

Swiss now lift blackout

Autor(en): [s.n.]

Objekttyp: Article

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **10 (1944-1945)**

Heft 2

PDF erstellt am: **31.05.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942742>

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"The men live in a converted hotel, the Nevada Palace, on the edge of the town of Abelboden. They hike, climb mountains and ski and coast in the wintertime. Their Swiss skiing instructor is a professional. This last winter they used the rink in front of the hotel for skating.

The camp life is planned so that each hour of the day is taken up. The mornings are given to study and lectures, and the afternoons to sport, laboratory work and hobbies. The Americans themselves have helped convert the hotel into a camp. They made furniture in the carpentry and woodworking shop for the two club lounges, one for the officers and the other for the non-commissioned officers. They built bookcases for the library and tables for the typing and mechanical drawing classes. An artistic signboard of their own design now spans the entrance to the grounds.

Three practice rooms for musicians have been installed on the top floor of the hotel, two of them with pianos, where music students may work without disturbing their comrades. The men also have a well-equipped photographic laboratory and another for radio construction and repair.

Professor A. Velleman, of the University of Geneva, has been engaged as director of education. He is assisted by Captain Lloyd Free of the American Legation in Bern. Professor Velleman teaches and lectures; the other instructors are members of the interned group.

Most popular course is typing, which was attended by twenty-seven men when the war prisoners' air representative paid his visit. Twenty-five men were taking mechanical drawing; twenty, French; seventeen, German; seventeen, accounting; fifteen, carpentry, and ten, piano. Classes with a somewhat smaller attendance were being held in mathematics, agriculture, American history, photography, radio, saxophone, trumpet and accordion. A machine-shop practice class with ten men enrolled had to be abandoned for lack of necessary equipment.

Since the men are required to take classes filling three hours each morning, and the range of courses is limited. Some have had to study subjects which were not their first choice. But all of the men were found hard at work. They admitted they were making profitable use of their time. Most of the courses will be integrated into the American Armed Forces Institute's program and the men will receive credit in American colleges and schools.

The men see motion pictures two nights a week in "Mac and Ben's Alpine Theatre", named for the two internees who run them off. They have chess tournaments and other indoor games. An old English chapel, which was serving as a hay barn, was about to be converted into a gymnasium, by special permission from England."

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SWISS NOW LIFT BLACKOUT.

Berne, Sept. 12.- Faced with the growing danger of a serious incident as the battle grows hotter in the Belfort Gap, the Swiss Federal Council, in an extraordinary session this morning, decreed the lifting of blackout restrictions throughout the country, effective as of tonight.

The measure was first introduced in November, 1940, after Axis accusations that Switzerland's lights were guiding British aviators to north Italian objectives and it has been in effect ever since.

Today's measures followed four days of serious frontier violations, almost without interruption, during which American planes bombed and strafed Swiss railroad stations and long-distance express trains, fortunately without causing any loss of life.

The Federal Council also drew up a firmly worded note, which has been dispatched to the Swiss Legations at Washington, London and Berlin, reporting the repeated violations and demanding that adequate steps be taken to protect Swiss aerial neutrality in the future. (The New York Times.)