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Dave Hagler Memoir

H123. Hagler, Dave b. 1951

Interview and memoir

1 tape, 90 mins., 27 pp.

Hagler, an Illinois State University student during the 1960's, discusses student activism, student reaction to events in Vietnam, Vietnam protest movement, communism, protest music, and the Civil Rights Movement. Also mentions protest leaders, the Youth International Party as well as the My Lai massacre.

Interview by Clifford Wilson, 1978

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See collateral file: interviewer's notes, photograph of Hagler, photocopies of correspondence with U.S. Senator Charles Percy and the U.S. Justice Department, and photocopies of Hagler's draft card.

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PREFACE

This manuscript is the product of a tape-recorded interview conducted by Clifford Wilson for the Oral History Office on October 6, 1978.

Dave Hagler was born in Springfield, Illinois on March 6, 1951. He was in college at Illinois State University (ISU) during the turbulent sixties. This memoir focuses on student activism, the sixties, and the Viet Nam War.

Readers of this oral history memoir should bear in mind that it is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, narrator and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. Sangamon State University is not responsible for the factual accuracy of this memoir, nor for the views expressed therein; these are for the reader to judge.

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Dave Hagler, October 6, 1978, Springfield, Illinois.

Cliff Wilson, Interviewer.

Q. Dave, I'd like to get a little bit of background. First, what is your social background, your social status?

A. Well, I'm white male (laughter) which implies some sort of status. Social background I'd say, would be totally middle class to lower middle class. I'm currently a student.

Q. And what is your religious background?

A. Raised a Methodist, loosely I'd say, but now a practicing agnostic I would have to say.

Q. Do you have any definite political affiliations?

A. Registered Democrat.

Q. Do you consider yourself a liberal or a conservative?

A. Yes, I would say a liberal, if anything.

Q. How liberal would you consider yourself?

A. Oh, near Communist Liberal. (laughter)

Q. How is your family relationship? Are you close with your family?

A. Not at all. Absolutely not.

Q. Were you?

A. Never. (laughter)

Q. Even as a child?

A. Even as a child. (laughter) No, in all fairness, I have very little family. My mother is I think, my only relative except for one very senile and ancient grandfather, but we are not close at all.

Q. Would you care to tell me about your profession or professions, past and present?

A. Well, like I said, currently I am a student. Prior to 1973, I was in school. I worked part-time in a library and generally didn't work at all. During the Dan Walker administration I was an executive correspondent in the governor's office. When the administration changed, and Thompson took office, I was not dismissed but edged out

with several other affiliates of the Democratic Party. So since 1976 I have traveled, been in Texas; California, Florida, Maine; and basically done nothing except relax. And when I returned to Illinois decided to come back to school and make a success of myself.

Q. When you say not dismissed, but edged out, what do you mean?

A. Case in point. The office I was at, we were basically concerned with answering constituent correspondence, state-wide and nation-wide when it occurred. During the last few days of the administration prior to the general election when we knew that the new governor's people would be coming in as a transition force, our office of twenty-one people came down to three people, people were farmed out of the bureaucracy in the different departments, and I was one of the remaining three. But we still had the same work load that we had before. When your work load goes up by--what seven hundred per cent overnight--it's not very encouraging. Plus when you know that a Republican administration is coming in another month and a half, you just figure it's time to go, and so I quit. I was never fired from any work.

Q. When did you have your first anti-war feelings?

A. Well, that's odd because I remember it very distinctly. It was right after the Democratic convention in 1968. Prior to that, I personally was very resentful of the Kennedy nomination and his assassination. After that time, I started to really look into the McCarthy and McGovern thing. But after the convention, which if you'll remember was coupled with the Czechoslovakian uprising and the Russian intervention, you, or at least I, started to develop some very, very strange ideas. And this was unusual, too. Most of my friends were very conservative. My family background was all conservative, to the person. In fact I would say up until, well, 1972, everyone in my family but myself voted for Nixon and that was, I'm sure, the same case in 1968. And so in their conservatives follies, I'd say 1968 is when I first started to become generally aware that there was something rotten in Viet Nam.

Q. Who did you support or did you support any candidates during the 1968 election?

A. Well, the thing in 1968, I was then seventeen, and so I was too young to vote, but the age was twenty-one then anyhow. As a matter of fact, I supported George Wallace. (laughter) But it was tough. In all in all, I figure if I would have voted in 1968, probably would have ended up voting for Richard Nixon. But bear in mind, Hubert Humphrey was not a liberal in 1968 as far as the war was concerned. But when you're seventeen years old, after all, you kind of indulge a person to a degree. That did it too, a dramatic turn around in 1972.

Q. Were you personally affected by the war?

A. Initially, yes. I was eighteen and in high school. I think I've mentioned that to you before. I had to register for the draft, and it was really a shocking thing, because I sat in a very secure spot. I really didn't totally appreciate the fact that military conscription was a reality. And when I went down to the Wrigley Building, I rode the elevator up, and walked in and you just get this little card with a heading on it. It's about

Q. About the size of an index card?

A. Yes, it's not--I'll show it to you in a bit if I can find it. But, anyhow, it was then and there. Things started to break pretty fast that year because that's when we all graduated from high school. I remember getting my, I think it was 1-s deferment, because I was a high school student and I was even too young for a 2-s. Then I knew that something was wrong and it was just in that previous year that the Johnson people had started changing the draft priorities. Prior to, I believe it was 1967, 1968 or 1969, I'm not certain, the twenty-six year olds were the first people chosen, whether they were married or not, or whether they had dependents or not, they were the first to go. Right about the time I got my draft card, which was in March of 1969, they switched over and started drafting the nineteen year olds first. So anyhow, at that time, I had graduated from high school in 1969, a few people I knew had joined the service and everybody started to drift away. Other than that at that time not too much. I made up my mind to go to school, obviously because I didn't particularly want to go into the service. I even at one time considered joining the National Guard, which at that point in time was very difficult to get into, because, well, it was just after, I believe, the 1968 "Tet," in March of 1968, I think, I'm not certain. And needless to say the Navy, Air Force, and the National Guard had waiting lists of people who didn't particularly want to get type of ground duty in Viet Nam. I had a friend, a friend's brother who was in the National Guard, and said, "Look, if you make your decision right away, I think I might be able to get you in." But it still entailed a six year commitment, and like in the end I decided not to go into it anyway. Because I got lucky the next year.

Q. You mentioned a 2-s discharge, what's that?

A. A 2-s is a deferment for a full-time student, who is in college. You were allowed a 2-s--again the rules had changed about the time I entered college. You were allowed a 2-s so long as you maintained a full load, which I believe would be the equivalent of twelve hours. I could be mistaken, it might be a full load in terms of being able to complete your degree program in four years. Mainly I believe fifteen semester hours. You had to maintain, I think, a 2.0 grade average, and you were only allowed prior to, I guess 1968, 1967, you were allowed deferments as long as you were in school. That means you could go for your graduate work, but by the time I entered you were allowed undergraduate programming and no more.

Q. How did the war in Viet Nam affect your friends, your close friends?

A. All right, that's an interesting question. I'd say that was a very powerful motivation on my part. It motivated me to become a bit more active in the movement, simply because when the first draft lottery popped up I was in the second. And almost to a person, my friends that were in that that year--they would have been born in 1950--came up with bad numbers. They were projecting at that time that numbers up to, I believe, 125 were almost guaranteed draftees, and at that current quota level. And like I had one friend that came up number 6. I had two friends that came up in the forties, and another one that came up in the seventies, and I think I had another one right around the 125 mark. These were close friends, you know. They weren't acquaintances. I think, almost to a person, they came up with just terrible numbers. The only thing that saved them all--none of them got drafted in the end--as a matter of fact, because they were all college students like I was. And, of course, the deferment put them off three years, and by that time the war had wound down enough. And there were enough troops--but I'll get into that later--enough troops in the system by that time to give them a bounty.

Q. How did the draft lottery work at that time?

A. Well, the first lottery was contingent, totally on the nineteen year olds, if you would have been born in 1950. And all the birthdays were thrown into a--I don't believe it was a fishbowl, but at random and drawn out one at a time. And for example, if you were, I believe in the first lottery, if you were born on September 19, 1950, you were number one. All people--all nineteen year olds born on that day were the first birthdays. The first people drafted are called to service. The next day then they would draw another day which would be say December 15. And they'd go through it, three hundred and sixty five days. And as a result you had your deferment. If you had a deferment you were exempted until the next year. But on, and on, and on, and so it appeared if you were past 125 in the first one you were safe. The second lottery, which is the one I was in, they did some alterations and they escaped me. I've forgotten exactly, it was primarily the same thing. It went by birthdays. Again if you were nineteen and didn't have a deferment and you had one of those low numbers, you had to talk.

Q. What was your lottery number?

A. I came up with number 296, which was beyond the unquestionably safe. Just no problem.

Q. Why did you have anti-war feelings?

A. At first it was a personal thing. I would have to say rule of

thumb. And then it just began to--personally I'm feeling, I'm wondering was this breaking up a lot of my friendships, is this starting to interfere with my personal pleasures. And then it started to be too much of a contrast. You couldn't justify the things that were going on. I had a, I believe, third or fourth cousin who just, got shipped home in a box. It was not a traumatic thing cause I didn't know the guy. But I was beginning to wonder why this guy died. A fellow I went to kindergarten with got killed in the--it was in the summer of 1969. No, it was in 1968. I take that back, it was prior to that. He had dropped out of high school and enlisted, and he got shipped back in a box. Now, this was starting to be a little ridiculous. And then you start to, of course, maturing, and at that time is part of it too. But as you look at it you go, "Something is wrong here," and then you were lost if you're say in an American Legion convention. Give an adequate explanation of why the war is going on. Beyond that it was a snowball effect. There were so many inconsistencies in all that writing down and when it came out that they had bombed Hanoi, it just didn't make any sense. We were going nowhere. We were beyond patriotism you know, or something else that was more sensible.

Q. Were you a pacifist or just anti-Viet Nam?

A. I would say it was anti-America, if it was anything. It's pretty tough when you were raised to think that . . . you were raised in a patriotic sense. I think that the United States is a pretty swell place, and then to sit there and go, "It's not true. You can't do that. You can't do that. That's not the way it's done." And it was reflected in so many ways other than just the Viet Nam War. The Viet Nam War seems to have hit the iceberg so to speak. After so many moments of rejection just by the way you look, and then you see a government that's illegitimate, and I knew the government was illegitimate at that time. You get to the point where you can't relate to it anymore, and you are forced out of fear to resign.

Q. Were you involved in any political movements to try and change or help the government?

A. Nothing terribly organized. When I was at ISU [Illinois State University] and I'd say there wasn't much organization all in all, nothing that even resembled a committee. We had a few rallies, maybe two or three, and I participated in them. I remember one of them so well. Some friends of mine were somewhat organizing things and made a special sign for me. It was a placard, it was about oh about three feet by two and a half or three feet, and it was on a bright pink background, and bright blue Dago letters, and it said, "WAR SUCKS!" (laugh) I got to carry that to the demonstration (laughter). I remember, ironically enough, the guy who gave me that sign, he took a snapshot of me and, of course, I was giving an index-finger salute in the photo. I don't know whatever happened to him, but I assume he's still around. He became the Student Body President of Illinois State (laughter) next year, so it was fun.

Q. You mentioned other rallies, what were they involved in?

A. I remember one specifically in Springfield and it was a notorious failure. It was organized at Washington Park. Remarkably, we got through from that point, and I think oh, maybe two or three hundred people and they had no support at all. Washington Park. Other than that, there was very little, very little.

Q. Were these just marches or did they involve any other . . .

A. Nothing, nothing of a significant nature. I had nothing to do with that National Press in anything we did. Some of the institutions did, all right. I worked in one in ISU after I went there and was notorious. Caught a lot of national play, I believe in 1959 because they were one of the few universities in the country who would not give student records to the Selective Service. And as a result--I take that back, they would not give records to the Selective Service unless a student requested it, and as a result, the Draft Board was drafting people like mad and it was a big cop out at the time. The Moratorium too, at ISU, I believe--no the Cambodian invasion that we have on film. That's sort of the sentiment up there, and son of a gun that was just before I went back and the (vehicle passing). They got all the police, here, and the Police Chief of Normal declared a curfew immediately and stranded something like five or six thousand students on the Quadrangle. And, of course, Normal Police had no authority to come on state property, and anybody that tried to go back to their residence hall or to their apartment or their home was arrested. And it got kind of sticky up there. State police surrounded--put a circle around the flagpole--the flag came awfully low. It was time.

Q. What was the Quadrangle?

A. Quadrangle? It's just a closed, an area in the center of campus with a rectangle. It has a village; laundry, the library, at that time administration building, classrooms; pretty fundamental concept.

Q. What were your feelings of Army ROTC on campus?

A. Bad. (laugh) Illinois State didn't have it. It was probably one of the only universities that did not. My personal opinion was that it was a disgusting sort of thing, and I'm glad they didn't have it. I would not have participated in it. I think I had one or two acquaintances that did when I first went to the University of Illinois when we got out of high school. I think they lasted for a semester before they told them that they were no longer interested. All in all, no interest at all.

Q. When you heard about the invasions of Laos and Cambodia, what were your reactions to that?

A. Total disgust, absolutely. It was foul. I think that's what set off--it hadn't totally solidified in my thinking as far as anti-war-- and I believe it was the Cambodian invasions also that were responsible for Kent State if I'm not mistaken. That did it, that turns me off. By that time, (vehicle passing) I would have been eighteen I guess, and I just said, "No more." It was ridiculous. It had gone beyond-- it was a racist war to an extent. It was a war that wasn't geared towards anything, a total lie.

Q. What was your reaction to Mai Lai and the court-martial of Lieutenant Calley?

A. Another thing that I--it's funny to put these things into a perspective of specific events--I can remember distinctly, distinctly the day I saw the Life Magazine. I can remember where I was, I can remember like it was yesterday. A fellow that was in the same sort of dormitory with me went down to my room and saw in the new Life, the pictures of those people. That was it. I knew I was against this thing before, but it was hideous--the arms, (vehicle passing) anything you could imagine. Calley, all in all, I'm glad they put him away. I don't think that he was anything unique, but he got caught. The other event had already been too good. I wouldn't want to see Robert McNamara included even today.

Q. Do you believe that Calley had orders from higher up?

A. It involved orders or something else.

Q. Do you think General Westmoreland was directly involved?

A. Possibly not in that specific interest, or incidence, but I'm sure that he must have condoned it, there's just no questions. Some of these don't--well you get into the whole question of leadership and power structure and you just can't imagine giving a leader captain that kind of order ignoring the fact that you're going to--I don't know. There's a key method joke there, it goes all the way up to the top.

Q. Do you believe these mass massacres happen quite often?

A. In my personal opinion, yes.

Q. Do you know any Viet Nam veterans or prisoners of war?

A. POW's, I don't know any. Viet Nam vets, I know a lot of them, in fact one of my roommates for a year at ISU was a Viet Nam vet, yes.

Q. Do you remember any of their opinions of the War?

A. Yes. And it's funny, even though the war was still going on, of

course, this was at the end when we were pretty much out of it. And bearing in mind that almost to--almost all of them who never were involved in any real serious action. Some of them were, and so it was a mistake, it was a joke. I think the joke had to be the biggest part of it. They all hated it. All of them wished they had never been there. Only in the very earliest stages of the War did I ever meet a (vehicle passing) Viet Nam vet who told me we were right.

Q. Did any of them believe that this was a war of American imperialism?

A. I don't think I ever talked to a Viet Nam vet to that extent--exception of one--who would say that, yes. My roommate who would indeed say that was okay was one. Other than that, I really didn't like to get into it that much. (laugh) You get into some mighty deep thoughts and currents, and all this other stuff and so forth in the introduction. But you get pinned, I think, when you have to spend a few years in the military, and sooner or later (laugh) if you corner it enough it will jump out and grab you. (laugh)

Q. Do you believe that it was a war of American imperialism?

A. In retrospect, no. Just in--and now we get into something more than a definition of imperialism. We really didn't stand to gain very much in Viet Nam even if we conquered it and made it a state. So in that context, no.

Q. What was your reaction when President Johnson in 1968 announced that he was going to stop the bombing of North (car horns honking) Vietnam?

A. It was very optimistic. I can remember that very well, too. I believe it was near, shortly--well I was thinking it was just before the Paris Peace Conference began. Optimism, a lot of it, and naive optimism as it turned out. But I know everyone around was very pleased. I was working at the library at the time, and when the evening shift changed, and I came in, five or six of us was very pleased with the idea that it was going to stop; and maybe this war was really over, and gosh, you know, they've even talked about it. It came to nothing and I don't think that optimism or spirit of optimism lasted long but they were back at the time.

Q. That announcement came on October 31, of 1968, which would have put it about a week or so before the general election, in which Humphrey was running, but do you think this was a political move?

A. Could well have been. Could well have been. Knowing Johnson, that was ten years now, ten years later, yes, I'd say, very likely.

Q. Did you at that time believe Humphrey's promise that he would follow through with Johnson's proposals, and try and end the War as soon as--to step up the Paris Peace Conferences?

A. Well, it's just tough to judge at that time. The war was so nasty then. Inflation was a big issue then too. Humphrey was just too tainted, I think, it was just impossible. It would have been impossible for me to step back and objectively view the situation then. I don't know if I could do it now. I don't know. I probably suspected that it was a political move, but it still had the element of hope. It wasn't enough, to really know the complications on Johnson.

Q. Do you remember any of the local Anti-War Movement leaders?

A. In Springfield there weren't any. At ISU, I could remember them if I saw them. I cannot remember their names. One fellow who I'd recognize any time--I'm not sure at all of his name See, one of the reasons I kind of stayed clear of a lot of the people that I identified with, almost to the man they were heavy drug users, and it was just impossible to separate the two. And at that time there was a real paranoia about drugs, even marijuana. Gosh, they were putting people in jail for it, I don't know. All it took was to walk around the central Illinois campus with long hair, a black arm band, and make yourself conspicuous, and gosh, the security was kind of tight then. So I kept my distance. I don't know. And when was it I felt basically my friendships with people I had known for a long time. We poured everything in, the letterwriting, and then you'd see them in the union from time to time, and of course, in demonstrations that would pop along, the petitions that would come by, but you know, to answer your question, I really don't remember. Nationally, I remember quite a few, but not locally.

Q. What were some of the national leaders that you remember best?

A. I mentioned the Fugs before, and Allen Ginsberg and the Fugs has to be a classic. I'd say I was very, (laugh) very much--they were a very small minority that followed that group. They were distinctly anti-war, and they obviously were good. Some of their songs are . . . Larry Davis that one I remember quite well, especially after the Chicago Seven trial. The latest thing he advocated, that he preached when he was on the witness chair about the effects of--I forget what kind of environment it was, and how the explosion killed. It was very, very many. And of course, Abbie Hoffman, and Tom Hayden, and, oh gosh, Jerry Rubin was one of my favorites although I don't know about Jerry Rubin and anti-war. He was marvelous. (laugh)

Q. Sounds like a fun guy. (vehicle passing)

A. Yes, he was.

Q. Do you connect leaders of the Anti-War Movement with people that were really involved in the drug movement? Do you oppose it?

A. I do locally. Nationally, oh, sure, good grief. But those . . . Okay, like specifically the legalization of marijuana, those things

were inevitable. They might have gotten a little push along from the movement, but all in all, yes, not totally. Now other drugs, LSD, cocaine, whatever; they provided an invisibility for these things, but no, I don't go for the association out of

Q. Do you think the United States has learned anything from the Viet Nam War?

A. Oh, unquestionably, unquestionably, foreign policy-wise, gosh, we were so reluctant to involve ourselves abroad, in Viet Nam, it put chains on us. It would eventually. Domestically, I don't know how long with that. I don't think anyone denies that. Americans, I think, has equalized themselves in their own eyes, people after the war as a result.

Q. Do you believe that the Viet Nam War was at all a racist war?

A. I think so, and I don't think you could ever find--well, I'm hot there you know. You'll find people that will admit it, but there's no question in my mind, I mean, I can deal with things better, especially Americans. Something called for that, and there was some black Americans at that time, but Vietnamese people and lots of people. They were physically smaller. Their culture was different. They're actually backward, they don't socialize. Yes, I would say all in all it was very much a racist war.

Q. What have you learned from the Anti-War Movement?

A. Well I learned how not to pay my telephone tax. (laugh) That's a tough question. I think if anything I learned that resistance can be a living, functional thing in any society, and if anything it gave me a sense of independence that I hope that I still have and can reflect upon, other things that I have done. Independence, I think, is objectivity to a sense, too, where I can analyze a statement or a thought, and live with it more effectively than I could have before. Maybe I would have come to this point anyhow, but I suspect that that (vehicle passing) the things that spoke a bit more than anything else.

Q. What do you see as the strengths and weaknesses that the Anti-War Movement had?

A. Okay. The weakness obviously that at the onset were a small group from the usual. The strength, the fact that they were right. The fact that they had moral arguments that were valid on their side, and that's a difficult question. It's very hard to answer. I really don't know how I'd stand on that. Let's take a break here for just a second.

Q. What do you see as the importance of the Anti-War Movement?

A. Immediately, the first thing that would come to my mind would be its direct goal, and that was to stop the War. It succeeded. It was

important to make Americans, as the world realized, what war was about. I think it also touched off a series of questioning. The questions that Americans could ask about other institutions that were supposedly sacred. A case in point, organizations that evolved even to this day, such as the groups like Jarvis and his Tax Revolt, who say, "Hey, you know, this is wrong. We can do something about it. We can organize." And they can carry it through. I know there are tons of other things, that came about not necessarily directly because of it, but got some push. Like women's liberation got a boost from it. Many things that I can't think of right off the top of my head. A very important movement, I think it will be recorded historically as something that's significant.

Q. In what ways did you see (vehicles passing) the Anti-War Movement, besides the peace rallies and the demonstrations obviously, but in what other ways did you see personally people resisting the war?

A. Oh, I was just wondering, and I could speak for what I saw on television, I read the magazines. What I personally observed in the Midwest . . . (sigh) Just directly I'm sorry to say that there was not much popular support for resistance or resistance here. I had mentioned to you before I spent a lot of time up in Canada every chance I got. Easter vacations were always in Canada. Christmas I was stuck here generally, but any free time I had between semesters or between summer sessions, and the fall or spring, that's where I immediately headed, Toronto. Up there you saw quite a bit. I mentioned I never actually had met a bonafide draft dodger when I was there, but you'd see posters on the streets of Toronto. I remember one thing so well. It was in 1972. I can understand also at that time if you left to go to Canada, or Sweden, or another country to avoid the draft you could not be charged with a crime until you came back into the United States. So therefore, the entire time you were in Canada, for example, you were a full-fledged citizen, and in 1972, when the government was running, there was a movement among the Viet Nam draft dodgers, the Americans in Toronto, to organize to get them all absentee ballots so they could vote for McGovern, even though in fact they were (laugh) criminals as soon as they came back to the United States. But there was a lot of activity in Toronto. In fact, I can remember one time when even a couple of students who were from Detroit stopped me on the street and asked generally where the draft people were, (laugh) and the like. It was quite funny, (laugh) you know, being an American.

Q. Did you have any trouble going back and forth to Canada?

A. Oh gee. Never had any problem going into Canada, always had trouble coming back into the United States. One time all the way up through the computer, it punched up to see if I was one of the no-no's, and always had me show the draft card. I think my age had a lot to do with it more than anything, plus, you know, a small car, and I had

a beard and long hair at the time. And one time we actually got searched. I'd brought a friend back with me from Canada, and he was a Canadian, and the other two of us were Americans. And we got the full-scale. One guy tore apart the car while we had to individually go into rooms and disrobe and go through the whole inspection. Get up on the table and cough and the whole like. Always (laugh) hassled coming back from Canada. Ah, used to dread it, just plan on a two-hour delay.

Q. Were you treated in a rough manner, pushed around or . . .

A. Well, verbally yes, but physically, no. No they wouldn't dare that. Especially once they've--I remember it so well that they always were abusive until they looked through my wallet and found my gun registration card; and then figured that since I owned guns, that under the hair I was really an all right Mac. (laugh) And it's funny. It happened more than once. (laugh)

Q. Do you remember any of the war moratoriums?

A. Distinctly! I remember the--I believe it was the first one--I could be mistaken. There were a wave of them, I believe, in the first year. But the one I remember the most was when I was at Lincoln Land, and it seems maybe that was a student strike. But at any event I had one course out there, and I'd be more than happy to leave this name in on tape because I was at Lincoln Land, and the instructor's name was Fitzgibbons; a classic Paul Harvey conservative, a classic man. Anyhow, it never failed. If there was a moratorium, a student strike, anything I had him for a whole year out there, three different geography courses--he would always give a pop exam on moratorium day. And it would be so blatantly simple (laugh) that you couldn't help but pass it. So if you boycotted the classes you obviously were forfeiting so many points towards your final grade. And I always went on moratorium day to his class simply in anticipation of the extra twenty or thirty points I'd get for the quarter, and it never failed. He deliberately would give tests, son-of-a-bitch. (laugh) He was too.

Q. Were there any other war moratoriums, peace rallies, et cetera?

A. I remember the one that, the big one in D.C., and I've forgotten the--I was at ISU then, and we had a bushload or two that went out, and I think it was \$30 round trip. And I was pretty broke at the time, so I didn't go. But it was a very successful rally, I've forgotten the year, it had to be between 1970 and 1973. I would guess maybe 1970, October 1970, could that be, or 1971? (laugh) In this case I didn't go. It was a massive rally though.

Q. What was the End Of The World Party?

A. A classic. It was--I remember it so well. I was in my apartment

building, you know, I'd been drinking, as usual. It was the evening that Nixon came on TV and announced the mining of Haiphong Harbor. And a friend of mine called me. He was a student at the University of Chicago at the time, a fire-breathing radical, and he called me and we really anticipated the advent of nuclear war. We thought that Soviet intervention was now, it had gone too far, Nixon had done it and one of his roommates, his name was, I believe, D. E. Frank, or something, he was from New York City, he'd been harboring--we were all dirt-poor at the time--harboring a fifty or a quart of Chevas Regal. We all decided to go down to the Navy Pier, and watch the bombs go off, and have an End Of The World Party with our Chevas Regal. (laugh) I was going to go out there, but I think I was too broke (laugh). And so we didn't have one and the world didn't end, so it's still fine. (laugh)

Q. What effect did you think Nixon would have on the Viet Nam War when he was first elected?

A. It's tough to say in retrospect. After his first year, you knew that the guy was an absolute ass hole. He was phoney. He was going to stall you. You just knew it, and after Cambodia there was no question. The guy had to go. Sometimes I forget how much I hated the man. He didn't end the War. He had no intention of it when he had his secret plans in 1968. Ridiculous, ridiculous! (vehicle passing) I don't want to get into Nixon though (laugh) of all things. (laugh)

Q. Okay.

A. Dislike the man intensely.

Q. What are your feelings about Democrats such as Edmund Muskie?

A. Well, as I remember Muskie--I don't remember that much about him from the 1968 campaign. In the 1972 campaign, he was such a favorite to win the nomination that I hate to admit I've forgotten a lot of the stuff that he was advocating. Obviously it wasn't particularly insightful, or radical, or probably would have made an impression. I really can't comment about that.

Q. How do you feel about the person who did get the Democratic nomination that year, George McGovern?

A. Oh, I liked him. (laugh) As a matter of fact, I can remember riding around in Toronto, and this was well, well in front of the time he got the nomination. It would have been March of 1972. He was a distinct commandant, and I remember being (vehicle passing) the only car in Toronto riding around with a McGovern sticker on the back. And I can also remember coming back on I believe it was Interstate 80; and somebody passed me, and honked, and honked, and smiled,

and waved; and I couldn't figure it out till they got by me that they also--looked like a college student at the time--had a McGovern bumper sticker on the back of their car. I really liked McGovern. I really hoped that he'd win. I knew that he wouldn't, but still, what can you say? I always remember the poll when Nixon was in Watergate trouble, that they came up with someone new to broadcast it--I don't know, a year or so after the election. So if the election had been held today, George McGovern would have won. (laugh) I've always thought that ever since then.

Q. How did Watergate affect you?

A. Not at all at first. I really thought it was self--irrelevant in the beginning, and towards the end when the cover-up occurred, it made me happy. (laugh) I wasn't very objective about Nixon. I hated the guy from the minute. And then under the Cambodian thing, I knew I couldn't stand him. And then after he went on mining the harbor, the bombing of Mai Lai, there was nothing the man could do to vindicate himself. Oh God, and of course, when he got Spiro Agnew running around helping him--out talking about effete intellectual snobs--but there was no redeeming feature. (laugh)

Q. What do you remember about a man by the name of Daniel Ellsberg?

A. Oh yes, the break-ins. Ironically, not all that much. I felt he was a typical political prisoner. He was one of several, a Neapolitan if you (laugh) want to take a facetious definition of Neapolitan. It was just so complex. It was typical of the time, and Andrew Young summed it up so well, you know, later, and he's right today. Incredible! And if I'm not mistaken, Ellsberg is still being harassed from time to time, not that much. I didn't involve myself with Ellsberg all that much.

Q. How do you feel about--or how did you feel about Bobby Kennedy?

A. It was tough to say. In all fairness, I was too young to have an opinion. I was still too much a very conservative, central Illinois youth when the assassination happened. In light of what has happened since, I really don't have that much or that high a regard for the guy, nor do I for Edward his brother to be President. But politically, I think that he probably would have been great had he lived another couple of years down the line.

Q. What was your immediate reaction when you heard that he had been shot?

A. Oh, terrible! I mean, you never feel good about that, and I didn't feel good, gosh. What King died a month and a half before, and George Wallace got shot. Was that in 1972, I guess, when Wallace got shot, on and on. No, I felt terrible about it. I think everybody else felt sick also.

Q. What were your reactions to the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.?

A. Well, again, I was just too much a product of my environment at that point in time. And the things he--I felt terrible about it--but the big impact of his ideas I . . .

END OF TAPE ONE, SIDE ONE

Q. Any more to say about it?

A. But King's ideas I would say even now are just starting to seep in. And I suspect that world history shall record him as a very, very influential person, and worthy of a lot more than I at this point in time recognize him for.

Q. Were you ever at all involved in Civil Rights movements?

A. No, no. I have to say absolutely not. You have to remember, too, that I was a product of a very, very white, middle-class environment, even though I was from the seed of Lincoln. When I was starting to really formulate what I would consider mature judgment patterns, the few blacks that I ran across were very militant at the time and rightfully so. So gosh, if anything, I was probably a little bit put off by it all and all. That was just a point in time. No, but to answer your question, no, not in any significant way whatsoever.

Q. Looking back, do you see the black people's point of view on the issue of the white devil slave master?

A. Sure, yes there's no question. In equality if we are to commit ourselves to it, there still isn't--is inherent--maybe ten, twenty years now down the road we'll be closer to it. But absolutely, if anybody had a squawk at that time, (laugh) it was black people in America. And they've still got a squawk to a degree, but they're not the only ones, so, yes.

Q. Do you yourself honestly have any racial prejudices?

A. Absolutely, absolutely. And I'd be the first one to admit them. I still have twinges. I mean, if I see a black man and a white girl

Q. (laugh)

A. It's true. It's true. I'm there and it makes me double take. I can't deny it. I wish it was gone. Hopefully ten years from now when I look at the tape, or listen to the tape and look at the transcript, I'll go, "Gosh, did I really say that?" (laugh) But yes, I do have some prejudices, and I'm sorry about them. They're inbred. I hope I can overcompensate someday.

Q. What do you remember about the Youth International Party?

A. Oh, the Yippies. (laugh) A lot of fun. That's what I remember about them the most. In 1968, of course, when they came to the forefront, I really enjoyed reading them. Jerry Rubin's book, Do It, and Abbie Hoffman's Steal This Book. I don't know if you ever read those two, but I used to delight in those books. And I have to say that they had a effect on the way I live, (laugh) and the way I've run my life ever since. (laugh) Enjoy yourself. It's ironic when I see what's become common now. When you see a silly barren smoke party on the Capitol lawn, they go, "Wait a minute, is this all?" I remember them so well, but I don't want to associate them with any heavy causes. They were there, but gosh, in my mind's eye they were a lot of fun people. And that's how I prefer to remember them now.

Q. Do you believe that they were responsible in any way for the riots in Chicago?

A. Sure, they were responsible. (laugh) There's no question about it. In fact, I think even of late, on the last year, I think Rubin was quoted as saying, "We were guilty as hell of inciting the riot." And there was no question about it. But while inciting the riot, well, I forget the specific wording of the law. Sure, they organized a bunch of people to get together. What happened from there, I don't think the Yippies were that responsible for it. There was an idea there, and I don't think that you can give credit to the Youth International Party for doing more than bringing folks together.

Q. Have you ever witnessed a riot?

A. No, I don't think so. In that suspect I, no. In fact, I'm sure I have not.

Q. Do you remember the problems they had at Kent State, and how do you feel about that?

A. Oh, gee, that was a tough one. That was, of course, the Cambodian thing that happened, pretty ugly situation. In retrospect, it pops up in my mind as a very significant point in the Anti-War Movement. I think it turned a lot of middle-class people around, especially if you had a child in college at that time, the middle-class, middle-aged person. Pretty bad now is about the only thing I can say specifically. I don't know if I could really comment on it, not fun. I don't like to think about it really.

Q. Do you remember (cough) any of the underground newspapers?

A. Oh, gosh, let me think. There was a local one that--most of them are still around, the ones that I remember. Berkeley Barb, which I know quite well above ground. And gosh, I guess I really never saw that much zap comics and the like, newspapers per se. It was tough

to get stuff to filter down here. Gosh, we had one in Bloomington called the Post Amerikan. Amerikan, I don't know if you've heard of it, it's still around. Yes, I remember them. I don't remember that they played all that significant a role. A lot of times just cartoons and the like. People with lots of long hair, and beards, and stuff. Although the Fugs' records that I've talked about were underground comics and underground newspapers, too, like Senate.

Q. Were you ever referred to or directly called a Hippie or a Yippie?

A. Oh, God, (laugh) I still am. (laugh) Sure you must be, too. (laugh) Oh, all the time, all the time! I specifically remember one time when I was in Normal. This was right next to campus, right by the bookstore. I was walking along, and bear in mind that I didn't look all that different than I do now. My hair might have been slightly longer, my beard now is what, three or four inches long? And I was just walking along, and I was conservatively dressed, maybe had bell-bottoms or jeans or something on, and I was walking along. I still can see this guy--he was a middle-aged, forty-fivish white man--get out of his car, and just the look of total ugliness he gave me. And a total stranger! I wasn't even watching, got out and, "Why don't you get a haircut?" I was astonished, and of course, I retorted with something very inventive like, "Why don't you let your beard grow?" Regardless, yes, many times. And I remember one time when I was in Kansas, (vehicle passing) and I stopped at a just-off-the-interstate gas station, and said, "Hey," you know, "let me use your john for a second." The fellow looked at me, chawed his tobacco a couple of times and said, "All right, you can use my bathroom, don't forget none of them crabs in there."

Q. (laugh)

A. I mean this happened. This is not a fabrication! So I immediately went in and urinated all over his floor. (laughter) But it was terrible, and this was consistent, just on, and on, and on. I heard so many horror stories that you can't imagine.

Q. What are your feelings about the Communist and Socialist Parties in America?

A. Oh, in America, they're pretty ineffective. I don't foresee any radical change. Communism to me, you know, if it hinges on revolution, they bug everybody off pretty well. Then Socialist-Capitalist-type merger--I always vote for a few Communists for sure. The U of I Board of Trustees, I mean, my God, a state owned university should be run by people that believe in the state. (laugh) But the United States, I'm afraid, is something that time has definitely not yet arrived. And I question whether it ever will. But regardless, outside of the United States a mighty powerful force, but domestically, I'm afraid I'll be an old man before, (laugh) much comes about with it.

Q. Do you believe that the United States keeps--the government keeps this under wraps?

A. The parties?

Q. Yes.

A. To a degree, to a degree. We're a pretty--we're so conditioned to go and mindlessly work for eight hours, and then come home and sit there in front of our t.v., and go, "Ah, this is mine. It's mine. I own it." I suspect that a need for real want in this country before you're going to see much progress made with any of our smaller parties. And Communist, of course, got such a bad [reputation], due to the government to a degree, a lot of conditioning. It'll be a bomb.

Q. What are your reactions to a phrase, "Better dead than Red?"

A. "America, bend it or break it," (laugh) is one of my favorites. I used to love--in fact, I still hang around the American Opinion Bookstore, which is the public information out on the John Birch Society. Have you ever been there? At First and Ash. (laugh) You owe it to yourself to go in there some evening. Yes. (laugh) "Better dead than Red." (laugh) It's comedy, and it's like, "Love it or leave it." "Bend it or break it" was my favorite. The peace sign as the footprint of the American chicken. (laugh) I remember the invalid point of view.

Q. How do you feel about the recent upswing of ultraconservatism in America?

A. Oh, it's, well, it's something that I think is very limited. It doesn't frighten me. The ultraconservatism I see is pretty limited, and I don't know what you really mean by the term--oh, I assume the old Kentucky mold or All right I think you've got more bias than that when you say "ultra." (laugh) It's tough to say. It's such an economic perspective to have to push this off into. When you're poor like I am, and you basically just, you know, live off any social programs that come along, it doesn't start to scare me until they start to talk about social programs that they're going to cut back on. If I had a child in school and somebody said that, gosh, you know, "We're going to cut out his class in Esperanto, or Spanish." Gosh, then I'd start to squawk a little bit. I mean, after all, the people that I would regard as Proposition 13 percent, yes, they're squawking about the fact that their property taxes went up. But let's look at what happened to the real value of their property. I mean who's becoming rich? (laugh) So

Q. Did you at any time have any ties with the SDS?

A. No, not at all.

Q. Have you read any of their materials?

A. (sigh) I probably did in watered-down versions and bootleg things. I don't specifically remember reading anything that was totally SDS at that time. I could have, but I'm not certain now.

Q. What were your reactions when President Nixon stepped up the bombing of North Viet Nam, and the mining of the harbors, Hai Phong . . .

A. Well, obviously I told you about the End Of The World party. It was frustrating. There was just so little you could do. There was so little you could do, you know. You were writing letters, firing them off right and left. You were out there on your picket line, so to speak, going, "No, this is wrong." You didn't have that much recourse. It was upsetting. Well, it just was another edging you towards a total disgust with the man. And I stress with the man, President Nixon. The institutions, they were jaded and tainted, as the police. The policeman was your friend, you know, he's out there beating up (laugh) people in the street, I mean, you know, on and on. So you know, it was nothing.

Q. How do you see Richard Nixon as the man who brought about peace in Viet Nam?

A. (laugh) He was such a nice guy, you know. Wish he'd married my daughter, you know. (laugh) He didn't bring about peace. Gerald Ford brought about peace. No, no, if Richard Nixon would have made peace, in 1969 or 1970, I'd say that was a legitimate liaison. But gee, you know, (laugh) 1974 when he resigns he goes, "There's no Americans in there." (laugh) I don't view Richard Nixon as having brought any peace.

Q. How do you see Henry Kissinger?

A. Well, at the time, I thought Henry was pretty dandy, but in light of recent disclosures--and this is unfair--at the time I thought he was doing a pretty good job worldwide. But the China visit was something phenomenal, and I'll always put that as a feather in his cap, but in retrospect maybe it wasn't anything that dandy. In Vietnamese contacts, Kissinger I believe said, "We need about eighteen months before you finally take over." I think any mediocre Secretary of State, a la Cyrus Vance, could have done it. Dean Rusk, those guys were pretty mediocre. (laugh)

Q. What do you remember most distinctly about protest music?

A. Oh boy, a ton of it. I'm glad you asked that question. (laugh) Joan Baez, of course, had to be the leader, but like the Fugs that I mentioned to you before, and I'll play you one or two songs before you go. Just looking at it, these guys were funny. They were a group--basically old beatniks. Some of the people in them, I don't know if you're familiar with Allen Ginsberg? Allen Ginsberg is in

on one of their albums back then. I'll read it, I believe it was he that was responsible. (vehicle passing) On this part of it the 1967 demonstration at the Pentagon, it was called "Exorcising the Evil Spirits from the Pentagon," October 21, 1967, where they actually had a religious gathering. They were trying to raise the Pentagon five feet off the ground, and then they had a group grope, which I think meant it just a group sex session when everybody took off their clothes, and of course, everybody got arrested. I believe Ed Sanders, who was also in the group--have you ever heard of him? He urinated on the Pentagon, it was on the side of the building. Also, he later went on to write a book called The Family about the Charles Manson family. Got some moderate success with that. And Tuli Kuffenburg. Oh, basically old beatniks, the coast thing. These guys also wrote lots of dirty stuff. I mean one of their songs, I think, is called, "Jack-Off Blues," and "Boobs Alive." "Coca-Cola Douche" is another one, but they also wrote a lot of insightful Anti-War songs like, well, all and all let me just look at these and read you some of the names. Oh gosh, well, the titles really aren't that insightful when I think of it. (pause) "CIA Man," which, you almost have to hear these things, a lot of stuff. I'll get the words to you so you can just kind of try to put them in right, if you want to bother. Of course, if you want, I can put them on tape for you, for me, too.

Q. Do you think that they are the most radical of these . . .

A. Musical people?

Q. Yes.

A. (sigh) Oh, that's--there's radicals I've heard, yet, then again, I've run across an album since then, specifically the Force of Life Singers and they were about the only They have other forms specifically, but musically it wasn't quite the same. But yes, I'd say they were as radical as most or more radical than most. Let me put it that way.

Q. Do you recognize any of these other names, and how do you feel about their music?

A. Woodstock, incredible sure. (vehicle passing) I think Woodstock, another Joan Baez we had, Jefferson Airplane, I guess it was then. The Anti-War thing was there, yet I still think it was more a result of the Anti-War thing. It wasn't everybody's thing. Arlo Guthrie--ironically I was just listening to some Woody Guthrie last night--I'm trying to relate that with the Chinese Revolution, and it works, it's easy. An Oklahoma dirt farmer and a peasant in China have a lot in common. Arlo and the Anti-War stuff, I really don't recall that much about it. But then Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, I don't associate them at all except with "Ohio." Of course, that was one of my all-time favorite songs. "Mayor Daley and the Fugs." No, "Ohio," of course. Mayor Daley was the Fugs. Crosby, Stills, and

Nash. I think it was Steven Stills that wrote "Ohio," if I'm not mistaken. A very, very good song, very powerful, and it was played a lot. I liked it and the power. Grateful Dead, lot of drugs.

Q. (laughs)

A Morning Dew, I always liked their song. I got a few of their albums. Yes, they had a lot to do with the San Francisco thing. I always remember I went off to visit a friend of mine in San Francisco, in 1974, I think. And he'd gotten a place, it was like five other people. I mean it was a dump, and it was like the third floor off a four-story place. And it was three houses down from Haight-Ashbury. And so we'd jokingly sit around and go, "We've finally made it, Haight-Ashbury, eight years late." (laugh) And I mean the attics had gone, it was too bad. Okay, the Beatles, Oh, I remember them. The Rolling Stones, I remember them so well. I still have albums by all these people, of course. I think I'll always be scarred by the Stones with Altamont, where they had the Hell's Angels that were--but I get confused. The Hell's Angels were their security guards and somebody got killed at one of their concerts in California. And other than that, a very driving force in that music. I don't associate the two British groups at all with anything that would--not at all with the war. And the Fugs, a main force, (laugh) a driving force.

Q. What do you remember about Webber Borchers?

A. Ah, Webber Borchers! (laugh) Webber Borchers, to quote a college professor about Warren Harding, "If he hadn't existed, it would have been necessary for someone to invent him." Webber Borchers was a state representative in Illinois from Decatur. Webber was a conservative. The first time I became aware of Webber Borchers, when I was at ISU, was someone told Webber that the Illinois State University would not allow the Marine Corps recruitment officers on campus during the--oh, I forget--Career Days or whatever when they would come. Nothing could have been further from the truth. Anyone that wanted to come there was welcome. We didn't kick Dow Chemical off like U of I [University of Illinois] did. We greeted the Army, and Navy, and Marines, and Air Force, and the Marines came. But anyhow, Webber had it in his mind that it wasn't allowed. So Webber introduced the bill before the Illinois House to have all funding for the Illinois State University cut out of the budget. It failed, but Webber wasn't satisfied with that. Also at the same time Illinois State had legitimized a gay organization on campus--I think it was the ISU Homophile Society--and all it was was a club. (vehicle passing) It was certainly and I think it was a university club. And I believe that meant that you could use, I think, university buildings for your gathering, and it was just a sanctioning-type thing. It was nothing. But Webber got upset about that, and of course, this was in say, 1970 or 1969. The Civil Rights Movement was now what, eight years old, and really not the bold thing it had been, and Webber decided that he'd better

find out what was going on up at ISU. So he took money that was appropriated by the legislature to each representative for office workers and hired a, as I remember quote a black youth, who he paid to go up and find out what was going on at ISU. Later on when he got indicted and went to jail (laugh) for misuse of funds, (laugh) they asked him, "Now, Webber, who is this black youth?" And he goes, "I never knew his name." And, "Where is he?" "Well, I don't know." So Webber never could figure out where it was. The most famous line I remember about Webber was in regard to the gay organization, and this is a quote as I remember. And he said this, as I understand it, on the floor of the Illinois House. And I don't know if I stand by in court, but it's my understanding that he stood up at one of the speeches on the floor of the House and said, "You know, it's just not natural for one man to suck another man's cock." And that kind of summed (laugh) up Webber Borchers. (laugh)

He also refused to vote for the Equal Rights Amendment on grounds that he'd vote for it if a little girl could throw a baseball as well as a little boy because in war that baseball becomes a grenade. (laugh) Webber went to jail. He also notably tried to stop fundings for the Illinois EPA. It failed because he owned a landfill in Decatur which was illegal, and they were trying to shut down. Poor guy. (laugh) Last I heard he was trying to run for State Senate from that district, so . . . (laugh)

Q. What do you remember about a man by the name of Gus Hall?

A. Oh, yes, Gus Hall. I think he's still alive. He was a classic political prisoner. I think he went to jail for most of World War II because he was a Communist from, I believe North Dakota, or Minnesota. In 1972 when I came home, it was election day, and I was voting for the first time. And it was a pretty important moment for me. So I came back to Springfield, and was sitting around, and I began to--five minutes till ten on election eve and I was a strong McGovern voter--and all of a sudden I remembered. So I was talking to a couple of friends of mine, and I glanced over and out of the corner of my eye at the television set which was going. It was Gus Hall-Jarvis Tyner, I believe, the black man that was running for Vice-President with him. And they did a five-minute spot on how to vote Communist or why you should vote Communist. And it was a tough one. It was a real tough go. And why I actually sat there and said, "Gosh, your goals"--Now they were things I believe that they were advocating national guaranteed income of, at that time, I think, it was \$15,000 a year. Of course, an end to the War. There was no question about that. And you just go, "Gosh." And I remember it was a dilemma. And it took me I'd say ten minutes in that voting booth just for the Presidential slot or how to vote. You vote for a guy that's got maybe a chance, and you vote for a guy that really kind of reflects your principle. I went down and voted for all the other offices first, and I came back. And I don't want to commit myself to say who I voted for. I voted for McGovern or Hall. What can you say, you know. (laugh)

Q. Have you ever been labelled a Communist by people?

A. Yes.

Q. What kind of reaction do you have to that?

A. None, because anyone that would say it, I mean, you regard them mentally as so far beneath you that you can't begin to communicate with these people. It might be true or it might not be true. I don't think so. I'm not a registered Communist. I don't vote Communist in the primary elections. So, yes, when it happens, you just dismiss it. Attitude.

Q. Have people ever labelled you a homosexual or anything?

A. No, you know, just in relation to being a hippie, Commie, queer, you know, I mean, no, not in any sincerity, no.

Q. Were you ever involved in a movement that dealt with not cooperating with Selective Service?

A. The Selective Service? Not really. I don't think I probably would have, simply because I was so safe. That 296 number is essential. I mean, you have no idea how much pressure that takes off you. It says, "You're out. You don't ever have to ever worry about this." And so I did not. In fact, I don't think any of my friends did either, but they all got out. Almost to a man. Well, they all got out, except one who got stuck by his own mentality.

Q. Do you have any other comments on the Anti-War Movement or anything associated?

A. Let me look over my notes there. I think you covered everything I have in mine. Well, yes, just in retrospect. I'll say this, and about the--(laugh). No Viet Nam vets, though, (laugh) will ever hear this tape. They will be old, senile women if they ever do. I remember it so well, this was kind of a sum up to--see, when you get into being a hairy, gross person for a few years and don't stop, (laugh) and I love to do stuff like this--even to this day, I still like to upset the majority of people. But do you remember the stickers that came out? It was really after the war was done, and it said, "POW's never have a nice day." And it had a little ball face. It was on a white on black, and it had the little white face, only it was a frown instead of a smile. And what I had done, I went and got two of them, and I cut them up. I put little X's, black X's over the eyes, and then I altered the letters that said, "POW's are dead." (laugh)

Q. My God.

A. It was terrible. People would look at it and just go, "Oh, my

God." (laugh) And these people were going--we were negotiating, Kissinger was negotiating to get them back, dead, you know. (laugh) So, other than that, that's difficult to tell. I'm glad it's over. I wish nobody had ever gone. I wish it had never happened. A lot of things, but

Q. If the United States was ever involved in another war, would you feel it your duty to serve?

A. No, that's an impossible question. It is. (laugh) Just from a personal point of view. (laugh) Well as you know--(laugh) I'm trying to think, if there was a serious chance of a beer shortage, "Oh, my God." (laugh) If we were trying to conquer Milwaukee, I might go. (laugh) I can't answer that. I don't know. I simply do not know. I wouldn't go into another Viet Nam-type war unless my sister lived there or something (laugh) you know. Because I have no sisters, I don't think that will happen.

Q. Well, thank you very much . . . (vehicle passing)

A. Oh, it's been my pleasure. I would like to have at least a small royalty. (laugh) Whatever, I can't think of anything else that (interference) is really relevant, but let me play a couple of those songs for you before you slip away.

END OF TAPE