

Bill Lainge Interview

Company G, 319th Inf Reg

(Aug 2001, interviewed by COL(ret) Grant Porter)

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

00:00:16 Speaker 1

Ready to go?

00:00:17

Yes.

00:00:19 Speaker 1

This is about.

00:00:19 Speaker 1

The.

00:00:20 Speaker 1

Our river crossing in Luxembourg on February 8th, 1945.

00:00:23

Name and your name is Sir.

00:00:27 Speaker 1

Bill Lyons and the other 319 temperature she got.

00:00:34 Speaker 1

And our river was down in the valley.

00:00:38 Speaker 1

We're up at a hill.

00:00:42 Speaker 1

Germans on the other.

00:00:43 Speaker 1

Side the pill.

00:00:43 Speaker 1

Blacks, we had a.

00:00:49 Speaker 1

They build us all up. They say we're going to have a 90 minute marriage. They're totally varied.

00:00:55 Speaker 1

And pre Dawn and went across the river. Done something.

00:01:02 Speaker 1

One fifties, 2 Forties, 90s. They were firing everything in the world.

00:01:07 Speaker 1

At these pillboxes, with their pots and.

00:01:10 Speaker 1

And after that we all got down there and then it was the Germans turn turned the fire.

00:01:18 Speaker 1

Russia was in the.

00:01:19 Speaker 1

Spring.

00:01:21 Speaker 1

All the water was coming down the mountains turns. Water was swirling around.

00:01:26 Speaker 1

Only a few board.

00:01:28 Speaker 1

Several boats all got across. I don't battalion.

00:01:31 Speaker 1

I think there was 20.

00:01:34 Speaker 1

2020 so actually got it for us. It was also barbed wire for us.

00:01:39 Speaker 1

1000 machine Gun squad they suck. Berlin got to the barbers, they get out of the river. Moisture like this tipping over.

00:01:47 Speaker 1

We get 20 some.

00:01:50 Speaker 1

And we kept you kept your one pillbox.

00:01:54 Speaker 1

The only problem?

00:01:55 Speaker 1

1.

00:01:58 Speaker 1

Terms over there, our pillbox it's facing this the opposite direction.

00:02:04 Speaker 1

Or head protection. They couldn't fire back up it.

00:02:08 Speaker 1

Was.

00:02:08 Speaker 1

20 something that filled bikes.

00:02:12 Speaker 1

Friday, once Sergeant said that.

00:02:15 Speaker 1

Try to get over with their agents. This build box was firing on it.

00:02:21 Speaker 1

Got about 60 feet and got hit.

00:02:26 Speaker 1

And we couldn't get him in till nightfall.

00:02:30 Speaker 1

Demanded. The only thing we can finally shot in.

00:02:32 Speaker 1

The knee.

00:02:38

And I want to get.

00:02:38 Speaker 1

Blood to that soccer song.

00:02:41 Speaker 1

Back and back in.

00:02:44 Speaker 1

That that.

00:02:45 Speaker 1

Couple of days later.

00:02:46 Speaker 1

They got a bridge across from the.

00:02:49 Speaker 1

That's a text we got two or three days of.

00:03:01 Speaker 1

I haven't haven't met yet a guy.

00:03:03 Speaker 1

Ever reunion was in.

00:03:04 Speaker 1

That.

00:03:06 Speaker 1

Was nobody's like company of that.

00:03:10 Speaker 1

The second the time of 319, but it was 21 and 23 days. And then we also had.

00:03:21 Speaker 1

So every time we stuck our head out and the fire that we tried to.

00:03:26 Speaker 1

They finally went out at night, pulled that Sergeant back and was shot.

00:03:33 Speaker 1

A couple days later we're sailing across like there's nothing there captured. That was really the last bad battle we had. We crossed it.

00:03:49 Speaker 1

It's something I've always wondered.

00:03:52

OK. Thanks Sir.

00:03:57 Speaker 1

The next.