



ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM  
INTERVIEW ABSTRACT

CONSULTANT: John Johnson

DATE OF BIRTH: September 18, 1927 GENDER: Male

DATE(S) OF INTERVIEW: July 7, 2000

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Johnson's store, Lordsburg, New Mexico

INTERVIEWER: Mollie Pressler

SOURCE OF INTERVIEW: NMF&RHM  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSCRIBED: Yes: December 18, 2000

NUMBER OF TAPES: One

ABTRACTOR: Sylvia Wheeler

DATE ABSTRATED: April 20, 2001

QUALITY OF RECORDING (SPECIFY): Good

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: John Johnson, living in Lordsburg, New Mexico, recalls the prisoner of war camp located there during World War II.

DATE RANGE: 1941-1945

**ABSTRACT (IMPORTANT TOPICS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):**

**TAPE ONE, SIDE A:**

John Johnson, born September 18, 1927, moved to Lordsburg, New Mexico in 1928. He first heard that a prisoner of war (POW) camp was to be located east of Lordsburg in 1941, after Pearl Harbor.

His father owned a fountain and gift shop where many of the soldiers stationed at the POW camp shopped. He felt that business would improve with the camp nearby.

First, the camp held Japanese-Americans as internees, then after they left Italians and German POWs were imprisoned there.

He remembers V-J Day, August 1945, as a big celebration. He joined the army at the tail end of the war.

**TAPE ONE, SIDE B:** Blank