



HISTORY
COMPANY 5461
S-98-Pa.
Rockwood, Pa.

Army Personnel

Capt. William D. Britt, Jr.
Commanding

1st Lt. Frank P. Smith
Adjutant

1st Lt. Albert A. Baraff
Surgeon and Exchange
Officer

Mr. H. D. Blank
Educational Adviser

The first company to occupy the present camp site of Company 5461 was Company 344, made up of enrollees from the hard coal fields in or about Wilkes Barre and Scranton, Pa. Company 344 was organized in May, 1933 at Fort Meade, Md., and moved directly to the campe site where it remained until May 28, 1936. On that date Company 344 was officially disbanded and replaced by Company 5461 from Fort McClellan, Ala. The present company has received replacements from Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

Work projects of the company have included the building of seven fire towers, building and maintaining over 21 miles of roads, 21 miles of forest trails and the making of over 50,000 hand shingles. Members of the company have also sawed hundreds of thousands of board feet of lumber, built fish retards, realigned mountain streams, walled in springs and water holes and constructed swinging log gates to close mountain roads for the winter.

The company has contributed much to force fire safety in the building of forest fire towers. Enrollees have also engaged in forest fire fighting and lookout work. During the Johnstown flood disaster, March 17, 1936 members of the company were the first on the scene ready for action. Later they were removed to Johnstown, where they remained until ordered back three weeks later. One enrollee, George Bell, met death during the flood in an attempt to save a group of people near his home in Lewiston.

Training individuals in a wide variety of work abilities, giving the enrollees diplomas for completion of various courses, maintaining courses most helpful

to enrollees and increasing their opportunities for self-improvement have been outstanding objectives in the educational program. Vocational guidance is given, contacts are made and opportunities are opened to enrollees.

The camp is situated among the hills amid typical rural surroundings. Local inhabitants often visit the camp. At all camp dances more guests have been present than can be adequately accommodated. Local public schools and service clubs have freely given of their time and services. A strict system of camp cooperation is maintained with all law enforcing groups.

The historical significance as well as the natural beauty of the camp afford the enrollees an unusually fine environment. Waterfalls, creek boundaries on either side of the camp, and beautiful forest roads make the site a most habitable one.

In addition to the pleasant surroundings, opportunities afforded the enrollees are limited only by themselves. Physical and mental opportunities fill the daily life of each enrollee.

