

**Henry Birnbrey**

**October 22, 2015**

**RG-50.030\*0847**

### **Abstract**

Henry Birnbrey was born Chaim Birnbrey November 29, 1923 in Dortmund, Germany to Jennie Jacobson and Edmund Birnbrey with no siblings. His mother had moved to the area as she had a daughter from her first marriage who suffered from malnutrition but the additional food did not help her survive. Henry's father had served in World War I and during Henry's childhood he had a small textile business and was active in the Reichsbanner, the elite corps of the Social Democratic Party. In the mid '30s, the landlady kicked them out of their more luxurious apartment because she did not like Jews and they moved across the street to a slum. Additionally, the neighbor children could not be seen playing with Henry so they only played together at night. Also, the family had to let the non-Jewish maid go. His mother suffered from an intestinal condition. The family attended religious services once a week. Henry attended the German public school for Jews, the Yiddisher Folkshuler, which closed when he got to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and then attended a makeshift school. When his father admitted that he had to close his business because of the Nazis, he was arrested. This occurred on Kristallnacht when Henry had already come to the US (via Kinder transport in April '38). His father was beat up and due to inadequate medical attention, died February first. Henry did not receive restitution as the Germans had misspelled his father's name. His mother died in September '39, perhaps because she could not maintain her diet. It was difficult for Henry to learn of both parents' deaths when he was alone in the US. Upon Henry's arrival in NY, a non-German speaking social worker took him by train to Birmingham where he was placed with a widow which did not work out so he was settled in Atlanta. After high school, Henry attended Georgia State where he studied accounting and went into the Army and took courses at Georgia State. Henry shipped out 2/12/44 and arrived 2/22/44 in England. He was chief of a half-track and supervised the driver, gunman and another assistant. He traveled from Normandy to Haarlem in the Netherlands where he saw a synagogue that was turned into horse stalls. Then to Germany where he was searching for a gunsight in Fastaben (?) near Marg Oberg (?) and they smelled a horrible odor and discovered abandoned trains of teenage Jews shipped from Bergen-Belsen with no food or water and left in a field. Another incident was at Marg Oberg where there were Russian POWs that the Germans took. His unit was in charge of transferring the POWs to the Russians and he was surprised they had no welcoming celebration. Because of Henry's facility in German, he questioned German POWs by asking them their name, serial number and outfit. Later, after the Armistice, he was stationed next to a quarry testing V2 bombs and switched to being a CICA agent. The war ended so he was shipped

home without being permitted to visit Dortmund in the British zone. He got to Dortmund in '76 and ordered headstones for his parents' graves and returned with his children in 2009. After discharge, he entered John Marshall Law School.

### Summary

- 00:00 Henry Birnbrey was born as Chaim Birnbrey November 29, 1923, the day the German inflation hit its peak and, also, the day of the UN partition of Israel and Palestine. He was born in Dortmund, Germany in the northwest part of Germany in Westphalia. It was famous for steel and beer and has many breweries and was an industrial city. The city had some pretty parts. There was a big stadium for shows and sports, the Westphalenhafer (?). His mother was Jennie Jacobson whose first husband was killed in World War I and she lost a child. Henry's father was Edmund Birnbrey and they married in 1922. Henry was their only child. Both parents came from Pomerania in East Germany. His mother was one of 11 children and his father one of three. Only four first cousins survived the Holocaust. Henry's father's family came from Stettheimer (?) and his mother's from a small town of Falkenberg (?).
- 05:00 Stettheimer was on the border. Henry did not visit his relatives often. He never went to Stettheimer but visited his mother's relatives when they moved to Berlin. He returned a few years ago. His father had a small textile business with a circle of customers and operated a commissary for the labor union in his business. His half-sister suffered from malnutrition in World War I as there was a lack of food. The aunt had a cow so they moved to Dortmund for the milk. His half-sister, Ruth Noyman died at age three. His mother's first marriage was to Herman Noyman who died fighting in World War I. His mother also lost three brothers in World War I. His father was involved politically. He joined the Reichsbanner, the elite corps of the Social Democratic Party who did special things. If there were riots, they helped the police. Henry does not recall family conversation at dinner although they talked about Hitler coming to power. Suddenly people appeared in the street dressed in Nazi uniforms and flew Nazi flags. The Commissary had an inventory of merchandise which members could buy cheaper than retail.
- 10:00 It was an association of employees located in the same premise as the textile business. His father sold linens and clothing and sold the same in the Commissary. The textile business was retail and the father made a weekly commute to nearby towns to deliver goods and take orders. The business had not been in the family as no relatives lived there nor were family members in the textile business elsewhere. They only had one employee as it was a small business. The family lived three miles from the business. Henry seldom visited his father at work. His father worked every day except the day he traveled to the other towns. They lived in a nice apartment house but the landlady, Frau Kornhagen, did not want Jews so they were kicked out. They moved into a slum across the street. There

was a big difference in one life style to the other. This occurred around '35 or '36. His first home was close to downtown and was a spatial apartment. It was three or four stories high with no elevator.

- 15:00 They had electricity and coal ovens. Each tenant had a storage area in the cellar to store coal. There were four or five rooms. In the slum apartment, Henry slept in the same room with his parents and had no toilet, shower or bath. They had to go up a half flight of stairs to use the communal toilet. When the parents were thrown out, they panicked and took their belongings to the slum apartment. Henry knew Mrs. Kornhagen as she lived in the same apartment complex. One aunt lived in the same building across the hall. She was non-Jewish but her daughter married his uncle so they became close. It was a mixed neighborhood of Jews and Gentiles. The aunt had already migrated to Palestine and neighbors remained but they were not Jewish. Next door was a bakery. Henry was close with their children. He visited their daughter about 15 or 20 years ago in Germany. Other neighbors were friendly but, once Hitler came into power, the children were only allowed to play together at night. It was mostly intimidation as they did not want to be seen playing publicly with him.
- 20:00 Henry saw what was happening and spoke at home about it. His mother was intellectual, knew leading labor leaders, French and read books but was not healthy. She had bad intestinal problems and required a special diet. She was weak and his father was at his desk doing the books at night and paperwork. Neither parent had higher education. Henry does not know where his mother learned languages. They had help in the first apartment and none in the second apartment as Germans were not permitted to work for Jews. Their first apartment was close to the lady who worked for them. She was like part of the family. She was with them since he was born. Her name might have been "Margaret." She did the cleaning, housekeeping and took care of him. She was a non-Jewish German. They had to let her go when the law started that Germans could not work for Jews.
- 25:00 He saw her periodically as she lived nearby. The family belonged to a Lansmanshaf (?), a group of people who come from the same community. They belonged to the one for those from Pomerania and composed of both Jews and non-Jews. The group was 90% of their social life. They met periodically for dinner. Henry's father was a war veteran as he fought in World War I Infantry. The non-Jews were no longer in the group. His father got rheumatism from the trenches. He was stationed in Verdun, France and was proud of the time he served. He was awarded an iron cross. His mother remained active but periodically went to the hospital for surgery. During his childhood, she had six surgeries on her intestines. On Sundays they took hikes in the woods. His father was average except he was involved in politics. He made campaign speeches for someone who ran for Prime Minister. He did not own a car. Few people owned cars then. They used public transportation. Henry was closer to his mother than his father. They were

not so religious to observe all the laws but attended synagogue services every Saturday. His father served on the synagogue board and Henry attended a Jewish public school where part of the curriculum included Jewish subjects.

30:00 They did not associate with other synagogue families. They did not observe the dietary laws as they were not kosher then but he is kosher now. They did not observe the Sabbath. They belonged to a reform synagogue but it is the same as the Atlanta orthodox synagogue with the men and women sitting separate but it had an organ. His teacher was the best he ever had. He had the same teacher, Herr Andoin, from the first to third grades so go close to him. He attended a good school with a good curriculum. When the Holocaust began, they prepared for immigration by teaching the children English. His teacher was like a father as he loved the students and the students loved him. For 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades, they were forced to abandon the building and move to a substandard building. That ended his education in Germany. His school was the Yiddisher Folkshuler located near the central train station.

35:00 It was a beautiful building and in math, they were far ahead. Henry was tested in Birmingham at age 14 and was told he was ready for sophomore college math. He had to measure the pyramids in Egypt and calculate how much it weighed. Twenty-five years ago the Jewish Post supplement wrote about some people and wrote about Mr. Andoin and his family. Henry wrote to the paper and met the teacher's children in Jerusalem. Mr. Andoin escaped and died in Jerusalem. Henry's school had a huge playground for about 300 students from the seven primary grades. The Gymnasium or high school was private. He had friends from school and friends from the neighborhood. He did not find anyone except by accident he was riding a taxi in Tel Aviv in the mid-80s and sat behind a bald-headed driver and asked if he was Fridel Rosenbaum and the driver responded, "Yes." They went to school together and lived in the same neighborhood. He does not know why he recognized him and did not keep in touch.

40:00 Henry believes the rest of his friends were killed. They lived in a mixed neighborhood with no name. Henry knew the Nazi party was the name of one of the parties and on the election ballots. They did not take it seriously but was aware of it. When Hitler came to power on January 30, 1933, they were in a state of shock. People suddenly appeared on the street in Nazi uniforms and Nazi flags were flown. His father's business had to close soon after. In 1935 his father went to the town he visited weekly and told them he could not obtain textile goods. A client's son in Nazi uniform tried to force his father to say that it was because of the Nazi government and his father agreed. His father was arrested three days later and they could not find him. The judge asked the client to testify and he testified against his own son and the judge said he must do something or he will lose his job. He told the father not to return so they will think he went to a concentration camp. He might have been targeted as he was active in politics.

- 45:00 Henry came to the US in April '38 and on Kristallnacht his father was arrested. He was beat up and needed medical attention and no hospital admitted him until the Catholic Hospital took him in and he died February first. His mother sent a telegram to Birmingham and Henry was already in Atlanta when he heard the news six weeks after he died from his wounds. About 50 year ago, Henry tried to get restitution from the Germans and they claimed there was no one by that name so he was turned down. In the 80s he visited the Gestapo Headquarters which is now a Holocaust Museum and he examined the microfiche. They had misspelled his name as Birenbrey instead of Birnbrey. Later his children wanted to see the museum and when they reached the torture chamber, Henry got a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. It was too late to correct the record. The microfiche had his father's correct home address and age with just one letter of the name misspelled. The judge had sympathy with the former government so did not change the name.
- 50:00 There were restitution laws in the 50s and 60s. His mother had sent a telegram from Germany. She had no source of income so became a maid to a disabled Jewish woman until she died in September '39. Perhaps she could not maintain her diet. Her brother attended her funeral and sent Henry a letter. The movie, "Address Unknown" was the same thing as the person sent a letter and it was returned, "Address, unknown." Henry was alone in the world. When his father returned from the village, he applied for visas to countries unknown. There was no problem getting out of Germany but other countries would not give them a visa. His mother applied to Latin America counties and could not get a visa. They lived a poor life upon the father's return. He does not know how they had food. Since his father was not allowed to be in business, he closed the shop. Henry was shielded from the family troubles.
- 55:00 His parents wanted to get him a visa to Palestine or elsewhere. Around February or March '38, Nazis invaded Austria and people thought war was imminent. The Jewish Social agencies said they had a visa for him if he left within 24 hours. He went to Stuttgart to the American Consul to have a physical. He had a fever so his mother packed him with cold compresses and walked him to the train which he took by himself. He met two other children in Stuttgart and passed the physical. They went to Hamburg to board the ship. His parents hoped to join him later. He had only been outside of Dortmund twice to visit his aunt in Berlin and spent the summer of '36 in Holland in a Jewish social service program to get children out of Germany. It was a wonderful summer with a family. After the Olympics, he met a cousin who was surprised about the rules and that Jesse Owens was walking with three girls.
- 60:00 His seven uncles and aunt lived in Berlin and took him around. His uncle who was a photographer showed him his work in a darkroom. None of his mother's siblings survived except for two missing links. They had no information about one uncle's sister and children. The first time Jews were sent to a ghetto was from Stettin (?) to Kielsky,

Poland. Relatives in Berlin died in Auschwitz. The cousins were twins and they married twins. They were from Poland so when the Polish citizens were expelled from Germany, they went to Poland. An uncle who was an artist lived in the homes near Checkpoint Charlie. Henry said he had freedom the summer in Holland and was given good food by the wonderful family in Setobush (?) near Haarlem. The first allied troops in World War II came to Maastricht and Haarlem.

- 65:00 They saw the synagogue was turned into a stable and held Friday night services there. He used to speak good Dutch that he learned that summer. On the ship from Hamburg, most of the staff wore Swastika insignia but there was no discrimination. There were people from many countries and he was treated first class, like the other passengers. No one accompanied the three children. They were part of Kinder transport with 1200 going to the US and 12,000 to England. He was sponsored by the Birmingham chapter of Jewish Women. The Dortmund Jewish agency had called him. His father thought that going to Birmingham, Alabama was like going to the Alhambra. Passage on the boat was pleasant. He took the Hansa Europa, a large ship, to New York. It was an emotional experience to see the Statue of Liberty.
- 70:00 He thought it was beautiful. He did not meet the other people on the ship. Upon arrival, he was met by a social worker and spent the night in New York. They went together by train to Birmingham and got to DC along the way. He did not understand why suddenly the dark people had to move to the back and the light people sat up front. He did not understand segregation until several months later. The social worker did not speak German and he did not speak English. In Birmingham he was placed with a widow and it did not work out as neither were happy so he lived with another family until he came to Atlanta. He was 14 and placed in the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade and was promoted every two weeks. In the fall he was put into high school and lived with the Cotton family who had one boy and two girls. He felt good and everything was OK until he was told he would move in February '39 to Atlanta as the social worker was stationed there. The social worker was with the German/Jewish children aid society. He always had the same social worker, Mrs. Weil who did not speak German. After five or six months, he spoke English but had a few problems.
- 75: 00 When they spoke about schedule, he did not understand the meaning or pronounce it correctly. Another problem was when he took a bus to downtown Birmingham and when it was time to go home, he took the bus marked "Garage." He had arrived in NY in April '38 and by January '39, he was in Atlanta with the new family, Fanny Asaman who had two children and one turned 100 last week. He was considered like a cousin or a brother. Ruby was the one who turned 100 and the other one was David. There was no father. David was three years older than him. Henry wanted to be an engineer so attended the Tech High School which prepared him for Georgia Tech. The following year he attended the commercial high school and studied accounting and got involved in Jewish youth

groups. The Asaman Family were Jewish and kept kosher. When a parent dies, one says the Kaddish prayer daily so he went to synagogue for 18 or 19 months for both parents. Mrs. Asaman and her nephew took him to a park and read the telegram to him about his father dying. He felt hopeless as had hopes he would find a way to bring his parents to America; he was not ready for their dying.

- 80:00 Saying Kaddish helped. News of his mother's death was by a letter from his uncle that he read on his own. He was 15 when he lost his parents and wanted to be on his own for spending money. Therefore, he worked Saturdays at a retail store and earned \$2.30. No one seemed to know how bad things were in Germany. It came as a shock to the world when they found out how many got killed. No one believed it. The real story of the Holocaust came out after the war. There were other children from Germany in Atlanta. None of the children knew the extent of the Holocaust of 6 million killed. The children from Germany had events three or four times a year such as a swimming party.
- 85:00 He had a relationship with them but not close friendship. It was totally different here. The school were different with recess, football teams and different method of education. The teachers in Germany were superior in intellect and general knowledge. Henry had an English teacher here who could not speak good grammatical English. The teaching profession was low in America pay-wise and the Georgia teaching school had the lowest rating. After high school, Henry attended Georgia State and went into the Army and took courses at Georgia State and then entered John Marshall Law School. In 1939 war started and his mother died. He learned that the war started from radio and newspaper. He was near a friend's radio when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He had never heard of Pearl Harbor before. People had already enlisted in the military at the time of Pearl Harbor. He heard of isolationists that you should not get involved in Europe's wars. He was 18 at the time of Pearl Harbor and wanted to join the Army. People with German and Japanese passports were aliens so had to get Presidential appeal to join the Army. In '43 in Norfolk, he became a naturalized citizen before entering the service.
- 90:00 Henry had tremendous bitterness against the Germans and wanted to get involved. Some of the kids from Germany wanted to sing German songs but he did not want to have anything to do with Germany. He was asked to be a translator for the Army but only had the language of a 14-year-old. When he was asked to be the interpreter for scientists, he did not think he had the ability as did not know the word, "anodizing" or other words. Since he never read books in German after age 14, he was stuck with the German of a 14-year-old. After Pearl Harbor, he was in commercial high school and then went to Georgia State from '42 to June '43 and then joined the Army. He had studied accounting. The rule of not permitting German and Japanese natives to be subject to the draft was rescinded. He entered the Army and was sent to Ft. Eustis, Virginia in an anti-aircraft camp at first for 22 months of basic training. He learned from John Eisenhower, a rifle coach from West Point. Then he went to Ft. Devens, Massachusetts and was

shipped out 2/12/44 and arrived 2/22/44 in England. Later he went but not as a CIC agent. He arrived in Southampton and camped at Western Superman. He went from one camp to another, circling England. He left Bournemouth for Normandy. He switched position to Chief of a section of half-track crew. He had 450 men in anti-aircraft in a tunnel and shot at low-flying planes. Half-track is an armored vehicle with treads in the back and wheels in the front and their purpose is to shoot at airplanes so requires an opening on the top of the tank for a direct target. Some half-tracks are used for troop carrier. He supervised the driver, gunman and another assistant in the half-track. The D4 was shipped to Omaha. He saw hundreds of dead soldiers, abandoned fortresses, a mess. A British landing craft took his half-track and let them out in the tide. He went through water and lost some equipment. He was on the half-track so drove into the water. It was waterproof. There was a pipe from the exhaust so water did not get in.

100:00 They were about four feet from the water. He went about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile inland and dug a foxhole and heard incoming and outgoing mail (shells coming in and going out). He was in the 30<sup>th</sup> Division and in combat for the longest time. He was briefed for 4 to 5 weeks in England, then to St. Lo, France but did not get there for 4 to 5 weeks. St. Lo was the main target. The High Commander wanted to experiment with guns for direct fire. They went on a hill and tried direct fire but it did not work so they went further and found a 2-story farmhouse. Downstairs was a cider hall where they had a poker game. Someone asked if the house could be seen and it could be seen. Omar Bradley of the Signal Corps came and observed the bombing of St. Lo which was a disaster. The flair came back and killed more Americans than Germans. All the important officers observed this. They were successful the second day so he went through with his half-track but every  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, he had a flat tire from shrapnel.

105:00 The major battle was at Mortain but is least known. It was in Normandy and the Germans brought all their armor to cut them in half. The Allies' arms held the Germans off and broke through. It took four or five days. They went faster than the supply line. They were the northernmost division towards Belgium. The British were next. Montgomery claimed he was first. Henry's crew was six hours earlier and he saw Montgomery enter. Next they were in Holland and then Germany and were called back for the Battle of the Bulge to stop them. They were the liberating force for the panhandle around Maastricht in October. The Northern part was British. Henry had his first shower since landing in Normandy. He found the shower for the coal miners. In Haarlem they found a synagogue turned into a stable for horses so cleaned it out and had Friday evening services. Army people and people in hiding attended.

110:00 Henry was able to read Dutch and speak it a little. He did not speak to the people in hiding. Then they had a big failure as the maneuver on the Maas River was his idea and did not work. He suggested they put a cable, a thin combat wire, tied to a bazooka shell and fly to the other side. Unfortunately, slag from the wire pulled it back to the water and



it did not work. He tried it several times all day long. They found the Reymargen Bridge on the southern end and crossed the river. They continued into Germany for about four or five miles south of Munchen to Barglotter. It was all bombed out and he was not allowed to speak to the citizens. They targeted a few prisoners. Immediately, the German prisoners claimed they did not fight on the western front but fought on the eastern front. Ulish arrived and called them back to the Battle of the Bulge. Henry asked the Germans their name, serial number and outfit. Later, after the Armistice, he was stationed next to a quarry testing V2 bombs and switched to being a CICA agent.

115:00 He spoke to the eminent scientist in hiding and he asked questions in English. The scientist claimed he did not know English and the Sargent, in English, said to kill him. Later in the Stars and Stripes (The Army newspaper) the German said he was in Alabama helping the Allies. Henry spent Christmas at the quarry. In December he was at the top of a mountain near Fonkochamp (?) near Spa in Belgium. He became a Forward Observer and was billeted in a farmhouse. To get in, he had to go through the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window as the snow was so high. He spotted an airplane to give directions to the gunnery. There were no major battles. They got bombed from planes and encountered few German soldiers. They got to the Siegfried Line, the German counterpart to the Maginot Line as hoped to keep the French out of Germany. Henry crossed the Siegfried Line on the way to Aachen. He was both the chief of the section of a Halfback and Forward Observer. They went into Germany and stopped at the Elbe River, at Marg Oberg, because of the Potsdam Agreement which agreed on the border. After the battle at Marg Oberg, he was used as an interpreter at the aluminum plant and the salt mine. All the French gold was stored in the salt mine and Henry supervised the transfer of gold to the French government. The gold was very heavy. He continued interpreting and in the same outfit. He changed from combat battery to headquarters battery as he was skilled in German.

120:00 They went to Brunswick when Roosevelt died and the Germans laughed and made fun of them and fought civilians. They neared Marg Oberg (?) and looked for a gun position and smelled a horrible odor. They discovered abandoned trains of Jews shipped from one place to another with no food or water. They were in Faslaben (?), 6 kilometers from Marg Oberg. There were 60 or 70 people in each car. It was standing room only with dead and half-dead people. Henry's division was just a tank division so had little they could do for them as they only had K rations. An officer went to a nearby village and turned out the Germans and put in the sick Jews.

125:00 Henry's division invited some of these survivors to his reunion in North Carolina recently. He was at the trains a day. The Jews spoke Yiddish and said they are a "Yid" (Jew) and Henry felt helpless as he had nothing to give. The train was at Faslaben. He saw the stuck cattle car and heard voices and opened the door and saw it packed like sardines. Most of them were standing. There were men and women from Bergen-Belsen

headed for another camp. There were about 8 to 10 wagons. European freight cars are about 2/3 the size of American freight cars.

- 130:00 The people had been without food, water and sanitation. They were teenagers. The “40 and 8 Society” was named after the cattle cars that 40 soldiers or eight horses could fit but 20 more people were packed in to them. A few days later, a medical officer turned the village into a field hospital. He had no food or water for them. They had a Star of David on their garments. The train was in the middle of nowhere, in an open field.
- 135:00 Henry was in the jeep looking to set up a gun position for his outfit. The German crew and engine had left. Henry’s unit remained one day. The internet has photographs as a soldier took photos. Henry did not know if there were other Jewish soldiers besides him. The 743<sup>rd</sup> anti-tank battalion took over. Henry was in the 531AAA. Years later a couple of guys from his outfit found five or six survivors for their reunion. One came from England. They were surprised that the prisoners were teenagers as they looked so old and haggard. The photos showed they were not all in prison uniforms.
- 140:00 There were two incidents about the Holocaust. The first was in the Haarlem Synagogue. They heard of the concentration camps but not aware of the magnitude. Henry knew of Dachau before he left Germany. He felt helpless and bewildered the day at the freight cars so was just a bystander. The second incident was at Marg Oberg where there were Russian POWs that the Germans took. His unit was in charge of transferring the POWs to the Russians. There was no welcoming celebration. They just walked over to their people. They looked terrible but better than the Jews. They were solemn and somber. There were about 500 POWs. His unit crossed the Elbe River, the dividing line. He did not meet Russians on the other side. At Mar Oberg, they shipped to Leiston. The quarry had V2 bombs.
- 145:00 Riddle found the forced labor camp there was empty. Henry got a furlough to Paris and London where he heard the war was over and found his outfit so he could be shipped home. Dortmund was 50 miles in British territory so he was not permitted to visit. First he decided not to return but a relative told him his parents were buried there. He wanted to place markers on their graves. Henry returned in '76 and had the markers made. People in Dortmund remembered him. He found old friends and distant relatives. One said his father was gassed in World War I and a Lutheran Minister adopted him and converted him and his children. The Minister rehabilitated him so he was spared and survived. Henry went to the office of the Jewish cemetery and was taken to his parents’ graves. Friends of the family joined him and he remembered them.
- 150:00 Henry did not expect the attention and was glad to see them as made him feel connected. He negotiated for the headstones and lost his temper as tax was added. The administrator said that he would take care of the tax. Henry returned to see the finished job in 2009 and

brought all his children. When he looks at Germans his age, he feels they were part of the horror but he can't blame the young people. He never again saw the family maid or the landlady, Frau Kornhagen. The end of World War II was the best of times for America. There was a togetherness that we never had again. Now it is a splinter and different ideologies. Those days they welcomed soldiers and were patriotic. After Viet Nam, people looked down at soldiers. Henry feels that America is his home and Germany is gone from his past. He has no feeling for it.

154:00