

Janis Kozlowski: Were you provisioned pretty well on the ship?

Vic Krygowski: Oh, yes! We carried provisions for the whole submarine squadron.

Janis Kozlowski: So you got pretty good food and plenty of it?

Vic Krygowski: Oh, yes. Yeah, we got submarine food which was excellent.

Janis Kozlowski: So, because a lot ... I heard a lot of guys complain about how the food was not that good, a lot of powdered eggs and, you know, not too good. Sounds like, but the people from the Navy have always said that they had better.

Vic Krygowski: Oh, yeah. Well, either on the sub tender or on a submarine you provision yourself with as much that ... with as many vegetables and fruits for the duration of time that the fruit would keep without, you know, freezing or that kind of thing. So, we would carry maybe a weeks worth or two weeks worth of fruits and vegetables. But when that ran out then it was indeed powdered eggs and other things that the cooks could come up with.

Janis Kozlowski: Well, what did you ... as a young guy out in the Aleutians there, what did you think about the place?

Vic Krygowski: Well, I thought it was quite a desolate outpost. It didn't have much of anything. I guess, nature had a ... painted a nice picture there, it was a picturesque place but other than that, you know, I'd rather be home in New Jersey.

Janis Kozlowski: Sure. So how long did your ship end up staying in the Aleutians?

Vic Krygowski: Well, I know that they stayed beyond my time. Now, I left the Beaver to go to submarine school. It had to be about ... well the early part of '44, I think.

Janis Kozlowski: That's when you went to sub school?

Vic Krygowski: Yes. And I spent three months in submarine school and then upon graduation depending on your class standing you were given your choice of submarine duty. And they had a whole list of stations that you could go to. You could choose a school submarine right there at New London, the old "O" type submarines that would go out in the morning, come back in the afternoon, you know, and do their training exercises. Or you could choose a new construction submarine which was state of the art, fully air conditioned and all the amenities of good living. Or you can ... you can choose an operating submarine that, maybe, was older vintage. Well, if you were so inclined and wanted to go on an "S" boat, you had that choice.

But anyway, the top guy in the class got his number one spot and everybody else followed. I didn't do too badly so I got new construction submarine and they gave me a choice of the submarine that I wanted. So I looked at the roster of where the submarines were being built and what were they. So they had the Cramp Shipbuilding Company in Philadelphia building submarines and I figure, well, that would be a nice place, that's close enough to Jersey I'd be able to get home and, you know, that kind of thing.