Kenneth A. Hogan

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MUKOYAMA: My name is Major General James Mukoyama, United States Army Retired, and I have the distinct honor to speak today with Sergeant Kenneth A. Hogan, who served in the United States Army from October 23, 1966, to October 23, 1968. He was an infantry soldier, military occupational specialty, or MOS, 11-Bravo in the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division in the Demilitarized Zone of the Republic of South Korea for thirteen months in 1967 to 1968. We are here at the Pritzker Military Museum and Library on October 3, 2019. It is a distinct privilege for me to be with Ken, as we have known each other for several years through our association in various veterans groups and activities and only recently learned that we actually served together overseas in combat. Ken, we're looking forward to learning your story of service. So let's start at the beginning. Where were you born, and where did you grow up?

HOGAN: I was born in Evanston, Illinois back in 1941. It was just oh, thirty-some days after the beginning of WWII. And I grew up in the town of Skokie, Illinois until I was about fifteen and my parents moved to Morton Grove. And I've been living there ever since.

MUKOYAMA: And what did you do prior to entering the service? Just tell us a little bit about your life.

HOGAN: I was mainly a heavy equipment operator. I ran bulldozers and digging basements, cutting out roads, things like that for different companies. And I was just mainly--that was my main occupation before I got drafted, and when I got back I went into similar jobs like that, but my main job was as an equipment operator.

MUKOYAMA: So before you entered the service were you married?

HOGAN: Yes, I married in 1963. My wife and I were married May of 1963, and in 1964, we were expecting our first child, and so I went to the selective services because back in those days the draft was in full blow, and so we--they changed my status from 1A, is when you can be drafted, and 3A is if you have some type of a deferment, meaning if you are married with children, at the

time they weren't drafting. So she was expecting our first child in 1964, and she lost the child, and we lost our first child, and so they reclassified me back to 1A, the selective service. The hospitals had to notify people at the time, and the selective service was one of the people, that my status had changed. So it changed in 1964, and then in 1966, I was drafted in October of 1966. And it was kind of an unusual thing because when I got my draft notice the--you go down to 615 West Van Buren, which every draftee knows the address and remembers it forever because that's where you started out your service. So when I got down there I thought I was just gonna take my physical and they'd notify me later as to when to come in to go into the service if I passed everything. But it was that day--they told us when we got to take the physical it would be the longest day of our lives, and it was a long day. It took a full twelve hours to get through all the testing they did. The physical, the mental, everything had to be tested. So I had to be down there at 5:30 in the morning, and it was about 6 o'clock at night when we finally finished up. It was just a massive amount of moving, and they had tapes on the hallway floors to tell you which door to go to next. There was blue and yellow and red, I believe. So they took us into a room before we left that day before we left 615 W. Van Buren, and they swore us all in, and I figured, well, that's just part of the ceremony. And then they took us on buses, they said we were going back to Union Station. And I thought, that's how I got down to Chicago, so I thought they were putting us on a train to send us back home, but when I got down to Union Station they had us lined up on the platform, and because we had already sworn in back at 615 West--so they had us lined up on the platform, and we didn't know anything about the military, but they had a bunch of DIs [Drill Instructors] down there, so they lined us up, and that's when I found out I wasn't going home. I was starting my military career right there. So they had us line up on the platform, and a very large [US] Marine sergeant was--drill sergeant he ended up being--he told us to line up, and he said, "When I pass by if I point at you, you step forward." So we lined up, he did that, and every guy that stepped forward, they were gonna be in the [United States] Marine Corps. It was one of the only times that the Marine Corps drafted was during the time--because they were losing so many guys in Nam [Vietnam] they weren't getting enough people enlisting, so they had to start drafting even in the Marines to keep them going. So it just--if I would have been standing in a different position I would have ended up being a Marine, but the guys that did have to step forward, they told them to make a right face, and they marched them out. They went into Marine training. But they put us on a train, and that's when I found out we weren't going home. And they sent us to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and that was our reception station. And the train was an overnight train ride. But we got into Kentucky, and that's where more testing was done, our uniforms were issued, and--because it was--the 23rd of October is when I was drafted, so by that time, by the time I got to Fort Campbell and through all the testing there on day three it was the 26th of

October, and that was my birthday. So when we--they issued everything, that's the day my uniforms were issued to me, so that was my gift from the government was a brand new set of clothing, which I wore for the next two years with them. But we stayed at Fort Campbell just for those three days there for further testing and to make sure everything was all right. And they didn't send us in to see if anybody was--objected to going to war. They had to make that clear there before they sent us in to train us. But I forget what they call it nowadays, if you're objecting--

MUKOYAMA: Conscientious objector.

HOGAN: Conscientious objector, thank you. So we--there were a few people that, did that, and they sent them somewhere else. But from Fort Campbell, they put us on buses and sent us to Fort Stewart, Georgia, and it was just the daytime, but we got halfway through Georgia, and the bus broke down. It was a big Greyhound Bus they had us on. And the bus driver just got off and had to go to a house. Nobody had cell phones back in those days. So they just left us on the bus, and it was a good eight hours before anybody came to--he had gone to call for another bus. But anyway, they got us on another bus, and we got into Fort Stewart at about three in the morning. And this is actually where my basic training started. It was, from there, everybody was trained in infantry, because your initial basic training, AIT, is when you get into what you're gonna end up doing, but that was basically my induction into the service.

MUKOYAMA: So, the mid-'60s were a time of turmoil in our country. How did you feel About the Vietnam War, and how did you feel about being drafted?

HOGAN: So that was a load off my mind, anyway. And I just went on with it. I felt it was--I was proud to serve, for one thing.

MUKOYAMA: How did your family, your wife feel about your serving, going into the service?

HOGAN: Well, pretty much the same as my feeling. They all joined in and picked up wherever--if my wife needed help there was family there to help. If I needed help in keeping myself strong, it was all there. I knew everybody was behind me. And that really made it a lot easier for me to go away because I was gone most of the two years. I was only home--you only had thirty-day leaves in the service, so any other time--the telephones weren't like they were now. I never had a chance to talk even on the phone that often. But that was the sacrifice that as I look back on it that I didn't mind at all. It was just something that had to be done.

MUKOYAMA: So is there--are there any experiences from your basic training or your

advanced individual training that you'd like to mention or that you recall?

HOGAN: Well, I'm trying to think of--'cause it was rough training we had, because we went right from basic training, which was hard enough, but then I was 11-Bravo, so that means you're infantry, which means you're a rifleman. That's your main thing. There's all kinds of different MOSs [military occupational specialties] that people have, but if you're drafted it was pretty sure we were gonna be infantry, 'cause that's just the way it worked because they needed a lot of people. In Vietnam, they were losing a lot of people than I thought they were losing. I didn't realize we were losing that many people. And it wasn't a lot on the news or whatever because I think the news wanted to keep it off because there were so many protesters against it. People were going to Canada to avoid the draft and burning their draft cards and everything else. But I really believed that my training was the best because I know when I finished basic training it was Christmas. They did send us home for two days, we came back, went right back to training, and I know that we--when I went into AIT at the end of that training we were all told we were gonna go to Vietnam, and we were told that you better learn what we're teaching you because it will probably keep you alive. So that's the way we were trained. It was no funny business. This is a serious job you're in and get it right. But I--and it was all Vietnam. A lot of our DIs said, "We're gonna teach you right because we'll be fighting right alongside of you over in Vietnam." But it was about two weeks, we were all trained. It was after my basic training in AIT, advanced individual training, and we were getting ready to, we thought, leave to Nam. I even called my wife and said, "It looks like that's where I'm going." And then they told us that they were holding us back for a week or two because they had special orders for us. And the orders were the way they put it to us was, "There's a little something in Korea that's firing up right now, and we might need a few more troops over there", and besides that a lot of guys are being killed over in Vietnam in the first month that they go over there, and they said that in Korea you might get into some firefights and get used to firefights there, and then when you get over to Nam you'll know what's going on when the heavy stuff comes in. So, when we waited for the orders to come in, they said that was the main reason we're going to Korea too, was to get used to being fired at. And I think in reality they knew we were gonna have to stay because it was already hotter than they would acknowledge to us. So I waited, I got over to Korea, and we landed in Korea I think it was--I forget what month it was, but when we landed I thought it was unbelievable. The cultural shock when we got there was--I'd never been in a foreign country, so I didn't realize that there were still countries that were a little behind in things. People lived in grass huts and mud roofs--mud huts with grass roofs on them. But when we thought we were going to--we didn't know what unit we were gonna go to when we first got there. And they took us to a big theater, and my commanding general, and I can't think of his name right now, of forces of

the 2nd Division--of the 8th Army, really; he was in charge of the whole military over there. But they took us into a big theater, and you just walk in and sit down, it was down the aisle so you sit in the left or the right side, so I just happened to sit on the right side. And they gave their speech, and the general welcomed us to Korea, and told us, "There's a few hotspots over here, and you guys are here to take care of that." And when he was all done with his welcoming, he just said, "All you guys on the left side are gonna be on the 2nd [Infantry] Division, and the guys on the right side are gonna be in the 7th [Infantry] Division. And the 7th Division was our backup, and if anything happened to us, then the 7th would be there to help to support us. But the 2nd Division was the one that was gonna be on line that was gonna be on the DMZ [Demilitarized Zone]. The 7th was back far enough it was safer, and so--and the general said, "I'm sorry about you guys in the 2nd Division." He says, "You've got the bad place to go, but at least you've got the nicest patch in the Army. He said, "You've got one thing going for you."

MUKOYAMA: That's the patch on your cap.

HOGAN: No, the 2nd Division patch. So when we got up and out of there, if I had sat on the other side of the room I wouldn't have experienced all the stuff I had experienced, because there was that much difference between the two divisions. The 7th really didn't know what was going on with the 2nd over there. They didn't realize how involved we were. And we thought that everybody knew what we were going through. We thought the people back in the States knew about it, which the news never got back here. Like some people say, it was on page fifty-seven of the Sunday *[Chicago] Trib[une] in* a little article about something that happened in Korea. Over where I was it would have been front-page stuff. But there were just so many protestings going on about the Vietnam War still in this country that they didn't want it to be known too much, in my opinion anyway, what was going on in Korea, because then there'd really be more protesters out there. So I ended up in the 2nd Division, went up on the DMZ for the first company I was with, and it was--we patrolled the DMZ every day and every night. It was a 24-hour-a-day, and it was combat operations from the Day One. The first night I was out on the zone, still wasn't sure, I didn't talk to too many people at first because you're so busy getting yourself settled into this new environment. But I know the first night I was actually sent out on a patrol, and most of the patrols were positions that were already, they were fixed positions. They were foxholes, trenches, we had bunkers, we had outposts. There was just a lot of different areas where they could put us, but every night they would have us fill these positions. But the one that I was in the first night I was out on the zone, I was up kind of high on a hill, and there was a foxhole dug into the side of the hill, and we were just watching for--they told us our objective out there was to stop any North Koreans that were trying to get through the lines, trying to get

down to disrupt the Army or the government of South Korea. They were trying to destroy them. But I remember the first night, and when I was in basic we had some live fire exercises, so I knew the sounds of that. But the first night I was over there I heard it, and I wasn't quite sure. I was hoping. I didn't know, maybe they had a little training going on there too. But I heard the firing going on, and I heard the bullets going through the trees and the weeds, and it makes a definite sound. It's like a [shoop] sound, and when it's coming through you know it's coming at you. But it was the North Koreans were out there, and from what I heard, the only time they sent their troops out there, they were the most elite troops the North Korea army has. They were all officers, the ones that were trying to inflict pain on us. But so that was my first night of it. The next morning when I got back to base camp, they sent trucks out. They would truck us out to the zone, and then in the morning they would pick us up and take us back to our base camp, and I got a chance to talk to a lot of the guys. So I knew more of what was going on from then on. But it was just, just a time when it was an unbelievable thing going on. I knew if I had gone to Nam that was gonna happen right away, but I was sent here so I wasn't quite ready for it.

MUKOYAMA: So you mention about base camp and being trucked up to the DMZ. Now, you were in the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry.

HOGAN: Correct.

MUKOYAMA: When you first arrived, where were you located? Where was your--what was your base of operations? Was it in the DMZ, was it outside of it, or where exactly was it--

HOGAN: The DMZ is north of the--the Imjin River [that] is actually the, the river that runs through the whole country of Korea. It's 154 miles long, and it stretches from--the Yellow Sea is on one side of Korea, and the Sea of Japan is on the other side. And this Imjin River runs to the two different seas. So we would have to cross the Imjin to get over to the DMZ, the actual DMZ where the ball of fighting went on. So when I was first stationed I was south of the DMZ, just south. There were two bridges going over, Freedom Bridge and Liberty Bridge. Liberty Bridge, and but I was right by Freedom Bridge, so they would take us across the bridge every night for patrols and then bring us back south, but first, when we got there we were south of the Imjin. And then they, just a couple of months after we were there, they moved us up to the north. Another unit had moved out. I think it was the 1st Cav—whoever it was had moved out of there, and they put all of us up. Then we were all north of the Imjin River. Now we're right in the DMZ.

MUKOYAMA: I was actually involved in that movement. What happened was, we had three

battalions in the 3rd Brigade, which were on line on the DMZ, but when things started to heat up, we actually brought up your battalion to make it four battalions on line, and so that's how that all happened, so that because when you first started your compound was not in the DMZ—

HOGAN: Right.

MUKOYAMA: but then later on in your tour you guys moved north of the river, and you were actually in the DMZ--

HOGAN: Right.

MUKOYAMA: --all that time. When you had your so-called downtime [chuckles] when you were just living your life as a soldier back at base camp, what type of activities did you guys do, or what did you do?

HOGAN: Well, any downtime, they did have an EM club down there, they call them. Enlisted Men's Club. And so in the evening, you could go--for a long time it was open, and they had shuffleboard and different things you could do. And you could get a beer up there. But it was as far as on the camp itself it wasn't a lot. It was just your military—you're cleaning weapons, you're--we could get a pass to the towns at night. There was a small town outside--I can't recall the name of it now, but it was right outside the town. Very primitive if you think about our way of living to theirs. I don't think this stuff even exists to this day. This is fifty years that we're talking, fifty-three years. But it was actually mud huts with grass roofs on top of it. This was the way they lived there. And I'd been in some of the places, and they actually had linoleum to divide the different rooms. Linoleum was on the floor, the walls, the ceilings. And you could hear rats in the places 'cause there were rice fields right out there, so there were a lot of rats and stuff in the place.

MUKOYAMA: Those floors are actually like a wax or linoleum because the Korean homes were heated by charcoal, which was underneath the floor. And the heat would rise up, and so the floors had to be such where the heat could come up, and that's what that as all about. During your thirteen-month tour, what type of combat operations did you experience? Were you in firefights?

HOGAN: Yeah, there was many, many different situations I was in. A lot of firefights. And again we thought a lot of this was going back to the States here, but nobody knew about it, and to this day most people don't. But I'm trying to think. One of my first ones was, well it was where we had four of our guys were killed the night before in this particular area that I was in. We had a certain sector that we patrolled. The United States Army had eighteen miles of this DMZ. And I'm not sure what our mileage was, but we just had part of

that section. But our--four of our guys were killed in--that's the one that's the one that really got me, because it was--when you know people, and when they're killed. And I know the guys in Nam went through a whole lot more than I did. They had to go through it every day, and I didn't have that to put up with. But it was just the fact that when you get back in in the morning you heard a lot of firefighting going on, but it wasn't right next to you, so you didn't know what happened. You didn't find out 'til you got back to your base camp. And I found out these guys--that one, it wasn't aimed at me that night. So then things really heated up after that, 'cause I remember the one night, another night we went out, and the unit--we had killed about five of their infiltrators trying to get through our lines the night before. Now the next night when I went out on patrol, it ended up I got put in that position where our guys had knocked out five of theirs. So I didn't realize I was on that position, but on that night they just told us to be very careful and alert because they retaliated--they were retaliating against their guys getting killed, so they were hitting us really hard. Our particular position they wanted to knock out because they thought it was the same guys there that had killed their guys the night before, and that really got hot and heavy, but everybody was alerted, too, it. We knew we were gonna have problems out there. But when it first started, 11 o'clock at night is when, if they were gonna open up on you that's usually when they made their hits on us. So I was just watching the area, and I saw a light, like a streak, like a shooting star or something, and then all of a sudden I realized what it was, and it was we were being fired at. Because in the US Army our machine guns, every fifth bullet is a tracer, so you know where you're firing it at night. And it's a red tracer, so you can spot where you're firing. But the machine gun they have, I think it was an AK-47 or whichever one they had. They had white phosphorous, they had white tracers, so it just looks like a shooting star coming down. Actually, what I saw was the bullets coming at me. And there was four guys in the position I was at, the foxhole position, there was myself and three other guys. And I'll never forget these guys, 'cause it was probably one of the worst nights I had. It was Chavez, Johnson, and Ryder, and I've never been able to contact them since I've been back, but I'd like to see if they thought about it, 'cause I've had a lot of nightmares about that night. But they came down hard on us, and we had trip flares set up because when we set up our positions we put concertina wire around to protect us. We had trip flares so if they hit one off they'd illuminate themselves, and then we could pick them off. And we had grenades also. We had different areas where we had put piano wire out, and if they tripped on that thing they would blow themselves up because the grenade would go off. It would pull the pin out. But I really didn't think we were gonna make it through that night. We could hear the bullets chewing up that area. They just had us zeroed in. And then we heard their--we could hear when they would take a grenade off whatever way they were holding them, they had the old WWII grenades which we called pineapples because they looked

like little pineapples. But we could hear when the pin would click up against that, we could hear the sound, so we knew there was a grenade coming in because they took it off wherever their holder was. And it was so close that the dirt would land right on our helmets, the dirt where the grenade hit, so if one of them in our foxholes, we would have all been gone. But the one guy next to me, Spanish guy, his name was Chavez. And usually, we tried to be as quiet as possible amongst ourselves, but he was trying to get my attention. He said, “Hogan, Hogan, I can smell the kimchi.” And I could too. And what it was, they were so close on us, when they came across at night to get through our line, sometimes it’d take them a day or two to get through. They’d hide out. But they had a food ration they'd bring with them, which was kimchi and rice, and the kimchi was a favorite food over there, and if everybody doesn’t know what kimchi is it's got a real smell like, I can't describe it, but it would be something like garlic smell or something. And what it was is, it was their staple, and that's what they would live with. But we could smell their breath, that's how close they were. And I told Chavez, "I know it, I know it, I smell it too. Just calm down." He was talking Spanish. When I got the word kimchi, I knew what he was referring to. But as it stands I was spraying the area myself, but I was—didn’t think we were gonna come out of it, so I said a little prayer myself, and I said, “God, let me make it through this night, and if I get one in my sights I won't kill him.” And I no sooner thought that and I had my rifle, my finger was on the trigger ready to squeeze the trigger, and one of the guys, one of the intruders or the guy trying to get through our lines, he must have hit one another one of the trip flares, and it lit the area up. And there was a North Korean soldier looking right at me with his rifle pointed right at me. And it happened just a matter of seconds. I'll never understand why he didn’t pull his trigger. And I didn’t squeeze mine right away because I’m thinking I had just made a promise to God that I wouldn’t kill them. You can wound somebody and not have to kill them. I wasn’t gonna shoot him in the head. And, but our guys from the hills, now that they illuminated the area they could see the problem that we were in, so they opened fire to try to clear us out of there, and they took care of the guy for me. And I often wondered about that because my nightmares, even in my old age every once in a while it comes back to me. And I can still see his face, and it was one of the most vivid things that I remembered because in nightmares after things like that, you remember the smells. Like I could smell gunpowder, I could smell blood, I could smell the earth from that part of the world. And it's just things you never forget. But that was one of the hottest things I had. But it went on and on every night. I was in a trench one time, we had about six or eight guys in this trench, and we got hit from one side. And what had happened, we were in an open area, and they were able to get around us, and they were shooting at us from both sides. And it was the first time that I had over there that we had orders to fix bayonets because it was such close quarters and we thought we were gonna get a wave of them to come in and just try to overrun us. But

when we were trying to get our bayonets on, it—you trained and everything in it, but when you're in a crowded situation, trying to get the bayonet just off your belt and get it on your rifle, get the sheath off of it, and I had--one of my own guys turning around, he had his around and was trying to get his weapon pointed back toward the enemy, and he caught me in the neck a little bit with his bayonet. And it healed up, and I don't even have a scar, but it bled something terrible because you just go on. The adrenalin was just such a rush out there at the time to keep things going, and I knew my neck was warm, but I didn't--I knew I couldn't stop, but the firing finally got down, and we took care of business, and one of the guys saw that he could see--one of the flares went off--that I had all kinds of blood on my neck, so we had our first aid pack that we carried, took a big compress and put it on my neck, tied it up, and it lasted 'til morning. The morning, I didn't even think about it anymore. It just bled, and then we put a compression on it, and it kept me from bleeding. But that was another one of the times when it was a bit scary. But we did go through quite a few things like that that I know I've got a whole to of them in my mind, a lot of them I try to block out, and some of them are--they come back whether--I never figured out a way to stop them. I don't know whether it's normal for guys. I haven't talked to too many guys about it, other vets that were in combat situations, but I don't know whether they experience it this late in their life or not, but it's not like a nightly thing anymore, but back into those days it was. My wife luckily was a strong person because she--but I [clears throat]. I'll try to not--just to say one thing about her, she stood with me. [Choking up]

MUKOYAMA: How many years were you married?

HOGAN: Darn it, I'm sorry. I'm sorry, but I'm trying to go on to something else. But, I know there was one time, I know I was getting ready to go out on patrol. And I know I was at--the night before a few of our guys were killed on the Zone. And what they usually did is, they sent out a lot of military people to investigate how they were killed and what caused all that. But they--I was on my way to go out on patrol. What we'd do, we'd go down to the ammo dump, and that's where we'd pick up our ammunition for the night, pick up our weapons and everything. And as I was going down the hill to get to where the ammo dump was I noticed there was a helicopter sitting on the heliport we had there. And it was unusual to have a helicopter up there because there was a no-fly zone on the DMZ. It was part of the armistice that was signed in the '50s that there be no flying aircraft up on the DMZ. But what it was, they had--when I looked up at the helicopter and I also looked next to it, there were four body bags, and it was my buddies that were killed the night before, and they were getting ready to fly them out to take them back to Gimpo [International] Airport, a bigger airport to send them back to the States. But I hadn't seen that before, that part of the war. And I'm actually in a combat area, and to see your guys

that are getting ready to be sent away. But I just stopped and looked and thought for a minute, and I'm thinking, 'cause communications weren't like what they are today. It took days before their parents probably didn't know they were killed yet, and here I'm looking at the bodies of these guys, and their friends or family don't even know they're dead yet hardly, but they—I was thinking, 'cause they had the body bags unzipped, and in my mind I was just thinking, these are buddies of mine I saw the other day. And now they're--I'm thinking, why don't they put a blanket on them. They're probably cold. But, at any rate, I composed myself, and I said a prayer for them and went on with my, what I had to do that night to go out on patrol. Went out on the Zone and it was a bad night. We got shot at that night, and they tried to get through us. So those are the things that harden you up a little bit, and you have to get used to it. This is your life for thirteen months, and I still had probably eight months left. And you have to finally decide that I'm not getting home, I won't be going home. But I think that's the only thing that kept me going.

MUKOYAMA: So, you have a combat infantryman's badge, or a CIB, which is on your shirt there.

HOGAN: Yes, Sir.

MUKOYAMA: Also on your cap. That's unusual for when I first met you, I saw the CIB, and I knew you weren't--you had not been in Vietnam, and obviously, we're both too young for Korea. And so I had asked you about that, so you want to go ahead and tell us how you got your CIB?

HOGAN: Yeah, that was--there were a lot of guys that would come from Nam, if they had a slight wound, just a shoulder wound or something, whatever their wound, a month or two and they could get back into combat, they would send them over to Korea sometimes, and they just--but they would go out on patrols with us, but they would tell us after being in Nam, they'd get over to Korea and say, "You guys are crazy. At least we're getting paid over there to get shot at." He said, "You guys don't have a CIB." And the word got around that a lot of guys either wrote their congressmen or wrote their senators and said, "Hey, what's going on here?" It was sixty-five dollars a month more, but in the '60s that was a lot of money. And so word got around and a lot of people and you, Sir, are instrumental in some of this or a lot of it I'm sure--where word came down where we deserved a CIB, and with all the work you did and a lot of others, they finally passed the rules that we were gonna be honored with the CIB. The only thing is the word that I've heard was in Korea they had more restrictions on it. You have to have been in the combat zone for at least three months, you had to be in at least five firefights. In other countries that we fought in in wars, if you stepped foot on the ground you

were eligible for the CIB. But over there they did have those. And I remember my company commander when we were leaving Korea, when I finished my tour over there, it was very important to him to send us the message, you guys earned that CIB and you wear that CIB. He said they might try to not give it to you unless you've done all this stuff that they say you have to do, but he said, "You guys earned it, you wear it." And that was one of my reasons for wearing it, but I understand we officially can wear it. I mean, they made it a combat zone, and for just certain sectors though. It wasn't the whole country. It was just soldiers who served and lived on the DMZ.

MUKOYAMA: You're right, Ken. I was involved. By that time in my tour I was at a brigade headquarters, and I actually initiated the paperwork for our guys in the DMZ--they had to be in the DMZ you know, in our brigade who were in firefights and to get combat pay. And I never saw that because it all--it takes so many months for that to be processed by the bureaucracy, but then later I met guys like you, and I heard that you were getting it, so I felt pretty good about that.

HOGAN: I feel very good that people like yourself were out there fighting for us, fighting a war and still fighting for your fellow soldiers. And I don't know anybody I can think of that deserved to be a general in the Army any more than you do, because I'm very proud to know you.

MUKOYAMA: Oh, thank you Ken. I've been so blessed in my life. When you were in Korea, what was your philosophy about the enemy? And has that philosophy changed over the years? What did you think at that time, and looking back now do you feel different, or how do you feel about that?

HOGAN: Well, in some ways I know a little bit more about the enemy, and at the time I thought, like everyone had sent me over there to do a job for our country and his country, his or her country had sent them over to do what they do, what they wanted to have done for their country. But after I saw the way they handled themselves, the soldiers and how they were trained to do it. And they were told to do this. It wasn't maybe their decision, but they were a little brutal for even soldiers. It was--and they had GIs sometimes in different wars where they said that we went above and beyond or too far toward being mean or whatever, but the North Korean soldiers, they were told to butcher the guys after they had killed them if they had a chance. We had to think about that, too. A lot of us, we always said we're saving one bullet for ourselves, because they're never taking us prisoner, and that was my philosophy as far as, I didn't--for many months on that zone I didn't think I was coming home anyway, but we always said at least keep one bullet for yourself, and that was very important to us because we knew what was gonna happen. We saw what happened to some of our friends, I didn't see the actual person, but we knew they had bayoneted them a hundred times and just

made it impossible to have him shown in the casket. I mean, it was just horrible what they did. So as far as that part of them, I know they were just doing their job, but they went too far. But that's what they were trained to do. And I heard that some of them if they didn't do it that way they would harm their families back home. If they didn't fight the way their government told them to fight, then their family would suffer. That's the way they keep control in a Communist country, and that's what we were fighting against. Along with the South Korean soldiers were with us, we had KATUSAs [Korean Augmentation to the United States Army], they were called, and they fought right along our sides. But I--the philosophy of the soldiers as, they were really doing what they were told to do, so that made our job a lot harder to eliminate them from doing what they were told to do.

MUKOYAMA: Now, you talked about their families. How about your family back home? Did they know what was happening in your zone of operations, and if so how did they learn about it?

HOGAN: Well, they didn't know while I was there. I don't know--and my wife didn't know, my family didn't know, none of my friends knew. We would see it in our papers, our overseas newspapers. They had one that was called *Indianhead*, [news publication of the 2nd Infantry Division], and the other was the *Stars and Stripes*. They're military papers, and we thought that that same type of news was going back to the American newspapers. But they--I wrote letters to my wife, and I would tell her if we had a really bad firefight, I wouldn't tell her the details of it, but I would just say, "I imagine you probably read in the newspapers about his terrible battle we had going on over here," and it wasn't until I got home that I found out, 'cause I asked her when I got home when I was done with my tour, "How come you never responded to my letters when I wrote about some of the things going on here?" And she said, "I never saw it in your letters," and she asked me, "And by the way, why is it sometimes you would take a marking pencil and mark out a paragraph in your letter? Is it just something you changed your mind?" And I said, "I never did that." So the word that I had was that they were checking our mail after a firefight like that, and they would find out that if we put something in there talking about the firefight they took it out, and I heard they did the same thing in World War II, sometimes. I have no proof of it. In my, over the years I threw the letters out, and I never thought I would live so long I guess as to ever use this as a documentary like this to talk about, but that's what they did.

MUKOYAMA: Well, in essence, they were censored. Parts of it were blacked out.

HOGAN: Exactly. They would do it, not to everybody's mail in the Korean zone, the DMZ, but they knew the units that would probably be sending letters home, and those were the only ones they checked. 'Cause they told us if we received

a letter from home, any letter we got from anybody--our wives, friends, parents, whatever--we were to burn it after we read it. They didn't want us to save any of our mail. We had a fifty-five-gallon drum outside each one of our barracks, and after you read your mail you were supposed to go out and burn it. And they didn't want--'cause they were afraid guys would either keep a letter in their pocket or something for a memento of their letter from home, but they said if you get captured or if they kill you and search your pockets, they'll find that letter and they have ways of using it against you. They'll find out where your parents live and your family or friends are, and they'll send them threatening letters to try to get our government to get us out of there. So with that, we had no idea that they--I didn't know that this wasn't known back here in the States, but nobody knew about it until I got home. The Vietnam War was so much in the news, Korea, even that wouldn't get in there, even if they proved I think that they were censoring our mail they probably wouldn't even put it in the paper. It didn't have that much of a thing in the news back then. It was all Vietnam.

MUKOYAMA: You're right. Because I remember my parents had a map of Korea that, and they would try to see where I was at, and but there was very little from the States, in the States of news about what was happening. So now you're finished with Korea, and you--it's time for you to come back to the States. Where were you assigned when you returned to the States?

HOGAN: Well, I came back to the States, and my next duty station was Fort Hood, Texas. And it's an armored division down there, but we were infantry assigned to armor. And we didn't know it at the time, 'cause it was all Korean or Vietnam returnees were sent to this unit that I was in. And we had--there was two different things that went on at this unit. One of them was, they were teaching people riot control. And we didn't know why that was, but it was just part of the Army, and it was part of what we did, so they knew we were all infantry and we were pretty used to stuff like that, anyway. And the other part of the guys, they were being used as honor guard for all the funerals from the Vietnam vets back in the States. So you had a choice of either--you didn't have a choice. They put you either in the riot control unit or in for the honor guard. And I got put into the riot control. We trained just daily, all day all night. We had a lot of training in riot control. We had special trucks and jeeps that had concertina wire mounted at the front, and they'd teach us how to go down city streets and break up the riots and push them down side streets, and you had more troops that would go down the side streets. It was very well done. The Army definitely had a way to put down a riot. People don't have to worry in this country. They're doing their job. But we got after all of our training, it just happened to be that -- 'cause I had five months left, so I had a short time. Part of that was training, and the last part of it was in Chicago, they had the 1968 Democratic Convention was coming into town,

and people already said they were gonna protest that because they wanted a change in government because of the war and everything. But it was also the war protesters were gonna come in and take advantage of this riot going on. Martin Luther King had been assassinated in that era, and Bobby Kennedy wasn't too far after, he had been assassinated, so they knew there was going to be a lot of trouble in this city. So after all of our training was done, just before the convention was gonna start. I forget what month it was in, September or something when they had the convention of '68. But the riots had already started. The National Guard was in Chicago to try to maintain the peace here along with Chicago police. But the only thing is, the National Guard had weapons. They had the M14s. My whole time in the service the only thing I had was the M14. The M16s were just coming into being at the time. But the National Guard had M14s but no ammunition. They just used them as a weapon themselves to fight back the crowds. So when they called in federal troops, which is what we were, and we were stationed up in Great Lakes, that naval training center up there, And they had some old housing up there that they were gonna tear down, World War II housing. So there was 5,000 of us that were flown in just from Fort Hood, Texas, and there were units from other part so the country. But they flew us in in C-131s [i.e. C-130s]. Our trucks and jeeps and everything, all the stuff that we had trained with came with us on these huge transports. And we landed at O'Hare Field. And at the time in the city of Chicago, the CTA was on strike, and it was mainly because they didn't want to have their buses involved in getting burned up with the rioters. But the buses were out at O'Hare Field, and they were bussing us up to Great Lakes to get us up there. And when they went down, I think the only expressway at the time was either 94 or 294. One of them was built at the time in the '60s. So they loaded us up on the CTA buses, and our trucks in front of us. They went first and but they told us to leave the lights on in the buses. They packed all the seats, and we had full combat gear coming into Chicago. I had my flak jacket, my rifle, a hundred rounds of ammo, and four grenades to come into the city of Chicago. And every soldier had the same thing. So they told us to stand up and leave the lights on in the buses. Any cars that went by, they wanted to get the word out what was coming. So they put us on the buses and took us right up to Great Lakes, put us in housing up there. But during the day, we were up there for it, was only about two weeks, and we never did have to come into Chicago, thank God, because it would have been a terrible time for people here, because on the buses they told us to fill the buses of the seats and have guys standing up. They wanted people to see us going by with our rifles and combat gear. I mean, let it be known what's up there. But we got up to North Chicago, up to the Navy base up there, and during the day our officers would dress up in civilian clothes and go down to the city of Chicago and spread the word as if they were part of the rioters. I hear they got federal troops up there, and they're all veterans, the combat vets, they all have itchy trigger fingers, and if you shoot at them it's

not gonna be good. Because Mayor Daley had already given his police officers the order to shoot to kill if they felt their life was in jeopardy, that's how to defend yourself. And we were told the mayor of Chicago called us in; we go by his rules. So we were ordered also, if you're in a situation, you shoot to kill. And that's what our officers were telling all the rioters. They're not here to just calm things down. They're here to put a stop to it. And they said, "If you shoot at these guys from a rooftop, they'll take the top of the roof off." 'Cause we were in here with 3.5 rocket launchers. I mean, the city of Chicago and we're federal troops. So the reason it never got out of control they say is because of the threat that we brought in with us and the show of force, and the rioters started going back to wherever they were coming from. They say there was a lot of them in Iowa that turned around and left when they heard what was going on. But it put a stop to it, and when the rioters finally found out too, a lot of them didn't even know that Chicago police had orders shoot to kill. That ended the riot. A lot of it--the police still had to do a lot of work. Our National Guard troops did their job, and they kept things contained. But when I got done with that, I was--went back to Fort Hood and put in the few weeks I had left in the service, and--

MUKOYAMA: Okay, so now it's time for a new chapter in your life. You are now out of the military, and what did you do after you left the service?

HOGAN: Well, one interesting thing was, the guy I worked for before I got drafted, because according to the draft rules, if you get drafted the company that you worked for has to hire you back by federal law. But the guy I worked for, he went out of business, so I didn't have that. And we were told for people like that, you go to your local unemployment office, and you have priority because you're a veteran, and they'll try to get you a job. So I went, at the time there was an office over in Evanston, an unemployment office. I went there to sign up for unemployment to see what they had to offer me. And the guy that interviewed me for this, he was probably one of the--he wasn't too friendly with military people, that it was still a bad scene about military. The war was still going on in Vietnam. But when he was interviewing me he wanted to know what I did. And I told him my different jobs I had. I used to be a heavy equipment operator, and I did all kinds of different things. And he said, "Well, we're just interested in the last two years of your life." I said, "Well, I was in the Army." And he said, "Well, what did you do in the Army?" I said, "Well, I was infantry." And he was pushing it a little bit because he said, "Well, what did you do in the infantry?" And I told him I was a rifleman, and he said, "Well, what does that involve?" We want to know what you did. And I was so upset at the time, I was just fed up with it. And I said what they really did--he said what did they teach you to do in the Army. And I said, "Well what they taught me to do was to kill people." I said, "Do you have any job openings for that?" And I got up and left. I'm thinking, don't ever--I never went back. I never went

back. And I just lucked out, I went back to the guy I used to work for. He said I know of a job you can get with the--it was with the Village of Morton Grove. He said they're looking for a heavy equipment operator, and I figured just it was temporary. I'll go on to find another job or whatever comes up. But now I'm home and out of the service, I had to get insurance again. I had to get health insurance. I'm back being a civilian again. And my wife was working, but I'm thinking we're still planning a family, so I've got to plan this so as I go ahead I don't put myself out. She was able to work. When I first started this I was telling you how strong she was, and she was, but she was able to maintain our home and pay a certain amount so we kept everything. And I said now it's my turn to take over. So I did take that job, and it was just going to be temporary. But building didn't come back into this area. A lot of our building that was going on, home building and streets and all that went south. So I stayed with the village instead of going back to this guy I worked for. They were looking for a heavy equipment operator, and that's what I did. So I worked for the village for a while, a few years, and as a heavy equipment operator. It went on and on. I finally became their street superintendent. I was in charge of the street department for the Village of Morton Grove. I was there for thirty-two years. So that's--I found a home. And I was offered different jobs. The ones I always tell people about because your experience in the military, a lot of police departments want you. I belong to an organization now called the Vietnam Veterans of America. There's a lot of Chicago police, Chicago firefighters. That's where a lot of us went, to different police departments. So the state police, I tried to join the state police, and when I was down at Fort Hood, and being in riot control, the state police requires that you have three interviews before you can even apply, so I couldn't even--and they want you back in Illinois, and I couldn't get leave because we were on hold and couldn't get any leaves because of this riot. So at any rate, I wasn't destined to be a cop at the time because I didn't get it. And the FBI notified me—they actually came to my house. They were gonna send me to school. They wanted to know if I wanted to be an FBI agent, and I think one of the reasons they picked me for it was because they know I had the GI Bill. That's going to pay the bill. They told me I would probably have to go to college for five years because to be an FBI agent you've got to have a degree in law, and I know I could have handled it, but I just--I didn't want to go back to the regimentation of military, and the police department would have been that, and that's why I kind of sidelined that. The FBI would have been the same. And I said, "Well, I'm married too", and they said, "We'll get your wife a job in Washington at FBI headquarters there." And still, I never looked back at it like I made a mistake there, 'cause I was happy what I was doing, I enjoyed my time there, and it just wasn't for me. But I was very proud that they even asked me to be a part of their organization. But I'm thankful for the job I had.

MUKOYAMA: What about your family? Your wife? How many children do you have? Do you have grandchildren?

HOGAN: My wife, we had two children. My son was born in '68, so it was a year after I--or '69, it was a year after I got out. My daughter was born in '73. And my son has three children--twins and--three sons. My daughter has two sons and a daughter, and my daughter is with me here today, and I'm so proud of my daughter. She--my wife--I lost my wife back in 2001. My wife died of cardiovascular disease. And so I've had my daughter, sometimes--there was one time she sent me a Mother's Day card. She said, "Dad you've been handling both jobs for a while," which I thought was pretty cute of her. But it was--and it has been quite a relationship between my daughter and myself because she's kept me going through all this time. I never remarried. I'm too old now. I never will now, I know. But I'm just proud that she's been guiding me through this part of my life. I've needed that. There's times she's needed me, and there's times I've needed her, and our love is equal to each other. It's just an amazing relationship that we have, and I'm so proud of her and all she stands for in my life.

MUKOYAMA: And you've mentioned you've had some health challenges.

HOGAN: Well, I did.

MUKOYAMA: What were they?

HOGAN: Well, in 2007 I had lung cancer, and they removed my left lung. I lost my left lung, and somebody said--'cause I knew that they used Agent Orange in Korea. I didn't find out for seven years after I got back that they even used it, but I didn't put it together yet, because after I had my lung removed there was a lot of questions asked by doctors to see where I got my cancer, how it was formed. Was it in my family? Just what. But part of the thing came out about Agent Orange, and then I was told you should notify the VA [Veterans Administration] then because that is part of what the Agent Orange was causing was any type of cancer of your, well, like lung cancer. So I did notify the VA, and that took me three years to get through the VA. I submitted a claim with the VA that while I was in the service it'd be a service-related thing that happened to me, and it really was as it turns out because they sent me through all kinds of testing, blood tests and every test they have, and they finally determined that my cancer was caused by Agent Orange. I lost my thyroid. And they said that was from Agent Orange. I've kept up--I've belonged to the Agent Orange registry, so every time there's a change in what Agent Orange caused, they send me and everybody else that's been exposed to Agent Orange. But it took me three years to get through, and when they finally--a lot of rejection notices. I got one in the mail one day, and I thought it

was another rejection. And I threw it to the side. I opened it later, and that was the note that finally said we have made a decision on your claim, and we have determined that your lung cancer was due to exposure to herbicide and Agent Orange. And the dioxin was the poison that is in our system, and it's in your system forever. But I know the--it took all that time to get the message out there, it still took three years. But when I got into the VA, the VA's been the best to me. I can't say enough about them.

MUKOYAMA: That's—I was gonna ask you about that, but why don't we talk about it?

HOGAN: Just one other part of that--because I know the Agent Orange part of it that was so detrimental to so many--I know so many of my buddies that have already died from it, and I've had it all these years now, and it's funny catching up with me now. But what was your other question about that?

MUKOYAMA: No, go ahead.

HOGAN: But I know I'm in hospice right now because what happens is, with all your breathing problems, I have COPD and everything else. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. They say that, even if you never smoked in your life, Agent Orange will cause COPD. So I'm a hundred percent disabled, so I don't need any more diseases to up the rating of my disability. But I'm probably up to two or three hundred points on that. But it's--I've met a lot of good people.

MUKOYAMA: You're correct, Ken, in terms of especially, I didn't know myself about the Agent Orange in Korea until many years later, but I also am disabled, a disabled vet from Agent Orange. I've had a heart attack, I've have diabetes, and my kidneys failed, and so but I always assumed that was from Vietnam. You know, but I was in Korea the same time as you, I walked the DMZ, and that's why it's so important for us to be able to share your story about Korea because so many people are unaware of this. And so let me ask you, and you're obviously registered with the Veterans Administration. And tell me a little bit more about your experience with the VA. I'm especially interested in how you've been treated at the hospital. 'Cause you hear all these horror stories about how the veterans are not treated well at the VA.

HOGAN: I've been with the VA since 2010 I think or '11, so a lot of years, and from the day I was accepted--the paperwork is just part of the VA. They always say people talk bad about the VA because, boy, they made you go through all this checking and rechecking. Well, they want to make sure--there are some people who try to pull fraud on the VA. And go in there, they've never been in the service, and they try to get some benefits. So they have to be careful. So as tiresome as it was, it was well worth it because I know once they sent me that letter that I was accepted, I knew that they were going to take care of

me, and they have. From day one, they have done nothing but the best. I've had the best treatment. I've been in the VA hospital a number of times. I've been in the VA emergency rooms up at North Chicago, the James L. Lovell Healthcare Center. I was in their intensive care unit up there. The last time I was in I was with pulmonary problems again, and that's when they diagnosed me--they have me at very severe end-stage COPD, so they've--my blood pressure went to 181 up there, and they took care of it. I mean, they've just done nothing but the best for me. And right now I'm on a VA hospice, which is a little different than the Medicare hospice. I really think they put us on a little bit earlier. They want to make sure that we get as much help as we can right away because part of all this disease and the pulmonary disease and heart failure that people are having and all the other ones, with diabetes, you weaken toward the end of your stages, and you can't handle things as well, so they try to give you as many caregivers as they can, as many hours as they can that they think you need. But even I see vets all the time. This unit I belong to, the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 242 that I belong to I've been in a little over a year now. So I meet a lot of guys, talk to a lot of vets, and they also go to the VA hospitals and nothing but the best. We have nurses that come to our meetings sometimes to explain how, if the guys do need help, how they get through the system and where they can go to get help. The VA is out there all the time helping--and I'm already in it. They don't have to sell me on it anymore, but they still do just by what they do to me. They called me just the other day to tell me that the VA center up here in North Chicago as of this past Monday, it's a no-smoking area. They keep you informed on everything to do with the hospitals and every other vet. I'm not the only one. But I've been in civilian hospitals many times, and I've been in VA hospitals, and I prefer the VA hospitals to tell you the truth. Not that civilian hospitals are--civilian hospitals are changing right now. VA hospitals are all to help you. I mean, they're there--the last time I got out the doctor when he suggested that I go on hospice, he said, "You know, you served your country. Now we're here to serve you." That's the feeling, I think, that every VA employee that I've dealt with in these hospitals and the health center over here in Evanston--they have a clinic over here, the James L. Lovell Healthcare--but I really think that's their feeling. You guys served, now we're here to serve you.

MUKOYAMA: Good. I'm glad to hear that you've had a positive, a very positive experience.

HOGAN: Absolutely.

MUKOYAMA: Now, I've got some summary questions I'm gonna ask you. And first of all, are you a man of faith, and what has that meant to you when you were in the service and frankly, since then?

HOGAN: Definitely a man of faith. I'm Catholic. And it's my choice of Christianity that I believe in. I know in faith, the word faith is you don't have to see and touch everything that you believe. That's what faith is. You have faith in God's word, as I put it. And I know that my faith is as strong as it can be because I've been through things that I don't know how people without faith could make it through it. A war is one thing. I made it through 'cause when I first had cancer, when I was told that it was cancer, that's a shocking thing to get, normally. And I looked at the windowsill in my hospital room. My grandkids were up there, my kids, and I'm thinking, you know, I lived through a war. A little cancer is not gonna kill me. And if I didn't have faith I wouldn't think that way. God got me through that war, got me through my cancers, and I just I don't know what I would do if I hadn't believed the way I do. I was taught that way, my family was that way, my friends, my brothers and sisters. But I've had that type of faith. But I thank God that He gave me the faith I have, and I thank Him every day for my existence and that He's got me through all this. I've been through some rough times, but so has everybody else. And I never blame God for the bad stuff. I thank Him for all the good stuff. And there's a lot more good in my life than bad, so. My faith is very strong, very, very strong.

MUKOYAMA: What is your understanding of what it means to be a Citizen Soldier? How does that understanding fit in with your military experience? So, just the concept of a citizen soldier.

HOGAN: In what degree of Citizen Soldier?

MUKOYAMA: Well, what does that mean to you when you hear the phrase Citizen Soldier in terms of serving your country, in terms of responsibility?

HOGAN: Well, yeah, now I think I know. Well, my thoughts on it would be to try to be an example out there and to try to live that example and try to pass it on to as many as you can. You know, you see bad going on, try to put a stop to it. Whatever is all the sayings you hear--if you see something say something or just everything, we're all in this together. No one is an individual in this world.

MUKOYAMA: Yeah, you said earlier that freedom is not free.

HOGAN: Exactly. And those are not just words. And I have a--somebody has to pay for this freedom. I hear it all the time. This just doesn't happen. One of your sayings is, we live in the greatest country in the world, and I know we do, because I've been in other parts of the world, and I know how bad it can be in other parts. A lot of people, they've lived here all their lives. They don't really--study it a little bit. They don't realize how fortunate we are to live in this. And there's other countries that are good, over in Europe and all different parts.

But this country is--why do so many people want to come here, and nobody really wants to leave. You don't see a lot of people leaving, because it is the best country in the world. And I've said that all my life. Thank God I was born in this country. And I think it's my duty to pass word on to that for being allowed to be here. Nobody knows what God's plan is for all of us, or why some live in other parts that are bad, or just what it all is, but there is a plan to his—to what He has a plan for all this. We'll see it someday. And that's what your faith comes back in, for me anyway. I know there is a plan. As much as I think I see the bad things happen. Every day you turn on the news, you hear horrible things, you would think it's chaos, but you have to keep the faith, or how is he gonna stay--who's gonna try to keep it here? There's got to be somebody here to say this is good and we're gonna maintain this. And that's what your Citizen Soldier you're talking about I guess in a way is what it is, is to protect our faith, to protect our way of life, and to make sure that anybody who tries to put it down--I'm an old guy now, but whatever I can do to help that happen, I hope I have strength enough to still do something. He gave me the strength back when I needed it back when I was a soldier, and through all other parts of my life. But He's got plans for me now, and He's given me enough strength--I'm so thankful that I'm here today and you're interviewing me. I could not have asked for anyone better than you, just you as a person but a two-star general to be interviewing an old retired sergeant. This is God's work too, in my opinion.

MUKOYAMA: It's a God thing, as I say.

HOGAN: It really is.

MUKOYAMA: Is there anything, or is there an experience that you'd like to mention that we haven't covered? I know one thing that you're very passionate about getting the news out about the time we were in Korea from the so-called Second Korean War, and about especially about our comrades who died. Do you want to talk about that a little bit?

HOGAN:

MUKOYAMA: And I would refer anyone who is interested in learning more about this, Ken had shared with me--we're both members of the VFW [Veterans of Foreign Wars], and Ken, if you just want to hold this up in front of you, that is the cover of the *VFW Magazine* from November/December 2016. Thanks Ken. And it shows--it gives about a four or five-page story about this Second Korean War, so I'm inviting anyone who is interested in what Ken is trying to do to look at that, 'cause it actually gives you the dates of different firefights and how many soldiers were killed or wounded on that particular day. Ken knows that my company had a sapper attack where two war barracks were

blown up, and two guys were killed and about twenty were wounded. And that's the first time I had seen mass casualties. So Ken, this has been a very special day for me, personally. It's been over half a century when we both trudged together through the rugged terrain of the DMZ in Korea as Imjin scouts--

HOGAN: Exactly

MUKOYAMA: --in the 2nd division. 'Always proud to be second to none', which was the motto of our division. In closing, on behalf of the Colonel Jennifer Pritzker--of Colonel Pritzker, on behalf of Colonel Pritzker and the Pritzker Military Museum and Library, it's my honor to present with you one of our challenge coins.

HOGAN: Thank you, Sir.

MUKOYAMA: You're welcome. And this is the end.

HOGAN: General, I appreciate this so much, and I'm honored that you're here.