



HISTORY
COMPANY 5444
S-87-Pa.
Cross Fork, Pa.

Army Personnel

Capt. Harry B. Emigh, Jr.
 Commanding
 1st Lt. Rex L. Blanton
 Exchange Officer
 Lt. Joe M. Blumberg
 Surgeon
 1st Lt. Keith N. Waltz
 CEA
 1st Lt. Med.-Res., and Adviser Keith N. Waltz were assigned to function with the incoming company.

IN MAY, 1936, Capt. V. P. Lupinacci, then commanding Company 346, CCC, Cross Fork, Pennsylvania, was advised that his company was to be disbanded, and that the camp was to be reoccupied by a company from Fourth Corps Area. Accordingly, the members of Company 346 were sent to three nearby camps, Captain Lupinacci took over command of the camp at Laport, Pa., and Second Lieut. R. A. Jackson was attached to the camp at Hyner, Pa. First Lieut. Joe M. Blumberg, Med.-Res., and Adviser Keith N. Waltz were assigned to function with the incoming company.

Meanwhile, at Fort McClellan, Anniston, Alabama, many CCC enrollees were gathering. On May 11, 1936, Company 5444 was organized with Capt. W. B. Carroll commanding, and Second Lieut. R. L. Blanton as Junior Officer. Captain Carroll was a World War veteran. He had been on active duty with the CCC since its inception in the Fourth Corps Area.

After a period of conditioning and training, Company 5444 left Fort McClellan May 25, 1936, arrived in Galeton, Pa., one of the first Fourth Corps Companies to occupy a Third Corps camp. A picked group of enrollees of the disbanded Company 346 had been left to assist the new company in taking over Camp S-87, but in a short time these enrollees were sent to their designated camps, and Company 5444 was "on its own".

The 145 men coming from Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana, had seen few, if any, mountains, and their astonishment at finding themselves surrounded by the Potter County mountains can well be imagined. One enrollee said that for a long time he was afraid

that one of these great heaps of earth and rock would slide or tumble down on him, and riding the curved and sloping mountain roads gave many a Southern boy a nervous start. However, the beauties of the mountainous country more than compensated the men, and they thoroughly enjoyed capering over the mountains and standing on some advantageous crest, gazing out over the panorama below.

On July 11, 1936, ten men from Georgia joined the company making four southern states represented in the camp. On September 22, 1936, Captain Carroll was recalled to Fourth Corps Area Headquarters and Capt. H. B. Emigh, Jr., was assigned to the camp on September 22, 1936. On September 30, 1936, their enrollment period having come to an end, 59 men left for home.

The camp seemed deserted for a short time. However, on October 23, 1936, 87 men from Florida joined the company and the following day 8 more from the same state arrived. Thus, a total of five southern states, 175 southern men were represented in camp.