

## **Edward Glavan Interview**

3rd Bn Hq Company, 318th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Emil Dansker)*

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

00:00:02 Speaker 2

Well hello, my name is Amel Vanceker. Heather, former marine. But I'm the interviewer for the Veterans History project, and we're down at the main library in Cincinnati.

00:00:05 Speaker 1

OK.

00:00:10 Speaker 1

All right.

00:00:13 Speaker 2

We're here on February the.

00:00:17 Speaker 2

19th.

00:00:19 Speaker 2

2014 and we are talking with.

00:00:20 Speaker 1

That's right.

00:00:22 Speaker 2

With Edward F Raven, who came out of World War 2 as a Sergeant and a whole passel full of medals and a tremendous amount of of experience in the 88th, 80th, 80th Division.

00:00:24 Speaker 1

Claim it.

00:00:41 Speaker 2

318th infantry. The three Eighth Infantry regiment.

00:00:46 Speaker 2

Right.

00:00:47 Speaker 2

Well, so were you born?

00:00:50 Speaker 1

Let's start off with where you were born.

00:00:52 Speaker 1

Was born in Bessemer, PA.

00:00:55 Speaker 1

That's where I worked.

00:00:57 Speaker 1

My first job was an estimate plant.

00:00:58 Speaker 2

There you didn't work for the steel industry then?

00:01:01 Speaker 1

The steel industry, I wouldn't struggle Ohio for Youngstown sheet and tube.

00:01:06 Speaker 1

I worked there across the river.

00:01:08 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's right.

00:01:10 Speaker 1

And then I got drafted.

00:01:14 Speaker 1

Edgar.

00:01:14 Speaker 1

I was about 20 years old when I went in and I spent my 21st birthday down in Tennessee and Camp camp for Tennessee.

00:01:16 Speaker 2

Goodness.

00:01:24 Speaker 2

Basic training basic.

00:01:26 Speaker 2

Yeah. So what does your parents do?

00:01:28 Speaker 1

My dad worked for the Bessemer cement plant.

00:01:31 Speaker 2

Same place where you work.

00:01:32 Speaker 1

That's where I got my job.

00:01:33 Speaker 2

Yeah. And what school did you go?

00:01:36 Speaker 1

To Bessemer high school.

00:01:39 Speaker 1

I graduated there in 1939.

00:01:41 Speaker 2

Have any college later on.

00:01:43 Speaker 1

You know, by when I get out of service, I went on a GI bill to.

00:01:49 Speaker 1

To a trade school and I became a Carpenter and a housebuilder, and I ended up building houses for a living.

00:01:56 Speaker 2

You were able to do that after you got out.

00:01:59 Speaker 1

That's.

00:02:00 Speaker 1

They I knew I get all the experience that I needed there.

00:02:02 Speaker 1

Yeah. And then I got into business for myself and I started building houses.

00:02:08 Speaker 1

So I yeah, building houses for GIS coming back.

00:02:12 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, those are the days when you had a hammer and nails.

00:02:13 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah.

00:02:15 Speaker 2

You didn't have nail guns in those days, huh?

00:02:17 Speaker 1

Really all hard work and.

00:02:19

For.

00:02:20 Speaker 1

And I started building houses for handicapped.

00:02:24 Speaker 1

And those houses had to be special. They had to have wide.

00:02:27 Speaker 1

Openings. A door opening had to be wide enough for a.

00:02:31 Speaker 1

Had to build ramps. You know in the houses and everything. And and I built a couple of them and then they they built whatever it is they thought somebody.

00:02:33 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:02:43 Speaker 1

Government come over to see me, wanted me to build more.

00:02:47 Speaker 1

But the trouble is, they were all too far away.

00:02:49 Speaker 1

Of them were in.

00:02:52 Speaker 1

In Erie, PA, so I just had a few left over here and I built them in around Youngstown.

00:02:58 Speaker 1

And I even built on investment Pennsylvania and 1:00 in.

00:03:04 Speaker 1

Near near.

00:03:06 Speaker 1

I think it's on the Northside.

00:03:09 Speaker 2

He wouldn't about that.

00:03:10 Speaker 2

Sometimes we're where else?

00:03:10 Speaker 1

Yeah, I forget their name.

00:03:14 Speaker 2

What did you?

00:03:16 Speaker 2

Gosh, that's what you did after the war then, right?

00:03:19 Speaker 1

Right afterward, I did all that after the war, and I was very.

00:03:23 Speaker 1

Very successful and retired when I was 85.

00:03:27 Speaker 2

Have your own business.

00:03:28 Speaker 1

But my own business.

00:03:29 Speaker 1

My own class.

00:03:30 Speaker 2

You just said.

00:03:31 Speaker 2

Yeah, I retired. And at 80, at 85 and I'm just about that now myself.

00:03:33 Speaker 1

Five, whenever you find.

00:03:37 Speaker 1

And I'm 92.

00:03:40 Speaker 2

And you wouldn't. Wouldn't believe it?

00:03:43 Speaker 2

Where?

00:03:43 Speaker 2

You when you heard about Pearl Harbor.

00:03:46 Speaker 1

Oh, you know.

00:03:47 Speaker 1

I was invested just a kid about.

00:03:51 Speaker 1

Whole I was, but we were playing handball against the building and he come running out out of the building.

00:03:57 Speaker 1

Oh, we're attacked by the Japanese.

00:03:59 Speaker 1

Hitler harbour.

00:04:01

And.

00:04:01 Speaker 1

That's. That's when I first heard.

00:04:04 Speaker 2

And you were how old then?

00:04:06 Speaker 1

I like working as an implant. At that time I was out of high school working cement plant at that time.

00:04:12 Speaker 2

But you then you did the list.

00:04:14 Speaker 1

You just order drafted. Me because. Yeah, I wanted to stay out of the army as long as I could. Yeah, I didn't.

00:04:16 Speaker 2

May be crafted yet.

00:04:21 Speaker 2

Endless did you think about picking out picking anything else like the Marines or the Navy or the Air Force? I wanted to be a paratrooper.

00:04:27 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:04:31 Speaker 1

But they wouldn't take me because I was too tall.

00:04:33 Speaker 2

Too tall?

00:04:34 Speaker 1

Yeah, I was 6 foot three. I think anything over 6 foot you couldn't get in a paratroopers. And then I had some Ranger training down there.

00:04:40 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:04:43 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:04:43 Speaker 1

And then.

00:04:46 Speaker 1

I didn't enjoy reading Ranger training too much because really hard. You know, it's kind of.

00:04:52 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:04:52 Speaker 1

So I went back into the infantry, so there's no problems getting into the infantry. All I had to do was say I want to be an infantry and they put me right in there.

00:05:01 Speaker 2

And when actually was that that you went?

00:05:04 Speaker 1

Telephone Tennessee Camp forest.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

Let's see, we've got all this. We've got so much information here week, we almost don't know what to do.

00:05:14 Speaker 2

Well, so you didn't enlist because you heard of Pearl Harbor.

00:05:19 Speaker 1

You just were going to be drafted anyway. Yeah, I was going to be drafting anyway.

00:05:24 Speaker 1

I was already, you know, signed up for the draft and you trained in Tennessee.

00:05:30 Speaker 1

I trained in the Tennessee Tallahoma Tennessee for almost a year.

00:05:34 Speaker 2

And even though we've got a lot of.

00:05:36 Speaker 2

Here.

00:05:37 Speaker 2

How do you sit?

00:05:39 Speaker 2

Say what you did during the war.

00:05:43 Speaker 2

As I say, how do you say that?

00:05:45 Speaker 2



How do you report that?

00:05:47 Speaker 2

Tell me about what you did.

00:05:48 Speaker 1

During the war, well during the war, what I did the first time I got, I'll tell you I didn't get no accident until I got into Queen Maryland at the Queen Mary.

00:05:49

Replay.

00:06:00 Speaker 1

Into Scotland and there was George Patton, General Patton and the first thing he said to us and he was looking right at me because I was one of the first ones off the plank, you know, and he said.

00:06:13

Bye.

00:06:16 Speaker 1

You should be proud.

00:06:18 Speaker 1

You're here serving your country because there's other 4FS back home.

00:06:24 Speaker 1

All they can do is tell their grandchildren how they shovel manure.

00:06:29 Speaker 1

That's what he said.

00:06:29 Speaker 2

That's the word he used.

00:06:30 Speaker 1

That's where he used the same thing, word for word. Almost.

00:06:32

Where?

00:06:33 Speaker 2

Was it you landed then?

00:06:35 Speaker 2

In Scotland, under Marian Scott on the Mary.

00:06:37 Speaker 1

Yeah. And a Queen Mary and then we.

00:06:41 Speaker 1

It went on a old one.

00:06:43 Speaker 1

Trains into nuts for England.

00:06:48 Speaker 1

While we were there, there's a blockbuster called Blockbuster. Germans used to shoot them blockbusters into their the 1 landed there before we got there. After that, there was no.

00:07:00 Speaker 1

We had no German.

00:07:04 Speaker 1

We have to, but the German is attacking us anymore, I guess because it wasn't long after that they had to started that their invasion in France, the beachhead.

00:07:17 Speaker 2

The D-Day.

00:07:18 Speaker 1

The beachhead, yeah.

00:07:19 Speaker 2

Did you make the invasion?

00:07:20 Speaker 1

Of Didi got there when they were started at the June the 6th I think was D-Day and I got there in August about.

00:07:28 Speaker 1

Six weeks later.

00:07:32 Speaker 1

First thing we did, we assembled. They already had six beaches, 6 miles of beach.

00:07:38 Speaker 1

Capture already. So when we got off the boat we just had, we got done into those what they call bread ball, express them trucks you know.

00:07:47 Speaker 2

Oh yes, yeah.

00:07:49 Speaker 1

And they took us up to the front lines and we dug in.

00:07:52 Speaker 2

OK.

00:07:53 Speaker 1

Dug in up there.

00:07:56 Speaker 1

And I had one friend.

00:07:59 Speaker 1

We will dig any and I was lucky. I got a fox all done soon, you know.

00:08:04 Speaker 1

But one fella couldn't find her, couldn't dig a false every place you dug your hit rock.

00:08:09 Speaker 1

So he was scared.

00:08:10 Speaker 1

So I told him we'll make mine wider.

00:08:12 Speaker 1

He sat in with me.

00:08:14 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:08:14 Speaker 1

Then and German thanks for coming.

00:08:17

Mm.

00:08:20 Speaker 1

At that time, we had a fighting with bazookas.

00:08:24 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:08:24 Speaker 1

And and we were told, keep your heads down. Keep your heads down because you know the Germans be running over you or something. And one kid from Indiana, PA.

00:08:37 Speaker 1

He had to put his head up and got shot right there.

00:08:40 Speaker 1

First casualty.

00:08:41 Speaker 1

That's when I got frightened. Yeah. Then then then. After that, I don't know what happened, but I guess.

00:08:50 Speaker 1

After he'd been locked a few tanks off, the Germans retreated.

00:08:53 Speaker 1

A while.

00:08:54 Speaker 1

And they.

00:08:54 Speaker 1

Then we went into silly league alarm and as we moved up, you want can I answer?

00:08:59 Speaker 2

Meaning.

00:09:01 Speaker 1

Ask you tell you have the questions there.

00:09:05 Speaker 2

Well, you went.

00:09:06 Speaker 2

We were in Argentine for a gap.

00:09:09 Speaker 1

Oh, that was a bad one.

00:09:12 Speaker 1

Was a bad.

00:09:13 Speaker 1

Where the Germans came through, Germany was cornered. They were.

00:09:18 Speaker 1

Were already cornered at the fillet. Gap was about.

00:09:20 Speaker 1

Mile wide.

00:09:22 Speaker 1

And the British and the Canadians were north and we were from the South trying to close the gap to capture the German 7th Army, you know? But then they they put all their forces into that one mile stretch of the escape.

00:09:37 Speaker 1

Of them got away, but most of the 7th Army was captured.

00:09:41 Speaker 1

Because we we closed the gap for a gap, but that was a little town of Argentine was around there.

00:09:43

Uh.

00:09:46 Speaker 1

Took that town.

00:09:47 Speaker 2

That was one of Patton's main.

00:09:51 Speaker 2

Thrusts when it yes.

00:09:53 Speaker 2

Again.

00:09:54 Speaker 1

Whoa. That he was after.

00:09:56 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:09:56 Speaker 1

See and then he always stole us. Now that you got the Germans on the run, keep him on the run.

00:10:02 Speaker 1

We've always.

00:10:02 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:10:03 Speaker 1

We take a.

00:10:03 Speaker 1

Old boy. We'll get a break.

00:10:05 Speaker 1

But he always had a secondary object.

00:10:09 Speaker 1

Second day you call it.

00:10:12 Speaker 1

Objective objective, yeah.

00:10:14 Speaker 1

They objected and a third objective in its fourth. We always took one town, didn't thought for a rest.

00:10:21 Speaker 1

You want to take another town while the Germans are running? They says. Keep them running.

00:10:22 Speaker 2

You need.

00:10:24 Speaker 2

It was patented idea. Patton was doing that.

00:10:27 Speaker 1

Yes, that's what we were doing.

00:10:29 Speaker 2

And you saw him.

00:10:30 Speaker 1

I believe you had said. Yeah. And I caught him.

00:10:34 Speaker 2

We were.

00:10:34 Speaker 1

We took the little town.

00:10:37 Speaker 1

Bechet. But you know how soldiers are.

00:10:39 Speaker 1

Call it \*\*\*\*\* that town.

00:10:41 Speaker 1

And we were surrounded by.

00:10:44 Speaker 1

Then they were up in the mountain in the.

00:10:47 Speaker 1

We were in a little valley. We had a retreat that night, but then during the day I had my machine gun set up behind.

00:10:56 Speaker 1

The wall.

00:10:57 Speaker 1

But there was a big hole opening and had a good view of the hillside.

00:11:02 Speaker 1

In fact, I moved on a few Germans before he even came there with the 50 caliber machine gun, and he came in with the Jeep.

00:11:05

Mm.

00:11:11 Speaker 1

And yet his shoes were, and he commanded to me at the my machine gun, and I had my machine gun in the back behind the wall.

00:11:20 Speaker 1

And he told me soon as he saw me, he said, how do you do an air?

00:11:25 Speaker 1

I told him when I just got done doing, you know, and I said if I say any more Germans, I can mow them down again.

00:11:31 Speaker 1

They were backing off and he says.

00:11:34 Speaker 1

He.

00:11:34 Speaker 1

You you know what you do better if you put your machine gun in the front of that wall.

00:11:39 Speaker 1

So I had to move it, then he left.

00:11:43 Speaker 1

And I don't how he took a gamble.

00:11:47 Speaker 1

Going to the front lines and it sound like that we were surrounded by Germans, you know, and then that night we had a repeat because Germans really come in strong.

00:11:52 Speaker 2

Mm.

00:11:59 Speaker 1

And.

00:12:01 Speaker 1

Well, we were.

00:12:03 Speaker 1

We had a 25 basis. You know how that is.

00:12:05 Speaker 1

Got to go 25 basis.



00:12:07 Speaker 1

The guy walks 25 basis and you walk.

00:12:11 Speaker 1

Out.

00:12:12 Speaker 1

Side and a big shell came between me and the guy in front of Maine.

00:12:20 Speaker 1

Will be way when Swoosh and where I could feel the heat that sounded a gun and then down below it exploded.

00:12:27 Speaker 1

Just think of us.

00:12:31 Speaker 2

Was that an 80?

00:12:32

8.

00:12:32 Speaker 1

88 for streaming Mimi, this was a larger one.

00:12:36 Speaker 1

Didn't scream.

00:12:37 Speaker 1

88 was they told us when the 88 stopped screaming.

00:12:42 Speaker 1

Do you know it's going to?

00:12:43 Speaker 1

You have to be careful as long as they're screaming in order to run over your head.

00:12:45 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:12:48 Speaker 1

But that one, I don't know what kind it was, but it must have big shell because I didn't scream, but it went swoosh between us like that.

00:12:57 Speaker 1

In between and the guy in front of me got so scared and worried about it, he committed suicide the next day.

00:13:04 Speaker 1

So yeah, because I guess it's frightening him so bad, it must have been closer to him.

00:13:08 Speaker 1

Could have even maybe bumped him a little bit. For all I know, you know.

00:13:12 Speaker 2

Did you run into much of that since you saw so much action your your unit?

00:13:17 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:13:18 Speaker 2

So much of that shell.

00:13:21 Speaker 2

What they call shell shock in World War One and.

00:13:22 Speaker 1

Yeah, that he had. Yeah, yeah.

00:13:25 Speaker 1

Yes.

00:13:26 Speaker 1

And then after that.

00:13:29 Speaker 1

Well, we took out a few.

00:13:31 Speaker 1

A whole bunch of.

00:13:33 Speaker 1

And we took probably did mostly mopping up.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

Well, we got.

00:13:36 Speaker 2

Shalom.

00:13:37 Speaker 2

Mourn you're on the morn, cross the Meuse that the gamer see and St.

00:13:39 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:13:44 Speaker 2

That was.

00:13:45 Speaker 2

Your story is the story of the war. Yeah, bridge, head across the Moselle with two. What happened there?

00:13:50 Speaker 1

That's the one.

00:13:51 Speaker 1

Did you see that on that bottom? That's where our company was. Was that in September?

00:13:56 Speaker 1

Yes, that's what we were captured.

00:13:59 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:14:00 Speaker 1

That's where the pond.

00:14:02 Speaker 1

Bridges were knocked out that one and two, and the Germans were so smart they they treated pretty far away. And so we moved in, you know, close enough in the Oconnor attacked it and.

00:14:14 Speaker 2

Well, Roger, come out again.

00:14:15 Speaker 1

I get out of.

00:14:16 Speaker 1

OK. But the company get captured had no company left.

00:14:21 Speaker 1

Except you, me and my squad.

00:14:25 Speaker 1

About 10 of us, that's all.

00:14:26 Speaker 2

That you were able to get.

00:14:27 Speaker 1

Away. And did we run?

00:14:29 Speaker 1

I'm telling you, we run.

00:14:31 Speaker 2

So then you were able to.

00:14:33 Speaker 2

Storm Mountain in Mount Saint John.

00:14:37

No.

00:14:38 Speaker 2

And captured Alba according the enemy the West Bank of the Sail River, which I hadn't heard of.

00:14:47 Speaker 2

But this year?

00:14:47 Speaker 1

Well, we waited quite a few rivers.

00:14:50 Speaker 1

Some rivers that were too swift to the engineers would put a rope across.

00:14:55 Speaker 1

Yes, from the other end to.

00:14:58 Speaker 1

Then we hang on to the rope and cross the rivers.

00:15:02 Speaker 2

That way, not too deep.

00:15:03 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah. Only up to waist high, but the the current was so strong. In fact, if you left looser the rope, the current would take you away.

00:15:13 Speaker 2

This was like the force crossing of the weeds.

00:15:14 Speaker 1

Can hang on to the rope.

00:15:18 Speaker 2

Yeah, you got all this memorized too. Bridgehead and the end.

00:15:23 Speaker 2

Iman. Iman, German.

00:15:23 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah. Reached or what was the experience?

00:15:29 Speaker 2

Was it?

00:15:29 Speaker 2

Kind of an.

00:15:30 Speaker 2

Was it to reach the marginal line?

00:15:33 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, that's where I German that. Imagine the line was facing Germany. That was the French.

00:15:43 Speaker 1

Fortifications, you know, they had there and but the German did use the.

00:15:51 Speaker 1

Those pill boxes, in fact, I went up to one pill box.

00:15:56 Speaker 1

Won't even prepare to see any Germans. They could have shot me, but you know.

00:16:01 Speaker 1

I think they're prepared to give up because soon as I got there, they came out smiling with their hands up in the air and I took them to the PWA camp.

00:16:09 Speaker 1

Must have been about 8 of them.

00:16:11 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:16:13 Speaker 2

Let's see that was.

00:16:16 Speaker 1

November of 44. Yeah. Just before Christmas, yeah.

00:16:22 Speaker 2

And then what happened to the marginal line after that?

00:16:26 Speaker 2

Was supposed.

00:16:26 Speaker 1

To while we knocked it out, we got like you know, we had some tanks coming with the 4th Armored Division.

00:16:34 Speaker 1

Usually we had to go in front of the 4th Armored Division to clear.

00:16:38 Speaker 1

Some areas, because they didn't want to lose the tanks either, you know. And then after everything a little bit of cleared up tanks would come in and they would destroy the pill boxes and stuff that tell you once we got there, the Germans would go. The war was.

00:16:52 Speaker 1

Almost.

00:16:54 Speaker 1

Not as furious as it was in France.

00:16:56 Speaker 1

The Germans usually gave up easier.

00:17:00 Speaker 1

You know, you didn't have to fight him.

00:17:02 Speaker 1

Hard.

00:17:03 Speaker 1

In France they fought hard, but the Nigerian to imagine a line that then.

00:17:10 Speaker 1

He was coming into Nancy, France. I think you'll see.

00:17:12 Speaker 2

November of 44 mentioned the arrest period that Nancy was in December.

00:17:20 Speaker 1

That's.

00:17:20 Speaker 1

We were doing.

00:17:21 Speaker 2

And this was after you liberated for Beresville A and fired the first rounds of artillery into Germany.

00:17:25 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:17:29 Speaker 2

You were the first.

00:17:29 Speaker 1

They.

00:17:30 Speaker 1

You were the first ones there, yes.

00:17:32 Speaker 2

My cousin didn't do that. I'll tell you.

00:17:34 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:17:35 Speaker 1

Then we.

00:17:36 Speaker 1

We.

00:17:36 Speaker 1

They said we were fought on their front lines for 102 days.

00:17:40 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:17:41 Speaker 1

That's what I mean anyway.

00:17:43 Speaker 1

And they said.

00:17:46 Speaker 1

We're going to stay in that, Nancy.

00:17:48 Speaker 1

For two or three weeks till we get ourselves, you know our equipment get more replacements and get get full strength again. And that's when I battle the ball started.

00:17:58 Speaker 1

We were.

00:17:59 Speaker 1

For about a week, a little over a week.

00:18:00 Speaker 2

Ah.

00:18:02 Speaker 1

And four O clock in the morning, Patton says load up.

00:18:06 Speaker 1

Even for Luxembourg, we went to Luxembourg and that's where we were knocked some trees down, because German tanks were coming down the road and they couldn't cross the the trees.



00:18:09 Speaker 2

Uh huh. Uh.

00:18:17 Speaker 1

Have some kind of explosive we put on side of the.

00:18:21 Speaker 1

Tree and blew it up.

00:18:22 Speaker 1

And the tree would land.

00:18:23 Speaker 1

On.

00:18:23 Speaker 1

Road. That's what I was doing, yeah.

00:18:25 Speaker 2

Were you fighting German?

00:18:28 Speaker 2

Tiger Facts, or did you even know what takes you were fighting.

00:18:30 Speaker 1

What's that?

00:18:32 Speaker 1

No, I know that.

00:18:33 Speaker 2

Except they were German.

00:18:34 Speaker 1

I know they were just Germans because they thought they gave us a warning. They said be careful. Even if the Germans have some of our Jeeps, they're driving in and and they could be spies. And some of us speak fluent English.

00:18:43 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:18:47 Speaker 1

Make sure you know who you talk to.

00:18:50 Speaker 1

We had to be real careful then.

00:18:51 Speaker 2

Did you run into any of?

00:18:52 Speaker 2

You know the movie battle of the Bulge where they talked about changing the road signs.

00:18:55 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, they did that too.

00:18:59 Speaker 1

And they took the road that they and they took the signs of the cities off to.

00:19:04 Speaker 1

Know what town you were in.

00:19:05 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:19:06 Speaker 1

And they took the sign Rd. signs off too. So you know, going the wrong way.

00:19:12 Speaker 2

Now, how did you deal with that?

00:19:14 Speaker 1

Well.

00:19:18 Speaker 1

We did.

00:19:18 Speaker 1

We had those small planes come over and they would tell us where they were.

00:19:23 Speaker 1

And you know, fly over and then they let us know where the where the roads were, which where the Germans were headed for and stuff like that.

00:19:30 Speaker 1

Little planes were up there helping them.

00:19:32 Speaker 2

You know that movie battle of the Bulge where they they.

00:19:37 Speaker 2

Were trying to capture the fuel dump.

00:19:39 Speaker 1

Yeah, we.

00:19:40 Speaker 1

Yeah, we got the fuel dump and we got.

00:19:42 Speaker 2

Before the Germans got there.

00:19:44 Speaker 1

Yeah. And we were out of gas. They got you just in time.

00:19:48 Speaker 1

You were, yeah.

00:19:50 Speaker 1

And they filled up the tanks and with the fuel. But they, they said the gas thing wasn't that good as ours, you know, but.

00:19:59 Speaker 1

They the tanks ran anyway.

00:20:01 Speaker 1

So that was a lifesaver for us.

00:20:04 Speaker 1

And then then once later on, we kept another fuel pump, a fuel pump, and then we used their gasoline for a while.

00:20:15 Speaker 1

And then.

00:20:16 Speaker 1

We went into the bathstone to liberate that.

00:20:21 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:20:21 Speaker 2

Tell me about that.

00:20:22 Speaker 1

Yeah. Well, we went into bathstone.

00:20:26 Speaker 1

Our company.

00:20:28 Speaker 1

318 temple regiment.

00:20:32 Speaker 1

Split up. I was on the right side of on the east side of Bastone and a restaurant on the South and West going around.

00:20:41 Speaker 1

And somehow the Germans didn't concentrate in our area that.

00:20:44 Speaker 1

We were kind of lucky from that 318th Guy got wiped out again.

00:20:49 Speaker 2

Mm.

00:20:50 Speaker 1

On the other side, the Germans had all their forces on there and then.

00:20:56 Speaker 1

Then.

00:20:58 Speaker 1

Like I said, get close to German soil and everything. We were getting a lot of them are given up.

00:21:04 Speaker 1

Would be captured quite a few of.

00:21:07 Speaker 1

And then Germany. Germans. Yeah. And we had them line up and we question them and everything, you know, and see where they're located.

00:21:08 Speaker 2

The German.

00:21:16 Speaker 1

Of them.

00:21:16 Speaker 1

A lot of them didn't.

00:21:19 Speaker 1

Then, after a battle of bulbs.

00:21:25 Speaker 1

I I was on a patrol.

00:21:27 Speaker 1

This was New Year's Eve.

00:21:29 Speaker 1

You know, day that ball dress over Germans were already pushed back.

00:21:32 Speaker 1

Were rushing, they said, after defenses in their own country now.

00:21:36 Speaker 2

Across the Siegfried line.

00:21:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, it's up to the.

00:21:38 Speaker 1

Siegfried Line and.

00:21:42 Speaker 1

I was on patrol and I captured 2 German soldiers and they told they told me that someone spoke up pretty good English.

00:21:50 Speaker 1

Understood him pretty good and he says.

00:21:54 Speaker 1

He says.

00:21:55 Speaker 1

If I.

00:21:58 Speaker 1

If I can get him to America.

00:22:00 Speaker 1

They'll tell me more.

00:22:02 Speaker 1

You know where they were at and believe it or not exactly what he told.

00:22:02 Speaker 2

Mm.

00:22:06 Speaker 1

Where the tanks were there, they said they're going to be recreating now. I went into that little town of Wilts, Wilts.

00:22:15 Speaker 1

And they were loading up those tanks so fast, you ought to see how they're loading up here.

00:22:19 Speaker 1

They took off for a 6 speed line.

00:22:21 Speaker 2

Uh huh. Uh.

00:22:22 Speaker 1

There was no but so you.

00:22:24 Speaker 1

We load.

00:22:25 Speaker 1

Our trucks and drove all into Germany ain't.

00:22:27 Speaker 1

Bit bird.

00:22:28 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:22:29 Speaker 1

That, that part of victory line, the boy that bit broke that time was really.

00:22:34 Speaker 1

I mean, it was broken up, bombs so much and everything. And and I well, yeah, that little town of Wilts. This had nothing to.

00:22:44 Speaker 1

With the war.

00:22:45 Speaker 1

Oh, but there was a liquor store.

00:22:50 Speaker 1

A liquor store in edge of.

00:22:52 Speaker 1

The town was burning, but believe it or not, this hot this building had electric light bulb in it.

00:22:58 Speaker 1

We walked into there and I saw corn liquor.

00:23:01 Speaker 1

I took one back to the company and I told them I said Germans are retreating. This liquor store in the edge of town and the guys got a Jeep, came, came down with the Jeep off the liquor back and the whole company got drunk.

00:23:16 Speaker 2

Ha ha.

00:23:17 Speaker 1

That's when I got in trouble.

00:23:19 Speaker 2

I was going to ask you about that, but you told me.

00:23:20 Speaker 1

And I got in trouble.

00:23:23 Speaker 2

The captain, that same captain again.

00:23:24 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, he told.

00:23:25 Speaker 1

If this wasn't in the states you did something like.

00:23:29 Speaker 1

That is a since it's a war, we won't do nothing to you, but otherwise you'll be.

00:23:34 Speaker 1

A break.

00:23:37 Speaker 1

But it wasn't my.

00:23:38 Speaker 1

I just stormed where the liquor was, you know, but they blame me for it. And I told them I went up to the CP and I said the Germans are leaving. As you can see how they're loading up their tanks. You know, only two of them came to.

00:23:40 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:23:43 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:23:51 Speaker 1

Me and those are the ones I gave up and I brought them into camp.

00:23:56 Speaker 2

Where they loading up on trucks.

00:23:58 Speaker 1

Tanks.

00:24:00 Speaker 1

Tank carrier or you should see the equipment they had there and the next day all gone.

00:24:07 Speaker 1

We move right into that town and then we drove right down into the six feet line and after they set up that they set up.



00:24:13 Speaker 2

The Dragons teeth you saw, eh?

00:24:14 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:24:16 Speaker 2

There well.

00:24:21 Speaker 2

Then the wow, you're getting on here. You're getting to to. Well, now we're.

00:24:27 Speaker 2

Well, let's see.

00:24:30 Speaker 2

For surrender of.

00:24:32 Speaker 2

The Garrison.

00:24:34 Speaker 2

Relief by the 69th.

00:24:36 Speaker 1

Yeah, we.

00:24:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, because you know.

00:24:39 Speaker 1

There wasn't too many pen left.

00:24:41 Speaker 1

We were kind of low on help. You know, we had to get new replacements in and then only that once during the real highway in France I remember.

00:24:44 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:24:47 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:24:52 Speaker 1

We were so far ahead our supplier. Our supply lines were cut.

00:24:56 Speaker 1

Had.

00:24:57 Speaker 1

Find our own food and stuff and had to.

00:24:59 Speaker 1

Real careful.

00:25:01 Speaker 1

Yeah, that we don't use up our weapons ammunition too much. Yeah.

00:25:05 Speaker 2

Yes, so but the red ball express, there were a lot of black drivers weren't there in the.

00:25:11 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's the one to move the cup forward all black.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

Ball. Oh.

00:25:16 Speaker 1

And we were straight by him too.

00:25:19 Speaker 1

We were.

00:25:21 Speaker 1

A truck moving forward. The German planes come over straight to us, and when the black driver jumped out of the truck and let the truck go in.

00:25:25 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:25:28 Speaker 1

Look, it went through a ditch and a couple guys got hurt, but I didn't. I was OK. Yeah.

00:25:36 Speaker 1

He.

00:25:37 Speaker 1

And I even talked to the guy and he said, well, he said no time to put the brakes on, I said.

00:25:40 Speaker 1

Could have took the brakes on, then jumped out.

00:25:43 Speaker 1

You know, but if it explains on top tracing, it's \*\*\*\*\* you.

00:25:48 Speaker 1

That was at one time.

00:25:50 Speaker 1

I remember that.

00:25:51 Speaker 1

Good.

00:25:53 Speaker 2

Well, we're kind of up.

00:25:54 Speaker 2

My goodness, we've got the 65th Division we've got.

00:26:00 Speaker 2

8th of a third and 7th of May directed to cease offensive operations.

00:26:07 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:26:08 Speaker 2

General Eisenhower's orders that unconditional surrender.

00:26:10 Speaker 1

Yeah, I when I was in the front lines there, believe it or not, did you send me a telegram? Hold your fire.

00:26:19 Speaker 2

And I sent to our company.

00:26:22 Speaker 2

Have a couple express.

00:26:22 Speaker 1

Yeah. And I was leader, I got.

00:26:26 Speaker 1

I got the telegram to hold the fire and everybody else. You know, I don't want to got.

00:26:31 Speaker 2

And then I seen on the 8th of May that you accepted the surrender of at 1945, which would be.

00:26:40 Speaker 2

What time I should remember what 1945 is?

00:26:44 Speaker 2

\*\*\*\*\*, but 90 clock, I think, baby.

00:26:44 Speaker 1

It was real nice today.

00:26:46 Speaker 1

We're beautiful day at 9:00. I remember that.

00:26:48 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:26:50 Speaker 1

Whole German.

00:26:52 Speaker 1

She's the 7th Army, was rebuilt again by a Germans. The whole 7th Army gave up right in front of us and going down the highway there, you know, and we were all we had to do is stay on the side with the guns on them and keep moving.

00:27:07 Speaker 2

I see the the 8th Army, the 8th German Army.

00:27:09 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, I've got a drum. An army? Yeah.

00:27:11 Speaker 2

Notice the two.

00:27:13 Speaker 2

This is. Well, let's see. What? What did you do then when the.

00:27:18 Speaker 2

When the fighting was over was over.

00:27:22 Speaker 2

Why don't you do that?

00:27:22 Speaker 1

Well, I I tell you what I did.

00:27:25 Speaker 1

I went to see the Russians.

00:27:27 Speaker 1

I went over to the Russians there when the war was over, we got to see them.

00:27:30 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:27:32 Speaker 1

Were glad to see me and they set up a tent real fast.

00:27:37

Uh.

00:27:37 Speaker 1

And believe it or not, they put some kind of portable table to put the tables up.

00:27:42 Speaker 1

And it had a big bowl of salad, and it gave me a fork. And I sat with them and we we ate salad and they said salad salad. Yeah.

00:27:52 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, and they know they had the women fighting alongside of him with some real nice looking women were there on the at the table.

00:28:00 Speaker 2

Let's see where was.

00:28:01 Speaker 1

And then they had vodka there too.

00:28:04 Speaker 1

They had vodka there.

00:28:06 Speaker 1

And I had some of that too. What got it?

00:28:08 Speaker 1

I put that and they won't let me take a sip.

00:28:11 Speaker 1

You put their hand behind me and.

00:28:13 Speaker 1

Make sure I emptied.

00:28:13 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:28:14 Speaker 1

So Sewa, yes, we're happy, you know.

00:28:19 Speaker 1

Then then yeah, that was.

00:28:19 Speaker 2

But that was weird then actually.

00:28:22 Speaker 2

Yeah. Was that on the?

00:28:25 Speaker 2

This doesn't say specifically.

00:28:29 Speaker 2

Where you met the Germans.

00:28:32 Speaker 2

You crossed the inn river at Braunau, the Inter Austria.

00:28:34 Speaker 1

That's a Hitler's hometown.

00:28:36 Speaker 2

On our.

00:28:37 Speaker 1

That's where we were right there and brown out.

00:28:40 Speaker 1

And that's when the Germans gave up.

00:28:42 Speaker 1

Was.

00:28:42 Speaker 1

I still remember on a little hillside we were all dug in and ready to, you know, to hold the positions and everything, but we were already in Austria.

00:28:52 Speaker 1

There was much fighting there anymore. Is that when you saw the Russians in Austria?

00:28:57 Speaker 1

Right in.

00:29:00 Speaker 2

Did you remember that that in the movie about Patton, where they have the scene in the end where they do the drinking and the dancing, did the Russians do some of that for you?

00:29:04 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:29:11 Speaker 2

Some of the Russian dancing my family came from Ukraine.

00:29:14 Speaker 1

Yeah, I know all the other ones had a ball, but I just had.

00:29:18 Speaker 1

I was on the.

00:29:19 Speaker 1

I just saw that one company, you know, Russians there. I didn't see a regular soldier, just a few at that time, that's all.

00:29:27 Speaker 2

And when did you actually get back to the country?

00:29:29 Speaker 2

Read it.

00:29:31 Speaker 1

You know what?

00:29:32 Speaker 1

I stayed there for a while because we had to build road blocks to keep the the country's people in their own country, you know? So they don't mingle because they're still fighting, I guess. And we had a.

00:29:46 Speaker 1

We, well, we had a.

00:29:49 Speaker 1

Red Russians and a white Russians, we had to keep them separated because they were fighting each other.

00:29:53 Speaker 2

Oh, and even then.

00:29:53 Speaker 1

Were mad, yeah.

00:29:56 Speaker 1

And we had them in a camp there.

00:30:02 Speaker 1

But we use their camp.

00:30:03 Speaker 1

We use their, you know, prisons, put them in their own prisons then, and then we got a. Then we were occupations. And I guess that wasn't too friendly with the Russians anymore.

00:30:17 Speaker 1

You had to be careful because the Russians were trying to cut our supply lines off, so I stayed there till about September.

00:30:23

Hmm.

00:30:24 Speaker 1



Occupational Army job was occupying everything but.

00:30:28 Speaker 2

I've got so much here.

00:30:30 Speaker 1

I tell you what, I was the first guy in this one time.

00:30:33 Speaker 1

You still pick taking pictures.

00:30:36 Speaker 1

Can I tell you about when I was in?

00:30:39 Speaker 1

First run in town and I went into a bank and there was two suitcases full of money.

00:30:44

OK.

00:30:45 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:30:46 Speaker 1

And I gave it a big kick, you know, and all that money came out and I loaded my pack up with money and everything.

00:30:52 Speaker 1

And then we moved out and our company manager said I hear some of you people have German money.

00:30:59 Speaker 1

He says that that money's no good anymore.

00:31:03 Speaker 1

So we start moving out and putting trucks with the red Ball Express again, and I was running money out and the Germans were running for it.

00:31:11 Speaker 1

Know I had to take that money is good.

00:31:14 Speaker 1

So I kept the money while I was occupation.

00:31:18 Speaker 1

I buy an accompany beer all the time.

00:31:21 Speaker 1

Bring me to the beer.

00:31:25 Speaker 1

Where they make beer, whatever it is, be one with the 6 by 6 truck, but barrels back and had beer and everything and that was it.

00:31:30 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:31:33 Speaker 2

Where did you actually get back to this country then?

00:31:35 Speaker 1

In September, we went back on the USI mean Swedish liner s s Eriksen and when we were halfway in.

00:31:49 Speaker 1

Home on the ocean, we run into a hurricane.

00:31:53

Mm.

00:31:54 Speaker 1

And that's when he, the captain, said we better go port side because the ship's dipping.

00:31:58 Speaker 1

We all went the port side to see if it gets straightened.

00:32:01 Speaker 1

For the work.

00:32:02 Speaker 1

No, it didn't work.

00:32:03 Speaker 1

Oh, so he.

00:32:04 Speaker 1

We're going to have to do one thing you said. We have to go right into the.

00:32:07 Speaker 1

Even right in that had a big tarp that covered us up with the TARP and it went right into that storm.

00:32:13 Speaker 1

We must be stuck there for about two days and then we ended up in.

00:32:20 Speaker 1

Yeah. In September about the first part of October already.

00:32:25 Speaker 1

Yeah, it landed in in New York, and the people heard about that SOS. We couldn't get no help. And boy, were they cheering us up.

00:32:33 Speaker 1

Ought to see the people out there dancing with their arms up and everything as we came off the boat.

00:32:39 Speaker 2

This was in when.

00:32:40 Speaker 1

New York City.

00:32:42 Speaker 1

Yeah, even war was over.

00:32:42 Speaker 2

In September.

00:32:46 Speaker 1

Which was in Iran.

00:32:46 Speaker 1

September, part of September.

00:32:48 Speaker 2

Uh huh.

00:32:49 Speaker 1

Yeah, I remember.

00:32:51 Speaker 1

And then I went to Camp Kilmer. No camp.

00:32:55 Speaker 1

Indian town gap, PA.

00:32:57 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:32:58 Speaker 2

Know where that is.

00:32:59 Speaker 1

And then I.

00:33:04 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:33:04 Speaker 1

I got I got discharge.

00:33:05 Speaker 1

There I stayed there for a week or so, got discharged, and believe it or not, I hit.

00:33:10 Speaker 1

I saw my dad on my birthday.

00:33:12 Speaker 2

Oh gosh.

00:33:13 Speaker 1

That's another hassle.

00:33:14 Speaker 1

Just come home to the country and I saw him on my birthday.

00:33:17 Speaker 1

Was home on?

00:33:17 Speaker 1

Birthday, yeah.

00:33:19 Speaker 2

And how old were you by that time? 23 then?

00:33:21 Speaker 1

No, I was 20.

00:33:25 Speaker 1

25 I think I was born in 21. I was 4524 years old.

00:33:30 Speaker 2

Five years old. Uh.

00:33:32 Speaker 2

And then you went into your carpentry work.

00:33:35 Speaker 1

Yeah, I went into the trade school. If you guys under the GI Bill, I was going to go Youngstown State. In fact, when I was in that trade school, it wanted instructor.

00:33:37 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:33:45 Speaker 1

What are you doing?

00:33:46 Speaker 1

Why don't you go to Youngstown State and get a degree in something? He said.

00:33:50 Speaker 1

But I told my life Carpenter work.

00:33:52 Speaker 1

So I stayed there and and I learned designing homes. I used to draw blueprints at the office, set up and I had a big shop in my basement when I was building houses. I did a lot of cutting it. You know, some roofs had curves I had cut.

00:34:10 Speaker 1

Curves on the rafters and all that stuff.

00:34:13 Speaker 1

And get all that work. And then we were very successful.

00:34:17 Speaker 2

So did you actually retire from your work or you just kept returning?

00:34:20 Speaker 1

I didn't retire, but I retired, but I helped my son and my families get a house.

00:34:27 Speaker 1

I got their houses for him.

00:34:29 Speaker 2

They kept on going, yeah.

00:34:32 Speaker 2

Well, I notice we've got a few ribbons here.

00:34:36 Speaker 2

Ron Starr, you got that for something?

00:34:39 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's why I saved them two people under.

00:34:42 Speaker 1

Yeah, you want. You know, one was deaf and one was blind.

00:34:46 Speaker 1

And when I come up there, they were both crying and one says to me, he says.

00:34:53 Speaker 1

He.

00:34:53 Speaker 1

You know, I can see him, but he won't answer the other one.

00:34:59 Speaker 1

I can see him, but I can't hear him.

00:35:01 Speaker 2

No, no.

00:35:01 Speaker 1

That's what they told.

00:35:03 Speaker 1

So I brought both them back to.

00:35:05 Speaker 1

Aid station.

00:35:06 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:35:07 Speaker 1

And.

00:35:09 Speaker 1

Machine gun fire and everything else on there. But I felt so sorry for those guys.

00:35:12 Speaker 1

Know.

00:35:14 Speaker 1

I dragged them.

00:35:15 Speaker 1

I must have dragged them about.

00:35:17 Speaker 1

Football field long or something like that to the A station?

00:35:22 Speaker 2

And then notice you purple hearts, of course.

00:35:27 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, I got I was dumb. We were.

00:35:28 Speaker 2

You did.

00:35:29 Speaker 1

Were.

00:35:31 Speaker 1

We were mopping up just one town and usually when you mop up, there's no Germans in there. But this time I opened the door. There was two of them in there and one of them shot me in the leg right here.

00:35:41 Speaker 1

And I shot both of them.

00:35:44 Speaker 1

I loaded my rifle on both of them.

00:35:46 Speaker 2

Able to recover, then yeah, it was in our hospital for three days.

00:35:50 Speaker 1

That's all we're just.

00:35:51 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:35:51 Speaker 1

But I did so bad. You know, it's really blood bad, yeah.

00:35:55 Speaker 2

And combat infantrymen. I see you don't get that just by.

00:35:59 Speaker 1

You have to be.

00:36:00 Speaker 1

You have to be on their front lines for 30 days to earn 1, and I was so glad to earn one because I get \$10 raise.

00:36:00 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:36:02 Speaker 2

For that, yeah.

00:36:05

Uh.

00:36:09 Speaker 1

Earned me \$10 a month pay.

00:36:10 Speaker 2

Yeah. And then of course, good conduct.

00:36:12

Mm.



00:36:14 Speaker 2

Talked about campaign medals.

00:36:17 Speaker 2

How did you get the sort of the Ohio I see the European, African, Middle East, so it covered that whole, that whole area then?

00:36:23 Speaker 1

Coming the.

00:36:24 Speaker 1

Thing.

00:36:25 Speaker 1

Well, I have a camp.

00:36:26 Speaker 1

There's another ribbon I have with four bronze stars.

00:36:29 Speaker 2

4 bronze stars.

00:36:30 Speaker 1

Yeah, my ribbon is actually 4 main battles we had in Germany.

00:36:34 Speaker 1

Got yeah, I have that rib that wasn't put in there.

00:36:38 Speaker 1

Must have forgot to put that in.

00:36:39 Speaker 2

Did you do anything with your military now?

00:36:42 Speaker 1

Yeah, I have a whole bunch.

00:36:45 Speaker 1

Of, well, I'll tell you what I had.

00:36:49 Speaker 1

I kept quite a few German.

00:36:53 Speaker 1

Officers at the heck they called s s troopers.

00:36:57 Speaker 2

A high SSA.

00:36:57 Speaker 1

And they always had nice sabers, you know, not damn sabers.

00:37:03 Speaker 1

Got picked through.

00:37:04 Speaker 1

Caps.

00:37:05 Speaker 1

I bought it all home and I gave it to my kids and as they put ones in Arizona and it's in a museum now, myster collection I gave her.

00:37:16 Speaker 1

It's it's in A and I got one over here and.

00:37:17 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:37:20 Speaker 1

Billy Hills my son lives here now and he's going to take my the rest of the stuff down to Fort Knox and put it no.

00:37:25 Speaker 2

Doubt your son is going to do that now?

00:37:27 Speaker 1

Yeah, there's.

00:37:30 Speaker 1

Patents. Oh yes.

00:37:33 Speaker 1

Museum where you got to take it down there and give it to them there.

00:37:36 Speaker 2

Yeah. Where were you when patent was killed?

00:37:39 Speaker 2

When patent first.

00:37:40 Speaker 1

I I was in this country.

00:37:44 Speaker 1

I think he got he got killed in Heidelberg.

00:37:45 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:37:47 Speaker 2

Later. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

00:37:50 Speaker 1

Heidelberg was a town that we took real.

00:37:53 Speaker 1

It was no problem because that time was in perfect condition.

00:37:58 Speaker 1

It looks like there's no nowhere around it, but the German soldiers were there.

00:38:03 Speaker 1

Civilians chased them out.

00:38:05 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:38:06 Speaker 1

They didn't want anybody fighting in that town.

00:38:09 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:38:09 Speaker 1

So when they got in, we moved in.

00:38:11 Speaker 1

Yeah. Yeah. Big Castle there and everything, like I said.

00:38:15

Oh yeah.

00:38:16 Speaker 1

When we were in Germany, oh, another thing happened.

00:38:20 Speaker 1

One German soldier came up.

00:38:23 Speaker 1

Had a white flag on his white whatever it was garment on his rifle coming in.

00:38:31 Speaker 1

And he surrendered and he said, you know what he said? My mother, my mother lives in the house in that town and I'm not.

00:38:37 Speaker 1

I'm not allowed to see her.

00:38:39 Speaker 1

So he.

00:38:40 Speaker 1

But I'll tell you what I'll do, he says.

00:38:44 Speaker 1

I'll go back to my company and bring them all in. Even during the whole company surrender. He bought them all back to us.

00:38:51 Speaker 2

Yeah, like that, yeah.

00:38:52 Speaker 1

He talked them into coming to us there.

00:38:54 Speaker 1

He went to see his mother.

00:38:57 Speaker 2

Were they German veterans or were they? Remember the the the Volks storm that the Germans had where they brought in a lot of old men and young boys.

00:39:07 Speaker 1

Yeah, there were some old ones there. Oh, yeah.

00:39:11 Speaker 1

I kept your coat of 65 years old.

00:39:13 Speaker 2

That song.

00:39:15 Speaker 1

When I took him to a PWA camp, I stalked him. Even he was in this country during the depression.

00:39:21 Speaker 1

He worked in Detroit and he went back to Germany because Germany was building up that war.

00:39:21 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:39:25 Speaker 1

Know he had a lot of work there, so he went there.

00:39:29 Speaker 1

And then.

00:39:32 Speaker 1

He told me that he got drafted.

00:39:35 Speaker 1

Everybody had a fight then everybody.

00:39:37 Speaker 2

Then you know and the youngsters, the young kids, young kids, too young.

00:39:42 Speaker 1

Oh yeah.

00:39:45 Speaker 1

But they were no.

00:39:46 Speaker 1

They just give up right away with no trouble with them.

00:39:50 Speaker 2

Yeah, this.

00:39:52 Speaker 2

What did your military trainee help you?

00:39:57 Speaker 1

Yes, yes, it helped quite a bit, especially that in that and camp 4 we were trading with machine gunfire over our heads crawling.

00:39:57 Speaker 2

In in life.

00:40:07 Speaker 1

Make sure you.

00:40:08 Speaker 1

You know, keeping hug the ground and we had manoeuvres dug fox holes and everything and.

00:40:15 Speaker 1

We had lot of rifle range, you know.

00:40:18 Speaker 1

And we always practice shooting and all that stuff that helped.

00:40:21

And I'll.

00:40:22 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:40:22 Speaker 1

Tell you what helped manoeuvre help me quite a bit because I used to living outdoors see before lived in barracks and then run maneuvers.

00:40:30 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:40:33 Speaker 1

You're doing the same thing you're doing in combat.

00:40:36 Speaker 1

Living outdoors all the.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

You're always out in the field.

00:40:39 Speaker 2

You know, we've talked some about your family seems to come in and out, but what do you have to say about your family?

00:40:46 Speaker 2

How do they feel about your service?

00:40:48 Speaker 1

Well, I didn't have anybody left.

00:40:49 Speaker 1

My dad, that's all.

00:40:51 Speaker 1

Yeah. And he was a World War 1 veteran and he gave me his shaving kit. I used that one.

00:41:00 Speaker 1

During the war, he gave me his shaving kit from World War One.

00:41:01 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:41:03 Speaker 1

Yeah, 'cause. He got back OK. And I got back.

00:41:07 Speaker 2

And you had some other family, like your grandchildren.

00:41:12 Speaker 1

And now I have two grandchildren.

00:41:15 Speaker 1

That's all good.

00:41:16 Speaker 2

The family to your son's. Your son, I believe.

00:41:19 Speaker 2

You mention that he kept up the business.

00:41:22 Speaker 2

The the carpentry, the building business that you had.

00:41:23 Speaker 1

No, I sold it to one of my foreman.

00:41:29 Speaker 1

Mormon took over.

00:41:29

Business.

00:41:30 Speaker 1

He got the business.

00:41:32 Speaker 1

My son.

00:41:34 Speaker 1

Works for government. He's in Germany.

00:41:38 Speaker 1

He's now in Germany.

00:41:39 Speaker 2

What's he doing?

00:41:40 Speaker 1

He works for NATO, your son.

00:41:43 Speaker 1

USA Government for nature, yeah.

00:41:44 Speaker 2

Is he military?

00:41:46 Speaker 1

Not military, just the civilian and my other son lives over here in Kentucky.

00:41:47 Speaker 2

Uh huh.

00:41:53 Speaker 1

He's a surgeon and saying you and my daughter is in Arizona. And what does she do?



00:41:55 Speaker 2

It's a surgeon.

00:42:01 Speaker 1

She's in real estate and she's in computers and stuff like that.

00:42:04 Speaker 2

So you had three kids kids then they seem to have done pretty well.

00:42:09 Speaker 1

Yeah, they all do.

00:42:10 Speaker 2

Actually.

00:42:10 Speaker 1

They're all doing pretty well too.

00:42:12 Speaker 2

And what do you do with your?

00:42:13 Speaker 2

Yourself now.

00:42:14 Speaker 1

Well, I'm staying over here now.

00:42:16 Speaker 1

My wife just died.

00:42:20 Speaker 1

In October.

00:42:22 Speaker 1

And then, yeah, then I I came down to live with my.

00:42:25 Speaker 1

For a.

00:42:26 Speaker 1

Then we I went into this year, Atria senior citizens place.

00:42:31 Speaker 1

Where I'm staying now.

00:42:34 Speaker 2

Yeah, I'll bet. I bet so.

00:42:34 Speaker 1

There's a bunch of veterans down there, too.

00:42:38 Speaker 1

Yes, older than me.

00:42:39 Speaker 1

There's some older than I am.

00:42:41 Speaker 2

That's possible.

00:42:44 Speaker 1

Yeah, older than I am.

00:42:45 Speaker 2

And here I am. Almost 84, yeah.

00:42:48 Speaker 1

Kid, yeah.

00:42:51 Speaker 1

And I'm 92.

00:42:52 Speaker 1

In October, I'll be 93 in October.

00:42:52 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:42:57 Speaker 1

And there's someone veteran there has been there since for eight years and now it's down Mana 8 years from now, I'll be a.

00:43:01

Uh.

00:43:03 Speaker 1

And you'll do it.

00:43:05

Yeah.

00:43:06 Speaker 2

I just read a book called the Last of The Dough Boys.

00:43:08

No.

00:43:10 Speaker 2

It was written about the last 8 or 10 who were led there or nobody left now.

00:43:16 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:43:17 Speaker 2

But he did the interview.

00:43:20 Speaker 2

Frank Buckles, who was the the eldest who was 106. I think you know. And he had a lot of experiences after the war.

00:43:29 Speaker 2

So.

00:43:32 Speaker 2

My goodness, we covered so much ground and there's.

00:43:34 Speaker 2

Much ground.

00:43:35 Speaker 2

What else would you like to say?

00:43:39 Speaker 2

For history at the Library of Congress.

00:43:41 Speaker 1

Yeah. Well, just happy that I come back.

00:43:45 Speaker 1

Said nothing else.

00:43:47 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, I did pretty well. I think I only missed 3 days of combat while I was in Europe and I was always from France.

00:43:54

Uh.

00:43:56 Speaker 1

The way into Austria.

00:43:57 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:43:59 Speaker 1

So I did pretty good that way. I was lucky.

00:44:02 Speaker 2

Yeah, what?

00:44:03 Speaker 1

Although Sheldon. Oh, yeah, I even had. There was a fox. Law was in.

00:44:09 Speaker 1

That just before we got captured, I was sitting in a foxhole on the edge.

00:44:14 Speaker 1

The Germans had a booby trap there.

00:44:16 Speaker 1

I must have pulled the wire and exploded, but believe it or not, all I got was full of dirt.

00:44:22 Speaker 1

Happened to me.

00:44:23 Speaker 1

Living didn't even get wounded that time, you know.

00:44:27 Speaker 2

You keep in touch with any of those guys from the old days.

00:44:30 Speaker 1

My yeah, I will come back from the States and I I know a couple of them have a prisoners of war.

00:44:38 Speaker 1

Were captured that time I went to visit them and they have to run from Kentucky talking 10 and one from.

00:44:41

Uh.

00:44:46 Speaker 1

His name, but Billy Parker and Bedford, VA.

00:44:52 Speaker 1

And then a couple of one in Texas.

00:44:55 Speaker 2

Redford there's a piece of history.

00:44:57 Speaker 1

And then when I.

00:44:59 Speaker 1

Left Army left the company.

00:45:03 Speaker 1

They all come up to see me. Everything you know and and.

00:45:09 Speaker 1

New company commander came in.

00:45:11 Speaker 1

You know how to get replaced from the States and he asked me who will take charge now that you're gone.

00:45:18 Speaker 1

I could have had to stay there for.

00:45:20 Speaker 1

I was going to have been the first Sergeant because I was the only one really left there.

00:45:25 Speaker 1

And I gave him that guy from Texas.

00:45:25

Mm.

00:45:29 Speaker 1

Made him a first.

00:45:31 Speaker 1

He took over as a county.

00:45:33 Speaker 2

Whatever happened to Captain Jerry?

00:45:33 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:45:36 Speaker 1

Well, he lost the leg and he and he.

00:45:43 Speaker 1

It went back, I guess, back to the states after that.

00:45:47 Speaker 1

I like this.

00:45:48 Speaker 1

I wish I could have saw him.

00:45:50 Speaker 1

The war.

00:45:51 Speaker 1

I forgot my ear full before. I couldn't talk today.

00:45:55 Speaker 1

Before, I couldn't say anything.

00:45:56 Speaker 2

Something like that, yeah.

00:46:00 Speaker 1

Time we were moving up in France, we went into wooded.

00:46:05 Speaker 1

The Germans were shelling us with 22 millimetre gun bullets. Whatever what they were, and we all had foxhole.

00:46:15 Speaker 1

Captain Shray didn't have one.

00:46:17 Speaker 1

He comes to me, says Glenn.

00:46:19 Speaker 1

Says.

00:46:20 Speaker 1

You know your.

00:46:21 Speaker 1

So I I have to jump in there I.

00:46:23 Speaker 1

I'm not moving out of my fox, so I said too many bullets around here.

00:46:26 Speaker 1

So he's so I.

00:46:28 Speaker 1

If you want to jump on top of me.

00:46:30 Speaker 1

I put them on top of.

00:46:31 Speaker 1

I think if anybody gets hit, he gets hit first.

00:46:32 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:46:36 Speaker 2

And he didn't get that done.

00:46:37 Speaker 1

Yeah. And he.

00:46:38 Speaker 1

He jumped on top of me and he stayed there for a while.

00:46:39 Speaker 1

Be.

00:46:41 Speaker 1

While.

00:46:42 Speaker 2

Oh my.

00:46:44 Speaker 2

Well, we could.

00:46:44 Speaker 1

It was.

00:46:45 Speaker 1

He was know friend of mine because from the first day when he talked to me, you know how he I wasn't used to.

00:46:53 Speaker 1

Kind of talk, yeah.

00:46:55 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:46:56 Speaker 2

Yeah, that's.

00:46:58 Speaker 2

We got a whole movie here.

00:47:00 Speaker 2

You could be Audie Murphy.

00:47:00 Speaker 1

Right.

00:47:02 Speaker 1

Yeah, pretty good detail.

00:47:04 Speaker 1



So you get all fix fixed up for you.

00:47:05 Speaker 2

Yeah, all kinds of stuff here.

00:47:08

Mm.

00:47:08 Speaker 2

That's.

00:47:09 Speaker 2

It's quite a.

00:47:09 Speaker 2

What do you want to?

00:47:10 Speaker 2

What do you want to say to end this?

00:47:14 Speaker 2

You're not going to end it, I.

00:47:15 Speaker 2

But I'm.

00:47:16 Speaker 1

Just saying. I'm proud of what I did.

00:47:20 Speaker 1

Everything, so everything worked out fine for me.

00:47:23 Speaker 1

And I had.

00:47:24 Speaker 1

I wouldn't trade that experience for nothing else.

00:47:27 Speaker 1

It was something and I was young.

00:47:30 Speaker 1

It didn't I.

00:47:32 Speaker 1

I wasn't frightened too much in the war.

00:47:35 Speaker 1

I never lost my I always paid attention to what I was doing, you know.

00:47:40 Speaker 1

Yeah. So.

00:47:41

Yeah.

00:47:43 Speaker 1

I could have been a good, good company commander.

00:47:46 Speaker 1

Better than Patton?

00:47:47 Speaker 2

Yeah. Well, I guess we could certainly thank you for your service.

00:47:53 Speaker 1

Hey.

00:47:54 Speaker 1

Did all right.

00:47:55 Speaker 1

I'm just glad I got out of it. Yeah.

00:48:00 Speaker 2

Would you do it again?

00:48:03 Speaker 2

Would you do it again?

00:48:03 Speaker 1

Well, I don't think I want to go in through that again because I had a lot of cliches and.

00:48:12 Speaker 1

I got messed up quite a bit, you know and.

00:48:17 Speaker 2

And would you recommend anybody else how do you feel?

00:48:21 Speaker 2

Well.

00:48:21 Speaker 2

Sir, the army today.

00:48:23 Speaker 1

You know what I think from my personal opinion, I think some of these wars that we haven't aren't necess.

00:48:29 Speaker 1

Necessary. I don't think we should send anybody overseas.

00:48:34 Speaker 1

Look what's happening.

00:48:36 Speaker 1

They're losing their lives and their wars aren't settled, are they?

00:48:39 Speaker 1

So I wouldn't.

00:48:39 Speaker 1

Document anybody to go into service.

00:48:43 Speaker 1

You know, because I don't think that the words are worth fighting for.

00:48:47 Speaker 1

I don't think it is necessary.

00:48:51 Speaker 1

I just like my.

00:48:53 Speaker 1

He the one that's in Germany now.

00:48:57 Speaker 1

He was going to Youngstown State and he had a really drafted interview and more and I told him to go to ROTC.

00:49:08 Speaker 1

And he gets joined the ROTC I.

00:49:09 Speaker 1

At least when you get out of there, you'll be become an officer, maybe working ordinance or something in the back.

00:49:14 Speaker 1

Know you don't have to fight in the frontline and.

00:49:19 Speaker 1

The world was over before he.

00:49:21 Speaker 1

Yeah. So he didn't have to go to Vietnam, but you've got a job with the government.

00:49:26 Speaker 1

At least you got a good deal that way.

00:49:28 Speaker 2

With NATO, you say.

00:49:30 Speaker 2

Well, that's quite a story. We could write 3 books out of here.

00:49:32 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:49:34 Speaker 1

Good to talk to marine.

00:49:36 Speaker 1

There.

00:49:37 Speaker 1

You don't see too many soldiers, too many old ones around.

00:49:42 Speaker 1

Yeah, I don't think there's anybody from my original company left.

00:49:45 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:49:46 Speaker 1

Have a.

00:49:47 Speaker 1

I was kind of young then and I'm 92.

00:49:51 Speaker 1

70 years ago.

00:49:52 Speaker 2

Yeah. Well, I'm still in touch with a couple of.

00:49:57 Speaker 2

My.

00:49:58 Speaker 2

Old marine buddies. I like to say, you know that I've filled out my marine pride, but I have to to be aware of my limitations.

00:49:59 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:50:06 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah, but my one.

00:50:08 Speaker 2

My Aunt Mildred who walked out of Russia when she was six years old, always says we just keep it going and that's what we do, I guess.

00:50:15 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:50:17 Speaker 1

Oh yeah.