

## War and Society OHP 198

OH 4113

This is an oral history of Samuel Cox who had served this country during World War II in the Philippine Islands during the closing years of the war. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on personal experiences of World War II in the Pacific Theater from the perspective of a man who lived it. This interview is one part of an oral history project for History 493, taken with Dr. Natalie Fousekis. This interview specifically goes into detail of what types of experiences Mr. Cox endured in his time fighting in the Pacific Theater, and will be later used to compare and contrast with experiences in the European Theater. Specific to Mr. Cox's experience, we will be delving into what it was like being involved in the proverbial clean-up for 6 months after Japan had surrendered following the dropping of the nuclear bombs. His experiences include landing on Leyte, and his extensive campaign on Dumagetti in the Negros Islands of the Philippines. For 6 months he patrolled the island in an attempt to root out the last of the Japanese resistance and saw his own fair share of death.

OH 4125

An oral history of Carlton Burgess, Radio Operator in the U.S. 11<sup>th</sup> Air Division who flew out of the Aleutian Islands in Alaska. Carlton's plane was shot down on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 1945 where it proceeded to land in Kamchatka where the crew was apprehended by the Russians and "interred." The purpose of this interview is to obtain information on the treatment of POW's during World War II and the effects that their time as prisoners might have had on their adjustment back to normal life. This interview was conducted for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 Oral History course, under the theme of "War and Society." The interview covers Mr. Burgess's early life in Stillwater, Minnesota, his military story, from joining the military, his training all over the U.S., combat missions out of the Aleutian Islands, his capture, repatriating, and his life after the War. This story covers ground from registering for the military in Baraboo, Wisconsin, basic training in Las Vegas, cadet school in Galesburg, Illinois, flight school in Uman, Arizona, Radio operation school in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Gunnery School in Texas, crew training in Casper, WY, his journey to the Aleutian Islands, Being stationed on Shemya Island, his combat experiences bombing the Japanese from the Aleutians, his capture in Kamchatka, internment in Petropovlosky, being transferred to Toshkent in Siberia, his release and his trip around the globe being repatriated; his adjustment to life after returning home; his view on the war in Iraq today.

OH 4128

An oral history of Frank Day, a former Green Beret. This interview is part of a series to gather research in order to complete the oral history project as part of Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 course in Fall 2007. The interviewer used this history to help build knowledge on the position of African Americans with regards to the issue of race in army during the mid 1960s. This interview briefly touches on Mr. Day's activities before joining the army; attends college at Weber State College in Utah; volunteering for service in the Army in 1963; the reason for entering the army and his conceptions of the military both before joining and how they changed after the war; his experience in the segregated South in the 1960s during his military training at Fort Jackson, SC; his deployment to Germany, the attitude of the population there and how it was influenced by American soldiers; Activities as a soldier in Vietnam; drug use in the army; lack of communication and connection with home in America; the impact of his service on his political views; his changing views of the military; the impact of Agent Orange exposure on servicemen and government reaction; and finally his views of the connection between Vietnam and the current war in Iraq.

OH 4131

An oral history of Clair Hanawalt, a World War II conscientious objector who served in Civilian Public Service (CPS) camps at Belden (134 FS Belden), and Modesto (BSC Modesto Relief Center), CA. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about the experiences of conscientious objectors during WWII, and the impact it had on their lives. This interview is part of an oral history project for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 oral history course, and will possibly supplement my MA thesis on WWII conscientious objectors. This interview discusses Clair Hanawalt's experience growing up on a ranch in La Verne, CA; discusses the draft; obtaining a farm deferment and then conscientious objector status; being investigated by the FBI; Clair's moral and ethical beliefs regarding war; religious upbringing in Church of the Brethren; experiences at Belden; feelings of animosity by the community during the war and maintaining friendships following; his views of subsequent wars; views of grandchildren enlisting; remembering Pearl Harbor; and understanding the degrees of conscientious objection.

OH 4111

An oral history of Lynn Harrer, a U.S. Navy veteran and survivor of the Pearl Harbor attacks and various other battles during World War II. My intentions for the interview

were to find out as much as I could about Mr. Harrer's personal experiences during WWII, specifically the morning of December 7, 1941. I also wanted to get information about other attacks and battles he was involved in between the years of 1941 and 1945. This interview is a project that is part of Dr. Fousekis' Oral History course, History 493. This interview explored areas of Mr. Harrer's 21 years of service in the U.S. Navy, including his family life growing up, his first years in the Navy, the Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor, his service in the Solomon Islands, the Battle of Okinawa, and his experience training for Chief Gunnery Mate for the U.S. Navy. He shared his extensive knowledge of guns other weapons throughout his answers during the interview with me.

#### OH 4110

An oral history of Theron MacKay, Chief Gunnery Mate of the U.S. Navy. The purpose of this interview was to obtain information about World War II and his involvement in it. The interview answers questions that pertain to Mr. MacKay's time in the Solomon Islands, as well as other topics about his personal issues with the war. This interview is part of an oral history project for Dr. Fousekis' class, History 493.

#### OH 4123

This interview discusses Lyle Miller's early years in Utah, the Mormon Church and his military career, beginning with the news of the bombing at Pearl Harbor. After basic training at Camp Fannin, Texas, with the Army 100<sup>th</sup> Division, Lyle was sent to Fort Bragg and from there prepared to sail to Europe. This interview is part of a project for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 Oral History course, War and Society. From learning to be a killer in basic training, the bombing of a school, booby traps and mines, clearing the battle field of wounded and dead soldiers, the bitter cold winter in December 1944/45 in France, serving under General Patton, and facing his own mortality and dead Germans in a foxhole; to the reactions of U.S. P.O.W's and forced labor workers in a Polish labor camp at liberation; and finally Heidelberg, Patton's accident and death, and the road to recovery for Lyle and the German people.

#### OH 4112

This is an oral history of Ross Mitchell who served in the Army during World War II in the European theater during the closing years of the war. The purpose of this interview is

to gather information on personal experiences of World War II in the European Theater from the perspective of a man who lived through it. This interview is one part of an oral history project for History 493, taken with Dr. Natalie Fousekis. This interview goes into detail of the experiences Mr. Mitchell lived through in the European Theater, and will be later used to compare and contrast with experiences in the Pacific Theater. Specific to Mr. Mitchell's experience, we will explore what it was like to enter World War II as a "wire man" when the "Battle of the Bulge" was taking place and the war was in the midst of coming to a close in that part of the world. Given his job and its nature, coupled with his late entry into the war, Mr. Mitchell did not experience too much death first hand other than coming upon already dead soldiers as he traversed through the war torn towns in France and the German countryside. In this, Mr. Mitchell encountered his own unique experiences, though they lay outside the usual "action" stories envisioned when hearing about World War II.

OH 4192

This interview discusses time during World War II for the Oral History class of Dr. Natalie Fousekis. Juanita Musson covers her abuse as a child; her work life as a secretary and driver for J. Paul Getty; the time she spent working at Douglas Air inspecting bomber planes built by women; how she came to be married to her first husband whom she promptly divorced when she heard from the Red Cross that he had gotten a lady pregnant while serving overseas in Europe. She also shares how she came to meet her second husband, Richard Musson, while going out of her way to help the family of another soldier. Juanita also recounts how she consoled Richard when he was in charge of an all black unit saying "Oh man, they're just people".

OH 4125

An oral history of Harold G. Scharfe, Corporal of the Canadian Armed Forces with The Essex Scottish Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division. Harold was captured in France on April 19, 1942 during the Dieppe Raid; he lived the next three years of his life as a Prisoner of War. The purpose of this interview is to obtain information on the treatment of POW's during World War II and the effects that their time as prisoners might have had on their adjustment back to normal life. This interview was conducted for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 Oral History class, under the theme of "War and Society." This interview covers Mr. Scharfe's early life in Ottawa, Canada and Windsor, Ontario, his military story, from his reasoning for joining the army, his capture, repatriating, and his adjustment to life after the war. This story covers ground from, convincing his father to let him join the military at the age of 17, his training, his first impressions of Europe, his experiences during the Dieppe Raid, his capture, life and treatment in Stalag VIIB, being put through a forced march for 2 ½ months, his liberation and return to the America's,

adjustment to life after the war, and finally his opinions on the treatment of current prisoners of war.

OH 4130

An oral history with World War II Veteran, Mischa Seligman. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about his military involvement during WWII even though he was opposed to bearing arms, and his protest of all subsequent wars. This interview is part of an oral history project for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 Oral History course and will supplement my MA research on WWII conscientious objectors. Specifically, this interview covers Mischa's youth in Vienna and his experiences with the gradual nazification of Austria; moving to Beverly Hills and attending Hollywood High School (culture clashes); racial confrontation with Los Angeles Police Department; working a variety of jobs (newspaper delivery, unsuccessful business venture), training at Pancho Barne's ranch; fond memories of famous uncles; his struggles to obtain citizenship; enlisting in Army Signal Corps; experiences with firing sharp shooter (explains hostility for guns); talks about working in India; in charge of radio station in Iran, delivering newspapers, Army quartet, broadcasting with translations in Farsi; transfer to Europe; attempting to locate his father in Paris; Red Cross lies to him about his father being safe; run-ins with Inspector General; Army not granting him leave to obtain citizenship; broadcasting the Opera in war torn Naples; injury; absentee ballots on ship returning to the U.S.; many marriages after the war; involvement with Veterans For Peace; involvement with Club Med for the remoralization of Jewish prisoners; meeting his wife Brigitte Bertrou Seligman; views on the Iraq war; and his participation at the Arlington West memorial in Santa Barbara, CA.

OH 4132

An Oral history of Bruce Watson. The purpose for this interview is to learn about the Vietnam war while there and back home. He landed in Saigon when he first arrived in Vietnam. He fought in Tet Offense. He also talked about the problems in military, for example he talked about the Mai Lai Massacre. He was a patroller at night with five other soldiers. He was also wounded twice in battle. Discussed the living condition in Vietnam. He is from a poor family, which is why he enlisted to go to Vietnam. He also

talked about the different medals he got like the Purple Medal because he was wounded. He was enlisted in 1966 first for armor to go to Germany first and in response he had to stay in army for four years. The Tet Offensive he knows he killed one guy and wounded two other. He was in Cambodian border in Tet Offensive in 1968 then he came to Saigon where he two or three Americans in corners, so they formed POW camps cause they were afraid the North Vietnamese would attack POW and release the prisoners.

OH 4124

An oral history of Andrew Williams, an African American who served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967, deployed in Germany for much of that time. This interview was conducted to gather research in order to complete the oral history project as part of Dr. Natalie Fousekis' History 493 course in Fall 2007. The interviewer used this history to help build knowledge on the position of African Americans with regards to the issue of race in army during the mid 1960s. This interview discusses Mr. Williams early life in Shreveport and later Waterproof, Louisiana; his father's farm; attending segregated schools and closure of black schools during harvest time; working in the Chicago steel industry; limitations of being of draft age during the Vietnam War; drafted into the army on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday after inquiring at the Draft Board; training in Kentucky and Oklahoma; deployment to Germany with home company at Schweinfurt; boxing with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division team located at Kitzingen; examination of race relations with German population; Article 15 and disputing military justice; artillery practice and demonstrations of artillery pieces for the Iranian army; and discipline and accommodation in the army.