was no one home to help me with my schoolwork, cause my grandmother

was old, she couldn't speak English and this was all on my own.

Everything I did was gettin harder all the time for me. I had nobody

to fall back on to show me how to spell or do the arithmetic or math-

ematics, and the harder the mathematics was getting, this was why I

quit I think, on myself, mathematics was getting too hard for me.

Course we lived out in the country and we didn't have no electricity,

just regular lamps and I just couldn't study, and when I'm stuck with

a problem, I was stuck with a problem, I'd try to work it out my own

way and it wasn't right, it just wasn't right. And I couldn't turn

to anybody and say was this right of how could I do this. Same way

when I took my schoolwork home, back to the point of being harder

for me. And I told my grandmother I just couldn't go any further

than 9th grade. So I dropped out and then everybody started going

to service when I got to the age of 16. And these boys, like I say,

they quit school before me and they say well, let's all volunteer and

go into the service. And we all stick together. And we all agreed.

And I said Ok, so five of us went and volunteered.

(Was this part of the group that just dropped out of school?)

This was part of the group that dropped out of school. And I was

only 16 years old at that time, so I couldn't get in.

DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL WHEN HE WAS 16 YEARS OLD - ENLISTED IN U.S. ARMY

(What grade were you in?)

I, well, like I say I quit in 9th grade, but it was in the following

year that I went. I volunteered, we went into the navy, navy what

you call it, naval department and we volunteered and they found out

our age through the courthouse, and they run us out of there. So,

of course these others were a year older than me. Then we went to