

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR

The Nimitz Education and Research Center

Fredericksburg, Texas

An Interview With
James E. Cook
San Antonio, TX
March 15, 2017
U.S. Marine Corps
Aviation Repair School
Electronic Propellers

My name is Richard Misenhimer: Today is March 15, 2017. I am recording a history of Mr. James Cook in the Marines in World War II. His address is 4917 Ravenswood Drive, Apt. 509, San Antonio, TX 78227. His health will not allow him to do this interview so his brother, Sidney, is giving me the information on him. His brother's address is 5007 Brook Hollow Court, Arlington, TX 76013. His phone number is 817-992-0663. This interview is in support of the National Museum of the Pacific War, the Nimitz Education and Research Center for the preservation of historical information related to World War II.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Sid, I want to thank you for taking time to do this interview today and I'd like to thank your brother, James, for his service to our country during World War II.

Mr. Cook:

Well, thank you. We appreciate your interest and we're proud of his service and he's 94 years young, or will be in October and he's led an interesting life and a very productive life.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What is his middle initial?

Mr. Cook:

It's E for Ellsworth, James Ellsworth Cook.

Mr. Misenhimer:

OK. Now, what is his birth date?

Mr. Cook:

His birthday is October 20, 1923.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now, the next thing I need to do is read to you this agreement with the museum to make sure this

is OK with you. (agreement read) Is that OK with you?

Mr. Cook:

That sounds fine.

Mr. Misenhimer:

OK. Now, where was he born?

Mr. Cook:

He was born in Neodesha, Kansas.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How many brothers and sisters did he have?

Mr. Cook:

He had two brothers. Charles Edwin and then his brother, Sydney, myself, and I am 16 years younger than he is.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now, was he the only one in World War II?

Mr. Cook:

Yes. Our father served in World War I.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was his and your mother's and father's first names?

Mr. Cook:

My father's name was Al. It was just A-l, Al Joseph Cook and my mother's name was unique.

She was born in a snowstorm in Kansas and her name was Snowflake Cook.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now, he grew up during the Depression. How did the Depression affect he and his family?

Mr. Cook:

Well, like everybody else, it was pretty tough on them. Our father did have a small military pension from World War I. He was injured fairly severely in the war. He was gassed and also took some shrapnel so he had a small pension and that helped them through, you know, to survive but they certainly didn't have much. We had a pretty poor beginning, the kids did. We came from pretty small beginnings.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was your father's occupation?

Mr. Cook:

Well, after the war they didn't have training back in those days and he had high school training, but he didn't really have a background. He took up plumbing and was a master plumber working for the city of Neodesha for a while but his health was not good and he had a hard time, you know, working that kind of work so he moved off into farming so that he could pretty much cover his own needs and whatnot. We lived on farms most of the time.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did you have a garden?

Mr. Cook:

Oh, yes, we always had a big garden.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How about milk cows or chickens or something like that?

Mr. Cook:

Always had a milk cow and had chickens and milk cows. My mother was very industrious. She was always doing something to make a few bucks. We churned butter and we separated cream

so that we could sell the cream. You know, she made a few bucks selling butter and eggs and cream and stuff. But we always had a cow and always had plenty of milk, fresh vegetables and stuff. I don't remember eating a whole lot of beef until I was pretty much grown. We ate bacon and sowbelly and all that kind of thing and we always had chickens, of course.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So you had plenty to eat then.

Mr. Cook:

Right. Oh, yeah, we didn't go hungry.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where did he go to high school?

Mr. Cook:

He went to high school in a little town up in northeast Oklahoma called Wyandotte.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What year did he graduate?

Mr. Cook:

1941. I just looked at my records and it is 1941.

Mr. Misenhimer:

In May or June.

Mr. Cook:

Right, about May 1941.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What did he do when he finished high school?

Mr. Cook:

He worked on the farm for his dad until he went into the Marines.

Mr. Misenhimer:

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

Mr. Cook:

You know, even though I was small, I knew the excitement of it and everybody was listening to the radio and that was going on. So, yeah, it was quite an event even in the country where we lived.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Do you know he felt how this might affect him?

Mr. Cook:

Well, he wanted to join up. You know, that was what he wanted to do and so very shortly after they went down and dad went with a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and they were encouraging the young men to enlist, you know, and volunteer. So he went with Jim down to the recruiting station and encouraged him to sign up and he went into the Marine Corps and was called up a few months later.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So he was about 19 years old when he went in. Roughly, right?

Mr. Cook:

Getting close.

Mr. Misenhimer:

He went in the Marine Corps. How did he choose the Marine Corps?

Mr. Cook:

You know, he didn't, I don't think he really knew the difference much but I presume that he talked with his dad and his dad said, "Well, the Marines are usually the first in and all." So that sounded exciting and he wanted to be a Marine and he also had an uncle who back then had been a Marine. So he knew a little bit about it I guess.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where did he go for his boot camp?

Mr. Cook:

You know, I think that he went to the East Coast in what was that one called down there? Where is it, South Carolina?

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was there anything particular stood out in boot camp that you know of?

Mr. Cook:

Well, yes, he was a little bit unique. He's left-handed and the drill instructors, the old drill sergeants, were pretty tough on him. They wanted him to shoot right-handed. They didn't allow, you know, infantrymen to shoot left-handed. They had to learn how to shoot right-handed. That was hard on him because he was left-eyed and left-handed. It wasn't natural to throw that rifle up to his right shoulder so they got onto him pretty hard, you know. He remembers that and said that old drill sergeant, he'd come right down if he was on the ground, he'd come right down on his shoulder and throw that gun up to his left shoulder. But he said as a result he wasn't a good shot right-handed. He'd always hunted and everything the other way so he wasn't a very good shot right-handed. But he was able to get his marksmanship, you know, ribbon and all that. That was one of the things that stood out and he said for the most part that the training was not real difficult, having been raised on the farm and all, he could do pretty well.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Were his drill instructors pretty tough on him, do you know?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, he said they were tough old guys. They didn't like anybody very much. But after he'd gone through the program, he said he was on a troop ship going overseas and he met one of the D.I.s and this was a year or so later after he'd been through other training and he said he met one of the guys going over and he remembered him and wanted to know and asked about the family and everything. Said he was a nice old boy and he remembered him. You know how it is. Those guys are mean when they have to be but then they're just human beings just like everybody else.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Yeah, I've heard a lot of stories about how mean they were in training but then after that they were good people.

Mr. Cook:

Do what they have to do.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then what did he do after boot camp?

Mr. Cook:

Well, he went through a series of training. He was an aircraft mechanic so they sent him to school. I think most of his training was done at Chanute Field up in Illinois and then he went on to Navy Pier up in Chicago for some training there and I'm not sure exactly what that was but probably more specialized toward the aircraft and stuff that he was going to be working on. Then he went through special training for the electronic propellers. He did most of that I think at Norman, Oklahoma. That was provided through I think Spartan Aviation and the University of

Oklahoma. I don't know, a lot of contracts and things were going on. I don't know the total ins and outs of that but I know he was trained in the electric propeller. I think they were General Electric to begin with. I don't know for sure but he was a prop specialist and that's what he did after he shipped out with his unit and everything.

Mr. Misenhimer:

The electronic propellers are the ones you can change the pitch on, is that right?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, that was just coming into being at that time, right.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Camp Lejeune. That just came to me all of a sudden.

Mr. Cook:

That sounds familiar immediately. He spent some time at San Diego before he went over.

Probably had some of his advanced training there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So when did he go overseas?

Mr. Cook:

I asked him that just a few days ago and he said that thought it was early 1943 before he actually went over.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Where did he go to, first?

Mr. Cook:

Well, they went to Hawaii for survival training and jungle training and that kind of stuff. Then he shipped out with his unit, actually they flew out of there on their own airplane. He went to, you

know they just island hopped all over. At first I think they were down in the Solomons for quite a while. I asked him if they got over to Australia and he said no. He said he was pretty much on the ground maintenance side. If he'd been an air crewmember per se, he probably would have gotten over there but he was assigned to, what was it, Henderson Field, I think.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Yeah, Henderson Field.

Mr. Cook:

He was there for a while and then they supported like I said, Iwo Jima and I know he was at Peleliu for a while. Pretty much all over the South Pacific. They flew supplies and medevac for the most part. He was with an air cargo group and they flew C-46s. The old Commando.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What unit was he in? What was his outfit called or the number?

Mr. Cook:

It was, I don't remember the number sign, but he was with a Marine air crew.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's some other things that happened in the Pacific?

Mr. Cook:

Well he said they flew into Peleliu one time and they were parking the aircraft and a Seabee was using a bulldozer out there to clear, you know to clear things out, and he ran over a mine. The mine blew the tail off their airplane. So they were grounded on Peleliu for a couple of weeks, waiting for parts for their plane. But that was one thing. He said also that they were under constant sniper fire there. He said that he saw several men killed in the chow line. They'd wait until they'd get a large group of them and they'd snipe and hit them. He said he saw two or three

guys killed on the chow line. Said it was kind of a scary situation because you didn't have much of anything you could do. Of course the minute a sniper started shooting, why the infantry guys would take off after them but you know, the damage was already done. They've shot two or three people.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Peleliu was some of the worst fighting the Marines had.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

They probably lost more men there percentage-wise than anywhere.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That was terrible.

Mr. Cook:

He had a healthy respect for those guys and what they had to do because they spent day and night with their carbines under the wings of their airplanes, waiting for attacks and stuff. He said that, like we all know, war's not much fun. He said he saw, he personally had seen one B-24 go down and he said he also had flown into Guam and he remembered that runway and how they used to have to fly off the end of the runway and drop down, the bombers did, over the waves to cool their engines off before they could climb out to altitude. I asked him if they ever lost an engine and he said, "Yeah, a couple of times." I said, "How was it?" He said, "It was scary as heck." Because they didn't fly over islands, they flew over water for the most part. So wherever

they were and lost an engine they usually was over water and they just hoped they didn't have to fly too far to get somewhere so they could sit down.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Yes, right. That was a big problem. That water was so extensive there in the Pacific.

Mr. Cook:

Oh, man, there wasn't any short distances either.

Mr. Misenhimer:

No. that's what I'm saying. It was a long ways to wherever you were going.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah. He said in those days, you know, they didn't have auxiliary tanks and stuff. He said they carried barrels of fuel in the cargo bay along with the other supplies. They had to pump gasoline from those barrels into their engines on some of those long trips. They didn't have any other way of doing it. So he said that was kind of a tedious task trying to get the fuel to those big old planes.

Mr. Misenhimer:

They had to make do in a lot of things.

Mr. Cook:

Yep. He said that one time they lost an engine and they weren't very high to begin with so they couldn't gain altitude which would have helped the other engines. So they had to throw a lot of stuff out, you know, to lighten the load, keep her flying until they could get down on the ground.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What kind of plane was that? Do you know?

Mr. Cook:

It was a C-46, a Curtiss C-46. Called them the Commando. They were bigger than the C-47s.

They had a larger cargo capacity.

Mr. Misenhimer:

They were almost twice the size, as far as capacity to carry. What's some other things that happened?

Mr. Cook:

Well, while he was in training at San Diego he met his future wife. After the war he came back through there. I think he was mustered out at San Diego and they continued their love affair but they didn't get married until after he went through college. After the war he went to college to become a veterinarian and after he finished that up, just before he finished that up, they were married. But he said that his experiences in the South Pacific, he had helped some of the fighter squadrons with their propellers and things and he knew quite a bit about some of those guys. He was around the F-4Us quite a bit. You know, the old Corsairs and also spent some time with them and when he was at Guadalcanal he spent some time with the Hellcats, like Joe Foss flew. He said he knew about those guys. Never met Boyington or Foss but he knew about them.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So he worked on propellers mainly then, right?

Mr. Cook:

Yep. Electric propellers.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's some other things that happened to him in the Pacific?

Mr. Cook:

Well, he said that my mother, the mail system wasn't too great because they were moving around

quite a bit. Even though my mother wrote to him every day, while he was gone she wrote to him every day. He would get mail maybe once or twice a month at the best and he said he'd get 20 letters at a time. He says it was kind of interesting because he read all the news and then he'd wait another month to get some more news. That's the way it was. There wasn't any e-mail in those days.

Mr. Misenhimer:

How about the V-mail? Had the V-mail?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's some other things?

Mr. Cook:

Well, I think like most people over there he did have a touch of malaria. He said that was really miserable because you'd get fever anyway and it was always hot. So it was hard...they had a hard time breaking the fever in those guys because they didn't have ice and stuff so they just kind of had to live through it. They gave them quinine and that was about all they had.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Yes, atabrine and quinine, right.

Mr. Cook:

He said he was fortunate. He didn't have as heavy a case as a lot of them. He said, of course they had foot rot which is severe athlete's foot and stuff from not being able to bathe as well they should and that kind of stuff. But he said it was kind of interesting he said that a few times they would be on one side of the island and conducting air operations and then down on the other end

of the island the Japanese were conducting operations. He said it was kind of an interesting dynamic of how all that worked.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That's right.

Mr. Cook:

He never went very many days without seeing Japanese planes. Of course being in a cargo plane, they were kind of sitting ducks so they relied heavy on the support that the fighters were able to give them and tried to fly as much back behind things as they could to keep from being out there in the thick of it all the time. They said they took artillery fire a few times, you know, coming into those islands and things. He said that was pretty scary because you could see the puff of smoke where the shells exploded and stuff. But you could feel the concussion of those shells and wonder when is one of them going to hit us? He said that their squadron averaged losing about one plane a month. He felt very lucky to come back without anything serious, you know, not getting shot or hit by shrapnel or anything like that. Because he was a good guy and a hard-worker he came up through the ranks and like I said he achieved the rank of Tech Sergeant in four years. That was pretty uncommon in the Marine Corps. Rank was hard to get there.

Mr. Misenhimer:

It was. That's right. Do you know what he might have considered his most frightening time?

Mr. Cook:

I think when he was on Peleliu and they were forced to be there on the ground for an extended period of time. Most of the time they were flying, going from place to place, and never on the ground more than a day or so. Fly in, do some repairs on the plane or whatever, load up and take off and go somewhere else. They kind of circuited through the whole area, wherever they were

needed, that's where they went. Of course back in those days they didn't have helicopters and stuff to handle the wounded so they had a very important mission of flying the wounded out to bases back behind the lines or where the fighting was going on. He said that was kind of a rewarding thing but unfortunately they carried about as many dead guys as they did live ones. He said it was a grim situation at best, you know, and I asked him about the food and he said, "Well, for the most part it was terrible." They didn't have fresh vegetables or anything. Everything was canned. They just survived and had powdered eggs and powdered milk, nothing very tasty, just enough to sustain you.

Mr. Misenhimer:

C-rations, K-rations, too, some I suppose.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah. I asked him what the highlight of the war was for him and he said, "Well, whenever the Japanese surrendered." That was the best time. He said when he was at Hawaii he saw General Douglas MacArthur and Churchill. He thought that was kind of neat.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Yeah, right. How was the morale in his outfit?

Mr. Cook:

He said that it was very high really. They had an important job and they all worked hard to do it. A lot of those guys came back and they continued to know each other and check on each other from time to time for a long time. After a while they lost track. I'd say for the first ten years after the war he had fairly good contact with several of his buddies.

Mr. Misenhimer:

About how many men in his outfit?

Mr. Cook:

You know, I don't know. I think the squadron consisted of about 12 airplanes and each plane had the normal crew of three. They had a pilot, co-pilot, navigator and a loadmaster and then these other guys flew along with them, maintenance people flew with them all the time. They were on flight status.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So there was around 100-120 in his group.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, something like that. Maybe a little bigger at times, maybe a few less at times depending on how many planes they lost either to maintenance or to combat.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he ever hear Tokyo Rose on the radio?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, he said they heard that all the time. He said there were times when they were bombed or attacked by small aircraft at night, you know just like Washing Machine Charlie over in Korea and all. They did the same thing. They would come in at night and harass them. That was a good way to keep them from sleeping and resting you know.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What's some other things that happened to him overseas?

Mr. Cook:

Well, you know I asked him if he got to go anywhere and he said no, he really didn't. He said Hawaii was the only time he spent out of the theater and they were in training there all the time so he didn't really have much liberty or anything to talk about. While they were out there in the

Pacific there just wasn't any liberty. You worked 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There just wasn't much time, there wasn't any leisure time. He looked forward to a shower if he could get one. He looked forward to having a few minutes to read mail and the rest of the time they were working and running to get a little bit of chow and then back to work. He said those old airplanes were hard to maintain so no matter where they flew, when they got there, there was quite a bit of maintenance after they got there and get them ready to go again. So you know, being a mechanic they relied on them real heavily to fix everything as quick as they could and get them going. He said they never had very much downtime in terms of broken airplanes and stuff. They were able to resupply themselves to some degree. There was always a member of their squadron out picking up parts or flying off to get an engine or whatever. So their supply line was fairly good, being in the Marine Air Corps. I'd like to compliment the guys on the ground as much.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he get home for World War II with any souvenirs?

Mr. Cook:

No, he really wasn't a guy that went into that. I don't remember him bringing anything at all back.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Do you know if he ever saw any U.S.O. shows anywhere?

Mr. Cook:

He never mentioned it. I don't think that they were fortunate enough to be on the bigger installations where they could do that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he have any experience with the Red Cross?

Mr. Cook:

No. He said that he had a lot of buddies that you know had either had emergencies back home and been helped by the Red Cross to get home for a short leave or whatever but he personally didn't have any experience with them. My other brother did but not so much Jim.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now on April 12, 1945 President Roosevelt died. Do you know if he heard about that?

Mr. Cook:

He said they didn't hear about it for a couple of days. They were off out in the boonies and they didn't hear about it. They finally got a transmission from one of the ships that told them.

Mr. Misenhimer:

What was their reaction when they heard that?

Mr. Cook:

They were sad. You know he had been the leader all during the war and they were kind of wondering what was going to happen you know with the new guy.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Nobody knew who Truman was.

Mr. Cook:

No, and so they didn't really have a lot of confidence in what was going to go on.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then on May 8, 1945 was V-E Day when Germany surrendered. Did they hear about that?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, again he said that they didn't hear about it right away. The communication lines weren't super but they did get radio transmissions and stuff but the problem was that the military was

pretty tough on them and they didn't like hearsay. They wanted facts and so they wouldn't transmit until they could verify these things, the stories and stuff. He said usually there was a lead time of one or two days before they really got the information. He said many times they would get into a place and find out stuff from people there rather than through their own command lines.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Now when Germany surrendered, did they have any kind of a celebration?

Mr. Cook:

I don't think so. I think things were still pretty hot and they were working hard so he didn't mention anything about any celebration.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Then on August 6 they dropped the first atomic bomb. Did he hear about that?

Mr. Cook:

Yeah. He said they knew the war was over then and things had really already started to wind down because the Japanese were fairly ineffective you know, at that point in time in their attacks on the ships and stuff. They were still fighting, they didn't give up but he said they could feel the difference in the war that it had scaled back and they knew that when the bomb was dropped that it was all over. It was just a matter of time.

Mr. Misenhimer:

August 15 when Japan did surrender, did they have a celebration then?

Mr. Cook:

Oh, yes. It wasn't very long before they started moving them out. He went over to Hawaii on a

troop ship and he came all the way back on a troop ship. They traveled on those little Liberty ships.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he get to Japan?

Mr. Cook:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Was he in any typhoons there in the Pacific?

Mr. Cook:

No. He said he saw some pretty good blows but nothing that you'd call a typhoon.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So then when did he get back to the States?

Mr. Cook:

He came back I would say about three months after the war, after Japan surrendered. They held them in San Diego for quite a while. I was trying to remember the exact time. It seems to me like it was about Christmas before he came back home.

Mr. Misenhimer:

That would be about four months then, around Christmas. When was he discharged?

Mr. Cook:

I believe, he had four years, you know I don't have a date for that. But he served just about a total of four years.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So somewhere in early 1946 then probably.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

He went in May 1942 so probably in the spring...

Mr. Cook:

It probably was pretty close to May of 1946, April or May. I know he said they wasted an awful lot of time. They brought them back and they didn't have anything to do. So they worked around the field and did odd job crap, just passing time until they were mustered out.

Mr. Misenhimer:

They had so many people to muster out they couldn't handle them all at once.

Mr. Cook:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

When he got out did he have any trouble adjusting to civilian life?

Mr. Cook:

No. He went to work. You know dad and mom didn't have anything to offer in the way of money to support him so he came home and went to work and started working to get his G.I. Bill so he could go to college. He was home about, let's see, he started college in the fall of 1947 I think. They didn't have a veterinary school in Oklahoma so he went to Colorado State and started his training up there. He was there for a year and then they opened the school at Oklahoma State and he came back down there. He graduated in 1951 with a D.V.M.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So he probably started before 1947 because it takes you more than four years to get a D.V.M.

wouldn't it?

Mr. Cook:

It may have been 1946, may have been the fall of 1946. Trying to think. I started to school in the fall of 1946 and he was already gone so that's probably right. He probably went up there in 1946.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Has he had quite a few reunions of his outfit?

Mr. Cook:

No. You know they never really did. Like I said he kept track of his buddies but they never all got back together again.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he ever cross the equator?

Mr. Cook:

Yes. I don't remember which time first but he did.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Did he go through the ceremony of becoming a Shellback?

Mr. Cook:

I don't know. He didn't speak of that.

Mr. Misenhimer:

So he used his G.I. Bill for college then.

Mr. Cook:

Absolutely. Got a veterinary degree. He worked in Kansas City for a couple of years and then he decided to go back into the military and he took the commission in the Air Force and he continued his career there. He was in charge of the animal colony at Holloman Air Force base

which was used in the space program. Some of his apes were the ones who went into space and he supported the missions, the orbital missions, and all those things. In fact I spent some time out there with him. I worked for the Air Force a couple of summers in the animal colony and working with the animals and stuff. We had a good time out there but he was a well-recognized doctor and later went on to become an animal pathologist, trained pathologist in the military. Went through the Air Force Institute of Pathology in D.C. and went back to school on bootstrap and got a PhD. You know, he just kept on going and was a very productive member of society for all those years.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Good, good. Now, what ribbons and medals did he get from World War II?

Mr. Cook:

You know they didn't pass out very many. I know he had the normal theater medals with battle stars. I think he had four battle stars. I don't know exactly which conflicts they represented but you know just the normal stuff. Like I said, he had his marksmanship stuff and all the standard stuff but no personal decorations until he got into the Air Force.

Mr. Misenhimer:

He got the Asiatic/Pacific Medal and the World War II Victory and that sort of thing.

Mr. Cook:

Yeah, all of those, all of the normal things, you know. Like I say no real personal...he had unit citations. I know he had two unit citations for their ground support for the troops there. I know he had one for Iwo and the other one may have been Guadalcanal. I don't know.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Probably Peleliu.

Mr. Cook:

Might have been Peleliu, yeah.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Have you or he either one been on the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.?

Mr. Cook:

No.

Mr. Misenhimer:

Well, Sid, that's all the questions I have unless you've thought of anything else.

Mr. Cook:

You know I just have tremendous respect for those guys that didn't even think about it. They just enlisted and took off and went to fight the war. You know you got to be proud of them and say that they were really true patriots.

Mr. Misenhimer:

You say that Jimmy retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Mr. Cook:

Right.

End of Interview

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April 5, 2017

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