

Mini-Lab 5: Letters/ Oral History**Due: Tues 5/4/10**

Private letters, diaries and memoirs are an important historical source, offering a firsthand, personal account from an ordinary person's perspective. Oral histories similarly explore the past through the experience of one person's life experiences and memories. For this paper, choose one of the listed digital archives of letters and/or oral histories from the Second World War. Then "interview" one of the people you find there. Write an interview in which you ask the questions, and the answers are exact quotes from a letter or an oral history from one of these archives. If you choose an oral history, you should ask DIFFERENT questions from the ones that the original interviewer asked. Your interview (with both questions and answers on it) should be about 3 double-spaced pages. Give it a title.

Cite the sources you used to write your interview – 1 cite for EACH new/different quote. Don't just cite the whole interview, but the specific part of the document, page or letter the quote came from.

Private Art's War

<http://www.private-art.com/>

Rutgers Oral History Collection (use WW2 narratives only)

<http://oralhistory.rutgers.edu/>

Excerpts from JARDA, Japanese America Relocation Digital Archive

<http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/jarda/>

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