

### Reginald Mitchell 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
<p>My name is Reggie Mitchell. I enlisted in the naval reserve about a year after I got out of high school. My rank was FTM2 which is fire control missels technician 2nd class. Well I saw alot of my friends getting drafted in the army and I didn't want to do that so I enlisted and I chose the naval reserve for two reasons. The first reason was because they have good schools, I believe the navy had the best schools. And the second reason was by going in the reserve I was able to post pone getting called up to active duty until I finished my two year college degree that I was in at the time. And it worked out real nice about a year and a half later I was called up to active duty about the time I finished my degree. The last thing before i was deployed i had gone to a four month training class in basic electronics. And then we had about a year of training after that mainly</p>	<p>1:00 Minute</p>
<p>down in Puerto Rico a couple times, two months at Guantanamo bay a lot of exercises in the Atlantic Ocean and that took about a year. And after that we were deployed to Vietnam. I was engaged at the time, she was my male order bride. I got my diamond ring to her i bought it in Japan on leave and mailed it to her. I think the biggest impact was leaving my friends behind and missing work. I had a real nice job and i was there about four years and tjat was hard to leave. We arrived in the spring and the work days were hard. As soon as we got there we started in rotation of forty days in the line</p>	<p>2:00 Minutes</p>
<p>off the coast of north Vietnam. After forty days we'd go in to port for liberty for a couple days and then</p>	<p>3:00 Minutes</p>

<p>back again for forty days. And the forty days were composed of a eight hour work day. Where i worked on the misell radar with a four hour watch period on either side and during the watch period i shot the five inch guns. So that was a sixteen hour work day forty days in a row with no break. I was a audio technician i did the installation in sound systems in public schools like the ones here the speakers up in the walls. My first duty station was anacostia naval station in dc and that was to be processed in. After i was processed in about a week later i was sent to school at bambidge Maryland and that's where i went to my basic electronics class</p>	
<p>and when i graduated from that training class i reviewed orders to report to the uss boston the heavy cruiser and i went to the Boston and that was the ship i went to vietnam on. I went to boot camp while i was still in the reserves so that was Great Lakes in Illinois and i served at boot camp in the summertime so i didn't have to miss any school to do that. The food is actually really good i think the navy has great food. They sort of ruin it sometimes when they cook it. But i know the food was good because if we would be in port and we'd go play a softball game or something we'd always grab a few steaks with us and grill em while we were playing softball and they were great when you cooked them yourself. It was a nice looking uniform we had blues which is a winter time uniform. Blues were wool a they're nice and warm heavy coat. Summer uniform</p>	<p>4:00 Minutes</p>
<p>was whites either short or long sleeve. In Vietnam things were toned down a tad it was like casual Friday all the time. So in Vietnam we wore blue jeans T-shirt and tennis shoes so that was our uniform. I used to read a lot there wasn't too much to do since we were working sixteen hour days so you didn't have a lot of free time. I had sort of two jobs one was working on</p>	<p>5:00 Minutes</p>

<p>the Misell radar and i was an operator on it did maintenance on it and repairs on it. On the watch i shot the five inch guns. We had five mounts gun mounts they were dual five inch guns that means the diameter of the shell was 5 inches and they were about that long that we shot they weighed 54 pounds a piece they'd go about ten miles. And i did that about</p>	
<p>for hours my work day and four hours after the work day. It was fun it was very interesting. I think the best part about tjat was the people i met. I've kept in contact with them and to this day every year we attend a reunion and we get together with about six or seven if the guys that i served with and that's a lot of fun to do. It was hard dealing with what we were doing in my case perticularly my job it was hard to come to grips with but it was a thing you had to do and you just do your job and get through it. And just try not to think to much about what you were doing. I do like i meant well the reunions that we had every year there's probably four hundred three to four hundred people that attend about half are ship mates and half are wives so i get to see a lot of</p>	<p>6:00 Minutes</p>
<p>the people that were on the ship and close knit group of people that i was serving with maybe half a dozen we see them every year and we also get together sometimes if we're visiting or gonna be in that part of the country we'll stop by and see them. I remember my boot camp instructor he was real mean but he was real fair and the trick in boot camp is just to do exactly what they tell you to do don't give any smart answers and you'll get through fine. They taught me how to obey orders and not to have a smart mouth and if you do that you get through ok it's the things they're teaching you are good things to learn. I think they want everybody to learn the same n o matter where you go to boot camp at so they teach the same thing at all boot camps so everybody has sort of an equal</p>	<p>7:00 Minutes</p>

<p>footing once you deploy to active duty</p>	
<p>i have three ribbons that i was awarded. One was a national defense ribbon that everybody gets just for being on duty in time of national emergency and the other two were Vietnam combat ribbons. One was awarded by the United States and the other was awarded by the republic of south Vietnam. I was injured but it wasn't a combat related injury i caught nemonia in where i was working it was air conditioned and really cold and i spent about four days in sick day and then they released me to go back to duty after that. I think the friends tjat i made the education they gave me in the school i went to and just the feeling of doing something right</p>	<p>8:00 Minutes</p>
<p>of doing something good with the country to this day it makes me feel good just to recall those days. On the ship or on liberty? Well on the ship the ship would go like after forty days off the coast of north Vietnam it would go into a liberty port maybe japan or the Phillipines or Taiwan or Hong Kong wherever we were scheduled to go for liberty. And then theyd turn you loose and it was up to you to take a taxi or walk or wherever you wanted to go to. We did have a van that we carried on board our ship while we were in the United States it was like a maybe ten or twelve passenger van and the crane would pick it up on the shore and put it on the deck and they would tie it down and these had to take us down town if we wanted to go to a restaurant or something and funny story if i could about that</p>	<p>9:00 Minutes</p>
<p>inin World War II they used to paint pictures of airplanes on the nose of a fighter for every plane they shot down so I could look at the nose of the fighter plane and see what they shot down .on our missile launcher we had really good exercises followed by the training for Vietnam and we had to airplanes painted on the side of a missile launcher for two drones we shot during exercises. One day were in port and van was sitting on the deck of the ship and for some reason though they ran a missed up for testing and it broke loose from the misses launcher fell down right on top of the van and it looked like a giant had just had taken a telephone pole and smashed the roof right in so by the end of the day the missile launcher had two air planes and a white van painted next to it.that was the end of our transportation.</p>	<p>10:00 Minutes</p>

<p>What's the most difficult part I think everybody gets a little homesick even though you know you have good friends on the ship you always get homesick for your friends and places that you know very well. I think the biggest life lesson was learn to be true to yourself true to your friends and do the best possible job you can because I think it makes a difference on what you're doing. When I got back I had dinner with my girlfriend she had met the ship when it came in and we had a real nice dinner at a nice restaurant in Boston when we came back, it was called top of the six it was a restaurant at the top of one of the skyscrapers in Boston.</p>	<p><b>11:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>Well it impacted my life back then because I learned a lot it taught me some good habits that I continue through this day it's impacted my life now because I was able to use a GI bill to go back to colleges when I got back I was able to get my bachelors degree and master's degree and electrical engineering under the GI bill, I bought my first house with a GI bill with a 95 dollar down payment so it had good results being in the service .</p>	<p><b>12:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>The name of the ship I was on was the u.s.s Boston it was a heavy cruiser which meant it had 8 inch guns about 8 inches in diameter, the guns I shot were 5 inch guns a little bit smaller and they went about ten miles, they were called semi fixed ammunition because the shell casing with the powder was separate from the projectile it fired, it was loaded into the breach first in front of that was loaded the projectile, the breach was closed and then I would fire it I had two triggers that I would use to fire the guns with, they looked like pistol triggers.</p>	<p><b>13:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>one was a buzzer and when you would squeeze it, it would give the people in the mount a warning and the right trigger would actually fire the gun and the sequence would be 3 buzzes then you would pull the trigger and fire the guns. Just about everyday we were in almost constant combat the only times we would not be in combat in our 40 day on the line is when we'd refuel, we'd do what we call unwraps where we would underway replenishments you would get your food and meal and then we would get our ammunition from the ammunition ship and we would do those things maybe once a week.</p>	<p><b>14:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>In Vietnam it was very hot and humid and the ship we were on maybe still around today but in razor blades because it was sold in 1975 and sold for scraps to be cut up so maybe still around but we did keep the bell from it. The scariest part I think when we were under attack and you could hear shrapnel bouncing off the sides of the ship,, it sounded like you were in a metal drum and somebody was dropping gravel on top of it. we were lucky out of the four heavy cruisers all 3 of them took direct hits and got some considerable damage and we were able to escape with none.</p>	<p><b>15:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>Except for the trouble that there was all of the shrapnel there every morning the first trigger was a buzzer inside the gun mount I would tell the gun captain And I had a pair of headphones on my head and I'd tell him load the guns he would load it and come back and say loaded and soon as he said that I would squeeze the left-hand trigger three times and that would alert the people inside that it's gonna fire and do whatever they needed to do to brace themselves for that and then the third one I</p>	<p><b>16:00 Minutes</b></p>

<p>would shoot the gun that time And typically a mission might last 10 minutes to maybe an hour so there'd be a lot of shooting going on we might fire under 100 rounds so it'd get pretty noisy in the gun mounts I was inside the ship so...</p>	
<p>I was away from the guns but I could hear them shoot you could feel the ship when they would fire the guns. You couldn't typically hear people yelling usually all you could see it if you went top side and I'm sometimes I would do that if I wasn't on my watch and you could see where you're shooting at But normally you didn't The Way that works is we would get task for the mission and we would get one or two missions for our watch period. A mission might be something like surveillance of a north Vietnamese ammunition compound we will get sent into destroy that compound or it might be a camp that North Vietnamese getting ready to move out that were spotted and we will be called in to neutralize that. we would get calls for a convoy and the way we would handle that was go couple miles ahead of the convoy shoot the road up on make a bunch of potholes trucks couldn't get through so they would start jamming and jamming behind it one another</p>	<p><b>17:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>And then you would come back start working for the back of the convoy the front so that way they couldn't get away The days felt really long you work a 16 hour workday for 40 days that it gets to the point where he can sleep anywhere so if you were doing something like a refueling exercise that would be outside of normal workday they would stop for 10 minutes switch hoses you could lay down on the deck and be asleep within seven seconds until somebody came and woke up to get back on the ship living conditions were tight they were small birthday in quarters with each division had a certain function.</p>	<p><b>18:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>I was in Fox division which is where fire control technicians lived we had three bunkbeds so we were stacked on top of each other do you only had maybe 2 feet of space you could just barely Slide in depending on the Watch you had I will start out eight hour workday for instance you could start at four in the afternoon until midnight then another one from midnight to eight in the morning and then third on from eight in the morning till four in the afternoon consciously going between day shift mid shift and switch shift just rotating.</p>	<p><b>19:00 Minutes</b></p>
<p>Getting letters from my girlfriend was the one of the best parts. We wrote back and forth quite a few times. Our ship was maybe a mile and a half to 2 miles depending on where the targets were at. The main food like the meat and the milk were all brought to us by supply ships, about once a week we would get supplies and new food like that. The fruit was usually local. You would go through the chow hall to get something to eat and there were containers of very weird looking fruits. I remember one thing looked like a plum, it was purple and had these horns coming out</p>	<p><b>20:00 Minutes</b></p>

<p>of it and it was really good but I had no idea what it was or what I was eating.</p>	
<p>But you would eat the local produce and just take a chance that you liked it. My average day was getting up and staining my first four hour watch period where I'd shoot the guns then after that it would transition over to an eight hour work day in the control room for the missile radar and I would run tests to see if it was broken. I would operate the radar and then go back to the watch period for another four hour period. The missiles were used for anti aircraft and we never had any occasions where you had to fire a missile at an airplane but they were there for that reason to protect our ship and to keep it ready to go.</p>	<p>21:00 Minutes</p>
<p>We would work in concert not only other types of ships in the US Navy not only destroyers or little destroyer escorts and aircraft carriers but with other countries. There were several destroyers in New Zealand and Australia that would be with us and we would have maybe 2-3 ships with us at one time, it would be a tiny group. I didn't personally directly, but you would see them when you go on liberty if they happened to be there and the sailors always had a patch on their soldiers where if you saw a ship you recognized you would go up to the guy and say hey and start a conversation with him. I never did, seasickness I probably the worst thing that could happen to a sailor.</p>	<p>22:00 Minutes</p>
<p>It's awful, you turn green and can't keep any food down but after a few days it passes. I was lucky it never seemed to bother me. But the guys that got seasick really seemed to get sick and sometimes it got so bad I had to take a piece of line and tie myself in my rack to keep from rolling out because the ship rolls so much. But sailors can sleep anywhere so it really didn't not bother us that much. That's when they turn you loose to go to town and go to restaurants, sightsee,</p>	<p>23:00 Minutes</p>

<p>partake in the local culture there, and mostly to just enjoy yourself. The ship will pull in for maybe a week, and for the week it's in port, you may have 2-3 days to do what you want, go over with a couple of friends to dinner or go to the top of the mountain.</p>	
<p>If you are in like Japan they have a lot of mountains you could go up to. If you look at what is happening now a days it's good, I'm really happy, you see soldiers coming back from Afghanistan and people are waiting for them at the airports and giving them American flags and cheering for them. That's the way it should be, I came back and there were a lot of protests going on in DC and a lot of anti Vietnam sentiment. People would yell at you and call you baby killers and spit on you. So, it was very sad and upsetting for me when I came back so I tried not to think of those parts of it. I made a lot of friends in the navy from Vietnam.</p>	<p>24:00 Minutes</p>
<p>So I didn't make any friends of Vietnamese people. No. When I came home, we went over a ship so I didn't have to fly over. When we came back I was due to be dispatched as soon as the ship docked, that's when my enlistment was up. It actually had run out 2 months early but I reenlisted for the duration of the cruise because I didn't wanna abandon my shipmates so I stayed on until we docked back in Boston. Once the shipped tied up I was discharged from active duty and I got a car where you were payed to drive between two places.</p>	<p>25:00 Minutes</p>
<p>My wife, well my girlfriend at the time was there to meet me and another sailor was there with his girlfriend. We were going back from Boston to Maryland, so I got a car and they were there to meet me with \$50 to drive it back to Maryland. So who was moving needed a driver so we piled in the car with all of our stuff, all of the stuff we bought, pieces of China, tape recorders, electronics, equipment, our sea bags full of clothes. Not knowing that the guy using the car</p>	<p>26:00 Minutes</p>

<p>also transported his stuff down, it was full of his golf clubs and things. But we got it all in and drive back home. No, we saw a lot of them. On the north Vietnam side, we sank about 50 north Vietnamese boats that were transporting weapons and ammunition.</p>	
<p>These were about 50-100 feet long and we sank those. We saw friendly ones when we pulled in to the port. If we went to denang for instance, they would come out and they would throw you up to the main deck to throw up packs of cigarettes or a deck of cards that gave you a free drink if you went to one of the clubs. So that was about it for the interaction between us and them. No, the ones I saw were very small. They didn't use a lot of the building materials we did like steel or bricks, it seemed like most of them were wood unless you went to a major city, except we never went to any major cities in Vietnam, most of what we saw was ones on the outskirts where people were living.</p>	<p>27:00 Minutes</p>
<p>Thinking back, Japan and a couple different cities, the philippines, maybe 4 or 5 times, Hong Kong, Taiwan. Usually we went sightseeing in the bigger cities. One time in philippines we took a bus and went in to Manila and spent a few days in Manila, that was nice, that's a big city, so you got to have a good meal. But usually the normal sightseeing you get in a little bus and you go around, see the sights and try the different restaurants. I liked Manila because it was totally away from the rest. I went there by myself and wasn't surrounded by sailors all the time. I like Cow Shung in Taiwan, that was probably the best Taiwanese food and Hong Kong was beautiful at night. It has so many lights and all the lights reflect off the water.</p>	<p>28:00 Minutes</p>
<p>Not usually I mean we were pretty good friends, we lived close so it has all the making to get annoyed by them cause you are living in such tight quarters, but we never got in any fights or arguments. I don't think</p>	<p>29:00 Minutes</p>

<p>so, I think what I did was right. I got a lot out of it, I made good friends, got a good education, and got good experiences out of it. I Was happy with my decision. I would sometimes , other times go as a group or by yourself so it was sort of a mixture with going to shore with friends or by yourself. I usually would.</p>	
<p>If you went into a restaurant or when into a bar to have a beer you would always see people from your ship in there and you like to talk to them so yeah you make new friends. Yes we did it was called Cinderella liberty which meant when you went over into town you had to be back by midnight and if you didn't come back by midnight and you did get back you would get in a lot of trouble they would probably write you up and you'd end up being restricted for the rest of the liberty period. So you had to be back on time the only time you got to really stay out overnight on liberty is when you were a mess cooking and because Miss Cook's work different schedules they would allow them to stay out overnight so we weren't allowed to spend the night I was back by mid night all the time.</p>	<p>30:00 Minutes</p>
<p>sometimes did stay up past midnight they couldn't get back to the ship in time they would usually get restricted for the rest of that shortly liberty port you really didn't want to do that if you could help it A mess cook is the person that would cook all the food that you would eat we had about 1100 men onboard cooking three meals a day so that's a lot of food they were going through the mess hall was open seven hours for breakfast it will close for an hour to get ready for lunch it would open seven hours for lunch close a hour and open seven for dinner so you could get to eat just about anytime you wanted to witch made a good because a lot of the lines were short it's not everyone going at the same time those people that had to prepare the food and peel the potatoes</p>	<p>31</p>

that's mess cooks.	
<p>most of them had other jobs besides cooking they were ammunition handlers like in my case with the five inch gun they would be the people down in the armed sections below the gun mounts that would take the five inch shell casings, brass shell casings and take them out of the storage area and put them in the hoist to send them up top side to the guns or they would Be taking the projectile putting them in their separate hoist and sending them up to the guns so there was other jobs like that they would do that did not involve cooking. Not usually the reason I say that is because one of the jobs you would have to do is you would have to stand the short patrol and that would be assigned to everybody you were just rotate throug.</p>	32
<p>when you are on short Petrone you would be patrolling the streets where the bars were at you would have to go in all the bars in make sure the sailors weren't going crazy and if the people were getting drunk or unruly you would tell them to call down or else he would get him out of the bar and in a cab back to the ship and they would always obey you they would never give you any lip or try to fight you because the next night it might be them doing short patrol and they don't want to have crew members being mean to them or unruly so usually they would respect everything the short patrol what's how are you and do what they say and they would keep it pretty good they were not allowed people to get in a lot of trouble if they saw a fight trying to break out in a bar they would stop and get the people out before it got really out of hand we went from here to Boston the Panama Canal to Hawaii and</p>	33
<p>we stayed in Hawaii for about a week and from there we went straight to Vietnam it took maybe five or six days to go to each one of those places. I would stay there 40 days at a time and then stay on liberty poor</p>	34

<p>for about a week the 40 days was broken down between actually fighting in North Vietnam. we were operating from the DMZ of north to do other things like the replenishes where you have to get ammunition fuel and get food Hawaii was great spent some time in Waikiki on the beach it was a perfect liberty port going over.</p>	
<p>no everywhere we start at the people welcomed us I think they welcome the US dollar more than anything else we never had any trouble from any of the people from any of the ports we went to. Not all the time you sort of lost track of time if you were doing a lot of shooting you didn't want to go top side it was dangerous there was a lot of shooting there, there was a lot of debris flying around so you might go days without ever seeing the sun. You stay low and you sort of lose track of what day it is you lose track you look at your Watch it says 3 o'clock and you wouldn't know if it was 3 o'clock in the morning or 3 o'clock in the afternoon sometimes the only way to tell would be just to go to the chow hall to see what they were serving you know is it breakfast or is it dinner you can sort of tell that way. Yes we had to wear our uniform all the time we were not allowed to wear civvies at all over seas.</p>	35
<p>it was just to rule the navy ones you in uniform if you're overseas. Once we were back here like in Boston or our home for most of the people had civvies to where then and they would change after they left the ship. I think about it a lot I sometimes dream about it I get the same reoccurring dream sometimes sort of weird I think about being over there a lot I try to remember the good times just being on the ship walking around on it and going into the places on it, guns firing. Yes sometimes, I would go to her three days if we were doing a lot of shooting I didn't want to go top side. I would stay below,</p>	36

<p>Because it was safer I had to sleep in my underwear. Not too bad, when I came back I got married about six weeks after I got back so I settled back in pretty good. I wanted to go back to school and continue my education so I waited about a year and took a summer class just to see if I could adjust back to school OK, because I wasn't sure. I was still tense a lot but it it went good. I did a math class took it so next fall I could go back full-time got my degree going back full-time. We didn't use time</p>	37
<p>according to a normal Time zone will use Zulu time it's like the international time that's at England and by doing that it didn't matter how many times zones you crossed it always the same time when you watch you set your watch that time and that's the time you go by, so doesn't matter if you're in one zone four times zones away it would be the same time. I guess I had 85 or 86 uniforms I had to standard issue blue which are standard navy uniforms but then I went out and I bought custom-made that had instead of wool and they felt a lot better on you, they looked Real sharp because they were Taylor not just mass-produced ones I didn't Boot Camp they take the razor</p>	38
<p>And just put it to your four head and go back. The first question they ask is do you have any malls or warts in your head and you say no because if you do they want to make sure they cut around it otherwise it was coming right off. That's a pretty close haircut, once you're in fully it can grow longer not real long but something that looks a little better. No everybody else did it and it was just that much left to take care of so it was OK. I think serving my country made me the proudest I could do that with a good feeling I did it right and I was proud of it my dad was in the Navy he was a captain so I felt like I was sort of following in his footsteps. Not in the Navy, no it was always we were at sea.</p>	39

<p>anywhere from a mile to 2 miles. it would depend on the mission on how far off you would be if you were in more closer you could shoot more accurately because you were closer to the target, and sometimes we would get a call that some marines were trapped, pinned in they couldn't get out and they would call our ship in to try to take care of the enemy that was pinning them in and you had to be very accurate and had to get close to do that. biggest thing was you didn't have a choice you had to do your job and i felt good i thought i was doing a good job with what i was doing, i was making a difference on it, inside me i just wanted to keep going, i never felt like wanted to quit or not give up, although you get pretty tired sometimes, you want to lay down and go to sleep. but you just keep going. push through. none of them did, they all had their job to do and they would perform their duties very well. he [dad] was in the navy he served through the entire WW2 in the south pacific on a tanker. he never talked about that looking back now if i had a do over in my life i think it probably would be talking toy my parents about what they did earlier in their life. and that would certainly be one of the things i would talk to him about. i'm not sure why he never told me he just never told me about what he did. i does now because looking back now i feel sad</p>	<p>40</p> <p>41</p>
<p>know more about him about his life but i've read a lot of history books on WW2 and in the south pacific and the navy so i have a pretty good feeling for what he was doing. and what he was up against.he was proud he was very proud that i was doing what he did my mother was scared to death she didn't like it at all but she got used to it. i moved in with them when i go back i didn't have any place to live so as soon as i got back i moved it back to my old family home and i would see him every day and i went into the reserves after that my dad was still in the reserves so we would</p>	<p>42</p>

<p>go tho the meetings together. and that was sort of interesting because he was the captain and i was this enlisted man and i didn't have a car. he would drive me up to the building to get out and people would see</p>	
<p>and a lowly enlisted man getting out people would say hey who's that captain driving you around and i would say that's my dad he's taking me to my meeting. it is to this extent. every now and then i tell my wife some of the stuff we would do but never to the extent of this i'm glad people are doing this you guys are doing a great job doing this. they were very rough especially the north atlantic the north atlantic in winter time was fun it's ruff your wet every time you go out there and cold the ship i was on the next cruise i went through a typhoon and that was like a hurricane off the coast of vietnam several destroyers that were with us</p>	43
<p>rolled over and sank so the storms are very dangerous very serious could hurt you but luckily our ship survived. they were saved some of the not all of them some of them drowned. but they were saved by the other ships that were operating with them. not to many. i lived in maryland i grew up in rockville maryland and that's where i lived when i got back. yeah we'd see sharks we used to go fishing if things weren't to bad going to and from liberty ports and you go down and check out a rod and reel and go back to the fan tail and fish, never caught any sharks but we'd always catch some sort of fish</p>	44
<p>well i was real happy i was returning back to what was normal it took awhile to get adjusted because you were constantly living under the living conditions we were living under while we were in the navy but gradually that would taper off and getting back to normal would seem pick up again. this is the U.S.S Boston that i was stationed on its a heavy cruiser it's called a heavy cruiser because the main</p>	45
<p>*battery guns up here are 8" guns if they were 6" it</p>	46

would be a light cruiser the guns that i shot were these dual mounts here there's one in the midships and 2 forward port starboard side and 2 back aft on the port and starboard side the missile launcher and radar are on the back of the ship*	
[repeats everything in asterisk] this picture was taken in summer when i was in vietnam in 67 sometimes it's better to be lucky than to be good we were shooting at targets on the shore if you look on the front of the bow you can see the beach and the jungle right behind it that's how far off we were and they were shooting back at us at the same time and that shot you see here passed between the gun turret right there and the bridge right here it went right between it and hit in the water right here so that's pretty close if we were going a little faster or slower or aimed a little to the left of the right i don't think we would have been as lucky and you can see we were trying to get out of the way you can see	47
all the black smoke pouring out of the stacks so the captain was really pouring the coals to the ship trying to keep it safe. i fired this shell in june of 67 this is the back end of the brass on the powder this normally stuck out about this far, and i went out and recovered it after i had shot it that day, i took it in the shop and cut it off and made it into an ashtray that's what a powder shell case looks like	48
[nothing]	49
[nothing]	50