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MATCHETT

MATCHETT, HENRY J. (OH-367) 42 pages Open

Brigadier General, U.S. Army; Chief of Staff V Corps, U.S. Army, 1943-45.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal Background. Comments re his service with the G-3 section of the U.S. War Department; his service as Chief of Staff of the V Corps under General Leonard T. Gerow; his impressions of General Gerow; major problems the Allies faced in planning for the Normandy invasion; preparation for the Normandy invasion; the actual invasion of Normandy; the drive on St. Lo and Hill 192; the problems of the hedgerows; the development of prongs on tanks to enable them to negotiate the hedgerows; his duty with the Ground Forces Reinforcement Command; his impressions of Generals Patton, Simpson, and Bradley; his duty as Deputy Commander and Commander of the War Department Manpower Board; his impressions of Kenneth Royal, DDE, and Marshall; and comments re his duty as Director of G-3 for the Berlin Occupation District (mid-1945). Mrs. Matchett's comments concerning Mrs. Eisenhower and DDE's love for cooking.

[Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interview by Thomas F. Soapes, 1976]