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SIGNS OF the times . . . the "AA" of the 82nd coming down and the "Lightning" of the 78th being measured for size.

78th Division Completes Move To Berlin For Occupation Duty

The third American division in five months was at its Berlin occupation post this week as the 78th — "Lightning" — Division relieved the homeward-bound 82nd Airborne.

Although advance parties of the 78th have been in Berlin for as long as four weeks, the mass movement did not start until last week. On November 12, the infantry unit's troops completed a 250-mile trip from Hogeisimar and entered the city.

Upon reaching Berlin, the 78th immediately took over the duties and setup of the 82nd. Into the Airborne headquarters went the 78th's Division CP and many of the Regimental and Battalion CP's also changed hands.

Although no definite time limit has been set on the "Lightning" Division's tour of duty here, the two former occupation units — 2nd Armored and 82nd — spent two and three months respectively in Berlin.

For the first weeks at least, the men were in no hurry to leave. Berlin, which has become storied as the home of GI millionaires, looked good to the doughboys. Both night and daytime sightseeing was the main diversion in off-duty hours for the newly arrived troops. The Reichschancellery and government buildings and museums in the downtown district were having their greatest crowds since the 82nd first moved into Berlin.

At night, the GI nightclubs that have been set up for the 78th personnel were always crowded, while many Lightning patches could be seen at the Femina, Cafe Wien and the many other German clubs and theaters.

In the European war, the Lightning of the 78th was first unleashed on December 12, 1944, when doughboys of the Division hit the Siegfried Line. Only three days later in the numbing cold, the 78th was playing an important part in the tenacious resistance which slowed and finally halted Von Rundstedt's winter counter-offensive.

Proven in the bitter battles of the Ardennes, the "Lightning" men once

more went over to the offensive and in a series of swift strokes captured Schwannenuel Dam. Had it been blown up by the Germans, 22 billion gallons of water would have rushed down on American men and equipment, sweeping away battle plans to span the Roer River defenses.

Assignment of the 78th to Berlin completes the different types of divisions which could be sent here for occupation. First in were the tankers of the 2nd Armored, then the paratroopers and glidermen of the 82nd and now the doughboys.

One Regimental Combat Team, the 311th, will not see occupation duty here but is slated, instead, to relieve the 29th Infantry Division in Bremen.

Little Theater Revue Opens Here Tomorrow

The American Little Theater of Berlin's third production, "Take The Air," will start a three-day run tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. on the stage of Onkel Tom's Theater.

Final rehearsal of the show has been called for this evening and Director Evelyn Russell, Civilian Actress Technician, predicted that the performance would be smooth-running. "Take The Air" is not a difficult show and all members of the cast have worked hard during the past week," she said.

Although Miss Russell was still keeping the script a closely-guarded secret, information is that it is in the form of a staged-up radio broadcast with everything from soap operas to motion pictures coming in for broad lampooning.

Phone Change

The sudden change of telephone numbers throughout OMGUS headquarters this week raised many a question as to the reason behind the switch. About 300 numbers were changed, it was learned by the GROOPER, to another board in order to relieve the pressure on one of the exchanges in Berlin.

Col. Robert A. Willard, Signal officer of OMGUS and Berlin District has announced that there will be another out-cover of phones in Berlin sometime in December.

Nurnberg Trials May Last 2 Months Says Prosecution

(Editor's Note: From Nurnberg where he is awaiting redeployment, former GROOPER Editor Marvin Rand called in this story of the first three days of the War Crimes Trials.)

by Marvin Rand

The 20 Nazi bigwigs now on trial before the highest tribunal in history here at Nurnberg looked more like jurors than defendants as they sat in the prisoners' dock. Dressed for the most part in civilian clothes and divested of all rank and insignia, they resembled most closely the average cigarette-but collecting Berliner.

In the small courtroom with its reinforced floor were hundreds of members of the international press. They witnessed the start of what will probably be a long, drawn-out affair if the proceedings of the first three

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Next Shipment To Reach Men With 56 Points

by John Grant

Enlisted men with as low as 56 points will leave OMGUS when the next redeployment shipment is sent out on December 10th.

This first definite news as to the scope of next month's quota was released by Major M. D. DuBoise, OMGUS Personnel Officer, in a review of the redeployment picture here.

At the same time, Major DuBoise announced that all 32-point WACs are slated to leave here by December 1.

December's enlisted men-officers shipment will total 300 according to present plans and will entrain for the 17th Replacement Depot at Nurnberg as the first step of the journey to the United States and discharge.

The quota will include enlisted men with critical scores ranging from a high of 61 to the 56 low.

Good news for the December shipment is the report of the speed with which the November quota has been handled at the 17th Depot. This month's high-pointers have been treated "very well" according to one of the homeward-bound OMGUS men and have been called upon to furnish few details.

The large November group is scheduled to leave the 17th Depot today for the POE at Le Havre. This means that a week after the men arrived at Nurnberg all processing is finished and only a train ride and last-minute arrangements separate them from the gang-plant.

Shades of Wells Fargo . . .



WITH TRUE Yankee ingenuity, every available vehicle has been pressed into service to rush the heavy flow of Yuletide mail to OMGUS GIs in Berlin. This picture of one of the vehicles may answer many of the questions posed by men and women "sweating out" Christmas packages, letters from home.

If the post office sees this, we're just joking. We want to get our mail, eventually, too.