

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Harold Weaver

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Community Stories - Rochester Oral History project

Interview # CR-A-L-2017-093

Harold R. Weaver, a World War II Army veteran and retired factory/state employee from Rochester, Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Community Stories - Rochester* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Oct 4, 2017 Location: Weaver residence, Rochester, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Toby McDaniel, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:14 / 1.23 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on April 10, 2018.

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

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Abstract

Harold Weaver, *Community Stories*, CR-A-L-2017-093

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Harold Weaver was born on March 9, 1924 in Springfield, Illinois. Harold was employed at International Shoe Co. in Springfield when he was drafted in January 1943. Following basic training, he was assigned to the 172nd Infantry Regiment, 43rd Division, and was assigned as a light machine gunner. The unit was posted to the Pacific theater, and participated in campaigns in the North Solomon Islands, New Guinea and the Luzon (Philippines). The division landed at Lingayen Gulf on Luzon Island on January 9, 1945. He was seriously wounded during the Luzon campaign on April 5, 1944. He was blown down a hill by a concussion blast, and broke his leg (right femur) in the process. He was placed in a body cast from chest all the way down to his foot on his right leg, and down to his knee on his left leg. He was hospitalized at various Army bases until he recovered from his wounds, and was discharged in July 1945. He was awarded Bronze Star for his service.

Returning to civilian life, Weaver worked for Sangamo Electric for thirty-two years, then for the state of Illinois at Camp Lincoln, the Illinois Army National Guard post in Springfield for thirteen years, retiring 1991. At age sixty-seven he became a part-time employee at Wilson Park Funeral Homes in Rochester. At age ninety-three, at the time of the interview, he was still working.

Subject Headings/Key Words: 172nd Infantry Regiment, 43rd Division; Luzon (Philippines) campaign; Sangamo Electric; Rochester, Illinois; Wilson Park Funeral Homes; Bronze Star

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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