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HELL ON WHEELS

2d ARMORED DIVISION

Vol. 6, No. 13

USAREUR

Thursday, November 8, 1956

'Hell on Wheels' Gets Election Results To the Field 2 Hours After Announced

DARMSTADT—Men of 2d Arm Div taking part in FTX "Sabre Knot" somewhere in Germany were informed of the results of the National Presidential elections yesterday morning only a few hours after the results had been announced.



In a special Election Edition, "Hell On Wheels" printed complete returns of the presidential and important senatorial and gubernatorial races in a four-page "Extra" and had them distributed to the "aggressor" troops of the division in the field by 11 am.

Members of the staff of the European edition of "The Stars and Stripes" here where the special edition was edited and printed and members of USAREUR Public Information Department who observed the operation said to the best of their knowledge it was the first paper of its kind ever printed by a USAREUR unit.

One observer said it was the first time he had heard of any Army organization printing such an edition.

Time Difference

Working against a six-hour time difference between Central Europe and New York, where most of the news came from members of the "Hell On Wheels" staff completed work on the special issue at 9 am yesterday—3 am New York time.

The papers were distributed to the field by "Hell On Wings" helicopters which had been waiting at the Darmstadt airstrip for the operation to be completed.

Arrangements also had been made for Jeeps from each of the three combat commands to be standing by in case weather conditions prohibited distribution by air.

Idea Born

The idea of the special edition was born and discussed by the officers and men of the newspaper staff about a month ago. Since field at the time of the election it was thought that an "Extra" bringing the results to the pup tents and tanks of the division might be advantageous.

These same pup tents and tanks, someone said, would not have the benefit of commercial radio, which did carry the election results.

(Cont. on Page 8, Col. 1)

Div E-7 Promotions Awarded Sfc Hawkey and Sfc Gaskill

BAD KREUZNACH—Two Sfc's from the ranks of the division have been chosen to fill the allotted master sergeant openings made available through the October allocations from USAREUR.

The two E-7 openings, the first 2 Medical Officers

Attend Conference

BAD KREUZNACH.— Two 2d Arm Div medical officers will attend the second Medical-Surgical Conference at Landstuhl Army Hospital Nov. 16-17.

Lt Col Patsy M. Flandaca Jr. of the Div Arty Med Det will make the trip to attend the conference on general subjects affecting the health of soldiers throughout USAREUR.

Subjects to be discussed will include gastrointestinal disorders, a survey of the incidence of respiratory ailments in USAREUR, as well as panel discussions on topics ranging from environmental factors in psychiatric disorders to surgical techniques and problems.

'Conex' Boxes in Use

HEIDELBERG (Special) — The movement of household goods for military personnel has been expedited, according to an announcement from USAREUR Transportation Offices, through the addition of two commercial companies to the movement operation.

The two companies join nine other previously sanctioned agencies authorized to transport such goods.

The new agreement between the two agencies makes possible the house-to-house movement between Germany and the U.S. for Army, Air Force and Navy personnel. The main feature of the new agreement is a large, sealed steel container, the "Conex" box, into which a family's entire household possessions may be packed at the

available to the division since February, have been granted to Sfc Joseph H. Hawkey, of Co B, 12th Arm Div and Sfc John C. Gaskill of Co D, 43d ABV.

A board of officers was convened to select the two men to be promoted. Then, in Special Orders dated Oct. 26 from Div HQ, the temporary appointments to the grade E-7 were announced.

Sfc Hawkey was assigned to Co B on Nov. 27 of last year, coming to Germany from an assignment with the 71st Ord Sqn, Ft. Lewis, Wash. The new M Sgt has over 13 years of service and has been an Sfc since July 6, 1951. He is partly supply sergeant for his company. Hawkey is a native of Tyre, N.Y.

Sfc Gaskill became platoon sergeant of Co D of the 43d on May 13 of this year. Before receiving this assignment, Gaskill served with the 22d Inf Regt of the 4th Inf Div. His total service is over 15 years. He has been an Sfc since Dec. 30, 1941. M Sgt Gaskill is from Van Alstyne, Texas.

Both of the new master sergeants are currently on field duty with their respective units as part of 2d Arm Div training exercises.

port of embarkation and shipped as a unit overseas.

The system operates as follows: a soldier bound for Germany will have his household furnishings packed into a van at his home in the U.S. by a local agent. The van will transport the load to the nearest of three ports—New Orleans, Hampton Roads, Va., or Brooklyn, N.Y.—where the articles will be packed into the steel "Conex" box and turned over to the Military Sea Transport Service.

MSTS will then carry the shipment overseas to Bremerhaven where agents will load the goods from the box to moving vans for delivery directly to the serviceman's new station.



Prior to FTX "Sabre Knot" now underway somewhere in Germany, the 2d Arm Div held its own FTX—"Final Drive." Two distinguished visitors attended a briefing on "Final Drive" with Maj Gen C. Stanton Babcock, Div CG, center, at the division command post near Ruppertenrod in Kreis Albstadt last week. Shown here are (from left) Lt Gen Lemuel Mathewson, V Corps CG, Gen Babcock, and Maj Gen C. B. Hirsch, British Intelligence and Operations Chief at Hq, Allied Land Forces, Central Europe. Behind Gen Hirsch are Lt Col J. M. Gaustad, Div G3, and Col William R. Deobry, Div Chief of Staff, with members of the division staff sections.

—Photo by Mitchell

Div Continues Attack In FTX 'Sabre Knot'

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY — "Aggressor" forces of 2d Arm Div were reported late yesterday to have surrounded "friendly" forces headquarters.

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY — The 2d Arm Div was continuing its push into the territory of friendly forces late yesterday, during the 7th Army's FTX "Sabre Knot."

Friendly forces retreated to prepared positions as the 2d Armored "aggressors" continued their thrust into territory occupied by other V Corps units.

Mud continued to play a major role in the operation of the field exercise as hundreds of tanks and other vehicles participating in the maneuver were sometimes slowed to a standstill when trying to move.

An estimated 60,000 7th Army personnel are taking part in the simulated campaign designed to provide combat conditions for training purposes.

NATO Observers — Observers from several NATO countries continued to watch the maneuver techniques being utilized by participating units. About 150 British, French, German and Belgian observers were among those who were on the scene as the exercise moved from attack to counter-offensive.

Constant vigilance remained the keynote of "Sabre Knot" as men of both aggressor and defending forces maintained a state of alert and readiness in the face of quick and unexpected moves, tactical realignment of forces and the deployment of troops. In this manner, participants are being exposed to the uncertainty of actual battle conditions. On a moment's notice, troops of 7th Army have been called upon to move their equipment.

(Cont. on Page 2, Col. 1)

Div Will Celebrate Vets Day Monday

Division Headquarters announced this week that Veterans' Day, Nov. 11, would be a holiday within the division. Since, however, the date falls on a Sunday, Division Headquarters said all personnel of the division would observe the day on Monday, Nov. 12.

All duties except necessary guard and fatigue details will be suspended that day, headquarters said.



—A GOOD SEVENTH
ARMY DRIVER
DOES NOT SMOKE
WHILE DRIVING!

(This is a reproduction of the 11th in a series of 13 cartoons for publication in Army newspapers emphasizing the importance of the new 7th Army credo for drivers of military and civilian vehicles in Germany. The series will be continued weekly in "Hell on Wheels.")



Watching in wide-eyed fascination the doings of a sleight of hand artist are these children who were guests at the annual AYA Halloween Party held in the gymnasium of Rose Barracks. The party, attended by a large number of dependents and their families, was sponsored by the organization for children of pre-school and elementary school age. —Photo by Luhn

Gen Gruenther To Be Honored At Review Wed. in Frankfurt

PARIS (Special) — U.S. European Command Hq has announced that the United States Military Forces in Europe will honor Gen Alfred M. Gruenther, retiring commander-in-chief of the U.S. Military command, at a farewell re-

view Wednesday at Rhein-Main Air Base in Frankfurt, Germany. Participating in the ceremonies will be personnel from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. Gen. Gruenther has commanded the U.S. forces since July, 1953 in a dual role as commander-in-chief of all U.S. European forces and as Supreme Allied Commander of North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces in Europe.

Fund Drive Is On For B'holder AYA

BAUMHOLDER — The American Youth Activities is conducting a drive for funds here to help support its program for the coming year. The AYA was established in the Baumholder Sub-Area in 1954-1955 to plan, promote, organize and coordinate the welfare and recreational activities of the dependents of military personnel stationed in the area.

It aims to coordinate the spiritual, mental and physical improvement of the dependent children. Over the past two summers eight-week programs featured a wide range of activities for the children with selected individuals from various units on post serving as instructors and supervisors. The activities, which were offered to youngsters of all age groups, included dancing, crafts, tennis, photography, camping, and softball.

In addition to the summer program the AYA has actively supported other organizations of the Sub-Area in their year-round programs. Among these organizations are the Little League, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Teenage Club.

Gen Gruenther was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in November, 1918. He came to Europe for the first time in 1942 when he became deputy chief of staff at Allied Powers Hq in London under President Eisenhower, while the latter was Supreme Allied Commander. Gen Gruenther also served under Gen Mark Clark, first as chief of staff of the 5th Army in North Africa and Italy and later as deputy commander of U.S. forces in Austria after VE day in 1945.

In February, 1951, he assumed duties as chief of staff of Gen Eisenhower in the NATO Defense command which was then being established in Paris. He held the same assignment under Gen Matthew Ridgeway before assuming dual command in July, 1953.

Marching troops from all three services, bands from the Army and Air Force and self-propelled Army equipment will participate in the farewell parade. The latest American military aircraft in Europe, both propeller-driven and jet aircraft, will present the aerial portion of the ceremony—weather permitting, EUCOM Hq said.

Ghosts Galore

400 Are Feted At AYA Party

BAD KREUZNACH — The AYA held its annual Halloween party for the school children of this area last week, getting things under way with a parade led by the 2d Arm Div band and a police escort provided by the 537th MP Co.

Following the parade, which began at the dependent area school, the AYA staged the party and entertainment in the Rose Barracks gymnasium, gaily decorated for the occasion.

Professional entertainment obtained through WACOM. Special Services highlighted the evening for the approximately 400 to 500 children of pre-school and elementary school ages. The show for the children ran for some 40 minutes and featured magic and sleight of hand tricks that kept the children in amused amazement.

Games and Contests. Many games and contests were arranged for the gathering at the gym. A costume-judging contest was one of the most popular events of the evening. In this competition the costumes of the children were observed and selections of the best garb were made on the basis of the prettiest costume, the funniest, and the most original. The prizes awarded were toys and games of amusement for children.

Following the talent and show, refreshments were served to the large group of children.

Div 'Bombs' Enemy

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY — "Friendly" forces participating in the "Sabre Knot" drive were "bombed" by 2d Arm Div air support units yesterday morning in one of the most surprising maneuvers in the two week field problem.

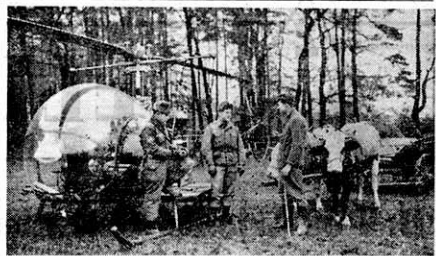
Air Force pilots of the "Hell On Wings" unit stunned their "enemies" when they "bombed" V Corps, 3d Arm Div and 10th Inf Div Bn with copies of the Special Edition of "Hell On Wheels."

The only explanation for the surprise raid was the note attached to each bundle: "Courtesy of Maj Gen C. Stanton Babeck, 2d Arm Div CG."

Btry A, 3d AFA Bn, Is Tops In Div Arty Semi-Annual Test

BAUMHOLDER — Btry A of the 3d AFA Bn turned in the outstanding performance in the semi-annual testing of Div Arty units, according to final results announced here.

After two solid weeks of firing on the Baumholder Ranges the



Cow-powered wagon driver Eric Kratz, Ruppertenrod farmer, stops at the "Hell on Wings" heliport during FTX "Final Drive" to chat with Lt William L. Arledge, 17th AFB pilot, and Pfc Henry Derwis, 182d Arm Sig Co. The heliport was on an unleased section of Kratz's land. —Photo by Mitchell



Tidy tanker Pfc Helmut Wehrmann, Co C, 68th Tr Bn, cleans mud off the searchlight of his "iron monster" while his laundry dries in the breeze during a full following FTX "Final Drive" and preceding "Sabre Knot." Wehrmann, a native German, went to the U.S. in 1953, then later came back to his native land as a Tank tank driver. —Photo by Mitchell

On Lines of 'Friendly' Forces Division Continues Its Assault

(Continued from Page 1) ment to new positions as a result of situations arising from the shift in defensive or offensive strategy.

Overt Act. "Sabre Knot" began as units of 2d Armored penetrated deep into friendly territory as an overt act

of aggression. Immediately, the defending forces of V Corps set in motion a counter-attack planned to block the aggressor's 2d Armored and create an advance of its own.

As this counter-attack was executed, the defending aggressor forces mustered and began new engagements.

Approximately an entire Army corps moved into position as the simulated aggressor and defending forces began the training exercise. Division forces will accomplish a dual mission in Sabre Knot. Along with representing forward elements of aggressor forces, men of 2d Arm will also act as controllers, assuring that the problem develops according to plans.

"Casualties." The exercise, as a battle-without-blood, has involved the existence of "casualties" thus providing medical personnel with training in treatment and evacuation. Meanwhile, casualties have been reported as replacements, allowing training to continue.

Among those batteries receiving "excellent" ratings were Btry B of the 3d; Btry C, 16th AFA Bn and all three batteries of the 78th AFA Bn, all of whom received scores of between 85 and 95 in the testing. The overall average of the 12 firing batteries from four different battalions was 88.25.

The primary purpose of these semi-annual tests, Div Arty Hq said, is to examine each firing battery of the artillery battalions in its own independent operation.

This is unlike the Div Arty and V Corps-administered tests during the summer which tested the battalion as a whole in every phase of its operation and the coordination among its component units, Hq and Svc Btry's of the battalions are not subject to individual testing.

The battery test is of three to four hours in duration and begins with a warning order issued to the battery commander. The first move of the battery is to occupy a pre-designated position, moving out from a forward assembly area.

As troop movements commenced for "Sabre Knot," Lt Gen Bruce C. Clarke, 7th Army CG, stressed his desire that all participants exercise every precaution to minimize damage to German property in the current maneuver.

WHEELS TO ROLL

BAD KREUZNACH
Nov. 8: The Conquest — John Wayne, Susan Hayward; Nov. 9: World Without End — Nancy Gates, Hugh Marlowe; Nov. 10: Crime In The Streets — John Havesatt, James Whitmore; Nov. 11: 22 Mo-hawk — Scott Brady, Rita Gam; Nov. 13: Toy Tiger — Jeff Chandler, Laraine Day; Nov. 14: The Man Who Knew Too Much — James Stewart, Doris Day.

BAUMHOLDER
Wagon Wheel
Nov. 8: The Bold and The Brave — Nicole Maurey, Mickey Rooney; Nov. 10: Crashing Las Vegas — The Bowery Boys; Nov. 11: Carousel — Gordon MacRae, Shirley Jones; Nov. 13: The Scarlet Hour — Tom Tully, Carol Ohmart; Nov. 14: The Creeping Unknown — Brian Donley, Margia Dean.
Mountainaire
Nov. 8: The Man Who Knew Too Much — James Stewart, Doris Day; Nov. 9: A Day of Fury — Dale Robertson, Mara Corday; Nov. 10: The Steel Jungle — Perry Lopez, Beverly Garland; Nov. 11-12: The Bold

and The Brave — Nicole Maurey, Mickey Rooney; Nov. 13: Crashing Las Vegas — The Bowery Boys; Nov. 14: Carousel — Gordon MacRae, Shirley Jones.

MAINZ
Nov. 8: I'll Get Tomorrow — Susan Hayward, Eddie Albert; Nov. 9: The Creature Walks Among Us — Jeff Morrow, Rex Reason; Nov. 10: The Price of Fear — Merle Oberon, Lex Barker; Nov. 11-12: The Searchers — John Wayne, Natalie Wood; Nov. 13: Patterns — Van Heflin, Everett Stone; Nov. 14: The Swan — Grace Kelly, Alec Guinness.

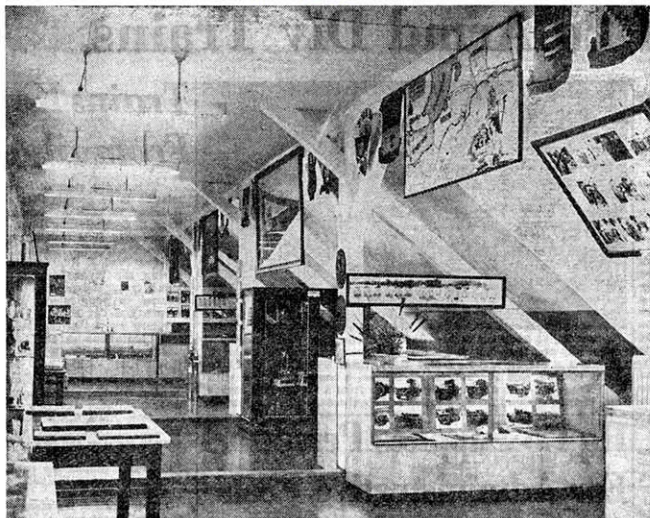
WACKERNHEIM
Nov. 8: Broken Star — Lita Baro, Howard Duff; Nov. 9-10: 11th City Tomorrow — Susan Hayward, Eddie Albert; Nov. 11: The Creature Walks Among Us — Jeff Morrow, Rex Reason; Nov. 12: The Price of Fear — Merle Oberon, Lex Barker; Nov. 13-14: The Searchers — John Wayne, Natalie Wood.

DEXHEIM
Nov. 8: Safari — Janet Leigh, Victor Mature; Nov. 9: These Wild-

er Years — James Cagney, Barbara Stanwyck; Nov. 10: The Young Guns — Russ Tamblyn, Gloria Talbot; Nov. 11-12: Lust For Life; Kirk Douglas, Anthony Quinn; Nov. 13: Battle Station — John Lund, Keefe Brasselle; Nov. 14: The King and I — Deborah Kerr, Yul Brynner.

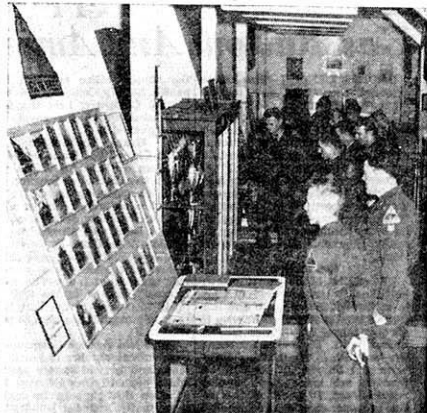
WORMS
Nov. 8: Patterns — Van Heflin, Ed Begley; Nov. 9: The Swan — Grace Kelly, Alec Guinness; Nov. 11: Miracle In The Rain — Van Johnson, Jane Wyman; Nov. 12: Timetable — Mark Stevens, Felicia Farr; Nov. 13-14: On The Threshold of Space — Guy Madison, Virginia Leith.

MANNHEIM
Nov. 8: The Man In The Gray Flannel Suit — George Peck, Jennifer Jones; Nov. 10: Goodbye, My Lady — Walter Brennan, Phil Harris; Nov. 11-12: The Fastest Gun Alive — Glenn Ford, James Cagney; Nov. 13: Congo Crossing — Virginia Mayo, George Nader; Nov. 14: The Leather Saint — Paul Douglas, John Derek.

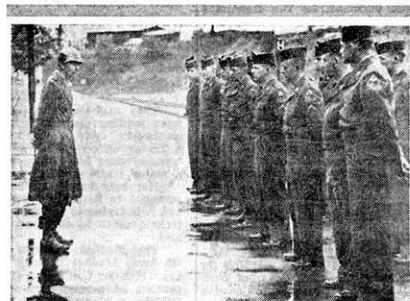


View of the new 2d Armd Div museum on the fourth floor of Div Hq in Bad Kreuznach. Established under the direction of Capt Theodore P. Fox, the museum has exhibits dating back to the first days of the Iron Duce prior to WW II. —Photo by Mitchell

Children Throng Museum; Packet Platoon Joins 66th



New division members learn some of the history of 2d Armored in the new museum before receiving their assignments at the 502d Repl Co. —Mitchell



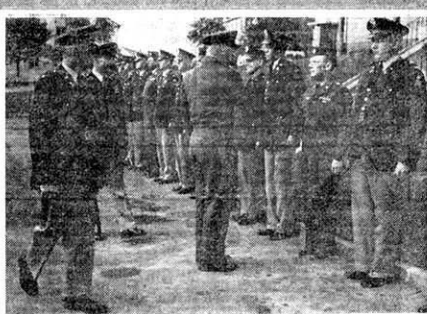
One of the first "packet platoons" to arrive in the division was welcomed at the Baumholder Bahnhof recently by Lt Col Eric Robbe, 66th Tk Bn Co. The 18 men came to the battalion from the Armored Reserve Training Center at Ft Knox, Ky., to become 2d Platoon of Co A, 66th Tk Bn. The platoon leader is 1st Lt Raymond C. Smith.



Sfc James R. Griffin, museum curator, points out some of the highlights of the division's history to pupils of the Bad Kreuznach Dependent School. The museum is open now only during normal duty hours, but it is hoped that it will be open at other hours in the future so that more Wheelsmen and German nationals may visit it. Sfc Griffin said. —Mitchell



An engineer of the 17th AEB rests while a medic from Landstuhl Army Medical Center drains a pint of blood from his veins during the blood bank's visit to Dechem Intc last month. The engineers donated a total of 102 pints and scores of others had to be turned away on account of the limited facilities available for the collection.



Before departing from the 2d Armd Div to his new assignment at USAREUR Hq recently, Lt Col Hilton Densley, CO of the 16th AFA Bn for the past year, bids farewell to the officers and First Sergeants of the battalion at a ceremony in front of Bn Hq. Trooping the line with Col Densley were Brig Gen John A. Berry, Div Arty CG, and Maj William O. Brown, Bn Exec Officer. Here the colonel shakes hands with M Sgt John R. Reddick, Btry B First Sergeant. —Wigley

The Story of 2d Armd Div Trains

Logistics-The Lifeblood of Battle

Quartermaster Supplies Gas, Rations And Ammo

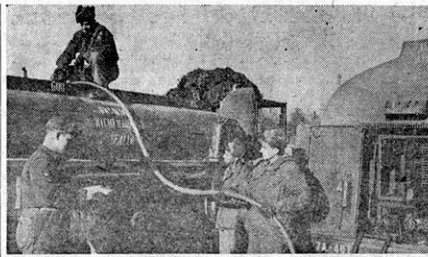
BAD KREUZNACH—The key to armored success in any tactical maneuver, according to Lt Col Rodrick D. Eason, division quartermaster and CO of the 124th AOB for the past 14 months, is "gasoline delivered in the right amount in the right place when needed."

During the present field training exercises gasoline and rations are the Quartermaster's main concern, but in garrison—and in actual combat—the battalion also handles literally thousands of other supply items.

QM Mission

The mission of the quartermaster battalion in any armored division is to furnish QM supplies and limited support for all elements of the division and attached units. The nerve center of the battalion is the Division Quartermaster Supply Office. Here estimates are made and supplies requisitioned. In garrison this office is responsible for the technical training of all quartermaster personnel and for limited support of Quartermaster Class I and Class II and IV supplies.

Backing up the paper work of



Helping to keep the division mobile during field maneuvers now under way are, from left, Sp3 Elmer E. Hawse, checker, Pvt Mike G. Heintze, a driver, and Lt LeRoy Sells, Class III officer, all of 2d Armd QM Bn, and Pfc Andrew M. Simace, a transport driver with 40th Trans Bn, who are pumping gasoline from a 5,000-gallon tanker into division tankers for distribution to Wheelsmen. —Photo, Seaman

Hq Co Supplies Personnel For Administrative Posts

BAD KREUZNACH—The duties of Hq Co, Div Trains, commanded by Capt John N. McNulty, is essentially the same as that of any other headquarters company.

Hq Co has the duty of supplying administrative, personnel and logistical services to Div Trains Hq. Its members comprise much of the personnel for Div Rear, and do their daily duties in many division special staff sections and unit personnel sections.

In addition to fulfilling their manifold duty functions, the men of Trains Hq have also found time to participate in an active sports program.

The company received a "Superior" rating in this year's AGI and was commended last week by Maj Gen C. Stanton Babcock, Div CG, for achieving an overall rating of "Excellent" in its CMI.

'Wheels' Presents 'The Trains Story'

BAD KREUZNACH—"Hell On Wheels" this week departs from its weekly two-page feature section so that it might bring the "Story of Div Trains" to the men of the division.

The pictures and stories printed on these two pages were compiled and written by Maj Benn L. Twiss, Trains Exec Officer, and Pfc Harold Cox, Trains reporter for this newspaper.

The men of the 124th are not allowing themselves to be so tied down to their huge daily task that they cannot look ahead. They are hoping that their efforts on MASS will result in work simplification and further-improved services to the units they support.

Only last week, while taking part in FTX "Final Drive," a shipment of tires ordered under MASS (Modern Army Supply System) was received by the 124th and unloaded at the division ordnance supply point in the field. The shipment was the first of six such shipments of supplies to arrive in the field. Trains headquarters staff early this week that about 50 tons of small parts were among other MASS shipments delivered while the 124th was in the field.

Trains Kept Div Moving From Algeria to Berlin

This is the story of Division Trains, the Senior Command whose mission is to provide the "Hell on Wheels" Division with the stuff it takes to pack a "Sunday Punch"—the wallop necessary to deliver a death-dealing blow to the enemy in combat. Whether in garrison, in field training, or in battle Trains supports the division through adequate administrative and personnel services.

Col Paul J. Ritchie, Div Trains CO, last week at a conference during the break between field exercises, stated that, "To understand truly the position of Division Trains in the 2d Army Div, picture in your mind's eye the division as an individual soldier—with the Div Hq and troops as the head and nerve center; the artillery as the arms; the armored infantry as the legs; and the tank battalions as the torso; and Division Trains as the heart which is continuously pumping "logistics," the life blood of battle, to all parts of the body of this symbolic soldier."

Col Ritchie Commanding

Col Ritchie, veteran tactical commander, and student of logistics, was explaining the role played by the six units—2d Armd QM Bn, 48th AMB, 124th AOB, 502d Repl Co, Div Band and Hq Co Trains—which comprise the Senior Command he has led for the past 15 months, since taking command from the Army War College.

Carrying the symbolism of the "individual soldier" a step further, the Trains commander pointed out, "Let him lose an arm or a leg, vital as they are, the body can still function; but let the heart stop and life ceases."

This then, is the story of the men who supply the division with its food, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and ammunition; provide conscientious medical care; "serenade" the troops with music as often as a heavy division-wide schedule permits; and yes, even see that replacements are cordially received, and promptly and safely dispatched to the various units.

The magnitude of the job performed by these "Service Troops" is realized when you consider that Quartermaster units issue 20,000 rations and deliver 100,000 gallons of gasoline daily.

Quartermaster battalion, for example, drove some 75,000 miles during FTX "Final Drive" last week to deliver 500,000 gallons of gasoline, Trains officers estimated.

'Live' in Trucks

They said the drivers literally "lived" in their trucks, moving from holding areas to issue points to Army Supply points in a continuous cycle. Delivering supplies safely is all-important, and a Trains officer said this week that Quartermaster truckers had traveled some two million miles during the past two years without a major traffic accident.

Not only has Trains been doing its day-to-day job, but it has managed to keep abreast of rapidly paced logistics developments; and it is trying to anticipate future trends in logistical concepts and techniques to be employed on the nuclear battle front, one officer said.

The Medical Battalion took part in FTX "Fireball" and the 7th Army Medical Training Exercise conducted last August concerning which Lt Gen Bruce C. Clarke, the 7th Army CG wrote, "The problem of medical care and evacuation of casualties for atomic warfare is a complex and difficult one and deserves repeated support and play in training exercises."

The fact that these men are doing their job may be seen in the division's state of combat readiness, logistics-wise, and is attested to in the results of Army Training Tests and major inspections, a Trains major said. In the 1956 AGIs, he stated, all Trains units received superior ratings, while the 3 top numerical ratings in the recent Army Training Tests given all battalions in the division went to the three Trains Battalions.



Capt Donald J. Everson, right, Asst Div Preventive Medicine Officer with the 48th AMB, checks the feet of Pfc John R. Colum, Trains radio operator, left, and Sp3 William J. Baker, Trains mechanic, for cold injury during "FTX Final Drive" somewhere in Germany. —Photo by Seaman

Music Made by Div Band Throughout Deutschland

BAD KREUZNACH—Primarily, of course, the function of the 2d Armd Div band is a military one, and the members put their duties with regard to parades and playing for required military functions first, at all times. But increasingly, the unit is being called upon to play its music for gatherings and festive occasions of the German people. Such requests for the band's services have taken the group as far away as Luxembourg and as near as Oranien Park in Bad Kreuznach.

The division band, consisting of 46 members, through concerts and public appearances is reaching the people of Germany and piercing the language barrier with an effect that only music can achieve.

CWO Arlie L. Hatfield, band director, is aware of the potentialities of his organization as a means for reaching the German people through a medium which everyone understands—good music.

The music of the 2d Armored's band has received the notice of the German press also. Two Bad Kreuznach papers praised Sunday afternoon concerts recently held in Oranien Park.

A high priority project recently undertaken by the band director is the formation, equipping and training of Drum and Bugle Corps for the division.

Medics Keep Techniques Sharp in Field Training

BAD KREUZNACH—To "conserve the fighting strength" of the division is the mission of the 48th AMB. To insure the accomplishment of its mission, the battalion has consistently maintained itself at a high degree of efficiency under the leadership of Lt Col Floyd C. Egger.

The battalion spends most of its time on its own field exercises and supporting those of other division and non-division units. "These frequent training exercises undoubtedly have contributed much toward the battalion's attaining the highest score in the division in the recent Army battalion training tests," Col Egger said.

This esprit and professional competence can be seen also in entertainment and athletic activities. Believing that a singing soldier is a good soldier, Col Egger has strongly encouraged and supported his men in their singing activities.

As proof of their prowess in athletics, the "medics" have twice won permanent possession of the coveted Northern Association Sports Achievement Trophy, and sent three men to the USAREUR finals in tryouts for the American 1956 Olympic Team.

During the current field exercises the members of the ambulance and clearing platoons have been busy handling simulated casualties (which have run the gamut of battlefield wounds, injuries, and diseases) to treating actual casualties ranging from toothache to fracture.

Letters of commendation and appreciation from medical installation commanders at Frankfurt, Neubruecke, Mainz, Daxheim, Mannheim, Worms and Baumholder, where the battalion is stationed, tell the story of an important program conducted by the 48th.

Medical technicians are placed on TDY from the battalion to neuro-psychiatric clinics at the 97th and 98th U.S. Army General Hospitals. They also staff the Divarty Dispensary at Baumholder. Dental technicians staff the dental clinics located throughout this part of Germany.

124th AOB Readies Div for Combat: Keeps Maintenance Standards High

BAD KREUZNACH—Often praised for the division-wide high standards of maintenance and continual low vehicle downtime rate is the 124th AOB, the division's direct support for fire power and mobility.

When driver and organizational maintenance fails to keep the wheels and tracks rolling, then ordnance "work horse" of the division, steps in to perform third echelon repairs and replacements.

However, Lt Col Fred V. Noel, in his dual role as Div Ordnance Officer and battalion CO, was quick to give much of the credit for the low downtime rate to the using units. "Such an achievement at the low downtime rate," he said, "is possible only when everyone in the division is giving conscientious attention to maintenance."

Once a vehicle reaches ordnance however, it is "all out to get it back to the unit," according to Maj Charles Grace, Div Maintenance Officer. "You can't win wars keeping an ordnance item in the shop," he said. "Power packages are the solution. If, for example, a jeep needs a transmission, it gets a 'power package' and is on its way."

Ingenuity

"To the line...on the line," is the motto Col Noel stresses through his ordnance contact and technical assistance teams. Delivery of all small arms and artillery

24-Hour Day

The ordnance letter companies are accustomed to operating 24-hours-a-day to support the Combat Commands. This willingness to work, plus the "can do" spirit that prevails throughout the battalion accounts for the recognition it has received as an outstanding ordnance unit, Col Noel said.

HELL ON WHEELS
THE ARMORED DIVISION

Maj Gen C. Stanton Babcock, Commanding General HELL ON WHEELS, published weekly, subject to editorial supervision by the THE OFFICER, 2d Armored Division. It is an authorized military publication for the use of military personnel and records Armed Forces Press Service material. Civilian newspapers are authorized to reprint material appearing under the title "HELL ON WHEELS" provided that the reprinting is not for profit and is not marked to indicate the source. Permission for use, editorial views and opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. HELL ON WHEELS, Hq 2d Armd Div, APO 42, U.S. Army, Bad Kreuznach (N.Y.), N.Y.; telephone BR 2-4242. Copy deadlines may be submitted six days prior to publication date, and all material submitted, including photographs, is subject to editorial discretion as to use or rejection. Not responsible for material submitted in other than type-written form. All copy subject to confirmation. Copies published weekly—4,500.

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502d Repl Co Reinforces Division: 34 Officers and Men Have Hands Full

BAD KREUZNACH—"WE REINFORCE" is the slogan on the sign in front of building 5334 in Rose Barracks at Bad Kreuznach, and these two words succinctly summarize the mission of the 502d Replacement Company billeted there.

The 502d, with a permanent party of only 29 enlisted men, four officers, and a warrant officer, is charged with the responsibility for processing all replacement personnel for the 2d Armd Div. The steps in this processing include transportation from the Bahnhof, initial greeting and welcome, issue of bedding, division insignia and field equipment when required, orientation, partial pay, and issue of EES ration cards, notification of assignment, publication of special orders, posting of personnel records, and delivery of men and records to the common carrier for transportation to their new units.

Incoming shipments of groups of replacements as large as 200 are not unusual, and are handled within the time allotted. The company is capable of processing 400 replacements every 72 hours. An overall rating of "Superior" at the last AGI and CMI inspections is indicative of the small unit's efficiency.

Besides the performance of its mission, the 502d Replacement Company is justly proud of its record and achievements in other fields. Some of these are: Department of the Army Minuteman Award for participation in the Savings Program, and present qualification for the 7th Army Award; Certificate for 100 per cent membership in 2d Armored Division Association; Certificate for 100 per cent contribution to Army Emergency Relief; Letters of Appreciation for 100 per cent contribution in Red Cross Club and for purchase of Dad's Girl Carnival tickets; Championship or runner-up trophies in company level bowling, softball and touch football.

This Week's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1—Chart
4—Maken less dense
9—in music, high
12—lubricate
13—Exceeding
14—Female deer
15—Blackboard
19—Goals
21—Adhesive substance
23—Doubter
24—In union
27—Recite in verse
28—Japanese measure
29—Free antineutrino
30—Pill sounds
31—Free antineutrino
32—Man's
33—Talks idly
34—Ken
35—Discourage
37—Sharpen
38—Tanner measure
39—Reveal
40—Starline
42—Pertaining to

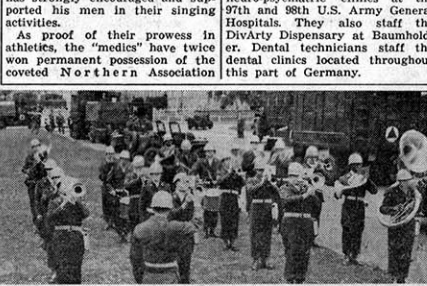
DOWN

15—Confederate general
16—Wine but
18—Exist
19—Suffice
20—Lasssed
21—Fall behind
22—Symbol for
23—Squid
24—Methods
25—Black automobile
26—Parcel of land
27—Sobriety
28—Catcher's
31—Gratified
32—Smooth discourse
33—Man
34—Dwell
35—Crafty
36—GIRL's name
37—Quits
38—Playhouse
39—Black element
40—Alumnus
41—Indian
42—The front
43—Founders of
44—Lamb
45—Feather
46—Lamb
47—Artificial language

Photo by Seaman



The 2d Armd Div Band serenades division members as they leave Rose Barracks in Bad Kreuznach for the field and participation in FTX "Final Drive" and FTX "Sabro Knot." The band plays at most division parades and at various German-American affairs throughout Germany. —Photo by Mitchell



The 502d Repl Co Reinforces Division: 34 Officers and Men Have Hands Full

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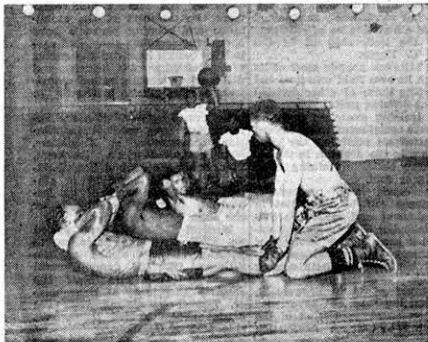
(Puzzle Answers on Page 8)

Div Arty's Curtis Lends Boxing Knowledge To Novice Fighters in Baumholder Area

By Pfc ED JANEWAY

BAUMHOLDER—Coaching the Baumholder Novice Boxing Squad is Billie Jo Curtis, a clerk in the Div Arty S&R Office. Curtis was last winter's 2d Arm'd Div middleweight champion by virtue of a sensational knockout victory over the 43d AIB's Elmer Edwards. From there the slugger from McAlester, Okla., went on to the USAREUR Boxing Championships where he met his Waterloo in the person of V Corps' Allen Douglas. That was Curtis' only defeat in the ring last year, coming in the USAREUR quarter-finals.

Winning fights has come to be some sort of a habit with Curtis, who first stepped into the ring at the age of 11.



Three hours of training every afternoon start with a period of calisthenics to get loosened up. Here Billie Jo Curtis holds Clifford Lee's feet during sit-ups. —Photo by Holmes



Bill Davis, 16th AFA Bn, middleweight works out with a skip rope to improve footwork.

58th Replenish Blood Bank

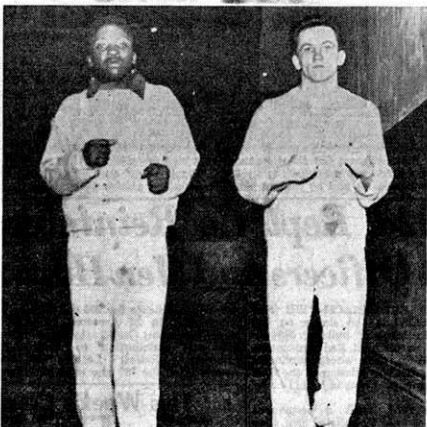
MANNHEIM — An urgent need for blood to replenish dwindling supplies in the city of Viernheim, Germany has been met by contributions from men of the 58th AIB.

Mayor Lorenz Neff of Viernheim notified the battalion that the blood bank for the German city was in need of contributions. Lt Col Robert G. Brugh Jr., CO of the 58th, passed this word along to his men.

Arrangements were made with the Viernheim Red Cross supervisor to work out details; and on Oct. 24 several truck loads of volunteers from the 58th AIB journeyed to the city and the men donated one pint of blood each.

In reciprocation, Mayor Neff and a delegation of citizens paid a surprise visit to the 58th on Oct. 29. The mayor presented certificates to each man who had given blood.

The 58th, commanded by Lt Col Brugh, is located at Taylor Barracks, Mannheim, and is a unit of SETAF, attached to the 2d Armored Div.



Jogging around the Post Gym are Alfonso McGehee, 29th Tk Bn welterweight and Bruce Mitchell, 48th AMB welterweight. —Photo by Holmes

Ex Div Star Cops Honors

BAD KREUZNACH — A former member of the division, Al Zerhusen, is currently on tour with the US Olympic Soccer squad through the Pacific and Far East. While with the division Zerhusen played for the 94th AAA Bn soccer team at Wackerneim and aided the 94th in winning the division soccer crown in last season's play as he scored two goals in the 3-1 triumph over the 43d AIB in the final contest of the championships. Zerhusen acquired his soccer experience at an early age when the family moved to Germany in 1938. After returning to the States in 1950, he played for the Kolping German-American Society eleven prior to entering the service.



Al Zerhusen

Booters Train For Olympics

NEW YORK (AFPS)—The United States Olympic soccer team, which includes four servicemen, has departed on a practice swing of the Far East and Pacific.

The team will play in Tokyo, Seoul, Taipei, Formosa; Hong Kong, Manila and Djakarta, Indonesia, before arriving in Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 16. The Olympic Games will be held Nov. 22-Dec. 8.

Servicemen on the squad are Ron Coder, Hunter AFB, Ga.; Richard Packer, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.; and Siegbert Wirth and John Carden, both from Ft. Meade, Md. Also on the team are Army reserves William Conterio of Chicago and Albert Zerhusen of Cincinnati.

Garmisch Trails Beckon Division Ski Enthusiasts

NURNBERG (Special) — Just as sure as spring's first daffodil enraptures poets, so winter's first big snowfall brings forth a cry of ecstasy from the cack of hardy individuals known as skiers.

Their joyous whoops and swoops are beginning to echo throughout Germany's Southern these days as the snow piles higher on the world-famous slopes of the Bavarian Alps.

The US Armed Forces Recreation Center in Bavaria has reported that skiing conditions on the Zugspitze are excellent and that beginner's and advanced classes for US ARMY personnel are being held almost daily.

At each location there is a well-equipped ski room where you can rent all necessary equipment including hickory skis, poles, boots,

socks, parkas, ski pants, mittens and caps—a complete outfit for one dollar a day.

There is no lack of ski lifts around the areas and English speaking ski instructors are available to teach beginners the basic principles that will save hours of fumbling and stumbling. Personnel who plan to spend Christmas or New Year's at the Center are urged to make reservations as soon as possible. Reservations can be made by letter, telegram, cable or telephone to the Berchtesgaden Central Reservation Center, APO 108; telephone Berchtesgaden Military 723-823. For Garmisch reservations, requests should be addressed to Billington Office, Garmisch Recreation Area, APO 172; telephone Garmisch Military 557.

Nurnberg Calls

BAD KREUZNACH — A team composed of the top novice and open boxers left Bad Kreuznach yesterday for a 15-bout exhibition card in Nurnberg tonight. The team is expected to return the morning following the bouts, Friday.

A request for an exhibition of the division's boxing program was made last Oct. as the Nurnberg area has no planned pugilists program. With the division currently engaged in a fast moving novice card, arrangements were made to take a 30-man squad to Nurnberg.

Places on the team are awarded to novice boxers who made outstanding showings in fights during this season's novice fights along with selected open class fighters.

The bouts are scheduled to begin at 8 pm and continue through an action-packed evening.

Novice Season Closes With Championship Tilt

BAD KREUZNACH — The novice boxing season is fast drawing to a close. After two months of fistic mayhem, the beginners of the boxing game will vie for division crowns in their respective weight classes the 14th through the 17th of this month. The championship fights will be held at the Barnes Memorial Gymnasium in Mannheim with the Worms-Mannheim Conference serving as the host.

Each conference team can enter two men in each weight class and also the team may have one coach, one trainer and one officer manager. All officials for the bouts will be selected and assigned by the Division Special Services Office.

Competing boxers will report to CCA Sports and Recreation Office between 1 and 5 pm, Nov. 13. In-

tial medical examination and weigh-in will be conducted Nov. 14 at 10 am in Barnes Gym. Qualified contestants will be examined and weigh-in each day of competition from 10 am to 12 pm.

The tournament committee will confer with all contestants, officer managers and coaches in the gymnasium at 1:30 pm on the 14th. Certified team rosters must be available at this time. While the tournament committee is in session at this date and time, the drawings will be made.

The host conference, Worms-Mannheim, will be responsible for the care of all teams and officials and the furnishing of all equipment, other than personal, necessary for the conduct of the championships.

Armed Forces Place Six Men on Mitt Team

SAN FRANCISCO (AFPS) — The Armed Forces came up with a "Sunday punch" in the Olympic boxing trials at the Cow Palace as six servicemen landed berths on the 10-man U.S. squad which will compete in the 1956 Games at Melbourne, Australia.

Collegiate fighters won two titles and regional and Golden Gloves champions one each in the three-day fistc tryouts. More than 100 of the nation's top non-professionals—62 of them servicemen — slugged it out for the coveted trip "down under."

Servicemen on the Olympic team are: Harry Smith, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C., featherweight; Luis Molina, San Diego MCRD, Calif., lightweight; Pearce Lane, Ft. Polk, La., welterweight; Jose Torres, Ft. Meade, Md., light-middletweight; Jim Boyd, light-heavyweight, and Tom (Pete) Rademacher, heavyweight, both from Ft. Benning, Ga.



Left to Right: flyweight Ray Perez, bantamweight Choken Mackava, featherweight Harry Smith, lightweight Luis Molina, light welterweight Joe Shaw, welterweight Pearce Lane, light middleweight Jose Torres, light heavyweight Jim Boyd, and heavyweight Tom Rademacher. Middletweight Roger Rouse is not shown. (AFPS)

Star 48th Hoopster Returns to ZI; Played on Former 'Travellers' Five

BAUMHOLDER — Departing from here for the Bremerhaven POE this week is Jim Poff, of the 48th who will be well-represented by Division basketball followers for his performances on the hard court last winter. Poff, who has been stationed here for the last 14 months, played with the Central Association "Travellers" quintet which fought the CCA "Apaches" right down to the wire for the top position in 2d Arm Div regimental play last year.

In Poff the Travellers had a player of considerable experience who could always be counted on to use his lanky, 6'3", 175-pound frame to the best advantage in "going up" for those crucial two points. Equally adept at grabbing rebounds off the home backboard, Poff proved his worth to the team both offensively and defensively. His performance as last winter's carry-over from college basketball days at Bucknell University in Lancaster, Pa., where he starred with the hoop squad for three years in a team which, although hobbled by a leg injury the better half of both his last two seasons, Poff attracted the admiration and respect of opposing coaches and players alike for his all-around court finesse.

So impressed was Eastern basketball scribes with his brand of play at the climax of his college career, the native of Philadelphia was adjudged one of the top 25 collegiate players in the nation's 1954 season. With his name well known up and down the Eastern Seaboard, Poff received offers to play professional ball after graduation.

As a youngster in and around metropolitan Philadelphia, Poff's

athletic career was pretty well confined to "Intra-Mural Marbles and the Hop, Step, and Jump." He spent his spare time outdoors in both of these events but admits always having an eye cocked in the direction of the hoop sport. During grammar school days most of his leisure time was devoted to neighborhood basketball games with the street for a court and an improvised contraption on a tree or lamp post serving for a basket.

Poff first got his taste of organized basketball at Philadelphia's Overbrook High School where he came under the wing of Sam Cozen. "He knew the game inside and out," says Poff, "and built up a team that in my senior year went on to win the City Championship of Philadelphia. That was a fast-moving league and proved to be the breeding ground of future All-Americans among them: LaSalle's Tom Gola and the University of Pennsylvania's Ernie Beck."

Honor Student Poff graduated as an honor student from Overbrook H.S. and received an academic scholarship to Bucknell. After spending the fall term studying at the books, he turned out for the freshman basketball team and was quickly accorded a first string berth. "It was an extremely well-balanced team we had that year," he recalls. "Every single man on the starting five averaged 14-16 points per game and we went on to rack up a 22 season record."

The former high school star's contribution to the frosh quintet was a sizzling 22 point per game average during the 22 season record. Poff's spot on the Bucknell varsity the following year. "Our coach at Bucknell was Ben

Kribbs who had previously coached tiny Clarion State Teachers to an amazing 35 game winning stroke." During his time at Clarion, Poff played under him, the Bucknell quintet could do little better than break even but on more than one occasion the team gave forth with a colorful brand of firehouse ball that left the spectators in a frenzy of excitement.

"Rhode Island State was always famous for its firehouse play, often productive of scores running up into triple figures," says Poff, "and when we went to play them we decided to play them at their own game. Our strategy paid off, for as the final buzzer sounded, after sixty minutes of the shootingest basketball you've ever seen, we came out on top 112-106. "Another one I'll always remember," commented the former Bucknell cage ace, "was a Christmas game at the end of the year which brought us face to face with a highly rated Arizona State quintet. They lived up to their advanced billing by rolling the score up to 30-4 at the end of the initial quarter. All of a sudden we caught fire and the ball went from one end of the court to the other. The shooting was going wild. When the shooting was all over the Bucknell hoopmen emerged victorious by an 86-83 count.

Since then, Poff has played Army. Poff has run into his share of former college cage stars. At Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in the winter of 1954 he played alongside a former Bucknell star, the late Zed former Apache ace as the top player he's ever played against.

Memo Defines Patrol Duties

BAD KREUZNACH — The attention of winter sports-minded Wheelmen was recently called to USAREUR memorandum No. 1381-1 dated Oct. 11, 1956 which states that training courses for personnel to be assigned to ski patrol duty in the United States Army, Europe, will be conducted at Berchtesgaden, Germany in accordance with an enclosed schedule.

The ski-patrol training course schedule commences later this month at Berchtesgaden, where the first series of instructions will be held from Nov. 18 through Nov. 24. The second series of courses will be held from Jan. 6 through Jan. 12, 1957 while the third and fourth series of classes are slated to be held from Feb. 24 through March 2, 1957 and March 14 through Apr. 20, 1957.

The classes, it was also announced, are open to anyone desiring to serve with the ski patrol with the stipulation that an applicant is able to pass a short physical sking test at least every three months remaining in his present tour of duty.

Personnel wishing to attend any one of the classes for which they are qualified may submit a written request, including a resume of previous sking experience to the same address with an indorsement by their immediate commander stating that they will be released for attendance at the training course and for duty with the ski patrol if needed.

Safety Director, Southern Area Command will screen all applications and forward the information on personnel selected to attend each class to USAREUR Headquarters (Attn: Sp Act Div, APO 245, US Army), which will in turn submit a request for the publication of necessary orders to the Adjutant General, USAREUR.



Mr. Frank Hill, soccer great from Scotland, accepts a plaque from Lt Col Robert F. Freeman, G-1, in recognition of his contributions to the division soccer scene. —Photo by Mitchell

Soccer Expert Off To Native Scotland

By Sp3 LARRY BORZUMATO
BAD KREUZNACH — "Laddie, give it a try" was an oft heard expression on the division soccer fields the last few months.

Mr. Frank Hill, a member of the seven-man contingent brought from England and Scotland by 7th Army for the purpose of teaching the fundamentals of soccer to 7th Army troops, completed his mission two weeks ago and returned to his native Scotland.

While with the division, Mr. Hill visited each of the combat commands and held clinics for battalion soccer team members. And lively clinics these were as the Scottish usage and quick movements characteristic of this fiery, little gentleman spurred the clinic members on to an understanding of the sport along with a new found respect for this, a relatively new game.

Both the shy and the aggressive received deft treatment during the clinic sessions, some of which were held in the classroom and some on the playing fields. For those who hesitated in the group demonstrations the "Little Scot" had

pushed ready words of wit and encouragement to make them help keep the ball rolling. The aggressive attitude factor often needed in the game, Mr. Hill again employed his wit, thereby giving all the participants a chance to take part in the practical work of the clinics.

It has become increasingly evident in the past month that a love for the game and its basic fundamentals were thoroughly ingrained through Mr. Hill's teachings as unit teams competing against local German elevens have managed to win a few tilts and even in losing have put up creditable fights.

Though 2d Armored squads still have a great deal of practice and hard work ahead of them before they can field consistently sound teams, the start has been made and a good one it is. After the hot division soccer race has been capped by the division play-offs, it may be assumed that 2d Armored will send a team to the 7th Army play-offs with a good chance at the 7th Army title.

Basketball Clinics Start For Prospective Officials

By Sp3 LARRY BORZUMATO
BAD KREUZNACH — In preparation for the company and battalion-level basketball program this season, the Division Special Services Office has recently released the schedules for two basketball officials' clinics to be held later this month.

The purpose of the clinics, to be held at Coleman Barracks in Mannheim and at Smith Barracks in Baumholder, is to train officials in the skill and techniques that will be employed in the 1956 2d Arm Div company and battalion-level basketball programs.

The clinic for the Mainz and Mannheim Conferences will be held at Mannheim from Nov. 19 through Nov. 24 and for the Baumholder and Bad Kreuznach Conferences at Baumholder from Nov. 26 through Nov. 29.

Each battalion-sized unit is authorized and encouraged to send five officials to meet the prescribed USAREUR requirements. These are from the battalions who attend and successfully complete the 1956 USAREUR Basketball Off-

icials' Clinic will then attend and assist in the conduct of the Division Clinic scheduled later in the season.

It was also announced that individuals nominated to attend the basketball clinic will be carefully screened for qualifications and will also be individuals of the type that reflect credit on their particular unit when officiating at games involving other units.

Also included in the announcement from the Special Services Office was the information that only graduates of the 1956 USAREUR or 2d Arm Div Basketball Officials' Clinics are authorized to receive payment for officiating.

The Division Special Services Officer will forward reports of the grades attained by the participants to their conferences within 10 days after completion of the clinic.

Participants are urged to report to the Mannheim Clinic between 12 noon and 5 pm on Nov. 18, and between 12 noon and 5 pm at Baumholder for the Baumholder-Bad Kreuznach Conference clinic.

Eye Witness Describes His Experiences With Bulls, Bullets, Constrictor 'Cocktails' and Politicians in S. American Elections

(Editor's Note: Recently an interesting story on elections in South America came to our attention, and we thought this a timely issue in which to present our findings. In order that Wheelmen who voted in Tuesday's elections, absentee-style, may see how fortunate they were to have voted by ballot and not by bullet, the following account is published for their perusal. Since, however, our facilities for investigation are somewhat limited, we cannot vouch for the article's absolute veracity.)

ONE summer not long ago I happened to be in South America in the vicinity of a small republic (which under the circumstances had better remain nameless) where an old friend was living. One Alva Alvarez whom I had met in New York. I was at a small coastal port at the time, en route to the United States after a brief vacation.

I had booked passage aboard a merchant ship and at the last minute was informed by the captain that there would be a delay of several days while a spoiled portion of the cargo was being replaced. I hailed this as a happy coincidence for it provided me with an opportunity to go inland to pay my friend a short visit, for which I would not otherwise have had the time.

Senor Alvarez had extended me several very kind invitations and had also written that he was making a name for himself in local politics. Therefore, being a writer by profession (or rather by lack of one), I thought a glimpse into the inner workings of one of the

South American governments would be an enlightening if not a valuable experience. I accordingly made the hot and arduous journey by plane to the interior by riverboat, bus, mule, and foot with the most cheerful expectations.

I was not particularly impressed with the town, or for that matter, the country upon which Senor Alvarez had seen fit to squander his political talents. The town where he lived consisted almost solely of mud huts with thatched roofs; and when I arrived, the only evidence of a constituency was an aggregation of sheep, goats, and pigs who seemed to be the undisputed owners of the streets.

THE first signs of anything human were several sets of gnarled bare feet and bulging stomachs sprawling under generous sombreros in the marketplace. I addressed myself to what I considered the most suspicious pair of feet, inquiring in my politest Spanish for the house of Senor Alvarez.

"Don't bother asking him, Senor," came a voice from a neighboring sombrero. "He plays dumb fella. Dead anyway. Election-time here, you know."

The information did not startle me so much as the snore with which it was punctuated. I repressed a shudder and hurried away to a more benevolent looking pair of feet.

I was at length directed to a white walled with a wide, walled courtyard in front of it. I entered the narrow gate in the wall with the happiest prospects of meeting my old friend only to be confronted

by a 500-pound, snorting, ground-pawing Spanish bull. Unfortunately the boy whom I had engaged to carry my baggage was killed in the fray and he began to make a frantic dash for the small tree near the house as the animal charged. I was just able to hoist myself off the ground by means of a convenient limb, but not without having my backside thoroughly raked by the creature's horns as he passed beneath. I was holding on for dear life and hoping the worst was over when the bull suddenly turned and charged the tree. He hurled his horns in my direction with the force of a locomotive but did little damage other than chipping out two of my front teeth with the violence of the concussion.

While I was thus in a most precarious state of suspense, who should issue forth from the house but Senor Alvarez himself, armed, not a touch, and imperturbed, flourishing a mator's cape and shouting "Ole!" Between cajoling the bull and luring him away with the cape, Senor Alvarez managed to recognize and shoot a few civvies along with instructions as to how I should get down and enter the house.

WHEN at last we were behind the comparative safety of a locked door, Senor Alvarez shook my hand enthusiastically and I, in turn, presented to him his black mustache, welcomed me to his country.

"We are deeply honored by your visit," he said, "and we will do all we can to make you feel at home. I see you have already met my bull, Miguel. He is my personal bodyguard; the very best I ever had. Too expensive to buy, but he'll bribe. Keeps out salesmen, creditors, in-laws, and assassins. In fact, I've considered having the idea patented."

As he either did not notice or did not see fit to comment on the discomfort Miguel had caused me, I thought it might be indelicate to mention the matter to myself, and therefore let it pass and agreed that Miguel was a most effective if extraordinary bodyguard.

"Ah, Senor, but you must let me take you on your journey," my friend said at last. "Perhaps you would like some refreshment, no? A South American cocktail!"

This was the most agreeable prospect I had ever since determining on the visit, and I heartily replied in the affirmative.

Whereupon Senor Alvarez drew out the pistol which he had been armed, fired it into the air over his head, and shouted, "Francisco! Two bo constrictors!"

The roar of the pistol was almost deafening in the stillness of the afternoon; but I could have endured it much more easily than the chunk of plaster which the bullet dislodged from my forehead, which relieved me of a not considerable portion of my scalp.

SENOR Alvarez apologized profusely and said that, inasmuch as it was siesta time, this was the only means of arousing the help.

I was still bandaging my wound when Francisco, a fat and sleepy-eyed servant, appeared with two tall glasses full of ice, bits of fruit, and a bottle of wine. The drink indeed lived up to its name, as I was to discover later, but at the moment I was in no position to remember the poor quality of the ingredients. I quaffed the delicious concoction at a single draught.

Senor Alvarez was tremendously impressed by my performance which I would not have been able to duplicate under any other circumstances or at any other time in my life. He began shouting and laughing; I quaffed me on the back and heaping upon me

every complimentary epithet I had ever heard. Indeed it was almost enough to make me forget that my throat was on fire. I finished the drink and began to retch, and my stomach seemed as though it were caught in a steam press.

In his excitement Senor Alvarez had set over our drink on a nearby table; but when he had worked up a sufficient thirst extolling me he turned his attention closer home. He picked up the glass, touched it to his lips, and then suddenly snapped his fingers and cursed. Quickly he walked across the room and caught one of the numerous lizards that were crawling about on the walls and ceiling. Dangling the lizard by the tail, he ceremoniously dunked it into "bo constrictor" and awaited the results.

This performance astonished me somewhat less than the fact that within five seconds every bit of the tiny reptile's flesh had vanished and my friend was left holding one slightly used lizard skeleton. Slowly he began to shake his head.

"You've had, Senor," he said, staring at the skeleton. "Very bad indeed. Can't get a taster to work for me any more. Just have to make do with whatever comes along. I am afraid that insignificant swamp-insect of a bartender has tried to poison me. I apologize for his indiscretion."

I INVOLUNTARILY rubbed my stomach and began to tremble slightly. Senor Alvarez, however, remained perfectly calm and, having one of his pistols, began to check the chambers.

"What a pity!" he sighed, replacing the empty cartridges. "I shall have to let Francisco go. He was such a good mule, too."

At this point I felt called upon to say something, and congratulating my friend on his narrow escape, ventured to suggest that perhaps some of the assassin's wares had found their way into my drink as well.

"TO BE sure," said Senor Alvarez. "Francisco is very thorough. Will you be so kind as to step into the next room? I keep a stomach pump there for just such emergencies. Dominic will be happy to give you the treatment."

I ushered me into an adjoining chamber, set out a table, operating table and medical equipment that must have been the last word in doctor's supplies around these parts, and asked on the table but came to life with remarkable agility when Senor Alvarez dislodged him expertly with a single kick and, tossing his head back, directed me out of the room pistol in hand.

Dominic was indeed happy to give me the treatment (that is, to hold me in only function in the house) and he could not have handled me more gently if I had been a corpse to be embalmed. He evidently knew his business, for when he had finished, he said as though he had removed the whole of my stomach (along with whatever had been in it) and what he had left was the most astute of "bo constrictors' initial trip."

When at length I emerged into the livingroom more dead than alive, I found Senor Alvarez sitting at his desk, cleaning his guns and polishing a cutless which he had removed from one of the walls. He was humming to himself and looking up at me with a broad grin as I struggled in.

"Ah, good man, Dominic. I am convinced that fellow can work miracles. He cleaned and polished, "I was afraid you were going to miss our Harmony Meeting tonight. Election time here, you know. I had a very bad day, dear, knives, bull whips behind the door, drawers

under the sofa—and, oh, yes; grenades in the kitchen. Goodness can supply you in a few minutes; he's just making up a fresh batch."

I WAS about to make my excuses and say that I had already imposed unduly on my host, when a knock at the door suddenly appeared at the window. It stared for an instant and was then followed by a huge black animal which was attached just under an inch of lighted fuse.

"Ah, my friends have arrived early," Senor Alvarez said as he quainted down the blade of his cutlasses.

My reply was drowned out by a shattering explosion which took with it most of my hair, half of one ear, and all of my clothing. The men and women of the staff rallied to the livingroom at the noise and simultaneously the front door was forced by a shout-blast of guerrillas, all armed to the teeth.

There followed immediately an orgy of mayhem and slaughter unparalleled in the annals of human carnage. Men, women, chairs, and people seemed to darken the very air I breathed. Knives, bullets, axes, swords, and grenades were flying about in such numbers that I imagined all the war gods of the Northern Pantheon must be celebrating their rejuvenation in the Southern Hemisphere.

Now to escape the shambles and the madmen fighting there was a problem which I felt I would surely die trying to solve. But suddenly matters took an unexpected turn.

Senor Alvarez' home had evidently been mined before or during the attack, and his enemies realized the necessity for escaping his house by removing the house from me. An earth-shaking explosion suddenly collapsed all four walls about what was left of my ears, and when the atmosphere finally cleared, I found myself at the bottom of a heap of rubble composed mainly of Senor Alvarez, Miguel, Dominic, and Gaudaloupe.

WE WERE all more or less dead and Senor Alvarez and I were the first to recover our faculties sufficiently to move. I was comforted to find that I could do even that; and, thanking my friend for his kindness, I informed him that, as I had an appointment with an undertaker in New York, I should have to take my leave. I wished him well and hoped that the election would go in his favor.

"Ah, the election! It is already over," my friend replied. "We were just finishing a high-level victory conference."

I almost swallowed my last tooth but at length managed to say something about having made arrangements for my body to be forwarded as quickly as possible. Minus baggage, clothing, and much of my anatomy I made my way back to civilization and gratefully boarded the train for New York.

When asked later whether I had formed any political attachments during my vacation which might be classified as subversive, I was unable to be able to reply that I had not.

—E. P. C., Jr.



Sps Arlegh J. Dasher and Sp3 Jerry Carrington, "aggressors" in the division in FTX "Sabre Knof" avidly rove over the Election Extra of "Hell On Wheels" will brought the results of Tuesday's presidential election to the troops in their pup tents and tanks.

'Wheels' Covers the Election Despite Six-Hour Time Lag

(Continued from Page 1) starting at 1 a.m. Wednesday. Since "The Stars and Stripes" edition printed at about midnight Tuesday would not have the election results, it was noted that most division personnel might not know who would be their commander-in-chief for the next four years until this morning when either "The Stars and Stripes" or "Hell On Wheels" was delivered to the field.

The idea then was discussed by the Officer-in-charge of the newspaper with Col William R. Desobry, Div Chief of Staff, who subsequently discussed the possibility of the edition with Maj Gen C. Stanton Babcock, Div CG, Both officers gave the idea their stamp of approval—and work began.

Permission was obtained from "The Stars and Stripes" for the use of their production facilities in printing the edition and from the various wire services for their copy as it came in over the tele-

type machines from New York. Several of the pictures printed in the edition were secured from the National Committees of the two major political parties after correspondence between the paper and the committees outlining plans for the edition.

Distribution to the troops in the field was arranged by Lt Col George McMurray, Div CA/MG Officer, after consultation with the Div Public Information Officer, Capt Leroy B. Mattingly.

In addition to the "Hell On Wheels" helicopter that accomplished the distribution to the various division units scattered throughout the field training area, another helicopter carried correspondence and files pertaining on the edition. Representatives of USAREUR PID, newsmen of the wire services and staff and news-trend cameramen followed the entire operation from the newsroom to the men in the field.