# Richard Lockhart Oral History Interview

March 24th, 2012

Interviewed by Sherri Kiefner
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Kiefner: My name is Sherri Kiefner. Today is March 24th, 2012, and I'm at the Pritzker Military Library with Richard Lockhart. Welcome, Mr. Lockhart.

Lockhart: Glad to be here. I am a member of the library so this is a different…and I have made a few contributions of memorabilia objects, so this is my latest contribution.

Kiefner: Excellent. Thank you so much for sharing your time and your experiences with us today. I want to start a little bit with some background: tell me, when and where you were born?

Lockhart: I was born in Lima, Ohio, but while an infant I was taken to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and lived there all the way through graduation from high school. I had no brothers or sisters. I was growing up and the Depression was a problem because my father was out of work a good share of that time. He never had a steady job during the '30s.

Kiefner: What did you enjoy doing as a child in your younger years…your youngest memories?

Lockhart: I don't have anything in particular I suppose, because of the financial circumstances we were in. To earn money, which was not easy to do, we went through trash looking for bottles; bottles could be redeemed for two cents apiece.

I spent a fair amount of time going through people's garbage. One of the times, I can remember this, when I was eight years old, 1932, I found an envelope and it had a [different] stamp on it. It turned out to be a French stamp. Out of that interest I began collecting stamps. I still have *that* stamp along with 88,000 more stamps (laughs).

Kiefner: Oh my goodness!

Lockhart: It was a French stamp and it had Louis Pasture on it, as I recall, it has been with me since I was eight years old.

Kiefner: Very interesting. Tell me about your school, your education as a child. What was your first school?

Lockhart: First school was John S. Irwin School. I could walk to [it]…not very far away in Fort Wayne. It was a kind of a modern school--I thought it was--as far as I could tell, as good as could be expected. I didn't have anything to compare it with, but… I think in the city of Fort Wayne, educational services were a factor. It always seemed to me that teachers were good teachers, efficient, the school buildings were well kept--I think there was, there were three public high schools, a catholic high school and a Lutheran high school. There was a fair amount of German early settlers that came, in fact as I understand, not while I was living there but earlier, they even had a German language newspaper published in Fort Wayne, it would probably precede World War One. When I was growing up there the new group that had arrived was Macedonians, interesting enough, they had come over after World War One, people who had been, apparently, they always claimed to be Macedonians, they didn't say they were Bulgarians or

Greeks or Serbians, they always said that they were Macedonians and a lot of them concentrated in Fort Wayne, I'm not quite sure why. They even, I think, for a while had their own newspaper called *The Macedonian*, it would be interesting to see what's there, and I do know relatively recently one of the offspring of one of those earlier settler became the mayor of Fort Wayne. Fort Wayne at that time had about 120,000 people and about that when I left after high school. I think today it's probably twice that, that's my understanding.

Kiefner: You mentioned that there were multiple high schools, did you go to the pubic…

Lockhart: I went to the public high school, South Side High School.

Kiefner: What were your high school days like?

Lockhart: The ones that had algebra I hated, because I do not have the mind to grasp some of the principals involved in algebra and geometry, those two courses were always difficult for me. I liked history, political science, I think maybe there was a course in geography, the foreign language that I took, you had to take two years as a college preparatory course, you had to take two years of a foreign language and I chose French, most of the students took Latin, far and away most everybody took Latin, I took French, I must have realized it might have some kind of a future in my life. In fact it was the last two years of high school that I took German.

Kiefner: What did you do for entertainment?

Lockhart: The only thing you could do for entertainment was go to the movies, which were cheap, there were a lot of movie theaters and some of them even had live entertainment, big name bands would come to Fort Wayne on occasion. The

movies were cheap, I was also a Boy Scout for two to three years and I liked to hike around, still do as a matter of fact. I became in those years an avid reader, I'm not quite sure that happened, I never knew my parents, either one of them, to open a book, but I always became, maybe as an only child it was a kind of companion, we lived at the edge of town so there was not too many other kids around who would be my age. I do remember they must have received two sets of books as a wedding present, one was a red set of Kipling, the other was a green set of O. Henry, neither one of them, like I say, ever opened up those books, well I enjoyed all of them, basically. But it was a lonely childhood; it was not a happy childhood I can tell you that.

Kiefner: Tell me a little more about each of your parents.

Lockhart: My father never graduated from high school which is little strange considering the fact that his father was a physician. His wife, my mother, grew up in Warren, Ohio; my Father grew up in Lima, Ohio and Toledo because I still have his badge a Toledo newspaper boy, probably in the early part of the 20th century. My mother was a primary grade teacher, kindergarten teacher, I think she had two years of what would be called then normal school, Kent State [University]. It happened to be, Kent State [University] wasn't far away from where she grew up in Warren so she did have, and she did teach for a while, as I understand it. She was born in 1898 so she would, in her early 20s, taught some kindergarten classes in Warren, Ohio.

Kiefner: During those high school years…

Lockhart: The high school years, yes, you want to move to the high school years?

Kiefner: Yes.

Lockhart: The need for money, of course, was continuous during those years and at the age of 15 I could be a paper boy in Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne at that time had a morning newspaper and an even newspaper, I couldn't get that rout that was too difficult to get. The only route I could get was to deliver morning papers of out of town subscribers, in other words people in Fort Wayne who wanted the *Indianapolis Star*, or the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* or the *Detroit Free Press*, and the *Chicago Tribune* was the biggest of those so I had a route, which I had to do in the south part of Fort Wayne on my bicycle delivering those early morning papers. I did that until about, I guess I was maybe a junior in high school and I got a job at the school hang out, it was called Miller's Dairy Farm Store. I became a soda jerk there in my junior year, starting salary was 20 cents an hour and by the time I left Fort Wayne in June of '42 I was getting 40 cents an hour, doubled my pay. So that's what I did growing up in high school.

Kiefner: What was this store like? Describe it a little bit to me.

Lockhart: The store? The one across from the high school?

Kiefner: The one that you worked at, the Miller's Dairy…

Lockhart: Yes it was called a Dairy Farm Store; the only thing they sold was ice cream products, cottage cheese and simple sandwiches like grilled cheese and ham salad. They were open seven days a week though; I put in 40 hours a week during junior and senior year of high school. It was across the street from the high school, they've gone out of business, apparently, many years ago, I drove past it a year or so ago, my son wanted to see what Fort Wayne was like when

his father was there so I took him. The houses we lived in are still all there, they look a little different, but they're still all there, the high school is still there, but the Miller Farm's Store across the street is kaput.

Kiefner: Tell me about that house that you lived in, did you live in the same hour most of the time?

Lockhart: Three houses, three houses, right, they were all rentals and the rent was $25 a month, seemed to be the standard in Fort Wayne. They were all in the south part of town and so I don't know why we moved, maybe because the house might have been sold or something or another so we had to move. We had no car; by the way, no automobile, vehicular was my bicycle. A bicycle, library card and a dog, that got me through.

Kiefner: What other kind of reading, you mentioned the Kipling and the O. Henry books of your family, what other books did you…

Lockhart: I'm pretty eclectic I read a lot of detective stories, all of the Sherlock Holmes books, SS Van Dine books, Fu Manchu books, and I read a fair amount of history books. I'm trying to think now of anything that stood out. I was always interested in military history, of course you couldn't buy any books to speak of because I didn't have that kind of money, but I got good use out of the Fort Wayne Library and its branches, shall we say, but I can't remember anything particular in terms of checking out things other than the detective stories, I went all through those.

Kiefner: What about the newspaper, when you were passing the newspaper did you…

Lockhart: I read the *Fort Wayne News Sentinel* it was the evening paper, a very Republican newspaper, much like what the Chicago Tribune was once upon a time, a real ridged Republican thing, [and] I think my parents were Republican. Now when I went into the service I wanted to keep track of things in Fort Wayne so I subscribed to the *Journal Gazette* which was the Democratic morning newspaper and in my office here in Chicago now you'll see I have the newspaper of December 8th, 1941, red headlines, "Japan at War with the US." That was the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*; I still have that newspaper intact behind the glass.

Kiefner: That was actually where I was going next, tell me, you were 16 when Pearl Harbor was bombed?

Lockhart: No I was probably 18. I was 17, then I became 18 the next month I guess it was.

Kiefner: What kind of an impact did that have on you?

Lockhart: It happened, of course, on a Sunday and I had to shift hours so I had to come back and work around seven o'clock Sunday night and the day crew said they had heard that Japan has bombed American forces somewhere, I couldn't hardly believe that, it didn't make sense to me. Japan had a very low regard for us Americans, everybody thought they made junk, basically anything they made was junk. We just had very low, a lot of it was certainly racially motivated, but I think most people did not like what they were doing in China. I don't know whether you're aware of it or not, but in 1937 Japan had bombed a [U.S.] gunboat that was on the Yangtze River in China called the Panay, and it sank, I believe sank the boat for no provocation, so there was a very low regard for the Japanese people or the Japanese government or the Japanese army, so I was

really flabbergasted by that because I just figured we could fly some airplanes over there and drop some bombs and the whole island would burn down, you can see how naïve I was. Of course a few days later, just three or four days, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States, so that changed things considerably. But on Sunday night I just, sounds like an interesting war, but I'm sure it'll be over before I'm old enough to get in it, that was probably my secondary thought shall we say. Germany and Italy got in and then obviously it enlarged considerably the potential problems.

Kiefner: What was the mood around the town, the community?

Lockhart: As far as I could tell they were…after Pearl Harbor I do remember pictures of the recruiting offices, men lined up to sign in, and I didn't know anybody who was in that age group at that time who would be responsive to the situation. I think the high school, anyway, took on a kind of a quasi-preparedness thing, I do remember some kind of programs about drills, no doubt there was some enhancement of the history and political science because of that, but it was just basically six months or less, maybe six months, before graduation. Pearl Harbor happened in December, and we graduated in June, and at that time they were not drafting any 18 year olds at all. Most everybody [at graduation] was 17 or so at that time. I was contemplating going to Purdue starting in the fall—my mother wanted me to go there—I really didn't want to go there, but I made a deal with her you might say. But I didn't know how long I'd be there because I could see the shape of things to come, but at least I…starting in September of '42, they still

weren't drafting any 18 year olds, but I did have to register for the draft. I think my father and I registered at the same time, just so you know [laughs].

Kiefner: You mentioned that you weren't particularly fond of going to Purdue, but your mother was. What were your thoughts at that time? What did you want to do?

Lockhart: I was more interested in the possibility of a career in journalism and Indiana University in Bloomington had a school of journalism. I met…[Ernie Pyle] was a big newspaper person from Indiana, little town in Dana, Indiana, [and] Joe… that's part of my problem now is my memory.

Kiefner: It's pretty good so far.

Lockhart: I'm trying to think of the very famous during the, especially World War, he was killed actually by a sniper, Japanese Sniper, who am I thinking of? It'll come to me; I'll give you a call [as indicated above, it was Ernie Pyle—ed.].

Kiefner: We'll add it in.

Lockhart: I was thinking about journalism, I had collected, bought a lot of book, maybe war correspondents things about, so I was kind of in to that and I thought that would be nice to do, but things changed, shall we say.

Kiefner: What were you studying at Purdue?

Lockhart: It was pretty much a freshman course, I think they were kind of general, I do remember French was offered so I took that some more and algebra was required, but I got out of that. Writing I think, something it was, I was just putting in time because I could see what was going to happen here pretty shortly, I just didn't quite know when it would be so I was going to go keep my mom happy.

Kiefner: That's always a good idea. Were you a member of the ROTC at Purdue?

Lockhart: Yes, definitely, I think it was compulsory if I'm not mistaken, and I kind of enjoyed that. The courses there were in artillery, in fact that was part of the deal, after a while they come up with some kind of a program called the Enlisted Reserve so you could kind of enlist, and I enlisted in the army actually on December 7th, 1942, in Lafayette, Indiana, and they would allow you to remain for the semester, but you had to take some accelerated ROTC courses and you had to be expected to be called for duty in probably April. That was three months or so, three or four months, so that's what I did and sure enough in April I got called to show up at the barracks, excuse me not the barracks, the facility in Indianapolis for induction, it's an induction center at the Indiana National Guard Armory.

Kiefner: When you enlisted, December 7th, 1942, was there any connection with that date?

Lockhart: No, it just so happened, but I had my [Army] serial number [15313506—ed.], I was an enlisted person so that's why my serial number starts with a one, I don't know if you knew it or not, but the serial numbers tell you something. World War II, if you were enlisted it began with a one; if you were drafted it began with a three. The next number related to the service command area; Indiana was in the Fifth Service Command, which I think is Indiana, Ohio and maybe Kentucky or West Virginia—one of those four. Anybody who looked at my serial number they knew I was an enlisted person from the Midwest at least.

Kiefner: What was your family's reaction to your enlistment? What was your mother's

reaction?

Lockhart: I suppose she was apprehensive, like I said I'm the only child so my mother's kind of an emotional person, but I'm sure she did not want me to be left out, you might say, the draft dodger or anything of that nature. I think she probably, she grew up in World War I and her brother had enlisted in the Navy and of course there were a lot of, I think, stories in the newspaper about draft dodgers during World War I, I think she had that in her mind. My father who grew up at that time was prepared to go to the Army but he had hernia operations and by the time that was over the war was over, my mother wanted me to serve, but she didn't want me to leave the continental limits of the United States or hear gunfire if at all possible.

Kiefner: Understandable, were your parents working at this time?

Lockhart: Yes, yes. War preparations and my father was working, in fact I think he was working at a war plant in Detroit and during those periods you could not leave a job in the defense industry if you were employed in a sensitive area, I guess, in war production you could not leave so he could not leave that job.

Kiefner: And your mother?

Lockhart: My mother had a job and, yes, she had a secretarial job all the time.

Kiefner: When you got called up you said you believe it was April; you went to basic training at Fort Eustis from there?

Lockhart: Yes, Fort, yes very good! You must have heard that somewhere. We called it Fort Useless. It was a very hot place, it's still there, [and] it's a permanent military facility now of course.

Kiefner: Where's that located?

Lockhart: It's close to Newport News, Virginia; it's on that peninsula there. Yes it was a nice hot spring and summer at Fort Eustis.

Kiefner: Does anything stand out in your mind? What do you remember about hat?

Lockhart: Hot, it was hot and humid and got to go to Washington, the city of Washington, on a couple of weekends, got to go to Williamsburg one day and drink beer at the Raleigh Tavern like a grown-up (laughs).

Kiefner: How aware were you, during basic training, of the events going on in World War Two?

Lockhart: Oh yes I would say so, very much so, first place the Army provided orientation, that was not unusual. The movies usually had, also, newsreels, there was also a camp newspaper I'm sure, and every camp had their own newspaper so war news was circulated there. I would say we were pretty well available through everybody if they really wanted; news was there if you wanted to partake.

Kiefner: How did that affect the moral of those in basic training with you and yourself?

Lockhart: I think everybody was up for it, that's kind of my feeling anyway; kind of everybody was up for it.

Kiefner: Where did you go from basic training?

Lockhart: I had hoped I would go as a replacement; Fort Eustis was an anti-aircraft replacement training center, so they took the field artillery training from Purdue and associated it with anti-aircraft artillery, which, there is a correlation there. I was still in the anti-aircraft artillery and I'm sent from Fort Eustis to a place that [has] now disappeared called Camp Davis, North Carolina and assigned to a

particular anti-aircraft battalion, 517th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Camp Davis, North Carolina.

Kiefner: What was your MOS then?

Lockhart: I was cartridge loader for a 120mm anti-aircraft gun. Good for building muscles, but, we went out to the coast, we weren't that far from the coast, and fired off a lot of our artillery into the… Sometimes they would have targets, airplanes would pull a long tail, which you was careful, *do not* shoot at the plane! I know you've been trained to shoot at the plane, do not shoot at the plane! Shoot at the long, trailing red banner; we never shot down any planes.

Kiefner: That's good, that's good! At that time Fort Fisher and Camp Davis were close to one another.

Lockhart: Yes, that's right, then I'm somehow or another I don't quite know why, I did at one point volunteer for the paratroops and took the physical examination but failed the eye test, and somewhere in there I got shifted to a unit that was in Fort Fisher, North Carolina, which was not far away. I got tired of that and then suddenly an order came down, apparently it went throughout the system that infantry volunteers were welcome and the unit you were in could not keep you from volunteering to the infantry if you wanted to do that, so I volunteered for the infantry right away and it was not long before I got notification to show up back home in Indiana, can you believe, Camp Atterbury, Indiana, which is still there!

Kiefner: Going back, you were talking about shooting the targets and the planes, the Women's Air Force service pilots were flying at Fort Fisher, I believe, or Camp

Davis?

Lockhart: Not Fisher because it's not that kind of a place, it's not that kind of a place. We didn't have a field, and even if there was no field at Fort, excuse me, Camp Davis, they must have come from some other place, I have no knowledge of that if that's the question.

Kiefner: You went on to Fort Atterbury?

Lockhart: Camp Atterbury.

Kiefner: Camp Atterbury.

Lockhart: Right. I joined the 106th Infantry Division and due to the fact that I'm still trailing around some history from ROTC, Field Artillery ROTC takes me to anti-aircraft artillery in Fort Eustis, and so I went back in an infantry division and they see I had some artillery so they put me in the anti-tank company. There's one anti-tank company in every regiment, regiment's 3000 men, one company is anti-tank, however the gun is only a 57mm gun, that's the size of the shell, I said the gun was knocked out in the first hit of the Battle of the Bulge, but I always thought it was too small to do any damage, but good enough to reveal your location.

Kiefner: That's not a good combination!

Lockhart: No, and besides that the gunner, which is myself, is left with only a .45 pistol, not even a rifle. See how awful we were trained? I'm telling you, if people knew how haphazard things were, how unthinking the army was, how they could think that this little 57mm gun could knock out the 35-ton German Panther Tank, Tiger Tanks and Panther Tanks, it would take a lucky hit, believe me, very lucky.

Kiefner: Where was your first assignment from Camp Atterbury?

Lockhart: The division got orders to go overseas, got the alert to go, go to Europe. This would probably have been in September of '44 and I remember having my last furlough home was in August of '44 and my folks came up to Chicago and went to the Oriental Theater and saw Stan Kenton. Every time I go past the Oriental Theater, today, I have a flashback, August of '44 I was there to hear Stan Kenton. So yes, I have a memory for some funny details. I think it was in October that they moved us to a POE Camp, Port of Embarkation Camp, it was Camp Myles Standish outside of Boston, those were not on the maps, they were secret camps that divisions were brought to so they could move quickly to the ships in New York or Boston or Norfolk or wherever the case may be, so the one for shipping out of Boston was Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts.

Kiefner: Were any of these camps, Camp Fisher, Camp Davis, Camp Atterbury, were they holding any POWs at that time in those camps?

Lockhart: No.

Kiefner: Tell me then a little about your departure for Europe.

Lockhart: I was all excited about it; after all I'd taken French and German.

Kiefner: [Laughs] Exactly!

Lockhart: I knew my destiny, shall we say, well of course first they took us to Great Britain, England, well I can go back a little bit. Instead of shipping out from Boston like we thought we would do, apparently there was some space on the ship in New York for another regiment, so they hurry up and said, "Pack up and get on the train, you're going to New York and get on the boat!" It turned out to

be the Queen Elizabeth. There was one division on the boat shipping out and they had room for one regiment, so the 423rd Regiment, 106th Division gets on, the largest ship in the world obviously, a luxury liner, of course there were 18,000 men on the ship. We had to eat British food standing up, had to wait for everything, water, candy bars, go to the bathroom, get a shower, everything was, but the trip only lasted four or five days, the ship went lickity-cut, didn't even have any escort, it's very fast and could outrun any submarine apparently so they did not have any escort. We went to Scotland, which is the home territory of the Lockharts, so the very first port of call is Greenock, Scotland and of course they just let guys off the boat, there was a train waiting right there, on to the train, down to the southern part of England. We were then shipped to some Quonset Huts outside the British city of Cheltenham, which is a city, maybe of 50-60,000 [people]. We had to wait there for the rest of the 106th division to come because they were coming on a slower boat, so we didn't do much, we might have marched around the country side just to keep busy, but we couldn't fire off any weapons or any of that, of course then circumscribed by civilian life of the British people there. You got a bit of a flavor of the hardships that the people had, because they'd been at war since 1939. It was a small education, you might say, what it might be like if you were living in a country under siege, you might say. From Great Britain they sent us down to Southampton, packed us onto a ship and another rough, very rough, voyage across to Le Havre, France. Down the nets, you've seen these pictures of netting on the sides, climbed down the netting carrying everything you owned, of course the shore was not under fire

but you had to be careful you didn't fall off the net or get hit on the head by somebody's helmet who maybe fell off their head, but nothing like that of course happened to me.

Kiefner: Tell me about the attitude while you were in Scotland and Great Britain, during those brief times, what was the attitude towards the American soldiers?

Lockhart: By the British?

Kiefner: Yes.

Lockhart: As far as I could tell everything was just fine. We provided money, as they said, "Over paid, over sexed, and over here." All of which is true, but they liked that part too! There were a couple pubs in town which we frequented, the beer was not very satisfactory but sometimes the hard cider, they provided hard was good. Food was very poor quality, fish and chips was almost, we got better food from the army than we did from the civilian life, I don't think we had too much interaction with the British people, that would be my guess. I didn't have any British girlfriends, I can tell you that.

Lockhart: Not there long enough?

Lockhart: No.

Kiefner: Getting back to France, then…

Lockhart: We took the ship over to Le Havre, France, the city was bombed all to smithereens, but they put us on the landing craft, got the front down, we get off, this is at night and it was raining and I remember we got soaked and we had to sleep out in the wet fields. I don't, you just have to follow orders, I don't know where the orders all came from, they filter down of course, so some sergeant tells

you what he wants you to do, well I don't know maybe some lieutenant told the sergeant what he should do so we just, like good children, we do as we're told and eventually we got on trucks and they trucked us across northern France, Belgium, Luxembourg, over into just across the border into Germany. The first place that I was in, I think we spent a night or two, maybe, in the woods and then they took us to a town in Germany, it's still there, I've been back to visit it, even the building where they first took us to is still there. It's a town called Bleialf, B-L-E-I-A-L-F, just across the border, it's in the Ardennes area, have you ever been to that area?

Kiefner: No.

Lockhart: It's a very attractive area, it's wooded hills and picturesque towns, all the picturesque towns are brand new since World War Two because they were all smashed to pieces, otherwise, that's where were when the Battle of the Bulge began, 5:30 in the morning on the 16th of December.

Kiefner: How well equipped were you at this time?

Lockhart: Not well equipped at all. We had none, did not have the kind of foot-wear, we're just wearing the boots we worse back in Camp Atterbury, Indiana, and we had no particular protection from the weather, you just were to make do I guess. We missed the footwear, the footwear turned out to be a very serious problem, and I carry that problem with me today.

Kiefner: Yes. At this point you're just arriving, had friendships formed with some of the men from your unit at this point?

Lockhart: Yes, of course we'd formed them back at Camp Atterbury, probably, so yes.

There's four platoons in the company and so there's four squads in each platoon and the headquarters company, now what was different is that these were not long, I was recent, I had just arrived in May to the company, the anti-tank company and we were still there, I think, even after we go the alert to go overseas we're still getting replacements and we hardly knew the people's names. It was pathetic, the way, this is my theory about it, they thought the war was about to be over in Europe and so they wanted to give as much exposure to combat as they could to as many people as were around, if you showed up you might have been in the quartermaster corps somewhere and never fired a rifle, but now you're going to go overseas and be in combat, at least for a while, they're going to give you a taste, because you've still got Japan to deal with. Which is the big problem. It was always, in my head, that war in Germany would be over relatively soon because the Russians were coming from the East and we had already penetrated the German border and the bombings, everybody was anticipating, I think in the American army, they were anticipating the Germans would throw in the towel by the end of December. It was the first part of May before they threw it in, they were off by five months!

Kiefner: Describe to me the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, December 16th, where you were located…

Lockhart: I was in this house in the city, right across was Germany and we knew where the enemy was, we were not necessarily expecting to see him, but on the 16th of December we saw them.

Kiefner: You were in a house?

Lockhart: We were in a house at the edge of town, yes.

Kiefner: An abandoned house?

Lockhart: An abandoned house, yes, abandoned house. We had our 57mm anti-tank gun out in the yard. Everything worked in the house, as I recall even the toilettes flushed and I don't know what happened to any of that, but we were basically on alert, although nobody, it was natural everybody was on guard because you're in Germany and there's the enemy over there somewhere and we were kind of hoping, I guess, we'd see some of the Germans, well they not called Germans they were called *Krauts*. Every German was a Kraut, man, woman or child. They came later in the day, we fought them off, but at first it was heavy artillery. We were subject to heavy artillery now, the Germans bombed the daylight out of us, the house we were in was hit, other platoons were attacked, we pretty much fought the Germans during the day, I didn't have a rifle, but we had a couple of rifles that we passed around. We should have had of course a rifle company protecting the gun company, the anti-tank, we didn't have any rifle company so all of the sudden we were on the front lines and we don't have the, you see how dumb the American Army is sometimes, they were complacent, that has always stuck in my mind, complacency destroyed a lot of men's lives unnecessarily, in my opinion. They thought it was going to be over, "We'll send this green outfit in, they don't know anything, but they'll learn!" It just was just passed off, we did learn, but it was at some cost. Eventually we go the call to pull back, somehow we, after that kind of a blur, kind of a blur for several days and on the 19th of December, the evening of the 19th, we had been subject to some field artillery

exposure and taken a lot of casualties, fortunately I didn't get hit, but I can still think back in that field that every time a shell landed there were men screaming for the medic, screaming for their mother, or both, neither came. I was the anti-tank gunner so the only weapon I had was a .45 Automatic, but there were some casualties, American casualties, I picked up an M1 from one of the casualties, that' show I finally got a rifle. At some point, and this is where I'm kind of blurry because all the units got mixed up, got mixed up, and we thought we were in an attack to try to break through the German lines and line up with the 7th Armored Division, which was supposed to be coming in our direction. For some reason I don't know, I'm PFC Lockhart, I don't know anything, I'm not told anything, but my guess is and from what reading I've done about what happened, the Germans had apparently indicated or, I think the Americans' commanders, the colonels who were commanding the two regiments, 423rd and 422nd, lost their nerve. That's the only think I can think of. Now they had been steadily losing men, and moving they lost all contact with support systems, but I think the fact that they were untrained officers who had this responsibility and I think what happened was some German officers, we had been stopped, we had been stopped and then, this is kind of what I've gotten from extensive reading afterwards, some German officers approached the military, the colonels who were running the two…

Kiefner: The 422nd and 423rd?

Lockhart: Regiments, and said, "We have you surrounded, we have forty 88[mm] guns trained on your position, we will blow you all and your men sky high." That effect and the two colonels bought into that, why they did I'm not quite sure,

except inexperience, I guess they'd lost their nerve and they'd come in thinking that they'd all be wiped out and their men would be wiped out, in my opinion we could have fought it out, I was pretty surprised when the order came down to destroy our weapons. It's still a little murky in my mind about the creation of this attitude by the Americans that they were facing annihilation and so the only thing they could do is to surrender, most everybody I knew were flabbergasted. If we knew where we were, the problem was I did not know where we were, of course we had been marching this way and that way, morning, noon and night and there was no way, I had no maps, nobody that I know had been there long enough to know where anything was, where towns were or what their relationship was.

Kiefner: Tell me about how you arrived at that location, you said they had brought you in in trucks, and what was the weather like?

Lockhart: Snow. It was cold, it was cold weather, but fortunately we, anyway, got to be in a house, we slept in the house. Not on beds, maybe, but we slept in a house, didn't have to dig a hole in the ground to sleep.

Kiefner: What sort of weapons were the Germans using against you when you were in the Battle of the Bulge?

Lockhart: Well first the heavy stuff was artillery, no question about that. As far as I'm concerned that was the only, small arms fire there may have been some of that, I'm sure there was some, but it doesn't register with me like the artillery did in terms of I still have, like I say, memories of wounded men lying out in the field not getting any kind of care.

Kiefner: Were the medics not with the units?

Lockhart: I think they were, but there were too many casualties for the number, I think there was only one medic per platoon if I'm not mistaken. I've often thought, I've gone back to the area a number of times and I've often thought if I could try to find that place back in the woods or not. I've driven back, but I've not hiked it, I'm not sure whether I, it's holding me back psychologically, I don't want to hike it, really. I'm still struggling with that, every summer I go back to that area, but I've yet to get out of the car and trudge through the woods. I'll let you know if I ever do it.

Kiefner: Do!

Lockhart: I'm going back there this summer.

Kiefner: I'll go with! When you arrived, just kind of synopsizing here, you were not expecting the kind of combat that you faced?

Lockhart: No. It was a quiet sector this is, it was a quiet sector, nothing will happen up here, give you a little taste of the weather, you might say. We were complacent, foolishly [and] there was no perimeter of rifle companies out there so the Germans came at us, you might say, but fortunately we pulled back, there were some platoons in my company who were caught right off the bat, the first day, but we were able to escape the initial entrapment and lived on to hang on for another three or four days yet.

Kiefner: Do you know who your commanders were? What was your relationship to them?

Lockhart: The commander of the… well the division commander, we knew his name, yes, we didn't see him, [and] however, we never saw him. The regimental

commanders, they were full colonels and I think I remember seeing them, I do remember seeing my company commander who looked at me and he was pretty surprised to see me and wondered what happened to his company so he was glad to see, PFC Lockhart, maybe's there's some more of my company around somewhere, I don't know if he ever found them or not. Everybody was just mixed up, churning up and the woods are such, they're deep woods, they're not like Grant Park over here or anything like that, [and] they're deep woods and rolling country. It's hard to get your perspective.

Kiefner: When you pulled back you were pulling back into the woods?

Lockhart: We pulled back, yes, trudging around in the woods, right. Yes, the initial pull-back was in trucks, a truck came up and we all jumped in and scooted out, that was on the first day, first day. Some units were trapped, but there was a truck that came and extricated us.

Kiefner: When the decision was made between your commanding officers and the Germans, tell me about that.

Lockhart: I don't know about that I was not present, I'm assuming there must have been some kind of communication because the capitulation came down in such a way that was, you know, we wouldn't have believed the capitulation would have come down, from our eyes, put it that way you might say. We did not know the circumstances we were in, we did not know that, we then realized, well we must be in worse condition than we realize, and maybe we're completely surrounded and maybe we'll all be decimated here pretty soon if we don't do something about it. We didn't have any notions of perspective for the layout of anything,

we're dumb people, pitiful, children.

Kiefner: What happened next?

Lockhart: Next, after we become prisoners, now we're prisoners, they said, "Destroy and come down." We all destroyed the rifles, I tried to hang on to my .45 for as long as I thought I could get away with it, I'd strapped it on my ankle but I thought it might not be good if I get searched carefully. We all walked down and there was German troops there, got us lined up and marched us out and then they wanted to turn in your money, came around, "Turn in your money." I decided not to turn in my money, I hid the money in the lining of my jacket and it's a good thing I did too, it came in handy when I was a prisoner. We spent two nights out in the field, somewhere, marching back into Germany until we got to the town of Gerolstein, I know Gerolstein because that's where we got on the boxcars, and [years later] my son and I we went back and we stayed at Gerolstein, under altogether different circumstances, that was about 15-20 years ago, and so we got packed into box cars. These re boxcars much smaller than they have in this country of course, they're called 40 & 8, 40 people or 8 horses. They put 60-some men in each boxcar, so many that you could not all sit and the same time, you had to take turns sitting and standing. We spent four days and four nights in those boxcars. One day we were bombed by our own air force, and that's kind of an eerie feeling, there's no place to run, you can hear the bomb whistling before it detonates. Fortunately the boxcar that I was in was not hit; they don't call me *Lucky Locky* for nothing! After four days and four nights in an unheated little, practically no food, no personal care, miserable of course my feet were wet from

the cold since I was tramping around and then get in the boxcar there's no way to circulate, I had no dry socks, that's when my feet started freezing up. On the 26th of December we get to a place in Germany which we knew was a bad place because on the railroad station it said "Bad Orb", and from there we marched for not too long a distance to a camp, a POW camp, we were the first Americans in this camp. The Germans are very, one would say, regimented kind of people, they had camps for officers, they had camps for noncommissioned officers, corporals and sergeants, and then they had camps for the lowest grade, [and] the comfort level was also graduated accordingly. We were in a camp for privates and PFCs, we were the first Americans there, also there were Russians, French and Serbian troops. We were put in some kind of a barracks or buildings—what I have, fortunately, I wanted to bring it today but Mark DePue [from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library - ed.]…I have a red notebook, red loose-leaf notebook…I have my history in it, my World War II history. I don't know if you heard about it or not?

Kiefner: No, not the notebook in particular.

Lockhart: I had an excerpt made of it that I did give away and I think that was…

Kiefner: I think I have seen that…

Lockhart: The big red notebook I took down to Springfield on Wednesday because he wanted to scan it, there were photos in there, and there was this photo , and other real documents, the telegram my mother got, saying "Missing in Actions"—original stuff. He scanned it and I called him yesterday a couple of times to ask him if I could come by and pick it up because I thought you people might want

to look at it as well, he didn't call me back so I trust that it's still there at the Abraham Lincoln Library in Springfield…

Kiefner: We'll get that from him!

Lockhart: I'll try to get it next week; if you want to look at it let me know.

Kiefner: Absolutely. Where, geographically, was this camp located?

Lockhart: We didn't know that for a long while; we didn't know that at all—it's only afterwards, I think, that we found it that it was about 40 miles northeast of Frankfurt, kind of in, kind of a semi-mountainous area.

Kiefner: When you arrived at this camp was there any processing that took place when you got off the trains immediately?

Lockhart: Yes there was, they did a photograph, I'll have to show you an example sometime. They took photographs of each one of us; I've been looking for mine for years and I've not been able to find it. I've been to Switzerland, Germany, Unite States, I don't know, I've been all over looking for it. I'll show you sometime, they're about this big. They also gave me German dog-tags, my big mistake in my life, I threw them away. I should not have that. I kept all the history except I did not keep the German dog-tags—26125 was my number.

Kiefner: They had a way of identifying you?

Lockhart: Yes. Also, this is the big question for some, all those who were Jewish, indicated, so…

Kiefner: Did this all take place when you first arrived off the trains?

Lockhart: Yes, I think soon thereafter, after we got up to the camp, marched, it took maybe 40 minutes to the camp, I don't know, somewhere. After we got to the camp and

inside the gate, shall we say, [and] then the question went out, "If you're Jewish please identify." Maybe they didn't say "Please identify yourself." Those that did were segregated away right off the bat, taken and separated away, put in a separate barracks. Fortunately there were some who were Jews who did not tell the Germans that they were Jews, those people got to live, longer, shall we say. At one point they took, in the camp, this is STALAG IX-B now, IX-B, the order came down, understand this is after the war now, "We want 350 prisoners to work in a mining operation in Eastern Germany." [It] turns out to be a slave labor camp, they took all the Jews who so identified themselves and then they took some non-Jews and put them on a train and sent them to a place called Berga, which is where the slave labor camp was. It was bad enough in IX-B; Berga was even more primitive.

Kiefner: How did they choose the non-Jewish soldiers that went with to Berga?

Lockhart: That's a good question, I think, because I good friend of mine, he's not Jewish but he was picked, his name was Koestler, I think it was, and he thinks, and even some others were not Jewish, had names that indicated they *might* be Jewish, got it?

Kiefner: Yes.

Lockhart: They were picked. The Germans went through some activity to get to the number 350. Fortunately Lockhart is a good Scottish name.

Kiefner: Did they look at your dog-tags?

Lockhart: No. Although, dog-tags did carry religion, of course.

Kiefner: They must not have been aware.

Lockhart: I think they probably were aware, but all they had to do was ask. People volunteered, right?

Kiefner: Oh my goodness. Tell me what condition were the men in when they arrived at that camp [IX-B] after being in the boxcars?

Lockhart: We were in bad shape, but I think most of us were alive. I do remember because there was snow out there in Bad Orb we ate the snow because we didn't have any water for a while, and we all thought we'd get fed! [Laughs] That took a while too, and it was what we called "grass soup" and it was…first it was provided by the Russian prisoners, it was not a satisfactory situation. Eventually we got to be where we could control our own food, providing it for the other American prisoners. It was, shall we say, an adjustment, but we learned how to adjust to survive.

Kiefner: When you say "grass soup", is it literally grass and…

Lockhart: I always thought it was kind of turnip tops and stuff, we only called it grass soup because it was mostly, and everybody had diarrhea; there was really no toilet paper in the usual sense. There were no such toilet obviously, we were wearing the same clothes that we'd put on in November, you could probably smell the camp rather before you arrived anywhere near it. It was a primitive place.

Kiefner: Describe the housing, how many to an area? Describe what the…

Lockhart: We were all segregated. I do remember this part very vividly, we came into the camp with no food, Serbian prisoners had been there since would be summer of '41, I would say, summer of '41 I think Germany invaded [Yugoslavia], and they shared their food with us, it was the first food we had had for a number of days.

They didn't need to do that, obviously, I always had fond memories of the Serbian soldiers, I have not been back to Serbia, but I have been to Slovenia and Croatia. But I have not been to Serbia itself. I do remember that—now we're supposed to get Red Cross packages, you've heard about Red Cross packages—eventually they came, but you had to share it with maybe three or four other guys, so it was meager. Meager.

Kiefner: Were those Red Cross packages, how long were they intended to last?

Lockhart: I have no idea, they were always a pleasant surprise, let's put it that way, there was no expectation you might say.

Kiefner: Not a regular delivery.

Lockhart: No, no regular delivery.

Kiefner: What was the breakdown, you say the Serbians and the Russians were already there, what percentage would you say were Americans verses the others?

Lockhart: I think there were 6,000 Americans were packed into different places so we [were] never [allowed to] visit, shall we say, the Russian sector or the Serbian sector, I have no idea how that was.

Kiefner: How were days spent?

Lockhart: How were the days spent? Thinking about food [laughs], writing down menus, writing down, I can even have a list somewhere in the red notebook collecting restaurants, names of restaurants of different towns, you were completely, what do I want to say, dominated by being famished. It wiped out sex, the war, everything. Now this is the strange thing about it and it helped me survive, I said I did not turn in my money. When I get to the camp somehow or other I hear

about a person who I'll call a trader, T-R-A-D-E-R, and he has what becomes the coins of the realm in the prison camp, what is that? Cigarettes, cigarettes, because you have people and now in the American Army who are hooked on nicotine, it was made easy, almost free in some places, "smoke them if you've got them" for as a break on hikes and so forth. I never smoked, never took up smoking, but a lot of guys got hooked and they're in nicotine depravation and it effects different people different ways. I have this money, I bought a package of cigarettes from one of these traders, Marlboro cigarettes which cost maybe 15 cents, I don't know I probably spent maybe $50 for that. I don't know. I traded one cigarette a day to another GI for half of his soup ration, so he would rather have a cigarette than have some extra grass soup. I'll be happy to make that deal, I don't have a nicotine addition, I'm sorry you do, or I'm glad you do maybe. So that has been a lifelong lesson in terms of nicotine addiction. We don't have it, but I've noticed a lot of men who are older men you ask if they smoke cigarettes or a lot of them maybe died because they did smoke cigarettes, they started because they were in the service, a lot of people started because they were in the service. That's just a little glimpse of Lockhart's life.

Kiefner: Right. Were friendships formed during that time, you spent all this time…

Lockhart: I had people from my unit back in Camp Atterbury, a lot of them were prisoners of course, a good friend of mine he was from Indiana like me, a different part, [and] he was a good friend of mine I would turn out to be the best man in his wedding when we got back to the United States. Low and behold one day somebody walked in from another unit who graduated from high school with me

back in South Side High School. Also, to go back to the camp, there was a, it was just privates and PFCs now in this camp, but he was a newspaper man and actually his home was Fort Wayne he told me, but he lived in New York, worked for one of the press associations, he was in a different unit already, but got captured in the Bulge and he gave 20-some lectures on American history with no records, no notes, no nothing, basically out of memory.

Kiefner: That was part of your entertainment?

Lockhart: Yes and there were two chaplains, a Protestant chaplain, a Catholic chaplain, I used to go listen to the Protestant chaplain, it was something to do. I'm not a religious person before that time or since that time, but during that time [clears throat] I was a churchgoing Protestant.

Kiefner: Were you working, was there any work or duties that you had to perform?

Lockhart: Yes, yes, the next part of the Lockhart saga in the camp. They had a work detail outside of the camp, if you wanted to volunteer for that you'd get extra food, I volunteered and so they take maybe about 10 or 12 of us out in this big, snowy, wintery day outside of the camp with some guards of course. We're busy sawing wood, you're not allowed to have axes, of course, because that would be a weapon, but we could have saws, I don't know if some of us, I can't remember whether I had gloves or not, but it was bitter cold and out of the blue I get hit by a German guard and fell down, he hits me a few times, picks up a limb from one of the trees and then he takes off hitting a couple of other prisoners. My first thought was this guard had gone berserk, just snapped, and I was his closest target, you might say, fortunately he didn't hit me in the head, he hit me in the

back and legs. I had forgotten, and he took these other two prisoners on as well, the only thing we conclude, because no words were spoken, he didn't think we were working fast enough, so we did speed up obviously, it was the only thing we could do. What do I find later on in life, and I have this documentation too it's in the red notebook, I'm looking for this picture that the Germans took of me when I entered into STALAG IX-B and I do know that there are some in the National Archives building outside of Washington, they have a big, at College Park, Maryland, I went there and I went through a lot of that, but there was nothing there from STALAG IX-B, I come back to the United States and I was wondering whether I really, was a thorough search made so—Senator [Dick] Durbin is a friend of mine, I asked him whether he could send off a letter to the National Archives, ask them whether they would "do a search to see whether there was any record of Richard Lockhart, a constituent of mine." They write back they say, "No we don't have what you were looking for, what Mr. Lockhart was looking for." It was an identification thing, "But we did find evidence in the war crimes section of where Mr. Lockhart was subject to prisoner abuse by German guards in a prisoner camp." [It had] been in the National Archives all those years, this was '98 or something that Durbin pulled got this, and here it is, they provided copies of it! Here's two documents that I never knew had ever existed that had been sitting in the National Archives since 1945 that described what had happened, somebody had reported it. After the war of some interrogation that was done of whether you were aware of any war crimes committed at the camp, nobody asked me; I would have gladly volunteered some

personal [information], but I think it was a non-commissioned officer who said he had heard about these beatings that took place and so he reported it, ended up in the document in the National Archives and I now have a copy.

Kiefner: That's very interesting. What was the health of the other prisoners, how would you say you compared and your condition compared to them?

Lockhart: I was better than most of them, some of them were addicted to tobacco and they would trade off anything to get a cigarette, trade of anything, clothing, whatnot. Some of them were in weakened condition, some got pneumonia, there were deaths almost every day, they had burial parties outside the camp somewhere, [and] I was not on one of the burial parties because you got extra food for that. There were frequent deaths; there were no medical officers there, there were the two chaplains—I indicated that—the only other officer was a medical officer who was a dentist, actually, back in civilian life. He was also Jewish, I found out later, but he never told, which was smart, [and] he never told the Germans he was Jewish. He survived and he provided whatever medical care he could and only when somebody got sick they were taken out of the barracks that they were in to another barracks where all the sick guys were, so try to limit the contamination if there was something of a respiratory nature that might have contaminated other people, I never visited that facility, but I was aware that it existed and there were frequent casualties.

Kiefner: What do you know of what your parents were finding out, did they receive any information as to your whereabouts?

Lockhart: That's a good question, we were, I guess, about once or twice, maybe, a month,

given a card about that size, you could send that it, I did that, mostly asking for food. The problem is it was never delivered until after the war, and fortunately… go back to my mother's emotional circumstance when she got the telegram that her one and only child was “missing in action.” She assumed the worst, because this was at a time when there were huge number of casualties from the Battle of the Bulge appearing in the paper every day and she was concerned that one of these days she would get the telegram. She got a telegram that said I was missing in action and, "When we know something, we will let you know Mrs. Lockhart." My mother could not handle that situation, and my father is in a war plant, could not get released; she's in Indiana and her parents [were] still alive, her sisters [were] still alive—and lived in Warren, Ohio—she leaves Indiana, goes to Ohio. I sent things back to Indiana, of course, then they had to be sent on to Ohio which is another kind of delay, but most all of those communications did not come until almost [after] I was liberated and that brings another story. I sent back a note when I get to France, we're brought back by the way, [and] after liberation we're taken to a place outside where they evaluate our physical condition to see whether you had to be sent to a hospital, in Great Britain, what was your health condition. My health was relatively good so I'm more or less on the fast track back to the United States. They flew us from Germany to a camp outside Le Havre, France, these are what are known as "Cigarette Camps." They're named after cigarettes; I was in Camp Lucky Strike. Down the road is Camp Chesterfield. These are all tent camps, not real camps, impermanent; it's where people were brought in from the United States and then redeployed, or the other

way around coming back from Germany and redeployed back to the United States.

Kiefner: Let's go back, how long were you at Bad Orb, STALAG IX-B?

Lockhart: After liberation?

Kiefner: How long were you there before the camp was liberated?

Lockhart: We were, liberation, trying to think what day would that be? I want to say liberation day was the second of April, liberation was technically the second of April. The Germans had left, let's put it that way. The Germans had left, and the American soldiers arrived.

Kiefner: Tell me how that happened.

Lockhart: I don't know if I could, of course we knew that the fighting was getting closer because you could hear the artillery was on the side of a mountain where the camp was so you could hear it getting louder. We were apprehensive that we would be marched out before the American troops got any closer, we were thinking about trying, whether to try to escape the camp, the problem was we didn't know where [we were]; we didn't know where to go after we got out of the camp. We never had to rely upon that option. The Americans came, the Germans left, just like that.

Kiefner: Had there been any attempts to overthrow or overpower any of the guards that you were aware of?

Lockhart: No, no. I think that that would have not been likely. There was an incident during the prisoner period when a German soldier, guard, was hit by an American who broke into the food barracks, cabin, whatever, the food one, broke in, with a

German guard in there, [and] the American hit him with a hatchet or an axe of some sort and then escaped back into the American barracks. The German soldier lived, but now the German authorities want to know who did it, so we all had to line up, all 6,000, long lines, in the snow by the way, this is February and they want to know who did it. "If we don't get the person who did it we're going to take every tenth man out and shoot him. Now! Not tomorrow." They set up the machine gun by the wall and we stood there. Here's where the two chaplains come in to play, they come in and convinced the Germans, "Look they don't have to do that there was blood spilled with this attack, right?" They said "Yeah." We're all wearing the same clothes, nobody's got their clothes changed they're wearing the same clothes, so therefor there will be blood on the clothes, we will go through and see if we can identify someone by the blood on their clothes, which they did, and they found the culprit. But we stood there [in the snow]all day, got no food, that day. I don't know what happened to him, I don't know if they killed him right off, they might have neglected him to the extent where he could've died, that I have no notion about. Anyway that was one relatively close call, I don't know whether I was a tenth person or not, I could conceivably be. They were serious; they set the machine gun up ready to shoot every tenth man.

Kiefner: That sounds serious.

Lockhart: Sounds serious, yes.

Kiefner: Were you receiving information while you were in the camp as to the progress of the war?

Lockhart: Yes, to some extent yes, we were.

Kiefner: When you were hearing things getting closer it was a good feeling that it was your people, going to make it through?

Lockhart: Yes. I'm sure the Germans could determine what they were going to provide us, but I do remember we got what the German army got. I remember that there was the fighting in Budapest went on for quite a while. The Russians were deeply in combat with the Germans and I remember it went on in Budapest for a long while; we got news of that from time to time. We could, the best way was to listen to artillery because the bigger the sound the closer the gun. The Germans [went] and we're there for liberation, we still had to eat grass soup because that's the only food around.

Kiefner: Did the Germans leave before the Americans arrived?

Lockhart: I think so, there's no way for me to know that precise, they probably had civilian clothes somewhere [and] they slipped back into German society so I have no way of knowing that, nor did I want to know.

Kiefner: For a time you were probably free to go, but there was probably nowhere to go, is that the situation?

Lockhart: Yes we wouldn't want to go anywhere because we didn't want to get entangled in the combat either, you didn't know what that would entail. We just had to wait; a lot of us were not in great physical condition, anyway, to go very far.

Kiefner: Were the soldiers and the United States Military; were they aware, do you know, of where your camp was?

Lockhart: I don't know that, I don't know that.

Kiefner: So was…

Lockhart: You think they could have smelled it, but…

Kiefner: (Laughs) Tell me about when the first US troops arrived.

Lockhart: It was a welcome site, yes it was, [and] of course we knew we couldn't leave right away, as much as we might want to, but then we did have a sorting out of those prisoners who might need more medical attention. I didn't fall into that category so I was taken to an airfield somewhere in Germany and flown, my first airplane trip too, flown into France, Camp Lucky Strike, didn't know what was there, but everything is new, brand new, what else has happened. I was there a few days and it was not good because you could eat as much as you wanted and everybody got sick. I remember I ate everything I wanted and then I threw it all up. It was, but at least you, some people really got sick I understand. I was one of the fortunate ones that was selected to go back home. I go get a uniform, obviously I have to get new clothes, and information about who I am, paperwork, a little paperwork I've got, take this to the ship in Le Havre harbor, this is on the 13th of April now. I know it's the 13th of April because somebody said President Roosevelt died yesterday, nobody knew who the new president was. It was Harry Truman, but Roosevelt had been president for 12 years, nobody knew any other president. They put us on it was a kind of a hospital called the *John Erickson* I remember, went back so we could eat. I had a tooth that had rotted out, it was giving me some pain but I didn't want to complain about it because I thought it would keep me back. I think we went back to Camp Kilmer for one or two days, got put on a train, went right back to Camp Atterbury, right back to Camp Atterbury, I hitchhiked home thinking my parents had gotten a letter that I'm

coming home. They didn't get the letter, there's some other strangers living in the house now.

Kiefner: Your family had no idea, they still knew you as Missing in Action then at this point, did they have any indication…

Lockhart: They did get something but I don't know the sequence. At some point in time they did get word that I'd been recovered by American forces, but I don't know when that was, whether that was after my mail that I was coming home or how that was, then it had to be resent from Indiana to Warren, Ohio, so there was another loss of time.

Kiefner: You hitchhiked home, had the military made any arrangements for you to go back home or any payment to you to help compensate?

Lockhart: I think they paid us and we're home for 60 days, they said you're not in good physical shape, but there's no point in you going to one of the Veteran's Hospitals, go home and get fattened up.

Kiefner: You were not [discharged from the Army], but you did get to go home?

Lockhart: You're still in the army, there's still a war with Japan going on.

Kiefner: You hitchhiked home, and strangers were in the house?

Lockhart: Thinking that they had received something from me that I was coming home, but they didn't, mostly because maybe they had moved or maybe the mail didn't move as fast as I had thought it would move. There were strangers in the house who fortunately knew what the history was, more or less, and where my parents were.

Kiefner: Where were your parents?

Lockhart: She went back to her mother's house [in Warren, Ohio].

Kiefner: How did you get back there?

Lockhart: I hitchhiked to Warren, Ohio. It was a pretty good way to travel. You couldn't rent a car; buses [and] trains were crowded, very crowded, [requiring standing] up all day in a train.

Kiefner: Was there anything while you were in captivity that you thought about and really wanted?

Lockhart: Food.

Kiefner: Just anything in a particular?

Lockhart: Food.

Kiefner: Okay.

Lockhart: All kinds of food. It just becomes an all-consuming affliction, that's all you can think of. It's painful. Your stomach shrinks and you become weaker, I didn't realize how weak I was, when the truck pulled up in STALAG IX-B I had to be helped into the truck.

Kiefner: Do you know how much weight you lost, approximately, from the time you entered the service until coming out?

Lockhart: No, I lost a fair amount; I've since gained it back though.

Kiefner: Good. What was the reunion like, tell me about it.

Lockhart: Oh! Where you been? Tell us all about it! I don't remember the blow by blow and that's where my uncles, my mother's sisters and their husbands and their children who are still around were all there in Warren, Ohio area so it was a big thing they had for the return back, some people thought, "We'll never see him

again."

Kiefner: Was there anything that you brought home with you from the camp?

Lockhart: A toothache.

Kiefner: Okay, okay.

Lockhart: I did bring home some Christmas cards and I meant to bring them over here because I had them in my office. After liberation they took us to some place not very far away in Germany, and I have a feeling it was maybe where some slave laborers were kept because inside the walls I just happened to pull out some Christmas cards that were mailed from Poland, they had the Polish stamps on them, to people back in Germany, or in this camp, they were Christmas cards and I kept those because they had Polish stamps during German occupation, a special kind of stamp. They were written some in German and Some in Polish and I've saved those and I've had them translated and I've had them put in cellophane, or plastic containers so that they're preserved, I was going to bring them over this afternoon and went off and left them on my desk. That's what I did bring back; you reminded me when you asked me that question.

Kiefner: But clothing was all…

Lockhart: No nothing like that was saved. I didn't have a watch; I think I had dog-tags, [and] that's about all I had left over.

Kiefner: What was it like to take a shower for the first time?

Lockhart: I probably did that back at Camp Lucky Strike.

Kiefner: When you were issued new clothes?

Lockhart: Yes, I got rid of the [old uniform] and they were infested with vermin of course,

infested, just crawling with vermin all the time, you couldn't sleep well. Everything was lice infested, as much as you could kill lice all day long you could never kill them off, they were at you all the time.

Kiefner: How long did you get to spend then, with your family, you stayed in Warren, Ohio?

Lockhart: They gave us 60 days furlough, and your division's still in Europe so you're going to go back to Europe, the war's going to be over one of these days, fact is the war was over the first week in May, but you're still in the Army and you have to report to a relocation center which happens to be in Miami Beach and you report there I think in June or July, I forget what it was.

Kiefner: How did you spend those 60 days?

Lockhart: Eating. (Laughs) One of the things I did, my friend from Indiana he married his girlfriend and the wedding was outside Baltimore so I hitchhiked to Baltimore and was best man at the wedding, so that's one of the things I did. I think I went back to Fort Wayne even until, my parents were living now [in Warren], [and] my father got released from the war plant and was now living in Warren, Ohio with my mother. There were no ties back in Fort Wayne whatsoever except friendship, school, Miller's Dairy Farm Store was still there.

Kiefner: Did you date anybody before you went in the military?

Lockhart: Did I date? No, I'm too shy around girls. No I didn't have any girlfriends in high school, no. I worked, basically, and I was too poor to have a car so I never did.

Kiefner: When did you return to the service, then, back to active duty?

Lockhart: Well I had orders to show up at Miami Beach Relocation Center, probably would

be sometime in July, maybe June or July, '45. War in Europe was over, but the war in Okinawa was still going on and they anticipated a long siege. My parents probably thought I was going to get a discharge since I'd done my duty. I never encouraged that thought. Miami Beach was taken over by the military, all those hotels along there they were built back in the '20s probably [and] I hitchhiked by air, you could do that by air, from, went to, what did I say? There was an airbase, and Air Force base, took that to the big airfield in Dayton, Ohio and, waited around and flew from Dayton to West Palm Beach, Florida in a small bomber. Better than infantry that's for […] sure!

Kiefner: It was military planes then that you were hitchhiking back on?

Lockhart: Yes, there were air bases or military facilities, yes you could do that, you might have to wait around and you're supposed to grab a parachute, but it was done. You had to take your chances about timing, but I thought I had enough time to get to Florida. I rode for free, courtesy of the Air Force, and I was put in one of those nice hotels, probably had a little orientation, [and] was still feeding us good. You could do recreational things, go to the races or go to the beach or whatever, so we did that. Eventually they said, "Well this is where you're going to go next." I'm still PFC Lockhart though, "We're going to send you to the Parachute School in Fort Benning, Georgia." They said, "We know you're not, we're not going to expect you to jump out, because your feet are still bad." I did have a physical examination to see what I was capable of doing. It was some relatively light duty, but why they sent me to Fort Benning I don't know, but they sent me to Fort Benning and that's where I was when the war [with Japan] was

over, when the atomic bombs are dropped, I think it was August, in September the war was over with Japan. There was a lot of people who were in the service longer than I, maybe had a more distinguished career shall we say and had points that would allow them to go home earlier so I just had to wait, but there was not much to do. I can remember, well I got advanced to the rank of corporal, this is after the war was over, but I got a 21 day pass one day, out of Fort Benning, there was not much to do, but the same time they didn't want to let me out ahead of time because of the rotation system with other men who'd been in longer, so eventually I got sent right back to Camp Atterbury, now the third time, this time for the discharge. [It was] December 12th, 1945 because I came to Chicago on January 2nd, 1946, still in Uniform.

Kiefner: Tell me about you feelings when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

Lockhart: Wonderful. Great news. Good!

Kiefner: How did you learn of it?

Lockhart: It was in the news. I was at Fort Benning and so there was plenty of access to all, we didn't have television in those days, radio, newspapers, everything, of course it was this big event, but I don't know whether it was particular celebrated at Fort Benning which is a big military base, been there for a long, long time, it's where the OCS is for Infantry and Parachute School and so forth, there's a lot of history associated with Fort Benning, a lot of men have been processed through there. But I don't remember anything special, to tell the truth, it does remind me that anytime that, you'd hear about Bob Hope and all the people that came through, the USO people, there was somebody there, but during basic training back at

Fort Eustis, who did they have that they presented? World Champion Joe Louis was a sergeant in the Army and he was taken around, the army was segregated, there was no white and black mixture, they were separated, so he came to Fort Eustis, which is in Virginia, which is a segregated State in the first place, and here he's trying to take on somebody else in boxing, but anyway it was a big thing because everybody knew who Joe Louis was, big match and was World Champion and he was an incredible person. That was the only person in three years in the Army that was anything of note, shall we say.

Kiefner: After you returned to the States, what were you thinking now for your future after all this time spent…

Lockhart: I knew exactly what I was going to do. I'd been taken to Chicago during the World's Fair 1933 by my father; they had excursions on the Pennsylvania Railroad from Fort Wayne for little money. For one day we went to Chicago, went to the World's Fair, you know where it was? I got infected that day with "Chicago." I wanted to come back and, like I say said, on my last furlough in the United States, where'd I come back to? Chicago. For the day. Didn't know I was going here.

Kiefner: When you came back to the Oriental Theater?

Lockhart: Yes. Anyway, I'm having memory problems, it happens when you're 88 years old.

Kiefner: Stan Kenton?

Lockhart: Stan Kenton, yes, it was Stan Kenton. I was infected with "Chicago-itus" and I obviously wanted to finish my education and it was going to be paid for by the

United States government, I still had some credits form Purdue of course, but I never wanted to go back there, never cared for that. I couldn't get [accepted at Northwestern University] up in Evanston, they were just overcrowded with I think sons and daughters of the alumni who maybe had first choice, shall we say, getting back on the campus, the only place I could get any education was a night school over here in Chicago [Northwestern University – ed.]. I went two nights a week for, four hours two nights a week and eventually, 1951, was able to graduate.

Kiefner: That Northwestern night school?

Lockhart: Northwestern night school, right. But they had the graduation ceremonies up in Evanston, so my parents came in for that, of course it had taken me nine years.

Kiefner: What were you doing, what were you doing while you were going to school, were you working as well?

Lockhart: Yes I was working as well, definitely working as well, and when I first came to Chicago, that would be in January, '46, the only thing I knew was being a soda jerk so I got a job as a soda jerk at a restaurant, the restaurant has now disappeared, and that's when I became aware that they were deducting income taxes from your paycheck. They didn't do that sort of thing when I worked there for a while and I got tired of that and I got a job, but I still was interested in the journalism thing.

Kiefner: Do you remember the name of the place that you worked as a soda jerk in the city?

Lockhart: I can't now. The building's still there, but the restaurant is gone now, and it's over

on Wells and Wacker. Then I got a job because I heard about there was a vacancy for a copy boy at the United Press office which was in the Daily News Building, which now is over on Riverside, Madison and River, it used to be the Chicago Daily News Building and it was also where the United Press office was. There was not much for me to do and I could see reporters were coming back from the war looking for jobs, basically. It only paid $20 a week and I didn't want to go hungry again if I could help it, bad memories associated with that experience.

Kiefner: Right.

Lockhart: Eventually I got a job in a publishing company over on Dearborn Street, Hitchcock Publishing Company, the building is still there, the Hitchcock Publishing Company is gone, but I did have the good fortune of meeting the woman who became my wife there. I worked there for not too long and then got a better job at Commerce Clearing House which is a legal publishing company, they had offices that were over here on Michigan Avenue, I worked there for seven years.

Kiefner: Where were you living at this time?

Lockhart: I was living in a, well my first place was the YMCA Hotel when I first came to Chicago, it's still there at 8265 Wabash Avenue…then I didn't like that place after a while, I was still a couple of years but you had to share the bathroom and a lot of problems with the people there, so I got a room at a hotel up on the near north side, which is now disappeared, then I got an apartment at 833 N. Rush Street, which is now gone too, so when I got married housing was very great in

short supply, by the way, after the post war boom, a lot of people had come back and there was no housing been built for years, probably going back to the '20s no housing had been built for a while. We lived in an apartment at Rush Street there for a while and then we got another apartment on LaSalle Street and eventually I got an apartment up in the Near North area it's called Marshal Field Garden Apartments up on Sedgwick Street.

Kiefner: Did you get married before you graduated from Northwestern?

Lockhart: Yes, got married in 1948.

Kiefner: Where did your career go from…

Lockhart: Where did my career go, yes, I was always interested in politics, government type, I got involved as a volunteer for the Independent Voters of Illinois, which is a liberal Democratic group, but it's independent of the political parties? I was involved in precinct activities in the Near North Side called the 42nd Ward during the 1952 presidential election supporting Adlai E. Stevenson. I have pictures of me working the precincts in the 42nd Ward, but it got me involved with the Independent Voters of Illinois and after the election was over they hired me as a part time organizer, so I had a day job at Commerce Clearing House five days a week and then I still had classes a couple nights a week, but I had this organizing job for the Independent Voters of Illinois and then I, all of the sudden there's a rush of civic activity in Chicago and an organization was formed called Citizens of Greater Chicago, a brand new organization, and I see they advertised for somebody to work for them, the civic organization, I applied, and got it, in large part because I had the part time job working for the Independent Voters of

Illinois so they thought that was, I was given, there were three of us who were hired and I was given the West Side of Chicago as my territory and eventually I became the Executive Director of—it's called Citizens of Greater Chicago—became the Executive Director. From that there was a constitutional amendment campaign in 1954 in Illinois, this was an effort made by some of the civic leaders in Chicago, it just so happens the chairman of it was also on the Board of Directors of the Citizens of Greater Chicago so he happened to know me, and so he hired me as a temporary person on the state-wide campaign and I had spent most of my life in the state of Indiana, never came to Chicago until '46 and here I'm involved in a state-wide campaign after only six years and I don't know where Peoria is quite for sure, I know it's "down there somewhere." Talk about Moline and some of these places, that was my, shall we say, introduction to the big State of Illinois and from that experience I then created my own business in 1958.

Kiefner: And that business?

Lockhart: Flourishes today.

Kiefner: Tell me a little about your business and what it does, how it started.

Lockhart: It started as a last resort of the incompetent I think. I had a job that was paying a salary, but I got bored with it, was working for the Chicago Civic Committee or something, it was a downtown organization, but the Executive Director, I was Assistant Director, but the existing Director he figured that I was after his job I guess, which I was not, he didn't give me anything to do, so while I had the job and I had nothing to do I figured out how I could make a business, you might

say. I started and there was a campaign in 1958 for a bond issue, a statewide bond issue the benefits of which would build some mental hospitals, somehow or another the Board of Mental Health Commissioners knew about me and they hired me, hired me to run this campaign since I'd already done the other campaigns. Then that got me acquainted with the Mental Health Association, so they hired me to lobby starting in 1961, just one fortunate event led to another fortunate event.

Kiefner: Was lobbying a large business at that time?

Lockhart: No, I was just going to the Illinois legislature in those days only was in session six months out of every 24 and actually not only in any kind of intensive section of that period of time except maybe April, May and June of every other year, you had to do other things. The other things constituted maybe some of the campaign activities, maybe some PR kinds of operations I got involved in, nothing big or nothing startling, just to keep the wolves at the door, my wife was still working herself and she was a commercial artist and a good one, so we got along, shall we say. Not always easy, but we survived.

Kiefner: Was there any tie-in with your experience in the military as a POW, did that influence you decision to…

Lockhart: None.

Kiefner: I read that you hosted a TV program in the '60's as well?

Lockhart: Oh yes! I did have that, but I didn't get any money for that though, that was on Channel 11, ran for a couple of years, called *Metropolitan Report*, introduced and had discussions with different people in the Chicago area, political world or

civic world.

Kiefner: Anyone stand out in your mind, among those?

Lockhart: I introduced the Speaker of the [Illinois] House, his name was Paul Powell, he was from way down southern part of the State, I thought, he's a Democrat and the program was, in those days Channel 11's studio was in the Museum of Science and Industry, I don't know if you knew that?

Kiefner: No, that's interesting.

Lockhart: They had one wing of the Science and Industry and he said to me, I said so I called him and asked, "Would you liked to be interviewed on my program?" I didn't know him and he didn't know me at the time, and he said, "Well, you have to do it down here." He says, "Now they opened up a media center at SIU headquarters in Carbondale, so you'll have to come down here for the program." I drove six hours from Chicago to Carbondale for a 15 minute program. But it gave me some uniqueness and that was made into a film and it's, I think you got down to Vienna, Illinois, go to Paul Powell's house, it's a museum, you can see the interview, and I have copies, I made copies of it here, I gave it away when my business was 40 years old, or I was 80 years old, one of them or the other, I had copies made of that interview, I have to give one to you, you can see it.

Kiefner: What motivated you with all of this political drive?

Lockhart: Just a long time interest, I didn't want to be an elected official, I didn't want to run anything, I didn't have any strong partisan feeling, although basically I supported the liberal point of view, but at the same time I didn't have any real rigid attitude. I was interested in the process, basically, I was interested in the

lobbying process, about how to move legislation through, because there was no place you could find out about it, you know, since that time after I did it for a while I used to put on seminars, lobbying seminars, teach other people how to be, you don't have to do that so much anymore although I constructed a webinar, which I haven't found anybody who wants to put it on, but anyway out of an interest out of government and politics, not partisan based though.

Kiefner: Tell me about the Illinois Political Reporter.

Lockhart: Yes that was part of my strategy to get myself known and so that was done, I ran it for 25 years from '61 to '86.

Kiefner: Now is this a…

Lockhart: A newsletter, kind of like a newsletter, but it came out 10 times a year.

Kiefner: Ten times a year that's what I was wondering.

Lockhart: But it was first thing, it was a sensation for a while because it was the first that anybody ever did anything of a political nature on a bipartisan kind of way and state-wide. It helped a lot in getting my name known politically.

Kiefner: Who was on the distribution list?

Lockhart: Politicians. County Chairmen, Legislatures, Board Committeemen, we constructed a big list and then we did the first issue and then we put the labels on, I remember, carried them all down to Springfield, still every time I go past the post office there I think the day I brought in several thousand of these, not knowing what was going to happen. May of '61 was when the Legislature would be in session, so like I say it was a big thing.

Kiefner: What type of things did you cover?

Lockhart: Anything I wanted to cover, but I didn't try to do it any kind of partisan bias, maybe I did an article upon what the breakdown of Democrats and Republicans were in the House and the Senate, maybe did a little bit about what was the Illinois congressional delegation, maybe talked about the County Chairmen, what their job was, it was just simple kind of stuff, nothing really, really complicated, but nobody had ever done it before, basically.

Kiefner: How long did that continue to be published, how long did you work on that?

Lockhart: Twenty-five years, but I never took advertising for it or anything like that. Ten times a year, but the problem came with the volume of work in Springfield, I could not do a good job with the newsletter and do a good job with the lobbying, the lobbying is much more demanding and so I just figured, well I've done it for 25 years, quit while I'm ahead.

Kiefner: Did it grow over those years?

Lockhart: Yes. I had some organization would take a bunch of them and send them out to their membership, I remember one of them took 600 every issue and sent them out to their members.

Kiefner: How was that funded?

Lockhart: I'd charge for them, nothing much, 10 or 15 dollars a year, but things were cheaper then.

Kiefner: Tell me a little about your involvement in Illinois' Constitutional Convention.

Lockhart: Which convention?

Kiefner: In 1970.

Lockhart: The Constitutional Convention?

Kiefner: Exactly.

Lockhart: The Constitutional Convention. [My] memory is telling me about my first constitutional campaign in 1954 was an amendment to the old Constitution which goes back to 18[70], the person was at, was a board member for the Civic Organization, he became more and more involved in Constitutional revision, he becomes the leader in the state of Illinois for revising the old constitution, the way he said it should be done is we should have another Constitutional Convention to write one. To do that, under the old Constitution, the Legislature would have to pass a resolution calling for a referendum; the referendum would be on the ballet. He hires me for the campaign to call for a Constitutional Convention. We're successful, it's called. Now he says, "I need an assistant." I said, "Well I could be it on a per diem basis." I have lobbying clients now, the Legislature's in session still meeting every year, I said, "I'll do it on a per diem basis." The Constitutional Convention comes to an end; the product has to be adopted by the people at election, "You help me get the votes for the approval of the Constitutional Convention?" "Yes." I did that [and the referendum was successful].

Kiefner: What were some of the fundamental changes to the Constitution that…

Lockhart: The fundamental changes I think, well one of them was an explicit authority to have a non-graduated income tax, now a non-graduated income tax had been passed by Ogilvie in the year before, but there were a lot of people who said it was unconstitutional under the old Constitution so we made sure that it was going to be made constitutional, that was a non-graduated income tax was put

into the Constitution at that time. The legislature was put on an annual basis, that was a big thing too because that made lobbying worthwhile. The other thing it had done, we had created a status of cities called home-rule cities, which are cities of 25,000 or more, automatically became home-rule cities and they had certain powers they didn't have to go to the legislature for to get approval. It used to be if a city wanted to do anything, the famous one, City of Chicago wanted to change the rotating lights on their police cars from red to blue, that took an act of the General Assembly [in Springfield] to do. We created this home-rule status and gave home-rule cities power, not all the complete power that they wanted, but enough that we knew Mayor Dailey - *King Richard the First* - would provide support for the referendum when the time came for the vote. That was in terms of local government, we provided that for local government. We put in some things in the Bill of Rights section; we put non-discrimination on the basis of physical and mental condition in housing and in employment. That was an initiative of Mayor Dailey II, who was the son of the first mayor, but he was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, it was his first political [experience]. He got this initiative because people came to me from the Welfare Council and other ones, here we was doing the Constitution, why don't we put something in the Bill of Rights to protect the rights of the physical and mentally handicapped where nothing was in there before. They tried it with some other delegate [who could not move it, and] they came to me privately and I said, "I'll tell you what you should do. Take it to this young man, his name is Richard M. Dailey, get him to sponsor it, it will pass." I'm sure Richard M. Dailey took it to dad [to get his

O.K.] But it helped bring more [yes] votes to the referendum itself. But how did the referendum [get approved by the voters?] I do take credit for this; [the referendum] could be held at any time, the Constitutional Convention that adjourned on September 3rd, 1963. Governor Ogilvie wanted to put that on the ballet in November of 1978, regular election that day, and some people thought "Well that's a good idea." I Said, "No that's a bad idea." Number one if the people go vote on November of '78, the regular election, there's already an amendment to the old Constitution on the ballet, the people will vote on that, vote on the candidates, walk out the door. You have the power in the Enabling Act for the Constitution to determine when this election will be held, pick a date when there's no other election. We picked December 15th, that was the only thing that was on the ballet, the only people who voted were the people who really liked it or didn't like it. But at least they know that only those who were interested in constitutional reform would be the ones who would show up and actually take an interest in the issues and vote accordingly, that's how it happened.

Kiefner: You were elected Speaker of the Third House.

Lockhart: That's true. It's a non-paying job.

Kiefner: Tell me a little bit about that organization.

Lockhart: It's a non-functioning role, it has no power. These are the professional lobbyist, has informal organization, the main purpose of which is to hold the Christmas party in December in Chicago. The way it is done, the former Speakers pick the next Speaker and it rotates between [Chicago] and downstate. …I was picked the

Speaker in '81, that's how that happened. It's a one-year office.

Kiefner: You received the Bronze Star medal in 1990, sometime after your honorable discharge.

Lockhart: It came in the mail!

Kiefner: It came in the mail! Tell me how that happened.

Lockhart: Nothing I did! I have no idea; [it] came in the mail. Along with some other medals, the European Theater with three stars, like I say it was accurate, it was accurate, even the combat infantrymen badge, now I had been getting the pay for that, it was $10 extra a month, you know—don't know if you know that. I had been getting that, because you get it even when you're not in combat. Once you get it you can keep on getting the $10 a month, which was big in those days. I have no idea how those things are done, it's only the US Army I guess, and the mysteries of how they operate.

Kiefner: What has been the greatest change in lobbying from the start of your lobbying career until now?

Lockhart: I would say control by the leadership is stronger now. We used to have more independent legislators because we had a different kind of election system, now we have the single member district, once upon a time we had accumulative voting which is a little hard to explain, but three people were always elected from each district. As a consequence, even though Chicago is a Democratic city there was always a Republican elected from every one of these Democratic districts, and even some black Republicans got elected. At the same time there were Democrats elected from DuPage County, even the Speaker of the House,

Mr. Redman came from DuPage County, he was a Democrat because the cumulative voting [allowed] three votes, [which a voter] could give those to one person if you wanted to, all the minority people the Democrats in DuPage County, there's not a lot of then, but they gave all three of them to Mr. Redman, he could get elected as one of the three people. As a consequence you had a lot of independent minded people in the General Assembly, because they were not beholden to the leadership, shall we say, they were the minority, but they had a strong enough minority that each one of them got three votes, they didn't need an awful lot of people to get elected. So that all disappeared and is gone forever, so that's the biggest change, I would say.

Kiefner: How would you select those causes that you were going to lobby for?

Lockhart: That's pretty much determined, I suppose, by the clients that I had. They're all not-for-profit organizations; most of them were professional groups. If I've had a problem I would probably say something to them about it or did something or did nothing, it's never been, the question come up, from most people like yourself, because it would seem like it would be, if you lobby for 10 or 15 organizations it would come up, but there are so many issues, so many bills introduced that you're meshed in doing the things that organizations have to have done, they're not looking around sometimes for other fields to penetrate, you might say. In theory it's a problem and in actuality it has not been a problem. Now if somebody asked me to do something that I didn't believe in I'd flat out tell them I couldn't do it. I do remember, once upon a time, I represented the veterinarians. They wanted me to pass legislation that would prevent them from

serving on juries, I said, "Well I can't do that, I believe people should serve on juries, I think that people should pay their taxes, I think they should serve in the military, I couldn't do a very good job of advocating for that because I fundamentally don't believe in it." That was the end of that.

Kiefner: What would you say has been your most challenging Lobbying effort?

Lockhart: I've been doing it for 50 years so it's a little hard to say. Been some, been some biggies from time to time, and I do remember, I represented the Clinical Social Workers, and what did they want? They wanted to get third party reimbursement from insurance companies for rendering their services to mentally ill people, just like [psychiatrists and] psychologists did. I finally got it passed, despite the opposition of the Psychiatric Society, who are tied to the Medical Society, who are tied to the insurance companies, all fought it but I finally got it through. This is when Thompson was the Governor, I'm sure they figured they could get Thompson because he was close to the Medical Society, to veto it, I got all the clinical social workers to really communicate their concerns and I said, "Why don't you do this; let Mrs. Thompson know as well." I said, "I don't know for sure, but I've heard she has some problems […]." I don't know whether that had anything to do with anything, but the Governor signed the bill. […]

Kiefner: Have there been any issues that you've been more passionate about from the personal level?

Lockhart: I try not to be passionate. They're all serious.

Kiefner: What do you owe your success too, at what you do? Obviously you've been successful; you've been doing this for 50 years.

Lockhart: I don't know that I've been particularly successful, because I don't have rich clients, I have clients who I've had for many, many years, they're I would say, devoted. I guess it's being open and honest and successful, nothing secret, shall we say. I keep close contact with them, even when the Legislature's not in session, keep up to date on political developments, show up at meetings, maybe get a Resolution introduced, [and] congratulate the organization on its 60 years, things people maybe not otherwise think of.

Kiefner: What do you do for enjoyment over all of these years when you're not working?

Lockhart: I go to Europe for three weeks every summer, I used to go to Palm Springs and hike in the desert, I've not been able to do that for a bunch of years, although I hope to do it this spring. We're out for about two, three weeks and I hope to get away. I may not come back [laughs], I may not come back I have to wait and see, so I don't have a lot of fun in my life, no I don't.

Kiefner: You had mentioned earlier returning to some of the sites where you were years ago, tell me about that.

Lockhart: You mean Europe?

Kiefner: In Europe.

Lockhart: Yes I got back, I love Vienna so I go back to Vienna every year, I like Brussels I go back there frequently. This last year, last summer, I flew into Brussels and went some places in Belgium that I told you about, I drove to, then I drove into Germany, to Dachau, which is the big, the very first concentration camp that they ever built, outside of Munich. Now the camp is pretty much gone, at least the original buildings are gone, but it's still a camp, it's still, it's made into a site, it's

a historical site, great photographic history is there and so I wanted to go there, I drove to Dachau it's outside Munich and from there I drove to Slovenia, I'd been there once before but it's kind of an interesting little country that not many people go to. Then I drove from Slovenia into Austria to Vienna where I always go to, I like Vienna. I then flew from Vienna to Greece for a few days, about the turmoil I have to give you a little footnote here. I spent about three days, I just like to lay around in Greece and do nothing, it's always sunny and it's always beaches and there's good food and the people are friendly and so forth. It comes to leave and I'm at a hotel about, maybe 30 miles from the airport, so I tell the hotel to call me a taxi I wanted to go back to the airport, get the plane back to Vienna. She comes back in a few minutes and she says, "All the taxis on Crete…" this is the island of Crete, "…are on strike!" I said, "It's 30 miles away I don't know if I can make it, carrying a suitcase too!" She says, "Well I'll tell you what you do, you go down to the minimart, buy a ticket on the bus and eventually a bus will come by, eventually the bus will get to the airport, they may get you there in time." Everybody else is trying to get on the bus so it's kind of difficult. I get on the bus and sure enough I get to the airport, when I get to the airport there's pandemonium, people are coming off the airplanes and realize there's no place to leave, they're packed, I say it's bedlam at the airport with people getting off, people like Lockhart trying to get out, just after narrowly getting there in the first place, you know? But I did get the plane back to Vienna, thank goodness. I'm thinking twice about Greece now, whether I go back there again this coming summer or not.

Kiefner: How would you say your military affected your whole attitude towards life?

Lockhart: For one thing I am less complacent, I kind of operate on the basis of expect the worst and plan accordingly and I kind of believe in that and it's very helpful in terms of the lobbying world, the political world, because it's the unexpected. I like to think ahead and anticipate bad things, the key words are "Plan Accordingly" and I try to assert this frequently with clients as well, most people are so normally just optimistic that they, it's difficult to thing bad things at the same time. That has probably been the one thing that has perpetuated itself in my psyche, don't believe what you're told, in effect, I was told it's a safe place, nothing will happen. Everything happened. People were careless, got killed, for no fault of their own, just because they weren't given, somebody should have said, "You're on the front lines, folks, and you don't know what the other side is going to do, they're not going to tell us what they're going to do! They have a lot of lethal weapons over there; they know that they have to kill you for them to be successful." Nobody said that.

Kiefner: What accomplishments in your life would you say you are most proud of?

Lockhart: My two children. And my stamp collection! [And] 88,000 Stamps later.

Kiefner: Thank you Mr. Lockhart for sharing your experiences with me today. Thank you for your time, your service to our country, and your service to the citizens of Illinois.

Lockhart: To the Pritzker Library!

Kiefner: To the Pritzker Library, I really appreciate you taking this time with me today.

Lockhart: My Pleasure.