



Soldiers take good care of their rifles.

Smoking up the sight.

Firing prone, on Adair range.

## Marksman Doesn't Flinch on Trigger, Says General; Advises Knowing Rifle

CAMP ADAIR—Rifles are cracking on the range. The cadre, consisting mostly of officers and non-coms, started practice in October with Brig. Gen. Claudius M. Easley, of the 96th infantry division, in charge.

Marksmen will know what that means. It means that the job of training is in the hands of an officer whose own record supports his declaration that this new division will earn the name of Deadeye Division.

For 30 years the general competed in rifle shooting and he did pretty well. In 1909 he was on the Texas National Guard team. Later he was on the regular army team. He was on four winning teams, being captain of two of them. Then in 1924 he scored 343 out of a possible 350 in the Philippines.

He has been in national matches at Camp Perry, O., and was in charge of rifle and pistol teams, winning in pistol competition in 1938 and in rifle competition in 1938 and 1939.

In Gen. Easley the troops to be trained will find an officer who expects the best of them, because expert marksmanship is second nature to him and he assumes that shooting well is mostly a matter of learning.

"How about vision?" a bespectacled interviewer asked the general. "Must you have perfect vision, to shoot well?"

"Can you see to jab a knife into the butter, at the table?"

Okeh, brother, you can see well enough to shoot."

That was Gen. Easley's reply. He conceded that steady nerve helps, but insisted that the way to learn to shoot was to learn how.

"The big error with most men who fail to shoot well," he explained, "is in trigger release. Most men flinch. You must have your reflexes right. You don't need such accurate vision, but must see uniformly, of course.

"The time to learn how to shoot is before going to the range at all. A soldier should be taught to understand a rifle well and to handle it with skill before he ever sends a bullet out of it.

"When this training is over the 96th will be the Deadeye division. We're learning the right way—to shoot for blood on the battlefield. The men must be equal to any emergency. Everyone must be imbued with the idea that he is to hit what he is aiming at and what he is aiming at is not the side of a hill. A machine gun can spatter a hill. The rifle soldier's job is



Gen. Easley (kneeling) instructing Sgt. John B. Shepard (left) and Sgt. Jesse B. Vaughan.—(Action photos this page by Camp Adair public relations staff.)

## Civilian Chief Engineer 1st Man Commissioned

Glenville A. Collins, early chief of operations at Camp Adair for the army engineers, soon became Maj. Collins. He received his formal notification from the war department in June and was commissioned at the camp with Col. R. E. M. Des Islets, area engineer, doing the honors. Maj. Collins was the first officer to be commissioned at Camp Adair.

to pick out a particular spot and hit that."

## Japs Don't Like This Whistling Polka, Thanks

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA—(P)—Hurling beer bottles, empty or partly filled—with water—is helping to disconcert the Japanese in the northern Solomons, the crew of a allied Catalina bomber reported after a 2500-mile bombing mission.

They called the bottles "moral destroyers" because they emit a weird whistle as they cut through the air. The tone can be altered by adding a little water.

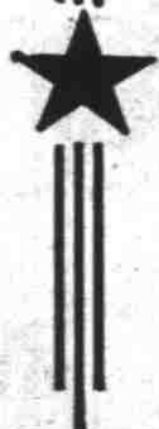


Col. H. M. Monroe, chief of staff, 96th division — Jeston-Miller photo.



Col. Michael E. Halloran—Jeston-Miller photo.

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