



Lee Kleinfelter's recollections about his involvement with the war-training program

Kleinfelter: Lewis Webb called up one time and wanted to know if I would like to come out here and help with the war training program. Well, I was in a situation there where there was apparently little opportunity for promotion. So I told him sure, and I came on out and during the war, this was World War II, they had two programs. One was the ESMF, it was the college-level program, and then the vocational program. Eddie White had the college-level program, and I had the vocational program, and Lewis Webb sort of oversaw the whole thing. We divided up the night work between us and got along real well. We had an office over in the Old Administration Building, and I continued with that until war training we built shops under the stadium, and we had classes in auto mechanics and aircraft engines, carburation, welding, and subjects like that. We had both day and night classes, but mostly night classes, and our faculty was hired from the air station who came in and helped us out, and it was quite an interesting program. The welding, I think, was probably the most popular because welders were always in considerable demand. So that was that. (p. 2)

During the war, we had a lot of women in training as aircraft mechanics and that sort of thing. But that played out after the war. (p. 5)

Full 1974 interview:

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