Sandy Hook, Gateway NRA, NPS
Oral History Interview with Paul Cavise, Bill Fabian, and family,
43rd Air Defense Artillery, 1972-75
by Thomas Greene, Monmouth University, NPS intern,
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Transcribed by Thomas Greene 2003

Paul Cavise

Sherri Cavise

Question: Good afternoon gentlemen. Thanks for taking the time to do this interview with me. I'd like to start off with some general background questions. First for you Mr. Cavise. When and where were you born?

Cavise: 3-15-50 upstate New York.

Q: And you Mr. Fabian?

Fabian: January of 1952 in New York.

Q: Okay. And where did you guys attend school?

C: You mean like undergraduate?

Q: Yeah.

C: I went to trade school. I didn't really go to college. I went to the United States Military Academy at West Point. That's where I graduated from. And then I went to college after that and got my Master's and then I got my Doctorate at Rutgers University.

F: I went to high school.

Q: Were any of you relatives like you father or grandfather in the military?

C: My father was in the military and served as an infantryman and an artilleryman and an armored officer during World War II in the Pacific Theater.

F: My father was his footman.

Q: Okay.

C: (To Fabian) Did you give your name down and everything?

F: He knows it.

C: Did I give my name?

F: No, he knows that too.

C: It's on the tape?

F: It is on the tape.

C: Okay.

Q: How did you gentlemen become involved at Fort Hancock.

C: How long an answer do you want? Not too long?

Q: Go ahead, go.

C: How long is the tape?

Q: It's I think a half hour on each side.

C: Alright. I was at West Point...

F: Just tell him all the good jobs were gone and you got this one. Don't get carried away.

C: Well, I was at West Point and you get to pick where you want to be stationed if you graduate high enough in the class. This my usual, this is what it is right. And then I graduated high enough I wanted to be stationed near New York so I picked Fort Hancock because it was near New York City. And that's how I got stationed here out of West Point. How about you Bill?

F: I specifically picked Sandy Hook because I thought it was the best beach on the coast of New Jersey.

C: Hey, wait a minute now. Did you get drafted?

F: No.

C: You did not get drafted?

F: No.

C: See, we were in during the draft right, which is a question you ought to put in like: Why weren't you in the draft? Because it was during Vietnam.

Q: Right.

C: And it was during the draft and I went to West Point so I didn't have to go to Vietnam because if you went to West Point you didn't have to go to Vietnam.

Q: Oh, really?

C: Yeah. Right. So, you can't be in West Point and Vietnam at the same time.

Q: Okay.
C: So then I pick New York and so I don't have to go to Vietnam. Bill enlisted I guess right? Instead of going to Vietnam, right? So, if you enlisted you were able to pick your first

assignment which wasn't Vietnam obviously.

Q: I see. Okay. What date were you at Fort Hancock. Between what years?

C: '73-'74.

F: '72 through '75.

Q: Okay. Did you know anything about Fort Hancock before you arrived here.

C: I knew nothing about it at all. I didn't know much about its history, why it was here, it's mission, or anything.

F: I knew it was a sand bar.

C: I was even unfamiliar with New Jersey. So, I didn't even know anything about New Jersey.

Q: Did you have any idea of what type of jobs you'd be doing at Fort Hancock?

C: Well sure, I did because I had had extensive training having gone to West Point and everything. You know, you know everything. You come out a general. So, I knew everything. I'd been trained in everything at Fort Bliss before I came here. You now, everything. So I knew exactly what the job was going to be.

F: Me too.

Q: What were your ranks or titles when you were at Fort Hancock.

C: Well, I was an officer and I started out as Second Lieutenant when I first got here. And I was platoon leader, IFC (Integrated Fire Control) Control Officer, and Executive Officer of the Battery. And then I became First Lieutenant and everything while I was here, right. And that's when I became Executive Officer of the Battery after that. So, I was First and Second Lieutenant, Platoon Leader, IFC Control Officer, and then after First Lieutenant I became Executive Officer of the Battery.

F: I was an E-5 when I was here, which is a first-level Sergeant.

Q: Okay.

C: Wait, you started out E-5?

F: No. One doesn't start out E-5.

C: No. What were you when you first got here?

F: I was an E-4.

C: Yeah, and then you went to E-5. What were you when you left?

F: E-5.

Q: And what was your job?

F: I was a typist.

C: No. What was your job officially?

F: That's what I was. I was a typist.

C: What was your M.O.S.?

Q: What's M.O.S.?

C: I was 1180. M.O.S. is Military Occupational Specialty, and I was 1180 which is a Missileman as an officer. What was your M.O.S.?

F: 75 Bravo 30.

C: 75 Bravo 30 which is a Court Typist. You're right. You were right. You're always right.

Q: So, could you talk a little bit about the departments you worked for and what you actually did?

C: Okay, well you gotta understand. See, like when we were stationed we were regular Army, you know. And not in Vietnam, right?

F: No, we were here at Sandy Hook.

C: (Laughing) We were here at Sandy Hook, right. We weren't in Vietnam. That's the important thing. So, the thing is, we had a mission, a regular Army mission. We weren't National Guard or any of that other stuff. We didn't have to do with the fort in other ways, coastal, Coast Guard, or anything like that. So we just had our simple mission and we had the mission of the missiles. So, our departments were the missile battery itself.

F: Could you give us all the mission of the missile and everything?

C: Yeah, well I could do the whole mission of the missiles and all that stuff and the mission statement and all that stuff. I could give you our battle orders if you want, but I'm not going to go into all that detail, right. Battle Orders. There's ten battle orders, you know.

Fabian's son: Yeah.

C: You know, like number ten is never leave your post, stuff like that. But I'm not going to go through all that battle orders stuff.

Fabian's son: You mean like the Ten Commandments?

C: It's like the Ten Commandments if you're in the military, right. It's the Ten Commandments of the military, battle orders, right. Exactly. But I was IFC control officer, you know. I was in charge of pushing the fire button.

F: I hooked up the dry cell battery.

C: Did you really? Was that your mission?

F: Yeah, that was my mission.

C: See, was in charge of pushing the fire button. He was in charge of the dry cell battery. Oh, that was an important function.

F: Everybody has their function.

C: Yeah.

Q: Could you talk a little bit about your education at West Point and how that was for you?

C: Was that on the script?

Q: I added that in.

C: Oh, cool. Good job. Well, my education at West Point is usual education at West Point. They train you in all the branches. All five military combat armed branches. And it just so happens that Air Defense Artillery was a combat arm. You know, as much as I was stationed at Sandy Hook, pretty far from combat, I was in a combat arm. And so, I kind of got over that way a little bit. You could have been an Infantry or something like that dodging bullets in the Far East or something, but I wasn't. I was in the air defense. However in Vietnam...

F: There's some very interesting history of West Point. Ask him about Douglas MacArthur.

C: Well, there's really interesting history about West Point. Douglas MacArthur and his mother is something I'm not going to get into on this tape.

F: Yeah, but it's a very interesting thing.

Q: Go ahead, tell it. Do you want to tell it?

C: No, I'm not.

F: Tell him a little bit about how Douglas MacArthur's mother lived with him at West Point.

C: Well no, she lived with him at West Point and everything like that. And he used to go every night before exams to his mother and she used to make him some special food and everything so he could pass the exams and all that stuff. So, after they both died, MacArthur and his mother, what we did was we put a statue up at West Point and every night before exams, big exams, you're supposed to sneak out at night and you're supposed to go over to the MacArthur statue and you're supposed to rub it's whatever. (Laughter).

Q: Something I didn't know.

C: Right. Right. Right.

Q: Do you feel that the jobs that you performed at Fort Hancock aided you in your future work and in your future life?

C: Well, for me it did because of the military industrial complex and the revolving door, you know, I was able to leave this job immediately and go to work for a military industrial firm. Computer science corporation in the area of technology of missiles and building weapons systems. So, sure it helped. It was like a revolving door. You'd go right from the military and right into the military industrial complex.

Q: Same question.

F: I'm just lost. I'm still lost. (Laughter).

C: He wants to know what you did. You could become a laundry man.

F: I could.

C: Yeah.

Q: Were there ever any alerts of possible enemy attacks while you were here?

C: Sure.

F: Go ahead.

C: No. You're the one that remembers it.

F: But I don't remember the date.

Fabian's son: I remember it!

F: Here, Mark knows.

C: Mark knows.

Fabian's son: Alright, well this is a funny story that my mom told me about a red alert at three o'clock in the morning. And on his way to the red alert he bought Dunkin Donuts. (Laughter).

C: That is funny. That sounds like Bill. We used to get red alerts all the time because you know, something would happen in the world. Like in '73 when the Israelis invaded the Sinai Peninsula. You know, there was this turmoil in the world so there would be this red alert. Like they do now with Iraq and stuff.

Q: Right.

C: Right. Same thing. So whenever they had a red alert we'd have to go and we'd have to stay over night at the missile site and everything. That's why Bill brought the donuts. (Laughter).

F: Well, somebody has to bring the donuts. (Laughter).

Q: Were there any particular procedures that you had to go through during these red alerts?

C: Well sure, you gotta go through and you gotta check all your missiles and make sure that they're ready to be fired. That takes a lot. Then you gotta test all your weapons systems and all your computers and make sure they're working. Yeah, that's a lot.

F: Kept you busy for at least a day or two. (Laughter).

C: Yeah. Then we played foosball. (Laughter).

Q: Do you recall the buildings you worked in while you were here?

C: Absolutely, because one had a foosball machine and that's what we would do. We'd sit around all night long when we were on red alert and we would play foosball all night long. And then we'd go out and play with the killer dogs sometimes that were encircling the missiles or you know we'd do anything to keep ourselves occupied. During the day, we would getup on the radar scopes and look up and down the beaches for women and you know, you keep busy. You got anything else?

F: No, I can't possibly. That was building 76 {building 74) that he lived and worked in.

C: Right.

Q: Were you working with civilians, military, or a combination?

C: Sure. Civilians, military, everything, because they had civilian technicians a lot of times, right? Yeah. The civilian technicians they had to call in because they had the institutional knowledge of the systems and stuff, and the contractors who built the systems they would come in a lot because they institutional knowledge of the system that we were using, the computer system and stuff. You gotta understand, this is 1973 so we got vacuum tubes in these computers. So, this is really really hard stuff to maintain, and it was like constant maintenance all the time. Constant civilians all the time maintaining the equipment.

Q: Okay. Now do you recall the buildings you lived in?

C: Yeah, we lived first in the officer's club, upstairs on the second floor?

Cavise's wife: Something like that.

C: Second floor of the Officer's Club. You want to talk about that?

Cavise's wife: No.

C: No? You don't want to talk about it?

Cavise's wife: It was empty except for us.

C: It was empty. The Officer's Club was completely empty. It wasn't even being used.

F: What building number was that?

Cavise's wife: I don't know.

C: Because they didn't have any military quarters available when we first got assigned. So, they were going to throw us out in Holmdel, New Jersey which was like going to Kansas in 1973 or live in the Officer's Club. So, we lived in the Officer's Club on the second floor. They didn't have a kitchen or anything so we used an electric frying pan to make all our meals and I think we had a TV and that was it. That was our life, right?

Cavise's wife: I think once we lived in the men's barracks?

C: For a couple... for a little while.

Cavise's wife: For like a week.

C: A week right. Trying to find... even before we got the Officer's Club. Right. And before that we lived in a motel because they didn't have anything else, right. Yeah, it was pretty tough to get housing around here. Really tough, and then eventually we got sick of living in the Officer's Club so we just bought a condo. We were the first ones to buy a condo at Twin Lights Terrace in

Highlands. We bought the very first one just to get someplace to live. Where'd you live Bill?

F: Highland Park.

C: Highland Park the whole time?

F: But I had a room at the battery in the B.O.Q.

C: B.O.Q. or B.E.Q.?

F: B.O.Q.

C: B.O.Q.?

F: It was only our bachelor's officer's quarters.

C: You lived in Highland Park? You commuted everyday to and from work?

F: I did as a matter of fact.

Fabian's son: Is that when you got the donuts?

F: No, this is Highland Park.

C: You were in New Brunswick when you first started, then you moved to Highland Park?

F: Right.

C: Oh.

F: But the donuts occurred...Highland Park.

C: Highland Park donuts. They were good.

Q: You just mentioned you started cooking your own meals with the electric frying pan. There was no mess hall that you could eat at?

C: Oh, there absolutely was a mess hall. Yeah, I was the Mess Officer.

Fabian's son: Did you like the food?

C: As a matter of fact we did. We did like the food and Sherry's food in particular. What'd you like best Sherry?

Cavise's wife: the cake... the white cake.

C: The white cake. Yeah. She used to love the white cake. I was the Mess Officer. There was a mess facility and we used to eat there all the time. You know, breakfast and lunch and everything. I guess you go home at night and I didn't eat with the troops because I was an officer. And he went home to Highland Park, right Bill?

F: I did.

C: So the mess hall is mostly for the troops, you know, not the officers.

Q: Okay. What kind of recreation or social activities did you take part in while you were here?

C: Beach!

Q: Beach mostly?

Cavise's wife: Well, there was an Officer's Club. They always had some kind of social...

C: Well, yeah they had social...

Cavise's wife: They had gambling night where they had...

Q: Did they have the theater and everything?

C: The theater was open and they had the Officer's Club. They'd have events in the Officer's Club like the gambling night. That was fun.

Cavise's wife: And they'd have the casino night where they'd give away prizes.

C: Yeah. And they'd have battalion functions. They would have formal nights where they would have formal dinners and you'd dress up.

Q: Were there any sporting events or anything like that?

C: No, nothing like that. It was all just military stuff for the active military. It was all like regular Army military as opposed to National Guard or anything like that. So, the regular Army had their way of doing things. You know they'd have their battalions, their formals. We used to get together with the other officers and we'd have parties and bridge and stuff. It was like a little social community, you know, of people that we'd socialize in amongst ourselves.

Q: Did you attend church or religious services while you were here?

C: Yeah, you did that?

F: No, you did.

C: I did?

F: You were the religious officer.

C: I was the religious officer too?

F: You used to do sunrise service on the beach every third Wednesday.

C: Really?

F: Don't you remember that?

C: No. Yeah. It wasn't a big deal. Religion wasn't a big deal. Everybody had churches off post and stuff.

Q: Okay. Now you said you went to the beach. Do you know what beach? Or the whole?

C: No, the whole thing was owned by the fort. There was no beach. It's not like today where you have A-B-C-D-E-F-G beach. There was no like A-B-C-D-E-F-G beach. It was just all like fort beach. It was all Fort Hancock . All the beaches were ours everywhere. Yeah. Is that true Sherry? Did you ever pick what beach you went to?

Cavise's wife: No...

Q: Did you ever take any excursions to New York City while you were here? Because I know that back in the World War II days a lot of those veterans did do that. I don't know if it was the same for you?

C: No, because we were here in like '73-'74 so they had invented you know, cars (laughs). You know, I mean, no, we didn't have excursions or anything like that. Yeah we would just go on our own. Yeah, no.

Q: Okay. Did you know of any of the servants and obviously there were women who worked here while you were here?

C: Sure. This is kind of like a political question. You know, again, it was '73-'74, it's different than in the earlier days. Did we have any women in our unit?

F: No.

C: No GIs in our unit? No? So, there was no women in the unit which is unusual. I guess it was still too early for that. That's interesting. No women yet in the unit. Of course there would be today within the unit. We didn't have any clerks or anything, Bill in the unit? No? Wow, not one woman in the unit. That's really funny. No, there was no women. You know, we had

minorities, you know, what do you mean...?

Cavise's wife: You know what they used to have for recreation, they used to have the ...

C: Yeah, but that was for the wives and stuff. Right. They used to have a whole lot of functions for the wives and things like that. You know, the officer's wives. The enlisted men's wives. Right. But no military women. No, and there was no servants per say because the regular Army didn't have servants, you know. Regular Army was completely self-sustaining.

Q: Okay.

C: We didn't have any servants. We had soldiers who did the servant's work.

Fabians' son: Well, servants are a really stupid idea.

C: Right. Right. In the real Army you don't have servants. I mean in some of the other places they do but...

Fabian's son: The Army is one man.

C: Right. Every man has his job.

Fabian's son: An Army of one.

C: Good. Thank you.

Q: Would you say that this was a fun or a boring place to be at?

C: A lot of fun, right?

Cavise's wife: If you like the beach.

C: Yeah, it was a lot of fun because it was close to New York. It was beach, right? We got donuts. (Laughs).

F: What more could you ask for?

C: What more could you ask for? Right. Sub sandwich. Bill took me for hard rolls.

Cavise's wife: Also, the higher up officers we got friendly with and they were all very hospitable, nice people.

C: Absolutely. Because it was like a little family out here. You know, all the officers and stuff especially, because they still have that distinction between enlisted men and officers, and all the officers stuck together very close. It was like a little community out here. We had our own little

community. Yeah.

Q: Do you have any stories about anything particularly funny that happened while you were here?

C: Bill does I bet.

F: No I don't.

C: Yeah you do.

F: No, not really. There wasn't anything terribly exciting.

C: Well, the funniest thing that I can remember is like in 1974 they announced they were closing the fort down, the missile site down. Right, we knew they were closing it down, spring of '74. And Bill and I were two of the last people to leave here and the General made us like repaint all the buildings.

F: That's true.

C: I mean, was that funny or what? He made us come in and rebuild and repair all the buildings and repaint all the buildings and make the place like totally spic and span. And like the place was being closed down and all the folks were leaving within a week or two. You know, like we didn't get that. That was really funny. So, whoever was left had to do all that work. Painting rocks. We were painting rocks. Really. Literally. I mean, we were doing everything. Right?

Cavise's wife: And then they were throwing away all the furniture.

C: Oh, and then they were throwing away all the furniture. All the beautiful, beautiful furniture. They took it out and they took bulldozers, remember, off the end of the Hook, at the end of Sandy Hook. And they took all the beautiful furniture and everything and they took it and broke it. You know all this Bill, right? You were part of it, right?

F: No, I wasn't part of it:

C: God, they took all the furniture. They took it all out to the end of Sandy Hook and they bulldozed it. All the mahogany furniture that was really turn of the century, really good stuff. That's a good point Sherry. That's the funniest thing is how they closed the place down. I mean, they brought the helicopters in to take the nuclear warheads out. That was the last thing that I remember specifically that made any sense.

F: They dropped one in New York Harbor.

C: They dropped one?

F: Uh huh.

C: There was funny stuff like that everyday. Everyday that you were here there was funny stuff.

F: The guy was from Fort Tilden.

C: Mostly people screwing up, you know, that's where you got your laughs from is from people screwing up. And everyday there was some screw up or stupid thing the government was doing like destroying all that furniture. Right? And all those supplies. I guess it was cheaper for them to destroy it then to figure out how to use it. I don't know. That's crazy.

Q: Did you make a lot of long lasting friendships from your experiences here? Well, this one obviously.

C: Obviously this one. Yeah. Because we met, first met when we met here but we do have some ...like...

Cavise's wife: Right. Our first commanding officer here, he and his wife moved out and they moved back to Texas. Then he retired from the Army and in a place I happen to go to in the summer in upstate New York I happened to bump into her after not seeing her for thirty years. So, we knew each other and we saw it through and we reacquainted ourselves and hung out together.

C: So after thirty years it felt like you saw her yesterday?

Cavise's wife: It felt like this was one of your best friends.

C: Yeah, because we look back upon this time as a really good time and one of your best friends even though you hadn't spent much time together. So, yeah. Those kind of friendships were made all the time.

Q: If you had to look back at everything you went through at Fort Hancock, what sticks out in your mind the most would you say?

F: Making a great friendship with Paul Cavise.

C: Yeah, and Bill Fabian. Right. I don't know. I'm sure it's the military stuff. I mean, there's all that friendship stuff and social stuff and all that living stuff, but in terms of the military stuff: bringing the missiles up. That was the best part, when we brought the missiles up out of the ground.

Fabian's son: How about the red alert when he was getting the donuts?

C: Right. Well, that's the excitement in your mind, but in my mind it's bringing the missiles out of the ground. That's the most exciting part of the whole thing. What's the most exciting thing for you?

F: I don't know probably the donuts. (Laughter).

Fabian's wife: How did they notify you that that action was not going to happen and the missiles were not going to be shot? What happened that day that told you that the action was off and that the problem had been solved and you weren't going to be going to war or anything like that.

C: Well, we had headquarters. We had headquarters in NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) in Wyoming, and we had headquarters all throughout the whole world. And it came down to island headquarters, so it came down through the headquarters, and we had red phones on radios, red phones and everything all the time that were constantly on. And everybody was communicating. We were hearing all those communications all of the time. Plus we had lights in the van. Red, green, yellow lights and they would go on and off and tell you the status. I mean there's all kinds of stuff to tell us what the status is.

Fabian's wife: So, it was a verbal command that you received?

C: Well no I...

F: Well, it was a verbal command in code. That told you what to do.

C: Yeah, everything was encoded. Everything was encrypted. So,...

Fabian's son: You mean like morse code?

C: Yeah.

F: They'd say it safely delta zoo Charlie foxtrot....

C: Yeah, they'd go over the phone and they'd say delta zoo charlie foxtrot and you had to translate that in your code book. And I had access because I was crypto secret. Were you crypto secret?

F: Yeah. I answered the phone.

C: Yeah, so if you were crypto secret you could look in this code book which only crypto secret people could look at and you could decipher the code and the code would say red alert they'd say go down to yellow or whatever. They'd tell you that way. The codes of the radio. And then when we had our exercises we would always have the simulator on, and that was my job as the fire control officer to have simulator on and make sure that the fire button's not really enabled so I didn't really fire a missile off. So, we would go through the whole exerciser to fir the missile and everything except we would go the simulator and it would cut short of igniting the missile. You know what I'm saying? And then when we went to red alert we brought the missiles up for real. We didn't have the simulators on. It was on for real and so there was only one thing stopping the missile from going off, and that was me not pushing the fire button. I know. Could

you believe it? Because I could have pushed the fire button and launched the missile and that's why the fir control officer has to have sanity checks and stuff like that.

Fabian's son: Isn't there something that could abort it or is that only on battleships?

C: Well, no these were passivley launched. These missiles were passive missiles. That is to say that we had to send instructions to it at all times in terms of where to go. So, we had one radar tracking the target and one radar tracking the missile and then it goes to our computer and tells the missile where to meet the target. So, it's not like it was heat seeking or any of that stuff. I t was not like it was a smart bomb or anything like that.

Fabian's son: I meant a secondary missile hits that one...

C: No. What I'm trying to say is that we could always the missile to go someplace else or we could always tell the missile to blow itself up. See, because we were always in communication with the missile.

Fabian's son: Geez Louise.

C: We were always in communication with the missile. It's not like a smart bomb like you have in Iraq. You know what I mean? It's on its own.

Q: Okay. And this one's off the cuff. Because you wanted some off the cuff questions.

C: Extemporaneous.

Q: Extemporaneous.

C: Better than off the cuff.

Q: Alright it might be my last question unless you have other stuff to add, but do you think that schools today should institute a class or maybe a section in the history class to teach about the history of Fort Hancock and what went on here?

C: Well, I mean, that's a pretty broad question. I mean, not necessarily Fort Hancock, but they should definitely teach the history of the Cold War and how ludicrous it was to make people stay here and eat donuts all night long because some bomber might bomb New York in 1973. That's what they should teach. How much money the government wastes on things like this and how they don't have missiles systems in place on September 11th of 2001. You know what I mean? I mean, the irony of it. You now what I mean? So, if our missiles were in place on September 11, 2001 that plane would have never gotten near the World Trade Center. But our missiles are gone now. So, I guess what you teach is not just about Fort Hancock. You teach generally about military, its role in society, you know, and how it has functioned within the society and integrated itself within the society. Fort Hancock was a good example of integrating into the society. If you go to Fort Worth, Texas you don't have that. It's an island unto itself that has nothing to do with

the surrounding society whereas Fort Hancock you're part of the civilian community here. You know what I mean? So, it's integrated completely within the civilian community so you know, there's that kinds of stuff you can teach. So, you can teach Fort Hancock as an example of how the military complex worked throughout history, you know, and this is an example of one way. That's all. You know, nobody cares about Fort Hancock in it of itself.

Fabian's wife: Local public schools would care.

C: Oh well, local schools I don't know that would be a disservice because you know, when you go to college, I don't care if it's Monmouth University, you've got to learn the broad picture. You can't just learn about Fort Hancock because that wouldn't be fair.

Fabian's wife: Not necessarily a university, but wouldn't it be great if they someday turn this complex into a beautiful historical museum?

C: Right. Right. Right.

Fabian's wife: Where local kids would come and really learn an awful lot about the military...

C: Right. Right. Right.

Fabian's wife: throughout all of our history.

C: Well I gained fame when I was here. I gained fame when I was here because I used to take school children from elementary school son tours and bring the missiles out. Yeah, yeah. There was whole groups I would take when I was stationed here. I would have school children come as groups and they would come and watch the missiles go up and down and stuff. And I would take them through the "I've seen everything." Oh yeah. We did that all the time. So, I think it's very important for the military to be part of the local community. You know, if you haven't noticed my politics already, and that's where Fort Hancock was very good because they made it part of the local community. You know, it wasn't something separate and distinctive unto itself. And I think if you're more integrated with the civilian community you have more consciousness with regard to the role the military plays in society, you know, rather than just being something that it does whenever it does and what it wants to do. I mean, more civilian control and more civilian influence is better in the military, not worse.

Q: Okay.

C: And I think that's what Fort Hancock was a good example of. Good question. Good extemporaneous question. Good question.

Q: Unless you have anything else to add that concludes the interview and I want to thank both of you gentlemen for taking the time out to do this. I learned a lot definitely and it was probably the most enjoyable one I've had. The most humorous one, I'll tell you that. (Laughter).

C: Good luck in school. Good luck in school.

Q: Thank you very much.

END OF INTERVIEW