

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Sidney A. Goldman

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

Interview # VR2-A-L-2009-009

Sidney A. Goldman, a veteran of World War II in the Pacific theater, 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: March 16, 2009 Location: Goldman's office in Springfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital Audio

Interviewer: Rozanne Flatt, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: Audio Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Jeanine Benanti & Rozanne Flatt, ALPL Volunteers

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

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Abstract

Sidney A. Goldman *Veterans Remember* VR2-A-L-2009-009

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Sid Goldman had his first introduction to the military as a cadet at Culver Military Academy. He then entered the University of Illinois and joined its ROTC program. In January of his senior year, the month after Pearl Harbor was attacked, he registered with the U. S. Army, intending to finish his degree and graduate. Instead, he was immediately inducted and sent to basic training at Fort Ord, TX, followed by Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, GA. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Division as a replacement officer in New Guinea. Later his unit participated in a major offensive in Leyte in the southern Philippines to root out the entrenched Japanese troops. He talks of the difficulties and hazards of jungle warfare. Successive assignments were Mindanao Island, and Mindoro where he was hit by mortar shrapnel ten days before the war's end.

From a hospital in Leyte, he was sent to Madigan General Hospital in Seattle, then to Von General Hospital [now named Hines Veterans Hospital] in the Chicago area. While there he met Ruth Eckstein, a Red Cross worker. They married in May, 1946. He rejoined his father in Central Salvage, a major salvage business. Expanding into other businesses, at the time of the interview he is still active as President of Central Industries. He is proud of programs telling school children about WWII.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Culver Military Academy; University of Illinois ROTC; Ft Ord, TX; Ft. Benning, GA; 24th Division, 19th Infantry, 2nd Battalion; New Guinea; Leyte, Mindanao and Mindoro in the Philippines; Madigan General Hospital; Von General Hospital; Central Salvage and Central Industries, Springfield, IL.

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