

**Jerome Stasson**  
**RG-50.106\*0005**

May 22, 1922 - Born Jerome Stashevsky in Detroit, Michigan

father had been born in Poland

4 generations of rabbis from Kielce, Poland, on mother's side

Jerome played violin professionally after high school

Early 1943 - drafted into the US Army - in the 59th Signal Battalion of the Infantry

sent to England before he invasion

followed General Patton to Germany

Arrived at Buchenwald

horror, desolation, saw bodies in a pile 8 feet high stretching for 30-40 yards ready  
to be burned

people crawled towards him, tried to kiss his feet

stayed for 30 minutes

Gentile soldiers in tears, shaking their heads

spoke Yiddish to one survivor - others too helpless

wrote to family, but later destroyed letters because mother was too upset

Was told the purpose of the visit was to be an eye-witness

Germans said they did not know what was happening

Scene has stayed with him

Remembers odor of dead bodies and kerosene, feelings of nausea and desolation