

Mr. Phillips: I was born March 18, 1925 in Roswell, Georgia.

Mr. Phillips, could you please me a little bit about your family growing up?

Mr. Phillips: When I was 9 months old my dad moved to Detroit, Michigan. He worked in the automobile factory. It was during the Depression. My mother passed away in 1934 when I was 9-years old. I moved back to Georgia and lived with relatives, back to Detroit, back to Georgia. I left Georgia the last time in 1940. I came back to Detroit with the high school at ____ Technical High School in Detroit. I was sitting in a movie theater one Sunday whenever the word came out about Pearl Harbor. I went down and tried to get into the Marine Corp. I couldn't get in because I was sixteen at that time. I lied about my age and went to work in a defense factory. I had a friend of mine and we were going to join the Marines and win the war by ourselves. He kept putting me off and putting me off. So one day at work I said, "Are you going to go with me and join the Marines?" He said, "No, I am thinking about getting married." I said, "Goodbye!" All the people that I worked with said that I wasn't man enough to get into the Marine Corp. I weighed 129 lbs. and was 6 foot tall. I went down, enlisted and my dad said that he wasn't going to sign the papers for me, but he did. Consequently, I came back and shuffled papers and put it all in people's noses and laughed at them. I went into the Marines. I enlisted on December 14, 1942, and they kept me at home until about the 10th of January. On the 10th of January they shipped me to San Diego, California, to boot camp.

Did you have any brothers or sisters growing up or were you an only child?

Mr. Phillips: I had two sisters and then after the war my dad had married again and I had two half-brothers.

Did either of your brother's end up serving in the war?

Mr. Phillips: No.

They would have been too young?

Mr. Phillips: They were born after I got out of the service.

Oh okay. You mentioned that you were very, very young when you enlisted in the Marines. Did you have any part-time jobs or anything; a paper route or anything when you were a kid growing up?

Mr. Phillips: Growing up?

Yes.

Mr. Phillips: I threw papers down in Georgia and when I came back to Detroit that one time I worked as a bagger at A & P Store and then I worked as a ticket taker. I lied about my age again. I worked as a ticket taker in a movie theater on the night shift and went to school in the daytime.

What was the range of pay if you remember?

Mr. Phillips: The best that I can remember, when I worked at A & P as a bagger was .10 cents an hour. I thought I had died and went to heaven because I got a job at the movie theater for .25 cents an hour.

Before Pearl Harbor you mentioned that you were in the movie theater when you heard about that. Do you remember your father reading newspapers or hearing on the radio or you personally hearing anything about what was going on in Europe prior to December 7th?

Mr. Phillips: Oh yeah, I had read about it.

How seriously did you take what was going on over there?

Mr. Phillips: My dad, it didn't faze him. He didn't think anything about it. I didn't either but I read a lot about; there was kind of a personal issue, Limburg. Remember they were crucifying him for being a Pacifist and telling about how the German Luftwaffe and how great it was and everything. The reason I say that there was kind of a personal interest there was two years of high school Chemistry, Chemistry I and Chemistry II, Colonel Limburg's mother was my teacher. So being that and then reading about Limburg, well you know what I am trying to say.

Going back to the Depression for just a second, did your dad and you, did you have any feelings toward F.D.R or anything like that?

Mr. Phillips: Not really. He thought F.D.R was, you know after going through the Depression and blaming everything on Hoover. He thought F.D.R was pretty gritty.

So in 1943, you have enlisted at this point and you said that on the 10th of January you got shipped to San Diego. Tell me a little bit about basic training.

Mr. Phillips: Well I was what they called a Hollywood Marine. The ones that went to boot camp in San Diego, they termed them Hollywood Marines. There was a semi-line east and west. East of the Mississippi, they went to Paris Island. West of the Mississippi, they went to San Diego. For some ungodly reason I went to San Diego, which was great. Boot camp was rough. But I think it was the best thing that ever happened to me.

When did you get shipped out after boot camp was completed? When did you depart for overseas?

Mr. Phillips: Well number one was I got to boot camp. I got out of boot camp and went to machine gun school for eight weeks. In June I went into the 18th Replacement Battalion, on June 17th. On June 5th I went aboard ship.

What ship did you board?

Mr. Phillips: What ship was it? _____. It was a French Luxury Liner; a so-called Luxury Liner. They had these decks. We slept on the deck but it was covered. There was another deck above it. It was covered but the sides of it were open. Then they had bunks passing alongside the bulk head here. The ____ was alright. It got rough that where we was leaning laying on the wall just about and the ones on the other side of the ship had to strap themselves to the bunk to stay on it.

Tell me a little bit about machine gun school and what all your training there went through.

Mr. Phillips: Well it was just machine gun school and it lasted for eight weeks. We were learning how to fire and disassemble and fire and do all that good stuff with it; with the machine gun, marching and setting up firing exercises.

How confident did you feel in your training and how confident did you feel in your weapons that you were training with?

Mr. Phillips: 100%.

When you finally deployed, where did you deploy to?

Mr. Phillips: Noumea, New Caledonia.

What were your responsibilities once you reached there? Tell me a little bit about you're day to day...

Mr. Phillips: Well it was just a replacement battalion and we were just kind of marking time and what happened, a couple of little incidents, was in the 2nd Raider Battalion a Lieutenant came out on a ball field that we were up on and asked for fifty volunteers for the 2nd Raider Battalion. Well there were about a hundred of us that volunteered. They took fifty. I was one of the ones not chosen. Two or three days later they marched us back out on the ballpark again and lined us up. I was about seven or eight in line and they took to the head of the line and asked, "Do you have any trick knee or trick shoulder or anything like that?" "No." "Well you will do!" Then they asked a couple of the others, "Yep, you will do!" Then a couple more said no that they had something wrong with them. "We can't use you." The man right in front of me, he asked this Lieutenant Colonel that was standing there he said, "I will do for what sir?" He said, "You are in the 5th Raider Battalion now son!" So when they got to me I said, "I got a trick knee!" I had heard a rumor that turned out to be true that the ones that were left would be sailing for New Zealand to join the 2nd Marine Division.

So how long were you in Noumea, New Caledonia?

Mr. Phillips: Noumea, New Caledonia?

Yes sir, I am sorry.

Mr. Phillips: Well let's see, embarked June 5th and sailed June 5th, disembarked June 24th. That is when we landed there. Embarked July 13th at Noumea, New Caledonia and landed in New Zealand July 17th.

So about 2 ½ to 3 weeks, something like that.

Mr. Phillips: On Noumea. Another interesting about that was they had some kind of deal one night. I was scared. We went down to this here dance or party. It was these natives and I thought they were headhunters. I was 17 or 18 years old you know and they are dancing around with these big ole knives and everything. I didn't think too much of that.

Did you experience any combat in Noumea?

Mr. Phillips: Oh no. That was a French Island and that was a staging area.

So tell me a little bit about daily life in Noumea. Describe a typical day from the time you got up to the time you went to bed in the evening.

Mr. Phillips: It was just a little exercise and stuff like that. It wasn't anything great; no big training or anything. It was just a transient type of thing. You know what I mean; it was just a matter of being there a week or maybe a couple of weeks. I remember one incident that was funny as hell. We washed our clothes in pots and boiled them, you know what I mean. I left my billfold in my pants and I boiled them for I don't know how long. I took the billfold out and I had a \$10.00 bill in there and that \$10.00 was shrunk up to about that big. To save it I had to stretch it back out. That was funny.

When you got to New Zealand, what were your responsibilities in New Zealand?

Mr. Phillips: Well I had two things happen; number one was we docked in Auckland, New Zealand, took a train down south to Wellington, New Zealand. In Wellington, New Zealand, I went into I Company 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment. I wasn't there very long. They transferred me to a Service and Supply Company, like a quartermaster more or less, right down in the heart of Wellington, New Zealand.

As a Quartermaster what were your responsibilities there?

Mr. Phillips: Handling material, you know what I mean; supplies, pants, shoes and boots. That type of thing.

In New Zealand what was your free time spent doing?

Mr. Phillips: Seeing the Liberty.

Tell me what that was like.

Mr. Phillips: That was great.

What were some of the things you did there?

Mr. Phillips: Well number one is I carried; we had 50% Liberty and 50% on base. I carried two Liberty cards so I went every day.

How did you get into that situation? How were you fortunate enough to have two Liberty cards?

Mr. Phillips: I was friends with the company clerk.

You worked it out with him?

Mr. Phillips: He gave me another card. Then we would go into town. It was a little bit odd, eighteen years old and full of ____ and a lot of drinking beer. The best I can remember, the pubs closed from two to four. Another thing I can remember, the chow that we had from camp was old mutton; eggs fried mutton grease. It wasn't the tastiest stuff there was. But you could go into town. When we first got down there they had steak and eggs, steak and tomatoes, and steak and onions for .16 cents. Before we left, the price got up to .25 cents. I used to get a steak when I went to town and a steak when I left town.

Did you correspond with anybody back stateside; write letters and receive letters from anybody?

Mr. Phillips: In the states or New Zealand?

While you were overseas with anybody back stateside or with anybody in general for that matter?

Mr. Phillips: Of course, my aunt and my sister and so forth.

Do you mind telling me a little bit about what you wrote about or anything like that?

Mr. Phillips: Just write, "Everything is fine" and that type of a thing. I sent quite a bit of money home to my aunt to save for me. She wrote me a letter one time that there wasn't enough money to grow on trees over there.

Where was your aunt from?

Mr. Phillips: Georgia. I had a girlfriend in New Zealand. Her mother and dad, they treated me like I was their son and it shocked the devil out of me. The first night I was over there they wanted to know where I was going to stay in town that night and that I was going to stay there. So I stayed there that night. The next morning I am laying in bed waiting until I hear somebody up so I can get up. I don't hear nobody and the next thing I know there is a knock on the door and I said come in you know. Her mother came in and she had a breakfast tray, with eggs, bacon, tea, the whole thing. I said, "You don't have to do that, I was fixing to get up as soon as I heard somebody." She said, "I done it for my son Jack when he was home and I will do it for you."

How sweet!

Mr. Phillips: I used to buy chocolates. They had put chocolates in a coffee can that was vacuum sealed. I used to buy chocolates at the PX and bring to her. The old man was a salesman and I used to buy Camels; a carton of Camels. I didn't smoke. I would get a carton of cigarettes every week for .50 cents and then give them to him. Two years later I was at Saipan and I got a letter from him stating he had smoked the last Camel.

Two years later?

Mr. Phillips: Two years later. You know these cigarette cases that opened like so. He would put a Camel down here and a Camel down here turned under you know so that when he would call on his customers he would offer them a cigarette. Naturally they would take one. But he saved those two; two a day when he was on the road.

What was your first experience at combat? Where were you at? Tell me a little bit about that.

Mr. Phillips: Let's back up a little bit. We are still in Wellington, New Zealand. Everybody shipped out. I say everybody, most of them shipped out. They went to Tarawa. Tarawa was the bloodiest, most casualties in the shortest period of time of any battle there was out there, which I did not participate in. I was what they called rear echelon; packing up the rest of the stuff that was left in New Zealand. From there they went to Hawaii, the big island of Hawaii. Way up on top of the mountain, they took all ____ and parked them on top of this big mountain. It was colder than hell up there at night in Hawaii. I turned around and went up there too, but I came in a week or two later. On December 13th, I embarked on a U.S. ____ from Wellington, New Zealand and arrived in Hilo, Hawaii, on December 24th, 1943.

Christmas Eve.

Mr. Phillips: Yep. I went from up on a mountain up there and then while I was up on that mountain at a big camp, I got transferred again right downtown in the middle of Hilo, Hawaii. Our camp was in a residential neighborhood. You could roll out of the last tent in the row; you could go through the bushes and be in somebody's backyard. That is where I was at. We had supply warehouses right alongside the water behind it and the street in front. That is where I was at. Later on in May of 1944 we sailed and went to Saipan.

When did you arrive or disembark in Saipan?

Mr. Phillips: D-Day in the 5th Assault wave on December 15th.

I'm sorry, December 15th?

Mr. Phillips: Yes, participated in actual combat with enemy forces June 15th to the 9th of July.

Tell me a little bit about your experiences during that.

Mr. Phillips: Well the first day we got there on the beach and we were afraid to, well there was a road and the water, a little hill and a ditch before you got to the road. They were dropping mortars in behind us. I wanted to go over there in that ditch. Well the Sergeant would have nothing to do with that. No way! So they lopped two or three mortars in behind us and two or three of the men got wounded and nobody had to say let's go. Everybody went over the hump and down into the ditch. That night the Japs pulled a counter-attack. If it hadn't of been for the Navy with their star shells lightening everything up like a Christmas tree, they would have probably pushed us off of the island.

This is hard but tell me the emotion of when you were 18-years old. Tell me about that side of being right in the middle of everything.

Mr. Phillips: I hate like heck to say anything about that; for the simple reason it would sound like bragging or something. Actually I thought that the bullet wasn't made to hit me. I felt like Superman, you know what I am trying to say?

Was that a common, as far as you can tell, among you and you're..?

Mr. Phillips: No.

It wasn't uncommon?

Mr. Phillips: It wasn't, let's say, common. A lot of people were doing a lot of praying and hollering but I was too stupid to think that anything could ever happen to me.

Go on through the rest of it, that was the first day. Go on and tell me a little bit about the rest of.....

Mr. Phillips: Well for awhile an amusing, the Army and the way things ended up, we ended up coming here. The 4th Division came in down here. The Army came in over here. The Army waited to come around here so we could move right up the alley like this. So we had sat there for a week or more. In fact the, and this probably want sound too good, the Marine General that was in charge of all three divisions of the operations relieved the Army General because he wasn't doing what he should have been doing. It's in the book. One night the Japs swung in behind our lines down here, came ashore that coast road I was talking about and started marching down the damn road like they were on parade someplace; behind our lines.

What ended up happening with that?

Mr. Phillips: What do you think happened? It was just like cutting wheat in a wheat field. A lot of people think that the Japanese are all little bitty squinty-eyed but this was a company or something of Royal Marines. Every one of them was 6 feet or bigger. _____. That is where they had brain-washed these natives and these natives were throwing their children off this bluff and diving off of it. The Japanese commit _____. But there was a big counter-attack. We had been on

the lines for quite a while and they pulled back and put the Army up there. They left some Marine artillery up there and they were setting 2 tenths of a second fuses and guns and bouncing shells 50 feet in front of the gun. This big counter-attack, we had to go back the next day and wipe it up and everything. Half of the Japanese wasn't armed. They pulled this bonsai attack and they had sticks with knives tied to the end of it. I heard about that with the Russians on the other side but I had not heard about that here. The island was officially secured sometime around the 20 something and then I turned around and had to go on detached duty to Tinian. Tinian was just right you could spit probably between the two islands, maybe about 10 miles. I was over there from July 24th to August 1st.

So right at a week?

Mr. Phillips: Yes.

What were your responsibilities there?

Mr. Phillips: From July 24th to August 9th and then I came back to Saipan.

What was your job when you were on detached duty? Explain to me what that was.

Mr. Phillips: It was not very pleasant but it was going out and picking up the bodies; Graves Registration. Whenever someone got killed they would mark the coordinates down and so forth and leave them. Our job was to go out and retrieve them.

Was this just the American deceased or the Japanese also?

Mr. Phillips: American. The Japanese would take a bulldozer and make out a trench and throw them all in that trench and bury them.

When you guys picked up the bodies did they get shipped back over to stateside for proper burial?

Mr. Phillips: No, we took them to the cemetery. Everybody was buried over there.

That is what I thought. So you went back to Saipan and from there what was your role in things?

Mr. Phillips: I got back at Saipan August of 1944. I stayed there for one year. During that year I ran a PX for awhile among other duties. On September 12th, this was after the war was over; I sailed for Nagasaki, Japan, where they had dropped the second Atomic Bomb. We arrived there and disembarked there the 24th of September.

While there you...?

Mr. Phillips: Saw sights that was unbelievable.

I can only imagine.

Mr. Phillips: I saw a building that held small machine shops. The building was completely disintegrated and the machines were all lined up in perfect rows. I saw railroad wheels, you know from railroad cars, fused like they were welded to the tracks. Like these woods here behind the house on the hill back there, it's like somebody had went in there with a big mower or something and chopped everything down maybe a half mile or a mile wide. Everything on either side of it wasn't touched. But just that area was cut up through there.

What was your purpose of being there? To clean up?

Mr. Phillips: No, it was just occupation.

How long were you there?

Mr. Phillips: I was in two places. I was Nagasaki. Up in Sasebo, Japan, which was I don't know how far away, but it took us all day on a real slow, slow train to get up there. The 5th Division was there. The 2nd was in Nagasaki. When I say old men, I am speaking of men overseas the longest. They took all of those people that were ready to come back stateside and transferred them up to Sasebo into the 5th Division. They took all of the younger men out of the 5th Division and transferred them to the 2nd. The 2nd Division stayed over there. The 5th Division came back to the United States and disbanded.

You were originally part of the 2nd Division.

Mr. Phillips: I was in the 2nd all of that time up until they transferred me.

Back from the time you were in Wellington, New Zealand, that was when you were placed in the 2nd Division.

Mr. Phillips: Right I was placed in the 2nd Division. I was in the 2nd Division until all that time.

Do you have a date on when you came back stateside?

Mr. Phillips: Oh yeah. I embarked aboard the U.S.S. Riverside at Sasebo, Japan, on the 15th of December. I sailed from there on the 17th and arrived and disembarked in San Diego, California, January 1st, 1946.

Going back a little bit prior to your stay in Nagasaki, did you know about the invasion plans?

Mr. Phillips: I heard too many rumors.

Tell me if you don't mind about the rumors that you were hearing when you were there.

Mr. Phillips: Well I forget exactly which ones it was but there were three divisions of Marines that was scheduled to go into Tokyo Bay. That was the original landing, scheduled or pre-planned. I feel personally, all the bleeding hearts crying about the Atomic Bomb and all that stuff, I believe personally if it wasn't for that, that one heck of a bunch of people would not be

here today. I feel that that is on the American side. On the Japanese side, I feel that there would have been a lot more casualties than there were due to the bombing. That is my feeling.

I don't disagree. Was there anybody in your division that you knew of that opposed the dropping of the Atomic Bomb?

Mr. Phillips: No, definitely not.

I didn't think so.

Mr. Phillips: In fact, I was quite friendly during that year in Saipan. I became quite friendly with a lot of B-29 people. I used to go down there and drink beer. I used to go down there and buy whiskey with the officers. I would buy it for \$25.00 a quart and take it back to my side of the island and sell it for \$50.00. In fact I flew on a B-29. I had some good friends down there that was technicians and their job was to calibrate the Norden bomb sites and the automatic pilot. They had to fly a check out flight and so forth. One time they talked the pilot into taking me and a couple of other Marines on a flight down to Guam; just a check out flight to make sure that the instruments were working properly. I flew a B-29 down to Guam and back.

You mentioned a couple of times the officers and sergeants and everything. Talk to me a little bit more about the leadership; your confidence in them and did you see anything that made you think that "I can't believe that they were doing it this way?"

Mr. Phillips: I had one bad incident and a lot of good ones. The bad incident was a Sergeant and when we first landed on D-Day we dug in for the night. This Sergeant and another Corporal or somebody, they started digging. The next morning at daylight they were still digging. They had a hole as big as this room right here. That is the last I saw them. They disappeared. I don't know what happened to them. They went, I don't know. The Lieutenants and the officers that we had, I couldn't ask for any better. Another incident, we were in Japan and we were unloading ships. I was in charge of the Japanese working party. The Lieutenant came around and said, "How are things going?" I said, "Pretty good but I got one or two here that don't want to work." He said, "You can make them work can't you?" I said, "Yes sir, I can make them work." He said, "I don't see anything."

He let you do your job.

Mr. Phillips: Yes. I just took me a board. We were unloading lumber and I took me a board and I made me a nice paddle about that long, you know what I mean? I pointed and I told them. They didn't move. I told him a second time and he didn't move. I told him a third time with that paddle right across his rear end. He come about two feet off the ground and landed running and didn't slow down the rest of the day.

On the other side of things, going from the officers to the exact opposite end tell me about any enemy contact that you had and was the enemy a formidable opponent? Tell me about their training, their weaponry and that sort of thing.

Mr. Phillips: Their weapons as far as I'm concerned were mostly junk. They had tanks that looked like a Model T4 with a piece of seal wrapped around it. Their landing barges, boats, they were like something they used out of Louisiana in those Bayou or something. Now the airplanes, I saw quite a few bombers and they were good. I don't think that they were as good as our was. I don't know this for a fact now but from everything that I have read, at the early part of the war that the Japanese zeros were superior to anything that we could put in the air as far as speed and maneuverability. But they did not have the armament and protection that ours did.

Right. Did you ever have any contact with any P.O.W's? You mentioned a little bit.

Mr. Phillips: Not a whole lot because there wasn't very many. It was to full I think. I think that the ones that didn't commit suicide they didn't give them too much a chance to surrender.

You mentioned the suicide. Did you witness any kamikaze missions or anything at Saipan or anywhere else?

Mr. Phillips: No, I didn't. Part of our division went to Okinawa. I did not go up there. They made a fake landing. They did not go ashore but they made a fake landing. That is where the kamikaze's and all of that stuff was there. When I was back at Saipan, we had a lot of air raids and bombs. In fact, I was down at a B-29 base and they came down there and bombed the hell out of it. They blew up a B-29 loaded with bombs hell 2 or 3 hundred yards from where I was at.

Were you injured?

Mr. Phillips: No. There were 16 in our Platoon and 14 got wounded. I say wounded but not real serious. But they did get wounded.

Were you promoted at any point?

Mr. Phillips: Yes, an act of Congress made me Corporal.

Really? How did that come about?

Mr. Phillips: I don't know. I just made a Corporal. That's all I know.

Did you receive any medals or honor? Tell me about those if you don't mind.

Mr. Phillips: The Victory Medal, Citation, the Presidential Citation, the Victory Medal, Combat Medal, Good Conduct Medal and all that crap.

Now going back to January 1, 1946, when you are back in San Diego, tell me what your reunion with your father was like when you saw him for the first time after you got back.

Mr. Phillips: Well neither him nor I are very emotional.

Tell me what it was like, were you part of any parades or celebrations. Did you partake in any of that?

Mr. Phillips: No, all I did was get drunk. I was out in California.

Did you go to work anywhere?

Mr. Phillips: Oh yeah.

Where was your first job after the war?

Mr. Phillips: I came back to my original job and they didn't have any openings for me. They were supposed to but they didn't have an opening. I had money and I loafed and I worked driving a bus; the city bus.

Where was this at?

Mr. Phillips: Detroit. I drove a city bus and I worked at a factory plant and I decided I was going to be a carpenter. I worked one day as a carpenter and I said that that was not for me. The next day I woke up and my hand was swollen about like that. So I ended up I was driving a bus. A drug store was right by the bus terminal. I used to see all these girls coming into this drug store and they all had badges on; the factory badge. This factory happened to be right across the street. I thought, "Well hell with all those girls in there that is where I ought to go to work!" So I did. I went over there and got a job. I used to go drink milkshakes all the time there in the drugstore in between the runs. These girls said, "What department did you get hired in?" I told them and they said that that was the department that they were in. It ended up that there were 300 girls on each shift and about 20 men.

Wow! Not bad.

Mr. Phillips: I met my wife there and we got married. The judge said, "Son, you got out of one war and started another one." December 7th was Pearl Harbor day and we got married on December 6th.

How long after you got home was that? Was that in 1946 or was that later.

Mr. Phillips: 1947; December of 1947.

When you got home or at any point in your service or anything, World War II was kind of the event that elevated America to the super-powered nation that she is today. Did you have any idea after the war, obviously during the war your main reason was to win and go home safely, did you realize the significance of what you had accomplished nationally or anything like that?

Mr. Phillips: No, it was just who cares, you know. The main thing about it is “Get home!” When I left home to go to San Diego to boot camp, when I came home I had my discharge in my hand. I never was home.

One last thing, compare and contrast a little bit the patriotism that followed December 7th of 1941 with September 11th of last year. Obviously those two days have been connected for obvious reasons and you are one of the few people who I will ever get a chance....

Mr. Phillips: Well I will tell you, in my opinion, and this may not suit too many people what I have got to say. In my opinion, everybody went crazy on September 11th over that; flags waving and all this kind of stuff. But it didn't last! In my mind I knew it wasn't going to last. I knew it wouldn't last and it hasn't. Let's put it like this, of course there is more today than there was before that happened. There's no question about that. But all of these here what I call hypocrites jumped on the damn bandwagon, you know what I mean? They were going out here and buying all these flags and putting them on their vehicles; how many of them do you see on vehicles today?

You're right.

Mr. Phillips: You know what I am trying to say?

I don't know if we will edit this out or not.

Mr. Phillips: Edit it out or do whatever you want with it.

This is off subject and then we will converse. Compare in your mind the job that Franklin D. Roosevelt did handling that situation with the job that George Bush has done handling this situation from a political standpoint.

Mr. Phillips: I think that Bush has done pretty good. I think that he could have done more. Talking about this, the last war we had, we didn't pull any punches. We threw everything but the book at them and everything possible that we could possibly do to win the war in the short of time as possible we could. Every conflict that we have had since then has been the political war. Korea, what happened? They had the Yellow River. You could get on your side of the Yellow River and I'm on this side of it, I can throw rocks over there at you but you can't throw them back at me.

Right.

Mr. Phillips: Our bombers had to stop; our planes had to stop at the Yellow River. There fighter planes and bombers could come across the Yellow River. Politics. They were afraid of China and Russia and drawing them into the war. Vietnam, it was the same identical damn thing. Saudi Arabia, same thing. Politics. They were afraid that they would offend other countries and so forth. During World War II they did not give a shit. Whatever it takes to do it, do it!

(TAPE ENDS)