

Image Caption Form

Keith Larson



Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Veterans Remember – Korean War Oral History project

Interview on April 12, 2010

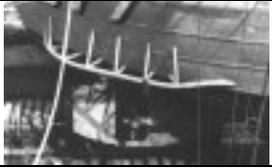
Interview # VRK-A-L-2010-017

A black and white photograph of a young boy, Keith Larson, wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a light-colored shirt, sitting on a large dog named Shep. They are outdoors in front of a house.	<p>This 1934 picture is of Keith Larson and his dog Shep. This picture was taken in front of Larson's childhood home in Jerome, Illinois when Keith was only four years old. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
A black and white photograph of a young boy, Keith Larson, wearing a Boy Scout uniform, including a hat and a sash. He is standing outdoors in a wooded area.	<p>This picture was taken in 1942 when Keith was twelve years old. Keith was wearing his new "Tenderfoot" boy scout uniform. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
A black and white portrait of a young man, Keith Larson, wearing a suit and tie. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera.	<p>This 1948 picture is of Keith Larson's high school graduation photo. (Narrator's Photo)</p>

	<p>This photo of Keith was taken in 1952 in San Francisco. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Refueling duty Davis Straits Newfoundland, 1949 aboard the U.S.S. Wassaman, a 0109 fleet tanker. Taken near Greenland with a deck winch in the background, this day was a balmy -67° outside. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Getting ready for a battle station drill off of the California coast, circa 1950. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Part of the Pacific Mothbase fleet, circa 1946-1953. (May be restricted. Patrons desiring to use this photograph should contact the ALPL Audio-Visual Curator)</p>
	<p>Large photo of LST 1077 with caption "LST 1077 was laid down on 21 March 1945 at Hingham, MA by the Bethlehem-Hingham Shipyard, Inc.; launched on 18 April 1945; and commissioned on 8 May 1945, Lt. I.W. Matthews in command. Following World War II, LST 1077 performed occupation duty in the Far East until late November 1945. She was decommissioned on 31 July 1946 and assigned to the Pacific Reserve Fleet. Recommissioned on 6 September 1950, LST 1077 performed extensive service during the Korean War. She was decommissioned once again on 12 May 1955. The ship was redesignated Park County (LST 1077) (q.v.) after counties in Colorado, Montana and Wyoming. She was later completely modernized and Recommissioned on 9 April 1966 for service in the Vietnam War. Park County was decommissioned for the final time and transferred to the Mexican Navy in September 1971 where she served as Rio Panuco. LST 1077 earned five battle stars for the Korean War and one award of Meritorious Unit Commendation, two awards of the Navy Unit Commendation, and 11 battle stars for the Vietnam War. She was struck from the Navy list on 4/15/78. Sold to Mexico 7/78." (May be restricted. Patrons desiring to use this photograph should contact the ALPL Audio-Visual Curator)</p>

	<p>Repairing #2 Diesel Generator in the auxiliary engine room; Yokosuka, Japan; May 1951. This was one of several times this troublesome engine was rebuilt on LST. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Off loading supplies; Kunsan, Korea, 1951. Army troops carrying plywood up high hill for their use. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>To repair damage; Kobe, Japan; April 1951. Port bow door damaged during a landing, repaired by Japanese shipyard workers. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Tanks waiting to load; 1951; local people come to watch loading. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Trucks and Equipment wait for loading; circa 1951; same location as picture 12; this shows trucks to be landed after tanks. Tanks below, trucks on the top deck. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Circa 1951; real fast jet engines being shipped to Korea movie projector used to show a movie every night to the crew. (Narrator's Photo)</p>

	<p>Yokosuka, Japan; January 1951; Shopping when I first arrived in Japan. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>North Korean (volunteer) to paint shaft alley for more privilege during a six day voyage to Inchon, South Korea; February or May 1951. They did not do a 4.0 job as we had to do things over. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Ark. Nat. Guard Long Toms; 155 MM Self Propelled; February 1951. This unit was ambushed by Chinese troops, approximately one month later. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Tide is out; Inchon, 1951. This ship is showing her flat bottom, only 8 feet of water was needed to float. That is me checking things out. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Off loading ducks; Inchon, 1951. This outfit was with us for 3 weeks waiting to be landed where needed. The crew made many friends. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>Loading off; Sokcho Ri, Korea; March 1952; resupplying front lines. (Narrator's Photo)</p>
	<p>February 1952; stopping off at Guam island with Long I beam cargo heading for second tour of duty in Korea. (Narrator's Photo)</p>

	<p>“Mothership” to Flotilla of R.O.K. PT boats outside of Wonsan Harbor; February 6, 1952 or April 1952; sign made from old movie screen by myself (on left) for picture taking. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Wonsan, Korea; April 1952; resource helicopter used to pick pilots who ditched their planes. Most dies in frigid North Korean waters. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Wonsan, Korea; April 1952; view of LST from PT boat on the test run. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Aboard P.T. Boat (R.O.K.); Wonsan, Korea; April 1952; making ready to come along side of LST after test run. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Dry dock for repairs after fishing new damaged to screw and stern tube; Dry Dock; Yokosuka; May 1951; repairs were made at Hunter Point shipyard in California, we returned to US on June 5. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Fishing or laying mines at night; Wonsan, Korea; May 1952; this type of boat used to lay mines by North Korea. A chute or ramp us used to slide mines into the water. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	<p>Marie Nelson, circa 1950-1951, while she and Keith were corresponding. (Narrator’s Photo)</p>
	



Wedding day for Keith and Marie Larson on July 22, 1951 (in Springfield) during Keith's mid-tour leave. (Narrator's Photo)