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L.J. Kimball: This is side one tape one of an interview with retired Lt. Col. H.G. Bozarth which is being conducted on Monday, 20 June, 1994 at his residence, 100 Marian Place. The interviewer is L.J. Kimball. Also present is retired General Miller.

The first question, Sir, I'd like to ask you concerns the very genesis of the formation of Camp Lejeune. What was your and Lt. Col. Hill's assignment prior to being posted at the Marine Barracks?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Col. Hill I believe was assigned to the Philadelphia Depot of supplies. I was at Quantico, Virginia, assigned to Base Maintenance with additional duties with the Navy Bureau of Yards & Docks on the construction of Quantico. I worked a number of years with the Yards & Docks as an additional duty with this construction. Construction there was barracks D, E, F, G, the airport, barracks to the airport, enlisted apartments, the schools in the old area, the hospital in the old area, the big theater, hostess house, bowling alley complex, and a new water system for Quantico and the pipeline from the old facilities. One of the last things I was working on when I left was the first building of the FBI.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Which is now Hochmuth Hall. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Right in front of the old rifle range.

Lt. Gen. Miller: What was the WPA's relationship to those buildings?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: WPA?

Lt. Gen. Miller: All the ones you mentioned—all the barracks. Was the WPA involved with these?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh no. No, no. WPA was involved at the last moment there at about where the schools are at Quantico now. WPA was involved in clearing some land out there. WPA would like to spend everything for labor and we were furnishing the material.

L.J. Kimball: Mmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We were using the old Holt artillery tractors from the old artillery outfit to help to clear the ranges and everything like that. But WPA was used basically for clearing those old ranges, where the high school is now at, ah, Quantico.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: You were a Warrant Officer at that time?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I was, well, I was Staff Sergeant, Technical Sergeant, then promoted to Warrant Officer, ah, in '40 before I came here. I was Warrant Officer part of the time. I wore civilian clothes on most of my duties there with the construction.

L.J. Kimball: How were you and Lt. Col. Hill ordered to the Marine barracks and with what assignment?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I got a call from, ah, . . . from the Commandant of Marine Corps and I got one from Gen. Hill I think almost the same day, Col. Hill then. Said we'd been chosen to build Marine barracks New River. And of course I had known Gen. Holcomb. Gen. Holcomb kept this big boat there at the boat basin in Quantico, so I personally know Gen. Holcomb and I had worked with Gen. Hill on a tour before this. Gen. Hill was maintenance officer I believe when he was Captain there probably. Gen. Hill's education was as a geologist. He was ordered to the Navy mines in Alaska to fight fires they had in the mines. He did a tour with Roy Chapman Andrews in the Gobi Desert. Where's that? China?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: China. And he was one of the older naval aviators. He was flying in the, not the original Naval aviators, but he was in the twenties or something like that as a flyer. He was from Oklahoma. He was part Indian. And he came here as a Lt. Col. and got promoted on up to general and ended up his career as the Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps.

L.J. Kimball: The orders posting you to Marine barracks, did it assign you as Assistant Liaison, or words to that effect?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I was Assistant Liaison to Gen. Hill. Col. Hill was Liaison. Of course, you see we had a board before this to find the area which the site of Camp Lejeune now. And, ah, as I remember, our basic instruction was to build, what, five regimental areas, or four regimental areas. What is it? Is it four or five regimental areas?

L.J. Kimball: You told. . . you said four. I think . . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Is it five or four . . .

L.J. Kimball: It was four. Then after World War II began, they increased to five.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. Everything there is now in the old area is exactly what was built originally. I forgot whether it's four regiments or five regiments.

L.J. Kimball: There's five regimental areas now sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But that counts the one across the river, but you built four on the . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: From 'A' Street down the main drag to Division Headquarters—we built all this at the same time.

L.J. Kimball: Mmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We built Montford Point which is Camp Johnson at the same time. We built the Industrial Area at the same time and we built Courthouse Bay, rifle range, and Camp Geiger Tent Camp. All of those were built at the same time.

L.J. Kimball: How and when did you and Lt. Col. Hill arrive?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I beat him here by one day. I drove down and picked him up the next day at Railroad Station in Wilmington. I arrived here the 29th of April, 1941.

L.J. Kimball: Then Col. Hill arrived on the 30th of April and you picked him up?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's right.

L.J. Kimball: At the train station? Is that the Atlantic Coast Line train station?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Atlantic Coast Line headquarters was in Wilmington in those days, yes.

L.J. Kimball: When you arrived the day before, who did you report to?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't think I reported to anybody 'cuz I was first here. There was about the same time a Navy Lt., a public works type, named Murphy might have been here the same day I was, or something like that. But, we were told that we'd come here on Temporary Attached Duty - TAD. About five others was

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coming with us. We had a male secretary with us. And another guy that was gonna be a driver, named Givens. And I don't remember the details of how many of us. And we had a Quartermaster, a sergeant named Miller that was gonna be here right quick. Within a very few days we had about eight or ten people.

L.J. Kimball: They came with Lt. Col. Hill?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Pardon?

L.J. Kimball: They came with Col. Hill?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, there was about eight. Eight or nine people.

L.J. Kimball: Where were you and Lt. Col. Hill billeted?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We was over on Northeast Creek, back of Tarawa Terrace in the big, ah, vacation house that belonged to somebody in Wilson. I don't remember their names now. Had about five bedrooms. Didn't have electricity. We had a Delco Light plant, and, ah, that's where we housed most anybody that come down including the Secretary of the Navy Knox from Chicago come down and he stayed with us there. We had officers' mess kits. You probably seen them a long time ago. It's part of our facility over there. Col. Hill and Dr. Brown and I lived there and we had visitors from time to time.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall if that was the house that belonged to Mr. Sanders?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Pardon?

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall if that was the house that belonged to Mr. Sanders?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's not the one at Camp Geiger is it? I don't know.

L.J. Kimball: There was a newspaper article about that period said that, ah, Lt. Col. Hill was moving into the beautiful summer cottage of Mr. W. N. Sanders.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't remember.

L.J. Kimball: But you say it's in back of Tarawa Terrace?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. The house we lived in was back there. Our headquarters was on a house, in a house that, ah, Camp Geiger which was Tent Camp that become Gen. Vandegrift's headquarters when they started moving in. But we personally, Dr. Brown and Col. Hill and I, lived in that house back of Tarawa Terrace. It could have been Sanders' house, but it doesn't sound quite right. Anyway, that . . . I don't know whether the house is still existing out on the creek or not.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall, sir, where, what current roads or whatever in Tarawa Terrace might identify a former location of that house?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The house he lived in?

L.J. Kimball: The Sanders', the, ah, house that you and Col. Hill lived in?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: You enter the old. . . what is now the Camp Knox trailer camp road went about, halfway to the water there and went down through the woods to get to this house. Tarawa Terrace wasn't built then. That was a whole forest there. Now I think that when Tarawa Terrace was built you could go between two houses and go to this house way on the back side of Tarawa Terrace. But it was just a winding road, dirt road. In fact, when we came here the only paved roads in this area was 24 and 17, and 258.

L.J. Kimball: How did you settle on this particular house, or how did you decide to live in this particular house?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, this was the closest one to the area and offered more space. See we took over Camp Lejeune in increments of probably 10,000 acres at a time. We had a big surveying crew of, from, ah, they were from Wilmington by the way. We had a big air map of everything including, we included and put on the air map what is now Midway Park that blocked the entrance to Camp Lejeune. Then we would draw lines on our big air map, try to find general boundaries and give this to the surveyors to get working on so we could protect this property. Of course we wanted first the property where the main camp is now and that, that was our first thing. Later on we chopped off probably 10,000 acres at a time. It took us, ah, a few months to get all the property. But no problems there much.

L.J. Kimball: How was Col. Hill notified that he would be the commanding officer? Did he come down with the orders in his pocket or was he here . . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, no. We were coming down here with orders we'd be on TAD. Only five or six days later, and that, the records in Building One on the wall over there will show the date he took command, but in a very few days, got a telegram from Headquarters Marine Corps. You will, ah, to the effect you'll establish Marine barracks, take command. In those days Quartermaster people were not permitted to serve as CO's right?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: So, that was waived. I was Quartermaster also. Both of our . . . whatever you want to call it, a waiver of . . . whatever you want to call it like that, that was waived. That . . . And he took command, I'm saying within the first two weeks we were here, but the intent was we was gonna be a TAD and I don't know what changed that. Anyway, you know the pictures in Building One, don't you?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK, that'll show the date of these different commands like he and, ah, and Col. Brewster and people like that. That would be on that, on that wall thing.

L.J. Kimball: The letter that, that John Charles has in his office is dated 1 May, 1941 from Maj. Gen. Commandant to Col. Hill directing him to establish a Marine barracks at New River and become the Commanding Officer, and I wondered if, when he found out, if it had been kind of after the fact, and he'd actually been Commanding Officer for example, from the first of May, but he did not find out about it until later on in May.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: When was the . . .

L.J. Kimball: The letter was 1 May 1941.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I got the 29th, so my point is that we were coming out on TAD.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: And he was given command real shortly. I didn't know it was 1 May frankly. I know it was very quickly.

L.J. Kimball: How did you locate a place to serve as your headquarters? How did you make that determination?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: It was a farmhouse. Well, first place it was agreed was gonna build a tent camp. Tents were floored tents. How big is a tent? 16 by 16? It was a 16-man tent wasn't it?

Lt. Gen. Miller: That was the, ah. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Pyramidal tent.

Lt. Gen. Miller: It was squad tents wasn't it?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Pyramidal tents was, ah, only about eight people in those.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Anyway, the framing under the tent decks went out and formed a rigging. We didn't have to have spikes or anything like that. This rigging went out on two by fours to secure the tents and everything like that. We had to build a tent camp right fast and I don't remember exactly the reason. We didn't have water, adequate water, so we put in some chemical toilets to begin with. We built the four big mess halls and those mess halls at Camp Geiger, if you remember, they were wonderful. I think those mess halls could serve. . . Tent Camp orig. . . I think was built for 12,000 people as I remember. Twelve thousand troops. And those mess halls was designated to serve double feedings. Those metal buildings at Camp Geiger are not bolted together. They're put together with wedges. They were temporary.

L.J. Kimball: Was Lt. Commander Nichols here when you and Col. Hill arrived?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. He came later on. He was the senior Navy man aboard, Madison Nichols.

L.J. Kimball: Your selection of the . . . I believe it was the Gurganus farmhouse that you and Col. Hill moved into. Is that correct?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I guess that was the name of it. It was, ah, the first building beyond the highway. . . what's now the highway patrol. Right in the corner of the tent camp there, and we were in there a little while and then the troops started moving in and we moved over to, to. . . well, we had a building built right quick for the, our offices there at Camp Geiger. But, ah, we moved out of that building into our new building. Doyle and Russell from Richmond built our first office building and I'd say they built it in three or four days. It was quite a great big

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wooden building which would be coming almost in the middle of what's Camp Geiger now.

L.J. Kimball: Was Commanding Officer of the barracks Col. Hill's primary func. . . duty, or was Liaison Officer his primary duty?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, Liaison was the main duty. When he was assigned then there was, oh, we had probably forty or fifty troops that we brought a few maintenance people with us to stay on in a few days. Marines to operate the utilities as we could build the things around Camp Geiger, a sewage system and the wells and things like that. We brought some people down . . . Marines to do that for, for a few days. No, the . . . Col. Hill's duty even though full time he was Commanding General his main duties was to build. We had thousands of employees and we was building very fast wasn't very many troops here. And when the troops did come in at Camp Geiger they had very little relation I would say with Base Commander General Brews. . . ah Col. Brewster. Cuz, ah, that was what they call that Seventh Marines, maybe?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I'm not sure of the names of just who came.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Anyway Gen. Vandegrift was. . . was the CG and Gen. Phil Torrey got involved someplace along the line. I don't remember when he came. But it was long time before this duty for Base Commander.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. But I realize these events were over fifty years ago. I can hardly remember what happened twenty-five . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, well, I'm not . . .

L.J. Kimball: As the General indicated, you're the resident expert, so I'm taking advantage of the opportunity to ask and hope that maybe . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I've been around a little bit. Go ahead.

L.J. Kimball: There were the contractors here when you and Gen. Hill arrived at New River?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, no, no. No, no. No. Construction now and architects engineers was fixed fee cost plus. You got all that information there now.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: And the, ah, architects was from Durham, North Carolina and the engineers from Baltimore. Carr was the architect and Greiner was the engineers. We had shipped out of Philadelphia drafting boards, adding machines, typewriters, trucks, station wagons and everything to go into business here. Now we had our own auditors of course to audit, ah, along with the construction and everything like that, but, ah, we furnished everything out of . . . Marine Corps was furnishing everything. Every pencil and papers and everything. Just what the offices in construction. We got here the first thing we did was go to New Bern and establish a Post Office. We put in our own telephone exchange. There wasn't enough power from Tidewater Power Company to furnish us electricity. We had to get hot, and get these old engines from, I think Utah or someplace as I recall. Maybe you know better than that where they come from.

L.J. Kimball: Nevada I believe.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They went in that old brick building as you cross Northeast Creek there. Of course the engines weren't very good and we turned around and bought new engines as quick as we could, but we didn't have. . . Tidewater Power didn't have enough water, ah, enough electricity for us to get going with.

L.J. Kimball: You mentioned those old electrical generators from the mine in Nevada. Whatever became of those?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: As far as I know, the old, we junked the old engines and generators when we bought the new, the new engines. The new engines we used a few years and then we built the steam generating plant at Cherry Point and tied the two together. Camp Lejeune operated the plant at Cherry Point. And, ah, Cherry Point was generally then the big steam plant at Cherry Point was furnishing most of the power for Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point. Then we. . . the new generators which we hadn't used too many years, I believe they were shipped to Pennsylvania to some test areas. A place called Shipping Port [Shippensburg] or something like that in Pennsylvania. I'm not sure where they were shipped to. But anyway the new engines that we hadn't had too many years were dismantled and reused. They were beautiful engines. The old engines were scrapped as far as I know.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. I only know what I read in newspapers sir and looking at the accounts the old "News and Views" and "The Jacksonville Observer" reports that about the time you and Col. Hill arrived, that their contractors had moved in the Riverview Hotel and the other group with Lt. Murphy were in the Starling

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Livery Stables in Jacksonville. And trying to get the chronology together, I wondered if they came over and joined you in the Gurganus farmhouse or whether they were in the Gurganus farmhouse and you joined them.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, we built the. . . Doyle and Russell built the office building in Geiger right quick. We, the three, the two Marines of us, and a couple people in the Navy, Dr. Brown, we was all . . . had offices in the new office building at Geiger. But New River [Riverview] Hotel was an old wooden hotel right across the street from the new Courthouse now. Really served wonderful food but they had one table in there seated 25 or 30. The way we had to do, if I got there eating why somebody else come took my seat you know. This table was only reserved for the V.I.P.s. We'll put it that way. And which in those days the Navy and Marines and civilians were all together. We had a civilian Project Manager. We had an Architect Manager, a, ah, Engineer Manager. Everybody worked together as one big team all the time. No problem there.

L.J. Kimball: When you moved over into the new Admin Building, did all the contract supervisor personnel move over with you?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We didn't go, we didn't go in the new Ad Building. We went in the same building Public Works is in now [Bldg. 1005]. That was built specifically for us to move into. You know where it is now?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK. Ah, the old wooden building at Geiger when we moved out of Geiger and we were over there which was, ah, I don't know exactly the date. But one of the first buildings that was built at Main Side over there was the building that Public Works is in now. And we all moved in that. We built that cafeteria which was across the street from it used to be steak house and Chinese house and all this. We built that to feed our own people and, ah, the top level supervisor. We built Midway Park originally to h. . . It was supposed to be temporary. We built that to house supervisors and the top military people. I lived in Midway Park when I first got married a little while.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. To go back to the time when you and Col. Hill first arrived and you were in the farmhouse at Tent Camp, and as you've indicated, they built a warehouse there in Camp Geiger within a very few days and you moved from the farmhouse into that warehouse is your office. Do I recall that correctly?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, we built, we built. The first thing was built in Geiger was a new office building for us which was a single story wooden building, quite lengthy, had a lot of office space in it. It was just down the street from the farmhouse that we was in first. We never had offices in warehouses at Geiger.

L.J. Kimball: Did the contractors join you in the . . . your offices there?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh yeah. Architects, contract, everything was one outfit. The Navy, Marine Corps, engineers, architects, project managers, construction all were always together. Even at Geiger or when we moved in industrial area at, ah, where the Public Works is now. All of the offices was in that building then.

L.J. Kimball: The contractors themselves, did they live, were there contractors who lived out on Onslow and Hurst Beach?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: There's about 44, 40 or 44 places on Onslow Beach and some of our civilians lived there. Some civilian supervisors and people like that. People lived at New Bern, Wilmington, Morehead City, all around the country. There wasn't much space in Jacksonville. Murphy, Lt. Murphy lived in Jacksonville. Ah, I don't know where, I've forgotten. Madison Nichols lived in Jacksonville I believe. Dr. Brown. . . When Mrs. Hill came down here in that house back of Tarawa Terrace we picked . . . we moved down on Ragged Point which is directly across Southwest Creek from the aviation recreation area at MCAS New River. You've been there, haven't you?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The most beautiful house on the Reservation was there on that Ragged Point. Dr. Brown and I moved into that house when Mrs. Hill came down here. Still was a Delco Light Plant - everything automatic. Then the artillery moved into what is now Verona Loop Road which as a dirt road in those days. And it come a bad snow storm in a bad winter and it tore the road to pieces and we fixed up the house out there by Verona which was on the Reservation. I don't think it's there any more. Near that Methodist Church. Dr. Brown and I moved out there.

L.J. Kimball: Then you moved from a house in Tarawa Terrace over to Ragged Point and then to Verona?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Yeah. Dr. Brown and I did. Col. and Ms. Hill lived at that house back of Tarawa Terrace for, I don't know. Maybe a year, sometime.

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L.J. Kimball: Could you discuss what very basically was the command relationship? Commander Nichols was there as the representative supervisor of Yards and Docks and was the Navy's direct representative for constructing this camp. To the uninitiated, maybe the General's more familiar with this than I am, but Col. Hill is Liaison Officer and commands a very few Marines and Cmdr. Nichols down here represents the agency that's building the camp. It's not clear in my mind who was really in charge.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: General. . . Col. Hill was in charge 'cuz we were the owner. Does that clear it?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Marine Corps was the owner. Isn't that the best answer probably. The Marine Corps was the owner. The Navy was the engineers. Their headquarters then was Captain Cotter was in Norfolk. But I think to your question, I would say that Col. Hill was the most senior person here about everything. Because we were to, ah, select site plans, we were select relations of the buildings. For example, your regimental area had a regimental headquarters. And three battalion headquarters had three mess halls. And etcetera, etcetera, like that. It was up to Gen. Hill as the Liaison Officer to coordinate the space and the relations for office use 'cuz we had civilian architects and engineers I remember, see. And it was the Navy then, their technical responsibility to do the engineering, so to speak, of the mechanical engineering of the thing. But, ah, Col. Hill would have been the senior person aboard in all respects.

L.J. Kimball: Where were the Marines of the Marine Barracks billeted?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Pardon?

L.J. Kimball: The Marines that constituted the Barracks, Col. Hill's people, the actual Marines themselves, where were they billeted?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, we didn't have very many for a little bit. Let's see. I guess they were billeted at Camp Geiger, come to think about it, at the Tent Camp because we didn't have any other facilities right away.

L.J. Kimball: The General mentioned the WPA in association with Quantico. When you read about this period you have this alphabet soup. You have the WPA, the FSA, the FWA, the CCC. . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Was it the WPA or PWA?

L.J. Kimball: Well, you have the WPA, the Works Progress Administration and the FWA, the FSA. . . but, I was wondering, you've got these people that are involved some way in the construction of the base. What is their relationship to Col. Hill or Cmdr. Nichols and who's in charge of them?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK.

Tape One, Side Two

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We had two or three extra accounts and the Navy had nothing to do with WPA and CCC and things like that. We had. . . there was a bunch of sawmills operating on the base. We didn't want to buy anymore. . . put out any more money for land than we had to. And a lot of people were selling their timber. We were having a lot of forest fires so they decided we'd get some CCC camps. They moved their barracks here. Knock down barracks and panel types. I believe from Kentucky and to Camp Kno. . . what's Camp Knox now in the late, well, in the fall we'll say of '41. By the time they got their camp built, of course, the war was on and everything like that. We never got any use whatsoever out of CCC as I remember. Also, we spent, to help fight the forest fires, a company of Marines came from Parris Island and lived just about where the Commanding General's house is at Camp Lejeune now. Their purpose was to help fight the forest fires too.

L.J. Kimball: Was that Maj. Challacombe's people?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Challacombe and Moriarity and I forgot which was with what now? You don't have anything on Moriarity do you?

L.J. Kimball: Only that he relieved Maj. Challacombe.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK. I think maybe that's where they entered in the picture with a fire fighting company that came up here from Parris Island.

L.J. Kimball: Well, you've clarified another point, sir. Identifying where they came from. If you have any further recollection, I'd appreciate it. There's a photograph and it purports to be of a Marine standing in an old structure at Paradise Point. And it identifies this individual as being from H&S Company, First Marines, and the period of time is something like June, July 1941. Well of course the

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First Marine Division didn't establish itself in Camp Lejeune until after September and October and . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: So he was identified as a first Marine, not as a . . .

L.J. Kimball: First Marines.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Not as an organiz. . . not as an organiz. . . not as an organization?

L.J. Kimball: No sir. He just. . . of that organization, so if you had any recollection, knowing that Maj. Challacombe came up from Parris Island with Marines for fire fighting, I wondered if they'd come from the First Marines.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I believe that we're interpreting this wrong. I think it intended to say that he was one of the first Marine units here. You think that could be interpreted that way? I don't know. Whether it was First Marines or what was the first unit here. I don't know what was in Parris Island.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. Well the First Marines were in Parris Island.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK.

L.J. Kimball: The 7th Marines also.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK.

L.J. Kimball: You've probably seen all these articles the last fifty years that says the first Base Headquarters was an old summer cottage. The first base warehouse was a converted tobacco barn.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That was at, ah. . . Our Quartermaster Sergeant moved in down on the riverfront there at Camp Johnson. There was a little bathhouse down there and a dock and everything for the town. And he used the tobacco barn for his first warehouse. I don't think we ever was involved in anyway using metal warehouses at Geiger. But our Quartermaster Sergeant may have had a few things stored in that tobacco barn. And come to think of it I believe he lived at a house at what is now Camp Johnson too. Name was Morris Miller.

L.J. Kimball: This was the Base, the Barracks Quartermaster?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, he was our Quartermaster then.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: To answer your question, I think yes.

L.J. Kimball: Do you work Camp Geiger and . . . The point that I'm momentarily confused on here is you're in Tent Camp there at Camp Geiger and your Quartermaster's over in what is now Camp Johnson.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Right. But he had, he was just reporting and to take care of. . . I just told you that we furnished all the material at Camp Lejeune. We furnished trucks, station wagons, ah, adding machines, typewriters, all that. Our Quartermaster's duty was mainly for that and it was all in use in the offices, see what I mean. First Quartermaster was. . . he didn't have anything in the warehouse.

L.J. Kimball: When the First Marine Division came into the Tent Camp there, where was the Division Headquarters located?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: In that farmhouse right there in front of Saigon Sam's. I don't remember the name of the house, but I think you mentioned the house.

L.J. Kimball: The Gurganus farmhouse.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK. And we added to that house temporarily for Gen. Vandegrift's headquarters. It seemed to me like he might have lived in that house by himself there at one time or maybe he and Gen. Torrey lived there. I don't know. But that was the first headquarters for the. . . for the units at Geiger.

L.J. Kimball: So, the First Division Commanding Generals used that farmhouse as a residence and a headquarters?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I . . . it was a headquarters. I'm not sure about the residence. Seemed to me he lived there. I'm not sure about that Gen. Vandegrift. But it was the. . . was the office anyway.

L.J. Kimball: One of the reasons that's given for the relief of Gen. Torrey is that, with the urgency of time and the scarcity of materials, he still had the occasion to build himself a beach house at New River Inlet which didn't sit too well with Gen. Holcomb or Gen. Smith. Do you recall where he might have built a beach house?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, I sure don't. I've never heard that story before. Ah, Gen. Torrey was here before Gen. Vandegrift. Am I right?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: And Gen. Vandegrift was Assistant Commandant and I would, well maybe I better not say this. But I would say Gen. Vandegrift got to be a big wheel right fast there after being Assistant Commandant and the war was headin' for here. I have never heard of anything about a beach house, no.

L.J. Kimball: In the chronology you've mentioned so far, you and Col. Hill were in that farmhouse. Then you moved over into Camp Geiger in the office, warehouse, storehouse, or whatever the others built for you and the contractors.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. We was only in that farmhouse a few days. But I tell you, I knew this guy that came down from Doyle and Russell named Gunn. Doyle and Russell had done a lot of work for us in Quantico. In fact, that might have had something to do with getting him down here. I don't know. But anyway, they came down and built that whole office thing there in just a very few days. And we didn't stay in the farmhouse but a week or two as I recall.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall what the farmhouse was used for after you vacated it?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The headquarters of Gen. Vandegrift. Troops started moving in. We put in these chemical toilets and built these quick mess halls and everything like that. But I don't know when the first troops arrived at Geiger. But, ah. . . have you got any information on that, or was. . .

L.J. Kimball: 15 September.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: September, wasn't it?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. The advance party arrived on . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Forty-one.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. 15 September '41.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: So here. . . we come here in April and we had troops a living over in September, so. . . As I remember we built chemical toilets. We had some kind of cheap quick . . . quick water system which the water was terrible. And

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a couple of quick boilers that could be put in to support the mess halls. Mess halls were wonderful really.

L.J. Kimball: There was mention of the First Division Staff moved into your offices as soon as you moved over to Main Side.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They might have. That's probably true.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall where in the Verona area the 11th Marines were billeted, where their Headquarters were?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, I can show you. You know where the entrance is to Town Point is over there?

L.J. Kimball: Approximately. I'm not that. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: It would have been a little bit beyond that because Ragged Point Road where Dr. Brown and I lived down on Ragged Point there was the first road this side of what is called the Town House Road. The town house was where the big mansion was that was in pretty bad repair and Mr. Hanes of the Underwear outfit, he and his bachelor buddies converted a few rooms in that big house and they operated several farms or they had about eight or ten black tenant farmers in that area. But their movement in and out of the road tore up the road so bad we had to get out. But I could tell you about where it is. It was up. . . Going in from Verona it would have been on the right-hand side of the road, ah, probably two miles down there on the right hand side of what is now Verona Loop Road.

L.J. Kimball: How long did the . . . that mansion that you refer to remain?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, it become an impact area immediately of artillery and I think it was torn down, probably in '42 sometimes. The mansion was built by the people who built the railroad. You got their names in there someplace.

L.J. Kimball: McIntyre.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: McIn. . . what?

L.J. Kimball: McIntyre.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Doesn't sound right. Anyway, people who built the railroad. The house was tore down at. . . the house had many fireplaces imported, tiles from Italy and around. There was some beautiful things in there. Somebody from upstate, some car dealer, owned the property and I've forgotten who that was now.

L.J. Kimball: That might have been Coddington.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Coddington. Coddington. That's who owned it, yeah. McIntyre's built it in the nineties.

L.J. Kimball: In Onslow County now you have these two very large reservations. We have Camp Davis and we have Marine Barracks and they're located a very short distance apart. And one of them is the Army and one of them is the Marine Corps.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

L.J. Kimball: Is there any friction between the two? Or is there any cooperation between the two?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Everybody was so busy. I don't remember being any relations hardly at all. We had a couple of USO, we had two USO things in Jacksonville, and I think maybe they did that a little bit. But see Camp Davis was a defense type training. And it closed early in the. . . long before the war over Camp Davis was closed. Camp Davis had antiaircrafts and balloon barrage a defense type camp and training. It was being occupied about the time we were building here. Camp Davis was leased land in a way. In other words when the Army vacated Camp Davis, the property reverted back to the owners. Camp Lejeune, we bought the land outright. It didn't revert back and there's nothing in the agreements whatsoever that will ever cause it to revert back to any owners.

L.J. Kimball: What was the relationship between Marine Barracks and the First Marine Division?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I really don't know. I would, ah, I would say it's relations would be somewhat what it is now. The Marine Barracks was the housekeeper and the Division had their training problems. Wasn't that a good answer? That's about the way it is I think.

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L.J. Kimball: When Maj. Challacombe and his people came up from Parris Island for fire fighting duties, did they come under the command of Lt. Col. Hill as part of the Marine Barracks?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yes, I think they did. I don't remember when they . . . when they . . . We had two . . . we had two accounts for accounting purposes. One of them was for fire fighting and one was malaria control. In our own office. We paid for all this stuff out of our own accounts, see what I mean. We always . . . we had two accounts with Headquarters Marine Corps. One was called Fire Fighting and one was called Malaria Control. We could account for that and as far as I'm concerned, Navy or contractors had nothing to do with that except they built something we wanted built for them.

L.J. Kimball: Did Lt. Brown and the Malaria Control effort come directly into Col. Hill also?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yup. Yup. We lived together. Lt. Brown later became a four-stripe Navy doctor and served a tour at Camp Lejeune Hospital. He fell in Norfolk and injured a kidney and died in two or three days.

L.J. Kimball: Mercy. There's mention in the newspaper articles at the time again about CCC camps. One of them, at least one of them on Paradise Point. Do you have any recollection of this?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. None of it. The only CCC camp we had was the one we temporarily started to build at Camp Knox. Wasn't called Camp Knox then because I think we named that Camp Knox later on in honor of the Secretary of the Navy - Knox. Knox was a wheeler and dealer of Chicago Tribune as I remember.

L.J. Kimball: Did you have any blackouts as a result of security requirements?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh yeah. Everything was blacked out. The hardest job we had blacking out Camp Lejeune was that waste burner at the sewage disposal plant. You . . . you . . . We had a blackout and you blacked your headlights. You painted over your headlights, blacked out two-thirds of that. They said that during a blackout was the safest time we ever had at Camp Lejeune. No thefts or nothing. Nobody could steal anything without using a flashlight.

L.J. Kimball: Did that interfere with construction of the camp, the fact that you had blackouts?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't think so. Blackouts, blackouts came later in '42 didn't they?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Huh?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. Did you . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Blackouts was . . . blackouts was later on. When were the blackouts? I don't remember now.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I'd say in '42 because . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Latter part of '42 'cuz I remember ships that come into Morehead City, coastwise ships and all this, that and the other. Now on the coast over there really, you really had a blackout over there.

L.J. Kimball: That was the German U-boat threat of course. . . motivated the blackouts. Could you see any of the ships being torpedoed from Camp Lejeune?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. No. Most of the ships, I think, was off of Morehead City and Hatteras and up that way. I don't think there's . . . I don't believe there's any record of any ships being torpedoed directly off the beach here. I don't know that, but I don't rec. . . I recall that they always concentrated around, ah, Morehead City and north.

L.J. Kimball: The incinerary you mentioned. . . incinerator around the sewage treatment plant. . . Where was this sewage treatment plant located?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Where it is now. The big one down there by Area 5 on the waterfront. Wasn't an incinerator. You got, see, a gas sewage disposal plant produces gas. A lot of places, they use, and the plant out there, uses gas to heat the sewage to keep it operating fast, but you have a waste burner in there because you have a lot of gas goes to waste. A big stack overhead and if you get too much gas under the thing, it flares up there. That was a hard time to black out, I tell you.

L.J. Kimball: Did you have any sabotage precautions that you had to undertake because of concern for sabotage during the . . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, I don't think we ever had anything like that. I don't recall us ever having any sabotage problems. We had. . . The Liaison Officer. . . we had our own guards, mostly civilians, and in the early days we had our own military. But we had civilian guards at the warehouses and everything. See the warehouses were ours too that we had building materials in and we had our own guards that took care of that.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall a building called the Waller Gunnery Trainer?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, that's the one there by the Protestant Chapel, and so help me, I guess it was a mock-up thing, wasn't it? I don't know. It's still there by the way.

L. J. Kimball: It is? It's by the Protestant Chapel?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: What. . . what is it now? Handball court or something?

L.J. Kimball: That was going to be my question to you sir, because I could not identify in recent literature if that building was still standing or what exactly the Waller Gunnery Trainer was.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That old building right by the Protestant Chapel, the other side of the Protestant Chapel is the Waller Gunnery Trainer. Waller Trainer. And I'm thinking it was some kind of a mock-up training. And that building is still existing, yes. And it's there by the Protestant Chapel.

L.J. Kimball: Is that the one that's closest to the road there?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I think it's the one by the parking lot there.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: One back of the parking lot at the Temple, right.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Between the parking lot and the, ah, the field house and, if I'm not mistaken, it's a handball court.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: It's the one directly going down the road, where it's directly past the Chapel on the left and it's on the back of the front parking lot there. Yeah. Like you're going down farther to the new Post Office. But I'm just thinking, and, it must have been some kind of a mock-up trainer. I can't imagine what Waller building was. That building's still there. I know that. Probably about the only temporary building left over there.

L.J. Kimball: Where and what was the radar site near Wallace Creek?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: The first radars were sent down here from Quantico and sent to the Liaison Office. I don't think they were down at Wallace Creek. I think they were there about the big heating plant, but I'm not sure. Wallace Creek. . .

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir, about. . . on the early maps of the period it shows if you're going toward Paradise Point. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK, there at the radio station. OK. OK.

L.J. Kimball: You go over the creek and you're on your way to the Officer's Quarters there in the . . . the one-story ones. About the time you take the first right and go back up in the woods would be the place where that radar site was identified as being located.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: You know where the radio station is at Camp Lejeune?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Across the road from the radio station was an incinerator which we never used. Ah, I can't understand why it would be across the river 'cuz we hadn't built the bridge probably at that time across Wallace Creek. As I remember the first radars came here and they were a deep secret in those days. You had to keep guard on 24 hours a day. And I would say, do you have a date on it? I would say it was in about September, October of '41 that the first radars was sent down here. Cuz they sent 'em down here and put 'em under the guards at the Liaison Officer. And I'm guessing now on that, but I thought the first radars here was stationed there about the heating plant. Now the first radar planes that trained in the Marine Corps were trained at the air station here. Radar planes. That had radar on 'em.

L.J. Kimball: The location of the radar site could very well be as you remember it sir. I was only able to identify one radar site and it might have said Radar Site Number 2, but it was the only one I was able to find. I just wondered if you had some recollection of what . . . what were they doing with radar at Camp Lejeune?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I . . . I don't remember. That was very secret. I can't very well answer that question. I just know that the first radars were sent down here to us. And I don't understand why they wouldn't be. . . one of the, one of the early things we built was the radio station, where it is now.

L.J. Kimball: And your recollection was that they might have been around the radio station?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Makes sense because I don't remember exactly when we got Wallace Creek Bridge built. See, to get to Paradise Point and the quarters in those days, you enter down there by the old heating plant. That's the way you got into the base.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: At the Quarters area. To get into Camp Lejeune proper, you entered up there at Piney Green. Our main entrance to what is now Hadnot Point at Piney Green. So we built two bridges on Wallace Creek. We built one there at Holcomb and we built one going to the Quarters.

L.J. Kimball: Where. . . When the 51st Defense Battalion went in, black Marines were trained at Montford Point. There was an overflow of the Defense Battalion over into what is now the Camp Knox area. Do you recall where they were billeted in Camp Knox?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. My record. . . recollection is when the blacks finished Boot Camp, the camp, the barracks and the mess hall in the industrial area was built for the Labor Battalion. Blacks were not intended to be in fighting units. They were gonna be labor force. And that. . . those barracks in industrial area, including the mess hall, was for the blacks. And sometime after Montford Point they moved over there. I don't think anybody ever moved into. . . I don't believe any of the overflow at Montford Point ever went into Camp Knox because, ah, the dog camp went in there pretty early after the. . . we got rid of CC camps, CC buildings.

L.J. Kimball: But to the best of your recollection, there were at some point blacks moving into that Labor Battalion area in the industrial area?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Industrial area. I don't when they declassified it from a labor. . . when they went in the fighting forces. Is that a good word for it?

Lt. Gen. Miller: That was much later, ah, I think, as I recall. The cargo handlers and that sort of stuff.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. They were the big stevedores. They were gonna be called a Labor Battalion, as I recall, but I could be wrong with that too. It was gonna be a labor organization. And when it got converted in and they joined the fighting troops, I don't remember when. I'd say in late '43, wouldn't you.

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L.J. Kimball: I'd say later than that.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Later than that, probably.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recollect where the Quarters for the black mess men were built near the O' Club, but . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: What's now the Sitting Service over there. Back of the fire house you know.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Now, first place I think some of that was for civilian mess men too, but anyway, it was never used very long for anything really. It's been the Sitting Service even before I retired.

L.J. Kimball: What were the black NCO Quarters that were in Piney Green?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't think there was any black NCO Quarters. They, they doubled the size of Midway Park. It was called Dogpatch frankly. It was built out of terra cotta block buildings, not cement blocks, concrete blocks, terra-cotta and it was between the existing Midway Park and Hunter's Creek. You know Hunter's Creek butts into the back of Marine Corps property back there. But I am not aware that there was ever designated black NCO Quarters. It could have been, but I don't recall it ever being there. First place, it was quite a while before you had black NCO's. Look at it that way.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. The area which you referred to as Dogpatch. . . that. . . the people that occupied Dogpatch were the same as occupied the remainder of Midway Park. Then it wasn't set aside for a special category of people?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't think it's set aside for any special thing. It was just an addition to the . . . Midway Park was not Marine housing. It was Navy housing. Vice President Gore's uncle was the operator of Midway Park in the latter days. All at once the Navy didn't think it was such a good deal, and they contacted Headquarters Marines to take it over and I got involved with that, writing letters back. So as Maintenance Officer, I took over Midway Park for the Marine Corps, ah, sometime in the mid-fifties. It was called Naval Housing, even had a grade school there. And it had a theater there, in Midway Park. And then when they built the overpass, the state highway, North Carolina paid for moving those houses out to make room for the overpass. I think it's 40

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houses at Midway Park relocated and moved up, which used to be part of what they called Dogpatch, is now partly occupied by those 40 houses that was moved out front to make way for the overpass.

L.J. Kimball: And the houses that were in Dogpatch originally were. . . ?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They were torn down. They were torn down a long, long time ago. Immediately after the war, as I remember, they were torn down. But I'm not quite sure what the occupancy was in those houses.

L.J. Kimball: Do you have a feeling for what percentage of the civilian labor force that was working on Camp Lejeune was black?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: On construction?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I wouldn't even make a guess. Cuz at the time there was no labor market here. We bought buses and we furnished buses. I believe we had buses runnin' in daily here from as far as Wilson. Wilson, Wilmington, New Bern, all around. I wouldn't even make a guess about that. I . . . I thought one time how many thousand people we had working. First thing we started doing on the Malaria Control business, as we would move out of these areas, people'd move into these vacant houses to sleep there instead of riding to Wilson. Here we were trying to cut control of mosquitoes so the first thing we'd do when a house got vacant, give it away if they'd move it out, or tear it down. We didn't want 'em livin' and being exposed to the mosquitoes, see?

L.J. Kimball: Where were the civilian construction crews billeted?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They weren't until built some of the first barracks directly down the street in front of Headquarters Mar. . . Headquarters there. Near the water plant there. Some of the first barracks we built there we turned into civilian dormitories for civilian employees. Up 'til then that was their own, wherever they were building. We furnished the new buildings for everybody.

L.J. Kimball: There were pictures in the early newspaper accounts of what looks like temporary huts . . . many, many temporary huts that presumably were built for construction personnel. Do you have any recollection of those?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. What'd they look like?

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L.J. Kimball: They looked like little green huts, like those built at Montford Point.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I think they were called Homosote Huts, which is part of Tent Camp 2. After tent camp we built these what's called Homosote huts with this spongy board, you could knock a hole through it like that. Tent Camp 2 we built the huts down there for that and I think we built some at Montford Point. They're called Homosote because they're spongy building material. I think we did build a few of them at, ah, at Montford Point during Boot Camp days, yes.

L.J. Kimball: Going back to what you just said, sir, again, obviously Tent Camp 1 was tents. Tent Camp 2 was Homosote huts originally?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Tent Camp 1 was the one closest to Jacksonville . . .

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . and you know there's kind of a space there between the two camps now. Tent Camp 2 was built a while ago - one and two, but there's a little space between the two of them. There was a rec building, and the rec building's over there...

Tape Two, Side One

L.J. Kimball: Go ahead sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, Tent Camp was built with two places and one was built right after the other almost simultaneously they were built. Of course the big brick building and we built the mess halls and they had Officer's Club in Tent Camp 2. First, after Tent Camp came the Homosote huts. Then after that the stucco type. It still is in buildings. You've seen them?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The brick complex in Camp Geiger was built in the late fifties when it was ITR that was over there - Infantry Training Regiment, under base command. And the brick buildings that are built there. . . brick buildings, I believe, are in what is part of . . . I think they're entirely . . . Tent Camp 1 area.

L.J. Kimball: At some point, I believe, there were Quonset huts there. Is that correct sir?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah. . .

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L.J. Kimball: At Camp Geiger?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, we may have had some quonsets at certain places in there, yes. I don't remember exactly where we had quonsets. Had quonsets and Butler buildings scattered all over the place. Butler buildings were the steel buildings. The quonsets at one time at certain many places.

L.J. Kimball: Where was the drying kiln in the industrial area?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Are you referring to lumber kiln?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Next door to Maintenance there. There's a lot facing the front door, going in the front door of the maintenance building and the next lot over was the lumber yard and the drying kilns.

L.J. Kimball: In . . . in back of . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Also, in that building we had to . . . the . . . I saw something come out in the paper two or three years ago. They didn't know what this thing was. Looked like a big vault. This was a thing to treat food with. You put it under a vacuum to treat food, to kill bugs. I never did call up and say what it was, but there was more stories went around what it was. It was a . . . But anyway, it was next door to maintenance.

L.J. Kimball: Just to get this straight in my mind sir. Facing the maintenance building, is it to the left or to the right of maintenance?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Facing the front door of the maintenance building, it would be to your left.

L.J. Kimball: What was Gen. Seth William's role in the construction Marine barracks?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: He was Quartermaster General Marine Corps. He was quite a elegant New Englander, I tell you.

L.J. Kimball: Was he Col. Hill's boss then?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

L.J. Kimball: Did Col. Hill report to him for the construction?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, we had more dealings really with the Assistant Commandant in those days, than most anybody. But Quartermaster General was still the one paying the bills, yes.

L.J. Kimball: Going back. . . going to Montford Point now, we have Col. Brewster comes aboard and he takes over as Commanding Officer of the Marine Barracks.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Right.

L.J. Kimball: Is there a formal change of command when he takes over?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't think so. I don't recall if there was.

L.J. Kimball: Over the period of 50 years trying to decide what happened there, half the accounts you read these days say the first Base Headquarters was the farmhouse that Lt. Col. Hill occupied when he served as Commanding Officer, and the others say that is was on Montford Point because that was the first official headquarters and Col. Brewster was the first real Commanding Officer, and I wondered if you had any recollection of how, what you make of that confusion.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I really don't remember. See Gen. . . Col. Hill's headquarters was in the Public Works building.

L.J. Kimball: Right.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: As Base Commander and as Camp Commander and Liaison Officer, he had one office there in the new building. I don't honestly remember where Col. Brewster's headquarters was, really. Where do you think it was, Montford Point?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. This was one of the points that is not clear. The accounts indicate that Col. Brewster's headquarters was in a converted Rod and Gun Club.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, there was . . . I don't remember anything being converted, Rod and Gun Club, the first place. And I don't recall where Col. Brewster's headquarters was. Gen. . . Col. Hill's headquarters would be there, the same office what we had. And I don't remember when Brewster took over. Was it October or September sometime?

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L.J. Kimball: September.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: September. I can't answer where his headquarters might have been, so . . .

L.J. Kimball: Do you have any recollection where his quarters were?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I believe he lived at New Bern. I'm not sure. Some of us lived at Midway Park and I don't remember him living at Midway Park. I'm kind of believin' that he lived at . . . at, at New Bern.

L.J. Kimball: What was your and Lt. Col. Hill's relation with Col. Brewster, now that he's the Commanding Officer of the Marine Barracks?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, that's practically no relation. In the first place, my . . . let me explain this. Headquarters Marine Corps bought all the kitchen equipment for all the mess halls and clubs and everything like that. I bought all the shop equipment for Maintenance and Motor Transport and places like that. Most of it I got in Richmond, Virginia. And the first thing we tried to build at Camp Lejeune probably was the big, some of the big warehouses. When we turned over a building, whether it was barracks or not, we turned over a barracks. . . we had a big supply outfit of our own. Had nothing to do with base supply. We was supplyin' out there, had our own supply group and had a whole other labor force with American Indians, by the way. But when we had our warehouses. Headquarters Marine Corps was buying furniture for the quarters, shipping down all the bunks, mattresses, linen, everything like that. When we turned over a barracks, it was complete with lockers, bunks, mattresses and everything. When we turned over the Officer's Club, everything was in the Club except the labor. Linens, silver, pots and pans, everything was turned over to Camp Lejeune Officer's Club ready to go. When we turned over a mess hall, everything was in the mess hall. In other words, the base wasn't furnishing it. Our supply office was doing this. So the base didn't have much of a job, frankly, to answer your question.

L.J. Kimball: Mmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: For a long time. When we turned over quarters, the furniture in those days, we'd completely furnish the houses.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Let me ask you a different question. You mentioned the Officer's Club and the telephone exchange was in the Officer's Club. How did that happen?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: What?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Was it built as part of telephone exchange. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. no.

Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . or was it just that that was where you go?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. You had in those days, you had to have these substations. Jacksonville used to have a half a dozen. The substation of the telephone system was in that tower at the Officer's Club. It had nothing to do with the Club whatsoever.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I know.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Just convenient location. Had nothing really to do with it.

Lt. Gen. Miller: What. . . what. . . it was just a station for equipment? Were there operators there?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh no. No. That was . . . Operators were in Building One.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Oh, OK.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Still in Building One, aren't they?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Not sure. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't have . . . main telephone exchange is still . . . of course now it's generally operated by Carolina, isn't it now?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, I still think we've got. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, they'll be in the basement of Building One, then won't they, where they've always been?

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall the old tobacco barn that's in the Range G-5? It's Building 747. It's, ah, apparently the only structure left on the base that predates the actual establishment of Marine Barracks. I wondered if you were familiar with why that was permitted to remain.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't remember any tobacco barn being left very long, except the one that Miller had as a warehouse at Camp Johnson at Montford Point. Where did this say this one was?

L.J. Kimball: You can see it from the road. It's on Range G-5. It's just about 100 yards off the side of the road, painted white, and see. . . It's identified as Building 747.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: And where is it now?

L.J. Kimball: Range G-5.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Which is what?

L.J. Kimball: I knew you were going to ask . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Which one is G-5? On Highway 24?

L.J. Kimball: Um. It's, it's just before you get to that. . . it's . . . in fact, it's where the Tank Gunnery Range is, firing out toward Brown Island.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh. Where the Anti-Tank Range is?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. Where they have tank firing.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Have you ever been on the anti-tank range? You know that's a railroad operated range.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah. That belonged to the Hurst family and I guess it was just left. The. . . that control tower is still there, isn't it?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, you can see it from Highway 24. Is this the one you're talking about?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No.

L.J. Kimball: No sir. This is the one . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: You're talkin' about way back over . . . you see it from 172 then?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. That's it.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh. OK. Down at anti-tank range.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Say, the anti-tank range originally . . . they built those quarry mines, going towards Hubert, on the other side of the road. And of course when they fired through there, they had to close the waterway. They had to close everything. The anti-tank range is a, is a direct electrical third rail and the targets are protected by the berm. The carriers protected by the berm. That anti-tank range is probably two miles long, isn't it? It's quite lengthy. I would say that that whole complex there, whatever it is there, was left as part of the anti-tank range. I don't remember why.

L. J. Kimball: There's . . . there's an old tobacco barn and the few people that I've been able to make contact with, the people that have been around the base the longest I've asked them the same question. They have no recollection. They're not aware of it having any significance other than the fact that for some reason it wasn't torn down.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: It's not right there by the range control tower is it?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, just left there as part of the operation I would say. Mr. K.B. Hurst here, his family owned the property. You know K.B., don't you?

L.J. Kimball: Mmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But, ah, I would say it was just left there. Seemed to me like that, ah, that control tower is two stories high.

L.J. Kimball: At least.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I think we built that control tower but there was an old barn or something out there. I guess it was there a while to store targets or something in then. I don't remember what condition then . . . wasn't left for any historical purposes.

L.J. Kimball: What happened to the mock-up that they used for debarkation training?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: You know, I don't think it ever got much use frankly. It was two sided. You could bring the boats in on the waterway. It was that. . . going over to Sneed's Ferry by the beach road, it would have been the next paved road to the left that

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went to the mock-up. It was down on Intercoastal Waterway. The theory was that while you was unloadin' troops while other boats got to be runnin' up and down the waterway and causin' some surfs, surging. But the mock-up was built and that was a big structure. It was probably forty feet high maybe, and two or three hundred feet long. And it was boarded on both sides, had nets on both sides to climb up from the parking lot you know to the deck. Had a ship deck, not very wide at the top as I remember, but I don't know why the mock-up didn't last long, was torn down after a few years there.

L.J. Kimball: Was the mock-up accessible on both sides by boat?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. On one side was boats and the other side faced the parking lot. In other words, the troops could climb up from the parking lot, up the mock-up, or they could enter and exit the boats from the waterway. It was inside the bridge—the present bridge.

L.J. Kimball: Which side?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The first paved road to the left I think down the waterways.

L.J. Kimball: That. . . just as a point of interest, that road's still called Mock-up Road.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. That's where the mock-up was. That represented a ship, was the purpose. Ship side.

L.J. Kimball: Did the same contractor that did the permanent and temporary construction at Camp Lejeune, did they build the tent floorings and erect the tents out of Camp Geiger?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Same contractors, as I recall, yeah, same ones that built the tent decks. Doyle and Russell built the office buildings. Same ones that built the tent decks, built the camp, yeah. The three contractors was Blythe Brothers, Harrison Wright and Goode. Blythe Brothers was external, Harrison Wright was mechanical, Goode was architects, so. . . of course, they all worked as one outfit so to speak.

L.J. Kimball: These old historical photographs we've mentioned that. . . that's in Building One, they're are photographs that indicate that Building 1-3 in Tent Camp Number One was the first construction initiated, and do you have any recollection what's specific about Building 1-3, the first project initiated in the contract was?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: That wouldn't be our office was it? What does it look like?

L.J. Kimball: Well, it just. . . it just shows them digging the footing, and they're starting the project, and my interpretation would be that this is your office building.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I would guess that's it because I believe that . . . I believe that that was our first job was to build that office building. And Doyle built it . . . a week as I remember. And it probably had 30 or 40 offices.

L.J. Kimball: Going back to the newspaper accounts at the time again, we have at the First Marine Division, it's off Onslow Beach in June, July and August of 1941 conducting amphibious landing. And Billy Arthur and the other correspondents talk about, ah, that when the Marines are done, presumably after they conclude some of their operations ashore, they're going to march right over to Tent Camp. But the. . . at the end of the operation in August, they get back on their ships and they go back to their home bases and don't show up again until September and October. Was there some delay in building the Tent Camp? Are you aware of any plans for them to come directly into Tent Camp from the operation?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. As I remember, this had nothing to do with the construction at Camp Lejeune. There was a maneuver here before Camp Lejeune. . . before we owned the property. Cuz we made arrangements to . . . we was, ah . . . Liaison Office was the liaison between the fighting forces and everything that's coming in here. In other words, if they had ruined somebody's country well down there because they used up all the water or something like that, we'd help 'em out. We didn't own probably one-third of the reservation at the time of this maneuver. Well, there was reports on the manev. . . this was supposedly was one of the biggest maneuvers that the Military had had. Wasn't only the Marines, that was a big maneuver. The report went like this, that the Marines sabotaged the Army that night and was stealing their distributor caps and practically grounded the Army's operation. You heard that report?

L.J. Kimball: No sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But it was supposedly a big operation, but I never knew about anything to do with Camp Geiger, or any. . . any use of Camp Lejeune other than as a maneuver area.

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L.J. Kimball: Do you recall the circus tent that they used out at Tent Camp for, ah, recreational purposes?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I sure don't. I remember that USO shows was held in the metal warehouses over there. There was Betty Grable. . . people like that put on their show in one of those metal warehouses. I don't remember a circus tent over there for any purpose. But there might have been. I don't recall it, no.

L.J. Kimball: You mentioned at the beginning about the first Board that determined that Onslow County would be the site for Camp Lejeune. What recollections do you have of exactly how this selection process happened?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I know nothing about it. Gen. . . Gen. Smith was the head of it. Ah, they had air pictures made of the whole area. As I remember, we, ah. . . the Liaison Officer added Geiger to the list which was on the air pictures to begin with. We had one lawsuit with Roper Lumber Company about Midway Park. Their suit was sayin' that we. . . after we started Lejeune their land become more valuable and we showed on our air maps that it was the intent to take this property originally and it held up in Federal Court.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I think that, ah, that Board, ah, business was covering the . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Are you. . . you can go. . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . especially a lot of it in that, ah, . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . forest printouts and things.

Lt. Gen. Miller: The biography of the, ah, US representative from the area. What's his name, Barton?

L.J. Kimball: Graham Barton.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Graham Barton.

L.J. Kimball: Conservative Carolina Congressman.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. A lot of stuff in there.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Ah, Gen. Julian Smith was the head of that Board. And that basically outlined the property. We'd fine tuned a little bit by trying to make natural

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boundaries. We wanted to stick to 17 North and the Rifle Range Road, which was a dirt road in those days. We stuck to 24. When 172 was built there was lookout for a piece of property down there. Hubert was outside of this, so we turned around and sold that. And then here at Dixon School was a little corner in there now that changed when, when that was done. But basically we always tried to get natural boundaries to help identify the property.

L.J. Kimball: Was there ever an air field constructed on Paradise Point?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Not to my knowledge.

L.J. Kimball: They talked about before the Marines occupied Paradise Point, there was a resort area there and it had it's golf. . . own golf course which was quite famous in the area. Do you know if the Paradise Point Golf Course is in the same location as the one before the Base?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Not. . . there was nothing at Paradise Point except some farms over where the golf course is, about where the General's house is. There was little hotel there with no ceiling inside, operated by this guy Simpson. And, ah, up and down the river between there and Marston Pavilion, there was a few cottages. Remember that creek. . . that little ditch, so to speak, just below the Officer's Club, you couldn't get across that. You could get into. . . you know where the stables are now?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: You could take a dirt road. . . OK, you entered Paradise Point down there by the electric shop, what is the electric shop. Then you went down almost straight ahead there, and you could go down to Wallace Creek. By the way, this Dr. Bender lived about where the. . . you remember the big oak tree, it was there by the stables or I think it's dead now, isn't it? Dr. Bender lived there. Or you could go straight ahead about where Brewster Boulevard is now to the circle. It was a few houses, probably less than a dozen cheap cottages up and down there, but there was no golf course in that area, period.

Lt. Gen. Miller: When was the golf course built?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, we built Number One, got a guy in Richmond to build that, or to design it. We built it. George Cobb was a Captain worked for me, a Reserve Officer and he designed Number Two and he designed Cherry Point. Maintenance built Number Two Course and Maintenance built Cherry Point Golf Course.

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Base Maintenance, Camp Lejeune. And George went back off active duty and he built a lot of beautiful courses around the country.

Lt. Gen. Miller: What year . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, the golf course was built real early, Number One was. I would say the golf course was built about the same time the Club and the quarters and everything was. The golf course was one of the earliest things we built out there. When the Secretary . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Back in . . . That would be late '42, '43?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Probably. When the Secretary of the Navy was down here, you had these rainy seasons in July general area, you know. That Brewster Boulevard got so bad we couldn't, ah, we couldn't get up and down it. They boarded it over with slabs from the sawmill and get transportation in and out of that area, cuz Wallace Creek Bridge hadn't been built.

L.J. Kimball: The Division's principle mission of course at this time before they shipped off to the Southwest Pacific was training. There at Tent Camp, where do they train?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They would have trained on the Verona Loop area almost entirely. See Lyman Road was built, well they could, they could have trainin' down off from Beach Road at different places along there, but Lyman Road where the . . . ties into training. . . now Lyman Road was built much later on. Lyman Road was probably built in early fifties or something. I would say in the first place most of it was infantry training so they spent their time at the rifle range, and of course I don't know when ITR got started.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Fifties, wasn't it?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, probably. But they had a lot of ch. . . landing trainings of course all those years. Beach, beach, beach. They experimented with this landing material of converting molasses into materials with crude oil to make sta . . . stabilized areas of the beach to make good landings in those days.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Mmmm. Didn't work too well. Didn't work too well, did it?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I think the asphalt mixture worked temporarily.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: It didn't work well.

L.J. Kimball: Was the timber that was on the base used in construction of the base at all?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Not originally. After Maintenance got going, I operated a sawmill at two shifts a day. Maintenance cut and creosoted, cut, sawed, bored, and creosoted all the railroad ties between here and Cherry Point. And we built the railroad there. But very little timber was used originally to . . . most we ri. . . most we did use. Through the dry kilns we converted raw oak timber into flooring for the Officer's Quarters. You have a big waste when you use green timber in a dry kiln, but, generally to make oak flooring, you air dry the area now, kill it see. But the dry kiln used. . . killed all the. . . ah. . . that was the basic amount of, ah, lumber off the base, was the flooring in the Officer's Quarters. Then before we complete construction, the defense type training of Army and Navy and everything was slowing down. I was going around different parts of the country and getting material. A lot of times that material would be converted to construction. I remember one time I got a call from Atlanta, Mid-Atlantic Division, saying they had forty carloads of lumber heading up for Nashville. All you do s. . . ship it, ship it, see. I went and flew into Baton Rouge, Louisiana one time and got 99 carloads, one trainload, of material. And a lot of that went on construction, yes. See, long before the war was over, Camp Davis and a lot of these defense camps were closing down, closing down.

Lt. Gen. Miller: With regard to, ah, the construction, we talked about this before. It's always been, ah, ah, a myth and not mystery, but it's been, ah, a great thing that Camp Lejeune was built with brick. Tell us about that.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We believed in those days, and I think we had proof, that we were building brick buildings cheaper than the Army was building con. . . what they called cantonments, containments. Cantonments, I guess they called it. And of course, there's one little thing in our favor here. North Carolina. . . we were close to the brick. . . big brick kilns in the state you know. But we, ah, I remember one time getting a call from a. . . I answered the phone and somebody from the Commandant's office said you have to quit building Officer's Quarters. Well I stretched it a little bit. We got so many started already and we went ahead with that. But, so far as I know, we were building masonry buildings cheaper than the Army was building temporary ones. And now that included central heat and everything like that. Camp Davis probably had stoves and things like that, see.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: The Army always built their barracks with the little pot belly stoves in each, ah, barrack too.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: In other words, we. . . Marine Corps was building more permanent facilities.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But it's interesting when you start talking about building with brick cheaper than the Army could build with the wood and tar paper, yet the Army built most of Fort Bragg at the same time we were building Camp Lejeune here, and that was all, in fact some of those same. . . same old temporary buildings are still there at Fort Bragg.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Was that called Fort in those days, Bragg? See when anything becomes permanent in the Army, it's called a fort.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Up 'til then it's not a fort.

Lt. Gen. Miller: It's a camp.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't know when Fort Bragg became a Fort and not. . . The same thing would apply to them. They were even closer to brick than we were.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But, ah, I tell you, the only way to build things fast is cost plus fixed fee. Now let's face it. The whole Division area there, the mess halls were just alike. The barracks was alike. You had a foundation different maybe a little bit. The land is practically flat. But you turned out one set of plans here and zip, zip. Here we was buying the properties. We could help people get their titles squared away and have cash in their hand in thirty days. We were buying the property, designing and building these things. Just zip, zip, zip like that. Now the Army was going out leasing this stuff like Camp Davis. Camp Davis couldn't a been built in a worse land than a . . . of course in the old days you always heard about Swamp Lejeune. That's the most. . . that's the worst thing it's ever been known. There's less swamps in Camp Lejeune than anywhere on the East coast. Right? Ever think about it? Camp Lejeune doesn't have any swamps.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But, when we was. . . like for sites of different things. Everything is built at our recommendation. We wanted to build a rifle range, had a couple of sites

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for the rifle range. Number 1 is where it is now. Court House Bay was built for Balloon Barrage, only. Of course, by the time I got balloon barrage built it was obsolete already. An interesting thought. . . the little village, town at Court House Bay, the name of it was Marines. Did you ever hear that one?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: People would come in here and it was on the maps. People would come in here and drive all the way down there to check in. But, there's a family there, two or three families named Marines. About ten houses there, a club house and a few other things. But that little village was called Marines.

L.J. Kimball: What was the role of the Marine Barracks in the procedures of moving the tenants off the land or causing them to move and involving themselves in the legal aspects?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Marine Barracks had nothing to do with it. Liaison did all of it. This is an interesting question because . . . to begin with we was trying to get these people to move off . . . but the first thing you know we bought all this equipment. We could lease . . .

Tape Two, Side Two

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Sometime later on, moving the people off . . . now in the first place, if they wanted to move their building, just like down on, going down the road from Dixon School to the Rifle Range, there was houses on this side of the road, we'd give them to people if they'd move them off, but if we wouldn't move them off in a certain time we'd tear them down. To get the people moved out of the facilities . . . one of the hardest we had to get rid of was Mr. Sandlin. You know Hugh Sandlin don't you?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I know where Sandlin Store . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Sandlin had a store up the railroad track there from Verona, off 17 South. He was one of the last we tried to get off. Anyway, they couldn't move so we furnished government transportation to help them move off. And Lt. A.E. Dubber checked in here then with the Liaison Officer, he had been with me at Quantico, he was Superintendent for Charles A. Stockton's company construction, so we kind of split the reservation. I took this side of the river, Dubber took a certain area, Col. Hill took another. I was able to get all my people moved on their own wheels, but, some of them had a little trouble

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getting them off. But, we had to get them off as fast as we could for safety. I don't remember . . . seems to me like there were five to six hundred families that lived in what is now the Reservation. But I don't remember exactly how many we had.

L.J. Kimball: You said the Liaison provided these people vehicles, providing them transportation to help them move. Ah, what degree was the Liaison involved knocking on their door handing them the letter from the District Court, ah, explaining to them that they had to move?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, in the first place, we didn't have the new facilities you have now. Quantico had what you call reproduction shops in those days, which was the printing shop and certain reproduction equipment, you know. Quantico sent out a unit down here that would help us make copies deeds and things like that. There was a ca. . . well, a lot of times this property here that, that . . . we had to, had to prove ownership, you know what I mean? For this. So we'd have the reproduction people go into that and we had the Land Acquisition people, ah, the, ah, surveyors and people like that working on that. We hired all that service. The Liaison Officer didn't. . . we didn't do that ourself. We had the survey outfit that did that. We had a legal crew here that worked on all that too, see.

L.J. Kimball: Did they all work for the Liaison Officer?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: All worked for the Liaison Officer. Well, everybody worked together. It was a joint effort there. So I'd just say the Liaison Office and the Navy and the architects, engineers, everybody worked as one. There was. . . right off the. . . very early in construction, we got a E rating which gave us priorities. You know everything went into rationing before the year was over. We had our. . . Col. Haller was our Rationing Officer for us and the base, paymaster and clubs officer too. For gas rationing. On construction we, we had an E rating, so, ah, there was hardly nothing we didn't get high priorities on. Like the heating plant or switch plant and things like that. The rating was like that. We had a Reserve Officer come in from New England. He was . . . helped design the telephone system.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall what happened to the old farmhouse, the Gurganus farmhouse that you and Col. Hill at the onset used as your headquarters? When that might have been torn down, what happened to it?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, it disappeared. Ah, I don't exactly know when, but it was torn down, probably the second go-around of building quonsets at, ah, Geiger Tent Camp. When we built the quonsets, I think the h. . . farmhouse went then and I don't remember what we used over there as. . . what was used over there as headquarters then really. I guess in the middle of the complex both areas there was headquarters buildings that I remember.

L.J. Kimball: When the Marine Corps first occupied the Reservation, they had apparently a ferry that ran over to Onslow Beach?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yup. That ferry with an old Model T Ford motor setting out on the side and you had a cable there, that could guide you back and forth. And this was only good for a car, maybe a small truck. One of the first things the Navy got rid of, began to shut down during the war, was the pontoons that they used for building dry docks for float the ships with. You remember?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Big pontoons. Well, I got a train load of pontoons almost. I built a . . . a . . . we built barges to ferry tanks across the river. You couldn't take tanks on the highways here. It was a problem, see. We built those big barges and they had big outboard motors on 'em to ferry tanks across the river. We converted one of them to the, a bridge that was anchored on one end, swung around like this, you know, floated around. We put, ah, hydraulic lifts on both ends, and we had a heavy duty bridge that we replaced that junk with it, that little thing there that, ah, bridge originally. It was a little wooden barge. Might of took two cars, I don't know. But it's about where the bridge is now, a very short span across there now.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Where, which bridge?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Where the Onslow Bridge is now. Onslow Beach.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Oh. At the Inland Waterway?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Let me go to the bathroom a minute here. You wanna cut that down?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . didn't have a labor force. They had to haul in these people from all over the world.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, well, cost plus fixed fee. No bidding, no nothing like that.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah, but. . . you know, I'm just saying the remarkable thing, the big issue of this whole thing is that in approximately a year and a half, you all built a major, major installation out of brick and mortar. And you laid it out and you put in the utilities and you got a water plant and you got swimming pools and gymnasiums and rifle ranges and all of this sort of stuff. And then it takes us over a year and half to build one building.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yup. Well, on that bridge down there . . . that floating barge, it had a cable stretched across the waterway, cranked it up. And you hooked this barge onto that so that motors went back and forth across like that, see. But when we converted that, ah, big stiff arm out there to float this thing around, put hydraulic lifts on it, that, ah. . . we, we could haul tanks and everything across that. There was a big barge. I forgot how big. We built some of those barges five or six wide and, you remember what those big outboard motors look like on those barges? They were huge. And you didn't worry about the . . . if you need to get ashore, you just put a tractor ashore and hooked a barge on the other end and turned that big motor on and you cut your channel right into the shore, see. On the river. Something.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Let's go back to this, ah, construction. You, you, you've indicated the, the brick construction that as far as you know there was no circumvention of any regulations with regard to the fact that we built with brick.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. We built certain things. Montford Point was not intended to be permanent and Geiger wasn't intended to be permanent. The barracks in industrial area weren't intended to be permanent, so other than that, we was. . . even the, even the smaller warehouses and things like that in industrial area that were built out of concrete blocks, they were intended to be permanent. Of course, base Maintenance and the big motor transport building were made with brick. But as I remember those, those barracks in the industrial area was concrete blocks stucco, weren't they? So they looked old, you know. Covered us up. As far as I know we were building permanent buildings cheaper than they're . . . than they were doing it.

Lt. Gen. Miller: So there wasn't any, you didn't, you didn't, ah, use any dodges to get into the brick. . . brick construction as opposed to some more temporary.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: Now, when you built the . . . we talked about this the other night when you . . . and you mentioned it earlier. The quarters out at Paradise Point, ah, you did use a little bit of subterfuge there to get, ah, those, ah, older quarters built during the war, right?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK. To start off with, we started building only the big houses. We were gonna build so many and I got a call one day, answered the phone, said you gotta stop construction. Well, I stretched the fact a little bit and said we got 400 foundations in, which frankly I probably didn't know at that minute how many I had in, you know what I mean? Things went so fast. Anyway, we finished up the, whatever the big houses was in those days, the few naval hospital plus the big houses. Everything was \$10,000 was always allowed on a house in those days. So along come . . . next then we built some two-story houses in the back of quarters. You know where they are?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah, yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Without the garages.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah. Without maid's quarters, without maid's quarters.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Without maid's quarters and without a porch. Two-stories without a porch, without a garage. Then I guess the next ones come along was the little houses.

Lt. Gen. Miller: The cracker boxes.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Then the next ones come along is the one like back of Marston Pavilion . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Cape Cod.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . on the waterfront there. They were along there. Then about the time I retired you went into the . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Capehart.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: What. . . what do you call that area up Stone Street there by the old high school?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I don't know. But it's . . . but it's a Capehart.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: What? What?

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Lt. Gen. Miller: It's a Capehart.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Capehart. Then Watkins Village was the last one.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Watkins Village was much later.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Watkins was later. Just after I retired this big wheeler and dealer from California was gonna build that, ah, big Capehart job. He flew in here with one of the . . . who were the famous girl sisters in the movies? Who were the foreign girls in the movies that were so popular?

Lt. Gen. Miller: The Gabors?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. This guy flew in with . . . DC 3 from California and brought her with him and everything like that. He just got started a little bit and give it up. Went . . . went broke so to speak. We talked then. . . I'd just retired then. I was with Barrus then.

L.J. Kimball: Mmmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We got all TA11 and TA11 and finished the job which was . . . just had been started a little bit frankly. Eleven really built. . . TA11 took it off his hands so to speak.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Now there's one of the . . . the . . . one of the stories that Gen. Simpson told. . . Gen. Simpson always tells me is about the fact that, ah, Bozarth lived in a set of quarters over on the middle street over there and it's the only set of quarters at Camp Lejeune that has a basement. So he used to say to the Commanding Generals, 'We've handled Bozarth wrong, you should have moved him every year and then we'd all have a basement.'

Lt. Col. Bozarth: (Laugh) OK. I lived in 2405 which was on a hill that had that big ditch one time.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah, yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: 'Course we closed in the big ditch. Wasn't a house under my basement, but it was tall enough that kids could play under it. Wasn't a basement at all. It's still was bricked in. It's got a . . . a . . .

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Lt. Gen. Miller: But it's still bricked in, it's got a . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: It was always bricked in.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah, it was bricked in and it has a door and you go underneath the house.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yup.

Lt. Gen. Miller: That's the only house at Camp Lejeune that has a basement.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's right. It's on . . . on a hill. But it was bricked in originally.

L.J. Kimball: What's the house number again sir?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The brick . . . the brick is the foundation, you know, up there. That ditch beside it, it was a big open ditch and we put pipe in that and closed it. And, yeah, Gen. Simpson, my good friend. He started off his military career in the Army. Did you know that?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, he started off at Texas A&M. He got a commission out of Texas A&M.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Ah, middle row of houses. The three rows of senior officers quarters.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Gen. Miller: About half-way down, there's a little, a little . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Swale.

Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . swale.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Only house on the hill out there really.

Lt. Gen. Miller: The one nearest it, going back towards the Officer's Club. If you look at it next time you go by there, you can see it from the River Road.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The porch is away up like that.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: The porch is up the back. They had a little back screened-in porch about yeah high, and it's all bricked in and it's got a basement. And that was where Bozarth lived.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: There's nothing under there but an opening underneath.

Lt. Gen. Miller: (Laugh)

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, that's the best row. See, nobody was in back of me. You get a breeze out there off of the river, you know. In those days you didn't have air conditioning. OK, you can leave your kitchen door open and your. . . and your kitchen windows open. If it rained it didn't hurt anything. So, I had. . . I really had the best house out there, so help me. Because I could get the breeze off of the river, leave the back doors and everything open. There's nobody back of that house between there and the river, see.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah, it set out there by itself on that middle road.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: No houses toward the . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I could. . . you could see the river from the house, yeah.

L.J. Kimball: Well, as the General's indicated, one of the things that amazes us all is the fact that you're looking at the equivalent of a city for forty or fifty thousand people that was built virtually overnight of permanent brick construction. And it. . . it boggles the imagination. Where did all the bricks and wood and heavy machinery and people and everything come from in such a short period of time to build such a massive work like that? How'd you get it all here?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK, let's go back to one thing. As I recall, the laws did not permit railroads to build into things. I'm guessing now. First thing we did, we built a railroad right quick. You can. . . railroad. . . we built two lanes off of Holcomb Boulevard right quick. We had a railroad in and . . . unbelievable how quick we had a railroad. Now that we meant we had to build a railroad trestle across Northeast Creek and had to build one across Wallace Creek, see? And, ah, well you had the. . . you had the architects setting there with the engineers. He and I working on now where guys have gotta get with the environmentalists. He's told, well, hell, there wasn't any such thing as that in those days. Environmentalists didn't enter into any pictures. We had hardly no

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instructions from Headquarters Marine Corps. We just told them what was going on. And I'm sure today I'd get locked up the first week if I was to do some of the things that we was doing then. We had instructions to build this darn camp. No questions asked how, when and where. You know what I mean? So we built it. And went out. And architects and engineers had their thing to do. The contractor had these. We were leasing or renting or whatever you want to call it, thirty or forty horses for supervisors and inspectors and things like that. The streets was all cut up, with putting water and sewer and electric and everything in. It was more convenient to ride horses and visit around, than it was to have trucks for some of those people, see. But I think the answer is cost plus fixed fee. And remember now a lot of these. . . you didn't design ever building separately, they were. Now, of course, since the early days, things like the field house and a lot of things have been added since the early days. A lot of the quarters is, in the early days, ah, I guess the cracker boxes is the last thing we had.

Lt. Gen. Miller: The cracker boxes were built after the war.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, but that. . . that was kind of the last thing in the whole thing there. So we. . . most of the housing has been built since then. The jail has been built since then. Ah. . .

L.J. Kimball: The new jail.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The new jail's been built since then. Ah, the dental dispensary on the riverfront has been built since then. And. A lot of things is. . . wasn't included originally. We built the big heating plants, and the big sewage plants and the barracks and the mess halls and clubs and certain other quarters.

Lt. Gen. Miller: See, that, that to me, that's amazing. That somebody . . . it'd take six months of staffing at Headquarters Marine Corps right now to come up with a plan that . . . and all you had was to build a camp for four or five regimental areas. I'd say four in the main area. And three regimental. . . three infantry regiments and an artillery regiment and you laid them all out. They're generally similar. Each one has a recreation area. Each one has three mess halls. Each one has all of the administrative buildings. Each one has the supply facilities. Ah, they got, ah, gymnasiums that they can share.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We built three big covered swimming pools.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Three swimming pools. You know, all of that and . . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: We built the big theater originally.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: See, all of the other . . . every regimental area had a flat-floored combination gym and theater, remember?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: And each . . . each regimental area has a service club.

Lt. Gen. Miller: A little bowling alley.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: The service club had five alleys as I recall.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Right.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't remember exactly how long we was involved with construction, but it was amazing how quickly we built big things like the heating plant. Have you ever been in that heating plant? That heating plant. . . those boilers are about 75 feet high, see. Those boilers are 110th. . . 410 thousand pounds per hour boiler. That's a . . . that's a big heating plant there. After construction, after this real construction, Maintenance used to spend four or five million a year on construction. Originally, the hospital had it's own heating plant. Maintenance built a new tunnel all the way down from, ah, . . . down through the parade ground and everything there and built a new tunnel there for a couple of million dollars. And finally tied it. . . Naval hospital onto the central heating plant and everything like that. Originally our gas plant. . . you know where the gas plants are now? Out on the Holcomb Boulevard, the big tanks back there in the woods.

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Originally they were down next to the heating plant. And ended up early days a couple of big tanks exploded in New. . . in Ohio and we got a little bit scared about that and they moved those tanks out there. Camp Lejeune mess halls are supplied with gas by pipeline, not liquid gas. That's out there in those tanks, is liquid gas, but it's converted to vapor and distributed over Hadnot Point to the mess halls. Mess halls have gas.

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L.J. Kimball: Along with the General, I'm amazed at the . . . the . . . the authority that was localized at your level. There is you and Lt. Col. Hill and you're deciding among yourselves what Building One's going to look like, or what these barracks are going to look like?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I guess from your table of organization, that'd pretty well give you your required space requirement. I think there was a table of organization in those days, wasn't there? Some . . . some things like that? Now what we would do . . . ACL Headquarters was Wilmington. Today's work went on a train tonight and was sent to Headquarters Marine Corps for review or something like that. Most of the time there wasn't any comment. But we, we fed them information. Every telephone call that was made in our office went on a diary, you know what I mean like that. We were getting very little instructions from Headquarters. We was . . . they was . . . we was giving them the layouts of the buildings there so they could buy this kitchen equipment, and it's a good thing we bought the kitchen equipment. I believe Headquarters Marine Corps bought all this kitchen equipment in '41. And you know that stuff became very critical later on, stainless steel and things like that.

L.J. Kimball: Mmmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But Headquarters Marine Corps bought this kitchen equipment and of course shipped us and we stored us.

Lt. Gen. Miller: And the mess halls was designed. But, ah . . . I don't know if you . . . you ever . . . all during the war and I don't know when it stopped after the war, but all the mess halls served family style.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Your troops went in, you set down at the table, ah, however many seats there were there, and the mess men brought out the food in, ah, big stainless steel bowls or porcelain bowls. You had your silverware and your plate there in front of you and you just . . . just like eating at home. Dished it hot and that was it. It was great, you know.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, but things do change.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But of course that requires more mess men. But you had plenty of mess men in those days.

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L.J. Kimball: When it came to drawing, designing these particular buildings, so that was done here in the field basically at the barracks itself. Is that correct?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Everything was done right here. Nothing was designed. . . architects and engineers was setting in this building down there at the drafting table drawing all this stuff. And, ah, we was. . . we was just keeping Headquarters informed. I was going to Washington probably twice a month. Col. Hill was going. And later Lt. Dubber was here, and different ones there, but, I'd drive my car to Warsaw and park it in Judge Stevens yard and catch a train to . . . ACL had just bought, in the early days, bought two of those fancy new s. . . ah, compartment sleepers, you know. The stainless steel, like the Silver Meteor that came later on, the Florida one. ACL was running two of those out of Wilmington. One was going on to New York and one was going to Washington. Ninety percent of the people on that car was railroad people, and of course we was always arguing with the railroad trying to get 'em to put on passenger service. So we'd go to Washington to some fight all day long about putting on the railroad and we'd all ride back to Wilmington and eat in the diner and sleep in the same car on the way back.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I think it's interesting also that. . . now when. . . when did you build a railroad down to Cherry Point?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Ah, ah, I would say about the fifties, somewhere along there.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Was it that late?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't. . . I don't remember.

Lt. Gen. Miller: They. . . they wouldn't build it during the war.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh no, no. It was built much after the war and we cut the. . . cut. . . Graham Barden was still a Congressman and there's a big hunting club up near Havelock you know, and there's a. . . they flooded all those rice fields in there and they owned hundreds of acres in there and we were going right through their property with the railroad. And I used to have the keys at the gate and I'd have mess hall in there, and hunting season and fishing season both. And I used to go in there and eat with them a lot. But. . . they worried about us building a railroad there, about being trespassing and everything like that. And we solved that. All the game wardens at Camp Lejeune worked for me as Maintenance Officer or they did then. So we got a couple of their people up there to deputize this game warden. We give them our train schedules so they could take their little gasoline cars and ride out to their, where they were

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having time to get out to their hunting spots. The railroad helped them a lot, see.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Mmmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Congressman Barden used to call me about every three months, or I'd call him. Barden, between here and Cherry Point, we made his district, you know.

L.J. Kimball: You say you made his district.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, wasn't nothing much in it. This was poor country until Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point came here.

L.J. Kimball: Mmmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I guess New Bern was the biggest town around then, wasn't it?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Oh, by far. But, ah, I guess you, you'd have to ask yourself, ah, Cherry Point wasn't built to the same, ah, specifications as Camp Lejeune. Was that because it was more under Nav. . . Navy control?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I tell you what. We was so busy. When we met Secretary of Navy Knox at New Bern Airport when he came down to business in, I'd say, July '41. I'm guessing that. The press was all there because they knew the Secretary of the Navy was coming in. He announced where Cherry Point was gonna be built. But the odds were, in those days, that it would be built across the river at Minnesott Beach. About half and half. The Secretary of the Navy announced it was gonna be built where it is there now. And we was so busy here, we didn't get somewhat involved. See Cherry Point. . . at the same time we built Cherry Point, you built these auxiliary fields. Oak Grove. 'Course the air station here was an auxiliary field. One at Atlantic. Bogue Field. Kinston.

Lt. Gen. Miller: One up at Elizabeth City. Edenton too.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Where?

Lt. Gen. Miller: There was one at Edenton too.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: At Edenton, yeah. See, those were all for. . . built for dispersing planes in case Cherry Point got blew up. But, then Bogue Field has been converted to a, what you call it, it's where they shoot 'em off the ground.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: For take-off.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Since I was with Barrus Construction, we. . . we built that, ah, runway, and put in that, ah, catapult launch. President Kennedy came down for the inauguration of that thing. That thing has saved the government millions of dollars, that catapult at Bogue. You know that? It's something. Did you ever see 'em use it?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Oh yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: They can shoot great big bombers off that thing over there. Have you ever been over there, Bogue Field?

L.J. Kimball: I haven't been there in years sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, they can. . . I think its 1,200 feet long and its been a wonderful thing.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But the aircraft that we using in World War II, the, ah, F-6s, even the F-4s . You could land them on that without them, without an arrested landing.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But you see these airports have d. . . these auxiliary fields have deteriorated the pavement has so badly . . . When we put the catapult in there, we put it down on Marsden [Matting], on the runway and we cut a channel. We put in a 12 by 36 inch high beam, 1,200 feet long there I think, and that catapult stuff is anchored to that, see. Interesting.

L.J. Kimball: Sir, back to what you were saying about the. . . you put that pontoon bridge over the intercoastal waterway at Onslow Beach.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Right. Right.

L.J. Kimball: When was that replaced by a permanent structure?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, I don't know. Ah, we probably used it. See that. . . that permanent structure carries a hundred ton load, it'll carry a tanker. . . tank on a carrier. No other bridges around here, including the ones on the highway, could carry that. I would. . . I would say that, ah, structure there was built about 1950, but I'm just guessing.

L.J. Kimball: And up until that approximate period of time, did you say the pontoon bridge. . .

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: We had that pontoon bridge, heavy-duty bridge there. It would carry heavy loads. I . . . I don't remember. The same engineers in Baltimore that we had originally designed that new bridge by the way and that wasn't part of the deal. I . . . I don't remember when that bridge was built. Could have been before '50. But its a heavy-duty bridge and can carry a hundred-ton load. See in the '50s we had three very big hurricanes.

Tape Three, Side One

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . But we had all those hurricanes in the fifties. Ah, water probably got six feet deep in the Enlisted Club house there. I don't think there was a dry spot on the beach probably when they had to. . . some of them. . . Going to the new bridge though, the water was probably four feet deep on the roadway this side of the new bridge.

L.J. Kimball: That facility over on Onslow Beach, what was that originally built for?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: So help me, I really don't know. It was a te. . . built as a temporary facility like we're building at, ah, there, at the Labor Battalion. I guess it was just kind of a, built there for, a small mess hall, a little heating plant, a little sewage plant. We piped the water there from the mainland under the Intercoastal Waterway there. Had the wells on the main shore. I guess it was for beach parties, or had to do with landings or something. I don't know.

L.J. Kimball: I imagine that Col. Hill had a real public relations effort during the construction of the base to keep all the tenants that had to be displaced happy, and. . . Did he spend a lot of time with civil relations working with these people to try to ease their displacement from the base?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, I don't think we had much of a problem. In the first place, it was not a particularly good farming area here. It was kind of a jungle mess. Ah, we were buying this property before prices went up, and these people were being . . . paid cash right quick and they were going over here to the adjoining county and buying nice farms, know what I mean? And, I remember talking . . . I talked to some of the people. . . I remember talking. . . it was a big farm there at this Ragged Point, like I was talking about there. Talked to this old gent there one time that was moving out. I asked him if he was happy. He said, well I could've probably sued you all and got more money, but I got that money and I went over and b. . . next county here and I bought myself a beautiful farm. And the way that it turned out, prices were just skyrocketed so high. We were fortunate in being able to buy the property basically in '41

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probably. And the people was very happy, ah, . . . The people who probably suffered the most . . . there was a doctor from, I believe, Richmond and owned this big place down there where Dr. Brown and I lived. That was you know something nice for him. Then that place that used to be the Club at Courthouse Bay. That was the doctor's house there from Richmond too I think. And, ah, but most of the people, after left here, then the prices got high. And they thought if I'd kept my property, I'd got a lot more money, but if they wanted to make real. . . new investments, they probably made out much better in '41 they'd done later on.

L.J. Kimball: Did you encounter a lot of discontent from the people having to leave?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, not too much. As I said, ah, Roper Lumber Company sued us for the property at Midway Park for a lot of money. Well, a Federal judge in New Bern named Meekins, that looked like Winston Churchill exactly and talked like him, and, ah, that went to Court and we showed that that. . . Their argument was that the property value had increased. They sued us long after we occupied it, you understand. This was when we couldn't settle and we went ahead, condemned it and built on it and everything. We showed on these maps, our air maps I was telling you about hanging in the office there, that this was our intent to buy this at the beginning. So you had nothing to stand on and the Courts agreed with us. That was the only major lawsuit I think we had. Our main problem was just to helping the families identify their stuff. 'Course we moved all graves. We furnished the labor force and hired a local undertaker to make it legal. All the graves at Camp Lejeune now has moved in. If John Doe is buried in the north corner of the Reservation. He's in the cemetery over here in the north corner. And then we. . . the black cemetery's over by Verona. You know where that is don't you?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We established us two new graveyards. Ah, wasn't anything to be moved much hardly. None of them was new. If, ah, if a family would choose a site within 200 miles, I believe it was, we'd move the grave free and we had hardly no takers.

L.J. Kimball: There's references to several housing areas that were built, I guess, after World War II. Onslow Terrace, um, New River.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: OK, New River and Tarawa Terrace was built the same time. One of 'em is Title 8 and one's Title 9. What separates 'em. . . Tarawa Terrace was built on

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federally owned property. It was built and operated for a number of years. Built, maintained and operated for long time by C. D. Spangler, Sr. I believe Jr. is president of Carolina, isn't he?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I don't know, but . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . Anyway C.D. Spangler built and operated Tarawa Terrace. And of course the Marine Corps took it over before I retired and we was ordered. . . We took it over in a few months. New River was built the same time that Tarawa Terrace was, and, ah, one's Title 8 and one's Title 9. The differences. . . one's on the Reservation, one's private.

L.J. Kimball: They were built at. . . for military housing. Is that correct?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, they was built because of the build-up here. I don't think they would. . . But Tarawa Terrace was built for military control, yeah. New River I don't think is. . . ah, is built because of the build up of the area, but Tarawa Terrace had to be used for military people.

L.J. Kimball: Was it built by the same folks?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Built the same. Build up program I reckon its likely to get support now. The county schools get support because the impact that the military has on the base.

L.J. Kimball: There was another housing area that's mentioned. I believe it's Onslow Terrace. Do you recall that?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Isn't that there back of the Post Office? Isn't that Onslow Terrace? I don't know.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Back of which Post Office?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Huh?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Back of which Post Office?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Jacksonville Post Office. Is that called Onslow Terrace? I don't know.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I don't think so.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: That was built in the early days. See, Johnson Boulevard wasn't built much later on. But between Johnson Boulevard and the Post Office and, ah, Boom Town, places like that. . . that housing was built about the same time we was building Camp Lejeune and that might of been . . . What's is, what is the name of it? Onslow Terrace?

L.J. Kimball: Onslow Terrace.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I don't know. I'm guessing that could be Onslow Terrace if that's it. That hasn't to do with military anyway.

L.J. Kimball: Do you have any impressions of what Jacksonville was like when you first came here?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, it was 480 people here. The livery stables was almost downtown then. Jacksonville 17 the way it is now was not existing. Twenty-four was . . . 17 went right down the Courthouse. Twenty-four went by the Courthouse. Ah, pavement probably ended about where the new Jacksonville Post Office is. Pavement ended around here, ah, on Chaney Avenue about where Jone's Funeral Home is. There was nothing, as I recall, across the river.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Was 17 paved from here to New Bern?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, part of it was, ah, brick pavement that goes. . . there's some in existence. Streaks still existin' there about where Riverbend entrance is.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Mmmm-hmmm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: A little bit of it was brick as I remember, but, ah, 17 was paved the full length. Twenty-four was paved full length and 258 was paved. That was the only thing. But Jacksonville, I think, had four hundred some people. Ah, there's quite a bunch of old houses down you know by the old railroad station down in there. Some great big old houses there. Those pretty new houses down on the river, they were built much later on. Little black communities was some . . . somewhat of that.

L.J. Kimball: Where was the black community in Jacksonville?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Very little. That little corner down there and seemed to me like over around Georgetown, there was a little bit then. But there was . . . I can't imagine being over. . . hardly anybody down there. I know there's a black woman

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operated a chicken restaurant down there, was wonderful food. Down around the old railroad station.

Lt. Gen. Miller: OK.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: We had two u. . . we built . . . we had two US . . . The USO down in Jacksonville belongs to the Marine Corps. You knew that didn't you? The building and everything.

L.J. Kimball: No sir. I didn't.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Belongs to the Marine Corps. I guess that's one of the biggest US. . . USOs still operating in the United States there.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah. One of the oldest. And it's. . . and it, ah, is still maintained by Marine Corps. I remember several years ago, I had to budget for repainting it or something.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: See, Camp Lejeune went into integration quite early. We. . . originally had a black USO club down around the railroad station too, but, Camp Lejeune was in integration in '42, weren't we? Huh?

Lt. Gen. Miller: I don't. . . I, I think it, ah, it happened, ah, later. I . . . and now I just can't remember. I, you know. . . because during World War II you never served with any blacks. I never served with a black the whole, the whole war. The only time I ever saw anything was when, ah, ah, in the Pacific they were unloading ships, ah, stevedores and stuff like that. And, ah, maybe some truck drivers.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I believe Montford Point was the latter part of '42 sometime.

Lt. Gen. Miller: The, the. . . Montford Point started doing it and we started training blacks and we, and we did have them in these, ah . . . They went into some labor battalion and I think they went into some of the defense battalion, if I'm not mistaken.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I . . . I don't know.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But, ah, but there weren't any in the you know the infantry, artillery, aviation.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I think you're right. I think they were in the defensive part.

Lt. Gen. Miller: That didn't come along until, ah, after the war.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Women's Boot Camp was here during the war, you knew that didn't you? The first Women's Boot Camp was here also. That was in that area. . . women's area was the area back of, ah, Building One. Maintenance oper. . . in Maintenance we operated a training school for women so they could do their petty maintenance and plumbing, electrical, things like that around their barracks. And, ah.

L.J. Kimball: Do you recall where. . . Where were the women's schools? We know where the barracks and the recreation and the mess hall and everything. Where was the actual school rooms located, where they went to school?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, they had a, let's see, in the women's area they had, isn't it one, ah, service club in that area isn't it?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: And I would say they went to school in their own barracks. Cuz of course they had to. . . that bowling alley wasn't built then. The dental dispensary was there.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Was it. . . why would you say where did the women go to school? They were here working, as I recall. Now they had gone to school someplace for typing school, or whatever it was that they, ah, needed to do. But that was the. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, I can answer that. Later on Quartermaster School was at Montford Point, remember?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, it still is.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah. Ah, their Boot Camp training and that part that went with Boot Camp was held in that same area. Now, first place, I had the most trained staff you've ever seen in Base Maintenance. My secretary was a private secretary of Standard Oil, president of Standard Oil in Indiana. These women jumped out and wanted to be heroes. Now of course Maintenance is running these schools. This one gal come to me and she wanted to be a electric linesman. Well, she got that worked out right quick. Anyway they were signing up for maintenance while these were to go to school and we kept 'em on in the electric shop rewinding motors and things like that. But this. . . all of my staff, my supervisors and my supply Officer and everybody had. . . these were Women Marines that had had all their training before they come to us. But,

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ah, they got their Boot Camp training down there in that area. You're right, an awful lot of these women, well, a lot of the women were used as drivers, truck drivers and different things and they were used as secretarial staff and things like. . . I. . . I had a whole bunch. In those days it was hard to get motors, so we . . . we rewound mot. . . electric motors and women Marines did that. And, ah, I had, I probably had, see I had my own supply system then. Not in Maintenance. I had my own supply outfit. And, I probably had 50 people, military people, in supply alone in those days.

L.J. Kimball: Where did they go with the women Marines? This following the war and the women Marines are back in the Marine Corps. There's. . . before the women were integrated in the rest of the Marine Corps, there were several barracks or an area set aside where they kept the women Marines? Where was that at Camp Lejeune?

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Right there in back of Building One. That was all women's area there including that mess hall all the way down to the old brig. There was a lot of women Marines here at Boot Camp.

Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . the stations theater, Building 3 where they . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, I'll take you down and show you where. . . All those barracks back of Building One all the way down to the brig, including that one mess hall, was women Marines.

Lt. Gen. Miller: When I. . . when I came here in World War II, I was a Staff Sergeant. Ah, so, I lived over there in one of those barracks, but, ah, the only thing . . . and I was only here about two or three months, but we . . . I was going to school over. . . over there. But every night we'd go over to the Staff Club, have a hamburger, play pool 'til the movie started. Then we'd go over to the movie. There's always a line out there for the movie, about two blocks long, waiting for the movie to starting up. As the Staff Sergeant, I just stood up in the lounge. The lounge, the balcony was for staff NCOs and officers.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: In the big theater.

Lt. Gen. Miller: In the big theater. So you'd go down the line and these, ah, WMs stayed in line, you could, ah, pass one of those nice WMs and see if they wanted to go sit in the balcony. You could always get a seatmate.

L.J. Kimball: Sounds like a good deal.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: See, women came in here real early. I'd say women was in here about the time we got. . . that street was named Molly Pitcher Drive and things like that in there. So women was in this real early, when. . . Women was in the Marine Corps in a big way, early '43 weren't they? Maybe '42.

Lt. Gen. Miller: They came in, they came in. . . I think they came in '42.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, I think you're right.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Because they were, they were. . . women came in. . . I know they came in in '42.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I think you're right.

L.J. Kimball: The period of time I was thinking about, for example, when you were the Deputy CG at FMFLant at Camp Elmore, there was a women's Marines barracks and there was a women's Marines company and they were still segregated from the rest of the Marine Corps.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Oh, they were down there.

L.J. Kimball: In that particular time in Camp Lejeune, were the barracks the women Marines in the old women Marines area in back of Building One or was there some other place where they . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. That . . . that was it and they were. . . It was segregated those days too. It was segregated. It was very much segregated then. They had, let's see, they had four barracks and a mess hall I guess there and a little mis. . . They had a . . . they had a battalion area, equal battalion area I believe. Maybe they didn't have the theater because the bowling alley was built later. And dental dispensary has always been there, the legal office has been there a long time. But they had four barracks and a mess hall and some other things that went with it.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I don't think you've seen the disintegration of the women into their record units whether they're base or FMF units. That really didn't occur until, ah, within the last, ah, ten, twelve years.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's right. Yeah.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: Ah, because the. . . as I say when I was Deputy there, we had 'em on separate, ah, company or platoon or something. Ah. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I had. . . I had two women Marine Officers during the war. Or later on anyway. I don't remember how late.

Lt. Gen. Miller: OK, that's a. . . that's a piece of history for you.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . my age isn't he, wouldn't you say?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Probably.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: He was, ah, he was born and raised here in Jacksonville, went to school here.

L.J. Kimball: What's this gentleman's name again sir?

Lt. Col. Bozarth:: Ah, Ace Morton. Alvin Morton. Alvin Morton. He used to have Jones-Onslow EMC.

Lt. Gen. Miller: He was the Director of Jones-Onslow up until just about two, three years ago. He's retired and lives right up the street up here. Right across from me. And, ah. . . and, ah. . . but, ah, I've talked to him occasionally about, ah, not really with any intent to, to pump him for anything, but you know, just what it was like back there and, ah, so forth, what the community was like. There's, there's lots of people. . . ah, ah, ah, old Joe Bynum. Joe and Ellen Bynum.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah, they were from Maysville, yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: But, ah, they lived out. . . in fact, they . . . you, you mentioned the guy that was the, ah, editor of the paper, ah. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Billy Arthur.

L.J. Kimball: Billy Arthur.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: He's bedridden now, understand? He's a good friend of mine. Billy used to come by our house an awful lot. Billy was a midget. You, you know about . . . you know about Billy don't you?

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir. A little bit.

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: I remember Billy. The first time at my house he needed to go to the bathroom, my four-year-old was going to show him. Billy's in very poor health. He lives at Chapel Hill. But, ah, Billy used to own that hobby shop and he's out of that. Billy used to live next door to Kay Kyser. You remember the band leader, Kay Kyser?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: My daughter went to the Carolina to college and I used to visit Billy once in a while, but I understand he's . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well you know he was down here, what, that's been about four or five years ago.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: He came down here and we had lunch. And, ah, he just, ah, a fascinating person to, ah, talk. . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Do you know, ah, Tony Caputo, don't you?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Tony's wife was Billy's Number One news reporter.

Lt. Gen. Miller: He lives down at, ah, the other side of Wilmington.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, he lives over at Burgaw, yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, I thought that . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Is it Burgaw? Burgaw. 53.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Oh, OK.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's where Mary Strom originally told me, but they live over at Burgaw.

Lt. Gen. Miller: I thought he lived down at, ah, . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Burgaw.

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Lt. Gen. Miller: . . . that, ah, town between Wilmington and, ah, Myrtle Beach.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. He lives in Burgaw. And they have their old farm over there. I think they live at their old house that she lived in. This. . . her brother became quite famous with this vending machine business and made millions out of it. He died last year in this high rise nursing home in Morehead City, by the way. Her brother did. But Mary was Billy Arthur's . . . but that's a lot of. . . you've heard a lot of stories. This story's about Camp Davis. I saw a story come out in the paper a couple of years ago about population down there was 100,000. That's the biggest. . . It talked about those old towers on the beach that they, that. . . OK, I'll tell you about Camp Davis. I closed out Camp Davis as Maintenance Officer twice. That's defense type training and the Air Force was gonna take over. But Camp Davis . . .

L.J. Kimball: Yes sir.

Lt. Gen. Miller: It doesn't make any difference.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: But Camp Davis. . . Air Force took over Camp Davis and gonna make it an R&R and I never could understand that, but Camp Lejeune was supposed to get 10,000 Dutch Marines and we didn't have any place for 'em. So I met with an Air Force bunch down at Camp Davis. They just walked out and left everything there. And we come to an agreement to get out of Camp Davis the next day. They wanted six months and things like that, but, ah. . . It developed that we didn't get the Dutch Marines so we didn't need it. So we unloaded ships from Wilmington. The ships were coming back down from these defense camps to Wilmington and they were being unloaded in those big concrete pads at Holly Ridge. At Camp Davis. And along come Kellex, the Navy showed up. Now the Navy had hired a concern called Kellex, and I don't remember how you spell it, from New England to test the missiles. So some of the first missiles in the country was fired off the beaches at the front of Camp Davis. So, Kellex operated what they call stove pipe missiles off the beach there for about a year I guess. But Camp Davis originally was for balloon barrage and anti-aircraft. One of their balloons got. . . went all the way into Norfolk and wrecked electrical substation, as I recall. But, ah, it was fast moving around here then, with two little highways to get in and out. Marine Corps run half the families that started coming in here. We had a commissary fairly early, but they was sending buses of women on to go shopping wherever they went to shopping. Kinston, New Bern, someplace. See, Wilmington wasn't a good place to go because Wilmington had the big ship. . . ship yard. Wilmington was building the liberty ships, one a week down there in those

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days. I went to several launchings. Every week they was turning out a ship completed at Wilmington. That's something.

Lt. Gen. Miller: That'd be a good story too. And that takes what, two or three years to build a ship? Even a little one.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: See, the air strip originally was built over at the air station. One of the main things it built for was auxiliary and for gliders. Well, I guess we did use a few gliders, didn't we?

Lt. Gen. Miller: We got out of that business pretty early. I don't . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Got out of that. That Courthouse Bay was built for balloon barrage and it got out of that. I'd worked on balloon barrage hoist at Quantico for the equipment board before I came down here, a little bit. It was a Maj. Smith, or somebody, that been over to Paris and London 'cuz they were using those big. . . they were big in the balloon barrage in the early. . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Yeah.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: . . . early part of the airwar. Then we built parachute towers on the base. Had two towers, one free and one. . . Marine Corps had paratroopers in those days, see. We had one free fall and one guided parachute tower.

Lt. Gen. Miller: They were over there when I came.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's where the amateur radio stations are, somewhere.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Near where the old, ah, outdoor theater is now.

L.J. Kimball: I read one account of the early Paramarines and they said that they originally three towers at Camp Lejeune and one of them blew over in a storm.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No. They were sold and dismantled. The Marine Corps got rid of them early and they were sold, and probably took to some fairground or something. But they didn't blow over. No, we never. . . parachute towers were moved out early. They went out early.

L.J. Kimball: Are you aware of any retired Marines that were here during the time the First Marine Division first came to Camp Lejeune?

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Lt. Col. Bozarth: The next oldest guy that I know around here is, ah, Col. Lloyd Williams that lives out on 53. He was a rifle range type guy and after he's retired he used to go to Camp Perry for many years. Lloyd Williams and he lives out on 53. Ah, before you get to the crossroads blinker out there, and all that. Last time I saw him he was in very poor health. But I don't know of anybody around here that lives here now, no. In fact, I don't know of anybody here much after the World War, I guess. Whose the next one, Gen. Pug [Poggemeyer]?

Lt. Gen. Miller: Pug might have been around. And you know he had a . . . he had a stroke last night, this morning.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: No, but I knew both of them's in the hospital.

Lt. Gen. Miller: Well, I went by the hospital today to see him. I hadn't seen him since Sunday week. He was in the hospital with pneumonia.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: I'd like to see him.

Lt. Gen. Miller: So we were gone all last week. So I said I'll go by there and see him and today he's in intensive care and I . . . I went in. He, he's had a stroke and he can't talk. He's frustrated. He tries to talk, but he can't.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well. . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Lou was there. She just got . . . she said that's the first day she's been out. She. . . she had appendicitis.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Yeah.

Lt. Gen. Miller: And, ah, she looks bad. She was there. Their, ah, son, ah, . . .

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Texas.

Lt. Gen. Miller: From Texas, Craig, was there. Lou's sister and, ah, Val Hilgart. And, ah, so, I stayed for about 20 minutes or so and, ah, but, ah. . . He, apparently about five o'clock this morning. . . In fact, they were getting along well with his pneumonia and, and the doctor told him he'd probably go home tomorrow. And at five o'clock this morning he had a stroke. And, ah, so they got him all hooked up to fifteen different instruments, you know, that read, ah, all your vital signs, plus feeding him antibiotics. He's on oxygen and everything. But, ah, he was getting along all right and they expect that he would get his, ah,

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voice back. His, his mind is clear. He knows you when you walk in and he wants to say something. And he can't say it.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Well, he was at the retired meeting a week ago . . .

Lt. Gen. Miller: Last Friday.

Lt. Col. Bozarth: That's right.

[Information on Gen. Poggemeyer's condition]

Lt. Col. Bozarth: Capt. Ruse, his wife has the credit bureau here. Capt. Ruse came down here with us pretty early in the system. You might want to talk to him some time. Clarke Ruse.

(end of tape)