

Across Oceans, Across Time® ...

Stories from the Family History & Genealogy Center ...



The focus of the summer exhibit at the Family History & Genealogy Center is Danish immigrants and their descendants who served in the military, either in their homeland or their adopted country. One of those depicted is 1st Lt. **Sigrid Bro**, one of seven Bro siblings, children of immigrants Niels Christian Bro and Laura Birgitte Bork, who served in the military in the mid-20th century. A senior nursing student in college in Omaha, Sigrid was studying in the nurses' residence when the news about Pearl Harbor came over the radio. Shortly thereafter her then boyfriend was shipped out to the Philippines and they corresponded frequently, making plans about their future life together. The dream ended when she received word that he had died on the Bataan Death March. Following graduation in 1942 Sigrid and a close friend decided to volunteer their services to the war effort, joined the Army Nurse Corps, and were sent to Ft. Warren in Cheyenne, Wyoming. After ten months there, she was sent to a Texas hospital where returning South Pacific veterans were recovering from malaria. From there she went overseas with the 40th General Group on board the *Queen Elizabeth*, which had been converted into a troop carrier. Her first European station was a Quonset hut hospital in Cirencester, England. After D-Day she was transferred to France, where a converted hospital outside Paris became her workplace and the nearby city was available for exploration and recreation. Then Sigrid's father became ill, necessitating an early discharge and a return home. Following his funeral, Sigrid joined up again and served in San Antonio, Texas, until V-J Day. Later she married her wartime sweetheart, Ed Crovo. [from 1st Lt. *Sigrid Bro Grovo, Army Nurse Corps, World War II*, in the FHGC collection.]