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### Oral History Interview: Walter Galloway

Walter Galloway

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DATE 4-3-87

Walter Galloway  
(Signature - Interviewee)

8150 Dingess Avenue  
(Address)  
Hamlin, WV 25523

DATE 4-3-87

Penny Messinger  
(Signature - Witness)



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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY HISTORY

MUH. 58

AN ORAL INTERVIEW WITH: WALTER GALLOWAY

CONDUCTED BY: PENNY MESSINGER

DATE OF INTERVIEW: APRIL 3, 1987

Walter: No, I'm afraid not. The uh, from '46 to '47, my last year, I believe I already mentioned this, I got a job with the engineering firm in Hamlin. I'm sorry, in Huntington, in the West Virginia Building. And uh, I made enough money that I did pretty good. I got paid by them.

Penny: You said you majored in Engineering. Uh, where were most of your classes held?

Walter: Uh, it was a little one story, I think it was one story, one story building, red brick, it was located up around the vicinity of 17th street, up towards 18th street, about 17th street, I don't believe it's there now.

Penny: You lived in rooming houses after the war, too?

Walter: I got a roomin' house after the war up on 6th Avenue, around somewhere in 17th Street, real nice place. And there was two rooms that this lady rented and uh, the roommate I had happened to be a boy from Hamlin. He was a lot younger than me. Because he was just startin', and I was just finishin', and uh, well, actually all four of us. He had two, four of us from Hamlin, two of 'em in one room, and two of us in the other. And uh, but the only difference is it was strictly a sleepin' room. There wasn't no cooking. You had to eat out. Strictly sleepin' rooms. And they were a lot more, cost a lot more. I forget...I couldn't tell you what it was, but it wasn't nearly as cheap as when I first went.

Penny: Did you have a lot...who were your friends mostly then? Who did you associate with the most?

Walter: Well, there was several of us, the boys from Hamlin that was down there with me. And my...several of the guys that I knew from before the war uh, was, had come back to get their degree and [phone ringing in background]...a few of the boys from being there previous, and the boys from Hamlin. I didn't make many more friends because I was, while I wasn't in school in the afternoons I didn't go to school, I was working. I worked with Breece & Carpenter, professional engineers. And I really didn't have much time to associate or meet any more people, so I'd say that's about it.

Penny: Did you...the interview I did yesterday, with Walter Midkiff, he talked about the veterans getting together and uh, associating. Did you associate with other GI's?

Walter: No, I guess after I got back in Marshall, I was so busy I didn't even think about it. I didn't have time. I didn't have time seemed like, to loaf as I did my first four years. Right after I'd get out of school, I'd head down and go to work, you know, in the afternoons, and what free time I had the other time, I had to do a lot of studying. These classes were 400 classes and they were tough, and I had to do a lot of studying.

Penny: Did you have any real complaints with Marshall?

Walter: No, it was a good school. I really enjoyed it. All the

teachers were nice to me and I think everyone that I had I can't say that I had one bad teacher. Only one teacher I had that we used to laugh about, some of us, he was an excellent teacher, really knew it, too, taught physics. That was back in my first four years, when I was taking physics, my freshman year. He'd get up, he'd get up in front of the class and start to put problems on the board and he had a sing-song voice, you know. It was sort of a [inaudible]...you know. And he'd put half of us to sleep. He meant well, it's just that we used to laugh about it. But he really knew his stuff. He would start right, puttin' problems on the board, and he wouldn't turn around and look much at the class.

[inaudible tape]

Walter: No, I'm afraid not. The uh, from '46 to '47, my last year, I believe I already mentioned this, I got a job with the engineering firm in Hamlin, I'm sorry, in Huntington, in the WV Building. And uh, I made enough money that I did pretty good. I paid all my expenses, had a little left over after that, after I got paid by them.

Penny: You said you majored in engineering. Uh, where were most of your classes held?

Walter: Uh, it was a little one story, I think it was one story, one story building, red brick, it was located up around the vicinity of 17th street, up towards 18th street, about 17 street, I don't believe it's there now. (on 5th avenue?) I don't think it's there. But uh, they had music classes there plus part of it was they'd left, the engineering professor had some of the rooms and the music had the rest of it, the music department. I'm not sure how big it was. I'd say 8 rooms, give or take a room or two.

Penny: Uh, let's see. How much did it cost for a sleeping room?

Walter: I believe it ran about \$2 a week.

Penny: This was in the pre-war period?

Walter: Oh, yeah, this was 1936 to '40. I think we paid about \$2 a week and well, that's all, it took half a check. (laughs) And then after I went back '46, '47, I got a room up on 6th avenue, about 16th, close to 17th street. Now, I forget what that is, but it was much more. Much more than \$2.

Penny: Uh, what kind of activities were you involved in at Marshall?

Walter: Uh, mostly the intramural sports they had down there. I participated in those. Played football and basketball at Hamlin, and track and baseball, everything they had at Hamlin. So when I got down there, I didn't try out for the varsity football or basketball. Two reasons was I didn't have time, and the other reason was I wasn't good enough. Wasn't big enough for football. So I did work out, most reason I played intramurals you know, was to stay in shape. And I had a lot of fun. There was a whole bunch

of kids into it. We had a lot of fun, you know. It was. . . you know, we got to know a lot of people and met a lot of friends and we really enjoyed it.

Penny: How often did you participate in these sports?

Walter: I'd say about twice a week.

Penny: Were there any other people from Hamlin went to Marshall the same time you did?

Walter: Yes, there were, but I can't think or place too many of 'em. I think. . . (pause). . . well, let's see now. Actually there was some down there, but it's been so long ago. There was a Woodall girl that. . . now, she came in a year or two after I started. I think it was Buck Woodall. You remember Buck Woodall? Well, Alonzo Woodall that used to have the post office at Hamlin. I think it was his daughter. She went. And uh, Pauline Jackson, used to be Pauline Adkins, she uh, she was going at that time. She was a couple of classes behind me, I think. She started while I was still going. And uh, well, there's some more but I can't recall 'em.

Penny: Who did you mostly, who were most of your friends? Were they people you knew before you started Marshall or people you met there?

Walter: No, the friends I had in Hamlin, none of 'em went. None of the boys, none of the girls, none of the boys in the class so, these were all friends that I made after I got down there. The boys, engineering classes, and my roommate and he had some friends and then I met some students in the student union, so I had quite a few friends. But they were all, become friends after I started Marshall.

Penny: Have you kept in touch with many of them since then?

Walter: Uh, for awhile I did, but not now, it's been too long ago. I wouldn't know where any of 'em lives or if they're still around.

Penny: What other, what other sorts of things did you do for entertainment, or organized activities of any kind?

Walter: Well, uh while I was there, in intramural sports, Sweet Gullickson, one of the professors in the phys ed department was organizing, wanted to organize a square dance of some kind, so since I could play music, particularly the guitar, and my roommate was a real good guitar player and a singer, and his friend was a fiddle player, we had a banjo player that was a friend of ours. We organized a, we formed a band and started square dancin', one night a week over at the . . . over at the old gym. And uh, so we had a lot of fun square dancin'. We. . . we'd play a while and then take turns, us square dancin', and we would yeah, we had a lot of fun at that. That was one thing we did. And I spent some time at the student union. I'd get together with some of my friends over there and we'd play chess and checkers. And uh, drink a lot of soda pop and eat potato chips and dance occasionally. We had one of the old juke boxes from the old days that was in the student union. So we

managed to kill our time pretty good.

Penny: Did your band ever play for functions besides these dances once a week?

Walter: When, when Marshall didn't have anything, they had a program once a week, a 15 minute or 30 minute program, I forget whether it was 15 or 30, that they would put on over the air, I think it was over WSAZ radio. If they didn't have anything lined up well, then they'd give us a call and we'd go over and we'd play then, we'd play music, and joke a little bit. So we'd put on 15 or 30 minute program, whatever we were supposed to. And uh, while we were playing, Miller's supermarket, that's a grocery store up on I think, it was on 16th Street, 16th Street, about 9th or 10th Avenue; it's not there now. But they got a hold of us and uh, excuse me [clears throat]...and uh, we uh, they wanted us to do, to advertise their store. So 15 minutes, I forget what day of the week it was, Tuesday or Thursday, we had a 15 minute show and we advertised their canned beans or cereal or meat or whatever they had, we would read it over there, bragged on how good it was, and how cheap and then we'd play some more music. So, that's about it. We had some offers from high schools to come out and play for 'em, but uh, we didn't have the time to do that.

Penny: Can you remember how much you got paid for doing commercials like that?

Walter: [laughing] It wasn't very much. I think we got, no, I don't know, seems to me like a dollar, a dollar and a half a piece, each time we played. It wasn't much, but it was that much, plus we had a lot of fun doing it.

Penny: Uh, you said you went to the student union a lot. What kind of prices did they charge there?

Walter: The uh, the prices were very reasonable back then. The uh, the drinks, of course, back then it was draw your drinks, put your ice and I think, fountain coke? (mmm-hmm) They run a nickel. And uh, I forget what the food run. The food was reasonable. I don't know exactly, but it was I think, a nickel for a hot dog, if you wanted to eat. And the prices were very cheap.

Penny: Where else did you eat?

Walter: Right below Marshall, the place we ate most of the time was a little, it was a brick, I'm sorry, it was a concrete, block building painted white. It was on the left of the street, 4th Avenue, going towards town, it was on 15th. On the 1500 block. And uh, the hot dogs were a nickel a piece or three for a dime. Hamburgers were a dime a piece, three for a quarter. Sometimes, a couple, I couldn't eat three of 'em, but I'd get together with a buddy and we'd order a quarter's worth and eat one and a half each. And chili was ten cents a bowl, and you had your choice of oyster crackers or chessit crackers. I always ate the cheesit crackers; I preferred them. And milk was a nickel a glass, and, coffee was a nickel. It was a lot cheaper than it is now. But that was about it. Then of course, we cooked quite a bit in our room, we. . . that was mostly for lunch we'd eat up there and then mostly for

evening meal we'd cook something up in our room.

Penny: Let's say it's Friday night, and you're through classes, and you don't have anything to do. What are you gonna do? What are your options?

Walter: Well, mostly usually I'd get on the highway, get out of school and get on the highway and uh, hitch me a ride to Hamlin on Friday evenings. I stayed home over the weekend, with my parents, and then Sundays I would hitch a ride back into Huntington. Occasionally if uh, if I had a class on Saturday or something I had something to do and couldn't, had to say in Huntington, we'd take in a movie or maybe spend a few minutes over at the student union, called the Shawkey, Shawkey Building. We would spend a while over there and that was about it. Just loaf around.

Penny: How long did it take to get to Hamlin from Huntington? It's about a 50 minute drive now, I think, 45 or 50 minutes.

Walter: I'd roughly say about an hour and a half, something like that. Sometimes it'd take two hours, of you get behind a slow, a real slow truck going up Davis Creek Mountain, they had to pull those mountains back then in mule gear, it could take 'em 15 or 20 minutes to get to the top of the hill then. It'd take sometimes two hours.

Penny: What else might you do if you wouldn't go to a movie or come home to Hamlin or go to the Shawkey Union?

Walter: Well, uh, sometimes we would uh, we would go over at the gymnasium and sometimes we'd go over there and work out playing handball or something in the gym, shoot a little basketball, they'd let us in to do a little of that. And occasionally we would go over to the women's dorm in the Old Main building, the women's I forget what they called it, Women's, they called it Old Main I guess, Old Main dormitory, when the women stayed. And uh, the girls. . . some of the girls used to come over to the square dance, we'd go over sometimes on the weekends, and they taught us how to jitterbug and other kinds of dancing. So sometimes we'd do little dancin' with girls. And I guess that's about it.

Penny: Was this usually a group of boys?

Walter: Yeah, usually several of us. Me and my roommate and the fiddle player, and there was about 3 or 4 of us, and of course, you had girls that hung around gangs and so we'd usually see the gangs and 3 or 4 girls that buddied around together, we'd all get together and dance and then we'd all go down to the movie or something.

Penny: You were in the service, right? (yes) Now, which branch of the service were you in?

Walter: Uh, when I ended up I was in the Army-Air Force. Initially, I was inducted into the uh, field artillery. When I went in the service, right after, right after Pearl Harbor (were you drafter?) yeah, I was an inductee. They drew. . . what they did they drew a bunch of names out of a hat or something, way back

before the war started, to start gettin' people in the service, get us trained, you know. Great Britain and France and them was already in the war. In fact, the Germans already overran France and we knew we was gonna get into it sooner or later, so they started gettin' people the Army get us ready. And uh, I think my number was one of the first drawn out of the hat. Because I was sent down to Huntington right away, to the old national guard building, and I passed the physical, 1-A, I was Class 1-A, so I knew it wouldn't be long until I would be gone in. And the war started of course, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbour the 7th of December, and I was supposed to have went in the the next week. But the uh, draft board let us stay on till, stay home till after Christmas, 'cause a lot of people volunteered then. And uh, I got in the service right after Christmas. I was put in the field artillery at Fort Bragg, that's near Fayetteville, North Carolina. And uh, while I was going through field artillery training, the air force put up, they had an examining board in Charlotte, North Carolina, that anybody that wanted, that had the education and could pass the examination, could take the test and transfer to the air force. You had to have two years of college and of course, pass a real strict physical. And had to pass the examination. A mental examination, also, I was gonna say. Well, anyway, I went to Charlotte and passed the examination and uh, the air force accepted me then and about a month or so later they sent me to Nashville, Tennessee, that's the air force classification center back then, and from there they uh, from there I went to Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Alabama for pre-flight training. That's where you learn all about meteorology and uh, all the fundamentals you have to know, you know, to fly an airplane or like all kinds of navigations, fundamental and uh, well, it was just like going to college actually. Well, after I got through that, I was sent to Lakeland, Florida, that's what they call primary flight training. I learned to fly in the PT-Stinson was a two engine, I'm sorry, twin wing, had two wings, (mmm-hmm), the single engine of course. It was a very good plane for maneuver, it uh, you could do anything in that plane. Loop to loop or spin it down towards the ground and that was a lot of fun. You begin to spin and you pull up just before you got too close to the ground. Well, I learned to fly in solo and was gettin' ready to go up to the basic training when they uh, I was re-classified. The air force then they were producing heavy bombers, B-17's and B-24's and they required not only the pilot but the navigator and the bombardier. The navigator of course, they was picking' college people to take navigation. So they transferred me then to uh, Monroe, Louisiana, to navigation school. So I took my navigation training at Louisiana and graduated. You want me to go ahead and tell you all about it? (yeah, tell me all about it) Alright. From there I was sent to uh, Mountain Home, Idaho, that's where I got with my group. I met the group I was gonna be in, and I got with the crew. So I checked in and looked at the bulletin board and found out that my pilot was a uh, lieutenant by the name of Wassman. So I looked him up and we had a lot of fun together, kidding' each other. I told him I didn't know a thing about navigating', he said he'd never been in an airplane in his life but we met the rest of the crew. I had a real good crew. And from there we went down to Windover Field for some training (where was that?) that's where you done a lot of experimental flying. I think that experimental base. . . I forget. . . it's out in the sticks actually, edge of a desert actually,

across the mountains from Califor, Los Angeles, San Fransico, I forget. I forget just where it's at. I don't. . . I'm not sure what state it's in. I didn't stay there long, 'cause just as soon as we got there, they put us over this, transferred us over to Hammer Field at Fresno, California. And we spent a short time there, and they they started us overseas. From uh, (how long did all this take? how long were you trained?), well, all I trained in the states, it took us, took me about let's see, we left out of there the later part of '43, '42, I'd say about a year, somewhere, I don't. . . I spent a while in field artillery. I'd say about a year and a half, roughly. And uh, the latter '43, around the first part of let me think now. . . (pause). . .well, anyway, after about a year and a half training there, we uh, we flew to uh, we . . . we flew over to Florida uh, I was trying to think of the field in Florida uh, I was trying to think of the field in Florida. There's one particular field in Florida where it was fenced in, it had, it was heavily guarded so you couldn't get off the base. See, from there you go overseas and they didn't want nobody gettin' in or nobody gettin' out. See, they didn't nobody to know where you was going. So we took off from the air field in Florida, down close to Miami, I forget the name of it. It's not, it's not where the commercial air base is, it was another separate, it's a regular air force base. We took off from Florida uh, flew to Puerto Rico. So the orders told us then where we were gonna go. It was a little place in North America. I forget the name of it. So we flew into Puerto Rico and from there we went to uh, Trinidad the next night. And at Trinidad we loaded up with, loaded up bomb bay with rum, they said there was nothin' to drink over in Italy, but they said people in North Africa then was movin' up in Italy, the Germans...they just drove the Germans out...

[END OF SIDE 1]

Walter Well, as I said, the allies had finished driving the Germans out of North Africa, and uh, they was movin' the fighter bases up in the southern part of Italy. They had the Germans on the run now. [tape fading in/out-very muffled] . . .thereabouts. The people of uh, had gone on ahead of us and told us to buy some rum at Trinidad, it was real cheap there. I forget what it cost. And uh, we loaded the bomb bay with rum, I forget now, about 12, 13, 14 cases, put in the bomb bay, had a big bomb bay, I was flying a B-24, a B -24. And uh, so we had our rum, and then we flew on down to Fort [inaudible]...Brazil, that's the northern part of Brazil, near the northern part. And then we, the next day we flew, oh, by the way, we had flights that took off in the morning and they told us to try to get down by one or two o'clock 'cause the storms were terrific, in South America, they have terrific storms in the afternoons, severe thunderstorms and lightning storms, winds, so they told us to get out, get down on the ground at 1:00, so we'd leave out fairly early and fly 'til about 1:00 and then start landing. So from Fort [inaudible]...it's the take off point to take you to uh, Africa. Now, I'm not sure what the name of that town was. But it's on that part of South America that projects out close to Africa. \_\_\_\_\_ or something like that, I'm not sure. Well, anyway, we flew there, laid over a day or so, and then we went on over, finally flew across the ocean, took off early in the morning while the stars were still up. [inaudible]...windage or something or the wind was wrong, the weather forecast changed, I

wanted to get a good fix on the stars, you know, so I could know where I was at. But the only way, you had to navigate by the stars. And uh, I got a good fix and we set course to \_\_\_\_\_ and then the sun come up and then I started taking shots on the sun. So we uh, landed in \_\_\_\_\_ Africa. We laid over there, we..our compass got messed up, somebody had messed our compass up before we left South America. And uh, I didn't really need it much anyway, because I was flying by the stars and then by the sun. We got our compass fixed and uh, took over the, let's see, Marakesh, I believe, it's on the other side of the Sahara Desert. I believe the Sahara Desert's there, isn't it? [laughs] I remember it was awful hot. I remember that. It got so hot that we went up to about 14,000 feet just before we had to go on oxygen. We didn't want to go on oxygen...see, about 14 you have to put your oxygen masks on. So, we got up there and pulled most of our clothes off, it was so hot, that sun was hittin' that white sand, reflecting it [laughs]... Then we crossed over the uh, mountain range, that the reason the desert's there, that mountain. And uh, we flew to Marakesh. From Marakesh we spent the night, we were going up to that little African town [inaudible]...I forget the name of the town. We stayed there about a week and we waited until they didn't quite have our, where we was gonna fly from, Italy didn't have that ready, and then we [inaudible]...Italy, I don't know how you spell it. (I have no idea, either) \_\_\_\_\_ Italy. That was our base then. From that base we flew 50 missions, and then they sent me back to the states.

Penny: So when did you get back to the United States?

Walter: Oh, boy, let me think. [laughter] Uh, let's see, the war's...it was early in '45 I believe, I'm not sure. Sometime in '45, well, I know it was '45, but early part of '45, I think. I'm not sure. I don't remember.

Penny: When you got back to Marshall, what kind of changes could you see?

Walter: Well, the big thing was there was a little more people. And they weren't as friendly. They weren't near as friendly as. . . just like the difference when I went the first time, like country, there wasn't as many, and the classes were a lot smaller and you got to know each other a lot easier. But when I went back the other time there were a lot more people and particularly the classes were, weren't strictly engineering classes, (inaudible). . . kids that were in. . . taking teacher's college. There were a lot more, a lot more people than before the war. I don't know if the classrooms were a lot bigger or not, but seems like there were a lot more people. And uh, it was just harder to meet people. Seems a little more formal. But there was still a lot of nice kids. It just seemed like a little more formality; 'cause there was a lot more of us, I guess.

Penny: Were there a lot more engineering majors?

Walter: No, they uh, the engineering classes stayed small. Seemed like it, people steered clear of it, for some reason or another. Maybe they didn't think that an engineering profession was very good. But uh, when I graduated in '47, there was only 3 of us.

Penny: How many had there been when you started, how many were in your freshman class?

Walter: In my freshman class in 19 and 36, this was a little over a hundred came out for engineering. And the professor, the rooms weren't big enough for that many. Those little rooms over at the music hall. Professor McCaskey was the instructor, I, he's still I guess, well, we was there. I know when I was there in 1946-47. He was their instructor back then, he was our engineering professor. And he said there wasn't room for that many, so he recommended people that uh, weren't really interested in it or weren't pretty good students uh, he said that he was gonna thin them down and was gonna make it awful rough so they couldn't handle that many. So about half of 'em dropped out, transferred to other things in the college, you know, different teachers or science, going for other degrees other than engineering. Of course, you didn't get a degree then, but we heard (inaudible). . . so I wanted engineering anyway. I intended to take all the engineering I could at Marshall and go somewhere and get a degree. You know, maybe go to West Virginia, but I wanted to get all the engineering I could at Marshall. But anyway, by the end of the year I'd say that hundred twenty well, it started filling real fast, 'cause after he told 'em that he was gonna make it rough, and if they wasn't good students, just not to show up again. So they uh, the engineering class whittled down real fast. And I'd say by the end of that year there was about 10 or 12 us left. And then as we got further along it sort of whittled more. Like there was 3 of us finished.

Penny: How did the, how did the war change your career goals? Did it change 'em at all?

Walter: I can't say as it did. I always before the war started, I was gonna be an engineer. Just liked that kind of work. I was good at mathematics, and took after my dad. He was a top notch mathematician. He was good in math, and uh, I just liked it and that's, I was gonna be an engineer before the war and after the war I still wanted to be an engineer, so, as I said, it didn't change anything. I wasted about 4 years in the service. You know, I could have been here. I guess everybody had to do that. That's just going in the service, everybody had to do it. I wasn't the only one. But I don't regret it, because I have a lot of unpleasant experiences and then I had some things I'll never forget. I met some nice people. In fact, I met 'em on our crew and our bomb group. We'd get together every year and have meetings, we're scheduled this year. . . we're gonna meet at uh, at West Point, tour West Point what's left of us. I forget the name of the town we're going to. It's a little outside of West Point, close to West Point. And we have a reunion every two years. Some of the crew's still around.

Penny: Did you think the classes at Marshall were any harder after the war than they were before?

Walter: No, no, I don't believe they was quite as hard. The uh, uh, I forget the uh, professor, uh, Professor McCaskey didn't teach. He was down there, he was the professor and he had an office, but he didn't instruct after the war. '46, '47 he, I forget the, he had (inaudible). . . professors. They were real

nice. They were really good. But I don't believe the classes were quite as tough. At least they got by. From '36 to '40, (inaudible). . . fundamental engineering, mathematics, and strength material, everything leads up to your advance classes. Well, when I went down, I was taking 400 classes, see, and they're all based on what you had before. (mmm-hmm) Well, since I hadn't been in school since 1940, I almost lost 6 years and went back, I forgot an awful lot of that stuff. And uh, I was lucky to get through. But actually, the classes weren't as tough. If it was, I don't know if I'd made it or not. You'd be surprised how much you forget in 6 years. But I don't think they were quite as tough.

Penny: The classes at Marshall, Marshall's enrollment really raised after the war, how did this affect you? The increased class size.

Walter: I don't see that it affected me any. It was just more students, there was more people in each class. The uh, I was lucky to have good professors in all my classes. And uh, you just didn't get the individual attention, but if you pay attention. . . I guess it didn't make no difference.

Penny: Did you think they were more competitive? As far as grades were concerned?

Walter: I don't think there was much change there. I think there's kids that excels and some that uh, they were all in engineering, I'd say they were all trying real hard. You have to if you want to get through. But I don't see a lot of difference in it. You have kids you know, that are super students and work real hard, and then you have other kids that they do so much studying and that's it. And they they've got some kids (inaudible). . . study at all. I don't think there was too much difference.

Penny: You lived in rooming houses after the war, too?

Walter: I got a roomin' house after the war up on 6th avenue, around somewhere in 17th street, real nice place. And there was 2 rooms that this lady rented and uh, the roommate I had happened to be a boy from Hamlin. He was a lot younger than me. Because he was just startin' and I was just finishin'. And uh, well, actually all four of us. He had two, four of us from Hamlin, two of 'em in one room, and two of us in the other. And uh, but the only difference is it was strictly a sleepin' room. There wasn't no cookin'. You had to eat out. Strictly sleepin' rooms. And they were a lot more, cost a lot more. I forget. . . I couldn't tell you what it was, but it wasn't nearly as cheap as when I first went.

Penny: Did you have a lot. . . who were your friends mostly then? Who did you associate with the most?

Walter: Well, there was several of us, the boys from Hamlin that was down there with me. And my. . . several of the guys that I knew from before the war uh, was had come back to get their degree and (phone ringing in background). . . a few boys from being there previous, and the boys from Hamlin. I didn't make many more friends because I was while I wasn't in school in the afternoons I

didn't go to school, I was workin'. I worked with Breece & Carpenter, professional engineers. And I really didn't have much time to associate or meet any more people, so I'd say that's about it.

Penny: Did you. . . the interview I did yesterday, with Walter Midkiff, he talked about the veterans getting together and uh, associating. Did you associate with other GI's?

Walter: No, I guess after I got back in Marshall I was so busy I didn't even think about it. I didn't have time, I didn't have the time seemed like, to loaf as I did my first four years. Right after I'd get out of school I'd head down and go to work, you know, in the afternoons, and what free time I had the other time, I had to do a lot of studying. These classes were 400 classes and they were tough, and I had to do a lot of studying.

Penny: Did you have any real complaints with Marshall?

Walter: No, it was a good school. I really enjoyed it. All the teachers were nice to me and I think everyone that I had I can't say that I had one bad teacher. Only one teacher I had that we used to laugh about, some of us, he was an excellent teacher, really knew it, too, taught physics. That was back in my first four years, when I was taking physics, my freshman year. He'd get up, he'd get up in front of the class and start to put problems on the board and he had a sing-song voice, you know. It was sort of a (inaudible). . . you know. And he'd put half of us to sleep. He meant well, it's just that we used to laugh about it. But he really knew his stuff. He would start right, puttin' problems on the board, and he wouldn't turn around and look much at the class. There'd be half of 'em dozing off. (laughs) But that was sort of just a joke. I forget his name, but he was an excellent teacher.

Penny: Well, I don't really have any other questions. Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

Walter: No. I think that covers it.

Penny: Okay, well, thank you very much.

Walter: Okay.

END OF INTERVIEW