

2,600 GIs are expected at Wuerzburg job fair

By BILL QUIRK
Staff Writer

WUERZBURG, Germany (S&S) — More than 650 officers, NCOs and enlisted men soon leaving to become civilians crowded the Wuerzburg Officers' Club Thursday morning in kicking off the first of two job fairs in Germany.

"What we're here for is to provide info on the employment picture back home and to tell these guys how they can get into the job market they want," said Larry Chernikoff of the National Committee on Jobs for Veterans, co-sponsor with the Defense Department of the job fair.

More than 2,600 servicemen are expected to attend the four sessions of the two-day fair here. "Although the people here won't be making any specific job offers," Chernikoff continued, "many can make direct referrals to people these guys would see when they get out."

Representatives on hand

More than 20 businesses, agencies or organizations had representatives at the fair to meet with servicemen: American Telephone and Telegraph, Bankers Trust, Trane Co., Traveler's Insurance, Cummins Engine, Firestone Tire and Rubber, General Electric, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Mobil Oil, IBM, National Home Builders, National Auto Dealers Association, United Parcel Service, Xerox, Borden's Inc., Caterpillar Tractor, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, National Institutes of Health, American Hotel and Motel Associ-

ation, Labor Department, Veterans Administration, NAACP, and Health, Education and Welfare Department.

The fair opened here after a two-day run at Mildenhall, England, on Monday and Tuesday.

Chernikoff advises servicemen to bring two things when visiting the fair and those scheduled for Baumholder Oct. 24 and 25 and Naples Oct. 26 and 27.

"They should have resumes, although they needn't be real detailed," he said, "but they should give educational background, service experience and personal data. It's a big help in giving him an accurate idea of what he can expect when he gets back."

'Biggest thing'

"The guys should bring lots of questions with them. Questions are the biggest thing because the big advantage of these fairs is a comfortable atmosphere to talk everything out. It's not nearly as intimidating as walking into the company headquarters and asking the same things."

Many of those attending the morning session had a fuzzy picture of the U.S. employment situation.

"I didn't expect to run into such fears about getting a job," said GE representative Don Powers. "I think that some of these guys got some misinformation and feel out of touch with back home. Many of their fears are unfounded."

Powers pointed out that his company's employment picture looks good, adding that 25 per cent of GI hirings last year were of veterans.

Denton Watson of the NAACP agreed with Powers. "The

NAACP has no jobs to offer," he said. "We're here to encourage people to take maximum advantage of what's available. But many come to us seeking reassurance that the job situation isn't hopeless for them."

Not all of those attending planned to go to work right away. Spec. 4 Robert Perdue, who came from his STRATCOM post in Tehran to visit the fair, said, "It's very well organized and although I'm going back to school I've gotten a good idea of the job outlook in my field — banking and insurance. But I'm really glad I spoke with the VA, though; I found student loans I didn't know existed."

Those seeking job information generally gave the fair high marks. "I got what I wanted," said Spec. 5 Alfred Glidden of Schweinfurt, clutching a handful of brochures.

Another Schweinfurt soldier had a few reservations. "Overall, it was pretty good," said Spec. 4 Ray Hucker, "but one or two guys keep talking and you can't ask any questions."

He added, "It also might help to know what these companies are looking for before you come so you can be ready."

"I think the idea of the fair is fantastic, the best thing the Army's ever done," said Spec. 4 Tony DeVos of Wuerzburg. "I'm talking to companies I wouldn't dare see in the States. These reps ask what you want to do and talk about jobs and skills available to you. They don't talk over your head. They ought to have these things at least twice a year because how else is a guy going to know what's going on."



Heinrich Boell

German novelist

Heinrich Boell gets Nobel Prize

From press dispatches

STOCKHOLM — West German novelist Heinrich Boell won the 1972 Nobel Literature Prize, the Swedish Academy announced Thursday.

The 54-year-old writer won the \$100,000 award "for his writing which, through its combination of a broad perspective on his time and a sensitive skill in characterization, has contributed to a renewal of German literature," the academy said.

Boell, who has been described as the best-known postwar writer in both East and West Germany, became the first German to win the world's most-coveted literary award since Thomas Mann received the 1929 prize.

Hesse was Swiss

German-born Hermann Hesse was a Swiss citizen when he won the prize in 1946.

Boell, a chunky man who cares little about his clothes and general appearance, has published a string of novels and short stories since World War II.

His best-known works include "The Clown," "Billiards at Nine Thirty" and "Doctor Murke's Collected Silences."

His last novel, "Gruppenbild mit Dame" (Group Portrait with Lady), published in the fall of 1971, was a success with the critics and the readers.

Boell, who was born in Cologne, published his first book in 1949. Since then, he has written about 40 volumes.

Boell and his countryman Guenter Grass are supporters of

Chancellor Willy Brandt's Social Democratic party. The two novelists have been among the leading candidates for the Nobel award in recent years.

Boell has been actively campaigning for Brandt among a key sector of independent voters who could decide the outcome of what is expected to be a close election Nov. 19.

Brandt sent congratulations from one Nobel Prize winner to another Thursday in a telegram.

Brandt received last year's Nobel Peace Prize for his pioneering efforts to reconcile West and East Europeans.

Although Boell has refused to join any political party, he has been closely associated with the left in postwar Germany. Earlier this year Boell touched off a political controversy by speaking out in defense of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist group.

Boell is West Germany's most pointed and persistent critic of the Roman Catholic Church but says it is unthinkable that he should be anything but a Catholic.

Prominent in Boell's stories are his disgust with war and his contempt for those who feel there is virtue in soldiering. He writes from first-hand experience. He was drafted into the German army in 1938 and was wounded three times in fighting against the Russians.

House gets voting assist

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. House of Representatives has unveiled a \$1 million electronic voting system that will replace its time-consuming roll calls starting next January.

Moscow's panda dies of heart failure

MOSCOW (AP)—An-An, Russia's amorous panda, died alone in the Moscow Zoo Sunday, not of heartbreak but of heart failure.

This was reported Wednesday by zoo officials who said An-An uttered his last sigh at 5 p.m. Sunday.

His death at 15 years of age fol-

lowed by a scant three months that of Chi-Chi, the female panda from Britain who twice rejected his advances.

It was a zoological matchmaker's nightmare. The attempt to produce the first giant panda cub in captivity outside East Asia foundered on Chi-Chi's coyness.

The home-and-home series started in 1966 in Moscow and unsuccessfully ended in Britain in 1968.

The Moscow Zoo said "acute coronary insufficiency" had proved fatal to An-An, who was suffering from "severe inflammation of the heart muscle."

His body was taken to the zoological museum of the Moscow State University, where it will be skinned, mounted and displayed in the museum, an official said.

The number of giant pandas left in China is unknown in the West. There are two each in North Korea, the United States and Japan.



On the lookout for jobs

Servicemen about to turn civilian attend the opening of a two-day job fair in Wuerzburg, Germany.

Representatives of U.S. firms and organizations were on hand. —S&S, Bossu