

5 LOUIS PARRAGA, JR.: Okay, my name is Lou
6 Parraga, Jr. I'm 84 years old. I live in Kekaha. And
7 during the Second World War I used to go into the base
8 and pick up the garbage. My father raised a lot of
9 hogs, maybe about 50 or more. So I seen planes coming
10 and going, and some all shot up from the Midway battle.
11 In fact, the worst one I seen was a gossier, I think,
12 had the pilot and the copilot in the back, two cockpits.
13 And I was going there, and I saw this plane coming and
14 sputtering and backfiring and all the smoke coming out
15 from the exhaust.

16 And I took off, I wanted to see where he would
17 land. When he landed, I was right there by the airport,
18 and he landed the plane. And I saw the guy in the back
19 was just hanging over like this, hanging over. He was
20 dead. And the pilot just landed the plane and the plane
21 hit the runway, and he veered off right into the sand.

22 And the fire engine guys came, and when they
23 got to the plane, the pilot himself was dead. So that's
24 a terrible thing to see. I was a young boy at that
25 time. But that's what military is all about and wars.

1 So, okay, I'm a Korean War veteran, 1950,
2 that's when I got the call to go into the Army for the
3 Korean War. And of all things I got the notice on my
4 birthday, and my birthday is trick-or-treat. So to be
5 inducted November 5th. Maybe I should turn like this.
6 So I got trick-or-treat from the government to be
7 inducted November 5th. I spent three years in the Army,
8 and I seen things that if you're not in the service you
9 will never see or understand.

10 A lot of people that protest about this, lot of
11 people don't understand that have never been in the

12 service what the service is all about and what the base
13 do and good for us. How would most of you people feel
14 if you have a guard in the front door instead of a
15 criminal? And that's what the base is. They're like a
16 guard for us.

17 I hear a lot of things that somethings that
18 cannot be proved. So I think without the base we'll be
19 in big trouble. Thank you very much. (Applause.)