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**Mark Jones**  
**June 17, 2002**

Interview conducted by Mark Schoepfle  
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Harpers Ferry Center  
PO Box 50  
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HFC\_Archivist@nps.gov

**September 11, 2001**

**Oral History Documentation Project**

**Northeast Region, National Park Service**

INTERVIEWEE:

Mark Jones

Arlington House

(Interview No. Unlisted)

INTERVIEWED BY:

Mark Schoepfle, Ph.D.

Ethnographer

Archaeology and Ethnography Program

Washington, D.C.

Gary Scott

National Capitol Region

Washington, D.C.

Karen Byrne

Arlington House

Robert E. Lee Memorial

INTERVIEW DATE:

June 11, 2002

PLACE:

Arlington House

PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Chuck Smythe, Ph.D.

Senior Cultural Anthropologist

Boston Support Office

National Park Service

15 State Street

Boston, MA 02109

## START OF TAPE

Mark Schoepfle: So, we are about to start the interview with Mark Jones. With Mark Jones on—

Mark Jones: June the 17th.

Mark Schoepfle: June the 17th, 2002. So, Mark, the first question I have is, when you were first aware that something was going on, what happened?

Mark Jones: Well, it was about, is that going to —

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah, go ahead.

Mark Jones: Okay. It was about 9:25 in the morning. And we set up the house a few minutes earlier. We open at 9:30 at Arlington House. And so, I was scheduled to be on the second floor for the first half-hour. And I walked out of the front of our OAB [old administration building] building here. And I was walking down the steps and I saw a Park Service truck come, like pretty fast into the parking lot.

Mark Jones: And Jan, our gardener, jumps out, and he parks really quickly right in front of the building. And he jumps out, and he just had this really kind of intense, horrified look on his face. And he said, you know, the World Trade Center was hit by a plane.

Mark Jones: And I don't remember whether he said two planes or one plane, or whatever, now. And I remember my first reaction — and I've been to New York, but I didn't really have any concept of, I mean, I knew the trade centers were towers, but I didn't really know anything about them. I didn't really know there were two of them. And my first reaction was, wow, that's a horrible accident, you know. And so, I walked over to the house and we set up. And I took up my position on the second floor. And I remember I was standing right at the top of the stairs when I heard and felt a big boom, which I would later learn was the plane hitting the Pentagon.

Mark Jones: And I was very, I didn't really know a thing about that. I was very concerned. And a little while later, the person in the center hall, Linda Kacmarcik, who is a former seasonal ranger here, yells up and says, "Mark, I need you." So, I come downstairs, and she was saying something about our museum building having not been open, and should we open it, and we didn't really know what to do about that. And I looked out the front of the house and I saw some smoke.

Mark Jones: And I walked out under the front portico and into the gravel in front of the house, at the chain where the grass is. And I just saw this billowing smoke against the blue sky. And she said, they got the Pentagon. And I was like, then I knew, I guess, something was happening.

Mark Jones: And I was just sort of in awe for a little while. And visitors, there weren't that many, but there were several around.

Mark Jones: And they were all looking at the same thing. And a couple of them asked me questions, if I knew anything. And I said I didn't, and I was actually asking them questions, whether they knew anything about what was going on. And we really didn't know what to do as far as operations were concerned. And a little while later, we got word that we should close down the house. So, we locked it up, and asked the visitors to leave. And the supervisor, Frank Cucurullo, came over a short time after that.

Mark Jones: And he was saying that we were going to do a security sweep. And the visitors, of course, were concerned and wondering what was going on. We didn't really have any answers for them. We recommended that they leave the cemetery as soon as they could. And we carried on with the security sweep. And it was myself, Joy Kinard, I think, was in the house at that time. Linda, Malcolm Willoughby, our maintenance supervisor — who else? — Keith Drews, and Frank.

Mark Jones: And we divided up into a couple of groups. And my group was Frank, and Malcolm, and myself. And we were checking the bathrooms and stuff. And I think no one, I don't know if there's any policies for things like this, security measures, and like SOPs [standard operating procedures], or whatever. I think—my impression was that Frank was just trying to think of “What should we do?” I mean, this is kind of new territory, and you don't expect for a plane to hit the Pentagon, and a plane, or two planes, to hit the World Trade Center.

Mark Jones: And he was, I guess, thinking, well, who knows, maybe our site could be a target, being within the cemetery, and on top of that, being culturally very important. And so, we were looking in the bathrooms and looking for anything suspicious. And that made me quite nervous. I didn't really know what I was going to do if I found something suspicious. We were like looking in the women's bathroom and opening up trashcans, and looking behind the toilets, looking inside the toilets, I think. And we didn't find anything. But we did this in the guard's room as well. And at one point, we were walking along, and Malcolm had with him a little like pocket radio, I guess.

Mark Jones: And so, we were hearing kind of reports. And I remember at one point there was a report that there was an unidentified plane coming this way. And I think she said a distance of like twenty miles, or something like that. And that really kind of freaked me out, because I didn't know what was happening. And at some point, either right after that, or right before that, we heard a big boom.

- Mark Jones: And my first reaction was that something else had been hit. But it turned out later that that was not the case. And I think what that was, was someone said, the sonic boom of some jets taking off from Langley, I guess, and trying to intercept, either the plane that hit the Pentagon, or maybe in response to this report that was on the radio. I'm not sure. But all in all, very nerve-wracking. And should I keep going or —?
- Mark Schoepfle: Keep going.
- Mark Jones: Okay.
- Mark Schoepfle: You're doing just fine.
- Mark Jones: All right. Well, after several minutes of this, and looking around, and checking things, and we were reasonably sure that we had done what we could, Frank was saying, okay, well, we need to — we can send you all home, but we need someone to stay. And we were discussing who was going to stay. And Keith Drews volunteered to stay. He didn't have a car, and that kind of made me a little concerned, because I didn't know what the metro situation was going to be.
- Mark Jones: And I was like, well, I can leave my car. I can take the metro now. It's still running. And you can have that. He declined that. But, you know, he, I guess, felt like he could stay. And the rest of us, I think, appreciated that. We didn't really know what to do. Well, we came back here to the office, and Malcolm had a TV, a small, little TV in his office. And a bunch of us were huddled around that. I remember actually seeing Karen — she was pretty upset.
- Mark Jones: And it was sort of interesting to see different people's reactions. Because Karen was visibly very upset and crying, and stuff. And Linda, who is one of the most easy-going people that I've had the opportunity to know was, at least on the outside, like not very affected by it. And it wasn't that she was inconsiderate, I think, but she just was not as shaken as Karen or most of the rest of us. And to have all these people huddled around this tiny TV at the same time, you know, we watched the replays over and over again of the towers, and the planes hitting the towers.
- Mark Jones: And we'd flip back and talk about what was happening in D.C. And we didn't really know what to do. You know, slowly people started to go out to their cars and begin to leave. And I called my mom at some point while we were watching the television. And she was — I grew up in Chantilly, they live around here, and I was still living with them at the time, actually — and she was very relieved to hear from me, knowing that how close the Pentagon is to Arlington.

Mark Jones: And so, we made a plan that I was going to go home. And then I was thinking, you know, whether any of my other friends were around, and if I could do anything to help them. Because I actually happened to miss the bus that day, and I had my car, which I didn't usually have, which turned out to be a good thing, I think. But I called up one of my friends who works over in Rosslyn. And she is — we went to school together in North Carolina. She is originally from Charlotte. She had just moved up here like the week before that. She lives in the city. And not knowing the metro situation and things, I asked her if she, since I had my car, if she wanted to just come out to my place.

Mark Jones: You know, she knew my family very well and everything. And she was grateful for that and accepted. So, I said, okay, I'll come and pick you up. Well, driving out of the cemetery, you know, I went around the circle, and got on, I guess, [Route] 50. And it was just packed. And there were servicemen and women in uniform walking down the middle of the road pretty much. And it took me, you know, a drive that should take like five minutes, took me like twenty-five minutes.

Mark Jones: And finally, I got up to her place, and she was standing outside of her office. And she asked if we could also take one of her coworkers home, who is a secretary, probably in her fifties, and a very talkative lady, I would learn. But on the way home, she was very, it was very strange, because it didn't seem to be that she understood the gravity of the situation. And based on the stuff she was saying, she was, I don't know, I don't remember all that she was saying now. But you know, we took her home to her place, which was kind of on the way.

Mark Jones: But ended up taking kind of a strange route home, because the interstates, we thought, would be very packed. But I made it out to, toward Chantilly. And we decided to call some other of our friends again to see if they wanted to come over to my house, because it was about thirty miles outside the city and stuff. And we didn't know what their situations were. And Melissa had a cell phone, so we were able to contact a few other people. And one of them was a friend of ours named Scott. And he — his boss had driven him — he works in downtown D.C.; his boss had driven him out to a metro stop.

Mark Jones: And he got on the metro, but he was going in the wrong direction. And his plan was that — because I guess the trains weren't running through the Pentagon at that point — and his plan was to, at some point, just wait it out and switch back and go back toward Alexandria where he lives. And we convinced him that he should just continue out toward Vienna, and we would pick him up within that station. And he would just hang out with us at my house.

- Mark Jones: And so, we met him there. And while we were waiting — I have a Camry, so I have five seats — well, four seats plus me — And I was looking around for anyone else I knew, because obviously, the buses were all messed up. And I wanted to, if I could, help anybody else out. I actually called my old scoutmaster's family to see — I know he worked down the city, and we occasionally ride the bus together, or I would occasionally see him on the bus — and to see if he might need a ride. And they said, no, he was okay.
- Mark Jones: But I actually saw some other people that I recognized from my bus. And I didn't really know them, but I said, hey, I have my car, and do you need a ride. And a couple of them took me up on it. They were very appreciative. And there were like five of us, I guess — Scott, and Melissa, and then two other people that I didn't really know, and me — all crowded into my car.
- Mark Jones: And we made it out to Chantilly, and I dropped them off at their various bus stops, actually. And then we went out to my house, and Scott and Melissa and I just sat there and watched the news, basically, the entire afternoon. And my mom made us dinner. And then that night, probably around 6:00 or 6:30, something like that, maybe a little later, we drove Scott home. And then Melissa and I went to — drove into the city to get a few of her things, and then drove back out. And she stayed with us that night out in Chantilly.
- Mark Jones: And I remember driving into the city. It was really scary, because — or just different. It wasn't that I was scared that something was going to happen, but it was just, it was like something out of a movie. The streets were just totally deserted, pretty much. And you would drive around and every now and then you would see, like where I guess the National Guard had set up. And it was like an under-siege situation, or something like that.
- Mark Jones: Well, we tried, after we got some of our stuff, we tried to get a Washington Post late edition for the 11th. I'm an historian, or I study history, and very interested in memory, and things like that. But I wanted to have kind of something to, a piece of September 11, if you will.
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure.
- Mark Jones: And I think a lot of other people had the same idea, because we actually went to the Post headquarters, and they didn't have anything. They said they had actually stopped selling them there a while before that. But we went to all sorts of stores, and machines. And most of the machines just had the regular day's paper. They hadn't been stocked with the late edition. And all the stores we went to were sold out.

- Mark Jones: But so, we were unsuccessful on that. But finally, we gave up on that and started back toward home. And we drove across, I guess, the Fourteenth Street Bridge. And I don't really remember why we came out that way, but we did. And I just remember seeing the lights, and the smoke, and like this kind of yellow, smoky haze over the Pentagon. And the smell was just really intense. And the thought that occurs to me now was like burning plastic. I think it was burning lots of stuff, not just plastic. But very memorable in that respect.
- Mark Jones: And then we went home, and I stayed up until like 1:30 just kind of watching the news and seeing if there was anything new. And sitting in front of the computer. I wrote a couple of friends. I had one girl I was kind of worried about in New York, because she works on Wall Street, and just a few blocks from the towers. And I wrote her. And a couple of my friends had written me, as well. And I responded to them saying that we were okay up here. And actually, that afternoon, one of my ex-girlfriends had called up the house just to see if we were okay and stuff.
- Mark Jones: Obviously, it was a time when everybody was, you know, concerned about the people they knew, and hoping that they were okay and everything. So, I guess I'm temporarily at a standstill, if you all have another question.
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, let me see if I can backtrack here around a couple of points.
- Mark Jones: Okay.
- Mark Schoepfle: Okay. First of all, if you were walking down the steps, I forget what, just at the beginning, from what building?
- Mark Jones: From this building, the old administration building. And it's about a five minute, or probably about a two-minute walk from the back side of Arlington house. And it's pretty much directly behind the house. I just opened the door and I was walking off the front of our porch. And I saw Jan — and his last name is Sucholdowski, I think.
- Mark Jones: He came kind of speeding up into the parking lot, and parked and jumped out and said, the World Trade Center has been hit by a plane. And I just, I didn't, obviously didn't understand what that meant at that time.
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure. Okay. And then you later on heard what was like a boom, like a sonic boom?
- Mark Jones: Well, I heard two big booms, I guess. The first one was when I was standing. I remember distinctly, I was standing where I always stand on the second floor when I'm waiting for visitors to come up the stairs.



- Mark Jones: And that's, we have one staircase that goes up, and the other one that goes down the other side of the hallway. And I was standing just off to the side of the staircase that goes down so I could see people coming up.
- Mark Jones: And I heard just this impact, and the house sort of shook a little bit. I mean, it was enough of an impact that you could feel it. And I don't remember what my first reaction was to that. I mean, obviously, that was not something that was normal.
- Mark Schoepfle: Right.
- Mark Jones: But there were a couple of visitors up there and I was like, what was this? And then Linda called up to me and said, you know, I need you down here, and they asked me some questions about the museum. And I went outside and saw the smoke and that's when she said, they got the Pentagon. They, I just remember her saying that, which now it strikes me as "that's interesting."
- Mark Jones: But the second boom I guess I heard was while we were doing the security sweep. I heard — I can't remember if it was one or two, but it was very, very loud noise. And my first reaction was that this was another attack of some sort. Well, to be honest, I don't even know that I worked it through my head that these were all coordinated attacks at that point. But listening to Malcolm's radio, that was definitely the impression that we were getting.
- Mark Jones: And the way that I've sort of explained it to myself since then was that these were of sonic booms of the jets taking off. Because that is what I was told by somebody, or on the radio, or something. And it makes, I guess it makes sense. But that's what I assumed those to be.
- Mark Schoepfle: Yes. Okay. You said there were a few visitors there, and then you were also asking each other questions, like what was going on here. What were of visitors saying?
- Mark Jones: Well, that's kind of an interesting question. A lot of them were basically just like me, just kind of didn't really know what was going on and were inquisitive. I remember this one lady — when Frank was saying, recommending that people need to leave the cemetery, we were closing our site, the cemetery is likely closing. "I recommend, ma'am, that you go ahead and leave." She was — I don't know about confrontational, but she was like, "well, you know, our hotel is in Washington, and I don't know, you know, where are we supposed to go," and all this stuff. Which I guess is a total natural reaction. But it just struck me as a little odd. I mean, obviously, everybody is concerned about the welfare of their people, their families and friends, and things like that.

- Mark Jones: But mostly, the visitor reactions were just kind of this inquisitiveness about “do you know anything?” No, I don’t. This is what I saw, this is what I heard. You know, “have you heard anything?” And I do remember that one episode with the lady getting sort of snippy about our recommendation/directive that they go ahead and leave the cemetery and leave the site.
- Mark Schoepfle: What did Frank say in response to that?
- Mark Jones: I think he basically said the same thing he had just said, which was, well ma’am, I appreciate that, but you need to leave the cemetery, and basically just rewording what he had just said, and a little bit more sternly. But in the days following, or months following, actually, Frank is — he asked us to write down our remembrances, and it’s sort of typical to his personality because he is like, well, you know, I want you to write down everything. If you think I was a total idiot, write that down, and stuff.
- Mark Jones: And I don’t think he was a total idiot. I don’t think he knew what to do. I do remember feeling a little antsy when he was like, we need to go and look for what I translated to be look for bombs in the women’s bathroom. I mean, I was like, this is getting a little scary. But I thought, all in all, we handled things fairly well.
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure.
- Mark Jones: And we were fortunate in that there were not a whole lot of visitors. This was right at the start of the day, and we did not have a whole lot of visitors out there. I think it may have been kind of a different story had we had, as we sometimes do, a big crowd of school kids, and another big — in the house — and another big crowd on the portico, waiting to come in, and then this happens.
- Mark Schoepfle: About how many students do you think were around? I mean, whatever you can estimate.
- Mark Jones: You mean visitors around?
- Mark Schoepfle: Yes. I mean that. Yeah.
- Mark Jones: In the house, not that many. I mean, I was on the second floor and I’d say just a handful up there, maybe three, or four, or five. At the time, when I heard the impact and then — as we kind of shut down we had — a few more had been on the lower floor. And I would say at most ten to fifteen, just in and around the grounds. Like I said, it was just after we opened, and this is September 11, after school has begun. So, we don’t really have a lot of the families taking the vacations and stuff like that. I mean, this is when our visitation starts to drop off. So —

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah. So, what you then had to do is, you got the visitors out of there. And you did the security sweep, which was kind of creepy because you had — it was basically, Joy was there, Malcolm, Linda, Keith, Frank, and you — And you, and Malcolm, and Frank kind of banded together as one group that went through the sweep?

Mark Jones: Yeah. I think Jan was there as well. And the way Frank — he was like, “Well you guys—” he designated some people to look through the house, kind of do a security sweep through the house. And then the rest of us to do the grounds and the garden. And I think he subdivided our group. So, it was Frank and I in the bathroom, and the guard’s room and stuff. And then Malcolm and Jan looking around the gardens and other places. While I believe Linda, and Joy, and Keith were looking in the house itself. I’m a little hazy on that.

Mark Jones: But we did divide up the personnel there. And kind of all were pitching in as far as the security sweep was concerned. And I do remember it was Frank and I in the women’s bathroom and looking under things and in things. And it just struck me that this was odd to begin with. But, you know, frightening at the potential that we could find something. And what would I do? What would any of us do?

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah. I can imagine that to be kind of a problem, because you had no idea what to expect. And I notice — you were pointing out — we really don’t have a standard operating procedure for that kind of thing?

Mark Jones: Well, I don’t know of one. Maybe we do. But we used to have this ranger who seemed to know every standard operating procedure for everything, so we could ask her. But I don’t know.

Mark Schoepfle: Right. So then, from there on, this was about what time that this had been going on?

Mark Jones: I would say we were closing down by 9:00. Well, 10:00 at the latest. And I remember being back at the office here about 10:30 or so and looking at the TV. And then probably left for home between 10:45 and 11:00.

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah.

Mark Jones: Another thing I remember as far as the drive home, my car radio was on D.C. 101, or I think it was on that, when I — that was probably what I was listening to on the way in — at any rate, I turned it to D.C. 101 had I not been, had it been on something else — because I remember their morning guy, his name is Elliott, he is pretty crazy, controversial, whatever, just says stuff. I just remember being struck by the fact that he was a total different personality.

- Mark Jones: I mean, his voice sounded different — everything. He was just so serious, giving the news, giving updates. You know, basically being a newscaster rather than this entertainer and DJ. And it was very — it just struck me as wow, this is —
- Mark Schoepfle: This guy has changed?
- Mark Jones: Right. Right. This is intense, you know.
- Mark Schoepfle: Yeah. Did you come back the next day to work?
- Mark Jones: I was off that day. And actually, I guess September 11 was a Tuesday, and I was off Wednesdays and Thursdays. But I packed up all my uniform stuff, which I don't ever do except when I was going to wash it. But I brought home my hat and like everything, which I never did. And I had this idea that perhaps that would be useful in the sense as if they needed people — people look to people in uniform for guidance and stuff. And I don't know what I thought was going to put out a call for help in this regard. But like, somehow it might be useful for me to have my uniform, in case I needed to serve in some capacity in terms of helping out somewhere. And it's kind of a hazy line of thought, I guess.
- Mark Jones: But I grabbed all my stuff and put it in my trunk, and had it on the ride home, and never used it. I mean, over the next couple of days, I just pretty much sat in front of the TV. I just started a graduate school class, and it met on Thursday nights. And we had this — it was kind of a small assignment due. And I remember I was working on that on Wednesday while watching TV. And I was just — and Thursday — I was just not at all into the project. And it really was a struggle to complete it. And we went to class, and I think a lot of other people had had the experience. In fact, I think most of them didn't even bother with it.
- Mark Jones: And all we did that day was just talk about the events, and what it meant. And we might have gotten into a little bit about — you know, it's a history class, and what this meant in terms of history. But it wasn't a theoretical class, really. It was just talking about our experiences, and kind of commiserating, I guess.
- Mark Schoepfle: Where are you going to graduate school?
- Mark Jones: I'm at George Mason. I just actually, at that time, I was in extended studies over there. That was my first graduate school class, and now I've been accepted into the program. So, I signed on for another couple of years there, I guess. But that was another thing I remember, just everyone's — I remember one person said, and I can't remember whether it was that week or the next week, I think it was actually that week — this guy named Charlie in our class.

- Mark Jones: And we were talking about the events, obviously. And Charlie was saying how he had been on campus that week, the 11th and 12th, I guess, working on something or another.
- Mark Jones: And he had been struck by the fact that there were not any Muslim students, or people who he identified as Muslim students on campus. And George Mason prides itself on its diversity. And any other time you walk in there, you'll see and hear people talking in different languages, dialects, and see different dress, and things like that. You know, it is a diverse student body. And he was just remarking that after the 11th and the days immediately following, he did not see any Muslims, or very few. And you know, how interesting that was. Because of course, there was a fear, in some cases a realized fear of, you know, backlash violence towards the Muslim population. So, I do remember that about the class.
- Mark Schoepfle: Okay. This was at GMU in the next few days after the —
- Mark Jones: Yes. That was Thursday, which I guess would be the 13th.
- Mark Schoepfle: Okay. Well, during the day here, what were the next few days like?
- Mark Jones: Well, like I said, I was not here.
- Mark Schoepfle: Oh, I'm sorry.
- Mark Jones: I was off Wednesday, Thursday.
- Mark Schoepfle: That's right
- Mark Jones: And I came back on Friday. And I think everybody was just pretty quiet. I don't know if we were open on Wednesday. Maybe, were we open on Wednesday? Karen says we were. I guess we were closed just that Tuesday then, and open again Wednesday, Thursday. I mean, the mood was definitely different. I know I, myself, was spending virtually all the time I had out of the house on the Internet looking at the Washington Post and other news sources.
- Mark Jones: And I would be like that for a few weeks. And I remember a couple of my co-workers, I have this series of big sisters here, or self-proclaimed big sisters, who look after me and stuff. But they would come up to me and stuff, and —
- Mark Schoepfle: Pretty good, huh?
- Mark Jones: Well, they are always asking me about my room —

END OF SIDE 1

START OF SIDE 2

- Mark Jones: A series of big sisters here, or people who like to refer to themselves as my big sisters, and —
- Mark Schoepfle: Okay, go ahead. I'm sorry to interrupt.
- Mark Jones: No, no problem. So, I had these big sisters here at the office. And Karen is probably the leader of that group. She is our historian. And I just remember over the next few weeks, I was very shaken by the events of September 11, as I think many, many people were in their own ways. Well, fortunately, or unfortunately, depending on the situation, I am a person who tends to wear his emotions on his sleeve to a pretty good extent. And the people around me could tell I was very shaken by this.
- Mark Jones: I was very quiet, and normally, I think, especially around here, I try to be pretty jovial and friendly, and things like that. And people could see a marked change in my behavior, and I was sitting in front of the computer just reading reports. And probably three or four different people amongst this crew of big sisters came up to me at one time or another and said, are you okay? And do you want to talk about it, and all this stuff.
- Mark Jones: And my response was pretty much the same to all of them. And that was, I am very much affected by this, as I think we all are. And this is just something that I need to kind of figure out for myself and consider. And I appreciate your concern, and that means a lot to me. And I'll let you know if there is anything that you can do for me. But for the time being, I just need to struggle through this —
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure.
- Mark Jones: — for myself. And at one point, Robin Patch, who was one of our rangers, her husband is an ex-marine. And she said — came up to me and said, well, you know, I was thinking, if you want to talk to my husband what this means, you know. And I said, at some point I had mentioned, you know, there is a lot of uncertainty about what's going to happen now. And it wasn't that my emotions were motivated by a fear of, well, what does this mean for me individually.
- Mark Jones: But the thought of war, and going to war, and not knowing what I would do in a situation like that in terms of like, you know, I've read some, D-day, and some other books. And it amazes me the things that I guess ordinary people can do, and how strong they can be. And I just feel very fortunate that I had not had to be tested in that regard. But I kind of wondered what I would do should I be tested. And this, the events of the 11th were like, just brought all these questions out in terms of, this could be a reality, and what is going to happen.

- Mark Jones: I don't think my concern was motivated by a concern for my own well-being, exclusively, I think this was just one part of, you know, just this feeling of kind of being sucker punched, or whatever, that I guess we all had.
- Mark Jones: Anyway, Robin at one point came up and offered to, and she was like, you know, I'll let you, or I'll encourage you to talk to my husband. I asked him about it. He said he'd be fine to talk to you and just tell you a little bit about what this could mean, and stuff like that. And I pretty much gave her the same response, you know, thanked her and I would keep that in mind and stuff.
- Mark Jones: And gradually, over the next few weeks, I kind of began to recover, I guess, in that regard, in terms of day-to-day kind of behavior. But still, for a while after that, I mean, just of course all the radio stations were playing a lot of patriotic music, and a lot of people had flags on their cars. And I very soon after the 11th put a flag on my car, which is actually still there. And you know, just driving down the road, I would just see someone with flags. It would make me kind of tear up. And to hear music, it would make me tear up. It was like, I didn't want to change the station, because I thought that was somehow unpatriotic. But it was like, you know, a challenge, in a way.
- Mark Schoepfle: Yeah.
- Mark Jones: And you know, same thing here, just a lot of visitors were asking about, you know, were you here on the 11th? In fact, I still get questions. Not quite so frequently, but I still get questions about that. And I tell them about my experience. And I never really thought about it until right now. But I think in a way, that might have helped me in terms of like coping and stuff. I am fortunate that I did not know anyone personally who died at the Pentagon. My sister knew someone, but our family was not as closely touched as some other families.
- Mark Jones: But still, the whole experience was just very powerful, very disturbing. And I think, in a way, it may have helped me to have visitors ask about it. Because obviously, people coming to Washington and seeing the Pentagon, just from the edge of our flower garden, fifty yards from the house, they could see how close it was. And they, of course, were very interested in hearing any firsthand account of experience that they could. And I think it may have helped me to discuss that with them, and, you know, exchange stories, and stuff like that.
- Mark Schoepfle: How do you answer the question? Could you give me an example of how you answered the question?

- Mark Jones: Well, I think the times that I was asked, that stand out to me were when I was on the second floor. And they would say — someone would come up to me. And generally, people come up, and I kind of wait for enough to gather, and then give a short talk, like not really a talk, more like a spiel, basically, pointing out rooms, and telling them just a taste of who lived where, and a little bit about the history of the house.
- Mark Jones: Well, I had done that, and I would go back to my customary spot by the stairs going down. And people would come up and ask. And they would say, were you here on September 11th? And I would — my response generally was, yes. As a matter of fact, I was standing right here on this spot when I heard the plane hit the Pentagon. And then tell basically the same account that I've told you all here, just about walking downstairs, and seeing the black smoke coming up through the trees. And really not knowing what to do and being very concerned.
- Mark Schoepfle: Did you run over the garden to look at the Pentagon?
- Mark Jones: Not that day. In fact, I didn't even know we could see the Pentagon. Yeah, I knew I had seen the black smoke coming through. And looking through the trees in the days after that, you know, you can barely make out one side of the building through the trees from the front of Arlington House. And it wasn't until, I think, another ranger — I overheard them answering the question, "can you see the Pentagon from here?" And they directed someone down to the corner of our flower garden that I then, later that day, went down there and saw, it's actually a pretty good vantage point of the side of the building that was hit.
- Mark Jones: And, you know, in those weeks, days and weeks after the 11th, we changed our procedures a little bit. We had some more roving going on. And more like a "keep a stronger presence," I guess. And "keep on the lookout for anything that could potentially be sketchy," or whatever. So, you know, the path I would follow would be, I would, when he was roving, I would rove around that area quite a bit. And I would stop and look at the building, look at the damage. And you know, that was — that was powerful to look at that and see the big flag that I guess the rescue workers or firefighters had strung up on top of the building.
- Mark Jones: And then people were — it got to be kind of a place where some mall groups would gather as they were walking toward the house and looking out over the cemetery, and then to the building.
- Mark Schoepfle: Was this going on with great regularity in the days after, people would walk over and look out at the Pentagon?



- Mark Jones: I don't know if I could say great regularity. People were — a lot of people were interested in whether they could see it from here.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, they'd ask, and you'd tell them how to see it, and then you'd go over to look at it?
- Mark Jones: Right. Right. And, you know, when I was doing my roving, I'd see people who had either been told that's where you can see it, or had just figured it out for themselves, and were standing there looking. And then again, I would be asked questions, about "were you here," and "what was it like," and stuff. And basically, telling them my experience.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, during this time — how would you say — you were basically still sort of apprehensive about what was, in a general way, was going to happen, what kind of changes would come down? I'm also getting, understanding, right, there was some apprehension about, you know, would I be, would I be equal to the task when the time came, kind of questions?
- Mark Jones: Yeah. I mean, that's a weird thing to talk about in the sense of, I mean, like I said, I've done, I've been working on a family history project, and I'm very interested in the experiences of people before me, and particularly the World War II generation. You know, my grandfather and my great aunt both served in Europe, and talking about their experiences, and then just reading books on that. It just, I don't know, it makes what — I'd never seen the movie, Saving Private Ryan. One of my friends, not many of the people have seen it, many of my friends have seen it.
- Mark Jones: But my roommate says, he is like, well, you know, it is a challenging thing to watch. And it's challenging after you watch it, because you wonder, could I, how would I function. I mean, and I would assume he is referring to the battle scenes on the beaches of Normandy, as far as the horror. And I mean, am I man enough to do that? I mean, that is a question that I don't have the answer to.
- Mark Jones: And kind of looking that, or potentially looking that in the face after September 11th, I was, yeah, that was one of my concerns. I mean, I was also just kind of at a loss as to what I should do. I wanted to help in some way. And going back to actually September 11th, I was looking around for, can I help somebody, can I drive somebody home, can I do anything? I got on the phone, "can I give blood?" And, you know, they said, "we're kind of overrun right now. We'll give you a call back," which they never did. And lots of different emotions.

- Mark Jones: But yeah, the apprehension, you know, as far as my own personal fate, I guess, that was one of them. Apprehension was like hearing these, like war on terror and stuff. And like, this is a new enemy. And what does that mean?
- Mark Jones: I mean, even to this day, I don't have any strong political views as far as Republican, Democrat, whatever. But I just wonder about a policy that — and I'm not even saying I understand the policy — but a policy that is like so bent of destroying these networks. And as I understand the terror networks, it's like a cancer that's spread over the country, or over the world, and this country. And in order to win this war, you have to get every one of them. And I don't know that we can get every one of them.
- Mark Jones: And — or at least, I don't know how we would get every one of them. Because, as we've learned, just a few people, or supposedly a few people, are capable of doing, changing the world. You know, and if we are going to win this war on terror, we have to get every one of these cells. And I figure that by trying to do that — I don't know what the alternative is — but by trying to do that, you are going to create a new generation.
- Mark Jones: And how do you deal with that, I don't know. So, I don't know if that even answers your question, so —
- Mark Schoepfle: No, it gets very close. Thanks. Okay, what we're talking about here is the next — what? — You were saying two or three weeks, I think you originally were saying that everything was sort of unstable, and in an uproar, and people talking among themselves, and this kind of thing. Was there a point at which things kind of got back to normal?
- Mark Jones: I can't say like one date it was back to normal. One other sort of observation about this, I mean we said, and again, I think this may be my own just sort of impression, but in those days after, you were asking about coming back to work, of course I was off for two days, but like for probably about a week after that, it seemed like everything was just deathly quiet around here. I mean, like to the point where I wasn't recognizing birds.
- Mark Jones: I mean, like these sounds that we associate with nature, and walking over to the house, we will hear mammals and things like that. I mean, that does stand out to me, that it was just very, very quiet, and very, very still, almost. And that really made an impact on me. As far as getting back to normal, I would just say slowly out of time, I kind of came out of my personal funk, to an extent. And I think other people probably were a little quicker in that regard than I was.

- Mark Jones: But I can't really say that there was a time when I could — that I can pinpoint that it was back to normal.
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, when we talk about back to normal, and let's remember, that's a term I sort of strung on you. And I'm not sure you are comfortable with that term, necessarily. Is there any indication, I mean, what is, what does it mean to be back to normal, I guess, is sort of the term I'm looking at?
- Mark Jones: I guess for me, it means that my default thought was not September 11th, and what has happened to us. But rather some other concern from the day. You know, like I have a project due, or I need to get more sleep, or what — I mean, like it just, I was, personally, I was definitely dwelling on this.
- Mark Jones: And like, I guess when I think got back to normal, it means that my thought process was not almost exclusively devoted, my default thought process, when I wasn't dealing with a particular question or a particular situation at work, or otherwise, like my default process, thought process, for a while after September 11th, was about the situation in the world, and about the situation in our country. And what would this mean, and just general uncertainty. And I don't know when that happened in terms of — I think it was gradual over a few weeks, a month, a couple of months.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, there was no particular point where you came in and said, oh, okay, things are back to normal again?
- Mark Jones: Not that I recall.
- Mark Schoepfle: Okay.
- Mark Jones: I think, again, it was just kind of a gradual thing. And I think we all, the staff here was, from my own experience, very supportive of me, I think. And I would hope that we were all supportive of each other. And I think that helps in terms of moving on or moving forward. I don't know that any of us necessarily move on in the sense of forget or whatever, what has happened. You know, that helped. But no, there is not a day when I can say, I came in, and that was it. I do remember, I mentioned the quiet a little bit ago, I remember at one point I consciously heard, like sounds again. And I was like, okay, this is better. This is good.
- Mark Schoepfle: You mentioned like birds singing, and that kind of thing?
- Mark Jones: Yeah. And I also remember — I'm trying to think when this was, maybe the one-month anniversary, or something — but there was a service over, it might have been sooner than a month, but there was a service over at Fort Meyer. And it was during lunchtime. And maybe President Bush had put out a day of prayer for the country, I'm not sure. But a bunch of us went over there during our lunch hours.

Mark Jones: And we all piled into, I think it was Robin's truck, or maybe it was the government van. I don't remember.

Mark Jones: But we drove over, and it's just up the way a little bit, but drove through the gate and went in. And it was kind of rainy and dreary. And we went in, and we were singing a few hymns. And it was a very short service. And we came out. And there was, I don't generally think of myself as an artistic, or symbolic, whatever, motivated person in the sense of a poet, or something like that. But like we came out of the service, and I remember being struck by the fact that there was, just for a little while, a brief like breakthrough of sunshine.

Mark Jones: And like, I took that as a good sign, I guess, and something that I appreciated. And it just made me feel a little bit better. And as far as like, again, if things are back to normal, I can't really answer that question.

Mark Schoepfle: No, that's fine. You've done fine on it. I push a little bit on these interviews just to see if I can find these breaking points. But if not, they don't have to exist for my sake. Well, in the weeks and the months that have come past, from what you're describing, things, you can hear, begin to listen to the birds singing again. There was the service and things like that. They had happened maybe three or so weeks afterwards, maybe a month at most.

Mark Jones: Probably.

Mark Schoepfle: After things were done. And by that time, they were about as much back to normal as they'd ever get.

Mark Jones: Yeah, I mean, I think again, it's just a case of if you — and I am someone with my personality, I tend to dwell on things, which is...

Mark Schoepfle: Sure.

Mark Jones: ... which is not — it turned out to be a hindrance more than a help in those situations. But maybe that's something about the human spirit or whatever. I mean, if we all were to dwell on this forever — nothing — we can't move on, we can't move forward.

Mark Schoepfle: Right.

Mark Jones: And I do remember, in fact this was on the radio just a short time ago, made me kind of chuckle, or just struck me like, I do remember the question of like dealing with, well, you know, how do, is it okay that like I changed the station during a patriotic song, or something like that. And from this interview it must sound like I listen to the radio all the time while I'm driving. But, like, and I think that's a — that relates to recovery and moving on and stuff.

Mark Jones: Because definitely for days and weeks, like right after, I mean, it was intense. Intense patriotism all around you. And definitely within me. And then that sort of started to fade out a little bit. And I remember almost having difficulty sort of coming to grips with that. Am I somehow — like not showing support, or not like doing my part, or something like that?

Mark Schoepfle: Sure.

Mark Jones: And like on the radio, and I mentioned something recently. Somebody, I think they were just making a, basically a joke or something. But like somebody made the comment that, some caller had called in and was wondering whether it was okay to take off the flag on their car now, because it was all faded and tattered and stuff like that. And the DJ's point of view was that, yes, it was. You have made your point or something. But I don't know. But I think maybe my thoughts were not unique in that sense, but —

Mark Schoepfle: Sure. Well, looking back on all this, in describing the things that you've gone through, talking things through with other people and this kind of thing, are there, and I think we've also talked about some of the permanent changes.

Mark Jones: I mean, I don't know that there were, we had, weren't too many permanent changes. There were — we kind of had additional security procedures in there, which I don't know that anyone's really following anymore, in terms of like you were supposed to, like when you were relieved from your duty, like if you were relieved off the second floor and you were leaving the house, you were supposed to take a certain route back to the office building, which is the building we're in right now.

Mark Jones: You were supposed to loop around the outside of the gardens, and vegetable garden. And if you were relieved at the center hall and were going back to the office, you were supposed to take an alternative route to that, so that basically we would have just an increased presence. And I think we were all pretty, you know, good about that for a while. And I don't know whether it just was, people just kind of forgot about it, or at some point, when I wasn't in the rounds, someone said, we are not doing this anymore. But I, myself, haven't done it for a while.

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah.

Mark Jones: And in terms of the permanent changes, we — and I don't know, maybe this was a policy before, but I don't remember — we often had people with strollers coming up to tour the house. And strollers are cumbersome on those steep stairs, and they want to leave the strollers downstairs, or right out on the portico, or outside the house, or whatever.

- Mark Jones: And we have a policy now, which I assume is the result of September 11th, that you can leave your stroller, but you have to take everything out of it. And I guess the idea being that that's going to limit any, like, hidden packages or something like that. Which is a fine idea, I guess.
- Mark Jones: But then you hear things like suicide bombings and stuff, and you wonder if it's really doing anything. But I mean, you can't — we are here for the purpose of opening this cultural site to the public. And there is only so far you can go before you're not open to the public anymore.
- Mark Schoepfle: Right. Well, looking back on this, are there some lessons learned from this? Are there things you would think of doing differently?
- Mark Jones: Hmm. I don't know. That's a really difficult question. I mean —
- Mark Schoepfle: Maybe impossible to answer?
- Mark Jones: Maybe. I mean, I would hope that if a situation like this were to arise again, I could be of help to somebody in some way. And I think that like a little thing, I mean giving someone a ride home from the metro, you know, I think it made me feel good to do that, because I felt like in some way, I was helping. I would like to think that, if given another opportunity, I could come up with a bigger way to help, or something like that. I don't know. That would be my main motivation. And in terms of lesson learned, I think one of the good things that came out of this was I think we all probably saw it at the close in level, in individual dealings with people, particularly strangers.
- Mark Jones: But then across the country, you saw people kind of come together in a way that was encouraging in the light of what had happened. And I think it was because a lot of people were trying to, a random acts of kindness kind of thing, I guess. But you know, a lesson learned, I hope that it would be that way again, and that we can, you know, be together, operate as, on the same page, and —
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure.
- Mark Jones: And that I can be a contributor to that. And the specific things, and specific things at the job, I don't really know. I can't really say anything there.
- Mark Schoepfle: I think your point is well taken. I think a lot of us felt the same way when we were coming home. You know, we didn't even hear anything. All we were told; my daughter had to call me and tell me something was going on. We had, I'm just up at the Union Station.

- Mark Schoepfle: And I mean, the thing that sort of got into my head was, gee, it would have been neat if we had something set up so that we could have been, brought it down [best guess] to help out where we're needed.
- Mark Jones: Right.
- Mark Schoepfle: But as it was, with no indication, some of us just reasoned, well, hated to say it to ourselves, but probably the best thing for us to do was just get out of there and get out of the way.
- Mark Jones: Right. Right.
- Mark Schoepfle: But it would almost be, you know, you always sort of wondered, it would have been really neat if there had been some kind of training or system set up where we could have been of service.
- Mark Jones: Yeah.
- Mark Schoepfle: I think a lot of us felt that way.
- Mark Jones: On that, another one of our rangers here, Scott Campbell, he was a seasonal. And he was, we were talking a couple of days after, and he is a guy who is politically very minded, and very nontraditional, I guess. He is not, he speaks his mind against both Democrats and Republicans, and things like that. And I think at times has gotten kind of a look from other people, like wondering what his story was.
- Mark Jones: Well, after September 11th, he was just, you know, recalling some of his thoughts and emotions that he had had. And that the desire to help was very strong within him. He had gone to, you know, a blood bank and stood in line for six hours, I mean four hours, I mean just an incredibly long amount of time. And looked into, he really wanted to be a part of the recovery effort at the Pentagon. And was told, really, the best thing you can do is to stay home and support your friends, and just stay out of our way, basically. And that is a difficult thing for a lot of us to deal with.
- Mark Schoepfle: Sure, sure.
- Mark Jones: Because you think, well, I could sift through the destruction, and I could help. I mean, if everyone is trying to do that, it's not a help at all, so.
- Mark Schoepfle: What a mess.
- Mark Jones: Yeah.
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, looking back also on your experiences in this, do you have any idea of maybe on memorializing what happened?
- Mark Jones: That's a, I've wondered about that. Because —

Mark Schoepfle: So, what —

Mark Jones: So, are they going to put up a memorial in New York? I mean, I remember I asked that question. And Frank, who is from New York, he was like, well, you know, maybe a small one. But you know that property is too valuable to turn into a national park. And I thought that was an interesting response.

Mark Jones: And the Pentagon is, of course, you know, restricted access, I guess. So, I think we definitely should have a memorial to the events, and also like the human-interest stories that came out of that, maybe. I've thought often of like interpreting something like that. And I guess it's a similar thing to like an Oklahoma City memorial. Like how do you interpret things?

Mark Jones: And probably the coolest part of interpreting would be to talk about the acts of like individuals, like kind of history in the grassroots, if you will, like normal people who did extraordinary things to make a difference. You know, obviously, this was a horrible day for our country and the world. But it could have been a lot worse had people not stepped up and done the things that they did. And talk about the idea that maybe the passengers took down a plane that was going to take out the White House, or something like that.

Mark Jones: I mean, like that's a powerful story. And that is something that the Park Service, or whoever, I think that would be a cool opportunity to talk about, you know, those sort of stories. And also, I mean, probably the interpretive opportunities are endless in the sense of what caused all this? What's going on in the world, you know. And actually —

END OF TAPE 1

START OF TAPE 2

Mark Jones: What I started to say, this girl I've been dating recently actually works a similar thing that what you guys are doing here for the Park Service. She works for the Center of the History and New Media. And George Mason has been collecting stories from people, oral histories, written, you know, accounts, photos, pictures, mementos, whatever. Lots of different stuff from people, both those who were directly affected, and I guess indirectly affected, which is most of us, by September 11th.

Mark Jones: But she has been dealing very closely with the people up in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and kind of getting their thoughts. And it just made me wonder, like that would seemingly be, it's the argument against New York City for a memorial in terms of a physical dot on the landscape would be, you know, lower Manhattan is just too valuable to donate to that.



- Mark Jones: And the argument against the Pentagon being it's the Pentagon, and you can't have something like that, which should attract the public, and should be geared toward the public.
- Mark Jones: Maybe in Pennsylvania, we can have something like that, and open up those opportunities to talk about what this means, and what September 11th meant in the history of the country, and to individuals, and what does it mean in the future, and stuff like that. I mean, I think that we definitely need to do something like that. It's just too important of a — I mean, I don't know when is the right time, because right now all of us are, it's so fresh and stuff. And how memorials come to be is another question. It took us like sixty years, and now we're just going to put up a World War II memorial on the mall.
- Mark Jones: And that's, of course, very controversial. And how do we memorialize this, is, I think, the real question, not like whether we memorialize this. How do we remember even, I don't know if memorialize this is even a question. Not the right term.
- Mark Schoepfle: Yeah. Well, George, Karen, any other, any questions?
- Karen Byrne: Well, I was going to ask if you notice any difference, and particularly immediately after September 11th in wanting to help? I did. Did you see any difference in people, particularly amongst people that you know well, your friends, and family, co-workers? Did you see any real difference between men's and women's response in that regard?
- Mark Jones: Hmm. I've never really thought about that. I don't know that I did. I mean, I think there were a few obvious things that people — giving blood was a big thing. I don't know in my experience that I noticed any gender biases as to that particular thing. Gender, you know, I don't know if it's gender roles or whatever, but gender personalities or classifications are difficult things to sort of characterize. And I think there is a difference between men and women, and they show emotion differently, and they act on emotion differently. And I wouldn't be surprised if, like if you were to take some survey or something, if there was a difference. But I don't know that I have any basis to say if there was or there wasn't.
- Mark Schoepfle: An interesting question, though.
- Mark Jones: It is an, almost as if it came from an historian there, Karen. Anyway.
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, this has been interesting. And I guess my next question would be is there anything that we've failed to ask you that you'd like to talk about, or should we talk about?

- Mark Jones: Let's see. I was kind of wondering, like, and I guess this was just sort of editorial, like, because obviously, I think we've all thought about this a lot. And when I found out that you guys were coming, I was wondering, well, should I look back on the things that I was writing back then? Or will that just cloud my remembrance now? And like what's the difference between memory, and oral history, and things like that. And all these things are —
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, a very important question, right.
- Mark Jones: Oh, absolutely. And due to laziness, or a busy schedule, or whatever, or maybe the final decision not to do that, I did not actually look back on my e-mails from that time, or whatever. But I think that is something that I'm going to do now and see like, well, what is nine months, ten months, whatever it is, after the fact, how is the story that I remember the same or different than how I remembered it then, and things. I guess like I can't think of anything that I've left out. The big thing for me was just the total emotional, just all-encompassing kind of response that happened within myself.
- Mark Jones: I mean, I think I'm an emotional person, which is, can be good, it can be bad. Like it was just, really like little things. Like seeing, driving down the road and seeing a flag on a car, or a flag hanging from an overpass or whatever. I mean, that was enough to, I mean it really impacted me a lot, enough to make me tear up in some cases, and feel really good in other cases. And I mean, so the response was just kind of all-encompassing, as far as my emotions were concerned.
- Mark Schoepfle: Good point. Any questions about us?
- Mark Jones: What sort of, I mean, kind of, what are other people saying in response to these questions?
- Mark Schoepfle: Well, I mean, other people are making responses really very similar to yours. You are, I mean, obviously everybody is going to be unique in certain ways. But I mean, what you're saying has a lot of resonance with what other people are saying as well. People's reactions at the time of the crash, you know, the disbelief of the hit. Or can this really be happening? Is this really a hostile act? Even up in New York, it wasn't until after the second one hit that people began saying, yeah, I think some of those, whoever these guys are, they mean business, and they aren't being very nice about it.
- Mark Schoepfle: The idea of wanting to be able to help in some way or another was really wide pitched to the point that, in some cases, even those who were ordered to vacate, stayed, and disobeyed orders to stay. You saw a lot of things in which people just had to make judgment calls on the ground.

- Mark Schoepfle: They knew what to do, they made them very quickly. They didn't wait for a lot of clearance from the central office some place to do things, in a lot of cases. They just, they thought fast with the resources they had at hand.
- Mark Schoepfle: But the things you talk about regarding with your friends, trying to help out, staying glued [best guess], obsessing on things to days after. I mean, that may be the wrong term, obsessing?
- Mark Jones: No.
- Mark Schoepfle: But really just —
- Gary Scott: Well, you know, dwelling on them?
- Mark Schoepfle: Dwelling on them, I guess.
- Gary Scott: Yeah, dwelling on them.
- Mark Schoepfle: It was very similar. I mean, people were very shaken up. I mean, people up at Ellis Island wrote songs about it. So, you know, when you say, oh, you took it unusually hard, or something like that, or tend to dwell on those things, I would honestly have to say offhand, not more than a lot of other people did. Many of them had to have counseling, it shook them you so badly. Some of them I interviewed, even months and months, and months afterwards, cry over it. Couldn't talk, you know, kind of had to pull themselves together.
- Mark Schoepfle: Others claim that by being able to talk about it, just by getting the facts down, it helped prevent them from doing that, that kind of thing. People in certain ways acted differently, but in many others, were very, there were a lot of similar patterns. And yours, in many ways, fit right into them.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, but being able to get that individual perspective, I think is going to be really important. Because, you know, I think the first things that will be written, will be the administrative sides of things. That's what always has to be done. But being able to get what was going on here on the ground, what people had to do, the judgment calls they had to make, or didn't, they decided not to make in other cases, all of that is extremely important. And what you contributed is right in there with them.
- Mark Jones: Well, you know, I was here, and that's what I remember. And I think that's what oral history is all about. So, I mean, I appreciate the opportunity. And I think this is a really cool project. And I think is more so now than probably in previous generations, we are attuned to the need, or desire, or goodness, or whatever, in recording these things soon after, as opposed to trying to get, you know, racing the clock as people, later in their lives, are not around anymore to share about their experiences.

Mark Jones: And I think that's a wonderful thing for all of us, especially those of us who are interested in history, and study history.

Mark Schoepfle: And one other thing, when you talk about recollection, you know, that should you look back on notes, and those kinds of things, I think it's just as good that you operate what you know now. It would be interesting, if you had the time, to go over your notes, and we could just discuss some of the differences you've seen —

Mark Jones: Well, I do have the time. I mean, I don't know, my notes consist of a few emails that I wrote. I mean, it's not like I did an interview on September 12th or anything like that.

Mark Schoepfle: But sure. If you've got those things, I could call you up, and we could talk about them.

Mark Jones: Okay.

Mark Schoepfle: Compare notes. And we could see what differences arise from them.

Mark Jones: Sure.

Mark Schoepfle: I think that would be very good.

Mark Jones: Sure. I'm open to that.

Mark Schoepfle: Okay. Well, thank you very much for your time on this.

Mark Jones: Sure. Well, no, I enjoyed it. I enjoyed it tremendously. So, thank all of you.

Mark Schoepfle: And we will get —

END OF TAPE