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ORIGIN OF NAMES OF
ARMY AND AIR CORPS POSTS, CAMPS AND STATIONS
IN WORLD WAR II
IN
MAINE

Dow Field - Dow Field, Maine.

Named for James Frederick Dow who was born in Oakland, Maine, November 20, 1913. He was a graduate of Houlton High School and Hebron Academy. In September, 1933, he entered the University of Maine from which he graduated with a Degree of B. S. in Mechanical Engineering, and received a commission of Second Lieutenant in the R. O. T. C. In 1937 he went to Fort Williams, Maine, as a Second Lieutenant under the provisions of the Tomlinson Act, for further Military training, from which he received a commission of First Lieutenant in the Regular Army. In July, 1939, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and was sent to Parks Air College, East Saint Louis, Illinois, where he was made Commander of his Squadron. He was transferred to Randolph Field, Texas, October 1, 1939, and to Kelly Field, December, 1931, to complete his training. He graduated with the commission of Second Lieutenant in the Air Corps, March 23, 1940. After maneuvers in Georgia, he was stationed at Mitchell Field, New York. He was killed June 17, 1940, in an Airplane crash, with ten other men when two Army Bombers collided in mid air during formation Maneuvers, at Mitchell Field, New York.

Foster, Fort - Kittery, Maine.

Named for John Gray Foster who was born at Whitefield, New Hampshire, on May 27, 1823, and was graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1846, entering the Engineer Corps. He served in the Mexican War, at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Churubusco, and Molino del Ray. He was engaged in building Fort Sumter and other Forts, and was an Assistant Professor of Engineering at West Point. In 1860 he removed the garrison of Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter when it was fired upon in 1861. He built a Fort at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, was at Roanoke Island and New Bern, North Carolina, and co-operated with Sherman in his March to the Sea. After the War he had charge of various River and Harbor improvements, and the construction of fortifications. He conducted submarine blasting operations at Boston and Portsmouth, and wrote a book upon the subject. He had the rank of Brevet Major General in the Regular Army. He died on September 2, 1874.

Houlton Army Air Field - Houlton, Maine.

Received its name from the City of Houlton, Maine, which City was named for Joseph Houlton. He was born

in England. In the summer of 1804 he left New Salem, Massachusetts to inspect the land granted to him in the Province of Maine. He had paid \$1,000. for his interest in this grant. He evidently went home again because records show he came back to Houlton in 1807 with his family. In 1808 he received an appointment to the office of Register of Deeds for the Northern District of the County of Washington and he held this post until a few years before his death in 1832. When going to Houlton in 1807 they arrived at Woodstock and he left his wife and younger children there, and with one or two of the older boys, went on to put in a crop for that season. One authority says that the Town was actually named for Mrs. Houlton rather than for Joseph Houlton. Mrs. Houlton had been left in Woodstock for some time so she took the youngest children and set out for Houlton with only a young nephew to guide her. She was greeted enthusiastically by the whole settlement and then and there it was decided to call the Town Houlton after such a brave and daring woman. In 1810 Joseph Houlton built a Flour Mill on a stream near the north line of Houlton, which flourished for years. He also engaged in the lumber business in Aroostook Valley.

Levett, Fort - Portland, Maine.

Was named for Christopher Levett. He was granted a Charter by the Council of New England, May 5, 1623, for six thousand acres of land to be selected by him within the limits of the Company's Charter. He sailed from England about July, 1623, with a number of men. After examining several regions he sailed to Portland Harbor. The Islands now known as House, Cushing, Peak and Diamond, and the Harbor pleased him. He entered the Harbor and rowed up the River which he named Levett River. He procured permission for Cogawexco, the Sagamore of Casco, and his wife, to occupy some land, and proceeded to build and fortify a place of habitation on an Island at the mouth of the Harbor, and placed ten men in it to hold possession and sailed back for England. Later he joined an Expedition against Spain, under the Command of Lord Winbledon. He went as Captain of the Ship "Susan and Ellen". This Expedition ended disastrously. He then advocated the colonization of New England and a proclamation issued by King Charles II required the Churches to take up a contribution in behalf of his Colonial enterprises in Casco Bay. Levett came to America and was the first to greet Governor Winthrop

on his arrival at Salem Harbor, Massachusetts, June 12, 1630. Levett sailed home for England about this time, but died and was buried at Sea in 1631.

Lyon, Fort - Portland, Maine.

Named for Nathaniel Lyon, who was born at Ashford, Connecticut, July 1, 1818. He was educated at the United States Military Academy, and was sent with his Regiment to Florida, where he distinguished himself in the War with the Seminole Indians. In the Mexican War his Regiment took part in the attack upon Vera Cruz, and in the Battles of Cerro Gordo, Contreras and Churubusco, he being made Brevet Captain for gallantry, on August 2, 1847. He was wounded in the entry of the Americans into the City of Mexico. After this War his Regiment served for several years against the Indians, and in 1850 he conducted brilliant movements against the Indians, and in 1851 was promoted to Captain. In 1855 he was on an Expedition against the Sioux Indians. He visited the East in 1857, and on his return to the West was stationed at various Forts, being on duty in Kansas in 1860. In January, 1861, he was made Commandant

of the Saint Louis Arsenal. His position was a critical one, there being a strong secret effort to carry Missouri out of the Union, in which the seizure of the Arsenal was a feature of importance. He made active use of his small Force, organized and drilled Union men in the City and took every precaution to secure the public property in the Arsenal. On May 10, 1861, he surrounded a Camp of Confederate Militia near the City and forced its Commander to surrender. On May 17th he was promoted to Brigadier General. Controversy now arose between him and Governor Jackson, and as Lyon refused to disband his Militia or withdraw his Troops, the Governor proclaimed that the State of Missouri had been invaded by the United States Forces, and called out 50,000 Militia to repel them. Lyon immediately marched into the interior and met the secession Forces, on August 8, 1861, at Wilson's Creek. Here a severe Battle was fought, in which he was three times wounded, and died on the Field.

McKinley, Fort - Fort McKinley, Maine.

Named for William McKinley, born in Ohio, January 29, 1843. He served in the Union Army from September, 1861 until July, 1854, reaching the rank of Brevet Major, and in 1876 was elected to Congress. Except for one term, he served until 1891. He was strongly in favor of high tariff. As Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee he was framer of the 1890 Tariff Bill, which was given his name. He was elected Governor of Ohio in 1891, and again in 1893. In 1896 he won the Republican nomination for the Presidency and defeated William Jennings Bryan for the office. He was again elected in 1900. Notable events of his Administration were the Spanish-American War, with the resultant acquisition of the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam; the annexation of Hawaii; the first conference of the Hague Tribunal; the Boxer Rebellion in China; and the passage of the Tariff Bill. During a reception held at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, on September 6, 1901, he was shot by Leon Czolgosz, an Anarchist, and died September 14th.

Madison, Fort - Castine, Maine.

Was named for President James Madison. This Fort was erected about 1811 by the Americans, in anticipation of the War with England. It was first occupied by a Company of the 40th Infantry. It was afterward occupied by a small detachment of the British in 1814 to 1815. This Fort was rebuilt during the War Between the States and garrisoned by a Company of United States Troops. James Madison was born March 14, 1751, in Virginia. He was elected President in 1809. He lost many of his followers during the War of 1812 for he was essentially a man of peace and not very successful as a War President. However, he was reelected for a second term. In 1817 he retired to his Virginia country home. He died June 28, 1836.

Preble, Fort - South Portland, Maine.

Was named for Edward Preble, born at Falmouth (now Portland), Maine, August 15, 1761. He entered the Provincial Navy of Massachusetts in 1779, and took part in the action between the "Protector" and the British Privateer "General Duff". He was afterward captured and confined on board a prison ship at New York. On liberation he joined the "Winthrop" and dis-

tinguished himself in the capture of a Brig at Castine, Maine. He was commissioned Lieutenant in the United States Navy in 1799 and took command of the "Pickering". In 1803 he was Commander of the Squadron sent against Tripoli, his Flagship being the "Constitution". He also engaged in heavy fighting until relieved by Commodore Barren in the fall of 1804. He returned home in 1805 and received a Gold Medal of Thanks from Congress. He died in Portland, Maine, August 25, 1807.

Presque Island Army Air Field - Presque Isle, Maine.

Named from the City of Presque Island, Maine. The name is from the French language and means "almost an island", having streams or rivers on three sides.

Williams, Fort - Cape Cottage, Maine.

Named for General Seth Williams. He was educated at West Point Military Academy, graduating in 1842, and entered the Service as Second Lieutenant, by Brevet, of the 2nd Artillery, and in 1847, at the commencement of the Mexican War, was appointed First Lieutenant, and went with General Taylor in his overland march to Mexico. He was first under fire at Palo Alto,

then at Resaca de Palma, where his gallant bearing attracted the notice of a distinguished Officer, who invited him to become a member of his Military family. He visited Augusta in July 1847, and at a party given by Colonel James L. Child, at the United States Arsenal, was presented by his fellow townsmen with a beautiful Sword. He received a Captain's Brevet in 1849, for gallant and meritorious conduct at the Battle of Cerro Gordo. He was Adjutant at the Military Academy at West Point from 1850 to 1853, and in the latter years was appointed Assistant Adjutant General. He served in the Department at Washington until the breaking out of the Rebellion. He was with General McClellan as Adjutant General in West Virginia in 1861, and returned to Washington in July of that year, and was made Adjutant General of the Army of the Potomac. He held this important position under McClellan, Burnside, Hooker and Meade. He was commissioned as Major in August, 1861, as Lieutenant Colonel in the Regular Service in July, 1862, and Brigadier General of Volunteers in September, 1863, and as Major General by Brevet in August, 1864. He was appointed in November,

1864, as Inspector General and ordered South on a tour of Inspection. He served in this capacity on General Grant's Staff until the close of the War Between the States. He had a strong constitution and robust health, but his incessant and prolonged labors had gradually undermined his constitution, and at the close of the War the reaction was too strong for his overtaxed brain, which yielded to disease. Inflammation of the brain followed by a fatal paralysis of that organ, ended his days, March 23, 1866, at the home of his brother-in-law, in Boston. Modest and unassuming, the attrition of active life and public duties brought forth sterling qualities of mind and heart that won the respect and confidence of acquaintances and associates.