

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Robert Crowley

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

Interview # VRK-A-L-2016-032

Robert J. Crowley, a Signal Corps officer during the Korean War who worked with the ROK Army, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember – Korean War* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Jun 21, 2016 Location: Crowley apartment, Concordia Village, Springfield

Date: Jun 22, 2016 Location: Crowley apartment, Concordia Village, Springfield

Interview Format: Digital audio

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

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:22 + 1:34 / 1.37 + 1.57 = 2.94 hrs.

Session 1: Early life, education and military training in Signal Corps

Session 2: Experiences in South Korea working as an advisor to a ROK unit

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on October 25, 2016.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in
Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Robert J. Crowley, *Veterans Remember*, VRK-A-L-2016-032

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Robert J. (Bob) Crowley was born on January 28, 1929 in South Boston, Massachusetts, and graduated from the Boston Latin School (a public school) in 1946. He graduated from Boston College in 1950, majoring in philosophy and Greek. He followed his father to Mexico, then enlisted in the Army at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas in late 1951. He attended the Officer Candidate School at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps in September, 1952. After his training at the Signal Corps' Officer Basic Course, Crowley was assigned to San Luis Obispo, in California, where he was involved in recruit training.

Lieutenant Crowley was sent to Korea in the spring of 1953, and arrived during a period when armistice talks were still ongoing, and the Communists were ramping up their attacks to improve their negotiation position. He was assigned to the Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG), and specifically was the Signal Maintenance and Repair Officer for the 85th Signal Repair Company, a Republic of Korea (ROK) Army unit. His initial assignment was in the Pusan area, and he was then transferred north to Chunchon, South Korea. One of his duties included overseeing a radio repair operation otherwise run by the South Koreans. In October, 1953 Crowley was sent home on emergency leave due to his father's serious illness.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Signal Corps officer during the Korean War; Korean Military Advisory Group; 85th Signal Repair Company; Boston Latin School;

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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