

Reconnaissance mission into memory

Staff Sergeant Stephen S. Mosbacher exploring the German-American past and present

Monodrama at the former Nazi party rally grounds in Nuremberg

Co-author and actor: Vincent Eugèn Noel



The act can be booked in German for groups of at least 12 participants. For appointments and fees please contact:

Verlag testimon
P.O.B. 11 91 45
90101 Nürnberg
Germany
Phone: (0162) 7515840
Fax: (03222) 247 958 6
Email: info[at]testimon.de

Sequence of scenes

- 1) **Congress Hall Colonnades 1:** Biography of Stephen S. Mosbacher - his last letter to his parents - letter from his commanding officer to his father Dr. Emil Mosbacher about the circumstances of his death trying to save fellow soldiers.
- 2) **Congress Hall Colonnades 2:** Report by Captain Paul L. Peterson about the assault on Congress Hall, April 17, 1945 - the mood of American soldiers in April 1945 - results of the Battle of Nuremberg - Nuremberg born G.I.s in WW2:

On April 20, 1945 at 11:35 a.m. the commanding officer of 3rd I.D.'s 7th Regiment's 2nd Battalion informed his superiors by radio: "I am now standing in Adolf Hitler Plaza". Still the same day at 6:30 p.m. the division had a flag raising ceremony in the Main Market Square while shooting continued in the southern part of the Old Town till the night hours.

Only a couple of weeks before VE-Day more than 900 people lost their lives in Nuremberg, among them approximately 140 G.I.s. The city, already heavily damaged by the bombings was devastated once more.

74 Nurembergers who had been driven out of their fatherland before and who fought from 1941 to 1945 with the U.S. Army are known by their names. Six of them were killed in action.

- 3) Congress Hall Colonnades 3:** Ludwig Berlin's school essay about the Nazi party rally grounds - notional Sunday walk of the Mosbacher family around Dutzendteich pond - deportations from Märzfild railroad station - street namings after German soldiers in Nuremberg:

In Nuremberg there is a street for Max Immelmann (fighter pilot in WW1, 15 kills for Kaiser and Reich, 1916 heroic death by friendly fire) and Alfred von Schlieffen (chief of the Prussian General Staff from 1891 to 1905) who developed the plan to invade neutral Belgium in order to attack France in its unprotected flank in case of war, but not for me or another Allied soldier who fought against the Nazis. I wonder: Who is an exemplary soldier for you?

- 4) Congress Hall Interior:** Ex-G.I. Ray Weinstein about his tour of the rally grounds in 1959 (quote from the book *transit nürnberg #4*) - letters of support from Prof. Herbert Jacobson, Tony Baczewski and Tom Spahr for the street naming after Stephen S. Mosbacher - text *Afterlife and remembrance*:

The memorial plaque on Zeppelin Grandstand was only realized in 2011 by the idea and at the expense of the veterans of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Division. An initiative to name the street in front of the site after Stephen S. Mosbacher was declined in 2015 by the lord mayor after a struggle of almost one year, though it has been supported by the last Nuremberg born Allied veterans, U.S. soldiers stationed here before 1990 and a relevant group of locals flatly ignoring their arguments.

- 5) Memorial plaque on Zeppelin Grandstand:** posthumous letter from Marianne Flack to her brother Steven S. Mosbacher - text *Final words*:

I, Stephen Sigmund "Moose" Mosbacher, Staff Sergeant with Combat Command B, 8th Armored Division, Intelligence Staff was awarded for my bravery with the Silver Star and the Purple Heart and am buried in the American War Cemetery in Margraten, plot I, row 11, grave 19. Come visit my fellows and me and bring flowers, we love flowers. And always remember that your freedom is our heritage which you must defend every day.

Lest you forget!

Photos

Rehearsal April 16, 2016



(Photo: Verlag testimon)



(Photo: Verlag testimon)

Premiere April 23, 2016



(Photo: Klaus Artner)



(Photo: Klaus Artner)



(Photo: Klaus Artner)



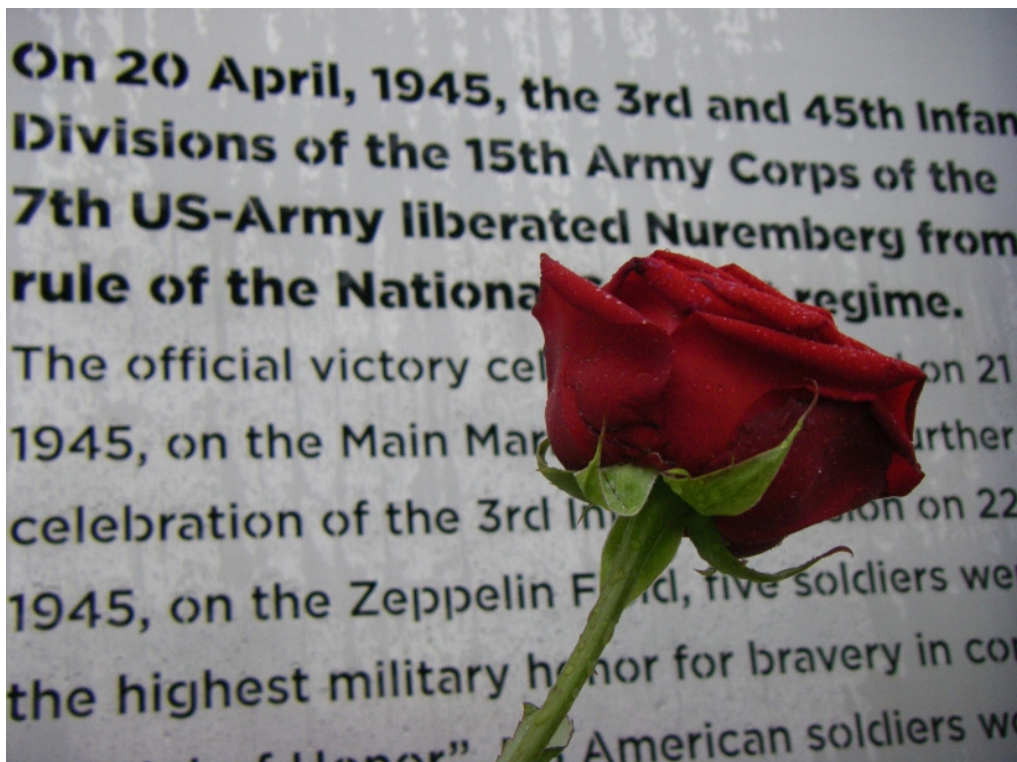
(Photo: Gerd Decker)



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(Photo: Verlag testimon)

Second performance May 7, 2016



(Photo: Verlag testimon)



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