

Transcriber Notes: Indecipherable words are noted in parenthesis.

Q: How did you get... were you drafted?

A: I was drafted. I had been married and I got divorced and I was just two and a half months short of 26 years old when I got drafted. And 26 was the cutoff date.

Q: Right.

A: So, I was the old man in the outfit most of the time.

Q: What was it like to be so much older than some of the others? Did they look up to you?

A: Well, they all looked up to me in a way. I could have been a chaplain in that place. Of course, I had one saying: "When it's too rough for anybody else it's just right for me." They all used to say, "Old man!" But I could do anything they could do.

Q: Because, 8 years or 6 years in their mind was huge.

A: In basic training most of the fellas were from 18 to 22 years old. I was 26. I was born and raised on a farm, so I was in fairly good shape, but I was from Chicago and for a couple months before I went in, I wasn't doing much work. I had a lot of beer (laughter).

Q: Probably interesting to go to Germany then with all the different kinds of beer?

A: Oh, yea I did drink a little bit of beer over there. When I went to see my cousin in Munich, he had a store, like a delicatessen, with a little bit of everything. He always had about 8 to 10 different kinds of beer. Of course, he would drink it warm, but I would always like it a little cooler. When I would go over there in the wintertime, he would set it between the doors and cool off a little bit. The best beer I drank was in France, and that was an experience in itself. This guy, Julius Rankenburger, his father had this brewery, Buschwiller in Alsace-Lorraine, France. He took me through the brewery and then took me over to his house. He spoke English and had been in the English Air Force in World War I and after the war he landed a plane in a soccer field. But he spoke English, he spent three years in the United States working at different breweries and then he remodeled the brewery. That was some of the best beer I've ever drank. It was real light and more to the American style of beer because he learned over here, then went back and redid his brewery. I never got over 25 kilometers from the brewery. Of course, today Air France serves (Cobra?) Beer and that's what the name was.

Q: That was his beer?

A: Well yea but he hasn't made beer for years or anything. They must have bought his name when... that's a little bit of my history...

Q: It's kind of interesting to think of someone coming from over there to learn in the U.S. to make beer because we send people there. It's pretty interesting.

A: He spoke pretty good English, but his English was just a little bit on the "shady side," shall we say (laughter). He said, "You don't use it very often, you forget everything else, but you don't forget the cuss words." When I was at his house his daughter and his wife were walking around there, and his son too,

and of course he was using all the expletives one after another and at first, I was embarrassed until I realized they didn't speak English. But, that night on New Year's Eve after about 2 or 3 bottles of wine at about 3 in the morning all of a sudden, we are at this party, and I'm sitting there and all of sudden someone taps me on the should, and I see a French uniform. I thought, "Oh no. Here is where I've had it." Here is his son.

Q: Is this your uncle's son?

A: No, the brew masters. We talked for about 45 minutes, and I didn't even know that he spoke English. The whole time I was there, he never let on that he could speak English! One of the funnier experiences I had over there.

Q: So, you were on furlough at this time?

A: Yes.

Q: And what year was this?

A: New Year's Eve of '51 no '52. I went down there to see my cousins, and we went down there for the New Year's Eve party. Another story. I had this second cousin who was just a few years younger than I was, and she wasn't doing too well at home. So, I said, "Why don't you come to America?" Well I couldn't sign for her because I was in the Army and didn't have a job or anything and no permanent residence. But, my aunt in Chicago would sign for her. So, she was going to come over and as she was waiting for her final papers, she met this guy from Belgium and married him. Her and her husband did come over; they came over, she said, "Well, it's 43 years late but I finally made it."

Q: So, this was in the last several years?

A: Yea. When I go there, I go up to Belgium and see them. She was born in France but during the war everything was taught in German because it was an occupied country, so she spoke German. She met this guy in France; she had to learn French before they got married.

Q: What's it like to go back over there at this time?

A: I think they look just as good or better than we do. They have automobiles, TV's, everything we have. They eat good. They don't go out very often and eat more at home, but the food is very good. She cooks German, Belgium, and French food.

Q: Have you been back to Badenhausen since then?

A: I haven't been back to Badenhausen in 20... well I was in Badenhausen in '51 to '53. In '72 I went over with my wife and family. I had a son that was 14 and a daughter that was 11 when we went on the plane and 12 when we got off. We stopped at Badenhausen at that time. I was disappointed in their concern because it looked like a French concern and it was disastrous. I went back in '92 and they had done a complete change with building where there were not any buildings before. I almost didn't recognize the place.

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

Q: What's there now?

A: The base was closed in '95, I think because my son was stationed at Ramstein and he took me over there and then his wife sent a car back. I had to go pick it up at... can't remember what you call it right off the Mississippi there. I was there inspecting another car, and I see the car come along and it has German license plates. I said, "Where is that car from?" He says, "Germany." I said, "I can see that but what town." He said, "You've probably never heard of it, Badenhausen." I said, "I only spent 19 months there!"

Q: Let me go back. You talked about being one of the older men in your group. What were your first days in the service like?

A: Like everybody else I didn't know what to expect. But whatever came along I went along with it. I was just a little old country boy at that time.

Q: You were from northern Wisconsin you said. Was this your first time away from home?

A: Well, I had been down in Chicago for a couple years already.

Q: Okay.

A: I took a physical in 1945.

Q: For the military?

A: For the military. They were examining all the 4F... at that time what they were calling them... in for reexamination. That day I was examined... I was one 4F that was fit for the Marine Corp. I wanted no part of the Marine Corp.

Q: So, you were able to say no?

A: No. I got my 2C classification back at that time because I was on the farm. My dad was in his 70's already and my mother was 14 years younger than my dad so... I was running the farm and took over when I was 14-years old and graduated from grammar school.

Q: wow. What is a 2C classification?

A: That was a classification for farming.

Q: And what was a 4F?

A: A 4F was unfit for military service. They were just reexamining toward the end of the war.

Q: So, you could have also have had some action in World War II then?

A: When I went over there in '92 my son was stationed in Ramstein and took us down to Luxemburg city where Patton is buried. And we went in the cemetery there and walking through and I thought, "You know. Had I gone in in '45 it's possible I could've been one of the guys laying here." Another thing. I just talked to my daughter not long ago and she says, "By the way you belong to several organizations. How do you want to be listed?" I said, "I want to be listed as a Cold War Veteran." Because over the last two

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

years I've been reading the death notices, and I think I only saw one or two that were listed as Cold War Veterans.

Q: I don't know if I've heard that term either.

A: Well there is a medal now that we can get. I don't have a use for it, but it is a Cold War medal. Well, I was in the occupation Army when I first got over to Germany, and they changed the name three time while I was over there.

Q: So, you went to basic training and where did you do your basic training?

A: Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. Mispronounced misery. (laughter)

Q: What was the name?

A: Ft. Leonard Wood. At that time, it felt like every day there was a cloud in the sky and mud to our knees. When the sun was shining, we were choking from dust. No happy medium at that time. Then the 10th of May in 1951 we got to Leonard Wood about the 1st of June, finished my basic training about the first week in August, got 15 days and then shipped to Germany.

Q: What was your training like? Anything interesting from that?

A: We were getting "engineer basic" but it's actually infantry training with a little bit of engineer training thrown in. They told us that when we got to Korea, we would be infantry, and we only had a half mile at the south end of Korea at that time. They said, "90% of you guys are headed for Korea."

Q: So, you expected to end up going?

A: Yea, I could never understand why the RA, regular Army, from east of the Mississippi were sent to Korea and the U.S. men from west of the Mississippi were sent to Europe. I couldn't understand how they divided us that way. But who understands the military?

Q: I think we are not supposed to. So, you did your basic training. Then did you immediately go to Badenhausen from your training?

A: 15 days we went to the Berg which was a Hitler youth camp. We went in by train to Salzburg, Austria and from there we went to the Berg. It was about 1,000 feet above Salzburg. It was a Hitler youth camp with four buildings-built level on top of this plateau. It was four stories high and six stories deep, but they kept telling us not to go down there because one guy was down there for three days before he found his way out. (laughter)

Q: Were they trying to scare you?

A: No, they just told us to not go down there because you don't know the electricity because it is 220 volts. There was also a stairway because in the winter snow in mountains is very deep, and there was a passageway all the way to Salzburg, an underground passage they used in the wintertime. We were there about a week and that's a repo-depot¹ and then they decided to send us to Badenhausen.

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

Q: What's a repo-depot?

A: That is where we were sent, and they took our papers and went through them to see what we could do. Then, they assigned us to units. I went in with the heavy truck drivers MOS¹ because I had done some truck driving in the Chicago area. I wound up driving a ¾ ton and I had my ½ ton license. Wheeled vehicles up to tons. I had my license in Germany to drive it.

Q: Let's take a look at your pictures.

A: Well, if you look at the beginning there. These are Camp Kilmer. That was after my furlough, and we were on our way to Europe.

Replacement depot- a military unit containing reserves or replacements for troops in front-line formations.

Q: Wow, So coat, suit, and dress for 49 cents at that time?

A: Yea, Camp Kilmer. I'm either taking off the train and I'm either going to... I can't remember the name of the camp anymore.

Q: In Germany? Or near Salzburg?

A: Yea. A funny story about these pictures. I got married while I was in the service.

Q: Married the second time?

A: Yea, and things were messed up when I came back. I didn't get my pictures; my wife had them but, somehow, I hung onto the negatives. About 15 years later I got someone to do these pictures for me.

Q: Oh, that is lucky. That you were able to hold onto the negatives. What is this?

A: That's probably at the Berg. That's probably the mountains over there.

Q: It's interesting that so many of you all in this group [18th Field Artillery Unit] have photos from your time there. Because I don't think of, "Oh let me take a snapshot!" As something that happens in the war.

A: This guy was in our outfit... Chisem, his last name was Chisem. He killed somebody during World War II and served out 7 years at Ft. Leavenworth and he was gone for 20.

Q: So, he had served and was back in the military?

A: Yea. That is me and my truck.

Q: Alright. There you go.

A: These are just pictures from along the roads there.

Q: Did you buy the camera over there or did you take one with you?

A: I had a camera over there. This is in my dad's hometown and there is a war memorial over there. This is a train station that came in after dark, and I didn't know where I was at or who I was looking for. This

¹ MOS - military occupational specialty code is a nine-character code to identify a specific job

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

is my uncle's grave who was buried the day before I got there. I got there on the 3rd of January and he was buried on the 2nd after dying on the 31st of December. This is Lily cousin who had a dairy store, and this is my uncle's grave. And, this is funny. They keep that grave for 30 years and if no one dies to take it they take that grave out and bury someone else.

Q: Really? Wow! What was it like to meet up with your family? I assume that this is the first time you had met some of them.

A: That was the first time I had met them, and it was like a duck taking to water. I could speak enough German so I could get along. This is my cousin; that is in Belgium. She is doing the wash by the stream that goes through town. This is my buddy from St. Louis and my second cousin.

Q: This is you with him?

A: This is my buddy from St. Louis with him. George A. Booth. That's the county seat in that town.

Q: And the snow?

A: Yea, I was there in January so...

Q: Is that you? And who is the dog? You have a lot of dog pictures in here.

A: That's Andre. One of my cousin's girlfriends lived in the next town. Greece. That's him and his girlfriend there. They are still married over there, but I never see them when I'm over. Apparently, there is a problem with the family.

Q: What's going on here?

A: That's the party. The New Year's party. This is Andre, and I stay at his place when I go over there. He was 16-years old and was an apprentice coppersmith and when he finished, he was drafted into the French Army and went to Algiers. This is a good picture of him. He got malaria because he couldn't get enough water. Even though they kept sending him money he couldn't get enough water and got malaria. When he came back there was no coppersmith work, so he started an apprenticeship as a stamp fitter. And this is Konrad Adenauer's limousine. He was a chancellor of Germany and happened to be in Strasbourg at that time and the guard let me take a picture of his car. That's the whole entourage. And these are my cousins that is in Belgium and this is a minister in Strasbourg. We are up 640 steps, and it's supposed to be a copy of Notre Dame Cathedral but there is only one spire because they ran out of money.

Q: Had to stop.

A: Yea. (coughing) These are taken from the deck up there. That's the view from the top there. This is from the field.

Q: So how often were you out in the field in these pup tents?

A: We were out... well going over, they told us heaven help us if we got in the big bloody one, First Division. They said they spent 9 months in the field. Here is a picture of where one of our guns ran into a

house. My wife put these pictures together, and I don't know where it's at... I'll see it here in a minute. This guy here from Frankfort, Kentucky worked for the paper in the capital there in Frankfort.

Q: What was his name do you remember?

A: Benny Leonard.

Q: So, these are more field pictures?

A: Yea, here is one of the switchboards. I was on the wire section. This is a little side thing that happened. We were going through Hanover and they sent my truck to be road guards. And we delivered the road guards to their post and came back, me and the Sargent. We were sitting in the truck, and we heard an airplane come in and it crashed into the Rhine River at Mainz. That's the airplane, and the Germans went and picked him up and we took him to the hospital. We were about three hours late to pick up the road guards, and they were all sitting on the curb like little kids waiting for us to pick them up.

Q: Is this you as well?

A: Eh... Yea I imagine that's me. This is the Rhine River at Mainz.

Q: Now I've been to Mainz. It's been a long time but...

A: This is the old bridge that went across, and they landed between the new bridge and the old bridge. I would imagine that umpire in detail² up at Hannover...

Q: What's an umpire in detail?

A: That's where the officers go out and judge the shooting. It's an 8-inch (inaudible) outfit. That's the only gun I was on while in the service.

Q: And it was an exercise?

A: We were shooting just for practice. And this is Buford E. Leonard from Tupelo, Mississippi. He was having a problem because he got married at Ft. Leonard, well he was RA, regular army, and he got married at Ft. Sill and had a couple kids. Then he got over to Germany and his wife was messing around, and he was trying to get emergency leave. Finally, he got sent back, and then I heard from him about maybe 10 years after we got out of the service and he called me from Ft. Sheridan. He said, "I'm back in the Army and just check with me." And about a year later he calls me from Ft. Knox, Kentucky and was a sergeant and he was headed back to Germany. That was the last time I heard from him. Now this is my... I went up to see my uncle near Castle, Germany in Metterich. And that's a bulldog, what they call that tractor. At that time, they were just motorizing it and here are some pictures with a horse neck out pulling the wagon. This is farming up there, and they were thrashing... this uncle, we stopped at this gas house and he had been in the United States in 1912, and he went back to get his wife and World War II came along and he got drafted and sent to Siberia and he couldn't speak any English

² Umpire in detail- where a military officer evaluates maneuvers.

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

but we had a couple beers and all of a sudden he made a toast, "God bless women!" That is the only thing I heard him say in English. That's his little town, and it's only about a block long.

Q: What town is this?

A: Metterich. She was studying there, and I guess she was a waitress, and she was studying when she wasn't busy because we were the only ones there. This is out firing a bazooka, one of the exercises.

Q: So, you were in the communications area. What other sorts of things did you do; like what other jobs?

A: Telephone. We laid telephone wires. Anyplace we went we had communications and we laid the wire. We had a and 3%-ton trucks, and I drove number 20. This is a Kano Chief and a Mexican kid...

Q: Boxing, yea.

A: Yea just killing time. They were out in the field just killing time. This is a maneuver we were on and messing around.

Q: What other kind of things did people do to kill the time?

A: Well you just make stuff up, and somebody will dream up something along the way.

Q: Like what?

A: I mean you play games or sleep or do whatever you can. This is Raymond Murphy; he is from Marion; Illinois and I understand Billy Martin was buddies with him after I left over there. He got married and had a couple kids and that was one of the first jets we say over there. In '52 they first started flying jets.

Q: Now I noticed last night that you and Mr. Martin, a real small group of you, got a picture. The Headquarter group?

A: Headquarter Battery.

Q: What does that mean?

A: Well we had Headquarters, Service, A, B, and C Batteries.

Q: Of the 18th?

A: Yes. Well, we were the administrative end of it. Billy was the... had all kind of jobs in headquarters and he was an RA. He didn't remember me, and he was in our squad room for several months there.

Q: That's a good picture.

A: This guy here is Big Wall. He was a relative of a chief. He was from Cannonball, South Dakota. He was in our outfit, and he was in the wire section, too. And this guy... I don't remember his name... but in '52 when Eisenhower broke up the units, they took 12% of the guys from our unit and shipped them to a colored outfit and they brought colored in.

Q: Oh, so like an integration movement?

A: Yea, it was an integration move.

Q: What was that like? How did people respond to that?

A: Well, some people did, and some people didn't. It was... well some of them, like this guy, were real nice but some of them were indifferent. We got along one way or another, but we had to Kano Chief- powerful person in the Kano State in North West, Nigeria. because there was no choice. This is Robert F. O'Conner. He was from Galesburg, Illinois and had the second highest IQ in the battalion. Sargent Shepard was in FDC³ and had the highest IQ. I think he had a 152, and Shepard had 154, I think at that time.

Q: You sure do get around a lot. Were all of these photos from when you were on duty or on furlough?

A: On furlough. I had three-day passes.

Q: And how often could you get a three-day pass?

A: About once a month they allowed a three-day pass. Whenever but we had to keep a certain percentage of people on the base at all times,

Q: To keep it all ready?

A: To be able to perform if anything happened. This one was a guy that came in and he was Battery Clerk later on when I left.

Q: So how long did you end up serving then?

A: Nineteen months in Badenhausen and 23 months and about 15 days in the service.

Q: And what did you do when you left the service?

A: Well, I went home because... well I was going to re-up, and they were giving us a deal of nine months...

Q: To re-up for nine months?

A: Yea. These pictures were taken out of the water tower by the base.

Q: Okay so this is all part of the barracks?

A: Yea these are all taken from the water tower. That's the motor pool; that the 593 barracks. That's the service club, and the motor pool.

³ FDC- fire direction center

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

Q: And the Germans built all this up for you, right? Because when you got there you were in tents. I mean, that's what a number of the men have said.

A: We moved, I think, about the 20th of December. When I got there in October these barracks were rubble and we moved in the 20th of December.

Q: That went up pretty quick then.

A: That was amazing. This was the 593 weapons. But the funny thing about it is you watch these Germans move and you swore you had to drive a snake next to them to watch them moving. But man, they put things up and moved fast.

Q: And then you went back after 20 years or so and this was all a mess?

A: It was not cleaned up, and things were broke and patches. That was our auto that we had, a staff car, I only drove it once. That was 36th group headquarters building. It was on the concern there. (showing picture) When one of the guys came later.

Q: Whoa, he looks a little scared there!

A: Him and Wayley came in.

Q: Is that another picture of you?

A: No that's Benny Willard. This is me. (vacuum running in the distance)

Q: Are they in the bunks? A bunch of people in bunks?

A: Yea, we had the bunks two high, and this is Wayley. He had a story of his own. He was from Georgia and when he went to high school, he went past this used car lot every day and there was a Lincoln Convertible car sitting there and the guy asks if he would like to have it. But he says, "Yes. But I don't have any money." The guys said they could work something out and Wayley said he wasn't afraid to take something on. They let him have it and the guy and he would haul a hundred gallons of moonshine. (laughter) He said one time he was driving, and the police came up behind him and turned the lights on and he stepped on that Lincoln and it looked like they were standing still.

Q: What was his name?

A: Wayley was his last name and I don't remember what his first name was.

Q: Is this back in Paris?

A: This is after triumph. This you see plenty of Paris.

Q: And this [event this weekend] is your first reunion? Is that correct?

A: No, this is my fourth one. These are buildings in Paris.

Q: So, what happened when you got out of the service? You came back to the U.S.

A: Yea, I floundered around for a couple years and finally became a carpenter. This is my cousin; she was supposed to marry a sergeant and come over to the United States after World War II, but she

decided not to come over. I showed her that picture, and she didn't recognize herself. This is my aunt and her grandson, and this is her brother. He was a swim team coach in the Montreal Olympics. The French swim team coach. I couldn't talk to him because he only spoke French and when his mother died, and her sister wasn't around I couldn't converse with him.

Q: Are these service men riding around on the bikes?

A: Yea.

Q: Well if you had one car that you shared, I guess people either walked around or rode a bike.

A: Well, at that time bikes were quite popular. This is our barracks; going into the barracks there.

Q: What are some other stories that you can remember or recall about this time period? That's a fancy table set-up.

A: Well, I could keep you here all-day telling stories. But this is a Thanksgiving in '52 and because I could speak enough German to get along, they wanted to decorate the hall with corn and pumpkins. Well the corn at that time... they didn't grow much corn over there but apparently somebody had some sweet corn in their garden. Well, we, me and Teddy Ownseck, went out and... I knew where the stuff was but it... we made a round to the gas houses that morning, went in, ate lunch, and then we went back out. I went over to this guy and went past this patch of corn and went over and asked the guy, "Could we have some of that corn?" "Take all of it," he says. It was in a town that most GIs wouldn't go near. They said it was a communist town. I went over there, and I had no problem. He said, "Take the corn." So, we cut it and took it along, put it in the truck and then we went... it was a western town there and they had a patch of squash over there. It was orange squash and it looked like pumpkins. So, we asked around and found out who owned the land, and we finally found the place and the hired girl there... she was the only one there... and I asked her if we could have some of these squash. She said, "Go on. Take all you want." The farm had... [MISSING PIECE HERE]. Well, we decorated the halls. This is Mark [last name unknown]; he has been at several reunions.

Q: That was his plane?

A: No, this was an L-19 which is a reconnaissance plane and we had two pilots, Captain Brisbing and Lieutenant Curd. Lieutenant Curd was a B-24⁴ pilot during the war, and he bombed Frankfurt... that was one of the towns he bombed. He got out after the war and then when the Korean War started, they reactivated him and put him in the artillery as a liaison officer. He told the Colonel one night, after a bit a drinking, he said, "If the Russians come across the border that plane will burn on the ground because I want something bigger under me than an L-19." One day I was supposed to get a ride in one of these things; they were taking guys up for a ride and the Colonel came around and got on the radio and told Captain Brisbing, "Get that plane on the ground and get those guys out of here. No more riding on the planes."

⁴ B-24 - an American heavy bomber plane.

Q: So, you missed your ride opportunity.

A: Yea, missed my ride.

Q: That's pretty interesting.

A: Yea, a lot of history' there.

Q: Before we finish up are there any other stories or experiences that you would like to share?

A: Well, the thing that I was... it took me 15 months to make PFC. While we were over in Germany, the guys were coming over from Korea with the rank. There were 6 months in Korea and then they sent them over to Germany. They all had rank when they came in and our rank was frozen. After 15 months they made me PFC. I went to Munich over Washington's birthday and I came back from my three-day pass. As I walked in at 6 in the morning the corporal in charge of the room says... he greeted me with, "Congratulations Corporal!" I said, "Who are you trying to, kid?" Not using that kind of language but he said, "No, you made it!" I said, "I don't believe it." so he got up and gave me the papers to prove that I was actually a Corporal. The story is that my truck sergeant, Sargent King, and the Master Sargent Chief was Sargent Rink. The Master Sargent came in from Korea, had 18 years of service, and he found out that I didn't have a page in the company punishment book or anything. So, they went in and talked to the battery commander who put me in for corporal. Well the batter)' commander wasn't going to sign my record... my orders. He said, "Well, I guess we will have to do something else." He said, "You're not going to go over my head, are you?" He said, "Yes sir." Sargent Rink was a tough old bird anyhow; seeing combat in Korea. So, the battery commander finally signed my orders for corporal. I made corporal just in time to come home.

Q: There you go. Mr. Mullard what is your address? (Filling out the Biographical Data sheet) Any medals or special awards?

A: That's a story in itself. We were coming home, and we were at that time only authorized an occupation ribbon. They said, "You'll wear your ribbons going home." And I said, "I will not wear one ribbon."

Q: Why didn't you want to?

A: Well, one ribbon alone doesn't look very good.

Q: Oh, I understand what you mean.

A: So, we went from the field in Germany and we took a cattle train into Nuremberg and we sat there all day waiting for the train to get made up. There were bees all over the place because at that time it was the Nuremberg trials. One guy was messing around with this one KP and said, "Hey are you RA?" He said, "No, I'm US." He said, "What are you doing with a good conduct ribbon?" Well the guy had gone out and bought a good conduct ribbon. He said, "Get that off or I'll write you a D&R."

Q: What's a D&R?

A: Disorderly and...⁵

Q: Oh, okay.

A: So, he said, "It could mess up your journey home." Everybody pulled them off in a hurry then. Then we loaded on a train and headed for Bremerhaven making stops here and there. On the way back the train was full, so they put a hot box in our car and our car was pulled out of service. So, we had to double up and there wasn't any room on the train. We ended up just sitting in the aisle or sitting on the duffle bags that were stacked up in the aisle.

Q: That's about all the questions I've got.

A: We waited in Bremerhaven for a week waiting for the ship to come in the Heitzman. Oh, by the way I came in over on the Myrrh and came back on the Heitzman; they were sister ships. But we waited a week for it to come in. We were originally supposed to load at 9 in the morning and we were all lined up and ready to go on board but the MP's... military police came over and said, "We are bringing 150 bad boys over and they are going to get loaded first." This one guy, I have no idea what his name was a big colored boy, had come over from Berlin and played for the Berlin Barriers football team. When they came down to play the group, he stayed in our room. He comes up to the gangplank and dropped his duffle bag and the MP told him, "Pick it up." "Screw you," he said, "I've got 150 years to pick that thing up in." He waited until he picked it up. Then we picked up 150 more in Liverpool, England. I don't know if I showed you the pictures. As we were coming through the [English] Channel, everybody talks about the white cliffs at Dover, it was so foggy you couldn't see anything. Then all of a sudden, the fog blew away and there were the white cliffs of Dover. When we went into Liverpool here came the Queen Mary... went right past us.

Q: Well, I'm going to wrap it up here. I've got another person to interview this morning. I really appreciate you taking the time to talk. I love the pictures. I can't believe that there are so many pictures that you all have of this time period.

A: Right. I went through about 4 cameras while I was over there, and they weren't good cameras. It was a good camera, and now I wound up with a Retina 3 and I've got a movie camera.

Q: This is the form that says that we can put it in a library and use it for scholarly purposes.

A: I will use my official name, Edward.

Q: Okay, I wondered if that was...

A: No, I go by Ed and like I said the only place you'll find this name is England, Scotland, and Ireland, and in France. And the only relatives in France spell it with one "L".

Q: Yea, oh yea.

A: How they got two "L's" when they came over, I don't know.

⁵ D&R - Disorderly conduct and related offenses.

Interview with Edward Mullard
Interviewer: Leigh Anne Howard
May 22, 2005

Q: Okay, so then we are set. Let me give you... this is my card so that if you should need to get in contact with me that is who I am and how you do it. It takes me a while but eventually I will get this transcribed and I'll drop a copy of this in the mail to you.

A: My son is a retired air force major. He has his master's degree, and I asked him if he is going for his Ph.D. and he said, "No, I've had enough." I said, "What is your masters in?" He has an engineering [undergraduate] degree. He said, "Well, I'm in Political Science." I said, "Well, what does that have to do with engineering?" (laughter)