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MERRY
XMAS

Bob

TANK DESTROYER TROOPERS TRAIN IN SUDDEN DEATH

First Course of Its Kind Teaches
Men to Be Specialists in
Cold-Blooded Killing.

Camp Hood, Tex., Sept. 3.—(A. P.)
—“You're here to learn to kill. Are
there any questions?”

This terse informative from Maj.
Gordon T. Kimbrell starts the newly
formed tank destroyer battalions on
their course in cold-blooded, silent
killing, designed to eliminate tank
crews from combat fields and elimi-
nate one of the enemies' strongest
striking arms.

The camp's tank-hunting course,
the first in the world, teaches the
men how to ambush, cripple and de-
stroy tanks and how to kill their
enemies—with or without weapons.

The camp, in service for months,
will be dedicated formally Sept. 18.

Major Kimbrell's brief and to the
point greeting to the newcomers is a
quotation borrowed from the com-
manding officer of the British com-
mando school in which he received
part of his training.

And he isn't just talking. One
group just completing its training
scored 117 hits out of 150 shots in a
lightless tunnel.

Here's some of the toughening rou-
tine for these boys who will maneu-
ver the mobile, powerful antitank
guns:

The men leave their bivouac, into
which they staged a forced march
under cover of darkness, and run
until they reach a creek thirty feet
wide.

The water-logged men clamber up
a steel embankment and negotiate a
small revetment and ascend a nearly
perpendicular 400-foot hill at quick
time. When they get to the top—
those that make it—they fall into fir-
ing position.

By the time they complete their
course, they're men no Jap or Ger-
man would like to know.

