

## **Becton, Julius US Army**

[00:00:15.96] JULIUS BECTON: Born in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. That's suburban Philadelphia. Grew up there. My father was a janitor. My mother was a housekeeper. We lived in the apartment in which the janitor lived. It was about a block and a half from Bryn Mawr College. And I mention that because I'll be back up there on the 13th of March. They're going to have-- post office is going to have a stamp dedicated to a friend, Chief Anderson. He's the guy who taught the Tuskegee Airmen how to fly.

[00:00:48.67] JOE GALLOWAY: Right.

[00:00:49.00] JULIUS BECTON: He's also the guy who took Mrs. Roosevelt in a plane and convinced the rest of America that black men could fly. The other thing you asked, how old was I when I went to Vietnam? I was a lieutenant colonel. I went there in 1967. And subtract that from 1926, you got the age.

[00:01:11.38] JOE GALLOWAY: I got the age. When you went to Vietnam, who were your family members?

[00:01:19.95] JULIUS BECTON: A wife, four daughters, and a son.

[00:01:27.27] JOE GALLOWAY: And what did you consider your hometown at that time?

[00:01:32.64] JULIUS BECTON: At that time I had a house in Washington, DC, one block north of Walter Reed. I've had a house in Philadelphia. And as I said, I was born in Bryn Mawr.

[00:01:49.17] I joined the Army in 1943. A fellow named Hap Arnold, Chief of Staff for the Army Air Corps, came out to his high school that he graduated. I happened to be a student at that high school. And he told us about join the Army Air Corps, and win you a silver wing and gold bars. And the football team went down and took the battery of tests.

[00:02:11.43] Six of us went down on December 28, 1943, raised our right hand to join the Army Air Corps Enlisted Reserves. Graduated high school in 1944. Six of us went off to pre-flight, five went to Florida, I went to Mississippi.

[00:02:31.88] The reason for it, I think, is rather obvious-- five white, one black. And Biloxi, Mississippi is a great place for a young black, 18 years old to go in 1944. And flunked out because of vision, didn't have 20/20. Then from there, I went to MacDill, Florida, outside of Tampa. From there to OCS. And in 1945, August, I was commissioned a second lieutenant, 19 years old.

[00:03:07.61] JOE GALLOWAY: The source of your commissioning was OCS?

[00:03:10.52] JULIUS BECTON: Infantry.

[00:03:11.15] JOE GALLOWAY: Infantry. How did you get from air corps to infantry?

[00:03:15.62] JULIUS BECTON: Well, you got to understand, during the war, the Army air force was part of the Army. And the other question which you might ask, since I ended up being an armor officer, I transferred from Infantry to armor in 1957. I finished a tour with the 2nd Armored Division. And I liked the way they did business. And I requested a branch transfer after I got some encouragement from some armor folks and went to armor.

[00:03:51.33] JOE GALLOWAY: How did you end up an infantry battalion commander in Vietnam?

[00:03:56.31] JULIUS BECTON: Well, I didn't have an infantry battalion in Vietnam. 17th Cav-2nd Squadron, 17th Cav. I had the only Cav squadron in the division. And matter of fact, we had the only Cav squadron up north of Hue, which was an interesting situation.

[00:04:16.38] JOE GALLOWAY: Yeah, very.

[00:04:24.40] JULIUS BECTON: Most of my training was done with combat. World War II, I got-- at the end of the war, we were sent to a place called Morotai, which is south of the Philippines, north of New Guinea. I was in the 93rd Division, a division that you couldn't be in unless you were a senior officer, because you didn't look like me. We had--

[00:04:46.36] JOE GALLOWAY: It was a black division.

[00:04:47.23] JULIUS BECTON: That's exactly right.

[00:04:48.40] JOE GALLOWAY: But there were two of them. And the 93rd--

[00:04:51.35] JULIUS BECTON: 93rd went to the Pacific. 92nd went to Europe.

[00:04:54.40] JOE GALLOWAY: Exactly.

[00:04:55.27] JULIUS BECTON: And the interesting part-- 93rd throughout its entire assignment in Europe, they were co-located with the 31st Division, the Dixie Division. Why they did that, I'll never know. Those two divisions were on the same islands throughout the entire war. And when they weren't fighting the Japanese. they were fighting each other. That was part of my training.

[00:05:19.27] The rest of my training, when I came back from the war in 1946, went off to-- I separated from the military, but I stayed in the Reserves, went to Muhlenberg College on a football scholarship, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Got married in '48, January. And July of '48, a fellow named Truman signed Executive Order 9981. And I happened to like what I was doing, even though I was a pre-med student doing fairly well in school, and, I might add, the first black to go to Muhlenberg.

[00:05:56.80] I heard about this 9981. I inquired as to branch where I could be recalled. They said, by all means, got recalled to active duty. I'm a Reservist at that time. Went to Fort Lewis,

Washington, joined the 2nd Division. And that's where we were when the Koreans crossed the border.

[00:06:21.50] We went off in July of 1952-- 50-- shouldn't say 2. And I was a platoon leader at first, then a company exec, and later had command of a company. That division had two black battalions, one in the infantry and one in the artillery. A fellow named-- who was the representative from Harlem, whose been the chairman of so many things?

[00:06:54.16] JOE GALLOWAY: Oh, yeah.

[00:06:55.41] JULIUS BECTON: Well, anyhow, that's dementia taking over. Anyhow, he was in the artillery unit, and I was in the infantry unit. We were in country, had been there less than a month, when the regimental commander was faced with a situation that the adjutant brought. We got so many replacements coming in, but were not coming in based on race, but coming in based on skills. Where should we put them? And the regimental commander said, put them where they're needed. And with that statement, the 9th Regiment, 3rd Infantry, was integrated.

[00:07:30.50] JOE GALLOWAY: Integrated.

[00:07:31.96] JULIUS BECTON: I'll never forget the first one, non-black, that I received. He was from Texas, a Mexican-American. And I told my sergeant, first sergeant or our platoon sergeant, don't let anything happen to that guy. We can't afford to be the one to screw this thing up.

[00:07:50.96] He did quite well. But after two wounds-- and I was in the division and in the regiment when we got kicked out of North Korea. And I was very lucky, because I got wounded a day before the Chinese crossed the border, and got evacuated by air. And then all hell broke loose.

[00:08:10.09] Got back home in the May of '51, went to school, some more schools, Fort Benning again, several times, and had the typical young company grade officer assignment. But I was young enough to-- after Korea, I had a couple of Purple Hearts, a Silver Star. And that impressed some people, I guess. The most important thing I had was a CIB.

[00:08:46.29] JOE GALLOWAY: Yeah, Combat Infantry Badge.

[00:08:51.84] JULIUS BECTON: Earned it.

[00:08:52.56] JOE GALLOWAY: Earned the hard way.

[00:08:58.98] JULIUS BECTON: We went over in December of '67. We had a troop already in country, A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 17th Cav. And the rest of the squadron came when I brought them over. And we got that troop back within the first month in country. The beautiful part about going to Vietnam for the 101st Airborne Division, we were able to go in the country, get an orientation, do some training as to what we were faced with, and then go out and do our thing. I

had a division commander who I had known before when he was a XO in 9th Infantry, in the 2nd Division, who was able to let me do what I wanted to do.

[00:09:52.66] JOE GALLOWAY: By name?

[00:09:53.89] JULIUS BECTON: Barsanti-- Olinto M. Barsanti.

[00:09:56.98] JOE GALLOWAY: Mr. General Barsanti.

[00:09:58.82] JULIUS BECTON: General Barsanti. We had been over in country on orientation before we got there. And I visited all my fellow squadron's commanders throughout the entire area. And most of them were basically delivering mail. A troop would be at one brigade, another troop another brigade, another troop with another brigade.

[00:10:23.56] And he and the sergeant major just delivering things to them up front. And I told General Barsanti, hey, sir, I can do a better job than that for you. I got more firepower than any of your battalions have. I got more communications. And we're better than they are. Barsanti knew me from the old days, so he accepted that. And we had our own AO throughout the entire tenure we were there. Not many squadron commanders can say that.

[00:10:54.52] JOE GALLOWAY: What were your initial duties?

[00:10:57.73] JULIUS BECTON: After we got in country, had our training, and moved out-- we were there before Tet took place. As matter of fact, I had a small AO when the bad guys were en route to Saigon. Tet did not occur in our province, because we cleaned their clock when they were coming through. And of course we won the war, but you never know that by what the media said. Nothing against you people who report things. You're not in that group. I know that.

[00:11:34.90] From that time on, we moved from just outside of Saigon up north to Hue. And up there we had Camp Eagle, which is outside of Hue, which became fairly notorious. And I replaced, in AO-wise a fellow named Roscoe Robinson, infantry, 1st Cav Division. And Roscoe and I go back a long time. I had a with him before I took over. Julius, nothing to worry about. These folks are quiet. We haven't had a good fight in a long time.

[00:12:15.54] For some reason, the day that the 1st Cav folks moved out and the 101st folk moved in, all hell broke loose. And I never had a peaceful week. For five weeks we didn't have a big battle, particularly on Sundays. And I say that because the chaplain that we had to visit us, he got tired of sitting at the heliport back at my base camp waiting for us to come pick him up.

[00:12:42.03] So we said, Chaplain, we're going to make a deal. Let's change Sundays to Wednesdays so we can have-- my people can have the services that you can provide. Wednesdays, no firefight. Sundays, they were fighting.

[00:13:00.73] Daily routines-- being prepared to go out and fight basically, clean up. We have-- an airborne squadron is Jeep-mounted. And Jeeps-- it's not a very fightable equipment, but it gets you where you want to go. We also did something else too which I did not mention. My

maintenance technician, while we were in Saigon, went down and made a deal with a small depot that had personnel carriers.

[00:13:35.81] The personnel carriers were to go to the ARVN forces. But he was able to con the commander out of five personnel carriers-- six, really. Five were diesel and the sixth was gas. And we put those personnel carriers into my B troop. And the gas one stayed with the maintenance so they could work on it to learn how to deal with a personnel carrier. And then we painted the meanest looking eagle you've ever seen on the front of that personnel carrier-- each of them.

[00:14:08.47] And that scared the bejeezus out of a whole bunch of folk. They would hear them coming, chopping down the sugar canes. And we did a pretty good job, which meant that while we're not fighting, we've got to maintain those things. I said also we did not-- we picked up another troop. The one thing they did not let me do, they would not let me bring my air cav troop from Campbell because quote, "We don't have sufficient equipment to take care of you."

[00:14:40.01] But Barsanti said, OK, you can do that, but let me tell you something else. Becton will always have support-- helicopter support, any other kind of support. And I had it, which meant that-- we were to make a difference, big difference. In one of our battles, a sergeant major, at that time Specialist Bob Patterson-- later Sergeant Major Bob Patterson, Medal of Honor-- did a pretty good job. Again, I saw him not too long ago. We had another fellow in the division that I worked with, Paul Bucha. He too was a medal of honor winner.

[00:15:19.70] JOE GALLOWAY: That's right.

[00:15:23.06] JULIUS BECTON: So we had sufficient battle, is what I'm saying.

[00:15:26.25] JOE GALLOWAY: Plenty to keep you busy. What were your living conditions like?

[00:15:35.48] JULIUS BECTON: Well, it depends on what day you're talking about. I've put my butt in a trench just like everyone else to protect ourself from incoming fire. But we also had-- my Soldiers sort of felt that we had to have-- they mirror what the commander wanted-- me. I want creature comfort for my Soldiers. And we made sure that we were able to get that. Never lay down above the ground, because you get hurt that way. But we dug ourselves in.

[00:16:07.30] JOE GALLOWAY: It sounds like infantry to me.

[00:16:09.18] JULIUS BECTON: Well, hey, we're the only armored unit in the division. We got treated like--

[00:16:15.60] JOE GALLOWAY: What was the grub like, the food?

[00:16:19.00] JULIUS BECTON: We had 10 in 1 rations, occasionally a C-ration. My mess personnel did a great job of living off the land. And I just assume not go into detail on how we got the chickens and the other things, but our folks ate well.

[00:16:40.55] JOE GALLOWAY: Good. I'm assuming there was no larceny involved.

[00:16:45.29] JULIUS BECTON: There was no larceny involved whatsoever. The enemy just deserved to be done in.

[00:16:57.84] I work with ARVN, we worked with ARVN, army of Vietnamese. And I had high regard for what they were able to do. We kept them with us, their liaison, their scouts. We treated them as fellow soldiers. We were protective of the villages.

[00:17:29.08] We made sure they knew that we were over here not to become murderous to the local village folks. We wanted them to deal with those people. And we also would register artillery fire over their heads, smoke. And tell them-- they've already been advised that we're going to be coming in this area. Do not be there when we get there.

[00:17:57.23] And we-- our ARVN folks were able to explain, when they see some fires coming in, smoke, if they're still there, get for cover because the Americans are coming. It worked.

[00:18:17.68] JOE GALLOWAY: Can you describe significant actions that you participated in, and your unit? The biggest battles.

[00:18:26.64] JULIUS BECTON: Well, we were able to make sure that the area north of Hue was kept safe. They'd already been attacked, beat up, and everything else. And we were able to kick those guys out of the peninsula leading down to Hue.

[00:18:48.64] As a matter of fact, when I was the squadron commander, the Deputy Commander of MACV, a fellow named Abrams, he used to fly up once a week, landed his chopper where we were, and find out, OK, what are you doing this time?

[00:19:05.77] And that used to irritate the hell out of some people at division, and a few other places too. But we explained to him, we were using what I thought were pretty good tactics. We used our personnel carriers as a-- hammering folks coming in. We had the line set up where we were driving them against-- made up of infantry. And personnel carriers run pretty fast. They can cross water. They got a lot of firepower. And he liked that.

[00:19:33.37] And we would use helicopter assaults to-- with the personnel carriers on the ground driving in, a line over here, which is, they're not going to get through that. And we're bringing our assault aircraft in to cut them off.

[00:19:54.77] There was a book written by my communications officer, Bill Robertson. And I'm drawing a blank on his name, and I can-- if you can put it in later I'll give it to you, or it's in my book now. I can't recall the name of the book, but it's about the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cav.

[00:20:16.94] JOE GALLOWAY: Yeah.

[00:20:20.91] JULIUS BECTON: No other out of the way craziness. We were concerned about saving lives, our guys' lives, and making sure that we did what had to be done to the bad guys.

[00:20:38.95] JOE GALLOWAY: I recollect a story about your squadron being sort of depleted in manpower, and you kept sending for reinforcements and weren't getting any.

[00:20:53.68] JULIUS BECTON: Oh. It wasn't a major thing. What happened was I had gone on R&R to Bangkok. Did not go to Hawaii because Louise didn't want-- we got four kids, with a family. So she felt that unless they could be there, she wasn't going to be there either. So I went to Bangkok. When I came back--

[00:21:26.11] I've had a problem with one of the brigade commanders. And since he's still alive, I just assume not mention it. And he had-- we were op con to him, and he had basically fired the guy who I left in command. And when I came back and found that out, we had a long session with me screaming at the division commander, and the G1, a few other people. OK, OK, OK.

[00:21:58.05] So I got my XO back in the job that he should have had. And the next thing I heard that our replacements were cut off. I couldn't understand that, so I went down to see the G1 and the chief of staff. Why aren't we getting our people? Don't you know? No, I don't know. Why aren't we getting the people? The old man said don't give you any. For what?

[00:22:25.61] Apparently-- not apparently, what had happened, he had been out to a firefight, Barsanti. And Charlie Beckwith was a battalion commander, and Beckwith and Becton coming out from our division commander over radio sound a lot alike. And he had seen what Charlie was doing. And he was doing a pretty good job, but he also got some people hurt.

[00:22:54.18] And he got on his plane and said that, don't give him any more people. And when he said that, the folks back in the TOC and taking notes, who is he talking about? He said, Becton. And I wasn't out. We were doing our job pretty good.

[00:23:21.13] And it wasn't-- with that background, it took about a week before I found out that-- from my S1 we were not getting our people in, replacements in. I went down to see the chief of staff, the G1. And the chief went over to see the division commander to explain that when you were out before sir, and you said don't give Becton any more people, did you mean Becton or Beckwith? Oh, I meant Charlie Beckwith. Well, what about Becton? Don't give him anymore either.

[00:23:52.54] JOE GALLOWAY: [LAUGHS]

[00:23:55.29] JULIUS BECTON: So with that, that's one of the little stories. And that changed, by the way, very quickly after. But with Barsanti you don't want to-- he will not stand for you to - publicly to cross him. But those of us who went to talk with him, who knew him on a one on one, he's a very fine commander.

[00:24:23.52] Rice paddies. The VC, Viet Cong were very effective at coercing the citizens to do what they want to be done. You would never be able to determine where that person wearing black pajamas, so to speak, was a VC, Viet Cong, or a local member of the village, or both.

[00:24:54.42] We still did not have sufficient information that we could use for purposes of attacking. I'll give you an example of that. In one of my bivouac areas I had the guys behind the green doors, the people who read the other guy's mail.

[00:25:26.20] And on one occasion, and they were inside our wire. On one occasion they had picked up the fact that they're coming into the area, and had passed it to their higher headquarters, but didn't bother telling us that. And when I found out that they knew about it, and we didn't know about it. OK.

[00:25:51.93] I told the guy in charge, as of now you're sitting outside this wire until you recognize that we're part of the same team. And if you don't understand that, you're not coming back in the wire. He understood that. But we shouldn't have to go through that approach.

[00:26:10.61] They were following what was a rule from some place that I guess you can't tell the guy, I didn't have a security clearance to know that the bad guys are coming. Although I got the firepower that can do something about it.

[00:26:27.34] Yes. Getting some people in there that have done superbly well since then. One is a fellow, Mike Shaler. Mike recently, for the past 15 years, has been an adviser to quite a few chiefs of staff as a skilled people person. But when he came to the division, or came to the squadron, we were outside of Hue, and he came up the hill where we were located.

[00:27:02.29] He was told I was up at my hooch, and I was taking a shower under a 55 gallon drum, and you've seen how that works. But you can see everything out there. And when he gets up near where my hooch was he said, hey buddy, where's the old man? And I said, who are you looking for? Oh, the old man. You talking about the squadron commander? Yeah. You're looking at him. Oh, hell. Sir, can I start over again?

[00:27:34.33] He went back down the hill and came back up the hill. Sir, Captain Mike Shaler reporting for duty. It was just a delight, that kind of exchange that we had. And my guys who sent him up there had an idea he did not know who the squadron commander was, or what he looked like. And they didn't want to enlighten him. And so Mike comes in and-- matter of fact, I just talked to Mike three days ago.

[00:28:06.16] The day that I left the squadron. They had a policy: six months in command. And we have been doing a superb job, we won every Presidential Unit award that you can get. I mentioned the fact, we had one Medal of Honor. We had-- a couple of troop commanders had Distinguished Service Crosses.

[00:28:30.00] They fought hard. They were loyal to each other. And I think the proof of that is the fact we're still meeting-- few years from 1967, '68 to now. And that was a tough day when I left, tough for me, and it was tough for them, as I think what they have written about it. My operations sergeant, who had been the platoon sergeant for my air rifle platoon, I shouldn't mention the fact that I could not bring my air rifle troop in, but I kept the air rifle platoon.



[00:29:09.99] I reassigned them as cooks, and clerks, and mechanics, and when we got overseas, put them back together again, and they became my firefighters. But anyhow, the platoon sergeant went from that to become operations sergeant, to really the sergeant major in the field.

[00:29:34.51] He came with me on my air-- on my helicopter from where I turned over command down to 3rd Brigade, where I was assigned deputy commander. It was the kind of a trip that he sat on one side of the slick, a helicopter, no doors, and I sat on the other side. He didn't say anything and I didn't say anything. It was a very emotional time for me and for a lot of people. That was a bad day for me.

[00:30:11.20] JOE GALLOWAY: How much contact did you have with your family back home during your tour?

[00:30:19.99] JULIUS BECTON: While in Vietnam, letters. We didn't have email in those days. We didn't have all the other fancy things you got. Didn't even have MARS stations where we were. But we exchanged-- Louise wrote daily. You know? I did not write every day, but I-- we did a pretty good job of communicating that way.

[00:30:54.39] JOE GALLOWAY: How much news did you receive about the war from home?

[00:31:01.30] JULIUS BECTON: Already said that the battle of Tet got-- somewhere between Vietnam and backstage, something got lost, because we kicked their butt. But that's not the way that the folks heard about it. I had a-- during the period of time when, before Hue, we were very successful, some reporters came out.

[00:31:28.90] A reporter came out from the Chicago Defender. He'd been told about our unit, and so he came. Public affairs brought him up there, and left him. Fine by me. And what do you want to do? I'd like to talk to your Soldiers. OK, you're already out there. Go talk to them. Who gonna be with me? Hey, I'm not going to be there. You need somebody to protect you? Just go talk to them.

[00:31:57.64] And some were on the front lines, too, back in foxholes. And he spent the afternoon with our unit. When night came he called to public affairs, they sent a chopper up to pick him up, take him back. No one has ever seen one word written by that person.

[00:32:21.74] And it's our guess that now he'd been told some things about this squadron, this battalion equivalent, commanded by a black man, the only one in the division, I might add. And he probably had his own idea what kind of unit this would be. And that unit, the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cav, did not meet what his expectations were.

[00:32:48.69] JOE GALLOWAY: How do you think the Vietnam War is remembered today in America?

[00:32:56.08] JULIUS BECTON: Considering the attitude of people when we came home, that's ancient history to many folk. And the youngsters, all they know about is what they read. And so it probably doesn't have the impact that it should have. I would like to see-- the facts are that--

when more people like Colin are speaking, letting people know what really happened. And that we didn't get our butts kicked, we-- the Congress failed to support.

[00:33:29.00] JOE GALLOWAY: Did you take away from Vietnam more that was positive and useful than you invested in blood, sweat, and tears?

[00:33:42.52] JULIUS BECTON: I think when you consider that we have people who are talking like-- to the Colin Powells of the world, and what they were able subsequently to do, that we would not repeat in Vietnam, then yes, we took away more than what we invested.

[00:34:08.71] JOE GALLOWAY: What lessons from your Vietnam experience would you like to pass along to future generations of Americans?

[00:34:22.68] JULIUS BECTON: I mentioned one earlier about my disagreement with the folks in the ASA not telling the guy on the ground who-- what he's faced with. I think we've got that message. I can also recall after leaving my squadron and becoming the deputy commander of the 3rd Brigade, that we had a plan concocted to go after the bad guy when he crossed the border--

[00:34:49.16] and we already talked about border-- in hot pursuit, we can catch them. And it went all the way up as far as I know, past division, but at the 11th hour, don't do that. Because we got tired of those guys coming over, hitting us, then running back across the border.

[00:35:07.31] JOE GALLOWAY: That went probably way past division, because in 1965 we ran it all the way to the White House, and the word came back, don't you dare.

[00:35:19.55] JULIUS BECTON: Well, I thought we had a pretty good relationship with those people. So make it happen. OK.

[00:35:29.04] JOE GALLOWAY: Have you been to the Vietnam War Memorial, the Wall?

[00:35:32.69] JULIUS BECTON: I have. I must admit that it took me a long time to go visit.

[00:35:38.21] JOE GALLOWAY: What are your impressions when you go there?

[00:35:42.12] JULIUS BECTON: It's impressive. I have names on that Wall that were in my command, and I knew them personally. And each time we have a reunion in the Washington area, we have one here about every six, seven, eight years, we spend time down at the Wall.

[00:36:06.61] And our unit was a close knit unit. I say that even though I joined them at Campbell, and we trained, and then came overseas, and I was not originally an airborne Soldier, and I'd never been originally cavalrymen, but I was new in both of those. And that was 1967. We still meet in 2014.

[00:36:38.20] I met with the man I mentioned to you, Ted Atkinson. He was visiting one of our troops in Vegas. And we're going to meet again this coming May at Campbell. The 101st are

going to have the week of the Eagle, which they have every once in a while, and we'll come back.

[00:36:56.56] And the only thing that's different about today, we're older. The lies get bigger. The war stories get more out of control. And my Louise, who normally goes with me to the ones for the headquarters troop, got a different perspective when she went to Vegas a couple of months ago and heard some of the folks from B Troop talking about what we did. She got a new respect for what they did.

[00:37:32.08] JOE GALLOWAY: Have heard about this 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration?

[00:37:38.33] JULIUS BECTON: Frankly, I have not until I guess Mick may have mentioned it to me, or I got your letter or something. I have not seen anything in the public arena.

[00:37:51.01] JOE GALLOWAY: You think it is a good thing?

[00:37:52.84] JULIUS BECTON: Yes, I think it's a good thing. I think it's something we should have done a long time ago.

[00:37:58.07] JOE GALLOWAY: Thank you, sir.