

# Many Hands Help Build Turner Nine



*Yardbirds and Full Colonels work*

*Together in Bringing Golf*

*To Georgia Air Base*

By DAVID SCHILLERSTROM

irons in their place as they made their way around the new nine. Shortly after this, ground was broken for a new clubhouse of early American rustic design, which was completed in July.

Built with funds from an \$18,000 grant from the Strategic Air Command, the clubhouse has a huge lounge, a comfortable looking fireplace, locker rooms for both men and women, a refreshment bar and pro shop.

## UVS Lends a Hand

The original moving spirit behind the Turner nine was Col. Joe R. Williams, formerly the Base Commander. With the assistance of Mrs. Helen Lengfeld, pres. of United Voluntary Services, Col. Williams was able to convince his superiors at the Strategic Air Command of the need of golfing facilities at Turner. Then, after the recreation project was approved, Mrs. Lengfeld went to work and helped round up enough material and equipment to get the construction job underway. She also induced Hugh Moore, the architect, to design the course and supervise its building.

In the meantime, Col. Williams was transferred, but Major Warren E. Graff, Base Police Squadron CO, saw the project through to its completion. But it was not without the help of such as Col. W. A. Beauchamp who replaced Williams as the Base commander; Col. N. J. Adams, pres. of the Turner Golf Assn.; M/Sgt. August Kramer, Assn. vp; S/Sgt. Fred Stanley, pro.; John Devereaux, personnel officer for the Base; and Col. Hub Zemke of the 40th Air Div. who made frequent visits to Turner to contribute whatever help he could to the undertaking.

If greens at Turner are just a little more expertly manicured than they are at most courses it is because "Golf Course Details" have always been available at the Base, at

**TRUCKDRIVER**—Turner officers made a break with tradition by shedding their ranks and helping in course construction. Lt. Col. Julius Griffin, deputy CO, drove a truck.

**E**VERYBODY from yardbirds to full colonels had a hand in the construction of the 9-hole golf course at Turner Air Force Base, Albany, Ga., which was completed recently, 17 months after the project was undertaken.

Construction of the course, which actually was ready for play 13 months after the first bulldozer started rearranging the Turner landscape, was entrusted to various Base squadrons which vied with one another in turning out the best constructed fairways and greens. Officers also took a hand in building the course as they defied Army tradition by donning fatigues and working alongside enlisted men in grading, seeding and fertilizing operations.

After the course was designed by Hugh Moore, who has supervised the layout of many fine courses in the Southeast, Turner's manpower was turned loose on the project in February, 1955. By early April of 1956, GI's were able to forsake shovels, hoes and rakes and substitute woods and



**BLAST**—An F-84F whines up to full power in the background while a GI winds up to blast his way down No. 4, a 569-yard hole.

first for contouring and seeding work while the greens were under construction, and more recently for weeding, watering and fertilizing to keep them in top condition. Old soldiers will recall details of this nature with some repugnance, but at Turner everyone has been so wrapped up in getting and keeping the course in its present excellent shape that these things have been taken in stride even though they have meant extra duty.

#### Dues Are Low

The Turner nine is open to all military personnel stationed in the Albany area. Dues have been kept to a minimum with officers paying only \$3, and enlisted men \$2 a month, for all privileges. Daily fees for non-members are \$1.

The course itself is a fine blend of frus-

**LAYOUT**—Here's what the golfing airman has to contend with when he sets out on a tour of the Turner course. To cover the 3,421 yards in par he has to shoot a 36.



trating, not-so-difficult and letup holes. Sand traps are plentiful but not so numerous as to discourage the fellow who shoots in the 45-60 range. A man-made lake, located in front of the green, calls for a skillful approach on the 382-yard sixth. Total yardage for the course is 3,421 and includes a 569-yard No. 4 hole and a 520-yard seventh, both of which are doglegs. For those who don't hit the long ball, No. 2 which is 151 yards, and No. 8, a 226-yard test, offer them a chance to show their finesse with the irons. Par for the course is 36.

A Blind Bogey tournament, held in July in conjunction with Turner's Family Day celebration, was the first regularly scheduled basewide golf event. It was the forerunner of many similar affairs that will be held at the club in the future, the theory being that since practically everyone connected with the Base joined in to help build the course, there is no reason why they shouldn't continue to enjoy their golf games on a community basis.

### Southern Cal PGA Gives Cameron Life Membership

Samuel C. Cameron, Long Beach (Cal.) newspaper executive, was given an honorary life membership in Southern California PGA at the annual award dinner held at the Riviera CC, Pacific Palisades in April.

Cameron, whose financial and moral support have made possible the largest sectional PGA championship in America (they play for \$7500 this year), became the 20th person to receive the gold membership card. Others on the list include Bob Hope, Norman Chandler, Bing Crosby, Darsie L. Darsie, Milt Arthur, Scotty Chisholm.

Also honored at the dinner were three pros of the Southern California section, Harry Bassler, George Lake and Willie Hunter, sr., for their contributions to the profession.

### Flag Pole Not A Target

Jim Thomson, pro-supt., Mohawk GC, Schenectady, N. Y., told Northeastern (NY) GCSA: "After a season of trying the new Flag Pole rule I find that players are using the pole as something to hit at. They waste considerable time adjusting the pole according to their particular angle of putt. My personal opinion is that the flagpole was intended as a marker and not as something to hit at."