

## Who Uses Our Recordings?

We not only make the recorded interviews available to researchers, historians, writers, educators, students, and the general public, but we also provide a DVD/CD recording of the interview to the veteran, so he or she can share it with family, friends and future generations.



New Jersey State Library, 185 West State Street, Trenton NJ 08625 \* Tel: 609-278-2640

Many of our recorded interviews are shared with the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress in Washington, DC and the New Jersey State Library in Trenton, NJ, subject to permissions and any restrictions by the interviewee. Some of the interviews may be made available online by these institutions.

## Stillwell Collection

The Battleship *New Jersey* Oral History Collection on the ship and at the New Jersey State Library includes the Stillwell Collection, audio tapes and transcripts of interviews by naval historian CDR Paul Stillwell, USNR (ret.) while he was writing the book, *Battleship New Jersey: An Illustrated History*. Stillwell served as an officer aboard BB-62 in 1969.

## Who We Are

### About Us

We are a group of volunteers on the Battleship *New Jersey* Museum and Memorial who serve by honoring those who served and preserving their narratives. We have been done over 300 oral history interviews of U.S. military veterans since the start of the program in 2000. Oral History is a recorded interview of an eyewitness to history, told in the witness' own words. Our program specializes in military veterans. Most of our veterans' stories are video recorded (some are audio only). We interview US Navy veterans, but also members of other US armed forces, civilian workers and museum volunteers as well. We also specialize in veterans of the Battleship *New Jersey*, but crew members of other vessels tell their stories as well. We have interviewed veterans from World War II, the Korean conflict, the Vietnam War, conflict in the Middle East, the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the intervening years.



## Contact Us

Ron Gottardi, Volunteer Director, Oral History Program, Battleship *New Jersey*, 62 Battleship Place, Camden, NJ 08103; email: [oralhistory@battleshipnewjersey.org](mailto:oralhistory@battleshipnewjersey.org)  
Tel: 866-877-6262 x222 (toll free)



If you are a US military veteran, we want to interview you

A veteran of any war, conflict, crisis or intervening period. Your story does not have to be action filled, just a narrative of military life on a particular ship, station, or location will do. These interviews will be recorded on video if you can come to the Battleship *New Jersey* (BB-62) in Camden, NJ. If you are too far away or have limited mobility, we can do a video recording via Skype on the Internet or the telephone. Contact us for more info.



## Donate to Our Program to Help Sustain It

The years we have been doing interviews have taken a toll on the equipment provided by the original funding grants and need replacement badly now.

### Goals

We would like to transition to newer technology, such as digital memory for recording video instead of tapes, and use of Skype to record video remotely. This would help when our veterans are too far away or too frail to come to the battleship for interviews. However, these technologies require more recent computer equipment than we have.



### We Need Your Help

We ask you to help us preserve and honor the memories of those who served their country. Can you donate funds or needed equipment, so we can sustain this program? The veterans we interview and their families will thank you for your contribution, as will generations of future historians, writers, educators and students.

### Acknowledgement of Your Contribution

Your contribution will be acknowledged on the Battleship *New Jersey* and it may be tax deductible as the Battleship *New Jersey* is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

### To Contribute Funds

Make your check or money order payable to Battleship *New Jersey* & write Oral History Program in the memo field or on an attached note. **Mail to:**

Battleship *New Jersey*,  
Oral History Program, 62  
Battleship Place, Camden,  
NJ 08103. Thank you.



## History of the Program

The program was started in 2000 by Professor Emeritus Dr. Thomas Banit,



while he was professor of history and education at Kean University in New Jersey. Most of the initial funding went to purchase video recording and transcribing equipment and a computer. We have done over 300 interviews, mostly aboard the Battleship *New Jersey*, but we have other ways to interview as well (e.g., Skype, telephone).

## Volunteer to Help the Program

If you would like to volunteer to help the Oral History Program of the Battleship *New Jersey*, [contact](#) us. We need help in scheduling, conducting interviews, video and audio recording, editing, keyword coding of interviews, abstracting, transcribing, indexing, data entry, generation and distribution of recordings, record-keeping, fundraising, etc. If you have experience in any of these areas, great, but it is not necessary, as we provide training.



Battleship *New Jersey* Museum & Memorial, Camden, NJ

## Interviewing, How and Where

### On the Battleship *New Jersey* in Camden, NJ

Most of our interviews are done in our studio aboard the Battleship *New Jersey* located on the waterfront in Camden, NJ. However, if it is too difficult or too far to come to the Battleship, we can do interviews in a number of other ways:

### In Moorestown, NJ

We have an auxiliary studio in Moorestown, NJ where we can video record interviews.

### Via Skype and the Internet

If you have a desktop or laptop computer and a webcam (camera), we can do a video interview and recording over the Internet using Skype software, which is free and easy to download from the Internet to your computer.

### Via Telephone

We can do an audio only recording over the telephone (toll-free).

Most interviews run 30 to 60 minutes.