

State Guard Gets Streamline Course At Fort Bragg

Waynesville. Company Arrived Home Friday After Extensive 14 Days Training

Members of the North Carolina State Guard this week have learned a lot at Fort Bragg about how best to deal effectively with situations that may develop on the home front, and in the process they have learned a lot also about the woods, swamps and terrain in general of Fort Bragg.

One thing that stands out trikingly in the 10-day training program mapped out for the guardsmen is the fact that there has been an apparent streamlining of what is to be taught. The non-essentials have been eliminated, and the time has been concentrated in learning only what might some day stand the home front guardians in good stead.

Naturally, there are the basic phases of military training which are essential but which at times impress a civilian as unnecessary and, at times a bit silly even. Yet, the more or less menial tasks of room orderly, latrine duty and kitchen police have their purpose. They are the fibre from which is made the discipline that is fundamental in military training.

The duties of K. P. and the like are only incidental to the broader phases of the training program

the watchful and critical eyes of the watchful and critical eyes of regular Army officers who are specialists in their particular fields. As in the army, the training is effectively presented through lectures, demonstrations, movies and finally the actual execution of the training problem in the field.

Control of rioters and mobs is one of the primary purposes for which the State Guard was organized, and a practical demonstration of this technique was put on for the trainees by a crack army outfit.

One of the busiest organizations in the camp has been the combined medical detachments of the first and second regiment. An idea of the task of these men is the fact that upon eight enlisted men, plus about an equal number of commissioned officers, has fallen the burden of administering to the needs of about 2,000 men. The medical detachments not only maintain the dispensary as a permanent base for the camp, but they also send units into field when a problem is being carried out by the battalions and companies.

The guardsmen will learn a lot more about handling their weapons when they go on the rifle range on the final days of the camp. Necessarily, the range work will be precision-like in order to make it possible for every man in the brigade of two regiments to fire the required number of rounds.

Internal enemies are not the only possibilities to be prepared for. The state might some day be invaded by plane-borne enemy

troops, and the guardsmen are spending several hours each day in the field, woods and streams and swamps learning the technique of patrolling and scouting. This involves learning how to seek proper cover from strafing planes and the eyes of enemy scouts on the ground.

This has involved practical demonstrations, and as army planes have roared overhead the guardsmen have sought cover under the long leaf pines and scrub oaks of the rolling Fort Bragg terrain. Then there have been advances through swamps and bush-cluttered forests to reach a definite objective. This is a good way for observers to learn about the ability of officers to command their men and the attitude and capacity of the men also to execute their part of the problem.

Enemy paratroopers some day may seek to invade the state and seize strategic airports and the like, and that is another possibility that the guardsmen are being trained for. One of the most important field problems of the week was the practical demonstration by battalions of airdrome defense in a simulated paratroop attack.

Movement of troops, convoy procedure and the many problems of motor transportation will be demonstrated and practiced before the camp ends. The menial tasks of kitchen and barracks police are designed not only to inculcate discipline in the men but also to teach them the finer points of sanitation and personal hygiene. The supply sections of the two regiments have

'Helena' Survivor



BLOWN INTO THE WATER in the battle of Kula Gulf, Maj. Bernard T. Kelly of the Marines saw his ship, the U. S. cruiser *Helena*, go down fighting. After 62 hours in shark-infested waters and 10 days on an island, he and 160 other survivors were saved. (International)

spent long, hot hours in supply warehouses handling supplies and equipment.

A lot of money has been invest-

ed by the state in making possible the camp through co-operation of the United States army, and those responsible for the training program are seeing to it that there are no lost motions and no wasted minutes. Any taxpayer who has false illusions about how the fellows are spending their own time and the state's money down at Fort Bragg has only to go down and spend a day with the boys. It is more than likely that they would be glad to catch the next bus back home and enjoy again the relatively easier routine of civilian life.

The most colorful highlight of the camp, of course, was the brigade review on Saturday afternoon for Governor Broughton, who has manifested a deep interest in the guard. For the first time, his excellency saw the assembled and marching masses of men and equipment upon which he as chief executive of the state is counting for the protection of the home front.

Freedom of the press is too vital to be let go by default. The things Mr. Maas described would be grave blows at freedom of the press. They should be very easy to prove or disprove.

FDR's suggestion that Italy get out of the war wasn't heeded. But we'll bet they understand the plane talk they're now getting.

A Chicago doctor says looks, to some degree, are determined by diet. Now what women will want to eat plain food?

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