Comeback to Nuremberg: Prof. Raymond M. Weinstein

1960 / 2010

In July 2010 Prof. Raymond M. Weinstein, author of the story *Nuremberg 1959 - 1960 remembered: an American soldier in postwar Germany* in our book *transit nürnberg #4* revisited for the first time in fifty years the city which he came to know as a G.I. with a team of the 176th Signal repair company.

Today, Weinstein is Professor of Sociology at the University of South Carolina at Aiken. He served in the U.S. Army from 1957 - 1960, and after his discharge attended college. He graduated from Baruch College of the City University of New York in 1963 with a major in business statistics. He then was a graduate student at the University of California at Los Angeles from 1964 - 1968, and earned a Masters degree and Ph.D. in sociology. In his more than 40-year career, he has taught sociology at Wilkes College in Pennsylvania, John Jay College in New York, and since 1976 has been in his present teaching position in South Carolina. During the past four decades, he has published more than three dozen academic works on various topics, mainly articles in professional journals but also chapters in books and entries...

Prof. Weinstein’s writing is not limited to academic work. The first comprehensive result of his current autobiographical project is the contribution to *transit nürnberg #4*. Therefore his trip to Nuremberg was not only for nostalgia but served the purpose of background research.

As *testimon publishers* we took advantage of the unique chance offered by his presence and arranged for an eyewitness talk on the 4th of July at *Nürnberger Akademie*. Hosted by the German born and U.S. based historian Dr. Harald T. Leder (Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge) Prof. Weinstein shared his experiences and views on German-American relations with a numerous and attentive audience.

During his stay there was time left for individual sightseeing such as a tour of former Merrell Barracks, today the premises of the Federal Agency for Migration and Refugees (*Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge*) where on July 12 Prof. Weinstein and Susanne Rieger (*testimon publishers*) were welcomed and guided by Mr. Robert Drews representing the agency’s
director. The American took the opportunity to visit Luitpoldstraße in order to brush up his knowledge of the bars there which until the Army’s withdrawal from Nuremberg in 1995 were frequented mainly by G.I.s.

His forays in town where after a short period of orientation he easily found his way again, also led to new acquaintances such as the head of the academic fraternity Onoldia, Rudolf Sauernheimer, to which group he and we are indebted for a snug German-American grill party at the Spittlertorzwinger fortification, a segment of the medieval city wall.

Warner Weekly’s coverage of Prof. Weinstein’s appearances in Nuremberg and Bamberg

On July 13, Prof. Weinstein was invited to speak at Warner Barracks in Bamberg, an event arranged for by Specialist Ashley E Bateman of the garrison’s public affairs office. Of course his lecture was covered by the post’s newspaper Warner Weekly as was the talk in Nuremberg on July 4. The interest in Prof. Weinstein’s visit taken by the media in Nuremberg was proven by reports in the local press and a radio interview.
For us and many others who met him, Prof. Weinstein’s visit was inspiring, instructive and memorable on a personal level. We wish for more encounters with him and other Merrell veterans to expand our horizon by their knowledge and opinions regarding the German-American past, presence and future.

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For more information about the book transit nürnberg #4: USA! please contact testimon publishers at: Verlag testimon, P.O.B. 11 91 45, 90101 Nürnberg, Germany, email: info[at]testimon.de