ARMY TRAINING VERY TOUGH AT CAMP HOLABIRD

Army Ordnance these days has a hectic job of providing our troops with 1,700 fighting tools, made up of over 500,000 component parts, according to information received at Holabird Ordnance Depot in Baltimore from the Ordnance Department, Army Service Forces.

That little job is the way the Army is getting around Ben Franklin's old saying that for want of a nail, a shoe, a horse, a rider, and a battle were lost.

Plenty of guns and ample part replacements for those guns is the thing.

If one spare part for the recoil mechanism of a 90-millimeter gun is not available, well, the whole gun is just so much a hunk of metal. The spare part may weigh a few ounces and could be carried in a vest pocket.

Whether the problem is to get around vest pockets (There are no vests in the Army's ordinary uniform trousseau) or to know where, when, why and how frequently a gun will fail to function, it is the headache of the Ordnanace Department to know these facts with reasonable certitude.

In order to break the thing down a bit so a person can understand the big job, Ordnance data from Washington points out that spare parts are procured for 100 weapons at a time. This means that for every 100 Garand rifles there are supplied at least 8 rear sight apertures, 20 barrels, 20 extractors, 8 bolt assemblies, 30 ejector assemblies, 16 stock assemblies, 12 trigger assemblies, and maybe some more gadgets.

Invariably, battlefield experience is the thing that changes the procurement lists.

Army Ordnance must provide a few of each type of spare part to troops at each step on their route to battle areas around the world. While forces on Attu or some other isolate island and outpost are being supplied, Ordnance must provide spare parts to all training units in the United States.

Too many spare parts are just as bad as not enough, the Washington data reveals, because excess replacements slow up troop movements.

Such things as rivets, screws, pins, nuts and bolts are constantly supplied by the million. In Tunisia the dry desert climate necessitated frequent replacement of moving gun parts, and in the Solomons and on Attu, rust is the great enemy.

But that's the big problem—plenty of guns and ample spare parts—and that's why the Ordnance Department is making dead certain, as fast as it can, that every combat unit in every global theater of war is "passed the ammunition."

"General Kutz's Chamber of Horrors" is the soldiers' nickname for a new kind of class room conditioning to prepare trainees for actual battle conditions before they leave a training camp, according to a resume of the training program received from the Ordnance Department in Washington.

Designed by Brig. General H. R. Kutz, director of the Ordnance Department's Military Training Division, after a recent visit to Britain, the "chamber" is dug into a hillside and reached by a long camouflaged pit. Inside the chamber men work for a 24-hour stretch at typical clerical field work, checking on supplies and equipment—the kind of work which must be done under actual battle conditions near the front lines.

No one leaves the chamber during the 24-hour period. Food is sent in as necessary.

But what puts the pressure on are the recordings of battle sounds—gunfire, the screech of dive bombing planes, the crash of bombs—played over a loudspeaker outside the chamber entrance. The tumult and nerve-wracking clatter is not constant, but intermittant, gradually being increased for longer intervals. Meanwhile lights go out, lanterns which are substituted eventually fail, leaving only candle light as the "problems' grow more complicated and telephones go dead, necessitating the use of runners.

The men confess that loss of sleep, combined with the infernal noise, is punishment when trying to keep books, but they realize that they will probably face similar experience "up front" and they are glad to have the training now.

The results also demonstrate to a field officer how efficiently he may expect his clerical staff to function under stress of battle.

—V—

Unfinished Attics

Unfinished attics may be responsible for 40 per cent heat loss.

CANADA'S GIRLS IN BLUE

KEEPING track of the positions and courses of every aircraft, surface ship or submarine—friendly or enemy—which approaches the rugged North Atlantic Coast is a vital war job. This job is being entrusted to carefully selected members of the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force, working in cooperation with patrols of the United States.

So secret is the work done by these Air Force women in blue that the exact nature of their duties cannot at this time be disclosed. But on Canada's Eastern coast these clerks-operational, as they are called, are today standing 24 hour watch in shifts—their intensified training having made them efficient, conscientious and reliable, ready to deal with any emergency.

They work in specially equipped R.C.A.F. operation rooms, the secrets of which are so carefully guarded that not even other Air Force personnel can gain entry unless they have specific business there and have not only been identified to the R.C.A.F. police guarding the entrances but their visits officially authorized in writing by the Air Staff.

The operations rooms in the Eastern Air Command are divided into different sections. In one large room, for example, a visitor can find R.C.A.F. women at their posts around a large circular table, on the top of which is a detailed map of the entire North Atlantic coastline. Wearing earphones every minute she is on duty, each girl is directly connected by a secret telephone line to look-out stations scattered all along the East Canadian coast. At a table nearby sit other R.C.A.F. women picking up by telephone the reports of the thousands of civilian members of the Aircraft Detection Corps, an organization originally started by the Air Force solely to provide advance warning of the approach of enemy aircraft. But the functions of the Corps have since been expanded to include the provision of information for the Navy and Army.

Keen-eyed fishermen, lumbermen, fire-spotters, lawyers, doctors, clergymen, businessmen, and even housewives located in populated and isolated spots all along these Atlantic shores, on day and night watch, report immediately by telephone the presence in their respective areas of hostile and unidentified aircraft, submarines and strange vessels and persons.

These Aircraft Detection Corps observers today form "a line of eyes" extending from the northernmost tip of Labrador, in every cove and on every headland around Newfoundland, Quebec, and the Maritimes.

Clerks in operations rooms of Royal Canadian Air Force centres keep in touch with observers of the Aircraft Detection Corps and record movements of ships and aircraft on large maps covering that area. The girls work in three 8-hour shifts to maintain a day-long record of operational flights. Above is shown a group of airwomen at their work. Reports are received every hour of the day and night regarding movements of all forces and these must be checked for accuracy, recorded and mapped to ensure knowledge of operations around Canada's coastal points. Here in an operations room, shown at right, AW2 Jeanne Robertson of Toronto, left and AW1 Lois Husby, Gibson's Landing, B.C., receive and check information while AW2 Hilda Finley of Chilliwack, B.C., is ready on the ladder to plot the course of the craft.

This Week Of The War Showing Progress Of The All Out Effort

To conserve materials and man-hours, the Office of War Information is discontinuing Last Week in the War with this issue.

A comprehensive summary of war front developments appears each week in Victory Bulletin, the official weekly of the OWI. VICTORY BULLETIN may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Subscription rates by mail are as follows: 75c for 52 issues. 50c for 26 issues; single copies 5c, payable in advance.

The OWI will continue to supply rural papers upon request with Town and Farm in Wartime, a brief digest of government releases of particular interest to rural communities, and with a weekly package of feature stories, mats, and special articles. Address Town and Farm in Wartime, News Bureau, OWI. Washington, D. C.

On the same day that Pantelleria fell under withering attacks of Africa based Allied planes (June 11) four-motored bombers of the RAF and USAAF broke a 12-day lull in the offensive over Germany. More than 200 planes took part in devastating raids on German submarine installations at Wilhelmshaven and Cuxhaven.

Two days later, naval installations at Bremen were blasted. Photographs of the damage revealed at least a dozen hits on and around the Atlas Werke shipyards and a heavy concentration of bombs on other shipyards.

In the next few days British and American bombers dropped 5,250 tons of explosives within the Reich, a record-breaking performance.

Eleven Attacks On Germany

A recent summary issued by the War Department showed that of 18 heavy bombardment missions by U. S. planes against targets within Germany, 11 have been made since May 14.

Engaged only in daylight, high-altitude, precision attacks against enemy industrial centers, naval bases and war plants, the USAAF based in England flew approximately 1,600 sorties with 4-engine bombers against German targets.

The 18 forays are shown to have been carried out at a cost of 106 American planes, while 571 German planes were shot down, 187 probably destroyed, and 231 damaged in aerial combat.

The first 7 attacks by American bombers against Germany were made in the period of January 27, 1943, through April, 17, 1943. United States losses for these missions totaled 40 planes, while 224 German planes were shot down, 73 probably were destroyed and 77 damaged.

In the 8 days of May 14 through May 21, 7 more attacks were made, with American losses totaling 32 planes and German losses 243 shot down, 69 probably destroyed and 116 damaged.

Attacks against Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven, Bremen and Kiel cost 34 American planes, with German losses placed initially at 104 planes destroyed, 40 probably destroyed and 38 damaged.

Precision Bombing Of Pantelleria

According to Secretary of War Stimson, Allied conquest of the four Italian "nuisance" islands netted approximately 16,000 Axis prisoners, won at the cost of about 40 airmen and a few planes.

Stimson said these operations demonstrated the value of concentrated air power and compared the Allied capture of Pantelleria with the Axis failure to take Malta during a three year seige in which the enemy enjoyed overwhelming air superiority.

While Malta's defenses were probably stronger, Stimson said, the principal reason why Pantelleria fell and Malta held was the manner in which the air attacks were made.

"German and Italian assaults on Malta were sporadic and inaccurate," he said. "Our attacks on Pantelleria were heavy and continuous. Hits on military targets were scored with mathematical precision."

Praising Allied air power Stimosn added, "Just as our airplanes and pilots have excelled, now it appears our tactical and strategical employment of air power is superior to the Italian and German."

Three days after the surrender of Pantelleria, British Wellington bombers opened the intensified aerial pounding of Sicily with attacks on the Bocca di Falco, Castevetrano, Sicacca and Borizzo airdromes.

Submarine Production Satisfactory

A more optimistic report on Allied submarine strength was issued last week as Secretary of the Navy Knox announced that American submarine production "is very satisfactory." Knox also reported that "we are building a small number of submarines month by month and they are a steady addition to our navy."

Immediately before Pearl Harbor, the Navy had 111 submarines in service and 73 building. Knox did not give any new figures but presumably the pre-Pearl Harbor total has been considerably increased.

From the South Pacific area, the Navy announced that fierce battle over Guadalcanal had resulted, on June 16, in the loss of only six American aircraft as against 77 Japanese planes. A communique said that 32 of the enemy planes shot down were bombers and 45 were Zero fighters.

—V—

Saves Fuel

Insulating saves fuel, which is patriotic.

ORDER NISI

In the matter of the estate of John Wesley Bentley, deceased

In the Orphans' Court for Kent County

ORDERED this 15th day of June 1943, by the Orphans' Court for Kent County, State of Maryland, that the sale of the real estate made and reported in this cause by Harrison W. Vickers, Administrator of the estate of John Wesley Bentley, deceased, be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 21st day of August next; provided a copy of this Order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, Maryland, once in each of four successive weeks before the 10th day of July next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $200.00

ROLAND R. COREY
GEORGE R. RASIN
HARRY M. STAVELY
Judges Orphans' Court

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Symptoms of disturbed kidney function may be nagging backache, persistent headache, dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of strength and energy. Other signs of kidney or bladder disturbance sometimes are burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

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