Feeling the heat of a hot May afternoon, Cadets Jeremy Pressgrove and Jeffrey Holycross and I descended the steep steps of the Orthodox Synagogue on Rutledge Avenue.

As we got to the bottom, a lady rushed forward and said to the cadets, “You look so wonderful, so handsome in your uniforms! I really want my grandson to attend The Citadel.” Looking at me, she asked, “Which is your son? You must be so proud.”

I explained that neither cadet was my son, that I was a professor at The Citadel and both were students in a class I taught, Hitler and National Socialism. The two cadets wanted to walk that day with Holocaust survivors Pincus Kolender and Joe Engel in the March of the Living, an annual commemoration of the liberation of the German concentration camps.

by Brig. Gen. Michael Barrett, ’68