



A Texas Ranger Hall of Fame E-Book™

INTERVIEW WITH

ED GOODING
TEXAS RANGER, RETIRED

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PROJECT:
TEXAS RANGERS

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED AT THE OFFICE OF
CAPTAIN KIRBY DENDY
WACO, TEXAS
FRIDAY - AUGUST 21, 1998

INTERVIEWED BY:
ROBERT NIEMAN
LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Present At Interview: Ed Gooding and Robert Nieman



Introduction

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Ed Gooding
Texas Ranger – Retired

ROBERT NIEMAN: This is Friday, August 21, 1998. We are in Company F at Waco, Texas Headquarters in the office of Captain Kirby Dendy. My name is Robert Nieman and I am visiting with former Ranger Ed Gooding of Cleburne, Texas. The purpose of this interview is to discuss Ranger Gooding's activities in and with the Texas Rangers. Mr. Gooding do I have your permission to video tape this interview?

ED GOODING: Yes

ROBERT NIEMAN: Mr. Gooding you understand this video tape will belong to you and to me?

ED GOODING: Yes

ROBERT NIEMAN: And finally, Mr. Gooding do I have your permission to present copies of this tape to various historical organizations such as museums, libraries, schools, etc.?

ED GOODING: Yes

ROBERT NIEMAN: Would you please state your full name and your address.

ED GOODING: Edgar Dalton Gooding. I live at 900 Ivanhoe, Cleburne, Texas 76031.

ROBERT NIEMAN: When and where were you born Mr. Gooding?

ED GOODING: I was born in Ingleside, Texas, San Patricia County.

ROBERT NIEMAN: When?

ED GOODING: July 10, 1924.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And who were your parents?

ED GOODING: My Father was John Edgar Gooding and my mother was Nellie Elza, her maiden name was Wynsleth, Gooding.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you have any siblings and if yes, what was their names chronologically?

ED GOODING: My oldest sister, she's two years younger....I'm the oldest child and my sister Loma Laverne Gooding Turner, she's married now....Turner....ah was two years younger. The next child was Billy Joe Gooding, he's 68 and the next one was Wanda Joyce Gooding ah....she's....she's deceased and the other was....the next one was Johnnie Jean Gooding ah....she's married and has two children and they're married and have grandchildren. And then the baby was Edith Kay, her name is Williams now, she was born in.....during the war in 1944.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Where did you go to school?

ED GOODING: In Engle....in Aransas Pass, I ah....ah....up to high school and then I went to Ingleside the last two years.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, is this down in the Corpus Christi area?

ED GOODING: Near Corpus Christi....Ingleside, Texas.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And when did you graduate from high school?

ED GOODING: In just about 194.....let's see 1941, right after the war started, that fall when the war started is when I graduated....'42 probably. Cause I was in high school when the war started in '41 and they bombed Pearl Harbor and I graduated that.....that year, so it would of been '42.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And do you have any college work?

ED GOODING: Had ah....American College at Kileen, Texas when the ah....ah....family code was passed we had to work with some juveniles.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What.....what is the family code?

ED GOODING: It's the code in the law on how to handle juveniles.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh okay.

ED GOODING: And prior to that we had....had to have....had....had to have handled juveniles. But when they passed that it fell to law enforcement officers to handle them and ah.....in order to learn how I took three...two or three courses on ah.....criminal law handling juveniles and ah...ah....different subjects pertaining to law enforcement at the college. I did that mainly to refresh and to learn how to handle juveniles, cause we had to do that before.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah...were you married?

ED GOODING: Yes

ROBERT NIEMAN: And your wife's name?

ED GOODING: Lena Richardson.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You said was.

ED GOODING: Lena, she's deceased, 1995.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you have any children?

ED GOODING: No, never had children.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....when you were in school, what were your favorite subjects?

ED GOODING: Spanish.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You enjoyed Spanish, okay.

ED GOODING: Having been raised in south Texas I ah....of course was raised with lots of Latin American boys and girls. And we lived on a ranch out of Aransas Pass a ways and there was a Mexican family that lived on the ranch with us and they had a young son about my age. And we

were there for about oh 12 or 13 years. And Lupe was his name, Perez.....P E R E Z. And we grew up through those years together and he learned English from me and I learned Spanish from him.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well jumping ahead, did you use it in your career?

ED GOODING: I did in Houston quite a bit and out at Kerrville a whole lot and then I moved back to I moved to Amarillo and didn't use it very little up there. And then I moved back to Belton and I used it quite a bit in Belton and Georgetown and different places where I worked.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....what about extra curricular activities such as sports, any particular favorites there?

ED GOODING: Fishing.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Fishing?

ED GOODING:and hunting arrowheads, digging arrowheads.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You have a good collection?

ED GOODING: I did have. In Amarillo when I moved out there I had a heart attack and knowing very little about your heart and the heart conditions, I knew I was on my death bed, I was going to die.

ROBERT NIEMAN: When was this?

ED GOODING: This was in 1970.....ah 1969, late '69, in October or November of '69. And ah.... I knew I was on my way out, I was going to die, there wasn't any way to get well from a heart attack. So I began to sell off everything I had, I sold my arrowhead collection, I had a guitar and an amplifier, sold that, sold my bird gun and deer rifle. Get rid of all that stuff so my wife wouldn't have to fool with it after I was gone. And then in December of '69 I went back to the doctor for a

check up and he told me, he said, “Well we’ve got you off those cigarettes, now by this end of this year.....month, at the end of December, I want you walking a mile a day”. And I thought the man was crazy, he’d lost his mind. I was on my death bed, I was going to die, I knew it. So ah....but I did, I started walking a mile a day and then in January he let me start riding in the car, not driving just riding, with Kelly Rogers.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who was Kelly Rogers?

ED GOODING: He was a Ranger there in Amarillo, Mule Driver.....M. D. Rogers was his name and he had the name of Kelly. He said a school teacher pinned the name on him as Kelly with the green hat. He always had a little green hat that he wore. But anyway ah..... I started riding with Kelly and ah.... then the early part of January he put me back to work full time. And ah.... I never liked Amarillo and I went to looking south for a place to go and ah....Pete Rogers, J.F. Pete Rogers was my Captain and Pete had been my Sergeant in Houston when I was there. And Pete told me, he said, “When you find you a place you want to go you don’t need to contact me, just call the Captain and tell him you want to go down there, wherever it’s at.” And I told him, “I’ll go anywhere but Mexico, I don’t care where”. I like to froze to death in that country up there. An opening came up in Belton and I moved back to Belton.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....were you in the service?

ED GOODING: Yes.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What branch?

ED GOODING: Infantry.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And what years?

ED GOODING: Ah....1943, '44, the last 2 ½ years.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay and ah.....did you go overseas?

ED GOODING: Yes.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Which theater?

ED GOODING: European theater.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And could....would you like to describe some of your military service?

ED GOODING: Ah....

ROBERT NIEMAN: I think this was very important.

ED GOODING: I landed

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well what division were you in?

ED GOODING: The 35th Infantry was what I was originally.....later joined.

ROBERT NIEMAN: In which army?

ED GOODING: In the ah.....well we was with Patton's third army.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Third army? My dad fought.....changing the subject.....the 76th division was in that same army.

ED GOODING: Yeah. Rail splitters, wasn't they called?

ROBERT NIEMAN: I'm not sure.

ED GOODING: 35th Infantry was ah.... I joined it about two weeks after I landed. When we landed was on June 10th, four days after D-Day and ah....June the 6th was D-Day and I landed on June 10th and the beach was still just covered with bodies and ah....something I saw that 'Saving Private Ryan'.

ROBERT NIEMAN: I was going to ask you about that.

ED GOODING: And ah.....it brought back memories of the fish that dead along that beach, because they'd begun to smell in four days. And ah....the bodies of course was smell.....smelled and they were bloated from floating in and out of the salt water. And ah....that movie brought back to memory those fish along the beach. We went inland.....our artillery was still sitting on the beach firing inland when we landed and there was some artillery coming into the beach, German artillery.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Let me interrupt you, my dad said to the day he died that if he heard an .88 go off, he could tell.....if he heard it in time, he could tell right where it was coming.

ED GOODING: Exactly. It had a peculiar whistle about it see. You could tell if it was going to your left or to the right or if it was coming straight at you, you could tell which way it was going. That .88 was originally built as an anti-aircraft gun.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Flat projectory.

ED GOODING: Flat projectory and ah....but they learned to use it against tanks and ah....later on in the war against foot soldiers, militaryor foot soldiers. And ah...it was a vicious weapon, really vicious. The casing, plus the projectile that it fired, was about oh....the projectile was about six inches long, eight maybe, and you could stand up and it would just fit under your armpit, it was that long, had the powder behind it, the reason it whistled so when they fired it. And ah....they used it against tanks, it was originally built for an anti-aircraft gun but they used it against tanks. And those Sherman tanks we had, it would fire a round hole completely through the turret of a Sherman tank.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And that turret was how thick?

ED GOODING: It was about four inches of case hardened steel. It would go in one side and out the other.

Plus on the inside there was lots of residue from that shell ricocheting around in there and chewing everybody up.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What was your rank?

ED GOODING: I made the.....went in as a Corporal and when I finished my infantry basic at California I went they sent me to a NCO school and ah.... I was there about twelve, thirteen weeks I guess, came out with the rank of Corporal. And I went back to Camp Roberts California as an instructor and served one term there as an instructor, then they shipped me to Florida, Camp Lang in Florida. The ah.... Pacific theater was going pretty well, McArthur was jumping islands going across pretty fast. I think one reason, they moved a whole bunch of troops to Florida for the Atlantic.....getting ready for the invasion of Europe that they were getting ready for, the second front. And ah.... I went through one infantry basic school there, or training school, as a drill instructor and they shipped to Fort Mead, Maryland with a ten day delay in route home, that's the only leave I ever had. And I got to England, we went through England.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well how did you get to England?

ED GOODING: On the Queen Mary.

ROBERT NIEMAN: I had supper on the Queen Mary a week ago last Wednesday.

ED GOODING: QE II?

ROBERT NIEMAN: No, the Queen Mary.

ED GOODING: Oh, Mary, Oh..

ROBERT NIEMAN: At Long Beach, California.

ED GOODING: Yeah? I'll be dog. We had ah....we went over on the Queen Mary and when we finished over there..... I was in combat all together about fourteen months. And I started out as a I had training in heavy weapons, the .30 caliber water cooled machine gun and .81 mortar. When I got over therethere's no Corporal rank in a machine gun squad, it's a five man squad. You have a Sergeant, PFC's the gunner and then the rest of them are Privates. Well me with the rank of Corporal, I set in this replacementRepple Depple we called it, replacement depot for I guess a week, ten days. Finally they pulled me out, you had to go down every day to check the blackboard and see if you was on there. And if you were you went and got your gear, got on the truck and they took you wherever you got to go. Carried me up to the city of St. Low, just inland, we landed behind the 29th Division and ah.....they gotten into St. Low and was pretty well shot up, badly shot up, didn't have the strength to launch another defensive. So we relieved 'em, the 35th relieved 'em, I wasn't a member of the 35th at that time. The 35th attemptedthe military in all their wisdom decided to try a night attack with ah....green troops that had never fired a shot in anger, they tried to go up this hill at night. Well a night attack with experienced troops, at night, is organized mayhem, but with green troops like we were, or like they were, it was just.....they just slaughtered 'em. And they knocked out the last ammunition barrier in the light machine gun squad. Of course the light machine gun and the heavy machine gun was all....had the same mechanism, one was water cooled and one was air cooled was the only difference. So they sent me up as ammunition carrier and ah....they said ah....the Sar..... the old Sergeant he was crying cause he lost.....they had trained together in the states, the 35th had, and he knew a lot....had a lot of buddies. And he was crying and

he said, “Corporal...”, he said, “I know you have your rank”, he said, “I’m going to put you carrying ammunition, but the way this damn war is going you won’t be there long”. And he left, he said, “There’s the pile of ammunition and the gun is right up yonder”. So I started carrying ammunition with the gun. Well, about three days later I moved up to first ammo bearer and about a week later I moved up to assistant gunner and from there to gunner and from gunner to Sergeant, made Sergeant squad leader..... and through the process of elimination and they were battle field commissions is what it was, they had one stripe. And ah....they ah.... I watched that.....those people on the gun as I was moving up and they would set.....when the.....you watch your section leader and he’d point at you and point at a spot, well that was your spot, you’d set your gun up there. And they’d set there and just keep shooting, keep shooting. Well the Germans they didn’t like that .30 caliber at all. They’d drop a mortar shell over here and one behind you and then a third one was right on top of you.... right at you, and the third one would be right in the middle of you. So I thought, well if I ever get up there with authority to move that gun I’m going to move it, ain’t going to set there and let ‘em drop one of them things in my pocket. So I did and I think that’s what kept me alive through about eight months that I stayed on the gun.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Kept moving it around.

ED GOODING: Moving it, move it.....see I’d just move it just twenty, twenty-five yards, just enough to throw ‘em off, over this way and then go back over this way, whatever.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well I’ve read a lot on that Normandy there that ah.....the hedge rows.

ED GOODING: We were in the hedge rows when I joined ‘em, St. Low is just on the edge of the hedge row country. And we would spend sometimes all day and into part of the night going maybe

fifty yards across a little field. Their fields were surrounded with dirt hedges, dirt banks, planted with every kind of a thorny bush you could imagine, wild rose, black thorn locus, everything in there would stick, to keep the cattle from getting in the field. And they'd dig their sunken roads.....the roads were dug out, that's where they got their dirt to make these fields, fence in these fields with dirt. Well if you dug into the side of that bank and then dug down a little you were pretty well safe from anything that hit in the hedge rows, artillery piece especially. And I asked the ah....the ah....supply Sergeant if he would see if he could get us a slide to put under the barrel of that gun where it would back and forth on to set it on top of that hedge row, do away with that tripod and just throw it up on that bank and start shooting. But we never did get it, had to use a tripod.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And you're still using water cooled?

ED GOODING: No it's air cooled.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, air cooled.

ED GOODING: That's what I went in with, was air cooled. And ah....but I told thiswhen I got to assistant gunner, you lay on your left side and keep that belt straight going into the breach, and when you need another belt you reach and get it and feed it into thebehind the second one.....the first one. And ah.... I told him, I said, "Now let me tell you something, we're not going to set here in this one spot and shoot until we get knocked off. When we sit down somewhere you get you a .45, whatever you want to carry, I'm going to carry the M-1, and two boxes of shells, leave that tripod on your gun".... that old aluminum tubing, didn't weigh but two pounds.....ah.... "leave it on there and you pick the whole thing up and move it. Wrap the belt around this receiver and take off, we got to move, and I'm going to find an alternate place to fire from". So I'd go this way twenty-five yards

and this way twenty-five yards where I could see the target they was shooting at, a bunch of brush or troop concentration or whatever. And ah.... when I got to be gunner then we kept that up, did the same thing. And ah....we went right on through then to the Ebb River where we waited for the Russians.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you participate in the Bulge?

ED GOODING: Yes, we were with ah....when we broke out of the hedge rows in Normandy the ah....they brought Patton out of retirement, over in Sicily or wherever he was living....or stationed him, after slapping that GI, they brought him out of retirement and ah....said they needed a good tank man, open rolling country ideal tank country. So they brought him out and put him in charge of the 3rd Army, which was the 35th Infantry and ah.... 134th Regimental Combat team in the 6th Armored Division, that was the 3rd Army. And our Commander said ah....sent word up to the General, he said, "Our men cannot keep up with those tanks". We had broken through and we were into supply, hospitals, commanding.....command posts and all this kindvery few combat troops were we running into. And ah....he said, "Well put five men on each tank and ride the tanks". So we mounted those tanks and we rode them then until they stopped and he ran off and left his supply line. And ah....the only way you tell if you were being shot at was hear a bullet ricochet off that tank. And you'd beat on the tank with your gun butt and get him to stop and you'd get off and get behind it or get under it. And ah.....get him to stop and ah.....pull that little phone out of the back and talk to the tank Commander and spot your target, wherever it was and you see that.....they never would stop the tank completely, they'd back up or they'd go forward and back up, but they'd swing that turret around and fire one off, you'd see arms and legs and everything else come flying up in

the air, pieces of gun and knock it out and we'd jump back on the tank and take off again. We went hop scotching like that to ah..... thelet's see.....wasn't Hurking Forest it was.....to a forest anyway, we went past the forest in fact about fifty or sixty miles. And the lead tanks run out of gas and they had a terrible fight there, it was bad, they lost a whole bunch of American tanks, but the Germans turned tail and run. And ah....so they told Patton, said, "You're going to have to pull back". So he pulled back into thethis forest and ah....set up a defensive position, we held there for about three weeks or a month. And they were sending us out on patrols at night trying to capture prisoners. And they sent me and my gunner, I was Sergeant then, my gunner and my assistant gunner, the three of us went on a patrol. They told us, they said, "You are not to engage the enemy in any way, if you get fired on, run and get out of there, we want you to capture prisoners, that's all we want." Well we wound up capturing one little old boy that was about sixteen...fifteen, sixteen years old, brought him back and he was scared literally to death, turned him over to the MP's for questioning. But ah....we jumped off again then and went from there on the Ebb River. But going from ah....we were way down south in the Sorrow Valley and ah....when the Bulge started up there. And Patton, being the tank man in the infantry, the military man that he was, realized what it was and ah....he pulled us out of the line and resupplied everybody, we got winter clothes, we couldn't imagine what we were doing in eighty.....seventy and eighty degree heat getting winter coats and what not, loaded us on.....loaded the whole....about half of us on trucks and took off going north. Well they had this meeting, like if you saw that movie Patton, they had this meeting at the headquarters and ah....they asked if he could have awho could have a military unit on the move and he told 'em, "I've already got one on the move", and we were, we were on the move. We were

leap frogging, he'd haul about half of us maybe fifty or a hundred miles and come back and get the rest of us to go past them and then pick them up and go past us, and we were going north. We ate dinner in Leage, Belguim and ah....had Christmas dinner there. There after we left Leage we loaded back on trucks and going.....headed north, well the Bulge came in behind us, we just did a three sixty and turned around and come back, fighting our way back through thetoward Baston. And the 35th Infantry cut that road going into the north, to Baston, cause the Germans used (unintelligible).....and ah...but after the Baston fight we went on to the Ebb River. Very little resistance, we was mostly fighting the Romanians ah.....some Russians, some Chech, they all had an SS trooper behind 'em with a pistol, 'you either fire or I'll kill you'.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And he would.

ED GOODING: Yeah he would of. We run into a battalion of SS....or a company of SS that was just down to the last man, they wouldn't....they was just too (unintelligible)....

ROBERT NIEMAN: How were they as fighters?

ED GOODING: They were good, they were real good and they were sneaky, you had to watch 'em. They'd let you go through and then close in behind you, different things like that. But, we made it on to the Ebb River and had our guns set up there and this.....way across on the other side there was a tree line. We were setting there about maybe the second day, this big white sheet came out, motioning back and forth and ah....orders came down to 'hold your fire, hold your fire, hold your fire', all the way down the line. Well he came out of the brush and came about half way with that white flag, threw it down and went to taking his gear off, rifle and his gas mask and everything you know, throwing it in a pile. Well then here come the.....the woods just come alive with German

troops coming out of there, they was running from the Russians is what they was running from. We were supposed to wait there until the Russians got to us, they were supposed to have Berlin by then. And ah.....we set there about four or five days and I think took over some 13,000 prisoners in that four or five days, they'd just come in a swarm, getting away from the Russians.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You mentioned, you know the current movie, this Saving Private Ryan, what was your over all thoughts of the movie, it's getting a lot of review?

ED GOODING: It....it is awell like I've told some of the people there in Cleburne, if it'sit's not the real thing but it'll do 'til the next real one comes along.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, where were you at when the war ended?

ED GOODING: We were setting on the Ebb River.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And then when did you rotate back.....or was you going to say something else?

ED GOODING: No we come from the Ebb, we moved on back setting up a Military Government through.... through Belgium and France, got on down to France on the coast and they had this huge tent cities down close to France. Well every time one would move well everybody would move up a notch, Camp Chesterfield, Camp Lucky Strike, named after cigarettes.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you relieve any death camps?

ED GOODING: We saw one.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Which one, do you remember?

ED GOODING: I don't remember the name of it, it was small, rather small. But the smell was loud, it was real loud. Theywe were in a rest area and they loaded us on trucks by orders of

General Patton. He said, "I want every available military man that's not in combat to be loaded on a truck and brought to see one of these camps, see what they're fighting for". They took us down there and there wasfor I guess a year after the war, after we got back home, I could still see those hollow eyed faces hanging in that fence, looking at you, you know, just in shock I guess that they were relieved. They didn't know that we were anywhere near relieving 'em. But ah....that's the only one I saw, this rather small camp. And it was in.....if I'm not mistaken, it was in Belgium, I'm really sure just where it was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: I want to....okay you're out now and you're.....anything else you want to relate on, that is in Europe?

ED GOODING: We gotwhen Iwas loading us on a ship that went across the channel and they put us on the Queen Elizabeth coming back.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was that the ship that Jimmy Stewart was on when he.....my dad came back on the Queen Elizabeth.

ED GOODING: Did he?

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah. And he said Jimmy Stewart was on it at the same time.

ED GOODING: Well, he probably was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Said there was 22,000 of you on that ship.

ED GOODING: Yeah. There was 15.....they said that ah.....when we came back that there was 15,000 of us, the whole 35th Division, plus all the support units, 15,000 people were on there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well they may have come back at different, I don't know, but ah....he came back on the Queen Elizabeth also.

ED GOODING: Probably did, yeah. I went over on the Queen Mary and come back on the Queen Elizabeth.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well you're back in the United States, how long....how much longer are you in the service?

ED GOODING: I'm ah....as soon as I got to Fort Sam Houstonwhen we got to Fort Mead, Maryland they disbanded the 35th, did away with it. It was made up of three regiments, three National Guard regiments specifically for the invasion of Normandy, was what it was put together for. And as soon as we got to Fort Mead, Maryland they disbanded the 35th and sent everybody back to their own home town and I caught a troop train and come back to Austin.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah...what ah.... it's going to bewell what did you do after you got back?

ED GOODING: Ah....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well when did you get married, let me ask you that?

ED GOODING: I was married after I went in the Highway Patrol.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, so you haven't got married yet?

ED GOODING: No.

ROBERT NIEMAN: I thought maybe I missed that. So let's go ahead then.

ED GOODING: No, I was....I went.....while I was over there my dad had took a job on a ranch up in Hill Countynot Hill County ah....ah.....Hayes County, northwest of Austin on the Purdinalice River, about an 8,000 acre ranch. And he was general flunky and running the ranch, manager and what not and ah....my mother was up there and all sisters and ah....as a matter of fact that where my baby sister was born. And I got a letter while I was in Belgium in fact and ah....we were in an old

shelled out house, had our guns set up and artillery started dropping in on us, we ran down in the basement about half knee deep full of ice water, ran down there and I had this I'd gathered up the machine gun in my arms and I had a box with a cake and a letter. I opened the letter and ah....they'd notified me that I had a baby sister.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You know, a question I've... I've ah.....I ask anymore cause I had this volunteered to me one time and I found it to be pertinent, that ah.... a lot of people say.....well they want to talk about their war experiences and I had an old Marine tell me one time, says, "Well the main reason people don't want to talk about their war experiences, cause they don't have anything to talk about". You know, thesebut I found that people who were in combat, they don't have any trouble talking about it. There's exceptions always, but ah.....you find that ever hold true?

ED GOODING: Well, ah....specific incidents about ah.....firing missions you know and how many people you killed or what not, I don't.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well that's just gore, I'm talking about just, you know.....

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN:ah....

ED GOODING: I had five campaign ribbons.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Uh huh.

ED GOODING: I recommended my gunner, a guy by the name of Rumpka, a Polish fella, for the Silver Star and he got it.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you receive any medals?

ED GOODING: No, no I recommended him for a silver star.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What did he do to get that?

ED GOODING: He was....we were....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Wait a minute, how do you spell his name, do you remember?

ED GOODING: R U M P K A.

ROBERT NIEMAN: This is for the transcriber.

ED GOODING: Rumpka. We were in the hedge rows and ah.....the German broke through on the other side, they had brought a tank up with a bulldozer blade on it, pushed through the hedge row and they come pouring through and he fired until he run out of ammunition. And ah....had the ground littered out there with dead and they just kept coming. And he was carrying a .45 automatic and he pulled out his pistol and just went to firing nothing but that .45. And ah.... I had an M1, of course I was doing the best I could with that M1, but I could see him standing there, right out in just plain view, firing at those people with that .45. And that's the reason I recommended him, for staying by his gun.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did he survive?

ED GOODING: Yeah, he survived.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....okay you're back in the States and when did you discharge?

ED GOODING: Ah....1945.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And ah.....what did you do between then and the time you joined the Department of Public Safety?

ED GOODING: Worked on the ranch at ah.....in Hayes County with my dad for about a year and then they moved, the ranch owner took him into town and started building a subdivision, put him in

charge of that. And I hadhe hired another fella and he and I ran the ranch for about three....well from '45 to '48.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What made you decide to try to get into the ah....Department of Public Safety as a patrolman?

ED GOODING: That ah....ranch work I think, it was to ah....I tell you, ranching is not all ah....see ye little doggie down you know, singing with your guitar. It's building fence, it's riding wormies, looking for wormied goats and cows and calves and sheep, dipping 'em, building fence through solid rocks, it's just manual labor is all it is. And ah....when the ranch sold then I moved back to Austin and with my mother and moved in a little house with my dad. And my sister got a job with the Sheriff there, Rip Collins was his name, he was Sheriff of Travis County and she got a job as secretary for him, she was a good typist. And ah....going down and picking her up and dropping her off I met two Highway Patrolmen.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Remember their names?

ED GOODING: I don't remember theirlet's see, one of them was ah....well maybe his name will come to me in a little bit, I can't think of it now. He was the one in the lead and we got.... I got acquainted with 'em and talking to 'em. They were talking to my sister, of course was single and ah....and ah... they I got to talking to 'em and he told me....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Which sister would this of been?

ED GOODING: Loma, my oldest sister. And ah....they told me, said, "They're going to start a school out here in December", this was like in June or July, August, said ah.... "Why don't we get you an application and send it in", said, "They're giving veterans a preference", so many points for

being a veteran. So I told 'em, "Fire away, I'm tired of this construction work, working in cement". So ah....they did and I sent my application in, didn't think I'd ever hear from it but I did and we went to the Senate chamber in the Capitol building in Austin and took a examination and I passed it up there. Next thing I heard from, we come in from work one day, we'd been working in cement and I had cement poisoning on my hands, they was all split, bleeding and had on these boots uplaced up boots, work boots, cement coated and ah....Sergeant K.B. Hallmark drove up in the driveway.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Hallmar?

ED GOODING: Hallmark....H A L L M A R K. He drove up in the driveway and my said ah... "There's a police car sitting out there in the driveway, what have ya'll done".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Real confidence.

ED GOODING: I said, "I haven't been doing anything but working". So I walked out, slipped on those old boots and I know I smelled like a wild hog cause I'd been sweating, just nailed all day. I excused myself and I got in his car, I said, "I hate to get in your car all messed up like this", and he said, "Don't bother about that", he said, "We're looking for people like you that don't ...that are not afraid to work". So I got in the car and he interviewed me and ah....said, "Well I'll send this in and you'll probably be hearing from us". So it wasn't long until I got a letter to report to Camp Mayberry with black boots and khaki pants, two pairs....two suits of khaki's, black gloves, a motorcycle helmet, the gear that I was supposed to wear. And so I did and they gave us another physical, passed that and we started our basic.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And this would of been onaccording to your ah....record here, what December 1st, 1948?

ED GOODING: First day of December, 1948.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you remember who your monitors were?

ED GOODING: Ah....one of them was ah....was ah.....Blackwell and ah....Blackwell was my monitor and I can't remember....the other one was a big robust looking, kind of blonde headed, can't think of what his name was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, ah....what.....what ah....how long were you in school?

ED GOODING: We were thirteen weeks in basic.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And what was some of the things you did in school or was required?

ED GOODING: We were four hours every morning from eight to twelve in the classrooms, all classroom work, traffic law, criminal law, mostly traffic law, over and over and over. And ah...then all afternoon we were outside, two hours at the pistol range, one hour motor cycles, one hour PE, running.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And did you ever run a.....ridden a motorcycle?

ED GOODING: No, I'd ridden a bicycle, but those motors were something different. We were in a gravel pit out back of Camp Mayberry where the trucks would haul out gravel out of the pit and we rode down in there on the road and then we went round and round and round inside that pit. And there was about a twelve, fifteen foot wall on both sides, we couldn't.....couldn't ah....couldn't ah.....wasn't any danger of running over anybody. And down at one end there was a grove of little

oak saplings about so big around and we had to turn and go right by the side of 'em. But the motorcycle you turn the handle this way to speed up and this way to slow down.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Let me stop this a minute. Okay, where were we at there? We were talking about you were riding the motorcycles down in the pit.

ED GOODING: Yeah. There was a big old long legged boy just right two motors up in front of me and we started off in first gear, then we moved up in a couple of days moved up to second gear and ah....we were in second gear and those things if you goose 'em in second gear they go. And he started around that curve and he turned that handle the wrong speed, the control the wrong way, and he went out through that thicket and the first thing that went up and out was his legs, jerked him off that motor. And he run up in a pile of brush, laying on his side just.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you remember who this was?

ED GOODING: I can't recallrecall his name, they have ah....I've heard Captain and them talk about him, he was a Sar.....made Sergeant finally, later on, great big fella. I can't remember what his name was now.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did ah....ah....you remember ah....did you have a Ranger come down and speak to you while you was there?

ED GOODING: Ah....Bob Crowder I belief came down and talked to us.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you remember the first Ranger you ever saw? I know old Glenn Elliott our mutual friend, Selwin Denson was the first Ranger he ever saw.

ED GOODING: Yeah. Of course being there in Austin, that Camp Mayberry was justit was in ah....there was two, two story Army barracks. Headquarters was just one barracks up from us, was

the Colonel and all of his staff of people, finger print section, photography section and the whole....all the lab and everything was in there, what little there was of it. And then in our building, a two story Army surplus barracks, and the downstairs was a cafeteria and the upstairs was the living.... that's where we slept, upstairs. And we'd fall out every morning at five o'clock and we'd run from the barracks down to that machine shop, was in the third barracks down there, over to the airport hanger, to the armory, down to the front gate and back. It was a good two miles if it was a foot. And we had a fella by the name of Burl Avery and Burl knew about as much about physical training as I did about birthing babies. But we started off that first morning and we run full tilt that....for two miles. Well some of them got half way, some of them didn't get that far, breathing that cold air in December you know, got to throwing up and falling out with cramps, everything. He told us, said, "The last one in....if you don't come in a bunch, if there's any stragglers you're going to run the whole thing again". Well there was a bunch of stragglers, but we told him, said, "Man we can't run that far, give us a break you know, this is the first time any of us has ever run any to amount to anything". Of course I had been in construction work and come off that ranch and I was in pretty fair shape, I got pretty well winded before I got around that thing. And I wasn't having to run all that fast either because most of them was choking down and giving out. But ah....made it on through and theythe latter part of February we had about three or four, I guess a week, to report to....Chief Elliott came in and made a talk and ah....he said, "Now you single men, we're going to pass out these station preferences and you single men can put anything you want on there, but we're going to send you where we want you. The married men are going to get the preference to the best schools, the best housing and what not". So I thought, well there's not any use putting anything , so

I put down Austin and Houston cause my family was there in Austin. But they sent me to Houston, still single, and I was there in Houston all of '49 and ah...the biggest half of '50, single, met my wife and ah...she was an elevator operator in the Shell building in Houston and I met her through a blind date. My roommate was going with her sister.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And who was your roommate?

ED GOODING: Joe Mladenka.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was he in the DPS also?

ED GOODING: Yeah, Sugarland, he's retired now.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And how do you spell his last name?

ED GOODING: M L A D E N K A , he's a pollock....check. And ah....he called this girl one day wanting a date, said ah... "Want to talk to Jean", well my wife answered the phone, three of them lived together. She said, "What about", and he said, "Well I want to ask her for a date tonight". "No she can't go", saidwe lived in boarding house out there and there was nine single Highway Patrolmen lived out there. She said, "She cannot go unless you bring me a date. Now I know you've got nine patrolmen out there", and she said, "I want a date or she ain't moving, she ain't going a step". Well her sister was younger than her, I guess she kind of ruled the roost. So he gathered me and a kid by the name of Ernie Scholl was a Highway Patrolman there then.

ROBERT NIEMAN: SCH....?

ED GOODING: S C H O L L, Ernie Scholl. And ah....he gathered us up and we got our glad rags on and went up there. Well they were talking about it, I found out later after we were married, talking to my wife she said, "You know what I told Jean, (her sister), when ya'll were getting ready

to come up....we were getting ready for ya'll to come up there"..... I had been by there once before with Joe, he went by to see Jean and ah.....she said, "I'll bet you a dollar I get that old man setting over there on the couch". Well I did, I had a habit of wearing my hat pulled down you know, over my face and ah.... I guess I must of looked like I was 70 years old. She said, "I bet a dollar I get that old man". We got up there and of course I was bare headed and had on a suit, all dolled up and ah....we walked out the door and Joe and Jean went out and then myself and my wife, her name was Lena, she and I walked out and then Bobby her baby sister and Ernie walked out. Well we started going together, we'd go out to the Plantation and go dancing, had a big time. Went together nine months and got married.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What was the date?

ED GOODING: We married ah....September 8th, 1950.....September 8th. And a good friend of mine was in that group of mine out there, told me he said, "If you intend to spend the night with your wife, you new wife.....your newlywed, you better leave town cause that bunch is fixing to put you in jail".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you remember the friend that told you, what was his name?

ED GOODING: Ah....Dub Cowen, Dub I think it was, he retired from Intelligence and I believe Dub is still living, I'm not sure. But anyway, I told my wife, I said, "We're going to have to get out of Houston, get out of this area".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, you say your Captain was Captain Glen Rose?

ED GOODING: Captain Glen Rose.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was he your first Captain also in the DPS?

ED GOODING: R O S E.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: And ah..... I asked him for the weekend off, told him what for and he said, “No man”, he said, “Your fixing to make a bad mistake getting married”, he said, “I ain’t going to approve it”, he rode me awhile and the finally told me, said, “Yeah, I’ll give you the weekend that’s all I can afford”. We was short of men and cars and everything else, we didn’t have hardly anything down there to work with either. But we went to Hempstead, got out of town and went up to Hempstead and got married before the JP.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well let’s see, back then your cars you didn’t have air conditioners in ‘em, you didn’t even have heaters in ‘em did you?

ED GOODING: No, when you got a new car you got the four doors and four wheels and that was it, didn’t even have sun visors.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well des.....ah.....and you were in Houston ah....how long were you in Houston?

ED GOODING: I married in ‘50 and ah....let’s see ‘50.....married in November of ‘51.....I married in September I mean and November the 15th they moved me to Baytown, substation. If you were married they put you out in the substation, single they leave you at headquarters where you get by with a lot more I guess. But anyway, moved down to Baytown substation and I stayed there until ‘57....1957 in June I believe it was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....got your file here, it was May the 15th.

ED GOODING: May 15th? I made Ranger I had a Sergeant, Highway Patrol Sergeant, named England and he came there from ah.....let's see he was....Santa Ana, he was a Sergeant came down to Houston.....he made Sergeant and came to Houston, been on two years. Well I already had about five.....four or five years.....about five years and I thought, yeah I wonder who this boy knows, somebody to make Sergeant in two years that was almost unheard of back then. But he had it up here, he really.....he was really smart. And he came out there and he was ragging me one day about my reports, something about you know, if we give you another two or three years you'll learn how to make these reports. I hadn't signed a report or hadn't dotted my i's or crossed my t's or something wasn't right. And I said, "Yeah and you're going to keep messing with me til I'm going to transfer to the Rangers and leave you with this Beaumont highway out here", said, "You haven't got a man in your outfit that will work Beaumont highway, unless you force him to". Well he laughed. Well about a month later I guess he come riding out one day and he said, "What have you been doing". And I said, "Trying to keep everybody alive out here the best I could". He said, "Say you mentioned awhile back that you might like to take a shot at the Rangers". And I said, "Well it's every patrolman's dream I guess to be a Ranger one day". He said, "Well Captain Klevenhagen".....K L E V E N H A G E N..... "Johnny Klevenhagen is a Captain in there and there's a vacancy". Captain Hardy Purvis had retired and back then the Captain.....everybody just moved up a notch, didn't have all these exams and crap they got now adays. But anyway, he was the Sergeant.....a Captain and ah.....he was a Sergeant and they moved him up to Captain. And Eddie Oliver was a Private so they moved him to Sergeant and that's all the Rangers they had, just those two. So the Colonel had hit himhit on him about getting another man. He said, "Way don't you

just pass me, I don't know anybody, nobody's asked for the job here", and ah....said, "Just pass me this time and I'll pick up one next time maybe". And England said, "Why don't you go in there and talk to him". And I said, "Well yeah, I'll be glad to".....said, "When can I go". And he said, "Well this evening is as good as any". So I took off and went in there and talked to him. He said, "Well I'll tell you what", he said, "I've already told the Colonel to pass me this time", and he said, "And I think he's got a man, Clint Peoples has a man already in school", Johnny Crummell. But he said, "I'm going to Austin tomorrow", and he said, "I'll put your name in the pot". He said, "I'd like to have you here, because you've been here for six or seven years and you know the country, know the county and know lots of officers". He said, "If I bring a new man in here from out of town it would take him months to find the courthouse, as big a town as Houston". So it was about six weeks and I got a call there at the house one day, in Baytown, and it was Glen Rose, the Captain. And ah.....he said, "There's a Ranger Captain here that said you've been transferred to the Rangers and he wants to take you to Austin and swear you in, how long will it take you to get over here?" I said, "Well I've been digging in my wife's flower bed and I'm all dirty". And he said, "Well just forget it". He said, "If you're not interested". I said, "No, No hold on a minute". But anyway, I cranked up and went over there and ah....got in the car with Johnny, left my car there, and we took off for Austin. And ah.....spent the night and went out there the next morning and Colonel Garrison swore me in, in the Ranger service.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Before we get into the Ranger.....your Ranger career, is there anything you'd like to talk about on your Highway Patrol career?

ED GOODING: We worked ah.... I started out on Highway 290 and we worked from Houston out to Hempstead, out 59 highway.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who was your partner?

ED GOODING: Ah....Ed Carmichael rode with me. And ah.....we had about fifty miles of 290 to work. Carmichael was one of these from the old school, he liked to play dominos and ah....we'd run up to Hempstead, get up there in time to eat dinner. Sit and play dominos with the Sheriff and Chief Deputy until about five o'clock and then on the way back he'd stop a couple, just a warning you know, no.... defective equipment or something, something to put on his report. And that was about our days work then. Well of course I rode about two or three weeks, got in the car one day and he threw me the car keys and he said, "You ain't never going to learn any younger". He said, "Now you go where you want to go, you stop and eat when you want to eat, you're in the lead, you're the lead man". And he said, "All I'm going to do is witness if you have to kick somebody's butt or if you get in a shooting scrap", he said, "I'll be here to help you". So ah....we worked at that for maybe a year and then I got married and I moved into Baytown and ah.....of course I was senior man down there in Baytown. And while I was down there I'd been on maybe a year longer than he had, we were both pretty well broke in and we had ah.....several instances, that highway was known as 'blood alley'. Highway 90 would carry a lot of.....of course it runs all the way to Kent, Texas out in West Texas, all the way through into Louisiana, and it carried a lot of freight, freight haulers and trucks. And ah.....and then lots of local traffic going out to Lake Houston, you know, back and forth. And they get jammed up and nearly every evening it would come about a half inch rain, just pour down. And it was a concrete highway and those joints, those expansion joints, those big trucks

would go over 'em and the water would squirt up about that high, just kept it sopping wet. Was kind of dangerous to run real fast but we learned how to handle a car on it pretty well. And ah....we worked ah.....oh lord, we worked wrecks with blood scattered all over and bodies just too many to really recall all of them. But ah....killed twenty..... let's see we had twenty miles of highway, roughly, and it killed twenty-two people out there one year, there was twenty-two people killed on that road. I got a young patrolman by the name of Lockhart, single man, come down there and ah.....he was a little bit slow to want to lead. Of course I left it up to him, said, "When you get ready to get behind this wheel you let me know". Well there was a switch every Sunday. Well I picked him up that Sunday.....well he was staying in the house with me, at my house, and we went down to do our reports and come out and I just threw the keys at him, and I said, "Here you'll never learn any younger". And we got behind the car and his foot was shaking, he was literally scared to death. And he'd been riding a month at least, four weeks. So we headed out we did our reports, headed out for Beaumont Highway over there, we was living in Baytown about ten or fifteen miles to our.....our primary objects was US 90, where we had the most killings. And we between Highlands and ah.....Crosby on the farm to market road going over to 90 and the Dayton Unit, Highway Patrol unit at Dayton called and said they were in pursuit of a white '57 Ford, traveling in excess of 100 miles an hour. They had shot the windshield out of their car, they'd shot the rearview mirror off of the car and he said, "They're still shooting at us, we're afraid to get to close", said, "Could you set up a road block at Crosby". Along 90 at Crosby there was a blinker light, that's all there was there. Stop sign going cross ways, this way from 90 was wide open. So I told Lockhart, I said, "Get on it, stand on it". So he took off, and we come sliding up there to 90 and he said, "Do you want to put the

car in the road”, and I said, “No”. Well I had unzipped the boot under the seat, got the shotgun out and ah.....he got out..... I got out of the car and I could see these headlights coming, I knew he was really mobbing and I got.....well when it was all over I looked where I was at and I was standing on the center strip. Why I ever got up that far in the road I don't know. But when he came by I let him have a load of buckshot. Well he went about a quarter of a mile and lost it in a curve, going around a curve went to shimmying and skidding sideways, and he hit asideswiped a ford station wagon and then matched headlights with a old model Cadillac. They said they were going about....the man in the ford said they were going about 40.....35 or 40 coming up out of that river bottom, wasn't going very fast, a whole string of cars. Well it stopped that Cadillac dead still and knocked it about 6 or 8 feet backwards, from it's moving forward position. Well we jumped out and the Ford it hit and he turned headed back up the road a ways, ran over there and ah.....the driver.....a piece of that horn ring had went in his mouth and came out the top of his head, he was dead. Well the one in the back, I got up in the back with him and I could see that he was bleeding around his skull and I got over to the hair and raised it up and you could see his heart beating in his brain like that. And he just took about two breaths and he died. And the old boy in the left front seat, the fella that was chasing him ah.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: The driver?

ED GOODING: The one that was chasing him, the patrolman.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh okay.

ED GOODING: Golly, I can't think of his name. Anyhow, he was a hold of that one in front right.....right front seat and I looked around, the seat was broke back and this old boy had went

forward and went through the windshield, his head was laying out on the....where the hood should be, the hood had went off and was laying upside down in the road. And ah....he started pulling him back and the old boy come out from under his chest with a pistol and stuck it right up in Buddy'sBuddy.....oh Buddy...Buddy something, I can'tI'll get his name in a minute.....stuck it right up in his face and he just turned him around and shoved him back down and put his knee on the back of his neck. One eye was.....looked like a baseball was sticking out of it and he was cussing him, beating him right in the back of the head. And I said, "Buddy".... I said, "You got an audience out here"....there was a whole bunch of people gathered around. "I don't give a damn", he said, "I'll kill this SOB, trying to kill me". But anyway, we got the gun out and got him out of the car, put him in the ambulance and they took him to Liberty to the hospital and ah....they ah....we finally got it all straightened up. And we started....we took.....we had to go into Baytownno, we went to eat, it was about eight o'clock at night and we hadn't eat supper. Went to eat and they said....a fella come running in waving both arms and said, "We got a bad wreck up the road".....said, "There's one laying covered up with a sheet and a big truck and a car hit head on up there". Went up there and this fella that was driving....this kid on a tractor was going home and he hit the left rear wheel of that tractor, went across the road with a load of(unintelligible)....coming from Beaumont. It went off the road and they met over there on the shoulder and ah....the truck hit right in the door post of the car. Well when he hitthe car hit and swerved to the left, it threw the old boy down in the seat and when that truck hit the door post it opened the door and the guy was laying there, half in and half out of the car, of course dead, his chest was mashed up like a chicken's breast. And ah.... I told old.....this first wreck Lockhart said, "God almighty", he said, "I can't....there ain't no way I can

figure all this out”, he said, “Here”. So I did that one. And the second one he walked around the back of that car, looked there and that old boy was staring him right in the face, dead. He says, “God damn”, he said, “I can’t look at that”, he said, “Take this”. But he ah.....ah....let me have the book and I told him, I said, “Just watch what I do now and you may want to change....you know I don’t do it perfect, but get the names of this one and the names of that one and license numbers”. Got that all cleared up and had to go into Baytown and get a statement from the old boy driving the tractor and ah.....started back out on the highway about ten o’clock and I told Lockhart, I said, “Now Gene, Captain Rose is going to want to talk to you tomorrow”. “Well what about, I hadn’t done anything”. I said, “Well your in the lead, this is your road out here at night”. And I said, “You killed", there was three in the Cadillac killed and two in the Ford, that’s five and then one killed up there was six.....said, “there was six people killed out here tonight on this road and you’re responsible for those six lives”. “Well I don’t know what you expect me to do about it”. I carried him pretty high for awhile. But Captain Rose did come out there the next day. We got to looking at that buckshot where I’d hit him....or if I’d hit him, I didn’t know whether I’d hit him. He come by and was going, you know, over 100 miles an hour and just like that. But I did see that white ‘57 Ford just flashed in front me, just as I pulled the trigger on that shotgun. Then the Highway Patrolmen were driving a white ‘57 Ford, first thing I thought, I said, “God oh mighty, I killed, I killed a Highway Patrolman”. Figured the old boy had gone on through and I shot them. But luckily,I don’t even remember them coming by. But ah.....luckily they were.....they were back down the road.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did you have many physical confrontations?

ED GOODING: Buddy Bean, that was.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Buddy Bean?

ED GOODING: Buddy Bean, that was that patrolman's name. Yeah, we used to have quite a few, we'd get an old.....get an old car that was wore out and you run one, say you was doing.....might be doing 80 miles an hour. Well they'd just barely run 80 miles an hour and you'd chase 'em, and chase 'em and chase 'em and get so mad you'd want to kill him, run up there and grab him by the collar and jerk him out of the car and sling him around. And ah.....then you'd trade that one in and get a new one and it'd run 100 miles an hour just as slick as a button you know, run one a half a mile and catch 'em, haven't got no problem, catch him real easy, wouldn't get mad. We'd lose our temper occasionally and ah....for a long time down on the lower end next to Houston was ah....still in the city, still it was just in the county, city hadn't took it in and there was just one beer joint right after the other. And we'd get two or three calls a week on fights down there, especially about eleven o'clock til one or two. Your working ten hours a day, six days a week. Well the first one, I was working by myself, got a gang fight at the Dew Drop Inn. I took off down there by myself, running wide open, just..... I don't know what I was going to do when I got down there. I drove up and there was a sea of people out there fighting, everybody was hitting each other and knocking this one down and knocking that one down. Well I jumped out of my car and I grabbed the closest one to me and somebody hit me over the back of the head with a beer bottle and it didn't bust, but it left a pump knot on the back of my head. Well I come out of there, I had to go home, had my badge and my cuffs in the collar at the time, my britches were all torn up, my boots were skinned through washer shell driveway, had to completely change clothes, take a bath. I got back out there and there was the Deputy Sheriff, Patch Brown. Patch Brown lived.....he was stationed in Baytown as a

resident deputy. And he said, “Boy”...he said, “ What in the hell was your hurry to get to that fight”. I said, “Well you’re supposed to get to ‘em and break ‘em up aren’t you”. And he said, “No”.... he said, “In the future when you hear of a gang fight like that”..... he said, “Go over yonder to Crosby and come through Lake Houston and come around that way, let ‘em fight awhile, til they give out and then (unintelligible)...”.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well when was your first thoughts of becoming a Ranger?

ED GOODING: That right there, when the Sergeant told me about the.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: First time you took it seriously?

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well when you was a kid did you grow up on Rangers?

ED GOODING: No, my dad had worked in his young life, he’d worked with these ah...the government had this forced dipping every 21 days on account of the fever ticks in Mexico. Every ranch in South Texas had to dip every 21 days. Well he hired out as a cowboy gathering cattle. Well it was forced and a rancher didn’t have any say, they’d just go on his ranch and gather ‘em up. Well a lot of times they’d resent it, running the fat off the cattle and ah....then have Rangers to go with ‘em. And we had.....he told me some tales about some of the Rangers, what they looked like, run belts on, big wide....they were known as ah....patrol belts. They had ah....30.40 craig ammunition around half way and .45 ammunition around the other half and in the holster a .45 thumb buster. And then ah...working on the ranch up there and the ranch owner called the cattle raisers association, they carried a special Ranger commission and they said ah....he come....he drove up, the special Ranger. And he said, “Your boss said you’re short 400 head of goats”. And dad said, “Is that

right". "Yeah", he said, "That's what your short". He said....dad said, "Well get down and come on in", said, "We'll have some supper", it was about supper time. And he sat down there on the floor and stretched one leg way out, he was about six foot tall. And ah....set there and talked and ah.....he spent the night, got up early the next morning and started riding fence. And of course I knew where the 400 head of goats had went and dad did too. He gathered 'em right after shearing, they'd sheared 'em, 400 head of nannies, young nannies, never bred, put 'em across the road over there on the county.....across the county road. And ah....it come a cold rain that night you know, and piled up bunch of.....froze to death, took pneumonia and died. it come a cold rain that night, you know piled up... bunches ofah froze to death, took pneumonia and died. I drove....when the cold weather, you could.....the only thing you had was to take pneumonia and die. It was exactly 400 hundred is what it was. Well he reported 'em

stolen. So my dad told ah....ah.... I can't recall that fellers name, cattle raisers name, but anyway ah....he told him about the 400 head we'd lost over there, so we went on and rode on around the fence, turned around and come back, he got in his car and left and ah.... he said, "Now if anything comes of this", he said, "and he wants to complain to my boss", he said, "You'll write my boss a letter won't you?" And my dad said, "Yeah, I'll get my daughter to write you a letter if anything comes of it". But ah.... that was the only contact I'd ever had with the Rangers.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You don't remember what Ranger that was?

ED GOODING: Ah.... I want to say Kirkendal, no that wasn't it.... he was a special Ranger with the Cattle Raisers Association.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did ah...well then he wasn't a regular Ranger?

ED GOODING: No.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: Not a regular Ranger.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....well you're going to the Ranger, your first duty station is going to be Houston....

ED GOODING: Uh huh.

ROBERT NIEMAN:under Johnny Klevenhagen.

ED GOODING: Uh hum.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....did you get any special training or anything when you become a Ranger?

ED GOODING: I went to Austin and spent about two weeks up there ah.... reviewing files and reports you know, how to write weekly reports and ah.... course we had received some criminal investigation in patrol school, enough to know how to dust for prints you know, and first one thing and another. And ah....but when I got back to Houston first of June, Will Wilson was Attorney General and he had his eye on the Governor's chair. Well the Mayor of Galveston, Galveston was running wide open, wasn't much you could do about it, you could go down and raid 'em you know, bust up a bunch of stuff, come on back, the next day they'd open up brand new stuff and go right back at it again. Well Will Wilson said, "We're going to shut down Galveston". So he put a under cover team in there and they worked several weeks.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Know who they were?

ED GOODING: George Reed was in charge of them, he was intelligence, Chief Intelligence out of Houston and so they brought in several men from over the state. And they worked about three weeks gambling different places, about sixty some odd places. Well the night it was supposed to come down they brought every Ranger in the state of Texas to Houston.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And what year was this, do you remember?

ED GOODING: This was 19.....well let's see '57, first of June '57. There was two, L. H. Purvis and Charlie Miller.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Would be Hardy Purvis, Sr. or Jr.?

ED GOODING: Jr.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: L. H., his daddy was Hardy Purvis.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: L. H. was his son and I don't think his Captain could find him, he never did know where he was anyway.

ROBERT NIEMAN: L. H.?

ED GOODING: Yeah. His dad was a Captain and he'd get by on just about anything. But anyway, Charlie Miller had been in a scrape down there several years before with the Galveston police department and they'd killed the Chief of Detectives.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Charlie did?

ED GOODING: Yeah, Charlie Miller.

ROBERT NIEMAN: He killed him?

ED GOODING: Uh huh. Charlie was on special assignment and he was a body guard for the IRS, Internal Revenue Service. And ah.... they arrested this old boy and ah....was going to put him in jail, city jail down in Houston.....down in Galveston. And ah.....they went down there and said, "Here's.....here we need to put this man in jail". And the Chief of Detectives, the Night Chief is what they call 'em now. The Night Chief said, "No, you ain't going to put him in our jail". And Charlie just reached over on the desk and got the key and he said, "Well if you won't put him in there, by God I will." So he put him in there and took the keys with him. Well they must of had an extra set cause Charlie said he saw him come out the side door and beat 'em back to town. Well the next day Charlie and this Internal Revenue man, and of course he was ah..... ah..... what do you call the man that works with the figures?

ROBERT NIEMAN: Auditor?

ED GOODING: Auditor, he wasn't really an FBI agent, he wasor an Internal Revenue Service man, he was an accountant, wasn't.....wasn't commissioned to carry a pistol then, that's the reason Charlie was assigned as a body guard to him. So they were walking down the sea wall and Charlie got back behind and was looking at some little curios, shells and what not, and all of a sudden he heard a bang, he looked around and the Internal Revenue man was laying on the sea wall on the ground and this old boy was standing over him with a pistol. Charlie had his pistol under his shirt, in his pants, and he just got a hand full of shirt and turned it up and shot the old boy and killed him, the Chief of Detectives. So he never could go to Galveston, never would go to

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well why did the Chief of Detectives kill this guy?

ED GOODING: He walked up and said, "You're the smart SOB that was going to put Mr. So and So in jail last night." And shot him, that's the reason he shot him. And ah....Charlie said ah..... there was a little sailor standing there with his girlfriend and he said, "I asked him", I said, "Did you see that what happened there". He said, "Yeah", said, "That feller on the ground, that feller that was dead there, shot this other one and he shot him". He said, "They cut me plum out of it" said, " I wasn't even in it." He said, "I went over there talking to this Internal Revenue man" and he said, "No, No, Mr. Miller", he said, "You shot him and that's the way it's going to be". He said, "They put me right back in it." Well they told Charlie

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well was the IRS man dead?

ED GOODING: No, he was shot in the groin. So ah....they called Charlie to come down to the police station. So he went down there, had on his pistol, badge and everything. And this Chief of Police said, "Mr. Miller", said, "We've got a warrant for your arrest for murder", said, "We're going to have to take your pistol and put you in jail." And Charlie said, "No, there's two things wrong with that", he said, "One you ain't taking this pistol and two I ain't going in that jail." Now he said, "One of you son-of-a-bitches done died messing with me", he said, "You better let me go home." The back door opened and a Catholic Priest come out and he said, "Just cool it boys, just back off, back off." So he walked over to him and he said, "Mr. Miller, you go over to the bus station, catch a bus and go back to wherever you was stationed". They didn't have cars then, they were riding buses wherever they'd go on assignment. And ah...."If we need you we'll call you and let you know."

ROBERT NIEMAN: This is a Priest?

ED GOODING: Yeah. And ah....Charlie said," I walked out the door and went over to the bus station and got a bus, a ticket," said "We got way out close to San Angelo," or some....I think he was stationed in San Angelo, said, "A sheriff's car pulled up beside the bus", said, "The Deputy stuck his head in the door and said, 'Is there a Charlie Miller on this bus' ". He said, "I figured, well here is comes." He said, "I didn't say anything, I just set there." And he said, "Well I guess not, see ya'll later." And kept on, he said, "I went on home and never heard another word out of 'em." He never was called back. He said, "I ain't been back since."

ROBERT NIEMAN: So now.....do you go to Galveston on this raid?

ED GOODING: Yes.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: Pete Rogers and myself, Pete was my Sergeant, we went to a Judge, we had one District Judge in the County we could trust and ah.... we had him to sign all those affidavits, for sixty some odd joints, and ah..... we were going to raid 'em and get restraining orders on 'em, close 'em up. Well we loaded 'em all.....after we got 'em all signed, we signed those sixty-two affidavits, had a stack of 'em between us about this high, come on back to Houston went out on Bissonett up there. A whole batch of Rangers out there, I never seen so many Rangers in my life. Now this was.....see I'd only been a Ranger from May the 15th til....this was the first of June when this was all happening. I didn't know there was that many Rangers in the world.

ROBERT NIEMAN: How many Rangers was there when you become a Ranger?

ED GOODING: Fifty-two. And they were all there but two, so there was fifty Rangers out there, and lawyers out the cazoo, I mean they had the Attorney General people hadwell

they were all hanging there heads and shaking their heads. And the Captain said, "Well what happened?" Ah... ah....said, "Somebody's snitched us off", said, "Everything's...", the intelligence called in and said Galveston was dead, you could shoot a cannon down the sea wall and not hit a sole. So ah....said the Attorney General's thinking somebody in the group here has snitched him off.

ROBERT NIEMAN: A Ranger?

ED GOODING: That's was he was insinuating. He said, "I know my people", said ah... "I don't know these other people too well." Of course Johnny Klevenhagen got up in his face and told him, said, "Let me tell you something", said, "If you accuse any of the Rangers", he said, "Just back off, cause there ain't no Ranger here who would tell anybody....they don't know anybody in Galveston, I'm the only one who knows anybody in Galveston and my Sergeant here, this man's a new Ranger and he don't know a sole in Galveston to call." So he said, "Just back off." He said, "How many woman do you....how many people you got in Austin working on this", he said, "I've only got a secretary pool up there". He said, "How many is in it". "About fifty". And he said, "Don't you think women talk over the back fence". " Well no, my people wouldn't talk about this", he said, "Well they knew it was secret work". He said, "Look, our Ranger in San Augustine lives....his back fence butts right up to the Lieutenant Governor"..... at that time was ah... I'll think of his name in a minute too. And said, "His wife and my the Ranger's wife were talking in the early part of May, a month ago, and they said to watch Galveston in June there was going to be a big blow out, they knew it then, the Lt. Governor's wife knew it". He said, You know if she knew it everybody in Austin knew it". So ah....anyway they....everybody disbanded and left and

we started workingwe kept two men in Galveston then for 3½ years. Rented the same room for 3½ years.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was you....did you ever get to draw that duty?

ED GOODING: Yeah, about every two weeks.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh.

ED GOODING: You stayed two weeks and come out and stay maybe a month and then I'd go back two weeks. First started off it wassee there was myself and then we had four other Rangers five other Rangers, six of us all together. Well two at a time, that's two, four, six, about every third week..... about every six weeks.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who was....do you remember the other five?

ED GOODING: Yeah, it was Pete Rogers, Harvey Phillips, Mark Jones, and Tully Seay and Hollis Sillavan and myself. Then Johnny and Eddie.....Johnny Klevenhagen and Eddie Oliver were the Captain and Sergeant there in Houston.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Backing up just a little bit ah.... were you aware when you become a Ranger of some of the history, I mean you know, the traditions?

ED GOODING: Oh yeah, yeah. I had ah.... had read a lot about it andand..... a lot. In fact in the back of my mind I thought maybe about one day, when they become a little more liberal with their hiring practices, that I might try for it. But ah.... it really wasn't but fifty-two vacancies and they stayed full just about all the time. And ah....L. H. Purvis ah.....not L. H., but Hardy Purvis, the Captain, said the best applicant for a Texas Ranger is a Chief Deputy Sheriff, that's the best person you can use for a Ranger, to do Ranger work.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What was his reasons?

ED GOODING: I don't.... he just didn't like the DPS, the patrol for some reason. But ah....anyway.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you know Captain Purvis very well?

ED GOODING: I had met him a couple of times and he liked to run cats, big cats and he had a place up at Corrigan in East Texas. And a couple of times going out that way he'd come by where I was working on 90 and he'd stop, we'd have coffee and he'd say, "Why don't you park that black and white and get in the car with me and we'll go up yonder and hunt a cat". And I'd say, "Captain I can't run off like that".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you ever hear him talk about.... I know he was up in East Texas in the oil boom in '31, did he ever talk about any of the old days?

ED GOODING: No, Captain, he wouldn't talk about hardly anything.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you ever hear him mention a Ranger he was real close to back in those days named Bob Goss?

ED GOODING: Yeah, Bob Goss and Artie Holliday was a Sheriff I believe in Cleveland, there somewhere and Purvis worked for him. And when Purvis made Captain he hired Artie Holliday, Roscoe, Doc....course they called him Doc Holliday. Roscoe Holliday, Purvis hired him and he always wore his boots down in his.....pants down in his boots.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Purvis did?

ED GOODING: No.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Doc Holliday?

ED GOODING: Holliday and a suit, always wore a suit.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did you ever hear.....what did....did he ever talkdid you know Goss?

ED GOODING: No, I didn't know Goss, he was up

ROBERT NIEMAN: In Kilgore.

ED GOODING: I guess had retired by then.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah. Ah....do you have any.... I know different Rangers, some of 'em you know.....if you had your rather ah....some of the guys I know like to work murders, some like to work ah.... bun.....well I don't know about bunco, but the safe burglars and stuff. Did you have any particular crimes you liked better than.....

ED GOODING: I really like armed robbery better than anything else and I've worked homicides and ah back then..... of course now days it all together different. But back then a homicide the first one you look at is somebody that knew him, knew your deceased, family, close friends or you know, somebody like that. And ah.... we worked oh golly there in Houston.....there and in Bell County, in Temple, I worked more homicides I guess than I did anywhere else.

ROBERT NIEMAN: But you personally liked the armed robberies?

ED GOODING: Yeah I liked those because you had an eye witness, you know, or two usually.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well.....well when you started off as a student patrolman on December 1, 1948, you was making a whopping \$100.00 a month.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....when you become a Ranger in May 15, '57 you was all the way up to \$330.00 a month, what was you doing with all that money? Okay, well really Ed from this point on I've got to rely on you, I mean your cases, your going to be stationed through the years.....we might talk about this before we go into your cases, you moved to Kerrville on ah.... it looks like September 1st '63, you transferred to Kerrville.

ED GOODING: 1963.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Got another big raise, \$517.00.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: It won't be long you'll be calling first name John Rockefeller.

ED GOODING: We ah....my wife and I moved outI had ah.....we'd been working cattle theft case up in Conroe, East Texas. There was some blacks liveda whole bunch 'em that lived over there at the place they called Acres Home, it was a black settlement. And ah.... they had been going up in East Texas, around Conroe, shooting these cows, steers.....cows or whatever and ah.... in the pasture with a shotgun. And ah....they'd cripple him, they just beat him to death with the barrel of it I guess or whatever. But they'd roll 'em out of the hide right there and cut the meat up, throw it on the truck and take the hide and the head and on the way back into town they'd go off on an oil top road, cross the creek and throw the head and the hides off in that creek. Well there was an informant came over there to the Ranger office one day and Acres Home wasn't very far from the Ranger office, it was out on the north side of Houston. Said, "There's a man over here in Acres Home a selling meat out of his freezer", and said, "It's got grass and it's got hair and everything else in it". He said, "I don't think he's got a license to sell no

meat". So then.....back then of course the ah....courts weren't too concerned about how you collected evidence. If you got it into the court room it was accepted and that was it. It was long before Earl Warrens court pulled our teeth. And ah....so we went over there and asked if we could look in his.....could look in his house, yeah, so we went in and opened that freezer and there was a bunch of paper.....ah.... meat wrapped in newspaper, brown paper, white paper.... unwrapped some of it and it was full of hair and grass and weeds. Asked him, said, "Where'd you get this meat".where were we at?

ROBERT NIEMAN: The hide and the grass and all and you went in.

ED GOODING: Oh, yeah we went in there and asked him where he got all that meat and he gave us the name that he'd bought it from. He said, "He'll bring meat in here quite regular". So he tells us he's got a farm up in Conroe, so we went and got this fella, I don't remember his name. But we wound up with nine of 'em, over a period of about three days and nights. Never did leave Conroe except to come to Houston to pick up another one or pair, or three....one bunch we got three. And ah....we'd take 'em back to Conroe, get their business straight, well they'd been outwe'dI'd pick up two, each one of them had been out with somebody got 'em beef, brought it in and ah....we got it all straight, got the shotgun. And Buck Eckles out of Liberty was working with the cattle raisers association and we had thisthe last one we got was an old boy that looked.....he....he looked.....he put Sonny Liston to shame. Great big stoutand we was of course.....we'd been at it about three days and nights, we all was just give out. They brought him.....he walked in the room, I looked over at Buck Eckles and he shook his head, and I said, "Buck, we just might as well shoot this son of a bitch now because there ain't no way we can

ever get him to talk". He said, "Now wait a minute now", he said, " Don't start this shooting business so quick", he said, "I'm not all that hard to get to talk". So we got to talking to him and fessed up pretty well with what he'd done. So about daylight the next morning we got it wrapped up and put 'em all.... had 'em all in jail, started into Houston and we carried one of 'em with us, two or three.....two of 'em with us and ah....went to that bridge where they'd been throwing all those heads and hides. And we told 'em, we said, "Now I want you to get down there and get us a hide with a brand on it, we want one with a brand". Well this one went trailing off down there and we was standing there on the bridge and ah....this one was standing behind Buck. I looked around at him and I said, "What are you doing up here", I said, "You ought to be down there with them". Buck just got a hold of 'em by the back of the neck and shoved him off the bridge. Well that one down in the water went to hollering and said, "No sir, don't throw him in here", said, "He can't swim". Buck said, "I don't want him to swim, I want him to get me a hide".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did he get the hide?

ED GOODING: Yeah, he come up with one had a brand.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did....you moved into Kerrville?

ED GOODING: Yeah, moved out of Houston to Kerrville. We had aah.....there was two officers, detectives with the police department, and they ah....I think both of them are dead now, I know one of them is. Don Moffitt and Tony Cocker, they worked burglaries. They called one afternoon, late one night just after dark and said, "We've got ahead of a burglar, a pair of us going into a warehouse right up near your office up there a little ways".

ROBERT NIEMAN: This is in Houston?

ED GOODING: Yeah. Where they make those big neon signs, great big signs. Said they got a warehouse up there full of trucks and cutting torches and said, "They're going in there to get a torch and burn a safe some place....to burn a safe with". Said, "Could you meet us over at the office". And I said, "Yeah I'll be there in a minute". Well I didn't..... I didn't think to call the Captain, I just grabbed my hat and away I went. Got over there and they had two of those oldthey were pump shotguns with a hammer, model something..... I don't know what they were. I think it wasthey'd go off just looking at 'em, they were dangerous. They had two, one of them a piece and Don Moffitt had a .380a .38 snub nose and Tony Cocker had a .45, they didn't have a shotgun shell between 'em, not a one. Well I had five in that gun, I got.....we got in the car and started over there and he said, "You got any ammunition". I said, "What kind", and he said "For a shotgun". And I said, "Well I've got five in this gun is all I got. You should of said something and I'd of got some out of the car". So I gave Tony one and I gave Don two and I kept two. Well we got in there and it was dark, already dark before we got in there, black dark. We couldn't find a switch to turn the lights on, wouldn't of turned 'em on if we could of found 'em, but anyway, we'd been there about thirty minutes when the back door, sounded like the whole end of the building fell in. They popped thatit was about a 25 foot door that run on a track, that popped that off and ah..... propped it open with a 2 x 2 about that long, and crawled in, come walking across that cement floor. And that got about like that door over there from us and ah....Don Moffitt stood up and hollered, "Hold it right there". Well when he did there was a streak of fire, looked like a penny balloon about that long, it was a .38 super is what it was, I knew because I'd shot mine it was.....mine was a .38 super automatic and ah..... out the barrel of

that thing, fired at us. Well when he did the war broke out and ah....I emptied the shotgun and threwed it down and got my pistol and shot about four or five times, just black as inside a cow dung in there. But you could see the flash of that pistol every once in awhile. And ah....when finally everything quieted down there was a Captain and two or three detectives that had heard about this thing and they was round up, up there about two or three blocks away, they come running down there. A whole bunch of people there in the place, the news media just swarmed it. Well I was shooting a .38 super and this one thief was shooting a .38 super, well they got to looking at those hulls, looking....here's a pile of hulls over here where you were, piles over there, said ah...."How do we know those are not yours". And I said, "Just look at the hulls, they're brass, mine are chrome hulls, they're different brands". Well they gotthey finally got it settled. They looked like they were going to hang us out to dry there for awhile. We left one of 'em laying there in the floor.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was he dead?

ED GOODING: Yeah, he was dead, had a pool of blood there as big as this room I guess, around him. And ah....truck shot all to pieces, window shot out behind us, holes in that in that wall behind us.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Were any of the good guys hit?

ED GOODING: No, they missed us. But we got to looking afterwards, I don't know he missed us because well that old .38 is not that accurate anyway. But when we stood up, all three of us, it was just like three silhouette targets popping up, cause the windows behind us. (side of tape ends)

ROBERT NIEMAN: There's probably a little lag here, if you don't care, kind of start back here where you stood up and you're silhouetted with the light behind you.

ED GOODING: Yeah and I don't see how that they missed us except they were excited andand ah.... but anyway this ah.... this one got out, the one that had the pistol was the one behind, he got out of there and he just.... he just....where he drug..... he got down on his hands and knees, you could tell where he was crawling, got out the back door. And ah....Don said, "I think I recognized him and he' living over here on 59, old Hwy 59, motel, him and his old lady lives over there". And she's a sister to Gene Paul Norris out of Fort Worth. And this old boy she was married to was Red Lowe.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And that's the guy you think was crawling....had crawled out of that?

ED GOODING: Crawled out, yeah. The other old boy was dead. His name was ah....Seay, S E A Y I believe it was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did ya'll know whose shot put him down?

ED GOODING: No, of course all three of us was shooting you know.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was it a shotgun or....?

ED GOODING: Well he was hit ah....twenty....eighteen or twenty times.

ROBERT NIEMAN: That ought to do it.

ED GOODING: One pistol hit him around.....hit him just above the left ear, took half the side of his head off.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh okay.

ED GOODING: You know, that could of been mine or Tony.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Anybody's.

ED GOODING: Tony was shooting a .45

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah.

ED GOODING:and it....it just....no way to tell who it....who it was. But anyway, we went over there on 59 to that motel, picked his wife up and took her down and put her in jail for safe keeping, keep her out of the way and waited there in the motel near about oh two hours I guess, until he come crawling in. Got him in there and arrested him and called an ambulance and I took him out and put him in the hospital. And ah....they had his trial about six weeks or so, about a month later maybe and ah....had a jury trial. And they questioned us about if we went out there to murder those people and I told him, no. I don't know what Don and them testified to cause I had to rule invoked and we had to stay outside until ah....the other party finished testifying. But I told 'em I said, "No we didn't", I said, "We couldn't find the light switches on the inside, we'd never been in that place before". And ah.... "Well now how could you see that man and tell who he was". And I said, "I didn't, but Don Moffitt told me who he was, cause he recognized his face", and I said, "In the flash of the gun or some way, I don't know how". I think I know how, a snitch that put 'em down had left the country that night and I think he's the one thatthat told Don and them who waswho was going and when. But anyhow, ah.....he ah....went to trial and ah.... the jury was out aboutjust a few minutes under fifteen minutes, come back with a guilty verdict and gave him life, as a habitual criminal.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Uh huh. You spoke about Norris and I'd mentioned to you a good friend of mine, Jim Ray, who was there that day, did Klevenhagen ever talk about that?

ED GOODING: Yeah. He said they were out there the day before this thing was to go down, this army payroll robbery, was riding around and mapping what they were.....this was going to be here and this would be over there and so and so. And all of a sudden here come Norris and this old boy around the corner.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Humphries.

ED GOODING: Humphries yeah. Met him and of course he burned and fried rubber and took off. Well they took in after him, two car loads of Rangers and Deputy Sheriffs .

ROBERT NIEMAN: Jim Ray was driving the second car.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And Jay Banks was driving the first one I believe.

ED GOODING: Right. And Johnny was with Jay Banks, he was sitting behind him and he was punching him and he said, "JJJay, JJJay don't let that son of a bitch get away". They was burning rubber and going out the Jonesboro Highway. And they got off out there, and I guess they was afraid of a road block or something and every once in awhile they'd stick the gun out the window and shoot at 'em. Well this one little guy.....one funny part of it was, this first car passed him, went by him like he was tied to a bull. He said, "Who do you....this son of a bitch", said, "You think you can out run me, I'll show you", he said, I got down on it and stepped on it took after 'em and said, all of a sudden here come this Dodge by, said he was shooting at that car ahead of him and he said, I thought uh oh, I got ...(unintelligible).....well he dropped off anyway. And they got out there a pretty good ways and they turned off, it had been raining, got in this muddy road and going around a bend and it turned sideways and hit a tree sideways, caved the side of the car

in and of course couldn't get it off the tree and jumped out and run. Johnny and them slid up there in the mud and got stopped and ah.... as they got out of the car Norris and them was shooting up the hill at him, still trying to shoot him. And they cut down on that guy, I don't know how many officers was there, a whole bunch. Ah....the Sergeant was there and Jim Ray was there and Jay Banks ah....a whole bunch of 'em, all of 'em shooting, killed both of them right there in the creek, Norris and Humphrey's both. And ah....I.... I had I wasn't a Ranger then. But I drove into the office the next morning, the Highway Patrol office to do my report and ah....Captain Klevenhagen was out there shoving shells in the shotgun. And I said, "Captain did you do any good last night". And he said, "You bet, we cleaned up a whole lot of trouble last night". He said, "Them son of a bitches have been done here" they had robbed an old boy that was a gambler there and beat his wife to death with a crowbar, wrapped her up in a blanket, she was in a wheelchair, beat her to death, Norris and Humphrey's. And they took a ring that he had, it was like a horse shoe nail, and the head of that horse shoe nail was a big diamond. Well Humphries gave that ring to one of the whores up there in Fort Worth and she took it to Banks and that's how they tied 'em to it, knew who it was. And told 'em then that they were fixing to rob the payroll robbery out there at the I think it was an air base wasn't it?

ROBERT NIEMAN: Carswell.

ED GOODING: Carswell Air Force Base. And ah....they were up there looking it over and run head on into 'em.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Just for your information, Jim Ray told me that when he come sliding up there, they'd already been doing a lot of shooting, and he jumped out of the car with a shotgun

and Klevenhagen was hollering, "I'm out of ammunition, I'm out of ammunition". And Jim said, "I just pitched him my shotgun". But anyway, go ahead this is your story now, cause I

ED GOODING: He was....he was shoving shells in that thing the next morning, I guess he was still out. He said, "Yeah we cleaned up a whole lot of trouble last night, yesterday". And it was that Norris thing is what he was talking about. But ah....I worked for Johnny a year, I went to work for him June.....May the 15th, he was the one that hired me..... of 1957 and we buried him Thanksgiving day in 1958.

ROBERT NIEMAN: He died young.

ED GOODING: Had a massive heart attack, well three of 'em in fact. Had one on the way home that evening and we all rushed out there to the hospital and he was in intensive care. We set there most of the night and the next morning they said they thought he'd recover. But Johnny was adamn that man had a fire burning in him that you couldn't put out with fire hose.

ROBERT NIEMAN: How was he a work horse?

ED GOODING: Good, he was one of these that.... he would, go do this or do that, he didn't put it that way, kind of let's go, come let's.....let's do this, come here, come go with me. It was come go with me, not go out there and do it yourself. He was wanting to get in there and do it himself.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who was your next Captain?

ED GOODING: Ah....Eddie Oliver.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And Sergeant?

ED GOODING: Ah...Pete Rogers, next Sergeant. We were working in Galveston one time after the thing had fell through, the big raid fell through, and some of these Attorney General people

were out on S Road and 61st and they found a whole....the old Hollywood Club had been closed on a restraining order for a long time. But they had stored a wholejust stacked it as high as they could throw 'em, one armed bandits, pinball machines and payoff slots, marble tables and everything you could imagine in there. The Attorney General man seen it, rubbed a hole in the dirt....the dust on the window, they come running back down there and said, "Dang man we've found a stash". So we called Johnny and Johnny come down there from Houston and Johnny and I went out there to look it over. Got in there and walked around through there and he said, "God", he said, "I don't know what I'll ever do with all this stuff", he said, "I wish I had a boat big enough to just load it all on there and haul it out in the Gulf and dump it". And there was a fella by the name of Cecil Roach was the first assistant to the Attorney General, "By the way Captain", he said, "That sounds like a wonderful idea", he said, "We've been confiscating slots and first one thing and then another and taking 'em out to the city dump and burning 'em". Had the fire department and everybody out there to make sure nobody got hurt, fire didn't get out of control and what not. And he said, "I believe the General will like this". And Johnny said, "Well I tell you what", he says, "Furnish your machines, you call the General and see what he wants to do", said, "I'm going to have to get rid of these damn things". So we had a moving company there that would haul off stuff, we called them and they started loading truck load after truck load of this stuff and hauling it out, had a fire going out there at the dump and ah....in a little while I heard, "Eighty-eight to unit six", that eighty-eight was the airplane out of Austin. Johnny run over there to his car and said, "This is number two", Johnny said, "Could you meet me at the airport". So we took off over there, and picked up Colonel Fletcher, Joe Fletcher and ah.... Hollis

Sillavan picked him up, come driving up with him and Johnny was....had his tie undone and hishe wore suspenders and ah.....he was wringing wet with sweat and throwing boxes of dice and stuff in that fire. Colonel Fletcher said, "What you doing Captain", he said, "I'm trying to burn this damn island up". But ah....he said, "Well I'll tell you what", he said, "You take care of your fire", he said, "I'll talk to the General". And he said, "I had a thought coming down here", he said, "What about that ferry over yonder on that island over at Port Voliman", he said, "It'll hold about sixty cars". He said ah.....Johnny said, "I don't know whether they can go outside or not", out in.....across the bar out in the ocean, in open water. He told me said, "Run over there and see". So I went over there and the ferry was just coming in and I went up in the pilot house and talked to the Captain. And he said, "No Ranger", he said, "I'm sorry", he said, "I know we could haul a whole lot of 'em", but he said, "We're not licensed to go outside the bars, we can't cross the bar, just inland waters only". And said, "If I go out there they'd take my license". So I went on back and told Johnny. So the Attorney General come down there, got with Joe Fletcher and they hired a tug boat. And a tug boats got about a foot walkway on each side around the motor as big as this house, just power, that's all they are is power. Well they stacked as many machines as they could get on there, just hanging over the sides. Instead of going out crossing out into the Gulf they went out in that ship channel. Well that's under the Corp of Engineers, you....you couldn't.....you can't even throw napkins in that water. And the press was taking pictures of 'em and they'd poise just right you know and then throw it, throw it so they could get pictures of 'em in the air and splashing in the water and everything else. The next morning Cecil calls down there(unintelligible)...and he said, "Captain what are we going to do". Said, "The Corp of

Engineers is down our necks", said, "They're threatening to file on us for fouling the waterways".
And ah.....Johnny said, "We hell, I burned all mine".

ROBERT NIEMAN: I ain't got no part of this.

ED GOODING: But anyway, they....they went out there then but didn't show it on the news, but they went out there with these hooks, on the same tug boat, they had to hire another, hooking that stuff and getting out, everything was still floating. Of course old one armed bandits and stuff had sunk to the bottom.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah.

ED GOODING: We'd throw 'em in the fire, burn those wooden tables and stuff, had a hot fire. Throw that old pewter one armed bandits in there and they'd melt into a blob. But ah....we kept that up for 3½ years, kept the same room rented. And ah.....raiding the....oh we had some bellhops that was giving us information and different people would be.....the biggesttheir biggest prey seemed like....the Valnese room got to slipping, sneaking on us and ah....they'd pick on these wholesale grocers would come into town, they're lots of money, haul a lot of money with them. And they'd go out there to the Valnese at the invitation of the Fratitas and of course they wasn't playing regularly, they couldn't count on the odds so they had to just gut 'em, you know, strip 'em anyway they could, crooked dice or whatever. So we got several complaints and Johnny said, "All right we're going to put a stop to this", he said, "You men in this company, when you go down there with whoever is with you, I want you to be the first two in that place when they open at five o'clock in the evening, I want you to be the last two to come out of there at two o'clock in the morning, or three, whatever, leave your hats on, put your boots up on the

table", said, "I want 'em to know the Rangers are there". So we did and ah....wasn't about two weeks til little Sammy Maceo, he was a nephew to old man Sam Maceo.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Maceo?

ED GOODING: Maceo, Sam Maceo. Rose and Sam Maceo were the co-owners of Gulf Coast properties, which was a gambling syndicate down there. And they both died off and the **qqq** Fratitas had married into the Maceo family and ah.....little Sammy was a nephew of the old man, Sam Maceo. And ah....he called Johnny and he said, "Captain what on earth are you trying to do", he said, "We're going broke down here", said, "These men come in here and put their boots on the table and their big hats on", said, "People walk in and see 'em setting there", and said, "They look over their shoulder a few times and out the door they go. They won't eat, just have a drink and leave". Johnny said, "I don't want to hear about the ones setting in there", he said, "The night that you open and there's no Ranger in there you call me, that's the night I want to know about". But we finally did concede after about a month and we moved into the back gambling room , in the back. Well they couldn't see us in front you know, and ah.....Byron Curren was a Ranger up at Wichita, he said.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Wichita Falls?

ED GOODING: Wichita Falls. Byron Curren was down there with Harvey Phillips and Harvey was one of these....he was a Sheriff at Woodville for twelve or fourteen years before he got in the Rangers. And he always wore his sleeves rolled up and no tie and ah....he and ah.....Allen Shivers were pretty tight. So Allen called down there one time after Purvis hired himHarvey and said,

"How's my Ranger doing". He said, "Well we've got his sleeves rolled down about three notches but we can't put a tie on him".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well let's see, you....you Rangered there with Zeno Smith? Was Zeno still there?

ED GOODING: He's in San Antonio.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh okay. Did you know Zeno?

ED GOODING: Yeah, I worked with him.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Why did he wear a black hat?

ED GOODING: I don't know, I guess cause everybody else wore a white one.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Was he that type?

ED GOODING: Yeah, he was just that type.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well talk about some of your cases, specific cases.

ED GOODING: Ah....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Let's take some armed robberies you like.

ED GOODING: Well.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: That were particularly maybe difficult or exciting or

ED GOODING: We had ah....I can remember one homicide we worked there that ah.....there was a man

worked for Buster Kern.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay now, where are you at?

ED GOODING: In Houston.

ROBERT NIEMAN: In Houston, okay.

ED GOODING: Ah....he got.....he's the one that got us on to the right track. This man, his name was Self ah.....can't remember his first name, Don Self I believe. Anyway he hiredhe knew this blackthis colored woman name of Patra May Mound. Patra May found this ah.... Maggie Morgan, Maggie was a voodoo witch and she had a son who graduated from high school with pretty high honors, intelligent fella. And he give 'em ah.....this Self gave them a key to his house, called his wife one day to come to town to have lunch. And ah....Red worked for Buster, he was black, Red got hold of Patra May, roped her down and made her fess up to what had happened. Patra May fessed up to what they'd done and what he had done, he'd given them a key to the.....to his house and invited his wife downtown to have lunch. Well on the way home, of course she was in her car and he was in his, he stopped off at a little drug store, made a big to do over some toothpaste and some shaving cream, some after shave and tried to use a credit card and drivers license, make sure they'd remember him being there while his wife went on home. Well when she went in the house this old Maggie Morgan and Patra May and the boy, I can't remember what his name was....Morgan was his last name, he stepped around the corner in the hallway and she was coming down the hallway and he just popped it to her about three times, killed her right there in the hallway. And ah....he came on home and found her, of course they went out the back door and leFort And oh he wept and moaned and cried and carried on. We got....we got Patra May in there, Red was talking to her and I was Red was the mean cop and I was the good cop.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Red?

ED GOODING: Redwe called him Red, that was about all I know.....ever knew him by. But he was good, he worked..... I never did understand exactly how he worked for Buster, but a kind of part time basis. And ah....but ah....Red was in there talking to Patra May and she was lying through her teeth, she always wore a hat, had a hat on every time you'd see her. We went out there to the house to get 'em though, the first.....was when we first arrested her and that boy. And we walked in and ah....just pushed the door open and walked in and there was a candle sitting here and all over the house. And ah.....she come down the stairs, we arrested her and went up and got the old boy out of bed brought him down there and she was voodoo, voodoo and.....practiced voodoo. And she had a little black vial and I was setting there talking to her one time and she opened that purse and opened up the little vial, got a little of that powder and sprinkled it on my boots. And I said, "What's that for, don't be throwing that stuff on my boots". She said, "You'll never live to see Christmas". I said, "You believe in that stuff". "Sure do, it'll work".

ROBERT NIEMAN: And when was this?

ED GOODING: This was in ah....well it had to be between ah.....ah.....'57 and '63, Harvey was 63....over 60 by then. And ah....anyway we....we....Red come in there then and he was trying to rough house 'em. And he said, "Well damn you", said, "You know you're lying", and he grabbed her was going to grab her by the hair of the head and her hair and the hat and the whole thing come off. And she was patch bald, from nerves I guess, had lost a lot of her hair. And he looked at.....looked at herthrew it down and he said, "The hell with it", and walked out. Anyway, I come in there and got to talking to her, we gotthey never would admit anything. So we got

the old boy in there and ah.....he....he fessed up right quick. Asked him what he done with the pistol that he shot her with, he said, "I eat it". "You what". He said, "I eat it". So it was the next day, the day after turned over.....took him down to the city and put him in jail, they ah.....the press.....they let the press talk to him and they asked him what he done with the pistol and he told them the same thing. He said, "I shot her, sure I shot her". "What did you do with the pistol". He said, "I eat it". Well, we found out later whatactually what had happened, her husband was scared of 'em, he was literally scared to death of 'em....of Maggie. And ah.... she had give him that gun and he worked out at US Steel out there in one of those smelters and he dumped it in one of those smelters is what he did. He told us said he couldn't.... ain't no use looking for the gun, you can't find it, it's melted down. So ah....we tried 'em anyway and ah.... we tried ah....Patra Maywe tried Self first and he got life, tried Maggie and she got death and tried the old boy and he got death....or life. So they appealed Maggie's to the Governor and he commuted it to life, cause the other two had got life sentences.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And what was their motive again?

ED GOODING: He wanted to....the....this ah.....Patra May Bounds was real fair, light skinned and ah.... Self was going to marry her and move to Oklahoma and claim she was Indian.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh.

ED GOODING: He wanted to marry her is what their motive was. But he wore a ring like this one.

ROBERT NIEMAN: A Masonic ring?

ED GOODING: Masonic ring, and he said ah....I was in there one day talking to him and he said, "Ranger", he said, "I wonder if I could talk to you". And I said, "I've been trying to get you to talk for two or three days". He said, "Well I'm talking about just one Mason to another". And I said, "Now Mr. Self you know the oath that I swore to in the Masonic lodge. Murder and treason alone excepted and these left in my option, so if you tell me that you killed somebody, it's my option whether I reveal it to anybody else or not. You just might as well open the book and tell me straight up". So he laid it all out, laid the whole thing out to me. Got the secretary in there and typed it all up. But they all.....they all wound up with life sentences.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Which meant they served ?

ED GOODING: Then it was 1/3 of the sentence or fifteen years, whichever come first. Be eligible for parole in fifteen years. Of course, good time, good behavior and all that come off that fifteen, so they served maybe ten on a life sentence.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah. What other.....

ED GOODING: Then....ah.....I moved out to Kerrville.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Why....why did you transfer?

ED GOODING: Ah....I had ah....we'd worked a strike down at ah.....Pasadena and ah... there was a it was a wild cat strike, wasn't sanctioned by theit was Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union. And this file is in that vault out yonder, it's the only file I had left, they found it in the file down there and Sergeant Walker sent it to me. And ah.... I put it in the vault for the year 2098. Ah.....we were working this strike

ROBERT NIEMAN: You mean a time capsule out in front of the Ranger Museum?

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: And ah.....they....the city of Deer Park was trying to work it. Well the ah...the Chief of Police was a fella named Vickerstat and he had been a Deputy Sheriff for Kern for a long time, I'd known him a long time. And ah....we got out there and Pete Rogers had a radio in his car that he had tinkered with and messed around and it had four channels that he could use. Had the state, county and the city, then ah....one that he could talk CB, citizens ban, but he had an outside speaker mounted inbehind his grill. Well he flipped that switch and turned that speaker on and called Houston and would draw thewhat they'd done had been225 was the highway that went from Pasadena out to the Shell refinery.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Out there towards La Porte?

ED GOODING: Yeah, there's three lanes going out and three lanes coming in. Three lanes full of cars had gone down and made a turn and come back, got right in front of the Shell gate and stopped while they popped their hoods and walked off in a ditch, all broke down, they couldn't move. So Pete said ah.....got on the radio and said, "Call Houston", said, "Start sending me wreckers, start with the A's and call until I tell you to stop, send 'em to the Shell Refinery on 225", said, "We've got the road blocked with about 100 to 150 cars that are broke down and won't move". Well some of 'em....of course they heard that over this loud speaker, some of them run in there and got to moving 'em. And ah....but a big part of 'em didn't. But they got it thinned out enough that we could ease up there you know and weave our way around through there. We was going up there and these twoup the road and these two old boys were in the....there was

an outside lane, a center lane and then the lane next to this esplanade and they were right in the center lane. Well this old boy he was scabbing, been in there working, come a burning rubber in a little Volkswagen, turned in that road and started upstarted towards Houston. This old boy pulled a chain out of his shirt, it was a log chain about that long, had a handle welded about that long, and he hit that windshield, knocked it all in the front seat. Of course he just kept frying rubber he didn't stop. Well when he looked up, they were both laughing, they looked up and we were like from that wall right there from 'em, just right on top of 'em. Well they made a dash for the curb to get over in the ditch. Pete run in and cut the one with the chain off and the other one went around in front of the car, well I grabbed him, put him up on the car, searched him, didn't have nothing, didn't even have a pocket knife, nothing. So I told him, I said, "Now you get over there on the shoulder and stay out of the way, stay off of this highway and keep it open". And ah.....we took the other one on to La Portee and put him in jail. We came back and started up through there again and this old boy was up on one of those great big wooden spools that the cable comes on, had his fist up in the air and he wasinciting a riot was what he was doing. Told 'em, said, "We out number 'em a hundred to one, let's take this son of a bitch over, run it ourselves". Pete said ah...." I think he sinned don't you". And I said, "Badly". So we pulled out hats off and put 'em in the seat, just had on a suit, walked through there and got up close enough we could get a hold of him and jerked him down off that stool, started to the car with him and ah....I had him in the collar and the seat of the britches and they kept trying to get a ring around us you know, to keep us from gettingPete was knocking 'em back out of the way. Got to that door, back door of the car and he had it open and was putting a knee in his behind and moved

him in. And the car was moving by then and I slammed the door and grabbed the door pull and jumped in the front seat. Got down the road a little way and he went to, yes sir and no sir, and I'm very sorry and sugar wouldn't melt in his mouth. So ah... he said "I'm a City Commissioner with the city of Deer Park". And Pete said, "Well what in the hell are you doing out here trying to stir these people up". He said, "Well I belong to the union, that's my job". He said, "Well look", he said, "We're not here to embarrass anybody, if we file on you that's your job, a city manager you won't be anymore". And ah.....city commissioner said, "If we take you to your car, put you in your car, will you promise to go on home, get the hell out of here and leave these people alone". "Yeah I will, I'm very sorry for what I did". So we took him to his car, followed him for a ½ mile away from there and about two or three days later Federal Marshals come out there at the office served me with a stack of papers about that thick and Pete with a stack. He had sued us for \$75,000 a piece and ah.....defamation of character and false arrest, embarrassment in front of his buddies, and everything else you could think of in Federal court. Well we had just finished working on those nine blacks up there in Montgomery County and I had anot just a duodenal ulcer, I had an ulcer up in the lining of my stomach, two of them. I was down to about 170 pounds, looked like death warmed over, \$75,000 lawsuit hanging on me. The press was still after us on that shooting we'd been in over there and I was laying there on the couch, man I was suffering, was sweating that case in Federal court, cause the Federal court ain't nothing to laugh at, you don't, you know, you just better watch your step you get messed up in Federal court. And I told my wife, I said, "You know what, I'm going to have to have that", Pete Rogers had had half his stomach taken out, Eddie Oliver had had half his taken out and Johnny Klevenhagen

before he died had had half his taken out with ulcers. Then that was the only surgery, only cure, for taking part of that acid producing part of your stomach out. I said, "I'm going to have to have that operation". So I called Pete over at the office, I didn't get a hold of him. Called him at the house and said, "How do you get a hold of that doctor, get that surgery done". He gave me his number and ah.... I said, "Well I'll call...",.... it was Sunday and I said, "Well I'll call him tomorrow". So I told my wife I said, "Do you know what would be better than having the surgery". She said, "No, what". I said, "Get the hell out of this place, get off somewhere in the boondocks where we can relax". She said, "All right, I'm with you, I'm ready to go if you are". So I went over there Monday morning and told Eddie Oliver, I said, "I need to get out here". He said, "Well I don't know where you'd go", said, "There's not any vacancies anywhere". And I said, "Well Clint Peoples up in Waco had told me if I ever want out of Houston to let him know, that he'd glad to have me". So he got on the phone and called Clint. Well L. H. Purvis was out of socket, they couldn't find him. And he'd been out of socket for about a week, behind on his reports, car report was wanting to fill this hole for a long time". So that's when I got.....went to Kerrville.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Is that where Purvis had been?

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What did they do with Purvis?

ED GOODING: He....he moved over to E Company. Got a house.....when they finally found him, he had a house trailer and was living over at Rock Springs. He was already in E Company.

So they called Captain Propes, Propes said, "Well hell, he's already over here", said, "I'll take him, let me have him". That's the reason I moved to Kerrville.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well then you went up to ah....Amarillo on October 1st, 1969 after seven years in Kerrville.

ED GOODING: Yeah. That was ah....and I pointed at that thing out there awhile ago with Clint, I don't know what my personnel records shows as the reason I went, but I know the personal reasons that I went is because I'd been out there aboutwell the first deer season I was out there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Kerrville?

ED GOODING: Yeah. Clint called me, "Say", he said, "I've got a fella over here at Texas Butane in Waco, good friend of mine, good friend of the Rangers", said, "He wants a deer, you know anybody out there that can fix us up with a deer". I said, "Yeah". I'd already made contact with the Bayou Ranch. I said, "Bring him on out here, we'll get him a deer, get you one too if you want it". Well we did, he come out there and we got 'em both deer's. And that same season before it was over he called and he said, "I've got three fellers here that's good friends of mine", said, "They want a deer a piece", said, "Reckon you can work that". And I said, "Well yeah", I said, "That's asking a whole lot of a man", but I said, "I think I can swing it". So I went back to Charlie Shriner and I told him what I was up against, he says, "Bring him on out", he said, "You can guide him, I'm going to let you guide him, won't use up one of my guides". He said, "Bring him on out here". So they come out there and we got three deer and ah.... one of 'em wanted a turkey. And I told 'em I said, "Well now those turkeys are \$50.00 a piece". He was looking down

at a water trough down there, down the hill away, there was a big bunch of long bearded gobblers sitting down there in the shade of that water trough. He said, "How much did you say these turkeys was". And I said, "\$50.00 a piece". I said, "All we bargained for was a deer", and I said, "Now anything above that you're probably going to have to pay for". And he was looking through his scope and he said, "You know, that damn turkey is getting smaller every time I look at it". Well that season went by, the next season Charlie Shriner had a ranch that his dad had bought.... or his uncle.....granddaddy seemed like, it was his granddaddy, Charlie....the original Charlie Shriner. Charlie's daddy was Walter Shriner and he was named after his uncle. And ah....the old man Shriner had bought a ranch over there from a feller whose name was 70L, had a little ranch house was there on it, still there, needed a little work on it, but wet backs stayed in it some. But ah....he said, "Ed, yeah", he said, "Why don't you see if you can get the 70L pasture over there", it was about 3,000 acres. He said, "We can set up camp over there and fix that place up", and he said, "We can bring as many people as we wanted out there, just you know, just set up and hunt all winter". And I said, "Charlie ", or ah....."Clint", I said, "He's getting \$150.00 a head for those deer, bucks, \$75.00 for the does, \$50.00 for the turkeys", and I said, "You can to bring ten or twelve people out here". "Well yeah, bring 'em out there and hunt", said, "It didn't cost him nothing". I said, "Every buck he knocked down cost him \$150.00 bucks right out of his pocket". Well said, "He can afford that can't he". And I said, "He might be able to Clint, but I'm not going to ask him". "You what!". I said, "No I'm not going to ask him for that, you know, that's too much, it's just too much to impose on him". "Well by god if I was stationed at a Ranger's place like that I'd take care of my Captain". I said, "Clint I'll take care of you as long as

you want a deer, and if you got a friend that wants a deer, on that basis, one or two along during the season, that's fine. But I ain't going out there and ask a man for half his ranch to kill all the deer you can haul off". Well he slammed the receiver down. Well he started in on my ass, went to riding it. Well Charlie Miller was stationed over at Mason, he was already on Charlie's ass cause he thought Charlie was over 70 and should retire, which I guess he was over 70, but he was still active. And ah.... we'd meet over at San Saba at the Sheriff's restaurant over there the first of every month, have breakfast and take one car and go on into Waco. And ah....old man Charlie would wear his .45 stuck down in his britches in the front here and ah...until he got there to the Ranger office, we got those .357 Magnum and Clint said, "You will wear the Magnums, no more automatics stuck in your belt. You will wear the gun belt and a .357". Charlie would wear that .45, get right in front of the office, take that .45 out and throw it in the seat and get that gun belt out and put it.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well why did he carry his pistol in his belt?

ED GOODING: He just always carried it there, liked to carry it there stuck in his belt. Just about that much of the barrel stuck down in there and it'd flop around, you'd think it was going to fall out every time he walked around, never did. But ah....and he kept the palm safety tied down with a little leather thong.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well Bob Goss, do you remember we spoke of him, I got his .45, his is disconnected.

ED GOODING: Unhooked.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Yeah.

ED GOODING: I asked him one time, I said, "Charlie why do you wear that tied down", and he said, "I got in a scuffle with a feller one time", and he said, "That son of a bitch got me down", he said, "I got this pistol out and he got a hold of the barrel of it", and said, "I couldn't get enough grip on it to get that palm safety down". He said, "It wouldn't shoot". He said, "I finally got him a loose, kicked him off of me". And ah....he didn't say what happened to him, I imagine he got shot. But anyhow, he said, "Ever since then", he said, "I've tied that palm safety down".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well like I said, I've got Goss' and it's disconnected on his. So anyway, you then was that the reason you transferred up to Amarillo?

ED GOODING: That's.....yeah ah....weone time we went up there to Waco and Clint wasn't there. Well he'd issued ahe told us, 'you can't have an outside job, I don't want no cattle ranching, I don't want no building houses, nothing like that, I want you strictly Ranger working, that's all'. So ah....we went up there one day, of course Donna, his wife, had ashe was building a subdivision out there, Donna was building it, it wasn't Clint. Well he wasn't there, so we got our reports all done, expense account signed, everything turned in and ah... got everything fixed and went to eat, went to eat dinner, got back Clint still wasn't there. Charlie said ah... "Well Gooding", he said, "If you're ready, I'm about ready to west, how about you". I said, "I'm ready any time", said, "We're through here". He said, "Well let me go over here to Gipson's and get three pounds of coffee". Three pound can, got his coffee and we headed out. Well we got to Golwait....plumb out to where we turn off at Golwait and go down 16 going to Fredricksburg.

ROBERT NIEMAN: How far is that?

ED GOODING: Gowait is aboutit's close to 80 miles, 90 miles maybe, half way.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: From here, here being Waco?

ED GOODING: Yeah, yeah. And ah...."Waco unit to Unit 495"or whatever number is was... "Go ahead". He said, "Authority to Unit 6, can you return to Waco". I looked at Charlie and he said, "That's that goddamn Peoples". I said, "Now Charlie you don't know that". And he said, "Yeah I do too, that son of a bitch is after me". He said, "He's been on my case a long time". And I said, "Well he has mine too. He's wanting to hunt deer out there and wanting to bring too many people out". So I called him back and I said, "Waco could you advise Unit 6 that we're in Golwait fixing to turn off on 16". "Standby". "Waco to Unit 495", said, "Authority to Unit 6 return to Waco". "Ten Four". I turned around, frying rubber and went on wide open back to Waco. It was just about dark when we got in there nearly. Walked in and Clint was sitting there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: This very office we're in now?

ED GOODING: No.....yeah.....no, that was over here in the old

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh okay.

ED GOODING:on Waco Drive. Walked in and he was sitting there and said, "How you boys doing". I said, "Doing fine, What's going on Cap, what did you want us back for". "Oh I just wanted to see how ya'll was doing", said, "I needed to check with all of you before you leave". He said, "Ya'll left before I got back". And I said, "Well hell, we waited here til nearly two o'clock, you hadn't come back". "Well I just needed to check to see if everything was going all right out there". And Charlie didn't say a word. Walked back out and got in the car and he pulled his hat off and throwed it down and he said, "That son of a bitch, he made us drive 80

miles out of the way, 160 miles". But anyway, it kept on, just kept getting worse and worse. He jumped my ass up there one day at a company meeting. I said, "Clint", they had hired Joe Davis, he's retired lives out at Kerrville and Joe was down at Houston in the Intelligence section and Henry Liggon had made Ranger out of Kerrville and had moved to Austin, kept his home out there. Well Joe DavisJoe Davis was fixing to quit rather than go to Amarillo, he didn't want go, so I said ah..... "There ain't but one thing for me to do and that's to get just as damn far away from you as I can get". And he said, "Well hell that suits me", said, "Want somebody out there that can do something for his Captain once in awhile". "Well I wish you luck". I said, "Why don't you put Henry back out there and let....", he was there in Austin, and I said, "Let Joe Davis come to Austin and I'll go to Amarillo, that's just about as far from you as I can get rather than go to Mexico". So he got on the phone and called 'em and I went to Amarillo.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You ah....you were up there for about a year and a half it looks like. And May the 1st '71 you transferred back to Belton.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Is Clint still here or is he gone?

ED GOODING: He's in.....well see he made Sr. Captain, he was up there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay. So you were going to be under him regardless now.

ED GOODING: Yeah. He's....he was....wasn't right under.....I wasn't right under him.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well I know, but I mean he's over.....

ED GOODING: Yeah, he was Sr. Butch Albers was here. But Pete Rogers was my Captain up there, he'd made Captain and went to Lubbock and ah....Pete said ah...."You're getting ready....",

said, "I want to go back to Houston too one of these days", said, "I'm going to wait on Eddie to retire". He said, "When you get ready, if you find an opening or hear of an opening", he said, "Just go ahead and call, you don't need to contact me, just call the Captain".

ROBERT NIEMAN: He was aware of the problem you'd had with Clint?

ED GOODING: Yeah. And he was aware of myhow I hated Amarillo. I had my first heart attack there in '70....'69, December of '69, that's when I thought I was going to die, I sold all my damn arrow heads and guns and everything else. But ah....Butch Albers called me and said, "We got a letter here on....", said that it hadn't.....no, he hadn't written his letter yet, said, "Trenton Horton from over at Belton is going to retire", said, "You get your letter written and get it in here". Said, "Then when his letter comes in here to me I can take 'em both and go to Austin". So I did, wrote my letter and sent it in. He said ah....one day he said ah....we're at a company meeting, Captain's meeting down at Austin, so he went down to the Captain's meeting and said ah.... Captain Peoples said, "You got anybody in mind for Belton, Horton retired". "Yeah", he said, "I got my man right here". He said, "Who is it". He told him, he said, "Ah hell no", he said, "That man don't know where he wants to move", said, "He had to move out of Houston and then he had to move and he moved out of Kerrville", he said, "He can't make up his mind where he wants to stay". Butch said, "Okay, you know good and well that the next Ranger you get is going to be a Mexican. Now you go up there and tell Lester Gun, the Sheriff of Bell County, how he wound up with a Mexican when I have this man right here that wants that station".

ROBERT NIEMAN: So you went to Belton.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who succeeded you in Amarillo?

ED GOODING: Ah....John Dendy I believe, I'm really not sure who followed me up there.

Kelly Rogers was a Ranger there with me, he stayed there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay, you stayed in Belton a year exactly then you went to Temple where you're going to finish up .

ED GOODING: Yeah, twelve years, stayed there twelve years.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah.....

ED GOODING: The whole time Sheriff Gun was my Sheriff.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did they just get an opening and you moved on over to Temple?

ED GOODING: Well I got the Captain toto....see Trenton had a house up on Lake Belton.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Trenton?

ED GOODING: Trenton Horton.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Okay.

ED GOODING: One that retired. And ah....Belton was the county seat, all right, but ah....Temple was a lot bigger town, shopping centers and all that, had 'em all over there and everything. And I got 'em to move me over there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And you're going to retire on August 31st, '82 and now you're making so much money you can't spend it all, \$1,872.00 a month.

ED GOODING: Plus a couple of CD's I've got that's made me about \$800.00 a month.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And thenwell we pretty well covered your career here as far as where you was at and when you was at. But now then, any cases you want to talk about. What was your most difficult case?

ED GOODING: Oh let's see.....I know if I could get my thinking cap on and gettry to think of one. We had ah.....Kerrvilleyou talk about going from double wide open to granny low, got out there and about the second or third day a fella name of Moore was the Sheriff. I walked in his office and there was a warrant there on his desk for a guy and he was charged with cattle theft at the Rocking Four Ranch in Kerrville, Kerr County. And I said, "Sheriff I know this feller, I know exactly where he lives, lives in old(unintelligible).....out of Houston". I said, "Let's go down there and get him". "No", he said, put his feet up on the desk and said, "There ain't no use in getting in any big hurry". Said, "He'll be through here one of these days, we'll pick him up". But ah....I had one murder case in the six years I was there, seven years I was in Kerrville, besides comparing that with Houston, and with Killeen over there, man you talk about murder cases.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Military?

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well did you get involved with them or did the military pretty well keep 'em?

ED GOODING: No, they'd go off base, when the guys would get paid, they paid 'em twice a month. And they'd hook a ride going into town. Then they had this volunteer army and it was GI people doing it. They'd come by and 'come on buddy, hop in and we'll give you a ride'. Well they'd take him out on a road somewhere, take all of his clothes, his dog tags and strip him down

to his skin, leave him laying there buck naked, shot in the back of the head. We had a whole bunch of them. Cleared several, but ah.....we had a whole bunch of 'em we didn't clear.

ROBERT NIEMAN: That would come under the heading, more like frustrating cases where you knew....

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: ...you knew who the killer was but couldn't prove it.

ED GOODING: Yeah. See ah....ah....Fort Hood was an open base, you could drive in and drive out any time. But everybody out there had a Class A pass, you could go.....you know any time you wasn't on assignment you could take off and go anywhere. And they just counted bodies, they didn't count names. And if you got on the work detail you could hire somebody for \$10.00 to work every day you worked. And there wasn't any way to tell who was AWOL and who was just off lolly gagging around. But ah.....we had one case I remember, this.....this old boy had picked up.....he had brought his brother back to Fort Hood, he lived in Austin, brought his brother back to Fort Hood. Now this is Bell County. And on the way back, there was three girls that lived over at ah.....right at the edge of Austin over there and ah....one of 'em lived on a ranch two of 'em lived on a ranch and the other one lived on a farm, cotton farm. Well they were on their way from the picture show in Killeen back home and this old boy pulled up beside of 'em and hit 'em, run into 'em, tried to flag him down first, get him to stop. So he knocked him off the road. Got out and pulled a pistol on him, made him get in the car and run their car off over a rough rocks and stuff. And he started off going down the road with 'em and he'd get one of 'em in the front seat and reach over and play with her crotch you know, and play with her breast and

she'd break down and go to crying, "What in the hell you crying about, you never been balled before", and ah....they said ah....we got to talking to the girls, they were pretty plain spoken, said exactly what they thought. And one of them said, "That son of a bitch", said, "That's the ugliest mangot to be the ugliest man in the world". Said, "He's got a face on him that will stop a clock". So ah....Wayne Odom was the Deputy Sheriff I was working with Lester Gunn called and said, "Odom come in here", threw him a credit card and said, "Here", said, "These three girls hauled off over yonder and raped....attempted rape", said ah.... "Take this card and get that Ranger and go solve it", said, "Don't come back until it's done". So we left and about the second day or so Wayne Odom got a call from a nurse over there at the hospital, she said "Deputy", said, "This has got to be the man", said, "He was in here, had a case of the bull head clap", said ah.... "He's got to be the ugliest man", said, "He fits the description these girls give, long hair, snaggle teeth and ugly", said, "He is the ugliestbeen beat to death with an ugly stick". Well we went over there to the hospital, they pulled his picture and ah...no they had his picture on file in Austin, we went to Austin and got his picture. Come back and called those two girls, the two of 'em come over. One of 'em went to looking at it and crying....went to crying, the other one said, "That son of a bitch, that's him", and she went to crying. We finally got the third one and she identified him. Well what had happened, they'd got over going through the back road going toward Austin and this one had got to crying in the front seat up here and he put her over in the back and got one of them up in the front with him. Well those two in the back, that had been in the back, this big 18 oz. or 13 oz. coke bottle was rolling around back there and she punched this one and pointed at that coke bottle. The one that got up in the front with him shook her head no,

she didn't want any part of it. Well he got that one out of the front and got her back there and she punched her and showed her that coke bottle and she nodded 'yeah, let's get him'. So she got that coke bottle and when they started around a curve well she let him have it right on top of the head with that coke bottle. It stunned him and ah..... they just.... all the doors come open and they was just like a covey of quail, and they was gone. One went on one side and two went on the other and ah....hid in the brush. He finally come to and was driving up and down the road hollering at 'em. So anyway, when they identified him we went over there to this trailer house where he lived with his mother. And on the way we stopped and his brother lived down the hill a little ways from the trailer house and we asked him if so and so owned it, I don't remember what his name was, he said, "Yeah he's up there at mama's house, what did ya wantwhat do you want with him". We said, "Well he picked these two girls upthree girls up, man handled 'em out here, need to talk to him about it". He said, "Yeah he's up there at mama's", said, "I just left there". So we drove up there and she said ah....she come walking to the door and she said ah..... "Yeah he's in here, come on in". So we walked in and went plumb through that trailer house from one end to the other. And a trailer house mind you, just a straight trailer house, he wasn't in there. And she said, "What do you mean he's not", she said, "He was here, he was sitting right here on this couch with me". Well we made another round through there, couldn't find him. So I walked out the back, I said, "Does this back door open". She said, "Yeah, just open it", said, "He didn't go out there". And I said, "Well he may have, you didn'tyou don't know for sure". And ah....so I walked outside and walked down in some plumb thickets, walking around looking for him. And ah.... in a little bit I heard somebody hollering and I went up there and they said he went in the

back, his mother told us, said, "There's a hot water heater there in the back in that wall ", and said, "You can get in there and pull that wall shut", said, "Just looks like a straight natural wall". She said, "I bet that's where he's at". So went back in there and I got a hold of that panel, went to pushing on it like that and it come loose and I pulled it out and there he stood.

ROBERT NIEMAN: His mother.....

ED GOODING: Pulled up in there like that. We carried him over there, his mother come over there and wanted to make his bond and she said, "I know my son wouldn't do anything like that, I know him, I raised him, he just wouldn't do anything like that". And said, "Besides his brother can vouch for him", said, "He brought him back over here to the base". And I told 'em, I said, "Now lady I know you're his mother, but we know what the man did, the girls have identified him and we're going to file on him and ah....we have filed on him and we're going to go to trial". "Well now you just better watch out, we might just file on ya'll". And I said, "Just fire away". But we tried him and they gave him life.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Do you have any particular remembrances of anything special happening with you was up there in the East Texas area during the slant hole business?

ED GOODING: No ah....really about all we were doing was just kind of night watching.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did you go up there in '68 in the Lone Star Steel strike?

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Anything special you remember from that, that you were involved in?

ED GOODING: There was a man killed out there on the road between ah....Pit....ah.... between ah

ROBERT NIEMAN: Pittsburg and Lone Star?

ED GOODING: Lone Star and Pittsburg yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Smitty Blackburn.

ED GOODING: Yeah. And we were driving one day, I forget now who was....somebody was with me, and we drove out there where that shooting took place and right up.... laying right in the middle of the road was a 30/30 hull, and that's what he was shot up. So I picked it up with a pencil stuck in the end of it, it hadn't been run over, still round.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Is this the day after the.....?

ED GOODING: No, it was two or three days later, I don't know how long it had been laying there. Anyway, I told whoever it was with me I said, "This is probably the hull he was shot with". Carried it back over there and give it to Red. And they dusted for prints.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Red Arnold.

ED GOODING: Red Arnoldand dusted for prints down at Austin but they couldn't get anything off of it. But we found that hull and ah.... other than that ah....the strike.....as far as the strike goes we just rode here and rode yonder. We found athere was a bomb throwed in the trash there one day.

ROBERT NIEMAN: In the plant?

ED GOODING: Inside the plant, they had a bunch of people living in there in tents, working, scabs.... working and ah.....this oldsomebody, never did find out who, had put thishe put I think two or three sticks of dynamite in a row, taped and had a timer on it, it was ticking away. And they'd put it over in the trash bin and on their way out they'd leave the paper plates....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Oh there in the cafeteria?

ED GOODING: Yeah, in the cafeteria.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Glenn Elliott's the one that disarmed that.

ED GOODING: Was he?

ROBERT NIEMAN: Uh huh.

ED GOODING: And ah.... on the way out he just dropped it over in thatin the....

ROBERT NIEMAN: It was set to go off if we're talking about the same bomb.... it was set to go off right at noon when that cafeteria would of been full.

ED GOODING: Yeah, would of been crammed full, you're sure right there.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Any other cases or anything you want to talk about or anything in particular?

ED GOODING: No, that's about all I can think of right.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well you've ah.....you decided to....you hung 'em up on August 31, 1982.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: How long had you been thinking about retiring before you decided for sure to do it?

ED GOODING: I started to retire in '81 and I got to talking to my wife and she said "Now are sure you want to retire". And I said "Well I'm fairly sure" and I said, "But I tell you what I think I'm going to do, I'm going to stay another year, just to make sure that I got a belly full of this year before it's over, before I quit, so I won't be hanging around the Sheriff's office and getting in people's way, you know". So I worked until '82, until the end of '82 and then quit.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Did ah....can youdo you remember off hand ah....all your Captains?

ED GOODING: Yeah, I started out working for Johnny Klevenhagen, then I worked for Eddie Oliver, then when I moved to Kerrville I was under Clint Peoples. Then I went to Lubbock... or Amarillo and I was under Pete Rogers, who was my Captain, then I came back to ah....Belton and was under Butch Albers. Butch Albers quit and then I worked for Bob Mitchell and I retired and Bob was my Captain when I retired.

ROBERT NIEMAN: What about your Highway Patrol Captains?

ED GOODING: Glen Rose was the only Captain I ever had in the Highway Patrol.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah.... have you kept your Special Ranger commission?

ED GOODING: No. No I got plumb out from it.

ROBERT NIEMAN: When you got out, you got out.

ED GOODING: When I got out, I got plumb out.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well what have you been doing to keep busy?

ED GOODING: Fishing. Well my wife was sick for....well I lost her in '95, she was sick for ... oh for about I guess a good ten years and I ...we didn'tdidn't hardly.... I had a.... I had a '83 Chevrolet, Caprice Classic, 4 door, air conditioned, loaded to the hilt, and when I traded it off my sister.... the alternator went bad, battery went bad a couple of times, put on new tires, first one thing and then another, I had 30.....37,000 miles is all it had on it. But my sister was worried about my heart, I've had three well four really heart attacks, the last one I had they got that miracle drug in my arm right quick, dissolved a clot, didn't do any damage to my heart.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Good.

ED GOODING: And I've had a stroke, my right hand is stillwell it's hard for me to write, but I've got good grip. But after my wife died I got hooked up with Bob and them and we've been about to wear this new Lincoln out.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well is there any cases or stories, funny, serious, it doesn't matter what, of Rangers that have passed on that you would like preserved for future generations? You related the Klevenhagen story earlier, any others that....?

ED GOODING: Yeah, I can think of one, Benny Krueger was a Ranger at ah.... Athens. He was down in the valley and he and Clint Peo.....ah....he and ah....Albert Allee got cross ways and Allee was the Colonel, so he sent him to come up to Buffalo. Of course Clint then later moved on up to Athens, that's where he retired. And ah....Benny Krueger loved to deer hunt, he was stationed out at Kerrville on the Highway Patrol, he loved to hunt deer. And he was sending in reports during deer season that said....his reports would say, 'Went over to so and so attempting to locate Buck Vincent'. And the little fart got away with it, was down there one whole deer season. Well finally one day Clint asked him, he said, "Benny", said, "Who in the hell is this feller Buck Vincent you're looking for". "Oh", said, "He's the one we want on that so and so".... some kind of case they'd had over there. He come out of there grinning and he said, "I'm going to have to change that damn report".

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah.....

ED GOODING: Trying to locate Buck Vincent.

ROBERT NIEMAN:what would you want to be most remembered for?

ED GOODING: Just the fact that I made Ranger and ah...with ah.....through perseverance and hard work I finished 25 years of it. I'm proud of every minute of it, wouldn't take a dollar tofor it,

ROBERT NIEMAN: I'm sure this would probably fit you too, all the Rangers I've talked to, every one of them are equally as proud of their Highway Patrol.

ED GOODING: I am , yeah. I had lots of friends.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Ah....any.....either before, during or after your Ranger career, is there any particular Ranger or Rangers that you are ah..... especially admired?

ED GOODING: Johnny Klevenhagen was, I guess, the most respected and Pete Rogers. Ah....Harvey Phillipswell all that old A Company bunch that I went to work with, Mart Jones and Pete was at Lufkin and ah....Harvey Phillips was(unintelligible).....and ah....Tully Seay was a.... I don't know if you ever heard his story or not, about the bank robbery over at Nacog.....at ah..... Nacogdoches I believe it was.

ROBERT NIEMAN: I'm not sure.

ED GOODING: Tully....Pete and I they had a bank robbery at Nacogdoches. Of course Pete was stationed in Lufkin for a long time. And ah....they robbed a bank over there and ah.... the Chief we went up there and we were at the Chief of Police's office and we were just waiting for something to happen. The old boy had robbedhad two pistols when he robbed the bank, got a box full of money, I don't know how much. Well all of a sudden.....we'd been there I guess two or three hours, getting on towards midnight, the phone rang, said ah....Roebuck answered the phone and he said, "Pete this is for you". So Pete got on the phone, looked at me and he said, "I

bet you a dollar Tully Sea got kidnapped". What made him think that I don't have any idea. He kind of had a sixth sense about things like that. But he got on the phone and that's what it was. Tully was on his way over from San Augustine coming up that way and he met this old boy. Well they had... then they had two.....two letters of the alphabet and then four numbers. Well they had the numbers of the.....letters of the alphabet, the first number and the last number of the license plate. They'd gotten that but there was a trailer hitch right in the middle of it, blocked out the middle two numbers. And he said..... he got on the phone and it was Tully Sea and he was in Beaumont. And ah....said ah.....told him, he said, "I got kidnapped", and ah.... said, "The old boy carried me here to Beaumont and let me out", said, "About two blocks from the DPS office". And ah....so he calledhe called Harvey Phillips I believe down at Woodville and Harvey went to Beaumont and picked him up. Well we went out there on the road out of Nacogdoches and I drove Tully's car from there back into Nacogdoches PD. And he had a little swing out thing underneath the dash, swing it out like this, to write on. Well he had that first two letters of that license plate and the first number and the last number, had 'em written on there. Well I thought, well he had this damn thing on here, how did he.....how in the hell did he get kidnapped. Well his car was sitting there on the side road with the motor running when we got out there. Well when they finally got him, he told 'em, the old boy they caught him in qqq Anawach and they caught him and the Sheriff there at Anawach said, "Do you realize that was a Texas Ranger you caught up.....you kidnapped up yonder". "The hell it was". Man, he said, "I done better than I thought I did". Anyway, the Sheriff said, "Well you didn't get away with this money", said, "We got that". So....well Tully Sea told the same thing. But they got down there between between there and

Beaumont somewhere and got scared of road blocks. Tully said, "He had took my pistol away from me, opened the cylinder, emptied it out between his legs and closed it and laid it on the seat". And he said, "On the way....we went off....I told him there'd be a road block down here somewhere, they know you....looking for you". He said, "We got off on a logging road, got stuck and I had to get out and push. Pushed him out of there". And he said, "I told him", said "Feller", said, "There ain't no use in you going any further", he said, "You're either going to have kill me or I'm going to identify you in court, one or the other". And the old boy said, "Hell", said, "He had me talked into it", he said, "I just....while I was driving", he said.... when he was driving he'd take a drink of whiskey, put the bottle down between his legs. Said, "I just took my pistol and emptied the shells out of it, I didn't want him to shoot me". And said, "I told him, all right, you talked me into it. I don't want to kill you, but we'll just turn around and go back". Said, "Here's my pistol", and said, "I had it by the barrel, handed it to him". Said, "He just set there looking and looked at it". Well he was one of Ben Ram..... Ben Ramsey, that's the Governor in ah....San Augustine, he was the Lieutenant Governor then. He was a Ben Ramsey Ranger, Ben got him hired. And ah....Purvis didn't like him.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Who Tully?

ED GOODING: Captain Purvis, didn't like Tully . When Johnny took over as Captain, when Purvis retired, we went up to San Augustine and Purvis ah.....Tully C. was driving a '40....no that was '57 when I went to work, he was driving a '57.....a '47 Chevrolet two door coupe that they'd bought for the licensed weight, they'd carry those scales in the back, you know, in the trunk and those Chevrolet's were cheap. He's still driving one of them damn Chevrolets. Purvis told him he

said, "You're Ben Ramsey's Ranger, stay in San Augustine, I don't want you even going out in the counties, so just stay in town. Write tickets in town if you want to, I don't care". Carried him to Austin, carried him in Colonel's office and told him, he said, "You can fire this son of a bitch or you can promote him and make him and make Major or what ever you want, but I don't want him". Well they ah....Colonel left him there, Purvis went on back to Houston, just got in his car and drove off. And he called a car and high tailed it back over to San Augustine. But this....when this thing come up we went up there and Johnny managed to get him a new car a....a later model than that '47 Chevrolet he was doddling around town in. But anyway, he said ah....Pete asked him, said " Well Tully", said, "Why in the hell didn't you take that mans gun, he offered it to you", said, "Yours was laying, you knew it was empty". He said, "I ain't that big a fool". And that's the only thing he'd ever say was, "I ain't that big a fool". Well they carried him to Austin and ah....to Colonel Garrison and Eddie carried him up there, Eddie Oliver and Eddie said.....(unintelligible).....said that Colonel was livid, Colonel Garrison. Said he laced him up one side

ROBERT NIEMAN: Tully?

ED GOODING: Yeah, said, "That's the damnedest scar in the Ranger service that's ever been committed". He said, "You give us a mark that we'll be the reset of our career wiping it out". And he said, "Your fired", and he said, "You can appeal to the commission, appeal to Ben Ramsey or the Governor, whoever you want, but your fired, I'm through with you". Well he left and went down to Sinton, I think he was from down in there somewhere, I never did know. But he went down to Sinton, went to work for the Sheriff down there and he went over to Corpus to

pick up a black. And they told him, said "Now ah....Tully", said, "You better watch this son of a bitch cause if he gets a chance he'll hog you, take your gun away from you, might kill you". Said, "He's dangerous". Tully said, "Hell I'm dangerous too". So he got in the car with him and started off and ah....in a little while they heard Sinton calling him, couldn't raise him. They called and they called and they called, couldn't get him. Well they sent a car out hunting him and they found him about halfway between Sinton and Corpus, handcuffed to a telephone pole

ROBERT NIEMAN: Tully?

ED GOODING:with his own handcuffs. He'd done it again.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Done it again. My goodness. Well Ed is there any other stories or.....?

ED GOODING: Oh probably if I set here I could tell 'em til daylight. Run out of tape and everything else I imagine.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well I've got plenty of tape. But I'll tell you what, I have enjoyed this immensely.

ED GOODING: Well I'm glad.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And if you think of some more, next time I'm down here, we can add some more stories to it.

ED GOODING: We had ah....I was in that one shooting scrap there in Houston, been out there on the highway on the Highway Patrol and ah..... of course that....that's about the roughest it ever got for me when that....those two instances. And that old boy shot all the wall out from behind us there in that warehouse in Houston. But ah.... I can't think of anything else that's.....

ROBERT NIEMAN: How big a difference did you see in the Rangers from the time you went on to the time you retired?

ED GOODING: Oh God, man, just about as big as it's been since I retired. When ah.... I moved out I think I was in Kerrville and we were over at Fredricksburg there was an old boy that the Sheriffthe night watchman or the Sheriff had stopped over there, had the whole back end of his trailer ah....pickup full of wire, copper wire, that belonged to that....that ah....electric company then, had a yard over there, fence around the yard, he'd cut the wire, got in there and got a whole bunch of this. Cut it up in pieces about so long. He had a whole bunch of that copper, it was about thirty cents a pound then. And he loaded his pickup up with that wire. They stopped him over there in Fredricksburg and ah.... I went over there, this is when I was in Kerrville, and we had him in the office, was sitting there talking to him. This is after Earl Warren's court, and the meranda thing and all that stuff had been through the mill. And ah....we were sitting there talking to this boy and all of a sudden the door opened and this lawyer walked in and got the picked this old boy up, said, "This is my client, if you want to ask him anymore questions ask me and I'll answer for him. Don't ask him any more questions, he's going to go with me now I made his bond". And he walked out that door with him and I damn near had aplexy. Because it hadn't beensee I moved from Houston out there to Kerrville and it hadn't been ah....six months, or maybe not that long. Ah....Jack Vancleve and myself were working in Galveston and we got a hold of ait was one of these little numbers games you know, like a..... like a lotto, Texas Lotto, they print these little old numbers up and then they'd have a wheel and spin it. You got so many numbers you won some money. These runners would run this stuff selling it all over town you

know. Well we caught one of these runners and he told us who another runner was and we got him, and we got another one, got another one, got another one, wound up in this barber shop, a colored dude in this barber shop and he had his hair straighten and heat waves inside and straighten out and one chair. So we walked in this barber shop and set down, "You sell any numbers in here, buying any numbers, selling any numbers". "Numbers, what's that". So we told him. "No sir, I don't know anything about that". Well there was a door back there and I said, "What's behind that door back there". "I don't rightly know what's back there". I said, "Well who owns it". He said, "Well I own it". I said, "Well who's staying in there". Well he said, "There's a man got that rented from me", said, "He stays there sometimes". I said, "Well how doesis there another door around there where he can come in". "No", he said, "He come right through here". I said, "He been coming through here how long". He said, "Oh it's been several weeks". I said, "You don't what...." , "No Sir I don't rightly know what his name is". Jack Vancleve grabbed that son of a bitch and set him down in that chair, got the scissors, pulled up a big wad of hair and cut it off, cut the whole....gave a big gap up the side of his head, held it up in front of him and he said, "What's that son of a bitch's name". "I don't rightly know what his name is". He grabbed another on the top of his head, clipped and cut it off. Cut him, just gapped it all up, bad and ah...we finally got to jobbing him around there and he finally told us that was his, he sold....he sold numbers out of there certain day of the week. So we was going to take him down and put him in jail and I told Jack, I said, "Jack, we can't put that son of a bitch in jail looking like he looks". He said, "Hell I can fix that", said, "Give me them shears". Well he had it trimmed up you know around the edge real neat, set him down in the chair and Jack got them

shears and started in right here and just went over, all the way over, just as close as he could cut it. Well he cut that hair off and it would kink up right against his head. When he got done he looked pretty good, he looked pretty good. So we took him down to the Judge the next morning to arraign him.....no I take it back he wanted a trial, wanted a trial. So we carried him in there and they....took him to trial and the lawyer went to complaining about his client getting his hair cut. And ah.....Judge said, “Now don’t....don’t go to bringing up no bunch of stuff, I want to know if man sells numbers out of his place, that’s all I want to know. If the man got his hair cut we can take that up later”. Well the guy set down you know, he kept getting up and complaining about the hair. Finally the Judge rapped that gavel and he said, “Have your client step up here to the bar”. And he stepped up there. He said, “Turn around”. He turned this way and turned on around, he said, “Now counselor I know these two gentlemen over here and neither one of them has had any barbering experience in their lives, they never cut anybody’s hair. There’s a professional man that cut that fellers hair. I’ll guarantee you a professional done it. Now set down and don’t bring up the hair cut anymore, I don’t want to hear anymore”.

ROBERT NIEMAN: That took care of that.

ED GOODING: Yeah.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Are you familiar with the Merry-go-round?

ED GOODING: I probably am but just the name of it.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well you know.... I know ah....some of the Rangers from you era they used to.....may have used it, I’m not saying they did, but would move a prisoner from one place to another

ED GOODING: Oh, we called it the milk route.

ROBERT NIEMAN: You called it the milk route down here, well up....up in my part of the country they call it the East Texas Merry-go-round. Did you ever have anybody on the milk route?

ED GOODING: Yeah. We had an old boy, Tiny Gaston was the Sheriff of Richmond and ah....ah....one of theFlournoy.....Mike Flournoy and ah....when Brazoria County.....well if they got after it too hot and heavy there in Houston we'd take him to Tiny Gaston.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Would he even log 'em in?

ED GOODING: No, he'd put 'em.....lawyers would run down there. And ah....we had a murder case one time, we'd run him from there down to Warden and from there toover to ah....Matagorda County, just keep moving him around ahead of the lawyers. But we had a old boy that was going to kill a feller one time, fell in love with his wife, he was going to kill him and she was going.....(unintelligible)....and it was over in Louisiana. Well the first we heard about it the State Police in Louisiana called Houston and they said, "This man and woman are going to kill her husband and he's going to marry her and they just crossed the river, the Sabine River and they're in Texas, and they're your responsibility". So we sent a car, said "I think they're moving, the old boy was moving to....", said, "I think they're going to move to Brazoria County. Do you have a Brazoria County down there". "Yeah we sure do". So ah....we went off down that way between the Sabine River and somewhere down on that south highway and ah....found 'em. And ah....they had moved into a house, him and his wife, had a U-Haul truck, moved into this little old house in Brazoria County. Well it wasn't long until this dude showed

up. And ah....he had him and this fella named Sands was with him. Sands was snitching him off to the Louisiana police, telling them everything he was going to do this guy, going to break his neck, run him off a road and make it look like a wreck, a car wreck. So ah....we...we staked him out and we swapped cars and we'd switch off with this one and that one. So finally one day the old boy was going to move from there to Pasadena, Texas. So he left Brazoria County, Angleton, left Angleton with a U-haul truck and his wife was behind him in her car and ah.....this thug and old Sands were behind her in their car, we were behind them in two.....had two Brazoria County(tape side had ended).... he that whole entourage come into Pasadena. Well we found a house, it was right across the street from where they would end up, him and his wife. Well he left for work one day and we set over there and watched and man I'm about to freeze to death, it was cold, man it was cold, wasn't no heat in the house. And ah....when we'd change they'd drive around to the back and come in through the back door. Well finally about the third....second or third day we was there, this old....Sands and this old boy drove up in front of the house, bailed out and in that front door they went. Well the old boy was there that they was going to kill. And ah....they bailed out and busted through door and when they did we went right in the door behind 'em and grabbed 'em. And ah... the old boy that they was going to kill said, "What in the hell, what are ya'll trying to do, hell". So we told him, 'this son of a bitch here is fixing to kill you, and your old lady is in on it with him. We know cause this fellers been telling us what's going on ever since you left Louisiana'. Well we arrested him, took him down to the Sheriff's office there in Houston and he said ah..... no he didn't know what we was talking about, he wasn't planning to kill nobody. Well the District Attorney kept after us wide open, got to have a statement, got to

have a statement, can't make it without a statement. Well it's her word against his, so we took him back there in the back of the jail, out on San Jacinto street, and in just a little while we had a statement, it wasn't too long. Well Sands had alreadyhad told him said, "You go and when you get wherever your going, call and let us know so we can subpoena you when we go to trial". So he'd already left the scene and got out of the picture. Well the news peoplewe brought him up there and the secretary was typing the statement, she was typing the statement and you could....I swear, you could look at that man and there wasn't a mark.....no more a mark on him than there is on you right now. Not a mark on him. And his picture come out in the paper the next morning and they'd over exposed it and from here over to there, solid black. Under there it said, "Before and after questioning by the Texas Ranger". We hadn't laid a hand on him. And ah....they was wanting to know where Sands was, 'where is this other fella that was giving ya'll all this information'. 'Hell he's gone, we told him to hit the road and let us know when he...'. Well they didn't believe us, 'You got him hid out somewhere, probably got another set of Rangers beating the hell out of him'. 'No we haven't'. 'Where did this all start', 'started down in Brazoria County', well hell they sold out, everybody went to Angleton, all the news people. Got down there and of course hell the Sheriff didn't know anything about what was going on. He didn't know nothing. When they come back they was the maddest bunch of damn newsmen I ever saw in my life. Well they...they kept huckajewing around there and they were going to file on us for assault and battery and everything underin the book. But ah....it went to trial and the old gal broke down and made a statement. Of course we had his statement and the press was setting there reading this damn statement, she'd type a page of it, hand it to them and they'd read

it. But they were just mad at us cause they couldn't find Sands it what it was. And ah....but we filed on him and tried him and he got life, they give him a life sentence. But that damn....they werewe liked to froze to death over there in that house across the street.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well Ed, is there....unless you got some more, I...or if you got more?

ED GOODING: That's about all I can think of right now. I might set here and another one pop in my mind after while.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Well I tell you what, if you do, we'll.....we'll do some more later.

ED GOODING: All right.

ROBERT NIEMAN: And I appreciate it.

ED GOODING: Well good.

ROBERT NIEMAN: Thank you.

ED GOODING: Glad to do it.