

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with James G. Graff

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Veterans Remember* Oral History project

Interview # VR2-A-L-2008-001

James G. Graff, a U.S. Army veteran of the European theater in World War II, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: January 7, 2008      Location: Graff residence in Middletown, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Richard Schachtsiek, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: Tape Transcription Center, Boston, Mass.

Edited by: Rozanne Flatt, ALPL Volunteer

Total Pages: 36      Total Time: 2 hrs 39 min / 2.65 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on 2/8/2008.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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# Abstract

James G. Graff, *Veterans Remember*, VR2-A-L-2008-001

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** James G. Graff was born on August 20, 1925 in Springfield, Illinois, and grew up in nearby Middletown. He entered the U.S. Army in May of 1944, attending Basic Training at Fort Hood, Texas. He was then assigned to Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division, and saw action from January of 1945 until the end of the war. He subsequently served on occupation duty in Germany until August of 1945, then returned to the states and was released from active duty in April of 1946. James was married in September of 1948, and worked as a carpenter and then a farmer until his retirement in 1990.

In 1977, Graff wrote of his WW II experiences in an unpublished memoir entitled *Reflections of a Combat Infantryman: A Soldier's Story of C. Co, 134th Inf., 35th Div.*

**Topics Covered:** Childhood in central Illinois; U.S. Army infantryman in Europe, 1945; Fort Hood, Texas; Washington D.C. in wartime; 134th Infantry Regiment; 35th Infantry Division; occupation duty in Germany – 1945; General George Patton; *Reflections of a Combat Infantryman: A Soldier's Story of C. Co, 134th Inf., 35th Div*

**Note to the Reader:** Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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