OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Title: Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop Photoprints

Date(s): circa 1940's-1961

Extent and Forms of Material: 1 folder (17 items)

Creator: Margaret A. Freedman

Abstract: 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.


Collection Number: AC0252

Processing Note: This collection was processed by David Haberstich, 1988

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use: Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Reproduction permission from Archives Center: reproduction fees may apply.

Physical Access: Researchers must use gloves when handling unprotected photographs.

Preferred Citation: Title and date of item, Washington Navy Yard Optical Shop Photoprints, circa 1940s-1961, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, box number X, folder number XX, digital file number XXXXXXXX

IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Administrative/Biographical History: 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 Content:** Seventeen unmounted, silver gelatin black-and-white photoprints, maximum size 8" x 10" (some slightly smaller) depict employees of the Optical Shop at work and in group portraits.

**System of Arrangement:** This collection is arranged in one series chronologically.

**Acquisition Information:** The photographs were donated to Deborah Warner, curator in the Division of Physical Sciences, on 9 June 1986 by Margaret A. Freedman.

**Custodial History:** The material was transferred to the Archives Center, 1986.

**Access Points:**

**Subject/Topical**
Optics -- 1940-1970 -- Washington (D.C.)
Optical technicians -- 1940-1970

**Subject/Geographical**
Washington (D.C.) -- 1940-1970

**Subject/Name**
Goff, John C., optical inspector, Navy Yard Optical Shop
Navy Yard Optical Shop, Washington, D.C.
John C. Goff, optical inspector

**Form/Genre**
Photographs -- 1940-1970 -- Black and white photoprints -- silver gelatin

**CONTAINER LISTING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yellowish brown print (toned, or stained from improper processing?): group portrait outside building with &quot;Optical Shop&quot; sign: approximately one hundred men, one circled in ballpoint ink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Metal optical device containing chain drive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Three men working in shop. 7&quot; x 10&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Man in chemistry laboratory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>Other Optical Shop scenes, showing facilities, workbenches, equipment, technicians at work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270