large to comprehend, therefore it must be exaggerated. After two hours listening to Mr. Kolender and Mr. Engel, there are only believers. The power of their testimony, their personal witness, cannot be overestimated.

In the course of the conversation on the steps of the synagogue, the same lady recalled that I had attended a ceremony honoring Mr. Kolender and Mr. Engel at the Jewish Community Center a few years ago.

“You had a cadet with you who also addressed the audience,” she said. “As long as I live,” she said, “I’ll never forget what your cadet said. It was terribly moving.” She turned to Cadets Pressgrove and Holycross and said, “That cadet said he had wondered about the Holocaust—if it really occurred as described as well as its scope—until he heard Kolender and Engel talk to his class at The Citadel one night, and he could not get it out of his head since then. He claimed it was the most eye-opening experience of his education. Their quiet but powerful testimony had electrified him.”

Suddenly turning to me, she asked “What became of that cadet? Everyone afterwards commented on his eloquence and that what he said proved just how important it is for Kolender and Engel to give testimony to something so awful that one’s first reaction is to refuse to believe it. Do you know what became of him?”

I did. That cadet, Mason Harlow, class of 1999, is an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. Assigned to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, N.C., he led a reconnaissance platoon in the liberation of Iraq from the tyranny and genocide of Saddam Hussein in March 2003. He is doing his part to ensure that there are no Holocausts in the 21st century—as Mr. Kolender and Mr. Engel do in their testimony—just as countless Citadel graduates have before him and just as Cadets Pressgrove and Holycross and others will in their own way through whatever avenues they choose to pursue after graduation.

*A reference to Hitler. Führer is the German word for leader.

Michael Barrett is a 1968 graduate. Following military service and graduate school, he began teaching history at The Citadel in 1976 where he continues to be a favorite among cadets and graduate students. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts and studied in Germany in 1974 as a Fulbright Scholar. He is a retired brigadier general in the U.S. Army Reserve.