

## **Malcolm Winslow Interview**

3rd Battalion, 318th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Fran Foley)*

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

00:00:04 Speaker 1

Today is January 19th, 2004 Monday this interview.

00:00:11 Speaker 1

With Malcolm Winslow.

00:00:13 Speaker 1

Is taking place at the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society in Rancho Santa Fe, CA. My name is Fran Foley, archivist and curator for the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society. The Historical Society is collecting and reporting World War 2 oral histories from veterans in Rancho Santa Fe and the surrounding area.

00:00:33 Speaker 1

Copies of this recording will be made and given to the veteran. The Library of Congress in Washington DC, and the D-Day Museum in New Orleans, LA. Would you please tell me your name, date of birth and current address?

00:00:48 Speaker 2

My name is Malcolm Winslow.

00:00:50 Speaker 2

I was born on February 15, 1920, and I live in the Claremont area of San Diego.

00:00:58 Speaker 1

And what war and what branch of the service did you serve?

00:01:02 Speaker 2

I was in the military in World War 2. IW was in the United States Army.

00:01:08 Speaker 1

And did you serve in Europe? Yes.

00:01:12 Speaker 1

And what was your rank in the army, your final rank?

00:01:15 Speaker 2

I was a tech corporal.

00:01:19 Speaker 1

OK and.

00:01:23 Speaker 1

What were you doing prior to getting into the army? And by the way, did you enlist or were?

00:01:30 Speaker 1

You drafted?

00:01:32 Speaker 2

I was grafted.

00:01:32 Speaker 1

OK.

00:01:37 Speaker 2

My name is Malcolm Winslow. Although I'm usually known as Mac, when I was in the military, my last name was Weinstein. Here's the abbreviated story of my experiences before, during, and after World War 2.

00:01:56 Speaker 2

I was born in Baltimore, MD, on February 15, 1920. I had an older brother and a younger sister. Both are now deceased.

00:02:07 Speaker 2

I went through the Baltimore Public School system and I took two years of advanced high school at the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, then for business reasons, my father moved the family to Philadelphia, where I completed high school at the Germantown High in the fall of.

00:02:26 Speaker 2

In 1937, I enrolled at the Pennsylvania State University. Although it was known as a College in those days and majored in the School of Education.

00:02:38 Speaker 2

I did practice teaching at the high school in Johnstown, PA, which is the home of the famous Johnstown Flood at Penn State. I was the captain and #1 singles player on the varsity tennis team for four consecutive years. Penn State is a land.

00:02:57 Speaker 2

Trent University and so it's mandatory to take two years of ROTC or reserve officers train.

00:03:06 Speaker 2

I completed ROTC with the rank of master Sergeant, and I graduated from Penn State in June 1941. I was also extremely interested in the theater, and I spent the months following graduation working at a summer Playhouse on Cape Cod.

00:03:26 Speaker 2

Cohasset MA and this experience encouraged me to go to New York to try my luck with the casting agencies, but with little success. So I returned to Philadelphia.

00:03:40 Speaker 2

I recall that on December 7th, 1941.

00:03:45 Speaker 2

The day that will live in infamy, to quote President Franklin Roosevelt when the Japanese bombed their Navy at Pearl Harbor, I was still single and working in a jewelry store in downtown Philadelphia.

00:03:59 Speaker 2

After Pearl Harbor, we were at war and I registered for the draft. I was still living at home with my parents and my.

00:04:07 Speaker 2

Sister.

00:04:08 Speaker 2

My brother had enlisted in the Air Force and had gone through OCS or officers candidate.

00:04:14

School.

00:04:15 Speaker 2

In Boca Raton, FL.

00:04:19 Speaker 2

My parents wanted me to stay at home as long as possible, so I took a job as an expeditor at the small turban division of Westinghouse Electric Company in Leicester, Pennsylvania, just marking time until my draft number came up, which it did in late September 1942.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

So you may ask for the college degree and an ROTC rank of master Sergeant.

00:04:46 Speaker 2

Why didn't you immediately apply for OCS? Well, first, as I said, my parents wanted me at home. And second, I was assured that after basic training I would have no trouble in applying for OCS actually. And to get ahead of myself, I passed the OCS exam.

00:05:06 Speaker 2

Three separate times while in service and because of various events beyond my control, I never received orders to attend.

00:05:16 Speaker 2

But to continue on October 13th, 1942, I was inducted into active military service at New Cumberland, PA at the Indian Town Gap Military Reservation and after about two days of processing, I was put on a military train.

00:05:36 Speaker 2

In two days and two nights later arrived at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, near the town of Tulley.

00:05:44 Speaker 2

I was now a member of the 80th Infantry Division, 300 and 18th Infantry Regiment, Third Battalion, the shoulder patch of the 80th, which is known as the Blue Ridge Mountain Division, displays three peaks, signifying that the men of the.

00:06:01 Speaker 2

Division.

00:06:03 Speaker 2

We're mostly from Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. IW was assigned to a rifle company, basic training. What was it like? I should know because we repeated basic training and maneuvers in Tennessee three times sometimes.

00:06:23 Speaker 2

Sometimes maneuvers were more physically demanding than combat. The object, of course, was to turn you from a civilian into a military thinking and acting soldier to condition you physically, to become familiar and expert with your weapons.

00:06:42 Speaker 2

And just as important to follow orders without question.

00:06:46 Speaker 2

In basic training, you quickly got the idea because the slightest infraction would result in punishment totally out of proportion to the crime.

00:06:55 Speaker 2

The routine was always lights on in the barracks at 5:30 AM, breakfast in the mess hall at 6:00 AM.

00:07:03 Speaker 2

Then it was close order drill, maybe weapons instruction.

00:07:07 Speaker 2

For the rifle range lectures, inspections, or a hike through the Tennessee Hills, the non comms or non commissioned officers were mostly regular army.

00:07:21 Speaker 1

Card.

00:07:27 Speaker 2

Just pick up from the next word.

00:07:29 Speaker 1

M.

00:07:34 Speaker 1

Go ahead.

00:07:38 Speaker 2

Now they were mostly regular Army personnel who at the beginning at least, took a dim view of we draftees.

00:07:46 Speaker 2

For the most part, the officers were excellent men.

00:07:50 Speaker 2

I especially remember Lieutenant Colonel John C Golden of Cumberland, MD, Lieutenant later Major Matthew Dwyer of Memphis, TN, and Lieutenant later, Captain Prentice foreman of Bowling Green, KY. I was with these men both stateside.

00:08:10 Speaker 2

And in combat, Lieutenant Foreman in particular, was one of the finest men I've ever known.

00:08:18 Speaker 2

Recreation was simple from noon Saturday until 5:30 Monday morning. If you didn't happen to draw KP duty otherwise, just rest in the barracks, visit the PX for a short trip into Tullahoma, Chattanooga. Or maybe Nashville.

00:08:37 Speaker 2

Many of the men in the company were from the mountains of West Virginia.

00:08:42 Speaker 2

They love their rifles and they love their guitars.

00:08:46 Speaker 2

Some were some illiterate. I remember an occasion when one of the men asked me to write a letter for him to his girl back home.

00:08:55 Speaker 2

I wrote as he spoke, and then he stopped me, he said don't write so fast. She doesn't read so good and I was happy to do it during basic training. I volunteered to attend the Division Radio School at Camp Forrest.

00:09:12 Speaker 2

Which I did from January through March of 1943. So my time during that period was mostly filled with dits and dots or dots and dashes.

00:09:23 Speaker 2

And I graduated radio school top ranked in my class and because of that I was transferred to the battalion headquarters company as a radio operator in the Communications platoon.

00:09:37 Speaker 2

In August of 1943, the division completed training and maneuvers in Tennessee and moved to Camp Phillips, Kansas.

00:09:48 Speaker 2

It was said that it was impossible to go over the hill for a wal in Kansas because he could be seen for 20 miles over the flat plains. This was also not a happy time for me because I received emergency leave back to Philadelphia. My mother was hospitalized with pneumonia.

00:10:07 Speaker 2

And she passed away while I was at home, and fortunately, there was no penicillin in those days.

00:10:15 Speaker 2

Immediately after returning to Camp Phillips, I was ordered to the infantry school at Fort Benning, Georgia, for advanced radio training, which I attended from October 1943 to January 1st, 1944. These were some of the best months.

00:10:34 Speaker 2

I had in the army as Fort Benning is a great permanent base. My only duty was to send and receive Morse code from 5:00 AM until 1:00 PM five days a week. And to learn the mechanics of the signal core radios.

00:10:51 Speaker 2

And after all those hours and hours of Morse code training, it was never once used in a combat situation in Europe, but to continue after finishing at Fort Benning, I rejoined the division, which had moved in November 1943.

00:11:11 Speaker 2

For maneuvers in the Arizona desert.

00:11:14 Speaker 2

This was near the Pala Mountains outside of Yuma. Why these months of desert training was necessary? It's not clear because in late February 1944, the division moved to Fort Dix, NJ and this time we were headed overseas and we knew it.

00:11:35 Speaker 2

It was just a question of.

00:11:36 Speaker 2

When and where?

00:11:37 Speaker 2

Because of this, training was somewhat relaxed.

00:11:42 Speaker 2

Fort Dix is close to Philadelphia and I was able to get a pass home fairly often. I was lucky because I had a close friend whose name was Buddy Linus and who also lived in Philadelphia.

00:11:56 Speaker 2

But he was in a rifle company in the Third battalion. But we got together whenever we could during training, and Buddy had a car, so it was easy to get to. And from Philadelphia, we often drove back to the base just in time for reveling.

00:12:13 Speaker 2

After the war, we lost touch. When I moved to California a few years ago, I tried to contact Buddy, but I found that after surviving the war, unscratched as a Rifleman, he had died of cancer.

00:12:29 Speaker 2

We finally closed at Fort Dix in April 1944 and moved to a staging area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

00:12:39 Speaker 2

From Kilmer, we moved to Staten Island and boarded the former Cunard Liner Queen Mary.

00:12:46 Speaker 2

And on July 1st, 1944.

00:12:49 Speaker 2

He failed from the United States. The Mary is now docked as a tourist attraction in the harbor at Long Beach, CA, and four years ago I attended a wedding on the Queen Mary. That was the first time that I'd set foot on the ship in some 50 years.

00:13:07 Speaker 2

But all the memories came back to me from that voyage in 1944.

00:13:13 Speaker 2

It took six days to get across the Atlantic on the Mary and without an escort. There was somewhere between 15 and 22,000 men aboard, so we were restricted to just certain areas of the ship.

00:13:27 Speaker 2

My unit this quarter than a small cabin on D deck which is below the waterline. Even the former swimming pool was stacked with bunks 5 high.

00:13:38 Speaker 2

There were no showers available, but I found a mop closet with running water and so I was able to keep fairly clean.

00:13:48 Speaker 2

There was a nonstop 24 hour a day chow line and we ate twice a day.

00:13:54 Speaker 2

The crew and the Mary was.

00:13:55 Speaker 2

English.

00:13:56 Speaker 2

And the food was less than great unless he liked kidney pie for breakfast.

00:14:02 Speaker 2

There was no recreation. Just clean your weapons and watch the ships crew do anti aircraft drills and on July 7th, 1944 the Queen Mary finally docked safely in the fourth of Clyde in Scotland.

00:14:18 Speaker 2

From Glasgow we moved by train to an assembly field in the Cheshire area of England and after about 3 weeks there receiving indoctrination from veterans of combat in France.

00:14:30 Speaker 2

We finally received our orders and it was time.

00:14:32 Speaker 2

To go.

00:14:35 Speaker 2



I drove our Jeep with a big CW radio to Southampton where it was put into the hold of a US merchant marine ship that was to take our squad across the English Channel. The channel was still so crowded with ships of every variety that it took three days for us to cross.

00:14:54 Speaker 2

On August 6, 1944, exactly 60 days after the D-Day invasion, I drove the Jeep on the Utah Beach, which was still littered with abandoned vehicles and debris. I drove the Jeep and an all night convoy to another assembly area in France.

00:15:14 Speaker 2

At this time, the fighting was approximately 50 miles inland in the hedgerow country of Normandy, even though it was not my faith I recall gladly attending a final religious service given in the field by a Catholic chaplain.

00:15:32 Speaker 2

This was followed by a few somber words from the battalion commander and at midnight we moved out onto a French country Rd. with orders to continue.

00:15:43 Speaker 2

Until we made contact with the enemy.

00:15:47 Speaker 2

I drove the radio Jeep slowly up the middle of the road with infantry walking on both sides.

00:15:55 Speaker 2

Around 2:00 AM there was a sudden single shot.

00:15:59 Speaker 2

And the first man to be killed in the 80th Division was down by a sniper. I was no more than 10 feet.

00:16:06 Speaker 2

Away from him.

00:16:12 Speaker 2

The first major conflict that I found myself in was a battle for the city of Argentine and the valleys gap, which involved American, British and Canadian forces. An entire German army surrendered, but some 35.

00:16:29 Speaker 2

1000 German troops escaped through the so-called gap.

00:16:33 Speaker 2

This battle occurred around August. The 181944 I carried this SCR 10 voice radio for the battalion commander and before going up on the line I remember gazing up at the Blue Sky and the white clouds and thinking maybe for the last time.

00:16:55 Speaker 2

My job was to stay close to the Colonel for communication. The front line was a Ridge overlooking a large open field. I remember seeing the Red Barn way out in the.

00:17:07 Speaker 2

Field.

00:17:09 Speaker 2

And firing from the barn was a very accurate German 88mm.

00:17:14 Speaker 2

88mm artillery gun.

00:17:18 Speaker 2

I recall it taking out with six shots, 6 American light tanks that have been brought up onto the bridge, the lost German Tiger tank came around the back of us and surrendered about 50 yards into the field was a huge bomb crater. I followed the kernel into the crater.

00:17:40 Speaker 2

There were other officers in the crater observing when an enemy machine gun opened up, firing over the hole 1 by 1 the officers left and ran for cover.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

The Colonel also left after saying to me, stay here. I'll be right back.

00:17:56 Speaker 2

Finally, I was the only one left in the crater, and I got the idea that the Colonel wasn't coming back when the machine gun momentarily let up, I said to myself, it's now or never.

00:18:09 Speaker 2

So I put the radio on my back and crouched down, running alongside of a high hedge and the machine gun opened up again, but he was shooting high because I remember Lee showering down on me as I ran, and when I finally got to the road, there was a colonel's hands on his hips and the first thing he said was.

00:18:28 Speaker 2

Well, where the hell have you been?

00:18:31 Speaker 2

The last thing I remember about that day was at one of our company. Cooks wanted to see what combat was all about, so he came up to the Ridge, lifted up his head to.

00:18:42 Speaker 2

Look.

00:18:44 Speaker 2

And a 20mm shell caught him right between the eyes. And then I next remember going through the city of Oreon.

00:18:52 Speaker 2

Which had been liberated, and watching the French resistance fighters from Marquis.

00:18:58 Speaker 2

In the town square, shaving the heads of all the local women who had fraternized with the Nazis.

00:19:06 Speaker 2

30th moved on and we saw constant action during September in the sector of the Old World War. One battlefields of Salma Hill, Barla, Duke and Verdun.

00:19:20 Speaker 2

On October 8th, 1944, another memorable World War 2 experience began.

00:19:30 Speaker 2

We were quartered in the French town of Villa Oval at midnight. We were ordered to form up.

00:19:38 Speaker 2

And then the driving rain clown. We climbed the Mount Saint Jean. The object was to relieve another unit that had been holding the high ground for several days.

00:19:50 Speaker 2

We climbed into their foxholes as they left.

00:19:54 Speaker 2

My hole was half covered with logs and a soggy blanket was left on the bottom.

00:20:01 Speaker 2

The rest of the night was quiet, but in the morning the rain had stopped and I spread a blanket of my own on a nearby Bush to dry, and for no reason that I know of. To this day, I climbed out of that hole around 11:00 that morning and walked over to the radio Jeep which was parked about 20 yards away.

00:20:22 Speaker 2

And suddenly a barrage of enemy mortars, artillery and tree bursts came in on our position.

00:20:29 Speaker 2

I dived into an uncovered emergency slip trench that had been dug alongside the Jeep.

00:20:36 Speaker 2

I was on top of another GI and we both lay there shaking until the barrage stopped.

00:20:42 Speaker 2

I later learned that our man monitoring The CW radio that morning.

00:20:47 Speaker 2

Had held down the sending key for 30 seconds to calibrate the radio, and that's all the enemy needed to triangulate on the signal and on our position. Our kitchen crew that was coming up the mountain with Hot Chow was totally wiped out.

00:21:05 Speaker 2

When I finally returned to my foxhole, both the blanket and the bottom and the one on the Bush were in shreds from shrapnel.

00:21:13 Speaker 2

Because I would have been had I stayed there.

00:21:17 Speaker 2

The hand of God was on me.

00:21:18 Speaker 2

That day.

00:21:21 Speaker 2

Later, another barrage came in.

00:21:25 Speaker 2

The battalion commander was hit and evacuated.

00:21:28 Speaker 2

My raincoat was ripped but my body wasn't touched and again God was with me.

00:21:35 Speaker 2

The troops got off Mount Saint Jean that night and I was finally left alone on the mountain.

00:21:41 Speaker 2

Top.

00:21:42 Speaker 2

With my radio and with one Lieutenant, I slid down the mountain in the mud. We came to a road at the bottom that was being shelled, but we ran across.

00:21:55 Speaker 2

I made it through a dark field and came onto an anti aircraft battery and was directed back to my unit.

00:22:03 Speaker 2

I finally fell asleep in a cow barn and when I awoke in the morning.

00:22:09 Speaker 2

The roof of the barn was gone and have been blown off during the night.

00:22:15 Speaker 2

Just a few days later, for momentary shelter during a hard rain, I drove the Jeep into an open barn with a hayloft above.

00:22:25 Speaker 2

One of the men decided to look for AIDS in the hayloft.

00:22:29 Speaker 2

He came down and stayed with 213 year old German boys in uniform and with a machine gun. They had pointed at our heads. They'd been deliberating whether or not to pull the trigger.

00:22:43 Speaker 2

Then there was the our dense forest. I only remember being very cold.

00:22:49 Speaker 2

Very wet. Lots of mud.

00:22:53 Speaker 2

And no over shoes for my size 12 feet.

00:22:58 Speaker 2

In early December 1944, after 102 days of continuous contact with the enemy.

00:23:05 Speaker 2

The 80th Division was finally ordered into rest in the city of Luxembourg.

00:23:12 Speaker 2

You've been there less than one week when we were suddenly piled into trucks and we drove all night in the bitter cold weather.

00:23:21 Speaker 2

We had no idea that this was the beginning of it, which later he called the bulge for the Battle of Bastone in Belgium.

00:23:31 Speaker 2

I was dropped off with the troops about 16 miles from bastone with my radio. It took three days and nights to work our way into the city over fields covered with snow.

00:23:44 Speaker 2

I remember the sound of tanks all around. At one point we stopped momentarily in a farmhouse and I placed my radio outside a window for better reception. When the tank shell fragment hit the battery compartment and caved it in, but the radio continued to work.

00:24:03 Speaker 2

Luckily, I had ducked down below the window sill.

00:24:07 Speaker 2

I was supposed to be relieved after 24 hours, but that didn't happen.

00:24:12 Speaker 2

And we were among the first troops enter Baston, with 101st Airborne Division, had been encircled.

00:24:19 Speaker 2

I remember standing at a large communications truck that was parked in the center of town and that was in direct communication with Supreme Allied headquarters in London. The war in Europe ended on May 8th, 1945, and on that day I recall standing in a muddy.

00:24:39 Speaker 2

Field.

00:24:40 Speaker 2

Directly across the Inn river from the city of Braunau in Austria, where Hitler was born.

00:24:48 Speaker 2

I had gone through the Normandy campaign through the French Maginot Line and twice through the German Siegfried Line.

00:24:56 Speaker 2

Had carried the radio for six battalion commanders. Colonel John Golden had been sent back to the states as category for recruit training.

00:25:06 Speaker 2

One was a captain Gardner, a fine man who had been a professor at Marshall College in Virginia.

00:25:14 Speaker 2

Another had been shot on Mount Saint Jean.

00:25:18 Speaker 2

One died of pneumonia and I have no recollection whatsoever of the other two.

00:25:25 Speaker 2

I was only hit once, but not seriously, but in the 80th division, over 17,000 men were killed or wounded.

00:25:35 Speaker 2

The rifle company had trained with at Camp Forest to turn over over its entire personnel 3 times.

00:25:41 Speaker 2

I received 1/3 day pass to Paris.

00:25:44 Speaker 2

During the war.

00:25:46 Speaker 2

And in late May 1945, I was sent to the 20th Corps rest camp at Sanville, France for a short stay.

00:25:55 Speaker 2

But other than that, never once during my time in the military did I see a celebrity entertainer who received so much as a doughnut from the Red Cross.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

After the fighting ended, the regiment was ordered to the city of Barishal in Austria, where we received the surrender of the entire German 6th Army.

00:26:19 Speaker 2

They rolled out of the hills for three days and nights on everything that could move. We separated the \*\*\*\*\* s s and officers from the regular German soldiers.

00:26:31 Speaker 2

Part of my duty during that time was to escort these discharged regular German troops 1500 at a time blocked in railroad box cars.

00:26:43 Speaker 2

And deliver them to the American 7th Army.

00:26:45 Speaker 2

In the South.

00:26:47 Speaker 2

I was armed with just a 45 caliber pistol and my fellow GI carried only an M1 carbine and we rode in the caboose.

00:26:58 Speaker 2

But these Germans were no longer a threat and I made 3 or 4 trips like this.

00:27:05 Speaker 2

In late June 1945, we moved again and this time for occupation in the German city of Kempton in all Gulf.

00:27:15 Speaker 2

The six members of our radio squad were quartered in a six story building and on the 1st floor had been a dry goods store and the family who owned it were allowed to live on the top floor and the rest of the building was ours.

00:27:30 Speaker 2

This was a relaxed time because all communication was now by wire and next to none by radio, so there was plenty of free time and very little duty. In addition, a brewery was located just across the street and on the table and our quarters was always a huge wheel of local cheese with a bayonet.

00:27:51 Speaker 2

Stuck in it for all to enjoy and the bathtub was filled with ice and beer bottles. But the war in the Pacific was not over.

00:28:01 Speaker 2

And we were slated to be sent there, but the a bomb fell on Hiroshima in August 1945, and it was all over.

00:28:11 Speaker 2

Then it was just a matter of going home and.

00:28:13 Speaker 2

When?

00:28:15 Speaker 2

Separation was carried out.

00:28:17 Speaker 2



Not by entire units, but as individuals or casuals, as we were called, and according to a point system. So many points for awards, decorations, lengths of service, and so forth. My turn came up in late September 1945.

00:28:36 Speaker 2

I said my goodbyes and then rode by boxcar, known as 40 and eighths.

00:28:42 Speaker 2

To an embarkation area near Lahar, France. These tent cities were known as cigarette camps. Mine was called Camp Herbert Harrington on the way. By sheer chance, I met my friend buddy Linus and we traveled together all the way to the states.

00:29:02 Speaker 2

We finally boarded a Swedish liner, originally known as the King's Home, that was bought by the US and converted into a troop transport. It was renamed to John Erickson.

00:29:16 Speaker 2

We were among the last ones to board the ship and we were told that all available bunks had been taken.

00:29:22 Speaker 2

And that meant sleeping on the open deck on the voyage across the Atlantic in October.

00:29:29 Speaker 2

So I searched below decks and found a compartment with two bunks that appeared to be unoccupied, so buddy and I threw our gear on.

00:29:36 Speaker 2

Them.

00:29:38 Speaker 2

And we soon found out that this was a section reserved for kitchen duty or KP. So except for sleeping, we spent very little time there.

00:29:48 Speaker 2

The Ericsson was originally provisioned for a 30 day trip to Argentina, but because it had only one working propeller which was rerouted to carry troops to New York, it took nine days to cross the Atlantic this time. But the food was great and there was plenty.

00:30:08 Speaker 2

The only recreation was the ever present AC Ducey dice games on the.

00:30:12 Speaker 2

Deck.

00:30:14 Speaker 2

It was rumored that one GI had won so much money.

00:30:18 Speaker 2

But he hired five other GIS to guard him night and day until the ship arrived in new.

00:30:22 Speaker 2

York.

00:30:23 Speaker 2

But he finally walked off safely with all his winnings.

00:30:27 Speaker 2

Two weeks after we disembarked from the John Erickson.

00:30:31 Speaker 2

It burned to the water line at its dock of Staten Island.

00:30:36 Speaker 2

We were transported back to Camp Kilmer where we were issued clean uniforms and then to the Indian Town Gap Military Reservation where I had been inducted in 1942, almost three years to the day after some speeches and the last steak dinner, we were told that we.

00:30:56 Speaker 2

Were officially discharged from the military, but with the admonition. Please don't speak ill of the army.

00:31:04 Speaker 2

When the gate finally opened, we were still in uniform barracks, bags and all, and that was it. We were out.

00:31:12 Speaker 2

Buddy and I hitchhiked back to Philadelphia. That was on October 21st, 1945 through a relative. I got a job with a clothing manufacturer with offices in the Empire State Building in New York.

00:31:40 Speaker 2

Section of Philadelphia became ill.

00:31:44 Speaker 2

And I returned from New York to help.

00:31:46 Speaker 2

Him.

00:31:47 Speaker 2

And my dad passed away.

00:31:50 Speaker 2

My brother, who had married while in the Air Force, had settled in Glendale, CA and he came back for the funeral.

00:31:59 Speaker 2

And after leaving my sister with relatives in New York, we drove back to California.

00:32:05 Speaker 2

I drifted down to San Diego and took a job as night manager of an all night movie theater located in what is now known as the gas Lamp Quarter.

00:32:15 Speaker 2

I became full manager and then in 1949 I was married.

00:32:21 Speaker 2

Unfortunately, this Union ended in divorce.

00:32:25 Speaker 2

That had produced 3 wonderful children and my only grandchild and all my children are college graduates.

00:32:33 Speaker 2

After two years, I'm tired of the movie business and began representing a Beverly Hills floor covering firm in San Diego.

00:32:42 Speaker 2

In 1953, I went on my own and opened the floor covering business in La Jolla, CA.

00:32:49 Speaker 2

I suffered cardiac problems in 1983 that required bypass heart surgery.

00:32:55 Speaker 2

In 1985, I closed my business and retired.

00:33:00 Speaker 2

On a happier note, in 1986 I married my companion and former Secretary, Francis, who has three fine children of her own. We live quietly in our condominium in San Diego and at this.

00:33:14 Speaker 2

Time.

00:33:16 Speaker 2

I remain active and in good.

00:33:18 Speaker 2

Health.

00:33:19 Speaker 2

Retain my interest in tennis by umpiring local tournaments and exhibitions.

00:33:24

Probably.

00:33:26 Speaker 2

I think about the war a lot.

00:33:28 Speaker 2

It was in my youth and it was a defining time of my life.

00:33:33 Speaker 2

I think about my friends from the platoon, Moe from Chicago.

00:33:38 Speaker 2

Kayo trenel.

00:33:41 Speaker 2

Mack Mccolgan and Bill Rhodes.

00:33:47 Speaker 2

I'm proud of my combat entrant. Freeman's badge, my bronze star.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

And my distinguished unit badge with four battle stars representing campaigns and.

00:34:02 Speaker 2

Northern France, Central Europe, the Rhineland and the Ardens.

00:34:08 Speaker 2

I related just a few of my combat experiences.

00:34:12 Speaker 2

I can only say that I was there. I did what I was asked to do.

00:34:16 Speaker 2

And I went where I was asked to go. I'm thankful that I'm here to tell this story. Thank you for listening.

00:34:28 Speaker 1

Mac, on behalf of the Historical Society, I want to thank.

00:34:31 Speaker 1

You.

00:34:32 Speaker 1

For sharing your recollections of your World War 2 experiences with.

00:34:36 Speaker 1

Us.

00:34:37 Speaker 1

And thank you so much for the sacrifice and the courage and bravery of your service and World War 2.

00:34:46 Speaker 1

Our hope is that future generations come to realize that through the courage and sacrifice made by your generation in the 80th, that we enjoy the freedom that we have today and to be able to do the kind of things that we do today. So thank you so much. It's been an honor to do your interview.