Ralph J. Jordan

Professor
Education
(1962-1982)



U. S. Army
WWII
1943-1946

I was drafted in April of 1943 midway into my freshman year at Alfred University.
I was enrolled in the Army Specialized Service Program (ASTP) for about a year when it was terminated and all participants were given advanced military training at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. In September, I traveled (unescorted troopship) to England in 7 days and the next day across the channel to Omaha Beach. It was a dramatic introduction to the war- the sunken ships and disabled equipment still on the beachhead. Seven days later I was on the front lines as a member of the 80th division, Third Army. After 2 months, I was hospitalized in England with a foot injury. The 80th was part of the rescue forces sent to Bastogne. I rejoined them later for two successful crossings of the Rhine. At the end of the war we were at the Austrian Border supervising the return of German soldiers who surrendered to the US. We were part of the occupation forces. In Mar 46, after a year and a half overseas I returned home a Sergeant. Returned to Alfred University that summer and completed my BS and M Ed degrees