

US veterans visit the tunnel

On March 23, 2022 we used our friendly bridge to Ad Erpelle (art and culture association for the tunnel of the Ludendorff Bridge) and were able to take a look at the tunnel history on the other side of the Rhine together with the US veterans Harvey Segal, Robert Chouinard and Edwin Cottrell.

The elderly gentlemen took the opportunity to follow Edgar Neustein's explanations in the 12-degree cold tunnel. Outside, in the glorious spring weather, stories and autograph cards were exchanged and friendships renewed or made.

The group was joined by organizer Andy Biggs (author of "The Rifle"), family members and helpers.

Of course, the support from Germany should not be missing at these events and we were very happy that Björn Schwiderowski (author of "The Rhine crossings 1945") and Wini Stieler had made the journey as part of Living History. Both support us in different ways (see wreath-laying ceremony March 7th).

This time Björn had something special in his luggage. He presented Karin Keelan, Chairwoman of the Peace Museum, two T-shirts with the original signatures of US veterans. These were signed on the one hand in America and on the other hand here directly at the place of their historic action. This year's veterans crossed the bridge in a jeep in 1945 or fought for the liberation by plane. He also presented us with a famous photo of the crossing as a future exhibit. Thank you for this commitment.

A historic and conciliatory meeting then took place on the Petersberg between the German veteran Jürgen Tegethoff and his enemies at the time. A rare moment of solidarity captured in numerous videos and photos and curiously admired by interested guests. Thank you, Andrew Denison and Andy Biggs, for your excellent organization.

(AS 3.22)