

Each Air Force Physical director has acted as an advisor (on physical training matters) to his respective Commanding General and has attempted to institute a physical conditioning program. There have been many obstacles and hindrances in accomplishing tangible results, with both flying and ground personnel. Lack of trained personnel with whom to work on each Air Base has been one of the greatest problems. In the entire 4th Air Force, since last June (1941), there has been but one officer trained in physical education, acting in the capacity of base physical director! Nine months ago the Senior and Air Force Directors of Physical Training began to work on the problem of obtaining well-trained, experienced physical directors for each air base. Finally, authority was granted by Headquarters of the Army Air Forces for the appointment from civilian life of some two score trained, qualified physical education men as 1st lieutenants, to be stationed one at each air base with the combat forces.

You probably will be interested to know what type of leader we have been seeking and what requirements we established for the selection of these men. Our prerequisites are quite different than those established by some other branches of the armed forces. We do not want men whose only qualification is that of being big-time coaches or big-name athletes. We want men who are well grounded in the principles of physical education, who know the fundamentals of the physiology of exercise, of hygiene, and of conditioning, and who have a broad experience and a wide knowledge of activities. The administrative and organizational ability of these men is highly important. Above all, we sought those with a high degree of tact, forcefulness, maturity, and with a personality that is strong and adjustable to many of the difficult problems that will be encountered on these jobs. The prerequisites established are as follows: (1) A graduate of a recognized college or university with a major in physical education; (2) one year's graduate work in physical education; (3) at least four years' full-time paid employment in