

A Rookie in Crowder is the Camp Crowder, Missouri edition of a souvenir booklet depicting basic training in comic strips. It was copyrighted 1942 by the Ray C. Berry Syndicate. No information is available regarding the renewal of this copyright so it may now be in the public domain.

The training depicted is for front line infantry combat. Trainees at Camp Crowder received basic training with rifles but may not have received the machine gun and mortar training depicted in the comic strip. Instead, they received specialized training such as in the use, construction, maintenance, and transportation of signal equipment.

The following description is from mycomicshop.com refers to the Camp Roberts, California edition:

A Rookie in Roberts by Pvt. Ned Eller (1942) contains 13 newspaper-style daily strip pages concerning the experiences of an Army recruit during World War II.

Professional quality art and story. 13 daily strip pages (printed one side per page), plus cover, 13.5-in. x 3.75-in., B&W, no cover price.

This publication has multiple cover variants beyond the one listed here. For all cover variants the content is the same, with "Roberts" replaced on the cover by the name of another camp or with the generic "camp" replacing a camp name.

The A Rookie in Roberts 13-page comic booklet was sold at various WWII Army camps to the young recruits there for their basic training. The individual Rookie strips ran in various weekly camp newspapers around the country for about eighteen months, the run ending when Pvt. Eller was assigned to duty with the Army in the Pacific.

As of 2010, Mr. Eller resides in Columbus, Ohio.

This is a scan of a copy of "A Rookie at Crowder" rescued from a garage sale by Chris McCluer of Mission, Kansas. He recognized that veterans and their families would appreciate its depiction of World War II Army basic training and donated it to the Signal Corps section of this family history web site.

Too many WWII artifacts are being thrown away or sold to private collectors and are not readily available.

Items such as this are best shared in libraries, archives, or museums. That is the ultimate destination of the original Chris shared.

Thank you, Chris.



A ROOKIE

IN CROWDER

A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP

1. HI, FOLKS!

By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP

2. THAT DOGGONE BUGLER!

By PVT. NED ELLER

BEFORE THE END OF OUR FIRST DAY IN CAMP WE WERE ASSIGNED TO OUR PERMANENT BARRACKS BUT



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP

3. LEARNING THE ROPES

By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



4. FEEL LIKE A HORSE!



By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



5. YES, SIR! GENERAL!



By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



6. THIS IS THE LIFE!



By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



7. HALF WAY MARK!



By PVT. NED ELLER



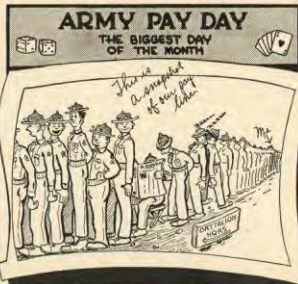
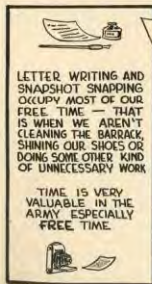
A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



8. PROBLEMS AFIELD!

By PVT. NED ELLER

A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



9. THE GHOST WALKS

By PVT. NED ELLER

A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



10. SHANK'S MARE

By PVT. NED ELLER

A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP



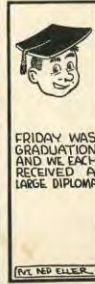
11. IT'S ALL IN THE DAY!

By PVT. NED ELLER

A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP

12. DUST GETS IN YOUR EYE!

By PVT. NED ELLER



A ROOKIE IN TRAINING CAMP

13. READY TO MOVE ON!

By PVT. NED ELLER

THIS WEEK WAS THE LAST OF OUR THIRTEEN WEEKS

WE HAVEN'T DONE MUCH ALL WEEK EXCEPT POLICE UP AROUND THE BARACKS AND IN GENERAL MAKE OUR THINGS READY FOR MOVING

SOME NEW WOOLEN O.D. UNIFORMS WERE ISSUED TO US THURSDAY

THEN FRIDAY EVENING WE BOARDED A SPECIAL TROOP TRAIN AND WERE OFF TO NEW ADVENTURES



AND SO ENDS MY BASIC TRAINING AS A ROOKIE.