

March 10, 2019

Drafted Transcription of James P. Martin Vietnam Interview

- A. Seeley: Okay. Now I started it there. Okay. So this is a interview, um, from Anna Seeley too. You can just say HP, Martin [inaudible] Martin and it's March 13th at 8:54 AM um, and you could just go ahead and give us some background like where you're from, um, when, where you lived, when you were drafted and all that stuff.
- J. Martin: Instead of being drafted. I'm new as going to be drafted. I joined the Marine Corps in 1962. I lived in Warren, Indiana. I was a farm kid born and raised on the farm. Um, knew I was going to be grafted, so I decided I wanted to be a marine and joined the Marine Corps for four years instead of being drafted for two. So I don't know why that made sense to me at the time, but uh, anyhow, that's how I got into the service. Yeah. Okay.
- A. Seeley: And I know you told me yesterday like when you move, like left to go to Vietnam, but you had to do all these, go through all these loopholes to get to Vietnam, the Gulf where you were stationed.
- J. Martin: I, you know, I was in the Marine Corps Aviation and uh, you know, we've got a unit of fighter pilots or Friday or fighter airplanes for ease. And so when we, at the end of my career, basically I was in four years, so it was the last fourth. The fourth year is when we were called to go to Japan. And so we left on my a day before my 21st birthday, um, to Hawaii because you can, you, we were the first unit to take a four ease from United States to Japan, but you had to stop in Hawaii and my, my job was a plane captain. Okay. You a plane captain is the enlisted person on the ground that's in charge of the plane when it's on the ground to make sure that it's got tires and brakes and fluid engine oil and fuel them in, in that type of person.
- J. Martin: And then I also am the person that straps to pilot air walks, walks the preflight and you go around the plane and make sure that everything's working your rudder, you're aliens, your flaps. Then you've strapped the pilot in the, in the plane in a four years. A single pilot plane. Okay. Um, fighter fire fighter plane. It. Uh, but like I said, it was the first, it was the first time that anybody had tried to take an eight for across the sea to Japan. So we flew it into Hawaii. And of course the complaint cabinets had to be out in front of the pilots of the plane. So we had to be in Hawaii before they got there. So that was kind of Nice. Yeah. I think we spent a couple three days there and then they, they came in and then we fuel them, made sure there was okay. And everything looked at, and then we went to wave, flipped awake from there and from wake they went into Japan. Okay. And then we, we were thinking as we left the United States and we were going to Japan, that's what we were told. Okay. So we were there about a month. Okay. When they told us tomorrow morning we're leaving for Vietnam. And because of the same kind of, uh, uh, what do you call it? When two countries make it, um, an

agreement treaty, I guess, you know, that's the reason we couldn't fly directly from United States to who? To Japan I guess. Yeah. That Treaty probably is what kept us from going from Japan straight to Vietnam. So we had to go from Japan to the Philippines that into Vietnam. Okay. We were there. We were the first unit to go to that was going to Chu Lai and nobody was in July. So we were the, we were the beginning of July.

A. Seeley: So from what you remember, can you just talk about what you remember from the time you spend in Japan, like being a US soldier while being there, and then what you, how you felt before you knew that you were going to be in Vietnam and like how you felt when they told you that you were going to go to Vietnam because I guess from what it sounds like you thought you were going to stay in Japan. Right?

J. Martin: You know, I tried to remember if we thought we, I mean, we knew the Vietnam War was going on. Yeah. We know that we're a Marine Corps fighter unit. We are now going to Japan or is it likely to go to Vietnam if we put any thought in it. And you know, we probably had figured out that that's where we was going to end up. Uh, as far as me remembering exactly what I was thinking at that time, I don't, and I don't know whether it's important to know this or not, but my, one of the reasons that I don't remember details on that type of person, I don't think it's important, I guess. Yeah. And so I do try to remember details as is, as much as most people do. My father was drafted when he was 37 years old. Okay. I'm, I'd be newest to him when I was, his wife was pregnant with me. Old And so he went into World War II. The tough part of world war two had came back. A different person. Yeah. And, uh, my youngest, my young, younger son turn, my younger brother, Michael Morton, was in the army and he had a hard time in Vietnam and everything like this. And basically he was so much different than I, he would remember, he would have flashbacks. He would have to drink himself to sleep. Yeah. After he got back. And he would always mad at me because I would just forget it. Yeah. Shit. I told him, tried to tell him that I wasn't forgetting it. I was going on about my life so bad that part of my life was already over now and going on. And he drank himself to death before 50 years old.

A. Seeley: So was he, he, I'm assuming he was in a different, he was in the army infantry, so we'd probably saw a lot more. I would think he did.

J. Martin: Yeah. I'm sure he did. Yeah. Cause he was, he was put up for a very high honor Mel and his frame of mind when he got back was, I went over there for the same reason I went over there for I love my country and I'm going to do my duty. And uh, then when we got back, our country didn't love us anymore at all. And uh, then the, then they wanted to give him an honor. Yeah. A metal that was telling him how great he was while he was over there and then you just screwed up his mind, you know, and he just wasn't willing to be contradicted. It is like one part of the country is telling me it's amazing. And then the other half just, yeah, when

you come home your country says no, we don't like you anymore. Yeah, it was, it was sad. It was a problem.

J. Martin: Toughest thing I had to do in, in the whole Vietnam experience. Yeah. He is coming home and finding out that my country didn't really like me wanting to spit at me and call me names and this type of thing. Yeah.

A. Seeley: And as far as it went, did your brother like did he serve longer than the you in Vietnam or did he serve about the same time?

J. Martin: Probably about 20 yeah, maybe a little shorter. But he was definitely involved in more common combat. Yeah, it was. Yeah. Well chances are if you got up, you know, certain metal honor honorary thing that he probably did something more. We got, I got it, a unit citation because of our units. Yeah, he got individuals. Yeah.

A. Seeley: Okay. And as far as I know, that was more common within like the army to get individual things of recognition. Yeah. Maybe, maybe in the air force or like aviation units as well, but probably more as like a marine is a tough guy. He goes in first and he said he's supposed to be tunnel, doesn't need any acknowledgement of his.

A. Seeley: So after you left Japan and you said, you said it was, you spend a few days in the Philippines, didn't you?

J. Martin: Oh, I think we've spent, you know, two or three days. Yeah. Japan was kind of on a funny thing. You know, I mean, you want some humor in this was in Japan for a month. Most of us spot bicycle motion. We were going to be in Japan. Yeah. So, um, when we were told at noon that we're going to be gone tomorrow morning to Vietnam, um, we had to get, yeah, we had bicycles. No, listen, I was one of the instigators, I guess. And so somehow we decided to play in chicken on our bicycles. Was a fun thing to do. Yeah. And so we started running into each other. I don't Miss Fairfield. And it got paid, caught on. And of course all everybody wanted to challenge this guy named by had pit pit crews except their bicycle go on is here's a bunch of marines that granted a rum and cokes at the eat the eat club, the nickel drink, you know. And so none, I'm short on money because you know, we don't have any money. Yeah. And so we had some rum and cokes from the e club and in that kindly helped the bicycle thing I think going on. But anyhow, the whole base basically was set in a big circle watching these crazy marines just run into each other with a bike. And we had a big pile of bikes when it was over with. And then there was two little motorcicles. Yeah. And they're the ones that tour took, took the bicycles out, recognize. So finally we got the motor scooters down and put them on top of the pile. Of course the gas run down from the motor sugars. So guess what? We did a fire. Oh yeah. Big Bonfire when you're about to leave. So might as well, right there. We didn't need him anymore.

And I guess that's the frame of mind we had and all that. So anyhow, that's what we did the night before we left.

A. Seeley: And then in the Philippines, was it really just kind of like a laid back?

J. Martin: Yeah. You just brought your planes and made sure that they were okay and getting ready to, to fly out. And uh, and then after that it was just kind of a laid back. I remember how hot it was. I can remember going to this bar and had a San Miguel beer and they put it on the bar and had ice on the bottom of it, I guess. And it kind of just, yeah. Slid around, you know, because it was so hot. Yeah. But it tastes so good because it was cold.

J. Martin: Yeah. Well, and I know in anywhere in Indochina really, is not as common as having it over here. That's frankly where we're going. There's no way.

A. Seeley: Yeah. Well, and I know like some of our friend, my friend from Japan like tells me like, it's not, you know, hardly he doesn't like when you go over there, there's not as much ice. Like it's not common for them to just put ice and then put the drink. It's just a drink.

J. Martin: My granddaughter just spent six months over there and she totally different. Yeah. Food and, but yeah, I can only imagine because the, from my, my perception, Vietnam was just more hot and humid than either one of the other, not more than the Philippines. But when we first got there, like I said, you know, we were the first unit in Chu Lai and uh, this thing, I guess it surprised me the most is, you know, we were the ones that had to dig the holes and help the CBCF tents. And there's nothing there except a beach and CBS are trying to clear off some of the trash stuff. And I probably used a, what's the part did that, well I can't see, you know, we're bringing it, the stuff that they use that causes cancer and causes problems and all that kind of stuff to kill brush. They, you know, put that on the area where the, I guess like I guess it'd be like a weed killer probably. Right. It is agent orange and there's a big deal about agent orange. So we were exposed, you know, cause we used the cans or the agent or worries to put between the planes. They've sprayed that area with Agent Orange is to kill the brush so they could put the airstrip in. The CBS would bring dirt from over here. There's potential over there. And then they bring it over here and then they laid the metal strips down to four. The airstrip. I bet you probably when you first got there, it felt more like a mile. Probably not as much like a vacation, but you were at a beach and it didn't feel like, yeah, but you don't know what's out there. You know, you hear the mortars go off, you know, and you know, you've started to realize that you know where you're at, you're in a battle zone and, uh, nothing's safe in Fox holes where you're at. And we had bunkers, we built bunkers. And, and then when we had the small tents, we lived in the small tents. And then, uh, um, I don't know how much longer after that we got bigger tents and, uh, so, but then we don't have any water bring in the, the buffaloes. And so you have so much India, two canteens. At first he had to fat canteens of water. You could do whatever you wanted to with them.

You can wash yourself with it, you can drink them or whatever. Like this. And this is 120 degrees, you know. Um, it was, you know, no shirts. And you know, when Marine Corps stuff, you know, we went rogue. Basically it was more a survival, like lost at sea on an island or something. Kind of like, I guess a c round we'll think is k ration, sea rations is what we had to eat. And, uh, you know, we, uh, it was funny because another funny story party, this is what I remember. I guess you remember what you want to remember. The CVS started looking for water on the beach. Okay. Put showers up for us and they hit oil. So we're having more water. We get it. We had oil so that doesn't help us. So they went back down to the beach a little bit and then they finally hit water. Then he got a shallow shallow well and they put up a PVC pipe type things for our showers. And that's where we shower eventually. You didn't have to go off of like the Buffalo, we find that water wasn't good for safe to drink. So we still go to the buffalo but then had something to shout with besides. Exactly. And you know, it was funny because um, we were getting into the salt water before we had that shower. Well the bushes right there and this residue on you. Everybody hands from sweating and probably like may build up and, and be an insoluble washing off in the saltwater and all that. But then they somehow going through the time zone here. Uh, but uh, after we'd been there for a while, somebody decided, some politician probably decided, hey, these marines are down here on the beach without us out of lifeguard. We're in a battle zone, we're being paid combat pay, you know, and we're being shot at and all this kind of stuff, but we need it. Like, so we said, well, who's got a lifeguard license? And nobody had one. I had a camp, I had an expired one. And so they said, well, okay, you're the closest thing we got. So they flew this guy in from somewhere, I think Philippines. And it was a, it was a big black guy, death but muscle, no hair. He was a typical marine in TC comes in and he doesn't even shows helicopter off. It gets out of it. And he says, you Martin? And I said, yeah. He says, all right, come with me. And said, we went down to the, to the water. He says, saved me. And so he went out in the water and he kicked me. He beat me. He everything you could do to, to me. And I finally got my finger in his mouth because he didn't have any hair to grab. He was any wood, nothing but muscle. And uh, so I'm, I'm trying my best and I find that I just finally kneed him in the groin and took him under thought. I hope that I can hold my breath longer. He can. And that's finally when I got his attention and got back, he comes out and he says, you pass, it's on. This gets on his helicopter and off he goes, like the military military guy. And I got a Red Cross lifesaving license sent to me in Vietnam, issued in Vietnam. It says Vietnam and the whole deal. Kind of sentimental I would say. So anyhow, I had some light duty there because I'm, I was the only lifeguard other than banks. Yeah. Well I know, just funny that they thought you need a lifeguard cause like your work you're doing, like when are you going to have time to swim enough to need a life gardening? I don't know. And they just didn't want anybody to drowned I guess.

A. Seeley: But yeah, that would probably be the most embarrassing way to not come back from Vietnam.

J. Martin: Yeah. That was one of the funny things I remember. Yeah. Um, I mean, is there anything in particular like

A. Seeley: after, do you, do you remember like within the first couple months of being there, the first time that you had? I mean I'm sure it happened pretty quickly, but the first time you had enemy, any type of enemy, fire, anything near or in your area, like really close there?

J. Martin: Yes. There was a few times when we never got it. A lot of it, it was usually somebody that got through the outer guard. It was the infantry was out there and then they basically had us protected. Yeah. We were the interior people. Yeah. And so we're, we're, you know, planes weren't there. They weren't even there yet because we were still building. The PCBs are building, look, runways and, and all that. We're trying to get that down to put tents up and making it livable. Yeah. You know, in the end just existing. Basically. I'm glad that I didn't have a lot of hand to hand combat type stuff like this. And thank you Lord. Yeah, I think I had a mother and a wife that were praying for me every day. Yeah. That's always good motivation now to when you feel protected and really get prayer works. Believe me, it, uh, it gave me peace over there that I, I lived and I think about a daily in, in how many days and what I was doing and it's hard to remember how, how would they went, you know, took care of that plane and that was my main mission and uh, uh, there was an like should have asked my son and asked him to fight, you know, get him to tell me and I'll let you know what the one of the biggest battles that happened in 60, was it 65 right there.

J. Martin: So anyway, what was I talking about?

A. Seeley: You were talking about the biggest battle is 65 not close to July, but close to July.

J. Martin: And we were big time involved in it, but we didn't have any, I mean they didn't attack our base, but our planes were in the air for, I don't remember how many days, just back to back and it was no sleep and just go, go, go and bless the pilot's hard shape. They just kept on going in and of course to get ground crew had to do the same thing. And probably that was the most intense fight that we had while we, he's over there. There was times when in the middle of the night when they would shoot off the flare, like I was telling you about the Pisa missile look and this looked like a mortar shell. Yeah. they've chewed them off and then the flare would come off of that. Yeah. And it would lie, they would line up a good area, big time within the course of shale would keep on going. It ended up sticking between me and my buddy, but didn't know it until the next morning. Anyhow. Um, they would, they would come in and, uh, I guess the biggest thing I remember about it, if they weren't, they didn't, they were programmed to come in and blow that plaintiff. Yeah. They would run by you. They're not even worried about it. I mean, they were programmed to go get that plane. Yeah. And so, you know, we had that problem with it. There was Chinese suicide squads that were attacking areas and we thank goodness never got attacked by a big unit like that.

But of course the day I left the fuel pits were on fire. Oh. So they had got in and it's a little net up. Yeah. And uh, they would go through the Tansel Truchet Satchel charges in attention. Uh, but mainly they were after the planes. Yeah. And anything to take out, Advanced warfare make it easier for them to really know what those red tails we're doing. Yeah. We got a reputation. Big Time. They would feed it back to us at the red tails are doing damage and they got like the red tail when they see, I mean like we came in and we fighter pilots are down below and they're, they're using their guns and their bombs and this type of thing. But there you're down low. Yeah. Well, and I know,

A. Seeley: I don't know so much I guess because with fighter planes they are shooting from the plane. But I know like they did in Vietnam. Americans used helicopters where they had gunners hanging out on the side and stuff like that.

J. Martin: That was probably just as common as it was. Basically. We had those guys with us, you know, around us. And uh, they were, they were you talking about good pilots? They, yeah, cop shop or Polish group. We're good. And Nessa necessary, you know, guys would get your butts kicked or something like that come in and get them. Well, and I can only imagine, I couldn't be wrong, but it seems like it would be harder to fly any type of helicopter then than it is to fly an airplane. And I'm sure you've got more than one opinion. I just feel like it's a lot more of balancing then one of my better friends was a helicopter pilot in the end. And it does, there's a true skill, but there's also on those a fighter jets, you know? Yeah, yeah. You have something for their head of yourself and because you go a lot faster. And when you're down, I showed you picked and you have a picture of one of the hit the ground, another picture around here someplace. I hope I can find some of these and I'll send them to you. But uh, um, one of the units you're interested in, this type of thing. And one of the things that, that we flew is like one, two, three, four planes would be like this. And then what we were bombing was over there on the OE side of the hill. So then the first plane goes up like this and those are the bomb over the hill way. They're not shooting at you. The plane, the bomb is, comes in and goes up, which tremolo up. Exactly. Locate your exact, exactly. They're not shooting at you because they haven't, you haven't gotten up there and don't let, well one time or Xo was fine lead and one of the rookies in the back got excited and went thought he should go first. And so he went up and did his bomb like this and it went right through the wing of the XL is playing a big, you know, when you saw those and he got and he got it back, he brought it back and got it back on the ground saying, wow, it's easier to get a plane back down when you're barely off the ground already. But no, it's, it's difficult because you have to have 90 in that plane. You have to have 98 I think it's 98 miles per hour. What is the other thing? Uh, speed to keep it in the air. I can say it, but anyhow, 98 mile an hour with the other thing, it's not mile an hour to see other nuts. I guess that's not, but anyhow, you have to have that. My speed. Well with that hole in it, he could just barely get what he needed. He was barely keeping it in the, it was, it was amazing that he got it back. I can only imagine what the, if they were on the radios. Oh yeah, yeah. Hell but the um, the flight TN, one of the things that did

ang was close in air force base and uh, eight, four, nine, eight, four f eight f eats. Yeah. Um, upside down company and he had very go and he was coming in upside down and I was down to flight tent and the guy on was trying to talk him into, you know, look, look, look where you're at and everything. It's trying to get him to roll over because what happens when it kept me in upside down vertigo like that when they see the ground, what do you do? You pull it up, but when you're upside down and you pull it right into the car and that's what he did is pulling me and put it right in the middle of the runway. He died. Kelly man could have blown up bunch of m and a torical runway. I guess the good thing about having a metal runways, you fix it pretty quick, you know, but we have one other, it's like that with, uh, when the plane took off, one of the wheels broke off, he hit the ground like this and they took off, but he hit, he hit the ground before he took off. And when it did at jam, the bomb up in it. So when he went out and he tried to drop the bomb, we couldn't drop the ball. So now he's got one wheel the bottom. So what do you do? He had to bail out, took it out over the water, bailed out in the plane, has got an automatic on a stick that you fly it with when you let loose. Nobody just goes forward and it goes down. So when he bailed out, that's what should have happened. But it did it, it just kept, just kept flying around. In fact, it headed back to our base and a flight of flight 10 they're saying, we need to get somebody up there. And she just stupid thing down. So, but we had to get somebody's permission to do that, shoot her own plane down. And so we got all that. Then it was coming back at us and we didn't know when it, when it would decide to dive in and it's got a bomb strapped to it. We finally got permission to shoot it out there and shut it down over the water. We got it. Got It in the water so that, that works. Would you say that you would probably went in the bigger aviation units and not all of where that in south Vietnam, but in July we were the only one in that area. But Da nang was not that far away, but they had phantoms aids in Phantom is not, it's a faster plane. Double engine plane with afterburners. Uh, an F-4 can fly slower and can get in to more active combat.

- A. Seeley: But I know, I don't remember if it was Tom or Denny that was talking yesterday about the air force. Yeah, he was talking about the, um, now I just completely lost my train of thought. But the something that he talked about, I remember he talked about the um, yeah, he talked about an F-4 and then an f-8. They all talked about th'F-4 though. I don't even know the difference.
- J. Martin: Most of them, maybe he meant A-4. And then he told me specifically, he said what does that, cause he didn't know it was well and he talked about like, uh, I have a sky master and then a bird dog, but no to be sky master I think is what it was called, a glider look type lines. The smaller planning that they used to shoot flares down and point out where they wanted, they would mark it and then the bigger people come in and bomb.
- A. Seeley: Well and he talked about, and I think he was talking about a bird dog, they got the whole group through the middle and it was just hanging on by cables and that, that was when he had to patch the, yeah, he's a mechanic. But I mean, he talked a



little bit more about, but he was at engineering though. Yeah. But I know a lot of the, well, and as some of the, I mean I guess you were mostly airplanes, but I assume every area that has any aviation types of stuff would have mostly chopper. It will have a chopper so as well. Yeah. So we don't know exactly, we had travelers come in there from a couple of different places and I can't tell you exactly where that came in from, but a well, and a lot of them look like the bigger ones with the to the bigger basis. And therefore basically transporting a bunch of troops could be true or they can a tank or something like that. Oh, you can pick up big, almost like a barn door side. And then you also tie things to cable to carry him underneath. We used to see him, those, some of those pictures I gave you, that you see people running up down to bay. The beach in tanks are amphibious units and that type of, they're from somewhere else and they're just going through there.

A. Seeley: Well and um, Tom, but he was a tank mechanic. The Marine Battalion Battalion. In the third tank battalion in the marines or something. But I mean he didn't, he wouldn't even driving tanks. He was the one who was coordinating the Battalion. Everyone else who was driving the tanks.

J. Martin: I guess he skipped that promotion part. But it was stressful because you, you had to put the plane in the air when you needed to. Yeah. And you know with the conditions that they were flying in the skid tires, they'll tear tires up in this type of thing. So you're always having to do that. Change brakes. We'll hop well the break puck's still hot. Yeah, that's a tough job. Imagine a few of them, like you've seen him with the probe. You squirt a little gas, little fuel out of that thing when you put it on there. Well then it goes into the intakes. Well the jet engine is a fire is all whole. That is a fire inside just making a bunch of blades turn fast. Thrust out the back. Yeah. So when you squirt fuel in the intakes, it's called shoot back at you. So that's one of the exciting things about fueled them. Siri can be like a giant like pan when you've got oil in it and it's like super hot. They want it back at you. And so anyhow, you know, in, in, in strapping a guy in and no one that he may or may not be back. Yea, we didnt lose many pilots. Say you had what you might call like regulars coming back and forth all the time and you can tie what you mean. Yeah. Well, I'm not calling them regularly because you see him all the time. They'd be like, customers kick ass. Well, they're there with us and they live with this and all this, the officers over there and he enlisted over here. But, uh, yeah, we're all in the same boat. It's not like they're uptown and we're down.

A. Seeley: Yeah. You just have different jobs. I, I do wonder though, counted on each other. Yeah. But like how they, the pilots, um, I assume that they work, they were always flying a lot of the time, but if they were to ever like work, I guess what one might consider like me flying without enough rest. Did they like have a lot of Caffeine? What did they do?

J. Martin: We uh, I mean just like a battle of sticks out in my mind and like taught me a lot and get the name of it for you. But it lasted so long and we, we just consistently

had planes in the air. We need to planes in there with Abi planes or they needed us to support the inventory and the in this type of thing. People were dying if we worked there. Yeah. And uh, so we just, I mean the pilot, the pilot's flu. Oh, how many hours? Nonstop. Yeah. We were taking care of the planes nonstop. Yeah. And then when it was over with it. You just lay down and sleep as long as you can. And then you got to get back up again. Yeah. I mean I feel like the human body can go, we'll compensate when in times of like necessity, like when you know you have to be awake. Exactly. Like, you know, you can still fall asleep driving a car, but I would feel like I would less be less likely to fall asleep flying a plane and I would try, well, when people depend on lives are depending on you to do in this type of thing. It uh, uh, is a nother importance to it. Yeah. Well, and another thing too is I think from what I've read in research, this war in particular relied the most on aviation. Like, Being the main system of taking out the enemy or keep keeping them at bay anyway so that we don't lose ground. And I'm sure there's more than one opinion here. What we did and the plus of, the aviation yes. The infantry guys are down there like my brother. Yeah. And they're in their eyeball to eyeball where these guys are. The guys who were in the tunnels are right. But they depend on the aviation to come in there and mess them up. You know, you get buyers have bombs going, yeah. Take out their brokers in this type of thing so they can do their job. Yeah. We're all kind of intermingled together. Well, and it would take a little bit of everybody. And it would be like with the idea of advancement to where it, is that what it would be or is it just really keeping like the enemy from bothering you more than you advancing me deeper into, well in my case is protecting the base, you know, type of thing and the planes and all that. But uh, but the overall mission was to push the North Vietnamese back up in a way from and get them to their strong holes, take them out, you know? Get them out of there. Just kinda like playing Jenga, take out the base and then, and that's why, and thank God that I got home before it became so political. Oh yeah. And then it got to where they play games like cease fire. How do you cease fire in the war? There was lives lost, you know, to gain this area and then all of a sudden some politician saying cease fire so you give it back to the enemy so you can do it again tomorrow. Yeah. Yeah. It's just all well and that's the other thing now is I would think it was probably.

A. Seeley: I mean, yeah, Korea was a political conflict, but I don't know would be to say it wasn't, you know, Vietnam was probably the most more one of the more political wars in the US was involved in. And then following that, you know, the rest for two, I don't think, I mean yeah, World War Two was political but not as much in the sense that it was just like keeping over powering like evil people from taking over good parts of the world and ruining the rest of the world wasn't so much of a, it was just a more of a thing like our loyalty to allies and who we wanted to be in charge of. And stopping people from doing evil things.

J. Martin: Basically when I lived in Pensacola, My son when he grew up in high school and everything like, cause he called me and asked me if he could intervene or be on it. It'd be a no. And I remember the last thing he asked me, was I okay.

A. Seeley: Was that the hardest thing?

J. Martin: Yeah. I thought about it a long time. And that's a shame, Yeah, Cause you would think that would be the most rewarding. The best thing. Yeah. But your mind has trouble understanding why the people that you love and what you've been fighting for your country and end up calling you names and you know when you to come home.

A. Seeley: Well I mean I don't know if, did you know, did you, had you heard caught like word of the fact that people were not liking, people were turning so you had no idea it caught you by complete, like you're blindsided by the fact and that's, that's what's even worse. Cause when you're over there you realize what you're doing is for a good cause. And you see, I mean I don't know how many people you saw that like which will be considered the south Vietnamese is that you were actually protecting or you know, fighting for, but you did realize it's for good cause. And like I think that's the thing, like the point of doing a lot of these interviews is to understand like I know it's for an understanding why people felt so attacked when they came home because no one in the US really knew. Nobody knows what those people were going through and they never will.

J. Martin: Yeah. And that's what these interviews, you know, with veterans, especially our, for our, so that they can understand, you know, they hear why they felt they were doing a good thing. And really, I mean, when you, they probably, they don't even know what the Viet Cong was like. I mean, they were like, because I mean if you just look at the big picture, you've got an 18 year old kid. Your country needs you because they're drafting you. And if you don't get drafted, you join to avoid being drafted. But you're still, the reason I joined was to be a marine instead of an army person and protect the country cause on marines are the bad guys, you know. So anyhow, um, and then when you're in the service, you're trained as a military person, you know, and when the melter, when I was in Maryland, ITR, infantry training, which all marines go through, um, in the middle of the night, they picked us, they got us up, they give us flying ammunition, and we're going to load this on the point in the middle of the night. This was during Cuba, you know the Cuban crisis. And very few people in the United States knows how much was going on at that time that JF Kennedy had things going. But, we were in training and we were going to get on this plane back. We got on it and took off. Now knowing where, where are we going or anything like this. And then we turned around, he ended up turning around and going back. We didn't ever go with him, but we knew what it was. We're training, you know, we don't have fly back ammunition for like that. So yeah, it's probably, I would imagine that it was to put you in a stress situation that doesn't require action. I think it was, I think that's, he was ready for a it if he needed us. We landed in Cuba and fought, you know, cause Russians were headed into Cuba and he turned them around. And that's, I mean, I know all that because of the path after the fact. But at the time we didn't do that. We knew nothing except that we were on a plane flying somewhere that can be, and I can't even imagine that.

A. Seeley: My grandfather was talking yesterday when we left breakfast and went home about how every marine infantry and then they divide you based upon the origin that as a marine you're a marine.

J. Martin: All Marines are marines and all in Home Ranger infantry memories first period. And then Mos, which one, the 64 12 and aviation and then went to that. But you know, you don't, you don't go from straight to that. You've got to go through the marine bootcamp, ITR, infantry training. So it was with, was it with the idea that if they needed, you know, they used army infantry for the most part on the ground. And you know what Marine infantry is always the first unit to go in. Yeah. I guess what you could call like in a big like arrest it would be, or like the Swat and then past the police like after. But I mean it is really, you know, cause they are, you know, they try, and I would imagine that me, you know, they trained army infantry to shoot guns, but probably not as many guns as marines. There's this two branches of service and you're both very necessary. Marines are taught how to be a little more intensely and more instinct of survival than, and that's why if you ask any marine, they're the best obvious. There's no question marines now. Like it's still just as hardcore compared to like the regular army or the air force or whichever branch. You know, you shouldn't even say this, but it's all something not too long ago that the marines had changed. You had to do 10 pull ups with your hands. Like this period before you could go through, before you get out of bootcamp, you have to do x number set up so much. So we push that as a physical run through the whole thing. Well they've lightened some of that outcome on attitude. He's been eating.

A. Seeley: No, I, I can only imagine there was a joke about and one of my other classes, the um, around the time of the Cold War people were, you know, well not people, but food companies are experimenting on ways to preserve food with radiation. And you know, it was an experiment but nobody knew if it was going to like start killing people within like 10, 20 years. But you know what ended up not being toxic. And so a lot of that of course was used in military things cause you've got to preserve food and you got to have a way to have it for a consistent amount of time. If something happens and the supply of food gets cut off. And one time one of my professors had something about how that they've made everybody superhuman or that's why they thought like certain brands is in the military were more like, like superhuman than others just because they had more radiated food. But you know, it was dope because that's how they preserve a lot of food now. But I thought about it yesterday when you told me about the mess hall.

J. Martin: Oh yeah, Well, one of the photos, it was a day, I don't remember what day it was. You mentioned spam and then on Christmas you got spam with like that. That was a big thing after you eat and you know there's just, I don't remember now, four or five of them and one of the worst ones was ham and throwing him up. The beans were horrible. And so if you ever wanted, if you were ever starving to death, you could go down to the flight tent and there would be a pile of Lima beans over in the corner. Nobody would be like, those two together just seems so

odd to me. I don't know if it would, I mean it depends if very few people like no, I mean I guess when you're in need you got to eat but not, oh my gosh, that does those things all the time. He said for however many months and all that. And then finally we got our mess hall. Put this 10 up and then put the sign you saw yesterday and then I remember not what it says, a little boardwalk or something going into into it. And boy, we were ready and we go in and they had powdered eggs and spam. The two things they had in spam. I had, I had spam every way you could think about presenting it, you know. But today I can't eat spam. I, since I've been back, I've never eaten a bite us to Pam since I got back, but it was the big treat from sea rations. I'm sure a lot of Sea ration food. My wife of the time we got married before I left. And uh, she would fix, she would send me cookies, chocolate chip cookies, and they would be powder almost when I got there. It was, it was crunch delicate mailing system, but all my buddies knew when the box, what it was. So everybody went, got their spoons. We took to my 10. All right. Open it up. And, I mean, it's like Christmas, you know, four or five of us kids were sitting there with our spoons, open that up. When I got, when I got cookies, it was there. So we all shared them. The like when they did the same thing too, when they got things from there, I would imagine it would be such a change.

A. Seeley: I was reading a book one time, a novel. So you know, you can take everything with a grain of salt, but about, um, he was an infantry, but he was in the tunnels. So he, it was odd. But he mentioned specifically that he never will eat Vietnamese food again because that's what they had to eat or else the Viet cong could smell them.

J. Martin: That's right. I mean, yes, I understand that when it's dark, your sense of smell is heightened extremely versus like you're hearing. Of course it's, you know, but imagine the wind. I don't know. You're so Muggied up. I could only, I couldn't imagine sitting in a tunnel, but the fact that you could smell someone, I mean, I can understand. I'm sure Americans smell different from, Europeans even, but not rationed water to shower and then you probably didn't shower as much in the tunnels and you got to remember it's 120 degrees and then when the monsoons in it range and it does can keep draining and so you get clean. Yeah, yeah. Everything's wet. It's probably like spring there, but for like months at a time you just, you know, trying to remember it's just being wet all the time. When you finally get dry you go, holy crap, that it was hot. You know?

A. Seeley: Like you said, you didn't wear shirts. It was, you know, I mean did you guys wear pants or did you wear shorts too? I would assume you probably had to wear pants.

J. Martin: There was, it got tougher as longer. We stayed there because we was more higher ranked people coming in through any rank. When we first got in there, there were, we did our CEO, there was no like rules about what we got relaxed. At first we kept getting tighter and tighter because you got more higher, higher ranked and they came on board. At first we, we, we were going in loin cloths for awhile. It

was so hot in the middle of July and August. So muggy and hot. You were just like, I'm, it stayed hot and humid and, and, and, and that would, I mean we got rashes, you know, a rash, right? Yeah. Different kinds of rashes, fungus, you know, and that kind of stuff. My skin is so dry. I was pretty lucky really because I can take a lot of humidity in all types. I like humidity. But some other people, I mean they would get all kinds of rashed up and thereby lost bunches of weight. I'm sure the cut was all the water weight was all stay hydrated, all of a sudden you're eating sea rations. Which There's nothing fancy about, and it's probably all salt because most of them would come from World War Two I think. Just keeping enough pantry and the head cigarettes. In some weird way that there was five cigarettes and it was four or five, and they were green. Tobacco might've been pretty fresh. Still Green. But you had to be careful to some, I mean number one when it's monsoon season in there, you couldn't find a place dry enough when you were after a light a so yeah.

A. Seeley: I mean you almost can get parallel blowing rain, right?

J. Martin: Everything's wet. Yeah. That's everything. Everything is, you know when everything's wet. Yeah. So it's tough to get smoke. You really had to smoke. But then you also had to remember that when he's talking about smell while ago, smoking a cigarette when you can smell it so far away at when they're out there trying to, you know, you don't want to know an inch and a cigarette can be seen along ways. Back then, you know you didn't have filters so it probably burned pretty black. Darker. Yeah. But that in the military they teach you, I used to be a smoker. You can tell it. You field strip. When you spoke to Dale so far, then you feel stripped it, put it out in and feel stripping until you just like this. They just disappear. We'll filters. You can do that with, that's why Pall Mall and chesterfields Chesterfield looks like in this picture is it was pretty flat. So any area in nearby where enemy would have been the wind depending on which direction it was. I mean it sounded like you were in an area and there was enemies on almost any side. Right. Well, and you're right, we're on the beach is flat, but then you got to the trees. It was jungle and so in there it was, it was, it was difficult because we were out on the beach basically when we were with the planes and all this type of thing where they were in the jungle and they were looking at ass out there on the beach with the cigarettes. You could say, here, shoot me right here. So you had to be careful what you smoked. You just didn't spoke. You'll see military guys smoke when they'll do this, they'll cut their hands so you can't see it. Basically at night. I, another thing is the, I would assume I could be wrong, but you know, since they didn't have like any claims or anything, I'm sure they relied a lot on just having like ducks waiting with snipers to, but I don't, that wouldn't be so much on you guys cause they were worried more about the planes and if they could find it, you know, we've, we were, we were always aware that they could be there and, and you had to watch what you were doing and, and you where your rifle, but in this type of thing.

A.Seeley: So, um, you were, you were in a battle zone, you knew that and he had to stay that way and you had to stay aware of it and, and be ready for it. Well, and I'm sure that when you, like you said that when more higher ranks came in, that was more of a thing with targeting a little bit more watching and I'm sure, you know, and they look just like me. They didn't wear any other numbers for any of the stripes or anything.

J. Martin: Yes, you're right. And another thing is, is like if you're, if you're desperate enough, you will sit and watch how everyone, you know, how the whole base works. Everything that goes on there, I'm sure that they've relied more on like the, from what it sounds like guerrilla tactics. They did because we were, I mean, had because we were a base that was important. And this really helped me because yeah, we had an outer perimeter guard guard. They kept most of that hand to hand stuff away from us. Yeah. And we were the planes, we were there, we were the airbase. We were, the important thing is too, before you had horrible to say, yeah, we were more, but they had was to the war. Those planes were more important than my body. And so, you know, they needed those to kill a lot of people.

A.Seeley: Well the pilots would even be just be part of the plane really.

J. Martin: Right. So you need those and they needed us to make sure the plane is ready for the pilot. Like I said, again, as everybody depends on everybody. It's uh, yeah, definitely. He go through that kind of situation and your brothers, when you come out of their issue, you just really are. I'm sure even people that you didn't know. I mean, did you know any of the other people that I've talked to at the time? Oh No. Like when you came back, I'm sure that there was no

A.Seeley: can see. We haven't talked about none of them. Just talk about it. Yeah. I knew Tom was a marine simply because you are a marine. Yeah. You Go. That's why your dad, your grandfather was navy, he talks about Ben when he had been served right before the war. From what I, I think so. I think cause he said that's one of the things he says. I think his timing was good. Yeah. It was after the Korean, before the Vietnam or something like that or on the heels of the current. Well, and I remember him telling me when I was young that he was not the age of enlisting and I think he lied about his age. I mean,

J. Martin: I was, too before they had a ranch, he was 17 when he went in just 17, because he got into submarines or something like that, didn't he?

A.Seeley: Yeah, he started with submarines and then he was on big, you know, air ships. But that's where his hearing loss came from. When he was testing missiles, you know, and he told me that a few of the guys, you know would end up probably, after the fact end up with cancer just because of all the stuff, the emissions that they were inhaling.

J. Martin: I lost my high pitched hearing. Yeah. Because of jet engines. Yeah. I was around Jet engines all the time. And so I lost that they knew when they, when I got on the rink where I had to sign something that says, you know, we're letting you lose. Yeah. Cause you could stay here and we could treat your high pitch noise. You get a woman that's got a real soft high pitch voice and I can't hear shit. Yes, I see your lips moving. But I can't hear you.

A. Seeley: Good thing that I'm interviewing you because I don't never had that problem. And I think some of the time I do think that my grandfather hears things that are higher pitch versus the lower just because there was so much, it wasn't even just one noise that was making it because they were firing so consistently. He told me stories about and he saw a Bob hope over there when he lived in Japan. He was in Japan for a decent amount of time but he served for about four years. So I mean he was done but he never will. He never went to college or anything cause he went in while in high school.

J. Martin: Yeah. Like the rest of us. I didn't know him back then with the Vietnam War war going on. You know you hear people talking about factors. A little bit of talk yesterday at the table with going into Canada, you know how you got out of being drafted was run from it. Go to Canada. Well that was the same. I get your girlfriend pregnant. Oh yeah, go to college. Yeah. And some of those options were less available to people in on that. Well, if you couldn't afford it back then, I mean if you could afford college and all that kind of thing. Yeah. My mother was a school teacher. She would go on to college and everything like that. She would love to see me do it, but I don't know why. I just decided, I mean I knew when I got out of high school that's what I needed. That's what I needed to do. Yeah. Well I mean it was and I think that's what hurts so bad when he come back. And your country doesn't love you as much as you loved it, you know? Yes. You wanted to do this, you wanted to do your share. because we were doing something that was protecting south Vietnamese. That's what I think is so messed up as well with like how much the country. I mean majority of the time, you know, regardless of what were you were in, you were extremely young to be serving and any type of person that didn't like you after is just so like, because it's not like half of the time these people were being, you know, they'd had no choice at all. And I mean Vietnam was more like somebody saw it coming and they enlisted before, but we were too, I know like groups of people just being taken. They had no say and it wasn't fair when you think about it cause they were just doing what they were told. It wasn't like, when you're in warfare you have no choice but to do what you're told is right. That's where you're training your military person, you know, and you outrank me and you're telling me what to do and I'm doing it.

J. Martin: You didn't choose to go over there, you didn't decide to have this part of it, you know? That's what, when you get home, you make up your mind whether it was right, wrong or indifferent and it really doesn't. And I didn't waste much time doing that because I thought, why should I decide now that it was wrong? I was over there and I thought it was right. I was doing the right thing. I was supporting



my country after the fact. I'm not going to decide that I shouldn't have done that. I mean, chances are if you wouldn't have enlisted like 70% chance would've been drafted anyway. Bigger chance than that. Really.

A. Seeley: I know this wasn't the, the whole, and I know this is like obviously probably a common thing to compare it to obviously, but like in the movie, like Forrest Gump, like he went to college and still was drafted, which I don't know how common that was.

J. Martin: Well see, I had a chance at that time and looking back probably would've been a good move. I didn't really have any money pushing me. My mother probably would have been the best person to tell me what to do. But when I went to school in Memphis, out of boot camp or two to learn aviation, they found out that I tested well enough on whatever testing like this, that they was willing to send me to college and be and could be a pilot. I had to sign up for two or four more years, whatever it was like this, well, I already signed up for four years. Not that, and then for a 18 year old kid, that's the rest of your life, you know? And so I thought, I'm not going to do this. It was kind of like, not exactly what it was like plea bargaining like you were going to have to do now, whether it was payback, because they'll pay, they'll get you your college and your training. So you could be in a pilot and that's an officer, not an enlisted. So you're making more money and everything like this would've been, it would've been a good loop for, yeah. But you know, it also would have taken another four or five years in my life. So yeah. Not already committed for, yeah. And I mean what you served what four and then a little extra, right? Yeah. Four years. I was involuntary for six months, but I only had to cert for four months of it. Yeah. So that's what, four years and four months? Yeah. I don't know. Well

A. Seeley: What my grandmother told me, my mom's mom said that they left parents, like dad's alone first and then they went to college kids. And then you know, of course the rest of like the, so often from what it sounded like even college kids got drafted, not, not once with your deal where they offered, you know, paying for your school and then you had to serve after.

J. Martin: Kids that it hadn't enlisted prior so, well, and I'm sure I wouldn't be with the college. Yeah. To get out of me. Undrafted drafted. After they got their degree and then they were there. They were eligible again. Their likelihood was not as much as the guy who's just coming out of high school but they still could get trapped in. Well and I don't think any, I not even probably the president at the time when I got all messed up when Kennedy, you know, but the foresight of seeing how long and invasive this whole war would have been probably wasn't, it probably would have been comparable to world war one.

A. Seeley: Like you know, you get involved and you invent, you think it's going to be over soon, but it doesn't happen it and we're losing sight of how tragic World War One World War II was. How many people died?

J. Martin: Well, I mean that's why they call it, that's how they got their name in first place because what it was 58,000- 59,000 people got killed in Vietnam. I mean God be here. You're saying US soldiers alone, right? Cause there's way more people that died. And that's not even counting like civilians are. But no, the US military lost around 60,000 and that's probably nowhere near the number that actually served or I think, and I say this because I saw what my brother went through, there was a lot of guys that came back in body bags, but there's a lot of guys that came back and worst than dead, their minds were gone, they weren't the person that they were before anymore. And if they were, they had to medicate themselves. If they had any morality left at all. I help with our church that we serve once a month down at a homeless shelter and people that need a meal and you go down there and see these guys my age were Vietnam veterans and this type of thing and, and bless their hearts, they just didn't, they just never got it back together. No, it screwed him up. And I guess I just, I'm thankful I have the mother I had gave me the faith that I needed to get me through this. And sometimes, you know, even if you have the same family, it doesn't help one as much as it does the other and there's not much you can, we're all different and it affects everybody differently.

A. Seeley: Well, and another thing too is with world war two is like, I mean there was a higher demand for soldiers from the u s anyway, but the, the overall death toll was like in the Milly. I mean it was a lot. I thought that, I don't remember, the war was all over Europe, so it wasn't like in such a smaller area like vietnam. There were battles where there was 2030 people killed in ww2, you know. And I thought, wow. Yeah. Well, and the thing with another thing with world, you know, we're, we're wanting to was, you know, you don't think about about hygiene and being sick and illness and not, we'll take out more. Especially like you think when the war would've been over 30, almost 40 years between the two, you would think that there would be a lot of like human living advancement, even in like warfare like that the tactics would be a lot more advanced and obviously now, I mean Vietnam, like we haven't been in a war like that in a while, but there were a lot more on air to ground. Like Vietnam did the face to face or just no man's land or ditches or anything like that. It's not an tank. Combat was a lot bigger and we'll, we're one two as well.

J. Martin: In Vietnam there was a lot of hand to hand combat. Marine Corps had some army at a bunch of it and all that. I was, I was in the right Mos Aviation and, and uh, I, yeah, we had to be infantry when we first got there until we got our planes. And uh, and that's why a marine is always infantry first. And because you never know when you're going to be called to do that, you know? Well and it was a fall back to, I mean if worst case scenario, like you had an enemy coming and took out all your other sources of your, you, your survival and your, I guess they almost your brother, like your teammates survival, your comrades, survival was the, the last resort important thing versus like keeping everyone doing the, I guess what someone called a dirty word alive to that. That's what I would consider it based upon how people treat it and then you know, they were everybody. It doesn't matter what you are doing because people didn't know what was going on over

there. I don't think anyone knew. Frontline just fight every morning you got up, you had to fight. We basically didn't know who we were fighting. I'm so glad. I think what makes it different? And it was no town there. There was no people there. There was a beach there. That's all. There was a jungle n the beach when we got there. And so the people that did get there were southern Vietnamese that were helping the CBS building things and that kind of stuff. Well, some of the pictures you saw today, I think it was that had the hatch in the black pajamas with the hats on and they all look alike. So basically are they my enemy or not, you know? So we were always, some of them would come in. The people that we did lose, we're usually killed by some trap like that. Yeah. Somebody got in not knowing they're, yeah, they're not just attacking us as an enemy there sneaking in and you're trying to kill somebody. Well, and when you don't, I mean, I bring this up and brought this up multiple times, but when you don't have like the types of equipment that be the u s did or any other country that was there, they, You know, resorted like booby traps mostly when I told you that they would attack us, they would run in and go after the planes. They always died. They were just programmed to take that plane out and they would have satchel charges made out of our, um, c ration cans and that type of thing. And, and that's what they would be throwing at the plane to try to triage and everything.

A.Seeley: So it was like, consider like a water bottle bomb type thing or were you mixing the chemicals and stuff in there and then when it blew up and use the fragments of the can to hurt people or shrapnels have to start to fire in the plane basically. I mean, were they, do you remember any like, um, just probably is the last question. Like, do you remember it? I mean, besides, you know, were they ever successful in blowing up a plane and they got, you said that they got one but they wouldn't get the one next, right?

J. Martin: Yeah, we got, we got the other one out there and see that was, I was part of that. And it made it made you aware of how programmed they were to get that plane. Yeah, they had the one on fire and then we were going to lose it. We're going to lose the one next to it. Yeah. Like I said, we had the cams, you know between we had two planes and then a role of of a 50 gallon barrels that were strict fill the sand and tied together. Yeah. And there was a barrier between every two. Yes. Two planes barrier. So to get one on fire it would get the other one on fire. Yeah, but it's only the two of you would lose. So they got it on fire and then we ..can't remember what we call it, banana? maybe? You hooked it on the front wheel and pull. Pulled the other plane out of the way. Right, Don't want to lose any.

A.Seeley: Yeah. Well, and I'm sure if it did, I mean, I'm sure that the replacement of one would not be as costly. Eventually you'd get another plane that would replace, you know, it. And I, we'd lost some planes hitting the ground, being shot out and this type of thing. And I can't remember how we got replacements. It disappeared. It wasn't my job. So I guess never got shot down. So that took, got more time than I thought we would. So, yeah, that works. That was good. You don't think you have anything else to add? Nothing you feel like you haven't talked about?

J. Martin: Sure, there's stuff, there's things buried down in places that I will never find them again. That's true. And I, you know, like I told Ya, I, because of my brother and my father, I just basically made up my mind when I got back and I was going to go on about my life was not going to think about this and I haven't talked about you and one other person, and it's been, that's a long time. I mean, what, it feels like 50- 55 years. That's a long time. And so then I started thinking about when I got there and how I got there and when we left and I thought that, I don't remember. Yeah, it's almost like you like the time between like you remember arriving, it's almost like you're drunk. Like that blackout memory. It just proved to me that I did it my way. I did my thing. And then what's going well and you said your father? He served in World War Two but I mean it sounded like he was somewhat affected by coming back. He came back and he drank too much and he was a mean drunk and Mike, he, like I said, he got, he couldn't sleep so he drank himself. He's more of a depressed flashback. He would go, he must have seen a lot of action because you have flashbacks of people jumping on him and this type of thing and he would jump out of the bed and be ready to attack somebody. Dangerous to anyone around them. ex wives to rather think he had an adopted child as a whole and died. If he'd got his 49 or 50 years old of liver at 48 49. A year before he died, I was sitting on a, in the hospital and the doctor said, he won't be here in the morning. He'll die tonight. And uh, he didn't die. It's a little thing in there for faith. And my Christian mother, I think my mother made a deal with God is what I think. But anyhow, Mike lived one year after that night that he was supposed to die there that night and he was changed person. He's a loving person. He loved his family. He just was totally a different person for one year and then he died. He just self medicated. It's when he did, it wasn't like he, well, and you said your father was a main job. It sounded like Mike wasn't, it was like how he dealt with it. He survived. That's probably whatkilled him in the end because it was medication versus a very talented person. You know, he just, he, was who was in the daytime, he was the Michael type of thing and at night he had to drink that matter away as to not wake up, not hurting anyone.

A. Seeley: He was probably very talented. I mean, was he an athlete as a young man?

J. Martin: He was. He went back and kept getting them out and getting them out. Usually that did that. That would be like a medal of honor. Like the same thing, you know, saving lives.