

# Audio and Video Recording Log

Name and address of collector or interviewer.

Name of Collector/Interviewer David E. Meyer (O'Shea)  
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 Organization or Affiliation: 95th Division Legacy Project; Veterans History Project

Full name and birth date of the veteran or civilian being interviewed as it appears on the recording label and Biographical Data Form

Name of Veteran Fred B. Love Birth Date 4/10/23  
Sergeant - E Company, 377th Regiment, 95th Infantry month/day/year

Recording Format (please check)

AUDIO type: Cassette  Micro cassette  CD  Reel CD  Reel  Digital

Is item: Original  Copy

Date of Recording August 26, 2006

Estimated length of recording (in minutes) CD 1 - approx 59 Min.; CD2 approx 30 minutes

Location of recording 95th Infantry 2006 Reunion - Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago Ill.

Corresponding materials (please check)

Have you included materials other than the recording?

If so, please complete the Photograph Log and/or the Manuscript Data Sheet

Please summarize the topics discussed in the interview in their order of appearance on the recording

Meter Reading or Minute Mark Topics presented in order of discussion on recording

Meter Reading or Minute Mark	Topics presented in order of discussion on recording
00:00	Intro Aug 26, 2006 - 3:25 PM. Fred B Love
	Birthday April 10th, 1923. E Company 377th IR Final rank. Sergeant
00:42	Where when heard about Pearl Harbor was working at gas station in St Elmo, Illinois. Man pulls up heard it on radio. Mr. Love didn't know where Pearl Harbor was.
01:56	Not drafted because under 20 and then age dropped to 18 and drafted at age 19.
03:00	"Army chose me." Sent to Camp Joseph T Robinson near Little Rock for Basic.
03:39	First night. No worries Always got along easily
04:39	On getting along. Basic. 8 weeks 10 hrs a day (some nights) intensive training to "kick the civilian out of us.
05:30	Break out spirits so we would follow orders w/o question. Training film "Kill or Be Killed" Showed had to kill or be killed to survive. "Stuck with me."
06:55	Put in 76th Division. Ft Meade, Maryland. Heavy weapons mortar training then to Camp A.P. Hill. Co. Commander calls him in then sends him Blacksburg, Va, to API College, for testing then -
07:50	Chosen for Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP). Sent to William and Mary (VA). Study Math. Thrill of my life - college - unbr 18 hours. Lists subject. Engineering Basic ASTP intended to be 27 month course with graduation as 2nd Lieut with college degree in Engineering. Planning for a long war. but -- in March 1944 ASTP program stops and over just nine months of it, Mr. Love sent to Indiantown Gap for infantry.
09:50	Assigned to the 95th - Camp Indiantown Gap in Pennsylvania. 15 months in service and 20 years old Joined service in January, 1943 and now 15 month later and 20 years old with the 95th training.
10:59	Made Private First Class. Pay \$54/a month sent \$22 a month to wife. (Married Jan 1943)
12:38	Trip to England on August 1st L
12:45	To Omaha beach. Signs of war are fresh. Hedgerow fences made of brush and dirt separate filed Stationed there 2-3 weeks. RedBall Express. Convoy to send supplies to Patton.
13:26	Travel in the "40 and 8" boxcars (held 40 standing men or 8 horses) If you could stretch out and sleep wake up and 2 or 3 men lying on top of you.
15:30	Miserable ride. No heat. Found 55 gal drum and piece of stovepaid built a stove. Car fills with smoke everyone covered with dust.
16:22	On food. Raided the car supplies on it. Got cans of pears and lived on them for 5 days K-ration descriptions. C ration description Dinner was hash. Potatoes, grease and tripe B D and S - Breakfast Dinner and Supper Sometimes found cheese, mix with hash
18:19	On 40 and 8s maybe five days. Get to Eastern France Not long until move for front lines
19:45	Cross the Moselle. Take over quietly from the 5th Div in middle of night. Took over their foxholes
20:20	Shoe laying there. Still had a foot in it. Mr. Love realizes then he's a war zone
21:00	First night assigned to scout enemy lines. In dark, enemy opened up with machine gun.

## Time Code

## Topics presented in order of discussion on recording

21:50 **On way back friendly fire shot 16 rounds at us. We were lucky in a low place in the field**

22:49 **Germans fire 88s at us but were duds and didn't explode Would of killed us Sleeps through artillery barrage.**

23:33 *Sleeps through artillery barrage, Knocked down all the trees. Didn't wake up.*

24:00 *Platoon sergeant shot hog. We cut off ham. Cooked. Nearly raw. Ate what we could and passed on*  
*Then cut redhaired Sgts hair with hand cranked sheep shearer.*

25:08 Moved out. Carrying K-rations on our backs.

25:30 Mortar shell hit and buddy got hit in the canteen with some shrapnel. Water canteen hit by shrapnel.  
Friend felt liquid. Friend thought he was hit.

25:55 We exposed ourselves in the woods as the Germans started firing up through the lanes.  
We ran sound powered telephones We called the artillery and they stopped the machine gun fire.  
Logistics of setting up telephone lines for communication. Pole.. Clip telephone to the line. Simple

27:09 Germans made an attack. We call in 50 cal machine gun fire. Killed a large number of Germans.

27:30 Day or two later we attacked French built some kind of a square wall around about an acre of ground.  
Germans were inside. Captured them and made them carry the wounded out for us.

28:05 **CONSTANT MOVING TO NEW LOCATIONS ...ADVANCING.**

29:05 On patrol to try to capture Germans who would set up machine gun in a building where they were Always staffing us  
**Sent to attract fire and get them to shoot. Mr. Love hides behind what he thought was a Hill, but they**  
**didn't fire back. The Germans had left to flank him. Mr. Love moves out and finds he had been hiding**  
behind haystack (not a small hill) trying to draw German fire. If the Germans had been there he could have been killed

29:46 Interview has to move locations

29:56 Next night found apples under an apple tree. Best he ever ate. Men come up. They eat the apples in the open out in  
"no mans land." Hadn't had fresh fruit. Took a few bushels back to give to other guys. Best Apple

31:02 **ATTACK ON CITY OF WOIPPY**  
Had traveled four five miles. Private Bartern and I shot (in daytime) with tracer ammo to pinpoint targets. Company  
behind would fire based on tracers. Walked about 100 yards ahead of company

32:22 Came upon a ditch with a German with his rifle. I beat him to the trigger. Left him there and moved on. Into the city.

33:01 In Woippy -- 3-4 days street fighting. Cleared them out. Germans retaliate in afternoon shelling us and houses

33:40 German in a big fort around METZ began shelling the house

34:02 Bombardment was loud and felt like you hit in stomach left funny taste in your mouth.

34:38 How to behave when bombared. If you heard it in front of you, it would come at you  
If you heard it coming you would coil up into your helmet, your only protection.

35:12 **SECURED WOIPPY AND MOVED IN THE EDGE OF METZ**

35:36 Spent night in new barracks being built. No windows. It was cold at night.

35:52 **NIGHT MISSION**  
Lt Wade Sent out our squad on a night mission. Take a boat across the river go into Metz to  
a railroad bridge and take explosives off if it. IF succeed we'd get silver star

36:30 We cross river on boat, went behind German lines up the streets of Metz.  
Walked up the streets. Could hear the Germans in the buildings on both sides.  
Got about 3-4 blocks from bridge and the Germans blow it up..

37:00 **Big piece of the blown up bridge come sailing in from overhead and lands in front of us.**

39:10 **Next day, canal out of river cross canal in 14 man boat. First three boats had**  
**smoke bombs. Germans discover us putting out smoke screens**  
Germans killing us right and left I shoot back. Lieutenant says "Don't do it they will  
know we are here." I said, "They know." And a minute or so later Lieutenant killed

41:39 **People getting hit Out of 14, three of us got out of it.**

42:28 Fire at house with Germans. Use bazooka.

43:13 **I was promoted to ass't squad leader when crossing river. Moved up to house with**  
**hole in wall. Said "Go into the house" - Germans in basement think "House" was**  
**"Raus" (come out) and Germans come out of basement, Surrender.**  
Love fires down in basement, three more come out. Love throws grenade in cellar  
No more come out.

46:03 **Had eleven prisoners. One of the Germans say "Chocolate. Gut." Germans had**  
chocolate bars in packs. We ate it. Also meat.

47:28 **US Army who had just been killed crossing the river are laid out on the bank. Mr. Love**  
knows each one by his first name (rare to know so well.) Bittr

48:01 **Stayed in Metz, Street fighting. Sort of a blank now.**

48:16 **Headed out east toward Boulay. Moved Germans out**

48:42 **By this time squad leader -- went to attack pill box**  
Was given 4 extra men so squad was up to 16. By end of day only 5 left  
Went into attack at 9 AM By noon, only five left.

49:50 **Told men to get into ditch out of fire. Got down in ditch. Ice water. Raised head up.. Three bullets whizz buy.**  
Turnd everyone to stay in the bdith and go back. Company

51:27 **Company commander shaking with fear. "What do you want me to do," I asked**

52:11 **I told him I'd take men, circle around through woods. 300 yards Germans shell.**  
**Men keep going, IF you're knees don't buckle keep going. Germans shell trees**

Time Code	Topics presented in order of discussion on recording
53:44	Description of Tree burst. Shell hits tree, explodes Shrapnel has full range - rains down. worse then if shell hits ground and blows up.
53:11	Concussion wave hits body.
59:00	<b>Hear a shell coming at us. No noise. Yell "Get down" Hits tree above us. Deafens left ear. Shrapnel hits Mr. Love in back. Shaken up.</b>
55:19	<b>That night squad leader says. You guys go to sleep we'll stand guard. One blanket for five of us.</b> Dug a trench size blanket would cover. Pine boughs. Then rained during night. And froze. All of us One Blanket Next night pull into Boulay. Advance a day or two and get into Germany.
56:44	<b>Little town. Asked natives if German soldiers there. "Nein." They bring out Schnapps. We decline, don't trust.</b>
57:11	Stayed in wooden building that night.
58:07	<b>Next morning take off. Machine gun opens up on us. Steam coming up lets us know where he is. We shoot</b>
58:43	<b>Firing stops. We investigate. A little boy and a man. Realize we have killed a little boy. Had to do it.</b> <b>End of first CD</b>
58:44	<b>Crossed a big tank trap Big ditch. Then walk into woods. Run into Germans. I said open up on them. Cut em down.</b> <b>We miss all together</b>
59:36	<b>Then cross into field. Machine gun next catches us. Shoots Joe Napier. Then bullet hit Fred. Other buddy gets hit</b> <b>I'm shot through arm. Joe Napier helps Fred up to aide station. Run into German medic. Puts pistol into medic's</b> <b>face. Come with us. Have to cross back into tank trap - seven or eight feet deep. Joe rescues</b>
1:02:00	Aide station patches up Fred's arm. Gets a ride to hospital.
1:03:17	<b>Put on C-47 to go to England. Bad weather land in Paris. Runs off runway.</b>
1:03:55	<b>Fly to England. 2 months in hospital.. To Repo Depot.</b>
1:04:20	<b>Put in Military Police. Admin on a stockage of 1800 German prisons (not a guard)&gt;</b>
1:05:11	<b>On German soldiers. Very good. Obeyed orders. We were more flexible if had to. Germans inflexible.</b>
1:06:24	<b>German soldier tells Fred - "We have 47 different types of trucks we have 47 types of parts. You have 47 types</b> <b>you have one part because Americans had interchangeable parts</b>
1:06:39	<b>When feeding Germans... We provided food, they had German system. They'd cut it and divide it into portions for</b> <b>squad leaders who'd then divide it up for his men. Took hours to feed.</b> <b>We show American system = we cut everything up in same size pieces Served all in 30 minutes</b> <b>German said, "No wonder you Americans won" Efficient.</b>
1:07:55	<b>With German prison end of war. Finally got flight home. Discharged about the 19th or 20th of December, 1945</b>
1:08:15	<b>On Christmas 1944. In hospital. Still have menu for that meal. Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy.</b> <b>Wonderful after K ratons</b>
1:08:54	<b>Any food you can't eat now? Mostly had dehydrated food. Had been 185 lb But when in hospital 142.</b> <b>Took two or three showers a day in the hospital</b>
1:09:45	<b>Went 11 weeks without taking clothes off. Living in foxholes.</b>
1:09:57	<b>First shower was in Paris</b> <b>Meal with hot dogs. Delicious. Everything delicious</b>
1:10:37	<b>Did you get packages from home? Yes. A lot of mail. In hospital daughter was born. Didn't find out until 3 months old</b> <b>First time I saw her she was 1 year 5 days old. Carol Ann</b>
1:11:40	<b>How treated when returned. Went back to old job. Difficult with bad arm. Then went into sales division of AK Steel</b> <b>(Armco). Then to Post Office retired in 1983.</b>
1:12:55	<b>Had been home about a month and talking to other worker named Roy who hadn't gone. Roy says, "I don't want to hear</b> <b>it you guys come back with bunch of lies." So didn't talk to anyone else about it. Good many years before</b>
1:14:00	<b>Coming to reunion and emphasis on WWII -- Greatest Generation -- think I should tell.</b>
1:14:35	<b>Interviewer talks about people not knowing how to listen.</b>
1:15:13	<b>Most want to know "How many you killed?" and that's not the story.</b>
1:15:40	<b>Interviewer talks about his own father.</b>
1:16:35	<b>How did war change you? Had been easy going and carefree. Took several years before calmed down enough</b> <b>to go back to school By that time GI bill expired</b> <b>Did TV repair for 19 years. Quit because Gov't took half his income.</b>
1:18:17	<b>Interviewer talks about taxes.</b>
1:18:39	<b>Would you recommend military service? To mature. Yes. To be shot at? No. Doesn't do anyone any good.</b> <b>Someone needs to defend though. Thank goodness not big numbers.</b>
1:19:50	<b>If we had lost WWII would not have our freedoms.</b>
1:20:45	<b>Summarize. Want people to understand. "Freedom is not cheap." Someone has paid a dear price</b> <b>So dear. People need to appreciate.</b>
1:22:00	<b>Some people think not fight for their country. Fred glad war is not on our soil. Stand behind the armed forces</b> <b>Real American stand up with national</b>
1:23:00	<b>35722963</b>
1:24:00	<b>Haven't told children and grandchildren about the misery. Sleeping in mud Water would come up on you. You'd get so cold.</b> <b>Go into an attack. Shake from nerves. Once in nerves calm.</b>
1:25:04	<b>Mr Lacey said sometimes in battle sense of calm. Came. We didn't go around shake</b>

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1:25:35	<b>We got hard-hearted though. Didn't care what we did. That's bad.</b>
01:25:50	<b>Interviewer notes Mr Love is so kind. Took a while for heart to soften. Didn't show much on outside</b>
	Glad you will share with Grandshildren. Names -- two daughtres Carol - Audie and Amy Chapmen
	Phyliss has one son.. And lists other relatives "This will be fore them."
1:27:35	<b>Ends with end of God Bless America being sung by others</b>
1:27:43	<b>End of recording</b>