

# Number of Incidents Put Severe Strain on Relations Between U.S. Troops and Germans

Munich, Germany — (UP) — An American GI became miffed at his treatment in a Munich tavern. To get even, he tossed a live hand grenade into the barroom. Another became annoyed at a ferryboat operator. He snatched him to death.

The incidents were typical of a number of events which have put a severe strain on relations between American troops and the people of Germany.

Some of the strain came from even more repugnant crimes. Seven GIs are charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl. Four are accused of raping an 18-year-old. Half a dozen more are awaiting trial on individual rape cases.

One American soldier was sentenced to life imprisonment last month for the scarf strangling of a 23-year-old mother of three children.

The GI who threw the grenade into a Munich bar injured nine Germans and eight Americans.

### Base Closing Demanded

These incidents in Germany were in sharp contrast to conditions in England, France and Italy where the relations between American troops and natives are generally described as excellent.

The feeling against American GIs has become so strong that the mayor of Heilbronn refused to attend official American functions until the number of incidents fell. The City Council of Bamberg sent a demand to the

federal government that all American bases in town be closed. Bavarian state government officials protested to the American government and believed emergency reserve police to patrol Munich, Augsburg and other troop centers.

Newspapers took up the cry of condemnation against American troops in their news columns and editorials.

In response to the outcry the U.S. Army in Europe issued a blanket order to unit commanders in Germany that all troops must be back in barracks by midnight unless they had special passes issued only to soldiers with "exemplary" conduct records.

### Tension Eased

The action eased the tension and military service representatives got together with German civil officials and newspaper editors to try to further rebuild American-German relations.

The efforts have begun to show results. This week, the minister-president of the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Gerard Mueller, told a press conference that the joint Allied-German efforts had reduced the number of incidents.

Army officials and German leaders agreed that there was much still to be done. The incidents, they said, were probably a natural result of a system which puts young troops at the peak of physical perfection in a strange land with a strange language.

The troops are free of home restrictions for the first time and drift into bars and gambling dives where liquor and women are plentiful and cheap.

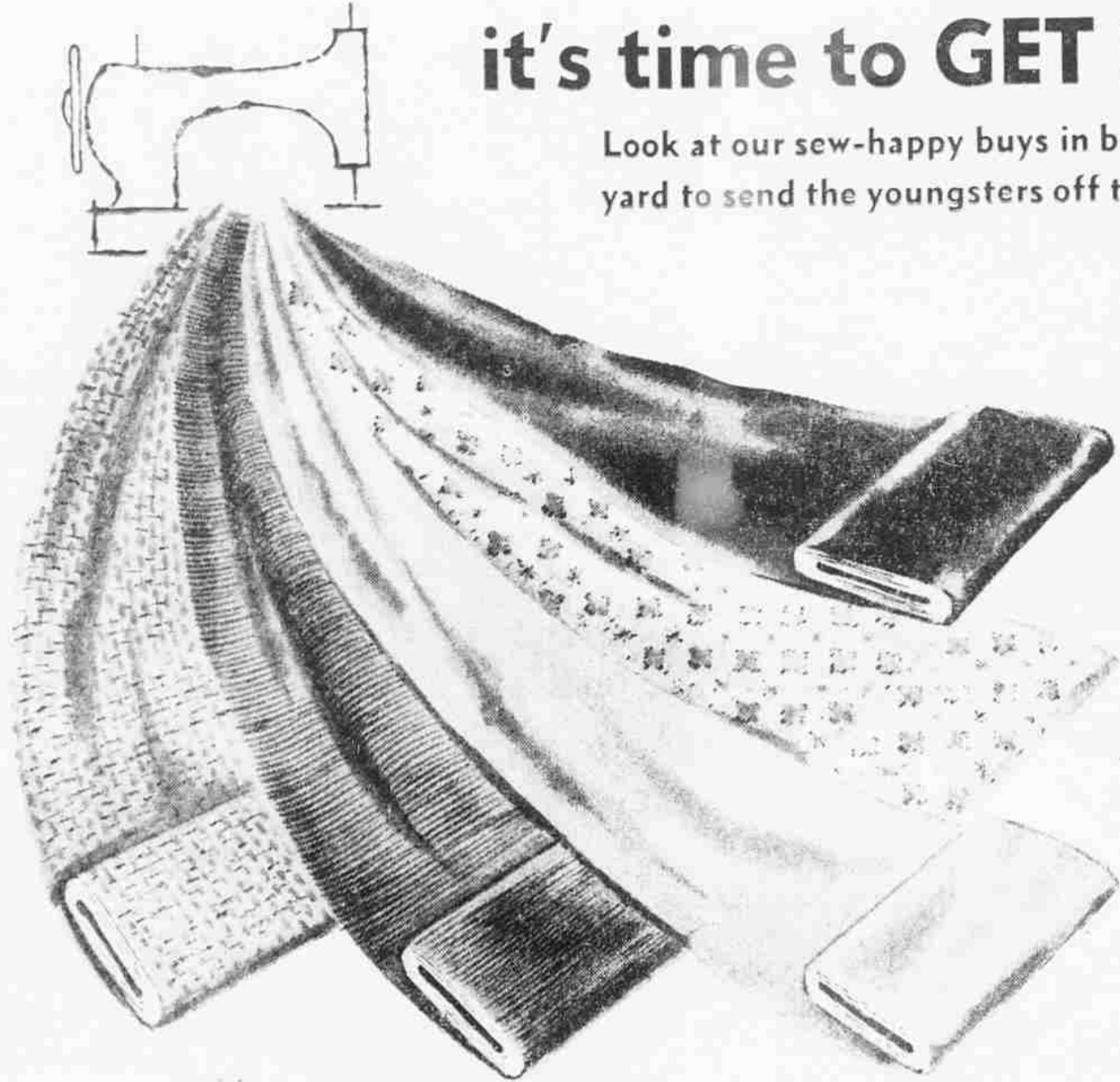
Teen-age GIs came to the conclusion anything they wanted was there for the taking. West Germans resented these attitudes which smacked of "occupation outlook."

### Rotation System Blamed

A single incident was enough to make Germans, carefully tutored in the spirit of friendly

cooperation with American troops, boiling mad. One sergeant with long service overseas said the system called "gyroscoping" under which entire divisions are sent back to the United States and replaced by new ones probably was partially responsible for the rash of incidents.

"When a young kid comes to Germany on normal rotation he is thrown in with a bunch of men who have been here," he said. "Before he has a chance to get into trouble there's somebody around to tell him that the wild stories he's heard about Germany aren't true. In a gyroscopic division most of the young kids have never been away from home before and as soon as some of them get this German beer inside them they go crazy."



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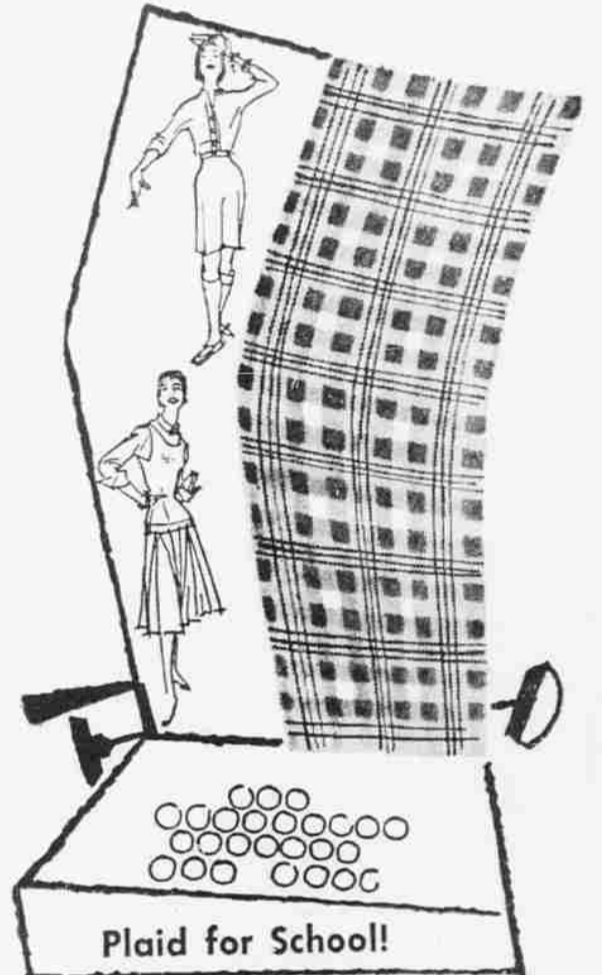
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## NAACP Ordered To Pay \$100,000 Fine

Montgomery, Ala. — (UP) — An Alabama judge fined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People \$100,000 for contempt of court at midnight but the Negro group asked the state Supreme Court to review the case.

The fine, ordered by Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones, was automatically imposed when the NAACP failed to comply with Jones' order to the association to turn over to his court a list of its members in Alabama.

The NAACP, fighting to win back its right to operate in Alabama, asked the Alabama Supreme Court late Monday to review Jones' order.

A hearing on the matter was scheduled before the high court today, at which Attorney General John Patterson said the state would "resist with all our power" the NAACP request.

The Supreme Court could override Jones and dismiss the contempt charges. But even if it upheld Jones, legal observers said it appears the state could never collect without a legal battle in the NAACP's home state of New York.

The state is seeking the membership lists in its battle to make permanent a temporary injunction ousting the NAACP from the state. But the Negro group maintains such a list would clear the way for "intimidation" of NAACP members.

## Life on Mars May Be Determined

Honolulu — (UP) — A team of scientists from the National Bureau of Standards was en route to Washington today with photographs which may prove for the first time whether the planet Mars is capable of sustaining life.

Dr. C. H. Keiss and C. C. Corliss and their scientist wives spent nearly a month at the 11,364-foot level of volcanic mountain Mauna Loa, studying through spectrographs, the sun's rays reflected off Mars as the planet sped unusually fast toward the earth.

After about a month of analysis at their Washington laboratory, they will be able to tell what rays are absorbed by the atmosphere on Mars, thus learning whether anything can live there.

"There is nothing I know of recorded previously that compares with these plates," Keiss said. He feels the photographs will definitely contain information needed to reach a definite conclusion.

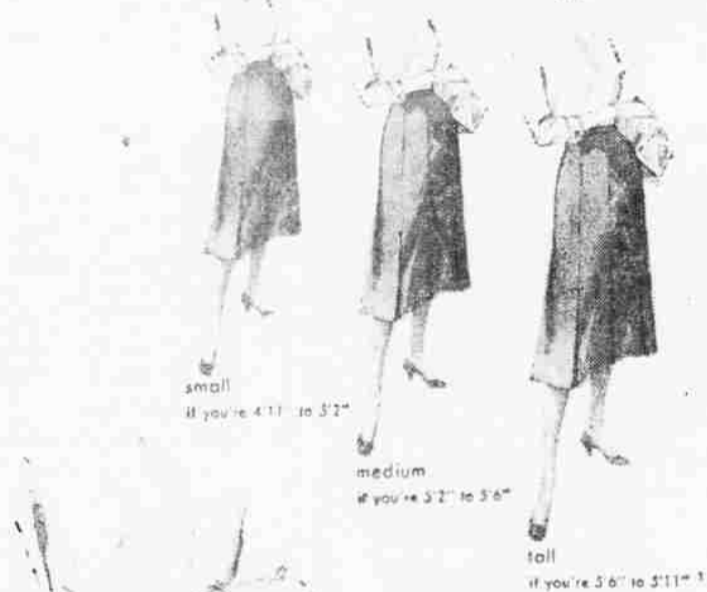
The Mars-project was the first conducted at the new United States Government Observatory dedicated June 23 on the crystal clear heights of Mauna Loa.

## Collapse of Wall Kills Idaho Carpenter

Fruitland, Ida. — (UP) — A 35-year-old Fruitland, Ida., carpenter was killed here yesterday when a seven-foot-high basement wall collapsed and crushed him to death.

Killed was David Y. Robinson. He was working on a private home construction, doing finish work on the basement walls. The wall gave way under the pressure of the dirt and rock backfill that had been built.

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