

Below deck, yes, below deck. They would start firing five miles away, about five miles away. Then they would get closer and they would open the smaller guns. As soon as we heard the trill, trill, man we get up there and pray.

[Did they require quiet and silence in there, were you talking?]

That's right. I remember the Siapan turkey shoot, I get nervous when I think about it. The first time I ever threw up; from then on I never got nervous. Something happened. I was between the diesel engine room and I had the sound power telephone. All day long the boogey kept coming in there 90 miles and boogey coming in at 80 miles. They would get closer and closer; and then they would go away and come back and go away and come back; and I remember the boogies coming in in all directions, and I remember I felt real faint; and I wanted to vomit and I wanted to go to the dressing room and just vomit. I was shaky. And I felt real weak. I never had fainted in my life and I felt like I was going to faint. But from then on, I don't know why, but I always think about that. That's when you are really scared, and you are prepared to die.

[It was your first time?]

No, it was just over and over and over. There was just so much of it. I remember that real well.

[Do you remember anything else unusual that happened to you on liberty or anything of this sort?]

One time I remember, in a way I laugh about it now. I was coming from mess cook duty and had to bring the laundry back. One of the main reasons I went up for rate was to keep from getting laundry duty. Right somewhere close to forward diesel, I fell with a big old bag of laundry. I slide all the way down and fell straddled one hand bar.