



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Washington Navy
Yard Optical Shop Photoprints

NMAH.AC.0252

David E. Haberstich

1988

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop Photoprints
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0252
Date:	circa 1940-1961
Extent:	17 Items (1 folder)
Creator:	Freedman, Margaret A.
Language:	English
Summary:	John C. Goff worked as an inspector at the Navy Yard Optical Shop during World War II. He might provide additional information, but efforts to contact him to identify the photographs in 1987 were unsuccessful. Deborah Warner, curator, may be able to assist researchers.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Margaret A. Freedman on June 9, 1986.

Provenance

Transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Physical Sciences (through Deborah Warner, curator). The donor presented the collection to Ms. Warner originally.

Processing Information

Collection processed by David Haberstich, 1988

Preferred Citation

Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop Photoprints, ca. 1940s-1961, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

No historical information about the subject of these photographs is available at the present time. Efforts have been made to contact Mr. John C. Goff, who was an employee of the Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop during World War II, and who is a former NMAH Division of Electricity volunteer. It is hoped that he will provide information about the history and activities of the Optical Shop and identify the photographs. The maker of the photographs in the collection is unidentified, but it presumably was a Navy staff photographer.

Scope and Contents

17 photographs depicting employees, equipment, and facilities of the Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop, 1940s-1961.

Arrangement

Collection is unarranged.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Optical technicians -- 1940-1970
Optics -- 1940-1970 -- Washington (D.C.)

Types of Materials:

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 1940-1970

Names:

Goff, John C. (optical inspector)
Navy Yard Optical Shop, Washington, D.C.

Functions:

Optics testing -- ca. 1941-1961 -- Washington (D.C.)

Geographic Names:

Washington (D.C.) -- 1940-1970

Container Listing

- Box 1, Item 1 Yellowish brown print (toned, or stained from improper processing?): group portrait outside building with "Optical Shop" sign: approximately one hundred men, one circled in ballpoint ink.
- Box 1, Item 2 Later group portrait outside building, labeled "210," with sign, "Optical Shop 1919-1961": approximately ninety men
- Box 1, Item 3 Metal optical device containing chain drive.
- Box 1, Item 4 Three men working in shop.
7" x 10"
- Box 1, Item 5 Man in chemistry laboratory.
- Box 1, Item 6-17 Other Optical Shop scenes, showing facilities, workbenches, equipment, technicians at work