



## Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with James H. Fisher

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

Interview # VR2-V-D-2008-113

James H. Fisher, 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: 20 March 2008

Location: Illinois Public Media, Urbana, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: H. F. Williamson, Illinois Public Media affiliate

Technical Support (cameraman, etc):

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

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

Interview being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 50 min/ 0.83 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

James H. Fisher, *Veterans Remember*, VR2-V-D-2008-113

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** James H. Fisher was born on October 20, 1924 in Coloma, Michigan. He enlisted in the Navy on June 1, 1942. After receiving boot camp training at Great Lakes, Illinois, Fisher transferred to Iowa State for electrician training. He also trained at a gyrocompass school in San Francisco, California. He became a plank owner on the Landing Ship, Tank (LST) 475 in Vancouver, Washington. He operated the ship from March 1943 to September 1945.

After anti-aircraft armaments were installed on the ship, Fisher traveled from San Francisco, California, to Pearl Harbor; Samoa; New Hebrides; Brisbane, Australia, and New Guinea. Throughout his travels, Fisher was responsible for releasing the stern anchor when docking. Before landing in New Guinea, Fisher's ship was attacked by Japanese planes. He also invaded the New Breton islands, where his ship was trapped on the beach under fire.

Next, Fisher was supposed to land in Hollandia, New Guinea, expecting to face Japanese opposition; however, Japanese soldiers had retreated. Fisher was next involved in the Lingayen Gulf invasion and then the Manila Bay invasion. After returning to New Guinea to load army supplies, Fisher last anchored in Leyte Gulf before returning home.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Coloma, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; Great Lakes, Illinois; Iowa State; San Francisco, California; Landing Ship, Tank; Vancouver, Washington; LST 475; Pearl Harbor; Samoa; New Hebrides; Brisbane, Australia; Japanese; Milne Bay, New Guinea; New Breton Islands; Central Pacific; Tarawa; Leyte Gulf; Lingayen Gulf; Destroyer Cole in Yemen; Philippines; Manila Bay.

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