Military vehicles were serviced in this building which was built in 1941 by the W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration). The two-story structure to the right of the garages housed the field artillery unit. The current second and third floors were added in 1943 and it would be 30 years later before the building received its official name of George L. Converse Hall. Prior to its naming in 1973, it was known as the Military Science Shop and Storage Building and the ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Building. Converse Hall houses the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine ROTC units, the University Archives, and the Wylie Rifle Range.

The above photo and information were used for a bulletin board display in the Main Library, Autumn Quarter, 1991.
Mr. Carl E. Stebb
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Ohio State University

December 16, 1940.

Dear Sir:

We have examined the drawings and specifications referred to us on December 12, 1940, prepared by the State Architect and Engineer for the State Department of Health Laboratory Building, proposed for construction adjacent to Kinsman Hall in the Hospital and College of Medicine group.

In our opinion the building as designed will form an acceptable addition to the present buildings and as a unit in the future development of the Medical Center. At a conference today, the State Architect has agreed to accept certain suggestions affecting economy of construction or of operation and maintenance, which we have made, based upon our experiences in other campus buildings. These items have been recorded in a confirming letter to the State Architect.

We, therefore, recommend that the approval required by the Agreement between the University and the State Department of Health be given.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) HOWARD DWIGHT SMITH,
University Architect.

(Signed) PAUL, H. ELLEMAN,
Maintenance Engineer.

The Secretary recommended that the Board approve said plans and specifications and waive the provision in the Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Health of the State of Ohio and the Ohio State University approved at the meeting of May 2, 1940, whereby the approval of the Board of Trustees was called for before bids were advertised.

Upon motion of Dr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Rummell, the above recommendation was upon roll call unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Mr. Rummell, seconded by Dr. Russell, a Medical Certificate was by unanimous vote authorized for Lee Henry Curran who received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Starling-Loving Medical College on May 28, 1913.

Upon motion of Mr. Rummell, seconded by Dr. Russell, the Board by unanimous vote approved the final plans and documents for the proposed WPA project covering an ROTC Building Unit (known as the Military Science Shop and Storage Building), and the Secretary was directed to file said documents with Mr. J. L. Kelly, District Manager, District No. Six, of the Work Projects Administration.

Upon motion of Dr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Dargusch, the payment of $552.50 of the $1200 appropriated for the Journal of Higher Education, was authorized from H-8 Contributions instead of...
The William S. Merrell Company, Cincinnati, Ohio—Investigation of the resolution of asymmetric amines (to be known as the William S. Merrell Company Research Project in Chemistry Fellowship);

Greene Trading Company, New York City—Investigation of the utilization of pyrethrum as an insecticide (to be known as the Greene Trading Company, as agent for the Kenya Farmers Association (Cooperative) Ltd. Research Project);

The Atlas Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware—Investigation of the isolation of chemical individuals from Atlas Commercial sorbitol syrup, sometimes referred to by the trade name “Sorban” (to be known as the Atlas Powder Company Research Fellowship).

That the following contracts heretofore entered into between the Engineering Experiment Station and the Ohio State University Research Foundation, setting up the following projects, be reported to the Board of Trustees for information and record:

Georgia Kaolin Company, Elizabeth, New Jersey—Investigation of the use of kaolin in ceramic bodies (to be known as the Georgia Kaolin Company Fellowship);


Upon motion of Dr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, the above recommendations of the President were upon roll call unanimously approved.

The President now recommended that upon the recommendation of Director Langlois, Mr. Edwin Elliott be employed as Caretaker at Gibraltar Island at a salary of $1,612 per annum, effective September 1, 1941, with the understanding that he will live throughout the year in the caretaker's house on Gibraltar Island and that the care of the lands, buildings and other properties on the Island will be his major responsibility during the winter months. During the Summer Quarter he will continue to operate the Commissary as heretofore.

Upon motion of Dr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, the above recommendation of the President was upon roll call unanimously approved.

The Secretary reported that the Work Projects Administration, with the approval of the War Department, is ready to proceed with the construction of an additional unit to the Military Science Shop and Storage Building at an estimated cost of approximately $140,000. Of this amount, the Work Projects Administration will furnish $100,000.

The Secretary then presented the detailed plans and specifications for this additional unit, as prepared by the University Architect.

Dr. Altmair offered the following motion which was seconded by Dr. Russell:

1. That the Secretary be directed to make formal request of the State Controlling Board for a release of $40,000 from the G-2 Buildings appropriation for the Ohio State University, as contained in House Bill No. 605, for this purpose;

2. That he request also authority for the Board of Trustees to make this improvement by Force Account;

3. That the plans and specifications for this Unit, as prepared by the University Architect, be approved.

Upon roll call, the above motion was approved by unanimous vote.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- An Ohio State University ROTC classroom is being named in honor of a graduate killed in the U.S. invasion of Grenada in 1983.

The room, 201 Converse Hall, 2121 Tuttle Park Place, will be named for 1st Lt. Jeffrey R. Scharver, U.S. Marine Corps, who died when his Cobra helicopter was shot down on Oct. 25, 1983.

Scharver was survived by his wife, Pati, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Scharver of BARRINGTON, R.I.

A date for the dedication of the classroom, which is used by ROTC students studying for commissions in the Navy and Marine Corps, has not been set.

Scharver, who was enrolled in the parks and recreation administration program, received his Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources degree and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps at the June 1980 commencement.

He went from graduation into active service and was a member of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 261, a part of the 22nd Marine Amphibious Unit, at the time of invasion.
Ray Wine, a hazardous device technician with Columbus Fire Station 31 examines an X-ray of the contents of a box thought to contain a bomb at Converse Hall yesterday. The building was evacuated at approximately 9 a.m. for an hour and a half when ROTC officers discovered a 'suspicious' package with cut-out letters used to create the address. After X-raying the package and discovering there were no wires for a bomb, Columbus firefighters opened the box and found the clapper to a bell in the building which was stolen weeks earlier.

"This was some sick joker's idea of a sophomoric prank," said Lt. Don McConaham of Columbus Fire Station 2's bomb squad.
Opportunity is knocking, will students answer?

-*by Christopher Mende*

**Converse Hall** stands on the north side of campus, adjacent to St. John's Arena. Isolated from the rest of campus by Woodruff Avenue and architecturally dull, the structure seems to be an almost forgotten fixture at OSU.

Unforgotten, however, are those who participate in the programs administered from within the building. Converse Hall is home to the ROTC program at Ohio State. ROTC stands for Reserve Officer's Training Corps. The ROTC program offers students the unique opportunity to earn a commission in the military while getting their education.

Participants in the program take classes that develop the leadership skills necessary for effective group management, as well as the maturity and moral character of the individual. These leadership skills, although essential for a military officer, are also transferable to civilian society.

see ROTC, page eleven

"Many employers like the fact that our students are hard workers, that they sit down and work until the job is done," said Lt. Barry Hackett, Freshman Instructor of OSU’s Naval ROTC program.

Capt. Jim Nace, an assistant professor of Military Science, offered a similar observation. "Leadership is the process of influencing others to accomplish the mission," said Nace. "Many of our junior officers take the skills they learned in ROTC and as an officer back to find management positions in business and industry."

In addition to their regular coursework, ROTC students take a variety of classes introducing them to the role of a military officer, military history, and physical education.

Nace emphasized that the first two years of the ROTC program are open to anyone, regardless of their interest or inclination to serve in the military. "It is critical for freshmen to know that they have the opportunity to learn more about the program by taking some classes without obligating themselves to serve after they graduate," said Nace.

Students do not make a service commitment until their junior year. They then sign their papers obligating them to serve in the military after graduation.

Service requirements vary according to the talents and interests of the individual. "Pilots, for example, make a longer commitment than other officers," said Capt. Kevin Littlejohn, an associate professor of Air Force Aerospace Studies. "Uncle Sam is investing millions of dollars in our pilots, and wants to keep them around awhile."

Financial aid, scholarships, and academic tutoring are available to participants in the program. Of note, three-year scholarships are readily available to students attaining a 3.0 g.p.a. or better during their freshman year. The tuition covers the cost of tuition, fees, and books for the following three years. The only thing not covered is room and board.

"Leaders are not born," said Capt. Rick Burgess, Officer Selections Officer for the Marine Corps. "They’re created." Students interested in learning valuable leadership skills, responsibility, and the meaning of duty should look into one of the ROTC programs offered here at OSU.

Look for the ugly building with the cannon out front...
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

MILITARY SCIENCE
SHOP & STORAGE BUILDING

Scale 1" = 32'-0'

K. R. Smith / Engineer
MILITARY SCIENCE
SHOP & STORAGE BUILDING

Scale 1" = 32'0"