

## **James Krohn Interview**

Company G, 317th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Phillip L. Elbaum)*

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

00:00:06 Speaker 1

Good morning.

00:00:07 Speaker 1

We want to welcome you to the former POW living history project the day of this interview is March 8th, the year 2002.

00:00:17 Speaker 1

We're very pleased and honored to have with us Mr. James Crone.

00:00:22 Speaker 1

Who is a World War Two former prisoner of war?

00:00:26 Speaker 1

My name is Phillip L Bomb.

00:00:28 Speaker 1

I'm a social work clinical manager at Heinz VA Hospital near Chicago.

00:00:34 Speaker 1

Jim, could you please tell us how old you are?

00:00:37 Speaker 2

I am 70.

00:00:37 Speaker 1

Seven. And are you are getting any compensation for the government?

00:00:41 Speaker 2

I am yes, I am.

00:00:41 Speaker 1

Are you service connected? OK and can you tell us a little bit about your background, Jim?

00:00:47 Speaker 1

Were you born and raised?

00:00:49 Speaker 2

I was born in Saginaw, MI December 11th, 1924.

00:00:54 Speaker 1

And that makes you, as we said, 877.

00:00:56 Speaker 2

Your mathematics excellent.

00:00:58 Speaker 1

Thank you.

00:00:59 Speaker 1

And how many kids were in the family?

00:01:02 Speaker 2

I had three brothers.

00:01:03 Speaker 1

And where'd you fit into this clan? Just.

00:01:05 Speaker 2

I was the oldest brother.

00:01:07 Speaker 1

Did any Members, any other members of your family serve in the armed forces in World War 2?

00:01:12 Speaker 2

Yes, my mother's two brothers were both 1 was a captain, one was a.

00:01:18 Speaker 2

And one of course, was injured over in.

00:01:21 Speaker 2

Iran.

00:01:23 Speaker 2

The supplies to the Russians, but I have them of.

00:01:25 Speaker 1

I see.

00:01:26 Speaker 2

My father was in the First World War, and if I'm going on and my three brothers all served in the army.

00:01:32 Speaker 1

In the Second World War.

00:01:33 Speaker 2

No, no.

00:01:33 Speaker 2

After the second war, when in Korea, am I getting ahead of you?

00:01:35

After.

00:01:37 Speaker 1

No, that's fine.

00:01:38 Speaker 2

In Korea, one in Germany and my youngest brother is a retired regular Army paratroop officer who served in Korea.

00:01:45 Speaker 2

I mean in Vietnam, a couple tours.

00:01:48 Speaker 2

And one in Korea. So I'm very proud of all my brothers.

00:01:52 Speaker 2

Father was in the Navy and I take a lot of pride in our family, been able to serve.

00:01:58 Speaker 1

And how was growing up in?

00:02:00 Speaker 1

Saginaw, MI.

00:02:01 Speaker 2

Well it.

00:02:02 Speaker 2

It was very interesting because I'm what they call a depression baby.

00:02:06 Speaker 2

But I know one never starved during the depression that I know of, and I in all honesty, I mean, it was a fun to work.

00:02:14 Speaker 2

All magazines we used to carry water.

00:02:16 Speaker 2

Because you had to get the water in the wells were the only well you can.

00:02:19 Speaker 2

They were pumps in the corners and you pick up a nickel here and a nickel there and a dime here, but.

00:02:25 Speaker 2

It was a play you could go to a movie for \$0.10 and see 2 movies plus a couple serials and get 3 hamburgers and a milkshake for \$0.25.

00:02:33 Speaker 2

So when I stir in 35 or \$0.40, I'd take myself to the movies on Saturday with some friends.

00:02:38 Speaker 2

It was sort of a fun way to grow up in a small town.

00:02:41 Speaker 1

And what kind of work did your dad do?

00:02:42 Speaker 2

My dad was in the retail business.

00:02:45 Speaker 2

He was a buyer of red women's, ready to wear for a store.

00:02:51 Speaker 1

And your mom?

00:02:51 Speaker 2

And my mother taught shortly and did.

00:02:55 Speaker 2

Part time teaching occasionally, but was busy raising 4 kids.

00:03:00 Speaker 1

Sure, four boys.

00:03:01 Speaker 2

Four boys, correct and much easier to raise than daughters. I can assure you.

00:03:06 Speaker 1

And how old were you when you went into the service?

00:03:08 Speaker 2

Well, I was very interesting.

00:03:10 Speaker 2

I say this because you know some of the reasons.

00:03:13 Speaker 2

Come here.

00:03:14 Speaker 2

I was.

00:03:14 Speaker 2

I enlisted the day I was 18, which was a 1943.

00:03:20 Speaker 2

And at that time you couldn't.

00:03:22 Speaker 2

There were so many people trying to get in the service.

00:03:26 Speaker 2

They wouldn't take you right away. They called it.

00:03:27 Speaker 2

Said, are you coming in for what?

00:03:29 Speaker 2

Well, I want to go and when will you go?

00:03:31 Speaker 2

I said to Molly, so I'm sorry.

00:03:33 Speaker 2

We'll sign you up for voluntary induction and let you know when we can take it, because there's too many people volunteering and that was the spirit of America at that time.

00:03:42 Speaker 2

I finally went in active duty on March 3rd.

00:03:45 Speaker 1

And when did you graduate high school?

00:03:47 Speaker 2

In June of 42.

00:03:50 Speaker 1

So you went into the service after you.

00:03:52 Speaker 2

Yes, yes I did.

00:03:52 Speaker 1

High school.

00:03:53 Speaker 1

And what did you do between the time of high school and going into the service?

00:03:56 Speaker 2

Well, I started going to Michigan State College for one term and the only reason I went there is I made a deal with my.

00:04:03 Speaker 2

Family.

00:04:06 Speaker 2

That I would wait until I was 18 to go in the military.

00:04:08 Speaker 2

So I went to Michigan State for one term and didn't study very hard in the day I.

00:04:13 Speaker 2

18I enlisted.

00:04:15 Speaker 1

I see.

00:04:15 Speaker 1

And where did you go for basic training?

00:04:17 Speaker 2

I went to Camp Roberts, California.

00:04:20 Speaker 1

And you remember basic training.

00:04:22 Speaker 2

Yes, I do. And how was it?

00:04:24 Speaker 2

Well, I'll tell you the truth when I think about it.

00:04:27 Speaker 2

It was pretty darn good as far as getting in good physical shape, but most people 18/19/20/21 were in pretty good shape.

00:04:35 Speaker 2

We learned a lot and there were some darn good sergeants.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

It was not easy.

00:04:41 Speaker 2

It it made a man out of you, but I think the important thing of basic training is.

00:04:47 Speaker 2

It was the first place I realized as I met people in the same bunk as I was and barracks.

00:04:52 Speaker 2

There were people who would ask me to read their letters for them, and I never realized there were people that weren't able to.

00:04:58 Speaker 2

In this country.

00:04:59 Speaker 2

And I met a. It was a great leveling experience.

00:05:02 Speaker 2

Of all the people that I met.

00:05:03 Speaker 2

The army and.

00:05:04 Speaker 1

Words to go after Fort Robert Cap Robert.

00:05:06 Speaker 2

The.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

Well, I'll tell you what.

00:05:08 Speaker 2

They selected me and said you're going to go to AST P, which is the Army specialized training program.

00:05:15 Speaker 2

So being a soldier, you do what they tell you. They sent me to Stanford and I was there for a month. Then they sent University of California and after a couple months, I got there.

00:05:25 Speaker 2

Said, what am I doing going to school?

00:05:27 Speaker 2

I quit school to enlist and here I.

00:05:30 Speaker 2

Am in here.

00:05:30 Speaker 2

I'm going back to.

00:05:31 Speaker 2

I don't want this, so I went into the commanding officer, whoever he was, a major or something. And I said please transfer me back to the.

00:05:38 Speaker 2

Army. So I went back to the infantry and that's when I joined the 80th Infantry Division.

00:05:44 Speaker 2

In or were they then on desert maneuvers?



00:05:47 Speaker 2

CAMA, California Arizona maneuver area.

00:05:50 Speaker 2

And that's where I got back in the infantry.

00:05:52 Speaker 1

And then where did you go?

00:05:53 Speaker 1

Go.

00:05:54 Speaker 2

Then we went to Camp Kilmer.

00:05:58 Speaker 2

No, we went to Fort Dix and we trained more.

00:06:02 Speaker 2

And then of course, we in the middle of the night we left there and went to Camp Kilmer, which was the port of embarkation. And we went across our entire division plus Ansel units.

00:06:16 Speaker 2

We went across the Queen Mary and I think 4 1/2 or five days.

00:06:20 Speaker 2

Because.

00:06:22 Speaker 2

The Queen Mary could outrun submarines. I think that was the story there was.

00:06:25 Speaker 2

Was non escorted.

00:06:27 Speaker 1

And how was it being on the Queen Mary?

00:06:29 Speaker 2

It was not pleasant.

00:06:30 Speaker 1

Wasn't a luxury shipment.

00:06:31 Speaker 2

It was not a luxury ship.

00:06:34 Speaker 2

We slept in a ship.

00:06:36 Speaker 2

In a state room for two, I think there were something like 48 at a sleeping at a time and you had to slide in. The bunks were 8 deep.

00:06:46 Speaker 2

Completely around the place. And then we had our eight hours and we go on deck for 8 hours or go somewhere else for 8 hours.

00:06:52 Speaker 2

But she had eight hours in.

00:06:53 Speaker 2

Stateroom and.

00:06:54 Speaker 2

I guess we managed to sleep, but it wasn't.

00:06:56 Speaker 2

Wasn't a luxury trip, believe me.

00:06:57 Speaker 1

Was not like a cruise ship.

00:06:59 Speaker 2

Bill, it was not a cruise.

00:07:01 Speaker 1

Have you been on any cruises?

00:07:03 Speaker 2

Yes, I did.

00:07:03 Speaker 1

So it was much different than a cruise.

00:07:05 Speaker 2

Yes, it was a slight slightly.

00:07:07 Speaker 1

Slightly different. And where did you go after you landed in?

00:07:11 Speaker 2

Where did we?

00:07:12 Speaker 2

We went, we landed in Greenock, Scotland and immediately got on a train and we went in England to a little town, an area near.

00:07:23 Speaker 2

Between Manchester and Wigan.

00:07:26 Speaker 2

They called Ashton and Makerfield.

00:07:29 Speaker 2

A small town and that's where we did more training.

00:07:33 Speaker 2

Or getting ready to go to France.

00:07:37 Speaker 1

And then what?

00:07:38 Speaker 1

How long were you in England?

00:07:39 Speaker 2

We were in England, I think 2 about a couple, maybe two months, something like that.

00:07:41 Speaker 1

Just.

00:07:45 Speaker 2

We trained very hard every day, lots of long marches, which got in good condition, 10 mile marches, 15 mile marches, 125 mile March.

00:07:55 Speaker 2

With full field pack.

00:07:58 Speaker 2

But you didn't know everybody wanted to get into action those.

00:08:01 Speaker 2

That's all you want to do is when you're going to get into action.

00:08:04 Speaker 1

And then you went over to France.

00:08:05 Speaker 2

And we landed at Omaha Beach. Yep.

00:08:06 Speaker 1

When did you land on Omaha Beach?

00:08:08 Speaker 2

I think it was about 40 days after the invasion.

00:08:12 Speaker 1

And what was your impression in your land?

00:08:15 Speaker 2

It was awesome.

00:08:17 Speaker 2

I remember seeing the wrecks of the ships and we were about 3 miles inland at that time, so we the only we didn't get any heavy bombardment or anything like that like some German planes flew, I guess in a few machine guns, but there was not the heavy.

00:08:34 Speaker 2

And that was. So we went in about 3 miles, and that's the that's where we first began seeing combat 3 or 4 miles in. I was with Patton's army.

00:08:42 Speaker 1

You were in the 3rd Army.

00:08:43 Speaker 2

3rd army correct.

00:08:44 Speaker 1

And tell us about your first combat experience.

00:08:48 Speaker 2

The 1st combat experience, if I can digress.

00:08:52 Speaker 2

The first the first day we were in France, the cook got wounded.

00:08:56 Speaker 2

How did the cook get?

00:08:57 Speaker 2

He was going to the latrine at 2:00 in the morning and he forgot the password and the counter sign. So the guard shot him.

00:09:04 Speaker 2

That was our first casualty probably 8 hours after we landed.

00:09:08 Speaker 2

Our first combat experience was with the Argentine fillet.

00:09:12 Speaker 2

We were one of the 80th Division was one of the pincer movements to close the gap and I think we got over 100,000 Germans.

00:09:20 Speaker 2

That we were hedge rows.

00:09:23 Speaker 2

We had the clickers, which I'm sure we've heard of before.

00:09:26 Speaker 2

That was a little.

00:09:27 Speaker 2

Click and if someone didn't answer your shot through the hedge row and that was our first heavy battle were there. And I remember seeing.

00:09:37 Speaker 2

Lots of dead horses that were hauling them German.

00:09:41 Speaker 2

Lots of dead Germans, and it was a really a carnage.

00:09:45 Speaker 2

Was a real mess. There were a lot of.

00:09:47 Speaker 2

People kicking around.

00:09:49 Speaker 1

And then where did you go?

00:09:50 Speaker 2

Then we went.

00:09:53 Speaker 2

Well, I'll show you later, but someone sent me a map which I haven't seen for about 35 years of where we went.

00:09:58 Speaker 2

We went to many of the town cities that were.

00:10:03 Speaker 2

Places the same route in the First World War that were very well known, like St. Mai Hill, we went toward Paris and that's another story. We were supposed to take Paris and all of a sudden we got stopped.

00:10:14 Speaker 2

And we fought through these small towns are no, I forget their names. Let's see.

00:10:19 Speaker 2

I really can't remember, but I've somewhere I could look at this map.

00:10:22 Speaker 1

That's fine.

00:10:22 Speaker 2

And tell you where they were and.

00:10:24 Speaker 2

Ended up going to Paris and they stopped us because the free French had to go in and take Paris.

00:10:29 Speaker 2

They blasted through our lines with all our lights on and remember that we couldn't even light a cigarette.

00:10:34 Speaker 2

And then we.

00:10:35 Speaker 2

Fought our way through.

00:10:37 Speaker 2

To the Mosul River, which was a campaign, as you probably are aware.

00:10:41 Speaker 1

When you were in Paris.

00:10:43 Speaker 2

No, we did not go to Paris.

00:10:44 Speaker 1

We.

00:10:45 Speaker 2

Around went down through Versailles.

00:10:47 Speaker 1

Did you see versai?

00:10:49 Speaker 2

No, we were below versa.

00:10:50

I see.

00:10:51 Speaker 1

And tell us how long were you in combat before you were captured for the 1st?

00:10:58 Speaker 2

Well, let's see.

00:10:58 Speaker 2

August, the first time about 6-7, maybe 7 or 8 weeks, maybe a couple months.

00:11:04 Speaker 2

Seven weeks somewhere.

00:11:05 Speaker 1

Tell us the circumstances if you would, Jim.

00:11:08 Speaker 1

Pardon me about your capture.

00:11:09 Speaker 2

Well.

00:11:12 Speaker 2

I.

00:11:14 Speaker 2

I say this in all modesty, we were going through the woods and how I got we got this detail with the person was my commanding officer and myself in a communication Sergeant and about eight people in.

00:11:26 Speaker 2

Medic we.

00:11:27 Speaker 2

Were trying to make connection with one battalion to.

00:11:30 Speaker 2

Other.

00:11:31 Speaker 2

And as we crossed a road in the woods, it was a Cross Road. We came under extremely heavy fire.

00:11:39 Speaker 2

Were wounded and the Colonel and the other people got through.

00:11:43 Speaker 2

And I stayed there.

00:11:47 Speaker 2

Just because you do things you don't know why.

00:11:49 Speaker 2

Did them.

00:11:49 Speaker 2

And took threw some fire at the enemy positions. Thought it might be just some snipers and all of a sudden all hell broke loose. And when the Germans start shooting about four or five of those autom.

00:12:02 Speaker 2



At you.

00:12:04 Speaker 2

It doesn't take much to realize that you ain't got a chance with your M1 rifle, so seeing that capture was imminent and you do things as you know, you just do them on a reflex. You don't know why.

00:12:17 Speaker 2

I forget whether the fellow next to me was wounded or killed.

00:12:21 Speaker 2

I think he may have been dead.

00:12:23 Speaker 2

The.

00:12:24 Speaker 2

I took his arm band, which was a Red Cross, wrapped it around my arm and put my rifle down.

00:12:32 Speaker 2

So we turned out we were in the midst of a heavily fortified German strong point.

00:12:38 Speaker 2

And to digress, I can tell you one thing that I remember very vividly about the German army.

00:12:44 Speaker 2

It was a crossroads and they were dug in on all sides of the cross roads and the commanding officer was a.

00:12:51 Speaker 2

I think he may have been an s s troop or but he was some sort.

00:12:55 Speaker 2

And somebody picked their head up from the German positions, from where they were all dug in. And foxholes.

00:13:00 Speaker 2

He didn't even think twice. He was looking at me and Tara gave me, just took his machine gun and threw squeezed off about 50 shots. And that guy went down underneath and stayed down very quickly.

00:13:11 Speaker 2

So that's what.

00:13:12 Speaker 2

And then there was a.

00:13:14 Speaker 2

There was a American Jeep they'd captured there.

00:13:18 Speaker 2

And I had this Red Cross on.

00:13:21 Speaker 2

I didn't have my gun, obviously, and I happened to walk around and looked like I knew what I was doing and I saw the keys were in the Jeep and I sat there for a while and Germans were checking positions and everything.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

That.

00:13:35 Speaker 2

And I turned the.

00:13:36 Speaker 2

On and.

00:13:37 Speaker 2

I just drove right through the lines and no one.

00:13:40 Speaker 2

I can't even remember.

00:13:41 Speaker 2

Shot.

00:13:41 Speaker 2

Everything happened so darn fast, but it was crazy.

00:13:45 Speaker 2

Was another guy sitting there with me.

00:13:48 Speaker 2

That had been captured.

00:13:49 Speaker 1

So you escaped.

00:13:50 Speaker 2

Yeah, I was nuts.

00:13:52 Speaker 1

You got into a Jeep, turned it on in the midst of the Germans.

00:13:55 Speaker 1

You drove through the.

00:13:55 Speaker 2

Yeah. Yeah, I was.

00:13:57 Speaker 2

I mean, and I say I'm not a hero. Honest, but do you just do you just do things?

00:13:58

Line.

00:14:02 Speaker 1

And what happened after that?

00:14:03 Speaker 2

Well.

00:14:03 Speaker 1

They chase you.

00:14:05 Speaker 2

No, they were all dug in and I put that baby right down to the floor. I went back to the battalion headquarters, which I knew exactly where I was, and I told Major Hayes, who was a battalion commander, about this German strong point.

00:14:20 Speaker 2

And he if he were alive, you might remember.

00:14:22 Speaker 2

He someone said he ended up being a general and he got me and said, can I take him there? And I said.

00:14:27 Speaker 2

So they got some tanks from either the 4th, 6th or 10th Armored and I sort of rode in with the tanks in there and they wiped the guys out.

00:14:35 Speaker 2

So.

00:14:36 Speaker 2

No.

00:14:37 Speaker 2

Crazy story then, which was a nutty.

00:14:39 Speaker 2

This is me. Just a young punk, the major said.

00:14:43 Speaker 2

He.

00:14:43 Speaker 2

Crone, you've had enough for today.

00:14:46 Speaker 2

Just take a Jeep. Here's a.

00:14:47 Speaker 2

Go out and here's a Pasco wherever you want.

00:14:50 Speaker 2

A few days off the line.

00:14:52 Speaker 2

So I went back to Nazi. I believe it was at that.

00:14:56 Speaker 2

And I don't my memory what I do there was I think I was very tense.

00:15:01 Speaker 2

I think I got some good food and stuff and I just ate a day and then I went back to my outfit.

00:15:07 Speaker 1

Did you get a medal for your achieve?

00:15:11 Speaker 2

Was told was going to get.

00:15:13 Speaker 2

Something, but my medal is still here, I guess.

00:15:18 Speaker 2

Yeah, I have a bronze star.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

Got it. In my pocket, you asked me to.

00:15:22 Speaker 2

This is the small one that fits in lapel I think of a bronze star.

00:15:23 Speaker 1

What I see that.

00:15:32 Speaker 2

And I think the proudest I am that was after the proudest thing that I got.

00:15:36 Speaker 2

Is a miniature.

00:15:38 Speaker 2

Of the Combat Infantry badge with Oakley cluster and when this first came out, there were two wonderful things about it was honestly given as a medal and I think I was the.

00:15:47 Speaker 2

Person in my company to get it and I say this modestly. But the second thing.

00:15:52 Speaker 2

You got 10 bucks extra.

00:15:54 Speaker 2

And that I think to be the best of a combat infantryman, to me always seemed to mean meant quite a bit so.

00:16:02 Speaker 1

And then when you went back to your lines, Jim, tell us what happened.

00:16:06 Speaker 2

Well, then we went back and we were in some very heavy combat.

00:16:13 Speaker 2

The Mozilla River campaign we got.

00:16:16 Speaker 2

Beat up real bad at the crossing. As a matter of fact, surprisingly enough, General Patton, about four in the morning, wasn't more than 5 feet from me, and I'll never forget it was.

00:16:26 Speaker 2

I was just a punk.

00:16:27 Speaker 2

I'd been a private when I went over there and.

00:16:31 Speaker 2

We got, we got plowed back, we got slaughtered and we regrouped.

00:16:36 Speaker 2

And then I don't think we.

00:16:39 Speaker 2

Then we was just fighting those battles all the way over on Nancy D Loward.

00:16:46 Speaker 2

Small towns and the day I got captured again was on October 4th and that was a story in its own which we our company and I was.

00:16:59 Speaker 2

Believe it or not, I was.

00:17:01 Speaker 2

I was almost a veteran at the age of 19 at that stage because I've been in combat about a couple months and.

00:17:09 Speaker 2

We planned an attack that we I'd never forget.

00:17:12 Speaker 2

About two in the.

00:17:14 Speaker 2

We sat, put a sandbox, the commanding officer, the sandbox. How we're going to attack a little town. We were on the high ground like this.

00:17:21 Speaker 2

Town was down to miles away from us down the bottom of the valley.

00:17:26 Speaker 2

And it was.

00:17:27 Speaker 2

It was overlooking it were two huge hills.

00:17:29 Speaker 2

I think 1 was Mount St.

00:17:34 Speaker 2

And one was Hill, 60, or something Mount St.

00:17:36 Speaker 2

Or.

00:17:37 Speaker 2

But there were two, and this town was sitting there right at the bottom.

00:17:41 Speaker 2

So we got the orders to attack it, to take it.

00:17:45 Speaker 2

And we.

00:17:45 Speaker 2

You know you followed orders in those days and we had a pretty good attack.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

Driven back once.

00:17:56 Speaker 2

I did something I'm thankful.

00:17:57 Speaker 2

I don't why there was an older German and a foxhole, and he threw his rifle out, said Caputo. The first attack was maybe 5:00 in the morning. Whatever time it was just before sunup.

00:18:09 Speaker 2

And my inclination was to shoot him, but I didn't shoot.

00:18:11 Speaker 2

And because the guide thrown his gun away and surrendered, I didn't know what to do, so I just threw the gun and we kept on with the attack.

00:18:18 Speaker 2

Then we got driven back.

00:18:21 Speaker 2

And that was pretty heavily fortified. We got driven back.

00:18:24 Speaker 2

We.

00:18:25 Speaker 2

We came in to flank the town again and we took the town.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

And that's when everything.

00:18:30 Speaker 2

We completely had complete control of the town.

00:18:34 Speaker 2

This was, I think October 2nd or 3rd.

00:18:39 Speaker 2

We had fairly heavy casualties.

00:18:43 Speaker 2

But we knew that the Germans had to be around somewhere because we didn't take that many prisoners and.

00:18:51 Speaker 2

Oh, I did something nuts.

00:18:52 Speaker 2

I went up in the hill myself and took a prisoner.

00:18:56 Speaker 2

The guy was wounded.

00:18:59 Speaker 2



And.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

We took them back and put them in our headquarters and gave them first aid.

00:19:04 Speaker 2

And he was the only German.

00:19:05 Speaker 2

But you could see they were all fortified positions there. So we put out, we put out our flank, we put out. What do you call me?

00:19:14 Speaker 2

The things where they flash, you know, you put the tripwire flares to try to protect the position and we set the companies up. The first platoon, second platoon and so forth and so on. And we try to build a perimeter around this town.

00:19:29 Speaker 2

By that time, we were up to, we were down to about 150 men.

00:19:34 Speaker 2

And the next morning. No, wait. I went back to try to get to get replacements.

00:19:41 Speaker 2

I'm.

00:19:42 Speaker 2

Yeah, I went back.

00:19:43 Speaker 2

I.

00:19:43 Speaker 2

I went back to get.

00:19:46 Speaker 2

There's only one and no one would send the company down, but they said we'll try to make it at night.

00:19:51 Speaker 2

But one guy came down.

00:19:52 Speaker 2

Name was.

00:19:53 Speaker 2

He was a heavy weapons leader, Lieutenant, and he volunteered and brought his weapons platoon down.

00:19:59 Speaker 2

But no one else, particularly volunteer, they said they'd come at night.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

Well, we got in an awful big fire fight the next day and we were.

00:20:08 Speaker 2

We were in a mess and they sent a company in and they got decimated and then we called.

00:20:16 Speaker 2

Let's.

00:20:16 Speaker 2

We called for.

00:20:17 Speaker 2

I remember as well as I'm sitting with a seal we called and there was a Lieutenant, a forward observer artillery name was Monahan, I think. And we call it was got so desperate we call for fire on our own positions.

00:20:32 Speaker 2

And that was supposed to be Canon company and Artori. And I don't think they ever threw the fire.

00:20:37 Speaker 2

Well, then all of a sudden we're in this building and we're very low on ammo and low on everything.

00:20:43 Speaker 2

And the Germans are outside pounding, surrender, surrender, surrendering.

00:20:49 Speaker 2

Lucky, I guess for us, we had taken this fellow prisoner and treated him pretty well and we did.

00:20:54 Speaker 2

Gave medical aid.

00:20:57 Speaker 2

So they didn't shoot us, but they were going to blow us up if we didn't surrender. By that time we had, there was nothing we left to fight for.

00:21:03 Speaker 2

And we were out of ammo. Everything.

00:21:05 Speaker 2

We we did.

00:21:07 Speaker 2

I guess you have to.

00:21:07 Speaker 2

I think there were eighteen of us, maybe left. We surrendered.

00:21:12 Speaker 2

Then they took us.

00:21:15 Speaker 2

Against a wall in a church.

00:21:19 Speaker 2

Lined us up against the wall.

00:21:22 Speaker 2

And I we thought they're going to shoot us. And I remember myself and Charlie and Lieutenant Ellsworth. We said goodbye to each other. And the crazy thing is we were probably so frightened.

00:21:32 Speaker 2

Were so numb.

00:21:32 Speaker 2

Didn't really.

00:21:34 Speaker 2

It never really sunk in to what happened.

00:21:37 Speaker 2

Then they didn't.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

They didn't do it.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

They marched us up the hill.

00:21:42 Speaker 2

Up this hill, Mount St.

00:21:44 Speaker 2

Mount.

00:21:45 Speaker 2

Genove, whatever it was, then we got troops started firing on us.

00:21:50 Speaker 2

A cannon company started throwing heavy fire on us and I got a slight piece of shrapnel which was spattered somewhere in the war.

00:21:57 Speaker 2

But we took us over the hill and right over this hill, there's a whole German regiment sitting there of crack troopers.

00:22:03 Speaker 2

And that was my real first experience as a prisoner of war, and as an afterthought.

00:22:10 Speaker 2

Never, never will forget.

00:22:12 Speaker 2

We're in this room and we hadn't eaten for a day or so.

00:22:17 Speaker 2

Because of the heavy combat we'd been in.

00:22:20 Speaker 2

German captain who?

00:22:23 Speaker 2

Perfect.

00:22:23 Speaker 2

They offered us some kind of food, a little piece of sausage and a tasted.

00:22:28 Speaker 2

Didn't taste very good and some sardines and no one particularly loved sardines, I guess.

00:22:32 Speaker 2

And we tasted most. Half the guys didn't eat it or touched it.

00:22:36 Speaker 2

He says he says you Americans are wasteful, he says.

00:22:39 Speaker 2

You will learn the Prussian way.

00:22:42 Speaker 2

And that was like, I battled cry after the war.

00:22:44 Speaker 2

Not after the war, but during the prison.

00:22:46 Speaker 2

In prison, I always remember that captain saying that I said yeah, we sure did learn the Prussian way.

00:22:53 Speaker 2

But they were very good soldiers, I tell you, they're very, very good soldiers.

00:22:56 Speaker 2

And they had a lot of Red Cross markings on trucks, and I'm quite sure a lot of these trucks had combat equipment in them, but I can't say for sure.

00:23:07 Speaker 2

It seemed like because.

00:23:09 Speaker 2

Why they would have a hospital, which I think was a lazarette then there they were, all strictly infantry troops there.

00:23:15 Speaker 1

What happened?

00:23:16 Speaker 1

Where were you taken?

00:23:18 Speaker 2

Then they took us.

00:23:21 Speaker 2

They took us on a train.

00:23:24 Speaker 2

They took us to a place called.

00:23:26 Speaker 2

We went through the Siegfried Lines and then we got in a train.

00:23:26 Speaker 1

Uh.

00:23:31 Speaker 2

And I think we're on it a couple.

00:23:32 Speaker 2

Days we want our.

00:23:34 Speaker 2

I can train and we went to Lindbergh, Germany, which was the first prison camp.

00:23:38 Speaker 2

We were actually in.

00:23:41 Speaker 2

Except the small place we were only had a day or two.

00:23:44 Speaker 2

And we Limburg was 12A and that was a rail head and that was a huge, massive prison camp.

00:23:52 Speaker 1

And how are conditions there?

00:23:55 Speaker 2

Conditions were not good at all.

00:23:58 Speaker 2

They were very, very bad.

00:24:00 Speaker 2

I'd like to.

00:24:02 Speaker 2

Thank some. I believe they were Sikhs or Hindus who were very true to their.

00:24:07 Speaker 2

They had turbans and they shared some food with me because they would not eat meat for which I will respect them forever.

00:24:14 Speaker 2

And also I ran into a couple of the ANZAC troops, which were the Australia New Zealand troops, and they'd been there for a long time and they gave me.

00:24:22 Speaker 2

Little food. We got about nothing to eat, and if anyone sees this, they'll know what I'm talking.

00:24:28 Speaker 2

I better not mention any names, but there was a traitor in our midst.

00:24:32 Speaker 2

He was a master Sergeant.

00:24:34 Speaker 2

Airborne, he gave comfort to the enemy.

00:24:38 Speaker 2

He was like the camp commander.

00:24:40 Speaker 2

Now it's some possibility he may have been a German plant.

00:24:45 Speaker 2

About I testified at war crimes. If my memory serves me correct, I testify to military.

00:24:51 Speaker 2

Sought an awful lot of people and then I kept. It's been bothering me for so many years.

00:24:56 Speaker 2

Figured I got to kill this guy.

00:24:59 Speaker 2

AV8 help talk to.

00:25:00 Speaker 2

I talked to them, but I ran an ad in the paper.

00:25:02 Speaker 2

Has anybody seen master Sergeant?

00:25:04 Speaker 2

Blank last name began with AK and I started a.

00:25:08 Speaker 2

Some calls from all over the country. Everybody would like to find this \*\*\*.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

I ran into a guy who was in a prison camp, a new senator Thurmond, who was a general and the strangest thing is, nobody can ever find information about this man.

00:25:22 Speaker 2

Know his name very, very well, but the rest of the Americans preformed gallantry in action.

00:25:28 Speaker 2

Gave no aid and comfort to the enemy.

00:25:31 Speaker 2

We didn't have any water part time.

00:25:33 Speaker 2

Got very, very ill there.

00:25:35 Speaker 2

I have a clipping and there was a picture in some of these magazines and Life magazine of a guy.

00:25:39 Speaker 2

Guy was there near the end of the war and he weighed about 90 lbs.

00:25:43 Speaker 2

And the one guy was there, weighed 190, went down to 110 in about 3 weeks.

00:25:48 Speaker 2

I may have gone down to about a.

00:25:49 Speaker 2

There was number medical facility at all when you had the GIS, which you people know are diarrhea because we didn't have any water and the water was contaminated.

00:26:00 Speaker 2



They sent you to a building with wood, just wood bunks on.

00:26:04 Speaker 2

We were all there, commiserating together and lying down where we could find a.

00:26:08 Speaker 2

I remember I always used to sleep on for some reason. I used to sleep on the left side of my.

00:26:15 Speaker 2

Body I don't ask me why, but I was had to sleep on.

00:26:18 Speaker 2

Floor against the wall.

00:26:19 Speaker 2

That's the first place I ever learned to sleep on my right side, and I don't know how much sleep I got.

00:26:25 Speaker 2

It was a horrible situation and luckily I thank God I survived because we had absolutely no medicine in the diarrhea and I guess I had anebic dysentery, they told me.

00:26:34 Speaker 1

How do you think you're survived?

00:26:36 Speaker 2

I don't know. You know, you'd never.

00:26:39 Speaker 2

It's just funny and it's heart so hard to explain and to young people I tell you, do things that you don't know why you did them.

00:26:45 Speaker 2

Like reflex.

00:26:46 Speaker 2

I mean, I just made-up my mind, I guess, and so did everybody else.

00:26:49 Speaker 2

They were going to make it and whatever was going to happen was happen.

00:26:54 Speaker 2

Like foxhole religion, which everybody had, including me.

00:26:57 Speaker 2

When the show started falling around you, the guy gets killed next to you.

00:27:00 Speaker 2

You pray to.

00:27:01 Speaker 2

I don't know who it is, but you sure?

00:27:03 Speaker 2

And I remember thinking his head blowing off right next to me. And that's. I know I got knocked out by the shell, but I woke up and I don't know if I was stunned for 30 seconds or 10 minutes. But, you know, those things happen. You just keep.

00:27:16 Speaker 2

On 'cause, that's what your mission is. And you don't know all these fancy words at that time, but you just do.

00:27:21 Speaker 2

That's what you gotta do.

00:27:22 Speaker 1

How long were you in this camp?

00:27:23 Speaker 2

I was there a few weeks, I think.

00:27:26 Speaker 2

And Ohio, this Sergeant I'll never get on my.

00:27:30 Speaker 2

And after a year, I talked to the VA, which I'll talk about later and thank them for helping me through this because I actually wanted to kill this guy.

00:27:37 Speaker 1

And where did you go after this?

00:27:37 Speaker 2

He's so then I went to, then we were on a long, long.

00:27:42 Speaker 2

Four day, maybe four day train ride. It was snowing.

00:27:46 Speaker 2

It was.

00:27:47 Speaker 2

It was in October.

00:27:48 Speaker 1

You were captured in October 1944.

00:27:50 Speaker 2

And it was, yeah, this was still October, maybe near the end. And they took us to Kostrin, which was 3.

00:27:56 Speaker 1

Uh.

00:27:58 Speaker 2

And that was a camp that was strictly for Noncoms. And if you capture ended up with regular German army, they had great respect for sergeants in the American Army. And like, because the sergeants.

00:28:10 Speaker 2

Learned this after the German army.

00:28:13

Were.

00:28:13 Speaker 2

Also treated with great deal respect by all the officers and the enlisted men both.

00:28:18 Speaker 2

So the train ride was a.

00:28:21 Speaker 2

We have no heat, no food loaf of.

00:28:24 Speaker 2

They're about 50 or 60 of us in one box car, no toilet facilities.

00:28:28 Speaker 1

So you were standing in a boxcar.

00:28:30 Speaker 2

Standing, sitting, doing everything and.

00:28:33 Speaker 1

In the winter time without any heat.

00:28:34 Speaker 2

October. No heat, nothing in garden with padlocked in.

00:28:38 Speaker 1

And what about sanitation there?

00:28:40 Speaker 2

There was no sanitation or bucket.

00:28:42 Speaker 2

We called.

00:28:43 Speaker 2

I think honey buckets that time and.

00:28:47 Speaker 2

I believe that every 8 or 10 hours they'd stop.

00:28:52 Speaker 2

And we'd get out under very heavy guard and do whatever we had to do for 5 minutes.

00:28:57 Speaker 2

Then we're back in the train until we got to Lindbergh.

00:29:00 Speaker 2

I mean not to Lindbergh, to equestrian, which was Stalag 3/6.

00:29:04 Speaker 1

Did anybody die or perish in the car?

00:29:07 Speaker 2

I don't believe so.

00:29:10 Speaker 2

Not that I can remember.

00:29:11 Speaker 2

I know there were a lot of people were very sick, but I I honestly can't remember that anybody died in the car.

00:29:17 Speaker 1

Then what happened afterwards?

00:29:18 Speaker 2

Well, then we went to Lindberg.

00:29:22 Speaker 2

H to a castran, which was 3C that was close to the odor.

00:29:25 Speaker 2

River. And then it started to really get cold that year and we just had field jackets, no matter fact.

00:29:33 Speaker 2

And we were.

00:29:34 Speaker 2

They were a little little hots.

00:29:38 Speaker 2

There was a little potbelly stove in the center.

00:29:41 Speaker 2

No toilet facilities or water.

00:29:43 Speaker 2

And there were boards and it was double decked with just boards and it went around like this around the room. And I think there maybe were 30 to 3040 of us in A room.

00:29:55 Speaker 2

Which maybe?

00:29:56 Speaker 2

But because we had a little straw to sleep on and would.

00:30:01 Speaker 2

Uh. And we just sat there most of the time.

00:30:05 Speaker 2

And some of my mind really goes blank about.

00:30:07 Speaker 2

But I know that we used to try to sleep close to each other, believe it or not. Just so the body heat would keep us warm.

00:30:15 Speaker 2

And we used to sit and huddle around the stove when we get anything or put scrounge anything to keep a little fire going. Or they give us a brick once in a while, a lot to burn. And sometimes we had heat sometime we didn't.

00:30:26 Speaker 2

But it was.

00:30:28 Speaker 2

It was not the most pleasant.

00:30:29 Speaker 2

Circumstance of the food if I can. If you want to know about the food, I can certainly tell you they gave us.

00:30:37 Speaker 2

Some kind of bursats tea, which was absolutely.

00:30:40 Speaker 2

It was just water with some gleans in it and they we get an eighth of a slice of black of a small loaf of black bread a day and some soup, which was made out of sugar beet.

00:30:52 Speaker 2

And once every few days we get a little piece of sausage.

00:30:56 Speaker 2

We got no Red Cross parcels until Christmas Day and that's.

00:31:02 Speaker 2

Tell me what you'd like to know, and I'll try to remember them.

00:31:04 Speaker 1

How long were you in this camp?

00:31:06 Speaker 2

Well, I was in the camp until he some till January 31st.

00:31:11 Speaker 1

Uh.

00:31:11 Speaker 2

But I could tell you if you'd like to know more posterior people.

00:31:15 Speaker 2

Of.

00:31:16 Speaker 2

The interesting thing that happened in this camp.

00:31:18 Speaker 2

You're interested. I can tell you.

00:31:19 Speaker 2

You're not fine, no problem.

00:31:22 Speaker 2

We got the Red Cross parcels on Christmas Day.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

And someone that had gotten them there had been people been in this camp for a long time, said that they one of them had seen in the warehouse where a German had told him there were thousands and thousands.

00:31:35 Speaker 2

These.

00:31:36 Speaker 2

Cross parcels sitting there, the Germans.

00:31:39 Speaker 2

Never given us, but they did go to him Christmas Day.

00:31:43 Speaker 2

After much later, we sort of figured out that maybe they knew the Russians were at Warsaw or coming through, and they wanted the Americans to be a little degree on their side.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

Don't know but.

00:31:57 Speaker 2

Christmas Day we started singing Christmas carols. I remember this.

00:32:01 Speaker 2

Guys, there was a room that wasn't heated.

00:32:04 Speaker 2

And it was a place where soldiers could get together, I guess, and talk and do their thing or play.

00:32:09 Speaker 2

Had musical.

00:32:10 Speaker 2

I believe we started singing Christmas carols, the Germans.

00:32:14 Speaker 2

There some of the.

00:32:15 Speaker 2

And they were all smiling and saying, silent knocked.

00:32:18 Speaker 2

And somebody said, how about this one?

00:32:19 Speaker 2

And they sang the Spike Jones song.

00:32:22 Speaker 2

With Hilary again, the Furor's face and DDT, new order and everybody slowly, the Germans are going off and laughing.

00:32:29 Speaker 2

Never understood this was a.

00:32:34 Speaker 2

Yeah, quite a spoof on Hitler.

00:32:35 Speaker 2

And then what happened was there were all kinds of rumors going around and no one knew what was going on.

00:32:41 Speaker 2

A very interesting thing we used to hear these sounds going near our prison camp like.

00:32:47 Speaker 2



And later we found out what they were. And the reason they put them so.

00:32:51 Speaker 2

These were the jet fighters that the Germans had way, way in the war. In early in the war were developing them and they were never able to get them into combat, but they were flying them.

00:33:03 Speaker 2

If they'd have ever gotten into combat, we'd have had some big trouble because they used to go. Then I think a four to five.

00:33:08 Speaker 2

Our our fighters were, what, 150?

00:33:10 Speaker 2

180 something like that.

00:33:12 Speaker 2

And then the rumors started and it was cold.

00:33:14 Speaker 2

Was snowy.

00:33:16 Speaker 2

We'd had this one Red Cross parcel.

00:33:19 Speaker 2

Cigarettes and everybody went nuts for cigarettes.

00:33:23 Speaker 2

So that's probably the least I ever smoked from the time I went in the army, when it was everybody.

00:33:28 Speaker 2

And.

00:33:29 Speaker 2

To choke, but you had to be one of the guys in smoke we.

00:33:32 Speaker 2

The only time we ever had any cigarettes for this Red Cross parcel, I think they were eight open there or something.

00:33:37 Speaker 2

But they marched.

00:33:38 Speaker 2

We're gonna March us out and evacuate us.

00:33:42 Speaker 2

All. And while I was in the camp, an s s trooper didn't gestaple guide but interrogated me.

00:33:45 Speaker 2

Happened and he wanted to. Are you Jewish?

00:33:45 Speaker 1

What?

00:33:47 Speaker 2

I says you're damn right I'm.

00:33:49 Speaker 2

And he kept asking me all kinds of questions about the war.

00:33:52 Speaker 2

I figured well, maybe I've had it.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

And there was a room around the prison camp and everybody's rumors that Hitler was going to exterminate anybody of Jewish extraction.

00:34:01 Speaker 2

Which I was, but you just you do what you think and I might mention one other thing.

00:34:05 Speaker 2

People ask me many.

00:34:07 Speaker 2

What'd you think about first sex, women or blah blah?

00:34:10 Speaker 2

Think the funniest thing?

00:34:13 Speaker 2

Was concerned that their families.

00:34:15 Speaker 2

Would know that they were prisoners of war.

00:34:17 Speaker 2

Weren't dead.

00:34:18 Speaker 2

And that I think everyone almost felt the same.

00:34:20 Speaker 2

I wonder if my family knows and we'd write letters and I guess they I saw them after the.

00:34:25 Speaker 2

They were heavily censored and everything, but our family, my family, did not know I was a prisoner of war until after I had escaped and gotten away the second time.

00:34:33 Speaker 2

And I growing back to these, what happened?

00:34:35 Speaker 2

We they they pedal very heavy concentration of German troops.

00:34:40

And.

00:34:40 Speaker 2

They got us out of the barracks.

00:34:43 Speaker 2

And they're.

00:34:44 Speaker 2

We're gonna. We're taking you into Berlin.

00:34:47 Speaker 2

Oh, I didn't sound very good.

00:34:49 Speaker 2

And so we'd stall and stall and stall, and one barracks would go back in and one guy pretend he was sick. And I I forget exactly what happened.

00:34:58 Speaker 2

But finally, they said, well, if you guys do something, you're going to move. Right now we're moving out.

00:35:03 Speaker 2

If you don't, we're going to shoot you.

00:35:05 Speaker 2

And they started.

00:35:06 Speaker 2

Going with.

00:35:07 Speaker 2

Their guns, and then everybody started to move and we got out of the camp, which was the first time I'd ever been out of prison camp.

00:35:14 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:35:16 Speaker 2

And they started marching us and we were marching through the snow and guys were hauling homemade sleds with stuff on them and carrying stuff and.

00:35:23 Speaker 2

Grab the red.

00:35:24 Speaker 2

Give away a scrapbook. And I think I had mine.

00:35:27 Speaker 2

Was writing anything to keep busy.

00:35:30 Speaker 2

Because if you had a bunch of doing stuff, not eating.

00:35:35 Speaker 2

And be there and all of a sudden we.

00:35:38 Speaker 2

Little small arms.

00:35:40 Speaker 2

Well, who knew what was going to happen? And no one at that stage in the army knew.

00:35:46 Speaker 2

Polls. Russians, Jews, Germans.

00:35:49 Speaker 2

Were had been killed by Hitler and the German troops.

00:35:54 Speaker 2

So we didn't know what was going on and we didn't know about malmudi or the massacre or any of those things. Then no one ever knew about.

00:36:00 Speaker 2

That we used to get a newspaper in the prison camp called the OK Kid. As a matter of fact, once a week, all I would tell was about how America was losing the war and the people in the home front were all not behind the war and there.

00:36:12 Speaker 2

Strikes and we sit there and laugh as we read all this stuff in this propaganda paper we got I I wish I'd had have one of those today.

00:36:20 Speaker 2

But we heard this fire and didn't think that much of it. And we're still marching and marching and marching. And it's very heavy snow.

00:36:28 Speaker 2

And all of a sudden.

00:36:30 Speaker 2

We got under very, very heavy fire.

00:36:34 Speaker 2

We didn't know what the devil was happening, and I might.

00:36:40 Speaker 2

Common at this time because it ties in with what happened.

00:36:43 Speaker 2

Think we had OD the army?

00:36:48 Speaker 2

Regular over quotes were given to us by the through the Red Cross, and they had a big black diamond on the back of it.

00:36:55 Speaker 2

Of war and.

00:36:59 Speaker 2

We're getting out of this very, very heavy fire.

00:37:02 Speaker 2

And the truth of the matter is, I just again, not being a hero.

00:37:09 Speaker 2

Being brave, just reflex action, I guess I said to myself.

00:37:12 Speaker 2

Hell with.

00:37:13 Speaker 2

I just ran and I ran.

00:37:16 Speaker 2

Toward the woods and through an open field. And they shot at me. 'cause, you could hear the bullets, but as you know, when you hear the bullets, they've gone by.

00:37:23 Speaker 2

They're not going to hit you and I kept going and going and going, and of course later I found most the guys all went back to the prison camp and they brought him back and they were there. Some of them till the end of the war.

00:37:33 Speaker 1

So you escape the second time.

00:37:34 Speaker 2

Close to it, I escaped and this.

00:37:38 Speaker 2

And this we.

00:37:39 Speaker 2

I found a farm also was all by myself.

00:37:41 Speaker 2

As we got close to this farmhouse, maybe 2 miles through the snow.

00:37:47 Speaker 2

Another GI popped up.

00:37:49 Speaker 2

His name was Jerry Jerome. As a matter of fact, I didn't know him in the prison camp. He's from Minnesota.

00:37:55 Speaker 2

Remember.

00:37:56 Speaker 2

And we.

00:37:56 Speaker 2

Each other knew we were both Americans.

00:37:59 Speaker 2

So he said, let's go in.

00:38:00 Speaker 2

And we grabbed a piece of wood or something. And let's see what we can do because we weren't going to stay out in the cold anymore. And we went in there and there were two.

00:38:08 Speaker 2

German women.

00:38:09 Speaker 2

And I there were no men around, and one of us stood guard and we killed a chicken I.

00:38:17 Speaker 2

And we boiled it and they gave us some food. And I remember him saying, oh, Hitler, Hitler. No good. Hitler, kaput.

00:38:26 Speaker 2

And the strangest thing was you could see on the walls of the house where pictures had just been taken down.

00:38:31 Speaker 2

And you knew very well what was in all these pictures all through the house.

00:38:35 Speaker 2

But we told them we weren't going to kill them and by that time you could.

00:38:39 Speaker 2

You could communicate a little 'cause. We picked up enough from the guards.

00:38:43 Speaker 2

9 kaput Alice.

00:38:48 Speaker 2

And so forth and so.

00:38:49 Speaker 2

And we locked them in a room. One of us stayed up.

00:38:52 Speaker 2

Sat by a fire. And boy, did that feel good.

00:38:55 Speaker 2

And we had enough brains not to eat too much and drink too much water or something, whatever it was.

00:39:01 Speaker 2

And then early in the morning, we just took off.

00:39:04 Speaker 2

Obviously we.

00:39:06 Speaker 2

To go on, we were.

00:39:07 Speaker 2

We were bought 150K kilometers due east of Berlin. Last place I want to be was in Berlin obviously. So we just decided we take off and go to Poland.

00:39:20 Speaker 2

Because that seems to be the common sense thing and we never really we didn't know then what we're always bombarded to come from at all.

00:39:28 Speaker 2

We figured it had to be Russian or something because the Germans were getting a shell too.

00:39:34 Speaker 2

So we went into Poland.

00:39:37 Speaker 2

1st we started to go up north.

00:39:38 Speaker 2

Thought we'd go to donzig.



00:39:41 Speaker 2

I think we saw a map somewhere. One of these houses.

00:39:44 Speaker 2

And we start to head off to a place I think called.

00:39:47 Speaker 2

We ran into the biggest damn battle I ever saw in my life. I mean, the Germans and the Russians were we got enough right in the middle of a huge.

00:39:55 Speaker 2

And we decided that wasn't the best place to be.

00:39:59 Speaker 2

And.

00:40:01 Speaker 2

A Russian talk to us at that time, and I think it may have been a bit.

00:40:07 Speaker 2

Was a very high-ranking general who talked to me.

00:40:10 Speaker 2

And he asked me something and he could speak English. And it may have been Marshall Zukoff or somebody. And I know he was Russian.

00:40:17 Speaker 2

Know he was a very high ranked commander.

00:40:20 Speaker 2

And he just said back, back and he looked at me and I showed him my paybook with most Americans carry because you keep your dog tags on your uniform because you'd be shot as a spy, as everybody knows, if you don't have a uniform on where your dog.

00:40:33 Speaker 2

Your papers? He looked at it and I told him, he said. What's this?

00:40:37 Speaker 2

Very good English and I explained this was my P book as told where I went, where I was and where my data promotion.

00:40:43 Speaker 2

And if something happened to me, they'd have a dog tags, I said.

00:40:47 Speaker 2

Happens to the Russians? He asked.

00:40:49 Speaker 2

What happens to the Russians?

00:40:51 Speaker 2

And I must tell you that the Russians were sending wave after wave after wave.

00:40:56 Speaker 2

And I don't know casually.

00:40:57 Speaker 2

To be absolutely.

00:40:59 Speaker 2

And they were shooting these katushka rockets wherever they were. Hundreds and hundreds of time, and they just kept going.

00:41:06 Speaker 2

Got an objective and overran it. I mean, they were fantastically.

00:41:10 Speaker 2

Well trained, disciplined soldiers and this general, which I'm sure he was a field Marshall something he said well.

00:41:17 Speaker 2

I said if I get killed or something, they see this paybook.

00:41:20 Speaker 2

They know what's happened to me. I.

00:41:22 Speaker 2

How is it working? Your country says when they don't come back, they're gone.

00:41:27 Speaker 2

The Russians were in the had had a very, very long war, as you know. They were in their territory.

00:41:34 Speaker 2

They were beat up pretty bad tools.

00:41:36 Speaker 1

What happened then?

00:41:37 Speaker 2

Well then we.

00:41:38 Speaker 2

Then we decided to cut down South and we went in another town where there was a huge amount of carnage and the Russians must have gone through there going another way, and there were dead bodies and everything all over the place.

00:41:51 Speaker 2

And we found a place and we slept there for the night.

00:41:55 Speaker 2

And we all figured the two of us could be spotted.

00:41:58 Speaker 2

And I don't actually remember, but we decided we'd split, go our own way.

00:42:03 Speaker 2

Of us.

00:42:03 Speaker 2

I wanted to go somewhere and he wanted to.

00:42:05 Speaker 2

Down the southern part of town.

00:42:07 Speaker 2

Just let's do it ourselves.

00:42:10 Speaker 2

So I went and I could have to look at a map and see but.

00:42:14 Speaker 2

A little North East and he went a little S not north.

00:42:20 Speaker 2

Went northeast and he went SE.

00:42:22 Speaker 2

Little bit.

00:42:23 Speaker 2

And we didn't see each other until.

00:42:25 Speaker 2

When. But then I got in some Polish people.

00:42:28 Speaker 2

And they were very.

00:42:30 Speaker 2

They fed me, they hid me and I would sleep in between, maybe even times. A husband and a wife. They'd hide me so that something happened.

00:42:40 Speaker 2

They were.

00:42:42 Speaker 2

They were very, very kind to.

00:42:44 Speaker 2

Then what happened? Well.

00:42:46 Speaker 2

I probably walked close to 1000 miles.

00:42:48 Speaker 2

I don't even know.

00:42:49 Speaker 1

1000 mile.

00:42:49 Speaker 2

Maybe, but I got on carts. I got this. Whatever.

00:42:53 Speaker 2

And we tried to keep avoiding any battles because that was the last thing we wanted to do.

00:42:58 Speaker 2

And I got to Warsaw finally, which was in ruin.

00:43:02 Speaker 2

There were some American soldiers there.

00:43:06 Speaker 2

Russians or someone the Russians have been there by that.

00:43:08 Speaker 2

They said go across the river, which was the what's the main river there and the Vistula on the other side.

00:43:16 Speaker 2

Were some school houses and.

00:43:17 Speaker 2

There were a whole bunch of Americans, including all of the officers that had been an offload.

00:43:21 Speaker 2

Four, that's where General Patton's son in.

00:43:25 Speaker 2

The Germans were worried.

00:43:26 Speaker 2

Was going to.

00:43:27 Speaker 2

Taken and they have been released by the Russians. And so our commanding officers there and I saw was a fine, terrific soldier. And Lieutenant Ackerman, a couple other ones. We bumped into each other.

00:43:38 Speaker 2

And I bumped into some fellas in the prison camp with me and we stayed there for a few days, figured out what to do, and finally we found out there was a troop.

00:43:49

There.

00:43:50 Speaker 2

Was a movement coming from Russia and there was going to be a train going back that was going to go to Odessa, which was a Black Sea.

00:43:58 Speaker 2

And these were box cars.

00:43:59 Speaker 2

And the Russians did give us food and we and they were treated as well.

00:44:03 Speaker 2

Mean for wells could be treated.

00:44:05 Speaker 2

They fed us, which was fine, and we got these box cars and we spent, I think a day and 1/2 or two days going from Warsaw, Odessa.

00:44:14 Speaker 2

And I can't remember the circumstances. If we had heat, I think we had some pot bellied stoves in these cars and we got to Odessa. And there was a guy.

00:44:23 Speaker 2

I even have a pass sign by a major hall.

00:44:27 Speaker 2

And there was a he was of the military Mission of America and the Russians de Laustis, which was the first thing that happened to us. That was the first bath we had.

00:44:37 Speaker 2

Clothes were, and I don't know if we got new uniforms at that time or not. If Americans had gotten uniforms there or not.

00:44:45 Speaker 2

We got to the portal or forget.

00:44:48 Speaker 2

Guy, we were in there for quite a few days and there was a boat, they said we're going to take you.

00:44:52 Speaker 2

Poverty to Turkey and then to Egypt.

00:44:55 Speaker 2

As I'm getting on this boat in Odessa, I'm walking there and looking and there's a guy in the merchant marine waving at me and he looks he says, hey, Chrome, they're looking for you in Saginaw, MI, and the guy turned out ended.

00:45:06 Speaker 2

Being a policeman back there.

00:45:08 Speaker 2

And he never forgot that.

00:45:10 Speaker 2

I said well, here I am.

00:45:11 Speaker 2

And it was real.

00:45:12 Speaker 2

And then we went to Egypt and we got into Egypt and they we were Port Saeed I believe.

00:45:20 Speaker 2

And that was where you had to guard your shoes because you set them out.

00:45:23 Speaker 2

Were told we set it in shoulder halves.

00:45:28 Speaker 2

Some of the natives might take your shoes because shoes were a precious commodity in that area. We were in Egypt for a few days. Then we went to Italy. In Italy, we went to Naples and we were in the.

00:45:42 Speaker 2

Please call the Caserta which used to be an Italian. I think it was an Italian military officers training or something in Naples which was off of via Roma and Leah.

00:45:52 Speaker 2

Were very, very friendly and the war of course, was still going on strong.

00:45:57 Speaker 2

And I'll never forget, if I forget how many of us there were there.

00:46:02 Speaker 2

And some general came in there and they assembled us in the courtyard. He.

00:46:07 Speaker 2

Gentlemen, I have great news for you, a boy who says? Hot damn, we're going, he says.

00:46:13 Speaker 2

I have made arrangements, military, the war department, the War Department.

00:46:18 Speaker 2

That everyone of you can return to.

00:46:19 Speaker 2

Old outfits, he.

00:46:21 Speaker 2

All you've got to do is come and see me and I'll tell you. Everybody sort of laughed and there were many of us that were heroes.

00:46:28 Speaker 2

Me, the heroes are all.

00:46:29 Speaker 2

There were a lot of people, incidentally, that never got back from.

00:46:33 Speaker 2

This prison camp of mine. I'm quite.

00:46:35 Speaker 2

And there were some Japanese Americans in there that no one ever.

00:46:38 Speaker 2

They were wonderful soldiers and we don't know if what happened when they went through Russia or they were killed, but a lot of people never got back to America that were in that prison camp.

00:46:48 Speaker 2

So that was really the story. And then we from there.

00:46:51 Speaker 2

Went to.

00:46:52 Speaker 2

Mid-April or something we went to, we got on a ship and that's a quick story in itself. And then of course, the Subs were still going and.

00:47:00 Speaker 2

And it was called I think.

00:47:02 Speaker 2

Mariposa. I'm not sure.

00:47:04 Speaker 2

God no.

00:47:05 Speaker 1



Where did you land then?

00:47:07 Speaker 2

Well, we landed. But the funniest I have one humorous experience because I'll never forget this one either.

00:47:11 Speaker 2

The chief Petty Officer on this ship, the this season April, were rougher than the devil in the Atlantic.

00:47:18 Speaker 2

They said we're taking it to Boston, to Fort Myers, Standish and one day everybody get up for breakfast and we ate in ships, ships.

00:47:26 Speaker 2

And the chief Petty Officer standing says OK boys.

00:47:30 Speaker 2

He's got a great special for you for breakfast bar. Nice greasy pork chops, and about 1/2 of people threw up and went off to the deck and it was rougher.

00:47:37 Speaker 2

Was really rougher than the double, but the point was we were in American.

00:47:42 Speaker 2

And we were going back and.

00:47:43 Speaker 1

How long were you totally a prisoner? War.

00:47:46 Speaker 2

I guess probably you'd figure 6 1/2, seven months somewhere in that area.

00:47:49 Speaker 2

All depends on how they.

00:47:51 Speaker 1

You how do you attribute your survival? If you would say one thing?

00:47:56 Speaker 2

Well, I think I attribute it to the fact that you always think the bullet hasn't got your name on it.

00:48:05 Speaker 2

And these are things that are cliches, I guess.

00:48:07 Speaker 2

And you just make up your mind, you're going to make it.

00:48:10 Speaker 2

Mean you just you do things that are nuts.

00:48:12 Speaker 2

I could go into a lot of details with things.

00:48:14 Speaker 2

I did that I think were properly insane.

00:48:17 Speaker 2

But you did them.

00:48:19 Speaker 2

I mean, like in Lindbergh, I thought we'd have a chance to escape and they had us.

00:48:23 Speaker 2

I volunteered because I was a.

00:48:25 Speaker 2

They had us taking rubble out of the the big freight yards that had been bombed and I stay on the other side of the freight car and pour it out.

00:48:34 Speaker 2

On the other side, and the German.

00:48:35 Speaker 2

In here I just did it and they started to bomb the place.

00:48:38 Speaker 2

They took us in. I guess I could have gotten a lot of guys killed.

00:48:40 Speaker 2

It was dumb, but you do things you know. Name, rank and serial number and that's it.

00:48:46 Speaker 1

Were you ever in?

00:48:47 Speaker 1

Any serious threat because you were Jewish?

00:48:51 Speaker 2

I really don't know.

00:48:53 Speaker 2

I have heard lots of horror stories.

00:48:57 Speaker 2

I know the Gestapo guy interrogated me at great length.

00:49:00 Speaker 2

Didn't know what was going to.

00:49:03 Speaker 2

I never hit it and the point was you could, if you wanted. You wouldn't anyway, because on your dog tag it said H for Hebrew.

00:49:09 Speaker 2

Means you were Jewish, but I never really thought about it, to be honest about it.

00:49:14 Speaker 2

When these rumors and some guy said.

00:49:17 Speaker 2

Jim or something, you know, there's some rumor going around. The Germans are going to kill us or kill you in the prison camp. And but I never really thought about escaping because you were so damn weak.

00:49:25 Speaker 2

Just you did it.

00:49:26 Speaker 1

How much weight moves in camp?

00:49:28

Oh.

00:49:29 Speaker 2

I would guess.

00:49:31 Speaker 2

I would probably guess I weighed maybe slightly over 100 lbs. A 105, about 130 I think.

00:49:38 Speaker 1

When you went into the service, you wait.

00:49:43 Speaker 2

Like that.

00:49:44 Speaker 1

And when were you discharged from the service?

00:49:47 Speaker 2

December 7th of.

00:49:52 Speaker 2

4045 or 4445.

00:49:55 Speaker 1

45.

00:49:55 Speaker 2

Yeah, December 3rd, 7th, 11th town something.

00:49:58 Speaker 1

And after you were discharged, were you treated in any VA hospital, at any rate?

00:50:03 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:50:04 Speaker 1

Voucher POW experience.

00:50:06 Speaker 2

Well, I don't want to.

00:50:10 Speaker 2

Give a dissertation, but could it be appropriate me to talk about the VA?

00:50:14 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:50:14 Speaker 2

This time.

00:50:16 Speaker 2

Well.

00:50:18 Speaker 2

We were treated very well. Obviously one of the things we came back to states, the 1st place you want was to Fort Sheridan I believe.

00:50:27 Speaker 2

And their German prisoners were walking around drinking beer and having a lot of fun and.

00:50:32 Speaker 2

We never realized how well they were treated here at.

00:50:37 Speaker 2

They didn't even have guards, but.

00:50:40 Speaker 2

Beside the point, I went back to Percy Jones Hospital in Fort.

00:50:44 Speaker 2

I had a 60 day leave. Physical went down to Miami Beach to arrest camp, rest and rehabilitation.

00:50:52 Speaker 2

I was there about four or five.

00:50:54 Speaker 2

I don't know what we were supposed to do.

00:50:57 Speaker 2

They checked my teeth and I remember I had a cavity on both sides of every.

00:51:02 Speaker 2

Add some physical stuff, but you didn't really care at that time. You know, you just didn't know you were still going. Nerds, which I didn't understand then.

00:51:09 Speaker 2

So after five days it was so damn hot down there in.

00:51:13 Speaker 2

I said can I go?

00:51:14 Speaker 2

Where's my next station's Fort Custer? 'cause. You had a choice.

00:51:16 Speaker 2

They gave me a choice of any place I wanted to be stationed.

00:51:19 Speaker 2

Fort Custer was near Saginaw, MI, so that's where I went in.

00:51:22 Speaker 2

Figured that's where I wanted to go out.

00:51:24 Speaker 2

So I.

00:51:25 Speaker 2

And on those days in the uniform, it was the fastest mode of transportation. I hitchhiked up to Asheville, NC, and there was a rehabilitation camp there.

00:51:35 Speaker 2

And the reason being I was so hot. I was in a hotel. There was number air conditioning.

00:51:38 Speaker 2

It was about 110° and I didn't need that, so I hitchhike up to Asheville, spent a couple days there and hitchhiked up to Fort Custard.

00:51:46 Speaker 2

Went in and presented my papers, my travel papers, and they assign me said. Where would you like to go?

00:51:52 Speaker 2

I said, well, why don't they say, well, we're going to make you a Provost Sergeant for a prisoner war camp? I said fine.

00:51:57 Speaker 2

Me.

00:51:58 Speaker 2

And I'd gone to Percy Jones and physically.

00:52:02

Checked I.

00:52:04 Speaker 2

Guard took care of as a pro was Sergeant.

00:52:06 Speaker 2

Prison.

00:52:06 Speaker 2

Tell me if I'm talking too.

00:52:08 Speaker 2

Oh no, shut up.

00:52:11 Speaker 2

1st and then they said we're we're going to close the cab.

00:52:13 Speaker 2

Would you like to go now?

00:52:14 Speaker 2

So I said, well, there's a cab in Saginaw, MI. So that's where I live.

00:52:17 Speaker 2

That's.

00:52:18 Speaker 2

Well, that's where I ended up.

00:52:20 Speaker 2

And then I went back to Fort Custard and the army doctor said, do you want to be discharged or would you like to stay here?

00:52:27 Speaker 2

And I didn't really know what was going.

00:52:29 Speaker 2

I had all kinds of stomach troubles which many prisoners had.

00:52:33 Speaker 2

I had some nerve problems that I didn't know what they were.

00:52:36 Speaker 2

Until much later, because I was very, very anxious, I pulled a gun on one of the prisoners, was going to shoot him and the captain and our camp was going to court martial. me and I said the guys with an American woman.

00:52:46 Speaker 2

He stands a prisoner of war.

00:52:49 Speaker 2

It was a messy scene. I didn't realize how edgy I really was, so I said just Get Me Out of here and.

00:52:55 Speaker 1

And after you were discharged, did you ever get any sort of treatment for PTSD?

00:53:01 Speaker 2

Well, that's, that's where I'd like to thank the.

00:53:04 Speaker 1

Va OK.

00:53:06 Speaker 2

If I can, this may not be in chronological order.

00:53:09 Speaker 1

That's fine.

00:53:11 Speaker 2

I was out in California for some reason I can't even remember I'm working or something and I started at the first of my nightmares.

00:53:21 Speaker 2

And started feeling really getting very, very shook up and nervous and tense and I couldn't.

00:53:27 Speaker 2

Thing I knew there was a VA hospital I saw there and I just went to the VA hospital.

00:53:34 Speaker 2

Is an untold story and I didn't know you had to check.

00:53:38 Speaker 2

I didn't know what to do, what to do. I went in and I said, can I see a doctor?

00:53:42 Speaker 2

And they said, well, you have to have an appointment. I said I just got to see somebody and they said, well, go, they took me somewhere.

00:53:48 Speaker 2

Said I'm having getting a flashback of the warrants just driving me crazy.

00:53:53 Speaker 2



So I finally, and I think I went to the head of psychology.

00:53:56 Speaker 2

They finally were very nice to me.

00:53:57 Speaker 2

They said, well, let me. We'll take you some.

00:53:59 Speaker 2

And they took me to some building fell. The doctor came out and talked to me.

00:54:06 Speaker 2

A psychologist I.

00:54:07 Speaker 2

I think he may have been the head of this psychological clinic or whatever it may be, and I told him all these horrible thoughts I was getting of the war, about how I'd gotten back and a lot of my friends.

00:54:20 Speaker 2

Compatriots hadn't.

00:54:22 Speaker 2

And I told her how my company had a hundred 1400 casualties, which is 7 times.

00:54:26 Speaker 2

Turned over, which was the highest casualty rate in our division, one of the highest in.

00:54:31 Speaker 2

I told her I was thinking about all these things and thinking about things I did that I'm sorry for.

00:54:39 Speaker 2

And believe me, there was a guy was shaking like crazy, a corporal.

00:54:42 Speaker 2

Going to mention his name and I pulled for that time.

00:54:45 Speaker 2

Carried a.

00:54:46 Speaker 2

Also, I had a German pistol which I managed to get rid of before I got captured the second time.

00:54:53 Speaker 2

I apply for.

00:54:53 Speaker 2

You.

00:54:55 Speaker 2

Get back to the lines and I other guy says I lost my glasses.

00:54:59 Speaker 2

Just don't pull this.

00:55:02 Speaker 2

Back to the lines, these guys are well, I never knew.

00:55:06 Speaker 2

Stress was and about general.

00:55:08 Speaker 2

So I I can sympathize with General Patton of that.

00:55:10 Speaker 2

'Cause, I don't think he knew really what was going on, but.

00:55:15 Speaker 2

As this all came back and flashed back to me, I was feeling very, very emotionally disturbed.

00:55:20 Speaker 1

So you were treated at this VA hospital?

00:55:22 Speaker 2

And he, well, it was night.

00:55:22 Speaker 1

Year was the.

00:55:24 Speaker 2

I can't even remember.

00:55:25 Speaker 1

It was in the 40s.

00:55:25 Speaker 2

Wasn't.

00:55:26 Speaker 2

I wasn't even a record.

00:55:27 Speaker 2

Guy talked to.

00:55:28 Speaker 2

He told me that you go to the VA.

00:55:29 Speaker 2

Hospital and I.

00:55:31 Speaker 2

He talked to me for about an hour. He.

00:55:32 Speaker 2

What you're doing now is these things that have been in your mind for years, and I explained to him I was a 19 year old punk and I really sort of had a.

00:55:40 Speaker 2

Position in our.

00:55:41 Speaker 2

'Cause, the company commander, depended on me to.

00:55:45 Speaker 1

What year was this?

00:55:46 Speaker 2

Tell lieutenants what?

00:55:46 Speaker 1

Was this in the 40s or 50s?

00:55:47

To do.

00:55:48 Speaker 2

And all this.

00:55:48 Speaker 2

In the oh boy. No, no, no, it wasn't.

00:55:49

60s.

00:55:53 Speaker 2

This was in the 80s and was that.

00:55:54 Speaker 1

1980s, but the first time that you had ever received any treatment, had you received any treatment since that?

00:55:58 Speaker 2

Yes, on.

00:56:02 Speaker 2

Ah.

00:56:03 Speaker 2

And that's what I want to thank the VA because they've.

00:56:05 Speaker 2

Me tremendously.

00:56:06 Speaker 1

And where do you receive the treatment?

00:56:07 Speaker 2

I want to say another word first, if I may.

00:56:11 Speaker 2

Happened.

00:56:13 Speaker 2

That got me settled down a.

00:56:15 Speaker 2

The spell told me go to the VA in Saginaw, MI, where I lived with this doctor he.

00:56:17 Speaker 1

Uh.

00:56:20 Speaker 2

What your problem is, we're seeing it coming around the country, a lot of people are having the same problem.

00:56:26 Speaker 2

Of war.

00:56:27 Speaker 2

He said.

00:56:27 Speaker 2

You were in a exceptionally young position to command people.

00:56:32 Speaker 2

And to get involved in the things that you didn't come back, he said.

00:56:35 Speaker 2

Happened is it's all coming out now and you're wondering.

00:56:38 Speaker 2

Wondering why you're still here and why real heroes aren't here?

00:56:43 Speaker 1

Let me ask you this is that have you been treated in Saginaw?

00:56:44 Speaker 2

And you know, yes.

00:56:47 Speaker 1

You still being treated for?

00:56:48 Speaker 2

On and off I have been.

00:56:51 Speaker 2

And I've been going to the psychologist there and we've been discussing this and there's.

00:56:55 Speaker 1

A wonderful yes.

00:56:55 Speaker 2

It has been.

00:56:56 Speaker 1

Please let him know that. What? What?

00:56:58 Speaker 2

I certainly.

00:56:58 Speaker 1

What about this paper?

00:57:00 Speaker 2

I thank the VA.

00:57:01 Speaker 2

I've never missed a prisoner War Memorial thing.

00:57:05 Speaker 2

In September, I talked once about what I think.

00:57:11 Speaker 2

Country means and everything.

00:57:12 Speaker 1

Let me ask you this in terms of are you are currently living in Saginaw, MI? What type of work have you done since you?

00:57:15 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:57:18 Speaker 2

Well, I was in the retail business also department store, yeah.

00:57:22 Speaker 1

In Saginaw, MI, and when did you retire?

00:57:27 Speaker 2

I retired. The company was sold to another.

00:57:29 Speaker 2

It was a very small company and I worked for a year.

00:57:34 Speaker 2

I retired in 1988.

00:57:37 Speaker 2

Believe, OK.

00:57:39 Speaker 1

Let me ask you this.

00:57:40 Speaker 1

You've been married? How many years?

00:57:43 Speaker 2

30.

00:57:43 Speaker 2

46 years.

00:57:45 Speaker 1

46 years and your wife's first name, Barbara and Bobby.

00:57:48 Speaker 2

Bobby.

00:57:50 Speaker 1

And how many children you have?

00:57:51 Speaker 2

3 fortunately, and she's put up with a lot of those.

00:57:56 Speaker 2

Had very, very bad nightmares.

00:57:59 Speaker 2

Knocked myself out.

00:58:01 Speaker 2

God knows what I haven't talked about.

00:58:03 Speaker 2

I thought about doing.

00:58:05 Speaker 2

But these flashbacks really have gotten to me.

00:58:07 Speaker 1

Certainly. And that's part of the part of the what happens when people have these experiences, and we're very glad that you're being treated. And for these, who's your oldest daughter?

00:58:19 Speaker 2

My oldest daughter is Kathleen Kathy.

00:58:22 Speaker 1

Kathy. And is she married?

00:58:23

Mary.

00:58:23 Speaker 2

She is married, has is rich. She has one child.

00:58:24 Speaker 1

And her husband's.

00:58:25 Speaker 1

And how many children does?

00:58:27 Speaker 1

Have.

00:58:28 Speaker 1

And his name?

00:58:28 Speaker 1

Her name?

00:58:29 Speaker 2

His name is Jeff.

00:58:31 Speaker 1

OK.

00:58:32 Speaker 1

We want to mention everybody's names and.

00:58:33 Speaker 2

Who's next and next one? Is Susie the one that came here that works in Chicago and she is single and she is my middle daughter.



00:58:45 Speaker 1

OK.

00:58:46 Speaker 2

And I won't comment anything else about her at this time or friends, because she would kill me.

00:58:50 Speaker 1

OK.

00:58:52 Speaker 1

OK. And next?

00:58:54 Speaker 2

And next is my youngest daughter Barbie, and she has two children. Wonder.

00:58:58 Speaker 1

Saw Barbie's husband's.

00:58:59 Speaker 2

Her husband is.

00:59:01 Speaker 2

Her husband's name is Andy and they live outside of Washington and Silver Spring.

00:59:07 Speaker 1

And what are their children's name?

00:59:09

Uh.