

Lesson II: Irving Berzon Liberation 75 Local Connections (southwest Florida resident)

Note to Parents & Teachers. *Please* review this video as it contains graphic photographs. Feel free to skip questions you deem to be inappropriate, too.

Questions:

1. Click here [ <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/map/liberation-of-major-nazi-camps-1944-1945> ] and use the map titled, **Liberation of Major Nazi Camps, 1944-1945**.

Watch the video titled, Liberation of Nazi camps here

[ <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/us-army-units> ]

Which nation first liberated a major Nazi concentration camp? \_\_\_\_\_

Name one major Nazi concentration camp the British liberated: \_\_\_\_\_

When did the Americans liberate Buchenwald and Ohrdruf? \_\_\_\_\_

2. General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe visited Ohrdruf on April 12, 1945. While at Ohrdruf concentration camp, he commented that he “made the visit deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to “propaganda.”

Define **propaganda** using <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>

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General Eisenhower insisted that officials from the United States government and US Army photographers visit the camps. What did he hope that type of first-hand evidence would accomplish?

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3. Two US Army units were credited with having liberated Ohrdruf concentration camp. The 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division and the 89<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.  
Using this link [ <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/us-army-units> ] determine the nicknames of both divisions?

4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division \_\_\_\_\_

89<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division \_\_\_\_\_

Watch the video titled Irving Berzon Liberation 75 Local Connections [ [https://youtu.be/LYCzHrW7F\\_U](https://youtu.be/LYCzHrW7F_U) ]

4. Mr. Berzon mentioned that when his unit drove through town, they noticed white sheets hanging from the windows. What does he say the white sheets meant?

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5. He tells us that the camp was a mile from town and that when they confronted the civilians living there, they denied that the camp existed. What is his explanation for them saying that?

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6. At 1:41 of the video, Mr. Berzon tells us that some of the deceased prisoners' bodies were covered with lime (or quicklime, a heated mineral) but he does not say why. What do you think the prison guards might use lime?

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7. At 1:53 of the video he says, “it was just an overwhelming scene”. Based on his comment, what challenges did the soldiers face when they liberated Ohrdruf?

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8. Define **barracks** using <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>

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9. Based on the graphic photographs and images, explain what Mr. Berzon meant when he said about staying or leaving, “it’s almost like grabbing an electric wire, you don’t want to hold it, but you can’t let go of it”.

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