



## Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Earl R. Swanson

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

Interview # VR2-V-D-2007-065

Earl R. Swanson, a World War II and Korean War veteran, 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: 6 September 2007

Location: Illinois Public Media, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Dee Breeding, Illinois Public Media affiliate

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 1 hr, 20 min/ 1.33 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

Earl R. Swanson, *Veterans Remember*, VR2-V-D-2007-065

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Earl R. Swanson was born in Rankin, Illinois on May 26, 1921. Swanson attended the ROTC program while at the University of Illinois. After graduation in 1943, he reported for active duty in Camp Grant, Illinois. He trained in Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and then attended Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After graduation from OCS, he returned to Fort Sill as a replacement training unit.

Swanson eventually reported to Camp Atterbury, Indiana becoming part of the 592<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Swanson was then reassigned from an artillery officer to an infantry officer; he entered infantry school in Fort Benning, Georgia. From Georgia, as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, Swanson was assigned a training unit in Camp Landing, Florida. In 1945, he was sent to Fort Ord, California for the Pacific Theater. Swanson became a replacement officer in the Cannon Company of the 161<sup>st</sup> Regiment of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in the Philippines, preparing for an invasion in Japan.

After the dropping of the atomic bombs, Swanson occupied various areas of Japan, searching for remnants of the Japanese Army. Eventually, he was discharged in Seattle, Washington as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant. Swanson chose to stay in the Army Reserves and in 1952, during the Korean War, he served again in the Office of the Chief of Staff at the Pentagon.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Rankin, Illinois; ROTC program; University of Illinois; Camp Grant, Illinois; Camp McCoy, Wisconsin; Officer Candidate School; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Camp Atterbury, Indiana; 592<sup>nd</sup> Battalion; 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division; Fort Benning, Georgia; Camp Landing, Florida; Fort Ord, California; Cannon Company; 161<sup>st</sup> Regiment; 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division; Philippines; Seattle, Washington; Army Reserves; Office of Chief of Staff; Pentagon.

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