

JDB/ars

May 1, 1942

Changes on page 2

Captain Archibald E. Sutton, CE
Commanding Officer, 505th Engineer Co (Light Ponton)
Camp Gordon, Ga.

Dear Captain Sutton:

Information received from the Office of the Chief of Engineers indicates that you will be the Commanding Officer of the 505th Engineer Co (Light Ponton). I am writing to acquaint you with the steps already taken to activate your unit.

The activation order will be issued by this headquarters. The 505th will be activated on May 15, 1942. A copy of this order is attached herewith.

The Engineer officer personnel will be furnished as follows:

1 - Commanding Officer (yourself);
1 - Officer, who will accompany the enlisted cadre;
4 - Officers to be furnished by the Officers' Candidate School from the class graduating May 30, 1942. These should arrive about June 1, 1942. Concerning these 8 officers -

1. There is a possibility that some of them may be experienced officers from the Officers' pool at Fort Belvoir. If so, they may arrive before May 30.

2. Requisitions for them have already been submitted.

The Engineer enlisted personnel will be furnished as follows:

12 men - cadre from the 75th Engineer Company (Light Ponton), Camp Livingston, La. The Commanding General, Third Army has been requested to have the proper Corps Area Commander issue orders so that the cadre will arrive on May 15, 1942.

183 men - enlisted fillers. These have already been requisitioned, by specification serial number, with the request that they arrive on June 8, 1942. The original War Department letter specified that you would get 146 of these men from an Engineer Replacement Center and 37 from a Reception Center. However, the latest information I have is that all 183 will come from Reception Centers, so you will have to start training raw recruits.

The above is summarized in the "time table" below:

May 1-15.....C. O. arrives.

May 15.....Unit is activated.

Cadre and 1 Officer with cadre arrives.

June 1.....4 Officers from Officers' Candidate School arrive.

June 8.....Engineer enlisted fillers arrive.

Undoubtedly this timetable, like Hitler's will be upset. It is merely a plan, subject to the misfortunes of "the best laid plans of mice and men".

The 505th will be attached to ~~Third~~ ^{Second} Army. Their headquarters is ~~Smith Young Tower, San Antonio, Texas.~~ I suggest you report by letter to that headquarters. *Memphis, Tenn.*

Unfortunately, there is very little information I can offer you on supply. The 505th is G-9 in the list contained in WD AGO letter, March 8, 1942, file AG 400 (3-6-42) MSC-D.M, subject: "Distribution of Controlled Items of Equipment." You might check with the Post Engineer Property Officer and the Corps Area Engineer to see if your non-controlled items of Engineer equipment have been requisitioned. As you know, other equipment and supplies can be obtained from Post Supply Officers.

There is attached herewith for your information a list of the new Engineer units at Camp Gordon. All are being activated about May 15th, except the 352nd, which was activated on April 18, 1942.

All the above planning is based on the old Tables of Organization, dated November 1, 1940. The new Tables have not yet been approved or issued.

Please do not hesitate to consult me informally about anything connected with the activation of your new unit. Other questions will, of course, be referred to the ~~Third~~ ^{Second} Army.

We wish you the best of luck with your new organization.

Very truly yours,

John D. Bristol

JOHN D. BRISTOR,
Major, Corps of Engineers,
Assistant.

2 Incls.:
GO No. 15, Hq. EDC & First Army.
List of Units, Camp Gordon, Ga.

HEADQUARTERS
EASTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FIRST ARMY
GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK

April 27, 1942

GENERAL ORDER)

NUMBER 15)

ACTIVATION ENGINEER UNITS

1. In accordance with the provisions of War Department letter AG 320.2 (3-12-42)MR-M-GN, dated March 19, 1942, subject: "Organization of Engineer Units in May, 1942," the following units are activated effective May 15, 1942 at Camp Gordon, Georgia, and are attached to the Third Army:

<u>Activated Unit</u>	<u>Cadre furnished by</u>
430th Engineer Co. (Dp Trk)	425th Engineer Co. (Dp Trk)
451st Engineer Co. (Dep)	450th Engineer Co. (Dep)
473rd Engineer Co. (Mob Shop)	471st Engineer Co (Mob Shop)
504th Engineer Co. (L Pon)	71st Engineer Co. (L Pon)
505th Engineer Co. (L Pon)	75th Engineer Co. (L Pon)
551st Engineer Bn. (Hv Pon)	86th Engineer Bn. (Hv Pon)
552nd Engineer Bn. (Hv Pon)	89th Engineer Bn. (Hv Pon)

2. The cited letter authorizes the units furnishing cadres an over-strength in grades and ratings equal to that of the cadres furnished. Promotion to cadre grades and to fill vacancies caused by the withdrawal of cadres may be made immediately.

3. Initial personnel requisitions for the subject units will be made by this headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant General DRUM:

KENNETH P. LORD,
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

C. H. Danielson
C. H. DANIELSON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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By DE NARA Date 8-21-6

HEADQUARTERS
EASTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FIRST ARMY
GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK

April 27, 1942.

GENERAL ORDER)

NUMBER 15)

ACTIVATION ENGINEER UNITS

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Activated Unit

Cadre furnished by

505th Engineer Co. (L Pon)

75th Engineer Co. (L Pon)

2. The cited letter authorizes the units furnishing cadres an over-strength in grades and rating equal to that of the cadres furnished. Promotion to cadre grades and to fill vacancies caused by the withdrawal of cadres may be made immediately.

3. Initial personnel requisitions for the subject units will be made by this headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant General DRUM:

KENNETH F. LORD,
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

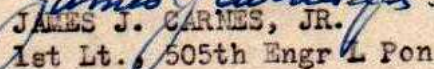
OFFICIAL:

C. H. DANIELSON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT


JAMES J. CARNES, JR.
1st Lt., 505th Engr L Pon Co

LIST OF NEW ENGINEER UNITS AT CAMP GORDON, GA.

*352nd Engineer Regt. (Gen Serv).....Lt. Col. Homer B. Pettit, C.E.
551st Engineer Bn. (Heavy Ponton).....Capt. W. W. Ragland, C.E.
552nd Engineer Bn. (Heavy Ponton).....Capt. H. D. Davis, Jr., C.E.
451st Engineer Co. (Depot).....1st Lt. F. A. VanOsdol, C.E.
*430th Engineer Co. (Dump Truck).....Capt. C. H. Flournoy, C.E.
504th Engineer Co. (Light Ponton).....Capt. Thomas Pryde, C.E.
505th Engineer Co. (Light Ponton).....Capt. A. E. Sutton, C.E.
473rd Engineer Co. (Mob. Shop).....Capt. E. J. Amato, C.E.
*374th Engineer Bn. (Separate).....Major J. S. Barke, C.E.

* Colored enlisted personnel.

Incl. No. 2

WAR DEPARTMENT
FIRST ARMY ENGINEER HEADQUARTERS
GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*749-3rd. Eng. Dep. Recd.
Stk. must of same serial*

PAYMENT FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PENALTY OF POSTAGE, \$300

Captain Archibald E Sutton, C.E.,

Commanding Officer,

505th Engineer Co. (Light Ponton),

Camp Gordon, Ga.