

## Interview with Robert P. Madison

**Robert P. Madison:** Among the things that were interesting me was that I was an officer [during World War II], and we did have officers of the rank of second lieutenant and first lieutenant who were black. All the other officers above that rank were white. And so, even though we were officers, there was a black mess hall for officers who were black and a white mess hall for officers who were white. So, never the twain should meet. You know, I guess we realized that was the way it was in America and accepted it for what it was. But we really believed sincerely that we were going to make our mark in this war and become able to claim our rights when we returned to the states.