

ORAL MEMOIRS  
OF  
MERRELL WADDELL  
An interview conducted on  
August 11, 2020

Interviewer: Lydia Dillen

Angelo State University  
West Texas Collection  
“George Ricks Memorial WWII Oral History Archive”

LEGAL STATUS: The oral memoirs of Merrell Waddell are unrestricted. The interview agreement was signed on August 3, 2020.

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DILLEN: My name is Lydia Dillen, I'm interviewing Merrell Waddell over the phone. It's August 11th, 2020. So let's go ahead and get started. Um, when and where were you born?

WADDELL: I was born in Menard, Texas, about 70 miles South of here on March 18th, 1931.

DILLEN: And is that where you grew up?

WADDELL: Right, up 'til the time that I went into the service.

DILLEN: Alright. So when and where did you enter the armed forces?

WADDELL: Oh say, when did I go into the service?

DILLEN: Yes.

WADDELL: I went, I think around April the 15th, 1950.

DILLEN: Mhmm. And what branch did you serve in?

WADDELL: I served in the US Airforce four years.

DILLEN: So during your years of service, were you primarily in the enlisted ranks, a non-commissioned officer, an officer, a warrant officer?

WADDELL: Okay are you following this question? Your - your voice is being overdriven with modulation but, but let's see which que- which question were you reading, then?

DILLEN: Oh, I'm sorry. I was reading question 5 about your ranks during your service.

WADDELL: Okay, okay. I was a enlisted man.

DILLEN: Alright. And in which military conflict did you take part?

WADDELL: Which military - what do you mean by that? Which military - I was - all I know is I was in the Airforce.

DILLEN: Alright. And why did you enlist in the armed forces? What motivated you to do so?

WADDELL: Well that's a good question because back then I was - I had just turned 19 and I wasn't too sure of a whole lot of things.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Only thing I - only thing I was sure of that lots of people were getting drafted all over the country.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: And so I - and I got my draft papers and, you know I didn't want to be a regular soldier. And so I found out - oh back then once a month in my hometown - well, the recruiting officer would come into the post office and spend the day. Okay?

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And he would sign people up and I went down there - it was about nearly 30 miles from the ranch I was on - and told him, I said, "I don't wanna be a soldier" I said, "I'm nuts about airplanes." And I said, "Can I get in the Air Corps?" and he said, "Yes," you know, "sign here" and swore me in. So that pretty much done it right there is getting my service.

DILLEN: Mhmm. W-

WADDELL: So I - go ahead.

DILLEN: I'm sorry. Uh, what was your training like?

WADDELL: Well the training back then, it was 13 weeks of basic was considered marching and double-time, which is a form of running, and attending, you know, meetings where everybody had to listen and soak in what was being said. And learn to take orders and how to march in certain formations and, you know, get up when they to- you know, when they told you to and - and go to bed at night when they told you to.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So it was a matter of - I learned a whole lot in there. But since I had been nothing but since I had been nothing but a cowboy coming into the big town. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: So that was about it.

DILLEN: Mhmm. What were race relations like when you enlisted?

WADDELL: Race relations as near as I can remember in - in basic training we were all mixed. We had every type of race I think in the world in basic training. And they were all mixed up according to height and so forth but - but later years and, you know, when I got to a airbase I'd been assigned to well normally in the barracks we stayed in the Black guys would be down at one end and Whites would be down at the other. But we all worked together.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So that was about it.

DILLEN: So did you find your service challenging?

WADDELL: I sure did 'cause I'd never - I think I might've been out of Menard once in my life.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And here I was you know - you know, took a grey dog, that was a greyhound bus, down to San Antonio at Lackland Airforce Base. And I really woke up to a whole lot of things.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: [laughs] And...

DILLEN: So... I'm sorry, go ahead.

WADDELL: No, I'm just...

DILLEN: So what conception did you have of the United States at the time of your enlistment? What did America symbolize to you?

WADDELL: Well really, you know, it'd be I couldn't think of any - I couldn't think of nothing bad about it 'cause, you know, I guess I just figured it was the U.S. you know, big place and different people, different places on it and all that. That was about it, I really didn't think anything that much about it.

DILLEN: Mhmm. Were you ever deployed...

WADDELL: Ever since I remember...

DILLEN: I'm sorry. [laughs]

WADDELL: Well uh, go ahead with what you said.

DILLEN: Uh, I was just going to ask if you were ever deployed overseas.

WADDELL: Oh yeah, I was over in South Korea from '53 to '54.

DILLEN: Alright.

WADDELL: Uh but - but most of my time was spent in different places here in the U.S.

DILLEN: Places like where in the U.S.?

WADDELL: What?

DILLEN: Um, like what places in the U.S. did you get stationed at?

WADDELL: Oh, okay the first one was I took basic training at Lackland Airforce Base, San Antonio. And I took some of my technical training, the first stages of it, up at Whicit- Wichita Falls. It was a separate Airforce Base. And after completing tech schools, I was assigned to Roswell, New Mexico at Walker Airforce Base. And while being out there, they decided that I needed to go to more schools and I was flown up to Chanute Airforce Base, up - it ran through Illinois. And got through with that then I was shipped back to Roswell, New Mexico to Walker Airforce Base.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And that was where I stayed up to the last of my career of which I had about a year left and I had already made three stripes, you know, but I couldn't make anymore. And some guys come through wanting volunteers to go to Korea and I didn't have anything big planned. I said, "Hell, I'll go" you know, "sign me up." So I did, I went to Korea. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs] Mhmm.

WADDELL: And that was an- um, that was another huge learning experience.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: In Korea.

DILLEN: What do you think you learned from that experience?

WADDELL: In Korea?

DILLEN: Yes.

WADDELL: Well number one, seeing, you know, some poor distant country and in fact Korea, North and South sat right out in the middle of an ocean, Sea of Japan. Anyway, get - going - getting to see Japan, first Tokyo and then going to Seoul, Korea. Plus having a chance to meet some of the Korean people who I thought, at the time, just was poor. Korea became a big industrial nation. But the people were very smart, they were hard workers and they had a lot of ideas. They had an idea for central - central heating or air conditioning in their grass huts they'd build in. And how they done it - the soil over in Korea was sort of like a clay, clay-type soil. And they would make the floors of their little huts hollow and they would run heat from their stoves up through the floors. And then the cold is - outside it was smug, inside their little grass huts.

DILLEN: Hm.

WADDELL: And they were - they had the ability - we had what they call a house boy who kept their barracks clean, their clothes washed and their beds made up. And - and he learned to speak flawless English in less than six months.

DILLEN: Wow.

WADDELL: And that was brilliant to me. Plus every one of 'em that we met wanted a pair of blue jeans.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: [laughs] And that was their desire, to have some blue jeans. So they were - and they were super nice, the people were, too.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So I thought quite a bit of 'em. And uh, 'course I had some really close, close times in Korea. Like, you know, with nearly getting - nearly getting killed one time.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: Um, would you like to hear about it?

DILLEN: Yes.

WADDELL: Okay after you had been in Korea for six months you got a chance to go to Tokyo, Japan for R&R, which is rest and relaxation. Which was the furthest thing from what it sounds like in the world, you know. So just have a big - like a big two weeks of honky-tonkin'. [laughs]

DILLEN: Mm. [laughs]

WADDELL: Anyway, but in order to - the story was that in order to have good, a good time over there you needed - you needed roughly \$200. And - and I just had \$100 so a bunch of my buddies, 9 or 10 of the guys that I work with - well, I hear they had their \$200 saved up so they hoped on the - they hoped on this transport plane that flew from Seoul to Tokyo. Well I didn't go because I just had \$100 and I said, "Okay Jim, I'll see y'all in a couple weeks. I'm gon' go next month." And so as their plane was landing in Tokyo it crashed and killed a whole bunch of people.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And so that was why that I wasn't on that ship for lack of \$100.

DILLEN: Wow.

WADDELL: And it was really bad but when - I found out when you're 19 or 20 you're - consider yourself invincible. So the next month I had my \$200 and I hopped on the same type of plane, flew there and flew back.

DILLEN: Mm, mhmm.

WADDELL: [laughs] That's the way it was.

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: But I thought about it later on and, you know, years after I thought, "Man, that was close."

DILLEN: Yeah.

WADDELL: You know, and so that was I guess one of the most spooky experiences I had.

DILLEN: Mhmm. Did you ever serve in direct combat during your deployment?

WADDELL: No, but what - see, I worked on what they called F-86 Sabre Jet. They designed it to combat the MiG-15s and it's still a beautiful looking plane. Anyway, but we worked in hangars back, you know, around the base where the aircraft were. And the only thing that sometimes got pretty squirrely was - was the North Koreans who would fly little planes beneath the radar on the base and they would fly up to the hangars and drop these little bombs. And they called them - what they call they've got Bedcheck Charlies because it was always after around 10 or 11 o'clock at night when they'd come in. And they'd fly over and dump their little bombs out and keep on flying and... oh but we were real lucky on that.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So nobody was killed. It was quite a - quite a deal. And, well where we - in the middle of '53 they signed a ceasefire. So when they did sign up, well we were all issued steel helmets and rifles and all that and put on perimeter guards around the base in case the Koreans decided to try to overrun us.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And that was pretty spooky too right there.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: But all this time, you know, I was probably about 21 maybe [laughs] you know.

DILLEN: [chuckles]

WADDELL: I just, you know, cycling along not thinking anything about it too much.

DILLEN: So you mentioned earlier, um, the people that you met while you were in Korea. What do you think that their conceptions were of the United States at the time that you were interacting with them?

WADDELL: What I'm gonna bank on is how they were acting, they were glad to see us.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: 'Cause see and if you heard about North Korea, and it was worse back then, they have starvation up there. And people are resorting in some parts of it to cannibalism. And it was the same back then.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: So they were glad to - actually there were two Koreas; North Korea was totally communist and South was a democracy. And North tried to come down, take the South over. And that's when we got called in on the deal.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: Anyway, but the ones that I met, you know, seemed to be real happy that we were there.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And they had their own ways, you know, of living but they - it got - let's see, that place is one of the coldest places in the world. And in January of '53, well it was so cold that the MiGs and the Sabre Jets could not ingest the air to make 'em fly.

DILLEN: Hm.

WADDELL: It - and it was so cold that our - our shacks, they were tar paper shacks that we lived in. And we had heaters that were fed by diesel, diesel fuel. And it got so cold that one morning that the lines hooked to our cabins froze up. The diesel lines froze, we had to put on fur-lined jackets and boots and coats and all that...

DILLEN: Wow.

WADDELL: ...here to keep from freezing.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: But it was a rough country but the people over there were used to it and they had on light jackets and gloves and all that, you know. But here we were dressed up so much if we fell down somebody would have to help us up 'cause we couldn't move. [laughs]

DILLEN: Wow. [laughs]

WADDELL: And that was one but - and then in the summertime they have a monsoon season, it rains 30 days without quittin'.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And you talk about a slick, muddy place; well it was it. So that's just the way the country was over there.

DILLEN: Right. So, how did your service influence or affect your family at home?

WADDELL: Well really, you know, since my age well my father was still working on the ranch and about all it done we corresponded by letter and they were always, you know, gon' be glad when I got home and we were I guess just probably kept in touch with each other normally. You know, like somebody being off at a job a long way off.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: But - but they were glad to see me come home and I'm, you know, thankful 'cause there was a lot of buddies I knew that didn't make it home.

DILLEN: Of course.

WADDELL: You know, and - and so I always considered myself fortunate.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And still do since I'm nearly 90 years old right now.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So, uh...

DILLEN: What are your most vivid memories of your time in service?

WADDELL: Oh, vivid times? Mm, they're really - oh I'm trying to... Well, oh yeah vivid, you mean the things I done?

DILLEN: Um, just things that you remember really clearly from your time in the service.

WADDELL: Well, for one thing basic training because it was - you know, we had like I was saying earlier that we had people from every state in the Union.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: [laughs] And had a - and we even had some Okies from Muskogee, we really had some in there.

DILLEN: Hm.

WADDELL: [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: But, uh, but basic training, the way it is and... Well, you seen this movie star Robert Mitchum?

DILLEN: Um, I don't think so.

WADDELL: Anyway he has a big, mean-looking face you know, about 6 foot 4, around 200 pounds. Well, we had a drill sergeant, you know, in basic training who was like that, you know, he made you jump when he said.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And in basic training you do a lot of things that you don't think make sense, you know, and so some of us, you know, complain about the funny maneuvers we were doin'. And he told us, he said, "You don't have to do these but you'll wish to hell you had later on."

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: You know, he dropped it that way so we got the message right off the bat. And that was it. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: But I guess other than losing friends in combat, you know, like in Korea.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: All that guys you've seen say five o'clock today and then next day they were gone, they were killed. You know, just like that.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Other than that it was really quite a learning experience.

DILLEN: Right. What - what sorts of technology did you use in the service?

WADDELL: Okay what - okay that you mean the technical schools I went to?

DILLEN: Sure, uh, technical schools, and just what you used when you were in the Air Corps.

WADDELL: Okay I'd always - before I went in the Air Corps I'd always been fascinated by electrical stuff. How electricity worked and all this. So after basic training they give you about two or three days of aptitude tests to see what you're good for. And they figured out that I would make a good airplane mechanic. So after basic training, had a couple weeks home then went up to Wichita Falls, Sheppard Airforce Base. And up there they taught us how to work on the engines and the wings, and the wheels, all of that.

DILLEN: Oh.

WADDELL: And after a certain period of time you completed, they graded you. And your grades in these schools, they went up to a four and most of mine were 3.8s. And the - so they shipped us out of there they, I mentioned a while ago, they shipped us out to Roswell, New Mexico to Walker to work on the same type of bombers that dropped the A-bombs on Japan. What they were, the B-29 Superfortresses.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And after working on those for a while they found out that I had this fascination with electronics and electricity. And so they figured that I would make a good person to work on the aircraft instruments, which were like the altimeter and airspeed indicator and all that, to make sure they were calibrated correctly. And that involved sending me from Roswell up to Chanute, Illinois, up there to this instrument calibration school. And then they told us all, you know, how to do all the stuff on the bombers. After that, I was shipped back to Roswell in which I then stayed there and worked on these planes until I went to Korea. And that was primarily what I did on the...

DILLEN: Mhmm. So...

WADDELL: ...which kept me busy.

DILLEN: Right. So did you expect to face any challenges when you returned to civilian life? And if so, what challenges did you expect to face?

WADDELL: Not really, but there was, as I remember, there was some bad news. The public didn't think as much of Korea vets as they did the World War II vets coming back.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And they, just like I said, there were - I never did get involved of 'em because I was back home working again, you know, after I got out of the service. Uh, but up in the big cities they - I think had some stuff about the Korean - you know, they didn't like it worth a damn, people didn't...

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And I think the reason why, because World War II wound up in, oh, like in the late '40s. Okay North Korea broke into South Korea in I think 1949. So in a sense, war started back up again. And, you know, people had been waiting for their sons and daddies to come home. They'd come home, then some of 'em had to go back.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: And they didn't like it, you know, they didn't like it 'cause they'd already put in four years. So that's about all that I could think of right there on it.

DILLEN: Hm. So after your time in the military, has your conception of the United States changed at all?

WADDELL: Well what do you mean about the - you mean about the military life?

DILLEN: Sure, um like, after being in the military has anything about how you view America changed at all?

WADDELL: No, I still view America as the one country in the world. I say one, you know, where you can actually mouth the president and not get shot.

DILLEN: Ah.

WADDELL: [laughs] But what I have noticed, and I noticed it in Korea, was a breaking down of discipline in the service members. Like, you know, they didn't respect the officers as much as they did in WWII.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And I think it was because bunches of 'em had been forced to go back in the service.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: And they - you know, took the frustration. But I did see the service did change because after our 13 weeks of basic they suddenly started just the six weeks of basic training. I guess so they could turn out more people.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: All that but - no our country - alright it's my opinion this country just like I said is still the best in the world.

DILLEN: Mhmm. How do you...

WADDELL: And I hope...

DILLEN: I'm sorry, go ahead.

WADDELL: Go ahead. I just hope to hell that we manage to keep it that way.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs] How do you feel about your military service looking back?

WADDELL: Well this - I have a good feeling that I'm gonna say that I literally grew up in my service hitch. See I had never been anywhere, never learned to, you know, talk back to people, listen to people, do things like that and...

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: There in my service to me was a total wakeup. And I really considered it - I learned, you know, about how to live. Or how things were. Otherwise I would not have.

DILLEN: Right, it gave you a lot of new experiences.

WADDELL: So I do not regret my time. And I think to this day and age that every person a certain age should have a couple years in the military service to see, you know, to get 'em to how to listen to people, work with people, you know...

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: ...do things like that. But I think some other countries do it but I don't think we do it here.

DILLEN: Mhmm. So do you have...

WADDELL: But I think it would be nice.

DILLEN: Sorry.

WADDELL: Go ahead.

DILLEN: I was just going to ask if you would have any advice then for the young men and women who are just entering the service.

WADDELL: Yeah, what I would try to do is, you know, is try to put up with it 'cause to me it's a chance. You know, you're gonna get to meet tons of people and do different things and learn of how to do this, and how not to do this, and it's a - to me it's a place to really wake up to life.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: That's where, you know, getting out of high school what, you know, what are you gonna do unless you - unless your school had a vocational school to where you could learn a trade, you know, like welding or whatever.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And the Airforce still has good schools you can get into.

DILLEN: Of course.

WADDELL: And so I think they should - but now they don't have to go but if they want something different well that there is a place to go. And really right now our biggest problem of this - is they're turning out people out of school who can, you know, can barely read and write.

DILLEN: Mm.

WADDELL: And they - and they do not know very elementary mathematics.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: But when I went to school they taught us how to do things first on paper then they taught us how to do it in our heads. You know, like double-checking yourself on it.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: And I'm sure that's been long gone for many moons. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs] Do you have any letters or correspondence, items like that that you would like to share with the project?

WADDELL: I really don't think so because all I would have - in fact I do have 'em, I sent off and got 'em - I have my service record which it's essentially just 'bout what we've been talking - talking about, you know. And - and, but, and the schools I've gone to, the ones I told you - 'cause there's a record of them. But - but otherwise it's, you know, I don't - I really don't think so. I've got - I've got a whole bunch of Korean - four or five Korean medals here but I'll have to dig 'em out, you know, and find 'em.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: But this - but what I told you from - which I think you'll admit that we've covered my hitch pretty good.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: As - oh, but you know what I've done for four years, as I've told you here. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs] Right. Is there anything else you'd like to share about your service?

WADDELL: Oh, not really. You know but it - just like I said it - I had... Oh, one thing about service that - that both sides of my family had people in WWII, both sides, my father's side and my mother's side. You know I've had people in - actually I had an uncle in WWI.

DILLEN: Hm.

WADDELL: And, 'course I had cousins all in WWII and my da- and, but both sides of the family and I had a brother that was in the service, he's dead now and... But all - but both families for all those years have been in the service, you know.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: And uh, and that's about all I have to say on that but we never did, you know, back off on it or nothing.

DILLEN: Right.

WADDELL: But there was a way, back when I joined up, to stay out the service and it was supposedly legal but for - for example if you were a rancher, you know, had a big ranch raising cattle, and you had a couple sons and yourself and your cattle were primarily sold during the war to be, you know, be processed for beef to feed the soldiers. Okay well their sons could stay at home and work on the ranch to help, you know, the beef and all that instead of going into the service.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: But I have - and it was called draft deferment was what it was. But I was - see my father worked on a ranch he was what he called a ranch hand - he worked for big ranchers. And we had no choice - we didn't run off or hide or, you know, be drafted. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: I never did invite drafting so I went and volunteered, you know.

DILLEN: Mhmm. Well thank you for your service.

WADDELL: And I made one thing after - I don't know if I told you but, you know, like I made the four stripes which is pretty hard to do back then.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Staff sergeant - but it was in the line of work that I was in the field was very limited. See, not everybody done - you know, was able to do what I'd done working on airplanes.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: So that's how that I made my stripes in there. But no, that's about - you know, I think that pretty well covers it. I believe I've covered my whole time in there.

DILLEN: Well thank you for sharing your...

WADDELL: Unless you had something else...

DILLEN: Oh I'm sorry. [chuckles] Thank you for sharing your experiences with me today.

WADDELL: Well have you heard many like that or...?

DILLEN: Um, I've done a few interviews with veterans but none from the Korean War so your experiences are a little bit different from the other people I've interviewed.

WADDELL: Yeah. Anyway, but there's not - I got to checking 'round and there's not a whole lot of the Korean veterans left.

DILLEN: Of course, yep.

WADDELL: And uh, anyway, but - but also that a lot of them didn't volunteer to go to Korea, I did. You know, I was restless. [laughs]

DILLEN: Mhmm. [laughs]

WADDELL: You know, I thought, "I need to go see what the country looks like over there."

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Sure enough, they sent me over there. [laughs]

DILLEN: [laughs]

WADDELL: Okay, is that it? That's all we need to do today?

DILLEN: Yes, that's all the questions I have for you today. Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me...

WADDELL: Okay how long have we been - well see, how long have we been talking here on the phone?

DILLEN: Uh, around 40 minutes.

WADDELL: Okay is that about the normal deal that you talk to people on?

DILLEN: Sure, uh the interview times vary a lot depending on who I'm talking to but that's about a normal time for an interview.

WADDELL: Mhmm.

DILLEN: It gave me a good idea of what it was like for you.

WADDELL: Well - okay well listen I was more than glad to help y'all out on this.

DILLEN: Great and thank you for...

WADDELL: Oh, one...

DILLEN: ...being able to talk to me.

WADDELL: Oh, one more thing. Let me tell you one more thing if I haven't.

DILLEN: Sure.

WADDELL: Back in eight- when I was 84 and 85 I got two birthday cards from Obama.

DILLEN: Oh.

WADDELL: And here's what happened - here I had been mouthing - I'm a, I'm a conservative 900%.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Okay I had been bad-mouthing him and here I get this so I felt sort of bad after that. But then here a while back I got one from President Trump.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: A birthday card. And I figure, you know, that is something right there.

DILLEN: Right. It's an honor to be recognized by the president.

WADDELL: Yeah, that's what I mean. They had to dig around to find that. So I like to point to those two things. Obama and Trump is sending, you know, sending me birthday cards.

DILLEN: Mhmm.

WADDELL: Okie doke, I'll let you go.

DILLEN: Okay, thank you so much today. I hope you have a good rest of your day.

WADDELL: Yes ma'am, same to you.

DILLEN: Goodbye.

WADDELL: Bye.