

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,280

2

00:00:07,280 --> 00:00:09,470

The slave labor
camp at Nordhausen

3

00:00:09,470 --> 00:00:12,200

liberated by the 3rd
Armored Division First Army,

4

00:00:12,200 --> 00:00:14,330

at least 3,000
political prisoners

5

00:00:14,330 --> 00:00:16,520

died here at the brutal
hands of SS troops

6

00:00:16,520 --> 00:00:19,730

and pardoned German criminals
who were the camp guards.

7

00:00:19,730 --> 00:00:23,420

Nordhausen had been a depository
for slaves found unfit for work

8

00:00:23,420 --> 00:00:26,780

in the underground b-bomb
plants and in other German camps

9

00:00:26,780 --> 00:00:27,980

and factories.

10

00:00:27,980 --> 00:00:32,210

American medical crews find
2,000 still alive at the camp.

11

00:00:32,210 --> 00:00:34,220

They had discovered
inside filthy barracks

12

00:00:34,220 --> 00:00:35,990

where the survival
and death were

13

00:00:35,990 --> 00:00:38,240

contingent on how long
human existence was

14

00:00:38,240 --> 00:00:40,820

possible on the daily
ration of potato peels,

15

00:00:40,820 --> 00:00:43,940

one slice of bread, and an
occasional bowl of a liquid

16

00:00:43,940 --> 00:00:45,800

that was supposedly soup.

17

00:00:45,800 --> 00:00:47,780

The dead quickly
outnumbered the living.

18

00:00:47,780 --> 00:00:53,700

19

00:00:53,700 --> 00:00:56,870

Amid the corpses are human
skeletons too weak to move.

20

00:00:56,870 --> 00:01:06,700

21

00:01:06,700 --> 00:01:09,490

Men of our medical battalions
work two days and nights

22

00:01:09,490 --> 00:01:11,890

binding wounds and
giving medications,

23

00:01:11,890 --> 00:01:14,990

but for advanced cases of
starvation and tuberculosis,

24
00:01:14,990 --> 00:01:16,840
there are often no cures.

25
00:01:16,840 --> 00:01:19,390
The survivors are shown
being evacuated for treatment

26
00:01:19,390 --> 00:01:20,500
in Allied hospitals.

27
00:01:20,500 --> 00:01:47,130

28
00:01:47,130 --> 00:01:49,470
The victims are mainly
Poles and Russians

29
00:01:49,470 --> 00:01:52,110
with considerable numbers of
French and other nationalities

30
00:01:52,110 --> 00:01:53,850
also included in
the camp roster.

31
00:01:53,850 --> 00:02:30,060

32
00:02:30,060 --> 00:02:31,870
The burgermeister
of Nordhausen is

33
00:02:31,870 --> 00:02:35,050
ordered to provide 600
German male civilians who

34
00:02:35,050 --> 00:02:38,590
will inter the 2,500
unburied bodies at the camp.

35

00:02:38,590 --> 00:02:41,470

An American correspondent
accredited the Nordhausen story

36

00:02:41,470 --> 00:02:43,240

reported as follows.

37

00:02:43,240 --> 00:02:45,640

I talked to some Germans
who were carrying bodies

38

00:02:45,640 --> 00:02:47,140

to the burial grounds.

39

00:02:47,140 --> 00:02:48,970

They insisted that
they did not know what

40

00:02:48,970 --> 00:02:50,890

was going on under their noses.

41

00:02:50,890 --> 00:02:53,380

Some said timidly
we've heard things

42

00:02:53,380 --> 00:02:55,870

but we were powerless
under the SS.

43

00:02:55,870 --> 00:02:58,300

One who spoke English and
overheard several Yanks

44

00:02:58,300 --> 00:03:00,820

telling me what they thought
of the Germans came up to us

45

00:03:00,820 --> 00:03:03,280

and said, sirs, be just.

46

00:03:03,280 --> 00:03:06,049

Not all the German

people are responsible.

47

00:03:06,049 --> 00:03:27,100

48

00:03:27,100 --> 00:03:29,710

A priest administers
last rites for the dead

49

00:03:29,710 --> 00:03:31,270

while the corpses
are being carried

50

00:03:31,270 --> 00:03:32,710

to the hillside for burial.

51

00:03:32,710 --> 00:03:37,970

52

00:03:37,970 --> 00:03:39,830

All day long, the
German civilians

53

00:03:39,830 --> 00:03:41,600

carry the gruesome
corpses, some of which

54

00:03:41,600 --> 00:03:43,190

are already green and putrefied.

55

00:03:43,190 --> 00:03:49,420

56

00:03:49,420 --> 00:03:53,405

Then the actual burial in common
graves of the 2,500 Nordhausen

57

00:03:53,405 --> 00:03:53,905

victims.

58

00:03:53,905 --> 00:04:19,090

59

00:04:19,090 --> 00:04:22,230

The Harlan concentration
camp near Hanover,

60

00:04:22,230 --> 00:04:25,830

out of 10,000 Polish men brought
here 10 months prior to April

61

00:04:25,830 --> 00:04:29,280

1945, only 200 remain.

62

00:04:29,280 --> 00:04:32,190

Prisoners who could walk were
removed before American troops

63

00:04:32,190 --> 00:04:33,330

entered Hanover.

64

00:04:33,330 --> 00:04:35,580

The others were left
to starve and die.

65

00:04:35,580 --> 00:04:37,470

Immediate relief was
provided for the men

66

00:04:37,470 --> 00:04:40,020

with the arrival of a
Red Cross clubmobile.

67

00:04:40,020 --> 00:04:41,520

The men broke into
tears when they

68

00:04:41,520 --> 00:04:44,550

were given hot soup, other food,
and cigarettes and clothing.

69

00:04:44,550 --> 00:05:00,790

70

00:05:00,790 --> 00:05:02,770

When questioned,
most of these men

71

00:05:02,770 --> 00:05:05,980

could not remember when they'd
last eaten a decent meal.

72

00:05:05,980 --> 00:05:07,510

Many had been
beaten and tortured

73

00:05:07,510 --> 00:05:09,300

so long their minds had failed.

74

00:05:09,300 --> 00:05:31,510

75

00:05:31,510 --> 00:05:34,090

Some of the inmates are too
weak to leave their bunks

76

00:05:34,090 --> 00:05:34,780

or even eat.

77

00:05:34,780 --> 00:05:42,700

78

00:05:42,700 --> 00:05:45,640

Others bunked together to
keep their frail bodies warm.

79

00:05:45,640 --> 00:05:48,910

80

00:05:48,910 --> 00:05:51,970

The deaths continue even
after liberation of the camp.

81

00:05:51,970 --> 00:05:54,600

Some were too far gone when
the Americans took over.

82

00:05:54,600 --> 00:06:16,530

83

00:06:16,530 --> 00:06:18,885

An AMG sergeant checks
the list of inmates.

84

00:06:18,885 --> 00:06:22,910

85

00:06:22,910 --> 00:06:24,860

The victims relate
the atrocity story,

86

00:06:24,860 --> 00:06:27,320

and photographs are made
for further documentation

87

00:06:27,320 --> 00:06:29,270

of the horrors committed
at the Hanover camp.

88

00:06:29,270 --> 00:06:44,050

89

00:06:44,050 --> 00:06:47,110

Pictorial evidence of the
almost unprecedented crimes

90

00:06:47,110 --> 00:06:49,840

perpetrated by the Nazis at
the Buchenwald concentration

91

00:06:49,840 --> 00:06:52,600

camp, the story
in written form is

92

00:06:52,600 --> 00:06:54,970

contained in the official
report of the prisoner of war

93

00:06:54,970 --> 00:06:57,400

and displaced persons division
of the United States group

94

00:06:57,400 --> 00:07:00,520
control council, which has been
forwarded from Supreme Allied

95

00:07:00,520 --> 00:07:03,310
headquarters to the war
department in Washington.

96

00:07:03,310 --> 00:07:06,880
It States that 1,000 boys
under 14 years of age

97

00:07:06,880 --> 00:07:10,300
are included among the 20,000
still alive at the camp,

98

00:07:10,300 --> 00:07:13,630
but the survivors are males
only and that the recent death

99

00:07:13,630 --> 00:07:15,870
rate was about 200 a day.

100

00:07:15,870 --> 00:07:31,470

101

00:07:31,470 --> 00:07:33,763
Nationalities and prison
numbers are tattooed

102

00:07:33,763 --> 00:07:35,055
on the stomachs of the inmates.

103

00:07:35,055 --> 00:07:44,270

104

00:07:44,270 --> 00:07:46,400
The report lists the
surviving inmates

105

00:07:46,400 --> 00:07:49,220

as representing every
European nationality.

106

00:07:49,220 --> 00:07:52,190

It says the camp was founded
when the Nazi party first came

107

00:07:52,190 --> 00:07:55,910

into power in 1933 and has
been in continuous operation

108

00:07:55,910 --> 00:07:58,860

ever since although its
largest populations date

109

00:07:58,860 --> 00:08:00,770

from the beginning
of the present war.

110

00:08:00,770 --> 00:08:03,890

I estimate put the camp's
normal complement at 80,000.

111

00:08:03,890 --> 00:08:28,460

112

00:08:28,460 --> 00:08:30,710

In the official report,
the Buchenwald camp

113

00:08:30,710 --> 00:08:33,190

is termed an
extermination factory.

114

00:08:33,190 --> 00:08:35,510

The means of
extermination starvation

115

00:08:35,510 --> 00:08:37,940

complicated by hard
work, abuse, beatings

116

00:08:37,940 --> 00:08:41,120
and tortures, incredibly
crowded sleeping conditions,

117

00:08:41,120 --> 00:08:43,340
and sicknesses of all types.

118

00:08:43,340 --> 00:08:45,680
By these means, the
report continues,

119

00:08:45,680 --> 00:08:47,960
many tens of thousands
of the best leadership

120

00:08:47,960 --> 00:08:50,780
personnel of Europe
had been exterminated.

121

00:08:50,780 --> 00:08:52,490
Bodies stacked
one upon the other

122

00:08:52,490 --> 00:08:54,680
were found outside
the crematory.

123

00:08:54,680 --> 00:08:56,150
The Nazis maintained
the building

124

00:08:56,150 --> 00:08:57,870
at the camp for
medical experiments

125

00:08:57,870 --> 00:09:00,620
and build sections with
prisoners as guinea pigs.

126

00:09:00,620 --> 00:09:03,050
Medical scientist came
from Berlin periodically

127

00:09:03,050 --> 00:09:05,360

to reinforce the
experimental staff.

128

00:09:05,360 --> 00:09:07,880

In particular, new
toxins and anti-toxins

129

00:09:07,880 --> 00:09:09,860

were tried out on prisoners.

130

00:09:09,860 --> 00:09:13,310

Few who entered the experimental
buildings ever emerged alive.

131

00:09:13,310 --> 00:09:23,210

132

00:09:23,210 --> 00:09:25,135

One of the weapons
used by SS guards.

133

00:09:25,135 --> 00:09:29,880

134

00:09:29,880 --> 00:09:33,310

The body disposal
plant, inside the ovens

135

00:09:33,310 --> 00:09:35,580

which gave the crematorium
a maximum disposal

136

00:09:35,580 --> 00:09:39,270

capacity of about 400
bodies per 10-hour a day.

137

00:09:39,270 --> 00:09:41,490

Gold-filled teeth were
extracted from bodies

138

00:09:41,490 --> 00:09:43,000

before incineration.

139

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:46,170

The ovens of extremely modern
design and heated by coke

140

00:09:46,170 --> 00:09:48,210

were made by a concern
which customarily

141

00:09:48,210 --> 00:09:49,980

manufactures baking ovens.

142

00:09:49,980 --> 00:09:52,140

The firm's name is
clearly inscribed.

143

00:09:52,140 --> 00:09:58,980

144

00:09:58,980 --> 00:10:02,780

All bodies were finally
reduced to bone ash.

145

00:10:02,780 --> 00:10:09,000