

ALABAMA VETERAN ACIE WILBERN TAYLOR:

“I have vivid memories of my time in WWII, but none more vivid than my recollections of my time on and around Utah Beach in Normandy. We were beating the Germans back pretty good but still were far from out of the woods. In fact, the woods were exactly where we were, a place called Huertgen Forest in Germany.

“Those of us who fought in those woods named it 'Forest in Hell.' It was along these woods that Hitler's last line of defense or, 'West Wall,' was dug in. The place was teeming with Nazi bunkers and it was cold, and the roads were so muddy they were practically impassable. Not to mention barbed wire everywhere and mines. We fought for three months and lost thousands of men. Even though I put the war behind me years ago, I still think of the names and faces of the men I knew, and those that I didn't, who died in that forest so that our flag can fly free.”