Fly By Night Detects Heat Loss

For the first time, a highly sophisticated reconnaissance plane has taken infrared photographs of an Army depot as part of a heat-loss study.

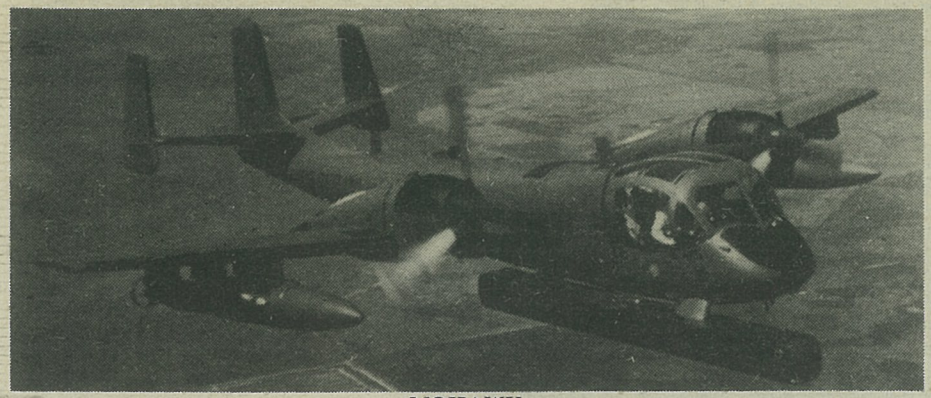
The "first" took place at Tobyhanna Army Depot between 8 and 9 o'clock on the night of Nov. 7. Its mission was to determine where heat escapes from insulated buildings.

Infrared rays "see" heat rather than light. Heat spots show up on film as blackened areas, while cooler temperatures turn up as gray.

The pilot was Captain Roger Thiel of the U.S. Army Electronic Proving Grounds, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., part of the Testing and Evaluation Command (TECOM).

"What we're doing at Tobyhanna is the forerunner of what we'd like to do Army wide," he said. "It (heat conservation) is coming into its own because of the energy crisis. The concept is not new, although the actual application of it is new."

Captain Thiel said the only previous use of the technique has been at his home base in Arizona.



MOHAWK

During the flight, his technical observer was Specialist 5 Dennis Deines, an airborne sensor specialist who quit college several months ago to learn his specialty skill in the Army. While the pilot covered "every square foot" of the depot at varying altitudes, Deines scanned the ground continuously through a TV-type monitor.

Deines said the film, which appears as a negative, would later be processed and analyzed by an imagery interpreter.

"The resolution of this system is super," he enthused, referring to the small target size it can detect. "It can pick up the very valve or duct through which heat is being lost."

In the words of a spokesman, "It could detect a lighted cigarette in a forest."

The plane used for the overflight is a twin turbo-prop (OV-ID) Mohawk, a tactical reconnaissance aircraft. Designed as a low-altitude attack bomber by the Navy in 1956, it was adopted by the Army and outfitted with sophisticated sensors "specifically designed to detect differences of heat energy from the ground," Capt. Thiel said.

The craft's infrared equipment is overhauled in the depot's Maintenance Directorate. Frank Zardecki, a supervisor there, called the tactical reconnaissance plane "probably the best in the world. The peacetime potential of the aircraft is virtually unlimited. It can be used for environmental protection studies, law enforcement, and geophysical studies," he said.

For example, Zardecki said, the aircraft has been used to count the Lesser Sand Hill crane population in Nebraska, locate "moonshine" stills in Georgia, and rediscover all but 70 of 1,500 chemical and biological drums buried in Denver.

Tests are conducted at night because the sun's infrared rays interfere during the day.

Depot employes involved with the infrared tests here are Bob Macierowski of Avionics and Michael Kniolek and Ronald Peters, both of Radar.

TOBYHANNA Reporter

Chaplain's Comments

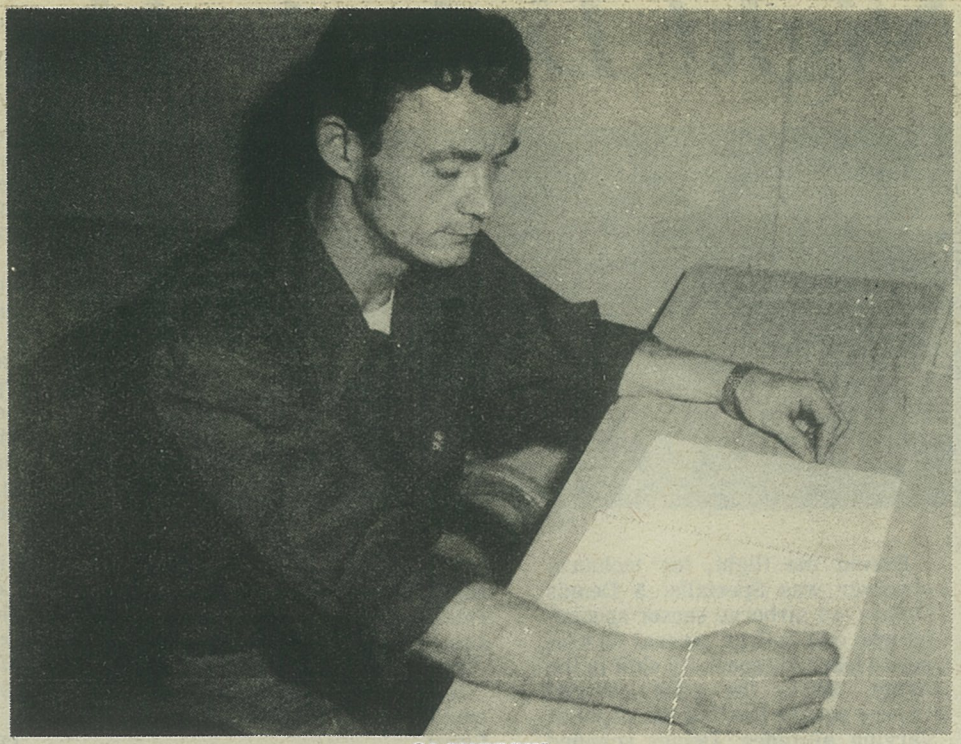
By Captain (Chaplain)
Peter K. Christy

The week of 17-21 November was the depot's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Week. The week was observed at Tobyhanna by an education program sponsored by the Chaplain-Social Services section in conjunction with the Health Clinic. Top quality films were shown in the Susquehanna Room. Too, you may have seen displayed around the depot new posters on drug and alcohol abuse. The fact that a week is dedicated to the subject points out its significance as a major problem in our society.

If you asked authorities what the most abused drug in our country is, the answer would be alcohol. Most people don't associate alcohol with being a drug, but by every definition of the word "drug," alcohol fills the bill. You are familiar with the statistics on alcoholism, and chances are you know or know of an alcoholic.

The Judeo-Christian ethic has always maintained that things in and of themselves are amoral; that means that by themselves things are neither good nor bad. What makes things right or wrong, good or bad, profitable or unprofitable is he way they are used (or abused). The Bible makes this clear about alcohol.

For an example in psalm 104:15 the psalmist praises God for "wine to gladden the heart of men." In 1 Timothy 5:23 the Apostle Paul encourages Timothy to "use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments."



OLSHEFSKI

Sancho, My Guitar!

When "Man of La Mancha" was playing off-Broadway, the Greenwich Village poster in front of the theater proclaimed: "There's a little bit of Don Quixote in all of us."

Felix P. Olshefski, a mechanical equipment repairer in Radio Branch, is more quixotic than your run-of-the-mill depot employe: he writes song-poems, or poem-songs.

"If I should pick up a guitar and start to strum, it develops into that," says the jockey sized poet. "I guess to put it together, it'd be inspirational, country and western, and rock n' roll."

Olshefski wrote a yearbook poem when his class graduated from Dickson City High School in 1967. Later, as an Army sergeant and chief of a radio and communications section who saw Vietnam action during his five-year tour, he continued to put pen to paper.

From "Time":

You've taken me through boyhood,
With its laughter and its tears.
And bandaged all my bumps and bruises,
Throughout those youthful years.

You opened my eyes
And you made me understand
That you're much wiser and much older
Than any living man.

From "Serious Thought":

Don't sit and worry about today.
Just live for a new tomorrow.
But live each day as best you can,
'Cause in truth, it's just been borrowed.

CPO Says

47 Shifts

Toby or Not

By Stan Lukowski

This month's Veterans Day luncheon brought together a number of good depot friends, in the person of State Rep. Joseph G. Wargo, Albert D. Soma (lieutenant colonel, U.S. Army retired) and Leo Cichy, director of the Lackawanna County Veterans Bureau.

The venerable Rep. Wargo, currently serving his 14th consecutive term and only in his early 50s, could establish a record for political longevity before he calls it a career. He was responsible for having Lieutenant Governor Ernest Kline personally visit here two years ago and present a resolution to the depot, signed by the State House, for its support of Red Cross blood drives.

Soma, affectionately referred to as "Mr. Armed Forces" for his active participation in the Armed Forces Committee of Northeastern Pennsylvania since its inception in 1950, is a frequent visitor to the depot and one of our greatest boosters. He was the principal speaker at the Veterans Day luncheon and the consensus of opinion is that he delivered one of the finest and most provocative talks ever given at the annual function.

Like Soma, Cichy is one of the spearheads in planning area Armed Forces Week activities.

Congratulations to John Quinn of Maintenance Directorate, who was awarded a life membership in the Wilson Conklin American Legion Post Home 579, Moscow.

Quinn, a 19-year Legion member, joined the veterans organization soon after his discharge from the Navy following World War II. Before joining the Moscow Legion in 1951, he was a member of the Dunmore American Legion. Since coming to Moscow, he has held every office in the post and Home Association, including the commandership in 1957 when modernization of the post home began. He introduced American Legion baseball to Moscow 10 years ago and has been the driving force behind the program since then.

He is employed as a branch supervisor in Maintenance and currently serves as chairman of the depot Management Council.