

Live News from Camp BUTNER



CAMP BUTNER, Jan. 17. — Americans have a zest for sports that is unrivaled by any other nation.

And that zest for wholesome, healthful games is paying big dividends to war-time America.

The premiums are being collected right out on the battle fields and combat sea lanes where leadership and the will to fight and win are bringing us victories and will continue to do so until the enemies of a free world are beaten down into defeat.

Sports have contributed much to America's fighting armies. More than anything else, America's love of games has given us leadership.

The high school and college football fields, the gymnasiums, the corner lot where neighborhood boys play are schools for leadership. It isn't taught there, because leadership is born and grows of its own initiative.

The way that American boys have been taught to play together and follow the leader in organized sports, or the way they

naturally do the same on the sandlots has been an aid to the officers building our armies.

Sports and the military have much in common. To be good in either, one must be well trained, know his job and have the urge to win.

Sports train boys in play discipline. The players know their jobs. The urge to win? Yes. Galley 1 Camp Butner

Do you remember watching a football or baseball game on the corner lot a few years ago? Do you remember the shaggy-haired, freckle-faced, average American boys out there playing?

Remember watching the same kids play football? One team was leading by two touchdowns in the last quarter with victory a matter of minutes. Then the kids on the other team, in the good old American way of never-say-die, started moving. And they didn't stop moving until they had scored three touchdowns for a victory. That was the urge to win.

Remember when you asked the pint-sized tackle a question, and he told you within an inch of where he should be on any kind of a play? That boy knew his job.

Remember how the red-haired boy kept packing the ball for long gains, how he shouted on encouragement to his team-mates, who patted him on the back when he made a good play, how they looked to him for direction? That was leadership.

These boys are men now. Real men in the service of their country. The team play and the leadership they brought with them into the Army are winning fights wherever tough, blue-braided Infantrymen are fighting.

And this winning fight means that boys today and boys of tomorrow can go on playing wholesome, healthful, character-building sports on our athletic fields and sandlots.

The Army is conscious of sports and is doing everything to foster it. It is not uncommon for American soldiers stationed all over the world to engage in baseball

Ration Banking Question Box

The following answers—explaining the ration banking program which will be established on a nation-wide basis this month—were released today by the Office of Price Administration in response to questions asked by storekeepers, gasoline wholesalers and others.

1. Q. When will ration banking go into effect?

A. On January 27, 1943.

2. Q. What rationed commodities will it cover?

A. In the food group—coffee and sugar. In the oil group—gasoline but not fuel oil.

3. Q. Will the program be extended to include other rationed commodities?

A. Yes. Ration banking will be applied later to other ration programs, including the point plan which is scheduled to go into effect next month.

4. Q. What is ration banking?

A. It is a banking operation that utilizes the facilities of the nation's commercial banking system for handling and safeguarding ration stamps, coupons and certificates after they have passed out of the hands of consumers into trade channels.

5. Q. Will consumers be affected?

A. No. They will continue, as at present, to get their ration stamps, coupons and certificates from the local war price and rationing boards and to spend them in stores and elsewhere for the rationed commodities they are authorized to buy.

6. Q. What tradespeople and others will come under the ration banking program?

A. In foods. All primary distributors, wholesalers and chain stores, and also retailers whose December (1942) sales of all foodstuffs totaled \$5,000 or more must open ration bank accounts. Retailers whose sales totaled less than \$5,000 may do so if they want.

In gasoline. All wholesalers, distributors and refiners (if the latter are licensed to distribute gasoline) also must open ration bank accounts.

7. Q. Why aren't gasoline retailers included?

A. For the present, at least, it is believed that the system now in effect is more satisfactory. Retailers turn in their coupons to tank wagon distributors at the time of delivery.

8. Q. How will ration banking help the grocer whose sales average \$5,000 monthly or more?

A. It will reduce detail work and simplify his bookkeeping. It will also provide the same kind of bank protection for his ration paper that he now gets for his currency when he banks it. In

games and other sports when the time and situation permit.

Here in the 78th Infantry Division all officers, from Major General Edwin P. Parker, Jr., on down, realize the importance of sports, not only for its training value, but for its recreational asset.

Organized sports are sponsored in the "Lightning" Division. Certain periods are set aside for sports activities so that every soldier will have a chance to participate.

Periodically, big sports are staged, such as the one held by the 78th Division Artillery the other night. Colonel Frank Camm's Artillerymen held a double-header basketball and boxing show. And in typical American style the Artillery band was present to play for the occasion.

Some months ago it used to be a boring and fatiguing period when soldiers had to run the obstacle course. It isn't any more. In the 78th Division, the obstacle course is run against time with units competing against each other.

That sounded like sport. So the soldiers sailed for it. Now the fighting infantrymen train harder in order that they make a good record for themselves and help their outfit become the best in the Division.

Sports are a great thing for the American Army in engaging the Axis.

addition, the larger sellers of rationed commodities will no longer find it necessary to exchange stamps for larger denomination certificates for surrender to their suppliers in replenishing stocks. A ration check will serve the purpose.

9. Q. How does the grocer (or other qualified seller) open a ration bank account?

A. He should apply to the bank where he has his checking account. It is authorized to open ration bank accounts. If the grocer has no checking account he may go to any bank that is convenient, for him.

10. Q. How does a ration check differ from an ordinary check?

A. A ration check is non-transferable. It must be deposited by the person receiving it. It is not a check in payment but strictly an authorization to buy the rationed commodities ordered.

11. Q. How many accounts must be opened?

A. In the case of a gasoline wholesaler, only one ration account may be opened for each rationed food listed in the ration banking program for the food trade. Thus, the grocer would open an account for each of the following: Sugar, coffee and later for processed foods when

point rationing goes into effect.

12. Q. Does the grocer (or other qualified depositor) have to maintain a minimum balance in his ration bank account?

A. No. And once he makes his ration deposit, the grocer may begin drawing against it immediately. However, he is cautioned to watch his balance carefully. A ration check must be covered by the ration bank balance at the time the check is written. An overdraft is a serious Federal offense.

13. Q. Do ration credits (created by the deposit in a ration bank account of stamps, coupons and certificates) expire if they are not spent within a specified time limit?

A. No, such credits—unlike most stamps, coupons and certificates which are not valid after specified time limits—are valid at any time after the deposit is made.

14. Q. Are commercial banks required to open ration bank accounts?

A. No, however, it is believed that almost all will do so because of a desire to render a public service. Representative bankers, including a ration banking committee appointed by the American Bankers' Association, and Federal and state banking and supervisory agencies cooperated

with the OPA in establishing the ration banking system.

15. Q. Has ration been tried out before?

A. Yes, in Albany, Troy, Schenectady and surrounding communities in New York State where ration banking has been subjected to the test of actual operation since October 28, 1942. It has been applied in England. Here and abroad the results are good.

16. Q. Will the commercial banks, under ration banking, supersede the local War Price and Rationing Boards?

A. No. Local boards will continue to have the same jurisdiction and possess the same authority over rationing that they have now.

17. Q. Will ration banking

help local boards?

A. Yes, it will relieve them of a heavy burden of detail work. After January 27 they will no longer make exchanges of ration stamps and coupons for certificates. They will have more time to dispose of other ration matters.

18. Q. Will ration banking services cost ration depositors anything?

A. No. The government will reimburse the banks for all expenses.

(turn to page six, please)

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