

Janis Kozlowski: Did you get a lot of mail when you were out there at Shemya? And did you keep in touch with your family, or your wife, or girlfriend?

Jim Schroeder: Yeah. We were ... I wasn't married at the time - no girlfriend. So, it was just ... send mail back and forth. But, of course, it was all looked at before what we sent back and, you know, back and forth. But, it'd come in every, you know, maybe every week, or something like that - when the planes came in ... flew from Anchorage, or wherever it was sent from, you know. But, no we always had good mail coming back and forth, so it was no problem with that.

Janis Kozlowski: Did your family know where you were?

Jim Schroeder: No, we couldn't tell them. Shemya was unknown at that time. See, it didn't come out until after the war where Shemya was. Nobody knew about Shemya. So if you'd have to write, [or] if you'd said something, they'd just blank it out for you.

Janis Kozlowski: Yeah, yeah. And did you get news on Shemya about what was happening in other theaters of the war – the South Pacific, or Europe, or anywhere?

Jim Schroeder: Oh, we a radio. And we had ... they would, you know, you'd get news from the states and everything. So we knew what was happening all the time, anyway. No, we weren't without contact, 'cause, we knew what was going on. I often thought about [Chuckle] the difference, if I had been ... had been shipped over to Europe, compared to the number of planes that went down over there ... compared to what we had up in the Aleutians. You'd think, "Maybe I made a good choice going up to the Aleutians instead of going over there - because they [there] was a lot of B-24's over in Europe at the time."