

2 interviews

LOH 2007-4/9.2.25

Interviewer: Laura Lathrop (largely paraphrased due to wrecked tape.)
Interviewee: Denzel Scheller May 31st, 2001 4:30 pm

no tape

Laura Lathrop: "Did you grow up around here?"

Denzel Scheller: Yes, I lived here until I went to college for a brief time and then I was drafted.

LL: "What was the public opinion of the war and how did it change over time?"

DS: "My father, the older generation, was really proud of what the government was doing in Vietnam.... All of my friends were really against the war. I know I was."

LL: "Were there any demonstrations that you can remember?"

DS: "Any protest against the war was limited to just talk among friends, really; I mean, people talked about it but there weren't any mass public protest."

LL: "Can you tell me anything about the draft?"

DS: "I remember getting a really low draft number, like 2.(laughs.) My friend had a really high one; I wanted to trade him.... but yeah, I pretty much knew I was going."

LL: "Where were you stationed in Vietnam?"

DS: I didn't go to Vietnam; I was a counselor for returning veterans and guys who were in the middle of their tour, like me.

LL: "Can you tell me a little about how they felt? I mean, what was their view of the war? Had it changed?"

DS: "Probably what you think; those guys had a rough time dealing with it; the soldiers were left with deep emotional scars and after having fought in the war some of their political views and how they felt about their country had changed a lot."

LL: "How do you think Hillsboro reacted to the war?"

Lynn Scheller: I was here and people basically went on with their lives; It was on television and the news; people talked about it but it wasn't really on their minds like the second world war; I remember very clearly how biased the news was; very conservative.