

WELCOME  
VISITORS



DEDICATION  
ISSUE

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CAMP ABBOT, OREGON

Thursday, Sept. 2, 1943

# Dedication Visitors Will Witness Engineer Combat Demonstrations

## 51 Abbot Men Granted Final Citizen Papers

Citizenship papers were granted to 51 engineer soldiers of Camp Abbot by Circuit Judge Ralph S. Hamilton in Bend last week-end. Many were from countries now in the European theater of war.

Preliminary proceedings leading up to the ceremony which gave these men their final papers, in accordance with special war-time regulations for service men, began at Camp Abbot earlier in the week. Victor M. Hemmen, representing the U. S. Immigration Service, assisted by Mrs. Opal Sprague, deputy Deschutes county clerk, handled the details with officers of the post personnel division.

The breakdown of the countries from which the men are naturalized follows: Germany 7, England 6, Italy 5, Canada 4, Mexico 4, Sweden 4, Cuba 3, Czechoslovakia 3, Poland 2, Norway 2, Austria 2. One each from Finland, St. Pierre et Miquelon, Hungary, Chile, Nicaragua, Russia, Ireland, Roumania and Scotland.

## First ROTC Men Back to College

The first contingent of first year ROTC advanced course students who have completed their basic training as members of ERTC training battalions here, have left to resume college studies pending the occurrence of vacancies in officer candidate schools approved by the War Department.

Sixteen men, 15 from Co. A, 51st Trng. Bn., and one each from companies B and C. They were transferred to the Star Unit, Army Specialized Training, University of Wyoming, Laramie. All were former students of the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo.

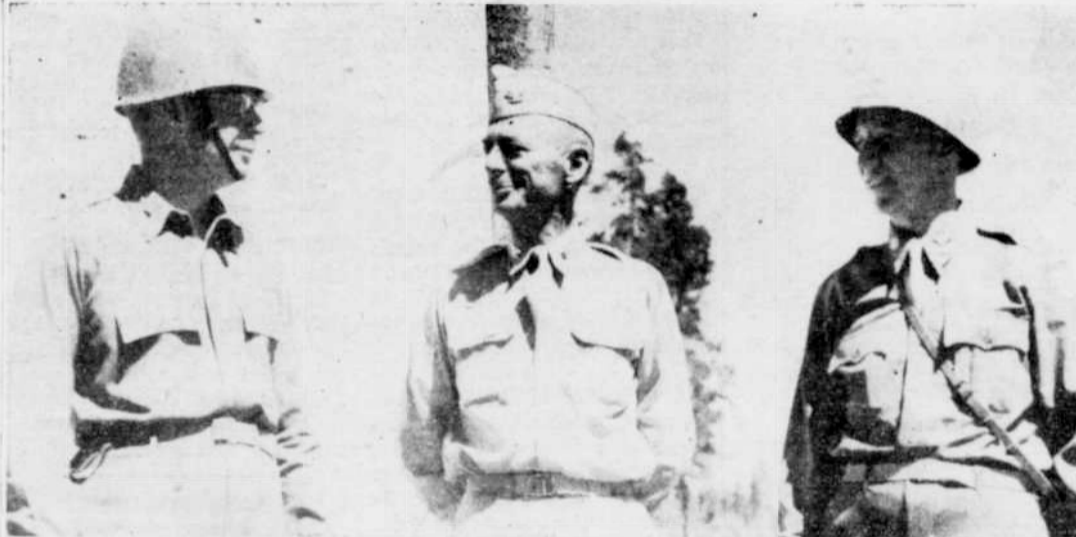
### TO FIRE FOR RECORD

Firing for record will be required on the first three Sundays in September of all members of Service, Supply, Motor and Military Police companies, according to a memorandum issued by the Training Division. Only men who have fired since August 1, 1942 will be excused.

### TO PRESS DAY EARLY

The "Engineer" goes to press a day early this week, and the press run has been increased 500 copies, in order that visitors may be aware of one other activity of this Engineer Replacement Training Center.

## GRINS HIS APPROVAL



Col. H. P. Kitson (center), director for the Ninth Service Command, grinned his approval following a recent inspection of Camp Abbot training facilities. Accompanying the colonel on the tour of training sites were Col. Frank S. Besson (left), post commander, and Lt. Col. Clarence J. Douglas (right), director of the Training Division. The picture was taken in the field fortifications area.

## Committee Seeks \$5,000 for Camp

A committee of Bend business men has assumed the responsibility of requesting \$6,000 from United War Chest funds to furnish day rooms at Camp Abbot, Frank Dunning, Red Cross field director for Camp Abbot and coordinator for the Post's day room program, has announced. A United War Chest drive is scheduled for October.

Credit for requesting the funds belongs entirely to the committee, not to the Red Cross, Mr. Dunning pointed out. The Red Cross merely acts as a coordinating agency for groups interested in promoting the welfare of soldiers at the camp.

## General Robins No Stranger to Northwest Area

No stranger to Oregon and the Northwest is Major General Thomas N. Robins, assistant to the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D. C., who appears on the post dedication program today.

Famed Bonneville dam, acclaimed as one of the greatest engineering feats of all time, was built during the period when General Robins was north Pacific division engineer.

While in Oregon he visited Camp White, military installations in the Portland area and will address a meeting of the Society of Military Engineers at Portland Friday night.

He was accompanied to Camp Abbot by Brig. Gen. Warren T. Hannum, Pacific division engineer of Salt Lake City, and Lt. Col. Ralph A. Tudor, district engineer of Portland.

## Dance for Cadre Feature Of Service Club Opening

The Service Club, destined to be the most popular recreation spot in Camp Abbot, opened its doors at noon yesterday and capped off its first day's program with a dance for corporals and privates of the Post cadre.

Opening of the unit represented a victory over adversity. A week ago the club, its cafeteria and soda fountain were faced with the problem of operating with a staff of about two persons—Mrs. Helen Smith, principal hostess, and Miss Helen Souhrada, cafeteria hostess—and a limited supply of furnishings. Today things looked brighter.

Instead of sitting on the floor Indian fashion, patrons found comfortable chairs and even a juke box in the club lounge. There were cooks in the kitchen, and the soda fountain was going full blast.

Discords in the club's domestic tranquility were caused by a lack of forks and trouble with the kitchen stoves. The floor in the recreation room didn't look like a wax company's advertisement because an electric buffer was unobtainable, but the dancers seemed unperturbed. Hostesses expressed the belief all would be harmony within the next few weeks.

## Dedication Delays Award Of Good Conduct Ribbons

Since the only parade scheduled at Camp Abbot during the month of September is part of the dedication ceremony, no Good Conduct ribbons will be awarded this month, the Personnel Division announced. The number of awards for October will be doubled.

### DEDICATION ON RADIO

Camp Abbot dedication ceremonies will be transcribed today by staff engineers of Station KOIN, outlet in Portland for the Columbia Broadcasting System. The program will be broadcast tonight from 7:30 to 8 over a network, originating from KBND, Bend.

## Cols. Williams, Matthews To Attend Belvoir School

Lt. Col. Adrian H. Williams, former commanding officer of the 12th Engineer Training Group, and Lt. Col. Coke S. Matthews, 51st Battalion commander, will leave soon to attend a six weeks' field officers' training course at the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Va. Colonel Williams was succeeded by Col. F. Russel Lyons, former commander of a regiment working on the "Alcan" highway in Alaska.

### LEAVES FOR OCS

Pvt. Sam G. Benzing, C-51st Engineer Training Battalion, has left to enter the Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir.

## HISTORY OF CAMP ABBOT

Early Summer, 1943: Division engineer, North Pacific division, receives request to propose location for E. R. T. C. He contacts R. W. Sawyer, Bend publisher, who suggests site. Later visits site and forwards recommendation.

October, 1942: First directive for construction of camp issued by Office Chief of Engineers, Washington.

November 1, 1942: Area Engineer's office established at Bend. November 8, 1942: Contract for construction camp, railroad spur and access highway awarded.

May 15, 1943: Camp Abbot officially activated as Army's third, and newest Engineer Replacement Training Center.

## "Battle" For Bridgehead On Program

At least five phases of Engineer combat training will be demonstrated before visitors attending the Post dedication program today, Col. Frank S. Besson, Post commander, announced. The training demonstrations will be the opening feature of an "open house" program which includes an inspection of the cantonment area, a parade by Engineer training units, the dedication ceremony, addresses by visiting dignitaries and a retreat formation.

A special training schedule has been arranged by Lt. Col. Clarence J. Douglas, director of the Training Division. Visitors will witness running of the obstacle course described as one of the toughest in the country, construction of fixed and floating bridges and a demonstration of combat training on the bayonet course.

A feature of the program will be a simulated attack involving a river crossing in assault boats, the establishing of a bridgehead and charging of an embankment to capture an "enemy position." Details of the training will be explained by guides.

A tour of the cantonment area is scheduled for 3 p. m., and a parade by soldiers of the 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th and 56th Engineer Training Battalions at 4:10 o'clock.

Speakers for the dedication program, in charge of Colonel Besson, will include Senator Rufus Holman of Oregon; Maj. Gen. Alexander M. Patch Jr., commanding general of the IV Corps; Robert W. Sawyer, publisher of The Bend Bulletin; Maj. Gen. Thomas M. Robins, assistant to the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D. C., and Brig. Gen. Warren T. Hannum, commanding general of the Pacific Division.

The dedication will begin at 5 o'clock with invocation by Chaplain Norman M. Goldberg and end with retreat and benediction by Post Chaplain William H. Andrew.

Dedication of the Station Hospital and a flag raising ceremony were features of the morning portion of today's open house program. Speakers included representatives of the Oregon State Medical Society, the Central Oregon Medical Society, the Central Oregon Dental Society and Mr. Sawyer.

A large Red Cross flag was presented to the hospital by Mrs. E. A. Stevens, chairman of the Deschutes County Chapter of the American Red Cross.