

Wisconsin Veterans Museum
Research Center

Transcript of an
Oral History Interview with
KENNETH SCHUMACHER
Machine Gunner, Army, World War II
1999

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Schumacher, Kenneth. (1923-). Oral History Interview, 1999.

Master Copy: 1 video recording (ca. 60 min.); ½ inch, color.

User Copy: 1 audio cassette (ca. 60 min.); analog, 1 7/8 ips, mono.

Abstract:

Kenneth Schumacher, a Madison (Wisconsin) native, discusses his World War II service with the 413th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion as a .50 caliber machine gunner. He talks about basic training at Fort Sheridan (Illinois), desert training at Death Valley (California), and amphibious training at Norfolk (Virginia). Schumacher comments on his boat ride overseas, further amphibious training in England, and firing his machine gun at a German plane that patrolled their camp each night. He details his role in the D-Day invasion of Normandy where he landed at Omaha Beach--Fox Red. Schumacher's account includes seeing casualties, problems with the beach terrain and hedgerows, and German snipers. Also involved in the Battle of the Bulge, Schumacher recalls seeing and hearing German rockets and buzz bombs and his unit's retreat to the Weser River. He touches upon his return home and attending school on the GI Bill.

Biographical Sketch:

Kenneth Schumacher was born in Madison (Wisconsin) in 1923 and enlisted in the army in 1942. He served in the European theater in World War II as a .50 caliber machine gunner. Schumacher was involved in D-Day, the Battle of the Bulge, and spent most of his service in France, Germany and England. After the war, Schumacher returned home to Madison and became a firefighter, then later worked in the advertising department of Oscar Meyer.

Interviewed by James McIntosh, 1999
Transcribed by Hannah Goodno, 2010

Interview Transcript

[Approx. 2 min. of general conversation before start of interview]

McIntosh: Let's get started. Kenneth Schumacher, who was born in Madison, 1923. You entered the military in 1942 as a volunteer in the Army. When you left Madison where did you go?

Schumacher: Went to Fort Sheridan down in Illinois.

McIntosh: For basic?

Schumacher: For basic, yeah.

McIntosh: All right, and then?

Schumacher: And then from there I went out to Camp Callan in California for some training, and then from there we went up to the desert—the Mojave Desert for desert training. They thought at that time we would be going into North Africa, but by the time our training was completed there they had kicked the Germans out of North Africa. So then they sent us to the East Coast to take amphibious training, figured we'd go into—

McIntosh: Were you specialty trained by this time?

Schumacher: Not really specialty, I don't think. They figured they'd give us an overall view of what might happen in an amphibious attack. We did everything. We were waterproofing trucks and repairing anything that they thought might go wrong and going over the side of a ship on a rope ladder and into small landing craft which was sort of scary. Then they took us way out in the Chesapeake Bay and dumped us overboard with full pack on, and we had to get into shore about a mile and a half.

McIntosh: You had to swim?

Schumacher: Yeah, we had lifebelts on, and we had to make it back.

McIntosh: Oh, I was gonna say, a lot of kids couldn't swim.

Schumacher: Oh, no, I couldn't swim—we couldn't swim that far. It was a mile and a half. But we had self-inflating belt—you'd jump in, and you'd squeeze something, and the CO2 would blow up the—

McIntosh: By this time the landing had been made in North Africa?

Schumacher: Yes, and they'd finished up the campaign there. And I think they were going into Italy about that time.

McIntosh: By this time you had trained as an anti-aircraft gunner?

Schumacher: Oh yes, oh yes, that training was all done out in the desert.

McIntosh: Right. Were you the trainer or the—

Schumacher: No, I was just—I had one machine gun, and I was in charge of that. And we had a water cooled .50 [caliber] at that time.

McIntosh: My goodness. [Approx. 30 sec. pause in recording] There we go. Keep my eye on that tape. Must have been a break in the electricity. Okay, so you were trained as a—

Schumacher: Trained as a machine gunner out in the Mojave Desert. That's where we took our training. And then we had the 50—or 90 millimeters were with us, but we were to be stationed on the outside to protect them from the—other things—low-flying planes.

McIntosh: How big was your immediate group?

Schumacher: The gun crew? It was four people.

McIntosh: Did you train with them all the time?

Schumacher: No, no. We were considered the cadre, and we got these new people in, and we trained them. And then we sorta filled in with a bunch of guys from down south. It was very interesting. We were out on the desert there not too far from Death Valley. Hot during the day; at night it was cold.

McIntosh: Extremes at both times.

Schumacher: Extremes, yeah. If you didn't get a shower in before the sun went down you had to wait until the next day 'cause it was just too cold.

McIntosh: It was too cold to take a shower in the evening?

Schumacher: In the evening.

McIntosh: What type of shower did they have?

Schumacher: Well, they had just a makeshift thing, a big four by fours with a big tank. That water was not really hot, but warm.

McIntosh: So—what about the bugs and all that, and the scorpions?

Schumacher: Oh, the scorpions—I got a scorpion inside of my legging one time, and I didn't know what it was, and I gave it a whack, and he took a nip out of me.

McIntosh: [Laughs] He whacked you back.

Schumacher: [Laughs] Yeah, I was sick to my stomach for about three days. They said a small person, it probably would've put 'em in the hospital.

McIntosh: Immediately after he bit you, you knew—

Schumacher: Yeah, I knew it was there.

McIntosh: You got the legging and kicked him off?

Schumacher: Yeah, and then the medic was there, and he gave me some pill right away [?].

McIntosh: What, did he give you a pill, or did he—

Schumacher: A pill of some sort.

McIntosh: Didn't take a bowie knife and—

Schumacher: [Laughs] No, no he didn't do that. [Jim laughs] Fortunately! And suck the venom out? No.

McIntosh: Right, none of that.

Schumacher: None of that, no.

McIntosh: No. A lot of the boys get bit?

Schumacher: No, not too many. We were very fortunate. We saw a lot of tarantulas, but they were, you know, afraid of—

McIntosh: No, they won't bother you.

Schumacher: No, as long as you don't bother—

McIntosh: I think that's an overrated thing.

Schumacher: Mm hmm. It really was.

McIntosh: Sand flies?

Schumacher: Sand flies weren't too bad out there then.

McIntosh: So that was six months of training you were there?

Schumacher: Well, about, yeah.

McIntosh: So we got to North Africa—then you went to North Africa?

Schumacher: No, we didn't go to North Africa because that was over before—so as our training finished they finished up the tour in North Africa. So then they said, well, we've got you trained as far as the anti-aircraft so we're gonna send you out in the—out to the East Coast, and we worked with the Navy at Norfolk. And did this amphibious training getting [?] figured they were gonna send us into Europe wherever that was going to happen. They didn't know, of course, then it was Normandy. Then we went from there over to—went on the Queen Mary. Fifteen thousand troops on the one ship. We landed at Greenock, Scotland, then went by train down to the Bay of Bristol to a little town called Weston-Super-Mare, about forty miles from Bristol. And we set up as anti-aircraft there because the Germans, of course, were—we were all over—we were on the west coast of England, and they weren't bombing there. They did bomb Bristol one time when we were there.

McIntosh: Did you get a chance to use the gun?

Schumacher: No, never did, not there. The one night we did have an attack the Germans were—somehow they got lost. They were supposed to bomb Bristol, and they came up and bombed our place. But one of our fellas had married an English gal, and they had a big celebration. So about half of our crew was incapacitated from drinking too much [laughs].

McIntosh: Oh, my!

Schumacher: So we didn't even get out to fire our guns at 'em. But that was interesting.

McIntosh: Then?

Schumacher: Then after, well, I think it was probably about in April, we were shipped to the southern coast of England where we had a couple of dry runs. We loaded up on the LSTs [Landing Ship, Tanks] and went out and then came back and landed in England.

McIntosh: At Slapton Sands?

Schumacher: Mm hmm.

McIntosh: Were you there when they had the big accident?

Schumacher: No, missed that.

McIntosh: Just as well.

Schumacher: Yeah, what was the accident?

McIntosh: An E-boat [Nazi torpedo boat] got in among of the LSTs and sank 'em.

Schumacher: Oh for—

McIntosh: About 700 boys.

Schumacher: Wow.

McIntosh: Training at Slapton Sands. It was covered up, of course.

Schumacher: Sure, I suppose.

McIntosh: It was not revealed until nine years later.

Schumacher: Boy. Well, we had what they called “Bed Check Charlie” would come over every night. It was a Heinkel 111. He flew out of range of the guns, but they still fired at him. We had more casualties from flak coming back down and ripping through tents than we had from the Germans.

McIntosh: Oh, that you shot up in the air?

Schumacher: Yeah [laughs].

McIntosh: But it'd come down and—

Schumacher: It'd come down and rip through the tents and tear a hole in your arm. So we always had to get out of our bunks and get into a slit trench.

McIntosh: When everybody was firing?

Schumacher: Yeah, yeah. But still, if it came straight down—

McIntosh: But he didn't drop anything?

Schumacher: No, no, he was up too high.

McIntosh: He was just taking pictures?

Schumacher: Well, he was just harassing 'em. He knew that something was going on, and they didn't want the GIs to get any sleep. And we didn't get sleep.

McIntosh: Just like the Indians. Just thump your drums [?].

Schumacher: Yeah, right. Yeah, it was an interesting thing. And then when the invasion came—we weren't sure when it was gonna come. We loaded up, and they said, "Well, this is probably it." And so we woke up—we loaded late afternoon and woke up in the morning. As far as you could see there was nothing but ships and ships and ships. And where you couldn't see the ships because of the curvature of the earth there was barrage balloons [balloon, usually one of several, anchored around a military area, from which wires or nets are hung to protect against low-flying aircraft] on 'em. They were stickin' up, one in the front and one on the back of all the LSTs to keep the Germans from coming down and strafing. But it was quite a sight.

McIntosh: So you spent some time in the channel though before they finally put you down?

Schumacher: Yeah, and we were in the eighth wave. And they had radio contact—

McIntosh: On D-Day you mean?

Schumacher: This is D-Day, and you could see the stuff on the bombers and the planes strafing the—and then the thousand plane raids, they'd come over, the 24s and 17s [B-24 and B-17 planes]. You'd see 'em, they'd come in a conversion like this, and they'd get in a pattern and go over, and you knew there was something big going on.

McIntosh: Where were you at this moment?

Schumacher: Still on the LST 51.

McIntosh: They told you you were gonna land, though, didn't they?

Schumacher: Yes. They said, "Right now we're having a problem. We may have to abandon the beachhead." It isn't a half an hour later a little boat comes scootin' in with a loudspeaker on it, and he said, "LST 51, we need your artillery. Get in there." So we had to go in.

McIntosh: Which beach?

Schumacher: We were on Omaha. Fox Red [sector]. And as we were going off the thing the guys in the Navy said, “Two lines, one go off to the left, one off to the right.” We had a two and a half ton truck with all of our crew on the back, all of our equipment, and all of the stuff for the signal corps—the telephone thing—and we went off to the left, and we went into a shell-hole [cavity made by the explosion of a shell] under the water. And we got in too deep over our—where we were waterproofed for, and we conked out right in the middle of the channel there.

McIntosh: What were you on at this moment?

Schumacher: I was on the back of a two and a half ton truck.

McIntosh: Right, but what was the craft that was bringing you into shore?

Schumacher: Oh, an LST, 51.

McIntosh: Oh, this is the LST that dropped— I thought they had had you on a smaller landing craft

Schumacher: No, they didn't this time.

McIntosh: This is the LST that went aground prematurely?

Schumacher: No, no, it was—they thought we were in close enough. But where the other trucks went off, they went real fine, but we went off into a shell-hole, and it was maybe six feet deeper, and we conked out there. One of the guys says “I'll go in.” They had some tanks in there with bulldozer blades on that they were using to push stuff out of the way, and he says, “I'll get one of them.” And before he could some guy came by in an amphibious two and a half ton truck [DUKW]—the “Ducks” that we have up here [now used as a tourist craft in the Wisconsin Dells]—and loaded all of the personnel aboard that. And we went in, and our truck stayed in the channel overnight with all our equipment on it. All we had was our little Musette bag [light backpack] on our back. And I had an '03 [Springfield] rifle with a grenade launcher on it because at that time they didn't have grenade launchers for the M-1s. So I had that with me, and as we went up this hill they had this anti-tank ditch all along there, and you'd look down either side, and the tank dozed in so you could get across it. You filled it in with soil, and then you looked down that both ways and nothing but stretcher, stretcher, stretcher. Our wounded people. And they were putting some of them back on the ship that we'd come in on.

McIntosh: Right, they were waiting for [inaudible] ships to take them back.

Schumacher: And as soon as all the combat troops got off of our ship then they could put the big Red Cross on it. But they couldn't before that. So it was subject to [?]

McIntosh: I don't feel it made much difference

Schumacher: No, I guess not, 'cause there weren't too many—we had one J—Junkers—what was it? An 88, I think, come over and strafed us. Those bullets were bouncing off of the deck, and that's a pretty scary sound.

McIntosh: Yes, I'm sure.

Schumacher: Yeah. And then there were some snipers. A lot of land mines. Our first sergeant was directing traffic, and a land mine went off, and he lost his hearing. And then he was given a—what they call the—they made him a second lieutenant, a battlefield commission, because he lost his hearing.

McIntosh: I don't understand how that relates.

Schumacher: I don't know either, but that's what they did for him.

McIntosh: I see.

Schumacher: From first sergeant to second lieutenant when he came back from the hospital. And we needed to break in a new first sergeant.

McIntosh: Well, you could've applied then, couldn't you?

Schumacher: Well, no, I enjoyed the machine gun. I had a crew of four, and then about six, eight weeks after we're in there they came with an M51, the Quad Mount. So we had to learn that baby from scratch right out in the field.

McIntosh: [Inaudible]

Schumacher: I saw it—I think that's during the Battle of the Bulge, and we were there with ours, firing just about like that.

McIntosh: They call that an M1?

Schumacher: M51. The one that's on the trailer. But they had one that was on a half track, too, that the armor used.

McIntosh: That was your favorite weapon?

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: Was that hard to maintain?

Schumacher: No, no it was real easy. We just—I had to keep track—we had four heavy barrels on it, and we had four extra barrels. And we had to keep track of how many rounds were fired through a barrel, and after so many you had to discard it because—

McIntosh: Was that finished?

Schumacher: Yeah, it was done. Well, I guess the riflings would burn out on it, and then—

McIntosh: And so it was useless?

Schumacher: Yeah, useless.

McIntosh: How long would that last for?

Schumacher: I'm not sure, I've got that written down somewhere.

McIntosh: It's a big disc. It'd be by the number of rounds it fired, right?

Schumacher: Yeah, by the number of rounds fired, yeah. And it must've been—oh, maybe five thousand or something like that. And I would think that it had to do with the time in between, too. Because if you fired steady, which you rarely did, I remember one time we were up on the Remagen Bridge, and a German Me 262 [Messerschmitt 262, the world's first operational jet fighter plane] came down in the valley, and I jumped in to shoot at 'em, and I got sixteen rounds off, and he was out of—that's four guns—and he was out of sight. He just went [whistles], dropped his bomb, and he went up like that, and out of sight. If Hitler, I think, had gone to the manned jets instead of the V1s and V2s, though, he would've prolonged the war by six months. 'Cause they were fast.

McIntosh: Nobody could handle 'em.

Schumacher: No.

McIntosh: So, you were on the beach and scrambling to find a place that's safe.

Schumacher: Mm hmm. Well, we were pretty safe there except for the snipers.

McIntosh: By the time you got there the beach was stabilized?

Schumacher: Pretty stabilized, yeah. A few snipers.

McIntosh: But you'd done all you could with the shore fighting [?].

Schumacher: The next day. Then we had to take it all apart because it was in the saltwater. And we got it to work.

McIntosh: So then where did you drag all this stuff to?

Schumacher: Well, we were right at the top there. There was a makeshift landing field that they had there that they could get the smaller planes in, and we were protecting a big ammo dump there. And we were given a citation on the beach there because no German bombs dropped on our area so they were pretty proud of us.

McIntosh: You were firing?

Schumacher: Firing at 'em, yeah.

McIntosh: A lot?

Schumacher: Well, quite a bit, the 90s especially. 90 millimeter. Our main battery is the 90 millimeters. And the 50 caliber was just there to—as I say, protect them from low-flying planes. And then we had some pretty good range equipment.

McIntosh: Your unit got an award then?

Schumacher: We got a citation.

McIntosh: A citation? Nobody got a promotion?

Schumacher: I don't think so [laughs]. I don't think they were thinking about promotions then. And then it got to be like—it got to be that there was nothing to do on the beach. The Germans weren't coming at night, and everybody was going toward the front, and we all are, "Well, the war's about over so—" Oh, I'd say maybe two weeks after we were there they said, "Oh, okay we're going across the Brittany peninsula." They wanted to cut the Germans off. So they had us fix our guns so we could shoot—we had depression stops so we couldn't—I think it was 12 degrees—we couldn't fire lower than 12 degrees. That way we weren't going to hit our own troops if we shot over our own gunfire.

McIntosh: This is the 90—

Schumacher: No, this is the 50s. So what they did then is they—oh, this must've been four weeks, because we had the Quad Mounts then. And we fixed 'em so we could fire straight ahead, and then we went across the Brittany—we

had one gun firing to the left of the road, and one to the right, because the Germans are on both sides. Unfortunately we didn't run into any that weren't prisoners already. But then there were so many prisoners coming back they didn't have enough men to man 'em. So they just had 'em walk into the back like this. And every once in a while, we had one fellow—a Jewish fellow on our crew that understood German, and he said these Germans are walking down there cussing at the Americans in German. He got down off the rig, and he kicked one in the hind end. I thought he knocked him right over! [laughs]. And then he told us what he was saying so we figured he was legitimate to kick him. Usually you don't mistreat the prisoners, but this guy was—

McIntosh: You didn't have to deal with the prisoners?

Schumacher: No, not then. No.

McIntosh: So you marched across the Brittany peninsula pretty fast then.

Schumacher: Pretty fast. And we were there maybe a day and a half going across there, and that night the Germans came, and we weren't set up with our 90s 'cause we were in our convoy, and they dropped antipersonnel bombs just to wound the people, you know. They didn't want to kill 'em. So we had to hit the deck, and three of the fellas got hit in our battery, and—

McIntosh: Three of the four of you?

Schumacher: Not—no, no, this is the whole battery.

McIntosh: Oh, okay.

Schumacher: But I went over a fence, and I took a big chunk out of the back of my leg on a barbed wire fence, and I was getting that fixed up, and the medic says, "Well, I have to put you in for the Purple Heart." [laughs] I said, "That's barbed wire. That wasn't the Krauts. They didn't get me." So I didn't take any, but they were giving them out left and right. I even heard 'em—well, I shouldn't say, I'm on tape here.

McIntosh: You can say whatever you want.

Schumacher: Okay, well, they said they were giving 'em out in the clap ward, you know.

McIntosh: Oh, yeah, that was just a dumb joke.

Schumacher: Yeah, but three of our guys got one that night, and one of them had to go back. He was wounded bad enough they had to send him back to England.

But other than that we were pretty lucky. And then we got to a position where the hedgerows were, and we had to go up and hack some room through for firing. I was up there with a big machete hacking away this underbrush. Also the Germans—they heard our prime movers which were about like tanks, you know, for our guns. And they started sending in their 88s. They were lobbin' in on us, and boy, that scared me! And then they had—

McIntosh: The noise did?

Schumacher: They'd make noise, and then they'd have that whistle as they'd come in. And here we thought the war was over, you know. I remember sliding down off of that hedgerow and just [laughs] shivering like that—didn't do any good, but I sure thank I didn't get hit. But it was sort of scary.

McIntosh: How did they silence them?

Schumacher: Well, I think that a couple of 47s came over and got 'em. And then there was one time when there was some heavy artillery—I think 105s across from us, and they were firing toward the front line. And they were firing short. Our troops had advanced further than they thought, and this 47 [C-47 cargo plane] saw what was happening, and he couldn't—he didn't—there wasn't enough room for him to land. There was just for the little Piper Cubs—could land where we were. And he came in and belly flopped. He didn't even put his wheels down, just stopped to talk to these people in field artillery and told 'em they were shooting short. So he risked his life and came in and probably saved some lives.

McIntosh: I believe it [?].

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: Yeah, firing shrapnel's a problem when [inaudible] they had some carpet bombing that took out a lot of American troops. The loss of General McNair—got killed in over shooting [?].

Schumacher: Yeah, I can believe that.

McIntosh: So, then you were bogged down there for a while—

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: Your next move was then? [?]

Schumacher: Then we moved quite freely after that and went wherever they needed us, and we ended up on the Cologne Plain just as—now wait a minute, I'm

getting ahead of myself. We went—we were up on the Seine River, south of Paris by about ten yards—or ten miles—kilometers.

McIntosh: You mean north?

Schumacher: We were south of—on the Seine River—south of Paris. And the phone rang out on our gun position, and we hadn't been doing much firing. It was our lieutenant in charge of machine guns section. He said, "I need one volunteer from each gun." And the other guys had been doing it all the time so, "Well, I'll go this time." And they said, "Okay, fine." So we got up to the headquarters and he said, "I got some bad duty for ya." He said, "Paris has just been liberated and we're going in to see it." [laughs] So we got into Paris within twenty-four hours after it was liberated.

McIntosh: On a jeep [?].

Schumacher: Yeah. Or no, they took us in a two and a half ton truck. There were enough of us, yeah.

McIntosh: A "six-by" [an all wheel drive truck]?

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: So what were you supposed to be doing on this--?

Schumacher: Just going to see the sights. We took our rifles with us, and there were some—the French—what they call—the Free French Army was there. And they were rounding up some of the people that had been collaborating with the Germans. And every once in a while you'd hear a sub-machine gun and see some people running and stuff, but it was pretty safe, I guess. The women were very grateful to have the men come in, and some of the guys took advantage of it. Some of us younger guys didn't, we were afraid of it [laughs].

McIntosh: Afraid you might catch something?

Schumacher: Yeah, something like that. Or afraid our family back home might find out.

McIntosh: [Laughs] What about the booze [?], or the wines?

Schumacher: No, not too much, I don't think there was that much left. After the war was over we had our share of Champagne and stuff, but there wasn't that much there.

McIntosh: I'm sure the French were absolutely delighted.

Schumacher: Yes, oh yes.

McIntosh: Climb in your truck?

Schumacher: Well, yeah, they came up, and they tried to get what they could from us. We didn't have anything extra, you know.

McIntosh: What were they looking for?

Schumacher: Something to eat, cigarettes, candy. Pretty much anything that you had that they could use 'cause they'd been occupied there for quite a while. And some of the women they were fraternizing with the Germans, they shaved their heads, and then they—

McIntosh: [Inaudible]

Schumacher: [Inaudible] some, but some that weren't that bad, they just shaved their heads, and—

McIntosh: [Inaudible]

Schumacher: Yeah

McIntosh: [Inaudible] so if they went to trial [inaudible]

Schumacher: Yeah, I think they did, yeah. But you know, that's the way—they had a chance to eat. You really—I can't blame 'em.

McIntosh: When you're desperate you do—

Schumacher: Yeah, that's right. You and I might have done something similar, you know, to get something—

McIntosh: Where did you stay then? In Paris?

Schumacher: Oh, no, we just were there for part of a day. As I say, we weren't too far from there, maybe we were there four or five hours. Got to see Notre Dame. All the big windows, of course, had been taken out and stored. And there hadn't been much damage there. Which was—we were really puzzled [?]. The Germans—they could've—

McIntosh: The German [General] Von Choltitz protected Paris.

Schumacher: I guess they did, yeah.

McIntosh: Hitler wanted to burn [?]-he refused to do that.

Schumacher: Well, if you'd seen some of those like Cologne, when we later got into Cologne, that was a mess, just a shame. But then from there we went up to the Cologne Plain, and we were there in sort of a stationary front. There wasn't much going on. And one morning about 2 o'clock the telephones rang. They said, "You have to be ready to go in half an hour. We're going down—they've captured a bridge across the Rhine. We're going down near Remagen." We didn't know where Remagen was. So we went down, we got down there the next—about daylight. And we went into this town, and it was up pretty high. We could see the bridge, and we didn't know what we were supposed to do. All of a sudden we heard tanks. And it was American tanks, fortunately. And they said, "What are you guys doing here? We're supposed to clear the people out of here," but the Germans had all jumped in the river and swam back over across the Rhine. So we were safe enough.

McIntosh: So you set up a gun emplacement there next to a bridge?

Schumacher: Mm hmm.

McIntosh: To protect against Germans coming from—

Schumacher: Yeah, yeah, they were trying to—and they did finally knock it out, but by that time we had pontoon bridges across.

McIntosh: Had your own bridge across.

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: Yeah, the bridge must have been in pretty bad shape.

Schumacher: Well, it was, and they even were sending suicide troops down the river—and they had guys with machine guns right on the river, and if anything they saw floating down the river they shot at it because the Germans were sending these guys down with backpacks.

McIntosh: What was the Germans' objective here?

Schumacher: They wanted to blow up Remagen. Blow it up so we couldn't get any more—

McIntosh: But the thing collapsed—

Schumacher: Well, it did but they weakened it enough, and they didn't know. You know, they wanted to keep us from—it was actually an old railroad bridge.

McIntosh: Yes, I know that. I would think you could shoot at those guys with your Quad 50s.

Schumacher: Well, we could've, but we weren't in the position for that. We were there for anti-aircraft. And that's where I saw that Me 262.

McIntosh: Briefly.

Schumacher: Briefly. [Jim laughs]. Hadn't even dug in. We were just sitting there waiting. Sometime we didn't get a chance to dig in, you know, we weren't there long enough. But then we went across on the pontoon bridge. And it was scary because the Limeys, or the Irish **[End of Tape One, Side One]** or English would come across, and they had the barrage balloons up to keep the—and we kept hearing that the Germans were going to be dropping paratroopers down. And at night there was barrage balloons with the small clouds looked just like parachutes.

McIntosh: Oh, my!

Schumacher: And it was pretty nerve-wracking. But they didn't, so we were okay. And then we went a little further and ended up on the Weser River, which was late March, early April. And then we—there was nothing going on. I mean, there was no opposition at all, and then we heard that President Roosevelt had died. And everybody said, "That's German propaganda." But it was true. But, you know, you never knew what to believe on those radios over there.

McIntosh: You were not getting very much information from back home?

Schumacher: No, no. We were getting our mail pretty well, but as far as—yeah, but that wouldn't, you know—when I finally did get confirmation from home it would have already been verified by—but the headquarters had the radio. We didn't have one out on our gun position. But they would give us all the latest scoop.

McIntosh: Did your folks back home get mail from you adequately?

Schumacher: Yeah, pretty well, yeah.

McIntosh: Did the Red Cross or Salvation Army show up out there on the river?

Schumacher: No.

McIntosh: Didn't see any of them?

Schumacher: Unh-unh.

McIntosh: What was your experience with those folks?

Schumacher: Well, not much, but what we did see of 'em was good. They always had some goodies for us. And they treated us well, and when they—but there were so many troops over in Germany. I just—you couldn't—I think there was between five and six million GIs over there. That's a lot of people to take care of. Yeah. And then when the war ended we ended up in a town called Melsungen. And we had—by that time I had an M1. And at a certain time we were all over the town because the guys were looking for something to eat that was something different from the GI rations, you know, and something to drink if they could find it. And we had preset that everyone in Battery A had to say 10 o'clock in the morning was when we were firing rounds up in the air. And it really sounded pretty good! That was our way of celebrating. But the people, you know, these German people, I think they were glad that the war was over.

McIntosh: I'm sure they were glad about that. They'd long since given up the idea they were going to win.

Schumacher: Yeah, that's right.

McIntosh: Did you talk to anyone at all?

Schumacher: I didn't speak German, but we talked to them as much as we could, yeah. And they found—my name was Schumacher, they said—

McIntosh: Yes, I was gonna say, they probably thought you were a native.

Schumacher: Yeah, and the thing is, my parents spoke German before World War I, but during World War I they gave it up. They were afraid.

McIntosh: Your parents were first immigrants?

Schumacher: No, no—

McIntosh: Your grandparents?

Schumacher: My grandparents were, yeah. But they just gave up speaking German which was sad because all of us could have learned German at home.

McIntosh: That's right. Give you another view of life. So then you more or less settled down and waited till you got sent home, is that right?

Schumacher: Well, then what happened they had this point system where if you had 85 points you got out right away. I had 84 so we became part of the army of

occupation, and we would set up checkpoints, and we were checking for SS troopers that were coming back, but we had to check if they had some kind of a tattoo on their arm.

McIntosh: Right. They'd switched to civilian clothes by this time.

Schumacher: Yeah. And we didn't find any, but we found a lot of contraband, big knives.

McIntosh: Tell me what your routine was. These guys—you find 'em on the road, how did you handle it?

Schumacher: We just—if someone was suspicious, we had a lieutenant that would take 'em over. We'd just take 'em to him, and he could speak German. He'd interrogate them, and then if they were suspicious they'd check for the—or we could check for the thing. But they could check for other—but it was sort of interesting, and I met a lot of nice people that you wanted to give food to. We didn't even have enough food then.

McIntosh: Oh, really?

Schumacher: In fact, I think the week before we left there, we were out of rations. We were getting sausage and potatoes from the Germans. And then they sent us back to—well, actually we went down to Marseilles, France. And they were sending us to different schools. And I signed up to go to umpire school—I think the National League had set it up over there. And I was supposed to start on Monday, and Friday they came to our barracks, and said, "We've got a Victory ship going back to the States on Monday. Do you want to go to school, or do you want to go home?" [Laughs]

McIntosh: Easy.

Schumacher: Dumb question. I'd been over there almost two years with the seven months we spent in England. And I said, "I'll go home." So we got on the Mahoney City Victory out of Marseilles through the Gibraltar and ten days coming home. Two meals a day was all we had 'cause they didn't have enough food for us. And the day we got into Newport News [Virginia] some of them got ptomaine poisoning. And they're sick right into the hospital for four days out there. But all the time I was out in the field, Jim, from the D-Day till the war was over, I think I was in a building two nights. I was in Paris on a three day pass, otherwise I was out in the field. Eatin' my own cookin'. Usin' my helmet for a bathtub. Never had a sick day. Sometimes I remember going through the river valley in Germany there or in France—France or Germany, I forget what—but anyway, it rained, and we were wet for five days. And it was just cold, and you're just shivering, all you'd do is shiver. And we couldn't do anything,

there was nothing going on as far as the war was concerned, so we just shivered. And then we were in the—I forgot to tell you we were in the Battle of the Bulge, too. We were up in the Ardennes in what we called “Buzz-Bomb Alley.”

McIntosh: Why did you call it that?

Schumacher: That’s ‘cause the V-2 rockets were goin’ across, and we were firing at them.

McIntosh: You mean over your head?

Schumacher: Overhead, yeah. Over towards England. And they were the most erratic things—you could hear ‘em there—“burp, burp, burp, burp.”

McIntosh: Those are two cycle engines.

Schumacher: Yeah, and sometimes, you know, the engine would be going, and they’d just dive right straight down. Other times the engine would stop, and they’d glide for a while. But they weren’t really made to glide, but they didn’t have much of a wing.

McIntosh: No, they were made with a gauge to drop their engines.

Schumacher: Yeah, but sometimes they wouldn’t, they’d go a little further.

McIntosh: And they wouldn’t go to England. They’d stop short.

Schumacher: No, stopped short, yeah. A lot of them did.

McIntosh: Yeah, but that might end up in your neighborhood.

Schumacher: Yeah, that’s right. But we fired at ‘em because—

McIntosh: [Laughs] Well, that was fun to do.

Schumacher: And we were in the—as I say—were in this stationary front, and they would take some of us, and there was—somewhere there was a big building, and they’d take us to see movies, a few of us. And we’d go by this one big supply depot where all the food was. And we were short of food then, too. But, “Oh, you can’t have it. This, you know, this is allocated.” So two days later the Germans broke through, and they took it. [Laughs].

McIntosh: What happened when they broke through? Was that a surprise for you?

Schumacher: Yes. I was in the little pup tent. I had two shelter halves—I don't know where I got the second one, but I had them together by our gun, and had about that much snow on our guns—on our tent. And all of a sudden—as I said, it'd been a stationary front—and all of a sudden we heard this artillery. We said, “Oh finally, our troops are moving!” And all of a sudden *whoomp whoomp*, they start hitting right on our gun part. And the phone rang, and he says, “The Germans are starting a counter-attack, and we are to hold our positions at all costs.” Here we are, sitting up on top of this mountain, with a depression stops—we couldn't fire anything but like this—and the tanks coming. We said, “How are we gonna do this?” So then a light armor group moved in across the tanks with 37 millimeter guns on them, and they said, “We can hold it if you guys want to go.” So then we did get march order, and we moved out of there. And some of these guys that had come in were captured then, and they were in the—have you heard of the Malmedy Massacre? And these guys were some of them that were killed, just across the street from us—or road. And that was pretty sad. I guess the Lord was smiling on us to let us out of there.

McIntosh: Did you run into any of these Germans who were disguised as Americans?

Schumacher: Nope, I understand that happened, though.

McIntosh: So you moved back from where you were to where?

Schumacher: I don't know, we retreated for about two days. And I was still single then, and I was always writing to my mother. And finally I said, “Boy, she's probably concerned about this with this breakthrough.” So I sat down and I wrote a short letter. And we were in this park, and there was artillery firing in three directions. I didn't pay any attention to that. I had to take the letter to our second lieutenant to have it censored.

McIntosh: Whenever you wrote a letter was it—

Schumacher: Yeah, it had to be censored.

McIntosh: You gave it to the second lieutenant?

Schumacher: Yeah, and whatever he didn't like, he'd just take a scissors and cut it out. I think he just had fun cutting out paper dolls or—but anyway, he says, “My God, man!” He says, “We've got one road open to the rear,” he said, “you think I'm going to send a letter out for you?” And I felt pretty bad, you know? And about a half an hour later he came over, he says, “Hey, I was out of line.” He said, “Give me that letter.” He said “There's just things going on that you weren't aware of.” Then he told us what was involved.

McIntosh: You never hit one of those buzz-bombs with your 90 millimeter.

Schumacher: I don't know—90s didn't fire at 'em, just the 50s.

McIntosh: Oh, I didn't know they could reach 'em.

Schumacher: Well, yeah, they weren't firing that high. Yeah. You could sometimes—you could see 'em if it wasn't cloudy. It was scary, though. And the 51—I think it was a P-51, if they got above 'em they could get 'em.

McIntosh: Yeah, they could be shot down. They didn't go very fast.

Schumacher: No.

McIntosh: The airplanes—I mean the fighters could outgun 'em easily.

Schumacher: Yeah, but I don't know how much time they wasted on 'em. But that was an awful day—that was devastating to London. Yeah, [inaudible] was there, and they took a beating.

McIntosh: So then after the Bulge settled down, then you back in—

Schumacher: That's when we got up on the Weser River. I forgot about that part. But it was a good experience, and being young, I think, was in our favor, you know.

McIntosh: Always.

Schumacher: Yeah, 'cause some of the older officers were pretty uptight. In fact, we had one crack up on the beach, and they had to take him back.

McIntosh: Oh, really?

Schumacher: Yeah, he kept seeing the Germans coming through the hedgerows, and there weren't any.

McIntosh: He just lost it.

Schumacher: Yeah, I felt sorry for him.

McIntosh: Well, you said you did your own cooking. You mean you cooked C-rations?

Schumacher: Yeah, C—or we had “10-in-1” rations that you could warm up. We had a little burner like that that we could use. And then they had the D-rations—

McIntosh: The four of you cooked on that?

Schumacher: Well, yeah. Take turns. We didn't cook for each other. But we'd have a can of stew or something. Yeah.

McIntosh: Or you could eat it cold.

Schumacher: Yeah, you could eat it cold. And the K-rations we ate cold most of the time.

McIntosh: The C-rations were more generous?

Schumacher: Yes, and then the "10-in-1," there was—

McIntosh: Yeah, what's the "10-in-1"?

Schumacher: It was one meal for ten, or ten meals for one. Whichever way you wanted to use it. And it came in a box.

McIntosh: That was a lot of food.

Schumacher: Yeah, it was a lot of food. And then they had a D-ration, I don't know if you've ever heard of them. It was a chocolate bar about that big—real hard. In fact, you had to slice it—you couldn't bite it like a candy bar. But we used those mainly—we'd get the stove going good, and we'd put water in, and then melt these down and have hot chocolate out of it. But they were very nutritious. And that stuff must've been good, because as I say, very few of us got sick over there.

McIntosh: What about cigarettes?

Schumacher: Well, we got them too, but I didn't smoke.

McIntosh: You were not a smoker?

Schumacher: Unh-unh.

McIntosh: But the boys had no trouble getting them in good supply?

Schumacher: No, all the cigarettes—in fact, I sold a lot of cigarettes, even to the German prisoners [laughs].

McIntosh: Oh, really?

Schumacher: Yeah, I was selling them for a dollar apiece, you know. And they had more—

McIntosh: A dollar apiece

Schumacher: Yeah, a dollar a cigarette.

McIntosh: Once cigarette?

Schumacher: One cigarette, yeah. They had more American money than they needed. I don't know where they got it.

McIntosh: You mean this was—

Schumacher: After the war was—yeah, American dollar. After the war was—

McIntosh: This was after the war—

Schumacher: Was over. Right.

McIntosh: You said you dealt with prisoners? [Inaudible]

Schumacher: Well, we dealt with just—we didn't *deal* with them, per se, I mean, we didn't, but we were near where they were. And so they'd have usually one that could speak English. I think I made about forty bucks. [Laughs] So I didn't sell too many.

McIntosh: Came from forty cigarettes.

Schumacher: Yeah. But we were getting 'em—I think we were getting 'em free then. But the guys had all the cigarettes they needed. More than they' needed, I guess.

McIntosh: So mainly you were short of food from time to time. That was your biggest privation.

Schumacher: Yeah, that was. And not—we didn't starve, but I mean, there was times when we could've eaten more. Especially after the war was over. I guess they sort of forgot we were there.

McIntosh: [Laughs]

Schumacher: But you know, with that many troops over there, the war ended—what was it—in May, I think it was. And I got home in November. So it wasn't bad, they were doing a pretty good job.

McIntosh: What about the USO? Did you see any of those shows?

Schumacher: No. Well, no. I saw one, yeah. And I can't remember—it was one of the gals. And these guys would go crazy 'cause they had always had dancing girls out there scantily dressed, and some of these guys would go nuts.

McIntosh: [Laughs] You were part of a large—which division?

Schumacher: We were part of the First Army.

McIntosh: First?

Schumacher: Yeah, we were a separate battalion.

McIntosh: Big Red One.

Schumacher: Yeah. We could be assigned to anybody that needed us.

McIntosh: You shifted?

Schumacher: Yeah. In fact, I think even one time we might've been attached to Patton. I think. I'm not sure. I don't know how the chain of command worked. Being you know, just a little PFC—

McIntosh: Didn't you get promoted?

Schumacher: Well, I was a corporal out in California in charge of machine—I had a weekend pass to go into LA. And the Captain says, "Schumacher! I put you in for sergeant today. I want you to be in charge of machine gun section." That's four guns. He says, "Don't do anything stupid on your pass." So there was a gal I was going to high school with that I sort of liked, you know, but when I went into the service we thought we were going to call it off. So while we were out there she wrote and said she was coming out. So I couldn't write back and tell her we were going out to the desert for training, and there was nobody, you know restrictions. So she came out to see me. So she went up to Alameda where her uncle was in the Navy. And she got a job in the Navy hospital. So I thought, well, before we ship east, I'm gonna go up and see her. So I only had a weekend pass so I jumped on the bus and went up there. I got there about the time I was supposed to be back at camp. So I spent two days up there, and I came back, and they put me under arrest, two days AWOL. Because we were going to ship east. So they took my two stripes and the third one I should have had. That was it. My captain finally said, "Well, I'm gonna give you one stripe back." He was a nice guy. Captain Ostos [?] from Boston. Real nice guy. But he made major then, finally after the war. I guess that's about it.

McIntosh: Do you feel that your training was adequate for the job they asked you to do?

Schumacher: Oh yes, yes.

McIntosh: You felt comfortable with the 50s and the 90 millimeter guns?

Schumacher: Mm hmm.

McIntosh: Tell me about how the 90 millimeter gun works.

Schumacher: Well, they were—see that range finder. They were hooked up to the range finder. And the range finder would set the azimuth and the other thing. And they also had a fuse on ‘em because at the time we didn’t have the magnetic fuses. They were timer fuses, and they would stick it in a little thing, and the thing would automatically set it to go off in X number of seconds because that’s how far the plane was away. So they’d stick it in there and *whoom*, they’d worm [?] away at it. They figured—regardless of how close they came it would explode up there. And then toward the end they got these magnetic fuses where they came within so many feet of the plane it would blow up. When we were going over on the Queen Mary, because we were anti-aircraft, they had us manning all the anti-aircraft guns. And I was on the twin 40s on the bow.

McIntosh: Bofors probably

Schumacher: Yeah, Bofors, yeah. That was enjoyable. We were on duty four and off eight so we had permanent bunks. All the other people would sleep eight hours, and they’d have to get up and give it to somebody else. It was 15,000 troops on one ship.

McIntosh: Bet they scurried along

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: They didn’t want to take any chances—

Schumacher: No, we outran a couple of sub packs that were after us. And we could do that. The only way they could catch us is if they would surface, and then there was enough armament on the ship that they would blown ‘em out of the water.

McIntosh: Besides your numbers [?] you had the Bofors 40 millimeter at the bow. What else? They didn’t have any more bigger than that?

Schumacher: No. 40s were the biggest, and then they had lots of rockets for anti-aircraft. But I don't know if they were good against—and then they had a lot of depth charges and stuff and things—something bigger against the—in case the subs came up they could handle them.

McIntosh: You were not escorted.

Schumacher: No.

McIntosh: I think most of the escorts couldn't possibly go even close to the speed that you were.

Schumacher: No, that's right.

McIntosh: So there really wasn't much point—

Schumacher: Yeah. The funniest thing—we went out of England—or out of New York straight down off of the coast of Florida and then up this way to Greenock, Scotland. It was four days and eighteen hours, I think, on the ship.

McIntosh: You went south from New York?

Schumacher: From New York, yeah. They just—it must've been something to do with—

McIntosh: Avoiding—

Schumacher: Avoiding—

McIntosh: Submarines.

Schumacher: Yeah, yeah.

McIntosh: But how about the eating on that ship?

Schumacher: That wasn't the best. I had two meals on there chewing a lot—somebody said a lot of horse meat. I don't know. But we had a gunner's badge, we could eat any time. So sometimes we got four meals a day.

McIntosh: Well, you were fortunate.

Schumacher: We were very fortunate, yeah.

McIntosh: Tell me about—one of the last things I can think of is—how was your relationship with the folks in England?

Schumacher: When we first got there Jim, it was beautiful. We were the first troops in this little town, it's a sort of resort town, mostly little hotels right on the Bay of Bristol. And we were billeted in some of the old—we got there in November. It was cold. All we had to heat it was a little fireplace about that big, and then we didn't have wood or anything. The Army would give us coke [coal residue]. You know how hard it is to get coke going? It was cold, but the people treated us well. And the only thing is—some of the guys—there were no men, and there were all women. And of course some of these guys were taking advantage of that.

McIntosh: Naturally.

Schumacher: And when we first went there fish and chips you could get all over and gin if you wanted it. I think fish and chips was 2 shillings, 6 pence. And it was pretty good. By the time we left there, we were there, what, 5 months or so. It was up to 7 and 6 pence, I think [laughs]. They started taking advantage of it.

McIntosh: Sure.

Schumacher: But we were taking advantage of them, too.

McIntosh: I was going to say, you were trading chocolate for favors, weren't you?

Schumacher: Yeah. Yeah, they were.

McIntosh: Did you have a girlfriend over there?

Schumacher: Nope, no. Well, I had a pretty—

McIntosh: You promised your mother you [inaudible].

Schumacher: Well, I didn't promise her, but I think she knew that I was going to stay on the straight and narrow. And sometimes it was tough because some of these guys—we were in a bunch of guys from Arkansas, and they were pretty rough-and-tumble. A lot of them couldn't read or write. I had one guy on my gun, his name was Cecil Turner. And he'd get a letter from his wife and he'd come in—

McIntosh: You'd have to read it?

Schumacher: Read it to him. And do you think he could answer it? So we had time in England there. I taught him to read and write.

McIntosh: Oh, my!

Schumacher: I says, “Why don’t you guys learn to read and write?” He says, “Well, we’re gonna get married,” he says, “our wives will do that.” [Sighs]. Yeah, “Why should I learn? My wife will do it.”

McIntosh: What’s the point?

Schumacher: Yeah, “Why should I learn? My wife will do it.”

McIntosh: These are farmers, right?

Schumacher: Yeah.

McIntosh: Country bumpkins [?].

Schumacher: Yeah. They down there, they didn’t send—they sent anybody. You didn’t have to worry about being taken. We had one guy that had only one lung, one guy that could hardly see, but they weren’t taking the cream of the crop there. They were taking anybody. But they were all good people, you know.

McIntosh: Did you maintain contact with any of these people?

Schumacher: Just one fellow that I met from Phoenix. He and I correspond quite a bit. And then one guy went a little—Benito J. Ribot(??) from Octa [?—he’s in Ohio. Benito. But I’ve visited with Tim a couple times out in Phoenix. Never got him to come to Madison, though. I don’t know why that is. He married—when we were on the East Coast we went up to Cape Cod to do some firing off, and he—we stopped in West Haven, Connecticut, and he met a gal there, and they were married right after he got back.

McIntosh: Oh, really? He just had met her and saw her there a couple days?

Schumacher: Yeah, just overnight.

McIntosh: Then kept in contact.

Schumacher: Mm hmm, yeah.

McIntosh: How nice. Is he still married to her?

Schumacher: Yeah. They moved to Phoenix, and she got skin cancer. So then they had to move back East—she couldn’t take the sun. But they’re still married. They have five kids, I guess.

McIntosh: Right, so you came back and then went to school.

Schumacher: Mm hmm.

McIntosh: So you used the G.I. Bill.

Schumacher: Yep.

McIntosh: The greatest social legislation this country ever provided, right?

Schumacher: I think you're right. You're right.

McIntosh: And then what did you train to do?

Schumacher: Well, I didn't finish school. I got married between semesters, and then I went on the Madison Fire Department. I worked there for eight years, and then got tired of sitting around so I got a job with the advertising department at Oscar Mayer. And I worked there for thirty-one years before I retired.

McIntosh: That's a steady job. Well, that was nice. Are you in any veterans organizations?

Schumacher: No, I didn't join any.

McIntosh: Didn't care to?

Schumacher: Well, too many other things going. I keep telling Carl maybe I'll join, maybe I'll join.

McIntosh: Yeah, he's quite involved.

Schumacher: Yeah, he is.

McIntosh: I've never been inspired to—this is my only activity.

Schumacher: Only? I think you're doing a beautiful job, Jim.

McIntosh: [Laughs] Oh, this is wonderful. This is really fun.

Schumacher: Yeah. This is a beautiful institution up here, wow.

McIntosh: Yes. You've seen the museum?

Schumacher: No, not as much as I should.

McIntosh: I'm gonna shut this off—

Schumacher: Oh, it's back on. Now it's off. That's a pretty nice one.

McIntosh: Yeah, just watching to see as we go.

Schumacher: Mm hmm. [Approx. 3 sec. pause in recording]

McIntosh: Talkin' about sleeping out on the ground in Europe.

Schumacher: Yeah. Well, most of the time we didn't have enough time to set up a tent if we were moving, but other times we'd put up a pup tent, and usually each of us had our own tent because we were able to scrounge the extra shelter half. Other times we just slept out in the open.

McIntosh: Well, it was colder in December when that [inaudible] supposedly the coldest winter they ever had—

Schumacher: Yeah, it was cold, but you know, having come from Madison, it wasn't as cold as Madison is, I don't think. In fact—you know, you sort of get used to it, too.

McIntosh: Sure.

Schumacher: I mean, it's like if you're out at night and it gets dark you get accustomed to the darkness. And it wasn't bad.

McIntosh: None of the boys got frostbite?

Schumacher: No. Very lucky.

McIntosh: Yes. That was a problem, I know, for some.

Schumacher: Mm hmm. Well, they told us, you know, keep dry socks. And we tried to do that. Sometimes you couldn't always do that. Your feet would get wet.

McIntosh: But supplies—you never had a problem with supplies like that?

Schumacher: No, the only—as I mentioned, the one time right after the war was over. But it wasn't anything big. I think everybody was sort of happy with—and the morale was good. It was surprising, out in the field that long, and for Thanksgiving we got a real nice meal. They came around with a seven course meal, but you're eating it out of a [laughs]—

McIntosh: Tin cup—

Schumacher: Tin cup and a—yeah [laughs]. And to clean yourself up, you just had your—you'd take that liner out of your helmet and then—

McIntosh: You had a big mess tent, did you?

Schumacher: No. Usually not. Usually not. There was one time—

McIntosh: I was gonna say, how could they serve the seven course meal?

Schumacher: Oh, this—they came around, and they had like these people have that cater meals. They had the big steam things or whatever—they were hot.

McIntosh: Okay, that'll do it.

Schumacher: Well, that didn't take as long as I'd thought.

[End of Interview]