

**VANDY GOES TO WAR:
WORLD WAR II**

MSS # 634

**Arranged and described by Molly Dohrmann
June 2008**

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
The Jean and Alexander Heard Library
Vanderbilt University
419 21st. Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37240
Telephone: (615) 322-2807**

Scope and Content and History Note

Vandy Goes to War: World War II Remembered an Oral History was begun in the autumn of 2006 with the intention of making a record of the various experiences of Vanderbilt and Peabody men and women during the World War II.

Paper copies of the transcripts and other supporting materials donated by the participants are housed in Special Collections and University Archives. Altogether there are forty participants. The interviews are complemented by a number of digitized photographs from the personal collections of some of the contributors and include ninety pages from a World War II photograph journal of a Naval officer's tour of duty in the South Pacific.

This project records the histories and reminiscences of men and women who attended or had connections with Vanderbilt and Peabody during the war years and documents their experiences in the service and on the campus during that time and afterward when some came back to school and attended on the G.I. Bill. The interviews include eye witness accounts of soldiers fighting at the Battle of the Bulge in the winter of 1944 and early 1945, in the Far East at Okinawa, flying aerial reconnaissance in the European theatre, and medical and hospital work in North Africa and southern Italy. One soldier, a prisoner of war in a camp in Germany tells his story. Another tells of being an eighteen year old soldier liberating prisoners from Dachau Concentration camp in southern Germany. Women speak of taking leadership positions in campus life, when so many men had gone to war and of their efforts on the home front and of the realities of rationing and limited necessities.

This project was begun in the fall of 2006; the final interviews were completed in the last part of 2007. Juanita Murray, Director of Special Collections and University Archives, and Kathy Smith, Associate University Archivist, are the co-ordinators for the project. Molly Dohrmann conducted all of the interviews.

Box 1

Transcriptions of the interviews with dates and timings and biographical data sheets

Folders

1.

Anderson, Lyttleton C., Jr.

January 4, 2007; 24:52 minutes

2.

Bates, Douglas T., III

April 26, 2007; 19:10 minutes

3.

Bowers, Eugene

October 12, 2006; 15:13 minutes

4.

Bowman, Dunklin C.

December 1, 2006; 23:58 minutes

5.

Branscomb, Ben and Jane

September 29, 2006; 55:30 minutes

6.

Bugel, Alice H.

June 1, 2007; 48:56 minutes

7.

Durham, Walter T.

September 26, 2006; 50:48 minutes

8.

Eskind, Allen S.

September 28, 2006; 1:00:15 minutes

9.

George, Ted M.

January 23, 2007; 13:39 minutes

10.

Healy, Robert

August 16, 2007; 16:24 minutes

11.

Holcomb, George W., Jr.

Biographical data form only

12.

Holladay, Virginia

June 27, 2007; pt. 1- 6:20; pt. 2- 2:03 minutes

13.

Holroyd, Sara

October 18, 2006; 9:53 minutes

14.

James, David, Jr.

January 23, 2007; 20:42 minutes

15.

Jenkins, Lillian Bloodworth

December 13, 2006; 6:21 minutes

16.

Jones, Wayman Morris

December 12, 2006; 11:52 minutes

17.

Larsen, James and Anne

October 18, 2006; 1:18:25 minutes

18.

Norman, Haywood Petrie, III

January 19, 2007; 10:18 minutes

19.

Owen, Tom and Mary

Owen, Susan

December 26, 2006; 18:20 minutes

20.

Payne, Maxwell Carr, Jr.

November 20, 2006; 21:35 minutes

21.

Pearsall, Sam

October 10, 2007; pt. 1, 56:03; pt. 2, 2:00; pt. 3, 1:15; pt. 4, 5:12 minutes

22.

Smith, Marion L.

December 5, 2006; 5:22 minutes

23.

Stewart, John M.

October 11, 2006; 15:34 minutes

24.

Still, Elizabeth Blair

December 14, 2006; 8:42 minutes

25.

Tacker, Frank

January 18, 2007; 45:42 minutes

26.

Thomas, George D. , Jr.

January 11, 2007; 24:44 minutes

27,

Thompson, Joe and Martha

December 1, 2006; pt. 1, 49:59, pt. 2, 4:40 minutes

28.

Tuck, James

February 21, 2007; 5:32 minutes

29.

Webb, James C., Jr.

August 1, 2007; 29:17 minutes

30.

Williams, Benjamin B.

October 18, 2007; 1:05:10 minutes

31.

Williams, Jack

January 9, 2007; 22:52 minutes

32.

Worrell, Estelle Ansley

December 5, 2006; 29:33 minutes

33.

Wright, Harold L.

February 14, 2007; pt. 1, 5:40; pt. 2, :00:41 minutes

34.

Wright, Jean A.

February 20, 2007; 29:05 minutes

Box 2

Related materials and photographs

1.

Anderson, Lyttleton

Photocopies of maps and other items of general interest

2.

Anderson, Lyttleton

Contact sheets of scanned photographs sc.mss.0634.007 - .035; Battle of the Bulge, Dec. 16, 1944 - Jan.25, 1945, personal collection with identification

3.

Brammer, Harry M., Jr

World War II History Book with introductory letter by Harry M. Brammer, III, M.D.
The First Platoon of the 44th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 44th Infantry Division
Form TX Copyrighted U.S. Patent Office - TXU 352 580, 21 December 1988
by Harry Murray Brammer, Jr. (P.F.C. - U.S. Army) Serial No. 35091120

4.

Branscomb, Ben and Jane

“Ben Branscomb Reviews 60 Years of Discovery” in *UABSYNOPSIS*, Vol. 25, No. 18,
August 14, 2006

5.

Bugel, Alice H.

Transcript of oral history interview on September 13, 2002 , 22 pages;
photocopy of an article on the 8th Evacuation Hospital, University of Virginia with photos of
Alice Bugel and her notes

6.

Bugel, Alice H.

Humor In Uniform; Memories of My Mother: A Remembrance of Johanna E. Moline by
Anna Lisa Moline; *Reminiscences: My Life and Nursing Career* by Anna Lisa Moline; “She
Was There: A W.W.II War Veterans Story” in *The Veteran Tribune*, June 2005

7.

Bugel, Alice H.

Contact sheets of scanned photographs sc.mss.0634. 038 - .072, personal collection of
World War II photos taken in the U. S., North Africa, and Italy with identifications

8.

Eskind, Allen S.

Finding aid for the Allen S. Eskind World War II Papers (MSS 633) which includes the link
to the 90 page photograph album of digitized images from his tour of duty in the South
Pacific during the war.

9.

George, Ted M.

A Life in the Twentieth Century - an autobiography with chapters on his World War II
service and his time at Vanderbilt

10.

Holladay, Virginia M.

Written reminiscences of her time at Vanderbilt during the years 1942 - 1946.

11.

Holroyd, Sara

Finding aid for the Sara Holroyd Collection (MSS 654)

12.

James, David H.

2 articles "A Mission in Memphis" Spring 1988, p. 40; "A Selfless Career" Fall 2002, in *Vanderbilt Medicine*

13.

Larsen, James

Contact sheets of scans mss images 0634.036 - .037 of James Larsen in uniform on the Vanderbilt Campus

14.

Owen, Thomas B

World War II materials - award of Bronze Star and Purple Heart; Lists of soldiers wounded in action and killed in action, Third Battalion; "On the Point of the Spear: Some Experiences of a Marine Rifleman During the Battle for the Island of Okinawa in April, May, and June of 1945" by James S. White, G Company, 3rd Battalion, 29th Marines, Sixth Marine Division

15.

Owen, Thomas B. and Mary P.

Owen, Susan

Photocopies of personal and biographical materials, including "A Tribute to Coach Tommy Owen."

16.

Owen, Thomas B. and Mary P.

Owen, Susan

Photocopies of personal and biographical materials and newspaper articles relating to his athletic and sports career at Vanderbilt University and with newspaper articles on Mary P. Owen.

17.

Pearsall, Sam

Photocopy of a World War II Notebook - "World War II as Fought and Won by Sam Pearsall II"

18.

Pearsall, Sam

Photocopies of a transcript of a ship's bridge signal log of February 1944; Chapter III of Oheka Castle - the Kahn mansion; remarks made by Sam Pearsall at a banquet; the Merchant Seamen Memorial Fund; and newspaper articles

19.

Stewart, John M.

Brief Autobiography for the Vanderbilt Reunion of the class of 1948

20.

Tacker, James Frank, Jr

“WWII Battle of the Bulge Progresses: Frank Tacker Taken Prisoner of War” December 1994; photocopy of a map of WWII Prison camps in Europe

21.

Tacker, James Frank, Jr.

“Bulge Bugle” official publication of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, February 2006, November 2006; “The Cub of the Golden Lion” veterans of the 106th Infantry Division, July-August- September 2005, October-November-December 2006

22.

Thompson, Joe and Martha

Photocopy of press release for his book *Tiger Joe: a Photographic Diary of a World War II Aerial Reconnaissance Pilot*, 2006

23.

Williams, Benjamin B.

Photocopies of autobiography “Ben Williams in War and Peace”; “Bridge on the River Rhine” in the *History Channel Magazine*, June 2006; letter with memories of Vanderbilt professors

24.

Worrell, Estelle A.

Photocopy of newspaper clipping, Peabody Dames

25.

Worrell, Estelle A. and Norman

Contact sheets of scanned photographs sc.mss.0634.001 - .006, the Peabody campus in the snow; Veterans Village at Peabody, c. 1951

26.

“Were You Here During World War II” in *Vanderbilt Magazine*, Summer 2006

“Vandy Goes to War: An Oral History Project” by Lew Harris in *Acorn Chronicle*, Summer 2007

27.

General Patton’s Prayer during the Battle of the Bulge

28.

Web information on the Battle of the Bulge

Box 3

1 – 33.

Original transcripts with corrections