

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Daniel Krumrei

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

Interview # VRG-A-L-2017-057

Major General Daniel Krumrei, Adjutant General for the Illinois National Guard who started his professional career as a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) minister and Army Chaplain, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Veterans Remember – Gulf War* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Dates: Jul 12, Jul 20, Jul 24, Nov 21 & Dec 6, 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: 1:51 + 2:00 + 1:51 + 2:22 + 3:03/ 1.85 + 2.0 + 1.85 + 2.37 + 3.05 = 11.12 hrs.

Session 1: Early life and school, military training and marriage

Session 2: College and seminary at Phillips, Chaplain's OBC and move to Iowa

Session 3: Experiences during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, 1990-1991

Session 4: Coming home from the Gulf War, and career in 1990s & 2000s.

Session 5: Experiences as the IL National Guard Adjutant General from 2012-2015

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on May 9, 2018.

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

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Abstract

Daniel Krumrei, *Veterans Remember*, VRG-A-L-2017-057

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Daniel M. Krumrei was born in September, 1955 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin and grew up in Milwaukee, graduating from John Marshall High School in 1974. Following graduation, he drove a delivery truck for Pepsi and also attended the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, but left after one semester. He joined the Wisconsin Army National Guard in March 1977, serving as an enlisted man, joining Headquarter and Headquarters Company, 32nd Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) as a telecommunications specialist. In 1978 he married Susan St. John, and shortly thereafter became a dedicated Christian, finding the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was the best way to express his faith. He made the decision to enter the ministry on a Good Friday.

In 1979 he and Susan moved to Oklahoma, where he enrolled in Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma, a Disciples of Christ institution. He also joined the Oklahoma Army National Guard while working several other jobs. Krumrei received a direct commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Chaplain's Corps on June 18, 1982. He received a BA degree in 1981 and a Master of Divinity in theology degree on December 30, 1984 from Phillips Theological Seminary. He also attended the Officer Basic Course for chaplains at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina while enrolled in graduate school.

From July, 1986 to November 1991 he served as a pastor at the Clear Lake (Iowa) Christian Church while also serving as chaplain with the 1st Battalion, 194th Field Artillery in Johnston, Iowa. In November of 1990 he transferred to the 209th Medical Clearing Company, and soon deployed with the unit to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He spoke extensively about that experience. In 1992 the family moved to Pittsfield, Illinois for a new church calling, and in 1998 they moved to Springfield, where Krumrei took over a struggling congregation at Parkway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). During the 1990s he also served with the Illinois National Guard as a chaplain, first with the 232nd Corps Support Battalion, and beginning in October 1997, with the 65th Troop Command Brigade, where he supervised several battalion chaplains. In 2005 he was selected to become the ILNG Joint Forces Chaplain and ILARNG Command Chaplain. By 2006 he had successfully completed several military education programs, most notably the Command and General Staff College in June 1996 and the U.S. Army War College on July 28, 2006, where he won the Army Writing Award along with a Master of Strategic Studies degree. In 2009 he attended the Joint and Combined Warfighting School in Norfolk, Virginia. In December, 2012, Governor Pat Quinn appointed General Krumrei to be the Adjutant General for Illinois, the only chaplain ever to hold that position in any state. At that time, he stepped down from Parkway Christian. Major General Krumrei discussed his service as The Adjutant General (TAG) at length, talking about the unique perspective he brought to the position, and the many challenges and successes during his time as TAG. On July 4, 2015 he turned over command of the IL National Guard to Major General Richard Hayes.

Subject Headings/Key Words: service as The Adjutant General-IL; chaplain service in the National Guard; Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm; chaplain service during first Gulf War; Christian Church – Disciples of Christ; Parkway Christian Church; Gov. Pat Quinn; Phillips University, Enid Oklahoma; 209th Medical Clearing Company in Gulf War; 232nd Corps Support Battalion; Clear lake Christian Church, Clear Lake, Iowa;

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