

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,100

2

00:00:11,100 --> 00:00:13,420

Please continue.

3

00:00:13,420 --> 00:00:21,360

So the German officer, being
brutalized by these several Red

4

00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:25,860

Army officers, that they
stopped and said, well, show us,

5

00:00:25,860 --> 00:00:28,366

how would you handle that?

6

00:00:28,366 --> 00:00:30,180

So I said, sure I'll show you.

7

00:00:30,180 --> 00:00:32,880

8

00:00:32,880 --> 00:00:37,680

Told this bleeding German
to stand at attention.

9

00:00:37,680 --> 00:00:40,950

I yelled at him,
in fact, in German.

10

00:00:40,950 --> 00:00:43,800

So he scrambled
back to his feet.

11

00:00:43,800 --> 00:00:47,730

But I saw in his eyes that
he looked at me at the only

12

00:00:47,730 --> 00:00:51,930

possible savior in the room.

13
00:00:51,930 --> 00:00:56,670
I told him to produce his
identification papers,

14
00:00:56,670 --> 00:00:58,610
which they always carried.

15
00:00:58,610 --> 00:01:03,850
Asked him what unit was he
in, and what was his function.

16
00:01:03,850 --> 00:01:06,030
Knew he was a major.

17
00:01:06,030 --> 00:01:08,960
So he said he was a Zahlmeister.

18
00:01:08,960 --> 00:01:12,060
Zahlmeister means
a finance officer,

19
00:01:12,060 --> 00:01:19,000
and the pay salary disbursing
department in the Wehrmacht.

20
00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:22,230
So I said prove it to me.

21
00:01:22,230 --> 00:01:26,590
How many men did you have
under him, under yourself?

22
00:01:26,590 --> 00:01:31,620
What was the annual payroll?

23
00:01:31,620 --> 00:01:34,980
A few simple
questions which I knew

24
00:01:34,980 --> 00:01:39,930
enough to ask so that he

couldn't really fake that.

25

00:01:39,930 --> 00:01:41,880

And I asked him these questions.

26

00:01:41,880 --> 00:01:47,310

I asked him what was the size
of the unit that he was paying,

27

00:01:47,310 --> 00:01:53,490

thinking that perhaps he was
in the General von Tippelskirch

28

00:01:53,490 --> 00:01:58,440

command, and therefore I could
get a better idea to the size

29

00:01:58,440 --> 00:02:01,260

of their surrendering force.

30

00:02:01,260 --> 00:02:03,940

But he was not that high level.

31

00:02:03,940 --> 00:02:12,600

And so I squeezed him dry in the
few minutes, and said, you see,

32

00:02:12,600 --> 00:02:18,240

he doesn't really have
anything of great value for us.

33

00:02:18,240 --> 00:02:26,570

But I told the Red Army
officers, but you know,

34

00:02:26,570 --> 00:02:30,890

I know that you have
suffered incredibly more

35

00:02:30,890 --> 00:02:36,980

than we have from the German
overrunning your country

36

00:02:36,980 --> 00:02:40,970

and killing your relatives
and friends of yours.

37

00:02:40,970 --> 00:02:48,230

Nevertheless, I don't think that
it behooves us or you to sink

38

00:02:48,230 --> 00:02:49,535

to the German level.

39

00:02:49,535 --> 00:02:52,050

40

00:02:52,050 --> 00:02:59,870

And this officer, he was
not a very high level man,

41

00:02:59,870 --> 00:03:04,570

understood this so clearly
that he opened the door

42

00:03:04,570 --> 00:03:11,610

and told the guard, a
simple soldier of Mongolian

43

00:03:11,610 --> 00:03:14,255

appearance, to take
him out, and he said,

44

00:03:14,255 --> 00:03:16,980

in Russian, he admonished him.

45

00:03:16,980 --> 00:03:22,420

Don't mistreat him.

46

00:03:22,420 --> 00:03:23,860

The way he put it,
of course, I am

47

00:03:23,860 --> 00:03:26,480

sure that his soldier obeyed.

48
00:03:26,480 --> 00:03:30,070
I know that I saved
that man's life,

49
00:03:30,070 --> 00:03:36,730
not that it mattered one iota
really, neither then nor today.

50
00:03:36,730 --> 00:03:42,330
But talking about the
principle of collective guilt,

51
00:03:42,330 --> 00:03:49,990
I am not sure whether something
like what the Nazis did cannot

52
00:03:49,990 --> 00:03:55,580
happen anywhere under
different circumstances.

53
00:03:55,580 --> 00:03:58,580
In every nation,
there are brutes.

54
00:03:58,580 --> 00:04:04,360

55
00:04:04,360 --> 00:04:08,210
And that gives me
something to think about.

56
00:04:08,210 --> 00:04:10,910

57
00:04:10,910 --> 00:04:16,430
When I saw, a day
or two after having

58
00:04:16,430 --> 00:04:23,450
gone to the concentration camp,
my main concern was how to help

59

00:04:23,450 --> 00:04:29,110
provide survival possibilities.

60

00:04:29,110 --> 00:04:30,970
As paratroopers
we had, of course,

61

00:04:30,970 --> 00:04:33,715
all had survival training.

62

00:04:33,715 --> 00:04:38,110
You know, we get dropped some
place without food or water,

63

00:04:38,110 --> 00:04:41,140
and have to make go.

64

00:04:41,140 --> 00:04:46,840
But it was nothing to
ready us for survival

65

00:04:46,840 --> 00:04:49,720
of concentration camp inmates.

66

00:04:49,720 --> 00:04:53,680
Had nothing to do with
that kind of survival,

67

00:04:53,680 --> 00:04:57,150
our military training.

68

00:04:57,150 --> 00:05:04,890
So I got busy right
away in two directions.

69

00:05:04,890 --> 00:05:08,640
Part time, of course,
because I have to make sure

70

00:05:08,640 --> 00:05:13,680
that the German administration
was getting reorganized so we

71
00:05:13,680 --> 00:05:17,430
could pull the proper
levers of command,

72
00:05:17,430 --> 00:05:22,410
and make them do the things
that a conquered nation has

73
00:05:22,410 --> 00:05:27,490
to be done, has to do, so that
everything would function,

74
00:05:27,490 --> 00:05:29,970
the town would be cleaned
up, and millions of things

75
00:05:29,970 --> 00:05:32,020
had to be done.

76
00:05:32,020 --> 00:05:38,850
But the first thing was food
for the surviving concentration

77
00:05:38,850 --> 00:05:39,720
camp inmates.

78
00:05:39,720 --> 00:05:42,650
There must have been a
couple of thousand there.

79
00:05:42,650 --> 00:05:44,530
And we didn't have enough food.

80
00:05:44,530 --> 00:05:48,930
The 82nd Airborne,
although well-fed, did not

81
00:05:48,930 --> 00:05:54,510
have a ration, say 1.1 ration.

82
00:05:54,510 --> 00:06:00,410

We had one ration per man,
and we could not share that.

83
00:06:00,410 --> 00:06:04,170
It was not feasible to do that.

84
00:06:04,170 --> 00:06:11,160
So I ran around the
German bakeries,

85
00:06:11,160 --> 00:06:14,510
and I found, I believe,
six bakeries in town.

86
00:06:14,510 --> 00:06:17,840

87
00:06:17,840 --> 00:06:21,010
Told them start baking
bread, but my orders.

88
00:06:21,010 --> 00:06:24,190
Of course, all bakers
answered the same thing.

89
00:06:24,190 --> 00:06:24,985
We have no flour.

90
00:06:24,985 --> 00:06:27,510

91
00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:29,160
We can't bake bread.

92
00:06:29,160 --> 00:06:31,790
We have no coal.

93
00:06:31,790 --> 00:06:32,990
We can't bake bread.

94
00:06:32,990 --> 00:06:38,420

95
00:06:38,420 --> 00:06:42,390
By a miraculous
coincidence, I went

96
00:06:42,390 --> 00:06:47,970
through a German Wehrmacht,
German army warehouse,

97
00:06:47,970 --> 00:06:51,380
and I found a huge
mountain of grain.

98
00:06:51,380 --> 00:06:54,150

99
00:06:54,150 --> 00:06:58,970
So I quickly ran to the best
baker, because that fellow,

100
00:06:58,970 --> 00:07:01,220
he must have been
around 70 years old,

101
00:07:01,220 --> 00:07:08,155
but he obviously knew the
problem that I had to solve.

102
00:07:08,155 --> 00:07:15,030
And I said, look, I have
found a lot of wheat.

103
00:07:15,030 --> 00:07:16,990
So you can make bread.

104
00:07:16,990 --> 00:07:19,760
And I have found a lot
of brown coal briquettes,

105
00:07:19,760 --> 00:07:22,590
so you can fire up your ovens.

106

00:07:22,590 --> 00:07:26,870

The briquettes will be
delivered within the hour.

107

00:07:26,870 --> 00:07:32,030

So he sort of shrugged
himself, and finally

108

00:07:32,030 --> 00:07:38,510

brought himself to point
out to yours truly that you

109

00:07:38,510 --> 00:07:43,100

can't bake bread from wheat.

110

00:07:43,100 --> 00:07:45,440

You need flour.

111

00:07:45,440 --> 00:07:50,160

Being a city boy, I
really didn't quite

112

00:07:50,160 --> 00:07:53,720

understand this on the spot.

113

00:07:53,720 --> 00:07:55,970

Of course, the minute
he mentioned this,

114

00:07:55,970 --> 00:08:00,230

I realized that somehow I
had to find a flour mill.

115

00:08:00,230 --> 00:08:04,220

I found a flour mill
which was on the Red Army

116

00:08:04,220 --> 00:08:09,140

side of the demarcation line.

117

00:08:09,140 --> 00:08:12,770

Their answer to whatever
proposal we ever made

118
00:08:12,770 --> 00:08:18,710
was this simple one word, nyet.

119
00:08:18,710 --> 00:08:22,250
It was always nyet, no
matter what we would explain.

120
00:08:22,250 --> 00:08:24,800
Luckily, it didn't
take me very long

121
00:08:24,800 --> 00:08:28,850
to understand that
their nyet was just not

122
00:08:28,850 --> 00:08:31,040
something that I have to take.

123
00:08:31,040 --> 00:08:34,400
And I told them they had
a lot of horses there.

124
00:08:34,400 --> 00:08:36,860
In fact, they had a cavalry
division, I believe,

125
00:08:36,860 --> 00:08:38,120
if not more.

126
00:08:38,120 --> 00:08:42,610
I told them that,
oh, we happened

127
00:08:42,610 --> 00:08:47,270
to have some oats, because I
know something about horses.

128
00:08:47,270 --> 00:08:51,200
And I know that these Russian
cavalry men, they would rather

129

00:08:51,200 --> 00:08:55,040
die than let their horses die.

130
00:08:55,040 --> 00:08:56,960
They loved their horses.

131
00:08:56,960 --> 00:08:58,750
It's ingrained in them.

132
00:08:58,750 --> 00:09:02,550
So when they heard that
we had oats, they said,

133
00:09:02,550 --> 00:09:03,500
what do you want?

134
00:09:03,500 --> 00:09:08,390
I said, you get one
sack of oats for every,

135
00:09:08,390 --> 00:09:12,110
I forget now whether it was
three or five sacks of wheat

136
00:09:12,110 --> 00:09:14,640
that you would mill.

137
00:09:14,640 --> 00:09:19,060
And we had instantly
lots of flour

138
00:09:19,060 --> 00:09:21,100
and bread was being baked.

139
00:09:21,100 --> 00:09:25,100
Delicious German country bread.

140
00:09:25,100 --> 00:09:29,380
It was being distributed
to the survivors.

141
00:09:29,380 --> 00:09:33,070

Quite a few must have
survived on that account.

142
00:09:33,070 --> 00:09:37,960
For quite a few,
unfortunately, it was too late.

143
00:09:37,960 --> 00:09:40,300
Another thing I
have to do is I had

144
00:09:40,300 --> 00:09:44,200
to find where to lodge them.

145
00:09:44,200 --> 00:09:46,715
I couldn't just leave
them mill around

146
00:09:46,715 --> 00:09:50,260
in the city and the
streets of the town,

147
00:09:50,260 --> 00:09:53,780
or around the
concentration camp.

148
00:09:53,780 --> 00:09:57,680
The German population was
terribly worried about that.

149
00:09:57,680 --> 00:09:59,470
Although I must
say, they were not

150
00:09:59,470 --> 00:10:02,770
committing any atrocities,
any retribution.

151
00:10:02,770 --> 00:10:05,740
In fact, this is something I
myself couldn't understand.

152
00:10:05,740 --> 00:10:08,470

How could they not seek revenge.

153

00:10:08,470 --> 00:10:11,860

But that was the last
thing on their minds.

154

00:10:11,860 --> 00:10:16,690

We were more vengeful
than the survivors were.

155

00:10:16,690 --> 00:10:22,300

So I found the German, a
large German military hospital

156

00:10:22,300 --> 00:10:24,820

with a number of wings.

157

00:10:24,820 --> 00:10:28,780

I immediately went to
speak to their head

158

00:10:28,780 --> 00:10:30,640

surgeon, the man in charge.

159

00:10:30,640 --> 00:10:35,356

And I said, you can't see
him, because he's operating.

160

00:10:35,356 --> 00:10:42,850

I said I was in no mood for
protocol with the Germans

161

00:10:42,850 --> 00:10:46,790

to worry about the operation
of a German soldier

162

00:10:46,790 --> 00:10:50,230

by the chief German surgeon.

163

00:10:50,230 --> 00:10:52,630

I said, you better
get me over there.

164

00:10:52,630 --> 00:10:55,750

And finally, I went through
several operating rooms, one

165

00:10:55,750 --> 00:10:57,620

after the other.

166

00:10:57,620 --> 00:11:03,050

And in the midst of
operations, and I'd look.

167

00:11:03,050 --> 00:11:06,536

It was some other surgeon
and most of them there.

168

00:11:06,536 --> 00:11:09,810

And I pulled out,
went to the next one.

169

00:11:09,810 --> 00:11:12,100

And finally, I
barged into one room

170

00:11:12,100 --> 00:11:15,400

where, indeed, this chief
surgeon was amputating

171

00:11:15,400 --> 00:11:18,640

some German soldier's leg.

172

00:11:18,640 --> 00:11:21,250

I remember the German
soldier was squirming.

173

00:11:21,250 --> 00:11:24,130

He was not well anesthetized.

174

00:11:24,130 --> 00:11:30,010

And they were cutting
off, sawing the leg off.

175

00:11:30,010 --> 00:11:34,450

And when I saw that, and this
poor German soldier screaming

176
00:11:34,450 --> 00:11:42,370
there in agony, somehow,
despite everything,

177
00:11:42,370 --> 00:11:45,730
I pulled back and
closed the door.

178
00:11:45,730 --> 00:11:47,890
Said OK, let him finish.

179
00:11:47,890 --> 00:11:53,020
When he finished, I said,
I ordered the sergeant

180
00:11:53,020 --> 00:11:57,250
to clear out one
wing of the hospital,

181
00:11:57,250 --> 00:12:02,920
and to prepare the rooms for
the survivors that were still

182
00:12:02,920 --> 00:12:03,985
ambulatory.

183
00:12:03,985 --> 00:12:09,250
Our own medics organized
a shuttle service

184
00:12:09,250 --> 00:12:14,770
with whatever few
ambulances we had

185
00:12:14,770 --> 00:12:19,180
back and forth until the
hospital rooms in that wing

186
00:12:19,180 --> 00:12:20,470
were filled.

187
00:12:20,470 --> 00:12:21,910
On the floor, there
were of course

188
00:12:21,910 --> 00:12:24,750
no beds or any amenities.

189
00:12:24,750 --> 00:12:29,940
It was just a roof, a brick,
solidly built hospital.

190
00:12:29,940 --> 00:12:35,400
And these survivors were
laying on the floor.

191
00:12:35,400 --> 00:12:39,940
And so I was very happy that at
least a few more would survive,

192
00:12:39,940 --> 00:12:42,310
and without that.

193
00:12:42,310 --> 00:12:47,200
Then the next day, I remembered
that I had other things

194
00:12:47,200 --> 00:12:49,540
on my mind, and busy.

195
00:12:49,540 --> 00:12:50,690
I took a detour.

196
00:12:50,690 --> 00:12:51,430
I went back.

197
00:12:51,430 --> 00:12:55,200
I just went to check
up on this stuff.

198
00:12:55,200 --> 00:12:58,720
And I could see our medics

were running back and forth.

199

00:12:58,720 --> 00:13:01,480

We had a few medics,
not that many,

200

00:13:01,480 --> 00:13:06,130

but whatever medics were being
spared from the 82nd Airborne

201

00:13:06,130 --> 00:13:09,780

were working in this hospital.

202

00:13:09,780 --> 00:13:14,260

And I walked around there,
inspecting the bodies,

203

00:13:14,260 --> 00:13:18,730

the dead ones were being
piled out in the passageway

204

00:13:18,730 --> 00:13:22,150

to make room in inside
the rooms for more,

205

00:13:22,150 --> 00:13:27,460

because they were touching
like sardines literally.

206

00:13:27,460 --> 00:13:32,232

The whole floor was a carpet
of survivors in horrible shape.

207

00:13:32,232 --> 00:13:34,780

And every hour, I don't
know how many were dying,

208

00:13:34,780 --> 00:13:36,910

but quite a few.

209

00:13:36,910 --> 00:13:40,490

So then I looked at one,
and I told the medic, hey,

210
00:13:40,490 --> 00:13:42,320
this guy is dead.

211
00:13:42,320 --> 00:13:49,070
And then I bend over, and I
remember I picked up his hand.

212
00:13:49,070 --> 00:13:52,790
His hand was absolutely
listless and cold.

213
00:13:52,790 --> 00:13:54,260
And he just looked at me.

214
00:13:54,260 --> 00:13:55,090
He was a corpse.

215
00:13:55,090 --> 00:13:59,830
And just as I looked at
him, he opened his eyes

216
00:13:59,830 --> 00:14:02,672
and looked right through me.

217
00:14:02,672 --> 00:14:05,800
And I realized he was not dead.

218
00:14:05,800 --> 00:14:11,780
So I dropped his hand in horror,
and I walked out of the room.

219
00:14:11,780 --> 00:14:18,290
I remember to this day
where within a hairline,

220
00:14:18,290 --> 00:14:22,610
I almost had him thrown
out on the heap of corpses

221
00:14:22,610 --> 00:14:25,140
in the hallway,

yet he was alive.

222

00:14:25,140 --> 00:14:28,710

I couldn't see the difference
between life and death.

223

00:14:28,710 --> 00:14:36,288

And to this day, I remember that
there by miracle, he stayed.

224

00:14:36,288 --> 00:14:36,830

I don't know.

225

00:14:36,830 --> 00:14:38,420

Maybe he died anyway.

226

00:14:38,420 --> 00:14:39,530

Maybe he survived.

227

00:14:39,530 --> 00:14:42,090

But it was that
kind of situation.

228

00:14:42,090 --> 00:14:47,020

And constantly things
like that were going on.

229

00:14:47,020 --> 00:14:54,670

Well, corpses were there
in size-- large volume.

230

00:14:54,670 --> 00:14:59,250

We had realized that we
ordered the Germans to disinter

231

00:14:59,250 --> 00:15:04,210

these pits where they
had the common graves

232

00:15:04,210 --> 00:15:07,330

in the concentration camp
where they buried them.

233

00:15:07,330 --> 00:15:09,550
And somebody in our division--

234

00:15:09,550 --> 00:15:13,510
it may have been Major Woods,
our division chaplain, who

235

00:15:13,510 --> 00:15:15,940
was a terrific man himself--

236

00:15:15,940 --> 00:15:18,700

237

00:15:18,700 --> 00:15:26,120
somebody organized or said,
we will rebury them decently.

238

00:15:26,120 --> 00:15:30,800
And so everybody
who could be spared

239

00:15:30,800 --> 00:15:38,180
became instantly mobilized
for this reburial ceremony.

240

00:15:38,180 --> 00:15:43,370
And what happened there is that
the division headquarters was

241

00:15:43,370 --> 00:15:48,470
a beautiful little castle
that belonged to the Grand

242

00:15:48,470 --> 00:15:50,390
Duke of Mecklenburg.

243

00:15:50,390 --> 00:15:53,250

244

00:15:53,250 --> 00:15:57,690
And in front of this
castle was a large garden

245
00:15:57,690 --> 00:16:03,590
with water fountains
and beautiful trees.

246
00:16:03,590 --> 00:16:07,250
And as is typical of these
little castles, with an alley

247
00:16:07,250 --> 00:16:12,750
way right in front of the
castle for maybe a kilometer,

248
00:16:12,750 --> 00:16:14,820
or almost a kilometer long.

249
00:16:14,820 --> 00:16:17,610

250
00:16:17,610 --> 00:16:19,930
So we told the
Germans that we'll

251
00:16:19,930 --> 00:16:24,750
rebury all of this
concentration camp corpses,

252
00:16:24,750 --> 00:16:32,640
pull them out of the common
graves, and dig graves.

253
00:16:32,640 --> 00:16:42,120
Put them like US Army casualties
in white mattress covers,

254
00:16:42,120 --> 00:16:44,400
and rebury them.

255
00:16:44,400 --> 00:16:48,750
And before they would be
actually covered with earth,

256

00:16:48,750 --> 00:16:53,040
we wanted every German
first to participate

257
00:16:53,040 --> 00:16:55,770
in doing the physical labor.

258
00:16:55,770 --> 00:16:59,430
And second, of course,
to march through

259
00:16:59,430 --> 00:17:06,869
and to hear at least the burial
address that our division

260
00:17:06,869 --> 00:17:09,510
chaplain Major Woods gave.

261
00:17:09,510 --> 00:17:12,390
Excuse me, were these Germans
military or civilian, or both?

262
00:17:12,390 --> 00:17:13,470
Both.

263
00:17:13,470 --> 00:17:15,670
What happened there
is, of course,

264
00:17:15,670 --> 00:17:19,500
the little town of Ludwigslust
was filled with civilians.

265
00:17:19,500 --> 00:17:21,390
It was not a very big town.

266
00:17:21,390 --> 00:17:25,240
It may have 50,000
or 30,000 people.

267
00:17:25,240 --> 00:17:30,510
It was a whole neat, organized
administration, typical German,

268
00:17:30,510 --> 00:17:32,980
where everything was flawless.

269
00:17:32,980 --> 00:17:35,160
The command structure
was beautiful.

270
00:17:35,160 --> 00:17:40,230
So all we need to do is take
the mayor, the burgermeister,

271
00:17:40,230 --> 00:17:43,350
and organize all the
channels of responsibility

272
00:17:43,350 --> 00:17:46,470
before changing,
kicking out the Nazis

273
00:17:46,470 --> 00:17:48,420
and bringing in non-Nazis.

274
00:17:48,420 --> 00:17:51,420
We had them run this.

275
00:17:51,420 --> 00:17:57,750
But also, something that
many people are not aware

276
00:17:57,750 --> 00:18:02,880
of, that at that
particular time,

277
00:18:02,880 --> 00:18:09,310
the entire 21st German field
army under command of General

278
00:18:09,310 --> 00:18:13,460
von Tippelskirch surrendered
to General Gavin,

279

00:18:13,460 --> 00:18:15,510
the 82nd Airborne.

280
00:18:15,510 --> 00:18:19,530
I believe in the entire
history of warfare,

281
00:18:19,530 --> 00:18:23,850
this is the only case where
an entire army surrendered

282
00:18:23,850 --> 00:18:26,870
to a single division.

283
00:18:26,870 --> 00:18:32,410
And so we had there
a large German staff,

284
00:18:32,410 --> 00:18:37,780
starting with the top
general, and all his command

285
00:18:37,780 --> 00:18:40,510
was absolutely--

286
00:18:40,510 --> 00:18:43,300
the structure was
absolutely there.

287
00:18:43,300 --> 00:18:48,130
And in fact, I wouldn't say
they were particularly arrogant,

288
00:18:48,130 --> 00:18:50,380
because they realized
that would have

289
00:18:50,380 --> 00:18:53,320
been very unhealthy for them.

290
00:18:53,320 --> 00:18:58,570
But they certainly
were well organized.

291
00:18:58,570 --> 00:19:04,820
And this military hierarchy
and structure was preserved.

292
00:19:04,820 --> 00:19:10,880
So the burial address
was made by Major Woods.

293
00:19:10,880 --> 00:19:15,190
The people were being reburied.

294
00:19:15,190 --> 00:19:25,180
I myself was night and day busy
looking for German shirkers,

295
00:19:25,180 --> 00:19:30,880
because I didn't want any
single person there not

296
00:19:30,880 --> 00:19:32,550
to participate.

297
00:19:32,550 --> 00:19:37,180
And disinter with
their own bare hands

298
00:19:37,180 --> 00:19:42,050
without gloves, which was our
law that we laid down to them

299
00:19:42,050 --> 00:19:44,050
the rotting corpses.

300
00:19:44,050 --> 00:19:45,340
In fact, they weren't rotting.

301
00:19:45,340 --> 00:19:46,810
There was nothing to rot.

302
00:19:46,810 --> 00:19:49,390
There was so little

flesh on them.

303

00:19:49,390 --> 00:19:52,780

Out of the pits, bring
them on horse carts,

304

00:19:52,780 --> 00:19:54,970

and whatever way they could.

305

00:19:54,970 --> 00:19:56,920

Sometimes hand carts.

306

00:19:56,920 --> 00:20:02,410

To this garden, this
park, to rebury them.

307

00:20:02,410 --> 00:20:06,530

You can imagine that this
was not a very pleasant task.

308

00:20:06,530 --> 00:20:11,160

And many Germans were hiding
the most incredible cellars,

309

00:20:11,160 --> 00:20:17,290

and the little places, attics,
and holes in the ground

310

00:20:17,290 --> 00:20:19,510

to get away from this.

311

00:20:19,510 --> 00:20:23,530

A yours truly, I was
mercilessly handing

312

00:20:23,530 --> 00:20:28,930

them all, women, old
men, children, everybody

313

00:20:28,930 --> 00:20:29,870

to do the job.

314

00:20:29,870 --> 00:20:32,510

315

00:20:32,510 --> 00:20:34,520

Many of my friends, of
course, were helping.

316

00:20:34,520 --> 00:20:37,670

I wasn't doing this alone.

317

00:20:37,670 --> 00:20:40,690

Hundreds of our GIs were
doing the same thing.

318

00:20:40,690 --> 00:20:44,180

And I'm sure that we still
didn't find everybody.

319

00:20:44,180 --> 00:20:47,270

Most of them, but not everybody.

320

00:20:47,270 --> 00:20:53,390

Anyway, terror was
reigning among the Germans,

321

00:20:53,390 --> 00:21:02,170

because my office, the G5, I
was in direct contact daily--

322

00:21:02,170 --> 00:21:06,860

daily, it's every minute
of the day practically--

323

00:21:06,860 --> 00:21:12,710

with the burgermeister,
the mayor of Ludwigslust.

324

00:21:12,710 --> 00:21:16,010

And in Ludwigslust
was also the office

325

00:21:16,010 --> 00:21:21,430

of what the Germans called

the Kreis, which is, say,

326

00:21:21,430 --> 00:21:27,440

a county government,
and the Kreisleiter.

327

00:21:27,440 --> 00:21:31,160

That leader was there also.

328

00:21:31,160 --> 00:21:34,250

He was higher, much higher
than the burgermeister,

329

00:21:34,250 --> 00:21:39,130

and much sharper and
more intelligent fellow.

330

00:21:39,130 --> 00:21:46,220

I was spewing forth an
uninterrupted stream of orders.

331

00:21:46,220 --> 00:21:49,160

In fact, the first
meeting we had

332

00:21:49,160 --> 00:21:51,620

when I came into
the meeting room

333

00:21:51,620 --> 00:21:55,350

when they were so surprised
to see the first American come

334

00:21:55,350 --> 00:22:01,340

in there, I told them that
you are personally responsible

335

00:22:01,340 --> 00:22:03,610

if anything goes wrong.

336

00:22:03,610 --> 00:22:09,110

And I don't advise you to have
anything allowed to get wrong,

337
00:22:09,110 --> 00:22:12,950
because it would not be
healthy for you personally

338
00:22:12,950 --> 00:22:18,380
to incur my wrath, and the
wrath of the 82nd Airborne.

339
00:22:18,380 --> 00:22:22,580
In fact, I was not using the
technical German translation

340
00:22:22,580 --> 00:22:27,200
of airborne, which
means Luftlandetruppen.

341
00:22:27,200 --> 00:22:31,220
But I used the word
parachute division.

342
00:22:31,220 --> 00:22:32,960
It's Fallschirmjager.

343
00:22:32,960 --> 00:22:37,850
Because that produced a
great deal more obedience,

344
00:22:37,850 --> 00:22:40,130
more instantaneous response.

345
00:22:40,130 --> 00:22:43,220
The time lag was
less than 5 seconds

346
00:22:43,220 --> 00:22:47,000
usually between issuing of
an order and the beginning

347
00:22:47,000 --> 00:22:49,340
of its implementation.

348

00:22:49,340 --> 00:22:53,990

And the mayor was really
the chief executive officer

349

00:22:53,990 --> 00:22:57,500

of that little town, more
than the Kreisleiter,

350

00:22:57,500 --> 00:22:59,610

who had more policy matters.

351

00:22:59,610 --> 00:23:02,090

And I was handing
him also a lot.

352

00:23:02,090 --> 00:23:07,610

But really, the mayor was
the focus of my attention,

353

00:23:07,610 --> 00:23:12,080

the focus of my CO's
attention, and the focus

354

00:23:12,080 --> 00:23:16,420

of the G5 of the 82nd Airborne.

355

00:23:16,420 --> 00:23:23,750

And it was not a very
pleasant situation for him,

356

00:23:23,750 --> 00:23:29,300

because he was hardly
ever disobedient.

357

00:23:29,300 --> 00:23:32,570

The first sign of
disobedience, or let's

358

00:23:32,570 --> 00:23:37,340

not even say disobedience,
but inadequate speed

359

00:23:37,340 --> 00:23:40,590

of responsiveness, because
we expected, of course,

360
00:23:40,590 --> 00:23:44,690
as we used to have the saying
in the 82nd Airborne, what's

361
00:23:44,690 --> 00:23:50,420
the difference between a
trooper and a regular army unit?

362
00:23:50,420 --> 00:23:55,540
Troopers have immediate
and vigorous action.

363
00:23:55,540 --> 00:23:58,550
No matter what happens,
immediate and vigorous action.

364
00:23:58,550 --> 00:24:01,780
You don't have to give specific
orders like in the rest

365
00:24:01,780 --> 00:24:03,220
of the US Army.

366
00:24:03,220 --> 00:24:06,350
Troopers, you give an
order, general order,

367
00:24:06,350 --> 00:24:10,630
and the troopers know that
immediately and vigorously

368
00:24:10,630 --> 00:24:13,240
the objective is
attained, whatever it is.

369
00:24:13,240 --> 00:24:16,600
Whether hill or three
or five has to be taken,

370
00:24:16,600 --> 00:24:18,860

or whether the town
has to be cleaned up,

371
00:24:18,860 --> 00:24:20,620
and whether the
list of Nazis has

372
00:24:20,620 --> 00:24:24,610
to be submitted at 3 o'clock.

373
00:24:24,610 --> 00:24:27,010
Anyway.

374
00:24:27,010 --> 00:24:30,790
At one point, just before
the burial, the reburial

375
00:24:30,790 --> 00:24:35,590
of these concentration
camp survivors,

376
00:24:35,590 --> 00:24:40,840
some German came in and told
me that the mayor committed

377
00:24:40,840 --> 00:24:43,642
suicide.

378
00:24:43,642 --> 00:24:45,840
I said, where?

379
00:24:45,840 --> 00:24:48,380
He's at his home.

380
00:24:48,380 --> 00:24:49,820
Drove over there.

381
00:24:49,820 --> 00:24:55,370
And I saw that the mayor,
his wife, and his daughter

382
00:24:55,370 --> 00:24:59,750

took poison, and
they're dead in bed.

383
00:24:59,750 --> 00:25:01,910
So said fine.

384
00:25:01,910 --> 00:25:03,900
Went back to the office.

385
00:25:03,900 --> 00:25:08,060
And told my commanding
officer, sir,

386
00:25:08,060 --> 00:25:11,000
the mayor committed suicide.

387
00:25:11,000 --> 00:25:13,490
Let's get another mayor.

388
00:25:13,490 --> 00:25:18,620
And so Major Seward, of course,
had heard the news already

389
00:25:18,620 --> 00:25:22,490
by radio telephone or something
from somebody else before that.

390
00:25:22,490 --> 00:25:26,690
And he said, I already
have a good candidate.

391
00:25:26,690 --> 00:25:31,260
Let me hear what you
think of him, about him.

392
00:25:31,260 --> 00:25:34,880
So he was sitting in
the office there being

393
00:25:34,880 --> 00:25:37,890
talked with by Corporal Peters.

394

00:25:37,890 --> 00:25:41,340
And I saw-- see this
white haired gentleman.

395
00:25:41,340 --> 00:25:46,710
And so I asked Peters, clue
me in, who is this guy?

396
00:25:46,710 --> 00:25:49,610
And he said, he's some
kind of a Social Democrat

397
00:25:49,610 --> 00:25:53,540
who was kicked out
of office before.

398
00:25:53,540 --> 00:25:56,085
And I said, well,
that's just fine.

399
00:25:56,085 --> 00:26:00,180
And I said to monsieur,
to me, it looks fine.

400
00:26:00,180 --> 00:26:06,050
So he was confirmed instantly,
appointed the new mayor

401
00:26:06,050 --> 00:26:08,060
by the 82nd Airborne.

402
00:26:08,060 --> 00:26:10,760
So that's how he
was the new mayor.

403
00:26:10,760 --> 00:26:18,020
The old mayor's demise had
the effect more or less on me

404
00:26:18,020 --> 00:26:24,560
like maybe the rear tire
on my Jeep went flat.

405

00:26:24,560 --> 00:26:26,360
It had to be fixed.

406
00:26:26,360 --> 00:26:30,880
And usually, I didn't fix tires
myself anymore in those days.

407
00:26:30,880 --> 00:26:35,390
I'd just tell some
German, and it was done.

408
00:26:35,390 --> 00:26:38,120
Do you have any idea why
they committed suicide?

409
00:26:38,120 --> 00:26:42,990
Well, that was speculated
about quite a bit.

410
00:26:42,990 --> 00:26:45,830
General Gavin in his
book was wondering

411
00:26:45,830 --> 00:26:51,140
why would the mayor
commit suicide

412
00:26:51,140 --> 00:26:54,570
when the town was taken
by the 82nd Airborne

413
00:26:54,570 --> 00:26:57,000
without apparent reason?

414
00:26:57,000 --> 00:26:59,370
And he wrote that in his book.

415
00:26:59,370 --> 00:27:03,080
So I wrote him after reading
this particular passage

416
00:27:03,080 --> 00:27:04,250
in his book.

417
00:27:04,250 --> 00:27:09,000
I wrote General Gavin
a report about this.

418
00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:11,810
And in this report, I
said something like this.

419
00:27:11,810 --> 00:27:15,380
This was and is my opinion.

420
00:27:15,380 --> 00:27:19,610
This mayor was a Nazi.

421
00:27:19,610 --> 00:27:27,050
To me, he happened to be a
temporarily useful fixture

422
00:27:27,050 --> 00:27:32,180
to run the administration,
because he was experienced.

423
00:27:32,180 --> 00:27:38,270
It was like having, let's
say, a typewriter ribbon.

424
00:27:38,270 --> 00:27:42,110
The whole typewriter would not
work if the ribbon didn't work.

425
00:27:42,110 --> 00:27:43,910
The mayor was the ribbon.

426
00:27:43,910 --> 00:27:46,970
But I knew that this
ribbon was dirty,

427
00:27:46,970 --> 00:27:50,600
and I was going to
change this ribbon

428

00:27:50,600 --> 00:27:55,820
as soon as I get a clean good
black ribbon in the typewriter.

429
00:27:55,820 --> 00:27:58,850
In other words, the minute
that he could be replaced,

430
00:27:58,850 --> 00:28:01,580
he would be kicked out, and
he would be pushed through

431
00:28:01,580 --> 00:28:05,820
the de-Nazification
procedures, which we had,

432
00:28:05,820 --> 00:28:12,080
which was being handled by
a specialized group of very

433
00:28:12,080 --> 00:28:16,730
competent fellows who were--

434
00:28:16,730 --> 00:28:19,940
the Germans were very
worried about that.

435
00:28:19,940 --> 00:28:25,160
But what was happening,
that every now and then,

436
00:28:25,160 --> 00:28:28,580
when the implementation
of orders

437
00:28:28,580 --> 00:28:34,250
was not adequate by the
mayor, I would tell him

438
00:28:34,250 --> 00:28:36,960
something like this.

439
00:28:36,960 --> 00:28:42,680

If you can't get this done,
I'll find somebody who can.

440
00:28:42,680 --> 00:28:47,260
As an example, when we
got into Ludwigslust.

441
00:28:47,260 --> 00:28:49,340
It was in the hour of my
first meeting with him,

442
00:28:49,340 --> 00:28:51,410
I saw this beautiful castle.

443
00:28:51,410 --> 00:28:54,590
And I thought that was
fitting for General Gavin's

444
00:28:54,590 --> 00:28:55,790
headquarters.

445
00:28:55,790 --> 00:28:57,980
And so I wanted that.

446
00:28:57,980 --> 00:29:02,000
So I went and told the
mayor, empty the castle.

447
00:29:02,000 --> 00:29:07,460
That will be 82nd Airborne HQ.

448
00:29:07,460 --> 00:29:11,570
So he came with some
limp excuse that it

449
00:29:11,570 --> 00:29:15,740
can't be done because the
call syndicate is there,

450
00:29:15,740 --> 00:29:18,320
has occupied the castle.

451

00:29:18,320 --> 00:29:20,570
And he talked with
a tremendous respect

452
00:29:20,570 --> 00:29:22,850
about this German
call syndicate,

453
00:29:22,850 --> 00:29:25,860
which was the first
time I ever heard of it.

454
00:29:25,860 --> 00:29:28,650
Shows you that we
didn't know everything.

455
00:29:28,650 --> 00:29:32,870
But anyway, so I
looked at him and said,

456
00:29:32,870 --> 00:29:37,340
if you can't get that
done, I have seen

457
00:29:37,340 --> 00:29:41,280
that the windows are very big.

458
00:29:41,280 --> 00:29:46,340
I will have some of our men go
in there, open all the windows,

459
00:29:46,340 --> 00:29:51,290
and throw out all the fixtures
and people of the call

460
00:29:51,290 --> 00:29:54,680
syndicate that we don't
need out of the windows

461
00:29:54,680 --> 00:29:58,440
to make sure that General
Gavin's headquarters is ready

462

00:29:58,440 --> 00:29:59,780
this afternoon.

463
00:29:59,780 --> 00:30:02,570
I forget how many
hours I gave him.

464
00:30:02,570 --> 00:30:03,890
Maybe two or three hours.

465
00:30:03,890 --> 00:30:06,728

466
00:30:06,728 --> 00:30:14,760
And I said, so you better
get this thing done.

467
00:30:14,760 --> 00:30:19,170
Then I added that,
and I used to add

468
00:30:19,170 --> 00:30:24,190
that as a standard procedure.

469
00:30:24,190 --> 00:30:31,170
If you don't get it done, I
will swap you against somebody

470
00:30:31,170 --> 00:30:37,050
that the Red Army is holding
who will get this job done,

471
00:30:37,050 --> 00:30:44,910
and you will wind up in the
Red Army camp for Nazis.

472
00:30:44,910 --> 00:30:50,400
This usually emptied
all blood from his face.

473
00:30:50,400 --> 00:30:53,490
He turned ashen gray white.

474

00:30:53,490 --> 00:30:55,830

He would start choking.

475

00:30:55,830 --> 00:31:00,480

And usually the
implementation of my orders

476

00:31:00,480 --> 00:31:03,570

proceeded instantly.

477

00:31:03,570 --> 00:31:09,620

I only had to say that,
I believe I probably

478

00:31:09,620 --> 00:31:12,470

have said that no more than
four times, but possibly

479

00:31:12,470 --> 00:31:14,360

only three times.

480

00:31:14,360 --> 00:31:15,280

It was enough.

481

00:31:15,280 --> 00:31:17,870

And he knew, of course,
that I meant it,

482

00:31:17,870 --> 00:31:18,965

because I wasn't bluffing.

483

00:31:18,965 --> 00:31:22,200

484

00:31:22,200 --> 00:31:28,660

Now, there were
rumors in Ludwigslust.

485

00:31:28,660 --> 00:31:34,410

Everybody who is in the
army knows rumor mongering.

486

00:31:34,410 --> 00:31:38,870

And among the troopers,
it's no different.

487

00:31:38,870 --> 00:31:42,920

And the most preposterous
rumors of all

488

00:31:42,920 --> 00:31:46,790

was something so ridiculous
that I didn't really

489

00:31:46,790 --> 00:31:49,260

want to pay attention to it.

490

00:31:49,260 --> 00:31:55,130

That was that this
part of Germany

491

00:31:55,130 --> 00:32:00,170

on the right side of the Elbe
was going to be given over

492

00:32:00,170 --> 00:32:03,230

to the Red Army.

493

00:32:03,230 --> 00:32:06,590

This was, in my
opinion, so preposterous

494

00:32:06,590 --> 00:32:09,410

that one couldn't
really seriously waste

495

00:32:09,410 --> 00:32:14,840

any time thinking about such
ridiculously stupid rumors.

496

00:32:14,840 --> 00:32:18,980

That territory taken
by the 82nd Airborne

497

00:32:18,980 --> 00:32:21,380
would be given to the Red Army?

498
00:32:21,380 --> 00:32:24,060
Unthinkable.

499
00:32:24,060 --> 00:32:27,435
Well, the mayor
committed suicide.

500
00:32:27,435 --> 00:32:32,720

501
00:32:32,720 --> 00:32:36,380
This has little to do
with a concentration camp.

502
00:32:36,380 --> 00:32:41,750
But indeed, a month
or month and a half

503
00:32:41,750 --> 00:32:47,500
after we took Ludwigslust, the
British military government

504
00:32:47,500 --> 00:32:49,400
team came in.

505
00:32:49,400 --> 00:32:51,820
Three or four men.

506
00:32:51,820 --> 00:32:56,500
I remember there was a
major in charge to take over

507
00:32:56,500 --> 00:32:59,660
from the 82nd Airborne.

508
00:32:59,660 --> 00:33:03,520
And I heard him say, this
is only for a few days,

509

00:33:03,520 --> 00:33:08,590
because they're going to
transfer this to the Red Army.

510
00:33:08,590 --> 00:33:12,390

511
00:33:12,390 --> 00:33:16,770
Already before that, we
saw it for the first time

512
00:33:16,770 --> 00:33:25,470
in my life, something with a
name I had never heard before,

513
00:33:25,470 --> 00:33:29,090
which is probably in the
history of the end of World War

514
00:33:29,090 --> 00:33:34,180
It to this day the most
important name of all.

515
00:33:34,180 --> 00:33:36,850

516
00:33:36,850 --> 00:33:39,070
And that was in
connection was the fact

517
00:33:39,070 --> 00:33:42,670
that the 82nd liberated
besides the concentration camp

518
00:33:42,670 --> 00:33:47,740
inmates some 84,000
prisoners of war

519
00:33:47,740 --> 00:33:51,400
that the Red Army
lost to the Germans.

520
00:33:51,400 --> 00:33:55,000

So we liberated these Red
Army officers, and men,

521
00:33:55,000 --> 00:33:57,590
84,000 approximately.

522
00:33:57,590 --> 00:33:58,885
Now, that's a lot of people.

523
00:33:58,885 --> 00:34:02,490

524
00:34:02,490 --> 00:34:10,320
I have assembled them all
one day in front of me

525
00:34:10,320 --> 00:34:12,420
at the airport--

526
00:34:12,420 --> 00:34:14,280
little airfield, not airport.

527
00:34:14,280 --> 00:34:18,030
It's a military Luftwaffe
airfield outside

528
00:34:18,030 --> 00:34:20,250
of Ludwigslust--

529
00:34:20,250 --> 00:34:24,800
to announce them this
breathtaking news

530
00:34:24,800 --> 00:34:26,680
that they were going
to be repatriated.

531
00:34:26,680 --> 00:34:29,810

532
00:34:29,810 --> 00:34:33,679
Because a few hours

before that, my CO

533

00:34:33,679 --> 00:34:38,090

called me in and
said, Linton, these

534

00:34:38,090 --> 00:34:40,429

are orders that just came in.

535

00:34:40,429 --> 00:34:41,730

Read this.

536

00:34:41,730 --> 00:34:42,230

Read it.

537

00:34:42,230 --> 00:34:47,989

It was maybe two or three lines,
in typical terse army lingo.

538

00:34:47,989 --> 00:34:51,440

It said something to the effect
that pursuant to the Yalta

539

00:34:51,440 --> 00:34:57,470

agreement, all Red
Army prisoners of war

540

00:34:57,470 --> 00:35:04,950

shall be repatriated
forthwith to the Soviet Union

541

00:35:04,950 --> 00:35:09,800

and transferred to the command
of the Red Army command.

542

00:35:09,800 --> 00:35:12,010

To be implemented, and
they gave, I think,

543

00:35:12,010 --> 00:35:13,670

something like
two or three days.

544

00:35:13,670 --> 00:35:16,480

545

00:35:16,480 --> 00:35:18,890

So I said, pursuant to Yalta?

546

00:35:18,890 --> 00:35:19,980

What is Yalta?

547

00:35:19,980 --> 00:35:21,780

Never heard of it.

548

00:35:21,780 --> 00:35:25,440

After all, you know, we were
soldiers in the 82nd Airborne.

549

00:35:25,440 --> 00:35:27,600

We had nothing to do with Yalta.

550

00:35:27,600 --> 00:35:31,560

We didn't even know really
that Roosevelt had been there,

551

00:35:31,560 --> 00:35:33,130

although we read.

552

00:35:33,130 --> 00:35:37,020

It was in the press, but
we didn't pay attention.

553

00:35:37,020 --> 00:35:41,910

We were more worried where
the next machine gun nest was.

554

00:35:41,910 --> 00:35:48,780

And so we've heard that,
indeed, the Red Army

555

00:35:48,780 --> 00:35:53,460

men were repatriated according
to the Yalta agreement.

556

00:35:53,460 --> 00:35:58,920

And the right side
of the Elbe was

557

00:35:58,920 --> 00:36:05,480

part of the Soviet occupation
territory that rightfully

558

00:36:05,480 --> 00:36:10,490

belonged to the Red Army, even
though the 82nd has taken it.

559

00:36:10,490 --> 00:36:14,320

And this incredible thing, for
a troop at least incredible,

560

00:36:14,320 --> 00:36:17,870

that that area was going to
be given to the Red Army,

561

00:36:17,870 --> 00:36:19,530

turned out to be true.

562

00:36:19,530 --> 00:36:22,760

But these rumors were
beginning to circulate,

563

00:36:22,760 --> 00:36:25,220

and the Germans were
scared to death.

564

00:36:25,220 --> 00:36:28,270

And I think that the mayor
just couldn't take it,

565

00:36:28,270 --> 00:36:29,865

and collapsed.

566

00:36:29,865 --> 00:36:34,310

And in true German Teutonic
mastery of the family

567

00:36:34,310 --> 00:36:38,290
told his wife and his daughter
that they better come along,

568
00:36:38,290 --> 00:36:40,310
and they committed suicide.

569
00:36:40,310 --> 00:36:43,280
That's how I piece it together.

570
00:36:43,280 --> 00:36:50,480
Anyway, the German
administration,

571
00:36:50,480 --> 00:36:53,090
reluctantly and
dragging their heels,

572
00:36:53,090 --> 00:36:58,820
helped us save quite
a few of the German--

573
00:36:58,820 --> 00:37:02,630
of the concentration
camp survivors.

574
00:37:02,630 --> 00:37:05,060
We gradually organized
with the Belgians,

575
00:37:05,060 --> 00:37:09,290
with the French
repatriation convoys that

576
00:37:09,290 --> 00:37:14,060
came to pick them up, and
within 10 days or two weeks,

577
00:37:14,060 --> 00:37:21,030
most of the survivors had
gone and were repatriated.

578
00:37:21,030 --> 00:37:28,170

As a slight interlude, I might
add that one thing that I did--

579
00:37:28,170 --> 00:37:31,560
how small the world is really.

580
00:37:31,560 --> 00:37:36,910
The railroad station of
Ludwigslust was not bombed.

581
00:37:36,910 --> 00:37:39,690
And I looked at it quickly.

582
00:37:39,690 --> 00:37:41,380
There was nobody in there.

583
00:37:41,380 --> 00:37:43,860
And I saw it was
a very well-built,

584
00:37:43,860 --> 00:37:46,740
as old German railroad
stations usually are, solidly

585
00:37:46,740 --> 00:37:51,360
built to last for centuries.

586
00:37:51,360 --> 00:37:56,130
Walls that must have
been a meter thick.

587
00:37:56,130 --> 00:37:57,570
Solid.

588
00:37:57,570 --> 00:38:02,100
And the offices of the station
master and the other offices

589
00:38:02,100 --> 00:38:07,890
were left with ink, there with
pencils laying on work papers

590

00:38:07,890 --> 00:38:12,532
that they just
abandoned in a frenzy.

591
00:38:12,532 --> 00:38:15,420
And I thought this
was a good spot

592
00:38:15,420 --> 00:38:20,850
where to bring a couple of the
survivors who I felt needed

593
00:38:20,850 --> 00:38:25,530
to be nursed back to
life, because we quickly

594
00:38:25,530 --> 00:38:32,520
learned that it's very easy to
kill people through ignorance.

595
00:38:32,520 --> 00:38:36,770
And I did that also, and several
of our troopers did this.

596
00:38:36,770 --> 00:38:42,200
When we saw these emaciated
ambulatory corpses,

597
00:38:42,200 --> 00:38:46,860
our instinct was to
grab our candy bar

598
00:38:46,860 --> 00:38:50,670
and give them Oh Henry!,
which I remember to this day I

599
00:38:50,670 --> 00:38:53,970
have given to somebody there.

600
00:38:53,970 --> 00:38:58,500
And he started munching
on this chocolate bar,

601

00:38:58,500 --> 00:39:02,445
and in front of me
collapsed and died in agony.

602
00:39:02,445 --> 00:39:05,160

603
00:39:05,160 --> 00:39:11,340
I saw a GI, a friend of
mine, who was in the kitchen.

604
00:39:11,340 --> 00:39:14,730
He came with a can of
condensed milk, an [? OD ?]

605
00:39:14,730 --> 00:39:20,800
can, olive drab colored can,
but typical condensed milk.

606
00:39:20,800 --> 00:39:25,930
He saw this group standing
there of survivors.

607
00:39:25,930 --> 00:39:28,830
Pulled out his bayonet,
made two holes in the can

608
00:39:28,830 --> 00:39:29,860
and gave it to them.

609
00:39:29,860 --> 00:39:35,420
And they started drinking this
rich milk, and the same thing.

610
00:39:35,420 --> 00:39:39,340
Died in front of
us within minutes.

611
00:39:39,340 --> 00:39:44,260
In awfully painful agony.

612
00:39:44,260 --> 00:39:47,430
Well, you know, you see,

you do that twice, you

613
00:39:47,430 --> 00:39:49,590
don't do it the third time.

614
00:39:49,590 --> 00:39:53,040
I did it once and my
friend did it once.

615
00:39:53,040 --> 00:39:53,940
That was it.

616
00:39:53,940 --> 00:39:57,570
We learned very quickly,
don't feed them.

617
00:39:57,570 --> 00:40:00,440
Let's get some medical
advice how to feed them.

618
00:40:00,440 --> 00:40:02,520
We just don't know
how to feed them.

619
00:40:02,520 --> 00:40:05,130
But one thing we'd
learned is that there

620
00:40:05,130 --> 00:40:08,160
comes a point in
their life when they

621
00:40:08,160 --> 00:40:10,700
don't want to live any more.

622
00:40:10,700 --> 00:40:13,230
And we call them zombies.

623
00:40:13,230 --> 00:40:16,440
Because they're emaciated.

624
00:40:16,440 --> 00:40:21,480

Their eyes are bulging,
because all the skin,

625
00:40:21,480 --> 00:40:25,650
all the flesh collapses
in, and the eyes usually

626
00:40:25,650 --> 00:40:27,420
are huge and beady.

627
00:40:27,420 --> 00:40:32,850
They look right through you
with these sad huge eyes.

628
00:40:32,850 --> 00:40:35,790
They don't care about anything.

629
00:40:35,790 --> 00:40:39,480
They've lost the will to live.

630
00:40:39,480 --> 00:40:41,970
There is nothing
worse than that,

631
00:40:41,970 --> 00:40:44,230
because you can't cope with it.

632
00:40:44,230 --> 00:40:48,320
And they will die, even
though they're free.

633
00:40:48,320 --> 00:40:50,110
We could give them some food.

634
00:40:50,110 --> 00:40:52,740
But they would die.

635
00:40:52,740 --> 00:40:57,920
So a small group of French
survivors in this camp

636
00:40:57,920 --> 00:41:01,690

asked me how come you
speak so fluently French.

637
00:41:01,690 --> 00:41:04,590
I told them that I went
to school in France.

638
00:41:04,590 --> 00:41:10,700
And I told them, look, two
of them were in fair shape.

639
00:41:10,700 --> 00:41:20,670
Emaciated and all, but
alert and full of vinegar.

640
00:41:20,670 --> 00:41:26,140
And one or two of the
Frenchmen were not.

641
00:41:26,140 --> 00:41:27,870
They became zombies
and were going

642
00:41:27,870 --> 00:41:30,520
to die within a day or two.

643
00:41:30,520 --> 00:41:32,970
So I told them, why
don't you take them

644
00:41:32,970 --> 00:41:34,590
in the railroad station.

645
00:41:34,590 --> 00:41:36,990
I'll bring you
food, and see if you

646
00:41:36,990 --> 00:41:41,170
can help this friend of yours.

647
00:41:41,170 --> 00:41:47,190
And indeed, after a few days,
they nursed this fellow back

648
00:41:47,190 --> 00:41:56,450
from most corpse-like appearance
to where this fellow, his eyes

649
00:41:56,450 --> 00:42:00,300
were focusing and
looking at my eyes.

650
00:42:00,300 --> 00:42:04,980
And I could see that he was
going to probably make it.

651
00:42:04,980 --> 00:42:11,070
And then he asked me, how come
you speak French like that?

652
00:42:11,070 --> 00:42:13,490
Of course, we were
talking French.

653
00:42:13,490 --> 00:42:18,227
So I said, well I
went to Lycée Saint--

654
00:42:18,227 --> 00:42:18,810
Saint Bernard.

655
00:42:18,810 --> 00:42:23,360

656
00:42:23,360 --> 00:42:25,270
I went there too.

657
00:42:25,270 --> 00:42:28,880
And talking a brief
time, we realized

658
00:42:28,880 --> 00:42:29,975
we were in the same class.

659
00:42:29,975 --> 00:42:33,000

660
00:42:33,000 --> 00:42:34,670
He did not recognize me.

661
00:42:34,670 --> 00:42:37,690
And I certainly did
not recognize him.

662
00:42:37,690 --> 00:42:42,060
But we knew by the teachers
we had and the other, some

663
00:42:42,060 --> 00:42:44,280
of the other students,
especially the

664
00:42:44,280 --> 00:42:48,480
rowdies with whom I had the
tendency to associate there,

665
00:42:48,480 --> 00:42:52,080
and he was more among the
more studious fellows.

666
00:42:52,080 --> 00:42:54,030
We were in the same class.

667
00:42:54,030 --> 00:42:56,602
What a small world.

668
00:42:56,602 --> 00:42:58,290
And he was repatriated.

669
00:42:58,290 --> 00:43:03,120
Unfortunately, I didn't keep
his name and lost track of him.

670
00:43:03,120 --> 00:43:08,390
But I do have contacts with some
other survivors from Wobbelin.

671

00:43:08,390 --> 00:43:14,850
And it fills me with an
incredible satisfaction and joy

672
00:43:14,850 --> 00:43:19,470
to see these men
alive, because I know,

673
00:43:19,470 --> 00:43:25,900
and they know that had the 82nd
Airborne not, in other words,

674
00:43:25,900 --> 00:43:31,260
General Gavin agreed or
convinced General Eisenhower

675
00:43:31,260 --> 00:43:35,610
that the 82nd Airborne should
cross the Elbe over there,

676
00:43:35,610 --> 00:43:36,920
they would not have made it.

677
00:43:36,920 --> 00:43:41,960

678
00:43:41,960 --> 00:43:50,160
What are your feelings
about the American response

679
00:43:50,160 --> 00:43:57,720
generally to the concentration
camps in that period?

680
00:43:57,720 --> 00:44:01,170
Did they know, do you
think, what was happening?

681
00:44:01,170 --> 00:44:04,865
Or did they not know and
come upon it suddenly?

682
00:44:04,865 --> 00:44:09,830

683
00:44:09,830 --> 00:44:15,640
I'll try to separate
all the things that I

684
00:44:15,640 --> 00:44:19,390
read about after the
war, because I was deeply

685
00:44:19,390 --> 00:44:26,530
interested, how could it be
that we, at least the 82nd,

686
00:44:26,530 --> 00:44:30,250
didn't know that
Wobbelin was there?

687
00:44:30,250 --> 00:44:31,150
There was Dachau.

688
00:44:31,150 --> 00:44:35,382
There were God knows
how many other camps.

689
00:44:35,382 --> 00:44:43,300
And I believe, from
remembering so vividly my days

690
00:44:43,300 --> 00:44:49,150
as a GI in one of the
active outfits in the war--

691
00:44:49,150 --> 00:44:51,790
the 82nd Airborne was really--

692
00:44:51,790 --> 00:44:54,400
of course, we always say this.

693
00:44:54,400 --> 00:44:56,530
The 82nd Airborne,
and then all the rest

694

00:44:56,530 --> 00:44:59,320
of the Army units and quality.

695

00:44:59,320 --> 00:45:01,510
We were very modest.

696

00:45:01,510 --> 00:45:09,910
But I don't think that the full
story of concentration camps

697

00:45:09,910 --> 00:45:13,030
was very well
known, and certainly

698

00:45:13,030 --> 00:45:17,050
not very well believed
until the evidence started

699

00:45:17,050 --> 00:45:22,390
being seen by actual
physical penetration

700

00:45:22,390 --> 00:45:25,240
into the insides of these camps.

701

00:45:25,240 --> 00:45:28,960

702

00:45:28,960 --> 00:45:31,960
I must say that
I myself, I knew.

703

00:45:31,960 --> 00:45:33,040
I was in Germany.

704

00:45:33,040 --> 00:45:35,440
I was in France
before as a youngster.

705

00:45:35,440 --> 00:45:37,780
I went to school there.

706

00:45:37,780 --> 00:45:42,670

I heard that there was
something horrible, the KZ.

707

00:45:42,670 --> 00:45:47,980

This was the German abbreviation
for concentration camp.

708

00:45:47,980 --> 00:45:52,480

Even I as a kid, I knew that
there was something to be,

709

00:45:52,480 --> 00:45:55,120

something unpleasant
and dangerous,

710

00:45:55,120 --> 00:45:59,710

and something you don't want
to dig into this KZ business.

711

00:45:59,710 --> 00:46:03,930

That's where you wind
up if you get caught,

712

00:46:03,930 --> 00:46:07,930

or if this or that happens to
you, and then you disappear,

713

00:46:07,930 --> 00:46:10,710

or people disappear,
and they wind up there.

714

00:46:10,710 --> 00:46:14,870

So you don't want to
know too much about it.

715

00:46:14,870 --> 00:46:21,610

Now, of course, what I as
a 12-year-old youngster

716

00:46:21,610 --> 00:46:26,200

was feeling, as compared to
President Roosevelt with all

717
00:46:26,200 --> 00:46:29,860
the intelligence apparatus
of the embassies--

718
00:46:29,860 --> 00:46:32,730
this was, of course,
preceding the days of the CIA,

719
00:46:32,730 --> 00:46:38,130
or the more thoroughly organized
intelligence organizations.

720
00:46:38,130 --> 00:46:42,880
Still, the State Department
had an intelligence operation.

721
00:46:42,880 --> 00:46:46,450
The army and the military
attachÃ©s had their.

722
00:46:46,450 --> 00:46:48,220
But they were, of
course, very provincial.

723
00:46:48,220 --> 00:46:51,820
The military attachÃ© during the
Hitler days was probably more

724
00:46:51,820 --> 00:46:54,850
interested to know about
the German tank production

725
00:46:54,850 --> 00:46:57,730
and whether the Germans
were producing binoculars

726
00:46:57,730 --> 00:47:00,760
for their artillery, and
therefore calculate how many

727
00:47:00,760 --> 00:47:04,690
artillery pieces they were

putting together if they could

728

00:47:04,690 --> 00:47:09,700

get the number of their
range finders calculated.

729

00:47:09,700 --> 00:47:13,660

I don't think that they knew
quite the extent of what

730

00:47:13,660 --> 00:47:18,340

it was all about, because it's
something that is incredible.

731

00:47:18,340 --> 00:47:24,340

It is simply not believable
that in a highly technologically

732

00:47:24,340 --> 00:47:29,920

advanced, one of the
leading nations on the globe

733

00:47:29,920 --> 00:47:32,530

of this Earth in 1933--

734

00:47:32,530 --> 00:47:36,030

certainly, Germany, the United
States, Great Britain, France,

735

00:47:36,030 --> 00:47:38,230

these were the
leading countries--

736

00:47:38,230 --> 00:47:43,450

that they could decimate people
by starvation, gassing them,

737

00:47:43,450 --> 00:47:47,170

and burning them in crematoria.

738

00:47:47,170 --> 00:47:51,510

So I don't think they knew
enough about it, about them

739
00:47:51,510 --> 00:47:55,840
not bombing the rail lines.

740
00:47:55,840 --> 00:48:01,270
I can very well understand that
the Strategic Air Command could

741
00:48:01,270 --> 00:48:07,480
very well in their disbelief
of this ridiculous rumor,

742
00:48:07,480 --> 00:48:10,540
in quotation marks, that
what they were hearing.

743
00:48:10,540 --> 00:48:14,620
That it was more important
to bomb the ball-bearing

744
00:48:14,620 --> 00:48:19,420
works in Schweinfurt to
immobilize the production

745
00:48:19,420 --> 00:48:26,050
of engines for the war, than to
bomb railroads in those areas

746
00:48:26,050 --> 00:48:29,620
where there's hardly anything
really very active looking.

747
00:48:29,620 --> 00:48:33,060
Just a relatively small plant.

748
00:48:33,060 --> 00:48:34,370
The crematoria.

749
00:48:34,370 --> 00:48:36,760
They were not
producing as much smoke

750

00:48:36,760 --> 00:48:41,950

I must say as a tank
factory, or a steel mill.

751

00:48:41,950 --> 00:48:45,640

So I think that there
was sad ignorance,

752

00:48:45,640 --> 00:48:50,410

inadequate belief in
things that were definitely

753

00:48:50,410 --> 00:48:53,820

could be learned more about.

754

00:48:53,820 --> 00:48:55,930

And later, when the
war was going on,

755

00:48:55,930 --> 00:48:57,220

we began to hear this.

756

00:48:57,220 --> 00:49:03,190

And we saw first where
the 82nd was in one place,

757

00:49:03,190 --> 00:49:08,570

we were holding Cologne, because
Patton encircled the Ruhr

758

00:49:08,570 --> 00:49:12,370

pocket, and it was expected
that the Germans would break out

759

00:49:12,370 --> 00:49:16,270

through Cologne out of
Patton's encirclement.

760

00:49:16,270 --> 00:49:19,060

And so the 8nd was
sent there to make sure

761

00:49:19,060 --> 00:49:21,260

that the Germans
wouldn't break out.

762
00:49:21,260 --> 00:49:27,850
13,000 men to hold 360,000 in.

763
00:49:27,850 --> 00:49:30,040
We thought these
were proper odds.

764
00:49:30,040 --> 00:49:32,110
But lo and behold,
we began to have

765
00:49:32,110 --> 00:49:37,930
pictures, reliable photographs
of concentration camp

766
00:49:37,930 --> 00:49:40,120
crematoria.

767
00:49:40,120 --> 00:49:44,701
I believe Dachau was liberated
at the time when we were in--

768
00:49:44,701 --> 00:49:46,900
They immediately posted
them on the walls

769
00:49:46,900 --> 00:49:50,740
of our military government
office of the 82nd Airborne.

770
00:49:50,740 --> 00:49:54,700
And Germans who came for
relief into our office

771
00:49:54,700 --> 00:49:56,530
really were coming
to the wrong place,

772
00:49:56,530 --> 00:50:01,550
because we gave them a lecture

about what Untermenschen

773

00:50:01,550 --> 00:50:05,770
were like, and showed them the
concentration camp pictures.

774

00:50:05,770 --> 00:50:12,090
But this was already 1945.

775

00:50:12,090 --> 00:50:14,030
I don't think that
our leaders, or I

776

00:50:14,030 --> 00:50:19,460
can't imagine that our leaders
really were very well clued in,

777

00:50:19,460 --> 00:50:25,880
in 1943 or '44,
because I can't believe

778

00:50:25,880 --> 00:50:32,180
that a president like Roosevelt,
who was able to have Kaiser

779

00:50:32,180 --> 00:50:35,950
build Liberty ships
almost every day, one

780

00:50:35,950 --> 00:50:39,560
was being launched, every
12 hours was being launched,

781

00:50:39,560 --> 00:50:41,000
that he couldn't
then do something

782

00:50:41,000 --> 00:50:49,870
about this inhuman behavior and
help people in such distress.

783

00:50:49,870 --> 00:50:53,920
It wasn't only a question

of the Jewish problem.

784

00:50:53,920 --> 00:50:59,290

Of course, the Jewish
race got the brunt of it

785

00:50:59,290 --> 00:51:07,060

from the Germans because
Hitler unleashed his subhuman

786

00:51:07,060 --> 00:51:12,130

attention against the
Jews, and antisemitism

787

00:51:12,130 --> 00:51:14,580

has been rampant
all over the world,

788

00:51:14,580 --> 00:51:17,810

and is still quite rampant
in many parts of the world.

789

00:51:17,810 --> 00:51:20,740

So for the Germans,
or the Nazis rather,

790

00:51:20,740 --> 00:51:28,990

it was an easy point to pick to
get a large mass of the Germans

791

00:51:28,990 --> 00:51:31,690

to side with them in
silence because they're

792

00:51:31,690 --> 00:51:33,910

going, after all, it's
only Jews that they're

793

00:51:33,910 --> 00:51:36,340

going to deal with.

794

00:51:36,340 --> 00:51:38,440

They didn't say they were

going to exterminate.

795

00:51:38,440 --> 00:51:41,290

Even to the end,
Eichmann, they didn't

796

00:51:41,290 --> 00:51:43,750

say that they were going
to exterminate them.

797

00:51:43,750 --> 00:51:47,910

It was the end solution.

798

00:51:47,910 --> 00:51:51,960

The Germans are so methodical
that they take things

799

00:51:51,960 --> 00:51:53,610

very literally.

800

00:51:53,610 --> 00:51:56,520

End solution for the
average German in the street

801

00:51:56,520 --> 00:51:58,470

doesn't mean that
the German nation

802

00:51:58,470 --> 00:52:04,620

is going to exterminate another
race or attempt to do that.

803

00:52:04,620 --> 00:52:05,670

Obviously, they failed.

804

00:52:05,670 --> 00:52:08,043

They couldn't quite make--

805

00:52:08,043 --> 00:52:11,160

they went a long ways,
but not completely.

806

00:52:11,160 --> 00:52:15,680

The state of Israel exists
because so many survived.

807

00:52:15,680 --> 00:52:18,810

Enough survived to form a state.

808

00:52:18,810 --> 00:52:28,350

But I think this incredible
missing of what the Nazis did

809

00:52:28,350 --> 00:52:33,240

was the result of inadequate
knowledge, inadequate attention

810

00:52:33,240 --> 00:52:34,650

to this particular thing.

811

00:52:34,650 --> 00:52:36,630

There were so many
other problems.

812

00:52:36,630 --> 00:52:41,480

After all, all of Poland
was being subjugated,

813

00:52:41,480 --> 00:52:50,130

where the cavalry regiments
were attacking German tank units

814

00:52:50,130 --> 00:52:52,770

and being mowed
down by machine guns

815

00:52:52,770 --> 00:52:56,550

from absolutely well
protected Germans

816

00:52:56,550 --> 00:52:58,710

behind several inches of steel.

817

00:52:58,710 --> 00:53:01,520

818
00:53:01,520 --> 00:53:04,080
I think we didn't
focus adequately.

819
00:53:04,080 --> 00:53:06,320
Now, of course,
everybody says, oh, we

820
00:53:06,320 --> 00:53:08,150
should have known better.

821
00:53:08,150 --> 00:53:09,310
We should have known.

822
00:53:09,310 --> 00:53:13,860
We in the 82nd, I should
have known better.

823
00:53:13,860 --> 00:53:14,660
I didn't know.

824
00:53:14,660 --> 00:53:18,470
We came in there, it was
a tremendous sad surprise

825
00:53:18,470 --> 00:53:21,860
to find out that there
was a place like Wobbelin.

826
00:53:21,860 --> 00:53:24,200
I never knew that
Wobbelin existed.

827
00:53:24,200 --> 00:53:27,140
I had to find it on a
map just where it was.

828
00:53:27,140 --> 00:53:28,990
It was a tiny place.

829
00:53:28,990 --> 00:53:34,590

It was in the way to Parchim,
a few kilometers north,

830
00:53:34,590 --> 00:53:36,900
northeast of Ludwigslust.

831
00:53:36,900 --> 00:53:40,670
Unheard of on the map.

832
00:53:40,670 --> 00:53:44,990
We thought we were pretty
well-informed about that area

833
00:53:44,990 --> 00:53:47,600
that we attacked.

834
00:53:47,600 --> 00:53:50,770
But we didn't know that.

835
00:53:50,770 --> 00:53:55,400
A lot of things, people don't
know, which is dreadful.

836
00:53:55,400 --> 00:54:00,210

837
00:54:00,210 --> 00:54:03,340
Do you talk a great
deal about it today?

838
00:54:03,340 --> 00:54:07,340
Not so much, I must say.

839
00:54:07,340 --> 00:54:13,120
what-- in the last few years,
I met a group of survivors

840
00:54:13,120 --> 00:54:14,800
from Wobbelin.

841
00:54:14,800 --> 00:54:16,240
We became acquainted.

842
00:54:16,240 --> 00:54:18,880

843
00:54:18,880 --> 00:54:22,420
When I see them, I'm happy
to see that there's still

844
00:54:22,420 --> 00:54:24,100
people alive.

845
00:54:24,100 --> 00:54:27,730
The numbers are getting smaller
from old age and sickness

846
00:54:27,730 --> 00:54:30,080
and so forth.

847
00:54:30,080 --> 00:54:36,430
But what amazes me more
than almost anything is

848
00:54:36,430 --> 00:54:41,290
that, in general, concentration
camp survivors-- and I've seen

849
00:54:41,290 --> 00:54:45,790
survivors, I've dealt literally
with thousands of survivors.

850
00:54:45,790 --> 00:54:48,280
Because of Berlin,
one of my functions

851
00:54:48,280 --> 00:54:52,840
was security in
displaced persons camps.

852
00:54:52,840 --> 00:54:56,890
And so I had to screen
literally thousands

853

00:54:56,890 --> 00:55:02,400
of people who were formerly
in concentration camps.

854
00:55:02,400 --> 00:55:04,760
I talked with so many.

855
00:55:04,760 --> 00:55:10,130
I must say what amazes
me is that so few of them

856
00:55:10,130 --> 00:55:12,530
are vengeful.

857
00:55:12,530 --> 00:55:17,630
I am more outraged personally
at what the Nazis have done,

858
00:55:17,630 --> 00:55:21,470
and I would like to see bloody
revenge, if possible at all,

859
00:55:21,470 --> 00:55:25,600
against the guilty, which
hasn't been forthcoming,

860
00:55:25,600 --> 00:55:27,900
than the survivors themselves.

861
00:55:27,900 --> 00:55:32,720
So sometimes when I think about
this, and I talk to people

862
00:55:32,720 --> 00:55:37,190
and I tell them, look, the
guilty haven't been punished.

863
00:55:37,190 --> 00:55:41,210
Only about 10 people were
executed for war crimes

864
00:55:41,210 --> 00:55:45,630
at the end of one of the

worst wars in history.

865

00:55:45,630 --> 00:55:50,390

50 million people were
killed by the war,

866

00:55:50,390 --> 00:55:55,430

in general, give and take, give
or take 5 million either way.

867

00:55:55,430 --> 00:55:57,590

But the number is pretty hard.

868

00:55:57,590 --> 00:56:02,240

50 million is really
pretty much it.

869

00:56:02,240 --> 00:56:04,520

10 people get executed for that?

870

00:56:04,520 --> 00:56:07,050

871

00:56:07,050 --> 00:56:13,710

9,000 Germans on the whole
were tried for war crimes.

872

00:56:13,710 --> 00:56:16,310

That is ridiculous.

873

00:56:16,310 --> 00:56:21,590

The Germans now, the
post-war Germans,

874

00:56:21,590 --> 00:56:25,130

of course they are
now a democracy,

875

00:56:25,130 --> 00:56:27,650

more or less US style democracy.

876

00:56:27,650 --> 00:56:29,540

The elections and so forth.

877

00:56:29,540 --> 00:56:34,250

And they try to be
decent human beings.

878

00:56:34,250 --> 00:56:40,070

But how come that
their judicial system

879

00:56:40,070 --> 00:56:45,580

has dragged their heels
so, so efficiently

880

00:56:45,580 --> 00:56:50,810

and not found the guilty ones?

881

00:56:50,810 --> 00:56:57,260

This most methodical
of all nations,

882

00:56:57,260 --> 00:56:59,300

outside perhaps the Japanese.

883

00:56:59,300 --> 00:57:02,450

But the Germans certainly
are among the most methodical

884

00:57:02,450 --> 00:57:03,762

of all peoples.

885

00:57:03,762 --> 00:57:04,345

Most thorough.

886

00:57:04,345 --> 00:57:07,750

887

00:57:07,750 --> 00:57:11,430

To say something is German
means it is efficient,

888

00:57:11,430 --> 00:57:15,550

it is well organized,
it is well done.

889
00:57:15,550 --> 00:57:22,000
How can a nation like that not
want to take from the US army

890
00:57:22,000 --> 00:57:24,550
the document center
in Berlin, which

891
00:57:24,550 --> 00:57:28,570
is the entire archive of
the Nazi membership party,

892
00:57:28,570 --> 00:57:32,320
with photographs, curriculum
vitae, and everything.

893
00:57:32,320 --> 00:57:35,320
They have dragged their heels.

894
00:57:35,320 --> 00:57:43,750
And I think there is
some guilt for that.

895
00:57:43,750 --> 00:57:46,890
Mr. Linton, thank you
very much for your story.

896
00:57:46,890 --> 00:57:48,440
OK.

897
00:57:48,440 --> 00:57:56,000