Nürnberg American High School
  a U.S. Army dependents school formerly located in Fürth/Bavaria, Germany

1955-56 School Year

10th year of the school’s existence
Graduating Class of 1956

This File: Memoirs, Historical Articles, Memorabilia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“USAREUR Dependents School System Starts 10th Yr.”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article from <em>Stars and Stripes</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“A Most Unforgettable Character” by Larry Shuman,’57</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article about Charlie Myers from the <em>NAA Trichter</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Gallery – pictures from Ethel (Walske) Lapitan,’58</td>
<td>4-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior-Senior Prom, program and photos from Berta (Williams) Bryner,’56</td>
<td>11-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaurate Service Program</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement Program</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHS’s Distinguished Faculty, photo from Ethel (Walske) Lapitan,’58</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments, corrections, and further contributions to the Nürnberg Alumni Association Archives should be sent to

  – Bob McQuitty, NAA Archivist/Historian, mcquittt@sbcglobal.net
KARLSRUHE, Germany, Oct. 13 – USAREUR tomorrow begins its 10th year as the operating agency for a novel educational organization which had its beginning amid the rubble and desolation of wartorn Europe – the Army dependent school system.

Thirty-eight elementary schools and five high schools staffed by [illegible] American teachers, opened their doors to 2800 dependent youngsters on Oct. 14, 1946. Of the original faculty four teachers remain to carry on the formidable work that was begun nine years ago.

Gay [illegible], an art instructor at the Frankfurt American High School, found that on her arrival that there were three schools in the Frankfurt area, and “there was a shortage of art teachers. So I was assigned to all three and I worked from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.”

**Used Salvage Material**

To get supplies, Gay would take several students to an airplane dump near Frankfurt. “There we would cut off bits of leather, wood and metal for use in our crafts class. Once the Army told us that they had 3,000 empty shell cases. We took them all and our children made the most beautiful tobacco cans, lamps, jewelry boxes, and ash trays you ever saw.”

Rex L. Gleason, principal of Munich High School was attending summer school at Texas Christian University when Army recruiters “talked me into coming back overseas for a year.”

“When I got to Europe, I was sure glad I only signed up for one year,” said Gleason. “The high school was in a German house, and I taught mathematics in one of the bedrooms. There were no textbooks to speak of and no school supplies. I had the students bring wrapping paper to school on which they would take notes and do their assignments.”

There was one bus for commuters. “It had no windows,” Gleason recalled. “You entered from a door in the back and sat in darkness until you reached the school. We had to get rid of it when the students began complaining.”

“The Germans were curious about us,” recalls Olive M. Anderson, who also teaches at Munich High. Miss Anderson recalls that in those first days the Germans were “shy of us and we were shy of them. It was the language barriers that did it.”

Originally contracted for “one year only” Miss Anderson remained because of her interest in the growth of the schools and in the noticeable change of the Germans. She encouraged Germans to visit her schools. “We had many visitors, both professional and laymen, and I believe some of our educational methods found their way into the German school system.”

Mary M. Merchant, principal of the Frankfurt American Elementary School No. 1, has been assigned to Frankfurt since her arrival with the first group of teachers in 1946.

**No ‘Pedestal’**

Miss Merchant pointed out that Germans have been impressed with the informality usually found in American classrooms. “American teachers do not occupy the ‘pedestal’ that German teachers apparently do,” she said.

All four veterans agree that the USAREUR school system is as good as the top systems in the U.S. In addition to their regular courses of study American youngsters have the advantages of living the lessons they learn. Field trips, foreign-language programs, and international student exchanges offer the youngsters valuable experiences they can not obtain at home.

Planning for this vast network of schools began immediately after World War II. Under the guidance of Maj. Virgil R. Walker, who later became the first civilian director of the dependent school system, it was decided that schools would be established wherever there were enough children eligible for education.
Schools were housed wherever a room could be found. In those early days, classes were organized in requisitioned houses, in private apartments, in military barracks—anywhere a roof and four walls could be found intact.

As the 10th year of school operations begins, officials note with pride that approximately 5,000 American teachers have taught nearly 100,000 students since 1946.

Today the American high schools in France and Germany have been given unqualified accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools—the highest accreditation granted by the largest accrediting society in the U.S.

– STARS AND STRIPES clipping from Larry Shuman, ’57

Vol 21, No. 1 NAA Trichter, Spring 2009 Page 11

A Most Unforgettable Character

by Larry D. Shuman, ’57

Over the years I have shared with my children and, now grandchildren, experiences and profiles of people from throughout my life. For years I have told my posterity about Charlie Myers. I saw Charlie’s sister Mary Jane (Myers) Soyenova ’61 at the last reunion. I asked about Charlie. She brought me up to date. She said Charlie did not consider coming to the reunion because he did not think anybody would know him. I doubt Charlie even remembers me, but I remember him. Actually I think Charlie belonged to the Class of ’56; however, he came up short a credit or two so he graduated with the rest of us in 1957. We saw him in class infrequently. He did not have to attend school all of the time. I do not recall his exact schedule or even what class he occasionally attended. I only remember that we did not see him very often and while not unfriendly, Charlie did not socialize too much. I think the only real friend he had at NAHS was Darrell Freeman.

When I saw him the first time, I assumed he was German. He wore German-styled clothing, corduroys, heavily braided sweaters and European shoes. He wore his hair long, neatly coifed, like a German. “Who is the German?” I asked somebody. “He is not a German. His Dad is EES, lived in Germany forever. He’s American but he’s ‘gone native.’ I thought to myself: “I have to talk to this guy.” Over the semester that Charlie attended classes I made a point to visit with him. I learned that he had indeed pretty much gone native. Not only did he look German, he acted German. I asked him one day if he had ever gone “home” to the ZI. He replied that he had but that on those visits, during the whole time he felt like a foreigner.

Several times we would see Charlie at the O’Darby snack bar with a date. We never saw Charlie with anybody but beautiful woman dressed to the nines. He would leave his date at the table while he went through the food line. I do not know if any of these beauties ever realized the audience of teenagers ogling her while she sat waiting for Charlie to bring the food to the table. We sat fascinated as Charlie conversed with his date in perfect German. His date would laugh and flirt in such a way that we in the “audience” would go crazy. In today’s jargon we would have classified Charlie as “The Man.” Forget about football and basketball stars. Those guys dated the same girls we did. We wished we could get to know Charlie better. Maybe he could fix us up with one of those beautiful women (not girls, women).

Over the years I wondered whatever happened to Charlie. Did he stay native? I did not get a full answer from Mary Jane beyond that he now lives in the United States.

I always have a memory for out-of-the-ordinary people. I admire Mike Leach, coach of Texas Tech, a maverick, former rugby player, lawyer, now sought-after football coach, whose teams play (and win) erratically, like him.

The reason I remember Charlie Myers is because Charlie was a maverick and a winner. I hope he has had a good life.
Ethel Walske’s Photo Gallery
Looking Backward at 1955-56

Ethel (Walske) Lapitan,’58, went to Nürnberg American High School for all four years. During this time she took many snapshots. Her freshman photos appear in the 1954-55 archive. These are her sophomore year pictures.
Dorothy Keene, sophomore, and Tom Wolf, junior

Meeting of the Student Council

Gerald Cochran, sophomore, back, top

Jim Orcutt, in plaid shirt

Christmas Party
Juniors and seniors assemble in the Community Theater

Some students even went to the library and studied.
At left, Carol (Pierotti) Miller,’55. In the doorway the late Mike Crumley,’54; behind him is Midge (Kulp) Foltz,’56. Picture taken by Berta (Williams) Bryner,’56, in front of the AYA at William O. Darby Kaserne.

**Class Trips**

**Trip to Bamberg**

Mr. Russ Abraham and Mr. Bob Smith, class sponsors (in overcoats)
Trip to Richard Wagners’ home and opera house in Bayreuth

Trip to Konsum, a supermarket in downtown Nürnberg

Gerald Cochrane,
Shirley Wilkerson,
Dorothy Keene,
Don Barnett
School play presented by the Dramatics Club. From left Rich Baker (on his knees), Vivian Willcut, Bob Mitchell, Carol Gossman, Ted Brostrom, Frances Moore, Ethel Walske


Ted Brostrom, Ethel Walske, Vivian Willcut
American High Schools Choir Competition

Frankfurt Strassenbahn ticket

Frankfurt Brew House

Stets ein Genuss! (always a pleasure)
The Junior-Senior Prom

June 1, 1956                Kalb Club             Seven O’clock

The Class of 1957
presents

Dancing in the Kalb Club decorated for the theme “Stairway to the Stars”
Seniors
Henry Reed
Robert Twaddell
Benjamin Saars
Roger Upton
Dennis Crumley
Nancy Hett

Offices
President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Student Council
Representatives

Juniors
Alfred Kline
Ann Mary Mazares
Judith Kneppel
Janet Glenn
Gary Fry
Edward Parish

Menu

Orange Juice  or  Chicken Noodle Soup
Sirloin Steak
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  or  French Fried Potatoes
Green Beans  and  Tossed Salad
Rolls with Butter
Iced Tea  and  Milk
Iced Coffee
Apple Pie A-La-Mode

Program

Invocation  Chaplain F. W. Shierry
Dinner
Junior Class President  Al Kline
Senior Class President  Henry Reed
Dancing
Barry Morely-Vocalist
Dancing
Junior Class President Al Kline crowns King Robert Twaddell and Queen Berta (Williams) Bryner. [Berta says she still has two stars from her crown]
Dancing

1. Bill Davis
2. Bill Abraham
3. Bill Davis
4. Hank Reed
5. Bill Davis

6. [Signature]
7. [Signature]
8. Norman Embree
9. Bill Davis
10. Bill Davis

Autographs

Dana Dune
Nancy West
Nancy Hull
Hank Reed
Dana-Thank you
all the luck in the
world.

Worah Spuk.

Autographs

One of the events
that never has
Zone-19

From your Chief
competition for Willy
affections.

Mr. "Charlie" Shain

Ben Corington

To a wonderful

good [signature]

Agatha Passey

Al Nilsen

Mary Alice

Max
Baccalaureate
Nurnberg American High School
High School Auditorium
June 10, 1956 1630 hours

Processional . . . . . Mrs. Rita Bullock
Invocation . . . . . Chaplain Floyd W. Sherry
Solo "O Rest in the Lord" - Mendelssohn Mr. Ronald Roth
Address "If" . . . . . Chaplain William R. Hett
Hymn, No. 442 . . . . . Congregation
"Onward, Christian Soldiers"
Benediction . . . . . Chaplain William R. Hett
Recessional . . . . . Mrs. Rita Bullock
CLASS OF 1956

Dennis V. Crumley  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
Karen J. Manbeck  
Salem, Oregon

William F. Davis  
Seymore, Missouri  
Robert J. Morey  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dana Maria Due  
San Antonio, Texas  
Benjamin F. Saars  
Sault, Minnesota

William Field Due, Jr.  
San Antonio, Texas  
Henry McDavid Reed I  
Union, South Carolina

Norman P. Embree  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
Robert Bryan Twaddell  
Dallas, Texas

E. Michael Gaspar  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Roger Kenneth Upton  
Monnessen, Pennsylvania

Dona Marie Griffith  
Indianola, Iowa  
Carole Joyce White  
Austin, Texas

Jose Hernandez  
Santurce, Puerto Rico  
Berta Ann Williams  
Larkspur, California

Nancy Hett  
Butternut, Wisconsin  
Janet Young  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Randolph H. Kulp  
Atlanta, Georgia

President  
Henry Reed

Vice President  
Benjamin Saars

Secretary  
Robert Twaddell

Treasurer  
Roger Upton

Student Council Treasurer  
Dennis Crumley

Student Council Representative  
Nancy Hett

Valedictorian  
Frances Manbeck

Salutatorian  
Robert Twaddell

Senior Class Sponsor  
Mr. Werner L. Rosin

PROGRAM

Processional  
Mrs. Rita Bullock

Star Spangled Banner  
Audience

Invocation  
Chaplain H. F. Kochner

Salutatory  
Robert Twaddell

Valedictory  
Frances Manbeck

“Our is the World”  
High School Vocal Group

Introduction of Speaker  
Henry Reed

Commencement Address  
The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson  
American Ambassador to Prague

Presentation of Class  
Miss Mildred Linck

Awarding of Diplomas  
Colonel T. R. Kimpton

Alma Mater  
Senior Class

Recessional  
Mrs. Rita Bullock

ALMA MATER

Hail, oh hail to dear ol’ Nurnberg,  
Now we honor thee,  
Loyal friends of thee forever,  
Faithful we will be;  
Toiling, striving, never ceasing,  
Looking toward the sky.  
Hail to thee, our Alma Mater!  
Hail to Nurnberg High!

AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

Administration

Miss Mildred A. Linck  
High School Principal  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Colonel T. R. Kimpton  
Nurnberg Sub-Area Commander

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gaskins  
President of School Board

Staff

Mr. Russell Abraham  
Portland, Oregon

Mr. Joseph Blackstead  
Portland, Oregon

Miss Ingrid Einhellinger  
Nürnberg, Germany

Mr. Erlan Eller  
Los Angeles, California

Frau Eva Fuchs  
Fürth, Germany

Mr. Glenn Hendricks  
Pendleton, Oregon

Mr. Chester Hoyt  
Hollywood, Florida

Mr. Donald Kerchner  
Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania

Miss Erma Knighton  
Wenatchee, Washington

Mr. Patric Lucier  
Covina, California

Miss Anna Lou Martin  
Brett, Iowa

Miss Lois Massie  
Waynesia, North Carolina

Captain J. M. Gibbs  
President of PTA

Mr. Frank De Martine  
Regional Superintendent

Captain Mary O’Connell  
School Officer

Mr. Frank Michanowicz  
Bridgeport, Pennsylvania

Mr. Charles Moore  
Decatur, Illinois

Mrs. Ruth Moss  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Mr. Robert Nicolai  
San Francisco, California

Mr. Wilbert Patton  
Milton, Vermont

Miss Gladys Pickard  
Clay, New York

Mrs. Bettye Rosin  
Port Arthur, Texas

Mr. Werner Rosin  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Mr. Ronald Roth  
Nazareth, Pennsylvania

Miss Phyllis Russell  
Duluth, Minnesota

Mr. Robert Smith  
Garden City, L. I., New York

Herr Walter Tradowsky  
Nürnberg, Germany

Miss Hazel Youngman  
Long Beach, California
NHS’s 1955-56 Distinguished Faculty

Seated:
- Linck
- Pickard
- Knighton
- Russell
- Massie
- Moss
- Einhellinger
- Youngman
- Rosin
- Martin

MEN (standing):
- Robert Nicolai, dorm supervisor
- Russel Abraham, math, science
- Charles Moore, dorm super
- Chester Hoyt, industrial arts, driver ed
- Glenn Hendricks, history, English
- Frank Michanowicz, social studies
- Patric Lucier, English, rem. reading
- Joseph Blackstead, PE, coach
- Wilbert Patton, science
- Robert Smith, math
- Donald Kerchner, librarian
- Werner Rosin, English
- Ronald Roth, counselor
- Erlan Eller, art, history

WOMEN (seated):
- Mildred Linck, principal
- Gladys Pickard, homemaking
- Erma Knighton, music
- Phyllis Russell, dorm supervisor
- Lois Massie, PE
- Ruth Moss, dorm supervisor
- Ingrid Einhellinger, German, French
- Hazel Youngman, English, social studies
- Bettye Rosin, chemistry, math
- Anna Lou Martin, commercial

Not pictured:
- Herr Walter Tradowsky, German, French
- Frau Eva Fuchs, German

– photo from Ethel Walske