

PRISONER OF WAR COMMEMORATIVE MARCH

APRIL 13-20, 2016

Retrace the Historic POW March from Nuremberg's Stalag XIII-D to Moosburg's Stalag VII-A Featuring Munich, Dachau, Salzburg, Berchtesgaden and the Eagle's Nest

Just as in other Stalags, it was depressing being a POW in Stalag XIII-D in Nuremberg. That is how POW Bob Thompson (2nd Infantry Division "Indianheads") found it. The overcrowded living conditions, boredom, inactivity and hunger were inescapable. It is all in his wartime diary that he later turned into a book. The real history of the World War II is made up of books like this, detailing real soldiers' real experiences.

Then suddenly everything changed. General Patton's Third Army was advancing fast on Nuremberg. So, in early April 1945, the German Army administration ordered the immediate evacuation of Stalag XIII-D. All its POWs had to go 100 miles south to Stalag VII-A in Moosburg, near Munich. But this was no terrible fate. Instead it was quite the opposite.

For the POWs it was much more like a sudden explosion of hope, variety, welcome activity and food in their dreary monotonous undernourished POW lives.

Bob Thompson puts it all well and succinctly in his book: "We departed from Nuremberg, by foot, on April 4th at 1PM, and so began the best two weeks of captivity. What was so special? Well, (1) the end of boredom and confinement, (2) beautiful Bavarian scenery, (3) the friendliness of the German farm families, and (4) finally, and the most important, was the sudden availability of plenty of food. The Krauts provided bread stations at various places and various times along the route but the primary source of our good fortune was the Red Cross boxes!...(which also contained) Swan soap and cigarettes which we traded with the local German frauen for eggs and other edibles.



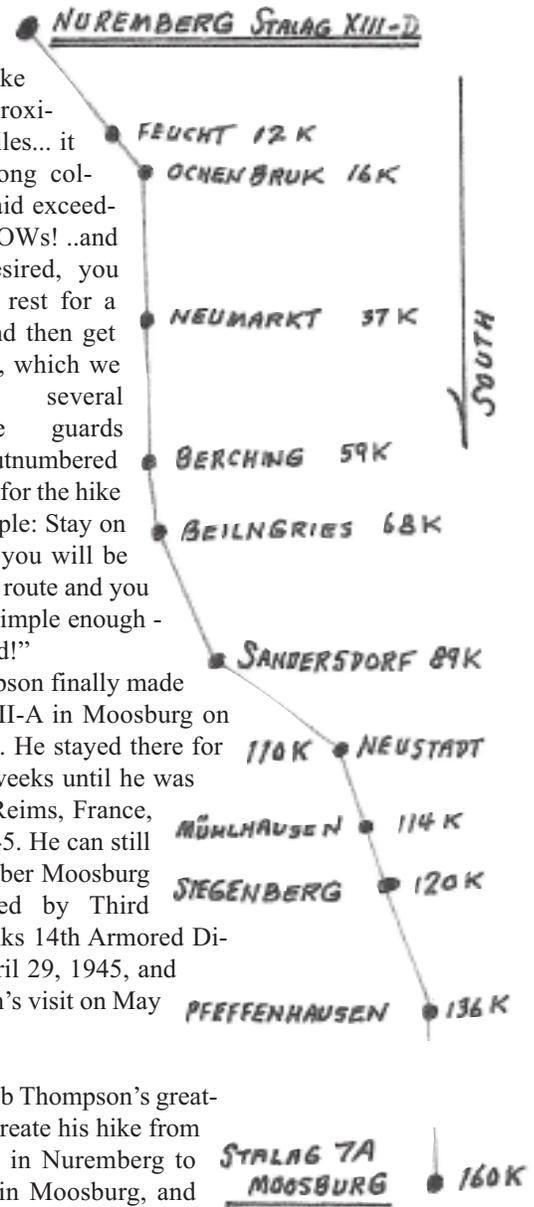
Patrick Hinchy is Tour Manager for this special program. Oxford educated, he has spent more than three decades leading military tours in Europe. He has worked with many American Veteran groups gaining a wealth of personal perspectives of WWII combat in Europe. Fluent in English, French and German, he is well known by local officials and history enthusiasts in Europe and has overseen many memorable events commemorating the return of American Veterans to those communities liberated from the Nazis.

...the hike covered approximately 100 miles... it was a very long column.. some said exceeding 100,000 POWs! ..and if you so desired, you could sit and rest for a day or two and then get back into line, which we did on several occasions...the guards were vastly outnumbered (but) the rules for the hike were very simple: Stay on the route and you will be fed. Leave the route and you will be shot. Simple enough - and understood!"

Bob Thompson finally made it to Stalag VII-A in Moosburg on April 18 1945. He stayed there for almost three weeks until he was flown out to Reims, France, on May 7, 1945. He can still clearly remember Moosburg being liberated by Third Army (he thinks 14th Armored Division) on April 29, 1945, and General Patton's visit on May 1, 1945.

It's been Bob Thompson's greatest wish to recreate his hike from Stalag XIII-D in Nuremberg to Stalag VII-A in Moosburg, and his stay in Moosburg - but definitely this time in ease and comfort. He also wants to share with his family and friends this historic little piece of World War II which he experienced, and he wants to give other former Stalag POWs especially of Stalag XIII-D in Nuremberg and Stalag VII-A in Moosburg, accompanied by their families and friends, the chance to return in the company and comradeship of their fellow Stalag POWs. This tour will make his wish come true. Scholars and history enthusiasts are also welcome to join the tour.

At this point we must note the great friendship and enthusiastic support and cooperation of the former and present mayor and people of Moosburg. They will have contributed so much to the success of our tour and our grateful thanks and reciprocated friendship go out to them.



 **MilSpec Tours**



POWs on the march.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Wednesday, April 13, 2016. USA-Aloft. Tour participants make their own roundtrip airline reservations departing today to arrive in Munich on Day 2.

Day 2: Thursday, April 14. Munich. Our Tour Manager Patrick Hinchy meets and greets us this morning on arrival at Munich Airport. Then he takes us by coach directly to our 4-Star central hotel in Nuremberg. Free time to relax (there's a hotel pool) or explore the city center. This evening, a traditional Nuremberg Bavarian style Welcome Dinner for the whole group. (D)

Day 3: Friday, April 15. Munich/Nuremberg. First, a fascinating morning city sightseeing tour including the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials courtroom. Afterwards we visit the desolate Nazi Rallies area with its impressive Documentary Center in a ruined Nazi Rally indoor stadium. Then we see the site of the huge Stalag XIII D POW camp, originally built to house thousands of Nazi Rally stormtroopers. Rest of the day free. (B)

Day 4: Saturday, April 16. Nuremberg / Beilngries. This is where we start our exploratory retracing of the exact route of the historic POW March which Bob Thompson (2nd Infantry Division "Indianheads") and thousands of other POWs (some estimates exceeded 100,000) did from Nuremberg to Moosburg in April 1945. Our route comes from Bob's own book based on his combat and POW diaries and wartime letters home (see his sketch map on the cover of this brochure). We have plenty of time for sightseeing, exploration and photo stops on the way. We stay overnight in the picturesque old Bavarian country town of Beilngries. (B, D)

Day 5: Sunday, April 17. Beilngries / Moosburg. This morning we continue Bob Thompson's POW trek from Beilngries over the River Danube to the site of Stalag VII-A in Moosburg near Munich. Again there

is time for sightseeing and photo stops on the way. Stalag VII-A was the biggest POW camp in Germany. While Bob Thompson was there, it was liberated by Third Army, and General Patton visited it. After the war it was occupied by displaced German civilians and gradually turned into a residential suburb of Moosburg. Today Moosburg welcomes us with friendship, celebrations, festivities and great Bavarian hospitality, as well as a full sightseeing tour of the former Stalag VII-A POW camp, cemetery and memorials with commemorative ceremonies. We overnight in a top Munich Airport hotel which is only about 15 miles away. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Monday, April 18. Salzburg / Berchtesgaden & the Eagles Nest. An exciting and fascinating day spent in the awesome European Alps. This morning we cross into Austria to visit beautiful historic Salzburg (which everyone knows from "The Sound of Music"). Then returning into Germany in the afternoon, we climb up to Berchtesgaden to visit the



Typical destruction in Nuremberg at the end of WWII

Eagle's Nest and the Obersalzberg where Hitler for a long time had his main home and headquarters. (B)

Day 7: Tuesday, April 19. Munich. A day devoted to Bavaria's former royal capital Munich, one of the most magnificent and historic cities of Germany. We begin with a full official guided sightseeing tour finishing with famous Glockenspieler in the city center. Then there is plenty of time for shopping and personal sightseeing. We also visit Dachau Concentration Camp just outside Munich. This evening we have a Grand Farewell Dinner. (B, D)

Day 8: Wednesday, April 20. Munich / USA. Our unique, historic POW pilgrimage tour has finally come to its end, but what memories we will take home with us. It's around ten minutes by airport bus or taxi from our hotel to the departure terminals of Munich Airport. (B)

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Nuremberg Today

B = Breakfast L = Lunch
D = Dinner

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Revised January 8, 2016

POW Commemorative March Tour

April 13-20, 2016

Reservation Application

Please print!

from \$2,854 per person (Land-only & double occupancy - single room additional)

Please make ___ reservation(s) on the POW Commemorative March Tour. Enclosed is \$_____ representing \$400.00 per person deposit (plus insurance if elected). Please make checks payable to "MilSpec Tours"

Rooming Option (√ one)

- Double occupancy. Rooming with _____
- Willing to share (we will pair you with the next same-sex participant - if no additional singles sign up, we will bill you at the single room rate)
- Single Room at \$555 additional.

Payment Option (√ one)

- Option A: I would like to Pay in full. Payment enclosed.
- Option B: I am paying a \$400 deposit only and will pay in full 90 days before departure.

Insurance Option (Check √ one)

- I accept the travel insurance as follows and include the insurance premium in my deposit:

Total Tour Cost Per Person (tour cost + single room if selected) Circle the amount.

Trip Cost Per Person	Age of Traveler & Cost						
	0-34	35-59	60-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
\$2,501 - \$3,000	\$ 96	\$ 151	\$ 198	\$ 267	\$ 325	\$ 456	\$ 629
\$3,001 - \$3,500	\$ 109	\$ 173	\$ 227	\$ 305	\$ 373	\$ 521	\$ 720



- I will obtain my own insurance.

Tour Participants (please print your names as they appear on your passports)

Name: _____ Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Please furnish us with both your street address and post office box address to avoid delays in shipment of documents to you by FedEx

Your home phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____@_____.

Any diet/health problems? _____

Please print the name and phone number of a person not traveling with you who is to be notified in the event of an emergency.

Name: _____ Relationship _____ Phone #(____) _____

To charge your deposit to a major credit card, please complete the following:

- Discover Card Visa Mastercard American Express

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ___/___/___ Billing Zip Code: _____

CSC Number: _____ 3 digits on back of card except 4 digits on front of AMEX

I agree to the terms and conditions as outlined in this tour brochure.

Signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Tour #16-416



Mail to:

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 Flourtown, PA 19031-0340
 Phone 215-248-2572 Fax 215-248-5250
 Email: MilSpecTours@aol.com
 Web: GoMilSpec.com

Your MilSpec Tour Includes. . .

*First-class and selected hotels with private bath (where available), 2-in-a-room basis. Single room additional cost. *Breakfast daily plus table d'hôte lunches and dinners in accordance with the custom of each country and as noted in the itinerary. *Motorcoach transportation as required by the itinerary. *Sightseeing as specified with Professional English-speaking guide & appropriate admission fees. *Tips & taxes on all prepaid services.

Tour Prices Do Not Include: TransAtlantic air; airport/customs/departure taxes, passports, any applicable visa fees, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing, meals other than those shown in the itineraries, items not on table d'hôte menus, laundry, liquor, mineral water, beverages with lunch & dinner, customary gratuities to Tour Directors, Coach Drivers & local guides & any other expenses of a personal nature.

Tour Prices are based on a minimum of 20 tour participants on the main tour and on tariffs and rates (currency & exchange) known at the time of printing; prices are subject to adjustment without notice in event of changes to such rates prior to departure.

Hotels: Unless otherwise stated, all tour prices are based on two persons sharing a twin/double room. Applicable single supplements are indicated for those wishing single room accommodations. Single rooms are limited in quantity and are sometimes not of the same size or quality as twin/double rooms. Single room reservations will be accepted with the understanding that we cannot guarantee single rooms will be available on all parts of your tour. We do not recommend triple rooms as they tend to be very crowded; in most cases, triple rooms are a twin room to which a cot has been added. There is no reduction in tour cost for triple rooms.

Deposits and Final Payments: A deposit of \$400 per person is required to effect reservations. This deposit forms part of your final payment which is due when billed but not later than 90 days prior to departure. Acceptance on tour is subject to verification of payment in full to MilSpec Tours. Additional deposits may be required for air transportation if you elect to have us arrange your TransAtlantic travel.

Baggage: No responsibility is incurred by MilSpec for loss or damage to baggage or any of the passengers' belongings. It is recommended that all passengers purchase baggage insurance.

Passports and Visas: A valid passport is required for all tour participants. Visas are not required for this tour program.

Smoking: Please kindly note that for the safety and well-being of the group, smoking is not permitted on the motorcoach at any time.

Cancellations for unforeseen and valid reasons in advance of departure are entitled to a full refund less actual expenses incurred and a \$75.00 per person service charge, if written notice is received not later than 120 days prior to departure. If cancellation occurs less than 120 days prior to departure, deposits will be refunded less a \$150 per person cancellation charge; less than 60 days prior to departure date, deposits will be refunded, less a \$250 per person cancellation charge plus any penalties assessed to MilSpec Tours by hotels, transportation companies, airlines and other purveyors of services. Cancellation 30 days or less from date of departure will not be refunded. Trip cancellation and interruption insurance is available and strongly recommended on all tours.

Revisions and Refunds: All changes must be confirmed in writing. A handling fee of \$75.00 per transaction will be charged for any alteration or revision made to a tour reservation. All claims for refunds must be made within 60 days after termination of the tour and must be accompanied by a statement from the Tour Director, certifying exactly the services not taken. No refund can be made for unused transportation where group tickets or vehicles are involved. No refund can be made for services not taken unless the services omitted cover 72 consecutive hours or more.

Tour Participants: In order to insure the smooth operation of all tours, and to ensure congenial tour groups, MilSpec Tours reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant and to expel from the tour any person for any reason including anyone whose conduct is deemed incompatible with the interest of the tour group. Any handicapped participant who requires special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the handicapped participant's well-being. MilSpec Tours reserves the right to exclude from the tour any handicapped participant whose physical condition impairs customary operation of the tour. Should a wheelchair or other special equipment, care, maintenance or services be required at any time, all arrangements shall be made and all costs and obligations will be borne by the tour member. All tour members must be able to make their own way on/off the motorcoach. Well-behaved children over 10 years of age are welcome on any MilSpec Tours tour under the same conditions as noted above.

Responsibility: MilSpec Tours and/or its agents act only in the capacity of agent for carriers, hotels, bus operators, and other suppliers of services and shall not be held responsible for any injury or for any loss or damage caused by accidents or events beyond their control, or by any action or negligence of attendants or third parties who are not in their employ and on their payroll. The tour operator and/or its agents can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air, sea or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels specified for others of similar category. The right is reserved to make minor adjustments in the itinerary. Prices are based upon current tariffs and are subject to adjustment in the event of change. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure. The issuance and acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the above conditions. In addition, transportation companies concerned shall not be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not on board their carriers. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies and the purchaser of the tour and/or passengers. The itineraries shown are planned at the time of issue of this flyer, but are subject to revision should circumstances make it necessary. Such revisions will be shown on the individual traveling itinerary you receive before departure.

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Travel Insurance

NOTE: Pre-existing medical conditions waived if insurance is purchased with your initial deposit. No waiver for later purchase of insurance.

Take advantage of our valuable insurance protection. You can enjoy the security of the following coverage:

Schedule of Coverages

• Trip Cancellation & Interruption	Up to Tour Cost
• Travel Delay (\$100 maximum per day)	\$500
• Baggage and Travel Documents	\$1,000
• Baggage Delay	\$100
• Medical Expense	\$25,000
• Emergency Medical Transportation	\$100,000
• Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000

This is a brief summary of the insurance plan offered. For a full description of the benefits, exclusions & conditions, an insurance brochure is available. Or, call Travel Guard International at 1-888-826-1300.