

Larry Hancock was interviewed by the Surviving Generations of the Holocaust on July 14, 1995, at a reunion in Seattle 50 years after the liberation of Dachau.

SUMMARY:

Larry Hancock was 19 when his unseasoned division of the 42nd Infantry was sent overseas as a task force in November 1944, assigned to do intelligence and reconnaissance. He describes his reaction to shooting an enemy soldier for the first time in April 1945, just after crossing the Rhine at Worms, with the Germans "on the run," but his recollections center on the loss of his good friend Maurice Tyler after their line of Jeeps encountered heavy fire from German machine gun emplacements. "We were so deadened with shock and all that it really didn't dawn on me the impact, that he was gone. And he is gone. And he's still gone. It hurts me, it still hurts me to this day he's gone."