

Dartmouth College Oral History Project
The War Years at Dartmouth
Interview with Warren Daniell '48
By Mary Donin
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DANIELL: My father went to Dartmouth. He was very enamored of it. He kept in touch with his class. And the only question was when I would come. Because I graduated from high school in Millinocket, Maine, in 1943, at the age of 16. My parents thought probably I wasn't ready for college. So they sent me to Phillips Exeter Academy for a year. I then applied to Dartmouth. I also had a very Harvard-oriented professor at Phillips Exeter, and he went around the table once and asked everybody where they wanted to go to school. I told him I was planning to go to Dartmouth. He looked at me and said, "It's a good place for you." Now what he meant by that, I have no idea. [Laughter] So I applied only to Dartmouth and expected to be accepted. I remember that in order to apply basically I had to fill out a routine form and write a one- or two-page essay on why I wanted to go to Dartmouth. And obviously it didn't turn them off, so here I am.

DONIN: Had you spent time on campus before you applied?

DANIELL: I had visited campus with my father once or twice, not a great deal. No.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. So you arrived here.... Well, you arrived here either in the spring or the summer of 1944.

DANIELL: Arrived here in July '44.

DONIN: So that was the bigger section of the class that came.

DANIELL: Yes, it was. Yes, yes.

DONIN: I guess there were about 35 who came in the spring, something like that.

DANIELL: You know the number better than I.

DONIN: And then the larger group arrived in the summer.

DANIELL: Right, right.

DONIN: And you were part of that group.

DANIELL: I was, yes, yes.

DONIN: So at that point the school, it was going year round or not?

DANIELL: Yes, it was. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: 'Forty-four.

DANIELL: They were probably pushed into it by the military. But anyway, I was told if I wanted to get started, because I'd already received my draft papers. I knew I was going to go into the service in the fall. So I decided I'd like to get a semester in just so I'd have a place to come back to after I was in the service.

DONIN: So you'd been drafted.

DANIELL: I was going to be drafted. Yes, yes. I went to the draft board, and they told me I could expect to be called up in December. So I decided—it was a six-month wait—and I decided I'd get a semester in here. And then I went home and did some interesting things, and then went into the Navy.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Did you do any military training here?

DANIELL: No.

DONIN: No. So you weren't part of the V-12 program or anything like that.

DANIELL: No, I was not. I was strictly a civilian.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

DANIELL: And I think there were maybe two or three hundred others who were here at the time from my class.

DONIN: Who were civilians.

DANIELL: Who were civilians, right.

DONIN: Right. So what dorm were you in as a freshman?

DANIELL: I was in Wheeler, fourth floor.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: I think it was 404, but I'm not sure of that. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And so the students who were here training with V-12 were housed separately from the civilians. Is that right?

DANIELL: We had three civilian dormitories: Crosby and Wheeler and Richardson.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: And I think they were all civilians. I don't remember any military. And the entire rest of the campus, as I understand it, was turned over to the military. I don't know where the upperclassmen who were here because they were deferred from the draft or were returning veterans, I don't know where they were at the time. But we were in those three dorms.

DONIN: And the classes that you took that term, was it all with civilians, or were you mixed in with the military?

DANIELL: I believe it was all civilians. I was trying to recollect what they were, and I'm sure in the records you have them. But I know there was math and there was Spanish and there was English. I think probably that's all I took, although I'm not sure. Maybe I had to take five classes. I just don't remember.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And they were compressing a lot of the classes sort of trying to get you through faster.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: You know even each term, I gather.

DANIELL: Yes. And I was compressed in this sense: I was here for one semester, and then I went into the Navy. I went to electronics school and took one or two correspondence courses. And when I came back in the fall of '46, they said, "No, you're a first term freshman." So basically I lost a semester. And what it meant to me was that I lost a semester of electives.

DONIN: Huh! I thought you got points for military duty.

DANIELL: I don't know how it worked out. But anyway, that's what they told me, and that's what I accepted. So I came back, I was here four more years, two in the college and two down at Thayer School.

DONIN: Oh, I see. Okay. Did you know, before the electronic training that you had in the military, was that what you were heading for in terms of a career?

DANIELL: Absolutely not.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: When I went to the draft board, and it probably was in June, I don't know, they said, Okay. You're scheduled to be drafted. You're nearsighted, so you'll probably go into the Army. But we have a couple of tests that we'd like you to take. So I took a test called the Eddy Test.

DONIN: The what?

DANIELL: Eddy, E-D-D-Y Test. On the basis of that test, I was found to be smart enough or dumb enough or something to become an electronics technician. So that pushed me into the Navy, which was very fortunate, frankly. Because when I went into the service, after a month of boot camp, they immediately sent me to school, and I was in three separate schools. Ended up with a second-class petty officer rating. And by the time I got out of school, the war was over. So I tell people I'm a veteran of the Battle of Lake Michigan because I was in Chicago. And of the Gulf of Mexico because I was in Mississippi. But, you know, that's just luck. I was fortunate.

DONIN: Great timing.

DANIELL: Yes. Great timing, yes.

DONIN: Wow! And you learned a real skill.

DANIELL: I learned a skill. It taught me that I did not want to be an electrical engineer. But whether that was a mistake or not, I don't know. I was in on the very leading edge of computers.

DONIN: Ah.

DANIELL: Because eventually I ended up on a ship that was used to—it was an experimental ship. And what they had on that ship were anti-aircraft guns that were tied into computers. The gun would point at a plane, the computer would track how fast the plane was going and the direction it was going in and put that information back into the computer. The computer would calculate where the plane was going to be at a certain point in time. It would point the gun at that point ahead of the plane. And then it would fire the gun. Not at the plane, but at a target behind the plane. Then my job started because all of the computers had what they called vacuum tubes. Do you know what a vacuum tube—? This was a precursor of transistors and chips and other things. They were tubes that stuck in a radio or a computer and so forth.

DONIN: Oh, they were glass!

DANIELL: They were glass, right.

DONIN: I remember those.

DANIELL: And every time the gun fired, the tubes broke. So I would run in and replace all the tubes, and basically that's what I learned how to do.

DONIN: I see.

DANIELL: I may be exaggerating a bit. But that was the principle thing I had to do.

DONIN: That was your contribution.

DANIELL: To make sure the tubes were all working. Yes.

DONIN: So you came back here and started all over again.

DANIELL: Well, as a sophomore.

DONIN: But you said they told you, you had to be a first-semester—

DANIELL: Sophomore.

DONIN: Oh, sophomore! I thought you said freshman.

DANIELL: No, no.

DONIN: Oh, oh, oh. First-semester sophomore. Oh, okay. So you did get credit.

DANIELL: I did get credit, right.

DONIN: Great. Okay. And were you back in the same dorm, different dorm?

DANIELL: No. I was in Middle Mass for two years. And then I moved down to Thayer School, and I was in the dormitory down there, Stell I think, for two years.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. How different was the campus when you returned from when you left?

DANIELL: Except for the fact that there weren't any uniformed people parading around, it was the same.

DONIN: They were back up to a full complement of regular students at that point.

DANIELL: But they were overcrowded because they not only had the class of '50 and '51 coming in, but they had all the returning veterans.

DONIN: Sure.

DANIELL: So it was a very crowded class. But they managed it very well, I thought. Yes.

DONIN: And at that point your—Let's see, you came in '44.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: And when did you graduate?

DANIELL: I graduated in '49.

DONIN: Ah ha. Yes.

DANIELL: Because basically I was in the Navy for the better part of two years.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: And so I slipped a year. And I had the choice of being '49 or '48. Because I kept many of the friendships that I formed that first semester here, I decided to stay in '48, and I've never regretted it.

DONIN: Right, right. I just interviewed somebody that did that. Who was just here?

DANIELL: Was it Pete Foster?

DONIN: No, I did Pete Foster.

DANIELL: Yes. Uh-huh.

DONIN: This was somebody this week. I'll have to look it up. It's all becoming a blur to me because I forget who I'm doing from day to day.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: But someone—oh, that's going to drive me crazy. Well, I'll remember.

DANIELL: Alright.

DONIN: Anyway, so this class business got all sort of mixed up because people were coming and going.

DANIELL: That's right.

DONIN: Was it your impression that most people decided to stick with their original class?

DANIELL: Yes, I would say they did. I don't think there's any question about that. But I still have good friends who for one reason or another decided to stay with '49. And a few that started in '44 but never went into the service and graduated in '47 and decided to stay with that class. But I think the vast majority of those who came in as '48s, did stay as '48s.

DONIN: So you missed the commencement exercises of '48.

DANIELL: Of '48, yes.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: So you went to commencement with the Class of '49?

DANIELL: Yes. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: Uh-huh. And was that held in the Bema or was it held on Baker lawn? Do you remember?

DANIELL: I would guess that was in the Bema.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: But I don't know that for sure. I'm sure you have records that will tell you that.

DONIN: Right. And at this point, when you were here initially, it was still, of course, Ernest Martin Hopkins.

DANIELL: Yes, it was.

DONIN: As president.

DANIELL: Right.

DONIN: But then while you were gone, the college had a new president.

DANIELL: I don't know. What year did—

DONIN: [John Sloan] Dickey came in in—he began in November of 1945.

DANIELL: Okay, fine. So he was president when I came back. But I do remember attending a couple of occasions where Ernest Martin Hopkins was the president.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. What was your impression of him? Any memories?

DANIELL: Oh, I held him in awe. He looked like a president. He acted like a president. I don't think I ever talked to him personally. But he was up there, and I was down here. And he was somebody to listen to and to pay attention to and to fear about going to him if you didn't behave. So I behaved. [Laughs]

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: Right. Yes.

DONIN: Now he must have been president when your father was here then, too.

DANIELL: I doubt that. No, Dad was here from '18 to '22. I don't know when Hopkins started the presidency.

DONIN: Yes. I'll bet he started about 19— Well, he'd been here for.... He's Class of 1901.

DANIELL: You're talking a period of 25 years or so.

DONIN: Yes, he was here for a long time. I'll bet he was the president when your father was president, too—was a student here.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And what were your impressions of Dickey as compared to Hopkins? I mean did you have any more interaction with him? Or was he more approachable?

DANIELL: I don't recollect any personal interaction. But Dickey was a mover and a shaker. And basically he picked the college up from the Depression and war years and started going ahead. One of the very positive impressions I had of the college and—I'm sure you've heard this before—was the Great Issues course, when Dickey was able to bring in practically everybody of positive notoriety in the government and so forth. It was a tremendous experience to listen to all those people.

DONIN: Great Issues was for seniors, right? You did that in your senior year?

DANIELL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. No, my senior year I was down at Thayer. But I still took the Great Issues course in the college.

DONIN: In addition to your Thayer courses.

DANIELL: Well, it was fitted in. The Thayer program respected the commitment for Great Issues. It was one of the courses that I took, as did all the other people who were with me in Thayer, first-year Thayer students at that time.

DONIN: Now when you graduated, were you getting a bachelor's or did you end up with a master's?

DANIELL: I got an A.B. from Dartmouth and a Master of Science from Thayer.

DONIN: Simultaneously?

DANIELL: No, not simultaneously.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

DANIELL: I got the Dartmouth degree in '49 and the Thayer School, the Thayer degree, in '50.

DONIN: I see, so you stayed an extra year to do the master's.

DANIELL: And that's the way it was at that time. It's pretty much the same now, I think, for Dartmouth graduates—undergraduates—who go on to Thayer. They get their degree from Dartmouth, and then a year later they get their degree from Thayer.

DONIN: So it's really a fifth year they do to get the master's.

DANIELL: That's right. Yes. So I was one of those.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And what was the social life here like when you came back and all the veterans were here and lots of sort of—

DANIELL: It was heavily oriented towards fraternities.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: Of course it was just men at that time except on weekends and so forth. And it was limited, I think, in the sense that the fraternities did not have enough capacity to take care of all the students. I didn't happen to join a fraternity. I would have in the sophomore year if I'd been invited. By junior year I was invited, but I decided I didn't want to. And I found basically between my athletic activities, the track and cross-country team, which overlapped with my Thayer activities, I got all the social experience that I wanted.

DONIN: Well, being committed to an athletic team is a big time commitment as well.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm. Yes.

DONIN: Did you start doing that when you were a freshman as well, or did you wait?

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

DANIELL: Yes, yes. And I think during the summer of '44—I was just cross country, of course. And that was under a fellow named Harry Hillman.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

DANIELL: Do you remember that name?

DONIN: Yes.

DANIELL: I'm one of the few people you've talked to who actually had the experience of running under Harry Hillman.

DONIN: Fantastic!

DANIELL: But we had some Navy people on that team as well as civilians.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: It wasn't a very good team. [Laughs]

DONIN: Really!

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Because a lot of people have said that having these military guys here on these teams really raised their performance.

DANIELL: Okay. That was true. And it was true through '43. In '44 when I'm here, the Navy decided we don't want the old-timers on this campus. We want the young people. So the V-12 in '44, which consisted then of people my age, just out of college [high school]. So suddenly they didn't have these people who had two or three years of athletic experience. And one of the end results of that, of course, was that in '43, Dartmouth had a tremendous football team. So they scheduled Notre Dame. And they played Notre Dame in '44 and got beaten by a large margin. And played them in '45 in South Bend. At that time I was stationed in Chicago in the Navy, so I went down and saw the Dartmouth-Notre Dame football game. What I remember about that is at the end of the first period, the score was 35 to nothing.

DONIN: Oh!

DANIELL: So.... [Laughs]

DONIN: Fantastic.

DANIELL: And you know who was ahead. [Laughter]

DONIN: Right. I didn't realize that.

DANIELL: Because the Dartmouth team at that time consisted of kids who were just a year out of high school.

DONIN: Right, right.

DANIELL: Be they Navy or civilians.

DONIN: Right. Times had changed.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Back to the reality of college sports.

DANIELL: Right.

DONIN: I see. So your social life was successful despite the fact that there was no fraternity connection. That's interesting.

DANIELL: Towards the end, yes. I was a little bit lonely the sophomore year.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: But after the sophomore year, it was all right.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Now, was there any socializing between the local girls and the Dartmouth guys? You know the high school girls and daughters of faculty and that sort of thing?

DANIELL: Okay. I didn't do any dating the first year. As time went on, yes, I did socialize with the local girls. But basically I think they were either teachers or hospital girls, nurses, nurses' aides, and so forth.

DONIN: Oh, of course, the nurses, yes.

DANIELL: Yes, mm-hmm.

DONIN: Yes. And then of course there were the famous road trips that everybody talks about.

DANIELL: I married a girl from Mount Holyoke.

DONIN: Oh, did you?

DANIELL: Right.

DONIN: Did you meet her while you were here?

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh. That's great. Did she come up and spend weekends here?

DANIELL: I was part of the Canoe Club. And we invited—and this was I think in my second year of Thayer School. Anyway, we invited the Mount Holyoke Outing Club to come up.

DONIN: Oh!

DANIELL: And we went to a football game, and she—I didn't know her—but she happened to be sitting in front of me. And she happened to stand up several times and get in my way. So finally—and this is the story we tell—I put my hands on her shoulders and said to her, "Would you please sit down." [Laughter]

DONIN: And the rest is history.

DANIELL: [Laughs] And 60-odd years later we're still married. [Laughter]

DONIN: That's great. I guess there were a lot of encounters like that.

DANIELL: That's right. Yes.

DONIN: That's terrific. So did the Outing Club play a big role in your life here?

DANIELL: More the Canoe Club. Yes, I was a member of both. Yes, I'd say it played a fairly big role.

DONIN: It seems that it filled a huge need, not just for the physical exercise, but for the companionship.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Of one another.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: That it was a very valuable experience for many students.

DANIELL: Right, right. I was up for Class Officers' weekend, earlier this year, and a fellow came up and approached me and said, "You were the Outing Club guy who led my freshman trip." I didn't remember him, but.... I didn't remember that I'd led a freshman trip. But obviously I must have. Because he had the story all right.

DONIN: Amazing.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

DONIN: Yes. That's great. And it's still going strong.

DANIELL: Yes.

- DONIN: That's what's so nice.
- DANIELL: That's right.
- DONIN: Okay, let's see here. What have we not talked about? We talked about sports. Did you feel like you were a different student when you came back from military training?
- DANIELL: Ah, I was readier for college because I was two years older when I came back after military training. And, you know, I'd seen the country. I got onto the ocean but never got overseas. Yah, I would say, but nothing extraordinary. I was still feeling my way.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. And was there any sense of.... People talk about a sense of sort of not urgency, but real focus when they came back, and wanting to sort of get on with that and get done with it and move on with your life.
- DANIELL: I don't think I had a sense of urgency. I had early on made up my mind that I was going to go to Thayer and that I was going to be a civil engineer. And I knew that I had four years ahead of me when I came back in the fall of '46. I just took the four years as it came and did my best, and it turned out to be okay. And was ready to go out into the world when I got my—when I graduated from Thayer.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. Now did you ever participate in any of those sort of traditions of how, I guess, the freshmen were treated by the upperclassmen? Stories of, you know, they always had to wear their beanies and help you move into your dorms carrying your furniture and that sort of thing.
- DANIELL: Well, you'll have to remember that when I was here as a freshman, there were very few upperclassmen on board.
- DONIN: Right, right.
- DANIELL: And I don't remember any hazing, if that's what you call it. I don't know whether there was any or not. But I simply do not remember any of it.
- DONIN: How about when you came back? Was there the same treatment going on of the freshman?
- DANIELL: Again, I don't remember that we did.
- DONIN: You don't remember.
- DANIELL: No. No, you tell me. Was there at that time?

DONIN: Apparently there was, although they were selective in the sense that, you know, they had a lot of freshman who were four years older than they should have been because they'd done their military service.

DANIELL: That's right. Yes, yes, yes.

DONIN: And these guys that had been through war were not really interested in walking around with a beanie on their head.

DANIELL: Right, right.

DONIN: And in fact some of them, I think, according to these stories, they continued to wear their uniforms here. Mostly because they were broke, and they were good quality uniforms that were warm. And they wore them here on campus.

DANIELL: Well, the GI Bill was pretty generous.

DONIN: Yes.

DANIELL: And gave us a monthly stipend and paid for our tuition. I remember my final year the tuition was \$50 more than the GI Bill gave to me, so I had to pay \$50 a semester for my last year.

DONIN; Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: My recollection is that they allowed you up to 500, and the tuition was 550 for a term. Mm-hmm. So I paid the 50.

DONIN: Mmm. Did you have any part-time jobs while you were here?

DANIELL: During my summer here, when I was a civilian and hadn't been in the military, I worked in the lunchroom of the Hanover Inn.

DONIN: Oh!

DANIELL: And was a busboy there.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: I don't believe I worked at all after I came back. I had my studies. I got the monthly checks. I had jobs during the summer, but they were not on campus.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Yes, of course by this time they'd gone back to the regular semesters with nothing going on during the summers.

DANIELL: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: Right, right. Let's see here.

DANIELL: There's one exception to that.

DONIN: What's that?

DANIELL: Between my last two years, the Thayer School had a summer school for surveying.

DONIN: Oh.

DANIELL: So I was here during the summer, part of the summer, from '48 to '49.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And you did the surveying training.

DANIELL: This was the summer of '49.

DONIN: 'Forty-nine, right.

DANIELL: I did the surveying training right here in Hanover.

DONIN: Were you able to stay in a dorm?

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh. They kept the dorm open.

DANIELL: I say that quickly, but I can't conceive of what it would have been like otherwise.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: I stayed—I lived in Stell. I think that's one of the dormitories down there, down at the Thayer. Tuck and Thayer students intermingled in the dormitories, and I lived down there.

DONIN: Uh-huh. So there must have been other—were there other summer programs going on, that Tuck was running maybe?

DANIELL: I don't know. I can't remember that.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

DANIELL: But my entire Thayer class, which consisted of 23 students, was back.

DONIN: Is that right!

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Oh.... Small.

DANIELL: Yes.

DONIN: Were the classes always small? Or was that as a result of less enrollment because of the war?

DANIELL: Probably a combination of the two. But by the time I was down there— see, I graduated from Thayer in '50—there were students not only who'd started in '46 but students who had come during the war, left and then come back.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. So it was a real mixture.

DANIELL: Yes. Now when I say there were 23 of us in the civil engineering class, the school itself was larger than that.

DONIN: Sure, sure. But this was just for the civil engineering.

DANIELL: Whether they came back for a summer session or not, I don't know.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: But we came back for a summer session that was limited to surveying.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Hmm. And this wasn't meant to make up something that was missing.

DANIELL: No, no. This was part of the normal curriculum at the time.

DONIN: I see. Okay. So did you have any memorable professors that really meant a lot to you as an undergrad or at Thayer?

DANIELL: At Thayer, yes. The dean was Bill Kimball, and he was excellent. Russ Stearns was the professor of civil engineering. And I had the privilege maybe 15 years after I got out of Thayer School to hire him to do some work for me.

DONIN: Oh, great!

DANIELL: And Joe Ermenc, a very.... Are these names that are all familiar to you?

DONIN: Yes, yes.

DANIELL: Very studious, very proper, but still an excellent professor. A fellow named Rich Moulton, who left shortly after I did. A couple of others who weren't so good, so I won't mention them.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: And John Minnich, who was certainly as good as any of them.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: Yes. So it was a good civil engineering group.

DONIN: Right.

DANIELL: In terms of the college, I remember a few of them, but not very many. I mean the classes were so large. I remember the courses I took more than the professors. I had chemistry from a fellow named Richardson who taught me I didn't want to be a chemist. [Laughter] I could scratch out the names of some of the others if I thought very hard about it. If you'd prepped me on that question beforehand, I probably could have remembered.

DONIN: Oh, no, we can get the ORC. But some people have, you know, they respond and say, Oh, yes, absolutely, you know, such-and-such.

DANIELL: I had an excellent math professor, a fellow named Major. That name ring a bell?

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Yes.

DANIELL: Okay.

DONIN: Good. Math's an important part of engineering.

DANIELL: It certainly is, yes.

DONIN: That's good. Good preparation.

DANIELL: Right. Where'd you go to college?

DONIN: Well, I moved around a little, but I ultimately graduated from Boston University.

DANIELL: Oh, okay. Fine. I decided—I was working in Boston—I decided I might like to get an MBA, so I started at Boston University. After one semester I decided I'm not going to... Too many other things in life. So I didn't want to....

DONIN: I didn't even know they had a... Did they have a business school?

DANIELL: This was—yes. This was a graduate school.

DONIN: Yes. Huh! I knew they had a law school.

- DANIELL: Yes. Whether they still have it or not, I don't know. This was a graduate program, evening courses and so forth.
- DONIN: Right, right.
- DANIELL: I just had too many other things going on in my life.
- DONIN: Right. Okay. Let's see here. So do you think that—it must have been a challenge for the college when you came back, as soon as the war was over basically, they had this deluge of veterans of all ages and stripes.
- DANIELL: That's right.
- DONIN: I mean some of them were, I gather, some of the people that came here initially with the V-12 program and the V-5 program wanted to come back here as regular students.
- DANIELL: Many of our classmates were that way.
- DONIN: Right.
- DANIELL: Yes.
- DONIN: And then you've got the traditional civilians that were enrolling. And they had a real interesting mix of students here that they had to educate.
- DANIELL: Yes, it was very crowded.
- DONIN: Yes.
- DANIELL: I don't know how many students were on campus, but I know that we doubled up in rooms. It was obviously a situation that they had to cope with, where they had to respond to all of the people who had matriculated earlier and had gone in the service and wanted to come back. And also keep a reasonable level of ordinary freshmen coming in.
- DONIN: Right. And meet the very different needs of brand-new young men who'd never been away from home probably.
- DANIELL: Right.
- DONIN: All the way through to, you know, adult males.
- DANIELL: That's right.
- DONIN: That had seen terrible things in war and been around the world and dealing with the aftermath of having probably.... Don't you think it must have been very difficult to meet not just the educational needs but the social needs. I mean I can't imagine—

- DANIELL: Yes.
- DONIN: —an adult male wants to hang out with a bunch of 17-year-old freshmen when they're socializing.
- DANIELL: Mm-hmm.
- DONIN: I mean were you aware of this being a problem, of how the college was sort of mainstreaming all these people into the life of the college?
- DANIELL: I guess you can say that.... My recollection is they did a much more successful job in the classroom than they perhaps did socially.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- DANIELL: Because in the classroom they had an excellent group of teachers. The classes were larger than they would like to have had them. But still they were good. And I feel that my education was not stinted at all. Socially, you had the fraternities that could accommodate maybe half the students. Not all the students who wanted to join fraternities could—or did. And that was something that was a problem then; it's a problem now, I guess, too. They still are trying to figure out how the fraternities should fit into the campus.
- DONIN: Exactly. It's an ongoing problem, the whole social question here.
- DANIELL: Right, right.
- DONIN: The dominance of—or lack of it—by the fraternities. Well, I think we've covered everything.
- DANIELL: You've asked all your questions? Good.
- DONIN: Unless you've got any other comments or thoughts or memories or special things that happened here that you'd like to record? That would be important. I mean you know this is going to be used as a source for scholars and students.
- DANIELL: From my own vantage point, and looking back on the time that I had here, I felt—I received much more personal attention when I was down at Thayer School than in the college. Not that I suffered from it. But it was both educationally and socially a more rewarding experience for my last two years than it was for the first two years after I came back from the service.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.

DANIELL: I remember the summer of '44 as being a lot of fun. I was only here for a short time, but we were all in the same boat. We were all naïve civilians. We had all these military people floating around us. But that was a pleasant experience. I've never regretted coming to Dartmouth. My daughter—we have one child—she came to Dartmouth. She didn't have a very good experience here because she was an only child. She's somewhat of an idealist. And she was in the second female class.

DONIN: Oh! Tough going.

DANIELL: And it was tough on her. But she stuck it out, and she's been successful. And I think she never regrets the education she got. She probably wishes she had gone somewhere else. But she's a better person for having been here.

[End of Interview]