

SCENT SENSE AND SPEED MAKE DOGS IN U. S. ARMY "FOUR-FOOTED RADAR"

SEOUL—The giant strides of science in this area of super-weapons have failed so far to outmode the keen ears and sensitive noses of Army dogs as the infantryman's "radar."

Modern technology has provided no substitute for the silent speed of these four-footed front-line messengers and carriers.

Scout dog platoons are on watch at outposts along the Korean truce line, kept ready for the battle role they performed so expertly during the fighting. A dog's life here is one of intensive training. Side by side with the troops, the dogs are polishing up their military techniques.

Outstanding among the canine soldiers are those of the 26th Scout Dog Platoon. The unit's combat efficiency and daring has made it one of the most decorated in Korea.

Attached at one time or another to nearly every American division on the peninsula, the 26th boasted of never having a dog-guided patrol ambushed.

Latest arrival on the Korean front was the 40th Scout Dog Platoon which was attached to the 279th Infantry Regiment of the 45th (Thunderbird) Infantry Division.

The 28 dogs and their handlers, under the command of First Lieutenant Frederick Boss, were organized as a unit last July at Camp Carson, Colo., home of the Army Dog Training Center. The unit was attached to the 45th Division in November and named the 40th, a Scout Dog Platoon designation with an illustrious World War II record.

Dogs have been employed in warfare for centuries, even by the early American Indians, but it wasn't until 1942 that the U. S. Army officially made the canines part of its fighting forces.

The first training limited the dogs to sentry work. Later their uses were expanded to scouting, message delivery, sled and pack work and mine detection. The mine detection job proved impractical and was dropped.

The United States never has gone as far in the use of dogs as the Russians. Soviet dogs have been trained in the suicide task of smuggling an explosive charge under an enemy tank.

The dogs of World War II mostly were donated and were of many breeds. When the K-9 Corps was deactivated, this resulted in the tedious and expensive task of de-training the dogs and returning as many as possible to their original owners.

Now the Army buys its own dogs and limits the breed to German Shepherd. These animals have proved most satisfactory of all because of their physical stamina, adaptability of their outer coat to various climates and, most important, their superior intellect and sensitivity to smell.

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An adaptable fashion like this one is an asset in any vacationer's wardrobe, for it is at home for town or terrace. Designed by Star-Maid in Hope Skillman's slender satin striped cotton, the versatile fashion has a deep cutaway neckline that comes complete with snap-in dicker of white cotton pique. Delicately striped cottons will be fashion favorites this spring and summer, the National Cotton Council notes.

intellect and sensitivity to smell.

Just as their man buddies undergo basic training so do the Army dogs. The war dog is introduced to military life by an intensive physical checkup.

For three weeks, although handled with care, the dog is denied the personal attention on which he normally thrives so that he will be starved for affection.

Meanwhile, the dog's handler is undergoing detailed training for his job. Already, the handler will be a first-rate infantryman, capable of working confidently with infantry units.

At the end of the three-week indoctrination, the dog and his handler are introduced. The handler lavishes attention on the animal and thus their bond of comradeship and teamwork is sealed.

During the next three weeks, the dog learns obedience or if he proves unfit or undependable he is released

from the service. Then come nine weeks of grueling training, including intense practice in scouting and patrolling.

The big job of the handler is learning to "read" the habits and mannerisms of his dog. He must learn to know what the dog means by the flick of his tail, the bat of an eye, the sudden quivering of an ear. For various dogs each sign has special significance.

The handler too must take on the personal responsibility for his dog's welfare, much as the old cavalryman thought of his horse's comfort first.

The dogs must learn to obey signals perfectly. Patrolling demands silence and a mistake on the part of a dog or his handler could cost lives.

Dairy Support Level Drop Is Explained

BY EZRA TAFT BENSON
Secretary of Agriculture

One of agriculture's biggest problems is also one of the easiest to solve.

The solution lies not with government or its officials but with millions of Americans who can, and should drink an extra glass or two of milk each week and eat a few additional pieces of butter.

At present the dairy industry is confronted with production and marketing problems that stem from increasing output, declining exports and a reduction in per capita consumption. It is important to see that these troubles are not perpetuated.

The government now has more than 120,000,000 pounds of dairy products in storage. These surpluses were acquired by supporting dairy prices at 90 per cent of parity. They are products that should have gone to con-

sumers but instead went into government warehouses.

To make dairying a strong and independent part of our agricultural economy these surpluses must be disposed of and a proper adjustment made between production and consumption. The easiest way to do this is to increase consumption.

Since 1945 the annual per capita consumption of fluid milk and cream has declined 47 pounds. For the same period consumption of butter dropped the equivalent of an additional 45 pounds of milk.

Our people need to eat more dairy products. If the full dietary needs of the nation were being met, there would actually be a shortage of these products. Milk is good. It is the most nearly perfect of all foods for children, young people and adults. Milk is cheap. A recent study shows that the nutrients contained in a quart of milk would cost 42 cents if obtained from other sources.

In an effort to encourage the use of dairy products and in compliance with the law, I recently reduced the dairy price support level from 90 to 75 per cent of parity. It is my belief that more realistic prices, coupled with a vigorous education and promotion program stressing the value of dairy products, will go a long way toward reestablishing the industry on a firm and profitable basis.

I am required by law to fix dairy supports at a point between 75 and 90 per cent of parity that will assure an adequate supply. In view of both the large surpluses and a production rate exceeding consumption, the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture ruled I would have to set the supports for the coming year at 75 per cent.

There has been some complaint that under the President's new farm pro-

gram, the reduction in dairy supports should have been gradual. Actually the President proposed gradual changes in moving basic commodities from a rigid to flexible support program and from old to modernized parity. There was no such recommendation on dairy products which were already on a flexible basis.

There is considerable difference between the basic commodities and dairy products. The basis are storable and they are subject to production control. Dairy products are perishable. In fact they are the only perishable commodity on which price supports are mandatory. In addition, there is no control of production.

While it would appear that the dairy supports were but 15 points, the actual reduction is 12 and 9 points. Because of wider marketing margins last year, 90 per cent supports reflected 87 per cent of parity to the farmer on butterfat and only 84 per cent on manufactured milk.

As I understand the law, the full

75 per cent of parity must now be passed on to the farmer. I will see that this is done.

Chowan Debaters Split In Triangular Debate

Four members of the freshman class at Chowan High School won in preliminary debates to represent the school in a triangle composed of Chowan High, Conway and Gatesville.

Chowan's affirmative debaters, Joe Privott and Steve Bunch lost to the Gatesville negative debaters, while the negative team, Barbara Bunch and Bennie Baker won over the Conway affirmative.

The negative debaters made a creditable showing in Greenville. This year's query was "Resolved, That the President of the United States should be elected by direct vote of the people."

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