



In September of 1953 the Highacres Unit of the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps was organized by Captain Walter Carper, Associate Professor of Air Science and Tactics.

This was the beginning of the Captain's second year here at Highacres and proceed to show definite improvement over the 1952-53 season.

The unit was organized into a group consisting of two Squadrons of two flights in each squadron. Cadet Hugh McGeehan was promoted to Lt. Colonel and Cadet Captain Jack Taluskie and Cadet Major Ted Horvath completed the group staff. The staff of squadron "A" was in charge of Major Bill Morse, who had as his assistants, Captain Bob O'Larnic, Lt. Matthew Galatha and Master Sergeant Bob Stauffer. Flight Leaders of this squadron were Lts. Joe Birt and John Lovrinic.

In squadron "B" the staff consisted of Major Bob Protchko, Captain Jim Griesing, Lt. George Mastrolanni, and Master Sergeant George Kobrick.

The major events of the first semester were the Mummies' Parade, the flight to Olmstead, and the Activities of the Glider Club. The climax of the semesters activities was the Annual Military Ball.

The Ball was a colorful event that took a lot of work on the part of the committee headed by Roy Atherholt. The event was held at the Eagles Auditorium that was beautifully decorated by a number of the Cadets. During the festivities Rose Mary Comisac was chosen Queen of the Ball. Oss Werley provided the music.

The subsequent semester necessitated the reorganization of the unit because of the flow of ROTC students to the Campus.

Bob Stauffer received the promotion to Lt. Colonel of the Unit and Jack Taluskie and Bob Scott completed the personnel of the group staff.

Squadron "A" was headed by Major Roy Atherholt, while Captain Jim Griesing and First Sergeant George Kobrick were his aides.

The staff of Squadron "B" was composed of Major Joe Birt, Captain George Mastrolanni and First Sergeant Joe Richenderfer.

Flight 1 and 2 were led by Lts. Bob Valaik and Ed Biskis respectively, while Flight 3 and 4 were headed by Hugh McGeehan and Randall Grasley.

The second semester activities were the organizing of the Rifle Team, and the Drill Team. The Armed Forces Day Parade, a trip to Olmstead Air Base also were on the agenda. Joe Birt was chosen outstanding Sophomore Cadet, Bob Stauffer received the Convair Trophy and Bob Scott was chosen outstanding Freshman Cadet.