

# Misconceptions in Germany

By Nelson Kelley

Many new comers come to the Brigade with a thousand misconceptions about McNair Kaserne, Germany, and many times their chain of command. In some cases, they soon fall prey to soldiers who have been here for a while, and they take up their vices and lack of values.

The biggest thing we forget, is that, lucky us, this is still the peacetime Army, though we must stay combat ready.

Too many of us claim boredom and isolation from our families in the states. Missing our loved ones is surely valid. But believe me, its better to be bored, than being on the DMZ. And what about our loved ones in the states, are we letting them down by what we do with ourselves over here?

One solution that exists to the apathy we feel is traveling through Europe. We

should even check out the whole 22nd Signal Brigade, 440th Signal Battalion and Darmstadt in surely part of it.

I promise you for every negative thing about McNair and Cambrai-Fritsch, there is a positive advantage to being in Europe that outweighs negativism ten to one. When you were first brought to McNair and the 22nd Signal Brigade, you could look straight out of the quad and see railway tracks, well my fellow soldiers those things are made for travel.

And when you think of those loved ones in the states remember, absence does make the heart grow fonder.

(Sp4 Kelley is a journalist stringer for the 17th Sig Bn.)

## Smoking, joking and talking jive

By 1st Lt Celt Schira

Walk around McNair Kaserne. Check out the boys on the corner. You know, the ones with their hands in their pockets, slumped over mumbling into a coke, smoking and joking, talking jive. Take a good look, insignia on wrong, wearing a Class A nameplate because the troop couldn't get it together to get embroidered ones, boots yelling "KIWI PLEASE" at you, unmilitary appearance, foul language and generally half-way attitude.

Then if you really want to get peeved, take a look at the NCO's standing in the crowd in a similar condition. Rather than keeping the troops straight, the NCO's will likely be ignoring it or setting a poor example.

It makes me peeved to see the soldiers looking and acting unprofessional, it really makes me peeved to see junior

NCO's accept unprofessional appearance and behavior. An officer should not have to jump on soldier's for being out of uniform, that's a sergeant's business.

Look proud, 22nd. It's a part of being proud.

