

## **Winning peace takes patience, commitment**

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My grandfather enlisted in the Army in 1945 at the age of 16 and was sent to Germany to assist in the reconstruction. He went with teams of other American soldiers to hunt down, seek out, arrest and sometimes shoot Nazi holdouts picking off Allied soldiers.

Winning the peace is just as hard as winning a war. The excitement is over, but the enemy is still there. Now he isn't in a tank, or part of a company of soldiers who fight in the open. Now it's just the lone gunman who sneaks up on our forces.

The peace is dull, boring, lonely and frustrating, but it is part of the mission. It will secure us from ever having to go back there again.

Our soldiers will be in Iraq for a long time. Germany wasn't rebuilt in a day. Neither was Japan; neither was Atlanta or Richmond.

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