

TEXAS FIGHT

The History of Naval ROTC at The University of Texas at Austin

Volume III
1980 - 2000

Edwin W. Mergele, III, CDR USN (Ret)

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin W. Mergele, Jr., who both majored in history at The University of Texas and inspired in me an appreciation for that subject. Dad served in the Coast Guard (under the Department of the Navy) during WWII, in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters, and was recalled by the Navy for the Korean War. He instilled in me an appreciation for the sea services and, in general, service to my country.

I especially recognize the WWII NROTC alumni at Texas, many of whom it's been my privilege to become personally acquainted with, and many of whom helped me document the early years of the Unit.

Lastly, to all the other men and women who have stood the watch to preserve our liberty and freedom, I also dedicate this work.

Foreword



TEXAS FIGHT, The History of Naval ROTC at The University of Texas at Austin is an engrossing account of the Unit's history, and we are indebted to Ed Mergele for the research, dedication and determination leading to publication. So to Ed we say Bravo Zulu, the signal flags for "WELL DONE."

He is to be especially commended for resurrecting the history of the classes 1947-50, a time of transition from wartime to peacetime. Almost overnight, uniforms changed to civilian clothing and the student goal was to finish one's degree plan, graduate, get a job, start a family and lay the foundation for living happily ever after. The exceptions were those who had chosen the Navy as a career, very few in fact, and who were viewed by many as strange. Today they perhaps would have been identified as thinking outside the box! Our population then was about 130 million in the U.S.

Ed's book captures the spirit of the times, and one reads the book and is reminded of the marvelous experience of student life at the time. We had won the war, all the bad guys were being held accountable, the job market offered many opportunities, and the Nation was happy! Today our population is about 320 million, on its way to 500 million by the end of the century.

Ed's book is a time capsule and helps us to recall that Texas is a great state true to its pioneering heritage, and a beacon of independence and freedom.

Kenneth G. Haynes, UT 1947
(11/30/1925 – 3/11/2016)
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret)
October 2, 2015

Author's Note:

I first learned of Ken Haynes' passing in August of 2017, just doing a routine internet search and, of course, fearing the worst if anything came up. I had been trying to reach him by email and phone since about March 1, 2016, just a few days prior to his death, as it turned out, but had not received a response. Even my internet searches had yielded nothing until that time. It is ironic that shortly before learning of his death we were talking of awarding Ken a Distinguished Alumnus award in our Midshipmans Foundation board meetings. From the time I learned of his death I went about trying to track down any of his family members. I learned of his daughter Melinda, who was a Navy nurse and married to a retired Rear Admiral, Eugene Farrell. I was finally able to contact Melinda, or "Mindy," on October 9, 2017. I got some details about Ken and his wife, Margaret or "Peggy," who had passed away less than a month after Ken. Both Ken and Peggy were buried in a rare double interment at Arlington Cemetery, on August 4, 2016. I reported on these findings at our next Midshipmans Foundation board meeting on February 9, 2018. I had previously gotten an indication from Mindy that she would be pleased to

participate in any ceremony honoring her father. On August 21, 2018, a few days before our next Midshipmans Foundation board meeting, I submitted the nomination for Ken to receive the Distinguished Alumnus award posthumously. The nomination was received most positively and approved not long afterward. We wanted Mindy to attend the awards ceremony at our November 3, 2018 Reunion to accept the award, but alas our schedules could not be reconciled. Ken and one other posthumous alumnus awardee, Jim Adkins '55, are to be recognized at that ceremony. I am writing this before the actual event, but we hope to schedule a time with Mindy and her husband in the not-to-distant future for her to personally receive this award for her father. Ken played such an important role in bringing about this Unit history project. He was there in my first summer cruise as a Midshipman, assuming command of the USS Providence (CLG-6) on June 22, 1971, to which I, and three other UT Midshipmen, were assigned; and he was there to help me with the research and writing of the first volume of this UT NROTC Unit history during the years 2014 and most of 2015. I am extremely pleased he agreed to write the Foreword for this work and I shall truly miss him.

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Preface

I have always been a history buff. Both my parents were history majors at UT, so it was only natural that the affinity rubbed off on me. I have also been very interested in building the history of the NROTC Unit at Texas and the larger history of the naval presence on the UT campus. Having taken over the alumni newsletter editor's job in 2009 from Bob Looney '62, I found myself in the position of acquiring, researching and writing material about this subject and sharing it with other alumni through the newsletter, the *NROTC Alumni Log*. When I took on the webmaster duties in 2011 from Bob Collins '68, I was further inspired to dig into the past and start piecing things together.

I attended UT from the fall of 1970 to the spring of 1975. I was an architecture major, and the curriculum for that degree spanned five years. I had applied for a Naval ROTC scholarship and wished to attend UT. I chose Naval ROTC because my father had been in the Navy in WWII and Korea. I didn't receive a scholarship for my first year, and I applied again. My first year therefore was as a "contract" Midshipman, essentially volunteering for the program. I got the scholarship starting in my second year and, since it was a four-year scholarship, I used all of it to finish my five-year degree plan. I spent two years on the Buccaneer drill team, took a year's leave from NROTC classes, and then resumed the program for my last two years. I kept pretty close to the Unit and my Midshipmen friends during my one-year hiatus. I even drilled on Tuesdays and was a guidon bearer in Bravo Company, so it wasn't hard to slip back into the role in my fourth year. In my fifth year I assumed command of Bravo Company in the first semester and was appointed Battalion Commander in my last semester at UT.

I was president of Scabbard & Blade and worked a lot in my final year on promoting tri-service activities. My girlfriend, Cathy Tolbert, was one of the Navy Sweethearts. We met when I was on Bucs and we were married in my last year at UT. She was instrumental in better organizing the Sweethearts into the Anchorettes and was their first president. I had a lot of friends who lived at the Crow's Nest, and consequently I spent a lot of time there. I also played intramural sports for Navy. So I was well ensconced in Navy life at UT.

I was most familiar with my classmates and, having started with one class and finishing with another, I identified with two graduating classes, 1974 and 1975. I didn't know of anyone of importance who had received his commission from UT. There was no alumni group. I tried briefly to get one started in my senior year but later found that those plans had not been carried forward after I left. Once I was out the door and on my way to the fleet my focus was elsewhere.

On my third-class cruise in 1971 I reported to the USS Providence (CLG-6) in San Diego with three of my classmates. Providence was flagship of the First Fleet. We were only four Midshipmen among a dozen or so 1st and 3rd class aboard. After a terrific trip to the Rose Festival in Portland, Oregon and prior to departing the ship, I participated in a Change of Command ceremony where CAPT Kenneth G. Haynes was assuming command. At the time I noted he was a graduate of the UT NROTC, Class of 1947, but it didn't seem remarkable to me. With no alumni group for the Unit there was no real feeling of connectedness.

Fast-forward to 1975: I was reporting to my first ship as an Ensign aboard USS Albany (CG-10). She was flagship of the Second Fleet, and eight months later was flagship of the Sixth Fleet. One of the first officers I got to know was Bob Bruce. He and I were both in Weapons Department. When I asked him where he had gone to school, he said “The University of Texas.” Surprised, I asked how we had not met before. I thought I knew almost everyone in the Unit. He said he got his commission through NESEP. I knew the acronym and knew it was those other guys who also wore Navy uniforms on Tuesdays and had shoulder boards with only a single star on them. Back then they weren’t an active part of the Battalion, so we had little or no contact with them. Again, there was no feeling of connectedness.

I had a 22-year career in the Navy, both active and Reserves. I made many lifelong friends while serving. What was surprising was finding some of these folks at the annual Alumni reunions when I started coming semi-regularly back in the late 1980s. When I served with them I guess I wasn’t curious enough to ask where they had gone to school.

In 1998, I retired from the Navy. In 2004, after many years of attending alumni reunions, I was asked to join the Alumni Association Board of Directors. In 2006 the Alumni Association became the UT NROTC Alumni Foundation, and I assumed the office of Vice President shortly after that. I thank Bob Collins ’68 for the encouragement. Two years later I “flected up” to President by relieving Fred Moon ’70. After serving two years, I handed over the reins to Mike Waldron ’67. I’ve stayed on the Alumni Foundation board since then doing what I could. In 2013 I was honored by being asked to serve on the Midshipmans Foundation as an advisory director on that board. One year later I was moved up to Bob Brown’s vacated spot as a full Director. I’ve managed to stay pretty well informed about what the Unit was up to over a good many years, which has been most helpful because the Unit does not publish its own yearbook (*Longhorn Log*) anymore and hasn’t since 2005. *Late Note:* With the “publishing” of the 2017 and 2018 *Longhorn Logs* that may change.

Another source of inspiration came from Dr. Tom Hatfield, Director of the Military History Institute at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at The University of Texas. In the fall of 2007, with the help of Fred Moon ’70 and our World War II alumni, especially Ivan Elmer ’45, Dr. Hatfield embarked on an oral histories project and tied it to our annual reunions. His research led him to a study of what our alumni experienced during WWII after they left UT. He managed to interview about a dozen men and capture their stories orally and on video before funding ran out.¹ Dr. Hatfield’s work impressed upon me how quickly we were losing our veteran WWII alumni. They had had their own WWII alumni group well before any of our other alumni groups were formed. They got together annually and were a much tighter-knit group than the current alumni organization, mainly because they were all from the classes of 1943 through 1946, so they had known each other at UT, and, of course, most all of them had served in WWII. Dr. Hatfield wanted to capture their war memories; I thought someone should capture their memories as Midshipmen at UT before and during the war. His project impressed upon me just

¹ You can find these records online at www.cah.utexas.edu/museums/military_reference.php?ref=navalrotc_intro. There is also a link provided on our own alumni website, www.utnrotcalum.org.

how precious time was in starting the effort. Still, I thought someone else would surely spearhead the project.

Further inspiration came from listening to John Boswell's speech at the decommissioning of the Russell A. Steindam Hall (a.k.a. the ROTC building) on August 27, 2010. John was a 1969 graduate of the Army ROTC program at UT, having left the year before I arrived, and wrote a short book of his own, Texas Fight, The History of the Army ROTC at The University of Texas at Austin. It had a lot of history on the Naval ROTC in it as well. John lives here in San Antonio, and I have visited him and discussed the possibility of doing this book. He has been very supportive, and we have kept in touch throughout the process. After reading John's book and talking with him, I was coming to the conclusion that no one else would do this unless I, at least, got it started. I still continued to write stories in the alumni newsletter about the history of the Unit and even started a section called "The Nostalgia Portal" where I started sharing stories I had collected from other alumni or wrote myself.

On January 1, 2014, as a New Year's resolution I wanted to keep, I decided to start doing something more tangible about the UT NROTC History Project, as I called it. I had been gathering information and stories as newsletter editor and webmaster for years. Now was the time to start organizing those things into a timeline of events and people's lives. By the summer of 2015 (the Unit's 75th anniversary year) I felt I had enough material to cover the first 20 years (1940-1960) and share with fellow alumni, especially the WWII guys, around the time of our reunion the following fall. The years after 1960 are still a work in progress but are steadily coming along. The present plan is to release 20 years of Unit history as a separate volume each year until we have documented the first 80 years, roughly around 2020, the Unit's 80th anniversary.

Late Note: Volume I, covering the years 1940-1960, was released in time for the 29th Annual Alumni Reunion on the weekend of November 7, 2015. Volume II, covering the years 1960-1980, was released in time for the 30th Annual Alumni Reunion on the weekend of November 12, 2016. The next volume took a little longer because of the lack of good printed documentation in the 1990s. Volume III, covering the years 1980-2000, will be released in time for the 32nd Annual Alumni Reunion on the weekend of November 3, 2018. With each release, an update of the Appendix, a companion volume of lists of names, dates and events, was released.

Introduction

I have divided the book into chapters that represent periods in time with some overall theme of what dominated that period, such as a war or conflict. Officer candidate programs tend to shrink and swell with the need for leaders as world tensions ebb and flow. I punctuated each chapter with sections dedicated to events that were closely associated with the NROTC Program. A perusal of the table of contents will give the reader a sample of what events occurred during what periods. I've tried to make the narrative both entertaining and informative.

Much of the original text for this work was adapted from stories written for the alumni newsletter, the *NROTC Alumni Log*. As alumni webmaster, I also received lots of copies of old Unit newsletters and end-of-year publications (e.g., the *Longhorn Log*) to scan and post on the website. *Longhorn Logs* began in 1963 and covered years up to and including 1975. They appeared again from 1981 and were pretty consistent through that decade. The 1990s saw only three published *Longhorn Logs*. The early 2000s saw just two. The 2017 and 2018 issues of the *Longhorn Log* represent, I hope, a re-establishment of this annual tradition. Electronic publishing should make it a whole lot cheaper than it used to be. It was also helpful to have resources from ancestry.com. They have a wonderful collection of UT's *Cactus* yearbooks up to 1990. *Cactus* yearbooks were also found in the Perry Castaneda Library (Level 5, Section A) on campus and covered the years up to 2013, with just a few exceptions. Personally, I had eleven *Cactus*es (hard copy), including those from my own five years at UT, and my parents' copies. Footnote citations noted as "recollections" were from personal conversations, telephone conversations, or email correspondence with the person cited. The digits after their name represent the class year from which they hailed.

Another valuable resource that came available in March 2016 was the Unit's Command History Report (OPNAV Report 5750-1). In the narrative it is referred to as the "CHR." CAPT Brian T. Teets (PNS#28) was instrumental in helping us find this information resource. With but a few exceptions (1991 and 1992) a copy of every year from 1966 to 1999 was obtained from the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) with the help of Reference Archivist, Laura Waayers. Beginning in the year 2000, just the year 2004 was recovered from this source, but starting with year 2013 it is expected that each annual report will be available.

Most all the photos of individual Midshipmen and Unit officers came from the *Cactus*. Others came from *Texas Tradition* and *Longhorn Logs*. Some were provided by individuals. Most all photos had to be cropped and processed before using. Where long shots were only available, enhancement processing was used to sharpen the photograph as well as possible.

Numbers for Unit strength came primarily from the *Cactus* yearbook, the *Texas Tradition* 1944 yearbook, *Longhorn Logs*, and alumni rolls. Counts were made of faces in photos, names in lists, alumni rolls and numbers contained in yearbook narratives. (It was noted that many Midshipmen did not always appear in four consecutive *Cactus*es before their commissioning.) This process also yielded a list of each person enrolled in the program, whether they finished it or not, even the thousands of men who went through

the V-12 program. The Command History Reports (OPNAV Report 5750-1) became an additional source for manpower, programs and staff, but the earliest copies found didn't begin until 1966.

So as not to bog down the reader with a lot more detailed information, I have gathered lists of programs, persons and other interesting information and attached it as an Appendix. It can be reviewed independently from the text.

At first blush, one might think the task of writing a Unit history would just be an academic and tedious one. To be sure, it has had its tedious side. Digging into the lists of names and other details, though, has revealed interesting facts that I think the reader will enjoy. Finding those nuggets here and there kept me going and wanting to probe further.

At first I thought the scope of this book would pretty much be the Naval ROTC at UT and wouldn't involve the V-12 or other Navy and Marine Corps officer commissioning programs on campus. Even some of the old WWII vets were telling me that V-12 had nothing to do with NROTC. The more I dug into it, though, the more I discovered how intertwined these programs were with NROTC. Just as the Unit today has other officer candidate programs (non-NROTC), that are now an integral part of the Battalion, so these programs have existed almost since the earliest years the Navy came to the UT campus. My research also revealed that other Navy programs on campus have been completely separate from NROTC and continue to this day. The key is whether the program comes under the administrative command and control of the Professor of Naval Science. The Appendix has short descriptions of both kinds of programs, and I'm sure there are some that I missed.

As stated, the *Cactus* yearbook is used extensively as a resource. When page numbers are cited within an academic year the reader should assume that they are from the *Cactus* yearbook of that same academic year.

It occurred to me early on that a complete and accurate list of those who were commissioned would be needed. I wanted not only to know the year, but also the date, location and service. That has been a project in and of itself. UT helped with providing commencement dates for most of the years, but even they had gaps. It was assumed that commissionings would have been the day of commencement or, perhaps, the day before. Some years would have a NROTC commissioning ceremony as well as a Tri-Service commissioning ceremony. Some would have only one ceremony. *Texas Tradition* covered the first three commissionings very well. The *Cactus* did an excellent job for a few years by picturing entire commissioning classes with names. Starting in 1947, that help all but evaporated. Most of the classes from there to 1963, when the *Longhorn Log* debuted, were pieced together with alumni input, assumptions made from appearances in the *Cactus*, printed commissioning programs (when we had the great fortune to get one from an alumnus who kept one), obituaries (unfortunately) and luck. The *Longhorn Log* was not published from 1976 to 1979, so help was needed with piecing those classes together. Fortunately the Unit newsletter, *Naval Orange*, and the CHR provided useful information between those years, but not all issues have been recovered. There were other missing years for the *Longhorn Log* that may or may not have been published. It looked like 2005 was the last year for that publication. Maybe 2017 will start a new string of "published" *Longhorn Logs*, since the advent of

electronic publishing. Since 2010 the Unit newsletter, *Spur & Anchor*, has provided excellent information on commissionings. The gap of 2005-2010 was filled in from information the author kept during that time period. Believe it or not, printed commissioning programs were not always accurate.

An Introduction would be incomplete without mentioning some of the contributors who have helped me with providing stories, names and other material used in the writing of this book. Those with parentheses around the class year were not commissionees of that class but identified with that class in some manner.

Hume Cofer '43	Fred Falke '55	John Boswell '69	Russell Allen '84
Grant Stoddard '43	Preston Kronkosky '55	Mike Nipper '69	Roy Fulcher '84
Clyde Arnold '44	Jarvis Michie '55	Chip Biesemeier '70	John Mendel '84
Bill Barnhouse '44	Spotz Robertson '55	Bruce Byron '70	Trip Mills '84
Marge Flados '44	Pat Tillery ('55)	Bob Felle '70	Will Thompson '84
Howard Lowe '44	Dave Williams '55	Fred Moon '70	Steve Vissers '84
Joe Smith '44	Jim Wright '55	Dick Wellborn '70	Ernie Welker '84
Sam Winters '44	Cub Amos '56	Steve Howell '72	Joe Baker '85
Sandy Crow '45	Ray Becker '56	Mark Thoman '72	Kevin Hannes '85
Ivan Elmer '45	Robert Hughes '56	Dave Barron '74	Mary (Kennedy)
Phil Gates '45	Henry McCown '56	Turk McCleskey '75	Thompson '85
Bruce Jamieson '45	Jim Van Richards '56	Pat Reynolds '75	Jim Wegmann '85
Dan Krausse '45	Max Miller '57	Paul Thoman '75	Steve Smith PNS#17
Bob Bower '46	Weldon Koenig '58	Tony Ambrosetti '76	Bill Carroll '86
Cy Eberhart '46	Clovis Vaughn '58	Richard Ashmore '76	Jaime Chunda '86
Dell Roy King '46	Bob Lillie '58	Jim Bushee '76	Susan (Dale) Toth '86
Jim O'Donnell '46	Bob Carnes '59	Steve White '76	Rick Donohue '86
Ken Haynes '47	Fred Ligarde '59	Rick Martin '79	Gary Gilmartin '86
Pat Morgan '51	Don McLelland '59	Bruce Mergele ('79)	Dave Mills '86
George White '51	Weldon Hammond '60	Dan O'Neil '79	David Sampson '86
Steve Albrecht '52	J. W. Pieper '60	Gabe Salazar '79	Lonnie Teltschik '86
Bob Brown '52	Glenn Looney '61	Ray Adams '80	Marlin Anthony '87
George Sullivan '52	Rod Koenig '62	Kevin Hugman '80	Paul Acker '88
Jack Underwood '52	Gene McWhorter '62	Dave Bose '81	Courtney Brewer '88
Ted Wilson '52	Charlie Simons '63	Michael Kidd '81	Blair England '88
Bill Collins '54	L.E. Spradlin '63	Bill Cerny '82	Paul Racicot '88
Alan Bean '54	David Cotellesse '64	Tim Kanegae '82	Jim Reid '88
Bill Collins '54	Howard Hamilton '64	Dennis Stanczak '82	Eric Wills '88
Ann Fulcher ('54)	Francis Joe Schuck ('64)	Kelly (Terry) Bose '82	Max Bell ('89)
Ben Rhodes '54	Don Tortorice '64	Marcus Wait '82	Bryan Klir '89
Howard York '54	Bob Gartner '65	John Manley '83	Robert Pereboom '89
Jim Adkins '55	John Hitchcock '65	Randy Neal '83	Todd Ring '89
Pope Atkins '55	Alan Johnson '65	Sheila Scarborough '83	Mick Wagoner '89
Bobby Dewar '55	Ben Krause '65	Doug Smith '83	Glen Butler '90

Joey Dodgen '90	Ronnie Rios '93	Clay Person '97	Luca Simone '11
Carlos Durr '90	David Walt '93	Jason Pittman '98	Michael Lowe '13
Joe Marshall '90	Buster Fauth '94	Duane Preiss '98	Steve Smith PNS#17
Bill Avery '91	Boyd Kile '94	Misty Roquemore '98	Don Inbody PNS#23
John Broomes '91	Launtz Rodgers '94	Brad Lewis '99	Gabe Salazar PNS#24
Jeff Mullen '91	John Allison '95	Seth Goldstein '00	Mike Spence PNS#25
Darren Woods '91	Fermin Espinoza '95	Jason Cole ('03)	John Eden PNS#27
Scott Cates '92	Rudy Uribe '95	Daniel Rueda '05	Brian Teets PNS#28
Mark Calderon '92	Jeff Chiang '96	Kevin Callahan ('06)	Butch
Benjamin Molina '92	Tim Griffin '96	Drew Anderson '09	Neuenschwander XO
Dale Seeley '92	Chris Ruckman '96	Richard Marcantonio '09	Brian FitzPatrick XO
Rich Lofgren '92	Dennis Lloyd '97	Colin Doherty '11	
Jeff McCollum '93	David Murray '97	Matthew Little '11	

Most all of these alumni were excited that someone was finally undertaking this project, and I hope they will be honored by the result. Lastly I would like to thank my wife, Terry, an English major, for her review and contributions to the work.

I hope you, the reader, will enjoy this, the story of the Navy and Marine Corps invasion of The University of Texas and the beachhead, which has ebbed and flowed in size over the years, but which still thrives as The Naval ROTC Unit at The University of Texas at Austin.

By the way, there was a bit of debate as to whether it should be Navy ROTC or Naval ROTC. Fred Moon '70 pointed this out to me, and I did some research. In going back through every *Cactus* yearbook from 1941 to 1990, the two are virtually tied in frequency of usage, with a slight edge going to "Navy ROTC." The term "naval" is usually thought to be more generic in including the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard. The Marine Corps, though, is part of the Department of the Navy. So the debate will just have to continue.

Chapter 7 – World Tensions (1976-1990)

Vietnam may have ended for the U.S. but the world was still a dangerous place, starting with the Iranian Revolution and the overthrow of The Shah of Iran just before the beginning of the 1980s decade. The Lebanese Civil War, raging since 1975, would draw the U.S. in as peace-keepers and end in U.S. Naval vessels being used to evacuate 250 Americans and Europeans from there. The Marine barracks in Beirut would be bombed during that time. Grenada would be invaded by the U.S. to drive out Soviet and Cuban forces. Naval Control of Shipping forces would be used to protect tankers in the Persian Gulf. An Iraqi Mirage fighter would fire two exocet missiles at the USS Stark, killing 37 and wounding 21 U.S. sailors. Tensions in Libya would heat up. The U.S. would invade Panama and force General Noriega from power. These were but a few of the world tensions that existed after Vietnam and prior to the first Gulf War. For eight of these years, beginning in 1981, President Ronald Reagan would be building a 600-ship Navy to help project American power and deal with these tensions.

Academic Year 1980

Statistics:

Number of Students: 122 Midshipmen (up 22), 8 NESEPs (6 Navy, 2 Marine Corps), 11 MECEPs and 3 ECP for a Battalion of 144 (up 14)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (down 1)

Number of Commissionees: 40 (35 Navy, 5 Marine) (up 11)

The *Cactus*, 1981 *Longhorn Log*, Spring 1980 (Vol. 9 No. 1) issue of the *Naval Orange* and Command History Report (CHR) were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1980 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just four pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* provided 56 pages of Unit information for academic years 1980 and 1981. See the Appendix. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication. The Captain's Log in the spring 1979 issue of *Naval Orange* said that at least 34 freshmen were expected for the fall of 1979.

There were still 53 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT Curtis Alvin Sorenson, USN. None were pictured in the *Cactus*. Fortunately, the *Naval Orange* mentioned some names. LT Andrew E. Jackson reported aboard mid-year to relieve LT Chiaverotti. QMC William R. Lapoint replaced QMC Gonzales. YNC Leslie D. Bigler replaced YNC Ohlmeier. On the civilian staff, Jane K. Gallaher replaced Eileen Hagebusch and Carmen Cannon married UT graduate, 2ndLt Jerry Breshers, and changed her name to Carmen Breshers.

The Battalion was now organized into three companies, Alpha, Bravo and Headquarters Company. Battalion Commanders were Dean Bradley Creech (fall) and Jerry Cecil Breshers (spring). SSgt Breshers was the first MECEP to hold that position. The *Cactus* did not picture two separate platoons in each company, but the numbers would indicate that there were two platoons in each company. Headquarters company was large enough for two large platoons or three smaller ones. Unlike Alpha and Bravo, HQ

Company was a mix of Navy and Marine Corps. Even though the Battalion dropped Charlie Company the total Battalion strength increased (see Statistics above).

<u>Company</u>	<u>Number</u>
Alpha	32
Bravo	35
Headquarters	47

In years past Headquarters Company was a likely place to find Buccaneers who were not otherwise documented. HQ Company was pictured in the *Cactus*, numbering 47 people (18 old-timers and 29 new arrivals). They were not divided into two platoons like the previous year and no one stood with a guidon or rifle so it was hard to tell which members were possible Buccaneers. Company Commander was John Eddie Shook, a MECEP. Executive Officer was Carlos Lozano, a Navy NESEP. Company CPO was Billy Dean Martin, a MECEP. If these three also constituted the leadership for the Buccaneers then this was the first time non-Midshipmen leaders were used, another reason to think HQ Company did not include Bucs as part of it. The size of the team or the names of its leaders were not documented in any surviving documents from this academic year.

Buccaneers, A Tri-Service Drill Team

Remarks made in the 1981 *Longhorn Log* said that the Buccaneers became a tri-service drill team in 1979, with members from the Army and Air Force ROTC units. This was likely the fall of 1979 (*i.e.* this academic year). In light of this remark it appears the Buccaneers were, once again, not part of the Battalion structure. For these reasons it is, therefore, unlikely that the Bucs were grouped together as any unit within the Battalion. One short story in the March 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter told of events the Bucs had participated in earlier in the semester and which ones they were preparing to participate in. One earlier event was the annual Washington's Day parade and another was the competition in Laredo (February 26). The Bucs got some liberty in Mexico during that trip. The events they were preparing for were in March and April and all in Texas. They were the Scabbard & Blade meet at UT (March 29), the Trinity meet in San Antonio and the A&M meet in College Station (April 26). Mardi Gras or Tulane were not mentioned. There were not enough records to further document the number and names of the NROTC members.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* or *Naval Orange* of this year and only one photo of a tri-service seven-man color guard was shown, which contained two NROTC personnel. Praetorian Guard had 21 members, only one of which was NROTC, Jose Villarreal. No officers were listed. Scabbard & Blade was not included in the *Cactus*.

The Publications Officers were MDN 2/C Daniel S. Greer (fall) and MDN 2/C Keith Sellers (spring). LT Lochausen was the Staff Advisor. The Publications staff numbered about sixteen Midshipmen. There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this academic year, just *Naval Orange* newsletters. The *Naval Orange* Editor was typically the Publications Officer.

Intramural sports were only touched on in the *Naval Orange*. The Basketball A Team had no wins. The B Team had one win. The Co-ed Basketball Team had a 3-2 record.

The Crow's Nest had 42 men, representing a net gain of nine men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Cactus*. Only 30 were pictured. A comparison of names showed 22 were old-timers and 20 were new arrivals. Its location was still 2610 Rio Grande Street. The comical costume group photo was taken at that location. Its President was David Vincent "Dave" Bose. Vice President was Timothy Takehiko Kanegae. Treasurer was Robert Allen Langworthy. Food buyer was Marcus Paul Wait. Secretary, work manager and faculty advisor were not documented.



1980 Crow's Nest (#6). 2610 Rio Grande Street. 1980 *Cactus*, page 300.

First Unit Dining Out Held

Major social events for the year included the Unit's first dining out (November 30th), which was held at the Bergstrom AFB Officer's Club. The Anchorettes sponsored a "slave auction" at Adams Park the last day of February and they sponsored a beer call on March 22nd, among several other social events they were noted for, including cookie calls and TGIF beer calls. The spring formal (*i.e.* Ring Dance) was held on May 3rd. Only one field trip was documented. During the Christmas break thirteen Midshipmen participated in an aviation indoctrination trip (January 31 – February 1) to NAS Corpus Christi.

The Anchorettes numbered 16 this year (twelve returnees and four new pledges), up five from the prior year. Only eleven women were pictured as a group in the *Cactus*. Officers were not mentioned, but the fall officers were identified in the April 1979 issue of the *Naval Orange*. President was Barbara Kristine "Bobi" Nolte, Vice President was Noreen Myra Jasper, Treasurer was Tami Lynn Noel and Secretary was Susan Slaughter. In the March 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange*, a more complete listing of the spring officers was included. President was Hallieward Adams "Hallie" Cooper, Vice President was Dayna

Cecile Alvis, Treasurer was Judith Louise “Judy” Finch, Secretary was Kimberly Joanne “Kim” Snively, Historian was Evelyn Jean Artero, Athletics Officer was Lee Ann Thordarson. A Social or Publications Officer was not mentioned, nor was a Pledge Trainer. The Unit Staff Advisor was LTJG Douglas Ray Enderle. Typically the Anchorettes held Cookie Calls after Tuesday drills in Memorial Stadium and Beer Calls on Friday evenings at the Crow’s Nest. They helped with the Tri-Service Ball and the fall and spring picnics.

CC: American Hostages Taken in Iran

Let’s compare chronometers. On November 4, 1979, 52 American diplomats and citizens were taken hostage at the embassy in Tehran, Iran. The Iranian Islamic Revolution had taken over the country just nine months prior to this. Iranian college students, who supported the revolution, took over the U.S. Embassy and seized the hostages. The American hostages in Iran would be used to ridicule and embarrass the U.S. for the next 444 days.

Alumni Association Article

The Spring 1980 issue of *The Naval Orange* was the first evidence we had of any Unit interest in its alumni. It appeared to be issued in March from dates mentioned in various articles. In the issue Marcus Wait ’82 wrote an article that said that in the previous fall semester a hearty effort was made to contact as many graduates as possible to see what they had been up to since graduation and this spring semester was the beginning of what he hoped would be a recurring newsletter article on highlighting a few of these graduates to provide some insight to future graduates on what their careers might look like. This article highlighted four graduates, three still on active duty and one a civilian, with graduation dates ranging from 1955 to 1970. The four alumni were CDR John Jarratt ’65 (XO of VP-6 in San Francisco), Jim Broaddus ’70 (Ops Officer, Seabee Battalion 62 in Gulfport, Mississippi), Dr. Preston Kronkosky ’55 (Director, SW Education Development Labs in Austin), and CAPT John Koenig ’58 (COMSUBRON 8). The title of the article was “Alumni Assoc. Alumni Annals.”

On December 21st the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Fifteen Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. Another two Ensigns were commissioned in February of 1980. The 1980 *Cactus* (p. 391) listed the commissionees for December and February.

Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP) Begins

In the spring of 1980 the first three students of the Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP), a new officer ascension program, came to the UT campus. There were still six Navy NESEPs and two Marine Corps NESEPs on campus, but that program was fading quickly. ECP was the new path for Navy enlisted personnel to obtain a commission and, like the early years of the NESEP program, the officer candidate first obtained his or her degree at UT then had to attend Officer Candidate School in order to obtain their commission.

CC: Hostage Rescue Attempt/Smallpox Eradicated

Let’s compare chronometers again. On April 24, 1980 an unsuccessful rescue attempt was made to recover the hostages in Tehran. It was called Operation Eagle Claw and included Navy carriers, *Nimitz*

and *Coral Sea*, that were patrolling waters near Iran. The *Sea Stallion* helicopters used in the operation were flown off of *Nimitz*. Close air support was provided by air wings off of both carriers. On May 8, the following month, the World Health Organization proclaimed the worldwide eradication of smallpox, based on intense verification activities begun back in December of 1979.

On May 17th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held in the Music Building Auditorium. MajGen Paul Scott Williams, Jr., USA, the guest speaker, gave the commissioning address. Twelve Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The 1980 *Cactus* and 1981 *Longhorn Log* provided lists of the commissioned officers. The CHR gave us numbers but no names. Also, many thanks to Kevin H. Hugman '80 for providing programs for the May 17, 1980 and December 19, 1980 commissionings, which also provided most of the names. See the Appendix.

During the spring semester a Midshipman's lounge was first created in part of RAS that used to be library space. Kelly Terry '82 told her story in the *Naval Orange* about being one of the first NROTC women to join a sorority.²

Summer 1980

In July 1980 one Ensign was commissioned and in August five Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. Kevin Hugman's commissioning programs provided help, too. The UT Registrar's website (www.utdirect.utexas.edu/registrar/degv.WBX) enabled a further refinement of the list of names. It provided attendance and degree information on students enrolled from fall of 1977 to present, even if they did not graduate. This information made it easier to identify who was commissioned during the summer. LTJG Douglas R. Enderle reported in June to relieve LTJG A. Kent Bettisworth. Maj Armstrong reported aboard in August to relieve LtCol Currie as MOI.

Academic Year 1981

Statistics:

Number of Students: 126 Midshipmen (up 4), 2 Navy NESEPs, 10 MECEPs and 7 ECP for a Battalion of 145 (up 1)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 26 (17 Navy, 9 Marine) (down 14)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log*, December 1980 (Vol. 10 No. 2) issue of the *Naval Orange* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1981 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just four pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* provided 56 pages of Unit information for academic year 1981. See the Appendix. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication although it celebrated the Unit's 40th Anniversary.

² *The Naval Orange*, Spring 1980 issue, Vol. 9, No. 1

There were still 53 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT Curtis Alvin Sorenson, USN. At the end of the fall semester CAPT Sorenson was relieved by CAPT George Loft VandeWater, USN. CAPT Sorenson retired on January 1, 1981, with 28 years of service. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*.

CAPT VandeWater was an aviator and started flying with his father as a young boy. He earned his wings through the Naval Aviation Cadet program. He participated in the naval buildup at Key West in response to the Cuban Missile Crisis and had several tours in Vietnamese waters. He was CO of an A-4 Squadron and Naval Attache to Thailand and Burma before coming to UT.



George Loft VandeWater

Toward the end of the year LTJG Enderle was promoted, LT Lochausen was transferred, Carmen Breshers left, Deborah A. “Debbie” McGovern replaced her, GySgt Juan A. Arispe reported aboard as GySgt Martinez’s relief, SKCM Thompson retired, and SKC Walter M. Smith reported aboard as his replacement. LT Hansford D. Tyler, III reported aboard to relieve LT Jackson. LT Harold G. “Glen” Hatch reported aboard to take LT Lochausen’s place.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies; however, Charlie Company was back and Headquarters Company was dropped. Battalion Commanders were Steven Jeffrey “Steve” Chrans (fall) and Dale Lee Davidson (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the two platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each platoon separately. Battalion strength was about what it was the previous year. MECEPs and OCs were more integrated into the six platoons and leadership positions. The freshman class numbered 60.³

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	17
Bravo	13	12
Charlie	12	13

There was no Headquarters Company or group identified as the Buccaneers in the *Cactus*. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* dedicated one page and several pictures to the Buccaneers. The photographs showed a twelve-man team plus the Commander, but no Guidon. White ascots replaced the military-tucked black tie. Otherwise the Buccaneer uniform was basically the same Navy style as it had been. Buccaneer

³ *Longhorn Log*, 1981. P. 3.

Commander was James Joseph “Jim” McLaughlin. No Executive Officer or CPO were mentioned. Events the Bucs participated in were the Patriots Day at Bedichek Junior High School (November 11), Veterans Day Parade that evening in Austin, the Tulane Drill Meet (February 25-27), the Scabbard & Blade Drill Meet at UT (March 28), the A&M Drill Meet in College Station and the Lone Star Drill Meet at Trinity University in San Antonio. They won 4th place for fancy drill at Tulane. They won 3rd place in inspection at Scabbard & Blade and A&M meets. Other activities the Bucs participated in were the UT Round-up parade and serving as honor guard for Texas Governor Bill Clements.



1981 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1981 *Longhorn Log*, page 7.

There was no mention of a rifle team in the *Cactus* or *Naval Orange* this year. The *Longhorn Log* devoted half a page to the pistol team. It said that UT had been a competitor for the last 15 years. Five men were named as constituting the NROTC component of the team. It was open to all UT students but was predominantly NROTC. AF Cadet Curtis Funke was the Captain and MDN 3/C Trip Mills was the XO. The team coach was GySgt Ricardo Martinez (AMOI). The team competed in two major matches during the year: Texas A&M (November) and UT Arlington (late February). The team also sponsored the Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot (late November) which drew 923 students, faculty and staff.

A three-man color guard was pictured in the *Cactus* with names listed. The CHR was more helpful. It reported that the Color Guard participated with the Buccaneers on Veterans Day at Bedichek Junior High School. The *Longhorn Log* pictured and listed a six-man Color Guard at that event. It was commanded by OC Hector Gonzalez (fall) and Sgt Roger Pollard (spring). The *Naval Orange* did not cover any color guard activities.

Praetorian Guard was not included in the *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* or the *Naval Orange*. Scabbard & Blade was also not included in the *Cactus* or the *Naval Orange*, although the *Log* did mention that S&B hosted the Fall Formal (Tri-service military ball) and spring drill meet.

Unit's 40th Anniversary

The Publications Officer was MDN 1/C Keith Sellers. LT Lochausen was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about nine Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 2/C Bill Cerny. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about eleven Midshipmen. Its Editor was typically the Publications Officer. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* was the first yearbook published by the Unit since 1975. It also attempted to cover some of the 1980 academic year in celebration of the Unit's 40th Anniversary.

World Record Set for Pull-ups



Maj Charles L. Armstrong, MOI

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*, the *Naval Orange* and the CHR. Navy I football finished 4-0 and played Jester for the championship. Navy I volleyball finished 5-0. Blue Angels I (Co-ed) basketball finished 4-2 and had a chance at a playoff spot. The intramural bowling team made it to the semi-finals. Other team season records were recorded in the *Log* and other sports-related events were documented in the CHR. On November 28th a “Run-Away from A&M (to Austin)” run was held to raise funds for Austin Special Olympics. On December 6th Maj Chuck Armstrong (MOI) set a world record for pullups (1,435 in 4 hours, 54 min and 53 seconds). Unit members (staff, middies and OCs) ran a U.S. flag from Austin to the Alamo in San Antonio (March 5-6) to commemorate the heroic defense of that National Shrine.

The Crow’s Nest had 21 men, representing a net loss of 21 men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Cactus*. Only 18 were pictured. A comparison of names showed 19 were old-timers and two were new arrivals. Its location was still 2610 Rio Grande Street. The comical costume group photo was taken at that location. Its President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, food buyer, work manager and faculty advisor were not documented.



1981 Crow’s Nest. 1981 *Cactus*, page 517.

Major social events for the year included a Casino Party at the Carriage House party room (October); the Tri-Service Military Ball at the Villa Capri Hotel, sponsored by Scabbard & Blade (November 15); a barbecue dinner and hayride at the Circle-D Resort (December 13); an informal party held at the American Legion Hall (February 27); Marine Mess Night (March 6) with MGen Jones, USMC (Ret) as guest speaker; the Anchorette-sponsored beer float on the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels (April 4), which was followed by a barbecue lunch and softball game; and the Spring Formal (Ring Dance) at the Hilton Inn (May 1), where Anchorette Paula Smith was named Navy Sweetheart. The Anchorettes also sponsored dining-ins for the fall and spring, for which we have no dates or locations.

Spring Break occurred the week of March 16-19, during which an aviation indoctrination field trip to NAS Persacola was scheduled. Participants toured the Naval Air Museum and experienced the Dilbert Dunker and sand-covered O-course. Earlier, a Marine orientation field trip to Parris Island, South Carolina was scheduled during the Christmas break (January 5-9). All three ROTCs sent ground Midshipmen/Cadets to Camp Swift, Texas for combat tactics, 24 hours of aggressor training, map reading, booby traps, etc., on April 25th.

The Anchoresses numbered 23 this year (eight returnees and 15 new pledges), up seven from the prior year. None was pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 20 women were pictured in the newly revived *Longhorn Log*. Two more were listed who were not pictured. Officers served for the entire academic year. President was Hallieward Adams "Hallie" Cooper, Vice President was Elizabeth Gay "Liz" Holsclaw, Treasurer was Dayna Cecile Alvis, Secretary was Brenda Buckner and Pledge Trainer was Paula Smith. The Unit Staff Advisor was still LTJG Douglas Ray Enderle.

CC: Remote Computing/First Shuttle Flight



First Space Shuttle Launch, *Columbia*

Let's compare chronometers. Remote computing was on the rise. When the author left UT in the spring of 1975, connecting with University mainframe computers for computer science classes was still largely done via teletype terminals around the campus, or computer punch cards left at computer centers for reading and processing. Computer terminals with cathode ray tube visual displays (CRTs) were fast replacing teletypes back then and, by 1980, personal computers could now be used to act as terminals themselves. By dialing up an access phone number to the mainframe and connecting through a modem, students could work remotely from their homes or dorms. The author was doing this as early as the fall of 1980 when attending graduate school at The University of

Texas at San Antonio. This was one of many expanding services for which personal computers could be used. Still, personal computers were largely used as standalone local replacements for the typewriter (*i.e.* word processing), calculator (*i.e.* spreadsheet), and file system (*i.e.* database). Also this year, on April 12, 1981, the first orbital space shuttle flight was launched, STS-1, Space Shuttle Columbia.

U.S. Embarks on 600-Ship Navy Program

With the historic landslide election of the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, on November 4, 1980, the country would shortly embark on a program to strengthen our military. After Vietnam the military had suffered through years of decline and downsizing.



USS Missouri (BB-63). Iowa Class, Largest U.S. Battleship ever built.

So much so that other countries, like the Soviet Union, were overtly challenging our strength and resolve, much of that at sea. Part of the plan called for building up the Navy to a 600-ship fleet by recommissioning the Iowa-class battleships, keeping older ships in service longer, stepping up production of the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers, and instituting a new program of naval construction. The actual number never reached its stated goal. It peaked at 594 ships in 1987.⁴

NESEPs & MECEPs Integrated Into the Battalion

The fall of 1980 saw the full integration of the NESEP and MECEP students into the Battalion.⁵ This had been a gradual process over the years with both programs having more interaction with the Midshipmen, first as distinct companies, participating with Midshipmen on drill days. This year marked the first time all three officer candidate programs were assigned to companies with little regard for what ascension program they were a member. NESEPs didn't get to fully experience this for long since this was that program's last year.

In the December 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange* another Alumni Annals article appeared highlighting three more alumni and one former staff member. The Alumni Association had two basic purposes, mentioned in the article: 1) It is for the benefit of our alumni so they can see how things are going at their old NROTC Unit and a way for them to contact other alumni; and 2) The most important purpose is for keeping track of how UT NROTC graduates are doing in the Navy and Marine Corps. Midshipmen could use contact information on an alumnus in order to ask them questions about their career path so this organization was committed to networking of alumni and students, even former staff members. The article finished with a short paragraph on four members: CDR Richard Bergen (Supply Officer on staff, mid-50s), ENS Keith Burtner '78 (Aviator just finishing flight school), MajGen D'Wayne Gray '52 (Chief of Staff, Plans, Marine Corps HQ, Washington, DC), and CDR John Jarrat '65 (CO, VP-6 in Hawaii).

On December 19th the joint fall commissioning ceremony was held in the Geology Building. Eight Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. CAPT Sorenson (PNS) delivered the welcoming address. Col William Porter, Professor of Air Force Science, delivered the commissioning address and presented commissions to the new officers.⁶ The 1981 *Longhorn Log*, the December 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange* and Kevin Hugman's commissioning program provided the names and place. The CHR provided numbers.

On March 31st the John Marshall High School Jr. NROTC, from San Antonio, visited the UT NROTC Unit. John Marshall was the author's alma mater but did not have any ROTC program during his years there.

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/600-ship_Navy

⁵ *Longhorn Log*, 1981. P. 3.

⁶ *Longhorn Log*, 1981. P. 18.

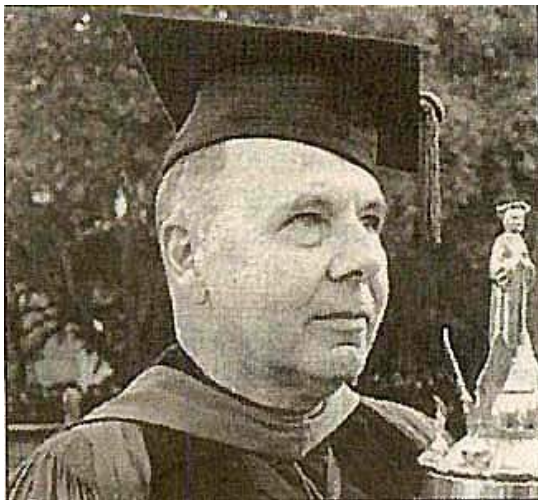
NESEP Program Ends at UT

NESEPs were down to six Navy types in the spring of 1981. Only two obtained their degrees and a commission, Randal Dean Baker and Roy Curtis Vaughan. 1982 was going to be the effective end date for the program, according to the Navy. Anyone who was already in the pipeline was allowed to stay, graduate and get their commission if it could be done by then. When the program began, students had to attend OCS to get their commissions after they graduated. That changed over the years, allowing commissioning immediately after graduation.

On May 23rd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held in the auditorium of the Music Building West. Five Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. UT President Peter Flawn delivered the welcoming address and LtGen Richard Cavazos, Commander, Army III Corps, Ft. Hood, Texas, delivered the commissioning address.⁷ The 1981 *Longhorn Log* and the December 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange* provided the names and place. The CHR provided numbers but no names. See the Appendix.

The Captain's Log in the December 1980 issue of the *Naval Orange* contains a very nice parting message from the PNS. CAPT Sorenson had started his career as a Marine, then became a Midshipman to embark on his career as a Naval officer. What a great background for a Professor of Naval Science. He announced his retirement, effective January 1, 1981 and his pleasure at having an educational billet as his last in the Navy. Prior to that time he was relieved by CAPT VandeWater, who saw the Unit through the rest of the academic year and beyond. LT Lochausen also left at mid-year for his next assignment in Hawaii.

Black Mac Retires as Professor at UT



Dr. H. Malcolm Macdonald, CAPT USNR (Ret)

Dr. H. Malcolm Macdonald, CAPT USNR (Ret) retired as a UT professor in 1981 and immediately became Professor Emeritus. He continued, though, to be our ROTC Liaison Officer to the University.

⁷ *Longhorn Log*, 1981. P. 20.

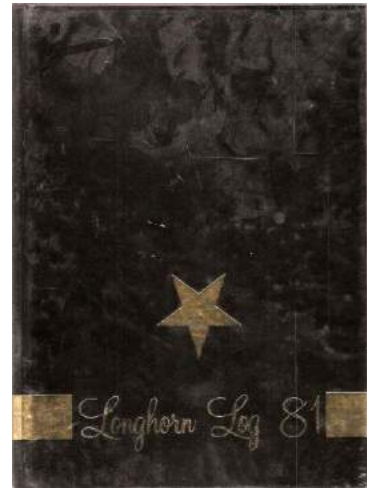
The Longhorn Log Returns

For some reason it was not published between 1976 and 1980, inclusive. When it made its reappearance, the 1981 *Longhorn Log* was a departure from its previous format and looked like a professional yearbook similar to *Texas Tradition 1944*. The page count was higher (50-80) because more information was included (e.g. photos and names of all classes).

Summer 1981

NROTC Gets Sailboat Training

After the spring semester ended, the Unit received four Laser sailboats from the Naval Academy. This marked the beginning of SAIL training in the NROTC.



1981 Longhorn Log Cover

Navy & Early Microcomputer Connection

The CP/M operating system and CBASIC were the most widely used software packages in the microcomputer industry at this time. Anyone familiar with the CP/M operating system will immediately recognize where the “inspiration” came from for the MS-DOS operating system (MS=MicroSoft). Gordon Eubanks, an American microcomputer industry pioneer, worked with Gary Kildall in the early days of the Digital Research Institute (DRI). Eubanks attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where his 1976 master’s thesis was a BASIC language compiler called BASIC-E designed for Kildall's new CP/M operating system. Over the next year and a half, Eubanks wrote the popular CBASIC compiler for IMSAI while he was still a naval officer. Friends of Eubanks say he called it “CBASIC” because he wrote it while serving on a submarine (*i.e.* at *sea*). Other people say the name CBASIC referred to “commercial” basic, because it incorporated BCD math which eliminated MBASIC’s rounding errors that were sometimes troublesome for accounting. In 1981, after Microsoft moved from programming languages into operating systems, DRI improved its position in programming languages by acquiring Eubanks's company, *Compiler Systems*.⁸ Related to this subject, the IBM PC was first released during this summer on August 12, 1981.

During July two Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. In August two Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1981 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. LT Tyler relieved LT Jackson and LT Hatch took LT Lochausen’s vacated spot. Freshman orientation for the upcoming academic year was conducted the last week of August.

Seventh Nest Location: 2300 Rio Grande St. (1 House – Cap: 20 Men)

It was time for the Nest to move again and for the (mostly) typical reason since the move from 24th Street: the owners wanted to develop the property for some other (more profitable) use. According to

⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Eubanks

John Mendel 2300 Rio Grande Street, only three blocks away from their previous location, was a vast improvement. There were about 20 Midshipmen, on average, who lived there from the fall of 1981 to the summer of 1984.

Academic Year 1982

Statistics:

Number of Students: 167 Midshipmen (up 41), No NESEPs, 10 MECEPs and 12 ECP for a Battalion of 189 (up 44)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 19 (14 Navy, 5 Marine) (down 7)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1982 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just four pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1982 *Longhorn Log* provided 64 pages of Unit information for academic year 1982. See the Appendix. The 1982 *Longhorn Log* was dedicated “In Memoriam” to MDN 2/C Paul Snyder McCluskey, who was killed in a boating accident after recently completing his training at Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia.

There were still 53 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT George L. VandeWater, USN. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. At mid-year YNC James M. Sanders replaced YNC Bigler and GySgt Martinez left.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Battalion Commanders were Daniel Scott “Dan” Greer (fall) and John Eddie Shook (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with no indication of platoons within the company. Photos showed the fall companies. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each company separately but not in a group photo. Members were pictured individually like class members in a yearbook. Battalion strength was up about the size of another company. MECEPs and OCs appeared to be totally integrated into the Battalion.

<u>Company</u>	<u>No. of Personnel</u>
Alpha	38
Bravo	38
Charlie	46

Buccaneers were only mentioned in the *Cactus* but were more completely documented on two pages in the 1982 *Longhorn Log*, numbering 19 men (seven old-timers and twelve new arrivals). Buccaneer Commander was Gus Carrillo. Executive Officer was Mark Manley. CPO was John Guy Robinson. Guidon was Scott Henschel. All four were Air Force Cadets. About half the team was NROTC and the other half was mostly AFROTC, with just one member from Army ROTC. Events the Bucs participated in were the Tulane Drill Meet (February 20), the Scabbard & Blade Drill Meet at UT (March 6) and the

A&M Drill Meet in College Station. The Bucs took 3rd place overall at Tulane and 1st place overall at Scabbard & Blade. The team took 4th place at the A&M meet but their tandem team (Carrillo and Hanschel) took 1st place. The tri-service uniform was still decidedly Navy in style with only the Buc Commander wearing an Air Force cap insignia on his otherwise Navy cover.



1982 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1982 *Longhorn Log*, page 24.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year. The *Longhorn Log* was more helpful. It listed four NROTC members of the pistol team and two NROTC

members of the rifle team. MDN 2/C Cary Piel was the Captain of the pistol team. GySgt Juan Arispe (AMOI) was the pistol team coach. MSgt Quarles (Army) was the rifle team coach. The pistol team competed in two major matches during the year: Texas A&M and UT Arlington. The rifle team participated in ten meets during the year and won seven first place trophies.

The color guard was not shown in the *Cactus* this year. The *Log* listed a six-man color guard for each semester. It was commanded by Sgt Louis Sifuentes (fall) and Sgt Tim Lyke (spring). The CHR noted that the Color Guard participated in a presentation for Military Order of World Wars on January 26th and in a ceremony on March 2nd at Hill Elementary School. Praetorian Guard and Scabbard & Blade were not included in the *Cactus* or *Longhorn Log* for this year.

The Publications Officer was probably MDN 1/C Bill Cerny. LT Hatch was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about ten Midshipmen. Its Editors were MDN 1/C Bill Cerny and MDN 3/C Julie Poarch. The *Naval Orange* staff could not be determined with no surviving copies of the *Naval Orange* available. Its Editor was typically the Publications Officer.



Run to Dallas. 1982 *Longhorn Log*, page 49.

Run-to-Dallas Tradition Started

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. Only the Blue Angels co-ed volleyball team (3-2) made a run for the finals. Other season records for football, basketball, volleyball, softball and water polo were less than stellar and were documented in the *Log*. Other sports-related activities were found in the CHR. The first Run to Dallas (202 miles) was initiated by Maj Armstrong and conducted October 9-10. The idea was to conduct a relay run up to the Cotton Bowl, prior to OU weekend, to draw support for the Navy and the Longhorns. Over the years other enhancements were added to this tradition, such as running an actual game ball to the Cotton Bowl to deliver to the team and getting the OU NROTC middies to run from Norman to Dallas and play a flag football game between the two units prior to the Red River Rivalry. This year Texas beat OU 34-14 in that rivalry.

Army-Navy Game in Texas

On December 5 another event tried to get a tradition started. That date was the annual Army-Navy game in Philadelphia. Before the actual game was played, the Army and Navy ROTC units at UT met on the intramural gridiron to play flag football. The game ended up in a 10-10 tie foreshadowing what was to come later that afternoon. The academies battled to a 3-3 tie! One other sports-related event also occurred. From April 14-16 the Unit sponsored a relay run (344 miles) to the Texas Iwo Jima Memorial in Harlingen, Texas. Their job was to deliver the first U.S. flag to fly over that new facility. Maj Armstrong, Midshipmen, one Anchorette and Austin Reserve Marines participated.



Army-Navy Game. 1982 *Longhorn Log*, page 40.

Major social events for the year included a Tri-Service reception for the ROTC facilities, hosted by Navy ROTC (September 3); a Casino Party at the America Legion Hall (October 31), probably hosted by the Crow's Nest; a Battalion dining out at Bergstrom AFB Officer's Club (November 13), probably celebrating the two service birthdays; a "Suppressed Desires" party somewhere (February 26); and a dining out (April 23) sponsored by Scabbard & Blade. This last event could have been the Spring Formal.

The Crow's Nest had 26 men, representing a net gain of five men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Cactus* and *Longhorn Log*. Only 15 were pictured in the *Cactus* and 16 were pictured in the *Log*. This was the first year that the Crow's Nest was pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. The pose is still a "funny" photo but there is a slightly different group pictured than the one in the *Cactus*. There are 17 pictured in the *Log*, six who were not in the *Cactus* photo, ten who were in both photos, and one unidentified member. Five members were in the *Cactus* photo but not in the *Log* photo. A



1982 Crow's Nest (#7). 2300 Rio Grande Street. 1982 *Longhorn Log* page 50.

comparison of names showed 15 were old-timers and eleven were new arrivals. Its location was now 2300 Rio Grande Street. The comical costume group photo was taken at that location. Its President was Randall Alan "Randy" Neal. The Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, food buyer, work manager and faculty advisor were not documented.

Three orientation field trips were planned for the year. During the Christmas break a Marine orientation trip was made to Parris Island, South Carolina (January 3-7). Spring Break occurred the week of

March 15-19, during which an aviation indoctrination trip was made to NAS Key West, Florida. The last field trip was to Mooney Aircraft Company in Kerrville, Texas (April 28).

The Anchorettes numbered 37 this year (ten returnees and 27 new pledges), up 14 from the prior year. Only 26 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 25 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were again split into fall and spring semesters. For the fall, President was Elizabeth Gay "Liz" Holsclaw, Vice President was Kathleen Elizabeth Marable, Treasurer was Dayna Cecile Alvis (again), Secretary was Karin Scholin Smith, Historian was Peggy Jones and Pledge Trainer was Hallieward Adams "Hallie" Cooper. For the spring, President was Kathleen Elizabeth Marable, Vice President was Perri Ann Madison, Treasurer was Dayna Cecile Alvis (again), Secretary was Mary Frances Raymond, Historian was Rebecca Lynn "Becky" Seale and Pledge Trainer was Karin Scholin Smith. The new Unit Staff Advisor was LT Harold G. "Glen" Hatch, Jr.

Commodore - Rear Admiral Debate

Back on March 3, 1899, the Navy Personnel Act had eliminated the "rank" of Commodore in the U.S. Navy. It would still be used as a title for certain Navy positions and it would be used briefly, during WWII, as a rank again. On December 1, 1981 the new rank of Commodore Admiral was created both as a means to appease the other three branches of the U.S. military, who felt promoting USN and USCG O-6s to O-7, yet entitling them to wear the insignia of an O-8, was unfair, and also as a means of distinguishing that Navy and Coast Guard one-star admirals were in fact flag officers. That latter confusion had become apparent during WWII among service personnel from other countries. The rank of Commodore Admiral would only survive for about eleven months before it changed to just

“Commodore,” but even that would prove controversial. Because of the short-lived nature of this rank only a very few people actually held the rank of Commodore Admiral. One of those people was Grace Hopper, the Mother of the COBOL programming language.⁹

First ECP Student Graduates

In December 1981 the Unit’s first ECP student graduated. He did not obtain his commission with the other fall commissionees. He was transferred to OCS to obtain that. This first ECP graduate was Leroy David Thompson, as noted in the CHR. It is quite probable this is the same Leroy David Thompson who was on *Buccaneers* with the author in 1972. Leroy appeared in the *Cactus* in 1972 and 1973, then disappeared. I lost track of him. It is quite probable that Leroy found a path back to commissioning through the ECP program. That fall Leroy was one of seven ECP students that came under the UT NROTC Unit.

On December 18th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held in the Geology Auditorium. Six Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. MajGen Willie L. Scott, Adjutant General of the State of Texas, delivered the commissioning address.¹⁰ The 1982 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and place, and the CHR provided numbers.

UT NROTC in the Top Three!

From February 9 to 11, CAPT Hawkins Miller inspected the Unit for Commander of Naval Education and Training (Triennial Inspection). At its conclusion he said that the UT Unit was one of the top three NROTC units in the country!

On May 22nd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held in the Old Music Building Auditorium. Six Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. LtGen John R. McGiffert, Commander, 5th Army, gave the commissioning address and administered the oath of office.¹¹ The 1982 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1982

CC: Zenith Computers & Compact Discs/Lebanon Heats Up

Let’s compare chronometers. In June the Zenith Z-100 personal computer was released. It was a factory-manufactured version of the Heathkit H-100 and it was far superior to the IBM PC, released the previous summer. The Z-100 would play a prominent role in the Navy and Air Force in the years to come. On August 17, 1982 the first commercial compact disc was released. Originally it was intended

⁹ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commodore_admiral

¹⁰ *Longhorn Log*, 1982. P. 12.

¹¹ *Longhorn Log*, 1982. P. 12.

for music but the technology was quickly adapted to data storage for personal computers.¹² Also unrest and civil war led to the start of a build-up of U.S. forces as peace-keepers in Lebanon, starting in August.

In August two Ensigns were commissioned. The 1982 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. QMCS William B. Herbert, Jr. replaced QMC Lapoint. CDR Lindsey was transferred.

Academic Year 1983

Statistics:

Number of Students: 144 Midshipmen (down 23), 6 MECEPs, 9 ECPs and 6 NECPs for a Battalion of 165 (down 24)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (up 1)

Number of Commissionees: 20 (14 Navy, 6 Marine) (up 1)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1983 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just four pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1983 *Longhorn Log* provided 67 pages of Unit information for academic year 1983. See the Appendix. The 1983 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication but highlighted this year as being UT's Centennial.

There were still 56 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT George Loft VandeWater, USN. All the staff were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* but not the *Cactus*. Prior to the beginning of the year CDR John L. Baker reported aboard to take CDR Lindsey's spot as XO, LT Gordon O. Dorsey '76 reported aboard to take LT Enderle's position and QMCS William B. Herbert, Jr. relieved QMC Lapoint. At mid-year Betty J. Braziel took over Military Personnel Clerk duties upon the departure of Debbie McGovern.

Women in Top Two Battalion Jobs

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: A, B and C, no phonetic alphabet words used. Battalion Commanders were Richard R. "Rick" Whitehead (fall) and Elizabeth K. "Lisa" Tester (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the two platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured everyone individually, like a yearbook, but the entire Battalion was pictured alphabetically, with no indication of company or platoon affiliation. Battalion strength was down about the size of a large platoon. Although Lisa Tester was not the first female Battalion Commander, with her announcement on November 30, along with the announcement of Sheila Anne Scarborough as Battalion Executive Officer, it did mark the first time that the two top leadership positions in the Battalion were assigned to women. The following table was the likely distribution of members:

¹² Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compact_disc#Digital_audio_laser-disc_prototypes

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
A	16	18
B	17	17
C	18	19



1983 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1983 *Cactus*, page 455.

Buccaneers were only mentioned in the *Cactus* but were better documented on one page in the 1983 *Longhorn Log*, numbering eleven men (five old-timers and six new arrivals), plus an unidentified female Guidon. Buccaneer Commander was AFCad Gus Carrillo. Executive Officer was AFCad Scott Henschel. CPO was AFCad John Guy Robinson. About half the team was NROTC and the other half was mostly AFROTC. Events the Bucs participated in were the Scabbard & Blade meet at UT (April 2) and the A&M meet in College Station. The team used a circle drill, ripple drill and traditional box

exchange routines. They placed 2nd at Scabbard & Blade. At A&M the Bucs were disqualified in Basic drill, but still managed to place 3rd overall with high scores in Fancy Drill and Inspection. Uniforms were still composed of white parade belts, scabbards and chest strap, white ascots, color insignia, white cover with differing insignia, special shoulder patch, but no white leggings.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year. Only the pistol team was covered in the *Log*. Six NROTC members were listed but no officers identified. The team placed 4th at the sectional meet. It also competed in meets at UT Arlington, Texas A&M, Sam Houston State and UT Austin.

The Color Guard was only mentioned in the *Log* and the CHR. The *Log* listed five members in the fall, but no CO; however, the senior member was MDN 1/C Ted Gettinger. Six members were listed for the spring and OC Kirk Johnson was listed as the CO. The CHR listed two Color Guard events: A presentation for the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Committee on October 5th and participation in the Pearl Harbor Day ceremony at Dripping Springs on December 7th.

Neither Praetorian Guard nor Scabbard & Blade were included in the *Longhorn Log* this year. Both had some coverage in the *Cactus*, though. A photo that is labeled Praetorian Guard is actually the tri-service Buccaneers. It also stated that PG sponsored the Central Texas Invitational Rifle match.

Scabbard & Blade was a tri-service organization with 17 members this year, one was a MECEP and six were Midshipmen. Names were listed but no officers identified. The advisor was Maj Charles L. Armstrong (MOI). S&B's activities this year included hosting a guest speaker series and the annual S&B Drill Meet at UT. S&B also sponsored a dining-out on April 8th at the Texas Union. The *Cactus* also noted that members must have completed one year at UT, be a second semester sophomore, and have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

The Publications Officer was Sgt Liz Kelley. LT Dorsey was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about six Midshipmen. Its Editor was Sgt Liz Kelley. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about five Midshipman. Its Editor was typically the Publications Officer.

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. Rock's (SSgt Rock Pollard) co-ed volleyball team made it to the playoffs with a 5-0 record but lost the playoff game. Men's "B" team volleyball finished 3-2, but lost the second playoff game. The co-ed basketball team finished 4-1 but lost the second playoff game. Men's "C" team volleyball finished 4-1 but lost its first playoff match. Other season records were documented for football, soccer and softball in the *Log*.

Ironman Competition Started

The First Annual Ironman Competition (Pentathlon), sponsored by UT Marines, was held October 17. Good training for that was the previous day at the Austin Physical Fitness Fair. NROTC teams won all the trophies in the men's and women's divisions.

The Crow's Nest had 19 men, representing a net loss of seven men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Cactus* and *Longhorn Log*. Only 18 were pictured in the *Cactus* and 15 were pictured in the *Log*. This is the second year that the Crow's Nest is pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. The pose is still a



1983 Crow's Nest. 1983 *Cactus* page 419.

“funny” photo but there is a slightly different group pictured in each publication. The *Log* photo also included the Nest’s faculty sponsor, Maj Armstrong. A comparison of names showed 13 were old-timers and six were new arrivals. Its location was still 2300 Rio Grande Street. The comical costume group photo was taken at that location. Its President for the spring was Ernest Bernard “Ernie” Welker, Jr. The Vice President was Craig Vincent Turner. The Secretary, Treasurer, food buyer, and work manager were not documented.

Major social events for the year included a Tri-Service reception for UT President Flawn (September 29); a Casino Party in a “three-room party house” (October 30), probably hosted by the Crow’s Nest; the Marine Corps Ball sponsored by NROTC Marines and Marine Options (November 12); a NROTC dining-out at the Marriott Hotel (November 20); and another NROTC dining-out (Ring Dance) at the Bradford Hotel in Austin on May 8th. The Anchorettes also sponsored two beer floats on the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels, with lunch in Landa Park afterward. One was scheduled in the fall and the other in the spring, for which we have no specific dates.

Three orientation field trips were scheduled for the year. Two were scheduled during the Christmas break. Maj Armstrong (MOI) accompanied 21 Midshipmen and MECEPs to Quantico, Virginia (January 11-14); and LT Hatch accompanied 38 Midshipmen to NAS Pensacola (January 17-21). Spring Break occurred the week of March 14-18 and during that time LT Dorsey and LT Tyler accompanied 22 Midshipmen to San Diego for a surface ship and submarine orientation trip, the highlight of which was a 1.5-hour meeting with COMSURFPAC.

The Anchorettes numbered 38 this year (18 returnees and 20 new pledges), up one from the prior year. Only 31 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 24 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were again split into fall and spring semesters. For the fall, President was Dayna Cecile Alvis, Vice President was Karin Scholin Smith, Treasurer was Kathryn Lyn Gordy, Secretary was Marianne Edwards Day, Historian was Susan Elaine Webb and Pledge Trainer was Margaret Allison “Marnie” Matzinger. For the spring, President was Karin Scholin Smith, Vice President was Margaret Allison “Marnie” Matzinger, Treasurer was Jennifer Lynn “Jennie” Brown, Secretary was Dayna Cecile Alvis, Historian was Caroline Leigh “Carrie” Golden and Pledge Trainer was Connie Pollard. The Unit Staff Advisor was LT Harold G. “Glen” Hatch, Jr.

Sailing Training Required

This year, beginning with the sophomore class, the Chief of Naval Education and Training ordered that all Midshipmen



Laser Sailboat and MDN Mehan and Gunji
1983 *Longhorn Log*, page 14.

become qualified to sail boats. This included class work and written tests.¹³ On March 9th of the previous year Unit sailing classes were started using the Laser sailboats the Unit received in the summer of 1981.

The Money in Your Pocket

You may not have noticed it, but the weight of the change in your pocket went down in the early 1980s, along with your buying power (again). The Susan B. Anthony dollar coin was discontinued in 1981 and the composition of the penny started changing in 1982. Up to and for about half of the year, 1982, the penny was still 95% copper and 5% zinc, weighing 3.11 grams. Starting in 1982 about half the pennies were made with the new composition, 97.5% zinc and 2.5% copper, to save money. The new pennies were also lighter, 2.5 grams. In 1983 all the new pennies were supposed to be this new composition. Some were made by mistake with the old mix of copper and zinc and are quite valuable.

In 1983 the average car cost \$6,116 (over twice the cost of a decade ago) with gasoline going for \$1.25 per gallon (more than a three-fold increase). The average new home cost \$105,444 (four-fold increase) and average annual salary was \$12,133 (up only 20%). You could mail a letter for 20¢, go to the movies for \$3.15 and buy a hamburger for about 60¢, all representing varying increases from a decade before.¹⁴

On December 23rd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held in the Geology Building. Four Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The 1983 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers.

Commodore – Rear Admiral Debate Continues...

On January 1, 1983 all Commodore Admirals were now addressed as just “Commodore” and their rank and title was changed accordingly. This; however, did not stop the debate. The title of “Commodore” was still being used by certain senior Captains, due to the positions they held.

Nuclear Enlisted Commissioning Program (NECP) Begins

NECP began in the spring of 1983. The NUPOC program had been on campus since the 1960s but it was not under the command of or administered by the Professor of Naval Science. This new program, a specialized version of the ECP, was part of the NROTC Unit. Like the ECP and the early NESEP programs, graduates of this program were not commissioned at UT. After graduation they were required to attend Officer Candidate School, for the Navy training they did not receive at UT, and received their commissions there.

Drum & Bugle Corps Debuts

After months of planning and practicing, a small group of musicians in the Battalion first performed as UT NROTC’s Drum & Bugle Corps at the spring Change of Command ceremonies. The last time the Unit had such a group was 36 years ago in 1947!

¹³ 1983 *Longhorn Log*, Page 14.

¹⁴ Website: www.inthe80s.com/prices.shtml

On May 21st the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held in Bates Auditorium. Six Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1983 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1983

A Summer Full of Sailing

Before the end of the spring semester, on March 26th, deep-water sail training commenced and was conducted each weekend up to May 1st. LT Dorsey, the Unit's Sailing Officer, CDR Baker (XO) and 10-14 Midshipmen drove/flew to



Drum & Bugle Corps 1983 *Longhorn Log*, page 20.

Houston to sail the Rice University NROTC Unit's 42-foot Whitbey ketch "Sea Owl" out of the yacht club on Clear Lake, in Seabrook, Texas. During May 10-15 the Unit staff took a deep-water sailing shakedown cruise. CAPT Vandewater, CDR Baker, LT Dorsey, QMCS Herbert and four Rice University officers sailed "Sea Owl" from Houston to New Orleans via Morgan City. CDR J. Bonds, Director of Navy Sailing, accompanied them and certified the UT staff.

From June 29th to July 22nd TEXMIDSAILCRU I was conducted with CAPT Frank Bransom (Ret) as sailing coach. Ports visited were Vero Beach, West Palm Beach, Green Turtle Cay (Bahamas), Marsh Harbor (Bahamas), Nassau, Chub Cay, Ocean Reef Club (Key Largo) and Key West. The crew rebuilt the ship's engine in West Palm Beach over eight days, commuting from free accommodations provided by the Navy League in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

From July 23rd to August 11th TEXMIDSAILCRU II was conducted with LT Dorsey, QMCS Herbert and ten Midshipmen. Ports visited were Key West, Naples, Ft. Myers Beach, St. Petersburg, Panama City, NAS Pensacola, Gulfport (MS), New Orleans, Franklin (LA), and a return to Seabrook, Texas, near Houston.

In June, July and August seven Ensigns and six 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1983 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. In June Maj Jack E. Owen, Jr. relieved Maj Armstrong. On July 20 CAPT Lewis H. Thames relieved CAPT Vandewater as CO of the Unit. YNC Sanders retired at the end of May. His relief, YNCS Stephen R. Lubasky, didn't arrive until September. In August Ann Stollenwerk reported aboard as Secretary to the CO and XO, replacing Jane Gallaher.

Academic Year 1984

Statistics:

Number of Students: 171 Midshipmen (up 27), 6 MECEPs, 10 ECPs and 15 NECPs for a Battalion of 202 (up 37)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 3 Enlisted (down 1), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 21 (11 Navy, 10 Marine) (up 1)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1984 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just five pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1984 *Longhorn Log* provided 64 pages of Unit information for academic year 1984. See the Appendix. The 1984 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

There were still 56 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, CAPT Lewis H. Thames, USN. All the staff were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* but not the *Cactus*. Prior to the beginning of the year Maj Owen relieved Maj Armstrong as MOI, YNCS Lubasky took YNC Sanders vacated spot, Ann Stollenwerk came aboard to replace Jane Gallaher but Jane stayed on. At mid-year LT Richard R. Bosco relieved LT Tyler.



Lewis Herman Thames, Jr.

CAPT Thames was a native Texan, born in El Paso, who first served as a Radarman sailor before being appointed to the Naval Academy. His career was that of a Surface Warfare Officer, which included two commands at sea in the deep water Navy, staff tours and a task group commander assignment for the brown water Navy in Vietnam. He was awarded two Bronze Star Medals with Combat "V" for his service in Vietnam.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Battalion Commanders were Michael James Hardebeck (fall) and Gary Lee Thomas (spring). MDN Thomas would go on to achieve the rank of LtGen in the Marine Corps. The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the two platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured everyone individually, like a yearbook, but the entire Battalion was pictured alphabetically, with no indication of company or platoon affiliation. Battalion strength was up about the size of a company.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	17
Bravo	19	21
Charlie	17	18

Buccaneers were covered on one page in the *Cactus* between the NROTC and AFROTC pages, probably due to the tri-service nature of it. It was also covered on one page of the *Longhorn Log*. It numbered 15 men, according to the narrative in the *Cactus* but only twelve men were pictured and one more we know of was not pictured. Based on the 13-man figure (four old-timers and nine new arrivals), seven



1984 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1984 *Longhorn Log*, page 20.

members were NROTC. Buccaneer Commander was AFCad Scott Henschel. Executive Officer was AFCad John Guy Robinson. CPO was MDN 3/C David Mills. Events the Bucs participated in were the Tulane meet in New Orleans (March 3-4), the A&M meet in College Station, the Scabbard & Blade meet at UT (March 31), and the Trinity meet in San Antonio. The team used a circle drill, ripple drill and traditional box exchange routines. They placed 3rd overall at the Tulane meet. Uniforms used the black alpha covers with a special tri-service emblem on the front, CPO shirt with black tie (military tuck), black web belts, white scabbards, no white sling on rifle and no white leggings.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* or the *Longhorn Log* this year. The Color Guard was only documented in the *Log*. Five members were listed for the fall with OC Roy H. Fulcher its CO. Eight members were listed for the spring with MDN 3/C James Walton its CO. Neither Praetorian Guard nor Scabbard & Blade were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. Both were documented in the *Cactus*, though. Praetorian Guard pictured and listed 20 members, four of which were Midshipmen. Scabbard & Blade pictured and listed nine members, four of which were Midshipmen. The S&B Captain was James M. Snyder, a MECEP. S&B hosted a drill meet in the spring on March 31st.

The Publications Officers were MDN 2/C Alyson Headle (fall) and MDN 2/C Don McClenney (spring). LT Dorsey was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about twelve Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 2/C Kyle Westbrook. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about eighteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was typically the Publications Officer.

First “Run Across Texas”

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded men’s and coed teams in football, volleyball, soccer, basketball and softball. Coed teams included Anchorettes. No season records were included, just photographs. Two other sports-related events occurred during the school year and were covered in the *Log*. Starting on the Marine Corps’ 208th birthday, Midshipmen, running in two-mile relays, ran a flag, which had flown on the USS Nimitz (CVN-68), 100 miles from the campus in Austin

to the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas. The occasion was the rededication of the museum. The second event was even more impressive. The idea grew during the Nimitz run that the Unit should do a "Run Across Texas" to draw attention to the Special Olympics. It took place over Spring Break, beginning on March 9th in El Paso, Texas and covered 1,000 miles over eight days and ended in Orange, Texas. Along the way runners were met by Special Olympians and the news media.

Another Sailing Adventure

The following events were documented in the CHRs (Command History Reports) for 1983 and 1984. Beginning on December 19th CDR Baker and four Midshipmen flew to Tampa, Florida to inspect the 41-foot steel hulled sloop "Spirit of St. Louis." During the December 28-31 timeframe they conducted a preliminary overhaul of the ship in preparation for sailing it to NAS Corpus Christi, Texas, during the following months of January and February. On January 3rd CDR Baker, LT Dorsey and two Midshipmen flew, in CDR Baker's aircraft (C-310), to Sarasota Airport, proceeded to Ruskin, Florida, near Tampa Bay, and continued preparation of the "Spirit of St. Louis" for transfer to the U.S. Navy Sailing Foundation. On January 6th, Mrs. Mary Lauth donated the ship to the USN Sailing Foundation. The next day the UT NROTC crew received sub-custody of the "Spirit of St. Louis" in Ruskin. The ship was designated NSY-19. CDR Baker returned to Austin. LT Dorsey was appointed Officer-in-Charge and CAPT John Bonds, DONNS, was the sailing coach.

NSY-19 got underway from Ruskin, Florida and made port, Dauphin Island Customs Station, Mobile Bay on January 10th. CAPT Bonds departed from there and CDR Baker arrived to assist in fixing the engine. On January 12th NSY-19 was underway from Dauphin Island with CDR Baker, Officer-in-Charge. On January 13th they arrived at the City Marina in New Orleans, Louisiana (NOLA). On January 14th the crew returned to Austin, via the Unit van, to prepare for the spring semester.

During the spring semester most all the sailing took place on long weekends and Spring Break. January 27-29 the crew, under LT Dorsey, were flown to NOLA by CDR Baker, got underway and made Naval Inactive Ship facility, Orange, Texas, via the Intercoastal waterway, and returned to Austin. February 17-19 CDR Baker and crew returned to Orange, in the Unit van, got underway and made NAS Corpus Christi, via the Intercoastal waterway. There a special mooring was placed by the Coast Guard inside the Starlane Breakwater Drags, because of 40-knot winds. The crew then made a civilian fishing camp on the Intercoastal waterway.

On March 8th NSY-19 was moved to a boatyard in Aransas Pass by LT Dorsey and NAS crew of two. There a major hull overall was started. From March 10 to 18 CDR Baker and several Midshipmen joined in the NSY-19 overhaul. By March 26th the overhaul was completed. NSY-19 returned to the water and her crew made Corpus "T" pier downtown where a permanent berth was donated by the City Council.

During the months of March and April various training cruises were made in Corpus Christi Bay by LT Dorsey and a crew of Midshipmen. These were long weekends beginning with a trip to Corpus on Friday night. From May 29th to June 4th LT Dorsey and a crew of three Midshipmen conducted a sail and maintenance cruise with MSY-19. During June 8-14 NSY-19 sailed all around Corpus Christi Bay,

with a two-night port visit to Port Aransas. On June 14th NSY-19 was turned over to Corpus Christi representatives of the U.S. Navy Sailing Foundation, whereupon the Unit terminated its sub-custody of and involvement with NSY-19.

The Crow's Nest had 21 men, representing a net gain of two men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Cactus* and *Longhorn Log*. Only 18 were pictured in the *Cactus*, its last appearance in the *Cactus*. None were pictured in the *Log*. The Crow's Nest had a page devoted to it in the 1984 *Longhorn Log* but no group photo as in the previous two years. The closing line in the text on that page says "The Crow's Nest has been around for nearly 35 years and will remain



1984 Crow's Nest. 1984 *Cactus* page 430.

as long as there is a NROTC at UT." A comparison of names showed 14 were old-timers and seven were new arrivals. Its location was still 2300 Rio Grande Street. The comical costume group photo was taken at that location. Its President was Ernest Bernard "Ernie" Welker, Jr. The Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, food buyer, and work manager were not documented. It was assumed that the faculty advisor was still Maj Armstrong.

Major social events for the year included the Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 12) sponsored by NROTC Marines and Marine Option Midshipmen.; a NROTC dining-out (December 3) at the Hilton Hotel in Austin; and another NROTC dining-out (May 4) at the Hilton Hotel in Austin, probably the Spring Formal (Ring Dance). The Anchorettes also sponsored two beer floats down Guadalupe River in New Braunfels, one in the fall and one in the spring, but no dates were documented. Social officers were MDN 1/C Leslie Greene (fall) and MDN 1/C Trip Mills (spring). Assistant social officers were MDN 1/C Aaron Marks (fall) and OC Roy Fulcher (spring).¹⁵ Spring Break occurred the week of March 12-16 but no field trips were known to have been planned during that time.

¹⁵ 1984 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 56.

The Anchoresses numbered 38 this year (17 returnees and 21 new pledges), no net change from the prior year. Only 32 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 18 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were listed in the *Log*. President was Hallieward Adams “Hallie” Cooper, Vice President was Julie Marie Clymer, Treasurer was Mary Elizabeth “Liz” Bose, Secretary was Barbara DeAnn Hamrich, Historian was Julie Cox and Pledge Trainer was not identified. Hallie Cooper had not appeared in the *Cactus* or *Longhorn Log* for 1982 and 1983 so she left and came back or was just undocumented for those two years. The Unit Staff Advisor was LT Harold G. “Glen” Hatch, Jr.

CC: Marine Barracks Bombed/Grenada Invaded

Let’s compare chronometers. October of 1983 was a busy month. The Navy and Air Force awarded Zenith Data Systems a \$27 million contract for computer equipment (*e.g.* the Zenith Z-100 personal computers). The author, as a reservist, was able to buy one of these at a greatly reduced price as a result of this contract. That came in handy about two years later. Also, on the 23rd the Marine Barracks was bombed in Beirut, Lebanon, killing 241 Marines. Two days later, on the 25th, the U.S. invaded Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury), citing the increased threat of Soviet and Cuban influence and noting the development of an international airport following a bloodless coup d’état in Grenada and an alignment with the Soviets and Cuba. Was this the Monroe Doctrine at work? The following February President Reagan ordered the evacuation of all U.S. forces from Lebanon and authorized military commanders to launch air strikes and artillery bombardments against Syrian-controlled positions that fired on Beirut.

On December 22nd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held in the Geology Building Auditorium. Five Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1984 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR the numbers.

On May 18th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held in Bates Recital Hall. Four Ensigns and five 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1984 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided the numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1984

A Tale of Two Buddies

Alan Bean ’54, Apollo 12 Astronaut and fourth man to walk on the moon, went on to participate in NASA’s Skylab project. He retired as a CAPT from the Navy in October of 1975, after a 20-year career. He stayed on at NASA in a civilian capacity until June of 1981.

His buddy, Clay Fulcher ’54, stayed in the Naval Reserve and ultimately retired as a two-star Rear Admiral after 34 years of service. In August of 1984, Admiral Fulcher got to swear in his son, Roy, as a new Ensign at the UT NROTC Unit. Roy would go on to flight school from there. When GE left the

space program Clay went to work for McDonnell Douglas (which became Boeing). He stayed connected with the space program, in one way or another, for many more years.¹⁶

In July and August five more Ensigns, along with Roy Fulcher, and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1984 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. LT Hatch left in July and his spot was filled nearly four weeks later by LT Timothy E. Ritzert. Also in July LT Robert L. Thomas, Jr. reported aboard to relieve LT Dorsey and SKC William R. Wilder reported aboard to relieve SKC Smith, who retired to the Fleet Reserve. In August GySgt Michael E. Gomez reported aboard to relieve GySgt Arispe.

Eighth Nest Location: 909 W. 22nd St. near Pearl St. (1 House – Cap: 17 Men)

According to John Mendel '84 in the summer of 1984 2300 Rio Grande St. was sold by the owner to a developer so Nesters had to move (again). David Sampson '86 added his flavorful two cents.

“When we moved out, the property was immediately leveled and replaced by modern apartments; I’m sure the owner sold it for the price of the land. It must have been a spectacular house in its day, but it had become a run-down #@%&-hole by the time we lived there ... and we didn’t help!



Crow's Nest (#8). 909 W. 22nd Street, from Google Maps in January 2016

The Nest was the party center of the ROTC Unit. It was the place where people came to drink and have fun when we had parties, but you wouldn’t want to live there. There was nothing about the Nest that was conducive to academic achievement. I’d imagine the collective GPA was way below the average of the rest of the Unit.

I wasn’t surprised when the house failed. Its finances had been shaky after they sold the house they were in before 2300 Rio Grande [*i.e.* 2610 Rio Grande Street]. There were no strong leaders in the Nest who could manage its finances and the ROTC Unit leadership seemed to distance themselves from the entire organization. I can’t blame them. The place was a Class-A mishap just waiting for a date-time group!”

¹⁶ Recollections of Ann Fulcher, wife of Clay Fulcher '54

According to Jim Wegmann '86, who moved out before this next move, five to six guys tried to keep the Nest alive and purchased a house on 22nd or 23rd St. near Pearl St. This is the 909 W. 22nd Street address. That lasted about a year then failed.

Academic Year 1985

Statistics:

Number of Students: 143 Midshipmen (down 28), 6 MECEPs, 9 ECPs and 23 NECPs for a Battalion of 181 (down 21)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (up 1), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 26 (20 Navy, 6 Marine) (up 5)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1985 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just five pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1985 *Longhorn Log* provided 70 pages of Unit information for academic year 1985. See the Appendix. The 1985 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

There were still 59 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT Lewis H. Thames, USN. All the staff were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* but not the *Cactus*. Prior to the beginning of the year all two Lieutenants and the Assistant MOI were replaced. At mid-year YNCS Lubasky retired to the Fleet Reserve and GySgt Arispe was transferred. YN1 Henry B. Mitchell reported aboard at the end of April to take YNCS Lubasky's vacated spot.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: A, B and C, with no phonetic wording used, and this year there was an addition, a Drum & Bugle Corps. This organization was started back in 1983 but was now large enough to constitute a separate group in the Battalion, like the Buccaneers once were. Battalion Commanders were Stephen J. Vissers (fall) and Mary F. (Kennedy) Thompson (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company and the D&B Corps separately with no gaps to indicate platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* did not have group photos but did mention B-1 and B-2 taking the drill competition, which would indicate that there were two platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured everyone individually, like a yearbook, but the entire Battalion was pictured alphabetically, with no indication of company or platoon affiliation. Battalion strength was down by about the size of a platoon.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	17
Bravo	13	12
Charlie	12	13
D&B Corps	28	

Buccaneers were not mentioned in the *Cactus* but were covered on one page in the *Longhorn Log*, numbering nine men and one woman (five old-timers and five new arrivals), mostly all NROTC. Buccaneer Commander was Kenneth James “Ken” Leo ’85. Executive Officer was ACdt John Edward McLaughlin.



1985 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1985 *Longhorn Log*, page 11.

Events the Bucs participated in were the A&M meet in College Station (March 23) and the Scabbard & Blade meet at UT (March 30). They place 2nd in Basic drill at A&M and placed 3rd overall with 2nd in Basic drill and 2nd in Inspection at Scabbard & Blade. Uniform was black CPO shirt, tie and trousers, white gloves, white Navy covers and no white leggings or white sling on rifles.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year. The *Longhorn Log* contained photos, names and dates for pistol team members and activities. MDN 2/C Harold Gunji was President. Mario Sanchez was the coach and GySgt Gomez was their sponsor. The team took 5th Place at the UT Match (October 6th). Harold Gunji was ranked 32nd nationally at the sectional meet (January 19th). The team also competed at the Texas A&M meet (January 26th) and the State Championships.

The Color Guard was covered in the *Cactus*, the *Longhorn Log* and the CHR. Eight members were listed for the fall with MDN 1/C Jay Stuart, CO. Seven members were listed for the spring with MDN 1/C Mark Sobotik, CO. The Color Guard participated in a ceremony marking the issue of a commemorative U.S. postage stamp honoring ADM Chester Nimitz, at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas (February 22).

Praetorian Guard was covered in the *Cactus* and *Longhorn Log*. The *Cactus* pictured 16 members with eleven being Midshipmen. The *Log* only pictured and listed six Midshipmen. Officers were not documented.

Scabbard & Blade was also covered in both the *Cactus* and *Log*. The *Cactus* pictured ten members. The *Log* pictured 14 members. Names were only included in the *Log*. Four were new initiates. Officers were not listed.

The Publications Officers were MDN 1/C Robert Price (fall) and MDN 1/C Amy Bean (spring). LT Tim Ritzert was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about sixteen Midshipmen and three Anchorettes. Its Editors were MDN 1/C Alyson Headle and MDN 2/C Susan Martin. No *Naval*

Orange newsletters were available to cover this period but the Editor was typically the Publications Officer.

Another “Run Across Texas”

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded co-ed football, volleyball and soccer teams, as well as men’s football and basketball teams. The co-ed softball team made it to the playoffs. No season records were documented though. A few other sports-related events occurred during the year as well. LT Dorsey, the Unit Sailing Officer, left in September and was replaced by LT Ritzert. The next month, October 14-18, the NROTC Unit set a world record for continuous sailing of a LASER class sailboat (100 hours). During Spring Break, March 9-15, the Unit sponsored and participated in another “Run Across Texas” to draw attention to the Special Olympics. This year was different from the previous year, by going North to South, instead of West to East, and increasing the mileage to 1,100 miles!

The Crow’s Nest had 17 men, representing a net loss of four men from the previous year. All were listed in the *Longhorn Log*. Only eleven were pictured in the in the *Log*. A comparison of names showed four were old-timers and 13 were new arrivals. Its location was now 909 W. 22nd Street. The comical costume group photo was taken



1985 Crow’s Nest (#8). 909 W. 22nd Street. 1985 *Longhorn Log* page 14.

at that location and was the last group photo made of the Nesters. Its President was likely Warren Douglas “Doug” Ready. The Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, food buyer, and work manager were not documented. It was assumed that the faculty advisor was still Maj Armstrong.

MUFFERS First Appearance



1985 MUFFERS. 1985 *Longhorn Log* page 15.

The MUFFERS (Marines United For Fun, Relaxation & Service) had been around since 1979 but had not appeared in the *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* or *Naval Orange*. This year they were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. This year they participated in a 5K fun run in boots and cammies, several field exercises and a pre-OCS weekend to prepare them for the trials ahead.

Major social events for the year included the Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 10) sponsored by NROTC Marines and Marine Reserves; a NROTC dining-out (December 1) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Austin; a Pizza Bash at Pizza Hut (January 25), sponsored by Anchorettes; a Battalion fajita cookout (March 3) at Eastwood Park; and the NROTC dining-out (April 27) at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Austin, this last event probably being the Spring Formal or Ring Dance. At the beginning of the year the Anchorettes did sponsor a dining-out at the San Francisco Steak House but no date was documented. Social officers were MDN 1/C Vince Mahan (fall) and MDN 1/C James Wegmann (spring). Assistant social officers were MDN 2/C Jaime Chunda (fall) and MDN 1/C Kevin Hannes (spring).¹⁷

Spring Break occurred the week of March 11-15 but no field trips were known planned during that time. Between November 26 and 30 there was a Naval Aviation field trip to NAS Pensacola, on which LT Ritzert accompanied 14 Midshipmen.

The Anchorettes numbered 49 this year (13 returnees and 36 new pledges), up eleven from the prior year. Only 34 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 24 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were listed for both semesters in the *Log*. For the fall, President was Susan Elizabeth Sowell, Vice President was Mary Elizabeth “Liz” Bose, Treasurer was Debbie Williams, Secretary was Joanna F. Fields, Pledge Trainer was Julie Cox and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Kathleen Rae “Katie” Lambden. For the spring, President was Julie Cox, Vice President was Kathleen Rae “Katie” Lambden, Treasurer was Mary Whitehead, Secretary was Melissa A. “Missy” Young, Pledge Trainer was Tracy Michele Ginder and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Suzie Schnitzius. Historians were not named. The new Unit Staff Advisor was LT Timothy E. Ritzert.

On December 20th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Six Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. One of the Ensigns was Russell E. Allen, who would go on to achieve the rank of RADM (LH). The 1985 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers.

First Battalion Member to Graduate from St. Edward's University

According to SEU Registrar records, the first mention of the UT ROTC and NROTC programs in the SEU academic bulletin was the 1968 academic school year. The text from the academic bulletin of that year regarding this program was as follows:

“Through the Army, Naval, and Marine Corps Reserve Officers Candidate Training Programs, the University [*i.e.* SEU] is cooperating with the Department of National Defense in the effort to provide a steady supply of well-educated officers for the active and reserve forces of the nation. The ROTC and NROTC units at the University of Texas have opened affiliation with St. Edward's University and have qualified Edsmen [*i.e.* St. Edward's students] enrolled in their programs. Reserve courses and training may not conflict with the times of required courses at St. Edward's, and no academic credit is guaranteed for these off-campus courses. Students in reserve programs are exempt from the Selective Service Act, and enter the respective service

¹⁷ 1985 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 43.

upon graduation as commissioned officers with active/reserve duty for a contracted number of years.”

The first documented account we have of a Battalion member taking advantage of this relationship was Kevin Hannes '85. In Kevin's own works:

“In 1982 I had the opportunity to play golf for SEU on a full scholarship. I worked out a deal with the PNS and XO to convert to a college program and take my ROTC classes at UT and enroll and graduate from SEU. We had our commissioning with the other ROTCs near the LBJ library, cannot remember the hall, but May 17, 1985 is the correct date. I remained in the Unit until I departed to Pensacola in July.”

On May 17th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1985 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1985

During July and August seven Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1985 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. At the end of July CDR Thomas D. Williams reported aboard to relieve CDR Baker as the new Unit XO. Also during this time frame LT Bosco departed and LT Edward P. Grzybowski reported aboard a week later to fill the vacated spot. Ann Stollenwerk must have left during this time, too.

Jim Wegmann had already stated that the eighth Crow's Nest location only lasted a year. David Sampson said he left at the end of the fall semester. With probably only 16 men “maintaining” a Nest through the end of the spring semester of 1985, it is likely that it did not survive into the summer of 1985. Of the 16 men on the list at that time only four would finish the NROTC program. This statistic and the image above appear to bear out David Sampson's characterization of the Nest at this time.

One Year Hiatus for the Crow's Nest

The 1986 *Longhorn Log* makes no mention of the Crow's Nest and no *Naval Orange* newsletters from that period were available so it is assumed that the Crow's Nest spent a little more than a year “in the wilderness” roughly from June of 1985 until just after August 1, 1986, when the new Professor of Naval Science, Col Steve Smith, arrived. We know this because Col Smith said that when he arrived there was no alumni group and no Crow's Nest. Demographics and numbers were changing in the NROTC Unit makeup. There were more married couples in the ECP, NECP and MECEP officer candidate programs. There were more and more women in the Unit since the fall of 1973. The Crow's Nest had traditionally been a men-only facility because NROTC was men-only. Austin was experiencing a development boom, too, which made good properties harder and harder to find. There were just fewer and fewer young single men in the program to make a co-op work, even though the need for affordable room and board was still real for the young Midshipmen who did attend UT.

Academic Year 1986

Statistics:

Number of Students: 166 Midshipmen (up 23), 5 MECEPs, 14 ECPs and 22 NECPs for a Battalion of 207 (up 26)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (down 1)

Number of Commissionees: 45 (34 Navy, 11 Marine) (up 19)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1986 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just four pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1986 *Longhorn Log* provided 64 pages of Unit information for academic year 1986. See the Appendix. The 1986 *Longhorn Log* was dedicated “In Memory” of MDN 3/C Marvin Troy Collette, who passed away during the spring semester.

There were still 59 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT Lewis H. Thames, USN. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. Prior to the beginning of the year CDR Williams relieved CDR Baker as XO and LT Grzybowski took LT Bosco’s position. Also Jane Gallaher was still onboard as Executive Secretary but Ann Stollenwerk departed.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. The Drum & Bugle Corps was not a separate company but did exist, with approximately 20 men and women. Battalion Commanders were Douglas G. Hastings (fall) and Gary M. Gilmartin (spring). OC Hastings was the first NECP to hold that position. The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the three platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* did not have group photos but did mention Bravo-1, Bravo-2 and Charlie-3 in the drill competition, which would indicate that there were three platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured everyone individually, like a yearbook, but the entire Battalion was pictured alphabetically, with no indication of company or platoon affiliation. Battalion strength was up about the size of a platoon.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	18	15	15
Bravo	18	16	19
Charlie	17	16	15

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year. The *Longhorn Log* was a bit more helpful. It pictured six members but no names were provided. Narrative on the page said the team competed at A&M and sponsored the Turkey Shoot in November.

A five-man Color Guard was pictured in the *Cactus* parading the colors in Memorial Stadium (February 4). The *Longhorn Log* pictured and listed eight members for the fall and seven members for the spring. The fall CO was MDN 1/C John Post. The spring CO was OC Lee Miller. The CHR said they

participated in the Texas Independence Day celebration (February 28) and Seton Hospital “Bike for Health” Parade (April 6).

Buccaneers were not mentioned in the *Cactus* but were covered on one page in the *Longhorn Log*, numbering nine men and one woman (three old-timers and seven new arrivals), mostly all NROTC. Buccaneer Commander was Army Cadet, John Edward McLaughlin. Events the Bucs participated in were the Mardi Gras Parade (probably February 8) and the Scabbard & Blade Drill Meet at UT in the spring. Uniform was trop white shirts, white covers, black trousers, black web belt, no white sling on rifles, no white leggings, no parade belt or bayonets.



1986 Tri-Service Buccaneer Drill Team. 1986 *Longhorn Log*, page 15.

Praetorian Guard was not covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The *Cactus* pictured 13 members, eleven of which were NROTC, although the narrative said there were 30 active members. MDN 2/C Thomas Langlois was the CO and MDN 2/C Rick Donohue was the XO.

Scabbard & Blade was not covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The *Cactus* pictured 18 members. Ten were Midshipmen and two were MECEP. The Captain was MDN 1/C Susan Martin. Maj Jack Owen was advisor to the organization. S&B again sponsored the annual spring drill meet at UT.

The Publications Officers were MDN 1/C Dana Payne (fall) and OC Rudolpho Cantu (spring). LT Tim Ritzert was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about fifteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 3/C Israel Martinez. No *Naval Orange* newsletters were available to cover this period but the Editor was typically the Publications Officer.

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded teams in softball, football, basketball, volleyball and soccer. The co-ed football and soccer teams made the playoffs but no season records were documented. Sailing was only documented with a few photographs.

For academic year 1986 there was no Crow’s Nest room and board option available to the Midshipmen and Officer Candidates of the UT NROTC Unit for the first time in roughly 36 years. Major social events for the year included the Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 9) at Hyatt Regency Hotel; a NROTC dining-out (November 23) at the Wyndham Southpark Hotel in Austin; an Anchorette-sponsored beer float (April 5) on the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels; another dining-out (April 27) at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Austin; and the Spring Formal (May 2) dining-out (Ring Dance) in the Texas Union ballroom. Social officers were MDN 1/C Susan Whitten (fall) and MDN

1/C William Carroll (spring). Assistant social officers were: MDN 1/C Kirk Scott (fall) and OC Bobby Pannell (spring). No known field trips were planned during the year.¹⁸

The Anchorettes numbered 51 this year (26 returnees and 25 new pledges), up two from the prior year. Only 24 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 45 women were listed in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were not listed in either publication. The Unit Staff Advisor was still LT Timothy E. Ritzert.

Author Recalled

On November 1, 1985 the author was recalled to temporary active duty in New Orleans. The Operations Officer for the Commander, Naval Reserve Forces, there, Doug Lynch, was the author's previous CO at the San Antonio Naval Reserve Center, and he needed some help. The Naval Reserve had two mainframe computer systems there at the 4400 Dauphine Street complex. One managed all the billets in the Naval Reserve and the other managed all the people in the Naval Reserve. The problem was that these two systems didn't "talk" to each other and the Ops Officer had some critical questions for which he needed answers. He knew I had some special computer skills so he asked me to help him out for a few months. Armed with a Zenith Z-100 computer which had two 8" floppy disk drives and a serial connection to both mainframes, I worked three or four months extracting data from both systems, then comparing the data to answer his questions. It was fun and a real challenge.

Doug was no tyro himself to computer programming. When the San Antonio Naval Reserve Center received its first personal computer, Doug taught himself dBase II, a sophisticated database program, and he figured out how to print out a personalized Plan of the Day (POD) for each and every reservist at the center, about 300 people. The POD included course titles, instructors' names and room numbers. It even had blanks for instructors to fill in dates and signatures so that the POD could be turned in at the end of a drill weekend and serve as documentation for training. He was way ahead of his time. Doug has since passed away but I shall ever remember that time and the opportunity he gave me.

Commodore – Rear Admiral Debate Resolved

On November 8, 1985 the rank of "Commodore" changed to Rear Admiral (LH). "LH" meant lower half. This is virtually the same situation that existed prior to the debate arising in 1982. The only difference now was that a Rear Admiral (LH) wore only one star. This seemed to appease the other services. So both one and two star ranks were addressed as "Rear Admiral." The title of "Commodore" continued to be used as a title, as it had before.

Partial Alumni Reunion Held

On November 23, 1985 a partial reunion was held. It was "partial" because it was mostly local alumni. Several alumni who lived in the Austin area were instrumental in stirring up the idea of an alumni association. Charles W. "Charlie" Simon '63 was one of the prime movers in this effort and served as the fledgling group's first President until the fall of 1988. Others involved in this early effort were John

¹⁸ 1986 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 44.

W. Hitchcock '65, Bruce Byron '70 and George K. Haley '55, who succeeded Charlie as the group's second President. Bruce Byron, the third President of the alumni association, gave a lot of credit to the XO, CDR Williams, and later, CO, Col Steve Smith, for providing the positive climate for standing up an alumni association. For several of those early years, the reunion dinners were actually held at Charlie Simon's house.

On December 20th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Ten Ensigns and four 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. One other 2nd Lieutenant had been commissioned earlier in November. The 1986 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers.

CC: Challenger Disaster/Halley's Comet/Chernobyl Disaster

Let's compare chronometers. On January 28, 1986 the Space Shuttle Challenger took off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, as the tenth flight of the space shuttle. Just barely over one minute after take-off its external fuel tank blew apart, as a result of an O-ring seal failure. The shuttle's disintegration and plunge to Earth ensued. Five NASA astronauts and two payload specialists were killed in the accident.¹⁹ The following March and April saw the return of Halley's comet to our part of the solar system. Because of its path, conditions weren't ideal for seeing it; however, the author's parents saw it clearly at about 5 a.m. on March 21st, while stopped at a roadside park north of Kerrville, Texas. The Challenger was carrying equipment for the observation of Halley's comet but that disaster ended most of the U.S. involvement in observing its passing. The Soviet Union sent two probes and the European Space Agency sent one probe to make close-up observations. Halley's comet has a periodicity of roughly 75 years between its "close encounters" with Earth so its next expected appearance isn't until 2061. Roughly between these two events (Challenger and Halley's comet), on February 25th, Ferdinand Marcos was ousted from power in the Philippines. He was replaced by (female) President Corazon Aquino. On April 26, 1986 the Chernobyl disaster occurred, near Pripjat, Ukraine. Reactor design flaws and operator errors contributed to the nuclear meltdown, which occurred, ironically, during a safety test.

On May 23rd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Fifteen Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1986 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Drum & Bugle Corps Ends

With the end of the spring semester, the Drum & Bugle Corps was no more. It had been in existence for just four years after being absent from 1947 to 1983.

Summer 1986

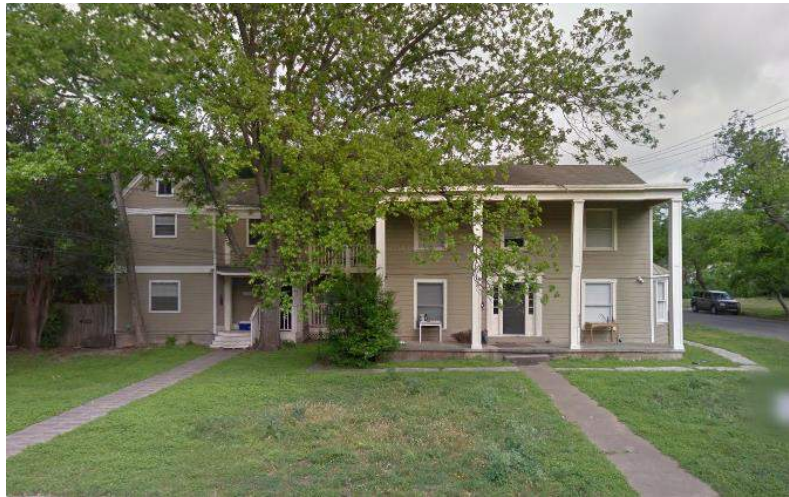
In August nine Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1986 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. At the end of May Maj Owen detached. His relief, Capt Kevin A. Vietti, reported aboard a month and a half later, in July. LT Thomas detached at the end

¹⁹ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle#Space_Shuttle_major_events

of June. His relief, LT Michael E. Kidd, did not arrive until August. LT Thomas would go on to achieve the rank of VADM in the Navy. On June 28th CAPT Thames detached and CDR Williams assumed temporary command of the Unit until August 1st, when Col Stephen K. Smith arrived to assume command.

Ninth Nest Location: 4612 Caswell St. at 47th St. (1 House – Cap: 7 Men)

The 1987 *Longhorn Log* devotes half a page (p 32) to the Crow's Nest. It states "This year, at 4612 Caswell, a small group of Loyal Nesters continued the high ideals forged from almost forty years of tradition." This house is at the southeast corner of Caswell and 47th St., a block east of Red River Street. The house still stood in 2016. It must have come on line sometime between the time Col Smith arrived and assumed command on August 1, 1986 and the beginning of the 1986 fall semester. This Nest must have been viewed as a temporary solution since Col Smith and the new Alumni Association continued to work on other Crow's Nest plans.



Crow's Nest (#9). 4612 Caswell Street, from Google Maps in January 2016

Academic Year 1987

Statistics:

Number of Students: 166 Midshipmen (no change), 4 MECEPs, 22 ECPs and 24 NECPs for a Battalion of 216 (up 9)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 19 (14 Navy, 5 Marine) (down 26)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1987 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just five pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1987 *Longhorn Log* provided 64 pages of Unit information for academic year 1987. See the Appendix. The 1987 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

There were still 59 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, Col Stephen K. Smith, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. Prior to the beginning of the year the MOI and one Lieutenant were replaced. At mid-year QMCS Alfred L. Paxton relieved QMCS Herbert.

Col Smith saw two tours in Vietnam and was wounded in his first tour and awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Most of his combat tours were as part of artillery units. He commanded three different combat units in Vietnam. He was MOI at the Purdue NROTC Unit and, before coming to UT, was Chief, Defense Nuclear Agency, Emergency Actions Division, responsible for all emergency operations relating to worldwide U.S. nuclear weapons incidents.



Stephen Kane "Steve" Smith

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. There was also the addition of a "Drill Platoon" (*a.k.a.* Buccaneers) that appeared to be a part of the Battalion again. Battalion Commanders were Jack Thomas Theis (fall) and Chris A. Scherer (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the three platoons in each company. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each company separately but not in a group photo. Members were pictured individually like class members in a yearbook. Battalion strength was about what it was the previous year.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	15	15
Bravo	17	15	16
Charlie	14	16	19
Drill Platoon	22		

Buccaneers, A Naval ROTC Team Again



1987 NROTC Buccaneer Drill Team. 1987 *Longhorn Log*, page 34.

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* but they were pictured as a "drill platoon," practicing in Marine camouflage uniforms and standing in ranks in whites. The *Longhorn Log* used two pages and also called the Buccaneers a "drill platoon," numbering 19 men and three women (three old-timers and three new arrivals). The Buccaneers, after eight years as a tri-service organization, were once again an all-NROTC team and called the "Drill Platoon" of the Battalion.

Buccaneer Commander was MDN 2/C Eric Gifford. Platoon Sergeant was MDN 2/C Eric Mackey. Guidon was MDN 3/C Eric Jones. Events the Bucs participated in were the Tulane Drill Meet in New Orleans (February 25-28), the Endymion Parade at Mardi Gras, the A&M Drill Meet in College Station (March 28) and the Praetorian Guard Drill Meet at UT (April 25). This was the first year for the Praetorian Guard to sponsor the UT meet, which was previously sponsored by the now defunct Scabbard & Blade. At Tulane the Bucs placed 2nd in Fancy Drill. At A&M they placed 3rd in Basic Drill. At the Praetorian Guard meet they placed 2nd in Inspection and Basic Drill, 1st in Fancy Drill and 2nd overall. Uniform was trop whites, no white slings on rifles and no bayonets.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year. The *Longhorn Log* pictured 15 members, not all NROTC. The team Captain was MDN 3/C James Heilman. The team participated in four matches: two at A&M, one at UT Arlington and one at Oregon State.

The *Cactus* pictured a five-member Color Guard standing with the Battalion staff. The *Longhorn Log* listed seven members for the fall, with its CO being MDN 3/C Nicolas Morales. The *Log* listed six members in the spring, with its CO being MDN 1/C Dan Strub. The Color Guard performed in the fall at the Cedar Park parade (September 20), the Good Neighbor Council annual meeting (September 27), the Mexican-American Memorial, a Navy League dinner (October 24) and the Veterans Day parade (November 11). In the spring they were at the Korean War Veterans Reunion (March 27), Travis County Rodeo and Seton Hospital parades, and the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship game.

New Sponsor for UT's Spring Drill Meet

Praetorian Guard was pictured in the *Cactus* with nine active members. All but two were NROTC and those two appeared to be Army. The *Longhorn Log* pictured nine active members, seven of which were NROTC, just like the *Cactus*. Additionally, the *Log* pictured seven new pledges in the spring. Six were NROTC. The narrative said that PG was the only multi-service organization at UT. The CHR said PG sponsored the spring drill meet at UT (April 25).

Scabbard & Blade Disappears

The last two statements mean that there was no Scabbard & Blade chapter on the UT campus this year. There has been one every year since 1950, 36 years. As such Praetorian Guard took over sponsorship of the annual UT Drill Meet. The cause for the demise of S&B is still being investigated.

The Publications Officers were MDN 1/C Ray Cox (fall) and MDN 1/C Craig Anthony (spring). LT Tim Ritzert was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about thirteen Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and Anchorettes. Its Editor was MDN 2/C Blair England. No *Naval Orange* newsletters were available to cover this period, but the editor was typically the Publications Officer.

Jim Hanen's Softball Teams Debut

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded teams in men's basketball, co-ed basketball, co-ed softball and football. No season records were documented. This was the first year that Jim Hanen's softball teams were mentioned. Jim Hanen was the *de facto* Unit barber, and he decided to

sponsor several Navy teams that would play in the Pleasant Valley Softball League. There were a fall and spring Wednesday night team, and a Thursday night team in the spring. Both NROTC Midshipmen and staff could participate. Photographs of all three teams appeared on page 51 of the 1987 *Longhorn Log*. On September 27th Unit Midshipmen participated in the University of Oklahoma Football Tournament. Perhaps this is what inspired the OU Weekend games.

Navy Beats Army

The CHR mentioned that the “First Annual” Army-Navy (ROTC) football classic occurred on December 6th resulting in a NROTC victory. The first mention of such a game was documented back in the 1982 school year, resulting in a 10-10 tie, so that part of the CHR was in error. There were two changes of CO and XO during those five years so it’s probable that some corporate memory was lost along the way. It is also highly probable that this “classic” game was not played every year, also leading to an omission in the pass down log. The last sports-related event for the year was a joint service field meet held at Camp Mabry on April 4th. Navy won!

The Crow’s Nest had only a “small group of Loyal Nesters, maybe seven, representing a net loss of ten men from two years prior. No names were listed in the *Longhorn Log*. Only seven, at most, were pictured in the *Log*. Its location was now 4612 Caswell Street. There was no group photo taken. Its President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, food buyer, work manager and faculty advisor were not documented.

Major social events for the year included a Joint Service reception (November 6) for the UT President and faculty; the Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 8) at the Wyndham North Hotel; the fall formal dining-out (November 21) at the Wyndham Southpark Hotel; an Anchorette-sponsored dining-out (April 4) at the Embassy Suites Hotel; the Spring Formal or Ring Dance (April 25) also at the Embassy Suites Hotel; and a Marine Mess Night (May 8) at Hyatt Regency Hotel. Social officers were MDN 1/C David Sampson (fall) and MDN 1/C Mark Woodside (spring). Assistant social officers were: MDN 1/C Mark Beyer (fall) and MDN 2/C Pascal Johnson (spring).²⁰

Two orientation field trips were scheduled for the year. During the Christmas break a submarine orientation trip to San Diego was conducted. LT Kidd escorted 22 students there and back. Spring Break occurred the week of March 15-19. An aviation indoctrination trip was scheduled during that time. LT Ritzert escorted 30 students to NAS Pensacola and back.

The Anchorettes numbered 60 this year (25 returnees and 35 new pledges), up nine from the prior year. This was the largest size to which this organization would ever grow. Only 36 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 29 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Officers were listed for both semesters in the *Log*. For the fall, President was Patricia Lei “Patti” Spence, Vice President was Julia Lynn “Julie” Thames, Treasurer was Patricia Shay Huff, Secretary was Sandy Joan Dorman, Historian was Jon Ann Alex, Pledge Trainer was Maela Katherine Kothmann and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Karen Deborah

²⁰ 1987 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 15.

McGuinness. For the spring, President was Julia Lynn “Julie” Thames, Vice President was Sandy Joan Dorman, Treasurer was Yvonne Bernice Fisher, Secretary was Lisa Carey, Historian was Michele Ann “Missy” Peery, Pledge Trainer was Patricia Shay Huff and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Kimberly Renee “Kim” Kirkwood. The Unit Staff Advisor was still LT Timothy E. Ritzert.

On December 19th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Eight Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The 1987 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided the numbers.

CC: USS Stark Incident

Let’s compare chronometers. On May 17, 1987, the USS Stark (FFG-31) was hit by two Exocet missiles fired from an Iraqi Mirage F-1 fighter jet. Stark was patrolling the coast of Saudi Arabia during the Iran-Iraq war, which had been going on for nearly seven years. Iraq claimed it was an accident but from then on, the U.S. took a markedly different view of Iraq, which had previously been treated as “friendly.” Thirty-one sailors were killed and 21 were wounded.

On May 22nd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Five Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. LtGen D’Wayne Gray ’52, Commanding General Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific, was the guest speaker and administered the oath of office. RADM J. Weldon Koenig ’58, CO, Naval Training Center, Orlando, Florida, was also in attendance. The 1987 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Alumni Group Gets Better-Organized

The *Log* page cited above gave no names or numbers of who was staying at the Nest during this academic year. Another alumni reunion of mostly local alums was held in the fall with the Crow’s Nest being one of the topics of interest in their business meeting. It is clear that the need and desire for a Crow’s Nest Co-op for room and board was still on the minds of many Midshipmen. While this small band of “loyal Nesters” tried to hold things together, other plans were afoot. Preceding the May 22, 1987 spring commissioning, the alumni group met at the Texas Exes Center to discuss many topics, one of which was the Crow’s Nest. The group finally elected interim officers and established two advisory boards, one of which was the Crow’s Nest Co-op Advisory Board. Charlie Simons ’63 was picked to be the President of the Alumni Association Advisory Board and George Haley ’56 was picked to be the President of the Crow’s Nest Advisory Board. Three other men served with George on the Crow’s Nest board: Rex Stallings ’56, Paul Jones ’56 and Kirk Cansler ’45. Following the commissioning there was another mini reunion and barbecue at the American Legion Hall.

Summer 1987

Reagan Speech at the Brandenburg Gate

On June 12, 1987 President Reagan made a speech at the iconic Brandenburg Gate of the Berlin Wall and exhorted General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union to "...tear down this Wall!" This started the cascade of events that would eventually lead to just that over the next three years.



President Reagan challenges President Gorbachev to "Tear Down This Wall"

In August one Ensign and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. Six Nuclear ECP officer candidates graduated and went on to OCS to receive their commissions as Ensigns. The 1987 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. In June LT Patrick Moynihan reported aboard as relief for LT Ritzert. In July SKC Michael Hart reported aboard as relief for SKC Wilder. In September LT Jeffery M. Mayger reported aboard as relief for LT Grzybowski.

Alumni Association Started

On August 7, 1987 Charles W. "Charlie" Simons '63 wrote a letter to a group of fellow alumni to set the date for "our first annual alumni reunion" and listing the first officers of the group and its goals. An earlier partial reunion of local alums, interested in getting this organization off the ground, met during the commissioning weekend earlier in May. It had nearly 50 attendees. They had dinner together and did some initial planning. In Charlie's letter he stated that one of the five stated goals of this new organization was to "advise and support the Crow's Nest Cooperative." As part of this stated goal he further stated that

"We are currently filing with the Secretary of State as a non-profit organization, negotiating a lease for a small (nice) apartment complex two blocks from campus that will accommodate twenty-six mids and provide a central dining area and, lastly, have twenty-six mids committed as well as ten more on the waiting list. The longer-term intent in support of this goal is to obtain a suitable facility owned and operated by the Co-op. The current effort as well as the longer term intent provides concrete, visible support to the youngsters and can be highly beneficial to them in terms of cost. We would also establish a Crow's Nest scholarship fund to subsidize those youngsters who have the integrity and capability to be outstanding officers but struggle financially."

Some have said an "old motel" was targeted for turning into a dorm for this new attempt to reinvigorate the Nest. Whether it was actually an old motel or an apartment building, this would be

the tenth home for the Crow's Nest. Col. Smith worked closely and in concert with the efforts of the Alumni Association in making this "New" Crow's Nest a reality.

It is not known how the 4612 Caswell St. location came to an end. Since we do not know who was residing at the Caswell location, it is difficult to know whether or not these Caswell Nesters transitioned to the New Nest when it was "commissioned" in September of 1987.

Tenth Nest Location: 2200 Nueces St. at 22nd St. (2 Buildings – Cap: 26 Men)



Crow's Nest (#10). 2200 Nueces Street, from Google Maps in January 2016

Max Bell ('89) confirmed that this Crow's Nest location was at 22nd Street and Nueces. Max lived there. Other evidence has confirmed this. A search on Google Maps confirmed that this facility was still standing in 2016, minus the swimming pool. This is the "small (nice) apartment complex" which Charlie Simons spoke of in his August 7, 1987 letter. The April 1988 *Naval Orange* newsletter contained a story on page 11 about the Crow's

Nest, by Paul Jones '56, which said the Nest has been moving ahead slow since September 1987. Col Smith was instrumental in this initiative. He designated two from his staff to assist in the staffing of the Nest: Capt Kevin A. Vietti, the MOI and LT Michael E. Kidd '81, submariner on staff, Alpha Company Advisor and a former Nester himself. The majority of the occupants were Marine Option Midshipmen, according to Col Smith. Austin utility rates were causing some budgeting problems but they were meeting the rent month to month. One problem was paying rent during the summer, when most of the students were on summer cruise. In the past, surpluses usually took care of that, but surpluses were disappearing. Col Smith went on to say that Alumni Association members who were "instrumental in finding us a building, setting pricing and legal issues were: Charlie Simons, Glenn Looney, Jack Ritter, George Haley, Rex Stallings and Bruce Byron. As Charlie's letter also stated, there were ten more men on a waiting list beyond the 26 that this facility could accommodate, so the search was still on for a more long-term solution.

Academic Year 1988

Statistics:

Number of Students: 170 Midshipmen (up 4), 5 MECEPs, 24 ECPs and 16 NECPs for a Battalion of 215 (down 1)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 32 (26 Navy, 6 Marine) (up 13)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log*, two issues of the *Naval Orange* (October 1987 and April 1988) and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1988 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just three pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* provided 68 pages of Unit information for academic year 1988. See the Appendix. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* was dedicated “In Memoriam” to Jane Elizabeth Kininmonth Gallaher, Executive Secretary, who passed away May 20, 1988. For nine years Jane was the Executive Secretary to the CO and XO of the Unit. Page three included old photographs and a touching goodbye from her shipmates. On September 8, 1988 the Battalion held a memorial service in tribute to her and her service.

There were still 61 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, Col Stephen K. Smith, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. Prior to the beginning of the year LT Moynihan and SKC Hart relieved their predecessors. At mid-year LT Mayger relieved his.

The Battalion was organized into four companies: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Headquarters. HQ Company appeared to be partially composed of Buccaneers. Battalion Commanders were William M. “Bill” Miller (fall) and Audrey Denise Means (spring). The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with a gap to separate the three platoons in each company, except for HQ Company, which had just two platoons. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each company separately but not in a group photo. Members were pictured individually like class members in a yearbook. HQ Company was not pictured separately in the *Log*. Battalion strength was about what it was the previous year.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	15	15
Bravo	15	14	12
Charlie	14	15	15
Headquarters	14	14	

From the October 1987 issue of *Naval Orange* several accomplishments for the fall semester can be seen. In the Welcome Aboard section by Col Smith, he stated that the Battalion strength was at 230 strong, a gain of 12% from a year ago. The goal was 250. Other significant events mentioned by Col Smith in that same article included the approval of construction, of a sail locker for all small craft and related equipment. It would be located under the rifle range. Four sailboats were reconditioned and repaired. New and more comfortable furniture and a new computer for Battalion staff were also ordered.

Headquarters Company Reorganized

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* but were covered on two pages of the *Longhorn Log*, numbering 18 men and two women (twelve old-timers and eight new arrivals). Buccaneer Commander was MDN 2/C Catherine Mary “Cathy” McAuley, the first female to command the Buccaneers. Assistant Platoon Commander was MDN 2/C Eric Jones. Platoon Sergeant was MDN 3/C Jeffrey Hayden “Jeff” Bice. Guidon was MDN 2/C Calvin L. “Leroy” Hagood, III. The *Naval Orange* (10/87) said that during the previous summer it was decided



1988 Buccaneer Drill Team. 1988 *Longhorn Log*, page 32.

to combine the Color Guard and the Buccaneers (Drill Platoon) and that members would take turns performing for the Bucs and the Color Guard. The story in the *Orange* was by MDN 3/C Tim Crump. This combination company had existed before, back in the early 1970s. The Commander of the Color Guard was MDN 2/C James Taylor. Events the Bucs participated in were the dedication of the Nimitz



1988 Buccaneer Drill Team. 1988 *Longhorn Log*, page 20.

Elementary School in Kerrville, TX (October 18), the first annual squad basic competition, the Tulane Drill Meet and Mardi Gras Endymion parade²¹ in New Orleans (February 11-14), the Praetorian Guard Drill Meet at UT (March 5) and the A&M Drill Meet in College Station (March 26). The Bucs 1st squad won the

squad basic competition within the Battalion. The whole team placed 1st in the Squad Basic competition at Tulane and placed 3rd overall. Lastly they placed 3rd overall at the A&M meet. No known changes were detected in the uniforms the Bucs performed in.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* this year, but the *Longhorn Log* pictured a twelve member pistol team with its Team Captain, MDN 3/C James McCabe. It mentioned that practices were on Thursdays and that the team had participated in the Sectional Competition and the A&M meet on February 27th, where they won 3rd Place overall.

²¹ Recollections of Joey B. Dodgen '90

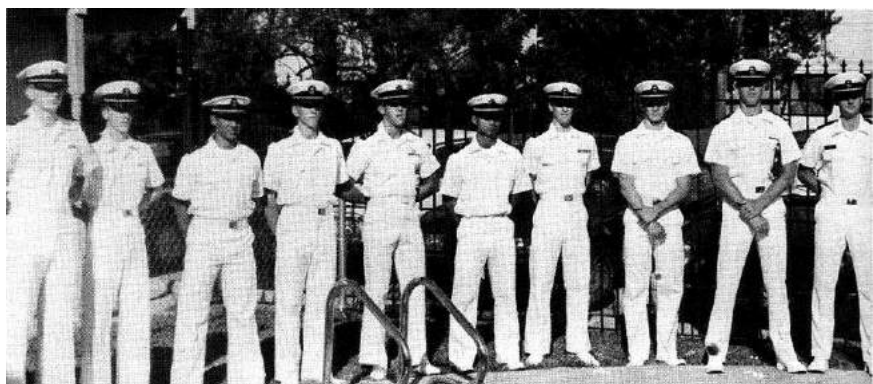
The *Cactus* pictured only one three-man Color Guard and listed their names. The *Longhorn Log* pictured two five-member teams, fall and spring. Color Guard CO was MDN 2/C James Taylor. They participated in the Cedar Park Parade (September 12), the dedication of the ADM Nimitz Elementary School in Kerrville (October 18), the Veterans Day Parade (November 11), the Nimitz Museum Celebration in Fredericksburg (February 20), football games, basketball games and both formals.

Praetorian Guard was covered in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. Both publications pictured nine members, seven of whom were NROTC. The President was MDN 1/C Paul W. Acker. The XO was MDN 1/C William H. "Bill" Adams. The October 1988 *Naval Orange* contained a good story, by MDN 4/C Richard Woolbert, on pledging to the Praetorian Guard. This was the second year Praetorian Guard hosted the annual UT Drill Meet in the spring (March 5), after taking over those responsibilities from Scabbard & Blade.

The Publications Officers were MDN 1/C Jim Robbins (fall) and MDN 1/C David Dulevitz (spring). LT Patrick Moynihan was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about 23 Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and Anchorettes. Its Editors were MDN 2/C Todd Ring and MDN 1/C Eric Wills. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about fifteen Midshipmen. Its Editors were probably MDN 1/C Jim Robbins (fall) and MDN 1/C David Dulevitz (spring).

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded teams in basketball, soccer, volleyball and softball. Men's basketball had a 4-1 record and made it to the semi-finals. The Unit probably fielded a football team, too, because they played in the "Second Annual" Army-Navy football game and beat Army. There was the first year for a basketball shoot-out held at UT. The Army and Navy ROTCs sponsored the event and got nine teams, seven from other schools, to participate. Jim's softball team finished the spring season in 2nd Place with a 7-2 record. The Crow's Nest fielded a softball team and had a winning season. A "Bowl for Kids" tournament was held on March 5th as a fund-raiser for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Austin. Six five-man teams from staff, each company and Anchorettes all sponsored a team. They raised \$1,500 in pledges. On April 2nd another joint service meet was held between the ROTC units at UT. Navy won again!

At the beginning of the fall semester (September 1987) a "re-christening" of sorts was held by members of the NROTC at the "New Nest." Midshipmen were decked out in their tropical whites and Col Smith even used a bottle of champagne to do the honors. A flagstaff and an anchor were added to the compound as part of the



1988 Crow's Nest (#10). 2200 Nueces Street. 1988 *Longhorn Log* page 26.

décor. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* devoted a whole page to the new Nest. As previously reported this location held 26 men but there was a waiting list of ten more. From the *Log* page only about six names can be gleaned from the narrative and captions. Three more names have been identified by interviews. From the nine names identified so far, six were old-timers and three were new arrivals. At least 17 other residents have yet to be identified. It's quite a dramatic change from the last group photo to this one. We're certain that not only did Col Smith want to restore the Crow's Nest tradition to the NROTC Unit, but he wanted to change its image as well, to make it more attractive. Col Smith said that the majority of residents were Marine options and MECEPs.

Major social events for the year included a ROTC Presidential Reception (October 22) in honor of UT President William Cunningham; the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 24) at the Capital Marriott Hotel in Austin; a Fall Formal dining-out (November 13), sponsored by Anchorettes, held at Stouffer Hotel; a Senior Mess Night (December 4) at the Sheraton Crest Hotel in Austin; a spring dining-out, sponsored by Anchorettes, at the penthouse at the Radisson Hotel; the Spring Formal or Ring Dance (April 30) at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin; a Marine Mess Night (May 7) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Austin; and the Austin Military Charity Ball (May 21) at the Stouffer Hotel in Austin. The Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball was exclusively for NROTC members this year. Social officers were MDN 1/C Randy Beeman (fall) and MDN 1/C David Perrizo (spring). Assistant social officers were MDN 1/C Roger Downing (fall) and MDN 1/C Alan Frey (spring).²²

Three field trips were planned for the year. During the Christmas break a Submarine orientation trip was made. LT Kidd accompanied 22 students (six OCs and 16 MDN) to the Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine Base in Bangor, Washington, near Seattle. The participants got a rare onboard tour of a "boomer" during this trip. Also during the same school break, the USS San Jacinto (CG-56) was being commissioned near the San Jacinto Battleground on the ship channel in Houston, Texas. A contingent of Battalion members made the trip to witness this time-honored tradition. Vice President George H. W. Bush was in attendance, as was the author and a contingent of Naval reservists from the Houston Reserve Center. Spring Break occurred the week of April 25-28. During that time LT Moynihan accompanied a contingent of 15 Midshipmen to NAS Pensacola for an aviation orientation trip. Participants also got to run the "O" course while they were there.

The Anchorettes numbered 50 this year (28 returnees and 22 new pledges), down ten from the prior year. Only 28 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Only 31 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Only 30 women were pictured in the October 1987 issue of the *Naval Orange*. Officers were listed for both semesters in the *Log*. For the fall, President was Kimberly Renee "Kim" Kirkwood, Vice President was Jon Ann Alex, Treasurer was Carrie Esparza, Secretary was Michele Ann "Missy" Peery, Historian was Britton Elizabeth Jackson, Pledge Trainer was Shannon J. Boone and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Danelle Annette Draehn. For the spring, President was Carrie Esparza, Vice President was Danelle Annette Draehn, Treasurer was Mikel Candace Pullium, Secretary was Shari Jill Osofsky, Historian was Denise Smith, Pledge Trainer was Jennifer Marie Reilly and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Anne Yeaman.

²² 1988 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 39.

The new Unit Staff Advisor was LT Patrick Joseph Moynihan. The October 1987 issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter mentioned the “Meet the Mids” function of the Anchorettes on Wednesday, September 23, 1987, at RAS, followed by a party at the Crow’s Nest. This function would have occurred at the new 2200 Nueces Street location. Anchorettes also hosted a Lil’ Brother Picnic on November 8th for all 4/C Midshipmen.

CC: Escorting Kuwaiti Tankers/Chunnel Begins

Let’s compare chronometers. After the USS Stark incident things started to heat up in the Persian Gulf. U.S. ships had been fired upon and struck by mines while war was waging between Iran and Iraq. In September, Operation Earnest Will led to the U.S. reflagging and escorting of Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Gulf. It was the largest naval convoy operation since World War II. The author remembers this well because he was serving in a Naval Control of Shipping unit in Houston at the time. We marveled at how clumsy the Navy was in hastily implementing convoy operations. Most of the expertise for convoy operations was in the Naval Reserve, and active duty people were not taking full advantage of that. These operations abated in August of 1988 when a cease-fire was declared between Iran and Iraq. Also in 1988 tunneling began on the “Chunnel” between France and Great Britain.

First Annual Recurring Alumni Reunion

On Saturday, October 31, 1987 the first annual (recurring) reunion of the UT NROTC Alumni Association was held in conjunction with the Texas-Texas Tech game. Early on it was thought that timing the reunion for a home game weekend would draw more alumni back to the campus. The day started with a business meeting at RAS. A board of directors was set up for the association and a Crow’s Nest board of directors was chosen as well (see below). The business meeting was followed by a tailgate party, also at RAS, before the football game. Game time was set for 1 p.m. Texas beat Texas Tech 41-27 (good omen). That evening Charlie Simons and his wife, Patti, hosted an evening outdoor barbecue and get-together at their home. Charlie had been the President of the fledgling association since the fall of 1985. The weather combined with a beautiful setting to get things started. NROTC staff and Midshipmen were in attendance as well. Some Midshipmen (of age, of course) provided bar-tending services for the group. Other middies set up tables and chairs. All those in the work details were provided with a free barbecue dinner. This was considered the first annual reunion because the outreach for attendance went well beyond Austin.

Col Smith (CO) and CDR Williams (XO) were extremely helpful and enthusiastic about getting alumni back to the campus for this first reunion and worked with alumni association officers to make it a success and lay the groundwork for future reunions. Both Charlie Simons ’63, the first alumni association president, and Col Smith planned on making the *Naval Orange* a vehicle for semi-annual updates to the alumni. Charlie spelled out in the April 1988 issue of the *Naval Orange* why an alumni association was needed.

“The Unit needs quality Midshipmen to train and we can assist in recruitment. Midshipmen need to foster traditions, role models, scholarship assistance and personal contact support. The alumni can provide most, if not all of these.”

At the first two gatherings, money was raised and services from alumni were pledged to help Midshipmen during their time at UT. The following were the men chosen at that first reunion to head up the two boards:

The First UT NROTC Foundation Board of Directors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>City</u>
Charles Simons '63	President	Austin
Will McCann '61	Sec/Treasurer	Austin
Glenn Looney '61		Austin
Bruce Byron '70		Austin
C. A. Schutze '43		Austin
John Wildenthal '44		Houston
John Hitchcock '65		Austin
Jack Ritter '55		Austin

The first financial report the foundation made, after meeting all reunion expenses, totaled \$2,657, a humble beginning. Navy alumni outnumber Marine alumni by approximately five to one. This meant that Marines would have to work five times as hard to match Navy contributions. Col Smith was overheard saying “Fortunately this is not difficult.”

Navy Beats Army (Again)

This year was the second annual Army-Navy flag football game. Navy won, naturally. On December 18th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Eight Ensigns were commissioned. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided the numbers.

Naval Orange Features Alumni News

With the April 1988 issue of the *Naval Orange*, alumni were first mentioned and featured. This was the first *Naval Orange* newsletter to be mailed out to UT NROTC alumni. The alumni organization continued to use the Unit newsletter for the next three years to get the word out on what it was doing and plans for the next reunion. Stories and photos from the previous reunion were included. Three articles highlighted the new Alumni Association. Col Smith’s “Colonel’s Corner” article included the first two volunteers (and their addresses) who offered their services to collect and compile alumni news. They were Howard Smith '74 and yours truly.

Charlie Simons wrote a “President’s Corner” article that thanked John Engstrom '66 for his earlier efforts to get the alumni group organized. John’s efforts yielded a good database of alumni contact information. Charlie also mentioned the alumni presence at the spring 1987 commissioning ceremony and covered the highlights of that mini



April 1988 *Naval Orange* Newsletter

reunion and the first “annual” alumni reunion (*i.e.* we hoped there would be more) that was held back in October.

Paul Jones '56 wrote an article on the status of the Crow's Nest. He said that he had had the privilege of being invited to dinner at the Nest recently and spoke to its officers afterward about their concerns. He thought that the efforts of the alumni to assist should be characterized as “all ahead slow.” He did close with saying that he was pleased with the progress they were making since September of 1987 but they have some serious issues to confront. Outrageous City of Austin utility rates were one of those issues.

In April 1988 Judge and Mrs. John Wildenthal '44 hosted a cocktail party and dinner in their home for the Professor of Naval Science and alumni in the Houston area. I attended the affair and it was quite nice. It was the beginning of an effort to try and encourage regional alumni groups to organize and plan local events.²³ Also in April President Bush sent 1,000 troops to safeguard the Panama Canal. The Panamanian leader, General Manuel Noriega, was resisting U.S. pressure for him to resign.

On May 22nd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns and four 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1988

In August eleven Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1988 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. The CHR was counting ECPs and NECPs in the totals for commissioned officers. Although this bears further investigation, it is assumed from this point on that ECP Officer Candidates were commissioned at UT upon graduation and did not have to attend OCS. This assumption, though, cannot be made for NECP Officer Candidates because there were instances all the way into 1999 where NECP students graduated from UT then went to OCS to receive their commissions.

In the November 1988 *Naval Orange* newsletter, Charlie Simons '63, President of the Alumni Association since the fall of 1986, wrote a short article that said that in the previous summer of 1988, the Nest Board decided not to renew the lease on the current facility they had been in since September 1987 [*i.e.* 2200 Nueces St.]. He said that temporary quarters were found in an apartment complex six blocks north of campus. Charlie Simons' earlier letter had said that the alumni considered the apartment complex conversion to only be an interim solution. He said it only held 26 Midshipmen and they had a waiting list for ten more. So while the then-remaining Nesters were housed in temporary quarters, the Alumni Association's Crow's Nest Committee was continuing to search for more long-term solutions.

²³ *Naval Orange*, November 1988, p. 12, The President's Corner by Charlie Simons '63

11th Nest Location: “Apartment Complex Six Blocks North of Campus”

The location of this 11th Crow’s Nest has not yet been identified. The only description we have is rather vague from Charlie Simons’ description above.

Academic Year 1989

Statistics:

Number of Students: 148 Midshipmen (down 22), 5 MECEPs, 28 ECPs and 11 NECPs for a Battalion of 192 (down 23)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 35 (31 Navy, 4 Marine) (up 3)

The *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log*, two issues of the *Naval Orange* (November 1988 and March 1989) and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1989 *Cactus* covered the NROTC Unit on just three pages though there were other pages related to the NROTC as well. The 1989 *Longhorn Log* provided 63 pages of Unit information for academic year 1989. See the Appendix. The 1989 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

There were still 67 U.S. universities with NROTC units.²⁴ At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, Col Stephen K. Smith, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. GySgt Ronald Ostoj reported aboard in early October to relieve GySgt Gomez, who detached later that same month. At mid-year LT Edward L. Takesuye reported aboard ostensibly as LT Kidd’s relief, but LT Kidd did not rotate out until the following December.

The Battalion was organized into four companies: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Headquarters. HQ Company appeared to be partially composed of Buccaneers. Battalion Commanders were Trent M. Guerrero (fall) and Paul D. von Bosch (spring). Paul von Bosch was the first ECP to hold the position. The *Cactus* pictured each company separately with no gaps to denote separate platoons in each company. Only HQ Company was pictured with a gap denoting two platoons and, again, HQ Company appeared to be partially composed of Buccaneers. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each company separately but not in a group photo. Members were pictured individually like class members in a yearbook. HQ Company was not pictured separately in the *Log*. Battalion strength was down about the size of a platoon. The following table assumes, because of the total number, that there were three platoons in each of the lettered companies and that the numbers were evenly distributed.

²⁴ 1989 *Cactus* yearbook.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	18	18	17
Bravo	19	19	19
Charlie	19	19	18
Headquarters	15	21	

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* but were covered on half a page of the *Longhorn Log*. No group photos were available and only two names were mentioned in the *Log*. Starting with the picture in the *Cactus* of Headquarters Company and making some assumptions one can cobble together an educated guess as to the members of the team. If one assumes that all the freshmen in HQ Company



1989 HQ Company (with Buccaneers mixed in). 1989 *Cactus*, page 210.

were probably Buccaneers (and the two names mentioned in the *Log* were freshmen in HQ Company), and one assumes that much of the leadership remained in place, one comes up with a team numbering 22 (seven old-timers and 15 new arrivals). Buccaneer Commander was probably still MDN 1/C Catherine Mary “Cathy” McAuley. Platoon Sargeant was probably still MDN 2/C Jeffrey Hayden “Jeff” Bice. Guidon was probably MDN 3/C Darren Keith Woods. Events the Bucs participated in were the Tulane Drill Meet and Mardi Gras Endymion parade in New Orleans (February 2-4) and the A&M Drill Meet in College Station (April 1). Joey Dodgen ’90 said that the Bucs stayed at the National Guard barracks while they were in New Orleans. This was confirmed by James Reid ’88, who was already a commissioned Ensign, and who “stashed” at the NROTC Unit until the spring of 1989. He got to “escort” the drill team to New Orleans and back. No known changes were detected in the uniforms in which the Bucs performed.

There was no mention of a rifle or pistol team in the *Cactus* or *Longhorn Log* this year. The pistol team was only mentioned in the CHR as having participated in the Battalion pistol competition (April 4) and the pistol team competition at UT Arlington (April 15).

The Color Guard was not shown in the *Cactus*. The *Longhorn Log* pictured a five member Color Guard but listed no names. The CHR recorded that they participated in a Nimitz Museum ceremony in Fredericksburg (September 24) and the Veterans Day Parade (November 11).

Praetorian Guard was pictured in both the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. The *Cactus* pictured ten members, eight of which were NROTC. The *Log* only pictured the eight Midshipmen. Names were

listed in each but no officers documented. It mentioned in the *Log* that PG hosted a parachute jump near Pflugerville on April 2nd.

The Publications Officers were MDN 1/C Dan Starling (fall) and MDN 1/C Cathy McAuley (spring). LT Patrick Moynihan was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about fifteen Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and Anchorettes. Its Editor was OC Everett Rhoades. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about fifteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was the Publications Officer.

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log* and some issues of the *Naval Orange*. The Unit fielded two teams in football, men's and co-ed. Jim Hanen's Haircuts sponsored another softball team. The Friday night team (Jim's II) took home the championship trophy. Mike Martin '88 was the MVP. The CHR documented other sports-related events for the year. On October 22nd the Second Annual UT NROTC Area VIII Sailing Regatta was held on Lake Travis. It looked like LT Takesuye was the new Sailing Officer. On December 3rd another Army-Navy flag football game was held for the third year in a row. On April 1st a joint field meet was held and Navy won again.

Major social events for the year included an Anchorette-sponsored dining-out in the fall; the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 29) at the Stouffer Hotel in the Arboretum (Austin); a Joint Service ROTC UT President's Reception (November 28); a Senior Mess Night (December 3) at the Crest Hotel in Austin with cocktails at the "Bauer House" hosted by Chancellor Hans Mark; and the Spring Formal or Ring Dance (April 28) at the Four Seasons Hotel. At the last event there were two farewell cakes, for Col Smith (CO) and CDR Williams (XO), both of whom were retiring at the end of the academic year. Social officers were OC Jim Jupena (fall) and MDN 1/C Daniel Carter (spring). Assistant social officers were OC Mark Johnson (fall) and MDN 1/C James Taylor (spring).²⁵

Two orientation field trips were planned during the year. During the Christmas break an aviation indoctrination trip was made to NAS Corpus Christi. LT Moynihan escorted 18 Midshipmen there and back. Spring Break occurred the week of March 12-16, during which time a Marine orientation field trip to MCCDC Quantico, Virginia was scheduled. Eighteen Midshipmen and four PLCs were escorted there and back by the MOI, Maj Vietti.

The Anchorettes numbered 35 this year (18 returnees and 17 new pledges), down 15 from the prior year. Only 32 were pictured in the *Cactus*. Fifty-two women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*, probably due to some overlap with the previous year. The November 1987 issue of the *Naval Orange* carried a good story about the life of an Anchorette and the rush experience. Officers were listed for both semesters in the *Log*. For the fall, President was Danelle Annette Draehn, Vice President was Shari Jill Osofsky, Treasurer was Mary El-Mahmoudi, Secretary was Kimberly Ann "Kim" Schneider, Historian was Bonnie Lynn Arp, Pledge Trainer was Kristen Barneby and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Jennifer Tucker. For the spring, President was Kristen Barneby, Vice President was Kimberly Ann "Kim" Schneider, Treasurer was Valerie Card, Secretary was Debbi Hinds, Historian was Tracy Marie

²⁵ 1989 *Longhorn Log*. Battalion Assignments, Page 26.

Vonderharr, the new Standards officer was Andrea Marie “Andi” Tamas, Pledge Trainer was Bonnie Lynn Arp and Assistant Pledge Trainer was Cindy Marie Smith. The Unit Staff Advisor was still LT Patrick Joseph Moynihan.

Second Annual Alumni Reunion

The Alumni Association had its second annual reunion on October 15th. It was the weekend of the Arkansas game. Texas lost to Arkansas 27-24 but Arkansas was ranked #6 and Texas was not even ranked. The new President of the Alumni Association was George K. Haley '55. A business meeting was held in the morning at RAS, followed by a tailgate lunch for all alumni. In the evening Charlie and Patti Simons hosted another barbecue and get-together at their home that evening with alumni, Unit staff and a few Midshipmen in attendance. In the November 1988 issue of *Naval Orange*, Charlie Simons wrote about it and other matters in his second installment of “President’s Corner.” He included a new list of the board of directors (17) and a financial report. New directors were added to the Alumni Association board: George Haley, Paul Jones, Kirk Cansler, Rex Stallings, Dan Krausse, Tomas Coronado, James Adkins, Weldon Koenig and Ray Adams. Some were from the old Crow’s Nest board. Last year’s members remained on the board. This was the first year that photographs of alumni and the reunion appeared in the *Longhorn Log* yearbook (p 48).



Midshipmen and Alumni mingle at the Reunion

Alumni Foundation Creates First Scholarship (\$500)

At the morning business meeting \$1,324 was collected for the Midshipmen/Crow’s Nest funds. Bylaws changes increased the number of directors to 15, not less than ten of which had to be residents of Hays, Travis or Williamson counties of Texas. An annual \$500 scholarship for a deserving Midshipman was established and Col Smith was given the first \$500 check to make the award. The Crow’s Nest board was replaced with a Crow’s Nest committee. John Hitchcock and his wife, Sandy, were especially thanked for computerizing the alumni roster for easier handling.

On December 23rd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns were commissioned. The 1989 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided the numbers.

MUFFERS Become Leathernecks

This year the MUFFERS celebrated their tenth anniversary and underwent a more serious name change to Leathernecks. Over the past ten years the group had more than doubled in size to 35 members. It

acquired training equipment, a lounge, a library donated by Jim Hanen (the Unit barber) and had evolved into a very professional and focused organization, whose cumulative GPA average was 2.85.²⁶

Naval Orange, March 1989 (Vol. 28, No. 2) provided some more Unit information. February 12th saw several UT Midshipmen, dressed in choker whites and gloves, providing a sword line and escorts for contestants at the Miss Austin Pageant. On February 28th the Unit held an Open House for UT students and high school students



1989 Leathernecks. 1989 *Longhorn Log*, page 42.

to get a glimpse at what the UT NROTC does. The Marines also held a Field Training Exercise at Texas A&M.

On May 19th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Sixteen Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1989 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix. Earlier in this same month, in response to General Noriega's disregard of the results of the Panamanian election, President Bush ordered a brigade-sized force of approximately 1,900 troops to augment the estimated 11,000 U.S. forces already in the area. Tensions were heating up in Panama.

Summer 1989

At the end of May LT Thomas K. Shannon reported aboard as LT Mayger's relief. In June Capt William O. Dwiggin reported aboard as Maj Vietti's relief. Also in June CDR James R. Haley reported aboard as the prospective XO and relieved CDR Williams on June 30th. CDR Williams retired shortly after that. In July Col Thomas D. Walters reported aboard as the prospective CO. This was the only time a Marine Colonel relieved another Marine Colonel as CO of the Unit. Col Thomas D. Walters relieved Col Smith as Professor of Naval Science on July 28th. When Col Smith retired on September 30, 1989 he said, "The Nest was still functioning, but the occupancy had Midshipmen as well as non-NROTC students as residents." The location was not known. At the end of August eight Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1989 *Longhorn Log* provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

²⁶ 1989 *Longhorn Log*, pp 42-43.

Academic Year 1990

Statistics:

Number of Students: 103 Midshipmen (down 45), 4 MECEPs, 10 ECPs and 9 NECPs for a Battalion of 126 (down 66)

Number of Staff: 7 Officers (up 1), 5 Enlisted (up 1), 3 Civilian (up 1)

Number of Commissionees: 54 (49 Navy, 5 Marine) (up 19)

Navy ROTC did not appear in the 1990 *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1990. No *Naval Orange* newsletters were found for this time period either. The CHR was the primary source of Unit information about this academic year, although the 1991 *Longhorn Log* did provide some information about it.

There were still 67 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, Col Thomas D. Walters, USMC. Prior to the beginning of the year the CO, XO, MOI and one Lieutenant slot all changed hands. By the end of the fall semester another LT position changed hands, too. At mid-year Mrs. Gretchen L. Kays reported aboard as Senior Office Assistant and Mrs. Sheryl Winzig departed. Mr. Jesse Hearn reported aboard as Military Personnel Clerk at mid-year, too. Mrs. Sandra L. Kenny reported aboard in early March as Office Assistant.

Col Walters was a native Texan, born in Corpus Christi, Texas. He attended Texas A&I College there and received his commission through the PLC program. He earned his wings and became a helicopter pilot. He served in various command, executive and staff billets stateside and overseas prior to coming to UT.



Thomas Douglas "Tom" Walters

The Battalion was organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Each company was further divided into three platoons.²⁷ No HQ Company was mentioned. Battalion Commanders were Dan A. Starling (fall) and Robert F. Schulz (spring). Total Battalion strength was down by about the size of a company. The following table assumes an even distribution, less Battalion staff.

²⁷ Recollections of John W. Broomes '91

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	13	13	13
Bravo	13	13	13
Charlie	13	13	13

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* for this year. The Command History Report (CHR) documented that the Buccaneers participated in the Veterans Day parade in Austin (November 11) and the Battle of Flowers Parade in San Antonio (April 27). No *Naval Orange* newsletters have been recovered from this timeframe.

The CHR documented that the Pistol Team competed at A&M (November 11) and again at A&M (February 24) where they placed second. Nothing documented the Color Guard or Praetorian Guard for this academic year.

The Publications Officer was probably MDN 1/C Tim Crump. LT Patrick Moynihan was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about fourteen Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and Anchorettes. Its Editor was MDN 1/C Chris Kelly. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about fourteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was the Publications Officer.

First “Ole Miss” Softball Tournament & IM Track Champions



1989/90 Track & Field Champions: NAVY! Team members were (front row, left to right) James Brown, Chris Young, James Fabby, Andre Gregg; (back row, left to right) Baron Jolie, Jack Strickland, Capt William Dwiggs (coach), Scott Greenfield, Barry Harrison, Jeff Phillips; (not pictured) James Mocio, Mark Lwin, Eugene Esparza, Ronald Rios, Mark Runstrom, Will Trautman, Doug Gardner, and Col Walters. UT RecSports Photo provided by Launtz Rodgers '94.

Intramural sports were not covered in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log* was not published for this year. The CHR and *Naval Orange* were a little more helpful, stating that the Unit held two Sailing Regattas, on October 7th and 28th. The annual Army-Navy football game was held on December 2nd and Navy won. This year it looked like Jim’s team(s) participated in the “Ole Miss” softball tournament in Oxford,

Mississippi on April 6th for the first time. The NROTC Battalion participated in UT Intramural Track Meet on April 16th and won 1st Place! IM Navy football lost in semi-finals. Jim's I softball team finished 4-4, first time in three years due mainly to graduation and summer cruises since the season ended in June.

1990 was the 50th anniversary of the NROTC Unit on the UT campus. The year, though, would be bittersweet for the Midshipmen of the Crow's Nest and for the alumni who were trying to keep it alive. No one has yet come forward to tell the story of the Crow's Nest for this academic year. It's apparent from the last sighting in the spring of 1991 that there were still those who wanted to keep the idea of a Crow's Nest alive. This year must have been one of transition from an organized Co-op of Midshipmen to a loose association of Midshipmen and Officer Candidates who still enjoyed the camaraderie and esprit de corps that the group fostered. From Col Smith's remarks there were other non-NROTC residents included, probably to help share in the expenses.

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 21); Senior Mess Night (December 2) with BGen Gary E. Brown, HQMC Director of Personnel Procurement Division, as guest speaker; the Spring Formal or Ring Dance (March 24); a spring dining-out (April 7) sponsored by the Anchorettes; an Ombudsman picnic and dependents Easter Egg Hunt (April 15); and the Joint Service Mess Night, with Chancellor Dr. Hans Mark and UT President William H. Cunningham in attendance.

Two field trips were planned during this year. On January 8th, one escort officer and three Midshipmen made a nuclear power orientation trip to NSB, San Diego, California. On February 5th, one escort officer and 18 Midshipmen made an aviation orientation trip to NAS Corpus Christi.

The Anchorettes numbered 26 this year (15 returnees and eleven new pledges), down nine from the prior year. Only 24 were pictured in the *Cactus*. There was no *Longhorn Log* or *Naval Orange* to cover this period, however a photograph in the 1991 *Longhorn Log* pictured 26 women and was labeled 1990 Anchorettes. The *Cactus* narrative mentioned 50 members but the list of names only numbered 26. Officers were not listed. Kimberly Ann "Kim" Schneider was Vice President at the end of the previous year so she probably started this year as President. The Unit Staff Advisor was still LT Patrick Joseph Moynihan.

New Nursing Officer Program at UT

From remarks made in the 1989 CHR, it is believed that a new Nursing program began this year at UT. It was part of the NROTC Program in cooperation with the UT School of Nursing. Later ECP students were allowed to participate and were designated MECF, where the "M" was for Medical. Another first occurred on October 1, 1989, when Army General Colin Powell was picked by President Bush to be Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff. He was the first black officer to hold that position.

Scholarship Fund Started by Alumni Association

On November 4, 1989 the 3rd Annual Alumni Reunion was held. George Haley '55 was still President because it was intended to be a two-year term. The morning began with another business meeting of the board before the general alumni group meeting, all at RAS. That was followed by a tailgate party at RAS. The game with Texas Tech began at 1pm. In the evening Charlie and Patti Simon's again hosted a barbecue and get-together at their home. At this reunion alumni were encouraged to contribute to a new scholarship fund which began then with \$100.

The Berlin Wall Comes Down

On November 9th gates in the Berlin Wall were opened allowing East Germans to leave and later that evening the demolition of the wall began and lasted for several days. The chain of events leading to this started back in June 1989 when the Hungarian government dismantled the electrified fence along its border with Austria starting a flood of people escaping to the West.

CC: Philippine Coup Attempt/U.S. Invades Panama

Let's compare chronometers. On December 2, 1989, President Bush reported that on December 1st U.S. fighter planes from Clark Air Base in the Philippines had assisted the Aquino government to repel a coup attempt. In addition, 100 marines were sent from the U.S. Navy base at Subic Bay to protect the U.S. Embassy in Manila. On December 20th the U.S. invaded Panama to capture its dictator, Manuel Noriega, and allow President-elect Guillermo Endara to take office. Noriega was holding on to power and resisting the will of the people after the election. He also was making money from both sides in the war on drug trafficking. At one time he had been useful to our CIA and was paid handsomely by them for his services but by this time he was courting favor with the Soviet Union and Cuba and that could not be tolerated.

On December 22nd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Fifteen Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. Earlier in September another 2nd Lieutenant was commissioned. The 1991 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers.

CC: Mandela Released from Prison/Gorbachev Elected

Let's compare chronometers again. In February 1990, after nearly thirty years of imprisonment for opposing apartheid and white-minority rule in South Africa, African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela was released from prison. He had been in prison for 27 years and was released by President F. W. de Klerk. On March 15, 1990 Mikhail Gorbachev was elected first Executive President of the Soviet Union. He was the first Soviet leader to be born after the revolution.

On May 18th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Twenty Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1991 *Longhorn Log* provided names and the CHR provided numbers. Earlier in February, one Ensign and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. Another source was used to identify the commissionees, starting with the May 18th class. It was compiled by ENS Saul Montes and ENS Victor D. Oliver, who were "stashed" at the Unit after their graduation in December of 1997. Both were ECP officer candidates. They were assisted by YNC(AW) Tim Purcell (Admin

Officer), Marion J. Waterous (Office Assistant) and Gretchen L. Kays (Senior Office Assistant). For brevity this list will be referred to as the M-O List. See the Appendix.

Summer 1990

In May Mrs. Sandra Kenny departed. In June LT David P. Stuart reported aboard. Also Ms. Stephanie Vallejo reported aboard to take the vacated Office Assistant position. Lastly in June QMCS Paxton retired and transferred to the Fleet Reserve. He was replaced by QMC Gregory W. Jackson, Sr. In July and August eight Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The M-O List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. In August YNC McRae was promoted to Senior Chief.

Chapter 8 – From One Gulf War to Another (1991-2008)

Just before the fall semester began, on August 2, 1990, Iraq invaded and occupied Kuwait. The author was put on alert for probable recall to active duty. The United States built up its defenses in the area to defend Saudi Arabia and ultimately drove Iraq out of Kuwait. All during the fall semester tensions were rising as to what the United States would do and where they would strike first.

This was a strange but busy decade for the author. It started with my driving to work everyday with my sea bag packed and in the trunk of my car, because I was on standby. When the bubble went up I would have to be ready to drive down to Corpus Christi for mobilization. That went on for six months. After Desert Storm I would return to an unwanted divorce. I would assume command of the unit with which I mobilized. That was no weekend drill assignment either. It was like a part-time job, 20-30 hours per week, shuttling between Houston and Corpus Christi for two years, but I had the best time of my whole naval career doing it. When I left that unit I was part of a team at work that created a new department for the City of Houston and I served as Houston's first City Architect for 2-1/2 years. Houston had not had a City Architect for the 70 years prior to that time. I was also teaching computer courses part-time at San Jacinto College in Pasadena during that timeframe. Needless to say my participation with the NROTC Unit and its alumni association suffered during this decade. But it picked back up in the first decade of the 21st century.

Documentation for this decade was very scant. There were only three *Longhorn Logs* and a handful of *Naval Oranges*. The CHR proved useful but the real help came from the participation of alumni who were Midshipmen and Officer Candidates at the Unit during this time. Lots of email was generated.

Academic Year 1991

Statistics:

Number of Students: 171 Midshipmen (up 68), 5 MECEPs, 14 ECPs and 3 NECPs for a Battalion of 193 (up 67)

Number of Staff: 8 Officers (up 1), 5 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 27 (21 Navy, 6 Marine) (down 27)

The *Longhorn Log*, *Cactus* and six issues of the *Naval Orange* (October 1990, December 1990, February 1991, March 1991, April 1991 and the first alumni newsletter, called the *Alumni Naval Orange*, also dated April 1991) were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The *Cactus* provided just three NROTC-related pages. The 1991 *Longhorn Log* provided 44 pages of Unit information for academic year 1991 and some for 1990. See the Appendix. The 1991 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication although it celebrated the Unit's 50th Anniversary.

There were still 67 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately fourteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, Thomas D. Walters, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* only. Prior to the beginning of the school year Stephanie Vallejo took Sandra Kenny's spot as Office Assistant. In September LT Shannon was promoted to LCDR and assigned TAD to U.S. Central Command for Operation Desert Storm. This was probably why the Unit had an extra Lieutenant for most of this year. Also QMC Jackson replaced QMCS Paxton and LT Scott Chisholm reported aboard in mid-November probably to relieve LT Takesuye.

The Battalion was organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Each company was further divided into three platoons.²⁸ No HQ Company was mentioned. Battalion Commanders were Jeffery A. G. "Jeff" Baumgarten (fall) and Mark R. Lwin (spring). The *Cactus* pictured a Battalion formation in Memorial Stadium, with the three companies and Color Guard. It also pictured a group photo of the whole Battalion in one block with names. The *Longhorn Log* pictured each company separately but not in a group photo. Members were pictured individually like class members in a yearbook, with no platoon or class affiliations. Total Battalion strength was up about the size of two companies and represented the largest in this 20-year span from 1980 to 2000. From a comment made in the Battalion Commander's remarks in the October 1990 issue of the *Naval Orange*, the Battalion moved to only two platoons per company in anticipation of the downsizing to come. This probably occurred during the spring semester. The following table assumed an even distribution for the fall, less any Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	20	20	20
Bravo	20	20	20
Charlie	20	20	20

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* or the *Longhorn Log* this year. The Command History Report (CHR) and *Naval Orange* newsletters recorded no Buccaneer activities. MDN Christopher Cannon White ('94) was the Drill Platoon Commander. They went to New Orleans that year to compete at Tulane but did not win anything.²⁹

²⁸ Recollections of John W. Broomes '91

²⁹ Recollections of William L. "Launtz" Rodgers '94

The CHR mentioned that the pistol team competed at A&M on November 10th. The *Longhorn Log* pictured a five-member Color Guard performing, and also a group picture showing nine men and one woman. No names were provided. Photos showed performances at a football game and an Erwin Center event. Praetorian Guard was not documented in any publication.

Unit's 50th Anniversary

The Publications Officer was probably MDN 2/C Chris Stacy. LT David Stuart was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about fourteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 2/C Chris Stacy. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about four Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 1/C Tim Crump. As had been done ten years ago, the *Longhorn Log* highlighted another ten-year anniversary of the Unit. And just like its predecessor ten years ago, this issue of the *Log* followed a year when there was no *Log* published. And just like that previous issue, this volume attempted to provide some information about the previous academic year, in this case 1990.

Navy #1 in IM Track & Field for Second Year



1990/91 Track & Field Champions: NAVY! Team members were (front row, left to right) James Fabby, George Perez, Christopher Young, Eugene Esparza, Mark Wikoff, Andre Gregg, Barry Harrison; (back row, left to right) Andrew Miller, James Brown, Capt William Dwiggin (coach), William McSpadden, Dan Kazmier, Ronald Rios, Jeffrey Phillips, John Katzmarek; (not pictured) Baron Jolie and Mark Runstrom. UT RecSports Photo provided by Launtz Rodgers '94.

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log* and several issues of the *Naval Orange*. The Battalion held a Sailing Regatta on November 3rd and Bravo Company won. Navy fielded three IM teams in the fall: football, soccer and volleyball. All three had winning seasons and the volleyball team made the playoffs. Navy beat Army in IM football 13-6 and in the annual Army-Navy football game 35-7. Jim Hanen sponsored two Navy teams. They went to the "Ole Miss" softball tournament (*a.k.a.* Mudfest '90). On April 6th the Battalion held its own Sailing Regatta at Decker Lake. On April 20th four teams competed in the UT Sailing Regatta at Decker Lake. A&M, Rice, Arizona and Texas Maritime Academy were also invited but couldn't come. UT took the cup competing against OU, the University of New

Mexico, and Prairie View A&M. LT Stuart was the Sailing Officer. Navy was also the IM Track & Field Men's Club Champion again this year.³⁰

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 3); Senior Mess Night (December 8) with the Honorable Bob Jones, Judge 167th District Court, as guest speaker; and the Spring Formal or Ring Dance (April 13).

Spring Break was probably the week of March 18-22. Only one field trip was documented, an aviation indoctrination trip to NAS Corpus, Beeville and Kingsville with at least eight Midshipmen.

The Anchorettes numbered 42 this year (26 returnees and 16 new pledges), a net gain of 16. Only 21 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* and only 19 were shown in the *Cactus*. Officers were not listed. The new Unit Staff Advisor was Capt William O. Dwiggins as shown in the *Log* but the *Cactus* pictured LT Takesuye with the group. LT Takesuye was probably the Advisor for academic year 1990.

CC: Germany Reunified/Gorbachev Wins Nobel/Chunnel Ends Linked

Let's compare chronometers. On October 3rd East and West Germany were reunified after 45 years apart starting at the end of World War II in Europe. The reunification was precipitated by the fall of the Soviet Union and the fall of the Berlin Wall. At mid-month Mikhail Gorbachev won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in ending Cold War tensions. At the end of that same month the two ends of the Chunnel were linked by a pilot hole.

On October 27, 1990 the 4th Annual Alumni Reunion was held. Bruce B. Byron '70 was the new President. The Board and general business meetings were followed by a tailgate party, all at RAS. Game time was at 1p.m., and Texas won this year, soundly defeating SMU 52-3. Another evening barbecue and get-together at the Simons' house rounded out the day. A brief account of the event was included in the December issue of the *Naval Orange* in an article written by Rick Fabby. The scholarship fund was still stuck at \$100 but, by the beginning of the new year 1991, it started climbing.

Hall of Memories Established

Also at the 4th annual alumni reunion, a Hall of Memories was established to capture some of the history of the Unit and memorabilia donated by alumni and in celebration of the Unit's 50th Anniversary. Donations or loans were encouraged for the Hall of Memories. LT Stuart was the Unit's project manager for the Hall of Memories. Col. Walters thought that the Unit should have more information and memorabilia to document its 50 year history than he found when he first arrived. This provided the impetus needed to get this project going. Part of the project was to also compile a list of graduates of the unit who were killed in action or classified as missing in action.³¹

³⁰ Recollections of William L. "Launtz" Rodgers '94

³¹ *Alumni Naval Orange*, Spring 1991, p.4, Article by OC Dale Seeley

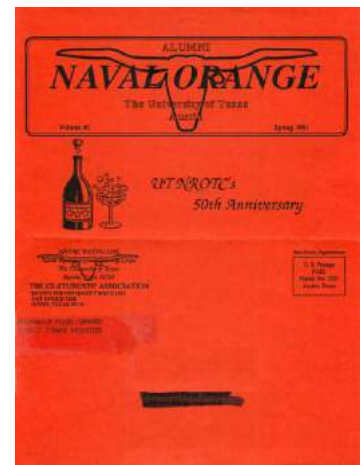
On December 21st the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. One Ensign was Joseph B. “Joey” Dodgen, who would go on to achieve the rank of RADM (L). The 1991 *Longhorn Log* and M-O List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

Operation Desert Storm (ODS) Begins

On January 17, 1991 the (First) Gulf War technically began, code named Operation Desert Storm. Saddam Hussein had failed to heed President Bush’s warning to leave Kuwait by this date. Eleven Marines were killed on February 1st in the Saudi border town of Khafji. On February 23rd the actual U.S. ground war started. On February 25th an Iraqi SCUD missile hit a barracks near Ad Dammam, Saudi Arabia, and killed a dozen U.S. troops. The author was mobilized on February 28th as part of the “second wave.” Before we could get to Saudi Arabia to relieve the “first wave” the war was over. We provided security and surveillance for the port of Ad Dammam. During our time there I took a smaller group up to Kuwait City and we provided the same support there for EOD and minesweeping operations in April. The author later learned that CAPT Bill Graner (then future PNS#20) deployed just two months after the author left Kuwait, as CO of Mine Group One, to the Persian Gulf to clear mines off the coast of Iraq. We missed meeting each other, much earlier, by just those two months.

First Alumni Newsletter

In April of 1991 the alumni association issued its first separate newsletter (Vol. 1) and borrowed the name of the Unit’s newsletter, *Naval Orange*, for its own. This may have confused a few people so the alumni soon stopped using that name. On the first page it stated that the goal of the UT NROTC Alumni Association was “To support the education, training, and commissioning of future Navy and Marine Officers.” It also mentioned that the Alumni Association donated an IBM-compatible PC to the Battalion and encouraged similar donations. New board members and officers were listed. In this first issue of the *Alumni Naval Orange*, the highlights of the fourth annual alumni reunion were documented again. Also an article, written by Officer Candidate Dale Seeley, who was also the Editor of our newsletter, he reviewed some of the Unit’s history in celebration of the 50th Anniversary.



First Alumni Naval Orange Issue

The next newsletter we have was from March 1993 and had no name. In fact, the issues from this period until July 1996 made no mention of its being a “newsletter.” These were typical annual mailings to promote membership in the association and provide plans for the reunion.

UT Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund Started

On May 17, 1991 the University of Texas Midshipman Foundation (UTMF) was created, under the rules of a 501(c)(3) educational organization, in order to invest funds for the award of scholarships and officer swords to deserving members of the UT NROTC Battalion. The intent was to grow a corpus of funds and use the earnings to make the awards. Scholarship funds, donated to the “Midshipman’s

Foundation” had grown to over \$7,000 since the beginning of the year. On this same date the Midshipman’s Foundation; not to be confused with the older Midshipmans Foundation (*i.e.* no apostrophe), which was still lying dormant; transferred \$3,000 to the UTMF for investment and disbursement, in the form of scholarships and swords. The original three trustees for the UTMF were Kirk Cansler ’45, J. Weldon Koenig ’58 and Tom Williams. Weldon acted as Secretary and Kirk was the President. Tom was the former Executive Officer of the Unit and an investment broker, who generously donated his time and advice to the early investment of these funds.³² Early on, many names were used for the alumni group, including the Alumni Association, the Midshipmans Foundation, the Alumni Foundation and the NROTC Alumni Foundation.³³ It would take another three years before the first scholarship/sword awards could be financed from this trust fund.

12th Nest Location: Unknown (5 Men)

Sadly, this first issue of the *Alumni Naval Orange* was also the last printed comments we have about the Crow’s Nest. OC Dale Seeley ’92 stated, “The Crow’s Nest currently has five members and no longer maintains a Co-op.”

On May 17th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Eight Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1991 *Longhorn Log* and the M-O List provided names and the CHR provided numbers. Starting with this class, another source of names of commissionees came from a spreadsheet put together by CAPT Brian Teets (PNS#28). This covered all commissionings from December 1991 to December 2016. This shall be referred to as the T List. See the Appendix.

Last Gasp for the Crow’s Nest

The five Nesters mentioned in Dale Seeley’s article were not named. Steve White ’76 made the following observation, based on much earlier memories of the Crow’s Nest:

“I think the co-op eventually just evaporated due to a variety of natural causes, including the perceived (and in many respects, very real) low standards of living and academics the Nest represented vs. more pleasant living arrangements the next generation of middies preferred. For the most part it was a lot of fun living at the Nest if you didn’t mind the humble surroundings and social chaos that came with the camaraderie. It was not suited for everyone, and it’s understandable why a lot of people in the Unit chose not to live there over the years. The *Cactus* yearbook photos we staged during those years were classics and captured the mild craziness of the Crow’s Nest crew in that era.”

Col Smith did his best to clean up this image of the Crow’s Nest in its final years, but time and circumstances were working against the institution. The numbers involved and the economics were certainly not helping. Even though the alumni, especially ex-Nesters, wanted to keep the Nest alive, they were determined that any such effort would have to be based on the initiative of Battalion members and not an alumni-subsidized facility. This was the manner in which the Nest was born (*i.e.* midshipmen-inspired, -managed and -maintained) and the alumni felt that that was the only way it should survive.

³² Recollections of J. Weldon Koenig ’58

³³ Recollections of John W. Hitchcock ’65

Summer 1991

By the end of May, the author and his unit, Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 108, were ordered to pack up and return to the USA. Upon our arrival at Dover AFB in Delaware we were treated to a hero's welcome; at the forefront of that effort were Vietnam veterans who had never experienced that kind of fanfare. It was an exceptionally poignant moment.

CC: Pinatubo Erupts/Fall of USSR

Let's compare chronometers. On June 15th Mt. Pinatubo erupted and virtually destroyed Clark Air Base in the Philippines. It covered the Subic Bay Naval Base in one foot of ash. Subic was cleaned up and restored but did not last but one more year as a U.S. base. And just about one week before freshman orientation for the upcoming academic year, on August 22nd, the Soviet Union ceased to exist, after its President, Mikhail Gorbachev, was deposed only three days prior. Boris Yeltsin was the new Russian leader.



Subic Bay Navy Base Covered in Ash

In June 1991 CDR Haley, the Unit XO, was assigned TAD to Operation Desert Storm. In July and August six Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O List provided the names.

Academic Year 1992

Statistics:

Number of Students: 97 Midshipmen (down 74), 3 MECEPs, 11 ECPs and 6 NECPs for a Battalion of 117 (down 76)

Number of Staff: 7 Officers (down 1), 4 Enlisted (down 1), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 31 (27 Navy, 4 Marine) (up 4)

The *Longhorn Log* and five issues of the *Naval Orange* (September 1991, November 1991, March 1992, April 1992 and May 1992) were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1992 *Longhorn Log* provided 54 pages of Unit information for academic year 1992. The *Cactus* did provide one page with names and group photograph of the Anchorettes. Also Darren Woods '91 provided a complete schedule of events and a list of assigned Battalion billets for the fall of 1991. See the Appendix. The 1992 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, Col Thomas D. Walters, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Longhorn Log* only. In September, the vacant XO position was temporarily filled with CDR Bruce B. Giannotti, SKCS Naushad Ali reported aboard to relieve SKC Hart, LT Joseph D. Maudru reported aboard probably to relieve LT Moynihan and SSgt George R. Haehn

reported aboard to relieve GySgt Ostoj. Also Stephanie Vallejo married and took the name Stephanie Sanchez. CDR Haley returned from ODS at mid-year and resumed duties as XO again and Capt Dwiggin was promoted to major.

The Battalion was again organized into three companies: Alpha, Bravo and Charlie in the fall and only Alpha and Bravo in the spring. Battalion Commanders were John W. Broomes (fall) and Dale L. Seeley (spring). The *Longhorn Log* pictured individuals by Midshipman classes. Other Officer Candidates and MECEPs were grouped together. No company or platoon affiliation was given. Total Battalion strength was down about the size of two companies. The following table assumes two platoons per company with an even distribution per platoon, less Battalion staff. In the spring Charlie company was dissolved and its members assigned to Alpha and Bravo companies. Page 22 in the 1992 *Longhorn Log* explained that defense cutbacks and tougher Midshipman requirements led to the decline in the size of the Battalion.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	18	18
Bravo	18	18
Charlie (fall)	18	18

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and were only shown on one page in the *Longhorn Log* this year. The photographs showed a team of about eight men and women, plus a commander and guidon. No names were given. Captions stated that they practiced twice a week for one and a half hours each time. It also mentioned the Mardi Gras (i.e. Tulane) and Texas A&M Drill Meets. One caption stated that SSgt Haehn (Assistant MOI) held the team together and got the job done. The Command History Report (CHR) and *Naval Orange* newsletters recorded no Buccaneer activities. William L. “Launtz” Rodgers ’94 was the Drill Platoon Commander. He said they did not attend any drill competitions that year, only local festivals and parades.³⁴



1992 Buccaneer Drill Team. 1992 *Longhorn Log*, page 25.

The *Longhorn Log* documented the Pistol Team and Color Guard but no Praetorian Guard. Photos of the Pistol Team showed about 5-6 members but a classroom with eleven visible students was also shown. No names or officers were listed. The *Log* pictured a 5-7 man Color Guard. No names or CO were listed. The narrative said that members were randomly selected from the platoons.

³⁴ Recollections of William L. “Launtz” Rodgers ’94

There was no Publications Officer assigned. LT David Stuart was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about thirteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 1/C Chris Stacy (fall) and MDN 3/C Samuel Gaskill (spring). The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about fourteen Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 2/C Craig Blackburn. Assistant Editor was MDN 1/C Daryl Foster. MDN 1/C Scott Cates was the senior Social Committee member. Major social events for the year included the River Float in New Braunfels (September 7), the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 26) with guest speaker, Dr. Walter Rostow; an Anchorette-sponsored dining out (November 16), and the spring formal or Ring Dance (April 11) at the Wyndham Hotel, Southpark, with guest speaker, CDR John G. Morgan, Jr. then current Captain of the USS Arleigh Burke (DDG-51). Spring Break occurred the week of March 16-20 but no field trips were planned during that time. An aviation indoctrination trip was made to NAS Pensacola, Florida, from March 30 to April 2 with LT Stuart escorting a group of interested Midshipmen.

NROTC Team is IM Track Champ for Third Year!



1991/92 Track & Field Champions: NAVY! Team members were (front row, left to right) Ronald Rios, Andy Miller, Rick Fabby, Brett Padgett, Paul Jack; (middle row, left to right) Dan Kazmier, Gary Bennett Rob Perales, Troy Erickson; (back row, left to right) Eugene Esparza, Christopher Young, Boyd Kile, Mark Runstrom, Andre Gregg; (not pictured) Baron Jolie, and Maj William Dwiggin (coach). UT RecSports Photo provided by Launtz Rodgers '94.

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log* and several issues of the *Naval Orange*. The Unit fielded teams in football, basketball, soccer and softball. The football and basketball teams made it to

the championship game. The co-ed soccer team made it to the playoffs. So did the co-ed softball team. The NROTC football team defeated OU on OU weekend after their “Run to Dallas” (October 11-12). Jim’s Haircuts was the winning team at the “Ole Miss” Softball tournament. The Wednesday and Friday night teams had both finished the fall season with winning records. Sailing took place but no events were documented. Navy was again, the IM Track Club Champions.³⁵

The Anchorettes numbered 25 this year (ten returnees and 15 new pledges), down 17 from the prior year. Only 19 women were pictured in the *Longhorn Log*. Twenty-two were pictured in the *Cactus*. Officers were not listed in the *Log*. Laurie Hartung was mentioned as President in the *Cactus*. The Unit Staff Advisor was still Maj William O. Dwiggins.

CC: Internet/World Wide Web

Let’s compare chronometers. “The origins of the Internet date back to research commissioned by the federal government of the United States in the 1960s to build robust, fault-tolerant communication with computer networks. The funding of the National Science Foundation Network as a new backbone in the 1980s, as well as private funding for other commercial extensions, led to worldwide participation in the development of new networking technologies, and the merger of many networks. The linking of commercial networks and enterprises by the early 1990s marks the beginning of the transition to the modern Internet, and generated a sustained exponential growth as generations of institutional, personal, and mobile computers were connected to the network. Although the Internet was widely used by academia since the 1980s, the commercialization incorporated its services and technologies into virtually every aspect of modern life.”³⁶

“The World Wide Web (abbreviated WWW or the Web) is an information space where documents and other web resources are identified by Uniform Resource Locators (URLs), interlinked by hypertext links, and accessible via the Internet. English scientist Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web in 1989. He wrote the first web browser in 1990 while employed at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (*i.e.* CERN) in Switzerland. The browser was released outside CERN in 1991, first to other research institutions starting in January 1991 and to the general public on the Internet in August 1991.”³⁷

Personal Computing Advances

Personal computers had been around since the early 1980s, but their usage was largely limited to applications run locally on each machine (*e.g.*, word processing, spreadsheets, databases, calendars, etc.). Midshipmen at UT had been using an IBM-compatible personal computer, donated by the Alumni Association the previous April, mostly for such applications and to connect to the University mainframe when needed. Other such ways that personal computer users could connect with each other and outside services were bulletin boards around the country, usually via dial-phone connections, to obtain information about special subjects to which those bulletin boards were devoted. Now “web-surfing”

³⁵ Recollections of William L. “Launtz” Rodgers ’94

³⁶ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet>

³⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Wide_Web

was making its debut with, first, the public's access to the Internet in the late 1980s and, now, with the advent of a World Wide Web at or near the beginning of this academic year. All these separate services were now starting to be linked to one another and communication speeds were advancing.

In September of 1991 Volume XXXIII of the *Naval Orange* was published. This was probably the first issue to use the author's Naval Orange design. The PNS, Col. Walters, mentioned in his "Colonel's Corner" that the Unit, after a recent IG inspection, was in outstanding shape.

On November 2, 1991 the 5th Annual Alumni Reunion was held. President was Bruce Byron '70. The a.m. Board and general business meetings were followed by a tailgate party, all at RAS. Game time was at noon and Texas won this year, defeating Texas Tech 23-15. Dinner plans in the evening were a little different this year. All participating alumni took a cruise on Lake Austin aboard the *Commodore*. It was a 2½-hour sunset cruise with appetizers, drinks and dinner included. As I recall the weather was pretty chilly outside. On November 3rd the annual Navy-Marine Corps Birthday Ball was held.³⁸



The *Commodore* on Lake Austin

On December 20th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Nine Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1992 *Longhorn Log* and the M-O and T Lists provided the names.

Soviet Union Officially Dissolved

On December 26th, by declaration, the old Soviet Union dissolved itself and acknowledged the independence of its former "republics." It then created a commonwealth of independent states although not all the states signed on to this new association. The day before that, Mikhail Gorbachev, the eighth and final leader of the Soviet Union, resigned, declared his office extinct and handed over all power, including nuclear launch codes, to Russian President Boris Yeltsin. This was merely the culmination of a series of secessions by Soviet states that began the previous August.³⁹

CC: Pan Am Bankrupt/Euro Created/Windows 3.1 Debuts

Let's compare chronometers. On December 4, 1991 Pan Am World Airways declared bankruptcy. It had been the largest International carrier in the U.S. since 1927 and an icon of the aviation industry. At year's end the Midshipman Trust Fund was worth \$7,550. On February 7, 1992 the Treaty of Maastricht



³⁸ *Alumni Naval Orange*, Spring 1991, p.4, Article by OC Dale Seeley

³⁹ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dissolution_of_the_Soviet_Union

was signed creating the European Union and the Euro currency. In April 1992 Windows 3.1 was released by Microsoft as their first serious competitor for the Apple Macintosh, which had been around since 1984.

On May 22nd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Fourteen Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1992 *Longhorn Log* and M-O and T Lists provided the names. See the Appendix.

Summer 1992

There was no CHR for 1991 or 1992 and there was no coverage in the *Cactus* for 1992. The May 1992 issue of *Naval Orange* and the 1992 *Longhorn Log* provided documentation up to the end of the spring semester. The next document available was the October 1993 issue of the *Naval Orange*. That is a sixteen month gap. It is believed that after CDR Haley returned from ODS in December 1991, he served through the end of that spring semester and was relieved in June by LtCol Donald K. Fisher. This would have left LtCol Fisher with a year and a half in the billet. June 1992 would have completed a three year tour for Capt Dwiggin and it is believed that Maj James W. "Jim" Lukeman reported aboard at that time to relieve him as MOI. It is also believed that CAPT Eric R. Ernst, USN, reported aboard in July or August to relieve Col Walters who would have just been completing a three-year tour. In August four Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

Academic Year 1993

Statistics:

Number of Students: 50 Midshipmen (down 47), 3 MECEPs, 6 ECPs and 10 NECPs for a Battalion of 69 (down 48)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (down 1), 4 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 11 (11 Navy, 0 Marine) (down 20)

The CHR was the primary source of Unit information about this year. See the Appendix. No *Longhorn Log* yearbooks for the years 1993 to 1998, inclusive, have been found yet. Three documents, provided by David Walt '93, provided some much-needed information: a swim and sailing qualification roster (August 19), the *Naval Orange* newsletter (April issue) and the program from the Spring Formal, which contained lists of graduating seniors. The *Naval Orange* also provided the only photograph we have of CAPT Ernst so far. The *Cactus* did provide one page with names and a group photograph of the Anchorettes.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, CAPT Eric R. Ernst, USN. CAPT Ernst was a 1965 graduate of the Naval Academy. We have very sketchy information on him since he served for less than one year. He reported aboard the USS Henry W. Tucker (DD-875) in October 1965 and was the Main Propulsion Assistant (MPA) as a LTJG in 1967. From 1969 to 1971 he was at the Scripps

Institution of Oceanography, where he earned his PhD. In 1978 LCDR Eric Ernst was a crew member of USS South Carolina (DLGN/CGN-37). From July 12, 1986 to June 15, 1989 CAPT Ernst served as the fifth Commanding Officer of the same USS South Carolina. Prior to the beginning of the year, the CO, XO, MOI and one Lieutenant positions changed hands. Either just prior to this academic year or at the end of the fall semester, LT Chisholm was relieved by LT Thomas E. Ishee.



Eric Rodholm Ernst

In just two years' time the Battalion strength plummeted from the highest it had been during the period 1980 to 2000, to the lowest it would be during that same period. The Battalion was, as it had been in the spring of the previous year, organized into two companies: Alpha and Bravo, with two platoons each.⁴⁰ Battalion Commanders were Anthony "Tony" DeFrias (fall) and George P. Olson (spring).⁴¹ Battalion strength was down about the size of one and a half to two companies. The following assumes an even distribution, less Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	16	16
Bravo	16	16

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1993. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded that the Buccaneer participated in the Tulane Drill Meet and Mardi Gras parade (February 19). There were no documents that mentioned the Color Guard or Praetorian Guard. The CHR said that the Pistol Team competed in Colorado on January 30th.

The Publications Officer was the *Naval Orange* Editor, MDN 2/C Scott S. Daniel. The Assistant Editor was MDN 2/C Tom Brownfield. The *Orange* had a total staff of seven Midshipmen and Officer Candidates. LT David Stuart was the Staff Advisor. There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this year but we do have the April 1993 issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter, thanks to David Walt '93.

NROTC Track Team Makes It Four in a Row!

Intramural sports were not covered in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log* was not published for this year. The CHR only documented Jim's softball team(s) competing in the "Old Miss" softball tournament on April 3rd. The RecSports website documented Navy as Runners-up for IM Basketball, Volleyball Club Champions, and Track & Field Champions for the fourth year in a row.⁴²

⁴⁰ Recollections of David S. "Dave" Murray '97

⁴¹ Recollections of David S. "Dave" Murray '97 and David P. Walt '93

⁴² Recollections of William L. "Launtz" Rodgers '94



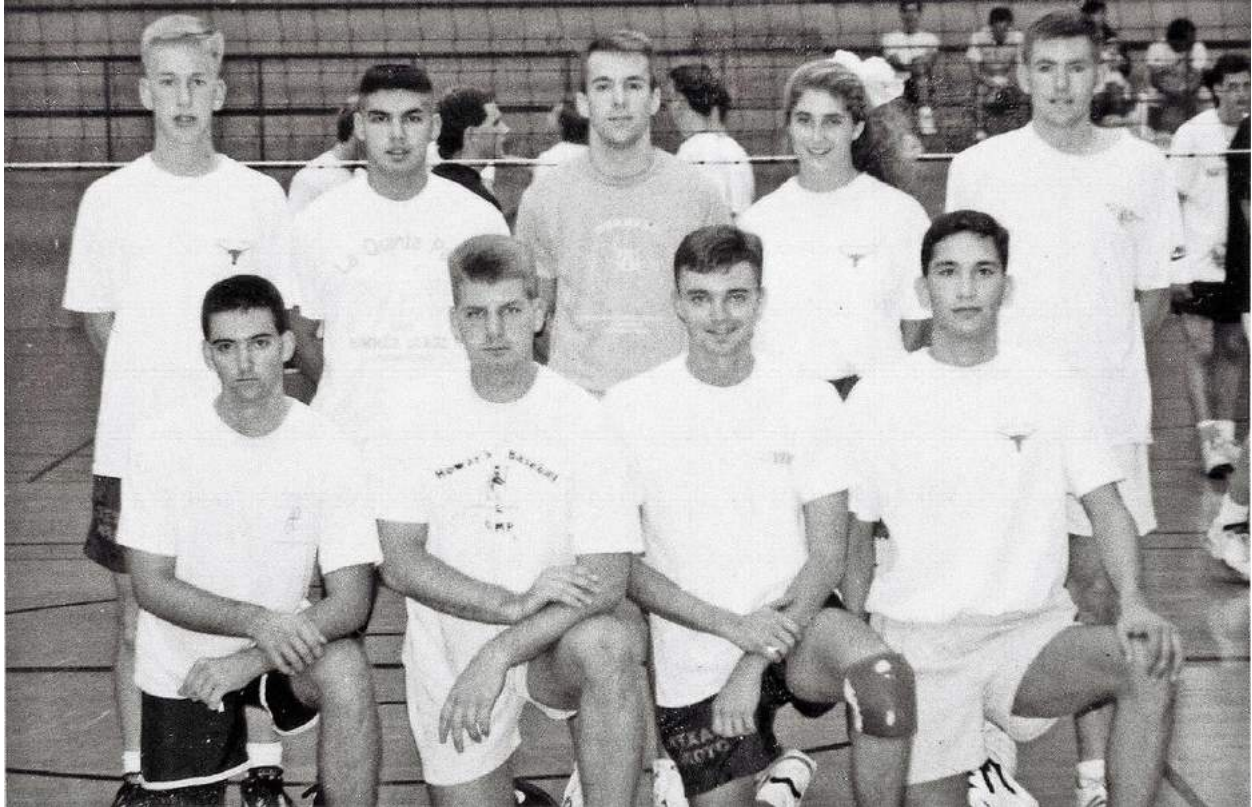
1992/93 Track & Field Champions: NAVY! Team members were (front row, left to right) Keith Young, Andy Miller, James Fabby, Tom Comfort, Ronald Rios, Boyd Kile, "Super" Dave Osborne; (back row, left to right) Thadd Berry, Scott Daniel, Mike Weeks, Mark Runstrom, Mark Wilkoff, Launtz Rodgers, David Ruth and Andy Macias. UT RecSports Photo provided by Launtz Rodgers '94.

The spring formal (April 17) was held at the Wyndham Southpark in Ausin and one could also assume the Navy and Marine Corps had a Birthday Ball sometime in the fall. The Social Committee Chairman was MDN 1/C James Fabby. The Anchorettes also sponsored a social at the L Bar Ranch in March and two TGIFs in Pease Park in April. A skating party was coupled to the first one (April 23). The Battalion had a sailing regatta and picnic (April 24) and a dining out that evening. A Joint dining out was also held on May 6th. No orientation field trips were documented for this year. Spring Break was during the week of March 15-19.

The Anchorettes numbered 16 this year, judging from photos and names in the *Cactus*. This was down nine from the previous year. Six were returnees and ten were new pledges. No *Longhorn Log* information was available, but some could be gleaned from the one issue we have of the *Naval Orange*. The Anchorettes held their tap-in on May 7th, the last day of classes for the semester at UT. Maj Dwigginns rotated off of the staff so LT Scott Chisholm assumed duties as the Unit Staff Advisor.

UT Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund Over \$20,000

On October 24, 1992 the 6th annual alumni reunion was held. John W. Hitchcock '65 was the new President. Board and general business meetings were held in the morning at RAS. Texas beat Houston 45-38. A barbecue dinner and get-together was held in the evening at Charlie Simons' new place in Wimberly. Buses were chartered to shuttle guests from Austin to there and back. By the end of the year, the UT Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund would be worth \$21,190.



1992/93 Volleyball Champions: NAVY! Team members were (front row, left to right) James Barosh, Andy Miller, Mike Titcombe, Ronald Rios; (back row, left to right) Matt Bokmeyer, Rob Perales, Tom Comfort, Alex Peterson, and Launtz Rodgers. UT RecSports Photo provided by Launtz Rodgers '94.

CC: Subic Bay Closed

Let's compare chronometers. On November 24th the U.S. formally withdrew from Subic Bay in the Philippines. The eruption of Mt. Pinatubo, one year prior to this, and the damages from it sustained by the Naval Base at Subic Bay were given as the primary cause. The real cause was a failure of the U.S. and the Philippine government to reach agreement on continued use of the base. At the time it was the largest overseas military installation that the U.S. had, 262 square miles. Clark Air Base, which had been more heavily damaged by the volcano, had been declared a total loss and had already been closed. Adjoining the Naval Base was NAS Cubi Point. It was closed as well. "Upon closure, the vast collection of squadron memorabilia displayed in the Cubi Point Officers' Club was shipped to the National Museum of Naval Aviation at NAS Pensacola, Florida, and now forms the decor of the Cubi Bar Café, which opened in 1996 as the museum's restaurant."⁴³

On December 18th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Three Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names.

⁴³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval_Air_Station_Cubi_Point

First “Draft Dodger” Commander in Chief

On January 20, 1993 William Jefferson Clinton took the oath of office to become the 42nd President of the United States. Although he had not openly admitted that he was a draft dodger, he used several techniques to avoid service in Vietnam, including college deferment and attempts to join the reserves or National Guard. These actions ceased when he subjected himself to the draft and received a high draft number.⁴⁴ This represented a huge departure from his predecessor, who had served with distinction as a Naval aviator in World War II, and from the resumes of other former Presidents going back to Harry Truman.

First Terrorist Attack on World Trade Towers

On February 26th a truck bomb was detonated in the parking garage of the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. It was a terrorist attack and somewhat of an omen of what was to come nearly nine years later. At the time the U.S. did not have a full understanding of the threat this attack represented.⁴⁵

Surprise Departure of PNS#19

In the March 1993 Alumni Newsletter it was noted that CAPT Ernst, at the January 23, 1993 meeting of the Alumni Association board, announced his intentions to retire in the coming summer time period, two years ahead of his original plans. He expressed his hopes to remain in Austin and to continue to support the Unit. At that time his relief had not yet been approved by UT and was only identified as a Surface Warfare Officer with extensive amphibious and mine warfare experience.

On May 21st the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Four Ensigns were commissioned. Earlier in March another Ensign was commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1993

In June LT Stuart departed and a month later his relief, LT Rennie N. Brimstein reported aboard. At the end of July YNC Thomas C. Sheppard reported aboard to relieve YNCS McRae, who retired from active duty upon being relieved. In July CAPT William R. “Bill” Graner, USN, reported aboard as the new CO. Sometime during the summer SSgt Haehn was promoted, too. Also it is all but certain that QMC (SW) Michael R. Wilson reported aboard during the summer and relieved QMC Jackson. In August three Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

⁴⁴ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Clinton#Vietnam_War_opposition_and_draft_controversy

⁴⁵ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1993_World_Trade_Center_bombing

Academic Year 1994

Statistics:

Number of Students: 71 Midshipmen (up 21), 7 MECEPs, 7 ECPs and 12 NECPs for a Battalion of 97 (up 28)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 21 (18 Navy, 3 Marine) (up 10)

Three issues of the *Naval Orange* (October 1993, March 1994 and May 1994) and the CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. See the Appendix.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, CAPT William R. "Bill" Graner, USN. Prior to the beginning of the year the new CO arrived, two Lieutenants and the Chief Administrative Assistant were replaced. In mid-March LT Jeffrey A. Kennedy reported aboard as a relief for LT Maudru. Probably in April or May LCDR Bursey, USN SC, reported aboard for just a few months prior to his retirement and entry into the UT Law School. He was prior enlisted who used the Navy's BOOST program and NROTC to obtain a commission.

CAPT Graner was ready to take the job as the Chief of Staff of the Mine Warfare Command in Corpus Christi when the position to be the CO of the University of Texas NROTC unexpectedly became available. He jumped at this opportunity and beat out ten other prospective bidders for the position due to his impressive qualifications. He was a Surface Warfare Officer with extensive experience in Mine Warfare. He was just coming off a tour of duty in Kuwait, where his mine warfare forces were clearing mines after Operation Desert Storm. He had previously commanded a Minesweeper and the USS Newport (LST-1179).

The Battalion was organized into two companies with two platoons each.⁴⁶ Battalion Commanders were Thomas "Tom" Comfort (fall) and Lance Taylor Arp (spring). Total Battalion strength was up about 50% from the previous year. The following table assumes an even distribution of Midshipmen, less Battalion staff.



William Ross "Bill" Graner

⁴⁶ Recollections of David S. "Dave" Murray '97

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	15	15
Bravo	15	15
Charlie	15	15

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1994. The Command History Report (CHR) and *Naval Orange* newsletters recorded no Buccaneer activities.

There were no Unit documents that mentioned the Color Guard or Praetorian Guard. An article in the March *Naval Orange* said that the Pistol Team went to the University of Colorado (Boulder) for pistol competition (January 27 – 30), their second such trip. Gunny Haehn’s team included Sgt Arp, Sgt Uribe, MDN Aagaard, MDN Geddie and MDN Copeland. It also said that the Pistol Team fired in a rifle match they had not prepared for. They came in 4th Place out of four teams. MDN Aagaard tied for 1st Place in the kneeling position rifle shoot. Commander of the Pistol Team and Color Guard was Rudy J. Uribe. The Color Guard went to the old Cowboys Stadium to present the colors during a Cowboys game.⁴⁷

The Publications Officer was probably MDN 1/C Tom Brownfield. LT Rennie Brimstein was the Staff Advisor. There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this year. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about seven Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 1/C Tom Brownfield.

Ironman Competition Reappears

Intramural sports were not covered in any Unit document this year, but other sports-related events did occur. UT’s and OU’s flag football teams played each other on October 9th in conjunction with the annual “Run to Dallas.” Jim’s Haircuts sponsored a Navy team that traveled to the “Old Miss” softball tournament in mid-April to compete. It came in 3rd Place. This was the 10th Annual tournament held at “Ole Miss.” The Ironman competition was held on April 17th. Sixty-eight contestants from 13 teams participated: UT, University of New Mexico, A&M and University of Colorado. The first annual Ironman competition was held in the 1983 academic year. Launtz Rodgers was the men’s champion in the IM Punt, Pass & Kick category.⁴⁸

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 16); Night at the Salt Lick (April 12), sponsored by the Anchoresses; and the Anchoresse-sponsored spring formal (aka Ring Dance)) on 6th Street. No known field trips were planned during this year.

The Anchoresses numbered 19 this year, no change from the previous two years, according to an article by Mikaela Adams in the March 1994 issue of the *Naval Orange*. No *Cactus* or *Longhorn Log* information was available. The article mentioned that the organization was shrinking to fit the diminishing size of the Battalion, then at about 70. The Anchoresses held Cookie Calls after Tuesday drills and Beer Calls on

⁴⁷ Recollections of Rudy J. Uribe ’95

⁴⁸ Recollections of William L. “Launtz” Rodgers ’94

Friday evenings (TGIF). They also had a big and little siblings program, pledge retreat parties, dining-out, casuals, Anchorette auctions, theme parties and river floats (on the Guadalupe River near New Braunfels, Texas).

CC: Oslo Accords/Nobel Peace Prize

Let's compare chronometers. On September 13th President Clinton brokered an agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), known as the Oslo Accords. The PLO recognized Israel's right to exist and an autonomous Palestinian National Authority was given authority over the Gaza Strip and West Bank, although not official independence from Israel. "In 1994 [December 10] Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat received the Nobel Peace Prize following the signing on the Oslo Accords, for their efforts to create peace in the Middle East. The Accords, however, never resulted in peace."⁴⁹

On October 30, 1993 the 7th annual alumni reunion was held. Texas lost to Texas Tech. Board and general business meetings were held at RAS. The barbecue dinner was at the Zilker Park clubhouse that evening. By the end of the year, the UTMF Trust Fund would pass \$30,000 and amount to \$30,223. Plans were underway for these funds to be used to award a scholarship or sword in the spring.

Rebirth of the Midshipman Foundation

After being inactive and dormant for 20 years, the Midshipman Foundation was revived on November 8, 1993 by the State of Texas. Casual conversations begun in the previous year between Bob Brown '52 and Trustees of the UT Midshipman Foundation (UTMF) revealed that they, the UTMF, might be able to use the old Midshipmans Foundation (MF) if it was still on the books with the State of Texas. Bob made inquiries and found the State required the MF to file a report of their current directors and officers and pay a fee to reinstate the organization, which was already on record with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. A separate filing for the UTMF would not be required. The assets of the UTMF could be transferred to the MF, once properly activated, and the MF could carry on from there with the same mission. Wilford D. "Will" McCann '61, the new Registered Agent of the MF, filed a Charter Renewal with the State of Texas on October 6, 1993, and was granted the renewal. Officers for the newly revived organization were listed as John W. Hitchcock '65, Chairman; William L. Docekal '65, Vice Chairman; and Will McCann, Secretary-Treasurer. Bruce B. Byron '70 was listed as an additional Director. Alumni active in scholarship efforts; Weldon Koenig, Max Miller and John Hitchcock; would carry the MF forward through the next ten years to develop it into the organization we know today. During the transition, scholarships and swords would continue to be awarded each year, with the number and total value steadily growing as the corpus of the endowment grew.



⁴⁹ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oslo_I_Accord#Nobel_Peace_Prize

There are many alumni and others who are confused as to the missions of these two organizations. Why do we have two? From the time the MF was revived its mission was to provide scholarships and officer swords to deserving members of the Battalion. That was in keeping with its 501(c)(3) status as an educational not-for-profit corporation. So from its rebirth in 1993 its emphasis has been on the individual scholarship and professional development of our Battalion members.

The Alumni Association continued its original mission to host an annual reunion to bring members back to the campus, brief them on what the Unit was doing currently and foster a network of members that could help each other in military and civilian careers. So, the Alumni Association since the mid-1980s has emphasized social and group activities to promote camaraderie within the larger group of Midshipmen, Officer Candidates, staff, alumni and friends. There have never been any dues, and all who were on the staff or in the program (even if they did not get commissioned) have always been welcome. Even former Anchorettes have participated. It would take another twelve years before the Alumni Association would seek to incorporate in the State of Texas as the University of Texas NROTC Alumni Foundation.

On December 17th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Ten Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

CC: NAFTA/Soviet Spy/Don't Ask, Don't Tell

On January 1st the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into force. It created a North American trading bloc out of three countries: the U.S., Canada and Mexico. February 21st **Aldrich Hazen Ames**, a CIA employee, was arrested for being a spy for the Soviet Union. He pleaded guilty on April 28th and was sentenced to life. His wife got just five years in a plea bargain. On February 28th the Clinton Administration instituted a policy that “prohibited military personnel from discriminating against or harassing closeted homosexual or bisexual service members or applicants, while barring openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual persons from military service.”⁵⁰ The policy was called “Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT).” By all measures this was a compromise between traditional military practices and those who wanted to use the military as a social engineering experiment.

First CNO from Enlisted Ranks

On April 23, 1994 Jeremy M. Boorda became the 25th Chief of Naval Operations, the first who was not a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and the first of Jewish descent. Admiral Boorda was the first CNO to have risen from the enlisted ranks. The Integration Program, as it was then known, was designed to provide an opportunity for enlisted personnel, who possessed outstanding qualifications and motivation for a



ADM Jeremy Michael Boorda
25th Chief of Naval Operations

⁵⁰ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don%27t_ask,_don%27t_tell

naval career, to obtain a commission. Upon assuming the duties of CNO, Admiral Boorda immediately reestablished the historic program, Seaman to Admiral, for young Sailors to earn their commission and become naval officers. The admiral believed “people should have the opportunity to excel, and be all they can be, even if they don’t get a perfect or traditional start.”

STA-21 Program Starts

This program started in 1994 but no students were identified at UT as STA-21 officer candidates until 2004. The CNO, Admiral Boorda, was a product of an enlisted-to-officer commissioning program in the early 1960s. Since its rebirth in 1994, the Seaman to Admiral (STA) program underwent several changes to meet the needs of the Navy and Sailors, but the spirit embodied by Admiral Boorda remained intact. STA had always been a commissioning program in which participants maintained the pay, benefits, and privileges they enjoyed as active duty Sailors and received a scholarship to attend a top-notch university. Each of these Sailors goes on to rewarding careers as naval officers.⁵¹ It was an educated guess to assume STA-21 arrived on campus the year it was redesigned, mainly because of supporting evidence from one of the NESEP graduates from 1976, Richard Ashmore. He said that STA-21 started after he retired, on February 1, 1992. STA-21 also probably started after ADM Boorda became CNO in April 1994. STA-21 took the place of all other non-NROTC Navy officer ascension programs existing at the time (*e.g.*, ECP, MECP and NECP).

First UT Midshipman Foundation Award Given

On April 28, 1994, at the Unit’s spring awards ceremony, the first award, financed by the University of Texas Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund, was given. The first award was the Malcolm Macdonald sword; it was awarded to Officer Candidate Charles Edward Hans, an ECP student. The first scholarships that could be given from this fund amounted to \$500 and a sword roughly amounted to the same value.

CC: Chunnel Opened/Mandela Elected RSA President

Let’s compare chronometers. On May 6th the Chunnel for officially opened for service. On May 10th Nelson Mandela was sworn into office as President of the Republic of South Africa. He was the first black chief executive the country had ever had. His election eventually brought to an end of the national policy of apartheid.

On May 20th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Four Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. Earlier in February one Ensign was also commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Black Mac Retires as Liaison Officer for ROTC

Dr. H. Malcolm Macdonald had retired as a Professor at UT back in 1981 but as Professor Emeritus he continued to serve as the Liaison Officer for ROTC until 1994.

⁵¹ Website: <https://www.sta-21.navy.mil/about.asp>

Summer 1994

At the end of May SKC Conrado Mamino reported aboard as SKCS Ali's relief. Chief Ali left in June. In July SSgt Michael Thomas reported aboard as GySgt Haehn's relief. Gunny Haehn left in August. Also LCDR Bursey retired in August and entered the UT Law School. He was not a formal staff member, just assigned to the Unit pending his retirement. Sometime during the summer Stephanie Sanchez departed and was replaced by Marion J. Waterous as office assistant. In July and August three Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

Academic Year 1995

Statistics:

Number of Students: 61 Midshipmen (down 10), 11 MECEPs, 8 ECPs and 5 NECPs for a Battalion of 85 (down 12)

Number of Staff: 6 Officers (no change), 4 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 14 (11 Navy, 3 Marine) (down 7)

The CHR was the primary source of Unit information about this year. Also one issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter from May 1995 was provided by Tim Griffin '96. See the Appendix. There was no Unit coverage in the *Cactus* and no *Longhorn Log* was published for this year.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT William R. "Bill" Graner, USN. Prior to the beginning of the year the Unit Storekeeper, Assistant MOI and Office Assistant were replaced. In April LT Charles A. Hill reported aboard to relieve LT Ishee, who left at the end of May.

Battalion Shrinks to Size of a Company

The Battalion was organized into three platoons, constituting only one company since Battalion numbers were still shrinking.⁵² Battalion Commanders were Rudy J. Uribe (fall) and Thomas J. "Tom" Brownfield (spring).⁵³ Battalion strength was down about the size of a platoon from the previous year. The following table assumes an even distribution of members, less Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	25	25	25

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus*, and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1995. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded that the Buccaneers participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 23).

⁵² Recollections of William L. "Launtz" Rodgers '94

⁵³ Recollections of Rudy J. Uribe '95 and David C. "Clay" Person '97

There were no Unit documents that mentioned the Color Guard, Praetorian Guard or the Pistol Team. The Publications Officer was unknown; however, from the May 1995 issue of *Naval Orange*, we know that its Editor was MDN 2/C Gin Kai and its Assistant Editor was MDN 4/C Aaron Carter. Typically the newsletter (*i.e. Naval Orange*) Editor was the Pubs Officer. The *Orange* had a staff of five Midshipmen, counting the Assistant Editor. LT Rennie Brimstein was the Staff Advisor.

Intramural sports were not covered in any Unit document for the year. Other sports-related events were mentioned in the CHR. The “Run to Dallas” for OU Weekend was on October 6th. The “Ole Miss” softball tournament was on March 31st and April 1st. The Navy team won a miraculous victory, considering their performance at home in the Pleasant Valley league. The Ironman physical fitness competition was held on April 30th. NROTC was also the Runners-up for IM Co-Ed Volleyball.⁵⁴

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (October 14) and the spring formal or Ring Dance (April 21). Spring Break was probably the week of April 10-14, but no field trips were publicized during this academic year.

The Anchorettes fluctuated between ten and 19, diminishing in size as the Battalion did. There was no Anchorette information available from the *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* or *Naval Orange* during this period. It was assumed that they continued to hold Cookie Calls after Tuesday drills and Beer Calls on Friday evenings (TGIF). They had a big and little siblings program, pledge retreat parties, dining-out, casuals, Anchorette auctions, theme parties and river floats in New Braunfels.

On November 5, 1994 the 8th annual alumni reunion was held. Keys A. Curry, Jr. '58 was the new President. Texas lost to A&M, which was ranked #11. Board and general business meetings were held at RAS. The barbecue dinner was at the Lions' Golf Course clubhouse. By the end of the year the MF Trust Fund was worth \$37,412.

December 23rd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Two Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

CC: Yahoo! Founded/Oklahoma City Bombing

Let's compare chronometers. On March 2nd Yahoo! was incorporated. It had been founded the previous January by Jerry Wang and David Filo, both graduate students at Stanford University. On April 19th the Oklahoma City bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building by Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols occurred. 168 people were killed.

On May 19th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Three Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

⁵⁴ Recollections of William L. “Launtz” Rodgers '94

Summer 1995

At the end of June, Capt Raymond D. Butler reported aboard to relieve Maj Lukeman, who departed ten days later. Maj Lukeman would go on to attain the rank of BGen during his career. Sometime during the summer Jesse Hearn departed and was replaced with Miki Elizondo as Military Personnel Clerk. In August six Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

CC: Windows 95 Debuts/eBay Begins

On August 24th Microsoft released Windows 95, a distinct improvement from the previous version, and one which would endure for many years. On September 4th Pierre Omidyar launched a site called Auction Web, which would evolve to become eBay.

Academic Year 1996

Statistics:

Number of Students: 47 Midshipmen (down 14), 10 MECEPs, 13 ECPs and 5 NECPs for a Battalion of 75 (down 10)

Number of Staff: 5 Officers (down 1), 3 Enlisted (down 1), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 18 (18 Navy, 0 Marine) (up 4)

Two issues of the *Naval Orange* (April and May 1996), both provided by Tim Griffin '96, and the CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. See the Appendix.

The End of Teaching Celestial Navigation

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately thirteen military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT William R. "Bill" Graner, USN. Prior to the beginning of the year the MOI and Military Personnel Clerk positions changed hands. In mid-October YNC(AW) James T. "Tim" Purcell reported aboard as a relief for YNC Sheppard. At the beginning of May QMC(SW) Wilson detached with no relief. Apparently certain navigation skills, especially celestial navigation (*i.e.* how to use a sextant), were being phased out.



Using a Sextant for Celestial Navigation

The Battalion dipped in size this year and probably continued in its one company of three platoons organization. Battalion Commanders were OC Fermin Espinoza⁵⁵ (fall) and Michael S. "Mike" O'Hare (spring). The following table assumes an even distribution of personnel, less Battalion staff.

⁵⁵ Recollection of Fermin Espinoza '95

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	22	22	22

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus*, and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1996. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded that the Buccaneers participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 9) and Endymion parade for Mardi Gras. The Color Guard also competed in the Tulane meet, and all Midshipmen stayed aboard USS Nassau (LHA-4) while in New Orleans. From photographs in the April issue of the *Naval Orange*, there appeared to be 13 members of the team, counting the commander. One member was a MECEP.



1996 Buccaneer Drill Team. April 1996 *Naval Orange*, page 8.

There were no documents that mentioned the Praetorian Guard or Pistol Team. The CHR mentioned that the CG went with the Bucs and participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 9). Photos in an April *Naval Orange* article looked like a five man team. They, like the Bucs, also stayed aboard USS Nassau (LHA-4) while in New Orleans.

The Publications Officer was OC Samuel J. Dale, Editor of the *Naval Orange* newsletter. Assistant Editor was Sgt Joshua G. Rushing. The *Orange* had a staff of three, counting the Assistant Editor. LT Rennie Brimstein was the Staff Advisor.⁵⁶ There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this year, therefore no staff.

Intramural sports were partially covered in one issue of the *Naval Orange*. Volleyball and hockey were mentioned. Hockey was a new experience for the Unit. It didn't say if it was on ice or roller skates but one would have to assume roller skates. A story in the *Orange* said that most team members didn't even know how to skate before the season. The CHR added other sports-related events. The "Run to Dallas" was on October 12th. The First Annual UT NROTC Golf Tournament Fundraiser was on November 3rd and the Ironman physical fitness competition was on April 27th.

Major social events for the year included the Sea Services Ball (November 11) and the spring formal or Ring Dance (May 4). No known field trips were planned during the academic year.

The Anchoresses numbered ten, diminishing in size as the Battalion did. The size of the Battalion started going up again after this year but the need for a women's auxiliary was rapidly diminishing with a co-ed Battalion. There was no Anchoress information available from the *Cactus* or *Longhorn Log* during this

⁵⁶ May 1996 issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter.

period. The April 1996 issue of the *Naval Orange* was the only published evidence of the Anchoresses, a photo of ten women and names of four new pledges and the one returning active member who also wrote the article, Denit Pongkho. It was assumed that they continued to hold Cookie Calls after Tuesday drills and Beer Calls on Friday evenings (TGIF). The shrinking membership was probably seriously affecting any activities they could do beyond these few.

St. Edward's University Strengthens ROTC Link with UT

According to SEU Registrar records, St. Edward's began offering ROTC courses through UT's catalog in the Fall of 1995 although the relationship went back even farther, to the 1968 academic school year. Only one documented account of a Battalion member taking advantage of this relationship has been found so far. That was Kevin Hannes back in 1985. Kevin had a full scholarship to play golf for SEU in 1982 and that's what precipitated the arrangement.

1996 would see real "athletic turf" replacing the artificial turf in Memorial Stadium. Also in that year the stadium would be renamed The Darrell K. Royal – Texas Memorial Stadium.⁵⁷

Sea and Anchor Details

On October 13, 1995 CAPT Bill Graner wrote to Dr. Norman Carey, Curator, Naval Historical Center, in Washington DC. Three days prior QMC (SW) Michael Wilson had had a phone conversation with the same Dr. Carey about a long-term loan of an anchor that could be displayed outside the ROTC Building. This was the official request by the Professor of Naval Science.

UTMF Trust Fund Over \$50,000

On November 4, 1995 the 9th annual alumni reunion was held. Board and general business meetings were held at RAS. The first Alumnus of the Year award was given to J. Weldon Koenig '58. Texas clobbered Texas Tech 48-7 in a night game (7 p.m.). A barbecue dinner was held earlier in the evening at the American Legion Post and a television was tuned in to the game there for those who stayed and did not have tickets to the game. By the end of the year the UTMF Trust Fund was worth \$52,966. Three weeks later, on November 30th, at the Unit's fall awards ceremony, the Malcolm Macdonald sword was awarded to MDN 1/C John D. Allison.

On December 22nd the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

⁵⁷ Website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darrell_K_Royal-Texas_Memorial_Stadium

Southwest Conference Ends on a Bittersweet Note

The 1995 football season ended with UT as the last champion of the Southwest Conference (SWC). Texas had amassed the most championships in SWC football, 25 titles, 19 outright. They finished the last SWC season ranked #9, with a win over A&M and went to the Sugar Bowl since the Cotton Bowl no longer hosted the SWC champion by default. On December 31st, they lost to #13 Virginia Tech, and finished the season ranked #14.

Sea and Anchor Details Continued

On January 3, 1996 CAPT Graner received and took custody of the anchor from the USS Randolph (CV-15). It weighed 30,895 pounds and was 13'-4" in length with a 36" shackle. The fluke was 10' wide and 5'-4" in depth. It had been manufactured in Newport News Shipyard in Norfolk, VA in 1943, the same year UT was sending its first commissioned ensigns and second lieutenants to war.

The plaque commemorating the placement of the anchor mentioned CAPT Graner, QMC (SW) Mike Wilson and ENS Scott Daniel. Scott Daniel was commissioned on December 23, 1994 and must have worked on this project to have received mention. The fluked anchor was placed outside the Russell A. Steindam Hall (RAS or the old ROTC Building) on the west side of the building, between the building and the parking lot. The total weight of the anchor, with chain, was 18 tons. A plaque, with this information, was prepared but never displayed while the anchor remained in that location so the exact date of the dedication is not known, but most certainly would have been during the spring semester.



The Looney Family pose in 2007 with the Randolph Anchor. Mike ('70)(L), Bob '62 (Top) and Glenn '61 (R) were brothers and UT NROTC Midshipmen.

First UTMF Scholarships Awarded

On April 25, 1996, at the Unit's spring awards ceremony, the UT Midshipman Foundation gave out three \$500 scholarships. It was a modest beginning. The awardees were MDN 1/C Robert G. Holguin, MDN 1/C Gin Kai and MDN 2/C Misty D. Roquemore. MDN 1/C Michael O'Hare was awarded a Navy officer's sword at the same ceremony. Swords were about the same value as these first scholarships, but over the years the scholarships would grow to be two to ten times the value of a sword.

On May 17th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Six Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1996

Third Class Summer Cruise

An article by MDN 3/C Luke Mislinski, in the Fall (September) 1996 issue of the *Naval Orange* (pp 6-8) did a good job at describing what Third Class Summer Cruise was like during this timeframe. This was quite a change from the one the author took and actually sounds like a blending of Third and Second Class Summer Cruises from my days. The acronym is CORTRAMID, meaning Career Orientation and Training of Midshipmen. Back in the 1970s virtually all summer cruises were six weeks. This Third Class Summer Cruise is four weeks and is intense. It was split into surface orientation, aviation orientation, submarine/nuclear orientation and Marine orientation, one week each. Surface orientation started in San Diego. Then the middies were flown to Whidbey Island in Washington State for aviation orientation. Then it was back to the San Diego area (Point Loma) for submarine orientation and Camp Pendleton for Marine orientation. After this whirlwind tour, Midshipmen were expected to pick the community they wanted to be a part of. I suspect most of them already knew their favorite and this exposure just helped them decide.

CC: Khobar Towers Bombed

Let's compare chronometers. On June 25, 1996 Khobar Towers, near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, were bombed by Hezbollah. There barracks there were used by U.S. and other personnel responsible for enforcing the Iraqi no-fly zone for Operation Southern Watch. Nineteen Air Force personnel and one Saudi local were killed. 498 other personnel of many nationalities were injured.⁵⁸

In June LT Brimstein departed. His relief, LT Steven E. Powell, arrived nearly a month and a half later in July. In July SKC Miguel A. Rodriguez reported aboard to relieve SKC Mamino, who detached in August. LT Kennedy also detached in August. In August four Ensigns and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

NROTC Alumni Newsletter (Re)Debuts

The *NROTC Alumni Newsletter* debuted in July of 1996 (Volume 1 Issue 1) and carried the name of the Midshipmans Foundation in the banner. The editor was John Hitchcock '65. The NROTC Alumni Foundation logo was added to the banner in 1997. The Midshipmans Foundation put out their first separate newsletter in January 2004 (volume 1) and was dropped from the banner of the *NROTC Alumni Newsletter*. From that point on, the newsletter was mostly a publication controlled by the UT NROTC Alumni Foundation since it sponsored the annual reunions and that was the primary purpose of the newsletter. The newsletter still covered Midshipmans Foundation news, especially pledge drives and scholarship information.

NROTC Alumni Newsletter ♦
Volume 1 Issue 1 Midshipmans Foundation May-July 1996

Ninth Annual Reunion Flexes to Meet Last Minute Game Change

New Format
Along with introducing the publication content we have also devised a new format for the newsletter as directed by our new editorial committee. In this publication, we will change our structure a bit. They will concentrate with the Board members as follows:
Jan - Paul Reardon (P) org. Pres. - Steven Calabrese (Pres) Apr - Spring Board Mtg. May - Fund Raising Issue. Sep - Fund Raising Mtg. Aug - NROTC Alumni Mtg. Sep - NROTC Alumni Mtg. Sep - Alumni Center. Oct/Nov - Reunions. Nov - Post Reunions Issue.

Each issue will contain specific columns. The President and past presidents will each have one as well as the President of Naval Science. There will be Board Highlights, alumni letters, a financial summary, calendar and alumni highlights. A committee effort will be made to incorporate something of interest to each of the four major age groups. We will, of course, welcome, comments and letters.

Calendar of Events	Financial Summary
Spring Commencement	May
Executive Board Meeting	10 August
Executive Board Meeting	16 September
Alumni Reunion	4 October
	Trust Fund
	\$58,281

NROTC Alumni Newsletter debut

⁵⁸ Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khobar_Towers_bombing

Academic Year 1997

Statistics:

Number of Students: 59 Midshipmen (up 12), 9 MECEPs, 12 ECPs and 4 NECPs for a Battalion of 84 (up 9)

Number of Staff: 5 Officers (no change), 3 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 17 (14 Navy, 3 Marine) (down 1)

The CHR was the primary source of Unit information about this year. Also one issue of the *Naval Orange* newsletter from September 1996 was provided by Tim Griffin '96. See the Appendix. No other *Naval Orange* newsletters were available for this timeframe.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately eleven military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, CAPT William R. "Bill" Graner, USN. Prior to the beginning of the year the Unit Storekeeper was replaced. Also the Unit lost two Lieutenants and received only one replacement. The Unit would stay shy one Lieutenant for this year and next.

The Battalion was probably still organized into three platoons within one company. Battalion Commanders were Timothy J. Griffin (fall) and Dennis S. Lloyd (spring)⁵⁹. Total Battalion strength was about what it was the previous year, up slightly. The following table assumes an even distribution of members, less Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>	<u>Third Platoon</u>
Alpha	25	25	25

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1997. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded that the Buccaneers participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 7).

There were no documents that mentioned the Color Guard, Praetorian Guard or Pistol Team.; however, since the Color Guard went with the Bucs to the Tulane Drill Meet the previous year and in the 1998 academic year, it is highly probable that they went with the Bucs this year, too.

The Publications Officer was the *Naval Orange* newsletter Editor, Sgt Joshua G. Rushing. LT Steven Powell was the Staff Advisor. There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this year. It looked like from the September 1996 issue of the *Naval Orange* that Sgt Rushing was a one-man show.

⁵⁹ Recollections of Dennis S. Lloyd '97

Ironman Competition Disappears Again

Intramural sports were not covered in any document this year. The CHR only mentioned two sports-related events. The Second Annual UT NROTC Golf Tournament Fundraiser was on October 4th, and a Capitol 10K race was held on April 6th. An Ironman competition was not mentioned.

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 9) and the spring formal or Ring Dance (May 2). Spring Break occurred the week of March 10-14. No known field trips were planned during the academic year.

There was no Anchorette information available from the *Cactus* or the *Longhorn Log*. The September 1996 issue of the *Naval Orange* had a good article in it on page 5 about the Anchorettes. It was written by Kim Sczech. There is a photograph of ten of the Anchorettes, with names listed. Three others were not pictured but listed as officers. President was April Martinez, Vice President was Jenni Hadd, Treasurer was Angela Tatakavak, Secretary was Karen Cooke, Historians were Kim Sczech and Dorothy Harper, and Pledge Advisors were Tiffany Souders and Allison Clark. There appeared to be 13 Anchorettes (eight returnees and five pledges) for the year. The article said the Anchorettes used their first TGIF of the semester for the annual Meet the Mids get together. It was primarily to welcome the new crop of Midshipmen and Officer Candidates. It involved volleyball, hamburgers and lots of socializing. The Anchorettes still did cookie calls after drill and TGIF parties every other Friday. They also did work for the Austin community. Chris Ruckman '96 said the Anchorettes were still active in December 1996, when he left.

New Battalion Computer Lab

An article from the September issue of the *Naval Orange*, written by MDN 1/C Chad Coneway, described this new development. Last year the Battalion had three computers. Push for the computer lab started in spring 1996 when the Unit staff received funding to update their computers. New PCs showed up at the end of summer 1996. The Battalion got the staff's old computers and built the lab around those. LT Kennedy and his relief, LT Hill, who came in August, were very helpful. They obtained a color scanner, bubble-jet printer and laser printer. OC Dave Walker had been a big help, too. He did memory upgrades and set up the network. A goal was to get half the computers hard-wired into the Internet ASAP.

First Scholarships Awarded at Alumni Reunion

On October 5, 1996 the 10th annual alumni reunion was held. Max K. Miller '57 was the new President of the Alumni Association. The Board and general business meetings were held at RAS. Three \$500 scholarships were awarded for the first time at the reunion. In subsequent years it would become more standard practice to award student scholarships and swords in the fall at the reunion, rather than at the Unit's fall awards ceremony. Alumni could then see who was reaping the benefits of their donations. The general business meeting would be the venue for those scholarship and sword awards. Also at the general business meeting John W. Hitchcock '65 was awarded the Alumnus of the year. The football game was at 6 p.m. Texas walloped OSU 71-14. The barbecue dinner was earlier in the evening at the American Legion Post. By the end of this year, the UTMF Trust Fund was worth \$60,180.

On December 20th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Seven Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

Big 12 Conference Begins on a Bittersweet Note

With the new Big 12 conference there was a Northern Division and Southern Division. Nebraska finished at the top of the North, ranked #3 in the nation. Texas finished at the top of the South with a very unimpressive 8-5 record and ranked #23 in the nation, although they did beat A&M 51-15. The conference playoff on December 7, though, resulted in a 37-27 Texas upset victory. Texas, as the first Big 12 Champion, went on to play #7 Penn State in the Fiesta Bowl but lost.

CC: Palm Pilot Debuts/Hale-Bopp Comet Appears

Let's compare chronometers. On March 10th the Palm Pilot was released. It was developed by Jeffrey Hawkins and gave rise to the development of other PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) devices which technology would merge with cell phones to become smart phones. On March 22nd the comet, Hale-Bopp, made its closest approach to Earth.

On April 22, 1997, at the Unit's spring awards ceremony, three more \$500 scholarships were awarded to members of the Battalion. The Malcolm Macdonald sword was also awarded. This would continue to be the venue for the alumni making awards to the Battalion in the spring; however, the bulk of scholarships and swords would gravitate toward the reunion over the years, giving maximum exposure of these awards to alumni attending that annual event.

On May 16th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Three Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. One Nuclear ECP also graduated but commissioned elsewhere. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Texas 10% Law Passed

On May 20, 1997 the Governor signed into law Texas House Bill 588 (HB-588) that guaranteed automatic admission to UT and other state funded colleges and universities for those Texas high school students who graduated in the top 10% of their class. Since there was no cap on the number of students admitted under the law the more popular schools, like UT, experienced a flood of applicants that tended to crowd out student applicants who were out-of-state with otherwise acceptable credentials. Under this law, which was enacted in answer to objections to "affirmative action" admissions guidelines, these students were only guaranteed admission. They still had to pay for their schooling and were not guaranteed the major they may have desired. Still by 2008 UT's enrollment was 81% Texas top ten students. Since then UT has been able to cap enrollments at 75% because of the study which revealed that.⁶⁰ Nevertheless, it still put the squeeze on admitting students with a NROTC scholarship, who were

⁶⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas_House_Bill_588

out-of-state or not in the top 10% of their Texas high school graduating class, from bringing their scholarship to UT.

Summer 1997

CC: China Gets Hong Kong

Let's compare chronometers again. On July 1st the United Kingdom turned over sovereignty of Hong Kong to China. The U.K. called it the "handover." China called it "the return."

In June GySgt Gilbert Mangold reported aboard to relieve SSgt Thomas, who didn't detach until August.

Black Mac Dies

On Saturday, July 5, 1997 Dr. H. Malcolm Macdonald slipped the surly bonds of Earth. He died in Austin. He had been the author of some twenty-seven books, monographs, or articles, and in his many years of teaching he touched many students' lives in a positive and lasting manner. Of his time at UT, he had spent 28 years as the Liaison Officer for ROTC. He spent 30 years as the Chairman of the Commencement Committee and 17 years as Chairman of the Government Department.⁶¹ It was truly the end of an era.



CAPT Malcolm Macdonald

In August LT John D. Gerken reported aboard to relieve LT Hill. Later that month Col John S. Cipparone arrived and relieved CAPT Graner as PNS. Sometime during the summer Rhonda Scruggs replaced Miki Elizondo as Military Personnel Clerk. In August three Ensigns were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

Academic Year 1998

Statistics:

Number of Students: 70 Midshipmen (up 11), 6 MECEPs, 13 ECPs and 3 NECPs for a Battalion of 92 (up 8)

Number of Staff: 5 Officers (no change), 3 Enlisted (no change), 3 Civilian (no change)

Number of Commissionees: 18 (15 Navy, 3 Marine) (up 1)

One issue of the *Naval Orange* (March 1998) and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. See the Appendix.

⁶¹ Memorial Resolution prepared by a special committee of Professors William S. Livingston (Chair), James R. Roach and Lorene L. Rogers.

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately eleven military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the new CO, Col John S. Cipparone, USMC. Prior to the beginning of the year, the CO, one Lieutenant and the Military Personnel Clerk were replaced.

Col Cipparone was a qualified helicopter pilot (CH-53) and a squadron commander. He had held several executive and staff positions and attended the Naval War College. He also commanded a Marine Security Battalion before relieving CAPT Graner on August 15, 1997 to become the 21st Professor of Naval Science at UT.

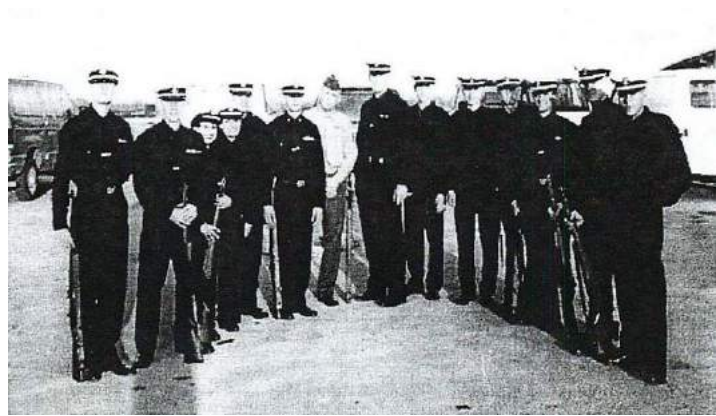


John Samuel Cipparone

The Battalion was organized into two companies with two platoons each.⁶² Battalion Commanders were Leo S. Gregory (fall)⁶³ and Jason C. Pittman (spring). Battalion strength was up a little bit from the previous year, enough to have two companies again. The following table assumes an even distribution of members, less Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	20	20
Bravo	20	20

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and there was no *Longhorn Log* published in 1998. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded that the Buccaneers participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 6) and Krewe of Tucks parade (February 7) for Mardi Gras. The Color Guard also competed in the Tulane meet, and all Midshipmen stayed aboard USS Inchon (MCS-12) while in New Orleans. From photographs in the March issue of the *Naval Orange*, there appeared to be 13 members of the team, counting the commander, eleven men and two women. This probably represents a five-person Color Guard and eight-person Drill Team. GySgt Mangold (Assistant MOI) was the staff advisor and may have marched



1998 Buccaneer Drill Team. March 1998 Naval Orange, page 8.

⁶² Recollections of Seth P. Goldstein '00

⁶³ Recollections of Seth P. Goldstein '00

with the team. MDN Tristan Ramos Policarpio commanded the Color Guard. MDN Edwin Dale Spradley, was the (Buccaneer) Platoon Commander.

From the March 1998 *Naval Orange* we can glean a few more things about the Unit's activities. The Buccaneers were still using Springfield rifles (Model 1903) and had a bit of difficulty in putting a team together and preparing for the Tulane Drill Meet. They spent four days in New Orleans. The Navy basketball team was also highlighted but no dates or names were specified.

There were no documents that mentioned the Praetorian Guard. The May 1998 issue of the *NROTC Alumni Newsletter* said that the pistol team was able to travel to and compete in a Nebraska meet because of alumni donations. The CHR mentioned that the Color Guard went with the Bucs and participated in the Tulane Drill Meet (February 6th).

The Publications Officer was MDN 3/C Bryan Coultas. LT Steven Powell was the Staff Advisor. There was no *Longhorn Log* published for this year. The *Naval Orange* staff numbered about four Midshipmen. Its Editor was MDN 3/C Bryan Coultas.

Intramural sports were partially covered in the *Naval Orange* with just a few photographs of Navy basketball in one issue. The CHR mentioned three other sports-related events. The "Run to Dallas" was on October 10th. The Battalion Golf Tournament was on April 3rd and the Capitol 10K race was on April 4th.

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 15) and the spring formal or Ring Dance (May 2). The Social Officer was MDN 1/C John Perkins. Spring Break occurred the week of April 9-13. No known field trips were planned during the year.

There was no Anchorette information available from the *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* or *Naval Orange*, however Misty Roquemore '98 said they were still active until December 1998, when she left.

On October 25, 1997 the 11th annual alumni reunion was held. The Board and general business meeting were both held at RAS. Robert L. "Bob" Gartner '65 was awarded Alumnus of the year. Three \$500 scholarships were awarded to Battalion members. Game time was at 2:30 p.m. The barbecue dinner was held in the evening after the game. By the end of the year the UTMF Trust Fund was worth \$68,818.

On December 19th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Three Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The M-O and T Lists provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. This was the last time the M-O could be used. ENSs Montes and Oliver graduated with this class.

CC: New Stadium Upper Deck/New Nuclear Club Members

Let's compare chronometers. 1998 would see a new upper deck being added to the East side of DKR – Texas Memorial Stadium.⁶⁴ From May 11-13, India detonated three nuclear devices and joined the club (#6). From May 28-30, Pakistan detonated five nuclear devices and joined the club (#7). Just for the record, the first five members of the “club” were: U.S. (#1), USSR/Russia (#2); U.K. (#3); France (#4) and China (#5).

On May 7th, at the Unit's spring awards ceremony, three more \$500 scholarships were awarded to deserving Midshipmen. On May 22nd the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Six Ensigns and three 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The T List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

Summer 1998

CC: Windows 98 Debuts/U.S. Embassies Bombed/Google Begins

Let's compare chronometers again. On June 25th Microsoft released Windows 98 (code-named “Memphis”). On August 7th the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were bombed by Osama bin Laden allies. On September 4th Google was incorporated. It had been founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, both PhD students at Stanford University, earlier the same year.

In July, Capt David R. Baldwin reported aboard to relieve Maj Butler. In August CDR Stephen A. Bartek reported aboard to relieve CDR Radebaugh as XO. In August four Ensigns were commissioned. The T List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. At the end of August Mrs. Rhonda Scruggs departed.

Academic Year 1999

Statistics:

Number of Students: 71 Midshipmen (up 1), 3 MECEPs, 6 ECPs and 1 NECPs for a Battalion of 81
(down 11)

Number of Staff: 5 Officers (no change), 3 Enlisted (no change), 2 Civilian (down 1)

Number of Commissionees: 18 (15 Navy, 3 Marine) (no change)

The *Longhorn Log*, the *Cactus* and CHR were the primary sources of Unit information about this year. The 1999 *Longhorn Log* provided 35 pages of Unit information for academic year 1999. The *Cactus* only provided two pages. See the Appendix. The 1999 *Longhorn Log* bore no dedication.

⁶⁴ Website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darrell_K_Royal-Texas_Memorial_Stadium

There were still 66 U.S. universities with NROTC units. At UT there were approximately twelve military and civilian staff members of the Unit, including the CO, Col John S. Cipparone, USMC. All the staff were pictured in the *Cactus* and the *Longhorn Log*. Prior to the beginning of the year the XO and MOI positions changed hands. In September CDR Radebaugh detached and retired. Mrs. Janice Creech assumed the Military Personnel Clerk position. In mid-December LT Coley C. Chappell reported aboard to apparently restore the Unit's full complement of three Lieutenants.

The Battalion was organized into two companies with two platoons each.⁶⁵ The 2000 *Cactus* pictured two companies, with a little over 20 members assigned to each. Battalion Commanders were Jesus S. "Jesse" Moreno (fall) and SSgt Charles E. Hawthorne (spring).⁶⁶ The *Longhorn Log* pictured all Battalion members alphabetically with no company, platoon or class affiliations. Total Battalion strength was about what it was the previous year. The following table assumes an even distribution of members, less Battalion staff.

<u>Company</u>	<u>First Platoon</u>	<u>Second Platoon</u>
Alpha	18	18
Bravo	18	18

Buccaneers were not documented in the *Cactus* and were only briefly covered on two pages in the *Longhorn Log*. The Command History Report (CHR) recorded a "Big 12 Drill Competition" (February 12) and a "Big 10 Drill Competition" (April 10) but didn't connect them with the Buccaneers. Mardi Gras was on February 16 that year so the Big 12 Drill Competition could have been what was called the Tulane Drill Meet in years past. The *Log* documents that the Buccaneers and the Color Guard both participated in the drill meet in New Orleans. Photographs indicate a team of 14 members, counting the commander and the guidon. Only two names are mentioned in the *Log*, MDN John Griffith and Sgt Rafael Milanes, a MECEP. Uniforms were the typical undress blues (*i.e.*, black trousers and black CPO shirt) with white combination cover. Ties were not tucked in. White leggings, parade belt, scabbard, gloves and rifle sling were not in use, nor were bayonets.



1999 Buccaneer Drill Team. 1999 *Longhorn Log*, page 22.

⁶⁵ Recollections of Seth P. Goldstein '00

⁶⁶ Recollections of Bradley S. Lewis '99

There were no documents that mentioned the Praetorian Guard. The *Longhorn Log* pictured a five member Color Guard (two MDN women, two MDN men, one MECEP) participating in the Tulane competition again. No names were listed.

The *Longhorn Log* pictured the pistol range in action for freshman orientation but no mention of a pistol team. The *Cactus* did mention a pistol team. GySgt Mangold oversaw the pistol range. OC Dawn Allen was pictured firing a pistol in the pistol range. MDN 2/C Michael Ricketts was pictured in the pistol range wearing "Mickey Mouse ears".

The Publications Officer was MDN 1/C Edwin Spradley. LT Steven Powell was the Staff Advisor. The *Longhorn Log* staff numbered about twelve Midshipmen and officer candidates. Its Editor was MDN 1/C Edwin Spradley. No copies of the *Naval Orange* have been recovered from this period.

Ironman Competition Comes Back

Intramural sports were covered in the *Longhorn Log*. The Unit fielded football and softball teams. No season records were documented. The "Run to Dallas" was on October 7th. The Capitol 10K race was on April 11th. The Ironman competition was held April 24th. According to the *Cactus*, the event included a nine-mile run, 500-yard swim, 100 push-ups and 40 pull-ups. The UT "Pink Team" won 2nd Place. The first Ironman Competition had been started back in academic year 1983, when Maj Armstrong was MOI. It was not mentioned from academic years 1984 to 1993. It was mentioned again in '94, '95 and '96 when Maj Lukeman was MOI. It disappeared again in '97 and '98. Ironman was not done in '98 under Maj Butler (MOI). It reappeared again this year under a new MOI, Capt David R. Baldwin. He brought it back.⁶⁷

Major social events for the year included the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball (November 7) and the spring formal or Ring Dance (May 7). Spring Break occurred the week of March 15-19. No known field trips were planned during the year.

There was no Anchorette information available from the *Cactus*, *Longhorn Log* or *Naval Orange*, however Misty Roquemore '98 said they were still active until December 1998, when she left.

On October 3, 1998 the 12th annual alumni reunion was held. William L. "Bill" Docekal '65 was the new President. Board and general business meetings were held at RAS. Keys A. Curry, Jr. '58 was awarded Alumnus of the year. Three \$500 scholarships had already been awarded to Battalion members on September 1st as part of the XO's (CDR Radebaugh's) retirement. The football game was at 6 p.m. Texas whipped Iowa State 54-33. The barbecue dinner was at the American Legion Post earlier that evening. By the end of the year the UTMF Trust Fund was worth \$83,556.

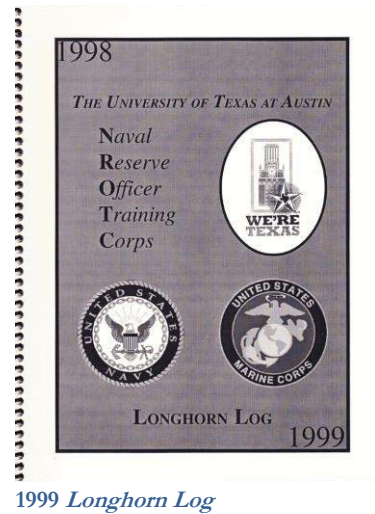
On December 18th the NROTC fall commissioning ceremony was held. Five Ensigns were commissioned. The 1999 *Longhorn Log* and T List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

⁶⁷ Recollections of Seth P. Goldstein '00

On May 4th, at the Unit's spring awards ceremony at Bass Lecture Hall, three \$500 scholarships and the Malcolm Macdonald sword were awarded to four Battalion members. On May 20th the joint spring commissioning ceremony was held. Nine Ensigns and two 2nd Lieutenants were commissioned. The 1999 *Longhorn Log* and T List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers. See the Appendix.

NROTC Yearbook Reappearances

The 1999 academic year marked the reappearance of the *Longhorn Log* and the appearance of the Unit on two pages of the *Cactus*. The *Log* had not been published since 1992 and the last *Cactus* appearance was in 1989. It is believed that budgetary constraints were the primary cause of the absence in the *Cactus*. As of this writing, cursory investigation has revealed three annual appearances in the *Cactus* after this year. The *Log* was a different matter. Its existence was entirely dependent upon the Battalion; however, no further appearances of the *Longhorn Log* occurred until academic year 2004. These appearances are a tribute to the Battalion members who volunteered their time and talent to preserve a bit of history for our Unit. The 1992 and 1999 *Logs* also represented a return to a less-professionally published, polished yearbook as was the case in the 1980s. They had fewer pages also, like those of the 1960s and 1970s. This is not a complaint, just an observation.



1999 *Longhorn Log*

Summer 1999

Huston-Tillotson University MOA

Huston-Tillotson University became an official cross-town program on August 16, 1999 when UT President Dr. Larry Faulkner, HT President Dr. Joseph McMillian, Jr. and UT NROTC CO Col John Cipparone signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). From that time forward Midshipmen in the UT Battalion could actually be enrolled at, pursue a degree plan and receive their diploma from Huston-Tillotson University. Also HT students could be members of the UT NROTC Unit voluntarily or by scholarship. In 2006 Toby Green was the first Midshipman to graduate from HT.⁶⁸

UTMF Trust Fund Over \$100,000

Sometime during 1999, the value of the UTMF Trust Fund passed the \$100,000 mark. It may have been at the reunion in the fall but we don't know for sure. At the end of the year the fund was worth \$105,647. Also in this year, 1999, Earth's population reached six billion.

⁶⁸ Email response from CAPT Brian Teets to the author, dated January 25, 2017.

In August SKC Rodriguez detached on terminal leave and Mrs. Gretchen Kays detached and retired from the Senior Office Assistant position. In August one Ensign and one 2nd Lieutenant were commissioned. The 1999 *Longhorn Log* and T List provided the names and the CHR provided numbers.

End Note for Volume III

Well, that's the end of our third volume of UT NROTC history, each covering 20 years of Unit activities and accomplishments. This volume was unusually difficult because of a lack of available documentation during the decade of the 1990s. For that reason an extra year was taken to try to capture information from correspondence with alumni from that period. There are still events, activities and accomplishments to be captured, and the task will be ongoing. In putting together this volume, information was captured and revealed that will be used to update the first two volumes of Unit history; so I know that will be the case for this volume as the research continues. Participation from alumni and Unit staff has been vital in continuing the work on this project, and I expect it will continue into the next volume of twenty years (2000-2020). As soon as this goes to "press," work on the next volume will start, although it has already gotten a good beginning. When this project began, almost five years ago, it soon became apparent that new history was happening every year! And so, a parallel effort was started to document the current years that were passing even as the work continued Ham sandwich, potato chips and pickles on prior years.

It is sincerely hoped that by the reunion weekend in the fall of 2019, the "last" volume of Unit history will be ready for distribution so that on the 80th Anniversary of the UT NROTC we will have a fairly complete accounting of those first 80 years. Your continued assistance in making this possible has been most encouraging. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the effort.

About the Author



Edwin W. "Ed" Mergele, a native of San Antonio, graduated in 1975 from UT with a Bachelor of Architecture (BAR), Magna Cum Laude. In 1975 he also completed his fourth year as a UT NROTC Midshipman and received his commission as a Line Officer in the Navy. He spent his first six months of active service in training to prepare for the Surface Warfare specialty and as a Talos missile battery officer. His first ship was the USS Albany (CG-10), flagship of the 2nd Fleet, homeported in Norfolk Virginia. Eight months later Albany "crossdecked" with the USS Littlerock (CLG-4) in Gaeta, Italy to take over duties as flagship of the 6th Fleet. In 1979 Ed returned to the United States and traded a regular Navy commission for one in the Naval Reserve.

During the next twenty years, he served another 18+ years in the Naval Reserve, retiring as a Commander, and earning his pennant as Commanding Officer of Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 108 (MIUWU-108), based at Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, TX. He was recalled to active duty twice: once in 1985 to assist the Operations officer for the Chief of Naval Reserve in New Orleans, LA and the second time with MIUWU-108 for service in Operation Desert Storm. The latter was served in Ad Dammam, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait City, Kuwait. Among his awards are the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

While serving in the Naval Reserve, he earned an MBA from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He pursued a career as an Architect and Realtor in the private sector from 1980 to 1984. After a move from San Antonio to Houston in 1985 he moved to the public sector and served the City of Houston as an Architect, ultimately resulting in his being appointed City Architect. After 22 years he retired from the City of Houston and served a brief time as Building Official for the City of Hunter's Creek. Upon moving back to his hometown of San Antonio in 2007 he helped his three other siblings with the family business, EWM Company in Boerne, Texas and served on the boards of the UT NROTC Alumni Foundation and the Midshipmans Foundation. His interest in researching and documenting the history of the UT NROTC Unit is a natural outgrowth of his work as the alumni newsletter editor and the alumni webmaster, and of his love for history.