

The sisters were there. It was a Catholic hospital. Everyone was staring at us. We carried her in. She was knocked out. She was hit on the head. They looked her over, bandaged her. And we brought her back to camp.

When the war was over the Russians and the Poles, and whoever was there jumped into the banks; looted the houses. They got even with the Germans. When the Americans came in they didn't understand that these people had a legitimate right to get even, after being taken to Germany and being mistreated for years. Finally they got a chance to get even

with the Germans. But that couldn't happen. The Americans were too clean for that.

When the Americans came in they put the Russians in one compound and the Poles in another, under guard. They waited for the Russians to take them home. That was the greatest injustice I saw because many of these people had

been fighting Germans for years. Others were cooperating with the Nazis. But the Americans put them all together. A Russian is a Russian.

After the war, we moved into Siegen. We had to search the houses. The Germans had buried everything in their chicken coops. We had mine detectors. We went into the coops and had them so scared at how easily we found their metal(silverware, etc.) We told them all we wanted were their Lugers. They had two hours to bring out all the guns and ammunition. They were so scared that we were going to steal their silverware that they brought everything out. I tried to



kelp them neat. But our soldiers grabbed them. Our group was in charge of putting back the railroad transportation. Since I spoke German I helped the captain.

From Siegen I went to my hometown. There was a restaurant. Leopolds. It was owned by 3 Jews. They put money in the bank under a different name. The Nazis took it back. They never married. We learned they all three jumped into the Rhine and committed suicide.

A German took over the Jewish restaurant. A guy named Hansela. So I asked what happened. He said: We bought it. (Sure he bought it, from the party, for nothing.)

We said we want some wine.

We don't have any wine.

We said: Look. We don't want to steal it from you like you stole this place. (We had German money the Captain had confiscated.)

Oh. When you pay for it.

We loaded the quarter ton trailer up with wine and brought it back to the troops. They had a lost weekend. They drank a bottle at a time.

The Jewish cemetery was in disarray. They had garbage over it. I don't want to accuse them of desecration. It was a Catholic part of the country. And the Catholics knew they were next, after the Jews. So, it might have been in disarray anyway. It was on the River Rhine. It was in a strategic position. It couldn't be helped that some of the trees were felled and some of the graves were turned over.

The first thing I did was I went to the Burgermeister, the

mayor. He knew of me. I was only gone since 1939. This was 1945.

I told him to clean up the cemetery. That was the least I expected of him.

The Germans wanted to please the occupation troops. The town was still intact.

It had suffered but a few hits.

 $\ensuremath{\text{I}}$  went to the American captain at the bridge there.  $\ensuremath{\text{I}}$  gave him my

name, rank, location. I asked him to do me a favor. To check a week from  $\,$ 

now to see if the cemetery was taken care of. He said he would be happy to do it. In 1908 Senta and I went back to Germany. The cemetery was like a

garden. It was under historical protection. It is being taken care of by the government. Everyone came and visited me. (Of course no one admitted to being a Nazi.)



Henry Cann: We were in Europe until December(1945). The war was over in June, July. Our company had a jeep we had-liberated from the infantry during the war. There was only one jeep issued to our company, for the captain and the officers. The second jeep had the same numbers on it as our official jeep. It was duplication, for

transportation only. If any of us guys wanted to go somewhere we needed a trip ticket. (I wrote my own.)

After I got him an Eisenhower jacket, the captain and I had a good understanding. I told the captain that I found out that some of my relatives survived and were living in Holland for years. I'd like to visit them; I'd like to go there. I'd like to take some food along. (Zenta wrote me that they lived in Velp.)

I took a driver, a Jewish boy. And we had a quarter ton trailer filled with food and extra gas. We drove to Velp. I met a woman walking on the street. I tried to speak in Hollandish. I said I'm looking for a family ...A Frau and a man from Germany.

She said:. "Bist du der Henry?" (Tanta Greta was walking the street. I never met her before.)

We went to the house. Marion was a year and a half old. We wanted to give them K rations and C rations. We thought we would do them some good. We saw so many starving people in Europe.

We found out they had better food than we had. Uncle Ullu was trading in carpets. He was making money over there.

They were staying in a nice house. (Mr. Cohen's house.)

Tanta Greta was all excited. Julius had gone to Germany and he hadn't come back.

There were English living in Velp. They had befriended an English major, and Uncle Ullu wanted to see what happened to his houses in Bochum. The major said "I'11 take you there."

The major came back without Julius. He said they made a date to meet at the station and uncle Ullu wasn't there. The major had to come back. The major didn't speak any German. But he wasn't worried.

Greta was excited. "What happened to my Julius'? What happened to my Julius?

She was alone with a one and half year old child. And she was in tears.

I had a trip ticket that allowed me to go anywhere I wanted to go legally. And what is 100 kilometers, nothing.

When you go from one country to another. So what am I going to do. I said "We'll get him."

So the next morning we took off. When we got to Bochum we went to the city hall and asked if there were any Jews living there.

The guy said "No, but there was some half Jews there."

> back here. Was he here? Did he talk to you?

And they did. He was staying with the Gillamens. The woman was Jewish; the man wasn't. They survived.

We looked up the address.

Julius had never met me before. He knew I existed, nothing more.

We went up there, American soldiers, and I said: "Mrs. so and so, I'm Henry Cann. Is Mr.



Seidemann here?"

Uncle Julius had a dry sense of humor. "It's about time that you got here." he said. That's how I met him.

The Major had dropped Julius off. Julius was supposed to check out his houses and then he was supposed to meet the major at the railroad station.

The Major went on to Düsseldorf or some other town. He was drinking. He forgot all about Bochum.

Julius waited until midnight and then he went to this woman's house.

He went out with an English Major and no one asked any questions. He came back with an American Sergeant (not an officer) and we weren't sure what would happen at the border. Holland had reestablished its own sovereignty. He had a British uniform that the major gave him. We gave Julius an American raincoat and an American cap. We put him in the middle of the jeep. He was the guy in the middle.

We arrived at the Holland border. The guy looked at the trip ticket. He looked us over.

Julius was sweating. He was an old guy. We were young guys.

We waited for five minutes.

And the border guard said "Go ahead."

We brought him home.

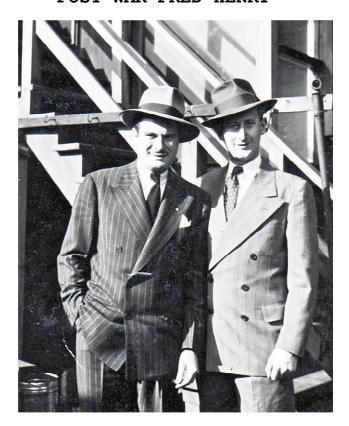
We decided to come back for the Jewish holidays.

I wrote to Uncle Bruno. I said they don't need care packages. Just send them money: And later they came to America





POST WAR FRED HENRY



## AFTER THE WAR ALBERT CANN VISITS ST. LOUIS



MARION JULIUS LINDSEY ALBERT RON SENTA GRETE

HENRY VISITS HIS FAMILY IN ENGLAND (PROBABLY AFTER BUCHENWALD)

## ALFRED HENRY ROSA RALPH HI LDA JOHN ROBERT HOMER.









