

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Ken Jobe

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

VRV-A-L-2007-024

Ken Jobe , retired veteran of the Cuban missile crisis, the Korean War and Viet Nam, was interviewed on the dates listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: October 5, 2007 Location: Signature Inn, Springfield, IL

Date: October 6, 2007 Location: Signature Inn, Springfield, IL

Interview Format: Digital Audio

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

Transcription by: Tape Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Rozanne Flatt, ALPLM Volunteer

Total Time: 1:38 + :27 = 2:05 / 2.08 hrs Total Pages: 42

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on 12/13/2007.

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

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Abstract

Ken Jobe, *Veterans Remember*, VRV-A-L-2007-024

Biographical Information & Synopsis: Ken Jobe was born on April 25, 1937 in Murphysboro, Illinois, growing up there and later Jonesboro, in Williamson County, Illinois. Upon completion of high school, he attended the University of Missouri, Rolla, a renowned engineering school. He also joined the ROTC to help pay for college. Upon graduation, he completed the Engineering Officers Basic Course, and shortly thereafter, decided to remain in the service. He was at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and was posted to South Korea, near Seoul, commanding the 54th Engineer Company, 45th Engineer Group at ASCOM City Depot. (He was there when President Kennedy was assassinated. He returned to the states, assigned to the Engineer Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA. Following that assignment, he was sent to South Vietnam, assigned to B Company, 577th Engineer Battalion, which was performing road construction and a variety of other engineering tasks in the Qui Nhon, Tuy Hoa and Vung Ro area of South Vietnam, along Highway 1, on the South China Sea. One of their main projects was Route 7 Bravo, which headed straight west of Tuy Hoa. By 1978 he had returned to Korea, this time commanding the 44th Engineer Company.

Topics Covered: Youth in southern Illinois; University of Missouri, Rolla; Cuban Missile Crisis; John F. Kennedy assassination; 44th Engineer Battalion in Korea; 577th Engineer Battalion in Vietnam; Tuy Hoa, South Vietnam; Highway 1; Route 7 Bravo

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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