

Wisconsin Veterans Museum
Research Center

Transcript of an
Oral History Interview with
ROY G. ZEHREN

Photographer, 23rd Infantry and Public Information Office, Army, Korean War

2001

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Zehren, Roy G., (1930-). Oral History Interview, 2001.

User Copy: 1 sound cassette (ca. 56 min.); analog, 1 7/8 ips, mono.

Master Copy: 1 sound cassette (ca. 56 min.); analog, 1 7/8 ips, mono.

Video Recording: 1 videorecording (ca. 56 min.); ½ inch, color.

Transcript: 0.1 linear ft. (1 folder).

Abstract:

Roy Zehren, a Milwaukee, Wisconsin native, discusses his Korean War service with Company B, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, and as a Public Information Office photographer. Zehren speaks of being drafted after finishing photo school, basic training at Indiantown Gap (Pennsylvania), being held back to attend Advanced Photography School, and after no openings were found, doing an amphibious landing at Inchon (Korea) with the 2nd Division. He reveals how little training he had to carry out his assignment as a Browning Automatic Rifle man positioned in “no man’s land” between Chinese and American lines. He relates attracting Chinese artillery fire with his laundry. Zehren describes volunteering for the Public Information Office and working on a three-man photography team before becoming lone head of the PIO. He mentions the types of cameras he used and details having to build his own darkrooms, scrounge for materials, and use innovative techniques because he was not yet an official Army Photographer. Zehren describes becoming battalion photographer and general’s aide for Lieutenant Colonel “Cider Joe” Stilwell and making a deal to give the Colonel the credit for the pictures taken in exchange for materials, transportation, and special favors. He portrays volunteering on Old Baldy, a hill in the Iron Triangle, every day, seeing a tank he had just photographed get hit by a shell, witnessing a colonel get killed, and getting wounded by shrapnel. He mentions carrying a guy off T-bone Hill who later became a head cook and gave Zehren fresh eggs. He recalls hating the cold, eating C-rations, living in caves, buying a pistol from the black market in Seoul, selling Polaroid pictures to the troops for a dollar apiece, and seeing USO entertainment shows. Zehren describes being sent to Taegu (Korea) to guard secret tungsten mines and putting up with months of no outside communication. He speaks of getting special training and sanction from the Geneva Convention to take photos of prisoners of war and making an amphibious landing at Koje-Do Island’s prison camp. He recalls acting as guide to *Time* and *Life* photographers and describes some pictures he took. Zehren sketches getting fifteen days R&R in Japan, being shipped directly from Pusan (Korea) to New York City, and spending a few days in Hawaii after the ship boiler blew. He talks about getting a quick discharge, not being rehired at the *Milwaukee Journal*, getting a GI Bill loan, starting his own business as a landscaper, and building Natural Athletic Turf sand systems in football fields.

Biographical Sketch:

Zehren (b.1930) served as an infantryman and photographer for the 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged from service and achieved the rank of corporal. He currently resides in Port Washington, Wisconsin.

Transcribed by James Erwin, 2008.

Format corrected by Katy Marty, 2008.

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Corrections typed in by Katy Marty, 2008.

Abstract written by Susan Krueger, 2009.

Interview Transcript:

Jim: 2nd of February, '01, talking to Roy Zehren. Where were you born, Roy?

Roy: Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jim: When?

Roy: July 18th, 1930.

Jim: And when did you enter military service?

Roy: I'd have to look on my records for the exact day, but it was September, '51.

Jim: September '51. And where you drafted, or did you enlist, or what?

Roy: I was drafted.

Jim: Into the USA.

Roy: Yes. I had finished photo school and other schools and I became all of a sudden, 1A. (Laughs)

Jim: Right. This was what your expertise was before you went in the Army, is that right?

Roy: Yes, yes.

Jim: You were a professional photographer.

Roy: I was - I just got out of school and I was freelancing. I was a free lance photographer for anything from newspapers to ambulance chasing to weddings to babies to--

Jim: But you were on your own.

Roy: I was on my own, yup.

Jim: Could you make a living doin' that?

Roy: Not really.

Jim: In Milwaukee?

- Roy: In Milwaukee.
- Jim: Well, then so you knew you were going to be drafted, and you knew that they were going to call you, so did you make any preparations for that?
- Roy: Yes. I left town. (laughs) I left town, and I went down to New Orleans. Figured I'll wait 'til they— Finally I got a call from my mother saying that they're looking for you, so after six months I better – says you better get here before September. So I came home and went in.
- Jim: And then where did they send you right off the bat?
- Roy: Well, the bad part or the good part was our whole – after we went to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, for basic training. And, after we got through, they sent our whole company over to Trieste, Italy, and Berlin, Germany except I had requested to stay in the States and take Advanced Photography School. I guess it was in Kansas. And they said, “Okay, we'll keep you here.” I waited and waited for two weeks in the barracks and everybody had gone to Italy and Germany, and finally they said, they came back. Two weeks later, and says, “There's no openings. You're going to Korea.”
- Jim: Oh my.
- Roy: So I was the only guy out of our basic training that went to Korea.
- Jim: ____ (??)
- Roy: Yeah. Directly.
- Jim: Did you fly over or take a ship?
- Roy: We took a train from Pennsylvania to Milwaukee to Seattle stayed at Fort Walton – Fort Lawton, I think, Fort Lawton we stayed at Seattle, got on a ship, big ship, a general class ship, with five thousand people. We took the long route, up through the Aleutian Islands, and over to Tokyo. Sick, cold – I hated it. (Laughs).
- Jim: Had you joined a unit by this time? Or were you still loose?
- Roy: No, no, I guess I was still loose and--
- Jim: Hadn't assigned you yet.

- Roy: If they did I didn't know about it, and when I got there, the first thing they did is – they – went to Yokohama, and then they flew us over to __ no, no, no, we took a ship over to – that's right we took a ship to Inchon.
- Jim: Directly to Inchon?
- Roy: Directly to Inchon. We made an amphibious landing, (laughs) my first amphibious landing and they sent us right up to a five-day refresher course in battle indoctrination. After five days, they sent us up to Old Baldy, right up in the Iron Triangle, right where all the heavy fighting was going on.
- Jim: I understand, but you still haven't told me what unit they assigned you to.
- Roy: Ah, Company "B", the 23rd Infantry Regiment, of the 2nd Division,
- Jim: Okay.
- Roy: And they, because I had – I don't know why, but they made me a BAR [Browning Automatic Rifle] man, right away. (Laughs)
- Jim: With minimal instruction?
- Roy: Very little. Fired it – had a chance to fire it one day, and after a while I found out that the BAR man was always the point man, so I didn't feel too good about that. So they sent us right up into, ahead of the MLR into "No Man's Land" and an outpost. So we were halfway between the Chinese and the American lines. We were four miles ahead of the American lines.
- Jim: Chinese, not North Koreans?
- Roy: At that time the Chinese were in the war already and we were 'sposed to just keep a watch out and let us know if there is an invasion again. (Laughs). Can I diverse a little bit from that?
- Jim: ____ (??) Whatever you want.
- Roy: Being a totally ignorant person of what happens over there, they told us that we were going to this outpost for five days, take along one hankie, one change of underclothes, one extra pair of socks, a couple sheets of paper, and so on and so forth. Well, about a month and a half later (laughs), I decided I better wash out my clothes or something. We were allowed one canteen a day for washing, brushing teeth, so I remember washing my clothes in my helmet and I went outside and I hung them up on a line. And five seconds later, the rounds started coming in, and later on after it was all over they said, "Who was the guy that directed the artillery?" It was my laundry. (Laughter) So then when – after all that, after about, exactly,

maybe four or five weeks up there. Somebody asked for a volunteer for the PIO, I didn't even know what PIO meant at the time. But, I raised my hand, and immediately I was whisked away, and the next day I was sitting in Company Headquarters, and I found out I was a newspaper man.

Jim: Where did they move you to? _____(??)

Roy: No, it was only--

Jim: Not too far from _____(??)

Roy: It was still the front lines, except I wasn't ahead of the lines now, I was back about two miles, at Company Headquarters, and they gave me a typewriter and some paper and says, "Write!"

Jim: Promotion?

Roy: No, no promotion, and I was--

Jim: What about your typing? Could you type?

Roy: No, I never typed before. I had to peck away, one at a time. There was two other people there in that office, besides the captain. The was a Sergeant Sherman from Talladega, Alabama, who was an ROTC National Guard, and he was the Sergeant, and head of our little group and then there was another fellow there by the name of Earl Ward, from Mattoon, Illinois. He was the photographer. So the three of us were the team. The reason that I bring that up is because I met Earl Ward twenty years later, when he was a famous artist. So I don't know if he is still living, now, but I go through his town every once or twice a year, when I go down to Illinois.

Jim: I'm not familiar with--

Roy: Mattoon is south of--

Jim: I know where Mattoon is--

Roy: Oh, Okay.

Jim: But I wasn't familiar with this guy.

Roy: Oh.

Jim: His name didn't mean anything to me.

Roy: Yeah, so, then during the Battle of Old Baldy, they needed extra help to take pictures, and when they found out I was a photographer, and a couple days after that Earl Ward, the head photographer, he was wounded and they shipped him back to the States.

Jim: So you got his job.

Roy: So, I got his job. Then, the sergeant, his time was up, after about I think another four-five weeks. So all of a sudden, I was head of the PIO.

Jim: All alone?

Roy: All alone, and then they shifted me up to Battalion Headquarters.

Jim: We'll stop there.

Roy: Okay.

Jim: Did they give you a camera?

Roy: Yes.

Jim: A Graflex?

Roy: Army bush – Graflex –

Jim: Looked like a Speed Graphic--

Roy: Speed Graphic, yes, yes, yes.

Jim: How'd you get along with that? That was a camera you'd used before.

Roy: Yes, I used that – I learned it –

Jim: Sort of a standard newsman's camera.

Roy: That was a standard newsman's camera when I went to school, photo school. That's what I was brought up on, yeah.

Jim: Now we're into territory I haven't been in before, interviewing. Did you get flashbulbs? Did you use flash or no?

Roy: Oh, yeah. We used flash, everything.

Jim: You had no trouble getting flashbulbs?

Roy: Oh, it was because I was not an official – I wasn't an official Army Photographer. On the Signal Corps. I did not have the – what do they call it, MSE, or what is it?

Jim: MOS. MOS--

Roy: MOS number. I did not have my MOS number. I was technically illegal. I was a newspaper man, so I had to scrounge, anyplace I could scrounge material. I got to know some other official photographers in Division Headquarters, and they helped supply me.

Jim: And did you develop your own film?

Roy: Yes, in fact I had twenty-three dark rooms in Korea, and I built—

Jim: Twenty-three.

Roy: Twenty-three. Every time we moved, I had to build another darkroom.

Jim: Oh, I see, but you only used one at a time--

Roy: Yeah, right. They'd give me a tent.

Jim: You'd create one--

Roy: Yeah, or else I would create one. In fact they gave me what they called a headquarters tent I think it was--

Jim: Did you have no trouble getting materials?

Roy: Oh, I--

Jim: _____ (??) a lot--

Roy: Very difficult, very difficult.

Jim: Same problem--

Roy: Same problem with the flashbulbs--

Jim: You had to scrounge--

Roy: Even film, everything.

Jim: Film too.

Roy: Everything I had to scrounge. In fact I had to do everything the crud way. I remember setting up my CP tent. That's what they called them where officers slept. And then in the front part of the tent was where somebody sat, a receptionist or whatever you call it. That way, I had a darkroom and living quarters. For water, naturally we didn't have running water, so I was real innovative. I found out there were springs always, in the mountains, so I would take fence posts, the channel fence posts and I would sink a barrel in the ground, and then I'd run the water down the mountainside. I had fresh running water twenty four hours a day.

Jim: That was nice.

Roy: That was the way I did that, and it wasn't until later on, when I became how can I say this? When I became Battalion Photographer for, at that time, Lieutenant Colonel Stilwell, that I started getting supplies.

Jim: Then you had some clout.

Roy: Then I had clout. In fact I even got to the point after doing this for Lieutenant Colonel Stilwell—by the way, he was the son of “Vinegar Joe” Stilwell. I think he was a five star General in World war II, Stilwell, yes he was next to General McArthur. I think. In fact he was ahead of him for a while. But, anyways, he got me a lot of material. In fact he got me Korean help, to help to do it because we got so busy. He would fly me to Tokyo to get materials. He'd fly me to Seoul or we'd drive to Seoul, always with an excuse like, “Take this prisoner to Seoul” or something and then while you're there, “Here's the place.” They gave me money, and a lot of time I bought my material on the black market.

Jim: Oh, really!

Roy: Yeah.

Jim: You couldn't get enough from regular channels--

Roy: No, because I still wasn't official.

Jim: Ah, I see.

Roy: And then finally, when I finally I got the official designated rank or whatever, title of Combat Photographer, then I got all the stuff I wanted.

Jim: Did you have any trouble with the cold weather?

Roy: Terrible.

- Jim: I'm sure that would slow down your developing process considerably, wouldn't it ?
- Roy: Yeah, thank God they gave me a wood burning stove. I did have electric lights, while nobody else in the headquarters had it, except the general and myself, and a few other people.
- Jim: ____ (??) create a safe light?
- Roy: A safe light. I--
- Jim: How did you do that? Heated the bulb red or somethin'?
- Roy: No, I got material. In fact, I even had my mother send me certain – from my darkroom at home, yeah she sent me some things from home.
- Jim: The sockets were standard, so that wasn't a problem.
- Roy: No. It was Army issue, standard.
- Jim: Did you have any problem sealing off your darkroom?
- Roy: Yeah, that was--
- Jim: That sounds like it would be difficult with tents--
- Roy: That was the biggest problem. I mainly did my work at night.
- Jim: So you couldn't trust the leaks.
- Roy: No, no I remember I got a picture someplace of my – one of my darkrooms where I had blankets over it and other canvases, that still didn't – I didn't have – and a lot of work I did – actually sometimes in the field during combat when I wanted a picture right away--
- Jim: For what reason would you want that?
- Roy: Well, the general wanted pictures immediately of what was happening, so that he could send them back to Division and say, "Here's exactly what's happening." He couldn't even wait a day.
- Jim: These are pictures of positions or--?
- Roy: Yes.
- Jim: Or the terrain or something like that?

- Roy: Yes. If you're a photographer you have a bag. So I carried a developer's bag. It's a plastic lined rubber bag that's got sleeves in. You stick your hands in and you have a darkroom, a portable darkroom, but I had to put the water in, the developer, the thing-- I had to do everything by feel.
- Jim: ____ (??) Braille.
- Roy: Yes, develop the film and everything, yeah, and at--
- Jim: Well, I'm sure after awhile it became second nature.
- Roy: Yeah, and we didn't print it in ____ (??) I just said that --- We dried it, and the negatives were--
- Jim: You sent the negatives back.
- Roy: They were back in Division Headquarters, within the hour. It's something that in fact they even, I thought they even wrote an article of me, how this guy is developing pictures with little fish growing in the tanks sometimes (laughs). Very innovative.
- Jim: Was this standard procedure, what you were doing? I mean, ____ (??) the other guys did in the other units.
- Roy: No. If you were with Division you had better facilities. You had--
- Jim: Darkroom?
- Roy: Darkrooms and you were twenty, thirty, forty miles behind the lines.
- Jim: ____ (??) needed a truck or something like that to set it up --
- Roy: Yes, they had trucks. They had the portable trucks, yes, but being first and only company, and then nothing of that, and then after when I got to battalion, that to me was my own tent. That was very good.
- Jim: So you were living.
- Roy: I was living. Electric lights--
- Jim: Just like home.
- Roy: --running water from the hillside. (laughs)
- Jim: So, you didn't really need anything to do what you wanted to do?

Roy: No, no, I--

Jim: By that time you had everything organized just to your satisfaction.

Roy: Yeah, but I had to scrounge a lot of equipment, had to buy a lot on the black market, had to buy a lot in Tokyo, and they gave--

Jim: I was gonna say, where was the black market? There wasn't much in Pusan.

Roy: No, in Seoul.

Jim: In Seoul.

Roy: In Seoul, 'cause we were only -- we were up at Wonsan, up in the perimeter, so we were only twenty miles from Seoul.

Jim: Yeah, now tell me about this "Baldy" you referred to. You have to describe that for the--

Roy: Old Baldy?

Jim: Yeah, what is that? It's an area--

Roy: That was an area on the front lines, way up twenty somethin' -- Chorwon.

Jim: C-H-O-R-W-O-N? Two words?

Roy: No, one word.

Jim: Is that right? With a "C"?

Roy: Yes. C-H-O-R-W-O-N, Chowon. That was a strategic hill, the biggest hill up on that part of Korea, central Korea and we wanted control of that, hill to see what's happening through the valley, what they called "Invasion Valley". That's where they always came down and, every time they took Seoul, they came down that valley. So it was a strategic hill. We would have the hill. We'd fight for the hill for two days. I remember tremendous casualties. We'd get to the top of the hill. They'd blow us off the next day. That hill changed hands I would say six, seven times, eight times, ten times in two months.

Jim: Were you on that hill as a photographer, or is this when you were chasin' around--

- Roy: I was on the hill as a photographer. In other words, I was not a combat rifleman up there fighting, but I found out later on that I took more chances as a photographer because the average soldier was-- say his company was only committed to the assault every fifth day, and maybe his platoon was only on there every eighth day. But I was up there every day, volunteering.
- Jim: And you got wounded there.
- Roy: Yes, yes.
- Jim: Tell me about that, please.
- Roy: Oh well, we were-- we had just retreated off the hill and there was a lull in the fighting so we were sitting on the side of the road on the bottom of the hill and as I remember it very vividly, there was a tank sitting next to me, and there were eight people sitting on that tank inside and out, reading a newspaper. 'Cause I took a picture of them, and within two, three seconds after that picture, I snapped the picture, I heard a round come in, and --
- Jim: A mortar round?
- Roy: No, it was a shell.
- Jim: Artillery shell.
- Roy: Artillery shell. A big one, and so I hit the ditch on the side of the road—
- Jim: You mean as you heard it coming in.
- Roy: As I heard it come in I hit the ditch right away on the side of the road, but the guys on the tank and all the other machinery around it, they didn't have time, and so they were all killed outright.
- Jim: Hit the tank?
- Roy: Hit the tank dead center. In fact there was one colonel that was laying next to me in the roadside ditch, our heads were touching each other, and were talking to each other, "When is this going to stop?" 'Cause it lasted maybe ten, fifteen minutes--
- Jim: So several rounds came in then?
- Roy: Oh, maybe twenty, thirty rounds. Maybe I am exaggerating. I don't know how long it was, but all I remember is that this colonel decided to look up to see what was wrong, and he got his head blown clear off, and I was the only survivor in that--

Jim: You certainly kept your head down.

Roy: I kept my head down there, and twenty minutes after the shells stopped.

Jim: There was nothing you could do for him?

Roy: No, no.

Jim: He was just--

Roy: His head was blown right off.

Jim: Jesus.

Roy: Yeah, right off.

Jim: What could you do?

Roy: In fact, it just made me sick, that's all.

Jim: Yeah. That's a shame.

Roy: I don't like to talk about it. (sounds distressed)

Jim: Cool it for a while. Want me to turn this off? We can rest if you like.

Roy: No, it's okay.

Jim: I was going to ask you a question--

Roy: Okay. I'm sorry.

Jim: Oh, what wounds did you suffer?

Roy: I had a piece of-- oh, nothing that day. I had a piece of shrapnel later on in the same battle that just went through my thigh.

Jim: From a--?

Roy: A shell.

Jim: Mortar?

Roy: A piece of metal, yeah, from either a mortar a shell, I don't know whatever it was.

Jim: That's what I spent more time doing, more than anything else,

Roy: Taking out--

Jim: Pulling out pieces of--

Roy: Shrapnel.

Jim: Yeah, I took out hundreds and hundreds of pieces.

Roy: And I found out they never did get it all out because--

Jim: Well, it was in a certain location, it doesn't make any difference. It arrives sterile.

Roy: Well, it was in a very embarrassing position. (laughs)

Jim: Did you have to sit on it?

Roy: No. It was in the front. (laughter)

Jim: Oh. Well, then it could be dangerous.

Roy: Yes, it was really (laughs)--

Jim: You might hurt some girl.

Roy: It was really dangerous – in fact, to give you an example, about two or three years ago, I went up to get an MRI for a bad torn shoulder and they said, “Do you have any metal in your body? If you do, you cannot have a closed MRI, because it will pull the metal right out of your body.”

Jim: (Laughter)

Roy: So I tried to get most of it removed before I had the MRI, and evidently they must have got nine tenths of it. (laughs)

Jim: That's good.

Roy: But I got that later on, yeah.

Jim: Alright, so then after this Old Baldy, then you moved back?

Roy: Well, we moved back for a couple of days, a week or two, and then we went right back to T-Bone.

Jim: What's that T-Bone?

Roy: T-Bone Hill was a hill right next to Old Baldy.

Jim: I see.

Roy: All I know is we had like eighty percent casualties on that, and I remember carrying a few guys off the hill myself, which later on paid off (laughs) – later on it paid off for me that I saved these guys, because later on, when I got back into Battalion Headquarters, couple months later, it happened to be that the one guy was injured or that wounded, but was not wounded enough to go back to the States, he became the battalion headquarters, in headquarters head cook--

Jim: So he always appreciated--

Roy: So he always had me come in there and get fresh eggs and everything while even some of the lieutenants and the colonels couldn't even get fresh eggs.

Jim: Now this action at Old Baldy was in what month?

Roy: That was in July.

Jim: Of '52?

Roy: Of '52. July up to about September.

Jim: Okay. Now when you got to Korea, I forgot to ask you. When did you arrive in Korea to begin with?

Roy: I think it was about March.

Jim: Of '52?

Roy: Yeah, early March.

Jim: It was still cold?

Roy: Oh yes, oh yes. It was so cold that—I hate cold, I still won't camp outside. (laughs)

Jim: That's right. And how about food? Your unit have good-- and a reasonable supply of food?

Roy: C-rations. We lived off of C-rations.

Jim: You didn't have any hot food?

Roy: Ah, maybe once a week, if we had a chance, they'd come up with something.

Jim: From Battalion?

Roy: From Battalion. They'd come up with some canisters and--

Jim: So they probably had a kitchen.

Roy: Yeah, but not very often, until you got back off the line--

Jim: Further--

Roy: Further off the line, then you had hot food.

Jim: Did you have any trouble sleeping out there in the cold?

Roy: Yes, yes.

Jim: The ground?

Roy: Yes.

Jim: Did you get used to that?

Roy: (Laughter) In fact the first place we were, we lived in caves, twenty feet under ground. It was still cold. It still got below zero at night up there on the mountains at five thousand feet.

Jim: At least there's no wind though.

Roy: But in order to keep warm we put a gasoline can on top of the bunker with surgical tubing that dripped - went all the way through the roof, maybe ten, twelve feet, and then dripped into a coffee can which was burning. So, by morning, you were so full of smoke and soot, that you were black. You could hardly breathe. No, I hated it. I hated it. When you weren't in a cave or in a bunker, you slept on the ground. I can still remember the days sleeping on the snow right on the ice with a sleeping bag.

Jim: Most unpleasant.

Roy: That you chattered until eleven o'clock the next day. Your teeth, you couldn't actually stop your teeth from chattering.

Jim: Is that right?

Roy: And to this day I hate the cold. That's why I got to Florida all the time (laughs).

Jim: Okay. One last question about that. Did you carry an M1 with your camera?

Roy: A carbine, yes.

Jim: A carbine?

Roy: Yes.

Jim: Not an M1.

Roy: No, a carbine. I was given a .30 caliber, the carbine, yeah.

Jim: And a pistol?

Roy: Yes, well, not right away, but--

Jim: You hunkered one away from--

Roy: Yes, I had a pearl--

Jim: That's how most guys got 'em.

Roy: I had a pearl handle (laughs)--

Jim: You bought that on the beach somewhere?

Roy: I bought that in Seoul in the black market, yeah. (laughs)

Jim: I assumed that. That's what most guys--

Roy: Yeah.

Jim: Well, and that was no problem-- trouble getting' ammo for that, I'm sure.

Roy: No, no, no--

Jim: That's all over the place.

Roy: No, you--

Jim: They didn't object to you having a pistol?

Roy: No. 'Cause I was a general's aide.

Jim: Right. Okay tell me about becoming a general's aide. How'd that happen?

Roy: The general wanted to have a record of what was going on, and I guess because being a son of a famous general, I suppose he wanted to make a name for himself, so he wanted a lot of history, a lot of history to be recorded, plus he wanted to make an impression on his senior officers. So that's how the job was created. And in return for special favors, like running water, a tent, heat, light, and sitting in the evening in his armored trailer, drinking scotch, the idea was that I take his camera, and shoot everything in duplicate, so that he could say he took those pictures.

Jim: But.

Roy: But.

Jim: That's what I want you to say.

Roy: That was illegal. But what?

Jim: You had to make three copies.

Roy: Oh, but, I took three pictures. Yes, I took one for the Army, with my Speed Graphic. I took one for the general, I'm gonna call him "General" because he was later promoted to general after Old Baldy.

Jim: He was a Lt. Colonel--

Roy: He was a Lt. Colonel, or Colonel, when I came over--

Jim: Right.

Roy: And then I took one picture for myself.

Jim: You said with his camera.

Roy: Yes.

Jim: What'd he have?

Roy: He had a Zeiss, a real nice--

Jim: Oh, really.

- Roy: Yeah, a nice very expensive Zeiss. I used a C3, an Argus C3 which I brought over with me.
- Jim: The old famous.
- Roy: Yes. The old famous Argus C3, but my first trip to Japan I bought a Nikon which just came on the market at that time.
- Jim: \$109, I remember.
- Roy: Very inexpensive, very inexpensive, very inexpensive.
- Jim: Beautiful camera.
- Roy: Beautiful camera, I still have it. And then later on in the end of '52, Polaroid, Mr. Polaroid, Land or Land Polaroid, he invented that camera and he sent it over to the Army, figuring that this would be a great thing, instead of, like I said, developing pictures we get an instant picture. So I had one of the first Polaroid Cameras made in the United States via the Army, which I had lots of film, and I took a lot of pictures.
- Jim: Where you satisfied with it?
- Roy: Yes, very much, very much.
- Jim: ____ (??) pretty good job.
- Roy: I took a lot of pictures of people and sold them to (laughs) the people. They had instant pictures of themselves.
- Jim: What people?
- Roy: The officers and the other soldiers.
- Jim: You sold 'em?
- Roy: Yeah. Gotta make a buck, you know.
- Jim: Yeah, I understand I'm just surprised that they would pay you for them.
- Roy: Oh yeah, a buck a piece.
- Jim: Is that right?

- Roy: If you remember, we only got – a private only got forty eight dollars a month at that time or fifty or something like that and I was a corporal by that time, and I think it was seventy-two bucks a month.
- Jim: The general, the colonel didn't mind you had this little business on the side?
- Roy: Nope, just as long as I keep my mouth shut and give him his pictures. Everything went smoothly.
- Jim: As long as he got his pictures.
- Roy: I had a jeep at my disposal. I had a Piper Cub at my disposal.
- Jim: What did you do with that?
- Roy: Well, if there was something that had to be right away--
- Jim: Take it back somewhere.
- Roy: He'd fly me to the lines right away, instead of taking a truck--
- Jim: Go up there and take a picture--
- Roy: Right, and bring it back right away. And, if I had to get some things from – some equipment or something from Division Headquarters, he'd fly in there.
- Jim: I think he sounds like an armchair general to me. I don't think he likes to stick his nose in where it's tough.
- Roy: Ah, he didn't go up on the front lines very often.
- Jim: No, I'm sure.
- Roy: No, he--
- Jim: He wasn't as tough -- his father was tough as whalebone.
- Roy: No. His father, "Vinegar Joe" was--
- Jim: No, I know.
- Roy: One of the toughest.
- Jim: I served with General ____ (??). He was famous for not saying much, but when he said it – look out!

Roy: No. His son was a little different.

Jim: I believe it.

Roy: We also had a Colonel Truman over there, too. President Truman's brother.

Jim: Brother, yeah, cause he didn't have any sons.

Roy: Yeah, it was his brother.

Jim: Oh really?

Roy: He was a colonel. So he was over there in our group too.

Jim: A brother or a nephew?

Roy: I am not sure; I only know his name was Truman. I think he was a colonel.

Jim: I think that'd be a nephew, but I don't know.

Roy: I don't either.

Jim: It's not important.

Roy: Most time you didn't think – who cares.

Jim: Right! Did you get any USO Entertainment when you were out there charging around the hills?

Roy: Oh, yes yes. Every time a show came in--

Jim: They would bring it out to the field or you had to--

Roy: Yes. They brought it out to the field.

Jim: They did.

Roy: And the general always wanted pictures of everything.

Jim: No kidding.

Roy: And, I took a lot of shows. I remember some of the better shows the one actress who won an Academy Award for "HUD".

Jim: Patricia Neal.

- Roy: Patricia Neal, I had pictures of her. Met her, talked to her. I remember Mickey Rooney coming over and his sidekick at that time.
- Jim: Pretty short wasn't he?
- Roy: (laughs) and his sidekick – he had a comedian sidekick at that time. Debbie Reynolds, Terry Moore, who was very popular at that time. Marilyn Monroe, which unfortunately I--
- Jim: --didn't get a picture of.
- Roy: I didn't get a picture of, and almost, from distance but I do not have the negatives on that. So, different USO Shows for the next year and a half, I always--
- Jim: So the USO would show up like once a month or less often?
- Roy: Oh, no. We probably in the year, almost two years, I was there, a year and a half, let's say, I would say we had about five shows, that's all.
- Jim: You were there from March of '52 till when?
- Roy: June, June 27th, I think, of '53, yeah. Yup.
- Jim: Later in your career over there, you were in safer territory?
- Roy: Yes. At the time-- when it got to the point, after all the battles, they decided that the 2nd Division should have a complete rest, at least our battalion, I don't know how many others, so they sent us down to Taegu, to guard the tungsten mines, and at that time I didn't even know what tungsten was, but we found out that the United States Government was confiscating I don't know if it was a million dollars a day, or a week, of tungsten, from the richest tungsten mine in the world, in Taegu, Korea. 'Cause up until that time everybody wanted those tungsten mines because that made jet engines. That's why Russia wanted it and the United States, and personally I think that is why they were in Korea, because only one per cent of the tungsten in the world came from, I guess, Trinidad or something, but ninety-eight, ninety-nine percent came from that one area in central Korea. And what they did is that they mined this – the United States opened the mine again and hired thousands of people and they built towers, real tall towers, on the top each mountain top, and all the ore was shipped back in gondola cars twenty- eight miles away to Pusan and loaded on American ships and processed I guess in the United States, and we were there to guard those towers and to guard the – so that – 'cause they always had infiltrators who come in trying to blow up those mines. Now, the only bad part was, is that

we were told we were going to – they didn't tell us where they said you are going someplace and you're gonna do this. You're gonna guard these towers. You're gonna guard that mine. From now on, there will be complete silence. No letters to your mothers or your friends, no postage sent, no nothing no pictures, nothing again that discussed where you're at, because nobody is supposed to know we are here. Was the only time that I had nothin' to do, technically--

Jim: _____ (??)

Roy: I kept a record and did things, but I could not release anything because this was supposed to be hush--

Jim: How long were you down there?

Roy: I think we were down there 'till about, oh, we were down there the rest of the summer. We were actually the prisoners I remember. We lived in an old Japanese health resort inside town. We were inside the barbed wire. The only good part was it was an old Japanese hotel, or health resort, and there was bubbling hot water springs all over and it was very nice, except we were the prisoners. We were there I think until mid fall, maybe October. I'd have to read up on it. Then, they sent us to some other place, I don't know where it was. I think we were back up on the lines. 'Cause I know that we were in the deep mountains, and I spent the first winter, so very, very, very cold that, I can't even remember where it was anymore, but I do remember it was extremely cold and we stayed there for awhile. Again, I'm losing a little track of time, there was something to do with some other battles, I don't remember.

Jim: Were you involved with some prisoners, had a chance to photograph prisoners? Tell me about that.

Roy: Well, after we went - after the tungsten mines, then back up to the front, then around, I think it was about February, they said we're going to Kojedo island, because, the previous, about a month or so ago, three hundred thousand North Korean and Chinese prisoners on that island and they revolted and broke out of their compound and they had to try to get them all back in. So it was actually a major battle, trying to get these prisoners rounded up and getting them back into their compounds. And, they said the 2nd Division was going to make an amphibious landing and help out, stopping these revolts. So I made another amphibious landing (laughs) on Kojedo island. And, within a month, they had all the prisoners back in their compounds.

Jim: Who wanted those pictures that you were taking then?

- Roy: Well, first of all, you are not allowed to take pictures, even an official Army photographer isn't allowed to take pictures of prisoners of war, especially women and children. That is totally illegal unless you get sanction from the Geneva Convention.
- Jim: Prisoners of war?
- Roy: Yes.
- Jim: I took hundreds of pictures of prisoners of war. I was operating on them.
- Roy: But, did you release them to the public.
- Jim: No, ____ (??)
- Roy: Yeah, but if you wanted to release any--
- Jim: Oh, I see.
- Roy: If you wanted to release pictures to the public--
- Jim: You had to go through channels.
- Roy: you had to go through channels. So I had to take certain exams and tests, and somebody got me a license to be with the Geneva Treaty, that I could take pictures of prisoners of war, close. I could go right into the compound.
- Jim: Were you doing this for the 2nd Armored Division, 2nd Division, or the 23rd Regimental?
- Roy: I was doing this for - I still was with the 23rd, except I was at the Regimental Headquarters. That's for the 2nd Division.
- Jim: But this is regimental duty?
- Roy: Yes.
- Jim: Not higher?
- Roy: No. Regimental duty.
- Jim: ____ (??) wanted to photograph this--
- Roy: Oh, each regiment had to contribute. Each Regiment had photographers.
- Jim: That's what I was getting at.

- Roy: They had to contribute everything to Division and they would compile it all together. So I was given that-- to take pictures.
- Jim: Where was your friend Stilwell by this time? Gone, or is he still there?
- Roy: He's still there, but I didn't have much contact with him. (laughs) He was still my boss and I still saw him, once in awhile, but it wasn't like in the beginning, the closeness. I'd see him twice a month, I'd salute him and say, "Hi." And that's about it. He'd say, "Got any film for me?" "Yeah, here's some more." "Do you need anything?" "Yeah." So it was a different type of, it was a little cooler relationship then.
- Jim: Okay, so you are finished in Korea. That was your last business in Korea, was those prisoners?
- Roy: Sort of, yes. Then I was assigned to take along Time/Life photographers and take pictures. They were cleared for security, too, but they didn't know where to go, and they had to have official Army photographers and guards with them. So we would set out with fifteen, twenty people, you know, in total with the trucks and the jeeps and the guards and the civilians ---
- Jim: And you were guiding them.
- Roy: I was guiding them, because I had already been to the different camps.
- Jim: So they wanted pictures at the front?
- Roy: Of the prisoners of war.
- Jim: Oh! Oh!
- Roy: This is still prisoners of war, right. So I took them around the island and everything, yes, and showed them.
- Jim: These prisoners of war, a lot of them didn't want their pictures taken.
- Roy: No. Well, what could they do? There was barbed wire between me and them.
- Jim: They could turn their back to you.
- Roy: Then we shot 'em. (Laughter)
- Jim: I am sure you didn't.

- Roy: No, we didn't. They took 'em away then from the fence. They demanded to be-- they didn't want to be photographed. They demanded to be taken away from the fence. See, most of the pictures we took they were usually of work forces along the fence, reinforcing the fence and picking up stones. In fact, I took some pictures that I bribed a guard in the guard tower about--
- Jim: Oh, to get a better angle up there?
- Roy: Right, and I shot for -- I must have shot fifty, sixty pictures of the children's kindergarten.
- Jim: With a telephoto lens?
- Roy: With a telephoto lens through a knothole.
- Jim: With that Nikon?
- Roy: With my Nikon, yes, with a two hundred millimeter lens on. And, then because I had, now we just didn't do pictures of prisoners, and everything. They wanted the normal life of the islanders too, because part of the island was still just normal people.
- Jim: Koreans?
- Roy: Koreans so I remember with the Time/Life photographers and myself we would take twice as many excursions around the island. I remember shooting a funeral. They shot the funeral. I shot the funeral. Shooting daily life, shooting portraits of people. I liked to take picture portraits of people, especially children, of their faces and everything. So, we did a lot of photography.
- Jim: I did a lot of that too.
- Roy: Yeah, okay.
- Jim: Got lots of pictures.
- Roy: Some of my best pictures my wife said are those faces of those children that you took.
- Jim: Yeah, I've got some charming ones.
- Roy: Yeah, yeah.

- Jim: Particularly in Japan, when these little girls would be dressing up for some holiday. Then they, their bright colored clothes on, you know, and those pretty faces. Charming.
- Roy: The one picture that I have that is what I call it my most famous, and my wife and a few people who saw it, said that the picture should be – should have been on the cover of Time/Life is, the children in the beginning were still afraid of us. So, as we were driving past in this jeep, evidently the children thought we were going to harm them, kill them, or something, and they got a terrible fright on their faces and screaming and crying, and I shot from a moving vehicle and it is very--
- Jim: Dramatic.
- Roy: Dramatic. That's the word.
- Jim: That's the word you're looking for.
- Roy: That's the word, yeah, but I liked to take-- In fact I became so Koreanized, my houseboy, who was a graduate of the University of Tokyo, it got to the point where I didn't wear a uniform sometimes on weekends, when we were way back in reserve, and I used to spend the weekend at his house.
- Jim: Oh!
- Roy: In Uijongbu I got to know his family, I got to know the customs.
- Jim: Oh, how _____(??)
- Roy: I was told by a Sergeant that was over there for many years in his big career, he said, "If you want to survive this, you can't let it get you down. Learn the people, learn"—
- Jim: Go Asiatic.
- Roy: Go Asiatic. Go with the flow, and life will be much more pleasant.
- Jim: Of course.
- Roy: And that's what I did. And, being a photographer was--
- Jim: Did you have much time in Japan?
- Roy: Oh we, I flew back there. I had a couple of R & Rs, ten days, five days, and then I flew there for supplies. I maybe had fifteen days in Japan.

- Jim: So, this brings you down to the end of your career in Korea.
- Roy: Yes.
- Jim: So, how did you get home?
- Roy: Well, they picked our group to be the first group to go directly from Pusan, Korea, directly to New York City.
- Jim: Directly?
- Roy: Directly by ship.
- Jim: Oh, that's a long way around.
- Roy: Yes sir, thirty- three days. Five thousand some guys plus eighteen hundred crew and so we left Pusan, and I remember about a day out of Hawaii, a boiler blew, and I remember, I was on the eighth deck below water line. I forgot what they call it.
- Jim: ____ (??)
- Roy: And it got so hot that they had to--
- Jim: Plus you were scrambling up--
- Roy: Yes, we were scrambling up. So the ship became idle right out of Pearl Harbor, so they towed us into Pearl Harbor and they said, "Take a vacation. Take an "R and R". So I spent like six, seven days in Hawaii while they fixed the boiler, and got some more food. I didn't care how long it took 'em at that time, except the South Pacific is awful hot, especially when you're below decks and we were allowed, I remember we were allowed on top of the deck in the evening, every eighth day. It took eight days 'til everybody got a chance.
- Jim: Rotated out.
- Roy: Yes, rotated out. Then we got to the Panama Canal and we had to wait—

[End of side A, tape 1 ca. 45 min.]

- Roy: --at the Panama Canal to get through so they gave us a day off in Balboa, and in the meantime I'm shooting pictures all the way, and then we went to Puerto Rico, and we dropped off, I think it was the 69th Battalion, so they said, "We're giving everybody three days off in Puerto Rico, too." So I had three days in Puerto Rico, San Juan, toured all the famous tourist sites and

everything. And then we got back to – as we're coming into New York harbor, past the Statue of Liberty, ah, a lot of boats came out, tugboats to pull us in, and other ships came with their water cannons, shooting in the air, welcoming us, because we were the first ones ever to make that trip. So then we got off in New York and then they shipped us up to a camp out of New York City. And, from there, they said, "You can go to Camp Atterbury, Indiana, take your discharge there, it will take about two weeks, or you can take a quickie discharge". So when I got to Camp Atterbury, I decided to take the quickie discharge. No medicals, no nothing, just sign the papers. They gave me, I think it says, a four hundred eighty dollar bonus plus back pay, so on and so forth. I think it came to almost seven hundred.

[Tape interruption: Approx. 7 second gap]

Jim: When you got home, did you use your GI Bill?

Roy: No. I went to—I remember, I went to—I went home to Milwaukee, and I went to the Milwaukee Journal, applied for a job as staff photographer, I don't care what, the assistant to the assistant, because I had already done work with them before I went into the service, and I say, "Here is my credentials. Here's the things I did in Korea and Japan, and here's things I did with Time/Life, and here is the things I did here-- dadada. And they said, "Sorry, you're not qualified." I says, "What?" And they said, "No, we've got enough photographers here, and the Milwaukee Journal is one of the top photo newspapers in the United States."

Jim: They decided that?

Roy: Yeah. They decided (laughs) that and, "Sorry, we have no room for you." So I did start up my own little studio and I did everything, and I got married.

Jim: You could have got a loan from the GI Bill.

Roy: I never thought of it. I thought I signed away --

Jim: Five percent.

Roy: I thought I signed away all my rights. That's what I was told.

Jim: Oh, you were hornswaggled.

Roy: I was hornswaggled is right. So I started a little studio and I got married within the year, in October, and she was a model so, we started a modeling school, and it just kinda didn't work out. I just couldn't make enough money, but I was brought up a landscaper. My father was a landscaper. My

father was the first landscaper in the state of Wisconsin. My father owned the first bulldozer and tractor in the United States. But, I didn't want to become a landscaper, I wanted to be a photographer, so when I couldn't make it then I became a landscaper. (laughs).

Jim: It looked better the second time.

Roy: It looked -- at least I had income. So I formed my own company right away. I didn't work for anybody.

Jim: That was gutsy.

Roy: I formed my own company, without a job or anything, because my dad was very famous, my dad and my five uncles were all landscapers, and we were doing the cream of the crop in the State of Wisconsin. I had a lot of --

Jim: Well, why would you go on your own if you had this business already set up for you to move in on?

Roy: I didn't want to. I am very independent. I still am.

Jim: I was gonna say, you and your old man have words about this?

Roy: Yes, he said, "Why don't you work for me?" I said, "No, I want my own business," and he says, "Well, I'll give you some of my customers." I says, "Fine." He said, you pay me ten percent commission." "Okay Dad." And I said, "But I have no tools or equipment, or no money."

Jim: Right.

Roy: He said, "Well, I'll give you those." So he gave me a wheelbarrow and shovel and stuff like that, and the first of the month I got a bill for twenty-three dollars. I says, "Dad, I thought you were going to give this to me." "Well, not for nothing. If you want to become a successful businessman, (laughs) you have to pay for things." And, within six years, I bought my dad out. A year or so later, I bought my brother out. I bought my one uncle out. By the time it was 1966, I owned most of the state franchise Zehren Landscape Companies, and, in 1974, Purdue University invented the PAT football field system, which, was - the first one was built in Milwaukee, which I got the North American franchise to build these football systems.

Jim: How where they different?

Roy: There is no soil in them. It is all sand. All computerized. Not at that time--

Jim: How do the nutrients get into the grass?

- Roy: You gotta put a lot in there. (laughs)
- Jim: This is a chemical?
- Roy: Yeah, but the second field that was built was “Denver Mile High”, which I was a consultant. The third one was the Orange Bowl in Miami which I was a consultant on, ‘cause I wasn’t allowed to work in Miami. The next one, the fourth one, was RFK in Washington, which I was not allowed to work on the east coast ‘cause I didn’t belong to the union. Then, I did some other fields. I did one in Chicago. I did one in Saginaw Valley, Michigan, and I did a couple of other ones. Then finally in ‘70, no about 1980-1981, I thought I’d form my own company and do my own sand systems, and form my own patent rights.
- Jim: This is another company.
- Roy: Instead of Zehren Landscape which was a landscaper. I decided to do this because now I was famous over the United States for doing sand systems. So I called myself “Natural Athletic Turf” and I formed the NAT system. I didn’t patent it. I just, I didn’t even copyright it, but I knew how to beat the patent rights, so I gave them the same field without a pump. So I became known as “The Sandman” then over the United States, for building sand systems. Now everybody is doing it, just about. Some modified system, and so am I. That’s my main business now, building sand systems, ‘cause ---
- Jim: It’s like at Purdue?
- Roy: Not quite, a little different. We change many things.
- Jim: Tell me now I am a wild football fan, and I as a physician in addition, I’m really disturbed by the number of injuries caused by the artificial turf. What is the future here?
- Roy: Artificial turf will be almost out. Another twenty stadiums and colleges went back to natural grass again last year. Ah, though they are improving the AstroTurf, I shouldn’t say Astro, artificial turf, AstroTurf is just one of them, ‘cause now they’re putting in resilient asphalt, where the water can run through and they’re adding rubber to the asphalt for sponginess. They’ve changed the pad underneath the artificial turf for some more sponginess. They’re trying to reduce the accidents, but the serious accidents are still in artificial turf.
- Jim: My partner in the practice of urology, his son played professional football, Ricky Graf.

- Roy: Okay.
- Jim: And Ricky says artificial turf, the team calls it “Green Cement”.
- Roy: “Green Cement”.
- Jim: That is what they called it.
- Roy: Well--
- Jim: They said it just – they hated it.
- Roy: Yeah, because after five or six years, seven years, you’re supposed to replace it. Like the Kansas City Chiefs, they never replaced it. They were playing on painted nothing, and it was dangerous.
- Jim: It was just too hard.
- Roy: Now, my head man in my business, Jack, he’s been with me twenty-two years. By the way, he was in Korea too, after me, he’s only forty some years, forty-six years old, but he was all-star football player in the State of Wisconsin, he played for Wisconsin and everything.
- Jim: What’s his name?
- Roy: Jack Walsh. He was all-star high school and so forth. He was drafted by Michigan State. He became four national title holders of running back in the United States. This was around ‘69 or ‘70, something like that. He held four National Titles for Running Back, except he was injured so bad on the artificial turf that he lost his career, otherwise he’d probably be NFL right now. He’s my head man, building my football fields, and he only wants grass.
- Jim: Sure.
- Roy: And the difference – the reason they went to artificial turf years ago, is because the soil got compacted, the grass died, and you had mud. So to eliminate the problem, you eliminated the soil. So the new systems are sand and they’re very nice. It’s like if you picture Daytona Beach, if you picture the hard sand on the ocean, you can drive a car on the soft sand you--
- Jim: ____ (??) comparable--
- Roy: So you do the same thing on your field. The only--
- Jim: Not as soft as regular grass, but not as hard as--

- Roy: No, it's five times softer than – because even though it's sand, and it's wet, you can still – a knee will go in at least a half inch.
- Jim: Oh, okay.
- Roy: Not in our soil though. So the system is quite good if you maintain it right. Now again, anything is as good--
- Jim: What's that mean? Water?
- Roy: Well, extra - ten times more fertilizer, more water because it is a sand system, there are no nutrients held, it has its own problems. It can dry out in one day.
- Jim: So the maintenance costs can suddenly go sky high.
- Roy: Quadruple.
- Jim: Wow! So that's probably a deterrent for people switching to your system.
- Roy: In a way. But, now we've come up with the systems where we have our own water table underneath. We have like the PAT system, it's a control system. There's a liner where the water is held any depth you want it the bottoms. In other words, in July if you keep four inches of water in the bottom of the bathtub, the water will wick up and keep the grass alive. If it's rainy, you open all valves and it drains it, like at the Orange Bowl, you can have four inches of rain and two hours later you can play on the field, 'cause we turn the pumps on and suck all the water out. That's the part that is patented, by the way.
- Jim: You ought to sell one out here to the UW.
- Roy: We did.
- Jim: They need one.
- Roy: We did. They put five thousand dollars down on it in 1974, for Camp Randall. They wanted to get rid of their Tartan Turf, which was, they were bankrupt then, Tartan Turf, and they didn't want AstroTurf, so they called up the University of Purdue, and said, "What's this new sand system you have? We want to be one of the first in the country to have it." They said, "Okay, here's the deal." They put five thousand dollars down, and we went to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and we built the first commercial PAT field in the United States at UWM.

- Jim: PAT.
- Roy: PAT. The first commercial one in the United States.
- Jim: PAT what is it?
- Roy: Prescription Athletic Turf. It's a patented system by--
- Jim: That's your logo, that's your trade name--
- Roy: No, no. No, mine's NAT. No, that was patented by Purdue University, and they called it Prescription Athletic Turf. And, so we built that field. I mean we did make one practice to see how it worked at Purdue. So the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee was the first official commercial PAT field in the United States as test plot for Camp Randall.
- Jim: Right.
- Roy: When the time came the following year, they loved it. They wanted to build it. They got the price, they already had paid their down payment on it. The price of that was three hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, I remember and the price of artificial turf was one and one quarter million, which every eight years has to be replaced. Monsanto, who wanted the business very, very bad at the time 'cause they saw the writing on the wall with these new systems, they said, "We will give it to you for the same price." And Camp Randall said, "Well, we use the field for this, we use the field for that." So, they went to AstroTurf, and they are still sticking with it, and they're gonna keep it.
- Jim: They are, huh?
- Roy: Yup.
- Jim: They haven't contacted you about changing it?
- Roy: Nope. They don't want it. They said they have too many other things on the field. They're afraid it would wear out. But, really it doesn't.
- Jim: Yeah. They put soccer on there and other things.
- Roy: That's okay. We do it on our fields. We put on eighty games a year. Nothing happens – if you take care of it.
- Jim: Right.

- Roy: But that's what I do now. And, I tell you what, the photography angle, another reason why I became a landscaper is that it's art. It's a form of art, and I fell in love so much with the Orient and fell in so much with Japanese landscaping, Oriental landscaping, when I started my landscaping in the United States and Milwaukee I specialized in Oriental, because nobody else was doing that.
- Jim: Did you grab somebody over there and bring 'em over here?
- Roy: No, just I tried to pick everything up I could myself.
- Jim: Yeah. I enjoyed the gardens, particularly around Kyoto which is my favorite city of all.
- Roy: Yeah, oh, that is outstanding. Some day I'll go back there.
- Jim: Something that's beautiful, I just love that place.
- Roy: I'd like to go back to Korea, too, once but they're telling me that--
- Jim: I have no interest in that.
- Roy: They're telling me it's a little dangerous.
- Jim: I just – there's nothing in Korea that attracted me.
- Roy: (laughs) Well--
- Jim: It was ugly, dirty, smelly--
- Roy: Yeah, yeah, smelly, yes.
- Jim: All the words that end in "y" it was.
- Roy: Yeah, it was – there's a few a few areas. (laughs)
- Jim: The people I thought looked awful and the Japanese people looked--
- Roy: Oh, yes, yes.
- Jim: These people in Korea were all depressed. Of course they would be.
- Roy: Oh, you can't even stand next to them, ____ (??) the body odor, from their diet.
- Jim: ____ (??)

Roy: Their diet.

Jim: _____ (??) I don't have any more questions to ask you. Did you forget to tell me anything?

Roy: No. I guess that winds it up, except, that every once and awhile, and just two weeks ago, I gave another talk on Korea with my eight hundred slides. I gave it to, believe it or not, to my own sons who never knew their father they knew I was there and they knew certain things, but you don't say certain things to your kids until they get older and they're fascinated that I did all that. (laughs) But, that's it.

[End of Interview]