



Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Robert E. Green

Part of the Illinois Public Media – WILL AM-FM-TV Central Illinois
World War II Stories project

Interview # VR2-V-D-2007-049

Robert E. Green, a World War II veteran who served in the United States Navy, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Illinois Public Media – WILL AM-FM-TV Central Illinois World War II Stories project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: 1 October 2007

Location: Illinois Public Media, Urbana, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: David L. Noreen, Illinois Public Media affiliate

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1 hr, 19 min/ 1.32 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on (date).

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

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Abstract

Robert E. Green, *Veterans Remember*, VR2-V-D-2007-049

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Robert E. Green was born in Boston, Massachusetts on June 30, 1919. He moved to Los Angeles in 1923 and entered the Navy Reserves Midshipmen's School in 1940. He continued his schooling in San Francisco, before being assigned to the U.S.S. Zeilin as a division boat officer. During 1942, Green was stationed at the Samoa Islands, Tulagi Island, New Hebrides, and New Caledonia. Green was also stationed at Guadalcanal during the Battle of Santa Cruz. From a nearby boat, he witnessed his ship attacked and almost sunk by the Japanese. While his ship was refurbished in Long Beach, California, Green married his wife, Betty,

In May 1943, Green secured Attu Island with the help of the 2nd Marine Division and the 7th Army Division; he was promoted to Assistant Beachmaster. After invading Kiska in August 1943, Green transferred to New Zealand. The 2nd Marine Division and Green's naval fleet recaptured Tarawa in the South Pacific. Green was promoted to Lieutenant, becoming a Senior Officer in charge of a 600 person crew. Green then became Damage Control Officer, the 1st Assistant to the 1st Lieutenant, on the Arlington ship in New York.

However, he immediately returned to San Francisco as 1st Lieutenant of a floating dry dock, responsible for repairing ships. The dry dock was towed to the Admiralty Islands in Bismarck Archipelago, near New Guinea. In November 1945, Green returned to Los Angeles.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Boston, Massachusetts; Los Angeles, California; New York; Seattle, Washington; San Francisco, California; U.S.S. Zeilin; Pearl Harbor; Samoa Islands; Pango Pango Harbor; San Diego, California; 2nd Marine Division; Tulagi Island; New Hebrides; New Caledonia; Guadalcanal; Battle of Santa Cruz; Long Beach, California; Aleutian Islands; 7th Army Division; Attu Island; Invasion of Kiska; New Zealand; Tarawa; Arlington; Admiralty Island, Bismarck Archipelago.

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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