

# KAGNEW GAZELLE

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## Army Announces Change In Enlisted Promotion Plan

Washington — A plan eventually placing enlisted promotions in all MOS's on a « Promotion Qualification Score » basis, discarding the quota system as such, has been announced by the Army. Expected to make promotions competitive in the atomic-age Army, opportunities for new stripes will depend strictly upon individual qualification.

Shaped to the Cordier Committee recommendations for rewarding productivity, eligibility for advancement will be determined by a composite score based on new MOS Proficiency Tests. To be introduced gradually as the proficiency tests are developed, promotions based on PQS's will first be made in MOS's requiring long technical training and in skills where re-enlistment rates are relatively low.

At present, promotions are made through Department of the Army quotas established on the existing grade vacancies. When these vacancies are allotted to commands according to the number eligible, qualifications vary and inequities between organizations may occur, unless those who may be promoted and quotas are equal, the Army said.

Here's how the new plan will work: As the MOS Proficiency Tests, which

have been announced in DA Pamphlet 611-2, are released, all in grades E-6 and below may work toward a « Promotion Qualification Score ». The PQS will be a composite total of points based upon: the test score, time in grade, rating by commanders and evaluation boards. Army schooling, civilian schooling including GED equivalents earned in service, Aptitude Area scores, and other special items including decorations, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Rifleman Badge, Combat Medic Badge, combat service, and qualifications in arms.

With the composite score entered in each man's unit record, commanders will report periodically to the Pentagon the number in each MOS by grade and the order in which they stand by PQS's.

Instead of quotas, the Army will announce « cut-off » qualification scores by grades. This means that all in specific MOS's who have a PQS above a certain fixed figure, for instance 270, will have a chance for promotion.

This cut-off score will be set so that more men can be considered than can be selected. Thus, for example, if there are 150 E-7 vacancies in the Army in a certain MOS, commanders may be authorized to promote, say, 50 per cent of those above the cut-off score who are: 1. recommended by immediate commanders; 2. recommended by a board at regimental or comparable level; 3. approved by major commanders.

The Army also said, for the present, the promotion system will remain the same; point criteria will be announced later; E-2 promotions will continue; it is anticipated that a limited number of the proficiency tests will be administered during the latter part of 1957. (AFPS)

## Thirteen Men Go For More

Thirteen enlisted men at Kagnev Station decided to take advantage of the ever improving benefits being offered to Army career men by reenlisting here recently. The list includes five men each from Headquarters Company and the Security Guard Company, two from the MESCD and one from Operations Company.

The Headquarters reenlistees were SP2 Florian A. Kolacki, SP3 Bennett Barnes Jr., SP3 Glen I. Davidson, SP3 Herbert R. Lashley and SP3 Roy E. Stevenson.

Security Guards who reupped were Sgt. Paul E. Rowan, Sgt. Leo J. Vales, Sgt. Kim E. Wadsworth, SP3 Robert B. Canel and Pfc Delmon H. Reynolds. SP2 Ronald E. Mutt and SP3 Donald F. Winter of the MESCD, and Sfc. William H. White of Operations Company complete the list of reenlistees.

## Three Medics Cited Recently

On March 29, Major Joseph J. Bellas commanding officer of the Army Hospital here, presented Letters of Commendation to SP2 Harold L. Stump, SP2 Francisco Lopez and SP3 James R. Beal for their part in caring for three Kagnev Station men recently injured in an automobile accident near Massawa.

The brief ceremony was held with the entire Medical Detachment and will be ranked. The citation read by Captain Glen Boler, commanding officer of the Detachment, stated in part that the three men demonstrated ability to improve, render superior nursing care and excellent judgment.

It added that « at the time of the evacuation by plane the next day their alertness and coolness in spite of the long hours of tension at the bedside of the patients demonstrated again their excellent training in the critical task of moving seriously ill patients ».

## Gazelle Starts Third Year In New Format

On April 29, 1955, the first edition of the Kagnev Gazette, the U.S. Army's only newspaper in Africa, rolled off the presses. For the next twenty-four months, the staff of your Gazette has endeavored to provide a complete and accurate coverage both of Post activities and of important military news.

Today, the Gazette celebrates its second birthday with a new printer, new format and size, and a new distribution schedule. Our printer is Tipografa Francescana, an organization that has done attractive printing work for over twenty-five years

in a well equipped plant located behind the Catholic cathedral in Asmara.

Obviously we have switched from the large seven-column format to a smaller, five-column "tabloid" style paper. You have probably noticed already that this edition is approximately half the size of last month's edition. Why? Simply because we will now be able to print and distribute the Gazette twice monthly.

Considering the problems involved in printing an American paper in Africa — the language barrier between Italian printers and G.I. editors, the scarcity of experienced writers, etc. — the old-style Gazette was definitely a remarkable success and a credit to its originators. But as one of those early writers commented in that first edition, "We have to report stale news; with a publication hitting the press (once) each month we have no choice".

Their solution was to encourage photo contests and letters-to-the-editor to be used as space fillers. But our solution today is to split that newspaper right down the center, printing half of it in the middle of the month and half on pay-day. We sincerely hope that this new plan will provide you with more timely news and pertinent information, so that you may truly know "what's happened?" during your tour at Kagnev Station.

This paper can do credit to our Post if you will cooperate. If you have any news-worthy "info", let us know by phoning 70. And if you have ever written for any military, school or civilian paper and would like to contribute to the Gazette, we would be more than happy to have you. The first edition of the Gazette had a staff of eleven writers... we now have a "staff" of two!

## LOCAL PHOTOS

Effects of the recent Suez Canal situation have even reached the office of your GAZELLE. We regret the fact that we were unable to use any local photographs in this issue, but our engraver is awaiting the arrival of engraving acids from Italy. The acids are aboard a ship now preparing to pass through the Canal, and we should have them in time for our next issue.

## UMOP Classes Draw 20 Each

Approximately twenty students enrolled in each of the courses being offered during the fourth term of the University of Maryland Overseas Program at the Asmara Education Center.

Three courses, providing a combined total of seven semester hours of college-level credit, are currently being offered. These include Italian 2, Italian 3, and Mathematics 11. Italian 2 continues the students' first semester study in the fundamentals of grammar and reading of simple texts. Italian 3's a one credit-hour supplement providing the students with an elementary knowledge of Italian conversation. Mathematics 11, taught by Ensign Tom Fruehan, is a course in trigonometry and analytic geometry.

## Jeep Mine Detector



DETECTOR — Army specialist checks a jeep-mounted mine detector developed by the Army Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Ft. Belvoir, Va. The device stops the vehicle automatically when it reaches a buried mine.