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Answer: It's ah, they wouldn't understand anyhow, that's the reason why, matter of fact I don't even talk to those guys anymore because at Reno, ah one reunion five of us guys in the same battle were in the room. We were talking about oh boy, what, what this experience was. One guy's telling us what his story is, this is the same battle now we were fight, it was almost like bayonet to bayonet but it wasn't bayonet. But one of 'em had a bayonet and had to use it. But we were close quarter fighting and so the guy was talking about his experience and the other guy was telling his, same battle, another experience, different story different, and this guy telling his, what he remembers. It's still different story from these two. And there's a fourth one telling the, my gosh, I, my story doesn't agree with any of those, I says heck with it, I'm not telling anything because I don't. After you get talking you're not so sure, I was not sure whether it really happened or did I put something into it to make the story feel, you know, feel interesting. And to my point of view, I think a lot of guys.. to tell the story is gruesome is not worth telling but if you clear it a little bit it might be interesting to some people so, I didn't know, the last, not the last reunion but Reno, if they're talking that way I think let's quit talking about anymore because I'm not so sure what's true. What did I put into to it that think it was happening or something like that so when people talk about, I don't know but real battle, I don't know how they can remember those things in detail.

Question: That's one thing I discovered that history is not a science. I mean there are, yeah, first of all there's fifty years that have happened so that's going to affect it but even your perception is gonna be...

Answer: Different.

Question: Yeah because...

Answer: Same place, same thing, that's right, that's what happened. So I said I don't even know what I'm telling the truth or not because it, maybe I'm just dreaming this happened, so as a result I didn't trust myself to tell what I think happened.

Question: Was a lot of being in the service when you were over in active, in one of the active theatres? Was it pretty mundane? I mean was there a lot of just every day, you're moving, you're doing whatever and there's really nothing going on or was there always...

Answer: There's ah, no. I guess what you describe it's ah, maybe for, maybe for even days there's not really action. Maybe patrols go out and stuff like that. Patrols come in and they, there's combat but no heavy fighting.

Question: How did you pass your time during those days?

Answer: I don't know now.

Question: I mean nowadays you see the, like Desert Storm and they have TV's and everything out there but ah...

Answer: I don't, we don't, I don't even think we even had radio in those days. I don't remember.

Question: Now you talked at one time about, about ah, going back and getting a change of clothes. Is that how it worked?

Answer: Yes.

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Question: How did it? 'Cause that's one thing people don't ask about, is...

Answer: Yeah, they just, sometimes you ah, they, the ah engineers would come up and set up a shower for, and sometimes we'd wait 'til we get off, be relieved by another, and then we'd come and change soiled uniforms and re-equipped our ah, if the, if the ah weapon isn't A1 condition or something like that. But you're out there in the weather for three months and you try to put condoms on the muzzle (laughs) of, I remember muzzle of the gun all the time but it doesn't always keep the weather from it. And I remember, we had to, always had to work the um, bores because it corrodes quickly. But it, because we were in the anti-tank platoon and not up at the front. Sometimes actions were going on in our area because of the mortars and the 88's coming, you know trajectory, and sometime the heavy fighting of the rifle up close and like patrols and so on and so forth so it. So it, you don't always, it's not continuous fighting all the time. It's ah, it's sometimes it goes hopefully very short time before the enemy withdraws see then you occupy what they vacated and so when you have heavy fighting ah, what, you read "The Stars and Stripes" and you read how the war is going, you know, and it gives a different picture. You see, it's the line is stalemated and you think well nothing is going on. That's when the heavy fighting's going on because, trying to get. And then when it says ah, when it's heavy fighting going on then there's no movement so, they have trouble writing what the war is about and so on and so forth. So I, whenever I read those "Stars and Stripes" I says nothing is happening and it's really happening because they're fighting and no one moves and it says nothing, no action is going on so, it ah.

Question: So you had a very different prospective sometimes than...

Answer: Yeah prospective.

Question: They say nothing's happening and you're looking around going um yeah...

Answer: That's the worst thing that's happening yeah, right.

Question: Now you, you were marching into Rome is that where you were?

Answer: Yeah, we were, we were ah, we were committed beyond Rome. The 100th battalion, we read, the 100th battalion moved up and they were first to Rome but General Clark withheld them. They didn't want the 100th battalion to go there because it publicized that way. They waited for the outfit they wanted to publicize to go in and pass up the 100th battalion. That's what, that's what hurt the 100th battalion. Mark Clark. But Mark Clark was very good to us so.

Question: So what was the geography that you were going? Was it villages?

Answer: No generally, the, the commands look to the ah, spot where the ah, the primary sector where they command the zone are

Answer: They need to, to secure that so that might be on the hillside, it may be in the town, or may be in the coastline or whatever it is.

Answer: So the, the Cassino, Mount Cassino where the 100th battalion got battered was one of the strategic place that the Germans had ah, could see all around and know where everybody was. And ah, they could transmit that information to the artillery and so on and so forth. So the key was to get rid of that and they wanted to preserve the history of, of that but they finally decided to bomb it up because ah, it was, it ah caused a lot of American casualties so.

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Question: So they wanted to preserve the history of the...

Answer: They tried to but ah, well we tried it too. We didn't, we didn't, ah we went around Florence, we didn't bomb that. We didn't bomb ah, we did have fighting in Leghorn but not Pita and ah, some of those there ah, they tried to preserve I think. So...

Question: I think it's kind of an interesting the surrealism of war to say well we got to go fight a war but oh, oh...

Answer: But not...

Question: But take care of that city or...

Answer: That's right. That's what happened ah, we had ah, we lost, I'm trying to think a couple, one's in France and one's in Italy that ah, I've lost a lot of memory of that stuff anymore now but ah, I can't remember now but.

Question: Were you usually in visual contact with your enemy?

Answer: No. No.

Question: So you were back and...

Answer: Back yeah, just were supporting, unfortunately we got, my, our platoons got um. You know what happens is that in one in Italy was the battalion on, there's a battalion fort, and I can't remember where, close to Geneva, Genoa I mean, and ah, we fought and my squad went to the base of this hill and the battalion fort was up there and it's quite a ways. And I remember the weapon couldn't come down to us it just, because it's right down, and it was too steep for us but we asked for the ah, Air Force to support us but that was the wrong move because that darn airplane circle over there and then dove, and nose dived to us, holy smokes, right to us and then they released the weapon, the shell, and I could see the smoke and just at the last minute the shell up, golly that was a, that was the scariest part, that, that Pursuit plane come swinging over and heading right directly towards us. Oh my gosh. And then I could see the weapon going off. And that had happened about, I called in and said knock it off but it was, it took about, I think we had, we were endured about half hour or three-quarters of an hour that way. But that was one of the scary ones too. But the, the Germans had already captured one of our squad. They were on this ration detail and while in ration detail the Germans captured them and they went into the battalion fort, course they didn't know it at the time. And they were, this guy said they ordered us to be moved to another place and he had a guard in the front and a guard in the back and was going to move them, the bunch to ah, the secure place, further back and they talked Hawaiian which they couldn't understand, and they overcame the guards and ah, and they escaped. And I was talking to one of the guys and I said, "You know I understand that if you're captured and you are reported that they can't put you back on the line." He said, "No, that's not true. If they had to they will." And I said, "I thought that was ah, the ah, I thought that was the law that once you were prisoner or getting signed prisoner of war that you can't go into action there." So I don't know but ah.

Question: So did lots of um, for lack of a better word, rumors like that get started through the service? I mean was everybody kind of guessing what was really going on, and how many points do I need to get home or...

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Answer: Never thought about that. As a matter of fact I had no idea that ah, that after the war the only thing to think about is that I thought we may be shipped to the Pacific side but in the meantime there were setting up swimming meets, baseball, whatever it is I don't know, sports, activities, so on and so forth while they're waiting. But I wasn't staying there but a week after that war I was ordered to Leghorn for shipping back to the States. So I was there Depot, Repo Depot for one month I guess before ah. The funny part of it, it was on the Green Project for veterans combat soldiers were, were ah, on a Green Project and that means they'll fly you home instead of on the transport. So 38 of us were ah, sent to Leghorn and we, gee that was great, live through the war, and we got on this plane, it was bucket seats, it was the first time I'd been on a plane, bucket seats, on a B-17. And they flew us from Leghorn to Port Leone near Casablanca, we got off there. We were there three nights or something like that. And we saw movies and so on and so forth. And I don't know why we went to Port Leone in Africa there. And then we got on the flight, still B-17, to ah ah, Dakar, it's a western most, I think, on Africa continent, the town. So we got off there for three, four days. And then we transferred to the C-54 airplane. We crossed the Atlantic to Brazil, Natal, Brazil and then we changed planes, stayed there about two, three days again, we changed planes to C-46 and then we flew, and then I'm sitting in bucket seat, right close to the crew, the flight crew, and I notice, wow there's nobody flying the plane. You know, and I looked around, well there was three guys, crew men playing pinochle over there. And I said, gee I kind of worried, and I ah ha ha ha, hey, there's nobody flying the plane. Yeah and the guy, pilot looked at me and smiled, he thought I was joking. Then the plane, I says how does the plane know where it's going (laughs). He's talking about well it's on auto, or whatever that means, or auto. Hm I said. And I've been worried because here we've crossed the desert, we crossed the ocean, now we're crossing the jungle, I said how does the plane know. I went back I said, ah where are we going? I mean, where does the plane think it's going? Well we're going to be going to British Guyana

Answer: Where's that? He said, well the plane knows (laughs). He thought I was kidding, the plane knows where it's going. Holy smokes. I worried all 'til I stopped at British Guiana, Puerto Rico, and then into Miami. When I got off the plane in Miami I kissed that dirty apron, of the, oh boy.

Question: Now you said at one time you thought maybe they were gonna send you to the South Pacific.

Answer: The outfit was gonna be...

Question: Would that have been difficult going to the South Pacific do you think? Just because of the...

Answer: I don't know. I don't know, I'm assuming that, I don't even know they, because they were, my brother-in-law was in the South Pacific and ah, and about 5,000 Japanese. Matter of fact, you know the four, the four of us that came from Alaska? The four of us, there was a guy name Bob Orada from Wrangell, Alaska -- his dad owned a mink farm -- you know he was assigned to Canine Corp, Air Force Canine got shipped to Egypt and he was there in Egypt all through the war. And then two of us, Jimmy and myself, went to 442nd, but Charlie was a corporal at the time when the transfer, was sent to, to ah, Minnesota for the Language Military Intelligence section and he got shipped to Australia and he was in the ah, second flight of landing at Philippines the first time, and he ended up as a major by the time he got out and he's still living today, he's about eighty what, eighty-six years old, eighty-seven. And then Jimmy, Jimmy got wounded three different times in three battles, and he passed away several years ago in Ketchikan after war.

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Question: In war are you really aware of who your enemy is? By that I mean like if I were to be sent to Germany that would be my relatives, my ancestors on the other side or is it even, is war so surreal that that's not, it's just there's an enemy out there?

Answer: That's it, that's it. You don't know who it is. It could be black man or whatever it is but if he's got a uniform like the German uniform ah, whoever he is, he may be Japanese, ah and you shoot or you protect yourself one way or another. So, the only thing is, I remember one, early part of the war I remember one time we're at, had a heavy shelling and we had to find cover and ah, I ah, dove in a culvert, I crawled into the ah, pipe which was about 18 inches diameter I guess, through under the street. I crawled in there and as I crawled I felt this shoe, and I, I um -- you know Germans had, soldiers had different kind of shoes -- anyhow I felt it around and holy smokes it looked like German shoes. That's a German soldier in there so I couldn't go, crawl out, I couldn't continue on and I prayed that he doesn't know I'm here and ah. But when I got out finally and we started to move I found out he was dead, it was a dead soldier in the culvert. I remember that, kind of shook me up a little bit.

Question: Do you think that there's a message from World War II for the future generations that should be left with them?

Answer: I don't know. I don't, I don't think war is, I don't think war solves problems actually. You got good people go first. Gee a lot of these good people that I knew from Fort Sheridan we went and half of 'em got killed. It was a, I remember one time I went to the ah, cemetery in ah, Epinal, no it wasn't Epinal, I think it was in Italy. I went to ah to the military grave side, I don't know where it was, in Italy I think because I lost three men and I want to check on them so I went to the cemetery and ah, and while I was there they were moving one guy from, was changing the ah, the bag -- the bodies are put in mattress bags -- and he was changing and I said wait a minute, yep and he was a friend of mine, he was from Fort Sheridan. And ah, and then his brother Frank was there and he was crying and I said, "Sorry Frank about your brother." And he said, "Yeah." And then he just quietly moved away so. And then I watched, they did the graves gee narrow, the Germans dig the graves narrow and walls are straight down. The Germans they learned to dig or something like that because it's almost like doing by a professional diggers, is what it was. Walls were straight down and so many inches, not too much space at all so it was. And then Epinal I went to visit ah, number of those but not my men though.

Question: Do you remember when you, where you were when you heard the war was over?

Answer: Yeah um, I don't remember where, exactly where but I remember I was, we fought and we moved up to, where it was I can't remember, we went into a house and I was kind of tired so I told my guys I want to rest for a little bit. So I rest and I must have slept for maybe an hour or so and all of a sudden I heard a firing, boom boom boom, shells going. I jumped up and I got my weapon and I was, start going out and I'm hearing these guys laughing and I says, "What's going on?" He said, "The war's over." I said "What's the firing." So I opened the door and there's these Italian guys there, with weapons firing, you know. I said. That's how I remember the war's over. But I was startled when I got woke, woke by that weapon going off all around. I thought we got attacked again. Because I, no one told me that the war was nearing over or something like that. Because we were, I remember, I'll tell you one thing, right after the ah, when the Bulge was happening in December, Bulge, and we got word, I remember we got word that 18,000 German, 18,000 German soldiers in American uniform parachuted. Some, someplace nearby you see. So how do you tell with a German with an American uniform, was a German or an American? You know, we were real worried about

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that I remember that. Golly it was, that was in December that was, I think, no, no it was later than that. I don't remember anymore, what, but I remember the terrifying experience of how do you know a person is a German soldier or an American soldier in an American uniform. You know it's ah...

Question: That had to be some of the toughest warfare when you're facing that.

Answer: Well it didn't happen but that was a threat that was brought. I think it was more of a rumor than ah...

Question: But still to you it was real, I mean, at the time.

Answer: Yeah, how do you tell and protect yourself so...

Question: So how long did it take you to get home then after the war was, did you get home right away or?

Answer: Well I, end of June I landed in Miami and it took three days, I remember, on a train. I had experience on that train it was a funny thing. I'm sitting there and this one across the street, one of the soldiers was talking to the other and ah, telling me "Well you don't understand the war, you just got in the war, you just got in the Army so you never went anyplace yet. And ah, so you don't know what it's like to be in the Army," and so on and so forth. And he said, one other guy said "what experience did you have?" He said, "Ah, I've been in six months already." And he said, guy says, "Did you go overseas yet?" "No," he said, "going to though, going to though." And then we kept going on and then ah, just about at Joliet, Illinois, there's one guy was a Pacific theatre and he came back and apparently he had malaria, he was shaking and there was a couple of soldiers trying to help him but he was looked like he was cold, shaking. They found out that, someone told me that the guy was had malaria or something like that and so we got to get him off the train right away. So they stopped at Joliet and took him, the soldiers off of the train and so then we continued. And then the next guy, it was another incident by the group that was there and he said, one was chastising another because they didn't, they didn't go overseas, and found out that the guy chastising him was a quarter master was stationed in Africa, never saw combat just you know quarter master working goods and so on and so forth. And he was chastising the guy who never went overseas. And another one, there's one, one of the ah combat guys never said anything, just kept quiet you know. I noticed those guys and he said those people that only came in recently or something like that, the war was over in Europe and so on and so forth and they were happy and they were in the service and so on and so forth so it was. I said, "You know, it ah, they want to build them self up by ridiculing someone else who's," you know and so on and so forth. But I remember that.

Question: A lot of the different veterans we've talked to that have been in the places that you hear of in history and the Bulge and Normandy and things like that, really when you talk to them you ask them about heroes and they say that you know it was a job. They did their job and they came home. I mean is that kinda how you felt about it, too? That something you wanted to put behind?

Answer: Yeah, well more than that I was happy that I'd lived through it you know (laughs), 'cause that was my goal to live through it.

Question: I have a feeling probably that your wife and your daughter was happy that you lived through it.

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Answer: I don't know if they were or not, I was happier (laughs) than them regardless.

Question: Are you proud of your time in the service?

Answer: Yeah I, I ah, I was proud to be at the Alaska National Guards with all my buddies and I learned a lot too from there.

Answer: And then while I was in, while I was in Chilkoot Barracks you know after the war started, there was two Japanese, one was a owner of the cafe in Juneau, and one was a laundry man who has hired I guess over 30 people there in that shop, and also had a contract to, to launder all of the linens and stuff from the steam ships you know, the Alaska steam ships. They stopped by and they'd dump all of their laundry there and they'd pick it up I guess on the ship coming back down. He, he the two Tanakas and Fukuyamas, they were, I sent I think two of the, well I didn't send it either, the company A sent a team to pick those two up in Juneau and bring 'em over while I was commander of guards and so they had to throw them in, into the guard house.

Question: Oh really.

Answer: Yeah, and Mr. Fukuyama called me and I went over there and Mr. Fukuyama said, "I want a shave." And I said, "No prisoner shaved." And oh he said, "I shaved every day of my life," he says, "I need to shave." So and just four months ago I was at his home having dinner with him at Juneau when... And ah, I says, "ok," I told one of the guards I said, "Give him a safety razor and keep an eye on him." See, so he did, gave him a razor so he could shave and gave his razor back. And then on the, every day there were required to take these two out to the playground to walk, it's for exercise, and he had to have a, the requirements are that you have a guard with a loaded rifle you know, but because it was such a touchy subject then because everybody was nervous and scared and the war's just started and so I told the guards to unload the rifle, not to have shells in the chamber or loaded and, and I said, "If they try to run away," I says, "there's no place to run but if they did run you could outrun 'em anyhow." (laughs) So no need for the weapon so. But the law requires, not the law, I think regulation requires that the guard have a weapon, so I remember that.

Question: Was that pretty devastating, I mean here you said here were people that you'd been to their house for dinner and, how did you deal with that, was it just this is the law or...

Answer: I think they understand, they understood uh, they had no problem with me and they never questioned me so that's a regulation I had to follow. And it ah, I guess if my dad was there I guess I'd do the same thing.

Question: That just seems so unfair. I mean both unfair and also to have to do, I mean it would be easier if it were a nameless, faceless person you know, but yet this is friends.

Answer: Yeah, I knew them and, very much and...

Answer: I had a, I enjoyed all the time I was, all the time I guess in the Army ah, I was very fortunate in the places where I was in too, so. I was, fortunately I was in the headquarters instead of a rifle company because I probably wouldn't have lived through the war. And, and ah, my kid brother, my kid brother got wounded in both legs and when I went to Rome I saw him and he told me his aid man, when he got hit, it was too intense, the shells were so intense that the aid picked him up and moved it to the forward area where the enemy is towards the side, reverse hill and, and then laid him down and was coming back across the field and he got hit and he lost one leg above, below his knee I guess. So when I went to visit

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my brother in Rome he said ah, you ought to see this guy, can't think of his name, from Hawaii but ah, he saved me, he's got, he saved me but he lost his leg doing it and ah, so I went to him and, and ah, thanked him for saving my brother. And I was talking with him and he showed me his leg. He had shell bullets, shell marks scars all over, gee whiz I said. He said you should've seen the other one, he says, the one he lost. He says even worse he said. So and then he, then after the war, first chance I got in Hawaii I went to visit with him, I didn't know where he was but I knew a brother was a State Representative before Hawaii became a state and ah, and I called him, he refused to answer so I'm I was telling him that, telling the one who answered the phone I just want to know where his brother is 'cause... And finally he came on the line and he said, and I told him who I was, "Oh," he said, "I thought you were a friend of my brothers." And I said, "Why?" He said, "Well he gets a phone call all the time," he says, "my brother's into prostitution and drug and his friend's calling him all the time." So he didn't want to talk to any of his friends. So I said, "No I'm trying to see your younger brother because he saved my brother's life in the war and I want to thank him for it." And he said he doesn't know where he is, but then he mentioned about being harassed with friends of his brother (laughs) so that's why he didn't want to answer.

Question: Was your dad still alive when the war got done?

Answer: Yeah, he was um, he went to work for a grocery store or something like that, vegetable stand and ah, it was ah, Armistice Day, November 11th, 1945 and my mom says he just got word, we just got word from my kid brother that he's coming home. And so he said, he was sitting on, it was six o'clock in the evening, he was sitting on the edge of the bed and he just mentioned that it would be nice to see Mike again and then he collapsed. So he collapsed and my mom says he knew he needed help so she rushed from the apartment to the next apartment knocking on the door to help. And he said he opens up and he found this Marine and he's a wounded Marine from the Pacific and ah, golly she didn't know what to do. Oh then, she finally said she needed help so she, so he went right over there and he gave my dad artificial respiration for about an hour she said and he didn't survive, my dad didn't survive. But she was amazed that ah, the veteran of the Pacific who got wounded and was helping (laughs).

Question: So you never had a chance then to have discussions with your dad about his views on...

Answer: No, no. I did, when I was, I took him ah, the only time I talked, twice I talked to him, once I took him down to Maxwell Street or whatever it is, the ah, in the Jewish shoppers, not shoppers, store all along one street, was it Maxwell? They have a, they have all these stores display outside and ah, my dad wanted to go, he just loved to see, he doesn't buy anything he just loved to see it. So I took him over there and at that time I was talking to him but I never we never mentioned about war or something like that. The last serious talk we had, like I mentioned, was Manchuria

Answer: My dad ah, it was, it was, it was, I don't know my mom weathered that storm but my, all kids are against him whatever it was (laughs).

Question: Did, do you know if that, because like you talked about that the male in the family being the, the leader the everything, do you know if that was devastating when they took all those men and they, you saw them at the camp, I mean did that just break their spirit or was it a thing that they...

Answer: I don't know. It was, I think it was devastating because all of the Japanese family the men were the key and owns the store, they were all owning stores and there, and

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there were, the women, women spoke mostly Japanese so the men spoke English but the women mostly speak Japanese. And so consequently, when they took that away there's communication problems after that and fortunately there were little kids there to help but the bigger kids that could help were going to universities you know, and they weren't allowed to go back home, except one girl who's sister, younger sister was dying and she, she begged to get from the university and go back home to see her. And ah, they finally allowed her but it was too late, she died the day before she got there I think. But no other, there were, let's see there were three, four, five, six going to college, let's see, Irene, Alice, Abe, Grace there was about six or seven kids from Ketchikan going to university and they wouldn't allow them to go back home.

Question: That's the, going up and having gone through the history books and everything like that, for some reason the history books don't give you this perception that it was this country before, prior to the war where it's like today. Everybody was doing whatever and they were going to school and they, we were people. Because the history books made World War II look at these segregated populations it teaches a weird thing that, for even the concept to realize, oh yeah they might have been in school here and gone back to the country and fought there and visa versa, that it's, even though it's different than today it's very similar to today, this international...

Answer: Well she and I don't, didn't go to the camp so consequently we didn't, we don't know anything, all of the things that are, that were happening, the prejudices and the problems, whatever it is so...

Question: It's interesting where the different, you know like you said, getting further towards the midwest, you know it was a whole different I mean, you're so far removed from the war to begin with as you get out there you know.

Answer: That's right, less prejudice there so, because there's no, there's not many of the Asian there so consequently they weren't that prejudice so.

Question: Well thank you very much. That wasn't too bad was it?

Answer: No fortunately I can't remember a lot of things too but maybe, maybe it's fortunate instead of unfortunate (laughs).

Question: I would think that there's a certain part that you want to forget, you just don't want to...

Answer: No, I still remember one thing though, I'll never forget as long as I live. We were, after we came to Seattle, she was invited to a get together, the professors at the University of Washington, there was about eight or nine of them and their wives there and their in the hall, someplace in the hall, and ah, everybody chatting and chatting and all of a sudden I mention something and I laugh and then all of a sudden it got quiet. And I, what happened? And I turned to her, I said, I looked at her and she was beet red you know. I said, what did I say? She refused to say what I said. Well in those days my every other word were cuss word or swear word, you know. Like the Army every other word was cuss... And I vowed then that I won't ever speak, won't swear or cuss again and I haven't since then, 1946.

Question: I noticed you caught, because you said, I asked you something and you said yeah when we're all sitting around shooting the, well were were ah... (laughs)

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Answer: But I'll tell you after I made the vow that I'll never speak foul language or swear or use profanity I couldn't speak for five years (laughs). I couldn't express myself for five years (laughs).

Question: Well that's the hard thing being around the military environment to come back from that being just the normal expressions of everybody. Hm I didn't think of that 'cause you had to kind of re-orientate yourself to society after ah...

Answer: Oh, it was difficult, I had to think, even today I have to think um, not using words but making sentence, it's terrible. But she endured all that. Let's see we've been married 58, is it 58 after, more than 58 years, yeah, it'll be 59 years in October.

Question: So when you got out did you go to school some more after you got out of the service?

Answer: That's when I went to school, I was ah, we didn't have enough money for the kids to go to school, our kids went to school, so I went and worked after graduation. My sister and brother in Washington and my younger brother in Alaska, so I worked. I graduated in '36 and got married in '42 and I went to the university in '45, October of '45. So it was nine years from the time I was out of high school 'til I went to college.

Question: Was, did the GI Bill, did that come into...

Answer: Yep, GI Bill, now it's not that great, but boy it was great in '45, '46 because all the engineering papers, the slide rules, the ah, what was it, all the stuff in book stores, text books, all paid for, everything. Now not all of them are paid for so...

Question: And that again carried over from that pride that, that was developed during World War II and support the, the veterans that were coming back and they fought for our country so let's make sure that they're treated right, you say?

Answer: It was great, yeah otherwise I probably wouldn't have been able to go to school. But ah, course she was gonna leave me if I didn't so that, what choice did I have? (laughs)

Question: Well now I know why you finished school and why you don't swear anymore. (laughs)

Answer: Thank goodness.

Question: So I know who the boss in the family is. (laughs)

Answer: I quit drinking in 1960 ah, 1960, no smoking, I was, she came, she said to me, my oldest one was almost 16 and she was ah, she'll be 16 in September but that summer she was saying you better consider if you don't want your kids to start smoking you better think about quitting smoking. I said I've been smoking 25 years what do you mean I can't, I shouldn't smoke anymore? But after I thought it over again I said that's probably right. So I, we had dinner that one day, that evening, and I remembered smoking a cigarette and I crushed it out, I told the kids, there were four kids at the time, this is my last cigarette. So my youngest at the time, the fourth kid, Grace, she picks up that butt and pastes it onto a paper and she, she made a sign to put on the wall up there that said "Dad's last butt" (laughs), but pasted it up on the wall up there, so I couldn't smoke after that (laughs).