

## **Burt Marsh Interview**

Company M, 319th Inf Reg

*(Aug 2017, interviewed by Rishi Sharma)*

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

00:00:02 Speaker 1

What is your full name, Sir?

00:00:08 Speaker 1

Say that one more time.

00:00:09 Speaker 2

Burt R Marsh.

00:00:11 Speaker 1

Where and when were you born?

00:00:13 Speaker 2

Has been in Seneca Falls, NY.

00:00:17 Speaker 2

4/3/26.

00:00:19 Speaker 1

So how old are you right now?

00:00:21 Speaker 2

I'm 91.

00:00:23 Speaker 1

Do you feel like you're 91?

00:00:24 Speaker 2

Yes, I do.

00:00:26 Speaker 1

Basically, talk to me about what, 90.

00:00:28 Speaker 1

One feels like.

00:00:30 Speaker 2

What night it feels like.

00:00:31 Speaker 1

91 What's it feel like?

00:00:35 Speaker 2

Feel like it? I don't have anymore. Zip left.

00:00:41 Speaker 2

But I I'm pretty active though.

00:00:44 Speaker 1

What branch of?

00:00:44 Speaker 1

The military. Were you in during World War?

00:00:46 Speaker 1

2.

00:00:49 Speaker 2

The.

00:00:52 Speaker 2

Infantry innovation.

00:00:54 Speaker 1

What branch of the?

00:00:55 Speaker 1

Military were you in?

00:00:56 Speaker 2

Hear me.

00:00:57 Speaker 1

What division, what regiment, and what company were?

00:01:00 Speaker 1

You in.

00:01:00 Speaker 2

Company in 319 temperature measurement temperature division.

00:01:05 Speaker 1

And what was your specific role in company and?

00:01:11 Speaker 2

1st.

00:01:11 Speaker 2

Center and 30 caliber water cooler machine gunner.

00:01:18 Speaker 1

Are 30 caliber.

00:01:21 Speaker 1

Just say that again.

00:01:22 Speaker 2

30 caliber machine gunner.

00:01:27 Speaker 1

And what was the highest rank you?

00:01:29 Speaker 1

Achieved by the.

00:01:29 Speaker 1

Time you left the Armed Services.

00:01:31 Speaker 2

As a couple.

00:01:35 Speaker 1

And and where did you see?

00:01:36 Speaker 1

Combat in World War 2.

00:01:39 Speaker 2

As immigrated at the Battle of the Bulge on January 20th and not your Luxembourg.

00:01:48 Speaker 1

And from there, where did you go?

00:01:50 Speaker 2

Mary went to sub trailing.

00:01:54 Speaker 2

Close so central journey headed north out of Frankfurt towards Castle and Castle to east again towards Castle German.

00:02:14 Speaker 2

And we the outfits at to a liberated Brooklyn Rd. concentration camp.

00:02:23 Speaker 1

And you were there for all of that?

00:02:26 Speaker 2

I would buy it as it wasn't there to do any cleaning up or anything because we were still in bed and we just kept right out and marching.

00:02:35 Speaker 1

Those battles that you mentioned you.

00:02:36 Speaker 2

Were there yes? Yeah.

00:02:40 Speaker 1

Now you mentioned you were born in Seneca Falls. Did you grow up there?

00:02:46 Speaker 2

I left Seneca falls in 1957 at the age of 26.

00:02:53 Speaker 1

Well, so you grew up in Seneca Falls.

00:02:54 Speaker 2

But I grew up, graduated in South Falls Manors Academy, Seneca Falls, NY, Yes.

00:03:01 Speaker 1

Talk to me about growing up in.

00:03:02 Speaker 1

The Great Depression.

00:03:05 Speaker 2

Where we lived on a farm.

00:03:09 Speaker 2

And we were seven, but we still had food, you know, say.

00:03:14 Speaker 2

We didn't have much else.

00:03:19 Speaker 2

But my mother, she passed away when I was only 10 years old and just my twin brother and myself and my father lived together for three or four years till I was in high school and the high school I lived in my.

00:03:38 Speaker 2

I want a sister and I played sports and everything.

00:03:47 Speaker 1

How did you hear about the?

00:03:48 Speaker 1

Attack on Pearl Harbor.

00:03:52 Speaker 1

Hear about the attack on Pearl Harbor.

00:03:55 Speaker 2

Ohh, we were sitting down and there's carbon around 5:00 at night. We sat here in the living room listening to the radio.

00:04:08 Speaker 2

And all of a sudden the bulletin came on telling us that.

00:04:16 Speaker 2

Japan had struck Pearl Harbor.

00:04:21 Speaker 1

What was that like to hear?

00:04:24 Speaker 2

Where I was at that time, I was 15 years old. I didn't think too much about it. I figured that by the time I was 18, if there would be over.

00:04:37 Speaker 2

What? Right? Surprise it wasn't.

00:04:43

How do?

00:04:43 Speaker 1

You get overseas.

00:04:47 Speaker 2

Where the Queen Elizabeth.

00:04:51 Speaker 2

And January 10th.

00:04:55 Speaker 2

And landed in Liverpool four days later.

00:05:01 Speaker 2

Took the troop train out across England to Southampton, got on a ship across the English Channel into Ohio.

00:05:08 Speaker 2

Got another tube train and took us to I believe it was Luxembourg City.

00:05:15 Speaker 2

And from Luxembourg City, moving on trucks. And they took us to, I believe it was a town where name was dull, DHL Luxembourg. And that's why I joined the Media division.

00:05:30 Speaker 1

So you join them as your replacement and and when did you join them?

00:05:32 Speaker 2

As a replacement, yes.

00:05:36 Speaker 2

When 20th of January 1945.

00:05:41 Speaker 1

Talk to me about the conditions at the front when you went to the front for.

00:05:45 Speaker 1

The first time.

00:05:52 Speaker 2

As we left Dale on the truck in the.

00:05:59 Speaker 2

6 by 6 truck loaded with troops.

00:06:05 Speaker 2

Taking us to the front lines to join the.

00:06:14 Speaker 2

And on the way there.

00:06:20 Speaker 2

You.

00:06:22 Speaker 1

Thank you.

00:06:25 Speaker 2

1st, just as we were approaching the town, probably maybe half a mile in front of our Tory, the truck driver stopped and told us to get off the truck just as far as I'm going.

00:06:42 Speaker 2

So we all got off the truck and we walked into the town and then the Sergeant was there in medicine. The Sergeant to the platoons, squads and so forth. It was in the basement of the of the.

00:07:03 Speaker 2

House in this village of Nature, I believe it was.

00:07:13 Speaker 2

And the rest of the part of the company squad first between them.

00:07:26 Speaker 1

How did your squad, how did they?

00:07:29 Speaker 1

Treat you when you first joined them.

00:07:34 Speaker 2

Well, it was just a group of men, that's all. And we never really got acquainted with each other is quite difficult. I can remember the sergeants.

00:07:56 Speaker 2

But I sure couldn't remember all my squad members and of course listening.

00:08:06 Speaker 2

When you run coming around, you'll leave. It just seemed that we never got acquainted, or maybe one or two of you like them. As the first gun I got really acquainted. When we first got her.

00:08:19 Speaker 2

And one of the wife or one of the ammo bears. Basically, I started out as a first. First two men was I was wondering where they lost their first manners and moved up as their first gun within 3 weeks.

00:08:35 Speaker 1

What happened to the first letters?

00:08:38 Speaker 2

We have women got killed and the other one we got room in place.

00:08:48 Speaker 2

So that's how I became first Gunner.

00:08:51 Speaker 1

Did you see the first one get killed? Yes.

00:08:58 Speaker 2

Another attack was Tiffany's pillboxes. In the century lane.

00:09:05 Speaker 2

And where is your hip probably?

00:09:10 Speaker 2

1520 yards in front of me and I killed one of his the first gunner.

00:09:18 Speaker 2

And he says, Burt, take the gun.

00:09:22 Speaker 2

That was the last I heard from him.

00:09:25 Speaker 2

He was gone. He got hit.

00:09:28 Speaker 2

There's two in the swing area would be sweating.

00:09:41 Speaker 1

Was that the first time you saw someone get killed in?



00:09:43 Speaker 1

Combat, yes. Was it the last?

00:09:44 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:09:53 Speaker 2

No, I don't believe it was the last.

00:09:59 Speaker 2

It was, it was. Uh.

00:10:06 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:10:10 Speaker 2

Attacks we had a hand set up on a on a hill and we had a house at the edge of town and we built, we built it in the House where we had to work on top of.

00:10:22 Speaker 2

The Hill for home duty.

00:10:28 Speaker 2

Read that, probably.

00:10:33 Speaker 2

Couple of 100 yards here to walk when we walk. Walk through archery.

00:10:39 Speaker 2

To the ground and back. We were in this particular spot for a couple of days.

00:10:47 Speaker 2

And.

00:10:50 Speaker 2

What is the?

00:10:55 Speaker 2

I think of the second squad.

00:11:00 Speaker 2

Machine gun.

00:11:04 Speaker 2

That was with us. And then on the way back.

00:11:11 Speaker 2

He stepped down the line and here for two days we've been walking through there.

00:11:19 Speaker 2

And all of a sudden.

00:11:22 Speaker 2

He stepped on his mind and they just disintegrated him.

00:11:27 Speaker 2

I mean, there was nothing left on. The only thing I could figure out is they might have been working side by side and they both.

00:11:36 Speaker 2

There's already got on that morning and here for two days we've been working two days single.

00:11:45 Speaker 1

Talk to me about.

00:11:46 Speaker 1

The first time you experienced a German artillery barrage.

00:11:55 Speaker 2

Down across the.

00:11:59 Speaker 2

The hour and it was catching so much artery.

00:12:10 Speaker 2

Told the company in to spread out along this field and we were catching our towing fire and when the Sergeant said to me, he says he caught up there.

00:12:25 Speaker 2

That ditch along the road and stay there.

00:12:33 Speaker 2

So what about maybe half an hour or 3/4 an hour? They pulled us back away from the authority and this went on for three nights.

00:12:46 Speaker 2

They couldn't cross that over because there was so much artillery fire.

00:12:53 Speaker 2

And there was the first first battalion went across the river 4th and the 2nd Battalion went across second. The first suffered suffered. Really was a lot of casualties, but they got across and he got a beach head over to cross the river and finally.

00:13:11 Speaker 2

The engineers got the bridge built.

00:13:16 Speaker 2

And the third of times master cross.

00:13:21 Speaker 2

After the after three days.

00:13:27 Speaker 2

The engineers got their top bridge built and we crossed on the footbridge and but we had to wade the last 30 yards and we need water.

00:13:39 Speaker 2

We've lined up along the bank for the rest of the day and the night following night we talked safety lane and that was totally all night long with artillery.

00:13:53 Speaker 2

We manage general, how many pill boxes we took that we managed to take a pill boxes and the hours the morning with the enhanced. So it wasn't any more Tory, but then we ran into another fire.

00:14:12 Speaker 2

And.

00:14:14 Speaker 2

That's what my 1 is on the.

00:14:20 Speaker 2

First, Gunners got wounded.

00:14:23 Speaker 2

And then the Sun gunner took over and he called me up. So I helped him. Did the digging. The foxhole for him and and probably would do that.

00:14:32 Speaker 2

In.

00:14:34 Speaker 2

Our shell hit probably 3-2 or three feet in front of us.

00:14:41 Speaker 2

And the.

00:14:44 Speaker 2

First scanner got hit back of the year.

00:14:49 Speaker 2

With a piece of shrimp, you know? Then it cost me about 3 foot to to decide. Stung me a little bit when I 1st and his name is Jim Claghorn.

00:15:03 Speaker 2

And he was sent back to the aid station, and evidently the room is a little more serious because he never came back up until after the war.

00:15:16 Speaker 2

I always covered.

00:15:21 Speaker 2

Get the gun down again and then the.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

More garage lifted.

00:15:34 Speaker 1

Talk to me about the role of a.

00:15:38 Speaker 1

Machine gun outfit in combat what is your primary purpose?

00:15:47 Speaker 2

Usually a 30 caliber rather cool machine gunner is used in case of attack.

00:15:54 Speaker 2

Counterattacks we did use them trying.

00:16:01 Speaker 2

The.

00:16:03 Speaker 2

Rifleman, the Internet, a town where they may have called us to follow into Apache Woods or something before they went in.

00:16:15 Speaker 2

Like the battle ahead at Castle, I set up on top of the hill for and into the city. It just at random.

00:16:25 Speaker 2

Until the.

00:16:27 Speaker 2

The commander of the rifle company called Back and tell us a ceasefire.

00:16:35 Speaker 1

When were you aiming at in Castle?

00:16:39 Speaker 1

When you were firing that castle, what would?

00:16:40

Well.

00:16:41 Speaker 1

You aim at just, just just.

00:16:44 Speaker 2

Firing into into the city just ahead of The Rifleman.

00:16:51 Speaker 1

Are you firing in windows of the?

00:16:54 Speaker 2

We weren't that close. We weren't that close to the city. We were probably.

00:17:04 Speaker 2

8-9 hundred yards away we were just firing.

00:17:09 Speaker 1

How far can a machine gun fire?

00:17:14 Speaker 2

Over here on both sides and the orange here.

00:17:18 Speaker 1

Add.

00:17:21 Speaker 1

You mentioned that machine guns are used in case of a counterattack. Did that ever happen?

00:17:25 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:17:27 Speaker 2

Once I was in the battle of they were they were in area little area which was kind of an l-shaped.

00:17:43 Speaker 2

Woods in here in one.

00:17:47 Speaker 2

Section of the of the woods and the German geranium other section. And after we had crossed the line right where the road went down through there.

00:18:00 Speaker 2

We got across that.

00:18:02 Speaker 2

And I got up to the edge of the woods there. And here comes the Germans.

00:18:05 Speaker 2

Out of the woods.

00:18:07 Speaker 2

Well, the rifle company is already in there firing away and and here I am with the machine gun.

00:18:15 Speaker 2

I've got the animal, but they.

00:18:17 Speaker 2

Don't have the tripod.

00:18:20 Speaker 2

I said, what am I gonna do? So I had the annual bear help me load the machine gun. And I tried to fire by holding in my arm, but I couldn't. I couldn't hold it and pulled me away. So I got up against the tree. I fired from the the head to head.

00:18:39 Speaker 2

The machine gun against the tree.

00:18:44 Speaker 2

And fortunately enough, hitting the floor power when the Germans pulled back, when they didn't, then you'd hit and return to the.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

A pull neck.

00:19:00 Speaker 1

How close have they come?

00:19:02 Speaker 2

Older probably than 32300 yards.

00:19:09 Speaker 2

No.

00:19:09 Speaker 1

Did you see some of them go down?

00:19:11 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:19:12 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:19:13 Speaker 1

How many do you think came to you?

00:19:15 Speaker 2

Well, I don't believe there was more than 2530 of them.

00:19:22 Speaker 1

How do you do you think went down?

00:19:24 Speaker 2

I think probably a lot of firepower we had, I think most of them went down.

00:19:32 Speaker 2

But we usually, yeah, but they we did see some retreats.

00:19:38 Speaker 1

When you say firepower rehab, is it just your machine that it's firing?

00:19:43 Speaker 2

No, the rifle company was in there with us too.

00:19:48 Speaker 2

So the machines are always attached to a rental company, usually 2 squads to to rental company.

00:19:59 Speaker 1

Do you remember what?

00:19:59 Speaker 2

And we would need support them whenever they needed higher.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

Why does it take to either take company or company or any company mostly key company?

00:20:11 Speaker 1

Do you think?

00:20:12 Speaker 1

The five power from your machine gun.

00:20:15 Speaker 1

In this counter attack.

00:20:16 Speaker 1

Did that make a difference or do?

00:20:18 Speaker 1

You think your life.

00:20:18 Speaker 1

Would could have handled the Germans themselves.

00:20:20 Speaker 2

I think the welcome and.

00:20:21 Speaker 2

Probably could have handled it.

00:20:24 Speaker 1

But when you guys did get the.

00:20:26 Speaker 1



Shots off from.

00:20:26 Speaker 2

The machine gun. Yeah, yeah.

00:20:29 Speaker 1

Do you know I?

00:20:29 Speaker 1

Mean you go through like an entire.

00:20:34

And.

00:20:34 Speaker 2

Yeah, I haven't seen when when 500 rounds. Yeah.

00:20:43 Speaker 1

But if the riflemen are in front of you, yeah. OK. They want in front of you because I'm going to say how are?

00:20:46 Speaker 2

They were beside me.

00:20:50 Speaker 1

You going to put it over there?

00:20:50 Speaker 2

Yeah, that's right. Those they were beside me on the edge of the woods.

00:20:58 Speaker 2

I was on to to the left and I was on the left arm and the left had been right in my right.

00:21:07 Speaker 2

When we clean them out.

00:21:09 Speaker 2

And then, of course, we kept attacking, so we just kept moving, moving forward.

00:21:14 Speaker 1

Rifle companies have a heavy weapons platoon in them.

00:21:20 Speaker 1

So cake Company had a heavy weapons platoon, right?

00:21:25 Speaker 2

Right. They had the light machine guns and they had the Bart.

00:21:29 Speaker 1

Light machine earns and the 16mm mortar heavy weapons company, which is a company, is what 200 men right? 180 to 2.

00:21:32

Yes.

00:21:38 Speaker 1

100.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:21:40 Speaker 1

Is heavy weapons company and.

00:21:41 Speaker 1

Normal sized company? Or is it?

00:21:43 Speaker 2

So.

00:21:44 Speaker 2

Same the same.

00:21:45 Speaker 1

OK, so heavy weapons companies compose of only machine Gunners and mortarman right? 81 millimeter mortar. Again the heavy machine guns. Are there any Rifleman in the heavy weapons? No, no.

00:21:56

Yes.

00:22:01 Speaker 1

Would you carry your wife with you?

00:22:02 Speaker 2

I did.

00:22:04 Speaker 2

I carry a rifle and I'm 45.

00:22:06 Speaker 1

OK.

00:22:10 Speaker 1

Were there opportunities that you actually have to use?

00:22:12 Speaker 1

The ride for instead of machine gun.

00:22:14 Speaker 2

No, no.

00:22:16 Speaker 1

But I guess what?

00:22:18 Speaker 1

I'm trying to get at though is.

00:22:20 Speaker 1

The heavy weapons companies, they never fight on their own. They're always attached to different companies. That's right. Is that correct?

00:22:28 Speaker 2

That's correct.

00:22:30 Speaker 1

When an entire heavy weapons.

00:22:32 Speaker 1

Company be attached to one company.

00:22:34 Speaker 1

Or they're always.

00:22:35 Speaker 2

Spread out. They're always spread out.

00:22:39 Speaker 2

We always had to be with Kay, with Kay Company Health Company and I company.

00:22:45 Speaker 1

At all the time.

00:22:47 Speaker 2

What was that?

00:22:48 Speaker 1

So.

00:22:51 Speaker 2

I'm not sure what the makeup is what?

00:22:54 Speaker 1

Do you? Do you think you spent more time with K company?

00:22:56 Speaker 1

Or with M company.

00:23:00 Speaker 2

Well, I was in company, but I we we spent a lot of time mostly key company in the L company.

00:23:06 Speaker 1

So when you're attached to.

00:23:08 Speaker 1

A rifle company.

00:23:10 Speaker 1

How far back are you usually from The Rifleman?

00:23:12

Good.

00:23:13 Speaker 2

Right behind them.

00:23:14 Speaker 1

What's that mean though?

00:23:16 Speaker 2

I mean we we when the when they're taking taking a city or village or town or patchy woods we were right with them.

00:23:31 Speaker 2

Or just like an essentially line. We were right with them all the time when the when the.

00:23:44 Speaker 2

Drop the.

00:23:51 Speaker 2

TNT pack on the on the pill back we're.

00:23:55 Speaker 2

Right there with them.

00:23:59 Speaker 1

Me a sack.

00:24:00 Speaker 1

Full charge.

00:24:01 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah.

00:24:03 Speaker 1

I mean, would you ever.

00:24:04 Speaker 1

Be this close to a Rifleman.

00:24:06 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:24:07 Speaker 1

Yeah. So, so where does the misconception come that the heavy weapons guys are?

00:24:16 Speaker 1

I've heard people tell me.

00:24:19 Speaker 1

Not not veterans, but I guess other people that the men in heavy weapons.

00:24:24 Speaker 1

Are farther back.

00:24:26 Speaker 2

Just the borders at all with just the murder platoons.

00:24:30 Speaker 1

That's what it is. So mortars are farther back.

00:24:33 Speaker 2

That's right.

00:24:34 Speaker 1

We're not machine gun.

00:24:35 Speaker 2

When she goes right with the with The Rifleman.

00:24:39 Speaker 1

Is it fair to say that a Rifleman or a machine gunner would see more combat than a mortarman?  
Yeah.

00:24:47 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah.

00:24:49 Speaker 1

OK. And what was the strategic importance of Castle Germany?

00:24:59 Speaker 2

Careful, Germany was a manufacturing town. Industrial Town is manufactured tanks and aircrafts.

00:25:08 Speaker 1

Where was your toughest fight?

00:25:11 Speaker 2

Sufi line.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

Pill boxes there they were just tough to just tough to, tough to conquer, to capture.

00:25:20 Speaker 1

Did you personally take on fire from pill boxes?

00:25:25 Speaker 2

Yes, yes.

00:25:27 Speaker 1

It would be small arms fire, right?

00:25:31 Speaker 2

Usually, but most of it was artillery.

00:25:37 Speaker 1

Were there times that you took on small arms fire?

00:25:40 Speaker 2

Oh, yes, yes.

00:25:43 Speaker 1

What's that like to?

00:25:44 Speaker 1

Have bullets going off around you.

00:25:46 Speaker 2

Well, first of all, you're going to see what the surroundings are, and I always try to get something between me and the front and the.

00:26:03 Speaker 2

Enemy.

00:26:05 Speaker 2

Among the dirt or get you anything truly.

00:26:14 Speaker 2

Yes, I saw. I saw Betty get killed while having his small arms. He was telling me he wounded when he got picked off and he was.

00:26:30 Speaker 2

And I don't believe I've.

00:26:36 Speaker 2

Can I cancel as I saw too many of them?

00:26:39 Speaker 2

And then now hit there anything like that?

00:26:46 Speaker 2

Powerful. He was hit by the rifles fire. Was he few?

00:26:51 Speaker 1

Yards away.

00:26:52 Speaker 2

Or yeah, yeah, yeah. He was. He was turning right.

00:26:55

Sorry.

00:27:00 Speaker 2

First, first time we were doing company in town and there was a stairway coming down from the house across the street and it was open.

00:27:20 Speaker 2

And there's dead soldiers head first.

00:27:26 Speaker 2

Throw it on the steps. He was the first soldier. German soldier.

00:27:32 Speaker 1

How old was it when you joined them?

00:27:37 Speaker 2

You know the first week when I joined them, we were still in in Luxembourg and it was probably.

00:27:47 Speaker 2

High 20s when it's sort.

00:27:49 Speaker 2

Of snow on the ground.

00:27:54 Speaker 2

No.

00:27:56 Speaker 2

Two weeks later, when we got his sentry line, it was probably in his mid 30s.

00:28:03 Speaker 2

Ring.

00:28:05 Speaker 2

Water. Of course. You know the river was flooded. That's why we had such a hard time crossing it.



00:28:13 Speaker 1

When you crossed the river, were you taking on fire?

00:28:17 Speaker 2

Our carry fire, yes.

00:28:19 Speaker 1

Do you know? Did the artillery fire hit any?

00:28:21 Speaker 1

Of the boats.

00:28:23 Speaker 2

The fire we cross. Yes. No, no, no.

00:28:25 Speaker 1

Can you see that, Halford?

00:28:30 Speaker 1

Do you guys cross the day or at night?

00:28:32 Speaker 2

Hi.

00:28:34 Speaker 2

It costed night.

00:28:36 Speaker 2

I never did. See you never miss your time.

00:28:40 Speaker 2

And there was the night when her first bottle and three tree line was at night.

00:28:47 Speaker 1

How close did you?

00:28:48 Speaker 1

Actually get to the pill boxes when you're fighting.

00:28:54 Speaker 2

I mean at night and I I couldn't. I couldn't say. I couldn't say how close we were going.

00:29:01 Speaker 1

And.

00:29:02 Speaker 1

But I mean, are you just firing your machine gun in that slit? Is that?

00:29:05 Speaker 1

What you're trying to do?

00:29:06 Speaker 2

No, we didn't. We didn't have to fire their machine guns in the shipping lane.

00:29:18 Speaker 2

She went to Germany.

00:29:24 Speaker 2

Maybe 5-6, seven men.

00:29:27 Speaker 2

To repair my eyes and then also would go back and form another would would settle into another tool box where there's maybe.

00:29:42 Speaker 2

Maybe 40-50 then, then they would settle and fight you.

00:29:49 Speaker 2

When we take these pill oxygens, if there was only three or four or five men in there, they would really so judge gently selinder.

00:30:01 Speaker 1

Did you take any prisoners?

00:30:03 Speaker 2

Not in the fare boxes and I never did see any. Yeah.

00:30:05 Speaker 1

But in the war, did you?

00:30:07 Speaker 2

Yeah. Yeah. We took trees several times. Yeah. Taking small villages.

00:30:14 Speaker 2

The.

00:30:22 Speaker 2

Take take prisoners. Yeah. Yeah. Not too many. I wouldn't get in there. Too many of them. Course towards the end of the war. The Germans, they come forward, their hands up and surrender.

00:30:42 Speaker 2

Probably probably the toughest things in your Terry player.

00:30:48 Speaker 2

Territory attack because there was not much to touching because we were always on the move if we.

00:30:56 Speaker 2

Were in a.

00:30:58 Speaker 2

A holding situation where we was in our household when you got protection, but when you went into attacking the town.

00:31:09 Speaker 2

I'm telling that you.

00:31:12 Speaker 2

They don't have much protection.

00:31:15 Speaker 2

And I think that's probably the worst.

00:31:19 Speaker 1

How long would the departments last?

00:31:24 Speaker 2

Well, so true and lasting all night.

00:31:29 Speaker 2

Probably maybe worse than 7-8 hours.

00:31:34 Speaker 2

But in a regular attack, maybe.

00:31:40 Speaker 2

Maybe anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour and 15 minutes in the central line and we attacked this turnbacks, this one toolbox and we retreated from actually probably half an hour.

00:31:57 Speaker 1

Just constant shells going off.

00:31:58 Speaker 2

Right.

00:32:01 Speaker 1

What do you?

00:32:02 Speaker 1

Think about when shows are going off all around.

00:32:04 Speaker 2

You.

00:32:08 Speaker 2

Next one's going to get you.

00:32:14 Speaker 1

Do you hear guys calling out after they've been?

00:32:14 Speaker 2

Because.

00:32:16 Speaker 1

Hit. What would they say?

00:32:18 Speaker 2

Yeah, just Howard, medic and how he kept on the move. So he didn't really hear any any speech from him and they probably did, but I didn't hear any.

00:32:33 Speaker 1

What advice do you want to give to future generations?

00:32:38 Speaker 2

Present or old hell.

00:32:44 Speaker 1

If you were.

00:32:44 Speaker 1

To give me somewhere, some for my life. What?

00:32:46 Speaker 1

Would you tell me?

00:32:48 Speaker 1

If you were.

00:32:49 Speaker 1

To give me some wisdom for my life.

00:32:51 Speaker 1

What would you tell me?

00:32:55 Speaker 2

Cortana, can you hear me?

00:32:56 Speaker 1

Just in general.

00:33:02 Speaker 2

No.

00:33:05 Speaker 2

I think we have 100% American citizen.

00:33:13 Speaker 2

And protect the country.

00:33:17 Speaker 2

Would be my message suggestion now.

00:33:23 Speaker 2

Oh yes.

00:33:24 Speaker 1

Do you believe that this your heaven?

00:33:27 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:33:31 Speaker 2

Is a good citizen.

00:33:36 Speaker 2

Enjoy life. Enjoy people that are reasonable and likeable throughout the country.

00:33:48 Speaker 1

Two last quick questions, what was gossip?

00:33:51 Speaker 2

Where was it?

00:33:51 Speaker 1

You met you in a town called Gosa.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

Gosa yeah.

00:33:56 Speaker 1

What was that?

00:33:59 Speaker 2

There was a village.

00:34:09 Speaker 2

It was really.

00:34:16 Speaker 2

Not much of a flight to take it.

00:34:19 Speaker 2

Because the Germans were on the run and you bad. I forgot I wasn't. Wasn't any severe.

00:34:34 Speaker 1

Where was the toughest area you saw?

00:34:39 Speaker 1

Upper arm Bitburg and what was the importance of?

00:34:43 Speaker 2

That was in Germany. There's right there. There's a 639. German still had a lot of fight left in them.

00:34:54 Speaker 2

And we had to battle for every village and every spot of land and through the big.

00:35:01 Speaker 1

And were you on a?

00:35:02 Speaker 1

Hill at that time shooting.

00:35:07 Speaker 2

Well, not, not really. You were just attached to the rifle coming just.

00:35:15 Speaker 1

That that's what confusing you is.

00:35:16 Speaker 1

If you've got, if The Rifleman, they're mobile, they can.

00:35:20 Speaker 1

Go through a town.

00:35:21

Yeah.

00:35:21 Speaker 1

You know, and you.

00:35:23 Speaker 1

Know on one side you know they're looking.

00:35:25 Speaker 1

There and then.

00:35:25 Speaker 1

On the other side, they're looking there.

00:35:27 Speaker 1

But you have a machine gun.

00:35:30 Speaker 2

We follow right through. There's still running the machine gun they call for call for us.

00:35:35 Speaker 1

But I think if the driver would start taking on fire, do you immediately drop and set the machine gun?

00:35:43 Speaker 2

Really. Yeah. If if. If the company knows what the strengths.

00:35:53 Speaker 2

Of resistance was.

00:35:56 Speaker 2

They would call our Sergeant.

00:36:01 Speaker 2

And ask for machine gun fire in particular places, something like that.

00:36:07 Speaker 1

Germans are holed up in a house. It's.

00:36:09 Speaker 1

Not like you're.

00:36:10 Speaker 1

Going right next to the window and.

00:36:12 Speaker 2

Wow.

00:36:13 Speaker 1

How far away are you usually when you're?

00:36:17 Speaker 1

Sure.

00:36:19 Speaker 2

Ohh songs, sometimes it would be.

00:36:27 Speaker 2

100 yards becoming high. I'm reading how strong the enemy was.

00:36:41 Speaker 1

Right. Are you shooting at targets like personnel or just areas, areas?

00:36:47 Speaker 1

Did you have any experiences with German tanks? Nothing.

00:36:59 Speaker 2

We had him fired at us.

00:37:03 Speaker 2

But as far as battering? No. Oh, yes. Yeah, yeah. OK.



00:37:07 Speaker 1

But you saw the tanks well.