

Toy turns into a Document

Film of the 600 Year Celebration of the Winckelmann High School presented

By Thomas Pusch

STENDAL. 60 years ago a film which shows the parade of the 600-year existence of the Winckelmann High School disappeared with the departing American troops. Now it is in Germany again.

The document was a film, which his father had brought along from Germany, more a toy during his childhood days. Uniforms, horses, flags, all that was interesting. The film, of which Duane S. Thompson speaks, disappeared since 1945, is the piece of celluloid which shows the parade of the 600 year existence of the Winckelmann High School in 1938. Yesterday the American, as well as Patricia Mee, was greeted for the delivery of the film to the city. It was a restored copy of the film, because the original he had already left with federal film archives [Bundesfilmarchiv, Berlin]. "We are very happy that we can view the recent history of Stendals thanks to you now", said Axel Kleefeldt, representing Mayor Klaus Schmotz, and who felt obviously well in the role of the interpreter.

Through the Circle of Friends of the Winckelmann High School contact with the man from Colorado was made, when from toy he made a document, the movie place he wanted to find out more about. "My father said nothing about the war" he said after the reception in an AZ interview. War veterans probably never do this [discuss their war experiences], with their family anyhow. The film, which Thompson brought back, tells a lot, however. Also without words.

Picture caption:

The 7 minute and 45 second movie is again in the city, in the place it was made. Photo: Pusch