



**Alan Dunbar, Captain  
422 Infantry, 106<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division**

MAJOR ABE BAUM,

MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE YOUR HEROIC RAID ON HAMMELBURG IN 1945.

I HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THE BRAVERY OF YOU AND YOUR MEN IN THE LIBERATION OF THE CAMP AT HAMMELBURG.

ALTHOUGH I EXPECTED TO SEE A LARGER FORCE FOLLOWING THE TANKS AND HALF TRACKED VEHICLES IT DID GIVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESCAPE WHEN THE GERMAN GUARDS TOOK OFF.

WE WERE ADVISED NOT TO BOARD ANY OF THE TANKS OR HALF TRACKED VEHICLES, BUT TO WORK OUR WAY TOWARD THE AMERICAN LINES ABOUT 90 MILES WEST.

A FEW OF THE OFFICERS FROM HAMMELBURG JOINED ME, BUT IN OUR CONDITION WE FELT IT BEST TO HITCH A RIDE WITH YOUR TANKS OR HALF TRACKS. WE DID JUST THAT. WE GOT ON BOARD ONE OF THE HALF TRACK VEHICLES. THE SGT IN CHARGE STATED HE WAS GIVEN AN ORDER NOT TO TAKE ANY OF THE ESCAPING POW'S.

HE RELENTED WHEN WE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP HIM IN ANY WAY WE COULD. HE NEEDED A RADIO OPERATOR, I VOLUNTEERED SINCE I WAS A RADIO OPERATOR AS AN ENLISTED MAN AND A COMMUNICATION OFFICER WHEN CAPTURED. HE ACCEPTED MY OFFER. DURING YOUR ATTEMPT TO RETURN TO THE AMERICAN LINES WE CAME UNDER ATTACK BY THE GERMAN FORCES. THE SGT RECOMMENDED WE TAKE OFF AND TRY FOR THE AMERICAN LINES ON OUR OWN.

THIS WE DID. WE TRIED TO SLEEP DURING THE DAY, AND WALK AT NIGHT. WE WERE FREE FOR ABOUT 3 DAYS, BUT OUR LUCK RAN OUT AND WE WERE RECAPTURED.

THEY TOOK US BACK TO HAMMELBURG, WHICH WAS ALMOST EMPTY. THE POW'S WHO REMAINED AT HAMMELBURG WERE MARCHED OUT AND ON THEIR WAY TO NEAUBURG.

WE EVENTUALLY GOT TO NEAUENBURG, AND LATER ON WAS MARCHED TO MOOSBURG.

WE WERE FINALLY LIBERATED BY GEN PATTON'S FORCES IN THE LATTER PART OF APRIL. A MEMBER OF HIS FORCES WAS A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE, WHO CAME INTO THE CAMP AND WE RENEWED OLD FRIENDSHIPS.

I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT YOUR ATTEMPTS TO FREE US WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. THANKS, THANKS AGAIN AND AGAIN

WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS

  
ALAN DUNBAR

OFLAG 64 KREIGIE