



Above—Colonel Thomas P. Hawthorne, commanding officer at Camp Christiansen, the California State Guard cantonment located on the Jackson Road near Sacramento.



Below—In the warehouse at Camp Christiansen, Sergeant Albert Fleener, rear, and Sergeant Jack Staples unpack a box of medical supplies.

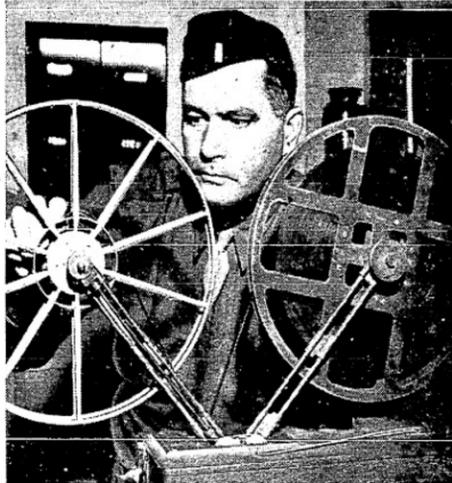
# Guarding The Home Front



Above—Captain Edgar J. Hurley inspects a Tommy gun which Corporal Leonard M. Butler carries on sentry duty.

Left—Charles Anstead, left, now corporal, and Sergeant Hollis McGlumphy, an ex marine in World War I, demonstrate a shotgun and a submachine gun which are armament for the state guard.

Right—Lieutenant Robert R. Read, chaplain, adjusts the film on the camp movie projector.



## California Troops Have Job Of Protecting State's Utilities And Preventing Sabotage In War Effort

By HARRY P. BAGLEY

THE California State Guard needs more men.

While thousands of nephews of Uncle Sam are waxing war overseas against the axis, a less spectacular battle protects the home front.

The anti sabotage troops of California, the shotgun soldiers comprising the state's militia, needs new recruits in the fight against fifth columnists.

Assigned to the task of guarding utilities and installations which are vital to the war effort, the state guard is spreading its limited facilities as far as possible, and, from all accounts, is doing a first class job.

Youths not yet old enough for regular army service, men in their 20's and 30's with minor physical defects, or dependents which exclude them from the draft, and men too old for any selective service bracket—some of them are veterans of World War I—comprise the personnel.

The pay in the guard is good, the quarters are comfortable, the mess is comparable with that of the regular army; in fact, the ration allowance for the guardsmen is slightly higher. The duties, while exacting, are not too onerous.

SEVERAL thousand California patriots wear the blue and gold insignia of the guardsmen. Approximately 85 per cent of the officers and 60 per cent of the non commissioned officers are veterans of World War I.

Many of the privates have had ROTC, national guard or army training before the expiration of the first World War veterans in the ranks.

Twelve skeleton regiments now are on active duty and the guardsmen are scattered in small detachments all over the state.

The size of the state guard was rigidly fixed by the last legislature but Brigadier General Junius Pierce, state adjutant general, has hope this situation will be corrected.

"We can justifiably hope," he recently said, "that the legislature convening in January will have a keener appreciation of the state guard's functions and needs than the last legislature."

In addition to playing an important role in protecting vital installations—and guardsmen on several occasions have discouraged would be saboteurs with blasts of buckshot—the state guard is virtually a training cadre for other branches of the armed services.

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas P. Hawthorne, commanding officer at Camp Christiansen, near Sacramento, where several guard

regiments are stationed, says scores of former guardsmen, including officers and enlisted men, are serving in army or navy outfits from coast to coast.

"Each day," he said, "we get letters from former guardsmen who are forging ahead in their new outfits as a result of their training and experience as guardsmen. Two weeks since I enlisted and I am already a corporal. In just six weeks I've received sergeant's stripes, are typical comments.

Colonel Jack Hastie, Jr., commander of the California State Guard, also has expressed an opinion that youths from 17 years of age and up can find valuable training in the guard to make them more fit when they are called for service in the army.

Camp Christiansen, in the almost forgotten days of the SRA, was a transient camp conducted by the state when work was scarce and manpower abundant.

It became a military establishment when the California State Guard was organized. Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, its name was changed from Camp Natoms to its present designation in honor of Lieutenant Hans Christiansen of Woodland, an army pilot who was graduated from the Sacramento Junior College.

Lieutenant Christiansen met a hero's death at Bellows Field, Oahu, in that initial surprise attack and was one of the first youths from this area to fall in World War II.

Colonel Hawthorne, the commanding officer, is a veteran of the British army in World War I, and has been an officer in the California National Guard for fourteen years.

He also is commanding officer of the 6th Military Area, California State Guard, which extends from the southern boundary of San Joaquin County to the Oregon state line and from the western side of the Sacramento Valley to the Nevada state line.

The camp, originally built to accommodate a labor pool of several hundred men, is now headquarters for guardsmen operating within a fifty mile radius from Sacramento.

These troops are armed with twelve gauge shotguns and Thompson submachine guns. At the rear of the camp is a rifle range where the Tommy guns stutler and shotguns roar while guardsmen perfect their aim. Those twelve gauge guns, with nine big slugs in each shell, rip targets to bits impressively.

The state guard maintains a motor pool at Camp Christiansen, and troops are transported from their base camp to their various assignments.

The men are dispatched in three eight hour shifts and are

brought back to camp by truck at the end of each watch.

MORALE is high among the guardsmen. Ample facilities for off duty recreation are available in camp. There are picture shows, horseshoe courts, a day room equipped with table tennis and pocket billiards and a well stocked canteen.

The mess hall, a heritage of the SRA, is commodious, and the kitchen, with stainless steel tables, huge steam cauldrons, ice and electric refrigeration, gas and electric stoves, together with other modern improvements, is better than the average army kitchen.

A central heating plant furnishes the barracks with hot water.

Most of the barracks are heated with oil stoves. The camp has a first class laundry, and blankets, sheets, pillow cases and similar equipment are sent to Camp Christiansen from guard units in all parts of the state.

A huge warehouse is stocked with guard equipment, together with a vast collection of blankets, shoes, shirts and underwear which originally was stocked for the SRA.

A painting and renovation program now is under way to make the camp more comfortable.

EXPERIENCE rubs shoulders with callow youth among the guardsmen. For instance, there is Lieutenant E. C. Armand, a major in the army medical corps in 1917.

Lieutenant Armand served as a captain in the medical detachment of a French artillery outfit for four years during World War I and then was a major in the American Army in the present war. He was five times decorated by foreign governments.

At present he dispenses drugs and medicines at the state guard warehouse.

Before the armistice was signed, he directed the distribution of Red Cross supplies in the Balkans and waged dauntless battle against dread epidemics of typhus.

His decorations include the White Eagle of Serbia, a distinction shared by only three other Americans; the Serbian Cross of Valor, awarded in recognition of his fight against typhus; the Cross of Czechoslovakia, the Cross of St. Sava and the French Croix de Guerre.

Lieutenant Armand, whose lack of combat experience deprives him, under existing laws, of a major's commission until he has served a year in the state guard, has attempted to enter the regular army in the present war, but his years have proved to be an obstacle.

The chaplain at Camp Christiansen is a Legionnaire. He was a yeoman, second class, in the navy in the days when Over There was a popular ditty.

Corporal Edward Wilson, retired from the regular army after sixteen years in the service, was with the 2nd Division at Chateau Thierry, where he

stopped a chunk of shrapnel with the back of his head. He also picked up a shell fragment in his leg. His military record includes action on the Marne, in the Meuse Argonne campaign, and at Chateau Thierry. His background of experience is shared with the youngsters in the outfit.

Private Paul Nelson, in his early twenties, would now be in England, Ireland, or some other foreign land had it not been for his flat feet. As a member of an Iowa National Guard outfit, he participated in the big maneuvers in Louisiana and then was discharged for physical disability. His feet are improving in the state guard and he expects soon to pass an army examination.

The "top kick" of C Company, Sergeant Sam Bradshaw, is an interesting guardsman and a veteran of the Philippines, the Hawaiian Islands, the Mexican border and the first World War and his endless army stories are avidly absorbed by the youngsters in the outfit.

"The army honored me when I reached the age limit," said Sergeant Sam. "I tried prospecting in Trinity, Nevada and Plumas Counties, but I could not get right outside of a uniform and so I got into the guards."

Another olderster among the guardsmen is Sergeant John G. Hurst, a retired doctor and rancher from Mendocino County. He appears on the records as 63 years of age, but crins knowingly when one asks his real age. He volunteered at Woodland in a California National Guard outfit at the time of the Spanish American War. Two years ago he tried to enlist in the navy. "I could see what was coming," he said, and then, when the guard was formed, he signed up to do his bit.

Camp Christiansen's hospital is quite an institution and serves injured and ailing guardsmen from all parts of the state. It has separate wards for military men, officers and the "guardsmen" who serve in the state adjutant's office. Among the casualties now in the hospital are several guardsmen who have been placed and seen things.

Private James Kroyon, an evacuee from Midway, returned from that little corner of hell in the Pacific with first hand knowledge of the gallant stand which was made by the marines. He joined the guard, after other branches of service had rejected him, and fractured his knee one stormy night while chasing across a bridge he was guarding to halt and imaginary intruder.

Brigadier General Pierce has extended an invitation to all men anxious to do their bit by serving in the state guard.

The pay is \$2.20 a day for first class privates, \$2.40 for corporals, \$2.60 for sergeants, \$2.80 for staff sergeants, \$3 for first sergeants and technical sergeants and \$3.25 for master sergeants.

There also are many openings for former service men who can qualify as commissioned officers.

Application for enlistments can

be made personally, or by letter, at the adjutant general's office in Sacramento, and persons outside of Sacramento will be directed to the state guard contingent most convenient to the writer.

If legislative action next January broadens the scope of guard activity, there will be plenty of opportunity for promotion, according to Brigadier General Pierce.

See Photos



Above—Working in the elaborate kitchen at Camp Christiansen are, left to right, Private C. L. Sims, Private O. Johnson, Corporal A. Peters and Private W. G. Luddy.

Right—Sergeant John G. Hurst, listed as 63 years old on guard records, gives fatherly advice to Robert Casebeer, 18, of Chico who plans to join the navy.



Left—Lieutenant E. C. Armand, who served abroad in the United States army medical corps in 1917 and now is in charge of medical supplies at Camp Christiansen, directed the distribution of Red Cross supplies in the Balkans during and after the First World War. For distinguished service in combating typhus and alleviating distress among the homes of starving refugees, he was awarded the medals by various governments. Lieutenant Armand is one of a handful of Americans who received the White Eagle Cross of Serbia, one of the rarest of military awards. He also was the recipient of the Serbian Medal of Valor, the Cross of St. Sava, the Cross of Czechoslovakia and the French Croix de Guerre.

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