

**Janis Kozlowski:** Did you know that, when you went in and dropped the troops off at Attu there, that you you'd be sticking around and taking casualties off. Or was that just something that happened, once they recognized they needed that kind of support?

**John Fahey:** Well, I think they needed that kind of support. So that ...because, there was no hospital ships in the areas; there was no medical, permanent medical deal on Attu. They had to get the men back onto, back on the ships that were wounded to take care of 'em.

**Janis Kozlowski:** And that was before the ....

**John Fahey:** And we weren't the only transport there; other ships were there, too, doing it.

**Janis Kozlowski:** So, that was before the Mihiel was decommissioned and then set up as a hospital. So at the time, how were, how well were you equipped to take care of casualties?

**John Fahey:** Well, we had a doctor aboard, and I think there were four or five corpsmen. He was a very good doctor, I remember that, 'cause he took very good care of the crew. And I think that he had another doctor - probably an army doctor, assisting - taking care of the wounded that they did bring aboard. So, they were very busy, I remember that.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Yeah, I'll bet. Now, did you get involved ... well, did you know what was happening on the ground there at Attu while you were out in the bay; did you have much information?

**John Fahey:** Well, yeah, they kept us pretty well informed. Because, you know, we could see a lot of what was going on, on the ship - on the shore, from the ship. And ... but, then again, a lot of time the fog obscured the vision, so you couldn't visually see what was going on. But, you'd get reports, and then the wounded guys coming back would tell you what was going on, too. So ... we pretty much knew what was happening on Attu. Isn't like ... other times, during the war, you never knew what the heck was going on, because, they didn't pass all that stuff down. They didn't tell you where you were going, or what was happening 'till it was after, until afterwards. But, that was just part of the game.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Yeah. Just, kind of, [you] were left in the dark, most of the time?

**John Fahey:** Yup.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Now, now was ... did the St. Mihiel, was it armed at all?

**John Fahey:** Yeah, we had some ... we had a three inch gun on ... three inch gun on the fo'c'sle [forecastle], and we had a five inch gun on the stern, plus we had 20 mm anti-aircraft guns on the ship. I don't think we ever fired 'em in anger. We did practice occasionally with 'em, but, we never did fire 'em in anger, thank goodness.