

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Gerald T. Yaxley

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

Interview # VR2-V-D-2007-072

Gerald T. Yaxley, a World War II veteran who served in the United States Army, 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: 11 September 2007 Location: Illinois Public Media, Urbana, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Harriet Williamson, Illinois Public Media affiliate

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1 hr, 29 min/ 1.48 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

Gerald T. Yaxley, Veterans Remember, VR2-V-D-2007-072

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Gerald T. Yaxley was born on December 5, 1923 in Ridgeway, New York. He was drafted into the United Stated Army in February 1943 at Fort Niagara, New York. Yaxley was shipped to Yuma, Arizona and joined the 4th Mechanized Calvary Regiment. He received his basic training at Camp Young, California. Eventually, Yaxley joined the 104th Timberwolf Division in Hume, Arizona.

Yaxley received infantry training with the 104th Division in Camp Carson, Colorado. Next, from Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, Yaxley was shipped to Cherbourg, France. His Division was sent to Holland; Aachen, Germany; and the Siegfried Line. His division was ambushed while moving through Germany; Yaxley was hit by shrapnel from a mortar shell.

He was and taken to a field hospital in Liege, Belgium. Yaxley was eventually shipped to Paris, France and then flown to Malmesbury, England. He returned to France, before being discharged on January 1946.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Ridgeway, New York; Fort Niagara, New York; Yuma, Arizona; 4th Mechanized Calvary Regiment; Camp Young, California; 104th Timberwolf Division; Hume, Arizona; Camp Carson, Colorado; Camp Kilmer, New Jersey; Cherbourg, France; Holland; Aachen, Germany; Siegfried Line; Liege, Belgium; Paris, France; Malmesbury, England.

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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