Olander Jack Barrett, Jr. Interview

Company L, 319th Inf Reg

(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Gould B. Hagler)

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

00:00:01 Speaker 1

Good afternoon.

00:00:02 Speaker 1

I'm goodbye hag. Love Augusta GA.

00:00:05 Speaker 1

We're here today, April 27th, 2008 at Augusta Technical College in Augusta, GA for the video interview of World War 2 veteran Alanda Jack Barrett, Junior of Augusta, GA.

00:00:20 Speaker 1

This is being done by the Augusta, Richmond County Historical Society and as part of the Veterans History Project of the Library of United States Congress.

00:00:33 Speaker 1

Jack, tell us when you were born and where you were born.

00:00:37 Speaker 2

I was born in Augusta, GA.

00:00:41 Speaker 2

7/11/23.

00:00:43 Speaker 1

Right. Tell us about your childhood in teen years.

00:00:49 Speaker 2

Well, I lived out in the hedge of Augusta and I.

00:00:57 Speaker 2

Start hunting. Fishing. When I was real little.

00:01:00 Speaker 2

I think I might have shot my first bird when I was five years old.

00:01:05 Speaker 2

And I just was just a plain old simple country boy.

00:01:10 Speaker 1

And your teenage years.

00:01:12 Speaker 1

Did you do?

00:01:13 Speaker 1

What your teenage years?

00:01:16 Speaker 2

Same thing against pills country.

00:01:17 Speaker 1

So.

00:01:21 Speaker 1

Now use a veteran of World War 2.

00:01:25 Speaker 1

Now, how and when did you get in the army?

00:01:29 Speaker 2

Out inducted April the 6th.

00:01:33 Speaker 2

1943.

00:01:41 Speaker 2

Here in Augusta.

00:01:42 Speaker 1

And.

00:01:45 Speaker 2

What went Fort McPherson?

00:01:47 Speaker 2

Stayed 2 days and then went to Fort round of Kansas from a basic training.

00:01:52 Speaker 1

And tell us about your basic training.

00:01:55 Speaker 1

Was the cadre. Whatever was who was, who were the cadre members? 00:02:00 Speaker 2 Fort Riley will go. 00:02:05 Speaker 2 Α. 00:02:06 Speaker 2 Horse place they would Calvary. 00:02:10 Speaker 2 And the non commissioned officers that trained us were all. 00:02:15 Speaker 2 Calvary. 00:02:16 Speaker 2 But they had been. 00:02:19 Speaker 2 Transferred over to the infantry to teach us. 00:02:23 Speaker 2 And they were tough. 00:02:24 Speaker 2 Of motor scooters. 00:02:27 Speaker 2 They. 00:02:29 Speaker 2 They would tell us to send out. 00:02:32 Speaker 2 This is the way to the cowboy would do, but said we've got to teach it this way, which is it? 00:02:39 Speaker 2 Infants away. But it's not the best way and we listen to that just about every day. 00:02:46 Speaker 2 It got like a broken record.

00:02:48 Speaker 1 What color? 00:02:49 Speaker 1 How would you classify the the training with good poor? 00:02:52 Speaker 2 Very good, very good they. 00:02:54 Speaker 2 They were tough and they wanted to toughen us up. 00:03:00 Speaker 2 Some of us went pretty good physical shape and and some were not. 00:03:05 Speaker 2 Most of the men. 00:03:08 Or. 00:03:10 Speaker 2 For what north? 00:03:11 Speaker 1 Call them Yankees. 00:03:13 Speaker 2 The Yankees, a few from the South and a few from southwest. 00:03:21 Speaker 2 We had a couple of Indians and a couple of Mexicans. 00:03:25 Speaker 2 But just just a very few. 00:03:29 Speaker 1 And tell us generally what your training consisted of. 00:03:36 Speaker 2 Do an awful lot of marching and walking, toughening up our feet and our legs. 00:03:43 Speaker 2

And. 00:03:43 Speaker 2 We had. 00:03:46 Speaker 2 Some training on them. 00:03:48 Speaker 2 Shooting with. 00:03:51 Speaker 2 We trained with. 00:03:55 Speaker 2 Machine gun the bazooka. 00:03:57 Speaker 2 The Grand Rifle, the fortified pistol. 00:04:03 Speaker 2 That's about it. 00:04:04 Speaker 1 What experience did you had with guns and pistols? 00:04:09 Speaker 2 Well. 00:04:09 Speaker 2 I. 00:04:10 Speaker 2 Grew up with him. 00:04:11 Speaker 2 I was very familiar with him. 00:04:14 Speaker 2 I went to the Richmond Academy and that was ROTC. 00:04:19 Speaker 1

And it was a public school here in Augusta.

00:04:23 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah. Then I went up to the university for one year.

00:04:29 Speaker 2

But on the rifle team up there, I was also on the rifle team on Augusta.

00:04:34 Speaker 2

Flowers.

00:04:36 Speaker 2

Pretty familiar with guns.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

And or or a good shot.

00:04:42 Speaker 1

Now how about the other?

00:04:45 Speaker 1

The bulk of the others were they as well learned in guns as you.

00:04:50 Speaker 2

They had a few boys that were familiar with guns, but most of them were not.

00:04:57 Speaker 2

They issued us the M1 rifle, which is a Gran.

00:05:03 Speaker 2

And it still had condemned on, which was a protective coating.

00:05:09 Speaker 2

We had to clean these guns.

00:05:12 Speaker 2

And learn how to put them together and take them apart.

00:05:17 Speaker 2

And there was a boy from Detroit.

00:05:22 Speaker 2

It was in our outfit.

00:05:24 Speaker 2

He had never had his hands on a gun before in his life. He knew nothing about. 00:05:30 Speaker 2 Gunshot. 00:05:34 Speaker 2 And I kind of took him under my wing. 00:05:39 Speaker 2 Hey Cortana. 00:05:42 Speaker 2 I told him about the stock and the trigger and the barrel and. 00:05:49 Speaker 2 Bullish. When you pull the trigger to find pin hit the base of the cottage. 00:05:59 Speaker 2 Shut off the KPA. That's a catastroph. 00:06:03 Speaker 2 Shut off the powder and the gunshot and the bullet went out and spun like a football field in. 00:06:14 Speaker 2 And it's total about front side in and the real side how to aim? 00:06:19 Speaker 2 When I got to telling him he had his mouth open the whole time just sitting there looking, listening. 00:06:27 Speaker 2 He said he figured out the smartest fellow you'd ever run into in his whole life. 00:06:34 Speaker 2 He lost. 00:06:35 Speaker 2 Lost. 00:06:37 Speaker 2 £100. 00:06:40 Speaker 2

In 30 weeks patient training, he was real, real big and he he stayed with it.

00:06:46 Speaker 2 Had a lot of good. 00:06:48 Speaker 2 He stayed right with. 00:06:50 Speaker 2 And he was so proud of losing that weight. 00:06:52 Speaker 2 He was a good. 00:06:53 Speaker 2 I never did see him anymore after basic training. 00:06:55 Speaker 2 Have no idea what. 00:06:58 Speaker 2 Came of. 00:06:58 Speaker 1 Was it doing your basic training that y'all had a 10 mile March with full pack? 00:07:05 Speaker 1 Tell us about that well. 00:07:08 Speaker 2 The hill came off warm up boots. 00:07:12 Speaker 2 Luke chapter told me to sit down and wait. 00:07:17 Speaker 2 And a Jeep will come by a little while and pick me up and Take Me Home back to camp. We had just started. 00:07:22 Speaker 2 Were on the first stage of this March.

00:07:26 Speaker 2

And a couple of Yankees, one of them told us, said he probably pulled that heel off so he wouldn't have to make the March.

00:07:33 Speaker 2

That got my battery up.

00:07:36 Speaker 2

And I told him what I said.

00:07:39 Speaker 2

Tell them I.

00:07:39 Speaker 2

I want to take these boot shop, I said.

00:07:41 Speaker 2

Want to finish the March barefooted? He said.

00:07:44 Speaker 2

You can't do that, he said.

00:07:46 Speaker 2 You'll run your feet. I.

00:07:48 Speaker 2

It will not hurt my feet, I said.

00:07:50 Speaker 2

Please believe me, I said.

00:07:51 Speaker 2

Can do it.

00:07:54 Speaker 2

A final consider.

00:07:57 Speaker 2

And it was a piece of.

00:07:59 Speaker 2

It really easy because my feet were tough.

00:08:02 Speaker 2

I've been going barefoot at home a lot. 00:08:05 Speaker 1 And. 00:08:08 Speaker 2 Lower Yachters couldn't believe it. 00:08:11 Speaker 2 We got back to camp. 00:08:14 Speaker 2 After the kitchen match and struck it on the on the heel of my foot. 00:08:18 Speaker 2 They wrote home about it. 00:08:20 Speaker 2 They were right up in the company paper there and I was I was. 00:08:25 Speaker 2 Kind of a tough guy there from then on. 00:08:28 Speaker 2 Yankees didn't make fun of my talking anymore. 00:08:33 Speaker 1 After basic training, what did you do? 00:08:38 Speaker 2 Well, I went to all the special out training program in Rolla, MO. 00:08:44 Speaker 1 Tell us briefly what that means and what it is. 00:08:49 Speaker 2 They. 00:08:49 Speaker 2 They took men out. 00:08:50 Speaker 2 War.

00:08:53 Speaker 2

Capable of becoming officers and sent them to this school.

00:09:00 Speaker 2

And able to kind of mark down thing.

00:09:07 Speaker 2

Waiting for us to get into the.

00:09:12 Speaker 2

Training to be officer.

00:09:15 Speaker 2

But they had had to wait our.

00:09:17 Speaker 2

So they sent us back to college and I went 2 terms and six months.

00:09:24 Speaker 2

And then I.

00:09:27 Speaker 2

A disbanded league. They stopped it.

00:09:31 Speaker 1

Do you know why they stopped it?

00:09:34 Speaker 2

I think because they didn't need anymore officers at that particular time. I think that's why it was, but.

00:09:44 Speaker 2

And now they just couldn't shut the whole thing down. But while we were there.

00:09:51 Speaker 2

We had the best food that is possible for anybody to to get.

00:09:57 Speaker 1

We've been GI food, government food.

00:10:02 Speaker 2

And those women working in that kitchen.

00:10:08 Speaker 2

They had husbands and sons.

00:10:12 Speaker 2

Often the service.

00:10:13 Speaker 2

They were country.

00:10:14 Speaker 2

They all of them knew how to cook.

00:10:18 Speaker 2

And they could get whatever food they.

00:10:20 Speaker 2

I'm sure they had a dietitian there and I'm sure they have somebody that.

00:10:25 Speaker 2

Hey.

00:10:27 Speaker 2

Certain types of food that would be brought in, but those women knew how to cook and we showed it in doing it.

00:10:37 Speaker 2

Showcount.

00:10:38 Speaker 1

Going back just for a minute to your basic training.

00:10:42 Speaker 1

During that, how did you do in the shooting and the target?

00:10:46 Speaker 2

I shot very good and.

00:10:49 Speaker 2

Shot expert and everything that I.

00:10:53 Speaker 2

For sharing with and.

00:10:59 Speaker 2 Non commissioned officers. 00:11:03 Speaker 2 Told me if I wanted to stay there and help train that other men. 00:11:06 Speaker 2 Through. 00:11:07 Speaker 2 They could get me. 00:11:10 Speaker 2 Put on the cadre. 00:11:12 Speaker 2 And I thought about it when I told him, I said I appreciate it, but I I really, really not interested. 00:11:20 Speaker 2 I wanted to. 00:11:22 Speaker 2 To go incumbent. 00:11:27 Speaker 1 Now after ASTP, after they disbanded, that what did you do next? 00:11:35 Speaker 2 They sent me to Yuma, AZ, which is where the 80th Infantry Division was training. 00:11:44 Speaker 2 And. 00:11:48 Speaker 2 I got it. I'll get into here. 00:11:50 Speaker 1 And what part of the division were you in and what part of the infantry? 00:11:53 Speaker 2

Yeah, for sure.

00:11:56 Speaker 1

What regiment? Battalion and company? 00:12:00 Speaker 2 Just three, 19th Regiment and the ALE Company. 00:12:05 Speaker 2 3rd. 00:12:07 Speaker 1 Second score was that division already formed and. 00:12:12 Speaker 2 Oh. 00:12:13 Speaker 2 Oh yeah, they were tough. 00:12:15 Speaker 2 They've been trained from. 00:12:16 ١. 00:12:16 Speaker 2 Don't know how long, but they. 00:12:18 Speaker 2 They were tough bunch of boys. They were some bud real heavy and I was. 00:12:23 Speaker 2 I was just as quiet as I could be out in the Navy and son. 00:12:27 Speaker 2 There you go. 00:12:30 Speaker 2 They were missing, nice as they could be. They were mixed up with the. 00:12:30 Run. 00:12:35 Speaker 2

With the Blue Ridge outfit mostly from the Blue Ridge Mountains and West Virginia, Pennsylvania.

00:12:42 Speaker 2 Virginia. 00:12:45 Speaker 2 Some North Carolina and a few Georgia. 00:12:49 Speaker 1 Tell me just what is a division, how many men in a division was it consisted? 00:12:55 Speaker 2 It's approximately 15,000 men. 00:12:59 Speaker 2 There's 3. 00:13:02 Speaker 2 I'd have to think about this three regiments. 00:13:06 Speaker 2 Of infantry and 1:00. 00:13:10 Speaker 2 One regiment of. 00:13:16 Speaker 2 Artillery. 00:13:18 Speaker 2 I think I'm right on that. 00:13:20 Speaker 1 OK. 00:13:22 Speaker 2 And the regiment is. 00:13:27 Speaker 2 The inference regimen is. 00:13:31 Speaker 2 Man was with rifles and. 00:13:36 Speaker 1

How many battalions in regiment? 00:13:36 Then his. 00:13:39 Speaker 2 3. 00:13:39 Speaker 1 And how many companies on the battalion? 00:13:44 Speaker 2 I believe it's 4. 00:13:45 Speaker 1 All right. 00:13:46 Speaker 2 I think I'm right. 00:13:47 Speaker 1 And you did you remain with the same platoon and the same company, same amount throughout. Now you told me in preparing to come down here you had some trouble with the captain. How about telling us? 00:13:51 Speaker 2 Same opposite, right? 00:14:04 Speaker 2 We were out on one. 00:14:07 Speaker 2 Camping out one night. 00:14:10 Speaker 2 And it come a flash flood and we all got soaking wet. 00:14:14 Speaker 2 I mean every part of it for soaking wet out everything. 00:14:20 Speaker 2 We went up tents and they they didn't have water.

00:14:23 Speaker 2 On them. 00:14:26 Speaker 2 All of our rifles got wet. 00:14:29 Speaker 2 And had a little light thin film of rust on them. You could just barely see it, but it was there. 00:14:37 Speaker 2 We we finished. 00:14:41 Speaker 2 What? 00:14:43 Speaker 2 At night, over the next morning we broke camp and went on back to. 00:14:50 Speaker 2 The headquarters. 00:14:53 Speaker 2 And the captain inspected 3 rifles. 00:14:58 Speaker 2 Mine was one of them. 00:15:00 Speaker 2 He kicked all three of us. 00:15:02 Speaker 1 Before you had a chance to clean. 00:15:03 Speaker 2 Them it would. Nobody's rifle was clean. Ever rifle that rushed on it. 00:15:10 Speaker 2 And we got mighty hot about it. 00:15:16 Speaker 2 I was showing up hot.

00:15:17 Speaker 2

I passed the captain on the company St.

00:15:21 Speaker 2

About how women, I wouldn't salute him.

00:15:26 Speaker 2

And he said to.

00:15:28 Speaker 2

Vacuum a tent I wore the past to go to Mexico with some of the other boys going out and watching bull fight. Get some state.

00:15:40 Speaker 2

Gig. I couldn't go.

00:15:43 Speaker 2

Yes, you know, wouldn't salute him in it.

00:15:47 Speaker 2

Shortly came up in about 10.

00:15:51 Speaker 2

I live on a crime.

00:15:55 Speaker 2

And he said the captain want to see.

00:15:59 Speaker 2

By what I went in the captains 10.

00:16:01 Speaker 2

I didn't shoot.

00:16:02 Speaker 2

I just walked in front of the dish.

00:16:06 Speaker 2

Why you crying?

00:16:09 Speaker 2

I said.

00:16:10 Speaker 2

Why I get so mad or somebody?

00:16:12 Speaker 2

We left the jump over it, tapping the children to death, and I can't do it.

00:16:16 Speaker 2

Said I cry.

00:16:20 Speaker 2

I never would should have been.

00:16:22 Speaker 2

AM.

00:16:24 Speaker 2

October. I'm not gonna swoosh in the morning, so let me.

00:16:28 Speaker 2

You under my command, so you'll always be a book, private.

00:16:33 Speaker 2

And we both kept our.

00:16:34 Speaker 2

I stayed a book private loan and anybody I never slept in them again.

00:16:40 Speaker 2

But I would have deal with the captain.

00:16:42 Speaker 1

Did he survive the wall?

00:16:44 Speaker 2

He got killed even when the first one to get.

00:16:46 Speaker 2

He.

00:16:47 Speaker 2

He was not a lot of infantry man. He had been in the ordnance of something else and they had transferred him over.

00:16:55 Speaker 2

He didn't know how to deal with men. 00:16:59 Speaker 2 He he was just. 00:17:01 Speaker 2 Just bad news. He got killed. 00:17:03 ١. 00:17:06 Speaker 2 Observing all children of fire, which was something he wasn't supposed to be doing, and. 00:17:12 Speaker 2 Got. 00:17:13 Speaker 2 We were just distancing combat just a little while. 00:17:18 Speaker 1 Oh. 00:17:19 Speaker 2 Yeah, I'll make sure that right after that. 00:17:22 Speaker 1 When, when did y'all go overseas and where did you go? When and where? 00:17:28 Speaker 2 We went to Festo. 00:17:30 Speaker 2 We're on the Queen Mary and we went over right after D. 00:17:35 Speaker 2 D-Day was June, the 6th of 44, and we went over right after that. 00:17:43 Speaker 2 And I had made a slingshot. 00:17:47 Speaker 2

And I'll use the round forward dictation. I killed a coil with that one shot at 4 ***** and it.

00:17:54 Speaker 2 It for. 00:17:56 Speaker 2 And I had my slingshot and had some real nice round rocks. 00:18:02 Speaker 2 We landed. 00:18:05 Speaker 2 In Nebraska, Scotland. 00:18:09 Speaker 2 And the Queen mayor was a big, big ship. 00:18:14 Speaker 2 Maybe the second biggest from in the world. I think that Elizabeth might have been a little bigger, but. 00:18:19 Speaker 2 They would want to seagulls flying around and I got my swims gone out in the second. 00:18:25 Speaker 2 I hit one in the head and. 00:18:27 Speaker 2 He went down spending and landed in the war. 00:18:32 Speaker 2 How proud that shot my brother from South Dakota. Congratulate man. 00:18:38 Speaker 2 Tap me on the shoulder and I looked around there. 00:18:43 Speaker 2 Set about aboard a ship. 00:18:47 Speaker 2 Making about 6 full. 00:18:50 Speaker 2

He said.

00:18:51 Speaker 2

If you do that against that, I will throw you overboard, he said. That's bad look.

00:18:56 Speaker 2

I didn't see.

00:18:56 Speaker 1

Shoes.

00:18:57 Speaker 1

He goes.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

Yes. And I didn't know that, but I apologize and I put my slingshot up and.

00:19:04 Speaker 1

How long was your division in England before it went to France?

00:19:08 Speaker 2

About a month it.

00:19:10 Speaker 2

It rained just about every day.

00:19:12 Speaker 2

We were there just about a month.

00:19:16 Speaker 1

And when and where did you go to after England? When in France did you land?

00:19:23 Speaker 2

I think when I'm in SharePoint and attached to patents general patents, 3rd Army.

00:19:31 Speaker 2

State within the whole time all the way through.

00:19:38 Speaker 1

Did.

00:19:39 Speaker 1

Were you injured while you were seas when you shot and hurt?

00:19:45 Speaker 1

When?

00:19:46 Speaker 2

Got got 5 Purple Heart.

00:19:48 Speaker 1

And a Purple Heart is what?

00:19:51 Speaker 2

Actually, if you get a wound from enemy activity, I don't know exactly how.

00:19:57 Speaker 2

Warded but.

00:19:59 Speaker 2

George Washington got that Purple Heart thing.

00:20:02 Speaker 2

Most people don't know that, but he's the one. Got it going way back in.

00:20:08 Speaker 1

And.

00:20:10 Speaker 1

How long did you stay that was in Normandy?

00:20:13 Speaker 1

Sherbourne is the peninsula off the Norman coast and.

00:20:16 Speaker 2

Right, right.

00:20:19 Speaker 1

How long was it before you moved out from the landing area in the combat?

00:20:24 Speaker 2

Well.

00:20:27 Speaker 2

We want to tail in an outfit. We will kind of bring it up the rim.

00:20:32 Speaker 2

And it I don't remember the exact date.

00:20:35 Speaker 2

I just know probably.

00:20:39 Speaker 2

A couple weeks before we.

00:20:42 Speaker 2

Heading to come back here.

00:20:44 Speaker 1

When did you first sustain an injury and what was it?

00:20:49 Speaker 2

Hand grenade.

00:20:52 Speaker 2

It was about the 15th of August.

00:20:59 Speaker 2

Or 4:00 to 4:00.

00:21:05 Speaker 2

And they sent me back to England.

00:21:06 Speaker 1

And what was the injury?

00:21:08 Speaker 1

Part of your body.

00:21:10 Speaker 2

A piece one of my.

00:21:11 Speaker 2

Another piece went in right by my eye.

00:21:13 Speaker 2

Hit that boom right there. Stuck in there.

00:21:17 Speaker 1

Alright. How long were you back in England?

00:21:22 Speaker 2

My uncle got infected. 00:21:24 Speaker 2 It was really a mess. They debated about amputating my foot, but I was rolling out about two months. 00:21:36 Speaker 1 So you would have gotten back around what middle of October? 00:21:40 Speaker 1 Like that. 00:21:42 Speaker 2 Ocean air. 00:21:44 Speaker 1 And where was the outfit when you rejoined them? 00:21:51 Speaker 2 I do not know what they were. 00:21:53 Repl. 00:21:53 Speaker 2 They had seen a lot of combat. 00:21:55 Speaker 2 They we were still in France. 00:22:00 Speaker 2 Close to Luxembourg, but I couldn't tell you the towns or anything like that. 00:22:06 Speaker 1 Oh.

00:22:08 Speaker 1

And you're training at basic training and thereafter.

00:22:14 Speaker 1

What were the basic things you learned of were taught?

00:22:23 Speaker 2

Well, one thing they try to. 00:22:28 Speaker 2 Improve out accuracy shooting a gun. 00:22:32 Speaker 2 And. 00:22:34 Speaker 2 Temps every night and not to get killed. 00:22:38 Speaker 2 Oh. 00:22:42 Yeah. 00:22:43 Speaker 2 And we they toughen us up. The main thing was take care of your feet. Go to your feet. Went out on the inference. 00:22:50 Speaker 2 He was out. 00:22:52 Speaker 2 And. 00:22:54 Speaker 2 They hopped on that awful lot. 00:22:57 Speaker 1 What did they tell you you should do with the enemy? 00:23:01 Speaker 2 Hope to try to kill him. 00:23:03 Speaker 1 OK. 00:23:04 Speaker 1 Well, he was trying to kill you. 00:23:08 Speaker 1

Tell us about some of the experiences you had and when we reviewed this. You mentioned a flamethrower and a tank trap.

00:23:18 Speaker 1

Tell me. Tell us about something like that.

00:23:23 Speaker 2

Where were we were.

00:23:26 Speaker 2

We were going jump off and take the measure.

00:23:29 Speaker 2

Line.

00:23:30 Speaker 2

The magical line was a.

00:23:33 Speaker 2

On the border of French Germany.

00:23:37 Speaker 2

The German built the Siegfried Line.

00:23:41 Speaker 2

And the French built the Maginot Line and.

00:23:42 Speaker 2

Were.

00:23:44 Speaker 2

Pill boxes connected with each other.

00:23:46 Speaker 2

Just it was.

00:23:49 Speaker 2

Something to do in case of another war broke out. This were after World War One.

00:23:54 Speaker 2

And we were going to take the measure no line.

00:24:01 Speaker 2

And they gave me the flame throw and I didn't want it not to lieuten, I said. 00:24:07 Speaker 2 Give some others. 00:24:08 Speaker 2 You know a man strong enough to over. 00:24:11 Speaker 2 Not true. 00:24:12 Speaker 2 But anyhow, I wound up with. 00:24:15 Speaker 2 I got down on a tank trap the next morning about daylight. When we took off and got stuck in the mud. 00:24:23 Speaker 2 And. 00:24:24 Speaker 2 Got me out to help me out. 00:24:28 Speaker 2 Trap with a. 00:24:30 Speaker 2 Was a Booker, man. It was. 00:24:32 Speaker 2 It will. 00:24:33 Speaker 2 It will attack trap, and a band could go down in it. 00:24:38 Speaker 2 Walk over, go back up. 00:24:41 Speaker 2 You know.

00:24:43 Speaker 2

And it was bad. Weather had been raining a lot and it were muddy.

00:24:50 Speaker 2

And we started cross a great big pasture field.

00:24:56 Speaker 2

I had a big old flame throw on my back.

00:25:01 Speaker 2

German Sniper started shooting at me.

00:25:04 Speaker 2

And he was a poor shot.

00:25:08 Speaker 2

Bullet one right. Bummer.

00:25:11 Speaker 2

Leg splattered.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

Mud up the other one right by my face. He shot at me 3-4 times and missed me.

00:25:20 Speaker 2

My buddy Elvin left you from West Virginia.

00:25:24 Speaker 2

He had the bar, which is the Browning automatic rifle.

00:25:29 Speaker 2

The air mass is snap over on a shooting at me.

00:25:34 Speaker 2

And he took that BA or now he could shoot that BA all he was. He was a professional.

00:25:42 Speaker 2

And he turned 2 magazines loose over a magazine as a bunch of ammunition.

00:25:48 Speaker 2

Contain a load of gun.

00:25:52 Speaker 2

He was 15 or 20.

00:25:54 Speaker 2

I'm not sure, but he turned about two magazines loose over that.

00:25:58 Speaker 2

Didn't hear no more from that sniper.

00:26:01 Speaker 2

Scared him half dead, but he.

00:26:03 Speaker 2

He was not a good shot that that sniper wasn't.

00:26:07 Speaker 1

Tell us a little more about Abar.

00:26:09 Speaker 1

And it stands for what?

00:26:11 Speaker 2

Browning automatic.

00:26:13 Speaker 2

John John Brown invented it.

00:26:16 Speaker 2

It was a fine gun.

00:26:17 Speaker 2

Was real heavyweight.

00:26:19 Speaker 2

Even 19 or 20 lbs.

00:26:22 Speaker 2

And you could shoot it for automatic shooting, single shot and eliminate viewers. A country boy from West Virginia and he he would be all man in my outfit.

00:26:37 Speaker 2

And then.

00:26:39

4.

00:26:44 Speaker 2

I can't think about way we've been training up and.

00:26:49 Speaker 2

Tennessee for Forest, who did a forest?

00:26:54 Speaker 2

He shot.

00:26:55 Speaker 2

For school with the Var.

00:27:00 Speaker 2

And they they, they radioed back down to the to the range in the old Colonel from World War One, where they in charge of the range.

00:27:13 Speaker 2

The current government said it is.

00:27:15 Speaker 2

That can't be correct, said he made a mistake.

00:27:19 Speaker 2

Bring up.

00:27:22 Speaker 2

Target up here, let me score.

00:27:25 Speaker 2

They brought it up that to him and he had.

00:27:28 Speaker 2

Head hit the Bulls 39 times out of 40 and if it went out would just barely out.

00:27:38 Speaker 2

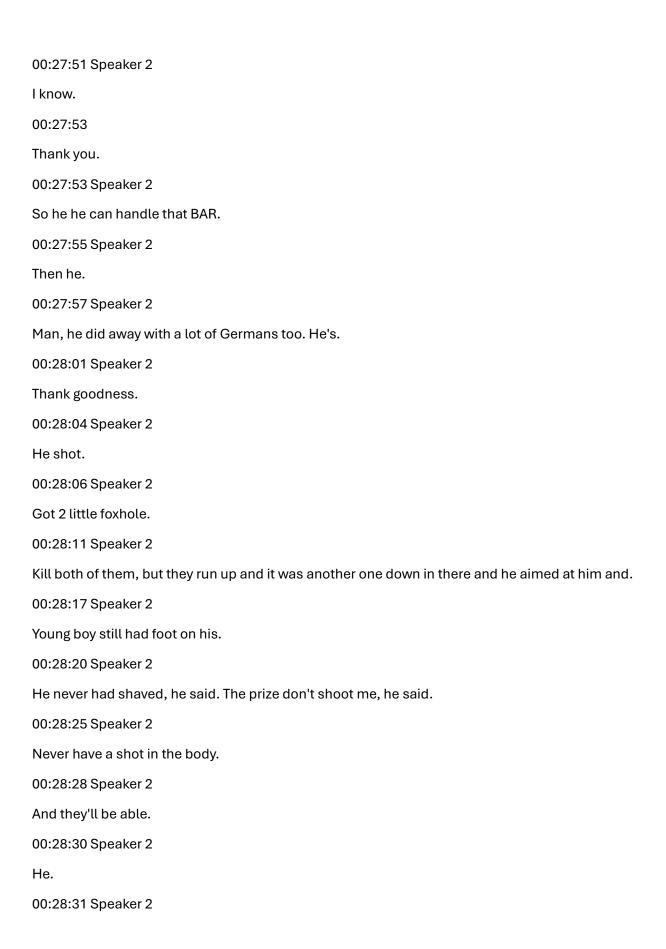
And I don't remember the range, but I think was 300 yards.

00:27:42 Speaker 2

And the Chrome had an elbow on the shoulder, he.

00:27:45 Speaker 2

Son, you just shut the high score that's ever been shot for BAR as far as.



He said come on out and little fella come out. 00:28:36 Speaker 2 And they can speak real good English. 00:28:39 Speaker 2 And. 00:28:41 Speaker 2 After that battle with oil, the little fella stayed right with Elvis. 00:28:46 Speaker 2 And. 00:28:46 Hello. 00:28:50 Speaker 2 Channel on. 00:28:53 Speaker 2 Hello. 00:28:56 Speaker 2 The cookie. 00:28:56 Speaker 2 I ain't feeding that Germany ever. 00:28:59 Speaker 2 Yeah, you off, he said. You don't feed it. 00:29:02 Speaker 2 And shall we farm it fading? 00:29:05 Speaker 2 And little fella. 00:29:09 Speaker 2 He told Elvis. 00:29:10 Speaker 2 Said.

00:29:11 Speaker 2

He said my office go retreat tonight, said out ammunition and out of fuel.

00:29:16 Speaker 2

Said they're going to retreat, and they did.

00:29:18 Speaker 2

Were going the next morning.

00:29:23 Speaker 1

Tell us about some of your encounters with the Germans on.

00:29:29 Speaker 1

Person to person, person to person.

00:29:33 Speaker 1

Standpoint, you said you saw two Germans arguing one time and what was that about?

00:29:41 Speaker 1

Two German soldiers.

00:29:43 Speaker 2

We will.

00:29:44

We.

00:29:45 Speaker 2

Will go into the woods.

00:29:49 Speaker 2

But I was out in the front. I was leaving.

00:29:52 Speaker 2

Was leaving my.

00:29:55 Speaker 1

That many men on the squad.

00:29:57 Speaker 2

12 If it's a full squad.

00:30:00 Speaker 2

Sometimes it won't be with eight 9:10, depending on something wounded. 00:30:04 Speaker 2

00:30:09 Speaker 2

Kill some foot trouble.

And if two generals stand to?

00:30:11 Speaker 2

Of them point this way and gather the other point. This way one wanted to come back towards us, another one to go the other way.

00:30:21 Speaker 2

And I hauled handy hope glass hands up in German.

00:30:26 Speaker 2

More it took off running.

00:30:29 Speaker 2

And I've shot more of them.

00:30:31 Speaker 2

You killed him.

00:30:34 Speaker 2

Yeah, we got away.

00:30:37 Speaker 1

You mentioned some of your big fighting or hard fighting wasn't in dull in a near dull DHL Luxembourg.

00:30:46 Speaker 1

Tell us about that, some of that.

00:30:51 Speaker 2

Where we took that town.

00:30:56 Speaker 2

We had.

00:30:58 Speaker 2

They had maps and we had to go to a certain wooded area and come out.

00:31:05 Speaker 2

On the South side, although.

00:31:09 Speaker 2

And our he could read that compass. He we hit it right on the button and there was a little young gentleman we wanted to just before we got out of the woods.

00:31:20 Speaker 2

Know what?

00:31:20 Speaker 2

Was doing out there but.

00:31:22

Play.

00:31:25 Speaker 2

He would write.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

He threw his hands up and surrounded.

00:31:30 Speaker 2

He had food on his face.

00:31:31 Speaker 2

Hadn't shaved.

00:31:35 Speaker 2

And even on in a shelter, come in and explode.

00:31:38 Speaker 2

When it did, we'd all.

00:31:39 Speaker 2

On the ground.

00:31:40 Speaker 2

That little fella just stand there and look at us.

00:31:43 Speaker 2

He would eat any fall on the ground.

00:31:46 Speaker 2

But we had a new man named Frank Longo.

00:31:51 Speaker 2

From New York, I think New York City.

00:31:59 Speaker 2

I took Frank on a mouth.

00:32:04 Speaker 2

Arm or Newman come in. We put him with old man to help him.

00:32:10

Get.

00:32:10 Speaker 2

Kind of caught up with things and I had Frank and we.

00:32:17 Speaker 2

We went out the woods and was going across the big field towards the doll.

00:32:24 Speaker 2

And.

00:32:25 Speaker 2

Bulldozers shelves are flying all around and.

00:32:29 Speaker 2

Frank.

00:32:32 Speaker 2

Oh, shell. He found a close to us and Frank fell down on the ground.

00:32:40 Speaker 2

And I thought it might've been hurt, but he wouldn't.

00:32:44 Speaker 2

II realized that he was.

00:32:46 Speaker 2

He's just scared.

00:32:48 Speaker 2

Shell shocked. 00:32:50 Speaker 2 I kicked him. 00:32:52 Speaker 2 And woke him. 00:32:53 Speaker 2 I should get up and exterminate. 00:32:55 Replay. 00:32:56 Speaker 2 I was shaking him. 00:33:00 Speaker 2 And a bullet came right by my face and hit him right in the neck. 00:33:05 Speaker 2 Snap or shoot out of two of a standing steel. That was a good, good target. 00:33:11 Speaker 2 It did more running than Nick and he failed. 00:33:14 Speaker 2 And he stayed down that time and we got on in the door. 00:33:21 Speaker 2 Medical acid. 00:33:24 Speaker 2 I should run over that hill now, said little. 00:33:27 Speaker 2 Man laying down I. 00:33:29 Speaker 2 He shot, but I said I don't really dead or alive. 00:33:34 Speaker 2 And two of them took off running over them.

00:33:36 Speaker 2 He was still alive. 00:33:37 Speaker 2 And they saved. 00:33:38 Speaker 2 He had problems with his vocal cord but he. 00:33:43 Speaker 2 I'd like to know what happened to him after. 00:33:45 Speaker 2 Don't know. But he he lived. 00:33:48 Speaker 1 After he got shot, you had to continue with the advances both to. 00:33:52 Speaker 2 Oh yeah, oh, if you. 00:33:53 Speaker 1 An advanced. 00:33:54 Speaker 2 Still, the worst thing you can. 00:33:56 Speaker 2 You're going to run, and Ziggy, you mentioned that. 00:34:02 Speaker 1 The German seem to attack every every night in one morning. You call them at daylight. 00:34:09 Speaker 1 Tell us about that. 00:34:09 Speaker 2 One moment, one. 00:34:10 Speaker 2 They attacked it too late and we had a machine gun set up across the field.

00:34:18 Speaker 2

And they were a big gutter came. 00:34:20 Speaker 2 They didn't have, but about 100 yards to run out into open to get to. 00:34:24 Speaker 2 To the. 00:34:25 Speaker 2 Buildings. 00:34:27 Speaker 2 And our officers figured ahead of time and figured that's probably what might be going to happen. 00:34:36 Speaker 2 Hello there. 00:34:38 Speaker 2 Don't machine. Don't set up for the cross file. That old gentleman got out that feeling it was. 00:34:44 Speaker 2 It was terrible. 00:34:47 Speaker 2 Murder. I'll be in Estero dead. 00:34:51 Speaker 2 And I saw the whole time I was over there it was. 00:34:54 Speaker 2 Don't know how many it was, but it was a. 00:34:56 Speaker 2 Of them. 00:35:01 Speaker 1

Sometimes I believe you told me you. 00:35:05 Speaker 1

Sought to locate by yourself in the building so you could.

00:35:08 Speaker 2

I'll try to get off by myself.

00:35:11 Speaker 2

My MOS was a sniper where I went over and.

00:35:16 Speaker 2

The rifle I had was very inferior. It would not.

00:35:22 Speaker 2

Stage 0.

00:35:25 Speaker 2

By zero that were zero means that if if you had the site set up certain place, the bullet would hit right where the sites were. If it didn't stay there.

00:35:35 Speaker 2

The site should get off and and you'd miss your target.

00:35:39 Speaker 2

The snap bar off what they gave me when I came went over was very, very unfair to have a telescope on it and the scope was.

00:35:49 Speaker 2

Not no good.

00:35:52 Speaker 2

Or went back to England.

00:35:54 Speaker 2

They it should be a new rifle.

00:35:58 Speaker 2

Which was in one of Gran.

00:36:02 Speaker 2

And the real site will appear to it will round.

00:36:07 Speaker 2

And that was a mistake. The old miss made with those rifles.

00:36:11 Speaker 2

Had a target site on them.

00:36:14 Speaker 1

Oh. 00:36:16 Speaker 2 Gun, which was terrible. 00:36:19 Speaker 2 The hole was too little in it. 00:36:22 Speaker 2 A real site and then in bed, bed lighting conditions. 00:36:30 Speaker 2 You you will. 00:36:33 Speaker 2 You couldn't see your target. 00:36:36 Speaker 1 Hello. 00:36:37 Speaker 1 Tell us about the time you shot up. 00:36:39 Speaker 1 Let me get through that. 00:36:40 Speaker 1 Don't take too long. 00:36:42 Speaker 2 Well. 00:36:43 Speaker 1 Go ahead. 00:36:45 Speaker 2 I got. 00:36:45 Speaker 2 I got a drill and drill outside out. 00:36:49 Speaker 2 And do not conceive I could seek to it real good.

00:36:56 Speaker 1

Now tell us about the gentleman you wounded and later came upon him when you all advanced and you brought him back to your line.

00:37:05 Speaker 2

Well, I went out to burn the building down.

00:37:08 Speaker 2

Was a.

00:37:11 Speaker 2

Building about 100 yards away from the building we were in, they were a little outhouse like we were on the edge of this town.

00:37:20 Speaker 2

When I shot that jumper that he'd he'd run in that building.

00:37:25 Speaker 2

I didn't know he wanted to build.

00:37:30 Speaker 2

Through a phosphor grenade upstairs and a cloud and coated on fire, and a rump downstairs. And.

00:37:37 Speaker 2

Fus grenade in it.

00:37:40 Speaker 2

Stop, right?

00:37:43 Speaker 2

Click on.

00:37:44 Speaker 2

On find it, hay started moving.

00:37:46 Speaker 2

Or somebody started hoarding and I went and got wounded.

00:37:49 Speaker 2

Had done it.

00:37:52 Speaker 2

Got under that Hayward hide. But he was real weak.

00:37:57 Speaker 2

I drug him out of the building.

00:38:01 Speaker 2

And drug him over to our building then he had.

00:38:05 Speaker 2

He had defecated all over himself.

00:38:09 Speaker 2

And his pants came off, and I had. I pulled his pants back up fast and his belt and dragged him on into the building where we were.

00:38:21 Speaker 2

And he lived about an.

00:38:22 Speaker 2

And then he would flare to death. He died.

00:38:26 Speaker 2

But he was a little scared. Fell and he.

00:38:31 Speaker 2

I wound him up.

00:38:35 Speaker 1

You also had mentioned to me about a squad of your of the American soldiers that you saw going up a hill.

00:38:45 Speaker 1

Us about that.

00:38:48 Speaker 2

We were on a river and I don't know the name of it. A small river, very small.

00:38:54 Speaker 2

And.

00:38:55 Speaker 2

My outfit was in reserve.

00:38:58 Speaker 2

Were we stayed back.

00:39:00 Speaker 2

We weren't any attacked.

00:39:02 Speaker 2

We went a little little village like.

00:39:07 Speaker 2

And right across the river was a magical.

00:39:10 Speaker 2

Mean the Siegfried line.

00:39:13 Speaker 2

And we were supposed to go and take that siege free line.

00:39:18 Speaker 2

Were in Luxembourg going into Germany?

00:39:22 Speaker 2

Well, we had orders for us not to shoot.

00:39:27 Speaker 2

Peers don't shoot.

00:39:30 Speaker 2

Well, we could, we could.

00:39:32 Speaker 2

We could watch it just like watching television.

00:39:35 Speaker 2

And it was a squatter men off a little bit to the right.

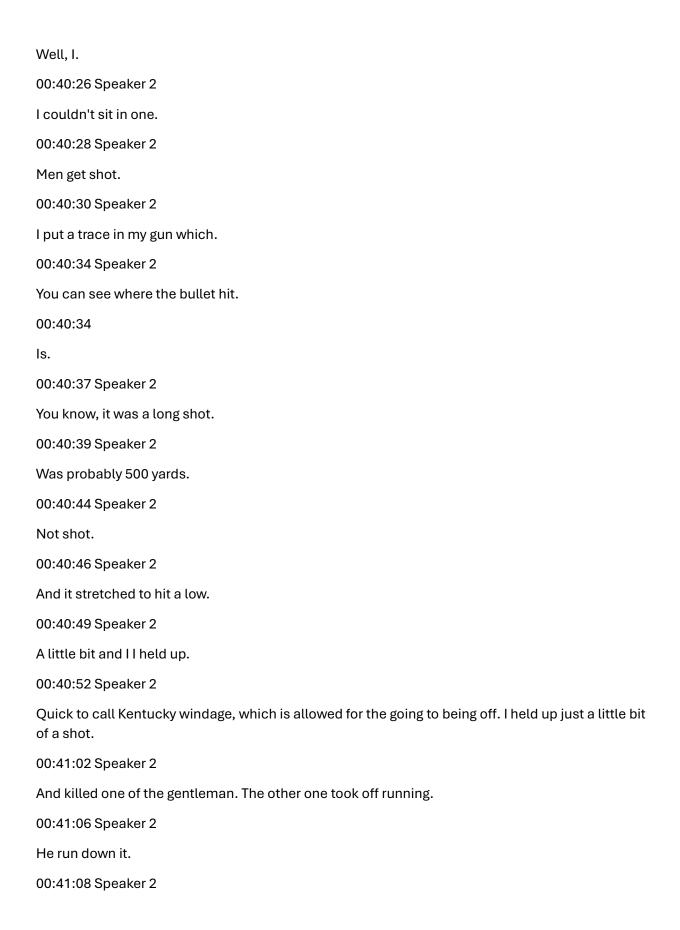
00:39:40 Speaker 2

Which the squad is 12, but I don't know whether it was full squad or a plot squad, but it was a squad of in.

00:39:48 Speaker 2

8 or 10 or whatever.

00:39:52 Speaker 2 And they were going up this hill. 00:39:53 Speaker 2 Go it across the Creek or. 00:39:55 Speaker 2 River. 00:39:58 Speaker 2 Hello. 00:39:59 Speaker 2 They were strung out, but they were all going up the hill. 00:40:05 Speaker 2 And over to the left of them. 00:40:08 Speaker 2 2 Germans run out. 00:40:10 Of. 00:40:10 Speaker 2 Pill box, a machine gun, and they set it up. 00:40:15 Speaker 2 And they were going to wait. 00:40:17 Speaker 2 The little German. 00:40:18 Got. 00:40:19 Speaker 2 I mean no squat, squat, again. Got up and got lined up and they were going to work them over. 00:40:19 Speaker 1 Yeah. 00:40:25 Speaker 2



He had a door going a little. 00:41:11 Speaker 2 Foxwood heights over there. 00:41:14 Speaker 2 But I say that whole squad of men from giving. 00:41:18 Speaker 2 I figured that might have been the biggest thing I did the whole time out over there. 00:41:26 Speaker 2 I know none of them. 00:41:28 Speaker 2 Know none of them. 00:41:29 Speaker 2 None of them. 00:41:30 Speaker 2 They didn't even know who I was. 00:41:32 Speaker 2 Even know about but didn't. 00:41:33 Speaker 2 Didn't know I saved a lot but but I did. 00:41:37 Speaker 1 You said you found a maker automobile over there. 00:41:41 Speaker 1 Us about that. 00:41:43 Speaker 2 We're taking a little town and. 00:41:46 Speaker 2 There we go.

00:41:49 Speaker 2

Garage in.

00:41:52 Speaker 2 I don't. 00:41:54 Speaker 2 I keep getting no something a brand new 1941 Black Mercury automobile. 00:42:01 Speaker 2 And I knew it had a little house with a just a little grill. 00:42:08 Speaker 2 In it and. 00:42:11 Speaker 2 I figured it probably wouldn't German. 00:42:15 Speaker 2 I shall all full time. 00:42:18 Speaker 2 I shall do engine shot the radiator. 00:42:25 Speaker 2 I messed it up real bad. 00:42:28 Speaker 2 And. 00:42:28 Speaker 2 Another town. 00:42:29 Speaker 2 That close it was a. 00:42:34 Speaker 2 Old man laying that dead had little head in them. 00:42:37 Speaker 2 I figured a little store. 00:42:41 Speaker 2 And he has signed up and he's learning that. 00:42:44 Speaker 2

A beautiful. 00:42:45 Speaker 2 German Shepherd dog was laying down there right by him, growling. 00:42:49 And. 00:42:50 Speaker 2 I walked. 00:42:51 Speaker 2 10 feet away and that. 00:42:53 Speaker 2 Crouched down on the ground and. 00:42:56 Speaker 2 Me, I just backed up and took around and detoured around and left. 00:43:01 Speaker 2 Left the dog there with his dead master. 00:43:05 Speaker 1 Well, tell us about your injury when y'all were trying to cross our river. 00:43:15 Speaker 2 Well. 00:43:17 Speaker 2 Shield hit right behind me. 00:43:19 Speaker 1 Well, tell. 00:43:19 Speaker 1 A little bit 1st about where you want what you were trying to do. 00:43:24 Speaker 2 We were trying to. We were gonna cross our river. 00:43:28 Speaker 2 And.

00:43:30 Speaker 2

Take the seafood line, boy.

00:43:31 Speaker 2

Built it all up.

00:43:32 Speaker 2

It man.

00:43:33 Speaker 2

You gotta really do it anytime they did that, you could expect the worst.

00:43:40 Speaker 2

We got up and laid down in the in the ditch, the jump, the engineers.

00:43:48 Speaker 2

Have built up pomp and bridge that night, but every time they get it almost built. The German throwing abroad and knocking out. They had it pinpointed.

00:44:01 Speaker 2

And could tell what was going on down there. I don't know whether the moon was shining or what, but they kept knocking it out, knocking it out.

00:44:09 Speaker 2

We would have been laid down in the dish.

00:44:11 Speaker 2

Laid there a long time and.

00:44:15 Speaker 2

A boy right about me.

00:44:17 Speaker 2

She'll hit him dead, son.

00:44:18 Speaker 2

I blow them, turn them into a hamburger meat.

00:44:23 Speaker 1

And.

00:44:24 Speaker 2

Pour. 00:44:24 Speaker 2 Spread it up against my face and I had to dig it off. 00:44:31 Speaker 2 But I didn't get a scratch of that and then give us. 00:44:36 Speaker 2 Orders to withdraw. 00:44:39 Speaker 2 Well, we started withdrawing it. 00:44:42 Speaker 2 I had a squat a minute that particular time. 00:44:46 Speaker 2 I am. 00:44:47 Speaker 2 I had two men missing. 00:44:50 Speaker 2 I went back looking for. 00:44:56 Speaker 2 Found out later that they had deserted. 00:44:59 Speaker 2 But after I couldn't find them, I will turn around coming back to regroup where my outfit in this big shell hit right behind me. 00:45:09 Speaker 2 And was coming my way and it no, it got me. I mean it. 00:45:15 Speaker 2 Hey. 00:45:15 Speaker 2 Blew me up 30 something. Trap my wounds. 00:45:21 Speaker 2

Hello.
00:45:23 Speaker 2
I went know them all over.
00:45:25 Speaker 2
Couldn't feel nothing.
00:45:26 Speaker 2
I just laying out like a drunk man.
00:45:32 Speaker 2
And the first thing I could.
00:45:36 Speaker 2
Move around with my my hand.
00:45:40 Speaker 2
And the first thing I did was feeding my privates to see if they were still left.
00:45:44 Speaker 2
They were.
00:45:46 Speaker 2
And I felt pretty good about that.
00:45:50
Yeah.
00:45:53 Speaker 2
I will make it up.
00:45:55 Speaker 2
Splintered mount.
00:45:58 Speaker 2
Been there and I took my pills.
00:46:01 Speaker 2
Had some.
00:46:01 Speaker 2
I took all of them.

00:46:04 Speaker 2 Making that split. 00:46:07 Speaker 2 And I struck a match. 00:46:10 Speaker 2 A big kitchen match. 00:46:13 Speaker 2 It's a lot of cigarette. 00:46:15 Speaker 2 And they were the. 00:46:17 Speaker 2 Coming down the road, coming away from the. 00:46:21 Speaker 2 Fighting for. 00:46:23 Speaker 2 And that first shell hit real close to me. 00:46:28 Speaker 2 I kind of think that. 00:46:31 Speaker 2 They saw that match. 00:46:34 Speaker 2 And the Jeeps have no. 00:46:37 Speaker 2 And there was four or five medics in it. 00:46:43 Speaker 2 I want to lay down right by me. 00:46:49 Speaker 2 And I I was. 00:46:51 Speaker 2

I was really getting weak from losing blood, but I haven't. 00:46:56 Speaker 2 I could talk enough I. 00:46:58 Speaker 2 I need some help cap when when they quit shooting and he looked at me and he jumped to scared. 00:47:06 Speaker 2 And he didn't know how to lay in there. 00:47:09 Speaker 2 And if they're doing, what about 5 or 6 Shields and they get all around, and then they were over with. 00:47:17 Speaker 2 He haunted for his buddies, he said. Come in said. We got to. 00:47:20 Speaker 2 And four of them. 00:47:22 Speaker 2 Loaded me on stretch and jogged with me a. 00:47:25 Speaker 2 Ways not too far. 00:47:30 Speaker 2 Little farmhouse. 00:47:34 Speaker 2 They made an age station out of. 00:47:38 Speaker 2 And they they hit me and I want to cut.

00:47:42 Speaker 2

Working on 2/2 medics.

00:47:45 Speaker 2

And a shield hit.

00:47:48 Speaker 2

I always were thinking hit in the windowsill and the shrapnel went right over my body.

00:47:55 Speaker 2

And killed one of the medics and wounded the other one.

00:47:59 Speaker 2

And they the reason I know they killed him is they're coming and examining him and they covered him up.

00:48:05 Speaker 2

And the other one was wounded and they started ducting on him and I didn't get none of that.

00:48:11 Speaker 2

So in just a little while.

00:48:16 Speaker 2

I almost backed up there.

00:48:20 Speaker 2

And then pick me up and was talking me down the hall to put me an ambulance and a shell. Got a direct hit on that ambulance.

00:48:28 Speaker 2

I don't what happened to.

00:48:29 Speaker 2

I don't know where to kill him or wounded him or scared him or what.

00:48:34 Speaker 2

Direct me another.

00:48:37 Speaker 2

Handlers came in and there was two of us.

00:48:40 Speaker 2

It loaded.

00:48:41 Speaker 2

Loaded and felt that boy he got away from there.

00:48:44 Speaker 2

Mean.

00:48:44 Speaker 2

He. 00:48:44 Speaker 2 Was he was scared and he had a right to be. 00:48:49 Speaker 2 Got on, got on out of that area. 00:48:52 Speaker 1 What ends your head you received from that shell? 00:48:57 Speaker 1 What it what? 00:48:58 Speaker 1 What injury had you received? 00:49:01 Speaker 1 What part of your body was hurt when you got shot with that shell? 00:49:07 Speaker 2 Over. 00:49:09 Speaker 2 Peace the peace went. 00:49:11 Speaker 2 Magnus shut his left leg off. 00:49:16 Speaker 2 Another piece went in my back. 00:49:20 Speaker 2 And miss my spine and it went in Lantus. And they had to cut part of intestines out. 00:49:27 Speaker 2 Another piece went through my pack and stopped on the rib. 00:49:33 Speaker 2 And my little run alongside that rib.

Try.

00:49:37 Speaker 2

00:49:38 Speaker 2

One full to get get full to die that time. I don't really.

00:49:44 Speaker 1

After that, in the ambulance being struck by a shell, the way that you go.

00:49:52 Speaker 1

Where did they take you for treatment?

00:49:54 Speaker 2

Weather up in the mammals and took me back to a they had a big hospital set up.

00:50:01 Speaker 2

I don't know how far it was. I was really.

00:50:05 Speaker 2

Shocked that was something to.

00:50:08 Speaker 2

Did me down and out about half a week and half knocked out.

00:50:14 Speaker 2

I.

00:50:14 Speaker 2

How far we went, but we got to the.

00:50:18 Speaker 2

A big area.

00:50:19 Speaker 2

It was nice buildings and they had made a hospital out of it and that's where they did all operating over that night and it put.

00:50:29 Speaker 2

In A room.

00:50:31 Speaker 2

With some moment that had been wounded.

00:50:34 Speaker 2

German printing or right there next to him and he died at night.

00:50:40 Speaker 1

On the mesh this we really about out of time you will then transfer to what England and then back home.

00:50:49 Speaker 1

And where did you end up when you got back to the states?

00:50:53 Speaker 1

Where is that?

00:50:55 Speaker 2

Go to yoga live and let me tell you, I've been off with all that bunch of people and they had me on.

00:50:56 Speaker 1

How long were you under?

00:50:58 Speaker 1

Right.

00:51:05 Speaker 2

In analyzing it throw up better than all of them.

00:51:10 Speaker 2

Young, good looking girl walked out there with a pad and the paper.

00:51:14 Speaker 2

What's your?

00:51:16 Speaker 2

And I wanted to grab a hug if she sounded so good with that, that Southern drawl she had.

00:51:23 Speaker 2

But I stayed there for.

00:51:27 Speaker 2

Couple years from left leg.

00:51:32 Speaker 2

Had infection and they operate on the left leg 10 times and finally finally got it straightened out.

00:51:39 Speaker 1

Let's stop now.

00:51:42 Speaker 2 Look straight ahead. 00:51:46 Speaker 2 You want to say anything? 00:51:47 Speaker 1 Wait a? 00:51:47 Speaker 1 Let's let you when you going to turn it on. 00:51:53 Speaker 1 Jack, you have some objects here which is pretty obvious. 00:51:56 Speaker 1 Us what they are. 00:51:57 Speaker 2 Mr. German helmet. 00:52:02 Speaker 1 And next to that. 00:52:06 Speaker 2 German hand grenade. 00:52:09 Speaker 1 What's that called? Potato mash or something like that? 00:52:13 Speaker 2 I think. 00:52:17 Speaker 2 Bazooka shell American. 00:52:23 Speaker 1 Benet American Benet goes on the end of a rifle. 00:52:29 Speaker 2 Yeah. 00:52:32 Speaker 2

Fragmentation. Hand grenade. American. 00:52:39 Speaker 2 German fatigue cap. 00:52:46 Speaker 2 It is some metals. 00:52:50 Speaker 2 Germant. 00:53:03 Speaker 2 Right here. 00:53:10 Speaker 1 We'll go over a few more questions since you have identified those objects which. 00:53:15 Speaker 1 Had in. 00:53:16 Speaker 1 What did you feel about being drafted? 00:53:20 Speaker 2 Well, I didn't have any bad feelings about it. 00:53:25 Speaker 2 I kind of figured it was something had to had to be done and and. 00:53:32 Speaker 1 How many? 00:53:33 Speaker 1 How many people in your age group and older and younger went into the military service? 00:53:41 Speaker 2 Of whole bunch of I. 00:53:43 Speaker 2 Know what pile of? 00:53:46 Speaker 1 And when you rejoined your unit in France after recovering from that first injury in England. 00:53:54 Speaker 1

How did they receive you?

00:53:57 Speaker 2

Long glad to see me and the one that remembered.

00:54:02 Speaker 2

Me.

00:54:03 Speaker 2

And most of them were new men.

00:54:06 Speaker 1

And what had happened to the old man?

00:54:09 Speaker 2

Dead, wounded, frostbite feet. Different things.

00:54:16 Speaker 1

Did you have any girlfriends when you left Augusta?

00:54:20 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:54:22 Speaker 1

How did they feel about you leaving?

00:54:24 Speaker 2

Second favorite, and we're too happy about it.

00:54:29 Speaker 1

And how did you feel about leaving the girlfriend?

00:54:33 Speaker 2

Well.

00:54:34 Speaker 2

We found ourselves, but I didn't feel too good about leaving them.

00:54:40 Speaker 1

You mentioned the young German soldier that was captured from the foxhole with the two dead Germans.

00:54:50 Speaker 1

And having fed him at the company mess hall, whatever it's called.

00:54:57 Speaker 1

What happened to him after that?

00:55:04 Speaker 2

Elmhurst turned them over to.

00:55:07 Speaker 2

Some more people that had the prisoners and and he he got wound up going in with a group of the German prisoners.

00:55:20 Speaker 1

Now you mentioned the German language for hands up.

00:55:26 Speaker 1

Well, you taught German before you went over there.

00:55:29 Speaker 2

١.

00:55:30 Speaker 2

I just learned a few little phrases of the German language just.

00:55:33 Speaker 1

Did the military undertake to educate you?

00:55:36 Speaker 2

Now in the military told me that.

00:55:43 Speaker 1

Now you mentioned that.

00:55:46 Speaker 1

Your outfit had caught this German. This group of German soldiers.

00:55:53 Speaker 1

You know early morning attack and that many were killed.

00:55:58 Speaker 1

You have any particular feeling after that?

00:56:03 Speaker 1

Immediately.

00:56:05 Speaker 2

After the well, I knew they were coming to kill us and I was glad to see them laying there.

00:56:14

OK.

00:56:17 Speaker 1

Now you mentioned having saved that wounded German soldier from the hey and dragging him back to your lines.

00:56:28 Speaker 1

Why did you save him?

00:56:32 Speaker 2

Well, I just.

00:56:35 Speaker 2

Phil, sorry for my guess.

00:56:39 Speaker 2

That's.

00:56:40 Speaker 2

I asked that question a good many times and.

00:56:44 Speaker 2

It's hard to get a pinpoint answer on.

00:56:48 Speaker 1

When you entered the battle of your outfit, end of the battle, which was later named the Battle of the Bulge.

00:56:58 Speaker 1

How had the German attacking force?

00:57:02 Speaker 1

Treated the American prisoners they took.

00:57:07 Speaker 2

Treated some of them pretty good and.

00:57:11 Speaker 2

A lot of them, they they murdered, they killed.

00:57:19 Speaker 1

What was the position of your commanding people as to how you should treat Germans?

00:57:29 Speaker 1

I don't mean.

00:57:31 Speaker 1

I don't mean don't mean to imply the.

00:57:36 Speaker 1

Eyes are now.

00:57:37 Speaker 2

Well, when?

00:57:41 Speaker 2

When we found out about the head machine going, somehow prisoners.

00:57:45 Speaker 2

We got.

00:57:47 Speaker 2

Word not to take any prisoners that were s s troopers.

00:57:52 Speaker 2

Those were the bad.

00:57:54 Speaker 2

They would have shown up mean motor scooters.

00:57:58 Speaker 2

A lot of the Germans were drafted just like we.

00:58:02 Speaker 2

They didn't want to fight any more than we did, but then the s s troops were they were them. Tough, bad, mean son of a gun to just all they all they could do was bad and we got all them.

00:58:15 Speaker 2

To take none of them prudence.

00:58:18 Speaker 1

You mentioned earlier about having.

00:58:23 Speaker 1

Been more able to see the Germans when you were off by yourself and and effectively shoot them.

00:58:34 Speaker 1

Did you at what distance would they be when you were able to hit them?

00:58:40 Speaker 2

No, no special distance.

00:58:44 Speaker 2

We'd go for days without seeing a German be right in.

00:58:47 Speaker 1

Front lines and.

00:58:49 Speaker 2

Go for days and not see 1 then.

00:58:51 Speaker 2

Then you'd see one, or you'd see three or whatever.

00:58:55 Speaker 2

The Rangers of that would be.

00:58:58 Speaker 2

I don't know.

00:59:01 Speaker 2

300 yard if you had. If I had to pick a range, let's see.

00:59:05 Speaker 2

Something like that.

00:59:06 Speaker 1

But you successful in shooting one at a great distance.

00:59:11 Speaker 2

I made one real long shot.

00:59:14 Speaker 2 About 750 yards. 00:59:17 Speaker 1 And did you determine that or did other people? 00:59:20 Speaker 1 Say that that was the test. 00:59:22 Speaker 2 The range. 00:59:23 Speaker 1 Yes. 00:59:25 Speaker 2 At 3, octillion observers come up with each one of them estimated how far one that was average. 00:59:35 Speaker 1 You told me something that I found of interest about a dead cat. 00:59:41 Speaker 1 Tell the TV camera about that. 00:59:45 Speaker 2 Well, we we had a dead cow out in the in the street and been killed by the our children. Five and one of the boys and I fit with. 00:59:55 Speaker 2 A. 00:59:56 Speaker 2 Meat cutter. He he had he had butchered animals. 01:00:00 Speaker 2 He cut us out and I ^2 had seven men in it at the particular time. 01:00:06 Speaker 2 And he he. 01:00:07 Speaker 2

Off a bunch of the loin.

01:00:10 Speaker 2

And we we had steak.

01:00:13 Speaker 2

Every at least once a day, sometimes twice a day.

01:00:18 Speaker 2

And out on guard one night.

01:00:21 Speaker 2

And we had seven sticks.

01:00:25 Speaker 2

Already sliced and laying on a.

01:00:27 Speaker 2

We're going to have them for breakfast the next morning.

01:00:31 Speaker 2

And I came off board about midnight.

01:00:36 Speaker 2

And I turn the flashlight over there, wherever sticks. When it was a cat sitting there eating one of them steak.

01:00:44 Speaker 2

And I had a little German 32 automatic pistol that I had taken off the German.

01:00:52 Speaker 2

And I eat it, but I shut that cat right between the eyes.

01:00:55 Speaker 2

Or that pistol?

01:00:58 Speaker 2

And one more reason what happened. I said nothing.

01:01:02 Speaker 2

Said nothing, I.

01:01:04 Speaker 2

I just couldn't have.

01:01:05 Speaker 2

It went off and he went back to sleep.

01:01:09 Speaker 2

They would have been outfit that didn't like me and I didn't like him.

01:01:13 Speaker 2

I took that dead cat and needed him over there and feed him.

01:01:18 Speaker 2

Under the bracket right up that four neck.

01:01:24 Speaker 2

And the next morning, they get their buddy up.

01:01:26 Speaker 2

Reached out watching him and he.

01:01:31 Speaker 2

He reached up and he felt that kid, and he liked the messed up his Bridget he.

01:01:38 Speaker 2

Hey.

01:01:40 Speaker 2

He.

01:01:40 Speaker 2

He never to know, did it, unless he.

01:01:43 Speaker 2

Found out later.

01:01:45 Speaker 1

Was what?

01:01:46 Speaker 1

What purpose was the bazooka used?

01:01:51 Speaker 2

It was an anti tank weapon.

01:01:55 Speaker 1

You have see anybody use it to shoot a person as opposed to a tank, yeah.

01:02:01 Speaker 2

James Long Junior, never from West.

01:02:04 Speaker 2

He he would have bazooka man and a German jump down in front of him, took off running.

01:02:12 Speaker 2

And he already had with the.

01:02:13 Speaker 2

So he raided a been shot and hit him right in the back of the head, and it rolled in head completely into nor nothing with juice.

01:02:22 Speaker 2

Didn't even have a head lift.

01:02:26 Speaker 1

What about our else support that you observe the our fighter planes?

01:02:32 Speaker 2

We didn't seek too much of that one time.

01:02:36 Speaker 2

We have some 33P50 ones.

01:02:42 Speaker 2

Strength. This we want to sell.

01:02:44 Speaker 2

Pitcher movement fighting the Battle of the Bulls and we my outfit was way out in front of the other and apparently.

01:02:56

These.

01:02:56 Speaker 2

Three planes thought we were Germans and they strapped us.

01:03:00 Speaker 2

We, we, we.

01:03:02 Speaker 2 Jump to the end. 01:03:05 Speaker 2 Big share. 01:03:07 Speaker 2 And one of them particular. 01:03:10 Speaker 2 He he do it on us about. 01:03:13 Speaker 2 456 times. I believe I could. 01:03:18 Speaker 2 Cut him down with my spam one. But I didn't shoot at him and I'm better than him. 01:03:24 Speaker 2 At the time, he might have been a German. 01:03:28 Speaker 2 Captured somehow playing, but he probably would not. 01:03:35 Speaker 1 Tell us about the American half track that you saw being used by the Germans and that incident. 01:03:46 Speaker 2 Well, we've taken this little town. 01:03:51 And. 01:03:52 Speaker 2 I was out in front of my house. 01:03:57 Speaker 2 And this is half track we're going in and out in and out and he go out, he have a load of Germans and coming back he'd be empty.

01:04:06 Speaker 2

And every time you come by shoot animal.

01:04:13 Speaker 2 And I never did. 01:04:15 Speaker 2 Direct spot to knock him out with one of the one of the young ones saw me. 01:04:15 A. 01:04:21 Speaker 2 He looked right straight at me when he came back by, he had it. 01:04:25 Speaker 2 20mm. 01:04:29 Speaker 2 Gonna turn on the window while I was at least. 01:04:36 Speaker 2 He might have got me. 01:04:39 Speaker 2 He might be a government. 01:04:41 Speaker 2 Idea right here he he'd weigh in his hand over there. 01:04:47 Speaker 1 You mentioned an incident. 01:04:51 Speaker 1 Leo. 01:04:53 Speaker 1 Your chinsky and you say, yeah. Tell me about that. 01:04:55 Speaker 2 Hey Cortana. 01:04:59 Speaker 2 Well, Leo, order Pulllock and he. 01:05:04 Speaker 2

Only shoot a German so bad, but he had.

01:05:08 Speaker 2

Terrible eyes. You get thick.

01:05:10 Speaker 2

Eat. He shouldn't even have been in a combat infantry.

01:05:16

But.

01:05:18 Speaker 2

I made that long shot with a tracer.

01:05:22 Speaker 2

And he come up there wanting all about the tracers.

01:05:27 Speaker 2

And he went and swapped some hill.

01:05:30 Speaker 1

Jack, you were talking about Leo. Finish that.

01:05:34 Speaker 2

He wanted to shoot a job and then.

01:05:37 Speaker 2

He got some treasure bullets.

01:05:41 Speaker 2

And I was laying down behind a hedgerow shooting, but I couldn't. I was.

01:05:46 Speaker 2

I was missing but I couldn't tell where I would.

01:05:50 Speaker 2

And I wouldn't put a trace.

01:05:52 Speaker 2

It was too dangerous in that particular situation.

01:05:56 Speaker 2

He ran a play and wanted to know where they were at.

01:05:59 Speaker 2

I said they're right over.

01:06:00 Speaker 2

And he throwed up and shot all them tracers after.

01:06:06 Speaker 2

And they turn the machine on loose on us.

01:06:10 Speaker 2

And the bullets were.

01:06:12 Speaker 2

Say they shot high, but he took off running.

01:06:15 Speaker 2

Lost his helmet and his rifle.

01:06:18 Speaker 2

And he ran to a little building over there and dove through the door and slid right in the pile of fresh cow manure.

01:06:28 Speaker 1

Did you get it? Weapon back.

01:06:30 Speaker 1

Did he get his weapon back?

01:06:31 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, I took it to the.

01:06:34 Speaker 1

Tell me you mentioned you ate some canned pals one time.

01:06:42 Speaker 2

Well.

01:06:45 Speaker 2

Would we take a town with?

01:06:48 Speaker 2

Search every room in every building.

01:06:52 Speaker 2

And we we specialized in the basement and in the pantry and in the kitchen where there might be some food.

01:07:04 Speaker 2

You know, I found your pickle.

01:07:09 Speaker 2

Was preserved.

01:07:13 Speaker 2

They will.

01:07:15 Speaker 2

Not pick little pale jaw pails.

01:07:19 Speaker 2

And I broke this thing open.

01:07:23 Speaker 2

And I ate one of and it was.

01:07:24 Speaker 2

Good. I wound up, made the whole jaw.

01:07:29 Speaker 2

And I got the worst diarrhea it's ever been.

01:07:34 Speaker 2

Man, I had the diarrhea.

01:07:35 Speaker 2

Was.

01:07:36 Speaker 2

I mean, it was terrible.

01:07:38 Speaker 1

They call that the GI at that time.

01:07:43 Speaker 2

And.

01:07:46 Speaker 2 Hold out there 1 morning. 01:07:49 Speaker 2 Going to the bathroom. 01:07:52 Speaker 2 Squat it down. 01:07:54 Speaker 2 On the company St. it wasn't supposed to be nobody except us. 01:07:59 Speaker 2 And here come a whole family of them. 01:08:03 Speaker 2 Luxembourg burgers. 01:08:07 Speaker 2 Combined, each one of them stopped and shook my hand. 01:08:11 Speaker 2 He said bonjour. 01:08:14 Speaker 1 While you were still spotting. 01:08:15 Speaker 2 I was still squat. 01:08:19 How? 01:08:20 Speaker 1 Many purple hearts did you receive? 01:08:24 Speaker 1 What sort of work did you?

01:08:26 Speaker 1

01:08:29 Speaker 2

After the war.

I've got a construction up.

01:08:32 Speaker 2

Out of making a contractor for about 10 years.

01:08:35

And.

01:08:36 Speaker 2

Then I ceramic contract ceramic tile contractor.

01:08:43 Speaker 2

Then I went in a terrible business, and then I retired.

01:08:48 Speaker 1

Did the you're having been in the army and in combat?

01:08:54 Speaker 1

You're having been in the army in so much.

01:08:59 Speaker 1

Combat in Europe.

01:09:02 Speaker 1

Did it affect you mentally?

01:09:04 Speaker 1

I know it affected you physically because you were wounded real bad, but how about any mental problem?

01:09:10 Speaker 2

I had a lot of nightmares for awhile.

01:09:14 Speaker 2

My nerves weren't, weren't too good, I.

01:09:18 Speaker 2

Just flow off to handle it most anytime, but I it just kept getting better and better and after.

01:09:29 Speaker 2

Probably four or five years.

01:09:30 Speaker 2

I kind of got on back to normal.

01:09:37 Speaker 1

What do you think?

01:09:41 Speaker 1

The our country, our people.

01:09:45 Speaker 1

Might have learned or should have learned.

01:09:48 Speaker 1

From World War 2.

01:09:52 Speaker 2

Google, I don't know.

01:09:55 Speaker 2

I don't know.

01:09:58 Speaker 1

But Jack, that was.

01:09:59 Speaker 2

Supposed to be the water in our water, but they're still fighting.

01:10:03 Speaker 2

I don't look like they could learn to get along with each other, but don't look like they're going to ever do it.

01:10:11 Speaker 1

But Jack is a citizen of Augusta, GA, United States of America. I appreciate your.

01:10:18 Speaker 1

Involvement and success in the war. I guess that was a success.

01:10:22 Speaker 1

Was not a pleasant job.