

MAY 11 1944

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It's Also Your

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CAMP ABBOT, OREGON

May 6, 1944

Prominent Officials Besiege Camp Abbot

Oregon Senator, Governor See Activities First Hand

Prominent Oregon officials literally swamped Camp Abbot this week, when eight battalions passed in review before United States Senator Rufus C. Holman, member of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, Thursday, and Gov. Earl Snell visited the cantonment area and training sites Wednesday.

The retreat parade Thursday was preceded by an inspection of troops by Senator Holman; Col. Frank S. Besson, Post commander; State Senator Rex Ellis, and Robert W. Sawyer, publisher of the Bend Bulletin.

Church Services In Field Slated

Sunday church services for men in the field will be inaugurated by the Post Chaplain's Office on May 14, when Chaplain Lawrence D. Leonard will conduct a service for the 51st Battalion on bivouac. All features of a church service, including a sermon, hymn singing, and if possible the distribution of church bulletins, will be part of the service. Communion will be offered for those wishing to remain after the benediction.

A general service, to acquaint troops with the form of religious worship in the field, was conducted by Chaplain Leonard for approximately 550 men of the 59th Battalion Monday.

It is hoped that arrangements can be made for a Catholic mass in the field also.

Exit "NMI Doe"

Private "John N. M. I. Doe" is no longer with the Ninth Service Command. His three middle "initials" have been stricken from records at NSC headquarters.

"NMI" in Army parlance stood for "No Middle Initial," and, often enough to confuse exacting Army records, it appeared interspersed with periods. So—

"Private John (NMI) Doe" has received his honorable discharge.

In a brief talk preceding the ceremony, Senator Holman told the men:

"I have come three thousand miles to salute the soldiers of Camp Abbot. I come as the special representative of the Senate of the United States and of the Senate Committee for Military Affairs, to pay tribute to you fine Americans who stand between our country and the dangers and perils that now confront it, and the heartless, aggressive and unprincipled souls who would despoil us of our liberties and all those things that are dear to a self-respecting and independent nation."

Senator Holman assured the men that wherever fortune takes them when they have completed their training at Camp Abbot, the love and gratitude of the nation will be with them. In closing he said:

"I feel that I never performed a more important service than when I come to you to bear to you this message from the Senate of the United States. May God bless and preserve you."

The Senator was introduced by Mr. R. W. Sawyer, who was presented to the assemblage by Colonel Besson.

So interested was Governor Snell in various activities at the Camp that he virtually "overstayed his leave." The governor, enroute to Lakeview with a party of state officials, planned to stay at the Post only about

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58th Battalion Will Begin NCO Class May 15

Thirty-six men who completed training with the 58th Battalion on April 29, will begin the "Non-commissioned Officer Leadership Course," recently inaugurated by the schools branch of the Training Division, Monday, May 15. Since last Saturday they have been on furlough, in accordance with the general plan of the course.

Purpose of the new training, which is being given in each ASF training center, is to train more men as non-commissioned officers, and emphasis in the selection of candidates is on capacity for leadership. Graduates will be available for any one of four assignments: (1) Replacements for existing cadre or school overhead at the training center; (2) cadre for new units; (3) replacements overseas under the rotational plan, and (4) loss replacements overseas.

Under the plan, each training company commander will submit to Enlisted Personnel Branch by Saturday of the sixteenth week of training, the names of twelve trainees who have revealed willingness to assume responsibility and the quality of leadership, but who because of quota limitations or other factors have not been earmarked for OCS or specialist schools.

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War Baby Cost Mounting Fast

The house of representatives Friday passed and sent to the senate a bill providing an emergency appropriation of \$6,700,000 for maternity and infant care for wives and babies of enlisted men in the armed forces.

The appropriation is in addition to \$23,000,000 already provided for the current fiscal year. The committee report said it is needed because "authorizations are increasing at the rate of 3,000 to 4,000 a month, and the cost per case is increasing as the beneficiaries become familiar with the program."

Gen. Somervell's Daughter in WAC

The daughter of a general became a private in the army when Miss Susan B. Somervell, daughter of Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces, was sworn into the Women's Army Corps by Maj. Gen. Joe M. Dalton, director of personnel, ASF, at Sweet Briar College, Va., April 17. Six senior classmates of Miss Somervell also took the oath of enlistment at an outdoor ceremony witnessed by the entire Sweet Briar student body.

SHOWS WHERE THEY STAND



This large board on the obstacle course gives trainees of the Camp Abbot Army Service Forces Training Center an idea of just what sort of performance they'll have to turn in to establish new records. Flanking the board on either side are photographs of trainees clearing various obstacles on the course. Pvt. Arthur D. Shaw is shown giving the records the once over. Recent unit accomplishments can be seen in the above photograph.

Which'll It Be 15,625 Beauties Or Wife Back

A new type chain letter which deals with women and has some interesting possibilities (probably too many possibilities) is making the rounds of army camps these days. A copy of the letter follows.

"To whom it may concern: "This chain letter was started in the hope of bringing happiness to tired soldiers. Unlike most chains this one does not cost any money. Simply send a copy of this letter to five soldiers, then bundle up your wife and send her to the fellow whose name heads the list.

"When your name works up to the top you will receive 15,625 gorgeous girls.

"Have faith. Do not break the chain. One man broke the chain and got his wife back."

Abbot Civilians Seek Own Club

An appeal on behalf of more than 700 Camp Abbot civilian employees for a permit to operate an exclusive club in Bend, is in abeyance while the committee contemplates the suggestion of the city commission to make certain revisions in its request.

Mr. John J. O'Donnell of civilian personnel said the proposed club would be called "The Cacea club," borrowing the initials of Camp Abbot Civilian Employees Association.

The commission did not approve the tentative location selected by the club, and objected to the proposed management. The question was raised also whether the state would grant a liquor permit in view of the fact that the club had not been organized for a period of more than two years.

RECEPTION SUNDAY

Officers of Camp Abbot and their wives will be guests of Col. and Mrs. F. S. Besson at a reception to be held at the Officers Club Sunday afternoon from 4 to 6.

Library Obtains Language Books

New fiction and beginners' language books make up the bulk of a shipment of books received at the library in the Service Club this week.

Among the fiction are: "Island of Fear," by Ursula Parrott; "Forest and the Fort" and "Bedford Village," Hervey Allen; "Final Hour," Taylor Caldwell; "Wait for Mrs. Willard," Dorothy Langley; "What Became of Anna Bolton," Louis Bromfield; "Steep Ascent," Anne Morrow Lindbergh, and "Razor's Edge," Somerset Maugham.

Other books received are: "Men, Women and Dogs," by James Thurber; "Rise to Follow," autobiography of Albert Spalding; "D-Day," John Gunther; "Guide for the Bedeviled," Ben Hecht, and the complete poems of Robert Service, a request.

New language books are chiefly French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish. Miss Caroline Paddock, librarian, reports that members of the post are supplementing these books with language recordings lent on the regular library withdrawal cards.

Collectors Warned About Abusing Franking Privilege

Army personnel have been warned by the Army Postal Service that use of the free mail privilege for circular letters and for mailing merchandise is specifically prohibited. The warning was an outgrowth of reports that army personnel have been using the free mail privilege in collecting and trading shoulder patches and other collector's items.

BRIDGE SERIES PLANNED

A bridge series, with awards for those holding high scores, is being arranged by Mrs. Jean Adams and Mrs. Helen Smith, Service Club hostesses. Those interested in participating can make suggestions regarding the time for games and other details by calling on the hostesses at the Service Club office Friday evening, May 12.

ABBOT FENCERS



A couple of Camp Abbot's leading exponents of the intricate art of fencing, Cpl. John Scully (left) and Pvt. Seymour Goldston, are shown working out with a pair of foils in front of Service Company. Fencing is becoming increasingly popular on the Post according to S/Sgt. Leo Frizzo, coach for the Special Service Office. Foils are available at the Post Recreation Hall.