



SCRAP HUNTERS BIVOUAC in this miniature army camp of a detachment of the 383rd Engineers from Fort Knox who will tackle the man-size job of blowing down a 200-ton railroad bridge in Irvine, Ky., to go into Kentucky's scrap campaign. The 1,000-foot bridge and trestle are in the background. (Courier-Journal photo by Julian Wilson)

Soldiers to Wreck Span At 'Exercises'

100 Negro Engineers to Prepare Railroad Bridge for Scrap Collection

Irvine, Ky., Oct. 26, 1942 -- "Graduation exercises" for a contingent of about 100 Negro draftees of the 383rd Engineers from Fort Knox will be held here this week, and the program will be one of the strangest ever planned.

The "exercises" will consist of blasting and cutting to bits a 1,000-foot, 200-ton abandoned railroad bridge and trackage as a tactical maneuver. The bridge, which spans the Kentucky River just west of Irvine, was donated to the Kentucky scrap metal drive by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

It is the largest single scrap haul and the biggest job of salvage to be undertaken in the state's newspaper-sponsored scrap campaign which ends officially at midnight Saturday. Estill County's salvage leaders say the bridge will put the county over its quota in the drive.

Negro Soldiers Move In

The detachment of Negro engineers, in command of First Lieut. Lawrence Kramps -- who learned how to build, as well as tear down bridges at Ford Belvoir, Va. -- moved into the soggy river bottoms at the foot of the bridge today and set up a young army camp, complete with mess and medical quarters.

The ground was so boggy that "shooting" the bridge was delayed until Wednesday. The engineers had to lay a corduroy-type roadway

to the site of operations and set up camp. The soldiers brought along some heavy equipment to help do the job, and expected to have the bridge down and on its way to the steel mills by the week-end.

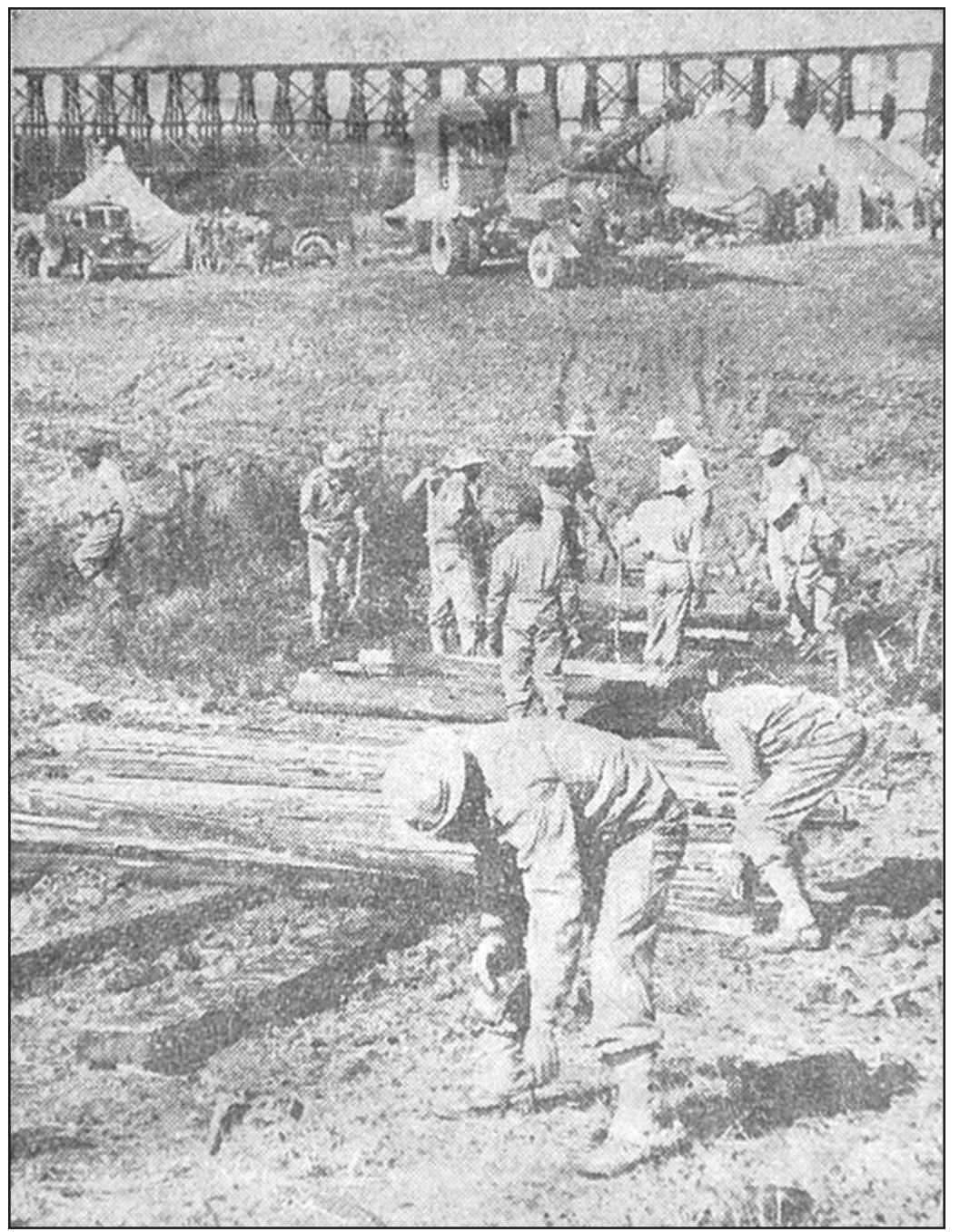
Bridge to Be Cut in Middle

Lieutenant Kramps said that the bridge probably will be cut at the middle and then blasted into the river to facilitate salvage. Part of the approach to the main span was removed several years ago.

The bridge, which was built in 1894, was abandoned about ten years ago. Louisville & Nashville officials have been trying to get the bridge removed for several years. With the aid of Kentucky scrap campaign, officials of the railroad prevailed upon the Army to do the job and the steel was donated to the state's drive.

Lieutenant Kramps said the Negro contingent is finishing its engineering instruction at Fort Knox and that the bridge salvage job would "just about finish off their course." He said that it is being tackled under "ideal" conditions -- "with plenty of problems to solve."

Story courtesy of Tony Covey from a scrap book of newspaper articles from the 1940's that were saved by his mother, Nina Riley who now lives in Richmond. The bridge was located near the old Carhartt Inc. plant where some tiers still remain.



THIS "CORDUROY ROAD" was laid down by Negro draftees, working knee-deep in mud in some places, to let the heavy salvage and wreckage equipment pass over. (Courier-Journal photo by Julian Wilson)

Irvine Council meets at "Eleventh Hour" to approve their budget

The Irvine Council met three times last week to approve a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. Their latest meeting was on Friday at the "eleventh hour."

Councilman Tim Burkhart said he felt good when the council passed the budget, but City Clerk Robin Powell called him the next day and said the almost \$1.23 million budget didn't add up.

Burkhart apologized for making a mistake in the addition of the budget. He had left out two numbers.

With the two omissions, it appeared the city was going to end the year with a balance. When added right, the budget was actually showing a deficit. State law prohibits a local government from having a deficit in their budget.

Burkhart did some tweaking of the budget and presented a revised one to the council which also had a year-end balance.

This time Burkhart put all

numbers and their categories into a spread sheet program which automatically and instantly does the math. He stated he still didn't trust it, so he re-added it but came up with the same numbers as the spread sheet.

The budget passed with Councilman O'brene Richardson hesitating to vote for it.

One item that Burkhart removed in order to balance the budget was \$21,000 to be paid to an administrative CPA. Richardson commented on the city's financial findings made by an auditor in the spring.

The only other action taken by the council on Friday was to designate Billy Williams of IMU to determine appropriate properties for imminent domain to complete the Wisemantown Sewer project.

Irvine has received a grant and the imminent domain action is needed to complete the project.

Irvine Police Activity Report

A Winchester Road female was charged with two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

The citation states that Donna Sue Cartledge, 60, was a passenger in a vehicle which Irvine Sgt. John Sturniolo stopped for speeding on the Winchester Road.

Irvine's K-9 Fritz reportedly alerted on the vehicle.

The citation states that Cartledge had 150 30mg oxycodone pills hidden in her pants.

It adds that she was also involved in selling oxycodone pills to a confidential informant on an earlier date.

IPD seized \$91.79. Cartledge was lodged in the Clark County Detention Center.

A South Irvine man now faces drug related charges after Irvine Officer Colton Lewis said the man appeared to be under the influence on Broadway.

The officer said the man gave him an incorrect social security number twice, but was told that it was a violation of KRS.

The officer said there were two warrants for the arrest of Kevin R. Jordan, 35.

The man attempted to flee on foot, but Officer Lewis said he brought Jordan to the ground. He added that Jordan continued to resist commands to turn over and place his hands behind his back.

The citation states that Lewis found a needle and baggie of crystal substance in Jordan's possession. It adds the substance field tested positive for methamphetamine.

Jordan was charged with public intoxication, resisting arrest, fleeing or evading police second (on foot), drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and giving officer false name or address.

One arrest warrant was issued by Circuit Judge Michael Dean on a charge of criminal possession of a forged instrument second degree. It says that Jordan failed to appear to answer the charge.

Judge William Leach issued a search warrant on Jordan. It says he failed to appear for a pre-trial conference on a charge of public intoxication.

A bench warrant was served on Travis D. Sizemore, 18, of Glynn Court, Irvine on July 2, by IPD Officer Lewis.

The warrant was from Estill District Court. Judge Wm. Leach says that Sizemore failed to appear on a charge of theft by unlawful taking.

Officer Lewis said that Sizemore lied about his name three times.

Sizemore was then charged with giving an officer a false name.

Two district court

bench warrants were served June 30 on Joseph R. Harrison of Broadway for failure to pay fines.

Harrison was found guilty of driving on a DUI suspended license on Dec. 21. A charge of failure to improve signal was merged.

Judge Leach set his bail on this charge at \$178.00 cash.

Harrison was also found guilty on Dec. 21 of theft by deception (including cold checks). His bail on this charge was set at \$273.00 cash.

A bench warrant was served June 29 by Officer Lewis on Chad Howell.

Howell was found guilty of theft by unlawful taking in Estill District Court on

Feb. 7.

Judge Michael Dean issued the warrant saying that Howell had failed to pay. The judge set Howell's bail at \$300 cash.

Denny Farley, 40, of Dark Hollow Road, Irvine was arrested following a traffic stop on June 30 by Sgt. John Sturniolo.

Farley was charged with license plate not legible, operating motor vehicle on suspended operators license, operating motor vehicle under the influence, and attempted to traffic in a controlled substance, second degree.

The citation states that Farley had attempted to purchase suboxone prior to the traffic stop.

Letter from IPD Chief

The Irvine Police Department has had a busy week. We have had a series of cases ranging from Burglary to Possession and Drug Trafficking.

I want to personally thank each of the Officers at the Department. Even though we are currently understaffed, each Officer is working hard to ensure that the City of Irvine is safe and that we are active in removing Drugs from our city.

We are removing Methamphetamine from our Streets and removed a Street Value of over \$6,500 dollars of Oxycodone from our City/County within the last week.

IPD Chief Brad Smith

Fiscal court passes budget

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Games and pictures are prohibited.

The use of cell phones is prohibited by employees who are operating or driving county equipment.

The fiscal court authorized Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor to borrow funds from Citizens Guaranty Bank to pay for a jail transport van.

Taylor said the cage is scheduled to be installed in the van during the week of July 20.

The short meeting ended with the fiscal court amending last year's budget and paying the claims.

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