



Fort Bragg, N. C.

36th ENGINEER REGIMENT

Volume 11

No. 11

September 20, 42

## WELCOME NEW BATTALIONS

On September 12, two new battalions arrived in Fort Bragg to augment the swelling personnel of the 36th Engineers. They are the first and second battalions of the 540th Engineers from Camp Edwards, Mass. and follow close on the heels of the battalion which arrived on Sept. 2, from the 532nd Engineers.

This outfit was activated on June 22, 1942 as the 532nd Engineers by a cadre from the 87th Engineers. Later most of the outfit left the 532nd to become the 540th Engineers, leaving substantial cadres behind in the 532nd.

While they were in Camp Edwards, the new battalions were trained in the functions of shore to shore operations. Ted Husing, during a visit to Camp Edwards as part of Camp Shows, christened them the "Surf Raiders" a name which has stuck ever since. They had many of their maneuvers around Cape Cod, the old whaling station, and at Martha's Vineyard, the place where Lief Ericsson is reputed to have staged the first landing maneuvers ever to take place in America.

The new battalions arrived at Fort Bragg and spent their first week here at the Animal Area. On September 16, they moved to the Motorized Area in the barracks formerly occupied by the two battalions of the 36th Engineers.

The first battalion of the 540th is commanded by Major Donald G. Coet, an efficient officer who is very popular with the men of his command. The second battalion is commanded by another very popular and efficient officer, Major Harold Hamilton.

The 36th Engineers wish to extend a hearty welcome to the men of the two new battalions, and to say that they are very glad to be working with such a fine body of men.

As you of the new battalions are going to work and train with the men of the 36th Engineers, it is fitting that you should know something of the history and work that the 36th Engineers have done since their activation.

The 36th Engineer Regiment was activated on June 1, 1941, at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y. and spent the first few months of their training there. On Aug. 11, they went to Fort Devens, Mass. where they took part in the VI Army Corps maneuvers. They returned to Plattsburg on Sept. 12, and left for the I Army maneuvers in North Carolina on Sept. 12.

While on these maneuvers, the 36th made a reputation as one of the finest, hardest hitting Engineer outfits in the Army. After their return to Plattsburg on Dec. 7, they began a period of intensive training. In January, the 36th went on its first amphibious maneuver along the Atlantic coast. On March 13, 1942, the 36th arrived in Fort Bragg, where they have been ever since. Here they have participated in extensive amphibious maneuvers, working with the 9th Division.

The 36th Engineers now rates as one of the crack Engineer outfits in the Army, despite the fact that it is less than a year and a half old. During that time, the 36th has built up an enviable reputation that is synonymous with their motto, "Rugged."

The 36th Engineers have the distinction of being the first regiment of Combat Engineers engaged in amphibious work and are, without doubt, the best trained Engineer Regiment in amphibian work in the Army. In this work, they have added more laurels to their already impressive record, and the future history of our Armed Forces will contain much about the work of the "Rugged" 36th. This then, is the outfit that you will train and work with, and we know that you of the new battalions will help us in making our reputation and our traditions even greater and more enviable.

.....  
BUY WAR BONDS  
.....

