



# Reveille

## News From The Front

By LTC Jeffrey Wood,  
Professor of Military Science, UTA

### inside this issue

**The Mighty Maverick Battalion** is winding down another successful year. We ended the year with 110 cadets. On May 10, we commissioned nine fine young Americans into the U.S. Army. Many of them will be off to Summer Camp at Ft. Lewis. This will make 14 graduates for the year, our "mission" goal. This accomplishment has been a team effort — my cadre, the cadets, and you, the Alums — many thanks for all your help.

From GEN Franks' and Hollinsworth's visit in October to the great Hall of Honor Ceremony in February, this has been a year to remember. Next year looks bright. We are projecting 130 cadets to start next year.

For me it is a bittersweet year. I will be retiring in December. I will be here through the summer, but will be replaced in August by LTC George Shuplinkov, who is currently the Deputy Chemical Officer for V Corps. He is in Iraq and, as you can imagine, is a little bit busy right now. He will arrive September 1, accompanied by his wife Susanne.

MAJ Kevin Brown is off to Fort Leavenworth, MSG Hunter is off to Fort Living Room (retiring), and SGT Reinstadtler is off to Pennsylvania to be a Re-

cruiter. Hats off to these great soldiers who have been such an integral part of the successes we have enjoyed. Cadre returning next year are MAJ Kevin Smith, CPT George Jons, SFC Currie, Jon Gerik, and (of course) Miguel.

As I end my Army career and finally decide what I will be now that I am grown up, I am so thankful to have been given the great opportunity to be a part of something as special as the UTA Army ROTC program. To think that I am in some small way a pebble on the beach that is this institution's legacy—well, it is mighty humbling to know that the fine young people we are commissioning are loyal, dedicated, and determined. They will represent this institution with distinction, as have those who have gone before them. Finally, a heartfelt thanks to all who have made me feel welcome and who have untiringly supported this program. I feel inadequate in my ability to express the depth of my gratitude for all that many of you have done. It has been my honor to have been the leader of this detachment. I can think of no greater place to end my 20 years of service to my

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**Upcoming Events:**  
**FOUNDER'S DAY**  
 October 2003  
*(Date to be announced)*  
**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI GALA**  
 October 25, 2003

## The Air Attack On Tarleton

By Jerry Thomas and Sarah Nahhas

**The winds of war** were swirling in Europe. Germany had overrun Poland. The Soviet Union had just invaded Finland. The Great Depression was in full force, and the U.S. national unemployment rate was 17.2%. The year was 1939; the month, late November. Arlington was a small rural town surrounded by cotton farms. Just south of the town was the North Texas Agricultural College (NTAC, forerunner of UTA), a part of the Texas A & M System. On the NTAC campus, the students (the males were all cadets) were at fever pitch, preparing for the coming battle, not the war in Europe, but the big football game with John Tarleton State College (JTAC), a sister institution in the Texas A & M System (now Tarleton State University in Stephenville).

The rivalry between the two schools was intense, partly because of history and tradition, partly because the cadets had few other diversions. Most of the students were desperately poor and could not afford off-campus entertainment of any type. By 1926, the rivalry between the two schools had become so "spirited" that the two schools cancelled all scheduled football games from 1927 to 1933. The football rivalry resumed in 1934, apparently without any loss of mutual antagonism for the opposing college. Each year, cadets at both schools built a huge pile of logs, scrap lumber, and wooden boxes for a great pregame bonfire and homecoming celebration to inspire their respective football teams. Students made frequent attempts to raid the other campus and set fire to its "pile" ahead of schedule. According to the Tarleton Student Handbook (which counts this story as one of its major traditions), the students were driven by "the desire to cause premature conflagration to the accumulated rubbish."

On Monday, November 27, 1939, a raiding party from Tarleton burned NTAC's bonfire "pile" and then burned Tarleton's initials into the NTAC football field as an added insult. The students at NTAC were greatly agitated by these hostile actions, and after some "inspirational potions" a large group of NTAC students retaliated. A freshman cadet from Caddo Mills, Chester Phillips, Jr., took the lead. Chester happened to be a student pilot. The plan of attack involved both air and land operations, with a coordinate assault.

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## November 2002 Hall Of Honor

**Colonel (R) Michael W. Parker** attended UTA from 1967-1971. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets, commander of the Sam Houston Rifles, and was the Corps Commander his senior year. He was a distinguished military graduate. After a long and impressive career in the Army that took him to Fort Bragg, NC; Fort Carson, CO; Fort Lee, VA; Manheim, Germany; Iraq during Desert Storm; Fort Gillam, GA; and South Korea, he came to Fort Hood, TX, in 1998 as the Deputy Chief of Staff. He retired from military service in 2001. Col. Parker holds a MS in Logistics Management and a MBA from the Florida Institute of Technology. He has extensive military education, and among his awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with Sliver Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat and Expert Infantryman Badges, Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Army Ranger Tab. Colonel Parker is married to the former Judy Lynn Belknap. They have three children—John, Bryan, and Katy—who all reside in Texas.

**Dr. Arthur G. Cleveland** attended Arlington State College from 1959-1962. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Sam Houston Rifles in which he served as squad leader and songbird. He participated in the 1961 march to summer camp at Fort Hood. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Chemical Corps and was assigned to Fort McClellan just as the Cuban Missile Crisis began. Later, he reported to the Army Chemical Center at Edgewood Arsenal, Edgewood, Maryland. He earned the

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## Sam Houston Rifles

**Col. Mike Parker** (a 2003 Hall of Honor inductee) was elected president of the Sam Houston Rifles at the annual meeting of the SHRAA on February 20, 2003. Mike replaces Jerry Bob Houston (a former Hall of Honor inductee). One of Mike's stated goals is to energize the Sam Houston Rifles Alumni Association and get it up and running. Other goals are...

Support the Sam Houston Rifles organization and continue its legacy.

Support the Corps of Cadets in the development of leaders for our communities and nation.

Support the Cadet Corps Alumni Chapter and its goals.

One of Col. Parker's interests is in getting the U.S. Army ROTC to recognize the role and importance of the Sam Houston Rifles in building leadership qualities and developing future military leaders. Mike is focused on improving communication within SHRAA and getting all members involved. The SHRAA website is [www.samhoustonrifles.org](http://www.samhoustonrifles.org) and Mike's email is [mparker@vvm.com](mailto:mparker@vvm.com).

## Recruiter's Corner

By MAJ Kevin Smith, PMS, UTA

**The upcoming school year 2003-2004** promises another gain in enrollment. We continue to increase the quality of cadets in our program by accepting scholars who achieve 1100 plus SAT scores, who are physically fit, and willing to work hard and take charge.

Scholarship dollars from Cadet Command are becoming harder to get. But through the generosity of UTA, the Corps is provided with 73 dorm beds and \$20,000 worth of UTA Presidential Scholarships. These scholarships will be awarded after the first PT test in the Fall. We are also looking for some additional civilian scholarships to be available. This is only the beginning of the Maverick Battalion's quest for excellence. Our job is to convince the best and brightest to give ROTC a try.

If you know of a prospective ROTC student, please ask him or her to contact MAJ Kevin Smith at 817-272-5652 or at [krsmith@uta.edu](mailto:krsmith@uta.edu) for additional information.

We believe we have the best leadership development course in the world.

## Taps

**Robert J. Darrah** passed away on Sunday afternoon, January 5, at his home after an extremely courageous battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Bob graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School and UTA (B.S. Math). After an exemplary ROTC career he joined the army in 1962 and served in Berlin, Germany, until 1964.

**Jimmy "Jim" Howard Braziel**, a 1959 graduate of NorthSide High School, and a 1963 graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington, passed away very suddenly from a massive heart

attack on March 19, 2002. He was a proud "Jodie" in the Sam Houston Rifles. Jim earned a Purple Heart in Viet Nam. He retired in 1968 after 36 years of service with General Motors. He was a master mason of the Poly Lodge #925, a member of Elks Lodge #2114, and a 22-year member of First Presbyterian Church of Arlington.

**Bob A Buford**, 14518 Sunrose Lane, Dallas, Texas 75234, died, September 28, 2002.



## Where Are They Now

**Mr. Wayne E. Glen**, NTAC Cadet Corps Commander in 1938, graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1941 with a degree in Petroleum Engineering. After serving in the Army and the CIA during World War II, Mr. Glen pursued a lifelong career at Conoco. He became a vice president in 1961, a member of Board of Directors in 1968, the president of Western Hemisphere Petroleum Division in 1969, and the vice chairman of Worldwide Petroleum Exploration, Production and Minerals in 1975. He served as Chairman of the Board of Continental Carbon Company and Hudson Bay Oil and Gas Company, subsidiaries of Conoco. He has served as president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, has been named a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Oklahoma, and has received the Society of Petroleum Engineers DeGolyer Medal for distinguished service. Wayne and his wife Barbara live in Houston, but spend part of the year at their home in New Mexico. Wayne and Barbara have three children: Ellen Gail, Carvel Wayne, and Lawrence Edward. Wayne and Barbara continue to be active in many civic and charitable activities in Houston.

**Wayne E. Glen**



**Ray Andrae**



**LTC (R) Raymond R. Andrae** joined the U.S. Army in 1955. He rose to rank of Staff Sergeant, was in the U.S. Army Europe Honor Guard, and was selected as Soldier of the Year of the 806th Engineer Battalion. In 1964 he served as Second Lieutenant in the Adjutant General Corps. After serving in Europe and Viet Nam, he earned a B.A. degree, and a M.S. in Counseling and Guidance from Troy State University. In 1976 he became Assistant Professor of Military Science at UTA. Under his leadership, the first female Commander of the Corps was appointed and the first female commissioned. He served as advisor to the SHR drill team, which won a championship in 1978. He was instrumental in establishing the Military Science Hall of Honor. LTC. Andrae served as Professor of Military Science from 1979 until he retired in 1981. During his last year, the Military Science department was recognized as one of the outstanding programs in the state. He was appointed an Honorary Cadet Colonel in the Corps of Cadets, and was an Honorary Distinguished Alumni of UTA in 1993. He remains active in professional and charitable groups. Married for 42 years to his wife, Pat, with 2 children and 3 grandchildren, LTC. Andrae resides in Grapevine, TX.

**Where in the world are you?** Please send a photo and brief biography to Jerry Thomas at [jthomas@decisionanalyst.com](mailto:jthomas@decisionanalyst.com).

### *News From The Front (Continued from page 1)*

nation. It seems quite fitting that my last official act will be to commission nine wonderful young Americans...a death, birth, and re-birth all at the same time. May God bless you, your families, and may He continue to bless this great nation.

### **UTA Alumni Association** Kerri Ressel

**The Alumni Association** is planning to celebrate Founder's Day. It will be an annual event that will show students and alumni the rich history of UTA. Part of this Founder's Day activity will include living history tours of the campus and its many changes. We need anecdotes and stories of campus life. If you have any you would like to share, or if you would like to volunteer to tell these stories during Founder's Day, please contact Kerri Ressel at [KRESSL@uta.edu](mailto:KRESSL@uta.edu) or call 1-800-687-8855. Also, if you would like to donate any NTAC, ASC, or UTA memorabilia like year-books, pennants, hats, clothing, etc., please contact Kerri for those as well.

### *November 2002 Hall Of Honor (Continued from page 2)*

Army Commendation Medal for his performance of duty, and he served three years in the Active Reserve as a Company Commander of a Heavy Weapons Company. He joined the faculty at Texas Wesleyan University where he served for 24 years, earning an M.A. in Ecology and a Ph.D. in Vertebrate Ecology from North Texas State University. He won the Educator of Excellence in Education Award in 1988. Dr. Cleveland is currently the Dean of the College of Science at Columbus State University, as well as the State Chair for the Arts and Science Deans Advisory Council for the University System of Georgia Board of Regents and Co-Chair of the State Education Preparation Advisory Council.

**Mrs. Ruth Boyd** graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Personnel Psychology. Mrs. Boyd came to the University of Texas at Arlington in 1978, and worked first in Student Affairs. In 1979 she was assigned to the Military Science Department first as a university employee, then in September 1979 as a Department of the Army employee. Ruth was more than just an employee during her tenure, she was a valuable member of the cadre team. She maintained a close personal relationship with the cadets participating in the ROTC program. Over the years she became affectionately referred to by the cadets as "Cadet Mom." She provided continuity and stability to the Military Science Department. Following her retirement in 1992, Mrs. Boyd became an active member of the Corps of Cadets Advisory Committee and later a member of the Corps of Cadets Alumni Chapter. Her vast knowledge of the cadets and those who were commissioned through the program was instrumental in the organization of the Corps of Cadets Alumni Chapter. Ruth and her husband of 49 years, Aubrey, continue to reside in Arlington. They have two children.

*The Air Attack (Continued from page 1)*

Selecting Cadet James Smith from San Antonio as his copilot and bombardier, Chester rented a small Taylorcraft airplane (single engine, two-seater), loaded it with a sackful of phosphorous “bombs,” and took off for the Stephenville campus. Simultaneously, three truckloads of NTAC cadets departed by ground. Word of the impending attack reached Dean Edward E. Davis at NTAC. He telephoned a warning to Tarleton and dispatched Major Max Oliver, the NTAC Commandant, to bring the errant raiders home.

Tarleton students were lying in ambush to repel the attack. The small plane flew low over the bonfire pile and James attempted to drop the phosphorous bombs on the target. According to some reports, one of the bombs set fire to the Tarleton “pile,” but the defenders quickly extinguished the fire. While most of the bombs missed the wood pile, the sticks and boards hurled up at the airplane did not. One of the Tarleton defenders, L.V. Risinger, hurled a 2x4 into the air. It struck the propeller and brought the small plane down. Chester managed to fly the “wounded” plane over what is now the Hall of Presidents, barely clearing a rock fence and crash-landing into a clump of trees. (Or some say, it came to a stop three feet away from crashing into the rock fence). Chester and James survived the crash, only to be captured by the Tarleton defenders. Meanwhile, the three truckloads of cadets likewise fell into ambush, and most of the attackers were captured. Each of the captured cadets had a block-T cut into his hair, according to Col. Charles McDowell (a JTAC defender and later the Professor of Military Science at UTA). Several of the JTAC students climbed atop the bonfire pile to make speeches about the “spirit” between the two schools, and to tell their defeated rivals to “take your plane and go back home.” The NTAC boys were treated to hot coffee and doughnuts and set loose to return to Arlington. A picture of the crashed airplane appeared in the next issue of Life magazine, according to some accounts (but we have not been able to find any issue with the photo).

According to the *Fort Worth Telegram*, discipline and quiet reigned on both campuses the next day. Chester and his bombardier, James, had to appear before the Federal Civil Aeronautics Authority for a routine investigation into the incident. Dean Davis of NTAC told the *Dallas Morning News* that, “There is no ill will between the student bodies, but the enthusiasm gets out of hand, interferes with normal school work and might result in an unfortunate accident. It is all in fun now, and no one has been hurt, but such raids as were made by Tarleton boys and the one made at Stephenville Tuesday night by our students could very well result seriously.” He added, “There is a possibility that the athletic contests will be suspended between NTAC and Tarleton.”

The much anticipated football game was held as planned in Arlington, Thursday, November 30, 1939. Arlington’s great opportunity for redemption and revenge reverberated in the stadium, but this was not the year. The Tarleton “Plowboys” beat the NTAC “Hornets” 7 to 0. Afterwards, officials of the two schools held a meeting in Stephenville to discuss disciplinary actions and future relationships between the two

schools. Faculty committees of both schools agreed to eliminate the traditional bonfire preliminaries to the annual football game. They also agreed that the 1939 football game would be the last Texas Conference contest for each school. However, athletic relations of the two schools would continue, with faculty supervision of pregame activity. The matter of disciplinary action toward the student raiders from both schools was left to the individual schools.

NTAC executives ratified the actions of the Stephenville conference and instructed the discipline committee of North Texas Agricultural College to confer with the 30 or so students who were known to have participated in the raid. The discipline committee, which included Dean Davis and Major Oliver, decided to expel James Smith for the remainder of the semester, and to recommend the suspension of Chester Phillips’ flying license for six months to the FCAA for violating flying rules of safety. For the other students there would be a discussion on behavior and a warning against similar activities in the future. At John Tarleton, Dean J. Thomas Davis (the brother of NTAC’s Dean Davis) said that he was not certain that any severe discipline would be meted out.

Chester Phillips, Jr. did not let this incident daunt his flying career. With U.S. involvement in World War II fast approaching, Chester joined the Army Air Corps, as did many of the young cadets at both schools. He trained military pilots, and when the war began in earnest, he was shipped out to Shipdam, England. According to a Blackie Sherrod column in the *Dallas Morning News*, Chester was assigned to a B-24 Liberator, called the “Little Beaver.” German submarines at the time were causing havoc to Allied shipping, and Chester’s mission in May of 1943 was to destroy the submarine pens at Kiel. He and his crew encountered German fighter planes and heavy anti-aircraft flak. Chester and several of his crew were killed instantly. Others bailed out and were held as POWs for the rest of the war. Chester is buried somewhere in Belgium.

Many of the other bonfire raiders and defenders also served their country well and still remember the incident. Col. Charles McDowell, now in the UTA Foreign Language Department (Soviet Studies) was one of the JTAC bonfire defenders who helped to bring the plane down. He remembers his group of defenders throwing everything that they could get their hands on up at the plane as it came over. L.V. Risinger, the young man reportedly responsible for the successful 2x4, became a hero at Tarleton. The present day Homecoming Bonfire is dedicated to him. He died in 1994. James Smith left UTA and almost assuredly fought in World War II, although his trail has been lost.

Aaron Williams, a native of Greenville and a relative of Chester Phillips, told Blackie Sherrod that “if Chester were here, he probably would get a good chuckle to know that people are still talking about his airplane antics.” This sentiment seems to be true for everyone.

*If you know of any other details about this great UTA story, please email them to Sarah at [snahas@decisionanalyst.com](mailto:snahas@decisionanalyst.com).*