

WISE OWL

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Help! Help! Help!

Lieut. Ted O'Sullivan of the Fort Leavenworth reception center was in St. Joseph the other night. Here's the story he told us: The permanent personnel of the center numbers

500 officers and enlisted men. Thousands of selectees pass through the center each week. Most of them remain there for varying periods of time. All of them want to have recreational outlets right on the post. Yet there are no provisions made for the purchase of athletic equipment.

"Please, please, please," Lieutenant O'Sullivan said, "see if you can't get some athletic gear around St. Joseph. We are badly in need of it. We can use anything for any sport. It doesn't have to be new and shiny. All we ask is that it have a few rounds left in it. It doesn't even have to be seasonal. We're just as glad to get footballs and basketballs right now as we are to be given softball and baseball equipment. But we need the equipment and we need it now.

"The men who find time on their hands at the center are men who are getting their first touch of army life. Many of them are away from home for the first time and you know what that means. They need something to take their minds off themselves, and sports is the ideal medium. Lacking funds to buy equipment, we have to depend upon the good people in the vicinity of the center."

Fans Can Help NOW

That's the picture, folks. Let's do something about it. We're willing to do our part. How about you? Look in the dark corners of those closets of yours. Get up into that attic and out in that woodshed. If you find anything that isn't being used around your diggings and could be used by some soldier we'll see that it gets to him.

Find what you have tucked away and then do one of two things. Either call the sports desk at The News-Press, giving your name and address, the type of article that you have and when it can be picked up, or bring it down to the sports desk. If you bring it down, put your name and address on the article because we want all who participate in this drive to get credit for his or her part. Here are some of the specific articles Lieutenant O'Sullivan mentioned;

Softballs	Baseballs	Footballs	Basketball
Softball bats	Baseball bats	Softball gloves	Baseball gloves
Ping-pong tables	Ping-pong bats	Ping-pong balls	Pool tables
Checker games	Dominoes	Decks of cards	Horseshoes
Tennis rackets	Tennis balls	Boxing gloves	Volleyballs

Cash Will Help

There you have it. You individual fans take a look around. And it would not be a bad idea for the athletic goods dealers of St. Joseph to look over their stocks. They may have an item or two that is gathering more dust than it's worth. They're not barred. And the organized sports groups in St. Joseph could come through too. How about those school property rooms? Is there something in there that isn't essential? Dig it out and bring it down.

And we don't want to leave out the fans in the trade territory. If you have some pieces of equipment that you want to give, mail them to the sports desk at The News-Press. You'll get credit for them right along with the fans in St. Joseph.

Now about the matter of cash. If money is turned over to Lieutenant O'Sullivan he has the authority to buy equipment. However, he suggested that this plan be worked out. The money should be sent to the sports desk at The News-Press and in turn be converted into orders on St. Joseph sporting goods stores so that the money will remain in this community.

So there you are, folks. We're ready to pick up the stuff and see to it that it gets into the hands of our soldiers at Fort Leavenworth. What do you have to offer?

JENS