

# Biographical Data Form

To ensure inclusion in the Veterans History Project, this form must accompany each submission. Please use reverse or additional sheet if service was in more than one war or conflict.

## PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Veteran  Civilian  RICHARD M. BACKENSTO

Place of Birth ALLENTOWN, PA Birth Date 1918 /year

Race/Ethnicity (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Male  Female

Branch of Service or Wartime Activity MARINES

Commissioned  Enlisted  Drafted  Service dates 7-25-1941 to 4-1-1946

Highest Rank MAJOR

Unit, Division, Battalion, Group, Ship, etc. (Do not abbreviate.) 3<sup>rd</sup> DIVISION

War, operation, or conflict served in WW II

Locations of military or civilian service GUADALCANAL, SOLOMON ISLANDS

GUAM, MARIANA ISLANDS

Battles/campaigns (please name) GUADALCANAL, BOUGAINVILLE,

GUAM

Medals or special service awards. If so, please list (be as specific as possible): \_\_\_\_\_

2 BRONZE STARS

2 PURPLE HEARTS

Special duties/highlights/achievements Field ARTILLERY

Was the veteran a prisoner of war? Yes  No

Did the veteran or civilian sustain combat or service-related injuries? Yes  No

Interviewer (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

(Please use reverse for any additional biographical information.)

Additional Service History Information

Branch of Service or Wartime Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioned  Enlisted  Drafted  Service dates \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Unit, Division, Battalion, Group, Ship, etc. (Do not abbreviate.) \_\_\_\_\_

War, operation, or conflict served in \_\_\_\_\_

Locations of military or civilian service \_\_\_\_\_

Battles/campaigns (please name) \_\_\_\_\_

Medals or special service awards. If so, please list (be as specific as possible): \_\_\_\_\_

Special duties/highlights/achievements \_\_\_\_\_

Was the veteran a prisoner of war? Yes  No

Did the veteran or civilian sustain combat or service-related injuries? Yes  No

Additional Biographical Information

Purple Heart 1 - wounded Bougainville, S.I., 11-1943  
" 2 - " Guam, M.I. 7-1944

Bronze Star 1 - Gallant Action when ship was  
Attacked & set fire

Bronze Star 2 - Heroic Achievement Against  
Japanese Enemy Soldiers