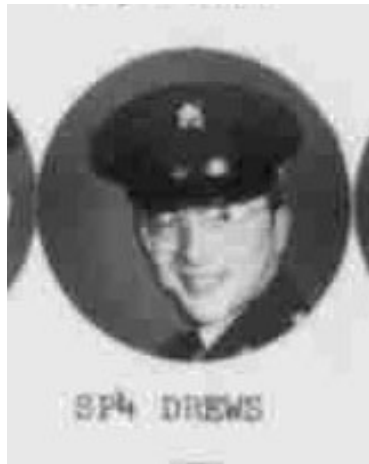


Sandy Hook, Gateway NRA, NPS  
A Telephone Oral History Interview with  
Dennis and Jeanne Drews  
51<sup>st</sup> Air Defense Artillery  
1968-71  
Interviewed by Mary Rasa, NPS  
July 21, 2004  
Transcribed by Mary Rasa 2011



Cropped image of Dennis Drews from the Battery C, 51<sup>st</sup> Artillery unit photograph in March 1971.



Aerial view of Fort Hancock IFC Area from early 1970s. C-1, the area where Mr. Drews worked is in the bottom of the image.



Radar vans and Inter-connecting Corridor Building in 2003.



Photo by Dennis Drews of Officers' Row at Fort Hancock

Photos courtesy of NPS/Gateway NRA

Editor's notes in parenthesis ( )

MR: Today is July 21, 2004. My name is Mary Rasa Sandy Hook Museum Curator. I am on the phone today with a veteran of Fort Hancock and we are going to conduct an oral history interview. Could you please first of all state your name?

DD: Yes. My name is Dennis Drews. D-R-E-W-S.

MR: When and where were you born?

DD: I was born in Queen, New York. March 5, 1948.

MR: What schools did you attend?

DD: I went to the Amityville, Long Island Public Schools. Graduated from Amityville High School in '66. Do you want more information about education?

MR: Did you go to college?

DD: Yeah, I went to Stony Brook University for a little while. Got an Associates Degree from Alfred State College (in) upstate Alfred, New York. A Bachelor's Degree from University of (inaudible) and a Master's Degree from Southern Maine.

MR: Okay. Did your father or grandfather serve in the military?

DD: My grandfather, my step-grandfather did. He was a veteran of World War I.

MR: Okay. So he was in World War I. How did you first, were you drafted when you went in the Army?

DD: No. As a matter of fact, after it was decided that Stony Brook University and I weren't the place, weren't a good fit, I lost my deferment. That was in January-February of '68 and decided to enlist in the military. I would have been drafted.

MR: Where did you sign up?

DD: Riverside, Long Island, New York.

MR: And where was your first assignment after you signed up?

DD: Well, I entered through Fort Hamilton and then went down to Fort Jackson, South Carolina for Basic Training. And then out to Fort Bliss, Texas for AIT (Advanced Individual Training) Missile Patrol Crewman and then after that I was assigned to Fort Hancock.

MR: So did you, when you enlisted, did you select that you wanted to work with missiles?

DD: Yes. I did. Yes. It was an opportunity to number one be close to home during at least the first part of my military time and also do something that I thought was interesting.

MR: So did you get to choose what base you wanted to go to or just what mission?

DD: What area. Actually, there I have forgotten now but there were a number of areas. New York was one that I was interested in being in. What I did was I enlisted for four years and was given an eighteen month guarantee of being in an area of my chose. It turned that my entire military career was spent at Fort Hancock after training.

MR: So, what were your starting and ending dates at Fort Hancock?

DD: Okay, August '68. I don't know the exact day.

MR: That's fine.

DD: I stayed through until December of '71.

MR: Did you know anything about Fort Hancock before you came here?

DD: Not a thing. No. I had heard of Sandy Hook but I didn't know about Fort Hancock.

MR: So, you had been through training so you knew what type of job you would be performing?

DD: That's right.

MR: Could you tell me a little bit about your job?

DD: I supposed it's not classified now. But basically my initial job as a range operator in the IFC Area, Integrated Fire Control, I think it was C-2. It is the unit that has not been somewhat restored.

MR: That's C-1.

DD: That's C-1. Okay it's been a while. My job was to help the MTR, the Missile Tracking Radar Operator in his checks and analysis of the equipment on a regular basis. And also if we were going to engage a target, help the Target Tracking Radar Operator (TTR) in determining the range of the target.

MR: So on a daily basis would you be working in the interconnecting corridor?

DD: Yes. I would be in the tracking van.

MR: Okay.

DD: And on occasion in the corridor as well. That's right.

MR: Did you ever go into the other van on the other side?

DD: On rare occasions, but I didn't have any job in there. When I became section chief later on I was in there just advising my people.

MR: And what was, what were the furnishings in the actual building portion of it? Were there cables and things?

DD: Yeah. We had a military issue desk. A gray steel desk with a kind of a laminate on top of it. There was a work table on the other side with windows above it and that work table was pretty much used by the maintenance people to determine what was wrong with our equipment if it didn't fall into the various checks and they would do all of their testing on that table there. So, it was pretty crowded. Oh, maybe a couple of chairs maybe a couple of folding chairs. Maybe one desk chair for the platoon sergeant. There were two or three safes which contained classified information. Maybe just some manuals as well. There would be a heating unit as well for environmental heat. Not for the vans. The vans were plenty warm on their own and let's see, I think there were two doors as I recall. Two entry doors besides the doors that went into the vans.

MR: Now did, with the heating unit, it was also air condition as well as heating, right?

DD: Well, I don't recall but it could have been. It could have been. I don't recall having the luxury of air conditioning. But perhaps we did and it was just so hot that we didn't notice.

MR: Was it very noisy in there with that component?

DD: Yes. Yes. The vans were very noisy. In those days, it wasn't solid state. It was all tube electronics which put off a lot of heat and there was also fans running in the equipment to keep that cool. In addition to the central unit and it was pretty noisy.

MR: Okay. What was your rank?

DD: I started as an E-2 right out of advanced individual training when I first got there and about a year, well about nine months before my discharge I earned specialist, E-5 which would be equivalent of a three striped sergeant today.

MR: Okay. And what was your unit?

DD: Well, I think that we established it was C-1, Charlie Battery 1, because it was a double battery, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 51<sup>st</sup> Artillery.

MR: Okay. So your education on the missiles all happened at Fort Bliss?

DD: That's right. Yep. I do have to say I did have some information coming to me bits and pieces as I think about it where I grew up oh about five miles away there was a National Guard Nike site. So, I did have some interest in that and as a kid I studied that. I learned about it on my own. But as far as the actual operations were concerned I learned about that at Fort Bliss and also on the job training right there at Fort Hancock.

MR: Could you tell me a little bit about a daily, your daily routine that you would have?

DD: I'll give you the routine that I recall later in my career there. Because as I said I was eventually promoted to E-5 and I was given charge of a section. I was still in then I became an MTR Operator, Missile Tracking Radar. Daily routine would be pretty much whatever maintenance needed to be done around the site because we did everything. We did janitorial service we did landscape and lawn mowing such as it was we cleaned up and policed which was typical of a soldier's life. As far as the actual duty on the equipment was concerned, the first thing we did when we reported in the morning was we performed a series of checks and adjustments of the equipment to make sure it was all lined up and tuned into the proper frequencies and that the radars were pointed in the right direction and the adjustments that needed to be made. We would take care of that. We would do checks amongst the different equipment. The MTR and the TTR, the Missile Tracking Radar and the Target Tracking Radar would coincide and coordinate their work together and we would also do the same with the other van and I am trying to remember who was in there. We had the Acquisition Radar and the computer operator battery control officer was in there. So it was pretty much coordination of people and equipment when we first went to work and depending on our status, we had a variety of different status whether it was hot status. It depends on if there was a perceived threat we would perform all those checks on a more frequent basis and on occasion we would perform the checks and then stand down for maintenance because there were too many other batteries around with the same job. We would have a chance just to do some more in depth maintenance on the equipment. But on a daily basis we had to do our checks.

MR: Now you were also on twenty-four hour shifts?

DD: Yes. Depending on our status we were either on call for twenty-four hours or we were right there in the unit within the Integrated Fire Control unit in the area so as I recall it was kind of up to the BCO (battery control officer) and the platoon sergeant but as I recall we were most of the time twenty-four on twenty-four off and then we would have a three day period on in a row twenty four hours each day and then three days off. I think we had a couple of those a month.

MR: So, during your on duties, you would be sleeping in the barracks down the road?

DD: On occasion, on hot status yes we would be in the Quonset huts down there. Actually next to C-1's van there was a small ready room we had oh probably six bunks in there. I do recall being in there when we were on hot status and we had to be on call within 15 minutes so we just bunked in right there. We were on other status we would be down at the Quonset huts. The Quonset huts was not really a great place to be. It was damp and I'm not sure the condition now if there are even there but it was old and uncomfortable at the time and it think the most that we did down there was shoot pool as I recall.

MR: Now there were originally four and there are two still standing were at that point in time were all of them set up as bunks or was one a mess hall, how did that work?

DD: When I was there it was basically just open area with some bunks and a pool table. There was never a mess hall down there when I was there.

MR: okay and there is also a latrine.

DD: yeah. There could have been. We did have a latrine up by the radars though.

MR: Yeah we are in the process of working in that area right now.

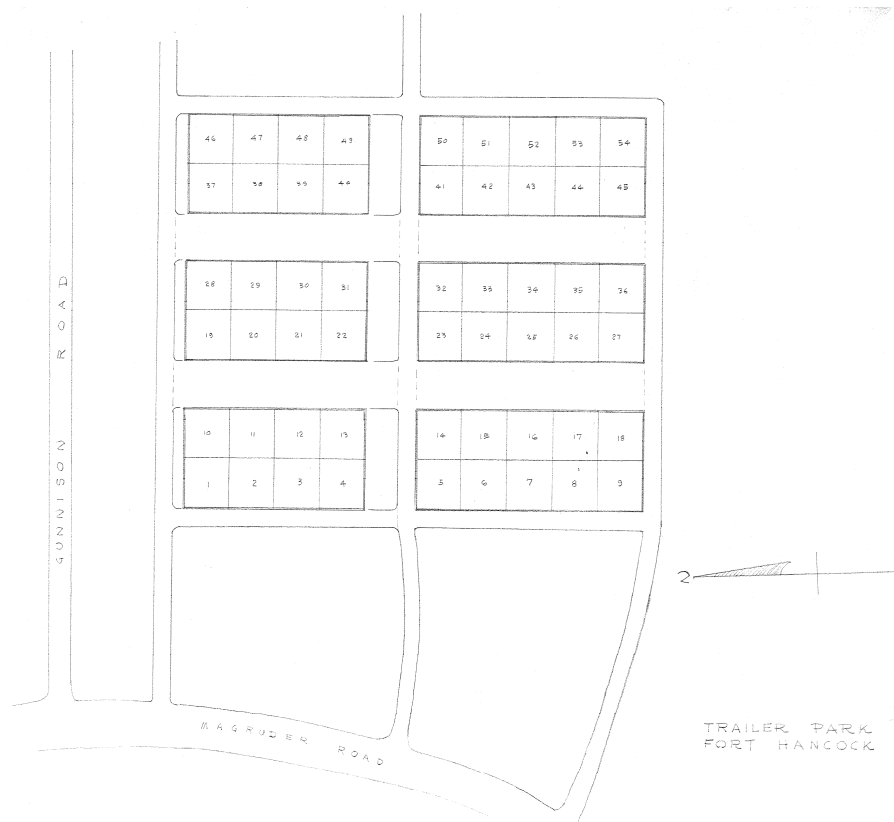
DD: yeah because I consider that I had the privilege I will relay that to you of touring C-2 when I was down there in April. That's when I got your name. I just happened to be driving through by there and I saw the ARADCOM patch, the Army Air Defense Command missile with the lightning bolts and saw that and there was a tour going on and I lucked that I could get back into the area and I talked to some guys that were actually stationed there at the same time that I was. I didn't know them but they were in the missile area. I didn't get to know those guys too well.

MR: So, let's see now when you were off duty would you be living in the U shaped barracks in the Fort. Barracks 74.

DD: Mmmhmm.

MR: Okay.

DD: It's interesting because when I was first assigned there yes I was living in the barracks. When I was a private I was in one of the bays, the big open bays I would say on the south side of that building. And of course, we would take our meals in the mess hall which was in the first floor of the north side. When I was promoted to Specialist 4 I think I had a little bit better quarters and a little bit more privacy and may have even had a small room on the first floor down there. I was married during the time that I was Specialist 4 and qualified to move off base into an apartment. My wife and I lived down in the Highlands on Navesink Avenue for, oh about a year I think. After that we bought a mobile home right up on the Post.



Map of Fort Hancock Trailer Park, c. 1970.

MR: Oh.

DD: Are you aware there was a mobile home park there?

MR: Yes

DD: Okay. As a matter of fact, I just visited the place where our mobile trailer was. I don't think there are any homes there now but you can pretty much make out where they were. Are you there?

MR: Yes. I am.

DD: So I lived there for, I lived in that trailer park for about nine months or so, maybe a year.

MR: So did you then take your trailer with you or did you sell it to someone?

DD: I took it. The Army moved me where I was gonna live after I was discharged. Yeah.

MR: Oh.



DD: So, they moved it up there and I lived in it for two more years and then I sold it and I bought a house.

MR: What work did you do after you left the service?

DD: I went to school. That's when I got my Associates Degree in upstate New York and after that I worked in a lab as a lab technician for pollution control area and worked for an Agway. Do you know what an Agway store is?

MR: Yes.

DD: Okay. I worked for an Agway. I managed their garden shop. I bounced from job to job. I wasn't they weren't career jobs. Then I came up to Maine here to get my Bachelor's Degree then I have been a teacher for about 11 years. Before that I managed a small branch of a bank.

MR: Did anything that you learned at Fort Hancock aide you in future work?

DD: I guess I have to say skills, no but how to manage people and work with people, yes. I think about that a lot. What did I get out of that besides I enjoyed my time in the military and the fact that my wife and I spent our first couple of years of married life together when I was down there was really helpful too.

MR: Now, was your wife from this area?

DD: She is from Long Island.

MR: Oh, so you knew her from home.

DD: I knew her from home.

MR: Did you ever work with any civilians?

DD: No. No. Possibly some civilian electronic maintenance might have come in but I didn't work with them directly.

MR: What type of social activities did you take part in at the Fort?

DD: Well, as a single guy it was pretty much the guys would go bowling down at Fort Monmouth. And that was pretty popular. We did that pretty regularly. I am not really sure where we picked it up we were able to pick up a bus to go up to Time Square and then go to theaters in New York. I remember I went up to New York to see a Blood, Sweat and Tears Concert with a buddy. We'd hang out on the beach which that was a great place to have duty if you liked to be on the beach in the summertime. And after my wife and I were married we developed friendships with other young married's and we'd play cards throughout the night because we were on twenty-four on twenty-four off and

we could stay up as long as we wanted to. And just kind of socialized like that. Kind of things that young twenties would do I guess.

MR: Now you were here sort of near the end of Fort Hancock. Was that theater still open for showing movies?

DD: I you know I think about that. I don't recall. I may have been in there once or twice. I didn't take advantage of that if it was available as a regular thing.

MR: Was there an NCO Club at the time?

DD: Yes. That was another thing that I probably spent too much time at. (laughter) As a single guy of course, yeah we did spend some time at the NCO Club yeah.

MR: Any sporting events that you remember?

DD: Yeah. That is interesting. I'm glad you are asking questions. I don't recall how frequently but the green there, the common, now are you right on Officers' Row? Is that where you are now?

MR: I'm just beyond there.

DD: Okay.

MR: To the north.

DD: Well, that space in between my old barracks and the back of the buildings on Officers' Row, that big green in there which you could have called the Parade Ground.

MR: Yes.

DD: I don't think I ever saw more than one or two formations out there besides our morning formations. Flag football, softball, Frisbee that kind of thing. There may have been some organization to it but I don't recall. I don't recall. And of course hanging out down on the beach I recall flying some kites. Really some informal things like that. And when I was talking to my wife earlier she said don't forget to tell her we went hunting and right on Sandy Hook there was a large population of cottontails.

MR: Oh, there still are.

DD: Are there? Up here in Maine they are all gone. A friend of mine one of I think he was at TRR operator. He and I used to go out during season and go hunting for rabbits and sometimes some ducks and out near the Coast Guard Base. We called it the dump. I'm not sure if it is called that anymore. There was a landfill out there. And we used to go out there and hunt as well.

MR: Oh, okay. Now you mentioned going to Fort Monmouth to go bowling. Was the bowling alley function at the fort, out here?

DD: No. No. I knew, you know, I say I knew it was there but I don't recall that it was open. You know, hang on a second. My wife is home and she might remember. She worked at the PX.

MR: Okay.

(Pause)

DD: No. We don't recall that it was open. It is possible that it might have been open when I first got there but my wife Jean worked in the PX and she would have known if there were people going in and out of there regularly.

MR: Right.

DD: Because it was right under the Barber Shop, wasn't it?

MR: Yes. Okay.

DD: We went to the snack bar a lot.

MR: In the PX?

DD: In the PX. That was well, as I recall I used to take all my meals in the mess hall when I was lower ranked and then after I got married I think we got I couldn't eat at the mess hall without paying because I got a subsistence allowance. So as I recall I probably went to the snack bar quite a bit for lunch.

MR: Okay. Did you find this a fun or boring place to be working?

DD: It was awesome. It was. (laughter) I tell people what a great time I had in the military. For the longest time they looked at me like I was crazy because of the stigma of Vietnam and all that. I went through a little bit of that perhaps survivor's guilt in that I didn't serve in Vietnam. But I am okay with that now because I served doing other things that were necessary. And I have a son who was released from military active duty about nine months ago. And he had been everywhere so it is kind of interesting how we can share these kinds of experiences. No. It was great. We really had a good time.

MR: Did anything especially humorous occur while you were here?

DD: Humorous? Other than you know personal things that we just had good time with people. I do recall I don't know how humorous this was but my wife and I were sitting in the dunes with another couple one night and a huge, huge meteor went streaking across the sky and we all kind of flipped out. We weren't quite sure what that was. It wasn't

just a shooting star. And, of course, we were all concerned that being on a military base with missiles and all that we thought it might have something to do with that. And then we found out of course, by the news that it was meteor that was seen all up and down the coast. Today we would have hit the internet and said that was okay. (laughter) That was humorous when we were flying kites and one of my buddies let go of the kite and it went out over the ocean and decided to go for a swim. You know human nature kind of stuff.

MR: Does anything stand out in your mind other than that?

DD: I just remember having a good time. Met lots of great people. That was a period of time when I was about 18 or so to about 23 or 24. So, it was an important time the first couple years of our marriage too. We have been married 35 years so I guess it wasn't a bad thing.

MR: Do you keep in touch with anyone?

DD: Unfortunately, no.

MR: Okay.

DD: We were in touch with one couple I am going to maybe guess ten years afterwards. Maybe that long. Again, a lot of guys who were not in the same kind of program that I was they went off to Vietnam and I checked the wall down in Washington and didn't find any of their names which made me feel better.

MR: Is there anything else you would like to say?

DD: Well, I am really, really happy to see that Fort Hancock is being preserved in some way. I think that is real important. I didn't think about it for a long time as a place that was really important to me. And I didn't realize or I didn't realize the kind of emotion that I would feel when I was down back in April it was. My son lives in New Jersey and we took a ride down there and it was a pretty powerful feeling to get back there and especially to see the things that I thought were important are being preserved and it was amazing to be walking along the porch of my old barracks and to be able to go into the radar site. That was really, really important to me.

MR: Good. I am glad.

DD: I am really happy that you folks are doing something down there to keep that memory. It is an important place and a beautiful place. Unfortunately I know the dollars aren't there to restore everything but I do appreciate what you are doing.

MR: Would you wife like to get on the phone with me?

DD: Sure. Yes she would. Hang on second.

MR: Okay. Great.

JD: Hello.

MR: Hello. Would you please state your full name?

JD: My name is Ruth Jean Drews.

MR: And tell me how you became involved at Fort Hancock?

JD: Through marriage. (laughter) My husband and I got married in August of 1969 and soon after I completed, I had one more year of college to go I went back to school and came home for a term and we lived right in Highlands off Post. When I graduated in 1970 we bought a trailer and ended up on Post and I'm sure he has told you about that.

MR: So tell me a little bit about, did you live in an apartment in Highlands or was it an house?

JD: It was an apartment in a home. It looked like it had been at one time like a boarding home. You know like where they just rented rooms and they closed off some of the rooms and turned those into apartments. And while we lived there I did not work. but I did do I remember this I did sew on patches for some of the enlisted troops and got paid. I don't know probably a pittance for that.

MR: Were you given rights to drive out to go to the PX to buy things?

JD: Yeah. We shopped mostly at Fort Monmouth. That had a Commissary.

MR: Right. So when you moved out to the trailer what did you think? How did you enjoy living out on the actual...?

JD: It was like living on a country club. (laughter) Right on the beach, you know, right next to the ocean we had a lot of friends our own age so it was quite nice.

MR: Okay. Let's see and you started working out there?

JD: Yeah. I started working at the PX on Post. I worked part-time. I took care of the all the money basically and did all of the financial reports and oh I ran the cash register from time to time.

MR: So, you saw the soldiers and were helping them out as well.

JD: Mmm hmm. Yeah.

MR: Was there an office in there?

JD: Yeah in the back end of it just off the end of the store and there was a loading dock on the back to get supplies.

MR: Now did they sell, were they using there was an old time refrigerator in the back like a freezer. Was that still being used back then?

JD: I have to think it was but I am really not certain. I can't remember.

MR: It was mostly a snack bar and mostly dry goods, right?

JD: Yeah. Yeah. And occasionally when the Reserves were there on weekends we would work Saturday mornings and our boss the manager of the PX she would get everybody to work that she possibly could. Her husband would stand in the doorway and try and keep track of how many times the Reserves would come through because they were only supposed to buy like two cases of cigarettes and two cases of beer and he would try to you know kind of catalog faces.

MR: Just cause it was cheaper than to buy it...

JD: Oh definitely. They would like get in line come through. Get back in line and come through and load up the trunks of their cars. It was very inexpensive. A case of beer, I clearly remember this was \$3.20.

MR: And how much was it...

JD: Cigarettes were like \$2.40 or \$2.50 a carton.

MR: And outside it was a couple dollars more I guess.

JD: Yeah. It was definitely quite a thing. You know when they were there on their one weekend a month we opened up for them.

MR: Was that probably your most popular items?

JD: Oh yeah. And it was you know two cases of beer, two cartons of cigarettes and it was a standard price. We knew how much to charge them and it was just constant when they were there. During the week it was just like to you said. Dry goods, snacks.

MR: Like cosmetics and things like that

JD: Cosmetics and toiletries. Those kinds of things. Small items that people could pick up that they might need day to day.

MR: The snack bar, was food prepared right there?

JD: I guess so. I don't remember much about the snack bar at all.

MR: Was that in the center of the room?

JD: Yes. That was like as you came in the main door it was right opposite that. And then the PX was off to the, I think off to the right hand side

MR: And you don't think that the bowling alleys were open downstairs.

JD: I don't remember that they were. I don't recall people using them but that doesn't mean that they weren't.

MR: Was the Post Office in the building at the time?

JD: I don't know. (to husband) was the Post Office in the PX building. I don't remember. I don't remember but I want to say no.

MR: But the Barber Shop was?

JD: The Barber Shop was yes.

MR: Was Mr. Brignola still the barber at that point?

JD: Oh, I don't know.

MR: Oh okay.

JD: One thing I do recall doing on post they kept a ceramic shop open.

MR: Really?

JD: And where was that located. (to husband) That was one of those other buildings. Near the firehouse. There was a ceramic shop in there and we could go in and pour different molds and have them fired in there and paint them.

MR: Was that in like a long warehouse type building?

JD: Yes.

MR: I think that was in building 32. Was there also like a nursery in there?

JD: It could have been. I don't know. I just remember a friend and I, you know, a couple of times went in and did some ceramic work. That was kind of a thing then for crafts.

MR: Did you take excursions? Did you go with your husband or with other wives to New York?

JD: Oh yeah. And down the Jersey shore to Asbury Park to different concerts. Went to some of the state parks, into New York City, Yeah.

MR: Anything stand out in your mind about the Fort?

JD: It was just a beautiful place to be as far as being in a military installation. It was kind of like being on vacation. And my husband was you know sometimes he worked twenty-four hours.

(Break in tape and change back to Mr. Drews.)

MR: Sure. Hi.

DD: There were a couple of things that I thought about while Jean was talking.

MR: Okay.

DD: I can share it with you now. She mentioned the ceramics shop.

MR: Yes.

DD: Where you would go and that was down near the PX that they place that was the firehouse as I recall we were down there in April some society was selling T shirts and things out of that building. The firehouse?

MR: Well, there were two firehouses. I kind of think it was a little bit to the north. There is a large warehouse and there is what was the old bakery and then there is a firehouse barracks and a firehouse. I think it was more over there just because I have seen a floor plan from the '60s.

DD: This was just a one bay building and you look out the large door and you could see the Lighthouse right there twenty feet away, one hundred feet away.

MR: Yeah. That is one of the firehouses.

DD: Anyway where the ceramics shop was there was a building as you are looking out the firehouse door.

MR: Okay.

DD: The building if you are looking to the left like kind of close to the Gas Station.

MR: Oh okay. Then that is Building 53 where the community college is holding classes now.



DD: And I recall also. Its funny how this just popped into my head, that I don't know how I got talked into this probably by my superiors I had a group of cub scouts that I was their den leader during the time I was down there which was an experience because I didn't know anything about eight year old kids at the time. I had been one but I didn't recall. So, anyway I was cub scout leader for a short time.

MR: Was that all military dependents?

DD: Yeah. There may have been some civilian kids in there as well but I am pretty sure it was military dependents because it was mostly enlisted I think. Yeah I am pretty sure. Now you asked about a humorous event. Now I have one.

MR: Okay.

DD: When we were in the trailer park we had a dog and we had a cat. And our dog was a pup and barked a little bit and wasn't real (inaudible) we didn't think. Well, the trailer right next to us was owned by a captain who was stationed at Fort Monmouth and his wife was a nurse and she had odd hours and she tried to sleep and the whole idea I guess of living next to a captain the whole idea I'm sure you know the difference in rank was very substantial.

MR: Right.

DD: Me to a captain. I wanted to make sure even though he was a nice guy I and he wasn't in my chain of command he was a great guy but his wife seemed to take advantage of the fact that she was a captain's wife. Anyway she let us know on more than one occasion that our dog was bothering her and our dog was pretty quiet but maybe he yapped a little bit during the day. We came home from work one day each of us and dog was not there. He was gone and we went ballistic. And we asked her what she had done to the dog. And she said, "I had called the MPs. They came and got him." Well, the MP detachment they were out there where there is an old guard building at the entrance to Fort Hancock.

MR: Right.

DD: Okay. So we called the MPs and they said, "Yep we got him here." We went down there and sure enough they had arrested my dog for disturbing the peace I guess and they were very happy to let us have him back. Although the guy said, "You know, she claimed he was barking and he hasn't made a sound since he got here." (laughter) So, we got our dog back and shortly after that I think the captain and his wife split up because I think she just imagined things. And we did have this cat that ran up and down the hall of the trailer and that may have been what she heard. I don't know. So, our famous dog got arrested. The MPs were great. They were fantastic. The dog hadn't made any noise. He doesn't bark.

MR: What was the dog's name?

DD: Arney. Arney the dog. And I am not sure of your age and I won't get noisy but at the time there was a TV show name Arney so that is probably before your days.

MR: Yeah.

DD: I (inaudible) so anyway we named him after this character. One other thing.

MR: Okay.

DD: Maybe you know this. I am sitting here with a photograph taken by one of my students in 1999. This young woman had been on vacation and she had relatives in Virginia and had gone down there and I guess it was over Christmas vacation and had gone down to Virginia and had gone back was stopped back at various places of interest and drove out to Sandy Hook and took a picture of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse and when she found out that I had a connection with that place down there she presented me with a very nice matted black and white photo of the Sandy Hook Light. I have on my wall with all of the Maine lighthouses that I take pictures of. So that was kind of interesting that she had a connection to this place and she had no knowledge that I had any connection. And since then we have stayed friends and she is a sergeant in military intelligence over in Iraq.

MR: Oh wow.

DD: So, I have stayed in touch with her.

MR: Okay. Anything else to say?

DD: I don't think so. Probably later on I can think of something but I can email you.  
(laughter)

MR: Okay. I am going to go ahead and (tape cuts off)

END OF INTERVIEW