

U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
Transcript of National Archives History Office Oral History Interview  
Subject: Tim Nenninger  
Interviewer: Jessie Kratz  
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**Jessie Kratz:** Good morning, today is Monday, August 21, 2017. I'm Jessie Kratz, Historian of the National Archives and I'm interviewing Tim Nenninger, Supervisory Archivist with the Alienated Records Project in his office at the National Archives in College Park. Thank you for agreeing to do this. Because I'm a historian, I like chronology so I was going to start by just having you give me some background before you came to the Archives, so your education and what led up to you coming to the agency?

**Tim Nenninger:** Well, when I was in college I anticipated that I was going to be commissioned in the Marine Corps after I graduated but medical problems got in the way and I was discharged in the fall of my senior year in college. And so I started thinking about what I wanted to do next. And I liked being a student so I applied to a couple of graduate schools and went off to the University of Wisconsin in the History Department there.

During my time at Wisconsin I spent two stints of research at the National Archives, once for six weeks in 1967 on master's thesis research and again for four months in 1969 doing dissertation research. So, I had come to know a few people at the Archives and knew at least a little bit about it. My best friend in graduate school was John Campbell, who went on to teach Tudor-Stuart history at Mary Baldwin College and then bagged that and went into the Foreign Service and retired as the Ambassador to Nigeria. His father was the Assistant Archivist for the National Archives. Edward Campbell. And so I knew a number of people before I came. I got good assistance when I was doing research and my options were either the National Archives or a part-time teaching job in Milwaukee. So the Archives seemed like a better bet. I've never really regretted it. It was interesting at the time.

**Jessie:** [Interposing] Is it a class?

**Tim:** —a picture, I think it was taken when, well, they did this when Gerry Phillips retired but this was the class of people that I came in with. I think it was done a little bit differently than the

hiring now. I mean just about everybody came in at least with a Master's degree. And this group includes 6 National Archives trainees, 6 Presidential Library trainees, and these 4 or 5 guys in the one corner were Record Center trainees. And for about a 6-month period we would meet once a week for a class. And we'd get lectures by people like Mabel Deutrich and Frank Evans and all of the archival theory luminaries. And we had a reading, I was looking the other day, I couldn't—somewhere I've got a folder of the reading material that we had to read. But it was much more formalized sort of training I think, at least in the theoretical aspects. And then you'd go back and you'd work in your branch doing daily work as well as this. So I don't think it's nearly as structured now. Like I said everybody in this group, I think, had a Master's degree when they came in. It's a little bit different than how we hire now where we hire folks as, you know, technicians or work in the Research Room or something and then as they progress a little bit they get moved up and eventually come into be archivists.

**Jessie:** Were you assigned to your branch before this class or after?

**Tim:** Before. When I applied, I forget how that worked exactly, but before I came I knew who I was going to work for. So it was a little more structured I think than it is now. But it was a lot smaller agency, probably a little more homogeneous, the supervisors, at least the branch chiefs and division directors, I think we were a little bit older than most of the folks today which was a little more formal sort of thing. Everybody wore coats and ties, at least the men did, and the women wore skirts or dresses.

**Jessie:** And what year was this photo taken?

**Tim:** 1970. I came on 14th of September, 1970.

**Jessie:** Even Reference was pretty formal, too? Writing letters?

**Tim:** Right. Yeah. But I mean the level of activity was a lot lower. I mean we get a lot more letters today than we did back then. And the clientele has definitely changed a lot. I mean when I was doing reference for the first number of years, most of the researchers were students or academics or professional book writers. But then as society became more litigious we started dealing with asbestos researchers and people working for law firms working on asbestos research and all sorts of other things and people interested—I mean the *Roots* phenomenon created a great interest of people, not simply in genealogy but wanting to know family history, what great-uncle Amos did, that sort of thing. So the clientele has really changed. And a lot of the people in the Research Room today are contractors working on all sorts of things.

**Jessie:** So early on you were an archivist in the Military Records.

**Tim:** Right.

**Jessie:** For the first like 10 to 12 years of your career?

**Tim:** I mean most of my experience here has been in Military Records at least until recent times.

**Jessie:** And what was a typical day like when you were working with researchers in your first position here? If you can remember. I know it's been a while.

**Tim:** Well when I started in September 1970 I was in the Modern Military Division. I was in the Project Section and did basic arrangement kinds of projects, at least initially. One of the early projects I worked on was pretty interesting. In December 1970 we received the first dump of JCS records, Joint Chiefs of Staff records from the World War II period, 1942-45. And these records had already been gone through by JCS declassification reviewers. And documents that could not be declassified were stamped but then they were put back in the files and there were about 6 of us that had to go through all of these things and go page by page and look for the documents that had these group stamps on it that meant that they had not been declassified. Ironically, I didn't get my security clearance until about 6 months later [Laughing]. I cannot imagine that happening today. [Laughing]. Anyway, it was a fun experience, particularly working with really important records that soon after I arrived.

**Jessie:** So you worked mainly behind the scenes. Did you work with researchers as well?

**Tim:** Not for that period. Sometime in early spring of '71 I moved to Reference. And started working with researchers then. That was also an interesting period where I knew nothing is forever because I was in the Modern Military Division, yeah, Modern Military Division and there was an Old Military Division. The reference people in Modern Military got really far behind in responding to offsite inquiries and there was a housecleaning in the spring of '71. The people who had run the Old Military Division, the supervisors all moved up to Modern and the people in Modern that had caused this backlog went down to Old Military. So I can't think of any other sort of phenomenon like that that [Laughing] that happened over the course of my career here but it was very unusual but it also struck me as meaning nothing is forever so don't plan too far ahead [chuckling].

**Jessie:** Because we're still in the first period of your career where you were as an archivist Military—were there any projects that stuck out in your head that were memorable besides the very first one you worked on [Laughing]?

**Tim:** I had my photograph taken looking at some JCS [Joint Chiefs of Staff] records and there was an article in *U.S. News and World Report* which I didn't see but my mother saw it and sent me a copy of it. I've still got a copy somewhere. That was pretty neat. I didn't do, early on, I didn't do a whole lot of description when I was in projects. It was more basic kinds of arrangement functions. But as I said, in some time in '71, spring of '71 I moved into Reference and I really liked that. I liked helping the researchers and that sort of thing.

I mean early, particularly early on I had, I really liked my bosses. Mabel Deutrich was, I'm sure you've heard her name before but when they did the flip-flop in the spring of '71 Mabel came up and was the head of Modern Military. She was a very good trainer, a very good mentor. I remember early on she said get involved. And she didn't mean just in the Archives, she meant, you know, reach out to organizations that you're interested in that are related to the kinds of things that the Archives do. And I think you saw from the nonsense that I sent you that I did that over time. [Laughing]

**Jessie:** Yeah, it looks like you've also been able to not only get involved with other groups who've given you awards but also write a number of articles yourself using the records. I guess how did you balance your time working and writing?

**Tim:** Well, at least for the first few years that I worked at the Archives and, I'm not sure whether we do it now or not, but you were given a certain amount of time like 4 hours a week that you could work on your own research if you had a legitimate research project to work on and you had to write it up and your supervisor had to approve. I used that a little bit. Actually I used that pretty effectively, I think, to finally finish my dissertation which I didn't do until about 4 years after I got to the Archives because one year after I got to the Archives I got married so...[Laughing].

But I have, over a long period of time, I've set aside a couple hours a week where I do some sort of serious research or writing. On occasion I've taken days off to do research here when we actually had evening and Saturday hours which we no longer do. I would occasionally come in and do research then on various topics.

**Jessie:** And so you were in the Military Division as an archivist and then it seems like you went on a task force for the FBI, how did that happen?

**Tim:** Well in 1981 there was—the Archives, sometime in the late 70's had done a records management study of the FBI and it was basically just a couple of people in the Appraisal

Division that did this. And it became controversial because one of their conclusions was that most of the FBI field office records get duplicated or at least the most important FBI field office records get duplicated in headquarters office records.

And so, FBI was given authority by the Archives to destroy most of their field office records. That was challenged by a number of groups and there was a big lawsuit, *American Friends Service Committee, et al. v. William Webster, et al.* who was the FBI Director at the time and we were the other "et al." And so the Archives put together a taskforce of 17 people, most of us had worked at the Archives at least for 10 years or so, most of us actually had PhDs.

Dr. O'Neill who was the Deputy Archivist at the time was the overall head of this. The day to day supervisor was Charles Dollar who was then the head of the Machine Readable Branch or whatever it was called. And we spent a couple of weeks reading about the FBI, looking at records appraisals that had been done before, and then we went off to the Hoover Building and spent about 4 or 5 months at the Hoover Building, just turning pages of FBI files.

And we had data collection sheets where we would identify the file that we looked at and make remarks or check boxes of different kinds of information that was in this file. We described the physical characteristics of the file, how many pages, was it multi-section, how big were the sections, that sort of thing. And then we would rate the quality of the information that we were seeing.

And the information on the data collection forms would get entered into a computer database so you could get a profile out of the database of particular FBI classes. At the time there were like 218 classes and each class, like bank robbery was one class, or foreign counterintelligence or kidnapping or whatever, and Dollar with his computer and statistical background would come up with in a certain class there were X-thousand numbers of files, how many files did we have to read and get data on in order to get a reasonable profile of the whole class.

So we did that at headquarters for a while and then the group broke up and we went off to field offices. Everybody did the Washington field office which was at Buzzard's Point at the time. And then I went to New York and LA. Other groups went to Atlanta, Dallas, Chicago, and Miami.

Anyway, it was great fun. It was the most fun I ever had at the National Archives. And the group was pretty social. When we'd travel, we'd work with a small group of FBI records people that came with us from headquarters building. And it was, like I said, it was the most fun I had working at the National Archives.

I remember when we were in LA, the field office was sort of on the western side of LA, and we stayed at Santa Monica about a block and a half from the beach across the street from the Mucky Duck which was a really cool English pub-like place. And we were there during the period when Charles and Diana were getting married. So I mean we played pretty hard as well as worked pretty hard. But it was a lot of fun.

**Jessie:** How was the lawsuit resolved?

**Tim:** We produced a big, fat report and submitted it to Harold Green who was the judge overseeing the case. Essentially Green accepted what we had done but we had to go back, so that was '81, so in like late spring of '82, Green sent us back, he said I want you to do two more field offices that are a little bit unique. And one of them was San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the other was Jackson, Mississippi. So the group, [Laughing], all the cool kids got to go to San Juan; I and the other nerds went to Jackson. But that pretty much ended it. And there was some grousing among the people that brought suit in the first place but ultimately pretty much what we had recommended stood and you know subsequently we accessioned, particularly in recent years, a ton of FBI records. I'm not sure whether they're following the schedule that we wrote up but at least we're getting FBI records... and researchers are having at it although a lot of the stuff is still classified and there's all sorts of privacy and other concerns as you might imagine.

**Jessie:** So after the task force ended you went back to Reference, briefly, and then it seems you got the position of Assistant Chief in '83? Can you talk a little bit about the process of that happening?

**Tim:** I mean I think that the visibility that the people got from the FBI project led to, [chuckling] positive professional developments for a number of us. And I had applied a couple of times previously for supervisory positions and probably fortunately didn't get them. But sometime in the early 80's I became the Assistant Chief in, I'm not sure what the branch was called—Navy and Old Army Branch. And Gary Ryan was the branch chief. He was a really good... he like Mabel Deutrich was a really good mentor. He was a consummate archivist, particularly projects, processing, descriptive sort of archivist. And I remember one of the things that he did that I don't think has ever been replicated before or since we had a big body of records, Services Supply Records of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I. They were under archival control in the sense that there had been preliminary inventory done about 15 or 20 years before. So we knew what we had and where it was and everything.

But Gary decided that this stuff would be a great body of records that's somewhat homogenous and to use certain parts of it to sort of test his archivists or particularly his young archivists. So

he would dole out a series from this body of Services Supply Records and say, you know, you're going to describe the records of Base Section 1 and you're going to describe the records of Base Section 2. And there'd be about 8 or 10 young archivists working on all these similar kinds of records at the same time. And once every couple of weeks we'd get called into his office, sit around a big table, and just like in a graduate school seminar you'd pass around your descriptions and your colleagues would, you know, would mark them up and comment on them.

But it was a really good experience because you were getting feedback not only from colleagues doing the same thing but also from Ryan who was very experienced at describing stuff. But what it was forcing you to do was put eyeballs on paper and sort of assess what the importance of the paper was that you were looking at. What were the common characteristics, what was unusual? And then you'd discuss in these seminars what sort of stuff you would put in your description. You know, do you describe it in general or do you describe the unique or whatever. But I mean it really was a great training device to get you to assess a body of records.

**Jessie:** I take it things have changed since then.

**Tim:** Yeah. I mean we do it sort of by the numbers now but.

**Jessie:** So you know you gained sort of, I guess, some prominence by being on the task force and then you became the Assistant Chief. So, what was your job like when you were the Assistant Chief of the Navy and Old Army Branch?

**Tim:** We were in the process at that point of accessioning a bunch of records and we spent a lot of time—we probably had 15 or 20 people that I was working with—and we spent a good part of our time processing records that were being accessioned. Particularly Navy records, I remember going with 4 or 5 people over to the Washington Navy Yard and we'd go over a couple of times a week and they had their records in these 4 and 5-drawer World War II era green file cabinets. And the labor crew would deliver a couple of pallets of empty boxes the day before we'd go over. And then they'd truck us over the next day. And we'd go through these file cabinets and box up the records. And then the labor crew would come back the next day, deliver the records to the Archives and then we would shelf them and subsequently we had people that were doing descriptions of the stuff. It was, again, a pretty unique kind of fun project because moving around and doing different sorts of stuff. So, that was a lot of fun.

**Jessie:** And then in the middle of this you were on another task force, an interagency task force for the Capture Grenadian records. So how did that transpire and what was that project about?

**Tim:** That's was, it goes back to Gary Ryan. I remember Ryan used to camp out in—he had a nice office but he used to camp out in Stack 11W1 or something like that. But he had a big table back there where he worked. And you know it was dark and nobody would bother him, he didn't have a telephone back there. But I remember getting called and meeting him back in this stack, I think it was 11W1. And he says I have a dilemma. We got this task from the Archivist's Office and, this was early '84, and he said we captured all these records on Grenada. The Defense Intelligence Agency has microfiched this stuff. And the administration, the Reagan administration, wants to do a lot of hoopla with it particularly with the election coming up later this year and Grenada was one of their singular successes. And they want to give this stuff to the Archives. They want the Archives to process it and make it available to the American people so they will know all the bad things that had gone on in Grenada.

And he said I've got about a half a dozen branch chiefs and assistant branch chiefs that could run this. And he went down the line [Laughing] all these other people were doing more important stuff than I was. So he said you're the one that's going to run this project. But it was, again, it was very interesting. I remember going to multiple meetings at the State Department and there would be representatives there from USIA, well, you got together over those photos—

**Jessie:** [Interposing] Yes, those photos, yes.

**Tim:** But we got, as I said earlier, the Defense Intelligence Agency microfiched this stuff. We still have the microfiche, it's available up in the Microfilm Reading Room. It gets used a little bit but not a whole lot. But DIA made like 5 or 6 sets of this microfiche but they didn't organize it. And we would just get these huge boxes of microfiche and—it was like 10,000 individual 5 x 6 fiche or 4 x 6 fiche cards, whatever it was, but they were in one big box, you would have 5 copies of 10,000 different fiche. So the folks that were working with me had to go through and, you know, that one goes there, that one goes there, it was a very tedious sort of thing. And we worked on this sucker for about 4 or 5 months and there was, as you saw from those photographs, there was an event at the Archives. It wasn't as big a hoopla I suspect as the Reagan Administration wanted but it didn't affect his chances for reelection a month or so later so [Laughing]. Everybody was happy. But it was, again, it was interesting working with folks from other agencies: DOD, State Department in particular, a couple of people from the White House, USIA and I was a mere GS-13. [Laughing].



**Jessie:** Okay, before we go onto you being the Chief of the Military Branch, I just want to get a sense of where physically you were located downtown and during this early time, where, you know, the Reference was, where your offices were, the stacks.

**Tim:** When I, you know, when I started it was East Side, West Side. East Side was all civil; West Side was all military. And when I started in Modern Military in 1970 the main office was in 13W. The Projects Office was in 11W. And I'm pretty sure that initially I had a desk in the office. And then later they moved a bunch of us out to desks in the stacks which was okay. And when I was Assistant Branch Chief I had an office, again, back in 11W. But most of the time when I was downtown I was either in 11W or 13W or somewhere close by. Sometimes with desks in stacks.

**Jessie:** Okay. And then in 1985 you became the Chief of the Military Projects Branch.

**Tim:** That was in 11W, too. There must have been a reorganization around that time. But I can't remember exactly what it exactly involved.

**Jessie:** Because this is the time that the Archives was getting independence from GSA.

**Tim:** Yeah.

**Jessie:** So did that, was there a reorg associated with that event?

**Tim:** Could have been. Could have been. I'm not sure.

**Jessie:** And we'll ask you more questions about independence later.

**Tim:** Well actually when I was looking the other day, I found a whole folder of junk that I accumulated, particularly during that period. I'm sure somewhere in your files you've got all this stuff but if you want to borrow that. I mean it's articles from papers, there's a couple of articles from the *New Yorker* about the National Archives and other stuff that I have accumulated over time.

**Jessie:** I'd love to borrow it and get it back to you.

**Tim:** Yeah.

**Jessie:** Is this all about the—

**Tim:** It's not all about independence but a lot of it is. And there was lots of archival infighting amongst some of the higher ups during that period that comes out in some of that.

**Jessie:** Can we talk about before independence a little bit? You're here, you know, for 15 years before the Archives earned independence. Can you talk a little bit about the time under GSA and then the movement that led to independence? And any involvement you had?

**Tim:** I wasn't really very much directly involved in it. I had a lot of friends that were. Several of the people that were on the FBI task force were very much involved in that sort of thing. Gerry Haines, particularly. He was also a Wisconsin PhD. We didn't know each other there but he came to the Archives a year or two after I did. He got very, very involved in stuff that led up to independence. It was great consternation among, in some circles, about being under GSA that they didn't appreciate what the Archives did and we were really a cultural organization, not a service organization. And on and on like that.

And so it ginned-up support amongst historical groups particularly what became Society for History in the Federal Government, a lot of the people that had been in leadership positions in that organization were involved in the Archives independence movement. But they did lobbying and, you know, up in congressional offices where people had contacts. There were a few people at other agencies that were pretty well connected with folks on Capitol Hill that contributed to the effort.

I mean, I was all in favor of independence but I didn't do a whole lot of anything active to bring it to fruition. But I was glad that it happened. It seemed to me we were better off afterwards than before. We had a couple of GSA administrators in the late 70s and the early 80s that were fairly problematic. Admiral Freeman, have you heard stories about Roland Freeman? That must have been the late 70's. He was a Carter appointee because I think he was a Carter classmate at the Naval Academy. And then there was a New Hampshire governor during Reagan's administration that was... I can't think of his name, maybe you will find it in the news clippings.

**Jessie:** I come across them because they were the ones who were giving the awards over the course of the years, so we have a lot of photos of the GSA administrators [Laughing].

**Tim:** Yes.

**Jessie:** Shaking somebody's hand.

**Tim:** [Laughing].

**Jessie:** So did you notice a big difference once the Archives became independent? In your daily activities even or just overall?

**Tim:** Not really. I mean I think the difference was a little more higher profile, probably a few more positive stories in the newspaper. And, I think for a long period of time we really had done pretty well budget-wise considering. And I think independence probably helped that.

**Jessie:** So then in 1985 you became the Chief of the Military Projects Branch and can you talk about transitioning from an assistant to a chief of a branch and what that was like?

**Tim:** Yeah, I mean it was more responsibility, more people to be responsible for, more performance appraisals [Laughing] to do. I mean that's the worst. That's the worst part of being a supervisor is doing performance appraisals, I think. Particularly when you think your folks are doing pretty well. And most of the time I think they usually did. But I don't really remember all that significant differences from being assistant to being the Branch Chief. When I was the assistant I was doing projects, I was supervising projects...maybe that was another reorganization in '85, somewhere along there, but I don't remember precisely.

**Jessie:** Have there been a lot of reorgs in your time here?

**Tim:** A good number, yeah [Laughing].

**Jessie:** Hard to keep track?

**Tim:** [Laughing].

**Jessie:** Okay. So then after you became the Chief of the Military Projects Branch, you moved into the supervisory Archivist with the Archival Allocation and Records Evaluation so from '88 to '93?

**Tim:** Yeah.

**Jessie:** So can you talk about that a little bit?

**Tim:** That was, well, between those two I had been offered an opportunity to be the Visiting Professor of Military History at the Army Command and General Staff College. And I did that July of '87 to July of '88. So there was an interagency agreement between the Archives and the Army and the Archives continued to pay me but they were reimbursed by the Army but the agreement was that when I returned from Leavenworth I would return to the same or a similar

position that I left. Well, when I came back of course the position that I had been in had been filled by somebody else so it was what an equivalent position would be. And I remember meeting with Trudy Peterson, who was the head of the Office of the National Archives at the time when I came back, and actually Trudy had done a similar thing. She had a Fulbright in Finland and taught at a university in Finland for a year. So she was familiar with people taking sabbaticals as it were.

But when I came back I remember she had like three or four options. I could, one of them, was to draft a guide to military records relating to World War II which Tim Mulligan eventually did, the two volume big guide which would have been interesting but I'd still probably be working on it. Mulligan did a much better job than I would have. But the other thing that had been looming for a while was out at the Record Center at Suitland there was a growing volume of records that were unscheduled, unappraised, and we were thinking ahead to the new building and moving and stuff like that.

And they didn't want to move stuff out of Suitland into the new building unless we were sure that it was really good permanent records. So I don't know who was involved but there was a project proposal written up where we put a plan and personnel in place to look at these records that are in the Record Center and these aren't accessioned records, these are still Record Center records in agency custody and clear up some of the backlog of unscheduled stuff.

I had done a little bit of appraisal work prior when I was... I can't remember whether it was when I was in Navy and Old Army Branch or when I was in the Projects Branch, but I had appraised a couple of thousand feet of unscheduled Naval Intelligence Records out at Suitland. So Trudy thought I might be interested in doing this. So given no other options and not wanting to get bogged down with doing the World War II guide I picked that. And I was out there for 5 years I guess. I don't think I'm exaggerating when I say the first day I drove out there I was crying [Laughing]. I really [Laughing] it wasn't the work it was just going to Suitland.

**Jessie:** Suitland, yeah.

**Tim:** God [Laughing]. But anyway. It was, again, a kind of unique experience. There were about 5 or 6 of us that were permanent, more or less, permanently assigned to this. Fairly senior folks. A couple of former Branch Chiefs that were no longer Branch Chiefs because of reorganizations and other things. And we had a couple of people from the Accession and Disposal Branch out at the Record Center that would cycle in for like 3 or 6 month periods because they had the real experience doing the work that we were doing.

But the other thing that was kind of cool and this, I'm pretty sure, this was a Trudy idea—at that time we had a big group of CIDs trainees and they would go through these different training rotations. And their last rotation was to spend three months with us on this project where they would be doing appraisal, applying record schedules to these unscheduled records, and then describing this stuff. And we'd do record group reports. We had a format, Dick Meyers developed this format where we would capture various elements of description. And then give an appraisal decision what we thought about the records that we had described. But we probably had two or three dozen trainees come out and do training rotations with us. So it was a good experience for them, sort a culminating experience in their archival training or at least their formal archival training. But it was a great exposure of them to us. I got to know a whole lot of folks that are, some of them, are still around.

**Jessie:** So what was it like working at Suitland for five years, I guess [Laughing]?

**Tim:** We had our project office up in the front on the front level. Those offices were pretty nice. But the work was down in the freaking stacks. And you know going up those 10-foot high ladders and, you know, swaying back and forth, and dusty boxes on the top shelf and double shelved. I mean it was physically tough work on occasion. But it was worthwhile.

We probably were a little bit too generous in making more stuff permanent than we should have, if we had been more experienced doing this sort of work, but we did clear up a big backlog of the unscheduled material although not all of it. And I was, like I said, I wasn't all that thrilled going out there but it was, again, it was a really good experience in terms of understanding another aspect of the kind of work that the agency does that I hadn't done all that much of before.

**Jessie:** So then what you deemed permanent, did you guys transfer it or oversee it being transferred here to College Park?

**Tim:** Stuff did not get transferred immediately but later, particularly as the agency got into the move mode with the new building and everything, a fair amount of what we had appraised and described came in.

**Jessie:** So this is around the time where this building in College Park was being built. What are your recollections of that process and that period of time?

**Tim:** Yeah. Actually the guy who was my immediate boss when I was on that whatever it was called, Records Appraisal—

**Jessie:** [Interposing] Archival Allocation and Records Evaluations staff—

**Tim:** Yeah. Dan Goggin was the head of that. He was the records allocation and I was the whatever the other part of it.

**Jessie:** The evaluation?

**Tim:** Yeah. But Goggin had a couple of people working with him, Frank Burch among them, and one of the things that they did and, when I think back on it I think it was a real serious mistake, but they sort of plotted this building, what records would go into what stack and they put like records or related record groups in the same stack which was good but then what they did, they'd look at the record schedules for a particular record group and they would try to assess in the next 10 years how much more are we going to get—how many, how much permanent material are we going to accession in this record group.

So when they plotted this building, they put in Record Group 122 and we knew how much of Record Group 122 we had, how much volume, so they could determine that it fills Stack 270 from this row to this row and then they would look at the anticipated accessioning in that record group and they'd leave blank space. Well the idea was that things would come in on a regular basis, well it doesn't work that way. So all of that, a lot of that blank space would get taken up by records totally unrelated to what was in there just because it was empty and we were getting other records. I mean the initial idea of putting like Record Groups in the same stacks was smart but the other part was trying to cut it a little too thin and being a little too cute about it I thought.

And, at the moment, records out here, you still have original records that went into the Record Group that went into a stack that are all related but it's honeycombed with all sorts of other stuff, too. It would have been better if we just left a bunch of stacks completely empty and start over. But anyway, I wasn't much involved with anything related to the move other than working on the unscheduled stuff out at Suitland.

**Jessie:** And when you were at Suitland did you have a lot of contact with the main building, folks in the main building, or did you feel more isolated since you were out in Suitland?

**Tim:** No, we had contacts because, well, I mentioned the trainees would come out and we would have to do appraisals on the work that they did. So we'd keep in touch with the people back downtown.

**Jessie:** Did you have a sense and maybe even for yourself, when the building was being constructed and opening, did staff want to come out here? Did you want to come out here or was that not something that you wanted?

**Tim:** Oh, that's a good question.

**Jessie:** Was there, yeah [Laughing]. Were there anxieties for people? You know? Suddenly there's this new building.

**Tim:** I knew I wanted to be here more than I wanted to be in Suitland. Yeah, I think people probably wanted to come out here. I remember before the building really opened there were a couple sort of like open house tours for staff and to come out and see what the new building was going to look like and how the stacks were organized and stuff like that. But I mean we were really proud of getting the new building.

I remember one time, I can't think why, I mean this was so far out of the way for anything, but I remember coming out here one day when the building was under construction and sitting up on Metzertott somewhere and just watching this...I mean it looked like ants crawling all over this ant hill with all these workers and the construction cranes. I mean maybe I was going somewhere else, like Philadelphia or New York, and I just stopped by to see what the darned place looked like but it was really pretty impressive. And I remember the first time flying over it coming out of National and it's a really big footprint even from 7,000 or 8,000 feet.

**Jessie:** Okay. So when you became the Chief of the Military Reference Branch in 1994 was that back downtown?

**Tim:** That was back downtown. Yeah, that was a funny story, too. It was like late one afternoon. I get a call from Mike Kurtz and he said—I forget what happened downtown. Jo Ann Williamson had been the Branch Chief downtown and she moved to something else, maybe she moved to run the Research Rooms downtown. And Kurtz called me and said I think it's time for you to come back downtown. He said do you want to be the Branch Chief in the Military Reference Branch? He said you don't have to answer, you can think about it. No, I'm coming [Laughing]. But I think Jo Ann must have moved. She's still at the Archives so I think she must have moved to another position. So there was a vacancy.

**Jessie:** Now then was it Old Military and Modern Military or was it all of it?

**Tim:** All of Military, yeah

**Jessie:** And then do you know the decision, I guess, the logic behind the decision to split the Military and bring the Modern out to College Park and keep the Old Military downtown?

**Tim:** Well, they didn't want to completely empty the building downtown. And I think the thinking was downtown would be more family history oriented. I mean the census microfilm and the stuff like that and I can't think of the other kinds of Record Groups that were there that were left downtown. But they tended to be the sort of Record Groups that family historians or genealogists would use. And that the 19th Century Military Records often tended to fall into that sort of research mode as well. So that was why the Old Military stuff got left downtown. A lot of it does get genealogical kind of use although not all of it. And it also meant that there wouldn't be classification problems downtown that you might encounter with more modern military records.

**Jessie:** So you did that for about a year?

**Tim:** Yeah, just a year.

**Jessie:** And then you became an Analyst for the World War II Working Group of a Joint US-Russia Commission on POW-MIA?

**Tim:** Yeah. This was established by Yeltsin and Clinton in like 1992. And Trudy [Peterson] was the Archives representative on that originally. Interestingly when this thing was formed the Russians were the ones that insisted that there be some sort of representation from the respective countries' archives and because Trudy was very active in international archives organizations, the Russians knew her. And so they suggested that she, I think she was Assistant Archivist at the time, they insisted that she be involved in it.

And in '95 would have been the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II and the thought was that I got involved in this in... December of '94 and the thought was there would be some sort of report written in '95 by both sides of the commission outlining what we had accomplished. And Trudy wanted me involved as her writer. I remember the fall or the summer of '95 there was also an ICA, International Council on Archives, meeting that she was running at the National Archives in DC. And I remember she called me and said she was going to do this. And she thought that I could be of assistance to her running this ICA meeting. So she calls me down to her office, and she was in the Archivist's Office, she was Acting Archivist at this point. She calls me down to the Archivist's Office, a late December day in '94. And I go in there and there's two guys, two military guys in uniform sitting there. I'm thinking this is weird. And I said are you guys here to see Trudy? Oh, yeah, yeah, we got a meeting with her in 15 minutes and I



said so do I. You guys involved in the ICA? What's the ICA? No. We're involved with POWs [Laughing]. So that's when I got involved with the POW thing. I helped her on the ICA later anyway.

**Jessie:** So what was your, what was that like working for that commission?

**Tim:** Well, I'd been to Moscow and other places in Russia in the former Soviet Union probably 10 times or a dozen times or so. In the first five or six months I traveled with Trudy a couple of times over there for meetings with Russians and they came here for meetings. And we exchanged information and exchanged documents and stuff. But mostly what I did during that period, I was the principal author of the report of the U.S. side that was published in 1996 on World II.

There were 28,000 American POWs that were in POW camps overrun by Soviet forces at the end of the war. And the question was what happened to these people. So the report attempts to outline what happened to those folks. There was some controversy back in the 90's, people alleging that 23,000 of them went into the gulag never to be heard from again which was total nonsense. But it had some teeth, at some point where people believed that. And anyway, I wrote the World War II chapter on this comprehensive report that didn't come out until 1996. Trudy by that point was gone. Mike McReynolds eventually became the U.S. Commissioner and when McReynolds retired in 2000 I was the last one standing so I became the Commissioner.

**Jessie:** Hmm. Okay. So that's, I was going to ask how you became the Commissioner [Laughing].

**Tim:** Yeah.

**Jessie:** I was just listening to Mike McReynolds Oral History the other day. I worked with him in Legislative. I didn't do his oral history; he did one in 2004, and the tape of it came across my desk recently, so I was listening to it. So, it was good to hear from him. Hear his story. Okay. So then, yeah, then you're still a Commissioner then to today? And are you fairly involved?

**Tim:** Well, there was a long period where the Commission was not very active at all from about 2004 until about 2 years ago. The U.S. side would meet maybe once every couple of years but we had virtually no meetings with the Russians although the Defense POW/MIA Agency has a small cadre in the Moscow Embassy that works in Russian archives. Not just on World War II but particularly on Korea and Cold War issues where there really were some Americans that came into contact with the Russians and under unusual circumstances.

**Jessie:** Okay. So then after you're the analyst go back to 1998 when you were the Chief of the Modern Military Records. Does that mean that you were out here in College Park? And how did that switch transpire?

**Tim:** I don't remember [Laughing]. How did that happen? Oh, I know, okay, I remember. I remember Jim Hastings and Sharon Thibodeau came into my office and it was sort of like the call I got from Kurtz. And they said we think you should be a Branch Chief again. And I'm trying to think, okay, I know. I know what happened. When they moved out here from downtown, '94, '95, '96, there was just "a" Reference Branch that did everything. Civilian, Military, agencies, and Clarence Lyons was the Branch Chief. But by '98 I guess everything had sort of settled down, Clarence was still here, but the feeling was that his... what's the word I'm looking for? He had too broad an expanse that he was responsible for, too many Record Groups, like 450 separate Record Groups. So the idea was to split, again, Civil and Military and so they knew I had a previous background in things Military so they asked me if I'd be the Military Reference Branch Chief and I was glad to do it. But then, again, like what, 8 years later it all came back together as it is now [Laughing] and there's just a Processing Branch and a Textual Reference Branch responsible for everything. So I did that for about, I don't know, 8 years or so.

**Jessie:** So while making those decisions, were staff consulted or were you just told, "you're now separate" and "now you're together again?"

**Tim:** There were some, yes, there were some consultations. But I'm not sure whether the decisions had already been made or not. I don't think the decisions were personality driven at all, I really do think there were managerial considerations, organizational considerations.

**Jessie:** So, during that whole period of time, what was what was your job like? What were you doing?

**Tim:** I loved being in Reference, whether it was the Military or whether it was the whole thing. I love being the, you know, the Branch Chief in Reference. And I enjoyed working with a staff who was really pretty competent. We didn't have a whole lot of any serious problems that I, you know, that I can remember.

We had a pretty good reputation among researchers and among the research community particularly the ones that are the regulars about being responsive and being helpful. Not that there weren't some problems. You know, the Branch, particularly when I was combined, probably 30 people or so, which is a lot of folks to supervise, most of that time I had one Assistant Chief. But, there is a relentlessness about Reference. It just keeps coming whether it's

somebody walking in the door or whether it's the mail and the emails and the telephone calls, just keep coming. I had done it from, what, '98 to 2015 which was long enough. When they asked me if I, well, I guess they didn't ask me, when they said that they were setting up this Orphan Records Project and that I was the ideal person to do it and that somebody else was going to do Reference, I was not all that happy. But, I don't think that I'm—it's not that I became reconciled to the fact, I think I appreciate the fact now that I probably did the Reference Chief stuff longer than I should have. I mean, because there is a relentlessness about it and it really is wearing and... I don't lose sleep over work anymore and occasionally I did [Laughing] back then.

**Jessie:** So then what are you doing now?

**Tim:** Well what do you know about the Orphan Records Project? [Laughing].

**Jessie:** [Chuckling].

**Tim:** Over time there have accumulated a bunch of material that has sort of fallen away from archival control for a whole variety of reasons. Some of this stuff when people talk about Orphan Records I think most folks think of, you know, single pages being left on copy machines in the Research Room and the researcher walks away and staff finds this page later and doesn't know where it goes. Well there's a lot of that sort of stuff.

But by far the largest volume of material that we're dealing with is material left over or ignored during processing projects that nobody knew quite what to do with, didn't want to describe it, it didn't fit in exactly with what they were working on and so just, [splat noise] dropped it. And we had three large collections of such material, all that sort of thing, as well as some of the stuff we got were items that had been withdrawn by declass many years ago because they couldn't be declassified but in the meantime where the records came from had been reallocated or re-described or re-boxed and we couldn't figure out where the stuff went. So Orphan, Alien, Orphaned-Alienated Records. [Papers suffling] Ah, this was what I was looking for. You can have that.

**Jessie:** Oh, okay, thank you.

**Tim:** So, for the last not quite two years that's what we've been doing. We started with one collection that had accumulated in processing area 2520, it's probably about 80 boxes or so. And each box was numbered and within each box the individual folders or items were numbered. And we worked through that stuff. Becky Collier, who was my long-time assistant in Reference, when I went she went, too. And so we've been the two supervisors on this project.

**Jessie:** There are 49 staff members on this project?

**Tim:** Yeah. However...one day a month.

**Jessie:** Oh. Okay [Laughing].

**Tim:** [Laughing]. All the archivists and the archive specialists in the Textual Reference Branch and the Textual Projects Branch spend one day a month on Orphan Records. So Becky and I will assign an individual a box and on their one day they go through this stuff trying to find a home. In some cases it's, you know, it's fairly obvious and fairly easy. There's nice markings on it. In other cases you've got a page 3 and you don't know how many other pages the document consists of. So it gets a little bit dicey. And supervising 49 people or overseeing 49 people even one day a month is tough to keep track of sometimes.

But we, on the day that we have people working, we usually, Becky and I, try to do the schedule so it's every other day. We meet, we organize them, the 49 people into small 4 or 5 person work groups. And so the one day a month or every other day we have a different work group, 4 or 5 people working on it. And in the morning that they're scheduled, we get together and as a group we look at the items that the people are working on to get feedback from Becky and me but also from the other people in their work group. If you've got ideas.

So again it's sort of kind of different, unique. The scary thing however is, well like I said, and the paper I gave you describes it, there were three main bodies when we started working on this almost two years ago or three main collections. One was in 2520, we finished. We finished that off. There was another that had been accumulated in Stack 450. That was about another 70 or 80 boxes. And we finished that off.

And then there were about 70 boxes that came out about three months ago from downtown that people downtown had identified as belonging out here. And we've just started working on that stuff. And I mentioned all this stuff had been numbered by box and folder and whatever and there's a humongous spreadsheet on the K drive under all RD, Alienated Records, All, and then there's about a dozen or so separate files but one of them is a big spreadsheet on which we've tracked all of the stuff that we've worked on.

And when staff finish working on something they fill out a... [getting form] they fill out a worksheet with what the number of the item was and what they did with it, if they refiled it or if they can't refile it, and they recommended a lot of the stuff turns out to be duplicates. A lot of

the stuff as I mentioned is material that had been set aside in a processing project and for a variety of reasons.

So, if they don't think the informational value in the item is sufficient to make it archival or if they can identify that it's a duplicate, you know they put that in the comment section and we set it aside for disposal. We haven't actually disposed of anything yet. And the other thing that we've done and I mentioned the example of a page 3 that you can't tell how big the document is, we've set aside a good number of items to be scanned.

So on this K-drive site, there's all this stuff, I don't know how many items, probably 1,000 or so items, we have already scanned and the plan is that when we're done with this hopefully in the next 3 or 4 months this will be available so a researcher going through a file and say I'm looking at this really interesting document that page 3 is missing and can you tell me where page 3 might be. So, refer them to the scanned material. But anyway. A curious sort of project.

**Jessie:** So if it's wrapping up, do you know what's next for you?

**Tim:** I've had a meeting with Erin Townsend about that already and she's going on maternity leave in a few weeks and I'm supposed to have another meeting with her before then. So I don't know. I can walk at any time, I've been here 46 years, I'm old and gray. But I still enjoy coming to work. Well I don't enjoy coming to work, I enjoy when I get to work [Laughing]. And something funny happens every day.

So I'm probably not ready to retire. The one thing I meant to mention about the Orphan Records stuff is we've had these three dumps of stuff that we've worked on. Last fall Cliff Snyder went into HMS and he got printouts of every HMS entry that says miscellaneous records, refiles, or identified. And there's like 70 Record Groups that have stuff identified like that. And it's the same kind of stuff that we're working on now. It's about 1,000 boxes of stuff which makes it a lot more than what we just [Laughing] are in the midst of finishing off. So I think I might volunteer to work on some of that stuff. I do like working with the records even when they are sometimes frustrating like that.

**Jessie:** I can imagine.

**Tim:** It's fewer headaches than [Laughing] dealing with snarly staff.

**Jessie:** Sure [Laughing]. Well, I know we talked in more detail but I wanted to kind of bring it to a higher level and ask how your impressions of the agencies or the agency has changed in the almost 48 years you've been here.

**Tim:** Yeah. When I came in 1970 I think it was more formal. I mean, all the men wore ties; all the women wore skirts. I think the Branch Chiefs and the Division Directors were a little bit older and probably a little more experienced. A lot of the ones that I worked for and most of them were male, not all of them, I mean Mabel was a force to be reckoned with. Jane Smith was the head of Civil Archives early on. They were about the only women in senior positions that I can think of at that time, so that certainly has changed. A lot of the males were World War II vets. Gary Ryan was an infantryman in the First Armored Division in World War II. Bob Krauskopf was the head of Modern Military when I started. He was an infantryman in the 42nd Division during World War II. Frank Heppner, who was one of the Assistant Chiefs to Ryan, was in the 4th Infantry Division, landed on D-Day. And, you know, given the things that I was interested in that was impressive [Laughing] to me. So I think that the staff's character, the staff has changed a little bit.

Where we get people is definitely changed, I mean everybody, all those folks had Master's degrees in History. Now we're into information sciences and communications and all sorts of other stuff which is fine but it's different. The clientele has definitely changed. You know like I said early on, it was students, academics, and professional writers, and now it's a whole range of folks.

Certainly the level of activity has changed. I mean, I don't remember what the numbers were in terms of number of letters that units, number of letters a year that the units got when I first was downtown but I mean the Reference Branch, Textual Reference Branch out here gets 16,000, 18,000 offsite inquiries a year as well as all the walk-ins. And we were nowhere near that level.

Now how much attention we give to researchers today compared to back then I suspect probably not as in depth as we did back then. But then again we didn't have all the online material, not only records copied but descriptions and that sort of stuff. So researchers are able to navigate a little bit more on their own now than they were back then, I'm pretty confident. I mean things change—as I mentioned early when they did that flip-flop in the spring of 1971 when Modern Military got so far behind in their offsite inquiries that I knew nothing was forever. People were held accountable. They're still held accountable. So, I guess that's good.

**Jessie:** Can you think of some technological advancements that really changed the nature of your work?

**Tim:** Sure. I mean the, you know, HMS online, the Archives Guide online, and you can search by keyword and stuff like that. So I mean, that makes a lot of things that we do a lot easier and a lot quicker and more active than what it was back then. On the other hand, you know, the

Archives Guide is nice and everything but you've got to be aware not only of false negatives but also false positives. Just because you find something in the Archives Guide that you think is what you want to look at, you know, or what a researcher wants to look at it might not be the only thing that we've got relating to that subject. But if the wording isn't right you're not going to get a hit on it. The false negative is just because you didn't get a hit on a topic doesn't mean we don't have something on it.

**Jessie:** Speaking of changes, did you notice big changes or any changes with the change of Archivists over the years? The Archivists of the United States? Or Acting Archivists since you've dealt with Trudy a lot?

**Tim:** I mean at the working level... you know I've been in Textual Records my whole career at the working level. Not so much. I mean, coffee break chatter and stuff like that, sure, some people like certain Archivists better than others. Sometimes priorities seem a little bit out of whack. I mean read the new strategic plan and I mean there's some interesting stuff in there whether we can actually make all of it happen remains to be seen, whether we really do want to digitize all of our holdings some of which are really not all that great. I don't know. I mean I won't be here to see the consequences [Laughing].

**Jessie:** None of us will [Laughing].

**Tim:** Well...

**Jessie:** So, I wanted to ask you about some of the awards. You got a couple of prestigious awards throughout your career. And then recently you got the Archivist Lifetime Achievement Award. So can you talk about some of those?

**Tim:** Well, if you'd been here for a lifetime, you'd better have achieved something [Laughing].

**Jessie:** Well, what would you say your biggest—well first of all what was it like getting that award but for you instead of just your longevity what were your achievements [Laughing] you know?

**Tim:** Longevity was an achievement in itself. I mean I think I had a fairly diverse career. You know there was that long stretch that I just mentioned being in Reference out here. But you know I had good opportunities to do interesting things. The FBI thing, that was just great. I had good bosses. I really liked working for Mabel and for Gary Ryan. I had mostly good colleagues and when I was a supervisor, good people. But we are sort of different. I remember [Laughing], I

remember Gary told me one time, he said, Tim, you realize if we worked anywhere else we would be the eccentrics [Laughing]?

**Jessie:** [Chuckling]

**Tim:** So. What was the question?

**Jessie:** Oh, we were reflecting on your career, your—you were going to tell us how you felt on the Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Tim:** No, I, sure I was, I was pleased. I mean they don't give that many out. What can I say other than I was pleased. That was nice.

**Jessie:** And just generally speaking how do you reflect back on your career at the Archives?

**Tim:** Oh, it was fun.

**Jessie:** It's always fun [Laughing].

**Tim:** [Laughing].

**Jessie:** Well, I know you had some notes and so I'll give you the opportunity—is there anything that I didn't cover like anecdotes or words of wisdom or anything that we missed over the course of this interview?

**Tim:** Not that I know. Most of the things I said in one way or another. Oh, one of the interesting things early on, this goes back to Archives history a little bit. When I started in 1970 there were still a bunch of leftover staff from the Departmental Records Branch, do you know about that aspect?

**Jessie:** Hmm.

**Tim:** The Departmental Records Branch was the part of the Department of the Army that dealt with records. They were like the Army's archives. And DRB was in the torpedo factory down in Alexandria. That was the Army Records Center at one point. And the bulk of their holdings were World War II material and they had not just Army records but Air Force records as well. But in 1958 the DRB became the World War II Records Division of the National Archives. The staff, the building, the records just transferred from the Army to the National Archives. And then



in '68 when Suitland opened they closed down Alexandria and half of the staff and half of the records moved to Suitland and another half of the staff and half of the records moved downtown. So a lot of the people I was working with early on were these old-timers who worked for the Army for many years. And they were great sources of all sorts of interesting stories and experiences particularly at that Alexandria torpedo factory.

And they were very different in terms of background than the archivists, the young archivists that were being hired then. Most of these people didn't have college degrees so they had learned the records by doing the records, sort of thing. But they had some great experiences. Like my first direct supervisor was Eddie Reese, and right out of high school he started working for DRB, right after the war but he got detailed a couple of times to the White House to do stuff at the White House. He had really funny stories about running into President Eisenhower under embarrassing circumstances. I mean it was just—but they were the folks that came out of that were very different in background and experience and particularly education than most of the other staff. But anyway. It was fun.

**Jessie:** Well, then what happened to them? Were they just phased out eventually?

**Tim:** I mean they just all retired.

**Jessie:** I've seen old pictures of the torpedo factory with our records in there. With Army records in there.

**Tim:** You know, are you familiar with the conference guides?

**Jessie:** Mm-hmm.

**Tim:** There was one on World War II records and there was one on Captured German Records and there's stuff in both of those about the DRB people.

**Jessie:** Hmm. Okay. Well, I guess is there anything else that you'd like to add? Anything about Archives' history you wanted to share or your own history?

**Tim:** You should interview Bill Cunliffe, have you done him?

**Jessie:** Well, I asked him if he wanted to interview and I had his interview he did when he got a Lifetime Achievement Award, I guess, a few years ago. And I tried to accession it and he said that he didn't want it so I need to follow up with him to see if he'll sit down and do an interview with me.

**Tim:** He's getting ready to retire at the end of September. But I mean Cunliffe helped me when I did dissertation research in '69 and we were pretty close friends the first few years I lived there. But he's, I mean he's done Textual, he was head of Cartographic at one point. I think he was the Branch Chief in Machine Readable at one point. I mean...

**Jessie:** Yeah.

**Tim:** Anyway.

**Jessie:** I'll bug him again.

**Tim:** Yeah.

**Jessie:** People tend to retire quietly and quickly here. It's hard to get them before they go.

**Tim:** I think he's the only one that's been here longer than me at this point.

**Jessie:** That's right, got to hit 50.

**Tim:** Well, he's probably close to 50 years.

**Jessie:** Hmm. Impressive.

**Tim:** I don't know if I can make it that long.

**Jessie:** You're almost there.

**Tim:** Anyway.

**Jessie:** Okay. Well thank you so much for taking the time to speak with me.

**Tim:** I mean I hope I didn't talk too much about me and talked enough about the Archives. I really like the Archives.

**Jessie:** No, it comes out. And your stories really illuminate what it was like here in the Archive.

**Tim:** Well. Like Gary Ryan said I probably couldn't have worked anywhere else with [Laughing] success. I did an interview with John Taylor a few years ago.

**Jessie:** Oh, really?

**Tim:** Do you have that?

**Jessie:** I do not. But is it part of the Assembly's Project?

**Tim:** Yeah. That's what it was. That was part of the Assembly's Project.

**Jessie:** I'm trying to get my hands on those interviews. They're not as accessible as ones in the past. I have a bunch that Philip Brooks did in the 70's. And then Rod Ross did a bunch in the 80's. And those are all accessible to me but anything Assembly did I haven't been able to get my hands on.

**Tim:** I saved a copy of the one I did on John.

**Jessie:** That would be an interesting story.

**Tim:** When I first came in 1967 he had this desk in 13W in the middle office and there were stacks of stuff. In 1996, John's getting ready to move out here. And so I was going to stay downtown a little bit longer. So I go and I said, damn John, when I first met you, you were at this same desk and it looked just the same. He said, yeah, they always reorganize around me.

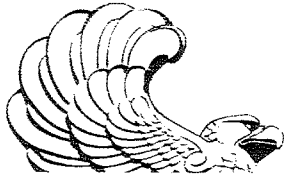
**Jessie:** [Laughing]. That's a great story.

**Tim:** I will look for that.

**Jessie:** Yeah. That would be great!

**Tim:** I'll send you a copy. What's your room number down there?

[END RECORDING]



## NATIONAL ARCHIVES


National Archives History Office  
700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington DC 20408  
Tel: (202) 357-5243  
Email: [archives.historian@nara.gov](mailto:archives.historian@nara.gov)


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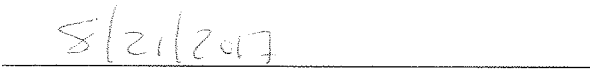
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