

NARRATOR: Fisk, Alma
INTERVIEWER: Troy Reeves
DATE: November 7, 2003
LOCATION: Council, Idaho
PROJECT: Women in WWII/Veterans History Project

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TAPE ONE

00:00	1	Introduction
00:30	1	Fisk spelled her first and last name before talking about her early years, growing up in Fruitvale, Idaho, which is a small community north of Council. She discussed her family homes and the one-room schoolhouse in Fruitvale, Idaho. She also mentioned living in a place called Fort Hall Hill, which is near Council and Fruitvale. Fisk's family lived during the Great Depression, and her mother and father moved the family several times between Fruitvale and Fort Hall Hill.
04:15	3	Fisk was a freshman in high school at Council High School, living with a family in Council when she heard about the bombing of Pearl Harbor. When the US involvement in the World War II began, Fisk sent letters to her brothers, a former brother in law, and a veteran who was a friend of the brother in law. She recalled a change in high school after Pearl Harbor. She only kept track of War news when she heard it on a radio. She remembered being scared, because war to her meant terrible things and doing her part to help the war effort, including rationing, saving scrap, and growing Victory Gardens.
07:30	5	Fisk's oldest brother was working with the CCC's before he joined the War. She continued to talk about saving chewing gum wrappers and scrap metal for the war effort. Fisk mentioned her future husband, who lived in Fruitvale, saving scrap metal and her memory of Victory Gardens in and around Council. Fisk talked about how older men and women (and young girls) helped with farming and ranching to augment the loss of the young men who went into the military.
11:30	7	Fisk's younger brother joined the military when he became old enough and before he graduated from high school. She also talked about her former brother in law, including why she corresponded

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		with him. She showed the interviewer some V-Mail letters that she had kept. She recounted the people that she corresponded with during the War. She said it was one major thing that younger girls could do to help with the war effort; she talked about the type of things that her former brother in law and she would write.
15:30	9	The interviewer returned the interview to Fisk's time in high school. She talked about selling war stamps to build up to buy a war bond, about hearing about current, war-related events in class, and about working at the family farm and the Council hospital during the summers. She elaborated on her job at the hospital; she did a lot of work that nurses would do, because many nurses were assisting the war effort. Fisk did not remember whether she worked at the hospital during the school year. She said that she went to school her senior year in Nampa at the Northwest Nazarene College; she could graduate from high school and take college courses at the same time. She said that the college included an academy where younger students could go and take classes at a Christian school.
20:00	11	Working as a nurse helped Fisk raise her family when she married and gave birth to her children. On that topic Fisk mentioned how she met and married her husband. Fisk then returned to the War years by offering her memories of V-E and V-J Days and by talking about the reception her family gave to her younger brother when he returned home. The interviewer read a letter from Fisk's mother announcing the return of her brother, who they had nicknamed "Tunny." With prompting from the interviewer, Fisk returned her thoughts to her time working in the hospital in Council.
24:00	13	During the War Fisk's father worked hard at the family's ranch, which they had purchased before (or during?) the War. Within the ranch Fisk's mother grew her Victory Garden, although they grew a garden every year at the ranch. She recalled that people within Council converted sections of their yards into Victory Gardens. Fisk then talked about her older brother returning home; she mentioned that neither brother really discussed their wartime experiences. She also touched on her former brother in law returning to the Council area. Fisk described how the War affected her and her family's life and how living through the Great Depression and the War affected how she ran her household, including what types of food they ate and they stored to eat during the winter.
29:00	16	The interview moved into the post-WWII memories of Fisk. She attended the school in Nampa for a few months and weeks during 1946 and 1947. She returned to the Council area and married her

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		<p>husband; she also worked at the hospital for a while after the War. [Around 30:10 the public listening copy changes from side one to side two.] After she married her husband in 1949, she mainly became a homemaker. With prompting from the interviewer, Fisk talked about blackouts in Council during WWII. Fisk's family helped to start the Nazarene Church in Council, so social activities for Fisk revolved around the church's activities. Fisk talked about bible school and church camp (in McCall) during the summers. She enjoyed attending the church camp and met youngsters from Idaho and Oregon. With prompting from the interviewer, Fisk detailed the aspects of her job at the hospital, including helping with surgery; the doctor in Council conducted quite a bit of surgery. She would go out to a couple of outbuildings that adjoined the hospital to attend to patients that stayed in those buildings. The interview concluded with the amount of money Fisk received to work at the hospital and the extracurricular activity she did (outside of church) in Council.</p>
38:00	21	<p>END OF TAPE ONE END OF INTERVIEW</p>

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Council, Idaho
Fort Hall Hill, Idaho
Fruitvale, Idaho
McCall, Idaho
Nampa, Idaho
Northwest Nazarene College (Nampa)