

Oral History Tape Recording Release

I, John L. Caldwell, hereby give and grant my tape recordings and their contents to Dr. Suzanne Marshall, Assistant Professor of History Jacksonville State University, and authorize her to make them available for scholarly research purposes.

INTERVIEWEE John L. Caldwell _____

INTERVIEWER Tammy T. MacLaughlin

DATE OF INTERVIEW 7-11-93

NUMBER OF TAPES 2

DATE OF AGREEMENT 7-11-93

SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWEE/DONOR

John L. Caldwell

SUMMARY OF TAPE CONTENTS

TAPE 1 Side A

Description of Birth Place
Memories of Childhood and Family
Experiences in Boot Camp
Experiences of Infantry Training
Discusses Aviation School
Story of How He Met His Wife
Talks on Space Program of 1960's
Memories of Segregation in 1950's
Recalls JFK Assassination
Discusses Reasons for Enlisting
Describes Trip to Vietnam
Describes People and Land of Vietnam
Recalls Experiences While in Vietnam

TAPE 1 Side B

Gives His Opinion of Reason for Vietnam Crisis
Recalls Torture of Troops
Describes Dangers of City and Jungle
Discusses Benefits of Military

TAPE 2 Side A

Recalls Experiences After He Returned to States
Describes Effect of War on Family
Describes Life at China Beach
Recalls Civil Rights Movement During 1967
Recalls Woodstock, 60's Generation, and Drugs
Describes How Vietnam Affected His Life
Recalls Death of Best Friend
Talks of Vietnam Memorial

PERSONAL CHRONOLOGY

- March 1944 - Born, John Leon Caldwell, Sewanee TN
- 1953 - TVA brings electricity
- March 1963 - Enlisted in Marines through Buddy Plan
- May 1963 - Graduated from High School
Sworn into Marine Corp/Boot Camp
- Oct 1963 - Married childhood sweetheart
- Nov 1963 - Denied leave from Memphis base when JFK
assassinated
- May 1966 - Arrives in Vietnam / Da Nang
- Sept 1966 - Transferred to Hue near border
- May 1967 - Returned to California - discharged from
Marines
- 1968 - Moved to Smyrna, Georgia, began work for
Lockheed Aircraft

YEAR	INTERNATIONAL	NATIONAL	STATE/LOCAL
1960	National liberation front of S. Vietnam established. U-2 incident.	2nd Civil Rights Act John F. Kennedy elected president. Sit-ins to protest segregation begin. Birth Control pill marketed.	Gov. Vandiver threatens to withhold money from integrated schools. Black protest continues.
1961	Berlin Wall erected. Bay of Pigs invasion fails. Peace Corps created.	Eisenhower notes military-industrial complex. Alan Shepard fist American in space.	Desegregation continues in stores and rest. Atlanta Merchandise Mart opens. Black students attend GA Tech. Atlanta Airport Terminal opens.
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis U-2 pilot Gary Powers released.	John Glenn orbits earth. Marilyn Monroe dies.	Carl Sanders is governor. Ivan Allen elected Mayor of Atlanta. Blacks march on the capitol.
1963		Kennedy assassinated. LB Johnson becomes president. King's 'I have a dream speech'.	Atlanta pools and parks are desegregated. First public appearance of MLK at Hunt Park conference.
1964	MLK awarded Nobel Peace Prize.	Freedom summer in Mississippi. EOA initiates war on poverty. Johnson elected president.	Ground breaking for Atl. Stadium. Lester Maddox uses gun to expel blacks from his res Memorial at Stone Mtn. continues.
1965	Bombing of N. Vietnam/U.S. enters war	Assassination of Malcolm X. Voting Rights Act. Civil Rights march from Selma to Montgomery. Watts riot in L.A.	Grady hospital desegregates facilities. Klan marches in Atlanta. Atlanta unemployment rate lowest in nation.
1966		Medicare program begins. Black Panthers formed. Nat'l organization for Women founded. Sit-ins protest war in Vietnam.	Braves play 1st game at stadium. Stone Mtn. park opens. Atlanta Falcons football league. Black riots. Lester Maddox is governor.
1967		U.S. population at 200 million. Massive anti-war demonstrations. Race riots.	Six Flags over GA opens. Hosea Williams lead black citizens in confrontation
1968	Vietnam peace talks open in Vietnam.	Columbia University Strike. Nixon elected President. Robert Kennedy killed. MLK assassinated/race riots sweep nation. 536,000 U.S. personnel in Vietnam.	New governors mansion. Kings funeral march through Atlanta. Hawks basketball team comes to Atlanta.

YEAR	INTERNATIONAL	NATIONAL	STATE/LOCAL
1969		<p>Apollo 11 - Armstrong 1st Am. on moon. Nixon begins withdrawal of troops. Woodstock festival. Chappaquiddick incident. Manson murders Sharon Tate & friends.</p>	<p>Underground Atlanta opens. Growth in Atlanta continues. Drug arrests at Piedmont Park.</p>
1970	<p>First Earth Day U.S. invades Cambodia.</p>	<p>Students killed at Kent state. EPA established. OSHA created.</p>	<p>Carving on Stone Mtn. finished. Jimmy Carter elected governor. Atlanta is 20th largest city.</p>

Excellent

QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWEE

1. Describe the area where you lived as a child. What are your memories?
2. As a teenager, what did you do in your spare time? Did you have an after school job?
3. In what ways did your service in the Korean War affect you and your family?
4. When did you marry and how did you meet your wife?
5. How did you feel when you received your draft notice for the Vietnam War?
6. What were your thoughts as you stepped off the plane in Vietnam?
7. If you were younger, would you be eager to serve your country in combat again?
8. In what ways has the time you spent in Vietnam changed your life?
9. In what ways did the Civil rights movement affect your life? What experiences did you have as a result of desegregation?
10. What was your reaction to JFK's assassination?

*MLK'S
RFK'S*

* Note - John did not serve in the Korean War.
~~His~~ older brother fought in the Korean War.

INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name: John Leon Caldwell M/F male
 Address: 10642 Gaines Ferry Rd, Flowery Branch GA 30542
 Phone number(s): (404) 967-1464 (404) 475-3166
 Approximate age or date of birth: 3-20-44 age 49
 Mother's Name: Clara Caldwell
 Father's Name: William Thomas Caldwell
 Places lived and when: Tennessee 1944-1963 USMC 63-67
67-68 Tennessee 68 to present - Georgia
 Education: High School, Cobb Vocational Tech
 Religion: Methodist
 Business, political and social memberships (past and present) _____
Mason and Shriner
 Present occupation: Distribution Supervisor / Atlanta Gas
 Former occupations: Sheet metal Mech. / Lockheed Light
 Special Skills: _____
 Major Accomplishments: _____

 National Events in which interviewee has participated: _____
Vietnam 1966-1967
 Local Events in which interviewee has participated: _____

 Where born: Sewanee, Tennessee
 National born U.S. citizen? Yes / No
 Naturalized Citizen: Yes/No Date: _____
 Country from which he/she emigrated: _____
 Documents, photographs, and artifacts which are in the possession of the interviewee:
Many photographs + slides from Vietnam
 Individuals recommended by the interviewee who might be candidates for an oral history interview: _____
 Additional information: _____