

Fort Hunt Oral History
P.O. Box 1142
Interview with Norman Graber by Brandon Bies
Sunrise, Florida
May 14 and 15, 2007

BRANDON BIES: There we go. Today is Monday, May 14th, 2007. This is National Park Service Historian Brandon Bies of the Fort Hunt Oral History Project and I'm here interviewing Mr. Norman Graber at his home in Sunrise, Florida to talk about his life and his experiences, particularly as they relate P.O. Box 1142. So with that Mr. Graber if you wouldn't mind could you just tell me a little bit about yourself, when you were born, and where you were born?

NORMAN GRABER: I was born in what was at that time was Austria [00:50] and I believe it was Kaiser Franz Joseph [01:00] and the reason I was born there in a town called Jaslo [01:08] is because my father was in the Austrian army and Jaslo was a garrison city. It so happened that his wife and her parents lived in that town. So from 1916 until 1918, I -- until I was 2 years old, I lived in what is now Poland [01:46].

BB: And so you were born in 1916?

NG: I was born in 1916. And in 1918, my parents went back to Vienna. They were in Vienna before I was.

BB: Okay [02:00].

NG: And then I grew up in Vienna [02:04].

BB: Okay. Did you have any brothers or sisters?

NG: I had one sister who died a couple of years ago.

BB: Okay.

NG: What else do you want to know?

BB: I'm just --

NG: Do you want to know about my family?

BB: Sure, if you'd like to share just a little bit because what I'd like to do is to cover a little bit before we even get to Fort Hunt, just a little bit about yourself and your background and then life, what is like to grow up in Vienna [02:37] and then how --

NG: I went to school in Vienna and went to a very fine school; it was known as the highest gymnasium. It was I think the second best grad school in Vienna [03:00]. The best one was a catholic school. [unintelligible] They were tough.

BB: [laughs]

NG: They taught ancient Greek [unintelligible].

BB: [laughs]

NG: It's tough enough to know Greek at all, but that's very tough. We studied British and German, of course, and Hebrew.

BB: Was this a school -- since you studied Hebrew, was this a school --

NG: I didn't finish the school because I wanted to study [04:00] economics and I went to a -- an advanced business school I guess and it was a very good school, and I had not only English language, but English business. Then since my father owned a men's clothing store and we had very nice store, he sent me to tailoring and cutting school [05:00] and I studied that, and that was something that I could also use at later times.

BB: And this was while you were still in Vienna [05:19], this school?

NG: It was still in Vienna, but I couldn't conclude it. It was a three year class, but I didn't finish the second one because Hitler [05:35] came. It was the Anschluss and really what you also found out, who were really Nazis [05:53], national socialists. And [06:00] it was quite surprising that their own people sometimes turned out to be decent and the

other way around.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We felt it was not [unintelligible].

BB: When you were living in Vienna [06:25], were you living in an area where there were lots of other Jewish families or was it a mixture?

NG: There was one district -- no, it was the second district which had a majority of Jews. There were quite a few Jews in the 16th district. Actually when we lived [07:00] -- when I -- when we came to Vienna [07:04] in 1918, we lived in the second district. Then we moved to the 16th and there we opened a store. It turned out -- it started out a little tiny nothing and it turned out as time went by to a substantial business, but when Hitler [07:35] came, we were [unintelligible]. They came in a huge truck and started taking all the inventory out and made me help them carry it out of the store and steal it. And the people who [08:00] took to stealing were the brown shirts [08:04] known as the storm troopers.

BB: Were you made to do this?

NG: I was --

BB: Were they pointing guns at you while you were doing this or did they just order you?

NG: They just ordered me, but I knew that they were [unintelligible].

BB: Was this after Kristallnacht [08:25] or before?

NG: Way before. With Kristallnacht, I was already in the --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- concentration camp.

BB: Okay.

NG: And the people who came as the second unit attached to this camp was -- were the people who were arrested after Kristallnacht [unintelligible] and there were 20,000 Jews were pulled in and [09:00] divided up into four barracks. They had no beds or anything. They had shelves like in a store, and every few days they had to clean out the barracks which also meant to remove the dead because quite a few died overnight.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But most of them were let out after a few months so those that still lived.

BB: [affirmative] So before I [10:00] --

NG: After the --

BB: And to back up just a little bit before we get to talk about your time in the camps, I know I had asked, but you were talking about your -- was it your parents' store, the tailor shop?

NG: Yes, it was a clothing store. We also had some clothes made commercial.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Most of it was [unintelligible].

BB: And so the brown shirts [10:34] came in and they -- did they -- they took the clothing and all the machinery?

NG: They took the clothing, all of it, and they also took the bolts of material.

BB: Bolts? Bolts of cloth?

NG: Yeah, there were about [11:00] 30 or 40 or 50 yards.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We had a factory. There were one of those people made a remark. What do we want from the Jews? All we want is, to use a Jewish expression, [foreign language], stealing. The war was a pretext to steal everything. Why work for it like the Jews did for 20 or 30

years if can go in and take the whole thing? It was miserable. All of a sudden people who [12:00] never had any responsibility became leaders. So they -- my father also owned a partnership on the house where the store was located. They stole that from us too. We may still get something back, but we won't get anything back because my father tried to contact them and was told, "If you want it back you have to send something like \$100,000 [13:00] which was horribly expensive. Anyway my father did not take advantage. They didn't really want it back.

BB: [affirmative] And so what did you and your family do once the Nazis [13:24] had seized the store?

NG: Well there was still living adjacent to the store.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The kitchen and we lived on the second floor bedrooms.

BB: Do you remember about what year it was that the Nazis took the store?

NG: Yeah, they came in in March 1938.

BB: Okay [14:00].

NG: And I was arrested in May 1938.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It was on the pretext I was told to come to the police station and when I arrived at the police station they didn't ask me any questions. They just threw me in one of the rooms with other people and then they took us, all the people, to a school where we were turned over to the police and under the rule of the Gestapo [14:51], secret police.

BB: Did they tell you why you'd been arrested?

NG: No, they didn't say anything [15:00]. When I was in the concentration camp, I found out

very quickly don't ask any questions because they beat you up. So I made up my mind I will [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Anyway, I think I told you about all [inaudible].

BB: Please tell --

NG: Sometimes we worked [16:00] outside --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- the camp under the supervision of SS [16:07] guards. And at one time I had to urinate and I saw between the guards that watched us, it was a tree. I figured the proper thing to do, go to the trees [unintelligible]. I didn't realize at the time that I was just a little bit beyond the two SS guards. One called me over, pointed a gun at me, and I thought he was going to shoot me, and he said, "Do you know [unintelligible]?" And I said, "Yes, you can shoot because I overstepped -- "You overstepped [17:00] the line between two SS [17:04] men. They can say you were trying to get away."

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they can shoot you, but he didn't. He didn't [unintelligible].

BB: Had you -- had you seen similar actions where they had shot somebody?

NG: Yes. I've seen a situation where an officer in the SS was going through, hit one of the prisoners in the face, and he lifted his gun, and the guy went like this, a reaction to being hit, and when he held his hand to parry the arm that was going to hit him, he took out [18:00] the pistol and shot him in the head. And then he yelled out loud, "This will teach you not to attack a German officer." Now they also had -- when we arrived at Dachau [18:28], on the station platform they had a heavy machine gun shooting across the station

so nobody should try to run away.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they killed -- I think they killed -- if I remember right, six people were killed at the time. Mostly [19:00] people were being shot or being stabbed [unintelligible]. They had rifles and [unintelligible] and also bayonets.

BB: And so this was in 1938 on the trip to Dachau [19:18]?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay.

NG: Then at another time, they used a machine gun to shoot people who are against German law which had passed most of the [20:00] [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Nobody tried it. Nobody did that. That was in Dachau [20:13] so I had two times machine guns. Once [unintelligible] machine guns, the other one I was at -- I was always disappointed when we were [unintelligible] something and [unintelligible] sometimes put a banner "we thank our American liberators" and I was always the last one in line. But when I got -- I had a bullet [21:00] bouncing against the helmet, a steal helmet, the guy behind me who was much, much bigger than me, I wasn't so angry about being so little.

BB: [laughs]

NG: But he didn't die; nothing happened.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The bullet actually bounced off and didn't hurt.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But it could have. It scared me.

BB: Sure.

NG: You hear the bang.

BB: So when you were in the camps, you said that they used a machine gun a couple of times and one was when you arrived there just trying to keep people from leaving.

NG: That's right. The other -- and they had machine guns all over the camps and [22:00] the security was unbelievable. They had these continuous towers. They also had electric wire.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And before we came to the wire, they had water you had to wade through to get to the fence and people who wanted to die, to be shot, all that they had to do was run to the water.

BB: [affirmative] Did people do that while you were there?

NG: I didn't see it, but I know they did.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Because the -- that brings [23:00] me to -- it was customary to beat up people for very, very minor things.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And the beating was called "25 on the ass" [23:22]. And they had two big strong guys with bamboo sticks and they would tie the guy first with a metal piece over a bench, of the side of the bench, over. They held the legs in place and then over the bench, they used a 12 or 16 inch wide [24:00] belt, so they couldn't move.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Then they hit him and they counted. There were two. One would say one, the other

would say two, the other said three,, and it was terribly cruel what they did to them because after 25, everything that was on the ass [24:25], if you excuse my expression, was mixed up, the skin, the blood, [unintelligible], the whatever, and they took him to first aid. Many of them died, but at one time, they were arguing, the two guards [25:00]. One said 12. The other said this was 13. The other guard was 12 and why are we arguing, let's start from the beginning. Cruel as can be, and it's a terrible, miserable thing. It was just 25. It was -- then the next, since I already mentioned the belt is, it had - - what do you call it, wooden, like where they hang out beef and stuff [26:00], you know --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They would hook it up and they would tie their hands with [unintelligible] behind.

BB: With handcuffs or something?

NG: Handcuffs.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And then they would hang it up, tie it up so they couldn't reach with their toes, the floor, and you could see the pain on their face. They had a whole bunch of dogs who snapped against them. That leaves only one worse punishment. It was four days in a bunker, completely dark, no windows, no nothing, and a meal once in four days [27:00]. It was a terrible punishment because people when they are in the dark, they don't see what's going on, they don't hear what's going on. They don't know whether -- what time it is.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They lose understanding. And I know one case, where, one of the guards gave a sandwich, what they called a bread and butter, to a Jewish prisoner [unintelligible]. But

he was seen by another guard who turned him in and he was treated the same way [28:00] as the other prisoners.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: He was thrown into the bunker. But I saw bunkers again during the war.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The Germans used them to hide weapons and things like that. So that's another story.

BB: What were you -- while you were at the camps, what were you doing? Were you just -- were you just at work parties and labor?

NG: Mostly. As a -- start, they would give us [29:00] to carry, lots, on our shoulders from one part of the camp to another part. They made sure that you picked out the stump big enough. If it wasn't big enough, they told you to drop it and take this one. But when that was over, it was mostly pick and shovel and wheelbarrows. The wheelbarrows you carried until you fulfilled [unintelligible] and kills [30:00] anyone. The wheelbarrows, when you had a wheelbarrow full, you could walk better. When it was empty, you had to run.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So we didn't get any rest.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I was very fortunate at one time because [unintelligible]. They had a group of seventh day Adventists and they were similar to what we have here, the ones that used Saturday as the holiday just like the Jews [inaudible] [31:00] which was there. So I don't know, but there was one guy who wasn't in the -- building a wall. It was -- and he saw me [inaudible] and I did and he gave me, what do you call it? You use it to put the bricks on.

BB: A trowel?

NG: A trowel and he taught me how to build a wall. He wouldn't let me do the corners. It takes a little more skill, but he saved me, for a while, from being beaten up by them [32:00]. [unintelligible] could not work any faster because it was somebody who was in charge of building --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- and he would punish --

(End of Tape 1A)

(Beginning of Tape 1B)

NG: -- I remember that because he wasn't Jewish; his crime was that he did not want to go into the German Army.

BB: Okay.

NG: And eventually some of our friends went into the Germany army and some didn't, and they had the -- they had one unit [unintelligible]. The one unit where they put the soldiers who refused to fight, they put in the top, leaders who [01:00] pushed them, and if they had a chance to, they would run away. And sometimes, they didn't have a chance to and if they got caught, they were killed too. But there people who died.

BB: You mentioned while I was setting up some of your stories about the food. Would you mind retelling that, about the bread and the soup that you were eating?

NG: Well, the soup was what they call one pot [02:00] of food. The German name was Eintopf, one pot.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So, I didn't have any meats. At one time that had a -- I think it was from [unintelligible]

everyone got sick, so maybe it wasn't [unintelligible]; everybody got diarrhea. And you want me to repeat --

BB: Sure. Yeah, if you would -- because I wasn't recording yet, so if you don't mind.

NG: Well, they found one in Dachau and one in Buchenwald, a slice of bread. You people have [03:00] too much to eat. Now 30 days, no food instead of food, you can have athletics, knee bends mostly. And I sometimes still wonder, how can people live 30 days without eating? Because we can, a little bit of water, a little bit of other -- it was very little. It was a tin cup. And they had so much.

BB: So, did they give you any food at all [04:00]? Any soup, or broth, or anything?

NG: No, not for the 30 days.

BB: So, you just had water for 30 days?

NG: Water and a little piece of bread.

BB: Did any -- did anybody that was -- did they do that to the entire camp, or just to your group of workers?

NG: Our group, Jewish prisoners, who they wanted to die.

BB: Okay. Did you get any sense when you were a Dachau [04:34] -- you were a Dachau first, correct?

NG: Yeah. For four months.

BB: In those four months that you were there, could you get any sense of how many people were there?

NG: Altogether? There were more than 1,800 Jews [05:00]. And altogether, I would say there were about 10,000.

BB: Okay. So, the majority of the people in Dachau [05:12], when you were there, were not

Jews?

NG: Most of them were not Jews.

BB: I'm adding -- I was asking that.

NG: Yeah, there were other [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: And the other prisoners, they were -- what do they call them, two men having --

BB: Homosexuals?

NG: Homosexuals, [unintelligible] then they had what they call professional [unintelligible]
[06:00].

BB: And so, you were at Dachau [06:08] for four months?

NG: Yeah.

BB: And then were you transferred to Buchenwald [06:12]?

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: So, then you were at Buchenwald for eight months? So, that -- would that have been still
1938 into 1939?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: May 1939. That's when I found out that I could join a group of Austrians and
[unintelligible] Germans who could live until they could get transferred, either to the U.S.
or to other countries.[[07:00] [inaudible].

BB: And so, they just -- they just let you out from Buchenwald [07:17] then?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Huh.

NG: And people ask me, how did you get out? I don't know. I can guess, but I'm not sure it would -- my father was a member of an athletic club and he also played ball. One of the girls who played handball there were friends with all the other people [08:00]. And my father found out that one girl that he knew, and it just so happens, she was very beautiful, and one of the Gestapo [08:18] guys from [unintelligible]. And he told-- and this girl had a brother in camp; he was with me in the concentration camp. My father said when you talk to your contact, when you talk to your friend, would you put in a good word for me. It is possible that that was the cause. The other possibility was he provided a [09:00] means to go back, ship to a different country, either Cuba or [unintelligible]. But I didn't have the visa type in time, so I couldn't go. So, I was lucky I could go England [09:33] and wait there. When it was raining, we helped them. They expected us to help them, to use bags of sand to fortify places [10:00]. And when it was raining, we would run away, and they would say, "Isn't it a beautiful day?" They wanted us to work, but we -- we did work.

BB: And so, you left -- you said left Buchenwald [10:28] in May of '39. This whole time, neither of your parents -- or your sister, none of them are in the camps?

NG: No. I was [unintelligible]. My sister was not born in the same time. She was born after the war and went back to Vienna, so she got her papers much quicker.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: And she could leave from New York [11:01] much earlier.

BB: Okay. Do you think one of the reasons your father was not put in the camps was because he'd been World War I veteran?

NG: Could be. I don't know -- I don't know the answer. But he did show that he was a

[unintelligible]. Funny thing happened once. A German officer, regular Army general, stopped by the store; he came in, was very thirsty. He asked my mother for a glass of water. She did [12:00] give him a glass of water, when she talked to him about what had happened to us. And he answered, "don't cry. In a few months, you'll be America, and I'll be on the Eastern Front." [talks about fighting between Russians and Germans, largely inaudible] [13:00]].

BB: And so, could you explain a little bit how it worked, how you left Buchenwald [13:55] and how you got -- so you then got a Visa for Great Britain [14:00]?

NG: The visa came from the American embassy [14:09], but it took them so long to get it ordered, by then, when I was in the army already, and they were still checking the one fact or the other, you know, the time the documentation came, I was already in a different camp. So, it finally caught up with me, and I was in a different camp. No, no -- it caught up with me when I was in 1142 [14:50].

BB: Oh, really?

NG: Yeah. They sent me to Washington to pick up the papers [15:00].

BB: So, help me understand, then. So, you went from Buchenwald [15:08] -- did you go to Great Britain [15:09]?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay. And so, how did Great Britain -- this was before war had been declared then, right?

NG: Well, yeah. I guess, by the time I left -- I left in April [unintelligible], they were already [unintelligible] [16:00] at one time, they gave us a job, which was monitoring the radio. I think it was supervised by the army to listen in to radio messages. And we got paid for it,

but we didn't get the money. The money was used to take care of the camp. We only had a very small amount. My [17:00] -- I was working the night shift. It was from 12:00 midnight until 6:00 in the morning. And then [unintelligible] breakfast, and then to make a little extra money, I worked in a bar, but it was something, and I used the money to [unintelligible].

BB: So, the -- while you were Britain [17:44], were you officially in the British army?

NG: No.

BB: Okay.

NG: I was -- I agreed to join them, but I hadn't signed yet.

BB: Okay.

NG: And it was during that period, from Friday to Monday [18:00], that I got a picture card from Holland that my parents made it there and they were on their way to New York [18:21] [unintelligible].

BB: So, your parents went from Vienna [18:36] to Holland [18:37], and then from Holland to the United States?

NG: Me?

BB: No, your parents.

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: [inaudible]

BB: And then -- but you yourself -- how long were you in England for?

NG: Eight months.

BB: Eight months? So, you went, essentially, straight from Buchenwald [18:57] to England?

NG: Well [19:00], I think it was -- I guess it was weeks -- takes, I don't know. Whenever they had the exodus [spelled phonetically].

BB: Sure. And so, do you remember about when it was that you left England to come to the United States?

NG: Yeah, eight months before April 1940 [unintelligible] March?

BB: So, this --

NG: March in the [unintelligible].

BB: So, this would be in '39, or in 1940, is when you left Britain for the United States [20:00]?

NG: In '40.

BB: 1940. Okay.

NG: I was [unintelligible].

BB: Right. And so, how did you come to the United States from England? And was this -- I take -- you know, England at this point, was at war against the Germans?

NG: Yeah. It was -- I'm trying to remember what the name of the ship was. [inaudible]

BB: But it was just a regular British ocean liner?

NG: Probably, it was a British ocean liner.

BB: Okay.

NG: Yeah [21:00]. [unintelligible] it was not one of the biggest ships but it big enough.

BB: That's okay. Was there a fear of German U-boats, or anything like that?

NG: The fear was bigger when I went from the United States to -- there were other ships in convoy. We were surrounded [22:00] by destroyers, and we had to travel slow because we had a convoy, we had to travel at the speed of the slowest ship. I think it took ten

days. And I was sick, and everybody was sick. And they gave me a job [inaudible].

BB: Is it the aft, or the --

MALE SPEAKER: Oh, let's see here.

BB: Sure.

[talking simultaneously] [23:00]

NG: It was horrible. They didn't have the balancing that we have now, and I was sick almost the whole time.

BB: And this is your trip back to Europe in 1944?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay. How was the trip to the United States the first time? From England to the United States? Was that uneventful?

NG: It was good. I got sick only once, and I had to throw up something. But I didn't have a problem. It was something like a 10,000 ton tank, the ship. It's not a huge ship, but it's big enough, weighs about 10,000 tons. Today, it would be [24:00] considered small.

BB: And so, you arrived in the United States in 1940, and what did -- did you come through New York City [24:11]?

NG: Yes. I arrived on the Jersey side, Bayonne, but we lived in New York City. My parents had an apartment in the Bronx.

BB: So, your parents -- your parents and your sister were already here?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay.

NG: My sister was here first.

BB: So, what did you do when you first came here? Did you go to school, or did you just start

working?

NG: I started working [25:00] in the Wall Street [25:01] area, in a clothing store. And somehow, after a year [unintelligible], my boss, who -- he treated me very well -- but he was also called into the army; he was [unintelligible].

BB: What kind of working were you doing?

NG: I guess [unintelligible] at the clothing shop.

BB: Oh, okay. Okay.

NG: I could [unintelligible] [26:00]. The kind of sewing done by hand.

BB: Got you. And so, you worked in a shop for a while, and --

NG: That's right. And then, it came a time when it wasn't too busy at work, and that's when I did the stitching. I worked in -- my uncle -- yeah, my uncle or cousin, whatever, was running a tailor shop, and he brought me in [27:00] with the help of a member of the Union [27:09] [unintelligible].

BB: And so, you worked in the tailor shop. And then did you decide to enlist in the Army? Did you volunteer, or were you drafted?

NG: I volunteered for the draft --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- because at that time, I think [unintelligible]. But I was getting in, by that time.

BB: And -- because -- were you still considered an enemy alien at the time?

NG: Where?

BB: Where you were here, when you got here in the United States?

NG: I wasn't an enemy alien.

BB: Okay.

NG: They knew I was --

BB: Did you become -- when did you become a U.S. [28:00] citizen?

NG: When they caught up with me.

BB: Okay.

NG: In the meantime, I went from camp to camp and then kept on missing me.

BB: So, you volunteered for the draft, then, in 1941?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay. I think we discussed earlier, we thought that it was April?

NG: What?

BB: We thought -- we discussed earlier over lunch, you thought that was April 1941?

NG: That's right.

BB: Okay. And did you go into the infantry?

NG: I didn't -- they didn't ask me. They just sent me to somewhere -- to Camp Croft [29:00] [spelled phonetically] and from Camp Croft to the 20th Division [29:09] [unintelligible] [29:16]. But then, I went to school -- I went to school, and in San Antonio.

BB: Okay.

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Got you. Well, this might be a good point, then. Are -- this current tape is going to run in about one or two minutes, so maybe we'll just call it quits for now, change tapes, and then start -- because when you're in San Antonio, was that training you more specific for language, for work in specific intelligence and languages?

NG: Well, I'll tell you about it [30:00].

BB: Great.

NG: I have -- what I consider I can tell you, I will tell you.

BB: Okay.

NG: What I consider I shouldn't, I won't.

BB: Okay. Well, I'll go ahead and stop this tape --

NG: I'll tell you that I published a paper [unintelligible].

BB: Oh, at 1142 [30:22]?

NG: No, later.

BB: Oh, later. Okay.

NG: [unintelligible] World War II.

BB: Okay.

NG: [unintelligible]

(End of Tape 1B)

(Beginning of Tape 2A)

BB: No traffic? Okay. All right, well I just started the tapes again, so I'm going to give another little brief introduction, and then we'll get started again. This is Brandon Bies of the National Park Service with the Fort Hunt oral history project. Today is May 14, 2007, and we are here today with -- at the home of Mr. Norman Graber in Florida, talking to him about his experiences at Fort Hunt, P.O. Box 1142, and this is the second in a series of tapes. So with that, Mr. Graber, if you wouldn't mind, where we left off, and we were just talking right now a little bit about San Antonio [00:41]. So after you had received some training at Camp Croft [00:46] and other places, you said you were sent to San Antonio for more training.

NG: Yeah. The training for interrogation of prisoners of war [01:00].

BB: Okay.

NG: And what would you want to know?

BB: But you've been --

NG: And I was a very strong student. I was determined to learn as much as possible with the German army. I would say -- I don't want to brag, but I think I knew more about the German army than the German officers did. I knew it -- you could wake me up in the middle of the night, ask me questions about weapons, about equipment. Sometimes even about [02:00] a commanding officer and his method of fighting. I made it my business to recognize the various German language being spoken. And as I said, I knew more at the time that I no longer have. I could remember everything. I had a, what do you call that -- a photo.

BB: Photographic memory? Yeah.

NG: And [03:00] if a prisoner would give an answer that was a lie, I usually could determine if it was a lie.

BB: And so at San Antonio [03:24], you mentioned a book that you had pretty much memorized.

NG: Well maybe I shouldn't talk about it. But it was bought from one of the -- I would guess one of the diplomats in Berlin. Got a hold of the book and it was [unintelligible] [04:00]. We got -- it was the most valuable book in [inaudible]. But I had other books too that I appreciated. For one thing, I didn't finish it. I went to -- I took the command general's desk. I remember once [unintelligible] to explain how I would have handled it if I had been at Gettysburg. At the -- but there were many other students. Then I went to a school which I really appreciated.]. I didn't know the army had such a great school

[05:00]. It is in Washington, D.C. I [unintelligible]. They brought -- they gave me 18 books to study and to access information. I would've liked to keep it, but I had to return it. They were -- not open to everybody. And this book -- what was the name of it [06:00]? They talked about nuclear weapons and the -- a lot of the details about it I don't remember any of it. And they had so many things -- about protecting yourself and trying to get enemy nations [07:00] away from what they needed to start and continue wars. And if we didn't need the materials, we should buy them or whatever we need to exchange for it in order to keep the possible enemy away from them.

BB: And that was a course that you took?

NG: Yes. Then I remember something. When I was on a tour of duty, and I was called in by the G2, and he said I want to ask you a question [08:00], and I want you to answer.

There's some request for exchanging -- exchanging certain items for other items with the Russians. Shall I agree with the exchange or shall I [unintelligible]? He wanted my answer. And I remember telling him, you have to look at it from the point of view of how much good it does for us. If we get more good out of it than they do [09:00], then I say go ahead and exchange. Make the exchange. If the Russians get ahead, don't do it. That's how it was when I answered him that question.

BB: And so when was this? Was this when you were at 1142 [09:24] or beforehand?

NG: Much later.

BB: Oh much later, okay. Was this after the war?

NG: Much after the war.

BB: Oh okay. Okay.

NG: We were talking about Russia.

BB: Right.

NG: Cold War.

BB: Right.

NG: If it is to your advantage, go ahead. If it's against your advantage, don't do it. .

BB: And so --

NG: Not only [10:00] you remember what metals or chemicals or whatever they were talking about [inaudible]. It's too far away.

BB: So getting back to World War II and P.O. Box 1142 [10:18], you had received some training in San Antonio. Was Van Cleve [10:25] [spelled phonetically] the officer while you were in San Antonio [10:27]?

NG: Who?

BB: Van Cleve?

NG: No.

BB: No.

NG: [inaudible]

BB: Do you remember who was in charge at San Antonio?

NG: He was in charge when I arrived in Paris [10:46]. And I was supposed to go behind the lead tank in the frontal zone [11:00]. And it was in Paris where I met -- we met [unintelligible]. It was another guy, whom I knew very well, and who was very close to, what's his name.

BB: Van Cleve [11:24]?

NG: Van Cleve. And he asked me if I wanted to join. And I said, "very much." And he arranged it that I meet Van Cleve and he asked me to be added to his roster. And that

took a priority over the army. And I'm grateful to him. Because [12:00] you'll get killed almost anywhere. I remember when I was in Paris [12:09], we took over the German administration [unintelligible]. And we took it over and we had the [unintelligible] who upon arriving in Le Vesinet [12:36], it was December, he arrived here and he immediately went to take a shower. He never got out alive. Before the Germans had left, they turned the water supply [13:00] into gas. And he turned the water on. He died, he suffocated. And another one [unintelligible] event I remember, and I arrived in Berlin [13:21] to help out with. [inaudible] There was a master sergeant I think it was. And when the group arrived, they saw that. On Wannsee; ever heard of the Wannsee [13:49]? It's a lake.

BB: Oh okay.

NG: And on that lake was Himmler's [13:54] guesthouse. And we took it over [14:00]. And there was a ship in the -- at the water.

BB: Okay.

NG: And this guy, this wonderful person ran to the ignition, turned it on, bang, he was dead.

BB: So [unintelligible]?

NG: And sometimes you cannot -- [inaudible] how to avoid -- we had to be so careful when we had to run upstairs and one of the captains went up the stairs and stepped on a booby trap. Like one of the [inaudible]. [15:00] I always felt, when you can't run, try to jump as many stairs as possible, which limits the possibility of being exploded.

BB: Right.

NG: A little bit less fast. Well anyway. I remember I told you I put out that paper for the [16:00] [inaudible]. We tried to talk to a prisoner [16:03]. We wanted him to talk about

something that he didn't want to talk about. We sometimes [unintelligible] the question and he didn't answer it. But it quite often happens that two prisoners who live together in one room. We'll discuss this [unintelligible]. But I remember the name I think [inaudible]. I called the [speaks German], the messenger [17:00] [inaudible]. It had a -- line in the New York Times it said -- [unintelligible] every day is a death [inaudible].

BB: And this was at 1142 [17:34]? Or was this -- this was in Europe.

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay.

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: [unintelligible]. But I remember one thing at the time. I just couldn't [unintelligible] [18:00]. I saw a picture, in the newspaper that was printed for the GIs. And they showed some pictures of destroyed tanks, completely destroyed. I remember there were two of them. There was a prisoner named [Richter?] [18:25]. And I put a picture into my [inaudible] and I showed him the paper-- give me 20 years and you won't recognize Germany, no town, no beach, lights out. You can find this expression. "You won't recognize Germany" [19:00]. And I showed him the pictures. There was a paper that was very famous. It was just made for them.

BB: For the prisoners?

NG: No, that one was not for the prisoners.

BB: Oh, it wasn't, okay.

NG: It was made for our people.

BB: Oh okay. So now --

NG: So I copied them, and I put them in here.

BB: Got it. So then it came out in like the stars and stripes or something like that?

NG: Something like that.

BB: Okay.

NG: And I do remember the way to Paris. We went -- it was later. First I was in Germany [20:00], then we passed those two tanks. I couldn't forget it, [inaudible]. So completely destroyed. [unintelligible] too. It was not that way [inaudible].

[phone rings]

BB: Are you getting it?

FS: Yeah.

NG: [inaudible]

BB: That's fine. We'll just delete it.

FS: Yes? Who is this?

NG: [inaudible]

BB: Sure. All right. Get back to it. So if we can back to 1142 [20:41], you received training in San Antonio [20:46] about German language and German intelligence and German order of battle and that sort of thing, and did you go then from there to 1142 [21:00]?

NG: No, I went back to the 28th division [21:05].

BB: Oh okay.

NG: They sent me there to [inaudible].

BB: Got you.

NG: And it was on the basis of doing so well that they picked me for 1142.

BB: Got you. So you went back to the 28th division. Were they still at Camp Croft [21:26]?

NG: No, no, no. That was -- the 28th division [21:33] was not at Camp Croft.

BB: Oh they weren't, okay.

NG: The infantry training was at Camp Croft.

BB: Okay. And where was the 28th division stationed at?

NG: It changed. Its hometown was [unintelligible].

BB: Pennsylvania [22:00]?

NG: On the way we went to one of the four -- all of the four camps in Louisiana [22:17].

BB: Oh okay.

NG: That's when I had a chance to go to -- [inaudible].

BB: New Orleans?

NG: No. But New Orleans was a nice town.

BB: And so did you participate in the Louisiana [22:48] maneuvers? Were there any maneuvers there --

NG: That was regular training.

BB: Just a regular training, okay.

NG: Maneuvers, I went to the short maneuvers in Virginia. And the longer maneuvers in [unintelligible]. Three weeks in Virginia, two months [unintelligible].

[audio break]

BB: We'll pick right back up where we were on -- we were talking a little bit about how you were with the 28th division [23:32] after -- you went back to the 28th division after you were in San Antonio [23:37], for your training in San Antonio. Did you then go from the 28th division to 1142 [23:45]?

NG: Yes, but we were at the time I believe in Louisiana [23:54].

BB: Oh okay. And you got word that you were being transferred to a --

NG: I was given a [24:00] sealed envelope and told we'll put you on the train, and you have to wait for one hour, then you open it up, and you'll be told what to do. That's how I got to 1142.

BB: So you were already at a training for an hour before you knew where you were going?

NG: My friends at 28th division [24:26] said goodbye to me, they thought I would be dropped behind the German lines.

BB: Oh really.

NG: And I didn't know what was happening, and I was very pleased to be in such a good situation here. Could make me feel that I got even with the Germans.

BB: I was just going to say, did your background in what you and your family went through -- I don't want to [25:00] put words in your mouth, but did you feel like you really wanted to get -- I don't want to say revenge, but you wanted to go back to Germany and start fighting against them? Because you kind of have a gung-ho attitude I guess I should say.

NG: I was -- want to be able to help to defeat the Germans. And after the training we had for the [inaudible]. Was talking about Virginia and the Carolinas. It was an eye opener that made me [unintelligible].

BB: Really [25:00]?

NG: We had very, very little weapons. We had [inaudible]. I don't know if you know what kind of tanks they had in World War I.

BB: Yes.

NG: They were no match for the tanks we saw coming to Austria [26:25]. The Germans, I don't remember. At least 25,000. And very soon we came to the tiger tanks and then the

leopards. We were -- we seemed to have one advantage. When they tried out their tanks or other equipment, the next day they had it in the battle [27:00]. We tried our weapons at Aberdeen.

BB: Aberdeen proving grounds.

NG: And when we wanted to send them to the troops in the battle, it lasted between two to three days, two to three weeks. Sometimes it would last two months, and that was unbelievable. And now I will tell you what I think, made the war victorious for us. Maybe I am the wrong person, but I really believe that [28:00]. One of the states [inaudible] up north they had -- I don't know. What state am I talking about? I can't remember.

BB: Which -- what's it known for? What state, what's it known for?

NG: No, it was -- they had a very good quality [inaudible].

BB: In the United States?

NG: In the United States, yeah.

BB: I mean a lot of the --

NG: Why can't I think of it now?

BB: [unintelligible] Pennsylvania was where a lot of the --

NG: No, it was much more -- it was further [29:00] -- it was a very high quality. It gave us the tanks, gave us the boats, gave us [unintelligible] steel, [inaudible]. But --

BB: Michigan?

NG: That wasn't it, no go.

BB: Montana? Montana?

NG: No. What is it?

FS: I think it was Ohio or something like that.

NG: No, not Ohio.

FS: Carolina?

NG: Now it was [unintelligible].

FS: Who?

NG: [unintelligible] was teaching there.

FS: In Texas? It made us tell [unintelligible].

NG: No.

FS: In Minnesota [29:44].

NG: Minnesota. In Minnesota, we had iron ore, the highest quality, and we brought out everything that we needed to fight [30:00]. After the war, it kept on going down in quality. Now in order to get high quality steel, we have to crush the ore and make it into balls, and that's -- it's a big expense to do that. But since we got all the steel and all the iron that we needed for the weapons, it helped us to win. I still feel this. I'm trying to remember the name of the mines [31:00], I can't think of it right now. I will think of it.

BB: So when you were in --

NG: I was north of --

BB: When you were in your initial training though, you thought that our weapons were so small --

NG: We had such poor weapons. We had a piece of wood from a tree with a tag on it. "This is an 80 millimeter artillery piece." It was just -- "this is 155 millimeters." We had very few real. [unintelligible] And we had to think like make believe, like [unintelligible] of make believe war. And I saw the Germans. I was [32:00] standing on the -- they called

it the [unintelligible] [32:06]. And they came in, with their weapons.

(End of Tape 2A)

(Beginning of Tape 2B)

NG: At the height of the war, we were producing with the Air Force [00:11]. Every two hours, the bomber was ready.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It's unbelievable. We had thousands of them.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We lost a lot of them.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It was heartbreaking. I remember a day when we lost 59 planes.

BB: [affirmative] Each one had probably 10 men on board.

NG: Huh?

BB: Each plane probably had 10 men on board, too.

NG: Maybe not all of them. But the big ones [unintelligible]. When you think about it [01:00], they are people. Fifty-nine planes, there was [unintelligible]. We tried to [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible]. And it wasn't until I had the pleasure of talking to a German pilot and said, "Look [unintelligible] at bombers. Why didn't you go out and defend your planes?" He said, "[speaks German]." That means no fuel. And the plane was [unintelligible], that's what finally destroyed the Germans. They couldn't [02:00] get the planes up to fight.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We lost a lot. When we were in the Battle of the Bulge [02:17], we had about, I don't know how many it is, four or five days. But the Air Force [02:28] could not support us.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: You couldn't [unintelligible]. It's unbelievable such a thing could happen. And it was cold, so cold I can't tell you. I stopped [unintelligible] actually I should have, but now I'm old enough. But I stopped an ambulance coming from [03:00] the front line because my -- couldn't [unintelligible] and I asked them to take me along. They already had five or six people in the ambulance. But we had a lot of [unintelligible]. And they took me along and I was not [unintelligible], but one of the people were severely wounded. He was laughing. He had a million dollar wound. He wasn't afraid -- going to the United States. He didn't have to come back to fight anymore

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible] [04:00] You could almost cry when I think about it. But when I came to the hospital, the hospital was halfway between Paris [04:13] and where the kings used to live, Versailles [04:19]. And I had a couple doctors working on me with hot water, cold water, snow, ice, I don't know what. Again they told me they'd do the best they can for me. And they did, but they cannot keep me because so many people, patients, who are very much worse shape. But I never bothered telling my [05:00] medical officer, who was a good friend of mine, [unintelligible] but I didn't bother with him because I wanted to go home. [unintelligible] tried to find out [unintelligible] what happened.

BB: And then read the report.

NG: Yeah. The main [unintelligible], I don't know. Because I didn't do anything about it and

now [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So I'll get a better place to park my car [laughs]. [unintelligible] Sometimes I don't [unintelligible] [06:00]. When I was at West Point [06:05] --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I was also going to the doctor. One time [unintelligible] he sent me to VA [06:24] in New York [06:26].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: New York City. And [unintelligible] West Point. No questioning. Took care.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible] if I went to [unintelligible] but they don't want to talk to me because I'm [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I don't want to tell them [07:00] [unintelligible]. I would pay anyway.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I put the [unintelligible] but I decided my wife [unintelligible] my kids --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I think that one should [unintelligible]

FS: Okay.

NG: -- but what can you do? She's happier to have me here.

BB: Sure. Yeah.

NG: I don't know if you smoke.

FS: [unintelligible]

NG: It's oxygen.

BB: Oh, no.

NG: I keep that at night [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't think I need it, but, you know. [unintelligible] [08:00] So, next time I may get it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I have to [unintelligible]. Anyway.

BB: Anyway. So, I guess we have a few more minutes. So, try to get a little bit back to 1142 [08:21]. You mentioned that you'd been given orders to get on a train. And once you'd been on the train for an hour, to open the order, had you -- before that time, had you ever heard of 1142 or anything like that? Did you know that it existed?

NG: I knew nothing.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Until I -- I had to report to the munitions building; then Pentagon wasn't built yet. [unintelligible] building.

BB: Right.

NG: [unintelligible] I'm not sure but I think Code Blue [09:00].

BB: Oh really? Okay. And this was what building again, now? Munitions building?

NG: Munitions building.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That was the head of the Army.

BB: Right.

NG: That was right next to the Navy Department.

BB: Right. Downtown in Washington. Okay.

NG: And I was satisfied with the arrangement.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Both of these.

BB: And so, when you were checking in there at the munitions building, did they tell you what you were going to be assigned to do? Or did they just tell you, "Okay, now go to Fort Hunt [09:42]?"

NG: [unintelligible] I don't remember.

BB: Okay.

NG: It was only one night.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: I went in the next morning. They took me in.

BB: Do you remember about when this was [10:00]? I think it says on the roster, but I'm just wondering if you remember about what year and what month this would have been that you went up to Washington?

NG: I don't know for sure.

BB: Okay.

NG: But maybe it was April or May.

BB: Of '42?

NG: 1942.

BB: Okay. And so, you then went to Fort Hunt [10:32] and were you briefed about what the operation was, or was it just left for you to figure out for yourself what was going on? Or could you figure it out pretty easily what was going on?

NG: No, it was obvious.

BB: [affirmative] When you got there, were there any German prisoners there yet, or were there not any? Because it, I believe it just opened right about when you got there [11:00].

NG: There couldn't be many.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Because we were in there just a short time.

BB: Okay.

NG: But --

[audio break]

BB: Right before dinner we had just started to talk about when you arrived at 1142 [11:24].

You said that there weren't -- I had asked if there were a lot of German prisoners there.

And you had said you didn't think there were too many because operations had just gotten started?

NG: [unintelligible] I don't know how many.

BB: Okay.

NG: We didn't expect that much.

BB: [affirmative] Do you remember what type of prisoners they were? Or where they'd been captured [12:00]?

NG: I couldn't remember that.

BB: Okay. And so, when you arrived there, what were you told that your job was going to be at 1142 [12:20]? What were you assigned?

NG: I can't remember anymore. But you just follow instructions.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And there wasn't that much available because [13:00] in the beginning, it was extremely difficult to carry out the mission.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: As time went on, we learned more.

BB: Okay. So, you're just kind of going by the seat of your pants when it first started?

NG: I didn't hear you.

BB: You were just kind of flying by the seat of your pants at the beginning? And just kind of learning as you went?

NG: I can't explain that.

BB: Okay.

NG: It was very difficult to fight back.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: As time went on, we learned [14:00].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It took plans.

BB: [affirmative] What was your job at 1142 [14:12]? What did you do?

NG: Well, to begin with, I don't know if they had the more sophisticated equipment.

BB: Okay. The listening devices?

NG: I don't remember that either. But it took a while to get ahead.

BB: [affirmative] [15:00]

NG: I imagine one of the sources was to read newspapers in local areas --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- where the commanders lived.

BB: [affirmative] And that would help with the questioning?

NG: That would help to know how [unintelligible] most [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative] [16:00]

NG: The questioning, not to go into details, which I won't. Talk about that list. They open it up.

BB: And I can assure you, it has been declassified. I brought along documents of actual interrogations. If you'd like, I can show them to you now if you'd like to see them. If that would make you more comfortable.

NG: Well, I still can't tell you what I don't know.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And it was extremely difficult to get the information that you needed.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And as time went on, we don't know about what [17:00] was successful. The top people were not necessarily the most knowledgeable.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: You had to find out who are the most knowledgeable.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That wasn't all the time though.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The commanders were mostly young people.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Were very difficult to influence [18:00]. I did better with medium knowledge person, medium grades.

BB: So, like, lieutenants and captains?

NG: Yes. The captains didn't know that much.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they were extremely difficult to persuade --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- because the answer given by the top people usually basically was the colonel said and the colonel knows what he said.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Couldn't argue it.

BB: [affirmative] [19:00] And so, while you were there, were you serving as a room monitor? Were you listening in, or were you conducting interrogations?

NG: To begin with, I don't know if I was already in charge. When I was in charge I had to control all of them and make sure that they are taken care of. But I was [20:00] -- in many instances, I was present with officers --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- but was satisfied to understand what was going on. Sometimes people make mistakes and you have to be very careful if you are going to correct a higher-ranking person.

BB: [affirmative] [21:00]

NG: Most of the time, it's not my [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But, well, the officer has more authority.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Sometimes it helps to know the language better.

BB: [affirmative] Did you -- sorry, go ahead.

NG: No. No [unintelligible].

BB: Did you feel that you knew the language better than some of the officers?

NG: I probably thought so.

BB: [affirmative] [22:00] And so, you had said that you were -- earlier you were largely in charge of a lot of the prisoners, in terms of just their daily activities --

NG: No.

BB: -- or --

NG: Prisoners. The prisoners were the charge of the administration.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And you had to keep away from the prisoners because you risked your life to deal directly with them at their homes.

BB: [affirmative] [23:00]

NG: And generally, officers are used for questioning.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Individually, there were better ones and worse ones.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Regardless of their rank

BB: Sure.

NG: But I don't want to jump from 1142 [23:47], to World War II, but the situation was different, you know? In Europe [24:00], many of those captured began to think in terms of, "We may lose." In the eyes of 1142 [24:31], there were some. But the captured ones, in general, were still believing that Hitler [24:52] was going to win.

BB: [affirmative] [25:00] Did you find that most of the folks at 1142 [25:05] --

NG: But as time went on, it changed little by little by little.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They see the valuable intelligence with the longer experience [26:00]. And it takes, sometimes, a lot of it. But as time went on, we learned more and more all the time.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But in 1944, things were going well.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It was different in World War II. In World War II, we had to win the war.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And we had [26:00] to work together with the others, especially with the Russians.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But we didn't have to worry about the Russians at 1142 [27:16].

BB: Right, so you found yourself working with the Russians when you were over in the European theater? But there was no mention of the Russians at 1142?

NG: No. The only thing that -- that didn't happen, no. Some people who were in the Russian war eventually were also sent [28:00] to fight the Americans forces.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But the effort of the Russians to tie up German forces was extremely helpful.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And it came to a point where the Germans had to make a decision of getting captured by the Russians --

BB: Right.

NG: -- or by the Americans.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they ran to us. And some of the Russians who were captured [29:00] by other Russians, not good soldiers for them, had to worry about their lives.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So, many Germans gave up just so they don't get caught by the Russians.

BB: Sure.

NG: The extreme mistake the Germans made was [30:00] to have too many attacks [unintelligible]. Not small attacks, but they called the Northern Group [30:13], Center Group [30:14], the Southern Group [30:15]. They were fighting all at the same time.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And the Russians caught up. I cannot [unintelligible].

BB: Sure. Sure. Well, you know, let me check the time here. Yeah. I'm going to go ahead and stop the tapes.

(End of Tape 2B)

(Beginning of Tape 3A)

NG: [unintelligible] on the French side, and this kid, this soldier came over to me and he saw my pretty watch. I had a Rolex. I was afraid he would try to take it away from me, but I was in uniform, too. And he wanted to buy it. [inaudible] He left me alone. In fact [unintelligible].

BB: Oh, really? Okay [01:00].

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Right, right.

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: All right. Well --

NG: Okay.

BB: I'm going to go ahead. I'm going to give my brief introduction, and then we'll go ahead and get started. Today is May 15th, 2007. This is the Fort Hunt oral history project with the National Park Service. This is Brandon Bies here in the home of Mr. Norman Graber, who was at Fort Hunt for two years, from 1942 to 1944, and then later came back as well in '45. And so we're here telling his story. This is his second day of interviews and the third in a series of tapes. So I guess we'll try to pick up a little bit [02:00] where we were yesterday. We had just started to talk about 1142 [02:05] and --

NG: Wait a minute. I think I came back in '46.

BB: Oh, in '46? Okay.

NG: Yeah, because I didn't get home until February '46.

BB: Okay.

NG: It was known as CIG [02:30].

BB: Right.

NG: And then in June, it was changed to CIA.

BB: Forty-seven?

NG: Forty-seven.

BB: Okay. So in '46, you went from military intelligence with the Army to CIG, and then in '47 to CIA [02:49]. Okay [03:00]. Okay. With -- getting back to 1142 [03:10], we started to talk a little bit yesterday about how you had gotten there when it was just starting to first get up and running and they were -- they had some of the first prisoners

there. And we were talking a little bit about what you were doing. It sounded like you worked very closely with a lot of the officers who were there. We went down the list yesterday and you remembered a lot of them.

NG: That's right. They were -- who was in charge was [04:00] Colonel Walker.

BB: Okay. And do you remember a lot about Walker?

NG: What?

BB: Do you remember a lot about Colonel Walker?

NG: Yeah, he liked to go on a horse.

BB: Oh, really? He had his own --

NG: He had his own -- he brought riding -- what do you call -- riding pants.

BB: Oh, okay. Just like kind of a pantaloons.

NG: And boots. He was a very good man. He was -- he liked [unintelligible].

BB: We're in touch with --

NG: He was very kind.

BB: We're in touch with his children, with several of his children. He's passed away, but --

NG: Who?

BB: Colonel Walker's [04:56] children. They're going to be invited to the reunion [05:00].

NG: Oh, you told me.

BB: Yeah, okay.

NG: He had a mustache, sort of reddish.

BB: Did you think he was a fair commander?

NG: What?

BB: Did you think he was fair? Was he -- was he -- did he, you know, treat everyone

respectfully?

NG: He was. And then he had -- his assistant was John Dean [05:42], John Dean.

BB: Oh, Dean, okay.

NG: Yeah, Colonel Dean was more interested in operations.

BB: Okay.

NG: [unintelligible] [06:00]

BB: Did -- what was there -- were they in charge of all of Fort Hunt [06:06], or just specifically in charge of the interrogation program?

NG: At that time, it was all -- later it was split up a little bit, but it took quite some time until it developed into a less primitive way of handling -- because more and more people came in [07:00]. I got -- I got a lot of cooperation [unintelligible] except towards the end when I was almost leaving. They put an officer in ahead of me because he was an officer, and that was Lieutenant Wolfe [07:32].

BB: Okay.

NG: And some people made fun of one of his expressions, and he was trying not to go to Europe, to the war, and he mentioned his wife was an [08:00] orphan [unintelligible]. Maybe I shouldn't --

BB: We're not going to --

NG: They poked fun at him because he used it as an excuse to stay where he was and not be sent to Europe.

BB: Because his wife was an orphan?

NG: His wife was an orphan. She probably was, but other people had troubles, too.

BB: Sure.

NG: And [unintelligible] and I was -- I spent one month in England, then we crossed over the channel [09:00]. We were in one of those landing boats.

BB: Right.

NG: And all I remember about the landing boat trip, we played poker the whole time, you including the officer of the Navy, who was supposed to be in charge of the ship.

BB: Oh, really?

NG: We got so close to them, we got [unintelligible]. And it was a very friendly poker game, I remember, because we had to [unintelligible] some of the [unintelligible] and the other one had to get [unintelligible] British one and Belgium one [10:00] and French one and German one. And the German one [unintelligible] didn't want to accept the German mark. And it turned out that it paid off later.

BB: Real quick -- okay. We're back running again. So -- and I'd like -- we had started to talk a little bit about your going into Europe, and I'd like to talk about that, but I want to keep talking for a little while about 1142 [10:36]. And then we can --

NG: Yeah, but as a starter, there wasn't a lot of activity.

BB: At 1142?

NG: That's right, because as time went on it became more useful.

BB: Okay. And did you report -- do you remember [11:00] which specific officer you reported to? Did you report to just one officer or did you report to a lot of officers?

NG: Well, I was supporting different officers who needed someone to keep them busy.

BB: Okay.

NG: At one time -- well, Dean [11:43] was still one of the main officers, and then the -- various officers, including the naval officers [12:00] [unintelligible] but mostly we not

only supported the Army, we also supported the Air Force [12:15] and the Navy.

BB: Okay.

NG: We had to help the [unintelligible].

BB: Okay. How were you --

NG: I don't know much about -- are you familiar with the Y Section [12:32]?

BB: Yes.

NG: I was --

BB: You were in the Y Section.

NG: Y section. And we knew very little what was going on in the other section.

BB: In the X Section [12:42]?

NG: X Section.

BB: And we've learned a little bit. We've interviewed two veterans who were in the X Section. And what -- Silvio Bedini [12:52] was in the X Section.

NG: Yeah, we were very friendly to each other.

BB: But did they not tell you much about [13:00] what they were doing?

NG: Bedini was the leader.

BB: Oh, really?

NG: He was also a very nice person. But as time went on and on, we learned more and more.

BB: [affirmative] Did the techniques improve, the way of gathering intelligence?

NG: What?

BB: You said you learned more and more as time went on.

NG: That's right -- became -- become more practical.

BB: Can you give an example?

NG: I'd rather not go into examples until we know a little more.

BB: Okay. Because I can share some of what we've already learned from other folks and from the National Archives about --

NG: Yeah [14:00], which I don't know. And I feel if you don't bring it up, I don't talk about anything else.

BB: Look, again --

NG: [unintelligible] show what I know. That doesn't mean I should. I wanted to be as helpful as possible.

BB: [affirmative] So what can you -- what can we do to show you that it's okay to talk about everything -- and again, we're just interested in 1142 [14:40].

NG: Well, what I would like to see is an order from the main G2 that all the secrets are out -- [15:00] it was more than Secret, it was Top Secret, and I took it very seriously.

BB: Absolutely.

NG: And I still do. So I --

BB: And I was working as recently as last week with an Air Force [15:29] colonel, Colonel Steve Kleinman [spelled phonetically] -- I mentioned him yesterday -- tried to get this document here for in time for this week, and unfortunately he wasn't able to get it. He's working to -- with, I believe, the undersecretary of defense for intelligence to try to get something from them. Would that -- if we got a letter from the undersecretary of defense for intelligence, would that satisfy [16:00]?

NG: Dated when?

BB: Oh, it would be dated -- oh, it would be dated -- to, you know, effective immediately.

NG: Maybe, yeah.

BB: Okay. Because, you know, the one thing -- and we're working on trying to get that, but the one thing that, again, I can provide you with is the declassified documents that we've already gotten from the National Archives, where the National Archives have said this was all declassified in the 1990s, right around 1990. In fact, this Air Force [16:37] colonel, I have his declassified -- it's not classified -- his thesis, which is all on the Y Section [16:47].

NG: Well, if I would get a letter from this -- from [17:00] -- covering the period that I was there, don't bother with second period -- that was only a short time.

BB: Sure. Well, our interests are when you were there, the main period you were there. Yeah.

NG: Then I would be free to talk.

BB: Okay.

NG: But some people, of course, they don't have all this [unintelligible]. I don't buy that. I have to be told that you are free to speak [18:00]. But I know I was very happy with the situation, that I could do some good for the war. And then, I met a lot of people, again, when I was in Europe.

BB: Right.

NG: To begin with, I was with the G2 in a group that was directed by the people in Paris [18:57], and it was [19:00] only after it was turned over to Colonel --

BB: Van Cleve?

NG: Van Cleve [19:16]. But everything changed, and I was with the same command that directed [unintelligible].

BB: Right.

NG: We also had, in London, a branch.

BB: So would you say that a lot of 1142 [19:48] was transferred over to Europe and continued to function together there?

NG: As far as I know, we had [20:00] the headquarters in Washington and we had a branch in London and we had one in France and later on in Frankfurt, as far as the Army was concerned [21:00]. The intelligence unit was [unintelligible].

BB: Where?

NG: Where was it again?

BB: In [unintelligible]. But the top people used to meet -- I think it was in Lichtenstein [21:32]. No, it wasn't. What was it? [unintelligible] A small --

FS: Switzerland?

BB: In Zurich?

NG: [unintelligible] was [22:00] supervising the intelligence units by picking out selected prisoners from the 3rd, 1st and 2nd [unintelligible]. And they all came to Revin [22:21]. That's spelled R-E-V-I-N.

BB: Great.

NG: And when I came there, it was towards the latter part of the Battle of [unintelligible], and we captured a lot of high-ranking German personnel [23:00]. And this was my [unintelligible]. I was doing what I was told; there, our top man was this Colonel Bentui [23:19] [spelled phonetically]. I also had another man who was one of the top-- I can't remember his name now. But I was directed to helping -- I think it was [unintelligible]. We supervised the [unintelligible] [24:00]. Now, I'm not talking about [unintelligible].

BB: Right, right.

NG: It was in France [24:11]. And everything that came out of the work we did had to be -- you know, some of our people knew German, but they didn't know English too well. So this lieutenant, I think he was probably a school teacher, an English teacher, something like that. And one of us, either him nor myself, had to look at the final report and change it where it wasn't [25:00] clear enough or English enough. We only had -- the whole time that I had been working, there was only one time when my supervisor and myself, we worked together. We both saw the other one check the reports [unintelligible] we got word from the colonel that it wasn't correct [unintelligible]. But we got [unintelligible]. To my mind, the intelligence, even if it is not spelled, it would help. [26:00]

BB: Sure.

NG: But you still want to have standard English.

BB: I want to try to get back to 1142 [26:17] so we can try to --

NG: Some of the officers at 1142 were pretty good at German. Some of them were a little between.

BB: Were many of them German-born, or had they just learned German here in the United States?

NG: Well, they -- I think they may have been German teachers at colleges, something like that.

BB: Do you remember about Kubala [26:55]? Do you remember if he was from Europe?

NG: Who?

BB: Kubala. Was he from Europe [27:00]?

NG: Yes, something -- in fact, he prided himself calling himself "ein Berliner." Actually, he came from the Polish section. I think he came from somewhere near Danzig [27:23].

This is a Polish area.

BB: We have some examples of interrogations that he conducted.

NG: He conducted quite a few. I think he probably was successful.

BB: I have a copy of one of his interrogations, if you'd like to see it, of -- it's -- you know, that we -- you know, we have with all the questions.

NG: Do you have any of mine?

BB: We haven't [28:00] found any.

NG: I have -- I have one ---well, at that time, a lot of German officers were giving up. I remember I was interrogating and I was limited to 15 minutes per prisoner because we had so many.

BB: This is in Europe or --

NG: It was in Germany.

BB: Okay.

NG: And one of them, I looked at him and I saw on his uniform that he was an [unintelligible] SS [28:50] officer, but I decided to talk to him. I asked him his name. What is your [29:00] rank? He said, "Colonel," oberst [29:05] in German. And I looked at him and I looked at his uniform, and I said -- and I said [unintelligible]. An equivalent of an oberst, but an SS [29:49]. How come I can't think of this -- rank [30:00]? It will come to me.

BB: Sure.

NG: [unintelligible] I knew that rank.

BB: Ah, it's been 60 years. So what did you say to him?

NG: One rank below [unintelligible].

BB: You were starting to say what you had said to him, though.

NG: Well, one of the lowest general. So the first general [31:00], you could say, [unintelligible], then it went into the [unintelligible]. Do the name Aschenbrenner [31:11] mean anything to you?

BB: Kygenbrunner [spelled phonetically]?

NG: Yeah. He was -- he was the assistant.

BB: Is that who this person was?

NG: I learned about that. I was also used to [unintelligible]. I was an expert [spelled phonetically] officer.

BB: Is that just out in the -- on the air, got to fly in a plane and everything?

NG: Yes, I was -- I think I was in charge of the plane, except for the pilot [32:00].

BB: Sure.

NG: I was -- [unintelligible] the planes to scare us -- not to scare us, to scare the Germans.

(End of Tape 3A)

(Beginning of Tape 3B)

NG: [unintelligible] officer were very high -- 17 high-ranking German generals.

BB: And this is when you and Heinz [00:13] were both on the plane, right?

NG: That's right.

BB: Were there other guards or --

NG: He was my deputy.

BB: Okay.

NG: I don't know if he mentioned this. I don't want to show --

BB: No, he mentioned -- we've had a similar discussion about the -- yeah, I think, because I know I heard that before, that the two of you had been on the plane.

NG: But it was the two of us who were officers. We carried pistols. We had two rifle-carrying military police [00:45]. In fact, we had two pilots, a pilot and a second pilot [01:00]. I tried to be nice, though I'm not saying [unintelligible], and I offered one of them a cigarette, which he refused [inaudible]. I tried to be a little bit human.

BB: What was the highest ranking of those? Were there generals on the flight?

NG: Yes. [inaudible] But again, that's [unintelligible]. He went to be tried. He was either tried or as witnesses [02:00] [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative] Was it --

NG: I remember two of the people were hanged.

BB: Right.

NG: One of the two [unintelligible]. He killed himself, I think. [unintelligible] pretty smart [unintelligible] plane in Nuremberg [02:48]. We were picked up -- they were picked up-- [unintelligible] Germany [03:00] by ambulances, so they didn't make a big thing about it. They took them to the prison. I was there before the proceedings started. [03:29].

FS: [inaudible] 1142 [03:33]?

NG: What? Can you see, Carol Lee [spelled phonetically]?

FS: Can I see? Yeah.

NG: It looked good, didn't it?

FS: What? What looks good?

NG: I told you to watch television.

FS: Yeah. Why didn't you talk about 1142? Maybe they'll learn something.

NG: [unintelligible] [04:00]

BB: Yeah, this is --

NG: [unintelligible] "why don't you tell them."

BB: Oh, well, we can delete that part out.

FS: I'm talking about 1142 [04:10]. The other is not interesting. I know all of that.

NG: I didn't hear you.

FS: Don't worry. 1142. The other is not interesting. I know all that.

BB: She's saying we should get --

FS: 1142.

BB: Right, about 1142.

NG: That's very hard.

FS: No, it's not.

BB: [laughs] Well, I'll see if I can get something out of you.

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Oh, certainly.

FS: [unintelligible] 1142 [04:40] -- nothing I haven't heard before. It's not interesting.

NG: I took my hearing aid out.

FS: Well, that's too bad. Put it back on. 1142.

NG: I can't hear you.

FS: 1142. You can hear me. I'll make sure. But not the Army. I know all of that [05:00].

NG: [unintelligible] my grandson was [unintelligible]

FS: Norman, 1142 [05:08]. The other's not interesting. It's not interesting. I know all of that.

NG: [unintelligible] my grandson?

BB: What's that?

FS: Never mind your grandson.

NG: Can you keep a secret?

FS: No.

NG: He said yes.

FS: Neither can you.

NG: I told her [unintelligible].

FS: Norman, stop it! Come on.

BB: All right. She's allowed. Glad somebody's on my side.

FS: Norman!

NG: Yes.

FS: Stop talking about the Army. Everybody knows that already. [unintelligible]

BB: All right. So with 1142 [05:48], you mentioned that you did a lot of work with the officers who were there. What specifically -- did you actually sit in on interrogations at 1142 [06:00]?

NG: There were two things. Either I was sitting in or I was listening in.

BB: You mean monitoring? Okay.

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Did you ever run the interrogations? And this is just at 1142. Did you run it, or was an officer always running the interrogation?

NG: I believe it had to be an officer.

BB: Okay.

NG: But then in the Army [06:51], I was an officer.

FS: Never mind. Let the Army go.

BB: Do you [07:00] remember what the prisoners were like at 1142, what types of prisoners were there?

NG: I don't believe I would talk about that. You must have most of them already.

BB: Well, we have a lot of the documents, but what we're trying to understand is the selection process. Who decided that a prisoner was going to go to 1142 [07:39] versus just go to a regular prison camp. What made them special enough to go to 1142?

NG: I didn't make that selection. I don't know who made that selection. When they came here, they were at 1142.

BB: Right [08:00].

NG: I know they lived in barracks, but we didn't go to those barracks.

BB: Where -- were the interrogations of the prisoners done in their prison -- in their cells, or were they done in a different interrogation room somewhere?

NG: Probably both. You must have received a lot of information from the various officers.

BB: [affirmative] But we're only in touch -- most of the officers have already passed away, and so most everyone we've spoken to has been enlisted men at 1142 [08:56]. And since you were there so early [09:00] and since you worked so closely with the officers, you're one of our only insights as to how it worked there, because most of the officers have already passed away.

NG: Yeah, maybe I'll find out through somebody still alive.

FS: That sucks.

NG: [unintelligible] still alive.

BB: Right, but he wasn't an officer at 1142 [09:21].

NG: No, but later in Germany.

BB: Right.

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Right.

NG: So was I, but I was there much earlier. I think it was [unintelligible].

BB: And you [10:00] had mentioned yesterday -- we weren't -- we didn't have any cameras on then, so if you could repeat it, you had mentioned that one of your skills was that you could read German shorthand. I had mentioned about shorthand. You had said yesterday -- and the cameras weren't set up yet, so I didn't have it recorded -- you mentioned that one of your skills was you could read German shorthand.

NG: Yes, but that was separate from -- that was separate. It was not with 1142.

BB: Oh, it wasn't. Oh, okay.

NG: That was later.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: [unintelligible] I worked in the Pentagon [10:56] for quite some time [11:00].

BB: After -- this was after 1142 [11:04], right?

NG: After that.

BB: Okay. So when you were at 1142, you said you sat in on some interrogations with the officers.

NG: Yes.

BB: How long would a typical interrogation go for? Would it go for several days, or was it just --

NG: Sometimes it went over several days. Sometimes it was finished in one day. But it sometimes was necessary to come back to get additional information.

BB: Did you ever get the impression at 1142 [11:46] that the prisoners were trying to stonewall you or give you false information to mislead you?

NG: No.

BB: So you thought they were being pretty honest [12:00], then?

NG: To begin with, when I sat in, I didn't lead the interrogation. You could talk to the officers. Officers were usually the ones who did the interrogation. Some officers knew German better than others [inaudible].

BB: To get information from the prisoners, are you familiar with the practice of stoolpigeons [12:55]? Do you remember how common --

NG: I probably don't want to talk about it.

BB: Okay, because we have a lot -- that information has been released in term -- in fact, we know the names.

NG: Well, I don't know that.

BB: I can --

NG: I will not talk about it unless I really know it was lifted.

BB: [affirmative] Well, one of the most famous cases was the gentleman named Werner Dressler [13:26], who was at 1142 [13:29] and then later on was found out and was actually hung by a lot of the folks who had been at 1142, and that -- there's been a film produced on that.

NG: Was he also known by other names?

BB: Yeah, I think he did.

NG: What are the other names?

BB: I'd have to look it up. I don't have it in front of me, but I'd have to -- I'd have to check.

But there's -- I didn't bring any of the photographs, but there's -- I -- actually, I do have one of the [14:00] books with me that talks about Dressler [14:04], and I'll pull that. I can --

NG: It is the only name they mention?

BB: Oh, there's -- I -- again, I don't have it in front of me, but I have a list of at least three other stoolpigeons [14:16]. In fact, we have a photograph of an interrogator with three stoolpigeons that were -- that were assisting. So, no, so that -- like I said --

NG: Well, that would mean you got all that; it's valuable.

BB: Oh, yeah.

NG: And I don't know if I'm cleared to talk about it.

BB: All the information and all -- unfortunately, all I can do is give you the examples of how this has been declassified since about 1990.

NG: Maybe additional names [15:00]. And you are free to talk about it at will.

BB: One of the -- off the top of my head --

NG: Would you know other people that dealt with what you call stoolpigeons?

BB: Have we spoken with other people? We know -- a few people have mentioned it, but nobody really worked very, very closely with the stoolpigeons [15:26], that we've spoken with. I know Bill Hess [15:30] had mentioned stoolpigeons a little bit, and I know the one -- one of the naval interrogators that we met with mentioned use of stoolpigeons. But another name, I think the fellow -- his last name, I want to say was Shank [15:47] [spelled phonetically], but this is off the top -- like I said, we have -- we have files and files of all this in our offices, and I could only bring so much with me [16:00].

NG: Well, maybe you'll be in the neighborhood again.

BB: Hopefully. But let me -- let me just go ahead and get out --

NG: Let me ask you one thing.

BB: Sure.

NG: You were talking about stoolpigeons. Are the stoolpigeons [16:20] still alive, or are they dead?

BB: We have not been able to find any alive. Now, that's not to say that there could be one still out there that's a -- you know, we don't know. But we have not found any. As far as we know, they're all dead, but we can't say 100 percent for certain. But we haven't found any that are still living.

NG: I would rather not go into it because I would feel maybe I'm just talking too much.

BB: Would you say -- even if you don't name names [17:00], could you share how often that stoolpigeons [17:05] were used, if it was a common or an uncommon --

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: We have some idea.

NG: [inaudible]

BB: We have some idea, but again, we're trying to get as best an understanding from as many people as we can.

NG: Well, that's past.

BB: But that's what we're trying to do, is preserve the past. We're trying to -- I mean, wouldn't you agree that it's important for future generations to know that -- to preserve the history of what you were doing? That's all -- we're not trying to exploit big secrets or anything like that, because the Army [17:51] has said it is okay to do this. We've been endorsed by lots of other people in the intelligence agencies that want us to do this,

because [18:00] they have a lot of these questions.

NG: Well, whether you ought to do that or not ought to do that depends on the personality.

Some prisoners who were willing to be helpful were extremely good actors.

[unintelligible] Of course, they had to work with others. For me to try to judge the values, I don't think I'm free to talk about that [19:00]. There are other people who probably talked about it, and you know maybe a whole lot about it.

BB: We really -- we don't know a whole lot about it. That's why -- because a lot of the folks --

NG: Then I would say you should learn as much as possible about it. But I'm not ready to talk. I think it's --

BB: But if you had a document signed by current military intelligence saying that it was okay for you to talk about it, would you then agree to do that?

NG: In writing?

BB: Yes, in writing, signed by a military officer.

NG: Yeah, but the military officer had to be authorized to.

BB: Oh, sure. No, I'm talking high-level intelligence officer.

NG: Yeah, that's what I said. The G2 of the United States Army [20:00]. They should be the ones to make that decision. And most likely, this person is at least a major general and he's the G2.

BB: Well, we'll see what we can get. In terms, like I said, I had regret that -- I had hoped to have that --

NG: When we have it -- do you have -- when we went through the [unintelligible].

BB: Right.

NG: [unintelligible] that was very close to him [21:00]. Were you able to interrogate him about his own interrogation? He [inaudible] --

BB: Because he passed a way, I think, four or five years ago. We just started this project a year ago.

NG: I thought I would get something from him. I loved his -- where he lived. But I was -- he had his own [unintelligible]. But we were good friends. [unintelligible] I knew his wife well. He lost his wife.

BB: Oh, really?

NG: Yeah, and I remember when he met her and he went out [22:00] and he made a remark to his wife, "Let's go somewhere and do something." She answered him, "Let's get married or do nothing." [unintelligible] I remember that. She was a very nice person, too. She was a religious person, very, very religious. I don't remember what religion [unintelligible]. I don't think [inaudible]. But are you Catholic?

BB: No, Presbyterian.

NG: I know she was [23:00] very close to, I don't know, priest or whatever he was. She was a very religious person.

BB: So did you work with Kenner [23:17] [spelled phonetically] at 1142 [23:18] and in Europe?

NG: I don't think I worked with him at that point, but I know he was there, worked there, and I worked there.

BB: Right.

NG: We -- as people we used to get along together.

BB: Because we've spoken -- I've spoken with other interrogators who worked under Kenner

[23:51] at 1142 [23:52].

NG: Who [unintelligible]?

BB: No, other people I've interviewed have worked with Kenner and had him as [24:00] their commanding officer or as the person they worked with and they did interrogations with.

NG: Oh.

BB: And we know -- I found documents --

NG: Kenner spoke -- he grew up here, in this country, but he spoke German extremely well.

BB: Really?

NG: He also spoke Spanish well. That helps, too.

BB: I'm sure.

NG: He was in Mexico for several years. And -- well, we were good friends. Then when I met his family, it was a little bit -- I expected people like Kenner [24:54], and his children [25:00] were not quite like him. I met his mother. I met his sister. His sister -- you know about his sister?

BB: No.

NG: She was very rich. She married a rich guy, and so they felt they had a good girl. She was a good girl. [unintelligible]

BB: Right, yeah, that's -- it's interesting, but not immediately relevant to 1142. Can you talk for -- we have a few minutes left and then I need to change tapes -- about the Navy [25:53] people who were there, the U.S. --

NG: I remember [unintelligible] because [26:00] I had a correction about something I wanted to find out, and I got in touch with Alberti [26:07] [spelled phonetically] and he advised me what I can do, cannot do. But I don't remember what the question was about

[unintelligible].

BB: Do you remember what Alberti's [26:20] role was? Was he there all the time?

NG: He was there a long time, and he was a gentleman. But many of the Navy [26:32] people were well-behaved. And I noticed also that the naval officers, they only had one enlisted person. Did you know that?

BB: No. We just started to look into the Navy.

NG: Well, later on he became an officer in [27:00] France.

BB: Okay.

NG: He wasn't [unintelligible].

BB: Right.

NG: He was also well known for playing poker. He tried very hard to win. But some of the other officers, naval officers, were very polite. But they had leeway and be backed by the Navy [27:51], but some of the Army [27:53] people couldn't. I don't know any details. [inaudible] [28:00]

BB: So were there times where a person would be interrogated just by Navy personnel and there would be no Army involvement at all?

NG: That's very likely, but I don't know. But of course, the Navy [28:28] was more interested in some things. If it wasn't anything that interested the Navy, then it wouldn't go to the Navy. It would go to the Army.

BB: Right.

NG: We had a lot of questions about Army [unintelligible]. Again, I [29:00] don't remember too much, but what I do remember a little bit, I probably wouldn't talk about it.

BB: Okay.

NG: Because I don't want to criticize any of the people and I don't want -- but there were occasions when the officer couldn't quite keep up with the German talking, didn't have enough background. [30:00].

BB: Good, good.

NG: It can happen.

BB: Army [30:05] officers or Navy [30:06] officers? Army officers.

NG: It was -- probably some officers were more useful for other languages and they were given a German assignment. That was pitiful, sometimes, how [unintelligible]. I don't want to say anything.

BB: Sure.

NG: See, I had a lot of language [unintelligible] teaching.

BB: Right [31:00].

NG: [inaudible]

BB: Right.

NG: I had -- in Vienna [31:16], I had -- English is one of the main languages.

BB: Right.

NG: I had two English courses in English language, et cetera, the business language. And I know that [inaudible].

BB: Yeah, the tape's about done. So I'm going to need to stop it and change tapes.

(End of Tape 3B)

(Beginning of Tape 4A)

NG: And then one of the very important people that we had that were also 1142 [00:06] for a short period was -- I think at that time it was a Major -- maybe in time it will come,

- Kretzman [00:22] [spelled phonetically] --
- BB: Kretzman [affirmative].
- NG: You know that?
- BB: No, I've definitely heard the name. We had --
- NG: He was something like a vice principal at that university.
- BB: Right. Heinz [00:38] knew Kretzman [00:39] because I think Heinz [00:42] received some sort of training from Kretzman [00:46].
- NG: He was a little bit arrogant, but I guess he had the right to be [01:00].
- BB: What we -- just hold for a second --
- NG: He had an important position in the -- he was the liaison with the Russians in Vienna [00:31].
- BB: This is Kretzman [01:36]?
- NG: I tried to get transferred there.
- BB: [affirmative]
- NG: But that took such a long time to get the papers, to get the orders. By the time I got them, I was ready to go home and didn't want to go [unintelligible].
- BB: [affirmative]
- NG: [01:58] [unintelligible], with going home [02:00]. Maybe it was a good thing to do. I did some good work then.
- BB: [affirmative]
- NG: But they -- instead of sending me directly to the United States [02:11] --
- BB: [affirmative]
- NG: -- they attached me to a unit that was being closed out, I guess, is the word, the whole

division.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I think it was -- what's it? The 94th Division [02:36] and they had attached me there -- what do you call it? Below the company --

BB: Platoon?

NG: Platoon, right. I became the platoon leader on my [03:00] way home.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And we went through Germany. And they stopped in Bavaria [03:18]. And we also had some efforts made to -- went to people who could or could not be with us -- with the United States.

BB: [affirmative] [04:00]

NG: And we stopped in the place where they have the passion plays. You know where they are? But you know what the passion play was.

BB: I heard of that before.

NG: They were Nazis [04:24].

BB: Right, right.

NG: And in order to keep out of prison --

BB: Right.

NG: -- they worked for us by making -- there were woodcarvers [04:43], things like the --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- what the big, big things that they make. He played the part of Jesus, the one man.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That Franz [05:00] -- I don't remember his last name, but they were whittling the pretty --

well, you may have liked them because they did a beautiful job.

BB: Oh yeah?

NG: And that's historical too. And they kept out of prison by working.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Then we had to wait to -- went -- we had to go through some [unintelligible]. People that shouldn't have weapons.

BB: Oh, okay [06:00]

NG: That included the -- things like bayonets.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I remember that and I remember one thing that happened. My unit was all around the camp. There were some children there and it was snowing and the children picked up the snowballs, started throwing them at our soldiers. What do the soldiers do? They made snowballs and they threw them at the children. So, we had a fight, a snowball fight, which was kind of [unintelligible].

BB: Sure.

NG: That has nothing to do with this.

BB: No, but let me -- if you don't mind [07:00] me showing you a couple of things dealing with our last discussion. This is actually one of them. This is a book that came -- it was published in 1978, so this book has been out for almost 30 years.

NG: I don't know [unintelligible].

BB: And this deals -- it deals mostly with an escape from a prison camp in Arizona [07:26], but many of the prisoners were at Fort Hunt [07:28] who escaped and there's the page I want to show you is a section -- they have several pages, but I just want to flip to this

dealing with Dressler [07:38]. And here, they even talk about his name Limer [07:43] [spelled phonetically] which he was given while he was there and about the stoolpigeon [07:48] process. So, again, I just want to show you that this has been out --

NG: I don't remember Dressler [07:54]. I don't remember Limer [08:00]. I don't remember Dressler [08:48].

BB: Okay. We do have some photos --

NG: There were others --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- just as [unintelligible] --

BB: [affirmative] [09:00]

NG: -- I don't know. I don't have any -- had nothing to do with the stoolpigeons [09:15] of the [unintelligible] much. I don't know much about the [unintelligible] about [unintelligible] and I didn't see any names -- of people that I did know.

BB: Okay.

NG: Yeah, what are the names? [unintelligible]

BB: Okay. I don't have them with me, but I do have them. We do have some. Just so --

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: And I'm hoping [09:00] that this -- I'm going to leave with you to keep. This is -- this is the thesis side of the colonel that -- when he wrote this, he was a major. It's Kleinman [10:11] who we've been working with since.

NG: Now, it sounds familiar.

BB: He wasn't at 1142 [10:16]. No, he wasn't at 1142, but this is on the history of MIS-Y [10:22] U.S. Strategic Interrogation during World War II. This came out in 2002 and it's

-- it's an underclass -- it's not classified. It was never classified. Open to the public and shares --

NG: Do you have all the names in here?

BB: There's some names are in here, but there's examples -- there's an example of an interrogation done by Kubala [10:49], which is included. These are his -- some of his --

NG: Which one is this? Do you have any --

BB: Sure, do you want to flip to it?

NG: Let me see here. I remember [11:00] a [unintelligible].

BB: Hold on a second. Here's -- here we go.

NG: [unintelligible] persuade the body that he talked to, to come over to us?

BB: I don't -- we have lots of interrogations by Kubala [11:20], so I'm not sure about this one. Right here you can see February 26, 1943 by Captain Kubala. I'm not sure how you pronounce that name.

NG: [unintelligible] Kubala [11:41] was already a captain. He became a lieutenant colonel [12:00]. He spoke English with that man?

BB: No, this is the English transcript. That's -- the transcripts that we have are usually in German and some of them have been translated into English.

NG: I didn't -- I think --

BB: And there's a -- it's on both sides. Okay.

NG: And that whole transcript is Kubala [13:01]?

BB: Well, there might be the only one -- you know, what I mean. I actually do have another one that I may be able to show you, but meanwhile, this is just -- again, this is another -- this was in his more recent thesis on the use of stoolpigeons [13:16] and this is all using

declassified documents from the National Archives [13:22]. These are all army documents. And I will leave all this with you for you to go over and look at, at your leisure.

[looking through papers] [14:00] [15:00]

Yeah, this goes into detail about the different sections there at 1142 [15:29] documents the evaluation and map and morale section [16:00] [17:00] [18:00]. So, is this looking familiar and sounding familiar?

NG: It sounds familiar. They knew quite a bit of me.

BB: Yeah, and again, this is -- this is all from --

NG: They don't have the names and they changed the names.

BB: Did you ever --

NG: They change the names over and over and over again. You know, different pigeons, they changed it [unintelligible] sometimes the names.

BB: You mean the stoolpigeons' [18:58] names? Yeah [19:00]. I've got another -- again, we've have lots of information on Kubala [19:09]. This is, unfortunately, it doesn't have his name or the prisoner's name, because this is just an excerpt. This is a name that was part of another interrogation that goes on for several pages [20:00]. If you have [21:00] specific prisoners that you remember, we can go and pull their transcripts because your name might be on those transcripts. If you were involved in them. [22:00] Okay, again, I'll leave all this with you --

NG: I don't remember that [unintelligible] [23:00].

BB: Okay. Well, after all, there weren't an awful lot, I guess, so --

NG: Yeah. Well --

BB: But -- so, I can leave all these with you to go over it, but these are some of the examples of the sorts of materials we've been getting. But did those seem to be fairly -- those examples, fairly typical of interrogations that were done there? The way the style was handled?

NG: I can't remember any of them.

BB: Okay.

NG: What I've seen so far.

BB: Okay.

NG: Are there any other names in here that --

BB: Of the --

NG: -- I might recognize?

BB: -- of the prisoners?

NG: Dressler [23:58] was one of the interrogators [24:00].

BB: He did -- there were --

NG: [unintelligible] were all together.

BB: Sure, no there's -- there certainly are. I can flip through and try to pull out a few that, the best source is that long list. That should have the -- all the interrogators on it. Let me see. There's a whole chapter on here on Fort Hunt [24:27].

NG: Let me see the pictures. Are they from Fort Hunt?

BB: Some of them are people who ended up at Fort Hunt [24:39]. We have other -- we have a lot of questions at [unintelligible]. We have a number photos of Fort Hunt [24:44]. Not with prisoners there, but just some of the grounds and whatnot and that's what I'd like to go over in a little bit and see what you might remember about the layout of the camp

[25:00] [26:00]. Are you still looking at the photographs, or did any of those pictures look familiar of any people?

NG: No, I don't remember their names.

BB: Are you -- do you consider yourself handy with the computer still? Because I can show you -- if you'd like to get on the internet, I can show you a number of websites that deal -
- we have a great deal of photographs and complete transcripts of Kubala [26:50] and other people. These are all available on the internet. I can show you where those are so you can look at them at your leisure.

NG: Okay [27:00] [28:00]. Baylan [28:07] [spelled phonetically] [unintelligible] --

BB: What's the name [28:11] again?

NG: The National Guard Service [28:15] --

FS: That's him.

BB: That's me.

NG: Oh.

BB: When -- did he mention the Park Service [28:25]?

NG: Yeah. They did the article, the Park Service.

BB: I'm not sure who Baylan [28:41] -- see, I don't think Baylan --

NG: That's not your name.

BB: No, no, no, no, no. That's -- I think they're referring to someone else.

NG: That's why I asked.

BB: Yeah, no. I'm not sure. I don't know who that is. That's not a Park Service [28:55] person. I think they're saying although this intelligence gathering operation on the banks of the Potomac may have been crude and inept, which I don't really think it's true. I

don't think that's a fair statement. It could be viewed as a tribute to war type secrecy.

For -- no one, Baylan [29:13], the National Park Service [29:14] or thousands living and working in the Washington area knew what was going on there. Now, I don't know who this Baylan person is. Joseph M. Baylan [29:25]. Let's see if we can find out. Oh, it says, "I, Joseph, [unintelligible] with the --

NG: When you asked about the one who got shot.

BB: With Werner Henke [29:43]. That's right, I wanted to ask you -- we're definitely familiar, in fact, we have a -- what the Park Service [29:48] calls a wayside, which is a little exhibit. People can walk up and read what happened here. We just installed one of them about the Henke incident. There's a whole book written on Werner Henke [30:01], but I -- that's --

NG: Who's got the book?

BB: A gentleman who works for the National Archives [30:07] named, Timothy Mulligan [30:08]. He's an archivist and he -- studied --

NG: So, why didn't you both write something about that?

BB: They mentioned Mulligan, yes. He's mentioned in the Washington Post [30:19] article. Henke [30:21], he -- Mulligan [30:22] has written up an entire biography.

NG: What did they say about this being shot?

BB: From what I recall and though I'd like to ask your impression, what you remember, they said it was almost a sort of -- it wasn't really a -- he wasn't really trying to escape. It was more, almost like a suicide attempt sort of thing. It's -- so, were you there when Henke [30:49] was shot?

NG: I had nothing to do with it.

BB: Sure. You were there at 1142 [30:54] when it happened.

NG: Well, basically [31:00], if it doesn't exist, you can never guess.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So, they took him someplace else. You know that. I don't know about --

BB: They buried him -- he's buried at Fort Meade [31:17].

NG: Is he?

BB: Yes. In fact, his grave is there and someone leaves flowers on his grave every year at Fort Meade [31:25]. But, do you remember much about that incident? Did you hear anything relating to that?

NG: I could have.

BB: I'm curious.

NG: I believe -- he was questioned [32:00]. I don't know what happened. Apparently, he didn't cooperate.

(End of Tape 4A)

(Beginning of Tape 4B)

BB: -- that he had -- I guess that's up to someone will debate whether or not he had --

NG: He was questioned. If I remember what they were talking about, I don't know for sure. He was afraid to be sent to England. He was [unintelligible] Canada [00:19]. I think the British would have liked him and mostly likely they wouldn't have treated him well.

BB: [affirmative] I think that's what he -- apparently, that's what he was afraid of, so he chose sort of a suicidal escape attempt.

NG: That's right. That was to make him -- that was the same thing even with -- now, I go back to --

BB: To Dachau [00:47].

NG: Dachau and Buchenwald.

BB: Right.

NG: Somebody wanted out. You had to run towards the fence, he would be shot.

BB: [affirmative] [01:00]

NG: Some people preferred to be shot.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Than to be hurt --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- continuously. But if -- the Washington Post [01:22] knows about it.

BB: Right. There have been a couple of articles in the Post. One of them mentioned a woman who lived by Fort Hunt [01:29] who has since passed away, but she had said that she could see his body hanging from the wire. Do you believe that? Do you think that would be possible?

NG: I doubt that he made the fence.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't know, but my guess is from what I've seen in the concentration camps [02:00], they never make the fence. They were killed on the way.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But it's -- in the camp, I was -- once, we were outside the camp, but we were working and it was a hot day and I took the top off and put it down and then, very suddenly, we were told, let's go back. And I didn't have time to pick up my top. So, somebody else picked it up and they got my [unintelligible] and they threatened punishment and I

[03:00] was afraid that the punishment would be so severe that [unintelligible]. It wasn't that bad.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: When I -- the prisoners who were put up on one of those hooks and tortured and he said to me when I mentioned it, the only way to get away from this might be, and he said to me, "Don't do that. Whatever they'll do to you, some day it will be over." And his name was Otto [03:50] and it so happened that SS guard [04:00] didn't turn me in. Why, I don't know [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Just [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So, I just felt the good Lord wanted me to live. It was -- it was so scary.

BB: I can't even imagine.

NG: It was torture. What did the Germans do to the majority of Jewish people? It started [05:00] and it's hard to believe that an intelligent people would sink so low. And you know they arrest people who [inaudible]. Some feel German farmers who were growing food items --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Wouldn't even sell some of the stuff. They would trade it for valuables. Many farmers [06:00] in the war [inaudible]. They admitted what they really wanted was the valuables of the rich.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That were worth maybe millions.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: People were hungry.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They gave up very expensive items just to get food. I hear that from a woman who was a farmer on a train [07:00] from Munich [07:02] to Altun [spelled phonetically] from Frankfurt [07:10] to [unintelligible]. So many farmers -- fortunes. They had an interest in [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Is this all?

BB: Well, there -- I still have -- yes, it's all right now. I wanted to see if we could get back to --

NG: They've got some --

BB: Oh, sure, yeah. So, the time I turned it off a lot when you were looking at --
[talking simultaneously]

BB: If you'd like to, we've got about [08:00] 20 minutes or so of tape left and would you want to wait about 20 minutes and then keep going and then have lunch?

FS: Go ahead.

BB: Okay, you've got about 15 or 20 minutes of tape left and then we can --

NG: Okay.

BB: -- we can do lunch. So, just to finish --

NG: Oh, I realize now that you know a hell of a lot more than I realized. But I still feel -- I want to be assured that --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- I'm not doing anything wrong.

BB: I understand that. I do respect that a lot. I can't imagine --

NG: A lot of people in my position were doing trading with the Russians. They made a lot of money. If I had wanted [09:00] to sell even the small amounts of fuel to some [unintelligible], one offer [unintelligible] you can't imagine. I was very proud. I wouldn't do it, and I told them I wouldn't do it. I can't do it. A Russian police officer. "This belongs to the government. I'll tell you what. You have a motor bike. I'll put some fuel into your motor bike and call it quits."

BB: [affirmative] [10:00]

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But they could have forced me to give it to them. I was in the Russian zone.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: But I was alone.

BB: Try to get back to 1142 [10:27].

NG: The Russians were good to us. It wasn't nearly so good [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They [unintelligible] that one soldier just as the war was over [11:00] [unintelligible]. One of us had to go after a Russian general who was a member of the Russian [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The general said, "Don't worry about it. Next time [unintelligible]." People who got hurt [12:00] in the war give a [unintelligible] leaving the hospitals. In our area, they

always provided [unintelligible]. I have to [unintelligible] with [unintelligible] so it's -- the assignment was the next assignment for what. They had to walk [unintelligible].

Okay, [unintelligible]

BB: Yeah. It's just for the last 15 minutes or so, we'll try to concentrate on 1142 [12:44] with a little bit -- we've spoken a little bit about interrogating and one other method that we've heard from a number of people that we've spoken to is using the intimidation [13:00] factor, the fear of the Russians, of being turned over to the Russians. And even incidents where Americans at 1142 [13:10] would actually dress up as Russian officers.

NG: I don't think that was done in 42 [13:17].

BB: Okay.

NG: In 1142 [13:22].

BB: 1142.

NG: I would say things like this were done --

BB: In Europe?

NG: In Europe --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- I don't think.

BB: But you don't recall --

NG: We had one guy who had -- maybe he was the navy [13:45] guy. I don't remember, but I think so. He had a newspaper, Pravda, the Russian paper.

BB: Okay.

NG: Sticking out [14:00] of his pocket and he was into those [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: And that was -- that was done at 1142 [14:27] --

NG: [unintelligible] 1142, but it may have been in the [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: And that was [unintelligible]

BB: Okay, we're pretty sure that, that did happen --

NG: It may have happened to the navy [14:42].

BB: Okay.

NG: See, the navy could have definitely done it.

BB: Did you get the impression that the navy [14:56] got away with a little bit more than the army [14:58] did? Did they [15:00] have not as -- I don't want to say, not as strict -- did their command let them get away with a little, just a little bit more than the army?

NG: Well, the army [15:13], they did something. It had to be written down somewhere.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I believe the navy [15:24] got away with [unintelligible] doing things, nobody would ask questions.

BB: Okay.

NG: I think so.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I might be wrong.

BB: Sure, absolutely.

NG: But they were very nice people.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But they also realized that sometimes -- but you know we had some similar situations in -
- during the war in Vietnam [15:57].

BB: [affirmative] [16:00]

NG: It gave -- I would try to make a deal [unintelligible] money to members of the forces who
fought for the same forces as we did.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We might pay up [unintelligible]. The army [16:30] had to have a receipt. But those
scary guys from the loyal forces [16:39], they would not sign a receipt because they knew
that if they get captured that [unintelligible]. They'd kill them right there [17:00]. Now
if the situation was, instead of with the army, [unintelligible]. I'm not talking about
knowledge --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- but I think that was the situation. They didn't have to give a receipt. They gave so and
so much money, but this is a [unintelligible]. They wrote it down, send it back to
headquarters. It was no receipt changing --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- because they wouldn't [unintelligible] and that wasn't a factor. Is it possible that
somebody would steal from us? I don't think it happened.

BB: At 1142, [17:55] with the navy [18:00] folks that were there, were there -- were they
small and a few in number or were there lots of navy people?

NG: Well, would you -- between 10 and 15 --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- consider lots?

BB: Well, okay, how about compared to the army?

NG: Compared to the army, they were a smaller group.

BB: Okay, so there were a fair amount of army [18:24] and just -- you said about 10 or 15 navy.

NG: Yeah, but it was enough.

BB: For sure.

NG: They were -- they concentrated --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- on their interests.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And the army had many other things. We had -- I didn't know enough about them to speak. [unintelligible] [19:00] difficult situation and there are a number of things we wanted to know what the Germans had. But we knew when the war was over with already, we had -- how the air force already had -- what do you call this engine?

BB: Jet engines?

NG: What?

BB: Jet engines?

NG: Jet engines.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The Germans had it first. We had it a lot later. In another area, that we were [unintelligible] way ahead of [20:00] the Germans was the -- what they call the signals. It was kind of hard to talk about it.

BB: I was sure it was.

NG: But we had better equipment --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- than the Germans did. The Germans didn't have one piece of equipment that could take the speed and the location of an airplane if you want to shoot them.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We had it in one piece.

BB: Like radar, that sort of thing?

NG: Something like that. The Germans didn't have it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They [unintelligible] [21:00].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But the Germans had two items which did the same job of surveillance --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- but still, you have to have two -- the limit --

BB: [affirmative] And so did you learn some of that at 1142 [21:25]? Did you -- is that how you found out that the Germans have these two, as opposed to one?

NG: I didn't, but I think we found that out.

BB: Okay.

NG: But this is all past.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Not only are we [unintelligible] --

BB: Sure.

NG: -- and as you know, we had scientists that helped us.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So did the Russians

BB: To try to finish up with the navy [21:57] folks at 1142 [22:00] --

NG: Yeah.

BB: -- did they live on base or did they come back and forth every day from say, the navy yard?

NG: I don't know.

BB: Okay.

NG: But my guess is that they could do either one.

BB: Did they have their own offices on post?

NG: I don't know. I [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: Whoever was the -- of the higher rank --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- like the captains may have been in charge if they had a [unintelligible]. I'm not sure.

BB: Did --

NG: [unintelligible] [23:00] ranks --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- that higher rank that [inaudible].

BB: Did the naval -- did the naval interrogators get a prisoner first and then when they were done turn them over to the army [23:17]? Or did it depend on the type of prisoner that it was?

NG: Well, the navy [23:24] only got the prisoners who could give information that would help

the navy.

BB: So, like, U boat prisoners?

NG: I don't know if they did it first, but they get it.

BB: Okay and then were you with the army staff, would you talk about naval issues or did you talk about non -- let's say [24:00] it was somebody from the submarine, would the army [24:03] talk to them about submarines or would they talk to them about other things?

NG: I don't know, but I would guess they would start talking to them when the others are finished.

BB: Okay.

ND: And I have no idea -- suddenly the German navy had [unintelligible] -- I don't remember anything else.

BB: Sure. There were a lot of numbers, so --

NG: I couldn't --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Well --

BB: We've got about five minutes left or so. What -- do you remember -- this is related to 1142 [24:56]. Do you remember another facility [25:00] that was located in Pennsylvania called Pine Grove Furnace [25:05]?

NG: What is the facility for?

BB: Pine Grove Furnace [25:12] -- what they -- what they had was, was a holding facility for the -- for prisoners. For let's say, for example, when it got too crowded at Fort Hunt [25:21], they would keep some at Pine Grove Furnace [25:24] where they might have some initial interrogation and then be taken to 1142 [25:30] for complete interrogation.

NG: Actually, I don't [unintelligible].

BB: Because Pine Grove Furnace [25:42] which we've been studying as well and there's been -- I didn't bring the book with me, but there's a whole book that's been written on Pine Grove Furnace.

NG: I never see nothing. I don't know --

BB: Oh, sure.

NG: Do you have it?

BB: I do, but I not -- again, not with me. If I brought all my -- I would need [26:00] 10 suitcases to bring all of --

NG: I would like to talk about it, but I don't think it's my place.

BB: Okay, okay I'm going to keep -- I'm going to add these to my list of things I have.

NG: If I -- again, I would need permission to talk about it.

BB: Well, we're working with one of our partners. We have many partners, two are historians from Pennsylvania who give -- you can go and get regular [26:38] -- every month you can get -- there's tours of Pine Grove Furnace [26:42] and you can go and walk around.

NG: I didn't know that.

BB: And they -- and there's -- in fact, I wish I'd brought --

NG: I didn't know that.

BB: I have not, but some other folks on our team have. Just a recently as a month ago. I was out of town so I couldn't go, but these historians, they come down, and [27:00] met with us. We've given them tours --

NG: [unintelligible] I don't know.

BB: Believe it or not, Fort Hunt [27:09] was more secretive than Pine Grove [27:11] because

what happened at Fort Hunt a little bit more higher level than Pine Grove.

NG: But there was a limit to the people who were taken out there.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And --

BB: Bill Hess [27:28] -- we talked with Bill Hess --

NG: -- they did --

BB: Bill Hess remembered going to Pine Grove [27:32] to go and screening prisoners out there and we have -- again, I couldn't bring everything with me, but we have literally over 100 --

NG: Probably a little bit more [unintelligible] though I can't speak to you about the little bit that I remember, so I wouldn't speak on those [unintelligible].

BB: Well, what we -- I'll tell you [28:00] what we already know about Pine Grove [28:02] and again, out of all of the documents, we might --

NG: Yeah, [unintelligible] not far away there was another camp. And I don't remember where it was, [unintelligible] [28:19] or some other. There was some other -- I can't remember if it was something like a camp, educational -- not far away. [unintelligible]

BB: Not far away from 1142 [28:42] or from Pine Grove [28:44]? That doesn't sound as familiar. Now, I'll have to check because what we had --

NG: You know [unintelligible] --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- but I believe that's what [unintelligible].

BB: Well, we know a lot of the people at [29:00] Pine Grove [29:01] -- some of the Pine Grove folks were being taken out to do work and that generated other camps in

Pennsylvania.

NG: Yeah. Again, I think something -- I know -- the military people who took care of [unintelligible] were held in very, very tight fashion.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they may not have been very friendly to the prisoners, but we wanted to [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But the military mostly guards. They have to remain [30:00]. They couldn't go home or [unintelligible].

BB: Right. Apparently, a lot of the guards were from Pennsylvania, from the surrounding area and a lot of them were even -- had been combat wounded and were bought back to use as guards.

NG: But then they had to stay.

BB: Right and they couldn't go home or anything like that.

NG: No, they didn't.

BB: Right.

NG: From 1142 [30:24], it was the very limited period to go out.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Go to the family into the district [spelled phonetically].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And like I told you where I had [unintelligible] one was [unintelligible] --

BB: Oh, the Italian.

NG: Then, of course, there was the seafood place. I think it was right [31:00] on Pennsylvania

Avenue. There was a theater there, do you remember that?

BB: Not off the top of my head, but I've only been in Washington for the last six years or so.

NG: Because I went to see some -- I went to the theater and we also ate there. We had a [unintelligible] closed. We ate there --

BB: Well, the tape's almost out anyway.

NG: -- we [unintelligible] that worked for the restaurant who was a former military man. He retired or whatever and he became a waiter or something. And [32:00] he gave military people a special break [laughs]. He would have saved [unintelligible] for what?

BB: [laughs]

NG: [unintelligible]

(End of Tape 4B)

(Beginning of Tape 5A)

BB: Brief introduction; today is May 15th, 2007. This is the Fort Hunt Oral History Project. This is Brandon Bies with the National Park Service here at the home of Mr. Norman Graber. This is the fifth in a series of tapes so the last tape was the fourth tape. We did not do an introduction for that tape. This is the fifth of the series of tapes on Mr. Graber's experiences at 1142. So with that we'll get back to our discussions about 1142 [00:35] and we had mentioned a little bit last time and over lunch about the stoolpigeons. And I understand that you don't want to speak too much more about that. But you did say that overall that it worked out very -- without naming names, it worked out very well.

NG: Yeah, I'd like to know the names again; I forgot the names.

BB: Sure [01:00].

NG: One is extremely [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: He was so much better than all the others.

BB: If he -- if he --

NG: And now I can't remember the names.

BB: If you saw his name do you think you'd remember him? Okay. But we'll see if we can get a list of that. The one thing I want to talk a little bit about is the monitoring; that you said that some of what you did while you were there was listening in on the room -- on the -- on the prisoners. Would you listen in just on their room conversations or would you also listen in on interrogations?

NG: Both.

BB: Okay. Were they monitored all the time? So like the room, when they were in the rooms?

NG: If I had my way it was.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I did the utmost [02:00] because you don't know when the interesting item comes out.

BB: [affirmative] Were you in charge of monitoring for a while or were you one of the chief people?

NG: I was for quite some time the head of the unit.

BB: Of the monitoring section?

NG: Yeah.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Then they gave the married guy who lived nearby who comes from Switzerland,

[unintelligible] want to talk about it.

BB: No, do you know his name?

NG: Yeah, except I can't think of it now but I [unintelligible].

BB: Was it on the list yesterday?

NG: Robert Vogt [02:52].

BB: Oh Vogt [affirmative]. He was -- he was a little bit older, wasn't he?

NG: He what?

BB: Wasn't he a little bit older [03:00]?

NG: Over what?

BB: Older.

NG: Yes, it was much older. And he was always crying, his wife was pregnant, and he needs a raise.

BB: [laughs] We have a picture of -- he was in that picture of all the interrogators.

NG: Yeah, he was not -- his German wasn't nearly as good as mine.

BB: [negative] so he took over for you from the --

NG: No, he -- they split [unintelligible] they split it in half and gave him half. I can't tell --

BB: Okay.

NG: And then just before I left, I don't know how long, they decided they have to have a -- an officer who is in charge. I was still doing all the work but the officer was Lieutenant Wolfe [03:58].

BB: Oh, Lieutenant Wolfe, okay [04:00].

NG: And he was -- he was a scaredy-cat [laughs]. However, I did my job and then [unintelligible] did my job and I do it well. And the boss came there and reported

[spelled phonetically] was [unintelligible] whatever the hell it was, Wolfe [04:27] signed a check to [unintelligible], do something, do something. We had to do the other work. But he was here anyway.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And then he was here [unintelligible]. I shouldn't talk about things. He always claimed he was married to a -- an author [spelled phonetically], so -- she was a [05:00] [unintelligible].

BB: Right, you mentioned he didn't want to go overseas.

NG: No but it got done [spelled phonetically].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible] first expression that I would have to go and join; it was somebody else that made that decision [spelled phonetically] also went to Italy, to fight the Germans in Italy. And there was one battle where there was so [unintelligible] with German artillery for a tremendous amount of time [06:00]. They were talking of sending two of us to join the people in that battle.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [inaudible] was one of the biggest battles in the entire --

BB: Monte Cassino [06:23]?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: One of the subs -- they had artillery fire for hours and hours, of men [spelled phonetically]. People went crazy.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I wasn't looking forward to that kind of assignment.

BB: Sure.

NG: So I was happy when I got another one.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And then the other [07:00] assignment that I was [inaudible] was following the lead tank.

BB: Right.

NG: In France.

BB: Right. You mentioned -- yeah I think you mentioned that earlier.

NG: And it was risky; I was willing to do it because it wasn't [unintelligible]. You know, when a guy gets captured and the tank is already [unintelligible], he's scared. So when you're asking questions, he's likely to give you the answers.

BB: [affirmative] I want -- I want to try to keep on the topic of 1142 [07:55]. We were --

NG: Right.

BB: We were talking about the monitoring section --

NG: Yes.

BB: -- and how [08:00] at first you were --

NG: I kept the monitoring section.

BB: Okay.

NG: And I took good care of it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I wanted -- I didn't want to lose that.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And [inaudible].

BB: Did you yourself listen in or did you just make assignments?

NG: Both.

BB: Okay.

NG: Mostly assignments towards the end.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I would check it just to see if it's done properly

BB: [affirmative] About how many monitors were assigned to you? How many would be listening in?

NG: Oh maybe between 10 and 15 [09:00].

BB: Okay.

NG: And it changed, you know, sometimes there were -- it was filled up.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We had good machines. You probably know what kind of machines --

BB: We have a little bit of that information.

NG: We had from California; the bug [spelled phonetically] was from [inaudible].

BB: And they were pretty reliable.

NG: They were reliable but they were expensive.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't remember how much. But I think they probably were \$1,000 a piece at the time each, which was expensive.

BB: Do you remember exactly how they worked? Could a room monitor -- could he listen in on any room he wanted to, or did his headset just work for one room [10:00]?

NG: Probably only one room and only the supervisor had all the rooms.

BB: Oh, okay. And then when the supervisor --

NG: And I could listen to all the rooms and see if they could hear me.

BB: Okay. What sort of things would you typically hear in a room -- could you hear it well? Could you hear them clearly or was it very quiet?

NG: Well, mostly we could hear [inaudible]. And you usually had two people together, which I expected to talk.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And talk about the subject [inaudible] [11:00].

BB: [affirmative] Would you assign two prisoners to go together or would an officer assign those two to go together? Who decided that two -- you know, two specific prisoners would be roomed together?

NG: That was done by an officer probably.

BB: Okay. Would you try to put prisoners together who were similar or who were very different? You know, what made them talk more?

NG: Well if somebody didn't talk to the other one it made [unintelligible] that was usually a good start.

BB: [affirmative] [12:00]

NG: Because eventually they start talking.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But there could be all kinds of reasons.

BB: Do you remember specifically how the microphones were hidden in the ceilings? Do you remember how that was done?

NG: Unfortunately, I do [spelled phonetically]. That's not a very good way; they were in the ceilings and very often the prisoners knew it.

BB: Oh did they? How did you -- do you know how they figured it out?

NG: Heavy microphones let [13:00] a little noise out.

BB: [affirmative] Like a whine or something like that?

NG: Very often the people who were in the room would knock against the ceiling and [unintelligible], which would in many instances would give away where the microphones were.

BB: Okay. There's a picture, I'm just going to grab this and show you real quick, of one of these microphones. And I want to see if this is how you remember them looking. I believe -- at least, I believe there's one here. If not, there's one on the computer that Girdy's [spelled phonetically] looking at right now.

NG: Is she finding it?

BB: I showed [14:00] her the website that has a lot of this information on it. It may not -- oh, you know what? I -- it might be over here actually. No, maybe not -- I thought I had one with me. But if we've got some on the computer where they're -- they look fairly -- they look like they were fairly large and bulky and had --

NG: They were large and square and very, very noisy.

BB: Okay [15:00].

NG: In my opinion they were not the best [unintelligible].

BB: Oh really? Do you think they chose --

NG: I wasn't --

BB: Should they have been -- do you think they should have been --

NG: Wasn't my job.

BB: Do you think they should have been hidden somewhere else?

NG: I would have to go into something that isn't really my responsibility.

BB: Okay. But you remember they were --

NG: Can be done -- can be done better.

BB: You remember there were times where the prisoners actually discovered the mic? Did they actually pull it out of the ceiling or did they just figure out that it was up there and leave it alone?

NG: They [unintelligible] the ceiling.

BB: [affirmative] [16:00] Yeah.

NG: I don't believe it's the best way [inaudible]. There are better ways.

BB: Were there -- do you remember, we've heard this in the past but not -- never from someone in -- that -- who was working there. Do you ever remember if a prisoner discovered there was a microphone in the ceiling? Do you remember if they would try to yell out and alert other people, or try to spread the alarm to be careful? Did that ever happen?

NG: I don't think so.

BB: Okay.

NG: They would be afraid to do that.

BB: [affirmative] Were the interrogation rooms bugged as well? Did they also have microphones where the interrogations took place?

NG: Probably.

BB: Okay.

NG: But I'm not sure.

BB: But you said you did -- that you took monitoring very [17:00], very seriously. Did -- how did information get reported? If you -- if a room monitor in your section heard something and -- that he thought was important, who -- did he -- did he have the capability of making a recording? Do you remember what that -- what that was made on? Was it made on a record?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay. And then what would happen to that? Was that handed over to an officer or was it reported to you? How did -- how did it pass up the chain of command that they had heard something important?

NG: I don't remember really. But most likely if it was useful it went to the officers; the officer who was in charge --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- of interrogating these [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative] [18:00] And so would you say that your time at 1142 [18:08] that the majority of your time was spent working with the room monitors? Or was it split amongst other duties as well? But this is just your take -- or your time when you were at 1142 --

NG: Yeah.

BB: -- was most of your job, not all of it, but was most it with the monitoring, or was it pretty evenly split between monitoring and helping out with interrogations?

NG: It was mostly with monitoring.

BB: Okay.

NG: It -- we also had to monitor interrogations.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So we had [19:00] -- we had to break it down.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: If the prisoners were [inaudible]. Yeah.

BB: When in --

NG: But sometimes you could pick out very interesting conversation between them.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Sometimes one prisoner went to show off how much he knew. It was merciless [spelled phonetically] but I still didn't do [inaudible] [20:00].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It just -- it really isn't for me to judge.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: First it was to me [spelled phonetically] it was done in that way --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- it was done.

BB: Do you remember any specific things that were learned from monitoring? Does anything stick out in your head a certain -- a certain type of technology or anything like that?

NG: Well the -- one of the things was radar.

BB: Oh, okay. We talked about that a little bit earlier.

NG: And the other thing the method -- I don't remember [inaudible]. The methods were [inaudible] [21:00]. Dropping bombs --

BB: Oh, how the Germans would drop bombs?

NG: No, [inaudible].

BB: Oh so --

NG: Not all [inaudible].

BB: So information about targets?

NG: That too but when I say the bombardier or navigator who was in charge of making decisions, they should be able to make them in the right strength, and in the right depth.

BB: Okay.

NG: You've got to be smarter.

BB: [affirmative] [22:00]

NG: And we could do it towards the end of the war. We were very fast and --

BB: With the reports that were being made for each prisoner do you remember what happened to the reports, who they went to?

NG: They went to the [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: And G2.

BB: [affirmative] And they -- so they went -- submitted to the Pentagon [22:36] then or wherever the G2 was [inaudible]?

NG: Well [inaudible] in the beginning there was no Pentagon.

BB: Right.

NG: But when the Pentagon was completed it went to the Pentagon.

BB: Did -- do you know what role the evaluation section at 1142 [22:53] played? Did they

maintain a copy there at 1142 [23:00]?

NG: Well they were like the --

BB: [affirmative] Was there any involvement at your two years at 1142 with the OSS [23:19]? Did they maintain a liaison?

NG: What [unintelligible]?

BB: Just curious because we'd like to know. We've heard bits and pieces about OSS officers who were either a liaison to 1142 [23:34], or would come on a regular basis.

NG: I don't know if I should talk about it.

[laughter]

BB: Yeah, but all I can say is that --

NG: That in itself gives you immense --

BB: Well sure, sure [laughs]. Well okay, let's put it this way, we've heard from several people that there was OSS [23:53] involvement at 1142. We're trying to figure out what exactly their involvement was, how often they were there, what role they played.

NG: I had the nerve if I didn't like the approach taken by the American to say there's a better way. I shouldn't tell you this but I have -- I can have a lot of, I don't know what you call it, spirit.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: If I feel something isn't done the right way I speak up.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But I'm not going to be that now [spelled phonetically] because the [inaudible] is too [inaudible]. But I'll tell you more about it sometime.

BB: Okay. If we can get the -- this letter worked out [25:00] if -- would you feel --

NG: [inaudible]

BB: -- more comfortable?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay. Do you -- just if I can ask this. Do you remember if there was an OSS [25:10] facility close by to 1142 [25:14]?

NG: As far as I know the OSS facility was in London.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: Do you -- do you remember or do you know where they met in the London area?

BB: I -- I've heard the name is -- I can't remember off the top of my head. But I know there was an OSS [25:36] headquarters there. I'm just thinking about if there was a local OSS branch that --

NG: There was.

BB: -- worked closely with 1142 [25:45].

NG: Yeah.

BB: It -- does --

NG: I knew that [spelled phonetically] [26:00]. I can't think if they're still there but --

BB: Did -- does the -- I'm curious, does the name Collingwood [26:07] ring a bell?

NG: That sounds like a town. But I -- no. The London -- there was another word [unintelligible] in London [inaudible]. I can't think of it.

BB: Sure.

NG: But there was another -- the London something.

BB: [affirmative] Yeah, I'm -- my interest is more the OSS [26:52] any head, not headquarters --

NG: [inaudible]

BB: -- but any offices near 1142 [26:57].

NG: OSS came to [27:00] use it.

BB: [affirmative] I -- our --

NG: And I wouldn't tell you whom they talked to because I don't want -- anyway they must be dead by now. Did you know any of the names of the OSS [27:19] people?

BB: Yes. I don't know if I have it with me. Again, remember I keep -- we have all these documents. Hold -- give me a -- I don't think this document has it but I'm just going to double check to be safe. I think it's -- I think it's literally sitting on my desk in my office. I know this one document deals with the OSS [27:50] --

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: -- I know they worked closely with the Navy [27:55].

NG: There may have been a combined session [28:00] between an American and another one. And they -- and a prisoner. They wanted to impress the prisoner.

BB: So they might have actually sat in on some of the interviews, the OSS [28:25]?

NG: What?

BB: You said combined sessions where the OSS -- the OSS man might have sat in on an interview.

NG: The interview was with the OSS man and the American officer and the prisoner.

BB: Okay [29:00]. I -- you know, unfortunately the OSS [29:06] list is on my desk in my office. I know there's --

NG: So don't worry about it.

BB: Yeah, I know there's two --

NG: There's more than one.

BB: Right, I know there's a couple of names. So did -- are you quizzing -- do you remember their names or do you need me to remind you of their names? And we can talk about it later; that's fine. I'm just wondering if you remember their --

NG: Yeah.

BB: -- names.

NG: I want to mention it to you if you chat it up with me.

BB: Sure.

NG: It's a [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative] So well we'll look some more into OSS, and see if I can get those names, and see if we can get that if we chat it down. Get, you know --

NG: But it's an individual thing.

BB: Sure.

NG: And you should have it [30:00].

BB: I was trying to think of some more questions. The one thing I'd like to spend a little bit of time on is what you remember about the actual physical layout of 1142 [30:21]. And I've got a map I want to show you.

NG: Yeah, there were two offices.

BB: Two offices?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: One is the old one; one is the new one. The old one is the fortification where guns -- where the guns were located.

BB: So it was actually in one of the concrete bunkers?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Oh, so there was an office inside one of those?

NG: Yeah, and then there was an office on the side street. And I told you there was a bird where it had its nest there.

BB: Right [laughs].

NG: And they -- the bird's nest -- blue birds can be very [31:00] --

BB: Protective of --

NG: -- fearless.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Protective. Yeah, they had their babies there.

BB: And so once you were actually attacked by one.

NG: Well he knocked my hat off [laughs]. And that was [unintelligible].

BB: Okay [laughs].

NG: I didn't get out [spelled phonetically].

BB: So there were two offices, both for the Y -- the MIS-Y Program [31:30].

NG: No, they were both for the Y Program.

BB: Okay.

NG: The old office also held the administrative part of the [inaudible], the listening devices.

BB: Oh, this is the old -- or [32:00] the one that was in the gun battery, the old bunker? So that -- so the listening devices were -- they were inside one of these old bunkers?

NG: Well close to it.

(End of Tape 5A)

(Beginning of Tape 5B)

BB: That whole area was -- that general vicinity was where all the listening devices -- or the monitoring units were?

NG: Yeah, the [unintelligible] had offices and Dave [spelled phonetically] had the [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: And --

BB: Would you mind if I pulled out the map and show it to you and see if you remember the layout of it?

NG: If it's not too big a job.

BB: Oh no, it's right here. You may need your glasses. And I -- what I might do is come over with the camera behind you to see if you remember. And I'll happily explain some of this to you. Now this is where you would have entered the fort and come in here. And then here these are gun batteries and these are gun batteries, each of these --

NG: Yeah [spelled phonetically] [01:00].

BB: -- are where the guns were.

NG: They were not where the guns were they were --

BB: Right.

NG: -- inside.

BB: Right. But, yeah, they were off -- they didn't have any guns in them. But -- and then our understanding is that there were two prisoner compounds, this was the main one. And then this one may have been built at a later date. It may not have been there

when you were there. These would have all been, I believe, barracks and a lot of these might have been administrative. If you want to glance at that for a second I'm going to grab the camera.

NG: Where did this go to?

BB: That I think -- that I think was just a road. I'm not sure where that went to.

NG: That may have went down to the other office. The barracks where the prisoners were held were not [02:00] anywhere near the offices.

BB: So does that look a little bit familiar to you?

NG: What?

BB: Just the overall layout [03:00].

NG: I can't remember it anymore.

BB: And so these are some of the larger gun batteries here, here, and these. Are you saying so somewhere in or near them was where some of these offices would have been?

NG: I don't know. What's supposed to be here in these --

BB: Well let's see if the -- if they're mentioned. No. I'm not -- I'm not sure. Some of the long ones would have been barracks; the long skinny ones. But I don't know what some of those other buildings that are labeled like 50 and 52 [04:00] -- this was apparently the PX [04:10], that building there.

NG: I remember drinking the beer. They were drinking a lot of beer there.

BB: Oh yeah [laughs]?

NG: Do you remember the name Rheine [spelled phonetically]?

BB: [affirmative]

NG: He was the head of the MPs.

BB: Yes. There was the officer.

NG: He was a major, I think.

BB: Right. No, that's very -- definitely familiar. We've interviewed a couple of MPs
[05:00].

NG: And you know he lived nearby and his wife did.

BB: Oh really? So they didn't live on the post.

NG: On the other side of the main street. I think. Maybe towards Alexandria.

BB: So do you remember in -- on -- at all where the prisoners were kept? Does that one
look familiar right there [inaudible]?

NG: [inaudible] that's what I'm trying to make out -- is that what it is?

BB: This -- our understanding is this was the main complex that was there when you would
have been there. That's the barbed wire fence going around and these are guard
towers in the corners. This is where the prisoners would have been kept. And then, I
believe, these are where the actual interrogations took place in these -- in these
buildings. But we're not -- we're not positive on that and that's why [06:00] I'm
asking some of these questions.

NG: Weren't some of the prisoners held here?

BB: Well, yeah I'm not too -- we're not sure and that's -- we'd be curious if you
remembered at all where some of the prisoners might have been kept.

NG: We were not supposed to go in there because some of the prisoners, especially after
dark, could have become unfriendly.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: So you needed the military [07:00].

BB: The MPs [07:09] had to come along?

NG: You had to go -- if you went in there you -- you had to go -- the soldiers, military police, with weapons; couldn't take a chance in just going in there.

BB: [affirmative] And so that map didn't -- some of it look familiar but not tremendously.

NG: Pardon?

BB: The map that didn't bring back --

NG: It's kind of difficult for me to remember.

BB: Sure [08:00].

NG: Because -- do you know when the officers' club is?

BB: No, do you -- have we -- you know, may possibly. There is a much smaller map in this but it's labeled much better. We have several labeled as officers' quarters and officers' latrine.

NG: Well they had two bathrooms there, one in the old section and one in the new section.

BB: And so you definitely remember, were there offices inside the concrete gun batteries [09:00]?

NG: I don't remember that.

BB: Oh, okay. Was there anything under -- hidden underground? Any underground buildings or rooms.

NG: I thought there was -- there were heavy gun batteries there. But maybe the guns weren't there with the -- to storm.

BB: [affirmative] And that's our understanding, the guns would not have been there.

NG: I don't think I'm [unintelligible] but I don't think so.

BB: Yeah. The guns were taken out in World War I.

NG: Yeah.

BB: They were never put back [10:00].

NG: But they had to be big guns to stop those ships.

BB: [affirmative] You had mentioned a little bit about the MPs [10:13]. Did they call them -- they lived on base as well, the MPs?

NG: I believe so.

BB: Do you remember anything about them? How many -- were there lots and lots of them or just a couple? And do you know --

NG: There were quite a lot.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I would say there was a company.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: And I remember one -- he was a huge fellow. He was a wrestler from Florida.

[laughter]

And anyway somebody wanted to talk to [11:00] the prisoners, he would tell them, "Go and get me this and this man." And he would go there and grab them by the neck and pick him up, bring him in, and drop him. He was very strong.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: In fact, I remember the name of the guy. He was [unintelligible] but he ate like a pig.

[laughter]

You know, he was big he was --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- a very big man.

BB: Did you interact much with the MPs [11:44]? Did you socialize with them at all?

NG: Not too much. Oh you talk to them; we ate at the same mess hall.

BB: [affirmative] [12:00]. Did they --

NG: But I don't know much.

BB: Did you get to --

NG: I was told once that it's not safe to go amongst the soldiers, to the prisoners, where they slept.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible] middle of the night. Because you know they're -- and [unintelligible] [13:00] protection.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But I never heard of any fights.

BB: Did you get the sense that the MPs [13:07] knew what was going on at the facility? I mean they --

NG: Yeah.

BB: -- knew it was an interrogation facility.

NG: Yes.

BB: Did they have anything to do with the interrogations? Would they stand there during an interrogation or would they stand outside the door?

NG: No, they did not stand there. They dropped them off and left again.

BB: Okay.

NG: They stood and -- behind the door.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: Because if there was any need for help, they were available.

BB: [affirmative] And they had their own office -- I -- would you like me to take that? I can take that if you'd like to get it out of your way.

NG: Yeah, I'll take it.

BB: And I can -- I -- I'll leave this with you as well [14:00]. Can you remember -- did the MPs [14:04] they had their own command. You said Rheine [spelled phonetically], Major Rheine [14:08].

NG: Yeah, he was there.

BB: So there was -- they had their own command and the Y section [14:14] had its own command; and they were separate.

NG: They were all together.

BB: Okay.

NG: I remember there was one area [spelled phonetically], maybe more than one, the X section [14:42] who was in the war, and he was caught by the Germans. He was in the air -- in the [15:00] Air Force.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And they made their way out someone with the help of some French [unintelligible]. And when they came back they were asked to give some ideas if somebody should get caught [inaudible].

BB: Oh.

NG: The best way to being able to [unintelligible] to get away and come back.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I remember the guy who told the story was wearing what they called flying boot.

Did you ever hear that?

BB: A flying boot [15:45]?

NG: Yes.

BB: Did that mean they had bailed out of a plane?

NG: There was a [unintelligible] [16:00].

BB: And so he worked in the X section [16:02]?

NG: No, but I talked to them.

BB: Okay.

NG: And I was talking to Bedini [16:09] quite often.

BB: [affirmative] Did he share much about the X section [16:14] or was that pretty secretive?

NG: They were secretive on their own.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But it wasn't -- it was a very small effort that was made and it had very little to do with the rest of the --

BB: [affirmative] Do you remember the -- apparently one of the buildings they worked in was called the Creamery [16:43]. Does that ring a bell?

NG: What was I supposed to do [spelled phonetically]?

BB: Did that -- it was -- it was codenamed the Creamery but it's just where they were doing a lot of their code work. I wasn't sure if you had ever heard of that before.

NG: No, I thought the code [17:00] -- the code work was done in a different place.

BB: There was -- there was code work and there were secret packages they were making

with the escape devices inside.

NG: Yeah, I don't remember that.

BB: Okay.

NG: But I know they had different can [spelled phonetically], big one, and he had a -- they had a lot of equipment to break the codes and to make codes.

BB: [affirmative] [18:00] But this was not at 1142 [18:02].

NG: I don't remember [inaudible].

BB: Okay.

NG: There was one or two people. I don't remember [inaudible].

BB: Okay.

NG: I know the place has a [unintelligible] there. They had a -- they used planes there to go on missions to learn how to recognize things from the air.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It's very difficult.

BB: To ask a few more questions about the layout of 1142 [18:49]. Did you live in a barracks when you were there?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay. Do you remember -- it was just enlisted men in that barracks, right [19:00]?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay. Do you remember about how many people lived in each barracks?

NG: Well, they were partitioned.

BB: Oh, okay. So they had rooms in them.

NG: Yeah. I don't remember if four in that room or [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't remember too much.

BB: Okay.

NG: But it was comfortable.

BB: Okay. Were the prisoners kept just in a fenced in compound or were they ever given freedoms to walk around the post or anything? Or were they always kept in barbed wire [20:00]?

NG: I think they were allowed out. I don't remember if [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't believe -- they went to eat.

BB: Oh so they didn't -- they ate outside of the -- out of the barbed wire.

NG: The barbed wire went around the whole thing.

BB: Oh so was there a fence that went around all of 1142 [20:23]?

NG: I believe so.

BB: Okay. Do you remember anything about that fence?

NG: I remember they had, what do you call those towers?

BB: Just a --

NG: [inaudible]

BB: Guard towers?

NG: Yeah. Towers so they could reach every -- they had bushes too in the fences [21:00].

But I don't know of anybody else they were trying to harm [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They were treated well.

BB: The prisoners?

NG: Yeah.

BB: [affirmative] Was the camp -- did it feel open? Could you see a long ways or were there lots of trees everywhere?

NG: I think you could see pretty much.

BB: Could you see the Potomac River [21:34]?

NG: You had to go out.

BB: Oh, to the -- you had to leave the post and then you could see it.

NG: If you'd leave the post --

BB: Okay. Do you remember the swimming pool?

NG: Yes.

BB: Did you ever use it?

NG: Probably. I don't remember too well [22:00]. By the time they were -- that was pretty late in the game --

BB: Okay.

NG: -- that they put it in. But then they destroyed it again.

BB: Oh really?

NG: Yeah, when the war was over.

BB: Oh right, yeah. It's not there anymore, right. Do you know if they ever let prisoners in the pool?

NG: I don't remember.

BB: Okay. Another real specific question; how was the military atmosphere? Was it -- was it very formal or was it informal? I mean would you -- every time you saw an

officer, would you salute?

NG: Yeah, you had to salute the major. It wasn't extremely strict.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: The strictest one on the post I would say was Colonel Dean [23:00].

BB: Oh really? Okay. And did they have you get out every morning and salute the flag and go to reveille and taps?

NG: I don't remember it. I know we had to run around and then later on to walk around the thick part of the surrounding [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That's where we had the -- the colonel got sick once; he was in your 40s and they gave to [spelled phonetically] -- changed to if someone's over 40, you couldn't [24:00] [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Because Colonel Dean [24:12] was pretty strict with the [inaudible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But when the people fall out then they changed it.

BB: [affirmative] When you were there were all of the prisoners German or were there any from other countries?

NG: I am trying to remember -- there was one Italian officer there [25:00]; he was not a prisoner. But, you know, during the war the Italians changed.

BB: Right.

NG: And we had like the military force of the Italian Army they came over to help us fight --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- the Germans. If I remember right -- what was the [unintelligible]? Yeah. I think so. That was there because that happened during the period I was in 2411.

BB: At 1142 [26:00]?

NG: 742?

BB: 1142.

NG: 1142.

BB: Yeah.

NG: During that time period was at Italy --

BB: Right.

NG: -- when I [inaudible] you know, I'm making uniforms for the force that Italian Army.

BB: You made a uniform?

NG: Yeah. I changed whatever uniform they had and made some changes; put some items on -- he became the head of the Italian military.

BB: Was this at 1142 [26:51]?

NG: I believe so. They had a -- they had a little tailor shop there.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I had some of them they break out [spelled phonetically].

BB: Right.

NG: Close to [27:00] tailor shop.

BB: Right, you mentioned that yesterday.

NG: And it was -- that was used again by the agency to make up a uniform for a military officer. I had an [unintelligible] force. But this Italian -- I used a uniform that came

from one of our uniforms and I made some changes. He became the head of the [unintelligible].

BB: For real or --

NG: [inaudible]

BB: -- for pretend?

NG: For real.

BB: Oh he actually -- so you made -- so someone at 1142 [28:00] --

NG: But [spelled phonetically] I don't know that much about it.

BB: But he -- so someone out of 11 --

NG: I know the German stuff so it was a good thing to get rid of the Germans [spelled phonetically]. The -- what we said they are more interested in love as in war. [laughter]

BB: And so at 1142 [28:26] there was somebody who, when the Italians switched sides, he became the head of the entire Italian military; and he was at 1142.

NG: Maybe he brought him in for that, I don't know.

BB: Okay. And you made his uniform out of an American uniform.

NG: Yeah, well I made some changes.

BB: Right.

NG: And I don't remember exactly what but it was a nice uniform.

[laughter]

BB: Well in [29:00] wrap -- we don't -- made a little bit of tape --

NG: But you know it was very hard to find somebody who knew something about tailoring. And who had, what do you call that? A rank --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- that can be trust -- trusted.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I don't know if the opportunity [inaudible].

BB: Right. Well you -- and you don't have to. That's not on here to talk about. You can if you'd like to but that's not what I'm here for.

NG: I tell you this only once [spelled phonetically] the intention of our people in the agency [30:00] [unintelligible] with a lot of science and smartness to -- and I had a couple girls who saw the machine, had to tell them what to do.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But that was not an --

BB: All right well I'm going to -- this tape is about done. So I'm going to go ahead and stop it. But --

(End of Tape 5B)

(Beginning of Tape 6A)

BB: Today is May 15, 2007. This is Brandon Bies with the National Parks Service and the Fort Hunt Oral History Project. We're here at the home of Mr. Norman Graber in Florida, and this is the sixth and final in a series of tapes talking about his experiences at 1142. So with that, we've only got about 25 minutes left before we have to go, but I just wanted to talk a little bit about how you came to leave 1142. You -- you'd been there for what, about two years or so?

NG: That's right. They told me that we had to leave after two years.

BB: Oh, that you were only allowed to stay there for two years.

NG: I was not allowed to leave longer than two years.

BB: Okay. And did they tell you -- did you want to leave? Did you want to go [01:00] somewhere else?

NG: I didn't want to leave.

BB: Okay.

NG: So I was -- made it be known that I was -- that I was being considered to be an instructor at Camp Ritchie [01:21].

BB: [affirmative] And so you were familiar with Ritchie, and by this point in the war --

NG: That was -- that was earlier. I was supposed to go there after 1142 [01:39].

BB: Oh, really?

NG: And 1142 let me go.

BB: Oh. Okay. Okay.

NG: So after I was -- because I was training already at the fort, San Antonio [02:00].

BB: Right.

NG: So they wanted me in Ritchie [02:04]. So I went through the preparation for Ritchie.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [inaudible]

BB: And were you commissioned when you were at Ritchie?

NG: They didn't tell you ranks. It was only after it was all over that I was told I was available to join as an officer.

BB: Oh, really? Did you want to be an officer, or were you content to be a sergeant?

NG: No. I would have liked to be an officer.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: As a [03:00] -- it gave you extra meaning.

BB: Sure.

NG: Like when I borrowed a pencil, I had to sign for it if I was an enlisted man.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: If you're an officer, you don't have to sign it [laughs]. They also give you other things.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And then you have a lot of responsibility [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It was fun, too. I signed for a whole bunch of whistles.

BB: Really?

NG: In Europe when we arrived. And I didn't remember doing it. I don't know how [unintelligible] got there, and I told him that I lost it in action.

BB: [affirmative] [04:00] And so your time at Ritchie [04:03], how long were you at Ritchie for?

NG: I guess about four months.

BB: Okay.

NG: [unintelligible] about four months.

BB: Do you remember about when you were at Ritchie [04:29]? It was 1944, right?

NG: Yeah.

BB: Okay.

NG: We get extra training for the interrogation of prisoners.

BB: [Affirmative]. How -- was that good training or was it helping you? Was it -- did you already know everything from 1142 [04:47]?

NG: Well, I may have believed I knew everything; I didn't. I took the course. And I [unintelligible] did it very well [05:00].

BB: [affirmative] Were you an instructor at Ritchie [05:07] or just taking courses?

NG: Just taking the course.

BB: Okay. Do you remember what things were like? Were there a lot of other people at Ritchie that had also been at 1142 [05:21]?

NG: That was -- I don't believe so. Later on.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: When I came to Germany, I found out.

BB: Okay. You -- that's where you saw lots of people from 1142 [05:50], when you were in Germany? Was Heinz [05:54] at Ritchie [05:55] with you?

NG: I don't believe so.

BB: Okay [06:00].

NG: He came a little later.

BB: Okay.

NG: What else?

BB: So you left Ritchie [06:10] and then you went overseas from there?

NG: Yes.

BB: Okay.

NG: We went to England, and I was [unintelligible]. I don't recall it [unintelligible] place. I forget the name of it.

BB: Yeah. I know what you're talking about, but I can't remember. Do you know when -- was it still 1944 when you went over to England?

NG: Yes.

BB: Do you remember what time? Was it winter of '44 yet, or was it --

NG: I got my promotion to second lieutenant to [unintelligible] [07:00].

BB: Oh, okay. And was that -- what -- were you already over there at that point, or were you still here when you were promoted?

NG: What?

BB: Where were you when you were promoted?

NG: This was Ritchie [07:12].

BB: Okay. So then after October 1st you left to go to England. And then --

NG: In England we crossed over to France, and I don't remember. It's near that big [unintelligible].

BB: Bress?

NG: No. The other side.

BB: Cherbourg? Cherbourg?

NG: No.

BB: No?

NG: No. You had to-- beachhead.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I didn't get anywhere so soon. By the time [08:00] I landed on the other side of the channel, it was a lot of destruction already by American artillery.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Why I can't remember the name, it's almost ridiculous.

BB: And so you were overseas and we talked about --

NG: I'll let you know the date when I think of it.

BB: Sure.

NG: It's just [unintelligible].

BB: Sure. So --

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: That is perfectly acceptable. So you were overseas [09:00] in the combat zone and whatnot through the end of the war, and we've already talked a little bit about your time in Berlin [09:09] and then escorting folks to Nuremburg [09:13]. When all this was over and the war was over, you --

NG: They asked me to stay another year.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I was a promotion company.

BB: Okay.

NG: And I was [unintelligible] because what I didn't want to sign up for another year.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I told them I want to see my mother and wife.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I said I'm afraid she may not be alive if I wait, and I was right. My mother died.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I saw her before she died. I wasn't there when she died and I'm sorry for that. I was in Washington at the time.

BB: [affirmative] [10:00]

NG: So these -- they said they're sending me straight home, which they should have done.

They attached me to a unit that was being dissolved.

BB: Right. You mentioned that -- the 94th Division [10:14].

NG: Right. Yeah. It was also called [unintelligible] because we had people coming into [unintelligible] the German army, and the MP [10:33] told them, "Come back to [unintelligible]."

BB: And so --

NG: They did come the next morning.

BB: And so you then went back to the United States, and you -- for a short while, you were back at 1142 [10:52]?

NG: I was somewhere else also [11:00]. It was Baltimore.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: G-2 working on intelligence.

BB: Right. There was a large camp there. You're right. Yeah. No. I'm aware of that. There's a large camp in Baltimore dealing with intelligence.

NG: And well, we started also the German occupation was [unintelligible] Russia.

BB: [affirmative] And did you then go from -- to Baltimore?

NG: Yeah, I went directly to [unintelligible].

BB: So did you ever go -- even just for a few weeks, go back to 1142 [11:51]?

NG: I believe so.

BB: Okay.

NG: And then I went to Baltimore [12:00].

BB: [affirmative] Do you remember --

NG: I don't remember what I did anymore. It wasn't anything big.

BB: Okay.

NG: I was --

BB: Things were winding down at 1142 [12:14]?

NG: I don't remember. I know we did some translations.

BB: Oh, okay.

NG: And I was -- I may have done some translations from English into German.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: That's a little more difficult.

BB: Yeah.

NG: It's easier translating German to English.

BB: [affirmative] And then you went to Baltimore [12:52] for a little while and then into -- then were you mustered out in Baltimore? Or I guess you maintained -- did you maintain a reserve [13:00] commission? Okay. So you stayed in the reserves. What was your -- were you still a lieutenant at this time?

NG: What?

BB: Were you still a lieutenant at this time?

NG: Yes. And that was when I came back in. Actually when I went out, I was given a promotion to first lieutenant.

BB: Okay.

NG: Which I should have gotten six months earlier.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Probably more than six months earlier.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But it was past.

BB: And then you went from Baltimore [13:40] --

NG: And I stayed in the reserves.

BB: Okay.

NG: And then I joined the agency after the [unintelligible].

BB: Okay.

NG: And then it came to a point where they asked us, do you want to remain with the agency and at the same time remain in the reserves, or do you [14:00] want to give up the army and stay with the agency, and I remember our executive officer with the [unintelligible] was General Smith [14:26].

BB: Okay.

NG: And I asked him what should I do -- I want to do what's best for the United States.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: [affirmative] When you joined the CIG [14:49], was there -- did they have anything to do with 1142 [14:54]?

NG: Not to my knowledge.

BB: Okay [15:00]. So you're -- anything you had to do with 1142 ended essentially when the war ended. There were no dealings with them with CIG or CIA [15:11].

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible]

BB: Right. Right.

NG: And then it became more [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative] Let me ask you when you were with the agency in CIG [15:28], did you do any work with the Gehlen organization, with Reinhard Gehlen [15:35]?

NG: Oh, you mean the German?

BB: Yeah.

NG: No.

BB: Okay. Because I don't know if you knew, he was held at 1142 [15:43].

NG: No. I had nothing to do with it.

BB: Okay. He was -- he was taken -- when he was captured, he was taken back to 1142.

NG: Yeah, a lot of others, too, [unintelligible] [16:00].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Werner von Braun. I didn't know at the time how important he was, but he lived there.

BB: At 1142 [16:09]?

NG: For a while, yeah. But I didn't know who was who anymore.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: They were very nice to me, but it was only for a short time.

BB: But when you went back to Fort Hunt [16:24], to 1142 after the war had ended, that's when von Braun [16:29] was there?

NG: Who?

BB: Wernher von Braun. He was there when you came back?

NG: That's possible, but I didn't know anything about it.

BB: Sure.

NG: I just heard the name and I didn't know the meaning of it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: Only much later did I find out --

BB: Right.

NG: -- that he was a scientist who [unintelligible].

BB: [affirmative] But in terms of Reinhard Gehlen [16:55] and his organization?

NG: No.

BB: Okay.

NG: I know the name of Gehlen [17:00].

BB: Right. Okay. So in closing, just the last ten minutes or so, do you have any final words about your experience at 1142 [17:12]? Was it a good experience, a bad experience, did you --

NG: It was an excellent experience. I'm very proud of it. When I heard the -- before I left, there was a public announcement to the Pentagon, "We are no longer worried about the [unintelligible]."

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We did a lot. I [18:00] don't talk about it. I was taught not to talk about it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I feel I was given [unintelligible] one of the -- I don't remember which one of the top Navy [18:19] people --

BB: [affirmative]

NG: -- told Colonel Dean [18:23] that I was working. They are very much thankful for me that my efforts were beyond the -- what the state called beyond the -- what you're supposed to do.

BB: [affirmative] Above and beyond the call of duty?

NG: That's right. And I should have asked them whether they put it in my file. I don't know if he did or not.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: He may have done it [19:00], he may have not because he never told the Navy [19:03] -- actually, the Navy owes me, you know? I have never said this before, but I feel the Navy owes me a thank you.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I did everything because I was proud of it, but I helped the Navy.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: But I repeat it sometimes since I still belong to these [unintelligible], and I'm -- I can't talk about it.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And those are the people who know what was going on.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And many of them are dying now.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: I lost two army officers in [20:00] the last couple of years. I have to excuse myself.

BB: Sure. We're about done now anyhow.

NG: I have to go to the bathroom.

BB: Sure. So any other closing thoughts or anything?

NG: What?

BB: Any closing thoughts about 1142 [20:27]?

NG: We did a lot to help the [unintelligible] Navy [20:41].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: We also did as much as we could to help others' efforts.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I'm glad that I was [21:00] able to meet them again in France and [21:06],
Germany.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And I was very pleased with the military people in Frankfurt [21:27]. Actually, it was
Oberursel [21:28].

BB: [affirmative]

NG: You ever hear of Oberursel?

BB: [affirmative]

NG: It was an Air Force [21:39] base to Germany's air force. American pilots and
navigators and so forth, they went right through, and when we came in [22:00], we
chased them out. We took over.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And then I would say, again, very pleased when what's his name, the colonel, in
[unintelligible].

BB: Van Cleve [22:28]?

NG: Pardon?

BB: Van Cleve?

NG: Van Cleve. Yeah. [unintelligible] He was a very nice person.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: There were some people -- he could be mean too. We had two people who wanted to [unintelligible] the mess officer -- the mess officer, at one point, he [23:00] gave the two big cans three pounds each coffee to somebody who sold him a dog. And there was talk about his using government property to get a dog.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: [unintelligible] and they told us to -- tell me again the name of the Colonel.

BB: Van Cleve [23:41]?

NG: Van Cleve and he should have done the same thing because Van Cleve made the appointment with the mess officer.

BB: [affirmative]

NG: And he said, "I say [unintelligible], not you [24:00]."

BB: Well, unfortunately, it's 4:00 and I'm going to have to -- unless you have anything else?

NG: All right. We'll meet again.

BB: Oh, absolutely. I'm going to try to --

NG: I think my wife is anxious to go to the meeting.

[end of transcript]

Index

20th Division, [Tape 1B] 29:09
“25 on the ass,” [Tape 1A] 23:22, 24:25
28th Division, [Tape 2A] 21:05, 21:33, 23:32, 24:26
94th Division, [Tape 4A] 02:36
 [Tape 6A] 10:14

Air Force, [Tape 2B] 00:11, 02:28
 [Tape 3A] 12:15, 15:29, 16:37
 [Tape 5B] 15:00
 [Tape 6A] 21:39

Alberti, [Tape 3B] 26:07, 26:20
American embassy, [Tape 1B] 14:09
Arizona, [Tape 4A] 07:26
Army, [Tape 3B] 06:51, 17:51, 20:00, 27:53, 30:05
 [Tape 4B] 14:58, 15:13, 16:30, 18:24, 23:17, 24:03
Aschenbrenner, [Tape 3A] 31:11
Austria, [Tape 1A] 00:50
 [Tape 2A] 26:25

Baltimore, [Tape 6A] 12:00, 12:52, 13:40
Battle of the Bulge, [Tape 2B] 02:17
Bavaria, [Tape 4A] 03:18
Baylan, Joseph, [Tape 4A] 28:07, 28:41, 29:13, 29:25
Bedini, Silvio, [Tape 3A] 12:52
 [Tape 5B] 16:09
Bentui, [Tape 3A] 23:19
Berlin, [Tape 2A] 13:21
 [Tape 6A] 09:09
Bismarck, [Tape 2A] 16:03
Blind, [Tape 5B] 14:08
Britain, [Tape 1B] 17:44
Brown shirts, [Tape 1A] 08:04, 10:34
Buchenwald, [Tape 1B] 06:12, 07:17, 10:28, 13:55, 15:08, 18:57

Camp Croft, [Tape 1B] 29:00
 [Tape 2A] 21:26
Camp Ritchie, [Tape 6A] 01:21, 02:04, 04:03, 04:29, 05:07, 05:55, 06:10, 07:12
Canada, [Tape 4B] 00:19
Center Group, [Tape 2B] 30:14
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), [Tape 3A] 02:49
 [Tape 6A] 15:11
CIG, [Tape 3A] 02:30
 [Tape 6A] 14:49, 15:28
Collingwood, [Tape 5A] 26:07

Creamery, [Tape 5B] 16:43

Dachau, [Tape 1A] 18:28, 19:18, 20:13

[Tape 1B] 04:34, 05:12, 06:08

[Tape 4B] 00:47

Danzig, [Tape 3A] 27:23

[Tape 4B] 28:19

Dean, John, [Tape 3A] 05:42, 11:43

[Tape 5B] 23:00, 24:12

[Tape 6A] 18:23, 21:06

Dressler, Werner, [Tape 3B] 13:26, 14:04

[Tape 4A] 07:38, 07:54, 08:48, 23:58

England, [Tape 1B] 09:33

Fitz, [Tape 4A] 01:58

Flying boot, [Tape 5B] 15:45

Fort Hunt, [Tape 2B] 09:42, 10:32

[Tape 3A] 06:06

[Tape 4A] 07:28, 24:27, 24:39, 24:44

[Tape 4B] 01:29, 25:21, 27:09

[Tape 6A] 16:24

Fort Meade, [Tape 4A] 31:17, 31:25

[Tape 4B] 13:17

France, [Tape 3A] 24:11

Frankfurt, [Tape 6A] 21:27

Franz, [Tape 4A] 05:00

Gehlen, Reinhard, [Tape 6A] 15:35, 16:55

Gestapo, [Tape 1A] 14:51

[Tape 1B] 08:18

Great Britain, [Tape 1B] 14:00, 15:09

Hague, [Tape 2A] 32:06

Heinz, [Tape 3B] 00:13

[Tape 4A] 00:38, 00:42

[Tape 6A] 05:54

Hejlsberg, [Tape 1B] 29:16

Henke, Werner, [Tape 4A] 29:43, 30:01, 30:21, 30:49

Hess, Bill, [Tape 3B] 15:30

[Tape 4B] 27:28

Himmler, Heinrich, [Tape 2A] 13:54

Hitler, Adolf, [Tape 1A] 05:35, 07:35

[Tape 2B] 24:52

[Tape 2A] 18:25

Holland, [Tape 1B] 18:37

Interrogation of prisoners of war (IPO), [Tape 2A] 01:00

Jaslo, [Tape 1A] 01:08

Kenner, [Tape 3B] 23:17, 23:51, 24:54

Kleinman, [Tape 4A] 10:11

Kretzman, [Tape 4A] 00:22, 00:39, 00:46, 1:36

Kristallnacht, [Tape 1A] 08:25

Kubala, [Tape 3A] 26:55

[Tape 4A] 10:49, 11:20, 13:01, 19:09, 26:50

Le Vesinet, [Tape 2A] 12:36

Lichtenstein, [Tape 3A] 21:32

Limer, [Tape 4A] 07:43, 08:00

Louisiana, [Tape 2A] 22:17, 22:48, 23:54

Military police (MP), [Tape 3B] 00:45

[Tape 5B] 05:00, 07:09, 10:13, 11:44, 13:07, 14:04

[Tape 6A] 10:33

Miller, Ray, [Tape 4B] 26:38

Minnesota, [Tape 2A] 29:44

MIS-X, [Tape 3A] 12:42

[Tape 5B] 14:42, 16:02, 16:14

MIS-Y, [Tape 3A] 12:32, 16:47

[Tape 4A] 10:22

[Tape 5A] 31:30

[Tape 5B] 14:14

Monte Cassino, [Tape 5A] 06:23

Mulligan, Timothy, [Tape 4A] 30:08, 30:22

Munich, [Tape 4B] 07:02

National Archives, [Tape 4A] 13:22, 30:07

National Guard Service, [Tape 4A] 28:15

National Park Service, [Tape 4A] 28:25, 28:55, 29:14, 29:48

Navy, [Tape 3B] 25:53, 26:32, 27:51, 28:28, 30:06

[Tape 4B] 13:45, 14:42, 14:56, 15:24, 18:00, 21:57, 23:24

[Tape 5A] 27:55

[Tape 6A] 18:19, 19:03, 20:41

Nazis, [Tape 1A] 05:53, 13:24

[Tape 3B] 03:29

[Tape 4A] 04:24

New York, [Tape 1B] 11:01, 18:21, 24:11

[Tape 2B] 06:26

Northern Group, [Tape 2B] 30:13

Nuremberg, [Tape 3B] 02:48

[Tape 6A] 09:13

Oberst, [Tape 3A] 29:05

Oberursel, [Tape 6A] 21:28

Office of Strategic Services (OSS), [Tape 5A] 23:19, 23:53, 25:10, 25:36, 26:52, 27:19, 27:50,
28:25, 29:06

Otto, [Tape 4B] 03:50

Paris, [Tape 2B] 04:13

[Tape 2A] 10:46, 12:09

Pentagon, [Tape 3B] 10:56

[Tape 5A] 22:36

Pine Grove, [Tape 4B] 25:05, 25:12, 25:24, 25:42, 26:42, 27:11, 27:32, 28:02, 28:44, 29:01

P.O. Box 1142, [Tape 1B] 14:50, 30:22

[Tape 2A] 09:24, 10:18, 17:34, 20:41, 21:00, 23:45

[Tape 2B] 08:21, 11:24, 12:20, 14:12, 23:47, 24:31, 25:05, 27:16

[Tape 3A] 02:05, 03:10, 10:36, 14:40, 19:48, 26:17, 18:02, 18:49, 20:23, 26:00, 26:51,
28:00, 28:26

[Tape 3B] 03:33, 04:10, 04:40, 05:08, 05:48, 06:00, 07:39, 08:56, 09:21, 11:04, 11:46,
13:29, 23:18, 23:52

[Tape 4A] 00:06, 10:16, 15:29, 30:54

[Tape 4B] 10:27, 12:44, 13:10, 13:22, 14:27, 17:55, 21:25, 22:00, 24:56, 25:30, 28:42,
30:24

[Tape 5A] 00:35, 07:55, 18:08, 22:53, 23:00, 23:34, 25:14, 25:45, 26:57, 30:21

[Tape 5B] 18:02, 18:49, 20:23, 26:00, 26:51, 28:00, 28:26

[Tape 6A] 01:39, 04:47, 05:21, 05:50, 10:52, 11:51, 12:14, 14:54, 15:43, 16:09, 17:12,
20:27

Poland, [Tape 1A] 01:46

Potomac River, [Tape 5B] 21:34

PX, [Tape 5B] 04:10

Revin, [Tape 3A] 22:21

Royal Forces, [Tape 4B] 16:39

San Antonio, [Tape 2A] 00:41, 03:24, 10:27, 20:46, 23:37

[Tape 6A] 02:00

Schutzstaffel (SS), [Tape 1A] 16:07, 17:04

[Tape 3A] 28:50, 29:49

[Tape 4B] 04:00

Smith, [Tape 6A] 14:26

Southern Group, [Tape 2B] 30:15

Stoolpigeon, [Tape 3B] 12:55, 14:16, 15:26, 16:20, 17:05

[Tape 4A] 07:48, 09:15, 13:16, 18:58

The Union, [Tape 1B] 27:09

Van Cleve, [Tape 2A] 10:25, 11:24
 [Tape 6A] 22:28, 23:41
Veterans Affairs (VA), [Tape 2B] 06:24
Versailles, [Tape 2B] 04:19
Vienna, [Tape 1A] 02:04, 02:37, 03:00, 05:19, 06:25, 07:04
 [Tape 1B] 18:36
 [Tape 3B] 31:16
 [Tape 4A] 00:31
Vietnam, [Tape 4B] 15:57
Vogt, [Tape 5A] 02:52
Von Braun, Wernher, [Tape 6A] 16:29

Walker, [Tape 3A] 04:00, 04:56
Wall Street, [Tape 1B] 25:01
Wannsee, [Tape 2A] 13:49
Washington Post, [Tape 4A] 30:19
 [Tape 4B] 01:22
West Point, [Tape 2B] 06:05
Wolfe, [Tape 3A] 07:32
 [Tape 5A] 03:58, 04:27
Woodcarvers, [Tape 4A] 04:43