Dartmouth College Oral History Project The War Years at Dartmouth Interview with Dean Merrill '49 By Mary Donin February 11, 2008

- MERRILL: I graduated from Thayer Academy in June of 1943 and I had already been accepted at Dartmouth. But in March—I was 17 the first of March. And less than a week later I enlisted in the Marine Corps for the Marine V-12 program, which sent me to Dartmouth anyhow, which was just a coincidence really because there were a number of schools around that had V-12 programs. So I came up here in July of '43 and was living in Topliff Hall, which was all Marines at that time. Topliff, New Hamp and South Fayerweather were all Marine V-12 students.
- DONIN: Uh-huh. So there were no civilians in your dorm.
- MERRILL: Well, not in the dorms, no. There were some dorms that were-There were three dorms that were all Marine Corps; there were about half a dozen dorms that were all Navy because the Navy program was much bigger. As I recall it was around 12- or 1500, and there were 600 Marines. But there was a core of enlisted-I don't mean enlisted, excuse me-of civilian students who were still here. And there was quite a scattering of people from the Navy V-5 program which was a college into naval aviation program. That phased out, I think, soon after. But it was a pre-engineering program for us. Engineering was not my forte [laughs]. I had problems with math and physics. And besides I was afraid that the war would be over before I got into it. But anyhow, all of these combined facts left me out of it at the end of second semester which was just before Christmas. So I flunked out, and some of my best friends had done the same thing. So I was sent to San Diego for recruit training. And went through that and up to Camp Pendleton to be trained as an artillery control man. I guess just the fact that I'd graduated from high school and had some college, they thought I was all right for that. And I did. I trained for that and went overseas in June, I think it was, of '44, in a replacement draft, and joined the Fifth 155 mm Howitzer Battalion, part of the Fifth Amphibious Corps Artillery in Hawaii, the big island. And we were training-or they were training there-for an operation that we did not know which one it was at that time. As it turned out, that battalion was all full of artillery control men, so I spent the rest of my

time overseas on a 50-caliber machine gun crew. We started to load out in September for some unknown operation out of Hilo, Hawaii. And we left Hilo in a convoy, oh, sometime later that month. In a convoy situation saw most of the Pacific. I know we stopped at the Russell Islands, and we stopped at the Marshall Islands. And we still weren't sure where we were going. But it soon became apparent-or we were notified-that we were going into the island of Leyte in the Philippines. It was the first operation in the Philippine Islands. Levte was essentially an Army operation. But for some reason two battalions of artillery were loaned to the Army for this operation. And it was my 155 Howitzer Battalion and the Eleventh 155 Gun Battalion. We landed in Leyte on D-Day, October 20, 1944. And got into-we were firing, the guns were in action on the morning of the second day. We moved-we displaced at least three times. And during this time, particularly after the second displacement, the Naval battle of Leyte Gulf was going on. And all of the amphibious ships that had dropped us off at the beachhead were unloading supplies, all of those ships skedaddled out of there because of the threat from the Japanese fleet. So we had no support there for about three weeks, as I recall. It might have been something over two weeks. But at any rate, we finally did get the upper hand in that battle. And we did get our air support back and so forth. Along about the middle of November, I came down withwhat was it?

- MRS. MERRILL: Dengue fever.
- MERRILL: Dengue fever.
- DONIN: What's that?
- MERRILL: Dengue, D-E-N-G-U-E. It's similar to malaria except it's different. It's a tropical fever. And I was sent to an Army hospital. And I remember one night. The hospital, as it turned out, was in a church, a Catholic church, in a little Philippine town. And I remember one night some Japanese infiltrators had gotten into this village and had blown up part of an Army ammunition dump. And in the bunk next to me was an Army staff sergeant who had been—just had his appendix removed. And when this explosion occurred, he rolled out onto the floor. He was going to get out of the way. And I'm not sure what that did to that little stitching area there. But anyhow, in the meantime, the operation was pretty well secured. The island was pretty well secured. And I remember one of the officers came over in a Jeep to get me because the battalion was pulling out. We got

on a Coast Guard-manned LST, which was the dirtiest ship I think I've ever been on, and I'd been on a few of them before and since. But anyhow, we came back by convoy to the island of Guam and arrived there just before Christmas. But there was apparently a threat of spinal meningitis somewhere in the convoy, and we were quarantined there for several weeks, including Christmas and New Year's. [Laughs] No, not New Year's. We got ashore just before New Year's was over. And I was sent to the hospital or the Third Medical Battalion: the Third Marine Division was there at the time. And I remember being there on New Year's Eve, and all the corpsmen were celebrating the occasion. And if anybody had had a relapse that night, I'm not sure how they would have made out. But at any rate, we had a new camp, tent camp, that had been set up, and we improved it, both battalions and the headquarters battery. And we were getting ready for the invasion of Japan. We were scheduled to go into the island of Honshu sometime-I can't remember when it was going to happen. But it was sometime in the fall as I recall. And of course the war ended in August. So that never came to be.

- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- MERRILL: In the meantime, since the war was over, they started shipping people home. And there was a situation.... The order in which people got to go home was based on how long you'd served.
- DONIN: Yes.
- MERRILL: And there was a system of points. You probably have heard of that. You had points for how many months you'd been in the service; points for being overseas; points for combat operations; points for a number of other things. I remember I had a 164 points. I don't know why that number sticks in my mind. But at any rate, I didn't get to go home until January.
- DONIN: So this is '46 now.
- MERRILL: It was now January of '46. Yes, because I was there the whole year of '45.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

MERRILL: And the ship was one of those escort carriers where they had torn all the stuff out of the flight deck—not the flight deck, the...what do

they call it? The flight below the flight deck. The hangar deck. The hangar deck, they'd torn all the stuff out of there and put bunks in there. The bunks were five high.

- DONIN: Oh, my!
- MERRILL: But the best thing about it was that that ship really skedaddled. We were doing, I think, 22 knots all the way to San Diego, which everybody was pretty happy about.
- DONIN: Happy about that.
- MERRILL: We sure were. And I did get to...we got to San Diego. We were processed. We had a short reenlistment talk. And very few people reenlisted I think at that point. And I was promoted to—I had been a PFC out of boot camp in the whole war. And I was promoted to corporal upon discharge because of my good record. I kept my nose clean at least for that duration. I hitchhiked—I got on a train. I went to San Francisco to see my grandmother. And it turned out she wasn't there, so I got on a train heading east out of Oakland. And we made it up as far as the Donner Pass area. I forget the town. But this train was full of servicemen going somewhere. And I didn't need any more of that. So I got off and hitchhiked. And it was January, and it was an interesting time. But I made it as far as just outside of Chicago. Then I got on a train back into Boston and got back I forget when. But it was probably late January of '46.
- DONIN: Now, did you have to contact the college ahead of time and tell them you were coming back? What was your status here? You'd finished as a freshman.
- MERRILL: I finished as a freshman. It was after I got back because I went to work. I went to work first. The semester had already started, so I couldn't do anything before summer anyhow. But I did contact the college, and of course with my academic record, they weren't all that smitten with my showing up again. But I took an exam. They wanted me to take another exam which is sort of another College Entrance Exam. And I took it down at Thayer Academy where I had graduated. And that went okay. So I did get back up. And I came back up in July for the summer. At that time they had a summer session.
- DONIN: They were still going year round.

- MERRILL: Well, it was a special six weeks session. And you took three courses; you only could take three courses. But you had them five days a week. You had them every day. It was sort of an accelerated thing for veterans to catch up what they'd missed. And I went that summer. And then that fall we got back into the three—or rather the two semester rotation. I graduated in mid-year of '49.
- DONIN: But you lost your identity with the class of '47.
- MERRILL: Well, I was given the choice of '47, '48, or '49. I started with '47. I graduated in '49. I knew a lot of people—not a lot—but I knew some of the guys in '48. There were classes all the way back to '42, of course. And the class of '50 had come in. So I wasn't sure which class to.... For some reason I went with '49 because that's the year I graduated.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- MERRILL: But it didn't seem to make too much difference then. But now I kind of wished I'd stayed with my class of '47.
- DONIN: Yes, I can imagine. But it was a crazy time. I mean there was no way to sort of have a bonding experience with any class.
- MERRILL: It was. It was very peculiar. After the war, of course, there were the civilian classes had come in. But we had all kinds of classes involved there. I worked down at Lou's Restaurant. Lou had been a Marine, and he had a bunch of Marines that were working there—ex-Marines. And because of my joining them, I got into Gamma Delta Chi fraternity because there were all these guys, Gamma Delt guys, were working there at Lou's. And incidentally, one of the fellows who was a brother over at Gamma Delt, at that time they had the married students living down below Tuck School.
- DONIN: Wigwam?
- MERRILL: Wigwam Village? And I remember one of the fellows talking about, he used to go down there for—of course he went home for lunch every day. His wife—I don't know whether she worked or not. But anyhow, she was there at noontime and fixed him lunch. And he was getting a little paunchy. After lunch was over, he sat back and said, "Gee, I'm eating pretty good. I must be putting on weight." And come this voice from the next apartment, "I've got some scales." [Laughter] So that was life right after the war.

- DONIN: Yes. The Wigwams looked a little bit scanty, I should think, in terms of structure.
- MERRILL: Well, they were old wooden military barracks—Army barracks—that they'd torn down and moved up here in pieces and put back together. So that the petitions between the apartments were, you know, not much.
- DONIN: And I gather they were like firetraps: dried-out old wood and being heated with kerosene heaters I think.
- MERRILL: Probably, yes.
- DONIN: So where were you living? Were you living at your fraternity?
- MERRILL: Well, the first summer I came back, I was living in Topliff again. My sophomore year I lived in Butterfield with Dan Fuller, who was a '46; he was a—he had been a lieutenant JG in the Navy. Who was the other guy from Maine? Paul Libby who was the class of '48 from Lewiston, Maine. The three of us were in that room. You know where Butterfield is?
- DONIN: Uh huh.
- MERRILL: Well, it's right next to the old Beta house which just got put back into circulation.
- DONIN: Right. So were you a better student when you came back?
- MERRILL: Oh, yes. I was. I played football that first year. But I was not really a football player. I hadn't played that much, and I wasn't really big enough for the position I was playing anyhow. But other than that, I was—I tried to pay attention to my academics. And I was a history major, which I did enjoy history. I skirted around math and physics.
- DONIN: Right. [Laughs]
- MERRILL: I had to take a science course, and I picked geology, which I enjoyed. And I took...my language requirement was accomplished in one of those six-week sessions in Spanish where, you know, we had it five days a week, and really crammed it into us. But it worked out fine.

DONIN: Did you have another thought?

- MERRILL: Well, I was just going to say the interesting thing was that when I got out of the service, I was very glad and proud to have served. But I wasn't too interested in going back. But one of my fraternity brothers, and a classmate, too, Nick Shepherd, had been to-he was involved in the PLC program, the Platoon Leaders Class. It was a Marine Corps program where they send you two summers in between your sophomore and junior years and junior and senior years to Quantico for six weeks each time. And then if you pass it, you get a commission. At the time there was a provision that if you had been enlisted during the war, you only had to go one summer. So I thought, oh, crying out loud. Why not? So I went down there one summer, and I got a reserve commission. When I graduated, I got a reserve commission. In the meantime I had graduated from Dartmouth. And my family was living in Milton, Massachusetts. That's where I grew up. And I was trying some various salesman's jobs. And that was a big mistake. At the time I was engaged to a girl who was going to Framingham State Teachers' College. That arrangement collapsed. And so I thought, what the heck, might as well... Why don't I make use of that commission and go back in the Marine Corps? So I wrote a letter to the commandant of the Marine Corps asking if I could get—be granted a regular commission instead of a reserve commission. And I got a letter back saying, report to Quantico, and it was within two weeks.
- DONIN: Of graduation?
- MERRILL: No, of when I received the letter.
- DONIN: Oh, right, right.
- MERRILL: I had to be in Quantico for two weeks. It was in August, I think, as I recall. But at any rate, I went back into the Marine Corps in 1949 and retired in 1967.
- DONIN: Oh, my gosh! You made it your career.
- MERRILL: So, yes. It was really a career. I was in 21 years. But my gosh I've been out—

MRS. MERRILL: Longer.

- MERRILL: I've been out almost 40 years. [Laughs] But there were three of us from the class of '49 and one from the class of '48 that were in my Platoon Leaders' Class. I mean my basic school class, which was what the Marine Corps calls the class where they send all second lieutenants at Quantico. At that time, it was a nine-month course. And you learned how to be an officer essentially. But there were four of us from Dartmouth, which was the most of any college in the class. We had a class of 153, of which about one third was Naval Academy, one third was meritorious NCOs, and one third were Platoon Leaders' Class and NROTC, and that was my category. But there were four of us which was.... I don't think there was more than one from any other university around the country.
- DONIN: And they were all Dartmouth grads either your class or younger than you.
- MERRILL: They were all.... Well, they all had been in the service during the war. One was a '48, and the other three of us were '49s.
- DONIN: Hmm. Interesting.
- MERRILL: One of them has passed away. And one of them lives, Dave Karukin, lives in Bangkok. And Matt Fenton was the fourth one, and he lives in Baltimore and Florida; Florida this time of year.
- DONIN: So let's go back to your Dartmouth experience. You were a better student when you came back.
- MERRILL: Mm-hmm.
- DONIN: The campus was this sort of mishmash of regular civilian undergrads plus you sort of mature vets.
- MERRILL: When I came back, yes.
- DONIN: When you came back.
- MERRILL: Right.
- DONIN: What was the social life like for you? Who was your social group that you hung out—was it your fraternity brothers or other vets?
- MERRILL: Well, it was mostly other vets at that time. I recall very few—in that first summer session that I came back it was almost all vets

because it was designed for vets to try to catch up what they'd missed. Then my sophomore year, when I lived in Butterfield, and worked downtown, played football that year, then it was more of a mix, particularly because the class of '50 had matriculated. They were here that fall. And they were, or at least two thirds, civilian students, right on schedule. But there was still a mix of veterans in there, too.

- DONIN: How do you think the college did in terms of this challenge of mainstreaming, you know, two very diverse groups of students in terms of their social life? How do you discipline a Marine who has seen battle when he's not supposed to be drinking beer in the frat house or whatever? I mean that's a real challenge.
- MERRILL: Well, at that time we could drink beer at the fraternity house.
- DONIN: Yes.
- MERRILL: So that was not a problem. And I remember—what was the little place down here on Main Street? There was the grocery store, all kinds of food items. But they also served—
- DONIN: Tansi's?
- MERRILL: Yes, Tansi's. They were...their whole store was about twice as big as this room.

DONIN: I think there's a picture of Tansi's in the Archives.

- MERRILL: I wouldn't be surprised. But they were the largest beer distributor in the state of New Hampshire. [Laughter] In those after-the-war years, I remember hearing that.
- DONIN: Sure. So you didn't mix that much with the—except the year when you were playing football when you were a sophomore—you didn't mix that much with the sort of civilian younger kids—men, I should say.
- MERRILL: No, I guess not. When I went into the fraternity, I think it was pretty much all—well, no, I'll take that back. There were both. There were both. There were veterans, and there were civilian students. And I was the pledge master the following year. I was the pledge master for the incoming bunch of pledges. They—Len Matless was one. And of course Len was a veteran, but I think he was the exception.

That maybe out of those 12 or 15 fellows, I don't think there were more than three or four veterans in that class group.

DONIN:	That's interesting.
MERRILL:	Of course that was '50. No, in 1946.
DONIN:	Quite a number of the vets came back married.
MERRILL:	Yes, they did.
DONIN:	Took over—well, they had Wigwam and Sachem and Fayerweather, I think, part of Fayerweather? It was retrofitted.
MERRILL:	I don't know. That may have been true. I didn't know that.
DONIN:	Mmm. Interesting. So when you started out here, it was President Hopkins.
MERRILL:	It was, yes.
DONIN:	And do you remember your matriculation ceremony?
MERRILL:	Very vaguely. But I did remember President Hopkins because my grandfather knew him, and my dad knew him. I don't know if he was the president when my dad was here or not. But anyhow, it was a tie to the old Dartmouth because when I came back, of course, he was gone, and John Dickey was here.
DONIN:	Right.
MERRILL:	I remember we had matriculation, or the ceremony or whatever they called it, I forget what it was, right here in Webster Hall.
DONIN:	Yes. With Dickey when you came back.
MERRILL:	When I came back, right.
DONIN:	Yes. And did you get to—had he started the Great Issues course when you came back?
MERRILL:	He started it while I was here, and I didn't take it. I think they started it in the fall of '48. And if you were going to graduate within a year,

whatever it was, you didn't have to take it. And foolishly I elected not to. I wish I had.

- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- MERRILL: Because I've heard so many and I did hear at the time so many good things about it. It was a bad decision on my part.
- DONIN: On your part. Well.... Did you have any impression of President Dickey? Did you ever interact with him?
- MERRILL: No, not personally. But he was good. He was well thought of, I think, by everybody that I was in contact with.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- MERRILL: He was a good one. And when we came, when I retired from the Marine Corps and we came back up here, he was living here, wasn't he, hon? Living up here on....
- DONIN: He never left.
- MERRILL: Yes, that's right. He died here, didn't he?
- DONIN: Once he retired, I believe he stayed here. And then he...I think he was teaching. And then he became ill and spent his last eight or nine years, I think, living in Dick's House. Had a stroke.
- MERRILL: That's right. I remember that now.
- DONIN: Yes. So did you feel like there was special respect shown to you as a vet when you came back, by the community at large, whether it was your professors or your classmates?
- MERRILL: I don't remember it ever being an issue. I was a Dartmouth student, and I was, you know, on the same par with a couple thousand other guys. I don't think it was...I don't remember it ever being an issue to me.

DONIN: Right.

MERRILL: There were a lot of us here, and we all were trying to catch up. And the college I think did a great job of making it work.

DONIN: Getting everybody back in the schedule.

MERRILL: Yes. Right.

DONIN: And then they reverted back to the regular two terms. They stopped the summer sessions after your—you returned, and you had that first....

MERRILL: In the early fifties. Maybe it was before that.

DONIN: Yes.

MERRILL: But, yes, they did.

DONIN: Right. So did you have any particularly memorable professors that you remember?

- MERRILL: Oh, yes, I did.
- DONIN: Or favorite?
- MERRILL: I remember there was an English professor my freshman year: McDonald. He was a good one. I can't remember his first name. But he was—he made an impression on me. Professor Murch, as in Murch's Mystery Hour, he was [laughter] he whisked us through that thing pretty fast there.
- DONIN: What was Murch's Mystery Hour?
- MERRILL: It was physics, Physics 1, or whatever it was, over in Silsby. Silsby Hall. It was a big lecture hall. And I guess we had a class of, oh, I don't know, 50 or 80 kids in there at one time. And then I think we all were in uniform.

DONIN: Wow!

- MERRILL: In my freshman year.
- DONIN: Yes, of course. That's right.
- MERRILL: When I came back, I became a history major. And there were some great teachers there. Adams was one. And the chairman of the department, I can't think of his name, but he taught a course in diplomatic history of the U.S., which I took. And he had run for

governor of the state of New Hampshire. And of course at that time New Hampshire was Republican, you know, about 80 percent Republican. But I can remember him laughing about it. You know he was the candidate, but he knew darned well nothing was going to come of that. [Laughter] But he always started off his classes with little lighthearted side comments. And you know, I can't think of the names of those other—another one of those senior moments.

- DONIN: Oh, yes. That's all right.
- MERRILL: But there were several very, very enjoyable and capable—AI Foley being one of course.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. So you found the quality of the teaching to be good.
- MERRILL: Oh, yes. Yes, I did.
- DONIN: Okay. Let's see here. What I have I forgotten to ask you? So you did sports. You did football in your freshman year, right? Yes.
- MERRILL: Well, no, it was my sophomore year.
- DONIN: Sorry, sophomore year.
- MERRILL: The first year I came back. Yes.
- DONIN: So how did the class of '49 manage to bond after all this? I mean it was so mixed up and—
- MERRILL: Well, it was a—I never did bond with it until I came back up here after I retired from the Marine Corps. Because, of course, we were all over the country. And we were never in one place more than two or three years. So I remember giving a—being requested to interview some kid down in North Carolina, when I was stationed down there, that had applied to Dartmouth.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- MERRILL: But other than that, I paid my dues every year. But until I came back up here and retired, I'm secretary of my class now.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- MERRILL: So I've gotten into it here in the last few years.

MRS. MERRILL: It was not easy bonding.

MERRILL: No, it wasn't. Incidentally, I married a Navy nurse.

DONIN: Oh, perfect!

MERRILL: In the early years, 1951. So we were very much a service family for all those years. Three kids, and they all were born in naval hospitals.

DONIN: Had you ever been to New Hampshire and Vermont before you moved back here?

MRS. MERRILL: No, no.

- DONIN: Oh, my goodness!
- MERRILL: Yes, she was an Ohio kid.

MRS. MERRILL: A Buckeye.

DONIN: Oh, my goodness! But you've been in Vermont for a long time now, haven't you?

MERRILL: Almost 40 years.

DONIN: Wow! Did you come back here because it was Dartmouth, or any other reason?

MERRILL: Well, we grew up in Milton. My folks lived in Milton. And my dad, he was a reserve officer in the Army. He had gotten involved in the Army up here in World War I. Then had been commissioned right at the end of the war and stayed in as a reserve officer. So he was called up to active duty in 1940, I guess it was. And he was in Iceland when I joined the Marine Corps. He was gone. He was overseas. But he came back and trained troops for the last couple of years of the war. And remained in the reserve and retired as a major-general. And was the senior reserve officer in the Army when he retired. But how did we get off onto this track?

MRS. MERRILL: They bought a place at Moose Mountain.

- MERRILL: Oh, yes, they had bought a place over on Moose Mountain in Hanover. But you had to go in—it was on the other side, and you had to go in through Enfield. And my dad, of course—we came up here frequently. He was in the insurance business with the Equitable Life Assurance Company. And he did the—he sold the college the original group insurance, employee group insurance stuff back in the thirties. I remember coming up here with him a few times on business and for other things, reunions mainly. My grandfather's and my dad's. But they had this home over here in—
- MRS. MERRILL: Moose Mountain.
- MERRILL: Moose Mountain, which was a summer place and second home for them until my dad retired. And then they moved up here permanently. And my sister, who also lived in Milton, she was married; she and her husband moved up here. And she taught at Cardigan Mountain School. So it was sort of a family—
- DONIN: There was a trend here.
- MERRILL: Between the family thing and the Dartmouth thing, why, we gravitated back.
- DONIN: So it sounds to me like Dartmouth was sort of in your genes. There was never any question that you were going to go to any other college.
- MERRILL: Not really, no. During some of those tough years I thought maybe I would like to make a change. But I've always wanted to—I was always interested in agriculture. And I remember once I told my dad I was thinking about New Mexico A&M, and oh, jeez, my [laughs]....
- DONIN: That didn't go over well.
- MERRILL: Ay, no it didn't. But anyhow, I stuck it out and finished up. But we do raise cattle. We live on a farm over in Woodstock and Pomfret.
- DONIN: Well, done! You've accomplished your-
- MERRILL: Yes, we did. We did the whole circle, yes.
- DONIN: And if you enjoyed agriculture, did that sort of attract you to being part of the Outing Club when you were here? Were you sort of outdoorsy?

- MERRILL: No. I was outdoorsy. We had done a lot of camping as a family. My family, we camped all over the Northeast. And when we were bringing up our own family, Laurie had never done much camping. But she became a pretty good camper. But, no, I didn't get into the Outing Club business very much.
- DONIN: Okay. Well, any other thoughts you want to share on your Dartmouth experience? Have we covered everything? Let's see here. I'm just going down this list. I think I've done my list.
- MERRILL: I think Dartmouth did a good job. Because when I came up here, of course, it was all service, you know. Not all, but I mean it was dedicated to doing its educational thing in the national effort. And it was at least 90 percent aimed at that service educational thing.
- DONIN: Such a coincidence that they assigned you to Dartmouth. I mean they didn't know that you'd been accepted here as a regular student.
- MERRILL: Well, they might have. But, yes, we had kids all over the Northeast. And some of them had applied to BC and Tufts and, you know, all kinds of things. And I think there was a...I can't remember what other Ivy League schools had V-12 units.
- DONIN: I have a list downstairs, but I don't have that with me.
- MERRILL: I think some of them did.
- DONIN: Uh-huh. They did. And I gather a number of the students who did come here for their military training applied to return after the war, rather than go back to whatever school they'd originated at.
- MERRILL: That's right. We had a number of.... Of the V-12 program, I'm not sure about the Navy, but I know in our 600 Marine V-12s, only part of us, only a fraction of us were freshmen. The others were upperclassmen from some other school. I don't remember very many that were Dartmouth. But I remember we had quite a football team that first fall because most of the BC football team was up here.
- DONIN: Up here, right. I've heard that. Those were the days when football was a winning sport here at Dartmouth College

- MERRILL: Yes, that's right. And when we came back here of course, in the sixties, it was for a number of years. But I think that Buddy is going to bring us back in time. [Laughter]
- DONIN: Good. Let's hope so. OK. Well, unless you have other thoughts, I am going to turn off this machine. Is that all right?
- MERRILL: OK. That's good.

[End of Interview]