

## **Edward William Mull Interview**

Company G, 318th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Michael A. Sowards)*

(MS Word Audio Transcript [NOT edited, just transcribed])

00:00:01 Speaker 1

Michael Seward.

00:00:02 Speaker 1

Dave Babb, Lehigh Valley Veterans History Project, Allentown, PA.

00:00:07 Speaker 1

Our interview tonight is with staff Sergeant Edward Mall, born October 8th, 1921.

00:00:15 Speaker 1

This is being done to the Veterans History project.

00:00:17 Speaker 1

At the Library of Congress.

00:00:22 Speaker 2

My name is Edward William Moe. The one in reading, PA.

00:00:30 Speaker 2

October 8, 1921.

00:00:34 Speaker 2

My mother died when I was five years old.

00:00:39 Speaker 2

Leaving three daughters.

00:00:42 Speaker 2

And myself.

00:00:45 Speaker 2

We were put in the orphan zone up at womelsdorf.

00:00:50 Speaker 2

Until we graduated from high school.

00:00:55 Speaker 2

Uh, we went to Wmazdorf high school and from there I went back to where my father was living.

00:01:03 Speaker 2

And a woman.

00:01:05 Speaker 2

We call her Aunt Cape, but she wasn't related, but she raised my father from the time he was 6.

00:01:13 Speaker 2

And I live with my dad there.

00:01:18 Speaker 2

Up until the time I went into the CCC camp, whether Civilian Conservation Corps, as they call it.

00:01:29 Speaker 2

I was in camp out in Arizona for six months, building Earth dams for the rancher out there.

00:01:38 Speaker 2

Then I sign up again and went to Placer and lzing the park.

00:01:45 Speaker 2

There before.

00:01:47 Speaker 2

Forest fires cleaned up the woods.

00:01:49 Speaker 2

Various other things.

00:01:52 Speaker 2

And then I was in the office. They made me.

00:01:58 Speaker 2

The secretary.

00:02:00 Speaker 2

Type up the morning report.

00:02:04 Speaker 2

Put records on over the loudspeaker.

00:02:07 Speaker 2

Clean up the office.

00:02:10 Speaker 2

Until the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

00:02:15 Speaker 2

Couple days later, we roll on a train heading east.

00:02:19 Speaker 2

Because I knew, I guess that we were going to be in the combat somewhere.

00:02:25 Speaker 2

So 6 months I worked for a beryllium corporation in Temple.

00:02:33 Speaker 2

I was a leecher, although my paper says teacher.

00:02:36 Speaker 2

But I was a leecher.

00:02:39 Speaker 2

I enlisted.

00:02:44 Speaker 2

July 3rd.

00:02:47 Speaker 2

What I thought was the Air Force.

00:02:51 Speaker 2

I found myself in an infantry camp down in Fort Meade, MD.

00:02:55 Speaker 2

Never saw an airplane.

00:03:00 Speaker 2

From there, we were transferred out to a.

00:03:05 Speaker 2

Telephone of Tennessee and Camp Forest in the 80th Infantry Division.

00:03:11 Speaker 2

Was in the 318th Infantry Regiment.

00:03:16 Speaker 2

In George company.

00:03:19 Speaker 2

And we had basic training there.

00:03:24 Speaker 2

For I don't know how long anymore. Several months.

00:03:30 Speaker 2

6-7 months perhaps?

00:03:33 Speaker 2

Then we went into.

00:03:37 Speaker 2

Advanced training after a furlough.

00:03:41 Speaker 2

In which we had.

00:03:44 Speaker 2

Regimental Combat 1 regiment against the other.

00:03:50 Speaker 2

And 1940.

00:03:54 Speaker 2

4.

00:03:56 Speaker 2

We went on the Korean Mary.

00:03:59 Speaker 2

We shipped over to England.

00:04:02 Speaker 2

Landed in Glasgow, Scotland.

00:04:06 Speaker 2

Stayed on board till the next morning and got off the ship. Got on a train that went down through England into.

00:04:15 Speaker 2

Sutton, near Southampton, England.

00:04:20 Speaker 2

And.

00:04:22 Speaker 2

Then we had various.

00:04:27 Speaker 2

I don't know what they call them. Imitation skirmishes.

00:04:31 Speaker 2

For more training.

00:04:34 Speaker 2

Well, D-Day went on.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

Then, first week of August.

00:04:43 Speaker 2

We got on board as ships and went across the channel.

00:04:49 Speaker 2

Into Utah Beach, which was pretty clean up by that time.

00:04:56 Speaker 2

And.

00:04:59 Speaker 2

I guess our first battle was at Argentan France. The German 7th Army was trapped.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

Except for about two miles and they threw us in that two mile gap.

00:05:13 Speaker 2

The German army couldn't get out.

00:05:17 Speaker 2

Some of our men were killed, Sergeant Langley.

00:05:21 Speaker 2

I think was the first man in our company that was killed. His squad knocked out a German machine gun, been in the process.

00:05:29 Speaker 2

Was killed by a machine gun bullets.

00:05:34 Speaker 2

We went into Argentine, which was beat up pretty much then.

00:05:40 Speaker 2

And from then on.

00:05:44 Speaker 2

We.

00:05:47 Speaker 2

Went up and down.

00:05:50 Speaker 2

Across several rivers.

00:05:53 Speaker 2

Most of them kind of small rivers.

00:05:57 Speaker 2

And.

00:06:01 Speaker 2

We landed on a hill.

00:06:05 Speaker 2

On one side of a river. But I can't remember that name.

00:06:09 Speaker 2

And Germans were on the other side.

00:06:14 Speaker 3

Michelle river.

00:06:17 Speaker 2

I don't.

00:06:17 Speaker 2

I don't remember that name. No anyway.

00:06:24 Speaker 2

One of our own planes came over.

00:06:27 Speaker 2

Plan had one bomb on it.

00:06:29 Speaker 2

We dropped the bomb on us.

00:06:33 Speaker 2

Didn't hurt.

00:06:35 Speaker 2

We ran our foxholes and we stepped down.

00:06:40 Speaker 2

They blew a hole about 15 feet deep.

00:06:44 Speaker 2

About 25 or 20 or 25 feet wide in a diameter.

00:06:50 Speaker 2

Made a nice chicken shell hole.

00:06:54 Speaker 2

Maybe he confused us 'cause it's hard to tell a difference. You know, when you're up in the air.

00:07:01 Speaker 2

But nobody was hurt.

00:07:05 Speaker 2

I'm removed on from there.

00:07:09 Speaker 2

Things get a little.

00:07:12 Speaker 2

In my mind about where we went from there, but.

00:07:18 Speaker 2

I got the.

00:07:22 Speaker 2

I had to go back to feel hospital and they shipped me back to England.

00:07:28 Speaker 2

By the time I got to England, but whatever my sickness was was gone. I got a weeks furlough.

00:07:37 Speaker 2

Came back to the.

00:07:40 Speaker 2

France again and went through what they call a repo deposit.

00:07:46 Speaker 2

And it took a take a little while.

00:07:50 Speaker 2

To get back up to the frontline again.

00:07:53 Speaker 2

And then the meantime, the.

00:07:56 Speaker 2

Battle of the Bulge was going on.

00:08:00 Speaker 2

So I rejoined my outfit at the.

00:08:06 Speaker 2

In Belgium at the.

00:08:09 Speaker 2

By stone.

00:08:13 Speaker 2

Didn't know.

00:08:14 Speaker 2

Were all the guys renewed to me?

00:08:16 Speaker 2

Of my.

00:08:18 Speaker 2

Original guys that transits were there.

00:08:20 Speaker 2



Were all new ones.

00:08:24 Speaker 2

And that town was pretty well beat up.

00:08:27 Speaker 2

I really didn't see as the area where I was.

00:08:30 Speaker 2

Didn't see a single whole house remaining.

00:08:33 Speaker 2

But we were there a couple days.

00:08:37 Speaker 2

At a good Christmas dinner, Turkey and everything.

00:08:43 Speaker 2

I was looking forward to mince pies. We didn't have any.

00:08:48 Speaker 2

Pumpkin pie.

00:08:50 Speaker 2

Anyway, we left.

00:08:53

There.

00:08:54 Speaker 2

And we run out.

00:08:59 Speaker 2

Uh, several patrols we had at night to see what was going on, I remember.

00:09:07 Speaker 2

I was told I was going to take my squat out this one night.

00:09:15 Speaker 2

And it was.

00:09:17 Speaker 2

Cold snow on the ground.

00:09:20 Speaker 2

And told the man to take their blankets along.

00:09:25 Speaker 2

They all said Okay. When we get out there, I'm the only one that has a blanket.

00:09:31 Speaker 2

None of the men took the blankets.

00:09:35 Speaker 2

So I had to send two men back every two hours.

00:09:40 Speaker 2

To report a little Lieutenant, the platoon leader.

00:09:46 Speaker 2

And then at about 6:00 in the morning.

00:09:51 Speaker 2

Myself and another follower last two, and we went back in report didn't see anything.

00:09:58 Speaker 2

F company came.

00:09:59 Speaker 2

They were going on a combat mission.

00:10:02 Speaker 2

But they didn't know we were there.

00:10:04 Speaker 2

Saw them going by.

00:10:07 Speaker 2

And.

00:10:10 Speaker 2

I don't know if they didn't come up with the.

00:10:12 Speaker 2

We didn't hear no firing of any sort and the half an hour later, they're coming back.

00:10:19 Speaker 2

I don't know what happened there.

00:10:22 Speaker 2

Then from there we moved on.

00:10:26 Speaker 2

To the point where.

00:10:31 Speaker 2

We were supposed to take this town.

00:10:34 Speaker 2

That was a Germans were protecting a bridge at the regiment wanted.

00:10:41 Speaker 2

And uh.

00:10:43 Speaker 2

2nd Platoon was designated.

00:10:47 Speaker 2

Take this bridge, chase the Germans out of there and take the bridge before it was blown up.

00:10:57 Speaker 2

Ran into a minefield and our Lieutenant.

00:11:02 Speaker 2

Who had just come up two days before.

00:11:05 Speaker 2

Told us to.

00:11:08 Speaker 2

Go ahead, but don't touch the wires or the rope that was strung around the.

00:11:14 Speaker 2

You know, showing where their minefield was, we got across.

00:11:21 Speaker 2

And we waited on the other side and I.

00:11:23 Speaker 2

I wait for instructions as to what he wanted us to do. Then all of a sudden it was 7. Mines went off.

00:11:33 Speaker 2

22 men were wounded, three killed.

00:11:37 Speaker 2

Lieutenant was killed.

00:11:40 Speaker 2

Not a mark on him and they told me later that he was.

00:11:47 Speaker 2

What do they call that?

00:11:51 Speaker 2

The pressure I did forget what they call it anyway.

00:11:57 Speaker 2

I was out.

00:11:59 Speaker 2

I went to the field hospital.

00:12:03 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:12:04 Speaker 2

Piece of the metal.

00:12:08 Speaker 2

This piece.

00:12:12 Speaker 2

Within my ankle, through my audit, through my shoe.

00:12:16 Speaker 2

Sticking my ankle bone.

00:12:18 Speaker 2

Left tibia is what they call it.

00:12:24 Speaker 2

I took my shoe off my hip, my shoe, to see if the blood was dry.

00:12:28 Speaker 2

Knew something hit me.

00:12:31 Speaker 2

I could walk.

00:12:34 Speaker 2

But when I took him off, there was a little bit of blood slowly coming down. Not much.

00:12:40 Speaker 2

I went back to the field hospital.

00:12:44 Speaker 2

And they put a bandage on.

00:12:48 Speaker 2

And something that stiffened the the ankle until I got back to feel hospital in Paris.

00:12:54 Speaker 2

I mean the regular hospital in Paris.

00:12:59 Speaker 2

And the captain out there.

00:13:02 Speaker 2

Operated on me and gave me the piece of metal that it took out of my ankle.

00:13:15 Speaker 2

I was.

00:13:17 Speaker 2

How are weeks?

00:13:19 Speaker 2

Went by Daniel and how a weeks furlough.

00:13:24

Uh.

00:13:26 Speaker 2

We were ordered to be at a certain place at a certain time.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

There was a.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

I don't know his guys from other offers that had been wounded.

00:13:38 Speaker 2

We got on a train, went to the seaport again.

00:13:43 Speaker 2

Southampton got on board.

00:13:47 Speaker 2

The ships.

00:13:50 Speaker 2

And this time, well, we went on the fire.

00:13:55 Speaker 2

But it took about two weeks.

00:14:00 Speaker 2

Maybe 20?

00:14:02 Speaker 2

Not quite three weeks till you go up through Epidemi had to wait till they had trucks.

00:14:09 Speaker 2

You might be one place two days or three days, maybe 4 days.

00:14:15 Speaker 2

But again, that's.

00:14:18 Speaker 2

Whenever get back to my outfit.

00:14:21 Speaker 2

Every man was different again.

00:14:24 Speaker 2

We.

00:14:27 Speaker 2

Pretty large. I was told it was a 900 man turnover in our company alone.

00:14:33 Speaker 2

I don't know if that's accurate, but I was told that.

00:14:38 Speaker 2

What?

00:14:41 Speaker 2

The war was over by that time, but we were picking up prisoners here and there were most of them were giving up voluntarily.

00:14:50 Speaker 2

But every now and then it would be snipers that you had to shoot down.

00:14:54 Speaker 2

Capture or shoot them.

00:14:57 Speaker 2

And we wind up in.

00:15:01 Speaker 2

Hitler's.

00:15:02 Speaker 2

I think it was brown, our Austrian. I know we ran up in that right over the border from Germany.

00:15:11 Speaker 2

Over a bridge that had been hit by a.

00:15:16 Speaker 2

Planes.

00:15:18 Speaker 2

But you can walk over.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

But the bridge was tilted at about a.

00:15:24 Speaker 2

Oh 45° angle.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

They had a rope.

00:15:30 Speaker 2

Across and I remember the first Sergeant said.

00:15:35 Speaker 2

If anybody falls in waived bye bye. Because when they're going to stop to pick you up and leave her up.

00:15:43 Speaker 2

Good 80 feet up over the river.

00:15:47 Speaker 2

And I believe that was that.

00:15:50 Speaker 2

River of Germany.

00:15:55 Speaker 2

I can't think of it.

00:15:56 Speaker 2

The vine? No. The romantic river.

00:16:02

Yeah.

00:16:03 Speaker 4

Canyon or Elm?

00:16:07 Speaker 2

I forget anyway.

00:16:10 Speaker 2

We got into, I think it was brano.

00:16:14 Speaker 2

We were there for 12 hours over there overnight.

00:16:18 Speaker 2

And.

00:16:21 Speaker 2

Next day we got on board trucks.

00:16:26 Speaker 2



I don't know how they did this because we didn't have to go back over the bridge again.

00:16:31 Speaker 2

But we went through Munich.

00:16:35 Speaker 2

And wind up attempting Germany.

00:16:40 Speaker 2

And we were.

00:16:43

There.

00:16:44 Speaker 2

Oh, maybe two months.

00:16:47 Speaker 2

It was like a 2 month vacation really because we had very little.

00:16:54

Uh.

00:16:55 Speaker 2

Regimentation to do.

00:16:58 Speaker 2

At first we had a report for Reveley in the morning. Then they had.

00:17:02 Speaker 2

Did away with that?

00:17:05 Speaker 2

And the same way with retreat in the afternoon, about two weeks of that, than they did away with that.

00:17:16 Speaker 2

They had an NCO club there which had joined.

00:17:21 Speaker 2

We used to get.

00:17:23 Speaker 2

Whiskey ration if you were.

00:17:28 Speaker 2

A corporal or a Sergeant?

00:17:32 Speaker 2

Turn the whiskey ration into the club.

00:17:36 Speaker 2

And their newspapers are all kinds of newspapers.

00:17:42 Speaker 2

You could get something to eat there, just like any club drinks.

00:17:48 Speaker 2

It was a nice place to go if you had.

00:17:50 Speaker 2

Else, to do put it that way. But Captain was a nice.

00:17:57 Speaker 2

Old World Town had modern stuff in it, but it was also a lot of old world stuff.

00:18:05 Speaker 2

It was a nice town.

00:18:08 Speaker 2

And.

00:18:11 Speaker 2

I guess it was in.

00:18:15 Speaker 2

Well, before we left there I.

00:18:19 Speaker 2

I was told by the through an officer.

00:18:23 Speaker 2

Through debt rooms, beds for your men, he said.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

Ask for.

00:18:30 Speaker 2

Tell them you want beds.

00:18:32 Speaker 2

That's what I did.

00:18:35 Speaker 2

At all is one woman.

00:18:38 Speaker 2

I want beds for my men. There's in an apartment house on the corner.

00:18:42 Speaker 2

This street.

00:18:45 Speaker 2

She had to herself.

00:18:48 Speaker 2

I had one downstairs the other couple. It's was a a bar on the corner is what it was.

00:18:56 Speaker 2

But a bigger but an apartment house.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

And we all got feds.

00:19:02 Speaker 2

No.

00:19:03 Speaker 2

But like I said, it was like from then on like about two months vacation.

00:19:10 Speaker 2

But eventually.

00:19:16 Speaker 2

I was told to.

00:19:20 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:19:21 Speaker 2

That myself, Freddie, get my things he got.

00:19:24 Speaker 2

Been going home tomorrow.

00:19:25 Speaker 2

First Sergeant said.

00:19:30 Speaker 2

So, so the next day.

00:19:35 Speaker 2

I still have a rule of film with.

00:19:38 Speaker 2

Photoshop over there in Kempton.

00:19:40 Speaker 2

I don't know if anybody picked them up.

00:19:44 Speaker 2

I've been waiting all these years to see those pictures.

00:19:48 Speaker 2

It wouldn't let me stay long enough to get them.

00:19:51 Speaker 2

So we wind up in France.

00:19:55 Speaker 2

To wait for a ship.

00:19:58 Speaker 2

But the maritime sailors went on strike at that time. So we were in France for about 3 weeks till they got the strike settled.

00:20:08 Speaker 2

And we came home and one of the Liberty ships.

00:20:12 Speaker 2

But it took three weeks to come back across the Atlantic Ocean.

00:20:18 Speaker 2

We ran into a storm that.

00:20:23 Speaker 2

The waves were way up.

00:20:25 Speaker 2

One minute you're looking up at the waves, the next minute you're looking down at the waves.

00:20:30 Speaker 2

You don't know the ship is bouncing up and down and.

00:20:36 Speaker 2

On the map.

00:20:39 Speaker 2

In the, I guess you call it the map room on the ship.

00:20:44 Speaker 2

It show that you're moving an inch from one day to the next on the map, but that was probably, I don't know if that was 50 miles after that, but it looked like we were never going to get home. But eventually we landed in.

00:21:00 Speaker 2

Down in Virginia.

00:21:05 Speaker 2

I can't remember the name of that town anymore.

00:21:11 Speaker 2

We stay there overnight, went up to.

00:21:16 Speaker 2

Pennsylvania Indian time gap.

00:21:21 Speaker 2

We were there a couple days and the Sergeant came around and wanted to know anybody and wanted to sign up.

00:21:28 Speaker 2

Stay in the.

00:21:29 Speaker 2

They almost threw him out of the barracks because nobody went to sign up again.

00:21:36 Speaker 2

Well, he said. I'm still to ask.

00:21:40 Speaker 2

So he left and we all had.

00:21:46 Speaker 2

Passes and tickets.

00:21:49 Speaker 2

I guess the truck took us into Harrisburg.

00:21:53 Speaker 2

And we got the.

00:21:54 Speaker 2

I got the train to reading.

00:21:58 Speaker 2

Get off the train and Franklin St.

00:22:02 Speaker 2

Uh. Some other soldiers were there. They got off.

00:22:06 Speaker 2

Didn't don't know who they were.

00:22:09 Speaker 2

I walked into Penn St. remember to get a bus.

00:22:15 Speaker 2

And the.

00:22:19 Speaker 2

I forget what the fair was, but it hadn't changed.

00:22:24 Speaker 2

And I got up to where my girlfriend was waiting, but she didn't know I was home yet.

00:22:30 Speaker 2

I got to the front door and.

00:22:34 Speaker 2

Surprised everybody at 12th and Robinson St.

00:22:41 Speaker 2

Then it was my turn to well, we got married.

00:22:46 Speaker 2

Second day of February.

00:22:51 Speaker 2

Picked the day to get married.

00:22:54 Speaker 2

I arrived at the.

00:22:58 Speaker 2

Her house, the 18th of December, a week before Christmas.

00:23:03 Speaker 2

So in the second day of February, we were married.

00:23:08 Speaker 2

And.

00:23:11 Speaker 2

Oh, maybe a year later, he.

00:23:15 Speaker 2

We had a.

00:23:20 Speaker 2

My wife's uncle, Charlie Owen. The three apartments on Birch St. 900 Blackbird St.

00:23:31 Speaker 2

936 I think that was yeah, 936.

00:23:36 Speaker 2

So we got a second floor apartment.

00:23:40 Speaker 2

\$35.00 a month.

00:23:42 Speaker 2

It's cheap.

00:23:46 Speaker 2

So I got \$4.00 knocked off for cutting the grass and taking care of the heater.

00:23:53 Speaker 2

The winter time.

00:23:56 Speaker 2

And eventually I worked from 1 Baker for a while.

00:24:00 Speaker 2

Seven months.

00:24:05 Speaker 2

Then I got a job on a railroad, as eventually I was a Carmen at first machinist helper, then a corpsman.

00:24:17 Speaker 2

Then it was electrician I.

00:24:19 Speaker 2

Electric electric trade became electricism, Hopper, and four years later I was electrician.

00:24:28 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:24:31 Speaker 2

Well, my wife died.

00:24:34 Speaker 2

We were married 63 years.

00:24:38 Speaker 2

She died 1909.

00:24:43 Speaker 3

2000.

00:24:44 Speaker 2

2009 beg your pardon?

00:24:49 Speaker 2

I feel like I'm that old 1909.



00:24:53

Uh.

00:24:56 Speaker 2

What else can I say?

00:25:00 Speaker 3

Go back to when you were in Campton at the end of the war.

00:25:04 Speaker 3

And that Lady whose husband you didn't look as gaunt. The picture that didn't.

00:25:10 Speaker 3

He didn't look as thin as some of the others who didn't have meat.

00:25:14 Speaker 3

And you thought he was in there was a symbol on his uniform that you thought he was in with.

00:25:19 Speaker 2

Oh, that was s s.

00:25:24 Speaker 2

Where we had our.

00:25:25 Speaker 2

Yeah, that was a lady we're at.

00:25:27 Speaker 2

Apartment in Kempton.

00:25:31 Speaker 2

You can tell who belong to the Nazi party, by the way.

00:25:35 Speaker 2

People, people that got real food were Nazi party members.

00:25:40 Speaker 2

Those that weren't Nazi party members had powdered food.

00:25:45 Speaker 2

Well, this lady had real food.

00:25:49 Speaker 2

Real potatoes, real vegetables.

00:25:52 Speaker 2

And she showed me a picture of her brother-in-law.

00:25:55 Speaker 2

Her husband was a captain and a German army, but her brother-in-law was a border guard at Denmark and.

00:26:05 Speaker 2

Assess things on his arm, I.

00:26:06 Speaker 2

Oh, he was in the SSI. Can speak enough German then.

00:26:13 Speaker 2

At she understood I was saying.

00:26:16 Speaker 2

That she.

00:26:17 Speaker 2

Oh, no, no, he wasn't the.

00:26:20 Speaker 2

Not she wasn't says she said.

00:26:23 Speaker 2

But I didn't push the issue because I could see the.

00:26:28 Speaker 2

Disease or whatever you call.

00:26:31 Speaker 2

But she and they had.

00:26:35 Speaker 2

I guess her husband had modeled hanging from the ceiling of planes.

00:26:42 Speaker 2

German planes.

00:26:45 Speaker 2

American planes and these were, oh, these are big models, you know, like like some of these guys fly over the airplane clubs.

00:26:55 Speaker 2

But I guess he did that.

00:26:58 Speaker 2

To recognize planes I don't know, but.

00:27:02 Speaker 2

You wouldn't have that stuff. I don't think if you weren't a Nazi party member, you wouldn't have that stuff.

00:27:09 Speaker 2

But I heard her apartment was very nicely furnished.

00:27:16 Speaker 2

And across the street, there was a woman who she and her husband lived over there. They had three children.

00:27:24 Speaker 2

Two boys were 12 and 14.

00:27:27 Speaker 2

They were in the Hitler Youth organization.

00:27:31 Speaker 2

Their daughter was 15.

00:27:34 Speaker 2

Her name was Mary Lisse.

00:27:36 Speaker 2

I remember her name and I can't remember the boys.

00:27:41 Speaker 2

But they were typical.

00:27:44 Speaker 2

Blonde, blue eyed.

00:27:46 Speaker 2

Sturdy boys friendly. They were friendly boys.

00:27:52 Speaker 2

They were a little angry because somebody they had victory gardens like read what they call Victory gardens.

00:27:59 Speaker 2

But somebody was stealing your vegetables.

00:28:03 Speaker 2

They were the two boys were trying to catch whoever was stealing, but they couldn't catch them.

00:28:09 Speaker 2

But this lady?

00:28:13 Speaker 2

Offered to watch my uniform every week because I got it quicker from her than I would from the army, and sometimes from the army. You might be missing a shirt or pants. You don't know what the whole thing would come back to you.

00:28:30 Speaker 2

So I usually give her.

00:28:33 Speaker 2

In captain, we got.

00:28:36 Speaker 2

Every week we got a carton of cigarettes.

00:28:38 Speaker 2

I didn't smoke.

00:28:41 Speaker 2

But her husband?

00:28:42 Speaker 2

I'd give him a pack of cigarettes.

00:28:46 Speaker 2

Give her a candy bar or a we got 2 bars of soap every week.

00:28:52 Speaker 2

Must have thought we were awful dirty.

00:28:55 Speaker 2

I gave her a bar of soap.

00:28:59 Speaker 2

Anna.

00:29:01 Speaker 2

The kids.

00:29:04 Speaker 2

They didn't have much candy then. You know, this was right after couple months after the war was over. Stuff wasn't coming in yet.

00:29:14 Speaker 2

And you couldn't sit there and eat boy a candy you'd have 10/12/15 kids in front watching you.

00:29:21 Speaker 2

A bunch of the guys we all got together and we got 5 candy bars, five of them a week.

00:29:32 Speaker 2

Cut the cannabis in three pieces.

00:29:35 Speaker 2

And we all did that. And then?

00:29:39 Speaker 2

Depending how many kids were there, they did she at least get a get a piece of the candy bar.

00:29:46 Speaker 2

But.

00:29:48 Speaker 2

It was interesting you met that the lady also told us.

00:29:53 Speaker 2

The s s men came in one day and up the street there was a elderly couple.

00:29:59 Speaker 2

Took that elderly couple out.

00:30:02 Speaker 2

And she said we never saw them.

00:30:04 Speaker 2

We don't know why they took them and she said you didn't there ask because the assessment would take you too.

00:30:12 Speaker 2

If they saw you looking, they would take you.

00:30:16 Speaker 2

So, she said.

00:30:17 Speaker 2

We still don't know why they were taken and I don't know if they were Jewish or what.

00:30:22 Speaker 2

Don't know.

00:30:24 Speaker 2

But every block had what they call a goal lighter.

00:30:30 Speaker 2

And the one on their block was arrested.

00:30:34 Speaker 2

And the people that block, they were jumping up and down for joy because that guy, he must have been to them.

00:30:40 Speaker 2

Must have been.

00:30:42 Speaker 2

He was a party member.

00:30:45 Speaker 2

But it Mr. must have been a Lulu to them.

00:30:50 Speaker 2

But they were so happy when he was arrested, they knew not was safe when those guys were arrested.

00:30:57 Speaker 2

You could go where you wanted without reporting to somebody.

00:31:00 Speaker 2

What you wanted to do?

00:31:04 Speaker 2

And from there, well, the rest. Like I said, till we came back home again.

00:31:10

Well, you.

00:31:11 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:31:11 Speaker 2

I'm 90, almost 91.

00:31:17 Speaker 2

Hopefully I have 10 years to go yet, Tilly. I'd like to get the B100.

00:31:24 Speaker 2

But.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

That's for the man upstairs.

00:31:29 Speaker 3

About Mr. Mr. Hodman dad, how about Mr. \*\*\*\*\*?

00:31:30 Speaker 2

Not real, but huh.

00:31:34 Speaker 3

That.

00:31:35 Speaker 3

You what was told me about \*\*\*\*\*?

00:31:38 Speaker 2

Which one was hyund?

00:31:40 Speaker 3

The one who cleaned up that the one night and wrote letters home and.

00:31:45 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, yeah.

00:31:47 Speaker 2

That was a Jewish boy in our outfit.

00:31:50 Speaker 2

I forgot about.

00:31:51 Speaker 2

I'm glad you said it.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

He was in my squad. \*\*\*\*\*, Jewish boy from Washington.

00:31:59 Speaker 2

Yet.

00:32:02 Speaker 2

He was.

00:32:05 Speaker 2

He wrote.

00:32:07 Speaker 2

4 Letters one night we knew we were going on the attack in the morning.

00:32:13 Speaker 2

And I asked him about, and he shaved the bread full moon that night.

00:32:21 Speaker 2

And guys have put water in the cold water and the helmets and shave, he shaved, washed up and I asked him why he's doing all that.

00:32:28 Speaker 2

He said.

00:32:31 Speaker 2

I have a feeling I'm gonna get it tomorrow.

00:32:34 Speaker 2

And a couple other guys hurting me said. Oh, that's.

00:32:38 Speaker 2

You always wondering? No, no, no, he said.

00:32:40 Speaker 2



This isn't that he.

00:32:42 Speaker 2

I know I'm going to get it tomorrow.

00:32:47 Speaker 2

Machine gun bullets.

00:32:48 Speaker 2

Three of them went through him here, 10:00 in the morning, came out the back and he fell down, face forward and never moved after that.

00:33:00 Speaker 2

He wrote a letter to his parents.

00:33:04 Speaker 2

And he had three girlfriends. He said that weren't his.

00:33:09 Speaker 2

They were friends.

00:33:09 Speaker 2

They weren't his girlfriends, but they were girls who were friends of his.

00:33:14 Speaker 2

And I don't know why he put in a letter, but that was very odd.

00:33:21 Speaker 2

But that machine gun.

00:33:24 Speaker 2

Was in a French farm house on a second floor.

00:33:30 Speaker 2

And those rooms and those French farm houses, they were only about 8 by 10 or something like that.

00:33:38 Speaker 2

In the back machine, gun was over here back there was a woman was giving birth.

00:33:44 Speaker 2

The same time the machine gunner was flying out this window.

00:33:48 Speaker 2

Mother and baby were fine.

00:33:51 Speaker 2

We didn't know it till.

00:33:52 Speaker 2

We were fine at the machine gun and he was firing down. The bullets went over me, hit him and it was about 20 feet in back of me.

00:34:03 Speaker 2

And I guess when you find that at a high.

00:34:09 Speaker 2

Wind, I don't know, but I think that's what happened.

00:34:15 Speaker 2

But by the time we fixed bayonets and recharged rush forward, there was.

00:34:24 Speaker 2

Six people I think were killed out of our platoon. I think 3 or 4 were wounded.

00:34:30 Speaker 2

But by the time we get up to the French farmhouse here, the Germans over there had left.

00:34:36 Speaker 2

There was a delaying force to delay us, so the main body could get away and that's what happened till we got up there and find out what was wrong.

00:34:47

Well.

00:34:47 Speaker 2

They were.

00:34:48 Speaker 2

But the mother and baby were fine.

00:34:52 Speaker 2

Yeah, that's I forgot about that.

00:34:56 Speaker 2

Uh, he was a good.

00:34:57 Speaker 2

One of the best soldiers you want.

00:34:59 Speaker 2

Meet.

00:35:00 Speaker 2

Never complained.

00:35:02 Speaker 2

Most of the men that I had in my squad, there was only one that complained.

00:35:08 Speaker 2

I won't say his name.

00:35:11 Speaker 2

But.

00:35:13 Speaker 2

If it's.

00:35:14 Speaker 2

Turn to go on the end one night.

00:35:17 Speaker 2

You know you don't have lights at night. It's dark.

00:35:21 Speaker 2

And.

00:35:23 Speaker 2

He refused to go in the end.

00:35:26 Speaker 2

And they told him, look, it's your turn.

00:35:30 Speaker 2

Well, a couple other guys offered this.

00:35:33 Speaker 2

Sergeant Heiser was a squad Sergeant then, and I was.

00:35:36 Speaker 2

Assistant squad leader.

00:35:39 Speaker 2

And Sergeant said no, it's his turn.

00:35:41 Speaker 2

Supposed to go well, he said.

00:35:43 Speaker 2

I don't care if you caught moisture.

00:35:45 Speaker 2

I'm not going in the enemy all by myself.

00:35:49 Speaker 2

So finally, one other guy took it anyway.

00:35:52 Speaker 2

That's the only guy that ever complained. The rest of the time he was alright, but he hated to be alone at the end, you know, at the end of a line he didn't like to be alone.

00:36:03 Speaker 2

And you know at night.

00:36:07 Speaker 2

I don't know.

00:36:09 Speaker 2

If you.

00:36:09 Speaker 2

Slept out at night, camping or anything.

00:36:14 Speaker 2

Even a squirrel running around in the in the brush.

00:36:18 Speaker 2

Can make noise that sounds like it might be a person or a bear or something running.

00:36:24 Speaker 2

Don't know what it is.

00:36:27 Speaker 2

And there was a lot of these small forest creatures running around.

00:36:31 Speaker 2

They had a lot of deer that I didn't see no bears, but they had a lot of deer over there.

00:36:38 Speaker 2

So yeah, that distinguish between human beings and then animals. That part was soon got adjusted to that.

00:36:48 Speaker 2

Because the Germans had patrols out too, and you never knew.

00:36:53 Speaker 2

What was going to happen?

00:36:56 Speaker 2

Fortunately, we didn't run into any patrols.

00:37:02 Speaker 1

When you were in power, France had Paris fallen already or?

00:37:09 Speaker 2

Paris.

00:37:12 Speaker 2

When we first went into France, they were still fighting for Paris, but my outfit was down like.

00:37:21 Speaker 2

Paris was like was up here and we were coming this way.

00:37:24 Speaker 2

Like I guess you would say it would be.

00:37:33 Speaker 1

Who is your?

00:37:33 Speaker 2

Yeah, ES, yeah.

00:37:35 Speaker 1

Who is your general?

00:37:38 Speaker 2

Horace McBride was a division general and Patton was a renter.

00:37:44 Speaker 2

Army patent was army commander.

00:37:49 Speaker 1

Did you have any fighting through the?

00:37:51 Speaker 1

At all.

00:37:52 Speaker 2

Beginning we did.

00:37:59 Speaker 2

That we've been in France. The hedgerows were used by the French farmers and slew of fences.

00:38:08 Speaker 2

But they were years and years in the making.

00:38:12 Speaker 2

You would have trees this bigger on the trunks side by side.

00:38:19 Speaker 2

You wonder how they grew that way, but they did.

00:38:23 Speaker 2

And we try to cut them down with our bananas. I mean, it's.

00:38:26 Speaker 2

Cut them.

00:38:27

We.

00:38:28 Speaker 2

Had Dell bayonets.

00:38:30 Speaker 2

They grind the human body, but they wouldn't cut the trees.

00:38:35 Speaker 2

And one night.

00:38:37 Speaker 2

The.

00:38:39 Speaker 2

Squad from I guess it was a third platoon.

00:38:44 Speaker 2

Somebody heard a noise like up in this direction?

00:38:48 Speaker 2

And the Sergeant was told to take his squad up and see what that was.

00:38:53 Speaker 2

Well, it was start.

00:38:55 Speaker 2

They had their bayonets fixed because they didn't know what they were going to run into.

00:39:01 Speaker 2

And I was so he puts his hand up to stop and you can't see that in the door.

00:39:09 Speaker 2

The first couple guys stopped. The last guy didn't stop his bayonet, went into the rear end of the guy in front of him.

00:39:21 Speaker 2

Within about four inches.

00:39:24 Speaker 2

He wound up going back to hospital.

00:39:27 Speaker 2

Never saw him again.

00:39:29 Speaker 2

He might have been hurt more than we thought.

00:39:33 Speaker 2

But I never saw him after.

00:39:35 Speaker 2

I know he wasn't killed, but not at that point.

00:39:40 Speaker 2

We did have a guy who had a knife.

00:39:44 Speaker 2

I guess you call it a sheath.

00:39:47 Speaker 2

Like a honey knife.

00:39:49 Speaker 2

And he was demonstrating how planes going on.

00:39:53 Speaker 2

I grew.

00:39:54 Speaker 2

And then all of a sudden they swoop down.

00:39:58 Speaker 2

He duck jumped up, thinking his knife came out.

00:40:02 Speaker 2

The hit.

00:40:03 Speaker 2

1st and as she came down, it ran into his thigh.

00:40:09 Speaker 2

Cut the artery.

00:40:13 Speaker 2

Came back again.

00:40:14 Speaker 2

They rushed him to the field hospital.

00:40:17 Speaker 2

I don't know what happened to him.

00:40:19 Speaker 2

Was a school teacher from California.



00:40:24 Speaker 2

I don't know if he bled to death.

00:40:28 Speaker 2

Or if they.

00:40:31 Speaker 2

You got to him. If you got to the field hospital, chances are they saved him. But I never saw him again. So I don't know what happened there.

00:40:40 Speaker 1

Were you involved in Operation Market Garden?

00:40:45 Speaker 2

No, I don't know what that is, but Oh no, no, no.

00:40:49 Speaker 2

Was far from there.

00:40:51 Speaker 1

Can you describe to us what it was like when you?

00:40:53 Speaker 1

Your push.

00:40:54 Speaker 1

From southern France, up in the Bastone to relieve Bastone.

00:41:00 Speaker 2

Well, my unit was already in bastone.

00:41:05 Speaker 1

I had a.

00:41:05 Speaker 1

Had of the the main unit.

00:41:08 Speaker 2

No, the 8th Division went in and pushed the Germans out.

00:41:12 Speaker 2

The Germans were still fighting a mile outside the town.

00:41:16 Speaker 1

OK.

00:41:17 Speaker 2

And gentlemen privates there and there was seven of us guys came up in the truck.

00:41:23 Speaker 2

And he wanted to know who had come by experience. So three of us put our hands up while he said, I don't want to talk to you. I want to talk to these other 4 then four guys that just came over from the states.

00:41:35 Speaker 2

You want to tell them what it was like to be in combat.

00:41:39 Speaker 2

But he was waiting until he got the word that it was clear to go into Bath Stone and we were about a mile outside in the other direction.

00:41:49 Speaker 2

So he was talking to them and finally got the word.

00:41:53 Speaker 2

That the enemy was 3 or 4 miles away now.

00:41:58 Speaker 2

So then he said, all right, he said you guys can go in now.

00:42:02 Speaker 2

So our men were our company was already in there.

00:42:06 Speaker 2

They helped to push actually the.

00:42:10 Speaker 2

Four man patrol from the second platoon.

00:42:13

Of.

00:42:14 Speaker 2

Our company.

00:42:17 Speaker 2

Went through the German lines and contacted the.

00:42:25 Speaker 2

What was that armored? I mean that.

00:42:29 Speaker 2

Group of guys that were in, but stone already they were fighting.

00:42:32 Speaker 1

101st, 101st in the 82nd.

00:42:35 Speaker 2

Yeah, but they contacted them to let them know what the the G company was going to do the next day.

00:42:45 Speaker 2

But.

00:42:47 Speaker 2

I guess that helps somewhat.

00:42:49 Speaker 2

Knew.

00:42:49 Speaker 2

They knew that we were close, but I wasn't there.

00:42:53 Speaker 2

Wasn't even there yet at that.

00:42:55 Speaker 2

It was a little bit later till I got even up to Bastone but.

00:43:01 Speaker 2

When we get in there.

00:43:05 Speaker 2

They told me well.

00:43:08 Speaker 2

2nd Platoon is up here. The second squad is in such and such a house and it was in the basement of the house.

00:43:17 Speaker 2

There was seven guys there in the squad and that was what was left.

00:43:20 Speaker 2

Normally it's supposed to be 12.

00:43:25 Speaker 2

I didn't know any of them.

00:43:27 Speaker 2

They were all strangers to me.

00:43:31 Speaker 2

So it wound up that they had an extra staff.

00:43:34 Speaker 2

I did me in the second squad but that.

00:43:38 Speaker 2

Squad Sergeant then got wounded later.

00:43:43 Speaker 2

Then I got the beaters. Squad Sergeant of that squad.

00:43:49 Speaker 2

And the most from then on most of.

00:43:53 Speaker 2

We had.

00:43:55 Speaker 2

I never had 10 men, 12 men as a full squad.

00:44:00 Speaker 2

I usually had eight or nine men in the squad.

00:44:04 Speaker 2

Because the replacements weren't coming in.

00:44:07 Speaker 2

Well, there are other divisions that needed men, so we didn't get a lot of men.

00:44:14 Speaker 1

Have any problem with frostbite?

00:44:17 Speaker 2

What kind of fights?

00:44:18 Speaker 1

Frostbite any from the cold.

00:44:22 Speaker 1

Frostpike.

00:44:22 Speaker 2

I I'm trying to think no.

00:44:27 Speaker 2

I was cold enough.

00:44:30 Speaker 2

And we're stamping our feet like to do, trying to get them warm.

00:44:34 Speaker 2

We stopped for one reason I have never found out why.

00:44:40 Speaker 2

The only there was an expression that the army had to hurry up and wait, and that was a case where you hurry up and wait.

00:44:48 Speaker 2

And re royal Rd. That turned this way.

00:44:53 Speaker 2

But it.

00:44:54 Speaker 2

The road went up a hill.

00:44:56 Speaker 2

It couldn't be down in a hollow somewhere where the wind wouldn't hit you so hard.

00:44:59 Speaker 2

To be up on top of the hill.

00:45:03 Speaker 2

Ground was solid and the wind was howling.

00:45:08 Speaker 2

And the liquor on has seen no place. They'll hide, even in a little Hutter storehouse at some.

00:45:14 Speaker 2

And you don't want to dessert.

00:45:16 Speaker 2

For sure.

00:45:20 Speaker 2

So whatever it was in hell is up there about 20 minutes and finally you get the OK to go ahead.

00:45:26 Speaker 2

Don't know what we never did. Find out what that was.

00:45:30 Speaker 2

When you're walking.

00:45:33 Speaker 2

Your feet get warmer.

00:45:36 Speaker 2

They don't get as warm as your light, but they get warmer.

00:45:40 Speaker 2

I had a guy.

00:45:41 Speaker 2

He was in the hospital when I was in.

00:45:45 Speaker 2

They told him they had to take his leg off.

00:45:47 Speaker 2

Had.

00:45:50 Speaker 2

His leg was frozen and gangrene set in was all the way up to his knee.

00:45:57 Speaker 2

Well, he said.

00:45:58 Speaker 2

It has to be.

00:45:59 Speaker 2

Has to be.

00:46:01 Speaker 2

So he.

00:46:02 Speaker 2

Well, I hope you're alright.

00:46:03 Speaker 2

So they cut his leg off right above his knee.

00:46:08 Speaker 2

When they went back in his bed, he got awake short time later, and then he almost went ballistic.

00:46:17 Speaker 2

His leg was.

00:46:18 Speaker 2

All he was ranting, raving and for two days he was doing this till finally the other guys in there couldn't see, they were wounded.

00:46:27 Speaker 2

Eyes were done.

00:46:29 Speaker 2

And then finally, the other guys told him to shut.

00:46:31 Speaker 2

Hell up.

00:46:35 Speaker 2

At least you can walk these other guys in here.

00:46:37 Speaker 2

See you walk.

00:46:40 Speaker 2

After that, he was all right. That quickly turned the other way.

00:46:44 Speaker 2

From then on, it was he realized that he was acting like a fool.

00:46:50 Speaker 2

And from then on, he was the regular guy again.

00:46:55 Speaker 2

It hit some guys like that.

00:46:58 Speaker 2

But once you get blind, what are you going to do? You can't see?

00:47:03 Speaker 2

Said you got to live with the rest of your life like that.

00:47:05

Hmm.

00:47:07 Speaker 2

And for the army, it's good to you.

00:47:09 Speaker 2

Give you a pension.

00:47:11 Speaker 1

After the battle, the balls did you enter Germany?

00:47:19 Speaker 2

Yeah, we not right away, but we still had a little bit of France to go through yet. But the one time.

00:47:31 Speaker 2

We came around the bend in the road like this. There was a company of the enemy stacked the rifles stacked up in a field and we.

00:47:41 Speaker 2

All.

00:47:42 Speaker 2

Of a sudden, you know, get your hand goes the arrival right away.

00:47:47 Speaker 2

But here they were, waiting to surrender.



00:47:50 Speaker 2

So I, Lieutenant.

00:47:54 Speaker 2

To opportunity, we look walked over and talked to the Lieutenant from the German.

00:48:00 Speaker 2

Group.

00:48:01 Speaker 2

I don't know if it was a full company where there was a lot of men there.

00:48:06 Speaker 2

And he told them what to do.

00:48:07 Speaker 2

Then we passed on.

00:48:08 Speaker 2

Let him go.

00:48:11 Speaker 2

We were a company ourselves. We couldn't take a company of Germans with us.

00:48:17 Speaker 2

So they were told the wait for the MP.

00:48:21 Speaker 2

And there was walkie talkies that they had. They got a hold of the MPs and let them know where the this German group was waiting.

00:48:29 Speaker 2

Shortly after that.

00:48:33 Speaker 2

I'm trying to think of a.

00:48:36 Speaker 2

Town.

00:48:40 Speaker 2

We first entered into Germany, but I can't remember anymore. I'd have to look at the map over there.

00:48:49 Speaker 2

We were in Hamburg as they pronounce it, some of them.

00:48:55 Speaker 2

There was a big brewery in Hamburg.

00:48:59 Speaker 2

He went down a wine.

00:49:01 Speaker 2

Very narrow winding stairway.

00:49:05 Speaker 2

These big tanks.

00:49:08 Speaker 2

I didn't know anything about brewing beer.

00:49:12 Speaker 2

But at the bottom of this tank there was a spigot.

00:49:17 Speaker 2

There was privates, corporals.

00:49:21 Speaker 2

All kinds of sergeants.

00:49:23 Speaker 2

2nd lieutenants.

00:49:25 Speaker 2

First lieutenants.

00:49:28 Speaker 2

Up even the majors.

00:49:30 Speaker 2

And I don't thought there was a couple. Lieutenant Colonel there. Everybody, whatever.

00:49:35 Speaker 2

Cup can they add?

00:49:37 Speaker 2

Could that beer was Co ice cold or was beautiful? And I managed to use my canteen to get one.

00:49:46 Speaker 2

One full cup.

00:49:49 Speaker 2

And I got out just in time. Here comes the MPs.

00:49:54 Speaker 2

They were ordered everybody out.

00:49:57 Speaker 2

Because the word spread, I guess the owners of the brewery got ahold of the army somehow.

00:50:03 Speaker 2

And then they had MPs go adding it so nobody else would take.

00:50:06 Speaker 2

Must have taken a lot of beer out of there.

00:50:08

Sorry.

00:50:09 Speaker 2

Drinking soldiers a good beer drinkers.

00:50:11 Speaker 1

So most of the combat was over when you enter Germany.

00:50:14 Speaker 2

Most of it was over.

00:50:17 Speaker 2

There's only a few.

00:50:17 Speaker 1

Did you?

00:50:18 Speaker 2

There was snipers here and there, but you know, they were soon eradicated we had.

00:50:25 Speaker 2

There was boys, young boys and girls, 15 years old.

00:50:32 Speaker 2

Learn how to shoot a rifle, but they had no other military training.

00:50:37 Speaker 2

A lot of them were fighting against us, taking potshots, but they were soon captured. If anybody had a rifle but shoot, you'd shoot back.

00:50:48 Speaker 2

You don't like the kill of 15 year old kid, but that was the idea. They're going to shoot at you.

00:50:53 Speaker 2

Don't really shot either.

00:50:56 Speaker 2

So most of them, however, captured, but.

00:51:02 Speaker 2

I was in.

00:51:06 Speaker 2

Part of the time.

00:51:07 Speaker 2

Were in reserve going in when we first went into Germany?

00:51:11 Speaker 2

We didn't get to the frontline right away, but a mile or so back of the frontline.

00:51:18 Speaker 2

But.

00:51:20 Speaker 2

When the war was actually over.

00:51:23 Speaker 2

There was only isolated groups that would fire a couple shots and then disappear.

00:51:31 Speaker 2

Some didn't like to give.

00:51:32 Speaker 2

Well, you know, I think guys in our army would be the same way.

00:51:38 Speaker 1

Any contact with Russian soldiers?

00:51:41 Speaker 2

I never had any.

00:51:43 Speaker 2

I saw.

00:51:47 Speaker 2

German army conscripted the YUGOSLAVIANS into their.

00:51:53 Speaker 2

You fight for Germany or get shot yourself, Hungarians.

00:51:59 Speaker 2

I never saw Russian.

00:52:01 Speaker 2

Yugoslavians they were the ones had to watch out for they were.

00:52:08 Speaker 2

All of them must have been formed boards.

00:52:10 Speaker 2

Were all Hudson.

00:52:11 Speaker 2

They looked like wrestlers, all of them that I saw.

00:52:16 Speaker 2

Hungarians, they look like.

00:52:19 Speaker 2

You know, sad sight that you should see in the papers years ago they look like sad sex.

00:52:25 Speaker 2

But the yugoslavians?

00:52:29 Speaker 2

They had a wedding in Campton.

00:52:32 Speaker 2

Yugoslavia was a girl there.

00:52:38 Speaker 2

And the Yugoslavian guy, they got married 3.

00:52:41 Speaker 2

They celebrated that wedding at accordions were going day and night for three days.

00:52:47 Speaker 2

And they were dancing.

00:52:49

I.

00:52:50 Speaker 2

Don't know whether. I guess it got beer at the local court.

00:52:54 Speaker 2

The beer joint where Rea's staying.

00:52:56 Speaker 2

Might have bought it there.

00:52:59 Speaker 1

Any contact with General Patton?

00:53:03 Speaker 2

The only no. The only time I saw and I didn't see him.

00:53:10 Speaker 2

One day in Campton, we were ordered to get all our equipment on General Pat's going to review the troops.

00:53:19 Speaker 2

March is about two miles outside of town into a field.

00:53:25 Speaker 2

And we're standing in formation.

00:53:28 Speaker 2

Here comes the limousine up that side.

00:53:31 Speaker 2

Tinted windows.

00:53:32 Speaker 2

Big limousine and went up and back a list with Donna's side out that side.

00:53:38 Speaker 2

There he goes.

00:53:41 Speaker 2

Took about 20 seconds.

00:53:44 Speaker 2

OK, when it came down, go back and do what you were doing.

00:53:47 Speaker 2

Was him.

00:53:48 Speaker 2

He saw.

00:53:50 Speaker 2

We didn't see him.

00:53:51 Speaker 2

He was in the limousine.

00:53:52 Speaker 2

I guess he was in the limousine. We couldn't tell.

00:53:57 Speaker 1

And obviously you witnessed a lot of combat.

00:54:02 Speaker 1

Can you anything that sticks in your mind is the most courageous act you've ever witnessed in combat.

00:54:09 Speaker 2

Tell you one that I didn't witness, but I heard about it from the guy. I got the Medal of Honor from him and guys that were that were there. Saw it.

00:54:19 Speaker 2

He wiped out three machine gun nests by himself.

00:54:24 Speaker 2

And he was a staff Sergeant.

00:54:27 Speaker 2

Of the third platoon.

00:54:30 Speaker 2

In the 3rd Patroon squad leader.

00:54:33 Speaker 2

Told me said.

00:54:34 Speaker 2

I don't know why I wasn't hit, he said.

00:54:40 Speaker 2

We couldn't move ahead because as machine guns are firing at us, they were hitting.

00:54:44 Speaker 2

Guys.

00:54:46 Speaker 2

He said.

00:54:46 Speaker 2

Grabbing.

00:54:47 Speaker 2

Grenade and I started running.

00:54:51 Speaker 2

Don't go right up to the.

00:54:52 Speaker 2

You throw the gun because you don't want to get hit by rolling grenade.

00:54:57 Speaker 2

Well, he.

00:54:57 Speaker 2



It wiped out that first gun I kept running.

00:55:02 Speaker 2

Get the second grenade through.

00:55:04 Speaker 2

Wipe that the second one and then wiped that the third one and we were able to advance. But he said often thought, why wasn't I hit?

00:55:13 Speaker 2

He said that they were firing at me trying to stop me.

00:55:16 Speaker 2

Should have hit me.

00:55:18 Speaker 2

But they didn't.

00:55:20 Speaker 2

He got the Medal of Honor for that.

00:55:21

What?

00:55:23 Speaker 1

Kind of weapon. Did you carry?

00:55:25 Speaker 2

I initially I had the.

00:55:29 Speaker 2

Ba are Browning automatic?

00:55:34 Speaker 2

I don't know why then they decided. No, they gave me the M1 rifle.

00:55:41 Speaker 2

Then.

00:55:44 Speaker 2

I think they did away with that, Brian.

00:55:47 Speaker 2

I guess they felt that was not effective enough.

00:55:51 Speaker 2

That was all right.

00:55:52 Speaker 2

Guess if you have trench warfare.

00:55:53 Speaker 2

But we were moving too much.

00:55:57 Speaker 2

But then they gave me a rifle grenade.

00:56:03 Speaker 2

They said this is something new.

00:56:05 Speaker 2

This.

00:56:07 Speaker 2

And you got a blank cartridge that fired the grenade off. The problem with the grenade was it was heavy.

00:56:15 Speaker 2

Or it exploded alright.

00:56:18 Speaker 2

But if you had your the one time we ran, it was a German soldier in the foxhole.

00:56:24 Speaker 2

He wouldn't give up and we didn't know why.

00:56:28 Speaker 2

And I fired this at this angle.

00:56:33 Speaker 2

But rather than a was too heavy, it wouldn't go to old essence and gradually, with Don hit the middle of the IT didn't hit the middle.

00:56:44 Speaker 2

I hit the middle of the.

00:56:45 Speaker 2

Yeah, but it was supposed to go like this to explode. Instead, it went on the edge, bounced up and over the Germans head, and he ducked.

00:56:54 Speaker 2

Saw it coming.

00:56:57 Speaker 2

And the greatest? Still, the grenade is still living over there in the woods. I guess somewhere. I don't think it exploded.

00:57:04 Speaker 2

Didn't hear it.

00:57:06 Speaker 2

And I had a grenade earlier.

00:57:09 Speaker 2

I fired it straight up in the air like this, just at a slight angle.

00:57:14 Speaker 2

That this House in Kempton, not Kempton. The first time we went in.

00:57:21 Speaker 2

It hit the door right at the door.

00:57:25 Speaker 2

Front door going into the house and exploded, the Lieutenant said. Good shot, Molly.

00:57:33 Speaker 2

It ruined the door, but it didn't.

00:57:35

We.

00:57:36 Speaker 2

Weren't going to grind the house anyhow, but we felt we scared people out of it as any enemy in.

00:57:42 Speaker 2

But nobody moved.

00:57:45 Speaker 2

Might have woke up.

00:57:46 Speaker 2

French people, though I don't know.

00:57:48

Question.

00:57:48 Speaker 2

But that was the only true of fire.

00:57:52 Speaker 2

Then they took that.

00:57:53 Speaker 2

I guess it was considered platoon had one of those.

00:57:57 Speaker 2

And they took him away and I got my M.

00:58:00 Speaker 2

Rifle back again.

00:58:03 Speaker 2

I like that I'm one.

00:58:05 Speaker 2

I wish I would.

00:58:05 Speaker 2

They should have let us keep those.

00:58:08 Speaker 3

Dad, how?

00:58:09 Speaker 3

When you put those pictures up in the postcard Nuremberg.

00:58:15 Speaker 2

These big pictures.

00:58:18 Speaker 3

Little ones you picked up, yeah.

00:58:21 Speaker 2

Oh, that was only.

00:58:23 Speaker 3

What were you doing in there?

00:58:26

Oh.

00:58:30 Speaker 2

Well.

00:58:32 Speaker 2

The Olympics was over, so I guess they didn't want us to run.

00:58:35 Speaker 2

Don't know why we went there was just to observe.

00:58:38 Speaker 2

Guess because we were only there.

00:58:43 Speaker 2

Maybe 20 minutes.

00:58:45 Speaker 2

And.

00:58:47 Speaker 2

I guess they wanted to check out. Make sure that the enemy wasn't in.

00:58:51 Speaker 2

Was hiding in there.

00:58:52 Speaker 2

That's a that was a big sports stadium.

00:58:57 Speaker 2

And I happen to know those pictures.

00:59:00 Speaker 2

And the first Sergeant.

00:59:02 Speaker 2

Say.

00:59:03 Speaker 2

We're moving out.

00:59:04 Speaker 2

We don't have time to fool around.

00:59:08 Speaker 2

Well, I thought. I'm statist.

00:59:13 Speaker 2

Why did was reached on got the handful of those pictures?

00:59:18 Speaker 2

Later on I show what I had.

00:59:21 Speaker 2

That's that's the only reason I can figure out that we were there for observation more than anything else.

00:59:31 Speaker 5

Ed, did you get to see any concentration camps?

00:59:35 Speaker 2

I didn't.

00:59:37

But.

00:59:38 Speaker 2

Every unit, every company had one truck.

00:59:42 Speaker 2

Were on one truck.

00:59:45 Speaker 2

Which took about 20 men.

00:59:49 Speaker 2

I didn't have to get on it, but the guys that went from our company came back and told us what they saw.

00:59:56 Speaker 2

And they said it was terrible.

00:59:59 Speaker 2

What they saw, they saw, I saw.

01:00:05 Speaker 2

I was in.

01:00:11 Speaker 2

Oh, what was that?

01:00:13 Speaker 2

Alt Osane was the name of the town.

01:00:17 Speaker 2

Up in the mountains of like the foothills of these high mountains.

01:00:23 Speaker 2

Here comes a GI truck filled with GI's that were released from prisoners.

01:00:31 Speaker 2

And I was on guard duty. I that the crossroads.

01:00:36 Speaker 2

I don't know why going out there with a rifle. What you're going to do if enemy comes by, he's not going to do anything.

01:00:42 Speaker 2

Going to get shot.

01:00:43 Speaker 2

But they wanted a guy out there, so I took my turn.

01:00:49 Speaker 2

Now they were living skeletons in that truck.

01:00:54 Speaker 2

I looked at them and the, you know, the back of the truck was open and others and I said, Oh my God, those poor guys talk about losing weight.

01:01:04 Speaker 2

They had skin covering their bones that I don't know if they had flesh underneath, but that's how thin they were.

01:01:12 Speaker 2

But they were still alive.

01:01:15 Speaker 2

That's the only thing I saw when the the guys that went to the concentration camps, they saw the.

01:01:22 Speaker 2

Furnaces and people still were there that were, plus people that were dead that had died before they went into the furnaces. They were piled up and there were people that were walking around.

01:01:39 Speaker 2

Like walking skeletons.

01:01:42 Speaker 2

And in a way, I was glad I didn't see that.

01:01:44 Speaker 2

Would have shook me up a little bit.

01:01:48 Speaker 1

Did you see a German jet?

01:01:51 Speaker 2

No.

01:01:54 Speaker 2

I didn't see.

01:01:58 Speaker 2

You said German jet.

01:02:00 Speaker 2

Yeah, I didn't see.

01:02:04 Speaker 2

When you saw planes in the sky.

01:02:08 Speaker 2

Tended to hide, but I didn't see jets.



01:02:13 Speaker 2

Those P38's with a twin fuselage.

01:02:20 Speaker 2

We wrought, we were told it could not check this House, that town down there.

01:02:27 Speaker 2

It was time, maybe 50-60 people in it, just to make sure there was no Germans hiding.

01:02:34 Speaker 2

And on the way down here, one of these P38, one of our P38 came over and we thought it's best to stay in the woods.

01:02:43 Speaker 2

Because from the air they can't tell whether you're friendly or not.

01:02:47 Speaker 2

And we find out that sometimes they think you're the enemy. They fire at you.

01:02:53 Speaker 2

I didn't see many planes.

01:02:57

Uh.

01:02:59 Speaker 2

Even in Germany, when we went into Germany bastone him, they had him at Bastone, but I.

01:03:05 Speaker 2

See him.

01:03:08 Speaker 2

Because they bummed the German troops there.

01:03:15 Speaker 2

That's why so late.

01:03:20 Speaker 2

When I enlisted at the old post office, I used to be on 5th St. in Reading.

01:03:26 Speaker 2

Was a book Sergeant there, he said.

01:03:28 Speaker 2

Here and here.

01:03:31 Speaker 2

Something like that paper you said.

01:03:35 Speaker 2

I thought I was going to.

01:03:36 Speaker 2

To Air Force.

01:03:39 Speaker 2

When I get to Camp, Forest Tennent, Tennessee.

01:03:45 Speaker 2

Know playing around, I don't see no planes anywhere.

01:03:50 Speaker 2

Eventually I saw a lot of infantry guys.

01:03:54 Speaker 2

Pride fishing and marching, you know.

01:03:59 Speaker 2

So and a couple other guys told me the same.

01:04:01 Speaker 2

They sign up for the Air Force. They want me to need an infantryman.

01:04:05 Speaker 2

That's when Roosevelt said that maybe he meant good.

01:04:11 Speaker 2

But the army said, Oh no, we're not going to do that.

01:04:16 Speaker 2

I found out somebody said if you have a college education, you're going to go.

01:04:20 Speaker 2

The Air Force.

01:04:22 Speaker 2

That's what I heard, but I don't know where that was true.

01:04:26 Speaker 2

I should have told him I had six months of college.

01:04:31 Speaker 2

I didn't.

01:04:31 Speaker 2

Never thought I was too dumb in those days.

01:04:33 Speaker 3

Dad, what did you tell me?

01:04:35 Speaker 3

You felt when?

01:04:36 Speaker 3

Said what General Patton said about.

01:04:39 Speaker 3

A good soldier.

01:04:41 Speaker 3

Hates the enemy.

01:04:43 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

01:04:43 Speaker 2

Well, yeah, he said that.

01:04:46 Speaker 2

He was that kind of a.

01:04:47 Speaker 3

But what did you tell?

01:04:48 Speaker 3

Your feelings were on that on the war.

01:04:54 Speaker 2

I forget telling Jo. No, I didn't hate the enemy.

01:05:00 Speaker 2

But.

01:05:04 Speaker 2

I talked to a German soldier in Camden, 18 year old guy.

01:05:11 Speaker 2

And I knew enough German to be able to St. language like he understood what I said.

01:05:18 Speaker 2

And he wasn't mad at us.

01:05:22 Speaker 2

But he was telling me, he said if we would have more men.

01:05:26 Speaker 2

More this more that well said to any army.

01:05:30 Speaker 2

Has more men on the other side. They're going to probably win out. That's true.

01:05:37 Speaker 2

And we were talking generally about this and that.

01:05:40 Speaker 2

Well, he had been wounded.

01:05:43 Speaker 2

And there's room.

01:05:46 Speaker 2

Why he still wasn't in, I don't know.

01:05:49 Speaker 2

Uh.

01:05:52 Speaker 2

Whether they just told him course when I talked to him, the war was over then, but he was in civilian clothing.

01:06:01 Speaker 2

So he just went home anyhow.

01:06:03 Speaker 2

Don't know.

01:06:05 Speaker 5

But.

01:06:06 Speaker 5

Ed, did you? Did you hear about the?

01:06:10 Speaker 5

Malt Malti massacre.

01:06:12 Speaker 2

We heard about that and.

01:06:14 Speaker 5

How did you hear about it?

01:06:16 Speaker 2

That through.

01:06:18 Speaker 2

Somehow, through the Grapevine came back because I don't know, somebody told us, but I don't know who it was, but I know it got the guys angry, very angry.

01:06:29 Speaker 2

That's when.

01:06:33 Speaker 2

You don't hurt the soldier, the German army. You hurt. You hate those individual soldiers.

01:06:42 Speaker 2

Especially the leader because he's the one who started that.

01:06:49 Speaker 2

And especially in that hour and Samuel an army.

01:06:53 Speaker 2

You're supposed to follow orders. If they say sure, then you don't want to shoot an unarmed guy.

01:07:00 Speaker 2

You don't want to shoot him, but you might get shot yourself.

01:07:03 Speaker 2

Chances are you're going to shoot.

01:07:07 Speaker 2

I don't know.

01:07:10 Speaker 2

They were holding him.

01:07:11 Speaker 2

He was supposed to be at a certain spot at a certain time and he was.

01:07:16 Speaker 2

Them up.

01:07:17 Speaker 2

The prisoners he didn't want to bother the prisoners because it was slowing them.

01:07:21 Speaker 2

They were slowing him down.

01:07:24 Speaker 2

That's why they didn't win in.

01:07:25 Speaker 2

Battle of bulls.

01:07:27 Speaker 2

That's one of the big reasons.

01:07:31 Speaker 2

So he got rid of his prisoners by.

01:07:35 Speaker 2

By killing them and I guess 5 didn't.

01:07:37 Speaker 2

Wasn't A5 that got away.

01:07:41 Speaker 2

I think it was 5.

01:07:41

June 2.

01:07:43 Speaker 2

Then they went in there and those that were still moving, they put a bullet in their head.

01:07:51 Speaker 2

I couldn't just read well like.

01:07:53 Speaker 2

Maybe they were being kind and stepped their suffering by shooting them all together.

01:07:59 Speaker 2

Don't know.

01:08:01 Speaker 2

But I think it was fire that got away.

01:08:04 Speaker 2

They fired at him but they got away anyhow.

01:08:09 Speaker 5

What?

01:08:11 Speaker 5

Ed.

01:08:11 Speaker 5

Tell us about your your receiving the Purple Heart.

01:08:14 Speaker 5

When did you get it and who gave it to you?

01:08:21 Speaker 2

I got the first one.

01:08:25 Speaker 2

I guess it was in tempted.

01:08:29 Speaker 2

Till he gets through the.

01:08:33 Speaker 2

Through the I don't paperwork and the.

01:08:36 Speaker 2

Politics or whatever you want to call it.

01:08:43 Speaker 2

That's when I got it.

01:08:44 Speaker 5

Who gave it to you?

01:08:47 Speaker 2

Lieutenant handed it to.

01:08:48 Speaker 2

I don't know who gave it to him.

01:08:50 Speaker 2

Same way with the.

01:08:53 Speaker 2

Combat infantry badges.

01:08:57 Speaker 2

The platoon Lieutenant.

01:09:00 Speaker 2

Handed me.

01:09:01 Speaker 2

3 badges.

01:09:05 Speaker 2

Without just said history badges, Muller you earned.

01:09:10 Speaker 2

And that was it.

01:09:13 Speaker 1

You have a bronze star.

01:09:15 Speaker 2

Bron star. I don't know what there was a sent from meritorious service, whatever that is.

01:09:24 Speaker 1



You were brave.

01:09:28 Speaker 2

No, no, wait.

01:09:30 Speaker 2

I was glad I wasn't hit.

01:09:31 Speaker 2

Tell you that.

01:09:32 Speaker 1

You know you have a lot of medals here.

01:09:35 Speaker 1

Which one do you kind of cherish the most?

01:09:39 Speaker 2

Combat entity badge. Really.

01:09:43 Speaker 1

I hear that from almost everybody.

01:09:46 Speaker 2

I was glad to be in it.

01:09:47 Speaker 2

I wasn't infantry man.

01:09:48 Speaker 2

Really was.

01:09:53 Speaker 2

I wish I knew what baby this was.

01:09:56 Speaker 2

To left the booty behind.

01:10:01 Speaker 2

Somebody, some grandmother over there and knitted this, no doubt.

01:10:07 Speaker 1

That's what you kept your piece of shrapnel in.

01:10:09 Speaker 2

Yeah, this little booty. That's a knitted thing.

01:10:24 Speaker 1

Let me see that little booty here in the video.

01:10:28 Speaker 1

Alright, OK.

01:10:31 Speaker 1

Anybody else have any more questions?

01:10:34 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:10:35 Speaker 4

Yeah, I do.

01:10:36 Speaker 4

You were awfully young when you had those responsibilities over your your squad.

01:10:41 Speaker 4

Did you?

01:10:41 Speaker 4

Did that make you feel nervous or or did it just take in stride? Or how did you feel having to worry about the lives of not only your life, but the lives of other men that responsible for?

01:10:57 Speaker 2

I don't know. I didn't.

01:11:00 Speaker 2

Really give much thought to it.

01:11:02 Speaker 2

You the truth.

01:11:06 Speaker 2

I one guy we were going through a Grapevine.

01:11:09 Speaker 2

Don't know what the Grapevine patch I.

01:11:12 Speaker 2

You call it.

01:11:14

Uh.

01:11:18 Speaker 2

This guy was a replacement.

01:11:21 Speaker 2

Anna.

01:11:24 Speaker 2

This side of the arm, the.

01:11:26 Speaker 2

Bullet went in.

01:11:27 Speaker 2

There was a bullet.

01:11:28 Speaker 2

There it came out over here, but the flesh from here to here came out.

01:11:34 Speaker 2

It was hanging on his arm.

01:11:39 Speaker 2

And I thought something like that would shake me.

01:11:41 Speaker 2

But it didn't.

01:11:43 Speaker 2

I wrapped his bandage around it.

01:11:46 Speaker 2

And then I wrapped mine because this bandage didn't cover all.

01:11:49 Speaker 2

Wrapped my every soldier, you know, had their own kit.

01:11:54 Speaker 2

And it was blood. But it did hit the bone.

01:12:00 Speaker 2

And apparently then hit an Ori because there was blood, but not a lot.

01:12:08 Speaker 2

But he I told him to go back to where?

01:12:11 Speaker 2

The captain where the CP was and they would send him back to the field hospital.

01:12:19 Speaker 2

I never saw him again.

01:12:20 Speaker 2

I hoped he was all right.

01:12:25 Speaker 2

I saw the one that affected me the most was Herman \*\*\*\*\*.

01:12:32 Speaker 2

HYHYMANI guess it was.

01:12:37 Speaker 2

That affected me the most, but not to the point where I was gonna fall apart or anything. But I liked him as a as a man and as a soldier. I liked him.

01:12:47 Speaker 2

Was good.

01:12:50 Speaker 2

And we had a guy in there by name of.

01:12:52 Speaker 2

Jewish fellow from Cincinnati.

01:12:57 Speaker 2

Berman always had us he go on his mouth.

01:13:01 Speaker 2

Firing could be going on until his shelves are dropping. He's got a cigar.

01:13:05 Speaker 2

His mouth.

01:13:08 Speaker 2

And here my mother-in-law worked in the cigar factory of 4th and Walnut St.

01:13:13 Speaker 2

Used to be a cigar factory there.

01:13:17 Speaker 2

She wrapped cigars and she sent him a box, he told me said those were good cigars.

01:13:22 Speaker 2

Said I'd smoked every one of them while he was smoking all the time.

01:13:28 Speaker 2

His father had a furniture.

01:13:32 Speaker 2

No, I guess it was a clothing store.

01:13:35 Speaker 2

And Cincinnati anyway, with store in Cincinnati, it is a Jewish, another Jewish boy, now barman was.

01:13:45

A.

01:13:45 Speaker 2

Was.

01:13:48

A.

01:13:49 Speaker 2

They call us like a stocky guy, but it was mostly fat.

01:13:55 Speaker 2

And even all the training we got basic training, all it.

01:14:00 Speaker 2

And made him.

01:14:01 Speaker 2

But he was still like a fat boy.

01:14:07 Speaker 2

We were digging in one day.

01:14:09 Speaker 2

Everybody was digging in a foxhole.

01:14:12 Speaker 2

Berman was sitting there smoking his cigar.

01:14:16 Speaker 2

Said.

01:14:17 Speaker 2

When are you gonna dig in?

01:14:18 Speaker 2

He.

01:14:19 Speaker 2

I get to it and he's blown a smoke out like he's contemplating what his next move is going to be.

01:14:26 Speaker 2

All of a sudden, machine gun opened up.

01:14:28 Speaker 2

Bullets went up over us.

01:14:29 Speaker 2

You should have seen him dig.

01:14:32 Speaker 2

And sweat like a pig.

01:14:36 Speaker 2

Boy, in a couple of minutes he had his whole dog.

01:14:39 Speaker 1

Had several times you had mentioned when you got back to your outfit, you didn't know anybody.

01:14:45 Speaker 1

Was strangers had all the guys been wounded or killed?

01:14:50 Speaker 1

That you knew.

01:14:51 Speaker 2

They were dead or wounded, yeah.

01:14:55 Speaker 2

A lot of guys.

01:14:58 Speaker 2

I thought I told me not to sing this.

01:15:01 Speaker 2

Night these drawers.

01:15:03 Speaker 3

Don't know.

01:15:05 Speaker 3

You mentioned it, but don't sing it.

01:15:08 Speaker 2

Well.

01:15:10 Speaker 2

Oh, I it's hard to do that.

01:15:13 Speaker 1

Go ahead.

01:15:16 Speaker 2

It's 22 horses, but I only remember 2.

01:15:21 Speaker 2

They were.

01:15:21 Speaker 2

They were buttoned at the top and for a dollar they would drop those dirty second drawers at Maggie wore.

01:15:31 Speaker 2

There wasn't that the knees and the crotch was full of cheese.

01:15:37 Speaker 2

Dirty soaking drawers that Maggie wore.

01:15:40 Speaker 2

I can't remember anymore.

01:15:43 Speaker 2

Oh, that makes me embarrassed. Even singing that much.

01:15:47 Speaker 2

We would go on these heights in training 20 mile hikes on a Saturday.

01:15:53 Speaker 2

25 mile fast fast marches.

01:15:59 Speaker 2

Full field, pact and all. And he and remember, I don't know. You're too young for that.

01:16:05 Speaker 2

Abner radio shows years ago, if you.

01:16:09 Speaker 2

Heard that?

01:16:09 Speaker 1

I've heard of it.

01:16:10 Speaker 2

Yeah. Well, he and another guy used to do lemonade.

01:16:14 Speaker 2

They were better than lemonade.

01:16:19 Speaker 2

In between singing Maggie's drawers, he knew all his songs and singing other songs. They would do. Loving abner.

01:16:27 Speaker 2

And you got the laughing.

01:16:30 Speaker 2

Next to you know if I could camp, if you didn't remember that you walked 20 miles. It went so quick, you know.



01:16:37 Speaker 2

These guys made it easy for us.

01:16:40 Speaker 2

They were good at. It was a.

01:16:42 Speaker 2

From.

01:16:43 Speaker 2

From.

01:16:45 Speaker 2

Florida.

01:16:46 Speaker 2

And what I say his name was.

01:16:50 Speaker 2

Michelle got.

01:16:50 Speaker 3

Yeah, Tony, Tony.

01:16:55 Speaker 3

A man from Florida, that one.

01:16:58 Speaker 2

Say it again.

01:16:58 Speaker 3

Tony, good morning.

01:17:00 Speaker 2

No, no, not Tony, no, Tony Capone.

01:17:05 Speaker 2

There was another one, but he didn't go to combat.

01:17:08 Speaker 2

Capone was.

01:17:11 Speaker 2

Basic training with us. He's from.

01:17:15 Speaker 2

Nearest not in Scranton, that little town outside of Scranton.

01:17:20 Speaker 2

But.

01:17:24 Speaker 2

He was a hairy individual.

01:17:26

I don't.

01:17:27 Speaker 2

Know if you see.

01:17:29 Speaker 2

You know guys hair all over here and hair down the back.

01:17:33 Speaker 2

I look a bear.

01:17:36 Speaker 2

That's the way Tony was.

01:17:38 Speaker 2

Was a young man.

01:17:41 Speaker 2

And he didn't remember I.

01:17:43 Speaker 2

I remember every time you were in a shower you saying have a Maria.

01:17:48 Speaker 2

When you heard that song, you knew it.

01:17:50 Speaker 2

Was in the shower.

01:17:56 Speaker 2

He became a Sergeant.

01:17:58 Speaker 2

Haley found out he had flat feet.

01:18:01 Speaker 2

When we were ready to go to Fort Dix to get on a board ship.

01:18:06 Speaker 2

They found out he was used to teach swimming.

01:18:11 Speaker 2

In the civilian life, it was a life caught up where he lived.

01:18:16 Speaker 2

They say man in Florida.

01:18:19 Speaker 2

Teach GIS how to swim because you have flat feet.

01:18:25 Speaker 2

And we were looking at our feet.

01:18:28 Speaker 2

To see if they were flat.

01:18:33 Speaker 2

Yeah.

01:18:35 Speaker 2

The guys that that didn't go and see, they put them in a group called the Misfits.

01:18:43 Speaker 2

And you know.

01:18:45 Speaker 2

I didn't drink any of his tea anymore.

01:18:49 Speaker 2

Ready.

01:18:49 Speaker 2

My name is Stroop and I stoop was a nice guy, but a farmer from Hummelstown, PA.

01:18:56 Speaker 2

But he said himself he was never more than 10 miles away from home, except when he went in the army.

01:19:05 Speaker 2

He was in his mid 30s.

01:19:09 Speaker 2

What?

01:19:12 Speaker 2

He couldn't get.

01:19:15 Speaker 2

You know, in the army you got to give the.

01:19:19 Speaker 2

Preparatory command and the command of execution.

01:19:23 Speaker 2

Is what we were told.

01:19:25 Speaker 2

You don't just say company hall.

01:19:28 Speaker 2

Halt.

01:19:31 Speaker 2

Always on the left foot, each word.

01:19:34 Speaker 2

Strip would say for Red March.

01:19:39 Speaker 2

One move.

01:19:42 Speaker 2

Forward March.

01:19:43

Come on.

01:19:45 Speaker 2

And he'd say platoon hall.

01:19:51 Speaker 2

No, he wouldn't say platoon.

01:19:53 Speaker 2

We'd come up against a brick wall.

01:19:56

Oh, he didn't.

01:19:58 Speaker 2

Say it for prior to our command, we had more fun with him.

01:20:03 Speaker 2

And he was serious.

01:20:04 Speaker 2

He just couldn't get it.

01:20:11 Speaker 2

One night.

01:20:13 Speaker 2

You know, we sit around the before the lights would go off. We'd sit around a bunch of shoot the bowl.

01:20:20 Speaker 2

He said he remembers when he wrote the song sitting on the old top rail. He never heard a song in his life.

01:20:27 Speaker 2

But I guess.

01:20:30 Speaker 2

We felt well. We don't know if he wrote it enough. I never.

01:20:33 Speaker 2

I thought I heard of it, but that only because he was talking.

01:20:38 Speaker 2

I haven't heard of it since or I guess I don't know.

01:20:43 Speaker 2

Then one day, at one time, he came home from furlough.

01:20:47 Speaker 2

He said I have a problem.

01:20:49 Speaker 2

Of course, the guides when it was troop they over, everybody was listening.

01:20:55 Speaker 2

He said it's 2 girls at home, he.

01:20:57 Speaker 2

You know, I'm single and they both want to marry me.

01:21:02 Speaker 2

One is a very fat girl with.

01:21:03 Speaker 2

Lot of.

01:21:04 Speaker 2

The other one is a pretty girl.

01:21:07 Speaker 2

Don't have any money.

01:21:09 Speaker 2

And the guys are telling me, for God's sakes, true my the fat 1. You get the money and then you marry the other one.

01:21:17 Speaker 2

He couldn't get.

01:21:21 Speaker 2

There you really, that poor guy took a beating.

01:21:26 Speaker 2

Took a good naturedly.

01:21:30 Speaker 2

Whether he knew they were giving it to him, I don't.

01:21:33 Speaker 2

And there was another guy, Gallagher.

01:21:38 Speaker 2

Or Captain Kelly was an Irishman, redheaded Irishman, and Captain Kelly was a football player from Holy Cross University before he got in the army.

01:21:48 Speaker 2

He was a good man.

01:21:51 Speaker 2

He was killed over there in an attack on a town.

01:21:56 Speaker 2

But Gallagher was not a.

01:21:58 Speaker 2

Never would be an army man.

01:22:02 Speaker 2

When you're marching, you know, left left big seats walking along like he's on a nice easy walk going down to the pond for fishing or something.

01:22:15 Speaker 2

He'd be he would, he'd be.

01:22:18 Speaker 2

What are you?

01:22:18 Speaker 2

Last ride he's doing right, left.

01:22:20 Speaker 2

Didn't matter to him.

01:22:24 Speaker 2

He got the job of taking care of the heaters in the winter time.

01:22:28 Speaker 2

Didn't do nothing else because he couldn't get the training.

01:22:34 Speaker 2

One day, Captain was saying something to him.

01:22:38 Speaker 2

Puts his armor on the captain.

01:22:42 Speaker 2

That's something you don't do in the army.

01:22:47 Speaker 2

Captain Kelly says there's one redheaded Irishman to another, and he started talking.

01:22:53 Speaker 2

Captain Kelly went like this.

01:22:55 Speaker 2

Head and walked away.

01:22:58 Speaker 2

You couldn't even yell at him.

01:22:59 Speaker 2

That didn't mean nothing.

01:23:03 Speaker 2

Good those characters in the army tell you something else.

01:23:05 Speaker 1

Hey.

01:23:08 Speaker 2

You ever run into a guy? Who would?

01:23:12 Speaker 2

Guy from New York.

01:23:15 Speaker 2

He borrowed beers for a dime in Tullahoma at that time, he bought a dime from 20 guys. Each guy in the company get \$2.00.

01:23:29 Speaker 2

You go around borrow one cigarette from each guy.

01:23:31 Speaker 2



A pack of cigarettes.

01:23:35 Speaker 2

They'd go to town on a weekend and he had smokes.

01:23:39 Speaker 2

Had beer the rest of the company provided it.

01:23:44 Speaker 2

Finally, after a lot of third couple of guys got together and told them, hey, you got the same pay we do from our own buyer own cigarettes and beer. And from that time on he did.

01:23:59 Speaker 2

Well, I was thinking.

01:24:00 Speaker 2

Pretty shrewd.

01:24:01 Speaker 2

A little tight, but shrewd.

01:24:05 Speaker 2

Both both things.

01:24:08 Speaker 2

Red characters in there.

01:24:09 Speaker 3

Dad, what about that?

01:24:11 Speaker 3

Scene over in New York told me about.

01:24:13 Speaker 2

Oh, I forgot that one. I should have mentioned that.

01:24:15

I.

01:24:20 Speaker 2

After the.

01:24:23 Speaker 2

We're getting to come back the first time.

01:24:26 Speaker 2

Was that time?

01:24:27 Speaker 2

Said.

01:24:28 Speaker 2

Am getting to where I am getting this.

01:24:29 Speaker 3

Since France, where the right transfer? Belgium.

01:24:32 Speaker 2

In France it was.

01:24:33

OK, whatever.

01:24:36 Speaker 2

Uh.

01:24:37 Speaker 2

Anyway, after that first bottle.

01:24:41 Speaker 2

Well, it we went in reserved.

01:24:44 Speaker 2

Somebody decided we need showers.

01:24:48 Speaker 2

So it wasn't our company alone, I guess it was the whole baton probably, but they were taking the company at a time.

01:24:55 Speaker 2

So there we are in a first platoon, second, third, fourth, everybody stripped on everything.

01:25:04 Speaker 2

They were standing.

01:25:04 Speaker 2

A bare feet naked in the field.

01:25:09 Speaker 2

Donna Lane comes three French women.

01:25:13 Speaker 2

Big grins on their.

01:25:14 Speaker 2

They knew exactly what was going on.

01:25:18 Speaker 2

Forth between Heisen Holland over here over here.

01:25:25 Speaker 2

These were Husky farm girls.

01:25:27 Speaker 2

They want to fool with them.

01:25:29 Speaker 2

They went down and they went this way down to follow the lane down.

01:25:33 Speaker 2

Way they didn't go down the 4th.

01:25:37 Speaker 2

Course everybody turns around and see what's going on, and everybody's facing them.

01:25:46 Speaker 2

They gonna laugh.

01:25:49 Speaker 2

And we felt sheepish a little, but we laughed at the same time.

01:25:55 Speaker 2

One minute to soap up.

01:25:58 Speaker 2

Another minute.

01:26:01 Speaker 2

To Renza, watch off.

01:26:02 Speaker 2

Another minute to dry off.

01:26:05 Speaker 2

3 minutes in there.

01:26:08 Speaker 2

And the side of the book side in that charge of it.

01:26:12 Speaker 2

Everybody out.

01:26:15 Speaker 2

When he said that in minute, maybe you had soap when you had the heck with it. There, you're out.

01:26:20 Speaker 2

But most of us did that, you know, in the time allowed.

01:26:26 Speaker 2

I guess they had other groups they wanted to push through, I don't know.

01:26:32 Speaker 2

Maybe a couple of guys wanted to wait till the girls came back again.

01:26:35 Speaker 2

Nobody said anything.

01:26:38 Speaker 1

Any other question?

01:26:39 Speaker 2

But you know what The funny thing is?

01:26:41 Speaker 2

We didn't have a shower after that.

01:26:43 Speaker 2

For the next, I didn't have a shower for a year after that you wash your face and hands a little bit when you have a chance.

01:26:53 Speaker 2

I don't know why they thought.

01:26:54 Speaker 2

Somebody must have.

01:26:56 Speaker 2

I don't want a gentleman by, I don't know.

01:27:01 Speaker 2

But that was that was so strange.

01:27:03 Speaker 1

Anything else, Dave?

01:27:06 Speaker 1

OK, edd.

01:27:11 Speaker 2

If you come back in about dead to him.

01:27:14 Speaker 1

I'm sure you'll think of more.

01:27:15 Speaker 2

I probably think of something else.

01:27:16 Speaker 2

Don't know.

01:27:17 Speaker 1

Meritor, I want to thank you for that.

01:27:19 Speaker 2

I'll tell you one thing.

01:27:20 Speaker 2

Wait a minute. One. I'm just having to think of this.

01:27:23 Speaker 2

It was a guy that aid man.

01:27:26 Speaker 2

Guy was.

01:27:27 Speaker 2

Some guy was shot.

01:27:30 Speaker 2

He was bleeding.

01:27:32 Speaker 2

Coyote man, he came over.

01:27:35 Speaker 2

And he's needling there, getting ready to put a baggage on his guy and.

01:27:44 Speaker 2

He's kneeling, holding the padded.

01:27:47 Speaker 2

Bullet goes through the aid man's.

01:27:49 Speaker 2

Kills him, but he doesn't lose his balance when they find him.

01:27:56 Speaker 2

He's holding a bandage and the other guy he was going to bandage bled to death.

01:28:03 Speaker 2

An air mass standing there or sitting meal in there, holding the bandage.

01:28:08 Speaker 2

He was dead somehow. Had his bandage balance.

01:28:12 Speaker 5

They both died.

01:28:13 Speaker 2

They both died.

01:28:15 Speaker 2

That was something you don't want to see.

01:28:18

Yeah.

01:28:19 Speaker 2

The dead men I give them.

01:28:21 Speaker 2

They were pretty good guys that we had anyway and I catch you both somewhere that way because.

01:28:27 Speaker 2

When the bullets are flying, they don't pick hot.

01:28:32 Speaker 2

Is anybody?

01:28:34 Speaker 2

I mean, they do pick out.

01:28:35 Speaker 2

They don't select their targets, they just hit whatever in the way.

01:28:42 Speaker 2

And if you're an 8 man and.

01:28:45 Speaker 2

The enemy is going to shoot you regardless.

01:28:48

All right.

01:28:50 Speaker 1

OK, when I OK.

01:28:50 Speaker 2

Others, annoyed with another one. While I'm thinking of it.

01:28:53 Speaker 2

Go ahead.

01:28:53 Speaker 1

Go.

01:28:54 Speaker 2

Dad. Him because they they come in and they go out just as quick.

01:28:55 Speaker 4

Go ahead.

01:29:01 Speaker 2

We're on this side of the road here.

01:29:03 Speaker 2

Germans are over.

01:29:04 Speaker 2

We're firing at each other.

01:29:07 Speaker 2

Comes a Frenchman with about a DOZ.

01:29:10 Speaker 2

Walking Dead between a Rio and.

01:29:13 Speaker 2

Get out of.

01:29:14 Speaker 2

Get out of well, he's afraid to.

01:29:15 Speaker 2

Don't understand.

01:29:17 Speaker 2

He's waving to us.

01:29:19 Speaker 2

He thinks we're waving to him and the Germans are yelling to him to get out.

01:29:25 Speaker 2

The fire and stop.

01:29:28 Speaker 2

He goes nonchulantly down the road.

01:29:31 Speaker 2

Cards home.

01:29:33 Speaker 2

None of them were.

01:29:34 Speaker 2



He wasn't hit and the firing started up again after he passed away last about 5 minutes. I guess maybe the Germans were laughing just as hard as we were. I don't know.

01:29:47

But.

01:29:49 Speaker 2

Disappeared. I don't know.

01:29:50 Speaker 2

That was one of the funniest things.

01:29:54 Speaker 2

That they were so nonchalant that like a French French guys.

01:30:02 Speaker 2

Like this was another event, the everyday thing I run, they run across bullets every day.

01:30:08 Speaker 2

Guess I don't.

01:30:09 Speaker 2

That's what it seemed like.

01:30:12 Speaker 2

I've seen cows in the middle of the different fields on their backs with their legs straight up in the air.

01:30:19 Speaker 2

And I think most of them are from either mortar shells or artillery shells.

01:30:25 Speaker 2

I don't think it was from bullets.

01:30:28 Speaker 2

We didn't bother to examine them.

01:30:32 Speaker 2

The Germans would take some of them.

01:30:34 Speaker 2

Didn't take all of them.

01:30:36 Speaker 2

And when I was.

01:30:39 Speaker 2

In high school you almost do.

01:30:43 Speaker 2

And the germ I mean the.

01:30:47 Speaker 2

Propaganda over here was telling us that Hitler did away with churches.

01:30:53 Speaker 2

Oh, you know, you don't know. You believe that's true.

01:30:57 Speaker 2

But it wasn't when we get over there, my copy ran into churches in Germany all over the place.

01:31:04 Speaker 2

Now he wasn't exactly.

01:31:07 Speaker 2

A favorite I.

01:31:08 Speaker 2

He himself, I think was. Wasn't he Catholic or his people were Catholic?

01:31:15 Speaker 2

I don't remember anymore.

01:31:16 Speaker 2

But.

01:31:22 Speaker 2

There were an.

01:31:23 Speaker 2

Isolated cross the street about churches, she said.

01:31:28 Speaker 2

They'd still went to church.

01:31:31 Speaker 2

But it.

01:31:33 Speaker 2

It wasn't fraud on and they didn't destroy churches, but they destroyed some churches.

01:31:39 Speaker 2

It depended on the people.

01:31:43 Speaker 2

As long as the people didn't go against the Nazi party, you couldn't say anything about Hitler.

01:31:48 Speaker 2

You could be reported stuff like that.

01:31:52 Speaker 2

I saw on.

01:31:53 Speaker 2

I even saw a church out in the Boondocks up on a hill. You couldn't see it from down here.

01:31:59 Speaker 2

You had to be up in the hill.

01:32:01 Speaker 5

Some guy built.

01:32:03 Speaker 2

A church that held eight people.

01:32:05 Speaker 2

A little.

01:32:06 Speaker 2

It was a nice thing it had.

01:32:12 Speaker 2

Two pews over here and two over here.

01:32:15 Speaker 2

2468.

01:32:18 Speaker 2

And up here, there was a pulpit.

01:32:22 Speaker 2

Now some family.

01:32:24 Speaker 2

Might use that for worship, I don't know.

01:32:28 Speaker 2

We looked at all of them, man. I wish I would had.

01:32:30 Speaker 2

Camera take a picture of that.

01:32:34 Speaker 2

Now maybe in that area, maybe churches were frowned.

01:32:38 Speaker 2

I don't know that that they had one, but I don't believe in fraud now because if you were caught, you could be put to death doing something that was against the party.

01:32:52 Speaker 2

Not.

01:32:52 Speaker 2

That's it. That quick put your stuff away.

01:32:55 Speaker 2

I.

01:32:56 Speaker 5

OK.

01:32:59 Speaker 1

Thank you for the service to our country. It's been an honor to do your interview.

01:33:03 Speaker 2

You're welcome.