



ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM
INTERVIEW ABSTRACT

CONSULTANT: Ernestine Ragland

DATE OF BIRTH: April 15, 1924 GENDER: Female

DATE(S) OF INTERVIEW: July 25, 2000

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Hidalgo County Abstract Co., Lordsburg, New Mexico

INTERVIEWER: Mollie Pressler

SOURCE OF INTERVIEW: NMF&RHM OTHER _____

TRANSCRIBED: Yes: August 11, 2000

NUMBER OF TAPES: One

ABTRACTOR: Sheila Klug

DATE ABSTRACTED: April 5, 2001

QUALITY OF RECORDING (SPECIFY): Good

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The discussion is limited to Mrs. Ragland's experiences and impressions gained while working at a prisoner of war camp near Lordsburg, New Mexico, where she worked in the Ordnance and Motor Pool Division. There is a brief description of her husband's duties guarding the prisoners as they worked in the fields.

DATE RANGE: 1943 - 1945

ABSTRACT (IMPORTANT TOPICS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

TAPE ONE, SIDE A:

After a brief mention of the town's reaction to the camp's being located nearby, she describes how she got her job, how she got out to the camp, and her duties. She remembers there were Italian and German prisoners, but she does not believe they were there simultaneously. She does not recall there being any Japanese prisoners while she worked there.

She had very little contact with the prisoners, although she did get to know a few Italian prisoners and describes some gifts and cards they gave her. Her husband, James Ragland, was a guard while the prisoners worked in the fields. Later, due to injuries, he returned as a civilian and worked in the plumbing department, where he had some prisoners working under him.

TAPE ONE, SIDE B: Blank