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Interview with
E. F. HOWARD
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Interviewer: Melinda Smith
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Oral History Collection

E. F. Howard

Interviewer: Melinda Smith

Date: April 8, 1989

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Ms. Smith: This is Melinda Smith interviewing Mr. E. F. Howard. This interview is taking place on April 8, 1989, in Dallas, Texas. I am interviewing Mr. Howard in order to get his reminiscences and experiences and impressions while he was serving in the 19th Infantry at Schofield Barracks on December 7, 1941, during the Japanese attack. Mr. Howard was assigned, as I said, to the 19th Infantry.

Mr. Howard, I would like to get a little bit of biographical information about you first. When you were born, and where were you born?

Mr. Howard: November 3, 1919, out in the country from Haines, Arkansas, which is close to Forrest City, Arkansas.

Smith: Arkansas Razorback (chuckle), okay. Did you go to school out there?

Howard: Yes. What schooling I got was at a little schoolhouse that wasn't too much bigger than that front room in there. When I was in the sixth grade, I moved to town and went to school. Well, I was sent to school in town; I didn't move to town.

Smith: I see. When did you first enter the service?

Howard: In 1940.

Smith: In 1940. Was that in Arkansas?

Howard: I went to Memphis and joined the Army, but they sent me to Atlanta to be sworn in. Now I don't really know where you might say I originated from.

Smith: Did you get your basic training in Atlanta?

Howard: Yes, in Atlanta and Charleston, South Carolina.

Smith: I see. Why did you choose the Army?

Howard: Well, I had a buddy with me, and we tried the Marines, and he failed; we tried the Navy, and he failed; and we tried the Army, and he failed. I said, "Well, hell, I'm going. I ain't going back to that cotton patch." I quit the cotton patch to go over there and join the Army on New Year's Day, 1940.

Smith: Was basic training pretty much what it had been? Was it difficult?

Howard: It was routine. I mean, I spent two years in a CCC camp just prior to that, and just the main part of it was learning how to march, close-order drills. It got more extensive after the war broke out, but I had already been in, so I didn't have to go through that. I only had about six weeks in there, and later they started giving them sixteen weeks. They had to run these obstacle courses, and I didn't know what that was.

Smith: You must have been in pretty good shape, then, if you were in the CCC.

Howard: Oh, yes. I came out of the CCC camp eating three good meals a day. Of course, I went back home to the farm, and the next morning we went out to pick cotton. There was frost on the bolls, and I said, "Let's get out of here and go join the service." I would have been drafted in July, anyway, so I just beat them by six months. Once I got in the Regular Army, I could kind of choose where I went if I got in early, so I asked for the Pacific.

Smith: Oh, you did? Why did you want the Pacific in particular?

Howard: I felt like we were going to get in war with Hitler sooner or later. And in the CCC our cook was an old

retired Army mess sergeant. He and I were pretty good friends, and we talked a lot, and he said, "Man, you better get in there! Don't wait until they draft you because they'll send you anywhere they want you to go. If you get in before you're drafted, you can kind of choose. They'll ask you where you want to go." Which they did.

Smith: So you wanted to be on the opposite side from all that fighting?

Howard: And I liked to have caught the first bomb.

Smith: I bet! My goodness! So when did you arrive in Hawaii?

Howard: In March of 1940.

Smith: So they just shipped you right on to Hawaii. And you went straight to Schofield Barracks?

Howard: Yes.

Smith: When you first arrived in Hawaii and you thought about the possibility of the United States getting involved, you really then thought about Europe. Did you ever consider anything starting in the Far East at that time?

Howard: After I was there a few months and heard the people that had been there a long time talking and referring to spies that they...some of the personnel in my battalion...a little ol' town close by made uniforms

for the people that had been there, the soldiers-- tailor-made uniforms. Of course, they had daughters, and the men were going with the daughters. Some of the guys that had those tailor shops were spies, and they'd find out through their daughters, see. So they didn't do anything about it until right after December 7, and then they went in and shot two or three of them and just then took some of them to jail.

Smith: So you didn't know this yourself. These are things that you heard about?

Howard: Yes. That's when I began to wonder about the fact that "I wasn't so smart after all coming over here." Of course, I never dreamed that it would be like it was. The worst thing in my thoughts were, I believe, in September of 1941. General Short called all of the Army departments together in a big drill field and gunnery range, and he told us, "Sometime this fall I'm going to pull an alert, and my closest aides will not even know about it. I won't even tell them." That's what everybody thought it was [on December 7]. That's what I thought it was.

Smith: So did you have a lot of maneuvers leading up that fall?

Howard: Yes. Right after he made this statement, we started. One battalion would go out and stay a couple of weeks in the field, and we were building gun emplacements around there. Of course, anybody would have thought that was just something they were giving us to do at the time. They didn't really think it was anything drastic. But I think they knew then that the Japanese were going to attack--in my own mind.

Smith: What was the morale like in the pre-war Army?

Howard: Oh, everybody was...they were just great.

Smith: Having a good time?

Howard: There were a few misfits that cursed the Army and the government and everything else, but they were very minor.

Smith: They kept you busy then?

Howard: Well, we were just doing something to keep you out of trouble.

Smith: Right (chuckle). I understand that sports and athletics were pretty popular.

Howard: Yes.

Smith: Did you take part in any of them?

Howard: Yes. I played baseball a while. I was a catcher. One evening I started out...the barracks over there were built in a quadrangle. Just a square barracks with

an outlet on all four corners. Of course, in the middle of each battalion they had a foyer to go through. I was going from one company to the other--I don't remember what, but I think I was going from F Company to Headquarters--and they were knocking a ball around out on the quadrangle. I hollered, "Hit me one!" I took another guy's glove, and he knocked me one, and I started trying to catch it. It was a skinner on the ground, and it hit me right in the mouth. I had to quit. I could not face a ball from then on. Every time one would come at me, I would dodge.

Smith: For Heaven's sake! Your baseball career was over then.

Howard: It was over. I tried to play football, but I was too skinny then. They wouldn't let me play. I was not skinny, but gangly and raw-boned.

Smith: Did athletes have any kind of special treatment? I understand they even tried to recruit some.

Howard: They were on what they called "special duty" when they were in season, when they were in contests between the different outfits. Those in sports trained every day, and then they'd go to the barracks, lay-up and sleep, and eat.

Smith: Pretty good duty, then.

Howard: If you were a good athlete, you got the cream of the crop.

Smith: How often did you have liberty?

Howard: About anytime I wanted it if you didn't get into trouble. After you got out of boot camp, and after you were considered a Class A soldier, you were free to go any time you weren't on duty. You'd come in from duty in the afternoon or whenever the platoon sergeant knocked off...of course, he knew when he was supposed to let us go to the barracks. Many went in, took a shower, dressed, went to town, and didn't come back until...I don't remember now what curfew was, whether it was 10:00 or 11:00 or 12:00. It seemed to me like it was a different time on different days. That's when everybody was in Honolulu--the majority of them--the next morning when the Japanese hit.

Smith: Where did you usually go for liberty? Did you go into Honolulu?

Howard: Occasionally. I had a couple of Navy friends I met down there that I was in the CCC camp with. We just browsed around, looked at the sights mainly, in the

daytime. At nighttime we looked at the bars and all the girls, of course (chuckle).

Smith: Did you have a favorite place to go?

Howard: Not in particular. I can't even think of the names of them anymore. The town of Wahiawa was in walking distance of Schofield Barracks, and we went there quite a bit. Of course, the Navy guys didn't because they were a little more strict on them. They had to stay so close to their ship. I don't know how far they could go away. On weekends they could come up to Schofield, but they couldn't come up there every night. I could have gone down to Pearl Harbor every night if I so wanted to.

Smith: Just didn't have that many restrictions on you then.

Howard: Not on anybody that didn't have some kind of extra duty. Some guys were "eight balls," you know, and would foul up. Many fouled up just through meanness, and for others alcohol did it. They'd get drunk, and, of course, they'd raise Cain. Then they'd put them on some kind of extra duty and restrict them.

Smith: I would like for you to tell me about what your accommodations were like. Was it a big room of beds, or did you have your own room?

Howard: It was just a room of beds. The noncoms had two or three in one room. Like, a special duty staff sergeant had a private room. I don't know why, whether he had just been there that long and got it when somebody else left or whether he was assigned it for some other reason. The sports trainer was a big ol' Irishman--big and heavy--who weighed 300 pounds. He had a private room just right at the very front of the barracks. It was a three-story barracks. It was like a hotel room, only there wasn't any windows or doors. It had a whole wide-open deal. It didn't rain that much. Once in a while we'd get a blow-in rain, and it just got everything wet. You just had to dry it out or go down to the supply house and get some mops.

Smith: Did you have enough space for what you needed?

Howard: Oh, yes.

Smith: What about the food? Was it any good?

Howard: Great. I had no complaints. It was a balanced diet. You could eat all the eggs you wanted in the morning, which was probably not good according to what they're saying about them now.

Smith: Did they serve pretty much basic things, or did you get real special things on special occasions to eat?

Howard: Well, it was basic. But on the weekends we'd have something extra, like, turkey and dressing or ham. Of course, we had ham nearly every morning if we wanted it.

Smith: Sounds pretty good to me. I'd like for you to take me on kind of a typical week before December 7. What did you do when you got up in the morning? What was your duty or routine?

Howard: Well, I got to be a truck driver shortly after I got there because that's what I was in the CCC, a heavy equipment operator. And it was routine every day. They'd assign us to either haul groceries out to the men that were stationed in the field or...of course, first, you'd get up and tend to your toiletry stuff and bathe and shave. You shaved every morning whether you needed it or not and brushed your teeth. Then you'd go eat breakfast and go to the motor pool, and they'd tell you there where you were going that day. It'd be somewhere around the island. It might be all the way around it, or it may be within walking distance. But you had to haul something. Everywhere I went was in that truck except from the motor pool to the barracks. It was about a mile-and-a-half, and I had to walk that every morning and night--to the

motor pool--and then leave my truck and walk to my barracks. After December 7 is a different story. We had to haul men out. They'd keep building these gun positions, but they wouldn't have done any good.

Smith: What time did you knock off in the afternoon, usually?

Howard: About 4:00.

Smith: Oh, so you worked a good, long day.

Howard: Well, it might have been sooner. I think it was around 4:00.

Smith: As you got closer to December 7, like, the end of November, that last couple of weeks of November, could you tell any tensions building up or any possibilities about something going to happen?

Howard: Yes. Besides having these battalions go out in the field, they would put up antiaircraft guns--just .50-caliber machine guns--on top of the barracks, and some of them were manned day and night. I don't remember when it started, but it was around the first of December. And they hadn't been doing that before, see. We just thought that was just routine training, that they had it ready in case something happened.

There's something else that I started to say a while ago about General Short's little speech. Now

when I was in the CCC camp in 1939, I had to go to the hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas. And we had newsreels in those days. Now I didn't think about that until it happened, but we were talking about fortifying Guam, I believe. And the Japanese "bigwig"--I had no idea who he was--came on the newsreel and told the United States government that anytime we fortified Guam, it would be like pointing a shotgun at your neighbor's back door. It didn't even hit my mind until the Pearl Harbor deal. And that was in 1939. They had all that time. They were practically fussing about it and almost threatening one another with war.

Smith: So you said that they put the antiaircraft guns on the roof. Did you notice an increase in alerts or maneuvers?

Howard: Well, they were busy all the time, day and night. They were manned all the time. Of course, as a truck driver I was hauling something, and several nights I did have to haul...I don't remember whether it was troops or carry some kind of an artillery piece to a certain place where they thought they needed it. I don't think that was a necessary deal. That was just a training deal--to see if it could be done.

The gun that I was hauling out there wouldn't have been worth anything in an attack, anyway.

Smith: Did you go, yourself, out on maneuvers with your battalion?

Howard: Yes, when they needed trucks.

Smith: But you still spent most of your time going back and forth?

Howard: Right. We'd get in convoys and probably travel all day sometimes, just going around trails up and down the mountains.

Smith: Where was your duty station?

Howard: In Service Company in the 19th Infantry at Schofield Barracks. Of course, on the island, when we were out on maneuvers, anywhere the commanding officer took a notion, that's where we set up camp. Bivouac, they called it.

Smith: When you thought of a typical Japanese person, did you think of a stereotype?

Howard: I don't know. I haven't had enough education, and it's been so long since I used any of it. I always thought they were "smart alecks." Anything you tried to do, they wanted to outdo it. They weren't happy with being mediocre. They wanted to outdo you in whatever you were doing.

Smith: You talked earlier about rumors about spies. These were rumors you heard of saboteurs?

Howard: Yes. They had short-wave radios. They were finding out information. Their daughters would go with these guys, sergeants or corporals--noncoms--and, of course, they would get to drinking and get to talking; and they would tell the girl, and she would go tell her daddy, and he'd radio it to Japan.

Smith: But you didn't have an experience like this. This was mostly your friends?

Howard: No, I was in one deal. Well, it wasn't any spy deal. One of the guys brought uniforms in to sell...he tailored some of them. I mean, it was like one of our supermarkets today. I was driving the command car for an intelligence group that went out there. They knew that he was a spy, but they couldn't find his radio. I drove them out there, and they went in and found him sending a message on his radio. This was after Pearl Harbor.

Smith: Okay, this was after. And you were actually driving the car that day.

Howard: The command car.

Smith: Goodness! Well, this kind of brings us up to the weekend of December 7. What did you do on Friday and Saturday during that weekend?

Howard: I don't remember, but the main thing was Sunday morning.

Smith: Right.

Howard: Being a truck driver, me and two others were walking down the street and going to the motor pool. We were going to get our trucks and come back and take people out to the beach to swim and have some kind of a barbecue. We always had something on the weekend.

Smith: Had you been out Saturday night? Do you remember? Did you spend the night at the barracks?

Howard: I don't think so hardly. I was at the barracks. I might have gone to one of the beer joints. We had them on the post, see. But I don't think I was out because I felt good the next day.

Smith: (Chuckle) That's a good indication. So you were out walking on the street.

Howard: We were going to get our trucks and come back--the motor pool would have told us where to go--and pick up soldiers to take to the beach. They would have told us which beach to go to. All of a sudden planes started diving, and these were two-story barracks.

They was actually three stories. There was a ground floor, and then there were two stories above that. But I said to the guys...one of them was a young boy, and he got permission from his parents to let him get in the service. Myself and the other guy were walking side-by-side, and he was a little behind us. I said, "Look at that damned jawbone problem here on a Sunday morning!" Then I noticed we were facing Kole Kole Pass, which they went right over that to Pearl Harbor. I saw the smoke boiling up, and some planes were coming back. They had the Japanese insignia, and they had flashes on their wings. They were firing, but they overfired us or underfired us or something. I made the remark, "They're even throwing up firecrackers on a jawbone problem!" Of course, I wasn't thinking too well, or I would have known that those firecrackers would have flew behind the plane, not in front of it.

There were two planes that came over, and one of them hit the bark. Its bullets ricocheted off right in front of us on the pavement and went in the barracks behind us and hit somebody. It wasn't bad, just a flesh wound. I said, "Jawbone, hell, that's the blankety-blank Japs!" We turned around to run,

and that kid was closing in on us. I hit him on the shoulder and told him, "Come on, boy, let's go get your rifle!" Of course, he ran off and left me then, when he woke up.

We get up to our part of the barracks, and they had the rifles locked up. The platoon sergeant had the key, and he was in Honolulu. So we just tore that rack apart and got our rifles. I couldn't find my ammunition clips, so I went down to the supply room and asked the sergeant for some. He happened to be there. He wasn't always there on a Sunday morning. He might have been, too. It might have been something that went on every Sunday morning, like, the change of the guard time, which is around 7:00. I told him my problem, and he said, "Well, you're going to have to sign a requisition if you get any more clips because you were issued clips!" And I blasted him out. I said, "Man, that ain't funny out there! It's the real Japanese, and they were throwing lead at us!" He began to tell me over that I was going to have to sign for them, which I didn't care whether I had to sign for them or not. But my company commander, a captain, walked in the door and said, "What's going on here?" I told him real quick in a

few words. He went behind the counter and just threw me a whole box of ammunition clips.

I went to the motor pool by back alleys and trying to stay hid from the planes. There were several of them flying around. I got there and couldn't find any ammunition. Nobody had any ammunition. Finally, they sent me somewhere in the truck, and I picked up some guys. The barracks had ammunition. They were firing. They had their machine guns set up. So I got a handful of ammunition from one of them people for my M-1.

Then after that, we all went and congregated on a big drill field, sat out there like sitting ducks. Of course, they knew--but I didn't--that it wasn't going to be a ground attack. They got some planes up, two or three, and found out there weren't any troopships close enough to land. The planes were all trying to get back to their aircraft carrier. I think we shot some of them down. I don't remember now, but I believe we sank the aircraft carrier before it got out of range.

Smith: About what time in the morning was it when you were walking on the street?

Howard: In the neighborhood of 7:00. I don't know whether it was before or after.

Smith: And what was the weather like that day?

Howard: Just a big ol' thunderhead. Otherwise, it was clear. Big ol' dry weather thunderhead like we used to have up in Arkansas.

Smith: Dry weather thunderhead. Did you hear an alert go out at any point?

Howard: No.

Smith: Everybody just kind of caught on on their...

Howard: Well, Major Bodock...nobody liked him. He looked like Hitler. He had a little mustache. He was going off duty. He'd been the O.D. [Officer-of-the-Day] the night before at Schofield Barracks. The barracks on the first ground floor had big ol' concrete posts as big as two feet thick and that wide (gesture).

Smith: About four feet, five feet?

Howard: It had a garbage can sitting right at the edge of it, and he got down behind the deal and then crawled out there. There was nothing behind us but that garbage can. He looked down at me, and he said, "Soldier, is there any more planes coming?" I just made a quick survey and said, "No, sir." The thought

hit my mind that if I would have had a brick, I would get even with him.

Smith: Oh, my goodness!

Howard: I'd have thrown it in that can.

Smith: Was it pretty calm? Was there a lot of confusion?

Howard: No, not after they got out and everybody got ammunition. Now the confusion, I heard, was getting people out of Honolulu. They confiscated buses and everything else and took them to where they wanted to go.

Smith: But you didn't go and bring people out?

Howard: Late that afternoon they sent me to Pearl Harbor with a...sometime before I had got issued two complete issues of clothes and barracks bags. I took them to Pearl Harbor. Of course, those guys had come out of the water without anything on or just a pair of skivvies or shorts. Some of them were burned, and some wasn't. I just put my barracks bag down...and it made me mad later on. I had two raincoats, and they were in the barracks bag. It wasn't raining then. I gave away both raincoats, and then two days later it started raining, and it rained for eight days straight and me without a raincoat. But I had a truck to get in, so I had a little advantage.

Smith: So you said there wasn't much confusion once everybody realized where they were to go. You were pretty well trained to go to a specific spot then.

Howard: Well, as far as I saw, I didn't see that much confusion. There was hardly any except in getting the ammunition and getting your rifle during the first go-around.

Smith: And you had live ammunition once you did get it.

Howard: Right.

Smith: Were you getting reports of what was going on all the time?

Howard: No.

Smith: Kept pretty much in the dark?

Howard: The reports we would get were from some smart head that thought he would have some fun. We went to the drill field where we assembled and met and gathered up.

Smith: So you stayed on the drill field, and then what did you do?

Howard: Well, we were assigned...they took our companies and went up and out in the bivouac area in the mountains. That evening when I got to the kitchen area, they were feeding, and I got food. Then it started pouring

down rain on us. Of course, I was a truck driver, so I got in out of it.

Smith: Was it a hot meal?

Howard: Yes. Well, warm. It wasn't all that hot. It had been cooked somewhere and hauled out there. But they had those containers that kept it mediocre, warm.

Smith: And how long did you stay up in the mountains?

Howard: We were up there a month-and-a-half or more. Of course, I got to go in. We went in every so often to bathe and took our laundry and had it done (they did it that day). By me being a truck driver, I got to go two or three days a week, whereas some of them didn't. They'd get to go maybe every two weeks.

Smith: What did you notice about Pearl Harbor and Honolulu when you went back in on those trips.

Howard: I didn't go to Honolulu.

Smith: Oh, you didn't go in there?

Howard: No, I had no desire to go to Honolulu.

Smith: What about the barracks? What was the change in the atmosphere?

Howard: I don't remember any change. Of course, being out there all those days, when we got in and got our trucks unloaded and our clothes in the laundry, we

went to the beer garden and didn't pay any attention to anything else. At least I didn't.

Smith: Were they bringing in a lot of troops at that time?
A lot of men?

Howard: Oh, yes. For some unknown reason, I was at Pearl Harbor--at the harbor where they shipped freight in. I wasn't in the Navy part of Pearl Harbor. They had a shipload of blacks, a black unit. They were still segregated at that time. They had two shiploads of lumber, like 2x12's or 4x12's, heavy lumber, to build gun emplacements with. They were unloading those ships. I went down there. I guess I might not ought to put that on the tape.

Smith: It's okay.

Howard: I was called to load them in down there. Of course, we were a white outfit. If I'm not mistaken, they took over the boss's job. You know, one of them would take so many blacks and go tell them to put the lumber in a certain place, and that's what they did. They were the supervisors.

Smith: Were these men in the Army--the black men?

Howard: Yes, they were in uniform.

Smith: A special unit.

Howard: It wasn't long after that...I don't remember just when they desegregated them.

Smith: What were people thinking about being in the war? Were they glad to be part of the fight?

Howard: No, I think they were like me--glad to be way back out of it.

Smith: What about the feeling of the civilians? Did you see many civilians at that time?

Howard: Yes. We finally got to associating with them again, and some of them kind of blamed us. It's like we have it now. You know, some of them don't want us to have bases because it jeopardizes them, their good life. Of course, if they didn't have the bases there and they were getting our money, they wouldn't have a good life, anyway.

Smith: What was the feeling toward Roosevelt?

Howard: Well, there were some of them that despised him. More Americans despised him because he put the freeze on their rent and everything, on the apartments and renting houses; and the ones that owned them were mad. They thought he just kept them from making any money, which was true to an extent; but at the same time, if they would have raised the rent like they wanted to, they couldn't have gotten

anybody in them because they didn't have that kind of money.

Smith: Were there a lot of promotions going on? People being promoted in a big hurry?

Howard: Well, they didn't do that right before your eyes. They sent them back to the States to some outfit. They had to go through, like, a "ninety-day wonder" course, as they called it. They had to go through ninety days of some kind of officer training. Now they promoted World War One people that had held a commission in World War One but who were broke down in peacetime and down to the rank of noncoms, most of them. The day the war broke out, they were automatically back to their commission. Some of them were as high as lieutenant colonels.

Smith: For Heaven's sake!

Howard: Lieutenants and captains (lots of captains) and majors.

Smith: And what was your rank at this time?

Howard: I was a private. You don't make many ranks in the motor pool.

Smith: I see. How long was it before you were able to get word home to your family that you were okay?

Howard: I didn't have time to write. The Red Cross came and told me to write. They had gotten hold of the Red Cross somehow and told them I hadn't written, and they didn't know how or couldn't get anything out of the Army. I just never was much to write a letter. I wasn't mad at anybody.

Smith: You were just taking care of yourself.

Howard: Yes, I was busy (chuckle).

Smith: Sure. You were busy. How long did you stay in Hawaii?

Howard: All the time. I never did leave Hawaii.

Smith: So you stayed there for the rest of the war.

Howard: No. On April 14, 1942, I had a truck wreck and broke my leg and jaw and arm and spent twenty-five months in the Army hospital.

Smith: My goodness!

Howard: They finally took my leg off in 1947, after I had been discharged three years. I got discharged on May 11, 1944. I got in the hospital on April 14, 1942. It'll be forty-seven years next Friday.

Smith: You were in the hospital, then, at Schofield?

Howard: Yes, Schofield.

Smith: What kind of treatment did you get there?

Howard: Oh, wonderful.

Smith: When did you join the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association?

Howard: I didn't even know I was eligible. See, I found out in the last two years, about two years ago, that I was eligible. Anybody within a three-mile radius of Pearl Harbor, of the island of Oahu, was eligible. So I immediately joined.

Smith: Do you have meetings that you go to?

Howard: They have them, but they are in Arlington, and I haven't been to one. Some guy in Arlington is the head honcho of this area. He seems like a mighty nice guy. He calls me every once in a while and wants to know why I didn't go. I just explain to him that it's in Arlington at night.

Smith: Hard to get over there?

Howard: Well, he tried to offer me a place to stay all night. I just didn't want to go.

Smith: Yes. Well, Mr. Howard, I really have no further questions about your experiences while you were at Pearl Harbor. Is there anything else that you would like to add or put on the record or speak your piece about (chuckle)?

Howard: Well, I don't know what it would be.

Smith: Well, I would really like to thank you very much for having me in your home and taking your time to talk to me about your experiences. You've really had a lot of informative and interesting experiences to relate, and I'm sure that the scholars are going to enjoy using them and that they will be of great value when they have to write about the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. I'd like to thank you very much.

Howard: You're more than welcome. I just wish my voice would have held up better and maybe you could understand it.

Smith: I think you did just fine.

[End of interview]