

ECHOLON

R. E. M. DES ISLETS
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers
Area Engineer

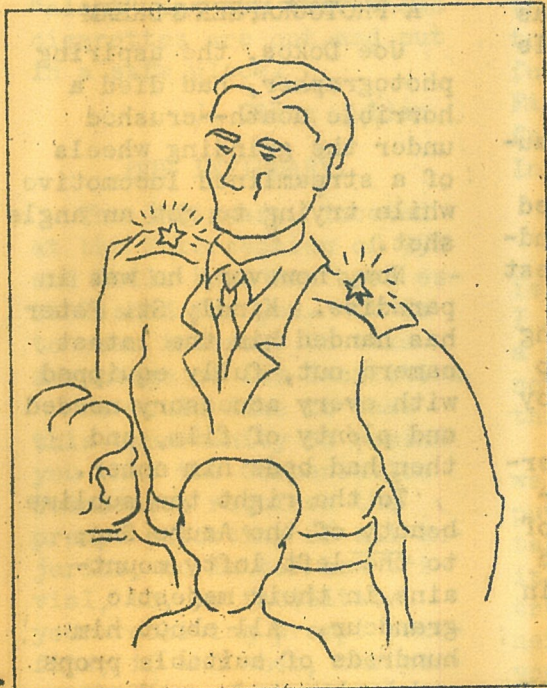
Vol. 1 No. 1

Editor - Kenneth C. Legge
WITH THESE LEAVES --

March 19, 1942

From the group of people gathered in the auditing room, our own Lt. Harlee O'Neal stepped forth, and faced the tall man in uniform who stood at the door:

"As Mark Anthony said when he went into the fair Cleo's tent at 2:00 A. M., 'I didn't come here to talk.' Well, I didn't come here to talk either, but we just want to present you with your first silver leaves in honor of your appointment to Lt. Col."



Major Des Islets, now Lt. Col., R. E. M. Des Islets, with a touch of emotion in his voice, replied, "This is very much of a surprise and I am very delighted about it. It is more touching than you would imagine, because I have been here such a short time with you people. You probably don't realize it, but if your first leaves are given to you, you will have good luck all the time. It is very touching, and I appreciate it a lot. But I had better tell you -- Thank you very much! and get out of here before I make a fool of myself."

Though, as Colonel Des Islets said, he has been with us such a short time, we all know that some day we can say, "I knew and worked with a great man," just as the Colonel says the same of General Douglas MacArthur.

Out of a full and adventurous life, we will have time to tell you of only a few of the things he has accomplished, and how he, at 39, is a Lieutenant Colonel.

The first step in army life came when the Colonel joined the Pennsylvania National Guard. After his experience there, he won an appointment to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point by taking a competitive examination. Though a stranger when entering, upon graduation from this grand old army school in 1926, Des Islets was second ranking cadet. The year 1929 saw the Colonel receive his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Cornell, and in 1932 he graduated from U. S. Army Engineering School. Des Islets also was the youngest man ever to graduate from the Command and General Staff School in 1938.

Our Colonel is a veteran of college football, and has two

years pro football behind him; was on the Olympic teams in 1924 and 1928. And -- let the Japs beware -- the Colonel holds expert medals in all weapons.

The last four years Colonel Des Islets has been in charge of Bonneville, and he personally put all the generators that are working at present at Bonneville on the line. He is the only one who has started these generators working, and he will soon have finished a total of ten.

The foreign service has also seen Colonel Des Islets, in Hawaii, Mexico, and Panama.

After this brief resume of the Colonel's life in the service of his country, let us all say that if the silver leaves do not wish and bring you luck "all of the time," we do, from the bottoms of our hearts, and it is men like you who answer this question: "Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave -- O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

From the dark came the voice of the sentry, "Halt! Who's there?" "An American," was the reply. "Is that so? Well, advance and recite the second verse of 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'" "I don't know it." "Proceed, American."

-- Journal of Education

ENTHUSIASM

Did you ever consider what may be accomplished by enthusiasm? Consider two persons assigned a similar task; one enthusiastic and the other not. The first will enter into the thing with zest, accomplish more and do it better, and will end with a feeling of pride and satisfaction.

In view of the foregoing remarks, think of the opportunity every one of us has right here and now on this cantonment project! I think it is safe to say that we have the most beautiful cantonment site in the United States, located amid the grandest surroundings and amongst the finest people in the land.

Think of the undulating terrain on which the camp is to be built, the nearby hills and buttes and the background of forest covered mountains; the beautiful river within a mile of the site and the majestic snow-clad peaks visible in the distance! Could you beat it? I think not.

So much for the setting. Now, think of the purpose of the project--To train our men to defend our country and the form of Government which the people of our country have developed since the landing of the Pilgrims. Imagine our enemies landing on our shores and taking this beautiful country from us. Are we going to permit it? No! We are going to drive our enemies back where they belong, and the construction of this cantonment is going to play a very important part in this accomplishment.

Each and every one of us is going to play a necessary part in the construction program. Each one is going to put all he has into the effort to the end that the camp may be built well and quickly. And when it is finished, I am sure we will

all be proud of the results..

Can we help being enthusiastic about it? We can not! Let's go!!!

Frederick S. Allyn

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Lt. Col. Des Islets and Mr. Stanton are especially to be commended for making our new First Aid section possible.

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A PHOTOGRAPHER'S DREAM

Joe Dokes, the aspiring photographer, had died a horrible death--crushed under the grinding wheels of a streamlined locomotive while trying to get an angle shot.

Now, however, he was in paradise. Kindly St. Peter has handed him the latest camera out, fully equipped with every accessory needed and plenty of film, and then had bade him enter.

To the right the sublime beauty of the Azure Sea; to the left lofty mountains in their majestic grandeur. All about him hundreds of suitable props and backgrounds, and a bevy of beautiful models ready to assume a pose at a minute's notice.

"Hey, Joe! Wake up! You've left that film cook three minutes' over time--Where in the H--- is that formula for Farmers' Reducer?"

George Phillips

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To our readers, we want you to know that Clare Hamlin is responsible for our cartoons and the drawing of the name heading of our paper. He has done a grand job, don't you think?

Thanks a million, Hazel Scott (now with the District Engineer's Office - Portland) for the name "Echelon". This isn't a career, is it Hazel?

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SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL

So construction is under way. We are all glad to get going, and to see our new "City" begin to take shape. The mud is going to get worse; but anyone who thinks we are in a quagmire should try some middle-western red clay. We will plough through and reach our objective: Completion on Time.

If we are to succeed, we must remember that effective teamwork is essential, and that there can be no "Let George do it" attitude. We are going ahead, and so - let's all put our shoulders to the wheel.

Capt. Otto H. Meyer

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SENSE AND NONSENSE

We note there is going to be a cut-down on shoe leather -- but we're co-operating out here, by saving on silk stockings. Haven't you noticed the ankle-ots?

Speaking of cooking--we'd like to give our heartiest thanks to Mrs. Cochran and her splendid staff -- for our food, which is the tastiest ever.

Sawdust is good for cleaning fur, they say--there wouldn't be any similarity between this and the daily sawdust baths we are getting -- would there?

Used to thick sandwiches of the lunch-box variety, Cathie was puzzled when she first encountered thin tea sandwiches. Holding one very carefully, she asked wonderingly, "Mother, did you cut the bread?" "Yes, Cathie, I did." "Well," said Cathie dubiously, "you almost missed it."

FIRE

SAFETY

We are moving into a new home. Which one of us does not feel a thrill of pride in being the first one to move into a new home? The Contractors have done a swell job on this building and have delivered it to us in first class condition. Let's each one do his or her part to keep it that way.

As this building is constructed entirely of wood and other inflammable material, it would be very easy for our ever lurking enemy.. "Fire" to deal us a death blow by destroying our new home. It is very easy for us to go "All Out" in defense of our new home by being careful with fire. Those of us who do "inhale", should be careful where the remains of an enjoyable smoke are "laid out to rest."

We have placed sand filled receptacles in various parts of the buildings to receive these remains. If each one of us will just stop and realize, one cigarette thrown carelessly down may result in the loss of our new home.

Let's all be 100% on the "alert" and see that these cigarettes are out and put in a safe place.

J. Glenn Julian

OUR INFIRMARY.

The Infirmary, located at the intersection of 99W and Wells Road has been established for you. It is to your interest to take advantage of its facilities.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the Compensation Commission requires the prompt reporting of all injuries, no matter how trivial, so, to facilitate your receiving prompt benefits, if and when, the accessibility of the Infirmary should make this report-

ing an easy matter.

Less serious, the Pills that do the work of Calomel, and Lydia E. P. won't live here. We will have the facilities to help you with minor complaints. Aspirin, especially, will be plentiful after March 15th, and the 1st Quarter is history: (We will need the full supply.) So, for First Aid and headaches, feel free to utilize the Infirmary.

EDITORIAL

Since this is the first issue of our little paper I hope you folks who get a copy of it will read it—not just look at it and throw it in the fire.

You know how it is; if we take the trouble to put it out, maybe you can take the trouble to read it. Well, this is yours truly signing off 'til next time. Hope to see you soon again.

George H. Michele

