

7-27-1981

Interview no. 566

Reynaldo Lopez R.

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

INTERVIEWEE: Reynaldo López R.
INTERVIEWER: Oscar J. Martínez
PROJECT:
DATE OF INTERVIEW: July 27, 1981
TERMS OF USE: Unrestricted
TAPE NO.: 566
INDEX NO. 566
INDEXED BY: Marta McCarthy
DATE INDEXED: December 6, 1982

BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSIS OF INTERVIEWEE:

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1938. Joined the navy in June of 1956 when he was 18 years old. Was involved in the Bracero Program in the summer of either 1962 or 1963. Retired from the navy in August, 1976 and presently resides in El Paso.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW:

Tells how he joined the Bracero Program; experiences and duties as a bracero; anecdotes of the braceros and working and living conditions in the pear ranch; duties in the navy; countries he visited while in the navy; experience in Vietnam where he was almost awarded the Purple Heart; some of the prejudices he encountered; deferential attitudes of the Mexican when dealing with "gringos".

Length of Interview: 50 minutes Length of Transcript: 6 pages