stoner, Dale, Aurora, Kansas	AAF
Hargis, William, 1014 Whitlock Ave., Marietta, Ga.	FA
Halbin, Peter, 14 Alhambra Ave., Copiague, N. Y.	Eng.
Callahan, Leo, R. D. No. 2, Thayer, Kansas	Inf.
Eberly, Alan, Sheridan, R. D. No. 1, Penna.	Inf.



SECTION FIVE

FIRST ROW

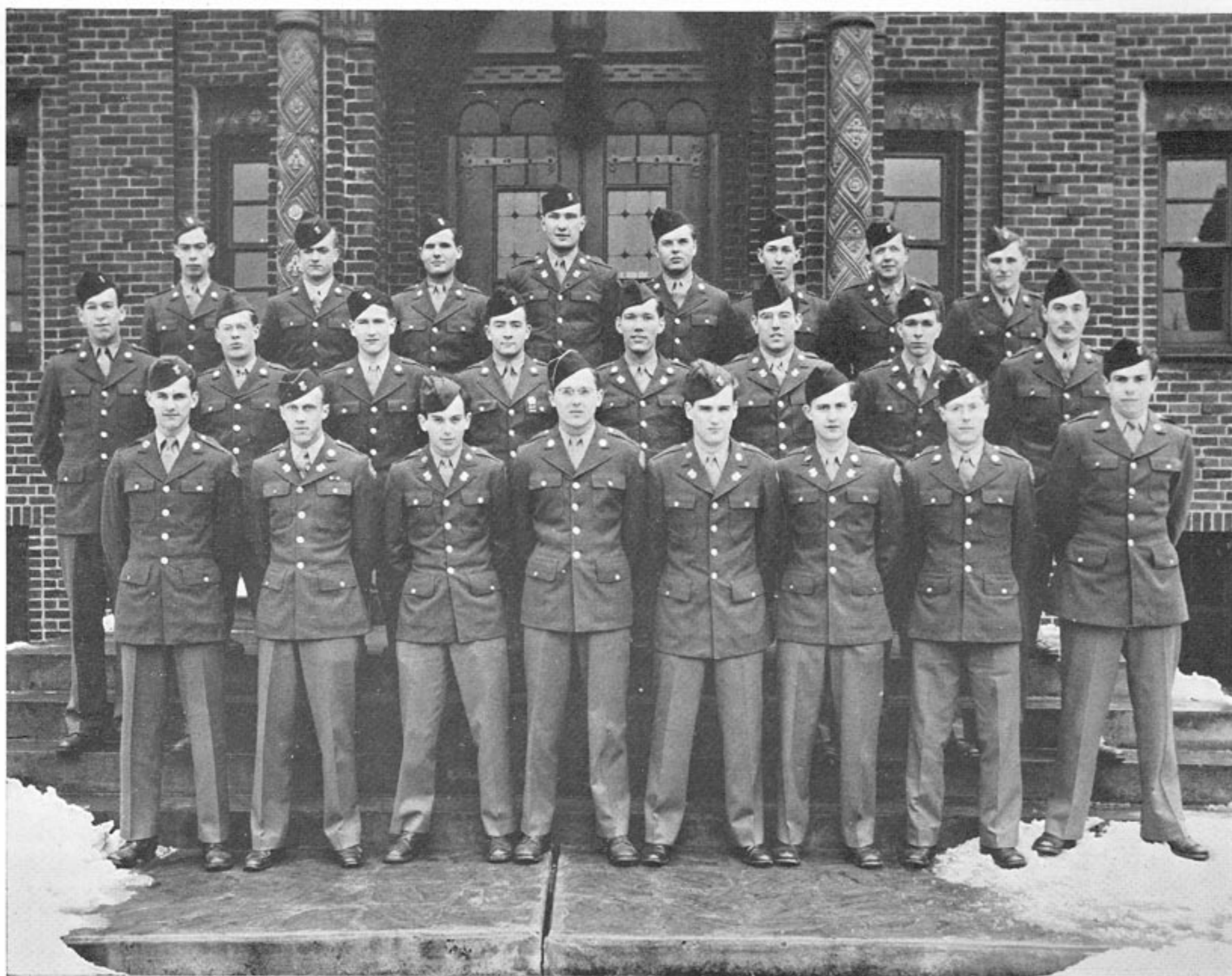
Pallini, Ray, 388 Grant St., Buffalo, 12, N. Y.	Inf.
Greenberg, Joseph, 601 East New York St., Indianapolis, Ind.	Inf.
Best, Robert, 414 Palmer St., Jamestown, N. Y.	Inf.
Waters, Bob, 410 West Center St., Medina, N. Y.	Inf.
Campbell, James, 44 Belmont Ave., Kenmore, N. Y.	Inf.
Kemper, Robert, 38 Elm St., Camillus, N. Y.	Inf.
McCarty, Paul, 43 Williston Road, Auburndale, Mass.	Inf.
Byron, Dick, 1689 Amherst St., Buffalo, N. Y.	Inf.

SECOND ROW

Veeder, William, 206 Market St., Amsterdam, N. Y.	Inf.
Woodward, Jimmy, Dahlonga, Ga.	Inf.
Brown, John, 679 Allen St., Syracuse, N. Y.	Inf.
Perry, William R.F.D. 2, Box 72-D, Fort Worth, Tex.	Eng.
Arthur, H., 212 83rd St., Niagara Falls, N. Y.	Inf.
Jackson, Donald, 49 Newman Place, Buffalo, N. Y.	Inf.
Zurcher, Carl, 256 East VanBuren St., Berne, Ind.	Inf.
Schoop, Gerry, 40 Montell St., Oakland, Calif.	Eng.

THIRD ROW

Koffman, John, 265 North Park Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.	Inf.
Hoepfinger, Robert, 59 Colton Ave., Lackawanna, N. Y.	Inf.
Naples, James, 33 Gates Circle, Buffalo, N. Y.	Inf.
Knox, William, Elgin, Texas	Inf.
Billhuber, E. W., 14 Richmond Road, Douglaston, N. Y.	Inf.
Spicer, Dan, 143 Bleacher St., Gloversville, N. Y.	Inf.
Herman, Robert, 59 Vinient St., Lackawanna, N. Y.	Inf.
Heneghan, William, 164 Penhurst St., Rochester, N. Y.	Inf.
Rager, Edward, 1106 West Adams St., Sandusky, Ohio	Inf.



SECTION SIX

FIRST ROW

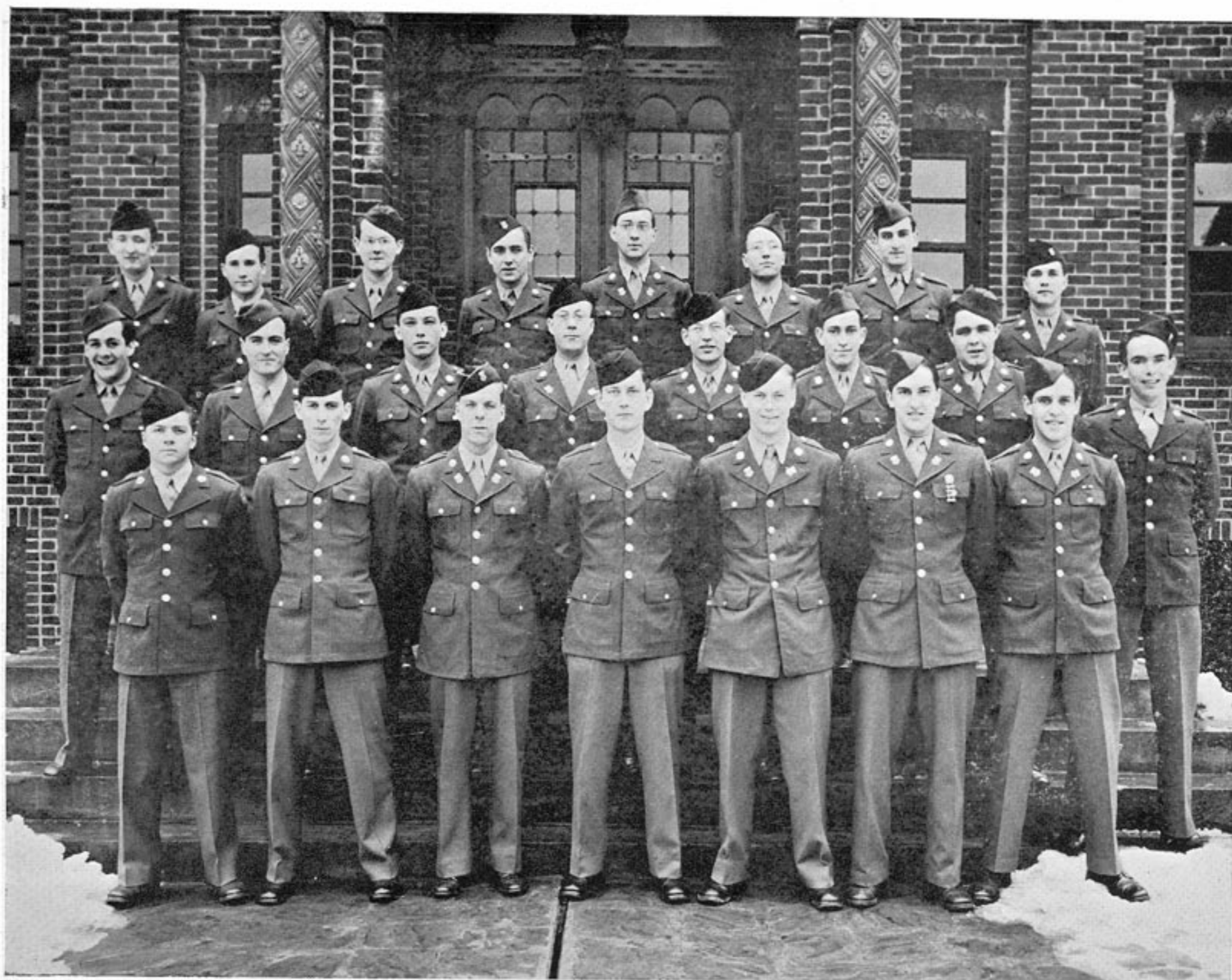
Witzke, Walter, 1761 East 27th St., Cleveland, Ohio	Inf.
Kimrough, R., 909 Vine St., Chattanooga, Tenn.	AAF
Greene, Robert, 2753 Euclid Heights Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio	Inf.
Eckis, Robert, 159 Bird Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.	Inf.
Kibler, William, 907 Bellemeade Ave., Evansville, Ind.	Inf.
Svec, Dean, 5111 Anthony St., Maple Heights, Ohio	Inf.
Conger, Franklin, 135 Maple St., Summit, N. J.	Inf.
Mennen, Irving, 164 1st St., Troy, N. Y.	Inf.

SECOND ROW

Schultheis, Lee, 83 Early St., Wellsville, N. Y.	Inf.
Joelson, Paul, 20215 Gillman St., Farmington, Mich.	CAC
Turton, Edgar, 786 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, N. Y.	Inf.
Taylor, David, 930 Ackerman Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.	Inf.
Segraves, William, 1924 Wilmore Drive, Charlotte, N. C.	Inf.
Swain, Arthur, 404 East 4th St., Sweetwater, Texas	Inf.
Hobbs, James, 838 5th St., Corbin, Kentucky	Inf.
Reitz, Gordon, 110 Ridgeview Drive, East Rochester, N. Y.	Inf.

THIRD ROW

Feiden, Barry, 437 3rd St., Newburgh, N. Y.	Inf.
Rulsheh, R., 1210 Wisconsin Ave., Manitowoc, Wis.	AAF
Bartell, Robert, 608 Grand Central Ave., Horseheads, N. Y.	Inf.
McGowan, Norman, 99 Longview Terrace, Rochester, N. Y.	Inf.
Southard, Jim, 426 Hayes St., Gary, Ind.	Inf.
Hirshout, Francis, 2241 Pine St., Wilmington, Del.	Inf.
Jackson, James, 140 West Church St., Fairport, N. Y.	Inf.
Chowning, Eldon, 930 South Johnson, Ada, Okla.	Inf.



SECTION SEVEN

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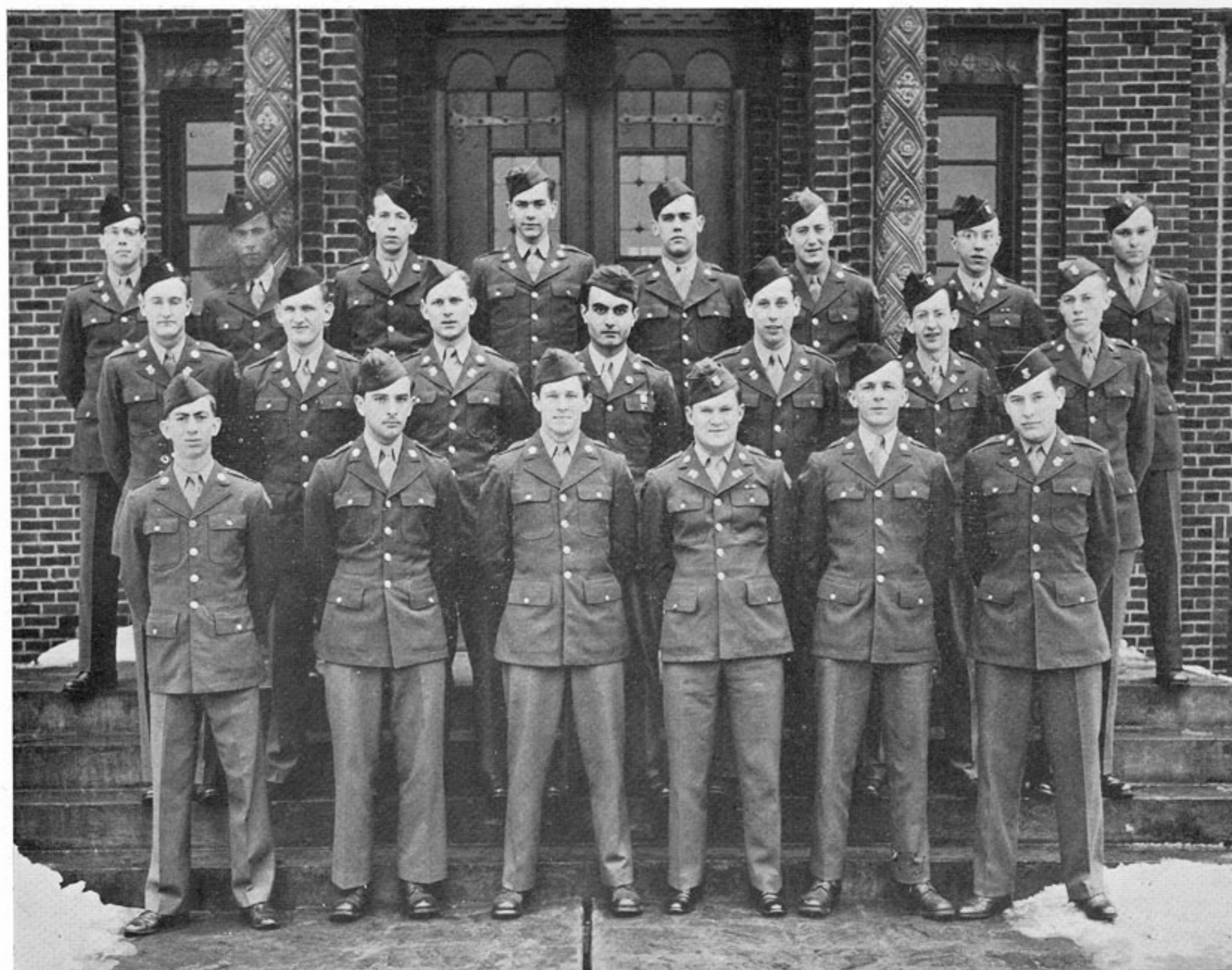
Bray, Roy, Dardanella, Ark.	Medics
Blumberg, Bernard, 60 East 94th St., New York City, N. Y.	FA
Giifillan, Robert, New St., New Holland, Pa.	AGF
Fay, Jack, Apt. 160, Steinmetz Homes, Schenectady, N. Y.	FA
MacGregor, Andrew, 684 45th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.	DEML
Doerschner, Robert, 838 Loyal Way, Pittsburgh, Pa.	AAF
Doucette, Stanley, 20 Wilson Ave., Belmont, Mass.	AAF

SECOND ROW

Mauri, Henry, 85 Maple St., Greenfield, Mass.	FA
Conroy, Martin, 45-48 42nd St., Long Island City, N. Y.	Medics
Barysh, Burton, 25 Huguenot Drive, Larchmont, N. Y.	FA
Becker, William, 966 Herkimer St., Brooklyn, N. Y.	Ord.
Claypool, Charles, 5324 1st Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn.	Medics
Blaushild, Bernhardt, 691 Main St., New Rochelle, N. Y.	FA
Clark, Robert, 411 Pine St., New Castle, Pa.	Inf.
Andries, George, 90 Turner St., Dedham, Mass.	QM

THIRD ROW

Burke, Richard, 89-58 196th St., Hollis, Long Island, N. Y.	Medics
Owens, Boyd, Panguitch, Utah	Ord.
Albert, Richard, 410 Parham St., Muscatine, Iowa	AGF
Preston, James, 685 Emmons Blvd., Wyandotte, Mich.	M. P.
McCann, Robert, 921 North Front, Marquette, Mich.	FA
Dutcher, James, Milford, N. Y.	AGF
Dienes, Herbert, 16 Drake Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.	Unassg'd
Bredesen, John, 1501 North 4th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.	Medics



SECTION EIGHT

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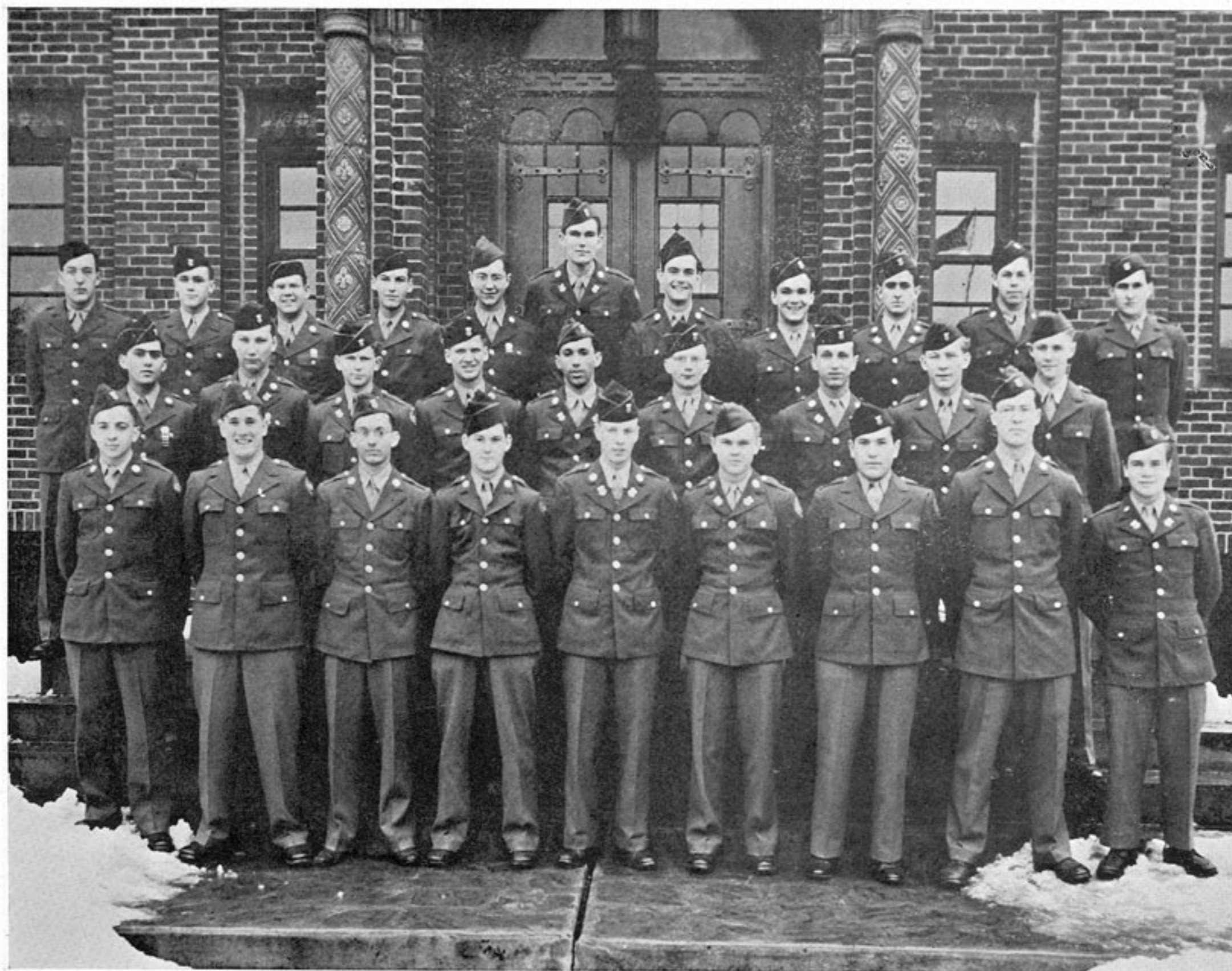
Osborn, Garold, Morrison, Okla., R.D. No. 1	Eng.
Morona, Cosimo, 1770 50th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.	FA
Gooley, Howard, 606 Florence Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind.	Inf.
Collins, Kelly, 2312 Adams St., Indianapolis, Ind.	AAF
Sappington, Charles, 102 Dryden Place, Port Arthur, Texas	Inf.
Behrends, Henry, Bristow, Iowa	AAF

SECOND ROW

Bisbey, James, 714 Riverside Drive, Waterloo, Iowa	Medics
Bundlie, Don, 106 4th St. S. W., Pipestone, Minn.	Medics
Arenskov, Per, 49 Linden Ave., Long Beach, Calif.	AAF
Brunetto, Frank, 110 Madison St., New York City, N. Y.	Ord.
Pearlman, Seymour, 155 North Cicero Ave., Chicago, Ill.	FA
Peckman, Venor, Richland Center, Wis.	Medics
Olsen, Orlin, Humbolt, Iowa	AAF

THIRD ROW

Curry, Robert, 139 Mill Road, Upper Darby, Pa.	AA
Van Valkenberg, Frank, 1205 Cleveland St., Mt. Vernon, Wash.	Inf.
Kirch, Robert, 4422 Ovid Ave., Des Moines, Iowa	AGF
Carlson, James, 1297 Payne Ave., St. Paul, Minn.	Medics
Marshall, Clifford, 6 Garden St., Newburyport, Mass.	Eng.
Burkett, Robert, 1546 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, Calif.	AA
Gagat, Anthony, 640 Cypress Ave., Johnstown, Pa.	AAF
Ehrenberg, Julian, 826 Edgewood Ave., New Haven, Conn.	Medics



SECTION NINE

FIRST ROW

Koepfinger, Joseph	1017 Main St., Coraopolis, Pa.
Pappas, Arnold	1121 Elder Ave., Bronx, N. Y.
Kammer, William	2803 Riggs Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Mann, Edward	609 Curtin Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Aubrey, Eldred	North Bangor, N. Y.
Tebbutt, John	679 Western Ave., Albany, N. Y.
Perozzi, Frank	Broadway, Oakfield, N. Y.
Cummins, William	Drake Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.
Smith, Lloyd	438 Walnut St., Luzerne, Pa.

SECOND ROW

Rosenzweig, Benjamin	467 East 25th St., Patterson, N. J.
Blood, William	12 Buffalo St., Jamestown, N. Y.
Sabinski, Frank	Gin Lane, Southampton, N. Y.
Koster, Richard	30 Prospect St., Amityville, N. Y.
Tarino, Charles	R. F. D., Box 271, New Brunswick, N. J.
Perry, Jack	202 Buckland Ave., Rochester, N. Y.
Allegretti, Joseph	263 Madison Ave., Albany, N. Y.
Siewers, Lawrence	7 Lynacres Blvd., Fayetteville, N. Y.
Nitterhouse, Howard	121 Pilgrim St., Valley Stream, N. Y.

THIRD ROW

Kaltenbach, Henry	R. F. No. 2, Phoenixville, Pa.
Gallow, Douglas	25 Roosevelt St., Oceanside, N. Y.
Raynor, Rexford	88 Woolley St., Southampton, N. Y.
Baldwin, John	Tully, N. Y.
Ehle, Russell	Prospect Hill, Fort Plain, N. Y.
Chase, Francis	46 Parkside Court, Syracuse, N. Y.
Niday, Merrill	635 Third Ave., Gallipolis, Ohio
Lettrich, Albert	200 West Sixth Ave., Tarentum, Pa.
Mahr, Walter	Maple Street Ext., Coraopolis, Pa.
Malone, Vincent	R. D. No. 1, Harmon Drive, Cheswick, Pa.
Strout, Thomas	Poland, Maine

* Above trainees completed Infantry Basic preparatory to ASTP



ACTIVITIES



HISTORY

THE history of the Army Specialized Training Unit at St. Bonaventure College is best traced, perhaps, from the date of arrival of the first contingent of trainees on the campus, 16 June 1943. About a week later, 27 June, the next group arrived, followed closely by a third shipment on 29 June, and a fourth the next day. The last group to arrive came on 3 July. No sooner had rooms been assigned than the trainees received their first bad news — no furloughs. Many of the men, learning that classes were not scheduled to start until 12 July, thought that the intervening time could be used to better advantage on furlough. But, faced with the task of whipping order out of the chaos which accompanies the birth of an outfit such as the SCSU 3217, the commandant, Colonel E. T. Spencer, his adjutant, Captain John E. Wurst, and the company commander, First Lieutenant Donald F. Smith (now Captain), thought it better that the men remain on the campus.

First impressions of St. Bonaventure were, as later events proved conclusively, quite incorrect and incomplete. To many of us, the brown-robed friars were an entirely new sight, and the prospect of making a "second home" amid the supposed austerity of St. Bonaventure College, as the Very Reverend Thomas Plassmann, O.F.M., encouraged us to do, did not seem too bright. But it took us only a short time to realize that the President's message of welcome was no idle speech-making — we *were* really welcome at the college. And it was not many days later that we discovered that those brown robes were filled with men whom we would soon count among our best friends.

Another important factor in our quick and easy acclimatization to our new post was the attitude of the people in surrounding towns — notably Olean and Allegany. Within a month of our arrival on the campus, the YMCA extended an invitation to the soldiers to attend a weekly dance held in Olean on Saturday night. Through these affairs the trainees quickly became acquainted with the younger set of Olean. Various clubs, including the Elk's Club and the American Legion, offered their facilities to the service men stationed at the college. Needless to say, we lost no time in taking advantage of this generosity.

The first introduction of the unit as a whole to the people came on 5 July, when the entire company took part in the Independence Day festivities in Olean. Headed by our officers, we marched through the city to Bradner Stadium, where the drill team under the direction of Captain Smith, staged a close-order drill exhibition.

With the start of classes around the middle of July, the Unit settled down to the hard work which is the essence of the ASTP. The work included in the first term's syllabus covered a variety of subjects — Algebra, Chemistry, English, Geography, History, Physics, and Trigonometry. For the next twelve weeks there was little time for anything but studies. Frivolity and amusement were confined to the weekends. But it was a pleasant change from the strenuous life in the field.

During the first term there were a few changes in the officer cadre of the post. The Commandant, Colonel Spencer, was transferred to Syracuse University, and Captain Wurst took over his duties in late September. Other additions to the staff of officers on the post were Second Lieutenant Frank Byron, in charge of supply, who arrived in the middle of August, and First Lieutenant William H. Worrilow and Second Lieutenant William C. Davis. Lieutenant Worrilow was to direct the military training of the Second Year Advanced ROTC students on the campus until they were placed in Officer Candidate Schools. Lieutenant Davis assumed charge of transportation and acted as assistant company commander.

The first week of October was set aside for the between-terms furlough. After this brief vacation, the trainees returned to St. Bonaventure to face the first split-up of their organization. They learned that one hundred men were to be shipped to Rutgers University to continue their training. Some failed to make the grade scholastically and were returned to troops. Of those returning from furlough, approximately one hundred and twenty entered the second term at St. Bona's, while the remainder of the company was composed of first term students.

Civilian collegians and co-eds made their appearance on the campus after this first furlough. It was not long before some semblance of the social life which had flourished here before the war was noticed. The first event on a calendar of social events which is still not completely written was the Welcome Dance, sponsored by the Student Senate on 16 October 1943. The affair was well attended, and much of the credit for the success of the dance is due to Father Peter A. Carr, O.F.M., our Chaplain. Another Senate-sponsored event, the annual Harvestivity Ball, was held on 27 November at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

The Company reciprocated for all this hospitality by inviting the people of the surrounding area to an Open House, 3 December 1943. Quite a large number of the people of Olean, Allegany, and surrounding communities attended. They were conducted on a tour of the campus, including the barracks, the gunshed, and other buildings of interest. The soldiers planned quite a varied program of entertainment, and the whole event was very successful.

On 24 November, the Red Cross Mobile Blood Bank visited the campus. The soldiers, officers, and faculty of St. Bonaventure contributed a total of 160 pints of blood to this vital cause. Many of the trainees had to be turned away because the Red Cross had insufficient equipment to handle their donations.

Further changes in the officer complement of the post were effected on 30 January and 30 December. Lieutenant Worriow was transferred to a new post after the ROTC men were shipped to O.C.S. at Fort Sill. And on the latter date, Lieutenant Byron left the campus for the AST unit at near-by Alfred College.

Furlough time came again on 30 December, and enabled many of the soldiers to spend New Year's Eve at home. After the furlough there were the usual shipments, including a number of men who received their orders to report for Aviation Cadet training. Twenty-eight new first-termers joined the company, giving St. Bonaventure students in each of the three basic engineering terms.

Social life in January and February included a combination round and square dance in the Gym, and another dance on 5 February 1944 — the Mid-Winter Hop — sponsored by the company itself.

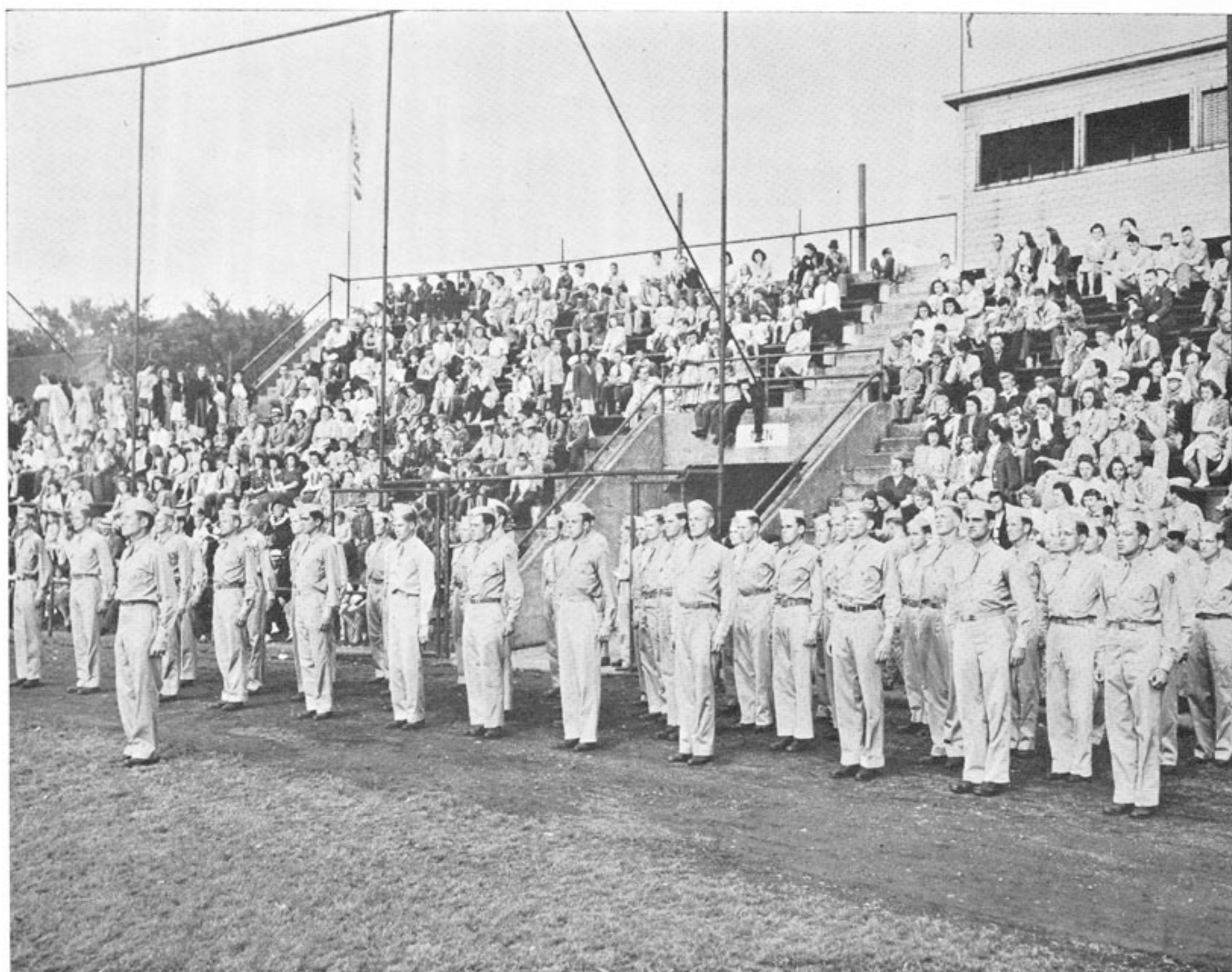
First news of the coming breakdown of the ASTP came on 19 February with the War Department's announcement that the basic phase of the ASTP was to be discontinued before 1 April 1944. This meant the end of the Army Specialized Training Program at St. Bonaventure College. Previous to this announcement, some sixteen radio specialists were called from their books in the middle of the third term, and sent to Fort Monmouth for additional training preparatory for overseas duty. Now, with the War Department's latest announcement, the entire Unit is expecting somewhat similar duty.

Whatever the final disposition of the Trainees of 3217 SCSU may be, we may be sure that the training we received at St. Bonaventure College will always stand us in good stead — not only for the remainder of our military careers, but in civilian life as well. And it is equally certain that there will always be a warm spot in our hearts for the gracious people of Olean and Allegany, and the surrounding communities, who helped in so many ways to make our stay in Western New York a most pleasant one.



QUEEN

The absence of the fairer sex in Company A proved no deterrent to the selection of a queen for our publication. The young lady pictured on this page was selected from numerous other entries as the most charming sweetheart of the unit. She is Miss Margaret L. Renckens, and she hails from Minneapolis, Minnesota. The lucky fellow is Pvt. J. R. Bredesen of Section 7.



DRILL TEAM

Pictured on this page is the drill team which gave such a good account of itself at various patriotic functions in Olean. It is under the direction of Captain Donald F. Smith. The first appearance of the drill team, experts in close-order drill, was on 5 July 1943, at the Independence Day celebration in Olean.



ASTU SOFTBALL

IMMEDIATELY after the beginning of the first term, the trainees formed two softball leagues. The Tuesday League was composed of the First, Second, Seventh, Ninth, and Tenth Sections. The Friday League consisted of the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Eighth Sections. Each team was scheduled to play eight games, with the winners of each league playing to decide the post championship.

The teams were surprisingly well matched. Without exception, the games were close, tense, and hard-fought struggles, with the victors usually winning by a lucky break.

Entering the stretch, the First Section was out in front of the Tuesday League. Determining the best team in the other league was not so simple. With one game to go, the Sixth Section led by one game, with the Fourth Section in second place. These two teams met in the final game which, after a fast, hard battle, ended in a 2-2 deadlock. The following day the teams resumed the struggle. It ended 4-4 when Gene Hancock, Section 4's portside hurler, suffered a compound fracture of his right leg trying to score the winning run from second on an infield single. Gene was the best-liked sport on the campus and everyone missed him a great deal. Section Four played the next afternoon especially for Gene and won going away, 13-5. This left the two teams tied for the championship.

It was now the end of the term and most of the players in both leagues were sent to Rutgers University for the second term of study. Unfortunately, this prevented the final play-off.

All in all, the softball leagues were a success, and probably contributed more than any single factor to the great spirit shown by the trainees during the first term.

ASTU BASKETBALL

INTRAMURAL basketball came to the AST unit stationed at St. Bonaventure College when a group of athletically inclined trainees sent out feelers for such a program. The idea was immediately endorsed by our staff officers; and Captain Smith, with characteristic efficiency, assumed the task of organizing a two-league schedule. Within a few days the teams were organized and actual competition began.

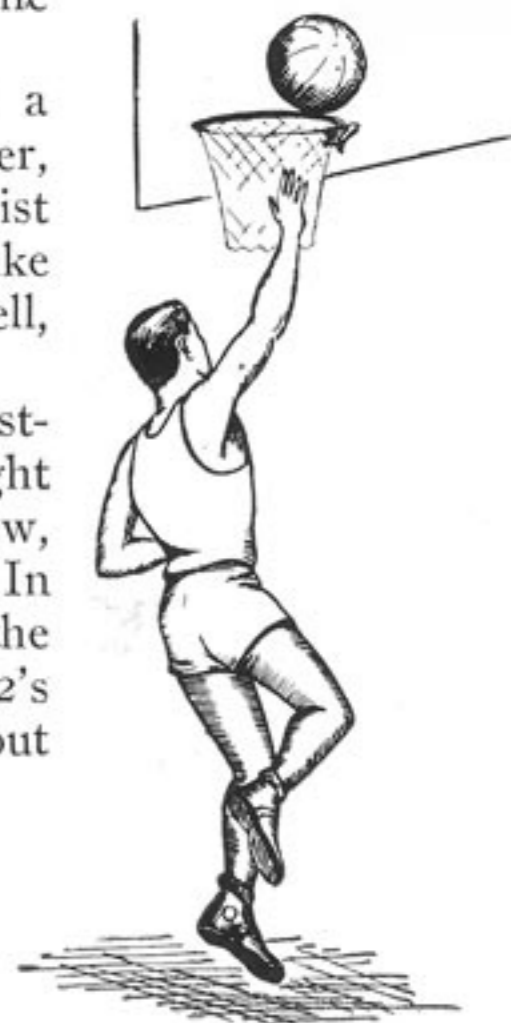
The A League was off to an exciting start with a close contest between the Jaffafas of Section Five and Section Four's B-17's. From the starting whistle it was anybody's game. Amann and Callahan were shooting the big guns for the B-17's, while Naples and Hoepfinger returned fire for the Jaffafas. At the half the B-17's led 20-12. The boys from Section Five came out for the second half as hot as "July in Texas" and proceeded to bracket in on the hoop and fire for effect. The Jaffafas out-played their opponents on the floor, but couldn't push the ball over the rim quite often enough. When the dust cleared, the B-17's were the victors, 26-24. This slim margin speaks for itself.

Not to be outdone by their brothers-in-arms of the A League, the B Leaguers raced onto the courts to show the stuff of which they were made. The game that probably kept the spectators jumping like K.P.'s in the "pot and pan department" was the battle between Section 7's Dwarfs and the Tyrone Tigers from Section Two. The underdog Dwarfs, led by high-scoring Dutcher, were well matched against the highly touted Tigers, featuring Barney Mogle and Co. Close floor-play prevented a high scoring contest, but the fine defensive work of both teams proved as interesting as any amount of net-swishing could have been. Mogle, in particular, shone on his facile ball-handling, as did Dutcher for his eagle-eyed basket-popping. In the late minutes of the game, the onlookers were drawn from their seats when the Dwarfs began to pull away to the tune of three quick baskets, and the Tigers began a desperate leather-throwing effort. When referee Casey blew the final whistle, the Dwarfs had roped, tied, and literally "caged" the Tigers 31-26.

Section Three's A League clubs, the Potods and the Otods, suffered a damaging blow when Our Uncle "activated" sixteen Signal Corpsmen stationed at Bona's. The two teams gamely carried on, and their spirit on the court soon put them in the "win" column again.

A word of recognition is due to our hoopmen who can justly add a "basketball" bar to their shooting medals. Notable among those are Dutcher, MacGowan, Mogle, Fahr, Tebbut, Naples, MacGregor, and Olsen. The list of good ball players would run to the proverbial infinity, with fellows like Brady, Hoepfinger, Halbin, Amann, Woodward, Kibler, Callahan, Bartell, Bilhuber, and many more.

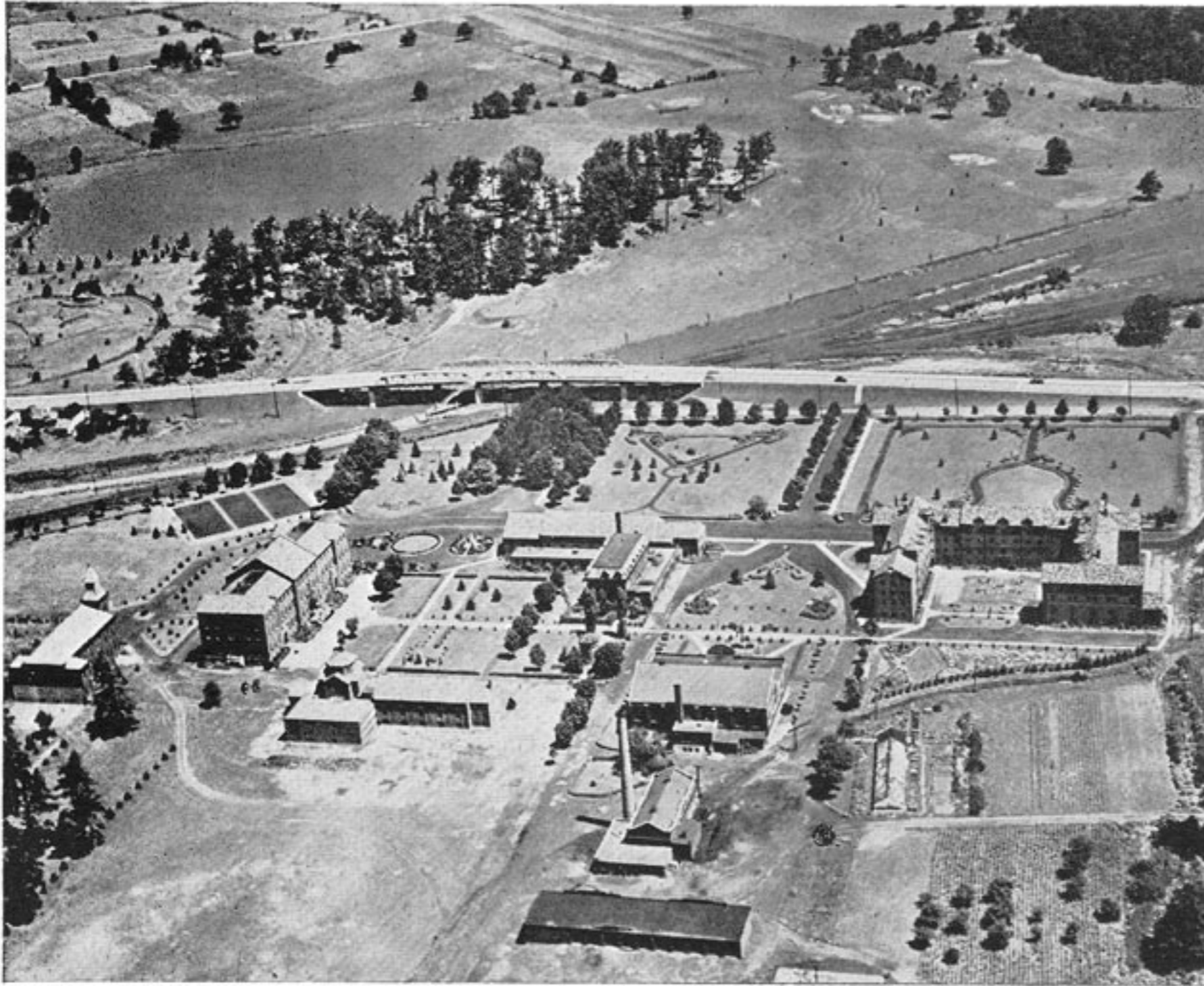
The soaring B-17's and the smoothly operating Jaffafas fought a last-stand battle for the A League title, but the former had the better bombsight when it came to dropping eggs in the basket. The strong Section Six crew, however, provided plenty of fighter interception for these high-flyers. In the B League, the giant-killing Dwarfs carried the big stick, although the Tyrone Tigers were tamed only with great difficulty. Section Nine's 92's and Section Five's scrappy Gaffers were also formidable threats throughout the entire season.





SCENES
OF
CAMPUS





AERIAL VIEW

This is a birds-eye view of the campus of St. Bonaventure College, located in the foothills of the Alleghanies. Visible on the photo are the Barracks (Devereux Hall), De LaRoche Hall, Friedsam Memorial Library, Hickey Memorial Dining Hall, and Butler Gymnasium.





FLAG POLE

Depicted on this page is the retreat ceremony, part of the daily routine at St. Bonaventure College as at every Army post throughout the country. The lowering of the flag at 1800 marked the end of the daylight routine for the trainees, but there were still five hours of study ahead before lights out.

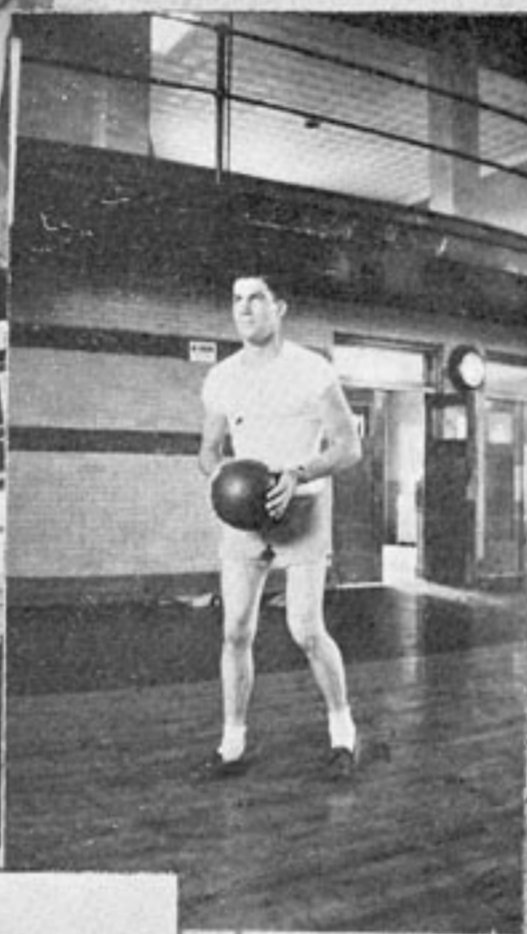






ARCH

The archway is the entrance to the quadrangle enclosed by Devereux Hall. Its pavements echoed many times each day to the tread of marching feet going to and from classes in De LaRoche Hall. Visible through the arch is the statue of St. Anthony, patron of the college, while the foothills of the Alleghanies rise in the distance.

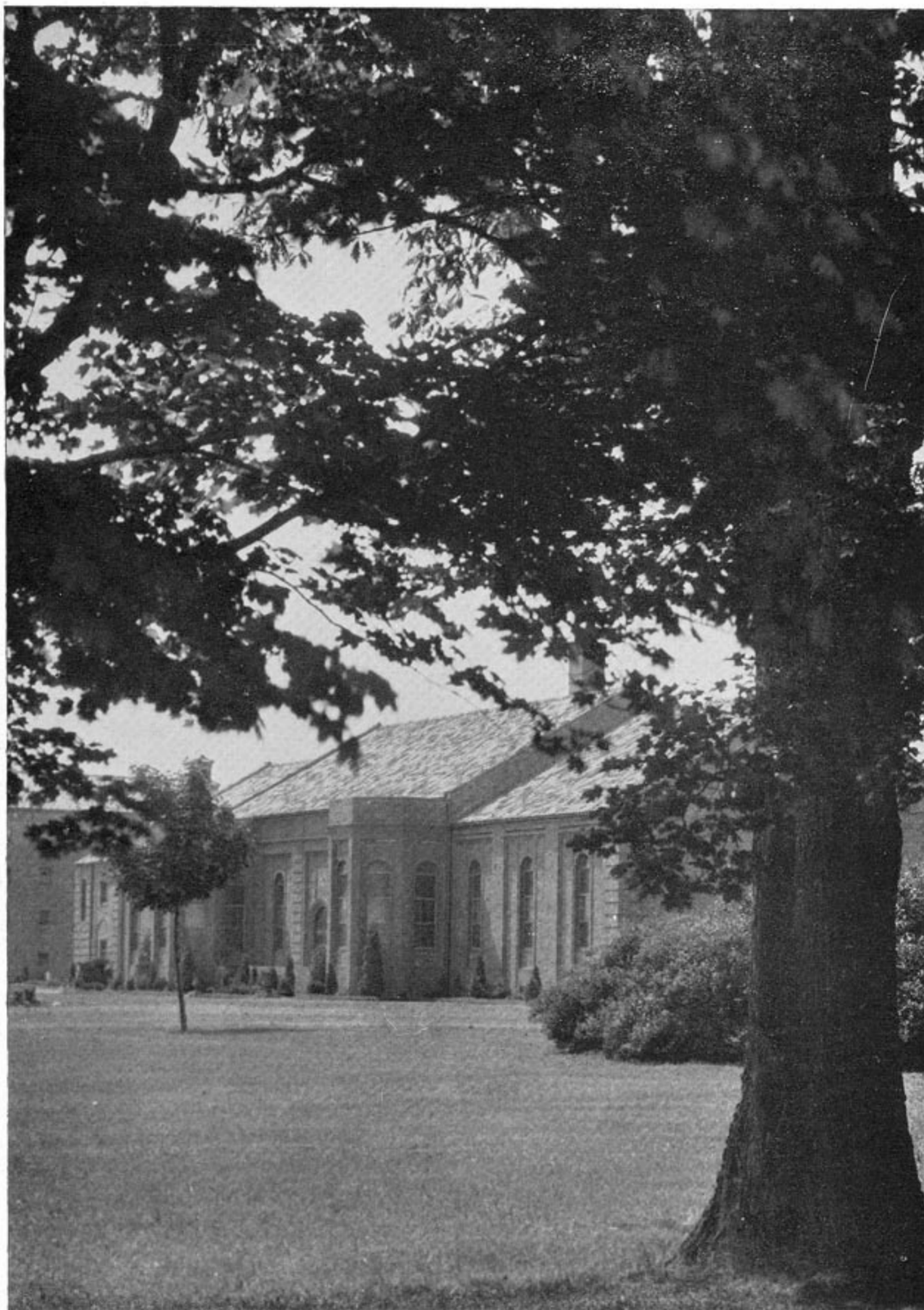




BARRACKS

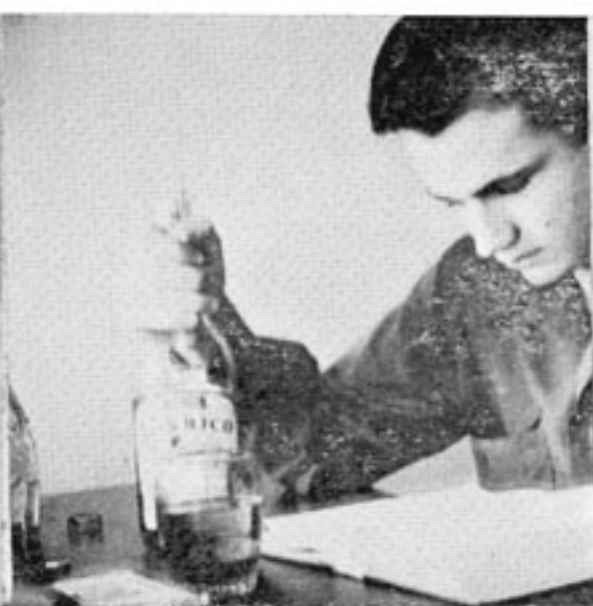
In this modern, well-equipped dormitory, the soldiers of 3217 SCSU made their home for nine months. Devereux Hall provided every comfort and convenience for the soldiers quartered there.





DINING HALL

Facilities for messing the entire organization at one time are available in Alexander Hickey Memorial Dining Hall. Here the trainees were introduced to the very best in Army chow, prepared by the kindly nuns of the local convent. Scrupulously clean at all times, the dining hall also provided all the facilities of a Post Exchange in the adjoining cafeteria.

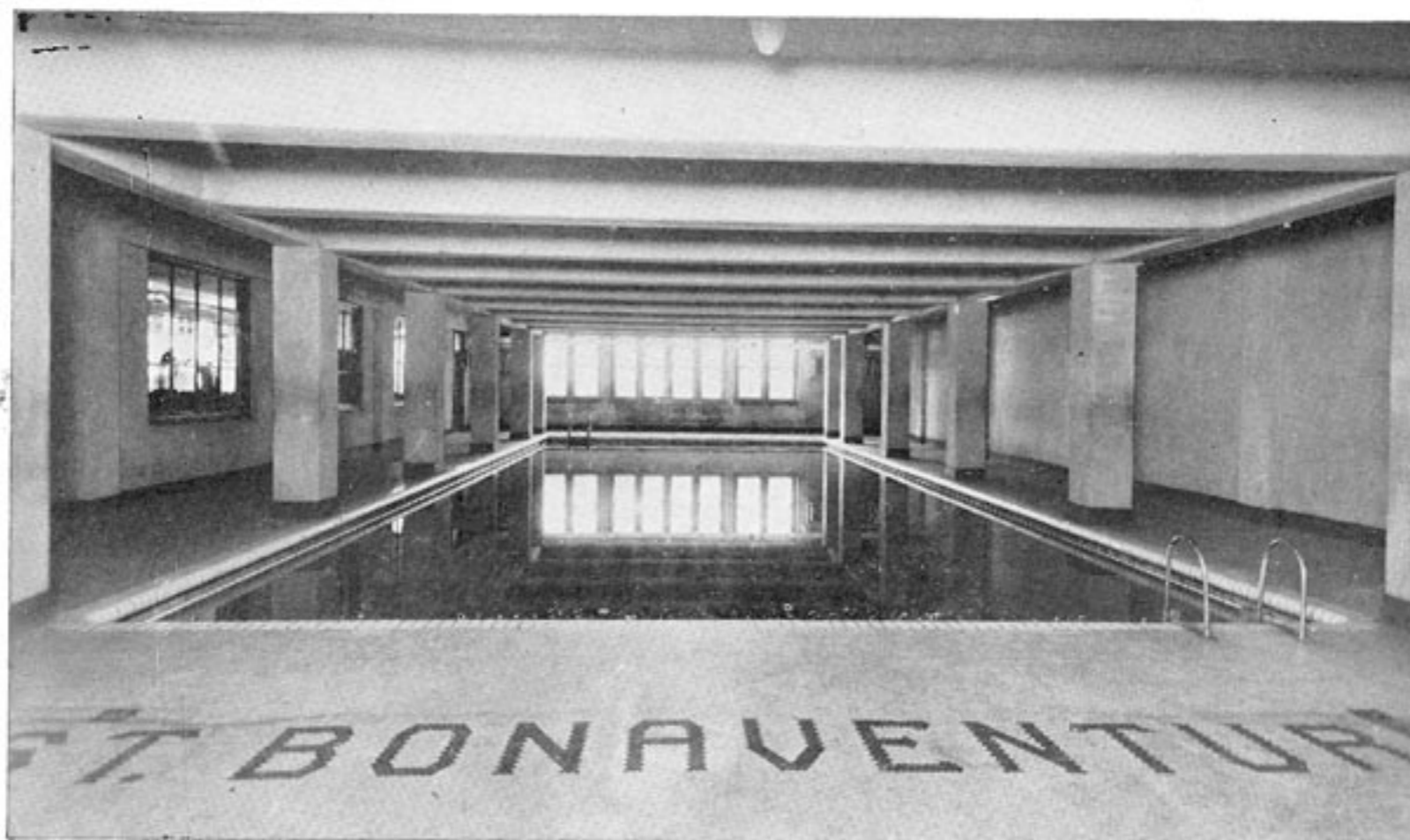




FRIEDSAM LIBRARY

Much used in reference work and for general recreation was Friedsam Memorial Library. Its sixty thousand volumes were available at all times to GI's who desired additional reading. A staff of trained librarians was always on hand to assist the soldier with his particular problem.





SWIMMING POOL

Located in the basement of Butler Gymnasium, this excellent twenty-five yard swimming pool proved the answer to the aquatic-minded soldier's prayers. Besides this pool, Butler Gym houses an indoor track, basketball courts, and a complete assortment of paraphernalia for other indoor sports.



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J. A. ULIO

Adjutant Gen.

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