

General Inspects Camp Bear Tracks

FAIRBANKS—Brigadier General C. M. Hall, post commander at Ft. Wainwright, recently reviewed troops and Camp Bear Tracks and found them in good order. Well, not good order by military standards, perhaps.

Too much fun and games. But the troops at this camp are not ordinary soldiers. They're underprivileged children, aged 9 to 12, who are attending summer camp courtesy of Ft. Wainwright and the Fairbanks Recreation Department. And they're doing well.

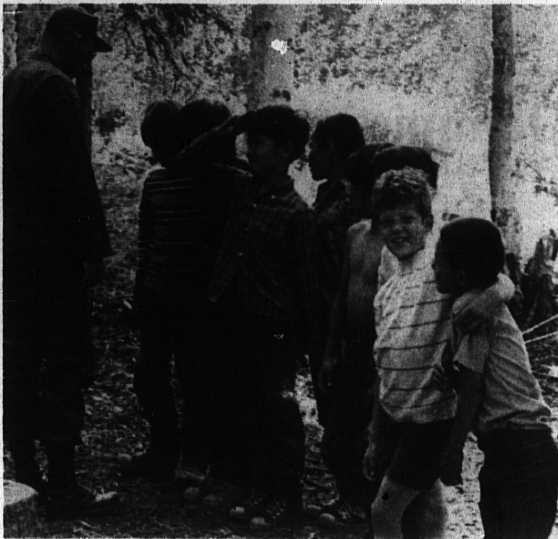
Each week, 20-25 youngsters are chosen through the schools and recreation department to attend the facility located on Birch Hill.

The city is funding the cost, handling the structure and development of the camp and field trips. The post handles transportation to and from camp and on field trips and provides a meal each day at 19th Aviation mess hall.

Tents, sleeping bags, a water trailer, medic and wildlife expert are also provided by the military, with an occasional visit from the high command to add to the fun.

The program started the first of July and Hez Ray, city recreation director, hopes it can run nine weeks. Prospects look good and the facility is really developing.

Bear Track's machete-made road, once passable only with a heavy truck, has been improved by Facilities Engineers to the extent that a sedan can now drive in. Counseling staff has been expanded from two to eight and enthusiasm is running high.



"PRIVATE LORD REPORTING SIR!"—One relatively straggling young troop smartly salutes Brigadier General C.M. Hall as he reviews the men of the Camp Bear Tracks unit.

(U.S. Army Photo)