ROOKIES ARRIVE AT ATTERBURY

Camp Completes First Week as Reception Center Under New Set-up.

"You'll be sorry!"

That greeting, similar to every day in the Army, is being heard for the first time, Inc., at Camp Atterbury as the rookies arrive at the camp's new reception center, which opened recently.

All soldiers induced into the Army in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky are now being sent to the Atterbury reception center for the first time. This new center processes approximately 1,000 recruits a month.

The reception center and reception station were moved to Atterbury, 35 miles from Indianapolis, in May. Since then, a work-up, without interruption of induction activities, has been in progress. The reception station, established a year ago for return of overseas personnel, has been in operation on a large scale since the new center opened. More than 1,000 men were received at Atterbury in one month, from May 15 to June 15, traveling to their way homes for visita the next day.

On Way in 54 Hours.

Upon arrival of the veterans at the reception place and were checked in, given a maximum physical examination, and processed with necessary clothing and reissued, Twenty-four hours later they are packed aboard trains for the various camps. Transportation is arranged to take them as near as possible to their homes, with the exception of those who have been a month or more in this station. Men due to return to the country are sent in groups from the theater of war to the station nearest the place of embarkation.

At present, the 15th Infantry unit, which includes the reception center and station, is operating under the command of the commanding general and Headquarters. The reception center was activated at Fort Benjamin Harrison in November, 1943, and at first had a capacity of 1,000 men. Later, it was increased to 5,000. It is processed daily. When the induction rate hit its peak in the late months of 1942, from 1,000 to 1,500 men were being processed every day.

Get 'Combat Chews'.

The new soldiers arriving at the Atterbury reception centers are being given a look at "combat chews" and "combat chow" as they arrive. A cooking center as a combat feeding school has been set up in the reception center area and the boys are getting a feel for the conditions. Combat feeding under all possible conditions is being taught to the 105th Division mess personnel. The soldiers have all their meals in the mess hall in this country.

The course covers all phases of cooking, feeding, and serving meals, work as all rations from A to Z of canned and concentrated foods. The Leavenworth training is under supervision of Capt. R. E. Crossman, master baker at Atterbury's own baking center school. Cooking is done with sadistic and under tactics.

1944_09_09 Reception Center up and running

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