

Guardsmen Remark that Pressure Not As Strong at Camp in 1957

By PFC. ELLIOTT CARLSON
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

"Back in the old Army rank came hard. Not like now. A private first class was in charge of a platoon that a master sergeant now leads. There was just one master sergeant in the entire company. Things have changed."

On the troop train to Ft. Lewis, Wash., where the two-week National Guard summer camp was scheduled, Medford Guardsmen heard Sam Bailey, one of four master sergeants in Headquarters company and a World War II veteran, tell what the "old Army" was like.

Once arrived, about 17 hours after boarding the Southern Pacific pullman, the military philosophizing and remembering long goodbyes at Medford's new NG armory came to an end. Unloading of the train at Ft. Lewis took about twice as long as it did last Saturday, when Guardsmen returned.

Orientation Ceremonies
Sunday Guard units, including Headquarters company and Company A, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, of the 41st "Sunset" division, attended Guard camp orientation ceremonies conducted by Col. Robert L. Irving, regimental commander. Here they were told by a regular Army chaplain their presence at the camp was tantamount to "serving notice on certain countries in the world that America's youth had not forgotten patriotism."

Early Monday morning the first training started at Ft. Lewis. The weather was unusually summery for the "base-by-the-bay," ordinarily disturbed by wind and rain.

Many contrasts can be made between the camp just completed and last year's. Guardsmen remarked there was not the usual pressure. Though there were always last minute changes, regulations were not changed on how clothes should hang on the racks, on how bunks should be situated, formations were not called "every five minutes" whenever the first sergeant, Bob Messer, wanted to make a statement. Troops were not asked to recite the general orders or chain of command.

Prepare for Inspection
Guardsmen prepared for an inspection each day but they were inspected only a few times. There was not the usual emphasis on the military cliché, "Standard Operating Procedure," which normally guides the actions of the soldier.

Among other changes was the absence of the booming voice of M/Sgt. Darold Garman, whose "OK! Now fall out of those sacks you men! Chop! Chop!" had become an institution. This year younger non-commissioned officers were given an opportunity to develop leadership potential by being in charge of certain tents. Reville was at 6 a.m., breakfast at 6:30 a.m. and the work day began about 7 a.m. and ended about 4:30 p.m.

During the first week classes were held for individual sections. The pioneer and ammunition platoon practiced making and detonating TNT charges. The radio, wire and message sections had "on-the-job" training and the intelligence section attended lectures on map reading and later followed compass courses over unfamiliar and rugged terrain.

The one day discipline and appearance was especially emphasized was Saturday, June 22, during the Governor's Day parade, when the "top brass" reviewed the troops. The Guardsmen wore white shoe laces, blue scarves and shiny helmet liners for the occasion. All morning they prepared for the afternoon parade.

On the second week of the camp, the first week would be put to practical application in the field. The week was highlighted by a one-night two-day bivouac, held in a wooded area about 14 miles from the tent city.

One of the most constructive phases of the "active duty" period was held for the troops during the afternoon. A class, conducted by Maj. George Bennett, explained the importance of the individual soldier in a combat situation. Here, members of the battalion office staff and intelligence section personnel illustrated how small flares of light, such as a cigarette, could give away the position of a soldier and thus a platoon or company.

Another phase of the class demonstrated how voices and other sounds become magnified at night and can reveal troop movements. Field firing at various ranges pointed out how sounds could be diffused and one type of weapon mistaken for another.

Purpose of a bivouac, according to Capt. S. J. Fagone, Headquarters company commander, is to reassemble a realistic combat situation where the enemy may be near. This year, however, a more relaxed program was maintained and there was not the usual blackout of voices, radios and lights.

Nevertheless, at night recruits were stationed at various posts along a hypothetical "front line" where they were ordered to challenge anyone attempting to penetrate that line.

Rain During Bivouac
It was also during the bivouac when it rained. Because of the

previous sunny days few Guardsmen, including the officers, erected tents.

In the morning after the down-pour Lieut. Levi Monroe, rolled over and told a drenched private, "A guy has to be crazy to like living this way."

All other days, and perhaps even on the bivouac, Guardsmen generally agreed Headquarters company cooks had made excellent meals, in both quantity and quality.

Missed by troops this year was the usual program held late in the second week where they are addressed by the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Donald H. Burke. In previous years the program helped to make meaningful the training period and explain to troops the necessity of discipline. Last year it was explained by Capt. Tom Engles as the "subordination of the will of every man in it for the good of the company to which he is attached."

Burke was unable to reschedule the program this year because of an engagement he had with Brig. Gen. Frederick L. Weigand, retiring assistant division commander, Oregon. Thursday a parade was held in his honor by Oregon Guard units.

Recreation Period
Earlier Thursday a recreation period was held where Company A of Medford won the softball title of the 186th Infantry Regiment and took third place in competition for the division title. Company commanders of all first battalion units including Fagone and Capt. Bert Riebe, Company A commander, said troop morale had reached a new peak this year.

Morale and spirit of the troops was made clear to observers at the army last Saturday, who watched Headquarters company march from the train to the army singing to a traditional army melody, "Straighten your hats and straighten your tie, Headquarters company is passing by."

Police Hope Wyoming Tragedy Will Serve As Holiday Warning

Rock Springs, Wyo. — Police bared the grisly details today of the death of eight persons in Wyoming's worst accident in hope that motorists who read this will be careful on the nation's highways during the Fourth of July week end.

Monday night's accident occurred exactly 1.3 miles west of Rock Springs at a point on U.S. Highway 30 where there is room for six automobiles to travel abreast. The two automobiles collided head-on.

Newlyweds Killed
Five soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash., were killed and another was badly injured. A newly-married couple from Green River, Wyo., and another woman died in the other car. A woman in that car was also injured.

Highway Patrolman H. N. Lankford said the convertible carrying the soldiers was heading east and the other car was traveling west when they collided on the shoulder outside the westbound lane.

"They were both moving at a terrific rate of speed," Lank-

ford said. He said the speedometer on the soldiers' car was stuck at 78.

Patrol Sgt. A. D. Reese said: "The five soldiers who were killed were thrown into a heap about 30 feet from the car... stacked on top of the seat of their convertible. The impact must have been terrific."

Two 15-year-old Rock Springs girls saw the accident. They said the soldiers attempted to pass their car and crashed into the one carrying the Green River people.

"The car was right alongside and then suddenly they seemed to explode," the girls told patrolmen. "We saw bodies flying all over."

The patrolmen refused to identify the girls, saying they "are still very emotionally upset from what they saw."

Lankford said the accident apparently happened when the "soldiers' car and the Green River car saw each other and both headed for the shoulder of the road to avoid a crash and turned right into each other."

Hilo Plane Crash Claims Two Lives

Hilo, Hawaii — Two men were killed Tuesday when their Army L19 observation plane crashed in the mountains near Mauna Kea volcano.

One of the victims was Capt. Paul E. Pointer Jr., 31, the pilot. He was the father of six children. He made his home in Bremerton, Wash., and formerly lived in San Diego.

The Army withheld the name of the other victim, a passenger in the plane. He was pulled from the burning wreckage and was rushed to Hilo Memorial hospital, but was dead on arrival there.

An Army spokesman said the single-engine plane stalled shortly after taking off. It nosed over and plunged 200 feet into a bed of lava rock.

Both victims were attached to the 25th Division at Schofield Barracks.

YOUTH DROWNS
Florence — Charles R. Massengale, 14, Springfield, drowned while swimming in the Siuslaw river Tuesday. The body was recovered.

Langley Files Five Motions on Indictments

Portland — Former District Attorney William Langley Tuesday moved to attack grand jury indictments against him by filing five motions here with the Multnomah county clerk.

If granted, the motions would serve to remove the charges against him. Langley was removed from office after a neglect of duty conviction.

Temporary Track Bypasses Wreck On S. P. Main Line

San Miguel, Calif. — Repair crews built a temporary track today to bypass a section of the Southern Pacific main line torn up by a spectacular wreck between a freight train and a mobile crane.

Four men were hurt in the accident, which took place about 1 p.m. Tuesday at a crossing in front of historic Mission San Miguel. The scene was slightly north of the halfway mark between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The crash touched off a fire that consumed the two locomotives and 200 yards of ties. It also burned into several gondola cars and part of a nearby cafe.

Fourteen cars loaded with sugar beets were derailed. One of them hurtled into Roy's Truck Stop cafe. The owner, who was sleeping in the rear of the building, narrowly escaped death as the flaming car crashed into his room.

Transient Killed
It was the second train accident in California Tuesday. A transient riding the rods was killed when 14 cars of a 90-car Western Pacific freight train were derailed in Feather river canyon. The dead man was identified as Marcus Lee Rogers, 50, Stockton, Calif.

Injured in the SP wreck were George F. Cain, 51, Paso Robles, operator of the crane, in serious condition; Colson B. Stapp, 57, San Luis Obispo, an SP section hand, in fair condition, with burns; and Paul C. Jones, operator of the restaurant, treated for shock.

The accident happened when a truck driven by Millard Sousa towed the crane across the tracks. The northbound train, with two locomotives and 54 cars, struck the crane with terrific force. Sousa was pinned under the wreckage, but managed to escape unharmed.

Watermelons Used To Control Flames
Taipeh, Formosa — Civic officials praised Taipeh firemen today for quick thinking.

Hampered by a water shortage at a warehouse fire, the resourceful fire fighters threw hundreds of nearby watermelons into the flames to bring the fire under control.

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

God and the Doctor, we alike adore. But only when in danger, not before. The danger o'er, both are alike regarded. God is forgotten and the Doctor slighted.

— John Owen

Can your wife stand on her head? If so, for how long? How about you? Experts on appearance improvement maintain that standing on the head is one of the most effective of all beauty exercises. That it brings the blood to the head, stirs the circulation and aids in the achievement of a permanent schoolgirl complexion. Now, sir, why should you stand on your head?

You don't want to be beautiful? Well, it is claimed that so doing stimulates thought. That when a man in a creative activity cannot think of any new ideas it will help if he goes to the corner and stands on his head. I have known several fellows who did this and they were men who gave birth to many brilliant ideas. Of course, I can use ideas in my business. Especially when assigned to do seven columns a week. I tried standing on my head once and nearly broke my neck. However, I may try again.

A little thought stimulation might not only aid me in my regular activity but might improve my handicapping. I had three losing tickets at Monmouth Park in one week.

Asking
Queries from clients. Q. You say Mel Ott, who made his bow with the New York Giants when 16 years old, was the youngest player to ever appear in a major league game. Joe Nuxhall played with the Cincinnati Reds when he was 15. A. You're right. But Joe only played part of one game at that age. Ott played 35 games and had a batting average of .383. Nevertheless, you win the stogie. Name your brand. Do you prefer Pittsburgh, West Virginia or Connecticut stogies? Q. What was the name of the play in which John Barrymore did a song and dance? A. It was titled "A Stubborn Cinderella." That was the only musical show Barrymore ever appeared in. He was 27 years old at the time.

Daughters
Daughters are, of course, more expensive to rear than sons. However, some fathers are now getting a break in the matter of the cost of rearing a female. Some daughters, who are working girls, are paying most of the expenses of their weddings. It is said the working girl bride contributes an average of \$1,000 to her wedding expenses. She willingly pays this to have an outstanding wedding. Her contribution takes care of the reception, photos, flowers and linens.

Horses And Women
A Brooklynite says his wife's measurements are 38-26-36. Her height is five feet, six, her weight 133 pounds. "How does she shape for a Mrs. America candi-

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