

David L. Jacobs

Written testimony of David L. Jacobs on behalf of his father, **Arthur D. Jacobs, Major, USAF Retired**, to the Subcommittee on Immigration...RE: HR 1425, Wartime Treatment Study Act

Submitted March 21, 2009 to the

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, REFUGEES, BORDER SECURITY, AND INTERNATIONAL LAW.**

**RE: Wartime Treatment Study Act HR 1425**

It is a pleasure for me to submit this testimony on behalf of my father, **Arthur D. Jacobs, Major, USAF Retired**. It amazes me that my father served in the United States Air Force for 22 years after the way he was treated by his Government during World War II.

At the very young age, 12, my father was interned. The most brutal aspect of his internment occurred shortly after the war had ended in a starving and war-torn Germany at the hands of members of the United States Army.

First, when he arrived in Germany he was transported in a boxcar that was unheated and had no toilet facilities for two days and three nights. My father was then taken to a prison called Hohenasperg—a 16<sup>th</sup> Century fortress, protected by a mote, multiple walls, and guard towers manned with guards with 50 caliber machine guns.

Below is a view from a window from my dad's cell—remember he was but 12 years old.



Down there where the chess pieces are is where the hangman's tree once stood. The U.S. Army guard told my father that if he did not behave he would be hung from that tree. Below is a picture showing my dad standing where the hangman's tree once stood. Yes, my dad was locked up in this prison at the age of 12—imagine that!



How come my dad was not invited to present his personal testimony at this 2009 hearing? This is the second time my father was denied a seat at the table—the first time was during 102d Congress hearing on H.R. 543, An Act to Establish the Manzanar Historic Site.

If you want to know the truth on this matter, simply go to the Special Collections section of the United States Air Force Academy Library where my father's 15,000 pages of research on the matter of the internment of German Americans during World War II is available.

David L. Jacobs  
Son of Arthur D. Jacobs