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Vol. 1 No. 45

CAMP ABBOT, OREGON

Camp Abbot Ore., Mar. 25, 1944

Post Talent To Appear on Portland Show

A contingent of talented entertainers will present Camp Abbot on two thirty-minute programs to be held in the Meier-Frank Auditorium in Portland March 31 in connection with "Camp Abbot Day" on the "Four Freedoms" show, Capt. V. G. Henderson, special Service officer, has announced.

Included in the Camp Abbot portion of the show will be selections by the 14-piece Camp Abbot dance band, directed by S/Sgt. Jack Hayes; vocal selections by Pvt. Jimmy Stillwell, former Portland singer; violin numbers by Pvt. John Paskek, and concert piano selections by Pfc. William Sumner. Master of ceremonies for the show will be Sgt. Buddy Hyde of the Morale Division.

Camp Abbot's program is under the direction and supervision of Lt. Charles Frucht, and Gordon Barde of the Morale Branch. The "Four Freedoms" show is sponsored by the Meier-Frank department store and will feature exhibits and entertainment programs of a number of army posts in the state.

Red Cross Adds Psychiatrist to Hospital Staff

Recently assigned as assistant to Major Eisendorfer, post neuropsychiatrist, Miss Helen Traiber of the Red Cross has assumed her duties in the consultation service.

Graduating as a registered nurse from the Cleveland City Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, her interests turned to the psychiatric phase. She earned a Masters degree in psychiatric social work at Western Reserve University of Cleveland, then spent a year at the Mount Sinai Hospital of Mental Hygiene where she was active in psychiatric nursing and therapy. More recently, she did this type of work at Camp Callen, California.

Miss Traiber's work here will be of a dual nature. In addition to psychiatric nursing and con-

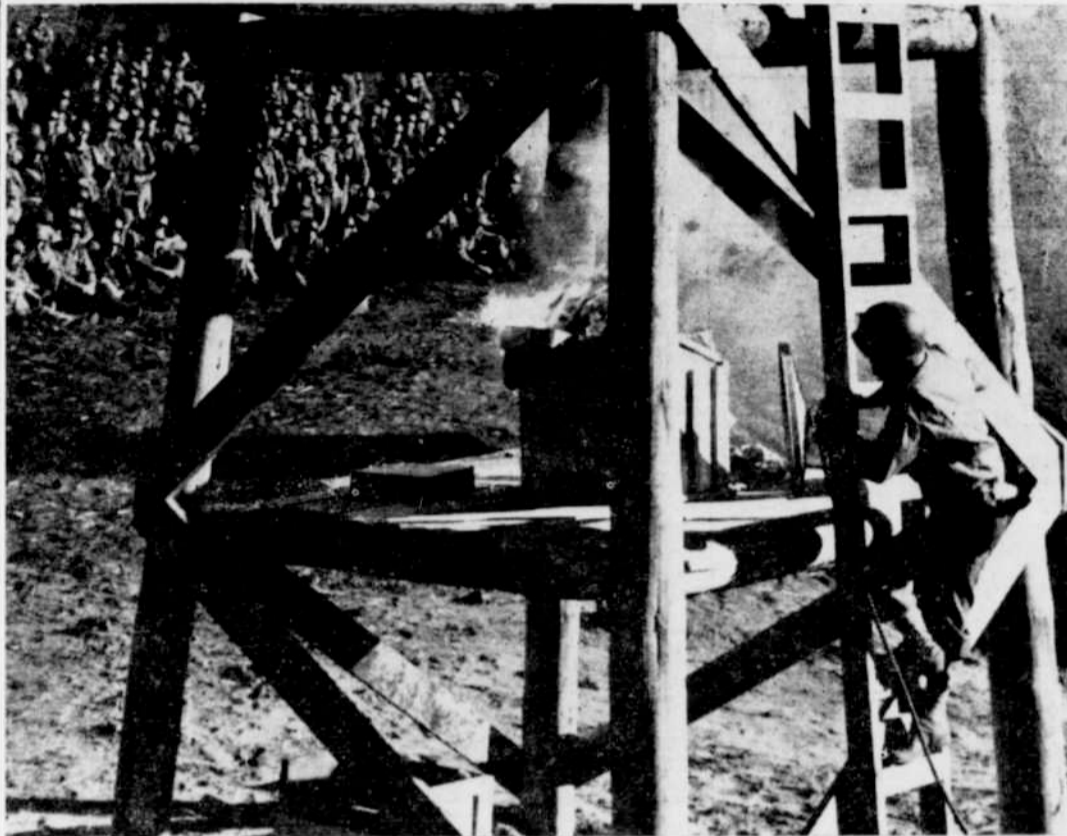
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USO Performers Coming Tuesday

A USO Tabloid Troupe with five acts of vaudeville will arrive in Camp Abbot Tuesday, according to an announcement by the Morale Service Branch.

The cast, made up of professional show people, include Jack Watson, master of ceremonies and comedian; Val Voltane, magic and comedy; Anita Andre, acrobatic dancer; Virginia Etting, attractive brunette, singer; and Mary Light-hall, accordionist.

FIRE FIGHTING, CAMP ABBOT STYLE



Using a garbage can lid as a shield, Sgt. Jack Israel of the Chemical Warfare Branch at Camp Abbot demonstrates the proper technique in controlling a thermite bomb during a class in incendiary control held recently. In periodic demonstrations the branch teaches soldiers methods of combatting the hazardous magnesium bomb, white phosphorous and oil fires—a job they may be required to do in theatres of operations overseas.

Faith, Training Equal In Importance, GI Says

The following letter, written by a Camp Abbot trainee who prefers to remain anonymous, was received by Col. Frank S. Besson, ERTC commander, recently. Since the soldier's experiences as he underwent training here closely parallel those of thousands of other trainees and since his attitude toward religion and the transition from civil to military life represents that of many-soldiers here, the Colonel believes the letter worthy of publication.

"Dear Colonel Besson:

"Six weeks ago I came to Camp Abbot. What I saw that evening when I arrived in 10 degrees below zero weather was something to envy. Several hundred men were marching here and there. They were hard. Their faces were red from out-door life. Many of them were just coming in with full field packs upon their backs. They all looked like "he-men." I thought to myself: 'Boy, I would hate to tangle with one of those fellows.' My next thought was: 'How the hell am I ever going to stand this training that these men are going through?'

"I had spent 9 years behind an office desk. It wasn't long before I began to find out, and believe me, it was plenty tough at first. I puffed and panted everywhere I went (on the double). The first time I tried the obstacle course, I had to be pushed over the 8' wall. The first 5-mile hike seemed like ten. I thought my bones would break in two when practicing the positions of rifle shooting. The physical training exercise made me so damn sore at first that I could hardly walk.

"But gradually, I could feel myself building up. The last time I ran the obstacle course, I did it with ease. The five-mile hike with a full field pack was easy. I came within two points of qualifying for expert rifle marksmanship. In other words, I think this is a fine training

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Art, Craft Club Outlines Plans

Plans for furthering programs in arts and crafts at Camp Abbot were announced this week following organization of the Abbot Art Club at a meeting at the Service Club Sunday.

Included in the program will be preparation of work for exhibits to be sponsored by the Service Club library, discussions of techniques and periods of instruction for persons interested in arts and crafts. The program is open to soldiers and Wacs, and wives of soldiers are invited to attend meetings.

Materials for art and craft projects will be supplied by the Service Club. A meeting of the new club is scheduled at 7:30 p. m. Sunday in the library.

Beauty Treatment For Theatre Area

A few bouquets were seen to float through the air this week and land gently at the door of Post-Engineer. Reason: The fine re-surfacing job around the theater area.

New material—fine, red lava rock—was used. It extends completely around the building, and the area is now smooth as glass. An eye to water drainage was also exercised.

Soldiers to Get Awards in Army Idea Program

Military personnel of the Army Service Forces now are eligible to receive awards under the War Department Suggestion System which provides for handsome cash grants to civilians whose ideas are considered of exceptional value in the prosecution of the war. Unlike the civilian phase of the program, however, the military set-up does not permit presentation of cash awards.

Open to military personnel are:

For officers — recommendations of the Legion of Merit, letters of commendation and consideration of promotion.

For the enlisted men—recommendation for the Legion of Merit, letter of commendation, promotion, preferment in assignment and furlough.

According to a Ninth Service Command circular, personnel of headquarters and field units are eligible to receive non-monetary awards for suggestions pertaining to "doctrine and organization, new techniques or new weapons, or improvement of efficiency or increased economy in the operations or administration of any activity in the War Department." The circular adds that "those officers and enlisted personnel whose principal assignments require analysis and recommendation on suggestions submitted for consideration are not eligible for the award as determined by local committees."

NEW LIBRARIAN

Miss Peggy Williams, former assistant librarian, at Pendleton Air Base, joined the Service club staff last week as junior assistant librarian.

Post Suffers Damage In Windstorm

At least two automobiles and half a dozen buildings were smashed by uprooted trees as Camp Abbot experienced the worst windstorm in its history Thursday. A shed was lifted from the salvage yard and two tons of paper was blown across the motor pool. An estimate of the damage was not available.

Hurried calls from Service Company, Supplemental Training Company C, 53rd Battalion, Co. G, 52nd Bn., and Co. A, 55th Bn., sent workmen scampering to scenes with repair kits. Motor pool dispatchers were besieged with calls for mobile cranes and wreckers. Details went to work with saws and axes, and as the last trees fell, damage caused by the first already had been repaired.

Meanwhile, in the field, it was "business as usual." Trainees leaned into the gale and marched along, riflemen readjusted their sights and continued firing, and demolition charges still could be heard above the howl of the wind.

Reading Matter Plentiful Here

Camp Abbot's interest in making its soldiers "the best informed fighting men in the world" is evidenced in the fact that units now are subscribing to nearly 1,000 newspapers and weekly or monthly magazines for distribution throughout the post.

Renewals and new subscriptions sent in by the library recently totaled 104 for daily newspapers and 891 for magazines. Many of the periodicals are retained by the library, which acts as a clearing house for units entering subscriptions, and others distributed to the 17 recreation halls and reading rooms serving post personnel.

War's End Only 2 Month's Away, Henry Ford Predicts

Henry Ford, the aged auto manufacturer, has predicted the war will be over in two months, stated a copyrighted story in the Atlanta Constitution last Monday. Ford was asked to give a reason for his opinion, the paper said, but the reply was just a grin and the statement he had "no reason to believe it." The story went on:

"A moment later, he grinned again and said, 'I can't tell my reasons. I have them, of course. That's all I care to say on the subject.'"

Soldiers May Check Out Archery, Fencing Supplies

Archery and fencing supplies obtained by the sports department of the Special Service Office recently may be checked out from the Post Recreation Hall by any soldiers desiring to use them, Sgt. Leo Frizzo, athletic director, announced this week.