

# OTIS AND HIS 0-237

WITH FOOTNOTES FOR 2nd LYS.

This is the story of Otis P Axelrod - the story of a career that was built to a lucid crescendo<sup>1</sup> and ended like a musical diminuendo<sup>2</sup>.

Axelrod was just like any other GI; blond, blue-eyed, teeth and a nose (the most we can say about Axelrod is to say the least about his nose), and an AGCT of 21 - he cheated.

Axelrod started as a private, but his ambitions were great and he applied for OCS. However his ambitions far exceeded his ability, and Otis' application was rejected. As Otis explained, "It was entirely due to political reasons; my father didn't vote the right way." To be honest, Axelrod's father didn't vote at all, due to a literacy<sup>3</sup> qualification law in his home state.

One thing we must give credit to Otis for was his breeding - his mother was pure Hebeephrenie schizophrenic<sup>4</sup> and his father was a pure strain of dementia praecox<sup>5</sup>. Therefore, as Axel used to boast - "I may be a dipsomaniac" (chronic alcoholic) - but I doubt if that were true, for if it was, he should have had no trouble getting into OCS.

Axel just seemed to be one of those Classification IV Joes who never had any degree of luck. He would undoubtedly be the one case in seven where penicillin failed! And thus you have Otis Axelrod, exorable<sup>6</sup> in his uniform, sordid in his mode, and a definite tool in the hands of the ruthless and sadistic<sup>7</sup> 1st Sarge. Truly, Axel was the only GI in Germany in 1945 who did KP.

Shortly after the battle of the "Bulge", Axel was captured by the "Schultze staffe". His comrades were sent to school under the Deutches G I Bill of Rights to such universities as Dachau and Mathausen for "higher" education, and Axel was taken on a tour through Germany as a captive to prove conclusively that "die Amerikaners are scraping the bottom of the barrel!" After Germany capitulated, Axel was liberated. He desired greatly to work for Military Government, and so he was assigned to do menial tasks for the German civilians who were employed in the MG office.

However, the Germans complained that Axel was bad for their moral and petitioned for his removal - and so, Axel was returned to his KP.

Axel worked day after day in the kitchen - fruitlessly - until "it" happened. He was peeling onions one day when he dropped an onion. A terrific explosion

ensued<sup>8</sup>. It was then he realized that it was crawling with atoms, literally billions of them. He set up a single piece of apparatus in the latrine, and there he conducted his lucrative experiments, during his off duty hours. His experiments seemed ludicrous<sup>9</sup> to his comrades, but within a month he had devised a deadly concentrated explosive, later to be known as ONION-237.

Within a short time Axel became reknowned among the military click for his amazing experiments with ONION-237. To show appreciation for his extreme efforts, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Onnra, the Red Cross gave him coffee (without sugar) and donuts for free, and his KP was reduced to 16 hours a day. General Nesence stated "He is a true American Character" - but he omitted the words "true american".

Thus Otis basked in the sun of eminence<sup>10</sup>. Shortly later the head lines of all American papers blazed "ONION-237 Bl. sts Hiroshima". Yes - it seemed that Axel's achievements afforded him altruistic adulation<sup>11</sup>. The American people proclaimed an "Axel Day", the Mayo brothers erected a clinic

1 roar 2 shhh! 3 reading, writing

4 huh! 5 crazy again 6 rest!

7 Chicken 8. followed 9 funny

10 fame 11 that's good.

"Sorry Jack - only first class passengers allowed on this deck!"

