

**Janis Kozlowski:** Did you stay in the Service then or where you discharged?

**Harry Bailey:** When I got back to Fort Devens in Massachusetts it was ... we got back there on a Saturday night, I guess and we were out Monday. They moved them out real fast.

**Janis Kozlowski:** So do you remember what, about when that was?

**Harry Bailey:** Yes, February the 28<sup>th</sup>, in '46.

**Janis Kozlowski:** A memorable day. [both laughing] You remember the exact date.

And then what did you do for a career after that?

**Harry Bailey:** I should have done more. I'm a plumber.

**Janis Kozlowski:** What do you think about your experiences during World War II? Was it a good experience for you? Do you think it had a big influence on your life?

**Harry Bailey:** Yes, I think so. One of my friends there, the Skipper again, said to me one day, "We did our part." He said, "We did our share of the work, " as far as ... I think, you know, looking at it, those people on shore ... you know, we lived on the ship. You know, in decent weather we lived a pretty good life, you know – only nine people and there was no military, you know, chasing you all the time or telling you what to do. So, it was ... except for the stormy weather there, I think that it was the best place to be. Of course, in the storm you always look at the guy that's on shore because he's got ground under his feet. You know, he doesn't fight the wind and the anchor dragging and so forth. But I don't know, I think I ... as I say, I would do it again if it happened to be that way.

**Janis Kozlowski:** There weren't a lot of good theatres in World War II to be in, but I guess, it sounds like you felt like you got a good place to be and you lived through it.

**Harry Bailey:** Yes. I definitely, you know, I had, well, in basic training, they were asking for volunteers for the Second Ranger Battalion and there were three people in the platoon I was in and they were going to volunteer. One fellow said, "Are you gonna come with us?" And I said, "Yup." So, just prior to that my friend there, Labreck, he said, "You're not gonna go with those guys are you?" I said, "Yeah." He said, "You're gonna die, you know?" "No" I said. He says, "You're gonna die." So, I didn't volunteer.

On D-Day two of these people, they landed at Normandy with the Ranger Battalion and I've seen the movie, The Longest Day, and the things that they did. One of those two, he got killed the first day. The other fellow I found out he'd passed on later. But I mean, I would have ... you know, whether you could volunteer and maybe they wouldn't take you. So, who knows whether I would have made it or not, but my friend Labreck talked me out of it which is ... I'm happy for today.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Yeah, he was a good friend to you that day. [both laughing]

**Harry Bailey:** It sounded good at the time, you know.