

# Gray County Veterans Memorial & Archive

## ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

**Frank Darrell Timken**

January 23, 2015



**INTERVIEW**                 **Frank Darrell Timken**  
**YEAR**                       **2015**  
**GRAY COUNTY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW**

**NAME:** Frank Darrell Timken

**DATE:** January 23, 2015

**PLACE:** Topeka Public Library, Topeka KS



**INTERVIEWER:** Kathleen Holt

**PROJECT SERIES:** Korean Era Oral History Project for Gray County

**FUNDING:** This project is funded in part by a Kansas Heritage grant from the Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) for the “Gray County Korean War Veterans Oral History Project.” The Kansas Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities.

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:**

Frank Darrell Timken was born July 14, 1930, in Dodge City, Kansas. He grew up on a farm about three miles north of Cimarron on Highway 23 and graduated from Cimarron High School in 1948. Enrolled at Kansas University in the fall of 1948, Mr. Timken completed his college in July of 1953, knowing that his college deferment would end, making him eligible for the draft. Frank was drafted into the U.S. Army January the 6<sup>th</sup>, 1953, and served until October 21, 1954. He attended 16 weeks of basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas in the 542<sup>nd</sup> field artillery battalion. Initially in the headquarters battery of the 196<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion of 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Artillery, Timken was transferred to 10<sup>th</sup> Corps Artillery Headquarters, and then to the Headquarters Battery of the 49<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery battalion of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Growing up in Cimarron, Mr. Timken went by the name Darrell, but as was military custom, during his service years, he went by his first name “Frank D. Timken.”

**SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:** Korean War; Life in a camp on the DMZ; service during the cease fire; being away from home; returning; GI Bill

**COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:** Mr. Timken’s wife Clarice joined him for the interview. They were married at the time he was drafted. A future interview with Mrs. Timken would add depth to this account.

**SOUND RECORDINGS:** Digital  
**LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:** 70:01 and 40:03  
**RESTRICTIONS ON USE:** None  
**TRANSCRIPT:** 23 pages

**ORAL HISTORY**  
**Frank D. Timken**  
**Interview Date: January 23, 2015**

**Interviewer: Kathleen Holt (KMH)**  
**Interviewee: Frank D. Timken (FDT)**  
**Also Present: Clarice Buttron Timken (CBT)**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

**KMH** – My name is Kathleen Holt. This is January 23, 2015, and it is about 10:30 in the morning. I am at the Topeka Public Library with Mr. Timken, and we're going to be talking today about his experience serving in the military in the Korean War. Mr. Timken, would you introduce yourself please and give us your birthdate and the city in which you were born?

**FDT** – I'm Frank Darrell Timken. I was born July the 14<sup>th</sup>, 1930, in Dodge City, Kansas.

**KMH** – Okay, Mr. Timken, you served in which branch of the military?

**FDT** – The U. S. Army.

**KMH** – What battalion, regiment, division, that kind of thing? Can you describe those units that you were in during your service?

**FDT** – Well, I went through basic at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas in the 542<sup>nd</sup> field artillery battalion. That was 16 weeks of training there. And then I was sent to Korea. There, initially, I was in the headquarters battery of the 196<sup>th</sup> field artillery battalion of 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Artillery. Later on, I was transferred to 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Artillery Headquarters, and then I was transferred to headquarters battery of the 49<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

**KMH** – Was that common to be in that many, four different?

**FDT** – No, I don't think so. I was even in -- my final assignment was in the Headquarters Battery of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery Headquarters.

**KMH** – Wow, so I bet we are going to hear an interesting experience.

**FDT** – Well, travel experience, yeah.

**KMH** – Did you enlist in the service or were you drafted?

**FDT** – I was drafted.

**KMH** – Basically, what were your service dates?

**FDT** – Well, they were January 6, 1953, to October 21, 1954. And at that time, when I was separated, they allowed me to spend -- required, I guess you could say -- six years in inactive reserve in the army. So I wasn't officially separated from the service until January of 1961.

**KMH** – OK and we have a list of some of your medals and awards, which we will include in this information, but is there anything specific you can tell us about any of those awards?

**FDT** – Well, one of the awards is the United States Korean Service Medal and it's with one Bronze Service Star. That Bronze Service Star is usually described as a battle star. And I think in Korea, during the Korean War, battle stars were given for a period of time, mostly. You might think of a battle, like Gettysburg, but that one service battle star represents, for me, the summer campaign of 1953 season. And, I guess one of the other medals is the Republic of Korea Korean War service medal which was given about 50 years after the war. I had to write to San Antonio, Texas, to receive it. As I understand it, the government wouldn't accept that medal for service men to wear back in 1953. And then, they later on awarded Vietnam medals to their veterans, so they back tracked and allowed the Korean government medal to be worn by the Korean veterans.

**KMH** – That's beautiful!

**FDT** – Yeah, it is nice.

## **INTERVIEW**

**KMH** – All right. Well, let's start the official part of the interview. I am going to reintroduce myself and then we'll get started on talking about your experience in the interview. I'm Kathleen Holt, this is January 23, 2015, we are at the Topeka Public Library, and I am with Mr. Timken, who will introduce himself and tell us where you born and what date, and then we will be ready to go.

**FDT** – I am Frank Darrell Timken. I was born July 14, 1930 at Trinity Hospital in Dodge City, Kansas. I grew up on a farm about three miles north of Cimarron on Highway 23 and graduated from Cimarron High School in 1948. I enrolled at Kansas University in the fall of 1948. I completed my college in July of 1953. Of course, the Korean War started in 1950 and I received a college deferment. During my college years, they had rules and regulations, like you had to have a certain grade average and you had to be working toward an end. I was able to finish my college work through that deferment. August of 1952. And at that time, when I notified the draft board I had decided that I'd completed and that made me eligible for the draft. I decided to go ahead and be drafted rather than enlist.

I had a good friend, John Pixley, who went the other route. He had finished his college in the summer of 1952 from Kansas State, and he was going to enlist in the Air Force, which he did, in the fall of 1952. He ended up staying over 20 years in the Air Force. I

think retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. But, I decided on the draft. He said, "Well, you're going to Korea," and that was true. That's where I ended up. After my military service, I came back and taught school. I had a degree in secondary education and I taught at Lansing, Kansas; Augusta, Kansas and Topeka for a total of -- all together -- 34 years, 35 years and I'm retired. At this time, I'm 84 years old, so that's about it, so far as just a background.

**KMH** – OK and I also want to introduce someone else that's here with us, or have you introduce your lovely wife and tell us when you were married.

**FDT** – Yes, my wife figures in, pretty much, in my military service and decision for the draft and two years of service. My wife was Clarice Buttron. She taught music at Cimarron Public Schools from 1951 to '53. I met her the summer of -- or in the fall of '52. I was helping my father and brother farm and plant the fall wheat crop and so forth waiting on the draft. We got engaged before I entered the service and we got married then. I had a 10 day delay in route leave from the time I left Camp Chaffee until I had to report to board a troop train. At that time, we got married. That was May the 12<sup>th</sup>, 1953. So, that was part of the decision for the two year thing.

**KMH** – And she's here today to keep you straight on those dates, too. (Laughs)

**FDT** – (Laughs) That's right. She's keeping track of things.

**KMH** – The family archivist is here. Well, that's good. OK, and is it C-l-a-r-i-c-e?

**CBT** – Well, I pronounce it "CLAIR-is." That's the way my father pronounced it. He knew someone that was C-l-a-r-i-s, like Alice and Janice.

**KMH** – Oh, OK. Well, that's beautiful!

**CBT** - If you are over a certain age, it's probably Claris, if you are younger, it's probably Clarice.

**KMH** – Oh, I see. And spelled i-c or i-s?

**CBT** – i-c-e.

**KMH** – And how did you spell your last name, your maiden name?

**CBT** – B-u-t-t-r-o-n.

**KMH** – Well ok, great. We're glad that you are here. One question I forgot to ask from our form, what was the highest rank you achieved in service?

**FDT** – It was an E5, a sergeant.

**KMH** – All right, I am going to put the paperwork aside. What I would like for you to do is start out telling me, you've told us a little bit here about your decision, you made it

through college and then you were drafted. It sounds like you did a lot between the time college and getting ready for that draft. You kind of knew it was coming? How did you find out, finally, that you were drafted? Where were you and what were you doing then?

**FDT** – Well, like I said, we had to notify the draft board when we completed college, and I thought I would get quicker information. Since I finished in July, I thought they would let me know what the situation was quicker, but it wasn't until in October that I got a message from them to report for my physical. So, I caught the bus at Dodge City, which picked up such persons, and had my physical.

And then I came home to wait for the draft. I think one of the problems with the draft board as I understood it was that their secretary had had an operation and everything came to a halt in so far as the draft board working. It was a three person draft board from Hodgeman County, Ford County, and Gray County. The Gray County representative was Wylie Parker who was a farm neighbor of us. He lived a half mile south of our farm.

Once I passed the physical and came home, well then, I waited again. The day before Christmas, I got a card from the Selective Service, "Greetings". It had something to the effect about from your neighbors, you are asked to report. And it was truly a neighbor. Wylie lived a half mile down the road. When I left Cimarron to report, had come home on leave, and report to get to the troop train, why Wylie was there on the street. My brother was taking me where I needed to go. Wylie came down and talked to me and visited with me on Main Street in Cimarron before I left.

At that time, then I reported to Kansas City again and was sworn in there at the Center, Army Center, and went to Camp Crowder, Missouri where I was processed further, got shots. And that was after January the 6<sup>th</sup>. So I was just there a week or so, or less. And then I was sent to Camp Chaffee, Arkansas where I took eight weeks of basic training and then I took eight weeks of advanced training. The military occupation specialty, the MOS that I received from my advanced training, was fire direction control in artillery. I think there, well Clarice came down. Well she brought my folks down one time to visit me. I wanted a weekend pass to have more freedom. And she had to go in and see the battery commander and be interviewed by the army so I could get my pass. But I did get a pass. (Laughs)

**KMH**- You had to work for it. (Laughs)

**FDT** – After that 16 weeks of training, I had the delay in route pass, and then I went by troop train to Fort Lewis, Washington near the beginning of June, I guess. I know it was, Queen Elizabeth was crowned or something at that time on TV. We were in Seattle; Clarice came up there because I was up there for a week or so. You could watch it through the windows on TV, this business of her father had died and the coronation of her. But, we went by troop ship to Korea. We landed first at Sasebo, Japan where we got off the troop ship and picked up any mail there that was waiting for us. We went to our barracks,

I think they issued us a rifle the next morning. And we went out on the firing range and shot it. As I understand, in the early months of the Korean War, they sent troops to Korea with rifles that didn't function. So we had to actually fire our rifle and then we boarded the same troop ship that day. We were in Sasebo, Japan about one day. And we went around on the west side of Korea and debarked at or landed at Incheon, Korea. From there, I went by a night train, very slowly. I don't suppose it went more than 15 or 20 mph, very dark, shades pulled down, to Chuncheon, Korea to a replacement depot.



I was assigned there to the headquarters battery of the 196<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion. And that battalion was located on the eastern front. It was about 20 miles north of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. And it was on the line, firing. I was on the line for about over a year. I was assigned there to the S2 Section, which is intelligence section of the 196<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion. It was a small section made up of an officer, two enlisted men, and then we had the forward observation post on the front line. And there were two or three in each one of those, so it was a section of less than 10 people. My first assignment, even before I went to the S2 section was to finish digging the sump hole for the mess sergeant. (Laughs)

**KMH** – (Laughs) that took a lot of intelligence.

**FDT** – Yeah. (Laughs) But that was where they threw the leftovers and threw dirt on top of it. A big hole about as deep as I was tall. And when I was doing that one day suddenly I looked up and there were two Lieutenant Colonels looking down on me. And having gone through basic training, anything higher than a PFC was a big rank. One of them was a battalion commander and one of them was a chaplain who was assigned to or just stayed in our battalion. Of course, I didn't know what to do, so I just kept digging, and they didn't say anything. I kept digging and they walked away. So I think that was the official visit with my battalion commander. (Laughs)

I didn't know what to do, you know, with a shovel in my hand -- whether to salute or not. My main function -- well I arrived in Korea in the middle of June of '53 and the cease fire came the last of July of '53. So I was there during the war, the last six weeks of the war. During that time, I was mainly the jeep driver for the intelligence officer. We were about three miles from the front, I estimate. It was very rugged, mountainous country and the roads were kind of like the road from Florence, Colorado, to Cripple Creek, Colorado, in 1911. It was very rough country.

The artillery that made up the 196<sup>th</sup> was 155 mm Howitzers and they could fire about 10 miles. So we would drive up to the front several times a week. The forwards observers not only directed fire, but they also gathered intelligence information. They were our

eyes, so to speak. To keep the morale up, the intelligence officer would often take them up a candy bar or take them their mail, something like that. It was on those trips we had two observation posts, we would come under fire because they could observe us. We would lower the windshield of our jeep to reduce the reflections, but they could see us, the enemy could see us. And sometimes we'd go around, we'd be coming around the side of a mountain, and you would come around here and on one side they could see your dust or reflection, they would try to estimate how fast you were going, and you'd come around on the other side and you would see these puffs of dirt coming down the road. That was mortar fire. And so, you would have to back up and get out of there.

Sometimes, there were Korean workers or work gangs, road gangs, and they'd be running towards you. That's the first thing that you'd notice that something was going on. We were also about 20 miles from the Sea of Japan. We couldn't see the ocean. I drove the officer over to the ocean one time because we had naval officers assigned to our fire direction center. And so if our battalion came under enemy artillery fire, we'd called upon -- the naval gunnery officer would call upon fire from the cruisers or battleships not far from us and they would open up.

There was very little action at that time in the daytime in Korea. You had to keep, remember that the last year and half of the war, things were pretty stable. There'd be pushes occasionally, probes, fights, but they were involved in trying to reach a cease fire, I guess. Maybe one unit, US, or maybe North Korean or Chinese would try to get the high point of ground, and, I don't know how our unit in Korea -- we had a little town, a little military town. I guess I use the word town, because we had an aide station. We had a smoke pot unit, or I guess a chemical warfare unit, but what they did, they tended these fires in pots that would cover the road so the road wasn't visible to the enemy, traffic on the road.

And we had a search light unit and under certain circumstances, while the clouds were low, they could move the search lights up and shine them in the clouds and illuminate the front lines, because activity was at night, mainly. So that meant the artillery was at night. They were firing all night long, usually. If you had a letter from home, or something like that, and you went back to your tent to read the letter, why once those guns started firing, and we had a battery of long toms, our 155 Howitzers with the long barrel, which could fire 14 miles behind us, the air concussion when they went off, our illumination in the tent was candles. And so, you just couldn't read your letter. We had flashlights issued to us, but you couldn't walk down to the dime store to get batteries. You had to go down to the supply sergeant to get batteries. If you used that flashlight very much and went back and forth, they knew what you were doing. We usually used the flashlight when we had guard duty. I might mention, it seems like I did a lot of guard duty. We had to supply our own security; I did a lot of private of the guard, corporal of the guard, and sergeant of the guard. It was usually on two hours, like you did the 6:00, the 6:00 – 8:00 and then the 12:00 to 2:00 shift. And, the nice thing about that Korea guard duty, if there was a nice thing, it wasn't very formal. Like service in the United States where the inspections were pretty severe sometimes.

**KMH** – Tell me a little more about that, what, did you have to walk a perimeter?



**FDT** – Well, we had stationary guard duties. In other words, we had three guard posts. We had one on a ridge, where our communications tent was. I think we were still using WWII radio equipment and that sort of business. And then we had two guard posts. The artillery battery that was behind us, they provided a guard post. I think that was pretty much it, in so far as guard duty.

I did help out a little bit in our direction center when I was there early as well as my jeep driving, and guard duty. For instance, if they needed some help on the radio, I would service as a radio. But I never did do the actual fire direction center work, for what I was trained. Which, I guess, is normal for the army, you end up not doing what you were trained to do.

So, the cease fire came, and I might say, there were probably two big things about my service in Korea, I was there during cease fire and not everybody was. And for our artillery unit, I think we were going to cease fire at 10:00, that would have been 22:00 hours, our fire mission, our last fire mission, was at 9:00 that night and when that was finished, our artillery unit didn't fire anymore. In so far as any celebration or anything like that, I don't recall much going on. For one thing, we didn't know really what was going on, what was happening. And you know would it start up again? Things like that.

The next day, I guess the commanding officers had gotten down what would have to take place, if it was signed and when it was signed because we got our assignments for the 2 ½ mile wide DMZ that had be created. So, one of our observation posts was inside the DMZ, would be, so we had to go up and get it out and move it back. Everything had to be done in 30 days. So that took quite a bit of time.

And I might mention here, some people might be interested, well, just exactly where were you? One of our operations was on the north rim of the "Punchbowl", that's kind of a known battlefield earlier in the war. The First Marine Division was there, the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was there at that time. And in front of that op was a rock structure known as "Luke the Gook's Castle". There were caves in there. And we could drive clear up to the front line in the daytime. That might sound kind of strange, to drive up to the back of the front line, and sometimes I would get out of the jeep and go up to watch what was happening. I know I saw planes drop napalm on "Luke the Gook's Castle".

There was a tremendous clash of flame. I don't know how they survived. But the enemy -- here again -- it was so rugged that the North Koreans couldn't pull up very large artillery pieces. By that I mean, there size was like a 75 or 76 mm compared to our 155. They had to pull them up by hand. They would put them in caves and when they wanted to counter fire, they had to pull them out of the caves and fire. Two other places that were real close to the Punchbowl, were Heartbreak Ridge and I forgot what the other one was. Well, I can't think now.

The other kind of thing that kind of stands out is that after the cease fire came the front line got closer to our artillery unit. We didn't move back. In some places, the infantry had to move back. But the 196<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion was the northern most American unit of battalion size in Korea after the war. I don't know if that was a good thing or not. Of course, that meant that in front of us then, were South Korean infantry divisions. To our left side, was the 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, which was the Oklahoma National Guard division which was sent over there.



Oh, we did, the artillery unit did get fired upon. I think it was my birthday, July 14<sup>th</sup> of '53, maybe that's one reason why I remember the time, but we had been told the day before that to dig deeper fox holes in the area, that we were going to come under enemy fire. They didn't quite know when. But the weather was right, the conditions were right for their artillery to reach us, and we had been fired on before when I wasn't there. And sure enough, we waited around on Saturday, and the soil was rocky, hard to dig, dig in, but all

of us dug our fox holes deeper. But I, for some reason, decided that maybe I should get the jeep that I drove and take it down to the gas dump. There was a little fenced in facility where they kept gasoline in barrels and motor oil and that sort of stuff. I thought that the chief intelligence officer might want to go someplace and we might have to move. So I moved the jeep down a hundred yards, I suppose. And I was down there when the enemy fire came in.

In the tent that we lived in -- a number of us -- a shell did go through and hit on the other side. The shrapnel just blew that tent to smithereens. I had a little photograph of Clarice in a container like this and had it propped up, and it survived, but the tent didn't survive. I had run to a gully and jump down in it. It was deep, maybe four or five feet deep, and that's where I stayed while they fired. And sure enough, there was somebody there that was my first sergeant. He was already in the gully, so I was in good company. But we had the artillery unit back of us for long toms. They went into action. The enemy artillery fire didn't reach them. And the naval guns started up. So, the enemy artillery fire slowly came to a halt that afternoon.

I suppose the closest time that I ever came to getting shot, though, was one time when I drove up to the forward observation post and was sitting in the jeep and a sergeant came rushing through the brush. He grabbed my carbine and smelled it. And what the situation was, somebody along the front line had been firing down into the brush, just firing down there, you know. And, some of our fellows, and meanwhile his communication group was down there repairing telephone wires.

Now that sounds like the old days to have telephone wires and you can imagine they always needed to be repaired. I did hear one time, the Koreans would go out and steal the wire, they'd cut it to use for rope or something, but they were down there and the fire came close to them. I'm sure that if he'd have smelled smoke in my carbine, he might have shot me. He was very mad.

And in so far as weapons that I carried, I was issued in Japan a M1 rifle and I carried it for a while. And then I was given a carbine which was a shorter rifle. If you wanted to carry something, that was a neat one to carry. But if you were to fight somebody, you wanted a rifle. But, it was kind of a status symbol. If you carried a rifle in the artillery, it meant that you hadn't been there very long. You got promoted up after a while. People went home, the carbine people, so they issued you a carbine instead of a rifle. When I was driving, I did carry a grease gun which was a 45 caliber sub machine gun. And sometimes on guard duty, when I was a sergeant I would carry a 45. And I would tell you that I had never fired either one of those weapons in training, so I don't know what would have happened if I would have a needed, if it had jammed up or something.  
(Laughs)

**KMH** – (laughs) Yeah. Just for show, huh?

**FDT** – I guess that's how we operated. Now the cease fire came the last of July. I might talk about the relationship of the Headquarters Battery to the firing batteries. We were just back of the hill from the firing batteries -- Able, Baker, and Charlie, and there were 6 guns in each. Six Howitzers in each. So there were 18 howitzers, and then we had the 4 long toms behind us. And then there were a Service Battery, where there were supplies. For instance, if they were firing heavy at night, trucks were bringing ammunition up to the howitzers all night long. But they were stored down at the Firing Battery, down at the Service Battery, they didn't keep very many shells by the guns, any more than necessary.

I might say there, we did have that one day that I talked about when we got shelled, we did have one gunnery sergeant get the Silver Star because he put out a fire that had started close to the ammunition pile in his, one of his howitzers. And while I was there, there were two that got killed by enemy fire and I don't know how many got wounded. And, when the cease fire came, I did roughly the same job, except they asked me if I wanted a change of jobs, and so I became a Corporal in the intelligence section, in Headquarters Battery. There was the officer, a noncommissioned officer -- in that case it was a master sergeant -- and there was me, three of us. And so they promoted me to Corporal -- well Private PFC and then to Corporal. I suppose I really got promoted fast. I got two ranks in about a month.

But I became the NCO in the intelligence section and this was after the cease fire. And I obtained security, a secret clearance. I guess they were around Lancaster, her home town asking questions about me. I don't know if they were around Cimarron, but I had security clearance of secret. I would do things like decode of words or the passwords for a week came down from Corp Artillery Headquarters. So I would decode those. Every Sunday, I think, they'd come by telephone in code, and then I would get the

password codes up to the medical unit and up to the search light unit and up to the smoke pot people and so forth.

**KMH** – Let me ask you, was it like a letter code or a number code?

**FDT** – Yeah.

**KMH** – That was pre-computer time, I would assume, so you just did it manually?

**FDT** – Yeah, it was very crude, so to speak, and of course I had no training, I was not trained in that. I do know fellows that were trained, really trained in code work. For instance, they knew when President-elect Eisenhower was coming, you know, that sort of business. Sometimes we received other kinds of codes, and I would work on those. Of course, I had the intelligence officer as support and background and check. I knew the combination to the safe, we had a safe. And if we went out on, had some reason, for instance, we'd sometimes take two howitzers and go down to a place and practice firing.

What do you do when you have a cease fire? One of the things that you realize about Korea, you didn't come in as a unit and leave as a unit, like they do now in Afghanistan. We rotated constantly a change of people. At one time, I suddenly realized that there weren't very many fellows in the 196<sup>th</sup> that were there when combat was going on. But, if we had to move out some, and go down and practice, why it'd mean that sometimes we would evacuate other units, just for practice. We had to move that safe, and I was the, what do you call it? I was the babysitter for the safe. It was a safe about that size. And, I was responsible for carrying the thermite grenade, which was a heat grenade that would melt through metal, and, under the order, the intelligence officer said well, "it needs to be destroyed rather than get captured". Why then I would pull the pin, or set it on the safe and it would melt through, and hopefully it would destroy what was inside.

Sometimes, we would get rid of classified material that was in the safe. So I'd witnessed some of that stuff, the burning of it and so forth. One time, we had to, the commanding officer wanted to send the second-in-command, a major to Japan, to a meeting and they had to have top-secret clearance. Well, he just had secret clearance. But the colonel wanted him to go, so we set feverishly looking at army manuals. And, the officer finally found some paragraph that temporarily, he could issue top secret clearance. I don't know if it was legal or not. But, we had the warrant officer, down in headquarters, write up a nice official letter. And off he went to Japan. And he made it to the meeting. So, those were really invigorating things to do.

Later on, I was with the 196<sup>th</sup> about 9 months, I was over there 15 months, probably overseas about 16 months, if you include the time of the cruise ship, going and coming takes a few days. But, I was in Korea about 15 months. In the spring of 1954, they asked me if I wanted to go down and work at the 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Division Artillery Headquarters. I said sure, I would go down there. I figured the food would be better. But, the "military-ness" of the situation would probably be higher, meaning there would be more spit and polish.

About two weeks after I got down to 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Artillery Headquarters, they said it was moving. I thought, "My, what's going on?" The rumor was out and the rumor was that they were going to Indochina. At that time, the French were losing a big battle at Dienenchofu, something like that. And President Eisenhower, I guess was under pressure. What kind of aide would he send? Well, he did send some kind of aide, I guess -- evacuation planes and so forth. But he ended up not sending any military aide, so we didn't go there.

And that wasn't all of it. 10<sup>th</sup> Corp units were starting to be transferred out of Korea, and 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Headquarters, Artillery Headquarters were coming back to the United States. And, since I had time left, I stayed in Korea. But a small group and the colors and everything came back. Lo and behold, they came back to Fort Riley, so I wished that I had come back with the headquarters. But, that was one reason for a move.

Then, they sent me to the 49<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion Headquarters and I was a clerk, a battery clerk, typed up stuff, and I might say that's where Cimarron High School comes in, my year of typing there. When somebody learned I could peck away, why I was the battery clerk, which was a good job. I liked that unit. That unit, the 49<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, had a history to it in Korea. The 17<sup>th</sup> regiment of the 7<sup>th</sup> infantry division, in 1950, made it all the way to the *Yalu* River. And the 49<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion was the artillery support. And then, of course, the Chinese came down and they had to withdraw fast. I think the 7<sup>th</sup> infantry division commander maybe violated some order. He wasn't to retreat until ordered, but he retreated. He saw the situation so he started the withdrawal.

Then, about two or three weeks after I was in the 49th field, another question came down. I guess they were going to start troop information and education as part of the non-war. It was to give these troops something to do. Somebody had found that I had graduated from college with an education degree, no experience. But they asked me if I wanted to go down and be the head NCO of the TI&E unit and that's where I am there, in that photograph. And, they did. We didn't do anything exotic. The army issued some material every week, and I would hold meetings with what troops were available.

And this was news, you know. We didn't know what was going on, we didn't have radios and things like that, so we didn't know what was going on back home. I don't recall that we got the Stars and Stripes or the army paper very much, but I would go out and give a little weekly seminar on that. To begin with we tested out soldiers from the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Artillery that might qualify to be tested out for GEDs. And, if they didn't test out, of course, then it meant they needed more training. And then we would figure out what kind of tutoring or what type of aide or classes could we set up. But, quite a number of them could test out. That meant they had really gained something in the Army.

So, my last months in the Army were spent in troop information and education. It didn't mean, well it meant that I could get a sergeant rank, which was good, but it did mean that I lost my MOS, my FDC (fire direction center MOS). I kind of hated that. They gave me a TI&E MOS, a troop information and education MOS. So, when my time was

up, I rotated home by troop ship again. That was October, I think the Giants were playing somebody in the World Series. We could hear the radio when we got close enough to Seattle which was very good.

The trip back was a lot better than the trip over. They flew us from Seattle to Fort Carson, Colorado, where I went through the process of being honorably separated from the Army. Clarice drove out to get me. I don't think I wore the uniform back. I don't know if I wore the uniform more than once or so in Cimarron. I hate to tell something like that. I had to be inspected, the major sat there to see if the uniform met his specifications. The first time I went up there, it didn't. So, the next time I went up there, it was just form fitting. It was a good fit. But, he liked it. And so I said "if it's alright with you, then that's fine."

The reason I say I didn't wear the uniform much, later on I was asked to speak at a Rotary meeting. So somebody had known that I was in Korea. But I sat down beside a fellow, a business man from Cimarron who ran the Chevrolet place – Carl Magouirk. And Carl said he hadn't seen me much. He asked me, "Where have you been?" (Laughs)

**KMH** – Outside the county. (Laughs)

**FDT** – Outside the county, that's right. There was a little bit of that, but that's alright.

**KMH** – That's interesting.

**FDT** – Well, I don't know if I got much more.

**KMH** – Well, let me ask you a couple of things. The trip over on the ship -- had you been on a ship before? Had you traveled outside Kansas much before when you took off for those far reaches?

**FDT** – No I don't, I think that. I'd probably been to Colorado. When we graduated from high school, Wayne Wheeler from Kalvesta and John Pixley and I and one other person -- John got the family vehicle -- and we drove down to Carlsbad Caverns after we graduated from high school. We drove down to El Paso, I guess, and parked the car and walked across into Mexico. Just three blocks and then came back just to say we've been out of the country. I guess that's about it.

**KMH** – What was it like? I'm just intrigued by the fact that, having grown up in some more environment to you, Kansas, where we are certainly land-locked and there's not that much water, to be on a ship. I assume it had to be several weeks, to make the trip?

**FDT** – Yeah, I don't know how long -- clear around to -- I mean we had to stop in Sasebo. And then we had to go around. When we include those days, probably 10 days. The weather was rough. The weather was rough, and so everybody got sick, very sick. Not everybody, I guess. And it took about 3 days, because once you kind of started feeling better, then you had to get in line. Of course, we were down in the bow of the ship, so you had to climb to some deck. I don't know where it was.

The food was -- and so you'd get up, and I hate to talk about this around dinner time, but you'd stand on the stairs and somebody would get sick ahead of you, or you'd start to smell the food, so you'd just back off and go back down to your bunk. Now, there were guys who could stand it. I don't know whether they had Dramamine or what, but they'd bring back oranges. I discovered oranges would stay down. So, after three or four days, I guess we didn't wonder about the sea, we wondered about whether we were going to make it. And then, they would get us up on deck every day, and wash down the living areas. Hose down the floors and everything --that sort of stuff. You had to be sure your duffel bag was on your bunk. You had about three or four bunks high. The thing that I remember about that, it seemed like the Navy guys, or Merchant Marines or whatever they were, were always painting. Paint. Paint. Paint. Because of corrosion of the salt water I guess.

**KMH** – But then, you'd have that paint smell on top of that? Maybe that was better than the alternative, huh?

**FDT** – But, everybody was forced up, you had to go up and get your breath of fresh air.

**KMH** – Did you mostly sleep then? I mean, or did you, could you read down there?

**FDT** – Well, we had the lights but, of course, they could turn off the lights. We didn't have anything to read. So you just slept or talked. Maybe somebody had a deck of cards. I know there were people who were awake. One guy claimed the ship stopped somewhere out in the middle of the Pacific one night. He went up on deck. I don't know how that was possible. But, we rendezvoused with a submarine. There was a submarine that had surfaced. I guess they were sending messages back and forth, doing something like that. But one thing, compared to World War II, we didn't have to worry about submarines. I am a little aghast here. I didn't give you any great illuminating stories.

**KMH** – Oh, it's fascinating! I couldn't interrupt at all. I wanted to hear what you were saying. Tell me this, what was your first impression of Korea when you stepped off of the ship, was it like stepping off into another world, was it familiar, did you?

**FDT** – Well, Incheon is a harbor that was, what do you want to call it, the tides are high, so at certain times when you come in when the tide is low, you can come way in, but then you sit there, the ship sits there on mud flats. I think they had that problem when they invaded at Incheon, so we came off the ship from landing barges. We didn't go down to the pier. The landing barges then took us over the mud flats to the shore. I'm not getting to your answer very fast. We just sat on the shore, all the troops off the ship, it was like we unloaded in the morning and we just sat there. And every so often, a truck would come and pick up a group of soldiers. Now, we were going to Chuncheon, so we sat there the whole day.

So, I guess my first impression was that. There's a picture in here of what I saw. It was just all these LST's and all these troops, and we were all sitting on the shore. I boarded a train at night. Chuncheon was about in the middle of Korea. And it had the curtains

down, and like I said earlier, we went about 15-20 mph. I don't suppose it was more than 80 miles over to Chuncheon. And so we arrived and the first countryside view was at dark. We got our C-rations and so forth on the train and we unloaded at Chuncheon at night. And this truck came to get us for the 196<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion the next day. And by that time, we were over in a kind of mountainous part of Korea. So, I guess I didn't think much about what it looked like or what I had expected, that sort of business.

**KMH** – And it sounds like you were out in mountainous terrain rather than near a city or villages?

**FDT** – As a matter of fact, all the villages had been obliterated, let's say, I don't know what exactly. But five or 10 miles back from the front and over in there, there were rice paddies. They still grew rice. There were rice farmers, but there were no villages. And I even had to drive down to Chuncheon once to get an officer, and it was just mountainous, following rivers until we got to Chuncheon. Chuncheon was a pretty good sized place. I never did have contact with the Koreans, the native folks. I had a chance once to ride in the back of a truck over to Seoul, but you had to ride in the dust. The dust could have spores of tape worms and stuff in it, so I didn't figure too much. And then somebody always had to stand guard of the vehicle, so they didn't steal the tires or something, so I didn't figure it would be much of a trip. So, I never went to Seoul.

I did go to Japan a couple of times on R&R. One time I flew and there I was impressed. When we came into the airfield to land, it was at Kokura. There was a café on the airfield or near the airfield, and it had neon lights. After being -- we didn't have any lights at night. And it was mud and dark, kind of like Gray County – after we turned off the coal oil lamps. And there was that neon sign of different colors, flashing or something. It impressed me to see that. I can still remember when I saw my first neon sign in Dodge City. My grandparents lived over there. I think somebody said "Well, let's go downtown and see the neon signs." Then Tuggles got a neon sign. Boy, that was coming up. Then, Clark's got a neon sign. That was big time. (Laughter)

**KMH** – What did you do in Japan on R&R?

**FDT** – Well, mostly rested. The second R&R was to Kobe and I took a fast train from Kobe up to Kyoto. Kyoto was the old capital of Japan, so they had a lot of the old buildings and gardens. It was a true sight-seeing experience. And, of course, you always had the food and you always had the hotels and you had your friends that you went with. I might say they had an R&R when I was in Korea with a combat unit. I said earlier, the battalion was never was on the front line. The artillery battalion was on their front line, which wasn't like the infantry. But, for about a year and half, most units put the infantry up there for 30 days. They suffered shell fire every day, or every night, and then after 30 days they would pull the whole division out and put in another division. Well, they didn't do that with the artillery, but they did provided, after you were there 30 days in our unit, you could go back for an overnight or weekend. And the only thing you did there, was you could sleep as long as you wanted to, breakfast went until 10 o'clock, you just didn't have Army duties. That was pretty much the way it was. Do you know Russell Schartz?



**KMH** – Um-huh.

**FDT** – Now, is Russell on your list?

**KMH** – Um-huh, we interviewed Russell.

**FDT** – Part of his duty was transporting troops from R&R.

**KMH** – Oh, I didn't know that. I knew he was a driver.

**FDT** – I was thinking that once he had a duty of serving -- Well on one R&R we flew. One R&R we went by an LST across the Sea of Japan because all of the airplanes were being used in Indochina.

**KMH** – And what's a LST?

**FDT** – It's a landing craft tank, or something like that. It's big enough it could go across the ocean. But, it could carry a lot, and they had converted it to carry soldiers back and forth across the sea. I was to understand that he worked with that once. As a matter of fact, he worked with, when I went to R&R, I didn't recognize him, I guess he recognized me, because one time I saw him at a reunion. Russell was in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade when I graduated, or something.

**CBT** – Yeah, he graduated with Art. He was a senior my first year there.

**FDT** - But, I talked to Kenny Wiens. When Kenny Wiens went on R&R, why Russell had him stay at his quarters on the LST. Course they were pretty close together in school. But, on that R&R, and I sometimes wonder if this wasn't it -- when I came back to board the ship again to Korea, why there was -- You know they have these TV programs where they send a message back to the folks back home? Why I got pulled up to interview for that. And they did send it to the St. Joseph, Missouri stations since Clarice was from Atchison County. She was teaching up there a year when I was in Korea. I sometimes wonder if Russell pointed me out to them. I should mention here too, when I was in Japan, I did call Clarice one time.

**KMH** – Oh, that was a big deal, then.

**FDT** – Of course, I didn't keep in mind the time of day, the exchange. I didn't keep in mind whether she was at her sister's, at here or there. They had to chase her around, but we did talk.

**CT** – Luckily, they did find me in Topeka, I was at my sister's. We were on country lines.

**FDT** – And, it cost me, well it cost her.

**CT** - \$88.00.

**KMH** – Really? Oh, my gosh, that was a lot! Oh, my goodness!

**FDT** – So, I guess I. . .

**KMH** – I guess it must have been worth it.

**FDT** – It was! (Laughs)

**KMH** – She went to pick you up when you got out. (Laughs)

**KMH** – Tell me a little bit about the food, and just life. I assume you slept in a tent on a cot or?

**FDT** – Yeah, when I first got there, I slept in a bunker for several nights. I didn't like that. It was tight. It would have been better than a tent under shell fire. The bunkers were composed of logs. They had a log roof with canvas laid over it, sand bags laid over that maybe; then more canvas. The canvas had rips in it, and when it rained, it was just like any flat roof. The water ran from here over to there and then it leaked. I know one night it rained and my cot was in the rain. And you could hear rats. You could hear rats running above you in the night. It was better to sleep in tents, when I slept in tents. Now, what was it you asked, the food?

**KMH** – Yeah, the food.

**FDT** – Well, we had good food. I don't think I ever complained about the food. Army chow. We usually had Korean help. They let boys come up and work. And they would do our washing if you paid them a little in script. They might have provided our haircuts. One of them might have been a barber. So we had contact. There were "katusas," Korean soldiers attached to the US army. So we had that contact with the natives.



One thing that I remember about food, and I guess this was with 10<sup>th</sup> Corp Artillery, no, it had to be 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Artillery Headquarters, why our cook kept getting just tons of sweet potatoes. We were close to the British Commonwealth Division. And their cook got a lot of white potatoes, so the cooks would change food. They valued sweet potatoes and we valued white potatoes once in a while. So cooks weren't beyond that sort of trading. But, Korean food, I never did eat any Korean food and that sort of thing.

**KMH** – What do you recall about the latrines and showering?

**FDT** – Well, when the war was on, you didn't have much of a change of clothes until a unit came around, a truck came around. It could pull up to a creek and take the water from the creek, and convert it into a shower.

**KMH** – OK, so like a mobile shower?

**FDT** – A mobile shower. And they had clean clothes, a change of clothes. But you didn't wear any insignia on your clothes, no rank or name or anything like that because under those circumstances, and you didn't know whether they would fit well or didn't fit well.

**KMH** – You got whatever you got.

**FDT** – I know another Korean Veteran -- he is dead now -- from Topeka. He wore the same clothes for 30 days on the line. First Cav Division and then when they were sent back, they just burned all of their clothes. So I know it was a tough situation so I almost feel like I was staying at the Hilton. I had mine but -- What was the other part to your question?

**KMH** – Well, the battle, but I was thinking of your day to day life things, like the latrine and things like that. Did you kind of have, your tents were in an area so you kind of lived in the same place or were you moving around or -- ?

**FDT** – Yeah, well this is a tent that I lived in *[showing photographs]*. That's the new tent, that's the one that the shell went through. And you can see that the ground's awful rocky. This would show a road going through our area and you can kind of see tents and buildings.

**KMH** – Oh, OK. So, like a little military village.

**FDT** – A little military village, that's why, I say, we had these other sections close to us, so we were like a. This was how the firing batteries looked. That picture couldn't be, but there are two different shots. It just kind of...

**KMH** – Gives you a feeling?

**FDT** - I don't know, somewhere in here, it's hard to pick them out. Probably, here is one where the guns are, I think the guys lived kind of in a bunker there, there's the howitzer, but you can see that war is environmentally hard on the ground, the land, because it's highly erodent.

**KMH** – OK. So if the gun is here in the lower left, it's facing this way or facing towards me?

**FDT** – Facing away towards the ridge, and there was a ridge, something like this, back here, we were back here. That separated us from this.

**KMH** – OK, so the artillery was in front of you. You didn't have to duck all of the time?



**FDT** – We didn't hear the noise so much from them, but there was an artillery battery of four guns behind us, and we certainly heard that.

**KMH** – Wow, OK. What about holidays? You were there over the holidays in '53?

**FDT** – Yeah, thanks for reminding me. I was there one Christmas and Thanksgiving and two Fourth of July's. One of the Fourth of July's, the war was on, but the second Fourth of July, that would have been in 1954, we were close to some British units. And, at the Division Artillery Headquarters, the commanding officer was a Brigadier General, I guess he approved of inviting a British unit to come over and eat with us. And, we played softball. We had a picnic, I mean, the best the army could provide. And, we had time off. But, it was kind of interesting. I don't know, when I say British, the British Commonwealth Division included troops from New Zealand, Canada, South Africa. It could have been a Canadian unit, but none the less, they were British. The subject of the Fourth of July never came up. (Laughs)

**KMH** – (Laughs) You just sort of did a re-enactment of the Revolutionary war, didn't you, with hot dogs?

**FDT** – But I wonder, that caused me to think of World War II, there were Americans stationed over there for 4 or 5 years, how did they handle the Fourth of July? Now Christmas, we got a special meal. We even had a menu, I got a copy of one the menus. They had a menu on every table in the mess tent, I was one of the last groups to go through and I asked the mess sergeant if I could have it. But, we had the whole dinner, the works. Thanksgiving, I don't know so much.

**KMH** – What was that like being away from home that far?

**FDT** – Well, it was kind of like the war itself. Of course, I wasn't in the infantry. You can tell by that I had an easy go. I think you end up of thinking of your buddies -- those who are around you. That's who you are fighting for and that's who you talk to; that's what you're thinking about. I had some real good buddies. I'm on the end here. It was people like that, that, you didn't dwell very much. And then, Clarice was good. She wrote. She kept the post office in business in Lancaster. I got free mail, you know, to send.

**CBT** – I paid Air Mail.

**FDT** – Yeah, you paid air mail. I didn't get a letter every day, but sometimes I'd get two or three letters. We corresponded. Of course she was good. She would run out of things to say. By that I mean when you write often. Well she wrote about the noises the squirrels were making on the roof, or something at the house, at her folks. All the little things, so I knew pretty much what was going on.

**KMH** – Did you get care packages?

**FDT** – I got one care package from an aunt. And it was for my -- well, it was just a care package. She had baked an angel food cake, and surrounded it by popcorn or something. And, she sent it when I was in this process of -- you know I told you I was

moving from place to place. And it followed me and followed me and followed me, and by the time it got to me, it had a hole in it. Half the popcorn had leaked out and the cake was dry. Well, it was the thought that counts. (Laughs)

**KMH** – (Laughs) Oh, my goodness.

**FDT** – One of things I did when we got home and were at Cimarron -- after I got home, why we didn't quite know what to do. I was home in the middle of November. I ended up checking college out since I had the GI Bill, and I ended up going to Emporia State to get a masters' degree in biology. And then I got a specialist in education degree later on through KU on the GI Bill. Now, I lost my train of thought.

**KMH** – When you got home after the package, I think.

**FDT** – Oh, yeah. My folks owned a little house in town. We sanded the floor of that house. You know, what do you do? We went around and visited family. But I did get together a box of canned goods, which I thought I would have liked to have got in Korea, because I had guys over there I knew, you know. It wasn't too much of a box, but, and we mailed it over to the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

**KMH** – Let me guess, Vienna sausages?

**FDT** – Yeah.

**KMH** – Spam?

**FDT** – Spam, hardtack, meats.

**KMH** – Potted meats?

**FDT** – Yeah, potted meats. Yeah, it wasn't green beans and corn. (Laughs)

**KMH** – (Laughs) OK, did you send anything back, bring any mementos back or anything like that?

**CBT** – You did order things on.

**FDT** – Oh, at Christmas, this would have been in the fall of '53, they had a van that came around with samples you could order things from Japan. They had some dishes, I mean as an example. They had scarves, sweaters.

**CT** – I got a robe.

**FDT** – A robe. Of course, they would just knock it off of your pay. And so, I guess that was sent from, it was Japanese, but no, I didn't receive any special thing. I wanted to know whether you wanted a memento. Did you ever see?

**KMH** – Oh, how cool, the stamp, isn't that nice!

**FDT** – I'll give that to you.

**KMH** – Oh, well, thank you. Oh, my goodness, look at that. Well, how wonderful!

**FDT** – No, I didn't bring any. My brother in World War II, he brought home a Japanese rifle. He ended up from the Philippines to Okinawa, Japan. He was in the Air Force. You read about guys sending home enough parts of a jeep to have a jeep. (Laughs)

**KMH** – (Laughs) Oh, really! No, I didn't hear that, but a lot of people have mentioned sending home china. I think there must be a lot of Japanese china sets in and around Cimarron, or in Gray County.

**FDT** – And then, we did find this set that I sent home from Montgomery Ward one time.

**CBT** – I picked up some extra plates.

**KMH** – Oh, goodness. My uncle, Charlie Rice was in that era. I need to go to Oklahoma and interview him but he sent my mother a set of Japanese china while he was over there. OK, we talked about getting together with your friends, but you mentioned a story before we started interviewing, about getting together with John Pixley and Art Thomas. What was that?

**FDT** – Let's see, I got together with Art Thomas and Kenneth Wiens. They were in Korea. That would have, probably, been about August of '54. I came home in September.

**CBT** – September, you came home in October of '54.

**FDT** – October of 1954, you're right.

**KMH** – How did they find you? I mean, did one of them just? Would they have called you, written you a letter? Just show up?

**KMH** – Well, it had to be through Cimarron. Like my mother and Hulda Wiens were friends. Now, I think, Art called me. Art was pretty good, what do I want to say, conniver. As a matter of fact, he talked them out of a jeep in the army, and as I remember, they were talking about it when they got to me. They had driven through like, someplace they shouldn't have been, like the DMZ. I don't see how they handled everything. I don't really know what units they were in, I don't remember, but they had found me. I knew they were coming. I mean, it wasn't a surprise. But how they did that, I don't know. But I think, he ended up in Las Vegas, right?

**KMH** – Um-huh, Art did. You know what amazes me about this story, in you mentioning John Pixley and Russ Schartz. I mean, Cimarron was maybe 1,500 people around that time, if that many. How could it be that you all could end up bumping into each other in Korea, given the thousands of troops that were there. It wasn't like you set out and said let's exchange addresses, and make sure we get together if we all end up in Korea. Isn't that remarkable, how that could happen? We hear that again and again in the

stories, but that kind of connection is amazing to me, when you think how small the county is or how small the community is.

**FDT** – You now, I don't think that there was any other boys from Kansas in the battery that I was in, and that's 150-180 guys, you would think there ought to be somebody. But that's just a chance.

**KMH** – Well, kind of summarizing, when you look back on this whole experience, what are the lessons that you took from it? How would you summarize your experience in the scope of your entire life? How influential was it? What lessons did you take away?

**FDT** – Well, I guess I was blessed, being able to go over there and come back. That's the first thing, or maybe it's one of the things I was blessed with, I had support from my family, my wife. We have a daughter-in-law who's Korean. Our son was working on his PHD in chemistry at the University of Illinois, and she was in his research group. She is a native of Korea, and they got married. So that changed things. For her, you know, I was part of saving South Korea and we have that family tie now.

I have a granddaughter in college, their child, part Korean. And so, I don't know if that aspect would have popped up so much. Now, in the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korean War, they did produce, Korea produced a nice book they gave to Korean veterans. I got a copy, which emphasized Korea, in '50-'53, and Korea now. With all these -- I hear veterans who go over there, they say "Well, they have six lanes highways!" It confounds them. Of course, I have learned that all of through the marriage of my son, since they went over there, that Korea has really changed. But, I don't know if I would have thought about that much if I didn't have that connection.

**KMH** – **Have you ever wanted to go back?**

**FDT** – In the beginning, I didn't want to go back. There was some time, I always thought it was a long trip, even by plane. And, they do offer, even today they offer some trips, but I got pulmonary fibrosis, a lung condition, where the tissue between the lung sacks has kind of hardened up, and, well if I could just do like that (snaps fingers)

**KMG** – And be there. Tell the transport. Well, anything else you can think of that I haven't mentioned? Your most memorable moment? Any funny stories we missed or? Memorable poignant stories?

**FDT** – Yeah, I think I've told it pretty much.

**KMH** – Well, I surely thank you. We're going to definitely go through these photographs and see what we can get copied.

**FDT** – I would be glad to let you have these, if you'll get them back to me.

**KMH** – Yes, in fact, what I'll do, I'll go out this afternoon and make the list. What I think I'll have them do, is just copy them. And then we'll have a list of what I leave them scan them. They have to use their hot-shot scanner to get good resolution and things, but

we'll have the list and that way we can get them to scan it and then we will bring them back. OK, I am going to stop this.

**FDT** – I didn't carry the picture of Clarice.

**KMH** - OK, so you carried everything of value with you?

**FDT** – Well, you can see that he's got his pockets, pockets are full, he's got a carton of cigarettes. We didn't have any PX during the war, after the war, the cease fire, we kind of got a little PX.

**KMH** – So after that shower and you got these uniforms, it didn't matter that they didn't fit, but you carried your plate with you? A tray?

**FDT** – Well, you can see a tray hanging, maybe there's a picture of me in this one of me standing. You carried your tray with you. Or, you just put it outside the --

**KMH** – Oh, OK, just so you had it around, OK.

**FDT** – Yeah, you had it around.

**KMH** – OK, so did everyone smoke? I mean, was that kind of the standard?

**FDT** – Yeah, I took up smoking. I didn't smoke before I was over there. You got your c-rations, you always had cigarettes.

**CBT** – But, he quit as soon as he got home.

**KMH** – Oh, good, thank you. I surely do appreciate that. Well, thank you.

**FDT** – I guess I've gone a lot longer. You can take this with you, if you want. This is a history of our battalion.

**KMH** – Oh, I see, OK.

**FDT** – From about, well, this page, it tells that stuff.

**KMH** – Well, I'll take a copy of that and then we can stick it with this. That'll be good.

**FDT** – I wouldn't know that.





**KMH** – Well, we'll stick that with this. It looks like you have a map.

**FDT** – We would be about up here and this is the 38<sup>th</sup> and then I went down to 10<sup>th</sup> Corp and then I went over to the 7<sup>th</sup> infantry, which is north of Seoul.

**KMH** – OK, wow.

**FDT** – And there is the guard duty rooster.

**KMH** – How fabulous! That is great! Well, I am going to get copies of all of this. We'll make sure that we get everything in there and that will be fabulous.

**FDT** –OK.