

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Joseph LaHood

Part of the Illinois Public Media ([WILL radio.tv.online](http://WILL.radio.tv.online))

Central Illinois Vietnam War Stories project

Interview # VRV-V-D-2015-074

Joseph LaHood, who served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Illinois Public Media – WILL AM-FM-TV Central Illinois Vietnam War Stories project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 8, 2015

Location: WTVP-TV 101 State St, Peoria, IL 61602

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: H. Wayne Wilson

Technical Support (cameraman, etc): WILL Staff

Transcription by: Illinois Public Media staff

Edited by: Illinois Public Media staff

Total Pages: 23 pgs. Total Time: 0:31 / 0.52 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 3, 2016.

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

© 2015 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Joseph LaHood, Veterans Remember, VRV-V-D-2015-074

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Joseph LaHood was born on May 21, 1951 in Peoria, Illinois and grew up on the south side of Peoria. He was expelled from four different high schools over the course of four years. Faced with no other option, LaHood decided to join the Marine Corps at the age of seventeen. He completed basic training at Camp Pendleton, California and from there went to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina for four weeks to learn about supply. LaHood then went to Quantico, Virginia for a year, and was assigned to the Marine Corps' officer training school, where he performed supply duties. In December, 1969 LaHood was sent from Cherry Point, North Carolina to LZ Ross, South Vietnam, a landing zone thirty-five to forty miles south of Da Nang, where he worked in the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines supply section, and also occasionally went on night patrols.

When LaHood returned from the war, he immersed himself in his studies at Bradley University, and his work at McDonnell Douglas and then HBO & Company. He attended years of therapy, starting in 1973, so that he might unpack the more traumatic memories that he had repressed from his experiences in Vietnam. In the process, LaHood rediscovered his Catholic faith and became a deacon for three different churches. LaHood cannot justify the traumas that occurred during the Vietnam War, but he believes that these experiences helped him serve and empathize with others who have experienced similar emotional trials.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Joe LaHood; supply duties during Vietnam War; Catholic; PTSD therapy; Landing Zone Ross, South Vietnam; Peoria, Illinois; Camp Pendleton, California; Marine Corps during Vietnam War; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Quantico, Virginia; night patrolling during Vietnam War; Cherry Point, North Carolina;

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.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955