

**The National Museum of the Pacific War
(Admiral Nimitz Museum)**

**Center for Pacific War Studies
Fredericksburg, Texas**

**Interview with
Wayne D. Hissong
35154573
Sv Co 712th TK BN**

**Original Interview by
John B. Tombaugh and Peg Van Meter
14th, May 2005**

Wayne D. Hissong
35154573
Sv Co 712th TK BN
US 11th Calvary

Medals Earned:

American Defense Service Ribbon
European African Medal
Eastern Theater Ribbon w/ 1 Silver Battalion Star
3 Overseas Service
1 Service Stripe
Good Conduct Medal
Purple Heart Medal

Original Interview by
John B. Tombaugh and Peg Van Meter
Completed
14th, May 2005

With reinterview by
John B. Tombaugh

My name is John Tombaugh and Peg Van Meter and I are interviewing Mr. Wayne D. Hissong.

Mr. Tombaugh

Would you state your name and address please.

Mr. Hissong

Wayne D. Hissong, PO Box 94, Leiters Ford, Indiana.

Mr. Tombaugh

What were your parents names and where were they born?

Mr. Hissong

Lawrence and Carrie Smith Hissong. Both of my parents were born in Argos, Indiana.

Mr. Tombaugh

What year were you born?

Mr. Hissong

I was born on May 30, 1920.

Mr. Tombaugh

Were you married before you went into the service?

Mr. Hissong

No. I was married the first time to Norma Jo Ragsdale while in the service and she died in 1943.

My second marriage was to Barbara Reinholt on 20 Oct., '1956 She died 7 June, 1996.

Mr. Tombaugh

Do you have children?

Mr. Hissong

Yes. Valerie, Vince and Van.

Mr. Tombaugh

You attended school where?

Mr. Hissong

I attended school at Argos, Indiana and graduated in 1940.

Mr. Tombaugh

What did you do after school?

Mr. Hissong

I worked in a chair factory in Elkhart, Indiana.

Mr. Tombaugh

Where were you on December 7, 1941?

Mr. Hisson

I was at Camp Sealy, California. I was in the horse Calvary.

The following is taken from the: "History of THE 712th TANK BATTALION"

"On 20 Sept. 1943 the 712th Tank Battalion was activated. This date is in a sense deceptive for although the 712th came into being then [sic] it had existed as part of the 10th Armd. Division from the latter's activation in July 1942, and many members could trace their Army careers back to early 1941 and the 11th Cavalry. It was this same 11th Cav. Regt., made tough and experienced in the rugged hills near SAN DIEGO, that formed with the 3rd Cav. Regt. the cadre for the 10th Armd. 'Tigers'. What was later to be the 712th was at the time the 3rd Bn. of the 11th Armd. Regt., with D Co. being born as C Co. of the 1st Bn. of that Regt.

"Though members of the 3rd and 11th Cav. Regts. were good soldiers basically-and even better cavalymen-they were ill-equipped for Fort Benning and tanks. Fortunately the cadre had four months to gain a head start on their yet-to-be drafted pupils. The rigorous and comprehensive training schedule allowed little leisure but the application to duty paid dividends as recruits began to pour in early in November. They were quickly introduced to Army routine and rapidly started the transformation to 'Tiger' status. The crowded hours saw the old hell-for-leather men patiently applying the lessons that had given them such a firm foundation. In addition to the usual garrison routine of spit and polish, parades, etc., there were long hours spent at the motor park exhausting the mysteries of the tank and its allied vehicles. Many weapons were mastered and proficiency tested by many hours on the ranges. A great number of men were sent to the Armored Force Schools at Ft. Knox-maintenance, gunnery, radio-and soon returned as qualified instructors, which lightened the task considerably. In no time at all civilians once removed were ready to attempt application of the lessons so diligently studied.

"Prior to maneuvers each battalion of the two Armored Regts. moved into the field in the spring of 1943 for two weeks of 'roughing it'. One week was spent at tactical camp where all that the name implies, and much that it does not, was practiced. Following that the men, minus their vehicles, trekked to an adjoining camp devoted solely to toughening the body beautiful, and where the men were separated from the boys. If it did nothing else 'Tiger Camp' did prove to the men that their endurance had reached unexpected limits. Field exercises over furloughs followed and then the men were engaged in preparing the tanks for rail shipment to Tennessee and maneuvers. At the end of June the division closed out at Ft. Benning.

"If the success of Tennessee Maneuvers as a command exercise was doubtful, the same cannot be said of their effect on the individual soldiers. Much that never could be learned in garrison came to light here. In addition the men soon found themselves able to sustain life, and almost enjoy it, while separated days on end from the comforts of civilization. It was a tired yet a confident group

of soldiers that dismounted from the train which had carried them to Camp Gordon, Georgia early in September. Upon arrival here the battalion found the Camp rife with rumors of an imminent reorganization which involved the creation of two separate tank battalions. It is a wonder now what seemed so desirable about such a status but when on 20 Sept. the battalion stood free and independent the men were proud as hell of their new name-712th Tank Battalion.

"Very soon after the redesignation the Battalion moved from Camp Gordon to Ft. Jackson, S.C. Though living facilities were not as fine, everyone was now able to knuckle down to a much greater extent than would have been possible had Division SOP encumbered every move. November and December saw intensive efforts to master every feature of tank fighting. Long days were spent on the range with everyone firing every type of weapon. Christmas came and went and shortly after New Year's the long awaited news came-the Battalion was alerted for overseas shipment. Now there were a 1000 and 1 things to do, and in between times each tank crew had to complete all the Armored Force tests. There were day and night problems, command exercises and the inevitable mountain of paper work. It was a terrific month and there were few regrets when the tanks were turned in and the Battalion mounted the train for the POE.

"It turned out to be BOSTON and after a short stay at the staging area-Camp Myles Standish-the Battalion boarded the SS Exchequer on 27 Feb. and by dawn the next morning that noble vessel was off toward a convoy rendezvous and the open sea. A few days out found a good many unreconstructed landlubbers. Aside from the well worn path beaten by these unfortunates the trip passed with a minimum of activity, and although long hours in the never-ending chow line for two meals per day helped to pass the time, the inevitable Pocketbook Mysteries and card games used up the rest. The strict blackout made nights long and in the crowded quarters none too comfortable. It was therefore a happy bunch that welcomed land on 8 March as the Battalion debarked at GOUROCH, Scotland to the skirl of bagpipes and the cheery welcome of the Scottish Red Cross.

"A train carried the tankers through the beautiful hills of Scotland into England, with the main part of the Battalion pulling in at CHISELDON near SWINDON while A Co. located temporarily at a small camp in STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, later joining the Battalion. Here training was resumed but not on such an intensive scale. A liberal pass policy permitted many tankers to visit nearby points of interest, particularly LONDON. But here the refined intricacies of the aiming circle and indirect firing were introduced and many classes were held in mines and booby traps, aircraft recognition and identification of enemy clothing and equipment. There were weekly night problems and early in May the entire Battalion moved down near AMESBURY for target firing. Later a large group went to WALES for anti-aircraft firing. All of this didn't leave too much time for fish and chips, ATS Girls ((Womens) Auxiliary Territorial Service), pub-crawling and the like.

"Late in May speculation about D-Day was current everywhere and

the numerous flights of towed gliders over the area gave strong indication that such a day was not far away. These same days saw the tank park a scene of feverish activity as the 'Battle of Bostik' was fought with every minute of the daylight hours being utilized for waterproofing. And on 6 June 1945 the world awoke to D-Day and the 712th awoke to find a new Battalion Commander and that it had received alert orders looking toward debarkation for France on 28 June. A lot still had to be accomplished and the tankers set to work with increased resolution. With approximately another week still left for preparation the tankers hit the sack on the night of 16 June, confident that the present unreadiness of their tanks and equipment would be eliminated when the time came. Six hours later-at 0430 17 June-they found themselves racing down the roads toward the POE as a premature movement order had reached the Battalion an hour before midnight. It was a long, fast march and the day was blistering hot. Tanks burned and fell out as bogie wheels and tracks deteriorated. The column thinned out and stretched way back, but eventually all tanks pulled into DORCHESTER and all tankers were filled with uneasiness. Work to complete waterproofing was recommended on arrival but soon word came down to stop and take a good night's sleep, if possible, since almost every man's eyes were inflamed and irritated. By the next day it was discovered that the movement orders had been a mistake and the Battalion assembled in a large field near YEOVIL to await actual commitment.

"The next week was spent in waterproofing, dewaterproofing, re-waterproofing and in doing the many last minute things needed to prepare the vehicles for the real thing. Then on the morning of 28 June, and this time everyone was ready and confident, the tanks moved down to the POE and boarded the LSTs and LCT at WEYMOUTH. The tides and natural confusion incident to this mighty effort made the Channel trip a 2 day instead of 8 hour affair. But it seemed no time at all before the tanks were threading their way past the wreckage on OMAHA BEACH, under cover of the ever present P-47s and the odd, huge barrage balloons.

"After dewaterproofing the tanks moved to an assembly area near PICAUVILLE. The first night in France was definitely an experience. Maneuvers and training had never involved the should of enemy artillery and the explosion of an incoming shell. The devastation that had been wrought by American planes and arms was complete and warned the tankers that lite it or not they were now in the war for keeps. Soon the Battalion learned that it had been assigned to the 90th Infantry Division whose personnel wore TO's on their sleeve, standing for Tough 'Ombres. (Originally this stood for Texas-Oklahoma). A Co. was temporarily assigned to the 82nd Airborne Infantry Division. And on the evening of 2 July the platoon leaders returned with the plans for action the following day. July 3rd, the day before Independence Day, would become the red letter day in the Battalion's history. Hitler, Rommel and Co. were now faced by the 'Best Tank Battalion in the U.S. Army'."

Mr. Tombaugh

Did you enlist or were you drafted?

Mr. Hissong

I enlisted. There were four of us from Argos that decided we would enlist rather than be drafted. Charles Mitchell; Lou Banario; Gerald Umbaugh and myself.

We all enlisted on the same day and went to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana and from there to Fort Riley, Kansas.

Charles Mitchell and I stayed in the same outfit, this was the last horse calvary of the United States 11th Calvary that they had.

Mitchell and I stayed together and when we went into the tank battalion; he went in one company and I went into another one. He got killed the first day of combat.

Mr. Tombaugh

What was the date you went into service?

Mr. Hissong

I went in on March 14, 1941.

Mr. Tombaugh

What was life like for you then?

Mr. Hissong

I would say it was bad, of course it wasn't home. Basic we were in house but when we were in California the horse calvary was in pyramid tents. When they were broken up I went to Fort Benning, Georgia where we were in billeted barracks.

Mr. Tombaugh

You make a lot of friends and have you kept in contact with any of them?

Mr. Hissong

Yes. We have two reunions a year. The big reunion will be in Cincinnati, Ohio in September of 2005. We have a mini-reunion in January in Florida it's nothing formal, just to get away.

Mr. Tombaugh

While state side you converted from horse to armor; did you have any special training working in HQ Area?

Mr. Hissong

When I was in the calvary I worked in HQ's personnel. I worked in service troop but went to personnel HQ's when we transferred to Fort Benning, Georgia. I went from the office to line duty, so to speak, in service and that was where I stayed all the time. As for the special training, I was just punching typewriter.

When the Japs bombed Pearl Harbor, I was on duty and that was one time I could call those officers and tell them to get their butts back to camp. I could call him all kinds of names and he had to do it, no retaliation.

Mr. Tombaugh

Where did you go next?

Mr. Hissong

We went from Fort Benning, Georgia to Camp Gordon, Georgia. We then shipped out in February of 1943 and we were activated in '43.

I was a prisoner of war for 72 hours. Another fellow, not from my outfit, and I were captured. I had seven trucks and we ran into an ambush; each truck had an assistant driver so there were 14 of us; my driver and I were taken prisoner, one got killed while the others managed to get out okay.

I couldn't walk, the truck had run over my leg. They put me up in a horse drawn vehicle and made my driver walk. They dropped me off at a farm house and took my driver with them.

The next morning about 10 o'clock a female German Doctor came in and I was laying on the floor. She got down and examined me. She could speak better English than any of us. Another guy from another outfit was there and she examined both of us and said; "I'll be back in a couple of hours and take care of you." I would say it was about three hours before she came back. When she came in the first time she was in a complete Nazi uniform; when she came back she had changed her clothes and she was in a beautiful blue dress; nylon hose and high heels which I'll never, never, never forget. I mean she was really a beautiful woman. There I was laying on the floor and when she knelt down; I tell you she was trying awfully hard.

What really made me mad, she asked if I smoked? I said; "Yes." Up to the time of the war Lucky Strike cigarettes had been in a green package which they changed to the white package (Lucky Strike had gone to war); she gave me a Lucky Strike cigarette out of a green package and lit it with a zippo lighter; that lighter I had been trying to get for four years, I couldn't get one.

Then she started pumping you, wanting this and that, one thing and another. She took care of my arm. I was cut and she asked me all kinds of questions. I would just give her my name, rank and serial number and that was it. She then said she knew we had to be hungry and she went out into this kitchen and cooked this other fellow and myself fried potatoes and eggs. She said she had to leave and would be back. She never got back, I don't know what ever happened to her.

That night about 9 o'clock a colored tank battalion came in and rescued us and if I could have gotten up I would of kissed them.

Mr. Tombaugh

When you went overseas you were at Swindon, England. What was the camp site like over there?

Mr. Hissong

Our tents were small.

Mr. Tombaugh

Did you have the little coke heating stove in your tents?

Mr. Hissong

I don't believe we had any stoves in the tents.

Mr. Tombaugh

Your mess was in a building or outside?

Mr. Hissong

Outside.

Mr. Tombaugh

Who was your CO over in England?

Mr. Hissong

Col. George B. Randolph was our CO until we got into France where he got killed. Our Battalion Commander for the remainder of our time was Lt. Col. Vladimir B. Kedrovsky, he has since passed away.

Mr. Tombaugh

Do you remember the date you arrived and left England?

Mr. Hissong

We landed in Normandy on the 25th of June. Nineteen days after D Day.

Mr. Tombaugh

Do you remember the name of the ship you went to England aboard?

Mr. Hissong

The SS Exchequer, and I came home on her sister ship.

NOTE: At this point Mr. Hissong and Mr. Tombaugh commence looking through the 712th Tank Battalion's History book.

Mr. Tombaugh

Those German "Tiger" tanks were nasty little things, especially those with the 88's mounted on them.

Mr. Hissong

When we first got over there they welded a piece of metal in front of the tank for support. Now the Germans were smart. They would zero right in on that weld bead and it wouldn't ricochet, it would go right on through; no kidding they were smart cookies.

Mr. Tombaugh

They also had the anti-tank blades that would get through hedgerows.

Mr. Hissong

Yes, those hedgerows were really something.

Mr. Tombaugh

What was the food like in France?

Mr. Hissong

Oh, C ration, K rations. In the spring we could raid a potato field and get some new potatoes. It was liveable, you would have to say, not really to bad. We were never without food.

As my company was the service company we had to service the rest of the company with everything; gas, oil, food and everything. We had two ration trucks that kept the rations coming all the time.

Those trucks would get 300-5 gallon cans per truck. That would be 1500 gallons of gas on a truck. We were still in the hedgerows and I had four trucks which were loaded with empty jerry cans going back to get gas. It was a colored outfit that run this depot. We pulled in and the Sgt. said; "Put your empties down here then go up there and get your gas."

I said; "Look, three miles down the road the Germans are counter attacking and I need gas and I need it now."

He blew a whistle and a man came out of every bush and just like that the cans were in the air and I was loaded. I lied to him a little bit but at least I got filled up and was on our way back to our position.

Mr. Tombaugh

Do you remember the name of the place where you were injured at?

Mr. Hissong

No; it was just a place which happened on April 1, 1945.

Mr. Tombaugh

While in France were there any memorable things you would like to tell?

Mr. Hissong

The only thing I remember about France was that we were with the 90th Division and we got to the city limits of Paris where they stopped us and let the French Army go through and take Paris.

Mr. Tombaugh

During this time you were hauling this equipment around on trucks. You were on the front lines most of the time, how often were you under fire while doing this?

Mr. Hissong

We had A Company; B Company; C Company; D Company and Headquarters and Headquarters Company. When we first got into combat, we had the gas and ammunition and would wait for a company to call and tell us they needed gas or ammunition. We then got to the point where they were scattered out too much so I put a gas truck with each tank company. When they would need gas they would come back to our headquarters and fill up with gas there so the drivers with each company could have been under attack 24 hours a day.

The company that I was with would be under fire maybe once a day and sometimes not for a whole week.

Mr. Tombaugh

Did you ever have any trouble with friendly fire or allied aircraft?

Mr. Hissong

No.

Mr. Tombaugh

Anything humorous happen while over there?

Mr. Hissong

I guess the thing that strikes me as the funniest of anything, we were going down a road and we were being strafed by a German airplane. We jumped down and got into the ditch on one side of the road; he then would turn around and we would get into the other ditch. We did this three or four times.

He left and one of boys who was Jewish said; "Hissong, Hissong, I'm hit."

The bullet passed the right side of his hip and just grazed him enough to tear his pants and barely scraped his skin. His name was Oscar Fleetman (we called him Aukie).

I said; "Aukie, here you are telling me how dumb the Germans are and you are the only Jew in the company and they picked you out and got you." You talk about somebody getting a cussing, oh-boy. He was the type of Jew that you could say anything to that you wanted to. I believe he got a Purple Heart for that little cut. He's dead now.

Mr. Tombaugh

When you were handling the fuels and ammunition and everything else, was this the Red Ball Express?

Mr. Hissong

Yes, part of the time.

Mr. Tombaugh

How were they?

Mr. Hissong

For us they were fine. Before we got out of the hedgerows our gas was flown in by plane from England. At the hedgerows the Red Ball Express took over.

Mr. Tombaugh

You also got gas from the underground lines from England?

Mr. Hissong

Yes.

Mr. Tombaugh

I still don't know how you guys managed to get across and secure the land and keep moving against everything that was there.

Mr. Hissong

I don't either.

The thing that would get me more than anything else was those little French kids; they would beg you for all kinds of food. Chocolate was the most asked for and if you had chocolate you wanted to be careful because they would mob you.

The old boy upstairs (GOD) had a lot to do with it.

Mr. Tombaugh

What else occurred over there that you like to tell us about?

Mr. Hissong

You have all heard of how rough Patton was; I met him up close. How I came to meet him was before we separated our trucks out to each tank company, I had two trucks loaded with gas. I was taking them up because I knew exactly where the tanks were, I came to a crossroad and normally the engineers would have a sign up that would say this crossing has been cleared of mines but there were no signs here.

I called my driver Mutt and asked: "What do you think?"

Mutt said: "We know where the tanks are at."

About that time a jeep pulled up and I looked out and there was all those stars shining and he said; "What in the hell you sitting here for?"

I said: "Sir, a company of tanks are over there and we are taking the gas to them but I don't know if this road is cleared of mines?"

He said: "Take the god damn truck down the road and we will find out if it's cleared of mines won't we."

I said: "Here we go Mutt." So down the road we went.

I guess you know the road was clear of mines otherwise I wouldn't be here.

I met him another time; I had four or five trucks with me then but I was moving and he came along and informed me, "By god, I wasn't moving fast enough, get off the road." He had an armored tank coming up and he wanted me to get off of the road so we pulled off.

Mr. Tombaugh

When did you leave Germany?

Mr. Hissong

September of 1944.

Mr. Tombaugh

Where were you discharged from?

Mr. Hissong

On October 9, 1945 at Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

Mr. Tombaugh

What did you do for fun overseas?

Mr. Hissong

I didn't have any trouble in England at all.

Mr. Tombaugh

Were you in London?

Mr. Hissong

No. I never got to London, I had a pass but it didn't come up quick enough. I was in Swindon all the time.

Mr. Tombaugh

What were the people like in Swindon?

Mr. Hissong

They were real nice people.

Mr. Tombaugh

Did you make friends with civilians at Swindon?

Mr. Hissong

Yes.

Mr. Tombaugh

Do you still keep in contact with them?

Mr. Hissong

No.

Mr. Tombaugh

What would you say to the young people today?

Mr. Hissong

I hope none of you ever have to go through what we went through.

Following taken from: "History of The 712th TANK BATTALION"

"In the final phase of the war a convoy of seven trucks enroute to a gas dump was ambushed by the enemy, resulting in one driver's death and the capture of several others. Eventual annihilation of the enemy forces ensued shortly, and the captives were behind the wheel when V-E Day was proclaimed.

"Minimum Estimates of Enemy Equipment Destroyed

426 Trucks	22 AA Guns
253 Horsedrawn Vehicles	20 Armored Cars
136 Half Tracks	11 Peeps
126 Artillery Pieces	7 Airplanes
116 A T Guns	6 Nebelwerfers
112 Command Cars	4 120 mm Mortars
103 Tanks	2 Locomotives
57 SP Guns	2 Ammo Dumps
54 Motorcycles	1 Motor Boat

"AMMUNITION EXPENDED

3,000,000 rounds .30 cal.	40,000 rounds 76 mm
100,000 rounds 75 mm	25,000 rounds 37 mm
100,000 rounds .50 cal.	100 Hand Grenades

'MAP'

"Battle Route of the 712th Tank Battalion in the Eastern Theatre of Operations.

England -- Swindon; Portsmouth.

France -- Saint Jores; Periers; Foret De Mont Castre; Avranches; Mayenne; Le Mans; Falaise Gap, Chambois; Alenco; Chateaudun; Fountain Bleau; Chateau Thierry; Reims; Metz.

Belgium -- Bastogne

Germany -- Mainz; Vacha; Hof; Nurnburg; Ziewsel; Mberg.

Czechoslovakia -- Suscice"

NOTE: The following was taken from a newspaper account but the papers and date is unknown.

"Tremulous Tap Trill Toll As Tank Tramples Tippy"

"Twelve years, a life time of devoted service as mascot of the 11th Cavalry, later the 11th Armored Regiment, came to an abrupt end for Tippy last week when a hit and run tank crushed out the life of the canine cavalryman. Those twelve years saw Tippy rise from puppyhood to the rank of master sergeant.

"Tippy was found crumpled and torn in a tank track. He was buried with full honors befitting his length of service and rank with fellow members of his organization attending and the bugler blowing his final call-Taps.

GETS CANDY BAR

"He was with the Service Company of the 11th Armored as most of his old troop members were still in that company. You probably saw him every day in front of regimental headquarters standing first sergeant's call and returning with a candy bar in his mouth.

"In the spring of 1930 at the Presidio of Monterey Sergeant Tippy first saw the light of day. He immediately enlisted in Headquarters and Service Troop of the 11th Cavalry and remained there for the remainder of his Army career. Wherever the 11th was sent on maneuvers, Tippy went along in the lead truck.

CHASES STRAY DOGS

"When the 11th came to Fort Benning, Tippy came along and announced his arrival by running off all stray dogs in the Regimental area. It was also at Fort Benning that he took his first 10 day furlough to escape the heat. He was indeed a mascot to be proud of in that he never followed formations to the drill field, never barked or romped during ceremonies, and never turned on a soldier in his entire career. He obeyed all orders without a growl and asked very little in return, except to be played with and have his bed roll unrolled at night when it was cool. Yes, in view of his service he had a bed roll. It was the same bed roll that was his shroud at the time of his burial."

The Following taken from: "TANKS FOR THE MEMORIES"
An Oral History of the 712th Tank Battalion from World War II
as told to Aaron Elson

Wayne Hissong

"As a member of the battalion's Service Company, Wayne Hissong drove a supply truck, bringing ammunition, gasoline, or food to the tanks.

"When I went into the service, there were four of us went in together. One of the fellows, John Charles Mitchell, he and I graduated from high school together. He was in B Company, I was in Service Company. We went through everything, we got overseas, and he was one of the first ones in the battalion to get killed.

"His mother wrote me, I don't know, two or three letters overseas and wanted me to detail to her what happened. But your letters were censored, you couldn't tell much. And I really couldn't tell her too much anyway.

"Then when I got home, my dad met me at the railroad station, about 2 in the afternoon, and we went to our house, in the little town of Argos, Indiana. Then we went to my brother's house.

"After awhile, I said, "Well, I'm gonna go uptown, Dad," and he said, "I'll go with you."

"On my way uptown, he says, "Now , I want to tell you, Mitchell's mother is waiting for you."

"She worked in a dry goods store on the corner. There was no way I could get around her, absolutely no way, hell, I could have went forty different ways and she could still see me, and I'm walking down the street, and boy, here she comes across the street.

"She wanted to know how it happened. And man, I could just tell her so much.

"He was a tank driver. At one time, he was considered one of the best tank drivers there was in our battalion. As I understand it, they came around a bend in a road that was blind on his side...and he was engaged to a girl in England, and had written to his mother that he had gotten engaged, and his mother got the ring, and his sister sent the girl a wedding gown.

"Seeing his mother was about the hardest thing I had to do."

-END-

12 hours