

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, Creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

Fever Communicated By Contact



Rhythm Is Their Business at Camp



ABBOT MUSICAL DISPENSERS — Here's the now-famed ERTC dance band whose style and versatility has endeared them to the hearts of all guys and gals who love to jig. Pfc. Jess Castiaux, tenor sax; left, front row; T/4 Lawrence Winters, trombone; T/5 Harry Bray, alto sax; T/5 Clare Coburn, trombone; Cpl. Jimmy Gilbert, alto sax; T/4 Danti Di Thomas, baritone sax; Pfc. Bob Rigelman, drums; Pfc. Ted Bluemel, trumpet; Pfc. Melvin Maderos, tenor sax; T/5 Jack Smith, trumpet; T/4 Donald Owen, bass; S/Sgt. Jack Hayes, trumpet and Pfs. Jerome Lupo. (ENGINEER photo by S/Sgt. Marty Riis, ERTC Publications.)

O. B. Course No Playfield, Soldiers Aver

(Picture on page one) By Cpl. H. L. "Gone On Sick Call" Weeks So you think you're tough soldier?

O. K. then try the Abbot obstacle course and if that doesn't wear you down then they will immediately start to rebuild it because as Lt. D. J. MacKnight, assistant training officer in the Military Branch of the ERTC Training office, has said it is the toughest obstacle course in the U. S. From the brief view we have had of it we are inclined to agree that it wouldn't do to go over it immediately after acquiring a hangover.

The course, just in case you haven't been over it, is located a quarter of a mile north of Col. F. S. Besson's post home and stretches out for 475 yards and includes a great number of water "jumps". The 475 yards does not include the debarkation tower, Jacob's ladder and assault boats where the trainees are given training in debarking from assault boats under simulated landing conditions. The course took three weeks to build with 30 cadremen and trainees doing the work.

A brief description of the course should convince you beyond any reasonable doubt that it is the toughest in the country. Stop number one is a "box field" which is classed as a warm up for the second stop. The "box field" is a series of boxes 12 inches deep through which a trainee runs. Second stop is an eight foot wall, no cleats, ropes or anything to grab a hold of in going over, just wall. Number three a type-B fire trench, six feet deep, eight feet across, revetted with logs and sandbags. No. four is a rope climb to a ten foot tower with nine two inch pipes to slide down (who said we couldn't play fireman).

The fifth stop is a triangular log wall made of native wood taken on the road while number six sees the high hurdles come in action. At stop number seven a box tunnel 12 feet long, three feet square in a zig-zag fashion has been built to crawl through while number eight is a maze of zigzag paths, nine of them, to develop a change of pace. At number ten stop you spring and climb over a rail fence and number eleven in a breast works laid in cinders and revetted with sand bags. It includes a six foot jump.

The next five stops, twelve through sixteen are all over water, the first being a horizontal ladder of the Tarzan style, hand over hand swinging from rung to rung. At number 13, trainees have to be a bit careful or they are apt to swing right into the front door of the post commander on the rope swing, four sets of shears twenty-five feet high. In the swing the trainees have to clear several walls. At the next stop a bath might be in order if you miss the seven foot water jump. If the bath was missed there you can almost be sure of one on number 15 where the water is crossed for twelve feet on two by six adzed logs. The last drop is one of seven feet, run up the ladder and drop off.

That's all men, fall out, or in, if you're not careful!

Blonde: Men are all alike. Brunette: Yeah—men are all I like.

G. I. Mercury



WAAC COURIER—Astride her trusty motorcycle at Camp Abbot is Aux. Agnes M. Sonnenfelt, one of the nation's foremost drivers. She's a messenger in ERTC Personnel. What a driver! (ENGINEER photo by Pfc. Bob Hahn.)

WAAC Cyclist Creates Furore; Is Champ Driver

Camp Abbot's first feminine motorcyclist has created quite a furore in Camp Abbot and Bend. The first permit to a WAAC motorcycle dispatch rider was issued Tuesday by the Motor Transportation Branch to Aux. Agnes M. Sonnenfelt of Eau Claire, Wis.

While other girls of her age were playing with paper dolls and selecting suitable names for their favorites, Agnes was tinkering with her brother's "bug" roadster, tearing it apart and putting it together, and while in her 'teens had her own motorcycle and called it "Josephine." Since then Aux. Sonnenfelt has achieved wide recognition as one of the country's most accomplished motorcyclists. She has traveled throughout the United States on her "iron mound."

Agnes traveled throughout the west coast during 1941 on a solo cycle covering 7500 miles. She traveled through Oregon on this trip which was to prove that one could travel in style by motorcycle on \$25 a week for all expenses. During this trip she received notable publicity in each city visited.

Sonnenfelt joined the WAAC's last February 23, and attended Motor Transport School at Fort Des Moines.

Previous to joining the WAACs she was Mid-western states Director of the Motor Maids of America and is known to be one of the most able woman motorcyclists in the country.

Her first inquiry on reaching Bend to report to Camp Abbot was regarding motorcycle dispatch riding and her assignment here is the realization of her ambition in joining the WAACs.

I got a way of looking into a dame's eyes that makes her completely forget what I look like.

Dance Combo Composed of "Name" Stars

When the Camp Abbot dance band made its 2nd appearance in the Cascades, soldiers and residents of Bend cocked a collective ear, took a hitch in their trousers or whatever and decided to get in the swing of things. That was a couple weeks ago—since then, according to talented S/Sgt. Jack Hayes, leader, the band has been asked to play for everything but a meeting of a temperance society, and members begin worrying about even that everytime they look at a State beverage Purchaser's Permit.

A modest fellow, Hayes believes the band's popularity is attributable for the most part to a shortage of musicians outside the armed forces, but a study of the band's personnel shows there are other reasons. Nearly every member played with some "name" band before induction, several are expert arrangers and all are good instrumentalists.

About half the musicians joined Hayes' band at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., when the ERTC there was activated and the only musical competition in the region was provided by Bonnie Blue Eyes and the Missouri Sod Busters. Hayes' fine arrangements—he formerly arranged for Universal Studios and network radio shows—and a modern musical style soon weaned Missourians off Bonnie and a mountain music diet. The band

has been clicking ever since. To acquaint readers with members of the orchestra, the ENGINEER presents the following thumbnail sketches:

JACK HAYES — Trumpeter and pianist . . . Arranger for Artie Shaw, Skinnay Ennis and Buddy Rogers . . . creator of the musical score for Deanna Durbin's "It's a date." . . . A resident of San Francisco.

CPL. JESS CASTIAUX — Tenor sax . . . copyist for Henry King and Hollywood studios . . . San Francisco.

SGT. LAWRENCE ED WINTERS — Blues-trombonist . . . Formerly played with Bigal Herman . . . Los Angeles.

SGT. HARRY BRAY — Alto saxophonist with Lawrence Welk and Del Courtney . . . San Francisco.

CPL. JAMES GILBERT—Alto saxophonist aboard the Normandie when it made its last trip as a passenger vessel, formerly with Louisiana Tech. Collegians . . . EIdorado, Ark.

SGT. DANTE DI THOMAS—Baritone saxophonist . . . With Tommy Reynolds . . . Newcastle, Pa.

CPL. BOB RIGELMAN — Drummer . . . With Hal Kemp several years ago . . . Detroit, Mich.

PFC. TED BLUEMEL—Trumpet . . . formerly with Gene Kellum and bands in Indianapolis, Ind.

PFC. MELVIN MADEROS — Tenor sax . . . With Neil Bondshu . . . San Francisco.

SGT. JACK E. SMITH—Trumpet . . . With Jack Wardlaw and Charlie Randall . . . Columbus, Ohio.

SGT. DONALD OWEN—Bass . . . Formerly with an army band in Honolulu, T. H.

Warfare Aquatics Course Completed By 16 Cadremen

(Picture on page one) Sixteen Abbot cadremen of the Engineer Replacement Training Center braved the swift icy waters of the Deschutes river recently to pass their "final examinations" in an American Red Cross functional swimming course and earn "diplomas" certifying them as instructors.

These graduates and two who did not take part in the demonstrations will be the nucleus of a training system which eventually will certify thousands of ERTC soldiers as instructors. Names of those who were certi-

fied Friday will be announced later.

Skills demonstrated included swimming silently, fully clothed, swimming with rifles and full field equipment, swimming through simulated burning oil, using a splash recovery which would protect a soldier jumping from a vessel into burning oil, pulling a boat while wearing full field equipment, using inflated clothing for buoyancy and saving and carrying stricken swimmers.

Mr. Amick was congratulated on success of the program by Col. Frank S. Besson, Post commander, and other high ranking officers who watched the demonstrations from the marshy river bank that flows through the heart of this—the nation's newest ERTC.

Abbot n' Around

* Being a weekly calendar of events listing activities in Camp and Bend for Camp Abbot personnel.

- FRIDAY
BEND USO: Snack bar, coffee.
BASEBALL PRACTICE: Post Hqs., 1800.
SATURDAY
BEND USO: "Learn to Dance" Class 1800. Juke Box Dance, 2030. BLDG. NO. 211: Officers' Dance, Formal, in Officers' Mess 2100 to 2400.
SUNDAY
ATTEND CHURCH: Post Chapel or churches in Bend.
BASEBALL GAME: Camp Diamond. Baseball game between two Abbot teams. 1400.
SUNDAY DINNER: Register at USO for invitation for home-cooked dinner.
BEND USO: Dunker's Club, 1015-1100; Musical Gems (classical recordings), 1500; Buffet Lunch, 1500-1700; Snack Bar, 1900-2200; Party Night-Games, refreshments, singing 2000.
MONDAY
BEND USO: Open House—"Do as you please" evening.
ERTC BARRACKS: String Ensemble Practice, 1930.
BASEBALL PRACTICE: Post Hqs., 1800.
TUESDAY
ALL PURPOSE BLDG: Enlisted Men's Dance 2000-2300. USO hostesses and WAACs.
BEND USO: Dance, with ERTC Band, 2000.
BASEBALL PRACTICE: Post Hqs., 1800.
WEDNESDAY
STATION KBND: "Camp Abbot on Parade," Studio in Pilot Butte Inn, 1945-2000.
BASEBALL PRACTICE: Post Hqs., 1800.
CHOIR PRACTICE: Post Chapel, 1930.
BEND USO: Bingo Party—Telephone call home to winner, 2000.
THURSDAY
BASEBALL PRACTICE: Post Hqs., 1800.
BEND USO: Write home; head, refreshments.