

Loren Lester Wins Army Commission

2-22-'45'



FORT BENNING, Ga. — Loren E. Lester of Newton, Illinois, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States last week upon successful completion of the Officer Candidate Course at the Infantry School at Ft. Benning. Lt. Lester is the son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Platz of Newton

The new lieutenant was inducted into the Army on 4 June, 1943 and served with the IRTC, Camp Wolters, Texas and IRTC, Camp Hood, Tex. before going to Officer Candidate School. He held the rank of Techn. 5th Gr. before being commissioned.

The new officer is a graduate of Barry high school in Barry, Illinois, and Western Illinois State Teachers college at Macomb, Illinois, where he was prominent in all athletics.

At the Infantry school, world's largest institution of its kind, the local officer took a 17 weeks course to fit him for his new responsibilities. The course covers the technique of handling all the varied modern infantry weapons and the tactics of leading small infantry units in combat. It also includes study of many varied subjects which future officers must know along the lines of administration, military law, etc..

The men who attend the Officer Candidate Schools are the best privates, corporals and sergeants from the entire army, selected by their superiors for outstanding intelligence and qualities of leadership. During the course even the mildly incapable are weeded out, so that the men who graduate with commissions are America's finest soldiers, fully qualified to be the leaders in our new Army.

Lt. and Mrs. Lester left Monday for Ft. McClellan, Ala., where he will be stationed.