

Janis Kozlowski: Oh. [Laugh] Um, so it sounds like you were really busy in your job on the ship, but did you have any time for recreation? And, and if so, what did, what did you do in your spare time?

John Fahey: Well, a lot of us, we played cards and read; we read a lot. Of course, you write letters home and so on and so forth. A lot of guys played poker, shot craps, played Acey Deucey, and we had a few games like that was the main recreation on the ship. Of course, when we hit port we'd go nuts if we got off. And like, we'd get back to Seattle every month or so, and, you know, and then we'd get liberty. We worked out of Seattle mainly.

Janis Kozlowski: Well, how long was your cruise usually? Once you left Seattle, how long did you go sail to Alaska, before you got back to Seattle again?

John Fahey: Well, that would depend. We'd probably get back on the average, every two months. Later on in the war, when the, you know, like in certain times – the Attu and Kiska invasions, where I, we were further and further away - way out in the tip of the Aleutian Islands, why, we did not get back as often. It may be every three months, or four. 'Cause we'd have to take guys back, or go back and get another fresh load.

Janis Kozlowski: Do you have any idea how long it would take the Mihiel to get from Seattle, like, all the way down to Kiska or Attu?

John Fahey: Well, normally, we didn't go direct. We would go to Adak, or one of the other islands up there, maybe get more supplies, or drop stuff off. Because, we never did go out there directly. When we were in on the invasion of Kiska and Attu, we had to link up with other ships going in out there. So, there was no set time.

Janis Kozlowski: OK. Was there any place, any of the ports in Alaska that you particularly liked to go to?

John Fahey: No. [Laugh]

Janis Kozlowski: [Laugh] None of 'em at all, huh? Were there any of them that you particularly really didn't like going into?

John Fahey: Cold Bay. [I] didn't like going in there, because, god, it was a cold place. I don't know if it was just the time of year that we were there, or not, but we were tied up alongside the dock, and I remember the water was so cold that there was ice around the ship, and that was unusual for sea water to freeze.