

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR

**Nimitz Education and Research Center
Fredericksburg, Texas**

An Interview With

**Beverly Kolman Bagley
Fullerton, California
May 3, 2018
Civilian Volunteer**

Mr. Misenhimer:

My name is Richard Misenhimer, today is May 3, 2018. I am interviewing Beverly Kolman Bagley by telephone. Her phone number is 714-525-0387. Her address is 682 W. Glenwood Drive, Fullerton, California, 92832. 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.

Beverly, I want to thank you for taking time to do this interview today and thank you for all your service to our country over the years. Now the first thing I need to do is read to you this agreement with the museum to make sure this is okay with you.

Mrs. Bagley:

Okay.

Mr. Misenhimer:

"Agreement Read"

Is that okay with you?

Mrs. Bagley:

Absolutely.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now the next thing I need to do is get an alternative contact. We find out that sometimes several years down the road try to get back with a person they have moved or something

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh yeah, sure.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Who would be a good alternate contact?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well I'm thinking probably my brother.

Mrs. Misenhimer:

Well you think it's better than one of your children?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well yes, you can do, however I don't know how much they know. My brother of course is like I say, he was born in 1940. So he you know is a bit younger, but my children of what help they would be I have no idea. Now the one son, I'll just give you the one because the other one has moved and I did not ask him as you'll be back this evening. The one son who is my younger one, he is Kit, and that's his first name, Bagley.

Mr. Misenhimer:

His address?

Mrs. Bagley:

Okay, I'm getting it for you. 321 Acebo and it's Unit D and that's in San Clemente, California.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And the zip code?

Mrs. Bagley:

Okay, 92672.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Do you have a phone number for him?

Mrs. Bagley:

I have a cell number for him and that is 714-742-6327. And probably he's the best one anyway, because he's the one I was with when we came.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Well hopefully we'll never need that but you never know.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes, well that's fine. Like I say he would certainly know because he was there. Now are you the gentleman that we met? There was a docent there, was very, very nice and he and Kit carried on conversations, so then as long as you haven't met him. But he was there on a convention, he and his wife in San Antonio. So I flew from California to Austin and he drove from San Antonio

to Austin and we met up and then we went to the museum. So this is how he got, so he would be the best one anyway.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Okay, that's fine. Now what is your birthdate?

Mrs. Bagley:

January 13, 1932.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And where were you born?

Mrs. Bagley:

Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And how many brothers and sisters did you have?

Mrs. Bagley:

I have one brother.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And he is younger than you?

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes, he was born in 1940.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now what were your mother's and father's first names?

Mrs. Bagley:

My mother's name was Ruth and my father's name was Joseph.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now you grew up during the depression, how did the depression affect you and your family?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well, it really didn't affect me, I was too young. But my father always had a job, he was a mechanic. During the depression he always had a job, so he supported I think three or four of his

brothers, three I think, of his brothers. And two of his brothers and one of my mother's sisters lived with them. And he supported the whole bunch. So the depression really didn't you know, as being as young, I wasn't affected at all as far as I know.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now were any of your uncles in War World II?

Mrs. Bagley:

No. I had two cousins, one was a pilot and killed over in France, he was a B-29 pilot. Then I had another cousin that was a Navy and he was a Captain in the Navy.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Is he still living?

Mrs. Bagley:

No, neither one of them. One was killed like I say in France and the other one of course lived through the war but he has since passed away.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then where did you go to high school?

Mrs. Bagley:

I went to George Washington High School in Los Angeles.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And what year did you graduate there?

Mrs. Bagley:

1950.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now on December 7, '41 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, do you recall hearing about that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh yes. We were having breakfast and we were at the breakfast table and we heard commotion outside. And there were paperboys that were delivering papers and they were walking up and down the streets yelling that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. So they were delivering the papers

like that, going up and down the streets saying that Pearl Harbor had been bombed and that Roosevelt was going to speak. So that is really how everybody at that time found out. We didn't have T.V.s and you know radios we did, but they didn't listen to them like they do now. And of course during the war they did. No, so that's how we first found out.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And what day of the week was that?

Mrs. Bagley:

That was on a Sunday. Now that would have been 11:00 at night?

Mr. Misenhimer:

No, in the morning.

Mrs. Bagley:

Okay well that would have been

Mr. Misenhimer:

You were eating breakfast about then?

Mrs. Bagley:

Sure.

Mr. Misenhimer:

At 11:00, okay.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yep.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What reaction did all your family have when they heard that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well of course they all jumped up. And I don't say all, it was my mother and father. And went outside and of course everybody was out in the front. And they you know took the papers and of course they were in, you know an uproar. Just like you know the reaction that anybody would have, they of course were panicked. And then the radios came on. My folks had one of those

high radios and they, you know everybody dispersed, they went in their homes and whatever, whatever means that they could hear. And that was it. So like I say everybody turned on their radios and that is pretty much where they stayed for quite a while. Now exactly how long, I have no idea.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then what happened after that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well then of course they listened to Roosevelt with his speech that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. And that was the famous speech that you know we all know of now, "of infinity" or however he put it. And then the war started and people became extremely, extremely patriotic. People hung out flags, just patriotic. We didn't have in those days, if we did they never came out, we didn't have people stomping the flags, yelling you know demeaning things, pulling the flags down. Everybody in those days were very, very patriotic. Not only were they patriotic about the flag, they wanted to go in the service. The men were just fighting to get into the service. And the women were fighting to get jobs in the, we lived right near Douglas Aircraft, and they all wanted jobs of course as "Rosie the Riveter" that we know. My husband's mother was one in Ohio. Now of course I certainly didn't know him then. And as far as knowing anybody at that time as a "Rosie the Riveter", I didn't. Because I didn't have anybody that my..., oh I know I had another cousin. The one that was killed in France, his sister was also, she was a WAC. And she was in after Bob joined, then Debbie joined. So I had three cousins, two boys and a girl. But not knowing you know anybody but in defense plants. I mean everybody, we saved everything. We saved chewing gum, the foil.

Mr. Misenhimer:

The wrappers?

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes, everybody, kids on their bicycles, we would have on the wheels um, like flags. And the children, everybody was patriotic. Now and if they weren't, like I say, then they were in trouble.

Now we had, now maybe I'm going too far, so?

Mr. Misenhimer:

Oh keep going, you're doing fine.

Mrs. Bagley:

Where we lived about two blocks away was a bank, there was a little hardware store, and there was a little market. Now the market was run by a Japanese family and they were wonderful. They had two or three children and it was a mom and pop store. And they were respectful and of course everybody was respectful to them. Well of course they picked them up, which was so tragic, and they put them in the camps. And so of course the store closed and you know sold. And we of course never saw them after that. And that was really such, it seemed like even to anybody, we didn't put these people as the people that had bombed. We didn't associate them with it, we associated them with us. And they were, but there was nothing that they could do about it. So they were in an internment camp. And like I say, once they removed them we never did see them. And my dad, he had a friend who, at that time my dad was born in 1900, and so his friend was married but with no children. Well he joined the Navy. Well my dad, he wanted to join the Navy also. So he went down and of course, unless the wife would sign, especially if you had children the wife had to sign. Well my mother would not sign. Well, oh my dad was absolutely furious, he was furious. And what she said, "I've got two kids, I'm not gonna do that." Well he decided that the other thing that he could do he could be a, oh shoot, a night

Mr. Misenhimer:

An Air Warden?

Mrs. Bagley:

That's it, an Air Warden. So that's what he did, he did that. So everybody really wanted to be a part of this. And I don't care where you would go, if you would drive and there was a soldier hitchhiking, you'd pick him up. I mean you had no fear. They were servicemen and the servicemen were totally respected. Now if you had someone in your family that was in the service you hung up a sign on your window with a star. And if that star, it was a blue star, and if

they, which was the Sullivan brothers who were all killed at the same time, then they put a gold star. They would have a plaque that was in their window and it would have that. Well the five Sullivans that were killed, after that happened of course then they put a hold that brothers, relatives could not be on the same ship. But at that time those boys all went down together. And they made a wonderful movie at the time, we were visiting relatives in Utah and at that time it was playing. And of course so sad. And that family was held, oh I mean people respected, you didn't get, hear..., but of course again we didn't have the communication that we have now with the T.V.s., the.... So I don't know, maybe they did get hate mail, I have no idea. But of course it was never publicized if it was. And so again, people were, everybody seemed to want to do their part. And in rationing, they of course rationed everything and you got your stamps and that's what you used. Cars, gasoline was rationed. And my dad at that time worked maybe oh, maybe ten, fifteen miles from home. And he would just drive to work and home. They didn't go out joy riding because (*laugh*) they saved their gas to be able to go to work. So it's just everybody partaked in this wonderful closeness that people had. And it just seemed like everybody was on the same page. Of course you know that's so different now. And I don't ever remember, um I think my parents were democrats because my dad was a worker. And they always said well the working people are democrats and the ones that have money they are republicans. But you never heard any, I mean that just wasn't discussed. People didn't know what political, because everybody did the same thing. And they would have the cutest commercials about Rosie the Riveter and oh she was so cute. And all of that was just, again patriotic, everybody hung an American flag. And of course we didn't have the nationalities that we have now. We had, in L.A. it was so different. We had borders and there was no one coming in and saying oh well this is for Hispanics, this is for Whites, this is for Blacks. But it was just a known thing. And they were just as wonderful as anybody else. You didn't see all of this, like I say, what goes on now and all. It's just, of course exposed, I mean I was kid I suppose there

were certainly some negatives, I mean that's with anything, but we didn't hear it. So the war was, oh they would go to dances. They would have the USO. And oh we loved their music and to listen to it, and the Andrew Sisters. Even as young, of course I got older naturally as the war got to the, you know towards the end, and the music and all. And they had wonderful movies. Of course they used to have Van Johnson, he was always a pilot and a lot of war movies but were so enjoyable. And so you know, again I am glad I'm the age I am because my son and I were just talking and like I say he's a superintendent of schools, the difference now compared to what it was like then. So you know, when the war was over I was in downtown Los Angeles with a cousin who lived down there. I mean it was just absolutely mayhem I mean. There was confetti coming out of buildings that you really didn't even know were there and it's just, it was horns, it was people screaming. Well it was absolutely, you talk about a party, I mean that was more than a party. And everybody, at the defense plants and everything they all stopped working and to acknowledge this. And so like I say it just um, the rationing I don't know people didn't seem to mind it now. My dad had a brother who pretty well knew where to get things. So if there would be, oh something that maybe we really did need or whatever, he always seemed to be able to get it. Now not gasoline, but if you wanted sugar, my mother would call him and say, "Frank, can you get me some sugar?" And he'd say, "Oh sure Ruth, I'll ...," he lived in Inglewood which wasn't too far. "Sure" he said, "I'll have you some this afternoon." Well, lo and behold here uncle Frank would come with his car and bring mom her five pound of sugar. Which of course I mean she didn't do it often, but we all did the same. It's just, you know it was again the world wasn't as large as it now, or there just wasn't the cars and all like we have now I mean, I'm sure you have seen that in Texas. But no, like I say it was really wonderful. However, you know when somebody would die, of course, and especially in a family. If a family found out and they kept close watch. Now my aunt lived in Utah, Springville, Utah and her son was the pilot. And she would make fruit cakes. And she would make maybe ten or twelve fruit

cakes and pack them all up, we did a lot of that. Pack it up and ship it off to him and of course he would, this would be around the holidays, and he would share it with the buddies. So everybody seemed to do their part. Like I say, from kids to adults, in school I mean. Trust me, we pledged allegiance to the flag until I graduated from high school. There wasn't any of this oh kneel or whatever. Everybody stood, nobody thought anything about it. It was just something that we automatically did. And we did that from kindergarten up until the day I graduated from high school. Everything that we had in school started first with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and it never varied, I don't care what kind of an assembly we had. It was that way, every morning the flag was raised and they had of course, not you know excellent buglers, but nevertheless they would blow that bugle and that flag would be raised. So you know what can I say, it just is such a different world we live in now. Kids, again we went outside to play, we didn't think of course they would have air raids. And my father would get on his gear and we'd turn the lights off, all the lights had to be turned off and we would do that. And lay low until you heard a horn, once you heard the clearing then you could turn the lights back on. But my dad would go out and go through the neighborhood. I don't know what he did other than maybe if somebody had left the light on have them turn it off. They certainly weren't policeman. But you didn't have to be, you just didn't have to be. And everybody respected the police, they respected the fire department, they respected people. And even my parents, teachers, teachers were highly respected. You'd go to school and if a teacher said something and you didn't want to follow it and you would come home. Well trust me, by the time the next day came you were ready to follow it. Your parents didn't say, "Oh well, that's the teacher, that's the teacher. I'm going to go up there." Uh-uh, you were to respect people and everybody seemed to do that. And like I say during the war it was the same thing, we just did those things. So you know that's about it that I can tell you. I don't know of, you know anything else, I don't know how much information that you can use or that was helpful.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Okay now, did you all collect a lot of things like aluminum and cans and stuff like that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes, oh yes, oh yes. And we had, oh let's see, I'm trying to think of how, what else we collected. I just remember of course being a kid, I remember the gum. And of course they had cigarettes that were called, oh different, I'm trying to think of what my dad smoked and they were, shoot, the name was Wings. He smoked Wings and in every pack of Wings cigarettes was a picture of an airplane. And people would collect those just like they collect baseball cards. And my dad smoked those, a lot of the people rolled their own cigarettes. They had at that time, they'd have a cigarette roller. My dad would have one next to his chair on the table and had a little gizmo thing that he would put the papers in and then put the tobacco and this thing would roll them and they'd smoke those. Well of course they were terrible because the ends of them were just paper so they'd burn half way down and then till they'd get to the tobacco. And everybody that smoked had those and almost everybody smoked. So you know, they were quite common in homes. And like I say they were called Wings and each package had a picture of an airplane in it. So that's um, trying to think if there's anything else.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Well like I say when I was growing up we'd collect rubber and things like that. And the aluminum off the cigarette cases and aluminum off of chewing gum and all those kind of things.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yeah, yeah, yeah because you were born in '29. Did they do a lot there then, I mean was, as far as, well you didn't have really the.... See we were so close of course to the (*laugh*) defense plants and all of that. And we lived very close to them. And we were right near the beach and so there was a lot of activity in those days there. But no, in the meantime I got polio and I was at the general hospital and of course I think that had to be afterwards. But no, like I say we had some good times as kids. We could go outside, we didn't have to worry about all of the terrible

things that you hear about now. And it was just, during the war was really no different, everybody was the same. Except, like I say they did encamp and of course we knew no one else that was, but that family. And I know my parents, they just, and everybody in the block, they just felt terrible because these people were so nice. But here again, that's, you know that's what they did and there was no rioting, there was no signs, people walking the streets screaming at the police, there was none of that. They took them and even though you didn't agree with it you know you talked to your neighbors. But where would you go? I mean, you aren't going to disagree because if you did you'd have, there wouldn't be anybody that would be in your camp. I mean, it just didn't happen. So anyway my cousin, the one in France, he was killed in France, going over France. They have a huge memorial there for him. My cousin, his sister who was a WAC, she has since passed away, but she has gone over there. His nephew, one of his nephews has visited. And every year they have a big hoop-to-do over Bob Cramer. And they took him on just like a brother and why that happened I really don't know. But, like I said they have a large memorial there for him and he was a wonderful fellow. He had a wife and he had a child that he never saw. And the only way he saw him was, he was on a train, they were going overseas and his wife met the train and of course couldn't go on and he couldn't get off. And he saw the baby through the train window, never saw him. And so you know that was really a sad thing. It was sad, the other one was not married so and of course he survived. And then the WAC, of course she naturally she survived. But like I say, the airplane, no. He was a pilot and he went down, he spotted something and he really shouldn't have gone and done this on his own, but he did, again. However we have some pretty brave people I think are pilots now too. And he spotted this and went down and as he did they shot him down. Then the plane of course crashed and exploded.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was he flying a fighter plane or a bomber plane?

Mrs. Bagley:

No, I think it was a B-29, I think it was a bomber.

Mr. Misenhimer:

B-29s weren't in Europe, they were in the Pacific.

Mrs. Bagley:

Okay, then what, a B-17?

Mr. Misenhimer:

17 or 24.

Mrs. Bagley:

No, it was a B-17 then, sorry. So that was his. I'm glad you, because I don't know why I come up with that B-25. So it was a B-17 and his name was Robert....

Mr. Misenhimer:

What year did you get polio?

Mrs. Bagley:

Polio probably in 1940..., let's see Don was born in 1940, probably '43. Uh-uh.

Mr. Misenhimer:

It was during the war.

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh yes, oh yes, oh yes. Well there was an epidemic at that time here, I don't know about anyplace else. But there was definitely an epidemic here in California. And they always said it was because of swimming pools that you know we were in. And it was an epidemic at that time. And you would have to go into the hospital and I went to the L.A. County General because that's where you had to go. And was there for a couple of weeks and then they released me. And then we would have to go, my mother would take me on the bus, and we would have to go back to County General every, oh gosh, three or four weeks and maybe even sooner than that. And they would check me over and consequently it, I was never really affected by it. The right arm was paralyzed and the right side of my face was. But for some reason, who knows, it didn't last. The treatment that they gave obviously was the right treatment and that was only packs, I mean they didn't certainly because the vaccine certainly wasn't out. And there were of course iron lungs. This is just, the hospital was just a huge, huge area that they had taken and taken rooms and

taking them apart and just made one huge, huge room. And they would be blocked off, some of them by curtains. And when your parents or anybody came, which at that time they just let parents in, and of course if they were older. But they would have to dress in masks and totally cover up. And iron lungs, there were iron lungs all through this place. And they would exercise you and then they would bring the hot packs in. And they would bring little washing machines that they could roll and with hot, hot water and a wringer. And they would take these, they were like a flannel sheet, only a thin, real very thin. And they would then put them through the roller and of course they'd come out dry and then they'd pack them on you. And then they would take dry and put those over. And they would leave you, they would do that about, oh maybe every three or four hours. They would then come back because by that time they had cooled off. And then they would repeat the same thing and they did that 24/7. But my mother was very intuitive on things and the doctor that came to the house to see me, he said, "Oh no, she's fine, she doesn't have polio." But my mother didn't quite go along with it, so she packed me at home probably for four or five days. So I think she was the total person that, you know because she believed that it was. Well when they finally took me into the hospital they tapped the spine and that's when they ..., excuse me for just a second, let me take a swig of water. Okay, I've had lung cancer so if I talk a lot my throat gets sort of raspy and oh I get a little breathy. So they release you and they give you instructions and my mother was one that followed every instruction, she never veered from anything. And she would have to take me on the bus, my dad was working. And you know and my mother did not drive and so we would have to go to the children's hospital and they would make you go through these exercises. And once you got those and everything then they would release you. So like I say once I left the hospital and then would go back just for observation I was released. And so I have never had any effect from it, however some people do. You can have a reoccurrence and I know of one person at the gym that had in later life and quite crippled. And they claimed that it was the residual from the polio. So you know, but again it was an epidemic here I don't know how it was in other states of course. So, you know that was, like I say how we lived. We lived in a store building, rent was difficult to

find, rentals. My folks did not at that time during the war own property, they rented. Even though my dad, but here again they supported other family members. And were always willing to..., I can remember we had a..., they were always willing to help other people and servicemen. My mother would have, when they finally did have a home, we had a two bedroom home. And my cousin, who was stationed, the one in the Navy, was stationed in San Diego and he would bring buddies. And our living room floor would be nothing but men sleeping on the floors. They'd bring them and he might call my mother at 3:00 and say, "Aunt Ruth we have leave, can we come over?" And she'd say, "Oh sure." Well we may have five or six people more at our dinner table. And you know nobody thought anything about it. Now, I mean if somebody did that to me I'd be ready to kill them. But nope, if you were a serviceman trust me they had absolutely, I mean they were just God. Now I understand, my husband was also in the Navy, in the Korean War, in San Diego. And they can't now even wear, they tell them not to wear their uniforms because people spit on them. I said, "Oh!" I just can't imagine that. Again, that's the changes that we have had in these years. Oh my God if anybody would have spit on a World War II veteran, oh my God, and anybody saw it, I don't care who they were they would have stood up and fought them to the death. But now you know, now they can't even wear uniforms.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Let me ask you some questions here Beverly. Now you mentioned the one Japanese family there, did you know anymore Japanese families or Japanese people?

Mrs. Bagley:

No, that's the only one I remember. They owned the little market and that's the only one I remember.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now April the 12th of 1945 President Roosevelt died, did you all hear about that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh gosh yes. Oh that was horrible. I mean you know everybody just oh, they adored him. I mean he, again I don't know how republicans felt about it, but it isn't like it is now. Oh no, they

just absolutely mourned that, yes, so that was really something, absolutely.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then on May the 8th of '45 Germany surrendered, did you hear about that and have any kind of a celebration?

Mrs. Bagley:

No, I don't remember that. The only thing I remember is the Japanese. And like I say I was downtown and I'm sure that was the Japanese that wasn't, well no that was the Japanese.

Mr. Misenhimer:

And what happened there then?

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh downtown? Well like I said it was like a, I mean confetti was coming out windows. And from what I remember it was in the afternoon because we were, she was quite a bit older than what I was, she had an apartment, and so she was a lot older. And this is in the afternoon and we had gone downtown and all of a sudden we heard all of this commotion and stuff coming out of windows. And then all of a sudden you heard that the war was over is how they put it, the war is over. And of course we used to have the things for the Germans, oh Hitler, I mean we had all of that kind of stuff. They had different things for Hitler. And you know it's just, but I really remember more of the Japanese. Because again there's so much, I mean you could walk down the street and see a German and they look just like you do, but of course the Japanese they certainly don't. So the Germans I, oh I remember seeing them, how they marched and that was not on T.V. of course. We would go to the movies and they would have the newsreels. And oh they would have, that's where we would really see most of our stuff. Because, again we didn't have anything, you could hear it but to see it and everybody went to the movies I mean. And then between each movie they would have the newsreel and you would have the Germans and you'd see them marching with their legs straight. Oh just so stern and stiff. But again, I don't remember too much. My dad was from Germany, he came across when he was four years old. And so again, the Germans, again we had sayings you know. But it seemed like there was more

for the Japanese, obviously because the Japanese were the ones who attacked us.

(End of side one of tape.)

(Beginning of side two of tape.)

Mr. Misenhimer:

So then when they dropped the first atomic bomb did y'all hear about that?

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh yes. Oh yeah of course that was, however you know we felt it was the best thing they could ever have done. That it had saved a lot of people, but oh my gosh, no that was really, ew, you could see that cloud you know, again in the movies. I don't recall at that time, we probably did have a T.V. but they were these little things that you'd put, you know the magnifier on the front. Or a lot of people would go down in front of hardware stores or stores that sold T.V.s. And they would turn on, they would keep their T.V.s running in the window and people would stand outside of the windows and see. But most of our information was either from the newspaper, but the action things we actually saw were in the movies. And gee, the news would maybe last, gosh maybe fifteen or twenty minutes. From what I can remember as a kid because we used to think, ahh we have to sit through this. But oh yes the atomic bomb and I can remember seeing one little boy running, he looked to be maybe five, so skinny and just emaciated running from this, that you knew that you know he naturally would have gotten, had some of this bomb on him. Just pathetic, pathetic. But there again, you know we felt that it had to be done so. That there wasn't a whole lot of, like I say, you felt sorry for the people yes, but you thought well we had warned them and obviously they didn't think. Like most parents today they warn them but that's about it. And I think that's probably what they thought. Well instead of being a mealy mouthed parent they were a strict parent and they followed through with what they said they were going to do. And so that was, people thought well that's it. No, that was horrible and everybody thought that it was. But here again, we had no animosity for doing it at all, I mean you know so. Okay.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you ever see any USO shows anywhere?

Mrs. Bagley:

Well I was young and no you would see them in the movies, in the newsreels. Of course they would have the USO. And the movies with the Andrews Sisters and all, we would see those. But to actually go to a USO, no. At that time I went to, for Korea but not for that. Again that time, you know I think the USOs were strictly for servicemen. And they had of course the girls there that would dance with them. But no, as far as attending any, no I did not.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now during World War II did you have any kind of experience with the Red Cross?

Mrs. Bagley:

I'd heard negative things about the Red Cross that was experienced or actually having like you say, a cousin or whatever. They didn't say too much about the Red Cross. In those days I guess, well they sort of do now, but the servicemen weren't, I don't think they were quite as free with giving things out as people thought they were from what we had heard. But that's you know, again, here say.

Mr. Misenhimer:

During World War II was there any time when you were frightened, felt scared?

Mrs. Bagley:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

I know in the early part of the war they kept thinking they were going to have air raids on the Pacific Coast, did you hear about those?

Mrs. Bagley:

Oh sure, yeah sure. But again at that age, you know I don't think it's a real big deal. We didn't, you know the horns would go and my dad, like I say he'd throw on his air raid hat and jacket and out he would go. We'd turn the lights off. But no, again kids, no we were not frightened. You know it's just like with us here with earthquakes, you know we *(laugh)*, well I think they're maybe a little more. But no, I do not remember being so frightened that you were you know

paralyzed, no.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now you had an uncle come back from the Navy, is that correct?

Mrs. Bagley:

No, I had a cousin.

Mr. Misenhimer:

A cousin, okay.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes, yes. I had three cousins, two males and one female. One was in the Navy, he was from Wolf Point, Montana. The pilot and his sister that was a WAC, they were from Springville, Utah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now the cousin in the Navy, when he got out do you know did he have any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mrs. Bagley:

In civilian life?

Mr. Misenhimer:

You know did he have PTSD, any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mrs. Bagley:

That I don't know. He was married, long time until he passed away. They owned, his father had worked for J.C. Penneys and he decided that he was going to, the father, his father, which would have been my uncle, decided he was going to open a store. So they moved into Wolf Point and he opened a, kind of like a store, like J.C. Penneys. So when my cousin came back he went on to college and into business, for business. And he then took over this store. And he ran that, well until he died. He had a brother, well the brother is still alive. And they decided that the brother wanted to expand, so he went on into another part of Montana and he opened another store. But the one that a, Brian that was in the Navy, he ran this store and sort of like a dry good store.

They had clothes, like the old Penneys. And so he ran that until of course he had children that grew and then he retired from that. And then, of course he passed away. So no, I don't think he did at all because again he, you know they're in these little small towns and his parents had set up the business. So they just took the business over. So I don't think Brian ever had a problem.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Anything else you recall from time growing up during World War II?

Mrs. Bagley:

No. I don't think I do. Like I say, the only thing is the patriotic and that. I can still remember seeing, it was so vivid of the stars in the window. And you know, how many people just admired and oh gosh you know, I can still see flags flying at every house. And they would put them up in, I mean they didn't have flags like, maybe they did, but you know we didn't know, and I don't even remember how they would put them up. Because they didn't have hooks and things like we have now. So I have no idea. But you would even see them and on trucks or cars. So you could see that. And then like I say you could go down a street and practically every house that you would see would have this cloth piece hanging with stars on it. And I do not recall seeing myself any of the gold, only from these five boys that were killed, the Sullivans. But they were all so proud of that, I mean just, you know it just seemed like no one complained about, I don't know we just went about our business. And like I say the defense plants were just filled with working people and um just um, it was vary um, oh busy I would call it. Just a busy time. It just seemed like people, you'd see guys carrying their lunch boxes. And like I say we lived, in fact my husband worked at Douglas after he got out of the Navy. And so, we lived down at the beach area and Douglas was just I mean, oh my gosh that was just something. And you would see them walking with their lunch pails going to work. And making all of the, you'd see oh signs up that would say, "Good Americans" and all of these poster signs. In fact a fellow sent me a thing yesterday on Burma-Shave that we used to have and driving you'd read these signs. Well we used to have the same thing on billboards, of you know a "True American." Oh and bonds, selling bonds. Do you remember that?

Mr. Misenhimer:

Oh yes, right.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yes. I mean oh my gosh I think you could get a bond for twenty-five cents or something.

Mr. Misenhimer:

They were stamps, they had saving stamps, they had ten cent stamps and twenty-five cent stamps.

Mrs. Bagley:

Yeah, yeah, yeah. And the other thing that you do remember, is like they say, when the Japanese, oh my God now, you would never say "the Japs," but that's what it was I mean. I can still see and gee it's a shame I don't have all the stuff that my father collected because he had scrapbooks filled with all of that stuff. And "Japs Bomb Pearl Harbor," and oh if you said Japs today I mean. Wasn't the Japanese, they didn't care what (*laughter*), how polite they were. And so here again, you know it's just amazing how things change, of course you know because you're in the same age group (*laugh*). So anyway, no that's, again just about it.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now what years were your husband in the Navy?

Mrs. Bagley:

My husband was in from 1950 to 1954.

Mr. Misenhimer:

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

Mrs. Bagley:

Well I can't think of anything else either. This brings back a lot of stuff (*laughter*). But no, I can't see that it will help you but hopefully you can pick something out that might.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Thanks for your time today and thank you for your memories and all the things you've done for our country.

Mrs. Bagley:

You're welcome, no I haven't done a whole heck of a lot, but again we were certainly patriotic.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Bye now.

Mrs. Bagley:

Thank you.

(End of interview.)

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