

## Michael Galuski Student Worksheet 4- The Time Stamped Transcript

Directions: As you view your assigned section of the transcript, type each word uttered by your veteran interviewee. Words like “um or so”, or colloquialisms like “you know what I mean?” do not need to be included.

Transcription of Words	Time ended
“My name is Michael Galuski. I was drafted 1968. Once I graduated from high school, I really, even though the Vietnam War was going on, felt at that time I wasn’t gonna be drafted. I think it was wishful thinking because after I got drafted I knew a lot of people were going to Vietnam. I still wishful thinking in my heart of hearts, I wasn’t gonna go to Vietnam because I just didn’t think I was gonna go.”	1:00 Minute
“I got my orders to go to Louisiana for advanced infantry training, which is a red flag. In my heart of hearts I thought I’m gonna be one few people that doesn’t get sent to Vietnam. Then when I got my orders for Vietnam, I realized in my heart of hearts I was going to Vietnam. To see it in writing really convinced me I was going to Vietnam and I was scared to death.”	2:00 Minutes
“My dad didn’t know because I come from a broken home, and my mom left my dad when I was eight years old. My mom brought up three boys by herself. She was a blue collared, work in the factory lady, she really didn’t have time to worry about her son going anywhere. I’m sure she was concerned like any mom back then because they were starting to televise what was going on in Vietnam on a daily basis.”	3:00 Minutes
“I think there was anger that I didn’t like the fact somebody was gonna tell me how to dress, how to comb my hair, cut my hair, tell me when to eat and when not to eat. Then all of a sudden I’m going to Vietnam and having no control over that, really made me angry because I grew up with no supervision, I loved it. The infringement of my freedom was that was	4:00 Minutes

really going to be tested."	
"It wasn't me, I come from a small town, and I didn't think I was gonna be the one to go, but I remember as a 10th grader my gym teacher said some of those guys when they graduate they're gonna go to Vietnam and I said he's kinda crazy. 2 years later not just me but some of my friends, were in Vietnam. If you went to college you got a college exemption."	5:00 Minutes
"They literally owned you for 24 hours and we had an opportunity to get a 3 day pass if you got really marks on your physical training test which involved climbing bars, running around a track a mile with your combat stuff, carrying a rifle low crawl. The possibility was 500 points and if you scored over a 450 you could get a 3 day pass."	6:00 Minutes
"Having the possibility of going home was really great. In basic training there was no getting away for drinking, not getting away for pizza and ice cream. You eat what they gave you because you couldn't go anywhere else. I lost 25 pounds in 8 weeks, I was athletic but the drinking didn't help with that. When I got out of basic training, I felt strong, I knew they were preparing me for something, when I got out of basic training I looked like 19 year old soldier should look like."	7:00 Minutes
" Our training was hard and guys who didn't pass the training were held back another 8 weeks am sent to the fat farm. After basic training I had a couple weeks off and I drank for a couple weeks, went to advanced infantry training and it was really hard physical training btu at 5 in the evening you were done for the day, until 6 the next morning. I couldn't wait to get to the barracks, get changed, go into town and drink. After 9 weeks of training I had gained 30 pounds because I had from 5-6 to eat and drink everything i wanted to."	8:00 Minutes
" 2 perspectives on that, when I went over, yes, when I	9:00 Minutes

got over there,no.	
"Some of the situations I got into were things I was told to do, and should've used better judgement. For instance, being told to checkout a foxhole. I had never been told the fire in the hole thing ..."	10:00 Minutes
"...I dropped my weapon and got down on my stomach crawled halfway in the whole, crawled back out. I get out, the fella who told me to do it said this is how it's done and pulled the pin on the hand grenade and yelled fired in the whole and threw it in, and I remember being so mad that this guy was willing to let me do that."	11:00 Minutes
"I ended up in the first air cav which is an air mobile group, they jump out of helicopters and are taken to a skirmish and you would jump out of a helicopter. I was never told after you jump what to do."	12:00 Minutes
"...People who carry mortars would be a different MOS, supply people would be a different MOS, everybody's job, even the cook would have an MOS, but if someone said "11bravo" everybody knew you were imatory, you would be carrying a weapon like an M16"	13:00 Minutes
"I was stuck carrying a machine gun"	
"The imetry traveled by itself" "You would be assigned to a platoon and then put into a squad or 8 or 9 people"	14:00 Minutes
"When i did something it was usually in a squad or group" "There was always a squad leader, a radio man, and 2 machine gun people." "You were taught that the most important person in that group was your radio man, he called for help"	15:00 Minutes
"I was so scared of everything, i didn't have the time to think theoretically"	16:00 Minutes
"They would send helicopters to come pick us up... but then drop us off in the middle of a fire fight that was going on, that was a downside of helicopters"	17:00 Minutes

"I was only there 8 weeks"	
"Everything came in cans, and they had pound cake in a can, and we would trade for poundcake."	18:00 Minutes
"I was drafted May, I went to Vietnam October 20, 1968, which happened to be my 20th birthday and i remember going over and crying on the plane all the way to Vietnam."	19:00 Minutes
"Thanksgiving day we had a morder attack" "That put my thought process into a whole new realm of fear" "October- November nothing really happened"	20:00 Minutes
"We set up camp, 120 men" "There was a stream... and they had a B52 strike in that area"	21:00 Minutes
"B52 would just drop 500 pound bombs in certain area" "We never got to shower...Whenever we saw water it was like Disneyland" "Moms and Dads were sending in Thanksgiving packages from home"	22:00 Minutes
"It was kind of quiet and everyone was in a good mood" "There was an incoming sound of morders and men shouting "incoming" (He tells a really long story of what happened that's important but really long)	23:00 Minutes
"My foxhole wasn't very deep, and there were like 4 guys in it" "So i just jumped on top of the guys" "I was lying there scared" "The morders stopped like 20 feet away" "That put me on alert for the remainder of my time in Vietnam"	24:00 Minutes
	25:00 Minutes
	26:00 Minutes
	27:00 Minutes
	28:00 Minutes
	29:00 Minutes

	30:00 Minutes
	31:00 Minutes
	32:00 Minutes
	33:00 Minutes
	34:00 Minutes
	35:00 Minutes
	36:00 Minutes
<p>“...from what the guys told me, that if you’re a short-timer, you start getting really antsy, that you’ve been really lucky so far, to make it that long and...part of the superstition...they said you start hearing things. This is the guy who’s saying, ‘I hear something,’ and the guy ahead of me says, ‘He hears stuff all the time,’</p> <p>“We’re moving 20-30 feet and he said it a couple more times. and then, an AK-47 goes off. AK-47 is the Vietnamese weapon of choice...they’re so distinct...”</p>	37:00 Minutes
<p>“We were lead squad, so we were the first ones in the whole company going in...as soon as we got fired at, we just layed down on the ground, we’re in bamboo...there’s 9 of us, side by side, couple of machine guns, I’ve got the machine gun, and rules of engagement will say, lieutenant will say line of fire, and you fire your weapon on automatic for 5-10 seconds.. then you stop firing, and there’s no noise... and then the squad leader says, ‘Okay, move out.’ So that means get up and start moving</p>	38:00 Minutes
<p>“As soon as we get up, we start to get AK-47 fire again, back down within a second, and the same process...and we get fire again. So on the third time, lieutenant says ‘Move out,’ and nobody’s getting up,</p>	39:00 Minutes

<p>and he yells louder, I don't know how many times he said it... and I don't know if i was just being stupid, or i assumed the rest of the people were gonna get up... I stood up, and as soon as soon as I stood up, I got shot...I got hit in the left arm...and when I went down, I was so scared... people said 'Did it hurt?' I said, 'I don't remember it hurting. I was so scared"</p>	
<p>"Whoever shot me knows where I am and he's just gonna keep on shooting 'til i'm dead...and when in reality...I don't think he could see me. If we couldn't see...I think it was...Vietcong just in an area where we were heading into more Vietcong and he was just a patrol guy... I look back and think 'I don't think he did' but back then I didn't know any better. So a medic crawls up to me...I'm just scared to death that somebody's gonna shoot me again...I crawled backwards with him...I remember him leaning me up against a tree, he said to me 'You have a million dollar wound,'"</p>	40:00 Minutes
<p>"...Like Forrest Gump...there was absolutely no pain whatsoever, I was so scared, the adrenaline was flowing. He gave me a shot of morphine and within seconds...I remember smiling cuz I just felt so good...everything became a blur after that. because we were in heavy bamboo, there wasn't any placed, they called it a Medivac chopper...they're just perfect targets for Vietcong...the rules of engagement are 'you don't shoot Red Cross' they do. They shoot doctors, they love...it wasn't like a play by rule war... it was just a dirty war..."</p>	41:00 Minutes
<p>"The helicopter couldn't land...they had to chop it...so they could load me on...and I don't know how long it took...but I remember them putting me on a helicopter and I was face down...and the helicopter took off and I heard the pilot say 'I've got 1 more stop, I've got to stop at a hot LZ...and my heart sunk because a hot LZ means there's a firefight going on</p>	42:00 Minutes

and he's going into a place worse than where he's picking me up from and to my knowledge, he never did. I don't know if I passed out from morphine... because my next memory"	
"When I woke up, I was in a hospital bed...it was in Vietnam in an army hospital...and the guy next to me looked at me and he had the biggest smile on his face...it was a guy I was with in basic training and we just both laughed, and I said 'We really had bad training because here's 2 of us, 56 days into Vietnam, we're both shot already,' and we just laughed. That was my recollection of getting shot and I ended up coming home because...and I see things in God's perspective now of timing of where I got shot, when I got shot. I got shot in December of 1968. Going back almost a whole year..."	43:00 Minutes
"In January, they had the tet-offensive, which was a country-wide attack on all the bases in Vietnam by the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong and it was to demoralize the troops...they wounded so many Americans that the hospitals were filled in Vietnam and Japan. they were anticipating another tet-offensive..because of that, the guys...with minor wounds that would've stayed in Vietnam until they got better and got back out into the fields...they took as many of those guys and sent them to Japan, so I ended up in a Japan hospital, and every day, someone would come in.."	44:00 Minutes
"With orders for people to go back to the U.S. or orders to go back to Vietnam...I was laying in bed every morning expectantly and also dreading going back but the wound I had..." (he explains his stitches and scars)	45:00 Minutes
"...Then I got my orders to go back home to Fort Devens army hospital and it was one of the happiest days of my life. I came back to the States superbowl...when the Jets played the Baltimore	46:00 Minutes

Colts...it's one of my fondest recollections of coming back in January, and then the night of the superbowl, they woke me up..."	
"And they made me get out of bed, quarantine me, I found out I had malaria, my first day back in the States ...I almost died of malaria. I lost 30 pounds in 10 days. i thought I was gonna die...Ironic that I was to go to Vietnam, get shot, come home, and die from a mosquito bite. I thought, 'God, is this a sense of humor?'...I don't remember in my life ever being that sick. I had the dry heaves because the thought of eating made me throw up..."	47:00 Minutes
"My eyes are bloodshot because the vessels in my eyes broke, it was almost completely red in both eyes, and it took me 10 days to get over the malaria. I was freezing and sweating at the same time, and I remember I wanted to go home but they wouldn't release me...so I drank a whole glass of ice water hoping my temperature would go down so I could go home..and he said 'You're not going home, your temperature is 104' and that really scared me...and I stayed in the hospital 2 weeks and I got a pass to go home, I ended up spending 5 months in an army hospital"	48:00 Minutes
"That's why I ended up coming home, I spent 56 days in Vietnam. I wish I would've kept my helmet because we decorated them and I had a calendar and I was crossing off x's, and the letter I have to my wife says 'I only have 309 more days to go' that was the morning before I got shot, so I know exactly how many days I was over there...Coming home was such a happy experience for me. I grew up in a small town and people welcomed me back. I know, historically looking back, that a lot of military guys..."	49:00 Minutes