

ALFRED SUNDQUIST
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Alfred Sundquist was a major and a physician with the XVIII Airborne under General Matthew Ridgeway. He was stationed 2-3 miles from Ludwigslust and was told to go to a small concentration camp and report back (he didn't mention the name). When he arrived in a jeep, the Germans had already left. The camp was on 3-4 acres and had no crematoria and about 2-3 barracks. The dead were piled up and other prisoners with striped uniforms were too weak to get up. In the barracks the beds were made from barbed wire. He saw massive results from starvation- loss of teeth, swollen legs. He also saw evidence of cannibalism: there were bodies cut open with the livers missing (liver was easier to eat with no teeth). He remembers the horror and the result of terrible treatment.

He wrote report recommending survivors be sent to apartments in Ludwigslust. There were not enough beds so many survivors slept on straw mattresses. About 25% of survivors lost from too much food too soon. The 82nd airborne connected to 18th airborne also got involved. Germans from the town were made to dig graves and attend funerals. Sundquist took lots of pictures which he gave to the museum. He thought Germans looked shamed and guilty. He talked about the presumption that Hitler was a manic depressive and probably invaded Russian during a depressive state when his judgment wasn't good. Lincoln, Napoleon and Churchill also were manic depressives.