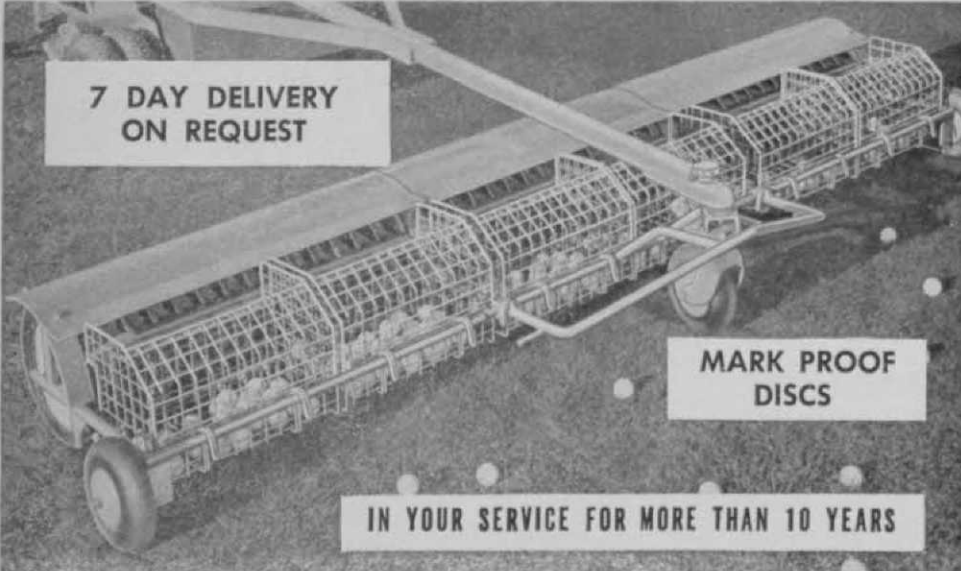


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a hole on their line and not on that of the "Tiger."

The primary function of a bunker is not to punish a technical error in the execution of a shot, but to govern the play of the hole, and catch the scratch golfer's good shot which is not quite good enough. Such bunkers are out of reach for the less proficient. At one-shot holes of course all have to share and share alike.

### Ground Dictates Play

The trick of the thing is to make the ground dictate the play.

The good architect will see to it that so far as the powerful player is concerned, he must keep well to the right or to the left, as the case may be, with his tee shot if he has to have any hope of reaching the green with second shot.

The center of the fairway, the shortest line to the green, should never be the correct line for the Tiger.

A moment's reflection will show that all the great two-shot holes of the world are thus designed.

Putting greens should be oriented as to be required to be approached to best advantage from the left or from the right of the fairway.

These are the Articles of the Faith to which a man must subscribe if he is to understand the meaning and intention of a golf course, and it is on these principles the holes on this short course have been planned.

## Proposes Building More Golf Courses on Air Force Bases

By **LYLE P. (Bud) WERRING**

Professional, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

**G**OLF in the Air Force is a necessity — not a luxury.

That, I concede, borders on being a pronouncement, a bald statement, or whatever you might want to call it, but I'm reasonably sure I can cite enough facts to back it up.

Let's look at it this way:

This country depends upon air power to survive. Few deny the need for combat capability. In order for a pilot to live up to the standards and rigors of his job of preparing and remaining prepared to defend this country in an emergency, we

have an obligation to afford him relaxation and the opportunity to relieve the mental strain of tedious flying.

Are we living up to this obligation? Probably not. In the Strategic Air Command, for example, we have only four 18-hole courses in operation, five 9-hole courses under construction and three 9-hole courses being planned. These are inadequate just as golf playing facilities are inadequate in other commands.

Where there is an airfield, there should be a golf course—9, 18 or 27 holes, depending on the number of personnel, or, if nothing else, a driving range or putting green. Let's start building more of them! I wouldn't try to sell a golf course in preference to a \$3,000,000 airplane, but to get back to my original theme, we have to provide money for recreational activities if we are going to capitalize on huge expenditures for things such as planes.

#### Protecting Our Investment

While speaking of expenditures, let's consider the investment in the training of a pilot. It's somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50,000. We can't train him and then forget him. If we do, it's better that we had not made the original investment.

If we think that we are protecting our investment by providing only for his physical well being, we're only fooling ourselves. We have to keep him reasonably happy, mentally alert, combat-fit. The only way I know of doing this is to give him a chance to keep mentally and physically occupied when he's off duty.

Golf is as good a way of doing this as any I know. From what I have seen of Air Force courses, most of them have been built for about what it costs to train two pilots. That certainly is a reasonable price to pay when all the good a golf course does at an air base is considered. At Eglin, we have one of the finest layouts in the world, but what I often find myself wondering about is, how do pilots and other personnel at Podunk keep a sharp edge. There are those who say they can play football, baseball, basketball and other sports, but these people forget that injuries suffered in physical contact sports too often wipe out the big investments made in airmen as well as crewmen.

I contend that golf is the one sport which can keep a man in top shape without exposing him to broken legs or arms which may result in permanent impair-

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ment. The Air Force can't afford to take unnecessary chances with its highly trained personnel.

Through my association with Air Force men, I have tried to analyse the link that exists between golf and flying. If I were a pilot as well as a golfer, I could proceed with more confidence, but even though I'm only a golfer, I can see a surprising corollary between the two.

A professional's life is filled with hearing complaints of "could have, should have, bad bounce, etc." Hang around an air base long enough and you'll overhear pilots discussing similar or equivalent bad breaks that occur aloft. Poor equipment is blamed by both golfer and pilot for poor performance. Rarely do either admit to fouling up because of lack of instruction or failing to heed it.

Maybe I can explain myself better by making comparisons between green and runway. A common golfing complaint is, "Those greens don't hold a pitch shot." Mr. Golfer would be the last to admit that paying closer attention to the pro when he took his last lesson might have taught him the trick of bringing the ball up short. Without trying to put his training to use he's in the same boat as the jet jockey

who overshoots the runway, and if he lives to tell about it, offers all kinds of alibis except the right one — he didn't allow for one of the many conditions drummed into his head by the instructor when they were practising landings.

#### Other Corollaries

There are many other corollaries between golfing and flying. Both demand ability, but more important, a large amount of time devoted to instruction and practice, if they are to be mastered. Overwhelming physical power is not a requirement of either, but neither golfer nor airman can be lacking in judgment, coordination and stamina if he expects to excel. Concentration is another factor common to both. So are good reflexes and determination.

For the most part I have talked about the need of golf among flying personnel. I haven't meant to slight the non-flying people since the need for golfing facilities for them is just as great. The Defense Department as well as some Congressmen have long bemoaned the low rate of reenlistments in the Air Force. If golf courses at Air bases can help correct this situation, and I believe they can, then here is at least a partial answer to the Air Force man-

## Tournament Dates MEN'S EVENTS

### April

- 4-7 Masters, Augusta, Ga.  
11-14 Greater Greensboro (N. C.) Open, Sedgfield CC  
18-21 Tournament of Champions, Desert Inn CC, Las Vegas  
Nev.  
22-27 North-South Amateur, Pinehurst (N. C.) CC  
24-28 Derby Open, Seneca GC, Louisville, Ky.  
24-27 Seniors Grand Master, Pine Needles CC, Southern  
Pines, N. C.

### May

- 1-5 Colonial Open, Ft. Worth, Tex.  
7-11 Southern Amateur, Memphis (Tenn.) CC  
9-12 Arlington Hotel Open, Hot Springs, Ark.  
16-19 Greenbrier Open, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

### June 3

- 7-9 Tournament of Champions (amateur), Sunnehanna CC,  
Johnstown, Pa.  
13-15 USCA Open, Inverness Club, Toledo, O.  
17-22 Southern Amateur, La Gorce CC, Miami Beach, Fla.  
17-23 Trans-Mississippi, Brook Hollow GC, Dallas, Tex.  
19-20 Western Seniors, Belle Meade CC, Nashville, Tenn.  
20-23 Carlings Open, Flint (Mich.) CC  
27-30 Western Open, Plum Hollow GC, Detroit

### July

- 17-21 USGA Junior Amateur, Manor CC, Washington, D. C.  
17-21 PGA Championship, Miami Valley CC, Dayton, O.  
25-28 Eastern Open, Mt. Pleasant GC, Baltimore  
29-Aug. 3 USGA Public Links

### August

- 1-4 All American, Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill.  
8-11 World's, Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill.  
15-18 St. Paul Open, Keller GC  
22-25 Miller Open, Tripoli CC, Milwaukee  
30-31 Walker Cup, Minikhada Club, Minneapolis  
30-Sept. 2 Insurance City Open, Weatherfield (Conn.) CC

### September

- 9-14 USGA Amateur, The Country Club, Brookline, Mass.  
13-16 Dallas Open, Riverlake GC  
19-22 Okla. City Open, Twin Hills G&CC  
24-26 Metropolitan Open, Plainfield (N. J.) CC  
30-Oct. 3 USGA Seniors Amateur, Ridgewood (N. J.) CC

## WOMEN'S EVENTS

### April

- 4-7 Amarillo Open (tentative) Club to be announced  
11-14 Dallas Open, Glen Lakes CC  
18-21 Babe Zaharias Open, Beaumont, Tex.  
25-28 Western Open, Montgomery (Ala.) CC

### May

- 23-26 Land of Sky Open, CC of Asheville, N. C.  
29-June 2 Triangle Round Robin, Cavalier Y & CC, Vir-  
ginia Beach, Va.

### June

- 6-9 LPGA Championship, Churchill Valley CC, Pitts-  
burgh  
27-29 USGA Womens Open, Winged Foot GC, Mamaroneck,  
N. Y.

### July

- 4-7 Milwaukee Open  
11-14 Flourtown, Pa. Open  
18-21 Homestead Four-Ball, Virginia Hot Springs, Va.  
25-28 Wolverine Open, Lochmoor CC, Detroit

power problem.

Some of the larger corporations, moving to smaller communities, are building their own courses in order to attract and hold desirable young executives and workers who, with their families, insist on adequate recreational facilities. The Air Force would show great foresight in taking a page from the book of these industrialists by building golf courses on air bases throughout the world.

This article has been condensed from a speech by Bud Werring to Special Service officers of the Strategic Air Command at a conference last fall.

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