

Helia-Notes

Home of Helicopter-Liaison Pilot and Mechanic Training

Vol. III—Issue No. 18

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

May 13, 1953

Taking His First Look



PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE LT. Manuel P. Rodrigues splashed through the rain last week to get his first look at a helicopter. Lt. Rodrigues is here to take helicopter flight training which will last approximately 11 weeks. Before coming to San Marcos AFB he flew weather and air-sea rescue missions from the Azores. The Portugal Air Force is planning on using helicopters in future air-sea rescue operations he said.

Portugese Officer Arrives To Take Flight Training In H-5s and H-23s

A Portuguese Air Force officer arrived at San Marcos AFB last week and began helicopter flight training. He is 1st Lt. Manuel P. Rodrigues, a rated single and multi-engine pilot with seven years service in the Portugal Air Force.

Here under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Mutual Defense Assistance program, Lt. Rodrigues is the first Portuguese to train at SMAFB's rapidly expanding "international" helicopter school.

Prior to coming to the United States last week, Lt. Rodrigues was stationed on the Azores at a USAF MATS base which is jointly operated by the United States and Portugal.

While stationed there, Lt. Rodrigues flew weather and air-sea rescue missions in B-17s and C-54s. But Helicopters will probably be used for air-sea rescue off the Azores in the future, he said.

After receiving five weeks of academic and eleven weeks of concurrent flying instruction in the H-23 and H-5 the young pilot said he would spend three weeks at the United Aircraft Corporation factory studying the new Sikorsky H-19.

It has not yet been decided whether he will receive H-19 in-

Survivors of Vets Eligible for Social Security Benefits

Survivors of military personnel who did not have civilian credits, may be eligible for Social Security benefits, according to a communication received from Air Force Headquarters.

The letter states further that servicemen must have been on active duty for 90 days or more during the period from September 16, 1940 to July 24, 1947. Death must have occurred between September 16, 1940 and December 31, 1965.

Benefits also may be paid, if the serviceman dies after December 31, 1965, providing he has sufficient civilian employment credits.

Servicemen whose Social Security credits are based solely on World War II service may be eligible for retirement benefits if they were born on or before December 31, 1900. Those born after 1900 may also be eligible, if they have earned or will have earned additional credits from civilian employment.

In all cases, the communication states, military personnel and their survivors should contact their regional Social Security office to determine eligibility for benefits.

Library Notes

The hunter and his quarry raced through space—when suddenly both ships crashed head-on into the oceans of earth and great adventure. This is the takeoff in one of our latest science fiction novels, "Needle," by Hal Clement.

For those who delve into the future, we have "Solution T-25," an exciting adventure where the author, Theodore Dubois has the hero and heroine in a drastic situation before the first paragraph has ended.

"The Eagles Song" is one of our latest historical novels. Taken from the time of the French and Indian War to World War I, authoress Anne Miller Downes traces the spirit upon which this country has depended. Another historical, the "Turquoise Trail" by Shirley Seifert, takes the reader back to 1846 and overland from Independence, Mo., to Santa Fe, New Mexico. This is the story of a woman's heart and a woman's growth told against the background of personal and national adventure.

Combat Zone 50-51 Income not Taxable

Airmen and warrant officers who served in combat zones between June 25, 1950 and December 31, 1951, will not be taxed for any service income they earned while in a combat zone.

Income earned during the time spent as a prisoner of war is also exempt from taxation.

If the man served in the zone for only one or two days, he is entitled to exemption for the whole month.

Those servicemen and veterans who have served in combat zones, or who have been prisoners of war, may obtain refunds if tax has been withheld from the income which they earned during that time.

Air Base

Group News

AIR COP NEWS

By Sgt. Fred C. Lane