Waterbury’s contribution to the war effort during World War II (1939-1945) – a bibliography

Waterbury’s Part in World War II. Spec. edition of Republican [Waterbury] 14 Jul. 1946. This 48-page “history edition” to the Sunday Republican provides the most well-rounded picture we have of how the people of Waterbury aided the war effort and how the war affected the city. Anyone looking for hard data about the massive war-related factory output of the local metals industry will find a wealth of information here as well as photographs of employees engaged in production. You can also learn a lot about how the war disrupted established social patterns. For example, an article about visiting nurses on page 30 explains that, because of food rationing, nurses had to explain the point system to the patients and suggest substitute foods. According to an article about Lincoln House on page 36, marital problems increased due to the fact that more women went to work in the factories. A list of those who died in the various branches of the service appears on the final page.

Note: For the convenience of patrons, we have made several copies of this source. They are in the vertical file behind the Reference Desk. It is also available on microfilm in the East Wing with the rest of the newspaper archive.

Historical Briefs, Inc. World War II As We Saw It: as recorded in the Republican, American and Sunday Republican—1939-1945. Ed. Joseph Ferrazza. Verplanck, NY: Historical Briefs, Inc., 1991. This source is similar to the one above in that the information comes from Waterbury’s daily newspaper, and the layout on the page is that of a newspaper. The difference is that here you are given pages from the actual newspaper, just as they appeared. These pages may contain news about political or military developments or tell you something about the pace of life on the homefront. Call No. 940.53 Wor (Copies in Genealogy Room and Main Reading Room).

Compiled by Dana Lucisano
3/11/2008