

**Video Recording Log
Veteran Harry Reed**

Name of Interviewer: Nancy Rotzoll

Name of Veteran/Civilian: Harry Reed

Birth Date: 09/15/1918

Recording format: Mini DVD

Estimated length of recording (in minutes): 34 minutes **Date of recording:** 11/16/2007

Location of recording: WILL AM-FM-TV, 300 N. Goodwin Ave, Urbana, IL 61801

Please log the topics discussed in the interview in sequence.

00:00 Introduction

00:27 Sworn in February, 1942 to the Air Force

01:00 Sent to Texas for basic training and automotive Air Force mechanic's school

01:12 Sent to Kansas for more schooling

01:19 Sent to Washington, D.C. for Air Transport Command school—joined outfit to fly people that ran the war, dignitaries, politicians, etc.

01:32 Placed on 5-star General's personal airplane—he did not fly much, let other people use it, like Harry Hopkins and Steven Early, FDR's advisors

02:00 Flight Engineer—controls except stick: landing gear, flaps

02:23 Flew all Allies—Potsdam Conference, Quebec Conference, Yalta Conference

02:34 Big 3: FDR, Stalin, Churchill—de Gaulle felt excluded, so FDR sent Early and Hopkins to explain Big 3 to de Gaulle

03:00 FDR not allowed to fly because of wheelchair

03:10 FDR's death—Mrs. Roosevelt put his body on airplane for funeral but brought it back by train to be buried

03:38 President Truman took over

03:50 Flying Secret Service men—would fly 20 minutes ahead of President to make sure area is secure

04:05 Equivalent of Air Force One—Roosevelt called his personal plane “Sacred Cow”

04:30 Flying Secret Service men—C 54 Skymaster—biggest plane until B-29

05:08 Set world record in 45-hour series of flights from Washington D.C. to Azores and back

05:40 Did not fly with escorts—flew with fighter planes once in Russia—just not worried about President being shot down at the time

06:35 Flew to South America to photograph West Coast of South America—planning on using South America as a route to move troops and supplies for invasion of Japan—after Japan surrendered, plans abandoned

08:00 Reaction when FDR died—everyone very sad—everyone had a lot of respect for him and his judgment—nobody had heard of Truman—got to know him some personally

09:15 Difference between Truman and FDR—Truman had no foresight, thrown in deep end

10:00 Drafted

10:20 Did not know anything about airplanes before Air Force—asked to be put in Air Force

12:28 Following the war in the news—radio, newspaper

13:20 Was the war worth it? Yes, difference in U.S.

13:40 Great Depression—family not effected—father had a good job

14:10 After War—married wife and had first child in Washington, D.C.

15:05 Yalta Conference—food very bad, everyone ate on airplane, sent food out to FDR

16:20 Did not stay long at other conferences

16:45 Potsdam was terrible

17:50 Yalta—moved all of the Russians out for duration of conference—difference between Russia and America

18:50 Allies—while flying leaders, heard things would not have heard otherwise about the way the War was going

19:50 Trip to South America—taking pictures—took about 3 days, going town to town

24:08 Crew stayed the same for duration of service, no injuries, lucky

24:25 Logged 2500 hours in 4 years

24:35 Malta—rendezvous site for Big 3—first airplane shot at in Italy—rerouted over Athens, Greece—flew over Athens

27:30 Not stressed out during service—fell into a routine—did not worry

28:50 [Wrap-up]

29:30 War does not accomplish anything, negotiation better—lucky, proud

32:16 [Wrap-up, talking in background]