

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW OF ROSS LeBLANC

October 31, 2003

Associated Reporters Int'l, Inc.
e-mail Courtsteno@aol.com

(800) 523-7887

COPY

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 (The interview commenced at 9:30
3 a.m.)

4 MR. RUSSERT: October 31st, 2003,
5 approximately nine-thirty a.m. Interviewers are
6 Mike Russert and Wayne Clark

7 BY MR. RUSSERT:

8 Q. What is your full name, date of
9 birth and place of birth, please?

10 **A. My name is Ross LeBlanc. I was**
11 **born in Portland, Maine on August 25th, 1948.**

12 Q. Okay. What was your educational
13 background prior to entering the service?

14 **A. I graduated from high school.**

15 Q. Okay. Did you enlist or were you
16 drafted?

17 **A. I enlisted.**

18 Q. Why did you select the Marine
19 Corps?

20 **A. A friend of mine was being -- he**
21 **was going to be drafted into the Army like in April**
22 **of the year I graduated. He decided that if he**
23 **went in the Marine Corps he could delay entry until**
24 **the summertime in August. So, when I -- when**

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 summertime arrived I had absolutely no plans as far
3 as my future goes, so he said to me why don't we
4 join the Marine Corps, go in as the buddy plan.
5 And being naive, not having a clue what I wanted to
6 do with my life, I said sure. I was seventeen and
7 I -- I got my mother to sign the papers. That's
8 essentially why I went in and why I went in the
9 Marine Corps.

10 Q. Okay. When did you go in?

11 A. August it was either the 17th or
12 the 16th of '66.

13 Q. Okay. Where did you go for your
14 basic?

15 A. Paris Island.

16 Q. Could you tell us about your
17 basic training, how long did it take?

18 A. And it was eight weeks. I knew I
19 was in for a different experience when the bus
20 pulled up to the station and the drill instructor
21 came onto the bus and his demeanor, it was -- I
22 knew I was in for a different time. Getting off of
23 the bus seems like it was early in the morning. I
24 can remember smelling the swamps around Paris

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Island. It was a -- it was an odd smell that I'll
3 never forget.

4 Our boot camp was -- was tough.
5 I immediately learned to follow orders. I probably
6 went in the service with a bit of a chip on my
7 shoulder. I had a lot of freedom when I was a kid
8 and I was kind of used to doing things my way.
9 Very quickly within a matter of days I realized
10 that was not the case.

11 I found it to be -- I -- I
12 suppose probably after the first week or so I began
13 to get into a routine that I was comfortable with.
14 And a couple of times in boot camp, you know,
15 you -- you get a little nervous that you're not
16 going to pass certain tests and so you get a little
17 anxious if you will.

18 Probably my biggest -- one of the
19 places where I nearly failed boot camp was when you
20 had to jump into the pool with your fatigues and
21 boots on and you have to tread water for whatever
22 it was, five or ten minutes. I had a very
23 difficult time with that. It turns out later on in
24 life I figured out that I had my bones are dense

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 and therefore I sink rather readily. So, being
3 nervous about flunking that test because, you know,
4 in boot camp you don't flunk tests, I figured out a
5 way to simply get some air, go under water for, you
6 know, about a foot or so, tread water and keep
7 coming up. And that's how I passed that because I
8 just didn't have the stamina to keep myself afloat.
9 Twenty years later when I got in scuba diving I
10 figured out I didn't need weights. Everybody else
11 needed weights.

12 So -- but graduating from Paris
13 Island made you feel good. I must say that the --
14 the esprit de corps, however they do it to you, it
15 became ingrained and so it was an interesting
16 experience. When I went to the advanced training
17 at Camp LeJeune and I can't remember the name of
18 the advanced training location for six weeks, that
19 was rougher.

20 I think you got out of Paris
21 Island figuring that the worst is over. It just
22 started. And actually I found that the Camp
23 LeJeune training was more difficult. They messed
24 with your sleep. You're constantly running around

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003
2 going on maneuvers. They were training you for
3 Vietnam and I'll tell you even though had my orders
4 for Vietnam from Paris Island I must say I was
5 stunned. I -- I couldn't believe I was going to
6 Nam and yet how naive of me to not realize that.
7 But again, since I simply joined to be with my
8 buddy on the buddy plan I never even contemplated
9 going overseas. I was absolutely floored.

10 Q. Did you stay with him?

11 A. No. He -- I think in a span
12 of -- after we got out of Paris Island we saw each
13 other three days in two years. He went into supply
14 and logistics and I became a grunt. I think I may
15 have had -- when I came home from LeJeune we -- we
16 saw each other for three days where he got home
17 sooner. We overlapped and then he went back to
18 probably Camp LeJeune and then I went out to Camp
19 Pendleton.

20 Q. Did he ever go to Vietnam?

21 A. I think he may have been there
22 for a couple of days. I think the closest he got
23 was Okinawa. And I think during that time we were
24 in his father had died and then his grandfather had

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 died. He was the only son. That may have been a
3 contributing factor to change him from being a
4 grunt into supplies. So, no, the buddy plan was a
5 fallacy in our case.

6 Q. After LeJeune where did you go?

7 A. Went home for two or three weeks
8 and then I went off to Camp Pendleton for general
9 training. That was interesting. It was my first
10 time in California. I arrived it must have been
11 just before the holidays and I'll never forget it
12 because I expected Southern California to be warm
13 and sunny. I got to the beach and oceanside and
14 looked out and saw everybody surf-boarding in wet
15 suits. I was confused about that. I couldn't
16 figure out what the hell was going on. And it
17 turns out I didn't realize the currents come from
18 Alaska coming down, therefore it's much colder as
19 opposed to Florida going the other way.

20 And then so we're at Pendleton
21 and it wasn't too bad. It was easier than Camp
22 LeJeune, but I must say it was cold. We went out
23 on some maneuvers at night and it was snowing. I'm
24 thinking what is going on with the weather in

1 **Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003**

2 **Southern California. But it wasn't too bad. I**
3 **felt it easier than Camp LeJeune. And so I think**
4 **we were there about four weeks and then we caught a**
5 **plane to -- to Okinawa.**

6 Q. And were you assigned to a unit
7 or did you go through placement?

8 A. It turns out I was a replacement.
9 **In the beginning I couldn't tell. They're kind of**
10 **herding you like cattle if you will.**

11 Q. But you -- you went into the
12 rotation system anyhow?

13 A. Correct. Yeah.

14 Q. Okay. When did you arrive at
15 Vietnam?

16 A. Probably about -- I think I was
17 **in Okinawa for about three days and then I**
18 **landed -- then we took off and I landed in De Nang.**
19 **So, that was probably around January 17th of '67,**
20 **someplace in that time frame.**

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. Then probably a day or two later
23 **I caught a -- probably a C-130 or C-123, whatever**
24 **was flying at that time up to Phu Bai (phonetic**

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 spelling). And I stayed there for probably a week
3 or ten days. I'll never forget when I landed in
4 Nam. I kept looking out the window looking for
5 bullets and mortars and all hell to break loose and
6 being in De Nang and even at Phu Bai they were
7 big -- they were big bases, especially De Nang.
8 And so you had no concept that you were there, you
9 know. To me it just looked like what a military
10 installation would look like overseas in any part
11 of the world. So, I think I was at Phu Bai a good
12 two weeks. It was like they didn't know what to do
13 with you because I wasn't really doing much of
14 anything. You know, they put you up in these
15 wooden, what do they call them, I don't know.

16 Q. They're two-story barracks?

17 A. Yeah. Yeah.

18 Q. I was there too.

19 A. Okay. Okay. Yeah. And then I
20 can remember -- all I can remember was coming out
21 on the steps and it had been raining and
22 immediately walking in -- in mud, you know,
23 probably halfway up your knees. That I remember
24 distinctly. But aside from that, you know, it was

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 kind of usual so many times in the service hurry up
3 and wait and you're bored to tears. And it wasn't
4 like I was looking for action, but it was boring
5 because it was clear they didn't know what to do
6 with you yet. So, you're just kind of waiting.

7 And then finally I got orders for
8 Khe Son (phonetic spelling). I came from -- I
9 probably flew -- yeah, I must have -- I think we
10 flew into Khe Son and when I landed I was put into
11 an attached security platoon and we're attached to
12 bravo one nine, first battalion B one-nine. You
13 know, I'll never forget my first night when I
14 arrived at Khe Son. It was like an metal air strip
15 that they had put together. And the side of the --
16 the base that I was on I remember there was a fox
17 hole and there was elephant grass tree in front of
18 me. No concertina wire absolutely nothing. And I
19 think that first night there was no moon and I must
20 say that was a nervous night. Being over there,
21 knowing that you're guarding a base and yet there's
22 absolutely nothing in front of you. I mean I
23 had -- I'd never heard of Khe Son, so to me it was
24 like okay, I've arrived. That was how I got to

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Vietnam and then eventually up to -- up to Khe Son.

3 From there I began to -- we -- we
4 knew we were a security platoon and we were
5 attached to bravo one nine, which obviously was a
6 regular outfit there. It was unclear what our role
7 was. We -- we were kind of treated as -- I
8 wouldn't say second class citizens, but we were
9 probably just a hodgepodge group of marines who
10 were assigned there. We began to, you know, put
11 together defensive positions around the base. I
12 can remember putting up concertina wire. I'll
13 never forget one of the days I was doing -- and I
14 had my helmet off. It was sunny as hell and I got
15 the most wicked sunburn I've ever had in my life.
16 And needless to say when I had to put that helmet
17 back on it felt like it weighed about a ton and it
18 hurt. And everyone just laughed at me and just
19 said you better not take that helmet off, you know,
20 otherwise dereliction of, you know, rule whatever
21 it is.

22 So, then I remember we started
23 going out on patrols. And in the beginning the
24 first couple of months relatively quiet, rarely did

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 you see anybody. Occasionally we would see what
3 turned out to be Montagaris villagers occasional.
4 You would hear some sporadic activity going on with
5 some of the long-range reconnaissance teams that
6 would go out, the force recon. And I don't know,
7 that must have gone on for maybe a month or two and
8 then sometime around April or May of '67 all of a
9 sudden there began to be some more contacts that
10 were going on. I think it was primarily either the
11 force recon or some of the normal units of Bravo
12 one-nine.

13 I can remember going out on
14 patrol probably a couple -- a week or so prior to
15 the first battle of Khe Son and I remember seeing
16 some villagers, but you could tell they -- they
17 looked like -- well, let's put it this way, they
18 looked like civilians because all they had on was
19 in my mind it looked like loin cloths, but they
20 were all fairly young, you know, like eighteen to
21 twenty-two, reasonably good shape. A couple of
22 them I remember being about six foot and the more
23 experienced marines I remember them stopping them
24 and talking to them. And they were carrying some

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 logs on their shoulders, so I suppose one would
3 think that perhaps they were building, you know, in
4 some of the villages. And the experienced marines
5 let them pass.

6 Then all of a sudden somebody in
7 the squad decided that something wasn't quite
8 right. They ran back to where those I'll say six
9 or eight orientals were carrying those logs. The
10 logs had been dropped in the trail and they had --
11 they had run away. Obviously they were, as it
12 turns out, North Vietnamese regulars and they
13 were -- and who knows, they could have had a
14 Chinese advisor over them because they were -- they
15 were big guys. And so obviously they then figured
16 out that they weren't villagers and so you kind of
17 knew something was going on, but again no big heavy
18 fighting going on.

19 And then maybe a week or two
20 later all hell broke loose. There were I -- I
21 don't know what size outfit was out there in Bravo
22 one-nine, but a squad, a platoon, they got ambushed
23 probably around either hill eighty-one or sixty-one
24 north-south. You know, there was a couple of them

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 that were up there. And they took a lot of
3 casualties and I can remember the base being
4 mobilized and seeing the regulars of Bravo One-Nine
5 just take off and go out in the -- out towards
6 the -- the hills. And the security platoon that I
7 was left was left behind and we had to spread thin
8 around the base because we were the only perimeter
9 protection at that point in time within just a few
10 hours.

11 I mean you could hear all kinds
12 of fighting going on, air strikes, mortars,
13 artillery, you name it. And then shortly C-130's
14 began to land and they would land and I can
15 remember -- I can remember doors opening up for
16 the -- of the C -- or the cargo ships. They would
17 come down, marines would be running out the back
18 and then running out the gate, you know. And it
19 must have been ten or twenty of them it seems in
20 the space of a day or two that kept landing. The
21 casualties was phenomenal.

22 You know, I -- I didn't have to
23 go out there, thank God, because the casualty rate
24 of Bravo One-Nine was -- it was, I don't know,

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 sixty, seventy, eighty percent and it was big.

3 And I'll never forget, and I --
4 and I put this in the context of the recent war, in
5 the first part, but we lost like a hundred
6 twenty -- twenty soldiers in Iraq and since then
7 we've lost about a hundred -- another hundred and
8 twenty.

9 But I remember as -- I can
10 remember during those days walking across the air
11 strip and past this big container and the container
12 was maybe, I don't know, maybe twenty feet by ten
13 feet deep. It was open, you know, I saw those body
14 bags, and then I saw more body bags than what we
15 lost in the first part of the Iraq war just right
16 in front of my eyes in the space of a couple of
17 days. And -- and of course at that time, you know,
18 we've already lost I don't know how many thousands
19 by that point in '67, ten to fifteen thousand. I
20 don't know what the number was at that point.
21 But -- and now when I think about Iraq and -- and I
22 just remember back it puts body count in a
23 different perspective. And it was -- it was an eye
24 opening experience.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 So, in any event, choppers were
3 landing everywhere. I mean their -- their rotor
4 blades were touching one another. I mean I -- I
5 can remember over our hutch having the blades, you
6 know, right above my head because they had to park
7 them so close. As it turns out I can -- when I got
8 of the service and I read up on it, they had said
9 that had the -- we -- Khe Son is on a plateau and
10 the North Vietnamese, what they planned on doing
11 was overrunning the base. And they figure that if
12 they'd had another three to four weeks of -- of not
13 being found they would have been in the position to
14 overrun the base. So, that was, you know, I
15 shouldn't be here just from that first round if you
16 will.

17 So, probably oh, a month or two
18 later I remember then going out on more patrols.
19 It was much quieter. Nothing was really going on.
20 Then I remember being assigned -- oh, I can't
21 remember, it was probably after the initial battles
22 across the, you know, we're -- we're on the plateau
23 and there was a big valley and there was a river
24 and they had some high mountains. And they had

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 some -- an observation post on top of that
3 mountain. Being stationed up there for a week or
4 so, it was nice. You're away from everything. It
5 was very pretty, beautiful looking out in the
6 layout if you'll look in the layouts of North
7 Vietnam. And I'll always remember that because it
8 was so -- so pretty.

9 And then when you look at
10 photographs from after the second battle of Khe Son
11 when they literally bombed every square inch of
12 that whole area and probably used Foleants they
13 looked like the face of the moon. And it was kind
14 of striking reminder as to what warfare can do to
15 just the beauty of land, much less all the people
16 who were killed. But -- so I was probably at Khe
17 Son for three months. Then I got transferred to
18 India Three Three and that was at the rock pile,
19 razor back, and also further close to Camwell
20 (phonetic spelling). So, now this is a regular
21 grunt outfit. I may have been transferred with a
22 couple of guys to -- you know, to India Three
23 Three. I really can't remember.

24 I began to realize even back then

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 don't make close friends because you don't know how
3 long, you know, people are going to be there.

4 But when I got to I-Three-Three I
5 did get tight with some people, squad leader and
6 several other guys in my squad. At that point I
7 think I was a lance corporal, no P.F.C. probably,
8 and then a lance corporal. A few months later I
9 became a -- you know, another squad which was a
10 smaller -- four guys, but fire team -- would have
11 been, you know, Fire Team Leader or something. And
12 initially with India it wasn't too bad. We'd go on
13 operations around the Razor-Back. It was different
14 topography. It was interesting. And I can
15 remember spending time on top of the rock pile.
16 Apparently they built a helipad on top of it. It
17 was kind of like a mini Rock of Gibraltar. It was
18 interesting because being up there we could run
19 guard duty. You're kind of lackadaisical because
20 you figure nobody will climb up there. Of course
21 they could. But you had like baboons and all kinds
22 of jungle type animals around. It was an
23 interesting place.

24 Went on a number of patrols and

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 not too much activity. Occasionally some of the
3 different companies would run into some resistance,
4 but nothing I felt that dramatic. And I began
5 to -- you know, I began to learn a little bit more
6 now as far as how to survive. The one thing that's
7 very striking to me is how ill prepared I was at
8 training. When I was in boot camp, again, I didn't
9 dream of going to Nam. I must say I didn't pay
10 attention, but the -- the training was so quick and
11 so superficial at times, probably because they're
12 just trying to get marines, you know, through boot
13 camp as quick as possible and get them overseas.

14 When I got there I realized how
15 unprepared I was and it wasn't until I became a
16 squad leader when I really realized how unprepared
17 I was just reading a map and of course years later
18 realizing I have a terrible sense of direction.
19 Just having a compass and it would sure be nice to
20 have the G.P.S. systems we have today. But again,
21 realizing that the training was really not that
22 good, I mean at that time I'm eighteen years old
23 and you know, and I'm starting to influence peoples
24 lives and I'm still a kid.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 And then probably the next big
3 event for me was September 7th of '67. We were --
4 we were back in our base camp. We had just
5 received -- a few days beforehand literally we
6 received the M-16 which was interesting because I
7 had seen not only the Army with the M-16s, I have
8 seen some special forces, South Vietnamese soldiers
9 with M-16s. And we were still carting around the
10 M-14. That was always interesting to me that okay,
11 the Army's got them, you can understand, the South
12 Vietnamese having them, we don't. What's wrong
13 with this picture. And I remember when I could --
14 when we got the M-16 it was such a relief because I
15 could carry twice as much ammo. I could carry it,
16 you know, one arm, you know, and -- and you could
17 easily maneuver it. It was lighter or faster a
18 little bit.

19 Well, needless to say, about
20 three days later one of the companies ran into a
21 lot of problems. They were being ambushed, so they
22 wanted us to come out to help them out. So, when
23 we left we decided rather than go down Route 9
24 which is a road that eventually would lead you to

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Khe Son, we decided not to take the road because we
3 figured we'd get ambushed. So, we were going
4 through the boonies, through the brush, and we were
5 getting no place fast. It was hotter than hell,
6 you're cutting through the grass and you get cut.
7 You just -- you're going like tortoises. So, we
8 said to hell with it, let's get out on the road.

9 So, when we got out on the road I
10 was the number two person in the column. And maybe
11 we had walked a couple hundred yards and I don't
12 know what happened, but the guy who was the point,
13 his -- he said his rifle wasn't working properly,
14 which we all heard the rumors about how easily they
15 jammed. I don't remember him firing it, so I don't
16 know why or how he could recognize that his rifle
17 wasn't working. Needless to say I then became the
18 number one person. My heart rate went up about ten
19 thousand percent at that point since I figured that
20 pretty soon we're going to run into something and I
21 guess I'm going to get it first.

22 So, we're walking down the road
23 and you stagger. I was on to the right, right-hand
24 side of the road and off to the left there was a

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 big group of bushes and there was a big hill where
3 it went up. And all of a sudden I -- I heard a
4 noise in the bushes. Now, I don't know if it was a
5 click, who knows, but I -- I immediately opened up
6 with my M-16. And shortly there afterwards a
7 chicom was thrown at me. And by the time I saw it
8 it was probably a third of the way towards me. And
9 so when I looked at it, you know, I -- my reaction
10 was well, I can't outrun it. It's coming at me.
11 So, I decided to run at it figuring maybe I would
12 get past it before it explodes. It literally went
13 between my legs and it must have been a dud because
14 there was no explosion.

15 Now I'm on the same side of the
16 road as the bushes and the -- and the -- the gooks
17 are on and whether it was nerves, whether it was
18 dust, but I was having a real hard time getting the
19 next new round of bullets into that M-16. Probably
20 unfamiliarity with the weapons since I only had a
21 matter of days, but it sure wasn't working right.
22 Finally what seemed like several minutes, it
23 probably was many seconds, I got it working
24 properly, fired off probably another magazine or

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 two and of course you couldn't see anything. And
3 now all of a sudden you hear an explosion go around
4 you and then it quieted down.

5 I remember pulling back because I
6 was totally exposed where I was. You know, you had
7 the -- the bushes maybe, I don't know, fifty feet
8 in front of you. There was absolutely nothing but
9 bare grounds. I had nothing to hide behind. So, I
10 remember pulling back. I remember a tank coming up
11 and just blowing the hell out of those bushes. And
12 then the officer in charge decided to get us up on
13 a line and we were going to simply go up this big
14 hill, figuring that we're going to flush out the --
15 which we assumed to be N.V.A.

16 So, we started to march up the
17 hill and I can remember the elephant grass being
18 nearly waist high. So, it was a perfect ambush
19 spot. And all of a sudden, you know, the firing
20 started -- started up again. And of course you
21 couldn't see anything. It wasn't like I saw -- saw
22 anybody in particular. Even when I saw the bushes
23 before when we first got ambushed I mean I could
24 see some flashes, but you know, they're concealed.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 And after a minute or two all of a sudden I got hit
3 in the leg and I went down. And of course your
4 initial reaction was -- there was really no pain,
5 but my initial reaction with adrenaline was I -- I
6 figured my leg was gone. So, I didn't want to
7 look, but obviously I did and I could see it and
8 you know, I felt it okay. But I knew I'd been hit
9 in, you know, the calf here.

10 So, then I remember a corpsman
11 coming up, a Navy corpsman. They're -- they're
12 guardian angels. They did an awful lot. They
13 saved a lot of lives. They're good. So, he threw
14 a bandage on me. He looked at me, he said, all
15 right, I want you to get out of here. Go back to
16 rear. You need to be medivaced out of here. So, I
17 went back down the hill and all of a sudden they
18 started to get mortared because on the other side
19 of Route 9 one of the much bigger hills onto the
20 right you could see the -- the -- the flashes of
21 the tubes. Mortars were coming down. And of
22 course you're in a flat road. Again there's no
23 place to hide from those darn mortars so just laid
24 on the ground and prayed.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 And then probably within a few
3 minutes I can remember the Phantoms coming in and
4 they Naplamed the hell out of that hillside. And
5 boy, that made you feel happy for the Air Force or
6 the Navy or whoever the hell was flying the
7 Phantoms. And so the -- the mortar stopped and the
8 fighting was still going on. Then it sort of
9 quieted down. Then I don't know, I can remember
10 being put on a -- what do you call it, a six-by,
11 what ever one of those big trucks were and there
12 was wounded that weren't critical they drove us
13 back eventually to -- to our base.

14 And oh yeah, the other thing I
15 could remember, just before we got ambushed on
16 Route 9 we passed some villagers, Montararis and
17 they were real mountain Montararis you could tell,
18 you know, young kids, older women, their beetle nut
19 smile, your -- your -- your classic -- the classic
20 look. And we let them go because we just figured,
21 you know, they're not doing anything. They
22 certainly weren't like the -- the orientals we had
23 seen when I was at Khe Son.

24 When I was driving back on the

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 six-by they had detained the villagers probably a
3 half mile down the road. And it was one of those
4 times where you can kind of understand and I'm not
5 going to rationalize what happened at Uhlie, but
6 you can understand why sometimes some of the
7 American forces would shoot civilians because I
8 find it very hard to believe they didn't know what
9 was in store for us. On the other hand as I think
10 intellectually now, they're between a rock and a
11 hard place as all civilians are in combat
12 situations across the world and they had no choice.
13 But it sure made you wonder at the time, but so be
14 it.

15 So, in the evening I went back to
16 the base. They patched me up and then the -- I can
17 remember it got real rainy over the next couple of
18 weeks. Oh, let me finish. At the -- that day we
19 lost, I don't know, probably three or four people
20 in my platoon, including my squad leader. And it
21 bothered me a lot because I got too close to him.
22 And that hurt and I -- and -- and it really blew my
23 mind because it was one of those things that he
24 caught a piece of shrapnel in his Achilles tendon

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 and he died of shock. And intellectually I was so
3 perplexed. It made absolutely no sense to me how
4 it could possibly happen when you saw other marines
5 who have been wounded so severely who would live
6 through it. And of course at that point in my life
7 I had no idea what shock was. I found out later.
8 But losing -- losing Sibley (phonetic spelling)
9 was -- that was a hard loss for me. And -- and I
10 think after he -- he died I never got that close to
11 anybody again because I -- I didn't want to go
12 through that. It was too personal.

13 So, anyway, got back to the base.
14 They patched me up. The rains came and the
15 bandages and my wound began to get infected all the
16 time because it was always moist. They wouldn't
17 let me go out on patrols. Not that I really wanted
18 to, but it was kind of boring to sit in a foxhole
19 all the time. So, when the infection got worse and
20 worse they finally sent me back to Sanda (phonetic
21 spelling) and on to Dung Hoi. I went to Phe Bai.
22 And then I ended up at Cam-ranh Bay because they
23 were going to do a skin graft down there. And I
24 thought Da Nang was nice when I arrived in country.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Cam-ranh Bay looked like a resort in the middle of
3 the Caribbean. The place was beautiful and so
4 they -- they took -- did a bit of a skin graft. I
5 was there for about a week. After a few days got
6 done with the operation and then he said we'll give
7 you a week of salt water treatment which meant go
8 to the beach for a week. And that was nice. So, I
9 would -- had a wonderful week of just drinking lots
10 of beer and getting nice and sunburned and relaxing
11 and having hamburgs and hot dogs. Boy, they tasted
12 good.

13 And so then came -- I came back
14 and probably shortly there afterwards I think I
15 went on a -- first R&R -- went to Hong Kong and
16 all I wanted to do was eat, drink, be merry, lots
17 of women, the typical things that you do when, you
18 know, you've been in a, you know, grunt situation
19 in Nam. Came back and they made me a squad leader.
20 And that's when I really realized that the training
21 I had was poor.

22 And I'll never forget when they
23 promoted me. I remember he was either a staff
24 sergeant or a gunnery sergeant and I'll never

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 forget his face the first time I saw him after they
3 told me I was going to be a squad leader. He just
4 looked at me and shook his head. And you know, he
5 said -- you know, he just said, he said, "Ross,
6 nothing personal, but you don't have a clue what
7 you're going to be doing." And you know, I looked
8 at him and I didn't disagree with him because the
9 training was just not there. And in hindsight now
10 when you look at Iraq the difference in the
11 training now, you know, thirty or forty years
12 later, they finally got their act together and they
13 make sure that, you know, in the military if you
14 got those -- if you're going to be in -- in combat
15 that you have proper training and proper tools. It
16 makes a big difference.

17 So, in any event, I became a
18 squad leader and then we -- we, I don't know, went
19 on numerous patrols, nothing all that big. Then I
20 remember we -- we moved to -- up on the D.M.Z.,
21 places like Kon Tien, other places if I heard the
22 names they would bring back memories. And there
23 were E-Three or something, I don't know, and
24 several locations where -- where they simply

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 bulldozed, you know, hundreds of yards of earth so
3 that, you know, there would be that big line across
4 the D.M.Z. And you know, these big bunkers and we
5 would go out on patrols there. And you knew that
6 the North Vietnamese were around. You could -- you
7 could smell them because obviously, you know, they
8 didn't take baths and you know, you -- you knew
9 they had just been there or you knew they were
10 within hundred -- a few hundred feet of you and
11 they wouldn't do anything. But you couldn't find
12 them. And occasionally there would be some
13 ambushes, but it would be sporadic.

14 Then I can remember being up
15 there the first time where we got rocketed. The
16 you tell the quantum leap from mortars. These
17 things were -- they were big. And they -- they
18 made a lot of noise and they create crater. So, we
19 would -- we would have relatively minor -- minor
20 skirmishes. I can remember once being -- we ran
21 into an ambush and there were, you know, trees and
22 then little patches of fields and more trees. And
23 you know, it was kind of a mixed -- mixed terrain.
24 And I remember I was in the middle of that terrain,

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 probably at least waist deep or -- no, maybe up to
3 my knees grass and a sniper started to shooting.
4 And it became apparent after about the third shot
5 that I was one of his targets. And very nerving
6 when you don't know where the hell the bullets are
7 coming from. And the grass, it may have been knee
8 high, but I'll tell you it felt like there was
9 nothing there at all. I felt like I was naked.
10 Finally somebody spotted him and probably blew him
11 out of a tree or a grenade launcher or something.
12 But for a while man I -- I -- I -- I was hoping I
13 was a mole so I could dig a hole.

14 What else? I can remember -- I
15 can remember one night, I don't remember where I
16 was. I was probably pretty close to it set upon a
17 Gon (phonetic spelling) I think. One of the things
18 I liked about being a squad leader was that we
19 didn't have to stay up all night. You know, you
20 could -- you could catch some Z's and then you
21 know, once or twice during the night you'd get up,
22 you'd make rounds to make sure everybody's awake
23 and chat with everybody. That night I was lazy and
24 I decided not to dig a hole. So, I found a crater

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 and I'm not sure if the crater was a rocket crater
3 or a bomb crater, whatever it was, so I decided,
4 you know, I was lazy, I was tired, I was going to
5 spend the night in a crater. And I did. Well, we
6 got mortared like crazy that night and that crater
7 felt like the Grand Canyon. And I thought to
8 myself if you live through this, I'm not a real
9 religious person, but I must say I did say a few
10 prayers that night, I will never jump into a
11 pre-made bomb hole for shelter, a bomb crater
12 again. Dig your own. A foxhole is a lot smaller
13 and therefore the probability of that thing landing
14 on top of you is a lot less.

15 But fortunately I made it through
16 that night, but that was the night of --. It
17 lasted for many hours and it was the kind of thing
18 where when there wasn't any shells coming in it was
19 very quiet. When they hit and they created
20 casualties, boy, you could hear the screaming and
21 the -- the guys begging for morphine and whatever
22 it would take. And at that point for a long time
23 none of the choppers could come in because, you
24 know, the -- the air was too hot and we lost a lot

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 of guys that night.

3 But there was really nobody to
4 shoot at because they knew where we were, but we
5 didn't have a clue where they were at.

6 Let's see. What else? Well,
7 that was -- oh, probably around that time I also
8 traveled on Kam Lo (phonetic spelling) and I saw
9 where -- Kam Lo is one of the three major producing
10 places of marijuana in the country at the time.
11 And you could get bags of it, a hundred joints for
12 a buck. I didn't smoke. A lot of the guys did.
13 And I quickly learned that you can't control -- you
14 can't control everybody all the time. And I began
15 to realize there was a fine line because if you --
16 if you crossed certain Marines a certain way they
17 could -- they could get even with you, you know,
18 because the -- the word -- when combat's happening
19 who knows who's shooting where. I hate to say it,
20 but there are a few rumors of things that took
21 place. It was the kind of thing where I basically
22 said to the guys, listen, we're out on patrol,
23 don't be stoned. I mean we're back in the rear
24 things were quiet, you know, use your judgment.

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Q. How prevalent was drug -- drug
3 use?

4 A. At that time, not -- not a lot.
5 I mean where we're at, a lot of "grass." There was
6 no -- none of the hard stuff was around, none of
7 the heroin, none of all the ugly stories that you
8 heard a few years later, at least where we were at,
9 but the grass was -- was very prevalent. But to my
10 knowledge as best I could determine the guys
11 basically -- they didn't smoke when we went on
12 patrol and they were straight and I feel pretty
13 confident on that one.

14 Let's see. I was offered --
15 probably about nine months into my tour I was
16 offered to go to be transferred into a CAC
17 (phonetic spelling) position and what did we call
18 it, civil action platoon (sic) or something where
19 you'd be in with the -- the South Vietnamese
20 regulars or with some of the villagers and we'd be
21 an advisor type deal. And if I did that I'd go
22 home for thirty days and I'd have to extend for
23 maybe six months. And I was only in for two years,
24 so you know, I'd only be over there for maybe about

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 five more months. I thought about it because I
3 figured if I can get out of the infantry or the
4 grunt outfit and get into CAC your probability
5 of -- of being blown away in CAC was a lot less.

6 So, I thought about it for a
7 good -- good couple of days and I decided not to.
8 That was another -- that was a smart decision
9 because when I -- when I left country I left
10 country middle of February of '68. I got back --
11 back to Dung Hoi and all hell broke loose because
12 that's when the Tet offensive was starting. And it
13 was unbelievable, just unbelievable. Every place
14 in Nam was being hit simultaneously. And I
15 remember we made it down to Da Nang because I had
16 to go from Dung Hoi to Da Nang and our flight got
17 cancelled for all outgoings. Nothing was happening
18 for twenty-four hours. My God, I'm going to die
19 now, I can't get out of this God damned place.

20 And I -- and as history unfolded
21 and all of those CAC outfits, they were thoroughly
22 annihilated, so there was no question, if I'd have
23 volunteered for that I wouldn't be here today. So,
24 it was a happy day getting on that airplane. Yeah,

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 it was a real, real happy day. It was -- it was a
3 hundred Christmas' rolled into one. Just seeing
4 American stewardesses on Continental Airline, boy
5 that was nice. So, it was -- I guess that's kind
6 of a brief history of being over there.

7 Q. Were you discharged once you went
8 back to the states or did you have --

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- time to do?

11 A. When I came back, went home for
12 three weeks. Then they sent me back to Camp
13 LeJeune. And soon as I got back they approached me
14 and they said do you want to work in an office.
15 And I said why. You know, he said, well, you
16 know -- you know, you're reasonably intelligent and
17 you know -- you know, do you a favor. So, I
18 thought well, what would I be doing if I just
19 stayed where I am. He says well, you'd be doing
20 maneuvers and you know, war games. I'm thinking
21 you've get serious. I'm back in Nam and now I'm
22 going to war games for three or four months.
23 You've got to be kidding me. What else are we
24 going to do. Well, you have to go around and you

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 know, you have to -- you have to pick up garbage
3 along the streets, cigarette butts. And -- and I
4 said why. He says well, we have so many people
5 coming back from Nam and they're going to be out in
6 six months, we don't know what to do with you all.
7 That sounds interesting. So, I said all right,
8 fine, put me in the office.

9 So, I was in the office making
10 Dog Tags. Probably in about three days I'd never
11 been so bored in my life and so I went to the
12 sergeant or whoever it was and I said "Listen, this
13 is not for me." And I said -- I said -- he says
14 well, what are you talking about. I said I'm
15 bored. And he said well, we pulled strings to get
16 you into this job. And I said hey, you asked me.
17 I mean I wouldn't ask for special favors. Well, it
18 turns out I didn't know about it, but a silver star
19 was coming my way. And I guess they just felt
20 that, you know, we'll give you a little something
21 and since they were doing it for me as a favor.
22 And -- and again, I had no aspirations of college.
23 I had absolutely -- obviously my intelligence
24 wasn't too high or I wouldn't have gone into the

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 Marine Corps and not recognizing I was going to
3 Nam.

4 So, I -- I said well, I -- I'm
5 bored. And they said well, if you leave the office
6 we'll send you to Cuba. And he said it in a way as
7 punishment. So, I -- I said, huh. So, I asked
8 some of the guys what's going on in Cuba,
9 Guantanamo Bay, what the hell is that. It's a
10 naval base. I didn't know we had been there since,
11 was it 1890s or some damned time. So, what do we
12 do down there. Well, you do perimeter guard and
13 then sir, you're on guard one day, you get the next
14 day off. I said when I'm off what can I do. He
15 says well, do you want to skin dive, you want to
16 the beach, movies, beers, you name it. Send me
17 down there.

18 So, I got down there probably
19 within a few days and I had a good time. It was
20 fun. You know, I -- I enjoyed life for once,
21 enjoyed the Caribbean. I tried to stay there till
22 the day I got out because I knew when I came back
23 to North Carolina I'd be doing the same thing. So,
24 I guess you normally had to come back within thirty

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 days. I think I begged and pleaded and I came back
3 with twelve days to go. And for those last twelve
4 days I walked around and I picked up cigarette
5 butts. And I thought yeah -- and they -- and they
6 tried to re-up me and I said you've got to be
7 kidding me. There's no way. And if you think I
8 want to go back to Nam another time, no. And it
9 was then when I was in Cuba where I decided that I
10 wanted to do something with my life. And I took
11 some correspondence courses and decided to go to
12 college and that's what I did when I got back for
13 Hudson Valley on the G.I. bill. That was the
14 extent of the service.

15 BY MR. CLARK:

16 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you some
17 questions.

18 A. Sure.

19 Q. The comparison between the M-14s
20 and M-16s, which did you prefer or --?

21 A. Well, if I was -- if I wanted to
22 hit a target at five hundred yards I'd definitely
23 want the M-14. There's no two ways around it. But
24 the way I looked at it when you're over there, I

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 mean Christ, you really had your shit with this.

3 It frightened me to hundred feet.

4 So, who cares. And the fact that it's so light
5 and -- and the rounds you can carry two times the
6 amount of ammo. Once they worked out the bugs
7 there was no question the M-16 was the superior
8 weapon. Although, you know, it could very easily
9 have jammed. God help you if it gets wet. You
10 know, at that time it was really problematic. With
11 the M-14 you could throw it in the mud, pick it up
12 and it still worked fine. But yeah, the M-16, that
13 was -- that was a good weapon.

14 Q. How about relationships?

15 A. Relationships?

16 Q. Within your unit blacks and so
17 on?

18 A. Huh. I went to Gillborne
19 (phonetic spelling) High School. There were four
20 blacks in our class. One of them was the vice
21 president of student council. I didn't know what
22 racism was when I was at Gillborne. My senior year
23 my parents broke up and I went to Mount Pleasant,
24 different -- different world, which is now -- it's

1

Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2

combined into Linton (phonetic spelling) High

3

School. And you know, I don't know what the

4

percentage of blacks was, but it was high. But

5

even there I didn't really experience the racism

6

thing. It was -- you know, when I was in Nam, I

7

don't know, a third -- seemed like the guys all

8

were black and I felt I established some pretty

9

good rapport with several of them including one of

10

my fire team leaders when I was a squad leader.

11

But two things happened. One was

12

I'll never forget when I came back and I would

13

commute when I was at Camp LeJeune. This guy would

14

give me a ride from Camp LeJeune to New York. I'd

15

sit at Port Authority to catch a bus going up. And

16

one -- on one of those weekends I saw the fire team

17

leader. He was walking down the street with two

18

other blacks. I go "Hey, how you doing." And he

19

looked at me like I was nothing, absolutely

20

nothing. And you could have hit me in the face

21

with a two by four. I thought, whoa, what did I

22

do. And then it seems like about a month later

23

Martin Luther King got shot and the base polarized.

24

It was unbelievable. And for the first time ever

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 we had to walk in groups.

3 And so I did not experience the
4 racial problem when I was in Nam. Whether, you
5 know -- you know, now in hindsight I wonder just
6 how sincere they were in relationships with me.
7 I'll never know. On the other hand when he saw me
8 in New York City he was with his two peers and I'm
9 sure he would have been ostracized if he had
10 interacted with me. Because God knows if they were
11 veterans. Who -- who knows. So -- and it was --
12 and it -- it was an interesting experience as far
13 as the racial thing. But over there with me at
14 that time no problem.

15 Q. What were your feelings toward
16 the end of war movement end of war protest?

17 A. I land in California. Where in
18 the hell did we land? I can't remember. Some --
19 El Toro, is that someplace out there?

20 Q. Uh-huh.

21 A. Yeah, I think we landed in El
22 Toro. I can remember going into the terminal
23 getting off the plane and seeing some people with
24 placards and yelling and stuff. It struck me as

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 odd. As time went on and the anti-war thing really
3 started to take off when I got back it bothered me,
4 but because I immediately went into college I -- I
5 purposely took liberal arts and planned on going to
6 Albany State if I was smart enough and get into
7 international relations. Because one of the things
8 I wanted to do was find out why Vietnam -- and I
9 quickly began to realize and also listening to the
10 media, I consider myself to be a rather open
11 person, there were beginning to be two sides of the
12 story. I did not condone some of their actions. I
13 will never get over those people who avoided the
14 draft by either having V.I.P.s lying. You leave
15 country, fine, if you leave country. But that --
16 that dual system of the poor and the uneducated are
17 the ones that had to serve and then the others who
18 manipulated the system I've always had a problem
19 with that.

20 Q. How do you feel about Jane Fonda?

21 A. I liked her. I really didn't
22 appreciate her I think when she went to North
23 Vietnam at that point in time. I thought the
24 sensitivity, that was a bad move. Yeah, I had a

1 **Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003**

2 **hard problem with her in the beginning for the**
3 **first year or so. As I matured intellectually I**
4 **had a better understanding, but I still don't think**
5 **going to North Vietnam was a smart move.**

6 **Q. Do you receive the silver star --**
7 **was that for the September 7th of '67?**

8 **A. Yeah, I was given credit for**
9 **prematurely shutting off the ambush, which I**
10 **suppose is true because obviously they usually**
11 **don't want to nail the point. I mean the point**
12 **usually has no brains, no responsibility. You want**
13 **to hit in the core of the -- the officers, the**
14 **radio, everything else. And I was credited for --**
15 **I can't remember, three or four kills. But to say**
16 **that I could actually see who I was killing, I was**
17 **working on the instinct and survival and it was all**
18 **reaction stuff. There was no John Wayne that day,**
19 **you know. So, I got it primarily for cutting off**
20 **the ambush prematurely.**

21 **Q. You mentioned you -- did you use**
22 **the G.I. bill?**

23 **A. Yes.**

24 **Q. Okay.**

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 A. Yeah. When I -- Hudson Valley
3 was good. They basically said we don't care what
4 your marks were in high school as long as in the
5 second semester if you can prove that you've
6 developed some study habits we'll keep you. So, I
7 had a rough time in the first semester because I --
8 I -- I had never studied in my life. All I wanted
9 to do was party and have a good time and when I was
10 in high school if I needed to pass a test I'd cram
11 at the end. Just the way that I was. But it got
12 me through and the G.I. bill, they -- they jerked
13 me around one year. I'll never forget it. I
14 didn't get a check for like about three months and
15 I had gotten married a year after I got out of the
16 service. And I'll never forget calling Sam
17 Stratton (phonetic spelling) to see if he could
18 shake the bureaucracy. And I think when I made the
19 call it was probably eight days before Christmas.
20 In two days the check was released.

21 When I was in Nam, when I was at
22 Khe Son he came over there and -- at Khe Son, and
23 again, that was not exactly a secure location. And
24 I have a picture with him. There was four of us.

1 **Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003**

2 **He was always a friend to the military and he was**
3 **true blue. And so --.**

4 Q. He had been a marine.

5 A. Huh.

6 Q. He had been a marine.

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. For starters.

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Did you read much about Vietnam
11 Khe Son and so on?

12 A. I read a lot for the first five,
13 ten years, probably too much. And part of it also
14 was taking international relations courses at
15 Albany State and -- and I stopped for a good -- if
16 a good movie came out I would watch it.

17 Q. What do you consider a good movie
18 is about Vietnam?

19 A. I think the -- let's see, the one
20 that came out about a year or two ago with the
21 Wasau Valley with Mel Gibson.

22 Q. That was Mel Gibson?

23 A. Yeah. Platoon was pretty good.
24 Steel Metal Jacket was -- it brought back too many

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 ugly memories. It was too bloody, too ugly and to
3 me.

4 The Mel Gibson movie probably
5 brought out the most emotionalism I felt in a long
6 time. And I think the Embedded Reporters with the
7 Iraq invasion, that brought back a lot because
8 you're right there and it's live and it's -- it
9 brought back a lot of memories. But then I
10 began -- I've done some Internet over the last ten
11 years and it was weird. You know, one of my -- one
12 of the people I work with at the hospital, her son
13 interviewed me. That's how I ended up here today.

14 Probably two weeks after you
15 interviewed me I got a phone call out of the blue
16 from a guy who had tracked me down either through
17 this or some other method. He was actually a
18 lookout on one of the hills overlooking Route 9
19 when the ambush started. And it was so weird to --
20 it was like I was looking at a video recorder if
21 you will, to know someone was actually looking down
22 and seeing what was going on. And his one comment
23 to me, he was scared to death we were going to
24 force the M.V.A. up towards him. And -- and so in

1 **Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003**

2 talking with him and I've, you know, gone on the
3 Internet and I've saw -- I've now -- was it last
4 Saturday night I saw a photograph that my squad
5 leader took that I'm probably in, but I can't
6 really make me out because of the graininess.
7 These are weird things that have now occurred years
8 later. Or just today this is very strange.

9 Q. Have you ever stayed in
10 contact -- did you stay in contact with anyone?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Probably not?

13 A. Yeah. After -- after Sibley died
14 I -- I tried to -- I'm a people person, but I
15 recognized that getting too close it's not worth
16 the -- it's not worth the heartache. And so I
17 chose not to. I saw a couple of guys when I was in
18 Guantanamo that came in on Med cruises. They were
19 Med and Caribbean cruises and they had -- they were
20 in for like three and four years. So, we partied
21 hearty when they came in. But aside from that, you
22 know --.

23 Q. What did you think of the
24 rotation system?

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 A. It's better than being in there
3 for duration. I'll never forget the Pubelo
4 (phonetic spelling) was captured halfway through my
5 rotation there. And for twenty-four hours we were
6 told basically that if we go to war with North
7 Korea we're here for the duration. We were very
8 depressed for twenty-four hours. So, I felt the
9 rotation system made sense, but I think from a
10 continuity perspective as far as a fighting force,
11 that's not the way you fight a war because I think
12 it breaks up -- you've always got new people coming
13 in. And on the other hand it's better to get the
14 heck out of there too. So, there's pros and cons,
15 so from a personal perspective do the rotation
16 system.

17 Q. How do you think your time in the
18 service changed or helped in any way?

19 A. Oh, I realize that I'm on
20 borrowed time and it's nice. I think I appreciate
21 life a lot more. I think it's made me a more
22 humane moral person. I've grown up. It -- the
23 experience was relatively positive for me, but I
24 would not recommend it because I don't think if

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

you're going to join the military, be in war, make an informed decision and certainly have better training. But hopefully we can resolve things someday through peaceful means rather than shooting one another.

Q. Okay. And finally when was that taken?

A. Huh? That was probably taken --.

Q. Could you hold it up in front of you, please?

A. That was probably taken out of boot camp or -- or Paris Island I would imagine.

MR. RUSSERT: Okay. All right. Well, thank you very much for the interview.

A. Okay. Very good.

(The interview concluded.)

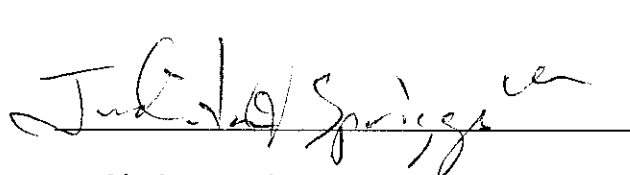
pwss

1 Ross LeBlanc - 10-31-2003

2 This is a transcription of the audio
3 provided to us. It is completed to the best of our
4 skill and ability. The transcript consists of
5 pages 1 through 50 inclusive.

6

7

 5/2/2006

8 Judith Spriggs

9 Associated Reporters Int'l., Inc.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

A		
ability 51:4	Army 2:21 20:7	26:16 27:13 38:10 41:23
absolutely 3:2 6:9 10:18,22 23:8 27:3 37:23 41:19	Army's 20:11	bases 9:7
Achilles 26:24	arrive 8:14	basic 3:14,17
act 29:12	arrived 3:2 7:10 10:14,24 27:24	basically 33:21 34:11 45:3 49:6
action 10:4 34:18	artillery 14:13	baths 30:8
actions 43:12	arts 43:5	battalion 10:12
activity 12:4 19:2	aside 9:24 48:21	battle 12:15 17:10
adrenaline 24:5	asked 37:16 38:7	battles 16:21
advanced 5:16,18	aspirations 37:22	Bay 27:22 28:2 38:9
advisor 13:14 34:21	assigned 8:6 11:10 16:20	beach 7:13 28:8 38:16
afloat 5:8	Associated 51:9	beautiful 17:5 28:3
ago 46:20	assumed 23:15	beauty 17:15
air 5:5 10:14 14:12 15:10 25:5 32:24	attached 10:11,11 11:5	beer 28:10
Airline 36:4	attention 19:10	beers 38:16
airplane 35:24	audio 51:2	beetle 25:18
Alaska 7:18	August 2:11,24 3:11	began 4:12 11:3,10 12:9 14:14 17:24 19:4,5 27:15 33:14 43:9 47:10
Albany 43:6 46:15	Authority 41:15	begged 39:2
ambush 23:18 30:21 44:9 44:20 47:19	avoided 43:13	begging 32:21
ambushed 13:22 20:21 21:3 23:23 25:15	awake 31:22	beginning 8:9 11:23 43:11 44:2
ambushes 30:13	awful 24:12	believe 6:5 26:8
American 26:7 36:4	a.m 2:3,5	best 34:10 51:3
ammo 20:15 40:6	B	better 11:19 44:4 49:2,13 50:3
amount 40:6	B 10:12	big 9:7,7 13:15,17 15:2,11 16:23 20:2 22:2,2 23:13 25:11 29:16,19 30:3,4,17
angels 24:12	baboons 18:21	bigger 24:19
animals 18:22	back 6:17 11:17 13:8 14:17 15:22 17:19,24 20:4 23:5 23:10 24:15,17 25:13,24 26:15 27:13,20 28:13,19 29:22 33:23 35:10,11 36:8,11,12,13,21 37:5 38:22,24 39:2,8,12 41:12 43:3 46:24 47:7,9	biggest 4:18
annihilated 35:22	background 2:13	bill 39:13 44:22 45:12
anti-war 43:2	bad 7:21 8:2 18:12 43:24	birth 2:9,9
anxious 4:17	bags 15:14,14 33:11	bit 4:6 19:5 20:18 28:4
anybody 12:2 23:22 27:11	Bai 8:24 9:6,11 27:21	black 41:8
anyway 27:13	bandage 24:14	blacks 40:16,20 41:4,18
apparent 31:4	bandages 27:15	blades 16:4,5
Apparently 18:16	bare 23:9	blew 26:22 31:10
appreciate 43:22 49:20	barracks 9:16	bloody 47:2
approached 36:13	base 10:16,21 11:11 14:3,8 16:11,14 20:4 25:13	blowing 23:11
approximately 2:5		blown 35:5
April 2:21 12:8		blue 46:3 47:15
area 17:12		
arm 20:16		

<p>body 15:13,14,22 bomb 32:3,11,11 bombed 17:11 bones 4:24 boonies 21:4 boot 4:4,14,19 5:4 19:8,12 50:13 boots 4:21 bored 10:3 37:11,15 38:5 boring 10:4 27:18 born 2:11 borrowed 49:20 bothered 26:21 43:3 boy 25:5 28:11 32:20 36:4 brains 44:12 bravo 10:12 11:5 12:11 13:21 14:4,24 break 9:5 breaks 49:12 brief 36:6 bring 29:22 broke 13:20 35:11 40:23 brought 46:24 47:5,7,9 brush 21:4 buck 33:12 buddy 3:4 6:8,8 7:4 bugs 40:6 building 13:3 built 18:16 bulldozed 30:2 bullets 9:5 22:19 31:6 bunkers 30:4 bureaucracy 45:18 bus 3:19,21,23 41:15 bushes 22:2,4,16 23:7,11 23:22 butts 37:3 39:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <hr/> <p>C 14:16 CAC 34:16 35:4,5,21 calf 24:9 California 7:10,12 8:2 42:17</p>	<p>call 9:15 25:10 34:17 45:19 47:15 calling 45:16 camp 4:4,14,19 5:4,17,22 6:18,18 7:8,21 8:3 19:8 19:13 20:4 36:12 41:13 41:14 50:13 Camwell 17:19 Cam-ranh 27:22 28:2 cancelled 35:17 Canyon 32:7 captured 49:4 care 45:3 cares 40:4 cargo 14:16 Caribbean 28:3 38:21 48:19 Carolina 38:23 carry 20:15,15 40:5 carrying 12:24 13:9 carting 20:9 case 4:10 7:5 casualties 14:3,21 32:20 casualty 14:23 catch 31:20 41:15 cattle 8:10 caught 8:4,23 26:24 certain 4:16 33:16,16 certainly 25:22 50:3 change 7:3 changed 49:18 charge 23:12 chat 31:23 check 45:14,20 chicom 22:7 Chinese 13:14 chip 4:6 choice 26:12 choppers 16:2 32:23 chose 48:17 Christ 40:2 Christmas 36:3 45:19 cigarette 37:3 39:4</p>	<p>citizens 11:8 City 42:8 civil 34:18 civilians 12:18 26:7,11 Clark 2:6 39:15 class 11:8 40:20 classic 25:19,19 clear 10:5 click 22:5 climb 18:20 close 16:7 17:19 18:2 26:21 27:10 31:16 48:15 closest 6:22 cloths 12:19 clue 3:5 29:6 33:5 cold 7:22 colder 7:18 college 37:22 39:12 43:4 column 21:10 combat 26:11 29:14 combat's 33:18 combined 41:2 come 7:17 14:17 20:22 32:23 38:24 comfortable 4:13 coming 5:7 7:18 9:20 22:10 23:10 24:11,21 25:3 31:7 32:18 37:5,19 49:12 commenced 2:2 comment 47:22 commute 41:13 companies 19:3 20:20 comparison 39:19 compass 19:19 completed 51:3 concealed 23:24 concept 9:8 concertina 10:18 11:12 concluded 50:17 condone 43:12 confident 34:13 confused 7:15 cons 49:14</p>
--	--	--

<p>consider 43:10 46:17 consists 51:4 constantly 5:24 contact 48:10,10 contacts 12:9 container 15:11,11 contemplated 6:8 context 15:4 Continental 36:4 continuity 49:10 contributing 7:3 control 33:13,14 core 44:13 corporal 18:7,8 corps 2:19,23 3:4,9 5:14 38:2 corpsman 24:10,11 Correct 8:13 correspondence 39:11 council 40:21 count 15:22 country 27:24 33:10 35:9 35:10 43:15,15 couple 4:14 6:22 11:24 12:14,21 13:24 15:16 17:22 21:11 26:17 35:7 48:17 course 15:17 18:20 19:17 23:2,20 24:3,22 27:6 courses 39:11 46:14 cram 45:10 crater 30:18 31:24 32:2,2,3 32:5,6,11 crazy 32:6 create 30:18 created 32:19 credit 44:8 credited 44:14 critical 25:12 crossed 33:16 cruises 48:18,19 Cuba 38:6,8 39:9 currents 7:17</p>	<p>cut 21:6 cutting 21:6 44:19 C-123 8:23 C-130 8:23 C-130's 14:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <hr/> <p>Da 27:24 35:15,16 damned 35:19 38:11 darn 24:23 date 2:8 day 8:22 14:20 26:18 35:24 36:2 38:13,14,22 44:18 days 4:9 6:13,16,22 8:17 9:3 11:13 15:10,17 20:5 20:20 22:21 28:5 34:22 35:7 37:10 38:19 39:2,3,4 45:19,20 de 5:14 8:18 9:6,7 deal 34:21 death 47:23 decided 2:22 13:7 20:23 21:2 22:11 23:12 31:24 32:3 35:7 39:9,11 decision 35:8 50:3 deep 15:13 31:2 defensive 11:11 definitely 39:22 delay 2:23 demeanor 3:21 dense 4:24 depressed 49:8 dereliction 11:20 detained 26:2 determine 34:10 developed 45:6 die 35:18 died 6:24 7:2 27:2,10 48:13 difference 29:10,16 different 3:19,22 15:23 18:13 19:3 40:24,24 difficult 4:23 5:23 dig 31:13,24 32:12 direction 19:18</p>	<p>disagree 29:8 discharged 36:7 distinctly 9:24 dive 38:15 diving 5:9 Dog 37:10 dogs 28:11 doing 4:8 9:13 11:13 16:10 25:21 29:7 36:18,19 37:21 38:23 41:18 doors 14:15 draft 43:14 drafted 2:16,21 dramatic 19:4 dream 19:9 drill 3:20 drink 28:16 drinking 28:9 driving 25:24 dropped 13:10 drove 25:12 drug 34:2,2 dud 22:13 duel 43:16 Dung 27:21 35:11,16 duration 49:3,7 dust 22:18 duty 18:19 D.M.Z 29:20 30:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <hr/> <p>early 3:23 earth 30:2 easier 7:21 8:3 easily 20:17 21:14 40:8 eat 28:16 educational 2:12 eight 3:18 13:9 45:19 eighteen 12:20 19:22 eighty 15:2 eighty-one 13:23 either 3:11 12:10 13:23 28:23 43:14 47:16 El 42:19,21</p>
--	---	---

<p> elephant 10:17 23:17 Embedded 47:6 emotionalism 47:5 ended 27:22 47:13 enjoyed 38:20,21 enlist 2:15 enlisted 2:17 entering 2:13 entry 2:23 especially 9:7 esprit 5:14 essentially 3:8 established 41:8 evening 26:15 event 16:2 20:3 29:17 eventually 11:2 20:24 25:13 everybody 5:10 7:14 31:23 33:14 everybody's 31:22 exactly 45:23 expected 7:12 experience 3:19 5:16 15:24 41:5 42:3,12 49:23 experienced 12:23 13:4 explodes 22:12 explosion 22:14 23:3 exposed 23:6 extend 34:22 extent 39:14 eye 15:23 eyes 15:16 E-Three 29:23 </p>	<p> father 6:24 fatigues 4:20 favor 36:17 37:21 favours 37:17 February 35:10 feel 5:13 25:5 34:12 43:20 feelings 42:15 feet 15:12,13 23:7 30:10 40:3 felt 8:3 11:17 19:4 24:8 31:8,9 32:7 37:19 41:8 47:5 49:8 fields 30:22 fifteen 15:19 fifty 23:7 fight 49:11 fighting 13:18 14:12 25:8 49:10 figure 7:16 16:11 18:20 figured 4:24 5:4,10 13:15 21:3,19 24:6 25:20 35:3 figuring 5:21 22:11 23:14 finally 10:7 22:22 27:20 29:12 31:10 50:7 find 26:8 30:11 43:8 fine 33:15 37:8 40:12 43:15 finish 26:18 fire 18:10,11 41:10,16 fired 22:24 firing 21:15 23:19 first 4:12 7:9 10:12,13,19 11:24 12:15 15:5,15 16:15 21:21 23:23 28:15 29:2 30:15 41:24 44:3 45:7 46:12 five 4:22 35:2 39:22 46:12 flashes 23:24 24:20 flat 24:22 flew 10:9,10 flight 35:16 floored 6:9 Florida 7:19 flunk 5:4 </p>	<p> flunking 5:3 flush 23:14 flying 8:24 25:6 Foleants 17:12 follow 4:5 Fonda 43:20 foot 5:6 12:22 force 12:6,11 25:5 47:24 49:10 forces 20:8 26:7 forget 4:3 7:11 9:3 10:13 11:13 15:3 28:22 29:2 41:12 45:13,16 49:3 fortunately 32:15 forty 29:11 found 4:11 5:22 16:13 27:7 31:24 four 8:4 16:12 18:10 26:19 36:22 40:19 41:21 44:15 45:24 48:20 fox 10:16 foxhole 27:18 32:12 frame 8:20 freedom 4:7 friend 2:20 46:2 friends 18:2 frightened 40:3 front 10:17,22 15:16 23:8 50:10 full 2:8 fun 38:20 further 17:19 future 3:3 </p>
F		G
<p> face 17:13 29:2 41:20 fact 40:4 factor 7:3 failed 4:19 fairly 12:20 fallacy 7:5 far 3:2 19:6 42:12 49:10 fast 21:5 faster 20:17 </p>	<p> games 36:20,22 garbage 37:2 gate 14:18 general 7:8 getting 3:22 21:5 22:18 28:10 35:24 42:23 48:15 Gibraltar 18:17 Gibson 46:21,22 47:4 Gillborne 40:18,22 </p>	

<p>give 28:6 37:20 41:14 given 44:8 go 3:4,10,13 5:5 6:20 7:6 8:7 12:6 14:5,23 18:12 20:23 23:3,13 24:15 25:20 27:11,17 28:7 30:5 34:16,21 35:16 36:24 39:3,8,11 41:18 49:6 God 14:23 35:18,19 40:9 42:10 goes 3:3 going 2:21 4:16 6:2,5,9 7:16,19,24 11:23 12:4,10 12:13 13:17,18 14:12 16:18,19 18:3 19:9 21:3,7 21:20,21 23:13,14 25:8 26:5 27:23 29:3,7,14 32:4 35:18 36:22,24 37:5 38:2 38:8 39:16 41:15 42:22 43:5 44:5 47:22,23 50:2 Gon 31:17 good 5:13 9:11 12:21 19:22 24:13 28:12 35:7,7 38:19 40:13 41:9 45:3,9 46:15 46:16,17,23 50:16 gooks 22:16 gotten 45:15 graduated 2:14,22 graduating 5:12 graft 27:23 28:4 graininess 48:6 Grand 32:7 grandfather 6:24 grass 10:17 21:6 23:17 31:3,7 34:5,9 grenade 31:11 ground 24:24 grounds 23:9 group 11:9 22:2 groups 42:2 grown 49:22 grunt 6:14 7:4 17:21 28:18 35:4</p>	<p>Guantanamo 38:9 48:18 guard 18:19 38:12,13 guardian 24:12 guarding 10:21 guess 21:21 36:5 37:19 38:24 gunnery 28:24 guy 21:12 41:13 47:16 guys 13:15 17:22 18:6,10 32:21 33:2,12,22 34:10 38:8 41:7 48:17 G.I 39:13 44:22 45:12 G.P.S 19:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <hr/> <p>habits 45:6 half 26:3 halfway 9:23 49:4 hamburgs 28:11 hand 26:9 42:7 49:13 happen 27:4 happened 21:12 26:5 41:11 happening 33:18 35:17 happy 25:5 35:24 36:2 hard 22:18 26:8,11 27:9 34:6 44:2 hate 33:19 head 16:6 29:4 hear 12:4 14:11 23:3 32:20 heard 10:23 21:14 22:3 29:21 34:8 heart 21:18 heartache 48:16 heartly 48:21 heavy 13:17 heck 49:14 helipad 18:16 hell 7:16 9:5 11:14 13:20 21:5,8 23:11 25:4,6 31:6 35:11 38:9 42:18 helmet 11:14,16,19 help 20:22 40:9 helped 49:18 herding 8:10</p>	<p>heroin 34:7 hey 37:16 41:18 hide 23:9 24:23 high 2:14 16:24 23:18 31:8 37:24 40:19 41:2,4 45:4 45:10 hill 13:23 22:2 23:14,17 24:17 hills 14:6 24:19 47:18 hillside 25:4 hindsight 29:9 42:5 history 1:3 35:20 36:6 hit 24:2,8 32:19 35:14 39:22 41:20 44:13 hodgepodge 11:9 Hoi 27:21 35:11,16 hold 50:10 hole 10:17 31:13,24 32:11 holidays 7:11 home 6:15,16 7:7 34:22 36:11 Hong 28:15 hopefully 50:4 hoping 31:12 hospital 47:12 hot 28:11 32:24 hotter 21:5 hours 14:10 32:17 35:18 49:5,8 Hudson 39:13 45:2 huh 38:7 40:18 46:5 50:9 humane 49:22 hundred 15:5,7,7 21:11 30:10,10 33:11 36:3 39:22 40:3 hundreds 30:2 hurry 10:2 hurt 11:18 26:22 hutch 16:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <hr/> <p>idea 27:7 ill 19:7 imagine 50:13</p>
--	---	--

<p>immediately 4:5 9:22 22:5 43:4</p> <p>inch 17:11</p> <p>including 26:20 41:9</p> <p>inclusive 51:5</p> <p>India 17:18,22 18:12</p> <p>infantry 35:3</p> <p>infected 27:15</p> <p>infection 27:19</p> <p>influence 19:23</p> <p>informed 50:3</p> <p>ingrained 5:15</p> <p>initial 16:21 24:4,5</p> <p>initially 18:12</p> <p>installation 9:10</p> <p>instinct 44:17</p> <p>instructor 3:20</p> <p>intellectually 26:10 27:2 44:3</p> <p>intelligence 37:23</p> <p>intelligent 36:16</p> <p>interacted 42:10</p> <p>interesting 5:15 7:9 18:14 18:18,23 20:6,10 37:7 42:12</p> <p>international 43:7 46:14</p> <p>Internet 47:10 48:3</p> <p>interview 1:3 2:2 50:15,17</p> <p>interviewed 47:13,15</p> <p>Interviewers 2:5</p> <p>Int'l 51:9</p> <p>invasion 47:7</p> <p>Iraq 15:6,15,21 29:10 47:7</p> <p>Island 3:15 4:2 5:13,21 6:4 6:12 50:13</p> <p>I-Three-Three 18:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <hr/> <p>Jacket 46:24</p> <p>jammed 21:15 40:9</p> <p>Jane 43:20</p> <p>January 8:19</p> <p>jerked 45:12</p> <p>job 37:16</p>	<p>John 44:18</p> <p>join 3:4 50:2</p> <p>joined 6:7</p> <p>joints 33:11</p> <p>judgment 33:24</p> <p>Judith 51:8</p> <p>jump 4:20 32:10</p> <p>jungle 18:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <hr/> <p>Kam 33:8,9</p> <p>keep 5:6,8 45:6</p> <p>kept 9:4 14:20</p> <p>Khe 10:8,10,14,23 11:2 12:15 16:9 17:10,16 21:2 25:23 45:22,22 46:11</p> <p>kid 4:7 19:24</p> <p>kidding 36:23 39:7</p> <p>kids 25:18</p> <p>killed 17:16</p> <p>killing 44:16</p> <p>kills 44:15</p> <p>kind 4:8 8:9 10:2,6 11:7 13:16 17:13 18:17,19 26:4 27:18 30:23 32:17 33:21 36:5</p> <p>kinds 14:11 18:21</p> <p>King 41:23</p> <p>knee 31:7</p> <p>knees 9:23 31:3</p> <p>knew 3:18,22 11:4 13:17 24:8 30:5,8,9 33:4 38:22</p> <p>know 4:14 5:3,6 9:9,12,14 9:15,22,24 10:5,13 11:10 11:19,20 12:6,20 13:3,21 13:24 14:18,22,24 15:12 15:13,17,18,20 16:6,14 16:22 17:22 18:2,3,9,11 19:5,12,23 20:16,16 21:12,16 22:4,9 23:6,7,19 23:24 24:8,9 25:9,18,21 26:8,19 28:18,18 29:4,5,7 29:11,13,18,23 30:2,3,4,7 30:8,21,23 31:6,19,21</p>	<p>32:4,24 33:17,24 34:24 36:15,16,16,17,17,20 37:2,6,18,20 38:10,20 40:8,10,21 41:3,3,6,7 42:5,5,7 44:19 47:11,21 48:2,22</p> <p>knowing 10:21</p> <p>knowledge 34:10</p> <p>knows 13:13 22:5 33:19 42:10,11</p> <p>Kon 29:21</p> <p>Kong 28:15</p> <p>Korea 49:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <hr/> <p>lackadaisical 18:19</p> <p>laid 24:23</p> <p>lance 18:7,8</p> <p>land 14:14,14 17:15 42:17 42:18</p> <p>landed 8:18,18 9:3 10:10 42:21</p> <p>landing 14:20 16:3 32:13</p> <p>lasted 32:17</p> <p>laughed 11:18</p> <p>launcher 31:11</p> <p>layout 17:6</p> <p>layouts 17:6</p> <p>lazy 31:23 32:4</p> <p>lead 20:24</p> <p>leader 18:5,11 19:16 26:20 28:19 29:3,18 31:18 41:10,17 48:5</p> <p>leaders 41:10</p> <p>leap 30:16</p> <p>learn 19:5</p> <p>learned 4:5 33:13</p> <p>leave 38:5 43:14,15</p> <p>LeBLANC 1:3 2:1,10 3:1 4:1 5:1 6:1 7:1 8:1 9:1 10:1 11:1 12:1 13:1 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1</p>
--	---	--

30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1 left 14:7,7 20:23 21:24 35:9 35:9 leg 24:3,6 legs 22:13 LeJeune 5:17,23 6:15,18 7:6,22 8:3 36:13 41:13,14 let's 12:17 21:8 33:6 34:14 46:19 liberal 43:5 life 3:6 4:24 11:15 27:6 37:11 38:20 39:10 45:8 49:21 light 40:4 lighter 20:17 liked 31:18 43:21 line 23:13 30:3 33:15 Linton 41:2 listen 33:22 37:12 listening 43:9 literally 17:11 20:5 22:12 little 4:15,16 19:5 20:18 30:22 37:20 live 27:5 32:8 47:8 lives 19:24 24:13 Lo 33:8,9 location 5:18 45:23 locations 29:24 logistics 6:14 logs 13:2,9,10 loin 12:19 long 3:17 18:3 32:22 45:4 47:5 long-range 12:5 look 9:10 17:6,9 24:7 25:20 29:10 looked 7:14 9:9 12:17,18 12:19 17:13 22:9 24:14 28:2 29:4,7 39:24 41:19	looking 9:4,4 10:4 17:5 47:20,21 lookout 47:18 loose 9:5 13:20 35:11 losing 27:8,8 loss 27:9 lost 15:5,7,15,18 26:19 32:24 lot 4:7 14:2 20:21 24:12,13 26:21 30:18 32:12,14,24 33:12 34:4,5 35:5 46:12 47:7,9 49:21 lots 28:9,16 Luther 41:23 lying 43:14	medivaced 24:16 Mel 46:21,22 47:4 memories 29:22 47:2,9 mentioned 44:21 merry 28:16 messed 5:23 metal 10:14 46:24 method 47:17 middle 28:2 30:24 35:10 Mike 2:6 mile 26:3 military 9:9 29:13 46:2 50:2 mind 12:19 26:23 mine 2:20 mini 18:17 minor 30:19,19 minute 24:2 minutes 4:22 22:22 25:3 mixed 30:23,23 mobilized 14:4 moist 27:16 mole 31:13 Montagaris 12:3 Montararis 25:16,17 month 12:7 16:17 41:22 months 11:24 17:17 18:8 34:15,23 35:2 36:22 37:6 45:14 moon 10:19 17:13 moral 49:22 morning 3:23 morphine 32:21 mortar 25:7 mortared 24:18 32:6 mortars 9:5 14:12 24:21 24:23 30:16 mother 3:7 Mount 40:23 mountain 17:3 25:17 mountains 16:24 move 43:24 44:5 moved 29:20
	M	
light 40:4 lighter 20:17 liked 31:18 43:21 line 23:13 30:3 33:15 Linton 41:2 listen 33:22 37:12 listening 43:9 literally 17:11 20:5 22:12 little 4:15,16 19:5 20:18 30:22 37:20 live 27:5 32:8 47:8 lives 19:24 24:13 Lo 33:8,9 location 5:18 45:23 locations 29:24 logistics 6:14 logs 13:2,9,10 loin 12:19 long 3:17 18:3 32:22 45:4 47:5 long-range 12:5 look 9:10 17:6,9 24:7 25:20 29:10 looked 7:14 9:9 12:17,18 12:19 17:13 22:9 24:14 28:2 29:4,7 39:24 41:19	magazine 22:24 Maine 2:11 major 33:9 making 37:9 man 31:12 maneuver 20:17 maneuvers 6:2 7:23 36:20 manipulated 43:18 map 19:17 march 23:16 marijuana 33:10 marine 2:18,23 3:4,9 38:2 46:4,6 marines 11:9 12:23 13:4 14:17 19:12 27:4 33:16 marks 45:4 married 45:15 Martin 41:23 matter 4:9 22:21 matured 44:3 mean 10:22 14:11 16:3,4 19:22 23:23 33:23 34:5 37:17 40:2 44:11 means 50:5 meant 28:7 Med 48:18,19 media 43:10	

movement 42:16	32:16,16 33:2 48:4	one-nine 10:12 12:12 13:22 14:4,24
movie 46:16,17 47:4	nine 10:12 11:5 34:15	open 15:13 43:10
movies 38:16	nine-thirty 2:5	opened 22:5
mud 9:22 40:11	noise 22:4 30:18	opening 14:15 15:24
M-14 20:10 39:23 40:11	normal 12:11	operation 28:6
M-14s 39:19	normally 38:24	operations 18:13
M-16 20:6,14 22:6,19 40:7 40:12	North 13:12 16:10 17:6 30:6 38:23 43:22 44:5 49:6	opposed 7:19
M-16s 20:7,9 39:20	north-south 13:24	ORAL 1:3
M.V.A 47:24	number 15:20 18:24 21:10 21:18	orders 4:5 6:3 10:7
N	numerous 29:19	orientals 13:9 25:22
nail 44:11	nut 25:18	ostracized 42:9
naive 3:5 6:6	N.V.A 23:15	outfit 11:6 13:21 17:21 35:4
naked 31:9	O	outfits 35:21
Nam 6:6 9:4 19:9 28:19 35:14 36:21 37:5 38:3 39:8 41:6 42:4 45:21	observation 17:2	outgoings 35:17
name 2:8,10 5:17 14:13 38:16	obviously 11:5 13:11,15 24:7 30:7 37:23 44:10	outrun 22:10
names 29:22	occasional 12:3	overlapped 6:17
Nang 8:18 9:6,7 27:24 35:15,16	occasionally 12:2 19:2 30:12	overlooking 47:18
Naplamed 25:4	occurred 48:7	overrun 16:14
naval 38:10	oceanside 7:13	overrunning 16:11
Navy 24:11 25:6	October 1:5 2:4	overseas 9:10 19:13
nearly 4:19 23:18	odd 4:2 43:2	oversees 6:9
need 5:10 24:16	offensive 35:12	P
needed 5:11 45:10	offered 34:14,16	pages 51:5
needless 11:16 20:19 21:17	office 36:14 37:8,9 38:5	pain 24:4
nerves 22:17	officer 23:12	papers 3:7
nervng 31:5	officers 44:13	parents 40:23
nervous 4:15 5:3 10:20	oh 16:17,20 25:14 26:18 33:7 49:19	Paris 3:15,24 5:12,20 6:4 6:12 50:13
never 4:3 6:8 7:11 9:3 10:13,23 11:13 15:3 27:10 28:22,24 32:10 37:10 41:12 42:7 43:13 45:8,13,16 49:3	okay 2:12,15 3:10,13 8:14 8:21 9:19,19 10:24 20:10 24:8 39:16 44:24 50:7,14 50:16	park 16:6
new 22:19 41:14 42:8 49:12	Okinawa 6:23 8:5,17	part 9:10 15:5,15 46:13
nice 17:4 19:19 27:24 28:8 28:10 36:5 49:20	old 19:22	particular 23:22
night 7:23 10:13,19,20 31:15,19,21,23 32:5,6,10	older 25:18	partied 48:20
	once 30:20 31:21 36:7 38:20 40:6	party 45:9
	ones 43:17	pass 4:16 13:5 45:10
		passed 5:7 25:16
		patched 26:16 27:14
		patches 30:22
		patrol 12:14 33:22 34:12
		patrols 11:23 16:18 18:24 27:17 29:19 30:5
		pay 19:9

<p>peaceful 50:5 peers 42:8 Pendleton 6:19 7:8,20 people 17:15 18:3,5 26:19 37:4 42:23 43:13 47:12 48:14 49:12 peoples 19:23 percent 15:2 21:19 percentage 41:4 perfect 23:18 perimeter 14:8 38:12 perplexed 27:3 person 21:10,18 32:9 43:11 48:14 49:22 personal 27:12 29:6 49:15 perspective 15:23 49:10,15 Phantoms 25:3,7 Phe 27:21 phenomenal 14:21 phone 47:15 phonetic 8:24 10:8 17:20 27:8,20 31:17 33:8 34:17 40:19 41:2 45:17 49:4 photograph 48:4 photographs 17:10 Phu 8:24 9:6,11 pick 37:2 40:11 picked 39:4 picture 20:13 45:24 piece 26:24 pile 17:18 18:15 placards 42:24 place 2:9 18:23 21:5 24:23 26:11 28:3 33:21 35:13 35:19 placement 8:7 places 4:19 29:21,21 33:10 plan 3:4 6:8 7:4 plane 8:5 42:23 planned 16:10 43:5 plans 3:2 plateau 16:9,22 platoon 10:11 11:4 13:22</p>	<p>14:6 26:20 34:18 46:23 pleaded 39:2 Pleasant 40:23 please 2:9 50:11 point 14:9 15:19,20 18:6 21:12,19 27:6 32:22 43:23 44:11,11 polarized 41:23 pool 4:20 poor 28:21 43:16 Port 41:15 Portland 2:11 position 16:13 34:17 positions 11:11 positive 49:23 possible 19:13 possibly 27:4 post 17:2 prayed 24:24 prayers 32:10 prefer 39:20 prematurely 44:9,20 prepared 19:7 president 40:21 pretty 17:5,8 21:20 31:16 34:12 41:8 46:23 prevalent 34:2,9 pre-made 32:11 primarily 12:10 44:19 prior 2:13 12:14 probability 32:13 35:4 probably 4:5,12,18 6:18 8:16,19,22,23 9:2,23 10:9 11:9 12:14 13:23 16:17 16:21 17:12,16 18:7 19:11 20:2 22:8,19,23,24 25:2 26:2,19 28:14 31:2 31:10,16 33:7 34:15 37:10 38:18 45:19 46:13 47:4,14 48:5,12 50:9,12 problem 42:4,14 43:18 44:2 problematic 40:10</p>	<p>problems 20:21 producing 33:9 promoted 28:23 proper 29:15,15 properly 21:13 22:24 pros 49:14 protection 14:9 protest 42:16 prove 45:5 provided 51:3 Pubelo 49:3 pulled 3:20 37:15 pulling 23:5,10 punishment 38:7 purposely 43:5 put 9:14 10:10,15 11:10,16 12:17 15:4 25:10 37:8 puts 15:22 putting 11:12 pwss 50:18 P.F.C 18:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <hr/> <p>quantum 30:16 question 35:22 40:7 questions 39:17 quick 19:10,13 quickly 4:9 33:13 43:9 quiet 11:24 32:19 33:24 quieted 23:4 25:9 quieter 16:19 quite 13:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <hr/> <p>racial 42:4,13 racism 40:22 41:5 radio 44:14 raining 9:21 rains 27:14 rainy 26:17 ran 13:8 20:20 30:20 rapport 41:9 rarely 11:24 rate 14:23 21:18</p>
--	---	--

<p>rationalize 26:5 razor 17:19 Razor-Back 18:13 reaction 22:9 24:4,5 44:18 read 16:8 46:10,12 readily 5:2 reading 19:17 real 22:18 25:17 26:17 32:8 36:2,2 realize 6:6 7:17 17:24 33:15 43:9 49:19 realized 4:9 19:14,16 28:20 realizing 19:18,21 really 9:13 16:19 17:23 19:16,21 24:4 26:22 27:17 28:20 33:3 40:2,10 41:5 43:2,21 48:6 rear 24:16 33:23 reasonably 12:21 36:16 receive 44:6 received 20:5,6 recognize 21:16 recognized 48:15 recognizing 38:2 recommend 49:24 recon 12:6,11 reconnaissance 12:5 recorder 47:20 regular 11:6 17:20 regulars 13:12 14:4 34:20 relations 43:7 46:14 relationships 40:14,15 42:6 relatively 11:24 30:19 49:23 relaxing 28:10 released 45:20 relief 20:14 religious 32:9 remember 3:24 5:17 9:20 9:20,23 10:16 11:12,22 12:13,15,22,23 14:3,15 14:15 15:9,10,22 16:5,18</p>	<p>16:20,21 17:7,23 18:15 20:13 21:15 23:5,10,10 23:17 24:10 25:3,9,15 26:17 28:23 29:20 30:14 30:20,24 31:14,15,15 35:15 42:18,22 44:15 reminder 17:14 replacement 8:8 Reporters 47:6 51:9 resistance 19:3 resolve 50:4 resort 28:2 responsibility 44:12 re-up 39:6 ride 41:14 rifle 21:13,16 right 13:8 15:15 16:6 21:23 22:21 24:15,20 37:7 47:8 50:14 right-hand 21:23 river 16:23 road 20:24 21:2,8,9,22,24 22:16 24:22 26:3 rock 17:18 18:15,17 26:10 rocket 32:2 rocketed 30:15 role 11:6 rolled 36:3 Ross 1:3 2:1,10 3:1 4:1 5:1 6:1 7:1 8:1 9:1 10:1 11:1 12:1 13:1 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1,5 30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1 rotation 8:12 48:24 49:5,9 49:15 rotor 16:3 rough 45:7</p>	<p>rougher 5:19 round 16:15 22:19 rounds 31:22 40:5 Route 20:23 24:19 25:16 47:18 routine 4:13 rule 11:20 rumors 21:14 33:20 run 13:11 18:18 19:3 21:20 22:11 running 5:24 14:17,18 Russert 2:4,6,7 50:14 R&R 28:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <hr/> <p>salt 28:7 Sam 45:16 Sanda 27:20 Saturday 48:4 saved 24:13 saw 6:12,16 7:14 15:13,14 22:7 23:21,21,22 27:4 29:2 33:8 41:16 42:7 48:3 48:4,17 says 36:19 37:4,13 38:15 scared 47:23 school 2:14 40:19 41:3 45:4,10 screaming 32:20 scuba 5:9 second 11:8 17:10 45:5 seconds 22:23 secure 45:23 security 10:11 11:4 14:6 see 12:2,2 23:2,21,24 24:7 24:20 33:6 34:14 44:16 45:17 46:19 seeing 12:15 14:4 36:3 42:23 47:22 seen 20:7,8 25:23 select 2:18 semester 45:5,7 send 38:6,16 senior 40:22</p>
--	--	--

<p> sense 19:18 27:3 49:9 sensitivity 43:24 sent 27:20 36:12 September 20:3 44:7 sergeant 28:24,24 37:12 serious 36:21 serve 43:17 service 2:13 4:6 10:2 16:8 39:14 45:16 49:18 set 31:16 seventeen 3:6 seventy 15:2 severely 27:5 shake 45:18 shape 12:21 shells 32:18 shelter 32:11 ships 14:16 shit 40:2 shock 27:2,7 shook 29:4 shoot 26:7 33:4 shooting 31:3 33:19 50:5 shortly 14:13 22:6 28:14 shot 31:4 41:23 shoulder 4:7 shoulders 13:2 shrapnel 26:24 shutting 44:9 Sibley 27:8 48:13 sic 34:18 side 10:15 21:24 22:15 24:18 sides 43:11 sign 3:7 silver 37:18 44:6 simply 5:5 6:7 23:13 29:24 simultaneously 35:14 sincere 42:6 sink 5:2 sir 38:13 sit 27:18 41:15 situation 28:18 </p>	<p> situations 26:12 six 5:18 12:22 13:8 34:23 37:6 sixty 15:2 sixty-one 13:23 six-by 25:10 26:2 size 13:21 skill 51:4 skin 27:23 28:4 38:15 skirmishes 30:20 sleep 5:24 smaller 18:10 32:12 smart 35:8 43:6 44:5 smell 4:2 30:7 smelling 3:24 smile 25:19 smoke 33:12 34:11 sniper 31:3 snowing 7:23 soldiers 15:6 20:8 somebody 13:6 31:10 someday 50:5 someplace 8:20 42:19 son 7:2 10:8,10,14,23 11:2 12:15 16:9 17:10,17 21:2 25:23 45:22,22 46:11 47:12 soon 21:20 36:13 sooner 6:17 sort 25:8 sounds 37:7 South 20:8,11 34:19 Southern 7:12 8:2 space 14:20 15:16 span 6:11 special 20:8 37:17 spelling 9:2 10:8 17:20 27:8,21 31:17 33:8 34:17 40:19 41:2 45:17 49:4 spend 32:5 spending 18:15 sporadic 12:4 30:13 spot 23:19 </p>	<p> spotted 31:10 spread 14:7 Spriggs 51:8 squad 13:7,22 18:5,6,9 19:16 26:20 28:19 29:3 29:18 31:18 41:10 48:4 square 17:11 staff 28:23 stagger 21:23 stamina 5:8 star 37:18 44:6 started 5:22 11:22 23:16 23:20,20 24:18 31:3 43:3 47:19 starters 46:8 starting 19:23 35:12 State 43:6 46:15 states 36:8 station 3:20 stationed 17:3 stay 6:10 31:19 38:21 48:10 stayed 9:2 36:19 48:9 Steel 46:24 steps 9:21 stewardesses 36:4 stoned 33:23 stopped 25:7 46:15 stopping 12:23 store 26:9 stories 34:7 story 43:12 straight 34:12 strange 48:8 Stratton 45:17 street 41:17 streets 37:3 strikes 14:12 striking 17:14 19:7 strings 37:15 strip 10:14 15:11 struck 42:24 student 40:21 </p>
--	---	---

<p>studied 45:8 study 45:6 stuff 34:6 42:24 44:18 stunned 6:5 sudden 12:9 13:6 22:3 23:3 23:19 24:2,17 suits 7:15 summertime 2:24 3:2 sunburn 11:15 sunburned 28:10 sunny 7:13 11:14 superficial 19:11 superior 40:7 supplies 7:4 supply 6:13 suppose 4:12 13:2 44:10 sure 3:6 19:19 22:21 26:13 29:13 31:22 32:2 39:18 42:9 surf-boarding 7:14 survival 44:17 survive 19:6 swamps 3:24 system 8:12 43:16,18 48:24 49:9,16 systems 19:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">T</p> <hr/> <p>Tags 37:10 take 3:17 11:19 14:5 21:2 30:8 32:22 43:3 taken 50:8,9,12 talking 12:24 37:14 48:2 tank 23:10 target 39:22 targets 31:5 tasted 28:11 team 18:10,11 41:10,16 teams 12:5 tears 10:3 tell 3:16 6:3 8:9 12:16 25:17 30:16 31:8 ten 4:22 9:3 14:19 15:12,19 21:18 46:13 47:10</p>	<p>tendon 26:24 terminal 42:22 terrain 30:23,24 terrible 19:18 test 5:3 45:10 tests 4:16 5:4 Tet 35:12 thank 14:23 50:15 they'd 16:12 thin 14:7 thing 19:6 25:14 32:13,17 33:21 38:23 41:6 42:13 43:2 things 4:8 26:23 28:17 30:17 31:17 33:20,24 41:11 43:7 48:7 50:4 think 5:20 6:11,14,21,22 6:23 8:3,16 9:11 10:9,19 12:10 13:3 15:21 18:7 26:9 27:10 28:14 31:17 39:2,7 42:21 43:22 44:4 45:18 46:19 47:6 48:23 49:9,11,17,20,21,24 thinking 7:24 36:20 third 22:8 31:4 41:7 thirty 29:11 34:22 38:24 thoroughly 35:21 thought 27:24 32:7 35:2,6 36:18 39:5 41:21 43:23 thousand 15:19 21:19 thousands 15:18 three 6:13,16 7:7 8:17 16:12 17:17,18,18,22,23 20:20 26:19 33:9 36:12 36:22 37:10 44:15 45:14 48:20 threw 24:13 throw 40:11 thrown 22:7 Tien 29:21 tight 18:5 till 38:21 time 3:22 4:23 6:23 7:10</p>	<p>8:20,24 14:9 15:17 18:15 19:22 22:7,18 26:13 27:16,19 29:2 30:15 32:22 33:7,10,14 34:4 36:10 38:11,19 39:8 40:10 41:24 42:14 43:2 43:23 45:7,9 47:6 49:17 49:20 times 4:14 10:2 19:11 26:4 40:5 tired 32:4 today 19:20 35:23 47:13 48:8 told 29:3 49:6 ton 11:17 tools 29:15 top 17:2 18:15,16 32:14 topography 18:14 Toro 42:19,22 tortoises 21:7 totally 23:6 touching 16:4 tough 4:4 tour 34:15 tracked 47:16 trail 13:10 training 3:17 5:16,18,23 6:2 7:9 19:8,10,21 28:20 29:9,11,15 50:4 transcript 51:4 transcription 51:2 transferred 17:17,21 34:16 traveled 33:8 tread 4:21 5:6 treated 11:7 treatment 28:7 tree 10:17 31:11 trees 30:21,22 tried 38:21 39:6 48:14 trucks 25:11 true 44:10 46:3 trying 19:12 tubes 24:21</p>
--	---	--

<p>turned 12:3 turns 4:23 7:17 8:8 13:12 16:7 37:18 twelve 39:3,3 twenty 5:9 14:19 15:6,6,8 15:12 twenty-four 35:18 49:5,8 twenty-two 12:21 twice 20:15 31:21 two 6:13 7:7 8:22 9:12 12:7 13:19 14:20 16:17 21:10 23:2 24:2 34:23 39:23 40:5 41:11,17,21 42:8 43:11 45:20 46:20 47:14 two-story 9:16 type 18:22 34:21 typical 28:17</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">U</p> <hr/> <p>ugly 34:7 47:2,2 Uhlie 26:5 Uh-huh 42:20 unbelievable 35:13,13 41:24 unclear 11:6 understand 20:11 26:4,6 understanding 44:4 uneducated 43:16 unfamiliarity 22:20 unfolded 35:20 unit 8:6 40:16 units 12:11 unprepared 19:15,16 use 33:24 34:3 44:21 usual 10:2 usually 44:10,12</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <hr/> <p>valley 16:23 39:13 45:2 46:21 veterans 42:11 vice 40:20 video 47:20 Vietnam 6:3,4,20 8:15 11:2</p>	<p>17:7 43:8,23 44:5 46:10 46:18 Vietnamese 13:12 16:10 20:8,12 30:6 34:19 villagers 12:3,16 13:16 25:16 26:2 34:20 villages 13:4 volunteered 35:23 V.I.P.s 43:14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">W</p> <hr/> <p>waist 23:18 31:2 wait 10:3 waiting 10:6 walk 42:2 walked 21:11 39:4 walking 9:22 15:10 21:22 41:17 want 24:6,15 27:11 36:14 38:15,15 39:8,23 44:11 44:12 wanted 3:5 20:22 27:17 28:16 39:10,21 43:8 45:8 war 15:4,15 36:20,22 42:16,16 49:6,11 50:2 warfare 17:14 warm 7:12 Wasauu 46:21 wasn't 7:21 8:2 9:13 10:3 13:7 18:12 19:15 21:13 21:17 22:21 23:21 32:18 37:24 watch 46:16 water 4:21 5:5,6 28:7 way 4:8 5:5 7:19 12:17 22:8 33:16 37:19 38:6 39:7,24 45:11 49:11,18 Wayne 2:6 44:18 ways 39:23 weapon 40:8,13 weapons 22:20 weather 7:24 week 4:12 9:2 12:14 13:19 17:3 28:5,7,8,9</p>	<p>weekends 41:16 weeks 3:18 5:18 7:7 8:4 9:12 16:12 26:18 36:12 47:14 weighed 11:17 weights 5:10,11 weird 47:11,19 48:7 went 2:23 3:8,8 4:6 5:16 6:13,17,18 7:7,8,22 8:11 18:24 21:18 22:3,12 24:3 24:17 26:15 27:21 28:15 28:15 29:18 34:11 36:7 36:11 37:11 40:18,23 43:2,4,22 weren't 13:16 25:12,22 wet 7:14 40:9 we'll 28:6 37:20 38:6 45:6 we're 7:20 10:11 16:22,22 21:20,22 23:14 33:22,23 34:5 49:7 we've 15:7,18 whoa 41:21 wicked 11:15 window 9:4 wire 10:18 11:12 women 25:18 28:17 wonder 26:13 42:5 wonderful 28:9 wooden 9:15 word 33:18 work 36:14 47:12 worked 40:6,12 working 21:13,17 22:21,23 44:17 world 9:11 26:12 40:24 worse 27:19,20 worst 5:21 worth 48:15,16 wouldn't 11:8 27:16 30:11 35:23 37:17,24 wound 27:15 wounded 25:12 27:5 wrong 20:12</p>
--	--	--

Y	6	
yards 21:11 30:2 39:22	66 3:12	
yeah 8:13 9:17,17,19 10:9 25:14 35:24 39:5 40:12 42:21 43:24 44:8 45:2 46:7,9,23 48:13	67 8:19 12:8 15:19 20:3 44:7 68 35:10	
year 2:22 40:22 44:3 45:13 45:15 46:20	7	
years 5:9 6:13 19:17,22 29:11 34:8,23 46:13 47:11 48:7,20	7th 20:3 44:7	
yelling 42:24	9	
York 41:14 42:8	9 20:23 24:19 25:16 47:18	
young 12:20 25:18	9:30 2:2	
Z		
Z's 31:20		
1		
1 51:5		
10-31-2003 2:1 3:1 4:1 5:1 6:1 7:1 8:1 9:1 10:1 11:1 12:1 13:1 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1 30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1		
16th 3:12		
17th 3:11 8:19		
1890s 38:11		
1948 2:11		
2		
2003 1:5 2:4		
25th 2:11		
3		
31 1:5		
31st 2:4		
5		
50 51:5		