

Joe Thompson Jr. Papers, 1942-2005

Collection Summary

Creator: Joe Thompson Jr., 1919-

Title: Joe Thompson Jr. Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1942-2005

Summary/Abstract: Photographs, reconnaissance photographs, recorded interviews with transcripts, and memoir relating to Thompson's service as an aerial reconnaissance pilot in Europe during World War II.

Physical Description/Extent: 3.6 cu. ft.

Linking Entry Complexity Note: Forms part of the World War II series of the Veterans History Project Collection.

Accession Number: Acc. 2002.091 and 2005.023

Language: In English.

Stack Location: Closed stacks workroom range 2 section 6
Interviews located in VHP tapes cabinet.

Repository: Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St., Nashville, TN 37219

Chronology

1919, June 8	Born in Nashville, Tennessee
1941, Spring	Graduates from Vanderbilt University with degree in biology
1941, August	Enlists in Army Air Force and enters cadet school at Hicks Field
1941, Fall	Training at Hicks Field, Texas
1941, Nov.	Training at Randolph Field, Texas
1941, Dec.	Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor; America enters World War II
1942, March	Training at Brooks Field, Texas
1942, May	Transferred to 30 th Observation Squadron
1942, July	Transferred to 109 th Observation Squadron
1942, July 23	First flight in B-25
1942, Sept. 27	Ships out from New York City to Great Britain
1942, Oct. 16	Arrives in Membury-Berkshire, England
1942, Nov. 16	Temporarily transferred to 107 th Squadron
1943, April 22	Transferred to 109 th Observation Squadron
1943, Sept. 9	First combat mission
1943, Oct. 2	Begins detached service with 66 th RAF Squadron
1944, July 4	Arrives at airstrip A-9, near Le Molay, France
1944, Sept. 2	Arrives at Buc Airdrome, near Paris, France
1944, Sept. 20	Arrives at former German airstrip, taken over by U.S. forces, at Gosselies, Belgium
1945, March 24	Arrives in Germany
1945, April 7	Squadron moves to Kassel, Germany (R11)
1945, May 8	Departs England for America
1945, June 9	Arrives in Nashville, Tenn. on 30-day leave, then discharged

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Joe Thompson, Jr. was born in Nashville, Tenn. on June 8, 1919. He graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in biology, and entered the Army Air Corps in Aug. 1941. He was attached to a Royal Air Force squadron for training, and served in the 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron and 109th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron of the 9th Air Force, seeing action in the invasion of Normandy, the drive across France, the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium, and the Rhine Valley campaign across central Germany. He was discharged in June 1945. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, with five clusters and five battle stars, and the French Croix de Guerre. He returned and continued to make his home in Nashville after the war. He spent more than 60 years of his career with Northwestern Mutual Insurance Company, is a past president of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, and a member of First Presbyterian Church. In 2006, he wrote *Tiger Joe: A Photographic Diary of a World War II Aerial Reconnaissance Pilot* with Tom Delvaux, published by Eveready Press.

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The heart of the Joe Thompson Jr. Papers is the nearly 600 photographs taken by Thompson while serving in the Army Air Force in Europe during World War II. They begin in England, where Thompson served for a time as a U.S. flier attached to the Royal Air Force 66th Squadron for training. They go on to document his experiences and those of his comrades in the 109th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron of the U.S. 9th Air Force. They include scenes showing the push from the Normandy beachhead through France and the liberation of Paris; airbase scenes including candid portraits of American pilots and ground personnel at leisure; civilians in England, France and Belgium; aircraft and wrecks; scenes of Army infantry and armor in camp or advancing; scenic landscapes and street scenes including some taken in war-torn villages and streets; and a variety of similar images.

These photographs are supplemented by a series of interviews in 2005 with Thompson by Nashville Room volunteer Alice Swanson, in which Thompson provides commentary on his photographs, and recalls many of his military experiences. Earlier interviews conducted with Thompson by Lucas Boyd around 1995 are a photograph-by-photograph narration of selected images, in preparation for an exhibit at Montgomery Bell Academy, which was later adapted by the Tennessee State Museum.

Thompson's materials also include a number of aerial reconnaissance photographs, a written memoir, three photograph logbooks, and other items.

Photographic prints and digital scans were made possible by the Nashville Public Library Foundation.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The collection is organized primarily by format. Photographs are in rough chronological order.

Photographs use a unique numbering scheme.

Numbers appear as follows:

CS19 B2-38T

This series of numbers refers to:

Contact Sheet #

Book #

Negative number

Top or Bottom

Thus, the example above would be interpreted as:

Contact Sheet #19, Book 2, Negative 38, Top image

These images can be coordinated with Thompson's Photo Logbooks, referred to by Book #.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: In library use only. Available by appointment.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction: Audiocassettes and transcript of interview conducted by Lucas G. Boyd Restricted: Researchers may consult these materials for private research purposes, which do not result in publication, exhibition, broadcast, or other means of public dissemination. Publication, exhibition, broadcast, or other public dissemination of information contained in the interview or transcript is permitted if use of the excerpted material is limited to narrative descriptions of 10 photographs or less. Any such use in excess of 10 narratives must obtain the permission of Lucas G. Boyd in writing. [Boyd grants limited rights to use by and on behalf of Nashville Public Library; see details in Thompson donor file.] All of these restrictions expire Jan. 1, 2010. Additional details concerning this restriction are to be found in the Joe Thompson Jr. donor file; staff access only; Signed restriction

Index Terms

Personal Names:

Thompson, Joe, Jr 1919-

Boyd, Lucas G., 1932- , interviewer

Swanson, Alice, 1935- , interviewer

Corporate Names/Organizations:

Veterans History Project (U.S.)
United States. Army Air Forces. Air Force, 9th
United States. Army Air Forces. Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 67th
United States. Army Air Forces. Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 109th

Subjects:

World War, 1939-1945 – Photography
World War, 1939-1945 – Aerial operations, American – Pictorial works
World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – France
World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Germany
World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns - Belgium
World War, 1939-1945 – Reconnaissance operations

Places:

Great Britain – Royal Air Force – World War, 1939-1945

Genre/Document Types:

Photographs
Oral histories
Manuscripts

Occupations:

Air pilots, Military

Associated Material

Joe Thompson Jr Papers; Special Collections and University Archives Department, Jean and Alexander Heard Library, Vanderbilt University. Correspondence from Europe during World War II service.

Separated Material

Administrative Information

Location of Originals/Duplicates:

40 CD-ROM's containing 600 dpi .tif scans are stored separately in the image reproduction room, and are restricted to staff use only.

Photographic negatives stored in black plastic binder with Thompson Papers.

Restricted to staff use only.

Copyright:

Nashville Public Library owns copyright granted by Joe Thompson Jr 2003 & 2005 on all materials except for reconnaissance photographs and restriction by Lucas G. Boyd on audiocassettes and transcript.

Preferred Citation:

Cite as: [photograph no. or item citation], Joe Thompson Jr Papers, World War II Series, Veterans History Project Collection, Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Joe Thompson, Jr; Gift; 2002. Acc. 2002.091

Aerial reconnaissance photographs Joe Thompson, Jr; Gift; 2005. Acc. 2005.023

Ownership and Custodial History:

Materials in possession of Joe Thompson Jr at time of donation.

Processing Information:

Processed by staff member Linda Barnickel, 2003-2006, with assistance from volunteers.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Other Finding Aids

A finding aid to the entire Veterans History Project Collection is available.

References to Works by or about Collection Creator/Topic

Thompson, Joe and Tom Delvaux, *Tiger Joe: A Photographic Diary of a World War II Aerial Reconnaissance Pilot* (Nashville: Eveready Press, 2006). [Call Number: Nashville Rm. 940.544 T4734t Tenn.]

VHP Promo Video #5: Tennessee Crossroads (WNPT). (Format: feature segment during regional tourism television show). Broadcast May 22, 2003. Featuring: NPL staff Linda Barnickel & Ronnie Pugh; veteran participants Joe Thompson Jr., Jessie Wallace McNutt, James Neese. Time: approx. 10 min. [Housed with other VHP promotional videos with interviews in cabinet]

VHP Promo Video #9: Tiger Joe & Library of Congress Program. (Format: lecture/event). Host: Nashville Public Library, May 13, 2006. Featuring: Linda Barnickel, NPL Staff; Joe Thompson, Jr., author and veteran; Tom Delvaux, author; Tom Wiener, author from Library of Congress. Time: approx. 1 hr.

Volunteers for Victory [videorecording] produced by WSMV and Demetria Kaladimos, 1994. [Call Number: Nashville Rm. Video 940.5421421 V943 Tenn.]

Detailed Description of the Collection

Box 1 – Manuscripts and transcripts

1. Contact sheets #1-20
2. Contact sheets #21-40
3. Memoir, "Survival in World War II"
4. "Passé militaire"
5. Transcript of interview by Lucas Boyd, c.1995.

(VHP Tapes #117 & 118). Publication use RESTRICTED until 2010.

Transcripts of interviews by Alice Swanson, 2005:

6. VHP Tape #311 – Descriptions of contact sheets #1-13
7. VHP Tape #312 – Descriptions of contact sheets #13-20
8. VHP Tape #313 – Descriptions of contact sheets #17-25
9. VHP Tape #314 – Descriptions of contact sheets #24-35
10. VHP Tape #315 & 316 – Descriptions of contact sheets #35-40
11. VHP Tape #317 – Descriptions of reconnaissance photos
12. VHP Tape #318 & 319 – Commentary on mission logbook
[The mission logbook is not part of the Nashville Room's collection]

Photo logbooks, stored in back of box:

- Photo logbook #1 – (R.A.F. and England)
- Photo logbook #2 – (France and Belgium)
- Photo logbook #3 – (Belgium, Germany, France)

Box 2 (oversize) - Aerial reconnaissance photographs

Albums - containing 8x10 prints of all negatives.

Individual photograph descriptions and identifications appearing below have been transcribed from Joe Thompson's original photograph logbooks. His original spellings and abbreviations have been retained.

1. Photos from contact sheets 1-7

Subjects: Newbury & Middle Wallop, England; RAF; aircraft; friends

Contact sheet 1: Newbury, England

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | The Squadron [missing] | Thelma Bracey |
| 2 | Tank trap [missing] | Newbury |
| 3 | Church at Newbury | |
| 4 | Newbury | swan |
| 5 | Tank trap | Pill box |
| 6 | Scenes at Newbury | |
| 7 | Old Silver Shop | Church – Newbury |
| 8 | C-47 sqdn. Over Newbury | |
| 9 | Louden, Carl | Hansen |

Contact sheet 2: Friends

- | | | |
|----|-------------|--------------|
| 10 | Jesse James | “At Home” |
| 11 | Jesse James | |
| 12 | Jesse James | Buck Ware |
| 13 | Buck Ware | Ginny Staten |
| 14 | | James |

15 Louden

Contact sheet 3: Aircraft (Spitfires & Mustangs); airfield

16 Halifax L-5 with Kraft
17 Mustangs & Kraft (2)
18 2 scenes airfield Mustangs
19 Portrait of Mustangs
20 Ops. Time exp.
21 Kraft I in ops. With my pals up
22 Spitfire pic. Of me Scene on line

Contact sheet 4: Friends; aircraft; Newbury, England

23 Mustang pic. Of me Kraft and Spit.
24 Todd & Ginny 2nd Gen'l
25 Buck Ware Pictures in Newbury
26 Pictures in Newbury
27 James, Louden
28 James, Louden Newbury

Contact sheet 5: Newbury & Middle Wallop, England; P-38s & C-47s

29 2 ? of bridges Newbury
30 Party at 2nd General Hospital Oxford
31 Ginny & Doc
32 Scenes in Middle Wallop Hands
33 Kids at Wallop Land Army gals
34 Scenes at Wallop
35 Scene at Wellop P-38s
36 C-47 2 shots
37 Halifax 2 shots

Contact sheet 6: Halifax, England

38 Halifax. Lanc. 2 - haze
39 Lanc. Halifax
40 Bridge from Wallingford Scene Lanc. Halifax
41 Ding Hao (Col. Howard IX [or TX?] ftm
42 Mosquito Graveyard
43 land [cannon?] [missing] Bridge at Wellington
44 Newbury P-38 drome
45 Volley ball

Contact sheet 7: Amesbury, Middle Wallop, & Lancaster, England; airfield

46 James dresser Scene at hanger
47 Mustangs Scene in Wallop
48 2 fine scenes near Amesbury
49 Lancaster [?] – good shots
50 Lancaster again home shot

51	Two scenes in Wallop	
52	Lancaster	Lanc. Crew
53	House in Amesbury	Stonehenge

2. Photos from contact sheets 8-14

Subjects: Lancastboro & Salisbury, England; Wales; aircraft; friends; accidents/damage; preparation for Normandy invasion

Contact sheet 8: Stonehenge; squadron packing up; Salisbury Cathedral, England

54	Stonehenge	
55	Stonehenge with RAF pot[?]	
56	1 of me	1 of Adj. Cert. [?]
57	Squadron packs up	
58	2 good street scenes in Salisbury	
59	Squadron packs	
60	Field sign	Salisbury Cathedral
61	Salisbury Cathedral	

Contact sheet 9: Salisbury Cathedral & Wallingford, England; Builth Wells, Wales

62	Inner court	Salisbury Cathedral
63	Salisbury Cathedral	
64	Salisbury Cathedral	
65	R.A.F. Station, Wales	
66	Bridge at Wallingford below Oxford	
67	2 more of Wallingford	
68	O P at Builth Wells	
69	Bridge at Wallingford	Church in Wales

Contact sheet 10: Builth Wells, Wales

70	Abbey ruins on hill	Wales
71	Builth Wells	Hill scenes
72	Battery fires	Builth Wells
73	Bridge at Builth Wells	
74	Bridge -	Battery fires
75	Sheep & sky line	Cub & L-5 – Builth Wells
76	Radio truck	Sheep
77	Fence – line shots	

Contact sheet 11: Friends; wreckage and damage to planes

78	Group at OPS	Kraft
79	Kraft	Our first real flak damage
80	Louden &	flak damage station at Manchester
81	Manchester and Ginny	
82	Manchester	Home in Middle Wallop

83	L-5 crack-up	Kraft & Int. O.
84	Home in M. Wallop	Spit. crack-up
85	L-5 – Sgt. Smith	Scene

Contact sheet 12: Studying maps; Thompson’s plane, “Hey Johnny Reb;”
Piccadilly Circus, London

86	2 shots of maps	Invasion poop
87	Hey Johnny Reb	
88	Mr. Duckworth	
89	Piccidilly Circus	
90	Piccidilly Circus	Mr. D

Contact sheet 13: Friends; Normandy invasion (scenes in England)

91	Thompson	Beauty-sleep
92	Mac D. & I	Mac’s crew
93	2 shots of green tents	VXT
94	Invasion news	
95	D-Day news to the men	
96	Part of paratrooper invasion	
97	Operations	Middle Wallop

Contact sheet 14: Normandy invasion (scenes in England); airstrip in Normandy,
France; French people in countryside

98	Planes back from mission	Hansen
99	Louden & Bulgy	Scene of field
100	Doc with Salty	3 of Jesse James
(Begin logbook 2)		
1	Normandy – France	Planes, taxi strip
2	Farmyard, France	
3	Madame George Marie	
4	Camp site	Monsieur George & Bull

3. Photos from contact sheets 15-21

Subjects: Normandy, France; airfield; French civilians & countryside; German & Allied equipment in Normandy; liberation of Paris

Contact sheet 15: French citizens in Normandy; friends; Capt. James’ hot water system

5	Madame George	Sgt. Geier & geese
6	Julien et Dennise	Farmyard
7	Keller –	
8	Gen. Montgomery’s plane	Scene
9	Old cider mill	
10	Poor negatives of bombed village	
11	Poor negatives of bombed village	

12 Capt. James With "hot" water system

Contact sheet 16: French citizens and country scenes; friends

13 Poor negatives
14 Artillery instructor Jesse James
15 Audré
16 Audré
17 Old woman & home Three in cart
18 Church scene 2 scenes
19 Rest home Entrance
20 Road scene – very good

Contact sheet 17: French countryside; friends at leisure; airstrip

21 3 kids at wall camouflaged truck
22 Church Road scene
23 French caretaker Wash woman
24 French home
25 McEneely in foxhole Scott in card game
26 R. Thompson McNeely
27 Me 109 shots
28 109th area

Contact sheet 18: French countryside; friends at leisure

29 109th area
30 Rumble – crew chief Scene
31 Chateau interior
32 Le Molay Pissoir
33 Strip A-9 Engineering section
34 Capt. Stallworth; Capt. Gillian Our area
35 Moose Melton German half-track
36 Louden goes home Scene

Contact sheet 19: Normandy countryside incl. hedgerows; airbase scenes

37 Hedge rows, fields Water cart – scene
38 Typical homes in Normandy 2 shots
39 2 landscapes; Normandy
40 2 shots of chateau Normandy
41 B-17 in German hangar Scene of church, cyclist
42 Cassidy & Operations Me 109 at tent
43 Group HQ at Chateaufort Church
44 French twins Smolen & Howard

Contact sheet 20: Fort-Buc airdrome; Paris

45 French family Line Scene – Buc
46 2 shots of FW 190 at mess hall
47 2 shots of Fort – Buc airdrome

48	Hal Conner	McEneely & half track
49	Poor shots of Arc de Triomphe	
50	Eiffel Tower	
51	People at parade	Street scene
52	River scene	near Eiffel Tower

Contact sheet 21: Paris; airbase scenes

53	2nd river scene	Notre Dame
54	Eiffel Tower	
55	Eiffel Tower	The fort & bombs
56	Intersection	88 mm gun
57	Sgt. Carmody & Herky	Gas tank against sky
58	Mustang lands (2)	
59	P-38 landing	Belgian mass grave
60	Belgian grave	

4. Photos from contact sheets 22-28

Subjects: Aircraft; airfield scenes; friends; Versailles & Verdun, France; Gosslies & Verviers, Belgium; snow scenes

Contact sheet 22: Friends; Le Molay (A-9); camp scenes

61	Belgian grave	
62	Capt. Friedman	Baby tank – plane
63	Me	Friedman in C-45
64	Gen. Vandenberg's C-45	Verdun scene
65	Pilots at Le Molay (A-9)	
66	Scenes at Le Molay	
67	Interrogation	ALO's tent
68	André & Dooley	Camp scene

Contact sheet 23: Marie & family; Versailles; airbase scenes

69	Another ALO scene	The Marie home
70	Marie family (2)	
71	Dennise	Morning [?] scene
72	FW-190	Versailles
73	Chalet – Versailles	Parking area
74	Chalet – Versailles (2)	
75	88 mm (2)	
76	Sgt. Magnuson	Site[?] in hanger – Versailles

Contact sheet 24: Camp scenes; Verdun; street scenes

77	Det & I in trailer	
78	2 Frenchmen	Parking area (with planes)
79	Chow line	Other Xmas card scene
80	Planes & Engineering	

81	Boy with apple	Verdun
82	Fort at Verdun	Airfield at Luxembourg
83	Muddy & rainy streets	Verviers above Liege [?]
84	Muddy & rainy streets	

Contact sheet 25: Gosslies & Verdun; friends

85	Muddy & rainy streets from my window in Gosslies	
86	Lt. Clemmer & girlfriend	Our alley – Gosslies
87	Gosslies (2)	
88	Verdun – 1	
89	Sol. Blasser & Looker II	
90	Blasser	
91	Gosslies	My auto – Citroen
92	Verdun (2)	

Contact sheet 26: Airbase scenes; Verdun, Gosslies & Verviers; friends

93	Lake – wood	Our dispersal
94	Line scene	Photo dept.
95	Engine change	
96	Verdun	
97	November mud	Planes on A-87
98	Sgt. Irving	Chess game
99	Gosslies	
100	Capt. Scott & Lt. Shirley in Verviers	snow Verviers

(Begin logbook 3)

Contact sheet 27: Gosslies & Verviers; Belgian civilians

1	Line shot	A-87
2	François	
3	Gosslies	Verviers with Scott
4	François	Mr. & Mrs. Evers
5	General Ike's car	Front lines
6	Our street in Gosslies	
7	Belgian kids in Gosslies	Snow
8	Ditto	
9	Kids	Mother & children walk by

Contact sheet 28: Snow scenes; street scenes; friends

10	Ditto	
11	Snow scenes in streets	Gosslies
12	Kids & snow scenes	
13	One more street scene	Kraft
14		Ditto
15	Phillip	
16	Snow scenes	107 area

5. Photos from contact sheets 29-35

Subjects: Snow scenes; many aircraft; friends; Vogelsang, Germany; airbase Y-51; civilians; Gosslies, Belgium

Contact sheet 29: Snow scenes in Gosslies; aircraft; friends

17	[missing]Charleroi	Snow plow
18	Snow scenes	Plow
19	Snow in Gosslies	
20	107th & 109th Engineering	
21	Plane with no tail	Snow & St. Marie
22	Opns	Gosslies – snow
23	Capt. Trimble	Dad Plunkett
24	H. Stribling	Doc's gal
25	Doc's gal, Paula (2)	

Contact sheet 30: Friends; airbase scenes; Vogelsang

26	Paula's friend	Capt. Providenti
27	Lt. Rog Thompson	H. Fridkin
28	Buildings: Pilots' shackA-87;	10th Grp & Scott
29	10th Gp.	Scott in outdoor toilet
30	Adj.'s dog	Scott & camouflaged plane
31	Ordensburg	Vogelsang
32	Cannon shot	Vogelsang
33	2 shots of Gosslies	

Contact sheet 31: Vogelsang; Gosslies; airbase Y-51

34	Airplane boneyard	Lancaster
35	Holland invasion	Boys at Y-51
36	2 more	Tower at Vogelsang
37	Vogelsang	Sunset ack-ack shot
38	Portal shot	Leaving Gosslies – French sign
39	Gosslies shot	Y-51
40	Y-51	
41	Y-51	Scotty in jeep

Contact sheet 32: P-39s and P-38s; friends; Gosslies; Verviers

42	Scotty in jeep	"Looker"
43	Batmobile	Gosslies
44	P-39	P-39 take-off
45	Belgique friends	
46	P-38s on line	After mess in Gosslies
47	Verviers	
48	Verviers Dreibern	
49	[labeled 51]	Dreiborn

Contact sheet 33: Airbases A-87 and Y-51; French or Belgian civilians

50	A-87	Dr. Quinet
51	Dreiborn	
52	Y-51	
53	Adventurers at Y-51	Anne Marie
54	Madame Quinet	Yrs trly
55	C-47s	Our camp at Limburg
56	Con trails over B-26 at Y-51	
57	More con trails at Y-51	

Contact sheet 34: Contrails over Y-51; portraits; C-47s hauling gasoline for 3rd Army

58	More con trails at Y-51	
59	More con trails at Y-51	
60	More con trails at Y-51	1st photo of portrait
61	2 more of portrait	
62	2 more of portrait	
63	C-47s haul gas for 3rd Army	
64	C-47s haul gas for 3rd Army	
65	C-47s haul gas for 3rd Army	

Contact sheet 35: Crossing the Rhine; German civilians; Airbases Y-83 and R-11

66	Trip to Limburg	Autobahn & City with Kraft
67	Poor shots of Remagen	
68	2 shots Crossing the Rhine	
69	Civilians playing with white flags	Our tent area – Y-83
70	Tent area	German civilians with white flags
71	British wait to leave R-11	Excellent silhouette shot –Hanger
72	R-11	2 shots
73	British POWs wait for transport to England	Blast damage

6. Photos from contact sheets 36-40

Subjects: Airbase R-11; tanks; German equipment; Paris; French countryside

Contact sheet 36: Tanks; airbase R-11; German aircraft

74	Scott & [----?] at R-11	British POWs
75	R-11	
76	2 tank shots	En route to front
77	2 tank shots	En route to front
78	Burnt out Tiger	
79	Long-nosed 190	Robbie
80	German biplane	
81	R-11	

Contact sheet 37: Airbase R-11; Paris

82	Hanger shot
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83	R-11	
84	Paris	Book stalls along the Seine
85	GI and girl-friend	*
86	Paris - Madeline	GI Red Cross
87	Champs Elysee	Sidewalk café
88	Along the Seine	
89	The Seine	Notre Dame

Contact sheet 38: Paris & countryside

90	Notre Dame	1st shot of Bernadette
91	2 close ups – Bernadette	
92	2 haystack shots	
93	2 haystack shots	
94	Shots thru barn door	
95	Woodchoppers	Old woman on road
96	2 shots – back yards	Outskirts of Paris
97	Paris street scenes	

Contact sheet 39: Countryside near Paris; Spitfires & RAF airdrome; Cornwall coast

98	Parisien countryside	Young woman with lilacs
99	Last shot of Bernadette	The Opera
100	Xmas card 1942 [missing]	Spit.s & RAF drome

Logbook entries end here.

Contact sheet 40: Friends; airbase scenes; aircraft

Oral Histories (shelved with other VHP interviews):

VHP Tapes #117 & 118

Interview by Lucas G. Boyd, circa 1995.

These tapes, rather than a formal interview, instead are narratives to accompany a display of photographs taken by Thompson during the war and exhibited at the Tennessee War Memorial Museum during the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion. Thompson's narrative focuses in detail on specific photographs that were used for this exhibit.

Wherever possible, his comments have been keyed to the appropriate photograph using Thompson's own photograph numbering system (explained above). (approx. 3 hrs.)

RESTRICTED: Publication use restricted; see transcript. Transcript located in Box 1 of Joe Thompson Jr. Papers.

VHP Tapes #311 - #319

Interviews by Alice Swanson, 2004-2005.

Joe Thompson, Jr. provides additional details and reminiscences prompted by reviewing contact sheets of photographs he took while in service during World War II during this series of interviews conducted from December 13, 2004 to February 7, 2005. Not a

photo-by-photo type of interview, but rather story by story, Mr. Thompson tells many personal anecdotes about his service, such as his time spent with a family in Belgium; the nurse that was his girlfriend in the early days of his involvement in England; the interpreter in Paris and her family; and the connections made with comrades and with Europeans that have been maintained to this day. Many photographs feature the planes, tanks, trucks and living accommodations of that time, which Thompson also describes in detail. One of the more unusual anecdotes is about one of his comrades who invented a hot water apparatus which they used on the beach at Normandy for shaving. Thompson tells about the liberation of Paris and welcome by Parisians, and the narrow hedgerows traversed by tanks and other heavy equipment. Mr. Thompson repeatedly stated that taking these pictures was his connection to sanity in such dangerous circumstances. (approx. 5 ½ hrs. More detailed interview summaries and transcripts are located in Box 1 of Joe Thompson Jr. Papers.)