

National Museum of the Pacific War

Nimitz Education and Research Center

Fredericksburg, Texas

Interview with

Mr. Deverl Goode

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Interview in progress.

Pete Jensen: Today I am interviewing Mr. Deverl Goode. This interview is taking place at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas. This interview is in support of the Center for Pacific War Studies, archives for the National Museum of the Pacific War, Texas Historical Commission for the preservation of historical information related to this site.

Mr. Goode, if you'd like to give us a little history of...family history?

Mr. Goode: Okay. Well I was born back in 1922 and we did go through the Depression and we all thought that...and the New Deal...President Roosevelt...we thought he was way off. We had to plow cotton and...and carry the cows and things...but...but he brought the country out of it, so he was doing what...what he should have been doing. And we...well...and I was a farmer and...

Pete Jensen: Who is your...what was your mother and father's name?

Mr. Goode: A. L. Goode and Nancy Ellen Goode. And we lived out...oh, I was born in Trent, but we lived out in (unintelligible) and (unintelligible) area...on the plains. And I met my wife in school and she was...I...I thought she was

about the prettiest thing I'd ever seen! (laughter) She wouldn't talk to me.

But anyway, we finally got married and...we got married on December the 5th

Female in room: 1942.

Mr. Goode: Huh?

Female in room: 1942.

Mr. Goode: 1942.

Pete Jensen: The first thing...you remember the date! You remember the day and the month; that's the important thing! (laughter)

Mr. Goode: But anyway, I finished high school and started into college and from there I went back to farm a little...I just went one semester, and into AC in north Texas, a country college. At that time I was A&M and so it was a...military...you had pull military to get into it and when I left that then and went into...went back into farming...I farmed about a year. And the...Army drafted me; I wanted to volunteer but they drafted me. And we went to El Paso and was sworn in and then we went back down...what?...

Other person: Camp Wolters... Wolters.

Mr. Goode: Camp Walters for my basic.

Pete Jensen: Where's Camp Wolters located at? Where was Camp Wolters located at?

Other person: Mineral Wells.

Mr. Goode: Mineral Wells, Texas, and from...from there, then I went on to (unintelligible); ten days to (unintelligible) and we came home; stayed...spent the ten days and then me and my wife caught the...the train...in Big (unintelligible), Texas and went to...it was kind of a deal...we went to El

Paso and it was just a troop train, but it was...there was no...it was just boxcars. And so I called my wife, I said, "Well, (unintelligible)." I said, "If you don't get on, I'll jump off and we'll catch the next one." So anyway, she was running alongside and I'd taken her suitcase; she threw her suitcase in and I caught it with my hand and jerked her in. And we went to...uh, San Francisco.

Pete Jensen: In a boxcar? In a boxcar?

Mr. Goode: Yes, in a boxcar, and...

Pete Jensen: Wasn't real good accommodations! Wasn't real good accommodations!

Mr. Goode: Uh, well I was sitting on my duffel bag and she was sitting on her suitcase, and that's all the accommodations we had! (laughter) Then she...and we went...and I shipped out...oh, about...

Other person: Fort Ord.

Mr. Goode: I shipped out at Ford Ord, and we was about...oh, we had about a week there; no I'd say three or four days maybe. And when I shipped out, why, she went on home. And I thought we was on an awfully big ship...twenty-two hundred of us! And I come to find out that that was a real small one. But I was on...I was on...water as much as I was on land. We got over...we had to...we went in a convoy, but we...we had motor trouble and we dropped out of the convoy. And...only...we landed on Leyte and it was secure there; the beach was secure.

Pete Jensen: That was in 1942?

Mr. Goode: Yeah.

Other person: No, no... '44.

Pete Jensen: '44, oh excuse me.

Mr. Goode: Yeah, 1944, and...but the Japanese ship mast was sticking up all...I'll bet you it was a hundred of them...that the Navy had sunk.

Pete Jensen: Wow!

Mr. Goode: And they had to have a pilot to bring us in between them, and we unloaded there and that's where I joined the Americal Division...and...

Pete Jensen: Would you explain...I read a little bit about why...that appears to be the only division that didn't have numbers; you had a name.

Mr. Goode: Well, it was formed after we got overseas; (unintelligible) that's where Americal Division was formed; it was all...

Other Person: National Guard.

Mr. Goode: National Guard; several National Guards put together. And so...but I...I wasn't on that one. Leyte...was first island I was on and then...then we was shipped over to...we made a beachhead on...Cebu, I believe, was Cebu where we had...it was...I thought was real bad. But fact it wasn't all that bad after some of them I heard about. But we got several there in Cebu.

Pete Jensen: Well how do you...do you know you spell that...Cebu, is it? Like it...like it sounds?

Mr. Goode: C-e...I really didn't know.

Pete Jensen: Okay.

Mr. Goode: And we...we were there for about, I don't know, six months I guess; pushed them back into the hills and then we taken the hills. And then we were drawn

back to the...and we went to...Negros [Island] and I may have those two mixed up. But on Negros we...we...making a beachhead and it was a very...very easy...because when they seen us unloading, they went...they run; they left, so the beach was easy to take there. And then we went to the hills...and I stayed there, oh, I don't know, several months. And we...we was on a ship then; they put us on a ship (unintelligible) for the beachhead in Tokyo. And we was...we was supposed to be in the...in the first unit to hit and...but on that ship we had several that got legs broke in that practice. We were up...we were up farther and we was coming down...stepping in the boat and you'd turn loose to step in the boat...and it was ten foot below! (laughter)

Other person: And you were also cut off behind lines on (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: Yes, I was on...that was on Cebu. I was cut off behind the lines and it was, oh, it was...I guess it was...I can't remember...wasn't very long...several days thought, but it was an easy place to...to get food. We had...

Other person: (Unintelligible.)

Mr. Goode: We had...(unintelligible)...was...was the wild potatoes; it was about half a potato and half a sweet potato, and they was real good...we...we thought they was awfully good! (laughter) You had bananas...and they was plentiful. And we run across several...of course coconuts was down on the edge, but up in the hills we didn't have the coconuts.

Pete Jensen: What'd you do for water?

Mr. Goode: There was...there was...it rained every day. (laughter)

Pete Jensen: Okay.

Mr. Goode: Rained practically every day; not hard rains, but enough for you...you to get water. And...and the streams...

Other person: And you got jungle rot.

Mr. Goode: Yeah, I...

Pete Jensen: That's considered uncomfortable, wasn't it? You're wet most the time?

Mr. Goode: Well, you...you're wet...it...it comes nearly every night, of course, when it comes and we had little...(unintelligible). You had to get...pardon me, you had to have a partner to build a tent and so we...went on then and, boy, I sat there waiting for...the day...surrendered before we got to Japan and we sat in Yokohama Bay for about three days waiting for the Army to get us khakis to unload...we didn't have any khakis with us. And (unintelligible) unload us, and then after we went into Japan you had to have...two...nobody could go out by theirself; it had to be two. But they was real...you know, we had no problems. They...they worshipped power really...and to get them off down the street (unintelligible)...just a common soldier.

Pete Jensen: Were you like military police then or...?

Mr. Goode: Well, yeah. We went into Americal, military police, when...when we went in...they put us in the military police, in (unintelligible) company is what it was. We carried some people...their prisoners...but they had prisoners back there...to the islands they come off of. And then they transferred us over to (unintelligible) Prison, and that's where I guarded Tokyo. But it was there in (unintelligible) Prison...oh, I don't know...I'd say (unintelligible)...when I went in Tojo was...had shot himself, and they carried him to the hospital.

Well I didn't join him there but whenever he got (unintelligible)...why, I...I would go in and I'd draw him water (laughter) and (unintelligible). And I felt he had...had a...when he started to shave...I had put the blade in his razor so he couldn't hurt himself and I watched him shave. And I asked him there for a...if he'd autograph...again, and he did and he spoke real good English, but he was...that's about all that happened; we just brought him up for interrogation and then...then we'd give him that. But we also brought Tokyo Rose...brought her up here for interrogation one time...couldn't...just one...they wouldn't allow one to bring her up because she'd complain about...they'd attacked her and so forth...(unintelligible)...had two.

Pete Jensen: You guarded her also?

Mr. Goode: Uh, no I didn't guard her, but I did bring her up and down a time or two with...with someone else to...(unintelligible) interrogation.

Pete Jensen: Were you able to talk to her?

Mr. Goode: Yes, you talked to her on the way up...that's all. Now on the interrogation, we stood on the outside.

Pete Jensen: Right.

Mr. Goode: But...and Saipan Sue, now, you don't hear much about her but she was there also. They also had, oh I don't know, several Sergeants in there...Buck Sergeants and...and Staff Sergeants in there...Americans...and we kept them in there and I don't know whatever happened to them now; I never did get to talk with them, but it seemed that they had...said something on the radio that...what...that they shouldn't have said.

Pete Jensen: These were Americans?

Mr. Goode: Yes, yes, they were Americans and I think they finally let them go, but they were still there when I left. And then we went to...(unintelligible) sent us over to...ship then; we caught a ship home and I landed in...Seattle, Washington. And I never...I couldn't...we didn't have a telephone but we had...where we lived at, we didn't have a telephone, and so I...I didn't get to...I didn't figure I'd have time for a letter, so I just (unintelligible)...well, I was discharged in...in...

Other Person: San Antone? San Antone.

Mr. Goode: San Antone. I was discharged in San Antone, and so...when I came home they didn't know I was in the States. I...I went to (unintelligible), and I got a little boy that was running cows there and he carried me on home...eighteen miles out in the country?

Pete Jensen: How you get to San Antonio?

Mr. Goode: On a bus.

Pete Jensen: A bus?

Mr. Goode: Yeah, (unintelligible) from San Antonio to (unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: Thought maybe you'd hitchhiked. I know...during the Second World War a lot of servicemen...

Mr. Goode: I...I didn't hitchhike; I...I caught the bus because I was really anxious to get home and I hadn't rode...this (unintelligible) because I didn't know it till just...just like that, you know. And so when I walked in, why, there was my wife and my mother and daddy. And my oldest...only child I had at that

time...went in and woke him up and he (unintelligible) and he said, "Daddy!"
(laughter).

Other Person: He was six weeks old (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: He was just six weeks old when I left.

Other Person: And he was (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: I guess that's...

Other Person: He had a little cigarette and (unintelligible)...

Mr. Goode: (Unintelligible) ever since.

Pete Jensen: What...

Mr. Goode: Farmed and ranched.

Pete Jensen: What...back to...your landings...you came in on, I guess, a...a landing craft?

Mr. Goode: Yes, yes I did.

Pete Jensen: And you just...waded through the water and...?

Mr. Goode: Uh well they...

Pete Jensen: They dropped you on the beach?

Mr. Goode: ...they run till they hit...bottom...

Pete Jensen: Okay.

Mr. Goode: ...and then the...thing let out and then we (unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: And you didn't have a lot of resistance?

Mr. Goode: Uh, we had a lot of resistance. It was several of them was...was blown up;
and we had a lot of resistance on Cebu.

Pete Jensen: Okay.

Mr. Goode: I thought it was a lot of resistance. Now on Negros...we didn't.

Pete Jensen: That's where you were behind enemy lines for awhile? That's....were you behind...on enemy lines? Was that...?

Mr. Goode: I was at Cebu.

Pete Jensen: Cebu, yeah.

Mr. Goode: At Cebu.

Pete Jensen: Then the enemy...how'd you get back to the...the rest of that...group, I guess?

Mr. Goode: Well, our...our Lieutenant, I guess, was...was wanting a promotion anyway (laughter); he said that we'll go around...that we'll try to take this company around; it was two other companies there, but he was going to take his company around behind and we'd have them surrounded. When we got around behind, we were surrounded! (laughter) So...so...we...and another thing now, we had a...we had a...we...we went up...we'd taken the hill and we could hear the Japs talking and we'd taken flamethrowers and went down and there was...caves back in under these hills and we turned those flamethrowers loose in there. And then when we went in, we found out it was a hospital...and Japs sitting there with heads bandaged up, and...half the bandages burned off. So it...the flamethrower was a...a pretty...pretty strong deal...back in, you know, a cave. So that...that was kind of bad.

Pete Jensen: So when...when you're on the occupational force in Japan, you visited Hiroshima and...?

Mr. Goode: Hiroshima, yeah, that was the only one; I didn't visit the other.

Pete Jensen: And what was it like? I mean...

Mr. Goode: Well, as far as you could see...I could see...it looked like...I believe they said there had been a jailhouse or a courthouse; there was a little bit of brick that was about shoulder high and...and steel sticking out at the top and that's the only thing I could see standing in there...as far as you could see. And I believe they said it was about ten miles across it.

Pete Jensen: What was your thoughts about...dropping the atomic bombs?

Mr. Goode: I thought it was the best thing (unintelligible). I think it saved lives on both sides; they were dug in real well. It would have been very, very bad to take that because there was trenches was all over. Because most places where we shelled, you filled in a lot of those trenches. But they...like they did on Cebu, they shelled for twenty-four hours before we went in...on those big ships. And it was holes way back in there, but there was still a lot...we missed a lot of them. So, and I had been working in Tokyo/Yokohama.

Pete Jensen: How'd you find out that the war was over?

Mr. Goode: Uh, they announced it on the ship.

Pete Jensen: And you were...?

Mr. Goode: We were on our way over there.

Pete Jensen: On the way over there for the invasion?

Mr. Goode: We were still practicing on...on getting (unintelligible) high seas...

Pete Jensen: You said you...escorted Tokyo Rose. Did she...you got to talk to her...did she...did she...what'd she say or...?

Mr. Goode: Uh, I just talked to her very little, and...I...I don't remember if she said anything or not. But the reason it was two of them there...she claimed that

when one just bring her up...that they...insulted her, and so that's the reason they put two...on her.

Pete Jensen: The Japanese...you stated earlier that they were...were they friendly or...I mean they were respectful of your power, but...

Mr. Goode: They were very, very friendly.

Pete Jensen: Were they?

Mr. Goode: They were very friendly and yeah, they...they worshipped the power. You could tell when Hirohito or General MacArthur was coming down the street, but they was all bowed before they got there, and how they knew it, I don't know!

Pete Jensen: Have you seen Hirohito's Palace?

Mr. Goode: Yes, I have a picture of it.

Pete Jensen: What was it like?

Mr. Goode: Well I didn't get up there real close; it's a distance picture that I've got and that's as far as I've got to it.

Pete Jensen: Anything else you'd like to talk about occupation of Japan? I mean was there...?

Mr. Goode: Well, I guess...

Pete Jensen: Any stories you want to tell?

Other Person: (Unintelligible) tell him about the (unintelligible) with the kamikizes.

Mr. Goode: About the what?

Other Person: Those kamikazes you came across at night.

Mr. Goode: Oh, what it was...what we called the banzai...they said we didn't have one. But anyway, they come across...we was on a hill and they...they come...they all had their battle flags around their heads and about, oh, I don't know, I guess it was...fifteen, twenty of them...and they was just running a shooting. They didn't see anybody; we stayed...we had...a few of them fell in foxholes but most of them run on out and fell...there was a steep cliff right behind and they run...right on off into that, and that's the only time I've seen a banzai. But that...that's what our officers called it, so that's what we called it. I hear now that it wasn't such a thing as a banzai, but that's what happened there.

Pete Jensen: Right. When you...when you were on the ships...or...were you ever attacked or...like by Japanese aircraft or...?

Mr. Goode: No, no, now we was...we were strafed on the hills with some Japanese, but they called in for air support and...they sent...they sent...a plane out and it...you'd see them in the dog pack and then they...they outgunned the Japanese planes pretty bad...that's P-38s. So that's all we got was P-38s.

Pete Jensen: And they were Zeroes; right, Japanese Zeroes?

Mr. Goode: Yes. We didn't see a lot of that but the...I can't remember...two or three times that that happened.

Pete Jensen: And what was your...I want to say...occupation or...in the Army? Just...was it military...I mean...infantry or what would you...?

Mr. Goode: I was infantry. When we...I was...me and one of the other boys that I was with we was...points on...the company...and...the 4th Platoon had a...we was

in Company B, but the 4th Platoon had...they was...well, a small machine guns – thirty caliber and they had the...the small...well...

Other Person: BARs or something like that?

Mr. Goode: Well, we carried BARs all the time and as a scout.

Pete Jensen: So you were...you and this other gentleman were scouts?

Mr. Goode: Yes, we were scouts?

Pete Jensen: Did you volunteer for that or selected?

Mr. Goode: It was...it was just pointed to me. (laughter) So we...we went...I went there...I wasn't there but about three weeks and they had mortar...4th Platoon had a mortar set back there and it...the ground give away on the back and they had a free (sp?) burst and it killed most of the 4th Platoon and they needed somebody and I volunteered for that because I liked that 4th Platoon, and that's...I was in the 4th Platoon for the rest of it.

Pete Jensen: And then you were discharged in San Antonio...what...is that in '45, '46?

Mr. Goode: Uh, '46.

Pete Jensen: '46.

Other Person: (Unintelligible sentence.)

Pete Jensen: Did you...did you see MacArthur then?

Mr. Goode: Yes, but not up close. I have seen him at a distance...when he'd come down...come down the streets, you know, in a jeep or something like that, you know. And he'd have quite a few soldiers with him, I guess guards. But I just seen him at...at a distance.

Pete Jensen: I have something else; uh, I guess that's...right now I think that's all I've got.

Mr. Goode: Well, that's about all I can think of, too.

Pete Jensen: I...okay, let's do this.

Other Person: (Unintelligible) in occupation, do you...where you burned all that money in the warehouse?

Mr. Goode: Well, we...I had a good friend that (unintelligible)...then he'd come up with...now I think this was on Cebu also...he had came up with...he...he went to the hospital and left with a real bad cough...and when he come back about three days later, why, he still had the awful cough and it was right at night and it was raining and I just hollered at him and told him...I said, "Gill, just come on down and get in with us." We had...I'd dug a foxhole and this other boy was with me and he...we had his shelter half and my shelter half together, so Gill come in and this other boy said, "Oh," said, "we haven't got room for another," and I said, "Yeah, we have!" And so anyway, we...he came in...and why, I guess when he came in he knocked...hit one of the poles a little that we had staked down with and let the water run in and we woke up the next morning and we were on...on a...our heads was just almost under water! (laughter) So...and anyway, he was...he was real thankful and he was as good a friend as you could ever have. If I didn't have any money, why, he'd hand me his billfold or vice versa. So we was, as close as brothers. And he passed away, oh, a year ago.

Pete Jensen: What was his name?

Mr. Goode: Max L. Gill (sp?)

Other Person: (Unintelligible) anniversary...about a year before he died.

Pete Jensen: Yeah.

Other Person: But they were life-long friends. (Unintelligible sentence.)

Mr. Goode: Yeah, I...I was standing guard...just kind of on one of them hills and they...throwing them knee mortars back at you and I didn't see any knee mortars down there in that, but that's what the Japs was using...what they called knee mortars and they was throwing shells in on us and so I...anyway I was on...on guard that night on...on the hill, and I just walking along and I seen a banana tree and I'd have to get in...see if it wasn't moving, you know? I was kind of scared anyway and about that time a monkey jumped down on my back (laughter). Of course he just hit me and run on off; I seen him pretty quick, but if I'd of been able to move, I'd of shot that monkey! (laughter) There was quite a few...kind of funny things that happened during the...but I can't think of any of them now.

(Recording interrupted momentarily)...we just turned back in the face after this bomb...that there would be some of them running out...maybe all of their clothes burned off of them, and...and they just turned back and face...and some of them did live. In fact I talked to some of them that was...in the edge of that that did live, but they were sure scarred up.

Pete Jensen: I heard that some people evaporated...if they were not close to where the bomb went off...just...

Mr. Goode: Yeah, just...they're just gone! Yeah, and that's where the whole...the bricks and everything; they was just ashes...is all that was left, except that one little

spot...standing up about waist high or maybe shoulder high. I didn't go up to it; they wouldn't let us in...across where the bomb had hit, but we were around the edge. And that's...

Pete Jensen: And your task to Hiroshima...what was...to clear the highway or...?

Mr. Goode: Uh, we...we cleared the road out...as I say, we didn't go up in it, just across the edge of it.

Other Person: (Unintelligible) communication between (unintelligible) and so forth, I went six weeks twice without hearing from you and I think you had similar...

Mr. Goode: Yeah, yeah, there's...as far as the letters goes, I got...I...I remember one time I got as high as twenty-nine letters at one time, and they'd bring up with ammo bearers. And...and that's what I was in the 4th Platoon, I was the ammo bearer for the mortars; I carried mortar shells.

Other Person: And you and Gill, actually...because you had (unintelligible words).

Mr. Goode: Yeah, that's...everything was Gs...and that's what Gill and I got...we got together on the ship going over...really. We was...I believe...about thirty something days getting...going across. We had motor problems, you know.

Pete Jensen: And you ended up...you left the convoy...

Mr. Goode: Yes.

Pete Jensen: ...after the ship was fixed...did you join another convoy or did you...?

Mr. Goode: No, no, we went on over by ourselves.

Pete Jensen: That was dangerous, wasn't it?

Mr. Goode: Oh yeah, we thought it was! (laughter)

Other Person: Tell about the rough seas that you ran into.

Pete Jensen: Huh?

Other Person: The rough seas that you ran into.

Mr. Goode: Oh, that's coming back. We hit some awfully rough seas coming home by the Aleutian Islands and I believe they said we dropped thirty feet...and so...we was...we was in a convoy then, too, and I think one or two of them broke in two and they had to rescue them, you know. But...our's didn't, but we was on...little bunks that...where chain come down, you know, and...and about four or five high...and...and them chains break and they just spill you out in the...everybody was seasick. (laughter)

Pete Jensen: Going it wasn't...?

Mr. Goode: Going over...it was real smooth, real smooth.

Other Person: While you were down in south (unintelligible)?

Mr. Goode: Huh?

Other Person: While your...while your ship was broke, you saw the whales?

Mr. Goode: Ah, no, that was going over; we saw the whale...we thought it was going to be a island! (laughter) But...

Other Person: You crossed the Equator.

Mr. Goode: Yes, we...we crossed the Equator; they wouldn't let us get out on the deck for about, oh, I don't know...eight or ten hours...crossing the Equator there.

Pete Jensen: Why...why wouldn't they let you out on the deck?

Mr. Goode: On account of the heat; said it was real dangerous...out there in the...on the ocean...on that...Equator. I don't know, we didn't get out anyway. But we

had...we had...bathe...in sea water. And it was...it was pretty rough if you kind of broke out anyway. And...

Pete Jensen: What was...on the ship...what was the food like?

Mr. Goode: Food was real good if you could keep up with it! (laughter) You had to hold that plate! (laughter) But I had it run away from...but the food was...food was pretty good on the ship. We...out on the...out on...out on the front where we had...oh, when the (unintelligible) ten and ones, we thought it was real good...ten and ones. But...

Pete Jensen: What was that?

Mr. Goode: That was...I can't remember now...what...what they had in it; all I can remember was a little...I had packages of cigarettes...

Pete Jensen: Lucky Strike Greens?

Mr. Goode: Huh?

Pete Jensen: Lucky Strikes?

Mr. Goode: That...well , Lucky Strikes or Camels; that's...that's mostly what was in them. And...well we had...

Other Person: (Unintelligible)...almost equal to a meal?

Mr. Goode: Uh, the candy bar? Yeah, it was...it was a chocolate...it was solid chocolate. Choco Chocolate (sp?), I believe is what they called it. And...and in...what they called a D-ration and it was...it was supposed to be a meal. And I could make a meal on it because I love sweets, and it was soft sweet.

Pete Jensen: (Unintelligible) K-rations?

Mr. Goode: Yeah, we had K-rations and C-rations? I think K-rations...uh, I'm not real sure...I've forgot most of that, but the C-rations...in...was...one of them was in a can and the other one was in a box, I believe (unintelligible). (Recording temporarily interrupted)

We sent some prisoners back to China, but you couldn't get up to the...to the...we had one of the river boats to get them up there because so many...so many swimmers was out there...Chinese...that they was just solid, so...

Pete Jensen: Did you burn Japanese money?

Mr. Goode: Yes, we went...we was at a...we was guarding an airport and there was a warehouse there...when I guess we (unintelligible), but anyway we had...we had...we was building a fire to keep warm; it was pretty cool...and so...we got...we got a box of that money and we didn't know...that's before we had ever got paid or anything and...we...we...when we was already shipped out of there to Segama (sp?)...when we got paid and...we...every one of us went back then. And there was a hundred...thousand dollars in yens and...and I saw yen notes...

Other Person: That's where he found out he was paid (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: And when we found out we was paid, why, we went back over there, but they was all gone! (laughter).

Pete Jensen: This was actual money that you were paid in?

Mr. Goode: That's...what money we was paid in.

Pete Jensen: (Unintelligible.) (laughter)

Mr. Goode: I sure did.

Pete Jensen: Did you bring out souvenirs back with you?

Mr. Goode: Uh, very few. I sent...some for my brother-in-laws...and to my brother; I sent a Japanese saber and a...a gun. I carried that gun for a week out on the front before I got a chance to...three days back to box it up. And I'll never do that again; two guns is hard to carry! (laughter)

Other Person: He sent some...(unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: Was it a rifle?

Mr. Goode: Yes, rifle. And

Other Person: (Unintelligible)...china – cups and saucers and...

Mr. Goode: Oh yeah; I sent a bunch of that.

Other Person: He did a good job of that...they got on there...on a ship and (unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: This was just...from Japan?

Other Person: Yes.

Mr. Goode: Yes.

Pete Jensen: (Unintelligible.)

Mr. Goode: I...we...and we come back for a three-days rest and they was showing a film on the side of the hill, and we just sitting on the side of the hill, you know, and...and he...he come up and sit down beside me and it was an old boy that I'd went to school with.

Pete Jensen: Small world!

Mr. Goode: Yeah, it's a small world, and...why, I was real proud to see him, but I never did see him again. That was the last time I seen him, and he was in the...the same battalion that I was in, but he wasn't in the same company.

Pete Jensen: Did he make it back from the war?

Mr. Goode: I think he did; I'm not real sure. Now there's...

Other Person: I think he did.

Mr. Goode: ...two to three there that didn't, but I wasn't...I...I wasn't around them. But I think we had three boys there from Welch.

Pete Jensen: How...how big is...what 's the population?

Mr. Goode: Oh Welch? About a hundred.

Pete Jensen: So you had a big...big percentage during the war.

Mr. Goode: Yes, yes we did.

Pete Jensen: I understand that...there's some paperwork says that you're...should receive two Bronze Stars.

Mr. Goode: Well, if I did, I don't remember them. And I don't know what I done with them if I did.

Pete Jensen: No, it...

Other Person: It says in the paper that...but we don't remember really getting any of those things.

Pete Jensen: You probably didn't; I...I've read...or seen a paper quite often where people, you know, after sixty years...they've received an award (unintelligible)...

Mr. Goode: Yeah.

Pete Jensen: ...and didn't (unintelligible); they've never received through their congressman or someone...they've been able to...acquire that.

Mr. Goode: Well, so far as I know, I don't remember them. I'll just put it that away.

Other Person: I don't think (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: But I didn't keep up with any of the stuff after I got home.

Other Person: I just don't believe (unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: Maybe so.

Mr. Goode: I don't know where I was, but we was going up a hill and we kept...meeting...carrying bodies down, and it was...it scared us, but it wasn't, you know, it was nearly over when we got up on top of it...why, they'd done their job.

Pete Jensen: This is Cebu?

Mr. Goode: I was in Cebu. Well, they wouldn't let you wear white underwear (laughter) 'cause when you washed them...hung them up...it had to be G.I. color.

Pete Jensen: You'd surrender, right?! (laughter)

Mr. Goode: Well, there was little...we...we got into a little spot there where we kept seeing white in a little...little shack in the window and...just a little hut...and so then half the company, I guess, was...just kind of surrounded this little hut and it was a white rooster! (laughter) So...several things like that.

Other Person: (Unintelligible) for supper?

Mr. Goode: We...we did!

Pete Jensen: Did...during that climate...rain everyday and...hot...did you have...or a lot of the troops have problems with fungus and things like that?

Mr. Goode: Well, I had jungle rot, and I know quite a few of them did, but they had...they would take penicillin and just spray the breaking out...and that...I guess that's all they could do for it.

Pete Jensen: Did you have Medics there with you?

Mr. Goode: Yes, yes we had Medics. I believe there was two Medics with each company...I believe's what...I believe that's the way it was. We did have Medics and then we had a...a field hospital that was back, you know, oh, several miles... but that's where they carried the wounded back to. And I never did get wounded. In the beginning we had a little bit of...oh, where you...where you take...

Other Person: He had Malaria, I think.

Mr. Goode: Yeah, what do you take for it?

Pete Jensen: Quinine?

Mr. Goode: Quinine; yeah, they...they...they give us Quinine and then...when that...but if...it didn't last very long...till they usually couldn't get it, so then, yeah...
Atabrine.

(end of tape 1, side A)

Mr. Goode: Yes.

Pete Jensen: But now they give you all kinds of...

Mr. Goode: Yeah, I had the same thing I guess as they use now...maybe more. I...

Other Person: What was that one...(unintelligible)?

Mr. Goode: Oh yeah, I...when I went to school they gave me a smallpox shot and they had taken it...and it was still a pretty good scar there, but the Army had to give

you another one, you know, and they just kept...kept a trying because it wouldn't...it wouldn't show, so I had to go back every week in...in basic. One of the boys told me...said, "Now if you'll just take a little cayenne pepper and rub over that where they give you that shot...that it...it will pass next time." So I did, (laughter) and then I did pass. It kind of swelled it up and they thought that shot had...had take effect.

Other Person: He just had...he just had...smallpox...yesterday (unintelligible)...couple of years or so.

Mr. Goode: Yeah, yeah. Well I still had a big scar on there.

Other Person: Yeah, (unintelligible).

Mr. Goode: Looked like they could have seen it, but they didn't.

Pete Jensen: What...what'd you study in college? You were there for a year.

Mr. Goode: Engineering. But I didn't get far enough to do anything.

Pete Jensen: What'd you do...farming...you, uh, raise cattle?

Mr. Goode: Yes, raised cattle and cotton; maize. I always had a few cattle, but mainly I was a farmer until 1969, then I was mainly cattle and a little farming...and I'm still running cattle.

Pete Jensen: Oh, okay! How many head do you have?

Mr. Goode: Me and this boy is...is partners on it and...this...we have about a hundred and twenty head together. And...now he's got more than that, but I...that's what we got...partner (unintelligible).

Pete Jensen: Is the weather real dry out there this year?

Mr. Goode: It's been...we've had quite a bit of rain this year. Now last year we was...we were awfully dry; we done a lot of feeding. (Recording temporarily interrupted) And once, why, they was...they were special; they were real good.

Pete Jensen: Was most of the effort early on put into the European Theater?

Mr. Goode: Yes it was.

Pete Jensen: So the Pacific Theater was more of a...just what was left over?

Mr. Goode: That's right. Ours was just left over...(unintelligible) (laughter).

Other Person: Would have preferred it myself.

(end of interview)

FINAL copy
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