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# Oregon Guard Bulletin



A QUARTERLY FOR  
OREGON NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS

VOLUME VII

MARCH 15, 1940

NUMBER 1

## GUARD ASSOCIATION BANQUET ARRANGED

More than 1,800 Oregon National Guardsmen and their guests are expected to attend a banquet meeting to be held April 25 in the Masonic Temple in Portland by the combined regimental associations of the 162d and 186th Infantry regiments and the 218th Field Artillery regiment.

Plans for the banquet are moving forward rapidly and a large list of the Guardsmen and guests to attend has already been started. Colonel W. D. Jackson, 218th F. A., general chairman of the banquet arrangements, has announced that reservations must be made early since seating capacity of the hall is less than 2,000, and an attendance of even 80 per cent of the Portland members of the Guard and their guests would exceed this figure.

Each officer and enlisted man of the Portland units is to bring one guest, the guest to be the Guardsman's employer, father or son, or personal friend interested in Guard activities. In addition there will be a group of special guests.

Special entertainment, including music by the regimental bands, will be provided and several talks will be included in the program.

It is believed that the banquet will provide a closer bond between the Guardsmen and the friends of the Guard, and give the public a better idea of the purpose, value and problems of the National Guard.

The distinguished guest list for the banquet will be headed by Governor Charles A. Sprague. Numerous state, county and city officials are also to attend.

## AREA COMMAND AND STAFF SCHOOL OCCUPIES OFFICERS

Brigadier General Thomas E. Rilea, commanding 82d Brigade, Colonel Harry C. Brumbaugh, 162d Infantry, and Lt. Colonel Gordon D. Stryker, 41st Div. signal officer, were among the students attending the Second Session, Ninth Corps Area Command and Staff School for National Guard officers at the Presidio of San Francisco, February 5-19.

Reminiscences of the days spent along the Mexican border in 1916 and early 1917 featured the 22d annual reunion of Troop A, Oregon Cavalry, at a banquet held Saturday night, February 24, in Portland.

The veterans of that organization remembered most clearly the long march which they made from San Diego to Calexico in

the summer of 1916 to be among the foremost units on guard along the border. Their commander during the border duty was the present Commanding General of the 41st Division.

## Field Training to Include 27 Days

### About camps.

*It is all very confidential at present but—*

*All division troops can expect three weeks training, probably along in August, and not at Camp Clatsop. Training probably will occur with large bodies of troops at some not unfamiliar point in the Northwest.*

*Coast artillery, not yet determined, but probably at Camp Clatsop—Fort Stevens. Dates undetermined, length of camps probably 21 days.*

*In addition to three-weeks training camps, an additional six days training is in prospect, this to be held on week-end periods. Total field training now in prospect for 1940—27 days.*

*All division commanders have been ordered to Washington, D. C., for conference on training March 18.*

*At the conclusion of that conference, our commanding general probably will be able to announce officially all about training camps this year.*

*In the meantime much waits on Congressional appropriations which, so far, haven't been made, and on War Department plans that are waiting now on Congressional action.*

Major Louis D. Farnsworth, C. A., U. S. A., has recently been assigned to duty at Ft. Stevens, Ore., after completing a tour of duty at Ft. Sherman, Panama Canal Zone. Major Farnsworth is well known to the Oregon National Guard, having served as instructor for the 249th C. A. from 1931 to 1936.

## MORE CONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR CLATSOP

A project calling for expenditure of approximately \$206,000 in construction of a new warehouse, a commissary building, two regimental warehouses, a motor repair garage, 250 additional tent floors and frames and completion of a landing field has been submitted to the WPA for Camp Clatsop.

The new warehouse will be located across the road from the present inadequate building now used by the Quartermaster. A new Quartermaster commissary building is also to be located nearby and will be of concrete construction. Regimental warehouses will be of concrete.

The motor repair garage will fill a long-felt need. To be constructed of concrete and with dimensions of 80 by 36 feet it will provide facilities for repair and maintenance of the numerous vehicles used by the command.

The 250 new tent floors and frames are considered vitally necessary for any assembly of the entire command because of the recent strength increase.

Sufficient funds are also sought in the project to complete levelling of the parade ground so that it may be used as a landing field, to clear 80 acres of brush, and to build one new kitchen for use by the hospital company.

Activity at present at Camp Clatsop consists principally of construction of one new bath house for officers and improvement of the sewage system and levelling of the parade ground.

## PORTLAND TROOPS TO PARADE IN OBSERVANCE OF ARMY DAY

Portland units of the Oregon National Guard will participate in the annual Army Day parade of the Oregon metropolis Saturday, April 6, although the exact time and numerous details concerning the observance have not been announced as yet. The Guard organizations will constitute nearly the entire marching section of the parade since Regular Army troops which ordinarily are detailed from Vancouver Barracks are now in California for field training.

It is contemplated that both Regular Army and National Guard infantry will be fully equipped with the new M-1 (Garand) rifle by 1941. Production of the weapon has been stepped up at the Springfield Arsenal and a large order is also being filled by the Winchester Arms company.

## Oregon Guard Bulletin

Official Publication of the Oregon National Guard  
Published Quarterly by the  
Headquarters Oregon National Guard at  
Salem, Oregon  
Pvt. 1st Cl. Jack M. Routh, Editor

### FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Importance and value of the associations recently formed by the various regiments of the Oregon National Guard and the activities which they have already undertaken better to acquaint the general public with the National Guard, its requirements of its members, its purpose and real place in the scheme of national defense, are more likely to be underestimated than overestimated.

Members of the regimental associations in Portland are holding a banquet in Portland on April 25 and the Guardsmen are bringing as guests their fathers, sons, employers or personal friends who show a sincere interest in the Guard. These guests are guests in every sense of the word since the Guardsmen are defraying all costs of the dinner.

The Portland undertaking is a most commendable project, for now more than ever before there is a vital need for a better understanding of the problems of the National Guard. One of the best ways for such an understanding to be reached is for the parties concerned to dine together and present, in a friendly manner, subjects not yet thoroughly understood.

The need for this better understanding is readily apparent when it is considered that on one hand some well meaning citizens insist that the National Guard should be in a state of readiness to take its place with the professional soldiers of the Regular Army on M-day, and at the same time fail to understand that any state of readiness necessitates sacrifice of time, energy and even income by the individual members of the National Guard.

Too often the public mistakenly thinks that the Guardsman merely has to don a uniform once a week and participate in an hour and a half of drill, for which he gets paid. It is not even realized that this same Guardsman must also participate in 15-day field training, or an even longer period if present War Department plans are adopted.

It is true that a recruit may get by for a short while by drilling regularly for not more than two hours and receive the munificent stipend of \$1. Even he will find it necessary to donate his time to and from the armory, donate extra time to keeping his uniform and equipment in good order, donate more time to firing squad duty and parades and place drill attendance ahead of private business or pleasure.

If this recruit is to become the satisfactory sort of member who makes up the Oregon National Guard, however, he must be willing to sacrifice even more time. He will seek to further his military education by attending non-commissioned officers' schools and taking Army extension courses, for none of which he gets paid other than in the sense of achievement and citizenship well exemplified.

When time for field training comes he must leave his job, and hope that his employer is in that growing group of businessmen who realize the value of the National Guard and give him leave with pay, or pay him the difference between his military pay and civilian pay. Some will be unfortunate, however, and find it necessary to take leave without pay, or forsake any vacation, but it is hoped that those in this group will soon become few in number, or disappear.

If the recruit becomes an officer, or non-com, and each recruit has this opportunity if he can sacrifice even more time and energy and can pass the strict physical and educational tests, there will be more responsibilities. True there will be more pay, but there will be proportionately greater loss of time, energy and income from private occupations.

It is well to give examples of both enlisted man and officer as to sacrifices to be made. Lack of space prevents any great detail but two cases will be presented and these cases are not isolated instances.

As an example of the enlisted man, there may be cited the case of a man who for the past two years has driven his own car nearly 3,000 miles at his own expense just to attend drill of his own organization, some distance from his home. He sacrifices sleep and time from his civilian occupation not only going and coming but also in attending non-commissioned officers' schools and furthering his military education through Army extension courses. When week-end field training was held he sacrificed the little real recreation time he did have in order to attend. He asks no sympathy, doesn't even know that his case is being cited, and finds his only real reward in the fact that he is a good citizen who feels that he should be prepared to defend his country in event of emergency.

For the example of an officer we will take the case of a certain battalion commander. Unknown to this officer, accurate information was obtained from the records of his car mileage to show that he drove 8,732 miles last year to visit the various units of his command and to attend regimental conferences. The hours of time he devoted to his military duty, exclusive of time spent in completing numerous Army

extension courses and in field training, could be conservatively estimated in excess of 500 hours. He paid his own traveling expenses and yet his armory drill pay for a year could not possibly exceed \$500. His reward, too, was found in the sense of achievement and citizenship.

When the public arrives at a better understanding of the National Guard and finds that this largest component of the Army of the United States is a true volunteer force of citizen-soldiers who become soldiers part of the time because they are citizens, there may be expected a spirit of cooperation which will eliminate some real problems and handicaps that now confront the National Guard.

## NEW CHIEF CHOSEN BY WAR SECRETARY

Promotion of Colonel John F. Williams, Missouri National Guard, to chief of the National Guard bureau with rank of major general was recently announced by Secretary of War Harry Woodring. General Williams succeeds Major General Albert H. Blanding, who returns to command of the 31st National Guard Division.

General Williams has had a long and distinguished record as a Guardsman, including Mexican Border and World War service overseas. During the past four years he has been on duty with the Bureau and prior to that was in command of the 128th Field Artillery. In civil life General Williams is an editor and writer and prior to his detail to the War Department was director of publications of the University of Missouri.

Energetic and progressive, General Williams is especially qualified for the position of administrative head of the National Guard in the United States during the present critical period of development and change.

The War Department has announced that, on February 23, 300 unfilled vacancies existed in the March class for flying cadets in the Army Air Corps Primary Flying Schools. Competition for admission to the June class is expected to be much greater since many applicants graduating from college next June have already been recorded. Application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Ninth Corps Area Headquarters, Presidio of San Francisco, California, or to the Chief of Air Corps, Washington, D. C.

All rifle companies of the 82d Infantry Brigade are to receive the modified Browning automatic rifles, M 1918, A-1, with bipod and hinged butt plate, it is indicated in an approved requisition received from Headquarters, Ninth Corps Area. The requisition has been forwarded to the Springfield arsenal and it is expected that the rifles will be received within the next three months. Issue will be on the basis of four of the weapons to each rifle company.

## SIX THOUSAND MILES TO DRILL

A real record of devotion to duty and pride in the organization in which he enlisted six years ago has been established by Sergeant Jim Kirkland of Company M, 162d Infantry.

In the past four years Sergeant Kirkland has hiked 3,168 miles and has driven his own car 2,880 miles in order to attend drill with Company M at Corvallis. During those years he has missed only two drills and his record was made despite snow and sleet, rain and wind.

Sergeant Kirkland enlisted in Company M, April 8, 1934, while a resident of Corvallis. Later he moved and began attendance at the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth. For more than two years while he was there he hiked each week to Corvallis to attend drill. After he graduated and began teaching at Alsea, Oregon, he still went to Corvallis to attend drill, but by this time had acquired his own car.

### Fitzgerald's the Name

It was September, 1918, and the smoke of battle was heavy over the hills and fields of France.

Right in the thick of battle was Leonard Arthur Fitzgerald, who had enlisted in Company L, 162d Infantry, Oregon National Guard in March, 1917, but was now fighting with the 23rd Infantry at Chateau Thierry. Suddenly from the maelstrom of the heavy fighting came the leaden messenger with Fitzgerald's name on it and he fell severely wounded.

Fitzgerald did not die but he had to be carried away to a hospital and a replacement was needed. The replacement appeared and strangely enough his name too was Leonard Arthur Fitzgerald.

From that strange coincidence back in 1918 came one of those snarls in the records that has just been unraveled.

The Leonard Arthur Fitzgerald who enlisted with the Oregon National Guard in 1917 and was severely wounded left the hospital in time to obtain a commission as an officer but when the War was ended and he came back to Oregon he still suffered a disability.

His disability could not be denied and he received compensation from the government but the disability compensation was that of a private. There had been a mix-up where his path crossed with that of the other Fitzgerald and the fact that he had been commissioned later was not a part of the record on which the compensation was authorized.

After years of effort and through the use of fingerprints it was found that his record had been mixed with that of the other Fitzgerald. Not only had the men's names been the same but their serial numbers were identical with the exception of the final digit in the seven-digit serial.

Company L's Leonard Arthur Fitzgerald, now a resident of Salem, has at last received information from the federal government that his record has been corrected and he will be accorded the proper recognition. The recognition comes more than 20 years late but Fitzgerald is happy to receive it as he prepares to leave for an engineering job in Panama.

## NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING PLEASURES

State of training of the National Guard as demonstrated in maneuvers and field exercises during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, has been good and the Guard as a whole has advanced noticeably toward a higher standard, according to the recently published annual report of Major General Albert H. Blanding, who completed his tour of duty as Chief of the National Guard Bureau, January 31.

Some excerpts from General Blending's report follow:

### Training

The present state of training of the National Guard as demonstrated in the maneuvers and field exercises of the past year is in general good. As in the past years there continues to be a considerable variation between different units, but during the year the Guard as a whole has advanced noticeably toward a higher standard.

The Regular Army has continued to cooperate in the training of the Guard component by assigning to it capable and well qualified instructors. It is most important for all such instructors to come from the highest type of officers who possess not only energy and enthusiasm for their work but who are also thoroughly cognizant of the latest developments in their own arms and services.

The general improvement in the planning of training noted in my last report has continued. The application of Army Extension Courses in National Guard training has likewise been gratifying.

The state of training in the National Guard cannot, however, reach the standard desired until all units have received their modern arms and equipment and until regulations for their use have been adequately distributed and the troops have had the opportunity to study and put into practice the applicable combat principles and technique. A particular example of this need, as brought out in maneuvers of the past fiscal year, is the lack of proper equipment, and, therefore, of proper training, for anti-tank defense. No combat unit that lacks a full knowledge of these measures can be considered well trained in a modern sense.

## TWO FIELD GRADE PROMOTIONS MADE IN BRIGADE, DIVISION

Promotion of Major Francis W. Mason to Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry, with assignment as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, 41st Division has been announced by the Commanding General.

At the same time, announcement was made of the promotion of Captain Alvie L. Merrill to Major, Infantry, with assignment to the 82d Brigade as executive officer.

Both officers are World War veterans. Lt. Colonel Mason was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action near St. Georges, France, October 22, 1918, and both officers received the Order of the Purple Heart as the result of being wounded in action.

Lt. Colonel Mason's promotion and assignment to the 41st Division Staff filled the vacancy left by transfer of Lt. Colonel Raymond F. Olson, U. S. P. & D. O., to the State Staff as Quartermaster.

## MANY GUARDSMEN ENLIST IN ARMY

Long a source of Regular Army recruits who have already received a good grounding in military duty, the Oregon National Guard in the first two months of 1940 furnished the Army with recruits at the rate of 30 per month, according to the record of discharges from the various elements of the command.

The total number of men discharged from the Oregon National Guard during January and February for the purpose of entering the Regular Army totalled 61, or more than half as many as were discharged for the same purpose during the entire year of 1939. Other governmental branches also took their toll, 11 Guardsmen being discharged to enlist in the Navy and six to the Marine Corps, 43 to enroll in the C. C. C., two to the United States Naval Reserve and one to the United States Maritime Service.

The record of discharges for similar reasons during 1939 shows the following: 116 to the Regular Army; 54 to the Navy; 15 to the Marine Corps; 120 to the C. C. C.; 15 to accept commissions in the Officers Reserve Corps; one to enter West Point; and three to enlist in the Coast Guard.

Most of the losses of this nature during 1939 came during the second half of the year as the Regular Army, Navy and Marine Corps boosted their strengths.

## CAMP WITHYCOMBE PROJECTS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY

Work of improving Camp Withycombe, Clackamas, is going ahead satisfactorily with the new administration and machine shop buildings virtually complete and smaller projects at the site partially finished.

Some equipment is already placed in the new machine shop and the building will soon be fully occupied. Built of concrete the new structure will afford excellent natural lighting through the 1500 panes of glass which it possesses.

Other construction planned includes a new target house for the range.

A 4,000 foot runway has been partially leveled on the camp site for use as an airfield. When the work of levelling has been completed the runway will probably be seeded to furnish a good sod.

Other work includes completion of a road net over the hills at the camp, the road net having been graded and now ready for gravelling. A reforestation project includes planting of 4,000 firs on the hill at the east end of the target range, and a quarry project provides for cutting of stone out of a hill on the reservation for use in future construction work.

The largest concentration of Regular Army troops that has ever been effected in the United States in time of peace will occur during the 1940 maneuver of the 3rd Army, Lieut. Gen. S. D. Embick, U. S. A., commanding. The troops involve total approximately 70,000 men and are to maneuver in the Sabine River area, Texas-Louisiana, from May 5 to May 25.

## OREGONIAN TROPHY AWARD ANNOUNCED

Award of the Oregonian Trophy, presented annually to the unit having the highest attendance at armory drills, to Company C, Eugene, 162d Infantry, has been directed.

An average attendance of 94.6 per cent was maintained during 1939 by the winning company. Its closest competitor was Company D, 162d Infantry, which received the trophy last year, with a rating of 93.4 per cent. Third place went to Headquarters Battery, 249th C. A., with a rating of 92.6 per cent.

No arrangements have yet been made for the formal presentation of the trophy. This may be postponed until June due to the fact that Captain Charles A. Mahany, commanding Company C, is now attending the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Detachments and battalion headquarters companies and batteries are excluded from consideration for the trophy due to their smaller size. Top ranking in this group went to Headquarters Battery, 1st Bn., 218th F. A., which had a rating of 98.4 per cent.

The top ranking among regiments remained in the grasp of the 249th Coast Artillery, its rating for 1939 being 89.3 per cent. No trophy is awarded for the regimental rating.

## REGIMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES PICKED FOR INDOOR MATCHES

Selection of regimental teams to represent the 162d Infantry and 186th Infantry in the annual national indoor shoot conducted by the Chief, National Guard Bureau and the National Rifle Association has been completed and the regimental team targets forwarded for the national competition.

Representing the 162d Infantry: Sergeants Challis V. Allen, Richard H. Allen, George D. Waterman and Richard R. Smith, and Corporals Arthur W. Caisse and William A. Bentson, all of Company B; and Sergeant Osmund W. Olson, Corporal Harlan P. Anderson and Privates First Class Harold Odman and Kenneth V. Berg, all of Antitank Platoon, Headquarters Company.

186th Infantry team: 1st Sergeant Paul S. Yale, Sergeant Joseph C. Rash, Corporals David M. White and Thomas F. Ready, Private First Class Benjamin L. Johnston and Private Willis N. Rappe, all of Company B; Sergeants Howard M. Peterson and Herbert S. Miller, and Private First Class Ralph R. Badger, all of Company E; and Master Sergeant Kelton R. Peterson, of Service Company.

Targets in the company team match phase had previously been completed and forwarded to the National Guard Bureau for official scoring. Results of the national competition in both company team and regimental team phases will probably be announced in May.

The fourteenth annual banquet of Battery E, 249th Coast Artillery was recently held at Cottage Grove. The banquet, prepared and served in the Cottage Grove armory, was attended by almost the entire battery and a group of invited guests.

## RECORD GROUP ONG OFFICERS ENROLLED AT ARMY SCHOOLS

Sixteen officers and two non-commissioned officers of the Oregon National Guard were enrolled at Army service schools last month for the spring courses. They formed the largest group ever to attend from this state at the same time.

Ten officers went to the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Georgia, for the course beginning February 26 and concluding May 24. Included were Major Oliver S. Olson, Hq. 1st Bn., Capt. Jesse V. Andrews, Co. E, Capt. Leland A. Austin, Co. K, 1st Lt. Weldon H. McBee, Co. A, all from the 186th Infantry; Capt. Lloyd L. Legg, Regtl. Adj., Capt. Osmon R. Hawk, Co. G, Capt. Charles A. Mahany, Co. C, Capt. Lawrence H. Hook, Hq. Co., Capt. Lynn R. Wallis, Co. F, and 1st Lt. Donald R. Rarey, Co. K, all from the 162d Infantry.

Three officers were selected to attend the Field Artillery School and a like number the Coast Artillery School. Enrolling for the course at the Field Artillery School at Ft. Sill, Okla., were 1st Lt. Arthur H. Earnshaw, Hq. 2d Bn., 1st Lt. Alfred E. Hintz, Serv. Btry., and 1st Lt. Ralph W. Belmore, Hq. 1st Bn., all of the 218th F. A. Those entering the Coast Artillery School at Ft. Monroe, Va., were 1st Lt. Ernest C. Knapp, Hq. Btry., 1st Lt. William R. Clary, Btry. B, and 1st Lt. Faye H. Stewart, Btry. E, 249th C. A.

The Field Artillery School course began February 10 and closes May 11, and that of the Coast Artillery School began February 7 and closes April 30.

Enrolled at the Infantry School for the non-commissioned officers' course, February 26-May 31, was Sgt. Charles R. Allwander, Hq. Co., 82d Brig., and at the Field Artillery School for the course, February 10-June 8, Sgt. Roland H. Jensen, Hq. Btry., 2d Bn., 218th F. A.

## PROPOSED COAST ARTILLERY TABLES WILL BRING CHANGES

Important changes in the organization of the 249th Coast Artillery are expected if proposed new Tables of Organization now under consideration by the War Department are adopted, reports received here indicate.

Extent of the changes incorporated in the new tables has not been officially revealed, but whatever changes are made it is virtually certain that the 249th Coast Artillery will become a fully organized regiment under peace strength.

Athletic activities at the Multnomah County Armory in Portland are keeping all gymnasium facilities in full use. Basketball and indoor baseball league titles will soon be settled by play-off games now getting underway. The Oregon National Guard fencing team continues to win nearly every engagement, its only real setbacks recently being administered by University of Washington and Oregon State College. Weightlifters are increasing in number and a schedule of weight-lifting competitions is already underway.

## CHANGES SOUGHT IN DEFENSE ACT

Provision for leaves of absence for all federal government employes without loss of pay, time, or efficiency rating, while engaged in military duty, an authorization for holding two drill sessions within the same day, and other provisions for solution of National Guard problems presented recently, are included in National Defense Act amendments now being considered by Congress.

An amendment of Section 90 of the National Defense Act will make it possible for the United States Property and Disbursing Officers to utilize the services of either officers or enlisted men as caretakers and give state authorities power to employ clerks, either male or female, as may be determined by them, in the U. S. P. and D. O. department.

An amendment of Section 109 of the National Defense Act removes the restriction which formerly made it impossible for junior staff officers to be paid for more than four drills per month. Since this restriction was in effect when drills were doubled recently an unfair discrimination against the junior staff officers existed.

Section 127a of the National Defense Act is to be amended so that all wartime or emergency enlistments will be made in the Army of the United States and not in a particular component. This is designed to make enlistment papers in wartime of one kind for all components.

The National Guard Association of the United States intends to exert every effort to secure these changes in the law.

## REGIMENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP MUSKETRY TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Five-man teams of Company K, 162d Infantry, and Company L, 186th Infantry, have been adjudged champions of their respective regiments in the William Randolph Hearst musketry competition and will carry the hopes of Oregon for high ranking in the national competition.

Company K is not new to such honor, having won the regimental championship last year as well. The team representing this company in the 1940 competition includes: Corporal Ivan W. Walker; Privates First Class Albert M. Griffin and Jean M. Vohgien; and Privates Joseph A. Bell and Joseph A. Briskey.

Company L is new to the regimental championship circle but completed an excellent target in the competition. The Company L team includes Corporal Ralph C. Cox; Private First Class Kenneth E. Weaver; and Privates LeRoy A. Glaser, Fred W. Glaser and Benjamin H. Webber.

Both teams are hopeful of placing high in the national competition, results of which will not be announced for some time.

## ANNUAL ARMORY INSPECTIONS WILL BE COMPLETED SOON

Annual armory inspection of the various units of the Oregon National Guard has been completed with the exception of five units and these will be inspected within the next five days.