

CRUSADER

Newcomers' Guide

Special Welcome Issue

2002-2003

Ansbach • Bad Kissingen • Bamberg • Giebelstadt • Illesheim • Kitzingen • Schweinfurt • Wuerzburg

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98th ASG

The Team of Teams





Welcome to the 98th ASG – where people are always first

It's a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the 98th Area Support Group. We're proud of our communities, and we look forward to serving the soldiers and families stationed in our area.

Undoubtedly, you've heard of the multitude of changes that have occurred in the U.S. Army in Europe. The Army mission in Europe is to maintain a forward deployed force, trained and

ready, prepared to conduct and support the full spectrum of joint and multinational operations.

We've prepared this special welcome edition of our area support group newspaper with your needs in mind. As a new member of the community, finding your way around, learning how things work and avoiding pitfalls are important to you.

I urge you to take the time to read it and use it. It will not answer every question, but it will help you avoid or overcome many obstacles. It will assist you in getting your life in the 98th ASG off to a pleasant and comfortable start.

We offer much to enhance your quality of life. However, we're not a carbon copy of a military or civilian community in the United States. Although you'll find adequate recreation facilities, chapels, schools, clubs and shopping, there are facilities and services that are either not present here or are here on a reduced scale. However, we also have some advantages over our stateside counterparts.

In addition to offering a taste of a 1,000-year-old culture, we're centrally located for discovering the rest of Europe. You'll have the opportunity to make friends with our German neighbors. Seek them out. You'll find them to be gracious hosts. If you're willing to explore, visit new places and take advantage of this opportunity for new experiences, you will enjoy your tour in Germany.

The 98th ASG is lucky to have a super workforce – employees who are committed to assisting you for your entire tour in the area. They'll make every effort to provide the best possible service, and all are dedicated to ensuring the highest possible quality of life for you.

We're also fortunate to have the invaluable services of a host of dedicated, selfless volunteers. Without their efforts, many important programs would cease to exist. We always need additional volunteers, and I encourage you to take part in this worthwhile program. The rewards for helping your fellow citizens are great.

I hope you'll find your assignment here enjoyable and rewarding. It won't take you long to discover that it's good to be a part of the 98th ASG, where people are always first.

Team of Teams!



DENNIS W. DINGLE
Colonel, Air Defense Artillery
98th Area Support Group Commander

98th ASG installations have their own histories

by **Olivia Feher**
CRUSADER

There are four base support battalions and 14 installations in the 98th Area Support Group. The following is a brief history of each.

Faulenberg Kaserne, Wuerzburg

Faulenberg Kaserne was built during the years 1876 to 1879. It housed the German 2nd Field Artillery Regiment for 40 years and was later replaced by the 9th Bavarian Infantry Regiment.

Today, Faulenberg Kaserne's major tenants are the 98th Area Support Group Headquarters and the Regional Contracting Office, Wuerzburg.

Leighton Barracks, Wuerzburg

The post is named after Capt. John A. Leighton, commanding officer, Company G, 10th Armor Battalion, 4th Armored Division, who was killed in action July 18, 1944.

Originally a World War II German air force airfield on a hilltop on the outskirts of Wuerzburg, Leighton Barracks was occupied by American troops on Easter 1945.

Leighton Barracks is now home to the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters and the 101st Military Intelligence Battalion.

U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg

The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, is also home to the 67th Combat Support Hospital, or CSH, when not deployed. It was originally a German army garrison hospital from World War I through World War II.

American medical personnel took over the facility in 1945 and have been there ever since.

The 67th CSH, the unit that calls the hospital home when not deployed, activated in 1933. Its colors came to Wuerzburg in 1975.

Katterbach, Bismarck kasernes, Katterbach

Located in the village of Katterbach, the posts are three miles from Ansbach on highway 14 toward Nuernberg and cover an area of approximately 400 acres.

Construction began in 1935 and was completed in 1938. During World War II, the German air force flew missions from Katterbach to Poland, France, England and Russia.

After the war, the United States took control of the two posts, and the first U.S. unit to be garrisoned there was the 1st Infantry Division.

In 1964, an aviation unit moved to the airfield. It was redesignated the 48th Aviation Company and later moved to Stuttgart in 1975.

Current occupants of the installations include

aviation and vehicle maintenance and Air Force liaison (weather).

Shipton Kaserne, Ansbach

Facilities on Shipton were built in the late 1980s, and the post's training area is adjacent to Soldiers' Lake, a recreational site with picnic and fishing facilities.

Illesheim, located near the city of Bad Windsheim, was a depot and refitting area for the German air force from 1935 to 1945. Storck Barracks has been under American control since then.

The Illesheim area was attacked only twice throughout World War II.

Today, Storck is home to the 11th Aviation Regiment, weather and air traffic service units.



98th ASG S3

The 98th Area Support Group is headquartered in Wuerzburg. The above map shows the location of its four base support battalions.

The 6th Battalion (Patriot), 52nd Air Defense Artillery, occupies the post at present.

Barton Barracks, Ansbach

Barton Barracks was built between 1936 and 1938. During World War II, a German heavy motorized field artillery battery was billeted there.

The post was named in honor of Lt. Col. David Barton, who was killed in action June 3, 1944, in Velletri, Italy.

Present occupants include the 235th Base Support Battalion Headquarters, military police, military intelligence and finance.

Storck Barracks, Illesheim

Storck Barracks was named in honor of Col. Louis Storck, commander of the 37th Armored Regiment, who was killed in action in Normandy, France, July 25, 1944.

A flight simulator facility is also located at Storck Barracks.

Warner Barracks, Bamberg

Warner Barracks has been the home of American forces since the end of World War II. The current complex was appropriated in 1950 by U.S. Forces and renamed in honor of Cpl. Henry Warner, who was killed in action in 1944 at Dom Budgenbach, Belgium.

In 1951, development for long-term use of the post began. A dispensary, dental clinic, schools, PX, fitness centers and education center were established.

Bamberg is now home to the 279th Base Support Battalion Headquarters, field artillery and engineer units, and various combat service support units.

Ledward Barracks, Schweinfurt

Americans arrived on Ledward Barracks in

1945. The installation was named in honor of Lt. Col. William J. Ledward, who was commanding officer of the 27th Field Artillery Battalion. Ledward was killed in action in Italy June 4, 1944.

Ledward Barracks presently hosts the 280th Base Support Battalion Headquarters and artillery, infantry and engineer units of the 1st Infantry Division.

Conn Barracks, Schweinfurt

What eventually became known as Conn Barracks in Schweinfurt was built as an air base in 1936 and was a German air force training base for dive-bomber pilots.

Troops of the 42nd Division, 7th U.S. Army, seized the airfield in December 1947. The base received its name from 2nd Lt. Orville B. Conn Jr., who was killed in action in Normandy, France, Aug. 10, 1944.

Today, Conn Barracks is home to the 2nd Brigade Headquarters as well as infantry, armor, cavalry and support units of the 1st Infantry Division.

Giebelstadt Army Airfield in Giebelstadt

U.S. Army forces captured Giebelstadt Airfield in April 1945. Among the aircraft that flew from there from 1956 to 1958 were the U-2 spy planes.

Giebelstadt became a part of the 417th Base Support Battalion, Kitzingen, in June 1991. Today, Giebelstadt is home to aviation, air defense artillery and weather units.

Harvey Barracks, Kitzingen

Harvey Barracks was used as a German air force airfield during both world wars. The airfield was taken over by the Americans in 1945 and was designated Harvey Barracks in 1951 in honor of Capt. James R. Harvey, Company E, 359th Infantry Regiment, who was killed during the invasion of Normandy.

Harvey Barracks is now home to the 417th Base Support Battalion Headquarters and 1st Infantry Division Support Command.

Larson Barracks, Kitzingen

What is now Larson Barracks was first established in 1936 for training anti-aircraft gunners.

In 1962 it was officially designated Larson Barracks in honor of Capt. Stanley E. Larson, Company C, 10th Engineer Battalion, who was killed while clearing a minefield under enemy fire at Anzio beachhead, Italy, May 23, 1944.

Today, Larson is home to air defense artillery and signal units.

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Photos by Olivia Feher

St. Kilian, the patron saint of Würzburg, seems to be protecting the Marienberg Fortress which overlooks the city. The fortress was built around 1,000 B.C. and was first consecrated in 706.



The pedestrian area in downtown Würzburg shows St. Kilian's Cathedral from the Old Main Bridge.

Würzburg: A city of charm and history

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

Würzburg, located in the wide valley of the Main River in the region of Lower Franconia, is the home of the 98th Area Support Group.

It's a city rich in history and today has about 130,000 residents. It was first settled about 1,000 B.C. with a Celtic hill fort located where the Marienberg Fortress now stands. The area didn't become Germanic until 100 B.C. and Franconian until some time between the 6th and 7th centuries.

It was around that time that Würzburg's patron saint, Kilian, visited the city and converted Duke Hetan I to Catholicism. The following year, the duke's wife secretly killed Kilian and his two fellow missionaries, Kolonat and Totnan, when the legality of the duke's marriage was questioned because of his conversion to Catholicism.

Strong Catholic influence

Legend has it that the bodies were miraculously found when a man digging at Marienberg suddenly saw blood gushing from where his spade had struck the ground. Since then, the city has been strongly influenced by the Catholic church. In the late 8th century, the first cathedral of St. Kilian was dedicated in the presence of Charlemagne.

Over the years, the relationship between the city's leaders and the townspeople became quite stormy. In 1253, Bishop Lobdeburg moved his residence into the Marienberg Fortress for safety. Those ill feelings led to an all-out battle in 1400 and to the town's support of the peasant army during the Peasants' Revolt in 1525. During the revolt, the peasants unsuccessfully besieged the fort.

In 1631, as the Thirty Years' War swept through Germany, the town and mighty fortress fell to Gustav Adolph of Sweden and remained under his rule for three years.

The golden age

In the years to follow, things looked a little brighter for Würzburg's residents as the von Schoenborn family ruled the city. It was during the rules of bishops Johann Philip and Friedrich Karl von Schoenborn that the foundation stone of the Residenz, or bishop's residence, was laid in 1720.

The Residenz, which took 25 years to build, is located on the eastern edge of the old city. Balthasar Neumann, one of the most famous architects of that day, built the Residenz as a monument to the prince-bishops of the Schoenborn family.

The peaceful period lasted only about 50 years. In 1796, a French revolutionary army entered Würzburg. Although it was defeated near today's Leighton Barracks, the French occupied

the fortress in 1800. In 1802, Napoleon granted the bishop's land to the new Kingdom of Bavaria.

Since its inclusion in Bavaria, the city has grown and achieved much. Richard Wagner was the choirmaster in the theater and Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, a physics professor at the University of Würzburg, discovered X-rays here in 1895. When Würzburg connected to the new railway system, it took its place among the growing commercial cities in an expanding Germany.

Würzburg destroyed

By World War II, Würzburg had grown to a city of around 100,000 people and had, for the most part, not been touched by the ravages of war which raged around it. However, during the Royal Air Force Unlimited Bombing Offensive which nearly leveled Würzburg on the night of March 16, 1945, the population dropped from 100,000 to 5,000. The city, which had a large number of hospitals and very few real military targets, was the last city destroyed during the offensive.

Although it's hard to imagine today's bustling city in ruins, photos in the Residenz and city hall can attest to the pulverized state the city was in 50 years ago.

The Würzburg Internet home page at: <http://wuerzburg.de> provides current information on Würzburg and the surrounding area.

Newcomers' briefings make transition easier

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

Army Community Service, or ACS, offices offer two-day orientation classes for new servicemembers, family members and civilians.

The goal is to reach every incoming person and provide a comprehensive overview of the military community. The program lets newcomers know what kind of services are offered in their community and assists in their adjustment to German and military life.

The format of these classes is basically the same. The first day is geared towards informing the newcomers about the different services and programs within their community. The second day includes a tour of community facilities and of the downtown area and usually is wrapped up with a tour of the city.

The attire is casual and participants need to bring along their identification cards. On the second day, bring euros for lunch in the city.

These orientations are planned for different days in each community. For dates and times in your community, contact your local ACS office.

These offices can be reached in Ansbach at 467-2846 or (09802) 832846; in Illesheim at 467-4764 or (09841) 83555; in Bamberg at 469-7777 or (0951) 3007777; in Schweinfurt at 354-6486 or (09721) 966486; in Giebelstadt at 352-7877 or (09334) 87877; in Kitzingen at 355-2848 or (09321) 7022848; and in Würzburg at 350-7103 or (0931) 8897103.

How international licenses work

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

An international driver's license is not a driver's license in its own right, it's only an official translation of the valid driver's license, and it's never valid in the issuing country. Soldiers, family members and anyone else holding an ID card must first have a USAREUR driver's license before applying for an international one.

International driver's licenses are issued by local German city and county agencies to applicants residing within their jurisdiction.

City of Ansbach — Ordnungsamt, or traffic control office, Nuernberger Strasse 32, Ansbach.

County of Ansbach — Landratsamt or district administration office, Crailsheimer Strasse 1, Ansbach.

City of Bamberg — Ordnungsamt, Moosstrasse 65, Bamberg.

County of Bamberg — Landratsamt, Ludwigstrasse 23, across from the Atrium Shopping Center, Bamberg.

City of Schweinfurt — Ordnungsamt, Fuehrerscheinstelle or driver's license office, Schultesstr. 19, Schweinfurt.

County of Schweinfurt — Landratsamt, Fuehrerscheinstelle, Schrammstrasse 1, Schweinfurt.

Giebelstadt — Although it's still in the Würzburg county, or Landkreis of Würzburg, it belongs to the area administered by the branch office in Ochsenfurt at the Fuehrerscheinstelle, Kellereistrasse 11. The com-

munities in that area are: Acholshausen, Albersheim, Aub, Aufstetten, Baldersheim, Bieberharen, Bolzhausen, Buch, Burgerrot, Buetthard, Darstadt, Eibelstadt, Eichelsee, Erlach, Essfeld, Euerhausen, Frickenhausen, Gaukoenigshofen, Gaurettersheim, Gelchshheim, Giebelstadt, Grossmansdorf, Gutsingen, Herchshheim, Hohstadt, Hopferstadt, Huttingen, Ingolstadt, Kleinochsenfurt, Klingen, Ochsenfurt, Oellingen, Osthausen, Oesfeld, Riedenheim, Rittershausen, Roettingen, Sechsenheim, Sommerhausen, Sonderhofen, Stalldorf, Strueth, Sulzdorf, Tauberrettersheim, Tiefenthal, Tueckelhausen, Winterhausen, Wolkshausen and Zeubelried.

All other communities within the Würzburg county but outside Würzburg city are serviced by the Landratsamt in Würzburg, Zeppelinstr. 15.

Kitzingen — Landratsamt, Kaiserstrasse 4. Inquire at the ground floor reception for the Fuehrerscheinstelle.

City of Würzburg — includes Versbach, Lengfeld, Heidingsfeld, Oberduerrbach, Unterduerrbach, Rottenbauer and Heuchelhof. It does not include Gerbrunn. The City of Würzburg is serviced by the office for Strassenverkehrsangelegenheiten or traffic control office, Domstrasse 1, Würzburg. The building is just to the right of the city hall, or Rathaus, which is located in the pedestrian zone near the Saints' Bridge.

When applying for an international driver's license the following documents are needed:

- A USAREUR certificate of license. Make a photocopy of it.

- A valid form of identification — military, family member or civilian identification card.

- A passport-sized photo — about 1 1/2 x 2 inches — machine photos will do.

- The cost of the license is around \$15.

- Proof of residence. A copy of a German telephone bill or other German mail showing the local German address is enough. If you live in garrison, a letter from the commander will also be accepted.

Licensing tips

All military and civilian personnel, including family members, must have a valid stateside driver's license, or a valid license from another country, if they intend to drive in Germany. This is necessary in order to get a USAREUR certificate of license. The minimum age requirement is 18 as stated in USAREUR Regulation 190-1 dated April 17, 2002.

Changes in the NATO Status of Forces Agreement, which governs American military living and working in Germany, and German law prohibit military and family members from instructing people holding a learner's permit. Such individuals must attend a German driving school, which is costly.

After obtaining a German driver's license, they should return to the local community's drivers' testing station to get the USAREUR certificate of license.

For those holding a valid stateside license, or a valid license from another country, that information is transferred to their USAREUR certificate of license.

Tips on shopping German style

Beware, you have to bag yourself

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

When you take your first shopping trip on the German economy, you will probably experience a mild culture shock on entering a German store. How do you buy a pair of shoes, a dress or a shirt? To top things off, if you're buying groceries, you're expected to bag them yourself.

The German shopping system does seem unfamiliar at first, but the differences between German and American stores are really few. Most items are packaged about the same; the major difference, you'll find, are the measurements.

Take a dictionary

It's a good idea to take along a pocket dictionary when shopping so you can read and understand labels. You could be in for a surprise by buying an item thinking it's one thing, only to find out later at home it's another. All over Europe, the metric system is used.

The large department stores and supermarkets in Germany will have almost everything to satisfy needs, and shopping will be

quite simple once you learn your way around the measurements.

Don't assume that everything is cheaper in the commissary. Fruit and vegetables, in season, are often cheaper and of better quality on the economy.

Don't handle produce

When shopping for produce on the economy, either in small villages or on market places, you're not supposed to handle the produce. The owner will select purchases, although you may point to the items you want.

This is not the case in supermarkets where you do your own selection.

Keep in mind that you are often expected to produce your own bag and to bag your own groceries. Most of the larger stores have bags available, but they're not free.

Prices in the stores are fairly standard, but it's not possible to bargain for items. At the same time, retail pricing is not followed as uniformly as in the United States. The same item can be found selling for different prices at several different places, so it pays to shop around.

On entering a shop, the proprietor or owner usually greets you and will also say goodbye when you leave. It's courteous to return these greetings.

Opening hours change

Up until the early 90s, store hours were regulated by German law to protect the interests of the small shop owner. This is now changed so that the larger stores are usually open longer during the week and on Saturdays. On Sundays shops and stores are only open during special events. If you've forgotten something on Saturday, don't expect to pick it up on the economy on Sunday.

Discount sales are less common than in the United States, but good bargains can be found in January and August.

Clothing is generally a bit more expensive on the economy, especially for selected items, such as blue jeans. Keep in mind that the cut and fit of European clothing is different, so the size comparisons may not always be exact. Do as you would in the United States, try the item on before buying it.

New measurements take a little time getting used to, but once you've shopped a few times on the economy, you'll really begin to enjoy it, as the selection is so much larger than on post.

Save money with tax off

Relief from the 16 percent value-added tax, or Mehrwertsteuer, can really make a difference when shopping for more expensive items.

To take advantage of this, however, the correct procedure must be followed.

If the bill is less than €2,500 just use the form provided by the tax office. To simplify matters, you can buy up to 10 forms at a time.

Before paying, have the merchant provide you with a bill or invoice, "Rechnung" in German. This bill must contain the total price, with the 16 percent tax included, the amount of tax, and the final price minus the tax.

Then go to the bank and have a check made out in euro for the final purchase.

If the items costs more than €2,500, take the check and bill to any tax relief office, whose staff will do the necessary paperwork.

Then, return to the merchant with the check or receipt form and pay the bill. The form should be stamped and signed by the merchant and returned to the tax relief office.

Never pay for the goods first and then expect reimbursement for the 16 percent tax as this is not how the system works.



Mark Heeter

Passengers get ready to board a weekend special train at the Wuerzburg train station.

Improved rail system makes travel easy

Check out rail system for special travel offers

by Mark Heeter
CRUSADER

Just arrived in Germany? Waiting for your vehicle to catch up with you? If you want to get out for the weekend and you don't have transportation, checking out the German train system is a must if you want to experience Europe.

The Alps are calling, the Oktoberfest is right around the corner, and on a clear night, you'd think you could see the Eiffel Tower from here. Get out and explore Europe by taking advantage of great prices and comfort offered by the German Rail.

The German system is the logical and economical choice for getting travelers to points throughout Europe, and they have several appealing offers, depending on the customers' plans.

German Rail recently announced a new pricing system, which benefits people who are interested in longer rides. Some of the most popular offers like the happy weekend ticket, or Schoenes-Wochenende-Ticket, have been around for years.

This special deal allows up to five people to travel anywhere in Germany together with one ticket that costs €28. The ticket is valid Saturday or Sunday from midnight until 3 a.m. the following day.

A slight advantage for those living and traveling within Bavaria who want to get an early start on the weekend is the Bavarian ticket, or Bayern-Ticket.

This ticket is also valid for up to five people all day (until 3 a.m. the following morning) for a €21 fee; however, customers can begin traveling at 9 a.m. Monday-Friday with this ticket.

For those who want to venture a little farther away, German Rail also offers deals on long-distance travel. Saver and super-saver, or Spar-

preis and Super-Sparpreis, tickets are offered at reduced prices for accompanying adults and even further reduced prices for children 6-11.

Recent improvements have increased the quality of rail cars, and German Rail offers travelers a comfortable ride over short and long distances.

Spacious compartments for luggage, and even special cars for bicycles, are a few of the features of the modern trains in Germany.

Most train stations, especially the larger ones, have clearly marked signs that announce the latest departure and arrival times, and ticket machines located near the tracks make the rail system even more convenient.

With such a variety of special deals to choose from, people looking for adventure throughout Europe have the convenience of a rail system that will get them where they want to go.

For more information on German Rail in English, visit www.bahn.de and click on "Int. Guests."

Restrictions set on fighting, dangerous dogs

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

The German state of Bavaria, where all 98th Area Support Group communities are located, bans certain breeds of dogs considered dangerous.

Bavarian law defines dangerous dogs as dogs of certain breeds with inherent or developed characteristics of increased aggressiveness or dangerous to humans.

As a result of this law, all U.S. soldiers and civilians living in Bavaria must comply with it.

"People should be concerned that if they bring dogs who fall into this category, they may either

have to send them out of Bavaria or back to the United States. If the dog is like a member of the family, you have to weigh the options of possibly having it euthanized or being separated from the pet," said Dr. Jim McLauchlan, Leighton Veterinary Clinic.

Dangerous dogs are divided into two classes, class 1 and class 2 dogs.

Class 1 dogs, which are considered dangerous



McLauchlan

and are illegal, are pit bull, Bandog, American Staffordshire terrier, Staffordshire bullterrier and Tosa-Inu. This includes dogs mixed with one of these breeds.

McLauchlan warned, if authorities see someone with one of these dogs, they can act immediately.

"If a dog is discovered without the correct papers, the German police have the right to take it and it can possibly be destroyed. The owner could also face a substantial fine," he said.

Class 2 dogs are considered aggressive or dangerous until proven otherwise. They must be temperament-tested by a German veterinarian.

This includes examining the dog's disposition, behavior and reaction to other dogs.

These are bull mastiff, Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Mastin Español, Rhodesian ridgeback, bullterrier, Bordeaux Dogge, mastiff, and Mastino Napoletano.

"Because the German government feels these dogs have suspect temperaments, they want to make sure that individual animals aren't a threat," McLauchlan said.

For more information, contact the Leighton Veterinary Clinic at 350-7429 or (0931) 8897429.

Housing plentiful, but recycling remains an issue

by Olivia Feher
CRUSADER

Germany has the largest U.S. military presence in Europe. Americans have enjoyed Germany's rich culture, history, food and drink for over 50 years.

Housing is plentiful in Germany, but so are military personnel. In some areas, waiting lists are long even though there are government and leased housing units to choose from.

Housing plentiful

Finding off-base housing is fairly easy but can be expensive. Using a realtor in most cases will cost you two months' rent, not including the security deposit of two months' rent to the landlord, plus the cost of the current month's rent. Local housing offices will be able to direct you to apartments that are maintained directly through the landlord.

The U.S. government has allowances that assist you in being able to live in Germany. These allowances help you find and afford

housing, offset the exchange fluctuations and ease the burden of living in a foreign country. Each allowance has restrictions, and not everyone is entitled to every allowance.

German houses rarely have built-in closets or storage space within the living quarters, and apartments are usually completely unfurnished.

You may also have to completely furnish the kitchen or buy the existing setup from the previous tenant.

Electricity is 220 volts/50 cycle as opposed to the American 110 volts/60 cycle. Certain American appliances will either not work exactly right or won't work at all.

Some appliances that do not have a running motor work well with and without a transformer, but all other appliances should be plugged into a transformer. Lamps can be converted by using a 220V bulb. Remember, a transformer uses electricity as long as it's plugged in, even if no appliance is running off it. This can drastically increase electric bills.

Separate trash

Our German hosts deal very effectively with the problem, even though it seems that they use tiny trash cans. However, when all these bottles, cans, organic, plastic and printed matter have been separated from the regular household trash, there's not a lot left.

Special recycling containers are located in every German and American military neighborhood. The bins in German neighborhoods are compartmentalized to hold different colored glass while separate bins are used for cans and paper.

The can container can also be used to recycle scrap metal and tin foil. Plastics should be collected separately in yellow plastic bags, which are available free from self-help stores in each community.

In some communities, coated containers or paper are collected in blue plastic bags. These bags, like the yellow ones, are picked up once or

twice a month and should be stored until the pickup day.

What goes into these bags can vary from community to community, but the bags usually have pictures or words printed on them saying what should go into them. Recycling deposit hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

If you're living on the economy, it's forbidden to use the recycling containers on Sundays due to the noise made by recycling trash.

Trash is expensive

From October 2000 to September 2001, the 98th Area Support Group paid \$271 a ton to dispose of non-separated trash compared to \$155 a ton for separated trash. During the same time, we produced 24,000 tons of trash. This adds up to a lot of money which could be better spent on supporting other community needs.

Also, failure to recycle or dumping trash into on-post facilities is a punishable offense.

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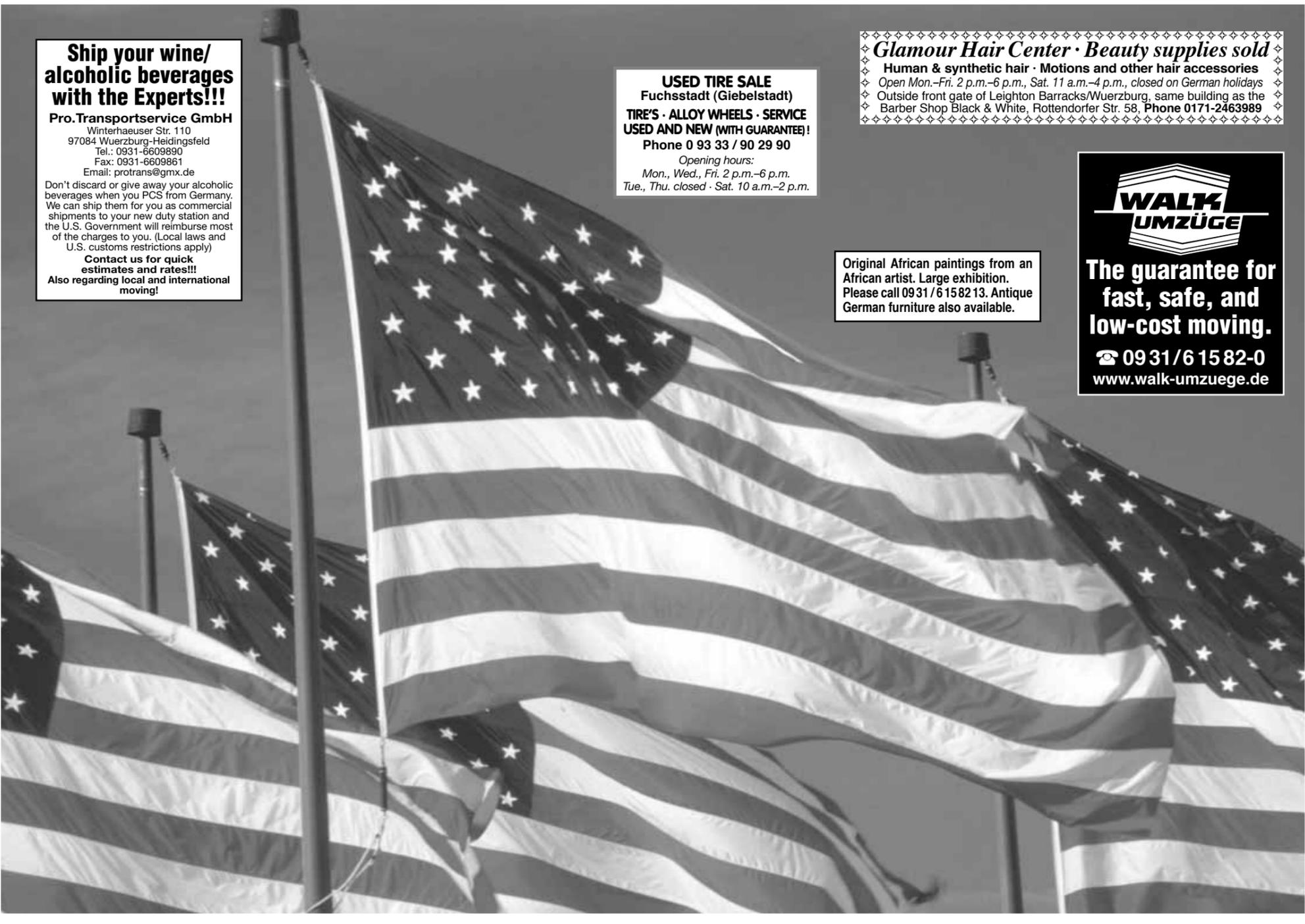
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Super sights to see in Ansbach, Illesheim

by Lisa Eichhorn
CRUSADER

For soldiers, family members and civilians who are new to the Ansbach and Illesheim area, being stationed in the heart of Bavaria offers much to see and do.

Ansbach, 1,200-year-old capital of central Franconia, is headquarters to the 235th Base Support Battalion, which supports Bismarck Kaserne, Katterbach Kaserne, Shipton Kaserne, Bleidorn housing area and Barton Barracks, all in Ansbach, and Storck Barracks in Illesheim.

You can find many historic sites in Ansbach as well as great shopping. The new state-of-the-art Bruecken Center, built where the former 1st Armored Division Headquarters once stood, has modern clothing, food and jewelry stores. It also has several different cafes and restaurants to choose from, no matter what the appetite.

If you would like a more authentic German cultural experience you can walk across the bridge from the Bruecken Center into the old city center. Here you can visit the Residenz, which was home to the margraves, Ansbach's former nobility. It is open to the public daily, except Monday.

Also while spending time downtown, you can see the fabulous old churches. Although the city of Ansbach was damaged during World War II, Ansbach has worked hard to restore its historic buildings, in keeping with their original character. Ansbach truly has something for everyone.

There are also many wonderful places to eat. You can find a variety of authentic ethnic foods, like German, Italian, Greek, Turkish and Chinese, just to name a few. Many of the restaurants are very inexpensive and most don't require reservations.

If you would like to gather more information about spending time in Ansbach, you can obtain

informational brochures from Army Community Service, or ACS, on Katterbach Kaserne. They can also assist you in getting directions to local places of interest. You can also get information in English at Ansbach's town hall, located in the old town.

Illesheim

Just 40 kilometers north of Ansbach is the small Bavarian town of Illesheim, home to the 11th Aviation Regiment on Storck Barracks. The area located around Illesheim was founded in A.D. 1283, and is now a busy farming community.

With the larger town of Bad Windsheim the next stop down the road, there is much to do.

Bad Windsheim is famous for its spas as in the name Bad, which means bath in German. Many German citizens come to Bad Windsheim for the bathhouses, which tout the healing nature of the hot springs found here.

It is also the home of the Freilandmuseum, the only one of its kind in Bavaria. It is an open-air museum that shows the architecture, housing and way of life of the rural population in past centuries. It is located just inside the city limits and is open to the general public daily during the summer. In winter it is only open for special events. Brochures are available in English and German at ACS.

The hills surrounding Illesheim are full of vineyards, with Hoheneck Castle looking out over them. It is located just outside the small town of Ipsheim. There are also many biking and walking trails through the vineyards that are open to the public at any time.

For more information on the area, call ACS on Storck Barracks at 467-4813 or (09841) 83813.



Photos by Lisa Eichhorn

Downtown Ansbach boasts a shopping area and several beautiful churches, hotels, guest houses and public art pieces.



Narrow, winding streets are little changed from medieval times and are filled these days with bicycles and pedestrians. Ansbach is the home of 235th Base Support Battalion Headquarters.

Support services offered in Ansbach, Illesheim

Compiled by Lisa Eichhorn
CRUSADER

Army Community Service

Army Community Service offers a wide range of services to help orient newcomers to the community. The number for Katterbach is 467-2883 or (09802) 832883. In Illesheim, call 467-4555 or (09841) 83555.

The BOSS Program

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers, or BOSS, meets single soldiers' needs with recreational programs. For more information about the program in Ansbach, call 467-2778 or (0981) 183778. In Illesheim, call 467-4645 or (09841) 83645.

The American Red Cross

The American Red Cross offers cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, first aid, pregnancy and well-baby classes, plus many volunteer opportunities and emergency communications. In Ansbach, call 467-2136 or (09802) 832136. In Illesheim, contact ACS at 467-4555 or (09841) 83555.

Arts and crafts shop

Located at Barton Barracks in Ansbach, the arts and crafts shop offers many craft classes and has a selection of home-crafted items for sale. For information, call 468-7627 or (0981) 183627.

AAFES Post Exchange

The Katterbach Post Exchange is located on Bismarck Kaserne across from Katterbach Kaserne's front gate. The AAFES Post Exchange is closed Mondays and U.S. holidays. A furniture store is located adjacent to the main store, and a filling station is located across from Bismarck Kaserne main gate. The Four Seasons and shoppette are located on Katterbach Kaserne. More information is available by calling (09802) 950411.

The Illesheim Post Exchange is located on Storck Barracks across from the thrift shop. A new shoppette, gas station and movie rental is located near the elementary school. The Four Seasons, a hardware and household goods store, is located near the AAFES Post Exchange on the same street. For information, call 467-4551 or (09841) 8765.

Bowling fun

The bowling alley on Katterbach is opposite Burger King. Individual, team and league play is offered. There is a snack bar, beer garden, a pro shop, slot machines and video games. More information is available by calling 467-2638 or (09802) 832638. On Storck Barracks, the bowling center offers a video arcade, slot machines and snack bar with lunch specials Monday through Friday. Call 467-4530 or (09841) 8697.

Auto parts store

The AAFES Auto Parts Store features a large selection of car care items and a parts inventory. Items not in stock can be ordered. All makes of cars and trucks are repaired. For additional information and repair appointments, call 468-7866 or (0981) 96529. At Illesheim, call 467-4424 or (09841) 8880.



Lisa Eichhorn

These lucky children get a ride in a wagon during the summer fest celebration at the open-air-museum in Bad Windsheim.

Banking facilities

Located on Katterbach Kaserne, the Community Bank offers checking and savings accounts, foreign currency exchange and loans. For banking information, call 467-2122 or (09802) 95030. The Finance Center Federal Credit Union is adjacent to the bank. For information, call 467-2556 or (09802) 8630. Automatic teller machines are available 24 hours a day at both facilities.

On Storck Barracks, the Community Bank also offers checking and savings accounts, foreign money exchange services and loans. A 24-hour automatic teller machine is also available. For more information, call 467-4540 or (09841) 8791.

Health clinics

The health clinic is located in building 5810 on Katterbach Kaserne. To schedule appointments for medical and well-baby exams as well as physicals for dependents, call 467-2717 or

(09802) 832717. On Storck Barracks in Illesheim, call 467-4512 or (09841) 83512.

Post restaurants

Anthony's Pizza, Robin Hood, Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream Shop and Burger King are located on Katterbach Kaserne. On Bismarck Kaserne, Eddy's Italian Restaurant is located in the Von Steuben Club. At Barton Barracks, a burger bar is open during breakfast and lunch. At Storck Barracks, there is a burger bar, Anthony's Pizza and Baskin-Robbins.

Club system

The Von Steuben Club on Bismarck Kaserne is open to military members, their families and civilians. For more information, call 467-2925. The Katterbach Community Club offers food, drinks and music Monday through Sunday. Call (09802) 832591 for more information. The Fort Apache Club on Storck Barracks offers military community members a location to relax and enjoy food and beverages. It is available to rent for parties and unit functions. For information, call 467-4587 or (0981) 83587.

Katterbach Commissary

A renovated Katterbach Commissary opened August 1998 and is located next to the bowling center. For information, call 467-2145 or (09802) 832145. The Illesheim Commissary is located near the AAFES post exchange facility. For more information, call 467-4717 or (09841) 8796.

School services

The Department of Defense has three elementary schools in the 235th BSB and one middle/high school. Ansbach Elementary School is located on Katterbach Kaserne. For information, call 467-2628 or (09802) 7657. Illesheim Elementary School is located on Storck Barracks. To contact the school, call 467-4731 or (09841) 83731. Rainbow Elementary School is located on Barton Barracks. For enrollment information, call 468-7806 or (0981) 15984. Ansbach Middle/High School is located on Katterbach Kaserne and services grades seven through 12. For information, call 467-2808 or (09802) 832808.

Library

The 235th BSB has two full-service libraries. The Ansbach Library has many books and videotapes to choose from. It has a computer section for use by ID card holders and has Internet capabilities. A family section is available with videotapes ranging from classic family films to marriage enrichment. It also has a newly opened military reading room with selections from history and biographies. The Illesheim library offers the same up-to-date services with a large variety of books and tapes. For more information, call the Ansbach Library at 468-1740 or (0981) 1831740. To reach Illesheim, call 467-4675 or (09841) 83675.

Soldiers can slip on contract pitfalls

by Mark Heeter
CRUSADER

Schranks, cuckoo clocks and original oil paintings all have something in common — they usually come with contracts.

Before venturing outside the gates for the first shopping excursions, be aware of some general guidelines about signing contracts.

“Some businesses have concentrated their efforts on English-speaking customers. They know how Americans like to do business,” said Joerg Modellmog, German attorney at the Schweinfurt legal center on Conn Barracks.

A change to the Door-to-Door Sales Act in effect since October 2000 extended the “cooling off” period for doubtful customers, but Modellmog advises taking careful steps before getting to that point.

“Either don’t sign the contract or have a cooling off period in the contract,” Modellmog said.

When the law changed last year, the amount of time a customer has to back out of some contracts was extended from seven days to two weeks.

“The Door-to-Door Sales Act, in that respect, follows the American rule. However, the entire

process of backing out of a contract must be handled in writing.

Customers also have the burden of proof, he said, to show they mailed the letter of intent to cancel the contract before the two-week limit has lapsed. The best way to do this is sending it with return-receipt mail through the German Post, not just sending it by registered mail.

The best way to avoid the problem, though, according to Modellmog, is for customers to understand what they are signing in all cases.

“You not only have the cultural differences, but also the legal differences. In addition to that,

the language barrier also can cause problems. Claiming that one does not understand the contract is not sufficient grounds to escape the consequences,” Modellmog said.

Aggressive sales people sometimes confront customers with unrealistic prices. To combat such tactics and make Americans aware of their rights, legal centers have compiled information handouts about contracts in Germany.

“This tells people up front what they need to look for,” Modellmog said.

“The bottom line is, don’t sign anything you don’t understand,” Modellmog said.



Designed by Elaine Nicholas

Get out and enjoy summer with parks, planes, rides

by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

Take your children out and have a ball with the different amusement parks, museums and pools this summer.

Right in the middle of the 98th ASG area is Freizeit-Land Geiselwind amusement park. It lies halfway between Wuerzburg and Nuernberg off highway A3. It offers a variety of attractions, including amusement rides for children and adults, live entertainment shows, animal shows, a petting zoo and reasonably priced restaurants. Visit <http://www.freizeit-land.de> for more information.

Check out the transportation museum in Sinsheim near Heidelberg, where you will be astounded at the 300-foot slides that snake out of the airplanes’ bellies. Then cover up your ears at the whistles of the antique trains. Sinsheim is about an hour’s drive south of Wuerzburg. Check out the program guide and map at www.imaxsinsheim.de.

Give your kids a real treat and take them to Playmobil FunPark in Zirndorf near Nuernberg. About an hour from Wuerzburg, Playmobil FunPark offers entertainment for toddlers and children of all ages. An outdoor golf range, a castle and moat make this the perfect activity for sunny weather. If it’s raining, the indoor play-

ground and computer games will keep everyone happy. Check out the full range of possibilities, prices and activities at www.playmobil.de.

LEGOLAND Deutschland opened in May. It is located in Guenzburg. LEGOLAND is a world specially designed for families and is made up of more than 50 million LEGO bricks. LEGOLAND entertains and stimulates both the mind and the hands. Creativity can really spread its wings, in play and in learning, discovery and exploring. From water play areas to Einstein’s sculpture to mind-bending roller coaster rides, your LEGO maniacs will be delighted knowing that they get to go to LEGOLAND. Visit the Internet for price information, rides, attractions and other park information at <http://www.lego.com/legofinder/legoland.asp>.

If you want to stay in the local area and still have fun, check out the area swimming pools and animal petting zoos. Your Army Community Service office has maps and tour books available.

Your local outdoor recreation office also offers activities and outings that the entire family can enjoy ranging from skiing to swimming, and city tours to medieval games. Outdoor recreation can help you enjoy your tour in Germany.

Static electricity at gas pumps could cause fire

Petroleum Equipment Institute Release

The Petroleum Equipment Institute is working on a campaign to try and make people aware of fires as a result of static electricity at gas pumps.

They have researched 150 cases of these fires, and the results were very surprising:

- Out of 150 cases, almost all of them involved women.
- Almost all cases involved the person getting back in their vehicle while the nozzle was still pumping gas. When finished and they went back to pull the nozzle out, the fire started as a result of static.
- Most wore rubber-soled shoes.
- Most men never get back in their vehicle until completely finished. This is why they are seldom involved in these types of fires.

Don’t ever use cell phones when pumping gas.

Never get back into your vehicle while filling it with gas. If you absolutely have to get in your

vehicle while the gas is pumping, make sure when you get out, you close the door touching the metal before you pull the nozzle out. This way, the static from your body will be discharged before you ever remove the nozzle.

- It is the vapors that come out of the gas that cause the fire when connected with static charges.
- There were 29 fires where the vehicle was reentered and the nozzle was touched during refueling. Some fires resulted in extensive damage to the vehicle, to the station, and to the customer.
- Seventeen fires occurred before, during or immediately after the gas cap was removed and before fueling began.

As mentioned earlier, the Petroleum Equipment Institute, along with several other companies now, are really trying to make the public aware of this danger. You can find out more information by going to <http://www.pei.org>, then click in the center of the screen where it says “Stop Static.”



Olivia Feher

This driver makes sure she doesn’t leave the pump while filling up her gas tank.

New rules are in place for owning firearms

USAREUR Public Affairs Office Release

For many Americans, owning and storing privately-owned firearms in the home is commonplace. German law forbids such a practice unless the privately-owned firearms are properly licensed by the German government.

U.S. soldiers, civilians and family members stationed in Germany have until Sept. 30 to comply.

According to USAREUR Command Policy Letter 31, dated May 20, soldiers, civilians and family members who currently possess privately-owned firearms in Germany have four options to comply:

- Store the privately-owned firearms at a rod and gun club, community arms room or unit arms room.

- Obtain a German Waffenbesitzkarte, or weapons possession card, a permit to acquire and possess privately-owned firearms, which also authorizes the holder to store privately-owned firearms in quarters if they are properly secured.

The USAREUR Privately-Owned Firearms Registration Card, AE Form 190-6B, is no longer valid under German law as a sole basis for possessing, acquiring or using privately-owned firearms in Germany. Soldiers, civilians and family members who desire home-based control of privately-owned firearms must have them registered at the USAREUR Registry of Motor Vehicles and must also possess a German Waffenbesitzkarte covering the privately-owned firearms they wish to store at home.

Under the new rules, privately-owned fire-

arms can’t be sold or otherwise disposed of without first obtaining written approval from the USAREUR Registry of Motor Vehicles. If privately-owned firearms are to be moved in connection with a permanent-change-of-station or similar move, they must remain stored under the double-lock system until they are transferred to a shipper with an approved shipment document.

Anyone who elects to mail privately-owned firearms to the United States must do so in accordance with host nation and U.S. customs and postal regulations.

Arrangements for government shipments of privately-owned firearms may be made by appointment with local base support battalion transportation counselors.

USAREUR Regulation 190-6 provides more detailed information on acquiring, regis-

tering, storing, shipping, and exporting privately-owned firearms and ammunition in Germany.

The following web page has links to information related to privately-owned firearms issues: <http://www.per.hqusareur.army.mil/>, then click on the “Morale, Welfare and Recreation” link found near the top of the page, followed by the link “Privately Owned Firearms Information.”

From a certified military computer, you can access privately-owned firearms related AE Form 190-6 series forms by going to the secure web site: <https://www.acaim.hqusareur.army.mil/library/Home.htm> and following the links to “AE Forms.”

For more information, call the USAREUR Registry of Motor Vehicles at 386-7271.

Bamberg's historical past tells volumes

by Kristina Biggins

Bamberg Public Affairs Office Summer Hire

Strolling down cobblestone streets in Bamberg, travelers can visualize history without worrying about a language barrier — the town speaks for itself.

History screams from buildings, streets and monuments in every part of the city. But an unspoken side of Bamberg's history is in its birth.

Located on the river Regnitz, Bamberg's beginnings began as a gift from Emperor Otto II to the Bavarian Duke Heinrich, or Henry, the Zanker in A.D.973. After Otto II died without heirs, Heinrich's son, Henry II, was announced as Holy Roman Emperor. Henry II built the first cathedral in Bamberg, the Dom, and later proclaimed Bamberg the capital of the Holy Roman Empire for a short time.

Townpeople are proud and protective of their once Holy Roman Empire capital. Built on seven hills, Bamberg is modeled after the city of

Rome. The downtown area is rich in preserved churches, cathedrals and municipal buildings. Cobblestone streets add antiquity, uniformity and charm. An unknown writer described Bamberg as "an old lady dressed in wonderful ancient dignity but at the same time like a girl full of life."

Some of the city's dignity lies in the famous old town hall, a well-known tourist attraction. It is built in the middle of the river Regnitz with water rushing along both sides and hand-painted murals dominating its façade. The old town hall is said to represent the two ruling forces — the church and the economic communities. Looking on from a connecting bridge, viewers can admire a similarity to Venice — in Germany. Locals refer to this part of the city as Fishermen's Village or Little Venice.

Bamberg's residents have always been strongly linked to religion. The many cathedrals and churches are proof of strong devotion. The cathedral contains many notable statues, the tombs of Henry II, his wife Kunigunde, Pope

Clement II, and a wooden altar carved by Veit Stoss. The statue of a mysterious knight on his horse lures many onlookers into the cathedral. The identity of the rider as well as that of the artist is unknown.

Other historic buildings in Bamberg include the former Benedictine Abbey and Saint Michael's Church, consecrated in 1015. Across the street from the cathedral is the New Residence, completed in 1703. At the New Residence, visit the enchanting rose gardens to see an unimaginable view of the city.

History is revealed also in Bamberg's beer. A smoked beer from the "Schlenkerla," a local brewery, is unique. Legend has it that a fire broke out while the monks were brewing a batch of beer and gave the drying hops a smoky flavor. The monks used them in their beer, and many people liked the taste of it. Since then, they've continued the process.

Bamberg is a city of breweries, churches, a university and culture, but first and foremost, it is a city of history waiting to tell its tale.



Standing on the lower bridge, a statue of Henry II's wife, Kunigunde, watches over Bamberg.



A newly erected Igor Mitoraj sculpture combines modern art with Bamberg's classic architecture.



People enjoy an afternoon out in Bamberg's pedestrian zone, lined with cafes and boutiques.

Photos by Kristina Biggins

Support facilities that are available in Bamberg

Compiled by Michelle Clubb
CRUSADER

Central processing facility

The Bamberg Central Processing Facility is located in room 105 in the Army Community Service building and is a one-stop center for in- and outprocessing. Experts in personnel, finance, housing, transportation, medical and legal matters are on hand to help. For more information, call 469-7714 or (0951) 3007714.

Web site

The Bamberg military community has an Internet site that can be reached at <http://www.bamberg.army.mil>.

Housing

Three housing areas, Flynn, Pines and built-to-lease, house up to 915 families on Warner Barracks. Family housing located in surrounding cities near Bamberg is within a 15-minute drive to post and offers approximately 450 apartments. People who cannot be housed in government-controlled housing may be looking for the authentic German living experience. Single soldiers will find 75 senior enlisted and officers' quarters and almost 2,500 billets on post.

Medical services

Bamberg medical and dental facilities share the same centrally-located building. The Bamberg Health Clinic takes care of the community's medical needs and is open Mon-Fri 6:45 a.m.-4 p.m. Soldiers may call in for same-day sick call appointments Mon-Wed and Fri 6:45-8 a.m., and Thu 12:45-2 p.m. Family members, retirees, civilian employees and others may call for routine appointments Mon-Wed and Fri after 8 a.m. and Thu after 2 p.m. The clinic's acute care area is open during duty days 7 a.m.-4 p.m. for urgent cases. After-hour emergencies should be directed to the military police desk at 114 or (0951) 300114, or the German ambulance system at (0951) 19222. Those needing non-

emergency care outside duty hours may visit the local hospital, the Bamberg Klinikum, about a 10-minute drive from post. For routine appointments, call the clinic at 469-1750 or (0951) 3001750.

opmental Intervention Services, or EDIS, clinic. EDIS has several therapists and social workers specializing in caring for family members with developmental difficulties. The clinic is in building 7325 between Army Community Ser-



Children at the Bamberg Child Development Center enjoy playing with homemade play dough.

Christine Biggins

Dental services

The Bamberg Dental Clinic has appointments available weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Military members may have annual exams every day by appointment.

Active duty and family member sick call is every day by appointment. A dentist is on call 24 hours for emergencies and can be contacted by calling 469-7492 or (0951) 3007492.

Educational and developmental services

Bamberg provides assistance to those with special needs at the Educational and Devel-

vice and JFK Gym. Hours are Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. For information, call EDIS at 469-7995 or (0951) 3007995.

Single soldier program

Single and geographically single soldiers are actively being sought to join Bamberg's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers, or BOSS, Program. The group sponsors trips and parties, and promotes single soldier welfare. BOSS meets at the community activity center every first and third Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. to discuss issues and plan events. For information, contact BOSS at 469-8837 or (0951) 3008837.

Schools

Two Department of Defense Dependents, or DoDDS, schools — an elementary and a high school — are situated in the Flynn Housing Area. The elementary school, for kindergarten through sixth grade, emphasizes applied education by regularly involving children in problem-solving methods and group-learning processes. The school boasts a computer lab, science labs and communications lab. At the high school, for seventh through 12th grades, achieving excellence in education is evident through the school's efforts to reward students for their success. For more information about the schools, call the elementary school at 469-8884 or (0931)3008884, or the high school at 469-8874 or (0951) 3008874.

Community chapel

Religious services on Warner Barracks are every Sunday for Catholic, Church of Christ, Collective Protestant, Church of God in Christ, National Baptist Association, Lutheran and Spanish Protestant congregations. An Islamic service is held every Friday. The chapel is home to religious education schooling, a combined chapel youth group, Bible studies, youth and adult choirs, teacher training, and single soldier suppers. The community chaplain's office hosts Vacation Bible School every summer and sponsors trips and special events open to the entire community population. Contact the chapel at 469-1570 or (0951) 3001570.

Tax Relief Program

ID card holders are exempt from the 16 percent German sales tax on most goods and services. The tax relief office, located in the recreation center, building 7047, has the forms needed to qualify for the exemption and instructions for using them. Hours are Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The office is closed on American holidays. For more information, call the recreation center at 469-8837 or (0951) 3008837.

Chapel youth come together in service



Caroline Lohmann

Wuerzburg American High School students Erin Ortiz, left, and Daryl Diltz help dig post holes for playground equipment at an elementary school in the Czech Republic.

Club Beyond goes to Czech to work

by Caroline Lohmann
98th ASG Director of Religious Education

Youth from military communities throughout Europe joined hands in service as they worked with people from the Czech Republic April 6-14.

"The service project has a two-fold ministry," said David Sanders, European director for the Military Community Youth Ministries/Club Beyond.

"It allows young people to develop relationships with youth and adults from the communities they serve through one-on-one tutoring and teaching. It also allows them an opportunity to work on projects that will help all people in the local community," Sanders said.

He shared the comments made by one city official in the Czech Republic who said the image they got from television of Western youth was negative. However, what they did didn't fit that image at all. He added that residents were pleasantly surprised.

Throughout the school year, students and staff worked together in their communities to earn the funds needed for the service project.

"It's definitely not a waste of time or money. A lot of kids worked all year bagging groceries to earn enough money to come. I'll definitely be back next year," said Avery Lathem, a first-time volunteer from Wuerzburg.

"It's a way to give back what we have received and to share the word of Christ with others," said Patrick Buford, a returning volunteer and a student at Wuerzburg American High School.

Several youth also said it gave them an opportunity for spiritual growth through fellowship with other Christian teens.

More than 600 high school students, volunteers and Club Beyond staff worked alongside the local people of the northern Bohemia region of the Czech Republic to restore old and dilapidated buildings, renovate property for local churches, schools, orphanages, hospitals and rest homes for the elderly.

The work is done in conjunction with local churches and Christian residents to provide encouragement and follow-up service for the local people.

Learning survival skills is vital for healthy families

Spouses, children learn to communicate needs

by Caroline Lohmann
98th ASG Religious Education Director

Are you having problems letting your spouse, partner or children know what you want in your relationship?

Members from the 98th and 100th Area Support Groups received training in Survival Skills for Healthy Families.

The instruction was part of a 40-hour trainer certification program developed and presented by Family Wellness Associates, Scotts Valley, Calif., at the Cantigny Club on Leighton Barracks in February.

"The program goes beyond theory and textbook learning and uses simple language to teach families practical skills for good communication.

The 280th BSB Child and Youth Services will collaborate with other family services to provide parent education classes, using the skills taught," said Rachel Stone, child and youth services liaison director for the 280th BSB.

"All chaplains are family life chaplains for their unit or community of responsibility. The specially trained family life chap-

lain's mission is to offer training and resources to all chaplains to enable them to carry out their family life ministry role. The program offers a professionally prepared outline of education for the entire family that is built around a six-session, 12-hour format," said Chaplain (Lt. Col. (P)) Lawrence Krause, 98th ASG deputy staff chaplain.

"Since the communications tools in this program can readily be adapted to a variety of environments, I hope to use these tools in training and workshops for family readiness groups, local military families, and as a tool within the professional environment to enhance communication skills," said Susan Wisner, 100th ASG Army Community Service deployment manager.

The communication model is not a new program in the 98th ASG. The 12th Aviation Brigade in Giebelstadt is participating in the Chief of Chaplains' pilot program of Building Strong and Ready Families, or BSRF, using the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement program model.

"As I began to assess the BSRF Program, it occurred to me that a piece was missing, and this piece was the application of communication skills to a larger set of family-life issues than just the couple conversation. Family wellness looks at both the couple and the parent/child conversations, as well as special issues, such as family problem solving, managing change, sex and drugs. Throughout, it offers an easy to understand and apply model," Krause said.



Caroline Lohmann

Survival skills class members model what a healthy family looks like.

If you want to find out more about the program, contact your unit or community chaplain, or go to the web site at <http://www.familywellness.com>.

Friendships are important, regardless of age

by Chaplain (Maj.) Ronald Thomas
98th ASG Family Life Chaplain

Friendships are important to us regardless of our age or developmental stage in life, and the increase of self-help books reflects society's concern about social needs, specifically our need for relationships.

Close friendship and sexual partnership are the two main sources of intimacy in early adult-

hood. The sad fact is that many singles rely on the latter for intimacy without the former. A huge advantage of friends is that we get to pick them. Our reasons for picking specific friends vary, but traits common to most friendships are understanding, good companionship, tolerance and humor.

Friendships are like any relationship in that there are good times and bad times. From a pastoral viewpoint, friendships can either bring

us closer to our faith or take us away from it.

As one pastor stated, "You will not get closer to God if your friends are running away from Him." I like that statement, but let me put it in secular terms - you will not get closer to your future goal if your friends are running in the opposite direction.

Choose your friends wisely. To borrow a Biblical passage, "Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character."

It is amazing how couples want a strong friendship as part of their marriage, but cannot describe what a close friendship looks like.

Earlier relationships were based on factors that apparently did not include intimacy involving close friendships. Intimacy based on close friendship includes equal balance of power, mutual nurturing, positive regard, affirmation, and empathy with one another.

Attend regular religious services in the 98th ASG

235th BSB

Ansbach

Katterbach Chapel

- 0600 Catholic Mass (Mon-Thur)
- 0900 Catholic Mass
- 1030 Protestant Service
- 1230 Church of Christ
- 1500 Protestant Service (Pentecostal Spanish)

Barton Chapel

- 0900 Protestant Service
- 1000 Seventh Day Adventist (Sat)

Illesheim Chapel

- 0930 Protestant Service
- 1130 Catholic Mass

279th BSB

Bamberg

Warner Main Chapel

- 0945 Catholic Mass
- 1100 Protestant Service
- 1245 COGIC Service
- 1500 National Baptist Service
- 0930 Catholic Mass (Mon)
- 1140 Catholic Mass (Tue - Thur)

Warner Prayer Chapel

- 0900 Charismatic Service
- 1100 Lutheran Service (Holy Communion)
- 1300 Protestant Service (Spanish)
- 1300 Muslim Prayer (Fri)

Preston Hall

- 1100 Free Gospel Service

Post Movie Theater

- 1830 Soldiers Service (Tue)

280th BSB

Schweinfurt

Ledward Chapel

- 0900 Protestant Service
- 1045 Catholic Mass
- 1230 Protestant Service (Gospel)

Conn Chapel

- 1100 Liturgical Protestant
- 1330 COGIC
- 1600 United Pentecostal

Ledward Chapel

- *1230 Muslim Juman Prayer (Fri)
- *Summer/Winter Time Change

417th BSB

Wuerzburg

Leighton

- 0900 Catholic Mass
- 1100 Protestant Service
- 1200 Catholic Mass (Tues & Thur)
- 1830 Jewish (2nd and 4th Fri)

Giebelstadt

- 0930 Protestant Service
- 1230 Protestant Service (Gospel)
- 1700 Catholic Mass

Larson

- 0930 Protestant Service
- 1100 Catholic Mass
- 1430 Protestant Service (Spanish)
- 1800 Protestant Service (Contemporary)
- 1100 Seventh Day Adventist (Sat)

Harvey

- 1100 Protestant Service
- 1230 COGIC Service
- 1330 Muslim (Fri) (Physical Fitness Bldg)

Hospital

- 0900 Protestant Service
- 1400 Protestant Service (Korean)

All the services are held on Sundays unless indicated otherwise.

Take prevention seriously

Wuerzburg Hospital's Division of Preventive Medicine offers several public services:

Travel Clinic – provides comprehensive health assessment and medication and immunization requirements for those traveling to countries where risk of disease is high. Please call four to six weeks before departure. Appointments are available Wednesday afternoons. Call 350-3892 or (0931) 8043892

Community Health Nurse – offers comprehensive health education in communicable diseases, maternal child health, and health promotion. Call 467-4512 or (09841) 83512 in Ansbach; 469-7853 or (0952) 3007853 in Bamberg; 354-7015 or (09721) 967015 in Schweinfurt; or 350-3789 or (0931) 8043789 in Wuerzburg.

Tobacco Cessation Program – a six-session program that emphasizes changing behavior to quit tobacco use. The program is offered every other month in Wuerzburg. Check with the community health nurses in outlying areas for local schedules; see phone numbers above. Tobacco cessation facilitator training can also be coordinated for any unit that wants to start its own program.

Health Education Training – offers unit training and individual counseling in HIV and sexually transmitted disease awareness, tuberculosis, hepatitis, birth control options, prenatal information and child health. Classes and information can be provided to groups upon request.

Lactation Consultant Services – Maj. Petrina Gavrilis, a board-certified lactation consultant, provides breastfeeding classes for individuals and groups, and information and consultation with breastfeeding mothers. Call 350-3892.

Occupational Health Nurse – offers several services: employment health assessments, active duty and civilian employee pregnancy assessments, and ergonomic site evaluations. Units can schedule briefings on respirator clearances, blood-borne pathogens, hearing conservation and deployment assessments. Call 350-3892/3428 or (0931) 8043892/3428 for an appointment.

ER services available

The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, Emergency Department is a small, six-bed facility open 24 hours and staffed with one physician, one nurse, and three emergency medical technicians. Ambulance services are provided by the German Red Cross. Dial 19222 from a civilian telephone. All patients are screened and triaged by the emergency room nurse and seen in order of severity of illness or injury. For all eligible beneficiaries, after-hours medical information is available by calling the Tricare Nurse hot line toll free at 0800-825-1600.

Eat healthily

The Wuerzburg Hospital nutrition clinic offers the following on a monthly basis: diabetes class, cholesterol class, weight control class, a non-diet workshop and a hypertension class. For more information, contact Capt. Claudia Drum or Stephanie Taylor at 350-3604 or (0931) 8043604.

Care for your feet

The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, Podiatry Clinic offers evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of physical ailments of the foot, ankle and lower leg. Surgery, when needed, is performed by the surgery-qualified podiatrist. Other services include diabetic foot evaluation, limited routine care and patient education on lower extremity conditions caused and directly affected by diabetes. For information, call 350-3432/3805/3750 or (0931) 8043432.

What can family practice do?

by **Family Practice Physicians**

U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg

In a famous painting by Norman Rockwell, a physician sits by the bedside of a sick child, caring for him throughout the night.

Years ago, that was how America viewed the general practitioner – he was the physician that cared for the family, delivered the children, made house calls, and was the one that you called in the middle of the night when someone was ill.

What does that have to do with the family practice physician of today? Well, we like to refer to our services as 'womb to tomb medicine.'

Do you have a cold, flu, pneumonia, chest pain or gastroenteritis? Worried about that rash or mole that is changing in size? Interested in discussing different methods of birth control? Come see us. We perform vasectomies, prescribe birth control pills, and advise on family planning.

We see the whole family, so acute child care and same-day appointments are available. Talk to Tricare about getting your children enrolled in family practice. We do well-baby checks and well-women exams. Chances are we may have delivered your baby if you had it here.

Do you have an abnormal pap smear? Need a colposcopy, a procedure that looks at your cervix with a microscope and screens for cancer? Make an appointment with your family practice physician, who can perform the procedure and save you a referral to the gynecologist.

Are you over 50 and is it time for colon cancer screening? See a family practice physician who can arrange and perform a flexible sigmoidoscopy procedure, a fiberoptic scope that views the left half of the colon.

The family practice clinic provides care for both acute and chronic medical problems. We also provide wellness/health maintenance examinations and preventive services. Our physicians perform a number of procedures. We are the sole sick-call provider for the Wuerzburg area, to include soldiers assigned to Leighton Barracks and Faulenberg Kaserne.

For more information, contact the family practice clinic at 350-3854 or (0931) 8043854. For same-day appointments, call 350-3740 or (0931) 8043740.

(Editor's Note: This article was prepared by Dr. (Capt.) David Wallace, MD; Dr. (Capt.) Robert Malsby III, DO; and Dr. (Capt.) Sean Thomas, MD.)



Roger Teel

Family practice physician Dr. (Capt.) Rob Malsby listens to SFC James Flowers' heart. Flowers is assigned to 101st Military Intelligence Battalion.

Families must register with Tricare

by **Roger Teel**

U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg

Failing to properly enroll in Tricare may lead to a disruption of health care services and is often caused by certain misconceptions, according to local Tricare officials.

"One of the biggest misconceptions is that people think they are automatically enrolled in Tricare once they arrive in Germany," said Erin Zeek, medical service coordinator at the Tricare service center, U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg. "But they're not," she said.

For every change in duty station, new Tricare enrollment must be generated for active duty members and family members who accompany them, she said.

"The problem is that when soldiers are briefed about Tricare services during inprocessing, many don't pay attention or don't think it pertains to them," Zeek stressed. "More times than not, family members have not accompanied the soldier and cannot be enrolled in Tricare. They must be in country to be eligible. Once they arrive, they assume their active duty

'They must be in country to be eligible.'

– Erin Zeek

sponsor took care of their Tricare enrollment. The information family members need for their enrollment has not been passed on, and, unfortunately, no appointments can be made until they are enrolled," she said.

Newly arrived family members need to visit the Tricare service center and enroll before scheduling any appointments.

"Another problem is that people don't know who their primary care manager is," Zeek continued. "We encourage beneficiaries to call the Tricare service center to find out.

"This is important because the primary care manager is the first stop for health care. He or she is the expert on your health care needs and coordinates your care, such as making referrals, getting you seen by a specialist, and ensuring all lab work is completed.

"All family members can be enrolled with the same primary care manager so they have one provider administering the whole family's health care needs. This continuity of care is beneficial to everyone involved, families and doctors alike," Zeek said.

"Another problem concerns family members who go back to the United States for extended vacations, children of split families coming to Germany or going to the United States for the summer months, and children leaving Germany to attend college in the United States. People need to know that if they leave a region for more than 30 days, they must register with Tricare in the new region for the time they are there, and re-enroll locally upon return. Failure to register during these moves may cause problems getting claims filed in a timely fashion," she said.

For more information about enrollment or other Tricare concerns, visit the Tricare service center on the first floor of the hospital, or call 350-2200 or (0931) 8042200. For assistance in Katterbach, call 467-2619; in Bamberg, 469-7420; in Schweinfurt, 354-6638; and in Kitzingen, 355-8415.



Wuerzburg U.S. Army Hospital – center of excellence

The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, is the center of health care excellence for servicemembers and their families stationed in northern Bavaria. Offering a full range of medical services, the hospital is the headquarters for nine outlying health clinics located in the 98th and 100th Area Support Groups. For more information, check out the military health care web site at www.healthcare.hqusareur.army.mil.

File photo

Local clinics provide direct access for care

by **Roger Teel**

U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg

Getting to see the right doctor when you need to can sometimes be a difficult and daunting task for U.S. servicemembers and their families stationed in Germany.

Your local health clinic is the right place to start, regardless of the health problem, according to Capt. John Halak, administration officer for the directorate of outlying health clinics, U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg.

"Most active duty soldiers and their family members receive their primary care at the local health clinic. Most clinics offer an array of services, such as lab, X-ray, optometry, and physical

therapy," Halak explained.

"But if an active duty soldier or a family member needs additional or specialized care, they have the option of going to the Wuerzburg hospital or Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. If they live more than an hour away from Wuerzburg, they also have the option of receiving care at a local German medical facility," Halak said. Every military community health clinic has a list of host nation doctors, known as the Preferred Providers Network, that military doctors can refer them to.



Halak

Family members should certainly discuss their options with their primary care provider and with the health benefits advisor at their local clinic.

In emergencies, both active duty soldiers and their family members are authorized and encouraged to seek immediate medical care at the closest host nation facility. During every soldier's inprocessing, a representative from the health clinic provides information about how to access local host nation facilities.

For more information about your access to care, contact your Tricare representative or the health benefits advisor at your local military health clinic.

Schweinfurt blends tradition, progress

by Mark Heeter

CRUSADER

Schweinfurt is a city of 50,000 that is host to about 10,000 soldiers, civilians and family members.

Located in the heart of Franconia, which is famous for its wines, Schweinfurt is an industrial center. It also has picturesque buildings, beautiful parks and shopping areas.

The history of Schweinfurt can be traced back to before 714 when it was little more than a country town of farmers, boatmen and fishermen. A reference to the city's past is found in records at the Weissenburg Monastery in Alsace, France. In the second half of the 12th century, the new urban community of Schweinfurt arose about half a mile west of the original settlement.

In 1212 Schweinfurt was a free imperial town. Forty-two years later war broke out between the prince bishops in Wuerzburg and the counts of Henneburg. Schweinfurt was caught in the middle, and by the time hostilities ended in 1259, the city was destroyed. It was rebuilt by 1282 when King Rudolf von Habsburg presented Schweinfurt with its own crest.

From earliest times, local citizens have shown an enthusiastic spirit and pride in their city. In 1309 Emperor Henry VII of Luxembourg was short of money and pawned the town to the counts of Henneburg. However, the citizens of Schweinfurt raised the means to redeem their town themselves and at the same time succeeded in warding off the aggressions of the bishops of Wuerzburg. The debt amounted to thousands of guilders, which took the townspeople centuries to repay.

During the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s, the city was a Protestant stronghold in a Catholic area. In 1532 it was the site of a meeting of princes and bishops who considered Martin Luther's proposed reforms. Today, the city has approximately the same number of Catholics as Protestants.

Schweinfurt was almost completely destroyed during the war of the margraves in 1554, which brought disastrous results to all of Franconia. When the town was little more than a smoking heap of debris, the citizens started rebuilding their city. Within 60 years, a new city stood on the spot. Many of the famous buildings that can now be seen in Schweinfurt were built during this period.

Unfortunately, most of the walls which surrounded the city were torn down during the last century to accommodate the demands of the modern age. A part of the wall still stands extending from the Holy Ghost Church to the Messeplatz.

The city was occupied by Swedish soldiers during the Thirty Years' War, first in 1625 and again in 1631. The city's long history as an independent entity ended in 1802 when it became part of the electorate of the Palatinate formed by Napoleon. A bit later, Schweinfurt and all of Franconia became part of Bavaria.

Local industries include the manufacture of ball bearings, machinery, beer and wine. Also located here are a number of printing firms, and iron and steel plants.

Several outstanding sports fields and athletic facilities are located in the city, including the Ernst-Sachs-Stadium with ice rink. Schweinfurt also has an outdoor ice-skating rink which opens in October for the winter season and is located within walking distance of Ledward Kaserne and Askren Manor housing area.

The Tiergehege, or animal park, offers a great variety of sport facilities and play areas for people of every age, as well as the small zoo set in natural surroundings. Hiking trails, miniature golf, a wading pool, a giant chess board and table tennis are all available at the park, and all are free of charge.

In the evening many Schweinfurt residents turn to the city's modern 800-seat theater for frequent performances of plays, opera and concerts.



Photos by Mark Heeter

Flowers on display at Schweinfurt's market in the downtown area.



The pedestrian zone in Schweinfurt offers excellent shopping and many cafes.

Services, facilities offered in Schweinfurt area

Compiled by Mark Heeter

CRUSADER

AAFES facilities

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service main exchange in building 228 on Ledward Barracks is open Mon-Sat from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sun from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Schweinfurt Exchange human resources office is in building 225, collocated with the shoppette on Ledward Barracks. Call (09721) 787113 for more information.

Bowling center

The Kessler Bowling Center is equipped with 24 lanes. There is an AAFES snack bar that serves Anthony's Pizza and Frank's Franks. It is located in building 449 outside the northwest corner of Ledward Barracks. Call 354-6332 or (09721) 83391 for bowling, and 354-6800 or (09721) 81491 for Strikers Grill or Frank's Franks.

Community activity centers

Finney Recreation Center, located on Conn Barracks, building 64, is open Wed-Sun. Call 353-8476 or (09721) 82041.

Finney Fitness Center is located in building 64 on Conn Barracks and can be reached by calling 353-8234.

Kessler Fitness Center is located in building 451, off post by the northwest corner of Ledward Barracks. Call 354-6735 or (09721) 966735 for more information.

Fire station

In a fire emergency, call 117 from a military telephone. From a German civilian telephone call 96117. The military fire station is in building 74 on Conn Barracks. Call 353-8645 or (09721) 87711 for more information.

Guest house

The Bradley Inn guest house is located in building 89, Conn Barracks. A desk clerk is on duty from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Call 354-1700 or (09721) 7940. A limited number of apartments are available for people with pets in the Askren Manor housing area. Pets can also be boarded at a local Tierheim, or animal shelter, in Schwebheim, which can be reached at (09723) 7770.

Health clinic

The Schweinfurt Health Clinic is located in building 201 on Ledward Barracks. For appointments, call 354-6781, and for Tricare information, call 354-6638. For dental appointments, call 354-1720. The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, emergency room numbers are 350-3700/3877 and (0931) 8043700/8043877. To get an ambulance, call 116 from a military telephone or 19222 from a German telephone anywhere in Bavaria.

Housing office

The Schweinfurt Housing Office is located in building 252 on Franz-Schubert-Strasse, east of Ledward Barracks. Call 354-6448/6712 or (09721) 966448. They are open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ID cards and passports

ID cards and passports are issued through Detachment B, 38th Personnel Services Battalion, located in building 215, Ledward Barracks. Passports are issued by appointment only. For more information, call 354-6307 or (09721) 966307.



Mark Heeter

School children blow on kazoos during the annual Vacation Bible School.

Red Cross

The Schweinfurt station of the American Red Cross is located in the basement of building 206, Ledward Barracks. Call 354-1760. After hours, call 431-2334 or (07031) 15334.

Job assistance

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center branch office is located on the third floor, building 444, Richard-Wagner-Strasse, located near the southeast corner of Ledward Barracks in Schweinfurt. Call 354-1630/6405 or (09721) 85866.

Army Community Service

The Army Community Service offers many services, including classes on computers and job-hunting skills, as well as a lending closet and relocation assistance. It's located in building 242 on Ledward Barracks. Call 354-6751/6486 for more information.

Movie theater

See the latest movies at the AAFES Movie Theater in building 238 on Ledward Barracks. Call 354-1790.

Military Police

The Schweinfurt Military Police Station is located in building 295 on Franz-Schubert-Strasse, east of Ledward Barracks. For an emergency, call 114 from any military telephone. Other numbers are 354-6766/6624 or (09721) 802160. Telephones are answered 24 hours a day. To reach the German police from a civilian phone, call 110 in an emergency, or the German police station in Schweinfurt at (09721) 2020.

Restaurants

Strikers Grill is located in the Kessler Bowling Center, off post near the northwest corner of Ledward Barracks. Popeyes and Burger King are located on Conn Barracks next to the Finney Fitness Center. The Sub Shop is located in building 64 next to the Finney Recreation Center on Conn Barracks. The Adler Club is located in building 224 on Ledward Barracks.

Schools

Bad Kissingen American Elementary School has programs for students from kindergarten through fifth grade. The school has a Talented and Gifted Program, art and music programs, special and compensatory education, and a computer laboratory. It's a short walk from the housing areas. Call (0971) 65204.

Schweinfurt American Elementary School also educates children kindergarten through fifth grade. Plus, there is a pre-kindergarten for children age 3-5. Call 354-6734/6518 or (09721) 81893.

Schweinfurt American Middle School serves grades six through eight. The day is organized into several blocks of learning. Call 354-6813 or (09721) 804301.

Tax Relief

The Schweinfurt Tax Relief Office, located in building 206, room 219, Ledward Barracks, can help you save a lot of money on items bought in Germany. Call 354-1780 or (09721) 86798.

United Service Organization

The Schweinfurt USO is located in building 224 on Ledward Barracks. For more information, call 354-6711 or (09721) 966711.

Veterinary service

The veterinary clinic in Schweinfurt is located in building 81 on Conn Barracks. Services include issuing health certificates, vaccinations, teeth cleaning, and limited spaying and neutering of cats and dogs. Call 353-8359 or (09721) 968359 for an appointment.

Banking facilities

Banking facilities are available on both Conn and Ledward barracks. The community bank is located in building 226 on Ledward Barracks and can be reached by calling 354-6403 or (09721) 88096. The Community Bank on Conn Barracks in building 64 can be reached by calling 353-8269 or (09721) 87096. Community banks are open American holidays and closed on German holidays.

Andrews Federal Credit Union is located on Ledward Barracks in building 224 and is closed on American holidays. Call 354-6891 or (09721) 796860 for more information.

Army education centers

Education centers can be found on Ledward Barracks and Conn Barracks. Both centers are open Mon-Wed and Fri from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thu from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached by calling 354-6383 at Ledward and 353-8308 at Conn.



98th ASG DPW

98th Area Support Group Directorate of Public Works - Würzburg, Germany

98th ASG offers diverse housing



Family housing, barracks get better

Welcome to Germany! The 98th ASG Directorate of Public Works, or DPW, developed a special Crusader supplement to provide information on the family housing and barracks improvements

throughout the 98th ASG area of responsibility.

We will also outline the various housing options available in each community, along with several of our family housing and barracks initiatives ongoing in all four of our communities.

Our purpose is to give you a better idea of housing, neighborhood programs and facilities you will encounter when you arrive in the 98th ASG and 1st Infantry Division area, and the improvements you will see during your tour in Europe.

Two major initiatives within USAREUR are the barracks and family housing renovation programs that will continue throughout Europe until 2009 and 2007, respectively.

Our objective in the 98th ASG is to upgrade the barracks and family housing facilities quickly and conveniently to provide all of our soldiers and families the best quality of life as soon as possible.

Part of our emphasis is an information campaign provided by the 98th ASG DPW.

This information campaign is to gain community support, feedback and suggestions about all projects currently underway or planned in the community.

During the year, we will provide community members information on small and large projects at town hall meetings, have groundbreaking ceremonies, and inform through television and radio spots. Information on planned and ongoing projects will be

provided with artist renderings or pictures and will be posted in public places, inviting community members' comments during design reviews.

These updates are important because they inform everyone of construction detours, environmental impacts and noise on our installations caused by ongoing or future construction work.

Please provide your comments to your local BSB DPW via the comment cards provided at numerous locations, or air your concerns at the local town hall meetings. You can also e-mail your comments, questions and suggestions about projects to: Feedback@cmtymail.98asg.army.mil.

The 98th ASG and local BSB DPWs welcome you to Germany and hope you have a great tour in Europe!

RICHARD B. HOOK
Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer
Director of Public Works

Types of permanent accommodations available

Stairwell, leased and private rental possible

by Jon Henderson
98th ASG DPW Housing Chief

USAREUR has several types of permanent housing facilities. The on-post government housing features primarily 3- or 4-story stairwell buildings with 12 to 24 dwelling units. Senior noncommissioned officers and officers may be assigned to duplex or single-house units.

In addition, the 98th ASG has a significant number of leased housing assets. They are generally more modern than on-post housing and not of the stairwell variety; i.e., more single, duplex and row house-type units.

GRHP on the way out.

The leased housing may be what is referred to as the Government Rental Housing Program, or GRHP. GRHP leases are single units leased specifically for a soldier, and the lease is only for the soldier's tour. These type units, and the GRHP program, are slowly being phased out.

The last type of housing is the off-post private rental. It's a house or apartment off post with a lease between the soldier and the owner.

Each type of housing has advantages and disadvantages; however, perhaps the most significant difference is "who pays the rent." The Army pays the rent for on-post and leased



Henderson

housing, including GRHP, so the soldier isn't concerned with the exchange rate.

On the other hand, the soldier receives an overseas housing allowance, or OHA, when living in a private rental and pays the rent him- or herself. Under this arrangement, the dollars amount the soldier needs can fluctuate with the exchange rate.

Most European Union countries introduced the "euro" currency 1 Jan. 02. This did not have any significant effect on soldiers living off post, but required adjusting to a new currency.

Lists made by grade

If available, you may be required to accept government-controlled housing on post or leased housing off post. You will either be assigned quarters or your name will be added to a waiting list appropriate for your grade and family size.

Colonels normally are assigned housing with a minimum of four bedrooms. Soldiers in the rank of lieutenant colonel, major, chief warrant officer 5 and 4, sergeant major and master sergeant should be assigned housing with at least three bedrooms.

Quarters are assigned from a waiting list. If there are more than one set of quarters coming available, you'll be offered a choice.

Living on post in stairwell buildings is much different than being a homeowner living in a single dwelling. There is significantly more interaction between stairwell and building neighbors. Cooperation, respect and mature behavior are absolutely necessary if a healthy climate is to be maintained.

USAREUR housing areas have an Area and Building Coordinator Program to help commanders make their family housing areas a more pleasant place to live. If you're a relatively senior NCO or officer, you may be tagged for a position of responsibility; e.g. stairwell, building or area coordinator. Appointments to these positions are made by the BSB commander and are generally for the length of occupancy in the building or area.

If not required to live in government-controlled housing on post, you may look for a private rental off post.

The housing office's community homefinding, relocation and referral service, or CHRRS, staff will help you find off-post housing.

They maintain listings, provide transportation to look at units, provide bilingual rental contracts, help with translation, help get your housing allowance started and act as intermediaries if complaints arise.

Besides the CHRRS staff, assistance on legal questions can be obtained from the office of the staff judge advocate and/or the local German Tenants' Association, or Mieterverein.



Lisa Eichhorn

Newly renovated family quarters in Katterbach were completely remodeled from the inside out.

A Mieterverein normally charges a membership fee of about €25 a year. That is a very modest investment for the help they can provide if problems develop between landlord and tenant.

If at some later date, after occupying off-post housing, you are offered government-controlled housing on post, or leased housing off post, you may relocate at government expense. However, any move from one private rental to another

Recycling is the key to quality-of-life programs

by Lisa Eichhorn
CRUSADER

Many soldiers and family members arriving in Germany say they are being exposed to recycling for the first time. Since many installations in the United States don't have recycling programs, newcomers can find it a bit overwhelming.



McMillen

For those being assigned to the 235th BSB, DPW has an aggressive education program that helps teach folks what they need to know. "We know that for many it is confusing, so we work very hard to make it as easy as possible for them to recycle. What people need to understand is that in Germany there are laws and USAREUR regulations regarding recycling. We want the community to understand there is a much stronger focus on it here," said Sabine McMillen, DPW environmental protection assistant.

It appears to be working, as the 235th BSB has been recycling above the USAREUR average. "Recycling is a state of mind. Although we are doing well, we have a great deal of room

for improvement. Last year we paid 3.3 million dollars for garbage removal. Nearly 60 percent of that was in fines for resorting our trash and recycling bins because the wrong items were in the wrong containers. If we could solve this issue, the money we would save - over 1.5 million dollars - could fund community improvement projects. I would personally like to thank the conscientious members of the community who are recycling correctly. Help your friend or neighbor follow your example!" said Lt. Col Parker Schenecker, Commander, 235th BSB.

McMillen said that is where she can help. "I have many different materials available to explain the different things that can be recycled. It seems most people need a little education on what goes where. For example, the milk cartons that you get at the commissary are considered plastic. Most people think they are paper. But because they are a compound material, they go with the plastic," she said.

"I also work with units to help them recycle in their work area. I have seen such improvements by just teaching soldiers the right way of doing things," McMillen added.

To schedule an appointment, call 467-2158 or (09802) 832158.



Lisa Eichhorn

Katterbach Area Support Team soldiers clean up the installation's recycling area after a weekend of heavy dumping.

Bamberg unveils new youth services center

Facility opens for 279th BSB kids

by Michelle Clubb
279th BSB PAO Summer Hire

Bamberg youth have a new place to go to.

Child and youth services staff are in the process of unveiling a newly constructed youth facility for kindergartners through eighth-graders.

School age services, or SAS, a before- and after-school day care program, relocated to the middle school youth services, or YS, building in June to make room at the elementary school for full-time kindergarten children.

The new youth center has been under construction since October 2001 and features a new wing that can accommodate program needs. It also features a kitchen, cafeteria, movie and music room, and a multipurpose room.

"The new school age services building accommodates 125 children, as opposed to 70 children in the old building," said Carlotta James, school age services coordinator.

The facility serves several functions.

"Our goal is to have a fully functional facility that is not only a fun place for kids, but also has age-appropriate and safe

learning environments," said Shannon Geraghty, training and programming specialist.

She noted that youth are a priority in Bamberg.

"We want to be able to facilitate a lot more programs for all Bamberg kids and offer them the best possible quality," Geraghty said.

Youth program alternatives will also benefit youth academically.

"Renovations include improvements to the middle school portion of the building, which allows for more academic-based activities that are directly in line with elementary and middle school programs. Children will have the opportunity to use a computer room, an art room or study," said Lt. Col. Timothy Hill, 279th BSB commander.

Youth enjoy a variety of programs, from arts and crafts to sports activities and field trips. Children go swimming, visit amusement parks, and make day trips to local attractions.

"The field trips are the most fun, because then I get to go outside and do things, instead of staying inside all day," said Jasmin Cater, 7.



Sabrina Melton and Tabitha Floyd unload furniture while moving into the new facility.



The child and youth services facility during the remodeling and partial construction phases.



School Age Services Program enrollee Brittany Amerson draws a picture during her day at the center.

Photos by Michelle Clubb

Housing is modernized

by Jon Henderson
98th ASG DPW Housing Chief

Since most of USAREUR's family housing was built in the 1950s and maintained over the years in a "piecemeal" manner, over 70 percent of the housing in the 98th ASG is not up to modern-day standards.

The Department of Defense has set 2008 as a goal for revitalizing all family housing.

Revitalization on track

Our ASG is well into the revitalization program. We've spent over \$94 million dollars since 1996, but we still have a long way to go with another \$260 million planned. The revitalization effort consists of three programs known as Whole Neighborhood Revitalization, or WNR, Major Maintenance and Repair, or MMR, and the Bath and Laundry Investment Campaign, or BLIC.

WNR projects are intended to bring dwelling units up to current Army standards, as well as repairing and improving infrastructure and neighborhood amenities such as playgrounds, picnic areas, trash collection sites, etc.

The goal with these projects is to fix USAREUR's worst buildings first.

Funding for WNR projects comes from the military construction appropriation, so projects compete Army-wide. Providing two quality of life "perks," a second bathroom in larger (three or more bedrooms) units and a laundry room in every apartment is a major objective of the WNR program. Because these projects are paid for with construction money, apartments can also be right-sized, for example, walls moved and number of rooms changed.

Katterbach is first

The ASG's first WNR project renovated 120 apartments in Katterbach during the time from 1997-1999. A second project to upgrade 42 units in the Bleidorn housing area is under construction. Katterbach and Bleidorn housing areas are

in Ansbach. Wuerzburg also has two WNR projects under construction that will upgrade 128 two-bedroom apartments. Later this year, another project with 128 apartments will "break ground" at the Bleidorn housing area.

MMR projects are ASG-managed and intended to fix the ASG's worst buildings. The apartments are also generally smaller than the Army-allowed maximum net square foot living area.

These projects are "whole-house" renovations like the WNR projects, but no right-sizing or adding net square footage is allowed.

Adding a second bathroom and/or laundry room can be done with an MMR project only if existing space can be converted; e.g., converting a half bath to a full bath, or converting a maid's room to a laundry room. If this isn't possible, the MMR project will make all other necessary renovations and a follow-on BLIC project will add the second bath and laundry room.

There are MMR projects underway in Ansbach, Bamberg, Schweinfurt and Wuerzburg. The ASG has spent over \$44 million since fiscal year 1999. Another \$17 million is planned for FY 2002.

The BLIC program targets stairwell buildings with relatively small apartments where net floor area can be increased without exceeding the maximum apartment size set by the Department of the Army standards. It's basically a "tower" added to a building that adds a second bathroom and laundry room to each apartment.

The nice thing about BLIC is that the work can be done while the apartment remains occupied; apartments must be vacant for WNR and MMR projects. The cost per apartment for a BLIC conversion is running about \$40,000. Our ASG has not had a BLIC project yet, but the first one is planned for Schweinfurt in FY 2003.

This project will add towers to 12 buildings with 234 apartments in the Askren Manor housing area. The price tag is estimated at \$12 million.

Full-day kindergarten available on Leighton

by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

It looks like an Italian villa with clean column lines and ivy. It is home to the new full-day kindergarten at Wuerzburg American Elementary School, or WES.

"First, the full-day kindergarten meets all the current Department of Defense Education Activity, or DoDEA, standards for full-day learning. Next, the little guys will have 1,250 square feet per classroom with individual kitchens and bathrooms, storage, sleeping and wet-play areas," said Bill Winslow, DoDEA facility engineer.

Individual cubbyholes, carpet, and play centers show a glimpse of what the facility offers.

"Each classroom will have at least eight Internet-wired computers, closed-circuit television, and access to an enclosed courtyard that will provide a self-contained play area," Winslow said.

"It is a top-of-the-line modern facility that provides size-appropriate learning areas," Winslow said.

The eight classrooms will help educate 192 kindergarten-age children.

"Previously, students were here for a few hours, so the full-day kindergarten impacts the children significantly," said Ed Atterberry, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, or DoDDS, Bavaria District executive officer.

He added the benefits from a full-day kindergarten are many. There is an increase in reading and math achievement.

"With the decrease in the student-teacher ratio, we see peer relationships increase, and we also see an increase in parental satisfaction," he said.



Elaine Nicholas

Construction workers prepare an iron mold for the Italian columns.

Renovated barracks like home

Phase II construction finishes on Katterbach

by Joe McFadden
CRUSADER

Newcomers will get a glimpse of construction that has been commonplace for Katterbach Kaserne for over a year.

Barracks renovation on building 5815 near the exit gate makes up phase II of a major renovation project that has been underway for several years. As a part of the Europe-wide renovation plan, a lot is being done to improve

living conditions for single soldiers.

Since work on this building began in May of 2001, the building is taking on an entirely new look. In order to do this, it was demolished to the base, then work began on reconstruction.

Many aspects of this project affected day-to-day operations on Katterbach Kaserne. Traffic flow was a great concern, as well as the relocation of over 100 soldiers. While the construction work goes on, the original completion date of June 2003 is still the goal.

"We're really bringing up the standards for military housing, as this will be a new building. It's been a while since there's been a major change to this barracks. There has probably not

been any major structural work done since it was first built after World War II. Of course, there were structural issues. We had to make an accurate record of what had to be changed.

"The structural code has obviously changed greatly since the building was constructed. We found all kinds of interesting things in the old structure, such as horsehair, which was used as insulation," said Ed Argueta, Army Corp of Engineers project manager.

Unconventional building methods of the past were overcome by a very effective renovation program.

"I'm glad to say that we're on schedule. I'm also grateful that there were no real problems. Right now we're focusing on interior work like tiling, plumbing, wiring and sprinkler systems," Argueta said.

This project was years in the making according to directorate of public works officials.

"For years there had been no major barracks projects in this area and it was very needed. The standards for living space were raised several years ago for single soldiers, so some soldiers were living below that. Since our objective has always been to provide soldiers with the highest living standards possible, this project is very important for helping us meet that," said Capt. Margaret Schuck, 235th BSB DPW construction operations officer.

Anna Maria Psaila, unaccompanied-personnel-housing chief, has been hearing great things about the renovations from the soldiers who have moved into the barracks completed in phase I of the project.

"It's been a big improvement for them, and they seem very pleased. Since most soldiers from the United States are exposed to more modern facilities than we have had here in Europe, it can be a big change for them. We will be able to house more than 150 soldiers when this is done, and all to the Army standard. This means each soldier will get a room and share a bathroom; and for the noncommissioned officers, they will have their rooms with their own bathrooms. They are living in not so great conditions right now, but have borne it willingly, knowing that they would soon have a great place to call home," Psaila said.



Photos by Lisa Eichhorn

Renovations on new barracks is underway in Katterbach.



Rubble is all that is left of the old barracks.



Barracks renovations on building 5815 on Katterbach Kaserne are well underway. The project, which began a year ago, is on track and is expected to meet the planned completion date of June 2003.

Lodging options are many for newcomers to area

by Jon Henderson
98th ASG DPW Housing Chief

Within 48 hours of arrival at your new duty station, you need to report to the housing office serving your community, represented at the in- and outprocessing center.

Army policy requires all servicemembers to check with the housing office before renting, leasing or buying any off-post housing. Also, permanent government quarters may be immediately available for you and your family. In that case, you wouldn't need any transient housing. However, if you do, the housing office can point you in the right direction.

Lodging options are many

Some communities have guesthouses on post, and all can provide the names and telephone

numbers of hotels or Pensionen, or boarding houses, off post.

If you are an E6 or below and traveling alone, you probably won't need transient lodging and will be assigned barracks space until your family can join you.

Soldiers in the higher grades, E7 and above, traveling alone will normally be assigned unaccompanied personnel housing, or UPH, if available, or allowed to live off post.

If government housing is not available and transient lodging must be occupied, the Army will authorize payment of a temporary lodging allowance, or TLA.

TLA is intended to cover your lodging and meal costs until you can occupy permanent housing. There are conditions that must be met

to receive, and continue to receive, TLA. Make sure you understand your responsibilities before leaving the housing office. They have information papers on TLA; take one with you and read it.

Family travel varies

There are three types of family travel – concurrent, deferred and disapproved. Your Permanent change of station, or PCS, orders will state what type of family travel you were authorized. Concurrent travel means you asked for your family to travel with you and your request was approved.

It was approved because the local housing office projected government quarters or off-post housing to be available within 30 days of your arrival. During those 30 days, you and your

family will live in some type of transient lodging and receive TLA to offset expenses.

Deferred travel means you must travel alone and your family will remain in government quarters or off-post housing at your last duty station. Deferred travel is used when the local housing office projects you would have to wait 31 to 140 days for permanent housing.

While waiting for permanent housing, you will live in the barracks, some other form of UPH, like senior-enlisted quarters or officers' quarters, or off post. TLA probably wouldn't be necessary or payable in this case.

All four base support battalions in the 98th ASG offer some degree of concurrent travel, depending on grade and bedroom requirements and the willingness to accept off-post housing.

Road links motorists to facilities

by Michelle Clubb
279th BSB PAO Summer Hire



Betz

"A recent traffic study recommends the extension of JFK Boulevard, which will improve the traffic circulation system on post," said Juergen Betz, 279 BSB DPW engineering plans and services division chief.

The new facilities will be constructed behind the 149 built-to-lease housing units that were built last year. With facilities located next to housing units, shopping will be more convenient for community residents. However, before residents enjoy the close proximity of the new complex, small construction inconveniences must be endured. Some residents don't mind putting up with traffic detours.

"I'm willing to put up with construction noise and being rerouted to have bigger and better shopping options," said Becky Pearson, family member.

Construction in Bamberg is an ongoing process.

JFK Boulevard, the main street on Warner Barracks, is being extended to connect traffic with future facilities in Bamberg.

Connected to Autobahn 73 and Walnut Way, the extension will lead motorists to a new commissary and Army and Air Force Exchange Service, or AAFES, complex. Construction of the extension that began in April will be finished by September.

Construction of the new shopping facilities will begin May 1, 2003, and will be completed by Nov. 30, 2004. During the construction phases, in- and outbound traffic near Birchview Lanes Bowling Center will be congested.

"Parking has been difficult at the bowling center, but a sidewalk has been converted into an entry road to assist customers with easier parking. It won't be like this forever. Before you know it, construction will be over," said Lee Morey, bowling center manager.

The area behind the bowling center is the only area on Warner Barracks that is large enough to build on. Available construction space totals over 750,000 square feet.

"The new commissary will be approximately 51,000 square feet, and AAFES will take up almost 112,000 square feet," Betz said.

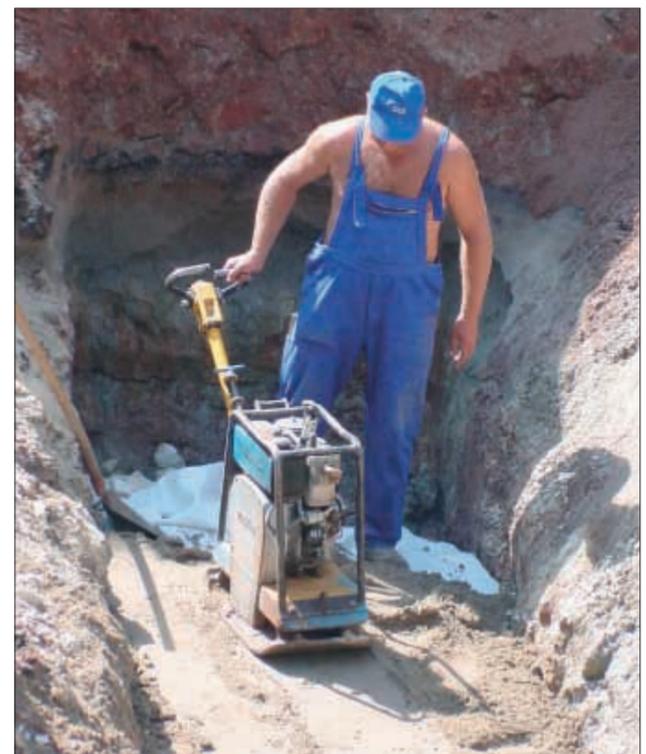
In addition to shopping facilities, plans for a new recycling center are in the works. Betz noted nothing has materialized yet in regards to a new recycling center.

"The long-range goal of the construction projects is to have a functional and safe traffic circulation system within the 279th BSB while making Warner Post more convenient for all," Betz said.

"I don't think all the construction is good during the summer, but it is for the betterment of the community," said Ken Reid, AAFES employee.



Reid



Michelle Clubb

A construction crew member works on the extension of JFK Boulevard on Warner Barracks in Bamberg.

Shipton improves

by Lisa Eichhorn
CRUSADER

More than 17 improvement projects have been identified on Shipton Kaserne as part of the NATO Minor Works Program. These projects, totaling more than \$3 million, will drastically improve the readiness of 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery, project coordinators said.

"When Shipton Kaserne was built in the mid-1980s, the majority of funds came from NATO, as the unit was then part of the alliance's mission. When the wall came down, they were shifted to be part of V Corps, so they no longer qualified for these kinds of projects," said Bob Garback, USAREUR minor works program manager.

"However, recently the unit gained a new mission with NATO, which then allowed us to look at using this program to do some upgrades on the installation," he said.

In March, a team made up of NATO, U.S. and local officials toured Shipton Kaserne to see for themselves what projects were needed. They identified the need for upgrading the unit's initial readiness positions at the Urlas and Oberdachstetten training sites.

"The minor works program is a program designed to complete projects quickly. If the funding came from the community, projects could take five, 10 or even 15 years before work is finished.

"Since Shipton Kaserne is not very old compared to the other facilities in the BSB, they definitely would be at the end of a long list," said Capt. Margaret Schuck, 235th BSB DPW construction operations officer.

"We had all the decision makers here when they visited in March, so we're very optimistic that all the projects will be funded," she added.

Recycling contract saves dollars

by Mark Heeter
CRUSADER

In order to stop paying for sanitation workers to pick up containers full of air, the 280th BSB DPW environmental division worked up a new contract for trash disposal.

The new arrangement created a more efficient pickup schedule, paper presses, larger containers where necessary, and easier-to-read labels were placed on the containers.

"The new contract consolidated all our recycling contracts into one, so the service is better," said Eric Bailey, 280th BSB DPW separate or recycle trash, or SORT, program director.

Through the first few months of the year, the new system has sliced approximately \$100,000 off the cost of trash disposal and is expected to save roughly \$260,000 for the entire year, according to Wolfgang Froehling from the 280th BSB DPW environmental division.

Much of the savings come from the more efficient pickup schedule. The new containers

are designed to maximize space, according to Bailey.

"The less we need pickup contractors in here, the more money we're going to save. Part of our job is to try to minimize those pickups," Bailey said.

In addition to reducing the number of necessary pickups, the contract also allowed for clearer labeling of the containers.

"When people place materials in the proper containers, they are cutting costs dramatically," Froehling said.

"Before, we had 11 different contracts, so we had a bunch of different container types, which can lead to confusion," Bailey said.

"Before, most of the labels on containers were written in German and Turkish," said Froehling, noting that not many Americans speak Turkish.

"Now we have labels with English and German written on them," Froehling said.

"I think labeling the containers was just magic. If a container is unlabeled or wrongly labeled, it's a trash can," he said.



Mark Heeter

Roy Norman, a customer at the Askren Manor housing area recycling center, separates his trash.

Fire prevention saves lives, homes

by 417th BSB Fire Department

The Whole Neighborhood Revitalization Program, currently ongoing in Skyline housing area, Leighton Barracks, provides complete sprinkler protection, smoke detection systems, emergency illumination and fire doors for newly renovated apartments.

Apartments will also have stoves with automatic shutoff in case of fire or smoke development.

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires. It only takes a moment for a fire to break

out and quickly spread.

Take the following precautions to prevent a fire in your home:

- If a fire starts in a pan or pot on top of the stove, immediately turn off the stove. Try to smother the flames with a lid. Move the pan away from the hot burner.

- Never pour water on a grease fire, this will only splash and spread the fire.

- Never risk carrying a burning pan out of the house. This could spill the burning grease, cause injury to yourself or involve the whole

apartment.

- If a fire breaks out in the oven, turn off the power or gas supply. Try smothering the fire by keeping the oven door closed.

- Don't store combustibles on the range top.

- Keep clothing away from the flame or heating element.

- If you have a fire, notify the fire department immediately. For emergencies on post call 117. For Giebelstadt, Kitzingen and Wuerzburg, call (0931) 19217 for the fire control center at Faulenberg Kaserne.

Leighton now connected to city water supply

by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

It's hard not to notice all the construction and renovation projects on Leighton Barracks, Wuerzburg. From housing projects to a new water system, the 417th BSB DPW is working hard to bring the installation into the 21st century.

"All the new construction on Leighton Barracks has created a need for higher water pressure on the installation. Some of the water system's pipes have been in place since World War II and require a lot of maintenance. In fact, so much maintenance is required that we are tapping into a new city line," said Lt. Col. Joseph Moore, 417th BSB DPW director.

The pump station on Leighton Barracks has been pumping water without pressure since the 1930s, which can make taking a high-pressure shower or putting out a fire difficult.

"We have water without pressure right now and have to pump it up to 5 bar to have adequate pressure to fight potential fires. The new water system will bring water in at a pressure of 12 bar," said Peter Bonnet, 417th BSB DPW utilities chief.

Bonnet said that prior to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, plans had been in the works to update the aging water system.

"It was also a matter of force protection. We had several tanks to store one million cubic meters of water and had received threats in the past. I felt that we needed to change the system to protect our customers," Bonnet said.

It turned out that Bonnet and Leighton Barracks residents would benefit from a windfall. The city of Wuerzburg wanted to remove its wartime water system as well. A deal with the Wuerzburg University fell through, and the packaged deal, pressure and supply, fell into DPW's open hands.

"Now, we will be able to resolve the storage tank issue, pump water in at a higher rate of pressure, and even be able to handle catastrophic fires," Bonnet said.

"We can reassure our customers that they will be safe and have clean drinking water. The privatization of the new water system brings in safe water, and it also costs 50 percent less," Bonnet said.

"The water connection is closer to Skyline and the sprinkler systems in the renovated buildings and apartments will have adequate flow and pressure," Moore said.

The system provides water for Leighton Barracks, to include Skyline, Victory Drive and Lincoln housing areas.

"We also have a new chlorination and fluoridation station. These elements are added to the water to meet U.S. drinking water requirements. Chlorine protects against bacteria in the water and fluoride helps prevent tooth decay," Bonnet said.

The new water connection comes by way of Kuernach-Lengfeld. The old storage tanks are being kept in the event of an emergency.



Guenter Kistner reads one of the computer-generated reports on water content.



Photos by Elaine Nicholas

Manfred Kutz, Guenter Kistner and Peter Bonnet discuss pipes from the World War II era in the Leighton Barracks pump station.



Manfred Kutz and Peter Bonnet inspect the new water pipeline coming into Skyline housing area.

Kitzingen offers wine, charm, hospitality

by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

It's said that Kitzingen was founded on a whim and a scarf. According to legend, Kitzingen was so named when the Countess of Schwanberg lost her jeweled scarf while standing on the ramparts of her castle. The castle was located high above the fertile section of the Main River valley where Kitzingen now lies. The countess promised to build a cloister where the scarf was found. A shepherd named Kitz found the scarf and the countess kept her word and built a cloister that she called Kitzingen.

Surrounded by vineyards and deep, rich soil, Kitzingen County is the largest wine producer in Bavaria. The city, which is now more than 1,250 years old, is said to be Franconia's wine trade center. Wine making was so important that law prohibited beer brewing until the late 18th century.

Even Kitzingen's leaning tower seems to have indulged in a few glasses of wine. Legends say the town's most prominent landmark was built during a drought. Either the mortar was mixed with wine, or the masons drank the wine to quench their thirst. The end result is a brick tower whose crooked top makes it look like it is tipsy or bowing down.

Kitzingen is also home to Franconia's oldest wine cellar, which is situated among the remnants of Kitzingen's first convent.

Of course, there is more than wine. The moderate climate along the Main River provides an ample harvest of wheat, sugar beets, corn, vegetables and fruit.

For the military stationed here and those who are coming to the 417th BSB, Larson Barracks now features a one-stop welcome center with representatives from housing, child and youth services, Army Community Service, or ACS, and many more. New personnel will find settling in easier.

Larson Barracks also has a post exchange, bank, theater and chapel. There are banking services, a gas and service station, commissary, post office, chapel and post exchange on Harvey Barracks.

The town proper has much to offer in the way of shopping, fine dining, and parks for children to play in. The Kitzingen tourist information office is located downtown, near the Old Bridge. For more information, you can also go to the Internet and visit www.kitzingen.de or www.wuerzburg.de.



Walter Vierrether, Kitzingen Tourist Office

Looking across the Main River, Kitzingen's leaning tower is the second steeple from the left, the Old Main Bridge is on the right.

Giebelstadt flies high, takes care of the sky



Elaine Nicholas

GAAF's Eagle Flight memorial commemorates victims who died when a Black Hawk from Company C, 6th Battalion, 159th Aviation, was shot down over northern Iraq in 1994.

Let winds, wheat welcome you to town and country

by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

Giebelstadt Army Airfield, or GAAF, may be small, but it still offers the basic necessities along with a healthy serving of peace and quiet.

Situated 19 kilometers south of Wuerzburg, GAAF has the best of both rural and city life. Home to the 12th Aviation Brigade and the 69th Air Defense Artillery, the airfield also has plenty of highflying action.

Giebelstadt proper, the village, has a rich history. The town has existed for over 1,000 years. During World War II, Adolf Hitler occupied the airfield. The town came off the maps in 1941 while pilots secretly tested new weapons and airplanes.

In April 1945, the U.S. 12th Armored Division captured the airfield and seized several transport planes as they tried to escape.

One year later, the first American jet-propelled aircraft arrived

in the European Theater, and Giebelstadt was selected for airfield operations.

In 1959, the airfield was returned to the German air force. An agreement with the German defense ministry permits U.S. units to be stationed in Giebelstadt.

The installation has barracks for single soldiers, but doesn't have on-post housing. Housing for soldiers with families is sprinkled in with the German population in Giebelstadt, or families can opt to live in Wuerzburg.

GAAF features a movie theater, swimming pool, fitness center, shoppette, food mall, and helicopters.

GAAF also shares the airfield with the locals who love to go up and glide in the skies.

Giebelstadt has seen many missions and units through the years. Last year the 12th Aviation Brigade relocated its headquarters to Giebelstadt, bringing in a population of nearly 3,000 soldiers and family members. The town of Giebelstadt has a population of over 3,000 and boasts three castles, one of which is still occupied by a baron.

When you drive near GAAF, be on the lookout for helicopters. Those sparkling lights are not unidentified flying objects, just our troops fulfilling their mission.

Services available in the 417th BSB communities

Compiled by Elaine Nicholas
CRUSADER

The 417th BSB is the largest BSB in all of USAREUR and serves three communities: Kitzingen, Giebelstadt and Wuerzburg. Although the communities are geographically dispersed, services are available in each of these communities.

The 417th BSB now features a web site. Go to www.98asg.wuerzburg.army.mil/417/417main.html for information and links.

Leighton Barracks in Wuerzburg is home to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Mega Mall. Inside, vendors sell various gadgets and gizmos near the food court, which features Taco Bell, Cinnabon and Baskin-Robbins, among others. The post exchange is open daily, closing only on Christmas and New Year. Smaller exchanges are located at Giebelstadt, Harvey and Larson Barracks. Wuerzburg's commissary is open seven days a week and has a deli and bakery. Kitzingen's commissary, located on Harvey Barracks, is closed Sunday and Monday. It also has a full-service deli. The commissary in Giebelstadt is also closed Sunday and Monday.

Soldier service center

The 417th BSB Soldier Service Center in building 12 on Larson Barracks is a one-stop shop for in- and outprocessing. The central processing center has representatives from transportation, housing, finance, child and youth services, Army Community Service and other agencies to assist soldiers.

Medical services

Health clinics are located on Harvey Barracks, Kitzingen, and in Giebelstadt. The U.S. Army Hospital, Wuerzburg, is located outside Leighton Barracks' 1st Infantry Division Headquarters gate on Rottendorfer Street.

American Red Cross

American Red Cross emergency services are

available to all members of the armed services and to their families. Both active duty and Department of the Army civilians can count on the Red Cross to provide emergency communication, emergency financial assistance, counseling, and aid in the field where Red Cross workers are deployed. The Red Cross Station on Leighton Barracks, next to the Army Post Office, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 350-1760 or (0931) 8891703 for information or an emergency.

Army Community Service

Army Community Service provides relocation assistance, family member employment assistance, outreach services and more for soldiers and family members. Offices are located on Leighton Barracks, Larson Barracks and in Giebelstadt. For information on operating hours, call 350-7103 or (0931) 8897103.

Transition

The Army Career and Alumni Program on Larson Barracks offers transition assistance. ACAP helps prepare resumes, seeks potential stateside employment and explains veterans' benefits to separating soldiers. For more information, call 355-2438, or (09321) 7022462.

Library

Leighton, Larson and Giebelstadt libraries lend books, videos and books on tape. Computers are available for Internet access. The libraries also offer after-school reading programs for youth.

Arts and Crafts

Take a course in ceramics or framing at the Harvey Barracks Arts and Craft Shop. More than 150 ceramic molds are available.

Shoppette

Pick up that forgotten item at the shoppette in Marshall Heights, Larson Barracks and Harvey

Barracks. The Leighton Barracks shoppette and gas station are open 24 hours.

Banking

Community Bank branches are located at Giebelstadt, Leighton, Harvey and Larson barracks. Andrews Federal Credit Union is located at Leighton Barracks with a service center at Harvey Barracks.



Spec. Kris Steward

Giebelstadt Bulldog Nadiya Ngaropo positions herself as the Schweinfurt Ladyhawks apply defensive pressure in a Bantam Girls' and Boys' Nike Basketball tournament.

Outdoor recreation

Rent skis, kayaks and camping equipment at Kitzingen's Outdoor Recreation on Harvey Barracks. Sign up for hunting and fishing courses or book a Polish pottery shopping trip. Get information about golf, paintball, trap and skeet, and find out about upcoming trips.

Clubs

The Cantigny Club on Leighton Barracks of-

fers catering for special events and has a bar. The Red Baron Club in Giebelstadt offers a Sunday brunch and lunch specials. In Kitzingen, the Woodland Inn has a bar with dancing and karaoke. Enjoy pool and other weekend entertainment at the Endzone on Larson Barracks.

Schools

Students in Giebelstadt and Wuerzburg attend Wuerzburg Elementary School through the fourth grade. Kitzingen students attend Kitzingen Elementary School through the fifth grade. Wuerzburg fifth-graders and all sixth-through eighth-graders attend Wuerzburg Middle School. Ninth- through 12th-graders in all communities attend Wuerzburg High School. For information on registration, contact your local school. All children riding buses need passes issued through the school bus office at Leighton Barracks. For more information, call 350-7277 or (0931) 702523.

Education centers

Education centers are located on Larson Barracks, in Giebelstadt and on Leighton Barracks. Degree programs are offered through the University of Maryland, University of Oklahoma and the City Colleges of Chicago.

BOSS

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers addresses single soldier concerns and gets soldiers involved in the community. To get involved, call 355-8373 or (09321) 305373.

Kids and teens

School age and youth services offer year-round activities for kids, from after-school programs to summer camps and adventure trips. The Leighton Barracks teen center has a computer lab, big-screen television, video games and a school of the arts. The Hangar, Giebelstadt's youth services facility, also offers activities for middle school youth. For more information, call youth services at 355-8316, or (09321) 305-8316.

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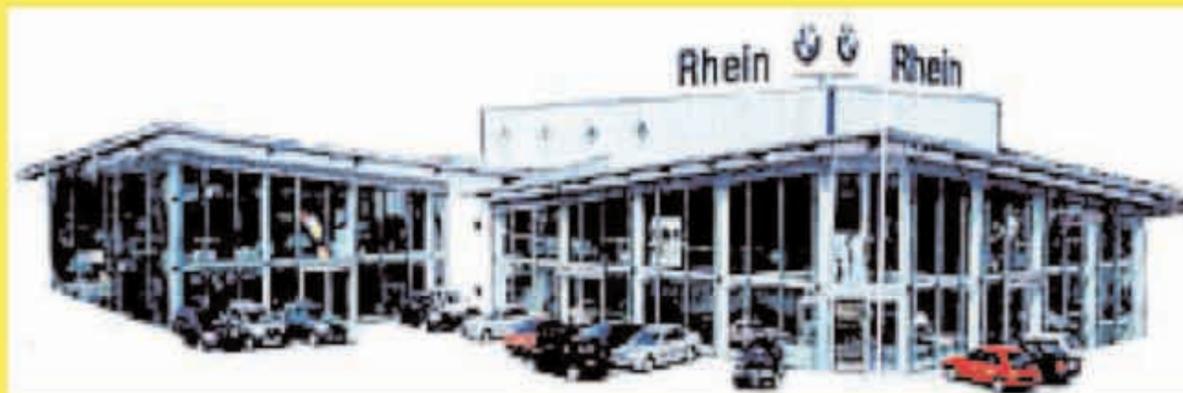


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We look forward to seeing you.