

Interviewed by Scott Nichols

Name: Bill? Quaring
 Born: Hillsboro 1932
 Student@ Hilhi

Civilian

1. Was there fear or paranoia of nuclear attacks by the Russians?
 - Yes, remembers doing black out drills and bomb drills in school. The high school had a bomb shelter in the basement in the event of a nuclear attack. He believed that the shelter would have been adequate in the event there was a nuclear attack. Strongly believed that Hillsboro and the greater Portland area was a primary target.
2. Was there much fear of the Russians themselves, or that they would attack?
 - No while there was fear of a nuclear attack, there was hardly ever anything said about the Russians themselves. People were more afraid of the weapons of the Russians and not the people.
3. That was the general setting of Hillsboro like during the Korean War era?
 - It was a typical "happy 50's" farming community. Not like it was in the 40's where there was much excitement about the world war. There wasn't as much support for the Korean War as there was for WWII. People didn't talk much about what was going on in the war; they were most secretive about it, not as open as in WWII.
4. Was there much patriotism or shows of patriotism and if so what where they?
 - During the Korean War patriotism wasn't as nearly as strong as it was in WWII. In WWII people were more then willing to die for the country it was almost expected of young men, it was there civic duty some felt. In the Korean War people tried to find ways to dodge the draft, they were more apprehensive (not wanting to) about dieing for the country. People did like the president thought. Patriotism was something that wasn't as apparent in the daily lives of the people, not like it had been in the Second World War. Patriotism just wasn't as strong in the lives of the civilians.
5. Was there much communism activity in the community and where many people accused of being Communist in the Hillsboro area?
 - Communist were active but they kept to themselves. Not very open in stating that they were communist, those few that were communist were most likely to be involved in spying if they were active at all, they worked behind the scenes were not open at all. There were people accused of being communist but it was hard to prove and they were hardly ever prosecuted. People were so paranoid of the communist though; that they even starting accusing children in the school were Bill went of being communists. There was never any hard proof that the kids were communists and they were let off the hook, nothing was ever done to them.

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