

RESEARCH LOG, PORT CHICAGO

	Expenses	
5/17/77	Transcript of trial	142.60
4/22/77	typewriter	\$4.15
7/1/77	Airline ticket (for) (Atlanta - NYC)	\$519.00

Concord

Rebecca Fox ✓

2521 Guilford Ave

Baltimore, Md 21218

Pat Pool

McLean, Va (703) 893-9121

(202) 833-2858 (work)

Maril ^{Brown}
953-4582

Cassey

(202) 454-5718 (work)

~~434-0368~~

Ms, Mary

725-2666

L. O. A. K. dubonia calls for Dr. Chicago business
 8/18/77 671-2511 CONCORD naval weapons. store
 3/30/77 202 523-3229 Nat. Archives
 4/6 202 694-4906 Cliff Kudo
 4/28 202 694-4906 Kudo
 4/28 202 523-3229 Heindahl
 4/28 202 393-1640 John Marshall's office
 4/28 805 982-5146 Julie Street
 5/16 202 694-4906 Kudo
 6/20 805 982-5146 Julie Street
 8/22 202 694-5247 Kudo
 8/22 212 586-8397 NAAEP LDF, Donna Gleadow, Lidman
 8/22 212 953-4561 Marie Brown, Dub3day
 8/23 202 694-5247 Kudo, Navy JAG
 9/ 876-9001 Otsuki FRC son news

Oxford

STOCK No. 752 1/2

MADE IN U. S. A.

5/11/80

Learned that Reggie Major served at Port Chicago as part of the clean-up crew after the explosion. Reggie sex Bernie Simon, proprietor of the Anxious Asp, was also there and that Simon knows many other men who were at PC

7/30/82

P.V. thinks these men
have personal knowledge of
what happened at P.C.

Norman Ramsey
Harvard

Maurice Schapiro

Robert Sarver
UCB

10/13/29

Port Chicago
Victim

IVAN Herbert - Port Chicago
1464 6th St.
Berkeley Calif.
525-6863

Jimmy Gantt
(same #)
525-6863

(Step Lady of Hope)

Panel
RA transition ~~from~~ from 1968 - 1972
Baraka - Gung
neo-colonial strategy
problems with civil
rights movement
econ & political context
Vietnam - as protest to movement

Jimmy - 1972-1976 trends
African connections
Domestic struggle

T'shaka - breakdown of 52ays, why?

L. A. Festinger
A Theory of Cognitive
Dissonance

Brehm, J. W.
Explorations in
Cognitive Dissonance

✓

h

Contact

Bonnie Simon

ANXIOUS Asp, Haight
Was at P.C. for clean-up

Reggie + Belvie contacts

m

6/3/78

Dr. Jackson

Don Mousholder
Chip Stovall

~~Justice Dept~~ Archives

Judicial & Fiscal Branch

52-33059 Nat Archives

I reviewed index

Cards for
V.S. ~~Att~~ NACIT

FRT ~~Wright~~
1944

(May have some P.C. records)

No inventories or index of naval intelligence
stuff at Nat. Archives

[John English (P.C. survivor)

3111 "P" St., S.E.

201 381-5364]

man who was at P.C.

referred by Dr. Samuel Jackson

Nat. Archives

August 24, 1978

National Endowment for the Humanities
806 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Sirs:

I would be grateful if you could send me information and application forms for fellowships and grants available to sociologists and historians.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Allen

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(Step Son of Hope)

10/13/78

Jimmy Gannett
(same #)
525-6863

RA Panel
Transition ~~for~~ from ~~Saxton~~ { contribution
role of
black
realt bourgeois
Baraka - Gung
1968 - 1972 — neo-colonial strategy
problems with civil
rights movement
econ & political context
Vietnam — as pivotal to movement

Jimmy — 1972-1976 trends
African connections
Domestic struggles

T'shaka — breakdown of groups, why?

L. A. Furstner
Theory of Cognate
Dissimilation
Brehm, J. W.
Explorations in
Cognate Dissimilation



W

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Was at P.C. for clean-up

Reggie + Belvie contacts

W

6/3/78 Dr. Jackson

Don Mousholder

Chip Stoval

~~Justice Dept Archives~~

Judicial + Fiscal Branch

52-33059 Nat Archives

I reviewed index

Cards for
vs. ~~W.H.~~ NACIT

FRE ~~W.H.~~
1544

(May have some P.C. records)

No inventory or index of naval intelligence
stuff at Nat. Archives

[John English (~~P.C. survivor~~)
3111 "P" St., S.E.
201 381-5364]

Man who was at P.C.

referred by Dr. Sam Jackson

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Allen

SPR COLLEGE COLLECTION
JUL 24 1978
JUL 24 1978

10/13/77

1. Name, address, phone
2. Date, place of birth
3. Life before going into Navy? Family background, upbringing (schooling)
4. Why went into Navy?
5. Training & experience in Navy before P.C.? (When, where, what)
6. Expected to go to sea? Other?
7. When, how went to P.C.?
8. What work, barracks, division assigned to?
9. Describe typical day's routine at P.C.? (anecdotes) favorite story)
10. What did on liberty? Recreation? *leave?*
11. Any problems with racial discrimination at P.C. or elsewhere?
12. How felt about relations between enlisted men and officers? Discipline problems? (how handled?)
13. Was there competition ^{in loading} among the divisions? Discuss. (How, why, effects)
14. What safety precautions in effect? How effective? What did men think of safety? Did men see regulations?
15. How were men trained for loading ammo? What thought of training?
16. Did men have any grievances? Any action planned (petition)?
17. Did he attend or know of mtgs prior to explosion to discuss Blue Jackets manual? Discuss (When, what, who, outcome)
18. Who were leaders among the men (Joe Small, Ollie Green, Wyler, Gay?)
What did they advocate re grievances?
- 18(c) *Work on E.A. Bryan or Quinalt Division before explosion?*
19. Why do you think the explosion occurred?
20. Where were you when it occurred? What did you think had happened?
What was immediate impact (injury?) on you? What did you do?
21. What happened in days immediately after the explosion? How did men react? Where were you stationed? What did you do? Any interviews with officers or mtgs among the men?
sign list? What was list?
22. How did the work stoppage develop? Describe. Was there any discussion beforehand? How and why did you refuse to load ammo?
23. What happened on the barge (Aug. 9-11)? Did you attend mtgs where Small spoke? Discuss.
sign list? Make statement?
24. How and why did it get down to 50 men who continued to refuse? Why did the others go back to work?

DIXON? Small, Skipped
work day

P.C. QUESTIONS 2/2/2/2

25. What happened at the trial? Do you think the full story came out at the trial? Discuss.
26. What do you think could have been done to prevent the work stoppage?
27. How long were you imprisoned? What happened there?
28. Any personal contact with Thurgood Marshall? Any knowledge of campaign organized by NAACP?
29. What happened upon release from prison? When left Navy?
30. What has done since leaving Navy? Occupation? Family/children?
31. Looking back , what do you think is the significance of what happened to you in 1944? What think of it all now?
32. What do you think has been the main effect of these events on your life? How have you coped with these consequences?
33. In the long run how has this disaster affected your:
 - Mental and physical health
 - Work/occupation
 - Family life/ living situation
 - social relationships
 - habits
 - attitudes (racial, towards military, etc.)
 - philosophy of life
34. What do you think could have been done to minimize or change these consequences?
35. Any contact with other men who served at P.C.? (Names, addresses, phones)
may give address to others?
36. Any mementos? Letters, photos, diaries, scrapbooks, clippings, uniforms, insignia,

were men planning to refuse
to load ammo; did they expect
a strike to occur — or was
some other alternative being
planned? Perhaps went away?
(petitions being circulated but
when unexpectedly ordered to
load ammo, most men balk.
Two petition organizers join
circulationists) ~~why petition not~~
~~presented?~~

Did they know about 100 other
men who balked at loading ammo
and were ~~skipped~~? (cf roughlex)

~~Did talk to other HK Ides~~
~~among men? what said?~~

~~Said didn't see list (372)?~~

~~Said petty officer suggested~~

~~hange mtg (373)? black?~~

~~Did he know about previous petition in 1943?~~
~~Vatterjout?~~

~~Did some of Ides back out~~
~~of strike? How? why? who?~~

~~Did he know about loss of~~
~~moving (393)? 404~~
~~mtg? (406)~~
~~any union experience?~~

Questions for re-interviews

Gay: Was sentenced in summary trial before or after main trial? What about others of the 200?

Shoppard ~~Pittie's statement?~~ (374)
Small: ~~Why denied officers by getting~~ ^{note: he says his explanation was from record}
~~statement at trial?~~

What happened after Admiral's talk when at first only he + 3 others refused. Rehrich went off and other men joined refusers? (377)

Did Small think men were going to be charged with mutiny? why? (heard it from others?)

Why did men not bring out grievances, competition issue at trial?

What happened while based at Shenandoah + Vallejo? what did men do, say?

Clarify why petition was not presented why did men give fear of annulment as sole reason for refusal. How did this idea originate? why: what's strategy? (406)

What did they think/do about suspected switch? other discipline problems?

Any negotiations with officers during work stoppage?

Did men talk about questioning asked in investigation?

What was change of view among men about work stoppage (at different times?)

Jack Anderson and Les Whitten

U.S. Army Music at SS Reunion

The U.S. Army provided a military band and a chaplain—the music and the prayers—for a macabre meeting recently of U.S. veterans with former Nazi shock troops at an SS graveyard.

The Nazis once belonged to Adolf Hitler's dread Waffen SS, which was hated even by the regular German army. The Encyclopedia Britannica notes that Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler, the Nazis' most ruthless exponent of racism and terrorism, founded the SS.

According to the encyclopedia, this elite force became "an all-embracing empire within the Nazi state, at once the embodiment and the instrument of [Himmler's] racial theories."

Yet uniformed members of America's Eighth Infantry Division band tooted funeral music as veterans of the U.S. 70th Division laid wreaths on the graves of dead SS troops near Bucholz, West Germany, on Sept. 26. And a U.S. military chaplain, believe it or not, pronounced an invocation over the graves.

This strange gathering was inspired by an encounter in the United States a year ago. Three German visitors from the SS Sixth Mountain Hunter Division met the brother of a dead 70th Division soldier. After some beer drinking, a reunion was planned in West Germany.

Notices were published in U.S. Army reserve publications. All veterans of the 70th Division, known in World War II as the Trailblazers, were invited. About 80 signed up for the trip to their old battlefields in France and Germany.

The notices mentioned only that

they would meet with the Sixth Mountain Hunter Division, without adding it was an SS unit. Some of the former GIs, therefore, may not have known they would share their reunion with ex-Nazi shock troops. But this seems unlikely since the SS unit opposed the 70th in both France and Germany during the war.

The Americans met the Hitler veterans formally for the first time in the French town of Epinal. The SS men laid a wreath on U.S. graves in a military cemetery near a battlefield where they had once fought.

Then the Americans, who had invaded Germany to free Europe from Nazism, journeyed with the Fuehrer's finest across the same border to Bucholz, where the high point of the reunion occurred.

First the mayor of Bucholz threw a reception for the former enemies. Then they gathered together at the graveyard. This was followed by a dinner-dance where the men of the 70th whooped it up with the SS veterans.

Gen. George Blanchard, the U.S. Army commander to Europe, must have been aware of the odd reunion since he met the next day with the 70th Division veterans. The highest ranking U.S. officer at the SS meeting, retired Brig. Gen. Théodore Mataxis, told us: "All it was was talk among people who fought 30 years ago."

Mataxis is now assistant superintendent of the Valley Forge Military Academy in Wayne, Pa. He told us he was aware the Germans were an SS unit, but noted that they had been combat troops. At the Nuremberg trials, the SS was condemned en

masse, with few exceptions, as a criminal organization. And for years, meetings of SS veterans were banned in postwar Germany.

Footnote: At the Pentagon, the U.S. Army did not hold back on the facts. But a spokesman said the participation of the band and chaplain was the extent of official U.S. involvement.

Solar Blackout—Rep. Mike McCormack (D-Wash.) apparently doesn't like too much sunlight. The scholarly, bespectacled former nuclear scientist isn't eager to generate electricity from the sun. In place of solar energy, he would prefer to use the nuclear power that is produced at the Hanford Project where he used to work.

He also tried to block out the sunlight recently from his House Science and Technology energy subcommittee. Rep. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) was questioning some expert witnesses about solar technology. He was developing information that shed light on a \$28 million solar project that McCormack opposed.

"We're going to have to adjourn and submit our subsequent questions in writing," snorted McCormack.

"Why is that, Mr. Chairman?" demanded Gore. "I think this has a tremendous leverage on the future. I think this program is important. I think we ought to explore it."

But McCormack wouldn't budge. "I think perhaps we'd better schedule another oversight meeting," he snapped.

"We can't go for the rest of the day?" persisted Gore.

"No," repeated McCormack. "I'm sorry, we cannot."

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It's pleasin'

**Try these
delectable
dairy recipes ...
they're real holiday
pleasers.**

Now's the time for all those heavenly desserts and party dishes—the ones you only dream about the rest of the year.

And now's the time when only real eggnog, real whipping cream and real sour cream will do. They truly make this the pleasin' season.





USS Yorktown CV-10, Charleston, S. C.

Photo by: News & Courier

Dear Casey



I will be home soon. You and Mom can meet me at the airport. Perhaps some day we can all visit the ship pictured on this card.

Love, Dad

USS YORKTOWN CV-10 "THE FIGHTING LADY of World War Two" is shown arriving in Charleston Harbor, S.C. on 15 June 1975. She is the first ship of the Naval and Maritime Museum, Patriots Point, Charleston, S.C.

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San Francisco

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
1373 THIRD AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94143

September 21, 1977

Dear Sir:

I am a graduate student in Sociology at the University of California at San Francisco. I am doing research for a doctoral dissertation on the Port Chicago, California, disaster of 1944.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to contribute your experiences to this research. By interviewing men like you who were stationed at Port Chicago, my hope is to reconstruct the events leading up to and following the explosion there. Your experiences are an important part of the history and meaning of this event. As you know, the full story of what happened at Port Chicago has never been told. In the interest of truth, I hope you will consent to be interviewed by me, either in person or by letter, at your convenience. Please let me know if I may contact you personally by filling out the enclosed form and returning it to me in the stamped envelope provided.

You should know that although the Navy Department provided me with your name (and forwarded this letter to you), I am an independent researcher, not affiliated with the Navy in any way. Your replies will be kept confidential and will not be published without your consent.

If you have any questions about this research project, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 666-1851, and I will be glad to discuss it in detail with you.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this study of a major event in United States history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert L. Allen".

Robert L. Allen

PLEASE CHECK ONE BOX, SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:
ROBERT L. ALLEN, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL
SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF NURSING, 1373 THIRD AVE., UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO 94143.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

☐ Yes, Mr. Allen may contact me concerning his research project. I understand that Mr. Allen will answer any and all questions I may have about him and his research project before I consent to give an interview.

☐ No, I do not wish to be interviewed.

Signature

Full Name (Please print)

Street Address

City State Zip

Phone

Date

at Son Bruno

check files

of 12 N.D.

Intelligence office

for 1984

re investigation
of money

LC

Other Intelligence
Staff

P. C. Moly

3/7/78

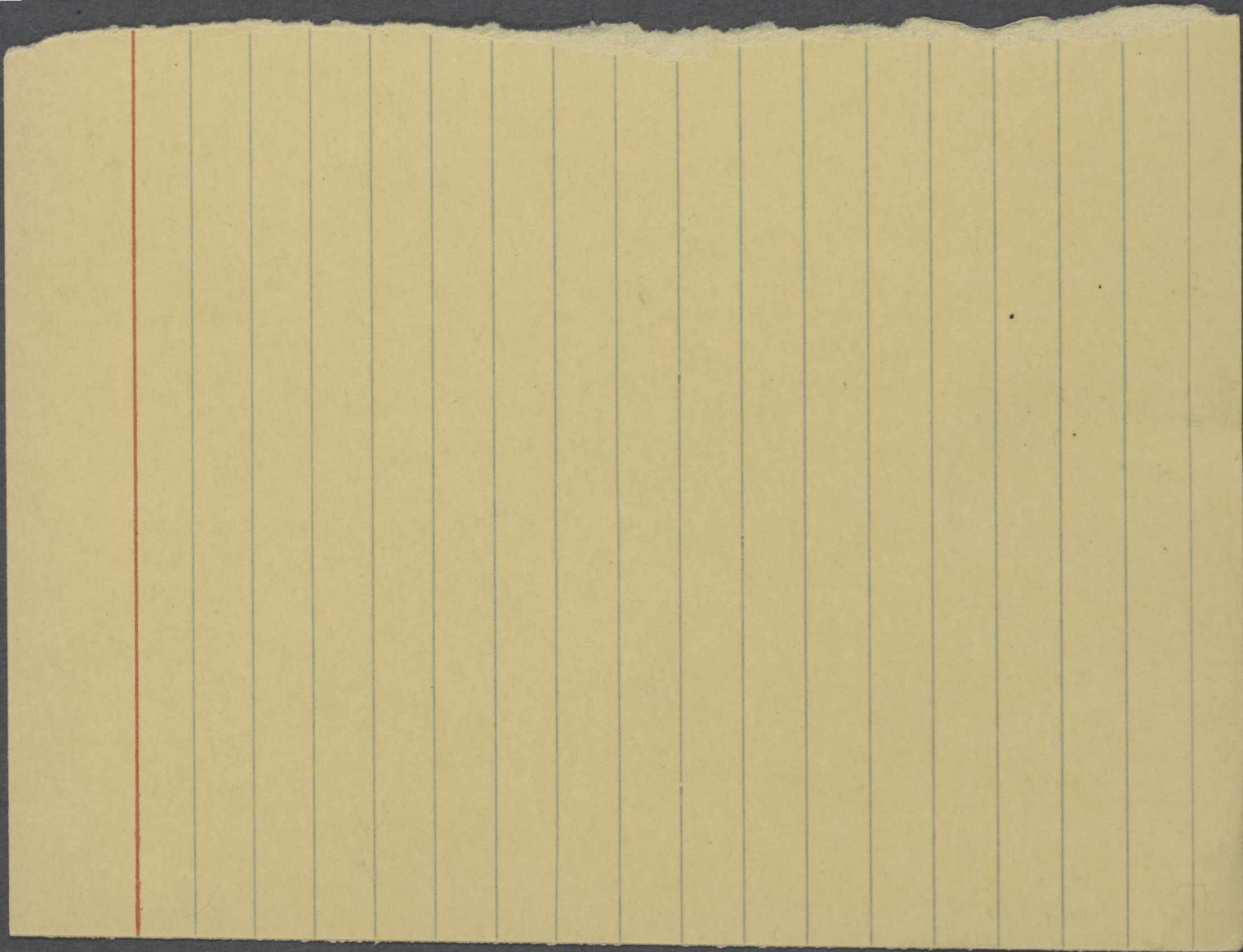
(mar + others)

Act 1 — Day in life at P.C., ending
with oakland club scene (toast to good health
+ long life (?)

~~Act 2 — Explosions, work stoppage,
trial, conviction~~

Act 3 — Imprisonment, mass campaign
white house, pardon, release,
closing scene (more hopeful, positive, abt
endorsement of loyalty to new generation)

Theme: Distinction of loyalty in
struggle



Do I have editorial
from The Crisis
Nov. 1944

re The Murray Trial
(Clark files)

1. Note use of word
"petition" re list
in many pamphlet

2. Survey Telephone
directories for
P. C. survivors

3. make disposition
Chart the 58 men

5. Find P.C. town
records: Town council mtgs,

P.C. stuff to do

Read Chicago Defender
1944-45 interviews with
Defendants (~~reported~~
by ~~criticized~~) Chock also
Pittsburgh Courier
for interviews

California Voice Editorial
28 July 1944 (Louis Campbell)

People's World 20 July 1944

Other Newspaper clips on
trial

Read Testimony
of Leslie Walden

1. Note use of word
"petition" re list
in many pamphlet
2. Survey Telephone
directories for
P.C. survivors
3. make disposition
Chart re 58 men
5. Find P.C. town
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for interviews
California Voice Editorial
28 July 1944 (Louis Campbell)
People's World 20 July 1944

Other Newspaper clips on
trial Frank Festman
of Leslie Walder

Do I have editorial
from the Crisis
Nov. 1944
in the Murray trial

(Clark files)

1/7/78
p. c. May (new section)

Act 1 - Dog in L.A. at P.C., walking
with oakland clock some (thought to) find length
+ 1000 1/2 in (?)

Act 2 - Explosion, with story,
trial, conviction

Act 3 - I imprisoned, mess company
white race, prejudice, violence,
blaming scene (more factual, positive, abt
understanding to new generation)

Thence: Difficulties of loyalty in
struggle

at San Bruno
Clark files
at 12 N.D.
Intelligence office
for 1944
re investigation
of Murray

Other Intelligence
staff

constant special
consultant
This will allow that
KLP, address, has exclusive
right to interview me for
purpose of developing film
and/or book about my exp.
(and exp of others) at P.C. in
1944. I will cooperate
fully with KLP - and

only with KLP - in any
project related to PC
over ~~1944~~ and successful
ending that of 1944.

1/25 refers to
Satisfactory compensation
(contingent upon

Southwestern States

6:40 am - 1:10 pm

NOON - 7:55 pm

7 pm - 2:10 am

Charleston - Atlanta

6 pm DC - Charleston

constant special constant
This will often that
- KTH, address, has exclusive
- ~~right~~ to interest me in
purpose of developing AIA
and/or doing abt my exp.
(and exp of others) at P.C. in
1944. I will cooperate
fully with KTH - and

only with KTH - in any
project related to the
events ~~of 1944~~ and succeeding
nothing prior of 1944

I do refuse for
substantive compensation
(contingent upon

Southwestern States

6:40 am - 1:10 pm

NOV - 7:55 pm

7 pm - 2:10 am

Charleston - Atlanta

6 pm DC - Charleston



From Kennedy
(possibly from La Guardia ^{also})

TAKE Eastern Parkway



Buffalo



Linden Blvd

leave Kennedy, go in direction
of La Guardia / Manhattan
until you see a sign that says
Linden Blvd. (Perhaps you will be
- at the time you see it - on the BQE
but I'm not sure. Just don't take the belt
going to Corey Island! (The Belt going
in the direction of La Guardia is fine.
You'll want The Brooklyn (Tillam St) Exit to
Flatbush.) Take Linden Blvd to Rockaway Ave

Go along Rockaway to Buffalo (several
blocks). Buffalo is short. (If you should miss
Buffalo, take New York). Both streets
connect you with Eastern Parkway.
(Right hand turns).

From Kennedy
(possibly from La Guardia ^{also})
TAKE Eastern Parkway



Buffalo



Linden Blvd

Leave Kennedy, go in direction
of La Guardia / Manhattan
until you see a sign that says
Linden Blvd. (Perhaps you will be
- at the time you see it - on the BQE
but I'm not sure. Just don't take the belt
going to Coney Island! (The Belt going
in the direction of La Guardia is fine.
You'll want The Brooklyn (Tillman St.) Exit to
Flatbush.) Take Linden Blvd to Rockaway Ave

Go along Rockaway to Baffalo (several
blocks). Baffalo is short. (If you should miss
Baffalo, take New York). Both streets
connect you with Eastern Parkway.
(Right hand turns).

Permalife
25% COTTON CONTENT

OLLIE E. GREEN — no listing in DC phone book, no response BUPERS mailing,
Probably deceased

HARRY E GRIMES — moved left no address 10/77 (5711 23rd St., Detroit)
addressee unk (2985 W. Grand, Detroit) BUPERS

HERBERT HAVIS — addressee unk (520 14th Ave, Nashville) 10/77

CHARLES N. HAZZARD — addressee unk (625 N. Hutton, Philly) 10/77
Deceased: VA Unk (252 McIver, Fayetteville, NC) BUPERS

FRANK L HENRY — No response BUPERS

RICHARD W. HILL — No record BUPERS, No listing NYC phone directory

THEODORE KING — No response 3/78 (11640 S. Yale, Chicago)

PERRY L KNOX — No such number (511 6th Ave, Nashville) BUPERS
No listing, phone directory

Dec WILLIAM H. LOCKE — no response 10/77 (221 Glenwood Rd, Baltimore) Deceased: VA
EDWARD L. LONGMIRE *— Deceased (see letter from daughter)

MILLER MATHEWS — Deceased, BUPERS

AUGUSTUS P. MAYO — No response, BUPERS; no phone listing (brooklyn)

HOWARD MCGEE — No record BUPERS IKA: Henderson, Tenn.

Deceased LLOYD MCKINNEY — letter returned, BUPERS IKA: San Francisco (588 Navy Rd.) Deceased: VA

Deceased ALPHONSO MCPHERSON — addressee unk 10/77 (4 Sires St, Charleston SC) Deceased: VA

FREDDIE MEEKS — No record, BUPERS
no phone listing, Memphis

VA mailing:
5324 Angely vick
KA, CA 90043
agreed to
interview

CECIL MILLER — Deceased, BUPERS

FLEETWOOD H. POSTELL — VA mailing: Deceased
No record, BUPERS no response 10/77 (1520 Ridge Ave.
No phone listing, Phila. Phila.)

EDWARD SAUNDERS — letter returned BUPERS (13725 Dexter Rd, Detroit)
Deceased: VA no such number 10/77 (3121 Sixth St., Detroit)

CYRIL O. SHEPPARD — Interviewed (158 W. 132 St., NYC)

JOSEPH R. SMALL — Interviewed (449 Lewis, Somerset, NJ)

WILLIE C SUBER — No response BUPERS IKA: Newbury, SC

EDWARD L. WALDROP — Interviewed (4531 Dix, NE, Wash, DC)

Deceased CHARLES WIDEMON — No record BUPERS, No response 10/77 (2212 Druid Hill, Balto) Dec: VA

ALBERT WILLIAMS — no such number BUPERS (1946 Arkansas St., Baton Rouge)

STATUS OF SEARCH FOR 50 PORT CHICAGO MEN CONVICTED OF MUTINY IN 1944

Robert Allen
as of 1978

VA mailing Deceased

JULIUS J. ALLEN -- No Record located at BuPers, no last known address in Record of Court Martial (RCGM), no phone listing. IKA : Baltimore

MAK ANDERSON -- Deceased (BuPERS letter, 27 Oct. 1977) VA mailing: Deceased

DOUGLAS G. ANTHONY -- Deceased, BUPERS letter

WILLIAM E. BANKS -- addressee unknown (2271 7th Ave, NYC) 10/77 mailing. no response from 65 W. 96, NYC (3/23 mailing)

ARNETT BAUGH -- (Last known address) IKA: Puleski, Tenn. (364 Maxwell St. 0) Deceased: VA Deceased No response to mailing 10/77

MORRIS BERRY -- Deceased No response to mailing 10/77 (814 Gray Ave. Winston Salem)

MARTIN A. BORDENAVE -- No such number, 10/77 mailing (308 Law St., New Orleans) VA: 5017 Oakwood Ave U.A. 90043

ERNEST D. BROWN -- addressee unknown (624 E. 163rd St, Bronx) no response from 1350 Western Ave, Bronx

Robert L. BURAGE -- declined to be interviewed (See returned request form) (4243 S. Calumet, Chicago (538-2914) zip 60653

MENTOR G. BURNS -- addressee unknown (850 Buena Vista pl. Cincinnati, OH)

ZACK C. CREDIE -- addressee unknown (55 W. 116th St, NYC 10026)

JACK P. CRITTENDEN -- Interviewed (4337 Sunnybrook Dr., Montgomery) record for

HAYDEN R. CURD -- No ~~response~~ BUPERS mailing. IKA: Indianapolis

CHARLES L. DAVID -- addressee unk (5348 S. Drexel St, Chicago) BUPERS

BENNON DEES -- Deceased, BUPERS

GEORGE W. DIAMOND -- No response, BUPERS mailing

KENNETH C. DIXON -- No such number (35 W. 132 ST, NYC) BUPERS

JULIUS DIXON -- Declined interview (40 Reid St., Charleston, SC)

JOHN H. DUNE -- Deceased: VA No such number (353 Osbron St., Brooklyn) 10/77

MELVIN W. ELLIS -- No response 10/77 (765 W 41st, Chicago) no response 3/78 (7854 S/Ellis, Chicago)

WILLIAM FLEECE -- addressee unk (430 Mahattan Ave, NYC 10026) BUPERS Jamaica, N.Y.: ~~Kelley~~ interview

JAMES FLOYD -- No response, BUPERS mailing

ERNEST J. GAINES -- No record BUPERS, addressee unk 10/77 (2407 Touro, New Orleans)

JOHN O. GIPSON -- No such number, BUPERS (1643 Sherman Ave, Dallas)

CHARLES C. GRAY -- addressee unk 10/77 (6553 S. Langly, Chicago) wrong person (641 W. 105 St, Chicago) 3/78

Robert Allen

September 14 -
General court-martial, October 24, 1944, convened by Commandant, Twelfth
Naval District

Charge: Making a mutiny

Accused:

home address, birthplace

S2C Julius J. Allen, USNR - Baltimore (Littleton, N.C.)
S2C Mack Anderson, USNR - Newry, MD (Leesburg, ALA)
S2C Douglas G. Anthony, USNR - Baltimore (Salisbury, MD)
S2C William E. Banks, USNR - NYC (NYC)
S2C Arnett Baugh, USNR - Poleski, Tenn (same)
S2C Morris Berry, USNR - Baltimore (Darlington, S.C.)
S2C Martin A. Bordenave, USNR - New Orleans (same)
S1C Ernest D. Brown, USNR - NYC, Bronx (Cranford, NJ)
S2C Robert L. Borage, USNR (Lebrage) - Chicago (same)
S2C Mentor G. Burns, USNR - Cincinnati (same)
S2C Zack E. Credle, USNR - NYC (same)
S2C Jack P. Crittenden, USNR - Greenville, Ala (same)
S2C Hayden R. Curd, USNR - Indianapolis (same)
S2C Charles A. David, Jr., USNR (Davis?) - Chicago (Omaha)
S1C Bennon Dees, USNR - Ward, Ala (Sumpter County, Ala)
S2C George W. Diamond, USNR - Prichard, Ala (same)
S2C Kenneth C. Dixon, USNR - NYC (same)
S2C Julius Dixon, Jr., USNR - Charleston, S.C. (same)
S2C John H. Dunn, USNR - Brooklyn (Kuchary beach?)
S2C Melvin W. Ellis, USNR - Chicago (same)
S1C William Fleece, Jr., USNR - NYC (same)
S2C James Floyd, USNR - record
S1C Ernest J. Gaines, USNR - New Orleans (same)
S1C John O. Gipson, USNR - Arcadia, La (same)
S2C Charles C. Gray, USNR - Chicago (Jackson, Miss)
S1C Ollie E. Green, USNR - Wash, D.C. (same)
S1C Harry E. Grimes, USNR - Detroit (same)
S1C Herbert Havis, USNR - Nashville (Huntsville, Ala)
S1C Charles N. Hazzard, USNR - Phila. (same)
S2C Frank L. Henry, USNR - St. Louis (same)
S2C Richard W. Hill, USNR - ~~Seton~~ New York (Selma, Ala)
S2C Theodore King, USNR - Chicago (same)
S1C Perry L. Knox, USNR - Nashville (same)
S1C William H. Lock, USNR - ~~Baltimore~~ Baltimore (Greenville, N.C.)
S2C Edward L. Longmire, USNR - Cincinnati (Athens, Ala)
S2C Miller Matthews, USNR - New Orleans (same)
S2C Augustus P. Mayo, USNR - Brooklyn (Norfolk, Va)
S1C Howard McGee, USNR - Henderson, Tenn (same)
S1C Lloyd McKinney, USNR - Donaldsonville, La (same)
S2C Alphonso McPherson, USNR - Charleston, S.C. (same)
S2C Freddie Meeks, USNR - Memphis (Natchez, Miss)

S1C Cecil Miller, USNR - Springfield, Ill (Mexico, Mo)
 S2C Fleetwood H. Postell, USNR - Phila (Columbia, S.C.)
 S2C Edward Saunders, USNR (~~San Antonio~~) - Detroit (St. Louis) (Savannah, Ga)
 S1C Cyril O. Sheppard, USNR - NYC (Same)
 S1C Joseph R. Small, USNR - New Brunswick, N.J. (had authority over new) after return
 S2C Willie C. Suber, USNR - Newburg, S.C. (Same)
 S2C Edward L. Waldrop, USNR - no card (Wash, D.C.)
 S2C Charles S. Widemon, USNR (~~Widemon~~) - Baltimore (Atlanta)
 S1C Albert Williams, Jr., USNR - Baton Rouge (Saugus, La)

21 attended high school

San Jose State Library
 has copy (1968)

Cost for reproduction: \$

137.85
 2.75
 140.60

New
 racial
 references
 "provocative"
 in memo

memo from
 W.H. Goss
 commanding officer dated 8/13/44
 memo for President
 also memo dated 8/12/44

Last known address

Garms 2271 7th Ave, NYC

Baugh 364 Maxwell St, Parkville, Mo

Berry 814 Gray Ave, Winton, S. Cal, N.C.

Borden 3008 Law St, New Orleans

Dunn 353 Ashburn St, Brooklyn

Ellis 765 E. 41st St, Chicago

Gaines 2407 Touro, New Orleans

Gray 6553 So. Langley Ave, Chicago

Grimes 5711 23rd St, Detroit

Harris 520 14th Ave, Nashville

Hazard 625 No. Howard St, Phila

Loera 1516 W. Lankford Ave, Del Rio, Texas

Mispherson 4 Sires St, Charleston

McArthur 2212 Collops ~~St~~ St, New Orleans

Pastell 1520 Ridge Ave, Phila

Savader 3121 6th St, Detroit

Wideman 2212 David Hill, St. Louis

Contact Chief, Naval Personnel
for current address

Naval Dept

Wash, D.C.

20370

11/14/77

PORT CHICAGO STUDY RESEARCH PLAN, PART I

SURVIVORS AND WITNESSES TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW

Category	Action (see Research Log for details)
"Mutineers" 10	mailing 9/19 mailing 10/24 <u>sheppard</u> 10/20 Ads 11/8 <u>Small</u> 12/6 mailing 3/23/78 <u>Interviewed</u> sheppard Small Waldrop Ch. Henderson Gay
Other enlisted men 10 of 228 10 not involved	mailing 10/24 mailing 11/15 Ret 11/28 (Nat. Taylor) mailing 11/28 Robert Routh 3605 country club Drive L.A. 90019 Percy Robinson 7626 La Salle Ave L.A. 90047
Officers 5 on duty 7/17 5 others	mailing 11/15 Ret 11/17 (Woodland)
Port Chicago Townpeople 20	

11/14/77

PORT CHICAGO STUDY RESEARCH PLAN, PART I

SURVIVORS/WITNESSES TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW

Category

Action (See research log for details)

"Mutineers"

10

Other enlisted men

10 of 228

10 not involved

Officers

5 serving 7/17/44

5 others

2 of 10 (mutineers)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 not involved

~~10 of 228 (other enlisted men)~~
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)

10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
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10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)
10 of 228 (other enlisted men)

11/14/77

PORT CHICAGO STUDY RESEARCH PLAN, PART II

OTHER INDIVIDUALS WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Name Action (See Log for details)

<u>Thurgood Marshall</u> NAACP LDF Defense Counsel	Letter 7/11 Letter 10/24
<u>Mary Lindsay</u> (PW rprr) (See Log 8/19 Sheppard intvw)	Log 11/15
<u>Melvin Belli</u> (Log, 21A, was atty for Eunice Van Winkle of PC)	
<u>Arthur Dickerson</u> (Log 27, knows PC men)	
<u>Guy Looney</u> (Log 27, knows blk. mil. hist.)	
<u>Dr. Morris</u> MacGregor	8/16, 8/17
<u>Dr. Kai</u> Erikson	Visit 10/21

11/14/77

PORT CHICAGO STUDY RESEARCH PLAN, PART III

page 1

INSTITUTIONAL SOURCES (for documents, names/addresses)

Name	Action (see research log for details)
<u>National Archives</u> <u>Bill Heimdahl</u>	First contact 3/30/77 visits 5/10, 8/18
<u>NAVY JAG</u> <u>Cliff Kudo</u> <u>Cdr. Pope</u> <u>Cdr. Buhler</u>	First contact 4/6/77 visits 5/10, 8/3
<u>NAVY BURPERS</u> <u>E. Haslam</u> <u>Sharon Cross</u>	Contacts, 8/17, 10/3
<u>Naval Const. Batt.</u> <u>Ctr, Pt. Huessene</u> <u>Julie Streets</u>	First contact 4/28/77 Visit 9/29
<u>Concord Naval</u> <u>Weapons Stn</u> <u>(formerly P.C.)</u> <u>Al Compaglia</u>	Visit 3/4/77 Contact 3/18
<u>Federal Record</u> <u>Ctr, San Bruno</u> <u>Mr. Gim Otsuki</u>	First Contact 5/12 Visit 9/6 f. (and following)
<u>Library of</u> <u>Congress</u> <u>Dr. Sylvia Render</u> <u>Ruth Nicholson</u>	Visit, 8/5 f.
<u>Operational Archives</u> <u>Navy History Div.</u> <u>Dan C. Allard</u> <u>Geraldine Judkins</u> <u>Bernard Cavalcante</u> <u>Nina Statum</u>	Visit 8/10 f.
<u>Navy Hist. Lib.</u> <u>Capt. Law</u>	Visit 8/11
<u>11th Naval Dist.</u>	Contact 5/17 f/
<u>NAACP LDF</u> <u>Donna Gloeckner</u>	Visits 9/1, 10/20
<u>NAACP</u> <u>Nat. office</u>	Visit 9/1/77 phone call 11/21 visit 12/5/77
<u>ROOSEVELT LIBRARY</u> <u>Ray Geselbracht</u>	Visit 8/30

10/14/77

PORT CHICAGO STUDY RESEARCH PLAN, PART III

Page 2

INSTITUTIONAL SOURCES (for documents, names/addresses)

Name	Action (see research log for details)
Veterans Administration (for survivors)	See Log 5/5/78
State Archives	
Port Chicago Archives	
Vallejo Archives	
Historical Societies	
Local Newspapers UCB Library	List 11/13
Railroad Inv. (also other private investigations)	
Coroner's Inquests	
Insurance Co. Inv.	
Red Cross files	No luck, 10/3 Try S.F. R.C.
11th Naval Dist. files	
Coast Guard files (RG 26, Nat, Archives)	
Calif. Hist. Grants	

JOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
90 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

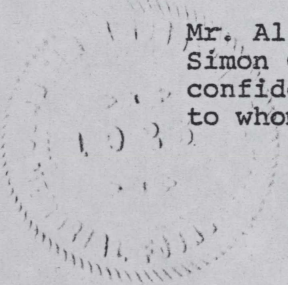
STEPHEN L. SCHLESINGER
SECRETARY

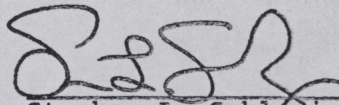
June 15, 1977

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That Mr. Robert L. Allen, Writer, San Francisco; Editor, The Black Scholar, has been appointed by the Trustees of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to a Fellowship for the period from August 1, 1977 to July 31, 1978.

During this period, Mr. Allen will devote himself to a study of the Port Chicago disaster.

Mr. Allen is respectfully recommended by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to the esteem, confidence and friendly consideration of all persons to whom he may present this letter.




Stephen L. Schlesinger

JOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
90 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

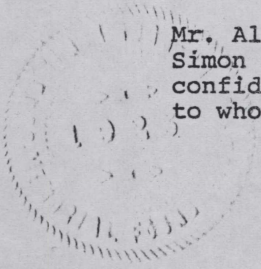
STEPHEN L. SCHLESINGER
SECRETARY

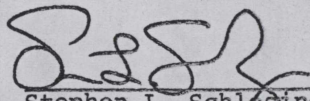
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90 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK

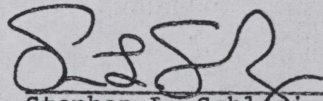
STEPHEN L. SCHLESINGER
SECRETARY

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Stephen L. Schlesinger

INVESTIGATOR Robert L. Allen TITLE Graduate student DEPT Social & Behav. Sciences
MAILING ADDRESS 1373 Third Ave PHONE 666-3047 PERSON TO CONTACT Allen SUBMISSION DATE 9/28/77
PROJECT TITLE A Study of the Consequences of the Port Chicago Disaster of 1944
SUBMIT FIFTEEN COMPLETE SETS

Names/Titles of all investigators - Name of faculty advisor if a student

Dr. Virginia Olesen

Dept. of Social & Behav.
Sciences
School of Nursing

List all procedures to be done for purposes of this study which would not usually be done at this time for the care of this person.

N/A

Previous History of this Protocol:

☒ New	Previous number
☐ Modification	Expiration date
☐ Renewal	date

Does this submission differ in any way from the previously approved protocol:

☐ Yes ☐ No

Explain any differences within the protocol.

Radioisotopes: N/A

Will any radioactive materials be used?

What isotopes?

Has approval of the Radioisotope Safety Comm been sought? Rec'd

Attach one copy of approval to the application

Subjects: (Explain in detail within protocol)

Patients: Number

Source(s)

Compensation

Controls/Normals:
Number 100

Source(s)

Compensation

Will any minors be involved? No

Will any prisoners be involved? No

THIS IS A COVER PAGE ONLY. THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESEARCH REQUIRES FIFTEEN COMPLETE PACKETS EACH CONTAINING:

- a cover letter (optional)
- this cover page
- the experimental protocol
- all (any) consent forms necessary

PLUS: Three copies of the computer form.

CALL EXTENSION 1307 FOR FORMS AND QUESTIONS

3/1/77

Drugs:

Name all drugs and dosages to be used. Any new drugs or drugs used in a new manner or form must have FDA approval. Note those needing clearance and the IND number given.

N/A

SUPPORT: Every funding application involving humans as subjects must have a current CHR approval. (One CHR approval may be used to cover many funding applications if the same procedures are involved.) Indicate the funding source(s) for this project and fill in the Contracts & Grants worksheet completely.

Is this study funded? Yes X No

#1 Investigator Robert L. Allen
Agency Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

#2 Investigator
Agency #

#3 Investigator
Agency #

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
1373 THIRD AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94143

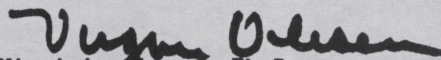
Dr. Henry Goldberg, Chairperson
Human Subjects Committee
S-119

September 22, 1977

Dear Dr. Goldberg:

This will indicate my sponsorship of the research to be done by Mr. Robert Allen, doctoral student in the graduate program in sociology, on the Port Chicago disaster of 1945. I assume responsibility for Mr. Allen's work on this project which I believe has considerable significance for the understanding of human response to disasters and the sociology of mental health. We shall appreciate the Committee's review of the protocol.

Sincerely,


Virginia Olsen, Ph.D.
Professor of Sociology

PROTOCOL: Study of the Consequences of the Port Chicago
Disaster of 1944

"Crisis situations...are significant objects of sociological inquiry in that they constitute crucibles out of which innovations develop."

Tomatsu Shibutani in Improvised News

Background

On the night of July 17, 1944, two transport vessels loading ammunition at Port Chicago on the Sacramento River suddenly exploded. Over 300 American sailors -- merchant seamen and naval enlisted men -- lost their lives in the huge blast. Several hundred military personnel and civilians were injured. Almost 10,000 civilians suffered various forms of property damage totalling millions of dollars in value. It was the worst home front disaster of World War II.

Three weeks after the explosion the surviving ammunition loaders -- all of whom were black naval enlistees -- were ordered to return to loading ammunition. Of some 400 survivors, 258 refused to go back to work, claiming that working conditions were unsafe and they were afraid. Eventually all of these men returned to work except 50 who were then charged with mutiny, court-martialed and found guilty. These 50 were imprisoned for 1½ years before the sentences were set aside by Secretary Forrestal.

For the sociologist physical and social calamities offer an opportunity to study stress situations and their consequences. How human beings manage severe stress and how they cope with the stressful consequences of calamity are matters of interest to the social psychology of health, yet little attention has been devoted to the long-term consequences of catastrophes. The Port Chicago disaster provides a unique opportunity to identify and study these consequences.

Specific Aims

The goal of this research project is to study the perceived impact of a major crisis on the lives of the survivors. There would be two distinct populations involved in the study.

(1) Civilian survivors would be interviewed concerning what they perceive as the long-term impact of this disaster on their lives: mental and physical health; work; family life and living situation; social relationships; habits; attitudes and world-view. (2) The Navy survivors would be similarly interviewed about the consequences for them of the physical disaster (the explosion) and additionally concerning the social crisis (the alleged mutiny and resulting trial). The latter would involve reconstructing the process by which the work stoppage developed, and assessing the significance of this

and the trial for their lives.

Significance

In the field of disaster studies there have been very few studies of the long-term social-psychological consequences of a major physical disaster or social crisis. Since more than 30 years have elapsed since the events at Port Chicago it seems likely that any significant consequences would have by now become evident in the lives of the survivors. Such a study could therefore contribute knowledge to the sociology of health and sociology in general by eliciting from survivors the long-term social, psychological and health consequences of a major disaster. Moreover, this case study could provide useful insights into the process by which a social crisis ("mutiny" and trial) emerged from a physical disaster (explosion).

Methods

My procedure would be to select a sample of military and civilian survivors (approximately 100) from whom interviews would be requested. Questions to be asked would include the following:

1. In your opinion, why do you think the explosion occurred?
2. Where were you at the time of the explosion? What did you think had happened? What was the immediate impact of the explosion on you? your family? your property? What did you do?
3. Looking back, what do you think has been the main consequence of this disaster for your life? How have you coped with this?
4. In the long run, how has this disaster affected your family, your mental and physical health, your work, etc. (this would be a series of questions)?
5. What do you think could have been done to change or minimize these consequences?

Additional questions for Navy survivors:

6. What specific health and safety precautions were in effect at Port Chicago?
7. Were there any outstanding grievances among the men before the explosion?
8. What steps were being taken to present or remedy these grievances?
9. What happened in the days immediately following the explosion?

10. How and why did some of the men decide not to continue loading ammunition?
11. Do you think the full story came out at the trial? If not, what would you add?
12. What do you think could have been done to prevent the work stoppage?
13. In what ways has your life been affected by these events? How have you coped with these consequences?

Cooperation of the Navy Department

I have met in Washington with Department of the Navy officials and secured their cooperation in obtaining (1) all official documents related to the Port Chicago events, including the record of the court-martial and the record of the Navy's investigation of the explosion; (2) access to the Navy survivors involved in these events. (Under the conditions of the Privacy Act the Navy cannot directly give me the names and addresses of these men, but can forward a letter from me requesting an interview. Replies would be sent directly to me for follow-up. I am presently negotiating with Navy officials to gain access to the names and addresses of several thousand civilians who filed damage claims. (This list would provide a pool from which to select a sample of civilian survivors for interviews.) Informed consent would be obtained from all respondents at the time of the interview (see attached consent form).

Funding

I have been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for the purpose of studying the Port Chicago disaster.

CONSENT TO ACT AS A RESEARCH PARTICIPANT IN A STUDY OF
THE PORT CHICAGO DISASTER OF 1944.

I hereby consent to be interviewed by Robert L. Allen concerning my experiences in the Port Chicago disaster of 1944 and its aftermath. I understand that the purpose of the interview is to gain a better understanding of these events and their impact on the lives of those who experienced them.

I understand that if the interview in any way upsets or distresses me I can terminate it at any time without jeopardy to myself or my family or my living situation. I also understand that the interview materials will be kept confidential and will not be published without my consent. Mr. Allen will arrange the interview at a time and in a manner convenient for me.

There are no direct benefits to me, though the information to be gained will be useful in the larger understanding of such events.

If at any time I wish to discuss the study, I may call Mr. Allen at (415) 666-3047 and he will be happy to discuss any questions I have.

Signature

Date

INVESTIGATOR Robert L. Allen TITLE Graduate student DEPT Social & Behav. Sciences
MAILING PERSON TO
ADDRESS 1373 Third Ave PHONE 666-3047 CONTACT Allen SUBMISSION DATE 9/28/77
PROJECT
TITLE A Study of the Consequences of the Port Chicago Disaster of 1944
SUBMIT FIFTEEN COMPLETE SETS

Names/Titles of all investigators - Name of faculty advisor if a student

Dr. Virginia Olesen

Dept. of Social & Behav.
Sciences
School of Nursing

List all procedures to be done for purposes of this study which would not usually be done at this time for the care of this person.

N/A

Previous History of this Protocol:

X New Previous
Modification number
Renewal Expiration
date

Does this submission differ in any way from the previously approved protocol:

Yes No

Explain any differences within the protocol.

Radioisotopes: N/A

Will any radioactive materials be used?

What isotopes?

Has approval of the RadioIsotope Safety Comm been sought? Rec'd

Attach one copy of approval to the application

Subjects: (Explain in detail within protocol)

Patients: Number

Source(s)

Compensation

Controls/Normals:

Number 100

Source(s)

Compensation

Will any minors be involved? No

Will any prisoners be involved? No

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Is this study funded? Yes X No

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Agency Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

#2 Investigator

Agency #

#3 Investigator

Agency #

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
1373 THIRD AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94143

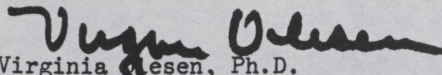
Dr. Henry Goldberg, Chairperson
Human Subjects Committee
S-119

September 22, 1977

Dear Dr. Goldberg:

This will indicate my sponsorship of the research to be done by Mr. Robert Allen, doctoral student in the graduate program in sociology, on the Port Chicago disaster of 1945. I assume responsibility for Mr. Allen's work on this project which I believe has considerable significance for the understanding of human response to disasters and the sociology of mental health. We shall appreciate the Committee's review of the protocol.

Sincerely,


Virginia Olsen, Ph.D.
Professor of Sociology

Robert L. Allen, researcher

PROTOCOL: Study of the Consequences of the Port Chicago
Disaster of 1944

"Crisis situations...are significant objects of sociological inquiry in that they constitute crucibles out of which innovations develop."

Tomatsu Shibutani in Improvised News

Background

On the night of July 17, 1944, two transport vessels loading ammunition at Port Chicago on the Sacramento River suddenly exploded. Over 300 American sailors -- merchant seamen and naval enlisted men -- lost their lives in the huge blast. Several hundred military personnel and civilians were injured. Almost 10,000 civilians suffered various forms of property damage totalling millions of dollars in value. It was the worst home front disaster of World War II.

Three weeks after the explosion the surviving ammunition loaders -- all of whom were black naval enlistees -- were ordered to return to loading ammunition. Of some 400 survivors, 258 refused to go back to work, claiming that working conditions were unsafe and they were afraid. Eventually all of these men returned to work except 50 who were then charged with mutiny, court-martialed and found guilty. These 50 were imprisoned for 1½ years before the sentences were set aside by Secretary Forrestal.

For the sociologist physical and social calamities offer an opportunity to study stress situations and their consequences. How human beings manage severe stress and how they cope with the stressful consequences of calamity are matters of interest to the social psychology of health, yet little attention has been devoted to the long-term consequences of catastrophes. The Port Chicago disaster provides a unique opportunity to identify and study these consequences.

Specific Aims

The goal of this research project is to study the perceived impact of a major crisis on the lives of the survivors. There would be two distinct populations involved in the study. (1) Civilian survivors would be interviewed concerning what they perceive as the long-term impact of this disaster on their lives: mental and physical health; work; family life and living situation; social relationships; habits; attitudes and world-view. (2) The Navy survivors would be similarly interviewed about the consequences for them of the physical disaster (the explosion) and additionally concerning the social crisis (the alleged mutiny and resulting trial). The latter would involve reconstructing the process by which the work stoppage developed, and assessing the significance of this

and the trial for their lives.

Significance

In the field of disaster studies there have been very few studies of the long-term social-psychological consequences of a major physical disaster or social crisis. Since more than 30 years have elapsed since the events at Port Chicago it seems likely that any significant consequences would have by now become evident in the lives of the survivors. Such a study could therefore contribute knowledge to the sociology of health and sociology in general by eliciting from survivors the long-term social, psychological and health consequences of a major disaster. Moreover, this case study could provide useful insights into the process by which a social crisis ("mutiny" and trial) emerged from a physical disaster (explosion).

Methods

My procedure would be to select a sample of military and civilian survivors (approximately 100) from whom interviews would be requested. Questions to be asked would include the following:

1. In your opinion, why do you think the explosion occurred?
2. Where were you at the time of the explosion? What did you think had happened? What was the immediate impact of the explosion on you? your family? your property? What did you do?
3. Looking back, what do you think has been the main consequence of this disaster for your life? How have you coped with this?
4. In the long run, how has this disaster affected your family, your mental and physical health, your work, etc. (this would be a series of questions)?
5. What do you think could have been done to change or minimize these consequences?

Additional questions for Navy survivors:

6. What specific health and safety precautions were in effect at Port Chicago?
7. Were there any outstanding grievances among the men before the explosion?
8. What steps were being taken to present or remedy these grievances?
9. What happened in the days immediately following the explosion?

10. How and why did some of the men decide not to continue loading ammunition?
11. Do you think the full story came out at the trial? If not, what would you add?
12. What do you think could have been done to prevent the work stoppage?
13. In what ways has your life been affected by these events? How have you coped with these consequences?

Cooperation of the Navy Department

I have met in Washington with Department of the Navy officials and secured their cooperation in obtaining (1) all official documents related to the Port Chicago events, including the record of the court-martial and the record of the Navy's investigation of the explosion; (2) access to the Navy survivors involved in these events. (Under the conditions of the Privacy Act the Navy cannot directly give me the names and addresses of these men, but can forward a letter from me requesting an interview. Replies would be sent directly to me for follow-up. I am presently negotiating with Navy officials to gain access to the names and addresses of several thousand civilians who filed damage claims. (This list would provide a pool from which to select a sample of civilian survivors for interviews.) Informed consent would be obtained from all respondents at the time of the interview (see attached consent form).

Funding

I have been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for the purpose of studying the Port Chicago disaster.

CONSENT TO ACT AS A RESEARCH PARTICIPANT IN A STUDY OF
THE PORT CHICAGO DISASTER OF 1944.

I hereby consent to be interviewed by Robert L. Allen concerning my experiences in the Port Chicago disaster of 1944 and its aftermath. I understand that the purpose of the interview is to gain a better understanding of these events and their impact on the lives of those who experienced them.

I understand that if the interview in any way upsets or distresses me I can terminate it at any time without jeopardy to myself or my family or my living situation. I also understand that the interview materials will be kept confidential and will not be published without my consent. Mr. Allen will arrange the interview at a time and in a manner convenient for me.

There are no direct benefits to me, though the information to be gained will be useful in the larger understanding of such events.

If at any time I wish to discuss the study, I may call Mr. Allen at (415) 666-3047 and he will be happy to discuss any questions I have.

Signature

Date

Robert L. Allen

PROPOSAL FOR A STUDY OF THE PORT CHICAGO DISASTER

On the night of July 17, 1944, two naval transport vessels loading ammunition at Port Chicago on San Francisco Bay suddenly exploded. The rumble of the huge blast broke windows in houses as far as 20 miles away; the glare of the explosion was seen in towns for 50 miles around. As the smoke cleared the grim counting of the dead -- what could be found of them -- began. Over 300 American sailors -- merchant seamen and naval enlisted men -- lost their lives in the Port Chicago disaster. It was the worst home front disaster of World War II.

All of the naval enlisted men who died -- some 250 ammunition loaders -- were black. In fact, every man loading ammunition at Port Chicago was black, and every commissioned officer and chief petty officer was white. This was the usual Jim Crow policy, and the young naval enlistees had not been surprised by this fact.

But the horrible explosion changed some of the survivors; they were fearful and there were things they could no longer accept. It wasn't just segregation; it was the lack of training for this dangerous work, it was the lack of safety precautions, it was a host of things that had troubled some of the men in the weeks before the disaster. After the explosion the Navy brought in swing bands and USO shows to boost the shattered morale of the survivors; none of them was given a leave. Less than two weeks after the disaster some of the survivors were ordered to go back to loading ammunition; most of them refused. Others were ordered to go back and still more refused. Some of these were put in the brig, others transferred to other units. Then on August 9th all of the remaining survivors -- some 400 men -- were ordered to return to the loading. Of these, 257, admitting they were afraid, refused and were placed under marine guard. In the following days officers cajoled and threatened the men, but 50 still refused to return to the ammunition loading. These 50 were charged with conspiracy to mutiny -- a crime which could mean life imprisonment or death.

The men were brought to trial the next month. The defense -- handled by naval officers -- argued that the men were in shock, in fear for their lives. Nevertheless, on October 24, 1944, all of the defendants -- many in their teens and early twenties -- were convicted. Ten were sentenced to 15 years in prison; 11 to 10 years; 24 to 12 years; and 5 to 8 years.

Sections of the black press had expressed outrage at the mutiny charges, and there was considerable public outcry during and after the trial. The case was to be reviewed by the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Navy; his decision in turn to be reviewed by Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

Thurgood Marshall, then an attorney representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who was an observer at the trial, stated:

"The men actually don't know what happened. Had they been given a direct and specific order to load ammunition and had refused to obey that order, then the charge would be legitimate. But they say no direct order to load was issued them. They were asked whether they would load, and they replied that they were afraid.

"They told me that they were willing to go to jail to get a

change of duty because of their terrific fear of the explosives, but they had no idea that verbal expression of their fear constituted mutiny."

Thus, whether a direct order was given was a key issue in the trial and review; there was testimony on both sides of the question.

No official psychologist was called to testify in the case, but several specialists made statements supporting the defense's arguments regarding the men's state of mind.

Another troublesome issue concerned pre-trial interviews with the men by Navy investigators. These interviews -- in which the men discussed the reasons for their actions -- were placed in evidence, but the defense argued that these interviews were not verbatim transcriptions but were recordings of what the interviewers thought was important.

The case went through review channels and the convictions were upheld. Meanwhile, petitions and appeals for clemency were coming in from many sources, including the daily press. Finally, following intervention by Mr. Marshall and the NAACP on behalf of the defendants, it was announced that the convictions had been set aside and that the men were restored to duty on probation and were then "presumably overseas." This was in January, 1946, a year and a half after the Port Chicago explosion.

Following the Port Chicago disaster and several lesser incidents the Navy's Bureau of Personnel issued several directives designed to alleviate some of the grievances voiced by black enlistees.

I believe that the Port Chicago disaster and the subsequent trial are significant events in American history. The magnitude of the disaster and its nature, the questions raised at the trial, the role of public pressure, the ensuing changes in the Navy's racial policies -- all these make this an incident well worth careful and thorough study. Yet there has been no extensive study of the Port Chicago disaster. The incident is barely mentioned in John Hope Franklin's standard black history text, From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans (New York: Vintage Books, 1969). There is a brief account in Florence Murray's Negro Handbook, 1946-1947 (reprinted in Herbert Aptheker's A Documentary History of the Negro People in the United States, 1933-1945; Secaucus, N.J.: Citadel Press, 1974); this account is repeated in Dennis Nelson's The Integration of the Negro into the U.S. Navy (New York: Farrar, Straus and Young, 1951). A review of the annual volumes of Writings on American History to 1960, and the Comprehensive Dissertation Index, 1861-1972, reveals no study of the Port Chicago disaster.

I would like to research and write a narrative history of the disaster and the trial. I believe it would be possible to interest a university or commercial press in publication of this study.

There are adequate resources available for undertaking this study. I would plan to make use of records of the Navy's investigation of the explosion, transcripts of the trial, documents in the archives of the NAACP, published accounts of the explosion and trial in newspapers and magazines. Further, I would plan to locate and interview: (1) surviving defendants, (2) other survivors and witnesses of the explosion, (3) attorneys and officers involved in the investigation and trial. This would necessitate travel to New York City, Washington, D.C. and possibly other cities. In this manner I would expect to develop an in-depth and well rounded account.

- Port Chicago -- Initial Research contacts

(for earlier notes
see page 3 dated 4/28/77
Bottom, 1)

3/30/77: I telephoned National Archives, Washington, D.C. Was referred to Sandy Smith and William Heimdahl, ~~Wax~~ Navy Archivists, Navy and Old Army Branch (202 523-3229). Spoke to Heimdahl who said he would research records and call me back. (1)

4/1/77: Call from Heimdahl with report as follows:

Some references to Pt. Chicago in general correspondence of Secretary of Navy and Bureau of Naval Personnel, ~~Nt~~ National Archives, Naval Archives.

Court of Inquiry Records are at Central Records, Navy's Judge Advocate. Contact: Mr. Johnson, 202 OX 4 - 5368.

Some material on Port Chicago at Naval History Division, Operational Archives Branch. Contact: Bernard Cavalcante, 202 433-3170.

Also check Naval Library, 202 433-4131 ~~84~~ or 4132
They may have a history of the Port Chicago Naval magazine.

Bureau of Ordnance history book, 2 vols. SELECTED AMMUNITION DEPOTS
Check Entry 127 in GUIDE TO U.S. NAVAL ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF WWII

Check WWII correspondence of Bureau of Ordnance under File Symbol NT 4-56 (Port Chicago file symbol). Files located at General Archives Division, Federal Record Center, Suitland, Maryland 301 763-7410. (there is a shuttle bus from Natl. Archives in D.C.)

Also some discussion of Pt. Chicago in War Shipping Administration Records, Record Group 248, industrial and Social Branch of (Nat?) Archives. 523-3119

Official Histories cited by Heimdahl as useful:

Buford Rowland & William B. Boyd, US NAVY, BUREAU OF ORDNANCE IN WWII, published by Ordnance Dept. of U.S. Navy.

BUILDING THE NAVY'S BASES IN WWII: HISTORY OF THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS AND THE CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS, 1940-1946, by Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S. Govt. Printing Office, 1947.

Bureau of Yards and Docks Archives are located at:

Command Historian
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Historical Office CODE 19
U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center
Port Hueneme, Calif. 93041 (north of L.A. 60 miles)

Contact: Mr. Transano, historian
Julie Streets, Archivist
805 982-5146

Heimdahl thinks they may have info. on Pt. Chicago Naval Magazine

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Heimdahl said he would check office files of Frank Knox and Forrestal for any Pt. Chicago material, but doubted any would be there. Will call back next week if he finds anything.

Address for Heimdahl:

William Heimdahl
Navy and Old Army Branch
National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20408

Heimdahl said he would send me a brochure on how to make use of the Archives.

Heimdahl also said something about Court martial trial records being in Record Group 125, Navy's Judge Advocate General, General Archives Division, Suitland, Md.

4/6/77: I called Mr. Johnson at Navy's Judge Advocate General re trial transcript. He referred me to:

Mr. Clifford Kudo
Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy Dept.
Washington, D.C. 20370

202 694-4906 or 7

Kudo has in his office the transcript consisting of about 1,700 pages and entitled "Case of Julius J. Allen, Seaman 2nd Class, U.S.N.R., et. al."

Will hold for me to review in May. Said I can have a copy made for about \$150.00. Said a television person had contacted him about the case ~~is~~ and may have a copy of transcript made (Find out who this is, what their interest is).

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1. Called Clifford Kudo. Made appt to see Court martial transcript on Tuesday, 5/10, 9:30 am. He is located in Navy Annex (nr Pentagon). Room 2518 (ax 2nd floor, 5th wing) on the Columbia Pike. He suggested I take Eastern airlines shuttle flight (leaves every hour) from LaGuardia to National. His phone is 202 694-4906. Said personal check okay for ordering copy of xscript.

2. Called Bill Heimdahl at Natl Archives. Made appt. to see him afternoon of 5/10. Archives located on Pennsylvania Ave., betw. 7th and 9th Sts. His phone 523-3229. Said he would send some material on using the Archives.

3. Called U.S. Supreme Court. Spoke with Justice Marshall's secy, Miss. McHail (?). Phone 202 393-1640. She said Marshall not granting interviews, but she also suggested I write him a note explaining my work and requesting interview. Send to Mr. Justice Thurgood Marshall, U.S. Supreme Court, Washington, DC 20543.

4. Called Julie Streets, Archivist, at Port Hueneme, Calif. (Bureau of Yards and Docks Archives). She said they have materials on Pt. Chicago. Will look them up and get back to me in a few weeks (She also mentioned that another researcher was seeking these materials a couple of years ago.) They are located near Santa Barbara.

5. Miscellaneous notes: 3/18/77 -- called Al Compaglia, Public Affairs Officer at ~~Concord~~ Concord Naval Weapons Station. (Phone 671-2511). He said all they have is a scrapbook on the Pt. C. disaster. Referred me to the National Archives. Said I could come up and look at the scrap book.

3/4/77 -- Made brief trip to Pt. Chicago for look-see. Town no longer exists. Facility has been incorporated into Concord Naval Weapons Station. Tried to see public ~~affairs~~ affairs officer but he was busy. Trip is 50 miles one-way from S.F. (at ~~15~~ 15¢ per mile plus 50¢ toll that comes to \$15.50 expenses) A secretary there suggested I check out local newspapers for accounts, including: Concord Transcript; Pittsburgh Post-Dispatch; Antioch Ledger.

4/77 -- talked with Lenny Schatzman, UCSF. He suggested I check out lawsuits resulting from the explosion. For comparative perspective look at other mutiny situations, and coal mine disasters. From theoretical perspective he suggested I consider risk factor in terms of deterrence (prevention); mitigation of effects; emergency plans/actions; responsibility/accountability.

REFERENCES for comparative materials on strikes:

E.T. Hiller, THE STRIKE: A STUDY IN COLLECTIVE ACTION
Univ. of Chicago, 1928

Alvin Gouldner, Wildcat Strike.

Early
Notes
First
contact

5/10/77

4

Visited Mr. Kudo at Naval Annex in Washington. Reviewed copy of mutiny trial transcript which included:

1. Some material that was "deleted"; I was not allowed to study this although was inadvertently shown it and scanned it briefly. A note on the cover sheet of this material said something about not showing it to someone named Schonfeld (a journalist or TV person, I think). About 50 pages of material, among it a letter or memo from N.H. Goss, Commanding Officer, dated 13 August 1944 -- contains references to racial aspects of the case including references to the "mentality" of the Negro seamen; a letter or memo dated 12 August 1944 (perhaps also from Goss, but not sure) -- referred to having received complaints from the men, described some of them as "troublemakers", possibly influenced by "propaganda"; a "Memo For (to) the President" -- a one-page document, only saw the title.

These materials were removed from the file in my presence. I was not allowed to study them or take notes from them. I asked to do so; Kudo referred the matter to his superior, who refused me permission. Not knowing the legal standing of this material I did not press the matter further.

Upon reflection it would seem important to get access to this material since it reveals something about Navy officials' thinking in the weeks before the court-martial. Three approaches seem possible: Write a letter to the JAG, Navy Dept, D.C. 20370 requesting access to these deleted materials (this course suggested by Kudo); seek informal access to the material; try to locate the material elsewhere. I think I should try the latter first, since at this point I don't want to alienate the JAG office by raising a stink. But if all else fails I should probably file suit under Freedom of Info Act.

2. An appeals brief filed by Thurgood Marshall. Mentions that this the largest court-martial in Navy history; first mutiny trial in USN during WWII. Mentions great press and magazine coverage, creating impression of mutinous Negroes. Attacked references in ~~xxxx~~ trial transcript to hearsay reports of meetings held by the defendants to plan what to do (~~before~~ after explosion); statements about need to "stick together"; statement abt "having the officers by the balls" and "don't work for the white mother fuckers."

3. Transcript of mtg between Marshall and Rear Admiral F.L. Lowe, Asst. JAG, 4/3/45.

4. Summary of testimony in trial -- including reference to racing men in loading ammunition.
5. Full transcript of the court-martial (declassified 3/8/72)
6. Verdict in trial (men to be confined at Terminal Island (San Pedro), Calif.
7. Cards listing name, address, birthplace, service record of each defendant.

MISSING from these files are:

1. Material on final disposition of the case (Sentences were set aside in 1/46)
2. Pretrial statements made by defendants.

5/10/77 2/2/2/2

5

Kudo gave me a list of the 50 defendants, to which I added their home addresses and places of birth.
(Note: ~~Ku~~ Clifford Kudo's home address is on Connecticut Ave., if I need to reach him)

Tasked about obtaining Navy's investigation of the explosion. Was referred next door to investigations office. Was told there that I could see it under Freedom of Info Act. Must write letter to Office of JAG, Code 21, Navy Dept., DC 20370. Indicate purpose of my research, that confidentiality will be protected, when I plan to visit their office. Write at least two week ahead of visit. This info provided by a Commander Buehler (?)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES visit.

Met with Heimdahl. Obtained reseracher id. card,

Heimdahl said they have correspondence of the Bureau of Yards and Docks thru 1944; also unclassified correspondence of the Secy of Navy. Said Fed. Record Ctr at Suitland has general correspondence of Bureau of Ordinance.

H. advised that gen. correspondence of 12th Naval District may be at Fed. Records Ctr, 1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno (876-9001) Suggested I also chekc with Commandant of 12th Naval District re these and other records.

Also referred me to Operational Archives, U.S. Naval History Division, Bldg 210, 4th Floor, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374 (202) 433-3170 Contacts: Geraldine Judkins, Bernard Cavalcante. They have classified correspondence.

I reviewed some general correspondences indexes and located the following which must see when I return:

Gen. Correspondence 7/1/44 -- 6/30/45

Pl-4(8)/NT1-32
Pl-4(8)/NT1-32, 11-17-44
~~Rxxxx(8)XNF~~
NT1-32/L11-1
A 18 (H.R.5101)

Gen. Corres. 7/1/45 -- 6/30/46

L11-15 (Clark, Etta)
QB (565)/A9
NT1-32/L11-1
A4-2/NT1-32
NT1-32/P8-5
P8-1(3)/NB(245)
Pl-4(8)/NB(245)

PHOTOGRAPHS (18th floor) Many photos listed under 239063-239131 and 243056-243078. Glossy prints: \$4 each.

NOTE: Ships that exploded were: SS Quinalt Victory and SS E.A. Bryan
Could not locate any films, but got some leads (see attachment)

Ships

Mr Carl Carlson

Naval Photographic Center

202 433-2116

may have film on
Pont Chicago

Stock

Mr. Bernard Chertok (Paramount-Pathe) ✓
Sherman Grinberg Film Libraries, Inc.
630 Ninth Avenue
New York, New York 10036
212 765-5170

Mr. Jack Muth
Movietone News, Inc. ✓
1345 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019

John E. Allen, Inc. (Kinograms)
116 North Avenue
Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656
201 391-3299

Ms. Carmen Pugliese
Time-Life, Inc.
43 West 16th Street
New York, New York 10020
212 556-4770

Coutage Library

Mr. Ted Troll ✓
MGH-Hearst Metrotone News, Inc.
235 East 45th Street
New York, New York 10017
212 682-7690

Library Manager
Visnews Limited
Cumberland Avenue
London NW107EH
England

Alain De Chambure
Chef du Service Audio-Visuel
Société Nouvelle des Etablissements
Gaumont
30, Avenue Charles de Gaulle
92200 Neuilly
Paris, France

Stock footage Libraries

Mr. Bernard Chertok (Paramount-Pathe) ✓
Sherman Grinberg Film Libraries, Inc.
630 Ninth Avenue
New York, New York 10036
212 765-5170

Mr. Ted Troll ✓
MGH-Hearst Metrotone News, Inc.
235 East 45th Street
New York, New York 10017
212 682-7690

Mr. Jack Muth ✓
Movietone News, Inc.
1345 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019

Library Manager
Visnews Limited
Cumberland Avenue
London NW107EH
England

John E. Allen, Inc. (Kinograms)
116 North Avenue
Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656
201 391-3299

Alain De Chambure
Chef du Service Audio-Visuel
Société Nouvelle des Etablissements
Gaumont
30, Avenue Charles de Gaulle
92200 Neuilly
Paris, France

Ms. Carmen Pugliese
Time-Life, Inc.
43 West 16th Street
New York, New York 10020
212 556-4770

Mr Carl Carlson
Naval Photographic Center
202 433-2116
may have film on
Point Chicago

1. Was told by Kudo that San Jose State library had obtained a copy of court martial transcript in 1968. Should try to get access to their copy. Otherwise can send Kudo check for \$142.60 to have another copy made.

Telephoned Bernice Redford at SJS library (408 277-3373). She could not locate copy, but said would check further.

She did - could not locate; not even in card files

2. Called Fed. Records Ctr, San Bruno (876-9001). Spoke with Jim Otsuki who said they have gen. correspondence of 12th Naval District there, but this district now merged with 11th and I must contact them for permission and file codes. Said I should write to Commandant, 11th Naval District, San Diego, CA 92132.

Note: occurs to me that ^{mention} ~~implication~~ of ~~probabilities~~ ~~may~~ in 8/12/44 letter may be related to Crankley's suggestion that northern men were the leaders of the "conspiracy" during trial. Must get copy of letter

Check history of the two shops that exploded

Ask Kudo for Schonfeld's full name, address

5/15/77 NOTE: When in Washington this summer I should try to get access to the Disaster Studies materials. Write to:

Dr. Charles Fritz
National Research Council
National Academy of Sciences
Washington, DC

5/16/77 Telephoned Kudo at JAG in DC. Requested copy of Pt. Chicago transcript. He said make out check for 142.60 to Treasury of the U.S., and mail to Office of the JAG, Code 20, Dept. of Navy, Wash. DC 20370. (I did this on 5/17)

I also asked for name of TV outfit that was interest in Pt. Chicago.

They are: Maurice W. Schonfeld, Managing Director
Independent Television News Association
Satellite News Service
220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

I should follow up to see what there interest is. They may also be allies if I have to file suit to get the deleted materials which were to be withheld from Schonfeld.

I asked Kudo about getting citations for the deleted materials so I could request them. He said I should simply request access to the deleted interoffice memos in the Port Chicago file.

Note: Kudo will be in SF on vacation from 7/5 til 7/17.

5/17/77 -- Wrote letters to Commandant, 11th Naval District in San Diego requesting access to gen. correspondence files of 12th naval district at Fed. Rec. Ctr in San Bruno.

Wrote letter to JAG, Code 21 (Investigations unit) in DC requesting access to Pt. Chicago explosion investigation rpt,

*(received favorable responses. See
6/22 correspondence file)*

Port Chicago -- Initial Research contacts

3/30/77: I telephoned National Archives, Washington, D.C. Was referred to Sandy Smith and William Heimdahl, Vvy Navy Archivists, Navy and Old Army Branch (202 523-3229). Spoke to Heimdahl who said he would research records and call me back.

4/1/77: Call from Heimdahl with report as follows:

Some references to Ft. Chicago in general correspondence of Secretary of Navy and Bureau of Naval Personnel, At National Archives, Naval Archives.

Court of Inquiry Records are at Central Records, Navy's Judge Advocate. Contact: Mr. Johnson, 202 OX 4 - 5368.

Some material on Port Chicago at Naval History Division, Operational Archives Branch. Contact: Bernard Cavalcante, 202 433-3170.

Also check Naval Library, 202 433-4131 84 or 4122
They may have a history of the Port Chicago Naval magazine.

Bureau of Ordnance history book, 2 vols. SELECTED AMMUNITION DEPOTS
Check Entry 127 in GUIDE TO U.S. NAVAL ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF WWII

Check WWII correspondence of Bureau of Ordnance under File Symbol NT 4-56 (Port Chicago file symbol). Files located at General Archives Division, Federal Record Center, Suitland, Maryland 301 763-7410. (there is a shuttle bus from Natl. Archives in D.C.)

Also some discussion of Ft. Chicago in War Shipping Administration Records, Record Group 248, industrial and Social Branch of (Nat?) Archives. 523-3119

Official Histories cited by Heimdahl as useful:

Buford Rowland & William B. Boyd, US NAVY, BUREAU OF ORDNANCE IN WWII, published by Ordnance Dept. of U.S. Navy.

BUILDING THE NAVY'S BASES IN WWII: HISTORY OF THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS AND THE CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS, 1940-1946, by Bureau of Yards and Docks, U.S. Govt. Printing Office, 1947.

Bureau of Yards and Docks Archives are located at:

Command Historian
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Historical Office CODE 19
U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center
Port Hueneme, Calif. 93041

Contact: Mr. Transano, historian
Julie Streets, Archivist
805 982-5146

Heimdahl thinks they may have info. on Ft. Chicago Naval Magazine

Pt. Chicago 2/2/2/2

Heimdahl said he would check office files of Frank Knox and Forrestal for any Pt. Chicago material, but doubted any would be there. Will call back next week if he finds anything.

Address for Heimdahl: ..

William Heimdahl
Navy and Old Army Branch
National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20408

Heimdahl said he would send me a brochure on how to make use of the Archives.

Heimdahl also said something about Court martial trial records being in Record Group 125, Navy's Judge Advocate General, General Archives Division, Suitland, Md.

4/6/77: I called Mr. Johnson at Navy's Judge Advocate General re trial transcript. He referred me to:

Mr. Clifford Kudo
Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy Dept.
Washington, D.C. 20370

202 694-4906 or 7

Kudo has in his office the transcript consisting of about 1,700 pages and entitled "Case of Julius J. Allen, Seaman 2nd Class, U.S.N.R., et. al."

Will hold for me to review in May. Said I can have a copy made for about \$150.00. Said a television person had contacted him about the case is and may have a copy of transcript made (Find out who this is, what their interest is).

1. Called Clifford Kudo. Made appt to see Court martial transcript on Tuesday, 5/10, 9:30 am. He is located in Navy Annex (nr Pentagon). Room 2518 (xx 2nd floor, 5th wing) on the Columbia Pike. He suggested I take Eastern airlines shuttle flight (leaves every hour) from LaGuardia to National. His phone is 202 694-4906. Said personal check okay for ordering copy of xscript.

2. Called Bill Heimdahl at Natl Archives. Made appt. to see him afternoon of 5/10. Archives located on Pennsylvania Ave., betw. 7th and 9th Sts. His phone 523-3229. Said he would send some material on using the Archives.

3. Called U.S. Supreme Court. Spoke with Justice Marshall's secy, Miss. McHail (?). Phone 202 393-1640. She said Marshall not granting interviews, but she also suggested I write him a note explaining my work and requesting interview. Send to Mr. Justice Thurgood Marshall, U.S. Supreme Court, Washington, DC 20543.

4. Called Julie Streets, Archivist, at Port Hueneme, Calif. (Bureau of Yards and Docks Archives). She said they have materials on Pt. Chicago. Will look them up and get back to me in a few weeks (She also mentioned that another researcher was seeking these materials a couple of years ago.) They are located near Santa Barbara.

5. Miscellaneous notes: 3/18/77 -- called Al Compaglia, Public Affairs Officer at ~~Concord~~ Concord Naval Weapons Station. (Phone 671-2511). He said all they have is a scrapbook on the Pt. C. disaster. Referred me to the National Archives. Said I could come up and look at the scrap book.

3/4/77 -- Made brief trip to Pt. Chicago for look-see. Town no longer exists. Facility has been incorporated into Concord Naval Weapons Station. Tried to see public ~~affairs~~ affairs officer but he was busy. Trip is 50 miles one-way from S.F. (at ~~15¢~~ 15¢ per mile plus 50¢ toll that comes to \$15.50 expenses) A secretary there suggested I check out local newspapers for accounts, including: Concord Transcript; Pittsburgh Post-Dispatch; Antioch Ledger.

4/77 -- talked with Lenny Schatzman, UCSF. He suggested I check out lawsuits resulting from the explosion. For comparative perspective look at other mutiny situations, and coal mine disasters. From theoretical perspective he suggested I consider risk factor in terms of deterrence (prevention); mitigation of effects; emergency plans/actions; responsibility/accountability.

REFERENCES for comparative materials on strikes:

E.T. Hiller, THE STRIKE: A STUDY IN COLLECTIVE ACTION
Univ. of Chicago, 1928

Alvin Gouldner, Wildcat Strike.

Early
Notes

5/10/77

Visited Mr. Kudo at Naval Annex in Washington. Reviewed copy of mutiny trial transcript which included:

1. Some material that was "deleted"; I was not allowed to study this although was inadvertently shown it and scanned it briefly. A note on the cover sheet of this material said something about not showing it to someone named Schonfeld (a journalist or TV person, I think). About 50 pages of material, among it a letter or memo from N.H. Goss, Commanding Officer, dated 13 August 1944 -- contains references to racial aspects of the case including references to the "mentality" of the Negro seamen; a letter or memo dated 12 August 1944 (perhaps also from Goss, but not sure) -- referred to having received complaints from the men, described some of them as "troublemakers", possibly influenced by "propaganda"; a "Memo For (to) the President" -- a one-page document, only saw the title.

These materials were removed from the file in my presence. I was not allowed to study them or take notes from them. I asked to do so; Kudo referred the matter to his superior, who refused me permission. Not knowing the legal standing of this material I did not press the matter further.

Upon reflection it would seem important to get access to this material since it reveals something about Navy officials' thinking in the weeks before the court-martial. Three approaches seems possible: Write a letter to the JAG, Navy Dept, D.C. 20370 requesting access to these deleted materials (this course suggested by Kudo); seek informal access to the material; try to locate the material elsewhere. I think I should try the latter first, since at this point I don't want to alienate the JAG office by raising a stink. But if all else fails I should probably file suit under Freedom of Info Act.

2. An appeals brief filed by Thurgood Marshall. Mentions that this the largest court-martial in Navy history; first mutiny trial in USN during WWII. Mentions great press and magazine coverage, creating impression of mutinous Negroes. Attacked references in ~~xxxx~~ trial transcript to hearsay reports of meetings held by the defendants to plan what to do (~~xxxx~~ after explosion); statements about need to "stick together"; statement abt "having the officers by the balls" and "don't work for the white mother fuckers."

3. Transcript of mtg between Marshall and Rear Admiral F.L. Lowe, Asst. JAG, 4/3/45.

4. Summary of testimony in trial -- including reference to racing men in loading ammunition.

5. Full transcript of the court-martial (declassified 3/8/72)

6. Verdict in trial (men to be confined at Terminal Island (San Pedro), Calif.

7. Cards listing name, address, birthplace, service record of each defendant.

MISSING from these files are:

1. Material on final disposition of the case (Sentences were set aside in 1/46)

2. Pretrial statements made by defendants.

5/10/77 2/2/2/2

Kudo gave me a list of the 50 defendants, to which I added their home addresses and places of birth.
(Note: Ku Clifford Kudo's home address is on Connecticut Ave., if I need to reach him)

Asked about obtaining Navy's investigation of the explosion. Was referred next door to investigations office. Was told there that I could see it under Freedom of Info Act. Must write letter to Office of JAG, Code 21, Navy Dept., DC 20370. Indicate purpose of my research, that confidentiality will be protected, when I plan to visit their office. Write at least two week ahead of visit. This info provided by a Commander Buehler (?)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES visit.

Met with Heimdahl. Obtained reseracher id. card,

Heimdahl said they have correspondence of the Bureau of Yards and Docks thru 1944; also unclassified correspondence of the Secy of Navy. Said Fed. Record Ctr at Suitland has general correspondence of Bureau of Ordinance.

H. advised that gen. correspondence of 12th Naval District may be at Fed. Records Ctr, 1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno (876-9001) Suggested I also chekc with Commandant of 12th Naval District re these and other records.

Also referred me to Operational Archives, U.S. Naval History Division, Bldg 210, 4th Floor, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374 (202) 433-3170 Contacts: Geraldine Judkins, Bernard Cavalcante. They have classified correspondence.

I reviewed some general correspondences indexes and located the following which must see when I return:

Gen. Correspondence 7/1/44 -- 6/30/45

Pl-4(8)/NT1-32
Pl-4(8)/NT1-32, 11-17-44
~~Pl-4(8)/NT~~
NT1-32/L11-1
A 18 (H.R.5101)

Gen. Corres. 7/1/45 -- 6/30/46

L11-15 (Clark, Etta)
QB (565)/A9
NT1-32/L11-1
A4-2/NT1-32
NT1-32/P8-5
P8-1(3)/NB(245)
Pl-4(8)/NB(245)

PHOTOGRAPHS (18th floor) Many photos listed under 239063-239131 and 243056-243078. Glossy prints: \$4 each.

NOTE: Ships that exploded were: SS Quinalt Victory and SS E.A. Bryan
Could not locate any films, but got some leads (see attachment)

5/12/77

1. Was told by Kudo that San Jose State library had obtained a copy of court martial transcript in 1968. Should try to get access to their copy. Otherwise can send Kudo check for \$142.60 to have another copy made.

Telephoned Bernice Redford at SJS library (408 277-3373). She could not locate copy, but said would check further.

2. Called Fed. Records Ctr, San Bruno (876-9001). Spoke with Jim Otsuki who said they have gen. correspondence of 12th Naval District there, but this district now merged with 11th and I must contact them for permission and file codes. Said I should write to Commandant, 11th Naval District, San Diego, CA 92132.

Note: occurs to me that ^{mention} ~~mention~~ of troubleshooters ~~in~~ in 8/12/44 letter may be related to Conahy's suggestion that northern navy were the leaders of the "conspiracy" during trial. Must get copy of letter

Check history of two ships that exploded

5/15/77 NOTE: When in Washington this summer I should try to get access to the Disaster Studies materials. Write to:

Dr. Charles Fritz
National Research Council
National Academy of Sciences
Washington, DC

5/16/77 Telephoned Kudo at JAG in DC. Requested copy of Pt. Chicago transcript. He said make out check for 142.60 to Treasury of the U.S., and mail to Office of the JAG, Code 20, Dept. of Navy, Wash. DC 20370. (I did this on 5/17)

I also asked for name of TV outfit that was interest in Pt. Chicago. They are:

Maurice W. Schonfeld, Managing Director
Independent Television News Association
Satellite News Service
220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

I should follow up to see what there interest is. They may also be allies if I have to file suit to get the deleted materials which were to be withheld from Schonfeld.

I asked Kudo about getting citations for the deleted materials so I could request them. He said I should simply request access to the deleted interoffice memos in the Port Chicago file.

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Wrote letter to JAG, Code 21 (Investigations unit) in DC requesting access to Pt. Chicago explosion investigation rpt,

June 7, 1977

Telephone call from Julie Streets, Archivist at Port Hueneme.

Said she had found one folder of materials on the Pt. Chicago explosion, and that there were boxes of related materials but she had not had time to review these. Has installation cards giving history of each building at naval facilities.

Also has a box of still photos of Pt. Chicago and explosion.

Said that a journalistic account ~~of~~ of "mutiny" at Port Chicago was published in 1964: NO SHARE OF GLORY, by Robert E. Pearson (Challenge, Inc., Box 812, Pacific Palisades, Calif.) 1964, 156pp.

Said that I can arrange for a visit in the Fall to examine materials.

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6/13 Call from Kudo to say that copy of final xscript would be finished abt 6/15 and he would mail it to me

6/16 Kudo called. said he's mailing copy of the xscript today.

6/20 Called. phone info for challenge publishers or Robert E. Pearson in Pacific Palisades. No listing (unable to find his book in any local libraries)

Called Julie Streets - she will make me a copy of the Pearson book

P.M. Trial transcript arrived from Washington

6/22 called Jim Strick at Fort Belvoir, San Bruno. He will survey 12 naval district AEs to see what is there. I am to call back early next week

June 28, 1977 -- Called Otsuki at Fed. Rec Ctr, San Bruno to arrange for a visit. He told me he had received a call from the Commandant's Office, 11th Naval District, reneging on permission to review the files I want to see. After some questioning by me it came out that after receiving a copy of the letter I'd gotten from the 11th Naval District Commandant Otsuki had written them a note asking if this constituted official authorization for me to see the files, was I to have access to all files, was I to be allowed to make copies of files? (and perhaps other questions of this nature). I think this note by Otsuki precipitated the decision to deny me permission until my request is approved by higher authority (Otsuki said he thought this was the import of their denial). Otsuki said they informed him they would write me a letter about the matter.

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July 11 -- Sent letter to Thurgood Marshall requesting interview (see reply - negative)

(426-5387) Aug 2: Arrived Wash, D.C. Telephoned Library of Congress. Advised that NAACP files are in Manuscript Division, Thomas Jefferson Annex, 3rd flr, RM 3005. Told that Dr. Sylvia Rarden is specialist on black American materials

(Aug 1: telephoned Commander Pope, Navy Annex. Made appt to see investigation materials on Aug 3)

Aug 3: 9:30 am Navy Annex, Cmdr Pope gave me the only copy of Proceedings of Court of Inquiry into Ft Chicago Explosion. Vol I is missing. Pope said he tried to locate it in other files. He mentioned that it was the last Vol I was missing since he understood that volume contained info on racial overtones of incident.

Aug. 4: Made arrangements with CDR Pope to gain custody of one set of carbons of several vols of investigation report and photocopies of remaining vols. Still unable to locate Vol I altho CDR Alec Butler is following up possible leads. Talked with Frank Johnson, chief clerk, re Vol I

Re locating survivors: referred to Mrs. Calvert (694-2117) in casualties office

Made copy of discipline section of 1944 Bluejackets' manual. Got access to "deleted" portion of trial transcript file.

(Over)

(10)

Called Dr. Sylvia Renda's office (426-5383)
at Lib. Congress. made appt to see
her at 9 a.m. tomorrow. Room 3084
Thomas Jefferson. [unclear]

Met Sylvia Renda, Manuscript Historian,
Specialist in Afro-Am. History & Culture.
She suggested that in addition to NAACP files I
also check Union League files, National Union Catalog
(incl. personal papers, Naval Historical Foundation records
equiv. Div) for personal papers of naval officers and naval
equivalent of Army War College records.
She advised that Roosevelt papers are at Pres. Library,
Hyde Park, N.Y.

I checked NAACP files in manuscript collection and
found some very important documents which I copied &
placed in folder marked "NAACP-LC"

Aug 9: reviewed more material in NAACP Gen office
File 1940-55, at Lib. Cong.

Found no relevant listings in Naval Historical
Foundation Finder's guide.

Called Geraldine Judkins at Washington Navy Yard
for permission to review documents there and ask
Sara Bruno Fed Rec Ctr. Sel she would check &
that I should call back tomorrow before 9 a.m.
She also said Navy Library is located there at
Navy Yard

Dr. Sylvia Renda telephoned N.U.C. and obtained
permission for me to see Lester Granger papers

(11)

Aug 10: Morning - Worked at L.C. MSS. Div. Found important docs. in Nat. Urban League, Lester B. Granger papers. ~~Found~~
Assisted by Ruth Nicholson, Librarian

Afternoon - Visited Operational Archives, U.S. Navy History Division, Washington Navy Yard. Researched War Diaries and press releases related to P.C. Assisted by Carmelina Judkins, Bernard Cavalcante and Nina Statton.

Aug 11: Worked at Operational Archives morning
Afternoon: visited Navy Dept. Library - Reviewed Administrative History, 12th Naval District 1939-45. (3 vols + Appendix). Requested copy of section on NAP, vol III.

Visited office of Director of Naval History. Spoke with Capt. Law (433-2210). Explained my problem with getting access to 12th N.D. files at San Bruno. He said he would take it up and give me an answer on 8/16.

Called Dr. Wyden (426-5382) political specialist at L.C. was told that Forrestal papers are at Firestone Library, Princeton University.

Aug 12 : Reviewed Claims Investigation Record.

Having copy of summary made. Excellent photos
Went to Mrs. Calvert who gave me some info on locating men. Ultimately went to a Mr. E. Halsam (694-1516). Gave him names of men + service nos. I'm to call him on Tuesday

* Aug 16 Operational Archives: met with Dr. Deon C. Allard, head, Operational Archives Branch, Naval Hist Division, who advised that by completing DD form 1584 I could obtain clearance to review files of 12th N.D. at San Bruno. This I did. He also referred me to diaries of Forrestal. I reviewed diaries for 1944-45, found nothing. Requested copies of certain press releases and materials from P.C. War diary

(12)

Allard said I should contact Morris MacEgon (Forrestal Hq, OX 3-5375) who is doing a project on JKS in military since 1941, and knows something abt Port Chicago.

Called Alec Buhler who referred me to John Bengin (493-9150) who is retired from Bureau, and who knows something abt P.C. inv. He is said to think a copy of Vol. 2 is at Army Library in Kenton.

Called Frank Johnson, chief clerk at Navy Annex (694-5368). He could find nothing on Vallejo riot of 4/43. Said he would need name of man killed to locate report.

Went to Navy Dept. Library. Made copies of Bureau "Training Activity" section on Great Lakes and Bureau "Selected Ammunition Depots" section on Port Chicago.

Aug 17 Telephoned John Bengin (U.S. Army-retired) who referred me to (1) Library of Congress (2) Army Ordnance Library, DOD, Pentagon (3) Naval Sea Systems, Office of Explosives Safety, Herb Raylance (4) Chief of Naval Operations Office (OP 04), John Connolly. Thought one of them would have copy of P.C. inv. rpt.

Telephoned L.C. Law Library and gen. collection. Nothing on P.C.

Telephoned Bill Heimdahl at Archives who referred me to Fed. Rec. Ctr., Suitland and George Chalou (763-7410) re. record guy 125 (JAG materials).

(13)

Telephoned Mr. F. Haslam (202 694-1516) at Navy Annex who said I was in luck - that he was forwarding my list of names (47?) to St. Louis, Naval Personnel Records CTR, to get addresses. Should take a couple of weeks. They would then address and mail a letter which I would supply requesting interviews with the men.

Call Morris MacGregor's office (202 0X3-5375)
He's on leave until 8/29

Called Thurgood Marshall's office. He's out of country until 9/15 Secy: Miss Porter

Called Charles Fritz office (202 EX 3-8100) National Academy of Sciences. He's on vacation until 9/6. Asst. Secy Miss Johnson knew nothing about the 13,000 Navy post cards on disaster materials. She's sending me a list of their pub.

Telephoned George Chalon at Suitland. Said that Rec. Gp 125 only went thru 1943, but would check further if I can get him the document # in Ct. of Ing. Also suggested I check Navy Library & Op. Archives and Secy of Navy files.

Call Navy Library (433-4131). Nothing there

Called Op. Archives. Mrs. Jenkins will check their files

Navy Annex: Got summary of claims investigation & photocopied some photos

Called Navy Library, Crane, Indiana (482-1615) Lois Jeffers said she would check file & call back to Bohlen's office. Couldn't reach safety office

Mr. McDonald at Crane (482-1625)

Called Casey Jones (202 692-2080) NAVSEA out of office, call back

① Call back Bulter on Friday
Checked DOD directory re Bergin's/lands;
Lib. Documentation Div. Lucille Hebever, head
NAVSEA system 692-3344

Explosives Safety office 692-2082
W. Roos

Arms. mgmt Division

Capt Klamon 692-3618
Navy privy acct coordinator

Lt. Dalton Navy safety ctr

690-3520
Norfolk, Va.

Aug 18 Called Exy. Safety office (692-2082). spoke
with Peggy Barnes who said she'd try to locate
Inv. rpt. call back later (did - no copy there)

Called Garry Judkins. she said her files on inv simply
referred to JAG Aler. But she did find some doc.
Numbers: 141604; 146172; 149160 oct-Dec 1944

file symbol A17-24/NT1-32

said she'd have my copies tomorrow & that I should
stop in to see Dr. Allard.

Talked to George Chelov (763-7410) at Suitland. He unable
to ~~provide~~ help; said they don't have lots of info after
1943.

National Archives: found some important documents
in the Forrestal files. (See Nat. Archives folder)

Aug 19

Operational Archives - Dr Alland said he had called Otsuki at F.R.C. son Bruce said was having meeting I wanted reviewed for declassification. said he would note me when I could see them. following file symbols: given Otsuki

et. of Ing. A17-24/NT1-32 (= Post Chicago symbol

CCM symbol A17-20

Review process symbol A17-19

Alland said he had received an inquiry re 12 N.D. materials from Charles Wollensburg, Hitting Dept

Library College. He said there is a prof. at S.I.S.U. who has also inquired abt. P.C. et. of Ing.

Mrs. Tuckman gave me copies of press releases & was doing entries I requested

Called Alton Butler. said nothing had come there.

Lois Jeffers at crane said Mary had nothing

Library of Congress, periodicals room

People's Daily World (S.F.) had extended coverage

(Report: Mary Lindson). Front page stories (and other

pages as noted) in following issues

9/16/44 p.4 (also mentions explosion at Hushings WAD race

9/17, 9/20, 9/21, 9/22, 9/22, 9/22, 9/27, 9/29, 9/30

10/2, 10/3, 10/4, 10/5, 10/6, 10/9, 10/10 (Marshall present)

10/11, 10/12, 10/13, 10/17, 10/18 (also p.3), 10/19 (Marshall present)

10/20, 10/23, 10/27, 10/25, 10/27 (Cooking Brothers in - can't

10/28 p.3 (mentions spread-ups mts) D&Vucci)

(16) MN

In future I should identify likely dates to search for reports / editorials in newspapers & magazines. (e.g. date NAACP announced appeal and called for letter writing campaign)

(note: Alec Butler suggested I visit Morgan Library in NYC where his father, Kurt Butler, is curator of rare books)

Afternoon — At union station about to board train. Finally reached Joe Cohen (NAVsup (202) 95-5804) an atty who had been working with Butler in the search for Vol I. Cohen said he'd been advised there might be a copy at CODE 5164 JAG repository at The Pentagon (rm 5D833). Said I should call Alec Monday re. getting a contact at this repository.

8/22 called Alec Butler, Marie Brown, NAACP LDF re info.

8/23 called Alec Butler. secy said Army JAG does not have copy of ch. of Ing. rpt. Butler had checked. strike out!

8/24 called Donna Bleckner, Librarian at NAACP LDF. said she was going to Rein warehouse to locate materials I'm seeking. she said it might take several days to get materials delivered to her office, and that I should call back to check (212 586-8397). Visited Marie Brown at Doubleday to discuss P.C. book project.

8/30 Visited Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park, N.Y. Roy Gesselbracht archivist assisted me. Located some important materials in President's Secretary File (PSF) and Eleanor Roosevelt collection. I arranged to have copies made and mailed to me.

(17)

Glockner

8/31 Called Donna Glockner at NAACP LDF. She said materials I seek still not available, but she expects them to be sent up today. Said I should call back and arrange to come to her office tomorrow.

9/1 Visited NAACP office (1790 B'way) obtained copy of Jan 1945 Crisis editorial on P.C.

NAACP LDF office (10 Columbus circle) - Reviewed 3 boxes of old files (Can't martial cases, closed; Army Discharge cases; J.S. materials - veterans). Could find nothing on P.C. Most materials (99%) dated in the 50s. Only one case from 1945.

This suggests that WWII stuff must be filed in another box. I suggested this to Donna Glockner. She asked that I send her more specific details on the case, and said she would try to find it by the time I return in the fall.

(Donna G. home # ⁶⁰⁹201 ⁴⁴³297-0929) 1527

9/3 Back in S.F. Received letter from Dr. Allard (Navy History) indicating that materials at San Bruno FRC are being declassified and that a copy of the missing Vol I is there (!)

Received material requested from Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park. Placed in Roosevelt folder.

9/6 Visited FRC at San Bruno. Otuki retrieved Vol I of it of the inv, and I requested a copy. Also had some exhibits from claims point copied. Asked Otuki to send for press releases and disciplinary records re Vallejo riot, record of summary court martial of 208 men; statements taken from 41 defendants; press releases concerning P.C. GCM. Suggested file symbols under which to search (from Navy guide book); hope I fashioned a good net!

7/8 MN: Copy of R.C. claims inquiry
located at RRC San Bruno has names
and addresses of all claimants (over 9,000).
Could use this as means of locating
possible interviewees

9/9 wrote letter of thanks to Dr. Allard and
requested permission to correspond with survivors
listed in claimants inv.

9/10 wrote letter to Donna Gloeckner, NAACP LDF,
giving more specifications concerning materials I
am seeking.
Letters of thanks to Sylvia Kender, Lib. Congress;
William Heidahl, Nat. Archives; Edw. Poye and Buhler,
NAVY JAG; Clifford Kudo, NAVY JAG.

9/12 call from Otsuki indicating that photocopy of Vol 1
is ready for me. Said he had not had chance to search
for other materials. Said he would need names of
208 men given summary court-martials in order to find
their records.

Called Ed Haslam at ^{work} Hurlers (202 694-1516). He on
leave for 2 weeks but I spoke with Sharon Cross who said
they had received addresses for some of the 208 men.
She said I should ^{send} letters to be forwarded to:

Chief of Naval Personnel, Dept. of the Navy,
Wash, D.C. 20370 ATtn: PERS-38c, RM 4076

visited RRC San Bruno to get copy of Vol 1. Gave
Otsuki 15 names of the 208 men for initial search

9/13 called Julie Street but she is out of office until
next Monday
talked to Otsuki about need to get muster
lists and service numbers

Drafted a letter to be sent by Navy to "out-mains".
(see correspondence file)

9/15 Had closer and stopbo review draft letter of solicitation for interviews (in correspondence file)

9/16 Had copies of letter made, and modified response form. Bought 50 stamped envelopes.

9/19 Sent packet of 50 letters/forms/return envelopes to Ed. Harlan, Navy Personnel, with covering letter.

Called Julie Street (805 982-5146) at Port Hueneme. to make tentative plans for a visit next week to review materials. (2 phone calls)

9/20 Called Julie Street, confirmed visit for 9/28

9/21 Spoke with Otsuki who said he's found some more materials for me to review. Made apppt for 9/26.

Prepared draft of protocol on P.C. study for submission to U.C. Human Subjects Committee

9/23 called Julie Street to change mtg to 9/29 because of VC class on 9/28

9/26 Finalized U.C. Protocol for P.C. study
visited FRC San Bruno. Otsuki unable to find any records of summary C.M. for 15 names I gave him. He also said personnel files were destroyed

Reviewed A7-ND12 press release file. 1943- nothing on P.C. or Vallejo

1944

7/19 Kinne praises men (copy made)
7/25 case of civilians killed at P.C. to be considered by Naval Ct. of Inq
7/26 announcement of memorial service for those killed (also 7/24) to be held Sunday 7/30
8/4 announcement that Navy acquiring 5, 430 acres for expansion of P.C.
9/20 release discounting rumors that Navy turning over entire community of P.C.

Placed in folder
marked P.C.
Son Ruins

8/20 & 8/16 announcements re damage
claims being paid

10/27 list of names and addresses of men
given heroic conduct awards at P.C.
(copy made)

11/18 announcement of sentence in P.C. GCM
(copy made)

10/27 release on expansion plans at P.C. (copy made)

Otsuki mentioned that a Dr. Peter Bazanski
at San Jose State (History Dept) is also
researching P.C.

9/29/77: Visit to Command Historian's Office (Julie Streets),
Naval Construction Battallion Center, Port Hueneme, CA

1. Learned that Robert Pearson, author of NO SHARE OF GLORY, died in Vietnam of disease. He previously lived in L.A. with wife and children.
2. Reviewed large photo file (several hundred) showing facilities at P.C. in 1944, 45, 46, 47. including inland storage area, barricaded sidings, lunch room, recreation bldg., quarters, roads and railways, piers, damage. Requested copies of about 30 of these.

Reviewed a file folder of general P.C. materials (requested copy of most of the file): file contained:

- * 3. Letter indicating that an investigation (congressional?) was conducted by Meade Committee in late 1944 or early 1945.
4. Newspaper article (UPI in Press-Courier (Ventura?) 4/30/67) abt Navy seeking to buy whole town of P.C. for \$20 million. * article also mentioned that Robert Dollar was from Jonesborough, Arkansas. L.A. Times, West magazine article (8/18/68) indicating P.C. being bought by Navy. Final irony of P.C. is that exp. in 1944 caused new regulations to be passed, one of which was that N.A.D. should not be located less than 2 miles from residential areas. However, P.C. itself had to be exempted from these regs for many subsequent years due to closeness of town. Choice was to move P.C. N.A.D. or to move town; Navy decided to buy town and raze it. Hence, in effect town was finally destroyed by the exp. (over) →
- * 5. Letter indicating Red Cross was involved in disaster relief.
6. N.Y. Times article on P.C.D.
- * 7. Report of House Armed Services Subcommittee hearings at P.C. in August, ~~1945~~ 1955. Melvin Price, Chmn. *Port Hueneme file*
Copies of these materials will be in folder marked
8. Saw large set of file cards on each bldg at P.C. showing when constructed, cost, function, description, etc. J. Streets said she could get additional info on Naval acquisition of P.C. and send it to me.
9. Saw reference book: BLACK DEFENDERS OF AMERICA, 1775-1973 pictorial history by Robert E. Greene, Johnson Pub. Co., 1974.
10. Following Navy pubs. may run an announcement for me soliciting interviews: NAVY TIMES, c/o Army Times Pub. Co. 475 School St., S.W., Wash. DC 20024; ALL HANDS, Office of the Chief of Information, Room 2E329, Pentagon, Wash. DC 20350

* need to follow up

214

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Fort Belvoir, LA
Visit to Command Historian's Office (White Streets)

1. Learned that Robert Pearson, author of NO SHAVE OF GORY,
died in Vietnam of disease. He previously lived in L.A.
with wife and children.

2. Reviewed large photo file (several hundred) showing
facilities at I.C. in 1944, 45, 46, 47. Including inland
storage area, barbed-wire sidings, lunch room, recreation
bldg., quarters, roads and railways, etc., damage.
Requested copies of about 30 of these.

Reviewed a file folder of general I.C. materials (requested
copy of most of the file); file contained:

3. Letter indicating that an investigation (congressional?)
was conducted by Senate Committee in late 1944 or early 1945.

4. Newspaper article (UPI in Press-Courier (Ventura) 4/30/57)
and Navy seeking to buy whole town of P.C. for \$20 million.
Article also mentioned that Robert Hollar was from Jonesboro,
Arkansas. L.A. Times, West magazine article (8/18/68)
indicating P.C. being bought by Navy. Final irony of I.C.
is that exp. in 1944 caused new regulations to be passed,
one of which was that N.A.O. should not be located less than
2 miles from residential areas. However, P.C. itself had
to be exempted from these rules for many subsequent years.

Atty. Melvin Belli was retained by millionaire widow
Eunice Van Winkle (who owned 25% of P.C.) to fight
Navy takeover of the town. Hence, in effect town was lined

5. Letter indicating Red Cross was involved in disaster relief.

6. N.Y. Times article on P.C.O.

7. Report of House Armed Services Subcommittee hearings at
P.C. in August, 1952. Melvin Price, Chmn.

8. Saw large set of file cards on each bldg at I.C. showing
when constructed, cost, function, description, etc.
J. Streets said she could get additional info on Naval
acquisition of I.C. and send it to me.

9. Saw reference book: BLACK DEFENDERS OF AMERICA, 1975-1976
pictorial history by Robert E. Greene, Johnson Pub.
Co., 1974.

10. Following Navy bids may run an announcement for me
soliciting interviews: NAVY TIMES, c/o Army Times Pub. Co.,
475 School St., Wash. DC 20024; AIR HANDS, Office
of the Chief of Information, Room 2E32, Pentagon, Wash.
DC 20330

LOG

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9/30/77: Wrote up notes on trip to Port Hueneme.
Wrote letter of thanks to Julie Streets
Called information in New Brunswick, N.J. to
ask if they had a listing for JOSEPH R. SMALL. Learned
they had listing for: J.R. SMALL on Lewis St. (wouldn't
give me #), telephone 201 545-3199

Talked to Robert Hill (213 825-7623) who has moved the Garvey Papers
project to UCLA. Said he heard from St. Clair Drake that I was
working on P.C. study, invited me to come give a talk on it early
next year. Theme of symposium is popular movements in Afro-Am history.
Discuss P.C. in relation to myth of black patriotic participation
in WWII. He also suggested I should look into files of Office of
Naval Intelligence (ONI) at National Archives and Suitland (in
SECNAV's files?) for materials related to PC. Said he would write
me a letter about this and speaking gig.

10/3: Called Ed Haslam's office. Spoke with Ms. Cross who said
they had received letters packet I sent and were forwarding them this
week (expects all to be in mail by Wednesday). She said they have
45 addresses, some as recent as 60s and 70s.

Called Otsuki at FRC San Bruno. Asked him to pull A7-ND12 1942
files (press releases), as I had discovered on reading Goss' testimony
at ct. of inq. that Vallejo disturbance was in Xmas, 1942, rather
than April, 1943, as reported in Pearson book. Yet another error
in that book (NO SHARE OF GLORY. It also describes Ollie Green as
a Youngster when he was actually 37; and exaggerates amount of time
passed between the two explosions. Check these.)

Called Concord Red Cross chapter (687-3030). Was told they do not
keep records for more than 10 years, but they have a scrapbook
that may have some old clippings, etc.

10/5: Had excellent discussion of approaches to P.C. study
in Anselm Strauss' analysis class. Copy of notes filed in
Quals-Dissertation folder.

10/6: Call from Otsuki that he had located 1942 materials.
Made appt. for tomorrow.

Call from Virginia Olesento let me know informally that
my protocol had "sailed through" the human subjects committee
without trouble, and had stirred favorable interest.

10/7: Called Donne Gloeckner's office (NAACP LDF), left
message I would be in NYC on Oct. 17th.

Visited FRC San Bruno. Reviewed 1942 press releases.
Could find nothing on Vallego disturbance.

10/10: Called Kai Erikson's office (203 432-4951) at American Studies Program, Yale University. He not in.

Wrote to Verta Taylor, Disaster Research Center, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, requesting info on her study of Xenia tornado of 1974. (See Psychology Today, 10/77)

10/11: Called NAACP LDF. Was told that Donna Gloeckner was on vacation until 10/17. Called Gloeckner at home. (609 443-1527). Advised her of my plan to visit NYC. She said she had found some additional materials and would search for more. Suggested I call her Monday at 1 p.m., and plan to come into office.

Still unable to reach Kai Erikson. Wrote him a letter requesting appt. on 10/21 or 22.

Finally reached Kai Erikson (203 432-4951). Explained what I wanted (see letter). He said I should call on Monday to confirm the appt.

10/12: Great News! Received first response (positive) from one of the 50 defendants, Cyril Sheppard, 158 W. 132 St. NYC 212-AU6-3518.

Also got official approval letter from U.C. Human Subjects Committee. Must revise consent form.

10/13: Called Sheppard home this morning. He not in.

Drafted interview schedule of 36 items for Sheppard interview.

Revised consent form as requested by Dr. Goldberg, Academic Senate, in his letter of October 6.

Telephoned Sheppard again. Spoke with him. He sounded friendly, interested. Made appt. for 3 p.m. next Thursday. Very exciting!

10/17: NYC: Telephoned Kai Erikson (203 432-4951) (24)
Confirmed appt. for Friday 4 p.m. at his office
1137 Trumbull College, Yale.
Visited Donna Gledhill at LDF. She still unable
to locate materials. Suggested that I meet her
at the warehouse (Whitehall Storage, 511 W. 25 St.)
Thursday morn at 9:30 a.m. to look over the
files they have stored there. (Met Butler Henderson
at LDF)

10/20: Met Donna Gledhill at warehouse. We went
through every LDF box stored there. Did not find very
much related to P.C. case, except following:

- 1 - A stack of copies of the appeal brief. I took one
- 2 - Monthly Reports for 1943, 44, 45. I ~~have~~ requested
custody of this file and have it.
- 3 - A file folder of Navy seaman cases for late 40s
+ early 50s. Donna gave me custody of this also.

Donna advised that Denton Watson at NAAACP national
office is working on biography of T. Marshall. I must
contact him for info.

Interviewed Cy Sheppard - on tape

10/21 NAAACP 245-2100 Denton Watson
spoke to his secy. Requested they send me biographical
info on T. Marshall.

Yale University: Met with Kai Erikson

1. E. agreed that I should approach study with no
fixed hypotheses, but rather with an open mind and
a historical-sociological eye. Point is to learn what this
experience meant to the men and to locate it in
larger social context. E. admonished me to forget
the difference between history + sociology.
2. E. offered to informally consult with me as
the work progresses; visit him when I come East

ROBERT CHRISMAN
Publisher

ROBERT L. ALLEN
Editor

GLORY BEVIEN
Business Manager

Note: Erikson is from Calif., returns to Bay studying under Anselm Strauss. He also studied under Virginia Aleson and was in S.F.

10/24: Mail in S.F.
25 Received letter from JAG (10/12/77) indicating that only limitation on me corresponding with persons listed in the book of I.A.U. but is that their home address cannot be disclosed without their consent. I interpret this to mean I may write to them but not publish their names/addresses without consent.
Received and approval from UC Human Research Committee (#930409-01, expires 10/17/78)
Received two more positive responses to my mailing to the SA "Anthem":
Jack P. Critchfield
4337 Sunnybrook Drive
Montgomery, Ala. 36108
(205) 288-0775

Jedius Dixon, Jr.
40 Reid Street
Charleston, S.C. 29403
723-1204

Personal mailing to 27 now whose addresses I culled from trial record, press releases, telephone directories. See survivors file for lists.
Copies of biography and photocopies of materials in files of Port Hueneme arrived by mail today.
Wrote another letter to Russell Marshall requesting interview. Sent letter of thanks & took to Cy Sheppard.

Research log

(26)

10/26: Talked with Myron Johnson (Morehouse Club) who told me he was in Navy in SF Bay Area in 1944 and remembers Port Chicago trial. He says he knows other people who were here at same time. Further said that Bob Johnson of JET magazine, was editor of a Navy newsletter at Treasure Island in 1944. (Note: Myron was trained at Great Lakes.)

10/27: Wrote letters to Julius Dixson and Jack Crittenden thanking them for their responses and saying I hoped to interview them within the next month or so.

Wrote letter to Nat. Endowment for Humanities requesting info on fellowships and grants.

11/1: Mailed letters of thanks to Kai Erikson and Donna Gloeckner

Listened to Cy Sheppard tape; prepared Annotated Index.

Learned that Edward Waldrop had called me collect at UCSF. I called him back (4531 Dix, N.E. Wash, DC 202 398-2840). He ~~said~~ seemed hesitant; said men agreed what to say and not say during trial, and this posed problems for him now. Said he would talk with me if others did. Asked specifically if I had heard from Joe Small or Willie Green. (I said no) I said 3 men had responded so far and agreed to interviews. He said for me to give him a call when I come East to arrange for an interview.

Four letter from my mailing of 27 returned as undeliverable, including Joe Small. I checked info for correct listing, is okay. I suppose I will have to telephone him.

Evening: Met with Myron Johnson on another matter, but also talked some abt his Navy experiences in 1944. He took a turn on Shore Patrol in Oakland. Said 7th Street was the main area for black nite life in Oakland. His landlady, Mrs. Dennis, was also in Oakland then. Must do full interview with Myron for background material/insights.

11/2: Wrote what I hope is a reassuring letter to Edward Waldrop, 4531 Dix, N.E., Wash., DC 202 398-2840).

Received letter from Sharon Cross (attached) reporting of status of first mailing (Bureau of Navy Personnel); including records missing, deceased, undeliverable categories.

Letter ~~from~~ to Herbert Havis (27 mailing) returned, addressee unknown.

Wrote letters of thanks to Julie Streets and Sharon Cross.

Wrote personal note of feelings abt work (See ~~AW correspondence~~ ^{See research memo} file for this date)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370

IN REPLY REFER TO

Pers-38c-sc
27 Oct 1977

Dear Mr. Allen:

The below listed is a status report on your request for addresses:

Could not locate a record on the following:

Julius J. Allen
Hayden R. Curd
Ernest J. Gaines
Richard W. Mill
William H. Locke
Howard McGee
Freddie Meeks
Fleetwood H. Postill
Charles S. Widemon

These gentlemen were deceased:

Mack Anderson
Douglas G. Anthony
Bennon Dees
Cecil Miller
Miller Matthews

The following has been returned to Pers-38c as undeliverable:

Herbert Harris
Theodore King
William E. Banks
Arnett Baugh

If/or we receive any more we will keep you posted.

Stanton Cross
Pers-38a

11/3: Telephoned Joseph. R. Small (201) 545-3199. Explained what I'm doing and that I sent him a letter which was returned. (To wrong city, as it turns out. His correct address is 449 Lewis St., Somers, NJ 08873) He seemed friendly, although he did not specifically agree to an interview. He asked me to send him the letter again (which I did, with a cover note). Happy Days!

Letters returned as undeliverable: Alphonso McPherson, John Haskins

Received unsigned note that Morris Berry is deceased.

11/4: Received note from Jack Crittenden ~~saying~~ confirming that I may plan to interview him, and requesting addresses of other men.

Undeliverable letters returned: Edward Saunders, Miller Mathews.

11/5: Undeliverable letters returned: Richard McTere, Charles, C Gray, John Dunn, Henry Grimes, William Banks.

11/7: Letter returned: William Anderson. "Deceased" notation on envelope.

Talked with Myron Johnson again. He sending me names of contacts for P.C. study. Myron also says there was a dance the night of the explosion and that many men were there from P.C.

11/8: Sent letters to NAVY TIMES and ALL HANDS (see addresses on p. 21 of research log) requesting they run announcements that I'm seeking to interview survivors and witnesses of P.C. explosion.

Earlier had phone call from Atty. James Herndon. Said he had recently met a black man who had been collecting info on blacks in the military; seemed to be very knowledgeable. Name is GUY LOONEY 922-8002

11/9/77: Note from Myron Johnson. Black minister (Morehouse man) in Pittsburgh, CA. Dr. James McCray, Jr., 3345 Crestview Drive, Pittsburgh 94365 432-7614 (work); 432-2875 (home)

Also Myron's old Navy partner who knew several of the PC guys who were killed and many others who are still around, inc. Harold Johnson and Bill Matthews. Arthur Dickerson, 3227 Telegraph Ave. #C, Oakland, CA. 654-2631 (home); 893-0100 (work)

11/11: Wrote two memos on approaches (See Research memo file)

11/13/77: Visited UC Berkeley Library, Newspaper Room (Annex 444). Made list of Calif., Black and other newspapers for which they have 1944 files. (See research memo file)

11/14: Prepared three-part research plan (Research memo file)

Received response from Joe Small agreeing to interview.

Undeliverable letter returned: Ernest Gaines

Wrote note to Julius Dixon informing him of delay in travel plans.

11/15: Agreed to hire Pam Allen as part-time research assistant, steno.

Reviewed Sheppard interview for properties to vary in theoretical sampling (notes attached to interview)

Drafted ad for local newspapers re PC study (in Research memo file)
Culled additional names and addresses from Court of Inquiry record. (See Survivors file and research memo file) Form letters sent to: Nathaniel Taylor, Lee Cordiner, Herbert Woodland, James Strickland.

The search for Mary Lindsay: Called Peoples World yesterday. Spoke with Rachel Stocking who relayed by request for info. She reported no one knew whereabouts of Lindsay; suggested a Weinbrenner at SF Examiner might. Telephone Ex., Weinbrenner is retired. No listing for W. in phone book. Today I called Al Richmond (567-9148), former PW editor. Sed he thought Lindsay had committed suicide, but wasn't sure. Suggested I call Mrs. John Lucid (648-4957). Also said that Ray Thompson, a blk man had some organizational involvement with the case. I Called Thompson (655-1014); said he was in CP but not involved in this case. I asked him to call me if he can think of any leads. (By the way, Richmond himself was in Army at that time and away from Bay Area.) There is a Mary Lindsay in phone book; I called but she is not my person. Attempted to reach Mrs. Lucid, no answer.

Telephoned Arthur Dickerson (see preceding page). Made appt. for 11/22.

11/16: Finally reached Mrs. John Lucid, who confirmed that Mary Lindsay committed suicide in 1972. Mrs. Lucid said she was a good friend of Lindsay's and that the latter left her some of her papers and correspondence, including a letter from Mr. Dudley (NAACP official) thanking her for writing pamphlet on the mutiny that was later published by NAACP in 1945. Mrs. Lucid said she would give me Mary Lindsay's papers. Made appt. to see her at work (District #1 Health Ctr, 3850 17th Street, 558-2226) on 11/18

11/17: Letter returned as undeliverable: Herbert C. Woodland. No phone listing either.

11/18: Met with Kersten Lucid, who told me the story of Mary Lucid (see Log, p. 28X) and gave me some documents. (See Mary Lindsay file).

11/19: Letters returned as undeliverable: James A. Camper, Charles N. Hazzard

11/21? Wrote thank you note to K. Lucid. Requested name ~~xxx~~ and address of Mary Lindsay's friend in Santa Cruz.

Telephone Virginia Brazington, Research Dept., NAACP National Office (1790 ~~Broadway~~ Broadway, NYC 212 245-2100). She said they would not have old files there; have been turned over to Lib. of Congress. Said she did have Annual Reports, and that I might find something in these. I said I would call her and come by office upon arrival in NYC. She also referred me to Schomburg Collection.

Wrote Brazington note of thanks.

Paid Pam \$100 = 20 hrs research work @ \$5/hr.

11/22: attempted to visit Arthur Dickerson as per appt. but he was not home, waited for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

11/23: Contacted Dickerson, he had transportation problems. Am to call him again on 11/28.

Undeliverable letter returned: Nathaniel Taylor.

Notes on the life and suicide of Mary Lindsay

11/18/77

I've been trying to locate the white woman reporter -- Mary Lindsay -- who covered the Port Chicago mutiny trial for the Communist Party paper, Peoples World, and who drove Thurgood Marshall about in a convertible (according to Cy Sheppard). Through Al Richmond, former editor of the PW, I located a friend of hers, a woman named Kerstin Lucid (1913 Castro Street, SF, 648-4957). She told me that Mary committed suicide in 1972, but that she had left Kerstin some of her papers and correspondence, including a letter from Edward Dudley of the NAACP LDF thanking her for writing a pamphlet on the mutiny case. This pamphlet was later published by the NAACP in 1945 -- with no author given -- and it was when I came across a copy of this pamphlet 4 years ago that my interest in the case was first aroused. The ~~fixed~~ friend agreed to have lunch with me today and give me the papers and correspondence for my research. This is all very intriguing when you recall that relations between the NAACP and CP were very strained, and that later the NAACP launched a witch-hunt against Communists in its ranks. Since Lindsay, probably a CP member, was never publicly identified as the ~~author~~ author of the NAACP pamphlet, I wonder whether this might have something to do with Marshall's reluctance to talk with me?

Today I met Kerstin for lunch. She turned out to be a sprightly Swedish woman, 60 years old and a widow (her husband died last summer). She told me the following: Mary Lindsay was born in Montana of Irish Catholic parents, who later moved the family to Seattle. Mary came to SF and became a reporter for the PW. She never married and has no family other than a brother, Leo, still living in Seattle. She was indeed a member of the CP, but became disillusioned and dropped out, probably in the early 50s. She then found jobs with the Cancer Society and the Coordinating Council on Mental Retardation. For a time she roomed with Tillie Olsen. Kerstin met her in the 1960s when both were working for the Coordinating Council. K. says that Mary also became close friends with ~~Steve~~ Ramsey and his wife, and often visited them at their home in Sausalito. K thinks that Mary and ~~S~~ were becoming more than friends; ~~S~~'s wife was an invalid, and K remarked that it was sad that Mary didn't hold on for another year, for ~~S~~'s wife died in 1973.

In 1969 Mary was fired from her job at the Coordinating Council. Somehow she did n't get unemployment benefits, nor did she try to find another job. Instead she became increasingly introverted and paranoid, and wrapped herself up in detective mysteries. She also put on weight. She had inherited a house in SF from her grandmother, which she sold in order to get money, but this could not last indefinitely. K's husband once told Mary that she was painting herself into a corner. In 1972 Mary told K she was going to visit ~~S~~, but when K telephoned ~~S~~ she learned that Mary had never arrived ~~there~~. K and ~~S~~ went to Mary's residence and had the landlord open the door. They found nothing, except that all her things were neatly arranged in bundles and labelled. A few days later a ~~letter~~ letter arrived from Mary -- sent from the Leamington Hotel in Oakland -- saying that she had taken her life (sleeping pill overdose). A similar letter to her brother added: "All my life I have been fighting depression: I can't continue." Why the Leamington Hotel? Another friend (Pat, from Santa Cruz) told K that the Leamington was where K stayed while she was covering the mutiny trial.

Why did she go back there?

12/4 NYC : telephoned Small, Waldrop, Dixon,
Crittenden to make appts

(29)

12/5 Visited NAACP national office. Assisted by
Virginia Brazington. Reviewed annual reports
1940-47. Found entry referring to letter
sent from NAACP to secy of Navy.
Reviewed clipping file on Thurgood Marshall
(See notes in NAACP file folder)

Also found pamphlets on "The Negro Soldier"
(Speech by Rep. Hubert H. H. Douglas, 1946)
and "On clipped wings" by William H. Harte

12/6: Interviewed Joe Small in Somerset, NJ.
Evening. I've found my ~~character~~ character in one of the things.

12/7: called Waldrop to change appt to 12/9. Woman said
he was "sick". She said he was very upset about
prospective mtg. didn't know whether he would talk with
me. said I should call first on Friday. She said he drinks.

12/9 Interviewed Waldrop in Washington, D.C.

12/10 Julius Dixon: Spoke to Dixon on 12/4. He said if he wasn't
working on 12/10 (Sat) we could get together during the day.
Called Dixon from D.C. on 12/9. He wasn't in. I left message
that I was not to leave on bus for Charleston and that I
hoped to see him in morning. After 14 hr bus ride called
Dixon on morning of 12/10. His wife said he had to work.
I said I'd check into Holiday Inn and call back at 6 pm.
Called back at 6 pm. His wife said he had come in and
gone out. Left my phone #, said I'd also call later. 7 pm, I
called back, wife said he'd come in and gone out, that she
gave him my message; that he said he didn't want to
see me. I talked to her, asked her to ask him to reconsider.
Called again at 9:30, line busy; called continually for next hr & 1/2
line continually busy. Phone must be off the hook. The nigger
is chicken shit.

12/12 wrote outline for P.C. Story (see small book - notebook)

12/13 Interviewed Jack Chiffenden in Montgomery. (34)
He gave me address of Willie Gay.

12/14 Interviewed Willie Gay in Brooklyn, NY

12/19 wrote letter of thanks

12/28 rented studio in which to work and
store part Chicago materials. Rent: \$180.00/mo
801 8th St. #16
Need private work area (secure from little hands)
in which to display and organize large volume of
material collected so far. Can then begin to
prepare outlines and write first drafts.

1/3/78 - 1/10/78: Wrote & revised outline for P.C. story
sent copy to Wendy Weil, Literary Agent

1/20/78 Received letter from a Quincy Notman (RT. 2 Box 207)
Fredensburgh, Texas 78624) Says his CO's (Robin Max
Hartman) brother was killed at P.C. (see correspondence file)

2/2/78 made presentation in UCSF Analysis Seminar
(Anselm Strauss) on P.C. project (see tape of
session). This was second presentation in Seminar
on P.C. project. First was in Fall, qtr. (see Analysis
notebook). These sessions have helped
enormously in formulating a sociological approach to
these materials (cf Research memo file).

2/78: Received a letter from Robert Routh, Jr. (3605 Country Club Dr., L.A. 90019 213 733-3269) indicating that he is a P.C. survivor and that he had seen my announcement in "Navy Times."

(31)

2/12/78 NYC: Met with Wendy Weil of Juilian Bach Literary Agency. She seemed doubtful about prospects for a P.C. film, more interested in book. (This confirmed by letter I received upon return to SF)

2/14 NYC: Met with Marie Brown of Doubleday. She said she thought the P.C. story outline was "very good." Wants to see a sample chapter.

2/15 Back in SF: Called Alex Haley at Kinte Corp. (P.O. Box 3338, Beverly Hills, CA 90212 213 553-8940). He not in but his secretary Ginnie said they only handling his work for time being. Said she would give him my message.

Called Ziegler Associates (agency) in LA (213 278-0070). Secretary said they not taking any new clients. But when I mentioned referral by Wendy Weil she said I should have Wendy write a letter to Candace Lake.

2/17/78 Received reply from Robert Routh, survivor in LA, agreeing to interview. He also gave me name and address of a friend stationed at PC at the time: Percy Robinson, 7626 LaSalle Ave., Los Angeles 90047 213 758-2170.

2/25: Sent copy of PC Story outline to be registered at Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

3/3: Wrote up notes for P.C. book approach as a docu-narrative (See Research memo files): that is, using excerpts from testimony, interviews and documents to narrate the P.C. story; a kind of collective oral history of an event.

3/4/78: U.C. Berkeley, Library, Newspaper room. Review Chicago Defender files for 1944. Found following stories (must make copies):

7/29/44: p.1 story on P.C. exp. Interviews with witnesses.
(by-line J. Robert Smith)
p. 10 Casualty list

9/16/44: p.11 families of blast victims to get max of \$3,000 compensation; reduced from 5,000 when Miss. Rep. John Rankin learned most of beneficiaries were Negroes.

9/23/44: p. 1 mutiny trial story: supports strike against discrimination interpretation (by-line John Robert Badger, who also wrote World View col. on p. 13)

9/30/44: p. 11 trial story: Chaplain Flowers testimony. Bay Area black community reaction.

10/7/44: p. 11 story of P.C. defense at trial

10/21/44: p. 3 P.S. as "hot potato" for Navy. Marshall's statements; warning from waterfront leaders before exp. about dangers of inexperienced personnel.

11/4/44: p. 11 NAACP to handle appeal

(now)

12/2/44: p. 11 Discharged Navy Seabees to get hearing on 12/11
(See story 12/16, p. 11)

12/9/44: p. 11 Florence Murray photo and story about her Negro Handbook.

Must review 1945 file, search for interviews with defendants mentioned by Crittenden in my talk with him.

3/13/78 Completed detailed reading of and notetaking from first half of courtmarked manuscript.

3/21/78 Check Telephone directories for additional addresses of survivors.

3/23: Mailing sent out to new addresses:

Harry E. Grimes, 10036 Broadstreet, Detroit
Cecil Miller, 1406 E. Madison, Springfield, ~~Ill.~~ Ill. ✓
Edward L. Longmire, 3693 Vine, Cincinnati, Ohio ✓
William E. Banks, 65 W. 96, NYC
Ernest D. Brown, 1350 Webster Ave, Bronx
William H. Locke, 211 Glenwood Rd, Baltimore
Robert L. Burae, 4243 S. Calumet and 5023 S. Champlain, Chicago ✓
Melvin W. Ellis, 7854 S. Ellis, Chicago
Charles C. Gray, 641 W. 105, Chicago ✓
Theodore King, 11640 S. Yale, Chicago.

3/24: completed detailed review and notetaking from G.C.M. record.
Began reviewing Court of Inquiry record

4/10: Results of 3/23 mailing:

Received response from Robert L. Burae (at 4243 S. Calumet, Chicago)
He refused to be interviewed

Letter returned from Charles Gray saying he's not person I seek.

Letters returned as undeliverable:

Robert Burae, 5023 S. Champlain
Cecil Miller, 1406 E. Madison, Springfield, Ill.

4/12: Made verbal agreement with Glory Bevien that she would transcribe tapes and other materials as needed.

4/13: Began working on P.C. article. Continuing to review documents.

4/17: Sent PC script outline to Elizabeth Pomada, Literary Agent, 1029 Jones St., SF

Received response from Lucy Longmire (3697 Vine St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 513-281-1043) ^{#15} Her father Edward Longmire is deceased. She mentioned other relatives, expressed her interest in knowing truth of P.C.

4/23: Telephoned Joe Small. Said he expected to be available for follow-up interview in early June. Also said he has a daughter (Josephine Robinson) who lives in Redwood City.

Talked with Robert Vainowski at SF Red Cross (776-1500) re: Red Cross report on P.C. disaster. He said he thought old files had been thrown out when they moved to new address. Suggested I contact National HQ, 17th & D Streets, N.W., Wash, DC 20006 (202 737-8300). Contact: Bryce ~~Howe~~^{Towne}, National Director of Disaster Services, (or Bob Wahley)

He also referred me to a book about disasters that includes PC: The Darkest Hours. (Did not find this book listed in SF library card catalog)

4/25: Telephoned National Red Cross. Spoke with a Mr. Vessey who said he would check old files and let me know if they have reports on PC exp.

4/27: Met with Anselm Strauss to discuss methodological questions from History and Social Sciences in relation to P.C. study.

5/1 Wrote letters to Robert Routh and Percy Robinson in Los Angeles requesting interviews.
Received material from National Red Cross on disaster relief efforts at P.C. (See Red Cross file)

5/5/78 Telephone Veteran's Administration in Washington (202 393-4120)
Spoke with a Mr. McPherson, in Identification of Records Service. He advised that I should submit request to local VA regional office, or to the Dept. of Veteran's Benefits in Washington, for help in locating PC survivors.

Contacted local VA regional office. Was told that they could forward letters if I provide them along with names and serial numbers.

VA mailing
5/9: Visited VA Regional Office (211 Main St.). Spoke with Counselor Ms. Marie Francis. She said VA could forward letters to any of PC men for whom they have records. I gave her a list of 34 names (attached), and letters and return envelopes for the mailing.

Received consent form from Percy Robinson (7626 S. LaSalle Ave, LA 90047 213 758-2170) agreeing to be interviewed.

5/10: Called by Ms. Linda Brown at Veteran's Administration (556-0442) to informed me that they had received my mailing and were forwarding it for processing (which may take 1-2 weeks).

5/15 Completed PC paper for UCLA symposium.

5/20: Los Angeles: Interviewed Percy Robinson, 4th Division, one of 208 men.

5/21: L.A.: Interviewed Robert Routh, Jr. (10div.) who was blinded by explosion. (Also met Sergeant-Major Ralph Balara, black marine veteran of three wars.

Julius J. Allen 827-77-05
 Mack Anderson 827-14-92
~~Douglas C. Anthony 827-77~~
 William E. Banks ~~821-41-41~~ 821-41-24
 Arnett Baugh 641-76-09
~~Morris Berry~~ ----- Martin A. Bordenave 644-87-32
 Ernest D. Brown 812-41-38
~~Robert L. Burae 853-13-15~~
 Mentor G. Burns 855-51-28
 Zack E. Credle 812-41-35
~~Jack P. Crittenden 843-99-73~~
 Hayden R. Curd 293-13-33 ~~Cxx~~
 Charles L. David, Jr. 853-11-01
~~Bennon Dees 843-99-41~~
~~Wastley G. Diamond~~
 Kenneth C. Dixon 812-41-37
~~Julius Dixon, Jr. 930-37-39~~
 John H. Dunn 712-79-31
 Melvin W. Ellis 852-51-50
 William Fleece, Jr. 815-37-18
 Ernest J. Gaines 645-09-09
 John L. Gipson 644-92-84
 Charles C. Gray 853-19-00
 Ollie E. Green 836-53-60
 Harry E. Grimes 862-14-64
 Herbert Havis 641-17-13
 Charles N. Hazard 818-51-85
 Frank L. Henry 669-24-29
 Richard W. Mill 812-41-43
 Theodore King 724-62-33
 Perry L. Knox 641-17-27
~~Edward L. Longmire 613-41-38~~
 William H. Locke 826-85-79
 Howard McGee 640-58-85
 Lloyd McKinney 644-88-70
 Alphonso McPherson 552-37-15
~~Miller Matthews -x Ax~~
 Freddie Meeks 879-04-63
~~Cecil Miller 853-14-72~~
 Fleetwood H. Postel 819-03-98
 Edward Saunders 313-41-10
~~Cyril O. Sheppard 810-04-58~~
~~Joseph R. Small 811-22-05~~
~~Willie Cxx Subxx~~ ----- Charles S. Widemon 602-29-57
 Albert Williams, Jr. 644-89-71

P.C. research log.

(34) ①

5/31 NYC

Talked with Gilroy Smith at Nat. Archives (linked by Robert Hill). He said files - many intelligence - from 1944 very good. He also leaving job as it next week returned me to Mr. Newington at Archives, and Mr. Chalou at Military Records, Suitland Federal Record Ctr.

talked with Dr. Sarah Jackson. Advised her I'm to visit archives. She referred me to Mr. Newington, and said she would have some additional contacts for me.

6/1 met with Maria Brown. Discussed P.C. project. Gave her copy of recent symposium paper for review.

Went to Schomburg Collection of N.Y. Public Library. Useful books found:

H. A. Apt. - To Be Free (has ch. on blacks in Union Navy)

Helene Gabagan Douglas - The Negro Soldier (in WWII) (Govt. pamphlet) has statistics

John D. Silveira - The Negro in WWII (mainly photos)

Reviewed some correspondence files of National Negro Congress. Some military stuff, but found nothing on P.C. (1944-45)

Also found book: Paul N. Harris - Base
Company 16 (Vantage Press 1943) autobiography
of Black Navy man 11/1943 - 12/1945.
Good material on daily life & problems.
Nothing on P.C.

6/2 lovely mtg with Jennifer Lenson of
The Film Fund. She understands P.C. story
and my passion for it. She encouraged
me to write screenplay for dramatic
film. She said I should consider
producing it myself. Gave me some
leads for funding, contacts. (See
attached draft) P. 2A)

6/3 met Jim Small, interviewed him at his
home. (on tape)

6/5 Wash D.C. Conferred with Tim Neumeyer, Nat Archives.
re Naval Intelligence. He said they had mainly stuff
from warrens attachés. Refused me to Mr. Cavalcante
at Navy History Division, Wash. Navy Yard. ~~Conferred~~
with Dr. Sarah Jackson. She said there are no inventories
or indexes of Naval Intelligence staff at Archives. (She
gave me name of John English, 3111 "P" St S.E.
201 381-5364. Possible P.C. survivor) She referred
me to Downmasholder in Judicial & Fiscal Branch.
I reviewed index cards for U.S. Army, Nov. Callet
1944 and FBI reports index 1944. Found no
reference to P.C., but files not organized by subject.

(36)

(2A)

Contacts: (referred by Jennifer Lawson)

- Gayle Cook

Born to Washington Foundation
Wash. D.C.

Black cable TV syst, film acquisition

- Natl. Endowment for Humanities
(may be source of support)

Cheryl ~~McClenny~~ (sister)

McClenny

Steve Robin, Director of Public
Media

- Lilly Foundation
Indianapolis, Ind.

- Nat. Endowment for Arts

(has media program)

Dugan

O'Donoghue

Mrs. Perrin

Ireland

Wash, D.C.

- Anthony Gittins

Black Film Institute

Univ. of D.C.

(2nd sheet)

202

727-2396

Revised Log

(37) (3)

Check photographs in Nat Archives (inc. towns)
Explosions photos 80-G-239063 Thru 80-G-239131
80-G-243056 Thru 80-G-243078
Also show before explosion 80-G:

74576-7 7194-5, 2 (aerial views 4/42)
21719-21 (aerial views ^{July 1942} #20 things early const)
33113-120 (aerial views 12/42)
35263-65 (aerial views 2/43)
~~227044-67~~ (aerial view 4/44)
227044-7 ↑

6/6 Talked with Cavalcante at ~~Nat Archives~~ operational Archives, West wing yard. He said that SF field office records (Army Intelligence) would be at San Bruno. Said I might also check records of Western Sea Frontier at San Bruno. Also suggested I check Bu ord records at National Archives.
He said all naval magazine records from that period have been destroyed.

Visited Lib. Cong manuscript room. Talked with Mrs. Nichols who advised that NAACP file being reorganized and it not necessary to give box numbers in referring to items (as box #s may change). Simply indicate: "NAACP Gen. ^{office} Correspondence file, author, date"

Nat. Archives: Norwinger found some outgoing ONI correspondence files. (Record Group 38) arranged chronologically. Bu ord records (RG 74, entry 25) at Suitland, Md.
"Day file" entry 88 contact: George Chelov. 763-7410
checked 7/18-7/24

6/6-6/7 Several discussions with AW (88)(4)
concerning organization & form of
P.C. book (narrative documentary)

6/8 Called Ms. Rameaux at Angola
Mission re blk journalistic trip.
Made appt for Monday

Called Marie Brown. She was very
excited by narrative documentary
approach to P.C. study.

Call from St. Clair Bourne (Hennepin)
who had read P.C. story treatment
and wants to discuss it over
breakfast Saturday.

(39) (5)

6/10/78 Had breakfast mtg with St. Clair Givner.
He suggested doing a documentary film on P.C.
using still photos (old and new) with photo-animation
and readings of the script by professional actors
and/or interviewers. We agreed that he would
draft a letter of agreement between us, and that
we would meet again in S.F. in July to
develop funding proposal.

Interviewed Joe Small (on tape). He agreed also
to send me a copy of a 13 page description of
P.C. Re day of the explosion which he wrote a few
years ago, after I send him info on getting it
copyrighted.

6/12 Visited New York Public Library. Reviewed
WWII index cards. Found nothing on P.C.

7/1/78 Results from VA mailing:
Freddie Meeks
5324 Angeles Vista
L.A. Calif 90043
213 295-0384 296-2585
Agreed to be interviewed

Julius Allen (Baltimore) deceased
Fleetwood Postell deceased
Mack Anderson deceased

William Fleen - Jamaica, N.Y.
Refuses to be interviewed

Edward Saunders - deceased

Bernett Baugh - dec.

John H. Dunn - dec.

Charles Hazard - dec.

William Locke - dec.

Lloyd McKinley - dec.

Alphonse McPherson - dec.

Charles Wideman - dec.

Letter from Lucy Longmire giving addresses
for relatives of Edward Longmire

Cleveland Longmire (brother?)

502 Germain

Pittsburgh, PA 15214

412 321-7797

7/12 Letters to Joe Small, Freddie Marks, Percy Robinson

7/24 VA mailing response from Martin Gordon
5817 Oakwood Ave LA. 90043
213 293-2171 293-1087 (W)

Sent on 10/10.

8/19 AHA mtg (Pacific Coast Branch, USF): Charles Wollensberg
(historian at Lanyard College) gave paper on P.C. case. Main source
was trial record + newspaper.

P.C. research log.
5/31 NYC

(34) (1)

Talked with Gilson Smith at Nat. Archives
(linked by Robert Hill). He said files - Navy
Intelligence - in 1944 very good. He also
telling us as of next week referred me to
Mr. Newington at Archives, and Mr.
Chalov at Military Records, Suffolk Federal
Record Ctr.

talked with Dr. Sarah Jackson. Advised
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(35) (2)

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1944 and FBI reports index 1944. Found no
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only by date. Reviewed possible file

(36)

(24)

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- Gayla Cook
Booker T. Washington Foundation
Wash. D.C.

Black cable TV staff, film acquisition

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(may be source of support)
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McClendon
Steve Rabin, Director of Public
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Indianapolis, Ind.

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(has media program)
Dugan O'Donohue
Mrs. Perrin Ireland
Wash., D.C.

- Anthony Gittins
Black Film Institute
Univ. of D.C. (2nd sheet)
202 727-2396

Reginald Log

(37) (3)

Check photographs in Nat Archives (inc. towns)
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80-G-243056 Thru 80-G-243078

74576-7

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(aerial view, 7/43)

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5324 Angeles Vista

L.A. Calif 90043

213 295-0384 296-2585

Agreed to be interviewed

Julius Allan (Baltimore) deceased
 Fleetwood Postell deceased
 Mack Anderson deceased

William Fleen - Jamaica, N.Y.
Refuses to be interviewed

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Cleveland Longmire (brother?)

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Sent on wire.

8/19 AHA mtg (Pacific Coast Branch, USA): Charles Wollensky
(historian at Loyola College) gave paper on P.C. case. Main source
was trial transcript to newspaper. See Wollensky file in copy

Guy at Rutgers Univ. researching
history of very Intelligent

Did P.C. men know of Ku-
Japanese movement among U.S. blacks?

Bobby Hill in NYC 6/11-6/14
Will call me at Alice's

~~National~~
National Historical Records & Publications
Commission
National Archives Bldg
West DC 20408

Dr. Sarah Dunlap Jackson
(in charge of all naval & military
records (for editors))

202 523-3092

Naval Investigative Service
(Intelligence branch of Navy)
Capt. L.E. Cornell or Capt A.B. Casuso
Director
Hoffman Bldg
2461 Eisenhower Ave
Alexandria, Va 22331

→ National Archives

Navy & Old Army Branch

Dr. Gibson Smith

Wash, 20408

202 528-3229

① (has access to Navy general criminal records & index cards
Intelligence)
② also has S.F. field office files?

ref. by Robert Hill, UCLA (213 825-7462)

July 29, 1980

Letters sent to P.C. men to
re-establish contact.
The small group, I. Griffiths,
C. Sheppard, R. Ravn,
F. Waldrop, F. Marks,
W. Gay, M. Gerdman, P. Robinson,

Reply received from:

M. Robinson, F. Marks, P. Robinson,
R. Ravn.

F. Waldrop letter returned - moved,
no forwarding address

August 23, 1980

Los Angeles - interviewed Martin
Gerdman

August 27 - Interviewed Freddie Marks

Met with St. Clair Brown to
review P.C. documentary film proposal

Martin Borden

2166 W. Slauson

Los Angeles

213 293-1087

Fredie Marks

5324 Angeles Vista

Los Angeles

213 295-0384

296-2585

Called

(213) 750-4097

Marion Hill 9/2/80

He says the Hawkins working
on the case. Trying to
set vegetation and
hundreds of decisions

worked in civil rights since
1938 - worked on much
on working on most
works with PRRAP

Raised money for P.C.
men's defense.

Point out P.C. men when
there each before work
stopped.

He talked with Robinson,
Roth, Gardner

Movie
Says Fox ~~shows~~ time
News has footage
on P.C.

Oklahoma Black Dispatch
had extensive coverage
of trial.

Says he printed some of
the P.C. petitions

Part Chicago: (outline) 9/14/76

Prelude: ^{history of Blacks in} ~~Cond~~ of ^{Black} ~~entire~~ ^{world}

Reconstruction of explosion

Reconstruction of what happened afterwards

Trial

Public response to verdict, Black message
Kluge's pressure on whom

Appeal & outcome

30 years later: where are
now today? How did this
affect their lives?

Alternative: ~~fell~~ whole story through
~~recounting~~ the
trial

working on annual eds &
Writings on Am. History, to 1960

Working in

Comprehension

Dissertation

Index, 1861-1972

history, social science

Heimdahl 8/1/77

Pt. Chicago Naval ~~Armament~~ magazine
Depot

National Archives
Naval Archives

Correspondence - Sec'y of Navy
Bureau of Naval Personnel

Court of Inquiry records

*Call: Central Records
Navy's Judge Advocate
Mr. Johnson Mr. Kudo

202 OX 4-5368

Call Thurgood Marshall

Naval History Division

Operational Archives Branch
Bernard Cavalcante

202 433-3170

also Naval Library 433-4131 or 4132

Pt. Chicago Naval magazine
(history of it)

Bureau of
Ordnance history ~~project~~ book entry 127
in guide to the service

2 vol: Selected Ammunition Dept. of Defense

WWII Correspondence of
Bureau of Ordnance
located at Gen. Archives
Division, Rec. Record
Ctr., Suetland, Maryland
301 763 - 7410
(have shuttle bus service)

some discussion with
"War Shipping Administration"
records in Nat. Archives
Record 948 248

Ind. + social bond
523-3119

Check NYT

Official histories:

Ruford Kobland + William B.

Boyd - U.S. Navy, Bureau of
Ordnance WW II (part of

Building the Navy's Bases part of
WW II: Hist. of the part of
Bureau of Yards & Docks + the (ind)
Engineer Corps 1940-1946, Navy of

X + D
Govt print. office 1947

entry 127

in guide to U.S. Naval Admin.
History of WW II

Mr. Clifford Kudo
Office of Judge Advocate Gen
Army Dept.
Wash, D.C. 20370

202 694-4906 OK 7

Abt 2,000 pages of transcript 1
Lt. Chicago. Trial in his office
"Case of Julius J. Allen
seen 2nd call USNR, et al."

Can have copy made for
abt \$150

5/10/78

Bob,

(on my own shelves!)

I came across a book that may be helpful to you in terms of historical research, methodology (or maybe just in writing your "Methods" Chapter). It's Phillips, Bernard, Social Research, Macmillan, 1966.

I was going to xerox the Chp. on "The Use of Documents" for you but then noted that there are numerous good references throughout.

I'm using the book right now in preparing one of my exam questions, but I should be finished in another couple weeks if you want it. Robert

Alonso Smith

805 543-4048

(working on black in L.A. during WH#)

HeimdaHL will ^{work}
^{& call on next}
has other files
at Frank Kory
& Rorstad

Address
William HeimdaHL
Kory & Old Army Bldg
Natl Archives
Wash, D.C 20408

Bureau of Yards &
Docks Archives

Command Historian
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command

Historical Office CODE 19

U.S. Naval Construction
Battalion Center

Pt. Hueneeme, Calif

93041

Mr. Transano, historian

Julie Street, archivist

805 982-5146

may have info on Pt. Chicago

Call to

National Archives

5/30/77

~~655-4000~~

~~523-3178~~

523-3218 Research

Room

Mr. Sandy Smith, Navy Archivist
Navy & Natl Army Branch

202 523-3229

* B. H. Heimdahl *

Naval History Division

court martial
trial
records

Record Group 125
Navy's Judge Advocate
Gen. Archives Division
Subin, Maryland

Bureau of Ships

Navy's Judge Advocate

may have
some doc

Heimdahl

Will call me Friday
with info

Permalife

5/10/78

Bob,

(on my own
shelves!)

I came across a book
that may be helpful to
you in terms of historical
research, methodology (or
maybe just in writing your
"Methods" Chapter). It's
Phillips, Bernard, Social
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I was going to xerox the
Chp. on "The Use of Documents"
for you but then noted
that there are numerous
good references throughout.

I'm using the book right
now in preparing one of my
exam questions, but should
be finished in another couple
weeks if you want it.

Robert

Alonso Smith

805 543-4048

(working on blocks in L.A.
during WWII)

Mr. Clifford Kudo
offa of Judge Advocate Gen
nary Dept.
Wash, D.C. 20370

202 694-4906 of 7

Abt 2,000 pages of transcript 1
Pt. Chicago trial in his office
"Case of Julius T. Allen
seems 2nd call USNR, et al."

Can have copy made for
about \$150

St. Chrys



Heimdahl 4/1/77

Pt. Chicago Naval ~~Armament~~ Magazine
Depot

National Archives
Naval Archives

Correspondence - Secy of Navy
Bureau of Naval Personnel

Court of Inquiry records

*Call: Central Records
Navy's Judge Advocate
Mr. Johnson Mr. Kudo

202 OX 4-5368

Call Thurgood Marshall

Naval History Division

Operational Archival Branch
Bernard Cavalcante

202 433-3170

also Naval Library on 4/32
433-4131

Pt. Chicago Naval Magazine
(history of it)

Bureau of
Naval History

entry -> 127
in guide to U.S. Naval
Depot
2 vol: Selected Ammunition

File symbol
NT 4-56
P. Chicago
designated

Correspondence of
Nathan of Ordnance
located at Gen. Andrew
Division, Red. Records
Ctr, Suitland, Maryland
301 763-7410
(have shuttle bus service)

some discussion with
"War Shipping Administration"
records in Nat. Archives
Record group 248

Ind. + social branch
523-3119

Official histories:

Buford K. Holland + William B.
Boyd - U.S. Navy, Bureau of
Ordnance War WWII

Building the Navy's Bases
in WWII: Hist. of the
Bureau of Yards & Docks + the Civil
Engineers Corps 1940-1946, review of
y + D
Govt print. office 1947

entry 127
in Guide to U.S. Naval Admin
History of WWII

Check NYT

Bureau of Yards &
Docks Archives

Command Historian
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command

Historical Office CODE 19

U.S. Naval Construction
Battalion Center

PT. Hueneeme, Calif

93041

Mr. Trawson, Historian

Julie Street, architect

805 982-5146

may have info on pt. Chicago

Heimdaal will check
+ call me next
week
~~has office files~~
at Frank Karp
+ Rorstad

Address
William Heimdaal
Navy & Old Army Bldg
Natl Archives
Wash, D.C. 20408

Call to National Archives 3/30/77

~~655-4000~~

~~523-3178~~

523-3218 Kepland
Room

Mr. Sandy Smith, Navy Archivist
Navy & Dept Army Branch
202 523-3229

* Bill Heimdahl *

Naval History Division

cont material
trial
records } Record Group 125
Navy's Judge Advocate
Gen Archives Division
Subin, Maryland

Bureau of Ships } may have
some doc
Navy's Judge Advocate

Heimdahl will call me Friday
with info

Dear Ed,

April 20, 1979

Elaine had written about your great windfall of grant money. How marvelous! Now you can extricate your fingers - or some of them - from some of those jam pots?

I recollect your telling me about the Port Chicago disaster, and of course I will be both an interesting research ~~and~~ ^{and} experienced and research that will fill a big historical hole. I wouldn't be inclined to go down too hard, too soon on the conceptualization, but the looking at comparative materials some (others might be ship ^{or infantry} uprisings save actual "disasters", army ~~rebellions~~ ^{rebellions} after manpower loss etc).

Strikes me that the disaster is only a condition - not central focus, as in disaster studies. Literature on panic might be relevant: i.e., "sent back into battle".

(But time to talk of all that this summer). Maybe the public response & ~~naval~~ ^{naval} response to it, etc, is worth thinking hard about too.

Thanks for the kind words -
my best to everyone in the cohort.

Arvalm

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

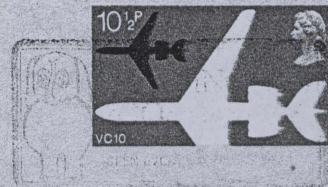
A. Strauss
28 Sloane Gardens
Sloane Square
London SW1

182

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD
NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE;
IF IT DOES IT MAY BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

SECOND FOLD HERE

BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER
PAR AVION AEROGamme



ROBT. ALLEN (Black. Sch. 101)
P.O. Box 908
2656 BRIDGEWAY
SAUSALITO
CALIFORNIA 94965
USA

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

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Avram

Post - classic studies on wild cat
strikes during WWII. - see

Scott, Jerome F. & George Thompson,

"Reflections on Wildlife Strikes,"

APL, June 1949, pp. 298-286.

P. C.
3/4

671-2511

PAID \$0.50

L05

017

SAN FRANCISCO - OAKLAND
BAY BRIDGE

6792

77 MAR - 4

All Companies

Public Affairs Office
Nashua Mayor's Station, Concord

671-2511

Al Compagnia

Public Affairs Officer
Naval Weapons Station, Concord

6 7 9 2

77 MAR - 4

BAY BRIDGE

SAN FRANCISCO - OAKLAND

PAID \$0.50

L05

017

314

Bob — Classic studies on wild cat
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Stephen Berger, executive director of the Emergency Financial Control Board

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Family of Black Victim in 1906 Texas Raid Recalls Stigma

By NAN ROBERTSON
Special to The New York Times

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Mrs. Hardeman is a daughter of Boyd Conyers, one of 167 black soldiers who were dishonorably discharged on orders of President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906 following a shoot-up in Brownsville, Tex., in which one civilian died.

Roosevelt was angered over what he called their "conspiracy of silence" about the affair.

Not a single soldier was ever found guilty of the crime, for which all were punished: it was the only documented case of mass punishment in the history of the United States Army.

Sixty-six years later, in 1972, the Army cleared their records, calling the punishment a "gross injustice." Dorsie Willis, then 87 and the sole survivor of the dishonored men, was awarded an honorable discharge and a tax-free Government check for \$25,000.

"That dishonorable discharge kept me from improving my station," Mr. Willis said, looking back on 60 years of sweeping up hair and shining shoes in a Minneapolis barber shop. "God knows what it did to the others."

Boyd Conyers and the others went to their graves with the stigma: Mr. Conyers died in 1966 at the age of 84 in his hometown of Monroe, Ga. His widow, Louella Conyers, now 89

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The story of the Brownsville shooting and the undocumented charges that ruined the men of three companies in the First Battalion, 25th Infantry (Colored), as the unit was called, has now been powerfully dramatized in "The Brownsville Raid." The play by Charles Fuller, presented by the Negro Ensemble Company, opened to excellent reviews recently at the Theater de Lys.

The drama was based on John Weaver's authoritative book, "The Brownsville Raid," published in 1970.

Mrs. Hardeman, who lives in Daytona Beach, Fla., was in the New York area recently, visiting one of her daughters, Bettye L. Hardeman, an elementary school principal. Miss Hardeman promised her mother a surprise treat and off they went to New York City.

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"You just can't imagine my emotion when we rode up to the theater that night and I saw 'The Brownsville Raid' on the marquee," Mrs. Hardeman said in an interview the other day in her daughter's home here. "I didn't even know they'd made a play from the story."

Of all Boyd Conyers's seven children, she was the most curious about the Brownsville incident that forever shadowed her father's life. "I used to draw him out about it all the time," she said. "He made it very clear to me that the white people in Brownsville didn't want this black regiment there."

Only nineteen days after they were posted to the little Texas town, which resented their coming, a gang of men rode through under cover of darkness,

guns ablaze. It was over in 10 minutes, with one civilian dead. Subsequent investigations failed to establish the identity of a single person involved. "And we was infantry," Mr. Willis pointed out decades later. "We never had any horses to ride."

Mrs. Hardeman said she must have asked her father "a thousand questions" about the incident and its aftermath. "The more he answered, the more bitter I became about the injustice," she said. The sergeant of the unit, and the hero of the play, who had chosen the Army as one of the few careers possible for a black man after the Emancipation and fought with distinction in Cuba and Panama, spent the rest of his years as a day laborer in Washington.

The best job Boyd Conyers ever had afterwards, his daughter said, was as a mail carrier. "He would go to the depot to fetch the bags of mail. Then his boss found out about the dishonorable discharge. He figured a man with that record wasn't fit to carry the United States mail; so he was fired."

Lived Simple Life

He started cooking for the rich in a mountain resort area north of Monroe; and his wife, Louella, cooked for the town families. Mr. Conyers built a little red house for his brood of seven, raised chickens and grew vegetables in the backyard. He traded and rented out horses. The Conyers's kitchen was open to anyone who came to the door while Mrs. Conyers was there: "Nobody went away hungry," Mrs. Hardeman recalled.

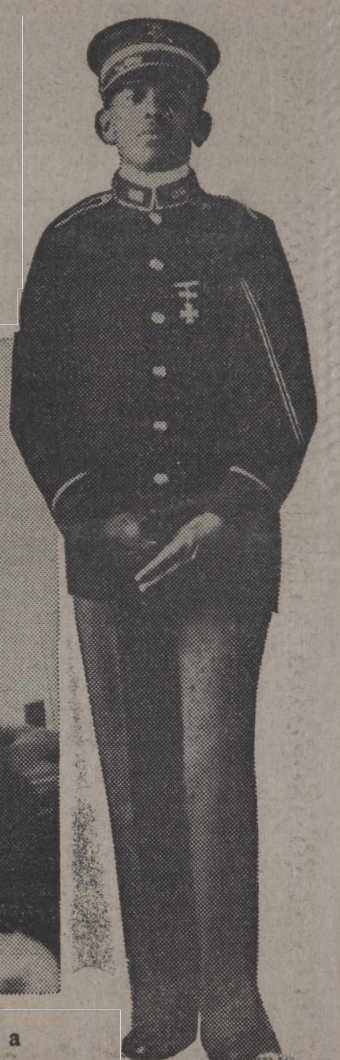
"They appointed my father head of the Community Chest for black people—that was segregated, too."

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Boyd Conyers and his wife never showed any bitterness about the dishonorable discharge, their daughter said, "no matter what they felt. It was partly their generation, too—more a feeling that it was totally a white man's world. The generations that have come since have each rebelled a little more."



Bettye Conyers Hardeman, left, reminiscing about her father, Boyd, seen at right in a photo made before 1906. Mrs. Conyers' daughters are Bettye, center, and Blanche.



News Summary

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1977

Endangered butterflies get California habitat 16
California project inspires high school writing teachers 16

Quotation

"Oh "

International

alist guerrillas in Rhodesia
mission station and
a lay brother and
em white, whom
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and sur-
motive

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as director
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the mu
tion p
by

J.S. Says Most of Its Aid To New York City Seems Beyond Reach of Slashes

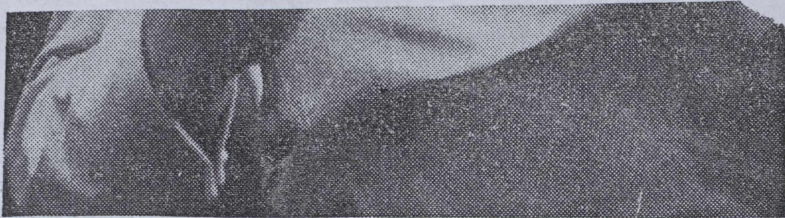
Mr. Terenzio said the institute, to be financed by the fund and money sought from outside sources, was founded at a time of severe financial difficulties in order to analyze, organize and coordinate the work of the various groups.

VOLK—Adelaide
Volk, Sister
Arcadia
Shum
Fe

blitz Electric Co. Inc., mourn the loss of the mother of their employees, Lester and Milton.

UMLAS—David, beloved husband of Lillian, devoted father of Arthur, dear brother of Gwenne Hitsous, Seid and Benjamin, cherished father. Services Tuesday "Westminster Chapel" 11:00 A.M. Ave. (Avenue H)

VOLK—Adelaid Volk. Sister of Arcadia, Shumaker, Fe...



Stephen Berger, executive director of the Emergency Financial Control Board

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The New York Times/Mimi Forsyth

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News Summar

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1977

Endangered butterflies get California habitat 16
California project inspires high school writing teachers 16

Quotation

"Oh, I"

the city must be protected by the city

MOTION PICTURES
IN THE AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVES DIVISION
OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

by
Mayfield S. Bray
William T. Murphy

Prepared for
The National Archives Conference on the Use of
Audiovisual Archives as Original Source Materials
(1972)

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INTRODUCTION

The National Archives began collecting and preserving films soon after it was established in 1934. There are now over 60,000 reels of edited and unedited motion pictures dating from 1894 to the present. This film is in the form of outtakes, newsreels, information and training films, and documentaries. There are also a few feature films. Because the National Archives is entrusted with the responsibility of preserving the permanently valuable records of the U.S. Government, many motion pictures were transferred from Government agencies. Approximately 75 percent fall into this category; the remaining 25 percent represent private donations.

An index appears at the end of this paper. References in the index are to record group numbers, which are placed at the right margin in the body of the paper.

Individual researchers may study films in the motion picture research room, and groups may view them in the National Archives Theater, provided reference prints are available. In either case, reservations are generally needed. There is no charge for screening films at the National Archives. Reproduction services are available for filmmakers and other users; however, some films may be encumbered by copyright and/or other restrictions imposed by Government agencies or other sources. Inquiries concerning films or film services should be addressed to the Director, Audiovisual Archives Division, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. 20408 (Motion picture research room telephone number: 202-963-6725).

Although no loan service is available, Government films that are in current circulation can be rented or purchased through the facilities of the National Audiovisual Center, Washington, D.C. 20409.

MOTION PICTURES
IN THE AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVES DIVISION
OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Records of the United States Food Administration.

RG 4

1917-18. 2 reels.

Films of supporters of the Food Control Act, Senators George E. Chamberlain and Willard Saulsbury, Representatives Champ Clark and Asbury F. Lever, and Food Administrator Herbert C. Hoover.

A film on wartime farming in France. Animated cartoons dramatizing the need to conserve food.

Records of the Office of Education.

RG 12

1940-55. 15 reels.

"Fight for Life," a 1940 documentary about obstetrical training and practice in the Chicago slums, written and directed by Pare Lorentz. Films, 1944-45, intended for use in supervisory training and a film on the industrial skills of the blind. A filmed address of President Dwight D. Eisenhower to the White House Conference on Education, November 28-December 1, 1955.

Records of the Veterans Administration.

RG 15

1919 and 1946. 27 reels.

Films pertaining to the work of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, 1919. A film explaining the organization of the Veterans Administration, 1946. Several documentaries explaining and illustrating the educational, financial, medical, and rehabilitation services of the Veterans Administration.

Records of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

RG 16

1928-55. 404 reels.

Films illustrating Federal farm programs and other films that served as educational or informational films primarily for agricultural communities, 1928-55. "Power and the Land," produced in 1940 by the U.S. Film Service for the Rural Electrification Administration and directed by Joris Ivens.

Records of the Army Air Forces.

RG 18

1912-49. 5,833 reels.

World War II training films illustrating the coordination of the various operational units of the American 8th Army Air Force and the combined efforts of these units in preparing and completing a bombing mission; and world War II training films instructing in flight and gunnery and the maintenance and use of planes, helicopters, airfield tractors, forklift trucks, spray painting equipment, and the like.

Air Transport Command briefing films consisting of aerial and ground views of terrain, flight routes, and landing facilities in the South Atlantic, North Atlantic, Europe, India and China, the Caribbean, South America, Africa, the Pacific, the British Isles, Alaska, the Canal Zone, and the United States.

Animation for the briefing films shows particular flight routes, locations of landing strips, radio beams, and the principal geographic configuration of specific areas.

Outtakes from "Thunderbolts," a 1946 William Wyler production documenting activities of the 12th Army Air Force in Europe, June 1944-April 1945. Combat footage made in all theaters of operation in World War II concerning activities of the USAAF and containing camera records on all other aspects of the war, including such things as land and sea battles; amphibious operations; civilian and military leaders of the Allied Powers attending conferences and visiting troops; entertainers; war correspondents; Red Cross activities; rest and recreation activities; native peoples and their customs and participation in the war; captured enemy spies and saboteurs; Allied and Axis prisoners of war and prisoners-of-war camps; internees and internee camps; concentration camps; Axis atrocities; V-E and V-J Days; the occupation of Germany and Japan; the atomic scientists; the A-bomb blast over Nagasaki; and damage to Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

Films concerning the development and use of lighter-than-air craft, 1925-35. A film made by the Air Corps of the 1933 Arkansas flood. A Coast Guard training film on swimming through burning oil and in surf. A film entitled "Last Rites of the Battleship Maine," made by the Selig Corp. in 1912.

Records of District Courts of the United States.

RG 21

1903 and 1927. 8 reels.

Films filed as plaintiff's exhibits in a copyright case brought before the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, American Mutoscope and Biograph Company v. Sigmund Lubin, October 1903. Films from the records of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington of the Dempsey-Turney heavyweight boxing match held at Soldiers Field, Chicago, September 22, 1927, and of the Dempsey-Sharkey fight held at Yankee Stadium, New York City, July 21, 1927.

Records of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

RG 22

1915-37. 13 reels.

Films made by the Bureau of Fisheries in the 1920's concerning cooperative fish culture in the United States and pearl culture in Japan. A film relating to an inspection trip to Alaska made by Bureau officials, including Commissioner Henry O'Malley, ca. 1929.

Department of Agriculture films instructing in the control of pests such as rats, prairie dogs, and porcupines, 1915-16. A film on life in a Boy Scout camp, ca. 1937, and a film illustrating aerial bombing techniques of the Air Service, 1921.

Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

RG 24

1917-27. 101 reels.

Films made or collected by the Bureau of Naval Personnel or its predecessor, the Bureau of Navigation, relating to naval air activities during World War I in the Atlantic and at the Key West Naval Station,

including submarine patrol, convoy escort, rescue operations, and ground operations; ship launchings and maintenance at the Newport News Naval Shipyard; submarine maneuvers; Marine training; torpedo manufacturing and firing; and minelaying in the North Sea from a base in England.

Films of Liberty loan drive activities, patriotic celebrations, parades, ceremonies, and armistice celebrations in New York City, Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh, and London. Persons participating include President Woodrow Wilson, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, Adms. William S. Benson and C. T. Grayson, Gens. John J. Pershing and Alexander B. Dyer, Lt. John Philip Sousa, Gov. Charles S. Whitman of New York, and Mayor John F. Hylan of New York City.

News coverage of President Wilson's second inaugural and films of his first visit to Europe following the armistice, including his departure aboard the transport George Washington, the arrival of the convoy in Brest, and the welcoming procession in the streets of Brest.

Films depicting war damage to Rheims, France, and Ostend, Belgium, and to other towns and the countryside of both France and Belgium. Films of German prisoners of war, captured German armament, and a U-boat. News-reel films of postwar Volendam, Holland, and the gardens at Versailles.

Films of American leaders, including Secretary of the Navy Daniels, Secretary of State Robert Lansing, Adms. William S. Sims, William S. Benson, Roger Welles, Albert Gleaves, and Hugh Rodman, with foreign dignitaries on visits to the United States and abroad U.S. Navy vessels. Dignitaries include Prince Exel of Denmark, King Alfonso and Queen Victoria of Spain, and King George V of Britain. Films of the dedication of an American Expeditionary Forces monument at St. Nazaire, France, with U.S. Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, Marshal Ferdinand Foch, and General Pershing participating; and of President and Mrs. Warren G. Harding aboard the Presidential Yacht Mayflower, ca. 1921.

Films of the 1924 transatlantic flight of the airship Los Angeles (ZR-3), of rescue operations by lighter-than-air craft, and of a demonstration of aerial mapping techniques at Miami, Fla.

Films of postwar Navy training in seamanship, first aid, and the repair and maintenance of electrical equipment, machinery, dirigibles, and airplanes aboard ships, at several navy yards and bases, and at the Naval Academy and the Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

News coverage and Navy films of League of Nations, Red Cross, and U.S. Navy activities relating to the removal of Armenian and Greek refugees from Turkey to Greece, ca. 1921, and films of the rescue of personnel from grounded and burning ships.

Films of recreation aboard ships and of sightseeing all over the world. Many scenes of U.S. Navy ships in harbors, at sea, on maneuvers, and so forth, and of ships of the Italian, British, and Turkish Navies.

A film about the newly acquired Virgin Islands, ca. 1918.

Records of the National Labor Relations Board.

RG 25

1938. 1 reel.

A film of the complete assembly of Ford automobiles.

Records of the United States Coast Guard.

RG 26

1918-55. 84 reels.

Films, 1918-38 and 1945-55, about the history of the Coast Guard illustrating its peacetime activities, including rescue work at sea and in inland disaster areas, cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service in the whaling and fur seal industries, waterfront and harbor protection and law enforcement, enforcement of ship safety regulations, beach and off-shore patrols against smuggling, icebreaking and lighthouse duties in the Great Lakes, iceberg patrol, lighthouse and light buoy construction and maintenance, navigation assistance to ships in U.S. coastal waters and abroad, weather observation, training and education at the Coast Guard Academy and at other institutions, and recreation. Films relating to domestic activities during World War II, including dock and harbor patrol, ship inspection, investigations of ship sinkings, firefighting, weather observation, and beach patrol (including a film showing FBI agents posing with German spies captured by the Coast Guard); and films concerning Coast Guard overseas activities during the war, such as amphibious operations in all theaters, transportation of troops and war materials, rescue at sea, submarine patrol, and convoy escort. Films of a yacht race and of activities of U.S. political and military leaders, ca. 1938.

Records of the Post Office Department.

RG 28

1921-57. 69 reels.

Films depicting activities and facilities of the Department, including the Dead Letter Office; mail handling and delivery; transporting mail by air, land, and water; parcel post; manufacturing and repairing mailbags; printing and issuing stamps; protecting the mails from use in defrauding the public and from robbery; the postal savings system; instructions to mail users; and post office buildings and the construction and dedication of the New Post Office, Washington, D.C., 1931-34. The films include footage of persons such as Presidents Herbert C. Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Postmasters General Harry S. New, Walter F. Brown, and James A. Farley, and aviatrix Amelia Earhart.

A scenic film about Mount Rainier National Park.

German propaganda films, 1939-40, including "Baptism of Fire," which depicts the conquest of Belgium, Holland, France, and Poland. Addressed to the German consul in New York, the films were impounded as undeliverable mail shortly after the United States entered the war.

Records of the Bureau of the Census.

RG 29

1937-39 and 1960. 16 reels.

Films seeking public cooperation in the National Unemployment Census of 1937 and in the 1940 census. Training films for enumerators for the 1940 census. A National Educational Television series on the 1960 census illustrating the work of the Bureau, presenting the history of census

taking in the United States, and explaining the kind of information sought in the 1960 census and the uses to which it can be put.

Records of the Federal Housing Administration.

RG 31

1935-36. 10 reels.

Films of a series entitled "Better Housing News Flashes" relating to the construction, renovation, and modernization of homes, farm buildings and commercial properties under the Administration and to the effect of the FHA and its Government-insured loan program on the building industries. Also a film on the construction of low-cost houses in Bethesda, Md.

Records of the Federal Extension Service.

RG 33

1913-ca. 1970. 89 reels.

Films, made or collected by the Department of Agriculture, relating chiefly to the educational activities of the Extension Service, including assisting and advising farmers and ranchers in methods of cultivation, soil conservation, the use of farm machinery, crop storage and marketing, plant and animal breeding, plant and animal pest and disease control, the care and feeding of animals, livestock butchering and marketing, farmyard sanitation, and home improvement and modernization; home economics instruction, including such things as canning, nutrition, child care, house-keeping, sewing, and bookkeeping; sponsorship of an cooperation with 4-H Clubs, American Farm Bureau Federations, the National Grange, and State farm organizations and extension services; work with the land-grant colleges in agricultural education; and cooperation with the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in establishing and operating cooperative farm communities.

Films, 1913-47, on the history and organization of the Department of Agriculture; Department facilities, including the buildings in Washington, D.C., and the Research Center at Beltsville, Md.; and Secretaries, Department personnel, and other prominent persons. Films on the role of the Department in enforcing the Pure Food and Drug Act, 1920-32 and 1959, in conducting agricultural explorations of other lands for plants that could be grown in the United States, 1928-32 and 1952, and in inspecting imported seeds and plants, 1922 and 1932. Also the role of the Department in both World Wars and a 1924 film on its motion picture making activities.

Films illustrating activities of the Forest Service, including the regulation of lumbering and grazing in national forests, fire prevention and fighting, pest and disease control and wildlife control in national forests, and wildlife conservation. Films illustrating the work of the Bureau of Public Roads, 1915-37. Films relating to construction and conservation work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in national forests and elsewhere. Films relating to national parks in all areas of the United States. Films explaining the work of the Weather Bureau. Films covering highlights of the Coolidge and Hoover administrations and depicting activities of well-known persons and news events, 1925-39.

Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

RG 35

1933-43. 2 reels.

Motion pictures on the role of the CCC in erosion control and on work and recreation during one day in a CCC camp.

Records of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

RG 38

1941. 1 reel.

A film of the testing of Higgins amphibious tanks by the Board of Inspection and Survey.

Records of the Bureau of Accounts (Treasury).

RG 39

ca. 1935. 1 reel.

A film illustrating the accounting system of the Treasury Department and showing President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressing Congress on the public works program.

Records of International Conferences, Commissions, and Expositions.

RG 43

1936 and 1968. 1,002 reels.

A 70-mm. film entitled "US," which was shown at the U.S. Federal Pavilion at the 1968 Hemisfair in San Antonio, Tex., and color outtakes depicting many aspects of American life. A film illustrating power resources in the United States, 1936.

Records of the United States Senate.

RG 46

1936-38. 4 reels.

Newsreel footage received from a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor of the 1936 San Francisco dock strike, the 1937 Republic Steel strike in Chicago, and the 1938 Stockton, Calif., cannery strike.

Records of the Social Security Administration.

RG 47

1936-40. 23 reels.

Films on procedures for obtaining old age and survivors insurance, disability insurance, and unemployment benefits. Newsreel footage covering activities of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Gov. Alfred M. Landon, and others.

Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

RG 48

1929-62. 179 reels.

Films, 1935-37, relating to the overall activities of the Department, including the activities of the Office of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Division of Territories and Island Possessions, and the Bureau of Mines. Films of President Harry S. Truman signing the Defense Production Act of 1950 and of Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman speaking, ca. 1950.

A film about the operation of the Alaska Railroad, 1962.

Films made by or for the Office of Indian Affairs, 1933-36, about the origin and history of American Indians and their contemporary customs and ways of life.

Films made or collected by the Bureau of Mines, ca. 1936, relating to volcanic action and resultant geological formations, mountain building and geological problems in mining and structural engineering, and Texas and its industries and geography.

Films from the 1930's made by or relating to National Park Service activities, including films of scenes, work, and recreation in National and State parks and at national monuments and national historic sites all over the United States and in the territories.

Films made by the Bureau of Reclamation or relating to Bureau activities, 1934-38 and 1952, concerning conservation in general, the history of the westward expansion of the United States and the depletion of natural resources, activities of the General Land Office and the Geological Survey, activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and reclamation projects and their impact on communities.

Films made or collected by the Division of Territories and Island Possessions of the 1929 Carpenter-Whitney Expedition to Alaska and films about the Katmai National Monument, n.d. Films concerned mainly with sugarcane growing and refining in Hawaii, 1937, and films of scenery, tourist activities, and agricultural and other work on St. Thomas, St. John's, and St. Croix Islands in the Virgin Islands, 1935-36.

Films depicting activities of agencies other than the Department of the Interior, including a film made by the Public Buildings Administration of the Federal Works Agency of a housing project for married enlisted men at Fort Jackson, S.C., 1941, and a few films, 1935-36, on the creation and development of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Records of the Bureau of the Public Debt.

RG 53

1914-18. 4 reels.

Films dramatizing several heroic acts of World War I infantrymen, produced by the Treasury Department to promote the fourth Liberty loan drive. Films of the Salvation Army Congress in London, 1914.

General Records of the Department of the Treasury.

RG 56

1941-68. 100 reels.

Incentive films and advertising spots used in connection with defense and Victory bond promotional drives by the Savings Bonds Division and covering aspects of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, as well as peacetime defense needs.

General Records of the Department of State.

RG 59

1911-65. 206 reels.

Films made by the Department, its subsidiary agencies, other Government departments, and private companies reflecting Department of State activities and policies and illustrating the history of the U.S. role in world affairs.

Films of the construction of the Panama Canal and views of the surrounding countryside and native life, 1911-13.

News coverage of British Foreign Secretary Arthur J. Balfour's visit to Washington, D.C., 1917.

A film showing President Calvin Coolidge with members of his Cabinet, 1925.

A 1926 film of the U.S. Legation in San Salvador and a 1929 film of La Paz, Bolivia, Bolivian cities and towns, the Bolivian countryside, and U.S. Minister David E. Kaufman with Bolivian President Hernando Siles.

A Fourth of July celebration in Shanghai, 1924.

The Notre Dame Boys Choir singing Christmas hymns, 1933.

A 1938 film in the "March of Time" series entitled "Uncle Sam--The Good Neighbor." The film illustrates U.S. Foreign Service activities, with several officials of the Service and the Department of State and several ambassadors participating. A film of discussion by Assistant Secretary of State Sumner Welles about Nazi infiltration in South America and of the Presidents of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay meeting to confer on the problem.

Films of activities aboard the Swedish Red Cross ship Gripsholm in New York harbor as it prepares to repatriate Japanese citizens and to deliver packages to American prisoners of war in Japan, 1943.

Documentaries and newsreels produced by the Office of War Information reporting on World War II activities at home and in the combat theaters; covering a visit to the United States by Madame Chiang Kai-shek, 1943; and reenacting the sinking of the freighter Delia B by a German submarine and the sinking of the submarine by a B-24. Documentaries about life in America from the "American Scene" series made during the war by the Office of War Information for distribution abroad.

A film illustrating Office of Strategic Services Operations during the Allied invasions of Sicily and Italy, 1944.

A film made by the Foreign Liquidation Commission in Italy illustrating procedures for disposing of surplus property and reconstruction work, 1946.

A film about the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization in assisting students from all over the world, 1947.

A film showing a U.S. military cemetery in Margraten, Holland, and scenes and life in Limburg Province, ca. 1950, presented to the U.S. Ambassador to The Netherlands by the Association of Netherlands Coal Mines.

Films illustrating reconstruction and economic development made possible by Marshall plan aid to Italy, Greece, and Great Britain, 1950-51; and films on efforts to improve the quality of life in Mexico and South America under the point 4 program, 1951.

Films reviewing international events from 1945 to 1951; covering the proceedings of the Japanese peace treaty conference held in San Francisco in 1951; depicting the plight of Arab refugees from Israel in the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem, 1950; showing refugees from East Berlin, 1951; covering the Korean war; and relating to youth activities in East and West Germany, 1950-51.

A film biography of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to the time he was appointed commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, 1951.

Films showing the construction of the U.S. pavilion at the Brussels World's Fair and the opening ceremonies of the fair and films shown as exhibits in the U.S. pavilion, 1958.

Films, mostly from television shows, of speeches, interviews, and discussions featuring Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of State and others, including Dean Acheson, Christian Herter, Dean Rusk, George Ball, Douglas Dillon, and W. Averell Harriman, 1950-65, relating to U.S. foreign policy and world conditions.

Records of the National Archives and Records Service.

RG 64

1936-58. 17 reels.

Films of the first meeting of the National Archives Council, June 10, 1936, and of a luncheon meeting of the National Historical Publications Commission, June 17, 1958. Films of ceremonies at the National Archives marking the opening of the exhibit of the Japanese surrender documents, 1945, concerning historical documents in the Library of Congress, and of the transfer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution from the Library to the National Archives, 1952. Films of tests conducted at the National Bureau of Standards on the burning characteristics of nitrate motion picture film, 1936-38. A film entitled "Your National Archives," 1953. A film of the voyage of the U.S.S. Skate under the North Pole, 1958.

Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

RG 55

1936. 3 reels.

A motion picture entitled "You Can't Get Away With It" which portrays FBI activities in detecting and arresting criminals.

Records of the Work Projects Administration.

RG 69

1931-39. 105 reels.

Films produced or distributed by the Motion Picture Record Division or its successors relating to WPA activities, including flood, drought, and hurricane relief and rehabilitation; dam, road, park, airport, and public building construction; slum clearance; development of recreation facilities; projects for promoting children's welfare; public education; women's work projects; and "white collar" work projects, including the

Federal theater project and the Federal art project, 1935-39. Films illustrating WPA programs in particular areas of the country and in Alaska, 1935-37.

Instructional films in the "Physical Science" and "Bringing the World to the Classroom" series, 1931-36.

Films illustrating activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Youth Administration, 1936.

Records of the Bureau of Mines.

RG 70

1913-55. 235 reels.

Films relating to mining methods, processing, refining, manufacturing, and products and to uses of nickel, silver, lead, iron, copper, aluminum, magnesium, sulfur, clay, asbestos, carborundum, and sillimanite, 1919-38 and ca. 1943; coal mining methods, 1919-38; drilling oil wells and quarrying sandstone, granite, and limestone for Portland cement, 1915-31; automobile manufacture and assembly, including explanations of the principle of the internal combustion engine and of the lubrication of a car, 1926-36; manufacturing, testing, and uses of dynamite, electric detonators, electric meters, safety glass, spark plugs, steel, storage batteries, valves, and watches, 1922-38; applications of steam, water, and electric power, 1922-28 and ca. 1943; and demonstrations of the uses of the oxyacetylene torch, 1922 and 1938.

Films used in the Bureau's safety and health education programs, 1913-17; gas, fires, dust explosions, equipment handling, and digging in coal mines, 1914-30; shoring, blasting equipment handling, and ore loading in metal mines, 1914-30; fires in oil wells and general safety in the oil industry, 1923-24; carbon monoxide gas poisoning, 1928; rescue and first aid, 1915-31; traffic safety, 1924 and 1937; and sanitation practices in mining towns.

Films on the natural resources and beauty of Arizona and Texas and films on the national parks, including Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Rocky Mountain, and Shenandoah, 1925-55.

News coverage of the Royalton, Ill., mine disaster, 1914; testing of railway guns at Fort Story, Va., 1929; and the arrival of the U.S.S. Houston at Cartagena, Colombia, with President Franklin D. Roosevelt aboard, 1934.

Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

RG 75

1908-21. 13 reels.

Films made by the Rodman Wanamaker Historical Expeditions to the North American Indians, 1908-20. The films depict the life, religious customs, dances, and methods of warfare of North American Indians; the adoption of Marshall Ferdinand Foch by the Crow; the ground-breaking ceremony for an Indian memorial in New York State, with President William Howard Taft and his Cabinet in attendance; the declaration of allegiance made by the tribes on becoming American citizens; and the adoption of Joseph M. Dixon, leader

of the expeditions, into the Wolf Clan of the Mohawk Nation, Iroquois Confederacy.

A film made by the Office of Indian Affairs during a trip by the revenue cutter Bear from the Aleutian Islands to Siberia showing many arctic scenes, including icefields, Eskimos and their homes, and animals, especially reindeer, 1921.

Records of the National Park Service.

RG 79

1930-36. 15 reels.

Films, 1930-36, illustrating tourist activities, Park Service work, park facilities, and the people who lived in the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks before the parks were dedicated. A film depicting a typical day at Camp Roosevelt, a Boy Scout camp at Willows, Md., ca. 1930.

General Records of the Department of the Navy.

RG 80

1925-60. 7,168 reels.

Films made or collected by the Navy and used in training during World War II relating to the history of naval aviation, ships, submarines, airplanes, training of personnel, and mail delivery; kamikaze attacks; the battles of Midway and the Marianas; invasions of the Solomon Islands, Eniwetok, Saipan, and Guam; preparations for the invasions of the Ryukyus and Okinawa; bombing raids over Japan; and Japan and the Japanese people.

Outtakes and camera records, 1942-60, from the central motion picture files of the Navy showing experimental equipment, aircraft in flight, aircraft crashes, and flight deck operations; ship movements; Pacific engagements and landings during World War II and Korea; the Japanese surrender ceremonies; the Allied occupation of Japan; and returning prisoners of war.

Newsreel outtakes and clips relating to World War II and the Korean action.

A "Combat Bulletin" film on the Japanese surrender showing President Harry S. Truman announcing the surrender, celebrations in the United States, and the surrender ceremonies aboard the U.S.S. Missouri, 1945.

Captured enemy films relating to naval activities during World War II.

British and American films of the Atlantic Conference between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill aboard the U.S.S. Augusta, 1941.

News coverage of the wreckage of the Navy dirigible Shenandoah (ZR-1), 1925.

A "March of Time" film about medical training in the United States, 1938.

Records of the Federal Reserve System.

RG 82

1937. 1 reel.

A film made at the dedication ceremonies opening the Federal Reserve

Building, Washington, D.C., with President Franklin D. Roosevelt making the dedicatory remarks.

Records of the Women's Bureau.

RG 86

1928-38. 6 reels.

Dramas concerning the role of women in industry and the impact of labor laws and union activity on working conditions for women.

Records of the United States Secret Service.

RG 87

1939. 1 reel.

A motion picture entitled "Know Your Money," containing instruction on detecting counterfeit bills and coins and the action to be taken when counterfeit money is received.

Records of the Public Health Service.

RG 90

1924-50. 49 reels.

Films in a series entitled "Science of Life," produced in 1924 and designed for use in the life sciences and personal hygiene instruction for young men and women. Films pertaining to the causes, treatment, and control of malaria, syphilis, other communicable diseases, and cancer, 1924-50.

Records of the Inland Waterways Corporation.

RG 91

1932. 1 reel.

A film of the christening of the packet boat Mark Twain at Jeffersonville, Ind., including film of an animated map of the inland waterways routes in the Mississippi River region from Minnesota and Lake Michigan to New Orleans.

Records of the Farmers Home Administration.

RG 96

1936-37. 11 reels.

Documentaries produced by the Rural Settlement Administration and the Farm Security Administration under the direction of Pare Lorentz. The documentaries include "The Plow That Broke the Plains," a film that illustrates the history of the Plains from the era of the open range through the coming of the "dirt farmer," the dirt farmer's exploitation of the soil, and the drought and winds that stripped the topsoil from the area; "The River," a pictorial history of the part the Mississippi River played in the history of the United States from frontier days to the flood of 1937, emphasizing the erosion and floods that occur as a result of careless use of the land.

Miscellaneous films about migratory labor camps; agricultural and industrial cooperatives in Russia, England, Sweden, Finland, and Scotland; and the construction of different types of houses and barns.

Records of the Bureau of Labor Standards.

RG 100

1938. 1 reel.

A motion picture film entitled "Stop Silicosis," illustrating the causes and prevention of the disease.

Records of the Children's Bureau.

RG 102

1919-26. 7 reels.

Films on prenatal, infant, and child care and diseases.

Records of the Farm Credit Administration.

RG 103

1936-37. 4 reels.

A film promoting the cooperative marketing of wool. Films of President Franklin D. Roosevelt at his desk in the White House, of Gov. William I. Myers of the Farm Credit Administration in front of the FCA Building, and of several other buildings in Washington, D.C.

Records of the Bureau of the Mint.

RG 104

1940. 1 reel.

A film dealing with minting coins and casting medals at the Philadelphia Mint.

Records of the Smithsonian Institution.

RG 106

1903-49. 49 reels.

Films, 1931-41, from Bureau of American Ethnology records illustrating the preparation of an anthropological exhibit at the Smithsonian and of diggings and surrounding areas made in the course of archaeological explorations in New Mexico, Arizona, Tennessee, Colorado, Yucatan, and Honduras. Films, ca. 1930-31, illustrating the making of a dictionary of the intertribal sign language of the Great Plains Indians and depicting the theory, history, and practice of the sign language.

Films, 1929 and 1950, pertaining to the history of the planning and development of Washington, D.C.

Films pertaining to the history of flight from 1903 through 1927 and films, 1927-32, of important events in the life of Charles A. Lindbergh, from his transatlantic flight to the kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby, and of a glider exhibition and contest.

Records of the Office of the Secretary of War.

RG 107

1941-45. 191 reels.

Films from the Bureau of Public Relations documenting American military activities in all theaters of operation during World War II and activities of the Allied military governments in Europe and in the Far East. Some captured German films for the same period.

Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

RG 111

1909-54. 15,597 reels.

Pre-World War I films concerning the development of flight, the construction of the Panama Canal, 1910-14, President William Howard Taft on an inspection tour of the canal, ca. 1912, and the Mexican Punitive Expedition, 1916. Most of these are from the Historical (H) series.

Films of the World War I period depicting activities of the American Expeditionary Forces in France; homefront activities, such as mobilization

and training and industrial production; U.S. Navy activities, submarine warfare, and convoys carrying troops overseas; British, French, Russian, and Italian participation in the war; the war in the Near East; peace celebrations in Paris and in America; and President Woodrow Wilson's two trips to France and the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. Most of these are from the H and Miscellaneous (M) series.

Films made between the wars relating to all phases of Regular Army, Army Reserves, ROTC, Citizens Military Training Corps, and West Point training, education, and maneuvers; Army activities in the territories and in other countries; military medicine; ordnance manufacturing, testing, and demonstrations; installing and maintaining communications systems; the history of flight, including Air Service activities, early parachute jumps, and air races; civil projects of the Army, such as river and harbor improvements and disaster relief; sports and recreation, such as the Olympic games, national rifle matches, and Army-Navy football games; and Army participation in parades and celebrations, in various funeral ceremonies, and in the burial of the Unknown Soldier. Coverage of news events, such as Charles A. Lindbergh's transatlantic flight, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's first and second inaugurations, the Hindenburg disaster, and volcanic eruptions. These films are in the (M) series.

Films of the Second World War period relating to all aspects of the conflict, including the Allies and the Axis Powers and their conduct of the war in all theaters; the Italian invasion of Ethiopia, 1935; the Spanish Civil War, 1937; the Japanese invasion of China, 1937; American home-front activities and war production; mobilization and training; the roles of women, Negroes, and nisei in the war effort; entertainment for troops; the atom bomb; the end of the war; the Cairo, Teheran, Yalta, Quebec, and San Francisco Conferences; Allied military governments in Germany and Japan; postwar problems in Europe and Asia; and war crime trials in Germany and Japan. The films are from the M, Army Depository Copy (ADC), Training Films, Combat Reports, Engineering Board Film Digest, Educational Films, Film Bulletins, Historical Reports, Staff Film Reports, Orientation Films, Army-Navy Screen Magazine (SM), Special Bulletins, Team 21, and War Film series.

Films relating to the Korean action and covering all aspects of the conflict and the peace negotiations, from the Combat Bulletins, ADC, M, and SM series.

Films of the inaugural ceremonies and parades of Presidents Harry S. Truman, 1949, and Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953, from the M series.

Films made by other Government agencies, including the Navy Department, the Bureau of Mines, and the War Relocation Authority. Films from private sources such as the Red Cross and newsreel companies, and films made in Germany, Japan, Italy, Finland, Great Britain, France, Russia, and Canada.

Records of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

RG 117

1937. 8 reels.

A motion picture entitled "America Honors Her War Dead," showing excerpts from dedication ceremonies of American war memorials and chapels in Europe, August and October 1937.

Records of the National Youth Administration.

RG 119

1937-42. 56 reels.

Motion pictures illustrating the functions of the Administration, including the work and student programs, recreational activities, programs for Negroes, and activities at resident centers; and dramatizations of the problems of unemployed youth and NYA assistance given them.

Two films made by NYA personnel, one of the visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of England to Washington in 1939, and the other of the inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941.

Records of the Public Buildings Service.

RG 121

1940-43. 2 reels.

Films of President Franklin D. Roosevelt speaking at the dedication of the Washington National Airport, 1940, and of the site clearance and construction of the War Department Building (the Pentagon), 1940-43.

Records of the Office of Territories.

RG 126

1939-41. 97 reels.

Films covering all aspects of the Byrd Antarctic expedition of 1939-41.

Records of the United States Marine Corps.

RG 127

1939-45. 21 reels.

Training films used during World War II and films of combat in the South Pacific.

Records of Joint Committees of Congress.

RG 128

1965 and 1969. 2 reels.

Films of the inaugurations of Presidents Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965, and Richard M. Nixon, 1969, made under the direction and authority of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

Records of the Bureau of Prisons.

RG 129

n.d. 1 reel.

A film entitled "Protecting the Public."

Records of the White House Office.

RG 130

ca. 1923-32. 5 reels.

Films relating to the informal activities of President Calvin Coolidge, ca. 1923-29, and activities of President Herbert C. Hoover, 1929-32, including a fishing trip Hoover made and a plea by him to the Nation for relief aid. Films of the 1932 Republican National Convention.

Records of the Office of Alien Property.

RG 131

1930's. 36 reels.

Films from the records of the Hamburg-American Line--North German Lloyd concerning travel in Germany and other countries. Japanese dramas from the records of Haruta & Co., Inc.

Records of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. 1941. 5 reels.

RG 145

A film entitled "The Land," directed and photographed by Robert Flaherty for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and concerned with the reclamation and conservation of farmland exhausted or eroded by poor agricultural practices.

Records of the United States Civil Service Commission.

RG 146

ca. 1921. 1 reel.

A film illustrating the career possibilities afforded by the merit system.

Records of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

RG 170

1928-37. 14 reels.

Films relating to drug traffic and the enforcement of narcotics laws in Egypt, China, and the United States. A British instructional film on the cultivation of the poppy plant.

Records of the Office of Civilian Defense.

RG 171

1941-45. 46 reels.

Films used in training civilian defense workers in mobilization, rescue, firefighting and prevention, child care, defense against poison gas attacks, smoke concealment, air raid defense operations, and various defense equipment and its use. Films of London under aerial attack.

Films promoting victory gardens and food conservation.

General Records of the Department of Labor.

RG 174

1940-68. 100 reels.

Films the Labor Department made or collected relating to its history and its activities in areas such as discrimination in hiring, employment for youth and the elderly, enforcement of labor legislation and regulations, civil rights, and foreign trade, 1940-68.

Television documentaries, interviews, and panel discussions, 1960-68, aired by American Broadcasting Company News. Columbia Broadcasting System's "Face the Nation" and "Washington Conversation," National Broadcasting Company's "Today Show" and "Meet the Press," and National Educational Television programs. The documentaries include "Harvest of Shame," a 1960 Columbia Broadcasting System documentary about the living conditions of migrant workers in the United States; "A View From the Cabinet," featuring some of President John F. Kennedy's Cabinet members and President Lyndon B. Johnson discussing the Kennedy administration; and other films that present the Secretaries of Labor, other Cabinet members, the Vice Presidents, and various Congressmen and labor leaders discussing labor and

economic conditions and the labor policies of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Television spot announcements in support of Labor Department policies and featuring such persons as Secretaries of Labor Willard Wirtz and Arthur Goldberg and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

Records of the United States Maritime Commission.

RG 178

1924-45. 75 reels.

Films depicting the history of the merchant marine from Revolutionary times through World War II, including its activities during the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War; peacetime shipping and passenger service on the Great Lakes and at sea; rescue work; and convoy duties in all theaters of operation during World War II.

Films illustrating recruiting, training, and other activities of the Maritime Commission at training schools and stations, at a convalescent center, and aboard sailing vessels and steamships, 1938-44.

Films concerning the manufacture of all types of merchant vessels during World War II and of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Henry J. Kaiser, the Dionne quintuplets, and others participating in ship launchings. Films illustrating the principles of the steam turbine engine; relating to the repair and renovation of ships for the Victory Fleet; and showing the manufacture of World War II material, including train axles and wheels, B-24 bombers, and tanks.

Miscellaneous films of Richard E. Byrd and Clarence Chamberlain participating in an early airmail flight from the deck of a ship, 1928; of the work of the Coast Guard in keeping shipping lanes open and safe, 1929; and of British coastal fortifications, 1940.

Records of the War Production Board.

RG 179

1940-44. 15 reels.

Films produced to stimulate war production concerning the conduct of the war in several theaters. Films of Allied and Axis military and political leaders and films about the manufacture and transportation of war material, how war material is damaged, and how it is repaired.

Films instructing in good telephone manners.

Records of the War Trade Board.

RG 182

ca. 1919. 1 reel.

A film of Board members and of the War Trade Board Building, with a large number of employees in front of the building.

Records of the Office of Price Administration.

RG 188

1943-46. 15 reels.

Films created to enlist the cooperation of the public in OPA programs, concerning the necessity for price controls and rationing both during and

immediately following the war, explaining the role of the consumer in enforcing regulations, and warning against participation in the black market because of the inflationary results.

National Archives Gift Collection.

RG 200

1896-1969. 13,025 reels.

Newsreels, 1919-67. Chiefly unbroken series of Paramount News, October 1941-March 1957; Movietone News, January 1957-October 1963; "News of the Day," October 1963-December 1967; and Universal newsreels, including material used in released newsreels and outtakes, 1946-48 and 1950-67. Newsreels produced by Movietone, Pathe, Fox, International, Paramount, and Telenews covering selected news items, including the Big Four at the Paris Peace Conference, 1919; the Navy's transatlantic flight from the Azores to Lisbon, 1919; activities of Presidents Calvin Coolidge, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, and Dwight D. Eisenhower; the 1924 Republican National Convention; events leading to and occurring during World War II; and the 1959 swearing-in ceremonies of the first Senators from Alaska and the first Congressmen from Hawaii.

"The March of Time," 1939-51. Documentary films relating to U.S. history, culture, social problems, science, education, mental health, and international problems; to Government agencies, such as the FBI, the Secret Service, and the Post Office Department; to wartime and postwar activities of private institutions, such as the American Red Cross; and to the effect of World War II on one small American town.

World War I films, 1917-19. Films made behind German lines by Jacob Berkowitz; the "Official War Review" series on land and air battles, maneuvers, and training, distributed by the Films Division of the U.S. Committee on Public Information; the National Aeronautics Committee's film on the celebration at Hollywood, Calif., of Air Memorial Day, 1919; a documentary on World War I, produced in 1956 by the National Broadcasting Company and entitled "The Great War"; and a large quantity of footage collected by the Columbia Broadcasting System from sources all over the world in producing the documentary entitled "World War I."

World War II films, 1940-45. Films produced by Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Inc., and Columbia Pictures Corp., under the technical supervision of the armed services, and several films distributed by the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry. The films concern activities of the Army Air Corps, the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard, including officer training programs and homefront aspects of the war effort. Also documentaries compiled from newsreels, one of events leading up to the war entitled "The World in Flames," and one by Paramount concerning resettlement of Jewish refugees in the Dominican Republic; a re-release by the National Film Board of Canada of a World War I Charlie Chaplin film promoting the sale of war bonds; pictures of German air raids of London, presented to the National Archives by the British Library of Information; a Finnish Relief Fund film about the Russo-Finnish War; films

relating to the training of Dutch troops in exile and to the liberation of Greece; a collection of German newsreels covering the early stages of the war, presented to the National Archives by Lt. William F. Rope; and an Army Air Forces film of the ceremonies attending the placing of the German surrender documents on exhibit in the National Archives.

Ford collection, 1914-56. 2,500 reels. The "Ford Animated Weekly," 1914-21, consisting of short news features, films about cities, and general interest films; the "Ford Educational Weekly" and the "Ford Educational Library," 1916-25, consisting of short features and unedited film on agriculture, civics and citizenship, industrial geography, regional geography, history, nature study, recreation and sports, sanitation and health, and technical subjects; the "Ford News," a series of newsreels shown at Detroit area theaters during 1934; and films on agriculture and conservation, charities, education, geography, and sports and recreation and presenting dramas and news. Films of the informal activities of the Ford family and the family's philanthropies and films relating to personal projects of Henry Ford, including the Dearborn Independent newspaper, the Ford farm, and the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Films illustrating the activities of the Ford Motor Co., including activities of domestic and foreign branches, 1928-54; nonmanufacturing activities, 1914-54, and plants and the major manufacturing activities, 1906-56; and war-related activities during both World Wars and the Korean action. Also several films made by producers other than the Ford Motion Picture Laboratories and not produced for the Ford Motor Co., including advertisements for companies other than Ford, cartoons, early comedies by Thomas A. Edison, dramas, documentaries, newsreels, personal films, propaganda films, public service features, technical features, and travelogs.

Harmon collection, 1930-51. 1,400 reels. Films produced by the Harmon Foundation on many aspects of the history and accomplishments of minority cultures in the United States and on the cultures of Asia, Africa, and other developing areas.

League of Nations collection, 1920-46. 56 reels. This collection was presented to the National Archives by the United Nations. It consists of films of the first and last meetings of the League; of meetings and activities concerning such problems as the Greco-Bulgar incident, 1925, the Sino-Japanese conflict, 1932, and the Italo-Ethiopian conflict, 1936; of health and disarmament conferences; and of League delegates and officials.

Other educational and documentary films, 1915-67. A series by Eastman Teaching Films, Inc., 1927-35, on history, geography, industry, conservation, recreation, agriculture, and sports; two series produced by Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., 1934-35, entitled "See America First" and "Our Own United States," concerning U.S. history, industry, occupations, recreation, scenery, and ethnic groups; a series, "The Washington Parade," by Columbia Pictures, Inc., on scenes and activities of various Federal agencies, chiefly at Washington, D.C.; and a Columbia Broadcasting System series, "Eyewitness to History," 1959-60, with pictorial summaries of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's trips abroad, Nikita Khrushchev's visit to the

United States in 1959 and to France in 1960, and Charles de Gaulle's visit to the United States in 1960.

Also documentaries, dramas, and television news specials and stock footage received from individuals, motion picture companies, and other organizations. These films are on American history; political parties; the administrations of Presidents Calvin Coolidge, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and John F. Kennedy; the 1959 funeral services for John Foster Dulles and Adm. William F. Halsey; the development of motion picture equipment, radio broadcasting, the telephone, aviation, atomic energy, and space flight from Robert H. Goddard's experiments in the 1920's and 1930's to Col. John H. Glenn's orbital flight in 1962; Donald McMillan's expedition to Greenland, 1925; Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1922 Antarctic expedition, Adm. Richard E. Byrd's 1927 transatlantic flight and his Antarctic expeditions of 1926, 1928-30, 1933, and 1947-48, and Lincoln Ellsworth's 1936 Antarctic expedition; a 1915 congressional visit to the Philippines and Hawaii; the 1947 Texas City disaster; and activities of the American Red Cross and the National 4-H Club Foundation. The films also cover other topics as diverse as poverty in the Tennessee hill country, whaling and walrus and bear hunting in the Arctic, integration in Atlanta, Ga., charting ocean winds, and many other social problems, ranging from venereal diseases to the need for city planning. There are also films relating to events and conditions outside the United States and its territories, including life in East Africa in 1924, the eruption of Paricutin in Mexico in 1943, communism in Russia and Cuba, nazism in Germany, the history of Austria from the Hapsburgs to the end of World War II, the National Archives of India, and the state funeral of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965.

Historical commercial film productions, 1896-1943. Prints of motion picture productions presented to the National Archives as having historical or research interest incidental to the dramatic presentation. They include two collections presented by Thomas Armat, consisting of penny-in-the-slot and nickelodeon shows produced by the Edison, Pathe, Melies, and Urban companies, 1896-1910; "The New York Hat," 1912, and "Birth of a Nation," 1916, both directed by D. W. Griffith; Selznick International Pictures' "Gone With the Wind"; Paramount Pictures' "The Biscuit Eater"; Warner Brothers' "Mission to Moscow" and a shortened version of "Black Legion"; and Theatre-on-Film, Inc.'s "Journey to Jerusalem." Also eight films ("The Man I Married," "Man Hunt," "They Dare Not Love," "Night Train," "Confessions of a Nazi Spy," "Dispatch from Reuter's," "Underground," and "Foreign Correspondent") that were studied by a subcommittee of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee investigating the dissemination of anti-Nazi propaganda before the United States entered World War II.

General Records of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1948-69. 120 reels.

RG 207

Documentation of the creation of the Department, President Lyndon B. Johnson's appointment of Robert C. Weaver as its first Secretary, several ceremonies relating to the establishment of the Department, and early Department activities. Footage produced by the Department for use in the

film "Open Space"; fair housing television spots; and "instant rehabilitation" renewal project materials. Completed films on urban and community planning, discrimination in housing, urban poverty, housing codes, and home construction.

A few films on housing and planning in the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and Latin America.

Records of the Office of War Information.

RG 208

1941-45. 661 reels.

Informational, propaganda, and documentary films covering all phases of homefront activities, including farming, industry, housing, education, manpower needs, the roles of women and Negroes in the war effort, and Japanese relocation; urging citizen support for and participation in the war effort on the homefront, including participation in conservation, preventing inflation, war bond drives, and safeguarding military information; illustrating the Social Security system and its benefits to the workingman; covering lend-lease activities; reporting on all aspects of the war, from training of the armed forces to the fighting fronts in all theaters; depicting the Allied peoples, customs, and contributions to the war effort; and concerning the Axis Powers and their conduct of the war, military strength, and ambitions.

A film, narrated in Chinese, of the Chungking memorial service for President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1945.

Newsreels, including "United News," sponsored by the OWI, 1941-45, most narrated in English, with samples narrated in Portuguese, Arabic, French, Chinese, Afrikaans, and Japanese; "Fox Movietone News," covering the period 1942-45; "News of the Day," 1937-43; Free French newsreels, 1945; "Indian News," released in India in 1945; "Russian News," made in Russia, 1942-45; and "War Pictorial News," produced in England, 1943.

Records of the War Relocation Authority.

RG 210

1942-43. 4 reels.

Films about the activities of the WRA, life in relocation camps, and the training and record of nisei soldiers in World War II.

Records of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff.

RG 218

1942-46. 9 reels.

Motion pictures relating to the development of radar, radio, guided missiles, and other equipment.

Records of Presidential Committees, Commissions, and Boards.

RG 220

1957-66. 10 reels.

Records of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, consisting of films of the 1957 annual meeting, the life story of Glen Cunningham, and training for the handicapped. Also 1-minute television spots featuring President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Roy Campanella.

Records of the Office of the Bituminous Coal Consumers' Counsel, 1943. 2 reels. RG 223

Films entitled "Coal for Victory" and "Know Your Coal," illustrating methods of coal conservation.

Records of the Office of Strategic Services. 1942-45. 24 reels. RG 226

Films about the industry and people of Pearl Harbor prior to World War II and the Japanese attack of December 1, 1941. Films describing the social structure and behavior patterns of the Japanese and the geography and natural resources of Japan.

Films depicting the Allied landing in Sicily, 1943.

Records of the Office of Scientific Research and Development. 1943-44. 203 reels. RG 227

Films made by Divisions 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of the Office as illustrations for reports on the development of high explosives and rocket propellants; insecticides and protective chemicals for clothing and equipment; aerosols, gas mask absorbents, filters, and screen smoke; incendiary devices and hydraulic fluids; and amphibious vehicles.

Records of the Office of Inter-American Affairs. 1941-45. 45 reels. RG 229

Informational and propaganda films dealing with the peoples and cultures of Latin America, inter-American cooperation, Latin American minerals and archaeological treasures, a study of an ancient Inca city, and war activities of the United States.

Records of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. 1943-47. 29 reels. RG 234

Films relating to a U.S. Commercial Company survey of the economy, geography, and sociology of the Micronesian Islands, 1945-47; and films of cinchona plantations, natives, and the countryside of Guatemala, taken in connection with the activities of the U.S. Commercial Company in developing sources of quinine, 1943-44.

Films of plantations, natives, cities, and the countryside of Brazil made in connection with activities of the Rubber Development Corporation, 1943-44.

General Records of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. ca. 1963. 1 reel. RG 235

A film illustrating language teaching techniques.

Records of the Federal Aviation Administration. 1957. 3 reels. RG 237

Films illustrating the functions and activities of the Administration.

National Archives Collection of World War II War Crimes

RG 238

Records. 1921-45. 76 reels.

Films used as evidence at the war crimes trials of Axis leaders before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, 1945-46, and before the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, Tokyo, 1946-48, consisting of German films documenting the Nazi rise to power and triumphs in Europe, 1921-44, the entry of Germany into Austria, 1938, the political and industrial activities of the Krupp family and company officials, 1930-40, the construction of the No. 1 Hermann Goering steel plant, 1939-41, and the Nazi Supreme Court trial of the 20th July 1944 conspirators against Adolf Hitler. Films of concentration camps taken by American and Russian forces as they advanced through Germany, 1945. Also a Japanese film entitled "Japan in Time of Emergency."

National Archives Collection of Foreign Records Seized, 1941-

RG 242

1916-50. 2,224 reels.

German documentaries and newsreels covering World War I land and sea battles and the life of Paul von Hindenburg. Leni Riefenstahl's film entitled "Triumph of the Will," made at the 1934 Nazi Party rally at Nuremberg, and coverage of the 1936 Olympic riding competition from her film entitled "Olympiad." A feature film that was used in anti-Semitic indoctrination entitled "The Jew Suss." The personal film collection of Eva Braun, ca. 1939-40. German films on the history of the Nazi Party in Germany, many aspects of World War II on all fronts, war materiel manufacture and weapons development, German culture, and the training of Hitler Youth and of political leaders for administrative posts in occupied countries.

Italian documentaries and newsreels covering World War II on several fronts, including the Ethiopian and Greek invasions and the North African campaign.

Japanese documentaries and newsreels, 1932-44, relating to the fishing industry, travel in Japan, the invasion of China, and many aspects of the war in the Pacific.

French newsreels made in 1944 about World War II and films made in ca. 1950 about the campaign against the Vietminh in Indochina.

Russian newsreels, educational films, documentaries, and feature films on subjects such as the natural sciences, technology, agriculture, transportation, housing, travel in the Soviet Union, and Russian culture and history. Films on the death of Nikolai Lenin, 1924; the fall of Berlin at the end of World War II and the meeting of Russian and Western Allied troops at the Elbe; Hungary; the socialization of several republics of the Soviet Union; Soviet cooperation with other Communist countries; and North Korea of 1950. Also several anti-American dramas.

North Korean films about the 38th parallel and of American prisoners at Pyongyang.

Chinese Communist anti-Nationalist propaganda films made during the postwar period and before the removal of Chiang Kai-shek to Taiwan.

American films relating to civilian victims of war, 1942, and to the escape of American prisoners of war from the Island of Palawan in the Philippines.

Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey. RG 243
ca. 1944. 7 reels.
Captured German films relating to American incendiary bombs and bombing methods and to German war industries.

Records of the Office of the Housing Expediter. RG 252
1946. 1 reel.
A film about housing for veterans.

National Archives Collection of Records of Inaugural Committees. 1965. 1 reel. RG 274
A film entitled "1965 Inaugural Preview."

Records of the Agency for International Development. RG 286
ca. 1955. 2 reels.
Films of the International Cooperation Administration, consisting of a report to the American people on technical cooperation and illustrating U.S. assistance to India, Libya, Ecuador, Indochina, Sudan, Ethiopia, Paraguay, Thailand, Indonesia, and Afghanistan in improving educational, agricultural, medical, and other techniques. Films concerning U.S. military assistance programs and cooperation in RIO, NATO, and SEATO.

Records of the Property Management and Disposal Service RG 291
(General Services Administration). ca. 1957. 1 reel.
A film concerning the processing of nickel ore at the defense materials service nicaro project in Cuba.

Records of the United States Information Agency. RG 306
1932-55. 368 reels.
Documentaries produced or acquired by the Agency for distribution abroad about many aspects of life in the United States; the lives of famous Americans; the history of aviation; World War II; peacetime uses of atomic energy; U.S. foreign relations, including treaties, the Marshall plan and reconstruction in Europe, visits of foreign heads of state to the United States, cultural exchange, international trade, the Berlin airlift, and international sporting events; and life in South America, Europe, North Africa, and the Soviet Union. Many instructional films that were used in technical assistance programs on such subjects as farming, poultry raising, swimming, child care, training of nurses and teachers, medicine, rehabilitation of the blind and of veterans, apprentice training, civilian defense, and industry.

Records of the Agricultural Research Service. RG 310
1939-49. 11 reels.
Films illustrating methods of cultivating and harvesting sugar beets.

Records of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

RG 330

1961. 19 reels.

Films of the inaugural ceremony and parade of President John F. Kennedy.

Records of Headquarters Army Ground Forces.

RG 337

1942. 2 reels.

A film entitled "Speed With Power and Traction," demonstrating the uses of the MG-2 high-speed tractor.

Records of United States Air Force Commands, Activities, and Organizations. 1900-1964. 4,370 reels.

RG 342

Films made or collected by the Air Force on the history of the development of flight, including activities of the Wright brothers from 1900 on, such as their demonstration flights in France, Italy, and the United States, and on the development of airplanes, gliders, balloons, dirigibles, autogiros, helicopters, rockets, jets, satellites, aeronautical oddities, parachutes from the 1930's on, ballistic cameras, and radar.

Films about early airraces, airshows, and distance and altitude records; the flight by Richard E. Byrd and Floyd Bennett to the North Pole, 1926; the Hindenburg crash, 1937; Finne Ronne's Antarctic Expedition, 1946-48; the dedication of the New York International Airport, 1948; and people prominent in the history of flight, including Wilbur and Orville Wright, Edward V. Rickenbacker, Billy Mitchell, Charles A. Lindbergh, Richard E. Byrd, Floyd Bennett, Igor Sikorsky, and Wiley Post.

Films reflecting noncombat activities of the Air Force and its predecessors, 1920's-64, including the airmail service; rescue and assistance missions in natural disaster areas at home and abroad; hurricane hunting; the Berlin airlift; training and maneuvers; airbase construction; the opening of the Air Force Academy, 1955; participation in the preparations for and activities of the International Geophysical Year, 1953-59; A-bomb tests in the Pacific and elsewhere; and research and development work in the fields of guided missiles, remote control weapons, supersonic flight, and space technology.

World War I films illustrating the activities of the Army Air Service in France.

Films made in all theaters of operation during World War II concerning the activities of the Army Air Forces and all other aspects of the war, including the AAF at home; women in the AAF; Axis concentration and prisoner-of-war camps and atrocities; Allied bombing missions over Europe and Africa and in the Pacific area; the defense of Britain and Moscow; the effects of bombing raids on Japan, including the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; the surrender of Germany and Japan; and the customs, religion, industry, black market, and Allied occupation of Japan.

Films on aerial aspects of the Korean action and the truce-signing ceremonies.

Television news release prints on the war in Vietnam.

Films of the inaugurations of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman. Films relating to the Presidency of John F. Kennedy, including his inaugural, his activities as President, and worldwide memorial services and tributes to him. Films of the funeral of Gen. John J. Pershing, 1948.

Films of the 1952 Olympic games.

Captured German films depicting the war in Poland and covering research and development of planes, gliders, helicopters, jets, rockets, and ballistic missiles, 1912-44. Captured Japanese films relating to preparations for the Pearl Harbor attack and World War II combat. A Russian film of the 1949 May Day celebration.

Many military and civilian leaders appear in these films, including Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Fiorello La Guardia, Winston Churchill, Richard M. Nixon, Chiang Kai-shek, Syngman Rhee, Paul von Hindenburg, Josef Stalin, and V. M. Molotov.

Records of the Defense Atomic Support Agency.

RG 374

1954-62. 20 reels.

Classified and unclassified training films used by the Nuclear Weapons School to instruct in the care, handling, storage, and operation of atomic weapons.

Records of the Office of Civil Defense.

RG 397

1952-60. 66 reels.

Documentaries produced by predecessor agencies of the OCD depicting nuclear bomb explosions, flood damage, and all phases of civil defense.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, DC 20408



Date:

From:

To: Motion Picture and Sound Recording Branch
Audiovisual Archives Division
National Archives and Records Service

Gentlemen:

This is to notify you that our production (title)

was completed on or about (date)

and is scheduled for broadcast (or will be exhibited) on (date; location)

_____. Its total running time is _____
minutes and it includes approximately _____ feet (16mm or 35mm?)

of archival footage obtained from the National Archives. Following below
are a list of production credits and a brief *précis*:

CARD CATALOGS IN THE MOTION PICTURES BRANCH (NNVM)

- 1) MAIN CATALOG: Entries describe both government and commercially produced newsreels, information and documentary films covering a wide range of subjects. Earliest film dates from 1894, but material generally covers the period from 1915 through the early 1960's. Cards are arranged numerically by record group with bulk of catalog made up of subject and title entries. Subject headings loosely based on Library of Congress scheme.
- 2) FORD FILM COLLECTION CATALOG: Both edited and unedited material covering broad range of "Americana subjects," with particular emphasis on the development of the automobile and its impact on American life. Covers the period, 1914-1956. Card index of key words and phrases refers to scene descriptions contained in separate notebooks. Ford Film Guide available which gives overview of the collection, but does not always correspond with index. 35mm b&w prints available on most subjects.
- 3) ARMY AIR FORCES COMBAT SUBJECTS/SIGNAL CORPS ARMY DEPOSITORY FILM (18CS/111ADC) CATALOG: Unedited and camera record footage covering all theaters of military activity during World War II, occupation of Germany and Japan, war crime trials and Korean War. Cards arranged numerically and by subject, with headings loosely based on Library of Congress scheme. 35mm b&w prints available on all 18CS subjects and lower numbers of 111ADC series.
- 4) UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL CATALOG: Edited stories as well as outtakes giving world-wide coverage for the period, 1929-1967. Cards arranged in 13 broad categories, each of which is subdivided more specifically. General Information Guide available which gives explanation of card format and summary of the 13 categories. Summary sheets, arranged chronologically, also available. Reference prints available only for stories from 1955-1967.
- 5) U.S. AIR FORCE MISCELLANEOUS SERIES: Numerical cards only, (no subject index) for film covering early aviation and air force activities for the period 1900 through the early 1960's. B&w prints available on most subjects.
- 6) U.S. AIR FORCE -- [VARIOUS SERIES]: Numerical cards only for variety of Air Force series, including News Reviews, News Releases and film relating to International Geophysical Year. In addition, Air Force produced catalogs to Strategic bombing Survey film relating to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as footage of "Thunderbirds" stunt flying.
- 7) ARMY AIR FORCES SPECIAL FILM PROJECTS (18SFP) CATALOG: Outtakes from the Army Air Forces production, "Thunderbolts" covering activities of the 12th AAF in Europe, June 1944-April 1945. Numerically arranged cards only--(subject index in process). 16mm color prints available on most subjects.
- 8) NAVY CATALOG: Unedited and camera record footage covering Navy activities from World War II through 1965. Numerical cards only. Subject index available at Naval Photographic Center, Washington, D.C.
- 9) ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION CATALOG: Unedited film covering testing and research procedures at various AEC field installations from 1950-1953. Numerically arranged cards, as well as an AEC produced subject catalog. B&w prints available on most subjects.

[Summary notebooks on top of
catalog cabinet]

ARMY AIR FORCES/
SIGNAL CORPS
(18CS/111ADC) (3)
(continued)

Last 2 drawers contain numerical cards for various USAF series (6)

Description
notebooks

UNIVERSAL
NEWSREEL (4)

(continued)

RECEPTIONIST'S
DESK

MAIN CATALOG
Drawers 1-10:
Numerical
cards (1)

Drawers 11-
137:
subject and
title cards

Drawers 145-
180:

FORD FILM
COLLECTION
(200 FC) (2)
Card index
to
description
notebooks
1 July 1976

USAF (RG 342) MISC.
SUBJECTS - Numerical
cards only (5)

8SFP) ARMY AIR FORCES (7)
Numerical cards only

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
(RG 346) Numerical and
subject cards (9)

NAVY CATALOG (RG 80)
Numerical cards only
(8)

REWINDING EQUIPMENT

ARMY AIR FORCES/
SIGNAL CORPS
(18CS/111ADC)
(continued) (3)

ENTRANCE

AAF/SIGNAL
CORPS (3)

to: Robert Allen
fr: Daphne Muse

October 14, 1976

To: Afro-American Faculty

From: Phyllis Bischof *Phyllis*
General Reference Service

Subject: Selected Important and Interesting New Reference Books and
Microfilm Collections Noted Below

FILM Douglass, Frederick.
17613 Frederick Douglass papers. Washington, D.C. Library of Congress
E Photoduplication Service. Microfilm. 1975.
34 reels.

"The 7,300 items relate particularly to Douglass' career during and after the Civil War and document his role as the leading black figure of the 19th century, the recognized champion of his race, and the proponent of many social and economic causes. The Papers consist primarily of correspondence, a speech, an article, and a book file, family papers, and legal, subject, and financial files. The general correspondence, consisting principally of letters received by Douglass, has been indexed; this index appears on the film as well as a detailed guide to the collection's contents. Also included are most of Douglass' speeches and lectures delivered between 1865 and 1895 and many of the papers documenting the years Douglass spent in residence at Cedar Hill, his home in Anacostia, Washington, D.C." L.C. Information Bulletin, November 28, 1975.

p. 473

FILM Dunbar, Paul Laurence.
16371 The Paul L. Dunbar papers. A microfilm edition....
PS Microfilm. Originals in Ohio State Historical Society.
9 reels.

For index to contents see: FILM

16371

PS

inv

NEWS MICRO

Note: This is not a new acquisition. I mention it as representative of the strengths of our holdings in Afro-American literature.

DT1 El-Khawas, Mohamed A.
 .1 American-Southern African Relations: Bibliographic Essays,
 A35S63 ed. by Mohamed A. El-Khawas and Francis A. Kornegay, Jr.
 ser. 2. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1975]
 no. 1 188 p. (African Bibliographic Center. Special Bibliographic
 Ref/Bibl Series. New Series, No. 1)

Chapters include:

1. American Involvement in Angola and Mozambique.
2. A Short Bibliographic Essay on U.S. Policy toward Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)
3. Namibia
4. United States Investments in Southern Africa
5. Black America and U.S.-Southern African Relations

E185.5 The Negro Almanac: A Reference Work on the Afro-American.
 N345 Comp. and edited by Harry A. Ploski and Warren Marr, II.
 1976 New York: Bellwether Co., 1976.
 Ref/Bibl 1206 p.
 Desk

A massive revision of this previously useful and now monumentally impressive compendium of information. Includes such facts as listings of the 100 largest black owned businesses in the U.S., of black savings and loan associations, black life insurance companies, and the most current information available regarding scholarships primarily for black students. Large sections on black artists and inventors with fairly extensive biographical data. And much, much more! Illustrated.

E185.5 Rose Bibliography (Project)
 C923 Analytical Guide and Indexes to The Crisis 1900-1960.
 R671 Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1975.
 1975 3 v.
 Ref/Bibl

HQ1121 Rosenberg, Marie Barovic.
 A12R67 Women and society: a critical review of the literature with
 Ref/Bibl a selected annotated bibliography. Comp. and ed. by Marie
 Desk Barovic Rosenberg and Len V. Bergstrom. Beverly Hills, Ca.:
 Sage Publications, 1975.
 354 p.

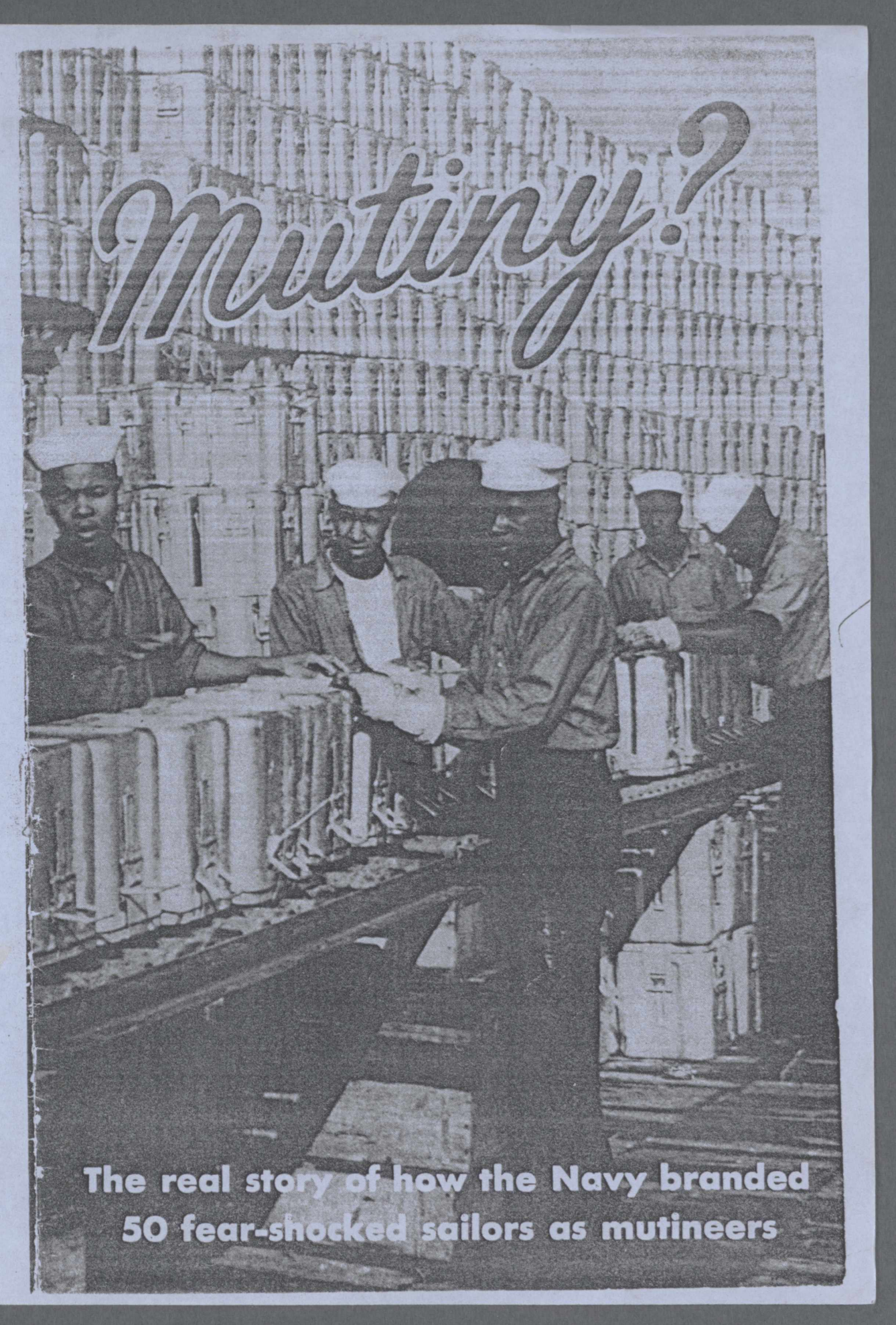
E185 Smythe, Mabel M., ed.
D251 The Black American Reference Book. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.:
1976 Prentice-Hall, 1976.
Ref/Bibl 1026 p.
Desk

Essays on 30 aspects of the black experience by such
authorities as Ernest Kaiser, Vernon E. Jordan and Arja Bontemps.

E185 Our holdings on microfilm of Afro-American dissertations 1970-75
A12 have all been arranged according to subject in a new supplement
W44(Suppl) to the Earle West Bibliography of Doctoral Research on the Negro
Ref/Bibl now available at the Reference Desk and at Moffitt Reference.
Desk

Author :
Mary Lindsay

Mutiny?



**The real story of how the Navy branded
50 fear-shocked sailors as mutineers**

FOREWORD

•

The present status of the case described in this pamphlet is that the trial record and briefs are being reviewed by the Judge Advocate General of the United States Navy in Washington. His decision will be reviewed by Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

Ten of the men were sentenced to 15 years in prison; 11 to 10 years; 24 to 12 years; and 5 to 8 years.

Civilian counsel for the sailors on their appeal is Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel for the NAACP. Mr. Marshall filed a brief in behalf of all fifty men at the written request of the sailors themselves.

Mr. Marshall, who attended the trial at Yuerba Buena Island in San Francisco bay for twelve days in October, 1944, stated at that time: "These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race and color."

Published March, 1945 by
The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
69 Fifth Avenue New York 3, N. Y.

*Cover is Official U. S. Navy photograph and shows sailors handling
1.1 shell cans on a conveyor.*

Mutiny?

REMEMBER Port Chicago?

You^s should.

Over 320 American sailors were blown to tiny fragments there in less time than it takes to say "Jim Crow."

It was an explosion — a nerve-shattering, unimaginably horrible explosion that rocked Northern California into a frightened uproar.

Over 300 young sailors died there. They died suddenly and they had no time to be afraid.

In some ways they were luckier than the eight or nine hundred who didn't die — who were left to watch as bits of charred flesh dropped from the sky and fell all about them — who were left to pick up the bits of charred flesh and put them into baskets and know that those baskets contained all that was left of their friends, their buddies.

The Port Chicago explosion happened months ago, on July 17, 1944 to be exact; but its reverberations haven't stopped yet.

The ground is still shuddering under the feet of 50 of the young men who lived through it.

Somewhere under the late autumn sun that shimmers down on San Francisco Bay, those 50 young men sit in a closely guarded jail and wait to learn how soon they will walk under that sun as free men.

While they wait, their minds are a confusion of hurt and bewildered resentment and fear — fear that has whispered along beside them for so many months that it is a part of the inexplicably twisted pattern their lives have become.

These 50 young men, over half of them under 21, were convicted last October 24 of a crime which can mean life imprisonment — or death.

They were convicted, after 45 minutes deliberation, by a court-

martial board of 7 high-ranking naval officers, of "making a mutiny" because they were afraid to go back to loading ammunition three weeks after they had seen those bits of charred flesh rain down on them from the sky.

They were prosecuted by a naval officer, Lt. Commdr. James Frank Coakley, formerly chief assistant district attorney of Alameda County, Calif., who was, unknown to the defense or the public, the brother-in-law of one of the two white officers involved in the case — who, in his final vitriolic plea for a conviction, shouted, "Any man who is so depraved as to be afraid to load ammunition deserves no leniency!"

They can still remember the flare of hope they felt when they entered the job that was to be for them, as it has been for millions of young Americans, a testing ground of their valor, their courage, their willingness to fight and die to rid the world of fascism.

They were tried at the largest mass trial in Navy history — with photographs and publicity issued by the Navy — the first naval mutiny court-martial of this war.

The trial lasted six weeks in an atmosphere of what the Navy piously calls "complete impartiality." But, behind and underlying this fair front are bias, bigotry and bungling. The record of the court-martial of these 50 young men contains not one word of the most important issues of the case. It contains not one hint that while these 50 bewildered youngsters sat for six weeks in a courtroom as the "accused," the real offender was the "accuser" — the Navy.

These 50 young men are Negro sailors.

Why is that so important, you ask.

The answer is simple. It's true there are two kinds of sailors in the United States Navy — sailors, and Negro sailors. It's that the policy of the United States Navy is to segregate Negroes, to keep them isolated, and with few exceptions, not to send them to sea except as messmen, and to give them, regardless of their training or capabilities, every kind of dirty, heart-breaking shore duty that can be found.

It's that any trials of any Negro for any offense in the Navy cannot make any pretension to justice if the Navy's policy of racial discrimination and its effect upon the Negro sailor are not made a part of the record of the case.

Who are these "depraved men" on trial as Lt. Commdr. Coakley called them?

Well, there's John H. Dunn, seaman second class.

That's a pretty impressive name for a 17-year old, 104-pound kid, isn't it?

"Guilty of mutiny" is a pretty impressive verdict to find against a 17-year-old, too.

Dunn is slender and small and he has an appealing kid's grin that reminds you of your little brother or the kid next door. You should have seen his face on October 24 when we was found guilty! It would have strengthened your faith in the United States Navy. No depraved mutineer like Dunn is going to get away with taking over the Navy. Not while Lt. Commdr. Coakley and the 12th Naval District are around!

Then there's Martin Bordenave who was injured in the explosion. He's even more depraved than Dunn. Bordenave is 18 and he's been in the Navy since he enlisted at the age of 16. He's a really tough character. He must weigh 125 pounds and he's at least 5 feet 5 inches tall.

Another of these dangerous degenerate men is C. N. Hazzard. He's 21 and on his arm he wears the insignia of a chaplain's assistant. His voice is soft as he tells of "picking up bodies" at Port Chicago. You can feel safer now that Hazzard is going to spend a long time in a federal penitentiary.

Charles S. Widemon is 19 years old. He enlisted when he was 17. He was at Port Chicago for two years and had asked for a transfer to sea duty at least six times. During the trial Prosecutor Coakley made a great point of the fact that Widemon is alleged to have called out to a commissioned officer, "Do you think this is what I enlisted for?" According to Coakley, that was the last word in arrogance. It proved that Widemon was a degenerate mutineer — insolent — demanding!

"Do you think this is what I enlisted for?"

Well, was it? Was two years of laborer's work what the 17-year-old boy had enlisted for? Maybe so. Maybe he should have known better than to expect to be treated like an American sailor. What did he think the Navy was — democracy? Off to federal penitentiary with him. He's a dangerous man.

Joseph R. Small, clean-cut, intelligent 23-year-old from New Jersey, was, according to Prosecutor Coakley, a ringleader of the "mutiny." The only reason Mr. Coakley could give for this opinion was that after having been made an acting petty officer by his division officer, Small proceeded to act like one in keeping discipline among the men who were quartered together after they had not gone to work.

He called a meeting of the men and warned them to "straighten up and fly right!" Because he had not been given specific orders to call a meeting, Mr. Coakley contended that Small had called a "mutinous assemblage," was a ringleader in a "mutiny." This in spite of the fact that the "mutiny" had taken place two days before.

There are a lot more of these depraved criminals. They come from all over the United States and they have varied backgrounds. Some are city kids; some come from the country. Some are high school graduates; some had only a year or two of southern grammar schools; one is an illiterate.

Over half of them are too young to vote.

Forty-four out of the 50 had perfect conduct ratings in the Navy.

Here's what one of their petty officers, not involved in the trial, said about them: "The cooperation of my men was always wonderful, their discipline excellent. We had the top division in the base"

THESE are the depraved mutineers who were convicted on October 24! How did they get that way? What "depraved" them? When did it start?

The day each of them entered the Navy is as good a place to start as any. They went to Great Lakes for boot training. So far, so good. They had pretty much the same boot training as any other sailor, and they came out with ratings as 2nd class seamen. Since they were told that they were seamen, they thought they'd be sent to sea. Maybe some of them had visions of coming home with service ribbons and a medal or two, and stories of battles and heroism to dazzle the girls. Maybe they did.

But the day they finished training and were assigned to "active" duty, they woke up to find that this brave new world was just the same old Jim-Crow world they had always known, only worse — because the other world was changing, and this one was not.

They were shipped to a little town on San Francisco Bay — Port Chicago — and the new Naval Ammunition Depot where Navy explosives were loaded for overseas.

They weren't going to sea. They were going to load ammunition.

That was all right. They were disappointed, but they were philosophical about it. Somebody had to load ammunition. They might as well do it. Of course this work had special hazards requiring special training, and they were not trained for it. That, too, was immaterial.

But on the first day they noticed something.

Every man loading ammunition at Port Chicago was a Negro.

Every commissioned officer at Port Chicago was white; so was every chief petty officer.

That was when the little ache inside that they hadn't had since they entered the Navy came back. And every day they spent at Port Chicago it got a little worse.

They were assigned to "divisions" and the next thing they knew they were on a ship loading ammunition.

Ammunition — high explosives — heavy work — dangerous work.

And all the instruction they received was the warning to be "careful."

Careful of what? They didn't know one kind of explosive from another. They didn't know what would make them go off. They didn't know which ones would explode if they were dropped or bumped.

But what they did know was that they were beginning to get scared. As the weeks passed they began to feel that they were shadow boxing with an enemy they couldn't see. In each fist he held a bottle of nitroglycerin which might go off at any moment if they made a wrong move.

The trouble was that they didn't know which move might be the wrong one.

And they noticed that a lot of the men they worked with were in the same condition — nervous, jittery. One night, one of the men went completely berserk in the hold of the ship.

They added to their own fears the knowledge that their buddies were

scared. And every so often somebody, nervous and unsure of himself, dropped something — a box of grenades — an anti-aircraft shell.

Running through the nervousness and the nagging awareness that they were not adequately trained for the work, was another thread. Why were only Negroes doing this work?

Morale got a little worse when they overheard white commissioned officers asking the section leaders to “pour it on tonight” because the white officers had five dollar bets on with each other as to whose division would load the most ammunition that night. Five dollar bets — on sudden death.

One of the boys went to the Buchanan street USO in San Francisco on his next liberty. He was still thinking about those five-dollar bets. When one of the white senior hostesses sat down beside him and tried to cheer him up, he found himself pouring the whole story out to her — sort of thinking out loud.

Why were only Negroes used to load ammunition? Why were the white seamen at Port Chicago given other jobs? Why was it almost impossible for a Negro to get a promotion? Why were most of the men at Port Chicago still second class seamen, even though a lot of them had been there for two years and had excellent conduct ratings? Why were there so few Negro petty officers?

He told her about something he had read that night in a Negro paper about Negroes on the Anzio and Normandy beachheads — about a Negro air corps captain in the 99th fighter squadron who had shot down his third Nazi plane over Italy — about a Negro artillery battalion in France that had hit the turret of a German tank with a 155 mm. shell at a distance of 9 miles.

Those guys were getting a chance to prove that they had as much guts and brains as anybody — but in the Navy —.

The woman listened carefully. That night she wrote a letter to Mrs. Roosevelt telling her the whole story — of the lack of training, the speed-up, the man who had gone berserk from nerves strained too far — the betting — the discrimination. The letter reached Mrs. Roosevelt just too late.

A week or so later another boy ran into another morale shaker. He met a longshoreman in San Francisco and heard bad news. He learned

for instance, that civilian longshoremen in the Bay Area had, on a number of occasions refused to work on the same ship where Navy personnel were loading. He learned that the Longshoremen's union wouldn't permit a winch driver to work on ammunition unless he had had years of experience on other loads.

He kept remembering that the winch driver on his gang had had exactly two months' experience — all of it on ammunition.

The boys in the barracks felt fine when he went back and told them. It was lucky they didn't know the whole story.

They would really have gotten shaky if they had known that the San Francisco waterfront unions had that very week warned the 12th Naval District that there would be an explosion if they persisted in using untrained seamen to load ammunition.

And they would have been really bewildered if they had known that the Navy had ignored an offer by these same unions to send experienced longshoremen to train them in the safe handling of explosives.

But they didn't know, so they were saved a little worry.

Morale in the barracks got another crack on the head a few days later when one of the boys asked his division officer for a transfer to sea duty.

The officer told him in all seriousness, "It's a policy of the 12th Naval District not to use you Negroes on ships because you can't settle any kind of argument without a knife!"

It's July 17. It's a few minutes before 11 p.m. and men are scattered around the barracks, some of them going to bed, others getting ready to go to work at midnight loading the two ships out in the harbor. Somebody is whistling "Can't See for Looking." He reaches for a high note and just as he hits it the long room shudders and then gathers itself together and the walls lurch forward in a noise too loud, too violent to register on anyone's ears. Then the men are flying through the air and the whole barracks is flying with them and their eardrums are screaming with sound that is too intense to have any meaning. Furniture catapults into walls and the air is full of flying bodies. Above their heads, the roof suddenly rips wide open and they see stars through a great yawning rent. That was the last a lot of them remember for a while.

For that was the Port Chicago explosion —the worst home front disaster of the war. The two ships in the harbor had blown up, killing the more than 320 men who were loading them.

The papers bloomed with headlines and pictures and feature stories that told how the people of the town of Port Chicago were so dazed that they couldn't speak coherently for a week after the blast. The razed buildings were described and the vacant staring eyes of the shopkeepers and the children who were too frightened to cry.

Case-hardened newspapermen in San Francisco still get a little sick when they remember the stench of charred flesh, the bits of burned and blackened and bloody flesh that littered the ammunition depot. They still speak of the hysteria that ruled officers and men alike all that night and far into the next day.

But what does Lt. Commdr. Coakley say — “Any man so depraved as to be afraid to load ammunition deserves no leniency!”

REMEMBER what you learned in your First Aid class about shock?

Here's what two California authorities on psychology had to say about this particular shock:

Dr. Cavendish Moxon, practicing psychologist in San Francisco: “There are sound psychological reasons why the 50 Negro sailors should not be accused of conspiracy to mutiny. When men are shocked by an explosion into a serious state of panic, they are not free to undertake new risks or even normal activities until they have been helped to overcome their nervous and mental upset. To accuse such persons of a crime is as meaningless and cruel as to punish a neurotic for being unable to overcome his panicky fears.” *Any man so depraved as to be afraid to load ammunition deserves no leniency.*

This is what Prof. Harry C. Steinmetz, chairman of the psychology department at San Diego State College had to say: “Men who have not received unusual reassurances after an unusual catastrophe obviously have provocation for acting unusually. If adequate reassurances were not given following the tragic Port Chicago explosion, certainly the men involved deserve not public condemnation, but rather public sympathy.”

Were “adequate reassurances” given?

The Navy brought in swing bands to play jive for the boys.

They brought in USO camp shows. The swing bands and the USO shows played in buildings that were roofless and twisted by the blast, and there were still a few fragments of bodies lying around, but maybe the idea was good.

And, oh yes, they kept telling the men that they shouldn't be afraid, that there was really nothing to be afraid of. Very few of them were convinced.

The survivors were split up. A large group, including those who had been injured, was sent to Camp Shoemaker; the rest were kept at Port Chicago, "cleaning up" after the explosion.

None of them was given leaves. They were just kept sitting around thinking — about ammunition and explosions and Jim Crow.

Less than two weeks after the explosion some of the men of the first division at Port Chicago were told to go back to loading ammunition. Most of them refused. It was tried again with other men. Still more refused. Some of them were put in the brig, and then let out again. And then suddenly over 100 men, most of whom had refused to load ammunition, were gathered up, transferred to Treasure Island and then shipped to the South Pacific.

In the meantime, the 2nd, 4th, and 8th divisions, the last three remaining of the loading divisions which were at Port Chicago at the time of the explosion, were scattered around at various camps.

On the 9th of August all three divisions assembled at Vallejo, scheduled to go to work loading ammunition.

The 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th of August are days which the 12th Naval District would probably very much like to forget. You would have to search long and far to find a more magnificent display of ineptness and bungling.

The men were supposed to go to work loading ammunition. Three white officers, Lts. Ernest Delucchi, J. E. Tobin, and C. G. Morehouse were responsible for getting the men to work. And not one of them was capable of giving a direct order.

"If you are willing to obey orders fall out — stand on this side — stand on that side — cowards over here — do this, do that." And never once a clean-cut direct order to march.

The result was that out of approximately 400 men, 257, admitting that they were afraid, were marched off to a barge and put under marine guard.

Tobin and Delucchi, completely confused by now, ran wild. They gathered up mess cooks, compartment cleaners and sick men, none of whom was supposed to load ammunition. When these men said honestly that they were afraid, they were shunted off to the barge.

Among these latter additions to the "mutineers" were: 104-pound, 17-year-old John Dunn, who had never loaded ammunition in his life. He had been made a mess cook because the doctor had said he was too light to work on the docks.

Another was a boy named Julius Dixson, who, on Lt. Delucchi's own testimony, had been made a permanent mess cook because of his inefficiency on the docks, lack of control, and because he was a hazard to others.

Another was a seaman named Ollie Green. On the day before, August 8, he had broken his wrist, which was still in a cast late in September.

The nerves of the officers seem to have been pretty thoroughly shattered too. And that is a charitable judgment.

On the 12th of August, the commandant of the 12th Naval District arrived at Vallejo and spoke to the men, telling them to go back to work.

After his speech Lt. Morehouse lined up his 8th division, said clearly, "We're going to work — March!" and every one of his men went to work.

Lts. Tobin and Delucchi, however, continued to shilly-shally, continued to give vague orders. As a result 44 men from the two divisions, still saying they were afraid, were taken under guard to Port Chicago. Subsequently six of the men from the 2nd and 4th divisions who had said they would go back to work, for various reasons didn't. They were taken to Port Chicago, making up the nice round even number of 50 men to be tried for conspiracy to mutiny.

That's the essence of the "mutiny."

THERE are a lot of interesting details, however. For instance, the so-called "don't work lists" which the prosecution repeatedly claimed were subversive pledges binding the signers to mutiny. The only trouble

was that not only couldn't the prosecution put its hands on a copy of these dread lists, but they couldn't produce any witnesses who could even come close to describing them. The defense, on the other hand, produced a very good description of at least one of the lists. It was a petition to Lt. Delucchi, stating that the men were afraid of ammunition and would like a change of duty!

Lt. Delucchi is an interesting link in the case. It was Delucchi who, according to half a dozen witnesses, appointed Joe Small as acting petty officer after the 9th of August.

On the stand Lt. Delucchi testified that he hadn't appointed Small. If he did not, Small's calling of a meeting on the barge might be construed as some sort of a mutinous assemblage — which is exactly what Prosecutor Coakley wanted it to be.

Lt. Delucchi's conduct on the 9th, 10th and 11th of August was not exactly the conduct of a naval officer who was competent to handle men. In fact, as the trial went on, Delucchi showed up in a worse and worse light, but in Coakley's final argument he made an appeal to the trial board which was in effect, "Are you going to take the word of *these men* or are you going to believe the word of a gentleman like Lt. Delucchi?"

Lt. Delucchi is Coakley's brother-in-law.

The fact wasn't discovered until two days after the trial was over when a San Francisco reporter dug it out by accident. The reporter also dug out the fact that the relationship between the prosecutor and his star witness was common gossip among naval men at Vallejo. Which leads to two questions: Why didn't the 12th Naval District know about it, and why was Coakley allowed to superintend the original investigation of the case — the investigation which was the basis for a charge of "conspiracy to mutiny," when his own brother-in-law's action were part and parcel of the case?

But there were other peculiar things about that investigation. Naval officers, working under Coakley's supervision, took statements from the men involved, in some cases, without telling them that they did not have to make statements or that they could have counsel — in others — according to testimony — by the use of threats. The statements, by which Mr. Coakley attempted to prove conspiracy, were, in almost no instance, complete statements made by the men themselves. They were "compiled"

by a question and answer method, and included only, as one of the officers testified, what facts he thought were relevant to the case. Insert the word "prosecution" before "case" and you will have a clearer idea of what he meant.

Prosecutor Coakley made the most of sectional prejudice during the trial. Mr. Coakley is a northerner, but he did as good a job of dragging race prejudice into that courtroom as anyone could have done. He used one of the oldest tricks in the old race hate bag. It goes like this:

The defense puts one of the accused on the stand — the first witness for the defense. His name is Longmire. He speaks with a decided Southern accent. Coakley doesn't ask him where he comes from. He doesn't have to, because in front of him he has 50 slender tan-covered books which contain the complete record of each of the 50 accused.

The next two witnesses speak with a Southern accent. Coakley doesn't ask them where they are from.

Then the fourth witness! It's Joe Small. He's a good witness and he's the man Coakley is trying to prove is a "ringleader."

"Where are you from, Small?" "New Jersey, sir."

"What did you do before you came into the Navy?" "I was a truck driver, sir."

Ah, a teamster. Coakley gloats, both eyes pinned to the Southern members of the court. You can see the thought waves going out. A smart Northern N----. Probably a union member, too.

The next eight witnesses have Southern accents, so there is no question. But the next one brings it out again.

Coakley looks down at the man's record, looks up, eyeing the southern officers. "Where are you from, Grimes?" "Detroit, sir."

"How much education did you have?" "High school, sir."

"What did you do before you came into the Navy?"

"I worked in a defense plant, sir."

And so it goes, day after day — where are you from? New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, New York, Chicago, Detroit. How much education did you have? High school graduate — three years of

high school — two years of high school. Never does he question the defendants who have obviously had not more than a couple of years of grade school. Never does he question defendants obviously from the South.

He was particularly obvious with a youngster named Freddie Meeks. The routine was changed a little. "Where are you from, Meeks?" "Memphis, Tennessee, sir."

A slight frown from Coakley, then, "Before you came into the Navy, weren't you in Los Angeles?" "Yes, sir." "How long?" "About two years, sir."

"What did you do?" "I was a welder, sir."

Didn't you go to Jefferson High School there?" "Yes, sir."

By the time 40 of the 50 accused had been on the stand Coakley had really warmed up and he had a new angle.

"Where are you from?" "Chicago, sir."

"What part of Chicago?" "The south side,"

He tried this one only three times, once with the boy from Chicago, and twice with boys from New York. The New York boys crossed him up. When he asked "What part of New York?" they innocently answered, "Upper Manhattan, sir," knowing all the time that he wanted them to say "Harlem."

Here's a fairly accurate box score on Mr. Coakley's "north-south" poll. He asked 27 defendants where their homes were.

Twenty-one of them were from north of the Mason-Dixon line.

Two of the other six were asked, apparently because Coakley was under the misapprehension that Baltimore and St. Louis are Northern cities. The other four were asked because, after the newspapers started commenting on Mr. Coakley's peculiar little habit of questioning, he was instructed by the court to ask his question of each witness.

Mr. Coakley was made senior judge advocate for the 12th Naval District at the close of the trial.

NOW let's go back and pull a few threads together.

These 50 young seamen were tried because of an act which they

committed through fear and shock which was largely based on the fact that they knew that thanks to the Navy's lack of training, they were not competent to handle explosives safely — shock which is so well known and serious a phenomenon that the Army and Navy make elaborate provisions for most men to relax and recuperate from such shock before reassignment to hazardous duty.

They knew before the explosion that ammunition at Port Chicago was not properly handled. Most of them were afraid then — and not afraid because Negroes are cowards—but because they had sense enough to know that explosives are dangerous unless skillfully handled. They knew that they did not have that skill, and that the Navy was doing nothing to train them. Then the explosion proved that their fears were correct — proved it by wrecking an entire town and killing over 300 men who had also been afraid.

So, three weeks later, flouting everything that modern neuro-psychiatry has learned about shock, the Navy ordered them back to loading ammunition.

Is it any wonder that they didn't go back? Is it any wonder that 350 besides these 50 "examples" didn't go back?

The Navy has denied them every right of equality in the service. It has denied them their rights as Americans to serve in active sea duty. It has segregated them, insulted them, risked their lives by sheer unnecessary inefficiency and now it will send them to a Federal penitentiary for years in order to save its own face.

Somebody had to take the rap for the Port Chicago explosion. The 320 Negroes who died there couldn't do it, so the Navy found 50 others.

Fifty Negroes were singled out of over 400 men, all of whom for the same reasons, and with the same justification committed the same act.

What matters is that these 50 men were charged with "conspiracy to mutiny" a charge which evidence in the trial did very little to substantiate. They were convicted after a trial which, not once in its entire six weeks even approached the basic issues at stake.

Only once was any criticism of the Navy allowed to come out in open court and that was an accident. Early in the trial, one of the defendants when asked the routine question, "Have you anything to add

to your testimony?" almost gave apoplexy to every naval officer in the room by saying, "Yes, I have. I want to say that the reason I was afraid to load ammunition was because I knew it wasn't handled properly. The officers used to race each other and make us speed up."

The public relations officer assigned to the trial, after a word with the president of the courts-martial board, immediately cornered all reporters, trying desperately to get them to suppress that bit of information.

And after that, the defendants were instructed to consult with their attorneys before they said anything. The attorneys, being lieutenants in the Navy and perforce required to get along with the brass hats, their superior officers, saw to it that no more slips were made. There was no room for justice in this court-martial, because justice happened to conflict with the prestige and honor of the Navy.

The Navy is doing a great job of fighting fascists off foreign shores. It's doing a fighting job that every American can be proud of, but it's about time that it found out that it is a functioning part of a democracy, and that democracy means equality for all of the people in it. It can't treat men as these defendants were treated and then be piously shocked at a "breach of discipline."

Let's take a last look at one of these men whom the Navy is sending to a penitentiary, possibly for the rest of his life.

This one is older than the others, and because he's older, he has stored up a greater capacity for mental torture.

We'll call him "Arthur Hunt." He's 35 years old. Before he came into the Navy he lived in New York and worked at an electrical company in New Jersey.

He was a skilled worker — did light machine work and electrical parts assemblage.

You know what kind of work he's been doing in the Navy.

Hunt's face as he sat in that courtroom week after week was thin, sensitive, the face of a man who has been Jim-Crowed for 35 years and who, in the explosion and in this trial had reached the limit of mental endurance.

He sat in that courtroom for six solid weeks and stared straight

ahead. His expression never changed, never varied by the twitch of a muscle.

He sat and stared and you knew he heard nothing of what went on during those six weeks.

You knew that in his attempt to escape pain he had retreated so far back into himself that he would probably never be quite able to get back.

In his staring, carefully blank eyes, you could see many things — years of discrimination, segregation, humiliation. Then suddenly a chance to reach out and grasp at dignity — skilled work, vital work, work that he could do with pride. And then suddenly, the Navy — the kick-back, hurling him down, back to laboring, back to menial humiliating Jim Crow jobs.

The explosion, the trial, could only have been the final scratches that opened up the bigger wound that festered within Arthur Hunt.

You can't forget Arthur Hunt's face. It follows you around, still and quiet and tragic.

And when you think of John Dunn and Martin Bordenave and Hazard, the Chaplain's assistant, you know that their young, vital, hopeful faces must never become like Hunt's. For their sakes and the sakes of thousands of Negro youngsters like them, Jim Crow in the Navy must be cleaned up.

The Navy has a slogan — "Remember Pearl Harbor" — a reminder of foreign treachery against a democracy.

There is another slogan the Navy should adopt.

It is a reminder of what treachery to our own ideals within a democracy does to that democracy.

The pointless, meaningless deaths of over 320 Americans must be given a point, must be given a meaning — for the living.

Remember Port Chicago!

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
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