

"You made a corporal." And I couldn't believe it, so I walked down there to that bulletin board, and sure enough I made it. And I got my private room. Then after I got my private room, I got my pay raised a little again. Then there's a buck sergeant with three stripes. And I say, "I wanta be like that guy, I wanta be a buck sergeant. I'm not gonna get it, I'm going to have to work for it," it's not going to just..of all the guys that was in the company, they not going to say well, we'll make you a buck sergeant. You gonna have to work for it. Your platoon sergeant's gonna have to put in a recommendation, and your company commander's gonna have to take your record and come back before it goes into battalion for promotion. I made a buck sergeant. I was just now 17 years old when I was gonna get discharged. And the first sergeant called me in one time. I come in from the bivouac, and they say "First Sergeant wants to see you." So, I ran down there, and walked in there, and he said "Just wait a minute and I'll talk to you," he was talking to some other man." And he got through and he said you getting out in about a couple of weeks. I said "yeah". He said I'm gonna offer you something. He said "If you reenlist for three years, I'll guarantee you a staff sergeant. And before you get out," he said "You'll be a tack sergeant or a master sergeant before you get out. The way you're working, you work hard at it. You'll be a master sergeant before you get out. And by that time you might decide to stay in. He said you're young and you be young when you get out of the army, and you always get that pension." He said, "You can still learn a trade to live by," but then, he said, "You're just now seventeen years just think, you'll be the youngest staff sergeant we have in the