

## Most Units of 106th Division Get Combat Swimming Training

CAMP ATTERBURY, June 20.—Many, or possibly all, units of the 106th Infantry Division will receive training in combat swimming. With amphibious landings such a commonplace in this global war, the ability to handle oneself in water while dressed in combat gear has become of primary importance.

The final decision as to which units are to receive aquatic training has not yet been made, but it is certain that a large part of the Division will receive instruction in combat swimming some time during the summer. The training will consist essentially in learning to swim short distances with full field equipment, rifle in hand held out of water and jumping with equipment into water from a high tower—comparable to “abandoning ship.” It will involve also learning how to float an injured man by use of barracks bags or by air caught in clothing. Non-swimmers will receive special instruction.

Those who are to receive the training will move out to Yellowwood Lake, in the Yellowwood State Forest, near Nashville, Ind., for about a week. The lake has already been developed by the Engineers for the purpose. The Engineers did a bang-up job, and Yellowwood has become quite an improvement on the “old swimming hole.”

During the week of May 9 - June 3, a Red Cross representative came

down from Washington to conduct a special course for swimming instructors. Expert swimmers were selected from each company, battery and troop to receive this training to prepare them for instructing other members of the Division. Those who successfully passed the course received Red Cross certificates.

The Reconnaissance Troop, acting as guinea pigs, spent the week of June 5 to 10 at Yellowwood undergoing training in combat swimming. It was a matter of testing whether or not it was feasible to have a large group undergoing its training at one time. So successful was this test that plans are now being laid for other units of the Division to follow suit. The program will be announced in the near future. With hot weather coming on the water training will be welcome indeed as a means of “beating the heat.”

## 1944\_06\_20 Member of 106th get Combat Swimming Training

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