

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
Nov. 10, 1992

Dick Meskill
1373 Killian Street
Daytona Beach, Florida 32014

Dick,

Your name has crossed my path as I attend reunions of the OFLAG 64 bunch from time to time.

I was held, against my will, at Oflag 64 then at Hammellburg, then at Nurenberg and then at Mooseberg.

At Hammellberg, I was involved in the escape attempt and was eventually recaptured as was most everybody else.

In conversations that I have had with various people and in conversations that I have overheard, your name has been mentioned in regard to incidents that occurred during my "misspent youth".

The first incident is the day at Hammelberg when the tanks had broken through the wire, Lt. Col Waters and party had left the camp to contact the tank forces. Lt. Col Waters was then shot and two men were bringing him back into the camp to get him out of any additional danger. As the two men, w/Col. Waters came to the hole in the wire the tanks had made they were attempting to get him across the wire and on into the camp. I arrived at the wire at the same time in my attempt to get out of the camp and on up the hill to where the tanks were. I stopped long enough to help the two men to get Col. Waters across the tangled up wire and on into the camp. I have heard that you were one of the men that was carrying Col. Waters back to the camp, after he had been shot. I have always wondered who these two men were. Were you one of them?

The second incident occurred as the recon patrol of tanks was attempting to find a way to return to the American lines after we had been released from the camp at Hammelburg. The way I remember it, the patrol was 2 Sherman tanks in the lead and the third vehicle was a half-track with a 76mm gun pointing out the windshield and across the hood. After we had gone through a little town and gone a few miles, maybe 2 or 3, the first tank was hit with a German bazooka round. Then after a few moments, the second tank was hit with hit with something, probably a bazooka round. The third vehicle, the half track, and all the other vehicles were able to turn around and head back in the direction we came from. I was sitting on the hood of the third vehicle and I understand that you were either in the second vehicle or the third vehicle. I have a good friend in Shreveport La. that

was in the third vehicle and he remembers the incident as I do. Question? Were you in the second or third vehicle and do you remember the incidents as I do?


I visited briefly with Bob Christensen of Loveland, Colo. in Colo. Springs last month and he said he thought you were in one of the two vehicles behind the lead tank when it was hit. I frankly didn't know that anybody had survived that was on the lead tank, and when Bob Christensen told me he was on the lead tank I was really surprised.

I understand that you were not at Oflag 64, but that you hosted the reunion at Orlando a few years ago. I didn't attend the reunion at Orlanda, but everybody seemed to think that it was one of the better ones.

I was stationed at Camp Blanding a few months in early 1943 and spent one week-end in Daytona beach. Had a great time.

I wish you and yours a very special holiday season.

Kindest personal regards,


Bob Thompson.
7448 E. 68th Place
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133