Navy Medical World War II Media Resources
of the US Navy BUMED Office of Medical History

Compiled by Andre Sobocinski, historian
& Michael Rhode, archivist

24 February 2014

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Bibliography:

Hospital Corps Quarterly, 1943-1945.

Navy Medical Bulletin, 1941-1945.

The History of Submarine Medicine In World War II. U. S. Naval Medical Research Laboratory Vol. VI, No. 3 REPORT NO. 112 By Captain C. W. SHILLING, (MC) USN, Medical Officer in Charge and Mrs. Jessie W. Kohl, P-1, Scientific Staff Assistant U. S. Naval Medical Research Laboratory U. S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. 25-May-47.


Herman, Jan K. Battle Station Sick Bay: Navy Medicine in World War II. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1997.

Collections:

Brounoff Music Room Guest Book, Personal papers, 1944-1945. Pharmacist Mate 3rd Class and Dallas Symphony Orchestra violinist Zelman Brounoff established a music listening room at Naval Hospital Shoemaker CA during World War II, and kept a log of people who came by to listen (and to perform) with their comments of appreciation. The book acts as a commentary on the value of "music therapy". A small number of photographs of Hospital officers are tipped in. Brounhoff was a violinist with the DSO from 1926 until his retirement as concert master emeritus in 1983.

Danner POW Collection, Personal papers, 1939-1989. Dorothy Danner, NC, USNR (nee Dorothy Still, aka Dorothy Terrill) was a POW in Los Banos Internment Camp, Philippines during World War II. The collection consists of photographs, letters, photocopies and other material related to her nursing career and subsequent captivity by the Japanese. Includes Stateside material compiled by her mother. Danner was awarded a Bronze Star for her care of the sick and wounded while a prisoner. Later material includes recognition of service, an oral history and reunions. Also includes a letter from President Harry S Truman.

Davis Scrapbook, Personal papers, 1944-1945. CAPT Brython Davis’ scrapbook of photographs from his time at Naval Hospital Londonderry, Ireland during World War II.

Evans Collection, Personal papers, 1931-1952. Records of Chief Pharmacist Mate Archie Charles Evans service during World War II in which he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal "For heroic service as a Corpsman, attached to the U.S.S. Marblehead, during operations against enemy Japanese forces in the Java Sea on 4 and 5 February 1942. Seriously wounded in the original blast when his ship sustained two direct hits during an enemy bombing attack, Evans refused aid for himself and immediately proceeded to treat the wounded in his area until they could be evacuated to the battle-dressing station. Continuing without sleep and suffering intense pain from burns and a broken arm sustained in the blast, he worked steadily for two days and two nights, ministering to the wounded and accepting treatment only when the ship reached port." Records include his ID cards, record jacket, newspaper clippings, a photograph of the Marblehead and a 1951 letter from Warner Bros about making a movie.

Ferguson Collection, Personal papers, 1941-1945. Material from Navy doctor who died as a World War II POW of the Japanese.

German Medical Translations, Institutional records, 1941-1950. Translations of German medical material made by the U.S. Navy immediately after World War II. Includes a booklet on the production of an atlas of epidemic diseases with tipped-in photographs of the translation facilites. Other collections of this project are in the National Museum of Health and Medicine and the USUHS Library.
Guests of the Emperor: WWII Navy Medical POW Collection, Artificial collection, 1941-2011. This collection contains documents, letters, ephemera, journals, diaries, lists of names, citations, and images from and about prisoners of war during World War II in various prison camps and hospitals in Japan. These include Bilibid, Canacao, Zentsuji, Makassar, USS Houston, various Hell Ships.

Hankins Collection, Personal papers, 1941–1943. The Hankins Collections contains letters mainly between Lt. Cmdr. Dr. Franklyn D. Hankins and his wife Mrs. Frances Hankins. During 1941 and part of 1942, Dr. Hankins (then LT) was assigned to the USS Brazos. In early 1942, he was reassigned to Pearl Harbor and then the USS West Virginia to reestablish the sick bay area. He remained with the USS West Virginia (nicknamed Wee Vee) through to its docking at Bremerton, Washington. The letters in this collection were mainly between Hankins and his wife. There are various letters, cards, invitations, announcements, and programs from other people including his parents, brothers, other doctors, patients, other family members and his two children (at the time): Patsy and Eddie Lou. The letters contained in this collection were donated by their daughters. Dr. Hankins died in 1995 and Mrs. Hankins died in 2002.

Hospital Corps Archives, Institutional records, 1941-1946. Exhibit series includes folders of clippings and ephemera on current World War 2 events compiled by Hospital Corps historians Ben Dixon and Ken Patten. Most significant material was transferred to the National Archives.

Link Collection, Personal papers, 1942-1947; 1987-1989. Documents and photographs relating to Dr. Melvin Robert Link, Lieutenant, (MC), US Navy. Link served from 1942-1947 including during World War II. He was a medical officer on the USS Walke (DD 723) destroyer from 1944-1945, and then transferred to the US Naval Hospital Philadelphia, and ended his naval career at the US Naval Hospital Brooklyn. Includes his "Doctor's Orders Book" journal from the Walke where he wrote his impressions of the war on a semi-daily basis. This journal covers the American invasions of Japanese-held islands including the Philippines and Okinawa. Link also records the dropping of the first atomic bomb and the reaction on board the ship to that and the Japanese surrender. Printed items have been tipped-in. Also includes material from the reunion of the USS Walke crew in 1989. The journal has been scanned and is on the Internet Archive at http://archive.org/details/DoctorsOrderBook


Navy Hospital Collection - NH Guam Collection, Organizational records, 1942-1952. World War 2-era logbooks from Mobile Hospital #3, U.S. Fleet Hospital #103 and Guam.

Navy Hospital Collection - NNMC (Bethesda, MD) Burial Logs, Organizational records, 1942-1974. Six logbooks with a register of deaths at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD. Information includes names, rate or rank, date of birth, date of death, place of death, cause of death, date of funeral, burial locations and other information.
Navy Medical Department Historical Data Series World War II volumes, Organizational records, 1941-1946. 26 bound printouts of microfilm of reports from the field compiled during World War II by BUMED’s Administrative History Section. Includes 2 series - ships and shore stations. Ships includes hospital ships, while shore stations includes hospitals, base hospitals, fleet hospitals, mobile hospitals, dispensaries, Marine Corps facilities, aviation units, etc. This set was transferred to BUMED’s Office of History in 2011 from the former Stitt Library of the National Naval Medical Center, and had been catalogued by them as VG 123.U594 1946. As these books were not formally published and no copies are listed at the National Library of Medicine or in WorldCat, these will be treated as a manuscript collection at the BUMED Office of Medical History.

Navy Medical Field Research Laboratory, Camp Lejeune, NC Project Reports, Organizational records, 1944-1945. Three volumes of World War 2 era work.


Navy Medical Publications Collection - Medical Aviation Supplements, Organizational records.


Navy Medical Publications Collection - Hospital Newsletters, Artificial collection, Includes sample issues from World War 2 collected by Hospital Corps archivists. See National Library of Medicine’s collection for more.

Navy Medical Publications Collection - Norwester / The Oak Leaf (Oakland, CA), Organizational records, 1944-1984, 1986-1989. Incomplete bound set of USNH Oakland, California’s base newspaper, transferred when the hospital closed. The paper appears to have ended in 1984, and a version called Norwester replaced it, probably in 1985. Previously it was called Red Rover.

Navy Medicine Historical Files Collection, Artificial collection. Consists of biographical files, facility files, subject files, Corps files (Dental, Nurse, Hospital, Medical Service), and ship files.

Navy Registers, Organizational records, 1776-1993. Lists of people serving in the Navy, including sections on medical personnel.

Nurse Corps Index Cards, Organizational records. Lists each nurse serving, her next of kin, her service stations, and retirement information. One box includes Dieticians from World War 2.

Oral Histories, Institutional records. Oral histories on Navy Medicine conducted by Jan Herman and Andre Sobocinski of the BUMED Office of History. Many focus on World War II. Each history may include a recording (tape or cd), a transcript, and a permission sheet. Related material has been filed in the Biographical Files. See attached list of WW2-related interviews.
Shaw Collection, Personal papers, 1941-2003. This collection contains the autobiography, some personal papers, and images of LCDR John Shaw, MC. John Andrew Shaw was born on Oct. 6, 1910, in Centreville, Miss. He was called to active duty in the medical corps of the United States Naval Reserve in the summer of 1941, and was on duty as Officer of the Day at the U.S. Naval Hospital in San Diego on Dec. 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. He served at the naval hospitals at Pearl Harbor, Aiea Heights, Long Beach, and was the urologist on the USS Haven serving the Pacific Fleet. After the bombing of Nagasaki, his hospital ship was sent there to evacuate allied prisoners of war before the American army of occupation came in. He was released from active duty with the rank of commander in 1946. He wrote an autobiography, "The Twentieth Century As It Happened To Me," along with a few articles of prose. Dr. Shaw died early Tuesday morning, April 1, 2003, in Red Lodge, Montana.

USS Monrovia Medical Logbooks, 1941-1951, Organizational records.

USS Samuel Chase Medical Officer Records, Organizational records, 1942-1944.

USS Sentry (AM-299) Medical Logbook, Organizational records, 1944-1945.1 logbook covering October 1944-September 1945. From Wikipedia: "USS Sentry (AM-299) was an Admirable-class minesweeper built for the United States Navy during World War II. She served in the Pacific Ocean and was awarded six battle stars, a Navy Unit Commendation, and a Presidential Unit Citation. She was decommissioned and placed in reserve in 1946. In August 1962, the former Sentry was transferred to South Vietnam as RVNS Ky Hoa (HQ-09) in the Republic of Vietnam Navy. Her fate after 1962 is unreported in secondary sources.”

USS Tazewell Medical Officer Records, Organizational records, 1945-1946. Mostly compiled by Senior Medical Officer LCDR J.K. Stack.

USS Van Valkenburgh Medical Department Records, Organizational records, 1944-1954.

World War II Personnel Index Cards, Institutional records, 1942-1946. Includes index cards with honor roll of individual awards, casualty cards (for Medical Dept.) and unit awards.

**Film Series:**

*Navy Medicine at War* Documentary Series

This unique six-part documentary series, adapted from the book *Battle Station Sick Bay: Navy Medicine in World War II*, presents the stories of the Navy Dentists, Hospital Corpsmen, Nurses, and Physicians who represented the Medical Department during the harrowing days of World War II.

*Trial by Fire: December 7th, 1941 (Released in 1999)*
This installment recounts the “day that will live in infamy” through the stories of Navy medical personnel who witnessed the tragic events at Pearl Harbor.

**Navy Medicine at Normandy (Released in 2001)**

Although less well known, Navy medicine made important contributions in the Atlantic, most notably in the Normandy campaign. The physicians and hospital corpsmen of the 6th Naval Beach Battalion are highlighted in this installment.

**Guests of the Emperor (Released in 2005)**

Pearl Harbor was just the beginning of a Japanese rampage throughout the Pacific. With nothing to stop their expanding empire, the enemy rolled through the Pacific conquering at will. This installment of the film series tells the tragic story of those who fought to defend Guam, Bataan, and Corregidor against the Japanese invasion. Their heroism throughout the following years in brutal captivity, under extremely trying conditions exemplifies the enduring values of Navy Medicine.

**Battle Station Sick Bay (Released in 2006)**

After the battle of Midway, even though the pendulum had swung in favor of the United States, final victory was many campaigns and many, many lives away. Throughout the next three years, Navy medicine would accompany the carriers, battleships, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, and thousands of other vessels on the long bloody road to Tokyo. As crewman aboard these ships, physicians, dentists, and hospital corpsmen would man battle stations and sick bays during the battle—and the lulls in between. And they would do what Navy medical personnel had always done—treating torn, burned, and bleeding bodies, and returning men to duty.

**Stepping Stones to Tokyo (Released in 2008)**

The fifth installment in the six-part *Navy Medicine at War* film series—chronicles the Navy medical experience with the Marine Corps’ island-hopping campaign during the first three years of the war.

**Final Victory (Released in 2009)**

“Final Victory” is the last installment of the six-part World War II film series, “Navy Medicine at War.” The film tells the story of the war’s final campaign and aftermath—the bloody fight to take Okinawa, the dress rehearsal for the invasion of the Japanese home islands, the dropping of the two atomic bombs, Japan’s surrender, and the liberation of the prisoners of war.

**Oral Histories:**
**Pearl Harbor:**

Asbelle, Rosella Nurse Corps. At Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 and was later assigned to Naval Hospital Oakland's Occupational Therapy Department to work with amputee patients during the Korean War. Interview conducted on 13 June 2002.

Cale, Sterling Hospital Corps. Witness to the attack on the Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Dec 7, 1941. Interview conducted January 2011.

Carleton, William Medical Corps. Witness to the attack on the Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Dec 7, 1941. Interview conducted 3 November 2012.


Erickson, Ruth A. Nurse Corps. World War II nurse and tenth Director of the Navy Nurse Corps. Nurse aboard the hospital ship USS Relief (AH-1). Present at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. Interview conducted on 24 and 30 March and 6 and 12 April 1994.

**Pacific War:**


Bell, Milton A. Hospital Corps. Pharmacist's mate aboard the USS Rixey (APH-3) during World War II. Interview conducted on 18 September 1995.


Bush, Robert Hospital Corps. Pharmacist's Mate and Medal of Honor recipient for actions at Okinawa during World War II. Interview conducted on 31 October and 1 November 1995.


Dabrowski, Stanley E. Hospital Corps. World War II Pharmacist’s Mate present at Iwo Jima. Interview conducted at New Britain, CT on 23 August 1994.


Erickson, Ruth A. Nurse Corps. World War II nurse and tenth Director of the Navy Nurse Corps. Nurse aboard the hospital ship USS *Relief* (AH-1). Present at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. Interview conducted on 24 and 30 March and 6 and 12 April 1994.


Keleher, Michael F. Medical Corps. Former battalion surgeon present at Kwajalein, Saipan, and Iwo Jima. Interview conducted on 23 and 26 June 1997.


Pace, William Hospital Corps. Pharmacist’s Mate Second Class. Present at Cape Gloucester and Peleliu. Interview conducted on 4 December 1996.


Samuels, Alfred P. Hospital Corps. World War II hospital corpsman assigned to PCE(R) 852. Interview conducted on 21 March 2005.

Sherman, Samuel Medical Corps. Flight surgeon on USS *Franklin* (CV-13) and survivor of the Japanese attack on the *Franklin*. Interview conducted on 29 April 1993.

Strickland, Jerry L. Hospital Corps. Hospital corpsman, crewman aboard USS *Hornet* (CV-8), witness to takeoff of Doolittle Raiders, the Battle of Midway, and the sinking of the *Hornet* at the Battle of Santa Cruz Islands. Interview conducted on 9 November 2001.


Worthington, Robert  U.S. Navy. Diving officer aboard USS Silversides (SS-236). Took the only known photographs of an appendectomy, performed by Pharmacist’s Mate First Class Thomas Moore, (24 December 1942) performed on a submarine. Interview conducted on 13 April 1993.

Yon, Joseph  Medical Corps. Medical officer aboard the USS Pecos (AO-9). Interview conducted on 24 and 31 March and 7 April 2003.

**Normandy Invasion:**

Borden, Richard  Hospital Corps. Hospital corpsman who served in the 6th Naval Beach Battalion, present at Omaha Beach on 6 June 1944. Interview conducted on 28 and 29 October and 1 November 1999.

Brennan, Joseph  Hospital Corps. Pharmacist’s Mate who served with the 6th Naval Beach Battalion and was present at Omaha Beach on 6 June 1944. Interview conducted on 3 April 2000.


Davis, Joseph B.  Hospital Corps. Physician aboard the hospital ship USS Solace (AH-5) during World War II. Interview conducted 18 March 1997.

DePalma, Anthony F.  Medical Corps. Physician aboard USS Rixey (APH-3) during World war II. Interview conducted on 24 May 1994.

Feduik, Frank  Hospital Corps. World War II Pharmacist’s Mate, served with the 6th Naval Beach Battalion, and was present at Omaha Beach on D-Day, 6 June 1944. Interview conducted at Elmhurst, PA on 26 January 1994.

Groom, Dale  Medical Corps. World War II physician aboard LST-357 at Normandy, present at D-Day. Interview conducted at Jacksonville, FL on 26 May 1994.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kordack, Vincent A.</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. Pharmacist’s Mate, 6th Naval Beach Battalion. Hospital corpsman present at Omaha Beach 6 June 1944. Interview conducted on 13 June 2000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parker, Lee</td>
<td>Medical Corps. Served with the 6th Naval Beach Battalion, present at Omaha Beach on D-Day, 6 June 1944. Interview conducted on 10 September 1999.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snyder, Frank</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. Pharmacist’s Mate with the 6th Naval Beach Battalion at Omaha Beach on D-Day, 6 June 1944. Interview conducted on 29 September 1999.</td>
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**Prisoners of War Experience:**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barker, Francis</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. Former POW, survivor of the Bataan Death March and the <em>Oryoku Maru</em> during World War II. Interview conducted on 21 October 2003.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berley, Ferdinand</td>
<td>Medical Corps. Physician and World War II POW. Interview conducted on 7, 21, 27 February, 6 March, 3, 10, 24 April, and 1 May 1995.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bray, James F.</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. Pharmacist’s Mate, World War II corpsman, and POW. Interview conducted on 15 October 1987.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniels, Alfred</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. Former Pharmacist’s Mate, POW captured at Guam, December 1941. Interview conducted on 7 May 1996.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans, Bertha</td>
<td>Nurse Corps. World War II Navy nurse and POW. Interview conducted at Orlando, FL on 20 May 1992.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast, Chester</td>
<td>Hospital Corps. World War II Pharmacist’s Mate and Bilibid POW. Interview conducted on 8 February 1995.</td>
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Tapscott, Donald Hospital Corps. World War II corpsman, Pharmacist’s Mate, and POW. Survivor of the Oryoku Maru. Interview conducted on 10, 18, and 25 March 1998.

**Navy Medicine on Flickr** – a small number of the thousands of scanned images available from the History Office may be seen at http://www.flickr.com/photos/navymedicine/

**Medical Heritage Library** – the History Office is aggressively digitizing material and placing in online in this resource including obscure publications such as *Medical Service In Amphibious Operations, CominCh P-8. 1-Sep-45.* *Navy Medicine* magazine published many articles for the 50th anniversary of the war and is also available. Use this search to find items: https://archive.org/search.php?query=collection%3Ausnavybumedhistoryoffice%20%20%22world%20war%20II%22&sort=date

**Other resources:**

National Archives - [http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/052.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/052.html)

Records of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (Record Group 52) 1812-1994

Naval History & Heritage Command - [http://www.history.navy.mil/Special%20Highlights/Medical/Medical-index.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/Special%20Highlights/Medical/Medical-index.htm)