



### ZADANIE 1

Hello. Welcome to the programme "Famous people in sport". Today, we'll tell you about the black American athlete, Jesse Owens, who once was the fastest runner in the world.

Jesse Owens was born in 1913 as the youngest of ten children. He was raised on a farm in the southern state of Alabama. His parents didn't own any land. His father was just employed on a farm. Although he worked hard, his earnings were very low and the family couldn't afford many things. There was rarely enough food to eat or enough fuel to heat the house in winter.

When Jesse was nine, his family decided to move. Jesse's parents were worried about their kids' safety. At the time there was a lot of racial hatred in the south. So, the family went to the north, to Cleveland in Ohio. They lived in a few small rooms in a poor and unfriendly part of the city. Jesse's father was no longer young, so he was unable to find a job. However, Jesse's older brothers started working in factories, so, on the whole, the family's life was a lot better than in the South.

Jesse, especially, was lucky. He went to school where one white teacher, Charles Riley, who was also a coach of the boys' school team of athletes, took a special interest in him. Jesse looked so skinny and unhealthy that Mr. Riley was worried about it. He brought him food and invited him to his house to eat with his family. He also taught Jesse how to run although, in the beginning, he didn't believe that Jesse would be a fast runner. He only wanted to make the boy stronger.

Luckily, Mr. Riley was wrong. Very quickly Jesse revealed his magnificent talent in running and jumping. Within a couple of years he became one of the best athletes in the country, and finally, he was accepted as a member of the United States Olympic team.

In the summer of 1936, Jesse Owens went to Berlin to represent his country at the Olympic Games organized by Germany. At that time Adolf Hitler was the leader

of Germany. He and his Nazi party believed that white people - especially Germans - were the best race of people on Earth. Jesse Owens was black and he showed that Hitler was wrong. He competed in different Olympic track and field events and he ran faster and jumped farther than any other white athlete from Germany. However, the Berlin Olympic Games were special for Owens for a different reason. He took part in four events and he won the Gold Medal in all four. It was a great success. None of the American athletes had won so many gold medals in a single Olympics before.

Owens's Olympic victories made him a hero. Yet, on return home, he didn't feel like one. There were no official thanks or congratulations on his success. What's more, Owens had a tough time financially. No-one offered him a permanent job. Different businessmen used his name in advertisements for their firms, but paid him very little for that. For many years after his Olympic success, Jesse Owens lived in poverty and had problems paying his bills. To survive he took part in horse and motorcycle races. That was very sad indeed.

Things changed when Jesse was appointed a Goodwill Ambassador for the US government. He travelled in the country and abroad and gave speeches at different gatherings. Lots of people came to hear the details of his athletic career. But Jesse wasn't fond of talking about himself. For him the biggest benefit was that he could meet young people. He put a lot of energy into working with them. He told them what he'd learned about life, work and sport and advised them how to succeed.

In about 1970, Jesse Owens wrote a book, called "Blackthink", about his life. Unfortunately, the reviews after its publication weren't good. In the book Jesse criticized young black militants who blamed society for their troubles. He said that in the United States black people had the same chance to succeed as white people. Many black civil rights activists reacted angrily and said what Owens had written was not true. Later Owens admitted he had been wrong. He spent the rest of his life promoting sport and

helping black sportsmen to succeed. He was even awarded the Medal of Freedom for his work. Jesse Owens died in 1980. The world will never forget that magnificent sportsman.

## **ZADANIE 2**

Welcome ladies and gentlemen, I'm captain John Smith of the US 7th Army Training Command. I'm here to talk to you about the last European Hawk Eye competition. It was hosted by us together with the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. For the first time ever, the competition was held at Hohenfels Training Area in Germany. There were 27 teams from 14 countries including three teams from the United States. It was a 10-day-long event and it concluded on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

From day one, competitors were excited and happy to participate in all the tasks. And for us it was truly an honour to be a part of such a varied group. Working together with our partners and allies is always a great way to build common understanding. The European Hawk Eye Competition is first of all a place for professional development of sniper teams. But there is another important aspect for NATO Allies and Partners. I mean that they can share TTPs, or in other words tactics, techniques and procedures. I don't have to explain how important that is for promoting interoperability among the allies and partners.

During the competition the participants are expected to use their tactical and technical skills. They also practise skills such as field firing, team communication, and land navigation. The competition itself is designed to test the mental, physical, and emotional endurance of the teams. But of course the most important element that is tested is their sniper skills.

The competition stages involve day and night shooting and training lanes. This year the competition's lanes were designed to represent a specific period of time. The idea was to honour important military events starting from World War I to more recent conflicts. The first training lane was called "1917". Just like during World War I, teams were in muddy trenches while CS gas was sprayed on them. So first, they had to put on their gas masks and then they had to run through smoke into the open ground. Obviously, they had to fire at targets at the same time. It was

definitely one of the most difficult training lanes of the event.

Another lane of the competition was called "*Mogadishu*". It was inspired by two Delta Force snipers who provided cover fire to a crew of men after their chopper went down during Operation Gothic Serpent. In the end, they were killed by Somali gunfire but are historically credited with killing 25 Somali enemies, and wounding many more. So, it is easy to guess that on the Mogadishu training lane, competitors had to shoot targets from a damaged helicopter.

The competition was a really challenging event. But each team showed perfect sniper skills and they were all happy to be able to be a part of this event. And now the results. A sniper team from Latvia came in third. A team from Turkey took second place. The winning team was a team from Slovenia called Fox 01. They score impressive 2500 out of 5,000 total points.

We hope the competition will be held again next year and we would be really happy to host a team from Poland. Thank you.

## **ZADANIE 3**

Hello listeners, in today's program I will talk about one of the largest and most cruel military operations during the Second World War – the Battle of the Scheldt. This operation consisted of multiple attacks conducted against the Germans in northern Belgium in the autumn of 1944. It was led by the First Canadian Army with the assistance of the Allied Forces including British, Polish, French, Norwegian, Belgian and American units. The troops started the operation all together, but they fought in several distant locations.

The aim of this operation was to gain control of the last 95-kilometres of the River Scheldt. The river connects the port town Antwerp to the North Sea. It was important for the Allied Forces to have access to the ports of Antwerp for logistic reasons. The ports in northern France were not big enough for many ships and partly destroyed. So the supply lines there were getting longer and longer. Because of the problems with the supplies, the rapid advance through France and Belgium slowed down. The Allies were short of ammunition, equipment, medical supplies and food.

Apart from the logistic problems, there was another reason which led to the delay of the Allies' offensive. It was the unsuccessful Operation Market Garden in Holland. During this operation the Allies failed to get full control over strategic bridges. This made it impossible for the coalition troops to move fast in order to omit the famous Siegfried Line. The Siegfried Line was a heavily fortified defense line on the border of Germany with France. It was built by the Germans before the war broke out to protect their territory from an invasion. However, at that point the coalition forces were too weak to continue any attacks. They had to wait for the support troops and supplies.

This break in the offensive enabled the Germans to withdraw their last units from France to Belgium. They terrorized the civilians and strengthened the defenses along the River Scheldt. The area was full of mine fields, bunkers and ... water. Yes listeners – you heard me right – water. That's because the Nazis flooded the low-lying terrain full of swamps near Antwerp to stop the Allied Forces. This, together with cold, wet autumn weather made the survival and the fight there hard for the attacking soldiers. The bloody battle with the German troops lasted two months before it finally ended in victory. But the price for the victory was very high: thousands of dead, wounded and missing allied soldiers, massive destruction and many civilian casualties. After the end of the battle it took weeks to clear the river of mines for the first ship convoy to reach Antwerp.

For decades the Battle of the Scheldt was considered just an episode on the western front of the Second World War. It has always been commemorated by the grateful Belgians, but forgotten by most of us. But not anymore. Recently, these heroic events have been brought back from the past and reminded to the general public. A good example of this is the film called "The Forgotten Battle" which everyone can watch on Netflix.

Well listeners, that's all from me today. Thank you and stay tuned in for the up-coming news service.

