



HISTORY COMPANY 317

S-96-Pa.
Hills Grove, Pa.

Army Personnel

—
 Capt. W. D. Griffith
 Commanding
 Lt. Harry E. Balmer
 Exchange Officer
 Lt. Aaron A. Hoch
 Surgeon
 Frank McCulloagh
 WPA Teacher
 Alfonso D'Addio
 WPA Teacher
 John J. Curley, CEA

THE 317TH COMPANY, consisting of one hundred ninety-five Philadelphia boys was organized at Fort Hoyle, Md., located in the Wyoming State Forest District of Sullivan County, Pa., May 6, 1933, to form Camp S-96, which is two miles from Hills Grove, Pa., and thirty miles from the nearest city—Williamsport, Pa.

Lieutenant Griffith, the present Commanding Officer, who selected the camp site, succeeded Lieutenant Dick as Commanding Officer May 14, 1933 and was promoted to a Captaincy, October 12, 1934.

The company cleared enough ground for a camp site and was then ordered to clear sites for the 1327th Company, six miles distant from the camp and for the 383rd Junior Company, S-95 at Laporte.

The company returned to its camp site to build barracks which were completed during the Fall of 1933. The barracks are four two-story buildings arranged in a quadrangle with the latrine and bath house in the center. These are the only two-story barracks in the Third Corps Area. The officers are quartered in a two story building at the east end of the area.

Torrential rains during the first of March sent the entire company hurriedly to the devastated city of Williamsport, March 19, 1936 to remain there until April 4, 1936, quartered in the Roosevelt Junior High School—feeding, guarding and rehabilitating the flood victims. This required one thousand, six hundred twenty-nine (1,629) man days of service.

The outstanding project of the 317th Company is the reclamation of "High Knob", the "Rockies" of Pennsylvania. To construct this Sky Line Drive it

required six thousand seven hundred, twenty-three man days of work.

The religious life of the enrollees is well taken care of by having Mass celebrated Sunday mornings for the Catholic boys, services Sunday afternoon for the Protestant boys, and the non-sectarian services Monday evening. Ninety-five (95%) per cent of the enrollees attend these weekly services.

The educational and recreational program functions under the supervision of the Camp Adviser, who is assisted by two WPA teachers and the Army and Forestry personnel. In conjunction with the educational program is the publication of the Camp Paper—the "Valley Crier" that has been rated by "Happy Days" as a four star edition. The art work in this paper and the recreational hall murals have given Leader McGuigan much fame.

The welfare of the enrollees has been so efficiently cared for that the company, which has only averaged six thousand man days of service per month, has had only 14 accidents per thousand man days of work. No fatalities or serious accidents have occurred.