

LEONARD PARKER

Born in Poland ~1925. Came to Milwaukee at 2 months old. Jewish, speaks Yiddish. Entered Army 1943 with 44th Infantry Division. Landed in southern France 1944 and fought way north through France and the Vosges Mts. And across the Siegfried Line. Ended up in Dachau which looked like a permanent military camp. He and another soldier sent into the camp. They came across prisoners "like sticks" in rags and were overwhelmed by the smell. He saw 20-30 flatcars with bodies piled on and the crematorium. He spoke Yiddish to the prisoners, which surprised them. He saw people dying in the barracks. Medical people who had earlier performed medical experiments on the prisoners were rounded up. Now (1987) says the image of the furnaces with ash and body parts still horrifies him.