

**PATTERSON AT  
ATTERBURY AND  
AIR BASE HERE**

**Undersecretary of War Sees  
106th Division "in  
Action."**

**SALUTED WITH 17 GUNS**

**Also Greeted by Band at  
Air Base—Impressed  
by Attaboys.**

**No, Not Eleanor**

The visit of Undersecretary of War Robert H. Patterson to Camp Atterbury was a well-kept secret and only a handful of the top military men knew that he was expected.

After the arrival, however, at least one trickle of the news got out.

A girl called an Evening Republican reporter to inquire if he knew how she could gain admittance to Atterbury Army Air Field. She explained that she had heard Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the President, was visiting there.

Undersecretary of War Robert H. Patterson and Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson observed units of the 106th Division convert a quiet, Bartholomew county hillside into an artillery-ion, bullet-swept battlefield.

Undersecretary Patterson, one of the top dignitaries to visit the 106th military post, was accompanied by a party including Judge Homer E. Kosterlitz, special counsel to President Roosevelt; Senator Raymond Willis of Indiana and Indiana Representatives Earl Wilson of the Ninth District, Forrest Harless of the Fifth, and Gerald Landis of the Seventh.

The undersecretary of war and party also visited Atterbury Army Air Field here, where the undersecretary was greeted by a 17-gun salute and music by an Atterbury military band.

**"Great Performance"**

"It was a great performance," Mr. Patterson declared after seeing the soldiers of the 106th Division go through their paces. "This is enough to show anyone the enormous firepower in the hands of American infantry."

Army personnel present for the demonstration staged by the 106th Division units included Maj. Gen. Alan W. Jones, commander of the division; Brig. Gen. Leo T. McMahon, commander of the division's artillery; Col. William H. Nordstrom, Atterbury commander; and Maj. R. Proulx, aide to Undersecretary Patterson.

The visit of Mr. Patterson, undersecretary to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, was a well-kept secret because of security reasons and immediate publication of the visit was withheld.

Secretary Stimson, Undersecretary of War Patterson and Gen. George C. Maghball, chief of staff, constitute the War council of the nation's War department. During the nation's preparation program, Patterson was designated all duties concerned with procurement of munitions for the Army.

Details of Mr. Patterson's visit to Atterbury were revealed by the camp public relations department Sunday.

**Everything But Kitchens Blab**

The demonstration, conducted on the Camp Atterbury military reservation, gave convincing evidence of the terrific firepower an American infantry battalion can put up in its own defense. Covering from .30-caliber tracer bullets to 105 mm. artillery fire was thrown into the display, and at one point the undersecretary and his party were startled by a simulated shell burst only a few yards from their vantage point.

During the morning Mr. Patterson saw the 500th Field Artillery battalion conduct a precision fire problem. In the course of which three batteries adjusted fire with the aid of an artillery liaison plane, which flew over the party while walking or directing the shell bursts onto the target just visible some thousands of yards away.

**Seen "Enemy Attack"**

After luncheon in the field the undersecretary's party was driven to a point on a hill overlooking the valley through which an "enemy attack" was expected. The "battle" was opened by the 42nd Infantry regiment as a 100-pound charge of TNT, craps a path through a mine hole, flew against high overhead then brought down the entire firepower of the battalion. Camouflaged riflemen and machine gunners opened up first, then mortar shells splattered into the valley and heavy anti-aircraft guns and howitzers, located respectively on the flanks and far in the rear, came into play. Artillery shells whistled overhead and burst with earth-shaking detonations in the field of fire.

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