

# GERMANY

By Randy Gann

**H**ere you are in Europe. Just think, most people have to save all their lives in order to afford a trip to Europe, and you are here free, compliments of your good ol' Uncle Sam. Won't your friends and family in the states be impressed with you when you return and tell them of all your adventures and travels in Germany? Or will they?

Will you have to go back and tell them that the only "Medival Ruins" you saw in Germany were your billets, that the only German countryside you saw was on the way to field sites, and the only opportunity you took to learn the German culture was at the local trinkhalle? If this sounds like you, then you may be missing one of the great opportunities of your life. Start now and see Europe!

Now I know what you're thinking, traveling in Europe takes a lot of time



and money, and you really can't afford to do it. Well, traveling in Germany doesn't have to be expensive at all, especially if you limit yourself to the many sites to be seen within the immediate area of where you are stationed.

## Hoechst

Let's look at a few of the many places around McNair Kaserne that are well worth a visit. There are several great sites to see within walking distance right here in Hoechst. The Hoechst Schloss, or castle, located close to the Main River, was built in about 1360. The Bolongaro Palace, built in 1775, has a beautiful garden around it. There is also the Justinuskirche which is the oldest building in the Frankfurt area, dating back to 834 A.D.

## Frankfurt

In nearby Frankfurt, there are many sites that are very interesting to see. First, there is the city hall or "Rathaus": the Roemer. Constructed in 1405, this building has become the symbol of the city of Frankfurt. Nearby is the Dom, or Cathedral, which was started during the 13th century. It was used as the site for the crowning of the German Emperors since the 16th century.

Also close by is the Goethehaus where the famous german playwright Goethe was born. The house is now a museum containing many valuable antiques. To get to these places from McNair, take S1 or S2 to the Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof, and then take U4 to Roemer. It only costs a couple of Deutchmarks.

Now, if you like Medieval Castles, there are several in the Frankfurt area that are well worth conquering. From the Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof, take S4 to the town of Kronberg to see it's well preserved "Knight's Castle" built during the 12th century. Then if you would like, take bus 917 from Kronberg to the