

Army's 'Finger' In U. S. Dikes Saves Lives And Property

The U. S. Army's flood-control program has prevented billions of dollars in property damage during the past 75 years, but each year the battle of the levees must be fought all over again.

When rain-swollen rivers rise above flood stage, lowland dwellers look to the Army's Corps of Engineers for fast, effective protection.

Army Engineers proved themselves again last May when continued downpours caused floods along the Sabine River in eastern Texas and in Louisiana along the Red, Black, Calcasieu and Cane Rivers. Areas affected were Weweyville and Orange, Texas, and Alexandria, Jena, Jonesville, Cloutierville, Camp Beauregard and Lake Charles, La.

In Orange, the Sabine River broke its previous record. That city is an important port and the home of oil refineries and the largest U.S. Navy mothball fleet in the country.

By spending \$200,000, flood damages estimated at \$5,000,000 (M) were prevented.

As the Sabine River rose, the Engineers kept a watchful eye on the approaching crest and used the information to prepare for the flood fight. They also supervised construction of a 12,000-foot-long levee built in 48 hours of 'round-the-clock work by volunteer laborers.

Twenty hours after the levee was finished, the river reached its crest and for days pounded against the sturdy emergency structure without crashing through.

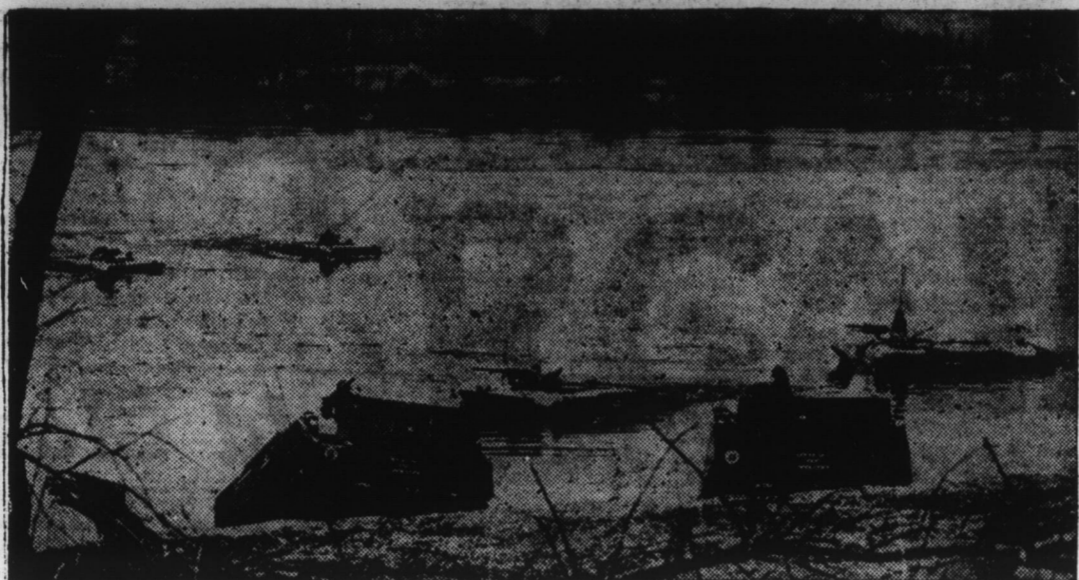
The Army also furnished many of the 400,000 sandbags used to reinforce the levee and the Corps' radio facilities helped provide communication when many telephone lines were out of service.

In Louisiana, Army assault boats and pontoon bridge sections equipped with outboard motors served as present-day Noah's arks to evacuate 200 persons and 150 cattle from flood areas.

Equipment from Fourth Army Quartermaster depots and from Camp Polk, La., and Fort Hood, Texas, furnished temporary shelter and relief for the majority of persons forced out of their homes by the floods. The equipment included 4,300 blankets, 3,743 cots, 1,370 tents and 40 trucks and trailers.

As streets and highways were transformed into torrential canals, Army helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft became the only speedy systems of transportation for state and flood officials. Army aviation pilots also helped anxious flood victims search for persons and livestock marooned by rapidly rising waters.

As usual in flooded areas, there was "water, water, everywhere but not a drop to drink"—at least in some sections. Fort Hood furnished two water purification and two chlorination units, 50 water sterilizing bags, eight water heaters and eight field ranges for use in the Lake Charles area.



WHO NEEDS A BRIDGE? Army M-59 armored personnel carriers "swim" the Ohio River near Fort Knox, Ky., to land riflemen on the "enemy" shore. The 20-ton track-laying vehicle is water-tight, fast and highly maneuverable.

When the flood finally reached its crest and rivers returned to normal channels, Army personnel returned to their regular posts with another star performance to their credit. In another major disaster they had helped save lives and millions of dollars worth of valuable property.

COLORED SCHOOL NEWS

Annual Awards Day will be observed at the Edenton High School Wednesday, May 19, at 12:35 P. M. Special features of this program will be the principal address by Coach Vaughan of Elizabeth City State Teachers College, Elizabeth City. Other participants on the program will be the Rev. H. C. Calloway, pastor of Kadesh A.M.E. Zion Church; Thomas Sharpe, Miss A. F. Gilmer, C. S. Newsome and the Faculty Chorus. Awards will be given by the sponsors of the various activities at the school.

Shelton Stanley, a Junior, recently won a certificate of merit for having the highest average in a geometry competitive test at State Teachers College, Elizabeth City. All high schools in Northeastern North Carolina participated in this contest.

Speakers for Commencement Night May 28, will be members of the senior class with the highest averages. The speakers will be Miss Dora Granby, valedictorian; Miss Hazel Nixon, salutatorian; Miss Doris Walton, Miss Clenora Austin and Miss Mary Blount. Claud Jones and Richard White will give the prayer and benediction.

The Edenton High School Band played at the Perquimans County Training School Wednesday, May 12. The band is under the direction of J. E. Wilhoite.

Mrs. E. L. Byrd, supervisor, Mrs. S. L. Reeves, Mrs. R. H. Frinks and Mrs. T. M. Williams, teachers at Edenton High School, attended an art workshop and exhibit at the E. J.

Hayes High School in Williamston recently.

Miss Delores Lee, a student in the 10th grade, was crowned May Queen at the annual May Queen-Fashion Show held at the Edenton High School May 7 in the gymnasium. Miss Barbara Overton last year's queen crowned the new queen.

TRIBUTE TO BOYS WHO DIED AT NORMANDY

Sgt. Carlton W. Barrett, the only living American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor on D-Day, pays a moving tribute to the heroic GI's who died on the beaches of Normandy. Don't miss this intensely interesting story in the May 30th issue of

THE AMERICAN WEEKLY Magazine in Colorgrature with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN Order From Your Local Newsdealer

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Edenton Jr.-Sr. Menu

Menus at the Edenton Junior-Senior High School for the week beginning Monday, May 24 through Thursday, May 27 are as follows:

Monday—Luncheon meat, cheese on potatoes, cole slaw, rolls, butter, apple sauce and milk.

Tuesday—Beef and gravy, baked beans, carrots, rolls, butter, pineapple upside down cake and milk.

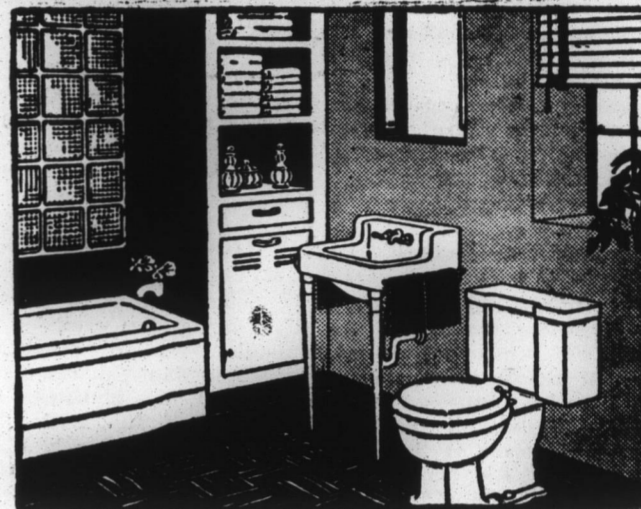
Wednesday—Pimento cheese sand-

wiches, black eyed peas, celery, rolls, butter, block cake and milk. Thursday — Ham salad sandwiches, steamed cabbage, beets, pickle relish, bread, butter, milk.

Rev. Gordon Bennett St. Mary's Trustee

At a convention of the Diocese of East Carolina, held Thursday of last week, the Rev. Gordon D. Bennett, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, was elected a trustee of St. Mary's Junior College at Raleigh.

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