

**Robert Buchanan:** Commodore Gehres was pretty gung-ho. He was ... I don't know if you ever heard about him or not. He got himself into an awful lot of trouble right at the end of the war. He was ... after we was ... he was taken out of, off the island of Attu and was a skipper of the carrier, the Ben Franklin. And that Ben Franklin got shot up awful bad and he was as, I've been told, he was supposed to abandon that ship and get out of there but he brought the ship back towards the States and got it back. But he endangered an awful lot of lives, I understand, doing that. Anyway, he got back, anyhow.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Was he the one that you think was responsible for sending out the PBY missions in all kinds of weather?

**Robert Buchanan:** His group was, yes, that's right. He was in charge of that. There's been a lot of stories. I don't know if ... there's a book out about him. Let's see what kind of, I'm trying to think which book it was in, about him. He had a cow, had a barn with a cow in it so he had fresh milk because everybody else got powdered milk up there.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Oh, that's right I remember that story.

**Robert Buchanan:** [laughing] That was Leslie Gehres was his name.

**Janis Kozlowski:** He must be the one they wrote the poem about, "The Man Behind the Iron Plated Desk."

**Robert Buchanan:** That one I didn't hear.

**Janis Kozlowski:** I'll have to send you that.

**Robert Buchanan:** Ok. [laughing] No that's ... I didn't know much about him. We just did what we was told to do, I guess.