

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,280

2  
00:00:02,280 --> 00:00:04,110  
OK, good morning.

3  
00:00:04,110 --> 00:00:07,200  
This is a United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

4  
00:00:07,200 --> 00:00:12,270  
interview with Mr. Ernest  
Dutcher Jr. On February 19

5  
00:00:12,270 --> 00:00:17,010  
2013 in Encino, California.

6  
00:00:17,010 --> 00:00:19,350  
Good morning, Mr.  
Dutcher, and thank you

7  
00:00:19,350 --> 00:00:22,210  
for agreeing to  
speak with us today.

8  
00:00:22,210 --> 00:00:25,650  
Good morning, and  
you're very welcome.

9  
00:00:25,650 --> 00:00:27,290  
Oh, sorry, I see your shoulder.

10  
00:00:27,290 --> 00:00:31,470  
All right, so we'll adjust a  
little bit and I'll move out.

11  
00:00:31,470 --> 00:00:36,000  
And Mr. Dutcher, from  
what I understand,

12  
00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:42,330

you were a liberator with the  
US forces of concentration camps

13

00:00:42,330 --> 00:00:47,190  
in Germany and were a  
member of the military.

14

00:00:47,190 --> 00:00:51,180  
So I'm going to ask a lot  
of questions that leads up

15

00:00:51,180 --> 00:00:54,630  
to those events in  
Dachau, because we'd

16

00:00:54,630 --> 00:00:56,970  
like to know a little  
bit about your life

17

00:00:56,970 --> 00:01:02,280  
and your military service  
prior to the liberation

18

00:01:02,280 --> 00:01:06,480  
of the concentration camps, and  
your role in helping survivors

19

00:01:06,480 --> 00:01:08,340  
survive.

20

00:01:08,340 --> 00:01:11,460  
So I'll start at the beginning.

21

00:01:11,460 --> 00:01:13,390  
Please tell us  
when you were born,

22

00:01:13,390 --> 00:01:17,920  
where you were born, and a  
little bit about your family.

23

00:01:17,920 --> 00:01:24,030  
I was born in May

16th of 1920, and I

24

00:01:24,030 --> 00:01:27,640  
was born in a small town  
in northern Wisconsin

25

00:01:27,640 --> 00:01:29,770  
called Antigo.

26

00:01:29,770 --> 00:01:38,600  
And I lived with my  
parents on the farm.

27

00:01:38,600 --> 00:01:44,840  
Our background,  
initially, was all

28

00:01:44,840 --> 00:01:50,090  
farming until I reached the  
age of approximately 16.

29

00:01:50,090 --> 00:01:54,020  
And I lived with my  
mother, my father,

30

00:01:54,020 --> 00:01:57,770  
and I have two  
sisters, both older.

31

00:01:57,770 --> 00:02:03,950  
And I had a brother about it  
one and a half years younger

32

00:02:03,950 --> 00:02:09,280  
than I who also was  
involved in the war

33

00:02:09,280 --> 00:02:11,410  
but never made it overseas.

34

00:02:11,410 --> 00:02:14,350  
And I have a  
younger brother that

35  
00:02:14,350 --> 00:02:18,170  
was old enough to help out  
on the farm and so forth.

36  
00:02:18,170 --> 00:02:20,980  
And then--

37  
00:02:20,980 --> 00:02:21,790  
Excuse me.

38  
00:02:21,790 --> 00:02:25,720  
Let me follow up on  
that a little bit.

39  
00:02:25,720 --> 00:02:28,850  
What kind of-- what did  
you grow on the farm?

40  
00:02:28,850 --> 00:02:31,420  
Oh, it was a very rocky farm.

41  
00:02:31,420 --> 00:02:37,300  
We grew basically  
potatoes and corn.

42  
00:02:37,300 --> 00:02:42,040  
Mainly things for a  
family to eat and survive,

43  
00:02:42,040 --> 00:02:45,250  
because survival  
was the key item

44  
00:02:45,250 --> 00:02:49,420  
back in those days, very,  
very poor conditions.

45  
00:02:49,420 --> 00:02:50,620  
So did you sell any?

46  
00:02:50,620 --> 00:02:52,810

Did your family sell  
any of these items?

47  
00:02:52,810 --> 00:02:57,190  
We sold a certain number,  
but there was not too much

48  
00:02:57,190 --> 00:02:59,200  
of a market, because it  
was quite a ways back

49  
00:02:59,200 --> 00:03:02,230  
in the so-called  
woods back there.

50  
00:03:02,230 --> 00:03:05,560  
And the farm was a very  
small one initially.

51  
00:03:05,560 --> 00:03:07,660  
We later moved to  
a much larger farm

52  
00:03:07,660 --> 00:03:14,650  
and we sold maple  
syrup, basically.

53  
00:03:14,650 --> 00:03:17,260  
We tapped the maple  
trees in the spring

54  
00:03:17,260 --> 00:03:27,880  
and then we had big pans within  
which we boiled a 50 to 1

55  
00:03:27,880 --> 00:03:28,840  
ratio.

56  
00:03:28,840 --> 00:03:33,220  
We boiled off 49% of the  
liquid, which was water,

57  
00:03:33,220 --> 00:03:35,540

and the residual  
was maple syrup.

58  
00:03:35,540 --> 00:03:38,030  
And is that why  
it's so expensive?

59  
00:03:38,030 --> 00:03:39,880  
Well, that's only part of it.

60  
00:03:39,880 --> 00:03:45,930  
We took that raw maple  
syrup and ran it through--

61  
00:03:45,930 --> 00:03:48,090  
we mixed it with milk.

62  
00:03:48,090 --> 00:03:54,150  
And the milk absorbed  
all the solids in it

63  
00:03:54,150 --> 00:03:56,190  
and it came out  
beautifully clear.

64  
00:03:56,190 --> 00:04:00,840  
And it sold at that time for  
about several dollars a pint.

65  
00:04:00,840 --> 00:04:03,690  
And several dollars back  
then was a lot of money.

66  
00:04:03,690 --> 00:04:05,310  
Yeah.

67  
00:04:05,310 --> 00:04:08,050  
Your father and your mother,  
what were their names?

68  
00:04:08,050 --> 00:04:13,240  
My father was Ernest E.  
Dutcher Sr. My mother was--

69

00:04:13,240 --> 00:04:17,529

my mother's name was,  
oh gosh, excuse me.

70

00:04:17,529 --> 00:04:18,050

It's OK.

71

00:04:18,050 --> 00:04:21,329

Take your time.

72

00:04:21,329 --> 00:04:24,100

Amanda Dutcher.

73

00:04:24,100 --> 00:04:32,140

And they were  
initially from Iowa,

74

00:04:32,140 --> 00:04:36,640

where they were brought  
up and educated.

75

00:04:36,640 --> 00:04:40,810

My mother was a school  
teacher down in Iowa,

76

00:04:40,810 --> 00:04:43,930

but she moved up to  
northern Wisconsin

77

00:04:43,930 --> 00:04:47,920

and eventually became  
a correspondent

78

00:04:47,920 --> 00:04:50,860

for the small town with  
the Rhinelander Daily

79

00:04:50,860 --> 00:04:55,890

News, which was our nearby  
large city with 9,000 people.

80

00:04:55,890 --> 00:04:58,640  
Oh my.

81  
00:04:58,640 --> 00:05:02,980  
So I went to Rhinelander  
High School for two years,

82  
00:05:02,980 --> 00:05:07,230  
after which I had become--

83  
00:05:07,230 --> 00:05:09,360  
I worked out in the woods--

84  
00:05:09,360 --> 00:05:14,040  
and when you say woods, it  
was a logging environment--

85  
00:05:14,040 --> 00:05:16,260  
where I took care  
of a team of horses.

86  
00:05:16,260 --> 00:05:19,080  
I was 18, took care  
of a team of horses

87  
00:05:19,080 --> 00:05:21,100  
about five miles  
off the main road,

88  
00:05:21,100 --> 00:05:23,700  
and got snowed in sometimes.

89  
00:05:23,700 --> 00:05:28,090  
Sometimes the weather'd  
become 40 to 45 below.

90  
00:05:28,090 --> 00:05:29,410  
Oh my gosh.

91  
00:05:29,410 --> 00:05:33,480  
And I had a cast iron stove  
that I chopped my own wood



92

00:05:33,480 --> 00:05:34,920  
and kept warm with.

93

00:05:34,920 --> 00:05:38,200  
It probably is a  
luxury compared to what

94

00:05:38,200 --> 00:05:41,740  
these camps went through.

95

00:05:41,740 --> 00:05:47,070  
But anyway, I was offered a job  
at Montgomery Ward and Company

96

00:05:47,070 --> 00:05:53,330  
during I think the--

97

00:05:53,330 --> 00:05:55,880

98

00:05:55,880 --> 00:05:58,412  
1939, 1940, '42.

99

00:05:58,412 --> 00:06:00,920  
1942.

100

00:06:00,920 --> 00:06:04,750  
So you would have  
been 22 years old?

101

00:06:04,750 --> 00:06:06,070  
Yes.

102

00:06:06,070 --> 00:06:09,550  
And then we--

103

00:06:09,550 --> 00:06:14,000  
I was also working in  
the furniture and radio

104

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:15,830

department of Montgomery Ward.

105

00:06:15,830 --> 00:06:18,440

I loved radios, and I didn't--

106

00:06:18,440 --> 00:06:22,850

my first radio that I ever  
heard was a little crystal set.

107

00:06:22,850 --> 00:06:30,650

And to I had to share two  
earphones with anyone else

108

00:06:30,650 --> 00:06:32,070

lucky enough to listen to it.

109

00:06:32,070 --> 00:06:38,327

And we listened to the  
radio on WLS Chicago, music

110

00:06:38,327 --> 00:06:39,410

and everything else on it.

111

00:06:39,410 --> 00:06:43,010

Very scratchy and  
everything, but very amazing.

112

00:06:43,010 --> 00:06:44,660

And then they moved on.

113

00:06:44,660 --> 00:06:47,920

114

00:06:47,920 --> 00:06:51,040

That was quite a little  
earlier than my graduation.

115

00:06:51,040 --> 00:06:53,740

I graduated  
Rhinelander High School

116

00:06:53,740 --> 00:06:58,960

with a high school  
graduate degree, which was

117  
00:06:58,960 --> 00:07:01,450  
pretty good back in those days.

118  
00:07:01,450 --> 00:07:04,930  
And then in showing  
off radios one day,

119  
00:07:04,930 --> 00:07:07,720  
I heard a big bulletin  
come over the radio

120  
00:07:07,720 --> 00:07:11,500  
that Pearl Harbor  
had been bombed.

121  
00:07:11,500 --> 00:07:19,510  
And Roosevelt's speech saying  
about the dastardly deed.

122  
00:07:19,510 --> 00:07:26,140  
And based on that, several of  
us in the store, the Montgomery

123  
00:07:26,140 --> 00:07:28,790  
Ward store, decided  
we had to enlist.

124  
00:07:28,790 --> 00:07:33,670  
So on the 30th of  
December, we enlisted.

125  
00:07:33,670 --> 00:07:36,490  
And I wanted to be a pilot.

126  
00:07:36,490 --> 00:07:39,610  
I just loved flying.

127  
00:07:39,610 --> 00:07:42,310  
Can I interrupt  
just for a second?

128  
00:07:42,310 --> 00:07:43,930  
I want to step back  
just a little bit

129  
00:07:43,930 --> 00:07:46,330  
to find out about your town.

130  
00:07:46,330 --> 00:07:48,400  
It was called Rhineland, with--

131  
00:07:48,400 --> 00:07:49,050  
Rhinelanders.

132  
00:07:49,050 --> 00:07:50,020  
Rhinelanders.

133  
00:07:50,020 --> 00:07:50,830  
Yes.

134  
00:07:50,830 --> 00:07:52,910  
And you say it was  
9,000 people there.

135  
00:07:52,910 --> 00:07:55,480  
9,019 exactly.

136  
00:07:55,480 --> 00:07:58,360  
9,019.

137  
00:07:58,360 --> 00:07:59,980  
Well, if your mom  
was a correspondent

138  
00:07:59,980 --> 00:08:01,605  
from the newspaper,  
those are the sorts

139  
00:08:01,605 --> 00:08:04,330  
of facts that  
newspaper people know.

140

00:08:04,330 --> 00:08:08,350

Tell me, if you can,  
were they all pretty

141

00:08:08,350 --> 00:08:11,320

similar in background, all  
pretty similar in religion?

142

00:08:11,320 --> 00:08:13,840

143

00:08:13,840 --> 00:08:15,880

Was there a  
predominant religion?

144

00:08:15,880 --> 00:08:19,415

The predominant religion  
in the town was--

145

00:08:19,415 --> 00:08:23,400

146

00:08:23,400 --> 00:08:29,940

most of them were like,  
Lutheran and that.

147

00:08:29,940 --> 00:08:32,159

There were several  
Jewish families.

148

00:08:32,159 --> 00:08:33,975

One owned the department  
store downtown.

149

00:08:33,975 --> 00:08:36,950

150

00:08:36,950 --> 00:08:38,208

And I can't remember.

151

00:08:38,208 --> 00:08:39,500

You knew what I was getting at.

152  
00:08:39,500 --> 00:08:41,267  
I wanted to find  
out whether or not

153  
00:08:41,267 --> 00:08:43,850  
there had been any Jews in the  
town, whether people knew them,

154  
00:08:43,850 --> 00:08:46,270  
whether you had gotten to  
know anybody that was--

155  
00:08:46,270 --> 00:08:51,260  
I never did except when we'd  
go into the store for buying

156  
00:08:51,260 --> 00:08:53,260  
clothing and so forth.

157  
00:08:53,260 --> 00:08:59,210  
And that was the only ones we  
knew up there at that time.

158  
00:08:59,210 --> 00:09:03,930  
So then from there, we  
went to Wausau, Wisconsin,

159  
00:09:03,930 --> 00:09:06,020  
which is a recruiting center.

160  
00:09:06,020 --> 00:09:11,000  
And we all signed  
up at that place.

161  
00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:14,060  
I had taken several years  
with the National Guard

162  
00:09:14,060 --> 00:09:16,370  
before that, from  
the time I was 16

163

00:09:16,370 --> 00:09:20,420  
and until the time I enlisted.

164

00:09:20,420 --> 00:09:20,990  
OK.

165

00:09:20,990 --> 00:09:22,370  
I have another question.

166

00:09:22,370 --> 00:09:26,600  
You said that you  
always loved flying.

167

00:09:26,600 --> 00:09:29,360  
You had been in an  
airplane before?

168

00:09:29,360 --> 00:09:31,850  
No, I just loved  
the thought of it.

169

00:09:31,850 --> 00:09:40,100  
I was really enamored with  
Lindbergh and his antics

170

00:09:40,100 --> 00:09:42,860  
and history and so forth.

171

00:09:42,860 --> 00:09:45,470  
But I definitely  
wanted to be a pilot.

172

00:09:45,470 --> 00:09:48,230  
So you had two passions which  
you've identified so far.

173

00:09:48,230 --> 00:09:51,050  
One for radio, and  
one for flying.

174

00:09:51,050 --> 00:09:51,950  
That's correct.

175  
00:09:51,950 --> 00:09:52,850  
OK.

176  
00:09:52,850 --> 00:09:55,400  
So take us through,  
then, the enlistment

177  
00:09:55,400 --> 00:09:58,200  
process where you enlisted  
and what happened after that.

178  
00:09:58,200 --> 00:10:01,130  
Well, we enlisted in  
Wausau, Wisconsin, which

179  
00:10:01,130 --> 00:10:03,120  
is a much, much larger city.

180  
00:10:03,120 --> 00:10:09,960  
It must have had at least 15,000  
people in it, about 50% larger

181  
00:10:09,960 --> 00:10:10,790  
I would say.

182  
00:10:10,790 --> 00:10:16,280  
But that was the center of a  
lot of activities up there.

183  
00:10:16,280 --> 00:10:23,150  
So we were taken down to  
Northern Illinois, where

184  
00:10:23,150 --> 00:10:28,640  
they had a center for  
processing the troops

185  
00:10:28,640 --> 00:10:30,860  
and so forth, where we  
got all of our shots

186



00:10:30,860 --> 00:10:40,750  
and all of our warnings and  
early, early instruction.

187  
00:10:40,750 --> 00:10:42,450  
The fact I'd been  
in National Guard,

188  
00:10:42,450 --> 00:10:45,480  
though, made me kind of  
special because I then

189  
00:10:45,480 --> 00:10:47,773  
was put in charge  
of small delegations

190  
00:10:47,773 --> 00:10:48,690  
that started training.

191  
00:10:48,690 --> 00:10:51,240

192  
00:10:51,240 --> 00:10:53,130  
From there, we were shipped--

193  
00:10:53,130 --> 00:10:56,580  
after the initial  
equipping and issuing

194  
00:10:56,580 --> 00:10:58,470  
of clothing and  
blankets and so forth,

195  
00:10:58,470 --> 00:11:01,090  
I was shipped to Jefferson  
Barracks Missouri,

196  
00:11:01,090 --> 00:11:05,340  
which is adjacent to  
St. Louis, Missouri.

197  
00:11:05,340 --> 00:11:11,270  
And Jefferson

Barracks, it was cold,

198  
00:11:11,270 --> 00:11:12,650  
middle of the winter virtually.

199  
00:11:12,650 --> 00:11:16,490  
And down there we were placed  
in tents and very, very cold.

200  
00:11:16,490 --> 00:11:20,090  
There we got all of  
our real tough shots.

201  
00:11:20,090 --> 00:11:22,340  
And the shots made  
us so sick that we

202  
00:11:22,340 --> 00:11:25,090  
were afraid we wouldn't die.

203  
00:11:25,090 --> 00:11:28,390  
There, while I was  
at Jefferson Barracks

204  
00:11:28,390 --> 00:11:30,800  
and after we started  
our training there,

205  
00:11:30,800 --> 00:11:36,970  
I did the drill sergeant role  
of taking the raw recruits

206  
00:11:36,970 --> 00:11:39,130  
and showing them how to  
march, and how to turn,

207  
00:11:39,130 --> 00:11:42,640  
and how to stop and the  
proper commands and all that.

208  
00:11:42,640 --> 00:11:45,280  
But then the newspaper  
headlines come out;

209

00:11:45,280 --> 00:11:53,720

Roosevelt, we will be building  
125,000 planes a year.

210

00:11:53,720 --> 00:11:56,000

It was beyond belief.

211

00:11:56,000 --> 00:11:59,480

But anyway, it didn't  
make that much sense

212

00:11:59,480 --> 00:12:07,760

because during the time that I  
had gone through medical exams

213

00:12:07,760 --> 00:12:14,000

I got what is commonly  
known as white coat fever.

214

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:17,740

And I got excited.

215

00:12:17,740 --> 00:12:22,020

I was so worried that I wouldn't  
pass that I, of course, didn't.

216

00:12:22,020 --> 00:12:26,190

My blood pressure went  
sky high during the exams.

217

00:12:26,190 --> 00:12:30,360

Well, so I wasn't, apparently,  
a good candidate and probably

218

00:12:30,360 --> 00:12:32,850

wouldn't last too long.

219

00:12:32,850 --> 00:12:33,840

For what?

220

00:12:33,840 --> 00:12:35,880

Well, poor health and  
all that probably.

221  
00:12:35,880 --> 00:12:37,710  
No, but what were you--

222  
00:12:37,710 --> 00:12:41,310  
was this to be accepted  
into the pilot program?

223  
00:12:41,310 --> 00:12:42,750  
That's exactly right.

224  
00:12:42,750 --> 00:12:44,820  
They had lesser than--

225  
00:12:44,820 --> 00:12:49,150  
other programs had lesser  
requirements physically.

226  
00:12:49,150 --> 00:12:52,290  
So I had no problem  
with any physical,

227  
00:12:52,290 --> 00:12:54,810  
and I had no problem with high  
blood pressure at the time.

228  
00:12:54,810 --> 00:12:58,100  
I had no trouble with eyesight.

229  
00:12:58,100 --> 00:13:03,890  
But when we finally went  
down to Jefferson Barracks,

230  
00:13:03,890 --> 00:13:07,910  
I chose my second  
choice, which was radio.

231  
00:13:07,910 --> 00:13:11,400  
Radio training took me  
to Scott Field, Illinois

232

00:13:11,400 --> 00:13:16,940

just across the river from our  
training at Jefferson Barracks.

233

00:13:16,940 --> 00:13:19,130

And at Scott Field, I  
went through the course

234

00:13:19,130 --> 00:13:22,490

of radio, which I just  
loved the course because I

235

00:13:22,490 --> 00:13:28,640

loved the idea so much, where  
I learned how a radio works.

236

00:13:28,640 --> 00:13:32,960

And I was selected, then, to  
become an instructor because I

237

00:13:32,960 --> 00:13:35,780

had such enthusiasm for it.

238

00:13:35,780 --> 00:13:40,820

I instructed radio there until  
I got a waiver on the two year

239

00:13:40,820 --> 00:13:54,800

requirement to join the radio  
officers program and officers

240

00:13:54,800 --> 00:13:56,060

cadet program.

241

00:13:56,060 --> 00:14:05,760

And I was sent to Yale  
University via Valley Forge.

242

00:14:05,760 --> 00:14:09,510

And we spent some  
time at Valley Forge,

243

00:14:09,510 --> 00:14:14,220  
again, taking courses and so  
forth leading up to the time

244  
00:14:14,220 --> 00:14:18,070  
that they could  
accept us in Yale.

245  
00:14:18,070 --> 00:14:24,040  
And we marched in and out the  
countryside, gorgeous area.

246  
00:14:24,040 --> 00:14:26,560

247  
00:14:26,560 --> 00:14:28,030  
Excuse me again,  
I'm interrupting,

248  
00:14:28,030 --> 00:14:31,180  
but what year was this when you  
were accepted to go into Yale?

249  
00:14:31,180 --> 00:14:33,260  
How far in the '40s were we?

250  
00:14:33,260 --> 00:14:39,640  
We were, at that  
time, '42 probably.

251  
00:14:39,640 --> 00:14:42,010  
Things happened so fast.

252  
00:14:42,010 --> 00:14:47,180  
'42, '43, yes, '42.

253  
00:14:47,180 --> 00:14:50,730  
And then I was a little bit--

254  
00:14:50,730 --> 00:14:55,160  
I also was-- before I  
joined the National Guard,

255

00:14:55,160 --> 00:14:58,920

I played in a little band.

256

00:14:58,920 --> 00:15:01,920

And I was a trumpeter  
in the band, played

257

00:15:01,920 --> 00:15:05,530

the cornet and the  
French horn and trombone

258

00:15:05,530 --> 00:15:06,970

and a few other things.

259

00:15:06,970 --> 00:15:09,990

And I was selected  
as the bugler.

260

00:15:09,990 --> 00:15:14,770

Now, of course, every  
Reveille was to get them out

261

00:15:14,770 --> 00:15:16,170

of bed in the morning.

262

00:15:16,170 --> 00:15:18,520

Then you must have  
been a popular guy.

263

00:15:18,520 --> 00:15:22,680

So then we stayed in  
a beautiful mansion

264

00:15:22,680 --> 00:15:26,080

that we were allowed to use.

265

00:15:26,080 --> 00:15:27,310

We used that for--

266

00:15:27,310 --> 00:15:29,530

marble staircases all.

267

00:15:29,530 --> 00:15:31,150

And then they had a--

268

00:15:31,150 --> 00:15:35,690

way up in the top was  
kind of a little area

269

00:15:35,690 --> 00:15:37,880

where you could go up and  
look out over the terrain.

270

00:15:37,880 --> 00:15:42,110

And there's where I took  
care of all the bugling.

271

00:15:42,110 --> 00:15:45,680

272

00:15:45,680 --> 00:15:47,310

You had the space for it, huh?

273

00:15:47,310 --> 00:15:47,930

Yeah.

274

00:15:47,930 --> 00:15:55,690

And then from  
there, I eventually

275

00:15:55,690 --> 00:16:00,360

went directly to New  
Haven, Connecticut,

276

00:16:00,360 --> 00:16:07,640

where we were put up in  
the EL dormitories there.

277

00:16:07,640 --> 00:16:13,130

And we were immediately put on  
a program of radio, army radio.

278

00:16:13,130 --> 00:16:18,470

And all communication, different



types of communications,

279

00:16:18,470 --> 00:16:20,960  
such as teletype.

280

00:16:20,960 --> 00:16:26,690  
And at that time, teletype was  
really coming into its own.

281

00:16:26,690 --> 00:16:36,630  
And also Signal Corps type  
of wire communications,

282

00:16:36,630 --> 00:16:39,960  
telephones, laying wire.

283

00:16:39,960 --> 00:16:41,970  
That must have been  
fascinating stuff.

284

00:16:41,970 --> 00:16:44,430  
It's very-- I was very--

285

00:16:44,430 --> 00:16:47,970  
and I was so thrilled  
with the course

286

00:16:47,970 --> 00:16:49,620  
that of course I  
paid more attention

287

00:16:49,620 --> 00:16:51,610  
than the average person.

288

00:16:51,610 --> 00:16:56,280  
And after a period there,  
I forget the exact number

289

00:16:56,280 --> 00:17:01,080  
of months, but let's say during  
the time that I was there,

290

00:17:01,080 --> 00:17:03,510  
we had occasional  
nights we could go out.

291  
00:17:03,510 --> 00:17:04,890  
And I loved ice skating.

292  
00:17:04,890 --> 00:17:06,720  
And coming from  
northern Wisconsin,

293  
00:17:06,720 --> 00:17:08,700  
I was pretty good at it.

294  
00:17:08,700 --> 00:17:10,420  
So I did figure skating.

295  
00:17:10,420 --> 00:17:13,920  
So I went to the ice  
rink in New Haven,

296  
00:17:13,920 --> 00:17:17,460  
and there I saw a young  
girl skating around

297  
00:17:17,460 --> 00:17:19,349  
in a short skirt.

298  
00:17:19,349 --> 00:17:23,910  
And I couldn't take  
my eyes off her.

299  
00:17:23,910 --> 00:17:26,369  
But I had a problem.

300  
00:17:26,369 --> 00:17:29,250  
I only had \$0.50 with me,  
because we hadn't been paid

301  
00:17:29,250 --> 00:17:30,870  
for weeks.

302

00:17:30,870 --> 00:17:33,630

So anyway, she  
eventually came up.

303

00:17:33,630 --> 00:17:37,380

And she had had her clothes  
in the same balcony seat

304

00:17:37,380 --> 00:17:39,260

that I had.

305

00:17:39,260 --> 00:17:41,090

And we got acquainted.

306

00:17:41,090 --> 00:17:45,050

And so I took her down and  
I blew the \$0.50 on a Coke

307

00:17:45,050 --> 00:17:48,740

for her and her  
sister, who was along.

308

00:17:48,740 --> 00:17:52,610

And I was so fascinated  
with her that--

309

00:17:52,610 --> 00:17:54,830

she came to my graduation.

310

00:17:54,830 --> 00:17:58,810

We knew each other at least  
two weeks by that time.

311

00:17:58,810 --> 00:18:00,620

She came to my graduation.

312

00:18:00,620 --> 00:18:05,330

And after graduating, we went  
down and got all our new army

313

00:18:05,330 --> 00:18:06,170

uniforms.

314

00:18:06,170 --> 00:18:09,050

They were so beautiful,  
long overcoat,

315

00:18:09,050 --> 00:18:12,800

and we just couldn't get  
over how great we looked.

316

00:18:12,800 --> 00:18:15,950

Then we were shortly thereafter  
shipped to Boca Raton, Florida,

317

00:18:15,950 --> 00:18:21,290

because my graduation  
score was 98.2,

318

00:18:21,290 --> 00:18:25,260

and the top five  
of the grade were

319

00:18:25,260 --> 00:18:27,650

sent to Boca Raton  
for radar training.

320

00:18:27,650 --> 00:18:29,690

Wow.

321

00:18:29,690 --> 00:18:32,210

And then the radar--

322

00:18:32,210 --> 00:18:35,160

we arrived in Boca  
Raton, Florida.

323

00:18:35,160 --> 00:18:41,090

When I say we, the gentleman  
that became the 89th radar

324

00:18:41,090 --> 00:18:43,280

officer was a buddy of mine.

325

00:18:43,280 --> 00:18:46,280

And we stuck kind of  
together, and so we

326  
00:18:46,280 --> 00:18:52,910  
landed at the train station  
in our heavy beaver overcoats.

327  
00:18:52,910 --> 00:19:02,300  
Then we had the wool green and  
we had the gray pink trousers.

328  
00:19:02,300 --> 00:19:04,350  
But we wouldn't take  
them off 'cause we--

329  
00:19:04,350 --> 00:19:05,720  
Because you looked so good.

330  
00:19:05,720 --> 00:19:08,408  
We look so good, and we  
just couldn't take them off.

331  
00:19:08,408 --> 00:19:10,200  
Well, that's some of  
the things I remember.

332  
00:19:10,200 --> 00:19:16,160  
And then we went through a very,  
very grueling course on radar.

333  
00:19:16,160 --> 00:19:18,470  
And radar was so  
new that information

334  
00:19:18,470 --> 00:19:26,210  
was coming from the MIT  
labs where they invented

335  
00:19:26,210 --> 00:19:32,750  
some of the aspects, including  
a very powerful tube that

336  
00:19:32,750 --> 00:19:36,080

could generate  
enormously strong pulses.

337  
00:19:36,080 --> 00:19:40,520  
Well, we then took it  
almost from the design desk,

338  
00:19:40,520 --> 00:19:44,000  
and we went through school  
learning how it worked

339  
00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:45,630  
and everything.

340  
00:19:45,630 --> 00:19:48,420  
And you may have  
seen the underbelly

341  
00:19:48,420 --> 00:19:51,690  
of some of the planes that  
had a bubble under it.

342  
00:19:51,690 --> 00:19:55,920  
This was an antenna housing  
that the Pathfinder aircraft

343  
00:19:55,920 --> 00:19:56,850  
used eventually.

344  
00:19:56,850 --> 00:20:00,580  
So we didn't know a thing  
about what we were doing.

345  
00:20:00,580 --> 00:20:03,700  
We were learning it,  
and it wasn't important

346  
00:20:03,700 --> 00:20:06,400  
that we knew the whole story.

347  
00:20:06,400 --> 00:20:11,070  
So anyway, after being down  
there about three weeks,

348  
00:20:11,070 --> 00:20:14,700  
I couldn't get over the idea  
of the little girl I met.

349  
00:20:14,700 --> 00:20:20,450  
So I wrote a letter  
up to her mother

350  
00:20:20,450 --> 00:20:23,150  
and says I'd love to  
have her come down,

351  
00:20:23,150 --> 00:20:27,180  
because she is the one I  
want to spend my life with.

352  
00:20:27,180 --> 00:20:37,800  
So anyway, the father  
sent his approval down,

353  
00:20:37,800 --> 00:20:39,750  
along with his daughter.

354  
00:20:39,750 --> 00:20:42,300  
And we met.

355  
00:20:42,300 --> 00:20:45,090  
And I had a little  
apartment all picked out.

356  
00:20:45,090 --> 00:20:48,330  
And so we lived  
off base, actually.

357  
00:20:48,330 --> 00:20:51,660  
But right away the big  
job was to get married,

358  
00:20:51,660 --> 00:20:54,280  
because that was a time that  
you never lived together.

359

00:20:54,280 --> 00:20:59,030

I mean, there was no  
way that could happen.

360

00:20:59,030 --> 00:21:01,650

And she had some say in this?

361

00:21:01,650 --> 00:21:04,030

Well, yes.

362

00:21:04,030 --> 00:21:06,210

She loved the idea, I guess.

363

00:21:06,210 --> 00:21:07,410

OK.

364

00:21:07,410 --> 00:21:10,545

I don't know what she  
saw in me, but anyway.

365

00:21:10,545 --> 00:21:13,470

366

00:21:13,470 --> 00:21:14,610

I think she liked the idea.

367

00:21:14,610 --> 00:21:16,170

I was a pretty  
good figure skater.

368

00:21:16,170 --> 00:21:20,370

I could skate circles and so  
forth, you know, and backward,

369

00:21:20,370 --> 00:21:21,870

flips and stuff.

370

00:21:21,870 --> 00:21:24,990

So anyway, she came on down.

371

00:21:24,990 --> 00:21:30,450



And so we found that we had to have the mother's signature as

372  
00:21:30,450 --> 00:21:33,690  
well as the father's signature on the approval.

373  
00:21:33,690 --> 00:21:36,050  
So we immediately forged that.

374  
00:21:36,050 --> 00:21:39,060  
And we went down--

375  
00:21:39,060 --> 00:21:42,330  
she knew, you know, pretty well how to write it.

376  
00:21:42,330 --> 00:21:47,130  
So we went down to Miami and went

377  
00:21:47,130 --> 00:21:53,570  
to the justice of the peace down there for the ceremony.

378  
00:21:53,570 --> 00:21:55,940  
And she so happened to be cross-eyed.

379  
00:21:55,940 --> 00:21:58,280  
So the thing I do remember that we

380  
00:21:58,280 --> 00:22:06,400  
were married by a cross-eyed justice of the peace on April

381  
00:22:06,400 --> 00:22:10,090  
the 5th of 1943.

382  
00:22:10,090 --> 00:22:10,630  
Wow.

383

00:22:10,630 --> 00:22:15,160

And we just celebrated our  
70th wedding anniversary.

384

00:22:15,160 --> 00:22:17,020

Well, congratulations.

385

00:22:17,020 --> 00:22:18,070

Congratulations.

386

00:22:18,070 --> 00:22:19,690

What's your wife's name?

387

00:22:19,690 --> 00:22:20,410

Beatrice.

388

00:22:20,410 --> 00:22:21,640

Beatrice.

389

00:22:21,640 --> 00:22:23,050

Beatrice Jane.

390

00:22:23,050 --> 00:22:26,110

And while we're on this  
topic, do you have children?

391

00:22:26,110 --> 00:22:30,670

Yes, I have a son who went with  
me to the museum yesterday,

392

00:22:30,670 --> 00:22:32,020

and a grandson.

393

00:22:32,020 --> 00:22:34,780

394

00:22:34,780 --> 00:22:38,920

My son was my last, my youngest.

395

00:22:38,920 --> 00:22:44,090

He lives in West Hills

with my grandson.

396

00:22:44,090 --> 00:22:46,690

And then I have a  
little older brother--

397

00:22:46,690 --> 00:22:52,000

his older brother  
was Ernest E. III,

398

00:22:52,000 --> 00:22:54,460

who eventually didn't  
like that term the III

399

00:22:54,460 --> 00:22:58,840

and changed his name  
to Ernie van Deutchen,

400

00:22:58,840 --> 00:23:02,050

because a relative of mine was--

401

00:23:02,050 --> 00:23:03,440

Are you from Dutch background?

402

00:23:03,440 --> 00:23:03,940

Pardon?

403

00:23:03,940 --> 00:23:05,860

Are you Dutch background?

404

00:23:05,860 --> 00:23:10,630

We're Dutch Swiss, I think a  
little a mixture of everything.

405

00:23:10,630 --> 00:23:11,650

America.

406

00:23:11,650 --> 00:23:12,740

American, yeah.

407

00:23:12,740 --> 00:23:17,320

So anyway, then I

have a daughter.

408

00:23:17,320 --> 00:23:20,650

And she was the apple  
of my eye, Beverly.

409

00:23:20,650 --> 00:23:23,500

And she's just gorgeous.

410

00:23:23,500 --> 00:23:28,870

She grew up-- and when I say  
she, my wife and her family

411

00:23:28,870 --> 00:23:30,100

were Catholic.

412

00:23:30,100 --> 00:23:34,660

And I surrendered to the fact  
that even though I was Mormon,

413

00:23:34,660 --> 00:23:36,730

you asked that earlier  
and I forgot to tell you.

414

00:23:36,730 --> 00:23:38,680

It's OK.

415

00:23:38,680 --> 00:23:43,510

I was brought up in the Mormon  
faith, but not a good follower.

416

00:23:43,510 --> 00:23:45,010

I was a rebel.

417

00:23:45,010 --> 00:23:49,820

And so I kind of abandoned  
the church when I was 20.

418

00:23:49,820 --> 00:23:53,000

And I decided that, yes,  
I'll allow her to bring up

419

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:54,590  
the children Catholic.

420  
00:23:54,590 --> 00:23:59,140  
So that's a story there.

421  
00:23:59,140 --> 00:24:00,880  
But Beverly went  
to Catholic school,

422  
00:24:00,880 --> 00:24:09,010  
eventually went to a Catholic  
university in Denver, Colorado.

423  
00:24:09,010 --> 00:24:11,890  
And there she became a nurse.

424  
00:24:11,890 --> 00:24:20,520  
And during that time she joined  
the motion picture side of it.

425  
00:24:20,520 --> 00:24:24,600  
She acted in a play  
with some professionals

426  
00:24:24,600 --> 00:24:28,800  
in The Sound of Music, and  
oh, that made the day for me.

427  
00:24:28,800 --> 00:24:29,910  
I can imagine.

428  
00:24:29,910 --> 00:24:31,170  
So let's see.

429  
00:24:31,170 --> 00:24:32,290  
From then--

430  
00:24:32,290 --> 00:24:33,390  
OK, so we were down--

431  
00:24:33,390 --> 00:24:36,150

Oh, she'd become a nurse and eventually spent 30 years

432  
00:24:36,150 --> 00:24:40,380  
with the University of Colorado Medical Center.

433  
00:24:40,380 --> 00:24:42,240  
We'll go on for whatever you want to use.

434  
00:24:42,240 --> 00:24:42,870  
OK.

435  
00:24:42,870 --> 00:24:44,880  
I'm sorry, I got you off on a tangent here.

436  
00:24:44,880 --> 00:24:50,820  
But you were in Florida, and you had just married

437  
00:24:50,820 --> 00:24:52,590  
with a forged signature.

438  
00:24:52,590 --> 00:24:53,760  
Yes.

439  
00:24:53,760 --> 00:24:54,700  
Totally illegal.

440  
00:24:54,700 --> 00:24:57,570  
Yeah.

441  
00:24:57,570 --> 00:24:59,370  
And you were going to be learning

442  
00:24:59,370 --> 00:25:02,670  
a lot more about radar that was coming from the MIT life.

443

00:25:02,670 --> 00:25:05,400

So let's go back to  
your military side,

444

00:25:05,400 --> 00:25:07,080

the military side of your life.

445

00:25:07,080 --> 00:25:08,280

OK.

446

00:25:08,280 --> 00:25:14,660

Well there we--  
again, we were graded

447

00:25:14,660 --> 00:25:19,880

based on our grades and  
our accomplishments there.

448

00:25:19,880 --> 00:25:22,580

And I had a handicap,  
because I didn't

449

00:25:22,580 --> 00:25:25,580

know too much about math, and  
that was all math at the time.

450

00:25:25,580 --> 00:25:30,380

But I did have a fellow  
student that was a math major,

451

00:25:30,380 --> 00:25:34,370

so he brought me along in  
the evenings and so forth

452

00:25:34,370 --> 00:25:37,210

and we spent a lot of time  
bringing me up on that.

453

00:25:37,210 --> 00:25:42,020

And then we went  
through learning

454

00:25:42,020 --> 00:25:46,665

all about this new  
device out of MIT,

455  
00:25:46,665 --> 00:25:54,420  
the new radars, absolutely,  
totally top secret.

456  
00:25:54,420 --> 00:25:58,770  
And then we actually went  
out on another piece of radar

457  
00:25:58,770 --> 00:26:03,960  
flying off the coast and finding  
submarines out of the water

458  
00:26:03,960 --> 00:26:10,530  
with this particular  
anti-submarine device, which

459  
00:26:10,530 --> 00:26:14,740  
I never was involved  
with using later.

460  
00:26:14,740 --> 00:26:19,200  
So then from-- my  
graduation there

461  
00:26:19,200 --> 00:26:21,810  
was a satisfactory rating.

462  
00:26:21,810 --> 00:26:28,740  
I was then assigned  
to, of all things,

463  
00:26:28,740 --> 00:26:33,180  
a shooting range while we were  
waiting for our assignment

464  
00:26:33,180 --> 00:26:36,176  
to various squadrons  
that are being formed.

465  
00:26:36,176 --> 00:26:40,690



And on the range, I directed  
people in the proper stance,

466  
00:26:40,690 --> 00:26:45,520  
proper position  
using the Colt 45,

467  
00:26:45,520 --> 00:26:49,840  
the Thompson submachine gun,  
and the little 30 caliber

468  
00:26:49,840 --> 00:26:52,330  
carbine used by  
the paratroopers,

469  
00:26:52,330 --> 00:27:00,280  
and the M1 rifle that was used  
by the liberators, the people

470  
00:27:00,280 --> 00:27:04,320  
that came in to save the camps.

471  
00:27:04,320 --> 00:27:10,140  
So I had become an expert  
on this Thompson submachine

472  
00:27:10,140 --> 00:27:14,850  
gun and the Colt 45 and  
sharpshooter and all the rest

473  
00:27:14,850 --> 00:27:16,330  
just from my experience there.

474  
00:27:16,330 --> 00:27:25,770  
Then I was transferred up  
to Fort Wayne, Indiana,

475  
00:27:25,770 --> 00:27:28,690  
where our group was being  
really put together,

476  
00:27:28,690 --> 00:27:33,100  
assigned to certain

squadrons up there.

477

00:27:33,100 --> 00:27:35,680

Eventually, then, we  
went to Sedalia, Missouri

478

00:27:35,680 --> 00:27:39,010

for real flight training.

479

00:27:39,010 --> 00:27:44,980

We actually took our  
places doing our thing,

480

00:27:44,980 --> 00:27:46,810

each of us doing  
our own thing not

481

00:27:46,810 --> 00:27:50,480

knowing too much about whatever  
someone else needed to do.

482

00:27:50,480 --> 00:27:55,210

We were being trained to be  
experts in what we were--

483

00:27:55,210 --> 00:27:58,660

our education took us, you know?

484

00:27:58,660 --> 00:28:00,862

So that's the same--

485

00:28:00,862 --> 00:28:02,320

Excuse me, I have  
to interrupt you.

486

00:28:02,320 --> 00:28:03,290

What does that mean?

487

00:28:03,290 --> 00:28:06,310

Did you know what your  
eventual job was going to be?

488

00:28:06,310 --> 00:28:07,030

Yes.

489

00:28:07,030 --> 00:28:08,070

And what was that?

490

00:28:08,070 --> 00:28:09,120

Radar.

491

00:28:09,120 --> 00:28:10,120

Radar officer.

492

00:28:10,120 --> 00:28:13,630

And so that means, for  
a layperson like myself,

493

00:28:13,630 --> 00:28:16,000

as a radar-- what does  
a radar officer do?

494

00:28:16,000 --> 00:28:22,240

A radar officer was in charge  
of maybe 25 to 50 men that

495

00:28:22,240 --> 00:28:23,830

were also trained  
in the same thing,

496

00:28:23,830 --> 00:28:25,780

but they weren't officers.

497

00:28:25,780 --> 00:28:28,510

And we were the teachers.

498

00:28:28,510 --> 00:28:33,850

We had to teach them  
all about the things

499

00:28:33,850 --> 00:28:36,350

that we had learned  
about radar and so forth.

500

00:28:36,350 --> 00:28:40,470  
And they also wen to school,  
but not as detailed as we went.

501  
00:28:40,470 --> 00:28:44,030  
So then-- and each  
squadron was the same.

502  
00:28:44,030 --> 00:28:51,240  
So then our other  
jobs were constantly

503  
00:28:51,240 --> 00:28:55,590  
trying to figure a way  
of improving the radar

504  
00:28:55,590 --> 00:28:58,050  
and communications that we had.

505  
00:28:58,050 --> 00:28:59,910  
The technology that  
existed at the time.

506  
00:28:59,910 --> 00:29:01,290  
Yes, and it was evolving.

507  
00:29:01,290 --> 00:29:04,410  
And so it wasn't perfect.

508  
00:29:04,410 --> 00:29:09,980  
So anyway, and to just  
go a little step further,

509  
00:29:09,980 --> 00:29:11,450  
one squadron--

510  
00:29:11,450 --> 00:29:15,290  
a thing was repeated in  
four different squadrons

511  
00:29:15,290 --> 00:29:17,420  
that made up a group.

512

00:29:17,420 --> 00:29:21,860

The group that I was with was  
the 438th troop carrier group,

513

00:29:21,860 --> 00:29:25,010

become very famous,  
because we spearheaded

514

00:29:25,010 --> 00:29:27,830

the invasion of Europe.

515

00:29:27,830 --> 00:29:29,690

You mean Normandy.

516

00:29:29,690 --> 00:29:30,440

Yes.

517

00:29:30,440 --> 00:29:32,300

We were the first into Normandy.

518

00:29:32,300 --> 00:29:35,040

Wow.

519

00:29:35,040 --> 00:29:39,764

But going back to  
the organization,

520

00:29:39,764 --> 00:29:41,860

a four-squadron group.

521

00:29:41,860 --> 00:29:45,160

The squadron had 13  
airplanes that were flying,

522

00:29:45,160 --> 00:29:47,150

several more for reserve.

523

00:29:47,150 --> 00:29:49,300

So each squadron  
had 13 airplanes.

524

00:29:49,300 --> 00:29:53,530  
The group had 13  
times 4, all right?

525  
00:29:53,530 --> 00:29:57,580  
Now the four groups formed a--

526  
00:29:57,580 --> 00:30:01,100

527  
00:30:01,100 --> 00:30:04,145  
they formed the next division.

528  
00:30:04,145 --> 00:30:08,375

529  
00:30:08,375 --> 00:30:10,788  
It escapes me for a second.

530  
00:30:10,788 --> 00:30:11,580  
Anyway, there was--

531  
00:30:11,580 --> 00:30:12,820  
The next part of the structure.

532  
00:30:12,820 --> 00:30:14,237  
The next part of  
the structure up.

533  
00:30:14,237 --> 00:30:19,080  
And then it was a wing.

534  
00:30:19,080 --> 00:30:21,570  
We were the 53rd  
troop carrier wing,

535  
00:30:21,570 --> 00:30:25,690  
and that consisted  
of a lot of groups.

536  
00:30:25,690 --> 00:30:26,730  
I don't know yet.

537  
00:30:26,730 --> 00:30:29,580  
I was trying to get the  
statistics before the meeting

538  
00:30:29,580 --> 00:30:31,870  
here, but I couldn't find them.

539  
00:30:31,870 --> 00:30:36,210  
But anyway, a number  
of these wings

540  
00:30:36,210 --> 00:30:39,180  
consisted of the IX  
Troop Carrier Command.

541  
00:30:39,180 --> 00:30:40,680  
And that's the big  
thing that I want

542  
00:30:40,680 --> 00:30:43,870  
to come out of what  
we're saying here,

543  
00:30:43,870 --> 00:30:46,000  
because the IX Troop  
Carrier Command had

544  
00:30:46,000 --> 00:30:51,640  
more effect on the liberation  
because of the fact

545  
00:30:51,640 --> 00:30:56,080  
they shortened the war by  
so much by what they did,

546  
00:30:56,080 --> 00:30:58,090  
and I'll describe that later.

547  
00:30:58,090 --> 00:30:59,140  
OK, fine.

548

00:30:59,140 --> 00:31:02,080

So I want to get  
back to something.

549

00:31:02,080 --> 00:31:03,410

You're a radar officer.

550

00:31:03,410 --> 00:31:03,910

Yes

551

00:31:03,910 --> 00:31:07,450

And you're in charge of  
others who are radar experts.

552

00:31:07,450 --> 00:31:08,050

Yes.

553

00:31:08,050 --> 00:31:09,490

And what's their job?

554

00:31:09,490 --> 00:31:12,670

Was their job to use the  
radar to detect where

555

00:31:12,670 --> 00:31:14,630

they would be enemy submarines?

556

00:31:14,630 --> 00:31:15,130

Was that it?

557

00:31:15,130 --> 00:31:17,020

No, we had nothing to  
do with submarines.

558

00:31:17,020 --> 00:31:18,690

Everything was flying now.

559

00:31:18,690 --> 00:31:20,680

Everything was air.

560

00:31:20,680 --> 00:31:25,210

Their job was to



keep the radar gear

561  
00:31:25,210 --> 00:31:28,220  
in the planes in  
top working order.

562  
00:31:28,220 --> 00:31:31,720  
You know, anything made by  
man is going to break down

563  
00:31:31,720 --> 00:31:33,010  
it's like--

564  
00:31:33,010 --> 00:31:38,600  
we were like a Ford garage.

565  
00:31:38,600 --> 00:31:41,630  
We took care of the  
defects that showed up.

566  
00:31:41,630 --> 00:31:44,480  
And then every day  
they had to go out

567  
00:31:44,480 --> 00:31:47,930  
under my supervision  
and flight test

568  
00:31:47,930 --> 00:31:50,060  
every plane before  
they took off--

569  
00:31:50,060 --> 00:31:50,570  
Got it.

570  
00:31:50,570 --> 00:31:55,070  
--as to minimize the  
chance of anything

571  
00:31:55,070 --> 00:31:59,210  
going wrong and ruining, and  
the possibility of losing

572

00:31:59,210 --> 00:32:01,110  
a lot of lives because of it.

573

00:32:01,110 --> 00:32:04,370  
So if I can summarize, but I'd  
like to know whether or not

574

00:32:04,370 --> 00:32:07,760  
my summary is accurate,  
is that in many ways

575

00:32:07,760 --> 00:32:13,340  
your role in this structure  
was an educational role as well

576

00:32:13,340 --> 00:32:16,010  
as a maintenance  
role to make sure

577

00:32:16,010 --> 00:32:18,170  
that you understood  
the equipment

578

00:32:18,170 --> 00:32:22,010  
and to make sure that the guys  
who were under your command

579

00:32:22,010 --> 00:32:24,210  
understood how to  
maintain that equipment.

580

00:32:24,210 --> 00:32:24,710  
Exactly.

581

00:32:24,710 --> 00:32:25,550  
You got it right.

582

00:32:25,550 --> 00:32:26,050  
OK.

583

00:32:26,050 --> 00:32:31,145  
An additional job

of mine was to--

584

00:32:31,145 --> 00:32:33,930

585

00:32:33,930 --> 00:32:36,150

because I was  
inventive, and I've

586

00:32:36,150 --> 00:32:40,220

been inventive from the time I  
was a young boy, 12 years old.

587

00:32:40,220 --> 00:32:43,962

588

00:32:43,962 --> 00:32:48,340

I really developed  
a system where

589

00:32:48,340 --> 00:32:56,200

a very close friend and pilot of  
mine, Lieutenant Wilmer Klein,

590

00:32:56,200 --> 00:33:04,350

was in an airplane in the left  
seat flying with the blanked

591

00:33:04,350 --> 00:33:05,040

out windshield.

592

00:33:05,040 --> 00:33:05,940

He couldn't see out.

593

00:33:05,940 --> 00:33:10,830

And then we had another  
pilot that could see out.

594

00:33:10,830 --> 00:33:15,690

We started trying to  
find a way of landing

595

00:33:15,690 --> 00:33:17,340  
a plane blind, because  
the weather was

596  
00:33:17,340 --> 00:33:18,900  
so terrible over there.

597  
00:33:18,900 --> 00:33:21,990  
I mean, it was an unusual  
day, maybe one day a week,

598  
00:33:21,990 --> 00:33:23,850  
that the sun came out.

599  
00:33:23,850 --> 00:33:27,720  
And that's why the invasion  
of Europe was delayed.

600  
00:33:27,720 --> 00:33:30,060  
The weather was so bad.

601  
00:33:30,060 --> 00:33:34,830  
So anyway, I invented  
a system where

602  
00:33:34,830 --> 00:33:38,580  
we could actually-- we made  
actually 12 blind landings

603  
00:33:38,580 --> 00:33:41,670  
utilizing that system.

604  
00:33:41,670 --> 00:33:47,870  
And I have a complete write-up  
on it, so you'll be able to--

605  
00:33:47,870 --> 00:33:49,160  
you already have it, I think.

606  
00:33:49,160 --> 00:33:49,660  
Yeah.

607

00:33:49,660 --> 00:33:56,760

But anyway, that system  
got kind of spread--

608

00:33:56,760 --> 00:33:58,230

I didn't know all  
this until just

609

00:33:58,230 --> 00:34:00,240

in the last couple of years.

610

00:34:00,240 --> 00:34:06,090

The system was memorialized  
on the daily record.

611

00:34:06,090 --> 00:34:10,290

Or monthly record,  
summarized monthly.

612

00:34:10,290 --> 00:34:14,130

We had to write what we had  
done during the month in a sort

613

00:34:14,130 --> 00:34:19,100

of a permanent record form.

614

00:34:19,100 --> 00:34:22,580

And they were  
classified as secret.

615

00:34:22,580 --> 00:34:29,800

Anyway, that information  
started to get out to the group.

616

00:34:29,800 --> 00:34:32,679

We were only a squadron,  
one fourth of the group.

617

00:34:32,679 --> 00:34:34,489

Then through my  
friend and so forth,

618

00:34:34,489 --> 00:34:37,210

he witnessed-- we  
shared a radar building,

619  
00:34:37,210 --> 00:34:39,850  
and he witnessed  
what was happening.

620  
00:34:39,850 --> 00:34:46,810  
And he started to follow what I  
was doing in the 88th squadron.

621  
00:34:46,810 --> 00:34:48,219  
Eventually, it  
went to the group.

622  
00:34:48,219 --> 00:34:49,630  
Then it went to the wing.

623  
00:34:49,630 --> 00:34:54,159  
And then the wing ordered  
all planes to be--

624  
00:34:54,159 --> 00:34:59,680  
all pilots to be  
trained in utilizing

625  
00:34:59,680 --> 00:35:04,720  
that particular system, because  
it used equipment already

626  
00:35:04,720 --> 00:35:05,860  
in the plane.

627  
00:35:05,860 --> 00:35:10,150  
It used nothing except  
equipment already in the plane.

628  
00:35:10,150 --> 00:35:13,280  
So it was based on what you had  
learned about the technology?

629  
00:35:13,280 --> 00:35:13,780  
Right.

630  
00:35:13,780 --> 00:35:17,410  
And you must have  
been quite proud.

631  
00:35:17,410 --> 00:35:17,910  
Pardon?

632  
00:35:17,910 --> 00:35:20,460  
You must have been quite proud  
that they adopted this system.

633  
00:35:20,460 --> 00:35:22,290  
I didn't think of  
anything different.

634  
00:35:22,290 --> 00:35:25,390  
I didn't know anything.

635  
00:35:25,390 --> 00:35:28,440  
I was a 22-year-old  
at that time,

636  
00:35:28,440 --> 00:35:32,160  
and I was concentrating  
on what we were doing.

637  
00:35:32,160 --> 00:35:35,030  
And I never thought  
that there was

638  
00:35:35,030 --> 00:35:36,920  
any major accomplishment to it.

639  
00:35:36,920 --> 00:35:39,760  
I didn't know that until  
just the last couple years.

640  
00:35:39,760 --> 00:35:43,280

641  
00:35:43,280 --> 00:35:47,780

But anyway, then  
the wing decided

642  
00:35:47,780 --> 00:35:51,740  
to call the general of  
the Ninth Air Force.

643  
00:35:51,740 --> 00:35:54,980  
The Ninth Air Force  
controlled 1,000

644  
00:35:54,980 --> 00:35:59,600  
of these airplanes, the C-47  
airplanes, the most wonderful

645  
00:35:59,600 --> 00:36:04,740  
airplane ever built.

646  
00:36:04,740 --> 00:36:08,080  
Everyone should learn  
about the C-47 aircraft.

647  
00:36:08,080 --> 00:36:11,970  
The Douglas DC-3 was  
the forerunner of it.

648  
00:36:11,970 --> 00:36:13,650  
And it could do anything.

649  
00:36:13,650 --> 00:36:16,920  
But anyway, we didn't--

650  
00:36:16,920 --> 00:36:20,340  
I was concentrating on  
the job and not much.

651  
00:36:20,340 --> 00:36:22,590  
Can I ask now,  
we're in Missouri.

652  
00:36:22,590 --> 00:36:24,570  
From what I understand  
in your story,



653  
00:36:24,570 --> 00:36:27,600  
as far as getting to Europe,  
you're still in Missouri,

654  
00:36:27,600 --> 00:36:28,530  
correct?

655  
00:36:28,530 --> 00:36:29,970  
Training some of these--

656  
00:36:29,970 --> 00:36:30,960  
now a radar officer.

657  
00:36:30,960 --> 00:36:32,130  
At that time.

658  
00:36:32,130 --> 00:36:34,760  
No, no, all that  
was done overseas.

659  
00:36:34,760 --> 00:36:36,840  
100% of that was done overseas.

660  
00:36:36,840 --> 00:36:37,650  
Oh, I see.

661  
00:36:37,650 --> 00:36:41,820  
So tell me at what point  
did your training end

662  
00:36:41,820 --> 00:36:44,490  
and you got shipped  
out to Europe?

663  
00:36:44,490 --> 00:36:48,990  
It was-- we did a lot of  
flying and flight training.

664  
00:36:48,990 --> 00:36:53,280  
And believe it or not, we  
were not allowed on a test,

665  
00:36:53,280 --> 00:36:56,310  
on a final test we had  
to take, the pilots

666  
00:36:56,310 --> 00:37:00,690  
were not allowed to fly these  
airplanes higher than five

667  
00:37:00,690 --> 00:37:03,000  
feet over the highest obstacle.

668  
00:37:03,000 --> 00:37:03,600  
Oh, my gosh.

669  
00:37:03,600 --> 00:37:04,620  
Five feet.

670  
00:37:04,620 --> 00:37:06,630  
Not 500, not 5,000.

671  
00:37:06,630 --> 00:37:08,280  
Five feet.

672  
00:37:08,280 --> 00:37:13,310  
And so we were flying  
this high over the ground

673  
00:37:13,310 --> 00:37:14,730  
where it's level.

674  
00:37:14,730 --> 00:37:17,660  
And so we had to pull  
up to get over a fence.

675  
00:37:17,660 --> 00:37:21,065  
And the chickens were flying.

676  
00:37:21,065 --> 00:37:22,607  
The chickens weren't happy.

677

00:37:22,607 --> 00:37:23,690  
They weren't happy at all.

678  
00:37:23,690 --> 00:37:25,324  
Neither were the cows.

679  
00:37:25,324 --> 00:37:27,060  
[LAUGHTER]

680  
00:37:27,060 --> 00:37:29,990  
So anyway, I'll give  
you some background,

681  
00:37:29,990 --> 00:37:31,610  
because that's important.

682  
00:37:31,610 --> 00:37:35,090  
So that took place on  
this side of the ocean,

683  
00:37:35,090 --> 00:37:39,470  
but most of the training of the  
pilots and navigators, radio

684  
00:37:39,470 --> 00:37:42,290  
operators, crew  
chiefs, took place

685  
00:37:42,290 --> 00:37:46,010  
in kind of a  
conference room that I

686  
00:37:46,010 --> 00:37:51,890  
had in addition to the shops and  
so forth of my office building

687  
00:37:51,890 --> 00:37:54,920  
that was right off  
the runway of our main

688  
00:37:54,920 --> 00:37:57,410  
airfield in Greenham  
Common in England.

689  
00:37:57,410 --> 00:37:58,143  
I see.

690  
00:37:58,143 --> 00:37:59,810  
I see, when you were  
already over there.

691  
00:37:59,810 --> 00:38:02,690  
So I'd like to establish  
the date of when

692  
00:38:02,690 --> 00:38:06,470  
you left, because up till now,  
from when we talk about when

693  
00:38:06,470 --> 00:38:09,260  
you enlisted in  
Wisconsin to now,

694  
00:38:09,260 --> 00:38:13,910  
it sounds like such an  
intensive, intensive training

695  
00:38:13,910 --> 00:38:17,180  
from the very basics to  
something extraordinarily

696  
00:38:17,180 --> 00:38:18,250  
sophisticated.

697  
00:38:18,250 --> 00:38:19,236  
Oh, it was.

698  
00:38:19,236 --> 00:38:20,280  
It was.

699  
00:38:20,280 --> 00:38:21,920  
It was very-- when  
I think of it now,

700  
00:38:21,920 --> 00:38:25,250

I was thinking this  
morning, that entire thing,

701  
00:38:25,250 --> 00:38:27,470  
including the camps,  
everything, happened

702  
00:38:27,470 --> 00:38:30,920  
and within a three-year period.

703  
00:38:30,920 --> 00:38:32,960  
Of course, the camps  
went on way before that,

704  
00:38:32,960 --> 00:38:36,120  
but our reaction to it to get--

705  
00:38:36,120 --> 00:38:37,940  
Well, that--

706  
00:38:37,940 --> 00:38:39,250  
I'm sorry, keep on going.

707  
00:38:39,250 --> 00:38:41,360  
It was only a three-year window.

708  
00:38:41,360 --> 00:38:45,950  
And I marvel at how we got  
so much done in three years.

709  
00:38:45,950 --> 00:38:48,770  
So anyway, we went  
overseas then.

710  
00:38:48,770 --> 00:38:50,810  
It had to be probably--

711  
00:38:50,810 --> 00:38:53,420

712  
00:38:53,420 --> 00:38:54,740  
let me see.

713  
00:38:54,740 --> 00:38:58,520  
The air echelon went overseas  
by way of South America

714  
00:38:58,520 --> 00:39:01,310  
and across Africa and then  
eventually up to England.

715  
00:39:01,310 --> 00:39:03,710  
They flew their planes over.

716  
00:39:03,710 --> 00:39:06,110  
The ground echelon,  
which I was part of,

717  
00:39:06,110 --> 00:39:13,580  
went over by boat, under a  
heavy armada of destroyers

718  
00:39:13,580 --> 00:39:16,310  
and so forth,  
because a troopship--

719  
00:39:16,310 --> 00:39:18,650  
they were sinking ships  
like crazy at that time.

720  
00:39:18,650 --> 00:39:22,610  
Probably only half of the  
materiel that was being shipped

721  
00:39:22,610 --> 00:39:26,150  
overseas got overseas, because  
they were sunk by the U-boats.

722  
00:39:26,150 --> 00:39:30,278

723  
00:39:30,278 --> 00:39:32,320  
So we went over about--  
to answer your question--

724  
00:39:32,320 --> 00:39:39,730  
about the first part of 1942--

725  
00:39:39,730 --> 00:39:41,240  
1943.

726  
00:39:41,240 --> 00:39:42,770  
No.

727  
00:39:42,770 --> 00:39:45,740  
It had to be in 1943.

728  
00:39:45,740 --> 00:39:49,175  
We were married in  
'43, so training ended.

729  
00:39:49,175 --> 00:39:53,520

730  
00:39:53,520 --> 00:39:56,530  
Probably the latter  
part of 1943.

731  
00:39:56,530 --> 00:39:59,455  
OK, because the invasion  
happens half a year later.

732  
00:39:59,455 --> 00:40:00,330  
Yes, you're right on.

733  
00:40:00,330 --> 00:40:01,240  
In June '44.

734  
00:40:01,240 --> 00:40:01,740  
Right.

735  
00:40:01,740 --> 00:40:03,930  
OK.

736  
00:40:03,930 --> 00:40:06,540  
By that point, I know you--

737  
00:40:06,540 --> 00:40:11,880  
from your story, we get a  
sense of a real intensive focus

738  
00:40:11,880 --> 00:40:15,750  
on the work that you're  
doing, on the technology,

739  
00:40:15,750 --> 00:40:17,970  
on learning everything  
that you know about it.

740  
00:40:17,970 --> 00:40:20,760  
What about the wider  
political events

741  
00:40:20,760 --> 00:40:22,650  
that were going on at the time?

742  
00:40:22,650 --> 00:40:24,240  
Do you remember?

743  
00:40:24,240 --> 00:40:27,420  
Did you read newspapers about  
how the war was progressing

744  
00:40:27,420 --> 00:40:29,433  
before the invasion?

745  
00:40:29,433 --> 00:40:31,350  
Did you hear anything  
about what was happening

746  
00:40:31,350 --> 00:40:33,240  
to the Jews of Europe?

747  
00:40:33,240 --> 00:40:36,450  
We heard about it, but  
it wasn't concentrated

748  
00:40:36,450 --> 00:40:37,940



like it should have been.

749  
00:40:37,940 --> 00:40:41,010  
And, of course, like  
we discovered later,

750  
00:40:41,010 --> 00:40:47,100  
we knew we had to cut the  
head off that monster.

751  
00:40:47,100 --> 00:40:50,580  
We knew that, because  
they were very

752  
00:40:50,580 --> 00:40:54,380  
close to running the world.

753  
00:40:54,380 --> 00:41:02,190  
Had it not been for the power  
of our country's factories

754  
00:41:02,190 --> 00:41:03,630  
in the home front--

755  
00:41:03,630 --> 00:41:05,490  
they did a marvelous job.

756  
00:41:05,490 --> 00:41:10,500  
I give them so much credit  
for actually winning the war.

757  
00:41:10,500 --> 00:41:17,130  
But unfortunately,  
the word of the camps

758  
00:41:17,130 --> 00:41:20,680  
were treated more or  
less like propaganda.

759  
00:41:20,680 --> 00:41:23,770  
We couldn't believe anything  
like that could happen.

760

00:41:23,770 --> 00:41:26,540

It just was the case that  
we were too naive to--

761

00:41:26,540 --> 00:41:31,240

it wasn't the case  
we were insincere.

762

00:41:31,240 --> 00:41:34,220

It was a case we just  
didn't know any better.

763

00:41:34,220 --> 00:41:35,930

And of course  
being 20 years old,

764

00:41:35,930 --> 00:41:38,570

you don't get buried  
in politics anyway.

765

00:41:38,570 --> 00:41:40,280

No.

766

00:41:40,280 --> 00:41:41,708

So that was the--

767

00:41:41,708 --> 00:41:43,250

I'm just trying--  
you see, the reason

768

00:41:43,250 --> 00:41:44,875

why I asked this  
question is I'm trying

769

00:41:44,875 --> 00:41:49,800

to get a sense of the context of  
the time, the mood of the time,

770

00:41:49,800 --> 00:41:52,040

the level of  
knowledge of the time.

771

00:41:52,040 --> 00:41:55,880  
You know, what had priority  
and what had less priority?

772  
00:41:55,880 --> 00:41:59,750  
And how much did people know  
and what they were aware of?

773  
00:41:59,750 --> 00:42:02,920  
Which I think you've  
addressed, you know?

774  
00:42:02,920 --> 00:42:03,420  
Yeah.

775  
00:42:03,420 --> 00:42:06,170

776  
00:42:06,170 --> 00:42:13,580  
They only knew what  
the army, what the top

777  
00:42:13,580 --> 00:42:16,550  
generals and so forth  
wanted them to know.

778  
00:42:16,550 --> 00:42:18,890  
They wanted their  
morale to stay up.

779  
00:42:18,890 --> 00:42:23,000  
And they didn't want them to  
get discouraged in the United

780  
00:42:23,000 --> 00:42:25,460  
States, because they were  
doing such a marvelous job

781  
00:42:25,460 --> 00:42:28,550  
of reaching that goal of  
Roosevelt's of 120,000

782  
00:42:28,550 --> 00:42:29,990

planes a year.

783  
00:42:29,990 --> 00:42:31,640  
Couldn't be done, but it did.

784  
00:42:31,640 --> 00:42:33,180  
It happened.

785  
00:42:33,180 --> 00:42:36,770  
And so they only  
fed them information

786  
00:42:36,770 --> 00:42:38,580  
that was relatively good.

787  
00:42:38,580 --> 00:42:39,920  
And that's one reason--

788  
00:42:39,920 --> 00:42:42,440  
one of the primary  
reasons, I believe.

789  
00:42:42,440 --> 00:42:46,820  
They didn't want  
too much bad news

790  
00:42:46,820 --> 00:42:50,330  
to get out, where  
we lost a battle

791  
00:42:50,330 --> 00:42:53,210  
or where we had made a  
mistake or something.

792  
00:42:53,210 --> 00:42:57,860  
Like the mistake  
that was made where

793  
00:42:57,860 --> 00:43:00,020  
all of those  
British paratroopers

794

00:43:00,020 --> 00:43:04,370  
died because a bad mistake  
in judgment by the superiors.

795  
00:43:04,370 --> 00:43:07,680  
We can perhaps  
come to that point.

796  
00:43:07,680 --> 00:43:09,980  
In your narrative I  
remember it's something

797  
00:43:09,980 --> 00:43:10,950  
that you wrote about.

798  
00:43:10,950 --> 00:43:12,770  
Yeah.

799  
00:43:12,770 --> 00:43:15,590  
Did you hear, then, about  
the Battle of Stalingrad,

800  
00:43:15,590 --> 00:43:17,570  
which was in 1943?

801  
00:43:17,570 --> 00:43:18,890  
Yes, we heard about that.

802  
00:43:18,890 --> 00:43:22,190  
And of course all we heard was  
the good part of it, you know?

803  
00:43:22,190 --> 00:43:30,330  
We didn't hear-- although we  
knew that Stalin was brutal.

804  
00:43:30,330 --> 00:43:31,410  
We knew that.

805  
00:43:31,410 --> 00:43:34,900  
We knew the Russians  
were probably not--

806

00:43:34,900 --> 00:43:38,020

you know, following  
that course was not

807

00:43:38,020 --> 00:43:39,240

the nicest people on Earth.

808

00:43:39,240 --> 00:43:44,040

809

00:43:44,040 --> 00:43:46,260

We followed that  
Battle of Stalingrad

810

00:43:46,260 --> 00:43:48,930

because we were so  
delighted over the fact

811

00:43:48,930 --> 00:43:52,710

that Germans were  
losing, and that

812

00:43:52,710 --> 00:43:55,240

was good news to come across.

813

00:43:55,240 --> 00:44:00,430

But the news of all the people  
that was lost at our air

814

00:44:00,430 --> 00:44:03,370

base during a short  
period of time, that

815

00:44:03,370 --> 00:44:05,860

didn't get back to the public.

816

00:44:05,860 --> 00:44:07,140

No one knew about that.

817

00:44:07,140 --> 00:44:09,900

Well, let's talk about  
that a little bit.

818  
00:44:09,900 --> 00:44:11,320  
Was this in England?

819  
00:44:11,320 --> 00:44:12,400  
It was in England.

820  
00:44:12,400 --> 00:44:14,460  
OK, so tell us the story in--

821  
00:44:14,460 --> 00:44:17,160

822  
00:44:17,160 --> 00:44:17,940  
tell us the story.

823  
00:44:17,940 --> 00:44:20,700  
Tell us what happened  
with such losses.

824  
00:44:20,700 --> 00:44:23,510

825  
00:44:23,510 --> 00:44:25,610  
Well, the worst things,  
I'll tell you about.

826  
00:44:25,610 --> 00:44:30,270

827  
00:44:30,270 --> 00:44:34,610  
There was a tremendous  
concentration

828  
00:44:34,610 --> 00:44:38,100  
of aircraft bombing the coast  
and bombing inland and so

829  
00:44:38,100 --> 00:44:38,600  
forth.

830

00:44:38,600 --> 00:44:42,080  
Planes were flying overhead all  
the time, going back and forth,

831  
00:44:42,080 --> 00:44:43,130  
a constant drone.

832  
00:44:43,130 --> 00:44:44,240  
You couldn't sleep.

833  
00:44:44,240 --> 00:44:45,710  
I mean, around the clock.

834  
00:44:45,710 --> 00:44:49,290

835  
00:44:49,290 --> 00:44:55,230  
Two C-47s, because of the  
weather, bad weather, two--

836  
00:44:55,230 --> 00:45:02,910  
not C-47s, but two B-17 bombers  
collided almost directly

837  
00:45:02,910 --> 00:45:04,080  
over our base.

838  
00:45:04,080 --> 00:45:04,890  
Oh, my.

839  
00:45:04,890 --> 00:45:10,410  
And the debris scattered  
over a very large area.

840  
00:45:10,410 --> 00:45:17,370  
And I was one of the few  
people that heard the crash.

841  
00:45:17,370 --> 00:45:21,240  
It was a tremendous explosion.

842  
00:45:21,240 --> 00:45:25,320



And so pieces of everything,  
engines and bodies and stuff,

843  
00:45:25,320 --> 00:45:28,310  
were coming down  
all over the area.

844  
00:45:28,310 --> 00:45:31,480  
I was one of the very  
first on the scene,

845  
00:45:31,480 --> 00:45:35,350  
because my radar building was  
only a short distance away.

846  
00:45:35,350 --> 00:45:38,550  
I had a Jeep that I  
had assigned to me.

847  
00:45:38,550 --> 00:45:40,420  
I jumped in the  
Jeep and drove over

848  
00:45:40,420 --> 00:45:43,840  
to where I knew the  
sound had come from.

849  
00:45:43,840 --> 00:45:48,760  
And then I started to  
see the debris all over.

850  
00:45:48,760 --> 00:45:53,290  
And the first sight I saw of  
a body was a young navigator.

851  
00:45:53,290 --> 00:45:56,290  
The navigator-- I knew it was a  
navigator, because the body was

852  
00:45:56,290 --> 00:45:57,160  
quite intact.

853  
00:45:57,160 --> 00:46:00,250

And it was lying on its back.

854

00:46:00,250 --> 00:46:03,520

And he was partially  
buried because the force

855

00:46:03,520 --> 00:46:05,570

of dropping to the ground.

856

00:46:05,570 --> 00:46:11,580

And he was a little gray  
looking and so forth.

857

00:46:11,580 --> 00:46:14,060

But he looked like he was  
sleeping, like, peacefully

858

00:46:14,060 --> 00:46:15,290

sleeping.

859

00:46:15,290 --> 00:46:17,780

But his watch was still running.

860

00:46:17,780 --> 00:46:20,320

It was a strange thing.

861

00:46:20,320 --> 00:46:26,490

And then a little  
beyond, I saw a body that

862

00:46:26,490 --> 00:46:28,575

was decapitated from hitting--

863

00:46:28,575 --> 00:46:30,885

from going through  
a tree branch.

864

00:46:30,885 --> 00:46:34,800

865

00:46:34,800 --> 00:46:40,140

Then a lot of the people from

the base started to come over

866

00:46:40,140 --> 00:46:43,830  
and we all scattered through to  
see if there's any survivors.

867

00:46:43,830 --> 00:46:44,820  
Were there?

868

00:46:44,820 --> 00:46:47,850  
Yes, there was a pilot.

869

00:46:47,850 --> 00:46:49,410  
I think one pilot.

870

00:46:49,410 --> 00:46:51,810  
Or maybe-- I can't  
recall now for sure,

871

00:46:51,810 --> 00:46:54,830  
but I think at least  
one pilot survived.

872

00:46:54,830 --> 00:46:59,450  
And the pilot that  
didn't survive,

873

00:46:59,450 --> 00:47:02,660  
in the last couple  
of years I've got

874

00:47:02,660 --> 00:47:06,265  
to know who their  
relatives were,

875

00:47:06,265 --> 00:47:07,890  
and they've written  
to me and so forth.

876

00:47:07,890 --> 00:47:11,800  
They found out through another--

877

00:47:11,800 --> 00:47:15,910  
I had another  
interview with the BBC.

878  
00:47:15,910 --> 00:47:23,050  
And somehow or other that got  
out and they got a hold of me.

879  
00:47:23,050 --> 00:47:27,230  
And it was kind of sad.

880  
00:47:27,230 --> 00:47:32,800  
But anyway, from that,  
that was number one.

881  
00:47:32,800 --> 00:47:34,260  
Number two was the--

882  
00:47:34,260 --> 00:47:35,850  
Excuse me.

883  
00:47:35,850 --> 00:47:39,990  
Do you know how many people  
died in that collision?

884  
00:47:39,990 --> 00:47:40,490  
Yes.

885  
00:47:40,490 --> 00:47:44,550

886  
00:47:44,550 --> 00:47:50,260  
As I recall, there was 22,  
because I got a figure of 51

887  
00:47:50,260 --> 00:47:52,900  
in my mind that combined  
the two crashes that

888  
00:47:52,900 --> 00:47:54,620  
happened the same week.

889

00:47:54,620 --> 00:47:58,330

And was this because of the  
intensity, and the frequency,

890

00:47:58,330 --> 00:48:02,590

and just the sheer number  
of bombing missions

891

00:48:02,590 --> 00:48:05,260

that were taking place,  
that there were just

892

00:48:05,260 --> 00:48:06,890

too many in the sky?

893

00:48:06,890 --> 00:48:12,670

Well, military aircraft  
usually flew in formation.

894

00:48:12,670 --> 00:48:14,650

And the formation  
consisted of-- let's

895

00:48:14,650 --> 00:48:18,010

say our formations  
consisted of 13 airplanes,

896

00:48:18,010 --> 00:48:21,700

but that means they  
weren't too far apart.

897

00:48:21,700 --> 00:48:24,670

And the weather was so  
bad that you couldn't see.

898

00:48:24,670 --> 00:48:26,710

In other words, they  
just lost their sight.

899

00:48:26,710 --> 00:48:29,110

And in some way or  
other, two of the planes

900

00:48:29,110 --> 00:48:32,310  
rushed together and  
caused an explosion.

901  
00:48:32,310 --> 00:48:36,460  
And that scattered  
them all over.

902  
00:48:36,460 --> 00:48:43,180  
Then I gave you an  
article about Bob Owens,

903  
00:48:43,180 --> 00:48:49,360  
our engineering officer that  
was big in all of our missions

904  
00:48:49,360 --> 00:48:50,070  
and so forth.

905  
00:48:50,070 --> 00:48:57,650  
So he-- well, I'll  
follow that later.

906  
00:48:57,650 --> 00:49:01,280  
Oh, no, I'll pick that  
up now, because the Horsa

907  
00:49:01,280 --> 00:49:05,030  
Glider was a  
British-made, all wood,

908  
00:49:05,030 --> 00:49:07,150  
but a very large aircraft.

909  
00:49:07,150 --> 00:49:11,390  
And instead of carrying  
only 15 paratroopers,

910  
00:49:11,390 --> 00:49:13,986  
they could carry 30.

911  
00:49:13,986 --> 00:49:18,050  
Well, they had 29 in

that, plus two pilots.

912  
00:49:18,050 --> 00:49:19,400  
So that meant 31.

913  
00:49:19,400 --> 00:49:20,840  
And that makes a total of 31.

914  
00:49:20,840 --> 00:49:23,960  
And the 31 plus  
the 22 made the 53.

915  
00:49:23,960 --> 00:49:27,410  
It sticks in my mind  
as far as the loss.

916  
00:49:27,410 --> 00:49:31,390  
Anyway, he had told them.

917  
00:49:31,390 --> 00:49:33,890  
They sent the  
aircraft in, and he

918  
00:49:33,890 --> 00:49:37,510  
noted in an inspection  
of the aircraft

919  
00:49:37,510 --> 00:49:43,450  
that there was about a 3-inch  
space between the tail mounting

920  
00:49:43,450 --> 00:49:47,440  
and the fuselage where  
it's supposed to be tight.

921  
00:49:47,440 --> 00:49:50,560  
The glue had-- this  
is all glued together.

922  
00:49:50,560 --> 00:49:52,330  
It's a wood aircraft.

923

00:49:52,330 --> 00:49:54,520  
The glue had separated.

924  
00:49:54,520 --> 00:49:57,100  
And he issued what  
they call a red tag.

925  
00:49:57,100 --> 00:49:59,620  
And every one of the  
Horsa Gliders on the base

926  
00:49:59,620 --> 00:50:01,330  
was red-tagged.

927  
00:50:01,330 --> 00:50:07,330  
But wing, next step  
up, decided that they

928  
00:50:07,330 --> 00:50:16,120  
had to have a practice run of  
a troop carrier, a 647 aircraft

929  
00:50:16,120 --> 00:50:20,680  
pulling this bigger glider.

930  
00:50:20,680 --> 00:50:26,410  
And so they assigned two  
88th pilots, glider pilots,

931  
00:50:26,410 --> 00:50:27,870  
to the task.

932  
00:50:27,870 --> 00:50:29,310  
Can I interrupt  
just for a second?

933  
00:50:29,310 --> 00:50:30,080  
Yes.

934  
00:50:30,080 --> 00:50:33,580  
I just want to establish the  
manufacturer of the gliders



935

00:50:33,580 --> 00:50:34,548  
was British.

936

00:50:34,548 --> 00:50:35,090  
That's right.

937

00:50:35,090 --> 00:50:38,380  
But they had sold  
them to the Americans,

938

00:50:38,380 --> 00:50:42,340  
and this was now an  
American military operation.

939

00:50:42,340 --> 00:50:45,820  
It was part of our assigned--

940

00:50:45,820 --> 00:50:48,460  
we didn't pay attention  
to who furnished it,

941

00:50:48,460 --> 00:50:51,670  
but we had a certain amount  
of planes, a certain number

942

00:50:51,670 --> 00:50:53,920  
of gliders, a certain  
number of CG-4 gliders,

943

00:50:53,920 --> 00:50:54,950  
which was the smaller.

944

00:50:54,950 --> 00:50:55,450  
Got it.

945

00:50:55,450 --> 00:50:57,730  
And a certain amount  
of the others.

946

00:50:57,730 --> 00:51:04,480  
They wanted a test to show the  
capability of the C-47 aircraft

947  
00:51:04,480 --> 00:51:07,630  
towing that fully-loaded glide.

948  
00:51:07,630 --> 00:51:13,090  
This fully-loaded  
glider would go OK even

949  
00:51:13,090 --> 00:51:14,450  
with that tail problem.

950  
00:51:14,450 --> 00:51:18,730  
So they were able to fly the  
gliders in to the airport.

951  
00:51:18,730 --> 00:51:23,980  
But he said that the  
minute you take off,

952  
00:51:23,980 --> 00:51:26,740  
it probably will not be  
more than just a few seconds

953  
00:51:26,740 --> 00:51:29,390  
and that tail is  
going to separate.

954  
00:51:29,390 --> 00:51:33,410  
Well, just exactly like  
he forecast, the tail

955  
00:51:33,410 --> 00:51:40,460  
broke off when the tow  
plane and the glider

956  
00:51:40,460 --> 00:51:43,040  
was probably about  
100 feet in the air.

957  
00:51:43,040 --> 00:51:47,270  
And, of course, then they dove  
straight into a little knoll.

958

00:51:47,270 --> 00:51:51,320

I recall the plane had dove  
straight into that knoll,

959

00:51:51,320 --> 00:51:53,660

and every one of  
the occupants was

960

00:51:53,660 --> 00:52:00,400

in a mass of flesh in  
the front of that glider.

961

00:52:00,400 --> 00:52:02,380

I wasn't there.

962

00:52:02,380 --> 00:52:03,970

I wasn't, certainly,  
the first there.

963

00:52:03,970 --> 00:52:06,490

But they had removed the bodies.

964

00:52:06,490 --> 00:52:09,190

And then hearing  
about the crash,

965

00:52:09,190 --> 00:52:12,520

I drove over to that also,  
which is in the same area,

966

00:52:12,520 --> 00:52:19,780

in the same debris field as  
the crash of the two B17s.

967

00:52:19,780 --> 00:52:22,470

And the guard, there was a  
guard assigned to it by then,

968

00:52:22,470 --> 00:52:28,780

he says, well, there's some  
human hip or something,

969

00:52:28,780 --> 00:52:32,620  
like a big roast, still there.

970  
00:52:32,620 --> 00:52:34,540  
They had removed all  
the human remains,

971  
00:52:34,540 --> 00:52:36,390  
but they had missed that.

972  
00:52:36,390 --> 00:52:41,910  
So that's number 30-some.

973  
00:52:41,910 --> 00:52:53,310  
Anyway, but the thing  
that was so remarkable

974  
00:52:53,310 --> 00:52:59,850  
is seeing 13 ambulances, each  
with four bodies, all people

975  
00:52:59,850 --> 00:53:02,430  
that were highly  
trained, moving off

976  
00:53:02,430 --> 00:53:04,410  
the field toward the cemetery.

977  
00:53:04,410 --> 00:53:04,940  
Oh my.

978  
00:53:04,940 --> 00:53:09,720  
And that was very impressive, I  
mean, in the wrong sort of way.

979  
00:53:09,720 --> 00:53:14,150  
Those are things that were not  
relayed to the American public.

980  
00:53:14,150 --> 00:53:16,110  
Were they considered  
secret, top secret?

981

00:53:16,110 --> 00:53:19,340

Could you speak about them to  
your relatives, to your wife?

982

00:53:19,340 --> 00:53:21,440

We couldn't speak  
about anything, no.

983

00:53:21,440 --> 00:53:24,180

They took every  
one of our letters,

984

00:53:24,180 --> 00:53:27,050

and when the relatives  
got them, there

985

00:53:27,050 --> 00:53:29,060

was a lot of black marker.

986

00:53:29,060 --> 00:53:30,560

They took out a  
lot of information.

987

00:53:30,560 --> 00:53:33,110

You could not mention anything.

988

00:53:33,110 --> 00:53:40,020

Highly, highly-- they edited  
everything that went out.

989

00:53:40,020 --> 00:53:42,600

It must have been that those--

990

00:53:42,600 --> 00:53:45,330

that you and others  
on the ground,

991

00:53:45,330 --> 00:53:49,240

when you saw the price  
of somebody's decision,

992

00:53:49,240 --> 00:53:55,950

the mistake, I mean, the anger  
at the price that was paid.

993  
00:53:55,950 --> 00:54:02,710  
Well, one step further, the  
man that tried to stop it,

994  
00:54:02,710 --> 00:54:05,800  
Bob Owens, was on his  
way to a court martial

995  
00:54:05,800 --> 00:54:11,660  
because he had ignored an  
order to allow the 88th pilots

996  
00:54:11,660 --> 00:54:14,820  
or planes to fly.

997  
00:54:14,820 --> 00:54:19,110  
The unfortunate thing  
is they chose two pilots

998  
00:54:19,110 --> 00:54:24,120  
from the 89th squadron and a  
plane from the 89th squadron.

999  
00:54:24,120 --> 00:54:31,950  
There's now a Memorial there  
to that particular thing.

1000  
00:54:31,950 --> 00:54:38,480  
Princess Margaret was there  
at the dedication of it.

1001  
00:54:38,480 --> 00:54:41,120  
But they got it a little  
wrong, I'm afraid.

1002  
00:54:41,120 --> 00:54:44,150  
I think they showed 88th  
pilots still in that marker,

1003  
00:54:44,150 --> 00:54:48,200

but it was only-- it  
was actually the 89th.

1004  
00:54:48,200 --> 00:54:52,110  
To remind us again, what part  
of England did this all occur?

1005  
00:54:52,110 --> 00:54:54,260  
It was in southern England.

1006  
00:54:54,260 --> 00:54:59,000  
And Greenham Common was close  
to a town called Salisbury.

1007  
00:54:59,000 --> 00:55:03,200  
And then that was a short  
distance toward London.

1008  
00:55:03,200 --> 00:55:08,570  
We were west of London,  
probably about 100 miles.

1009  
00:55:08,570 --> 00:55:11,840  
There was Salisbury,  
Reading, and then London.

1010  
00:55:11,840 --> 00:55:14,690  
The other way was  
the Salisbury Plain,

1011  
00:55:14,690 --> 00:55:22,710  
where that big,  
prehistoric monument stood.

1012  
00:55:22,710 --> 00:55:23,780  
Stonehenge.

1013  
00:55:23,780 --> 00:55:24,620  
Stonehenge.

1014  
00:55:24,620 --> 00:55:26,130  
Stonehenge, yeah.

1015

00:55:26,130 --> 00:55:29,620

These are the little  
details you forget.

1016

00:55:29,620 --> 00:55:32,550

Well, I'm amazed by how  
many details you remember.

1017

00:55:32,550 --> 00:55:33,780

I really am.

1018

00:55:33,780 --> 00:55:34,780

It's a lot.

1019

00:55:34,780 --> 00:55:37,830

Well, you know, the whole  
picture never came to me.

1020

00:55:37,830 --> 00:55:40,020

Each one of these were  
separate little things,

1021

00:55:40,020 --> 00:55:42,390

and I wrote about  
it a step at a time.

1022

00:55:42,390 --> 00:55:45,270

I was going to use each  
one of these little things

1023

00:55:45,270 --> 00:55:47,820

as a separate chapter in  
my book that I was writing,

1024

00:55:47,820 --> 00:55:49,680

I was going to write.

1025

00:55:49,680 --> 00:55:56,330

But lack of time and the  
fact that I'm still working,

1026

00:55:56,330 --> 00:56:00,800



I still own my own business,  
I never got to write the book.

1027  
00:56:00,800 --> 00:56:03,440  
But I didn't want these  
details to be lost.

1028  
00:56:03,440 --> 00:56:06,920  
And so it was just--

1029  
00:56:06,920 --> 00:56:10,820  
back in those days, it was just  
me doing one job and nothing

1030  
00:56:10,820 --> 00:56:12,740  
big about it, nothing.

1031  
00:56:12,740 --> 00:56:13,880  
Nothing unusual about it.

1032  
00:56:13,880 --> 00:56:15,950  
That's what I was  
supposed to do.

1033  
00:56:15,950 --> 00:56:18,470  
But then when I look  
at the whole picture,

1034  
00:56:18,470 --> 00:56:23,490  
the IX Troop Carrier,  
with their 1,000 planes,

1035  
00:56:23,490 --> 00:56:30,300  
ordered that the entire  
group of 1,000 planes

1036  
00:56:30,300 --> 00:56:34,520  
be equipped or be given  
the information, taught

1037  
00:56:34,520 --> 00:56:35,650  
the information.

1038

00:56:35,650 --> 00:56:41,100

I also came up with an  
idea to extend the range

1039

00:56:41,100 --> 00:56:43,920

where they could see the  
signal from farther out

1040

00:56:43,920 --> 00:56:45,960

when they were coming  
back to try to find

1041

00:56:45,960 --> 00:56:48,720

the airfield in bad weather.

1042

00:56:48,720 --> 00:56:51,450

I was able to extend  
that by so-called peaking

1043

00:56:51,450 --> 00:56:52,470

of the frequencies.

1044

00:56:52,470 --> 00:56:57,390

I don't know now how I did  
it, but I did it back then.

1045

00:56:57,390 --> 00:57:00,570

There were several  
things that the--

1046

00:57:00,570 --> 00:57:04,420

right up to General Williams,  
who came to the base

1047

00:57:04,420 --> 00:57:06,587

and interviewed  
everyone and so forth

1048

00:57:06,587 --> 00:57:08,670

to try to figure out what  
all this fuss was about.

1049

00:57:08,670 --> 00:57:11,260

1050

00:57:11,260 --> 00:57:13,990

He then ordered the entire--

1051

00:57:13,990 --> 00:57:18,570

now comes the British--

1052

00:57:18,570 --> 00:57:22,200

I don't recall, but it's

a British engineering

1053

00:57:22,200 --> 00:57:22,950

association.

1054

00:57:22,950 --> 00:57:24,030

It was very big.

1055

00:57:24,030 --> 00:57:28,020

And they designed a lot

of beautiful equipment

1056

00:57:28,020 --> 00:57:29,230

and so forth.

1057

00:57:29,230 --> 00:57:32,040

But they kind of took

credit for the fact

1058

00:57:32,040 --> 00:57:35,160

that these things happen.

1059

00:57:35,160 --> 00:57:39,720

And they ordered the RF and

every part of their fleet

1060

00:57:39,720 --> 00:57:42,840

to be using the same equipment.

1061

00:57:42,840 --> 00:57:48,450

And so it's just recently that

I could see the whole picture,

1062

00:57:48,450 --> 00:57:50,880  
and had an interest in  
seeing the whole picture,

1063

00:57:50,880 --> 00:57:56,250  
that I finally decided that this  
was a lot more than I had ever

1064

00:57:56,250 --> 00:57:59,010  
given credit for,  
that every plane that

1065

00:57:59,010 --> 00:58:02,790  
flew in the ETO, the European  
Theater of Operation,

1066

00:58:02,790 --> 00:58:08,927  
at that time utilized  
these advancements.

1067

00:58:08,927 --> 00:58:09,510  
Well, that's--

1068

00:58:09,510 --> 00:58:19,230  
Then because of that, the  
438th performed flawlessly

1069

00:58:19,230 --> 00:58:22,680  
in the invasion of Normandy.

1070

00:58:22,680 --> 00:58:25,800  
They lost no planes.

1071

00:58:25,800 --> 00:58:28,350  
They missed no targets.

1072

00:58:28,350 --> 00:58:32,970  
And the radar on all their  
planes worked perfectly.

1073

00:58:32,970 --> 00:58:35,820  
And they came back,  
and eventually got

1074  
00:58:35,820 --> 00:58:40,530  
the only unit  
citation ever received

1075  
00:58:40,530 --> 00:58:43,710  
by a troop carrier group.

1076  
00:58:43,710 --> 00:58:44,220  
Wow.

1077  
00:58:44,220 --> 00:58:46,150  
And groups were kind of tiny.

1078  
00:58:46,150 --> 00:58:48,795  
There's dozens and  
dozens of groups,

1079  
00:58:48,795 --> 00:58:52,160  
so we were kind of  
singled out for that.

1080  
00:58:52,160 --> 00:58:54,830  
Based on that, I  
finally realized

1081  
00:58:54,830 --> 00:58:58,190  
that what I had done  
probably helped a lot

1082  
00:58:58,190 --> 00:59:00,540  
toward getting that citation.

1083  
00:59:00,540 --> 00:59:03,650  
So I did give myself  
some credit later.

1084  
00:59:03,650 --> 00:59:04,940  
Well, congratulations.

1085

00:59:04,940 --> 00:59:05,600

Thank you.

1086

00:59:05,600 --> 00:59:06,920

Congratulations.

1087

00:59:06,920 --> 00:59:11,058

I'm also impressed that  
it sounds like innovation

1088

00:59:11,058 --> 00:59:12,350

was something that was allowed.

1089

00:59:12,350 --> 00:59:12,990

Oh, definitely.

1090

00:59:12,990 --> 00:59:15,020

Innovation was something  
that was encouraged

1091

00:59:15,020 --> 00:59:16,170

within when the structure.

1092

00:59:16,170 --> 00:59:16,670

Encouraged.

1093

00:59:16,670 --> 00:59:20,470

Oh, I've got to give the  
upper level a lot of credit.

1094

00:59:20,470 --> 00:59:22,250

Anything they saw  
that would improve

1095

00:59:22,250 --> 00:59:24,440

the chances of a  
man getting back

1096

00:59:24,440 --> 00:59:27,470

and his aircraft and his  
crew getting back safely

1097

00:59:27,470 --> 00:59:33,830

was encouraged and certainly  
adopted if it worked.

1098

00:59:33,830 --> 00:59:35,270

And later the--

1099

00:59:35,270 --> 00:59:40,720

1100

00:59:40,720 --> 00:59:42,470

I lost my train of  
thought for a moment.

1101

00:59:42,470 --> 00:59:48,500

Something about the  
innovation being encouraged.

1102

00:59:48,500 --> 00:59:49,000

Yeah.

1103

00:59:49,000 --> 00:59:56,229

1104

00:59:56,229 --> 01:00:02,060

Well, I was trying to  
think of a certain instance

1105

01:00:02,060 --> 01:00:05,370

where it was very, very easily.

1106

01:00:05,370 --> 01:00:10,690

Oh, the outcome was,  
of course, of course,

1107

01:00:10,690 --> 01:00:15,870

the outcome was that probably  
untold number of lives

1108

01:00:15,870 --> 01:00:18,690

were saved by pilots that  
could find their way back,

1109  
01:00:18,690 --> 01:00:21,030  
and didn't have  
to ditch or didn't

1110  
01:00:21,030 --> 01:00:24,310  
have to crash land or  
something like that.

1111  
01:00:24,310 --> 01:00:29,340  
So then I told myself, you  
know, I never killed anyone.

1112  
01:00:29,340 --> 01:00:31,770  
I never had to shoot someone.

1113  
01:00:31,770 --> 01:00:33,530  
That's terrible.

1114  
01:00:33,530 --> 01:00:36,560  
That's hard to live with.

1115  
01:00:36,560 --> 01:00:40,160  
I've never done  
anything, but I believe

1116  
01:00:40,160 --> 01:00:43,200  
that I've saved lots of lives.

1117  
01:00:43,200 --> 01:00:47,280  
And since that time,  
I've had no nightmares.

1118  
01:00:47,280 --> 01:00:49,920  
I slept very soundly.

1119  
01:00:49,920 --> 01:00:54,780  
I have no regrets for  
anything, any judgment I made

1120  
01:00:54,780 --> 01:00:55,890  
or anything.



1121  
01:00:55,890 --> 01:00:58,850  
So that's the--

1122  
01:00:58,850 --> 01:00:59,583  
There's peace.

1123  
01:00:59,583 --> 01:01:00,500  
There's peace in that.

1124  
01:01:00,500 --> 01:01:01,930  
Peace, that's exactly right.

1125  
01:01:01,930 --> 01:01:04,500

1126  
01:01:04,500 --> 01:01:06,522  
Let's go forward.

1127  
01:01:06,522 --> 01:01:10,620  
We need to find out how it  
is that you come in contact

1128  
01:01:10,620 --> 01:01:15,090  
with what people  
realized later was

1129  
01:01:15,090 --> 01:01:20,150  
the Holocaust and the genocide  
against Europe's Jews.

1130  
01:01:20,150 --> 01:01:23,230  
So were you part of the  
invasion of Normandy,

1131  
01:01:23,230 --> 01:01:27,300  
or were you staying  
in England while the--

1132  
01:01:27,300 --> 01:01:29,900  
on that particular mission,  
I stayed in England.

1133

01:01:29,900 --> 01:01:34,820

But on the bridge too far  
mission, or operation market

1134

01:01:34,820 --> 01:01:37,640

basket, which was a big mistake.

1135

01:01:37,640 --> 01:01:41,600

Operation market  
basket, I went along

1136

01:01:41,600 --> 01:01:47,450

with my friend that was  
the blind landing pilot.

1137

01:01:47,450 --> 01:01:51,590

I went along with him  
because the CEO thought

1138

01:01:51,590 --> 01:01:53,960

it'd be nice to have  
more than one navigator

1139

01:01:53,960 --> 01:01:57,060

in the squadron in case the  
first plane got shot down.

1140

01:01:57,060 --> 01:01:59,750

So he asked if I'd go  
along as a wing navigator.

1141

01:01:59,750 --> 01:02:02,180

And operation market  
basket was what?

1142

01:02:02,180 --> 01:02:05,210

It was where they tried  
to save all these bridges.

1143

01:02:05,210 --> 01:02:09,020

A bridge too far is  
probably more memorable.

1144  
01:02:09,020 --> 01:02:11,060  
But the bridges in  
what part of Europe?

1145  
01:02:11,060 --> 01:02:12,890  
It's on the Rhine River.

1146  
01:02:12,890 --> 01:02:15,920  
They tried to-- wanted to  
shorten the war by saving

1147  
01:02:15,920 --> 01:02:18,110  
the bridges so they didn't  
have to rebuild bridges

1148  
01:02:18,110 --> 01:02:19,880  
across the Rhine.

1149  
01:02:19,880 --> 01:02:24,580  
And that particular mission  
was to preserve those bridges

1150  
01:02:24,580 --> 01:02:27,380  
so that the tanks,  
Patton's tanks,

1151  
01:02:27,380 --> 01:02:30,860  
when they got there could  
blast across without having

1152  
01:02:30,860 --> 01:02:32,750  
to build pontoon bridges.

1153  
01:02:32,750 --> 01:02:35,060  
He was moving very fast.

1154  
01:02:35,060 --> 01:02:37,640  
And we were terribly  
important in the fact

1155  
01:02:37,640 --> 01:02:42,500

that he was able to move so  
fast, because the C-47 carried

1156  
01:02:42,500 --> 01:02:46,210  
paratroopers into areas of drop.

1157  
01:02:46,210 --> 01:02:50,240  
Then on the way back, they came  
back and picked up the gliders

1158  
01:02:50,240 --> 01:02:51,910  
and flew them in.

1159  
01:02:51,910 --> 01:02:55,120  
Then they came back  
and they flew into--

1160  
01:02:55,120 --> 01:03:01,810  
like I took a mission  
on D-day plus 6.

1161  
01:03:01,810 --> 01:03:03,760  
We flew into Omaha Beach.

1162  
01:03:03,760 --> 01:03:07,540  
And we flew into a  
landing strip that

1163  
01:03:07,540 --> 01:03:11,860  
had been cut hastily in the  
bluffs above Omaha Beach.

1164  
01:03:11,860 --> 01:03:15,610  
And we landed there with  
flight nurses aboard

1165  
01:03:15,610 --> 01:03:20,380  
and picked up the terribly  
wounded, most terribly wounded,

1166  
01:03:20,380 --> 01:03:22,870  
of Omaha Beach.

1167

01:03:22,870 --> 01:03:25,180

And we had just had  
a constant stream

1168

01:03:25,180 --> 01:03:27,610

of airplanes flying in and  
out, bringing those people back

1169

01:03:27,610 --> 01:03:29,860

to hospitals in England.

1170

01:03:29,860 --> 01:03:33,070

And while I was  
there, I stepped out

1171

01:03:33,070 --> 01:03:37,480

of the airplane trying to help  
with the loading of the litter

1172

01:03:37,480 --> 01:03:38,920

patients and so forth.

1173

01:03:38,920 --> 01:03:42,220

And a captain on the  
ground in the infantry

1174

01:03:42,220 --> 01:03:44,470

yelled at me, get  
back on that airplane

1175

01:03:44,470 --> 01:03:47,590

because you have greens on.

1176

01:03:47,590 --> 01:03:49,510

I didn't have the camouflage on.

1177

01:03:49,510 --> 01:03:51,970

And he says there are  
snipers in the area.

1178

01:03:51,970 --> 01:03:54,490

So, of course, I was forced

back into the airplane then.

1179

01:03:54,490 --> 01:03:59,290

But I'm telling that  
because the C-47

1180

01:03:59,290 --> 01:04:02,650

had done so many other things.

1181

01:04:02,650 --> 01:04:08,200

On Patton's rush across, he  
outran all of his tankers.

1182

01:04:08,200 --> 01:04:10,950

He'd run out of gas and  
couldn't go any further,

1183

01:04:10,950 --> 01:04:15,400

then we started loading up  
6,000 pounds of gasoline

1184

01:04:15,400 --> 01:04:18,160

on each airplane and  
flew a constant stream

1185

01:04:18,160 --> 01:04:20,920

of these airplanes right  
behind Patton's army

1186

01:04:20,920 --> 01:04:22,600

as he raced across Europe.

1187

01:04:22,600 --> 01:04:25,150

We land in pastures.

1188

01:04:25,150 --> 01:04:26,740

We'd land on roads.

1189

01:04:26,740 --> 01:04:29,170

And these planes were  
so powerful they could

1190

01:04:29,170 --> 01:04:31,070  
pull themselves out of mud.

1191  
01:04:31,070 --> 01:04:31,570  
Wow.

1192  
01:04:31,570 --> 01:04:34,840  
And so they flew supplies,  
gasoline supplies in,

1193  
01:04:34,840 --> 01:04:37,060  
and loaded the medical patients.

1194  
01:04:37,060 --> 01:04:40,635  
They had litters that come down  
from the sides on the inside.

1195  
01:04:40,635 --> 01:04:44,890  
We loaded the litter patients  
up and got out of there and back

1196  
01:04:44,890 --> 01:04:49,180  
to hospitals in  
England, you know.

1197  
01:04:49,180 --> 01:04:51,430  
I'm trying to say that  
the airplane itself

1198  
01:04:51,430 --> 01:04:55,540  
was such a big story,  
what it could do.

1199  
01:04:55,540 --> 01:05:01,200  
And then naturally, it  
was a natural carrier.

1200  
01:05:01,200 --> 01:05:08,330  
So thousands, and thousands, and  
thousands of displaced people,

1201  
01:05:08,330 --> 01:05:16,520  
and survivors of the camps, and

survivors of the slave labor

1202

01:05:16,520 --> 01:05:20,210  
camps, very close together.

1203

01:05:20,210 --> 01:05:26,870  
In one area we went in, the  
slave laborers and the ovens

1204

01:05:26,870 --> 01:05:28,580  
were right close  
by, because they

1205

01:05:28,580 --> 01:05:33,380  
had to use the ovens to dispose  
of the slave laborers that

1206

01:05:33,380 --> 01:05:35,880  
was too weak to work anymore.

1207

01:05:35,880 --> 01:05:39,740  
And then they had the V2  
factory underground right there,

1208

01:05:39,740 --> 01:05:41,260  
you know?

1209

01:05:41,260 --> 01:05:48,750  
And the lady from the museum  
said about a young girl,

1210

01:05:48,750 --> 01:05:51,630  
she was 16.

1211

01:05:51,630 --> 01:05:55,740  
And that's actually  
the people that I

1212

01:05:55,740 --> 01:05:58,770  
was involved in helping  
get back into France

1213



01:05:58,770 --> 01:06:00,780  
and different areas.

1214  
01:06:00,780 --> 01:06:05,280  
OK, so let's go to that point.

1215  
01:06:05,280 --> 01:06:07,920  
You said you were in  
operation market basket,

1216  
01:06:07,920 --> 01:06:11,060  
and that was-- was that the  
right way of calling it?

1217  
01:06:11,060 --> 01:06:12,240  
That was before.

1218  
01:06:12,240 --> 01:06:13,110  
That was before.

1219  
01:06:13,110 --> 01:06:15,660  
That was to try and  
save the bridges.

1220  
01:06:15,660 --> 01:06:16,200  
Yes.

1221  
01:06:16,200 --> 01:06:17,430  
And did you?

1222  
01:06:17,430 --> 01:06:17,980  
Did the--

1223  
01:06:17,980 --> 01:06:19,710  
No, it was a total failure.

1224  
01:06:19,710 --> 01:06:21,180  
A total failure.

1225  
01:06:21,180 --> 01:06:25,710  
Montgomery talked  
General Eisenhower

1226  
01:06:25,710 --> 01:06:29,640  
into doing this thinking it  
would cut time off the war.

1227  
01:06:29,640 --> 01:06:32,850  
Really it added a  
year to the war,

1228  
01:06:32,850 --> 01:06:35,040  
because Patton's  
tanks didn't have

1229  
01:06:35,040 --> 01:06:36,420  
the gas that we were flying in.

1230  
01:06:36,420 --> 01:06:40,020  
We had to fly to  
save bridges instead

1231  
01:06:40,020 --> 01:06:41,820  
of flying the  
gasoline in to Patton

1232  
01:06:41,820 --> 01:06:43,330  
where he could keep going.

1233  
01:06:43,330 --> 01:06:43,830  
Got it.

1234  
01:06:43,830 --> 01:06:47,790  
The war would have ended  
one year earlier had it not

1235  
01:06:47,790 --> 01:06:50,620  
been for that mistake.

1236  
01:06:50,620 --> 01:06:53,040  
So when you're finally--

1237  
01:06:53,040 --> 01:06:55,620  
the war does end.

1238  
01:06:55,620 --> 01:06:58,500  
Had you had any  
knowledge or contact

1239  
01:06:58,500 --> 01:07:02,880  
of what it is that  
you eventually saw?

1240  
01:07:02,880 --> 01:07:07,160  
Or were these flights  
that took place--

1241  
01:07:07,160 --> 01:07:11,290  
I'm not phrasing this correctly.

1242  
01:07:11,290 --> 01:07:12,660  
Let's go this way.

1243  
01:07:12,660 --> 01:07:15,240  
What's the first  
time that you flew

1244  
01:07:15,240 --> 01:07:19,530  
on these planes,  
the C-47s, where

1245  
01:07:19,530 --> 01:07:23,850  
it had contact with the  
survivors of the concentration

1246  
01:07:23,850 --> 01:07:27,900  
camps, the survivors  
from slave labor camps,

1247  
01:07:27,900 --> 01:07:29,820  
and displaced persons?

1248  
01:07:29,820 --> 01:07:30,850  
Set that up for us.

1249  
01:07:30,850 --> 01:07:31,920

It was June.

1250

01:07:31,920 --> 01:07:39,030

Around the 1st of June and the  
second part of May of 1945.

1251

01:07:39,030 --> 01:07:40,020

So the war had ended.

1252

01:07:40,020 --> 01:07:41,490

The war had ended by then.

1253

01:07:41,490 --> 01:07:44,250

And we had lots of  
transport available.

1254

01:07:44,250 --> 01:07:46,770

And the need for  
getting those people out

1255

01:07:46,770 --> 01:07:49,290

of there as fast as  
possible was great.

1256

01:07:49,290 --> 01:07:51,930

How did you-- did you know what  
you were going to be meeting?

1257

01:07:51,930 --> 01:07:53,940

At that point did you know--

1258

01:07:53,940 --> 01:07:55,620

what did you know  
about the camps

1259

01:07:55,620 --> 01:07:56,880

before you even got there?

1260

01:07:56,880 --> 01:08:00,600

We knew-- by that time there  
was a lot of information out.

1261

01:08:00,600 --> 01:08:06,330  
And so I mean, months and  
months earlier we knew about it.

1262  
01:08:06,330 --> 01:08:09,800  
And that was, of course,  
one of the great reasons,

1263  
01:08:09,800 --> 01:08:16,410  
and I'm sure that it was on  
everyone's mind, that if we

1264  
01:08:16,410 --> 01:08:22,635  
don't knock the head off that  
monster, that these people,

1265  
01:08:22,635 --> 01:08:24,080  
there would be nobody left.

1266  
01:08:24,080 --> 01:08:26,490  
So we were aware of it.

1267  
01:08:26,490 --> 01:08:29,010  
And we were very shocked by it.

1268  
01:08:29,010 --> 01:08:33,100  
Of course we were very  
shocked by it way before June.

1269  
01:08:33,100 --> 01:08:36,750  
OK, and where did  
you take off from?

1270  
01:08:36,750 --> 01:08:39,810  
We took off from Amiens, France.

1271  
01:08:39,810 --> 01:08:43,480  
We had moved-- just  
before that, we

1272  
01:08:43,480 --> 01:08:47,279  
had moved in to Amiens,  
France in an old World War

1273  
01:08:47,279 --> 01:08:48,779  
II battlefield.

1274  
01:08:48,779 --> 01:08:51,000  
We had the whole--

1275  
01:08:51,000 --> 01:08:52,770  
I'm sorry, not two, one.

1276  
01:08:52,770 --> 01:08:56,490  
World War I, correction.

1277  
01:08:56,490 --> 01:09:03,000  
We had the trenches from World  
War I all around us, virtually.

1278  
01:09:03,000 --> 01:09:04,920  
And there was this  
level patch of ground

1279  
01:09:04,920 --> 01:09:07,620  
that they laid down  
the airstrip made

1280  
01:09:07,620 --> 01:09:11,399  
of interlocking steel sections.

1281  
01:09:11,399 --> 01:09:15,870  
And we had to be careful,  
because if we went off

1282  
01:09:15,870 --> 01:09:18,390  
our general area of  
operations, there

1283  
01:09:18,390 --> 01:09:20,160  
was unexploded ordnance around.

1284  
01:09:20,160 --> 01:09:21,840  
And people were  
still getting killed

1285  
01:09:21,840 --> 01:09:24,189  
from World War I armaments.

1286  
01:09:24,189 --> 01:09:24,970  
Oh my goodness.

1287  
01:09:24,970 --> 01:09:32,910  
And then the trenches were  
full of nice, small birch

1288  
01:09:32,910 --> 01:09:35,189  
trees, beautiful birch trees.

1289  
01:09:35,189 --> 01:09:40,350  
And I got some pictures that  
eventually the museum will get.

1290  
01:09:40,350 --> 01:09:45,359  
And there's a picture of an  
88th and everything made out

1291  
01:09:45,359 --> 01:09:45,990  
of birch.

1292  
01:09:45,990 --> 01:09:51,939  
A kind of big entrance,  
like to our Amiens base.

1293  
01:09:51,939 --> 01:09:56,590  
So that's where  
we took off from.

1294  
01:09:56,590 --> 01:10:03,400  
And the idea was to be  
closer to carrying gasoline

1295  
01:10:03,400 --> 01:10:06,480  
at the various  
tanks and so forth.

1296  
01:10:06,480 --> 01:10:11,220

Patton went so fast  
that his big express

1297  
01:10:11,220 --> 01:10:15,450  
that they had designed to keep  
gasoline flowing to them just

1298  
01:10:15,450 --> 01:10:16,732  
couldn't keep up.

1299  
01:10:16,732 --> 01:10:17,940  
And he was being slowed down.

1300  
01:10:17,940 --> 01:10:19,980  
And they got together,  
and just a day or two

1301  
01:10:19,980 --> 01:10:21,960  
later they came up with  
the idea of flying them

1302  
01:10:21,960 --> 01:10:25,620  
in by troop carrier and  
flying out the wounded.

1303  
01:10:25,620 --> 01:10:28,500  
OK, so when you were  
taking off from Amiens,

1304  
01:10:28,500 --> 01:10:31,210  
did you take off with gas  
and came back with people?

1305  
01:10:31,210 --> 01:10:31,710  
No, no, no.

1306  
01:10:31,710 --> 01:10:32,670  
No, OK.

1307  
01:10:32,670 --> 01:10:35,160  
No, it was primarily to go.

1308



01:10:35,160 --> 01:10:37,650  
We went there empty.

1309  
01:10:37,650 --> 01:10:39,870  
No, we probably  
carried supplies in.

1310  
01:10:39,870 --> 01:10:40,970  
It's that I don't recall.

1311  
01:10:40,970 --> 01:10:43,050  
We almost never flew empty.

1312  
01:10:43,050 --> 01:10:47,390  
And we knew that that area was  
being liberated and so forth,

1313  
01:10:47,390 --> 01:10:50,280  
so we knew the need  
probably would be great.

1314  
01:10:50,280 --> 01:10:54,630  
I'm sure we took medical  
supplies, at least,

1315  
01:10:54,630 --> 01:10:56,520  
and things of that sort in.

1316  
01:10:56,520 --> 01:10:59,550  
So do you recall how  
long the flight was, when

1317  
01:10:59,550 --> 01:11:01,020  
you landed, where you landed?

1318  
01:11:01,020 --> 01:11:02,910  
We landed at Halle, Germany.

1319  
01:11:02,910 --> 01:11:04,320  
Halle.

1320  
01:11:04,320 --> 01:11:10,320

And I'm still not quite sure how far that was from the closest--

1321

01:11:10,320 --> 01:11:12,530

Well, Halle is in what was East Germany.

1322

01:11:12,530 --> 01:11:13,200

East Germany.

1323

01:11:13,200 --> 01:11:16,290

East Germany, what became East Germany.

1324

01:11:16,290 --> 01:11:20,490

Buchenwald was in East Germany, what became East Germany.

1325

01:11:20,490 --> 01:11:22,830

And Dachau was near Munich, which was

1326

01:11:22,830 --> 01:11:25,590

going to be in West Germany.

1327

01:11:25,590 --> 01:11:27,780

This was quite a long flight.

1328

01:11:27,780 --> 01:11:31,080

It was fairly long, because as I recall,

1329

01:11:31,080 --> 01:11:36,880

and I was a navigator on that flight,

1330

01:11:36,880 --> 01:11:42,890

as I recall the time of takeoff and then coming back

1331

01:11:42,890 --> 01:11:48,130

over the German-French border was quite long.

1332  
01:11:48,130 --> 01:11:50,350  
So it had to be back  
in East Germany.

1333  
01:11:50,350 --> 01:11:51,010  
OK.

1334  
01:11:51,010 --> 01:11:54,220  
I knew nothing about  
geography those days.

1335  
01:11:54,220 --> 01:11:55,000  
OK.

1336  
01:11:55,000 --> 01:12:00,250  
So when you landed, do  
you remember what you saw?

1337  
01:12:00,250 --> 01:12:02,290  
Well, when we landed,  
all we saw was

1338  
01:12:02,290 --> 01:12:07,990  
the very carefully selected  
survivors that were

1339  
01:12:07,990 --> 01:12:11,240  
strong enough for the flight.

1340  
01:12:11,240 --> 01:12:12,990  
And they had been put--

1341  
01:12:12,990 --> 01:12:15,580  
they had been  
organized by the 88th

1342  
01:12:15,580 --> 01:12:27,080  
of all things, anti-aircraft,  
AA, anti-aircraft something.

1343  
01:12:27,080 --> 01:12:34,900

It was a ground-based force that  
was real big in the liberation.

1344  
01:12:34,900 --> 01:12:41,500  
And their story was told in  
one of the articles I gave you.

1345  
01:12:41,500 --> 01:12:45,970  
But we met up with them there  
and took their assignment.

1346  
01:12:45,970 --> 01:12:48,040  
They knew how many  
we could carry.

1347  
01:12:48,040 --> 01:12:49,190  
How many could you carry?

1348  
01:12:49,190 --> 01:12:52,330  
Well, we could carry  
about 18 to 20, probably.

1349  
01:12:52,330 --> 01:12:53,080  
Per plane?

1350  
01:12:53,080 --> 01:12:54,040  
Per plane.

1351  
01:12:54,040 --> 01:12:54,640  
OK.

1352  
01:12:54,640 --> 01:12:58,420  
And then my job was  
to be sure that--

1353  
01:12:58,420 --> 01:13:01,030  
going back from  
navigating and so forth--

1354  
01:13:01,030 --> 01:13:03,770  
being sure that  
they were doing OK.

1355

01:13:03,770 --> 01:13:07,660

They'd sit in long rows on  
each side of the airplane.

1356

01:13:07,660 --> 01:13:09,220

So they were sitting up.

1357

01:13:09,220 --> 01:13:09,970

They were sitting.

1358

01:13:09,970 --> 01:13:11,120

The people were sitting up.

1359

01:13:11,120 --> 01:13:11,620

Huh?

1360

01:13:11,620 --> 01:13:13,390

The people were sitting up.

1361

01:13:13,390 --> 01:13:14,500

They were sitting, yes.

1362

01:13:14,500 --> 01:13:17,440

They were sitting.

1363

01:13:17,440 --> 01:13:19,270

Some of them had sticks  
over their shoulder

1364

01:13:19,270 --> 01:13:22,000

with little bandannas  
or something,

1365

01:13:22,000 --> 01:13:25,180

with their little  
worldly goods in them.

1366

01:13:25,180 --> 01:13:27,940

Very, very pathetic.

1367

01:13:27,940 --> 01:13:31,170

Tell me, what did  
they look like?

1368  
01:13:31,170 --> 01:13:34,300  
They looked like skeletons.

1369  
01:13:34,300 --> 01:13:36,160  
Even though they can  
walk and everything,

1370  
01:13:36,160 --> 01:13:39,640  
they looked like a skeleton,  
a miracle they could walk.

1371  
01:13:39,640 --> 01:13:42,340  
I'm saying, some were  
worse, some were better.

1372  
01:13:42,340 --> 01:13:48,280  
But they were-- their skin  
was kind of tallow-looking,

1373  
01:13:48,280 --> 01:13:51,340  
and their eyes were  
kind of hollow.

1374  
01:13:51,340 --> 01:13:54,790

1375  
01:13:54,790 --> 01:13:56,650  
Their clothes were in tatters.

1376  
01:13:56,650 --> 01:13:58,660  
Were they wearing the striped--

1377  
01:13:58,660 --> 01:13:59,300  
No.

1378  
01:13:59,300 --> 01:14:02,830  
By then they had changed into  
some other type of clothing.

1379

01:14:02,830 --> 01:14:07,960  
But it wasn't Brooks Brothers.

1380  
01:14:07,960 --> 01:14:11,050  
And a lot of these  
were French that we

1381  
01:14:11,050 --> 01:14:13,120  
had on this particular mission.

1382  
01:14:13,120 --> 01:14:15,940  
And it was hard to tell,  
because they were mixed.

1383  
01:14:15,940 --> 01:14:18,820  
Anyone capable-- there  
wasn't any discrimination.

1384  
01:14:18,820 --> 01:14:23,360  
Anyone capable of being  
flown out of that hellhole

1385  
01:14:23,360 --> 01:14:27,700  
were assigned a spot  
on one of the hundreds

1386  
01:14:27,700 --> 01:14:30,610  
and hundreds of flights  
that came in and left.

1387  
01:14:30,610 --> 01:14:34,180  
Could you tell who was a  
man and who was a woman?

1388  
01:14:34,180 --> 01:14:37,210  
There were no women  
on our flight.

1389  
01:14:37,210 --> 01:14:38,290  
No women on our flight.

1390  
01:14:38,290 --> 01:14:39,850  
They probably were segregated.

1391  
01:14:39,850 --> 01:14:42,130  
But our flights were all men.

1392  
01:14:42,130 --> 01:14:46,630  
Were they-- well, could you  
tell their ages approximately?

1393  
01:14:46,630 --> 01:14:49,270  
It was impossible to tell.

1394  
01:14:49,270 --> 01:14:50,830  
They all looked old.

1395  
01:14:50,830 --> 01:14:52,750  
Yeah.

1396  
01:14:52,750 --> 01:14:55,090  
How did they walk?

1397  
01:14:55,090 --> 01:14:58,820  
They walked with-- some  
with canes, and some--

1398  
01:14:58,820 --> 01:15:02,590  
we had to help some  
of them in getting

1399  
01:15:02,590 --> 01:15:04,270  
aboard the plane,  
because there was

1400  
01:15:04,270 --> 01:15:07,660  
a step, kind of a little ladder  
that came up into the plane.

1401  
01:15:07,660 --> 01:15:08,950  
And so they had to be helped.

1402  
01:15:08,950 --> 01:15:11,440  
Most of them had to be  
helped into the plane.



1403

01:15:11,440 --> 01:15:15,250

And then again,  
water and so forth,

1404

01:15:15,250 --> 01:15:16,900

important things  
that they needed

1405

01:15:16,900 --> 01:15:19,240

we supplied during the time.

1406

01:15:19,240 --> 01:15:23,350

And candy bars, but we had to be  
very careful, because they gave

1407

01:15:23,350 --> 01:15:26,010

us orders not to feed them.

1408

01:15:26,010 --> 01:15:29,520

Because in feeding  
them too rich a diet--

1409

01:15:29,520 --> 01:15:32,060

they had to have a special diet.

1410

01:15:32,060 --> 01:15:35,560

These are little details I  
can recall, special diet.

1411

01:15:35,560 --> 01:15:40,360

And then they were fed instead  
of gallons of water at a time,

1412

01:15:40,360 --> 01:15:43,120

just small amounts of water  
at a time and so forth.

1413

01:15:43,120 --> 01:15:47,690

1414

01:15:47,690 --> 01:15:49,810

But it was very pathetic.

1415  
01:15:49,810 --> 01:15:55,120  
And the most memorable  
part of the trip

1416  
01:15:55,120 --> 01:15:57,535  
is when I made  
the announcement--

1417  
01:15:57,535 --> 01:16:01,330  
I had to go back among them--  
made the announcement that we

1418  
01:16:01,330 --> 01:16:05,070  
were just crossing the  
French border out of Germany.

1419  
01:16:05,070 --> 01:16:10,960

1420  
01:16:10,960 --> 01:16:12,168  
That's where I can't--

1421  
01:16:12,168 --> 01:16:17,540

1422  
01:16:17,540 --> 01:16:21,570  
to this day, I  
can't talk about it.

1423  
01:16:21,570 --> 01:16:30,230

1424  
01:16:30,230 --> 01:16:33,800  
To this day, I can't talk  
about it without breaking down.

1425  
01:16:33,800 --> 01:16:37,120

1426  
01:16:37,120 --> 01:16:46,650

The joy, seeing smiles  
on these skeletons.

1427  
01:16:46,650 --> 01:16:58,170

1428  
01:16:58,170 --> 01:17:07,050  
And these will give  
me a lot of thanks

1429  
01:17:07,050 --> 01:17:15,205  
that I had not been on the  
other side of that fence.

1430  
01:17:15,205 --> 01:17:20,320

1431  
01:17:20,320 --> 01:17:24,790  
But that's the main  
memories of that.

1432  
01:17:24,790 --> 01:17:27,877  
We never flew any  
women to my knowledge.

1433  
01:17:27,877 --> 01:17:30,460  
You probably couldn't tell the  
difference between them anyway.

1434  
01:17:30,460 --> 01:17:35,460  
But that was very difficult.

1435  
01:17:35,460 --> 01:17:37,440  
Did they say anything?

1436  
01:17:37,440 --> 01:17:38,460  
Did they say anything?

1437  
01:17:38,460 --> 01:17:42,990  
No, they were-- a few  
of them could always

1438

01:17:42,990 --> 01:17:44,850  
understand English.

1439  
01:17:44,850 --> 01:17:48,150  
And I didn't have to try  
to sign language anything,

1440  
01:17:48,150 --> 01:17:52,160  
that we're going to be crossing  
over the German-French border.

1441  
01:17:52,160 --> 01:17:54,010  
We were able to--

1442  
01:17:54,010 --> 01:17:57,350  
of course, we could have been  
able to do it by sign language

1443  
01:17:57,350 --> 01:18:00,200  
just in case there wasn't  
English speaking survivors

1444  
01:18:00,200 --> 01:18:00,700  
there.

1445  
01:18:00,700 --> 01:18:05,620

1446  
01:18:05,620 --> 01:18:10,310  
But that was so powerful  
it kind of blanked out

1447  
01:18:10,310 --> 01:18:12,697  
some of the other  
memories I had of it.

1448  
01:18:12,697 --> 01:18:16,440

1449  
01:18:16,440 --> 01:18:20,760  
And we landed in Amiens  
on one of the flights

1450

01:18:20,760 --> 01:18:23,590  
that I could recall.

1451

01:18:23,590 --> 01:18:25,960  
And it was kind of  
interesting, there

1452

01:18:25,960 --> 01:18:27,760  
were also German  
prisoners who were

1453

01:18:27,760 --> 01:18:29,500  
stationed in the same place.

1454

01:18:29,500 --> 01:18:33,070  
And the German  
prisoners were doing

1455

01:18:33,070 --> 01:18:34,570  
pick-up of cigarette  
butts, and they

1456

01:18:34,570 --> 01:18:38,230  
were doing all the maintenance  
around our camp and our tents

1457

01:18:38,230 --> 01:18:39,860  
and so forth.

1458

01:18:39,860 --> 01:18:45,770  
And so that was such a thing,  
those super powers, and then

1459

01:18:45,770 --> 01:18:48,260  
we were flying these people  
in that now are part of us,

1460

01:18:48,260 --> 01:18:50,960  
you know?

1461

01:18:50,960 --> 01:18:52,580  
Did they see them?

1462  
01:18:52,580 --> 01:18:54,410  
Oh, I'm sure they saw them.

1463  
01:18:54,410 --> 01:18:58,130  
But they were still  
in prisoner garb.

1464  
01:18:58,130 --> 01:19:01,280

1465  
01:19:01,280 --> 01:19:06,980  
Did you recall anything about  
how they left the plane?

1466  
01:19:06,980 --> 01:19:09,510  
Well, again, they  
had to be helped off.

1467  
01:19:09,510 --> 01:19:13,910  
And I can just recall  
helping some of them

1468  
01:19:13,910 --> 01:19:17,630  
off and being sure they  
still had their belongings,

1469  
01:19:17,630 --> 01:19:27,370  
and being sure they were  
strong enough to join.

1470  
01:19:27,370 --> 01:19:30,360  
Someone was there  
at the time with--

1471  
01:19:30,360 --> 01:19:32,230  
there were ambulances there.

1472  
01:19:32,230 --> 01:19:35,770  
They were pulled up, and the  
weaker ones were taken off

1473

01:19:35,770 --> 01:19:38,410  
by American ambulance.

1474  
01:19:38,410 --> 01:19:41,110  
Where they went from  
there, I'm not sure,

1475  
01:19:41,110 --> 01:19:45,490  
because our job was to  
keep flying them back.

1476  
01:19:45,490 --> 01:19:47,650  
Did you do more of these trips?

1477  
01:19:47,650 --> 01:19:52,240  
I did only two of them, and  
they were both very similar.

1478  
01:19:52,240 --> 01:19:54,130  
They'd come back  
to the same place.

1479  
01:19:54,130 --> 01:19:58,720  
But there were hundreds and  
hundreds of those trips.

1480  
01:19:58,720 --> 01:20:01,930  
Almost like invasion, they  
were just constantly--

1481  
01:20:01,930 --> 01:20:05,830  
the planes were flying in and  
coming back in different areas.

1482  
01:20:05,830 --> 01:20:08,230  
Our planes actually-- I  
didn't go along on them,

1483  
01:20:08,230 --> 01:20:12,280  
but our planes actually flew  
in and picked up Russians.

1484  
01:20:12,280 --> 01:20:15,370

And they hated it to be  
taken back to Russian lines.

1485  
01:20:15,370 --> 01:20:19,960  
They just hated that, because  
once they got to Russian lines,

1486  
01:20:19,960 --> 01:20:22,390  
they communicated  
with the flight crews

1487  
01:20:22,390 --> 01:20:26,410  
that they had to walk all the  
way back into their country,

1488  
01:20:26,410 --> 01:20:29,560  
back to the Red Army.

1489  
01:20:29,560 --> 01:20:33,100  
They landed at Red Army lines.

1490  
01:20:33,100 --> 01:20:34,150  
We dropped them there.

1491  
01:20:34,150 --> 01:20:36,280  
Then from there, they had  
to walk all the way back

1492  
01:20:36,280 --> 01:20:37,587  
into wherever they were going.

1493  
01:20:37,587 --> 01:20:39,295  
And they said after  
that, they'd probably

1494  
01:20:39,295 --> 01:20:43,740  
be shot for traitors for  
not dying for their country.

1495  
01:20:43,740 --> 01:20:44,250  
It happened.

1496



01:20:44,250 --> 01:20:47,750

1497

01:20:47,750 --> 01:20:50,510

So you would pick  
up Russian prisoners

1498

01:20:50,510 --> 01:20:55,430

from some place in Germany and  
fly them to the Red Army lines

1499

01:20:55,430 --> 01:20:56,790

to another place in Germany?

1500

01:20:56,790 --> 01:20:59,510

No, the Russian prisoners  
were prisoners that

1501

01:20:59,510 --> 01:21:01,370

were used as slave laborers.

1502

01:21:01,370 --> 01:21:04,450

OK, and so you  
would fly them east?

1503

01:21:04,450 --> 01:21:06,080

We would fly them east, yes.

1504

01:21:06,080 --> 01:21:06,950

I see.

1505

01:21:06,950 --> 01:21:09,140

But not too far, because  
the Russian lines were not

1506

01:21:09,140 --> 01:21:10,680

that far.

1507

01:21:10,680 --> 01:21:14,430

Then we flew Czechs to  
somewhere in Czechoslovakia.

1508

01:21:14,430 --> 01:21:17,160  
We flew people all over.

1509  
01:21:17,160 --> 01:21:20,465  
And I have a detailed  
analysis of that

1510  
01:21:20,465 --> 01:21:24,080  
in our written record there.

1511  
01:21:24,080 --> 01:21:27,530  
So it was not--

1512  
01:21:27,530 --> 01:21:30,380  
if I understand  
correctly, your flight

1513  
01:21:30,380 --> 01:21:36,380  
where you helped bring survivors  
of the camps out to France,

1514  
01:21:36,380 --> 01:21:37,580  
there were two flights?

1515  
01:21:37,580 --> 01:21:38,180  
Yeah.

1516  
01:21:38,180 --> 01:21:39,290  
Well, there were a  
lot more than the two.

1517  
01:21:39,290 --> 01:21:40,250  
I know, but the ones  
that you were involved--

1518  
01:21:40,250 --> 01:21:41,625  
I had my job to  
do on the ground.

1519  
01:21:41,625 --> 01:21:45,230  
I had to keep those radar  
sets working and stuff.

1520

01:21:45,230 --> 01:21:48,397

So I just went along because  
of a lack of a navigator

1521

01:21:48,397 --> 01:21:49,480

or something of that sort.

1522

01:21:49,480 --> 01:21:52,520

I filled in.

1523

01:21:52,520 --> 01:21:54,530

As I can recall, that's all.

1524

01:21:54,530 --> 01:21:55,490

OK.

1525

01:21:55,490 --> 01:21:58,260

Did they say anything  
to you on either flight?

1526

01:21:58,260 --> 01:21:59,660

Did anyone speak with you?

1527

01:21:59,660 --> 01:22:04,800

1528

01:22:04,800 --> 01:22:13,980

I can't recall anything  
except the unmistakable change

1529

01:22:13,980 --> 01:22:17,760

in their mood when they  
crossed the border.

1530

01:22:17,760 --> 01:22:20,970

I can't recall  
any conversations.

1531

01:22:20,970 --> 01:22:27,480

Everything was so blotted out  
by that demonstration of joy

1532

01:22:27,480 --> 01:22:31,350

that it took most of my  
memory away from that.

1533

01:22:31,350 --> 01:22:33,510

Did they stand up at that point?

1534

01:22:33,510 --> 01:22:36,020

Oh, those that could.

1535

01:22:36,020 --> 01:22:39,300

They weren't supposed  
to, but they were just--

1536

01:22:39,300 --> 01:22:42,600

they were so joyous.

1537

01:22:42,600 --> 01:22:46,200

Certainly not everyone stood  
up, because they were not

1538

01:22:46,200 --> 01:22:47,940

that strong yet.

1539

01:22:47,940 --> 01:22:54,830

But it was like seeing a  
bunch of smiling dancers,

1540

01:22:54,830 --> 01:22:58,760

you know, like they were  
putting on a big dance.

1541

01:22:58,760 --> 01:23:01,430

1542

01:23:01,430 --> 01:23:06,050

I can only imagine that  
they moved very slowly

1543

01:23:06,050 --> 01:23:08,120

if they were weak, you know?

1544

01:23:08,120 --> 01:23:13,410

1545

01:23:13,410 --> 01:23:15,480

They were different.

1546

01:23:15,480 --> 01:23:17,280

Every person was different.

1547

01:23:17,280 --> 01:23:19,710

So they moved, but  
they were strong enough

1548

01:23:19,710 --> 01:23:21,150

to stand a flight.

1549

01:23:21,150 --> 01:23:22,680

Those that could not--

1550

01:23:22,680 --> 01:23:25,110

they could still walk,  
but weren't strong enough

1551

01:23:25,110 --> 01:23:26,940

to survive a flight  
of any duration.

1552

01:23:26,940 --> 01:23:29,010

They had to be  
under hospital care.

1553

01:23:29,010 --> 01:23:35,660

As you know, as we discovered  
after we got to Halle,

1554

01:23:35,660 --> 01:23:39,560

the camps were  
actually quarantined.

1555

01:23:39,560 --> 01:23:42,860

And the doctors moved  
into the quarantine areas

1556  
01:23:42,860 --> 01:23:45,560  
and took care of people trying  
to save as many lives as

1557  
01:23:45,560 --> 01:23:51,050  
possible until they were  
brought along strong enough

1558  
01:23:51,050 --> 01:23:53,460  
to move out of the area.

1559  
01:23:53,460 --> 01:23:55,660  
But we learned a lot,  
a lot about the camps.

1560  
01:23:55,660 --> 01:23:59,130

1561  
01:23:59,130 --> 01:24:00,690  
Tell us a little  
bit more detail,

1562  
01:24:00,690 --> 01:24:02,610  
if you can, about  
the other flights

1563  
01:24:02,610 --> 01:24:05,010  
that you took in  
addition-- oh, excuse me.

1564  
01:24:05,010 --> 01:24:08,040  
Before I get into that, both  
times you flew into Halle?

1565  
01:24:08,040 --> 01:24:08,610  
Mm-hmm.

1566  
01:24:08,610 --> 01:24:09,315  
OK, so--

1567  
01:24:09,315 --> 01:24:12,270

Both times were  
almost identical.

1568  
01:24:12,270 --> 01:24:14,370  
I could have predicted  
it on the second flight.

1569  
01:24:14,370 --> 01:24:17,390

1570  
01:24:17,390 --> 01:24:19,370  
The other flights  
you took in addition

1571  
01:24:19,370 --> 01:24:22,628  
with the Russian prisoners  
of war or slave laborers--

1572  
01:24:22,628 --> 01:24:23,420  
I didn't take that.

1573  
01:24:23,420 --> 01:24:24,530  
You didn't take that flight?

1574  
01:24:24,530 --> 01:24:24,770  
No, no.

1575  
01:24:24,770 --> 01:24:25,280  
Oh, I see.

1576  
01:24:25,280 --> 01:24:25,880  
No.

1577  
01:24:25,880 --> 01:24:27,320  
That was somebody else who did?

1578  
01:24:27,320 --> 01:24:27,950  
Yeah.

1579  
01:24:27,950 --> 01:24:31,100  
I mean, most of the flights  
were without my need.

1580  
01:24:31,100 --> 01:24:31,600  
Thank you.

1581  
01:24:31,600 --> 01:24:37,150

1582  
01:24:37,150 --> 01:24:39,760  
And what about the  
ones for the Czech--

1583  
01:24:39,760 --> 01:24:42,820  
you said there were Czech  
people who were flown back?

1584  
01:24:42,820 --> 01:24:49,390  
Yeah, our records show  
that in the May and June

1585  
01:24:49,390 --> 01:24:54,160  
period we flew just about  
all over the continent flying

1586  
01:24:54,160 --> 01:24:57,120  
people back to their  
home, or their hometown.

1587  
01:24:57,120 --> 01:25:00,120  
A lot of flights into  
Paris, many flights.

1588  
01:25:00,120 --> 01:25:03,580  
There was a lot of French  
soldiers taken prisoner

1589  
01:25:03,580 --> 01:25:06,100  
and treated as slave laborers.

1590  
01:25:06,100 --> 01:25:08,440  
And so a lot of them come back.

1591  
01:25:08,440 --> 01:25:15,130



And the stories of that,  
they would take them

1592  
01:25:15,130 --> 01:25:20,320  
into Paris, the big  
airfield in Paris.

1593  
01:25:20,320 --> 01:25:25,270  
And they had honor guard and  
a red carpet and so forth.

1594  
01:25:25,270 --> 01:25:35,270  
And they were treated just like  
victors as they deplaned there.

1595  
01:25:35,270 --> 01:25:38,770  
And there was a lot of those  
flights, lots of those flights.

1596  
01:25:38,770 --> 01:25:41,080  
But then other  
flights was all over.

1597  
01:25:41,080 --> 01:25:41,830  
[KNOCKING ON DOOR]

1598  
01:25:41,830 --> 01:25:43,230  
I've got to answer that.

1599  
01:25:43,230 --> 01:25:43,750  
OK.

1600  
01:25:43,750 --> 01:25:44,440  
Wait a second.

1601  
01:25:44,440 --> 01:25:45,010  
OK.

1602  
01:25:45,010 --> 01:25:46,710  
Let me remove your transmitter.

1603  
01:25:46,710 --> 01:25:47,350

No, no.

1604  
01:25:47,350 --> 01:25:48,142  
Someone can answer.

1605  
01:25:48,142 --> 01:25:50,770  
I know.

1606  
01:25:50,770 --> 01:25:51,670  
So where were we?

1607  
01:25:51,670 --> 01:25:53,330  
We were in-- are we  
ready and rolling?

1608  
01:25:53,330 --> 01:25:53,830  
Yeah.

1609  
01:25:53,830 --> 01:25:56,650  
OK, we were in France.

1610  
01:25:56,650 --> 01:26:01,240  
And you were talking about  
when French prisoners of war

1611  
01:26:01,240 --> 01:26:04,570  
came home and how  
they were treated.

1612  
01:26:04,570 --> 01:26:08,080  
I'd like to ask  
you now, how much

1613  
01:26:08,080 --> 01:26:10,900  
longer did you stay in Europe?

1614  
01:26:10,900 --> 01:26:15,320  
Tell me about what happened  
in your life after that.

1615  
01:26:15,320 --> 01:26:16,520  
Let's see.

1616  
01:26:16,520 --> 01:26:22,790  
That was actually  
in June of 1945.

1617  
01:26:22,790 --> 01:26:25,580  
Immediately after  
finishing the task

1618  
01:26:25,580 --> 01:26:33,600  
of bringing all the survivors  
to their various destinations,

1619  
01:26:33,600 --> 01:26:36,640  
we started packing  
up to come home.

1620  
01:26:36,640 --> 01:26:38,010  
We had to go to Europe--

1621  
01:26:38,010 --> 01:26:39,540  
had to go to--

1622  
01:26:39,540 --> 01:26:44,520  
at that time, we had to  
go to the South Pacific.

1623  
01:26:44,520 --> 01:26:52,800  
And so the month of June, the  
latter part of June especially,

1624  
01:26:52,800 --> 01:26:57,110  
we were packing  
all the supplies up

1625  
01:26:57,110 --> 01:27:01,730  
and so forth to be transported  
back to the United States.

1626  
01:27:01,730 --> 01:27:07,270  
And then probably in July--

1627

01:27:07,270 --> 01:27:16,330  
July, August-- July,  
August, September.

1628  
01:27:16,330 --> 01:27:22,440  
Probably about in early August--

1629  
01:27:22,440 --> 01:27:26,570  
this is subject to correction,  
but it's in that time frame

1630  
01:27:26,570 --> 01:27:27,790  
anyway.

1631  
01:27:27,790 --> 01:27:31,360  
The air echelon,  
all the airplanes,

1632  
01:27:31,360 --> 01:27:34,150  
loaded up all the gear  
that they could take

1633  
01:27:34,150 --> 01:27:38,590  
aboard that was higher value.

1634  
01:27:38,590 --> 01:27:46,690  
And they took off and flew  
via Iceland to Nova Scotia,

1635  
01:27:46,690 --> 01:27:54,100  
back that route to I don't even  
know what field they landed on.

1636  
01:27:54,100 --> 01:28:00,490  
But anyway, the ground  
echelon, which I was on,

1637  
01:28:00,490 --> 01:28:07,360  
were packed up and put  
aboard a Liberty ship.

1638  
01:28:07,360 --> 01:28:08,850  
No, it was a Victory ship.

1639  
01:28:08,850 --> 01:28:09,960  
A Victory ship.

1640  
01:28:09,960 --> 01:28:12,630  
There was two types of  
ships, and the Liberty

1641  
01:28:12,630 --> 01:28:15,510  
was the slowest and the ugliest.

1642  
01:28:15,510 --> 01:28:19,620  
The Victory ship  
was a troop carrier

1643  
01:28:19,620 --> 01:28:25,400  
and did about everything,  
but it's faster.

1644  
01:28:25,400 --> 01:28:28,700  
It took less escort.

1645  
01:28:28,700 --> 01:28:33,260

1646  
01:28:33,260 --> 01:28:37,190  
They took around  
somewhere in August.

1647  
01:28:37,190 --> 01:28:42,300  
And we then, aboard  
the slower ship,

1648  
01:28:42,300 --> 01:28:45,470  
came in probably some  
time in September.

1649  
01:28:45,470 --> 01:28:51,930  
And we landed in Boston.

1650  
01:28:51,930 --> 01:28:57,180  
And you know, in some

ways, what we did over

1651

01:28:57,180 --> 01:29:00,690

there is clearer than  
what happened afterwards.

1652

01:29:00,690 --> 01:29:03,630

And anyway, we landed in Boston.

1653

01:29:03,630 --> 01:29:10,570

And, of course, in Nashville,  
every time we came back there

1654

01:29:10,570 --> 01:29:12,120

was a huge demonstration.

1655

01:29:12,120 --> 01:29:14,950

The Red Cross people were there  
and we got the first milk.

1656

01:29:14,950 --> 01:29:18,040

We hadn't tasted real  
milk since we left.

1657

01:29:18,040 --> 01:29:19,690

Wow.

1658

01:29:19,690 --> 01:29:21,970

Everything was powdered.

1659

01:29:21,970 --> 01:29:26,470

Then my wife met me.

1660

01:29:26,470 --> 01:29:29,710

I can recall she had  
a big black hat on,

1661

01:29:29,710 --> 01:29:31,960

dressed in black, beautiful.

1662

01:29:31,960 --> 01:29:39,490

And again, we then drove.

1663  
01:29:39,490 --> 01:29:42,840  
I think she came with  
her parents or somebody

1664  
01:29:42,840 --> 01:29:44,560  
that was able to drive.

1665  
01:29:44,560 --> 01:29:49,540  
We drove back to their home on  
Russell Street in Connecticut.

1666  
01:29:49,540 --> 01:29:53,290  
And there we decided  
what we were--

1667  
01:29:53,290 --> 01:29:55,960  
talked about what our  
future was going to be.

1668  
01:29:55,960 --> 01:30:03,560  
And back there, we decided to--

1669  
01:30:03,560 --> 01:30:05,450  
I had saved a lot of money.

1670  
01:30:05,450 --> 01:30:08,750  
I didn't smoke or drink when I  
was overseas, so all the money

1671  
01:30:08,750 --> 01:30:12,440  
that I was allotted for  
that went into this belt

1672  
01:30:12,440 --> 01:30:14,500  
around my waist.

1673  
01:30:14,500 --> 01:30:19,060  
And I was able to-- and then I  
turned them into money orders.

1674  
01:30:19,060 --> 01:30:22,390

By the time I got to  
the States, we were--

1675  
01:30:22,390 --> 01:30:23,680  
I had quite a little.

1676  
01:30:23,680 --> 01:30:26,110  
I had probably several  
thousand dollars.

1677  
01:30:26,110 --> 01:30:27,440  
I don't know.

1678  
01:30:27,440 --> 01:30:30,940  
Anyway, we bought  
the latest vehicle

1679  
01:30:30,940 --> 01:30:33,130  
manufactured, a Pontiac.

1680  
01:30:33,130 --> 01:30:37,660  
The last wave of  
passenger vehicles

1681  
01:30:37,660 --> 01:30:39,700  
that were manufactured  
before the war,

1682  
01:30:39,700 --> 01:30:42,950  
turned into war time status.

1683  
01:30:42,950 --> 01:30:44,900  
And we decided we'd  
go to California,

1684  
01:30:44,900 --> 01:30:47,120  
because we'd never been there.

1685  
01:30:47,120 --> 01:30:48,680  
So you were out of the war?

1686  
01:30:48,680 --> 01:30:51,030



You were out of the  
effort for the Pacific.

1687  
01:30:51,030 --> 01:30:52,940  
The war had ended for you.

1688  
01:30:52,940 --> 01:30:56,030  
I missed one point.

1689  
01:30:56,030 --> 01:30:58,010  
During the time we  
were talking about,

1690  
01:30:58,010 --> 01:31:00,050  
in the time we were  
packing up to go,

1691  
01:31:00,050 --> 01:31:03,840  
news came the atomic  
bomb had been dropped.

1692  
01:31:03,840 --> 01:31:07,530  
And so immediately we knew  
that the war in Japan was over.

1693  
01:31:07,530 --> 01:31:11,030  
We knew that our wartime  
experience was over.

1694  
01:31:11,030 --> 01:31:13,730  
I missed that, I'm sorry.

1695  
01:31:13,730 --> 01:31:16,170  
So anyway, we drove to  
California for the first-- go

1696  
01:31:16,170 --> 01:31:16,670  
ahead.

1697  
01:31:16,670 --> 01:31:17,210  
Hang on.

1698

01:31:17,210 --> 01:31:22,220  
Before you get there, when you  
came back, how much of what

1699  
01:31:22,220 --> 01:31:23,300  
you had--

1700  
01:31:23,300 --> 01:31:26,210  
first of all, how long  
had you been overseas?

1701  
01:31:26,210 --> 01:31:29,240  
If you left in late '43 it was?

1702  
01:31:29,240 --> 01:31:32,510  
I left in late '43.

1703  
01:31:32,510 --> 01:31:35,110  
And you came back in--

1704  
01:31:35,110 --> 01:31:35,880  
Late '45.

1705  
01:31:35,880 --> 01:31:36,380  
Late '45.

1706  
01:31:36,380 --> 01:31:37,800  
Only two years.

1707  
01:31:37,800 --> 01:31:38,720  
Less than two years.

1708  
01:31:38,720 --> 01:31:42,437  
All that had been  
compressed into two years.

1709  
01:31:42,437 --> 01:31:44,270  
Did you feel like you  
were a changed person?

1710  
01:31:44,270 --> 01:31:47,120

1711  
01:31:47,120 --> 01:31:49,190  
I never gave it a thought.

1712  
01:31:49,190 --> 01:31:53,320  
I never-- I didn't have  
nightmares like so many did.

1713  
01:31:53,320 --> 01:31:57,500  
We were able to look to  
the future and say, OK,

1714  
01:31:57,500 --> 01:31:59,210  
where do we go from here?

1715  
01:31:59,210 --> 01:32:06,430  
I decided to get into  
business rather than

1716  
01:32:06,430 --> 01:32:12,830  
take the GI Bill that sent  
so many people to college.

1717  
01:32:12,830 --> 01:32:18,650  
And so we finally went  
across the country

1718  
01:32:18,650 --> 01:32:20,600  
with this little car.

1719  
01:32:20,600 --> 01:32:24,320  
And I was able-- we  
were staying at-- we

1720  
01:32:24,320 --> 01:32:26,975  
had a destination  
of my uncle's place.

1721  
01:32:26,975 --> 01:32:29,420  
My uncle, his name  
is [? Callie. ?]

1722

01:32:29,420 --> 01:32:32,130  
And they lived in Santa Monica.

1723  
01:32:32,130 --> 01:32:33,950  
So we came in with him.

1724  
01:32:33,950 --> 01:32:34,940  
And he was a painter.

1725  
01:32:34,940 --> 01:32:37,340  
And I spent several  
days painting.

1726  
01:32:37,340 --> 01:32:39,380  
And so I started making  
money just about as

1727  
01:32:39,380 --> 01:32:43,880  
soon as I got back, because  
our pay was delayed again.

1728  
01:32:43,880 --> 01:32:46,490

1729  
01:32:46,490 --> 01:32:49,550  
By that time I was a  
captain, and the pay

1730  
01:32:49,550 --> 01:32:52,710  
wasn't too bad from the service.

1731  
01:32:52,710 --> 01:33:00,860  
Anyway, living beyond  
that, as fast as we can,

1732  
01:33:00,860 --> 01:33:07,490  
we received a lot of the  
four-engined US Air Force

1733  
01:33:07,490 --> 01:33:11,270  
planes back to Douglas  
Aircraft Field.

1734

01:33:11,270 --> 01:33:12,980

We started to renovate them.

1735

01:33:12,980 --> 01:33:14,030

I was involved.

1736

01:33:14,030 --> 01:33:16,610

And I knew wiring and so forth, so I was involved

1737

01:33:16,610 --> 01:33:19,130

in the electrical side.

1738

01:33:19,130 --> 01:33:20,870

And we spent several--

1739

01:33:20,870 --> 01:33:25,940

spent almost a year with them in about 1946, '47.

1740

01:33:25,940 --> 01:33:31,730

In the meantime, we had a daughter born in 1946, Beverly.

1741

01:33:31,730 --> 01:33:32,990

Beverly June.

1742

01:33:32,990 --> 01:33:38,330

And she is now retired and also working.

1743

01:33:38,330 --> 01:33:40,460

They had to call her back.

1744

01:33:40,460 --> 01:33:43,790

She was a nurse at the University of Colorado Medical

1745

01:33:43,790 --> 01:33:44,780

Center.

1746

01:33:44,780 --> 01:33:50,720

Anyway, going on  
from that, in 1949

1747

01:33:50,720 --> 01:33:53,750

I opened my first  
business, which was

1748

01:33:53,750 --> 01:33:59,690

a radio-television operation.

1749

01:33:59,690 --> 01:34:05,120

And I spent quite a number of  
years with the star community,

1750

01:34:05,120 --> 01:34:12,530

like Clark Gable and all these  
big stars, including Disney.

1751

01:34:12,530 --> 01:34:27,030

I mean including Jack Carson,  
John Wayne, and many, many.

1752

01:34:27,030 --> 01:34:28,740

I mean, we had the  
walls plastered

1753

01:34:28,740 --> 01:34:30,480

with these signed photographs.

1754

01:34:30,480 --> 01:34:32,475

So that meant you owned  
a television company?

1755

01:34:32,475 --> 01:34:33,990

Yes.

1756

01:34:33,990 --> 01:34:35,190

I opened it up and owned it.

1757

01:34:35,190 --> 01:34:37,180

Ran it for about 10 years.

1758

01:34:37,180 --> 01:34:38,600

What was it called?

1759

01:34:38,600 --> 01:34:41,010

Valley Video Service.

1760

01:34:41,010 --> 01:34:47,400

And later, we opened B&D  
Electronics, B&D being Beatrice

1761

01:34:47,400 --> 01:34:49,440

and Dutch, B&D Electronics.

1762

01:34:49,440 --> 01:34:53,850

And we handled the entire 13  
Western states and distribution

1763

01:34:53,850 --> 01:34:58,080

of electronic parts for  
television and radio

1764

01:34:58,080 --> 01:34:59,910

and accessories.

1765

01:34:59,910 --> 01:35:05,670

And then I eventually  
wanted to see more of what

1766

01:35:05,670 --> 01:35:07,360

goes on in the real world.

1767

01:35:07,360 --> 01:35:11,460

So I stepped out  
into various jobs

1768

01:35:11,460 --> 01:35:17,400

that led up to me designing  
an anti-collision device

1769

01:35:17,400 --> 01:35:18,340

in the '60s.

1770

01:35:18,340 --> 01:35:25,920

I think about 1965, when  
the first jet aircraft

1771

01:35:25,920 --> 01:35:28,110

flying passengers came out.

1772

01:35:28,110 --> 01:35:34,290

Two TWA planes had crashed  
over the Grand Canyon.

1773

01:35:34,290 --> 01:35:41,290

And I said, what a  
terrible, terrible problem.

1774

01:35:41,290 --> 01:35:43,660

And what a terrible  
thing to happen

1775

01:35:43,660 --> 01:35:45,520

when there was a solution.

1776

01:35:45,520 --> 01:35:51,820

And again, I used what was  
available in my radar training

1777

01:35:51,820 --> 01:35:53,470

and so forth.

1778

01:35:53,470 --> 01:35:56,470

Same equipment,  
same stuff, and I

1779

01:35:56,470 --> 01:35:59,870

designed an  
anti-collision device.

1780

01:35:59,870 --> 01:36:07,550

And believe it or not, it  
was just the same basic idea.

1781

01:36:07,550 --> 01:36:11,870



Why not take what's already  
proven by war, by everything,

1782  
01:36:11,870 --> 01:36:15,310  
and turn it into something  
that could save lives?

1783  
01:36:15,310 --> 01:36:23,390  
Anyway, there again after  
drawing the design kind

1784  
01:36:23,390 --> 01:36:26,670  
of roughly, I just decided  
before I waste any more time,

1785  
01:36:26,670 --> 01:36:34,070  
I would go back to Washington  
and meet with the FAA.

1786  
01:36:34,070 --> 01:36:39,560  
And so they set up an  
appointment, a half an hour.

1787  
01:36:39,560 --> 01:36:44,450  
And we got-- my brother  
then met me at that point.

1788  
01:36:44,450 --> 01:36:48,050  
Because he was a  
pilot that had not

1789  
01:36:48,050 --> 01:36:52,040  
finished his training  
before he was sent overseas.

1790  
01:36:52,040 --> 01:36:54,050  
And he met me.

1791  
01:36:54,050 --> 01:36:57,650  
And we met with the FAA.

1792  
01:36:57,650 --> 01:37:00,020  
And I showed them the design.

1793  
01:37:00,020 --> 01:37:05,870  
I showed them where I had had  
success with that in Europe.

1794  
01:37:05,870 --> 01:37:09,410  
And it actually  
worked and so forth.

1795  
01:37:09,410 --> 01:37:15,470  
And the half hour meeting  
turned into four hours.

1796  
01:37:15,470 --> 01:37:17,730  
The whole afternoon was taken.

1797  
01:37:17,730 --> 01:37:20,230  
At the end they  
said, look, we know--

1798  
01:37:20,230 --> 01:37:22,480  
we're pretty sure that  
this would probably

1799  
01:37:22,480 --> 01:37:27,740  
save 95% of our collisions.

1800  
01:37:27,740 --> 01:37:30,950  
He says, but unless  
you get to 100%,

1801  
01:37:30,950 --> 01:37:33,980  
there's no way we can ever  
get it through Congress,

1802  
01:37:33,980 --> 01:37:36,620  
get it approved.

1803  
01:37:36,620 --> 01:37:44,920  
So then I also met with people  
at Magnavox Corporation,

1804

01:37:44,920 --> 01:37:46,420  
a big electronics firm.

1805  
01:37:46,420 --> 01:37:49,060  
They had also designed a system.

1806  
01:37:49,060 --> 01:37:51,130  
So I had communications  
with them,

1807  
01:37:51,130 --> 01:37:54,040  
and they had the same luck.

1808  
01:37:54,040 --> 01:38:01,420  
Eventually I made a revelation,  
or I made a disclosure

1809  
01:38:01,420 --> 01:38:03,580  
to Bendix Aircraft.

1810  
01:38:03,580 --> 01:38:07,290  
And I says, here,  
I'm disclosing this.

1811  
01:38:07,290 --> 01:38:08,600  
What can you do with it?

1812  
01:38:08,600 --> 01:38:12,140  
You have more power than  
any little one person.

1813  
01:38:12,140 --> 01:38:14,030  
Well, they had the same results.

1814  
01:38:14,030 --> 01:38:15,590  
They said, yes, it would work.

1815  
01:38:15,590 --> 01:38:18,890  
And so all I got was the  
satisfaction of knowing

1816  
01:38:18,890 --> 01:38:20,240

the thing would work.

1817  
01:38:20,240 --> 01:38:22,280  
Oh.

1818  
01:38:22,280 --> 01:38:28,940  
Beyond that I got  
into my own business.

1819  
01:38:28,940 --> 01:38:35,000  
I joined as chairman  
of a public electronics

1820  
01:38:35,000 --> 01:38:40,340  
firm that made specialized  
cathode ray tubes, the display

1821  
01:38:40,340 --> 01:38:44,950  
device that they use  
in air traffic control.

1822  
01:38:44,950 --> 01:38:47,540  
We designed little  
tiny tubes that they

1823  
01:38:47,540 --> 01:38:55,610  
use on helicopter pilot  
sights, gun sights.

1824  
01:38:55,610 --> 01:39:06,220  
And we designed-- we also  
designed a ground radar

1825  
01:39:06,220 --> 01:39:09,550  
type of system that  
would cut the earth down,

1826  
01:39:09,550 --> 01:39:13,120  
I don't remember how many feet,  
but then show the side of it

1827  
01:39:13,120 --> 01:39:15,580  
in layers for finding oil.

1828  
01:39:15,580 --> 01:39:16,120  
Wow.

1829  
01:39:16,120 --> 01:39:17,440  
And that was a sale.

1830  
01:39:17,440 --> 01:39:22,090  
We made a sale of that device  
to Brown & Root, a division

1831  
01:39:22,090 --> 01:39:24,730  
of Bechtel And that--

1832  
01:39:24,730 --> 01:39:28,202

1833  
01:39:28,202 --> 01:39:29,170  
let's see.

1834  
01:39:29,170 --> 01:39:38,265

1835  
01:39:38,265 --> 01:39:39,390  
I lost my train of thought.

1836  
01:39:39,390 --> 01:39:40,200  
What was the last--

1837  
01:39:40,200 --> 01:39:44,600  
Well, you were talking about  
some of the business ventures

1838  
01:39:44,600 --> 01:39:46,110  
and--

1839  
01:39:46,110 --> 01:39:49,020  
Oh yes, I was talking  
about that one.

1840  
01:39:49,020 --> 01:39:56,010

And this had to have a  
silver oxide type of paper

1841  
01:39:56,010 --> 01:39:58,320  
that flowed past a heater.

1842  
01:39:58,320 --> 01:40:02,730  
The heater design was  
it had to be very even

1843  
01:40:02,730 --> 01:40:07,530  
heat over a stretch  
of a heater element.

1844  
01:40:07,530 --> 01:40:11,160  
And the paper flowed over it  
and it was heat developed.

1845  
01:40:11,160 --> 01:40:15,840  
And the fact that I had  
worked at two specialized heat

1846  
01:40:15,840 --> 01:40:22,800  
manufacturers as vice  
president of new product design

1847  
01:40:22,800 --> 01:40:26,430  
and so forth, two separate  
ones, I had a lot of knowledge

1848  
01:40:26,430 --> 01:40:27,930  
about that particular part.

1849  
01:40:27,930 --> 01:40:30,480  
And we were able to  
solve that problem.

1850  
01:40:30,480 --> 01:40:32,310  
And that was sold  
to Brown & Root.

1851  
01:40:32,310 --> 01:40:36,240  
Where it went from there, that's

where my memory trailed off.

1852

01:40:36,240 --> 01:40:37,740

I don't know.

1853

01:40:37,740 --> 01:40:40,530

Did you make-- so it sounds  
like you were both in business

1854

01:40:40,530 --> 01:40:43,230

ventures and also inventing.

1855

01:40:43,230 --> 01:40:50,090

Well, inventing was kind of,  
again, a side product of--

1856

01:40:50,090 --> 01:40:52,280

for the heat  
companies, I invented

1857

01:40:52,280 --> 01:40:55,940

a couple of devices for boats.

1858

01:40:55,940 --> 01:41:02,550

One to guard against a  
reversal of the polarity

1859

01:41:02,550 --> 01:41:05,610

of the power coming into  
the boat from the dock,

1860

01:41:05,610 --> 01:41:07,635

because if there's  
a wrong reverse,

1861

01:41:07,635 --> 01:41:09,810

it would eat up the prop  
and everything else.

1862

01:41:09,810 --> 01:41:14,100

It had to be the right polarity.

1863

01:41:14,100 --> 01:41:17,250  
And I designed the device  
that would automatically

1864  
01:41:17,250 --> 01:41:22,200  
reverse it in the device  
rather than have the damage.

1865  
01:41:22,200 --> 01:41:24,000  
The other one was--

1866  
01:41:24,000 --> 01:41:24,960  
what the heck was it?

1867  
01:41:24,960 --> 01:41:27,868

1868  
01:41:27,868 --> 01:41:29,410  
The other one was  
pretty interesting,

1869  
01:41:29,410 --> 01:41:32,050  
but I can't remember  
the details.

1870  
01:41:32,050 --> 01:41:33,520  
It's OK.

1871  
01:41:33,520 --> 01:41:34,960  
If you do, we'll talk about it.

1872  
01:41:34,960 --> 01:41:37,820

1873  
01:41:37,820 --> 01:41:43,440  
Those two compressed years  
that you were in Europe.

1874  
01:41:43,440 --> 01:41:46,260  
If I recall, you had  
two sons and a daughter?

1875



01:41:46,260 --> 01:41:46,760

Yes.

1876

01:41:46,760 --> 01:41:51,870

OK, did you ever talk to them  
about what you had experienced,

1877

01:41:51,870 --> 01:41:53,430

what had gone on there?

1878

01:41:53,430 --> 01:41:55,320

Did you ever talk  
about these things?

1879

01:41:55,320 --> 01:42:00,900

Not during their--  
because again,

1880

01:42:00,900 --> 01:42:03,870

we didn't want to  
talk much about it.

1881

01:42:03,870 --> 01:42:07,230

Little pieces didn't  
mean anything to us.

1882

01:42:07,230 --> 01:42:12,150

My little job, what's  
interesting about having

1883

01:42:12,150 --> 01:42:13,770

a little radar job?

1884

01:42:13,770 --> 01:42:17,550

So I couldn't say  
I was a big hero.

1885

01:42:17,550 --> 01:42:19,710

By the way, one  
of my clients was

1886

01:42:19,710 --> 01:42:26,400

Audie Murphy when I was in

the radio-television business.

1887

01:42:26,400 --> 01:42:32,070

And also, the Ace of South  
Pacific, Pappy Boyington,

1888

01:42:32,070 --> 01:42:35,010

and also General  
Chennault. These

1889

01:42:35,010 --> 01:42:38,700

were all customers of  
mine, as well as virtually

1890

01:42:38,700 --> 01:42:43,180

the entire film industry.

1891

01:42:43,180 --> 01:42:48,300

But then, again I didn't  
think it was important enough

1892

01:42:48,300 --> 01:42:49,540

to talk about it.

1893

01:42:49,540 --> 01:42:52,920

I was no hero.

1894

01:42:52,920 --> 01:42:54,550

But the various events.

1895

01:42:54,550 --> 01:42:57,750

I mean, kids are always  
interested in what

1896

01:42:57,750 --> 01:42:58,680

their dad did.

1897

01:42:58,680 --> 01:43:01,383

And for them, their dad is  
the hero no matter what.

1898

01:43:01,383 --> 01:43:02,050

Well, of course.

1899

01:43:02,050 --> 01:43:02,850

You could be any.

1900

01:43:02,850 --> 01:43:04,980

Yeah.

1901

01:43:04,980 --> 01:43:07,980

But then you said that  
until recently, many things

1902

01:43:07,980 --> 01:43:09,750

had been classified.

1903

01:43:09,750 --> 01:43:10,770

That's exactly right.

1904

01:43:10,770 --> 01:43:14,580

I couldn't talk about so much,  
so I just learned not to talk.

1905

01:43:14,580 --> 01:43:16,710

Especially the South Pacific--

1906

01:43:16,710 --> 01:43:21,000

no, the southern  
France invasion.

1907

01:43:21,000 --> 01:43:22,750

That was top, top secret.

1908

01:43:22,750 --> 01:43:23,400

I was with--

1909

01:43:23,400 --> 01:43:27,400

1910

01:43:27,400 --> 01:43:32,540

Douglas Fairbanks Jr.  
was in charge of a PT

1911

01:43:32,540 --> 01:43:34,840  
squadron in the South Pacific.

1912

01:43:34,840 --> 01:43:39,910  
And this was-- as part of  
the invasion of our aircraft,

1913

01:43:39,910 --> 01:43:42,810  
and gliders, and  
paratroopers, they

1914

01:43:42,810 --> 01:43:48,320  
had to have certain locations  
marked with no deviation

1915

01:43:48,320 --> 01:43:52,070  
so they could make their  
turns to the new direction.

1916

01:43:52,070 --> 01:43:54,490  
So they could make  
their turns, in my case,

1917

01:43:54,490 --> 01:43:59,050  
over the last marker to hit  
the area in southern France

1918

01:43:59,050 --> 01:44:02,510  
that the bombers had  
pulverized, so that they

1919

01:44:02,510 --> 01:44:06,780  
could go in with the least  
chance of being shot down.

1920

01:44:06,780 --> 01:44:13,700  
Well, I was assigned  
to his squadron

1921

01:44:13,700 --> 01:44:16,940  
to operate their radar, to  
locate that spot in the middle

1922

01:44:16,940 --> 01:44:18,440  
of the Mediterranean.

1923

01:44:18,440 --> 01:44:19,310  
Can you repeat this?

1924

01:44:19,310 --> 01:44:19,810  
Excuse me.

1925

01:44:19,810 --> 01:44:21,440  
I think you said  
that he was in charge

1926

01:44:21,440 --> 01:44:23,610  
of a squadron in  
the South Pacific.

1927

01:44:23,610 --> 01:44:24,110  
You mean--

1928

01:44:24,110 --> 01:44:26,390  
No, I meant to southern France.

1929

01:44:26,390 --> 01:44:31,280  
OK, so, Douglas Fairbanks was  
in charge of such a squadron

1930

01:44:31,280 --> 01:44:32,120  
in southern France?

1931

01:44:32,120 --> 01:44:34,880  
He was thought of at  
the time as a playboy

1932

01:44:34,880 --> 01:44:42,770  
with a degree of  
the lieutenant rank.

1933

01:44:42,770 --> 01:44:45,600  
It was just playing around,  
but that guy was a hero.

1934

01:44:45,600 --> 01:44:46,100

Was he?

1935

01:44:46,100 --> 01:44:47,840

He was marvelous.

1936

01:44:47,840 --> 01:44:50,600

And there was so much  
to tell, but couldn't.

1937

01:44:50,600 --> 01:44:52,910

His whole operation  
was top secret

1938

01:44:52,910 --> 01:44:55,670

until after the Vietnam War.

1939

01:44:55,670 --> 01:44:56,270

No kidding.

1940

01:44:56,270 --> 01:45:00,403

So during that time,  
I could not talk.

1941

01:45:00,403 --> 01:45:02,070

Well, what can you  
tell us now about it?

1942

01:45:02,070 --> 01:45:04,280

I can tell you everything  
now, but I just

1943

01:45:04,280 --> 01:45:06,260

started to memorialize it.

1944

01:45:06,260 --> 01:45:07,910

So I can't--

1945

01:45:07,910 --> 01:45:09,740

I don't want to  
publicize anything yet

1946

01:45:09,740 --> 01:45:12,080

until I've got it  
in a better form.

1947

01:45:12,080 --> 01:45:13,670

And you'll get it  
as soon as I do.

1948

01:45:13,670 --> 01:45:16,460

1949

01:45:16,460 --> 01:45:18,880

That was going to be one  
of the chapters in my book.

1950

01:45:18,880 --> 01:45:20,710

OK.

1951

01:45:20,710 --> 01:45:23,110

Well, is there  
anything else that you

1952

01:45:23,110 --> 01:45:25,480

would want to  
share with us today

1953

01:45:25,480 --> 01:45:29,710

about what it was  
that you experienced,

1954

01:45:29,710 --> 01:45:32,950

what you'd want people to know?

1955

01:45:32,950 --> 01:45:37,220

The biggest subject that  
I wanted people to know

1956

01:45:37,220 --> 01:45:40,402

was obvious at the  
meeting yesterday.

1957

01:45:40,402 --> 01:45:47,260

It was the fact that the  
90th Troop Carrier Squadron

1958  
01:45:47,260 --> 01:45:53,770  
got a very, very bad rap from  
the author of Band of Brothers,

1959  
01:45:53,770 --> 01:45:56,680  
name of Stephen Ambrose.

1960  
01:45:56,680 --> 01:46:00,490  
He wrote that entire  
supposed to be

1961  
01:46:00,490 --> 01:46:05,050  
truthful series all  
about the paratroopers,

1962  
01:46:05,050 --> 01:46:08,440  
the 101st and 82nd,  
which were marvelous,

1963  
01:46:08,440 --> 01:46:13,520  
and they thought the world  
of us, all about that.

1964  
01:46:13,520 --> 01:46:17,960

1965  
01:46:17,960 --> 01:46:29,260  
But he never interviewed  
one troop carrier pilot

1966  
01:46:29,260 --> 01:46:32,110  
to get the story of  
who carried them in

1967  
01:46:32,110 --> 01:46:35,050  
and what happened on  
some of their problems.

1968  
01:46:35,050 --> 01:46:41,530  
He interviewed people that had



been on aircraft that weren't

1969

01:46:41,530 --> 01:46:43,360  
as trained as the 438th.

1970

01:46:43,360 --> 01:46:46,540  
And they dropped their  
paratroopers at the wrong spot,

1971

01:46:46,540 --> 01:46:48,010  
in the marshes.

1972

01:46:48,010 --> 01:46:50,830  
And they're the people-- the  
paratroopers are interviewed.

1973

01:46:50,830 --> 01:46:56,380  
But I have something I want to  
read into the record about what

1974

01:46:56,380 --> 01:46:58,690  
a paratrooper said about us.

1975

01:46:58,690 --> 01:47:02,590  
And my biggest goal of  
this entire operation

1976

01:47:02,590 --> 01:47:07,650  
is to focus on the fact  
that the 90th Troop Carrier

1977

01:47:07,650 --> 01:47:13,720  
Squadron of four forces--

1978

01:47:13,720 --> 01:47:17,140  
I'm saying forces,  
incidents or whatever--

1979

01:47:17,140 --> 01:47:19,900  
four of the most  
important things

1980

01:47:19,900 --> 01:47:24,470  
in World War II, one of them was  
the 90th troop carrier command.

1981  
01:47:24,470 --> 01:47:28,300  
And they've been downgraded,  
and kicked, and so forth.

1982  
01:47:28,300 --> 01:47:33,910  
I wanted to restore the truth  
about that squadron of 1,000

1983  
01:47:33,910 --> 01:47:35,360  
planes.

1984  
01:47:35,360 --> 01:47:37,540  
OK, hang on a second.

1985  
01:47:37,540 --> 01:47:39,100  
What time are we at right now?

1986  
01:47:39,100 --> 01:47:39,950  
It's after 12:00.

1987  
01:47:39,950 --> 01:47:40,825  
Let me check for you.

1988  
01:47:40,825 --> 01:47:41,620  
All right.

1989  
01:47:41,620 --> 01:47:44,587  
When we had our little  
chat with the lady,

1990  
01:47:44,587 --> 01:47:45,670  
we were at 12:0-something.

1991  
01:47:45,670 --> 01:47:46,642  
12:24, 12:25.

1992  
01:47:46,642 --> 01:47:48,100  
12:24.

1993

01:47:48,100 --> 01:47:50,920

I would suggest, do you--  
let's cut right now.

1994

01:47:50,920 --> 01:47:52,470

OK.