

**Robert Davis:** Upon reporting to Langley Field, Virginia I was made aware of a one year enlistment program in the regular army which would assure me of a definite date of release from active duty. So, I re-enlisted in the regular Army for one year. Prior to re-enlisting I was uncertain as to when I would be released from active duty as we were still under the policy of “serving for the duration plus six months.” A provision of re-enlisting was a 14 day delay en route to Fort Lewis, Washington for reassignment overseas. This meant I would be home for Christmas and gave me the opportunity to marry the girl I was engaged to.

After reporting to Fort Lewis, Washington shortly after Christmas in 1945 it was not until February 15<sup>th</sup> 1946 that I boarded the troop ship *George Washington Carver*, a converted hospital ship heading for assignment to the 344<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron of the 343<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group stationed on Shemya in the Aleutian Islands. En route to Shemya the ship stopped at Seward, Alaska and Adak to disembark personnel and equipment.

As we entered the North Pacific we encountered rough seas and stormy weather for a few days. I was assigned to guard duty at night aboard ship which proved to be a blessing for me because the Merchant Marine Sailor would take me to their galley and feed me cinnamon toast, tea, and soda crackers which aided my battle with seasickness. One night the sea was so rough, a large refrigerator in the galley toppled over.