

ABBOT ENGINEER

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A Message of Greetings from Col. Frank S. Besson To the Officers and Enlisted Men of Camp Abbot:

Welcome to your new station. It is an ideal installation in which to train soldiers in the rudiments of becoming proficient Army Engineers. We, of the Corps of Engineers, have a reputation to uphold. As a component unit of the Army Service Forces, it is our prime requisite to equip individual soldiers with the necessary technical and military education to cope with any situation against the enemy on the ground.

Camp Abbot is destined to become the largest of the Army's three Engineer Replacement Training Centers. Eventually, it will be known as the "Ft. Belvoir of the Northwest." Its facilities will increase periodically as will its personnel. Our training programs must keep abreast of the times.

A mutual esprit de corps must be cemented to insure proper morale. Comforts right now are limited; upon completion of our camp-wide projects, everything in the interest of soldiers will be available.

In every theater of war, the Engineers are using their tools and their weapons with equal skill. Let us continue with all our efforts of training soldiers who are the "first ones in and the last ones out" when the going is toughest. "ESSAYONS."

The Chaplain's COLUMN

Not the least among the facilities provided by the War Department for the benefit of officers and enlisted men of Camp Abbot is the inclusion of a complement of six Chaplains and the erection of three Chapels. Two of the Chapels are conveniently located on Group Avenue in the heart of the group areas, while the Post Chapel (Mobilization type) is located near the intersection of Group Avenue and Center Street. As soon as all three Chapels are completed, services for Protestant, Jew, and Catholic will be scheduled weekly or oftener and at hours to conform with the training schedule of each battalion.

A fourth Chapel will be activated in the hospital, using a room designated by the Post Surgeon and as soon as practicable there will be a Chaplain designated as the Hospital Chaplain with an office assigned in the hospital. Offices of all the other Chaplains will be in the Chapels.

At present the Post Chaplain's office is located in Headquarters Building No. 201, in the Officer Personnel section. His correct title is "Chief of the Chaplains' Branch."

The Post Chaplain, (Major) William H. Andrew, arrived last week from Chaplains' School at Harvard university. He has been in the Chaplains' Reserve since 1929 and has held pastorates in Texas and Arkansas. His last Pastorate was at Bryan, Texas, the home of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, where he served a Church of some 1500 members for over ten years. Born in Lampasas, Texas, he attended the local high

school and was graduated from Baylor University and the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Chaplain Andrew's great grandfather was scalped by Indians "deep in the heart of Texas" near the present location of Camp Hood.

Chaplain Vernon A. Cooley has been on the field before the Camp Abbot offices were moved from Bend. He comes from a busy ministerial life in Cedar City, Utah by way of the Chaplains' School. Chaplain David Segerstrom is to arrive soon from a pastorate in Boston.

Chaplain Andrew will spend ten days until May 30 in Camp Adair on temporary duty observing the activities of the Chaplains and schedules of the Chapels there prior to complete organization of the Chaplains' Branch in Camp Abbot.

Schedules for Services each week are posted now on all bulletin boards. All services until further notice will be held in Chapel Building No. 754, on Group Avenue.

MORE ABOUT Abbot C. O.

(Continued from Page One)

general staff school at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and his most recent assignment in that work was in Kansas City as division engineer, Missouri river division. He is a graduate of the army war college.

Two sons and a daughter of Col. and Mrs. Besson are in some branch of service during the present world-wide conflict.

One son, Lt. Col. F. S. Besson, Jr., is head of the engineering and development section in the office of the chief of engineers, Washington, D. C.

Another son, Major Robert Besson, is a prisoner of the Japanese, following his participation in the Bataan campaign.

A daughter, Lt. Jean B. Besson, is in command of a WAAC officer candidate company at the Des Moines, Iowa, Tng. Center.

Mrs. Besson will arrive in Camp Abbot after June 1. The post commander's garrison residence is located in the area opposite headquarters square.

My secretary, being a lady, cannot take what I think of you. I, being a gentleman, cannot say it. You, being what you are, will understand what I should like to say.

Col. Copeland Is 11th Group C. O.

The 11th Group, consisting of four engineer training battalions—the 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 54th—is under command of Col. R. M. Copeland. Lt. Col. Carl G. Kustner is executive officer.

Other executive officers on Col. Copeland's staff are 1st. Lt. William T. Pascoe, III, adjutant; 2nd Lt. William I. Tanerey, assistant adjutant; Capt. L. P. Staman, S-1; Capt. Earl B. Merrill, S-2; Maj. Howard F. Brook, S-3; Capt. John N. Gilboy, S-4; 2nd Lt. John D. Tracy, assistant S-4, and 2nd Lt. Stephen D. Hopkins, Special Services Officer.

Capt. Burgerson Beats Obstacles To Operate P.O.

Lack of equipment and the fact a post office has not yet been authorized for Camp Abbot failed to stop Capt. John C. Burgerson, postal officer, when the arrival of training cadre began to tax postal facilities last week-end.

Postoffice personnel fashioned equipment from scrap lumber and in a short time had a temporary office functioning as efficiently as if it had been established months before. Stamps were obtained by Capt. Burgerson and postal employees from personal funds and made available to soldiers, and arrangements were made for receiving and sending registered mail.

No facilities are available for handling money orders, but the postoffice has arranged to obtain them in Bend in an emergency.

Enlisted men assigned to the postoffice are Sgt. Ed Purcell, Cpl. R. Whatford and Pfc. Sidney Resnick. Five civilians assist soldier personnel. No permanent postmaster has been appointed, but nominations have been submitted to Congress.

Books Arrive For 3 Camp Libraries

Reading is most popular form of diversion of a soldier and in the very near future, Camp Abbot servicemen will have a modern, well stocked and pleasantly-appointed library that will be the envy of many small American cities.

For the past week, hundreds of packages of books have arrived from publishers to fill the shelves in the main library in the Service club and two sub-libraries.

An experienced librarian will soon be named, according to the Special Services office.

Besides books—on every conceivable subject—there will be available to Abbotmen hundreds of the latest periodicals, magazines and home town newspapers.

Jewish Services Planned For First Time Tonight

Camp Abbot officers and enlisted men of Jewish faith are invited to attend services tonight at 1845, and every Friday evening, in the Post Chapel.

Services will be conducted by a group of servicemen from ERTC and SCU. Sgt. Morris Stavsky, Medical detachment, SCU, will serve as cantor. Lt. B. Klabanoff, assistant post adjutant is directing arrangements for the services, assisted by the Post Chaplain.

SCHEDULE OF CAMP ABBOT CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday, May 23, 1943

Catholic Services

Catholic Services will be held at 0900, Sunday, May 23. Confessions before Mass at 0830.

Protestant Services

Protestant Services will be held on Sunday, May 23, at 1030 and at 1930.

Jewish Services

Jewish Services will be held Friday, May 21, at 1845.

All services to be held in Chapel No. 754 on Third Ave. All are urged to attend.

If she were twice as cute as she tries to be, she still wouldn't be half as cute as she thinks she is.

The first copy of the Abbot ENGINEER, official post newspaper, will be mailed to Miss M. S. Abbot, daughter of Brig. Gen. Henry L. Abbot, for whom this ERTC was named.

Miss Abbot, despite of being in her seventies, leads an active life in philanthropic and charity affairs in Cambridge, Mass.

She will receive weekly the camp newspaper, according to Lt. P. H. O'Brien, post Public Relations officer.

400-Bed Hospital Is Well-Equipped

Utilizing 49 buildings in the extreme southeast section of the ERTC is the 400-bed Camp Abbot hospital, believed to be one of the best equipped in the northwest, and under supervision of Col. Frank G. Crandall, Jr., post surgeon.

At present there are only 29 patients hospitalized for medical and surgical treatment.

Hospital personnel consists of eight medical officers, a dental officer, two Medical Administration officers, a veterinarian, a sanitary officer, one chief nurse and 133 enlisted men.

Capt. John W. Summers is the post hospital adjutant.

G.I. Insurance Is Best Buy in Army

As Army authorities issued another plea for troops to "think about buying government war risk insurance before your foot is on the gangplank," Camp Abbot officials launched a concerted drive for all personnel to purchase G.I. insurance—the cheapest form of investment protected by Uncle Sam.

With the future arrival of trainees, an Insurance officer will be named, and working with the Special Service officers of the 11th and 12th Groups, Abbotmen will be able to purchase, increase policies and change beneficiaries of National Service Life Insurance.

G.I. insurance is practically a gift. Uncle Sam is willing to bet his soldiers \$10,000 against \$7, that they will live another month. These odds are terrific, considering the bet holds good—even in combat.

Camp Dedication Dates Considered

Formal dedication of Camp Abbot will be held either in August or early September, according to Col. Frank S. Besson, post commander.

Two dates—Aug. 12 and Sept. 2—are under consideration, and either, said Col. Besson, "will be suitable since they mark significant dates in the life of Gen. Abbot, for whom this post is named."

August 12th marks the 112th anniversary of Brig. Gen. Henry L. Abbot's birth, and it was on Sept. 2, 1855 that he visited the present site of Camp Abbot—destined to be the largest of the nation's three ERTC installations.

Definite selection of the formal dedication will be announced in the near future.

Two Abbotmen Attend ASTP

Thousands of Yank soldiers are going to college under the Army Specialized Training Program. Matter of fact, two Camp Abbotmen were selected recently—first of the hundreds in the future to be afforded an opportunity to attend school while in the service.

T/3 Leo A. Cooper, cashier in the camp finance office, was the first Abbot man selected, followed by Pvt. John R. Hanson, principal clerk in the camp Purchasing and Contracting department. Both men will attend the STAR unit, University of Idaho at Moscow. The former soldier was in the first contingent of EM's on the post, arriving from Camp Roberts nearly five weeks ago.

Every logarithm they master... every book they crack... will be a kick in the teeth to Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini because dealing hard blows against the enemy demands trained specialists in many fields.

Right now the Army is sending men to college who can be trained in engineering, medicine, psychology, foreign area studies and other specialized fields. The biggest call is for men to become electrical, civil, chemical and mechanical engineers.

For many soldiers the college courses will open the door to OSC and lead to commissions. For others the course will lead to recommendations for technical ratings upon successfully completing their studies.

See your first sergeant about qualifications for ASTP and STAR college training.

Reveille Serenade Suggested by C.O.

Col. Frank S. Besson post commander, believes a singing army is a fighting army.

Music—which has played such an important part in military victories of the past—will become a daily pleasure when plans of Col. Besson are a reality.

The C. O. has suggested that all enlisted men give their vocal chords a healthy workout for 15 minutes at reveille.

Personally, we think it is an excellent idea. Can't you just picture a company of alert G. I.'s at 0610 burst out with such old time favorites as "Smile," "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," and a couple of request ditties for the "top sarge," namely, "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," and "My Buddy."

Okay, sarge, sound you "A!"

BARS and STRIPES

Promotions of officers and enlisted men at Camp Abbot will be publicly announced in this ENGINEER feature column. Items may either be phoned or mailed to the Public Relations Office, giving full name, rank and grade of promotion.

To Be Major

Paul L. Diediker, ERTC adjutant.

ABBOT EYE OPENER NO. 1



BABY TALK—The lovely gal above is Dolores Gillen who makes baby talk pay dividends—but good. Although she's a capable actress she rarely gets a speaking role. Babies are her specialty. She plays the twins on "Abie's Irish Rose" and similar parts on many other NBC shows. She goes, gas, and cries. Some baby!



THIS
PIG BANK'S UNSAFE!
Invest your money in United States
WAR SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS!