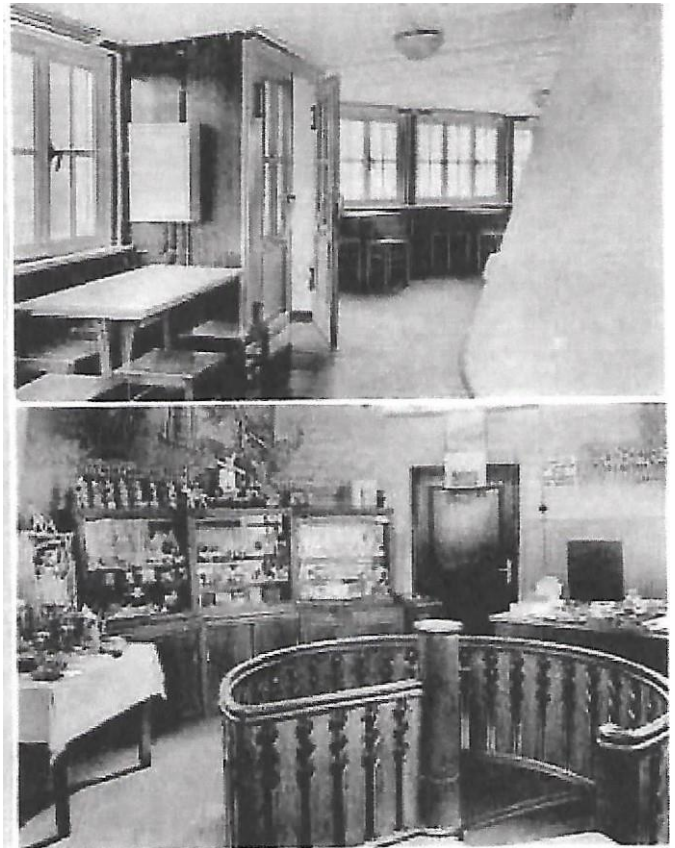


## RAF Hambühren Part 2



THE ONLY BRITISH Y.M.C.A.  
CANTINEEN  
ON AUTOBAHN



We set off for part two of our pilgrimage, arriving at Butz at 7 pm. much later than we should have, what with traffic and rain. I reported to Flt. Lt. Mike Stanley, DFC, and released my cargo into his possession and was very pleased that he was going to be one of our officers in 477 Signals Unit. He was a man whose belief in rigid discipline and an ultra-smart appearance was minimal and this pleased his airmen. Our new unit commander, an unyielding Scottish Squadron Leader, was not the same as our boss at Hambühren whose idea of discipline was that it should be functional and not showing off to the airmen.

Anyhow, having had a meal in the Airmen's Mess, J was deposited for my first two nights in a large room used to house new arrivals who made the trip from Hambühren. I was then transferred to my new billet, shared with three others who, although National Servicemen, were still old hands in 477 Signals Unit. I therefore said farewell to 755 SU (Signals Unit) with a tear in my eyes — well, not really. They were only numbers. In fact I quite liked 477 and those numbers were my own last three, so on payday I could shout out 477 to an occasional titter from the other chaps.

I was due for demob in mid-February and I found the interim period near Coloigne very interesting though in the middle of my time I took home leave over Christmas. This was because the leave I should have taken in the autumn was cancelled because of the impending switch to Butzweilerhof There was plenty to do in the camp and also in and around Cologne. I went to the newly built opera house to hear The Marriage of Figaro, and the Church of England Padre, a Wing Commander who was also the chief Anglican chaplain for the whole of 2<sup>nd</sup> TAF, arranged a visit for those of his congregation to the BFN headquarters in Cologne. And there was much else but I have gone on long enough and will pack it in now.

The former 5010477 SAC Jackson, P, or simply Peter