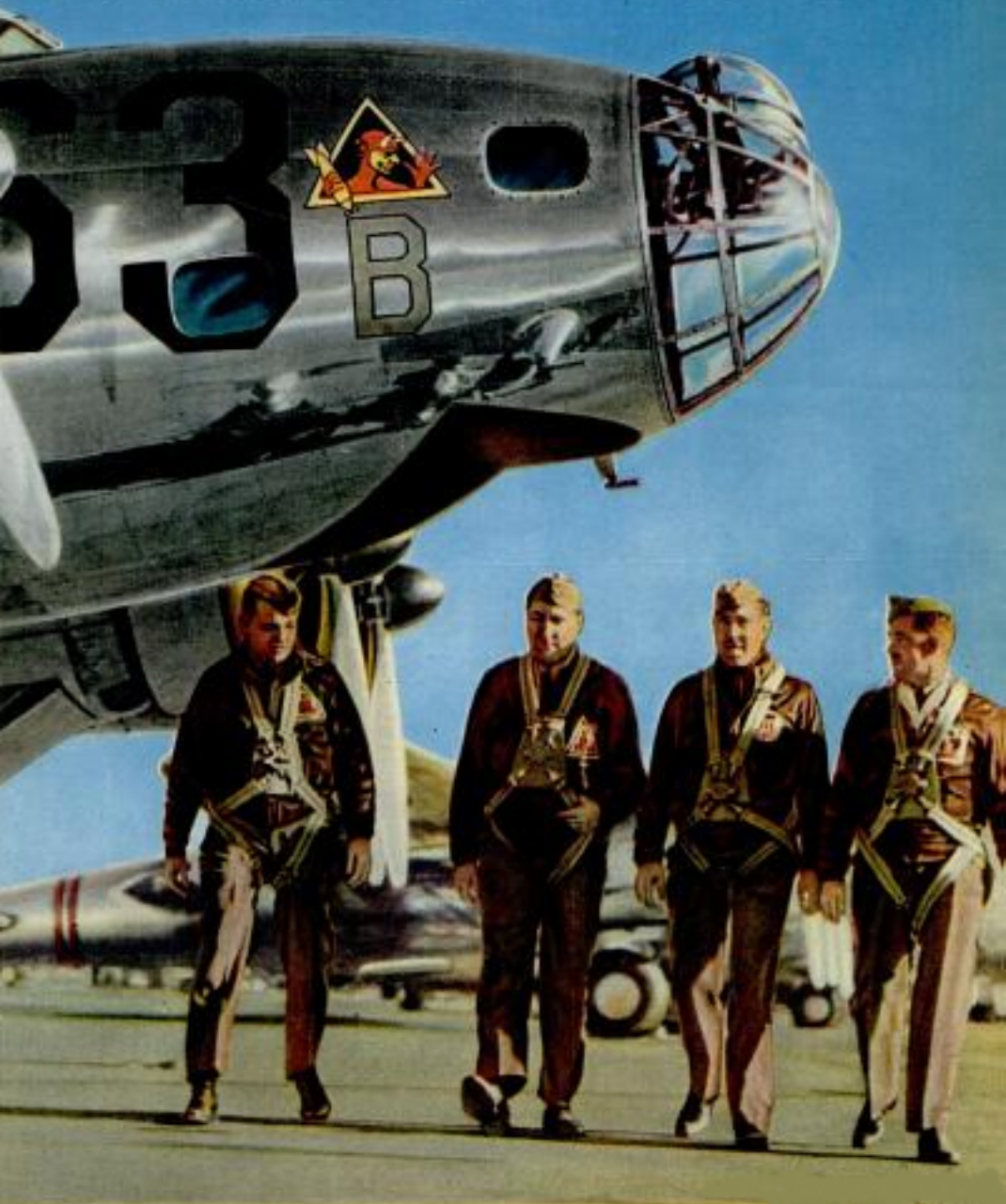


# UNCLE SAM'S *FLYING FORTRESSES*



THE START of a new day for the men who man a "Flying Fortress." With parachute harness adjusted, they are ready to board one of Uncle Sam's big bombers.

-A-

FLIGHT



OFFICERS of bomber inspecting board containing flight instructions. Below, releasing weather balloon to gather data for Uncle Sam's pilots.



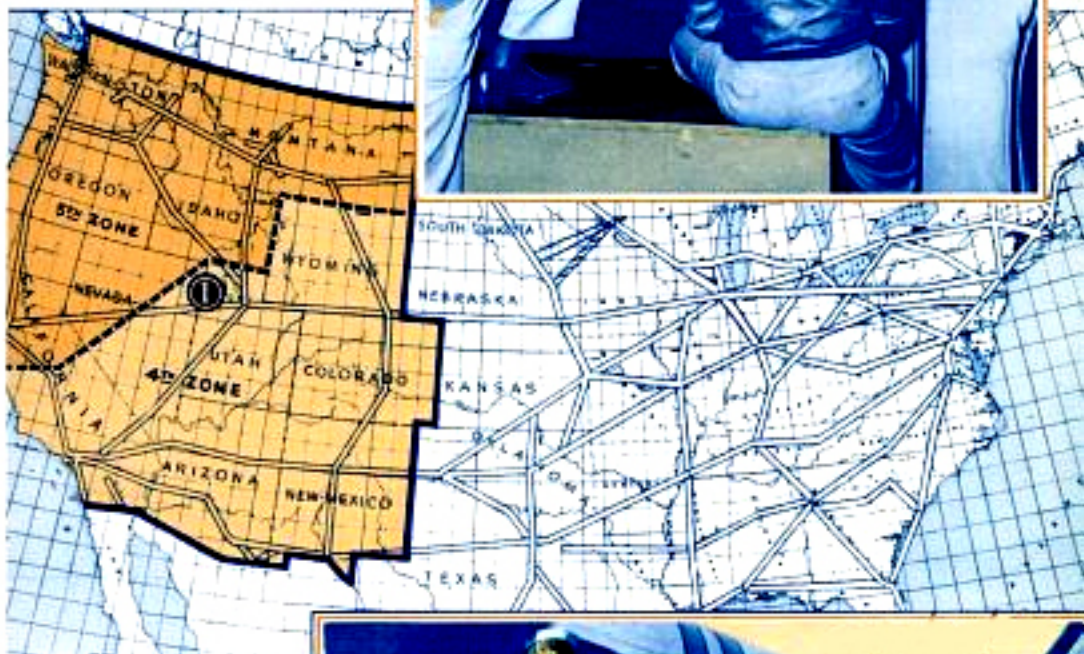
**I**F you have what it takes, Uncle Sam wants to put you on his pay roll while he teaches you to become a pilot for one of his great "Flying Fortresses." It's a great opportunity for those who wish to follow aviation as a career if they can make the grade.

If you are between twenty and twenty-six years of age, physically and mentally fit, and have had two years in college or the equivalent, you have a chance to become a pilot or a member of the crew of one of the great bombing planes of the Army Air Corps and be assigned to active duty as a reserve officer on the same pay as a Regular Air Corps officer at one of the great air bases like March Field in southern California, one of the nation's most important "Wings."

The expansion of the nation's air-



fighting forces and the addition of many new planes of various types create the demand for young men to fill positions as officer pilots for the new equipment. This sudden call for prospective Army Air Corps pilots is one of the most unusual ever made by the Army which, in addition to throwing open the doors of the service, has gone a step further by creating special flying boards which will visit every college in America which has an R.O.T.C. unit in the search for desirable young men to be trained as pilots for the Army Air Corps.



Map photo courtesy U. S. Army Air Corps

**CONSULTING** weather charts at March Field, above, before donning parachutes for a flight, right. Map shows area comprising "First Wing," except Alaska.







**FLIGHT** commander receiving mechanic's report before taking off with a bomber. Below, flying personnel must keep in first-class condition, mentally and physically.

America, within the next few months, will have one of the greatest air forces in the world. The amazing "Flying Fortresses" pictured here are soon to be dwarfed by even larger "Forts of the Air." The Air Corps plainly states that flying these planes is a business strictly for young men. There is no room for "old soldiers," who are being weeded out and replaced by men whose qualifications automatically fit them to become a part of a gigantic, smooth working machine.

At March Field activity is the keynote of the air force. Physical as well as mental fitness is necessary. If you have these qualifications and can prove you have had two years of college, you are eligible to apply to become an officer in Uncle Sam's Air Corps. If you have not gone to college but have had the equivalent of the first two years of study in college, you may take a written examination after first having passed the physical tests which are thorough.

An outstanding feature of the new plans for receiving enlistments for Army Flying Cadets is that after you have completed your training at



the Air Corps training center, at San Antonio, Tex., and served with a tactical squadron, compiling the coveted 1,200 hours' flying time, you will be eligible to obtain a rating from the Bureau of Air Commerce, Department of Commerce, as an airline transport pilot if you do not wish to continue as an officer in the Army Air Corps.

The Army Air Corps is divided into three "Wings." March Field, the base of the First Wing and one of the most important of the three, is prepared, on a few minutes' notice, to protect the entire west coast of the United States, this area extending far out over the Pacific ocean. The area of the First Wing also includes Alaska, making this wing the largest of the corps.

The protection of all of the territory of the United States west of a line stretching from the Canadian border to Mexico and from the eastern boundary lines of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico is the responsibility of the March Field base. The bombing squadrons and attack groups at March Field can be reinforced



Lower photo courtesy U. S. Army Air Corps

**SOME** of the reasons why America feels secure from foreign invasion—a line of "Flying Fortresses" ready to take to the air. Below, swimming pool at March Field.





**MACHINE** gunner, top, left, manning high-powered rifle in cockpit of an attack plane. Above, right, attaching dummy jumper to a parachute for a test drop from an airplane. All parachutes are thus tested at March Field at regular intervals. Below, control tower at March Field where the landing and takeoff of planes is directed with the aid of two-way radio.

by the bombers, attack and pursuit units of Hamilton Field at San Rafael, near San Francisco, in an emergency, and also by units to be established at Seattle.

The amazing thing about the Air Corps is the speed with which it can swing into action, covering thousands of miles of territory in a few hours. In case of emergency, in just twelve hours the entire air-fighting forces of the nation based within the United States could be in action all along the west coast. The same fighting force could strike on the east coast if necessary.

Life in the Army Air Corps does not consist entirely of flying or the building and rebuilding of equipment. There are social as well as sport activities. The latter are designed

to keep Uncle Sam's men of the air, in "the pink" for admittedly the Army Air Corps personnel must consist of men who more nearly approach mental and physical perfection than any other branch of the service. At March Field a gymnasium, bowling alleys, hand-ball courts and swimming pools offer healthy recreation.

Unlike other branches of the service, there is little pomp at March Field. The usual army formalities, such as reviews, seldom are held. However, squadron inspections and some of the other routine "chores" of army life are in vogue at this famous air base.

Some of the most famous of all Air Corps groups have their base at March Field. Records of long



**MECHANICS**, top, checking Army plane after a flight. Right, preparing an attack plane for a smoke screen flight.







standing, contributing to the high efficiency of the corps, have been made by the squadrons based there and, as a strategical location of the air force, March Field ranks high in importance as a national defense headquarters of the nation and the west coast in particular.

According to recently announced plans, America is now establishing and in the future will maintain the largest and most efficient and modern air force in the world. In this program, March Field is likely to play an important part.



**DUMMY** bombs being loaded aboard a "Flying Fortress" at March Field. Right, bowling helps keep the men in trim.



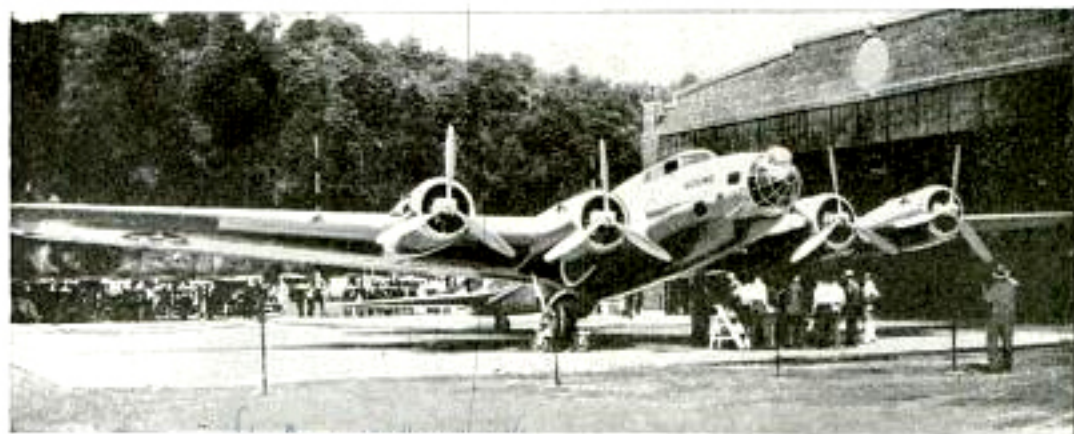
## Flying Fortresses Set Record on Long Journey

Six U. S. army "flying fortresses" recently set an unofficial world record for combined speed and range of flight in the large airplane class on a one-stop trip from Miami, Fla., to Buenos Aires, Argentina. The mass flight, longest and most dramatic ever undertaken by the army air corps, covered a distance of 5,260 miles. It required twenty-seven hours fifty minutes flying time and thirty-four hours fifteen minutes elapsed time, including a six and one-half hour stop at Lima, Peru. Average speed for the trip was 189 miles per hour. Average speed on the 2,565-mile hop from Lima over the towering Andes to Buenos Aires was 209.5 miles per hour.

*Right, view from beneath soaring army plane. Note the four engines which drive the giant craft*



## Giant Bomber Flies Four Miles per Minute



*Huge Four-Motored Bomber Designed for Army Is Too Large for Hangar at Home Port; Observe Glass Nose; Ship Has Five Machine-Gun Turrets Protected by New Type Unbreakable Glass*

Capable of flying four miles a minute or better, a giant four-engined ship undergoing tests for the United States army air corps is expected to prove the fastest and longest range bombing plane ever built. On its first test flight the quartet of 700-horsepower motors lifted the fifteen-ton air dreadnaught off the field in ten seconds. Its designers, the Boeing Aircraft company, say it will do better than the 200 to 250 miles an hour top speed required by army specifications at a 10,000-foot altitude, and would exceed the required cruising speed of 170 to 220 miles an hour. It is capable of flying six to ten hours at ordinary cruising speed and operates at a 20,000 to 25,000 foot ceiling. Largest land plane in America, the bomber is of the all-metal midwing type, smoothly streamlined with landing gear and tail wheel retractable entirely out of the air stream. The wing span is 100 feet, and the ship is seventy feet long and fifteen feet high. The four Hornet engines drive three-bladed constant-speed propellers. Details of the design and equipment are shrouded in military secrecy, but it is known there are five machine-gun turrets jutting out from the aluminum body, each protected by unbreakable glass of a new formula. Boeing officials say it is the first fighting plane able to complete its military mission in the event one engine ceases to function. The plane has an automatic pilot to aid the crew, two-way radio telephone and a radio "homing" device.

### COIN-IN-SLOT PARKING METER BRINGS REVENUE TO CITY

"Pay as you Park" is the rule on the downtown streets of Oklahoma City. The city has installed meters along the curb and as the motorist leaves his car, he drops a nickel in the slot. A clock-like contrivance raises a red indicator that stays in position for the allotted time. Policemen issue summonses to car owners parked with no indicator showing.



*Curb Space Pays as Meter Takes Nickel from Motorist for Downtown Parking*