

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR

The Nimitz Education and Research Center

Fredericksburg, Texas

An Interview With  
Jackie M. Haworth  
Columbus, Texas  
November 3, 2016  
USS Boston CA-69  
TF58

My name is Richard Misenhimer: Today is November 3, 2016. I am interviewing Mr. Jackie M. "Jack" Haworth by telephone. His phone number is 979-732-3239. His address is 1041 Garden Oaks, Columbus, TX 78934. This interview is in support of the National Museum of the Pacific War, the Nimitz Education and Research Center for the preservation of historical information related to World War II.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Jack, I want to thank you for taking time to do this interview today and I want to thank you for your service to our country during World War II.

Mr. Haworth:

OK, thank you.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now, the first thing I need to do is read to you this agreement with the museum to make sure this is OK with you. So let me read this to you. (agreement read) Is that OK with you?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now the next thing I'd like to do is get an alternative contact. We find out that sometimes several years down the road, we try to get back in contact with a veteran, he's moved or something. So do you have a son or daughter or some one we could contact if we needed to?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes. I have a daughter here in Columbus, Gae Anne Noska.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's her phone number?

Mr. Haworth:

979-732-3676.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Do you have an address for her?

Mr. Haworth:

1640 Montezuma, Columbus, TX 78934.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Hopefully we'll never need that but you never know. Now, what is your birth date?

Mr. Haworth:

December 7, 1926.

Mr. Misenhimer:

December 7 – that's a famous day. Where were you born?

Mr. Haworth:

A little town in Kansas called Argonia.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have brothers and sisters?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, I had a sister and a half-brother and a half-sister.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was your half-brother in World War II?

Mr. Haworth:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did either of your sisters do any kind of war work during World War II?

Mr. Haworth:

Not that I'm aware of.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now, you grew up during the Depression. How did the Depression affect you and your family?

Mr. Haworth:

We were very...we were what you would call poor but it did not affect us as far as I was concerned. We always had plenty to eat and things to wear. We didn't have much money. My dad worked for the WPA but not very long. We survived and we made it through that and everybody was in the same condition so we didn't think it was too bad.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have a garden?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes. We had to raise everything. We lived on a semi-farm, not really a farm, but we had chickens, pigs, sheep, couple or three cows. We always had a garden there to raise and can vegetables for winter use and such.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So you made it through the Depression OK, then?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes. As far as, you know, we didn't starve or have anything. Dad was out of work some but he always found something to do.

Mr. Misenhimer:

OK, good. Where did you go to high school?

Mr. Haworth:

Went to high school in Argonia, Kansas.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When did you graduate there?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I didn't really graduate. I quit in eleventh grade and went in the Navy. I got a GED certificate after I got out.

Mr. Misenhimer:

OK, good. So what date did you go into the Navy?

Mr. Haworth:

March 20, 1944.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How did you choose the Navy?

Mr. Haworth:

I just thought it was a good organization.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you 18 or 17 when you went in?

Mr. Haworth:

17.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You had to have your mother's or father's signature to get in.

Mr. Haworth:

No, I didn't really have to.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Oh?

Mr. Haworth:

Went without that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

OK. So then where did you go for your boot camp?

Mr. Haworth:

Faragut, Idaho.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What all did you do there?

Mr. Haworth:

We just went through boot camp for about six weeks I believe and we left there and they shipped me to Memphis, Tennessee. I was going to train to be a radio operator and gunner. Hardly worked out, so I got shipped to San Diego. From there I went to Hawaii on a troop ship and was there in Hawaii for four or five weeks and then they put me on a troop ship and went to the South Pacific to a staging area over there where all the warships met to pick up replacements and supplies and things like that and that's where I got on the Boston, U.S.S. Boston.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That's a heavy cruiser, CA-69. Is that right?

Mr. Haworth:

69, heavy cruiser, yes.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Let me go back and ask you some questions. In boot camp did you have a lot of marching?

Mr. H:

Yes, we had a lot of marching, training, like that. Yes, we did.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have knot tying?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, learned how to tie a lot of knots.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Swimming?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah, we had to take swimming. You had to be able to float across the pool, get out, jump off a diving board and get across the pool and get out.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were your drill instructors pretty tough on you?

Mr. Haworth:

I didn't really mind it. I didn't, you know, they were strict. You had to follow orders. I didn't mind the treatment.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Anything particular you recall from your boot camp there?

Mr. Haworth:

It was a pretty nice place. It was kind of cold but it was a nice place up there I thought.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then you went to Memphis. What kind of schooling was that?

Mr. Haworth:

I went to be a radio gunner.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What happened there?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I was pretty good at gunnery but not very good at telegraph. So they disqualified me.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How long were you there?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I don't really remember but I would think probably about two months.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Two months. OK. Then when you left there you went to San Diego?

Mr. Haworth:

Went to San Diego.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How did you travel out there?

Mr. Haworth:

By train.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How was that train trip?



Mr. Haworth:

(laughs) Looooong and pretty rough. Not very good comfort on it.

Mr. Misenhimer:

About how many days did it take?

Mr. Haworth:

I really don't remember, about three or four or five days.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have a place to sleep on the train?

Mr. Haworth:

We had a place to sit and they made and they made up bunks. Kind of a bunk in there to sleep on.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then when you got to San Diego, what happened?

Mr. Haworth:

When I got to San Diego, we were there temporarily. We just filled in work details daily until I worked as the dishwasher in the kitchen for about oh, I'd say about two to three weeks and then they had a troop ship to take us to the South Pacific.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You went to Hawaii, did you say?

Mr. Haworth:

Hawaii, yes, went to Hawaii and about the same there. They put us on work permits daily and we, I don't know, we were there for a couple or three weeks. I had some details at the military cemetery there in Hawaii that they were initiating at that time.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then what?

Mr. Haworth:

Then we went on another troop ship and sent us to the South Pacific.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now on the ship from San Diego to Hawaii, what kind of ship was that?

Mr. Haworth:

Just a troop ship, one of them ships, oh, ship that, what did they call them, Victory models or...

Mr. Misenhimer:

Victory ship, OK.

Mr. Haworth:

They just put everybody on there. That's all they had was troops. You had a bunk that was about, that's all you had there and a lot of sailors on there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was there much seasickness on that trip over?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, there was a lot of people seasick. There sure was. I never did get seasick but a lot of them sure did.

Mr. Misenhimer:

About how long did that trip take to go over there?

Mr. Haworth:

I don't remember, four or five days.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then you left there and you went to where?

Mr. Haworth:

Left Hawaii and went to the staging area over in the South Pacific. I'm not sure what island that was over there, maybe Eniwetok, or something like that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That's one of them.

Mr. Haworth:

That's where all the warships come in for replacements and supplies. The troop ship pulled in there and we just waited until they assigned us a ship and then we all left the ship.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How was that trip over there from Hawaii to the South Pacific?

Mr. Haworth:

That was quite a thing. You know we crossed the International Date Line so we had the celebration about where you went from a polliwog to what, a whole frog or something like that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

I'm not sure now but right, when you crossed the Date Line they had a little ceremony, right.

Mr. Haworth:

They had a ceremony. Big deal.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you ever cross the equator?

Mr. Haworth:

No, I sure didn't. We were set up to go to Australia one time and the trip was cancelled. They needed us someplace else so we never made it across the equator.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was your job on the Boston?

Mr. Haworth:

I was in what they called the black gang. I worked in the aft engine room, below ship. I was a fireman to start with. When I got aboard ship they made me a fireman first class and I worked there all the time in the aft engine room and became a machinist mate first class.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was your job as fireman? What all did you do?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, you progressed from certain jobs. We started out on a phone watch. That was the communication system. Then they had an auxiliary watch. That was all the equipment below the main floor in there. Then I worked on a throttle watch and later on when we got back to the States I did stand some chief watches.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When you left the island there when you were first on the Boston, where did you go?

Mr. Haworth:

We were in battle in the Philippine Sea and battles in the Pacific.

Mr. Misenhimer:

About what date did you join the Boston?

Mr. Haworth:

I was wondering about that when you called the other day and I really can't recall. I would say, I would guess some place around July, August, September, something like that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Of 1944?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was the first battle you were in?

Mr. Haworth:

Part of the battle of the Philippine Sea.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was that Leyte or where was that?

Mr. Haworth:

I'm not sure about all those locations over there. I'm not. I just didn't retain all that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

June 17 they had what they call the "Great Mariannas Turkey Shoot". I'm not sure if that was the same thing or not. That was June 17, 1944 so you probably weren't there by then. What did you do in your first battle? What all happened?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, we were below ship so we were just at general quarters while they were doing all the firing. I never did get much topside so all the work I done in general quarters was all below deck.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So you don't know what happened up on deck then?

Mr. Haworth:

Never did see much of it. I went up one time when they was shelling the island of Japan and I seen that when they were shooting shells over on the island of Japan.

Mr. Misenhimer:

The main island.

Mr. Haworth:

It was the latter part of the war.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What task force or group were you with? Do you know?

Mr. Haworth:

The 5<sup>th</sup> Task Force.

Mr. Misenhimer:

The 5<sup>th</sup> ...

Mr. Haworth:

There was an aircraft carrier there with us, another cruiser and destroyers.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You say aircraft carrier?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, uh-huh.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Just one?

Mr. Haworth:

I believe there was one, just one.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Do you know what the name of it was?

Mr. Haworth:

No, I really don't.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you ever see the planes take off from the carrier, that sort of stuff?

Mr. Haworth:

I spent a lot of time, take off and land.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you see that?

Mr. Haworth:

When we were topside, we used to watch them all the time because we were right alongside the aircraft carriers when the planes landed and took off.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You were up on deck at that point?

Mr. Haworth:

Our schedule there was four on and eight off.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What were you doing at that point?

Mr. Haworth:

Various jobs, probably auxiliary watch, maintenance on the auxiliary and maintaining the auxiliary, service the turbines that turned the screws that run the ship. That was amidship.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That was below deck?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah. Aft engine room.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did your Boston do a lot of firing of their guns?

Mr. Haworth:

They sure did. We done a lot of shooting. The 4-inch and the 5-inch guns. We had a lot of anti-aircraft and everything like that. Then we shelled the island of Japan and various islands over there. We provided some support for them. Mainly we provided support for the aircraft carrier for the planes to bomb the various islands.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you ever attacked by kamikazes?

Mr. Haworth:

You better believe it.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where was that?

Mr. Haworth:

Being the last one that come in there and they got a picture of it some place, coming in from the starboard side, about a hundred feet above the water, aimed right at us. I seen an anti-aircraft gun shoot it down and it exploded and went in the water. Coming right at us.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where was that at? Do you know?



Mr. Haworth:

It was out in the water there some place off the coast of Japan.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you attacked by kamikazes other than that time?

Mr. Haworth:

I'm sure there were but I didn't see any of it but I'm sure there were because we had a lot of aircraft attacks. But we never did get hit.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Good, good.

Mr. Haworth:

Our people were pretty good shooters I guess because that one, they only fired three shells. The third one hit the plane so they evidently had pretty good aim.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's some other things that happened?

Mr. Haworth:

Aboard ship it was pretty calm. With aircraft carriers and everything, most of the planes took off and made bombing runs and we didn't get into it too much.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you ever attacked by Japanese submarines?

Mr. Haworth:

Not that I'm aware of. We had submarine deterrents and destroyers maintained that mostly. I'm sure that they were on alert for them all the time but the ship, a heavy cruiser that was in the task force, took a torpedo before I got in that area. There was one ship that was hit and they hauled it

back to the United States and reconditioned it. I don't know what ship that was but it was with our task force but it was a heavy cruiser like the Boston.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What Admiral was in charge of your task force?

Mr. Haworth:

I don't remember the Admiral. I should know that but I really don't remember. There was an Admiral on the aircraft carrier and I think there was an Admiral on our ship but I only met him one time and I don't remember his name.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What did you think of the officers that you had over you?

Mr. Haworth:

I never had any problem with any of them. I thought everybody worked pretty good together. It was a well-run ship. I enjoyed the service there. I liked the work and everything else. It was just something that you done every day. I didn't see any problem with it. The food was pretty good and it was just a pleasant experience really.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What would you consider your most frightening time?

Mr. Haworth:

There wasn't much excitement. We played a lot of penny ante poker.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You never were scared any time then?

Mr. Haworth:

I was kind of worried a couple or three times, yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What happened to cause that?

Mr. Haworth:

I was down in the ship and I was just wondering how you were going to get out if something happened. It's pretty scary when they're shooting at you.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was anybody on your ship ever wounded?

Mr. Haworth:

The Boston was never hit.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So nobody was hurt then.

Mr. Haworth:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How was the morale on your ship?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I thought it was pretty good. We all seemed to get along fairly well and you know, just worked and slept, about all you done. There wasn't much entertainment. Once in a while they'd have a movie but most of the time you couldn't have lights at night so there wasn't much entertainment.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you ever hear Tokyo Rose on the radio?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah. We heard her.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What did you think of her?

Mr. Haworth:

Not much. I think it was a big joke, trying to stir up trouble.

Mr. Misenhimer:

I understand she played good music.

Mr. Haworth:

Well, probably did but she seemed to more address herself to the soldiers and things like that on the islands that were really doing the fighting.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What did you think of the medics on your ship?

Mr. Haworth:

I never had much contact with them. I never was sick, never had any reason to see a medic. I guess they were all right but I never had any contact with them.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What else do you recall from your time on the Boston?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, I think the most interesting part was learning about how the ship operated, about steam engineering, how the ship was run, how it was put together, how it was maintained and everything. I was very fortunate I think, while I was on the phone watch why there was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Machinist Mate that was a real knowledgeable person about the operation, so he taught me

and drew pictures of all the operation of our section of the ship, how the steam worked on the turbines and evaporators and all the equipment and everything else. How it was put together and when we were in dry dock we took all the things apart, repaired them and put them back in.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When were you in dry dock and why were you in dry dock?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, the Boston was commissioned back in Boston and it went to the South Pacific and they were I think the ship served about two and a half years and then they sent it back to San Francisco and put it in dry dock and repaired all the engines, all the equipment and everything else and put it back in order and went back to Japan. So the work that I done, the Machinist's work and everything was real interesting I thought. I learned a lot and I still retain a lot of that that I learned during that period of time.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When did you finally come back from overseas?

Mr. Haworth:

It was in about April or May of 1946.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where did you come to?

Mr. Haworth:

Bremerton, Washington.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you come on the Boston, or how?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah, I came back on the Boston. We left Japan over there and come back to Hawaii. Stopped there for a day or two and then came into Bremerton, Washington and the ship was decommissioned and put into moth balls.

Mr. Misenhimer:

On May 8, 1945 Germany surrendered. Did you all hear about that?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah, we heard about it.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Any kind of celebration or anything?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, we knew that Japan was not doing too well so we didn't know when the war was going to end but we was ready for it to end.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When they dropped the first atomic bomb on August 6, did you hear about that?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah. While we were in port there in Japan, I went out to see Hiroshima and toured that area.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Oh, you did?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was that like?

Mr. Haworth:

There was nothing there but rubble and two little old buildings. They put us on a truck and drove us around there and it was just rubble, ashes and things like that in the whole area. There wasn't much to see.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did they worry about radiation?

Mr. Haworth:

Evidently not because everybody took a tour out there so they weren't too concerned about radiation. We didn't get off the truck, just drove around on the roads they had out there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

But you drove through Hiroshima where all the damage was?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah, there was a lot, just a big area, nothing there. Wasn't no buildings, no nothing. There were two little old buildings we went by. When the war was over we went into Tokyo Bay, called Tsunami One, second ship to go in there. We followed an Australian ship in there and anchored and we sent the Marines and security people over on the island on the Sea of Japan. Then they had me to go one time. I was issued a BAR and ammunition carrier. They were going to send me over there for security but they found enough people they never did let me go.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So you did not get ashore in Japan then?

Mr. Haworth:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Well if you went to Hiroshima, you got ashore there then.

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah. Had liberty going there, we'd get off the ship every day.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How were the Japanese people? Were they friendly?

Mr. Haworth:

Never had much dealing with the Japanese people. Never did contact many of them. We mostly just went sightseeing. They were standoffish. We never had much contact with them.

Mr. Misenhimer:

This was out of Tokyo Bay you went or where?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, we were in Tokyo Bay all the time we were there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now on September 2 when they had the surrender in Tokyo Bay, where were you all then?

Mr. Haworth:

We were there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you?

Mr. Haworth:

We were in there before the Missouri was.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Could you see anything of the surrender ceremony?



Mr. Haworth:

You know, you could just see it. That was all. We heard about it. They gave us information on the radio and things like that by the loudspeaker system but we didn't see any of the activity, no.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You were quite a ways from the Missouri, then?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah, you could see it over there. It was quite a ways away. You know, a thousand yards or so.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you get home from World War II with any souvenirs?

Mr. Haworth:

No. I didn't really bring any souvenirs back with me. I had an opportunity while we were there they had a lot of small arms that they'd picked up and took out and dumped in the ocean and we could have, a lot of people selected Japanese guns and rifles, rifles mainly. But I didn't really particularly want any. They had a whole bunch of them that dumped on the back of the ship. We went out then and threw them out in the water.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have any experience with the Red Cross?

Mr. Haworth:

Once in a while at train stations they would feed you donuts and coffee when you were traveling on a train but not much otherwise.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did they charge you for the coffee?

Mr. Haworth:

No. It was all free.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you ever see any USO shows anywhere?

Mr. Haworth:

No, I sure didn't.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Let me back up on a question. On December 7, 1941 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, did you hear about that?

Mr. Haworth:

You better believe it. I was listening to the radio on my birthday.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That was your 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, right?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When you heard that, how did you think that would affect you?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, you know everybody was concerned about that and I don't know, we just regretted something like that had to happen and wondered how it was going to affect everybody.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What date were you discharged?

Mr. Haworth:

May 21, 1946.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When you got out, did you have any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mr. Haworth:

No, not really. I got discharged there at...they transferred me off the Boston over to a base there at Bremerton and I left there and caught a train back to Denver, Colorado. I guess about the only problem I had, they had a train strike at Pocatello, Idaho and I had to hitchhike the rest of the way home.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you use your G.I. Bill for anything?

Mr. Haworth:

Yes, I sure did. After I got home I went to Tulsa, Oklahoma Spartan School of Aeronautics for a year. Aircraft engine training.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then what happened?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I never did get a job as an aircraft mechanic so I went back to my hometown there in Kansas and got...I was married at that time so I went to work at various jobs there and finally went to work on the railroad. Worked the railroad a while, went back to Colorado and worked out there for a while and then came back to Kansas and got into the oil industry.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now April 12, 1945 President Roosevelt died. Did you all hear about that?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah. We got all the news on the ship all the time.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What reaction did the people have when they heard that?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, you know, that was a big loss and we thought that was too bad but I guess Truman done a pretty good job replacing him.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was the highest rank you got to?

Mr. Haworth:

Machinist 3<sup>rd</sup> Class.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Have you had any reunions of your outfit?

Mr. Haworth:

I never had any contact with any of them. Most of the people that were on the ship came from the East Coast. So there were very few of them that came from the Midwest or anything like that. So I never had any contact with any of them.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You didn't keep up with anybody when you got out then?

Mr. Haworth:

No, I didn't. There is an organization that they called Shipmates of the Boston that I get a letter

from about every quarter telling about what people are doing. I pick up a little information on that, not a whole lot.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When you were on the ship, could you get your mail with any regularity?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah, we got mail pretty good, pretty regular. We got, you know they'd come in, in probably a week or ten days before we got any so we'd get large, pretty large group, so we got them pretty regular.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Have you been on the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.?

Mr. Haworth:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You know about the Honor Flight, do you? You have not had any contact with the Honor Flight people?

Mr. Haworth:

No contact with them, no.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What were your mother's and father's first names?

Mr. Haworth:

My father's name was Harold and my mother died when I was about two and a half. Her name was Addie.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Anything else you recall from your time in World War II?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, we seen a lot of different places in California and when we had liberty there and everything else. Of course when we were in the South Pacific we never got off the ship except once in a while to go to a little old island to drink a couple of beers but that was about the only time we got off until we got to Japan. Then we got liberty there every day I think it was but there wasn't anything to see so we didn't do too much.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What ribbons and medals did you get?

Mr. Haworth:

I knew you was going to ask that so I got...Asiatic/Pacific, American something. I can't read this any more.

Mr. Misenhimer:

American Defense I think.

Mr. Haworth:

World War II Medal. The Philippine

Mr. Misenhimer:

Philippine Liberation.

Mr. Haworth:

Liberation Medal. I got two stars on the Asiatic. One in the Philippine Sea.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That's three stars you got? You got three battle stars then?

Mr. Haworth:

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were you ever in a typhoon?

Mr. Haworth:

Oh, yeah. Coming back from Japan we had a pretty bad one. It was so bad that you couldn't hardly get anything to eat. It was pretty rough coming back. I was on throttle watch and you had to watch that because a lot of times the screws come clear out of the water and you had to shut the turbine down and it was pretty bad for a couple of days.

Mr. Misenhimer:

No damage to your ship, though?

Mr. Haworth:

No damage, no. But that's kind of scary, too, when you got water coming over the bow and everything else. You wonder if it's going to survive.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When you got back home and got out, did you see any changes in this country?

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I didn't notice too much right away but there've been a lot of changes since then.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Oh, yeah, right. Is there anything else you recall from your time in World War II?

Mr. Haworth:

I really enjoyed the service when I was in there and if they hadn't de-commissioned the Boston, I would have probably stayed in the Navy because I liked what I was doing and I enjoyed the

traveling and everything else didn't bother me a bit. But I didn't know where I was going or what ship I'd be on so I just decided to get out.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Well, Jack, that's all the questions I have unless you've thought of anything else.

Mr. Haworth:

Well, I don't guess so. There's probably some things I've forgotten about that I don't remember right now or recall.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Again, thank you for your time today and thank you for your service to our country during World War II.

Mr. Haworth:

It has been interesting to talk to you and everything else. I'm glad you're doing this kind of work.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Thank you. It's been a labor of love.

*End of Interview*

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