

Chemical Branch Chief Praises Gas Drills Here

The state of training of Camp Abbot personnel in Chemical Warfare is very sound and far above the average, Col. John M. Morris, chief, Chemical Warfare Branch, Ninth Service Command, said following a camp-wide inspection last week end.

He was particularly impressed with the demonstration of training battalions where they crossed a river under cover of smoke and then practiced firing on the transition range, using battle sight, amid the explosion of tear gas mines.

Col. Morris was particularly laudatory in his comment on the Wac detachment. Their military precision in marching and general all-around knowledge during gas mask drill, both on the march and gas chamber tests, were pointed out as practically perfect by the inspector.

The excellent results of camp-wide gas training was shown by the fact that an average of 69 per cent of soldiers questioned on chemical warfare, the various agents and methods of combatting gas, knew all the answers.

The training will be augmented, Lt. L. S. Brooks, camp Chemical Warfare officer, said. A quantity of Chlorine and Mustard gas will be available in the near future.

Col. Morris praised the efforts of Lt. Brooks and his assistants, Sgt. Jack Israel and Corp. F. Harwood, for their training schedule.

A-52 Sets Record For Bridge Work

A new record in heavy ponton bridge construction at Camp Abbot was established by A-52 recently when the unit spanned the Deschutes river near the main encampment in 4 hours, 2 hours and 5 minutes ahead of the previous record.

The unit's efficiency was attributed by Capt. Stuart M. Johnston, company commander, to a thorough study of the period plan the preceding evening and a new patrol system introduced by Maj. Lawrence J. Fuller, battalion commander. Each man knew his job before he ever reached the ponton site, Capt. Johnston said.

Describing the patrol system, Capt. Johnston said each squad was divided into three five-man patrols, each with its own patrol leader and each with specific assignments. Lts. Wilbur Andrews and Paul J. Jones were in charge of construction.

PASS THE CIGARS DEPT

Pvt. Muzzy Chessy, Supply Co. SCU 1973, passed the smokes in his barracks when word reached him that he had become a father. The baby, a 7 lb. 9 oz. girl named Claudia, was born last week in Perioa, Ill.

51st Bn. Pioneer Training Unit Here, Is "Graduated"

The 51st Battalion, first Engineer training unit activated at Camp Abbot, completed its training last week, held "graduation" exercises Saturday and departed for destinations unknown.

During its stay here, the 51st made many pertinent entries in the history of Camp Abbot. A test case for a program stressing rifle marksmanship and other combat tactics, the 51st came through to qualify 100 per cent on the new ERTC ranges.

In commenting on the battalion's accomplishments, Lt. Col. Coke S. Mathews, commanding officer, expressed the belief the unit's most notable contribution was serving as a sort of guinea pig for military science and a much broader training program than that previously undergone by training units of the same type. Ranger training and many other tactics not included in the curriculum of other Engineer replacement training cen-

ters were tests for the 51st before other Camp Abbot units reached those stages of their training program.

Several phases of the unit's training program were reviewed Saturday during the "graduation" exercises. Embraced in tests taken by the unit were problems in barbed wire installation, camouflage, road construction, bridges, machine gun firing and rigging.

Athletics also played an important part in the program, a highlight of which was a mass boxing bout to determine the battalion championship. A 16-man team from Company C defeated a Company B contingent to take the title.

Saturday's program was concluded with an inspection by Col. Frank S. Besson, Post commander, and other high ranking officers.

Following "graduation," 170 men of the battalion were granted furloughs.

"Dog Tags" Tell Story of Each Individual Entry Into Service

Dogfaces may find their "dog tags", in comparison with other equipment, a source of annoyance, but despite their seeming insignificance and irritable qualities, they are of value—not only to you, but the Army as a whole.

Doubtless many know nothing of their history, so here's the low-down: Army serial numbers came into existence to end confusion resulting from men having the same names. In the last war, mail and records were pretty well mixed up because of the similarity of name, at least until Feb. 8, 1918 when serial numbers came into being. To Mr. Sgt. Arthur B. Cream of the Medics was issued No. 1.

At that time the numbers ran to seven digits. With the institution of the Selective Service Sys-

tem the eighth digit was added.

Now your numbers tell a story. The first digit for instance, reveals whether you are a member of the regular army prior to Selective Service, National Guard, or a selective. If your first digit is one, that means you were in the regular army prior to the emergency. If it's a two, you were in the National Guard when it was Federalized, and if it's three, you were inducted under the Selective Service Law.

The second digit is the number of the Service Command from which you entered. If it's a one—then you come from the First Service Command—New England, or a seven, the Seventh Service Command, etc.

PRIVATES ODE

I think that I shall never see
A job as sloppy as K. P.
K. P., where greasy arms are pressed
With pots and pans against the chest
K. P. where stand the chefs all day
Barking orders at their prey
K. P.'s who may in evening wear
A spot of gravy in their hair
K. P., where all the yard birds hop
To nonchalantly wield a mop
Poems are made by fools like me
And so's the list for that damned
K. P.

—Sgt. Adrian McMahan,
In Fort MacArthur "Alert"

POST FIRE DEPT GROWS

Staffed by 25 experienced civilian firemen, Camp Abbot's fire department this week had over 8,000 feet of hose and four modern pieces of fire fighting equipment—two 500-gallon pumps, a 750-gallon pumper and one 300-gallon apparatus.

Abbot Trainee Once Sang For Ex-Kaiser

An Engineer trainee, Pvt. Hellmuth P. Rodrian—Co. A 51st Engineer Training Battalion—was a member of a youthful German choir which sang a command performance before Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm, then emperor of the Reich, in one of the former Teuton ruler's Berlin palaces.

When only 15 years old, he organized his own symphony orchestra, and this group appeared in some of the higher class beer gardens and night clubs of that day in the German capital.

Later, he took up the study of engineering, and after completing his education came to America where for the past 15 years, preceding his induction into the Army early this summer, he was a draftsman, employed by the Fisher Body Works branch of General Motors, Detroit.

He has kept up his interest in music throughout the years and at the time of his induction was assistant director of the General Motors Chorus, in Detroit, one of the city's best known musical organizations. He also was choir director for the Broad Street United Presbyterian Church in the Michigan city. During his tenure as choir director the church membership was more than doubled. He is also an accomplished artist on the piano and violin.

The youthful choir, of which Pvt. Rodrian was a member, which sang before the Kaiser was a select group of 80 to 100 youth, he said. He explained that membership in this choir had as a requisite a year's training in sight reading before members were allowed to sing publicly. They were tutored by the greatest musical artists of the German capital.

21 Post Officers To Higher Rank

A gold leaf, four double silver bars and 17 single silver bars were added to personnel of Camp Abbot when promotions to a major, four captains and 17 first lieutenants were announced by the Post Commander.

Capt. Lilburn P. Staman was elevated to major, and heads the long list. Promoted from first lieutenant to captain were James R. Meeks, Charles H. Megarity, William T. Pascoe III, and James W. White. To be first lieutenants were Second Lieuts. John N. Alders, William A. Barnes, Jr., John W. Fisher, Emmanuel Freedman, Thomas E. Harrison, Jr., Albert G. Heck, Philip A. Kubles, Hyman Love, Richard P. Lucas, Elberg S. Phelps, Edwin M. Ramsey, Charles M. Salsberg, Jacob Samachson, Percival K. Stone, Frederick T. Titterington, Theodore F. Weisman and William I. Penery.

A word to the spies is sufficient!

Vet Unit to Care For Dog Troops

Members of the post Veterinary Detachment, the smallest unit in Camp Abbot, breathed a sigh of relief Monday when they were officially relieved of examining all animal products—meat, milk and meat products, to you—for IV Corps maneuver troops.

This duty had been added to their regular detail of inspecting all products issued to mess halls in Camp Abbot.

They will have another additional duty, however, when the K-9, or dog troops arrive. The detachment will have charge of the physical condition of the canines which are the closest approach to live animals to be found around an engineer replacement training center.

The detachment, which is attached to the Medics for rations, quarters and pay, is commanded by Capt. W. R. Merchant, who came here from Camp Beale, Cal., and he is assisted by three enlisted men: Sgt. John Adams, T/5 Edgar Loar and Pvt. Frank Drommond.

Postal Officer Is Speaker in Church Rite

The only known member of the Society of Friends, more familiarly known as Quakers, at Camp Abbot, Lt. Joseph S. Sickler, postal officer, conducted the regular religious services at Station Hospital last Sunday.

Taking as his text Matthew 7:12, Lt. Sickler cited the "Golden Rule," enunciated in this famous Biblical verse, as the real cure for all wars of mankind.

"Wars and misunderstandings could be averted by living according to the Golden Rule, and may God speed the day for it to come," the postal officer told his audience.

Lt. Sickler is the only Quaker at Camp Abbot, according to the records of Maj. William H. Andrew, chief of chaplains. Quakers have no regularly appointed pastor, but at each meeting members act as ministers when they feel moved to make appropriate remarks. Many famous personages are Quakers, including former President Herbert Hoover.

Their members oppose war, but when conflict comes take a leading part, particularly in humanitarian activities. Lt. Sickler volunteered in the first World War, serving as a private. Again offering his services when the present conflict started, he was commissioned as a postal officer almost a year ago. He was postmaster at Salem, N. J., until entering the Army.

Save for Security! Save with Security!—Buy BONDS!

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of Terry and the Pirates

Why Don't You Do Wright?

