

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Robert John Wahlfeldt

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

Interview # VR2-V-D-2007-067

Robert John Wahlfeldt, 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: 17 October 2007 Location: Illinois Public Media, Urbana, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Harriet Williamson, Illinois Public Media affiliate

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

Edited by: _____

Transcription by: _____

Interview being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1 hr, 12 min/ 1.2 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 John Wahlfeldt, Veterans Remember, VR2-V-D-2007-067

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Robert John Wahlfeldt was born on June 7, 1925 in Danville, Illinois. Wahlfeldt enlisted into the United Stated Navy and was inducted in 1943 in Chicago, Illinois. He received basic training in Portland, Idaho; Farragut Naval Station, Idaho; and Norfolk, Virginia. In June 1944, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Waldron and sent to Carney, New Jersey. He also received electrical training from Purdue University, Indiana.

His naval crew traveled to Bermuda, but returned quickly for repairs. Wahlfeldt then returned to sea for the Panama Canal. On the U.S.S. Waldron, Wahlfeldt was assigned to engineering duties. In late 1944, his crew practiced naval maneuvers in the Panama Canal, San Diego, and Hawaii. He experienced combat in Taiwan, South China, and Okinawa, Japan. Wahlfeldt also occupied Yokosuka in Kanagawa, Japan.

Wahlfeldt returned to San Diego, California and anchored in Baltimore, Maryland. In May 1946, he was discharged in Chicago and returned to Danville, Illinois.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Danville, Illinois; Chicago, Illinois; Portland, Idaho; Farragut Naval Station, Idaho; Norfolk, Virginia; U.S.S. Waldron; Carney, New Jersey; Purdue University, Indiana; Bermuda; Panama Canal; San Diego, California; Hawaii; Taiwan, South China; Okinawa, Japan; Yokosuka, Kanagawa, Japan; Baltimore, Maryland.

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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