

Penetrating Iron Curtain Is Daily Routine For MP's

Frankfurt, Germany—U. S. Army Military Police who ride the rails through the Iron Curtain encounter their share of incidents, but so far they have been more human than "international."

Members of the 540th MP Guard Battalion, the only unit of its kind in Europe, patrol military and certain civilian trains that run between the two German zones. They know from sad experience that lost wallets, train-sick passengers and schoolboys with prankish ideas are routine to train patrol duties the world over.

The Boy Scouts enroute to a jamboree in Berlin are a case in point. They gave the American MP's a few anxious moments and spread alarm among the Soviet soldiers, too. The fire crackers they tossed out of the windows of the train as it sped through the Soviet Zone led to the logical conclusion that guns were being discharged.

Then there are the boys—at heart, if not in years—who persist in pulling the emergency cord.

"We attached a \$20 fine to that foolishness," said Master Sergeant Orsie O. Odell of (451 14 1/2 Avenue) Rock Island, Ill., operations sergeant at headquarters here. "That's a stiff price and discourages most of the pranksters."

One run is pretty much the same as another to these MP's. A check of their report sheets show that they have encountered such offenses as the passing of illegal currency, unauthorized use of passports, thefts, assault and shootings. However, the usual situation that the MP must handle runs to more humdrum stuff—providing information, helping passengers with small children, checking the seals on freight cars filled with military equipment, locating lost articles, guarding the mail and checking military passes.

Two members of the 540th ride each of the passenger trains, while one officer and four enlisted men, one of whom speaks Russian, ride the freights. In all, the battalion has about 10 members who speak Russian.

The bi-linguists rarely use their Russian. The American MP's have little contact with the Soviet guards at the crossing point. Even when "hot-boxes"—overheated axle-bearings—develop in the Soviet Zone and the car and its guards must be left behind, things go in a routine fashion. The MP's stand guard and wait for help to arrive. It arrives. They go back into the American Zone. That is all.

Robert Foster Dies At Somerville, N. J.

Friends in Edenton will regret to learn that Robert Foster died Friday night at Somerville, New Jersey. He underwent an operation on June 2. Mr. Foster some years ago made frequent visits to Edenton and won many friends.

Mr. Foster was very much interested in Edenton's historical significance, especially the old Masonic records. He, being in the bookbinding business, took these records to New Jersey some years ago, where he made neat books out of a batch of records which were in very bad shape at no cost whatever to the lodge.

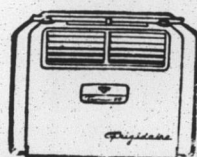
Funeral services were held in Somerville Monday afternoon.

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COZART ROTARY SPEAKER

Bill Cozart was the principal speaker at last week's Rotary meeting, when he spoke about the functions of a fighter control group in an air defense wing. He served in such an outfit during World War II and told of the duties of his outfit as well as some interesting experiences.

Town Council Proceedings

Edenton, N. C., June 8, 1954

The Town Council met this day in regular session at 8 P. M. Members present: Mayor Leroy H. Haskett, Clyde Hollowell, George A. Byrum, J. Edwin Bufflap, G. M. Byrum, John Mitchener, Jr., and J. Clarence Leary.

Motion was made by J. Clarence Leary, seconded by Clyde Hollowell, that Wilford Jordan be granted a franchise to operate 1 taxicab. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Clarence Leary, seconded by George A. Byrum, that Wilford Jordan be granted a permit to operate a taxicab. Motion carried.

Motion was made by G. M. Byrum, seconded by G. A. Byrum, that Thomas E. Bateman's application for a permit to operate a taxicab be tabled for an indefinite period. Motion carried.

Motion was made by G. M. Byrum, seconded by G. A. Byrum, that Oscar Blair be granted permission to purchase a privilege license to operate as a funeral director in the Town of Edenton. Motion carried.

Motion was made by George A. Byrum, seconded by Clyde Hollowell, that the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1954, and ending June 30, 1955, be approved as read. Motion carried.

Motion was made by George A. Byrum, seconded by Clyde Hollowell that Willis J. McClenny be given a refund for \$48.10 for over payment of 1953 taxes providing same as approved by the Town Attorney. Motion carried.

Motion was made by George A. Byrum, seconded by J. Clarence Leary, that E & W Department bills in the amount of \$18,533.09 be paid. Motion carried.



MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER Master Sergeant Ola L. Mize is congratulated by his former battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Jesse D. Willoughby of Washington, D. C., in a farewell review in Korea. The Gadsden, Ala., soldier killed 65 Chinese communists to win the nation's highest award for valor.

Motion was made by George A. Byrum, seconded by Clyde Hollowell and duly carried that the following Town of Edenton bills in the amount of \$3,235.13 be paid:

Edwards & Broughton, \$7.94; The Chowan Herald, \$93.50; J. N. Pruden, \$150.00; Sinclair Refining Co., \$63.30; Norfolk & Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co., \$4.35; E. R. Tolley, \$30.00; The Karpark Co., \$64.73; John R. Wood, \$25.00; B.B.H. Motor Co., \$11.42; Chowan Motor Co., \$2.23; Hughes-Parker Hardware Co., \$5.28; Edenton Office Supply, \$8.10; Sinclair Refining Co., \$3.98; Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co., \$6.50; Bishop Laundry & Cleaners, \$6.00; M. G. Brown Co., Inc., \$2.87; Pay for Volunteer Firemen, \$19.00; Hughes-Parker Hardware Co., \$3.29; Eureka Fire Hose Co., \$590.15; Sinclair Refining Co., \$153.88; Thurston Motor Lines, Inc., \$2.00; The Triangle, \$11.20; Hobbs Implement Co., 45c; B.B.H. Motor Co., \$4.47; M. G. Brown Co., Inc., \$9.50; W. H. Bunch's Garage, \$10.90; Ack Ack Exterminating Co., \$15.00; A. S. Smith Machine Shop, \$17.82; Hughes-Parker Hardware Co., \$28.57; Byrum Implement & Truck Co., \$13.59; Williamsport Steel Co., \$57.58; North Carolina Equipment Co., \$122.38; Firestone Stores, \$352.36; Hampton Roads Tractor & Equipment Co., \$918.27; S. Hobowsky, \$10.50; Texas Co., \$89.16; Kennan & Corey Plumbing Co., Inc., \$43.85; Celia D. Spivey, \$2.50; Wood & Gardner \$25.00; M. G. Brown Co., Inc., \$9.56; Hughes-Parker Hardware Co., \$128.59; E. W. Spires, \$19.02; E. J. Ward, Jr., \$91.34. There being no further business the Council adjourned.

ERNEST J. WARD, JR., Clerk.

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Sunday, June 20th

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