

## **Dean J. Hecker Interview**

Company A, 317th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Laurence C. Nelson)*

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

00:00:01 Speaker 1

Miss Nelson, I'm interviewing Dean Hecker. The interview is taking place at his home east of Petes, Colorado, at about 4:30 on the.

00:00:14 Speaker 1

15th of September 2011.

00:00:20 Speaker 2

If you want an extra tape you save by notes tape, you can send that to my.

00:00:23

MHM.

00:00:27 Speaker 2

Well, she's my cousin, but she's a girl that I kicked her on my knees. Yeah.

00:00:32 Speaker 2

She worked for.

00:00:33 Speaker 2

Him for 25 years and she comes out here and helps the harvest every year. Yes, she got married.

00:00:39 Speaker 1

We'll go ahead and start the interview here.

00:00:42 Speaker 1

Can you hear me alright then? Sure.

00:00:48 Speaker 1

You said earlier that you had joined the United States Army, that you're notified.

00:00:57 Speaker 1

Of.

00:00:59 Speaker 1

Did you enlist or did they draft you, then drafted? They drafted you in December of 2000 or of 1941, so that would have.

00:01:06 Speaker 1

Been after Pearl Harbor.

00:01:10 Speaker 1

And then they allowed you.

00:01:14 Speaker 1

About eight months before you actually had to report.

00:01:18 Speaker 2

My neighbors all wins the draft board.

00:01:22 Speaker 2

Got me deferred till that. So I get things ready and cleaned up.

00:01:29 Speaker 1

OK and.

00:01:33 Speaker 1

You served from July, then of 42 until January of 19 January 6th of 1946.

00:01:41 Speaker 1

He served in the 80th Infantry Division mostly, and when you left.

00:01:45 Speaker 1

You were a.

00:01:46 Speaker 1

First Sergeant.

00:01:47 Speaker 2

No, I wasn't in the interview at the whole terminal over there I got transferred.

00:01:50 Speaker 2

Out of there when I.

00:01:51 Speaker 2

That where I couldn't be more hours assigned to a truck company.

00:01:53

Right.

00:01:56 Speaker 1

OK, he served mainly in World War 2 and largely in France.

00:02:02 Speaker 2

Perhaps.

00:02:03 Speaker 1

Among the awards that you got included the Convent Infantry badge, the Bronze Star Purple Heart.

00:02:10 Speaker 1

The European Theater of Operations, the victory medal, probably the Good Conduct medal and the other ones that they give you, but the main ones you earned were CIB and the Bronze Star.

00:02:25 Speaker 1

And Purple Heart, OK.

00:02:29 Speaker 1

He did sustain a combat related injury to his left hand.

00:02:34 Speaker 1

So you were drafted then?

00:02:38 Speaker 1

Out of the Colorado out of Sidney NE City.

00:02:41 Speaker 2

Nebraska.

00:02:46 Speaker 1

And you were living in Sydney then at the.

00:02:48 Speaker 1

Time.

00:02:48 Speaker 2

Form West.

00:02:54 Speaker 1

And.

00:02:56 Speaker 1

Since you were drafted, you didn't have much choice. Whether you're going to be an army or the Marines or Navy, you're.

00:03:01 Speaker 1

Going to the army.

00:03:03 Speaker 1

OK. And where did?

00:03:05 Speaker 1

Where did that happen then? Did you?

00:03:06 Speaker 1

Go where for your physical. Did you go?

00:03:08 Speaker 1

To Fort Logan.

00:03:10 Speaker 2

Took a fistful in Cheyenne.

00:03:12 Speaker 1

OK.

00:03:13 Speaker 2

But I was sent for losing this where I was inducted in.

00:03:17 Speaker 1

And where did you go from? Fort Logan then? Did they provide uniforms and all that for you there?

OK.

00:03:24 Speaker 2

Once you.

00:03:27 Speaker 2

Camp Forest, Tennessee down on Tullahoma, TN Camp forest.

00:03:34 Speaker 2

Four of the camp camp 4.

00:03:36 Speaker 1

FORCE.

00:03:38 Speaker 2

Our guest is Jeff.

00:03:41 Speaker 1

I've never heard of that. Yeah. Where is that from? Anywhere. How close to Nashville?

00:03:45 Speaker 2

About.

00:03:47 Speaker 2

About halfway between Nashville and Chattanooga.

00:03:51 Speaker 1

OK. And that was your basic training net. How long were you there?

00:03:54 Speaker 2

About basic trend.

00:03:57 Speaker 2

For nine months.

00:03:58 Speaker 1

Holy cow. So you got was all of your training then was there?

00:04:02 Speaker 2

Most all looked well and I left there and went to Camp Phillips, Kansas.

00:04:08 Speaker 2

And train another. Oh, it was too much there or something like that.

00:04:13 Speaker 1

Nine months at Camp force.

00:04:20 Speaker 1

You get your haircut at Logan.

00:04:23 Speaker 1

Yeah. And your boots? Yeah, everything you needed.

00:04:26

Yeah.

00:04:26 Speaker 1

And then you take a train to.

00:04:27 Speaker 2

Get over to train down to camp.

00:04:29 Speaker 1

Four. Yeah. Have you been on trains?

00:04:31 Speaker 2

Before train, right?

00:04:33 Speaker 1

How many of you?

00:04:34 Speaker 1

Were there, oh God.

00:04:36 Speaker 2

There's a whole train.

00:04:37 Speaker 1

Train full so when you get to camp for somebody to have a greeting committee there for.

00:04:38 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:04:44 Speaker 2

Sergeant Green took it off and that's all. Yeah. Yeah. And.

00:04:47 Speaker 2

The doctor bird.

00:04:49

Yeah.

00:04:51 Speaker 1

Assigned you to your barracks by what alphabet or?

00:04:54 Speaker 1

The tallest guys are.

00:04:54 Speaker 2

Well assigned to Regiment, 17th Regiment Training Regiment.

00:04:57 Speaker 1

OK.

00:05:00 Speaker 2

Right.

00:05:01 Speaker 2

The company it was my company was called Company A.

00:05:04 Speaker 1

OK.

00:05:05 Speaker 1

And your barracks were open Bay.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

No, that was all.

00:05:09 Speaker 2

Barracks there was two sorry birds, yeah.

00:05:12 Speaker 1

But not individual rooms. There are cots upper and lower cots. Yeah and.

00:05:14 Speaker 2

Oh, no. Nope. Yep. No through.

00:05:18 Speaker 1

And then they told you when you're going to be what your day was going to be like and how you're going to behave yourselves and all that.

00:05:24 Speaker 2

Well.

00:05:30 Speaker 2

I left them brakes ruling out in test camp for for.

00:05:33 Speaker 2

A couple of weeks.

00:05:35 Speaker 2

Big black. Kind of the big black then we then we shipped out and with.

00:05:38 Speaker 2

The camp Phillips.

00:05:40 Speaker 2

That was the same kind of very clear one, just.

00:05:42 Speaker 2

One flat berries.

00:05:44 Speaker 2

Then from there I went to Camp Laguna Beach, all on the desert, out by Laguna around.

00:05:50 Speaker 1

California.

00:05:51 Speaker 2

Yuma, north of Yuma.

00:05:54 Speaker 1

Oh, in Arizona.

00:05:58 Speaker 1

Well, Yuma, there's the Yuma, Colorado, Yuma, Yuma, Colorado. OK.

00:05:58 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:06:01 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah, that's what it was. It was 30 miles north there on camp.

00:06:06 Speaker 2

Laguna, they call them, they said what the data says. You'll never they have any trouble digging foxholes out here. But that was the biggest lie ever told. I never told those damn.

00:06:17 Speaker 1

You had to hack your way through it, didn't you?

00:06:19 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:06:21 Speaker 1

So how many were in your basic training company?

00:06:25 Speaker 2

Whole division.



00:06:28 Speaker 1

Oh wow, it's huge.

00:06:28 Speaker 2

15,000.

00:06:30 Speaker 2

Huge in that community there.

00:06:33 Speaker 1

So when you got there, you didn't have to wait to fill up a company you everyone was there.

00:06:36

Yo.

00:06:38 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:06:39 Speaker 2

We had a chat.

00:06:43 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:06:44 Speaker 2

And with all the visions assembled right at that.

00:06:46 Speaker 1

Time they had some drill sergeants.

00:06:48 Speaker 2

Drill Sergeant and everything.

00:06:50 Speaker 1

You remember your drill Sergeant name.

00:06:53 Speaker 2

No, I don't. I sure do.

00:06:56 Speaker 1

OK.

00:06:57 Speaker 1

And so boot camp is marching.

00:07:01 Speaker 1

Marksmanship customs courtesy.

00:07:02 Speaker 2

Fragments, digging holes? Big whack.

00:07:09 Speaker 1

Fitness.

00:07:11 Speaker 2

Took.

00:07:14 Speaker 2

What they call walks, there are miles 10 mile hikes and one thing like that road March, yeah.

00:07:16

March.

00:07:23 Speaker 2

I'll tell you some of that. Well, I got to be funny. If you got trained, but got some of the new guys that come in like I did.

00:07:32 Speaker 2

We had to go 2 blocks from our parks to.

00:07:34 Speaker 2

The fill field.

00:07:37 Speaker 2

And we run, you know, they were charged. It didn't run hard, but Georgia guys would fall out.

00:07:43 Speaker 2

Got to say, gosh darn it, they don't keep this up. They ain't going to have no army.

00:07:49 Speaker 2

Well, before we left Camp force, we were running 4 miles.

00:07:54 Speaker 1

With boots and rifle probably.

00:07:56 Speaker 2

Right, with an 80 LB pack or.

00:07:58 Speaker 1

Back. Yeah, yeah, no problem. No problem at all. Yeah.

00:08:02 Speaker 2

Actually, 1 old backer said I never felt so good life as I do right now.

00:08:09 Speaker 1

Took a little while.

00:08:10 Speaker 2

Though, but a while to do it you got.

00:08:12 Speaker 1

To get your feet used to that.

00:08:13 Speaker 1

And your body used to it.

00:08:15 Speaker 2

First, rifle inspection we had during camp 4.

00:08:19 Speaker 2

Is hot dog.

00:08:21 Speaker 2

In July, you know, boy.

00:08:22 Speaker 1

It was on, yeah.

00:08:25 Speaker 2

The Lieutenant chemist that tension.

00:08:28 Speaker 2

While the inspection arrived and it was damn out in the woods, 180 men, 85 men.

00:08:30 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:08:33 Speaker 2

In the company.

00:08:35 Speaker 2

And he stood there attending.

00:08:37 Speaker 2

I kept just weighing down like a red fall out on down, and Lieutenant saw him. He come and grabbed me and took me over. Later in the shed after that. Then you get her sprayed rest, you know. Then you can rest. He can move around, but the test you got to stand right there. That's the deal.

00:08:52 Speaker 1

That is, that's right.

00:08:56 Speaker 2

They changed that real quick.

00:08:58 Speaker 1

Sure otherwise.

00:08:59 Speaker 2

The doll fellow.

00:09:00 Speaker 1

That heat, and once that starts, it's just like Domino's.

00:09:07 Speaker 1

So, but you got through.

00:09:08 Speaker 1

That all right.

00:09:09 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, and even the guys that were lagging back caught up sooner or later. Sure, you remember what the pay was?

00:09:13

Yeah.

00:09:16 Speaker 2

50 bucks a month.

00:09:18 Speaker 1

Cash.

00:09:20 Speaker 1

They take a little.

00:09:21 Speaker 1

Out for bonds or a little insurance?

00:09:22 Speaker 2

It took a lot for your wash.

00:09:25 Speaker 2

Insurance. You had an insurance policy that time?

00:09:28 Speaker 1

You still have.

00:09:29 Speaker 2

It no, I dropped it. I that's a big mistake.

00:09:33 Speaker 1

I wonder. My dad still got it? Yeah.

00:09:36

No.

00:09:37 Speaker 2

I dropped mine.

00:09:38 Speaker 2

I thought I didn't need that no more, but I wish.

00:09:38

Yeah.

00:09:40 Speaker 2

The heck out of kept.

00:09:41 Speaker 1

It well, you can't go back.

00:09:44 Speaker 1

Then you then you finished training there and what? Where did you go?

00:09:49

To.

00:09:50 Speaker 2

Sample standards.

00:09:53 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:09:53 Speaker 1

You went to Kansas and then to Yuma to Camp Laguna.

00:09:59 Speaker 2

Jim.

00:10:01 Speaker 2

Force force.

00:10:02

Yeah.

00:10:04 Speaker 1

OK.

00:10:04 Speaker 2

The gun was out in Arizona.

00:10:07 Speaker 1

OK.

00:10:08 Speaker 2

Those camp forces is Dumber, Dumber, Wichita, KS.

00:10:12 Speaker 1

So what did you do after you finished all your training?

00:10:16 Speaker 1

Now you're now. You're an infantryman, aren't you?

00:10:19 Speaker 2

The our different man we went from Laguna to Fort Dix, NJ.

00:10:27 Speaker 1

And that's a shipping point.

00:10:29 Speaker 2

That's a shipping point.

00:10:32 Speaker 2

From there I went to France.

00:10:34 Speaker 1

By ship or?

00:10:35 Speaker 2

Yeah, but Queen Murray? Really. Yeah.

00:10:38 Speaker 1

So was that a that's a tourist ship?

00:10:42 Speaker 1

Taken over for troop transport, the Queen met the queen.

00:10:45 Speaker 2

Mary. Queen Mary. That's a wonderful ship.

00:10:50 Speaker 2

Took US 6 days across the ocean.

00:10:52 Speaker 2

With that baby.

00:10:55 Speaker 1

And you had plenty of you on there, the whole not the whole.

00:10:57 Speaker 1

Division though.

00:10:58 Speaker 2

All domains are wrong.

00:11:01 Speaker 1

Holy Cow took that.

00:11:01 Speaker 2

Double O, they called it a double O.

00:11:04 Speaker 1

Ohh my that many guys got.

00:11:06 Speaker 2

Grew on there of 2000 men.

00:11:10 Speaker 2

That's what they had on there for crew.

00:11:12 Speaker 1

So that dining facility was going 24 hours a day, wasn't it?

00:11:16 Speaker 2

We didn't have an escort or nothing but a plane. A seaplane did check us every day. Did you? What was that? Fly around. That's only one that took us 6 days. We landed in Glasgow.

00:11:23 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:11:31 Speaker 1

That's huge.

00:11:33

Yeah.

00:11:33 Speaker 2

That was that was a beautiful, beautiful place to land Scotland.

00:11:36 Speaker 2

Is pretty pretty pretty.

00:11:36 Speaker 1

Yeah. Then you got off the off the ship and stayed there for not very long, did you?

00:11:43 Speaker 2

Went down towards.

00:11:47 Speaker 2

Or what's the name of the?

00:11:48 Speaker 2

Town or the ship of.

00:11:51 Speaker 1

In Scotland.



00:11:53 Speaker 2

Well, that's scholar. We didn't say scholar. We went down someplace closer to London.

00:11:59 Speaker 1

OK.

00:11:59 Speaker 2

Southampton. Oh sure.

00:12:01 Speaker 2

Go.

00:12:06 Speaker 1

Then you got off the boat off the ship.

00:12:08 Speaker 2

When we got off the ship with Glennon scholars.

00:12:11 Speaker 2

And went down towards towards London, Southampton that.

00:12:14 Speaker 1

Hmm.

00:12:15 Speaker 2

That we would assemble their train, wouldn't every long we look on the on the convoy ship?

00:12:20 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:12:24 Speaker 1

Those LST.

00:12:27 Speaker 2

Oh, there was a there was all British ships. The Conway was with British.

00:12:36 Speaker 1

And you headed on to the on to France.

00:12:42 Speaker 1

Yes. Yeah.

00:12:47 Speaker 1

Is that still hot?

00:12:50 Speaker 1

I mean with, with weapons though. Were you being fired on?

00:12:55 Speaker 2

When we went over there on a convoy, every ship had what they call a barrage.

00:13:01 Speaker 2

There's a big old blue look like a zepla block bloom, and they call it a rod bloom, and he was on a lanyard from the chip, probably 300 feet in the air or more.

00:13:04 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:13:12 Speaker 2

I don't know.

00:13:13 Speaker 2

But that was keep the dive bombers off of the seat.

00:13:16 Speaker 2

They dive into there to distract you, then you get tangled up in that cable, and then you'd be gone.

00:13:21 Speaker 1

Oh yeah.

00:13:23 Speaker 2

That was the first I asked one of the Englishman what that was for and he says get the dive offers off of us.

00:13:29 Speaker 2

We thank God we didn't get hit by any diving from his home.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

And goes one of the LCI that's a landing craft institute.

00:13:37 Speaker 1

Oh, OK.

00:13:38 Speaker 2

The front ramps that go down when that goes down leave bail out and head for shore.

00:13:48 Speaker 1

So now you're you're waiting in now and they dropped that.

00:13:54 Speaker 2

Drop that ramp for you. Just just go in. Everything blows up from here. That's going to be.

00:13:56 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:13:59 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:14:00 Speaker 1

Most of the bodies that were there earlier, everything's it's all cleaned up a little bit or.

00:14:04 Speaker 2

Well, I don't know how far the frontline was when we got to hit the beach at that time, but.

00:14:11 Speaker 2

It wasn't too far because next day or.

00:14:13 Speaker 2

Two, we was.

00:14:13 Speaker 2

In battle already?

00:14:16 Speaker 2

The loaders on trucks that took us could get 10/10.

00:14:20 Speaker 2

10-15 miles in we went past the big military cemetery across it. You know, it was all lined up just breathing. Well, that's what that was the first to be that way.

00:14:24 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:14:27 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:14:32

Yeah.

00:14:32 Speaker 1

And.

00:14:32 Speaker 2

We were laughing and joking until we got there and we saw that and the one that he could hurt Kendra.

00:14:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, things changed. Yeah.

00:14:43 Speaker 1

Now it's now it's for real.

00:14:48 Speaker 1

No, now it's for real.

00:14:50 Speaker 1

Now, instead of training mode and getting ready to go, you're there, yeah.

00:14:56 Speaker 1

So they they truck you on from there and.

00:15:01 Speaker 1

And now you're in. Where are you? Where do you get established then?

00:15:05 Speaker 2

In French, yeah.

00:15:08 Speaker 2

You know, I don't remember them talents.

00:15:10 Speaker 2

It's all anymore.

00:15:11 Speaker 1

Well, how far from the cemetery, you know?

00:15:13 Speaker 2

What we've passed that cemetery, how far? I don't know. We've passed that.

00:15:20 Speaker 1

Then you had to assemble the division.

00:15:24 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:15:25 Speaker 1

Isn't that right? You had to.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

Yeah, he's chattered out. You know, it's scattered out for someone this way. Something that.

00:15:27 Speaker 1

Great.

00:15:33 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:15:36 Speaker 2

Quite a deal.

00:15:38 Speaker 2

I've forgotten about a lot of that.

00:15:40 Speaker 1

What was the mission then? Were you headed northeast?

00:15:45 Speaker 2

To me it was better N but I don't know if I was direct and turn or not.

00:15:51 Speaker 2

I don't know and everything in France.

00:15:55 Speaker 2

Base some fence rollers. Got hedges.

00:15:58 Speaker 2

Probably on every 10/15/20 acres, it's a headroom.

00:16:01 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:16:03 Speaker 2

Them damn head rolls. You just had to cut your way through them. Get through them.

00:16:06 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:16:08 Speaker 2

On the 1st Edge, I cut right through.

00:16:13 Speaker 2

German is on a retreat.

00:16:17 Speaker 2

And we knew there was just enough of them, and I chopped my way through that header on their latest slip class for our drummer hat band slip trends, you know, Slit Trench is.

00:16:26 Speaker 1

Oh.

00:16:27 Speaker 2

Which one you can lay down in?

00:16:29 Speaker 2

Foxholes. When he stretches, stretches down.

00:16:31 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:16:32 Speaker 2

But on the back of that Lady, that prettiest bugle you ever want is.

00:16:35 Speaker 2

Looked at want to?

00:16:38 Speaker 2

Yeah. Feel the love your damn bad.

00:16:40 Speaker 2

And of course, our trainer would said don't pick up nothing.

00:16:43 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:16:43 Speaker 2

But I left later so that that that.

00:16:45 Speaker 2

Had to be booby trap.

00:16:47 Speaker 2

That was the idea. See. Yeah, pick it.

00:16:49 Speaker 2

Up you're getting.

00:16:50 Speaker 1

All that, yeah.

00:16:52 Speaker 2

I want to pick it up so bad.

00:16:54 Speaker 2

It looks like you are pretty.

00:16:56 Speaker 2

But I left it there, not on.

00:16:57 Speaker 1

Yeah. And were the Germans that you're coming in after they? It was the infantry 10 too? Or were they mounted?

00:17:05 Speaker 2

Well, I presume because.

00:17:08 Speaker 2

They're just, just like we were that dug in every place. That's where we.

00:17:13 Speaker 1

Were, yeah.

00:17:15 Speaker 2

Of course, we have tanks once in a while.

00:17:18 Speaker 1

You have tanks in that division, then your infantry division. That's armor, yeah.

00:17:19 Speaker 2

Don't know.

00:17:24 Speaker 1

So you, but now you now there are sometimes mixed.

00:17:27 Speaker 2

Yeah, 4 digit sure.

00:17:29 Speaker 2

But that time that, thankfully, had a different number.

00:17:33 Speaker 2

5th, 5th or 16th company.

00:17:38 Speaker 2

That I saw the most of the time was that he was a fifth tank somewhere, but I'm not.

00:17:41 Speaker 2

Sure of.

00:17:42 Speaker 2

That either I was glad to see him because they they won.

00:17:42 Speaker 1

OK.

00:17:45 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:17:47 Speaker 1

Yeah, they could launch them.

00:17:49 Speaker 1

Put down a lot of power in front of you. Yeah, and help you get through the hedgerows.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

Firefox.

00:17:56 Speaker 2

But to get them babies across the river was.

00:17:58 Speaker 2

The biggest problem?

00:17:59 Speaker 2

Because there was no bridges, it all blown up.



00:18:01 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:18:03 Speaker 2

Like here in one hole.

00:18:05 Speaker 2

One Moselle river for six days finally got across there.

00:18:10 Speaker 1

Have to wait for bridging or.

00:18:13 Speaker 2

We couldn't get across it. Yeah, engineers build the bridges. They'll have time to get down to.

00:18:18 Speaker 2

The pull.

00:18:18 Speaker 2

Them up. Tear them down.

00:18:21 Speaker 2

Right here for six days we had 19 fatalities that are clearly behind it before we got caught behind it.

00:18:27 Speaker 1

What did you do for six days?

00:18:30 Speaker 2

There in the.

00:18:30 Speaker 2

Hole. Hope the hell you didn't get hit.

00:18:32 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:18:33 Speaker 2

That that was the worst battle it was ever in.

00:18:37 Speaker 1

What was? Do you remember the name of the battle?

00:18:39 Speaker 2

No, I don't. I can't say the name.

00:18:42 Speaker 1

You have a lot.

00:18:43 Speaker 2

Of guys I didn't didn't want to remember the damn thing. I was glad.

00:18:46 Speaker 2

To get out of it.

00:18:49 Speaker 1

That's pretty good common sense.

00:18:50 Speaker 2

If we took the hill on the other side of the river and having the place paddle out every.

00:18:56 Speaker 1

Lose a lot of your buddies.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

Losses.

00:19:00

Here.

00:19:09 Speaker 1

You're you're never captured, never any captivity that you know.

00:19:14 Speaker 2

Never, captain.

00:19:15 Speaker 1

When they gave you the bronze started, they call you out. Was that called out on a formation or?

00:19:24 Speaker 2

You know, they got to Syria there, you never volunteer.

00:19:27 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:19:28 Speaker 2

If you say I want you to.

00:19:29 Speaker 2

Do this. You do it, yeah.

00:19:33 Speaker 2

All the capital capital.

00:19:35 Speaker 2

Leader of the the company come up to me one day and said.

00:19:38 Speaker 2

The scouts is fond of tank out here that says we want to volunteer to go and.

00:19:42 Speaker 2

Knock it.

00:19:42 Speaker 2

Out look right at me. Damn. Are you going to make?

00:19:46 Speaker 2

Me. Go out the door.

00:19:50 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:19:52 Speaker 1

How many of?

00:19:52 Speaker 2

You have took. I think there's two of us, three of us with myself and and a grenade or bazooka squad for the three in there.

00:20:05 Speaker 1

To go, yeah, to go after a tank.

00:20:09 Speaker 2

Your gun, you shoot off your shoulders.

00:20:11 Speaker 1

Yeah, I know. But you.

00:20:12 Speaker 1

Were going to go after a tank.

00:20:12 Speaker 2

Yeah, we went knocked it out.

00:20:16 Speaker 2

But our entire tank, that was the biggest tank covers have.

00:20:18 Speaker 1

Yeah, holy cow.

00:20:21 Speaker 2

Patrol found it out there and knock it out.

00:20:25 Speaker 2

They wanted to volunteer and.

00:20:27 Speaker 2

Look right at me and I knew damn well I was going to get.

00:20:29 Speaker 2

Told and I should all go before he could say you go.

00:20:34 Speaker 2

That's how I got to go offshore.

00:20:37 Speaker 2

Not presume the boys got there too. I hope they did.

00:20:41 Speaker 2

Affected. I didn't know I had it.

00:20:43 Speaker 2

Always felt like I should have.

00:20:45 Speaker 2

Jospin.

00:20:47 Speaker 2

Sending to go on my belt from me on and it was there and I.

00:20:50 Speaker 2

Was wonder what it's for?

00:20:51 Speaker 2

That's what it's for, yeah.

00:20:54 Speaker 2

Because one of the other boy thought the other smaller.

00:20:56 Speaker 2

Tax and he got caught.

00:21:02 Speaker 1

That's pretty good.

00:21:08 Speaker 1

You guys in the tank, were they able to get out of there or they die inside it?

00:21:14 Speaker 2

I don't know what's happened to that.

00:21:17 Speaker 1

You didn't see it open up.

00:21:17 Speaker 2

They went there.

00:21:18 Speaker 2

When we got there, they were. They had left the.

00:21:20 Speaker 2

Tank, they would vote her out.

00:21:23 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:21:25 Speaker 1

OK. And so that was you just got that award or you just found out about it in?

00:21:32 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:21:32 Speaker 1

The last five years.

00:21:43 Speaker 1

Well, you you knew you had the C.

00:21:44 Speaker 1

IB you were you were in combat.

00:21:48 Speaker 1

And the Purple Heart.

00:21:50 Speaker 1

You knew you had.

00:21:51 Speaker 1

That.

00:21:53 Speaker 2

Yep. Oh, dinner. I got that hit that time. I I went for a day without in my hands swelled up soon, I thought, well, I've downloaded the dirt. Something. Which station? They washed it all out. That would be a.

00:22:05 Speaker 2

Mistake I ever done.

00:22:08 Speaker 2

The first thing they done took Megan.

00:22:10 Speaker 2

You know you can't have a gun in a day.

00:22:13 Speaker 2

Yeah, that broke my heart.

00:22:19 Speaker 2

Said you'll get it, though. Yeah, I just said I got this one this.

00:22:21 Speaker 2

One little low. That's right. Did you?

00:22:23 Speaker 1

Get it?

00:22:24 Speaker 1

Back no, no.

00:22:25 Speaker 2

No, don't take it away.

00:22:26 Speaker 2

From.

00:22:27 Speaker 2

You go down to RSO.

00:22:29 Speaker 2

Get out there and let turn you loose. Then you get another gun. But hell, you know, just somebody else's gun. You know how he had a set or another thing?

00:22:36 Speaker 1

Yeah, there's him.

00:22:37 Speaker 2

And they had no firing range there to readjust the thing up. You see, just got to guess, my golly.

00:22:44 Speaker 1

I would think at least they'd give it back.

00:22:45 Speaker 1

To you when you left.

00:22:46 Speaker 2

I thought they would too, but they did.

00:22:49 Speaker 2

Could you go down to RSO and get her to get?

00:22:51 Speaker 2

Another one.

00:22:52 Speaker 1

Did you raise hell about that or?

00:22:56

What?

00:22:56 Speaker 2

That was regulation.

00:23:00 Speaker 1

Do you have a handgun too, to carry 45?

00:23:04 Speaker 1

Just the rifle.

00:23:05 Speaker 1

Has the M1.

00:23:07 Speaker 2

M1.

00:23:07 Speaker 1

With the clip that you load up and.

00:23:10 Speaker 2

8.

00:23:11 Speaker 1

Clip. Yeah, you still have it. You still have one like it.

00:23:14 Speaker 2

Guy got I did get a little carving tool.

00:23:17 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:23:18 Speaker 1

Still have one.

00:23:19 Speaker 1

Of those, I got one, yeah.

00:23:21 Speaker 1

You go out and shoot much.

00:23:23 Speaker 2

Anymore.

00:23:25 Speaker 2

If I take that little carbon.

00:23:29 Speaker 2

The old, the captain or.



00:23:31 Speaker 2

He might have been a general anyhow. He walked up to me one day, was out on firing range on the no, no, man.

00:23:38 Speaker 2

No range gain or you don't know.

00:23:41 Speaker 2

The range of the target to shoot at either sharp and I want you to shoot me good scores.

00:23:43 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:23:47 Speaker 2

Like every damn close, there was that on top of the popcorn.

00:23:49 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:23:51 Speaker 2

They walked up to the Anthony and I said sorry. I thought I showed you.

00:23:54 Speaker 2

Shoot a good score.

00:23:56 Speaker 2

I said sure I should have the.

00:23:58 Speaker 2

Best you could.

00:23:59 Speaker 2

Your beauty. Possible good is that good? Not the best there is I.

00:24:02

Guess.

00:24:04 Speaker 1

So you were did he get the score then that you?

00:24:07 Speaker 1

Shot.

00:24:09 Speaker 1

OK, then. So you were this was in about 1940?

00:24:15 Speaker 1

2:43.

00:24:15 Speaker 2

About 43.

00:24:17 Speaker 1

Then where'd you go after 40?

00:24:18 Speaker 1

3.

00:24:24 Speaker 1

In France, how far north did you get?

00:24:28 Speaker 2

Well, I don't. You know, I got far enough that I could see Switzerland one time we could see Switzerland.

00:24:35 Speaker 2

Or the border.

00:24:36 Speaker 2

Next to there.

00:24:37 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:24:38 Speaker 2

That's the far north that I.

00:24:39 Speaker 1

Got it's beautiful country.

00:24:40 Speaker 2

Oh yeah, I had my choice when I.

00:24:41 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:24:45 Speaker 2

To come home, I could stay another six months and I could went to Switzerland.

00:24:49 Speaker 2

War was over.

00:24:50 Speaker 1

M.

00:24:51 Speaker 2

And I said.

00:24:52 Speaker 2

By gosh, everybody in my unit was only had five men in that truck company outside to.

00:24:58 Speaker 2

And they were part of them was got.

00:25:00 Speaker 2

Called Go home, they got go.

00:25:01 Speaker 2

Home has everybody go home? I'm going.

00:25:03 Speaker 2

Home, but I wish I just said I had nothing to home to.

00:25:07 Speaker 2

I sold the farm won't stop.

00:25:10 Speaker 2

But folks was gone. My brother was in the Navy.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

And so I said I'm coming.

00:25:18 Speaker 2

And I wish I would just switch because I'll.

00:25:20 Speaker 2

Never get back here.

00:25:22 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:25:23 Speaker 2

What I did, that's where I goofed up.

00:25:26 Speaker 1

So you're about, you're in combat about 18 months, then at least.

00:25:32 Speaker 2

Yeah, something like that.

00:25:37 Speaker 1

So that's a lot of foxhole digging.

00:25:42 Speaker 2

Pipeline.

00:25:45 Speaker 1

And you.

00:25:47 Speaker 1

How was the food? Did you have with those sea rations then? Or K rash? OK, OK. Rash. Yeah.

00:25:49 Speaker 2

Well.

00:25:51 Speaker 2

Sea races? Yeah. See racing. You could get away. Eat it up. Look too bad. Yeah. OK. Rash and just.

00:25:59 Speaker 2

Crackers and cookies and stuff like that.

00:26:01 Speaker 2

But you can live on.

00:26:02 Speaker 1

Sure, you have the little opener. That little silver opener? Yeah. Still got one of them.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:26:13 Speaker 2

Hello.

00:26:16 Speaker 2

Hey, would you?

00:26:17 Speaker 2

I'll call you back a little bit. I got a.

00:26:19 Speaker 2

Man here, OK.

00:26:23 Speaker 1

See B 38.

00:26:23 Speaker 2

Yeah, call that P38.

00:26:28 Speaker 1

Why was it a P?

00:26:28 Speaker 1

38.

00:26:29 Speaker 2

I don't know why they got that. They wanna be 38, but they did.

00:26:32 Speaker 2

That's what they called.

00:26:33 Speaker 1

It took on a can of sea rations. It took 38.

00:26:38 Speaker 1

To get around the lid.

00:26:38 Speaker 2

That's it. OK, that probably that's probably about right, never.

00:26:41 Speaker 2

Thought about that? That's.

00:26:42

It yeah, 330.

00:26:44 Speaker 1

I still got one too. Yeah. Yeah, sure. I wouldn't get rid of.

00:26:47 Speaker 1

Any of that stuff?

00:26:49 Speaker 2

Fact is, I got two of them. I don't know how come I come up with.

00:26:52 Speaker 2

Two, but I've got two of them, yeah.

00:26:52 Speaker 1

Good, sure.

00:26:55 Speaker 1

No, several guys will still have them on their key rings.

00:26:58 Speaker 1

On their.

00:26:59 Speaker 1

Car.

00:27:00 Speaker 1

Was asked him about that.

00:27:03 Speaker 2

I never thought about that 38 switch. That's probably what it is.

00:27:03 Speaker 1

So.

00:27:05

Yeah.

00:27:07 Speaker 1

Well, I wonder what it took.

00:27:11 Speaker 1

How many guys it took to count that out before that became almost policy. So then most of your reaction was in around France and involved in any.

00:27:17

OK.

00:27:24 Speaker 1

Mortar fire or?

00:27:25 Speaker 1

Aerial attacks.

00:27:28 Speaker 2

Yeah, I don't know if you're familiar with artillery. You can hear you hear them. German artillery shells coming in. There's whistle.

00:27:35 Speaker 2

With a mortar.

00:27:37 Speaker 2

Right.

00:27:38 Speaker 2

Yeah, well, that's all you hear about your last 10 feet. You have time to yard.

00:27:42 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:27:43 Speaker 1

Right, it's hope. Hope you're far enough away from him. Yeah, I think a lot of our guys got killed and injured doing that near that stuff.

00:27:46

Yeah.

00:27:52 Speaker 2

Wish them.

00:27:53 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:27:55 Speaker 1

How about aerial?

00:27:57 Speaker 1

Bombardment.

00:27:59 Speaker 1

Get strife by.

00:28:01 Speaker 1

Fighter fighter planes while you're.

00:28:04 Speaker 2

You know.

00:28:05 Speaker 1

They call that now air.

00:28:06 Speaker 1

Support, yeah.

00:28:08 Speaker 2

Only saw three measures.

00:28:12 Speaker 2

They straight for kitchen real bad.

00:28:16 Speaker 2

And he flew over us and fired on our kitchen. And one of my boys says, where's our Air Force? He thought they should be right there. Well, that would happen that way.

00:28:25 Speaker 1

Yeah. Yeah. So did you get some air support sometimes? Well.

00:28:31 Speaker 2

Well, yes, we did. But before we caught the Moselle river.

00:28:36 Speaker 2

You had to have a big Chateau.

00:28:37 Speaker 2

Was up there.

00:28:39 Speaker 2

And when drummers had a lookout on her, because I think he looked right down.

00:28:42 Speaker 2

Our throats, yeah.



00:28:44 Speaker 2

And we called prayer.

00:28:44 Speaker 2

Support and they bombed the hell off.

00:28:47 Speaker 1

Good.

00:28:48 Speaker 2

That was over six days that I've dug in.

00:28:51 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:28:52 Speaker 2

Finally got her down.

00:28:54 Speaker 2

And that helped in.

00:28:55 Speaker 2

The next day or two across the river.

00:28:57 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:29:01 Speaker 1

That's a long time being under the.

00:29:02 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:29:06 Speaker 2

Every night we try to we go down there, we get our water to turn back your old turn back to your.

00:29:12 Speaker 2

I begin to think we're going to.

00:29:13 Speaker 2

Be there forever.

00:29:16 Speaker 1

Finally got out of it.

00:29:19 Speaker 1

Well.

00:29:20 Speaker 1

So then.

00:29:22 Speaker 1

You must have kept getting promoted along the way. If you got out as a first Sergeant, you must have.

00:29:27 Speaker 2

I didn't get it first started until I.

00:29:29 Speaker 2

Got in that truck company?

00:29:30 Speaker 2

Ohh OK, I didn't get it.

00:29:33 Speaker 1

In the infantry, though, you must become at least a Sergeant.

00:29:38 Speaker 1

OK.

00:29:40 Speaker 2

You get first. I plugged in that truck company.

00:29:45 Speaker 1

Well, staff sergeants and NCO, you're you're doing your.

00:29:49 Speaker 1

Your leader now.

00:29:51 Speaker 2

So done pretty good.

00:29:54 Speaker 2

The first one and Camp Forest, Tennessee down there.

00:29:59 Speaker 2

Everyone ever wants all rookies.

00:30:03 Speaker 2

And you took your turn of KP.

00:30:05 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:30:06 Speaker 2

And every tile towel on your bunk. And not just do you get.

00:30:09 Speaker 2

KP in order to.

00:30:10 Speaker 2

Learn and I went to camp and walked in there and this, this guy in there and.

00:30:15 Speaker 2

Lieutenant, come in and say we want you to fire the BR. You want to be our rifle is.

00:30:21 Speaker 2

So we want you to fire a ball.

00:30:23 Speaker 1

Oh, sure. Browning automatic, right?

00:30:25 Speaker 2

Yeah, it's Browning automatic, right?

00:30:29 Speaker 2

Flying. I didn't have. I didn't have full KP.

00:30:29 Speaker 1

That's a 50.

00:30:32 Speaker 2

I went. I never. I never pulled KP all while I was in service. Really. Really.

00:30:38 Speaker 1

That's a sniper rifle.

00:30:40 Speaker 1

No.

00:30:41 Speaker 1

No, it's.

00:30:41 Speaker 2

Too big. It's an automatic. Too big. Yeah, sniper rifle. Just kind of like the M1. Yeah. Had a scope. 1 shot, 20 rounds.

00:30:47 Speaker 1

Correct.

00:30:53 Speaker 2

20 rounds in the magazine on BR. They weigh 21 lbs here. Here we go.

00:30:59 Speaker 2

I was glad.

00:31:01 Speaker 1

But your your range on that it's almost.

00:31:05 Speaker 1

So 1000 yards or?

00:31:07 Speaker 2

Oh, it's pretty good. Range off. Yeah, fast. It should around 400 a minute or something like that.

00:31:09 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:31:13 Speaker 2

The fact is, there's two guys carrying ammo for the damn thing. There's only 20 rounds a clip.

00:31:19 Speaker 2

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, you know.

00:31:20 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:31:21 Speaker 2

The new clip.

00:31:26 Speaker 1

You can shoot, you can.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

That's that's what I have right now.

00:31:27 Speaker 1

Shoot from a long way out, though, and it's a 50 Cal so.

00:31:33 Speaker 2

Next to your machine guns next to your machine.

00:31:35 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:31:36

Yeah.

00:31:39 Speaker 1

Well, that beats even potatoes.

00:31:43 Speaker 2

Now, that's the only time I got called KP. The last time I was not coming. That's cool.

00:31:47 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:31:49 Speaker 1

Do you use it?

00:31:49 Speaker 2

I volunteered on a ship coming home to Duquet because everybody else was sent off the damn boat.

00:31:56 Speaker 2

I volunteered. Then I didn't get sick. That's one blessing I had and.

00:32:00 Speaker 2

Got sick? Seasick.

00:32:01 Speaker 1

Wow.

00:32:02 Speaker 2

There we go.

00:32:03 Speaker 1

That's pretty good for your doctor.

00:32:03 Speaker 2

Coming home, it took me 13 days to come home.

00:32:06 Speaker 1

Oh geez. So now you're. What's the time frame now after 194445?

00:32:13 Speaker 2

45.

00:32:15 Speaker 2

46 when I come home, I got Leonard.

00:32:18 Speaker 2

I left at 4:45. Yeah, left more sales. France.

00:32:22

OK.

00:32:23 Speaker 2

Let's more sales France down on the Mediterranean.

00:32:29 Speaker 1

And would the whole division then redeploy?

00:32:32 Speaker 2

It was all floated up there.

00:32:36 Speaker 1

Was the division.

00:32:36 Speaker 2

I was in the truck company at.

00:32:38 Speaker 2

That time but.

00:32:40 Speaker 2

They went went by Point System.

00:32:42 Speaker 2

The time you served and so many points where everything it went by points and the high pointers got to.

00:32:47 Speaker 2

Go.

00:32:47 Speaker 2

First, less they signed up to stay back, which I.

00:32:50 Speaker 2

Did one time.

00:32:53 Speaker 1

How did you go from infantry to a truck company?

00:32:56 Speaker 2

Well, I got my knee, got held up. I couldn't walk more and I got.

00:33:00 Speaker 1

You get shot up.

00:33:01

No.

00:33:02 Speaker 2

Just I went felled on a big embankment.

00:33:05 Speaker 2

During the water raid.

00:33:08 Speaker 2

And then I got an emergency foot. You know what emerging emergent foot is?

00:33:13 Speaker 2

You heard about trench foot in World War One, like with the version foot was in World War 2.

00:33:14 Speaker 1

Yeah, and Vietnam.

00:33:20 Speaker 2

Get that from wet feet. Don't get her shower. Get wet. New socks and honest to God, I had calluses on while my feet.

00:33:30 Speaker 2

And some of the boys was in the hospital when I was in the hospital. Their feed just turned black.

00:33:30 Speaker 1

OK.

00:33:36 Speaker 1

From cold and no and no showers. Probably bad circulation. Well, if you're in a if you're in a foxhole, you're not getting out and moving.

00:33:38 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:33:46 Speaker 1

Much.

00:33:47 Speaker 1

So and the foxholes were cold and wet, too.

00:33:56 Speaker 2

Oh, I said that darn guns had done that for. There's like Thunder and light.

00:34:00 Speaker 2

Get bombarded every 45 minutes.

00:34:02 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah.

00:34:04

Yeah.

00:34:11 Speaker 2

That way you get that couch on your feet, your feet gets the soil. You just can't, you know.

00:34:15 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:34:16 Speaker 1

So you had a bad knee and immersion.

00:34:18 Speaker 1

Foot.



00:34:20 Speaker 1

So you got out of the infantry and transportation unit or truck company.

00:34:27 Speaker 2

26.

00:34:29 Speaker 2

26 Truck Company to be.

00:34:35 Speaker 1

OK. And where was that?

00:34:37 Speaker 2

At that was in France.

00:34:39 Speaker 2

But before that.

00:34:41 Speaker 2

I was sent to England back to England to train.

00:34:45 Speaker 2

Men to go into the infantry because their empathy begins sharp, so bad we lose men all the time.

00:34:52 Speaker 2

And the Air War was over.

00:34:55 Speaker 2

And there's training airport and for everyone.

00:34:59 Speaker 2

And I'll put on candy. Go over there and help train them.

00:35:02 Speaker 2

A couple, three months that would have faded about two guys.

00:35:07 Speaker 1

First, they didn't.

00:35:08 Speaker 2

Want to do it?

00:35:12 Speaker 1

Because they knew.

00:35:13 Speaker 1

That.

00:35:14 Speaker 1

Those guys didn't come back.

00:35:19 Speaker 1

But if you don't stay for the training, your chances of.

00:35:22 Speaker 1

Not coming back or that's right, yeah.

00:35:25 Speaker 1

Yeah. Yeah. So where was that in England?

00:35:28 Speaker 1

Is it?

00:35:28 Speaker 2

Well, he's round round a little town called Tidworth.

00:35:33 Speaker 2

Before that said that not too far from London.

00:35:36 Speaker 2

It was called tedward.

00:35:42 Speaker 1

So these would be.

00:35:44 Speaker 1

Aircraft mechanics or?

00:35:48 Speaker 2

They're just everything on there for. What's the word? Yeah.

00:35:49 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah.

00:35:51 Speaker 1

Army Air Corps. So yeah, because they're always over pretty well over, but you need to be boots on the ground, what they call now.

00:35:57 Speaker 2

But he may not on the ground.

00:35:59

Mm-hmm.

00:36:00 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:36:01 Speaker 1

So he had probably had to do marksmanship training again.

00:36:05 Speaker 2

They did.

00:36:06 Speaker 1

Yeah, you know, but you had to teach them how to do that again.

00:36:07 Speaker 2

So yeah, yeah.

00:36:10 Speaker 2

Blow off TNT and vacuum pump clutter, stuff like that. It's quite interesting. Well, at that time.

00:36:14 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:36:21 Speaker 2

Do you think I like there?

00:36:22 Speaker 2

Was a lot of fun to get that.

00:36:25 Speaker 2

But it was a lot of fun.

00:36:26 Speaker 1

And you're still a staff Sergeant now or?

00:36:29 Speaker 1

A day.

00:36:29

Oh.

00:36:30 Speaker 2

Right, yeah.

00:36:30 Speaker 1

OK.

00:36:32 Speaker 1

And then you end up going.

00:36:33 Speaker 1

Back.

00:36:35 Speaker 1

In the truck.

00:36:35 Speaker 2

Company back in truck company.

00:36:37 Speaker 1

Were your feet better then by the because now you're training. You're.

00:36:41 Speaker 1

On your feet a lot.

00:36:42 Speaker 2

Yeah, well, I had a Jeep. They had to.

00:36:44 Speaker 2

Run around. Yeah, yeah.

00:36:46 Speaker 2

And all about I had to do is fill out the reports every morning. Morning, report, report and all that only had five men with me.

00:36:50 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, sure. A form 1.

00:36:55 Speaker 2

Of GI the rest of the German prisoners see they drove a truck.

00:37:00 Speaker 2

All I had to do was.

00:37:02 Speaker 2

When they got ordered down, they get my Jeep and take the front way down to wherever they're supposed to supposed to go. That was my day's work.

00:37:10 Speaker 2

And after got done or they come back themselves, we added probably 100 hundred general prisoners driving the truck. We had 50 some trucks.

00:37:10

OK.

00:37:13 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:37:23 Speaker 2

And all I'll do is get that Jeep sitting down here.

00:37:27 Speaker 1

You did that for? What about 3 or 4?

00:37:28 Speaker 2

Months. Oh, don't have something.

00:37:32 Speaker 1

Then they then.

00:37:33 Speaker 2

That's where I shipped out that become home.

00:37:35 Speaker 1

OK.

00:37:36 Speaker 2

Because everybody else is going home and I said like I shop.

00:37:39 Speaker 1

My home? Sure.

00:37:41 Speaker 2

That's what I should have said.

00:37:45 Speaker 1

But now you're you go, you ship home out of Marseille or OK.

00:37:48 Speaker 2

Our sales fresh. Yeah, sell fresh.

00:37:51 Speaker 1

And what would you getting on?

00:37:53 Speaker 1

Another big troop carrier, or.

00:37:58 Speaker 2

Us, Kosovo, Cristobal, Cristobal of the ship.

00:38:02 Speaker 1

Chris.

00:38:05 Speaker 2

Cristobal.

00:38:07 Speaker 2

As far as I'm concerned, is a \*\*\* \*\*\*\* banana.

00:38:09 Speaker 2

Force.

00:38:10 Speaker 2

How big was it? There's only 2000 of us.

00:38:13 Speaker 2

On there.

00:38:14 Speaker 1

Yeah. Is that a troop carrier then or?

00:38:15 Speaker 2

Walk that walk like a bubble in a in a bathtub. Oh, God.

00:38:19 Speaker 1

Ohh yeah.

00:38:22 Speaker 1

And when was that then? About what?

00:38:23 Speaker 1

Time of year.

00:38:24 Speaker 2

After December.

00:38:26 Speaker 1

December of.

00:38:27 Speaker 1

4645.

00:38:31 Speaker 2

And a letter to January 6th of 46.

00:38:34 Speaker 1

And where did you? Where did that? Where did the Cristobal take you back to Fort Dix?

00:38:39 Speaker 2

No, no, that I landed Hampton Roads, Virginia.

00:38:42 Speaker 1

Across from.

00:38:44 Speaker 2

Norfolk down from.

00:38:44

Problem.

00:38:47 Speaker 2

Was Hampton Roads, Virginia.

00:38:48 Speaker 1

Right across the river from Norfolk naval Yard. Been there. Fort Monroe. Is that where you went to Fort Monroe?

00:39:01 Speaker 2

So I went to.

00:39:04 Speaker 1

Oh.

00:39:06 Speaker 1

Fort Riley? Yeah, sure.

00:39:07 Speaker 2

Level.

00:39:10 Speaker 1

So once you got into Virginia then then you get on a probably stayed there a month or so, didn't you?

00:39:16 Speaker 1

Really.

00:39:17 Speaker 2

That train for the load would load right on trains.

00:39:21 Speaker 1

Oh, for crying out loud.

00:39:21 Speaker 2

Or two train.

00:39:23 Speaker 1

So now to get to Leavenworth, you're in another.

00:39:26 Speaker 1

5 or 6 days.

00:39:26 Speaker 2

Another another couple of days ride on. Yeah, fellow soldiers. Yeah, fuller soldier. That's all I want.

00:39:33 Speaker 1

Happy soldiers.

00:39:36 Speaker 1

Because you're going home and you didn't get shot.

00:39:38 Speaker 1

Up.



00:39:39 Speaker 2

Right. Yeah. But I'll add in the Hampton Roads, Virginia.

00:39:44 Speaker 2

I said to a bunch of boys as you see that.

00:39:46 Speaker 2

We got a place to get off and then we don't do that. So that's what we're fighting for. But I guess all our buildings line intact over there with all four to hell.

00:39:53 Speaker 1

Yeah, sure. Yeah, that's exactly right.

00:39:54 Speaker 2

There.

00:39:56 Speaker 2

When we're done.

00:39:57 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:39:58 Speaker 2

Really nice to get home.

00:39:59 Speaker 1

You're a first Sergeant, then?

00:40:01 Speaker 2

I'm sorry, yeah.

00:40:02 Speaker 1

Yeah. What did you do with the truck company?

00:40:04 Speaker 2

I just.

00:40:07 Speaker 2

Was first charged there fill out.

00:40:09 Speaker 2

More of the report.

00:40:10 Speaker 1

Would the truck company do you haul a lot of people from place to place?

00:40:13 Speaker 2

They hold whatever the leaders, they hold, whatever they needed, apply whatever they needed to get orders down for so many trucks. And you had to take it down or wherever.

00:40:15

Yeah.

00:40:16 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:40:17 Speaker 1

Bullets, beans, people.

00:40:25 Speaker 1

Those 6 by 6 or deuce and 1/2.

00:40:28 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:40:29 Speaker 2

We'll have to do that.

00:40:31 Speaker 1

Five turn.

00:40:31

Work.

00:40:34 Speaker 2

Right, little Jeep then.

00:40:35 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

Wish you still had one of those little G's. Maybe you do.

00:40:39 Speaker 2

No, I don't. All I kind of want one, but I don't.

00:40:43 Speaker 1

Yeah, me too. I'd like to add one of those.

00:40:46 Speaker 1

How do you stay in touch with your family?

00:40:49 Speaker 2

Well, we you don't get the right letter at that time without 3 letters before each.

00:40:50 Speaker 1

Letters.

00:40:51 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:40:56 Speaker 1

And do you remember what the pay?

00:40:57 Speaker 1

Was.

00:40:58 Speaker 1

Most of most of the time when you were there, you probably to get overseas pay.

00:41:03 Speaker 2

You get a loan dividend, pay some money, get long dividend paid.

00:41:05 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:41:08 Speaker 2

Then you get paid for your rank, whatever your rank was.

00:41:12 Speaker 2

Which I won't have budget a buck fight. We got 50 bucks.

00:41:15 Speaker 2

Then we got first.

00:41:20 Speaker 2

First Class private Corporal Sergeant Buck charge a lot and all up the line. You know, we get a little paid increase each time you meter.

00:41:24 Speaker 1

Mm-hmm.

00:41:29 Speaker 1

And so when you left, what was?

00:41:33 Speaker 1

What was your pay like when you got?

00:41:35 Speaker 1

Out.

00:41:35 Speaker 2

I get around 100 bucks.

00:41:40 Speaker 2

1990 something \$98 of the awards.

00:41:45 Speaker 1

You're still doing bonds and taking a little out here.

00:41:47 Speaker 1

And there.

00:41:47 Speaker 2

Shut it down.

00:41:49 Speaker 1

You didn't have to. You know, they kept that for you while you were in combat, though you didn't have to worry about money particularly.

00:41:57 Speaker 2

Yeah. Yeah. But you got your rations there. Like if you smoke, you got a carton of.

00:41:57 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:42:02 Speaker 2

Cigarettes every month.

00:42:06 Speaker 2

Of course, most of the boys soldiers on Blackboard that precious.

00:42:08 Speaker 2

They just loved.

00:42:09 Speaker 1

It I doubt you didn't.

00:42:10 Speaker 2

Smoke. I did. I did. I did a little bit when we got to damn tub. I had smoking was like that. Six days of there.

00:42:18 Speaker 2

That's what you smoke and chew. Whatever. Then there you get Celsius cigarettes. Camels, fleetwoods.

00:42:24 Speaker 1

What were those?

00:42:25 Speaker 2

Three in a pack and you get 3 in a pack.

00:42:27 Speaker 1

Oh, with your rations.

00:42:28 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:42:29

Yeah, right.

00:42:30 Speaker 1

Chelsea.

00:42:31 Speaker 2

Chelsea's Fleetwood.

00:42:33 Speaker 1

Never heard of?

00:42:34 Speaker 2

Those never either, until it got over once in a while. You.

00:42:36 Speaker 1

Orchestra.

00:42:37 Speaker 2

Get a Campbell.

00:42:38 Speaker 1

Get a lucky strike.

00:42:39 Speaker 2

The lucky strike.

00:42:42 Speaker 2

Fall down, but once in a while. But most times you gotta Chelsea or a Fleetwood or something like that. But you sell on the black market. The freshman idiots low.

00:42:53 Speaker 1

In six days, six days in the foxholes, a lot of stress, a lot of pressure.

00:43:01 Speaker 1

Do you carry anything for?

00:43:02 Speaker 1

Good luck.

00:43:04 Speaker 1

Did you carry anything for good luck?

00:43:09 Speaker 1

OK, what do you what do you do to entertain yourselves? Most of the time?

00:43:13 Speaker 1

Play cards or.

00:43:15 Speaker 2

If you could, but you know we didn't play. Yeah, we played card.

00:43:16 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:43:19

Folder.

00:43:19 Speaker 1

Yeah, the barracks. Poker. Yeah.

00:43:20 Speaker 2

Folder. Yep, every time we stopped somebody say Deal 5 or \$0.10 for 1/4 quarter bad or something like that, you know? Yeah, just pass.

00:43:28 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:43:30 Speaker 1

Pass the time.

00:43:33 Speaker 2

I got the card game one time. If we come out maneuvers.

00:43:38 Speaker 2

Play my bonfire life bonfire.

00:43:42 Speaker 2

I got a good hat. I had 4 jacks for me. I raised the plot of quarter. That's all this is that the other guy raised the quarter. I raised quarter. He raised the quarter. I raised the quarter, raised quarter. Yeah, I raised the quarter.

00:43:48 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:43:59 Speaker 2

Finally, I called. You know what he had.

00:44:01 Speaker 2

Four footage.

00:44:06 Speaker 1

What are the odds of that?

00:44:08 Speaker 2

Good.

00:44:10 Speaker 2

Like 4 please.

00:44:13 Speaker 1

So.

00:44:14 Speaker 2

Don't we have love for you?

00:44:16 Speaker 1

Did you you ever have entertainers come in?

00:44:19 Speaker 2

Well, yeah, when we're back away from the front by the Williams has singers come in and in fact, his old Ben Miller was.

00:44:20 Speaker 1

Like a USO.

00:44:24 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:44:27 Speaker 2

Over there.

00:44:28 Speaker 2

Back then, Miller lost his life.

00:44:30 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:44:31 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:44:31 Speaker 2

Right across the channel.

00:44:35 Speaker 1

Did you hear him?

00:44:35 Speaker 2

Bob Beverly and Bob Beverly. He's there one time singing.

00:44:39 Speaker 1

Yeah. Did you see Glenn?

00:44:39 Speaker 2

That's all I have.



00:44:41 Speaker 1

Miller. No, I did.

00:44:44 Speaker 1

That would have been quite a treat, too. Yeah. Well, everybody's enough. Any others you remember?

00:44:48 Speaker 2

Right.

00:44:57 Speaker 1

Did you go? Did you get any chance to take any leave you any travelling on leave?

00:45:03 Speaker 2

Well, when we got over there, we didn't get no leave, just weekends off that she's on duty.

00:45:08 Speaker 1

Maybe.

00:45:09 Speaker 2

Maybe yeah.

00:45:10 Speaker 2

But.

00:45:11 Speaker 2

But after you got in French.

00:45:13 Speaker 1

Yeah, there's every day is kind of the same, I don't imagine.

00:45:17 Speaker 2

England, where we've got Little League weekend.

00:45:20 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:45:22 Speaker 2

Fracture.

00:45:22 Speaker 1

Not in combat. Yeah, I can't imagine going and asking for leave.

00:45:31 Speaker 1

OK.

00:45:34 Speaker 1

Was there some humorous events while you're in combat?

00:45:39 Speaker 1

You know some even then guys are going to.

00:45:41 Speaker 2

Do some stuff there might have been some. Sometimes I kind of.

00:45:45 Speaker 1

Not much. Yeah. Did you have photographs?

00:45:49 Speaker 1

Any pictures? Keep a diary.

00:45:57 Speaker 1

And I think you probably got along pretty good with all the officers and the rest of your soldiers.

00:46:01

Ohh yeah yeah.

00:46:03 Speaker 1

Yeah, that'd be a bad time if you didn't get along with them.

00:46:08 Speaker 1

And sooner or later you had to go to.

00:46:10 Speaker 1

Your last day of service.

00:46:14 Speaker 1

When was that was in January.

00:46:16 Speaker 2

That was good.

00:46:17 Speaker 2

In the truck company there.

00:46:19 Speaker 1

And.

00:46:20 Speaker 2

I left when I left the truck. Come back. It was three men left then.

00:46:23 Speaker 2

Take over.

00:46:24 Speaker 1

In in France?

00:46:28 Speaker 1

Then when you got to Leavenworth.

00:46:30 Speaker 1

Nope.

00:46:33 Speaker 2

Let that.

00:46:35 Speaker 2

Of course, that was in the winter time we left France some up there.

00:46:39 Speaker 2

How come they shipped us north?

00:46:42 Speaker 2

Got in the tent company and God, it was cold.

00:46:45 Speaker 2

And the boys had big tents and had a pot belly stove with the filler, you know, to heat it up.

00:46:50 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:46:52 Speaker 2

It had a little cold, but the rating wasn't enough to keep it.

00:46:58 Speaker 2

Get there.

00:47:02 Speaker 1

Can you ever catch him stealing the gas?

00:47:04 Speaker 2

Don't doctor at all. But I come in there one night in my tent.

00:47:08 Speaker 2

One of the boys said I got 5 gallons of gas just.

00:47:12 Speaker 2

Keep it up tonight.

00:47:13 Speaker 2

I said, God darn, you better take that back. We can't have that.

00:47:20 Speaker 2

Well, that's too much.

00:47:21 Speaker 1

Gas. How long would 5 gallons of?

00:47:22 Speaker 1

Gas last you.

00:47:24 Speaker 2

Usually, yeah. We usually have. I don't know how we got.

00:47:32 Speaker 1

Air assisted, though, wasn't it? You had to.

00:47:34 Speaker 1

You have to use a plunger.

00:47:35 Speaker 2

No. Uh, you put it in that still lighter big pump for a little bit and puts a little little crack on the lid.

00:47:41 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:47:49 Speaker 1

Now those tents.

00:47:50 Speaker 1

Were they?

00:47:51 Speaker 1

Canvas all the way to the ground? Or do they come partway down? Then you had a wood kind of perimeter around. Yeah, yeah.

00:47:55 Speaker 2

We had a wall here, pop the wall and just come round ten. Yeah. Yeah. About 12 man or six, man.

00:48:02

Yeah.

00:48:04 Speaker 1

Yeah, cots in there.

00:48:05 Speaker 2

Though then we'll get on that God darn French training and then this little box or button, half the size of the art or the third side, and this is.

00:48:12 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:48:13 Speaker 2

They thought they were big, but.

00:48:15 Speaker 2

We laughed about that.

00:48:18 Speaker 2

Just turned on to Marseille, France and that's what we see. And we had a great big temps.

00:48:21 Speaker 1

On Thursday? Yeah. And it's not quite as cold.

00:48:25 Speaker 2

It was kind of cute. Not quite as cool, but that Marcel was a fortified.

00:48:30 Speaker 2

Man has bill bombs on every corner in that town.

00:48:33 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:48:34 Speaker 2

Some of the boys got to leave in.

00:48:35 Speaker 2

Go downtown, which is good, is the full the door was all.

00:48:38 Speaker 2

The way home.

00:48:41 Speaker 2

The one guy was in charge of the temp.

00:48:43 Speaker 2

You didn't charge at all unless there was 20.

00:48:47 Speaker 2

To see this 10, the other twenty of us, in that 10th of that would be in.

00:48:51 Speaker 2

And he's kind of a smart dog, we said let's play Joe Cold hard and so on and so on.

00:48:57 Speaker 2

This size bunker up the top of the cab tonight when he went to Marcel France downtown.

00:49:02

Yes.

00:49:04 Speaker 2

He come back confined but Holy God, and he upset every darn bumpkin.

00:49:17 Speaker 2

That worked.

00:49:24 Speaker 1

You know, that's the deal about soldiers. There's there's something that goes on.

00:49:27 Speaker 2

That's right.

00:49:30 Speaker 1

So when you when you did, you get out, then in at Leavenworth.

00:49:35 Speaker 2

I got discharged at 11.

00:49:39 Speaker 1

And where'd you go from there back home?

00:49:41

I come.

00:49:43 Speaker 1

Somebody there to pick you up or meet you?

00:49:45 Speaker 1

Or.

00:49:46 Speaker 2

I got trained out of Omaha to Sydney.

00:49:50 Speaker 2

And I was walking up to get something my uncle was.

00:49:54 Speaker 2

He delivered milk around town for a living at that time he peddled milk. My gosh, he saw me on the street.

00:50:01 Speaker 2

He heard that I was in Leavenworth. I don't know how you heard him or.

00:50:04 Speaker 2

Somebody previously in there?

00:50:05 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:50:06 Speaker 1

Were you in your uniform?

00:50:08 Speaker 2

How did you oh.

00:50:09 Speaker 2

Yeah, I didn't have no clothes. Yeah.

00:50:12 Speaker 1

No.

00:50:18 Speaker 1

And.

00:50:19 Speaker 1

Then after that.

00:50:22 Speaker 1

Went back to the farm and went to work.

00:50:26 Speaker 2

Lived up West, your little little business place and he had cancer and he had to put farmers. So I bought him out.

00:50:35 Speaker 1

He had a little money saved.

00:50:36 Speaker 2

Up and I had a little one saved up from my father's sale.

00:50:39 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:50:40 Speaker 2

In what I had made overseas, I sent home when they needed over there, I.

00:50:43 Speaker 2

Sent it home.

00:50:44 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:50:45 Speaker 2

So I have a little money saved up.

00:50:47 Speaker 2

Then you get a mustard out page.

00:50:50 Speaker 2

For \$500? Yeah. What turned out I had that.

00:50:55 Speaker 2

And I started.

00:50:56 Speaker 2



They've been blowing it.

00:50:57 Speaker 1

You have to get some equipment.

00:51:01 Speaker 1

To use the GI Bill.

00:51:04 Speaker 2

Well, I didn't use the GI Bill. No, I used. I got an allowance here for a while for both.

00:51:04 Speaker 1

For any school.

00:51:13 Speaker 2

What did I?

00:51:14 Speaker 2

Get about one year. I good I.

00:51:15 Speaker 2

Got \$100 a month.

00:51:17 Speaker 2

From some sort of deal.

00:51:21 Speaker 1

Was that for? Was that for school or through the GI Bill?

00:51:25 Speaker 2

Well, I don't. It wasn't a UI bill, but I don't remember what it was.

00:51:29 Speaker 2

But I was a farmer at that time. I didn't go into school with them. I did, farmer, but I.

00:51:33 Speaker 2

Did get \$100 a month.

00:51:35 Speaker 1

So then, now you're about 27 years old and.

00:51:40 Speaker 1

Roughly.

00:51:44

Yeah.

00:51:45 Speaker 1

Not 30 yet. Yeah, no family, no and no wife and kids.

00:51:47

OK.

00:51:51 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:51:53

OK.

00:51:57 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:51:58 Speaker 2

4282 wide.

00:52:00 Speaker 1

Hmm.

00:52:01 Speaker 1

Lose 1 before you went to the service. Wow.

00:52:08 Speaker 2

They had married for about 8 months before the damn train here.

00:52:12 Speaker 2

I come out alive when my father and mother and my wife were.

00:52:15 Speaker 1

Killed. Oh, for crying out loud.

00:52:20 Speaker 1

That's before. Before you were drafted in.

00:52:20

Program.

00:52:22 Speaker 2

Yeah, right away. I transferred to 1/8.

00:52:27 Speaker 2

That had to go on.

00:52:31 Speaker 2

Want to end up have time to kind of straighten things stayed off.

00:52:34 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:52:37 Speaker 2

Is my stuff and Lee, yeah.

00:52:41 Speaker 1

Holy cow, that's a young.

00:52:43 Speaker 1

That's a lot of lot of.

00:52:45 Speaker 1

Tragedy right now in the face.

00:52:47 Speaker 2

That the one way it is another way is probably the best thing that.

00:52:51 Speaker 2

Ever happened to me?

00:52:53 Speaker 2

And myself to think about then.

00:52:56 Speaker 2

Put that light novel there that they have.

00:52:56 Speaker 1

Yes.

00:53:00 Speaker 2

They kept in touch with the old time.

00:53:01 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:53:03 Speaker 1

And when you bought your uncle's place, you probably got some of.

00:53:05 Speaker 2

The equipment and I bought this tractor.

00:53:08 Speaker 1

Tractor and.

00:53:11 Speaker 1

You do? What was it?

00:53:13 Speaker 2

John AD, 1932 D still loose. It'll still run.

00:53:19 Speaker 2

No rush. Yeah, we're starting up every year yet for higher advance comes out and I got to hear that run. So we started.

00:53:21 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:53:25 Speaker 2

Up.

00:53:27 Speaker 1

I'll be darned. You have to yank the flywheel then.

00:53:30 Speaker 2

Why you guys were away? You started. Why was.

00:53:32 Speaker 1

Yeah, sure.

00:53:32 Speaker 2

There. Yeah, yeah.

00:53:34 Speaker 1

I just bought.

00:53:35 Speaker 2

It This fall, right? But new the new tubes, the tires, the tubes were there. So I put new tires in or new tubes in them.

00:53:44 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's the job. Did you do it yourself? Yeah.

00:53:50 Speaker 1

That's good. That's a hell of a lot of work.

00:53:53 Speaker 1

Did you make quite a few friendships in the close friendships in the?

00:53:56 Speaker 1

Army.

00:53:57 Speaker 2

All that fresh everybody, your friend? Sure.

00:54:01 Speaker 1

Keep in touch with very many of them later on.

00:54:04 Speaker 2

Frank over more.

00:54:08 Speaker 2

They're all eastern boys. How I got into down in the eastern bus, I don't know. But I did.

00:54:14 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:54:14 Speaker 2

But they were all these.

00:54:16 Speaker 1

Mean like New York and Pennsylvania? Yeah.

00:54:18 Speaker 2

Philadelphia. That's saying stuff like that, all these.

00:54:22 Speaker 1

How about a veterans organizations like Legion or VFW? Or did you join any of those?

00:54:28 Speaker 2

No, I didn't see that.

00:54:31 Speaker 2

Did see the.

00:54:33 Speaker 1

No. Did you?

00:54:33 Speaker 2

Red Cross.

00:54:34 Speaker 1

Yeah, but did you join the legion? Yeah.

00:54:38 Speaker 1

Still, probably 50 year member.

00:54:42 Speaker 2

Where should I come back? I've been a member of the league. I always met with VFW for quite a while. I thought that's kind of fully blown, both of.

00:54:52 Speaker 2

Course everybody can't bond the VFW better forward, but just stayed there place to leave the pizza over here and they had a lesion. They want membership so bad.

00:55:02

Here.

00:55:02 Speaker 2

So I thought, well-being living here, maybe I'd better.

00:55:05 Speaker 2

Support the legion.

00:55:06

Over here.

00:55:07 Speaker 1

Sure about DAV.

00:55:12

OK.

00:55:14 Speaker 1

So.

00:55:16 Speaker 1

Agriculture. Ever since then, farming you just do farming, you do any.

00:55:20 Speaker 1

Cattle.

00:55:22 Speaker 1

The big barn. I suppose you had cattle, Haskell.

00:55:25 Speaker 2

Well looked at in 761976.

00:55:28 Speaker 1

You got out of the.

00:55:29 Speaker 2

Cattle business sold the cattle business and what's the world's fair in Spokane, WA?

00:55:37 Speaker 1

Did you run?

00:55:37 Speaker 2

Why do you have the biggest?

00:55:42

Time.

00:55:42 Speaker 2

I got over here on this place. I'm down to about 15.

00:55:45 Speaker 2

Here.

00:55:46 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:55:47 Speaker 2

This small Bush this small.

00:55:48 Speaker 1

You're cattle kind of pricey now, yeah.

00:55:53 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:55:56 Speaker 1

Have you?

00:55:59 Speaker 1

Are you active in any of the VFD or any of the Legion activities, Honor guard or any of that or parades?

00:56:04 Speaker 2

All right.

00:56:05 Speaker 1

Or.

00:56:06 Speaker 2

I've always been on their honor guard and had funerals over here till these last two years.

00:56:10 Speaker 2

I can't walk with guards.

00:56:13 Speaker 2

To Australia, I'm not on the quarter yard.

00:56:16 Speaker 1

He lasted until you're 90 though.

00:56:25 Speaker 2

You have name of Jack Easterly. Do you know him?

00:56:27 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:56:28 Speaker 2

He bought over here.

00:56:29 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:56:30 Speaker 2



Problems had to shoot around off on the.

00:56:32 Speaker 2

Fractures of the.

00:56:36 Speaker 1

Yeah, I helped the sun out in the harvest.

00:56:40

OK.

00:56:44 Speaker 1

That's funny. Oh, Nick, there. Jack's grandson, Nick.

00:56:48 Speaker 1

Has some.

00:56:49 Speaker 1

Past your ground, it's probably CRP stuff.

00:56:54 Speaker 1

Down on road 8.

00:56:56 Speaker 1

About 5 miles.

00:56:58 Speaker 1

East of us.

00:57:00 Speaker 1

Now I see he's out there, he's wind rolling that grass and bailing it up.

00:57:06 Speaker 2

They do that one. One they have, they turn loose from the government, turns to loose they.

00:57:11 Speaker 2

Put it up for hate.

00:57:11 Speaker 1

Sure. That's terrific. He's going to have a big crop. Hey there.

00:57:18 Speaker 2

Over there they do that.

00:57:19 Speaker 2

Quite often.

00:57:19 Speaker 1

Sure. I think that's just pretty smart. Yeah, could be a lot better.

00:57:23 Speaker 1

Letting that grass.

00:57:24 Speaker 1

Just go. Sure. So yeah.

00:57:27 Speaker 2

Right.

00:57:28 Speaker 1

You think your service life affected and your your service time affected the rest of your life.

00:57:34 Speaker 2

No. I served the country.

00:57:37 Speaker 2

Like anybody else.

00:57:39 Speaker 1

Did what you had.

00:57:40 Speaker 2

To do I knew what I had to do.

00:57:50 Speaker 1

I think you probably.

00:57:54 Speaker 1

Sadly, I had to bury a lot.

00:57:55 Speaker 1

Of.

00:57:55 Speaker 1

Your friends.

00:57:56

Yeah.

00:57:59 Speaker 1

Were you a paratrooper?

00:58:03 Speaker 1

If you see any big names come by like.

00:58:08 Speaker 1

Bradley or Eisenhower or?

00:58:12 Speaker 1

Patton.

00:58:12 Speaker 2

Yeah, I saw it. I'll come by he.

00:58:16 Speaker 2

Viewed our troops before we want to cross.

00:58:19 Speaker 2

And we spent a week getting our stuff ready, so just had set perfect you.

00:58:25

Know.

00:58:25 Speaker 2

And you just drove by the car and I saw.

00:58:28 Speaker 2

That's all.

00:58:32 Speaker 2

I said my God, we spent a whole week getting things lined up just perfect.

00:58:36 Speaker 1

Oh, yeah, yeah. I don't think that's changed.

00:58:42 Speaker 1

Did you know anything? Did you hear?

00:58:43 Speaker 1

Anything about Patton?

00:58:45 Speaker 2

I never saw the fact that I was under his in his army.

00:58:50 Speaker 1

In the 3rd Army.

00:58:54 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:58:55

Never.

00:58:56 Speaker 2

But I was.

00:58:58 Speaker 2

Here in the states in Camp Forest, Tennessee, rather inspection every Saturday. You had inspections to.

00:59:07 Speaker 2

In general, the naval General Ben Lear come down and look to our company.

00:59:12 Speaker 2

I don't know how they're gonna be 50 people. I had one of the cleanest rifles in the whole squad in the whole comp.

00:59:18 Speaker 2

Perfect.

00:59:21 Speaker 2

He, he says soldier won't see you. See. So I'll tell you what he said. You got tooth for I said yes, Sir.

00:59:28 Speaker 2

By God use it, I guess I didn't want to keep his name was Ben 2-3 star connected with the.

00:59:36 Speaker 1

Lear.

00:59:43 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:59:46 Speaker 1

And did you recognize after you got out, did some of the people that you served under did they keep moving on up or did?

00:59:52 Speaker 1

You keep track of any of that.

00:59:56 Speaker 2

That's my old company.

01:00:01 Speaker 1

Yeah. Oh, yeah.

01:00:03 Speaker 1

Bet you kind of hated to leave your hip. Three guys.

01:00:05 Speaker 2

Well.

01:00:07 Speaker 2

Yes and no.

01:00:10 Speaker 2

I got that truck coming when nobody shooting that.

01:00:12 Speaker 1

Year. Yeah, that's true.

01:00:14 Speaker 2

The wall was over pretty much.

01:00:16

OK.

01:00:16 Speaker 1

That was after VE Day, then.

01:00:20 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:00:21

Well.

01:00:24 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:00:25 Speaker 2

Rough.

01:00:28 Speaker 1

Tough deal.

01:00:31 Speaker 1

Well.

01:00:33 Speaker 1

Is there anything we didn't cover here that you wanted to mention?

01:00:37 Speaker 2

Doctor Noah.

01:00:42 Speaker 1

Well, I sure appreciate your service to the country.

01:00:46 Speaker 2

Whatever that I go back east there through the.

01:00:49 Speaker 2

Levon Flair, that attorney on sent tape to her.

01:00:53 Speaker 2

And between my cousin but she.

01:00:55 Speaker 2

She didn't like her daughter to me.

01:00:57 Speaker 2

Affected. I got to give her away on.

01:00:59 Speaker 2

Her wedding.

01:01:00 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah.

01:01:01 Speaker 2

And she lost her dad several years ago, and I got daughter.

01:01:02 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:01:06 Speaker 2

Dave flair. He was. He called your help so weak.

01:01:09 Speaker 1

Oh, really? Yeah. I.

01:01:10 Speaker 1

Sure. Did you got to put in the ground?

01:01:13 Speaker 2

He bet he loved it. He raised corn back there. But he said that boy, I got his old people. I died like about here.

01:01:16 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:01:23 Speaker 1

And where is she?

01:01:25 Speaker 2

That Pierce, Nebraska, is that north of Northport.

01:01:28 Speaker 1

Yeah. North of Norfolk, Little North and West.

01:01:31 Speaker 2

Right. North, north.

01:01:35 Speaker 1

I think they have.

01:01:37 Speaker 1

I think I've been there.

01:01:40 Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, I have to remember that there was a restaurant there that that had.

01:01:41 Speaker 2

Small balls.

01:01:49 Speaker 1

Unusually good onion rings.

01:01:52 Speaker 1

And it seemed like that was that Pierce.

01:01:55 Speaker 2

Well, a little town that's on 81 is.

01:01:57 Speaker 2

Called we town. That's.

01:01:58 Speaker 2

Where you turn to go to my my lunch place.

01:02:03 Speaker 2

But they closed. They had restaurants there one time too, and they're pretty good rest, but it's close.

01:02:07 Speaker 2

And furiously right straight West of that.

01:02:10 Speaker 1

Hmm. OK, maybe that is it. I think it is, Pierce.

01:02:15 Speaker 2

Restaurant 1 up the road up there called Hilltop.

01:02:18 Speaker 2

Serve delicious fish food or whatever you want.

01:02:23 Speaker 1

You get back there very often.

01:02:25 Speaker 2

Yeah, my back there, but I.

01:02:29 Speaker 2

I don't go back too often. I don't travel much.

01:02:33 Speaker 2

You're too old.

01:02:35 Speaker 2



We'll call that old disable so.

01:02:39 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:02:40 Speaker 1

How long you been by?

01:02:41 Speaker 1

Yourself.

01:02:43 Speaker 1

Holy cow.

01:02:46 Speaker 2

Yeah, I lost my.

01:02:46 Speaker 2

Signal right here in 98.

01:02:51 Speaker 1

That's the picture up here.

01:02:55 Speaker 1

Who painted the picture here?

01:02:58 Speaker 2

Well, one of my landlords that I.

01:02:59 Speaker 2

Got over here.