

Cactus News

1ST BATTALION "TAKE ARMS" 55th INFANTRY

MARCH 11, 1964

OPERATION "BOOT RIPPER"

During this battalions training at Pohakulea, it conducted a battalion FTX designated "Operation Boot Ripper!"

The battalion initially advanced along "Bobcat Trail", a trail traversed in personnel carriers and named by the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mech) last year. The trail is currently being improved by the 65th Engineer Battalion for use by wheeled vehicles. Needless to say, this battalion negotiated the trail on weary shanks. The battalion left the trail and moved cross country to attack its first objective (a Puu) and continued the attack through three subsequent Puus, ending up on "Bronco Trail", named after the 3rd Brigade.

Everything (water, rations, ammunition and communications equipment) was "man packed" throughout the FTX. The consensus was that the terrain was ideal for preparing for fighting on the moon. A remark was heard among the men when they reached "Bronco Trail" and knew that transportation was only three or four miles away (as the crow flies) "I never knew men could come through country like that and still conduct a tactical problem; If a guy can do that he can do anything." (And he probably will--next year, same place,



PROVING THAT "OPERATION BOOT RIPPER" WAS A FITTING NAME, PVT JOSEPH JAMISON OF BRAVO COMPANY DISPLAYS HIS BOOTS.

Cacti — New Officers

The "Cacti" has welcomed four new officers straight from Fort Benning into its ranks.

The new officers are: 2d Lts James Speed, Arnold Cheal, Clovis LaFond and William Kelley.

"Soldier of the Month"

This month the "Soldier of the month" is a career minded specialist from "Charlie" Company, Sp-4 Jose R. Cruz.

Sp-4 Cruz states that he has decided to make a career out of the Army and is looking forward to his next duty assignment when he rotates in Sept.

Bravo Barks

Bravo Company extends a hearty greeting to two new officers that have recently arrived from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. They're Lt's Clovis O. LaFond and Arnold E. Cheal.

Our promotion list is long in the line of PFC's. The following men did become PFC's during the month of February: Coleman, Conage, Crocker, Hood, Hyatt, Richardson, Spencer and White.

SUPPORT YOUR CACTI ASSN IT BENIFITS YOU!

. ANERY Alpha

A welcome is extended to Lt William Kelley, new officer straight from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Sgt Robert C. Williams joined the ranks of the NCO's by making Sgt (E-4) while four new Sp-4's are Joe E. Dixon, Gerald Clark, Carl Schmelter and Willi Moelzer. A good month for promotions.

Our company had the distinction of being chosen as the Company of the Month, based on our overall appearance while at PTA.

A welcome is extended to all the new men, while Aloha is bid to Wadahara Perkinson, Jacobs and Schmelter.

One of the advantages of television over a good book is that two can curl up with it.

The main difference in the game of love over the past few years is that they've changed trumps from clubs to diamonds.

The husband arrived home one evening to find his wife highly distraught. "Oh, I've had a terrible day," she complained. "The baby cut his first tooth, then he took his first step and then fell down and knocked out the tooth."

"What happened next?" the husband asked.

"He said his first word"

Cacti NEWS ★ STAFF ★

The Cacti News is an authorized monthly troop information publication of the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, APO 25. Views and opinions are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. This newspaper receives Armed Forces Press Service, Army News Service and Army News Features Materials. Basis for distribution is one copy for every 3 men in the battalion. Copy deadline is four days prior to the date of publication, which is the 1st day of every month.

LT COL RAYMOND F. RUYFFELAERE.....COMMANDING
Maj J. R. MeyerInfo Officer
Sgt/Maj John Rickert.....Troop Info NCO
SP-4 Paul R. Coon.....Editor/Printer

CO's Notes



There are many theories on the practicality and methods used in savings plans. However, basically it boils down to whether you should have a savings plan or not. The decision is yours and usually is associated with your present philosophy.

It is important that you note I said "present" philosophy. This is significant especially for you younger individuals. Too often the outlook is, "I'll spend what I have, while I can enjoy it." Did you ever stop to think what this world would be like if everyone thought that way? It would be a world without hope for the future, there would be nothing considered to be worthwhile to plan and prepare for.

In actuality, life is different. The future is something to plan for, and economic factors must loom large in your considerations.

As for you unmarried men it is logical that your vast majority will become heads of families sometime in the future. As such, you will assume responsibility for your family's mental and physical welfare. You will desire to head your family with pride and will want to be independent of want or the pressure of indebtedness. Therefore, your present philosophy should afford you flexibility for the future, that is, if you have a savings plan now, you have the flexibility to spend later as you desire or find necessary.

There are many combinations possible in savings plans. These may include soldiers deposits, savings accounts, bonds, insurance, annuities, etc. Some of these are more reliable and less susceptible to failure than

others. The most dependable are the Soldiers Deposits and U.S. Savings Bonds. Of the two methods, only the savings bonds can be purchased by establishing an allotment, which furnishes an assist for those who need an extra push towards thrift.

Thrift, once it becomes a habit, is painless and effortless and the derived benefits are yours. Begin your savings plans now.

SCUTTLEBUTT



// I TOLD YOU SHE WAS A
TALL BLONDE, ERNIE! //

OPERATION "Boot"



(LEFT) LT COL R.F. RUYFFELAERE
SP-4 EARL BEATY AND PVT ANDREW
SCHULENBERGER TOIL UP ONE OF
THE MANY "PUUS".

IT'S CHOWTIME FOR PFC JOE E. DIXON OF "A"
COMPANY (BELOW)



ADJUSTING MORTAR FIRE IS A TRICK
BUSINESS IN A LIVE FIRE PROBLEM.
SGT CYRIL J. DUSHANE AND PFC JOHN
J. WAGNER TREAT IT SERIOUSLY. (TOP

Ripper" GOOD NAME



(LEFT) PFC EVERETT JONES TAKES ADVANTAGE OF A BREAK IN THE MARCH TO
DRAIN HIS CANTEEN. A SHORTAGE OF
WATER WAS NOT UNKNOWN IN THE LAVA
COUNTRY.

(BELOW) SP-4 ROBERT G. SCHINCK PATIENTLY
AWAITS THE RETURN OF CAPT REID WHILE MAK-
ING THE MOST OF THINGS BY TAKING A BREAK.



(TOP) SP-4 ALBERT MEADOWS, WORKING AS
A FORWARD OBSERVER, KEEPS A SHARP EYE
ON THE TERRAIN.

Bandaid Bits

The newspapers have been filled with articles about the hazardous effects of cigarette smoke. There is no doubt that cigarette tobacco is a cause of lung cancer, but even more important is that cigarette smoke will kill more people from heart attacks this year than lung cancer. Once the habit is acquired, it is painstakingly difficult to stop. The keyword is will power and how to obtain this will power is a question that cannot be answered in a few words.

Those individuals that have stopped smoking are looking ahead into the future. They realize that several years hence, their families will need them and that the pleasure of living then will far outweigh the satisfaction of smoking now. Such individuals are to be commended for their foresight and willpower and their willingness to

sacrifice pleasure for the benefit of others

There are many who stopped smoking immediately after the report from the Surgeon General's Office was released, but have since picked up the habit once again. However, there are others who have managed to stick to their decision and have agreed to have their names published to serve as an inspiration to others who are struggling with this problem. It is hoped that each month new names will be added to the list, and it is intended that the list will appear in each succeeding issue of the "Cacti News" under the heading of "Willpower Honor Roll."

The following individuals have stopped smoking cigarettes:

Maj James Kirkpatrick

Capt Alton Reid

Lt Samuel Breshin

CACTI
"Sweetheart"



Cacti Assn.
Benefits Offered
for You —

For the month of February, Miss Geraldine Julian has been selected as the "Cacti Sweetheart". Pvt John Glass, of HHC and the Battalion Mail Clerk, is the lucky fellow involved with this pretty lass.

Miss Julian, who presently resides in Detroit, Michigan is a secretary for the Blue Cross Hospital. She graduated from St. Elizebeth High School in 1959, and it was here at school that John and Geraldine became sweethearts & which might become a marriage someday.



If you are a member of the "Cacti Assn" then you already know that it is this Assn that pays for the trophies that hang in your trophy room. It pays the \$10.00 to the Soldier of the month. These are only a few of the many worthwhile beneficial acts the Assn carries through.

Do your share to support your battalion. It costs so little to join being only \$2.00 a year.

If after you have left the Cacti, and you want to find out where your buddy you served with is at, who do you contact? The Cacti Assn. These are only a few of the many benefits. See your company representative.

YOUR AMERICAN

BY CLARK KINNAIRD

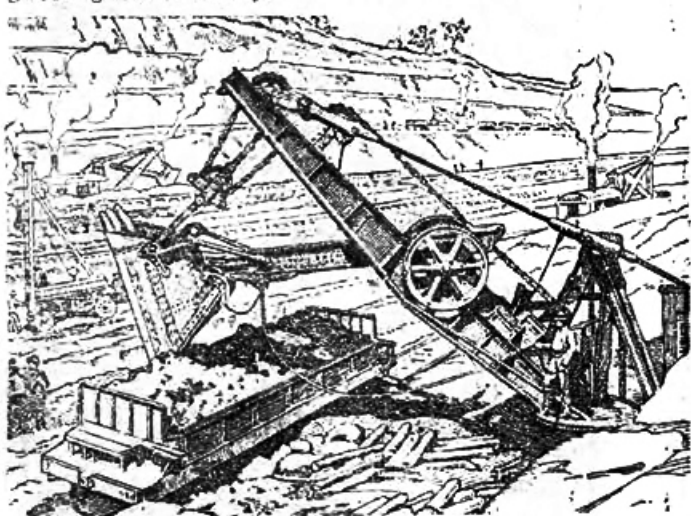
(AFPS American Heritage Feature)

THE 50-MILE RIBBON of channel that changed the whole geography of North and South America commercially and militarily, is now in its forty-ninth year of service. The Panama Canal's age is figured from its formal opening, Aug 15, 1914, when the first passenger and cargo ships passed through.

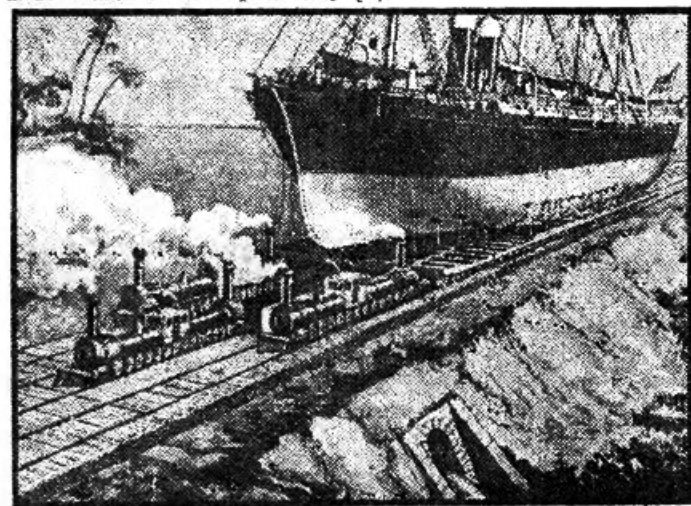
The history of the project goes back more than 400 years. A transisthmian canal was proposed as early as 1527, and a globe made at Nuremberg in the same decade has a canal at Panama!

A French company finally got actual digging started in 1882, but financial difficulties and yellow fever caused it to bog down in 1889, and there was no further concrete activity until President Theodore Roosevelt took up isthmian canal building with his characteristic vigor. He effected the independence of Panama from Colombia and secured a right-of-way for the canal in 1904.

Its completion in 10 years was termed then the greatest engineering feat in history.



[7] Steam shovel excavating Culebra Cut, which carries canal through Continental Divide. Of varied plans for linking Atlantic and Pacific through Central America, most fantastic was James Eads' design for a ship railway [4].



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"So far as the Army is concerned, we take the view that our great strength lies not in strategy, tactics, organization or in new equipment; the basic strength of the Army lies in its men. It is the combat soldier who is truly the key to landpower."

General Earle G. Wheeler
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army



CONNECT:



YOU NEED THE
RIGHT KIND
OF PULL

... TO KEEP
ELECTRONIC
AND ELECT-
RICAL EQUIP-
MENT IN A
READY CON-
DITION.

WHEN DISCONNECTING CON-
NECTORS, PULLING BY THE
CORD CAN REALLY FOUL
THINGS UP.
A RUINED PLUG, CORD OR
CABLE IS EXPENSIVE...
BE COST CONSCIOUS
BEFORE BEING READY
CONSCIOUS.



TO SHOOT, SCOOT
AND COMMUNICATE...
PULL BY
THE PLUG-
NOT BY
THE CORD

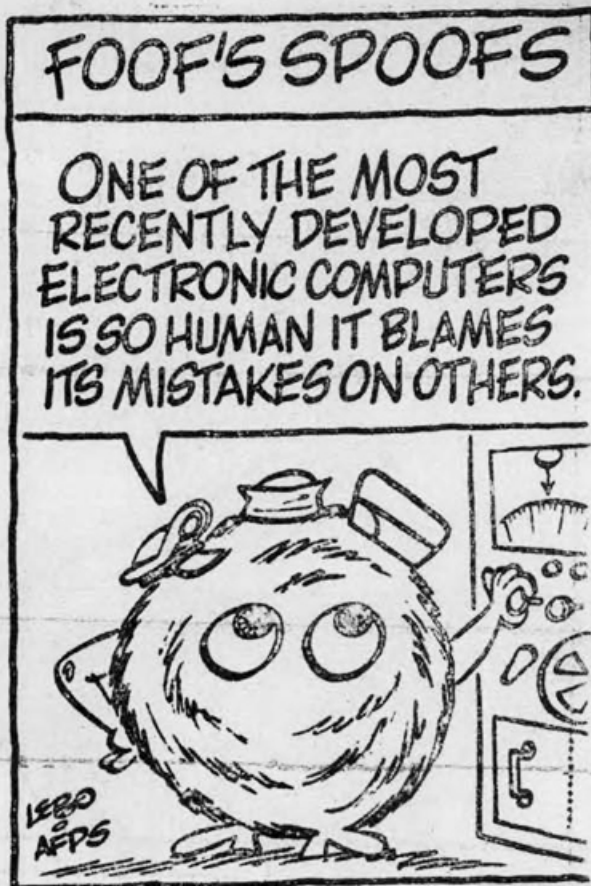
SPORTS QUIZ

(AFPS Weekly Feature)

1. What events are included in the modern pentathlon?
2. Only two teams defeated national collegiate basketball champion Loyola of Chicago last season. Who were they?
3. Who was the last fighter to hold welter- and middleweight titles during his career?
4. One American League pitcher led his league in earned-run-average for nine different seasons. Who was he?
5. When was the last time that the National Football League's Eastern Title was not won by New York, Philadelphia or Cleveland?
6. What National Football League team has the best won-lost percentage in league playoff games?

(Answers to Quiz)

6. Baltimore, 2-0.
5. Washington, 1945.
4. Lefty Grove.
3. Carmen Basilio.
2. Bowling Green and Wichita.
1. pistol shooting, speed skating and



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CACTI ASSN.

