MLEEL THE Champions...

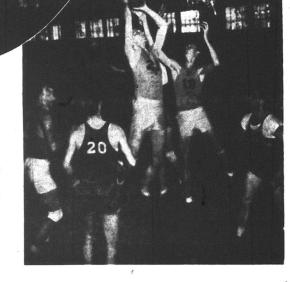
With justified pride, Camp Claisorne is hailing its mighty men of the wooden way for returning this week from Löngview, Texas, after winning the Eighth Service Command Basketball Fournament at Harmon General Hospital.

That the Engineers have a great team was evidenced by their ability to win three straight games, and then, after drepping the next two contests, rise to the supreme test of defeating a topflight Fort Bliss, Texas, five 42-25, in the tilt that decided the championship.

In these two pages of pictures by PFC Rudolph F. Opatovsky, who with T/4 Thomas W. Burke represented The Claiborne News at the tournament, the Engineers are seen on the Harmon Hospital playing floor as well as in personal sidelights such as the enlisted detachment's mess hall, in the dressing room and in the barracks during a coaching session.



PLAY BALL! Winfred Williams (right), Claiborne center, and Bob Gerber, Harmon General Hospital's all-around ace, leap high in the air at the two off of the opening game in the Harmon gym. Williams tapped the ball to a teammate a split second after this picture was taken. The Engineers swamped the Harmonairs, 63-43.



TS A SCIRE! The bill soon its was for another Claids one basket in the Harmon H sould game has Claude Souldanner, privaid, catches soon a recond and tosses it again toward the hoop. That's boundary by with Malseed (20), of Harmon, while another Hospital player, McDorald (18), his soon at to breek up the play



TOUGH LUCK, JOHNNY! Here's Johnny Rayz, the Claiborne high-scoring star, heaving one from his favorite position, the right corner of the court near the basket. He missed this one, however, but it demonstrates the follow-through style of a natural athlete. Jerry Gilman, Engineers guard, is waiting ungler the net with group of Harmon Hospital men. That's Harmon's Bob Gerber loping toward the basket in the background.

AFTER A REBOUND. This is typical of how Jerry Gilman (21) and Claude Stoutamier (19) were right on the job when it came to snaring the ball off the backboard to cash in on two-point advantages for Claiborne Johnny Rayz, on the left, is set to get in on the play, while Malseed (20) and Andy Gamberdella, both of Harmon Hospital, are caught flat-footed.