

# ABBOT ENGINEER

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### "ALL THAT CAN BE TOLD"

In releasing authentic news to the public, our Army is guided by two essential considerations: To keep our people informed, and to keep our enemy uninformed. Within those boundaries, we may be sure of getting all the news that can be told.

In the Axis countries all informational media are under government control. They say what they are told to say. An editorial criticizing any governmental policy would be enough to send its author to jail, if not to his death. Nazi policy, as outlined in "Mein Kampf" states that the bigger the lie, the more readily it will be believed. And that is one policy the Nazis have followed consistently! In conquered Europe, the people, at the risk of their lives, listen to American broadcasts for the truth.

We in the United States are accustomed to being told the truth. We may turn our radio dials to any station we care to. If we decide to tune in on short wave, no Gestapo agent stands ready to clap us in jail. We read the newspaper or magazine of our choice. We go to the movies when we want to. And what is equally as important, the news we hear, read or see is authentic, and as complete as possible, within the limits of military security.

You have probably heard that phrase "the limits of military security", time and again. It is not a simple matter to define those limits. Generally speaking, they may be said to include any information which would give aid and comfort to the enemy. When there is any question of doubt involved, it is certainly the better part of wisdom to withhold the information.

THINK BEFORE YOU TALK!

## Second Article on Life of Gen. Abbot Reprinted Here

In the May 28 issue of the **ABOT ENGINEER** there appeared the first of two installments on the life of Brig. Gen. H. L. Abbot, outstanding soldier, engineer and scientist for whom this camp is named.

This week's article deals with Gen. Abbot's activities after the Civil War and the role he played in forming one of the first military engineering schools.

During the Civil War Abbot served in the Eastern Armies first as an engineer and later in command of the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery. He was wounded at the first battle of Bull Run, where he was serving, on Gen. McDowell's staff. He acted as chief topographical engineer for Gen. Banks' New Orleans expedition. In the campaigns of 1864-65 he commanded the siege artillery brigade of both United States Armies at Petersburg and Richmond. During the war he received seven brevets, the highest being that of major-general of volunteers, "for gallant and meritorious conduct during the Rebellion." In September 1865 he was mustered out of the volunteer service and resumed his regular rank of major of the Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

Following the war, Abbot was placed in command of the Engineer Battalion at Willett's

Point, N. Y., where, with the encouragement of Gen. Humphreys, he developed the Engineer School of Application, making of it not only a post-graduate school, but a center of research in the problems of military engineering. At Willett's Point, during a period of some twelve years, he carried on the experiments in high explosives which resulted in the system of coast defense by submarine mines adopted for the United States. His voluminous report was published in 1881 as No. 23 of the Professional Papers of the Corps of Engineers. He served on many engineering boards including the Board of Ordnance and Fortifications. Three times he was sent to Europe as a member of special commissions: In 1870 to the Island of Sicily to observe the solar eclipse; in 1875 to make contracts for submarine mining cable and examine systems of torpedo defense adopted in Great Britain, Germany, Austria and France; and again in 1883 as a member of a joint Army and Navy board to report on providing large steel cannon. His promotion as colonel in the Corps of Engineers came in 1886 and after his retirement in August 1895 he was promoted by Act of Congress to brigadier-general, U. S. A., retired.

## ABBOT ENGINEER SUBSCRIPTION

The Abbot ENGINEER can be sent to the home front for 13 weeks at a cost of 50 cents, or 26 weeks for \$1. If you wish the ENGINEER sent home, fill out this blank, enclose money and forward via Messages Center or U. S. mails to: Abbot ENGINEER, Public Relations Office, Camp Abbot, Oregon.

Send to .....

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"Wait'll you taste Fraulein Schmidt's lentil soup—  
they say she imports her own sawdust"

## U. S. Papers Publicize Camp Abbot

Hundreds of individual press and photo releases have been forwarded to daily and weekly newspapers through the nation by the Public Relations Division of the Special Services Officer since the activation of Camp Abbot May 15. It was announced today by Lt. P. H. O'Brien, director of the camp special service office.

The releases consisted of news items dealing with the camp itself, promotions of officers and enlisted men, members of the WAAC and new trainees. Photographs of outstanding events in the short time since the camp was officially activated and of outstanding personalities have appeared in several metropolitan papers.

A weekly news release to papers in surrounding counties in which the Engineer Replacement Center was explained in detail met with warm response. Arrangements have been perfected to entertain staff writers of metropolitan dailies to whom feature stories of the new camp have been suggested.

## 'Maggie Drawers' Are Taboo for Fifty-first Men

Trainees of the 51st Engr. Tng. Bn. may have heard about "dry runs" prior to their arrival in Camp Abbot, but during the past week the term assumed realistic significance as they underwent



strenuous hours of rifle instruction as the first lesson in the camp's "Sweat Saves Blood" campaign.

"We can teach a soldier to shoot without ever letting him fire a rifle," said Maj. LeCompte Joslin, chief, ERTC Weapons branch. Tentative schedule calls for 66 hours of work in completing the rifle marksmanship course, with "jawbone" firing in the third week and record shooting in the fourth week.

"Our men are being conditioned both mentally and physically to be moved about in groups and execute orders," said Lt. Col. Coke S. Mathews, 51st C. O. as the first week ended for trainees in his battalion. "The men are absorbing instruction very quickly and eager to put their lessons into actual use on the rifle range in order to qualify as marksmen."

## Six Telephone Booths To Be Installed at Camp

Construction in the immediate future of at least six telephone booths in strategic sections of Camp Abbot has been assured by officials of the telephone company.

Increased telephone exchange facilities also will be installed, as will an attendant pay station.

## PX Merchandise Arrives in Camp

Initial and general supplies of stock of merchandise ordered for the PX is beginning to arrive at Camp Abbot and many items not previously on the shelves are now available for PX customers. Shipments are arriving daily at the warehouse, according to Lt. D. B. McClure, exchange officer, and the variety of items will increase, including cosmetics, stationery and other products in demand by enlisted men with particular thought to WAAC needs.

Rationing will be felt, however, by army personnel as well as civilians employed on the post as exchanges are now rationed on many products. The PX receives its allowance in points or pounds for coffee, meats, fats, sugar and canned goods. Sugar rationing affects the present post exchange set-up to the greatest extent on candy, soft drinks and ice cream.

Gum and candy is already rationed by selling only two packages or bars to one customer. It may be necessary to curtail the amount of soft drinks placed in the vending machines in order to conserve sugar.

Razor blades and razors are strictly controlled and their sale will be rationed when they arrive.

Merchandise has been slow in arriving due to transportation difficulties.

General rationing of 3.2 beer is likely but until such time as rationing takes effect, the prospects of a continuous and adequate supply of beer at Camp Abbot is doubtful.

All army exchange service price agreements between manufacturers of fountain pens and pencils have been cancelled. When mechanical pencils and pens are available the Exchange Officer will inform Abbotmen.

## "Red" Purcell to Learn PO Methods

Smiling, red-headed T-4 Henry E. Purcell, Hq. Co. SCU 1973, is undergoing a two-weeks' course of instruction at the Bend post-office to learn the latest methods in "carrying the mail."

"Red" was one of the pioneer servicemen assigned to the camp postal office and has had considerable experience in various phases of P.O. operations. His training in Bend ends June 12.

## CAMP ABBOT CHURCH RITES

Sunday, June 6, 1943

### Catholic Services

Catholic Services will be held at 0900, Sunday, June 6. Confessions before Mass at 0830.

### Protestant

Protestant Services will be held on Sunday, June 6, at 1030 and at 1930.

### Jewish Services

Jewish Services will be held Friday, June 4, at 1845.

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

## The 19th Is Lucky for S/Sgt. Fabian

By Cpl. Harlan Weeks

The term "Sergeant Major" is awe-inspiring to most enlisted men in Uncle Sam's Army, but to S/Sgt. Louis Fabian it is just a job. The tall, husky SCU 1973 soldier holds the responsible title of Post Sergeant Major, and just between us boys, its no snap.

To be a competent sergeant major, a man must possess an unusual sense of organization, good judgment and initiative.

Fabian came to Camp Abbot when it was just a "pup", arriving here last April 19 and assumed the duties of Post Sergeant Major. Apparently the 19th day of the month is a lucky day for Fabian—he enlisted at Fort Ord, Calif., on the 19th day of November, 1942; he moved to Camp Abbot on the 19th day of April, and was promoted to Staff Sergeant on the 19th day of May.

Fabian claims Los Angeles as his home where he attended high school. Later his education was enhanced by tutelage in psychology and philosophy. For nearly three years he was engaged as executive secretary and academic research worker for the First Christians Church.

Fabian has a most important position on the post having to coordinate important activities in Post Headquarters. The five WAACs assigned to the Adjutant's Branch have been highly praised by him. He says, "There has been considerable speculation among military personnel with regard to the assignment of WAACs at this station. In our office the WAACs have displayed a willingness to learn and an adaptability to administrative work that is commendable. In my estimation they have demonstrated themselves to be important members of the military service."

His wife, Mrs. Ethel Fabian, is also holding down an important job in the office of the Director of Personnel. They reside in Bend, Oregon.

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of interviews to acquaint the enlisted personnel with the "key" sergeant majors at Camp Abbot. Others will follow each week.)

## The Chaplain's COLUMN

### MAN TURNS TO WORD OF GOD

A fighting man speaks from the floor of a storm-tossed raft ... "Is there a Bible among us?"

On a burning African desert a voice reads quietly ... and a thousand heads bow reverently.

In the silence of night on a Kansas farm ... a mother finds solace in thin, worn pages.

Quietly ... its words of comfort are spoken in solemn requiem ... as rough hands grown tender lower a hero's body over-

side. For the things men live by are found in this book that is the Word of God. In its pages ... men have found help for their deepest hour.

Eternally, the Bible has inspired the noblest courage and the most sublime actions of man.

Heroes have dedicated their lives to its principles. Martyrs have died with its words on their lips.

Now, an anguished world turns to this book that has molded the life of man. For its lessons of mercy, humanity, charity, tolerance. For a restoration of the spirit torn with grief. For a return of the hope and faith grown weak under the whip of despotism. And here in its pages, to seek the flame that lifts men's souls. The courage to face tomorrow. The faith, that in good time ... the sound of war will end ... and men shall live again in brotherhood and peace.

Your Chaplain welcomes you each week to Chapel Services. Exercise the religious liberty which is yours! CHRISTIANITY is the good man's TEXT: his LIFE, the ILLUSTRATION.

The Chaplains of Camp Abbot are ready to provide soldiers here with a testament, a prayer book, a gospel, or whatever kind of help you desire ... if you simply ask.