

STUTTGART Citizen



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GREATER STUTTGART MILITARY COMMUNITY

Monday, February 20, 1989

News briefs

Personnel briefing change

As previously reported branch representatives from the Total Army Personnel Command (formerly TAPA/MILPERCEN) are visiting the Stuttgart area in early March.

The team will visit the Ludwigsburg area on Mar. 10 and give a general Officer Personnel Management System (OPMS) update briefing at 9 a.m. at the Pattonville Theater. After the briefing the team will conduct a limited number of individual interviews in the 34th Signal Battalion conference room, Bldg 1601, Krabbenloch Kaserne.

The team will also make a presentation at the Nellingen Barracks Theater on Mar. 8.

Officers who are advanced course graduates and are within 18 months of DEROS may arrange for personal interviews. Point of contact Lt. Neville (L-K), 4282-131/132; or Maj. Spratt 4212-701/554.

Civilian pay change

U.S. civilians now hired by the Army in Europe must have their pay sent by direct deposit to their bank or credit union. This applies to both local and CONUS hires who begin fulltime appropriated fund employment with the U.S. Army in Europe after Jan. 16.

DoDDS educators, NATO and SHAPE employees, and Non-Appropriated Fund employees are all exempted from this requirement. For more information contact the Technical Services Division of your local CPO.

AAFES holiday schedule

AAFES facilities are operating according to the following schedule for President's Day, Feb. 20:

R.B. Main Exchange	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Patch Main Exchange	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Kelley Branch Exchange	10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Shoppettes (all)	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Filling Stations (all)	10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Oklahoma election

Residents of Oklahoma are eligible to vote in a special statewide election concerning reducing the length of the legislative session. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces may request ballots for all elections in the calendar year by sending a completed federal post card application to the county election board by the Wednesday before the election (in this case Mar. 8). The FPCA should be mailed as early as possible to ensure a receipt of all ballots.



photo by David O'Connor

Nellingen Rec Center Re-opens

Brig. Gen. Paul J. Vanderploog, commander of the Nellingen-Esslingen-Echterdingen subcommunity, shares a piece of cake with Susan Matey, director of the Soldier/Family Recreation Center, and Lisa Overend, a recreation aide from the center, at the grand opening of the renovated facility on Nellingen Barracks, held on Feb. 10.

AIDS victim describes epidemic's human toll

Story by Steven Snyder
Stuttgart Citizen staff

Two women, one a nurse and the other a patient, spoke Feb. 9 on the subject of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) at the Boeblingen Elementary School.

Pat Rehberg, HIV/AIDS Community Health Nurse for Heidelberg MEDDAC; and a 28-year-old mother, known only as "Lynn," gave their respective accounts about coping with the realities of AIDS in the 80s.

The meeting was jointly sponsored by the school's advisory committee and the local PTA. Rehberg, who's also the AIDS Education Chairperson for the European Conference of Parents, Teachers and Students, joined the AIDS patient in discussing the disease in detail before submitting to a lengthy and often emotionally-wrenching question and answer session.

About 1.25 million Americans carry the disease as compared to 3,000 in Germany. The states of California and New York, in fact, each contain over 5,000 carriers, according to studies conducted as recently as October 1988.

Of all cases reported in the United States since 1981, 98 percent have been among the following groups of people: sexually active homosexual and bisexual men (65 percent); abusers of illicit intravenous drugs (17 percent); homosexual and bisexual drug abusers (8 percent); people receiving tainted blood in some form (3 percent); infants born to mothers infected with the AIDS virus (1 percent); and heterosexual men and women (4 percent).

Rehberg summarized the gist of the statistics concisely. "If you don't have sex with somebody and if you don't use drugs — you won't get AIDS," she said.

Lynn, a pseudonym she uses during public appearances is an AIDS victim. She followed Rehberg on the podium.

Lynn is 28 years old, has been married for four years and is the mother of a 19-month-old baby. Her son, fortunately, is free from the AIDS virus. She caught it from her husband, a bisexual. But he paid a heavy price, too. Lynn recalled his phone call from the hospital when he learned he had the disease.

"You gotta get here, I'm gonna die," he told Lynn.

Lynn was shocked to discover she, too, had caught the disease. She noticed that co-workers shunned her, further isolating her with the awful consequences.

AIDS is caused by a virus (called HIV among other names) which damages cells of the immune system. It can also wreck havoc upon the central nervous system, causing mental and emotional disorders.

Lynn displayed considerable emotion while speaking, her voice continually cracking under the strain. She said that rejection from family and so-called friends was among the worst ordeals the disease had imposed upon her.

Once infected with AIDS "you're going all the way (to death) with the disease," she said. Rehberg confirmed this, noting that as late as five years ago it was thought that infection didn't always lead to developing the disease. Research has since concluded that it does.

When queried about whether she had ever considered having an abortion, knowing that she had AIDS before giving birth to her son, Lynn replied that "I don't believe in abortion. I believe in God."

She also believes in the future and in the power of education to shape that future. That's what the meeting at Boeblingen Elementary school was all about.

Inside

● First Black paratroopers

● Housing woes

● Wrestlers to to finals

Outlook

Commander's comment American NCOs are first class leaders

The Army theme for 1989 was announced several weeks ago as the "Year of the NCO." Noncommissioned officers are key to the entire Army structure and management. Their responsibility, as the bridge connecting commanders and soldiers, has never been an easy one. Yet American NCOs have certainly proved that they are up to the array of difficult tasks facing them.



NCOs play an essential role in the chain of command. They are often the facilitators or first-line executors of command directives. The NCO support channel, which mirrors the chain connecting commanding officers, serves as a pathway for information moving up and down the unit. The support channel and the official chain of command and the intercommunication between the two is necessary for the efficient operation of the Army unit.

Communication is only one area where the NCO structure reflects the guidelines set for commissioned officers. A second example is the NCO education system (NCOES). NCOs begin with primary courses for technical skill and leadership development, like the Primary Leadership Development Course. It then ranges through the Basic NCO Course (BNCOC) and

the Advanced NCO Course (ANCOC). NCOs have the opportunity to go further and attend the First Sergeants Course or even the Sergeants Major Academy.

Soldiers who successfully move through this educational agenda must then couple it with operational experience and personal development. Then the soldier can really play his/her part as a leader and a role model, in other words, as a NCO.

All this diligent work yields great dividends in the quality of our Army. All of the Army's other themes throughout the years could not have been properly observed without the commitment and participation of our unique noncommissioned officer corps.

Two of those themes, "The Spirit of Victory" and "Values," relate directly to American NCOs who have historically been front-line leaders on the battlefield. Over two hundred years ago during the Revolutionary War, NCOs were already facilitating the direction and objectives of their commanders.

In the battle of Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781, Sergeant James Sullivan Martin was working up front with the Sappers and Miners, the Engineer Corps of the day. In a narrative penned at the time, Sergeant Martin recounts his troops' hard work to ensure that the British Army could not escape from the Yorktown siege.

The sergeant's story further relates that the troops were required to dig trenches within 200 yards of enemy lines. The values of freedom, honor and bravery are certainly evidences in this early narrative of one of America's first NCOs. It also conveys the

spirit of victory felt by the soldiers who actually participated in the decisive battle of the American Revolution: the victory at Yorktown.

NCOs have been in the forefront for all Army themes, especially when the themes highlighted physical fitness and training. Training of troops, both in technical and general soldiering skills, is another responsibility of the NCO. As immediate supervisor and day-to-day manager of soldiers, NCOs are in an excellent position to mold the soldiers of tomorrow.

Realistic training, both physical and mental, is the only way to guarantee that our Army is prepared for any circumstance. The Army depends on its NCOs to lead the way in all types of training.

Every year, no matter what the theme, is the "Year of the NCO." The U.S. Army is unique in all the world. We are the only army in the world to have such a large noncommissioned officer corps. In addition, we depend on our NCOs to lead the troops and be responsible for their welfare.

The structure of our ranks sets us apart from other armies. However, the quality of leadership from our noncommissioned officers is what makes today's Army the best in all the world. History shows that we are now better trained and better prepared to defend our great country. The challenge of tomorrow is to maintain the high standards we have set.

During 1989, the spotlight is shining brightly on NCOs throughout the army. Let's keep up the good work for our future and to honor the "Year of the NCO."

Take care of soldiers.
Maj. Gen. James B. Allen, Jr.

Chaplain's Corner

Total fitness

Spiritual needs key to success

by Sergeant Major Gerald Parker
VII Corps Sergeant Major, Chaplains activities

What does total fitness mean to you? When I think of being totally fit I think of the Army's Total Health Program. This program is outlined in a series of DA Pamphlets 600-63/4 on Anti-tobacco use, Nutrition & Weight Control, Stress Management, Hypertension Management, Substance Abuse, Dental Health, Physical Fitness, and of course Spiritual Fitness.

In a nutshell, this is the Army's total fitness program. It is geared to developing soldiers and families into productive people and soldiers.

Someone at the Department of Army level put an enormous amount of work into this program. I think this is an excellent program that provides us with a plan or a means of raising our conscious level to do something about our state of fitness in our daily lives. This is a program that everyone can use.

I am sure you have seen the commercial on AFN that shows this really fit guy running and exercising only to find out that he is not as totally fit as we thought.

Being totally fit includes more than physical exercise. Certainly what you eat and drink is important, but what you do not do is probably even more important, like the use of drugs, excessive alcohol, or smoking.

Your attitude toward life is also important, as are your safety awareness, stress level, your medical and dental fitness, and spiritual fitness.

Well, where are you on the spectrum of total fitness? There is a little self-test in the handbook portion of these pamphlets that provides you with a fitness score.

It is not conclusive, but it gives you a starting point. I would just throw in a couple of additional self-tests. For example do you occasionally take time to reflect on your life to see where you are going? Do you go to church regularly, occasionally, or just when it is the "proper" thing to do?

Do you listen to your heart, not as a cardiac organ, but emotionally? What does yours tell you? Are you emotionally healthy? Are you happy and content? Where are you spiritually in this spectrum of life's existence? Is this something you think of when you need it, or only when tragedy hits? How about thanking God everyday for the gifts of life he bestows upon us?

I feel much better when I think in terms of how worse my life could be. I am grateful for the freedom I have to live a productive and healthy life. I am thankful for someone at the Department of Army level for taking the time to develop and write worthwhile total fitness programs that can help us raise our level and extent of life.

Also, I am grateful for the love and life that my family gives me. But I am most grateful to my God for his participation in my health and existence. When it is all said and done, life is really great for most of us, but it can be even better if you raise any of your healthstyle scores toward a better and healthier way of life. Good luck and God bless you and yours.

Worth Repeating

"However horrible the incidents of war may be, the soldier who is called upon to offer and to give his life for his country is the noblest development of mankind."

—Gen. Douglas MacArthur

Detective Tails



PRODUCED AT MWR MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

STUTTGART
Citizen

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Tax tips

Correct W-4 makes difference

Will you be up-to-date on your federal withholding allowances for 1989?

Every payday your employer uses the information and the number of withholding allowances from your Form W-4, "Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate," to determine how much federal income tax to withhold from your pay. So, it is important to keep your Form W-4 up to date to reflect any changes in withholding allowances.

The instructions and worksheets on the 1989 Form W-4 help you figure the number of withholding allowances you are entitled to claim. File a new Form W-4 with your employer if necessary.

You should check the number of allowances if:

- Your marital status changes.
- Your dependent is born or dies.
- You begin or stop supporting a dependent.
- Your eligibility for the "special withholding allowance" changes.
- Your eligibility for additional withholding allowances for credits or deductions changes.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed many parts of the law that affect withholding, including some changes that take effect in 1989. If you are in any of the following groups, review your withholding early in the year to see if you should file a 1989 Form W-4:

- You can claim head-of-household filing status on your 1989 tax return. A recent provision allows you to claim one additional withholding allowance on the Personal Allowances Worksheet on the W-4.
- You are married and your spouse works or you have

two or more jobs at the same time. You should complete the "Two-Earner/Two-Jobs Worksheet" on the W-4.

• You can itemize deductions or have non-wage income. You should complete the "Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet" on the W-4. For 1989, the standard deduction is \$5,000 for married filing joint return or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child; \$4,400 for head of household; \$3,000 for single; and \$2,500 for married filing separate return filing status. As a result, some employees may no longer have itemized deductions in excess of the standard deduction.

If the number of allowances you are entitled to claim increases, you may file a new Form W-4 at any time.

If the number of allowances you are entitled to decrease to less than the number you are now claiming, you must file a new Form W-4 within 10 days of the change.

If you want more tax withheld, you can claim fewer allowances than you are entitled to or ask your employer to withhold more tax or both. If you are married, you may also check the box "Married, but withhold at higher single rate" on Form W-4.

If you want less tax withheld, you should claim all the allowances you are entitled to. However, if you work for more than one employer, you may not claim the same allowances more than once. If both you and your spouse are employed, you can divide the allowances between you, but both cannot claim the same allowances.

You can estimate your taxes for the year by using the worksheet in Publication 919, "Is My Withholding Correct for 1989?" Then you can decide whether to change the number of withholding allowances you are claiming by filing a new Form W-4 so you can have less tax or more withheld.

Test program pays adoption fees

The Secretary of Defense has established a test program to reimburse active duty soldiers for child adoption expenses.

The program allows for reimbursement of up to \$2,000 to soldiers who initiate adoption proceedings after Sept. 30, 1987 and before Oct. 1, 1989.

The phrase "initiates adoption proceedings" means the date of the initial home study or placement of the child in the soldier's home for the purpose of adoption, whichever occurs later. Soldiers who adopt more than one child may be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$5,000 per calendar year.

All of the possible adopting expenses are too vast to name here. The expense need only be a "qualifying adoption expense", reasonable and necessary and directly related to the legal adoption of the child.

Examples include public and private agency fees, adoption fees charged by an agency in a foreign country, placement fees, legal fees, court costs, medical expenses and personal travel expenses related to the adoption.

All reimbursements must be substantiated by receipts or cancelled checks and associated receipts. Soldiers must request reimbursement within 180 days after the adoption is final.

To apply, soldiers may make an appointment at any of the local 106th Finance offices to complete the claim forms. Once completed, the servicing Judge Advocate will certify that the adoption is final and the packet will be returned to Finance for payment.

For more information, please contact the NCOIC at any of the local Finance offices or call Finance Services at 428-2424/2338.

Letter to the editor

Veteran thanks GSMC craft shops

I will be retiring shortly after a 24-year military career and returning to the United States. I would like to take this opportunity, long overdue, to thank a very special, talented group of people — Arts and Crafts staff in Stuttgart, Germany. I have been stationed all over the world and have never seen or participated in a program like the one in Stuttgart.

My family and I have taken advantage of every opportunity to use these exceptional facilities. Each one is unique; the woodworking shops at Kelley Barracks and Panzer Kaserne, ceramic shops in all facilities, framing studios at Patch Barracks and Grenadier Kaserne, the beautiful Photo Center and of course, the Gussey Goose Crafts Shop.

Recently, the Nellingen Arts and Crafts Center was renovated with an equal share of self-help and contracts;

it is fantastic, rivaling any facility in CONUS. It is worth a trip to see it. But, the programming and the staff are the highlight.

I hear a lot about the government considering the value of recreational programs and their benefit to the soldier and his family. I would strongly recommend that these individuals take a look at the Stuttgart Arts and Crafts program.

Again, thank you, Stuttgart Arts and Crafts, for the countless hours we have spent in your facilities learning from such a knowledgeable group of people. A special word of appreciation to the director of this program who, unfortunately, I have not had the pleasure of meeting.

Sincerely,
Brian Balfour
HHC 7th Corps

Think before buying foreign-spec bikes

Arghh!!!! The motorcycle you paid premium price for is locked up and customs won't release it. In fact, they say you have to pay for its disposal and talk of \$20,000 fines and five years in jail. You thought it would be easy to convert your bike to U.S. specs.

All motorcycles made on or after Jan. 1, 1969 must comply with federal safety standards and emission standards if made on or after Jan. 1, 1978 to be imported into the States.

Bikes made before these dates need a statement from the original manufacturer, referring to the motorcycle by serial number, as proof of this (dealer statements and foreign registration are not acceptable).

You can conditionally import a nonconforming bike if you post a bond of up to three times the bike's value, with U.S. Customs. After that, you have 90 days to convert the bike to meet emission standards and 120 days for the safety conversions.

These conversions can be costly, and some bikes simply cost more to convert to U.S. specifications than they are worth.

Be aware of the complications and the hidden costs involved. Call your local 42d MP Group field office to find out more.

Cutbacks create restrictions for tuition assistance

The reduction in funding to the Army Continuing Education System during the current and last fiscal years has caused some restrictions to be imposed on Tuition Assistance. However, these restrictions will not affect the ability of most soldiers to take college courses.

"The restrictions aren't going to be that great," said Gordon Booth, Assistant Chief, VII Corps ACES. "There's money available right now and soldiers shouldn't put off going to school. They should go now while the money is available."

On October 1, 1988, the following restrictions were implemented for all ACES activities in VII Corps:

Tuition Assistance is authorized to pay for 75 percent of the established cost of college courses with a few exceptions.

1. An \$80 cap has been placed on Tuition Assistance per undergraduate semester hour or the equivalent.

2. A \$165 maximum has been placed per graduate semester hour or the equivalent.

3. Soldiers will be limited to a maximum of 16 semester hours or the equivalent during fiscal year '88. Sixteen semester hours is roughly equivalent to taking one course during each eight week semester, according to Booth.

Tuition Assistance will not be given out for courses at the same level or a lower level than a degree already held by the soldier. "If you already have a bachelor's degree," said Booth, "the Army won't pay for you to take undergraduate courses."

No Tuition Assistance is available for Army National Guard or Army Reserve commissioned officers on active duty or Army Reserve warrant officers on active duty.

Regular Army lieutenant colonels and above are not eligible for Tuition Assistance.

Soldiers under suspension of favorable action as defined by AR 600-8-24 are also not eligible for Tuition Assistance.

For much of last year, soldiers who were eligible for the Vietnam Era Veterans Education Benefits, or "Old GI Bill," were forced to use these benefits to pay tuition and were not given Tuition Assistance.

Now, they are once again eligible for TA. However, soldiers with these benefits are encouraged to continue to use them. The "Old GI Bill" pays a fixed rate to students that may be used to pay tuition. In most cases, this fixed rate will pay for the entire cost of the tuition for undergraduate courses.

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THE GREAT AMERICAN INVESTMENT

Black History Month '89

"Triple Nickels" made airborne history

by Sgt. Maj. Rudi Williams, USA
American Forces Information Service

When the Army was forming its elite 82nd Airborne Division during World War II, the rule was "whites only". Blacks allegedly "couldn't handle" the tough training and didn't have enough "guts" to jump out of airplanes.

Blacks were supposed to guard the all-white paratrooper school and packing shed and patrol the area as they watched the white soldiers train.

But there was one man who knew that black soldiers could do just as well as whites and decided to prove it. The year was 1944.

"Since we were in the vicinity, I decided we would emulate the white paratroopers," said Walter Morris, who was first sergeant of the black service company. "We observed them when they did their calisthenics and double-timed everywhere they went. So we copied some of the things they were doing. But we didn't have any paratrooper boots.

"We caught the attention of the general (Lt. Gen. Ridgely Gaither, who commanded the parachute school) when he was making an inspection," said Morris, who is retired from the construction business in New York and now lives with his wife in Palm Coast, Fla. "He was impressed when he saw us doing our calisthenics. We were showing off to show him that we could do as well as the white paratroopers."

Morris and his soldiers got a lot of prideful satisfaction out of proving blacks could endure the same training as whites. But little did they know that by emulating the white paratroopers they would become part of airborne history.

Not long after the calisthenics demonstration, Gaither summoned Morris to his office. "He let me know that President (Franklin Delano) Roosevelt had ordered Gen. (George C.) Marshal to form an all-black paratrooper unit. The decision was made in response to complaints by A. Philip Randolph, organizer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and president of the National Negro Congress, and the black press," said Morris. "Blacks were asking, 'Why can't we have black paratroopers, too?'"

Morris' efforts toward black soldiers proving their mettle paid off. "Gen. Gaither selected me as the first sergeant and the first black paratrooper in the first all-black paratrooper company in American history," said Morris. That was the 555th Parachute Infantry Company.

"I then waited until a cadre was brought in from the 92nd Infantry Division at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.," said Morris. "There were originally 20 of us, but only 16 graduated from the jump training; two didn't make it for medical reasons, one had a death in the family and the fourth one just couldn't jump. Since we needed cooks and he was one, we decided to let him stay. But he wasn't on jump status."

"Of course, all of the instructors were white," said Morris. "Being a paratrooper was a big thing at that time and there weren't a heck of a lot of whites jumping out of airplanes. We got along pretty well with the white troopers. The only problem we had was that the entire post at Fort Benning, Ga., both officers and enlisted, were making bets that we wouldn't jump — we'd be too afraid. The thing that inspired us was that this was the only black combat outfit then, and it was an opportunity for black troops to enter something they could be proud of."



Triple Nickels aboard a C-47 airplane head for a forest fire in the western United States.

The black paratrooper students were segregated from the whites, both on and off post. But that didn't deter them. "It was not a big thing to us, because we had been conditioned," said Morris. "It was something we had learned to live with and accepted."

It was a grueling, exhausting four weeks of training for the black paratrooper pioneers — push-ups, sit-ups, running, push-ups, sit-ups, running — from morning 'til night the first week. The second week had more calisthenics and an introduction to the 35-foot jump tower. The third week had the 250-foot tower. The fourth week was packing and repacking parachutes and jumping every day, ending with a night jump on Friday. Saturday was graduation day when they received their silver airborne wings.

After the first class graduated, the white cadre troopers returned to Fort Huachuca and the graduating class became the cadre. "When we graduated, the word went out that the Army was accepting volunteers for an all-black parachute battalion and we got applications from everywhere — overseas and all over the states," said Morris.

Seven black officers were brought in. Each platoon had two officers. Gaither had a big surprise for Morris after the first class completed the course. The 555th Parachute Company was going to become the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion and the outfit needed an adjutant.

"Gen. Gaither said, 'I want you to go to OCS (officer candidate school) because we're going to have a battalion,' Morris recalls. "So I went to OCS at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in April 1944 and graduated that June. I was then reassigned to the 555th, which had been relocated to Camp Mackall, N.C., adjacent to Fort Bragg."

"This was a unique situation," said Morris. "We had a battalion with a captain as commander."

Morris had a problem when he returned as a second

lieutenant; there were no quarters for black officers. "They let me stay in the same house I had as a first sergeant. Then they gave us (the other black officers) an empty barracks and fixed it up a little bit. I stayed there (in the house) for about three months. When I went to pay my rent, they discovered that there were no provisions to collect rent from a black officer. So they said to forget about (paying) it," Morris laughed.

"When Gen. Gavin (Maj. Gen. James M. Gavin, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division) saw the conditions in which we were training and living back in the woods, he integrated the black and white paratroopers," Morris said. "This was long before President (Harry S.) Truman signed the order to integrate the military services."

"Once we graduated, we started combat training preparing troops to go overseas," said Morris. But the black paratroopers never set sail for the war in Europe. Instead, they were sent to fight forest fires started by Japanese incendiary balloons on the West Coast — from California to Arizona.

The Triple Nickels earned a new nickname, "Smoke Jumpers," for their ability to leap into smoke-filled clearings. They racked up 36 fire-fighting missions, making more than 1,000 individual jumps into burning forests. For this they earned another nickname, "Black Panthers."

The 555th Parachute Battalion was redesignated the 3rd Battalion, 505th Airborne Infantry Regiment, and became a part of the 82nd Airborne Division. Former members of the first black paratroopers joined the all-black 2nd Airborne Ranger Company at Fort Bragg and saw action in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division. That company was later attached to the 187th Regimental Combat Team and made two jumps in Korea. The unit received a bronze arrowhead for its parachute assault at Mun-san-ni and several other awards.

Students reflect on King's message

Essay by Seth R. Pentecost
5th Grade
Stuttgart American
Elementary School

Dr. King believed that it doesn't matter what color you are. You're an important person. He believed people shouldn't be compared to other people just by your skin color. He helped black people and white people be equal in education and in getting jobs and freedoms.

Dr. King's work has affected me in several different ways. I had a teacher in El Paso for 4th grade. She is one of the best teachers I've ever had. She helped me in things I didn't understand. If Dr. King hadn't done what he did, she would not have been my teacher, because she is black.

Another way Dr. King's work affects me is a friendship. One of my best friends is black. I like him because he enjoys the things I enjoy. He helps me learn things I don't know. And I do the same for him. We're buddies. Without Dr. King's work, we would never have met and gotten to know each other.

If I had met Dr. King I'm sure he would have been just like my friend and teacher and the other black people I've known. I'm very thankful for Doctor Martin Luther King, Junior, because he's helped me meet some very important people in my life.

Essay by Kristen Finney
3rd Grade
Nellingen Elementary School

Martin Luther King was a great man.

Long ago people had a system called segregation. It was a system that would not let black people do things because of their skin color. And Martin Luther King fought it. When Martin Luther King was a little boy he did not know about the system and played with white children, too. But he got in trouble and could not play with them anymore. He was sad. He thought he must do something. Martin Luther King was a fast learner so he was out of high school by the age of 15. When he became older he became a minister and started the Civil Rights Movement. He became very famous and was known all over the world. People liked him very much. But sadness came. King was shot and killed by James Earl Ray April 4th, 1968. Martin Luther King was a good man. I'm glad he was alive.

**PRIDE
BREEDS
EXCELLENCE**

Presented by the GSMC
Equal Opportunity Staff Office

A LUNCHEON IN CELEBRATION OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Robinson Barracks Community Club
1130 Hrs., 24 February 1989

A grueling process

A Hobson's choice: Housing or hassle

Story by Steve Snyder
Stuttgart Citizen Staff

Staff Sgt. Martin Hobson, from the 800th Core Material Management Center at Nellingen Barracks, checked in at the Hilltop Hotel (on Robinson Barracks) Dec. 5 last year. In addition to in-processing, he began a hunt for housing. His ensuing ordeal is indicative of what soldiers face in searching for a place to live here.

Hobson was accompanied to Germany by his wife, also a soldier. They qualified for, and received, the Temporary Lodging Allowance or TLA.

TLA is designed to cover expenses for soldiers while they await either government housing or housing on the economy. In most instances, a soldier will arrive here alone and find housing before transporting his family. As its name implies, TLA is a temporary allowance available for soldiers awaiting quarters.

Hobson and his wife were housed at the Hilltop from their arrival until the end of January. They shared one small room and saw their rental rates jump from \$16 to \$40 per day.

"We were totally uncomfortable in there," Hobson said.

Except for quarters on the first floor, single beds are the norm and they're just not big enough, according to Hobson. While the Hobsons appreciated the maid service and overall courtesy demonstrated by the hotel staff, they didn't enjoy eating from microwaves or fre-

quenting RB's mess hall.

Life at the Hilltop, Hobson recalled, was "essentially like living in a barracks." Okay for a single man but not exactly conducive to connubial bliss.

"It was fine while we were in a transit stage," Hobson said, "until we realized that — for the money we're paying — we're not getting much."

Hobson observed that families with children had it much tougher at the hotel. Since no more than three were allowed to share one room, some soldiers had to split up their brood and pay for another room to boot.

Hobson, fortunately, didn't have that problem. He was lucky, also, in that his unit gave him time to search for housing. Not everyone is so fortunate.

From Dec. 5 through the 15th, Hobson was required to check daily with the Housing Referral Office (HRO) in order to maintain eligibility for his TLA. He had to demonstrate to HRO that he was aggressively seeking housing. This was accomplished by documenting who he called, saw or contacted in any way in seeking housing.

For 30 days Hobson completed in-processing, started work at his unit, chased down housing tips, and checked in daily at HRO. His wife followed the same schedule. HRO then approved an extension of Hobson's TLA because of his demonstrated effort in attempting to secure housing.

A less aggressive housing seeker would not have received TLA for the last 10 of those 30 days. Following a cut-off of TLA funds, either a soldier's company puts him in the barracks or he's out on the street.

It's not easy even for the most diligent housing hunter to find lodgings in Stuttgart. According to statistics provided by HRO, there are, on the average, just 17 vacant private rental units available at any one time. Approximately 200 soldiers on TLA are competing for these rare dwellings. Another 100 troops (again, an average) are living temporarily in the barracks.

Forced to conserve funds, MILCOM in February 1988 discontinued concurrent travel (non-military family members traveling immediately with soldiers to station). A "first come, first served" open referral housing policy was instituted. Under the open referral policy, housing units are made available by HRO to the first soldier in line on a daily waiting list.

HRO's new policy is designed to insure that soldiers with the greatest immediate housing needs or those soldiers who most aggressively pursue housing obtain the new listings released by HRO. The system rewards those who help themselves. It also places a significant weight upon new arrivals to Germany.

For Sergeant Hobson, the system worked. He eventually found the Hilltop to be convenient before signing a lease to an apartment near Nellingen. While admitting that other soldiers have fared far worse, Hobson still insists that the struggle to find housing has, for him, left scars.

"I've wasted months of my life," he said.

Still, if the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then the merits of a housing policy should logically be judged by the results they produce. Hobson, although forced to struggle, did obtain housing within a relatively short (two months) span of time.

Housing hunt a waiting game soldiers are forced to play

Story by Steve Snyder
Stuttgart Citizen Staff

For two weeks Cpl. Larry Benzon would arrive at the Housing Referral Office (HRO) between 4 and 5:30 a.m. There would always be from two to 15 people waiting in front of him for the office's 7:30 a.m. opening.

"It seemed like everyday, they'd come out and say we don't have any apartments," Benzon recalled. "It felt like I went to HRO a 100 times and they never had anything," he said.

As an MP assigned to HHC, 6th ASG at Robinson Barracks, Benzon's duty obligations didn't end just because he was conducting a housing hunt. Indeed, he "did all this (checking daily with HRO) before work and then had to work all day." After two weeks of this, he started going only every other day because "it (his schedule) was killing me."

Benzon checked with a local realtor whose asking price for finding housing was three months advance rent or roughly \$1,800. Benzon said thanks but no thanks.

Finally, "a friend of a friend tipped" him that an

apartment in Ludwigsburg would soon be available. He grabbed it.

He describes his apartment as "a little expensive." Benzon pays 800 marks a month for the housing plus another 100 marks for electricity. He and wife Vicky have one small kitchen and a small bedroom.

"Even with BAQ, some money is coming out of my pocket," Benzon said.

On the positive side, Benzon's commuting time to RB from Ludwigsburg is usually only 20 minutes.

Still, with his wife pregnant, Benzon wants eventually to obtain government housing. After spending five months living in the barracks, he's "happy I finally got my wife over here."

He's not happy with HRO, though.

"HRO was no help at all," he said.

To be fair, not everyone shares Benzon's perspective. Sgt. DeWayne Montgomery, HHC 6th ASG, is "happy with the housing I finally got."

The stoic NCO first got on the government housing waiting list on August 22 last year. He moved into a government leased unit on Feb. 10. Montgomery lived in the barracks, then, for five months and 18 days.

"They (HRO) told me it could take up to 36 weeks" to secure housing, he said. It took, instead, about 22.

Hike in BAQ varies among grades

by MSgt. Mary A Peterson
American Forces Information Services

The 1989 Defense Authorization Bill, signed by President Ronald Reagan in late September, included a variable raise in basic allowance for quarters.

While basic pay and subsistence allowance were increased by 4.1 percent, the raise in quarters allowance ranges from slightly more than 4 percent to more than 23 percent, depending upon the pay grade, said a DoD compensation official.

The large variance in rates gives almost everyone 61 percent of housing expenses, based on the national median housing costs, he said. "The VHA survey from last year was used to help determine the increases," he said.

Most enlisted and officer mid-grades will receive a bigger percentage. An E-6 will receive more than 10 percent if drawing the "without dependents" rate; 6 percent at the "with dependents" rate. An O-4 drawing the "without dependents" rate will gain more than 8 percent; more than 5 percent, "with dependents" rate. Warrant officers

will gain up to 7 percent.

Large increases have been targeted for junior officers with prior enlisted service. An O-1 "without dependents" will get a 23 percent increase; 22.3 percent, "with dependents." An O-2 "without dependents" will get 22.7 percent; 18.6 percent, "with dependents." An O-3 "without dependents" will see a 16 percent raise; 12.7 percent, "with dependents." Overall, all ranks who draw housing allowance at the "without dependents" rate gained more with the raise than those with dependents.

The partial rate for service members without dependents was not included in the raise this year and has not been since 1977. The partial rate is a rebate, of sorts, for single service members at sea or living in quarters who do not get the full housing allowance. A change to the partial rate is caused by a reallocation of the basic pay raise.

As an example, he said, if the president directs that 3 percent of a 4 percent raise be apportioned to basic allowance for quarters, the single service member in the dorm would see only a 1 percent raise in his check. Meanwhile, the service member living off post and receiving quarters allowance would see a full 4 percent increase. The partial rate is designed to offset that shortage, the official said.

GHRP offers housing promise

GSMC Chief of Housing Franklin Wilson anticipates that the new Government Rental Housing Program (GRHP), pioneered in V Corps, will significantly add to the housing stock available to soldiers here. Hopefully, there will be less hassle in finding housing.

"GRHP is a major and significant program which will start slow and grow like wild," Wilson predicted.

A volunteer program, GRHP encourages a soldier to find a house where he wishes to live for his entire tour. When he has accomplished this, he contacts the Housing Referral Office (HRO). HRO then negotiates a long-term lease before the soldier moves into the housing unit. The unit automatically becomes a government-leased unit for three years or for the soldier's length of tour (whichever is shorter). Once committed to the lease, the soldier forfeits his entitlement to BAQ and OHA to pay rent, utilities and maintenance during his tour. Furthermore, he must agree to spend his entire tour in the housing unit, thus losing eligibility for government housing elsewhere.

Advantages to soldiers utilizing this program are obvious. They don't have to worry about moving later. They aren't dealing with unreasonable landlords because the government becomes the landlord. Soldiers also become immune to market fluctuations between the dollar and the deutsche mark.

Landlords make out, too. Under GRHP their maintenance costs are bound to decrease. Their unit's vacancy rates will decline. Perhaps most importantly, they won't suffer from tardy or non-existent rent collections.

According to Wilson, HRO will start GRHP here sometime in March.

"We can release (make available GRHP units) 103 apartments for the rest of this fiscal year (ending in Oct. 1989)," he said. "We are programmed to release 1400 from 1989 through 1991. In a five-year span, the GRHP should hit 3,000 units. Within three years, we're aiming for 1500 in GRHP," he added.

Within three years Wilson anticipates a waiting list for government-leased housing to be less than six months. He hopes GSMC will have the capacity to bring back concurrent travel (bringing the family along with the military member when the soldier reports for duty). His goal is to be able to house a soldier within 30 days and to pull this off in the next three years.

If the challenge is met, it's good news (in the future) for the otherwise homeless.

Prep sports

SAH Stallions whip Wuerzburg Wolves

Story by Lionel R. Green
Stuttgart Citizen Staff

The Stuttgart Stallions knocked off the Wuerzburg Wolves at Stuttgart High Gymnasium Feb. 11 with all four teams winning impressively.

In the Boys Varsity game, Mitch Lester scored 18 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and blocked five shots in leading the Stallions to a 66-52 walloping of Wuerzburg.

Ron Thomas netted 17 points and had four steals, Mike Davidson pumped in 11 points and had five assists and Clair Gill added eight points and 11 rebounds in the win.

Stuttgart scored the first eight points of the game and led 17-9 at the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter both teams struggled offensively with the Stallions outscoring Wuerzburg just 7-6 to take a 24-15 halftime lead.

The Stallions threatened to blow the game open early in the third quarter when Ron Thomas completed a three-point play to put Stuttgart up 29-19. Wuerzburg then came back with six in a row to pull

within four at 29-25. At the end of the third quarter, the Stallions maintained their lead at 39-33.

Mike Davidson had a three-point play that capped off an 11-0 run by Stuttgart to open up the fourth quarter and take a 50-33 lead. Wuerzburg didn't have a field goal until 3:45 was left in the game. By that time the Stallions were in control and they cruised to an easy victory.

In the Girls Varsity game, Renee McClennon recorded a triple double by having 19 points, 12 rebounds and 10 steals including a three-pointer with 16 seconds left that sent the game into overtime in Stuttgart's exciting 43-40 victory over Wuerzburg.

Julie Cyrus, Charisse Flewellen and Susan Kluck all had seven points to support McClennon in the win.

In the first half, the Lady Stallions committed several turnovers and fell behind 22-14 to Wuerzburg at halftime. Wuerzburg continued to play strong, but Stuttgart showed signs of life on a Julie Cyrus field goal that cut the Lady Wolves' lead to five, 28-33, with 2:35 remaining in the third quarter. Wuerzburg led 30-23 going into the fourth quarter, though.

The Lady Stallions fought hard in the final quarter pulling to within three points, 30-27, on buckets by

Renee McClennon and Charisse Flewellen with under six minutes left. Wuerzburg then came back with four points of their own to go back up by seven, 34-27. McClennon followed with a field goal, a steal and an assist to Tammy Noll to bring Stuttgart back at 34-33. With the score 36-33, McClennon nailed a three-pointer with 16 seconds left in regulation to tie the game and send it into overtime.

Wuerzburg scored the first four points in overtime to take an early 40-36 lead, but the Lady Stallions didn't let them score again. Julie Cyrus had a lay-up and Tammy Noll hit a free throw to make the score 40-39. It was McClennon again who came up with the winning bucket with 34 seconds remaining to give Stuttgart a 41-40 lead. Susan Kluck hit two for two from the line with 19 seconds left to provide the final margin of victory.

In the Boys JV game, the Stallions defeated Wuerzburg 35-26. Robert Sanders and Jodie Witt both had 10 points in the win.

In the Girls JV game, the Lady Stallions outdefended Wuerzburg 16-6. Stuttgart's Cathy Archibald led all scorers with six points.

Scoreboard

Scores compiled as of Feb. 16

Boys Varsity (Fri. Feb. 10)

Stuttgart	66	OT	Wuerzburg	52
Ramstein	90		Stuttgart	66
Nuernberg	35		Patch	49
Patch	36		Bitburg	53

Boys Varsity (Sat. Feb. 11)

Wuerzburg	52	OT	Stuttgart	66
Stuttgart	66		Patch	49
Patch	49		Bitburg	53

Girls Varsity (Fri. Feb. 10)

Stuttgart	39	OT	Wuerzburg	40
Ramstein	41		Stuttgart	43
Nuernberg	48		Patch	39
Patch	51		Bitburg	27

Girls Varsity (Sat. Feb. 11)

Wuerzburg	40	OT	Stuttgart	43
Stuttgart	43		Patch	39
Patch	39		Bitburg	27

Boys Junior Varsity (Fri. Feb. 10)

Stuttgart	51	OT	Wuerzburg	40
Ramstein	61		Stuttgart	43
Nuernberg	23		Patch	39
Patch	28		Bitburg	27

Boys JV (Sat. Feb. 11)

Wuerzburg	26	OT	Stuttgart	35
Stuttgart	35		Patch	21
Patch	21		Bitburg	37

Girls JV (Fri. Feb. 10)

Stuttgart	19	OT	Wuerzburg	16
Ramstein	27		Stuttgart	16
Nuernberg	16		Patch	40
Patch	40		Bitburg	27

Girls JV (Sat. Feb. 11)

Wuerzburg	6	OT	Stuttgart	16
Stuttgart	16		Patch	40
Patch	40		Bitburg	27

Boys Varsity AAA Standings

	W	L
Frankfurt	10	2
Wiesbaden	9	3
Ramstein	9	3
Wuerzburg	7	5
Stuttgart	6	6
Heidelberg	4	8
Kaiserslautern	2	10
Hanau	1	11

Girls Varsity AAA Standings

	W	L
Heidelberg	12	0
Wiesbaden	10	2
Frankfurt	7	5
Ramstein	6	6
Stuttgart	5	7
Wuerzburg	5	7
Hanau	3	9
Kaiserslautern	0	12

Boys Varsity AA Standings

	W	L
Mannheim	6	0
Zweibruecken	5	2
Patch	3	3

Girls Varsity AA Standings

	W	L
Mannheim	6	0
Nuernberg	4	3
Bitburg	1	6
Nuernberg	1	5
Patch	4	2
Zweibruecken	2	5
Bitburg	0	7

Mens VII Corps Standings

	W	L
Stuttgart	5	1
Schweinfurt	5	2
Heilbronn	3	3
Aschaffenburg	3	4
Schwaebisch-Gmuend	3	4
Wuerzburg	1	6

Women's VII Corps Standings

	W	L
Wuerzburg	6	1
Schwaebisch-Gmuend	5	2
Schweinfurt	4	3
Stuttgart	3	3
Heilbronn	1	5
Aschaffenburg	1	6

Scores from VII Corps (Sun. Feb. 12)

	W	L
Men's Games:	67	
Schweinfurt	64	
Women's Game:	75	
Stuttgart	83	
Schweinfurt		83

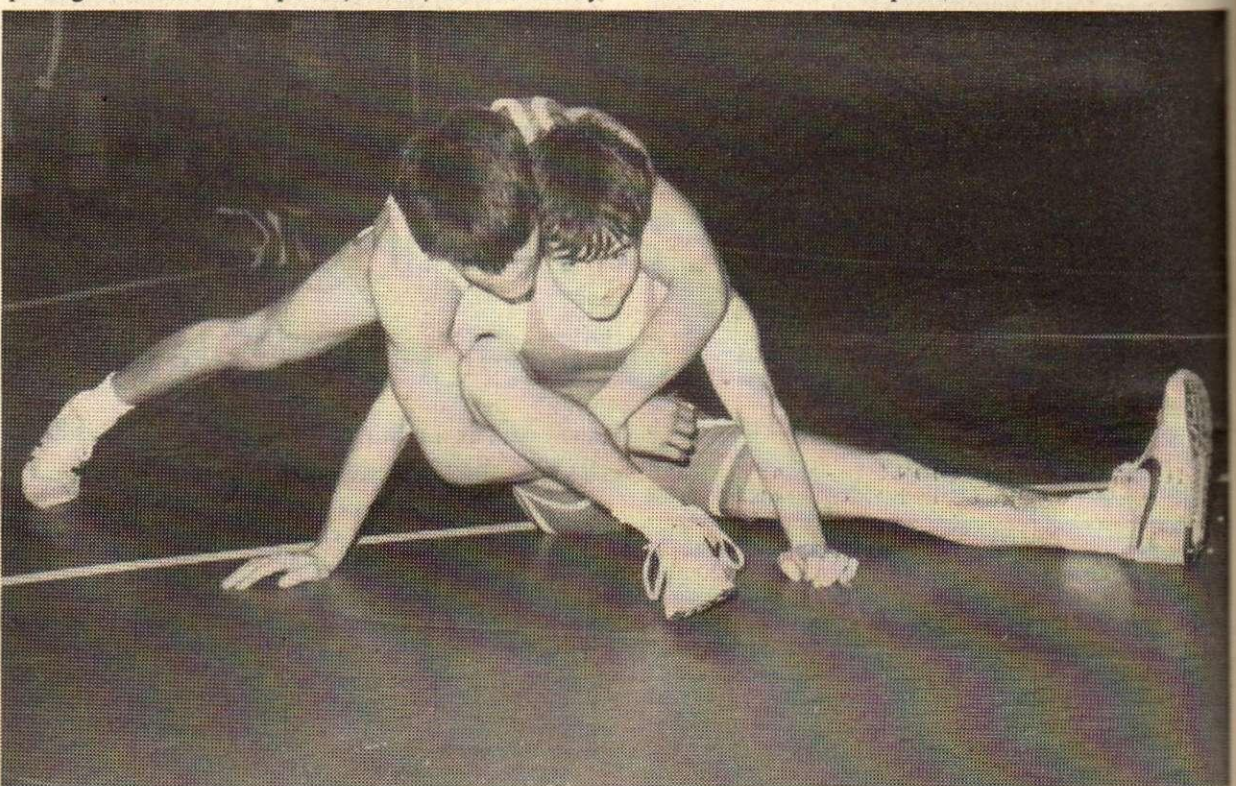


photo by Bob Gonsalves

All Tied Up

Stuttgart's Ed Galang and Ryan Russell entangle during practice before the Central European Finals in wrestling. The Stallions are sending 10 wrestlers into the finals out of the 13 weight classes. They recently took second place in the Southern Regional behind Nuernberg. The Finals were held this past weekend at Patton Barracks in Heidelberg.

Patch Panthers edge Eagles

Story by Lionel R. Green
Stuttgart Citizen Staff

The Patch Panthers and the Nuernberg Eagles provided the excitement on the basketball court at Patch High Gymnasium Feb. 10 with both Varsity games going down to the final seconds before a winner was determined.

In the Boys Varsity game, Don Thomas scored all eight of his points in the first half and Paul Holt added seven including the game-winning free throws to lead the Panthers to a 36-35 thriller.

After a 21-21 halftime score, both teams played a slowed-down offense in the third quarter in a seesaw battle that had four lead changes and three ties. The game was even at 26-26 at the end of the third quarter.

With under seven minutes remaining in the game, Gordon Evans canned a three-pointer to put Patch ahead 29-27. A minute later, Paul Holt had a nice tip-in and the Panthers had their largest lead of the game, 31-27.

Then Nuernberg exploded for eight consecutive points to go up 35-31. With less than a minute remaining and the score 35-34 in favor of Nuernberg, Holt was fouled. He then calmly sank both free throws to provide the winning margin. Nuernberg had one last

shot at winning the game, but Patch denied the score and received possession on a jump ball with two seconds left to seal the victory.

In the Girl's Varsity game, Rebecca Cunningham dominated the game with 26 points and Kala Heidi added 11 in the Lady Panthers upset of second place Nuernberg 51-48.

Cunningham established herself early in the game scoring 10 of Patch's 13 first quarter points to give them a 13-6 lead at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter was a complete turn-around with Nuernberg outscoring the Lady Panthers by seven to go into halftime all even at 21-21.

The score was 37-33 Stuttgart at the end of the third quarter. With less than a minute remaining in the game, a free throw brought Nuernberg within one point, 49-48. But, a lay-up by Rebecca Cunningham with 20 seconds left iced the game and sent the Lady Panthers to an upset victory.

In the Boys Junior Varsity game, the Panthers defeated Nuernberg 28-23. Steve Blankenship had nine points and Tarique Adams added seven to lead Patch in the win.

In the Girls JV game, the Lady Panthers trounced Nuernberg 40-16. Lisa Jones had 12 points and Chelle Hallback added nine to pace Patch in the victory.

Sports Briefs

Tourney date changed

The racquetball tournament, originally scheduled to start on Feb. 27 and run through March 3, has undergone a schedule change. The tourney will now begin on Feb. 21 and last through and including Feb. 24.

VII Corps hoop

The VII Corps Stallion basketball game, scheduled Feb. 26 at Panzer Kaserne has been changed to the Kelley Physical Fitness facility.

Billiard tournament

Krabbenloch Community Recreation Center will host the GSMC 14.1 Billiard Tournament on Feb. 25 at 10:00 a.m. The winners will advance to the VII Corps 14.1 Billiards Tournament to be held in March. To enter you must qualify in a qualifying meet at your local recreation center. For more information contact Susan Matey at 421-6234.

Stepping Out

With Evi Hofielen



February 20 — February 26

DAILY

SWABIAN BREWERY MUSEUM, History of Beer Brewing, Stein Collection — Robert-Koch-Str. 12, Stuttgart-Vaihingen. Tue thru Sun 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

DAY BY DAY

Monday, February 20

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" — Ballet performance at Württemberg State Opera House, 7 p.m.

SAVOY SEVEN — Jazz at Musikhalle am Bahnhof, Ludwigsburg, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21

STUTTGART DIXIELAND ALL STARS — Jazz at Dixieland Hall, Marienstr. 3, 7:30 p.m.

"PARISIAN LIFE" — Musical by Jaques Offenbach, Schwabenlandhalle, Fellbach, 8 p.m.

"THE SECRET MARRIAGE" — Comic-Opera by Cimarosa, Wilhelma-Theater, Bad Cannstatt, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22

ROYAL GARDEN RAMBLERS — Jazz at Dixieland Hall, Marienstr. 3, 7:30 p.m.

STREETWAVE — Pop, Funk, Rock at "Roehre", Wagenburgtunnel, Neckarstr. 34, 9 p.m.

Thursday, February 23

MANFRED BAUERLE QUARTETT — Jazz at Dixieland Hall, Marienstr. 3, 7:30 p.m.

FOUR STEPS — Jazz at "Roehre", Wagenburgtunnel, Neckarstr. 34, 9 p.m.

"OTELLO" — Opera by Verdi (in Italian) Württemberg State Opera House, 7:30 p.m.

BALLET PERFORMANCE — Württemberg State Theater, 8 p.m.

"WEST SIDE STORY" — Presented by Broadway-Musical Company New York, Filderhalle, Leinfelden, 8 p.m.

FOUR STEPS — Jazz at "Roehre", Wagenburgtunnel, Neckarstr. 34, 9 p.m.

STOCKHOLM CHAMBER ORCHESTRA — Concert with Works by Telemann, Schostakowitsch, Bach, Stadthalle, Esslingen, 8 p.m.

"ACCUSED" — Movie in English, Kino Atelier 2, Kronprinzstr. 6, 5:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:45 p.m., thru Monday, March 1.

STUTTGART PHILHARMONICS — Concert with Works by Mozart, J.C. Bach, Schostakowitsch, Liederhalle, 8 p.m.

Friday, February 24

"JOURNEY TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE SUN" — Feature Film in English, Amerika Haus, Friedrichstr. 23A, 6 p.m.

WLO PAWLIK TRIO, POLAND — Jazz at Dixieland Hall, Marienstr. 3, 7:30 p.m.

MONTY ALEXANDER'S IVORY & STEEL — at Liederhalle, 8 p.m.

RAGTIME SPECHT GROOVE — Jazz at Musikhalle am Bahnhof, Ludwigsburg, 8:30 p.m.

MARINA KAY AND JIM KAHR — Blues at "Theater im Keller, Marktplatz 12, Ludwigsburg, 8:30 p.m.

TECH AHEAD — Rock at "Roehre", Wagenburgtunnel, Neckarstr. 34, 9 p.m.

ANNE WYLIE BAND — NEW IRISH FOLK at Kultur — and Kommunikationszentrum, Dieselstrasse 26, Esslingen, 9 p.m.

Saturday, February 25

FEDERAL LEAGUE SOCCER GAME — SV Stuttgarter Kickers vs Eintracht Frankfurt, Neckarstadion, 3:30 p.m.

SANGRE NUEVA — Afro-Cuban — Salsa — Jazz at Dixieland Hall, Marienstr. 3, 7:30 p.m.

BABACAR JAMMEH — West African Songs at Forum 3, Gymnasiumstr. 21, 8 p.m.

EMBRYO — Afro-Ethno Jazz at Laboratorium, Wagenburgstr. 147, 8:30 p.m.

MARNIE & ROXENGIN — Rock at "Roehre", Wagenburgtunnel, Neckarstr. 34, 9 p.m.

"ONEGIN" — Ballet Performance at Württemberg State Opera House, 7:30 p.m.

ARTS AND CRAFTS MARKET — at Musikhalle am Bahnhof, Ludwigsburg, 10 a.m. — 6 p.m. Also on Sunday, February 26.

Sunday, February 26

GUIDED TOUR in English Language — "BRONZE AND IRON-AGE IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG" at Württemberg State Museum, Old Castle, Schillerplatz 6, 11 a.m. (meeting point: entrance hall).

"ENTFUHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL" — Opera by Mozart, Württemberg State Opera House, 7:30 p.m.

JAZZ CONCERT at "Kultur — and Kommunikationszentrum, Dieselstr. 2, Esslingen, 8:30 p.m.

VOLKSMARCH

Saturday & Sunday: ZWEIFLINGEN, POC: Sigmund Jordan, Eichacherstr. 26, 7111 Zweiflingen, tel. 07948-656.

Saturday & Sunday: NEBRINGEN, POC: Othmar Gross, Schliffkopfstr. 9, 7046 Gäufelden-Nebringen, tel. 07032-73273.

Stuttgart notes

Welfare requests

The North Stuttgart Officers and Civilians Wives Club will be accepting requests for welfare funds from private organizations until March 1.

Salsa ole!

It's Salsa time as "La Conexion Latina" and "Anthony," both from Puerto Rico, invade Gemeinde-Halle in the Stadionstr 11, 7072 Leinfelden-Echterdingen on Feb. 25. Questions can be directed to Henriquetta dH Wessman at 420-6059.

All that jazz

The Robinson Barracks Youth Services is conducting ballet-jazz classes for youngsters 8 to 18 every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information, call Mrs. Moore at 420-6140/6016.

RB's Youth Services is also sponsoring adult aerobics classes. For more information call 4206140/6016.

Women's luncheon

The Director of the National Capitol Service Center, Patricia Watkins Lattimore, will be the featured speaker at the Women's History and Federal Women's Week luncheon at the RB Community Club on March 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For tickets or more information, contact the GSMC EEO office at 420-6059.

Pattonville car wash

The Malachi Community Support Group is sponsoring a car wash today in order to support the group's planned retreat to Spain during the spring break. Pledges and donations will be taken to subsidize the costs of the trip. Further inquiries may be directed to Adam Anderson at 811-320 or 07154 4657.

Jazz concert

Buddy De Franco's Savoy Seven stages a salute to Benny Goodman tonight at 8 p.m. at the Bahnhof in Ludwigsburg. For more information call (07141) 910636.

Fasching party

A fasching party will be held at the Krabbenloch Recreation Center on Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. Prizes will be given to the top three in the best costume contest (you must wear a costume to participate). There's also free food and dancing. Register anytime at the center on or before Feb. 25. For more information call 4282-553.

Krabbenloch Rec. activities

Krabbenloch Rec. has the following on the agenda for this week: today — table tennis tourney, Tuesday — any game night, Wednesday — Spades tourney, Thursday — checkers tourney. All of these begin at 7 p.m.

A chess tourney is slated to begin on Friday night, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. while Saturday's slate includes a taco sale (\$1 for a taco) beginning at 4 p.m. and a pool tourney starting an hour earlier. Video night begins at 5 p.m. on Feb. 26.

Fishing license class

Fishing enthusiasts will want to be at the Neckar Rod and Gun Club today at 10 a.m. for a special class on German fishing license requirements. Fishing season begins on April 1 and a valid license is required. More information can be acquired by calling 4216-416 or 0711-342840.

USO tours

Steppin' Out tours are sponsored by USO Deutschland e.V. in an attempt to help to familiarize soldiers and their dependents with new surroundings. Participants pay a sign-up fee of \$5 which will be refunded

after the tour at the USO Administrative office, Monday through Friday between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. The refund must be picked up within 10 days after the tour date. You must have your receipt/ticket with you in order to get the deposit back! USO Deutschland e.V. pays the public transportation fees and provides a bilingual guide.

Feb. 20: Steppin' Out from Panzer to downtown Boeblingen, departing from Panzer ACS at 9 a.m.

Feb. 22: Visit the site of the Porsche factory and see some of the most interesting sports and racing cars ever made. Departs from RB at 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23: Steppin' Out from Kelley ACS at 9 a.m. for an orientation to Stuttgart's exciting downtown pedestrian zone.

Feb. 25: A visit to the lovely city of Luxembourg where excellent shopping opportunities are available. Don't forget passports or DA31 travel orders! Non-US citizens may need a visa. Departs from Panzer at 6 a.m., Patch MP station at 6:15 a.m., RB at 6:45 a.m. and Pattonville at 7 a.m.

For more information, contact the USO Information and Referral booth at Robinson Barracks, 420-6241 or 0711-856102.

Art auction

An art auction and exhibition conducted by Vladimir Arts will be hosted by the Nellingen Officers and Civilians Women's Club on Feb. 26 at the Nellingen Officers' Club. There will be a preview and pre-sale from noon until 3 p.m. The auction begins at 3 p.m. and will last until all the art has been presented for bids.

The auction is open to all ID card holders and a framed lithograph by Don Stivers, "Malvern Hill," will be the raffle prize.

Kids language workshop

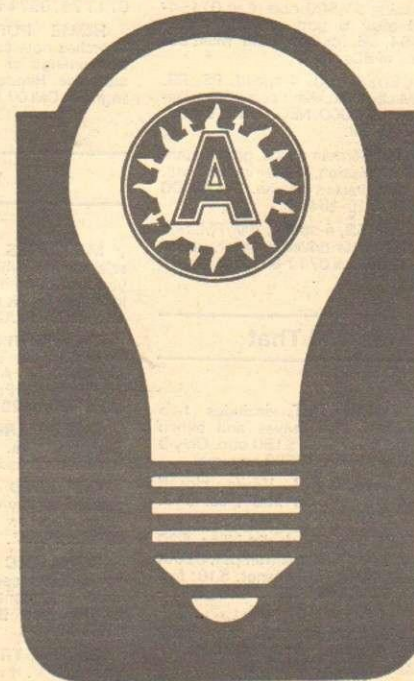
GSMC Child Development Services training workshops are now being offered. On Feb. 28, "Encouraging Language Development for Young Children" will be presented at Patch Child Development Center. Like other workshops, this runs from 7 to 9 p.m. The workshops are open to the public at large at no charge.

For more information, contact the Nellingen Child Development Center education specialist at 4216-443 or 0711-3481199.

Spring camp

The Robinson Barracks Youth Services will be sponsoring a spring camp from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for 10 days starting on March 20 and ending March 31. Those interested in signing their children up can contact Ms. Moore at 420-6140/6016.

CONSERVE



MARRIED TO THE MOB — is a light and breezy comedy concerning the antics of a goofy young widow trying to pull her life back together after her hit man husband is iced by an arrogant mobster.

MY STEPMOTHER IS AN ALIEN — A scientist searching for extraterrestrial intelligent life finds just what he's looking for (and more!) at a singles party thrown by his swinger brother.

GOOD MORNING VIETNAM — An irreverent American disc jockey in Saigon who blends outrageous humor and scathing truths about the war soon becomes a favorite with the troops and problem for an increasingly concerned U.S. military.

IRON EAGLE II — In the spirit of glasnost, American and Soviet troops heroically bind together to locate an atomic reactor which is in the very unfriendly hands of terrorists deep within a hostile Moslem country.

APO 09154-0504