

THE GROOPER

VOLUME II, NUMBER 13

BERLIN

30 MARCH 1946

Weekly Newspaper, Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.)



Food Ration Cut To 1275 Calories

Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Deputy Military Governor for Germany, announced yesterday at a meeting of Minister-Presidents of Bavaria, Wuerttemberg-Baden and Greater Hesse in Stuttgart, that the present daily scale of 1550 calories for the normal consumer in the American Zone would be cut to 1275 calories, effective April 1.

In order to sustain this ration, the War Department has agreed that 150,000 tons of wheat would be made available from U. S. crops for consumption in the U. S. Zone of Germany, in addition to the amounts already made available. Shipment will be made at the rate of 50,000 tons monthly during April, May and June.

Further shipments will be required after June 30 if the newly calculated ration is to be sustained until the next harvest season.

Gen. Clay stated that he had advised the Minister-Presidents last November that a 1550 calorie level would be supported by food imports from the United States. However, critical world food shortages made it impossible to procure the amount of wheat necessary to meet the November commitment, in view of equally pressing demands elsewhere, including the British and French zones of Germany.



Gen. W. Bedell Smith, clad in civvies, paused briefly in Berlin Wednesday enroute to Moscow to assume his new duties as Ambassador to Russia. Here he is being greeted by Lt. Gen. Clay at Tempelhof Airfield.

Berlin-U.S. Air Travel To Start This Month

by Phil Callaghan

American Overseas Airlines announced to THE GROOPER today that commercial flights between Berlin and the United States are to be commenced this month.

The first flight will leave New York Tuesday, and is expected to arrive in Berlin on Thursday. It will carry airline officials, Civil Aeronautics Authority officials and a group of American journalists, including Frank Harris, managing editor of The Newspaper PM.

Cost of the trip from Berlin to the States will be \$446.00, plus either a ten or 15 percent tax, it was revealed by Robert W. Evans, Berlin station manager for American Overseas Airlines. AOA's Berlin office is at Tempelhof Airdrome, and a complete staff has been organized.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority men are accompanying the initial Berlin flight to check on route, flying conditions, and other details. As soon as they give approval, AOA will commence a weekly flight to and from the States, adding an extra weekly flight each month, until by July a regular schedule of four weekly flights each way will be achieved.

The airline is at present under contract to Air Transport Command to fly planes for the Army; this contract expires May 1, and does not interfere with the company's commercial activities. The flights will be made in four-engined C-54s, and all incoming passengers to Berlin must get Army clearance.

Mr. Evans emphasized that German marks will not be accepted as payment for flights to the United States, but that money orders or travellers' checks would be required.

Monty Visits Berlin

Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, made a brief stop in the British sector of Berlin yesterday.

One of the places visited on his short Berlin stay was the British Marlborough Club on Reichskanzlerplatz, where all ranks of the British forces may mix on an equal plane.

I & E University Spring Classes Commence April 8

The American University of Berlin will open its spring term on April 8, it was announced this week by Lt. Robert E. Fauss, I & E officer.

The schedule of courses to be offered for the spring term include four subjects in the field of Business and Commerce, four in Journalism, four in Languages, and fifteen in Science.

The faculty is now further enlarged with the recent acquisition of nine American professors.

Registration for these spring term courses may be made at 25 Irmgard Strasse through the first week in April from 9:00 a. m. to 9:00 p. m.

Big Four Set German Standard of Industry

HMG Stipulates Three Conditions

In conjunction with the release of the Quadripartite Level of Industry Plan for Germany, British military government authorities issued the following formal statement:

"His Majesty's Government accepts the proposed plan on the assumption that it is drawn up in accordance with the Potsdam principle that Germany, with its present Western frontiers remaining unchanged, should be treated as a single economic whole. In the event of any alteration in the Western frontiers or of a decision against a centralized economic administration, the plan would call for revision.

"There are two further assumptions implicit in the Plan and in His Majesty's Government's acceptance of it:—(a) that the population of Germany will not exceed 66½ millions; and (b) that exports will be possible to pay for imports to the extent envisaged in the Plan, thus obviating a charge on the occupying powers or other external assistance."

Steel Cut Two-Thirds, Unemployment Likely

The offices of military government of the four occupying powers in Germany made public Thursday evening details of a plan to establish definite capacity and production levels for German industry.

By 1949, "target year" of the plan, it aims to achieve an approximate of the 1932 standard of living in Germany. Steel production is to be slashed by two-thirds of the pre-war level, and chemical production 55%; the plan's release is the "go-ahead" signal for the Germans to plan their economic future.

Unemployment Inevitable

Brig. Gen. W. H. Draper, Jr., head of the OMGUS Economic Division, admitted in a press conference Thursday that these industrial cuts are bound to produce a serious unemployment problem in Germany.

"It will be very difficult," he said, "to prevent widespread unemployment for some time to come," adding, "the British Zone will be especially affected."

British authorities issued a formal statement, simultaneous with the release of the Level of Industry plan, declaring that their agreement to its provisions depended on 1—no alteration in German boundaries, 2—Germany's population not exceeding 66½ million, and 3—that exports will balance imports, as envisioned in the plan.

Referring to this British declaration in his press conference, Gen. Draper observed that "this statement in no way represents a reservation against the plan."

Seek Careful Balance

Ambitious result attempted by the creators of this ruling is to permit Germany enough industrial production to pay for its imports, but still keep industrial capacity below a level where it could conceivably constitute a threat of war potential, and also to permit the removal as reparations of the amount of German industrial equipment called for in the Berlin Protocol.

Food imports, according to Gen. (Continued on Page 6)

Parade, Dances To Highlight Army Day Here

A regimental review, a speech by Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, special radio programs, and a reception and evening party at "Club 48" will feature OMGUS celebration of Army Day Saturday, April 6.

Gen. Clay will address the troops at the Berliner Hockey Club at 10 A.M. Following this, the entire headquarters regiment will pass in review.

The purely social side will get under way at 2 P.M., when an open house for all U. S. military and civilian personnel will continue until 5. This will provide an excellent opportunity for OMGUS enlisted men to show off their club to officer and civilian friends. Food and punch will be on the house, with (Continued on Page 6)

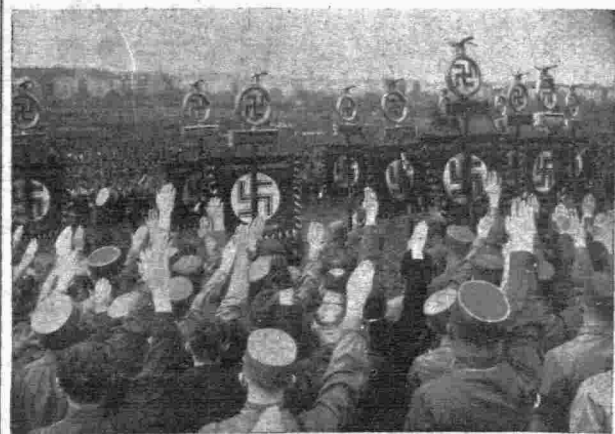
Berliners Shun Nazi Atrocity Films Shown Here

by Harold Kempner

The German movie fans in the American Sector of Berlin took a holiday last week.

"Death Mills," a documentary film of German concentration camps taken by Allied personnel, was the main attraction last week in all the 52 German movie houses.

The showing of this film, intended as a part of the political re-education for the Germans who may doubt the authenticity of the reports on the concentration camps, was a "dismal flop," Lt. P. Van Eyck of the Film, Section of the Information Control Services (Berlin District) admitted. A preliminary report on attendance re-



1941 — Standing Room Only . . .



. . . 1946 — Empty Seats

(Continued from Page 6)

THE GROOPER

Published weekly by the Information and Education Section of The Office of Military Government for Germany (U. S.), at AG Publications plant in Berlin. GROOPER telephone numbers are 84-6731 and 76-0365.

Editor: Emily Mikszto; Managing Editor: Roger Valdes Jr.; Feature Editor: Harold Kempner; News Staff: Lynn Davis, Phil Callaghan, Melvin Weightman, Viviane Adams, William Behnk; Staff Photographer: Henry Ries, Clayton Hemsey; German News Editor: J. Nortmann; Staff Artist: K. Schetting.

THE GROOPER receives Camp Newspaper Service and Army News Service material. Reproduction of credited matter prohibited without permission of CNS or ANS, 205 East 42nd Street, N.Y.C. 17.

Berlin Notes

1946

25,000 CITY WORKERS OUSTED

Twenty-five thousand out of the 100,000 employees of Berlin's municipal plants have been dismissed for Nazi party affiliation, City Council Member Arthur Pieck has reported to personnel chiefs and shop councilmen.

Pieck, who is head of the personnel office for all municipal plants, said the ordinance enabled personnel chiefs to go beyond the immediate circle of former party members and dismiss also those who had never joined the party though supporting its aims.

EXTRA RATIONS FOR CHILDREN

All Berlin children up to 14 years of age will receive a special ration of two bars of raisin chocolate. In addition children up to six years will receive two cans of dried meat and one package of ascorbic acid tablets.

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BANS MILITARY SUBJECTS

The former Berlin Institute of Technology will reopen next week under the name "Technical University Berlin-Charlottenburg." The lectures will cover all fields formerly taught at the institute, except airplane and large ship construction and military subjects. There will be no school of mining.

100,000 WORKERS NEEDED ON CITY'S REPAIR PROGRAM

Berlin is planning to repair or rebuild about 350,000 housing units in 1946, according to vice chief Burgomaster Maron. About 100,000 workers and between six hundred and seven hundred million marks will be necessary to realize this plan.

All restaurants of the city will be supplied with "Alkohol," new alcoholic drink. Trees have been cut down in the Tiergarten, not only for fuel, but also to make way for potato crops.

Leopold Ludwig, well-known conductor of the Berlin Staetische Opera in the British sector, has been dismissed from his post for Nazi party membership. Ludwig submitted erroneous information in his fragebogen and now admits having joined the party in 1942.

Each briquette of the brown coal mines of Saxony which is sent to the west of Germany campaigns for the merger of both German labor parties. According to Radio Berlin last week all briquettes carry the inscription: "KPD and SPD united in fight."

The Clearing Corner

Sweating it Out

Certain aircraft were maneuvering over DAHLEM-BERLIN on the nights of 15 and 16, and (Sunday) afternoon of 17 March, 1946.

Those persons "who have never heard a shot in anger" may not have been disturbed. On the other hand, less than one year ago the roar of airplanes caused the combat soldier to "sweat" and, if asleep, to awaken in fear. Such effects of war were not discarded, like worn-out garments, when the fighting ceased; and the writer, for one, still awakens "sweating" at the sound of a plane too close overhead.

Indiscriminate flying over populated areas in the United States is prohibited, to protect the populace from danger and annoyance. Are not citizens of the United States entitled to the same protection in Germany?

Or, if the flights in question were "essential training", let us hear the welcome answering bark of triple-A



The Anglo-American quiz show initiated over AFN Berlin three weeks ago is proving increasingly popular as GIs grapple with brain-twisters on England and British Tommies stumble over the intricacies of American slang. It is heard every Tuesday on the 8 to 8:30 p. m. spot. Above photo shows a broadcast in action at AFN studios. From left to right is Herb Graham, AFN Quizmaster; the American team composed of S/Sgt. William De Grasse, Sgt. Paula Burns, and Pfc. Michael Head, OMGUS personnel. The British team shown include Pvt. Maurice Simons, British Quizmaster, Cpl. William Black, Sgt. Dick Leech and Cpl. Pat Wallace.

Book Review

GIs Inspired Author Halsey

Special Services Library Book

If you're still interested in the Army and can bear to read books about it, you'll probably enjoy Margaret Halsey's "Some of My Best Friends are Soldiers." Miss Halsey calls her book "a kind of novel," but whatever the genre, it manages to avoid the cliches and banalities with which the greater part of recent literature on the subject has been filled.

The narration is handled by means of letters, hardly an original device but in this case well suited to the author's wry wit and rather informal and uncorseted prose style. Gretchen, once married but presently only hopeful, writes to her brother Geoffrey in the services.

Largely because her father is lonely with Geoffrey away, Gretchen takes in Tom Garrett as a boarder. Tom's job is flying Army planes to Scotland, but he quickly acquires a non-professional interest — not in Gretchen, as you might suppose, but in her father. This romantic heresy paves the way for a very pretty ending and also provides an excuse for continuing the story after the first three or four chapters.

Readers who enjoyed Miss Halsey's "With Malice Toward Some" will not be disappointed in this latest effort. It's available at the Library in Onkel Tom's subway ramp.

Titania Palast Schedules Big Shows for April

Four top-flight productions are scheduled to play the Titania Palast for the month of April beginning with the original mystery-comedy Soldier Show Studios' "TWO TO KILL" playing April 5 and 6.

This mystery, a three-act thriller, is an original play written by the Studio's Sgt. John O'Neill. It was the first production to be recorded by the Radio Center.

"GREAT DAY" comes second on the list. The long-awaited Studios' musical comedy is tentatively scheduled for a four day run: April 10, 11, 12 and 13. This Seventh Army circuit hit is full of clever dance routines and sparkling original tunes claimed to be the most tuneful production ever to hit the ETO. A GI band goes with the show.

All who have seen the movie and read the book will eagerly await "CLAUDIA," a USO show playing here April 18, 19 and 20.

"IRENE," a musical comedy with a cast of 40, will have a four day run at the Titania Palast for the last week of April. This USO musical comedy hit is scheduled for April 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Church Call

Catholic Services:

Masses at 9:30 and 19:00 at Sacred Heart Church, corner of Kronprinzen Allee and Riemeister Str. Busses will leave for Catholic Church from Main Hq., and from gate at entrance to Regt. Area at 9:15.

Mass at 11:00 — Goethe Hall, Officers Mess — 16 Inne Strasse.

Catholic services are held daily at 12:00 at the Service Chapel, 92 Gary Strasse.

Protestant Services:

Morning worship at 11:00 with Holy Communion being held at 11:45. The Protestant Church is located on Onkel Tom Strasse opposite Onkel Tom Theatre.

Christian Science:

11:00 at the Service Chapel, 92 Gary Strasse.

Episcopal Services:

11:15 at the Roosevelt Club. 13:30 at the 279 Station Hospital.

Latter Day Saints:

19:00 at the Service Chapel, 92 Gary Strasse.

Jewish Services:

10:30 at the Chaplain's Center and Jewish Welfare Board, 78-79 Unter den Eichen.

Movie Schedule

ONKEL TOM

SUN — MON — TUES

"SAN ANTONIO" with Errol Flynn — Alexis Smith.

WED — THURS

"THRILL OF A ROMANCE" with Esther Williams — Van Johnson.

FRI — SAT

"COL. EFFINGHAM'S RAID" with Charles Coburn — Joan Bennet.

HARNACK HOUSE

SUN — MON — TUES

"AND THEN THERE WERE NONE" with Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston.

THURS

"KISS AND TELL" with Shirley Temple.

FRI

"SAN ANTONIO" with Errol Flynn and Alexis Smith.

TITANIA PALAST

SUN — MON — TUES

"SNAFU" with Robert Benchley.

WED — THURS

"HOUSE ON 92nd ST." with Lloyd Nolan.

FRI — SAT

"MAN ALIVE" with Pat O'Brien, Ellen Drew.

ARC Schedule

Today: March birthday party, 8:30 p.m.; Door prizes, 9:00 p.m.

SUN: AVC musical program, 2:30 p.m.; Classical Candlelight Hour (in Cottage), 8:30 p.m.; Floor show, 9:00 p.m.

MON: "Master of the Ivories," 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.; Floor show, 9:00 p.m.

TUES: Orchestras, 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 p.m.; Snapshots taken around Club, 9:00 p.m.

WED: "Master of the Ivories," 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.; Informal German conversation class, 8:00 p.m.; Bingo, 9:00 p.m.

THURS: Chess night, 7:30 p.m.; Floor show, 9:00 p.m.

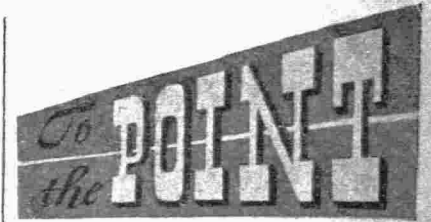
FRI: California broadcast nite, 8:00 p.m.; Photo lessons, 8:00 p.m.; Floor show, 9:00 p.m.

SAT: Stunt night, 9:00 p.m.

Special Service Library Moves

The popular Special Service library at Onkel Tom's subway ramp has been moved across the arcade and is now located next door to the Onkel Tom theater.

Other Special Service changes: Athletic Office has moved to the Berliner Hockey Club; the Onkel Tom Beauty Parlor and the Portrait Studio have moved to the Regimental side of the U-bahn tracks in the arcade; the Ice Cream Parlor is in Roger's Corner.



by Harold Kempner

While the Germans are reluctant to look at films of their treatment of fellow Germans, political and military prisoners and slave laborers transported to Germany, it would be timely to recall the effect of these official films taken in German horror camps on the American public. Have they hardened the determination to make a "hard" peace which will prevent any possibility of Germany's rising to power in the future? Or have these films been received as propaganda?

The best indication perhaps of U. S. public's feelings are in the various polls taken by such agencies as Gallup's American Institute of Public Opinion.

Only three percent refused to believe the atrocity accounts and the same percentage could not decide. There is little doubt that the overwhelming majority of Americans accepted the accounts of the atrocity films as plain and uncolored truth.

Sixty percent of the public wanted the movie houses to show atrocity films while thirty five percent said no. It can be readily seen that those who did not want films shown are not skeptical of the facts but are inclined to think the films are too revolting for public consumption.

One significant and interesting view the poll revealed: 89 of every 100 would force the Germans to look at the pictures. The public thus disapproved the present Army practice of not making it compulsory for Germans to attend the showing of atrocity films.

When the official atrocity films were shown in the States last year, the Translux Company, which operates a chain of newsreel theaters in New York City, reported that attendance increased 25 percent during the two weeks in which their houses showed these films. Attendance was reported to be above average in nearly all the other theaters and Army posts when the films were featured.

Another poll of public opinion taken after the atrocity films were shown through the country demonstrated a sharp rise in the feeling that severe treatment of Germany is essential. While in 1943 seventeen percent approved lenient treatment for defeated Germany, at present only one in ten is willing to approve any plans which might let the Reich off easy — a net change, among those willing to forgive German criminals, of nearly sixty percent.

These atrocity films should be run every six months in the U.S. as a precaution against "softening" of public opinion toward Germany. U. S. occupation personnel in Germany should see them even more often to make them immune to the persistent German propaganda line so generously dished out. As to the Germans, perhaps we should make them see what their brother Supermen have accomplished and punch their ration cards to be sure they have not missed a thing.

Chicago (ANS) — John Ramsey, Kansas City, Mo., and his wife, Almeretta, were awakened by crackling flames that broke out in the Congress Hotel. Frightened, she asked him to carry her downstairs from their sixth-floor room. All was confusion, and guests were milling about the stairways. Ramsey got all the way down to the lobby before he discovered that the woman on his back was not his wife. He went back to the sixth floor, but his wife was gone. He found her in the lobby, finally, hysterical because she believed he had died.

"Verboten"

ART

EWALD VETTER Anti-Nazi Painter

By Harold Kempner

You will search in vain for the truly great German artist who during the 12-year spiritual black-out in Nazi Germany stuck to his guns to the very end. The German artists, big and small, were opportunistic and spiritless dwarfs who, with eyes open and hearts content, prostituted their souls and brains to the glorification of the Third Reich.

Ewald Vetter was the unique and notable exception of a German artist who for many dark and gloomy years continued to produce works of art which will forever reflect all that was rotten, false and artificial in Hitler's Germany.

Constant pressure was exerted on him to fall in line and change his stubborn views. The circle of his friends was thinned by Nazi persecutions and his subsistence became an endless struggle. All possibilities for exhibitions disappeared as he created themes utterly out of step with the Nazi stream. His only income was derived from the sale of his wife's needlework and tapestries. She kept his spirits up and guided him through temporary moods of despair and disgust.

Though Vetter's every move was watched and his life fraught with danger, he never faltered. At one time Goebbels instructed his secretary to offer him 30,000 Reichsmarks for one of his paintings. His reply was emphatic: "I do not wish to sell anything to Goebbels." That day his wife sold one of her tapestries for a hundred marks to keep them going for another month. The Furtwaenglers and the rest of them basked in Nazi fame, the Vettters chose the hard and perilous road.

His paintings, some of them reproduced on this page, portray the martyrdom of the 12 inglorious years. He is the man who lived through that period in spiritual and physical agony and preserved it on the canvas so that coming generations will grasp the true meaning of Nazism in its stark reality.

The underlying theme of his works is one of condemnation and accusation. The lonely woman with the mournful face wrinkled with anger in "Accusation" is a forceful indictment of the Third Reich. The gesture of tenderness, withered with pain of the simple "Pieta" is a touching monument to the victims of the war. "Self-Portrait" mirrors the artist, in the wake of liberation, at last inhaling pure air.

About 25 of his paintings will be premiered in Rockefeller Center in New York next month under the sponsorship of Life magazine. They will later be on exhibition in all the prominent art galleries in the United States.

(Photos by Ries)



"Self-Portrait"



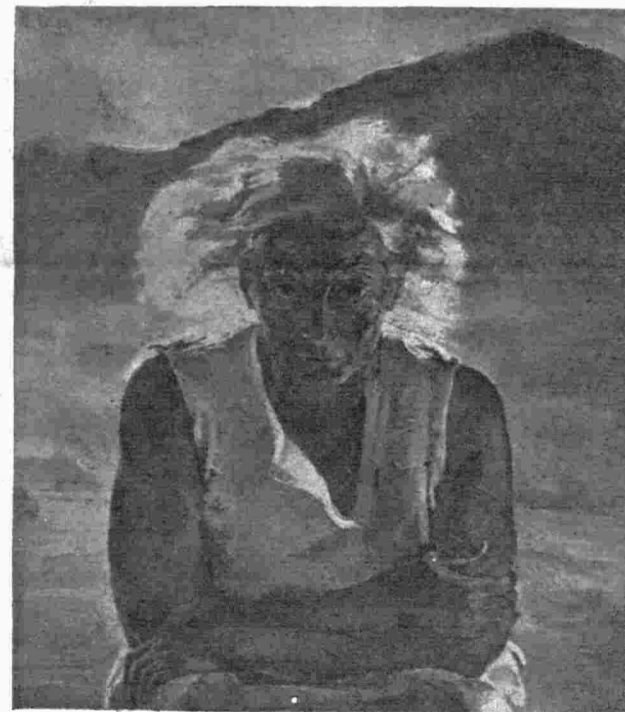
"Under the Cross"



"Transfiguration at the Cross"



"Parting"



"Accusation"



"Pieta"



"Despair"



Majors Prime for First Season of Peace

by Phil Callaghan

Take me out to the ball-game, take me out with the crowd... buy me a couple of grandstand tickets in Griffith Stadium (bleachers will do) for April 19 to see Harry Truman throw in the first ball of the 1946 baseball season... I don't care if I never come back...

For it's one, two, three and the first peacetime, back-to-normalcy baseball season in many a day will open next month in the U. S. A. Top-ranking players are off the wartime ration list, and except for a couple of screwy details like all-out night ball, a new Mexican league that's trying to buy off all our big stars, the wholesale auctioning-off of the St. Louis Cardinals, and a new czar of baseball who (shades of Rogers Hornsby) used to have a subtle connection with horse-racing, it should be a sharp-spiked, wide-open season as of old.

Last Year's Winners

The last, and saddest, year of wartime ball saw the Detroit Tigers drop the Senior Circuit's Chicago Cubs to cop the World Series. George Stirnweiss of the Yankees was the big stick in the American League, and the Tigers' Hal Newhouser the top pitcher. In the National Loop Phil Cavaretta and Hank Borowy of the Cubs hit and hurled the best.

This year the big names of baseball, many of them back from the wars, have been putting extra time and energy into their Grapefruit Circuit work-outs. Hugh Mulcahy (left) has returned from four years in the Army, from the New Guinea mud and the Leyte beach-head. The former ace pitcher of the Phillies emerged from the jungles 25 pounds under his normal pitching weight. He started putting himself into shape months before the regular training season, and now shows promise of another great year at Shibe Park.

Bobby Doerr (right) one of the great modern second sackers of baseball, was discharged from the infantry in December, and is back in training with the Boston Red Sox at Sarasota, Fla.

Arc-light Baseball

One of the new problems which will complicate matters in the coming season is a 1946 ruling passed by the major league clubs permitting an unrestricted amount of night-time baseball, under the arc-lamps. Old-timers fought this ruling as being detrimental to the quality of play, and not in keeping with the traditions of the national pastime. But financial considerations won out, and the clubs may play all the night ball they want in 1946.

Of course, no club is forced to schedule night games, nor is any team required to accept night dates on the road. The midnight oil will undoubtedly be burned in the ball parks this year, however.

New Faces, Old Faces

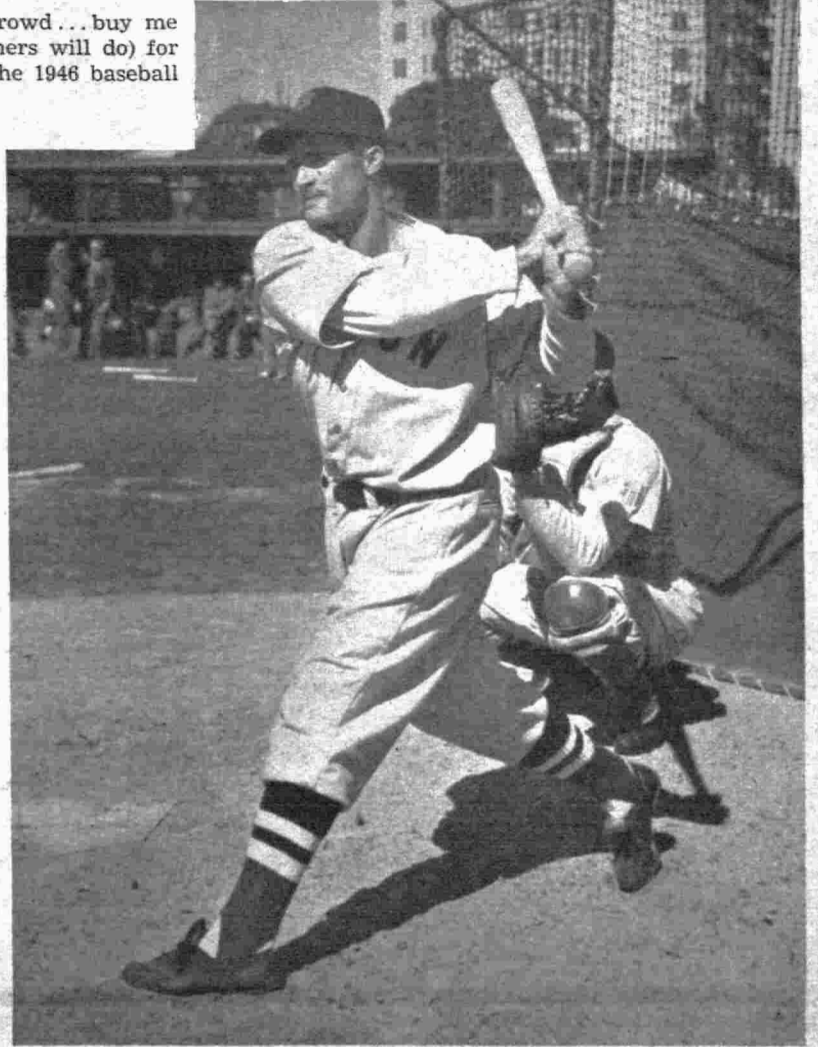
Many new faces will be seen on the diamonds this season, especially by those who have been in the armed forces any length of time; and many of the old faces will appear in new spots. The Brooklyn Dodgers broke a "Jim Crow" precedent of long standing in the major leagues by signing a Negro ball player, shortstop Jackie Robinson (right).

The St. Louis Cardinals startled the horsehide and hickory world by

(Continued on Page 5)



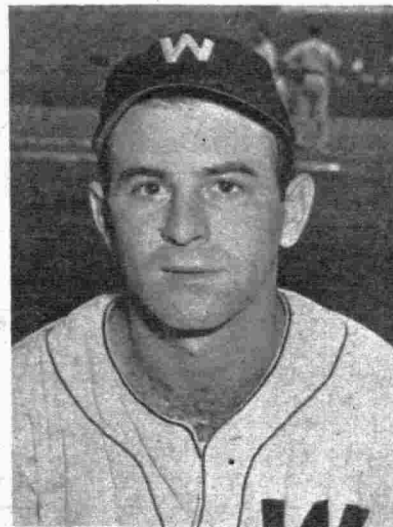
Mulcahy Winds . . .



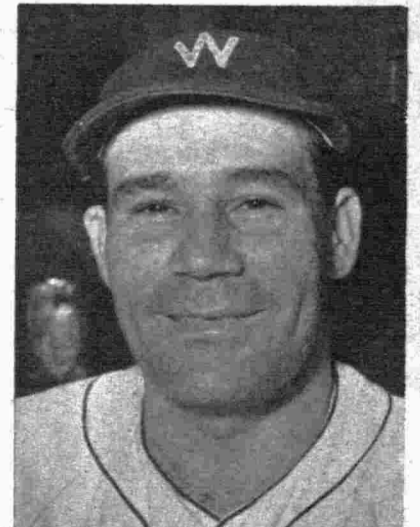
. . . Doerr Connects



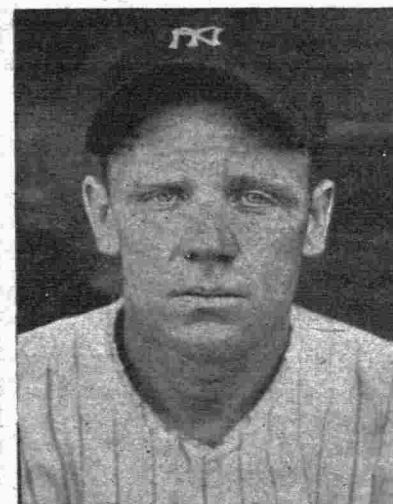
DOUBLE PLAY: Charlie Keller, New York Yankees, is forced out at second as Verban, St. Louis Cardinal second-sacker, throws to first to complete double play in Yank-Cardinal exhibition at St. Petersburg.



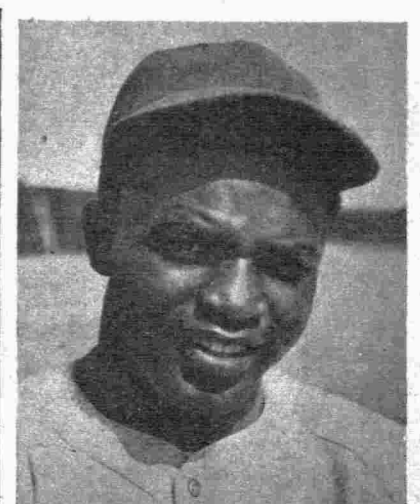
Fred Vaughn, White Sox



Alex Carrasquel, White Sox



Red Rolfe, Yankees



Jackie Robinson, Dodgers

Photo credits: Mulcahy, Doerr, Robinson — Acme; Rolfe — INS; others — Press Association.

OMGUS Wacs City Champs In Volleyball

Play in ET Tourney In Vienna, April 15

The OMGUS WAC volleyball team won the Berlin city crown, a bunch of gold medals, and a trip to Vienna this week by defeating the Berlin District WAC outfit in two straight matches.

Spirited BD play forced the first match to go all three games before the MG Wacs triumphed; the second match was won in two straight games, though one of them was a tight, 16-14 contest.

After the second match the European Theater WAC Athletic Officer, Capt. Pomeroy awarded individual gold medals to the winning OMGUS ladies and silver ones to the Berlin District six.

The OMGUS team will represent Berlin in the ET volleyball tourney for Wacs to be held at Vienna, Austria, April 15-21. The Wacs who will take the trip are Dorothy E. Arnold, Monta Armer, Lillian Barnes, Wanda Black, Catherine Murphy, Olga Dunchesen, Eleanor J. Darling and Inez Spahr.

Diamond Play To Start Soon

The OMGUS Athletic Office announced this week that plans are under way for organizing the local baseball and softball seasons.

Any OMGUS Division or attached unit interested in entering a team in the softball league, and any individual wishing to try out for the OMGUS baseball team, should get in touch with the Athletic Office in the Berliner Hockey Club, phone 84-6913.

Baseball . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

placing practically their whole team on the bloc. The New York Giants are on the receiving end of much of this material, having paid 175,000 bucks for catcher Walker Cooper alone. Fred Vaughn and Alex Carrasquel (left) have both gone from the Senators to the Chicago White Sox on waivers.

Old Red Rolfe (left) is still a fixture with the Yankees, but now in a coaching capacity.

And That Ain't All . . .

Then there's Happy Chandler, the former Senator from Kentucky, now czar of all organized baseball. Chandler's blue-grass affiliations smelled slightly of horse flesh, an aroma most obnoxious to the diamond world. Happy put down a minor revolt which tried to unseat him and now reigns with only slightly power than his predecessor, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

Chief among his present worries is the new Mexican baseball loop, which is offering American stars fantastic prices to sign up south of the border. Chandler has threatened a five-year suspension from organized baseball for any players signing with the Latin loop.

This Year's Winners

This year the Cincinnati Reds and the Washington Senators will win in their respective circuits, with the Reds copping the World Series. . . I could be wrong, though. . . for it's one, two, three strikes you're out, at the old ball game.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Hirsch together again in their flat in Berlin's Friedenau district after eight years of separation, hardships and misfortunes.

Reunion In Berlin Climaxes Eight Years of Nightmares For Couple

by Phil Callaghan

Last week a little flat in the Friedenau section in Berlin was the scene of the ending of a fiction-like series of events which would whet the imagination of any professional story teller.

Once upon a time (in 1938) Ernst Ludwig Hirsch was a prominent Berlin physician. His wife, Hilde, came from a wealthy Dutch family. Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch habituated the upper strata of Berlin society.

But both were full Jews. They read the handwriting on the wall, and determined to try to leave Germany. Their son, Peter, had already been sent to school in England, and Ernst planned to try to join him, and then send for Hilde.

In late 1938 he secured a job as ship's physician on a vessel which travelled between Hamburg and the port of Haifa, in Palestine, most of the ship's passengers were non-aryan. Immigration difficulties at Haifa were surmounted when the vessel "accidentally" burned and sank, and Palestine officials accepted the castaways in accordance with international law.

Ernst lost all his possessions in the confusion of the fire. He became employed by a hospital in Haifa, established contact with his wife, and was making plans for her to join him, when Germany invaded Poland in 1939, at which time he lost all contact with Hilde. He continued working in the Haifa hospital for several years.

Hilde remained in Berlin until 1942. In October of that year Gestapo agents tried to seize her for assignment to a concentration camp. Successfully evading them, Hilde fled to the home of her former housemaid where she remained in hiding for some time. The next year, when opportunity arose, she made her way to the town of Binz, on the Baltic isle of Rugen.

Though Hilde did not realize it, she arrived at Binz a British subject, for her husband Ernst had recently joined the British army and become a Britisher himself, automatically extending this right to his wife.

At Binz, she was using the aryanized name of "Hirse". She was forced to flee once again in January of '44, when a letter arrived there for her bearing the name "Hirsch", thus revealing her deception. Not knowing where to turn, Hilde returned to Berlin, where she still had a few friends.

She arrived in the city at the conclusion of a devastating allied air bombardment. In the confusion she sought to obtain a new set of identification papers and ration cards, claiming that hers had just been lost in the raid. Momentarily flustered

when officials asked her name, for neither "Hirsch" nor "Hirse" would now do, she noticed a passing truck marked with the name of "Lorenz", a famous German make of radio. She was thenceforth Hilde Lorenz.

Capt. Ernst Ludwig Hirsch, Royal Medical Army Corps, went through the entire Italian campaign with the British Army. After VE Day, he asked to be sent to Germany, to search for Hilde. Finally he was assigned to a British Army Hospital in the Rhineland town of Osnabruck, and given a forty-day compassionate leave in Berlin.

He arrived in Berlin, to meet his wife after eight years' separation, on Friday, March 22. Friday was Hilde's birthday.

Linguists Decipher Puzzlers In Berlin Censorship Office

by Viviane Adams

Upon the re-establishment of postal service between Germany and other nations of the world, as approved by the Allied Control Council's coordinating committee, the Group "C" Civilian Censorship Division of Berlin anticipates a tremendous increase in volume of material handled.

All civilian mail for circulation in Germany is subject to censorship either coming into Berlin or going out. The culling of information and the extraction of important data often innocently revealed in personal correspondence is an exacting business of which little can be revealed.

All employees working in the Group "C" Civilian Censorship Division are sworn secrecy and may only mention to outsiders where they are employed. The job is handled by an alert staff of linguist, War Department Employees and those with even more poliglote and colourful backgrounds — the Allied Civilian Employees. These are temporary stateless persons who fled from Axis countries and Axis-occupied countries to the United Kingdom where they were eventually recruited for this special work be-

Evidence of Resistance Under Hitler Revealed

by Roger Valdes

Underground publication of anti-Nazi pamphlets and leaflets and existence of an organized resistance movement for sabotage known as "Ernst" were activities carried out in Berlin under the Hitler regime up to 1945, THE GROOPER learned this week.

After Hitler's ascension to the throne of Chancellor in 1933 and his subsequent order outlawing all parties other than the Nazi, the Central Committee of the Communist Party in Berlin continued functioning underground as evidenced from a file of once-forbidden pamphlets and leaflets published in Berlin from 1933 to 1935.

An underground propaganda pamphlet circulated by the committee, disguised as an advertising publication and dated December 24, 1933, refutes Nazi government charges of Communists' guilt for the fire of the Reichstag that year and contend that "Hitler, Goering and Gobbels are the men who actually set the Reichstag afire. The burning banners tossed by them was a signal for the Fascists to begin their campaign of murder against the Red Liberty Army and for the restriction and bloody persecution of the Communist party."

The issue of the Reichstag fire was kept alive, and a year later, in the December, 1934 edition of the underground pamphlet "Socialist Action", a full confession of guilt for the Reichstag fire by a General of the SA is reprinted. Karl Ernst, the SA General reported to have signed the confession, stated that he took part in setting the fire "on advice of my friends who told me that Goebbels and Goering had something on me."

Publication of the Hitler-outlawed pamphlets and newspapers became impossible after 1935, the year Himmler's Gestapo had attained increasing power and extended their activities to include every nook and corner of the city.

War plants sabotaged

Beginning of a resistance movement and spotty but continuous recurrence of acts of sabotage is reported to have started in Berlin towards the latter part of 1939.

In a private exchange of letters between the committee of the "Victims of Fascism" of the Berlin district of Reinickendorf and the

central committee groups began sabotaging some of Berlin's leading war plants, among them "Deutsche Waffen und Munitionfabrik", Germany's biggest munition plant; "Durener Metallwerke", an important aluminum plant; "Mauserwerke", a firearm factory, and "Borsig-Rheinmetall", a tank plant.

Regular meetings of the saboteurs were held, the correspondence reports, adding that 74 of its men were placed among the 10,000 employees of the Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabrik war plant.

The Gestapo is reported to have discovered the plot of sabotage in the spring of 1942 and arrested 200 persons. Thirty-three of them were condemned to death and the remainder were sentenced to long stretches at hard labor.

Birth of resistance group

Despite the smashing of the plot by the Gestapo, underground activity continued with the birth of a group known as "resistance movement Ernst", Peter Eisman, secretary of the Chamber of Arts in Berlin disclosed to GROOPER German News Editor J. Nortmann.

The "Ernst" group is reported to have consisted of Wehrmacht patients in local hospitals who had no desire to return to the front, and of Jewish people and persecutees who were living underground.

Resistance activities attributed to the group includes the placing of nails on tires of German army cars leaving Berlin, pinning propaganda leaflets on the blackboards of private homes and apartment houses, and acting as underground couriers of vital information against the Gestapo.

The autumn of 1944 saw the birth of a mimeographed leaflet which continued to be distributed through the first months of 1945. A newsman on the staff of Goebbels' newspaper, "Das Reich", is believed to have been the writer and producer of the leaflets. Distribution, which amounted to between 20,000 and 30,000 per issue, was made possible only during Allied air attacks of the city, at which time distribution agents tossed them into air raid shelters and scattered them on the streets.

Little Theater Features Anglo American Cast

As part of an Inter-Allied Entertainment program the American Little Theater of Berlin plans to give a series of one-act plays. The first presentation will include three one-act plays. The first play will consist of an all-British cast, the second an all-American cast and the third to be a combined Anglo-American one.

The show to be played by the combined cast has already been chosen. At the Little Theater meeting on Wednesday, March 27, a one act play written by J. Monroe MacLennan, a British civilian with the British Military Government, was read and received with great enthusiasm. It is a Shakespearean burlesque called "Macbeth in Venice" and was chosen to be the first show to go into rehearsal. It was cast immediately after the meeting.

The cast for the American presentation will be chosen Monday, April 1, at 7.30 p. m. in the Curtain House.

(Continued on Page 6)

Brazil Mission Seeks Materiel Bought in '40

by Murray Gerstenhaber

The newly set up Brazilian Mission in Berlin, representing the only Latin-American nation with headquarters in Germany, has the task of trying to locate all the war materials bought and paid for by Brazil prior to the outbreak of hostilities. The mission was established here March 13 and will probably continue functioning for the duration of the occupation.

Only those allied nations which took an active part in the war effort have been invited to send their representatives to Berlin. Brazil's participation included sending an expeditionary force overseas which fought the Germans in Italy.

Exchanged Food for Arms

Before the war, Brazil had large commercial interests in Germany, purchasing arms, machinery and scientific equipment and exporting food and coffee in return.

The head of the present delegation, General Anor Santos, was in Germany from 1940 to 1942 as chief of a military mission the main purpose of which was to secure arms and munitions from the Krupp works at Essen. After the outbreak of the war, he was interned three months in Baden-Baden but finally succeeded in returning to Brazil.

There remained in Germany, however, large stockpiles of arms and other materials purchased by the Brazilian government, as well as a large number of Brazilian nationals unable to return to their native land. Of the stores of arms, it is believed that little remains, but the present purpose of the mission is to locate what is left of its government's property and to repatriate its nationals.

Expect Large Immigration

The mission will also attempt to arrange export to Germany of scarce and much needed food and coffee in return for such equipment as Germany is still able to export.

Besides preparing itself for the return of its nationals, the Brazilian Government declares itself ready to receive this year 3,000 German emigrants, especially technicians and young farmers and laborers who had no interest in Naziism and are seeking to start life anew. The emigration would be handled by the mission here, but it has as yet received no definite directives from its government on the details.

The official body itself consists of General Santos, six officers and one civilian.

Army Insignia Confusing

Americans meeting members of the mission on the street are likely to confuse the General for one of his subordinates and vice-versa. A Brazilian captain's uniform boasts three stars resembling those of an American Lt. General. Each star has a blue field in the center surrounded by a ring of twenty smaller stars for the twenty states of Brazil and in the center is a cluster of five stars arranged to represent the Southern Cross. A major has the same three stars, but the first is set on a yellow rosette, a Lt. Col. has two of the three stars set on rosettes, and a full Col. has all three. But the general's insignia looks more like an American major's. Most of the officers are from the artillery, the insignia of which is almost exactly like the American Ordnance insignia. General Santos himself was commander of the artillery division of the 3rd Division in southern Brazil.



(Photo by Ries)
Abe Kerber, 38 year-old midget, is shown here as he related his dangerous and colorful guerrilla experiences to a GROOPER newsman.

Production High, Denazification Swift in Soviet Zone: U.S. Scribes

A record crowd of over 500 members of the Berlin American community, including a general and a number of full colonels, jammed into the OMGUS snack bar for last Tuesday's AVC forum, to hear four U. S. correspondents reveal their findings after a week in the Soviet-occupied province of Thuringia.

Edd Johnson, of the Chicago Sun, discussed denazification in the province, and went on record that "the Soviet military government is doing a better job than either the British or Americans in denazification."

Howard Denby, of Dana News Service, talked on industry in Thuringia, and Time's Jack Fleischer spoke about education. Eva Putnam, who writes for This Month Magazine, supplied information on agriculture in the province, which is predominantly one of farming pursuits.

Every estate of over 250 acres, she revealed, has been divided up among the peasants. Shortage of farm animals and machinery make it necessary for them to rotate these items from farm to farm.

"They have the spirit to work, and are planning great things for next year," Miss Putnam said.

Many members of the audience waxed skeptical of the scribes' continued assurances that they were absolutely unrestricted in their travels, and the correspondents were forced to go to great lengths to convince them on this point. A Lt. Col. asked why it had taken so long for permission to be granted for our correspondents to visit the Soviet Zone; Mr. Johnson's reply brought loud applause from the audience.

"For a long time," said Johnson, "we had desired to visit the Russian Zone, and had made frequent inquiries about it in official circles. At length someone suggested that we ask the Russians. We did, and they said, 'Come ahead.'"

Army Day ...

(Continued from Page 1)

music and dancing as added attractions.

In the evening "Club 48" will re-open at 7 for GI's. Besides the usual liquid refreshments, there will be a special cake. A floor show will top off the program, which will end at midnight. Officers and civilians will as usual celebrate at Harnack House.

AFN announces two special Army Day broadcasts. A local presentation at 1:15 will feature a panorama of World War II from the Army point of view. Command Performance, from 9:15 to 10, will star General Eisenhower, who will speak on "The Achievement of Peace in Europe," along with such entertainment stand-bys as Bob Hope, Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Bette Davis and Bing Crosby.

43-Inch Hero Led Partisans

The life of a midget is no bed of roses and Abe Kerber, 38 years old and 3 feet 1 inches from head to toe, was well aware of it. But thanks to his atomic size he has lived to tell the story of his escapes from Nazi extermination camps and unique career as a scout and guide for a guerilla band in the Polish forests.

Twice he was nabbed by the Nazis and carried off to extermination camps and every time he got away taking full advantage of his Lilliputian stature. His last escape was made by crawling through an abandoned sewer pipe line which led him to freedom.

During the winter days of 1943, a guerilla band became increasingly active behind the German front in eastern Poland. It played havoc with Wehrmacht supply routes, blowing up bridges and munition dumps, and otherwise made life unbearable for the garrisoned German troops in the district. The partisans knew of every troop movement and convoy schedule.

Little did the Germans know that puny Kerber, who escaped their murder mills, served as the band's scout and guide and led them on their successful forays.

It was Kerber's ingenious trick of masquerading as a child and acting his role that made him the most valuable man on the partisan team. He scrounged around the district, carefully observed any movement of troops and supplies, and hurried back into the woods to inform his comrades of his findings. Then they struck.

His career ended when spring came and he could no longer effectively hide his wrinkled face under a swath of a ragged muffler. He stuck around the woods till the Russians came.

Atrocity Films...

(Continued from Page 1)

vealed a record drop to less than 20 percent of seating capacity.

Staff members of THE GROOPER, who made a spot check of the reaction of the audience and polled about 50 Germans, agreed that, if anything, those attending were hardly impressed or convinced. There were no emotional outbursts, gasps or sighs during the showing of the film. The public was nonchalant and complacent. Here and there a Fraulein walked out in the midst of the showing in silent protest.

Some of the Germans interviewed complained it was outrageous to have these atrocity pictures "forced" upon them by the Americans. The film was shown simultaneously in all the theaters in the American Sector and, they claimed, it offered no choice to the average movie-goer. The movie managers were particularly incensed and bitterly bemoaned the financial loss due to poor attendance.

No honest person can refuse to believe the evidence the film portrays from a dozen or more different concentration camps, all of them telling the same unbelievable story. Yet the majority interviewed still persisted that though there might have been something bad here and there in Germany, it was not as horrible as the film attempts to portray. Had the Germans known about those things, one German asserted, they would have not permitted it to happen.

Here are two of the prize comments:

"We are still under the strain of suffering during the war and constantly worry about food. Give us a chance to recuperate and then you can show us all the atrocity films you like."

"I was told the picture was sensational. Now I learn it's only a horror film."



There'll be no "baked beans and codfish cakes" come Thursday night at "Club 48" but it'll be Massachusetts state night just the same.

OMGUS GIs and gals from "the Bay state" are invited to turn out en masse to whip up the merry-making that is slated to climax the chicken dinner with French fries, the huge cake, and the weekly state night broadcast over AFN.

German Industry ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Draper, will constitute fully half of the imports required by Germany. The German diet will, nevertheless, remain considerably below pre-war levels, because the amount of removal of industrial equipment as reparations will not permit production for export to a degree to pay for pre-war volumes of food imports. "Everything possible," said Gen. Draper, "is being done to increase agricultural production."

Not to be Farm Country

Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay rejected the idea that Germany was being turned into a pastoral land by the Level of Industry decision. "We are basing it on a maximum agricultural production for Germany and that means substantial industrial reduction, but I don't think we are turning Germany into an agricultural country," he said.

Whether the delicate balance which the plan's authors have striven for between export-import sufficiency and a safely low level of war potential in German industry will work out is not at all certain. "There is no margin of safety to counteract any unforeseen political or economic developments which may occur within or without the frontiers of Germany to disturb the rehabilitation of the country," Gen. Draper pointed out.

Pfc. Tops OMG List To Bring Wife Over

Private First Class Raymond E. Jordan, of St. Joseph, Mo., holds top priority on the May list to bring his wife, Marjorie L. Jordan, Middlesex, England, to Berlin. Major J. R. Michael, S-1, Headquarters Command, announced this week.

He gets his top priority for May on the basis of his accumulative overseas time of three years seven months and seven days as of April 1, 1946, and the fact that he has signed up to stay 2 years longer overseas.

Pfc. Jordan recently returned from a 90 days' leave in the UK during which time he got married. He is a Headquarters Regiment man of Co. H assigned to duty at the Allied Control Authority.

The April priority list is headed by a general. Except for the family of one private first class, George W. Frye of Naperville, Ill., all involved in the April shipment are dependents of officers.

Applications for the May shipment of dependents were received from 31 military personnel, including two Naval officers and three Army enlisted men, and 15 U. S. civilians.

The initial shipment of 64 families, including dependents of 3 Naval officers, is expected to debark at Bremerhaven sometime around the end of April.

March Class 2A EM To Ship Next Week

Sixty-nine OMGUS enlisted men, officers and WACs will leave Berlin next Friday, April 5, to enter the redeployment pipeline, it was announced by G-1 Personnel Office this week.

The male contingent, consisting of 40 EM who were class 2-A volunteers, having signed up to work here until March 31, and ten high-point officers, will proceed to the Second Reinforcement Depot in Belgium. The WAC group of 19, last of the two-year WACs who have not signed as class 2 volunteers, goes to Camp Phillip Morris in Le Havre.

2 Years, 40 Points to Go

Redeployment officials pointed out that all EM with 30 months service or 45 points, scheduled to leave the Theater by April 31 under current directives, have already been cleared from OMGUS. Future quotas will be applied to the group having 40 or more points, or two years service.

Censorship ...

(Continued from Page 5)

special training and later, like other employees, they get "on the job" training and continual refresher courses.

A team of Danish nationals are expected soon to work in this office and there are quite a number of Czechoslovakians now employed.

The Office of Censorship of civilian mail was first opened by the United States Government in Poissy, France, following the invasion. There are now four offices in operation, Offenbach, Munich, Esslingen and Berlin, all in the U. S. Zone in Germany, with headquarters in Frankfurt.

The Berlin Office of Censorship, of which Lt. Col. F. H. Patrick is in command, is officially under U. S. Headquarters, Berlin District, and most of the employees live in the immediate vicinity to simplify the problem of transportation. They seem to live in a world of their own that escapes being a Tower of Babel because English and German are the only languages actually heard spoken, yet these two languages are spoken with every conceivable accent and inflection.