

Robert W Davis Transcript Summary

[0:00:00] Enlistment in the Army; aviation cadet program; training for aircraft mechanic on the B-24 at Keesler Field, Mississippi; leave; engaged to be married

[0:01:45] Langley Field, Virginia; re-enlistment into regular Army; marriage; Fort Lewis, Washington; travel to Alaska aboard the George Washington Carver with the 344th Fighter Squadron; the rough ride to Alaska

[0:03:30] An outbreak of mumps; landing on Attu; arriving on Shemya; contracting mumps and quarantine

[0:05:12] Captain William Lee Jacobson; Jacobson's service history and decorations; a USO show on Shemya

[0:06:27] Story of a P-38 landing and the 50 caliber guns begin to go off; story of a B-24 crash landing on Shemya where many died

[0:10:58] Story of a pilot dieing in a P-38 crash the day before he was to leave the Aleutians; transfer to 26 Mile near Fairbanks; transition from the P-38 to the P-51 Mustang

[0:12:22] Story of the collision of P-51s on the ground; pilot landing a P-51 with part of a pine tree in the air scoop; pilot having trouble lowering his landing gear

[0:13:46] Comparing living conditions at 26 Mile and Shemya; Task Force Frigid

[0:14:20] Food on Shemya; latrines and showers on Shemya; P-38s in the cold and snow; reference to photos collected

[0:15:13] Correspondence with family during his time in the Aleutians; recreation on Shemya

[0:16:00] Transfer to the Montana National Guard after his tour of duty in Alaska was over; transition to the F-86; career after the military with the telephone company

[0:16:49] Lessons learned from military service

[0:17:13] Comparing life and conditions on Shemya with that of the western plains in the 1800s; feelings toward Shemya after years have passed