

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Beverly (Scotty) & Edna Mae Bruce

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Veterans Remember Oral History project

Interview # VRK-A-L-2010-021

Beverly 'Scotty' Bruce, a Marine during the last year of the Korean War, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 17, 2010 Location: Bruce residence, Springfield, Illinois

Date: May 26, 2010 Location: Bruce residence, Springfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History, ALPL

Transcription by: Audio Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Rozanne Flatt and Rosie Camille, ALPL Volunteers

Total Pages: 61 pgs. Total Time: 2:07 + 0:32 + 0:23 / 2.12 + 0.53 + 0.38 = 3.03 hrs

Session 1: Scotty relates early life & service with the Marines in Korea, 1952-53

Session 2: End of Scotty's tour in Korea, return to the states & to civilian life

Session 3: Edna Mae and Scotty discuss their trip to Korea in 1999

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on Oct 25, 2010

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in
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Abstract

Bruce, Beverly, *Veterans Remember*, VRK-A-L-2010-021

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Beverly (Scotty) Bruce was born on March 2nd, 1928 and raised in Macomb, Illinois. He attended the lab school associated with Western Illinois State Teachers College (later know as Western Illinois University), and during WW II participated in the Boy Scouts and Civil Air Patrol. Following high school, he attended Western Illinois, graduating with a teaching degree in 1951. He was drafted into the Marine Corps in August of 1951, and following basic training, received intelligence training at Ft. Riley, Kansas. He returned to San Diego for more training, then was deployed to Korea, and assigned to the 1st Marine Division's Reconnaissance Company.

The Recon Company's mission was to conduct reconnaissance patrols between friendly and enemy lines, usually at night, and at the squad level. Bruce describes a typical patrol in detail, and recalls several specific incidents and patrols. He reflected on the difference between Chinese and North Korean enemy troops, and about the rigors of patrolling in the dead of winter.

Bruce rotated back to the states in May of 1953, and found employment almost immediately with the Niantic, Illinois school district, making teaching his life long career. In 1956 he married Edna Mae Riley, and in 1999 the couple returned to South Korea, official guests of the Korean government. Edna Mae and Scotty related their experiences of that trip, and Scotty reflected on his service with the Marines. Scotty passed away on October 12, 2015.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Edna Mae (Riley) Bruce; Western Illinois State Teachers College (Western Illinois University); Ft. Riley, Kansas; Reconnaissance Company, 1st Marine Division during the Korean War; reconnaissance patrols during the Korean War; service with the Marines during Korean War; Panmunjom, Korea & Peace Village;

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