

Horse Remains Vital In War--Saga of The Post Stables

13 Horses, 13 EM—Part of Crack Post Mounted Platoon



(ABOVE)—LINED UP for inspection, with Sgt. McKinley Stucker in charge—Public Relations Photo and (left) lined up for "shoe-work," is Pvt. Clarence King about to "nail on." Standing by are Major J. H. Brandt, stable officer, and Pvt. McWilliams of the mounted platoon.—Signal Corps Photo.



Seven Days To Teach Soldier How To Ride

Few of the twelve men in the mounted platoon could ride before they were assigned to that duty.

It was Major Brandt's contention and he has ably proved it, that a man could be taught to ride well enough for patrol in one week's time. The mounted platoon guards the ammunition dumps and the quartermaster warehouses.

Not only did these men learn to ride, but they were required to know how to groom their horses and care for leather and metal equipment.

A very high state of police is maintained in the stables at all times, and for Saturday inspections the place really "shines."

Capt. Gilbert A. Waite, post adjutant, was very instrumental in securing the proper personnel for the platoon.

No Worries Over No. 17 Coupons

Pfc. Clarence King has been a horse-shoer all his life and is continuing his vocation in the army.

It is his responsibility to see that all the mounts in the Post Stables are properly shod at all times.

Each horse receives a new set of shoes at least every thirty days. This keeps King busy re-shoeing at about the rate of two a day.

As with everything else in the army, there are two sizes of horse-shoes—too large and too small.

"We make 'em fit," says King.

IT'S HUDDLE, PRIZE jumper of Post Stables with Pfc. Chester Lewis up, clearing the bar at 4'2"—as Pvt. Pardon gives the involuntary "upsy daisy" which shows his heart's in the right place.—Signal Corps Photo.



Equines Aren't Gone for Good

Motorized Army Still Finds Use for Horse As Aids in Training

By Pvt. Lionel Kay

In the modern, motorized army, with all the color of the cavalry and the horse-drawn artillery gone, one seldom thinks of horses as being instruments of warfare.

In Camp Adair there are usually around 35 mounts. They are used primarily for patrol duty and as training aids in observation work carried on by field artillery officers.

SCU officers also use them once a week as part of their physical-fitness program.

The horses are all regular field artillery and cavalry horses. They run from 5 to 12 years old and stand on the average about 13 hands. Several are thoroughbreds.

"The horse comes first," says Sgt. McKinley Stucker, stable sergeant and veteran cavalry man with 27 years' service to his credit. This means FIRST. Every rider is personally responsible for the care and grooming of his horse and for the condition of the horse's equipment.

The animals are groomed and exercised every day. A veterinary makes a daily inspection at the stables, looking for injury or sickness. In addition, the blacksmith also examines each horse every day for loose or worn shoes.

Each horse is fed 15 pounds of hay at night and receives four quarts of oats daily. Once a week, on Saturday evening, each gets hot bran mash, and at regular intervals linseed meal is added to their diet to insure glossy coats.

HUMANE TREATMENT

Major Brandt, stables supervising officer, does not believe in tie-ropes for the horses but instead uses a 2"x4" board, key-locked at the rear of the stall. This humane treatment allows the horses to stand or lie down freely in their stalls without any danger of ropeburns.

News? Dogs Chase MP's Or—Must They Bite?

Gunter Field, Ala. (CNS)—Because dogs have been chasing MPs through the streets at night, the pooches are going to get an early curfew. The squadron pets have been ordered off the streets by 9 P. M.

Modern Conveniences Provided For Horses

Groomed, Exercised, And Examined by Vet And Smithy Every Day

HIGHLY POLICED

The Post Stables consist of a group of five modern, up-to-date buildings with "all the latest conveniences" for horses.

Since they were first finished the stables have been under the command of Colonel Gordon H. McCoy, post commander, and they are controlled by Colonel T. A. Baumeister, Director of Supply, inasmuch as they are a branch of the QMC. Immediate supervisor of the stables is Major J. H. Brandt, an old-time cavalry man from away back.

The main building has 58 stalls, contains a saddler's shop, and opens onto a large corral. The floor of the stable is concrete to insure a high degree of sanitation, and the floor of each stall is covered with packed clay in order to keep the horses' hooves in good condition.

Salt Licks

In the sanded corral there are three salt licks, a large feed rack and a water trough. The corral must be thoroughly cleaned every day.

The stable sergeant, Sgt. McKinley Stucker, has his quarters right by the stables in a separate building. In the rear there is the blacksmith shop. This is used when necessary to isolate sick or injured horses.

The stable crew also live right in this little community and can always be easily reached in case of any emergency.

Pardon, Pardon! It's Huddle's Hurdle!

