

I have covered a lot of the basics with you before we started the camera, so we can go on ahead and start the interview. First of all could you please tell me your full name, date of birth, and where you were born?

Mr. Nagrod: My name is Jack Nagrod. I was born on June 9, 1927, in Brooklyn, New York.

What was your home life; your parents; what were their names?

Mr. Nagrod: My home life, my father is Abraham Nagrod and my mother was Lillian. My father had a plumbing and heating business in Queens, New York. That is where I more or less grew up; I was born in Brooklyn and moved to Queens. My mom was a homemaker. She helped my dad in the business; like a bookkeeper. My dad, during World War II, had to give up the business; we had to close it. Business was so bad that he went to work for the Brooklyn naval yard. So he worked on these big ships. When the war ended, of course he went back and reopened his plumbing and heating business. I did work for him while I was attending high school. I worked as a plumbing and heating apprentice.

Did you have any brothers or sisters?

Mr. Nagrod: I had one brother and one sister.

Were you the oldest?

Mr. Nagrod: I was the middle child. My brother started off as a photographer for the Long Island Press. He got interested in radios; two-way communications and he had his own business. My sister, I believe she graduated from Columbia University in New York. That is where she met her husband. He was actually born in Germany and during the bad times over there, they made it over to England, and he was actually educated over in England. He graduated from Columbia University in New York. He is mechanical engineers. He worked on a ___ submarine.

You were born in 1927 so in 1941 that put you about 14 or 15 years old. You are still in school at this time according to your age. Do you remember where you were when you heard the news on December 7th about Pearl Harbor being attacked?

Mr. Nagrod: I was playing outside with a bunch of my friends when someone said, "Did you hear on the radio that Pearl Harbor was attacked?"

What was your initial reaction?

Mr. Nagrod: My initial reaction was that, "This can't be!" I was angry just like everyone else was. My first thought was that as soon as I was old enough, I was going to join the service.

Did you know where Pearl Harbor was in relation to New York at this time?

Mr. Nagrod: No.

You had no idea?

Mr. Nagrod: I had no idea where Pearl Harbor was at.

This is my 10th interview and I have had a few interviewees that have actually known; in school they had known where it was according to where they were from at this time. But the majority of the people that I spoke with and talked to had no idea where Pearl Harbor was. I spoke to a lady who was born and raised here in Clarksville and she said, "I couldn't have told you if it was on the other side of Nashville or not.

Mr. Nagrod: I knew it was _____ somewhere. I wasn't sure it was Hawaii or not.

The next day F.D.R gave a speech and it was put across on the radio. Did you have an opportunity to hear the speech?

Mr. Nagrod: I heard the speech and that is when I decided that as soon as; I told my dad, as much as I hated to, I was not going to wait until I was drafted. As soon as I was old enough, I was going to enlist.

Was the age 17 with parental consent?

Mr. Nagrod: Right. I enlisted when I was 17. First of all, I tried to get into the Coast Guard. They told me that I was color-blind. I tried the Navy and the same thing. I went to the Army and they grabbed me. Fortunately, I got into the Army Air Corp.

This was about 1945?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes.

You joined the Army Air Corp?

Mr. Nagrod: Well I didn't know I was actually going in the Air Corp. I joined the Army and I was placed in the Army Air Corp.

When you join the Army, obviously you take a series of test. Did they put you in a category to take a series of more tests for the Air Corp or did you just get the luck of the draw?

Mr. Nagrod: No it was more or less the luck of the draw, whatever they needed at the time. Unfortunately, the only thing that they were in need of at that time was a clerk typist. Believe it or not, I wanted to get into Civil Engineering; which I was familiar with. I was placed as a clerk typist and sent to Lowry Field in Colorado. While we were in this class as clerk typist and the whole class was kind of bored with this type of work, we thought that that type of work was for females. Someone came into the room and whispered something to the instructor and he made an announcement that "anyone wanting to volunteer to go over to Germany to just raise their hand."

The whole class raised their hand. The next thing we knew, we received orders to go Greensboro, North Carolina, for shipment over to Germany.

How long had you been in Colorado before you had been sent to Greensboro to go to Germany?

Mr. Nagrod: I believe it was about six months.

You had already been for six months?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes, anywhere between four and six months.

When you went to Lowry Field in Colorado, was this the farthest you had been from home up until this point?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes. I entered the service at Fort Dix and then went to Camp Kilmer at New Jersey. From there I was sent to Denver, Colorado, to Lowry Field and then back to Greensboro, North Carolina, where I had a bad attack of appendicitis. After I recovered from that is when they shipped me to Germany. At that time, I'm not sure the war had ended; after we got on the USS victory ship, The Hood, was when the war actually ended. By the time I got over there I was in the Army of Occupation.

Where did they send you once you got there for your duty as being part of the Army of Occupation? Where were you sent to?

Mr. Nagrod: We landed at Bremerhaven; the northern part of Germany and then we went to a place called Furstenfeldberg. From there we went through Munich to a little town of _____, Germany. There was a labor of supervision camp and I was assigned to the 2033rd Labor Supervision Company. What that was, we had Polish guards there that guarded the prisoners and there was also a DP camp; which was a displaced persons camp. As the prisoners were gradually released, we were still in charge. It was like a motor pool near the air base called Neubiberg. Neubiberg Air Base was the nearest Air Force installation. They would send people out to get the vehicles so we were more or less like the guards of this Labor Supervision Camp. We also took care of the vehicles of people coming. It was a situation I couldn't understand but that is the way it was.

When you raised your hand to volunteer to go to Germany in your clerk typist training, did you get any additional training for a new job or were you just taken as is to put in this situation?

Mr. Nagrod: I was taken as is. Of course I skipped my basic training. I forgot all about that. My basic training was at Shepherd Air Force Base in Texas. After Fort Dix is when I went to Shepherd Air Force Base in Texas. That is where I had my basic training. Then from there I went to Lowry Field.

When you got there and you were part of the 2033rd, what was your job description or your MOS? Were you still considered a clerk typist?

Mr. Nagrod: I was considered a clerk typist but I did everything. It was a unit of only five enlisted people and one officer. Of course at that time I was a PFC. Our Commanding Officer was a young Lieutenant who was hardly ever there. I was the clerk typist, supply sergeant, and acting first sergeant so I did a little bit of everything. I learned a lot. I was there 14 months.

You mentioned you were a PFC when you got to this unit; so you joined the Army as an E-1 Private correct?

Mr. Nagrod: Right.

When did you get your first promotion to an E-2?

Mr. Nagrod: When I arrived in Germany.

When you got there? How long after that before you received PFC?

Mr. Nagrod: Let me back up then. When I finished basic training is when I got my first promotion and then I made my PFC....

So you were promoted after basic when you left Fort Sheppard?

Mr. Nagrod: Sheppard Air Force Base.

Ok, Sheppard Air Force Base and then you were promoted again once you got to the 2033rd?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes. Well I don't guess they called it Sheppard Air Force Base; it was Sheppard Field.

The four other enlisted personnel that were with you, what were the ranks?

Mr. Nagrod: The highest rank that we had was a Staff Sergeant. He was the First Sergeant. At the time when we got there they froze...you heard all about these promotions month after month prior to us getting there. All the guys got promotions just about every month. All the Lieutenant had to do was put you in for it and you would get it. By the time I got there everything was frozen. So I went there a PFC and came home a PFC.

How long did you stay?

Mr. Nagrod: I stayed there about 14 months.

About 14 months? So you entered the Army in 1945; from calculating it would be late 1945, early 1946 when you arrived in Germany?

Mr. Nagrod: Right.

You were there until mid 1947?

Mr. Nagrod: Right.

While you were there in Germany as far as this Army of Occupation, what type of living quarters did you have?

Mr. Nagrod: I'm ashamed to say. They took over the Nazi's home. I don't know who did but our living quarters was a beautiful home. It had wonderful furniture and the bathrooms were unbelievable; just like a palace you know. We had a wonderful home and that is where we stayed. Where we worked was about a half a mile from the house. We walked from the house to our work station there at the labor division camp. Of course each one of us had to pull guard duty. One of us stayed there every night. It was a pretty good tour.

Considering that this was a house that you stayed in, were you able to use the facilities to cook your meals or did you have someone designated for a mess.

Mr. Nagrod: No, we hired a cook and a handyman. The cook took care of the house; the cooking and cleaning the house and so on and we had a handyman. I would say that we lived it up. Our German neighbors weren't too happy. I don't know how they did that. In fact the Lieutenant did not live there. He had his own place.

For some reason that just doesn't surprise me.

Mr. Nagrod: Yes, he had his own place. I enjoyed the tour. I made many trips to Berchtesgaden. Of course you were not supposed to travel alone. I bought me a big Belgium Sheppard; a black Belgium Sheppard. When I went traveling I would go by train and he would sit in the seat next to me. That is how I travelled in Germany if I didn't go with one of my buddies.

So mid 1947 you leave Germany and you come back to the states. Did you have any thoughts of getting out of the service?

Mr. Nagrod: I did get out the service.

You did.

Mr. Nagrod: But I stayed in the active reserves.

How long were you in the active reserves?

Mr. Nagrod: I stayed in the active reserves until 1951. The Korean War was starting to get real bad and they called me into active duty. I thought for sure I was going to be sent over to Korea. At that time they called it an AFSC, Air Force Specialty Code or whatever it was. I was in Civil Engineering. So what they did was they shipped out the people from Mitchell Field, Long Island, where I attended the initial reserve meetings. They called us to active duty and I was placed as the NCOIC of the plumbing and heating section of the Civil Engineering Group at Mitchell Field.

What was your rank at this time?

Mr. Nagrod: Staff Sergeant.

You had made Staff Sergeant by then? Once you were called to active duty and placed in charge of the Civil Engineering section, what were your next orders? Did they give you orders to prepare for deployment or were you just on a stand-by.

Mr. Nagrod: We were on standby there and we maintained Mitchell Field. They released us the following year. We were only there for a year, 1952.

So they released you back to the active reserves?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes, so I still had to attend meeting every month and two weeks during the summer.

Did you go back to full active status?

Mr. Nagrod: I went back to full active status in 1955.

What was your rank at this time? Were you still a Staff Sergeant at this time?

Mr. Nagrod: Right. I was still a Staff Sergeant and things were pretty hectic. I was trying to work for my father and I got married in 1948 and bringing up the children. I thought I would go back in the service because I liked what I was doing. I wanted to get into a different career field.

So in 1955 you get ready to join active duty in the Air Force. Did you have any options as far as the career you chose or did you go back to Civil Engineering or clerk typists?

Mr. Nagrod: No, clerk typists were gone. I was in Civil Engineering and I enjoyed what I was doing in Civil Engineering; I was NCOIC of the shop. When they called me back to active duty, they sent me up to Samson Air Force Base; that is up near Geneva, New York. I was the NCOIC of the plumbing and heating shop. I then moved up to the main office in Civil Engineering. We went up there to close Samson Air Force Base. It used to be a Navy base but the Navy couldn't handle it because of the cost of maintenance with keeping the place up. So the Air Force took it over and found out that they couldn't do it either and decided to close it. I helped close Samson Air Force Base and then I had the option of where I wanted to go; either Keesler Air Force Base or Lackland Air Force Base. I selected Lackland. Of course I had been in Texas before.

What year was this when you ended up in Lackland?

Mr. Nagrod: I ended up in Lackland in 1957; we went to Lackland Air Force Base. The reason I remember that, we bought a 1957 Ford Fairlane. But when I got there, well the same thing, I went into Civil Engineering. I did exactly the same thing. One of my children was allergic to mesquite trees and dust and that is all we had down there at Lackland Air Force Base. So for the

heck of it I went into the orderly room and requested a reassignment. They asked me where I wanted to go and I said, "Hawaii!" Would you believe two weeks later they called me and we were going to Hawaii. So we went to Hawaii in 1957 and we were there from 1957 to 1961.

Hickam Air Force Base or Wheeler?

Mr. Nagrod: Hickam Air Force Base. I've been to Wheeler. I had a big job there. I had to maintain quite a few places on Oahu; on the island; with water purification stations and so forth. I learned quite a bit on my tour in Hawaii. We loved it there. We stayed there three years and asked for a one year extension and they gave it to me so it was a total of four years.

I lived in Hawaii for a total of six. My first duty assignment was 25th ID at Schofield and I loved every minute of it and before that when my dad was in the Army, he was stationed in Hawaii. So I was there as a kid and then I was there after I had joined the Army.

Mr. Nagrod: Well 20 years after I was there, my daughter's husband got stationed there at Schofield. So we went back just about every year they were there we made one trip.

I loved it, I told my wife we need to move down there. I can handle the warm weather; I just don't like the cold.

Mr. Nagrod: I have a friend there in Kailua. He was over in Germany with me. He is a Chinese Hawaiian. I keep telling him he can find me a little grass hut on the beach there and we will move.

I'm ready to go. I don't need a grass shack, I got a tent. I would be more than happy in a tent. Ok, in 1961 you leave Hawaii and your rank at this time had you promoted to Sergeant First Class?

Mr. Nagrod: No, the Air Force was terrible; the promotion was terrible. The Army and other you are right up the ladder; especially the career field I was in. At that time I started looking for something else to do. But the promotions were so bad. In 1961 we came back and I was stationed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. The same thing, I was NCOIC of the maintenance and repair section in Civil Engineering. I was sitting there with my feet up on the desk looking through the base paper and I saw this little ad and it said, "How would you like to be an Investigator" and to call this number. I called the number and it was the Air Force Office of Special Investigation. I talked to the man and told him I was interested. He said, "What do you do?" I told him and he sort of laughed a little bit. He said, "Are you serious?" I said, "I am serious!" I went for the interview and believe it or not they looked at the background and everything and I was accepted into the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

This was in 1962?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes 1962.

This would be the same year that the US Council was set up in South Vietnam. Let me back up for a minute here. During the special op investigation job that you are about to do, did they send you to any of the training or was it more of on-the-job training?

Mr. Nagrod: No, this was a very tough school. They sent me through what they called the OSI Academy in Washington, D.C. It was right across from the Capital Building. The building is no longer there, they called it the Tempo E building at that time. It sat right on the ____ facing the Capitol. It was a very tough school. I had been out of school for quite awhile. I just about made it. It was a very, very tough school. We had a lot of FBI instructors. It was more or less along the same lines of the FBI Academy. The Army and Air Force are different as far as their investigators. The Army CID, all they did was criminal investigations, where the Air Force special agents, we did counterintelligence and the fraud, besides the criminal investigations, background investigations, a little bit of everything. The school was tough, but I made it.

How long was the school?

Mr. Nagrod: The school was 12-weeks long.

Was this just the first step of your training?

Mr. Nagrod: Right, the first step of my training. After we finished that one course, they kept us for another course. It was a specialized counterintelligence course. It ended up as 12 weeks. The regular course was 10 weeks so it was another two weeks for the special counterintelligence course.

When did your training finally end for this new job?

Mr. Nagrod: I guess that was about January 1963 when we actually graduated.

You started in mid 1962?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes.

Once you graduated, where did you get stationed from there?

Mr. Nagrod: I went back to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. I was there for a very short period and they sent me up to Detroit, Michigan. There was an office located right in downtown Detroit. I missed one important step there. When I applied for OSI, I was a Staff Sergeant. Between the time I applied and the time they accepted me I made Tech Sergeant.

Is that the same as an E-7; Sergeant First Class?

Mr. Nagrod: That would have been an E-6; in the Air Force that was an E-6. An E-7 would have been a Master Sergeant.

Ok.

Mr. Nagrod: I thought they weren't going to accept me. They were looking for nothing higher than a Staff Sergeant at the time. They were getting a little top heavy. But they did accept me. So I was the highest ranking enlisted person in the class. They made me the enlisted class leader which made it a little tough on me because I was so much older than the rest. I was sent up to Detroit and received additional on-the-job training. The job there in Detroit was mostly background investigations for security clearances. We would travel all over that area. It was all according to where we went when we would go temporary duty to run these backgrounds and mail our stuff back in. As we went along, the commander he was a Captain, he made me the fraud investigator for the group. I was sent back to Washington, D.C. to attend a fraud course. When I came back is actually when he had me doing all of the fraud cases; which I really enjoyed doing. We were in an area where there was a lot of Air Force contract work. It's been some interesting work.

During your time back and forth from D.C. to Detroit after you went to this other school and once you returned back to Detroit, was there ever a hint that you would be shipped to Vietnam?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes.

So you knew it was coming?

Mr. Nagrod: Yes, everyone knew it was coming.

When did you get sent to Vietnam?

Mr. Nagrod: I got sent to Vietnam in February of 1967. I was in Detroit for about five years was all, I guess. February 1967 is when I arrived in Vietnam.

When you arrived there, what did they say your primary objective was going to be for you in your job?

Mr. Nagrod: It would be everything.

Everything.

Mr. Nagrod: I got assigned to Pleiku. I missed one very important aspect of this thing. I was sent to one year of Vietnamese language school before I went over there. So that would have been in 1966; February 1966-February 1967. I was back in Washington D.C. going to Vietnamese language school. There were so many schools going on at that time, Vietnamese language schools, the one in California which was the main language school was full. We had the school in Washington, D.C., and we had one teacher; she was from Saigon. So we learned the Saigon dialect. When we got to Vietnam and they assigned me to Pleiku, you get a different dialect. I was also in Monteynard country. Monteynards are the Indians of Vietnam. We had to hire an interpreter. That year wasn't wasted, I could talk to some of the Vietnamese; some of them understood me and I could understand them. It's funny, when you know a little bit of the

Vietnamese and you go to get a haircut and they are talking about you; then I say a few words after I get up and the look on their faces. When I got to Pleiku, my major job there was to set up, I was in counterintelligence. We also ran criminal cases which was a lot of minor stuff we just have to overlook. I can't say what they were but they were minor cases which we just had to look the other way because things were very bad. My main focus was on; the type of work that I was doing was very sensitive. I had people that worked for me that were local Vietnamese, Monteynard, that went into the field and got certain information for me which I would share with the other agents. We had many different agencies working together and then I would provide the base commander with this information; such as the VC going to try to hit Pleiku Air Base at 2 o'clock tomorrow morning.

You just made a reference that you worked with the other agencies. What were your thoughts on working with the other agencies, if you can pick a few that you know that you worked with for sure? Looking at your training level and your way of doing things as theirs, do you think that your way or the Air Force way was better than someone else's?

Mr. Nagrod: No. I've dealt with people that were doing the same type of work. What we wanted to do was put all of this information together before we prepared a presentation. A lot of times I would not use some of the information they provided me because I knew that it wasn't correct. I felt it wasn't correct. So I could inform my base commander, who is Air Force, that is who I didn't actually work directly for but I was working on his behalf in getting him this information to make preparations. Every morning we would have a joint meeting with the Army Military Intelligence and two other organizations which I cannot tell you who they were; CIA but they didn't call them CIA. They had a different name over there. But I worked closely with them.

Did you ever have any dealings with the Navy investigation teams or were you far enough inland?

Mr. Nagrod: No, I don't recall ever having anything to do with them. We worked very close with what they call the Vietnamese intelligence. I had a Lieutenant Tien who was my counterpart and he was the one that I worked for. By the way, I made Master Sergeant there.

Let me get this story first. Before we started the tape your wife was elaborating to us of a letter that you had sent in 1967. You were sitting on the front porch watching the war going on. Can you tell me a little bit about that?

Mr. Nagrod: We had a house; it was a group of homes outside the city limits of Pleiku City. Down the row there was an Army Military Intelligence right next door, on the other side was Military Police, and a couple of I can't tell you who they were. The reason I can't tell you who they were is because they made little trips into Cambodia and that type of thing. It was rather, I wouldn't say peaceful, but I didn't see any direct combat. I would see what was going on from the front porch of my home. I would see these 130 gunships and their mini guns and all that and hear everything, but I wasn't in there. I would sit on the front porch and take it all in. I had a tape

recorder where we would send these tapes back and forth. I would send them to them and they would send them back to me. We sent them back and forth. One night I just sat down and wrote this letter to the kids telling them why I was over there. It was a real tear jerker. I'm starting to think about it now. Like I say, I sent this letter home and I never thought she would have had it put in a newspaper because I knew exactly what was going to happen with these threatening letters and so on. I'll show you the letter; in fact it has got my photograph there too.

So in 1969 they began to withdraw troops from Vietnam.

Mr. Nagrod: I was back by then.

You were already back by then.

Mr. Nagrod: It was a one-year tour.

Ok.

Mr. Nagrod: During that one-year tour was the Tet Offensive.

I was going to get to that. I wanted to know if you were on the same one-year tour that the Army, you know when they sent Infantry, I didn't know if you would be on a different schedule because of your job.

Mr. Nagrod: It was February 1967-February 1968.

During your time of course you just mentioned that the Tet Offensive went on.

Mr. Nagrod: Yes.

During the Tet I'm sure you were extremely busy at this time trying to figure out what was going to go on, but is there any way you can elaborate a little on what you found out or things that you found in your investigations that could have helped?

Mr. Nagrod: I just can't relate how I got the information, but the information I received from all of my sources I would get together with these other military organizations, we would discuss it and put it all together and I would give these to the Air Force commander at Pleiku Air Base. The type of information I would give them was mostly; the VC for some reason they always liked the time of 1:30 in the morning; they would hit. But we would get the locations. The VC were such poor shots. The only thing they would hit is the canine kennels; our poor dogs got it all the time. This was prior to Tet was when my partner was killed.

How did that happen?

Mr. Nagrod: Like I said, we were living in this home which was right in front of where the rice paddies would run. There was a street in front of our house and a few homes there like a Vietnamese laundry residence and behind that was these rice paddies. This was at 1:30 in the

morning on September 10, 1967. It was my daughter's birthday. I remember that date vividly. The VC came across those rice paddies and we were sleeping. My room was here and my partner's room was here and there was a concrete block wall separating us. They fired B-40 rockets; shoulder type weapon. The third one that hit the house lands off of that concrete wall into his room and he was just getting up. He had been up after the first two went off. First they fired a couple at the buildings next to us to keep those people down. They were after us for some reason; we just don't know why. It came in, bounced off the wall and just took his side off. I hit the floor after the first one. I hit my head on the floor and rolled underneath the bed. Next thing I hear was "Jack, I'm hit." I can't describe what I saw when I went in there.

So your partner, is this the North Vietnamese or the Vietnamese partner?

Mr. Nagrod: No, this was a 27-year-old Captain. His name was Lee Hitchcock. I have a plaque in there right now of the Air Force Academy with his picture sitting behind the desk that I took. It's a memorial. He was the only OSI agent lost during the Vietnam War.

Your job, of course you have elaborated some on you gather intelligence from people that would go out helping you that would find the information. Did you actually yourself go on the missions to find the information to do recons of that nature?

Mr. Nagrod: We would go out as a group and we would visit mostly the Monteynard Villages. That is how I got so sick; drinking rice wine. We would go into these villages and part of the ceremony as you go into each village was to meet the chief of the village and you would have to drink this big vat through a bamboo straw and drink that stuff. I would just take a few little sips. I got sick; my first month there I was sick all the time. That is the only time we would actually go out into the field. My partner and I did some crazy things like that in a jeep when we were riding towards Cambodia. During the day, no one would bother you; nighttime was when you had to watch out. That is when everything happened; at night.

So February 1968 you had come back or you were getting ready to leave in that time period you were leaving for Vietnam...

Mr. Nagrod: If I could just go back a step; one very important step. After my partner was killed they moved us to Pleiku Air Base. When they heard about Lee getting killed a few agents came in and the first thing they wanted to do was get us out of there. They moved us to the air base itself and that is when the Tet Offensive started.

How far from the air base were you?

Mr. Nagrod: We were four or five miles from the air base.

You said you were in a village of sorts. Were there guards?

Mr. Nagrod: Oh yeah.

Were they traditional Air Force SP's?

Mr. Nagrod: Oh no, we had Vietnamese.

They provided Vietnamese guards?

Mr. Nagrod: Right. They guarded our house. We had a chain length fence all around the house; it was locked and we had two Vietnamese guards. When things started to get hot right toward the end, this was before Lee was killed; Lee had sandbagged the whole front of the house. We had a lot of weapons ourselves. We never got a chance to use them. When Lee was killed they put me in a quasi hut and shot me full of stuff; I was just so hyper. They offered to either send me back to Saigon or back home and I said no that I wanted to stay right there at Pleiku. That was in September and in February I was going to leave so I just said to leave me where I was at. I actually left in February 1968.

When you left and you came back to the states, where....

Mr. Nagrod: I went back to Detroit and received my orders. They always guaranteed me that I was going to stay there in Detroit because we had a home and we lived in St. Claire Shores, Michigan. It was about half a block from the lake; St. Claire Lake. They shipped me up to KI Sawyer Air Force Base which was up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; almost into Canada. There was nothing I could do about it. So we went up to KI Sawyer Air Force Base. I did the same thing up there. I ran background investigations and criminal cases. I was the acting commander there for I guess about five months. When I got there we had a major who was commander and they shipped him off without a replacement. So I was actually acting commander at KI Sawyer for about five months until the new commander came in.

When did you finally retire?

Mr. Nagrod: From there I got a call from our Colonel who was my Colonel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base; he was the district commander. He called, his name was Colonel Cromar, he said, "Jack, I would like to open an office at Fort Campbell, Kentucky." I said, "Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where the heck is that?" I had never been down to this part of the country. He said, "We need you to open up what they call a resident agency." It was a one man office. We had a bunch of Air Force at Fort Campbell at the time. We had an Air Force wing that was training Air Force people to protect the air bases in Vietnam. He said that they couldn't rely on help from the Army sometimes. So I asked him if I could come down here and take a look. He said, "I will give you a week to go on down there and take a look" which I did, I came down and liked what I saw. I told him I thought it was fine. So we came down here in June 1969; we moved down to Fort Campbell. The CID gave me an office in their building I worked out of. It was the Army CID office. Chief Maurice Parker was a dear friend of mine who is now deceased. He really helped me out. He set me up with an office and everything I needed. In fact, I went to his briefings every morning. He was such a good instructor. I learned quite a bit about criminal cases

from him. I had a few criminal cases but most of it was running background investigations. I had 28 counties in Kentucky and only four in Tennessee at the time when I first got here. So it kept me out on the road a lot. One week out of each month I would be gone. That is when I made Senior Master Sergeant. In 1972, they formed the new agency called the Defense Investigative Service. Have you ever heard of it?

Yes.

Mr. Nagrod: They asked me if I wanted to stay in OSI or be transferred; I would still be in OSI but I would be transferred to set up an office for the Defense Investigative Service. So we would run the background investigations for all branches of the service; including some investigations for some of the civilians that worked for the Department of Defense. So I opened up the very first office. It was in the old hospital area. I don't know whether you were here when they had the old, big hospital?

Are you talking about the old, wooden building hospitals?

Mr. Nagrod: No, they were brick. It was brick but it was huge; one story.

No.

Mr. Nagrod: Some of the buildings are still there. In fact, the Staff Judge Advocates Office...

Ok, I know where you are talking about.

Mr. Nagrod: That used to be part of the hospital. That was the only part that was left. That covered the whole area. I had an office set up over there for the Defensive Investigative Service. We ran backgrounds for all the branches of service. In 1975, June 1975, they wanted to ship me off. They figured I was here long enough. They wanted me to open an office in Key Largo. I had a total of 30 years counting my reserve time at that time so that is when I told them, "I don't think so!" I also had the opportunity going over to the Army CID as a warrant officer. Maurice Parker, the Chief, had wanted me to. Due to my rank he said he could get me W2. We discussed that and even though I would have gotten more money upon retirement, the idea of spending all those years in the Air Force, I would have had to extend for another two years and then go to Protocol school and all that. That is when I decided to go ahead and retire.

Well I think you have covered everything I wanted to know about. Is there anything that I might have left out or you remember now that you would like to share?

Mr. Nagrod: Probably, but I was fortunate in that when I retired in 1975, I didn't know what to do. I was offered a few jobs. One of them was HUD up in Chicago but we hated to move up there. I was accepted for the job but it meant a lot of travelling. During my years in the service I accumulated enough credits so I had two years of college. I was only unemployed less than 30 days when I was offered the opportunity of being interviewed for the Director of the Criminal

Justice Complex in Clarksville. I got the job as Director of the Criminal Justice Complex. I was a Director for 10 years until they did away with the whole job in my department and the Sheriff's department took it over. The last seven years which was a total of 17, I worked for the Sheriff's department for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. I retired in 1992. I became a County Commissioner in 1998 and was re-elected and I am still a County Commissioner.

I read that from your bio. It was attached to the sheet. Well again I would like to say Thank You for the opportunity to do this interview. It was a pleasure.