Raymond Bisaillon
Veteran
Wayne Clarke
Mike Russert
New York State Military Museum
Interviewers
Interviewed on November 21, 2005
Bisaillon Residence
Warrensburg, New York

Interviewers: I
Raymond Bisaillon: RB

I: Could you give me full name and date of birth?
RB: Raymond Bisaillon

I: Where and when were you born please?
RB: 1941 in Witherley, NY

I: Where was that?
RB: that’s uh, 25 miles North of Ticonderoga

I: How much schooling did you have before entering the service?
RB: I got to the 7th grade

I: then you enlisted?
RB: Yes

I: Why did you select the Navy?
RB: Because I happened to like it at the time

I: So you went into the service in 1958?
RB: Yes

I: Where did you go for your basic training?
RB: Great Lakes IL

I: What was your training like?
RB: oh pretty good

I: was this the first time you were away from home?
RB: oh yes
I: did you ever get home sick while you were there?
RB: nope. Too many fellas

I: Did you get any specialty training while you were in the Navy?
RB: No I didn’t. I didn’t stay long enough too

I: You left in ‘59
RB: Yes

I: Why were you in for such a short period of time?
RB: At that time, they had an overflux of men and they were discharging them at a rate of 150 a week

I: So you were basically in for a year or less?
RB: Less than a year

I: Less than a year?
RB: Yes. Three months and fifteen days. I had one more week left to go in basic to graduate

I: So you just had your basic training?
RB: Yes. I wish I could’ve stayed but couldn’t do it

I: So that’s when they were cutting the size of the Navy
RB: Yes they were

I: So after that short period of time they discharged you?
RB: Yes

I: What did you do after you left the service?
RB: Went back to Albany and worked as a short order cook

I: No training in cooking at all while in the Navy?
RB: No

MR: Where about in Albany did you cook?
RB: Corning towers and Greyhound and places like that

I: Did you like your time while you were in the Navy?
RB: Oh yes. They had shrinkers who said I couldn’t adapt to military life so that how come they discharged me under honorable conditions

I: What were your officers like?
RB: Pretty good. Kinda strict

I: So you went right into a job right after you left the Navy?
RB: Oh yes
I: Did you make any friends while you were there?
RB: Oh yes. A few friends yes

I: Do you think your time in the service did anything or changed you in any way?
RB: Nope. It was unfortunate I was not able to stay

I: Thank you
RB: Thank you