What Veterans Say About the Veterans History Project

"I am profoundly proud and honored that my story will be permanently archived in the Veterans History Project with the stories of tens of thousands of fellow American veterans who, as a matter of honor and duty, served their country in time of war."

—Warren Tsuneishi, WWII Veteran

"I felt is was my duty to share my personal oral history with the Veterans History Project so that it could be added to the growing research collection at the Library of Congress and made available to current and future generations."

—Wendy Taines, Persion Gulf War Veteran

"I would encourage every veteran to participate in the Veterans History Project. I know personally that I'd never discussed my experiences with my wife and children. They were very surprised when they viewed my video, and it led us to communicate more."

—Jacob Younginer, Vietnam War Veteran

"It's important to get every veteran's story, so future generations can learn about military life from firsthand accounts. Our individual experiences may have been different, but when compiled they form a powerful snapshot of history."

—Teresa Fazio, Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran

To learn more about these veterans and others, go to **www.loc.gov/vets**.

Cover photographs courtesy of Library of Congress: Veterans History Project, Prints & Photographs Division, and Michaela McNichol.

Inside photograph 1 courtesy of Prints & Photographs Division, Library of Congress.
Inside photographs 2, 3, 4, and 5 courtesy of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER · THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

What Happens to Interviews and Other Donated Items?

Donated items are housed in a preservation environment within the permanent collections of the Library of Congress. Within a six-month processing period, all donated materials are available to researchers, scholars, students, Congress, authors, filmmakers, and anyone else visiting the Library.

Search and View Collections Online

The Veterans History Project (VHP) website, **www.loc.gov/vets**, contains an **individual Web page for each veteran** who contributes. This page includes service history and other information about each veteran. Click on *Search the Veterans Collections* to access the database. Currently, about ten percent of VHP's collections are digitized so that anyone with Internet access may view them online. Additional collections will be digitized and made accessible as resources allow.

Visit VHP in Person

The **general public** may visit the VHP Information Center at the Library of Congress between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. No appointment is necessary.

To view a collection, **users** must call or email **one week** prior to a visit and are required to have a Reader Identification Card issued by the Library's Reader Registration Station free of charge. For details, visit **www.loc.gov/vets** (click on *For Researchers*).

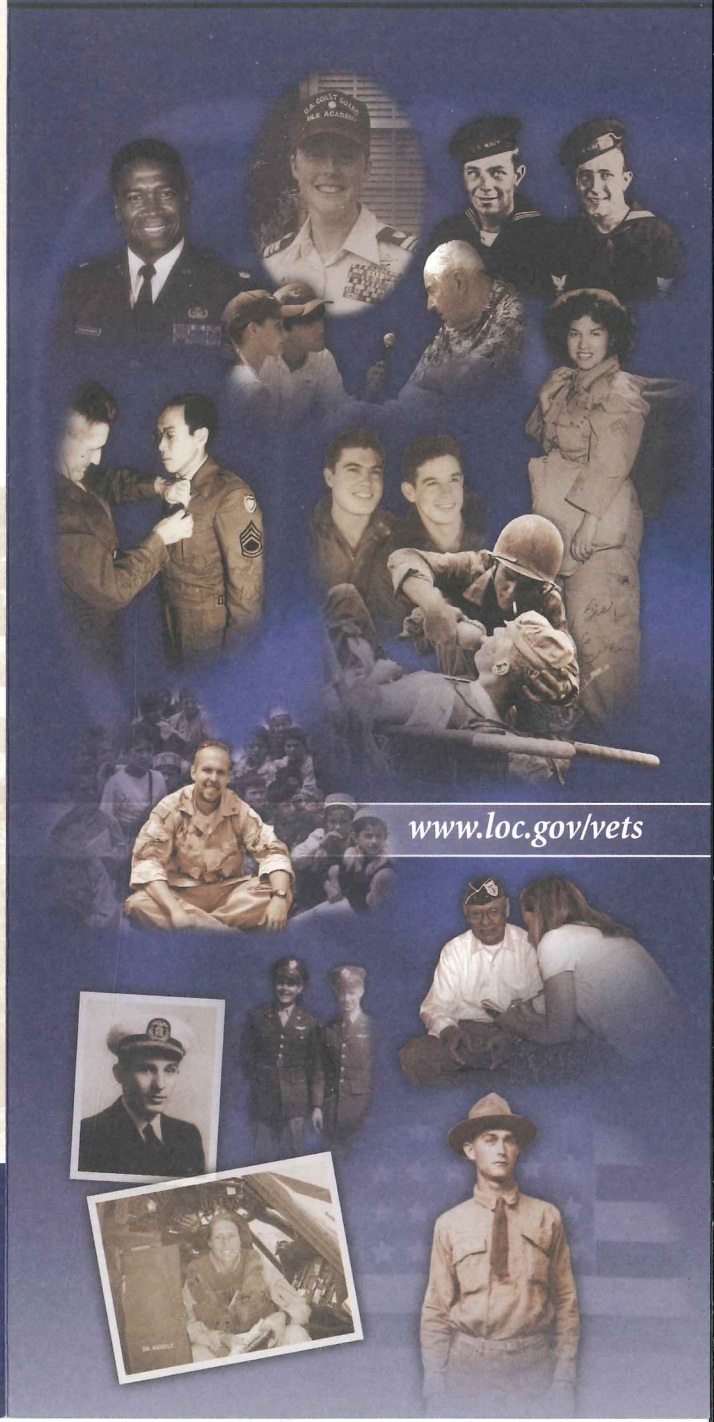
All VHP collections are served in the American Folklife Center (AFC) Reading Room in the Library's Jefferson Building. To make an appointment to view VHP collections, call 202-707-5510.

Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
VHP Information Center- James Madison Building, Room LM-109
Reader Registration Station- James Madison Building, Room LM-140
American Folklife Center Reading Room- Thomas Jefferson Building, Room LJ-G53

Disclaimer: *Veterans History Project collections are not intended as a substitute for an official record of the federal government nor of military service. These histories are the personal recollections and perspectives of participating individuals, as they were voluntarily submitted to the Project. The Library of Congress does not verify the accuracy of the accounts.*

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

A PROJECT OF THE AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



www.loc.gov/vets

The Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress

The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project (VHP) in 2000 as part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

VHP's mission is to collect, preserve, and make accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

Participate

Share your story, if you're a veteran. Simply sit down with a friend or loved one and **record** a conversation about your military experiences for 30 minutes or longer. **Interview a veteran** in your family or community. **Collect** a veteran's historical documents. **Collaborate** with your local high schools and universities, retirement communities, veteran service organizations, churches, area businesses, and other community groups. All you need is the VHP Field Kit, an interviewer, and an interviewee. Once the interview is recorded, keep a copy for yourself and submit the original along with the required forms to VHP.

Add To Our Collection

You can contribute:

A video or audio-recorded interview of a veteran of 30 minutes or longer.

10 or more original:

- Photographs
- Letters
- Two-dimensional artwork
- Official military documents

20 pages or more of original:

- Unpublished memoirs
- Diaries or journals

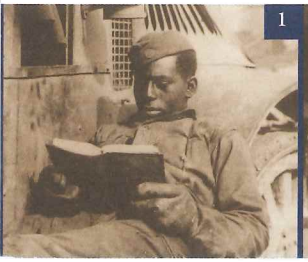
Please note that we only accept original materials; we cannot accept scans, photocopies, or reproductions of any kind.

Deceased veterans

Next of kin may donate photographs, letters, diaries and memoirs of a deceased veteran. The biographical data form and a release form on behalf of the deceased veteran must be completed and accompany submitted materials. VHP cannot accept proxy interviews recorded for a deceased veteran.

Learn more

Visit us online at **www.loc.gov/vets** and click on our ***Frequently Asked Questions***.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Preserve History

Participate with the Veterans History Project (VHP), and **contribute** to the permanent collections of the Library of Congress, one of the world's most **respected research and cultural institutions**.

Participation is Simple:

Visit www.loc.gov/vets.

Watch the 15-minute Field Kit Companion Video.

Click on *How to Participate*.

- Download the online Field Kit—a "how-to record a story" booklet.
- Complete the required and appropriate forms from the Field Kit.
- Follow the *30-20-10 Rule*:
  - **_30** minutes or more for interviews
  - **_20** pages or more for memoirs, diaries, or journals
  - **_10** or more photographs or letters
- Only send original materials to VHP. Keep copies for yourself and the veteran.
- All submissions become property of the Library of Congress and cannot be duplicated for you.
- VHP will return materials that do not adhere to the standards outlined in the Field Kit.

Send:

All materials must be delivered via commercial carrier (e.g., FedEx, UPS, DHL, etc.). Expedited service is not necessary.

To: Veterans History Project
The Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20540-4615

Or hand deliver:

Stop by the address above, Room LM-109, between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, and a VHP representative will assist you.

Request a Field Kit

Field Kits may be downloaded and printed from the VHP Web site, **www.loc.gov/vets.** If you do not have Internet access, complete and submit this tear-off card or call the toll-free information line at 888-371-5848 to request a printed version of the Field Kit.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please send _____ Field Kit(s).
(Supplies are limited.)

Send this completed form to the Veterans History Project. **You may expedite your request by faxing it to 202-252-2046.** No cover sheet is necessary.

Commercial Carrier:

Veterans History Project
The Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20540–4615

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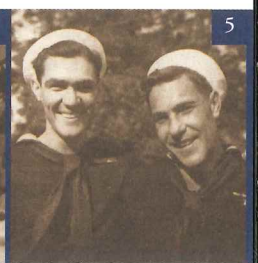
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