

Appendix B: Methodology and Interview Material

This appendix contains information relevant to the interviews on which I draw in the article.

I begin with a brief discussion of the methodology, after which I include the interview schedule. The final portion of this appendix contains selected information on each subject.

The respondents were produced through a snowball sample drawn from randomly selected members of the 9th and 10th (Horse) Calvary Association, one in Houston, TX; the other in New Orleans, LA. It's based upon two of the four permanent African American regiments resulting from the Military Reorganization Act of 1866. Members are generally African American veterans of the army. From the membership lists of both locations, I selected three members at random from Houston and selected another three at random from the New Orleans branch I then asked these members to provide me names of other veterans who had served between 1941 and 1953, the period encompassing the Second World War and the Korean War. From this arrangement, I conducted a total of twenty-five complete interviews. However, space limitations permitted me to use only 17 of the completed interviews. All respondents *were not* members of the organization: half had no formal affiliation with it.

Interview Questionnaire

I am researching the life experiences of Black southern veterans who served in World War II and the Korean War. More specifically, I'm interested in the role your generation played in social change in the Civil Rights South. In addition to conducting interviews like this one, I also use a large-scale survey of Black southerners. I will write a book based on my findings.

This interview contains several questions. Please feel free to skip any questions that you are not comfortable answering. If you wish to return to any question or wish to elaborate upon questions not answered to your satisfaction, please don't hesitate. All answers are anonymous and confidential. This means that your name will not appear anywhere and no one will know about your specific answers except me. I will disguise any identifying information in the book or any articles that come from this research.

I. Family and Background

- A) Where were you born? Where did you grow up?
- B) Can you tell me about your family? How much education did your parents have; what were their occupations?
- C) How would you describe your family's financial situation when you were growing up? What were your home and neighborhood like?

II. Citizenship

- A) What does it mean to you to be an American citizen?
- B) What does the term "citizenship" mean to you? What is a "good citizen?"
- C) Has citizenship been important in your life? How?
- D) What, if anything, does America owe its citizens? Why?
- E) What, if anything, does American owe veterans? Why?
- F) Looking back, as a veteran, did feel you deserved more, the same, or less

than those who chose not to serve?

- G) Does military service affect the way you view yourself as a citizen? As an American?

III. Life experiences and Turning points

- A) As you look back over the course of your life, certain events or opportunities may stand out as highly significant or as turning points. What might these be?

VI. Military service

- A) How did you come to be in the military: were you drafted?
- B) (if volunteered) Why?
- C) What was your attitude, at the time, about serving in the armed forces?
- D) Which branch? Where were you stationed?
- E) Did you serve with white troops?
- F) If overseas, how if at all, did it affect your views on American society? The South?
- G) What were your primary duties? Were you in combat?
- H) How long did you serve?
- I) What was your rank upon discharge?
- J) Did you sustain any service-connected disabilities?
- K) What was your overall attitude about your years of service? Was it a privilege to serve? Did you see it as your duty to society, a necessary obligation? Or, was it a burden?
- L) Looking back, how did the time you spent in the armed services affect your life?
- M) How, if at all, did the service affect the way that you view yourself? Are you proud, angry, frustrated with your service? Why?
- N) How, if at all, did the service affect the way you view American society and the South—particularly whites?

V. Returning to the South

- A) Looking back, what, if anything, did you expect to come from the war for Blacks in the South?
- B) What were the conditions of the South upon your return? Had anything changed for blacks? How did this make you feel? Why?
- C) How about you? How were you treated? Were you satisfied with your treatment as a returning veteran? If so why? If not, why not?
- D) Did military service affect your desire for equal rights? Why?

VI. Militancy/Social identification

- A) Were you an active participant in the Civil Rights Movement? Why? Why not?
- B) Looking back, did you agree with the protests as they got underway?
- C) Were they, in your estimation, necessary? Or do you believe that black southerners should have relied more upon prayer than protest?
- D) Did you prefer peaceful demonstrations or something more drastic?
- E) Looking back, at the time, were you satisfied with the speed of change?
- F) Do you feel that African Americans share a common fate?
- G) Do you see yourself as first black, then American? American, then black? One or the other? Why? Do you feel simply American? Why?
- H) Do you see yourself as a black veteran? Or, simply as an American veteran? Why?
- I) Does your military service affect the extent to which you identify with either race or country?
- J) How often do you reflect on your war-time experiences?

VII. Education and Training

- A) What is your highest level of education? How does this compare with those in your immediate family?
- B) How much education or vocational training did you have prior to your

service?

- C) What kind of employment/training were you involved in prior to service?
- D) Did you receive any of your college education while in the armed services?
- E) Did you go to school, return to work, or take time off upon your return? Why?
- F) If advanced studies, why? What was your degree/vocational training in?
- G) Was any of your training after the service funded by the G.I. Bill?
- H) How did you consider the G.I. Bill? Was it a right, a reward for military service, or a privilege? Why? After receiving these benefits, did you feel as though you owed anything to society? Why or Why not?

VIII. Demographics

- A) In what year were you born?
- B) Were you raised in a particular religion?

IX. Is there anything else you'd like to tell me?

Table A.1 Selected Military and Demographic Characteristics of Interviewees

Name	Branch	Service Period	Drafted?	Combat?	Officer?	Year of birth	Education	Interview location
Baines	Army	Korea	Yes	Yes	No	1928	18	TX
Bashful	Army	WWII	Yes	Yes	Yes	1917	20	LA
Baskin	Army	WWII	No	No	No	1919	13	TX
Carey	Army	Korea	Yes	Yes	No	1933	20	LA
Carter	Army	WWII-Korea	No	Yes	Yes	1918	18	LA
Fuller	Army	Korea	Yes	No	No	1933	18	TX
Grant	Army	WWII	Yes	Yes	No	1918	12	TX
McWilliams	Army	WWII-Korea	No	Yes	Yes	1927	16	LA
Moret	Army (AC)	WWII	No	No	Yes	1925	12	LA
Pete	Army	Korea	No	Yes	No	1927	18	TX
Shaw	Army	WWII-Korea	No	Yes	Yes	1926	20	TX
Stewart	Army	WWII	Yes	No	No	1927	11	TX
Thomas	Army (AC)	WWII	Yes	No	No	1917	18	LA
Thornton	Army	Korea	Yes	Yes	No	1933	15	TX
Williams	Army	Korea	No	Yes	No	1935	13	TX
Wilson	Army	WWII-Korea	Yes	Yes	Yes	1914	16	LA
Womack	Army	Korea	No	Yes	No	1934	16	TX

Note: Data collected by the author 2003-2004. Also, (AC) denotes Army Air Corps.