

National Museum of the Pacific War

Center for Pacific War Studies

Fredericksburg, Texas

Interview with

Harold G. Bond

U.S.S. Cebu

Date of Interview: October 16, 2003

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Good morning, Bill Cox, the date is October the 16th, year 2003. I'm located in the Bush Gallery in the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas. I'm doing an oral history this morning for Harold G Bond, who served onboard the USS Cebu during world war II in the pacific.

Mr. Cox: Good morning Mr. Bond, how are you today?

Mr. Bond: Fine, thank you sir, yourself?

Mr. Cox: I'm doing great. If you tell me a little bit about your early history, where were you born and when?

Mr. Bond: I was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, December 4th 1925.

Mr. Cox: And the names of your parents?

Mr. Bond: Harold and Jenny Bond.

Mr. Cox: Did you have other siblings?

Mr. Bond: Nope. I was the only child

Mr. Cox: So you went to school in that same town?

Mr. Bond: Yes. Ferris High School.

Mr. Cox: Was there a favorite subject that you had when you were in high school?

Mr. Bond: Well, I guess my favorite subject was. . . I liked flying. I really liked flying. I thought that I would maybe go in the Air Corps, if I could possibly do it. They had a special course in school at the time, Aeronautics Class, and it was very interesting. I enjoyed that very much.

Mr. Cox: Did you have a favorite teacher?

Mr. Bond: No.

Mr. Cox: Where were you when World War II broke out with Pearl Harbor?

Mr. Bond: Good question. Actually, where I was, I could have been in school or I could have been home.

Mr. Cox: What was your reaction when you did find out about it?

Mr. Bond: Get those Japs!

Mr. Cox: How old were you at that time?

Mr. Bond: I was 17 at that time.

Mr. Cox: So, did you think about going into the service?

Mr. Bond: Boy, I sure did! In fact I was going to join, I was gonna try anyway, to get into the Marine Officers Cadet School. And I was going down the stairs of our home, and my mother started to cry. So being the only child I said "Alright Mom we'll go back" And I waited for the draft.

Mr. Cox: So, when you were drafted you went in and took your physical?

Mr. Bond: Yeah. Then I requested Navy.

Mr. Cox: Where was the first assignment once you took your physical and they shipped you out some place?

Mr. Bond: The physical that I got and got into the Navy was in Newark. That's where the draft board was that took us, Newark, New Jersey. And then I took the railroad up to Sampson New York. And that's where I got my basic training, was in Sampson.

Mr. Cox: How long did that basic training last?

Mr. Bond: About six weeks.

Mr. Cox: Was it pretty tough?

Mr. Bond: I wouldn't say so, sir. I was only 17.

Mr. Cox: I'll ask you this question; the first night that you took basic training and you were curled up in the bunk, what was going through your mind?

Mr. Bond: Well. . .

Mr. Cox: Were you excited?

Mr. Bond: I was excited. Certainly I was. And I was apprehensive as to what was ahead of me. I didn't know that either.

Mr. Cox: When you finished basic training, was it Navy or did you have Marine?

Mr. Bond: Oh no. Navy. I was boot camp.

Mr. Cox: At that time that you finished that, did they send you to any specialty school?

Mr. Bond: No. They did not. They didn't send me to any specialty school.

Mr. Cox: So this would be about what date when you finished basic?

Mr. Bond: February. . . Well, I went in in February and basic training was six weeks. It was about the middle of April that I finished boot camp.

Mr. Cox: When you finished boot, where did they send you and how did you get there?

Mr. Bond: I went on leave for about a week, I guess, and I went back to Sampson.

That's where they told me to. . . (let me get that straightened out..)

Mr. Cox: Did they send you directly to ship board?

Mr. Bond: No.. well yes. I shouldn't say that at all. They did send me directly to the ship board, but of course I had to take a train and different things like that. But they did assign me to the U.S.S. Cebu.

Mr. Cox: And when you got on the train, was the Cebu on the East Coast or the West Coast?

Mr. Bond: It was on the East Coast in Baltimore shipyards.

Mr. Cox: So you went to Baltimore and got on board. Was it a new ship?

Mr. Bond: Brand new. In fact I was there for the commissioning.

Mr. Cox: Did you take it out on the shake down?

Mr. Bond: We did. We took it out and we had a big party when we came back.

Mr. Cox: What was your basic assignment on that ship.

Mr. Bond: I was a deck hand at that time. I was only a seaman. Second class, I guess you could call it, seaman.

Mr. Cox: What assignment, I know you had day to day assignments that you had to do, but was there some training that you did in case of attack?

Mr. Bond: I can't say while I was a seaman, sir, no I didn't get much training. Throw the mop around and different things like that.

Mr. Cox: How was the food?

Mr. Bond: Good. We had good food. We really did.

Mr. Cox: When you left Baltimore, you eventually wound up in the pacific. How did that

occur?

Mr. Bond: I don't know how that occurred, but I know that we went out into the Atlantic and down through the Panama Canal, came up and stopped one day in San Diego, and then headed out to Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Cox: Did you pick supplies there in San Diego?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes. And in Pearl Harbor we did.

Mr. Cox: How long were you in Pearl?

Mr. Bond: We were in Pearl for about a week, I'd say. Getting supplies and everything else. About a week, I'd say. We weren't there long.

Mr. Cox: So this was about six months after Pearl Harbor, then?

Mr. Bond: That's right.

Mr. Cox: Was it pretty well messed up?

Mr. Bond: Oh, mess, yeah. People were, you know, all jittery and...

Mr. Cox: What was your impression of what the Japs had done?

Mr. Bond: Terrible. . . Terrible. . . Terrible. All the lives that were lost and everything, it was just terrible. And the ships, my god, it looked like a . . . well you see the movies. It looked like an abandoned shipyard or something. It was terrible.

Mr. Cox: When you left Pearl Harbor, where did they ship you to?

Mr. Bond: Manus Island. In the Admiralties. And while we were on Manus Island is where we lost. . . well that's debatable, but I say we lost five men there, sir. The reason we lost the five men is the fact that an ammunition ship blew up along side of us. One ship was here, we were there, the ammunition ship was over there. In other words

there was a ship between us. The ammunition ship blew up. I don't know if you've ever heard of a Mount Hood.

Mr. Cox: I can't say that I did, no sir.

Mr. Bond: The Mount Hood blew up and we lost five men. All the shrapnel from the shells come over and anybody that was up on deck got it.

Mr. Cox: Was this during the daytime?

Mr. Bond: During the daytime, sir, yes.

Mr. Cox: You had a lot of men on deck?

Mr. Bond: We had all the seamen on the deck chipping paint and doing all of everything like that.

Mr. Cox: Did you ever pick up as to whether they were loading or unloading, or what caused the accident?

Mr. Bond: Nope. Never found out. It's to this day they don't know. To this day.

Mr. Cox: The Cebu, how was it used? What was it's designation?

Mr. Bond: It was a repair ship, sir. And there were two factions in there. There was the repair crew and there was the crew that took care of the ship. The repair crew were older men than we were, because they were all . . . they had experience. They worked in a ship yard. They knew about this, and stuff, and they were older men. Now remember, we only just children, practically kids, and we didn't know anything about anything.

Mr. Cox: So they were specialists that could work on engines or just about anything?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes. High combustion engines. That's really what we were, but we did

everything. We had everything up until the destroyer.

Mr. Cox: Since that ship blew up next to you, did you do any work on it?

Mr. Bond: We had to do a lot of work. We had to go in there on dry dock on Manus Island and get fixed up. They almost lost the ship that was in between us, I forget the name of that one; the Mindanao. They had to pump the water and everything out of it. It was terrible. They sent us over the side to see if we could find anybody, any survivors. There wasn't a survivor on it (garbled). There were boats that went over from that ship to shore for business reasons. They're the only ones that survived. I think there were seven or eight survivors of that ship. Of that Mount Hood.

Mr. Cox: When the Cebu did work on, repair work on other ships, did you pull into harbor with them or did you go out when they were, maybe, dead in the water?

Mr. Bond: No.

Mr. Cox: How did that take place?

Mr. Bond: They would go out and invade an island, whatever it was. Then they'd come back in to us to be fixed.

Mr. Cox: So you were stationary in a way.

Mr. Bond: Yeah. We worked a lot with the tugs too. They went and got these, towed 'em in and that. But most of the time when they come and we would repair them and then they'd go out again.

Mr. Cox: Were you pretty well stationed in that one port/ harbor, or did you move around.

Mr. Bond: No. We didn't really. . . we only stayed there. . . I wouldn't estimate times, sir,

because I really don't remember, but I'd say we stayed there maybe two or three weeks. That was the most. Then we went out and went to Peleliu Island. Nothing, thank goodness, happened there. But repaired a few ships there. We stayed there a month or so, and then we went up to the Philippines, or down to the Philippines, really. Manus Island was here and the Philippines were down there. We were down there in Leyte Gulf. And, sir, we sat in Leyte Gulf for seven months.

Mr. Cox: Now this was after the battle of Leyte?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes, sure. That's what we used to do. They'd battle, go in and battle and everything, and we had to repair them.

Mr. Cox: I'm just trying to get the broad picture and I figured it would have been after the battle.

Mr. Bond: Oh sure. Now, we never saw a battle, sir, on our ship. Thank goodness. I'm just as well pleased.

Mr. Cox: Were there ever any Japanese raids or anything?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes! We've had submarine, you know, we detected submarines and stuff like that, and planes flew over us. That was annoying. Every night at about this certain time, Japanese planes would fly over the Philippine Islands. We would be just about going to sleep and we'd have to go to general quarters.

Mr. Cox: When you were in Leyte, were you assigned later to another place before the war was over?

Mr. Bond: Yeah sure. As I said we were in there for seven months. Then from Leyte we went up to Okinawa. And that is where we had two typhoons. We come in and we were

just dropped anchor at the harbor. Just dropped anchor and the skipper ordered "Anchors up!" We had to go out and ride that typhoon out. Lost, sir you don't hear about that so much, but we lost more people in that typhoon than we lost during the war. That's the truth. The ships. . . the truth of the matter was that ships were fifty feet high. Or you went down, and when you come up all you saw in front of you was water. And then it would hit you, you know, oh it was. . .

Mr. Cox: You had to maintain power.

Mr. Bond: Yeah, that's right. And then that was it too; when you'd come down the screw would come out of the water. And, oh, that shook the ship just like that.

Mr. Cox: RPM would probably speed up.

Mr. Bond: (Laughs) Yeah they would. Fortunately it didn't go too fast! And we went out and we come back. Thank goodness. And then we're no more than back, and, by God if we don't have to go and ride out another one. It's the riding out another one, sir, really shook us.

Mr. Cox: So when a hurricane comes into Jersey nowadays, that doesn't bother you much?

Mr. Bond: Don't bother me. Only thing I worry about is the doggone trees. (Laughs)

Mr. Cox: Where were you when you heard that they had dropped the atomic bomb?

Mr. Bond: We were in Okinawa.

Mr. Cox: Did things change dramatically at that point in time?

Mr. Bond: I can't say things changed dramatically as far as the routine of the ship or anything like that is concerned, but we had. . . if you remember, going back, we had

the false alarm one? We had one there that was a false alarm. Well, the ships just went crazy. We were just. . . they went crazy. We even had to put a bayonet down on a paint locker to keep the guys from going in there and drinking all the d natured alcohol. Oh

Mr. Cox: Celebrate.

Mr. Bond: Oh yeah, they celebrated alright, sir. Flare guns, you know.

Mr. Cox: Did you have marines on board that did that duty?

Mr. Bond: No.

Mr. Cox: Strictly an M.P.

Mr. Bond: Yeah. No, we didn't have any marines on board.

Mr. Cox: Tough enough, even for you, that you didn't need marines.

Mr. Bond: Nope. See. . . nope.

Mr. Cox: Did you ever make it into Japan.

Mr. Bond: Oh yes. From Okinawa we went up into Japan. And I 'm not sure, sir, what the route. I think the first port we hit was a little fishing village named Wakanoura. And this was right after the war. This was a week, maybe two weeks, after the war. And we went in there and our skipper told us "Hey, we're gonna go be on liberties, but I don't know how you're gonna be greeted over there. Be careful." But when we went on there, sir, you wouldn't think there had been a war. When we went over on the liberty. You wouldn't think there had been a war. They were so hospitality and everything to us, hospitable. I just couldn't get it over myself.

Mr. Cox: Had they had much damage at that village.

Mr. Bond: Oh yeah. Well, they didn't have so much damage in Wakanoura, cause I

guess we didn't bomb them too much there. There wasn't much there. It was a fishing village. Why we went there I don't know. But after that we went up to. . . I think we went up to Sasebo, and that was bombed out. That was a strategic place.

Mr. Cox: Wasn't that a Navy base?

Mr. Bond: It was a Japanese Navy base. That's right, and they only had one entrance in it. And it was great big bay, or whatever you wanna call it, in there. So, but what we did; planes went over and bombed it. We couldn't get in there with the ships. You couldn't get in there with our ships, so what they did was they just went over and bombed the heck out of it. And they bombed the heck out of it. I've never seen such precision bombing. They had a railroad trestle that run into Sasebo there. I'm pretty sure it was Sasebo. I may have these mixed up, sir, just where these were. But they had a train viaduct, like. Everything that was down on the waterfront was completely bombed out. Completely. But the Air Corps used that trestle as a, you know, what they would bomb. And they'd just bomb that waterfront up completely. Go up there and couldn't touch it.

Mr. Cox: They just wanted knock what the Japanese Navy could use.

Mr. Bond: That's right. It was beautiful, the way they did it though. They really did some job there. And then from there we went to Kobe. Now, as I say, I may have these mixed up, sir, I'm not sure about that. Then we went up to Kobe. And Kobe was a nice place too. As they say, I didn't have anything special to tell you about Kobe at all. We stayed there for a while. Then we started to get discharged, you know, had enough points. The fellas had enough points and so on. And so we started to lose a lot of fellas in

Kobe. From Kobe, I went from Kobe, back to Pearl Harbor. Back to be discharged.

Mr. Cox: But you didn't go on the Cebu?

Mr. Bond: No.

Mr. Cox: You went on another ship?

Mr. Bond: Oh no, I went on another ship at Pearl Harbor so I could go to the U.S. See, Cebu went on that atomic bomb. We have fellas out there, maybe you'd like to interview them, that can tell you about the atomic bomb test at Bikini. Yeah, the H bomb. There're a couple of 'em out there that went on that. But, I had enough points, I'm glad I did, to get off it and go on another ship all the way to Seattle. Going all the way and getting discharged in Seattle. I wasn't discharged in Seattle! I had to wait for a train to take me down to Seattle, right. Or to. . . Lido Beach. Lido Beach in Long Island.

Mr. Cox: I guess they gave you physicals and all of that?

Mr. Bond: No.

Mr. Cox: What type of troop train was this.

Mr. Bond: Oh, it was a troop train, believe me. (laughing) it was like boxcars. Where you ate, you had line up, like at a buffet, you know. Oh, it was a mess, and I'll tell ya something about that. I was put in charge of those fellas. There was about thirty six, forty of us and I had the highest rating on the time. And I was put in charge of these thirty five or forty six men. And we'd get down and we'd go right through these towns and sometimes the train would stop, maybe to get water, or I don't know what they'd stop for. But they'd stop. And these fellas would see the gin mill over here. So they all got off the train and went to the gin mill. So when that train started they were still in the

gin mill. I wasn't gonna get off and go get them.

Mr. Cox: So you left 'em there?

Mr. Bond: We left 'em there. I don't know how they . . .

Mr. Cox: They may still be there.

Mr. Bond: They may still be there. It's All right. I wasn't gonna get off and go after those guys. I didn't know when the train was gonna: I told 'em that. I says, " Fellas, you don't know when this train is gonna go again. You may get left." "No. naw, naw, we're goin'." I don't know whatever happened to them. There were about five or six of them, at least.

Mr. Cox: So this took you how long to get across country? I'm assuming you're going to New Jersey.

Mr. Bond: Oh yes. I guess it took us, about ten days, I guess, sir.

Mr. Cox: Did they have bunks to sleep in?

Mr. Bond: They had the bunks to sleep in alright. Not much, you know, but.

Mr. Cox: What kind of restroom facilities? Head, I should say.

Mr. Bond: You know what a restroom is on a train, sir. Going back to the 1940s it was . . .

Mr. Cox: Was it air conditioned?

Mr. Bond: Yeah. Window open.

Mr. Cox: What kind of fuel? Could you guess what kind of fuel trains were using?

Mr. Bond: They were using steam.

Mr. Cox: Coal, or. . .

Mr. Bond: Coal, yes.

Mr. Cox: So you had a little coal smoke and cinder.

Mr. Bond: Yes, oh, we sure did.

Mr. Cox: Typical troop ship.

Mr. Bond: It was another thing too, I don't remember having a shower on that, you know. I don't think we got a shower.

Mr. Cox: Probably didn't. Was it a special car that you had for the head? Or was it on the same car you slept on?

Mr. Bond: It was on the same car we slept at.

Mr. Cox: You had to take turns. Two or three couldn't get in at one time.

Mr. Bond: On no. Gee, no. You're lucky to get one in there.

Mr. Cox: When you got back to New Jersey. . . you were discharged in New Jersey, or New York, or. . .

Mr. Bond: No, I was discharged at Lido Beach.

Mr. Cox: Lido Beach?

Mr. Bond: Long Island.

Mr. Cox: So you were civilian coming back on the train, then.

Mr. Bond: Yeah. I did.

Mr. Cox: You got back home. Did you have any idea of what you wanted to do when you got back home?

Mr. Bond: No, I had no idea, sir. I was just so glad to get home.

Mr. Cox: Did you have a girlfriend waiting for you?

Mr. Bond: My wife. I gotta tell you about that one too, sir. That's a little bit from the ship. But, how my wife and I met is that my wife was training to be a nurse, and it was with

the nurses there writing to a lot of soldiers and sailors. So this one girl said, "Betty, why don't you write to this fella?" She says, "I'm writing to an awful lot now, why don't you write to this guy?" And that was me. So my wife started writing to me, and that's how we met. And when I come home, I went to see her and everything and . . .

Mr. Cox: And you got a job doing something.

Mr. Bond: There was a bunch of fellas on the same block that I lived on in Jersey City. I think it was about three or four of us. We went down to Hoboken and got a job in the ship yard down there. I forget what the name of the shipyard was. Big shipyard down there. I don't remember the name. They were doing away with the ships, started decommissioning ships down there. So they were looking for help and we were experienced Navy people. So we got a job down there, but it didn't last long. About a week and a half, I guess. And we got laid off. And after I got laid off I got a job with. . . this was a place that made these hot water heaters, Coven hot water heaters.

Mr. Cox: Yup.

Mr. Bond: And I worked there for about a week, and then I seen an ad in the paper that a New York telephone company was looking for people. So I says to Mom, "I think I'm gonna go over there". Now this was Jersey City, so it was right across the river. "I think I'll go over there and see if I can't get a job." "It's gonna be a trip for you, son". I says, "I know. But I gotta work. I gotta get something." So I went over there and the girl behind the counter says, "No, we don't have anything right now." She says "I know the thing was in the paper, but we don't have anybody right now we're looking for." Then she looks at me and says "Would you be interested in working in Brooklyn?" Ha ha ha. I

didn't know nothin' about Brooklyn. I was so anxious to get married so I says, "Yeah, alright. I'll try Brooklyn." So I went over to Brooklyn, took a test, and a baby could've passed the test. And I worked there for 41 years.

Mr. Cox: You retired there, I guess?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes.

Mr. Cox: You had a happy marriage, obviously?

Mr. Bond: The best.

Mr. Cox: How about family?

Mr. Bond: Five children. I've got five children. Eleven grandchildren.

Mr. Cox: You were having fun.

Mr. Bond: Yeah, I was.

Mr. Cox: Is this your first reunion of the Cebu?

Mr. Bond: No. This must be our eleventh, I guess. Yeah, our eleventh reunion. See, what we do is we ask somebody, in amongst us, who wants to take the next one. We take turns. And I've had it twice down in Myrtle Beach. I live near Myrtle Beach. They liked it there. They liked it very much. A lot of them never saw the ocean. You know, in the service that was the only way they saw it.

Mr. Cox: I've observed this, in a lot of the Navy men that you interview have farms up in Nebraska, Kansas or so on and have never seen the ocean.

Mr. Bond: That's right, sir.

Mr. Cox: I promised you we take up, it's about a quarter til twelve, and I'll give you the opportunity to kind of finalize. If there's something else that you'd like to say, or . . .

Mr. Bond: I guess, I just appreciate the opportunity to talk to you, sir. It's been a pleasure, believe me.

Mr. Cox: Well, I'm not cutting you off, I'm just honoring your request for time, because I can figure out some other questions.

Mr. Bond: Go ahead, sir. Go ahead.

Mr. Cox: Once you got over into the Pacific, where the war was going on, did your outlook on the war change from what it was before you went in the Navy?

Mr. Bond: No. I was, as I said, I was 17. I was gung ho, and I wanted to get a Jap. Ha Ha. It didn't change me, sir, no. I'll tell you one thing. You'll get a kick outta this maybe. When I was put on the ship, there, I was assigned a 20mm gun. (I was floored, taking, snapping it in, you know.) So we had practice one time. So, I bring this thing up and put it down and, jeez I can't get it in there. I can't get that magazine in there to save my life. I forget what position we were in. Gun number so and so. I don't remember, but the gunner's mate, the chief gunner's mate was up on the deck. Up on the bridge, and he hollered down "What's the matter with that position?" And I says " I can't get this damn thing loaded!" So he comes running down and, jeez, he grabs the magazine and threw it overboard. They took me off there immediately. They took me off the gun immediately. They put me up on a bridge with the binoculars.

Mr. Cox: So you were a spotter?

Mr. Bond: Yeah, I was the spotter.

Mr. Cox: Were you working with him, more or less, or you were working with some officers as a spotter?

Mr. Bond: No, I was there all by myself. And I had a headphone on. So I could tell if I'd seen something out there.

Mr. Cox: It could be a submarine or. . .

Mr. Bond: Oh yeah, a periscope, sure. Thank goodness I never saw anything, but we were; I don't know how close we were to being torpedoed, but down off Cuba, when we were first going out to go through the canal we had a scare. A submarine scare. I don't know how they made out. Whether they got him or not.

Mr. Cox: When you were making those cruises down the East Coast to the Panama Canal, were you in an escort? Were there several vessels?

Mr. Bond: We were in a convoy, sir.

Mr. Cox: A very large convoy?

Mr. Bond: Oh yes. Very large. It was.

Mr. Cox: A lot of battleships and cruisers?

Mr. Bond: Just about name it, we went out with 'em.

Mr. Cox: So that went on til you made your first. . . have you left Pearl? Was it also under escort that way? In a convoy?

Mr. Bond: It wasn't as big a convoy as we had leaving Baltimore. It wasn't a very big convoy at all. I guess maybe a couple of sub chasers and a DE or whatever, But we didn't have much of a convoy.

Mr. Cox: After you became a spotter, was that your basic watch assignment?

Mr. Bond: That was my watch assignment, well, when we went to general quarters, that's where I had to go.

Mr. Cox: The rest of the time, you were a general seaman?

Mr. Bond: Oh yeah, I was a seaman. I would chip paint and all that stuff. Well I was on there for a while, and I thought, I'm not gonna get nothing outta this, this is terrible. So I asked if I could strike for electricians mate. Cause I knew a couple of fellas in there. And I guess it was about two or three months, so then I went striking for electricians mate.

Mr. Cox: Did you have to have special training for that?

Mr. Bond: That's what I took in high school too, was electrical stuff.

Mr. Cox: Did you succeed?

Mr. Bond: Yeah, I made second class.

Mr. Cox: What was your final mark when you came out?

Mr. Bond: Second class.

Mr. Cox: Still electricians mate?

Mr. Bond: Electricians mate, second class.

Mr. Cox: And that helped you in your career?

Mr. Bond: Oh yeah. Well, as they say, I went into telephone. It sure have helped me in that respect, yes.

Mr. Cox: Other than that do you think that the basic experience of the Navy and the war. . . how did that effect your life when you got out of the Navy? For the better or for the worse?

Mr. Bond: When I first got out, sir. You know how the Navy is; you go out and drink and do all that stuff and then. . well I wasn't much for that too much, but I did my share of it.

An I did my share of it when I come it too. And I lost myself a little bit, and had to get back into it, into civilian life again. It didn't bother me too much, no. I can't say that. My wife, my now wife, was wonderful.

Mr. Cox: Do you think you're a pretty good husband also?

Mr. Bond: Oh I think so. I've got a wonderful life.

Mr. Cox: Grandkids and the whole deal. Did you fly out from North Carolina?

Mr. Bond: We flew to Atlanta. And from Atlanta we flew to Dallas. Then from Dallas to San Antonio.

Mr. Cox: I've taken up about thirty five minutes or so of your time.

Mr. Bond: That's alright.

Mr. Cox: I hope you've enjoyed it as much as I did, but I always like to say that on behalf of the Nimitz Museum, giving us the time to take this oral history and it'll be a part of history where people can come in review it, record it, and they can put bits and pieces of other events that people were in together, and it will help history in the future. And I especially want to make a sincere expression for myself, I thank you because otherwise I probably would have been in Japan in the infantry. And I do appreciate your time.

Mr. Bond: Oh that's fine. And I appreciate you taking the time with me. Thank you

Mr. Cox: You take care and get back home.

Mr. Bond: Thanks very much.

Tape 1025

Transcribed by:

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