

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with James Stone

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

Interview # VRK-A-L-2008-021

James Stone, a Korean War veteran, 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 21, 2008 Location: Jim Stone residence in Chatham, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

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

Technical Support (cameraman, etc): N/A

Transcription by: Audio Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Rozanne Flatt and Rosie Camille, ALPL Volunteers

Total Pages: 37 pages Total Time: 1 hr 49 min / 1.82 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on 5/30/2005.

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

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Abstract

James Stone, *Veterans Remember*, VRK-A-L-2008-021

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: James (Jim) Stone was born on September 23, 1928 in Springfield, Illinois, and grew up as a 'Northender,' graduating from Lanphier High School in 1946. He worked for Sangamo Electric until the fall of 1950, when he was drafted into the Army. Jim attended Basic Training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he also received training as an infantryman. Upon graduation he was sent immediately to South Korea, where the war was going poorly for the Americans. Jim arrived in early May of 1951, and was assigned as a platoon runner to Charlie Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team, 24th Infantry Division, then serving in the center of the United Nations line. He arrived during the latter stages of the Chinese Spring offensive, and participated also in the 24th Division's push north from July through October of 1951. At one point, his unit served for 102 straight days at the front, and he participated in numerous patrols and other combat actions near Kumsong, Korea. When the 24th Division was reassigned to Japan in January, 1952, Jim, who still needed more tour 'points' before he could rotate home, was reassigned to Koje-Do, an island off the southern coast of Korea where tens of thousands of Communist POWs were imprisoned. He returned to the United States in May of 1952, and was soon discharged from the Army.

Topics Covered: Springfield, Illinois; Sangamo Electric, Springfield, Illinois; Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri; Ft. Leonard Wood bowling team; U.S.S. Meigs troop transport; 5th Regimental Combat Tea, 24th Infantry Division; Chinese Spring Offensive (1951); American offensive, 1951; combat patrols during Korean War; unit runner during Korean War; rotation policy (points) during Korean War; Kumsong, Korea;

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