

Jim Schroeder Transcription Summary

[0:00:00] Getting to Alaska

[0:02:19] Flying in the Aleutians, flying to Paramushiru and leaking gasoline at 20,000', difficulty seeing through the fog

[0:05:31] Life after the military, importance of National Memorials

[0:06:30] Service as a radar operator in the 404th Bomb Squadron, flying in B-24s, difficulty using radar system

[0:09:50] Keeping in contact with fellow soldiers

[0:11:27] Planes intended for Africa in the Aleutians, type of equipment issued, knowledge of which base he would be headed to

[0:13:18] Boat ride to Alaska

[0:14:16] Near mishap while flying, almost had to make emergency landing in Russia due to fog

[0:17:18] Length of service in the Aleutians, age of fellow servicemen

[0:20:19] Life in the Aleutians, living in Quonset Huts with fellow servicemen

[0:24:56] Weather in the Aleutians, B-29s eventually equipped with photography equipment, escort by Russian fighters near Kurile Islands

[0:27:45] Mail censorship, secrecy surrounding his location of service

[0:29:27] Good memories of time in the Aleutians, post military career, working for Sargent & Lundy, 35 years as a draftsman at several firms

[0:31:01] Cabin on a lake in Michigan

[0:32:39] Providing assistance to people who live around him, maintaining a social life, working on his cabin and models

[0:34:13] 40 years of life on the lake, time spent in Houghton/ Hancock Michigan, desire to return to Shemya, Coast Guard Station on Attu

[0:37:35] Lack of preparedness of troops for Aleutians, hardships suffered from extreme weather conditions, magazine with his picture and article in it