

Summary of Oral History: Joseph Korn

RG#: RG-50.039.0001

This Summary was written by a USHMM Volunteer on [03/2022]

Joseph Korn, from Augusta, Georgia traveled to Weimar, Germany to mark the liberation of the Buchenwald Concentration camp. His Father, Abraham Korn was a Holocaust Survivor, Abraham Korn was 17 years old when he escaped from one of the Ghettos. Over 4 to 5 years, he was in different camps including Auschwitz. He was liberated from Buchenwald in April, 1945. Joseph Korn explains his Father stayed in Germany for a few years after the War, met his Mother and moved to Augusta, Georgia to work and raise a family. Abraham Korn wrote a memoir* in the late 1960's. Joseph reads an excerpt from the Memoir about his Father's experience being liberated by American soldiers. Tom McIntyre, soldier from Georgia, 3rd Division of Army, 737 Tank Battalion was among the soldiers that liberated Buchenwald. McIntyre explained he threw out D-rations and then had to retrieve them from the prisoners, because the rations would make them sick. McIntyre later met Abraham Korn in Augusta, Georgia. Korn remembered McIntyre from liberation and they became friends. McIntyre explained the events he witnessed are painful to remember and discuss.

Jason Korn, Abraham Korn's grandson reads another excerpt from his Grandfather's memoir, describing the day he had to say goodbye to his family when he left the ghetto. Abraham Korn never saw his family again.

Sylvia Wygota, President of the Georgia Commission on the Holocaust* explains the goal of the Commission is Holocaust education for the community at large and school students. Several organizations are producing a documentary to be shared with Georgia school students about survivors, partisans and liberators.

*Abe's Story: A Holocaust Memoir

** was called Holocaust Memorial Council in the interview, current name is Georgia Commission on the Holocaust