



Map showing the route (dark line) we took from Diegem into Germany, near Aachen.

From Aachen we continued toward Cologne where we joined the Autobahn. We saw the twin towers of the Cathedral of Cologne and then proceeded southeastward toward Bonn where we crossed the Rhine River to follow the east bank as we were planning to return along the west bank.

Our first stop, along the Rhine, was to look at the remaining towers of the bridge at Remagen.



The remaining bridge towers are in the background just behind the prow of the ship.

This was on the turning points of W.W.II. As the Germans were retreating they attempted to blow up the bridge as a means of delaying Patton's Army which was in close pursuit. However, the explosives didn't do the job and Patton's troops were able to cross the bridge shortening the war considerably.



The Rhine River, upstream, from Remagen.

Our objective was the village of Honningen where Dad spent his days in the Army of Occupation from the 14th of December, 1918 until the 4th of July 1919. As we drove into town Dad recognized the City Hall, the School House and the Schloss Ehrenfels which served as the Officers Quarters in those days.



The Schloss Ehrenfels, a mini castle, on the hillside above the village of Honningen.

We parked in the same lot, next to the Rhine, where Gladys, Betty, Jim and I parked on our way up the Rhine in 1965. When Dad saw the Rhein Hotel, he produced pictures of himself and Jack Sneed, a buddy from Waco, Texas.

We entered the hotel and Dad showed the proprietor the pictures taken 53 year ago. They were a bit before his time. Dad also showed him a picture of Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Bundgen in whose house Dad lived while in Honningen in 1918-19. The Proprietor knew a Bundgen whom he thought might be a son.

We went to the Village Hall where the Clerk gave us the address of a Mathais Bundgen. The address was only a short two blocks from the Village Hall so we walked