

The National Museum of the Pacific War

Center for Pacific War Studies

Fredericksburg, Texas

**An Interview With
Charles C. Hawkins
January 23, 2009
Admiral Nimitz's Orderly**

Mr. Misenhimer

My name is Richard Misenhimer. Today is January 23, 2009. I am interviewing Mr. Charles C. Hawkins by telephone. His phone number is (256) 880-1803. His address is 1203 Bush Dr. Huntsville, Alabama 35803. This interview is in support of the National Museum of the Pacific War, Center for Pacific War Studies, for the preservation of historical information related to World War II. Charles, I want to thank you for taking time to do this interview today, and I want to thank you for your service to our country during World War II. The next thing I'd like to do is get an alternative contact. We find out that several years down the road, we try to get back in touch with the veteran and sometimes he's moved or something. So do you have a son or daughter or someone that would know where you are in case we can't find you here at this place?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. I'll just give my daughter down in San Antonio. That's Che Kuhns. Let me get a card and I can give you her address. 1211 Autumn Ridge San Antonio, and that's...if I can make it out. Oh, San Antonio, TX. And the zip is 78258.

Mr. Misenhimer

Okay, do you have her phone number?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. (210) 403-3252.

Mr. Misenhimer

And her last name is spelled Kuns or Kunz?

Mr. Hawkins

Kuhns.

Mr. Misenhimer

Kuhns, okay. My first question is what is your birth date?

Mr. Hawkins

June 29th, 1925.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where were you born?

Mr. Hawkins

I was born in Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have brothers and sisters?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

How many of each?

Mr. Hawkins

I have an older sister, Joyce, and a younger brother (we're 5 years apart), a younger brother named Lyle.

Mr. Misenhimer

He was not in World War II then.

Mr. Hawkins

No, he went in and he served in the Army and went to Germany during the occupation.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now your sister, was she involved in war work of any kind?

Mr. Hawkins

No.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now you grew up during The Depression. How did The Depression affect you and your family?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, you know, times were tough. We lived in a small community outside of Memphis right at the city line and I think we were outside the city line and then we were taken in because I remember I used to switch between county and the city schools a lot. I liked the county best and I'd always go to county school if I could. But anyway, times were tough. We always had food to eat. Dad and Mom owned their own home. It wasn't anything big. It was a small house. We had a church there and the community worked together. If somebody needed something, the community made sure they got it. I don't remember ever going without food or clothes or anything like that but there was no cash in the home.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your father's occupation?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, his father died when he was 13 so he had to become the man of the house for his father's family. He didn't have an education and he worked as different things. During the time that I knew him, he worked for a bakery and had a bakery route that he delivered. Early on, I remember the bakery truck being in the driveway. Then he went into business a couple of

times with a truck hauling gravel and stuff like that. So he used to tell me, "I'm a jack of all trades."

Mr. Misenhimer

So he was able to keep an income during The Depression then.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah. You know, it was tough and I remember you looked forward to when school started and you got your annual pair of shoes and that kind of stuff. But I don't remember it being angry or mean or anything like that.

Mr. Misenhimer

People worked together then a lot better.

Mr. Hawkins

Right, yes, very much so.

Mr. Misenhimer

Everybody was in the same boat.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, that's true. Luckily we had a little acreage where we had chickens, cow, and an orchard and a garden, and so we had fresh eggs, butter, cream, milk. In fact, we gave away, you know, some of the stuff we didn't eat.

Mr. Misenhimer

People were a lot more self-sufficient then.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yeah. You had butter. So really you had to buy just flour and sugar and coffee and that was...the rest of it, you could make out.

Mr. Misenhimer

That's right. When did you graduate from high school?

Mr. Hawkins

I finished high school after the war. Changing back and forth between city and county schools, I lost a year in there so I finished my 11th grade when I was 17 and I missed my senior year when my buddy and I decided we were gonna join the Marine Corps. The minute I got in I realized that was a mistake. I should've had a high school diploma because every time they asked me, "Are you high school graduate?" I had to say no. So I immediately started International Correspondence Course in the Service to finish my high school. I think I lacked about one or two subjects by the time the war was over, and I got that and then when I came home from the war, I got an equivalency diploma and started college. At the same time I was going to college in the morning, I went back to high school in the afternoon to take subjects like physics and math because I wanted to be an engineer and I knew I needed those subjects. And back in those days, you could do those things.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where did you go to college?

Mr. Hawkins

I started out at Memphis State University because at the end of the war, you couldn't get in a regular engineering school because they were so crowded. And then I, after 2 years, I was able to transfer up to Vanderbilt. And I graduated from Vanderbilt in Nashville.

Mr. Misenhimer

What year did you graduate there?

Mr. Hawkins

The year 1951.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your major?

Mr. Hawkins

I was a civil structural engineer. I worked out in Altos, Oklahoma for a while and my boss was a lieutenant colonel and graduated at Texas A&M.

Mr. Misenhimer

Yeah, I think A&M had a large percentage of the officers during World War II.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer

I forget the number now, but it was a large percentage.

Mr. Hawkins

They had quite an esprit de corps for themselves.

Mr. Misenhimer

Then when did you go into the Marines?

Mr. Hawkins

I was sworn in in Nashville, Tennessee on June 2nd, that would be 1942. And a major Drew swore me in. We had to pay our own way from Memphis to Nashville. We signed all the

papers in Memphis down at the post office. We had to pay our own way to Nashville. And then they told us, they said, "Now if you pass the test, we'll pay your way back."

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing) How did you choose the Marines?

Mr. Hawkins

My buddy and I, you know I had grew up with the kid. He felt like my brother. He was Maurice Shockley. We called him Red. Him and I played football together in high school, sports, and hunted and fished together. We were just sort of inseparable, and we both decided on the Marine Corps. We thought about the Navy but we had both been in sea scouts there in Memphis and we just liked ships and the water and we thought that was better than going into the Army.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where did you go for boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

San Diego. We arrived there 4 days after June 28th. I think I shipped out on June 28th from Memphis. We took the train. It took us 4 days to get there.

Mr. Misenhimer

About July 2nd.

Mr. Hawkins

By July 2nd, I arrived at San Diego.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was that train trip out there?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, it was interesting. (laughing) I had taken train trips before, but not that long and of course we were on a regular passenger train. You know and everything broke down and it was hot. The windows were open at times. But we had fun, so it didn't bother us. It bothered some of the civilians. (laughing)

Mr. Misenhimer

It took you about 4 days then, right?

Mr. Hawkins

It took 4 days.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have a place to sleep?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, they did give us a sleeper car.

Mr. Misenhimer

You had not been that far from home before I assume.

Mr. Hawkins

No.

Mr. Misenhimer

Back in those days, people hadn't traveled very far.

Mr. Hawkins

No, I had traveled to Arkansas and Mississippi once to Missouri before that. But this was the first time I had ever been away for a long period.

Mr. Misenhimer

Tell me about your boot camp. What all happened there?

Mr. Hawkins

Well as I recall, it lasted 12 weeks and I knew it would be different stuff, and it was. I remember I used to tell my mother, when I wrote her I said, "One hour a day we'd get to go to the clothes rack, wash our clothes and hang them up and then I'd get some peace and quiet for about an hour, washing my clothes and hanging them up. I looked forward to that every day." (laughing) But they kept us going from sun up to sun down, and really I think we had it easier in San Diego because of the climate than Parris Island. The rule was that if you lived east of the Mississippi River you went to Parris Island and west you went to San Diego. But for some reason, I guess it got crowded, they sent our group (there was about 12 of us from Memphis and most of us knew each other, hometown boys) but they sent us to San Diego. And I was grateful for that because I went to sea school there right after boot camp.

Mr. Misenhimer

How were your drill instructors, they pretty rough on you?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, they were but after a while you realize they were trying to do things for your own good. You recognized after a while that they weren't all that bad.

Mr. Misenhimer

I understand the first thing that they do is break you down as a civilian and rebuild you as a Marine.

Mr. Hawkins

Exactly, exactly. You learn that in a hurry. I'm just looking here. I've spread out some stuff.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, good.

Mr. Hawkins

I was in Platoon 546 US Marine Corps, San Diego, 1943.

Mr. Misenhimer

Wait '42 or '43?

Mr. Hawkins

This says '43 here.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you go in in '42?

Mr. Hawkins

I made a mistake in my calculations. Did I say '42 earlier?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yes, Sir.

Mr. Hawkins

Well it was '43. I'm sure this is right. Corporal Erickson and Corporal Powell were our drill instructors.

Mr. Misenhimer

Were they combat veterans?

Mr. Hawkins

You know, I don't know. I suspect they were. They were older and quite mature.

Mr. Misenhimer

So you were 18 when you went in.

Mr. Hawkins

I was 17.

Mr. Misenhimer

Well that would've been '42 then.

Mr. Hawkins

I don't understand this. Well my 18th birthday happened on the train ride going to boot camp.

Mr. Misenhimer

I see.

Mr. Hawkins

I remember they said, "We are gonna wait till you guys are just about 18 before we call you."

Because you had to register for the draft at 18, and I was 18. It was right before my birthday.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did your parents have to sign for you to go in then?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, yes, they did. That was the problem. I wanted to go a year earlier but they wouldn't sign.

Mr. Misenhimer

I thought if it was before your 18th birthday, you'd have had to have your parents sign for you.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, yeah. I remember right after Pearl Harbor, our principle at Whitehaven High School (I was going to a county high school at the time) called us all in and said, "Boys, this country is in

trouble and it's up to you to fight for this country." So we were all, as young as we were, we were all ready to go. My parents wouldn't sign when I was 16. But they did sign knowing that I'd be almost 18.

Mr. Misenhimer

You were actually 18 when you got really involved in it.

Mr. Hawkins

Right.

Mr. Misenhimer

What kind of weapons training did you have in boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

Well we had you know, the regular training with an M1 and an O3. I think we used the M1 at Camp Mathews on the rifle range for several weeks. And then when I got into sea school, I went into Naval guns, and we went up the coast there and fired off the California coast at targets. So we could live aboard ship and fire guns on the ship. I was trained to be on the 20mm deck gun and the 40mm. They had a quad 40, you know, took about 4 men to run it, and you'd have a pointer, a trainer, and two guys feeding ammunition into it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Lets go back to boot camp. Did you have any machine gun training, things like that?

Mr. Hawkins

No, well I think we did fire a BAR. But no light machine guns or water cooled or something like that.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about bayonet training?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yes, yes, we had that. I remember that well because we used to go out in the sand and come out of holes to attack each other. You left the sheath on the bayonet. One guy came at me when he had taken the sheath off. So I stepped aside and hit him upside the head with my rifle.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now did you have the infiltration course where you crawled under the live ammunition being shot across you?

Mr. Hawkins

You know, I don't remember that specifically. I know we had a lot of water exercises in the training tanks and we had to swim. You couldn't get out of boot camp without swimming. But I could swim before I went in. That wasn't a problem. But we had a lot of physical training, but I don't remember ever crawling under live shooting.

Mr. Misenhimer

I think the Infantry might have done that more. I'm not sure.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, my buddy Red Shockley, he and I split after boot camp. He went into the Infantry. That's what he wanted to do, and I'm sure he went through all that.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you live in there in boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

We had squad huts and they were there when I came back from the war, and I almost ended up in the training hut waiting to be processed back at the end of the war.

Mr. Misenhimer

How many people in a hut?

Mr. Hawkins

I would say about 20.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, okay. Did it have a latrine in the hut?

Mr. Hawkins

No. You had to go down to a common latrine, and they had, like I said, a fenced off area where your squad would go down and wash clothes on a wash rack and hang them up. All you had was your sea bag that you kept near you. We didn't have that much equipment, really, until right at the end of boot camp. You don't get out of boot camp in the Marine Corps to go on leave or anything. I mean, when you walk in the gates, you're there until it's over.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was the food in boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

Good and plentiful. But you had to eat whatever you took.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, yes. When you went up to the rifle range, that was up at Camp Mathews you say?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. We got on some buses and rode up there and I think, I don't know, we probably spent 3 week up there I believe it was.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you live in there?

Mr. Hawkins

We lived in a bigger, about a 50, 60-man hut, building.

Mr. Misenhimer

Barracks?

Mr. Hawkins

Barracks, yes. And you know, doubled up the bunks. Food there was not good. The conditions were not good. The shower was not, the toilets and all, were not in the barracks. The place was not kept up real well. It was sort of like being out in the boondocks.

Mr. Misenhimer

Anything else you recall from boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

No, you know you had to wash and shower and keep clean and shave every day whether you needed or not and answer the call, and we trained, you know, from sun up to sun down and usually some at night, but not much. We'd have exercises at night, I guess to get us accustomed to staying together at night when you couldn't see.

Mr. Misenhimer

What time was reveille in the morning?

Mr. Hawkins

It was early, before daybreak. The first thing we did was went to the parade field and exercise to the tune of "2 o'clock in the morning". We had 16 exercises we did 16 times with the rifle. I don't know what time it was. You know, my guess is it was probably 4:30. I remember, you know, in San Diego they had smog pots out and I remember all of that was going when you got up and it would be a couple hours after that before you really figured it was daybreak.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now these smog pots, were they to protect you from the enemy or was this to protect the groves?

Mr. Hawkins

I think it was, at the time, to disguise things from the enemy. We were right there, you know, on the beach near a Naval air station and not too far from the harbor there.

Mr. Misenhimer

Anything funny happen in boot camp?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, golly! (laughing) Yeah, I guess a lot of things. You know, if you screwed up, they put a bucket on your head and they'd bang on the bucket. I remember that. One of the things that was unpleasant, they didn't allow smoking. I don't know where the cigarette butts came from but you'd have to go around and pick up, like, 100 cigarette butts and string them on a string and wear them around your neck if they caught you unshaven or not clean, and that was pretty awful for some of the guys. I guess one of the funniest things that I participated in was about the last week of boot camp, you had to pass the swimming test. And if you didn't pass it much earlier, you'd fall out late at night and go down at maybe 10 o'clock at night to the swimming

tank and they would give you a chance to repass the test. Well a guy in our barracks couldn't pass the test and you couldn't get out of boot camp unless you did so I changed dog tags with him and went down and took his swimming test. And I had to act like I couldn't swim, but I almost forgot. I had his dog tags so I could read off of those when I got out of the tank so they could record who passed the test. That was sort of funny, you know, people running around hollering, "Come on boy! You can make it!" (laughing)

Mr. Misenhimer

What happened if you called your rifle a gun?

Mr. Hawkins

Aw, that was bad.

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing)

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, that was bad.

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing) Yep, same in the Army.

Mr. Hawkins

This is my rifle, this is my gun. This is for shooting, that's for fun.

Mr. Misenhimer

Yep, this is my rifle, this is my gun. This is for work and this is for fun. (laughing) I forgot to do something earlier. Agreement read. Is that okay with you?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, I agree. I understand.

Mr. Misenhimer

Thank you. I'm sorry I missed that earlier, but I did. Then when you finished boot camp, then what happened?

Mr. Hawkins

You know they gave us a 10-day leave to go home. It took 4 days to get there and 4 days to get back, and I had 2 days at home. I had to ride the train. And I'm looking at a picture here. By then, I had been separated from my buddy, Red, and I'm looking at a picture and during that 2 days, he showed up at my house. I didn't know that, where he was. The date on the picture, it says, "August 27th, 1943", and the 2 of us are in uniforms squatted down in my mother's yard. So we got to see each other, you know, for probably a day and then I did not see him until way after the war. We were out in uniform.

Mr. Misenhimer

You say you went to sea school?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, sea school in San Diego right there at the recruit depot.

Mr. Misenhimer

And what is sea school?

Mr. Hawkins

Well they teach you about the ship and how to live on board ship, how to tell where you are when you're down below by the markings. They teach you about water tight integrity. They teach you Navy and ship customs. And then part of that is you go out to a Naval gunnery school

and we would drive out, ride out for a couple weeks every day and participate in Naval gunnery practice, shooting at airplanes or targets pulled by airplanes, airplane recognition. Lets see, what else. I remember the Marine Corps sent a chow truck every day and that was great. That was a good break. The training was by the Navy in that influence. They taught you how to stand inspection. We had a lot of close order drill, a lot of sort of rinkey dinkey things that would teach you to toe the line and not get over the line, as it went. Still, no liberty or anything like that. You could go to the PX and stuff like that. So it was a really good school. You had the classroom and they talked about the different ships. Marines could serve on aircraft carriers, cruisers, or battleships. And it taught you about some of the duties that you would be expected to perform in being a Marine Orderly to the Captain. So in boot camp, you had to try out for sea school. And I remember I think there were about 20 of us in my group that wanted sea school, and so they took us down on the parade field and marched us until somebody goofed up and he would be eliminated until they got down to the number that they could accommodate. So it was a little bit of a competition there. The thing I liked about it is you were among a pretty sharp group of boys, and some of them had had some sort of college training and it was a good group to be with.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now they were training you to go aboard ship, is that right?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, we were to live aboard ship, spend our duty on board ship, all of those Naval ships and some other specialty ships had Marines on board.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now I've heard people talk about Fleet Marines. What was the Fleet Marines?

Mr. Hawkins

Well the Fleet Marine Force would be the Division as I understand it. You know like we had 4 divisions and I don't know whether they got up to 6 during World War II. My buddy was in Company L, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Division, and he served in combat in Guam and Iwo Jima.

Mr. Misenhimer

Is he still living?

Mr. Hawkins

No, he's dead. All my buddies are dead.

Mr. Misenhimer

If he were, I'd like to interview him, but okay.

Mr. Hawkins

He was a great guy, he really was. He got shot up pretty bad at Iwo and they surveyed him out of the Service after recuperation in the hospital.

Mr. Misenhimer

There were 6 divisions during World War II.

Mr. Hawkins

There were?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yeah, the 5th Division went into Iwo Jima.

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, I remember the 5th Division.

Mr. Misenhimer

And the 6th Division went into Okinawa.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, did it?

Mr. Misenhimer

I think that was the first combat the 6th Division had. There were 6 divisions in World War II.

Anything else in sea school there?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, you know, I liked it. It was a very busy day, and you had to, you know, keep the floors clean and dress sharp and there was inspections all the time and a lot of discipline. But we lived, we were in a building right across from the Bay Swimming pool, so any time if we had an hour or two that we didn't have duty, we could run over there and swim. That was a lot of fun. I remember that was being just a really good place.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now what uniform did you have? Did you ever get the blue uniform?

Mr. Hawkins

Never had a set of blues in my life.

Mr. Misenhimer

What rank did you have when you got into sea school?

Mr. Hawkins

I came out of boot camp as a Private 1st Class. I qualified as a sharp shooter and that gave me \$5 a month extra pay for a year. And I came out a Private 1st Class. When I went home in boot camp, I was a PFC.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did everybody that graduated the boot camp get to be a PFC or just certain ones?

Mr. Hawkins

No, just, I don't know how many but I'd say 20% or something.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your pay when you first went in? For a while, it was \$21 a month and then I think they raised it to 50 and I'm not sure when that happened.

Mr. Hawkins

Well I was thinking 30, but it wasn't much. (laughing) I remember, they don't even talk to you about payday until after you get assigned your unit. You don't need any money in boot camp and sea school. I guess we had a little bit in sea school. We probably had a payday in sea school, but I remember I took out an allotment and sent some of my money home to my mother and they would do that for you. And she surprised me after the war by saying, "I saved all your allotment and it's in a bank account and here it is." It was \$600. I never had that much money before in my life.

Mr. Misenhimer

That was quite a lot of money in those days!

Mr. Hawkins

It sure was. I sent it to her because I thought she needed it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was your father still living?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, my father, he lived until he was almost 80. And then my mother lived until she was 94.

Mr. Misenhimer

Were your mother and father still together?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. During the war, he worked at the Memphis Army Depot, now that you mentioned it, and he ran a German prisoner of war crew taking care of the warehouse of all kind of bombing supplies for the Army. That was his war time duty.

Mr. Misenhimer

Anything else you remember from sea school?

Mr. Hawkins

You know, you are more confident in your training and I really enjoyed it. I was excited about getting ready to go aboard ship. I always loved ships, looking forward to it, and they talked to us about the difference in the ships and some different kind of duty. My buddy, another buddy from my hometown, Red Galey, who was a fine football player up at Tech High School, and I had been to that high school and knew him, he and I wanted to go aboard a cruiser. So when we got to Pearl Harbor, they said, "You can pick a buddy and a type of a ship, and we will try to honor that." So he and I had agreed that we'd stay together and he was another red headed kid.

Mr. Misenhimer

Two reds, huh?

Mr. Hawkins

Since my best buddy had gone off to the Infantry, he tried to talk me into going into the Infantry, and I said, "Man, you're crazy!" (laughing) I enjoyed sea school and I thought it was a lot of good training. We had classroom, we had drills, we talked about fire aboard ship, and we might be assigned to firefighting crews and so forth -- all the things we should do aboard ship.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now you say you trained on a quad 40?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, trained on a quad 40 and the 20mm. It was a single 20mm. These were all deck mounted guns and you are not in a turret.

Mr. Misenhimer

They were basically anti-aircraft, is that right?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, anti-aircraft, right.

Mr. Misenhimer

I think you did use them some for ship-to-ship.

Mr. Hawkins

We had to go through spotting aircraft and learning to identify aircraft, stuff like that.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was your job on the quad 40?

Mr. Hawkins

I was the pointer. You had a pointer and a trainer, and I was on the right hand side of the gun, and in between two guys standing there loading ammunition. One handles the horizontal control and the other one the vertical control.

Mr. Misenhimer

Which was which?

Mr. Hawkins

Whoa, golly...I think I handled vertical control. The other guy handled horizontal control.

Mr. Misenhimer

Elevation?

Mr. Hawkins

You had to turn wheels to do that. I remember about sea school, you know after you finished your training, they'd hold you over until after you got your assignment. And the day my group got our assignment to ship out, man, we yelled and screamed and we were excited and we got a talking to about that. The guy says, "Hey guys, this is a serious thing, going overseas. It's not gonna be a picnic, you know." But we were excited to ship out.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you finish sea school? You have a date on that?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I really don't. I really don't have a date on that. I remember seemed like it lasted about 3 months or 2 months and then we were shipped out to Mare Island to wait to get aboard ship. We were there just a short while and one day they said, "Pack up your clothes quick. We got a ship." And they took us down to Treasure Island. And we stayed there about a week waiting on

our ship. Then finally we went aboard ship and we shipped out on the USS West Point, which was the USS America that had been renamed and converted to a troop ship. It sailed alone and had guns mounted on the deck but at sea we said that it shouldn't be an escort because an escort couldn't keep up with it I guess. We sailed from San Francisco to, not Pearl Harbor, but we went to the Honolulu dock down by the Aloha Tower. I guess that was the only place that they could accommodate a larger ship. From there, we went to Pearl Harbor and we were in a replacement pool.

Mr. Misenhimer

Do you have a date when you shipped out from San Francisco?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I don't. I really don't.

Mr. Misenhimer

Or when you arrived in Hawaii or whatever?

Mr. Hawkins

I don't. I know it was in the fall. My guess it would've been in November because I remember I had Thanksgiving in Hawaii and Christmas in Hawaii and that was my first holiday away from home.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now when you were there waiting for your ship there, did you get liberty to go into Honolulu?

Mr. Hawkins

No, they really put you on duty. The minute you got there, they assigned you all the night watches, you know, and kept you busy. So I don't remember any liberty at that time until I got

assigned to CINPAC CINC 4. And that was an interesting thing. I had signed up to go aboard a cruiser with my buddy like I said and we knew the ships were in and there was the cruiser "Birmingham" in, and we thought for sure that's what we'd go aboard. About 2 days before that crew went aboard their ships as replacements, they call us all in and some officer walked by and said, "I need four tall Marines." And he picked me out of line and I went to the gunnery sergeant and I said, "Hey, I don't know what this deal is but you promised me I'd go aboard a cruiser with my buddy..."

Mr. Misenhimer

You went to your gunnery sergeant and then what happened?

Mr. Hawkins

I went to the gunnery sergeant and you know in the Marine Corps the gunnery solves all problems.

Mr. Misenhimer

Right.

Mr. Hawkins

And I said, "Hey, you made a promise that we could stick with a buddy and my buddy's not in this selection. And I wanted to go on a cruiser and I don't know what this deal is about." And he said, "Well, it's a special assignment. I can't tell you what it is and I can't get you out of it, and your orders are to get in that truck now." So I got in the truck and we were in Pearl Harbor at the time and we drove around and passed a lot of ships and we said, "Well maybe this is the ship. Maybe that's the ship." And they drove out the gate and we were flabbergasted. We had no idea. Then we went up to Aiea Heights and they said, "Get out here. This is your new job."

And it was Admiral Nimitz's Marine Detachment with about 50 or 60 Marines. He had a flag allowance of that many, so they said, "You're gonna be doing guard duty around the headquarters." So we were quite upset. And so they said, "Well you've gotta do the duty for 2 years and if you screw up, we'll put you in the brig. So just quiet down and do your job for 2 years and then you can go back to being a sea-going Marine." And so we started out standing watches at 2 o'clock in the morning until 7 and 7 at night until 2 in the morning, stuff like that, and it wasn't very nice duty. So I found out that there were some good jobs in this company so I started watching my Ps and Qs and snapping for the better job so I could sleep nights and work days. So I became the Admiral's Office Orderly, Nimitz Office Orderly and I trained on that for a few months then I became the Admiral's Personal Orderly. So by then, I had changed my tune and my attitude and recognized that you can't ever start at the top. Nimitz was a great guy to serve under. So that's how I finished out the war.

Mr. Misenhimer

Let me go back up and ask you a question. When you got to Pearl Harbor, was there still much wreckage around there?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, the Oklahoma was underwater and what's the one that's still underwater? Arizona?

Mr. Misenhimer

The Arizona, right.

Mr. Hawkins

The Arizona was underwater. While I was there, they floated the Oklahoma and dry docked it. I went over that day and watched that. They started taking the bodies off and took the guns off

and painted the hull and put it back out in the harbor. I think the hull stayed there the whole war. So there was still a lot of cleanup and wreckage, you know being cleaned up. But it was a busy place. It was fascinating. If you had any time off, you could run all over the harbor and visit places either by boat or by the little tractors that pull buses. And you could easily spend a day at Pearl Harbor just looking at what was going on and what was being cleaned up.

Mr. Misenhimer

When did you become his personal orderly? Do you have that date there or anything?

Mr. Hawkins

You know, I don't have that date. I had a log book and I've misplaced it. I started working as his personal orderly...there were 4 of us at any one time. We served, you know, 24 hour shift when you serve 8 on and 8 off. And you'd work for 3 days and then the 4th day I got the 4th day off. You got the day off. But we were at Pearl Harbor, I was there I think about over a year before we shipped out to Guam, moved the headquarters to Guam.

Mr. Misenhimer

You got there in the fall you said and you were there for Christmas. You think this would've been maybe in February when you got over there, or March?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah. And then we got to Guam. I remember, see the invasion of Guam, my buddy was in on that one in June, whatever year that was.

Mr. Misenhimer

'44.

Mr. Hawkins

We got there probably within 2 months because there was a lot of construction on Guam when we got there. And we had to help build Quonset huts in order to live in them. So we participated in the construction and stuff. You know, we got to Guam I guess probably maybe a month before Nimitz's staff came there.

Mr. Misenhimer

July 21st is when the fighting started on Guam.

Mr. Hawkins

July 21st?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yeah, they went to Saipan June 15 and then the fighting started on Guam July 21st of '44.

Mr. Hawkins

Well we were there within a couple months after that.

Mr. Misenhimer

When you were his orderly there in Pearl Harbor, did you get to see him personally very much?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yes! Yeah, there was always a lot of people around at Pearl. When you were his office orderly, you were in his outer office and you had a few duties to perform. And then at night, they kept a Marine in his office because there was a lot of classified running around. And I remember being in his office, sitting in his chair, listening to his radio one night about 9 o'clock or 10 o'clock and he walked in with his orderly and I was his office orderly. Normally they would call and alert you but they didn't that night. And he said, "Don't get up. I just forgot something. I'm gonna pick up a paper and leave." (laughing) And you know, he was really a

wonderful guy. He respected the enlisted man and he would talk to them. So I saw him. You would see him, you might...once you become his personal orderly, if he was going somewhere on the island, well, he had a Marine driver and you'd ride in the front seat with the Marine driver and go with him wherever he was. Your job was his security. He called you in and say, "Take this secret report, classified secret over to Admiral So-and-so and tell him to read line 3 and call me and tell me what he thinks about it and come see me, and bring this message board back." You know, we did stuff like that. I was there when MacArthur and Roosevelt came out for the conference. I remember going in the room when MacArthur and Nimitz were alone in the conference room and he had the board on the wall that showed the Invasion of the Philippines and he had called and needed something and I took it in to him. If he took a hike, you'd go with him. He walked from his quarters to the office every morning unless it was raining, so you'd be with him on that walk. Occasionally, he'd call you in and ask you to do something, you know.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did he know you by name?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, yes, he did.

Mr. Misenhimer

One of the things we like to get is anything you remember about Nimitz since this is the Nimitz Museum. We like to get all the personal information about Nimitz that we can. So if you don't mind, share everything you can with me.

Mr. Hawkins

Well, it got more personal once we moved out to Guam because a lot of times it would just be the two of us. And out there, he kept a Jeep in front of his headquarters office, and if he wanted to go get a haircut or something, he'd call you in and say, "Orderly, we're gonna go get a haircut." And I'd drive him over to a Quonset hut or something and he'd get a haircut. We'd drive back and we might, you know, I didn't initiate conversation but I responded to conversation. He would walk on Guam. He hiked, went swimming, a lot of days that I was on duty. I hiked with him, just the two of us. I've hiked with him sometimes when he had other officers with him. I went swimming with...in fact, one day he called me in and he said, "Tomorrow Halsey's gonna be in town and we're gonna go to the island and we're gonna go swimming." He'd say, "Find another Marine to go with you so you'll have somebody to swim with." Of course, we knew we were on duty. We were not out there to have fun. But we'd drive out to a beach somewhere and they'd go in and change clothes and then we'd go in and change clothes, put on our swimming trunks and we'd follow them swimming. They were excellent swimmers. So sometimes on Guam, he would take the Jeep and we would drive up, we were up on a mountain but he'd drive further up the mountain, there was a Sea Bee Camp and he'd hike up there. I remember one time we were going up there and somebody had sent him some seeds and he gave me some of them and we walked along this trail throwing out these seeds. I don't know what they were, but I'm sure he knew. And then occasionally he would think of something like he needed to talk to somebody. I think he would take those walks when he was doing some heavy thinking. We'd just walk along. You know, I'd be behind him but we'd walk along together and just quietly he might comment on the Flora or something like that. But once or twice he would say, "Take the Jeep and run back and get Captain So-and-

so.” “Bring him up here, I want to talk to him.” That always presented a little bit of a dilemma because you know, you’re trained not to leave your duty station. So you would do as he told you but you made sure you got back in a hurry because if something would happen to him, you’d have a hell of a lot of explaining to do.

Mr. Misenhimer

He wouldn’t be there to say, “I sent him.” (laughing)

Mr. Hawkins

Exactly. We hiked all over Guam, well not all over Guam but we hiked a lot of it. We hiked thorough the mountains and trails and I know once or twice, I thought, “Well I ought to carry a carbine instead of this 45 pistol.” And I asked the appropriate people could I carry a carbine when we’re on a hike. And they said, “No, you can’t.” so I’d just take my 45 pistol and swing it over my shoulder with my strap holster so I could keep it up on my chest instead of my hip. And we’d hike, maybe for an hour or two and it was hot and sweaty. We’d stop every now and then and talk. It was interesting to hear the, hear if he had a buddy with him, it was interesting to hear what they would talk about. If it was nighttime they talked about astronomy and stars and navigation. In the daytime, they talked about, you know, things that were interesting, intellectual. That’s one reason that I got turned on to knowing that I had to get an education once I got out. He was quiet. I never heard him raise his voice, never heard him cursing anyone out. Never heard him exhibit anger, and I’d been with him a lot of time. He would call you in and say, “Would you do this for me?” “Would you do this?” it was never anything sharp you know. Like he would call you in and say Admiral McMorris was a 3 star just across the hall from him one of his Deputies, he’d say, “Orderly, how about asking Admiral McMorris I want to take a

walk about 2 o'clock this afternoon. Ask if he would join me in taking the walk." He was always trying to get Admiral McMorris to quit working and get a little exercise. But I'd go and ask the Admiral and he would say, "Yes, it is a fine day for a walk but I'm not gonna go walking. (laughing) I'd go back and tell Admiral Nimitz that Admiral McMorris declined going on a hike. He had a pistol range and we'd go out behind the office, particularly there on Guam, he had a pistol range there in Hawaii, too. But he would go out on the pistol range and sometimes it'd just be the two of us. He would say, "Get the pistols", and he had a collection of .22 pistols, and we would shoot on targets, you know. I remember being out there one day and we were shooting and I said, "Admiral, you're shooting really good today." And he said, "Well, I want to see how good you can do." He had me shoot! And one day we were out there and they came out, Commander Lamar came out, his aide, and that was right after the atomic bomb was dropped just before I left there. They were I guess waiting for the Japanese to sign the treaty. It was before signing the treaty and they had a message from Washington that said that MacArthur would be the Supreme Commander in Japan and that Nimitz would be the Commander in Chief of the Navy at the end of the war, and he told him that there when the 3 of us were standing there. So I was most impressed with him, a fine disciplined fellow...he watched his diet and exercised and he didn't do anything in excess. It was always in moderation. When he had to discipline or talk to someone, a Captain or an Admiral, we could always sense by just what was going on something was up. I remember taking an officer into his office one day and he came to me and he said, "Orderly, I'm gonna shut the door." A lot of times he didn't shut the door to his office. "Don't let anybody in until I come out." And it was quiet in that office. For a long time, you didn't hear a word. You'd stand in front of the door

and made sure nobody would go in. And when he came out, it was still quiet and the officer would be a little bit pale.

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing) Let me ask, what uniform did you wear when you were being his Orderly?

Mr. Hawkins

We wore khakis, which we pressed. We ironed them to make sure they were sharp, particularly in Hawaii. Once we got out to Guam, we did not have to wear ties. We were in tropical attire as it were. A lot of the officers wore shorts but we didn't get to wear shorts.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now did you have a short sleeved shirt or a long sleeved shirt?

Mr. Hawkins

On Guam it was a short sleeved shirt with no tie. The spit and polish kind of went by the wayside out there. But I liked the conditions, you know, I liked being in the forward area. And you would just use your judgment in working with him as best you could. Every morning at about 9 o'clock, they would have a war plans meeting. And when you were on duty you would stand by the door and visually check, you know, who went in. And if you saw something that didn't look right, you might tap on the shoulder (because these were all high ranking officers) and ask them a question or call his aide over if you needed to explore something. One time we were standing there and a friend of mine named Skiles Harris from Bowling Green, Kentucky who hadn't been on duty very long and he was the office orderly and I was the Admiral's orderly and we were standing on either side of the door. And Secretary of Defense Forrestal was among the group of officers standing outside waiting to go in. He started through and

Skiles reached over to grab Forrestal because he had on green khakis and he looked like a war correspondent and it has no insignia. I recognized his face and I yelled, "No!" to Skiles. He didn't put his hands on Forrestal to stop him. But I'm sure if he had everybody would have laughed about it. But you know, we had things like that happen.

Mr. Misenhimer

What rank did you have then?

Mr. Hawkins

At the last, I was a Buck Sergeant.

Mr. Misenhimer

So that didn't give you a lot of rank doing that job.

Mr. Hawkins

You could count a hundred stars just about every morning.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was Nimitz' reaction when he found out MacArthur was going to be in charge over there?

Mr. Hawkins

Calm, I don't remember his exact words but nothing extraordinary, nothing out of line, nothing that caught my attention. I tell you, he probably knew it. I've read articles after the war that he had had discussions with Forrestal and Forrestal has said that from the articles I read "At the end of the war, why don't you just retire?" and he said he wanted to be Commander in Chief of the Navy. And at least for a period of time to finish out his career. I also read in the same article that Forrestal (and he got along real well once he was in that position). There was another interesting story. On the day before the signing of the treaty on board the Missouri

was my last day of duty with him. I had orders to fly off the next day to Pearl Harbor. I took him to the airport, took him to the plane to go to Tokyo. We were used to doing this routine when dignitaries came and left the island and there would be a bunch of officers there saying good-bye and good wishes and all that stuff. So on that day, after all the entourage left and he went to go aboard, to go on the plane, he went up the steps about two steps. He came back down, came over and shook my hand and said, "I thank you for your service." Because he knew that was the last time we'd see each other. That always meant a lot to me.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, sure, yeah! It's a shame you didn't get to go to the surrender ceremonies there.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, I would have loved to but you see I was scheduled to come back on my two year rotation about the same time that happened. And they were looking for Marine drivers for Halsey to go up there and I almost volunteered for that but I said once I got away from Nimitz and his command, there's no telling how far I'd get out and I'd never get back. I was anxious to get home. Skiles, my buddy, was put aboard the USS Missouri and he was to come into New York Harbor and they were gonna have a big ticker tape parade for Nimitz at the end of the war but he went aboard the Missouri and got ready to receive the Admiral on board his flag ship, because that was his flag ship, and the word I got was he never went aboard it. They never went into New York Harbor. They never had the ticket tape parade. Nimitz did not pursue publicity. I think he avoided it. It didn't interest him, in complete contrast to MacArthur. I was there at the headquarters the first time MacArthur came up, I happened to be there. I was not on duty but I was up there for some other reason, and here came all these screaming

motorcycles and about 8 of those came up and then here came the sedan (and this was at Pearl Harbor, it was hot as hell). MacArthur gets out with his leather jacket on and his cap and his corn cob pipe and he pauses and they had a bunch of cameramen there, and he poses for all the cameras wearing that leather jacket, and then goes in and has his conference. Never, never would Nimitz do something like that. When we went anywhere, we never had a motorcycle with us. We didn't do that. He had been to General LeMay's headquarters on Guam and LeMay was there to manage the B29s over there and it'd be the Marine driver and myself in his sedan. I've been to a lot of different things like that when he would go to give awards to a submarine or to a Naval hospital to give awards and there was never any unnecessary pomp and circumstance. It was always military courtesy and that was it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Well they couldn't have been two more different personalities than those two.

Mr. Hawkins

Couldn't have been. Couldn't have been.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now when they had that meeting in Hawaii, MacArthur and Nimitz and Roosevelt, I understand that was when they were deciding to go to Formosa or the Philippines. Is that right?

Mr. Hawkins

Right. Yeah, that was before the Philippines. And during that same time, the next day is when I was on duty at Nimitz' headquarters, MacArthur and he was consulting alone in the conference room and I went in to give him something he called for. And that's when I first saw the Philippine map with 8 of the landings.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did there seem to be much tension between Nimitz and MacArthur?

Mr. Hawkins

Not from Nimitz' standpoint. I would hear it from the staff. You know, there were Army people on Nimitz' staff, and I would hear it from them but not from Naval officers. I know when MacArthur went into the Philippines and he was taking the pictures and issuing...the teletypes were just coming out with all kinds of speeches and some of the officers around the headquarters were pretty amused by this, with all this stuff that was coming out of his proclamation. "I have returned."

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you personally think of MacArthur?

Mr. Hawkins

Well I thought, you know just from my interpretation, I didn't talk with him. By the way I was there when Admiral King, he was opposed to the issue, Roosevelt's son was in the Marine Corps over there once, and so I've been around a lot of, you know, dignitaries. But my thought was that he was pretty egotistical and I just couldn't believe the...I'm sure he had more entourage than the President did. It was amazing! It was sort of insane. I didn't understand it. But during that same time, by the way, a different color telephone showed up in Nimitz' office before Roosevelt came out, and we were told, "If the Admiral is not here and that phone rings, you answer it and you do whatever they tell you to do." That's all they ever said. And after the President left, the phone disappeared. We could always tell in Nimitz' office in Hawaii what island was gonna be hit next because the map of the island would appear in the certain spot in

his office with nothing on it. So after a while, you know, you picked up on everything. I have read about MacArthur, one of the war correspondents wrote it and he said, "Never underestimate a man that overestimates himself."

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing) Yes.

Mr. Hawkins

I thought that was pretty brilliant. I would imagine working for him would be like walking around on eggshells all day long.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, yeah.

Mr. Hawkins

And that would be pretty tiring. Who initiated his flight from the Philippines in 1942? You know, when I've read about the Battle of the Philippines, it sounds like nobody was in charge with the resources they had. Now I know they couldn't have won. But it sounds like there was a lot of retreating and holding up. I know they got him out of there and I've read those stories, and I guess he was such a figurehead, they didn't want the Japs to have him, but he was a pistol. Nimitz, he had a sense of humor. He could tell a joke. I've been around when he'd be telling jokes to officers, you know. He had just a wonderful calm nature about him, and he would walk like past the Sea Bee camp there on Guam when he'd take his morning hikes. He'd take a hike before breakfast and if he could, he'd take a long hike in the afternoon. And if he saw a Sea Bee or something passing, he'd stop and talk to him, you know. It wasn't any big deal. He was generally interested. If he had a question about, like, "I saw some construction

going on, are you working on that and what's going on down there?" He had a very inquisitive mind. He'd turn and ask me sometimes a question, assuming I knew more than I did. I was pretty stupid as a young kid. But he'd say, "Is that a refrigeration unit over there that they're putting in?" or something like that. I always gave him the best answer I could but I never bullshitted him or anything. That's the last thing I'd do. I would say one thing. He was the kind of man that if I was walking and his life was threatened, I would have gladly jumped in front of him without a moment's hesitation. I would've given my life to save him any time.

Mr. Misenhimer

That's quite a compliment. Now when y'all took these hikes, what did you dress in?

Mr. Hawkins

I just had on my standard khaki and I wore a revolver around my waist, and once we got out of headquarters I'd take it off and throw it over my shoulder so that my pistol was right over my chest. And I got put on report for that one day by some junior officer, and the comment they told me was, "You leave the Admiral's Orderly alone." I'll tell you another funny thing that happened that demonstrates Nimitz. We got out to meet some dignitary. I don't know who it was. Pat Hurley came in and a lot of people like that came in, and Cardinal Spellman, by the way, came in. We went out to the airport and Nimitz was going to pick up a dignitary, I can't remember who it was, and he had Commander Lamar (his aide) with him in the back. So we had 2 cars, one for the sedan and a baggage car, and the Marine driver and I were in the front. So once everything got loaded up and we were ready to leave the airport there on Guam, well Commander Lamar came over and he said, "We don't have room for you in the Admiral's sedan. You'll have to ride in the baggage car." So I said, "All right, Sir." And I went back and

get into the baggage car and about two minutes later, the Commander came back and said, "Orderly, would you ride with me up front?" Nimitz had told him, he said, "You don't leave my Marine." So the Marine driver and his orderly rode in the front and the Commander rode between us.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was that Hal Lamar?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. Hal Lamar, I often wondered how Nimitz picked him because he was not of a quality person as Nimitz was. I don't know what there was about him. I know he was a reserve officer, not regular Navy but I've heard...and maybe I shouldn't be saying this, but I've heard Captains come in to Lamar when they were trying to get in to see the Admiral or something, things weren't going the way they thought they ought to be and he'd say, "Commander, when this war is over you'd better get out of the Navy because I'm gonna get you." (laughing) Of course, that was beyond my pay grade. But all the other officers around him seemed quite mature and all and I never thought that the Commander was....I guess I shouldn't be saying this.

Mr. Misenhimer

No, go ahead.

Mr. Hawkins

I never thought that the Commander was...I don't know what to say about that. He just seemed to be of a different character than the Admiral.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now I understand like in Pearl Harbor, when Nimitz had a lot on his mind, he would go out and practice shooting or he would play horseshoes or something like that.

Mr. Hawkins

Yes. he played horseshoes.

Mr. Misenhimer

I've read that.

Mr. Hawkins

And then at Pearl Harbor we had an enlisted man's picnic. He came over on the other side of Pearl Harbor there, they had an isolated place and they all drank beer and pitched horseshoes. And I've got pictures of him pitching horseshoes with, you know like a Navy enlisted man. And he would join in and do things like that. So he had an interest in them, in enlisted men and what they were doing, and it was a sincere interest.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now you mentioned Admiral King a while ago. What else did you think of him?

Mr. Hawkins

Well you know he came into headquarters one time and I was standing at the Admiral's door and I opened it and he walked up to me and almost came nose to nose with me and just stared, never said a word, never smiled, never...it just seemed like to me he was a real cold fish.

Usually, I found that the two stars, well there were no two stars, the commodore...well, lets see in the Navy I only met one one star commodore – he was a medical fleet officer – and he lived with Nimitz. And he was a good guy. I can't remember his name. But on Guam Admiral McMorris, the Commodore and Nimitz lived in one set of quarters, and they lived together with

about 4 mess boys that ran the house and cooked for them. I found that the 3 stars and the 4 stars – and Nimitz was a 5 star – they were good people. They weren't enamored with their rank. If you had to talk to them, they didn't cut you off. They explained things. They talked to you. So an 18, 19-year old kid (which I was at the time) you really appreciate this and you respond to it.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you ever meet Halsey?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, yes! Went swimming with Nimitz and Halsey out on Guam, and my impression of Halsey is when he was around Nimitz, he was a little ill at ease. He didn't seem to have normal conversation that I'd heard Nimitz have with other officers...you know just things that are going on, things that they would see. He seemed a little tense and that was my observation. He was a good swimmer. He and Nimitz swam in a ship canal out there on Guam, and I know another kid and myself, we changed clothes and tried to follow them and keep up with them. There was a stingray that they were swimming around it but they went for a good swim, came back and changed clothes and we got back in the carryall and went back up to headquarters. For your record, would you be interested in copies of these pictures?

Mr. Misenhimer

Of course, if you have spare copies, yes, we'd like to put them in the archives, definitely.

Mr. Hawkins

Okay. I have, for instance, I've got a copy of when we went by the International Dateline, we were aboard the USS Drew an APA going to Guam, and we were inducted into the imperial

domain of the golden dragon, the International Dateline. I've got a copy here of a USS Pacific Fleet Divine Service of Makalapa, Admiral Nimitz Commander in Chief. Captain Moore was the chaplain, copy of the service; you know some of that stuff.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, yeah. We like to collect all the old things we can, yes definitely. We put them in our archives there.

Mr. Hawkins

Well you know after I'm dead and gone and I guess I'm getting close to that point, I don't need this stuff and I don't have anybody around me that would really appreciate it so I'd like to see it go somewhere.

Mr. Misenhimer

Well I think the Nimitz Museum would be a good place for it.

Mr. Hawkins

I got a LIFE Magazine dated March 6, 1944. On the cover is Nimitz. I'll send this stuff out there.

Mr. Misenhimer

Send it to me at my home and I'll get it to them if you don't mind. How about Spruance? Did you get much contact with Spruance?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, I was around Admiral Spruance. See when you train as a sea going Marine, you know some of the Marines that work for some of these different guys, so we would visit each other as the Admiral would come to the island, you know. I didn't see that much of Spruance but I was very impressed with him, quiet and respectful, just a fine man.

Mr. Misenhimer

How would you compare him to Halsey?

Mr. Hawkins

Well I think I'd rather work for Spruance.

Mr. Misenhimer

Tell me again about Spruance. You would rather work for him than Halsey?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yeah. I think so. Spruance, to me, seemed quiet, confident, and I think I would have responded to him more than Halsey. I wasn't around those guys that much but I observed as a teenager. You know thinking back, maybe you ought to strike my comments about Commander Lamar. I don't know whether he's still alive or not.

Mr. Misenhimer

He's not.

Mr. Hawkins

He's not?

Mr. Misenhimer

No.

Mr. Hawkins

He's dead?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yes.

Mr. Hawkins

But he just seemed different in some way.

Mr. Misenhimer

If you don't mind, I'd like to leave them in. It's just, it's history.

Mr. Hawkins

That's fine.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about Mitscher? Did you ever see Mitscher?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, but not enough to really make a comment, colorful, a man's man kind of a thing you know.

Of course we talked with some of the Marines that served with these guys. There's another Admiral out there whose name I can't think of, who I'll tell you what, this Admiral was on the Independence that brought the atomic bomb to Marianas.

Mr. Misenhimer

The Indianapolis.

Mr. Hawkins

The Indianapolis?

Mr. Misenhimer

Yes.

Mr. Hawkins

He got off there, as I understand, with his Marine detachment because I remember talking to some of those Marines who he trained with. I can't remember that guy, Vincent?

Mr. Misenhimer

No, I don't think so. I don't remember either.

Mr. Hawkins

But that Admiral was a good admiral, too. Because I remember they got off and then when the Indianapolis left, it got sank and I was thinking, "Boy, were they lucky!" they didn't go through that.

Mr. Misenhimer

And how about Turner, Terrible Turner?

Mr. Hawkins

I knew of him but I don't know anything about him.

Mr. Misenhimer

Okay, what else?

Mr. Hawkins

Lets see. I was there around headquarters when Colonel Carlson came in with Roosevelt's son, both Marine officers, and they had, I guess it was after the Makin Island thing, I'm not sure, but they came up to see the Admiral and I remember they had an old dirty khaki briefcase of something that they were dragging along with them, probably with some artifacts. And that was an interesting episode. I remember a guy named, I think his name was Sneed, who was the sailor that was on Guam they rescued. And they brought him to Pearl Harbor and he came up to see the Admiral because I remember some of the guys went and got him an ice cream cone. So we saw him there. I didn't get a chance to talk to him but I knew the story and of him signaling the ship you know, and they got him off of the island. I mentioned Cardinal Spellman, he was a house guest, Ambassador Pat Hurley, very colorful, wore what looked like a British

uniform to me, he wore a military uniform. He had a distinguishing mustache. He came out and I think he was an ambassador to I don't know what, a special ambassador or something. He was quite a colorful gentleman. That's about it. I can tell you a funny story about Admiral McMorris or two if you're interested.

Mr. Misenhimer

Go ahead, sure, sure.

Mr. Hawkins

Admiral McMorris was a workaholic. I was told by somebody other than him that he got his name Socrates by being such a brain in the Academy. He was a logistician and when Nimitz left the island, he became the Commander and he would work from sun up to sun down and late at night. He kept a bottle in his desk and after hours, he was known to imbibe a little bit, and he'd come out and say, "Orderly," he had his own Jeep but he would say, "get the free Admiral's Jeep and we're gonna drive to the house." And I'd say, "Fine, Admiral." And he would say, "Uncover the stars." He had five stars, "Yes, Sir!" and if I could tell he was drinking, I'd try to get him in conversation, I'd say, "Admiral McMorris, it's really a pretty night" and I'd say, "I'll drive tonight." "No, no, no! No, I'll drive!" I'd sit over and he would drive me. And one night, there on Guam, we came into the headquarters there and they had a chain across the road and a sentry at the gate. It was barbed wire entanglement and all that stuff. It was on top of a mountain. But anyway, we were zigzagging so much that the sentry dropped the chain and dove into a ditch as we went by.

Mr. Misenhimer

(laughing)

Mr. Hawkins

And when you pull up, the house was right on the edge of a cliff, probably five hundred foot high. It was high. He would swing around a circle driveway and pull in that drive and I was ready to jump any minute because I knew he was going to go right out the back of that garage one night and go right over the cliff. But he was a great guy to talk to. You could be driving around with him somewhere and say, "Admiral, we're sure having a lot of rain today on Guam." And he would quote you statistics for two months before and two months behind. And then when the Admiral left, he always threw a party at the quarters. They never had these parties when Nimitz was there. He and the fleet medical officer would invite a couple of other officers and they'd invite a bunch of nurses up and they'd have a grand old party there at the house.

Mr. Misenhimer

Where was Nimitz at this point?

Mr. Hawkins

He was in the States or on travel.

Mr. Misenhimer

I see, but he was still in command there though.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, he was in command but he was off in Washington, conferring or something like that.

Mr. Misenhimer

And you didn't go with him?

Mr. Hawkins

No, we didn't go with him to places like that.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now when you and he were taking these walks, or when Nimitz was walking, I understand there were still some Japanese on Guam.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, there were! Yeah, there were. There were some stragglers there and they shot one not too far from his quarters one night and they did a biopsy and examined all his equipment. They were just searching for food mostly. But up in the mountain there, there was a small group that was still organized because when we went around the island to the swimming hole, or the swimming beach that they had for Nimitz, it was an isolated one, not too far from there was a Navy base and then on up the mountain, they said that group was just up above them. It wasn't unheard of to...and then if you got off of the road on Guam, we could pick up on signs where the villagers or the people that lived in the valleys said, "We are friendly with Japanese." They put signs out you know, because the Japanese had been there a while and they had become friend with them. So you know there were stragglers around.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was it Guam that the last of them surrendered in like '74 or something like that?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah. It was unbelievable! These guys wouldn't come out of the woods. It was unbelievable. If you've ever been on Guam, you can tell by the foliage. You know, they had caves on Guam. You can hide and get lost there 100 yards off the road.

Mr. Misenhimer

I have not been to Guam but I've been to Tinian and Saipan. Have you been back to Guam since the war?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I would love to go, but I've never been back there. I've had friends here in town who have been there, after as much as say 5 years ago they were there.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about Hawaii? Been back to Hawaii after the war?

Mr. Hawkins

No, never have, would love to go, thought about it many times. I'm sure it's changed.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, yes.

Mr. Hawkins

One of the things that we used to do on our off day, they'd call and we would take a Jeep and a little trailer and the house boys from Nimitz down to draw supplies, food and all. And we'd go to some of the Army forts around or Navy bases, I don't know which ones we'd go to. We would take them around the island on our off days so they could gather supplies. That was a good outing for us.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now this was on Guam?

Mr. Hawkins

No, that was on Hawaii.

Mr. Misenhimer

Hawaii.

Mr. Hawkins

On Guam, I don't know how they got supplies.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now these house boys, were they black?

Mr. Hawkins

They were Guamanian, they were Filipinos. I got to know one of the Chiefs and he was an interesting guy. He didn't talk that much, he didn't speak that much English. He'd come out to the house and talk to us when we were standing there on duty, and they would come to him and say, "Chief, don't you need some money? You haven't drawn any money in two years." "I don't need any money. When I retire, I'll take it all." And their whole thing was to put their time in and to go back after 20 years and live good on their island, wherever they came from.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now these were Navy people, not civilians then.

Mr. Hawkins

These were Navy people, yeah. As I understand it, at one time, they had a school, I don't know whether it was on Guam or the Philippines, where they would recruit these people to be service, you know cooks and house boys. We never went inside the house unless we were called in to do something. They handled all the housework and stuff like that. We never did any personal services for him.

Mr. Misenhimer

What's some other things that happened?

Mr. Hawkins

I guess just this minute, that's probably about it. I remember after we got to Guam, the British Navy started coming to port and they would come up and the Navy British Captain to pay their respects to the Admiral. One came up on a Sunday, which was usually a slow day, and I was on duty and I saw him approaching the headquarters, so once I saw he was headed down to my end of the building, I went in and the Admiral's aide was gone and I went in and told Admiral Nimitz (he was taking a nap by the way). He had a cot behind a screen out there where he could take a nap in the afternoon if he wanted to. He was asleep. I woke him up and said, "Admiral, there's a British Captain that looks like he's on his way to visit you and I thought you should know." He says, "Very well." He says, "Hold him outside for about 5 minutes so I can wash my face and then bring him in." And then another time, a Captain was up there without transportation, and it was at night. Nimitz was rarely called back to the headquarters at night. And they were walking out to the headquarters, the front of it, and I was with them and Nimitz turned to me and said, "Orderly, take Captain So-and-so back to his ship." So I said, "Admiral, if I may, may I call the sergeant of the guard?" And he said, "No, you do it." And I said, "Yes, Sir." So I took him down the mountain to the harbor. They had a gig standing by to take him back to his ship. By the time I got back to headquarters, they said, "Well the Admiral's on his way walking home." So the Sergeant of the Guard's truck was there and I said, "Take me on the route." and I dropped off behind Nimitz. I got back on duty as it was, Nimitz turned and said, "Orderly, did you take the Captain to the harbor?" I said, "Yes, Sir, I did." And he said, "Very well." But I had done it so quickly that he, in his mind, he thought that I had disobeyed him. But he never questioned, he'd take you for your word.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about the time when Halsey went chasing those carriers at the Battle of Leyte Gulf? You remember that deal?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, I read about it, yeah. I've read about it. I never heard anything about that.

Mr. Misenhimer

I understand that Nimitz was a little upset with him.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, I can imagine. And that typhoon deal, he lost some men and ships there.

Mr. Misenhimer

Several destroyers, I know at least 1, maybe more than one.

Mr. Hawkins

Right. I never picked up on anything in conversation.

Mr. Misenhimer

I just wondered.

Mr. Hawkins

I do know one time when we were on Guam, a Navy Captain was in charge of public information, and he had apparently released some classified data in a publication, in a press release that he shouldn't have released. And I guess Nimitz got a call on it and he was upset about it. I was on duty that day and he went up, he asked me to get the Jeep and we went up the mountain and he was walking and thinking and I said, "It's one of those days." and he turned to me and he said, "Go get the Jeep and go back to the Captain. Tell him I want him up

here." And so I jumped in the Jeep, ran back, got the Captain and brought him up there and then I got away from them so they could talk. (laughing) I just kept them in eyesight. I didn't listen to the conversation.

Mr. Misenhimer

This was the PIO, huh?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, so I had heard either before or after that there had been a slip up there.

Mr. Misenhimer

Was he a Navy Captain or a Marine Captain?

Mr. Hawkins

Navy Captain. They didn't have many Marine Officers around. I was usually taking all my orders from the Navy Officers.

Mr. Misenhimer

Just wondering. How about when they invaded Iwo Jima, what happened then?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, I remember the Admiral flew up there. I was not on duty but the Marine that was on duty that day flew up with him for when they landed on Iwo, and he was in clean khakis when he left out the door and saw the devastation. And the other Marine, he could not get off of the airplane. He stayed on the airplane the whole time. That's the word that we were given. He said he couldn't face it. He was too embarrassed to be around the other Marines, to go with Nimitz, you know. I've seen pictures of Nimitz walking around on Iwo, looking at the

devastation. And all the Marines were, of course, in battle fatigues. I can understand that but I was never put in that position.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about Okinawa?

Mr. Hawkins

I don't know of any specific thing regarding that. I just knew the battle went on longer than they had anticipated. I do know that I overheard conversations when we were in vehicles traveling when they would discuss the invasion of Japan and the high cost that it was going to take in human lives, and they were very concerned about that. I guess the atomic bomb solved that problem, thank God. But I did hear conversations along that line.

Mr. Misenhimer

How about the battle on Peleliu?

Mr. Hawkins

I never heard anything around headquarters. All I knew is it was a bloody battle and a lot of people got killed.

Mr. Misenhimer

I didn't know whether you heard Nimitz making remarks.

Mr. Hawkins

Howling Mad Smith came to headquarters once or twice. I used to have an autographed copy but I don't know where it is anymore, a picture of him. Most of the Marine Commanders didn't come there. I didn't see them that much.

Mr. Misenhimer

Vandergriff or anyone like that, huh?

Mr. Hawkins

No. They could've come when I was off duty.

Mr. Misenhimer

I've got several questions to ask you. Let me ask you these and if you think of anything else about that, we can put it in here then.

Mr. Hawkins

Okay.

Mr. Misenhimer

How was the morale did you feel in the outfit there?

Mr. Hawkins

Good, good. Now you mean among the Marine detachment?

Mr. Misenhimer

Well, yes, overall, everywhere, all of it, any of them.

Mr. Hawkins

I thought it was good. I thought it was good as best I could tell you.

Mr. Misenhimer

Now on your Marine detachment, were many of them wishing they had been in combat or were they happy to be where they were?

Mr. Hawkins

Most of them became resigned to the duty just like I did. Once I got in the Admiral's office, there was things going on that interested me and I could see history being made, and I got off of it. But most of them I think would rather have had the other assignment.

Mr. Misenhimer

You were right at the center of power there.

Mr. Hawkins

Yes.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you get home with any souvenirs?

Mr. Hawkins

No, just pictures. No Japanese flags or anything like that. Contrary to orders, I did slip off a couple of days on Guam and go into forbidden areas. We would go into caves where there would be dead bodies laying there with boxes of supplies for Japanese. But we were not supposed to ever get off the road or out of camp. We didn't talk about that, but we did that a couple times to see for ourselves what warfare really looked like. We did that a couple of times.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have an experience with The Red Cross?

Mr. Hawkins

No, not really. The only recreation I can ever recall we having...Pepsi Cola Center in San Francisco was a great place for Servicemen, always respected them for that. The only morale boosting things that we had, we'd have an enlisted man's picnic in Hawaii. The Admiral came

to that, and we'd get a day off and you could go on leave. The fun thing to do was to talk the motor pool into letting you have the Jeep and drive around the island and go to out of the way places, swim and have lunch. I do remember going to one or two USO Shows, sitting on the side of the hill on my helmet with Bob Hope and others. I went to one of the Army bases there and saw Moss Hart put on a Shakespearian production. Moss Hart came to see the Admiral later. He signed the book. It said, "Profession." He said, "Actor, but never again." Sitting in the theater watching Shakespeare in Hawaii wasn't really an outstanding recreation. Now the Bob Crosby band was. I think Betty Hutton was there singing with him. Out on Guam, the only thing to do was if you had a day off, they might let 20 of you get together and they take you down to a beach and give you a couple beers and let you swim. That was about it. Ernie Pyle came through and I just missed seeing him in our chow hall there in Guam by a few minutes. Some of the guys had talked with him there and then he went on up to Okinawa and got killed. Some of the professional baseball players and boxers came through Guam and they would come to the PX and just walk around and visit with the guys and talk. The rest of the time, the morale was, you know, you were just on your own.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you ever hear Tokyo Rose on the radio?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yes!

Mr. Misenhimer

What'd you think of her?

Mr. Hawkins

In Hawaii, and if I had the night watch sitting in the Admiral's office, I would listen to that and listen to stateside radio, yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer

What did you think of Tokyo Rose?

Mr. Hawkins

Well, you know, she had entertaining music and I never paid much attention to what she was saying cause I knew she was designed to upset you. I remember there on Hawaii at nighttime you could call into a radio station and say, "Hey, I'm listening to your program. Would you play the a certain song or something?" And they'd say, "You know we can't do that. You can't make any requests." And I said, "Oh, I'm sorry." And then about 10 minutes later, he'd play the song that you requested. (laughing)

Mr. Misenhimer

Now you never did cross the equator, did you?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I didn't. I crossed the International Dateline. I didn't get across the equator. And I really wanted to do that. If you could survive it, it'd be great. Of course, if I'd have gone on aboard ship, I would have.

Mr. Misenhimer

April 12th of '45, President Roosevelt died. What reaction did people have when they heard that?

Mr. Hawkins

You know the pictures that I saw of him on Hawaii, he looked like death's door, so I wasn't surprised but it was a shock and people were concerned with losing a leader in the war. I think that was the general reaction. I remember when Roosevelt came to the island of Oahu. I think they stopped all mail and phone calls coming in and out of there and I knew a sailor that was on an escort with a ship, I think Roosevelt was on a cruiser, they were on a destroyer. He said he thought it was funny all the way to the west coast, here, we had to wear white uniforms. We went on deck, we knew something was up. You know they're swabbing the deck in a white uniform.

Mr. Misenhimer

May the 8th of '45 when Germany surrendered, did you all have any kind of a celebration?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, just our own around the barracks there. And that would have been, we followed the war in Europe. We had a map in our ready room and day rooms and people would listen to the radio and read newspapers. They kept making marks on the map, so we followed it and were interested in it and that was a great day.

Mr. Misenhimer

On August the 15th when Japan surrendered, how about a celebration then?

Mr. Hawkins

None.

Mr. Misenhimer

None?

Mr. Hawkins

No. The officers may have had some but he didn't have any. It was just another day of listening to rumors and no celebration. Now there might have been afterwards the signing, I don't know because I left the island.

Mr. Misenhimer

One thing I didn't ask you earlier, on December 7th '41 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, do you recall where you were when you hear about that?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, at home and we were listening to the radio and then the main impression I had was the next day when we went to school, the principle called all the boys into the auditorium and gave a talk. Then a lot of guys, you know the older boys, started joining the Service right away.

There was a feeling that everybody should join up and go. All the kids that I knew and grew up with ended up in the military.

Mr. Misenhimer

What was the highest rank you got to?

Mr. Hawkins

I got to staff sergeant but that was after World War II. I came home and started college and I joined the Marine Reserve and I went to Milington Navy Base and they had a Marine Fighter Squadron there and they started training me to be an electronic technician on radio equipment while I was in college there in Memphis, and I got to be a staff sergeant then.

Mr. Misenhimer

You didn't get recalled for Korea?

Mr. Hawkins

No, my reserve time ran out about a month or two before the Korean happened and they called me but I was in Vanderbilt in school at the time and I said, "No thanks until I finish college and you give me commission." So I tried to, once I graduated from college, the Marine Corps said, "The only commission we would entertain is a platoon leader with the infantry." And I said, "I want an engineering job." They said, "We don't have an engineering job." So I called up the Navy and said I had heard about the Naval Civil Engineer Corps. They put me in touch with an office down in New Orleans and I was in the process of going down there, paying my own way to take some exams to see if I qualified to join the Navy Reserve as a commissioned officer, and during that time, I had an appendectomy or something like that. And when I called, and this is before going down, I said, "I've just had an appendectomy. Will that matter?" And they said, "Yeah, you've gotta wait six months." So after six months, I said, "Well, the hell with it." I had tried real hard because I figured we would go to war with Russia and I wanted to get a commission and get in the Reserves in it so that I would know what I was doing.

Mr. Misenhimer

When were you discharged?

Mr. Hawkins

Well it was in '46. When I came back from the war, I had 30-day leave. The first thing, they took us to San Francisco, Treasure Island, they quarantined us. We didn't have uniforms anyway, winter uniforms. Stateside uniforms. They put us on a troop train, took us to San Diego and kept us there quarantined. We were quarantined for 10 days or two weeks. There was so much partying going on, they didn't want to release you so they put you under guard on a train, sent you home. And the first time you had liberty you were in your hometown. So we

really didn't celebrate in any way. I spent 30 days at home and then I reported to Camp Terry, Virginia, which is right outside of Williamsburg, Virginia and I ran boot camp for a general court martial Navy and Marine prisoners. And I stayed there until spring of '46 and got discharged.

Mr. Misenhimer

So March somewhere?

Mr. Hawkins

Yeah, March, April, somewhere in there. I don't remember exactly. I came home and immediately started going to school.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you have any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mr. Hawkins

Settling down and studying. Of course you wanted to be with your buddies and party, but getting back into really studying was a little bit of an adjustment.

Mr. Misenhimer

Did you use your 52 20 Club?

Mr. Hawkins

Yes, I used that for a while and then I went under the GI Bill and got my education. The GI Bill was a wonderful thing. I think the country made a big investment in it. I am grateful for it. I think with all the engineers that got trained, we paid the country back in taxes for it. I think it was a wonderful program.

Mr. Misenhimer

I've heard somewhere that like 5 or 6 dollars for every dollar they spent on that was returned in taxes and stuff.

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, sure! Yeah, it was a great thing. I don't know why they don't do it today, maybe they do.

Mr. Misenhimer

They have a GI Bill today but not nearly as good as that one was. It'll pay about half of your expenses to go into college I understand.

Mr. Hawkins

There's a story there. When I was at Vanderbilt, my senior year, the last quarter (we were on quarter system) I ran out of money. All my benefits ceased so I went down to the school and said, "I've got to drop out of school. I'm out of money." And they said, "No, you don't." they said, "From now on you just charge money to this number because as of today, you are on a student loan. You don't even begin to pay it back until after you graduate. The interest rate is 2% after you graduate." And so I got through school and I was \$1400 in debt. That was a lot of money. I went to work for \$3600 a year and I paid off that \$1400 in the first 12 months I worked.

Mr. Misenhimer

Good! What medals and ribbons did you get?

Mr. Hawkins

You know just no combat ribbons. I had a Pacific Theater ribbon, the Victory Ribbon, the Good Conduct Ribbon, and that was about it.

Mr. Misenhimer

American Defense I guess.

Mr. Hawkins

I don't remember having any kind of ceremony and the government said, "This is what you qualify for and here's your ribbons." Somewhere along the line you just went out and bought them I guess.

Mr. Misenhimer

Have you had any reunions?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I haven't and you know, with our kind of an outfit I don't know how you would have one. If I had been aboard ship...now I did have a wonderful thing happen this past year. As I went on the Honor Flight, and that was a terrific experience! I think it was November the 11th of last year and they have a wonderful group here in town that does that. We had 127 veterans on the plane. We flew to Washington, D.C., to the WWII Memorial, spent the day and came back. Everything was done for us. We were given a marvelous trip and it was a fantastic experience. I felt like it was good closure.

Mr. Misenhimer

Good, good. Yeah, I've interviewed several people that were on the Honor Flights and everybody just had nothing but praise for it.

Mr. Hawkins

Aw, it's just terrific.

Mr. Misenhimer

That World War II Memorial is something, isn't it?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, it is.

Mr. Misenhimer

I was out there two years ago. I was there in '07, right.

Mr. Hawkins

My son met me up there at the World War II Memorial, but I had the sponsor up there and the weather was beautiful. It was just a fantastic day.

Mr. Misenhimer

Have you been to the new Marine Museum in Quantico?

Mr. Hawkins

No, I haven't. I've heard about it but I haven't been there.

Mr. Misenhimer

It's really great, yes. In fact, I have a video tape of that. Would you like a copy of it?

Mr. Hawkins

Oh, yeah! I would love it!

Mr. Misenhimer

Charles, I thank you for your time today.

Mr. Hawkins

My wife just said we've got a 12:30 luncheon, and I need to change clothes.

Mr. Misenhimer

Oh, okay! Good, we'll talk to you later then.

Mr. Hawkins

I thank you so much and I look forward to hearing from you.

Mr. Misenhimer

Have a good day.

Transcribed by
Christa Granger
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Alice, Texas

Oral History by
Richard Misenhimer
P.O. Box 3453
Alice, Texas 78333
361-664-4071
Cell: 361-701-5848