

## GUIDED ROCKET: U.S. TRAINS GROUND CREWS

Students reporting for duty in the American Army, guided missile service, saw something resembling the wilder fancies of science fiction; actually the latest weapon of air warfare. Required to use and maintain these controlled rockets is a new type of man now entering the military field, half scientist, half mechanic, knowing the practice and theory behind the bomb that finds its own target in the sub-stratosphere. The course begins with rockets of older, now discarded designs.

Basis of guided missiles is radar, but studies at this school go back to the first plane-without-pilot used in war, the ~~V.L.~~ <sup>steadily</sup> V.L., the doodlebug, with which Germany vainly hoped to tip the world-war in her favour. Invented six years earlier, when that war began, it might well have ~~succeeded~~ <sup>done so.</sup> The V.L. was not guided; it was directed from its launching platform, carrying just enough fuel to make it drop on London, if all went well *with it.*

Handling the special fuel that propels the rockets is a dangerous job. Fireproof suits contribute to the men-from-Mars atmosphere pervading the ~~school~~ <sup>school</sup>. Also studied here is a radio-controlled aircraft.

Lastly they graduate to the miracle-of-today. We showed pictures of it in our last issue - the guided missile, filmed destroying a giant bomber at nearly sub-stratosphere height. Carrying its own radar and in radio-communication with the ground-station the new rocket gives notice to all bomber-commands that the ~~bomber~~ <sup>bombing aircraft</sup> will soon be out of date.