

JAN 14 1944

ATTEND THE
RADIO SHOW
TOMORROW



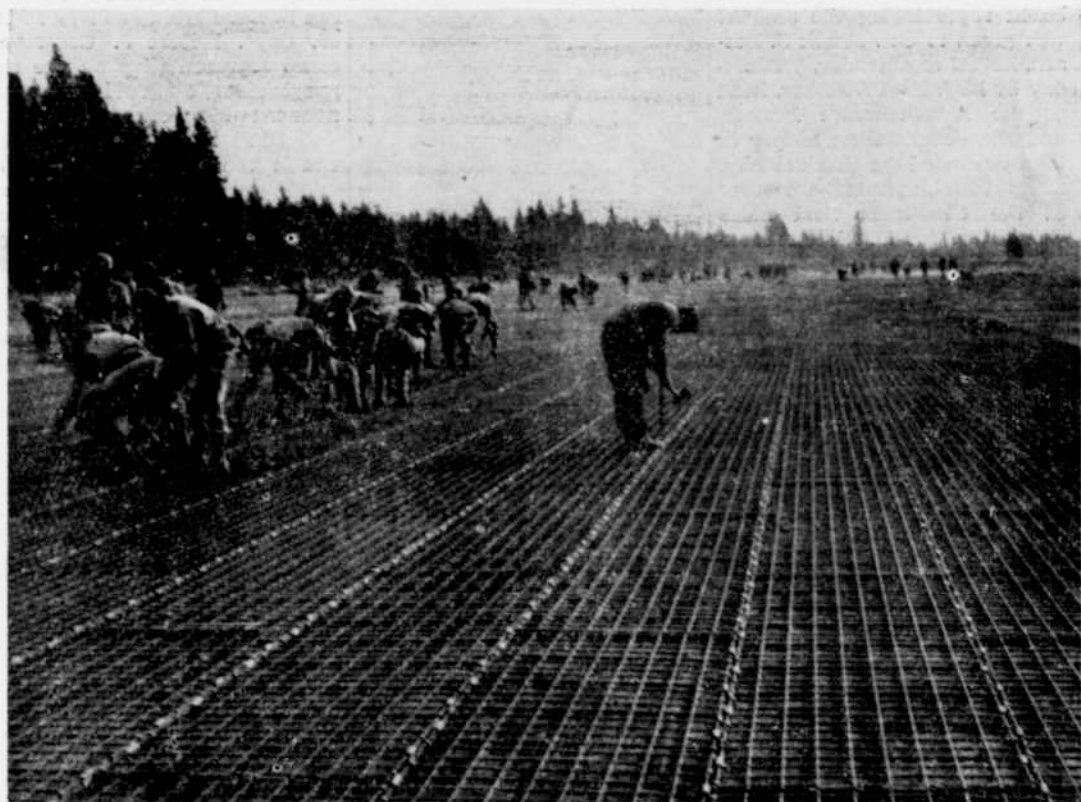
WARN YOUR
FAMILY TO
STAY HOME

Vol 1 No. 34

CAMP ABBOT, OREGON

Camp Abbot, Ore., Jan. 8, 1944

HAPPY LANDINGS



Trainees of the 51st Engineer Training Battalion will construct a landing strip similar to this to accommodate a reconnaissance plane which will participate in one phase of their current unit problem. Strips similar to this one, constructed by other Camp Abbot trainees, have played a vital part in carrying the war to the enemy by making possible the use of fields otherwise unserviceable because of sand or mud.

'Chute Troops Strike at 51st

BY STAFF SGT. GEORGE S. FLY
IN THE FIELD WITH AN ERTC BATTALION—
Both companies of the 51st Battalion now on a combat maneuver were "attacked" by enemy patrols Thursday night. The attack was near midnight and continued for two hours. It came from parachute troops that had been landed earlier in the evening under cover of darkness and cleverly concealed themselves prior to the attack.

Housing Board Warns Against 'Importing' Kin

Military personnel who insist on bringing their families to communities near Camp Abbot without first having obtained suitable accommodations were warned by the Post Housing Board this week that it may be necessary for the families to return to the community from which they came by the most suitable means of transportation available.

The warning, similar to several issued recently but more emphatic, was an outgrowth of an announcement by the Bend Chamber of Commerce that during the past few days a number of wives and relatives have applied in Bend for housing accommodations.

"It is almost impossible to paint the picture as bad as it really is," Don H. Peoples, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, said. "Last Monday alone, 30 army wives applied for accommodations and not a single room was available. Virtually every spare room in the city has been occupied."

Since reduction in personnel has made it impossible to place a Camp Abbot representative on duty at the Bend Chamber of Commerce, the Housing Board appointed last week has assumed responsibility for the housing problem in instances concerning military personnel. Hereafter, all Camp Abbot personnel applying in Bend for housing accommodations will be referred to the appropriate branch of the Personnel Division through the Civilian Employment Office in Bend.

Personnel memoranda outlining procedures to be followed in connection with procurement of suitable housing will be issued by the Post board soon. Meanwhile, soldiers are urged to warn their families against moving to Bend and thereby avert serious inconvenience to themselves, their families and the board.

Masons to Induct Camp Abbot Class

The degree of Royal Arch Mason will be conferred on a large class of candidates from Camp Abbot at a meeting in the Bend Masonic Lodge rooms at 8 o'clock tonight. All Royal Arch Masons are invited to attend. The High Priest of the State of Oregon will be present. Refreshments will be served.

Company A succeeded in capturing three of the enemy before they had done any damage. Another member of the raiding party in a suicide attack was able to destroy the commanding officer and the command post before being nabbed. Company B suffered considerable damage from the attack. The command post, mess and lots of the battalion vehicles were destroyed by the raiders, as well as almost one-third of the personnel being killed. The attackers of this group were able to escape in the confusion.

The battalion took the field Monday and received orders to take up defensive works and prepare for offensive. They completed removal of mine fields, wire obstacles and demolition charges by working until midnight.

The next day they assisted the 91st Division in preparing for an offensive, work that included improvement of roads, starting construction of an emergency air field and execution of various reconnaissance missions. This type of engineering mission, preparatory to an attack on the enemy, now marching inland, was continued until yesterday when a detailed river crossing reconnaissance was made preparatory to throwing a pontoon bridge across the Deschutes river in the plan to start an offensive.

The battalion is continuing with all battle preparation despite the weather. They have suffered heavy casualties from the enemy raids and bombing attacks, and have contended with snow that ranges from six inches to more than a foot in depth.

Soldiers Taught To Fly in Bend

Camp Abbot soldiers who wish to take up flying, maintain their civil pilot certificate or take examinations for higher flight rating now may do so at the Bend Municipal Airport, six miles northeast of Bend. Lt. Frank S. Myers of the Civil Air Patrol announced this week.

The Tilse Flying Service has available for rental Piper Cruisers, Taylorcrafts and Porterfields at rates from \$7 an hour solo to \$9 an hour dual. An instructor is on hand for checkouts and to help in preparing any grade certificate. Appointments may be made for any hour by phoning 13-F-5.

Lieutenant Myers holds a commercial certificate and an instructor's rating and has logged more than 1400 hours. He has been stationed at a CAP Coastal Patrol base in the Gulf of Mexico for more than a year and now is on a leave of absence until February 1.

Broadcast Tomorrow of 'Victory Parade' Show

The "Victory Parade" radio show, broadcast from Camp Abbot last week through the facilities of Station KWJJ in Portland, will reach the ether waves for the second time Sunday when the program, modified slightly, will be carried over KXL, Portland's 10,000-watt station, and KBND in Bend, the Special Service Office announced yesterday.

Sponsored by employees of the Barde Steel Company in Portland and devoted to Wac recruitment, the program will originate from the Service Club and will be open to all Post personnel and visitors who wish to attend. Transcriptions of the full 45-minute show will be made for use on the Post public address system. Time for the broadcast is 3 p. m.

Although the program has not been set, plans provide for a talk by Col. Frank S. Besson, ERTC commander; songs by a Wac octette and members of Company B, 52nd Battalion; Vocal selections by Lt. Robert Herring; numbers by the Arkansas Trio and music by the Camp Abbot band and dance orchestra.

Pvt. Buddy Hyde, former Hollywood emcee, will be master of ceremonies and the technical aspects of the program will be handled by members of the KBND staff.

Red Cross Gets New Personnel

R. Leonel Gray, former assistant field director at the Walla Walla, Wash., Air Base, is acting field director of the American Red Cross here during the absence of the director, Frank Dunning, who is on 30-day leave.

John Butler of Hartford, Conn., is another new member of the Red Cross staff here. He came to Camp Abbot following two weeks of instructional duties at Washington, D. C., and San Francisco.

C-55 Edges Out Wacs to Take New Mess Award

A plaque for the outstanding mess of Camp Abbot was awarded this week to Company C, 55th Engr. Trng. Bn. The final score of the company was 95 per cent, only a few points higher than that of the Wac company which won first honorable mention with a final score of 94.62 per cent. Honorable mention went to Co. A, 58th with 93.62.

A committee which selected the winning mess was composed of Lts. Keith W. Beardmore, Willard L. Langhus, and

Due to the interest shown by Camp Abbot personnel in the Post's food conservation program, three plaques will be awarded to mess halls in the future instead of one, Post Headquarters announced yesterday. One plaque will be awarded in the 11th Engineer Training Group, one in the 12th Group and one to units under the Headquarters commandant.

Thomas P. Kruzic. The following points were considered in making the awards in addition to the regular inspection reports: Analysis, by the committee, of all inspection reports for the month of December; final inspection of the three most qualified messes; initiative of mess personnel in cooperating with the training program and solving of mess problems; attendance of mess personnel at food program meetings and interest displayed; and original ideas submitted to the Bakers and Cooks School, or put into practice by organization messes.

In arriving at their decision the committee struck an average of their inspection and analysis and compared it with the mess inspection average.

Bend USO Loses Key Personnel

The USO in Bend, Camp Abbot's off-the-post retreat, will have lost at least two-thirds of its staff and possibly its entire group of directors by Jan. 15, it was announced this week. No successors have been named.

First vacancy in the staff occurred Wednesday when Harry O'Grady, associate director of the club, left Bend to accept an assignment as managing director of the new USO club in Seattle, Wash. Simultaneously, Miss Ann McLaughlin, associate director in charge of the women's division, returned from her home in Lodi, Calif., to announce that in about two weeks she must begin a leave of absence from USO work because of her health. The third name which may be scratched from the roster is that of Robert Weis, assistant director, who has received a notice to report for induction. Mr. Weis was rejected in earlier attempts to join the service.

Mr. O'Grady came to Bend last June about a month and a half after the club opened here to take over his first USO post. Previously he had been a Boy Scout executive in New York City for many years.

Miss McLaughlin came to Bend in mid-May, two weeks after the USO club had been put into hurried operation by community volunteers headed by Carl Johnson, president of the

(Continued on Page 4)