

Ken Jernstedt Oral History Interview

KEN JERNSTEDT: -- [great?], because we were going to be gone about six weeks or two months, and -- let's see -- it was [George?] -- no, [one was the?] leader of the flight, and then there was R.T. Smith, [P.J.?], and the three of us Marines that went out there together, Haywood, Older, and Jernstedt. And that's the way the thing was set up. Well, Chennault took a look at the list, and he said, "There are too many flight leaders. There's got to be a wing man in the group." So they put -- [McMillan?] put the five other names in a hat and drew one out, and my name came out of it, so I didn't get to go on that (inaudible) trip to the west coast of Africa, and those others guys did. As they left, I couldn't help but feel a little envious, but anyway --

Q: Sure. (laughs)

KJ: -- they -- [this flight?], Bill and I [cooked?] up, and I'll admit that Bill did most of the cooking, and he came to me and wanted to know if I would like to go with him on it, and I said sure. And he said -- he cleared it with our squadron commander, Olson down in -- we were operating down in [Magway?] then, and that mission wasn't dreamt up by Bill or anybody else until those guys had been gone for at

least five weeks. So P.J. is pulling your leg. P.J. is pulling your leg a little bit, and I hate to cross him up on this, but that's my version of the story.

Q: Well, he wouldn't talk badly of you anyway.

KJ: No, no, no.

Q: No, I'm joking with you a little bit. He just -- you know, he thinks the world of you, but I understand what you're saying.

KJ: Yeah, he -- but the reason I went on this mission, actually, it was more -- it was going to be kind of a reconnaissance deal, and we took off from Magway and landed in Taungoo, Burma. That was our base, and there was only one British there left -- left there, I should say. We got up about five o'clock and took off in the dark. I'm dramatizing the thing a little bit maybe, but with no lights on the doggone field at all, and it just happened that that base there in Taungoo, the runway faces the north most of the -- that's where you take off most, and the North Star was just sitting on the horizon right at the end of the runway. That's what I used to guide myself down the (inaudible) runway. And we flew down to -- in the general direction of Rangoon and Mawlamyine, kind of in between over the water and then started letting down. Well, to make a long story short, we hit an auxiliary field down

there that was (inaudible) just about the time the sun was getting up, and there were Japanese planes lines up on either side of the runway, wingtip to wingtip, so we had a heyday of strafing. And then, we left there and headed toward -- this was probably six, seven miles south of Mawlamyine, and then we hit the main airport. By that time, there was a little bit of activity there, and they were trying to take off to, I guess, come and get us, and we did some more damage. Well, the upshot of the thing was that we had credit for 15 airplanes destroyed, and that was probably the best -- well, I know it was the best record of any mission that any of us went on.

Q: That's quite a shoot.

KJ: Oh, it was. And anyway, that's the one Paul missed, but they got back -- well, let's see. We did that on the 19th of March. We evacuated Magway probably about the 23rd or 24th of March. No, no, wait a minute. We got banged out of there, hit pretty hard on the 22nd, and then I left and went up -- I had a bunch of glass in my eye and stuff as a result of that mission or that confrontation, and I was gone about five or six days, and then I went back down to Magway. And then, soon after that, those guys rejoined the squadron, R.T. and [Greene?] and Older and Haywood, but by that time we were operating out of (inaudible), and I don't

think they ever made it on anything around Magway, but I could be mistaken a little bit on that, but not very much.

Q: Well --

KJ: But that's the mission that he was talking about that he thought you might know about.

Q: Yeah, he kind of talked, you know, and of course I -- I like talking with P.J. I think he liked talking with me about it because I know the Tiger story pretty well, and I have -- you know, I've got 30 books here I've read on it. I've got four or five diaries from the different Tigers, and P.J. -- P.J., every now and then, we'll be sitting there, and he'll tell me a story that either he thinks he's already told me or he assumes I already know, and in some cases it's not either one of them, but he's always got an interesting story.

KJ: Oh, yeah. He's one of the greatest.

Q: Well, he and I have a great time together, and we really enjoy our --

KJ: I was really delighted to meet his kids in Dallas. They were great.

Q: You know, I had some time to spend with each of his kids with the exception of [Ginny?], the one daughter who did not come, and --

KJ: [Because?] he has three -- I mean, four.

Q: He's got four kids, three daughters and the one son.

KJ: Yeah, OK. That's exactly what my family was.

Q: Oh, is that right?

KJ: Yeah.

Q: Well --

KJ: And then, you know, I adopted (inaudible). I didn't realize that he had four. I'll be darned. But I had dinner one night, [Jen?] and I, and I forget who else. I think [Redd?].

Q: [Hanks?]?

KJ: Yeah, Hanks was with us at the table, and P.J. and his kids, and it was most enjoyable.

Q: Well, they're nice. They're really nice kids. I enjoy them all, and P.J. speaks very, very highly of them, and they showed a great deal of affection for him, so I thought that was just fabulous.

KJ: Yeah. Yeah.

Q: And P.J. shared with me a letter that his son had written me. We went to lunch. This would have been a few months ago now, and he said -- he kind of pushed it across the table and, you know, didn't exactly ask me to read it, but, you know, he was a-- he was and he wasn't. You know, he didn't verbalize it.

KJ: Yeah. Right.

Q: And I read the letter, and it was a very touching letter from his son, you know. And I could tell he was just as proud as he could be of that letter. You know, his son --

KJ: Yeah, that's (inaudible).

Q: -- was, you know, really telling him how much he respected him for all that he had done and what he had accomplished and been through, and I told P.J. -- I said, "You know, I've got a son, too," and my son and P.J. get along very well, too, only he's only 12 years old. And, you know, I told P.J. that I hope that someday when my son gets older that he writes me a letter like that.

KJ: Yeah.

Q: I think that was an outstanding letter, so he's very proud of his kids.

KJ: Oh, he should be. You know, I got involved in a business that kind of kept me away from Flying Tiger reunions, and, you know, we didn't have one for 10 years. We had one -- the first one we had was in -- oh, let's see -- '62, I believe. No, '61.

Q: Oh, is that right?

KJ: Wait a minute. Wait a minute now. Fifty-one, '51, '51, I'm sorry, 10 years after -- no, it was in '52, 10 years after we broke up. July 4th of '52, we met in Los Angeles. Well, that was the first reunion we had, and a lot of those

guys I had not seen in the meantime. Well, then we started having every other year reunions, and the next one they had on the East Coast. Well, I didn't -- it interfered with the soft drink business in the middle of -- I mean, the first of July, that's my harvest.

Q: Oh, sure.

KJ: So it was at a time when it was kind of difficult for me, and I didn't make many reunions there for a long time. And [Gen?], my present wife who is sitting here listening to this stuff, you know, we were married in '62, and since that time we have been going pretty regularly to the reunions although we did miss two or three in there. But, anyway, what happened to P.J. and R.T. and their families never -- I didn't see them for 10 years, and I never did meet Paul's wife, nor did I meet R.T.'s first wife. I knew Charlie Older's wife. I met her. I mean, I was closer to Charlie, the Marines, and --

Q: Sure.

KJ: -- I knew him. And I knew Haywood's wife, and I knew Charlie's wife from the word go, but a lot of those other guys, shoot, I didn't know them and their families at all. And I knew that when I -- that Paul and his wife were separated by the time we were at that first reunion, I think. I'm pretty sure of that.

Q: Well, and they've been separated ever since --

KJ: Yeah. Well, I know it.

Q: -- but never divorced.

KJ: They've never divorced?

Q: They've never divorced.

KJ: Is that right?

Q: That's exactly right.

KJ: I'll be darned.

Q: They have been living under a legal separation for a long time.

KJ: That is an interesting fact.

Q: And he's never remarried.

KJ: I know, and that is kind of an answer to some things.

Q: Well, yes, it is, you know, and the more I'm around him --

KJ: I'll be darned.

Q: -- the more things I find out, and he's -- you know, he's really a very sensitive and very sweet guy.

KJ: Yes. Yes. Yes.

Q: And he may come on a little rough at times, but he's sweet and nice and very committed to integrity. He's a very -- a lot of pride in his own integrity.

KJ: Yeah.

Q: And we get along very well.

KJ: I (inaudible).

Q: He shared that. He shared that with me, some of those kinds of things. But the other thing I was going to mention is that he had said to me, also, that he did not go to some of the first reunions because he was, you know, kind of an entrepreneur and trying to get different businesses going --

KJ: [That's right?].

Q: -- and things like that, so he missed a few of them, too, there at the beginning.

KJ: Right. I think at the beginning he had -- didn't he have a business where he was rejuvenating irrigation wells?

Q: Yeah.

KJ: He had a truck with a pump, a big, powerful pump with at least one Allison engine on it, and maybe two. And the idea was to go down with all that power and stir up the bottom of the well, and he said you could at least do that at least once to a lot of those deep wells down there. And I think he did that for a while.

Q: He did, and he made some money at that.

KJ: I bet.

Q: And then, he left that and became a farmer in Arizona, and I don't think farming was to his nature.

KJ: No.

Q: (laughter) And he got to -- he got a call from a fellow, and I've got it written down here somewhere, and they bought some old, unused -- it was mill equipment for --

KJ: Sawmills?

Q: Well, no, not sawmills. I was thinking of a claw. They made yarn --

KJ: Oh. Oh, OK.

Q: -- and textiles, a textile mill.

KJ: OK. Yeah.

Q: And they made yarn and various textiles for a number of years, and then he sold that. And then, after that, after he sold that it gets really hazy as to exactly what he was doing for a number of years. I don't really know. He certainly devoted himself to some golf, and after that, you know, I really don't know what he did, but I think he had enough money and some -- and he worked on investments that --

KJ: You know, I think he inherited some, quite a bit from his dad.

Q: Well, there was some money from -- they owned something up in Clarendon, up in West Texas, kind of an area that I've been through too. Yes, you're right about that too. So he's not only quite the entrepreneur. He's quite the

investor, too, and I think he's done fairly well with all of that.

KJ: Oh, I think he has. You know, it's interesting that you presented that character analysis of him because he goes out of his way some-- to maybe hide that part of himself, but I agree with you a hundred percent.

Q: Well, you're right, and I think he does hide that. And when you kind of get to know him, he's just --

KJ: Oh, yeah.

Q: -- he's just a very sensitive guy and thinner-skinned than people might think.

KJ: That's right.

Q: So I talked with Tex today.

KJ: Oh, did you?

Q: Well, I told Tex that I had some extra rooms out at that 50th anniversary Air Force thing they're having out in Las Vegas next month. And I can't go, so I asked him if he knew some people that might want the things, because you can't find a room out there now. We had a nice conversation for a while. Tex and [Maisie?] and I are very -- I'm pretty close to Maisie, I'd say.

KJ: Yeah, (inaudible) one.

Q: Yeah, we had a great talk there. There was something I was going to mention to you, and, gosh, for the life of me I

just can't -- I'll remember it as soon as I hang up, and that's for sure.

KJ: Oh, well.

Q: But you'll get my check for another blanket. I wish I had bought it to begin with. When I spread the thing out on the floor and my wife came in, she looked at it, and my kids looked at it, and they said, "How come you only bought one?" (laughter) So that kind of -- yeah, that --

KJ: You may laugh at me, but do you know how many of them I bought?

Q: I don't know. How many?

KJ: Thirty.

Q: Oh, my goodness!

KJ: That was my Christmas last year. I gave -- well, out of that 30, let's see, there was -- a friend got one. Yeah, I got my money back on one, and the 29 I gave to -- we kept one for Gen and myself and gave one each to seven kids, [married?] kids, and then one to every grandchild.

Q: That's terrific.

KJ: And it went over pretty good. I'm kind of pleased.

(laughs)

Q: Well, I think that is obviously something they're going to remember.

KJ: Well, I think so.

Q: I use it now. I have a blanket my kids gave me a few years ago in which -- their mom helped them with some cloth paint that says, you know, different things on there like, you know, "World's Greatest Dad," and they wrote whatever they wanted and pictures and so forth. And I've decided to put that away. I don't want it, you know, used any more than it already is. The thing that I was going to ask you about and mention to you, I've kind of been working with [Ward Boyce?] down at the [fighter?] races. I don't have that much to do with the fighter races, but he's a big fan of the AVG, of course.

KJ: Oh, I know, a great guy.

Q: And he and I share books and information, and we give things back and forth. And I've got about 30-some books right here on the Flying Tigers, and I started putting together a diary of the Flying Tigers. And it begins on April the 15th of 1941 when FDR signed the executive order to create the AVG, the first AVG. (laughs) And it ends on July 19th, the day after, you know, everybody would have left, after the 14-day volunteer thing.

KJ: Yeah, (inaudible).

Q: And I've taken just AVG diary information. I don't go by any other book. I don't go by [Martha Bird?] or [Tolland?] or [Hobbs?] or any of them. I have been building this

thing based only on things actually written by AVG people.
Of course, I've got R.T.'s diary that I put in there and
Charlie's, and --

KJ: Howard's, probably.

Q: I don't have his diary. I have his book, but his book
isn't --

KJ: Yeah. OK. Oh, I see what you mean.

Q: -- it isn't written like a diary.

KJ: No, that's right.

Q: But I do have George Burgard -- his son gave me a copy of
his diary, and I've also got George Bailey's and different
people. I even have Olga Greenlaw's diary and the Third
Squadron diary, so I've got a number of those. I was going
to ask you -- and I've started asking more of the Tigers.
Who do you know has a diary that's published or unpublished
or has a journal with literature and dates and things in
there like that? I'm going to keep building this and
working on this because, as you know better than I do,
there were really three AVG groups over there in China,
each squadron doing their own thing.

KJ: Well, in some way, yes, but then there was quite a big
crossover too.

Q: Yeah.

KJ: I mean, we all were all based together at [Kunming?] and then would rotate out of there as squadrons, but we -- well, you know the story. The Third Squadron hit Rangoon first, and the others went on up to China, and then we started that rotation. We didn't stay too long at Rangoon and then went back at Magway and caught it there, and then operated out of Kunming in the meantime. But you're right. In some ways, it was a big group, but small groups.

Q: Well, that's right. Of course, occasionally, somebody will tell me -- even P.J. will tell me that, well, he didn't really know this member or that member because they never really crossed paths or flew together.

KJ: That's right.

Q: And my -- the idea that I had with my book, and I've had some pretty good response on it, is that, you know, with regards to any given event, I'm just going to put down -- they're not my interpretation based on the different diaries, but I'm just going to put down what the diaries have to say and let the reader make up their own mind like with regards -- here's an example, say, Pete Atkinson's death. And when there's -- different people all have different things to say there at Taungoo about having stood there and watched it.

KJ: Yeah. Well, I wasn't there yet.

Q: Yeah. Yeah.

KJ: So all I can -- all I have is hearsay.

Q: Well, I thought it would be, you know -- different people have written different things about it, so I thought I would just put down verbatim exactly what different people say and let the reader make up his own mind. But the point being is that whatever is written will be only from the Tigers. It won't be, you know, things by --

KJ: I can give you a little -- I think it's an interesting sideline, I think. There was a fellow by the name of Dave Harris. He went out as a pilot. Have you heard his story?

Q: No.

KJ: Dave Harris went out there with Pete Atkinson and Parker Dupouy, and I forget -- I don't know. They were all Army guys, so I'm a little hazy on the background with me, but he thought the world of Pete Atkinson. And Dave was probably the youngest one of the bunch and the least experienced of that group that left [Selfridge?] together. I believe it was Selfridge. But anyway, when Atkinson went in, Dave rethought his position and his training and so forth, and he figured he wasn't ready, so he talked to the old man and just told him. He said, "Colonel, I don't think I'm qualified for this," and that was -- Atkinson was a contributing factor to it because he admired him so much.

And then, Dave -- the old man liked Dave, and he ended up as the group's, you might say, representative up at [Loywing?]. And Loywing was kind of a stopping-off place between, let's say, Kunming and Taungoo, kind of off to the side a little bit, and we eventually operated out of Loywing, and that was where the (inaudible) was setting up that aircraft manufacturing plant --

Q: Correct.

KJ: -- and where a lot of the planes that were really out of shape went up for rejuvenation. Well, he would -- he didn't fly, but he was still the group's representative there. He came home, and I flew with him. He started flying for American Export with Bob Neale and, oh, a whole bunch of them and did -- I guess there were about 10 guys there. Anyway, he got married when he -- and then, he came over to Republic Aviation as a test pilot in production, and I roomed with him a while.

Q: Yeah, because you worked for them too.

KJ: Yeah, right, and neither one of us were married, and we rented a house. And then, I got married first, and then Dave got married, and he named his first boy "Peter Atkinson Harris."

Q: Is that right?

KJ: Yeah.

Q: Boy, he did like him.

KJ: Oh, he did. He thought very highly of him.

Q: And his name was Harris?

KJ: Yeah, Dave Harris.

Q: Well, [I just made?] a David H. Harris.

KJ: Right.

Q: I've got it right here.

KJ: Yeah.

Q: (inaudible) shows him as staff, and I've also got my own roster I made of pilots that I thought was pretty inclusive, but it doesn't show him as ever having been a pilot.

KJ: Well, he signed up and went out as a pilot and then checked out while he had checked out in the P-40 in the states, but he always had a kind of a feeling that people held it against him. I can -- he became a very good friend of mine because I flew with him there at Republic, and then I really got to know the guy, and I didn't know him too well out in Burma and China. He was in the Third Squadron pilots' -- what do you call it -- their sleeping quarters. And then --

Q: The barracks there?

KJ: Yeah. And then, I got to talking to him, and he wasn't flying. He wasn't flying, and then -- at that time, but

then he soon left and went up to Loywing, and I'd just see him occasionally. And I never did get to know him until I lived on Long Island with him. And then, we were good enough friends, (laughs) so when the war was all over -- and he came from a fairly well-off family in Michigan, had a big flour milling background, and he didn't get along with his family too well. He was the youngest, so he struck out to look at a business in San Diego he thought he was doing to by. And he stopped by a Hood River and fell in love with the place. He went down to San Diego and looked at this thing and turned right around and came back and lived in -- slept [off of?] my davenport for a month looking for something, and he bought a little custom cannery here, and he operated it. They -- he wasn't -- well, it wasn't too efficient a business, and it just didn't work out. But, anyway, then he moved back to Michigan, and I still see him. I stay in contact with him. I went down to Florida last year to see him.

Q: Does he ever attend a reunion?

KJ: Yeah. He was all set to come to Dallas, and then both he and his wife got sick.

Q: Now, he's not the one who had the Velocity, is he?

KJ: Yes.

Q: Well, I'll be damned.

KJ: Yeah.

Q: Well, I'll be -- now that you've brought -- see, I talk with you, and you brought that up. And now, it's coming back.

KJ: Yeah. Yeah, he has that Velocity, and he's got a -- last time I talked to him, he had about 40 hours in the thing.

Q: Wow. He's got more hours on his [home-built?] than I've got on mine. I built one too.

KJ: A Velocity?

Q: Oh, not a Velocity.

KJ: Oh, OK.

Q: I built a little biplane, a Pitts.

KJ: OK. Oh, OK.

Q: But he thought people held that against him, huh?

KJ: Yeah, but, I mean, I could sense that. You know, once in a while he said a little bit about it, but no one ever did. They didn't hold it against him.

Q: Would they have held anything against somebody like Curtis Smith, do you think?

KJ: I don't know. They're entirely different breeds of cats, entirely.

Q: He was a Marine too.

KJ: Well, yeah, I know. I'm not bragging about that.
(inaudible).

Q: (laughs) I --

KJ: I didn't find out what happened to him until my wife and I were in Florida visiting friends of -- one of her high school friends had married a guy that had gone in the Navy and didn't see any combat, but he had been a [carrier?] pilot, trained, and he ended up being Grumman's test pilot, and he ended up -- one of Grumman's test pilots, and he ended up being the operations officer in charge of that big base they have down in Florida. So we went out there, and I met him for the first time, and he took Gen and I out to the base, that beautiful airport and factory that Grumman has there, and it was -- I enjoyed it. At the house, he brought out his old -- we have a flight book or an annual, the same thing as -- it's called a flight jacket that the Navy cadets used to put out every -- about every six months. And that's my pride and joy, because it's a beautiful job. Anyway, he started showing me his, and, my gosh, there was Curtis Smith. He had charge of one of the Marine barracks.

Q: Oh, really?

KJ: Yeah, Major Smith. He came back. He was a captain when he left and went out there, and I don't know where he flew. I really don't. I never got very close to the guy. He was

one of the last ones out there, but I never knew what he did. He died pretty early too.

Q: Oh, did he?

KJ: Yeah, I found that out. It's on our roster, when he died, the year he died. I think it was in the '60s. But, anyway, I didn't know what he had done when he came back. He went in, went back down to Pensacola, and had charge of -- he didn't fly.

Q: Nineteen-sixty, you're right.

KJ: OK.

Q: Well, I don't know, you know. The only reason I thought of that is that I saw a paper, the Photostat of the paper that was Boyington's dishonorable discharge that proved that he was dishonorably discharged, and it was signed by the adjutant, C.E. Smith, you know.

KJ: Oh, yeah?

Q: I thought of that. But the other thing I thought of was -- I was talking with Catfish. We had -- Catfish and I had a couple of drinks and dinner the last time I was through Reno, and I've met with him. I travel the whole country here, and he was -- he kind of chuckled and laughed. I don't know we got on the subject of Smith. He's not my focus by any means, but he said that he was flying for somebody. I don't know who he was flying for, but he flew

into Pensacola and landed, and apparently he had a jacket on or something on his sleeve or something that said "Flying Tigers" that he was carrying. And one of the [ramp?] boy said, "Are you -- you know, are you a Flying Tiger?" And he said, "Yeah," and he said, "Wow." He said, "That's really interesting. We've got one of the Flying Tiger aces right here." And Catfish said, "Oh, really? Who would that be?" And he said, "Well, it's Curtis Smith. Curtis Smith is one of the aces of the Flying Tigers, and he's, you know -- really talks about them and so forth." And he said, "He's probably --" I don't know where he said he was, in the lounge or something. And he said, "Do you want to go over and visit with him?" And Catfish said, "No, I'll pass and catch him another time." (laughter) He just kind of laughed and chuckled and just laughed, just walked off. He didn't want to -- I guess he didn't want to interfere with the aces' stories. (laughs)

KJ: I have no idea how old he -- I know he was older than the rest of us, but he wasn't as old as Pappy Paxton, I don't think.

Q: Oh, is that right?

KJ: I don't think so.

Q: Well, you know, I can tell every now and then that P.J. didn't care for him, but P.J. -- you know, one of the

things I've learned from him, and I respect him for it, is that when he comes across somebody that he can't say anything really good about, his favorite phrase is, "Well, he was probably a good egg if you like eggs." (laughter) And I can tell -- just don't ask anything more. Just move on to somebody else.

KJ: Right.

Q: He'll talk about it that way about people in his neighborhood or out on the golf course, you know, and I respect that.

KJ: That's -- there's no reason to do anything different. He's a good one. He really is.

Q: Well, I've taken up a whole lot of your time here, but --

KJ: I've enjoyed it.

Q: -- I did want to at least have you think about -- in fact, I may get out to Oregon one of these times, but if I give you a call back maybe you can -- if you know of anybody who -- even Bob Layher had a -- not a diary, but kind of a journal that he kept of things that he wrote and --

KJ: I did pretty well on the way out, but I quit, really. Well, I wrote down a few things, just short sentences, but I wasn't very proud of it, and there are big gaps in it. But on the way out, I kind of wrote halfway decent ones, but it ended. So mine wouldn't do you much good as far as

[types?]. I'd listen to what you were -- you know, wanted, and I didn't react very much to situations like that.

Q: Well, you know, I don't know what you had written about, if you were writing about events or just things for yourself or what, and I'm not necessarily asking, you know, to --

KJ: I'll look at it again and see if I thought it would do you any good, and maybe if we got together sometime you could look at it.

Q: Well, that's all I'd want to do is look at it. I don't want it personally. I mean, I'm not --

KJ: No, I know what you're (inaudible).

Q: You know, I don't ask for anybody's stuff personally. I'm not [Pistoli?] or anything like that that I want to take anybody's anything, but I just came across a little notation in a little obscure book here that gives credit for some of the input in this little book to the diary of Duke Hedman, and I didn't know he had one.

KJ: I didn't either.

Q: And if I knew how to get a hold of his family, I'd ask him if they had that.

KJ: Bill Reed kept a diary, but I didn't know anything about it.

Q: It's all right. Well, then, I ought to call Ed Reed.

KJ: Yeah, because he sent me about four -- no, he didn't send -
- somebody back there sent me a copy of about four pages of
Bill Reed's diary regarding that mission that I just told
you about.

Q: Oh, really?

KJ: Yeah.

Q: Well, that would be great.

KJ: I don't -- I hope I can find it. It's (inaudible) around
here someplace, but it's just four pages.

Q: Who do you -- it's only four -- oh, from you, the part that
he sent to you.

KJ: Yeah, right.

Q: You know, I wonder -- of course, I knew Duke Hedman last
lived in Las Vegas.

KJ: Yeah, right.

Q: And did he have any relatives? I don't -- it doesn't list
a wife.

KJ: He has a son that I have never met, but...

Q: Huh. Well, he's certainly not listed in the AVG relatives
section. I wonder if Rossi would have an address on him.

KJ: Rossi might. I don't -- you know, I should follow Paul's,
P.J.'s, advice and not say anything unless I'm going to say
something good, but I have never heard anyone say anything
good about Duke's son.

Q: Oh, is that a fact?

KJ: Yeah, he was a heartache for him. He was on drugs and stuff like that.

Q: Wow. I'm sorry to hear that too.

KJ: Yeah, but that's what you'd be facing.

Q: Yeah. Well, that being the case, I guess I just leave that one alone.

KJ: I think he was scheduled to have been at one of our recent reunions and then never made it that I know of.

Q: Well, then, I'll probably maybe just leave that one along. You know, a copy of it may exist out there someplace already.

KJ: Yeah. Right.

Q: And maybe I'll just find it that way. All right. Well, listen, like I say, I didn't really call to take up your whole day, especially on April Fools'.

KJ: Well, (inaudible). Well, it's -- time is passing. I'm glad.

Q: Well, I'm --

KJ: I'm going to watch a basketball game (inaudible).

Q: Oh, good deal. Are we into the -- we're into the finals now.

KJ: Well, we're past that for college, but I'm in the -- Portland is playing tonight, and it's on TV, and it isn't

always on. And I'm kind of a Blazers fan, so I will be watching it.

Q: Well, I used to be a Spurs fan, but, boy, they have fallen on their nose.

KJ: They sure have.

Q: Jiminy Christmas.

KJ: Yeah.

Q: Well, they're giving away tickets here. I mean, they're doing anything they can just to fill seats. They're just giving them away.

KJ: I'll be darned.

Q: But, at any rate, listen, I --

KJ: Stay in touch.

Q: I'll do it.

KJ: And if you come up, why, I'd be happy to visit with you.

Q: I'd love to. And tell hello to Gen and Driscoll and --

KJ: OK, I will.

Q: -- I'll talk to you later.

KJ: OK, (inaudible).

Q: Thanks. Bye-bye.

END OF AUDIO FILE