

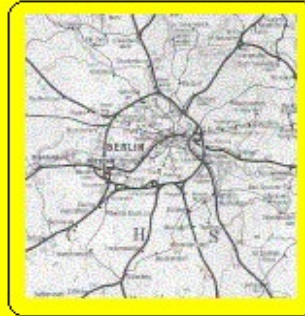
# Rails to Berlin

Written for the *Rails to Berlin* website

by R. W. Rynerson

May 2005

Segment on the Nicholson Memorial event of  
24 March 2005, published in Issue 28 of the  
*BUSMVA Observer*



*Did you ever look out the train  
window and wonder what it would  
be like to stop in one of those towns?*

## THE EMBRACING FOREST

Time it seemed, had been pressed into a bottle. My eyes grabbed at the towns of former East Germany as they occasionally punctuated the grey skies and green landscape, but Neustadt (Dosse) slipped away before I could do more than write the word “desolate” on the back of my ticket envelope. Wittenberge, where a stable of *Pazifik*-class steam engines had once been housed was a slightly busier place, as I noted in despairing scribbles. Ludwigslust, to which I would later return, cleared ICE1616 on its express track. *Zugfuhrer* H-J Bucholz went about his business lifting tickets in the sealed quiet of the coaches. A little British flag on his lapel indicated that he spoke English. There was no time to chat with him, however, as the time from the last stop in Berlin-Spandau to the Hamburg-Hauptbahnhof barely gave him time to work through the train. So, I drew no conclusions, formed no grand schemes, met no *femme fatales*. As someone excitedly noted, **it was just like flying!**

It was March in 2005 and the *ICE (InterCity Express)* of the German Railways (DB) was carrying me from Berlin-Ostbahnhof to Hamburg-Hauptbahnhof in 1 hour, 49 minutes. In 1969, when I worked in the U.S. Army’s Berlin Brigade Rail Transportation Office, the same 324 km trip would have taken me over 6½ hours, had I been permitted to make it. Passengers on that 1969 train had been just as isolated from their surroundings; it had been one of the Interzone routes. From 1961 until 1989, Berlin-Hamburg trains ran non-stop through the German Democratic Republic. It was fine now to try the new non-stop service, operating over Germany’s traditionally high-speed route. (In 1933, the Diesel streamliner *Fliegende Hamburger* made its 175 km/h debut on this important main line.) But I wanted

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## Rails to Berlin



In March 1971, I visited the afternoon Interzone express to Berlin in the Hamburg-Hauptbahnhof. It would depart at 5:00 p.m. and reach Berlin's Zoo Station at 11:09 p.m., then enter East Berlin.

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to celebrate the fact that trains *could* stop in between the two German megacities. And I had learned that beyond the train windows time moved more slowly.

I had only recently picked up anything about Ludwigslust, the “Versailles of the North” and its 18th century role as Grand Duke Ludwig’s development. Ludwig was attracted to the hunting in the dark forests surrounding the little town. Much of its story is that of typical German towns. I had only known of it as a name on the map of dark East Germany, the place where on 24 March 1985, an American had been killed.

As I dug into the background of that incident, however, I was to learn that foreign armies had been here more than once. Ludwig’s forests, I found, held more stories than I expected.

It all began simply enough. I would attend the dedication of a wayside memorial near Ludwigslust and write a story for the *Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Association Observer*. That would be one day out of a two-week vacation in the new Germany, east and west.

As that was the beginning, let me present you that story (published in *Observer* Issue #28), with some additional text and with photos. Then, we can follow the trail that led me to the Red Army experience in the area, to the story of the Americans who arrived in this area in 1945, the Napoleonic French who stayed here in 1806, and in a final twist, to a source in Colorado only a few miles west of my home.

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# Rails to Berlin

I came to Ludwigslust in 2005 to learn about and attend the 20th anniversary remembrance for U.S. Army Major Arthur Nicholson. He was shot by a Soviet Army sentry when the Major and his sergeant emerged from the woods shown behind me in this photo. He died in this field. Major Nicholson was on duty for the U.S. Military Liaison Mission at Potsdam. He was of my Baby Boom generation, born after WWII.

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## MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LTC ARTHUR NICHOLSON

*by R. W. Rynerson*

### **"At least no one was killed in the Cold War."**

That was an actual thought in a letter to the editor in a Denver newspaper not too long ago. The diverse group that gathered on 24 March 2005 in a field near Ludwigslust in former East Germany would have disagreed. Twenty years earlier on that date in the nearby field, U.S. Army Major Arthur Nicholson was shot down by a Soviet Army sentry in cold blood, possibly the last of an uncounted number of fatalities in the Cold War. At gunpoint, Soviet soldiers kept his driver, Staff Sergeant Jessie Schatz, from providing first aid or comfort. The 2005 gathering was to dedicate a memorial marker on the road near the site, replacing the modest marker stolen earlier.

Now, his work and that of his colleagues is recognized as one of the founding elements for international arms inspection programs and peace-keeping assignments. Arthur Nicholson was posthumously promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, an American hero. Then, he was a well-trained officer serving in the U.S. Military Liaison Mission in Potsdam, covering the Soviet Zone of divided Germany. (US veterans from Berlin units recall support work for the USMLM or remember individuals on the MLM teams as colleagues and friends.)

The March 24th event was organized by the Allied Museum in Berlin, with participation by former colleagues of Major Nicholson, the U.S. and German governments, and the local government. Also recognized were the British and French veterans of their military liaison missions who attended; they too well know the danger involved in work that helped to

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## Rails to Berlin



Shown speaking is Major General Roland Lajoie, USA (Retd) and listening, to his right, is Dr. Helmut Trotnow, OBE, director of the Allied Museum. The road on the left side of the photo is today identified as B191.

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keep the peace. In addition to local officials and the media, townspeople and farmers from the surrounding area took time out to attend. Berlin United States Military Veterans Association members were in attendance.

Enlisted soldiers of today played important parts in the event, too. A U.S. Army Honor Guard from 266 Inf Com held their position throughout most of the event, as there was no stand in the open field to post colors. This cross-section of Americans from Illinois, Indiana, Florida and Georgia did their job with style. Adding to the poignancy of the moment was a trumpeter-- a Bundeswehr Hauptfeldwebel who played the German soldiers' memorial song, *"Ich hat' einen Kamaraden."*

Attendees, who stood patiently throughout the event, heard from VIP's including Dr. Helmut Trotnow, OBE, the director of the Allied Museum, who set the historical background of the incident. Rolf Carstensen (SPD), Landrat of Ludwigslust (somewhat like being chairman of a U.S. county commission) recognized the importance of honoring the history of efforts by people such as Major Nicholson. Major-General Roland Lajoie, US Army (Retd), provided personal memories of Arthur Nicholson. As chief of the USMLM, then-Colonel Lajoie worked closely with Major Nicholson, then had the duty of supervising the efforts to investigate and try to make sense of the event of the shooting and the twisted trail of events and negotiations that followed. Oberst Ernst-Wilhelm Harder, the Bundeswehr's district commander for the Schwerin region, including Ludwigslust spoke of the respect that has kept Major Nicholson's memory alive and now led to the unveiling of the memorial marker.

In quiet circles before the event, local attendees provided their own recollections of the event. As I asked questions, I found that their observations basically matched the conclusions reached by the U.S. investigation. One farmer in particular remembered helicopters with Soviet Army brass arriving from the direction of Berlin as they hurried in to try to get their story straight before U.S. officials could drive to the site. Farmers said that they knew that the Soviet tank facility near the shooting

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## Rails to Berlin

Left: Honor guard relaxing for a few minutes before the ceremony: Sergeants First Class Robert Howard of Illinois, Keith McIntosh of Georgia, Privates First Class Gina Tarantino of Indiana, Justin Levine of Florida.

Below: After the ceremony, the Bundeswehr and Ludwigslust civic leaders hosted a reception in the new hotel in town, the Mecklenburger Hof.



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site had "shoot to kill" sentry posts, but that the route from which the U.S. officer and his sergeant approached was not marked as an off-limits area for anyone.

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## Rails to Berlin

Below: the big story about the U.S. on 24 March 2005 was the Terry Schiavo case, but the *Volkszeitung* also carried a story about the Nicholson memorial.



Left: Along with Archduke Ludwig's developments came the homes of high officials and middle-class merchants who catered to their aristocratic patrons. Ludwigslust's fine homes are being restored.

Above: Townspeople, farmers, retired and active military, journalists and diplomats gathered along Highway B191 to remember Major Arthur Nicholson and the cause for which he gave his life. The former Soviet tank facility behind the audience is now a recycling plant.

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Thanks to the kindness of Ludwigslust residents, I was also able to visit the almost forgotten Soviet military cemetery in a nearby town (More on this in the following pages.).

[Today, Ludwigslust is shaking off the dust of seven decades of war and oppression. I took a look at the facilities in the Mecklenburger Hof and Landhaus Knoetel and these and other hostelries would make a good overnight stopover on a tour from Berlin to the North Sea, Scandinavia or the Netherlands. It is on the rail line and highways from Berlin to Hamburg. The woods where Major Nicholson and SSG Schatz turned off to check out the Soviet site is visible on the west side of the railway and highway just south of Ludwigslust.]

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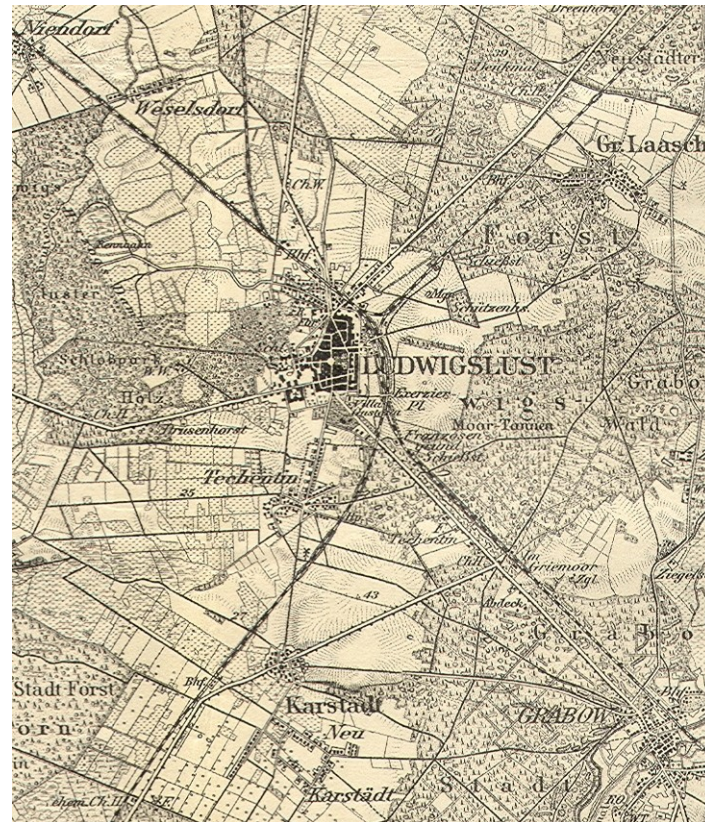


## Rails to Berlin



Above: A direct Prague-Berlin-Hamburg train rolls through Ludwigslust on the express track. Passengers in the dining car may not even notice the history-laden town of 12,700.

Right: Clues to the history of Ludwigslust turned up in this 1921 official Prussian state map. Major Nicholson died just off the road that goes northeast from Karstadt.



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[Ludwigslust's links with the rest of the world have also been expanded. It is now a sister city of Muscatine, Iowa. There are many German-Americans whose roots go back into this area, as it was relatively close to the ports of Hamburg and Bremen/Bremerhaven.]

[Many more details of the 24 March 1985 shooting and subsequent events are provided on the U.S. Military Liaison Mission veterans' website, at: <http://www.usmlm.org/home/front.htm>

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During my reading about the incident involving Major Nicholson, I began to learn more about Ludwigslust. I corresponded with Maria, a former resident who was studying Marxist-Leninist thought at the time of the shooting, and learned that she was unfamiliar with the event. When we had worked through the history of 1985, and she was convinced that I was not mislocating something that had happened elsewhere -- not difficult to do when other communities have the same name -- she asked why I was paying so much attention to one American who had died, while many Soviet soldiers had died in liberating Germany. I explained that I was interested in them, too, and so with the help of her 79-year old mother, we visited the "Russian Cemetery" as local people refer to it.

### SIXTY YEARS AFTER THE END OF WORLD WAR II

We drove from the small city of Ludwigslust to the even smaller town of Neustadt-Glewe to visit the Soviet Cemetery. I am interested in the history of the post-WWII period, and this location is very obscure. I would not have found it otherwise-- it shows on the on-line maps of the area simply as "Friedhof" - a generic cemetery.

This site, near the Berlin to Hamburg railway and autobahn, had a Soviet military hospital adjacent. I looked up this location on my 1921 map of the area, and found no

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denotation of anything but forest there. Subsequently, I

learned from the Neustadt-Glewe website (<http://www.neustadt-glewe.de/geschichte.html>) that this facility was built in 1937 as the *Gebietsführerschule* for the Hitler Youth organization. In 1946, its former role having been swept aside, it became a convalescent hospital.

Today the hospital is a training center for German military doctors, the *Fachärztzentrum der Bundeswehr*. The graves are all of soldiers who died after the war, in what was by then the Soviet Zone of Germany, later to become known to Americans as East Germany, known to the British and others as the German Democratic Republic.

At some time after the graves were put in, fir trees were planted beside most. As the gravestones are concrete, they are starting to deteriorate, and it is likely that eventually this will just be an unusual section of the embracing forest. As the Germans treat trees with great respect, the peace of this special *wald* may be assured.

In the center of the graves, a cenotaph bears a plaque lauding the heroic soldiers of the Red Army in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-45. The text is found throughout the former Soviet Union, an elegy approved in the Stalinists' intricate processes, but as American poet Eric Pankey wrote about cenotaphs, "Words are but an entrance..." There is more to this story.

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As my former GDR-citizen guide pointed out, the Soviets took great casualties in freeing Germany from National Socialism. What she omitted was that in the last phase of the war, they took far greater casualties than military experts would consider to have been necessary, as Joseph Stalin pushed his field marshals into a mad race against what he suspected would be an American-British attempt

to occupy more than our share of Germany. As German history writer Peter Ortmann also notes, Stalin was by that time aware of the U.S. atomic bomb plans, as well as the Germans' scientific research on new weapons. These facilities were in the direction that Soviet forces battled.

Retreating Germany military elements felt forced to fight for their lives, rather than being able to surrender, and so the Soviets inherited a badly smashed up region and a population that was missing many of the ordinary people with skills and abilities needed to develop a peacetime economy. Then they compounded the problem by taking reparations out of the German infrastructure, which sharpened the economic differences between East and West Germany.

During the immediate postwar period, some Soviet soldiers died of other causes, including fire from their own sentries. This brings the story full circle, because I was in the area to visit the memorial site for U.S. Army Major Arthur Nicholson who was shot dead by a Soviet Army sentry in 1985, forty years after these men died. The Soviet Army was still keyed up, as if in a shooting war. As another former GDR citizen told me in a reflective moment: "... the War -- World War II -- did not really end

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## Rails to Berlin



"Unknown"



## Rails to Berlin

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for us until 1989."

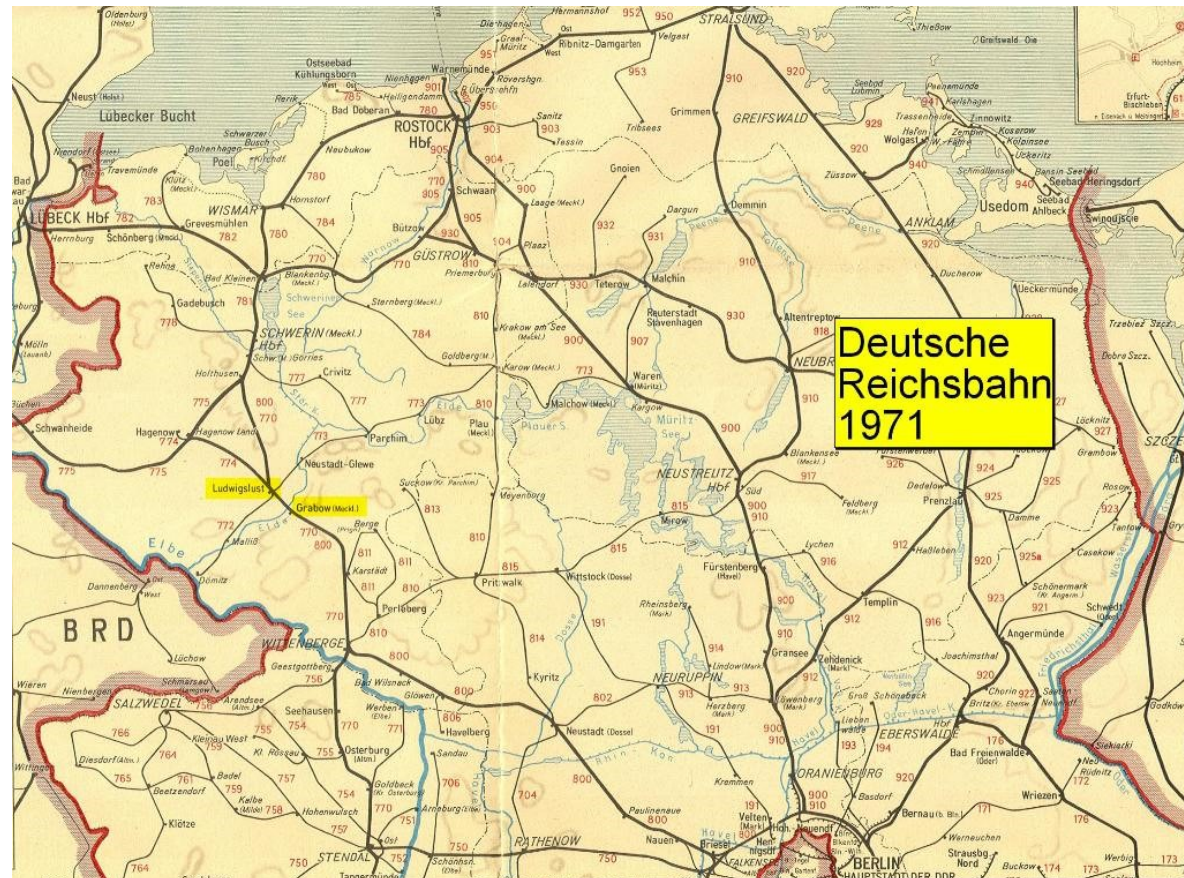
In the end, what my hosts and I did agree on was that the lives of many young men had been wasted.

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26 years after World War II ended, the rail network looked like this.

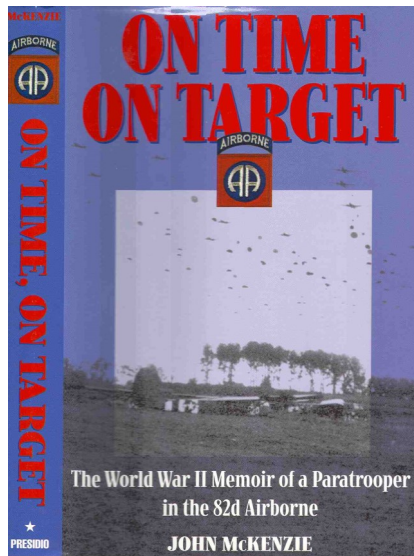
Ludwigslust remained on one of the few main lines open for Interzone traffic between Berlin and Hamburg.

Ludwigslust, where American soldiers ended their war, and Grabow, where Soviet forces halted, are highlighted in yellow on this reproduction.



# Rails to Berlin

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A photo shows a tombstone of one of the several "Unknown" Red Army soldiers buried in Neustadt-Glewe, Germany. Sunlight filtering through the trees on March 20th illuminated this particular one.

Other local people with whom I spoke recalled that the Americans had been in Ludwigslust and vicinity at the end of the war. Having been children at the time, and given that their schooling was carried out in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), they did

not know much about that part of their history.

## A COLORADO CONNECTION

Curious , and hoping to learn more about the Soviet soldiers' early days there, I went to the Denver Public Library. I appreciated finding two books there with an account of the end of the war in Ludwigslust, but more amazingly, one of them was by a Colorado author. Even more amazingly, all I had to do was look him up in the phone book.

On Saturday, 14 May 2005, I called on John D. McKenzie in his mountain home west of Golden, Colorado. McKenzie had served as a corporal and then as a sergeant in the 82nd Airborne, and had survived battles that began in the invasion of Normandy in 1944 and

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## Rails to Berlin

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ended with the last days of April 1945. He generously went through the maps of the Ludwigslust area that I had brought, and offered information from his own files. (He was aided in preparation of his book by friends or their children, with several people providing notes, logs, etc.)

His artillery battery had ended up at Leussow, southwest of Ludwigslust, away from the area where sixty years later I was shown the Soviet cemetery. The Soviets had halted at Grabow (see previous maps). However, an experience of his in dealing with the Red Army illuminates the issue of the number of unknowns buried there. McKenzie's last assignment with the 82nd Airborne was in the initial occupation of the American Sector of Berlin.

There, after repeated robberies of refugees on trains in the railyard patrolled by the 82nd, General James Gavin ordered sentries to shoot to kill anyone of any nationality who was in

the act of committing a robbery or other major crime and who refused to be arrested. Previously, in the interest of Allied solidarity, U.S. soldiers had to stand by and watch as Red Army soldiers robbed civilians. About a week after the new order was issued, a U.S. sentry killed three Red Army soldiers who were robbing passengers. A Soviet colonel who served as a liaison officer was brought to the scene:

"Gavin asked Oleg how the Russian army would report the deaths of these men to their families. Oleg said that he would not tell the families anything at all about the deaths. He pointed out that they wasted no manpower on records or death reports. They only kept records on officers above the rank of major. He said they had beaten the Germans because everyone had fought; there were no clerical jobs. He said it was his understanding that only half of our army was engaged in fighting, while the rest was keeping track of the fighters. Of course, this is true in a way. ... Oleg went on to point out that when a Russian left his family to fight, they considered that he was dead as of that moment. If he came back, it was looked upon as a lucky surprise."

A more complete account of this is offered in McKenzie's book, which though out-of-print, may be available used or in libraries. This is his recollection of what was said in 1945, but it does fit with other information and it fits with what I saw near Ludwigslust. Most importantly, the Red Army colonel's recommendation as to what to do with the bodies was to dump them off at the Soviet military hospital's loading dock. The building in the rear of my photo of the Soviet cenotaph is on the site of the military hospital for the Soviets. It would have received bodies of soldiers found in the area as the farmers returned to their fields and as rubble from the last battles was cleared.

In 1948, according to the official Neustadt website, the Soviet convalescent hospital became a tuberculosis hospital. The collapse of

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public health services in the late stages of the war and the early days of the occupation made this an important step. In 1975, the hospital returned to military use, this time by the *Nationalvolksarmee* -- the National Peoples Army of the GDR.

During my visit I did not learn the grimmest of the events at the close of the war in this region. North of Ludwigslust, at Wöbbelin, a sleepy village given its official status in 1333, unimaginable horrors awaited the soldiers of the 82nd Airborne. Then Sergeant McKenzie described it:

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*Mit pünktlichkeit*  
at 5:00 p.m. in  
Hamburg  
Hauptbahnhof, a  
Deutsche  
Reichsbahn *Pazifik*  
locomotive kicks  
up dirty snow as  
it stretches  
couplings taut on  
the evening Berlin  
Interzone Express.

It is March 1971,  
and this train has  
an appointment  
with the Iron  
Curtain in 50  
minutes at  
Schwanheide. It  
will roll through  
Ludwigslust  
without halt.

C-6		Berlin — Schwanheide — Hamburg										C-6	
Dresden—Potsdam—Schwerin (Meckl)													
D 166	D 264	1318	D 164		km	Zug Nr	Zug Nr	D 163	D 263	D 165	1321		
1. 2.	1. 2.	2	1. 2.			Klasse	Klasse	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	2.		
7.39	7.55		14.31		0	ab Berlin Friedrichstraße	an	14.57		23.24		X1) Dresden—Schwerin (Meckl)	
7.55			14.53		5	Y Berlin Zool Garten	an	14.57		23.09		X2) Schwerin (Meckl)—Dresden	
12.44			19.11		266	an Schwanheide	ob	19.34		18.11			
					0	ab Dresden Hbf	an		18.33				
					4	Dresden-Neustadt	an		18.25				
					38	Großenhain Berl Bf	an						
					57	Elsterwerda	an		17.21				
					77	Doberlug-Kirchhain	an		17.03				
					147	Zossen	an		16.01				
					191	Potsdam Hbf	ob		15.31				
					225	Nauen	an		15.29				
					265	Neustadt (Dosse)	an		14.16				
					316	Wittenberge	an		13.11				
					360	Ludwigslust	an		12.32				
					397	Schwerin (Meckl) Hbf	an		12.04				
					426	Hagenow Land	an		11.45		22.01	Ausführlicher Fahrplan: D 104/103 Seite 288/289 D 108/109 Seite 290/291 D 204/203 Seite 276/279	
					467	Schwaneide	ob		11.17		20.48		
					266	ab Schwaneide	an	9.16	9.57	17.50			
					273	Büchen	ob	9.09	9.49	17.44			
						Kiel Hbf	an	6.00	7.39	13.39			
					273	ab Büchen	an	8.57	9.36	17.39			
					320	Hamburg Hbf	an	8.20	9.00	17.00			
					322	Hamburg Dammtor	an	8.10	8.40	16.40			
					327	Hamburg-Altona	ob	8.03	8.37	16.33			
						Hamburg-Altona	an			16.12			
						Westerland (Sylt)	ob			22.57			

## Winter Timetable 1970/71 - Deutsche Reichsbahn

...heute schreibt man mit **Markant**

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"As German concentration camps went, Wobelein was a minor affair. It had only four thousand inmates, no gas chambers, and only about 25 percent of its inmates were Jews...

"As we approached the camp we could smell it from two miles away. The conditions there were terrible. The camp only held men, some of whose normal weight would be 160 pounds but who weighed only half of that."

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As on most days, broken clouds drift over farm villages of the German Democratic Republic. Flying at 10,000 feet, as agreed to with the Soviets in pre-pressurization days, passengers saw diverse agricultural patterns in the places where the 82nd Airborne fought its last battle of World War II in 1945, and where Maj. Arthur Nicholson was killed in 1985.

Typical scene from 1970 snapped by R. W. Rynerson.

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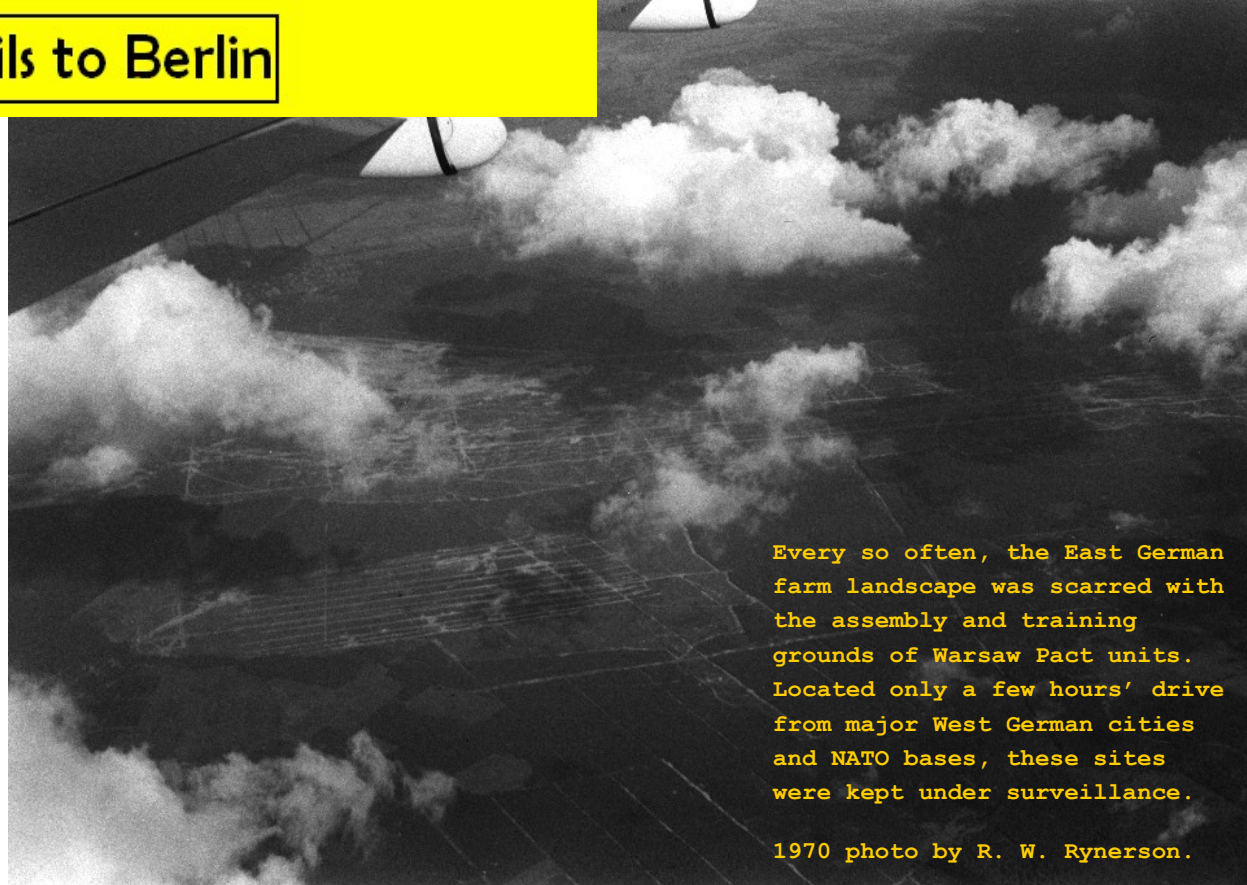
The Airborne troops found that the inmates had revolted and killed most of the guards and the camp commandant, hanging him from the same gallows that prisoners had been executed on. The Americans struggled to provide food and water to the inmates, but within a week, according to McKenzie, a quarter of them died of malnutrition and other related causes.

Ludwigslust, all of 36.0 meters above sea level at its train station on the flat and fast Berlin-Hamburg rail line, is an important point in its

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## Rails to Berlin



Every so often, the East German farm landscape was scarred with the assembly and training grounds of Warsaw Pact units. Located only a few hours' drive from major West German cities and NATO bases, these sites were kept under surveillance.

1970 photo by R. W. Rynerson.

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area, and so it has been a crossroads for more than its share of history. This is just a small part of what happened sixty years ago.

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## Rails to Berlin

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### TWO CENTURIES AFTER NAPOLEON

Early in 2005, as I sat in Denver studying maps for my Ludwigslust stopover, I noticed the “French Grounds” firing range and exercise place on the 1921 map. This space was just on the southeast side of the town. When had the French been there? I knew the rough scale of the Napoleonic wars, but as with most Americans, in spite of my professors’ best efforts, the details had never stuck.

The Neustadt-Glewe municipal website provided the clue, at <http://www.neustadt-glewe.de/geschichte.html>.

It notes that in 1806, French troops occupied the town and chose its church as a military hospital. Later, the French stabled horses in the church. In that year, Napoleon’s victories and clever diplomacy had destroyed the old order in Germany, the Holy Roman Empire (which, as American students summarize, was neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire). The Prussian ruler, Frederick William III, was left as kind of a weak buffer ruler between the powerful empires of France and Russia (the Treaty of Tilsit, 1807). Located near the border of the French Empire at its height, Ludwigslust became a military base in 1810 for Hussars and Grenadiers.

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Not all people in Ludwigslust are at ease in their new situation or as happy to see Americans-- or any foreigners-- as their more open-minded community leaders.

When my bus driver called his dispatcher to find out how to get an American to the memorial site, the dispatcher barked:

“Why should I help him?”

“He’s a customer,” the driver replied.

“Oh.” And grumpily, the dispatcher offered accurate directions.

Local police blocking B191 for the memorial service to secure the roadside site told motorists and the author that the detour was due to a traffic accident. Because I knew otherwise, they let me pass.

A man watched intently as I chatted with other participants at the memorial service on March 24th. He was one of two people who showed more interest in me than in the proceedings. Though he said nothing, but watched, another man came over to listen to what old-timers from the district were telling me of their recollections. When he approached, the stories were quickly wrapped up.

Check the photo on Page 6. Everyone else is listening to the speakers.



## Rails to Berlin

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As our local hosts for the 24 March 2005 event drove me back to town, we passed the “Franzosengrund” where the French had carried out their training exercises, just as the 1921 map had reported. In the struggles to organize Europe under one system or another, our loss of Major Arthur Nicholson in 1985 was only the latest time when world powers have faced each other in this quiet farmland.

I left Ludwigslust twice, the first time after my visit to the Soviet cemetery and the second time on March 24th after the reception for guests at the Nicholson Memorial. The past segued into the future on both occasions.

On my first departure from Ludwigslust, a stranger came up to me and my host and announced in a conspiratorial tone in German: “I know that you are really a Russian.” I laughed, as most Americans would, but my ex-East German friend winced and tried to pull me away from him. As a member of a former culture in which the strangest accusations by *Inoffiziellen Mitarbeitern* (unofficial colleagues) would be dutifully added to one’s State Security files, she reacted with caution. On arrival at Berlin-Ostbahnhof, he came up to me again and reiterated that he had information that I was a Russian. Suspicion remains the daily bread of some Germans.

On my second departure, there was a sweeter scene. My seatmate on the *Intercity* train to Berlin was a German naval cadet headed home for the Easter holidays. We chatted briefly, and I thought of asking him about his life, but his attention turned toward a shy, young German woman of his own age who

turned out to be impressed with his attention. As an Army veteran, I could only sigh-- that Navy uniform does it every time!

As the young couple flirted, I turned my eyes toward the passing fir trees and wondered what future stories would emerge from the embracing forests of Mecklenburg.

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# Berlin 1969

## Troubled Times - Unruhige Zeiten



Click on the box at left for more on modern Germany, describing the period at the halfway point in the division of the country, 1969.

# Rails to Berlin

[\*\(Continued from page 19\)\*](#)

## **Bibliography:**

Gavin, James M.; *On to Berlin*; Viking Press; New York; 1978; ISBN 0-670-52517-0 - General Gavin provides a chapter on the closing days of the war around Ludwigslust and covers the initial American occupation of Berlin. A map shows the final disposition of forces around Ludwigs-lust-Grabow. He also includes a separate chapter on the evolution of the Berlin diplomatic and military problems. Gavin is known as one of the more intellectual generals, and this book is one of several that he wrote.

Ludwigslust city website: <http://www.stadtludwigslust.de> .

McKenzie, John D.; *On Time, On Target: The World War II Memoir of a Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne*; Presidio Press; Novato, CA; 2000; ISBN 0-89141-714-1 - John D. McKenzie ended the war in the 505th RCT of the 82nd Airborne. His book includes extensive information on his subsequent duty in Berlin, and he has tried to present a balanced picture of all aspects of his service and the people whom he met.

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United States Military Liaison Museum website, including many pages of material about Major Arthur Nicholson and the events surrounding his death: <http://www.usmlm.org> .

USMLM Annual History for 1985, Annex F, available on-line at: <http://www.history.hqusareur.army.mil> .

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