

May 1989 interview

00 MIN | Graduation from Danbury State Teachers College| First Teaching Position, Center School – Brookfield, CT| Pearl Harbor – Tony Polermo (DSTC classmate) field trip with archeological students | Polermo died in the War| Warner told students about the war and let them listen to Roosevelt’s speech| Criticized for playing speech |

10 MIN | School became involved with sugar rationing| Civil Defense| Air Raid Warden| training in first aid| questioning the practicality of home front preparations| drafted in 1942, not “gun-ho”| Not whether U.S. would win, but when”| called into the army with other Danburians | sent to fort Devins, MA| Derailment of train taking them west in Indiana – no one hurt | Ended up in Fort Bragg, not Bragg, Camp Gruber| trained as a division 88<sup>th</sup> Division |

20 MIN| was assigned to medics | First “All Draft” unit sent overseas | Moved to Louisiana and Texas for maneuvers | made corporal of sergeant | soldiers sent out in heat with one canteen for training | a large number dehydrated and suffering heat exhaustion | example of unwise training | sent to Fort Sam Houston in Texas | annoyed with policies which excluded enlisted men | Pleasant city – Alamo | Got leave home for week|

30 MIN | 3 days to get home | in the fall, prepared to deploy | went east to Norfolk, VA | put in charge of dispensary at Norfolk | check for diabetes, etc. | went in a convoy across the Atlantic in November 1943 | crept across | 2 weeks to cross, didn’t know destination | disembarked in Casablanca |

40 MIN | a barrel spilled off the ship and some soldiers partook of the contents which was wine likely containing hashish – soldiers out of their heads | got on a train across Morocco in 40 or 8 boxcars | got to Algeria, went south | arrived Magenta(?) | short of food | END OF SIDE A

00 MIN | Africa | wandering during free time | eating at French Restaurant | Got aboard ship with nothing in dispensary | obtained supplies from a warehouse| someone had an appendicitis | went in a harbor Azerte? to operate | crossed the Mediterranean by themselves | Sicily to Naples | Casino was still in contention | Sometimes medics went into combat, sometimes way up front |

10 MIN | Went in with British helmets to deceive Germans | Germans used screaming mimis | stretcher bearers would bring the wounded out of combat back to a village where the medics could take care of the wounded at an aid station established by the British | were stationary for a period | hung burlap over one intersection so that the German machine gunners couldn’t hit them |

20 MIN | Big push northward | Germans weren’t expecting the amount of firepower Americans amassed | Pushing, attacking, unpacking, packing | May 1944 | Connected up with Anzio troops | by August had pushed through Rome, Florence, Pisa | transferred to anti-aircraft battalion | All the troops were African American, officers were white | all lieutenants were black – higher officers were white | there may have been shots fired between whites and blacks | Became assistant battalion surgeon | accepted by the African American soldiers |

30 MIN | the anti-aircraft battalion broke up because there was little need | invasion of southern France | turned into a transportation unit | attached to medical base depot company – preparing for Asian theater | only officer | ordered to establish the medical base depot and didn’t know what to do – took command of an outfit for 2 or 3 days | moved to Marseilles | had German prisoners working for them | supposed to be in charge of the prophylactic distribution | had an appendicitis | requested leave for the Riviera | spent several days and had a great time | went to Nice | dated nurses |

40 MIN | Men from the front lines were streaming in | got back to Marseilles and the entire outfit was gone | went up to Leon | Involved with rearming the French army | 1945 | All the gold for fillings was stolen from the dental truck | END