

MAR 8 - 1944

Now Is the Time
To Help the Red
Cross Help You



Don't Wait for
The Battlefield.
Train Hard Now!

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CAMP ABBOT, OREGON

Camp Abbot, Ore., Mar. 4, 1944

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER U.S. BY



Post Signal Photo Lab.

This three-man detail of Camp Abbot trainees knows just what sort of "warm reception" to give an enemy occupying positions abandoned by U. S. troops. A small "booby trap" carefully concealed beneath a loose board, a heavy tread, and it's curtains for the would-be trespasser. Another clever cul-de-sac is pictured on page four.

Soldiers Here Schooled In Booby Traps, Mines

A determined answer to the fact that 40 per cent of the casualties in the Italian campaign have been caused by mines is given in the thorough training program in mines and booby traps undergone by the Abbot trainee.

The men learn by doing, by following their leaders. Conditions are as near battlefield conditions as ingenuity can devise — even unto actual physical danger. The careless engineer gets hurt, just as he will in battle. A flash cracker which goes off in his hands will not be fatal, but it will burn a lesson into his memory—a lesson that may later save his life.

The men watch an anti-tank mine blow a heavy stump out of the ground to see first-hand the power of its detonation. They even invade a "German" field house—complete with nazi souvenirs and carefully arranged furniture—each as ingeniously camouflaged and as treacherous as an enemy-relinquished stronghold would be.

Net result of all this realism is a healthy respect for anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. The trainees learn to remove mines safely and they learn to plant them so it is difficult for the enemy to find or de-activate them. Careful procedure is stressed; before it is all over a dogface learns to be as careful of tell-tale sod and surplus soil as he is of his best girl's picture.

Recently the training program was helped considerably by two men from overseas—Sgt. John Baugh and Pvt. William Reagen, who have removed hundreds of mines in Italy and Africa. Both wear the Purple Heart for wounds received from mines.

Training procedure for engineer replacements includes a day and a half devoted to booby traps. During these sessions, a study is made of standard firing

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NCO Club Plans Series of Dances

Saturday night dances henceforth will be a regular feature of the NCO Club's entertainment program, club directors have announced. The Camp Abbot and ERTC dance bands, directed by S/Sgt. Jack Hayes and Cpl. Agho Tiemann, respectively, will alternate in providing music, with Cpl. Tiemann's band playing for tonight's frolic.

Directors also announced that a pool table has been ordered for the club rooms.

Officers' Travel Pay Plan Changed

The eight-cent-amile- travel rate for officers on orders has been replaced by a per-diem rate of \$7, a War Department circular states. The eight-cent rate is still authorized on permanent change of station or when traveling with troops, however.

This \$7 per day applies only on the first thirty days of the temporary duty at any one point. For attendance at a service school there is a different rate schedule. While traveling the allowance is \$7 daily. Where quarters are furnished at the school the per diem rate during attendance is \$3 and \$5 if no quarters are provided.

RC Fund Drive On Post Nears \$1,000 Mark

Camp Abbot personnel already has contributed nearly \$1,000 to the American Red Cross National War Fund drive, and reports still are forthcoming from the majority of Post units, Frank Dunning, field director for the Red Cross, announced yesterday.

Units which have reported their contributions and the \$150.34; Supplemental Training Co., \$24.03; Wac Co., \$44.25; Casual Co., \$131.24; 12th Group Headquarters Detachment, \$13; Co. B, 58th Bn., \$166.20; B-26, \$88.25; A-59, \$91.40; C-56, \$65.59; A-58, \$153; B-57, \$25.22. In addition, one small section of officers in Post Headquarters contributed \$68.

No reports have been received from the 11th Engineer Training Group, service Company or the majority of officers and civilian employes, but contributions from these groups are expected to far more than double the amount reported, Mr. Dunning said.

The campaign, which opened March 1, will continue through March 31. Contributions of \$1 or more entitle the donor to a Red Cross membership card.

Hollywood (CNS) — Edward M. Sheridan listed "Mary Ann" as a dependent in his draft questionnaire and his local draft board classified him 3A. The board recently discovered that "Mary Ann" was a horse. Now Sheridan faces a federal charge as a draft dodger.

Problems Seen In Troop Shift

Dearth of Transportation May Impede New Plan for Rotation

A recent statement by Post Headquarters that a number of factors probably would influence the shipment of ASF troops overseas under the army's new rotation program was amplified by the War Department this week when it was announced that a number of problems must be taken into consideration. Availability of transportation facilities for rotational replacements, military exigencies and the personnel situation were listed as main factors controlling the number of eligible men who can be sent back to the United States for replacement by personnel now serving in this country, the War Department pointed out.

Hell, It's Just Old Stuff to Us

"Ten million-to-one" chances are just ordinary stuff to the Engineers of Camp Abbot.

"A recent wire story date lined Shaw Field, S. C. proudly presents the fact that two enlisted men of that post have come up with the same laundry marking number—an oddity which "won't happen again in this war."

The war must have finished for the aviators. Here at Abbot two enlisted men in the same company, not just the same camp, have identical marking numbers. Pvts. Frank Scardino and Andrew W. Siebenforcher of the Supplemental Training Co. are the lads that put Shaw Field to shame—and the last FIVE letters of their ASN's are the same. To keep their underwear apart they use six figures in addition to the letter "S".

And Lt. Howard I. Pulver, laundry officer says that this is happening all the time. Last summer the QM laundry was finding three or four a week.

GI Takes Pig; Pig Takes Powder

Visions of a roasted young pig, decorated with red apple in the mouth and all the trimmings, have gone over the hill for Pvt. Burton Press of Co. C, 54th Bn.

Pvt. Press had the lucky number at Wednesday night's "Fatigue Dance," staged at the Service Club, and was awarded a nicely crated 8 weeks old porker, fine material for a table delicacy.

The pig was confined in the Co. C latrine area Wednesday night but failed to fall out for reveille Thursday, apparent by having gone AWOL during the night.

Every effort was made to correct the porker to Army standards. He was thoroughly G'ed Wednesday morning, held in check by half a dozen robust Engineers. But by evening he again resembled a pig in, ah, scent.

Pvt. Press hails from Des Moines, Iowa, where he doubtless saw pigs before.

Miss Helen Smith, Service Club director, said soldiers won all the club's prizes, including the sack of potatoes and sack of onions.

Three Aims Listed

Set forth in the new policy statement concerning troop rotations are three aims:

1. To insure efficiency of a command by replacing those who do not require hospitalization, but whose morale or health has been adversely affected by prolonged periods of duty under severe conditions, and whose effectiveness cannot be restored by rotation within the theatre.

2. To return to the continental United States experienced personnel for use in training and in the formation of new units, or for other purposes.

3. To return by replacement personnel considered by the theatre commander as deserving of such return. Men who have been wounded in action more than once, even though released from the hospital to full duty, are to receive consideration in this connection.

Service Considered

The War Department emphasized that those returning first under the rotation plan will be those with the longest overseas service. The minimum period for eligibility for rotation has been set at 18 months for North Africa and two years in Alaska or the Caribbean. Other theatres have not as yet formulated standards.

On their arrival in the United States, personnel coming will be granted sufficient leave by port or station commanders to spend three weeks wherever they choose. Such personnel will not be ordered to overseas commands again until they have performed duty in the United States subsequent to the furlough.

Army Puts Lid on AAF Transfers

"No applications for transfer to the Army Air Forces will be accepted from officers or enlisted men of the Army Ground or Service Forces," a radiogram from the Adjutant General's office stated. The regulation is effective at once.

Flying training examinations will not be conducted any longer for this purpose, the order explained. All pending applications upon which final action has not been completed will be discontinued and returned to the applicant.

Post Headquarters, in compliance with this regulation, is returning, disapproved, all applications for transfer currently on file.