

Deadly New Tank Destroyers Like Lightning - on Offense

By STUART WELCH

A PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARMY CAMP, Aug. 20—(P)—No other army in the world has anything like the newly organized tank destroyer battalions of the US fighting forces.

The tank destroyer troops and the lightning-like self-propelled weapons operate like jackals chasing a herd of deer. At one moment they cut down the stragglers at the rear of the pack, the next moment they ambush at the flank.

"Keep this in mind about our tank destroyers," Battalion commander Lieut. Col. John Lemp, warned during a tank destroyer field exercise, "our mode of attack is purely aggressive. We hunt out the tanks, we don't sit and wait for them like anti-tank units of other armies."

Every man in a destroyer outfit rides. Every trooper carries a carbine. The outfit is completely mobile. The self-propelled weapons include the big 75 on half tracks (armored trucks with tank-like treads), 37 mm cannon, and the deadly 50-caliber rapid fire machine gun.

Colonel Lemp admits the destroyer outfits do not meet tank forces face to face like the recent destructive tank vs. tank battles in northern Africa.

"We get into battle fast, and before the tanks wheel around to get back at us, we are out of the area, worrying their rear or another flank. We work in packs—like jackals. And like jackals, we fight dirty."

The war department, in an aggressive sweep, changed all anti-tank battalions into tank destroyer units. With the new name they

back and forth, keeping aircraft at a safe altitude.

After about three minutes of this rapid action, the tanks (those not technically knocked out) limped away home and the jackals followed, tearing viciously at the stragglers.

"That's the way its going to be when we really get into action," said Colonel Lemp. "Our battles won't last more than a few minutes."

Faller Suffers Injury With Saw

MONITOR—Basner White, jr., suffered a painful injury Monday while falling a tree. He fell against a saw, cutting a gash in his leg which took 11 stitches to close.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Secard of Minneapolis arrived last week and will be living at their property recently purchased here.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Prather of Nevada are visiting at the Max Secards.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sherwood and son of Pendleton visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sherwood. While here they attended the Bonney reunion.

Hazel Green Group Vacations in Linn

HAZEL GREEN—Mrs. W. H. Williamson and son, Junior, Roland Zielinski, John Suing of Salem and Mrs. G. G. Looney have returned from a vacation at Jordan Valley in Linn county at the home of Mrs. Williamson's mother, Mrs. Martha Pepperling.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Magruen and children Rosemary, Richard, Janet and Joan vacationed at the coast.

also provided a new plan of tactics and a new set of mobile weapons.

"We lose our effectiveness if we go on the defense," explained the commander. "We must always take advantage of our superior fire power and our superior mobility."

During a field exercise Tuesday, a group of officers stood on the brink of a hill over a small valley. Dive bombers swooped down over their heads, dropping bombs containing flour.

"The enemy tanks are on their way," explained Colonel Lemp, "and, as usual, the enemy dive bombers are cleaning out the area first." The roar of the tanks could be heard off to the northwest as they approached, taking advantage of the defile behind a slight rise in the ground.

But just as the tanks started to cross the area, the valley floor was suddenly overrun by small, scurrying vehicles. As they scooted from one clump of trees to another, their gun muzzles flashing continuously with blank ammunition.

The tanks wheeled angrily, trying to line up the jackals in their gun sights. The destroyers cut in and out of the brush, and popped up and down from the hollows. Around the outer circle of action, 50-caliber anti-aircraft machine guns chased

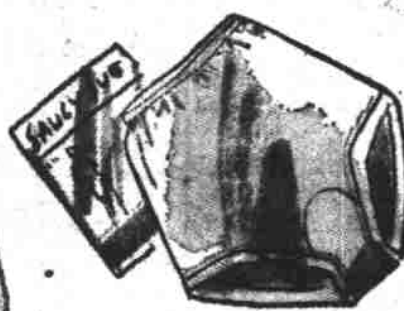
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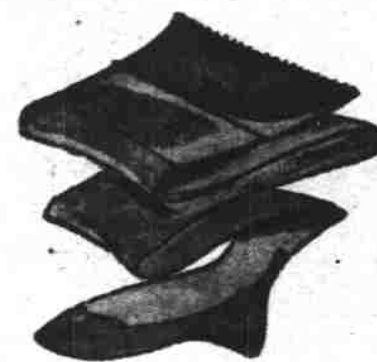
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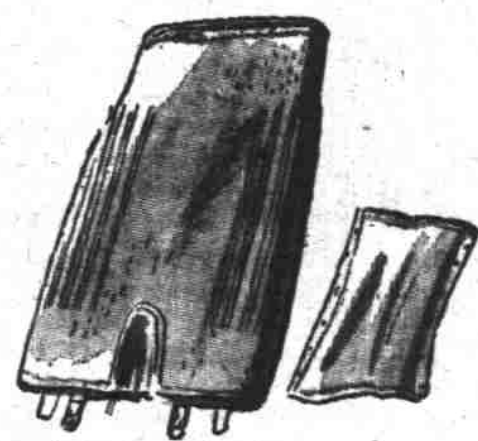
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