

Interview w/ Bill Kirkbride- @ VA Center- 09/06/02
About Bill @ Burgsinn

Bill and his group at Burgsinn worked 6 days a week. They were off on Sunday and did nothing. They washed clothes wrote letters home, etc.

There were about 35 men at the place at first. Several men escaped (about 10) but were recaptured later.

One who escaped was... James Gibson Tucker from New Orleans, LA
Another was Bob Gabriel from Hampton, NH

All of the men were not from the 99th Inf Division. Some were from Anzio Beachhead in Italy. The 99th was not at Anzio.

Bill was a private at the time. . He does not have a wartime photo of himself.

They were @ XIIC at Christmas time.

Bill said there was a maid at their place (hired by the Germans) that sliced liverwurst and gave each of them a slice as they were going out to work. She weighed each piece of meat before she handed it to the men. They were also handed a small slice of bread. This was to be their lunch. The maid's name was Marie and she was about 30 to 35 years old. Furman Grimm corresponded with her after the war and sent her food packages.

Bill said the front porch was a small square about 1 meter square and surrounded by fencing w/ barbed wire. Bill stole the key to the front door and hid it in the attic. The Germans became very angry and threatened all of the men but did nothing.

Bill does not remember anything about the M5A1 tank being disabled.

Typed by:
Bob Thompson...Tulsa...Sept 7, 2002