

1

2

3

4

ORAL HISTORY OF FREDERICK STAY

5

6

December 16, 2002

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 MR. RUSSERT: This is an
3 interview with Fred Stay at the New York State
4 Military Museum, Saratoga Springs, New York, on
5 December 16th, 2002, approximately one p.m. The
6 interviewer is Michael Russert.

7 INTERVIEW

8 BY MR. RUSSERT:

9 Q. Could you tell me your full name,
10 your place of birth and date of birth, please?

11 A. My name is Frederick R. Stay. I
12 was born in Schenectady, New York, on January the
13 30th, 1923.

14 Q. (indiscernible).

15 A. Yes, next month.

16 Q. (indiscernible)?

17 A. Will you?

18 Q. Yes. So could you tell me your
19 educational background prior to you going into the
20 service?

21 A. I graduated from Draper High
22 School and after that I went to vocational training
23 school in Schenectady. And after that I -- I
24 worked for the Boxford Company which is an

1 **Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002**

2 **affiliate of the G.E. works in Schenectady.**

3 Q. Okay. Do you remember -- what
4 were your memories of the hearing of what happened
5 on December -- December 7th, 1941? Where were you,
6 what do you remember?

7 A. What I remember is I was visiting
8 my girlfriend and I can remember hearing the
9 announcement over the radio. And I'm saying
10 outside of that -- I don't remember too much in
11 particular. But I can remember everybody was just
12 shocked. And it was a few months after that when
13 my -- my brother out of the clear blue sky, which
14 by the way I have -- I had four brothers and I had
15 seven sisters. I believe there was twelve --.

16 Q. Who was the eldest of the family?

17 A. My kid brother said to me --
18 he -- he got up one evening out of the clear blue
19 sky and says mom and dad, he says I'm going down
20 and join the Marine Corps.

21 Q. Which brother was that@?

22 A. Well, of course he never
23 discussed it with me and we were pretty close. And
24 I just got up and just said well, if you're going,

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 I'm going too. So I can remember him, he was only
3 seventeen years old, so he had to get permission
4 from my mother and father. They had to sign
5 permission for him to join. And we went down to
6 the recruiting depot and I think it was in Albany,
7 New York. And after we got there they took my
8 brother he was -- didn't weigh enough. He didn't
9 pass the physical. So they told him to go home for
10 a couple of weeks and he went home and I can
11 remember -- all I can remember was him eating lots
12 of bananas and lots of potatoes, trying to put that
13 weight on. And anyway, we went back in a couple of
14 more weeks and he passed the physical. And then we
15 ended up with a friend of ours, which I'm sorry to
16 say I -- up until recently I almost forgot about
17 him. His name was George Stern (phonetic
18 spelling). He was a -- he was a friend of my
19 brother's and I and we all -- the three of us were
20 shipped off to Paris Island, South Carolina
21 together.

22 Q. Why did you pick the Marine
23 Corps, because your brother did or do you know why
24 you did?

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 A. No, well, we picked the Marine
3 Corps because we just respected the Marine Corps a
4 lot and we just didn't want to be -- go in the Army
5 and be drafted and go where they wanted us to go.
6 We wanted to have something to say about what we
7 were going to do and where we were going. Of
8 course it wasn't too long before we joined the
9 Marine Corps that -- we -- we never could have
10 entered the Marine Corps because at one time you
11 had to be six foot tall. And they kept lowering
12 the height down to five foot ten and five foot
13 eight. I'm only five five, so they must have been
14 desperate. That's all I can say.

15 Q. So when you went to Paris Island
16 did you -- how did you end up in the Marine Air
17 Wing?

18 A. After my brother and I completed
19 our training in -- in boot camp they -- they gave
20 us a lot of -- if I remember right they gave us --
21 you had to take a lot of tests and I don't know why
22 I ended up being chosen to go to school as a -- I
23 had -- the only choice I had was to either be an
24 aerial mechanic in the -- as -- as an aerial

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 mechanic or ordinance man. And of course at that
3 time, being young and foolish, you know, I said I
4 don't want to be a mechanic, I'm -- I'm in the
5 Marine Corps in to do some fighting, I want a gun.
6 So I -- I chose ordinance school. And my brother
7 was part of the platoon that -- that remained -- if
8 I'm not mistaken we -- you'll have to forgive me
9 because a lot of this stuff -- I think we went to a
10 rifle range at Camp -- Camp Lejeune. And he
11 remained at Camp Lejeune and eventually they sent
12 me on to school.

13 I went to -- I'm trying to think
14 of the word, Memphis -- Memphis, Tennessee. They
15 have a big naval school there. In fact I remember
16 the base being so big I can remember they had five
17 theaters, like a big city in the itself there.

18 After I went -- they sent me to
19 ordinance school. They picked out a certain number
20 of guys, I guess, depending on what kind of a mark
21 you got in your -- in your classes, a certain
22 number of people were picked to be -- go to gunnery
23 school. So they sent me to Norman Oklahoma where
24 we had all the gunnery classes. And gunnery school

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 has the ground runners and I can -- I can remember
3 it being -- getting so -- so cold at night that we
4 used to put papers between our blankets to keep
5 warm. And yet it was awful hot in the daytime.
6 And then I went -- from there they sent me to
7 Jacksonville, Florida where I flew in my first
8 airplane.

9 Q. Did you have any desire to fly
10 prior to that?

11 A. No. In fact before that I
12 always -- I always said I would -- I always want to
13 keep one foot on the ground. I ended up in the Air
14 Corps and we -- we had aerial gunnery practice in
15 P.D.Y.'s. They're the -- they're the planes with
16 the big bubble eyes on the sides, you know, and we
17 used to shoot at the aerial targets, the socks.
18 They have a tow plane, it would -- it would tow a
19 sock out there and would go along side of you and
20 your pilot would pull up and you'd shoot till hit
21 them. It was a free gun. And I -- and I remember
22 being in the cold. We used to land the airplanes
23 and of course they had -- they had wheels that they
24 used to put down and when they got up to the ramp

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 they'd put the wheels down and they'd just pull the
3 plane up onto the ramp onto the -- onto the shore.

4 I'm trying to remember -- I never
5 heard too much from my brother. We wrote to each
6 other, but not very often. And I got a letter from
7 my mother and father telling me that after I had
8 left my brother the Marine Corps came around asking
9 for volunteers for the Marine paratroopers and my
10 brother said that he was getting bored, so he -- he
11 volunteered for the paratroopers and went through
12 all the paratrooper training, earned his wings and
13 then they shipped his outfit to California way
14 overseas to the Pacific and they disbanded the
15 paratroopers. He ended up in infantry. And the
16 last -- last I remember he was in several conflicts
17 on the Island which was -- was the southern tip of
18 the same islands as my outfit and when we got over
19 there we found them on the other end of the Harbor.
20 And I guess he was in several conflicts and this
21 and that and I got a picture of him in a rest area.
22 A mutual friend of ours was in the service, met him
23 and took his picture and sent me a copy of the
24 picture. And of course later on he -- he didn't

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 get -- he was in the engagement at Peleliu Island
3 and was killed in action there at that time. In
4 fact he was just twenty years old.

5 Q. Where were you stationed after
6 that?

7 A. They shipped me off to Cherry
8 Point, North Carolina. And they commissioned the
9 first two P.D.Y. squadrons four thirteen of '43. I
10 think that was in March of '43. And of course I
11 ended -- I ended up in the second squadron, four --
12 four twenty-three. And we trained up and down the
13 Atlantic coast. And from Cherry Point they
14 transferred our squadron to Edenton, North
15 Carolina, a small air field in Edenton, North
16 Carolina. We did a lot of training there, then
17 they shipped our squadron across the United States
18 to -- if I can think of it -- this where your mind
19 becomes blank.

20 Q. Well, you don't -- you don't have
21 to give us the exact place now.

22 A. Sometimes when you get my age
23 your mind just goes flying out the window, you
24 know, your train of thought.

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. They -- they took a certain
4 number of the crews and they flew the airplanes
5 cross country and the rest of the crews and the
6 ground forces, ground crews and that went by train
7 cross country. I happened to be in the section
8 that went by train. I can remember it was a long
9 and dirty trip. And El Centro, California is where
10 we ended up. And we did a lot of aerial training
11 there, aerial and gunnery or bomb -- aerial
12 tracking and ground bombing and navigation RFs. We
13 found out -- and I found out later a lot of our
14 pilots were really young kids too. They were only
15 in their twenties. In fact my co-pilot was younger
16 than I and -- and most of the aircraft that people
17 associate with marines are single engine planes
18 like the fighter planes and dive bomber planes or
19 fuel planes. And these were the first twin engine
20 medium bombers the Marine Corps ever had. In fact
21 there's a lot of people even today don't realize
22 that the marines had -- marine pilots flew bombers,
23 twin engine bombers, medium bombers.

24 So our pilots were also getting a

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 lot of -- a lot of practice and familiarization
3 with the plane.

4 Q. What plane was that?

5 A. It was -- well, the -- the
6 Army's -- Billy Mitchell D-25. And of course our
7 Navy designation was the P.B.J. We flew all kinds
8 of -- of training flights in El Centro, California.
9 A lot of us went over and saw the Sea and over the
10 Grand Canyon, I saw a lot of beautiful country out
11 there while we were in training. And then we got
12 word to be shipped overseas and we -- I think we
13 were shipped out of -- what is it -- I -- we left
14 California. They shipped our planes -- shipped our
15 planes down to Wallner Armor Plating, all the
16 equipment that wasn't necessary to make the flight
17 and they put extra gas tanks in so they could fly
18 from California to Hawaii Islands. Again I -- I
19 was -- I was in the section that went by ship. I
20 spent nineteen days on a converted aircraft carrier
21 full of supplies, full of airplanes, but you
22 couldn't take off because the decks were just
23 chucked full of airplanes.

24 And after -- after our -- our

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 planes arrived in Hawaii them again with -- with
3 their proper machine guns and all that kind of
4 stuff that they took off, ordinance. And from
5 there the planes ended up in -- I knew I should
6 have made some notes. I'm trying to think of where
7 we ended up. I feel -- can this thing be edited?

8 Q. Well, just let me -- I -- I can
9 just stop it for a moment.

10 A. Yeah, when I went to -- our
11 squadron ended up in the New Lebanese Islands where
12 the flight crews and the planes joined up with the
13 rest of the ground crew, and we did a lot of
14 training, a lot of flight training, navigational
15 training, practice bombing for China, for the
16 missions that would be carried on. They shipped us
17 up to the Sterling (phonetic spelling) Islands.
18 And I think it was in the Sterling Islands that we
19 had our first actual combat mission. It was -- if
20 I remember right it was medium opportunity bombing
21 mission. It was -- we had roughly around nine
22 planes and all I can remember is my -- my first
23 experience with anti-aircraft fire and all I could
24 remember is -- even to this day is looking --

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 looking out the side of my -- of course I flew in
3 the tail of the airplane, I -- I couldn't see where
4 we were going, but I could always see where we'd
5 been, looking out the side of my plexiglass window
6 and all I can see was this great big wall and these
7 big black puffs of smoke. And it was not -- I've
8 got to admit it was quite scary. And if -- if I
9 remember right, we were lucky that several planes
10 got hit, but we didn't lose anybody. But that was
11 my first experience with somebody shooting at me.

12 And then we had -- we did some
13 ground cover at Bouganville (phonetic spelling)
14 Island, ground support I should say. And then from
15 Sterling Islands they moved us up to Letye
16 (phonetic spelling) Island which is just a little
17 horseshoe shaped Atoll and it was just big enough
18 for -- I think we had a fighter strip there.
19 The -- the Navy had some F.Y.U. fighter plans and a
20 bomber strip.

21 And from there we spent the rest
22 of 1944 from May until December or January doing
23 all kinds of missions around the Pearl Harbor,
24 which was at that time a few months before that was

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 considered the Japanese Pearl Harbor. And a big
3 harbor which was now full of sunken ships and what
4 have you and it was surrounded by five Japanese air
5 fields. And our job was to -- was to harass the
6 Garrison that was left there on the island, which
7 is I heard was sixty and seventy thousand Japanese
8 were -- were stranded on the island. And it was
9 our job to make sure that they didn't get
10 resupplied. And we kept the air field, peppered
11 the holes and made sure none of the ships could get
12 in either at night -- we spent -- most of our
13 missions were -- were night -- night missions.

14 Q. What does it mean when
15 (indiscernible) you did the job night after
16 (indiscernible)?

17 A. That's just what it means. What
18 I just said, we spent -- our -- our time -- most of
19 the -- most of the -- most of the missions were at
20 night and they would send a plane over -- over
21 the -- over the -- over Royal Harbor and you would
22 have -- you'd have ten, fifteen hundred pound bombs
23 and you'd just circle -- circle that -- that area
24 and whenever you would see lights or any kind of

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 action down below, boats or maybe on the roads,
3 you'd just go over and drop a bomb and just harass
4 them all night long. And when we left -- when you
5 left there was another airplane out there came in.
6 All night long there was an airplane flying over
7 that -- that harbor and that sea. That's why they
8 called us the Hecklers of the Royal Harbor.

9 And of course we spent -- a lot
10 of missions we spent in the daytime also. We did a
11 lot of straight and runs and skip bombing and runs
12 all along --.

13 Q. What do you mean by skip bombing?

14 A. You -- you fly low over the water
15 or the land and you -- you fly low over the water
16 at your target and then you release your bomb
17 before you get to the target and it hits -- hits
18 the water or the ground and bounces. It was a
19 great way to hit -- hit -- hit the side of a ship
20 with a bomb. But I can remember several times
21 doing that with these buildings on these islands.
22 All they were was grass shacks and some of the
23 bombs would end up going right through the shacks
24 without exploding, you know. They just go right

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 through the wall. But yeah, that's -- that's what
3 skip bombing is. Of course station runs is you
4 just come down low and all around you fire and drop
5 bombs on either ships or bridges, buildings.

6 And I can remember one time we --
7 we had a target we were supposed to hit and of
8 course it was -- it was quite a few mountains out
9 there on New Island and -- and New Island
10 especially. If your target was on a low side of
11 the mountain you'd -- of course you learn this from
12 experience. The first couple of times our pilots
13 would go in, they'd -- they'd head mostly directly
14 to the target and -- but they'd be waiting for you,
15 the anti-aircraft fire, ground fire, because you're
16 flying awful low. We -- we learned from -- from
17 that experience that you start on the other side of
18 the mountain and you start -- start to glide --
19 glide into your target, and come around the
20 mountain from the opposite side. And all the time
21 you're coming down I can remember one -- one trip
22 we when on. The plane -- you're going so fast --
23 of course at that time three hundred miles an hour
24 was fast, but the whole plane is vibrating. And so

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 we got back to the base and we saw the bolt that
3 held the top turret some of those bolts were all
4 sheared off just -- just from the vibration.
5 And --.

6 Q. When you talk about medium --
7 medium altitude what -- what altitude is that?

8 A. Eight thousand to twelve thousand
9 feet. Most of it was around ten because once you
10 get up around ten thousand feet you have to use an
11 oxygen mask. And we never used them too much, that
12 I can remember. All I can remember is freezing --
13 freezing to death. You'd be on the ground and your
14 back would be all wet from perspiration. Then when
15 you'd -- once you got up into the air you'd get up
16 there -- you'd start getting up there between five
17 and ten thousand feet it gets pretty cold.

18 Q. Did you ever wear the leather
19 jacket like the bomber unit --

20 A. Oh yeah.

21 Q. -- did? Did you -- did you --?

22 A. In fact I -- I still have my
23 bomber jacket and I wore it out when I got
24 discharged.

1 **Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002**

2 Q. Uh-huh. Did your plane have a
3 name? Did you have nose have a name?

4 A. No. No. From what I understand
5 the Navy or the Marine Corps didn't allow that,
6 putting all these insignias on the side of -- all
7 they had was a number.

8 Q. Did you always fly the same
9 plane?

10 A. No. If a mission called for six
11 planes, they got the six planes that were ready to
12 fly. And some of them -- some of those ground
13 crew, the mechanics and the ordinance people, they
14 just worked -- worked around the clock, twenty-four
15 hours a day trying to keep enough planes ready to
16 have enough planes for the missions that were
17 assigned to us. We basically started out with like
18 twelve to fifteen airplanes per squadron. I don't
19 think you ever -- you ever had twelve to fifteen
20 planes that were always ready -- there was always
21 some planes getting checked. You had a certain
22 number of hours and I can't remember what they
23 were, six -- thirty-hour checks, sixty-hour checks,
24 and of course the hundred-hour check is -- is where

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 they take -- practically take the plane apart and
3 put it back together again.

4 So no, we never -- a certain crew
5 didn't have a certain plane that he flew all the
6 time. They had a mission -- say you had a mission
7 with six planes or nine planes, they -- whatever
8 crews were -- the first -- the crews that were in
9 line to go up, the six -- six to nine crews that
10 were ready and they were just assigned to a plane.
11 We had seven planes that ended up flying over a
12 hundred missions. The planes themselves.

13 Q. Your jacket, did it ever have
14 any -- any patches or anything on it or just a --?

15 A. No, just a plain leather jacket.
16 I didn't even have my name on it. And I could have
17 because it was mine. But yeah, the old familiar
18 jacket, I remember wearing that several years after
19 I got discharged. In fact I wore it out.

20 Q. How many missions did you fly?

21 A. Well, our -- our crew flew about
22 eighty different -- different military assignments,
23 but I was credited with forty combat missions. And
24 don't ask me exactly what they call a combat

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 mission because as far as I'm concerned eighty --
3 eighty assignments was over enemy territory or over
4 the ocean someplace.

5 But we did all kinds of missions.
6 We did -- we did submarine searches. Sometimes
7 you'd be in the air four, five, six hours just --
8 just looking for enemy submarines or maybe a
9 fighter pilot or an old bomber got shot down or
10 disappeared. And they'd send out a certain number
11 of planes to search for these people. Just some of
12 the -- some of the flights you did they just didn't
13 consider combat missions. Of course I don't know
14 how they can say that. I just -- they all were --
15 they all were enemy territory. They could shoot at
16 you anytime where you could end up in the drink.
17 We -- we lost several planes that nobody knows what
18 happened to them.

19 Q. Was your plane ever hit?

20 A. Yeah. I can remember one time
21 specifically we were -- I -- I don't -- I can't
22 remember exactly what type of mission we were on,
23 but I think we were either on a -- on a target of
24 opportunity mission which means that you -- they

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 send -- we did a lot of that over New Island. You
3 just pick out whatever target you want. They'd --
4 they'd send the pilot out on a -- on a trip and you
5 could shoot -- drop bombs or shoot anything that
6 you thought was an enemy, boats, bridges. And I
7 can remember after we got done with one of these
8 low level flights the pilot saying the plane didn't
9 act right and he said he thought -- he thought that
10 we were hit. So we ended up landing at Ebberrou
11 (phonetic spelling) Island and like an emergency
12 landing at another island and we -- I can
13 remember -- remember landing there and we spent the
14 overnight there and they had all of their mechanics
15 and their ordinance people go over our airplane,
16 check it out and I don't recall whether they ever
17 found -- I don't recall whether they ever found
18 anything wrong or not. Anyhow we ended up getting
19 back on the plane the next day and flying back to
20 Green Island. Outside of that I was -- we were
21 very fortunate. Our -- our crew was very
22 fortunate.

23 And one of the -- one of the
24 experiences I do remember now when you're flying on

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 these heckeling hops over the -- you're -- you're
3 flying up there, it's pitch black and of course
4 you're always observing everything that's going on
5 around you. And all of a -- all of a sudden you'd
6 see one of these big fingers of spotlight, you
7 know. Then there would be another one, then there
8 would be two or three of them. And the next thing
9 you know they're all looking for you up in the sky.
10 Finally they -- once they pick you up under those
11 spotlights it was amazing to me, you could sit
12 there and read a magazine, that's how bright it
13 was. You felt like you were pretty naked up there
14 I'll tell you. That has always been on my mind.

15 Q. Was always dark?

16 A. Yeah, well, you -- you couldn't
17 see it at night. You -- you couldn't see it, but
18 you're --- you're wondering next -- what's going to
19 happen next. I mean are you going to get hit or
20 what, you know, but we never did. But other planes
21 did though, that were on those hops. I -- I can
22 remember -- I don't remember all the details, but I
23 remember this one plane coming in. In fact I think
24 that he's listed in our casualties, Willie T.

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 Phillips (phonetic spelling). He was a tail
3 gunner. I can remember -- I wasn't there when the
4 plane came in, but they tell me they -- they took
5 an ammunition can -- an ammunition can is -- is
6 non-aligned on the inside and they could remember
7 flushing out the blood -- blood and stuff where he
8 got hit out of the plane and that was that. And
9 they had a hundred and some odd shrapnel holes from
10 the trailing edge of the wing to the hood. And
11 they repaired that plane and had it flying within
12 days. But our sheet metal people were busy all the
13 time patching up holes, keeping the planes flying.
14 We just had a marvelous bunch of ground crew
15 members that kept those planes flying.

16 Q. Were you scheduled for -- did you
17 ever do any bomber runs towards Okinawa or towards
18 mainland Japan?

19 A. No. All short range.

20 Q. How many were short range?

21 A. Yeah, we -- well, we -- later
22 squadrons that took our place and -- and that came
23 after our squadron, most of our squadron members
24 were shipped back to the States.

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 Q. When were you shipped back?

3 A. I was shipped back in -- and I've
4 got the sheet -- you got the sheet right there. I
5 think it's January of 1940 -- 1945. There was
6 twenty or twenty-five crew members shipped back to
7 the states and then there was a later shipment, I
8 think -- I think a couple months later of -- of
9 officers, pilots and co-pilots, officers that were
10 shipped back.

11 Q. And you were state-side when they
12 dropped the bombs?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. What were your -- what were your
15 feelings or reactions to that?

16 A. Well, at that time and even today
17 I think it was the right decision the Truman made
18 when they dropped that bomb because I think it
19 saved a lot of young lives, especially American
20 lives. I though it was the right decision. I was
21 glad to see it.

22 Of course, you know, your
23 feelings change and -- and you know, war is hell.
24 I don't know what the Japanese thought then, but we

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 didn't -- we didn't like -- we didn't like them
3 very well. And I was a young fellow and there was
4 nothing worse than a Japanese soldier. Of course
5 today you're kind of mellow. They've got there
6 veterans, we've got our veterans. And I just see
7 here not long ago on T.V. where they had some of
8 the Japanese admirals and they were in the Battle
9 of Midway where we -- where we lost the aircraft
10 carrier and they lost what, three -- three or four?

11 Q. Four.

12 A. You know, it's -- I'm sorry to
13 see that a lot of innocent people had to die, but I
14 think it was the right decision at the time. I
15 think it saved a lot of lives.

16 Q. When were you discharged?

17 A. February the 18th, 1946.

18 Q. When you were -- when you were
19 back state-side did you do any training or?

20 A. Yeah, I -- when I -- when I --
21 when I got transferred back to the States I spent
22 thirty days home with my -- with my mother and
23 father and family and after that they sent me back
24 to Cherry Point and they -- they put me in a dive

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 bombing outfit, an S.P.E. Navy dive bomber. And I
3 trained for about ten months in that plane in
4 preparation to be sent overseas again, but then the
5 war was ended. I was -- I was kind of glad to see
6 that. I was used to flying in a plane that had two
7 engines. That means if one engine got knocked out
8 we could possibly make it back to base with the
9 other engine. In a dive bomber when you lose that
10 engine, that's it. It was just the pilot and
11 the -- the rear seat gunner. That's -- that's what
12 I was in training for the last ten months.

13 Q. What was your reaction to V-Day?

14 A. Oh, like everybody else, you were
15 just happy to see it.

16 Q. After you were served, you went
17 into the reserves for a while?

18 A. No.

19 Q. No?

20 A. No. I was in the reserves while
21 I was in the Marine Corps.

22 Q. Oh, I see.

23 A. Which -- which -- which means I
24 was in the Marine Corps and the --.

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 Q. After the war did you join any
3 veterans organizations?

4 A. Well, I -- I -- I belong to the
5 American Legion and I belong to the V.F.W.

6 Q. Have you ever attended any
7 reunions of your unit or do you ever keep in
8 contact with anyone?

9 A. No, I never -- I never went to
10 any of our reunions, but I used to get their
11 brochure and letter. They used to notify everybody
12 every year when the reunion dates were. I've
13 always -- I've always been a little sorry that I
14 never went to one of them at least, but I never --
15 I never did. And right now I don't feel that I'm
16 capable of making that trip. My wife couldn't make
17 it and I don't feel I want to go without her. But
18 I do -- once I made contact here about three years
19 ago with several members of my squadron who are --
20 are active in our reunions I -- I -- I'm in contact
21 with them regularly. I write to them often. We
22 send pictures, we write back and forth. I -- I
23 always -- my -- my turret gunner, John Phillips
24 (sic), he was a Philadelphia -- he was from

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 Philadelphia and three of my sons lived in New
3 Jersey for ten or fifteen years and we used to go
4 visit a little while. And my wife said that was
5 always going to look John up and I -- I never got
6 around to doing it.

7 So finally my daughter-in-law who
8 happens to work in Pennsylvania, she works for the
9 state, and she knew I was interested in finding
10 John, so she started looking for him. And to make
11 a long story short, she found -- she found John
12 through the telephone book. And it just so
13 happened he -- he didn't live in Philadelphia
14 anymore, but he'd moved across the river to New
15 Jersey and he only -- he lived fifteen minutes from
16 Rob. So all these years I had been running back
17 and forth, my wife and I, visiting our -- our three
18 sons in New Jersey and here John only lived fifteen
19 minutes away.

20 But when I -- when I found that
21 out and when she found John for me and told me
22 about him the next trip down to New Jersey my son
23 and I went -- called him up and made plans and we
24 went over and met him and his wife and had coffee

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 and had a nice reunion. I brought -- I brought all
3 my albums and magazines that I had and he -- John
4 never saved anything. He either -- either didn't
5 save them or he lost it. So we had -- we had a
6 nice evening. And I had planned on revisiting John
7 again, but several months later I got word from his
8 wife that John passed away. He had a lot of
9 physical problems the last time I met him.

10 And I find -- I -- I had -- I
11 finally made contact with my pilot and I -- I
12 wrote -- sent pictures and wrote back and forth to
13 him. He called me on the phone several times. He
14 was -- he was eighty-three years old and he just
15 passed away by the way. He just passed away here a
16 couple of months ago. And I kept -- I -- I got in
17 touch with my co-pilot who lives in Massachusetts
18 and as far as I know Ed is still alive, but he's
19 got a lot of physical problems too.

20 And I finally made contact -- the
21 last person in our crew that I made contact with
22 was our bomber and navigator. I finally made
23 contact with him and he was a Minnesota boy. He
24 was eighty-three years old and he just passed away

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 a month -- a month and a half ago. So I lost two
3 of my crew in the last couple of months and of
4 course my -- my turret gunner, John, I lost him a
5 year ago. So as -- as far as I know there's only
6 two of us left. That's my co-pilot and myself.

7 Q. Did you ever use the G.I. bill at
8 all?

9 A. Yes. I -- I'm not sure just how
10 long after I got discharged, but approximately a
11 year after I got discharged I see the Watervliet
12 Hospital was hiring machine operators and I went
13 down and applied for a job and got a job as a -- a
14 machine operator. And I can remember meeting this
15 fellow there on -- on the next machine and we -- we
16 became pretty good friends. And he got a hold of
17 me one day and said hey, Fred, he says I hear there
18 holding an examination down at -- at the post
19 office in Albany for an apprentice machinist. What
20 do you say we go down and take the test. I said
21 yeah, okay.

22 So anyway, we -- we both went
23 down and took the machinist test and ended up
24 passing the test. I took the four-year machinist

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002
2 apprentice course in -- so that was at least
3 four -- four years of work that I was sure of,
4 which was important at the time because they had
5 two layoffs while I was an apprentice. And if it
6 hadn't been for my being an apprentice I probably
7 would have lost my job. But anyway, I -- I
8 graduated as a machinist and I spent almost twenty
9 years there.

10 And I retired in 1978. I was
11 fifty-five years old. And I still got a boy in
12 college. Well, I was so determined that I was
13 going to retire while I was still able to do
14 something with my -- my life. They weren't going
15 to carry me out on a stretcher, you know, or I
16 wasn't going to go out in a --.

17 Q. How do you think your military
18 service changed or affected your life?

19 A. Not much. I'm sure -- I'm sure
20 that it has, I just -- you kind of learn to kind of
21 take things as they come and do the best you can
22 regardless of --. I met my wife and we had three
23 sons. They're not only my sons, but they're my
24 best friends. Our first seven grandchildren were

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 boys. She never said too much about it, but I'm
3 sure my wife would like to have had a girl. And
4 finally our little boy, John's wife, presented us
5 with a daughter and she's -- she'll be twelve years
6 old here next year. So I've got seven great
7 grandsons and a wonderful granddaughter. And we're
8 all very close.

9 In fact I just got done a
10 two-week hunting trip that I spent with two of my
11 grandsons and my oldest son. And after that --
12 after that we came back from our hunting trip in
13 Illinois, I came back to New Jersey where my wife
14 was staying while I was on this hunting trip and we
15 spent Thanksgiving there. So I had a nice last
16 three weeks.

17 Q. Okay. You brought some pictures.
18 You want to tell us about those? Well, here, if
19 you -- if you could hold it up to the camera and
20 tell us what it is.

21 A. Okay. Well, this is a picture
22 that was taken I think around March 1943 when our
23 squadron was first commissioned. And this was -- I
24 can remember lining up our squadron, lining up for

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 this group picture.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. This is a picture of my -- my
5 crew that I flew all my missions with.

6 Q. Whereabouts are you in the
7 picture?

8 A. I'm at the lower right-hand
9 corner kneeling in the front. The guy next to me
10 is my Turret Gunner, John Phillips. This fellow
11 here is Sergeant Schaefer (phonetic spelling).
12 He's our radio man. I've got to see who's in it.
13 This fellow here in the middle, that's Lieutenant
14 Powers (phonetic spelling). He's our co-pilot.
15 And this is our pilot, Lieutenant Griffiths
16 (phonetic spelling).

17 Oh, I love this picture. This is
18 an actual picture of one of our planes and one of
19 the missions taken from one of -- one of the other
20 planes that was in the formation by one of our
21 squadron photographers.

22 And this is a -- a six --
23 six-plane medium altitude formation, either over
24 Royal Harbor or New Ireland. I'm not sure where.

1 Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

2 This is a picture of a few what I call minor
3 casualties, plane casualties.

4 This is a picture of Bell Harbor
5 and the city and around the fringe of that harbor
6 and city was five Japanese air fields.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. This is another picture of one of
9 our planes high above the clouds over Bell Harbor.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And this is just three pictures.
12 The -- the bottom picture is showing my tail
13 position in the -- in the -- in the B-25 and the
14 P.B.J.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. And this is a picture of six of
17 the seven planes, each flew one hundred combat
18 missions. And each -- each bomb on that plane
19 represents a mission that -- that there's over a
20 hundred on some of them.

21 MR. RUSSERT: Okay. Okay.

22 Well, thank you very much for your interview.

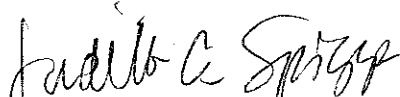
23 (The interview concluded.)

24 pwss

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

Frederick Stay - 12-16-2002

I hereby certify the foregoing,
consisting of pages 1 to 34, inclusive, to be a
true and accurate transcription from the audio
provided to us, to the best of our skill and
ability.


Judith A. Spriggs

Associated Reporters Int'l., Inc.

A	apprentice 30:19 31:2,5 31:6 approximately 2:5 30:10 area 8:21 14:23 Armor 11:15 Army 5:4 Army's 11:6 arrived 12:2 asking 8:8 assigned 18:17 19:10 assignments 19:22 20:3 associate 10:17 Associated 35:9 Atlantic 9:13 Atoll 13:17 attended 27:6 audio 35:4 awful 7:5 16:16	blankets 7:4 blood 23:7,7 blue 3:13,18 boats 15:2 21:6 bolt 17:2 bolts 17:3 bomb 10:11 15:3,16,20 24:18 34:18 bomber 10:18 13:20 17:19,23 20:9 23:17 26:2,9 29:22 bombers 10:20,22,23,23 bombing 10:12 12:15,20 15:11,13 16:3 26:2 bombs 14:22 15:23 16:5 21:5 24:12 book 28:12 boot 5:19 bored 8:10 born 2:12 bottom 34:12 Bouganville 13:13 bounces 15:18 Boxford 2:24 boy 29:23 31:11 32:4 boys 32:2 bridges 16:5 21:6 bright 22:12 brochure 27:11 brother 3:13,17,21 4:8 4:23 5:18 6:6 8:5,8,10 brothers 3:14 brother's 4:19 brought 29:2,2 32:17 bubble 7:16 buildings 15:21 16:5 bunch 23:14 busy 23:12 B-25 34:13
	B	
ability 35:6 able 31:13 accurate 35:4 act 21:9 action 9:3 15:2 active 27:20 actual 12:19 33:18 admirals 25:8 admit 13:8 aerial 5:24,24 7:14,17 10:10,11,11 affiliate 3:2 age 9:22 ago 25:7 27:19 29:16 30:2,5 air 5:16 7:13 9:15 14:4 14:10 17:15 20:7 34:6 aircraft 10:16 11:20 25:9 airplane 7:8 13:3 15:5,6 21:15 airplanes 7:22 10:4 11:21,23 18:18 Albany 4:6 30:19 albums 29:3 alive 29:18 allow 18:5 altitude 17:7,7 33:23 amazing 22:11 American 24:19 27:5 ammunition 23:5,5 announcement 3:9 anti-aircraft 12:23 16:15 anybody 13:10 anymore 28:14 anytime 20:16 anyway 4:13 30:22 31:7 apart 19:2 applied 30:13	back 4:13 17:2,14 19:3 21:19,19 23:24 24:2,3,6 24:10 25:19,21,23 26:8 27:22 28:16 29:12 32:12,13 background 2:19 bananas 4:12 base 6:16 17:2 26:8 basically 18:17 Battle 25:8 beautiful 11:10 believe 3:15 Bell 34:4,9 belong 27:4,5 best 31:21,24 35:5 big 6:15,16,17 7:16 13:6 13:7,17 14:2 22:6 bill 30:7 Billy 11:6 birth 2:10,10 black 13:7 22:3 blank 9:19	California 8:13 10:9
		C

<p>11:8,14,18 call 19:24 34:2 called 15:8 18:10 28:23 29:13 camera 32:19 camp 5:19 6:10,10,11 Canyon 11:10 capable 27:16 Carolina 4:20 9:8,15,16 carried 12:16 carrier 11:20 25:10 carry 31:15 casualties 22:24 34:3,3 Centro 10:9 11:8 certain 6:19,21 10:3 18:21 19:4,5 20:10 certify 35:2 change 24:23 changed 31:18 check 18:24 21:16 checked 18:21 checks 18:23,23 Cherry 9:7,13 25:24 China 12:15 choice 5:23 chose 6:6 chosen 5:22 chucked 11:23 circle 14:23,23 city 6:17 34:5,6 classes 6:21,24 clear 3:13,18 clock 18:14 close 3:23 32:8 clouds 34:9 coast 9:13 coffee 28:24 cold 7:3,22 17:17 college 31:12 combat 12:19 19:23,24 20:13 34:17</p>	<p>come 16:4,19 31:21 coming 16:21 22:23 commissioned 9:8 32:23 Company 2:24 completed 5:18 concerned 20:2 concluded 34:23 conflicts 8:16,20 consider 20:13 considered 14:2 consisting 35:3 contact 27:8,18,20 29:11 29:20,21,23 converted 11:20 copy 8:23 corner 33:9 Corps 3:20 4:23 5:3,3,9 5:10 6:5 7:14 8:8 10:20 18:5 26:21,24 country 10:5,7 11:10 couple 4:10,13 16:12 24:8 29:16 30:3 course 3:22 5:8 6:2 7:23 8:24 9:10 11:6 13:2 15:9 16:3,8,11,23 18:24 20:13 22:3 24:22 25:4 30:4 31:2 cover 13:13 co-pilot 10:15 29:17 30:6 33:14 co-pilots 24:9 credited 19:23 crew 12:13 18:13 19:4 19:21 21:21 23:14 24:6 29:21 30:3 33:5 crews 10:4,5,6 12:12 19:8,8,9 cross 10:5,7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <hr/> <p>dad 3:19 dark 22:15</p>	<p>date 2:10 dates 27:12 daughter 32:5 daughter-in-law 28:7 day 12:24 18:15 21:19 30:17 days 11:20 23:12 25:22 daytime 7:5 15:10 death 17:13 December 1:6 2:5 3:5,5 13:22 decision 24:17,20 25:14 decks 11:22 depending 6:20 depot 4:6 designation 11:7 desire 7:9 desperate 5:14 details 22:22 determined 31:12 die 25:13 different 19:22,22 directly 16:13 dirty 10:9 disappeared 20:10 disbanded 8:14 discharged 17:24 19:19 25:16 30:10,11 discussed 3:23 dive 10:18 25:24 26:2,9 doing 13:22 15:21 28:6 drafted 5:5 Draper 2:21 drink 20:16 drop 15:3 16:4 21:5 dropped 24:12,18 D-25 11:6</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <hr/> <p>earned 8:12 eating 4:11 Ebberrou 21:10</p>
---	--	--

<p>Ed 29:18 Edenton 9:14,15 edge 23:10 edited 12:7 educational 2:19 eight 5:13 17:8 eighty 19:22 20:2,3 eighty-three 29:14,24 either 5:23 14:12 16:5 20:23 29:4,4 33:23 El 10:9 11:8 eldest 3:16 emergency 21:11 ended 4:15 5:22 7:13 8:15 9:11,11 10:10 12:5,7,11 19:11 21:10 21:18 26:5 30:23 enemy 20:3,8,15 21:6 engagement 9:2 engine 10:17,19,23 26:7 26:9,10 engines 26:7 entered 5:10 equipment 11:16 especially 16:10 24:19 evening 3:18 29:6 eventually 6:11 everybody 3:11 26:14 27:11 exact 9:21 exactly 19:24 20:22 examination 30:18 experience 12:23 13:11 16:12,17 experiences 21:24 exploding 15:24 extra 11:17 eyes 7:16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <hr/> <p>fact 6:15 7:11 9:4 10:15 10:20 17:22 19:19</p>	<p>22:23 32:9 familiar 19:17 familiarization 11:2 family 3:16 25:23 far 20:2 29:18 30:5 fast 16:22,24 father 4:4 8:7 25:23 February 25:17 feel 12:7 27:15,17 feelings 24:15,23 feet 17:9,10,17 fellow 25:3 30:15 33:10 33:13 felt 22:13 field 9:15 14:10 fields 14:5 34:6 fifteen 14:22 18:18,19 28:3,15,18 fifty-five 31:11 fighter 10:18 13:18,19 20:9 fighting 6:5 finally 22:10 28:7 29:11 29:20,22 32:4 find 29:10 finding 28:9 fingers 22:6 fire 12:23 16:4,15,15 first 7:7 9:9 10:19 12:19 12:22 13:11 16:12 19:8 31:24 32:23 five 5:12,12,13,13 6:16 14:4 17:16 20:7 34:6 flew 7:7 10:4,22 11:7 13:2 19:5,21 33:5 34:17 flight 11:16 12:12,14 flights 11:8 20:12 21:8 Florida 7:7 flushing 23:7 fly 7:9 11:17 15:14,15</p>	<p>18:8,12 19:20 flying 9:23 15:6 16:16 19:11 21:19,24 22:3 23:11,13,15 26:6 foolish 6:3 foot 5:11,12,12 7:13 forces 10:6 foregoing 35:2 forgive 6:8 forgot 4:16 formation 33:20,23 forth 27:22 28:17 29:12 fortunate 21:21,22 forty 19:23 found 8:19 10:13,13 21:17,17 28:11,11,20 28:21 four 3:14 9:9,11,12 20:7 25:10,11 31:3,3 four-year 30:24 Fred 2:3 30:17 Frederick 1:4 2:1,11 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 free 7:21 freezing 17:12,13 friend 4:15,18 8:22 friends 30:16 31:24 fringe 34:5 front 33:9 fuel 10:19 full 2:9 11:21,21,23 14:3 F.Y.U 13:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <hr/> <p>Garrison 14:6</p>
--	---	---

<p>gas 11:17 George 4:17 getting 7:3 8:10 10:24 17:16 18:21 21:18 girl 32:3 girlfriend 3:8 give 9:21 glad 24:21 26:5 glide 16:18,19 go 4:9 5:4,5,5,22 6:22 7:19 15:3,24 16:13 19:9 21:15 27:17 28:3 30:20 31:16 goes 9:23 going 2:19 3:19,24 4:2 5:7,7 13:4 15:23 16:22 22:4,18,19 28:5 31:13 31:14,16 good 30:16 graduated 2:21 31:8 Grand 11:10 grandchildren 31:24 granddaughter 32:7 grandsons 32:7,11 grass 15:22 great 13:6 15:19 32:6 Green 21:20 Griffiths 33:15 ground 7:2,13 10:6,6,12 12:13 13:13,14 15:18 16:15 17:13 18:12 23:14 group 33:2 guess 6:20 8:20 gun 6:5 7:21 gunner 23:3 26:11 27:23 30:4 33:10 gunnery 6:22,24,24 7:14 10:11 guns 12:3 guy 33:9</p>	<p>guys 6:20 G.E 3:2 G.I 30:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <hr/> <p>half 30:2 happen 22:19 happened 3:4 10:7 20:18 28:13 happens 28:8 happy 26:15 harass 14:5 15:3 harbor 8:19 13:23 14:2 14:3,21 15:7,8 33:24 34:4,5,9 Hawaii 11:18 12:2 head 16:13 hear 30:17 heard 8:5 14:7 hearing 3:4,8 heckeling 22:2 Hecklers 15:8 height 5:12 held 17:3 hell 24:23 hey 30:17 high 2:21 34:9 hiring 30:12 HISTORY 1:4 hit 7:20 13:10 15:19,19 15:19 16:7 20:19 21:10 22:19 23:8 hits 15:17,17 hold 30:16 32:19 holding 30:18 holes 14:11 23:9,13 home 4:9,10 25:22 hood 23:10 hops 22:2,21 horseshoe 13:17 Hospital 30:12 hot 7:5</p>	<p>hour 16:23 hours 18:15,22 20:7 hundred 14:22 16:23 19:12 23:9 34:17,20 hundred-hour 18:24 hunting 32:10,12,14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <hr/> <p>Illinois 32:13 important 31:4 inclusive 35:3 indiscernible 2:14,16 14:15,16 infantry 8:15 innocent 25:13 inside 23:6 insignias 18:6 interested 28:9 interview 2:3,7 34:22,23 interviewer 2:6 Int'l 35:9 Ireland 33:24 island 4:20 5:15 8:17 9:2 13:14,16 14:6,8 16:9,9 21:2,11,12,20 islands 8:18 11:18 12:11 12:17,18 13:15 15:21</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <hr/> <p>jacket 17:19,23 19:13,15 19:18 Jacksonville 7:7 January 2:12 13:22 24:5 Japan 23:18 Japanese 14:2,4,7 24:24 25:4,8 34:6 Jersey 28:3,15,18,22 32:13 job 14:5,9,15 30:13,13 31:7 John 27:23 28:5,10,11 28:18,21 29:3,6,8 30:4</p>
--	--	--

33:10 John's 32:4 join 3:20 4:5 27:2 joined 5:8 12:12 Judith 35:8	life 31:14,18 lights 14:24 line 19:9 lining 32:24,24 listed 22:24 little 13:16 27:13 28:4 32:4 live 28:13 lived 28:2,15,18 lives 24:19,20 25:15 29:17 long 5:8 10:8 15:4,6 25:7 28:11 30:10 look 28:5 looking 12:24 13:2,5 20:8 22:9 28:10 lose 13:10 26:9 lost 20:17 25:9,10 29:5 30:2,4 31:7 lot 5:4,20,21 6:9 9:16 10:10,13,21 11:2,2,9,10 12:13,14 15:9,11 21:2 24:19 25:13,15 29:8,19 lots 4:11,12 love 33:17 low 15:14,15 16:4,10,16 21:8 lower 33:8 lowering 5:11 lucky 13:9	marine 3:20 4:22 5:2,3,9 5:10,16 6:5 8:8,9 10:20 10:22 18:5 26:21,24 marines 10:17,22 mark 6:20 marvelous 23:14 mask 17:11 Massachusetts 29:17 mean 14:14 22:19 means 14:17 20:24 26:7 26:23 mechanic 5:24 6:2,4 mechanics 18:13 21:14 medium 10:20,23 12:20 17:6,7 33:23 meeting 30:14 mellow 25:5 members 23:15,23 24:6 27:19 memories 3:4 Memphis 6:14,14 met 8:22 28:24 29:9 31:22 metal 23:12 Michael 2:6 middle 33:13 Midway 25:9 miles 16:23 military 2:4 19:22 31:17 mind 9:18,23 22:14 mine 19:17 Minnesota 29:23 minor 34:2 minutes 28:15,19 mission 12:19,21 18:10 19:6,6 20:2,22,24 34:19 missions 12:16 13:23 14:13,13,19 15:10 18:16 19:12,20,23 20:5 20:13 33:5,19 34:18 mistaken 6:8
K		
keep 7:4,13 18:15 27:7 keeping 23:13 kept 5:11 14:10 23:15 29:16 kid 3:17 kids 10:14 killed 9:3 kind 6:20 12:3 14:24 25:5 26:5 31:20,20 kinds 11:7 13:23 20:5 kneeling 33:9 knew 12:5 28:9 knocked 26:7 know 4:23 5:21 6:3 7:16 9:24 15:24 20:13 22:7 22:9,20 24:22,23,24 25:12 29:18 30:5 31:15 knows 20:17		
L		
land 7:22 15:15 landing 21:10,12,13 layoffs 31:5 learn 16:11 31:20 learned 16:16 leather 17:18 19:15 Lebanese 12:11 left 8:8 11:13 14:6 15:4,5 30:6 Legion 27:5 Lejeune 6:10,11 letter 8:6 27:11 Letye 13:15 level 21:8 Lieutenant 33:13,15		
	M	
	machine 12:3 30:12,14 30:15 machinist 30:19,23,24 31:8 magazine 22:12 magazines 29:3 mainland 23:18 making 27:16 man 6:2 15:13 33:12 March 9:10 32:22	

<p>Mitchell 11:6 mom 3:19 moment 12:9 month 2:15 30:2,2 months 3:12 13:24 24:8 26:3,12 29:7,16 30:3 mother 4:4 8:7 25:22 mountain 16:11,18,20 mountains 16:8 moved 13:15 28:14 Museum 2:4 mutual 8:22</p>	<p>18:7,22 20:10</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <hr/> <p>observing 22:4 ocean 20:4 odd 23:9 office 30:19 officers 24:9,9 Oh 17:20 26:14,22 33:17 okay 3:3 30:21 32:17,21 33:3 34:7,10,15,21,21 Okinawa 23:17 Oklahoma 6:23 old 4:3 9:4 19:17 20:9 29:14,24 31:11 32:6 oldest 32:11 once 17:9,15 22:10 27:18 operator 30:14 operators 30:12 opportunity 12:20 20:24 opposite 16:20 ORAL 1:4 ordinance 6:2,6,19 12:4 18:13 21:15 organizations 27:3 outfit 8:13,18 26:2 outside 3:10 21:20 overnight 21:14 overseas 8:14 11:12 26:4 oxygen 17:11</p>	<p>29:24 passing 30:24 patches 19:14 patching 23:13 Pearl 13:23 14:2 Peleliu 9:2 Pennsylvania 28:8 people 6:22 10:16,21 18:13 20:11 21:15 23:12 25:13 peppered 14:10 permission 4:3,5 person 29:21 perspiration 17:14 Philadelphia 27:24 28:2 28:13 Phillips 23:2 27:23 33:10 phone 29:13 phonetic 4:17 12:17 13:13,16 21:11 23:2 33:11,14,16 photographers 33:21 physical 4:9,14 29:9,19 pick 4:22 21:3 22:10 picked 5:2 6:19,22 picture 8:21,23,24 32:21 33:2,4,7,17,18 34:2,4,8 34:12,16 pictures 27:22 29:12 32:17 34:11 pilot 7:20 20:9 21:4,8 26:10 29:11 33:15 pilots 10:14,22,24 16:12 24:9 pitch 22:3 place 2:10 9:21 23:22 plain 19:15 plane 7:18 8:3 11:3,4 14:20 16:22,24 18:2,9 19:2,5,10 20:19 21:8,19 22:23 23:4,8,11 26:3,6</p>
<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <hr/> <p>naked 22:13 name 2:9,11 4:17 18:3,3 19:16 naval 6:15 navigation 10:12 navigational 12:14 navigator 29:22 Navy 11:7 13:19 18:5 26:2 necessary 11:16 never 3:22 5:9 8:4 17:11 19:4 22:20 27:9,9,14,14 27:15 28:5 29:4 32:2 New 2:3,4,12 4:7 12:11 16:9,9 21:2 28:2,14,18 28:22 32:13 33:24 nice 29:2,6 32:15 night 7:3 14:12,13,13,15 14:20 15:4,6 22:17 nine 12:21 19:7,9 nineteen 11:20 non-aligned 23:6 Norman 6:23 North 9:8,14,15 nose 18:3 notes 12:6 notify 27:11 number 6:19,22 10:4</p>	<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <hr/> <p>Pacific 8:14 pages 35:3 papers 7:4 paratrooper 8:12 paratroopers 8:9,11,15 Paris 4:20 5:15 part 6:7 particular 3:11 pass 4:9 passed 4:14 29:8,15,15</p>	

<p>34:3,18 planes 7:15 10:17,18,18 10:19 11:14,15 12:2,5 12:12,22 13:9 18:11,11 18:15,16,20,21 19:7,7 19:11,12 20:11,17 22:20 23:13,15 33:18 33:20 34:9,17 planned 29:6 plans 13:19 28:23 Plating 11:15 platoon 6:7 please 2:10 plexiglass 13:5 Point 9:8,13 25:24 position 34:13 possibly 26:8 post 30:18 potatoes 4:12 pound 14:22 Powers 33:14 practically 19:2 practice 7:14 11:2 12:15 preparation 26:4 presented 32:4 pretty 3:23 17:17 22:13 30:16 prior 2:19 7:10 probably 31:6 problems 29:9,19 proper 12:3 provided 35:5 puffs 13:7 pull 7:20 8:2 put 4:12 7:4,24 8:2 11:17 19:3 25:24 putting 18:6 pwss 34:24 P.B.J 11:7 34:14 P.D.Y 7:15 9:9 p.m 2:5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <hr/> quite 13:8 16:8 <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <hr/> R 2:11 radio 3:9 33:12 ramp 7:24 8:3 range 6:10 23:19,20 reaction 26:13 reactions 24:15 read 22:12 ready 18:11,15,20 19:10 realize 10:21 really 10:14 rear 26:11 recall 21:16,17 recruiting 4:6 regardless 31:22 regularly 27:21 release 15:16 remained 6:7,11 remember 3:3,6,7,8,10 3:11 4:2,11,11 5:20 6:15,16 7:2,21 8:4,16 10:8 12:20,22,24 13:9 15:20 16:6,21 17:12,12 18:22 19:18 20:20,22 21:7,13,13,24 22:22,22 22:23 23:3,6 30:14 32:24 repaired 23:11 Reporters 35:9 represents 34:19 reserves 26:17,20 respected 5:3 rest 8:21 10:5 12:13 13:21 resupplied 14:10 retire 31:13 retired 31:10 reunion 27:12 29:2	<p>reunions 27:7,10,20 revisiting 29:6 RFs 10:12 rifle 6:10 right 5:20 12:20 13:9 15:23,24 21:9 24:4,17 24:20 25:14 27:15 right-hand 33:8 river 28:14 roads 15:2 Rob 28:16 roughly 12:21 Royal 14:21 15:8 33:24 runners 7:2 running 28:16 runs 15:11,11 16:3 23:17 Russert 2:2,6,8 34:21</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <hr/> s 7:15 Saratoga 2:4 save 29:5 saved 24:19 25:15 29:4 saw 11:9,10 17:2 saying 3:9 21:8 says 3:19,19 30:17 scary 13:8 Schaefer 33:11 scheduled 23:16 Schenectady 2:12,23 3:2 school 2:22,23 5:22 6:6 6:12,15,19,23,24 sea 11:9 15:7 search 20:11 searches 20:6 seat 26:11 second 9:11 section 10:7 11:19 see 13:3,4,6 14:24 22:6 22:17,17 24:21 25:6,13 26:5,15,22 30:11 33:12 send 14:20 20:10 21:2,4
--	---	--

<p>27:22 sent 6:11,18,23 7:6 8:23 25:23 26:4 29:12 Sergeant 33:11 served 26:16 service 2:20 8:22 31:18 seven 3:15 19:11 31:24 32:6 34:17 seventeen 4:3 seventy 14:7 shacks 15:22,23 shaped 13:17 sheared 17:4 sheet 23:12 24:4,4 she'll 32:5 ship 11:19 15:19 shipment 24:7 shipped 4:20 8:13 9:7,17 11:12,13,14,14 12:16 23:24 24:2,3,6,10 ships 14:3,11 16:5 shocked 3:12 shoot 7:17,20 20:15 21:5 21:5 shooting 13:11 shore 8:3 short 23:19,20 28:11 shot 20:9 showing 34:12 shrapnel 23:9 sic 27:24 side 7:19 13:2,5 15:19 16:10,17,20 18:6 sides 7:16 sign 4:4 single 10:17 sisters 3:15 sit 22:11 six 5:11 18:10,11,23 19:7 19:9,9 20:7 33:22 34:16</p>	<p>sixty 14:7 sixty-hour 18:23 six-plane 33:23 skill 35:5 skip 15:11,13 16:3 sky 3:13,19 22:9 small 9:15 smoke 13:7 sock 7:19 socks 7:17 soldier 25:4 somebody 13:11 someplace 20:4 son 28:22 32:11 sons 28:2,18 31:23,23 sorry 4:15 25:12 27:13 South 4:20 southern 8:17 specifically 20:21 spelling 4:18 12:17 13:13,16 21:11 23:2 33:11,14,16 spent 11:20 13:21 14:12 14:18 15:9,10 21:13 25:21 31:8 32:10,15 spotlight 22:6 spotlights 22:11 Spriggs 35:8 Springs 2:4 squadron 9:11,14,17 12:11 18:18 23:23,23 27:19 32:23,24 33:21 squadrons 9:9 23:22 start 16:17,18,18 17:16 started 18:17 28:10 state 2:3 28:9 states 9:17 23:24 24:7 25:21 state-side 24:11 25:19 station 16:3 stationed 9:5</p>	<p>Stay 1:4 2:1,3,11 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 staying 32:14 Sterling 12:17,18 13:15 Stern 4:17 stop 12:9 story 28:11 straight 15:11 stranded 14:8 stretcher 31:15 strip 13:18,20 stuff 6:9 12:4 23:7 submarine 20:6 submarines 20:8 sudden 22:5 sunken 14:3 supplies 11:21 support 13:14 supposed 16:7 sure 14:9,11 30:9 31:3 31:19,19 32:3 33:24 surrounded 14:4 S.P.E 26:2</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">T</p> <hr/> <p>T 22:24 tail 13:3 23:2 34:12 take 5:21 11:22 19:2,2 30:20 31:21 taken 32:22 33:19 talk 17:6 tall 5:11 tanks 11:17 target 15:16,17 16:7,10 16:14,19 20:23 21:3</p>
---	---	---

<p>targets 7:17</p> <p>telephone 28:12</p> <p>tell 2:9,18 22:14 23:4 32:18,20</p> <p>telling 8:7</p> <p>ten 5:12 14:22 17:9,10 17:17 26:3,12 28:3</p> <p>Tennessee 6:14</p> <p>territory 20:3,15</p> <p>test 30:20,23,24</p> <p>tests 5:21</p> <p>thank 34:22</p> <p>Thanksgiving 32:15</p> <p>theaters 6:17</p> <p>they'd 8:2,2 16:13,13,14 20:10 21:3,4</p> <p>thing 12:7 22:8</p> <p>things 31:21</p> <p>think 4:6 6:9,13 9:10,18 11:12 12:6,18 13:18 18:19 20:23 22:23 24:5 24:8,8,17,18 25:14,15 31:17 32:22</p> <p>thirteen 9:9</p> <p>thirty 25:22</p> <p>thirty-hour 18:23</p> <p>thought 9:24 21:6,9,9 24:24</p> <p>thousand 14:7 17:8,8,10 17:17</p> <p>three 4:19 16:23 22:8 25:10,10 27:18 28:2,17 31:22 32:16 34:11</p> <p>till 7:20</p> <p>time 5:10 6:3 9:3 13:24 14:18 16:6,20,23 19:6 20:20 23:13 24:16 25:14 29:9 31:4</p> <p>times 15:20 16:12 29:13</p> <p>tip 8:17</p> <p>today 10:21 24:16 25:5</p>	<p>told 4:9 28:21</p> <p>top 17:3</p> <p>touch 29:17</p> <p>tow 7:18,18</p> <p>tracking 10:12</p> <p>trailing 23:10</p> <p>train 9:24 10:6,8</p> <p>trained 9:12 26:3</p> <p>training 2:22 5:19 8:12 9:16 10:10 11:8,11 12:14,14,15 25:19 26:12</p> <p>transcription 35:4</p> <p>transferred 9:14 25:21</p> <p>trip 10:9 16:21 21:4 27:16 28:22 32:10,12 32:14</p> <p>true 35:4</p> <p>Truman 24:17</p> <p>trying 4:12 6:13 8:4 12:6 18:15</p> <p>turret 17:3 27:23 30:4 33:10</p> <p>twelve 3:15 17:8 18:18 18:19 32:5</p> <p>twenties 10:15</p> <p>twenty 9:4 24:6 31:8</p> <p>twenty-five 24:6</p> <p>twenty-four 18:14</p> <p>twenty-three 9:12</p> <p>twin 10:19,23</p> <p>two 9:9 22:8 26:6 30:2,6 31:5 32:10</p> <p>two-week 32:10</p> <p>type 20:22</p> <p>T.V 25:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">U</p> <hr/> <p>Uh-huh 18:2</p> <p>understand 18:4</p> <p>unit 17:19 27:7</p> <p>United 9:17</p>	<p>use 17:10 30:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <hr/> <p>veterans 25:6,6 27:3</p> <p>vibrating 16:24</p> <p>vibration 17:4</p> <p>visit 28:4</p> <p>visiting 3:7 28:17</p> <p>vocational 2:22</p> <p>volunteered 8:11</p> <p>volunteers 8:9</p> <p>V-Day 26:13</p> <p>V.F.W 27:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">W</p> <hr/> <p>waiting 16:14</p> <p>wall 13:6 16:2</p> <p>Wallner 11:15</p> <p>want 5:4 6:4,5 7:12 21:3 27:17 32:18</p> <p>wanted 5:5,6</p> <p>war 24:23 26:5 27:2</p> <p>warm 7:5</p> <p>wasn't 5:8 11:16 23:3 31:16</p> <p>water 15:14,15,18</p> <p>Watervliet 30:11</p> <p>way 3:14 8:13 15:19 29:15</p> <p>wear 17:18</p> <p>wearing 19:18</p> <p>weeks 4:10,14 32:16</p> <p>weigh 4:8</p> <p>weight 4:13</p> <p>went 2:22 4:5,10,13 5:15 6:9,13,18 7:6 8:11 10:6 10:8 11:9,19 12:10 26:16 27:9,14 28:23,24 30:12,22</p> <p>weren't 31:14</p> <p>wet 17:14</p> <p>we're 32:7</p>
--	--	--

<p>we've 25:6</p> <p>wheels 7:23 8:2</p> <p>Whereabouts 33:6</p> <p>wife 27:16 28:4,17,24 29:8 31:22 32:3,4,13</p> <p>Willie 22:24</p> <p>window 9:23 13:5</p> <p>wing 5:17 23:10</p> <p>wings 8:12</p> <p>wonderful 32:7</p> <p>wondering 22:18</p> <p>word 6:14 11:12 29:7</p> <p>wore 17:23 19:19</p> <p>work 28:8 31:3</p> <p>worked 2:24 18:14,14</p> <p>works 3:2 28:8</p> <p>worse 25:4</p> <p>write 27:21,22</p> <p>wrong 21:18</p> <p>wrote 8:5 29:12,12</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Y</p> <hr/> <p>yeah 12:10 16:2 17:20 19:17 20:20 22:16 23:21 24:13 25:20 30:21</p> <p>year 27:12 30:5,11 32:6</p> <p>years 4:3 9:4 19:18 27:18 28:3,16 29:14,24 31:3,9,11 32:5</p> <p>York 2:3,4,12 4:7</p> <p>young 6:3 10:14 24:19 25:3</p> <p>younger 10:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <hr/> <p>1 35:3</p> <p>12-16-2002 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</p>	<p>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</p> <p>16 1:6</p> <p>16th 2:5</p> <p>18th 25:17</p> <p>1923 2:13</p> <p>1940 24:5</p> <p>1941 3:5</p> <p>1943 32:22</p> <p>1944 13:22</p> <p>1945 24:5</p> <p>1946 25:17</p> <p>1978 31:10</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <hr/> <p>2002 1:6 2:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <hr/> <p>30th 2:13</p> <p>34 35:3</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <hr/> <p>43 9:9,10</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <hr/> <p>7th 3:5</p>	
--	--	--