

**Admiral Nimitz Historic Site
National Museum of the Pacific War**



**Center for Pacific War Studies
Oral History Program**

An Interview with

Howard O. Towry

**1st Tank Bn, 1st Reg, 1st Marine Division
Liaison Front Lines to Tanks**

Date of Interview: January 18, 2005

Interview with Howard O. Towry

Richard Misenhimer

My name is Richard Misenhimer. Today is January 18, 2005. I am interviewing Mr. Howard. O Towry by telephone. His address is P.O. Box 85, Fernwood, Mississippi 39635. His phone number is (601) 684-7317. This interview is in support of the National Museum of the Pacific Wars, Center for Pacific War Studies, for the preservation of historical information related to World War II.

Mr. Misenhimer

Mr. Towry I want to thank you for taking time to do this interview today and to thank you for your service to our country back during WWII. My first question is, what is your birth date?

Mr. Towry

December 17, 1926.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where were you born?

Mr. Towry

Graham, Oklahoma.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your mother and father's first names?

Mr. Towry

My father was Aaron. My mother was Verda.

Mr. Misenhimer.

Did you have brothers and sisters?

Mr. Towry

Four sisters.

Mr. Misenhimer

No brothers? Where did you go to high school?

Mr. Towry

I went to Carrollton, Texas, but I didn't finish high school.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your last year of high school?

Mr. Towry

1943.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you do when you left school?

Mr. Towry

I went through the ninth grade.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. When you left school, what did you do then?

Mr. Towry

I went to work to drive a truck.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, on December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. Do you recall that?

Mr. Towry

Yes, I do

Mr. Misenhimer

Do you remember where you were?

Mr. Towry

Yeah, I was picking cotton.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your reaction? What did you think that meant for you?

Mr. Towry

I wanted to go whip those Japanese.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you go in to the service?

Mr. Towry

On January 7, 1944. Twenty days after I turned 17 years old.

Mr. Misenhimer

You volunteered then?

Mr. Towry

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

You had to have your parents sign for you?

Mr. Towry

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did they object to doing that?

Mr. Towry

No, they were trying to get rid of me.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, which branch did you go in to?

Mr. Towry

Marine Corps.

Mr. Misenhimer

How did you choose the Marines?

Mr. Towry

My buddy was only sixteen and I wanted to go in to the Navy, but the Navy wouldn't take you if you had to have a school age certificate. The Marine Corp would take anything, so they took him in and so I went in to the Marines with him.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where was the first place you went in the Marines?

Mr. Towry

San Diego.

Mr. Misenhimer

How did you travel out there?

Mr. Towry

Train.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was that train trip?

Mr. Towry

It was all right. It was my first train trip I guess.

Mr. Misenhimer

So what all did you do when you got out to San Diego?

Mr. Towry

I went to boot camp and then I went to the 28th Regiment, 5th Marine Division.

Mr. Misenhimer

Tell me about your boot camp.

Mr. Towry

Boot camp was horrible.

Mr. Misenhimer

What all did you do there?

Mr. Towry

Well, we marched all day or cleaned all day or it was just calisthenics or work, work, work and close order drilling.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, were the Drill Sergeants pretty rough on you?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes. They picked on me. I was just a skinny little ole' 17 year old.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have any weapons training there?

Mr. Towry

M-1 rifles.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about machine guns or mortars?

Mr. Towry

No, not there.

Mr. Misenhimer

How long was your boot camp?

Mr. Towry

Eight weeks.

Mr. Misenhimer

When you finished there, where did you go?

Mr. Towry

I went to the 28th Regiment, 5th Marine Division. I was at Camp Pendleton.

Mr. Misenhimer

What all did you do when you got there?

Mr. Towry

I wound up an assistant machine gunner.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have training on machine guns there?

Mr. Towry

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

At any time during your training did you have to go through the infiltration course, where you crawl under the live ammunition their shooting over you?

Mr. Towry

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was that?

Mr. Towry

Scary.

Mr. Misenhimer

After you joined the 28th Regiment, and became an assistant machine gunner, what did you do then?

Mr. Towry

Well, as an assistant machine gunner, you carried the big heavy receiver. The gunner carries a tripod. He would run up and fall down on his belly and you on your hands and knees and put this receiver on the tripod and feed ammo in to it. So, the mortality rate of the assistant gunners was not very good. So they asked for volunteers and you had to be six feet tall to go in to a special unit. I left the 5th Marine Division, I was in the same organization as Ira Hayes, this Indian that raised the flag. That was my old outfit. I went to a tank destroyer unit at Camp Elliott. There we went through training with bazookas, live grenades, satchel charges, explosives, all kinds of explosives, seventy-five millimeter, thirty-seven millimeter, anything to destroy a tank.

Mr. Misenhimer

How long was that training?

Mr. Towry

That took until November of '44.

Mr. Misenhimer

But you were not in a unit at this point then?

Mr. Towry

No, I was just in training.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you were no longer an assistant machine gunner?

Mr. Towry

No, I got out of that when I left the 5th Marine Division. We learned how every possible way to destroy a tank. We were told they were Iron Coffins.

Mr. Misenhimer

So when you finished that schooling, what did you do?

Mr. Towry

I went aboard ship and went overseas.

Mr. Misenhimer

What ship did you go on?

Mr. Towry

I think it was APA 200.

Mr. Misenhimer

Do you remember the name of it?

Mr. Towry

I think it was the SS Searunner. I'm not certain. Searunner or Marathon. I'm not sure, but I think Sea Runner.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was that ship pretty crowded?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes, it was, they had the chow lines when you got through with breakfast, they would immediately line up for lunch and then when lunch was over, they would line up for the evening meal. It was a constant chow line. I mean there was so many people on there, I think the bunks were five high. It was very very crowded.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was there much seasickness?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes. I wasn't seasick.

Mr. Misenhimer

But a lot of them were?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes. Some of them were sick before we got out of the harbor.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where did you go to on that ship?

Mr. Towry

I went to the 1st Marine Division, just North of Guadalcanal.

Mr. Misenhimer

What Regiment there, what Battalion?

Mr. Towry

I went to the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Regiment.

Mr. Misenhimer

On your trip down there, were you escorted in a convoy or were you by yourself.

Mr. Towry

One poor little ship all by itself.

Mr. Misenhimer

You went in to Guadalcanal, did you say?

Mr. Towry

Right, it was a little island just 45 miles North of Guadalcanal. Pavuvu.

Mr. Misenhimer

What all did you do there?

Mr. Towry

Well, I trapped rats, burned garbage trees, cleaned tank bogie wheels, pumped fuel, and eventually I got to drive a tank.

Mr. Misenhimer

I understand that people really didn't like Pavuvu very much. Is that right?

Mr. Towry

Oh, I, me, I went nuts, I was just a stupid kid. It was fun. I had a lot of time off. When I had the detail trapping rats I had lots of time off. I'd swim, we had a real fine beach that I would go down and swim and fish and that sort of thing.

Mr. Misenhimer

How long were you there?

Mr. Towry

I was there until April, no we left in March 1945.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. You were heading where?

Mr. Towry

Okinawa.

Mr. Misenhimer

How did you go up there?

Mr. Towry

On the ship, I don't know the name of it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Another APA?

Mr. Towry

The tanks rode LSM's. The flunkies just went aboard ship.

Mr. Misenhimer

Were you still in a tank destroyer unit, or just a tank unit?

Mr. Towry

I was in a tank unit. I went through how to tear them up and then I went in to a tank unit.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your job on the tank?

Mr. Towry

The driver.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you went up to Okinawa in a convoy did you?

Mr. Towry

Right, there were hundreds of ships.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you arrive up there?

Mr. Towry

April 1, 1945. That's right, that was Easter Sunday 1945.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you go ashore?

Mr. Towry

The first day.

Mr. Misenhimer

In which wave?

Mr. Towry

The tanks went in on the first one, but the extra people came in later, about two or three hours after they got there. We were very very lucky in Okinawa. On Iwo Jima, Tarawa, and Peleliu, they lost hundreds of people on the beach. We never lost a person to enemy fire, but we lost three tanks. When they dropped them off of the boats to go ashore they hit chug holes and they dropped in the holes and we had I think six members drown, that was the only casualties we had the first day on Okinawa.

Mr. Misenhimer

What kind of tanks were these?

Mr. Towry

Sherman M4A2.

Mr. Misenhimer

How many men in a crew?

Mr. Towry

Five.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you go ashore with your tank?

Mr. Towry

No.

Mr. Misenhimer

Your tank went ashore first?

Mr. Towry

Right, I wasn't a first line tank crewmember, I was just a reserve in case they needed somebody.

Mr. Misenhimer

When you got ashore, what did you do?

Mr. Towry

The 1st Marine Division went North. The Army and 6th Marine Division went south. The 1st Marine Division for the first thirty days, they just rode around up North of us and there were no Japanese up there, there were no casualties, nobody. Meanwhile we were back on the beach, we were souvenir hunting, killing chickens and shooting pigs and just having fun.

Mr. Misenhimer

What weapon did you have at that point?

Mr. Towry

M-1.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, when they raised the flag, did you see that?

Mr. Towry

No.

Mr. Misenhimer

You weren't close to where that happened then?

Mr. Towry

The 5th Marine Division went to Iwo, that's where they raised that flag.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, I'm sorry, you're right. I'm mixed up. I apologize for that. O.K. Just tell what happened on Okinawa there.

Mr. Towry

You want to hear a funny story?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yes, sir.

Mr. Towry

While the 1st Marine Division was up North, there was a bunch of us on the beach just riding around acting stupid. So we gathered three Japanese ponies, it was just me and these other two boys, and we were riding these horses around the country side and we would shoot a chicken or two and shoot a pig and we would take them back and bar-b-que them. Well, the 1st Marine Div. Provost Marshall, looked like we weren't gonna do any fighting so he was going to make an Officers stable, so he said, "Turn your horses in everybody, you can't have a horse." Well, I wasn't going to let them have mine because I had me a real pretty horse. So here we are out

been shooting chickens and we were riding along the road with a bag of chickens and a bunch of eggs and this Jeep passed us and it was him. Well he went about a hundred yards past us and stopped by the MP and when he got up to him, we went over to him and I was going to tell him I was trying to get us some food, blah, blah and he said, "Shut up, speak when spoken to, serial number, rank, organization." I gave it to him. Well, the mean while, I dropped my chickens and my eggs off in the ditch, well they took our horses and we went on back to our outfit, hardy har har. The next morning the Division Chief had picked us up and sent us to the beach. They put us in a sweet potato patch with a barbed wire strung around us. That was the brig, no tents, nothing. Well, the Japanese planes were coming in every every every afternoon and they were hitting the beaches and the airfields and the ships in the harbor. I mean there was stuff flying, and I had sparks flying off that fence and there was no place for us to hide. We were there in that sweet potato patch. After the first day, they finally let us run over to a hole and get in it. Meanwhile, they took our weapons away, I had a K-bar and a knife, so I could dig sweet potatoes. Well these Japanese, it was right next to the internment camp. They would come by and they would see us out there and they would laugh at us, Japanese civilians. All we could do is throw sweet potatoes at them. After the third day, they sent us down to the Col., to see what they were going to do with us, and they had us on seven charges. I think being out of the area without a pass, mixed uniforms, no steel helmet, no gas mask, riding a horse. So the Colonel, it was him and a Lieutenant there, the three of us and he said, "Well, I can understand, blah, blah, blah, but why were you riding this horse?" Well, the other two said nothing and I said, "Well, sir, I'm from Texas." He said, "Well, let me tell you something Tex, I'm going to let you go, but if I ever see you again, you'll never get out of that sweet potato patch." So I went down to the beach to get back to my unit the next day, while we were down there, a Japanese Zero strafed the

beach, he come along about 100 feet over us and man he was shooting these machine guns, he was only 100 feet high and nobody was shooting at him. So I had a M-1 rifle and nothing but tracers. I said, "The next time he comes over, I'm going to get me that plane." So he came back over and just came over the ridge and I shot at him three times and he wasn't but about 100 feet in the air, but I must have missed him 200 feet. I shot behind him. A great big guy picked me up and stood me up and said, "What do you think you're doing boy?" I said, "I was going to shoot that plane down." He said, "Do you know what condition red control, blah blah, blah, . ." and I said, "No." He said, "There's a P-61 up there and it's going to shoot it down, the way you're shooting, you'd never shoot it down." He said, "I'm going to send you to Colonel so and so and put you in the brig." I said, "Oh, wait a minute, let me tell you a story, I just got out of that thing today and he said if he ever saw me again, I'd never get out." He dropped me and said, "Get out, I don't want to ever see you again." So, I went back to my outfit.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you ever drive a tank there on Okinawa?

Mr. Towry

No. Are you going to put that in your book?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yeah, it'll be in there. What else happened there?

Mr. Towry

O.K. I'm going to tell you this, but it's not very smart. It was the luckiest day of my life. We were out, the three of us, this was after I got out of the brig, and I had an M-1, one of the boys had a carbine and the other boy only had a 45 pistol. We were at this house and we would go through baggage and stuff looking for souvenirs. Well there was this ladder going up to the attic

and I climbed up the ladder and stuck my head up in there and there was a Japanese Army blanket there where somebody had been sleeping, but being 17 and stupid, it didn't enter my mind that there was probably somebody there. Well, I went on back down and there was two of those young roosters there fighting, and we decided that we were going to shoot the looser and eat him that night. So they fought and they fought and finally one of them quit. Well, I told this boy with a 45 that I would shoot his head off. I said, "Don't shoot his body, because there won't be anything left but feathers." So he shot every round out of his pistol and never hit that rooster. I shot once and shot his head off. About that time the guy with the carbine came running around the house and said, "There's a Jap here in the cave with a rifle." So I had a bag and had some hand grenades in it and I said, "All right, here's what we're going to do. There's a terrace right in front of the cave about eight to ten feet. You go out here on the left and you go out here on the right." One had my M-1 and one had a carbine and the Jap couldn't see them because of this terrace. It was a cane field out there. I said, "I'm going to put a grenade on this boy." Because they got in their places and I took this hand grenade and all through training they said to pull the pin and count a thousand one, a thousand two, a thousand three and throw it. It's a five second grenade. I took the grenade, I pull the pin on it and I throw it and I run back around the side of the cave and the grenade explodes and I go charging back in because I want that rifle for a souvenir and when I got to the mouth of the cave I saw where the grenade had exploded and it had exploded out side of the cave because he had thrown it out. Well, by then I'm inside the mouth of the cave and I realized I was in wrong place because I heard this bolt action rifle about five feet in front of my face and he was throwing a round in to the rifle. Well, I hauled out of that cave just as fast as I could go and just as I got outside the mouth of the cave he fired and I looked at my buddy out there with the M-1, fell and he was trying to shoot the Jap and I was in

his way and the Japanese shot him. I looked at my buddy on the right with the carbine and he was running. He ran off. Here I am about twenty feet, twenty-five feet from this Jap. Well I knew if I kept running he was going to shoot me in the back, so I stopped and whirled and faced him. Well the boy on the ground, if he'd just laid there, the Japanese would have calmly shot us both, but he kept trying to get to this rifle. The Jap looked at me and looked back and him and he didn't even aim he just from his hip would shoot at him. Well I saw this sugar cane fly up under his legs under his arms, I mean he fired the rest of the rounds in to the ground and never hit that boy again. Then he turned and ran back around the side of the cave, around the house where we had been shooting at that chicken. I ran over and got this boy and got him up and got my rifle and we took off out of there and we got out of there just as fast as we could. I had people ask me, "Didn't you get that Jap?" I said, "I didn't want that Jap, all I wanted was to get my butt out of there." This bothered me ever since and I have thought about it a million times. Now that Japanese shouldn't have been sitting in that cave with an empty rifle with us out there shooting. Did that rifle snap when I first went in to that cave and then he threw a round in or was he sitting there with an empty rifle. Either way, I should have been shot right there. I mean that's exactly where I should have died. O.k. A minute later I would have died if that boy had quit trying to get to that rifle and if I would have kept running, I would have been shot. So there were three things there that are hard to explain, sort of like intervention from above or something. I have thought about it a million times. Anyway, when we got back up there, this boy that ran was sitting on top of the hill about three hundred yards away sitting there crying. Well, I felt like shooting him to tell you the truth, but seriously I felt sorry for him. He was a coward. He just couldn't help it. So we never reported him. We didn't even tell the people that he had run off and left us. He was a cook in the galley there. He was in charge of the mess hall. Man, from

then on, we ate well. We would go back to the kitchen and get a gallon of peaches, pineapples and bologna or Spam or loaf of bread. He wouldn't even look at us we would just walk in and help ourselves. That was the rest of the time on Oki. O.K., that doesn't make me much of a hero, but that was a very interesting story.

Mr. Misenhimer

Very interesting. What are some other things that happened on Okinawa?

Mr. Towry

Well again, since I wasn't a tank crewmember, a regular member, I had messed up pretty good, I was sort of a dumb butt, they had to send somebody down to the 1st Regiment up on the front lines as a liaison to be able to talk to the tanks on the radio to tell them how to get in there in case they got in trouble. So for the rest of the battle, I was tank liaison. I was right up on the front with the 1st Regiment, the Headquarters. I was real close to the Colonel, so he could get to me with my radio if he needed a little help. I was very very lucky. I didn't have to get on the front and fight with bayonets and all that stuff, but I was just two hundred yards away of the next hill back, watching most of it with binoculars. That went on down there from May 1, we relieved the 27th Infantry Division and we stayed up there on the front until June 20 something is when the battle was declared over. I did get wounded. I got a purple heart in June. I was somewhere where I shouldn't have been when I got hit.

Mr. Misenhimer

How did that happen?

Mr. Towry

Oh, the Japanese was on the last ridge down on the Kinishi Ridge on the Southern tip of the Island and there was a bridge crossing this little river and they were trying to knock it out and I

was down there and I was heading back to my outfit and I was riding this recon with these boys and they were firing three rounds from what must have been 150 millimeters, huge big shells coming in, and I knew I had been listening they fired three rounds, well we were so close to where they were shooting, they were on this ridge up above us, that I could actually feel the vibration and hear that shell before it got there. Well, this one shell hit in front of us about 75 or 100 yards and I knew there was two more coming, so I jumped out of that recon and hauled it running and the next shell hit next to the recon and killed these two boys that were in it. I got some shrapnel in the process.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where did the shrapnel hit you?

Mr. Towry

In the hand, in the toe and one small piece across the head.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you go to the aid station then?

Mr. Towry

Yes, I had just first aid there. I wasn't evacuated. I never even left my post up on the 1st Marine Div.

Mr. Misenhimer

What are some other things that happened?

Mr. Towry

Do you want to hear one more funny story?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yes sir, I'd like to.

Mr. Towry

There was a guy by the name of Ramsey and we were both Privates and we had this one Buck Sergeant there, and I think he was from Arkansas, and he was BS'er, I mean he really spread it. He told us on Peleliu, he was on Peleliu, and he said, "Any time you go out and help a wounded buddy, you always take a chance on getting hit, blah, blah, blah." He got a Purple Heart. But we had found out that he was laying in a tank track on his stomach and he got a tiny piece of shrapnel in his butt. They evacuated him out to the ship because he was bleeding. He got out there and they made the boy carry urinal pans for the badly wounded, so that was his deal on Peleliu. Anyway, he was upset with us because we used to talk behind his back we would make fun of him because he was full of bull. He weighed about two hundred pounds and I was just skinny hundred and fifty pound kid. So, what we would do, we were up on the side of the hill with our radio, probably 50, 75, 100 yards from the wheels were down at the bottom of the hill, and there were land mines and this hill was so steep you couldn't go straight up, you had to go sideways, turn back and go the other way and go back the other way and go zigzag to get up there. So he would go down there and would talk to the Majors and Colonel and Ramsey and I would be up there talking and waiting and listening on the radio. So I had found me a hand grenade, one of ours, but I poured the powder out of it, all the powder and screwed the cap back in and I thought it was a dud. So, Sarg and I were walking around on top of the hill and I was just playing a joke on him and I said, "Sarg, you're no good. I'm going to get ya!" So I pulled the pin on this grenade and rolled it under his feet. Well, he yelled and jumped down just as fast as he could down to this ravine and I just stood there and wasn't 15 feet from where the grenade was and it exploded and sounded like a regular grenade. The powder that was left in there in that blasting cap made a heck of a noise and poor ole' Sarg said, "You tried to kill me." "No, it was a

dummy.” He said, “Dummy, there’s a hole in the ground!” He was terrified. I kept playing with those grenades. I took another one and poured the powder out and I pulled the pin and put it under a helmet it had the cap on it, well when it exploded it was just a dud. I screwed the top back on it and went up to our tent and ole Sarg came up and we had us this little homemade tent and had a little cave with a flap over the top and he came up and grabbed the headset and said, “What’s going on?” and here I was sitting with that grenade in my hand and I pulled the pin and his eyes got huge. After that first incident he thought I was really gonna get him. I rolled it under his feet and he took off down the side of that hill screaming at the top of his voice, “GRENADE!”. Well, he had Colonels and Majors and everybody jumping in to holes. Well, it took him fifteen minutes to get back up that hill. He had drug half the radio with him, but I thought that was rather amusing. Then we go to the Northern end of the island and we set up camp up there. We built us a nice little camp up above Nago. It was a beautiful spot on these cliffs overlooking the water. We could see Ieshima there where Ernie Pyle was killed. We had built the officers. Beautiful spot out there. We built their tents and mess halls and a place where they could drink their booze and beer and night. They had a ration of whiskey, we got two can of beer a week. Well, this one Officer decided he was going to blast us a place to swim. It was sandy right down to where the water line was, but where the water line was it was horrible coral. You had to have boots on just to walk over it. At high tide, it was only about four feet deep there, so what we would do, I had been through this demolition school and I knew how to handle dynamite, TNT, satchel charges and stuff, so we would put about five or six cases, maybe five six eight feet apart and a road out in to the water and when we would blast it, it would pulverize that coral so that you could walk over it barefooted. We made a trail from the beach to about thirty or forty yards out in to the water, maybe fifty yards, and then we would take a circle, we

would put fifty pound cases of dynamite and we would blast it. Well, we blasted a hole out there about ten or twelve feet deep and about thirty feet wide and then we built us a platform on it. So, then we had two or three barrels in the corners and put a frame over it so it would float. It was a really beautiful place and we would go out there and swim. But the last day of our blasting, we decided we had twenty cases left so we put twenty cases of dynamite in this hole. The tide was in or it was coming in and he told me "Look, when the water gets up to the stick in the ground, when the water gets up to here go ahead and blow it." So he left. I stood there and waited and waited and finally the tide came in and the water got to the right level. Well, he didn't say to check the wind or anything he just said to blow it. When it got there I popped it. Man, I'm telling you it was like an atomic explosion. That water went hundreds of feet in the air. The minute I blew it I knew it was a horrible mistake because the wind picked up that water and you could just see like a hurricane going across the top of the point where the officers tents were. It blew every single tent down. I mean, it leveled it. About fifteen of the Officers were coming and they were coming after me. This Warrant Officer in charge, he must of weighed three hundred pounds, he was huge, big fat man, he came roaring up in that jeep and he said, "I told that boy to do that, so if you've got something to say, say it to me." Well, I was a hero around there. We didn't like Officers, they were really snobs. They were egotistical people. They had their own little latrine. We had to dig one for us and one for them. They didn't want to go where the enlisted men did. So everybody really thought that was funny. It wasn't but about ten days after that that they dropped the bomb up on Hiroshima, Nagasaki. Then the war was over and we left there and went to China.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. Let's go back, were you at the battle called Sugar Loaf Hill there?

Mr. Towry

I believe that Sugar Loaf Hill was there. I was there, but I didn't actually have to fight. I was back behind the lines about two hundred yards.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. Your main job was to communicate with the tanks and tell them where to go. Is that right?

Mr. Towry

That's right. There were two typhoons hit Okinawa. One was just a nice little typhoon. It blew our tents down and they moved us out on the LSM, it was a tank ship that held seven tanks. Then I was part of the tank crew after the battle was over. I was a tank driver. We went on that LSM with seven tanks and then the daddy of all hurricanes hit. It blew capital ships aground. If you have ever studied typhoons, you know that typhoon of Okinawa 1945 was the worst one that ever hit the Pacific. We rode that thing out in the China Sea in that tiny little boat, because they had mines out there and we had no idea where they were. They didn't cook on that boat for three days, it was that bad. A tank broke loose and was rattling back and forth. We were sleeping in hammocks and man you had to wrap you arm around those ropes and hang your toes in them and hang on. We ate bologna and bread and I think they may have made some coffee if you wanted it, but very few people were eating because it was that bad. But, we survived it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, was this before or after they dropped the bomb?

Mr. Towry

That was after the war was over. We were headed for Tientsin China.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. October 9th of '45 was when Typhoon Louise hit Okinawa and that was the bad one.

Mr. Towry

Oh, it was very bad indeed.

Mr. Misenhimer

Who was the Commanding Officers of the Marines at that point?

Mr. Towry

General _____ I believe was the Commander.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about your Unit, who was in charge of it?

Mr. Towry

You know, my memory for names. I can't remember.

Mr. Misenhimer

So on Okinawa, you never really got involved in combat?

Mr. Towry

I was down on the front lines and I got mortars and artillery and everything, but I never actually had to take a gun and shoot people.

Mr. Misenhimer

Were you shelled by the Japanese?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

You mentioned a while ago about the 105s or 155s shelling you.

Mr. Towry

The most dangerous part really was the shells from the ships in the harbor that they were firing at the Japanese planes and we had condition red every afternoon, I mean there was thousands and thousands of guns firing at these planes and that shrapnel, it doesn't matter who it is, Japanese or American, if it hits you, you're dead. We were just as afraid of our own anti air craft fire as we were of the Japanese. They never bombed us up on the front lines anyway.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, you mentioned the atomic bomb dropping. How did you hear about that?

Mr. Towry

Oh, we had the Stars and Stripes.

Mr. Misenhimer

Then when Japan surrendered, did you have any kind of celebration?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes, we made our own stump juice. We would take a five gallon can of, we had five water cans in each tents and we usually kept two of them brewing, we would take pineapple, coconut, sugar cane, anything with juice and sugar and let brew about seven days, it made a sort of a beer. It had a very high alcohol content, you could really get loaded on it. We did celebrate, yes sir. We called it stump juice.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, you mentioned souvenirs? What kind of souvenirs did you get home with?

Mr. Towry

Oh, I had flags, helmets, shoes, I brought home a Japanese 30 caliber rifle.

Mr. Misenhimer

When you left Okinawa, you went to China. Is that right?

Mr. Towry

Right.

Mr. Misenhimer

Tell me about that.

Mr. Towry

Oh, that was great. We had been over seas, well from November to the following August, and when we got to China, we were conquering heroes. They were really glad to see us. The little Chinese girls were very pretty and I mean they were very pretty little girls. I don't think that you could get a hotel room in Tientsin. They were all occupied with the young prostitutes. The going price at that time for a ladies favor was \$.25.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your job in China?

Mr. Towry

We were running patrol between Tientsin and Peking. There was a one-lane highway there about 90 miles, and we set up a command point about half way between. At that time, the Chinese Communist were in control of all of the area outside the major cities. So, when you were out there, you had to be careful. We were fired at several different times by snipers. We put a stop to that. We dropped some boys off and let them shoot a few of them and after that they quit shooting us.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you all capture any Japanese soldiers there?

Mr. Towry

On Okinawa, I had stole a Jeep from the Army and I was running back and forth and I would go back to the outfit and get batteries and I would take souvenirs back and trade them for different things. We were usually short of rations and we had no whiskey and no beer or anything like that, so if you could get back to the beach with some souvenirs, some Japanese helmet or some of those Japanese shoes or a rifle, you could get nearly anything. I was headed back one day from the front. I was riding real close up to the front and this infantry group stopped me and they said, "We've got this Japanese doctor, he says that he is a doctor and this woman is his nurse and we can't take care of them." They didn't have the food to feed them and nobody wants to guard them. So I looked over there and there is this man and woman. They are probably in their 30's and I really felt sorry for them. I knew that if I didn't take those people back, they were going to shoot them. So, I got them, I put him in the front seat and her in the back seat. I felt them and made sure they didn't have a weapon. I was going back and I was going to take them to the internment camp where I had been in that brig. Well, I had some old cheffsea cigarettes and I don't smoke, they were in the rations, so I gave them cigarettes and I gave them some C rations or K rations, whatever and some water and they were very very grateful. They knew that I had probably saved their lives. I took them back to this compound and let them out. The soldiers took them and when I drove off, the last that I saw they were both bowing down and they were on their hands and knees thanking me for bringing them back. Well, I read in the Stars and Stripes two or three days later where a Japanese Army doctor and his nurse wife, were married, had been saved and because of the real humane treatment, they gave them really important information on the position and the whereabouts of the Japanese 32nd

Army Headquarters. That had to be the two people that I took back. I always felt really good about that.

Mr. Misenhimer

Anything else you recall from Okinawa?

Mr. Towry

That's just about the best of it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, when you were in China, did you all capture any of the Japanese soldiers there? Did they surrender to you or anything like that?

Mr. Towry

We took the surrender of a lot of Japanese. As a matter a fact, at this compound where we were at, it was at this little village named Yon Sun and there was a big bridge there and the railroad track was running right next to this little road where we were at and this was two months after the war was over and they had never taken the guns and stuff away from the Japanese soldiers, because they were guarding this railway bridge from the Communist. Otherwise, they would blow it up. So they had their artillery they had their machine guns, they had their rifles and everything and we were camped two hundred yards from them (end of side one)

Mr. Misenhimer

This is side two of tape one with Howard Towry. So you gave this Japanese some cigarettes and what did he do then?

Mr. Towry

He was in charge of this unit and he was the Officer in charge of the Japanese that were in charge of guarding this railroad bridge. They had horses to move their artillery.

Mr. Misenhimer

So when you gave him the cigarettes, what did he do then?

Mr. Towry

Oh, he had me come in his office. Well, I was by myself then, but I went back to his office and he served me some tea and some little cakes that they had made, and he had a dictionary that had English and Japanese in it. I could speak no Japanese and he could speak no English, so with this dictionary we could converse real well. It would be in Japanese and I would tell him and I would find it in English and it would be in Japanese and we had a real, you know we could converse. So, he was a very nice man and I so when I wasn't in my tank running down the road I would go over and see him and talk to him. He was having his boys saddle up a horse and my buddy and I would ride a horse up and down the road. It was a really good racing strip. So, when we first got there our Officers went over to them and told them what we wanted this flag and all that stuff so he told them he had destroying them, but he went over to his desk and he popped this little secret drawer and it pops out and there were two of the most beautiful Japanese flags have ever seen. One of them had the names of a lot of the people in his organization there and wishing him well luck. It was silk. He took this flag and wrote on there in beautiful penmanship prettier than anybody in my outfit could write, in English, "My dear Howard Towry, I give to you this flag, Lieutenant Takio Ito, 10 November 1945, Tientsin China." Well, I've still got that flag, still got it.

Mr. Misenhimer

That's quite a collector's item.

Mr. Towry

Yes, it is, it certainly is. Now, when we first got to China, we took a convoy up the road. It was a Military Government, going in to Peking and accept the surrender of the Japanese there. So we went up this highway and I think there must have been about five or six tanks at least and three or four of trucks of infantry escorting these civilians and these military people up there, you know, to Peking. When we got to Peking, it was nearly dark and man let me tell you, Peking was a walled city, this wall must be 50 feet high, it was huge, and so when we drove up there I was in the second tank and when we drove up to that gate, you could look and on top of this wall up there, there was hundreds of Japanese soldiers looking down at us. That was a very strange feeling knowing that just three weeks before, four weeks before we had been fighting them, well longer than that, but not much. They had this gate blocked with sandbags, so they put a dozer tank in there and just forced the gate open. That gate must have been thirty feet high and they just forced it open. So we went in to the city, well they had street car tracks, I mean they had you know street car tracks, beautiful modern city, I mean I expected China to be ruins, the movies that we saw China was nothing but shambles and there was dead Chinese people all over the place, but here in Peking it was a beautiful modern city with big ten fifteen story buildings with elevators, really modern. So, here we going down, we had rubber tracks on our tanks incidentally, and here we are riding down this road with these antennas hitting those wires up above and thank goodness we had rubber tracks, anyway, thousands of Chinese lining the streets, I mean there was kids out there bare naked waving, screaming and hollering, conquering hero's. We took the people in to the compound at Tiniamen Square, you know where they had this big thing, and left them at the headquarters and we took off and went back to Tientsin the next day. That was an interesting situation.

Mr. Misenhimer

That was. Now, were these Japanese soldiers armed, or had they turned their guns in?

Mr. Towry

There weren't armed, just looking at us. No one ever fired a shot. I never heard of a Japanese ever firing one shot in anger once that war was over.

Mr. Misenhimer

What's some other things that happened in China?

Mr. Towry

Oh, I jumped ship the first night, along with every other enlisted men, the crewmen when we got to Tientsin. We all went ashore. There were restrictions because there were Japanese soldiers with rifles guarding every block every intersection to keep the Chinese from looting. We all went ashore. We had money, cigarettes, toothpaste, everything to trade and we were looking for a house of ill repute and we found one and then we went to a Russian house and that was something else. When we get back to the ship, there was about fifteen or twenty of us in my group, and several sailors of us got together and came back together and just as we got to the gang plank of the LSM, the spot light comes on and this Lieutenant up there says, "Blah Blah Blah." So everybody goes on board but me, I ran away, I didn't want to get caught. It was cold so finally I said well everybody else got caught, I will go too. So I go up to the gate and they take my name, but what I didn't know was when the whole group went up there they just took the names of the Sailors, they didn't take the names of the Marines. So the next morning we have roll call, and this Lieutenant says, "Well, we have one smarteack here, one goof ball knuckle head that jumped ship, Towry." I couldn't say we all jumped ship, I had to just stay there grin and bear it. Well I carried luggage for about the first seven days at Tienstsin, up and

down the stairs, up and down the stairs. They couldn't martial me because we didn't have any records there, and they couldn't bust me because I didn't have any stripes, and couldn't fine me because we didn't have any money so all they could make me do is carry luggage up and down those stairs.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you took the surrender of quite a few Japanese soldiers there in China?

Mr. Towry

Were there many?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yeah.

Mr. Towry

Thousands.

Mr. Misenhimer

And they sent them back to Japan?

Mr. Towry

Not at the time that I was there, they were still there. We were using them as work details. They were the hardest working, most honest people that you ever saw in your life. If you had twenty Japanese out cleaning and raking and smoothing and making our parade grounds and stuff, they always had a Japanese officer with them. Somebody could speak some English. If you told them to do a job, when they finished it they would go back and make it even better. I mean they were absolutely perfect soldiers. Whatever they did, they did well. Now, the Chinese were just the opposite, they were a bunch clowns. If you have five Chinese working for you, it would take five of you just to keep them busy. They were goof balls. They were thieves and steal and if had

them unload a ship they would come out, they would tie their pants legs, they break in to bags of sugar, flour and stuff like that and fill their pants legs up with flour. Oh, they were something else. O.K. this went on and we stayed there and they were sending people home, according to overseas points, you got so many each month overseas, so many month in service, and so much for each medal. Well, I only had one medal that counted and that was the Purple Heart, so I had 41 points, so we get ready to go home and in the Marine Corps, they restrict you seventy two hours before you ship out. We were going to go Monday and we found out on Friday that we were going to go and that meant we couldn't go in to town and I had me a sweet little ole' Chinese girlfriend and I wanted to tell her goodbye. So there was no way I could get out, except on Sunday they had a detail go to church. They would march us out and there was a church about three blocks away and it was a Catholic church, but they would let us hold our Protestant services there, so I went out with church detail all dressed up and all pretty and nice and we marched out and when they did a right turn to go to church, I did a column left and headed downtown. I got hold of my little sweet girlfriend and we were dancing and drinking and having a good time and somebody came up to me and said, "Is your name Towry?" I said, "Yes." and they said, "Your outfit is about to leave, they are going out today." So I told poor Rosy goodbye and I ran and jumped a rickshaw and when I got back to the gate the guard just shakes his head and said, "They just left." So the Lieutenant that was the Lieutenant of the day that day, the Officer of the day, he had won a bronze star on Okinawa, when his tank hit a landmine. Well, there was a great huge boy, big, big country boy from Nebraska and his name was Smith, Smitty got out and was repairing this tank track by himself, now each link of that tank weighed fifty-seven pounds and he was doing that on his own out there and this was under mortar fire and also when you are outside you are subject to snipers and anything else cause you're right on the front.

Well, the Lieutenant stayed inside the tank with the other three people while Smitty is outside working. They hit another mine and it blows the bogie wheel off and hits Smitty in the chest and knocks him about twenty feet and he got a concussion out of it, so Smitty got a Purple heart. The Officer sitting inside the tank got a bronze star for guarding valuable radio gear and equipment under enemy fire. When this General _____ was our Commanding Officer in China, he came to our Battalion Headquarters and was going to award the medal, well me and Smitty and one more guy didn't go down and get our Purple Hearts, we stayed upstairs, so when this Lieutenant came back he said, "It behooves you boy's to, blah, blah, blah, you didn't go down and get your medals." I said, "It didn't mean that much to me." So, he knew why we didn't go and we knew how he got his. So, I was going home in just a few days anyway and I said, "Lieutenant, I'm going home in just a few days anyway." He said, "You better hope you do." Guess who was Officer of the Day, that Lieutenant. So, he took me to see the Officer of the Day and there he is and he says, "Oh, he says, Towry, I seem to remember you from somewhere." So the Colonel at that time name was Swinseski, Polish Colonel, he was a Battalion Commander. Well, he called Colonel Swinseski and he called him and told him what had happened and Colonel Swinseski, knew about me and my liaison deal and I was the first one up and the last one to leave. Two other guys, one cracks up and one got his ears messed up with artillery and I was the only original one that stayed up there and I did my job pretty good. So, he said, "Let me talk to Towry." So he says, "Look, would like me to send my jeep over and my driver and drive you over there to the Taku River." It was about thirty miles down from Tientsin, from where the Harbor was and where the ship was anchored. I said, "Oh, please." So he sent his jeep driver up there and I got my sea bag and loaded it up and I smiled at the Lieutenant and said, "Hidey Ho." It broke his heart that he couldn't keep me there. I had loaned out some money and I guess I

probably had twenty or thirty dollars loaned out to the boys that were going home. When they pulled out without me they were laughing and hollering har har har, but when I got in that jeep when we went outside the gates at Tientsin, I told that driver, "If the Communist stop us, don't you stop, you keep going." He said, "They'll shoot us." I said, "I'll shoot you if you do stop." So he put the jeep in forward and away we went. I mean we had dust two hundred feet there behind us. The boat was, just on every curve in the river, curve in the river, all the way down the Tacu. It took them three, four, five hours to get down there and it took us about less than an hour. So, I'm waiting where that boat docked with my head on my sea bag and smoking a cigar and these guys nearly fainted when they saw me. Oh mercy. That's the main part of it.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. When you came home, when did you leave China to come home?

Mr. Towry

I left China in the first of May of '46.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where did you land when you got home?

Mr. Towry

I landed in San Diego. We stopped off at Pearl Harbor for a night. We all go to go in to town. Well, I was so proud of my medal, I was nineteen years old at the time man. I had my Purple Heart there and all this stuff all pumped and I figured I would be treated as a hero. Well, we go to this bar and we are fixing to go in and some little girl there at the door said and I don't even think that I had shaved and she said, "Where are you going sunny boy?" I said, "I'm going to get me a beer." She checked my I.D. and she said, "You're not either." They wouldn't even let me have a beer. So we went on down the street and talked it over and there was one little boy in the

Outfit that was 27 years old so we all had these crew cuts and he was tall he was 6'2 and every body looks alike when your hair is all cut off in those I.D. pictures and he said, "Look, they won't bother me. You take my I.D. card and after we get in you come in behind us." So I go up to this door and this gal said, "Where you going?" I said, "I'm going to go get me a drink." She said, "I don't believe you." I said, "I bet you a beer I can." She said, "Bet." Well, I give her my I.D. card man and she took her flashlight and looked at that thing through and through and she couldn't believe her eyes that I was 27 years old. So, I made her go inside and buy me a beer. I think it cost her a dollar. That was my only experience at Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Misenhimer

So when you got back to San Diego, what did you do there?

Mr. Towry

Oh, I had been hearing about the greetings from the cheerleaders and hundreds of people greeting these people when they got off the boat. Well, when we pulled in to the Harbor a little tow boat came out and squirted the water in the air and tooted his toot, toot, toot and squirted some water in the air and then turned and went back. So we went on in and docked. Well, we started getting off the boat and they had little tables out, there were some Red Cross girls serving coffee or orange juice or whatever they were serving and that was our reception when we got off the boat. We went back to recruit depot and we processed and went home.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you get discharged then?

Mr. Towry

Got discharged on 17th of May 1946.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. When you joined, had you joined for a particular length of time or just for the duration?

Mr. Towry

When I went in, see the Marine Corps only authorized two divisions _____, but we had six Divisions. So four Divisions were made up of Reservists, we were the same as regulars, only we were considered Reserves. Well, I was in for the duration of the war and the National emergency, whatever it was. So I was just discharged, period.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you didn't stay in the Reserves?

Mr. Towry

Well, I didn't think I did, but I went in to the inactive Reserve. I never attended a meeting, I never received a letter, I never received anything and then in 1950, I was in Dallas at the time, a friend of mine called me and said, "Have you heard from the Marine Corps?" I said, "No, and I don't want to." He said, "I got a telegraph today telling me I'm to report to active duty. They are telling me that I was in Inactive Reserve and he was going back to active duty and am to report seventeen days from today. I'm going to Korea." So, I was just sure that they would get me because I was a tank crewman then. I joined the Air Force the next day.

Mr. Misenhimer

So how long did you stay in the Air Force?

Mr. Towry

Until I retired in 1967.

Mr. Misenhimer

O.K. You made a career out of it.

Mr. Towry

Yes. I spent seven years in Europe. Went to ever major city in Europe and every country just about. I had gone to Flight Inspection School and I was a Flight Inspector. We flew in to NATO countries complimentary flight inspection and we checked their navigation aids. When President Eisenhower was over there in '54, whenever, we flew our aircraft in front of him to check nav aids ahead of him to make sure they are correct.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, were you an Officer at that point?

Mr. Towry

No, I was a Sergeant.

Mr. Misenhimer

Let me go back to WWII. Did you ever see any USO shows?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes. Kay Kaiser brought his show to Okinawa.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was that?

Mr. Towry

I don't know. I was about a quarter of a mile from the stage. (Laughing)

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you ever have any experience with the Red Cross?

Mr. Towry

No, I didn't have any dealings with them.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, when you were overseas, could you get any mail with any regularity?

Mr. Towry

It wasn't too bad. It was usually ten days, two weeks and sometimes three weeks.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about in China? The same thing in China?

Mr. Towry

The same.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, when you were on Okinawa, did you see the medics working at any time?

Mr. Towry

Yes sir.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you think of them?

Mr. Towry

Wonderful. The Corpsmen were the greatest in the world. They were Navy Corpsmen.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you ever hear Tokyo Rose when you were over there?

Mr. Towry

Yes, I heard her when I was in Okinawa.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you think of her?

Mr. Towry

She sure played some pretty music.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now in April of 1945 President Roosevelt died. Did you all hear about that?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your reaction?

Mr. Towry

It was May when he died wasn't it?

Mr. Misenhimer

April 12th.

Mr. Towry

That doesn't seem right. I thought we were down on the Southern end when he died. Yeah, we heard about it the very next day.

Mr. Misenhimer

That was just after the invasion of Okinawa.

Mr. Towry

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, in May of 1945 Germany surrendered. Did you all hear about that?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes, that happened while we were, that was right after we had gone in to bad combat down on the Southern end.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did ya'll have any kind of celebration then?

Mr. Towry

No.

Mr. Misenhimer

When Japan surrendered, did you have any kind of celebration then?

Mr. Towry

Oh yeah! We drank that stump juice.

Mr. Misenhimer

I have heard that all of the ships out in the Harbor and everything fired their guns in the air. Did you see any of that?

Mr. Towry

I don't remember.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you see any of the kamikazes hit the ships there at Okinawa?

Mr. Towry

Oh listen, I used to sit up on the hills on Okinawa with my liaison, we had an air liaison there, we had ship to shore liaison and tank liaison and they all had radios and this air liaison they had the frequencies of these fighter planes and man we would listen to these fighter planes talking and we could actually hear them talking when they were shooting and you would see a plane going

down and then you hear the voice talking about they shot it down. I saw a plane go into a ship one time. It was a cargo ship and it must have had ammo because that whole ship exploded and it was just one huge ball of fire. That ship came out of the water and settled back down. I don't see how anyone could have lived on that ship.

Mr. Misenhimer

Probably didn't.

Mr. Towry

This happened every night.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you saw quite a few kamikazes hit the ships then.

Mr. Towry

Oh, every night. I don't know how many ships, they lost dozens of ships there to kamikazes.

Mr. Misenhimer

I think 75 or 80. Something like that.

Mr. Towry

At least. I know the Navy had over 10,000 killed on Okie.

Mr. Misenhimer

When you got home, did you have any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mr. Towry

Not too much. The women sure did look funny. They had straight legs and their teeth were straight. I was used to those bow legged and buckteeth girls.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you use your GI bill at all?

Mr. Towry

Yes. I went to school.

Mr. Misenhimer

Have you had any reunions?

Mr. Towry

Oh yes. I go to the 1st Marine Division Reunion out on the Gulf Coast every year. But I never had any reunion with any of my fellow Marines.

Mr. Misenhimer

But you do go to the 1st Marine Division reunions.

Mr. Towry

We have that every year on the Gulf Coast. We have one here at our County Club that's a Marine celebration and I've been going, but I'm 78 years old now and I've just about lost my hearing and I've had my teeth all cut out, I had cancer in my neck. I'm physically fit, but the last time I went to church, I couldn't hear a word the preacher said. When everybody stood up, I stood up, when everybody bowed their head, I bowed my head. Made me feel good just to be there though.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, I have something here I need to read to you. It's the agreement with the Nimitz Museum.

I should have done this at the first and I didn't. Are you ready?

Read and agreed to.

Mr. Towry

I don't suppose there would be any interest in this, but even though I only completed the eighth grade in school, after I retired from the Air Force I took the GED and I started going to college

and I graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1986 with a Bachelors Degree and I was on the Dean's List my last semester with 15 hours.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, O.K. What did you major in?

Mr. Towry

Hotel/Restaurant Management.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now, when you retired from the Air Force in 1967, what did you do after that?

Mr. Towry

I worked in a shipyard, I ran a used car lot, in Hattiesburg where I went to college and I was an apartment manager. Now my wife and I are owners of a golf course between Jackson and New Orleans. We have a par 3 golf course with driving range and we have a real nice little business here.

Mr. Misenhimer

Anything else you remember from WWII?

Mr. Towry

I think I have told you all the goodies.

This is the end of the tape.

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