



WYMAN (left) and SLADEN
Shuck Tradition

Their Job Is To 'Atomize' U.S. Troops

CAMP DESERT ROCK, Nev. (NEA)—The Army is proving that it can throw off the fetters of tradition.

The two men in charge of the Army's part in the current series of atomic tests here probably represent more Army tradition than any two men you could find in uniform. But they are now in charge of helping to indoctrinate more than 5000 U.S. troops in the revolutionary aspects of maneuvering around live atomic explosions.

SPOT COMMANDER
Brig. Gen. Fred W. Sladen, Jr. was born on an Army post, lived on Army posts all of his life and went to school at West Point. He was in combat in the Mediterranean Theater during World War II. He's the one-spot commander of all troops taking part in the live atomic tests.

The man with the official title of "Director of Exercise" is Lt. Gen. Willard G. Wyman, also commanding General of the Sixth Army.

He probably has more time in Army cavalry units than any general on active duty. But his old love for the mounted service doesn't influence him in the face of growing evidence that the small, highly mechanized, mobile units is what is needed to put the Army on an atomic warfare footing.

RE-EXAMINATION
"Throughout the world American soldiers are being trained to fight on either an atomic or non-atomic battlefield," he says. "Our combat unit structure is being re-examined and new combat division organizations now are being tested in the field."

"We hope to indoctrinate as many soldiers as possible in the effects of atomic weapons as long as the possibility of fighting a war on an atomic battlefield exists."

Gen. Sladen adds: "The safety of our soldiers is uppermost in all our planning and actions at the Nevada test site and our record of not a single injury as a result of atomic detonations since the Army began operations here speaks for itself."

A NUISANCE
NEW LONDON, Conn. (AP)—Officer Joseph Rafferty stopped a woman motorist because her automobile registration plates bore 1954 inserts. The woman promptly showed Rafferty her 1955 registration certificate. When asked where the new inserts for the plates were, she said, "Oh, those, I threw them away."

Will A-Bomb Ruin the Pantry? Canned Food in Test May Tell

By KENNETH O. GILMORE
Of The NEA

WASHINGTON (NEA) — As far as the American housewife is concerned, the major atomic test to take place next week on the Nevada desert should be labeled "Operation Canned Blueberries."

For this final open shot will help to determine what canned goods she and her family can safely eat in the event of atomic devastation.

The big questions are: How great an atom force will it take to tear open or break glass and tin containers placed at various ranges? And will the radiation effects from the blast spoil or poison the food contents?

25,000 SAMPLES
To help come up with these and other answers, the National Canners Assn. is supplying 25,000 samples of 60 canned food items which will play an important role.

In the civil defense phase of the atom explosion. "The canning industry looks upon this project as a constructive opportunity to contribute to the national defense," says George B. Morrill Jr., president of the N.C.A.

From sauerkraut to shrimp, roughly one railroad car full of canned fruits, vegetables, juices, fish and shell fish, meats, poultry and even baby foods will be close at hand when the zero hour arrives.

It will be a harsh test, but N.C.A. officials are confident their products will do well. They say laboratory findings show the protective value of canned foods under conditions of atomic, biological and chemical warfare.

But an actual explosion will provide information that is not possible to establish under laboratory conditions. This is the first time commercial products have been put to such a test.

The Atomic Energy Commission and the Federal Civil Defense Administration are both cooperating on the experiment.

CONTAINERS CODED
All of the glass and tin containers are coded so spoilage, fallout effects and the nutritive value of the food can be accurately measured. Special slat-racks have been built to hold samples in single rows so no container shields another.

Canning industry representatives and civil defense officials will be particularly interested to study the effects on canned foods that are heavily exposed to radiation and close to the blast wave. They realize numerous warehouses located in urban areas are likely to be badly shattered by an atom bomb.

"We want to know whether this food becomes radioactive and if so how long it persists," says C. A. Greenleaf, associate director of the N.C.A. laboratory, who will be working at the site. "Homeless and hungry people will need these canned goods as rations in an emergency. It is necessary to know if they are safe to handle and eat."

The Food and Drug Administration will undertake long range animal feeding tests to determine whether foods have picked up harmful or poisonous characteristics. Monkeys will be fed for 90 days, rats for six months, and dogs for two years.

OTHER TYPES, TOO
In addition to canned items, other types of foods will be tested by the Department of Agriculture and the National Association of Frozen Food Packers.

On the desert location canned goods will be situated at roughly three distances from the center of the shot. At the nearest point they will be dug in and protected by some kind of shielding or bunker.

Next will be an intermediate range corresponding to a considerably damaged residential area. Here cans and jars will be put on shelves and stored in experimental homes and buildings.

The third distance will be far enough away to prevent major damage to structures. Experts of the National Canners Association say canned goods are perfectly safe to use at this range.



BEFORE THE BLAST—Cannery technicians J. M. Reed (left) codes cans while E. R. McConnell tests for vacuum on a batch of canned food that will be subject to atomic blast next week to see how well they survive.

DR. JORDAN SAYS

A Good Parent Needs Great Wisdom

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.

When I was a boy I never realized how hard it was to be a good parent. Personal experience has given me a new slant; large numbers of parents send in difficult questions also. A few of these are discussed today.

One mother writes that her 13-year-old son weighs 175 pounds, which is far too much, and some people say he has glandular trouble and others that he eats too much. She adds that he does have a large appetite and the possibly significant item that he is an only child.

One could not say that the boy does not have glandular trouble without examining him, but it is certainly much more likely that his overweight is the result of too much food. Perhaps he is deeply unhappy for some reason and he eats too much because that is one of the few things he thoroughly enjoys.

This possibility should at least be explored by the mother and perhaps a sympathetic physician. The child should also be steered into better dietary habits and, if possible, into activities other

than eating from which he can derive pleasure.

A difficult problem of another kind is presented by Mrs. H., who says that her six-year-old child was fine until he started school. He went to school for a couple of weeks and then became so nervous that he stuttered. On the advice of the school he was taken out, but when he was started the next year the same thing happened.

This is really a serious problem and the child should be most carefully examined mentally and physically to find out whether the nervousness and stuttering are the result of some emotional difficulty which can be remedied by calm and careful handling or whether there is some more deep-seated mental difficulty which would make it better for the youngster to be sent to a special school. When this kind of thing develops there should be no delay in getting the best possible advice.

Another mother tells that her 16-year-old daughter has a most offensive odor on her breath. Obviously this can be serious, into better dietary habits and, if possible, into activities other

of her personal attributes, and if she feels that she is displeasing to others it may have a most harmful emotional effect on her now and in the future.

Most difficulties with bad breath come from disorders of the mouth or gums, from intestinal disturbances or from food, the odors of which are eliminated through the lungs. All of these possibilities should be studied, and if anything can be found which is even partially responsible it should be corrected at once. The attitude of the parents and others toward the youngster are important; if everything is done which can be done the situation should be taken as lightly as possible.

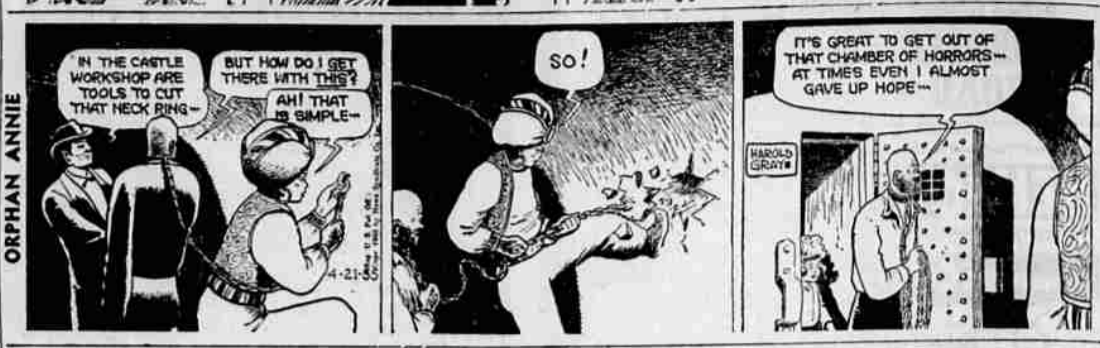
Indeed the greatest kind of wisdom is called for on the part of parents.

Qs and As

Q—What period in American history is known as the "Era of Good Feeling?"
A—The eight years of James Monroe's presidency.

Q—What kind of a ship is a windjammer?
A—It is a sailing vessel, so called contemptuously by seamen on steam vessels.

Q—Did Susan B. Anthony live to see women given the right to vote in this country?
A—In her old age she saw the women of Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado and Utah vote. Fourteen years after her death, all women were enfranchised.



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