

10-30-1993

## Interview no. 822

Venice E. Neilsen Gibney

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

INTERVIEWEE: Venice E. Neilsen Gibney  
INTERVIEWER: Barbara K. Dent  
PROJECT: El Paso Medical Community  
DATE OF INTERVIEW: October 30, 1993  
TERMS OF USE: Unrestricted  
TAPE NO: 822  
TRANSCRIPT NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
TRANSCRIBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSIS OF INTERVIEWEE:**

Executive nurse at Thomason General Hospital; born in Idaho, August 6, 1922; 1947 graduate of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing; served in U.S. Army in Nursing Cadet Corps; assigned to 350th MASH Unit at William Beaumont Army Hospital; 1949-1953; employed as civilian nurse at Magic Valley Hospital, Twin Falls, Idaho and recovery room nurse at Columbus Hospital in Great Falls, Montana, 1961-1975; recovery room nurse at El Paso hospitals, including Providence Hospital, Newark Maternity Hospital, and Hotel Dieu; member of Association of Operating Room Nurses.

**SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW:**

Recalls stint as Cadet Corps Nurse in U.S. Army at Fort Sam Houston Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, and 350th MASH Unit at William Beaumont Army Hospital; employment as private duty nurse; care and treatment of polio patients; closing of Hotel Dieu and Newark Maternity Hospital; relationship between Thomason General Hospital and William Beaumont Army Hospital; use of air ambulances; comments on differences between "bedpan" nurses and "diploma" nurses; differentiates between nurses' aides, vocational nurses, and licensed practical nurses; opines on proposed health plan of U.S. President Clinton; socialized medicine; open-heart surgery; Medicare; Cesarean sections; length of stay in hospitals; laparoscopy.

Length of Interview: 45 minutes Length of Transcript \_\_\_\_\_