

QUICKLY REPAIRED— Simulated Bomb Blows Big Crater In The Air Field At Fort Bragg

Fort Bragg. — Arranged as a practice problem in the repair of airfields after bombing raids for the 2nd Battalion, 21st Aviation Engineers, a 125-pound charge of T.N.T. was yesterday exploded in a remote section of Pone Field, Fort Bragg's huge military air base. The charge, simulating the effect of a 100 lb. aerial bomb, was buried three feet in the soil near the south boundary of the field and detonated at 4:30 p.m.

Immediately upon hearing the blast, which spouted earth and debris a good 100 feet into the air, men of a platoon of the 21st's Company "F" who were working about a mile away on a clearing job, dropped everything and, bringing trucks and special equipment rushed to the scene. The engineers had had no previous warning and had with them only the regular tools used in clearance work in addition to some special equipment carried at all times when the boys are operating under combat conditions with the possibility of air raids ever present.

Men of the 21st, trained thoroughly to cope with such emergencies, each hastened to his particular duty; some drove dump trucks, some separated 'bar-hammers,' many wielded the always handy shovel, while the outfit's sturdy bulldozer was promptly pressed into service. On the job just five minutes after the explosion, the powerful caterpillar tractor bulldozer,

easily the star of the performance shoved tons of earth, piled by the blast around the rim of the 30 by 15-foot crater, back into the hole. Meanwhile the fleet of trucks had been dispatched to a 'borrowed-pit' some distance away and, returning with their loads of earth, dumped them quickly into the yawning cavity as the skillfully operated earth-mover distributed the loads evenly, and chattering Barco hammers tamped loose earth into a solid condition.

Laboring as one big team the engineers remained cool and collected although working at terrific speed. The unit, ably supervised by its commanding officer, Capt. Henry A. Byrroade, and his right hand man, Staff Sergeant Schestz, had the crater and surrounding area ready for planes to taxi over it in only 22 minutes, while the entire job was completed just thirty five minutes after the explosion.

State Forester Gets Assistant

Raleigh. — After serving as state forester for the last 26 years, J. S. Holmes will be relieved of part of his duties by an assistant, R. Bruce Etheridge, director of the department of conservation, announced yesterday.

W. L. Beasley, a native of Franklin county who has been secretary of the State Forestry association for several years, has been appointed to the new post of assistant state forester and will assume his duties on December 1, Etheridge added.

"After 32 years of continuous efforts in behalf of forestry and having reached the age of 73 years, we believe Mr. Holmes is entitled to be relieved from some of the arduous duties as state forester which are becoming more exacting and heavier as the program grows in scope and importance," Etheridge said.

"Under the direction of Mr. Holmes, the state of North Carolina has developed one of the outstanding forest services in the nation."

62-YEAR-OLD DEED IS FILED IN ROWAN
A 62-year-old deed yellowed with age and having to be held together with pins where it is falling apart in its creases, were among those filed Saturday at the office of W. D. Kizziah, register of deeds for Rowan county at Salisbury. The deed, executed February 27, 1879, bears the seal of F. H. Mauney, justice of the peace. It records the sale of 95 acres in Rowan county, from James W. Arey and wife to Charles Glover for \$275.

Hernando de Soto, discoverer of the Mississippi River, was buried in its waters.

Old Man River Again



A rescue party in a rowboat travels down a city street which is under five feet of water. The flood was caused by the Arkansas river, which broke out of its banks at Tulsa, leaving scores of families homeless and causing great damage.

Emergency May Put Debs "Behind Hoe"

Washington.—The 1942 debenture will be interested more in rake and hoe than in stag lines and caviar if the government: has its way, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt disclosed yesterday.

The reason: an army of "farmettes" will be needed to help harvest next year's crops and the office of civilian defense will try to muster it, according to Mrs. Roosevelt, assistant director.

There is no question, she said at her press conference, that a large number of women will be needed for this task. The number, she explained, will probably be determined by a survey of farm labor conditions now being made in the midwest by a House committee.

In the meantime, the First Lady said she had asked OGD youth physical fitness and volunteer bureau divisions to study probable needs in anticipation of the committee report.

She indicated that no attempt would be made, to establish "farmettes" in tent colonies. This was tried during the World War, she said, and it did not work as successfully as when individual farm families took women workers into their homes.

The need for the army of women, she explained, comes from a shortage of farm labor precipitated by the defense drive.

Asheville Man Sought For Sale Gold Mine Stock

Raleigh.—Secretary of State Thad Eure said yesterday a man he identified as R. W. Craig, of Asheville, was being sought in connection with the illegal sale in Ohio of \$30,000 of stocks and notes of the old Appalachian Gold Mining Corporation of Littleton.

Eure said trial of Craig was scheduled sometime in November or December but the Asheville man had skipped a \$200 bond set by an Asheville court after former Governor Hoey honored extradition papers from Ohio.

The Ohio Securities Commission, Eure said, is continuing its search for Craig and is beginning an investigation into records and financial transactions of the company, which Craig and two other incorporators formed in 1936.

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Blond Girl Tries To Take Her Life

Chicago. — Betty Austin tried four times in five minutes, but each time she failed.

She was trying to kill herself, so Policeman Harry E. Smith says she declared.

The 18-year-old blonde was standing on a loop "El" platform when bystanders noticed she appeared ready to jump in front of an onrushing train.

They pulled her back from the edge of the platform.

Policeman Smith was attracted by the commotion.

When the girl saw him start toward her, she ran to the back of the platform and attempted to fling herself over the rail to the street.

Smith ran after her and pulled her off the rail. Betty broke loose from his grasp and fled down the stairs to the street with Smith in pursuit.

The girl ran across the intersection and threw herself in the path of a street car.

Again she was frustrated as the motorman brought the tram to a jerking halt.

Smith attempted to grab her again, but Betty leaped to her feet and ran down the street.

With the officer still chasing her, she threw herself in front of a taxi cab.

The driver stopped with his brakes screeching and Smith captured the fighting girl. Smith says she screamed:

"Let me alone. Let me do what I want. I want to kill myself.

The officer pushed her into the taxicab and ordered the driver to the police station. Betty refused to explain her action. Said Patrolman Smith:

"I had to sit on her to get her here. She had an awful lot of life for a girl who wanted to kill herself."

Willkie Makes Refugees' Plea

Washington.—Wendell Willkie, 1940 Republican presidential candidate, asked the government yesterday to relax its restrictions in the personal funds of thousands of European refugees now living in the United States.

He presented the appeal as attorney for the refugees, who he said all came from European countries other than Germany and Italy since June 7, 1940.

Foreigners who came to the United States since that date are allowed to use \$500 a month for living expenses without formality but must get special license from the Treasury to use any more money. Willkie asked removal of the \$500 limit.

Farmers are bringing to a close their best year since 1929 with production, prices, and income at high levels, reports the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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