

**Lockheed Martin Corp.  
Moderator: Richard Olson  
September 18, 2007  
12:59 p.m.**

Female Speaker: Are you there Fred?

Fred: Yes, I am here.

Female Speaker: All right. You are all set.

Ed: Fred.

Fred: Yeah.

Ed: This is Ed.

Fred: Hi, good morning.

Ed: Good morning and then we have Bill, who is going to talk to you about the [-\(sic IOWA\)-](#) the college days.

Fred: Right.

Ed: And Marc is going to talk to you about the trips he had with you on the Antenna Coupler.

Marc: Hi Fred.

Fred: Hi Marc.

Marc: I am going to test your memory today.

Fred: Okay. Is that Marc?

Marc: Yeah.

Fred: Oh gosh, it is good to hear your voice.

Marc: Good to hear yours and Mary says Hello.

Fred: O.K, good. Is she still painting?

Marc: Well, off and on.

Fred: Yeah? Okay.

(Background discussion that is unintelligible.)

Ed: Fred?

Fred: Yes.

Ed: Do we want to start with the questions and then that will give us a way to get into it.

Fred: All right, but you have to remember I retired long before Lockheed Martin.

Ed: Oh yeah, well we just changed from Lockheed Martin or Unisys or Univac or ERA or whatever.

Ole: We are most interested in your memories from your time with ERA in the '40s and '50s.

Fred: Okay.

Ed: You want to start with your family, is there anything that is not in the books that we should --

Fred: Well, I don't know my son started out as a janitor with ERA Univac or Univac Sperry and he stayed for 38 years.

Ed: He is in.

Fred: That's Eric in Roseville and then they closed the department. That was a few months ago and that left him without a job.

Ed: Well, I'll start with the -- some of the trips that you were on with Marc. That's your area. Marc.

Marc: Yeah, okay.  
Well, Fred. As you probably remember we went on many very interesting trips.

Fred: Oh yeah and you --

Marc: And one that stands out with Mary and myself is you may recall that you went along with us on part of our honeymoon in 1956.

Fred: Oh goodness.

Marc: I was a schemer and had ERA pay for part of my honeymoon trip, so I was doing business as part of my trip through Boston and New York City.

Fred: Oh yeah.

Marc This started out with a communications conference in Rome, New York and I drove and you met us there and we both went to the conference and you rode with us from Utica back to New York City.

Fred: Okay.

Mars And Mary remembers this very well because you had on this fancy Cashmere suit and you looked like a movie star.

Fred: Oh goodness.

Marc: And anyway that was one of our special trips and Mary was particularly excited about it because she was in the motel and watched Dan Larson of the Yankees pitch a no hitter in the World Series.

Fred: Oh goodness.

Marc: Anyway that's one of the first trips. Then another one that I put in the write-up was when you and I flew down to Warner Robins to call on well, one of our good customers who was in charge of coupler repair and maintenance.

Fred: Right.

Marc: And shortly after we got into the meeting he got this call from the Commanding General of the base. Our host was a little nervous about this, but it turned out that the Commanding General had heard your interview with Jack Paar and when he knew you were coming to the base he wanted to have lunch with you. So we all went to the officer's club and had lunch, that was in 1965. Do you recall that?

Fred: Oh, by all means, because the General was over in Port Moresby at the same time I was.

Marc: So you had an immediate connection?

Fred: Oh yeah, he was with the Air Force.

Ed: I just thought he wanted to get some publicity for their local paper.

Fred: Oh yeah. No, he was -- unfortunately he died before I have and otherwise I would be in touch with him right now. (group laughter)  
But yes, I remember that well.

Marc: Well, then there is another one which I think was in 1965 or somewhere around there when you and I and Ernie Griffith had been to Fort Monmouth to demonstrate the coupler and it was around 6:30 at night and we were crossing the Verrazano bridge and "Lo and Behold" New York had its black-out.

Fred: Oh that's right. Yeah. I remember that because I remember a lady in the parking area and she is trying to find the slot to put her quarter in for the parking fee.

Marc: Anyway we slowly drove up to Hartford to call on Sikorsky.

Fred: All right.

Marc: And of course by the time we got up there, the black-out had gone away. So we had light for the rest of the trip, but Ernie Griffith sat on the tarmac in an airplane for six hours before they took off.

So anyway then I am going to throw in probably a little one of your embarrassing trips that you may recall. We had been visiting Lockheed; Mick Alsop was with us and you and he were at some resort for the weekend and we flew back on Monday morning and stopped off at Salt Lake where they needed volunteers to get off the plane. So you and Mick decided to get off and go to the Mormon Tabernacle for a tourist review. So I flew into Minneapolis and your wife Dorothy was there to meet you.

Fred: Oh!

Marc: And she said to us where -- where is Fred and Mick and I said well, they -- they stopped off in Salt Lake to see the sights. She wasn't

very happy because she says it's very rare that I ever picked this guy up and now the one time when I do he's not here. You may not remember that.

Fred: Oh gosh. You've got such a sharp memory.

Marc: Yeah, my old memory is pretty good. My new memory is not so good, I keep losing stuff.

Fred: Oh gosh. Well I'll -- the thing, we went to Germany and Paris for the conference too. Do you remember that?

Marc: And you were with your wife or with Mick Alsop?

Fred: No, it was with you?

Marc: With me? Or when you went to some of our maintenance conferences?

Fred: Yes.

Marc: You might have been. Yeah I -- I joined when I came back in '63 and we started rebuilding the Antenna Coupler, then we started going to a lot of these maintenance conferences. Bob Brown went to most of them.

Fred: Right, yeah.

Marc: And I am telling you a joke about Bob Brown, which Mary remembers very distinctly. As you know Bob Brown was our major technician for customer service and went all over the world. He was having dinner with us one time with Mary and Mary said to him why don't you take your wife to Paris sometime and have her attend the receptions. He said, "One does not take a sandwich to a banquet." You recall Bob, at times, was not very tactful.

Fred: Yeah, right.

Marc: Must say he was really terrific with the customer.

Fred: Yeah.

Ed: Well, then just one another one. There are two others. One was when we -- a lot of times when we went to visited Pan Am, we occasionally stayed in New York city and we always stopped off at the United Nations and we either had lunch or dinner with some of your friends there in the United Nations Executive Dining room. Do you recall that?

Fred: One that later on became the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea.

Marc: Is that right. Well you know, we've got a paper here that -- that recorded your going back to New Guinea in 1969 where they must have dedicated the hospital or school.

Fred: Yes.

Marc: Got a lot of pictures with you and there's a photo where you were given a plaque by someone -- I don't know if he was a Governor. His name was Townsend.

Fred: Oh, Bill Townsend was the Air-Vice Marshall from the RAAF. (Royal Australian Air Force)

Marc: Well, you are on the front page, and you probably have this article, and it's a four-page newspaper and it's all dedicated to your visit in 1969 and there must be at least 20 pictures in that paper.

Fred: Oh my goodness.

Marc: I am sure you must have it in your archives.

Fred: Yeah, I don't see it-- my filing is terrible.

Marc: I don't know what the title of it is? It's called the Airmen's Log -- ?

Ed: Airmen's log-Report for 1969.

Fred: Oh yeah, all right.

Ed: Report for 1969.

- Fred: Yeah. Arnie had -- had, he worked for advertising and his account was for Cadillac and those people did that log, it's cheap free for me. It's a beautiful job. You know --
- Marc: Well, there is just a couple of others, the other one of course was the -- was the highlight for me and then probably for you as well because we -- we were very successful when we won the Antenna Coupler award for the Lockheed P-3C.
- Fred: Yeah.
- Ed: And we had beat out the incumbent, Collins Radio, and that was quite an achievement because Collins even went to Boeing to sort of put us in disfavor by saying that the Coupler is not part of Sperry and if you go with Sperry they are not going to be able to support the product. But nevertheless, we won that contract and that Coupler has been on that aircraft for at least 20 more years.
- Fred: Yeah, well Marc you had high regard by the engineering teams of all the customers that we went to-- I mean Airlines and I think that was one reason because you helped their engineering teams design the proper installation.
- Marc: You might recall that, when I came back in '63 the Coupler staff was down to one engineer, Ben Sweezy.
- Fred: Right, yeah.
- Marc: We had this terrific problem with Qantas with the Couplers failing whenever they flew through a monsoon and Qantas and their chief engineer, Charlie Catt, were about to remove them and -- and you know, switch to Collins. So Mick Alsop and me and Merlyn Sanders had this big three-day conference at Boeing and it was on the same weekend that Kennedy died. We flew out on a Sunday night and for the next three days after the meetings we would watch the funeral events at the hotel. But anyway being an

engineer you would realize that the solution to the problem was very simple. The discriminator diodes would burn out when there was a lightning strike because the transmission line was routed on the printed circuit board and there would be an arc-over to the diodes which were connected to the transmission line through series capacitors.

So we solved this simply by putting in ceramic capacitors that lifted the transmission line off the board and that solved the problem. And in addition to that we put in -- and you remember him well as you were a good friend of Don Hamister for many years.

Fred: Oh yeah, that --

Marc: -- is Don still with us?

Fred: I think so, yes he is in Santa Barbara.

Marc: Right, Mary and I visited him about four years ago when we went to a wedding and at that time Mick Alsop was still around, how about Mick -- has he left --?

Fred: No, Mick died --

Marc: Shortly after I guess.

Fred: Right, yes.

Marc: Well you and Mick -- you and Mick and Don were quite a threesome after your retirement years.

Fred: Oh that is right, yeah.

Marc: Yeah, this was one, well the reason that the friendship started was because Don provided these miniature lightning arrester devices that we put on the boards to alleviate the discriminator problem.

Fred: Right.

Marc: I think solving that problem made the lifelong friends of all of us with Charlie Catt, the engineering head at Qantas.



Fred: Qantas, right.

Marc: Didn't you and he spend a lot of time together?

Fred: Yes, indeed, I think he died several years ago.

Marc: Well he was quite a charmer.

Fred: He retired, oh he was a real pioneer there because he was a radio operator I think when Qantas did their round the world flight or something with the, I forget the name, you got the best memory - - how old are you -- do you mind telling me?

Marc: I am going to be 80 next February.

Fred: Okay.

Marc: But I will tell you my friend, my mind is still young.

Fred: Yes it's true, amazing.

Marc: And speaking of one other thing you did for me is that, I don't know what you had in mind, but of course we know that your Aunt worked for Joe E Brown so you had access when you were at Lockheed testing those aircraft to go out with all the movie stars, right?

Fred: Yeah.

Marc: And Linda Darnell.

Fred: Right, yeah.

Marc: And on one of our trips- it was in 1955 and I think you -- you thought I didn't have enough girl friends and on one of our trips to Los Angeles you fixed me up with a starlet. Her name was Olga. I remember her, and we went out to a fancy restaurant in Beverley Hills and I think you took your sister and we had a good dinner and at that restaurant was one of the Gabor sisters. You probably don't remember that but I remember that quite well. Anyway I am going to close now so I don't monopolize this dialog with you but I have to say that working with you and the respect that the

customers have for you was endless and you deserve a lot of gratitude from Lockheed in making our company great, so I'll sign off and good luck to you.

Fred: Well, Marc thank you and you don't know how much we depended upon you to revive and turn our coupler programs around and the fact that you had the highest respect from all the customers and I think that have a lot to do with beating Collins --

Marc: You are right and it was fun, really fun.  
Take care

Fred: Okay.

Ed: Now do you want to talk about the school days?

Fred: Yes, very good morning Bill.

Bill: We probably first met in the fall of '37 when we were sophomores in an electrical engineering class at Iowa State College.

Fred: That's correct, yeah.

Bill: Okay, so anyhow this morning I dug up the 1940 Bomb Year Book and you got more entries in the index than almost anyone else. I did [B1][B2][B3]learn one thing for the first time.[B4] I had forgotten that you are not only a swimmer and a fraternity man and a lecturer but you are also on the staff of the Bomb.[B5] You and another guy were reported [B6]to be in charge of town news. I've got to look and see what all you added to the Bomb in 1940.

Fred: Oh good.

Bill: Another thing is they don't mention your role in Viesha. It was an [B7]annual spring celebration.[B8] I recall very distinctly that you had a great one man skit.

Fred: I can't remember this but --

Bill: I think I remember some of it verbatim. You were the Phi Delta Fraternity guy impersonating Franklin Roosevelt.

Fred: Yeah, I was representing the Phi Delta guys I guess.

Bill: You were representing them. I remember your monolog started out, "I hate War".

Fred: Oh, now I remember.

Male Speaker: You went down, "Eleanor Hates War, Franklin hates war, etc. etc. Finally, Fala (their dog) hates war. So that's stuck in my memory to this day.

Fred: Yeah.

Bill: After college, you moved to New York City and I moved to Philadelphia area and I remember visiting you in New York. We went to a number of occasions. You introduced me to Mama Lioni's in Greenwich Village which was unique.

Fred: Oh yeah, we also went to the restaurant that had opera singers as waiters.

Bill: Yeah, that's right. They were great.

Fred: Yeah.

Bill: One time you took me out to Staten Island and we had a barbecue with a couple who were starting an FM station out there.

Fred: That was when I was with Major Armstrong.

Bill: And let's see. I remember when I got to Western Australia in early '42. I wrote to you and turned out that you were in Brisbane. I was in Perth.

Fred: Right, yeah.

Bill: That was in '42 and then I didn't hear from you until '49 I think. When I showed up at the IEEE convention in New York there was a note for me on bulletin board. It said "Bill, if you are here, call me at this number. I think I found you at Columbia University."

Fred: Oh good, this is coming back.

Bill: That was how we got together again.

Fred: Yeah, I think I was a little tired of my work there.

Bill: Yeah, and we both changed locations. We came to Minnesota at the same time.

Fred: Yeah.

Bill: I remember you had your radio transmitter in the loft of your barn in Bald Eagle, Minnesota.

Fred: Right, My FM receiver was still with me waiting for a signal from Armstrong's FM station in Alpine.

Bill: When our wives got in the ERA Bridge Club, I always heard about your adventures from Ellie through Dorothy.

Fred: Right.

Fred: Oh.

Bill: When you moved to California we visited you and you showed us how to prune your grapevines. It was a wonderful experience. I loved that experience.

Fred: Right.

Bill: It is great that Ole is setting up these interviews. I hope this gets a good write up.

Fred: Are you still working with your education program?

Bill: I am messing around with a website and a news letter. They are about youth improving the environment.

Fred: Yeah.

Ole: Your sister is still living?

Fred: Yes.

Ole: And she helped you some.

Fred: Oh yeah, she takes me around in the car. I had to give up my driver's license two years ago and now my eyesight is giving me a little trouble. I have to sit about two feet from a television set to see. I am trying to find somebody to check out my amplifier and

antenna to my television set but apparently people today use the satellite rather than antennas for their television.

John: You are trying to get the signal from a normal antenna?

Fred: Right, up until about a week ago I was getting some good signals and suddenly I am getting snow on nearly all of the channels and I have a feeling that, that has something to do with the amplifier either fading or -- .

Marc: Don't they have cable connections out there Fred?

Fred: We don't have cable out as far where I am. We are sort of out in the country.

Marc: In the country?

Fred: Yeah, well I am in edges of city but --.

John: An old RF man like you should get that all figured out then.

Fred: Well, I have a bad knee. So I can't climb. I wear a brace.

Marc: Apparently you are not playing tennis anymore?

Fred: No, but my sister is at 87.

Ole: Yeah, did you get the documents that Ed had put together for you?

Fred: Oh -- yeah give my thanks to whoever designed that cover. It is a beautiful cover.

John: John Skonnord put that booklet together.

Fred: Oh really.

Fred: Yeah -- outstanding.

John: John Skonnord is also good with English. He will make sure we don't say ain't or all the other bad words in the English language.

Ole: He was a college English teacher before he came to work here in the publications department 23 years ago.

Fred: Oh yeah.

Ole: He has had a little practice.

Ed: Fred, have you ever said anything about the honey wagon?

Fred: No I haven't. That was the last product of ERA I think.

Ed: Uh-huh.

Fred: And I don't remember the whole lot about it.

Ed: Were you the marketing guy on that one?

Fred: No.

Ed: Uh-huh, okay.

Marc: Fred did you ever keep in touch? When I joined ERA in 1953 you did Antenna Coupler marketing but also Fred Lang joined us on some of the trips.

Fred: Right.

Marc: Was Fred Lang involved in Coupler marketing and Ken Dean was for a while as well.

Fred: Ken Dean was but I don't remember Fred Lang having much to do with it.

Marc: We went down to Boeing Wichita and Fred Lang was with us for some reason and it was in 1954 as I remember. We were involved in the Big Eva tests and were having discussions with the Antenna group.

Fred: Oh yeah, okay. The main thing I remembered was when I was asked to go down to Wichita and raise the price on the coupler and Bill Norris said go down and leave a little blood on the floor and then come home.

Marc: Well Fred, the customer liked you so well they just bit their tongue and absorbed it. Well, they had no choice.

Fred: I think you are all exaggerating my influence.

Marc: No, I remember this as a real success story on our part with Boeing because this was Boeing-Seattle and they were unhappy

with the price increase within the couplers. So they went to a small company that had a better idea to tune couplers.

Fred: Up in New England.

Marc: To tune antennas.

Fred: Granite City or something.

Marc: That's right and it failed miserably. When they came up with the probe antenna, it couldn't tune down, below three megahertz. So we took one of our Couplers and we said, well we've got to make that inductor larger, so we just added a series of ferrite bars around it and it increased the inductance enough so that it tune down to two megahertz and that saved Boeing from a very large embarrassment on meeting a customer requirement and after that our business with them was assured.

Fred: Yeah.

Bill: And this fixed it?

Marc: Yeah, we saved them because they had committed to have this company build this new coupler using this fancy new concept to tune antennas and it failed.

Ole: So Fred, we've done a number of interviews both oral and legacy and one of the questions we always like to ask people is, when you guys started in the computer business, did you have any idea where it would lead you?

Fred: No, because I had just come back and worked for about a year with Martin in their Baltimore facility, antennas section. I was coming back from WW II and during that time, things were moving fast and I should really have gone back to school. Then I got sick and I had to leave my Martin Baltimore job. And then I went to a lot of hospitals and clinics to see what was wrong with me.

Mark: Well, whatever they did lasted.

Fred: Right, yes. And the Mayo Clinic was right in my hometown, and that's where I had some attention, by some good doctors.

Ole: Yes, and my wife has been at the Mayo Clinic three out of the last four weeks.

Fred: Oh really.

Ole: Yeah, and she had some surgery done in the Twin Cities and 11 failed tries at fixing her hip. So we went to the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Hampton said the worst case that he ever saw was a person who had 46 surgeries before he fixed the problem.

Fred: Oh my god.

Ole: They have clinics and doctors that fix things no one else can.

Fred: Right.

Ole: Okay. Well if you look back on you career, what would you done differently?

Fred: Nothing. I mean -- I guess -- I really wound up with some awfully good friendships and the coupler team was one of them. I don't know -- we had couple reunions for many years after the program moved back to Sperry Marine in Virginia.

Marc: We moved down there in 1970 and I went back there in 1984 for some fiber optic technology meeting and the coupler was still going strong there on the P-3C program.--

Fred: Oh, I know.

Marc: And obviously those commercial airlines that still use the old coupler.

Fred: Oh my goodness-- I remember the one thing about durability. It was a B-52 crash in Minnesota and the coupler was still in one piece and they brought it back, I think Bob Brown brought it back to the lab and the thing still worked.



Marc: I remember that, it made the newspapers --

Fred: Yeah.

Marc: Yeah, that's rugged ability.

Fred: I don't remember what year that was, but that was quite a demonstration of quality.

Marc: Yeah, and they are still flying those B-52's.

Fred: Yes.

Marc: They never give up.

Fred: Right. You know, that's been a long time.

Marc: Well the last event you must remember, because I am sure Lockheed remembers, it was that shortly after we won the P-3C program, you came with us to one of our engineering meetings and some of the Lockheed engineers knew about your coming, so they arranged this Fred Hargesheimer Day where they had a ceremony for you and your "Return to Lockheed" to be honored for your World War 2 contributions.

Fred: Oh yes, I remember that.

Marc: And they had something written up in their house organ paper.

Fred: Yes, right.

Marc: And it was unique.

Fred: Right. Oh I think they overdid this, I -- I didn't do anything somebody else wouldn't have done, if they -- had been in the same position.

Marc: Well I remember the relationship we had with Lenny Green who headed up Communications Systems at Boeing.

Fred: Oh yes.

Marc: I don't know if you came with us when we when we installed our Antenna Coupler equipment in Air-Force 1.

Fred: No.

Marc -- At Andrews Air-Force base, but anyway Lenny Green was there and Ernie Griffith and I checked out the system and that was kind of an experience to go through that aircraft.

Fred: Yeah.

Marc: Yeah, they had six HF systems on that plane.

Fred: Well, the thing I remember about, they used to call me and the delivery schedule was one of the big problems and they called me at home right in the middle of dinner, to see what I can do with it to speed things up.

Marc: Well that's the role of a salesman, hand holder

John: Expeditor.

Fred: Yeah, the real problem was -- if we didn't get delivery on time from our subcontractors there was no way -- we could speed up the production.

Ed: Was a lot of that subcontract work with machine shops?

Fred: Yeah. Right, then of course when -- the thing I remember about, weight reduction, we had to drill holes in all of the gears in order to reduce the weight, by just a few ounces. Then when I had my first ride in the 707 Western Airlines out of Kansas City, they came on board with all this heavy dining glasses, ceramic cups for coffee. When I think of all the effort our engineering team went to reduce the weight of that coupler *I question the logic*.

Marc: Well, they explained to me there was a big multiplier for equipment mounted up on or in the tail of aircraft that -- .

Fred: Right, yeah I know it was -- .

Marc: Over that of equipment in the cabin.

Fred: Yeah.

- Ole: So would you say if you thought back on your experience with Marc Shoquist that you were mentoring him and that's the reason he turned out so well.
- Fred: Ha, if I looked at that he had all the in depth engineering talent and that was an important thing, because we had a tough job there, getting that tuning time down to three seconds to retune from the highest frequency down to 2 mega-Hertz.
- Marc: Yes, that tuning time was very important and being an engineer you will recognize this. The first couplers went through a capacitor tune cycle to determine what the frequency was.
- Fred: Yeah.
- Marc: It took three seconds and the variable capacitor started at its minimum capacity and was driven to its home position at maximum capacity and was loaded by an inductor so the position it stopped at was an indication of the frequency. Well the first thing I did for the follow-on couplers to save 3 seconds was to start the capacitor at full capacity. They had a different method for recognizing frequencies.
- Fred: Okay.
- Marc: It was a fun product.
- Fred: Yes it was and then and I remember the tubes in the discriminator had to be burned in and matched.
- Marc: And then we did something that was unorthodox we used this variable capacitor in a way that was not intended in its design, and that was we -- we cycled it. I can remember Fran Biltz and others going out to Jennings Radio to talk to old man Jennings about it he said well you can cycle them 10,000 times without wearing out the baffle and that turned out to be true.

Fred: Yeah. Oh after the -- the war when some couplers became surplus, I mean all the ham radio operators in the country were out to get one of those things.

Marc: That is still happening at this Legacy Club that Ole has where we -- put everything on the network, people are writing e-mails saying how can we use or -- buy a surplus coupler to tune our antennas.

Fred: Uh-huh.

Ole: Don't laugh, it's true.

Fred: Oh my goodness.

Ole: The other thing I was going to say is that I have heard that you were a decent sales person and I think you must have taught Shoquist something about that because I worked closely with Marc in the early days of the Canadian Patrol Frigate which turned into the biggest award that Sperry ever had and Marc sold the Canadians on the idea of having a passive tap on the coax cables.

Marc: Coaxial line--

Ole: Coaxial cable which he didn't have a solution for yet but he -- he had a guy Bill Davis who is smart and did it.

Marc: Yeah and amazingly enough -- the solution was to get a lot of connections to the coax you have to make sure that the tap matches the impedance of the line. So Bill Davis came up with some mechanical changes to the connector that reduced these reflections and Bill and Amphenol got a patent on the change that made that system work.

Fred: Uh-huh.

Ole: So I was saying he is a pretty good guy.

Fred: Yeah.

Ole: I had the pleasure of working with Marc -- for several years and I can say that there were a couple of times I thought he was in sales because he was dancing.

Marc: Rapinac was the one that did the dancing.

Fred: Oh yeah --

Marc: I don't know if you were with us, but on the P-3C, Lockheed hosted 3-day meetings in the fall for their contractors/vendors down in Monterey in Mexico and we drank Margaritas for three days in a row. One time the Sperry group all went out to a floor show and Rapinac was with us. The MC called Rapinac up and he took over and did his 30-minute act and was an immediate hit.

Fred: Oh my god.

Marc: Actually it happened.

Fred: Now is he still living?

Ole: Oh yeah --

Fred: Okay now, but do you have a group that meets down in Los Angeles area?

Male Speaker: Phoenix area.

Ole: Phoenix yeah.

Fred: Oh Phoenix --

Ole: Wally Emerson's place.

Fred: Okay.

John: This happened about a week ago.

Fred: Oh --

Ole: And there is e-mail that goes back and forth some with Rapinac.

Fred: Yeah, unfortunately I had to give away my computer because I couldn't see the icons.

Ole: Well there are fewer characters here than there used to be.

- Ole: And now that we are part of Lockheed Martin with all the policies and procedures and, you know, forcing us to do the way that god thinks we should there is going to be less characters in the future too.
- John: But we are an aircraft company now.
- Fred: Well we always thought that it should be that way. They attach different antennas to the airplane so the main contracts should go to electronic company and subcontract to an airplane contractor.
- John: And that actually kind of happened with the P-3 award in the 90's and also what's happening with some of the other awards now was -- even the Presidential helicopter we are buying the air frame and electronic company is integrating it.
- Fred: Uh-huh.
- Ole: Well -- other things we do at this time is we give you an opportunity to say anything you want and close -- that was your feeling from your career and what you think of anything you want to talk about.
- Fred: Well I guess I am just thinking about staying alive.
- John: Aren't we all.
- Fred: Yeah --I am sorry that I can't be a better interviewee but --
- Ole: You are doing fine.
- Fred: And it's really great to hear Bill and Marc, they meant so much to me in my career, Bill first of course getting me a job with ERA and Marc was a real joy and pleasure.
- Marc: Well, Fred, you actually made us part of your family because we stayed -- I remember staying over night with your mother at her apartment in Beverly Hills several times and sat down for family dinners with you.
- Fred: Yeah.

Fred: Well I will tell you that was -- real joy and these friendships lasted long times. We have a local producer that's making a video that he has been working at it for eight years now so I don't know if it's ever going to be finished.

John: What's the subject that he is working on?

Fred: Well the title is -- he is working on my experience at the school and we now have two schools working with it in a total of -- 500 plus students and one of our former students has a Master's degree from the University of Sydney in Australia which we are very proud of and --

Ole: Do you have the phone number or can you give us that producer's name?

Fred: Yeah -- Greg Schiffner.

Ole: How do you spell it?

Fred: S-C-H-I-F-F-N-E-R.

Ole: Do you have a phone number for him?

Fred: Yeah.

Fred: Let me see if I can read it, I have a -- interesting gadget for peoples with impaired vision: I call it video eye and this is a camera that projects down on whatever you are reading and then converts it to electronics and shows out on this terminal, video monitor I should say, and there is this zoom control so that you can increase the size of the letters -- whatever you need to be able to read and I can read it about 22 point print so that but -- one of the laws of physics takes place and the larger you I mean the most -- you enlarge the print then this reduces the size of the field of vision and so if you are down at a point where you are just reading one or two letters -- one or two words at a time that makes pretty long reading.

Ole: I have heard somewhere that -- that you know you were on the Jack Paar show and that some people were trying to get you on the Oprah Winfrey show.

Fred: Yeah we would love that because I am sure -- because -- Oprah rewards her -- interviewee she is a really -- do a lot for her and she is interested in the school, I don't why, why we can't get on that anyway. Greg Schiffner's --

Ole: So is this something that -- this Greg Schiffner is trying to help you with, or who is trying to help you do that.

Fred: No -- couple of people in New Guinea sent in something. We thought we had a direct contact with Oprah but at the time we tried to reach her there was a terrible weather thing in Indonesia where her boy friend was attending with another friend and they were on the roof of the beach house when the storm hit them and one of them was washed way and is gone and of course she was quite upset about that and then we think, may be that was a time we submitted some video and the copy of my book and I don't think it ever reached her production guy you know, that, yeah, that's when secretaries are very important. If you get by them, you succeed.

Ole: We've got the address that you can you know, send something in just to, which makes suggestions to Oprah. And so we are already thinking about having some people do that.

Fred: Well, yeah I can send you some of the copies of the book because -- .

Ole: And we probably, because some pretty clever people on this room I am talking about Mark and John Westergren, but we probably could figure out some way you get around the secretary somehow.

Fred: Well, I have Ed's address and I can send a couple of books to him.



Ole: Yeah, that's fine -- do it and we can talk about this further you know, after we have the idea planned and we are trying to do something.

Fred: You know, I'll listen, trying to read that you are -

Ole: All right.

Fred: All right and may not give the --

Ole: Yes, you could, you could probably get (around the) right page --

Fred: Well, just remember -- 530 is the area code.

Ole: Okay.

Fred: 26 -- you know, 265.

Ole: Right.

Fred: 3638.

Ole: And that's just the phone number for --

Ole: Greg Schiffner.

Fred: Greg Schiffner. S-C-H-I-F-F-N-E-R.

Fred: Correct.

Ole: It has been a pleasure talking with you Fred and I don't know you but these two guys do know you well, are creditable guys and they think you are okay -- I do too.

Fred: Thank you.

Marc: You know, thank you, Fred.

Fred: Oh, thank you for letting me have all this time with Marc and Bill, it has been made my day for sure.

Marc: Good Luck, Fred.

John: Drink some of that wine out there.

Fred: All right.

Ole: See I heard you might be coming back here this year to visit some relatives or something.

Fred: Yes.

Ole: What would that be?  
Fred: Well I -- before the snow --  
John: You better hurry up.  
Fred: Yeah, I guess so. And I'll be getting in touch with you if I do get to go.  
Ole: Okay.  
Fred: Okay, thank you so much.  
Ole: Okay.  
Marc: Thank you, Fred.  
John: Thanks, we are signing off here.  
Fred: Okay, all right.  
John: Over and out.