

Interns Get Year Training

Twenty-four American college graduates, many of them war veterans, are undergoing a year's training under the supervision of the Personnel Office, OMGUS, in the European Theater toward the goal of assuming career positions with the Office of Military Government for Germany (US).

MG internships are being given by the War Department to a total of 100 specially-qualified college men, preferably World War II veterans, who have expressed a desire to serve Military Government in the US Zone of Germany. The remaining 76 interns are expected to arrive in the theater in the near future.

Under the Personnel Office program, their classrooms are the MG offices and divisions in Berlin and the US Zone, and their instructors the officials themselves. Emphasis is being placed on developing within each intern a broad over-all understanding of the policies and functions of Military Government and, at the same time, a thorough understanding of the relationship between OMGUS headquarters and Land field offices and of the problems encountered in the field.

the outside world. They are assigned private rooms in the Director's building, are given greater freedom of movement, and are frequently enrolled in apprentice training outside the Institution. They may even attend public school, but all must return to the Home each night. Each youth must prove himself reliable and have a record of good behavior before becoming eligible for this category.

At the outset the percentage of escapes from the Home was high. Between 20 November and 10 December when the maximum number in the Home was 56 there were 31 escapes. Beginning in January, as morale rose in the Institution, the number dropped considerably. In the month of January there were three escapes; in February, two; in March, none; in April, three.

The 24 trainees were originally assigned to divisions for specialized training. Under the current rotation program the interns will remain in Berlin for three months, for assignment with various OMGUS operating sections, including Berlin Sector. The next two months will be spent with Land field detachments, and then three months with Land headquarters before returning to Berlin where the final four months of training will be devoted to a specific division and branch.

The head of each executive and functional office and operational division in OMGUS and the Land headquarters is appointing a responsible official in his unit to supervise the activities of the interns during their attachment to the respective unit. The official is responsible for the intern in order to accomplish the following:

1. Instruction in policy and major functions of the unit and its specified branches.
2. Work assignments on current projects of definite training value. This will preclude assignment to routine tasks having little or no training value.
3. Rotation of the intern within the unit.
4. Necessary entries on the intern's qualification card, which will trace his progress throughout the training program.

At the conclusion of the trial training period, successful candidates will be given permanent MG appointments commensurate with their respective capabilities and formal educational backgrounds.

The 100 interns range in age from 23 to 30. All applicants have completed their college training. The high qualification standards set by the War Department for acceptable interns and the huge response from college men desiring career positions with Military Government was illustrated by the fact that from one university 200 applications were received by the War Department, of which only two were accepted.

program. A physician visits the Home semi-weekly and is on call at all times. Newly-arrived boys are given a medical examination and thereafter are examined each four weeks. In case of serious illness the patient is transferred to the prison section of the City Hospital. The dentist makes weekly calls. After the initial examination, six-week checks are given each youth. One six-room barracks has been made into an infirmary under the administration of a full-time nurse. The infirmary consists of first-aid room, nurse's office, examination room, and three room for patients confined to bed. Of these, one will be used for contagious cases. Monthly visits to the Institution are made by a barber. One of the boys with training in this work gives additional service when needed. Personal counseling is done by the Director and the Assistant Director individually and in groups.

Corporal Penalty Barred

The high morale of the Home is perhaps due to the fact that members take part in administering discipline to themselves. The boys are divided into small groups, each with a chairman (a member of the group) and a supervisor (a member of the staff). Violations of a minor nature are dealt with by these group councils. House penalties, such as denying the offender dessert or sending him to bed early, have been effective in most cases. No corporal punishment is imposed and punishment of any kind must be approved by the Director or Assistant Director.

The juveniles placed in the Home are classified into three groups. New arrivals are segregated from the others until the medical examination, social history, and psychological study are made to determine what special treatment is advisable. In the same barracks—though separated from the newcomers—are the youths considered the greatest escape risks. The second group are employed in labor groups all over the premises and at the same time may be given instruction in carpentry, gardening, and other practical vocations. Group three are those being prepared for leaving the Detention Home and re-entering