

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SUPERINTENDENT

UNITED STATES
MILITARY ACADEMY



1936

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY PRINTING OFFICE
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

WEST POINT, N. Y., OCTOBER 28, 1936.

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT, 1936.

TO: THE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following report of the United States Military Academy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, is hereby submitted:

STRENGTH OF COMMAND

	June 30 1935	July 1 1935	Sept. 1 1935	June 1 1936	June 30 1936
Cadets	917	1431	1591	1444	1092
Commissioned Officers	248	247	247	258	268
Warrant Officers	2	2	2	2	2
Enlisted Men	1141	1141	1163	1207	1195

During the fiscal year, the Corps of Cadets sustained the following losses other than through graduation:

CLASS	Phy. Dis.	Def. in Conduct	Par. 118 Reg. U.S.M.A.	Def. in Studies	Resigned	Died	Total
1st Class		1	1		2		4
2nd Class	2			7	1		10
3rd Class	2			18	1	1	22
4th Class	7	1		179	33		220

CADETS DISCHARGED FOR DEFICIENCY IN ACADEMIC WORK

	2nd Class	3rd Class	4th Class	Totals
Chemistry	4			4
Philosophy	2			2
Philosophy & Chemistry	1			1
Mathematics		4	73	77
English		2	21	23
French		1	13	14
Mathematics & Physics		1		1
Mathematics & English			22	22
Math., French & English			20	20
Mathematics and Drawing			1	1
Mathematics and French		1	21	22
French and English		1	2	3
Math., French & Drawing			2	2
Physics		7		7
English and Physics		1		1
Drawing			4	4
TOTAL	7	18	179	204

CLASS OF 1937

	Number Entered	Disch. for Def. 4th Class Yr.	Disch. for Def. 3rd Class Yr.	Disch. for Def. 2nd Class Yr.	Totals Class of 1937	Percentage of Groups Def.
College Certificate	183	59	5		64	34.97%
Validating Examination	93	16	2	2	20	21.50%
Regular Examination . .	164	26	5	5	36	21.95%
TOTAL	440	101	12	7	120	27.27%

CLASS OF 1938

College Certificate	180	47	3		50	27.78%
Validating Examination	92	10	5		15	16.30%
Regular Examination . .	148	13	10		23	15.54%
TOTAL	420	70	18		88	20.95%

CLASS OF 1939

College Certificate	317	91			91	28.70%
High School Certificate	74	28			28	37.84%
Validating Examination	128	25			25	19.53%
Regular Examination . .	189	35			35	18.52%
TOTAL	708	179			179	25.28%

STATUS OF THE U. S. CORPS OF CADETS ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1935.

Source of Appointment	Number Authorized	Number Enrolled	Number of Vacancies
Senators (96)	288	228	60*
Congressmen (435)	1305	1033	272*
President	89	72	17
Vice President	3	3	0
Regular Army	90	90	0
National Guard	90	87	3*
District of Columbia	5	5	0
Territory of Alaska	3	2	1
Territory of Hawaii	3	3	0
Puerto Rico	3	3	0
Honor Schools	40	31	9
Sons of deceased officers	20	20	0
Sons of deceased enlisted men	20	6	14
Panama Canal Zone (sons of civilians)	1	1	0
TOTAL	1960	1584	376*
Philippine Islands (Filipinos)	4	3	1
TOTAL	1964	1587	377
Foreign Countries			
(Ecuador 2, Siam 1, China 1)		4	
TOTAL	1964	1591	377

* The above total of 376 vacancies on September 1, 1935, includes 11 vacancies held open and filled on January 1, 1936, by 1 ex-cadet from the Senatorial source; 8 ex-cadets from the Congressional source and 2 ex-cadets from the National Guard source; and 1 vacancy held open and filled on January 4, 1936, by an ex-cadet from the Congressional source.

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

General—The prescribed program of instruction and course of studies were carried out during the year with the results indicated in the foregoing statistical tables.

The first term, September 1 to December 23, comprised 95 periods with Saturday recitations and 80 periods without Saturday recitations. The second term, January 2 to June 4, comprised 130 periods with Saturday recitations and 109 without Saturday recitations. The semi-annual examinations were held during the period December 26 to 31, both dates inclusive and the annual examination, with the exception of the First Class, from June 5 to 12, both dates inclusive. The academic day covered two periods, namely, 7:55 to 11:55 a.m., and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Third and Fourth Class Mathematics—The courses in Third and Fourth Class Mathematics were continued along the same general lines as in the previous year.

During the first term, in the Fourth Class, alternate recitations were held in Algebra and Solid Geometry. This was followed, during the second term, by instruction in Trigonometry and Plane and Solid Analytic Geometry.

The Third Class was divided into upper and lower divisions on October 1st. The upper division completed Differential Calculus in December, Integral Calculus in April and ended the year with a course of 15 lessons in Least Squares. The lower division completed Differential Calculus in January, Integral Calculus in May and ended the year with the course of 5 lessons in Precision of Measurements. There were no changes in textbooks for either class during the year.

Third and Fourth Class English—The course in English covers two years. The object of this course is to teach the cadets to use correct English in their speech and in their writing.

During the past year the members of the Fourth Class were instructed in the theory and practice of the principles of composition, of expository and descriptive writing. They were also instructed in the fundamentals of public speaking. The Third Class covered a study of the literature of the 19th and 20th centuries, including works of present day writers.

Only one change in textbooks was made during the year, namely, the introduction, in the Fourth Class course, of "Practical English Composition" by Easley S. Jones.

Second Class Spanish and Third and Fourth Class French—The Department of Modern Languages conducted its usual three courses in languages during the past year.

There was a course in Beginning French for the Fourth Class, one in Intermediate and Higher French for the Third Class and another in Elementary and Intermediate Spanish for the Second Class.

There were no changes in textbooks in this Department during the year. The Fourth Class course in French covers a thorough course in grammar. The Third Class course is devoted almost entirely to French composition. In Second Class Spanish the course comprises study of pronunciation, grammar and composition.

Second, Third and Fourth Class Drawing—Instruction in Drawing was given to the Second, Third and Fourth Classes. Surveying was taught in the Fourth Class course and the instruction given was very similar to that of the preceding year.

The Third Class course comprised Military Topography and Descriptive Geometry. This course, as taught, was a radical revision of the course of former years. The first part, Military Topography, September 1, 1935 to January 31, 1936, followed directly after a supplemented course in Fourth Class Surveying, taken the preceding year, whereas the Second part, Descriptive Geometry, February 1 to June 4, 1936, came immediately before, and as a preparation for, the course in Second Class Engineering Drawing.

In the Second Class, the course, for the first time, combined into one condensed and closely coordinated whole, practically all the subject matter formerly scattered at intervals through two years, and pertained strictly to Engineering Drawing. There were no changes in textbooks in this Department.

Third Class History—The year's work in Third Class History was covered in 110 periods—45 periods for the fall term and 65 periods for the spring term.

A course in Modern History of the Far East was given in lieu of the special course in United States History, and a special course in historical research, previously given to cadets of advanced sections, was temporarily eliminated. In other respects the course was along the same general lines as that given during the previous year.

It has been decided to eliminate most of the course in Medieval History and to use the revised edition of "Political and Cultural History of Modern Europe", Vol. I, by Hayes, instead of "Medieval Foundations of Western Civilization", by Solly and Krey. The revised course will place a considerably greater emphasis than hitherto on Modern History.

Third Class Physics—With the exception of the adoption of the new textbook, Smith's "Elements of Physics", there was no material change in the course in Third Class Physics.

As a supplement to the new text, a new problem book, containing about 2000 problems, was prepared by the Department of Physics and used during the year.

Second Class Chemistry—The course in Second Class Chemistry was substantially the same as the one taught in the preceding year and there were no changes in textbooks. The course included instruction in Chemistry, Electricity, Radio Communications and Telephone and Telegraph.

Second Class Philosophy—No radical changes of any kind were made in the regular methods of instruction in the course in Second Class Philosophy.

"Analytic Mechanics for Engineers", textbook, latest edition by Seely and Ensign, was given during the first term. During the second term, Hydraulics, including Hydraulic Machinery, textbook, latest edition, by Russell, was taken in alternation with Heat-Power Engineering, Part I, Thermodynamics and Prime Movers, latest edition, by Barnard, Ellenwood and Hirshfeld. During this term 22 periods were spent in laboratory work, 11 in Hydraulics and 11 in Prime Movers.

First Class Engineering—The course in Military Engineering for the First Class was substantially the same as last year, as was also the course in Civil Engineering.

In Military Engineering, the course consisted of instruction in Army Engineering and Fortification. In Civil Engineering a special course in Concrete of 11 periods was instituted. In this course was included the design of reinforced concrete structures, testing of materials and the mixing, placing and curing of concrete. The course in Military Art and History consisted of the study of selected campaigns from the time of Napoleon down to include the World War. The textbooks studied in the Engineering course were the same as last year.

First Class Economics and Government—There were no important departures in the First Class course in Economics and Government from the one given in the previous year.

A minor change was the elimination of 3 lessons in military aid to civil power in order to provide sufficient time for full coverage of the Simonds and Emeny text, "The Great Powers in World Politics". The full term in Government comprised 47 periods and the spring term in Economics 50 periods.

First Class Ordnance and Gunnery—There was no material change during the year in the First Class course in Ordnance and Gunnery.

The first term consisted of 45 lessons in Ordnance—33 advance, 6 partial reviews, 5 general written reviews and 1 special lecture. -The second term consisted of 60 lessons—20 in Ordnance, 8 in Internal Combustion Engines, 16 in Military Motors and 16 in Shop and Machine laboratory.

The customary visit of the Class to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and Frankfort Arsenal, Pennsylvania, was made during the period May 24 to 27, 1936 and the visit to Watervliet Arsenal, New York and the Ludlum Steel Company on June 1.

First Class Law—The course of instruction given to the First Class in Law, during the past year, has followed closely the course given during the previous year. It comprised Elementary Law, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Evidence, Military Law and Courts Martial, Moot General Courts Martial, Command Power of The President and Federal Military Aid to Civil Powers.

These courses, the individual recitations, and their form and substance, during the entire academic year, were coordinated with a view to making the course of Law a practical preparation for the cadet who is immediately to become a Second Lieutenant.

TACTICAL TRAINING

There have been no major changes in the functions, practices or needs of the Department of Tactics since the rendition of my last report.

The fundamental training objectives for cadets remain as heretofore, namely, to develop character, soldierly manhood, loyal discipline, gentlemanly conduct; to build physical strength, stamina and the coordination necessary for prolonged and arduous field service, and to instruct every cadet in combat principles, basic functions of the Arms and services and the tactical team work of the Arms as a necessary foundation for the cadet's future technical education in the branch which he joins after graduation.

Immediately following graduation, the new 1st Class was sent to Mitchel Field for their Air Corps training; one-third of the Class was sent at a time for a period of one week. This instruction consisted of ten hours and thirty minutes' ground instruction and fourteen hours and thirty minutes in the air. The latter time was devoted to the following activities: familiarization flight, two hours; avigation flights, five hours, thirty minutes; aerial gunnery, four hours, thirty minutes; cross country flight, two hours, thirty minutes. During this period, the time of the cadets is entirely at the disposal of the Air Corps officers, by whom the program of instruction is made and carried out.

At the end of their summer training, the 1st Class was sent to Fort Benning and Fort Monroe. The training at Fort Benning consisted of a series of demonstrations conducted by the Infantry School, and troops stationed at that Post. These demonstrations were for the purpose of acquainting the cadets with the

fighting efficiency of infantry, artillery and the mechanized cavalry weapons, and the coordinated use of these units in combat. At Fort Monroe the Class was divided into groups and assigned to different types of Coast Artillery armament, including anti-aircraft batteries. Each group was trained and fired the type of equipment to which assigned, observed by those of other groups.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

The general health of the command has been excellent during the year and the amount of time lost, due to illness, was about the same as in the preceding year.

There were seven deaths and seven discharges for physical disability among cadets and enlisted men and twelve transfers to general hospitals.

Various activities under the control of the Signal Officer, namely, telephone system, radio station, meteorological station, photographic service, were kept in excellent condition and functioned in the most satisfactory manner throughout the year. A project has been drawn up and submitted, providing for the installation of the fire reporting telephone system.

2159 books were added to the library during the year. Of this number 1333 were purchased from government funds, 806 were gifts and 20 were purchased from the Henrietta Wright Memorial Fund. 975 books were rebound and 28 books were discarded. Total circulation for the year was 29,227. This represented an increase of 278 over the preceding year. The cadet circulation was 673 more than the preceding year—fiction 463 and non-fiction 210.

The number of pupils registered in the local school during the year fluctuated between 188 and 192. The graduating class of 1936 consisted of 18 members. During the year the grounds in the immediate vicinity of the school building were landscaped by the Civilian Conservation Corps and a small athletic field was constructed.

The Cadet Chapel activities have been satisfactorily administered during the year by Chaplain Roscoe T. Foust, and the Organist and Choirmaster, Mr. Frederick C. Mayer.

There were 200 religious services, 17 baptisms, 27 weddings and 13 funerals.

Because of the increase in the size of the Corps, it was found necessary for one battalion to attend the 8:50 a.m. communion service each Sunday rather than the 11:00 o'clock service. This system worked out very well and provided adequate means for expansion for the next two years. Because of this arrangement, the number of men receiving communion increased from an average of 100 per month to an average of 75 per week.

The Cadet Chapel Choir, numbering 175 cadets, made the annual trips to St. Thomas Church and Columbia University Chapel of New York City, and gave a world-wide broadcast in connection with the annual West Point Dinner in March.

The visiting nurse continued to do splendid work among the families of the enlisted men of the Post.

Various activities under the control of the Post Quartermaster were conducted in a very satisfactory manner.

During the year, repairs to buildings, systems and grounds, and alterations of same have been carried out systematically to the best advantage within the funds allotted.

There has been, during the year, a complete reorganization of the activities under the control of the Finance Officer. The branch office established in the preceding year, for the purpose of keeping the financial and historical records of the civilian employees of the Academy, has achieved very satisfactory results. Records in this respect, for many years distributed among some 30 local activities on the Post, are now coordinated in this central office under the control of the Finance Office. The sum of \$844,492.39 was disbursed in cash during the year and \$4,656,263.30 by check. This Department also handles the preparation and presentation of the annual estimates for the Academy.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

During the Fiscal Year, 1936, the following construction projects have been in process:

From W.P.A. Funds:

- a. North Gate Houses and approaches and the South Gate House have both been completed during this period.
- b. The coal storage plant and work on the improvement of roads was 95% completed during this period.

One project provided for by regularly appropriated funds under the 2nd Deficiency Act of 1935 has been actually under construction, namely:

Additions to Water Distribution system, consisting of:

- Electric Motor Driven Centrifugal Pumps
- Two 500,000 gallon steel tanks, piping and accessories
- Additions to water filtration plant
- Water meters and depth gauges.

In addition to the project listed above, the following projects also appropriated for under the 2nd Deficiency Act of 1935 were in process of planning but no actual award for their construction was made up to the close of the Fiscal Year:

- Power Plant Improvements
- Academic Building and Equipment
- Gymnasium Extension
- Ordnance and Engineering Laboratories
- Cadet Armory
- Target Range
- Junior Officers Quarters, Utilities, roads and extensions
- Quartermaster Garage
- Freight Receiving Warehouse
- Cadet Barracks, including equipment.

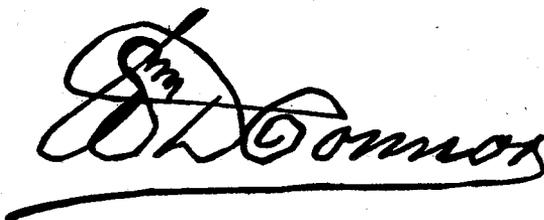
Plans were in process but no award made for the construction of a Cadet Bath House, authorized in the 2nd Deficiency Act of 1936.

GRADUATION EXERCISES

Graduation exercises for the Class of 1936 were held on June 12th. The Academy was greatly honored by a visit from General John J. Pershing, who delivered the graduation address and presented the diplomas and commissions to the 276 members of the Class.

DISCIPLINE AND MORALE

The discipline and morale of the Command throughout the year have been excellent. I am glad to say that everyone on duty at the Academy—the officers, cadets, enlisted men and civilian employees have cooperated with me in the fullest degree in maintaining the high standards for which the U. S. Military Academy has always been known.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wm. D. Connor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "W" and "C". A horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

WM. D. CONNOR,
Major General,
Superintendent.

