

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Jarleth (Jan) Staggs

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

Interview # VRC-A-L-2017-024

Jarleth (Jan) Staggs, a Vietnam War era veteran who served with the Army in Okinawa before he had a long career in state government, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember – Cold War Oral History project*.

Interview dates & location:

Dates: Apr 26 & May 5, 2017 Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 2:13 + 1:38 / 2.22+ 1.63 = 3.85 hrs.

Session 1: Early life and military experiences in Okinawa in 1966-1968

Session 2: End of tour in Okinawa, and civilian career with state of Illinois

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 19, 2017.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Jarleth (Jan) Staggs, *Veterans Remember*, VRC-A-L-2017-024

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Jarleth (Jan) Staggs was born on May 3, 1940 in Urbana, Illinois, and grew up in nearby Champaign. He graduated from high school in 1958, and attended the University of Illinois, earning a degree in economics in 1962. Jan married Francie Davidson later that year. He earned a Master's Degree in industrial relations in 1964, and took a job with the state of Illinois in Decatur. In March, 1966 he was drafted into the army, and attended basic training at Ft. Polk, Louisiana. Due to his level of education, was assigned a personnel MOS (military occupational specialty), and learned his duties on the job at Ft. Carson, Colorado. By November, 1966 Staggs was in Okinawa and was assigned to the headquarters unit. While in Okinawa, he processed assignment (levy) orders for enlisted personnel. Francie arrived in Okinawa a couple of months later, and the couple lived off base and traveled widely in the Far East. Their daughter Marcia Anne was born in January, 1968, shortly before Jan was shipped back to the states, completing his tour of duty.

The couple settled first in Moline, Illinois, where Jan returned to his state position. They moved several times over the next few years, settling in Springfield in 1973 when Jan took a job in Governor Dan Walker's budget office. In 1978 he became the Executive Director of the Illinois Occupational Information Coordinating Committee, a position that was mandated by federal legislation, and was also funded with federal dollars. He still held that position when he retired in 1999.

Subject Headings/Key Words: personnel work during the Vietnam War; service in the Army in Okinawa; Illinois State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee; basic training at Ft. Polk, Louisiana; Ft. Carson, Colorado;

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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