

1970 - 1979

Congress appropriated \$9.8 million for the construction of the first building complex designed specifically for and to meet the needs of the MFSS.

The MFSS Social Work-Psychology Specialist Course was one of five selected from more than 600 mental health programs nationwide to be showcased at the National Mental Health Association Convention in Washington, D.C., in February 1970. The course featured role-playing technique, closed-circuit television for immediate playback of observation and critique, peer teaching, group sensitivity training, case study methods, field studies, independent research, case conferences, and tutorial assistance.

(“National Convention to Feature MFSS,” Talon, 12 February 1970)



MARRIED TRAINEES AT MEDICAL FIELD SERVICE SCHOOL
... left to right, the Wayne Munyons, the Timothy Lunns and the Lawrence Cawthons

Six married MFSS couples attending the AMEDD Basic Course for Army Nurse Corps and Army Medical Specialist Corps Officers were featured in the Talon

The Army Medical Department was one of the only departments where dual careers were possible.

(“MFSS Trains Couples: Med Officers Serve in Twos,” Talon, 19 Feb 1970)



The 323rd Army Band played half-hour concerts in the Quadrangle of the School during the lunch hour

The band was under the direction of CWO Benjamin Cortese, Bandmaster.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD C&S History Office Files)

In 1970, many MFSS officers and soldiers returning from deployments in Vietnam were recognized in the local papers. An unusual one was Captain Gerald D. Poe. Poe, an MFSS Officer, served as a helicopter pilot in the Republic of Vietnam and was awarded the Navy Air Medal (Bronze Star in lieu of the First Award) for heroism on 15 February 1969, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy.

(MFSS Officer Gets Navy Air Decoration,” Talon, 5 March 1970).

CPT Maria Dolores Martinez, a social worker originally from Puerto Rico, was the only woman in a class of 190 enrolled in the Officer Basic Course. She was also one of only three women social workers in the MSC at the time. Prior to joining the Army, she worked with prisoners in Puerto Rico, where she helped them establish a prison newspaper. Even after her departure to the U.S., her former patients continued to send her issues which she commented was "...satisfaction that you can't get with money!"

("Only Woman in Class of 190: Joined to Help People," Talon, 4 June 1970)



MEDICAL MUSEUM RENOVATION — COL Frank A. Neuman, left, commandant of the U.S. Army Medical Field Service School and MG O. Elliott Ursin, commanding general of Brooke Army Medical Center, cut the golden ribbon at the opening of the newly renovated Medical Museum at MFSS. The 50th anniversary of MFSS is next month and the museum opening is one of many events planned during the year.

In May 1970, the Army Medical Museum was re-opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The museum, located in the basement of building 2264 (then called Blesse Hall), had occupied that location since moving to Fort Sam Houston with the MFSS from Carlisle Barracks in 1995. The renovated facility had 12,000 square feet of floor space plus an adjoining workshop.

("Army Medical Museum Re-opened with Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony," Military Service News, 22 May 1970)



12 March 1970, the first architect's sketch of the new home of the MFSS appeared in the Talon

COL Anna Mae Hays, Army Nurse Corps, became the first woman promoted to the grade of brigadier general, making her the first woman general in the history of the Army Medical Department.

("Woman nominated for BG," Patriot, 28 May 1970)

The MFSS observed its 50th anniversary with a huge open house celebration that included skydiving, a carnival, band concert, cake cutting, and history exhibit. Every department had an exhibit highlighting its recent achievements, which included a tour of a MUST hospital, Special Forces students treating patients in a field setting and mock field clinic, water purification equipment, and entomological control equipment demonstrations.

("MFSS Celebrates 50 Years," Patriot, 25 June 1970)

1970

In 1970, MG Kenneth D. Orr was dual-hatted, beginning in June as both Commanding General of both BAMC and the MFSS.

("MFSS Welcomes New Commandant," Patriot, 25 June 1970)

At the end of the 1970 fiscal year (June 30), 1200 students completed training courses in Dental Specialist Basic, Dental Laboratory Procedures Basic, Dental Removable Prosthetics Specialist, Dental fixed Prosthetic Specialist, and Dental Administrative Procedures.

("MFSS Trains Enlisted Dental technicians: Program Prepares Students to Aid Dental Officers," Military Service News, 26 June 1970)

The Department of Nonresident Instruction was able to expand its extension services due to the introduction of a computer capable of grading exams and lessons, and records keeping. "Without the computer's assistance, we would soon be buried in piles of paper," said Colonel Larry W. Coker, the department director. The Department of Nonresident Instruction also relied heavily on instructional video tapes provided by the BAMC Television division (AMEDD TV).

("Extension Services to Expand," The San Antonio Light, 28 June 1970)



**Program from the 18 July 1970
Ground Breaking Ceremony.**

(Stimson Library, Special Collections)



A special commemorative coin was minted for the 50th anniversary.

One side bore the MFSS crest and the other contained the likeness of the old school building at Carlisle Barracks.

("Medal Minted," Patriot, 25 June 1970)

18 July 1970

U.S. Representative Henry B. Gonzales, left, breaks ground for the new MFSS to be built at Fort Sam Houston. MG Kenneth D. Orr, commanding general of BAMC and commandant of the new center, looks on.

(U.S. Army MFSS Dedication Ceremonies Program, 10 Dec 1972, Stimson Library, Special Collections, p 4)

The MFSS sought to individualize instruction with television and computer-assisted instruction. The school began producing individual lesson plans that students could use at one of ten computer-assisted instruction stations. COL Frank Kellel Jr., Chief, Office of Educational Services, and his staff were involved in developing an exam that would test a student's knowledge upon arrival. This procedure allowed more advanced students to "test out" of a subject, saving both the school and student training time. A new learning center was in progress where students could work at their own speed using state-of-the-art learning tools, including audio tape machines, film strip projectors, and single-concept, sound-voice machines designed for individual use.

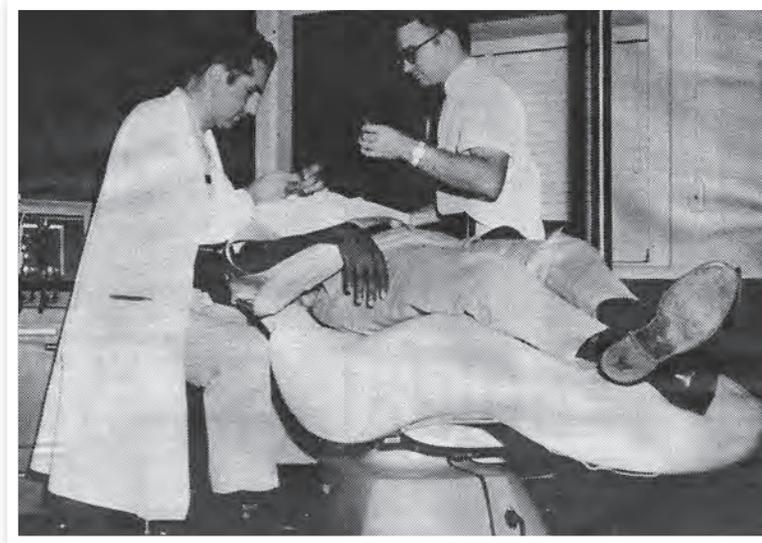
("Army School to Use Advanced Methods," The San Antonio Light, 28 June 1970)

The first woman veterinarian in the Army since WWII, CPT Jean E. Hooks, attended OBC at the MFSS in October 1970.

("Lady Veterinarian Breaks into Male-Dominated Field," Patriot, 16 Oct 1970)

The MFSS embarked on the use of Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI). By November 1970, the MFSS had completed CAI courses in item analysis; systems engineering of training; selective grinding of dentures; anatomy and kinesiology of the knee; calculation of nuclear effects; arthropod identification; and medical patient management simulation. The school's CAI used an IBM 1440 system. Eleven IBM 1050 typewriters with audio-visual devices (the student terminals) were connected by cable to the IBM 1440 system located in the BAMC data processing complex. Eight of the terminals were in the main Quadrangle and three in the Schock Hall teaching annex.

("Computers Replace Instructors at MFSS," Patriot, 12 Nov 1970)



The Department of Dental Services of the MFSS debuted a new dental chair that gave patients the sensation of "floating on air." The chair, which could be moved easily, was supported on a column of air, greatly improving a dentist's efficiency. A handheld, high-speed suction device that cleared oral cavities was introduced as a replacement for the old-fashioned cuspidor.

("Patients Float on Air in Dental Science Chair," Patriot, 1 Oct 1970)



The mock Republic of Vietnam Village at Camp Bullis, originally built in 1965

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)

1970



Field Exercises at Camp Bullis

ANC nurse takes a patient's pulse.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



LT Gordner, OT Affiliate, and mock "psych" patient

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)

Weapons familiarization

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)





BAMC'S BEAUTY QUEEN — Miss BAMC 1970, SP5 Sandra Chavez is pictured above taking in the sights at the River Walk and the HemisFair Plaza in San Antonio. Recently featured as "Wac of the Week" in the Aug. 26 Issue of the Army Times, Sandra is an Instructor in basic medical laboratory chemistry in the Department of Photology and Laboratory Sciences at MFSS.
Patriot 17 Sept. 1970

Miss BAMC 1970

While numerous MFSS women had won the title of Miss Brooke Army Medical Center over the years, Miss BAMC 1970, SP5 Sandra L. Chavez, an instructor of basic medical laboratory chemistry, was the first featured repeatedly in the Patriot as "Beauty Plus Brains."

"BAMC's Beauty Queen," Patriot, 17 Sept 1970;
"Beauty Plus Brains," Patriot, 30 April 1970;
"Queen Congratulated," Talon, 9 April 1970)



QUEEN CONGRATULATED — COL Frank A. Neuman, commandant of the U.S. Army Medical Field Service School, congratulates SP5 Sandra Chavez upon her being selected Miss Brooke Army Medical Center. SP5 Chavez is assigned to the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Sciences at the School.



BEAUTY PLUS BRAINS — Miss Brooke Army Medical Center 1970, SP5 Sandra L. Chavez, shows off her knowledge of clinical chemistry for LTG Hal B. Jennings, Surgeon General of the Army, who was inspecting classroom facilities at the U.S. Army Medical Field Service School where BAMC's fiesta queen daily unravels the mysteries of chemistry for her students.

1971

In January 1971, the MFSS underwent a vast structural reorganization. Department, division, and battalion commanders, each responsible directly to the Commandant, Deputy Commandant, and Executive Officer, were organized into three major departments with specialized divisions. The reorganization streamlined the number of leaders reporting directly to the Commandant, provided them with better functional control, and eliminated overlapping responsibilities.

The first new department, the Department for Doctrine and Evaluation, incorporated newly-acquired Medical Department agencies, the Health Care Research Division, and the Medical Material Test and Evaluation Division, with the Training Literature Doctrinal Review Division (previously a part of the Department of Nonresident Instruction).

The second, the Directorate of Instruction, consisted of Medicine and Surgery, Pathology and Laboratory Sciences, Nonresident Instruction, Health Care Administration, Preventive Medicine, Educational Services, Mental Hygiene, Veterinary Sciences, Dental Science, Military Science, and Nursing Science.

These two departments were primarily responsible for the direct instruction of enlisted and officer students at the school.



A view of the south side of the future Aabel Hall. The mound of dirt is the current location of Neel Plaza.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)

The east entrance of the future Willis Hall

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)

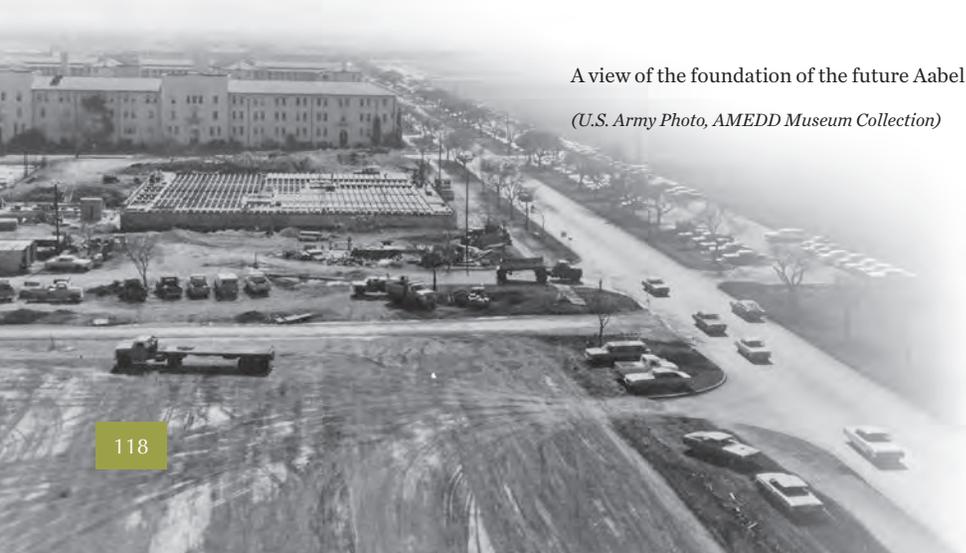


Medical Service Corps recruiting brochures featured a cover photo of Major Patrick H. Brady, MSC, receiving the Medal of Honor.

(AMEDD Museum, MSC Corps Collection)

A view of the foundation of the future Aabel Hall.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



The last department, the Support Services Department, included the Administration Division, Academic Operations Divisions, First Battalion (the cadre, 323d Army Band and enlisted), and the Second Battalion (officer students). Under the Administration Division were the Administrative and Classified Files Section, Mail and Distribution Section, Publications Section, Academic Records Section, Academic Records Branch, book store, library, museum, and Foreign Liaison and Protocol (formerly the Foreign Student Liaison Office). It also served as the liaison for the MFSS Officer's Open Mess and BAMC Headquarters elements such as the Management Division, Personnel Division, Public Affairs Office, and Legal Assistance.

(Patriot, 14 Jan 1971)

The Physician Assistant Branch was authorized and added to the Medicine and Surgery Division. The primary mission was to conduct the newly-designed Physician Assistant Course to provide warrant officers with a working knowledge of health care delivery techniques necessary to assist a medical officer. The initial screening for enlisted applicants for the new Physician Assistant Program began in October 1971.

(“Physician Assistants Program: A new course at MFSS, A new job in the Army,” Patriot, 21 Oct 1971)

The MFSS Physical Therapy Program was approved for a Master's Degree by Baylor University under the U.S. Army-Baylor University affiliation.

(“Physical Therapy Course Gives Master's,” Patriot, 26 Aug 1971)

In September 1971, all medical training of Special Forces Aidmen moved from Fort Bragg to the MFSS. The program, expanded from 10 to 13 weeks, consisted of six weeks of on-the-job training at various hospitals and seven weeks of advanced medical training at the MFSS. A number of changes were made to increase the clinical emphasis of the course.

(“Green Berets Train at MFSS,” Patriot, 9 Sept 1971)



Construction at about 40% complete

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



SGM Veve R. Halouska, assigned to the MFSS, became the first Women's Army Corps member in the San Antonio area to be promoted to the rank of SGM. SGM Halouska was the first woman test writer for the AMEDD, writing the annual test for all skill levels of dental assistants in the Army. Concurrent with her promotion, she was named Chief of the Military Occupational Specialty Test and Special Review Branch of the Department, becoming the first woman to hold this position.

(“New Sergeant Major is a Lady,” Patriot, 25 March 1971)

1972

In February 1972, the MFSS began its first Physician Assistants course.

The Army began giving maximum bonuses for re-enlisting in military occupational specialties (MOSs) with critical shortages. Military newspapers in 1972 featured images and amounts that service members received with the maximum re-enlistment bonus of \$10,000 for re-enlisting for six years.

Coinciding with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, MG Kenneth D. Orr appointed the first Equal Opportunity Officers (EEO) and Equal Employment Opportunity Officers (EEO) to BAMC. The two officers were assigned to ensure the fair and equal treatment and opportunity for all military and civilian personnel without regard to race, religion, sex or national origin.

“EEO, EEO Officers Named for BAMC,” Patriot, 20 April 1972

On 10 Dec 1972, administration building B-2840 and the primary academic building B-2241 of the MFSS were named in honor of COL Bernard Aabel, Medical Service Corps, and Major General John M. Willis, Medical Corps. During the building dedication, the Secretary of the Army, Robert F. Froehlke, announced that the MFSS name had been officially changed to the Academy of Health Sciences (AHS).

Constructed of reinforced concrete with precast native quartzite exterior panels, the 400,000 gross square foot complex cost some \$11 million. Built by the Browning Construction Company, a locally based organization, the school was designed to house 48 classrooms with a seating capacity of 3,000.

“Modern New School Blends with Historical Buildings,” Patriot, 10 Dec 1972

MG Willis

A veteran of WWI, MG Willis commanded the MFSS from 1924-1934, developing the School into one of the most important agencies for the training of medical officers. He returned to the MFSS for two more years in 1938 and commanded the Camp Grant Medical Replacement Training Center during WWII. He was the first general officer to command BAMC in 1946. He retired from the Army in 1948.

“Surrounded by History,” FSH Museum Publication, pp 41-42

10 Dec 1972 Dedication
Ceremonies Program cover

(Stimson Library Special Collections)



Photo taken for a Nurse Corps recruiting brochure in front of Aabel Hall, circa 1972.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

COL Aabel

Served through five campaigns in the European Theatre during WWII and was wounded in action. During the Korean War, he was Deputy Commanding Officer of the Medical Replacement Training Center, Camp Pickett. His service included duty with the Surgeon General's Office, with the Military Attaché to Finland and as Chief, MSC.

“Surrounded by History,” Fort Sam Houston Museum Publication, pp 41-42



In October 1972, the MFSS conducted a two-week drug and alcohol education course, developed and funded by the DoD, for personnel involved in the Post alcohol and drug abuse program. The course was in response to the thousands of service members who returned from Vietnam with substance abuse problems.

("MFSS fights drug abuse," Patriot, 5 Oct 1972)

The Army's first woman pharmacist, 2LT Verena A. M. Haynes, Army Medical Department, attended the Basic Course at the MFSS.

("First to go," Patriot, 10 Aug 1972)

Everette R. Calloway, a Health Department sanitarian from Cabarrus County, N.C., became the first civilian to attend the Preventive Medicine Procedures Basic Course at the MFSS.

("Civilian attends MFSS," Patriot, 7 Sept 1972)

Mrs. Alma Withrow, a civilian employee of the Andrew Rader Clinic at Fort Myer, VA, became the first woman and first civilian to attend the Patient Administration Course.

("Friends Meet Again in MFSS Classroom," Patriot, 5 Oct 1972)

More than 13,000 students were enrolled in correspondence courses through the Nonresident Instruction Division (NRI) of the MFSS. The correspondence courses were designed to make it possible for active duty personnel who were unable to attend resident courses at the MFSS to improve their military proficiency and potential by mail. Student enrollment had increased by 3,000 since 1969.

("Correspondence Courses Available at MFSS," Patriot, 10 Dec 1972)



SFC John Clayton and SP4 Diane Schmidt work together to get instructional materials packed and sent at MFSS NRI. The mailroom handled some 200,000 separate pieces of material each month.

("Correspondence Courses Available at MFSS," Patriot, 10 Dec 1972)



With MFSS NRI Division's enrollment hovering around 13,000 students, and with each student completing several lessons a week, NRI was faced with the mammoth task of correcting all the student's tests. An optical mark scoring reader does the job. Rudy Ochoa runs a handful of student answer sheets through the grader quickly and easily.

("Correspondence Courses Available at MFSS," Patriot, 10 Dec 1972)



Every new student had a card and number, and someone at MSFF NRI Division kept track of the card. J.E. McElvy handled that work, filing the new enrollment cards as they were printed.

("Correspondence Courses Available at MFSS," Patriot, 10 Dec 1972)

1973

The reorganization of all Army medical activities was announced 11 Jan 1973, creating the U.S. Army Health Services Command (HSC). The Command was activated on 1 April 1973 and became fully operational on 1 July 1973. The Academy of Health Sciences (AHS) became a subordinate unit of the HSC.

The new Academy of Health Sciences incorporated all existing MFSS training and supervised all medical training previously conducted under the U.S. Army Medical Training Center (MTC) for enlisted medics, the Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing, the U.S. Army Veterinarian School and the training mission of the Medical Optical and Maintenance Agency. The MTC formally deactivated and officially became part of the Academy of Health Science on 1 July 1973. The U.S. Army Medical Material Agency was also assigned to the AHS.

(General Orders Number 9, 8, 14 and 12, 1 Feb 1973.)



Students study parasitology in the Pathology and Laboratory Sciences Department.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

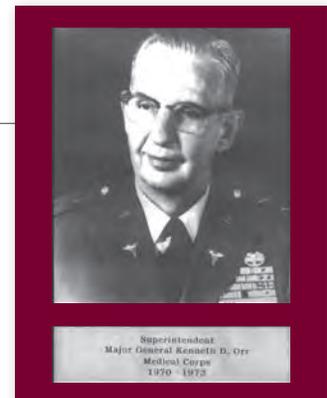


LTG Hal B. Jennings hands the command colors of the U.S. Army Health Services Command to MG Spurgeon Neel.

(U.S. Army Photo)

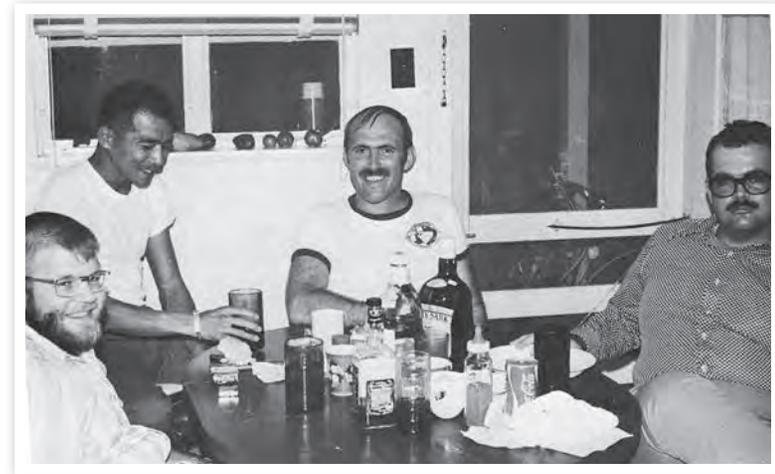
MG Kenneth Orr, former Commander of BAMC and first Superintendent of the AHS, retired on 30 June 1973.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDDC&S History Office files)



The Academy of Health Sciences completed the majority of moving operations into the new building complex of Willis and Aabel Halls in early January 1973. The first class to open in the new building was the Army Medical Department Noncommissioned Officer Course on 9 Jan 1973.

The first class of the Physician Assistant Course completed their didactic training at the Academy on 7 Feb 1973. After completion of Phase III clinical training at 14 outlying Army hospitals, the class returned to the school for graduation on 10 Aug 1973. The graduates were given Associates of Science degrees from Baylor University and appointed to the rank of warrant officer. The Physician Assistant Course was accredited by the American Medical Association (AMA) at their June 1973 meeting of the AMA Council on Medical Education.



The first class of the Physician Assistant Course produced their own yearbook. The images suggest they earned bartending degrees along with Associates of Science.

(The First Physician Assistant Course Year, Stimson Library Special Collections)



Louis R. Rocco, Medal of Honor recipient, was among the first class of Physician Assistants

(U.S. Army Photo)

Warrant officer candidates attending the first class of the Physician Assistant Course pose along with staff and faculty members. The photo appears to have been taken on the northern steps of the causeway between Willis and Aabel Halls.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDDC&S History Office files)



1973

Enlisted students were first awarded an Associate of Science degree through the Academy of Health Sciences – Baylor University Enlisted Undergraduate Program in June 1973. Thirteen students were awarded the degree after completing a 50-week Advanced Medical Laboratory Procedures Course. This was the first occasion for civilian recognition of education received by enlisted service members at a military educational facility.

The Academy of Health Sciences Chapel was dedicated 26 Aug 1973. In attendance were the Superintendent, BG Edward Vogel Jr., and the Army Chief of Chaplains, MG Gerhardt Hyatt.



The Learning Resources Laboratory at AHS encouraged students to view instructional videos.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



SP5 Persen navigates for information on a computer in the Learning Resources Library.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



Instructors and students in the Clinical Specialist Course transfer a patient from a modified Stryker bed to a CircOlectric bed.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



Members of the 143d Evacuation Hospital of Santa Monica, California. The National Guard unit was one of many to receive their annual summer training through the AHS and BAMC in 1973.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

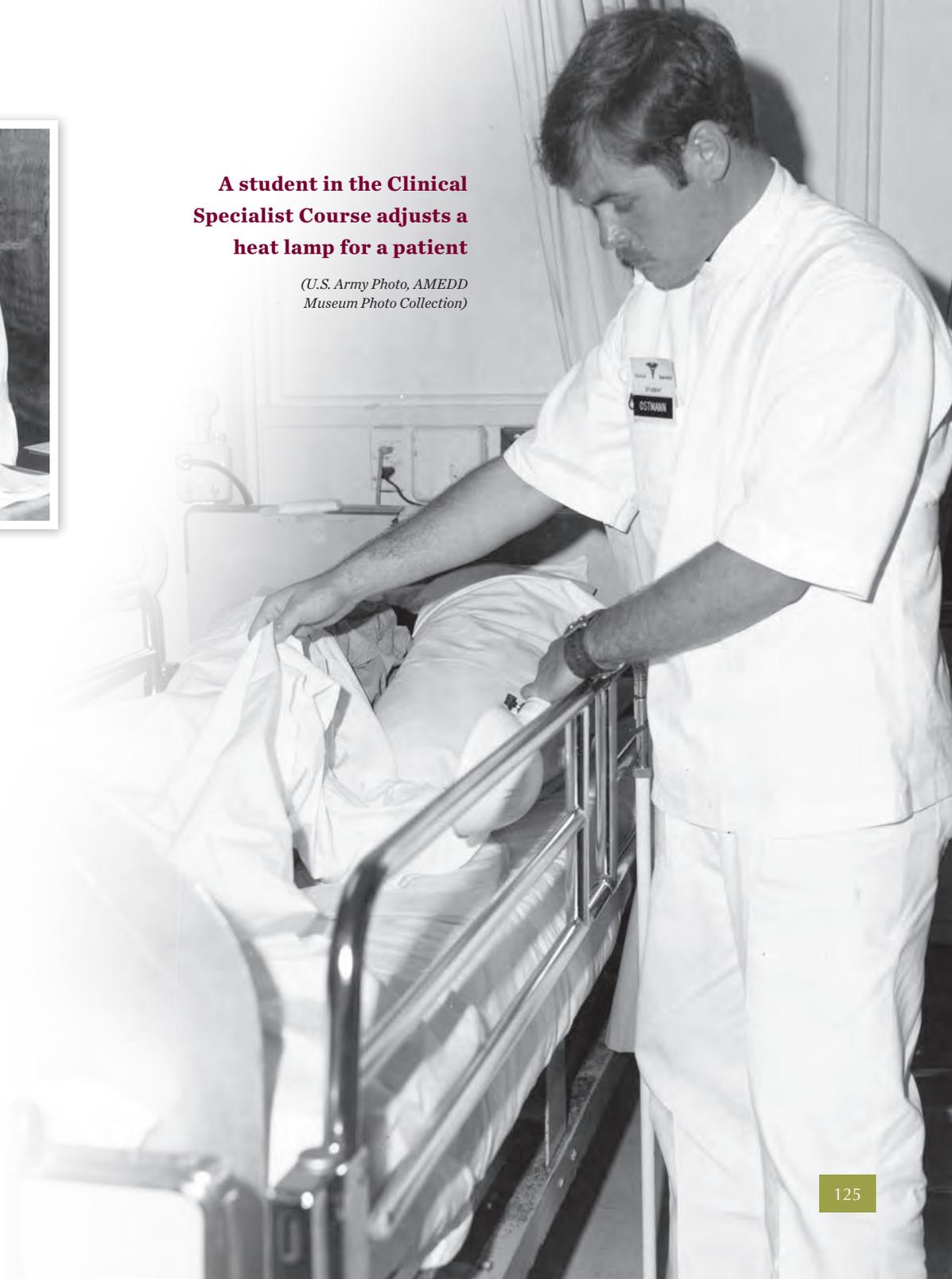


An Optical Fabrication Specialist (42E) hard at work.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

A student in the Clinical Specialist Course adjusts a heat lamp for a patient

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



1974

The Occupational Therapy Specialist Program, in partnership with Baylor University, received approval for accreditation on 14 Jan 1974.

(AHS, CY 74, Annual Historical Review (AHR), p 13)

The AHS was accepted for membership into the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professionals, joining the ranks of higher education institutions such as Harvard, Yale, and Columbia University. The ADAHP is a not-for-profit association chartered in 1967 in response to an urgent need for an interdisciplinary and interagency association to improve the quality and quantity of the workforce in health occupations and professions.

(“Academy Enters School Association,” Patriot, 24 Jan 1974)

AHS observed Black History Week from 10 to 16 February. This appears to be the first AHS observance of Black History Week.

(“BAMC and Academy Observe Black History Week,” Patriot, 7 Feb 1974)

BAMC held a memorial service for the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the AHS Chapel.

(“BAMC Holds Memorial Services for Rev. King,” Patriot, 24 Jan 1974)



First Male Nurse Corps Colonel

COL Lawrence Sheffner, Organization Division at the AHS, becomes the Nurse Corps' first male colonel in April 1974.

(“Nurse Corps Gets First Male Colonel,” Patriot, 11 April 1974)

Construction on the \$8.5 million enlisted barracks complex behind the AHS began in August 1974

(“Barracks Complex Announced,” News Leader, 25 July 1974)



The 323rd Army Band was officially assigned its first female band members. PVT Tanya Schroeder, clarinet; SP4 Sheryl A. Johnson, tuba; and PFC Frances San Soucie, flute, received their official orders within hours of one another. SP4 Johnson and PFC San Soucie had been playing with the band since the beginning of the year. The impact of the women's presence in the band was minimal — the only change behind the scenes, according to the Bandmaster, was that the men had to tone down their language somewhat.

(“AHS Band Goes Coed,” Military Science News, 31 May 1974)

In July of 1974, the Combat Development and Health Care Studies (CDHCS) activity was reorganized as a result of a direct manpower reduction. The resulting reorganization combined the Materials Division and Organization into the Organization & Material Division.

(AHS, CY 74, AHR, p 5)

Also on 1 July 1974, the Women's Army Corps (WAC) ceased to exist. All officers formerly assigned to the WAC were reassigned to a number of other branches on that date. The change of corps increased the number and type of assignment available to female officers.

(“Women's Officer Corps Ceases to Exist,” Patriot, 1 July 1974)

Tuba

SP4 Sheryl A. Johnson with her tuba. “Privates San Soucie and Schroeder do get suspicious of a man's real intentions when he asks to carry either the clarinet or flute for them, while Specialist Johnson says not too many offer to carry her tuba.”

(“Girls in the Band,” typewritten article, 21 June 1974, Stimson Library Special Collections)



Rising price of gas prompts creative transportation

The price of gas drives AHS employees to develop a carpooling system. About 135 persons opted to participate in the program.

(“AHS Personnel Participate in Fifty Carpools,” Mil Service News, 3 March 1974)

1974

Effective 5 Sept 1974, the Basic Health Services branches were transferred from the Medicine and Surgery Division, Military Science Division, and the Nursing Science Division to the Basic Health Services Division.

(AHS, CY 74, AHR, p 5)

In November 1974, the functions of the AMEDD Veterinary School were transferred from Fort Sheridan, Illinois, to the Academy at Fort Sam Houston.

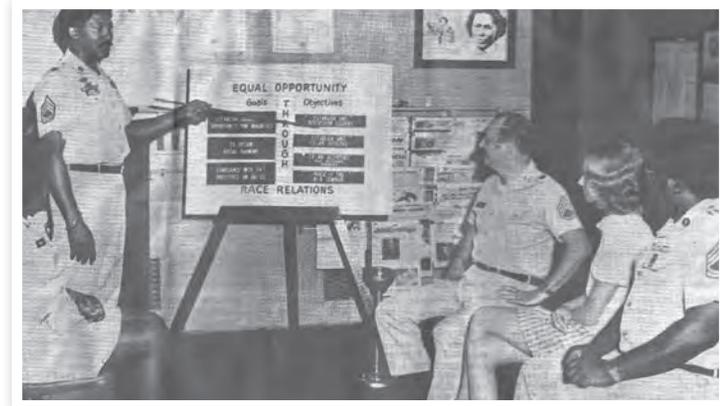
(AHS, CY 74, AHR, p 5)

The AHS Race Relations Council was formed to advise the Superintendent on matters of policy and procedure in the area of equal opportunity and race relations.

(“BAMC and Academy Observe Black History Week,” Patriot, 7 Feb 1974)

The Education Branch of the Equal Opportunity Office held its first Race Relations Seminar. By December 1974, 99% of all military and civilian personnel assigned to the AHS had attended 15 to 18 hours of mandatory Race Relations Education sponsored by the Equal Opportunity Office.

(AHS, CY 74, AHR, p 13)



A Minority Information Culture Center was established in January 1974. The Center contained a collection of “race-related items: a Puerto Rican flag; African Liberation Movement flag; slave bracelets; a clenched fist; calendars featuring biographies of outstanding Blacks, Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, and American Indians; a Quran; books on minorities; and literature on minority colleges.”



CAPT Diana Barefoot, MSC dietician, discusses diet therapy for patients with renal disease for a “Continuing Medical Education” episode at the AHS Television studio.

(“TV-Way to Go,” Suzanne Ward, AMEDD Spectrum, Vol 1 No. 1, 1974, pp 48-53)

AVR-1 Ampex Quadruplex television recorders used by the AHS Television Studio in 1974

(“TV-Way to Go,” Suzanne Ward, AMEDD Spectrum, Vol 1 No. 1, 1974, pp 48-53)

The Academy of Health Sciences Television Division rivaled any major commercial TV station in equipment and expertise. It produced hundreds of instructional video TV programs each year. In 1974, it had a library with 900 master videotapes and loaned copies of its library contents worldwide. Its productions on the closed circuit system received an average of 290,000 views per year in the early 1970s. It had a complete production facility on wheels, a 30-foot van that toured the country wherever AMEDD news was being made.

("TV: Way To Go," Suzanne Ward, AMEDD Spectrum, Vol 1 No 1, 1974, pp 48-53)



The Amphitheater, a mock operating room, at the AHS

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



SP4 Sam Synder

1st Battalion, Academy
Brigade, demonstrates a
litter carry.

*(U.S. Army Photo,
AMEDD Museum
Photo Collection)*



PVT Carol Strauss views a
programmed instruction
on a 35mm Autotutor at
the Learning Resources
Lab at the AHS.

*(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD
Museum Photo Collection)*

1974

Blesse Auditorium, 1974

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist (91U20) students in the lab.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



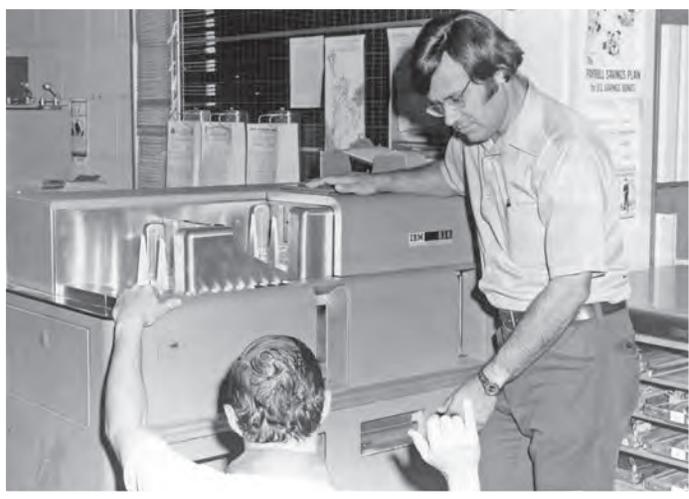
Advanced Medical Laboratory (92B30) students work in a chemistry lab in the AHS.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



Students view spiders in the Entomology Department.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



The IBM Reproducer allowed instructors to make instant copies of instructional materials.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

A spinal column in the Anatomy Lab is shown to attendees at the Army Midwest Regional Recruiting Nurse Team conference at the AHS.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



Nurses view the snake and insect specimens in the Entomology Lab during the Army Midwest Regional Recruiting Nurse Team conference at the AHS.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

A blood washing demonstration is checked

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



1975

In January 1975, SP4 Carolyn J. Walls graduated from the U.S. Army Medical Equipment and Optical School in Denver, Colorado, part of the AHS. SP4 Walls was the first female to graduate from the course in its 30 year history.

("First Woman Graduates as Army Biomed Tech," Patriot, 23 Jan 1975)

The Army Veterinary School physically moved to AHS in February after being located at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois, for 54 years.

("Army Veterinary School comes to AHS," Patriot, 6 Feb 1975)

A WAC saves the life of a local woman. In her fourth week of the Basic Health Services Course, PVT Victoria Gwara saved the life of a woman at a local restaurant after the woman went into seizures. She attributes being able to perform these life savings techniques to her medical training.

("WAC Saves Life of Woman," News-Leader, 20 Feb 1975)

The first grandmother to attend the Army Medical Basic Course. 1LT Lenoma Gray, 41, entered the Army as a nurse after being rejected twice before, first during the Korean War (for being married) and second during the Vietnam era (for having dependent children).

("First Grandmother to Attend Army Medical Basic Course," Patriot, 29 June 1975)



The AMEDD celebrated its 200th anniversary on 28 July 1975. The Color Guard of the Academy of Health Sciences displayed the U.S. Army Medical Department Bicentennial flag during the Bicentennial celebration.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



EMT students remove victim from a vehicle.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



MAST crew boards the chopper to crank up for a rescue mission.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



Female Medics with the 507th Medical Company assisted with MAST operations.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



Jointly sponsored by AHS and the city of San Antonio, the Ethnic Expo took place in June at Fort Sam Houston with service members and local talent.

(“Ethnic Expo ’75,” Patriot, 12 June 1975)

The AHS, in cooperation with the state of Texas, began its first course through which enlisted military personnel could eventually register as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) with the state.

(“Academy Program Leads to State Recognition as EMT Specialist,” News-Leader, 9 Jan 1975)

Bob Hope Visits

Medical Officers get autographs from world famous comedian and entertainer, Bob Hope, after his Christmas time performance at BAMC.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Collection)



1976

The AHS won a silver medal from the International Film and Television Festival of New York for the production of “Centuries of Service: Army Medicine, An American Heritage.” The production, narrated by actor Robert Young, was a 52-minute documentary that traced the history of the Army Medical Department from its establishment by the Continental Congress to 1976.

(“TV Star Robert Young Receives HSMD Plaque,” News-Leader, 13 May 1976)

Key personnel from the three newest and largest medical organizations of the Army National Guard (ARNG) arrived the week of 27 Feb 1976, to train at AHS. The ARNG requested the training in order to familiarize themselves with command and control procedures at the highest echelon of combat field medicine.

(Military Service News, 27 Feb 1976)



LTC Howard Gutin, Chief of Health Science Media Division at AHS, presents a plaque to actor Robert Young. Youthful stars Desi Arnaz, Jr., and Lucie Arnaz accompany Young as LTC Gutin presents the appreciation during the National Easter Seals Telethon in Los Angeles.

(“TV Star Robert Young Receives HSMD Plaque,” News-Leader, 13 May 1976)

The AHS Color Guard carries the colors during the American Bicentennial celebrations at Fort Sam Houston on the 4th of July.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



As part of a DoD initiative to save money, AHS began to offer additional interservice courses. Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel joined AMEDD soldiers for courses in Social Work and Psychology, Food Inspection Procedures, Physical Therapy Aids, and an Occupational Therapy Specialist course.

(“To Save Dollars: AHS consolidates training efforts,” Patriot, 20 May 1976)

Basic general supply information training moved from Ft Jackson, S.C., to AHS. The revised and expanded course tripled the normal class input.

(“Course expanded at FSH,” Patriot, 3 June 1976)

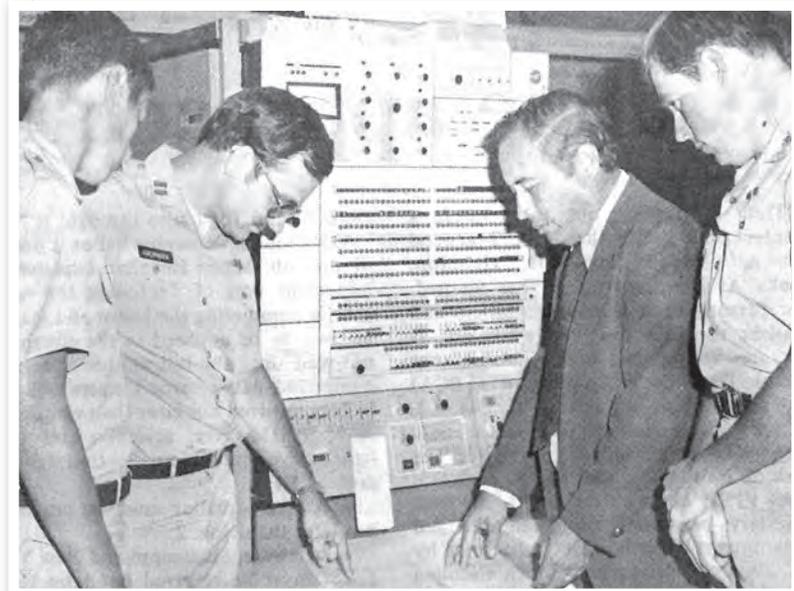
The Army Reserve trained and qualified 200 Guard and Reserve medical specialists during two weeks of active duty, in a pioneering effort for the Army Reserve to conduct their own training. Led by MAJ Gloria Boudreaux, the training was taught by reservists for reservists to ensure that they receive more meaningful training and additional paraprofessional skills to perform as an emergency ambulance technician, dental hygienist, or x-ray technician.

(“Army Reserves Pioneer In Conducting Their Own Training at AHS,” Military Service News, 20 Aug 1976)



AHS partnered with the Fort Sam Houston Post Management Information Systems Office to develop a computer-assisted property management exercise reflecting increased automation in the medical logistics environment. The exercise involved students inputting and evaluating results for a simulated Hospital Property Management Account.

(“Computer Assists,” Patriot, 14 Oct 1976)



AHS students begin moving into the new \$9 million complex of three-story barracks buildings next to Willis Hall in September 1976. The new barracks replaced the old “temporary” wooden barracks built during WWII. Constructed of masonry and air-conditioned, they were decorated with modernistic furniture and designed to give individuals as much privacy as possible.

(“New Barracks Replace Old,” Patriot, 2 Sept 1976)

1977

Fetoscopy – A New World,” a videotape produced by the AHS Media Division and BAMC Family Planning Department, wins national acclaim at the International Film and TV Festival of New York. The videotape showed imagery of a developing fetus through the combined use of a fetoscope and videography.

(“HSC Film Wins National Acclaim,” Patriot, 26 May 1977)

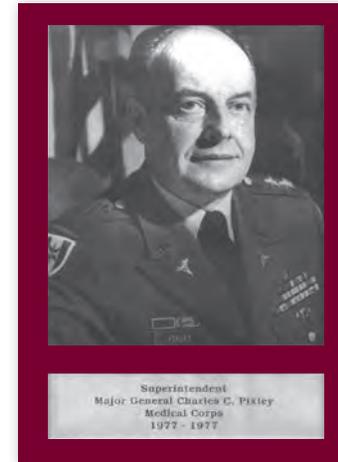
MG Pixley established the Directorate of Training Development and Evaluation, a centralized planning and instructional design activity. Its mission encompassed total analysis of AMEDD training needs to provide more comprehensive, life-cycle training support to Army Medical Department personnel worldwide. The Security Division, Management Information Systems Office, Logistics Division and the Army Medical Museum moved under the new Directorate of Support.

AHS and BAMC received four new commercial EMS ambulances to replace the Patient Transport Vehicles (PTVs). Equipped with life support equipment that enabled patient treatment en route, the new ambulances were used solely for training.

(“Ambulance Equipped with Life Support System,” News Leader, 21 July 1977)

The first four civilians graduate from the AHS Medical Logistics Management Course on 28 July 1977.

(“First Civilians Graduate,” Patriot, 28 July 1977)



MG Charles C. Pixley

Superintendent of the Academy of Health Sciences on 6 Jan 1977.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDDC&S History Office files)



COL Robert E. Mathias

COL Mathias, Chief of the Concepts and Doctrine Division, Combat Development and Healthcare Studies, AHS, was inducted into the Infantry Officer Candidate Hall of Fame on 24 Feb 1977. COL Mathias, who entered the Army on 10 May 1948 and

reached the grade of master sergeant, graduated from Officer Candidate School (OCS) in 1952. He also graduated from the Basic Course at the MFSS in 1952 and served a long and illustrious career with the AMEDD.

The AHS revised its Physical Fitness and Weight Control Program to comply with new Army regulations

The test for men included sit-ups; pushups; horizontal ladder; run, dodge and jump; and a mile run. For women, an 80-meter shuttle run and a stationary run replaced the mile run and horizontal ladder. Scoring was based on the participant's age.

(“AHS Shapes Up for Army Regulations,” Patriot, 24 Feb 1977)

For the first time, all faculty members and students at the AHS were required to receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

“At AHS: Training in CPR Begins,” Patriot, 4 Aug 1977

Dual careers were highlighted in news articles that mentioned simultaneous re-enlistments, receipt of ARCOM awards, and promotions.

“Husband, Wife Receive ARCOM,” Patriot, 27 Oct 1977

TV PRODUCTION BRINGS AWARD



Television production of the video titled “Contraception” receives the Thomas Jefferson Award, the Department of Defense’s highest award for military newspapers and electronic media.

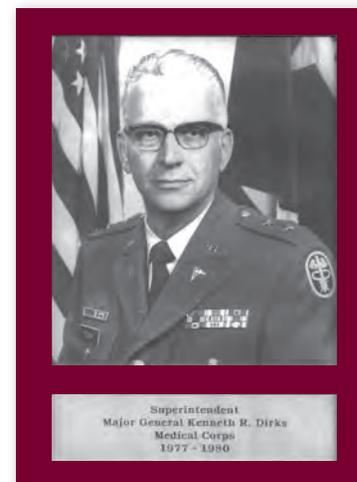
“TV Production Brings Award,” Military Service News, 10 March 1978



The AHS Media Division received the 1976 Keith L. Ware Award for the videotaped production “Contraception: Alternatives for Today.”

1LT Constantine G. Mourtous, Commander of Company C, 2d Battalion, AHS, received the “Iron Mike” award for being selected the Officer-NCO Honor Graduate of the Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia, in November 1977. 1LT Mourtous went on to become Executive Director of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System.

“Iron Mike,” Patriot, 23 Nov 1977



MG Kenneth R. Dirks became the Superintendent of the AHS on 17 Oct 1977, replacing MG Charles C. Pixley, who became the 34th Surgeon General of the United States Army.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDDC&S History Office files)

1978

Phase I of the two-year course Anesthesiology for Army Nurse Corps Officers was taught for the first time at AHS.

("Officers Begin Course," Patriot, 12 Jan 1978)

The Army Medical Department Museum Foundation was incorporated with the purpose of raising money to build a new Army Medical Department Museum at Fort Sam Houston. The Medical Museum, which traced its beginnings to the Medical Field Service School Museum at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, came to Fort Sam with the Medical Field Service School in 1946. It was renamed the U.S. Army Medical Museum in 1956 and was housed in the basement of building 2264, the old 9th Infantry Quadrangle.

Combat Medic Memorial

In 1977, under the leadership of LTC Richard J. Berchin, the Combat Medic Memorial Fund Committee was organized to construct a memorial to honor medics who went into combat to serve and save their fellow soldiers. The twice-life-sized figure of a combat medic giving aid to a wounded comrade was sculpted by Katherin Speed Ettl. The statue was placed in front of one of the last of two-story barracks on Fort Sam Houston, the location used by the Boy Scouts on Post until it was torn down for the new museum. The memorial was dedicated in 1979.

(News Leader, 14 July 1989, p 18)



LTC Richard J. Berchin gathers donations for the erection of the Combat Medic Memorial Statue.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)





An acknowledgment certificate for monies donated by the AHS towards the Combat Medic Memorial Statue.

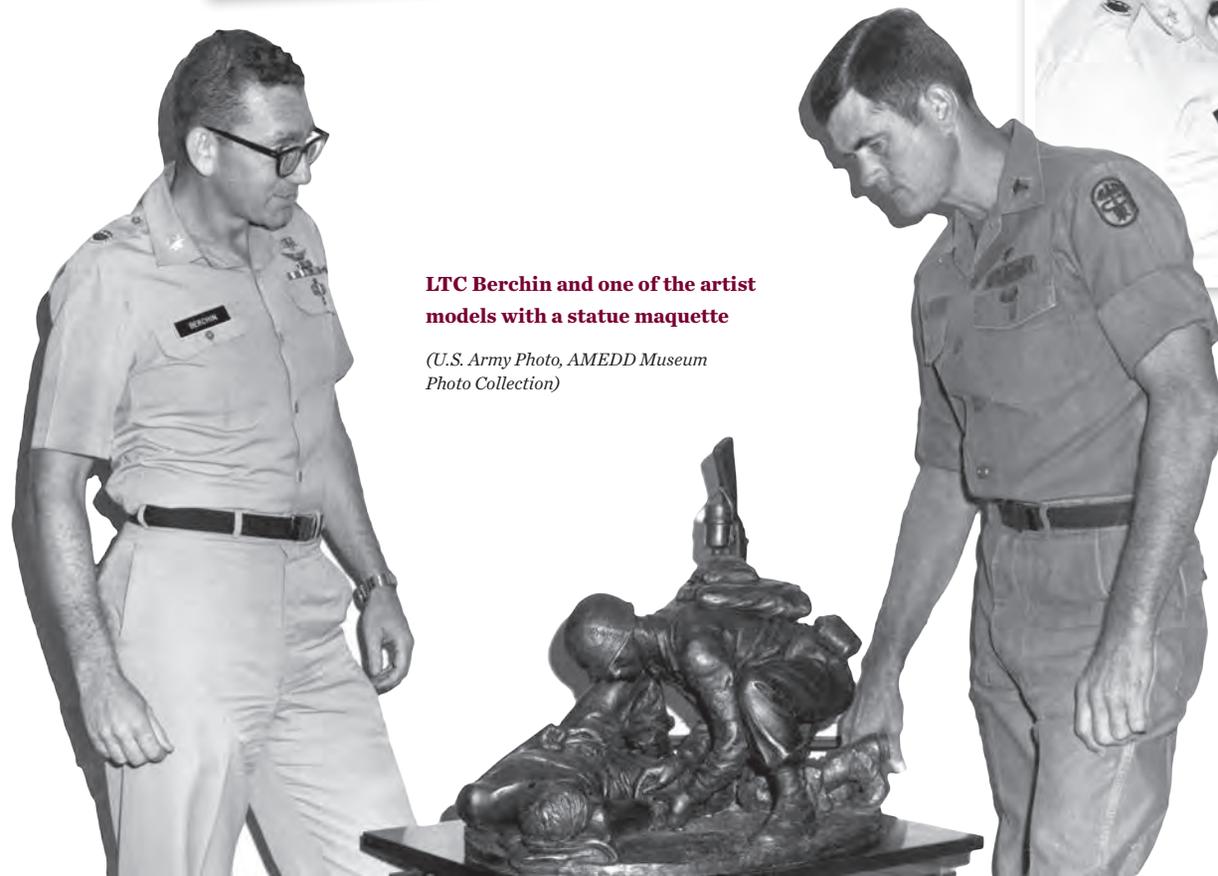
(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



A Donation Check

In the background is one of the first artist concept sketches for the statue.

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)



LTC Berchin and one of the artist models with a statue maquette

(U.S. Army Photo, AMEDD Museum Photo Collection)

1978

National Hispanic Heritage Week was featured in the pages of the *Medical Patriot* for the first time. Dr. Felix Almaras, Associate Professor of History at UTSA and Vice Chairman of the Bexar County Historical Commission, spoke on the “History of Hispanics,” while mariachis serenaded AHS personnel throughout the third week of October.

(“Hispanic Week Observers,” Medical Patriot, 12 Oct 1978)

Dynamic Duo

Husband and wife team, SSgt. Joseph A. Snyder and SP4 Beth A. Snyder, assigned to the AHS were awarded the Army Commendation medal for meritorious service at the same time.

(“Husband, Wife receive ARCOMs,” Patriot, 2 Feb 1978)



Television comes into its own during the 1970s as a teaching tool and for use in on-the-spot diagnosis. In May 1978, burn specialists from the Institute of Surgical Research (ISR) participated remotely in a simulated mass casualty exercise at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport by viewing and giving casualty care via live television coverage provided by national and local TV crews.

(“Making History,” Patriot, 25 May 1978)

The U.S. Army Medical Equipment and Test Evaluation Division was redesignated as the Directorate of Medical Equipment Test and Evaluation and reassigned to the AHS.

(Permanent Orders 110-1, 1 Oct 1978)

Modern Pentathlon, introduced at the 1912 Olympics, was a test of military skills traditionally taught at military academies at the time: horsemanship, fencing, shooting, running, and swimming. The basic concept was that a soldier sent on a mission on horseback must fight a duel along the way with an épée (sword), shoot at the enemy, swim across a body of water, and then run cross-country to achieve his objective.

From 1912 to 1985, the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Training Center was located at Fort Sam Houston. The sport's most famous U.S. competitor, one of its first, was 2LT George S. Patton. Early in his career, the military legend placed fifth in the 1912 Olympics.

**U.S. Modern Pentathlon
Patch, circa 1980.**

*(Patch image courtesy of the Fort
Sam Houston Museum)*



CPT William A. Matheson, Operations Officer for the Resident Operations Division at the Academy of Health Sciences, places second in the U.S. Fencing World Championship. Matheson is also a member of the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Team. He is shown here, on the right, with his fencing instructor, Gerald J. Poujardieu, Modern Pentathlon Fencing Master (coach) since 1959.

(“Number Two Fencer Heads for the World Championship,” Patriot, 15 June 1978)



1979

LTC James A. Vick, Office of the Surgeon General's leading authority on snakes and snake venom, was assigned to the Preventive Medicine Division at the Academy of Health Sciences in 1979.

("His Job Means Milking Snakes," Flying Times-Military Service News, 4 May 1979)

CPT Peter V. Perkins, medical entomologist and AHS instructor, was selected by the Army to obtain his doctorate in medical entomology at the University of Florida. Under the tutelage of Dr. David Young, a former Army Medical entomologist and world's leading authority on sandflies, Perkins completed his doctorate in three years and continued researching sandfly diseases for the Army until the turn of the millennium.

("Doctorate Candidate Will Study Sandflies," Flying Times-Military Service News, 17 Aug 1979)

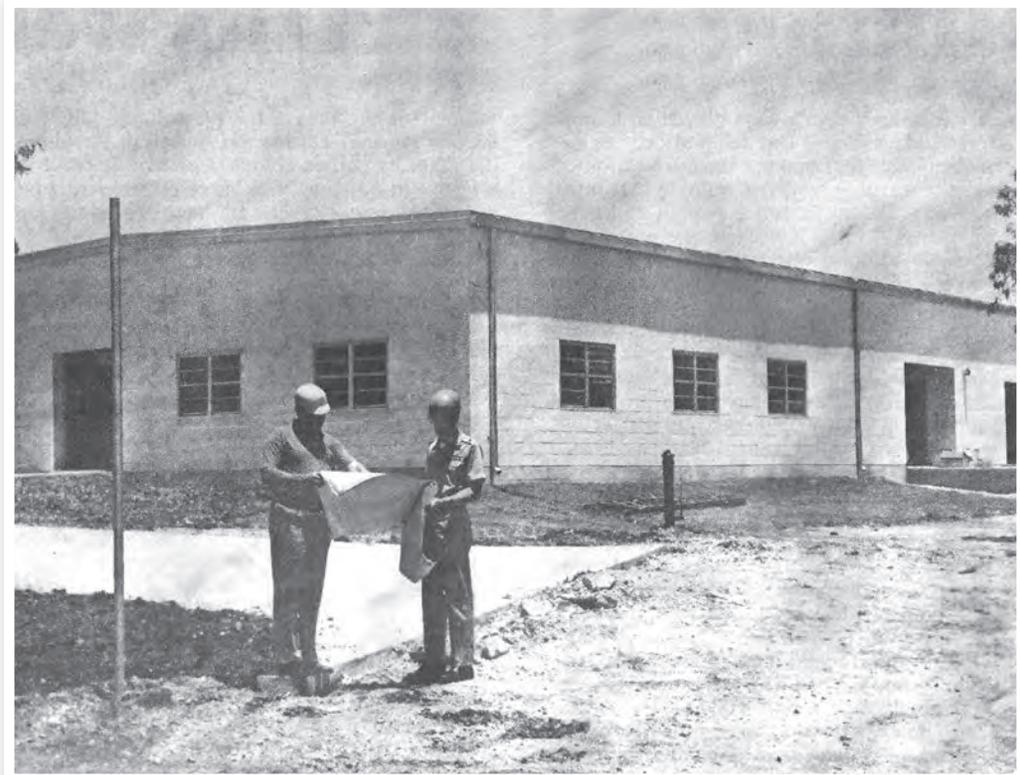
AHS re-enlistment NCOs were recognized for going far beyond the Army minimum for first-timer re-enlistments and careerists in 1979. Retaining qualified medics in the Army to provide quality health care was considered one of the most frustrating and rewarding responsibilities in the Army.

("Retaining Medics: Frustrating and Rewarding Job," Medical Patriot, 27 Sept 1979)

Pest Management

The 6,000-square-foot Pest Management Training Facility was dedicated on 29 June 1979. The structure was designed to train technicians in safely storing, mixing, and using pesticides and opened its door to its first class of students on 7 Aug 1979.

(U.S. Army Photo)



The HSC medical education satellite program supported by AHS was launched 20 Nov 1979.

LTC Robert J. Jeffery of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps became the first Australian Integrated Exchange Officer assigned to AHS in a staff capacity. LTC Jeffery served as the Executive Assistant to the Chief of the Concepts and Doctrine Division in the Directorate of Combat Development and Health Care Studies.

(“Two-year Assignment: Australian Joins Academy Staff,” Medical Patriot, 6 Dec 1979)



Dedication

The Combat Medic Memorial Statue, located on the corner of Stanley Road and Harry Wurzbach Roads, was unveiled on 13 Dec 1979.

(“Dedication,” Medical Patriot, 13 Dec 1979)



Reserve training activities at AHS increased and diversified in the post-Vietnam drawdown. Reserve training was divided into phases. Reservists with the 45th Station Hospital prepare garlic bread during field exercises for their Hospital Food Service Specialist Basic Course MOS.

(“Garlic Bread,” Patriot, 19 July 1979)