

Have you promised yourself the wonderful opportunities that our autumn provides for viewing colorful landscape scenes? Will you take time out to enable yourself to observe the miracles of Nature's handiwork as summer's green foliage changes into the rare combinations of the entire color spectrum? No man-made gallery can duplicate this free exhibition!



Mrs. Genevieve Maxwell (right), staffer on The Daily Star, Beirut, Lebanon, and daughter of a Bloomfield couple, helps prepare a "welcome to Lebanon" cake to be sent by helicopter to a mountain outpost manned by United States Army troops. Left is Freda Dahlin of San Francisco, USIS secretary of the United States embassy in Beirut. The "cake lift" of baked goods was donated by the American Community church of Beirut.

Operation Cake Lift

By GENEVIEVE MAXWELL
Feature Writer
The Beirut Daily Star

(Editor's Note: In the issue of July 24 The Birmingham Eccentric presented an eye-witness account of the landing of United States Marines in Beirut, Lebanon. The story was written by Genevieve Maxwell, feature writer for The Daily Star, only English-language daily newspaper in Lebanon. Mrs. Maxwell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce K. Harding, 6294 Worlington, Bloomfield. Here she tells of the work by American women in Beirut to provide dessert for isolated U.S. servicemen on Mount Lebanon. Photographs of the women's efforts accompany her story).

BEIRUT, Lebanon—The American Community church in Beirut, sparked by the still active women's association—although many American women have been sent to Europe by their husbands for the summer—was assisted by the Joint USIS-Military Information at the American embassy to run a "cake lift and flying dessert" operation up 1,200 feet on Mount Lebanon.

Some 220 U. S. Army servicemen were at this isolated post, which form Troop C of the 17th Cavalry, one of a number of such isolated posts which look strategically on the Beirut International airport which is their job to cover.

DESSERTS went up from the Sgt. James R. Nettles U. S. Army helipost, newly located at Ras Beirut, center of the American residents as well as a stone's throw from Gen. Paul DeWitt Adams' AM-LAN-FOB headquarters. Sgt. Nettles was shot and killed (See OPERATION, Page 2-B)

There were seconds all around as dessert was passed out to GI's high on Mount Lebanon. Mrs. Genevieve Maxwell is at right. Mrs. Maxwell has been on the staff of Lebanon's only English-language daily newspaper since October 1954. Her last visit to the Wing Lake home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce K. Harding, 6294 Worlington, was in the spring of 1956. Mrs. Maxwell is also on the public relations staff of the American University of Beirut.



▲ Dessert—the result of "Operation Cake Lift"—is unloaded from an army helicopter 1,200 feet up on Mount Lebanon. Third from left is Leslie D. Polk, assistant press attache at the United States embassy in Beirut. A former Arabic language area trainee, he directed the off-load of the "flying desserts" at "The Rock". At left is Mrs. Genevieve Maxwell, Beirut newswoman from Birmingham.



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