

**Guide to the Oral History of  
COFFMAN, JOHN W. (1909-1985)**

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

John W. Coffman was the owner-editor of the *Takoma Journal*. He was born in 1909 in Norfolk, Virginia and moved to Takoma Park, Maryland when he was about 10 years old. He attended George Washington University, the University of Maryland, and Johns Hopkins University and served in World War II. In 1927, Coffman's father started the *Takoma Journal*; Coffman served as the owner and editor from 1946 to 1955. As a resident of Takoma Park, Coffman served as a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee, the Takoma Park Azalea Committee, and both the Takoma Park Library Association and Historical Society. He was also a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and served as Commander from 1978 to 1979.

**Interview** – Interviewed April 13, 1972 by Mary Donaldson for MBL.

**Subject**

Journalism  
League of Women Voters  
Montgomery College  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Charter Movement  
Montgomery County Press Association  
Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
Takoma Park (Md.) – Economic development  
Takoma Park (Md.) - History  
The Maryland News  
The Takoma Journal  
The Takoma News

**Subject Names**

Brigham, Arthur  
Gilbert, Benjamin F.  
Lee, Blair  
Lee, E. Brooke

**Table of Contents/Index** – See also Table of Contents for additional topics and subjects.

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