

This interview is being conducted on Monday, September 18, 2023 at the home of Terry S. Bucaro. My name is Fran Prokop and I am speaking with Terry who served in the U.S. Army and is a veteran of the Viet Nam era. Terry learned of the Veterans' History Project through me, and he has kindly consented to participate in the National Archives Veterans History Project. Here is his story:

**When and where were you born?**

I was born in Chicago, Illinois on March 9, 1946.

**What were your parents' occupations?**

My father worked in a factory; my mother was a housewife and then they owned a business, it was a tavern and a restaurant in Stickney, Illinois.

**How many sisters and brothers did you have?**

I had one brother and one sister.

**Did your brother or other relatives serve?**

No, just my father's brother, my uncle, Roy Bucaro.

**And what branch did he serve in?**

He was in the Army during World War II.

**What did you do before entering the service?**

I was working in General Motors – at a factory.

**How old were you?**

When I got drafted I was 23.

**When did you actually enter the service?**

The 5<sup>th</sup> of December, 1969.

**So you didn't choose this specific branch; they put you into the Army.**

Yes.

**People who were drafted usually went into the Army.**

Yes.

**So, how was your departure for training camp and your early days of training?  
How did you get to where you were going?**

We went downtown Chicago to a recruitment center, I believe. We got there early in the morning, but we didn't leave. We went – the bus took us to O'Hare Airport and we flew to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. That's where I took my basic training.

**And were you there the whole time for basic training?**

Yes.

**How many weeks was that?**

I think it was nine weeks.

**Terry's wife, Mildred, is here and he will help him recall certain dates. She told me that they were married very early on. Let's get into that. Mildred told me you just got married and you were drafted? How did that occur?**

Okay, can I start the story – let me tell the story.

**Yes, yes.**

In 1964 I graduated high school. In the Fall of '64 I got called for military service.

**Okay.**

When I went to the Draft Board it was like a high school reunion. So I went there – went downtown – they took us downtown, did a complete physical, some tests, written tests. I flunked the physical because I had what they called a pilonidal cyst.

**I'm familiar with that.**

So I was told that I have to get it operated on or they would draft me within a year and they would do the operation.

**Oh.**

So I did have it repaired in the Spring of 1965.

**So you had surgery.**

I had surgery in 1965.

**Wow! So they were willing to do it for you.**

Well, that's what the guy told me – I think he was just pulling my leg.

**No, they might do it because if you go into the service and you've got bad teeth, they'll tell you and they will take care of that. They will do extensive dental –**

I probably should have done that because – it didn't work out well. I had to be operated on twice.

**Oh, so you needed two surgeries.**

Yes.

**But did it finally resolve itself?**

Yes.

**So therefore you were not called up again –**

I had a 4F rating, yes. So I wasn't called up again. And to be honest with you, I was hoping that I'd never be called up.

**But they did call you up and that was in 1969 so by that time –**

We were married; we were actually – they called us up -- They gave me that draft notice in June –

Millie: And our wedding date, the church, everything was for September. So we moved it to July.

That was the only thing available at the church basically.

**Okay, July. So you got married in July of 1969. So you were newly married when you were drafted.**

Yes, so I had a draft date of September. Went to the Draft Board and told them that I just got married, and gave them the sob story, so they extended it two months.

**That was nice.**

That's how I ended up in. I told them I just got married, we have a home –

**So you were married for six months before you went in.**

Almost six months.

**Alright, so now you're at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Could you describe a typical day in basic training? What time did you get up in the morning – by the way, when you left, Mildred stayed home in Chicago.**

Yes.

**Okay, so tell me about a typical day.**

Well, it was a typical day, I guess. We landed in the late evening, we were bused to a reception area, just put us in bunks, said get up tomorrow morning and we'll start processing you. So we had about a week of processing, cut your hair, give you all kinds of tests, give us physicals, give you a uniform – that ended up about a week, maybe a little less. Then we were assigned to a company. We went to the company we were assigned to –

**What was your company?**

My company was -- no I don't. What happened is, because I was one of the older guys there, being 23, I got assigned to being squad leader.

**Ok.**

What that entailed is to make sure everybody got up in the morning, made their bed and did all that stuff.

**I thought they had sergeants – drill instructors to do that.**

Well, here's the deal. We had two sergeants, really great guys – they lived off the post – so they let myself and three other guys – we had four squads – basically make sure when they came in everything was ready.

**Okay. So how many recruits were there in that barracks?**

In that barracks there had to be I'd say at least 30 or 40

**Okay, so you were responsible for –**

I was responsible for about 10. There was four of us.

**So you had four squad leaders.**

So maybe there might have been over 40 people – so what it was – one day you were in charge of policing the area, another week you'd be in charge of cleaning the bathroom, you know, they just rotated our duties.

**So what time did you rise in the morning?**

In the morning – we got up at – being in the winter it was dark, so we got up probably 5:30 -- six o'clock.

**And – what happened?**

Well, we'd get up in the morning and the first thing we did was made our beds and we'd go for breakfast – to the chow hall for breakfast. Then after breakfast we'd go back to

the barracks and at that time our drill sergeants were there already. So the drill sergeants would assign us what we're going to do – some guys go to the rifle range – some guys go to PT – you know, what ever they told us we were gonna do, we did.

**Did you have classroom studies during this time?**

Yes, we did. Luckily for me, going to basic training in the winter, most of our classes were in the barracks in the evening; it was already dark.

**What did they teach you? What did you learn?**

Well, how to disassemble a rifle, how to read maps, know basic military – you know, your General Orders and stuff like that; Rank, who you had to salute, who you didn't – stuff like that.

**So you did this every day for eight weeks – different things –**

Yeah, yes, yes, this was every day. Except Sunday.

**How did you adapt to military life – the physical regimen and the barracks –**

I had no problem with that.

**The food, social life –**

The social life – we didn't have a real lot of social life because we were always busy.

Millie: You couldn't sit, remember? Everything was standing.

Oh, yeah, yeah, you were always moving.

**So at the end of eight weeks what happened?**

I lost a lot of weight.

**How much did you lose?**

Thirty pounds; I wasn't that heavy when I went in. My uniforms, when I went to Fort Benning, they were like falling off. We didn't snack or nothin'.

**You just had three meals –**

That was it.

**You had to chow up for your three meals.**

Yes. Then my name started with “B”, I got KP quite often.

**Why?**

Because it was sort of a funny thing and I never could figure it out. Half way through they always lost the roster so they started all over again.

**Oh, I see, ha, ha.**

And the first squad, we were all As and Bs. They did everything in alphabetical order. So I used to end up on KP – I probably ended up on KP once a week. And being tall, I always ended up with pots and pans.

**Oh, wow !**

But you know I didn’t really have a problem because being that I worked at General Motors before – I worked with a whole different group of people. I worked with a lot of minorities, so we had a lot there, so I got along with them fine.

**What was your job at GM?**

GM -- I worked in factory; I was a pipefitter.

**Right – was that the GM here in Chicago?**

Yeah, ElectroMotive –

**Oh, ElectroMotive in LaGrange.**

McCook actually, started at 18, right out of high school.

**Wow – my girlfriend worked there for a long time.**

That’s where I retired from.

**So they held your job for you – they gave you a job –**

And they continued my seniority – thank God we had a union.

**Yeah, well, they’ll do that. Other – for servicemen they do –**

Some don’t.

**Well, if the company, a big company like that, they will do it.**

**Okay. So your eight weeks of training are over now – what were your next duties.**

Here's what happened. Most of the guys went to AIT –

**What is that – advanced infantry training –**

Yes. They were destined to go to Viet Nam.

**Ok.**

But I never went to any advanced training. I got put on a bus and bussed to Fort Benning, Georgia.

**Who was on the bus with you – the guys you were a squad leader with?**

No, no; there was four of us from different companies and we were all ex-mechanics.

**Ah, I see, mechanics.**

That's what I'd done at General Motors.

**Machinists, like –**

Yes. So that's what we all did. So the rest of the guys – I never seen them again.

**They went to infantry training.**

That's where most of them went.

**Okay.**

You got a lot of National Guard guys in there – in basic training.

**And where did they go, do you know?**

I guess they went back to where they came from.

**So you trained with the National Guard.**

There was National Guard guys in there; there was U.S. and then there was draftees and volunteers.

**What did you do in Fort Benning?**

Fort Benning I was assigned to a transportation company – it was heavy equipment – well, a truck mechanic – that's what I did.

**What did your duties involve?**

It was repairing the equipment that they had –

**Mostly trucks –**

Trucks, jeeps, uh, ton and a quarter – wheeled vehicles; we didn't work on any track vehicle, just wheeled vehicles.

**How long did you do that?**

I did that for about four months.

Millie: -- How long were we there? I came with him.

**Oh, you came with him after he got out of basic training.  
You must have come home for a leave first, after basic training?**

No, no I didn't. Here's what happened. Being Christmas time, we had a leave – I was there two weeks and we had a Christmas Holiday leave. I came home for Christmas –

**Oh, so you forfeited the other one.**

Yeah, forfeited it, exactly. What happened was I stayed in the barracks at Fort Benning for maybe 2 or 3 weeks. Millie said I'd like to come down there with you, so I basically got along with management over there, and one guy set me up – he said your wife's a beautician, I think I may have a job for her.

**Oh, wow!**

So I told her what it was; I said are you willing to come down? She said I want to come down; so she did. So we got an apartment off post. So I left the barracks and we moved off post. The only requirement was we had to have a telephone.

**So they could reach you if you were needed – like on 24-hour call.**

Right – 24-hour call. I had guard duty every week.

**Didn't everybody?**

What happened was – I hate to say this – we had a lot of returnees from Viet Nam – And I'll tell you something –

**You can say whatever you want – it's years later --**

These guys, they said, we fought like hell and we got nothin' –



**Hmmm**

So a lot of them had attitudes and they weren't gonna' do anything that they didn't have to do.

**Oh, okay. Yeah, tides were turning then.**

Yes, yes. And – so there was a few of us guys that were never in Viet Nam, so we didn't enjoy the work.

**How long did you stay at Fort Benning?**

WE stayed there until August – end of August –

**March to August so it was now 1970, right?**

Yeah.

**So what happened then? Where did you go afterwards?**

Well, Millie went back home. We owned a home – lucky – I should probably get into that story – thank God her Aunt came through. You know, when you go into the military you don't make much money – so thank God her Aunt came through and helped us pay for this place.

Millie – it was not a lot of money; not a big house.

No, it wasn't a lot of money but back then it was. We still had to pay for it. But thank God she came through and gave us the mortgage. So we paid her, you know. So tht worked out real well for us.

**Okay. So Millie came back home and you went on – so where did you go?**

Okay. I went to Korea – first of all we went for a week in Seattle, Washington.

**You flew there, right?**

Oh, yes, flew from O'Hare. What is that base – Fort Lewis, Washington. WE were there for a week doing some orientation; getting shots and all that stuff, you know, getting orientation and all.

**Did they tell you why they wanted you to go to Korea? What were you going to do in Korea?**

Well, I went to Korea as a mechanic.—truck mechanic.

### **Truck mechanic.**

I went to Korea as a mechanic. So what happened was, when I went to Korea, it's like anyplace else in the military. I guess this is common. Nobody knows you're coming. So they give you a whole set of Orders and the Orders tell you exactly what train to take, what flight to take – just to get you to the door. That's what I did.

### **Okay.**

I was the only one; followed the Orders 100%. So I show up at the CQ's desk and I lay the Orders down and the guy said, who are you? So, needless to say, I laid down the Orders, he said we weren't expecting anybody, but you're here. He said we don't really have any place for you to stay right now, but we have a guy that's on leave; we're gonna give you his room and his bed.

### **Okay.**

So that was good. So I was in bed and there was a Personnel Specialist in the next bed, so we got to talking and he said what are you here for? I told him my MOS and he said, oh, you want to see where you're going to be working? I said I'd love to. They do all the work outside there.

### **Yeah, it's cold there too.**

The weather's just like here; their weather is just like here. He said "Do you mind if I look at your DD-214? Because he was a personnel specialist. I said no, not at all. So he looked at it and he said "You know, there's an opening right now for a job and we're having a hard time filling it." The job was nuclear technician. So I got an interview with a Lieutenant that was the head of that platoon and we hit it off pretty well, and that's where I ended up.

### **And what were your duties?**

The duties were – e did a lot of training – is what our duties were – that's what we did, a lot of training. And what I worked on was what they called nuclear demolition.

### **Okay and what did that involve?**

It involved, in case we were ever overrun by the North, we were gonna destroy everything before they could get it.

### **Destroy all your supplies or –**

Yeah, everything; everything. This was our job.

### **Nuclear demolition – and destroy everything if North Koreans ever got there –**

Yeah, it was on the DMZ.

**DMZ**

It was called Camp Page.

**So while you were in service did you form any friendships with other fellas?**

Yeah, we were a very close-knit group 'cuz we had our own special maximum security area, so we were pretty much – a group that we did everything together.

**Did you – are you still in touch with any of the fellas?**

No, no, not at all.

**Not today.**

Not today.

**How long were you in Korea?**

I was there till September.

**Of '70?**

Of '71.

**So you were there for quite awhile –**

Mildred: 13 months.

**And during the entire 13 months you were doing the same thing?**

Doing the same thing.

**And what did that really entail? What did you have to do day to day?**

Day to day what we had to do was, well, of course we had a pool in what they called motor stables – what that meant was we had our designated equipment. We had to make sure it was in working order; that took about couple of hours.

**Okay.**

We had to do that.

## **Daily?**

Daily – pretty much daily. We were on 24-hour call.

## **Right.**

We were on 24-hour call. So we had to do that. And then we had – there was designated training – well, we'd go to breakfast, of course, but we'd do designated training. We had models of our equipment that we would have to work on. One day you work on this model, the next day you'd work on that.

## **Oh, I see. So you never really went back to being a truck mechanic?**

No, no.

## **You went in there for that, but you never – they didn't use you for that.**

No, they didn't need me for that.

Millie: -- but it was secret, this stuff, because I would get letters with –

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Well, yeah, I had to get a top secret clearance. So the first month I was there I didn't do anything, except swept the floor in the barracks.

## **Till you got the clearance, right.**

Till I got the clearance, ha, ha.

## **How did you stay in touch with your wife –**

Letters, just letters.

## **No phone calls?**

I made a phone call one time but the connection was so bad and it was so expensive – Remember, hon, I called you once. I used to call collect – one time. That was about a \$30 call back then.

Millie: He was gonna' come home saving money for mid-tour leave, you know – half way they let you go.

I had a mid-tour leave.

Millie: So he came home instead of Hawaii.

Mostly everybody went to Hawaii, but I came home.

**How long was that leave for?**

One month.

**While you were there for 13 months is that when you received your highest rank?**

Yes.

**And your highest rank was?**

E-5. That's a Specialist.

**How about other honors or medals – do you recall – I know you don't have your DD-214 here.**

All I got – you know – the standard – I have a Sharpshooter and all that stuff.

**Oh, you were – okay; that's important.**

**And Good Conduct, of course – Also Korea gave out medals – Korean medals.**

Yes, they did.

**If you come across them - what their exact names are –**

I have a whole thing of military stuff, but it's in Florida.

**Oh, well, you'll be going there next month. You can maybe send it to my by email – I'll just include it.**

Okay.

**Give me your email address right now actually.**

Do we have an email address?

Millie: What I do is text back and forth; we don't have a computer.

**Oh, you don't. Then texting will have to be okay.**

Millie: The phone number 708-673-3658 (block out number)

**I want to send this to you but I have to send it by text?**

(Discussion off the record).

**While you were in Korea, did you have any recreational or off-duty pursuits?**

We used to go to the enlisted men's club – the E M club.

**I'm looking for sports; organized sports.**

No, I didn't get any organized sports; they may have had some, I wasn't aware of it.

**Okay. So what did you do for recreation?**

We used to go to the E M Club and drink beer.

Millie: You used to go mountain climbing; you have all kinds of pictures.

We did go mountain climbing – hiking –

**Hiking – yeah, because those mountains are high – Is it warm there in the summer time?**

Yes. The temperature is exactly like here.

**My brother-in-law and my husband were both in the Korean conflict and they've got pictures of snow and mountains, snow all over the place.**

Oh, yeah, there was snow.

Millie: And they lived in Quonset huts with bathrooms a block away. Ha, ha.

Bathrooms were a block away, yeah.

**Okay, so you spent the 13 months working on the nuclear stuff and you continued to do that to the very end.**

To the very end. Let me add something – when I went on mid-tour leave, that was in June, wasn't it, honey?

Millie: No, you came home in March for three weeks.

Okay, then it was in March. I came home in March, and it was my mid-tour leave, I went to Greer Technical Institution and signed up for a class. I went there, did all the paper work; they were authorized as military – so then I went there – and when I got back to Korea, about two months later, that's how I ended up spending 21 months there. I got an educational deferment – an educational early-out – three months.

**So when you came back did you continue at Greer?**

Yeah, I went to Greer and I took the class. It was a 3-month class. I graduated; that was a good – I've got to tell you a story about that.

**Wait a minute – then you went back to Korea, so you served until September**

Yes.

**So you were there like another six months.**

Yes.

**Okay, your time was up, so you were deactivated from Korea or did you have to come home and go to a base.**

No. Deactivated from Korea.

**Right from there?**

Well, actually from Fort Lewis.

**Oh, so you did come back.**

Yes, came back to Fort Lewis, right.

**They don't do that overseas, they usually do it here at a base.  
So how long were you at Fort Lewis?**

Maybe two days.

**And then you flew home?**

Yes.

**How was your reception by family and friends?**

Fine; everybody was happy to see me.

**And how was your readjustment to civilian life?**

I didn't seem to have a readjustment problem. I didn't seem to. General Motors took me back. I was like most typical people – I'm not going back to a factory. I'm going to do something else – but then I only had 30 days to get back otherwise they would have let me go. So I went back to GM and I'm really glad I did.

**Did you go back to your old job or did they give you a new job.**

They gave me a new job.

**What was that?**

Well, it was – it wasn't the same department but it was still the same basic job. I was still a pipefitter.

**And you ended up retiring from General Motors?**

Yes.

**What year was that?**

June 1, 1997.

**Are you in contact with any fellow veterans today?**

The only one – that would be Mike Jones –

**He served with you?**

I went to High school with him and we both worked together. He was in the Navy.

**Are you a member of any veterans' organizations today?**

No, I'm not.

**Do you use the VA services today?**

No.

**Did you ever use the G.I. Bill?**

That was for the school.

**Was that the only time you used it?**

That was the only time I used it.

**And you only went to school for three months?**

That was a technical school.

**So did you get a Certificate?**

Yes. It was for refrigeration and air conditioning.



## **Like HVAC?**

Yes.

## **Now that you look back, how did your military experience affect your life?**

I really don't know. One thing I wish I would've went when I first took my physical in 1964. I wish I was drafted then. I wasn't married; I lived at home; that would have been the time to leave. I was always sort of upset that I was married, tried to make a life for ourselves; luckily we didn't have children I would have really been in trouble. We had a home; we had everything; we had a lot of payments, car payments, all this stuff.

## **You were not a kid; you were a married man.**

Yes. Yes. I already had seniority at General Motors, so –

## **Well, it sort of upset your life, but you adjusted.**

I tried to adapt as best I could. I believe I adapted pretty well. We had some guys who really had some attitudes.

## **Yeah, I'm sure. Yes. So what life lessons do you think you learned from military service.**

Well, I learned a life lesson actually from my father; he always said, "Listen to your boss; you'll never go wrong," And I learned over there the same thing. I got along with them guys fine because I did my job. They told me to do something, I did it.

## **Right.**

If you don't argue with them and do what you're supposed to do, it'll be okay.

## **Right, do your job; do your job. Okay, that's about it, unless there's anything else that you'd like to add. Any story or anecdote that you think would be relevant.**

No, I don't think so. One thing I will say, I don't know if it's relevant – when I was at Fort Lewis I was sort of surprised – the guys that were going to Viet Nam, I mean, they kept them guys busy as hell. They were on KP, they were on guard duty; they were on cleaning the place up and us guys that weren't going to Viet Nam – the guys that were going to Korea, and maybe they might have been going – they didn't really force us to do that stuff; that sort of surprised me. I don't know if they just wanted to keep them guys busy or what –

## **Sounds like it; sounds like they wanted to keep them busy to not think too much.**

(Discussion off the record). **Is there anything else that you would like to add to the story or do you think that you've completed it.**

Well, one thing I will add, and I can thank my wife for this, if she didn't work as hard as she did when we were in Fort Benning, there was no way in the world we could have lived off post. What I made a month was our rent; that was our rent.

**I know. Pay was pathetic in those days.**

It was about \$100 bucks or \$110 a month and that's what we paid rent.

**In the Army you got your food and clothing and everything else, but no money.**

And we just got married – we used to get what they called separate rations – I forgot how much they gave us –

**Because you were off base.**

I was off base – so I couldn't use the mess hall except during work and plenty of KP. Ha, ha, we took separate rations. We even had our clothes washed with the military. Because we didn't have a washer and dryer; just had laundromats, you know –

Millie: Did you know they blast on every piece of laundry your Social Security number.

**I don't think they do that today anymore; that was then, you know.**

Our ID number was our Social Security number; that was on everything; it was on your locker.

**I'm sure they don't do that today.**

No, they don't. But it was on your locker, your duffel bag, that was your ID number. They used to print the last four numbers on all your clothes, so when you got them – in a bag or something –

**How did they get their clothes back?**

How did we get our right clothes?

**Because the number was on them.**

I don't remember how I picked the clothes up; I don't remember where I picked them up at. I did it, but I can't remember how – we used to get the clothes, and it was in a bag, I think – not in my duffel bag; that's when you travel you use the duffel bag.

WE used to go to the PX, they had what we used to call paid activities and you went to the PX for groceries – the place was packed 'cuz everybody was there.

**Sure.**

Millie: I worked right next to it.

Yeah, you worked right next door, the beauty shop on base. Thank God that she worked; otherwise we – there was no way we could afford it.

**You weren't there that long either.**

Yeah, but we had two cars then; we had a mortgage to pay, rent here, utilities to pay.

**Okay, I think that we got all the information we need. Terry remembered that he was in the 8<sup>th</sup> Army, 161<sup>st</sup> Engineers, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Missile Battalion. He should include that in his information papers.**

**We've completed our interview and I want to thank you very much Terry and Millie, for this interview and thank you for your service to our country.**

You know it's really amazing, I Thank you for your service now, there was a time –

**I know.**

I mean those guys came back –

**I know the guys from Viet Nam – well, how did you feel about that when you came back from Viet Nam.**

The Viet Nam Era – well, see, I came back – I had a job, I had a home, I had my wife, I had everything. So my -- actually everything continued – what I did was I went to that school, I worked nights at General Motors, went to school during the day, and after I graduated school I worked for a guy maintaining – I went on day shift – remember I worked that last day – 'cuz we were broke, I mean, we were. I mean you couldn't have shook a thousand bucks out of us, you know what I mean?

**Well, you made it through.**

Millie was working 12 hours a day, while I was gone, she worked a lot.

Millie: I was very lonely so I just worked constantly, remodeling –

'Cuz I was gone –

**And what advice did you get from your officers when you left Fort Lewis, Washington?**

They gave us a steak dinner --

**About traveling home.**

They just said listen, wear your civilian clothes; they got people demonstrating at the airport.

**That was 1969?**

No, that was 1971.

**Oh, 1971, still demonstrating; they were doing it in 1969 too.**

Let me tell you one more story, one more thing – when I was at Fort Benning, Georgia as the mechanic, they picked out a few guys and I was one of them. They were gonna do something, a demonstration or removing an engine from a jeep, putting another on in – in the parking lot of this mall they had. The day it was happening there was a big demonstration and we didn't do it. We trained on it for probably two weeks. We painted the jeep – the shiny tires – taking the engine out of one putting it into another one – then take that one and put it in here. About four of us – we trained on that for about two weeks, maybe three weeks; they picked out certain guys, you know.

**So you never did it.**

They had a white guy, a black guy, Hispanic, that's how they did it.

**But you never got to complete that.**

No, we had the training and the day we were gonna do it they said it's cancelled; there's a huge anti-war demonstration going on at the mall so we're not gonna do it.

**Yeah, well that's the way the U.S. was at that time.**

Yes, that's the way it was. I remember that and I remember all that training. It wasn't bad; nobody bothered us.

Millie: you were a unique soldier. I don't know if its because you were working in a factory and used to taking orders, but you did very well in the military because of that.

Yeah, yeah.

Millie: And just your personality

Well, the military wanted me to re-enlist because the equipment we were working on was supposed to be replaced with new equipment; that never happened. They never got the funding so they cancelled the school. I was the only guy in nuclear demolition that never went to school for it.

**Oh, wow!**

I learned on the job.

Millie: They take aptitude tests; very mechanical aptitude; so they didn't have to train him.

No. I was, like I said, became a squad leader right away.

**That's why they do the aptitude tests because they can tell the guys who can go into jobs like that because they had the aptitude for it.**

**Once again, Thank you for your service and for this interview.**

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