

**Leonard Borin**

Company E, 318th Inf Reg

(Audio Transcript [NOT edited, just transcribed])

0:04

okay let's start let's start a

0:07

personalized telling you that your what

0:09

is you take your full name letter gay

0:11

boring and what was your rank okay KFC

0:17

yes excellent tell me a little about

0:19

where you grew up well what's your

0:21

hometown is a boy to come home Chicago

0:24

yes okay south side North Side West Side

0:27

West Side yes okay does it make you a

0:30

Cubs fan or no flies i know god I me so

0:34

no I didn't like the baseball huh no I'm

0:37

not really okay tell me a little bit

0:40

about how you got in the service did you

0:43

read rafted or did you volunteer I got a

0:46

letter from the person readings from the

0:48

president and if you don't come okay

0:51

come to fetch you right now so but yeah

0:55

so that there was a i was born in 1925

0:58

in november i become 15 ok and the

1:04

following i think was the glories of 44

1:09

you got the letter I why I went into the

1:12

service because i'll get around the

1:14

birthday but then we could be like a so

1:17

later this when i went slow i am so i

1:23

went to Fort to the fort sheridan which

1:28

was you Thompson Center was there was no

1:30

more no pressured and they send me the

1:35

camp lining forward for 17 weeks in

1:37

between replacement right ok and I we

1:42

graduated this at the time of d days so

1:46

you graduated them in June and jus

1:48

another section 6 yeah around their time

1:51

and about the week before I wasn't trust

1:57

my but the rifle and the room tennis SME

2:00

if you don't trust like under sticker

2:03

well he stuck with but it was a God said

2:07

because I just got it in the hand

2:10

and I went to the medically put a

2:12

bandage on that was it the next day I

2:15

want that cuz I saw sergeant he said

2:17

we'll go back to the medic and I show

2:19

them so that the officer said to me oh

2:21

you wonder us my funks trying to get out

2:24

from going overseas why did you report

2:26

as ice as I did he's what he's like the

2:29

bad put a bandage on my end I have it

2:32

all employed and so I called in the

2:36

dough decides he says who yo who was on

2:39

duty last night honest now so the guy

2:41

came and he says okay dude okay right in

2:44

the knee of the tree medic you know so

2:47

anyhow they send me well they go down

2:51

the trucks all the guys were leaving I

2:53

soon ever going to go right here right

2:55

right after that yeah and I'm waving as

2:58

it will tend I'm telling thanks because

3:02

i was back to the gold oh yeah but so

3:05

anyhow said he kept me around for a

3:08

while then all of a sudden and they send

3:10

me to camp shelby Mississippi and I was

3:13

like a hundred nine pounds soaking wet

3:15

summer so I walk in this way

3:18

headquarters and I'm with my orders and

3:20

the stars and listen hey lieutenant when

3:23

I got here I was puny I figure he's

3:26

talking about me bill but it was a whole

3:29

black rights regiment the 1369 thirteen

3:32

thousand pieces where there was a

3:34

thought some kind of really psychic at

3:36

that time there was no segregation

3:37

you're right but he says well he said

3:40

you acted as a 9 comment I could get you

3:43

out of here so if they sent made a cam

3:45

Gordon Georgia and so we're on like a 25

3:51

mile hike and the pec Wayborn me so I

3:55

must walked 10 50 miles whatever was and

3:59

I fell down in the thousands of sudden

4:02

seismic was trying to me like a rag

4:05

download one guys turned my ride for the

4:07

end with the hamlet and the Jeep stops

4:10

he says so what are you doing to the

4:13

sergeant yeah he says go saying

4:16

you to call personally thank you he

4:18

wouldn't be good to hear so he took me

4:21

to the hospital

4:23

and they start examined me and all that

4:25

and in down the line they've solved they

4:30

want to discharge me because I wasn't at

4:34

the power well then the Battle of all

4:37

off this amount of time you can

4:39

discharge me I'm sorry but the follows

4:41

papers will and he sent me to do you

4:45

know diddly something went for a Lowen

4:47

and then I would the fourth York see me

4:50

rollin as it was and I walk in from the

4:53

train and SAR just look for my name and

4:58

he says nieces how long you been able I

5:02

said two hours he said it can't be we

5:05

got a thousand guys able so it's going

5:08

through the papers off suddenly find me

5:10

and he says to me says uh I gotta punish

5:14

him cuz it for two hours he says he how

5:17

he said I I have no other choice so he'd

5:21

there was a fellow there was eighty

5:23

eight months a walk he was a merican

5:27

Indian from the hostel he said you're

5:30

going to take him two camp shacks New

5:32

York on the guard and if he runs away

5:35

you gotta serve his time so they can't

5:39

even tell a woman well none for the

5:41

washing I think I was a boozer our soul

5:45

welcome to the UH so I know but that

5:49

make a his name was Frank bushy bushy

5:51

I'm boy I'll being she's eaten so right

5:56



wika later were on the Queen Mary

5:58

crossing to costco how Scotland so he

6:03

wasn't the same yes the same sleeping

6:09

area whatever was and and I was put on

6:14

to work in the kitchen I was rolling

6:17

dough and i'm wrong though throwing up

6:20

so i said there's wine beer a day I said

6:23

my god I'm throwing up he says well get

6:26

off of this detail they said I'm going

6:28

to put you at the tower garbage detail

6:29

the throat overboard at night and you

6:32

know I smell their stuff

6:34

I I was sick all the way there do you

6:36

still smell it Billy initials nothing

6:39

but so anyhow but death so we get the

6:42

glass cloth kasyapa and got off the bat

6:44

we just spend no time though they told

6:48

us by train straight to Southampton yes

6:50

Southampton and so we wouldn't be none

6:55

when we cross the English Channel

6:57

where'd you disembark injury in France

7:00

uh well I discipline science helium with

7:04

a heart friends and they were scooping

7:06

his body's oscillating the channel their

7:09

prey sailors know and how a young kid

7:13

and I my mama's dying I'm sick of me

7:15

laying there you know but anyhow but we

7:18

so easy so what they put us on this what

7:21

they call the 48 a box cars did what saw

7:25

you had to get in a boxcar yeah we would

7:27

so it used to be eight men but 48 horses

7:32

with 40 million dollar so we get up to

7:35

the 7th army so the commander said we

7:38

don't need no replacement athletes them

7:41

so they turn the train around and they

7:45

fingers the Belgium so they took you all

7:47

the way the bells of the bells meow safe

7:49

so we get off the train and it's rainin

7:52

unbelievable and those are like us Red

7:57

Cross has like coffee and don't it stuff

8:00

like that so we're waiting in the line

8:02

for the longest time because you

8:04

remember do you remember what month yeah

8:06

well but this was february other sauce

8:08

Deborah weary 45 yeah 45 yes and so

8:15

anyhow so I ended up getting a cup of

8:18

coffee of the pity when it gave me one

8:20

donut and I'm walking away and this

8:24

woman harvest so you were you're gone 22

8:27

cents by the 22 expenses I thought it

8:31

was free she were you're gone maybe

8:33

you're never coming back it was

8:36

unbelievable I was so scared to start

8:38

off with you know right so anyhow but so

8:41

so we left there around and then we were

8:44

citing to the 80th you know yeah so

8:47

we've got the dat

8:48

the company was they said you could pick

8:51

out any squad you want any petone we

8:55

need men all over so about 15 of us went

8:59

into second squad of the 2nd battalion

9:02

so you're a company right he company

9:04

free and we got in there and we kill

9:07

each other on the Queen Mary but up

9:10

until that none of us knowing but it was

9:12

a so anyhow we were assigned to this

9:15

company then asaji came over says to me

9:18

says he says jack bevan system is one of

9:24

the veterans here he said I want you to

9:26

dig in with him you know right and so

9:29

that I says to me he says I am the kids

9:34

follow be but not too close because we

9:36

want to draw fire he's about keep your

9:39

life so I didn't and then don't so then

9:45

we got city Mikhail to cross into tell

9:51

me so so love so anyhow pequea we cross

9:56

and when we cross the English Channel we

9:59

landed on the other side but this 317

10:02

spearheaded in front 318 came in item is

10:06

reserved whatever they write and there

10:09

was all kinds explosives going on but I

10:11

think was all our firing going to

10:14

germany in front of us ok and then

10:16

nothing come into it at that point so

10:20

I'm running on the road to get off of

10:23

the beach and all of a sudden a shell

10:26

hit the tree it comes right in front of

10:28

me maybe two steps or what hit me and I

10:30

had but happened to be a dud but I

10:32

didn't know that so some guy jumps on me

10:36

it shows me aside what happened to be a

10:38

dud so I'm good and so anyhow to thank

10:42

God and then we what never wait for 34

10:46

then and when we get when we got the

10:48

castle Germany and all just like that

10:51

and so I don't love with

10:56

Castle there but anyhow the second

11:01

became was all tied down on the fire so

11:05

this lieutenant voluntary we would go up

11:10

and they were shooting any impress

11:13

directly and infantry right but they

11:16

were black gram correctly then write

11:18

write it so we went up there and and I

11:24

was nerdy and I was anxious to get up in

11:26

front you know so as we're going up

11:29

we're living at each other embankment

11:32

yeah because I like maybe a 34

11:35

embankment a new Asia they had of late

11:39

on us scrumptious and stuff like that

11:42

and I reached down for the sergeant and

11:45

a little tenant they said we'll meet you

11:46

on the other side so I said to this guy

11:49

I was ducking in what I say badness

11:52

they're not coming up her that is too

11:55

bad for them he's come down jumped out

11:58

follow the whole squad sides up and down

12:00



and one of the office can also mean Isis

12:03

services you know the German I'm you

12:06

wouldn't get away with us in a search

12:08

it's too dangerous and they can they

12:10

voluntarily go up there get up there

12:12

with your men who comprise it went some

12:15

more points there you know so anyhow but

12:19

before was over with they captured 17

12:22

purses 70 17 17 so anyhow he often said

12:29

to me take him down to the bottom of the

12:32

hill yeah and he says and they'll tell

12:35

you where to go the word of person I

12:37

wore campus so I'm going down the hill

12:40

and I noticed that shoot snipers were

12:42

super so I get on the opposite side of

12:44

him and one other guy and one guy was

12:47

wounded and they were carrying him down

12:49

the hill and stuff I guess yeah so I get

12:52

down said about the bottom and I told

12:54

the officers and he says to me what this

12:56

follow this road and he said you'll run

12:59

right into it and then he turned around

13:01

I know it was that company they says the

13:06

aerial man's could go with you help you

13:07

because it by yourself you know

13:09

so we start going through small towns

13:13

and people throw rocks at us and

13:15

speculative nothing else you know and

13:18

thank you so that one of the officer

13:21

kept stalling to go back because it's

13:23

getting close to the night I kept

13:25

hitting the head of the rifle on the

13:27

back you know and then so anyhow we're

13:30

walking and we're walking and all of a

13:32

sudden I see a big sign the right cross

13:36

but happen again I from a past era so I

13:40

went and I lined up guys up against the

13:42

wall heard was a kid you know sigh light

13:45

up the site on the PR man you've watched

13:47

him now go and try to find out what his

13:49

campus you know right so I wouldn't in

13:52

there the guy gave me a couple of

13:53

sandwiches and then he came out and as

13:56

he comes out this guy i knows all the

14:00

guys are putting their packs out on the

14:02

Germans and here comes to german tanks

14:06

and so we know what to do okay we run

14:12

across the field where you get shot

14:14

ourselves in all the room so make a long

14:16

story short all of a sudden here comes

14:18

through three american tanks and a fire

14:23

and hit one of the tanks and the

14:25

sergeant whoever was open up to finish

14:27

with me I'm your garden angel sees that

14:29

have been trying to win over us he says

14:32

we're waiting for the tool so you know

14:36

though so that was asked everything I

14:39

don't think so yeah so you know but did

14:42

you stay did you stay with a company all

14:46

the way all the way to Austria the war

14:49

ended there was we went up in the

14:51

mountains of Bavaria yeah who were

14:54

taking the Germans out of the monastery

14:57

at all and direct the traffic down from

14:59

the mouth and then one of the officers

15:02

came up with an answer he'd skip and he

15:04

stopped he says to me I surrender my

15:07

battalion regimen in English yeah and I

15:10

said sir you're allowed to carry pistol

15:12

down to the compound alrighty keep the

15:15

toll of your assigned an epistle you say

15:18

kid take it home yeah as a scimitar look

15:21

out there's around

15:22

a chamber be careful is this yeah so Wow

15:27

no I know when did you make it home I

15:30

got home in May of our mothers day in

15:35

May about 46 but then I went to into

15:39

Czechoslovakia in the hugging second

15:42

maybe military police okay and I was

15:45

facing in Tulsa for a few months before

15:49

we got kicked out of there then we got

15:51

past to go to Prague which was the

15:56

Russian area at that time and they

15:58

wouldn't let us stay overnight they made

16:00

us go back every night back to tulsa it

16:03

wasn't under stay overnight yeah and

16:06

then we went to some outpost between

16:09

Jeremy Czechoslovakia and the Russians

16:14

were shooting moulder said Nyad us but

16:20

this danged English co-write righteously

16:23

pissed yeah then we then they may send

16:26

me send me to the Father birth the

16:28

concentration camp and that's what we're

16:31

he had a bunch of german peasants

16:34

waiting for the number trials okay here

16:37

and it's regarding then I was guarding

16:40

never taken off of work details and we

16:43

were in the towers there and it was some

16:47

Americans you noted to take care that

16:50

formation there so then and then we went

16:55

after we left there before we went there

16:58

we met the Russians you know and we met

17:04

up with him there yeah we avoid me know

17:06

we met the but we fought for Nuremberg

17:08

and then and then we they sent us back

17:13

the Nuremberg and patent was mad when

17:15

you find out over the Russians has gone

17:17

in front of us because he was ordered

17:19

enough Eisenhower jackets for us he we

17:23

were going to march in the Berlin but

17:25

I've even fighting and I think that was

17:27

a diet until you want to do that's what

17:28

he wanted to her then tell them i don't

17:32

like a dozen at Frostburg

17:34

I went to sell Germany and if we were

17:39

just police station was also we used all

17:43



celebrate and it could please chief he

17:47

said take me home it is dead everybody

17:49

my size and stuff I dad and then one day

17:52

I pick up the phone and they said I have

17:54

won bingo you know they called somebody

17:58

called home I bingo ok and they should

18:00

want to Boris that's me such a girl yeah

18:04

so yeah but then suffering and then we

18:08

left two different rep Adele help us and

18:12

then we went when I got to la France

18:15

there's a lot of posters and we got on

18:19

the lagoon was happening was it it was a

18:23

German ship ok heard it over the victor

18:25

chef and we sail into New York Harbor

18:29

and I had scabies already and by the

18:33

time the three of the three thousand was

18:35

all had escaped easy but then we stood

18:38

over that's a step that's a Liberty for

18:41

three days because if short does the

18:45

longshoremen weren't strike the Polish

18:48

wouldn't burgers into the docks there

18:50

was three ships out there for a while

18:51

and so I thought that was terrible to

18:55

come home and they won't even load the

18:56

ship yet obviously out there see out

18:58

there looking at success obesity and

19:01

then they had a puppy on Pullman trains

19:03

and take me to chemical Wisconsin

19:06

because they had too many people with

19:08

scabies in New York area they had to get

19:10

it as out of there you know or to get

19:12

you home finally they got me homicide

19:14

yes well the litter thank you there's a

19:17

less appreciate really boring every

19:19

story thank you so much yeah no problem

19:21

all right