It was 0800, two hours into yet another day at 00 AFB, and I was guarding the tool box as usual.

--It didn't matter to the USAF that I had a master's degree (in the writing program at the U. of Montana), or that 00... We were being trained, supposedly, to be propellor repairmen. 00 and I were the only reservists in the tech school class; the eight regulars...

--We had been up since 0300--that's right, 3 a.m. in the (normal world).
1st person narrator, Jens Keith

--UW English major, studied under Roethke

--nicknamed "Professor" in AF, often prncd "Perfessor"

--from Ballard; father married into fishing family. "From the time I was 13 I fished with him in Alaska... (the plush days before the Kenai was fished out)

--he's strong enough not to be intimidated by the Texas Aggies; when O0 grabs his chest hair, he grabs O0's hat and walks into shower with it, squares off against O0 under the water. (O0, w/ a class to go to, doesn't dare get wet)

--the sgt chooses Frew as the rainbow rope and Keith as colonel of the urinal.

--barracksmates don't know the ½ of it about "the Prof"--he's writing poetry (?)
On what passed for a hill in Texas, a radar dish endlessly pivoted as if slapped back and forth by the wind.
the shooting off of the mouth, almost as regular as reveille.
I mused

the rites of water. (ocean—was on Atlantic voyage?)

Keith mused
Keith managed a glance at his watch. Fourteen minutes had worn by.
1:54 p.m. 135+ hours at 00 AFB and training instructor Sgt. 0 00 was drunk as a tequila worm.
possible lead for **THE LAST RAINBOW**

---

"No other thing you [raggedyass\(^1\) of teebirds, had best remember is about number one main snakebite. If you get your snakebite, the thing is don't go running around like no wildass Indian. Just sort of set down..."

00 moved his khaki sleeve enough to see his watch, Frew glancing at it at the same instant. 1:58 p.m. and Sgt. 00 was drunk as a hundred dollars.

00 yearned for the radio (with news of Cuban missile crisis) — *fish boat*, *water* P.S.: *sad, any water*.

--from the same TI: "President Kendy says the youth of the nation is in pisspoor shape. I'm shamed to say, you dragasses are the youth of the nation."

--TI's verbal mannerism is to use "ass" at end of modifier: "kersplickety-ass" for "quick, sudden" for instance.

--his other mannerism: "nother" for "another"
"My names are Man T. Slaughter," drank soft began. "I gonna' one, whatever you damn hell, is bunch of (lows-a) names might of give you, one t-birds. Do you want hear my talking, airman?" purely little group: brassed daily again.

- Manville Slaughter

"hadn't better ever forget it."
Rainbow

Frew's sidekick steals his bullets to keep him from shooting. sgt.
(Connect this implicitly, e. his article a battleships & shells)
(Also, it implicates him! He now has to decide whether to give shells back.)

-Frew's pistol - target model from Monky Ward, not a sixshooter - is hidden in cabinet of criminal's supply cabinet; inside toilet paper?
Left-Handed Rainbow

Hero's history prof, Flanagan, sees that the hero is able to make connections in historical thinking, and so pushes him along in the seminar paper: battleships as extension of body armor; rifling which brought long-range accuracy; aircraft engineer seeing how to build a heavy bomber; earth-circling B52s as circumnavigators sprung from Cook and Magellan etc.

Book could be done by days, going back and forth through time: days, even hours, of the missile crisis, back to day before WWI when Lloyd George comes up with taxation (every time a duke dies, we can buy a dreadnought) to pay for battleships.

Could refer to the President and the General Secretary without ever naming JFK and Khrushchev.
Town of AF base is named Heidelberg; troops call it Third Finger
The Finger
Heidelberg
Heidelberg

Finger = Figaro - Fudarow

*base atmosphere
- seemed to eat molecules out of him
Rainbow

Purit scene:

Lecturer announces steps from Condition 3. "Rum have turned the ships back, etc.

... Son turned green from two of them, put it to his right temple, and the speaker said, "I repeat: none trace is no longer in Condition 3."
Ending scene:

The sgt. has gotten them pistol away from the two airmen, somehow, and is holding it on them. Radio in his room gives news the Cuban missile crisis is over. The sgt. puts the pistol to his own temple and fires.
T1: What's this writing on the outside of an envelope, Frew?
F: They're initials—sir.
T1: Initials? Initials of what, airmen?
F: A joke—sir. Between my girl and me.
T1: Tell us all it, Frew.
F: (Shouting—ina small cap). Meet me under the Old Oak Tree and I'll kiss you in the croton—sir.
T1: I've troops everywhere on. Drill pack stared our demolition. Schul up red/acid, murderous.

F: I really don't care to say...sir.
T1: Then we'll just stand out here in this nice Texas sun until the whole lame-ass platoon fries its nuts off. (at attention)

Frew's deliberate pause before "sir" at end of each sentence to the TI is deliberate 3-beat, same time it would take to say "Scuh-rew you."

(3 dots)
T1: Any Valkens. What kind of a square name is that?
J: Swedish, sir.
T1: Did I ask you? Can't a man think out loud in midst of his own drill pad?
J: I'm sorry, sir.
T1: You're sorry, all right. You're 0 as sorry a SOB as I've ever had in a squad.
T1: Fair. You sure you ain't got that ass end to - Worf sounds to me like a water name. You agree, Worf?
J: No, sir.
T1: Schultz stepped 0 straight.
On what passed for a hill in Texas a CO blinked.
The obstacle course was a planned Hell

—the night march: cadence counts
Wife of crab boat sailor wants him "to get a job with ground under him."

Narrator's mother
I wasn't worried.

00 did not have the attention span to hold a grudge.
title just "The Rainbows" or "Rainbows"?
narrator sits on the crapper after lights-out crxing the galleys of his article.
possible lead:

On what passed for a hill in TX, a radar dish
endlessly
swung X around X around like a OO in the wind.
simulated
pivot
as if swatted back x pitch
as if slapped by wind
—are they still in civvies? i.e., rainbows. On in a classroom
— OO had never known Sept. cal be this hot.
Frew takes Jack hunting jackrabbits