

# TROOPS TRAINING AT CAMP HALE ARE TOUGH TRIPLE-THREAT MEN

Must Be Able to Ski, Ride Mules and Use Mountain Motorized Equipment; None but Real He-Men Need Apply.

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(By RALF MYERS.)

(International News Service Special Correspondent.)

Camp Hale, Colo., Jan. 13.—Have you gone whizzing over the snow on a motorized toboggan at forty miles an hour?

Well, that's part of the training that Uncle Sam's triple-threat soldiers are getting at Camp Hale, the two-mile-high army camp atop the Rockies.

The triple-threat soldiers, so named by Brig. Gen. Onslow F. Rolfe, Camp Hale's commanding general, must (1) ski, (2) ride mules and (3) use moun-

tain motorized equipment—besides fight with special mountain guns.

Riding on a motorized toboggan is the "gravy train" assignment in this camp, which was unveiled for the first time Tuesday during midwinter maneuvers to a group of press association writers, photographers and newsreel cameramen.

The rest of "snow soldiers'" tasks are plenty rugged.

We were shown how the ski and mountain troops are trained to live out in the open in the high, snow-capped mountains; how they must ski under full pack; the mountain command's method of lowering men over cliffs in slings and toboggans; the method of loading and sledding of mountain artillery, as well as packing howitzers and travel by muleback.

In short, this is no "sissy's life"—it's a military job for only real men of the great outdoors.

## DOGS PERFORM MESSENGER DUTY.

And it's not all snow soldiers, mountain equipment and mules; the yip yap of dogs drew our attention.

"And what," we asked General Rolfe, "do the dogs do?"

There was pride in General Rolfe's voice as he replied:

"They perform our messenger service—and they expertly perform their duties."

General Rolfe, a West Point graduate who has seen every phase of military life, including front line service in France during World war I, believes he has the most active group of soldiers in the world.

He is preparing his men for service in any mountain country in the world, whether it be in the Alps, the Caucasus, in Norway or any other place United Nations' strategy calls for them to go.

"The equipment of our ski troops is the best in the world," said the general. "The cost of outfitting each one of our men here is approximately \$1,000. Included in each man's equipment is a one-pound stove for cooking purposes."

There are several thousand soldiers under General Rolfe's command. But there are probably none more sincere than a large group of Norwegians, who are determined that they will play a leading role in liberating the Nazi-occupied soil of their ancestors. These Norsemen form the "Norwegian battalion" and a requirement for membership is ability to speak Norwegian.

If you miss your favorite ski instructor this winter, the reason is that Uncle Sam has enlisted his services.