

Jack Marshall Interview

3rd Battalion, 317th Inf Reg

(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Laura Prichard)

<https://www.loc.gov/item/afc2001001.13806/>

(MS Word transcript from audio)

00:00:02 Speaker 1

Hello, I'm Lily Pritchard and this is my partner Andrew Blaze with the Library of Congress and we're here on the mall in Washington, DC it is May 27th, 2004. May I have your name, your birth date and where you're from.

00:00:16 Speaker 2

Jack A. Marshall born May 2nd, 1920. Primarily from Arlington, MA entered the military service from Louisville, Kentucky.

00:00:32 Speaker 1

Could you spell your last name just in case?

00:00:34 Speaker 2

Marshall.

00:00:39 Speaker 1

Thank you. Are you a World War 2 vet? What branch of service did you serve in?

00:00:45 Speaker 2

Primarily infantry.

00:00:48 Speaker 1

And where did you?

00:00:48 Speaker 2

I served initially as an enlisted man in company A, 28th infantry at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

00:01:04 Speaker 1

And what was your most memorable war time experience?

00:01:11 Speaker 2

Well, I guess. It's hard to pick. I served on the judge service with the British Commandos in Algeria and Tunisia. We spent the five-day raid behind German lines near Basoda and Tunisia in 1942.

That I also commanded a rifle company during the Battle of the Bulge. And at one point we were surrounded, not too long after the massacre at Albany and the Germans said that we had five minutes to surrender or die. But we decided we could do something and we wound up out shooting the Germans.

00:01:59 Speaker 1

Well, what are your thoughts today about the memorial and the events here on the mall?

00:02:05 Speaker 2

Well, I find them very interesting. I've been to the memorial. I think it fits into the mall very well. It is kind of a highly impersonal memorial. It doesn't have the impact of the Korean patrols.

I think even the war section at the FDR Memorial it has more personal impact.

00:02:38 Speaker 1

Is there anything else you'd like to add about your war service?

00:02:42 Speaker 2

Well. I was inducted into the OCS Hall of Fame in the year 2000 because, as it turned out, I was the only OCS graduate to command a group of commandos for World War 2.

00:03:05 Speaker 1

OK. Thank You.