

Sandy Hook, Gateway NRA, NPS
An Oral History Interview with Joseph Philips
526th AAA, 1954-60, and 1968-70
By Billy Yirce, NPS intern
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Transcribed by Mary Rasa 2010



Group photo of 526th AAA, Battery B at Temporary Radar site c.1955.
Photo courtesy: NPS/Gateway NRA



Close up of Joseph Philips from above photograph.

This is a Oral History Interview of Joseph Philips taken place on Fort Hancock Day at Fort Hancock on October 26th.

BY: Well first off, where and when were you born?

JP: Where, Winston Salem, North Carolina. 1925, June the 16th.

BY: What did you do before joining the military, school, high school?

JP: I went to High School.

BY: How did you end up joining the army?

JP: Drafted

BY: What year?

JP: 1943.

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

JP: Laughter.

BY: Did you know anything about New Jersey?

JP: No.

BY: What year did you end up coming to Fort Hancock?

JP: 1954.

What was your title and rank?

JP: I was an E-4.

Tape ends here. Rest of interview did not record.

[Editor's note. Mr. Philips was stationed at Fort Hancock and worked at the Nike IFC area, C-2. He served two tours on site, 1954-60 and then 1968-70. He lived in quarters 71 and 29. He left Fort Hancock with a rank of E-7. Mr. Philips is African-American. He retired in Monmouth County, NJ.]