J.R If you could tell me a bit of background information, like where you grew up, how you got into the army?

P.B I was born in Uraila in 1944, I moved to Inverell when I was 4 year old, I went to the normal education system, and left school in 3rd year with an intermediate certificate, worked in the shearing sheds and decided to do something and joined the army, and that would have been on the 17th January, 1963.

J.R You remember the date?

P.B Yes.

J.R Why did you join the army?

P.B There were 10 in the family and Dad was a 2nd World War veteran, I thought it would probably impress him, I think that *was* probably it.

J.R And did it impress him?

P.B Yes.

J.R He was pleased?

P.B Yes, he was very pleased about it.

J.R And was it connected with Vietnam?

P.B Not at that stage it wasn't, no, Vietnam never came into it until the later stages, we'll see, I went to Vietnam, I was one of the first to go in 1965. I was in 1 Battalion, we went over in 1965, I spent 11 months there, came back in April, .1966.

J.R Did you join the army in Sydney?

P.B I joined the army and went down to Kapooka at Wagga, went through the basic training, I wanted to be in the armoured corps but I was in the infantry, we didn't have much choice, I went through the basic training at Kapooka, then went to Ingleburn for corps training, then went to Holsworthy. I spent a couple of years in Holsworthy, which to me was alright, nothing wrong with the army.

J.R Were you in a Battalion at that stage?

P.B Yes, I was in 1 Battalion, and they then decided to break the Battalion up into two, 1 Battalion and 5 Battalion,

I was in D Company, 1 Battalion, and when the split came I was put into 5 Battalion as a pay clerk. That didn't suit me so I hit the straps and went AWOL for about a week or two weeks, something like that. I went back and was given the option-of going to Vietnam with 1 RAR or staying in 5 Battalion and doing a sentence at Holsworthy - I naturally took the Vietnam option.

J.R Would you have wanted to go to Vietnam?

P.B Yes, I volunteered, I thought it was a bit of a joke.

J.R You didn't know a lot about it?

P.B I knew nothing about it – none of us did. I did, I thought it was a big joke. We went over there, we had 3 weeks of getting used to the climate. The Yanks got caught up in a fairly serious operation, they'd gone out and captured a village and I Battalion's first operation was to go out and escort them back, they were in a bit of trouble, and I'll never forget until the day I die that, we got off the helicopter and people were shooting in all directions, nothing to shoot at, they were just shooting, nerves and whatever. So once it settled we went on this trail up to the camp, and on the way up I walked on a person, dead, and all of a sudden it just dawned on me this wasn't a game, it was fair dinkem.

J.R What kind of a dead person, an Australian?

P.B No, it was a Vietcong, but that was the first realization that I had that it was something serious. Up until that point I thought it was a bit of a joke. We went in - -

J.R How long had you been over there at this stage?

P.B About 3 weeks.

J.R Not long?

P.B I hope you don’t mind, but I’ve got to relive this. I…I sat down at the camp base, and I was with this bloke by the name of Steve Jones and they told us to dig in that night and we were moving out next morning. So we dug our hole about 2' long, 1' wide and about 2' deep, which was not what the army prescribed, but it seemed handy to us, and we were mortared that night, the shells started to come in, two of us somehow fitted in that hole with our packs on top of our heads, don't ask me how, but we both squeezed into this little hole. Again I came to the very strong realization that things were serious. Next morning it seemed to blow over, I don't know, I was probably a kid, I was 20 and I didn't really take it seriously, but next morning we moved out on a truck, and one row of blokes were on each American truck plus companies of infantry were covering

the sides to clear the area as we got out and we were ambushed. It was only our truck, now most people speak down about the Americans, but I can't recommend them enough for what they did, they did a fantastic job, within about 5 minutes of our truck being ambushed and half blown apart, there were tanks and whatever, the Americans had it there and got us out of trouble. I know we were lying on the ground, I had a pistol, I was a machine gunner at the time, but I'd left it in the truck and all I had was a pistol, and I looked up and there was this American negro standing on top of the bank, we were all hiding under the bank, and I said "What's happening"? and I can still hear his words, they ring in my ears every night, he said "I don't know what they're shooting at guy, but they sure ain't hitting them". We got out, there were 22 bodies or something. We rode back with the convoy on the canvas on top of the truck, back to our camp, that was at Bien Hoa. Um... We did op after op after that.

J.R Were you always working closely with the Americans?

P.B We were attached to the 173rd Airborr1Brigade, we were under American command, which was good because they could lift a Battalion and put a Battalion down. I actually shook hands with General Westmordand

J.R That would have left a mark on your hand.

P.B No, it didn't leave a mark actually. No... We were very closely knit with the Americans, they called them the Screaming Eagles, we were attached to those.

J.R And you got on alright with them?

P.B Yes I liked them, I liked them, and there was one occasion I stayed back... When our Battalion went out on an operation, you always left a skeleton staff and I stayed back and we'd either get Big Red 1, which was the 1st American Infantry Division, or the Screaming Eagles. Now they didn't like each other, they're very patriotic, (about their ?)but I stayed back and I possibly got on better with the Negros than I did with the white Americans, but it would be a tossup, they were all good as far as I was concerned, You'd have the southerners going against the northerners,... but I found <u>both</u> to be good.

J.R Was the Australian army like the American army do you think, did they do things the same way?

P.B No, oh no, no we never had the equipment that the Americans had.. I was a scout for six months and we had those old Owen guns for a start and we found out they were no good.

J.R They were pretty old weren't they?

P.B Well I don't know where they found them, but somewhere, I'd been training with them. I do know for a fact I personally hit a bloke straight up the chest with one and then a bloke hit him with a M60 a bit later ...so they scrapped them and they brought in the Armalite which we started to carry as a scout or an automatic shotgun

J.R Tell me about the sort of operations you went on.

P.B You asked me a question awhile ago, how we were compared with the Americans, now we were issued with 60 rounds of ammunition, an Armalite fires 750 rounds a minute, so you can imagine how long 60 rounds last. Being attached to the Screaming Eagles or 173'rd, they used to help us by giving us ammunition, which was under the coat, I also carried a pistol which was given to me by, the Americans, all, the blokes did. We had to have some backup, at that stage we had 3 helicopters, one would have been a Medevac, which we didn't ever see near us as they wouldn't ever risk their helicopters to pick us up.

J.R So you depended on the Americans?

P.B We had 2 call signs and we always used the Americans, they'd come in. They'd come in for the glory, I don't know whether it was the glory, but they'd come in. I'd seen the, glass breaking out of the windows but they'd still come pick the wounded up. I was personally picked up myself, I wasn't badly knocked about but I had a hole in me. During that first operation,(I'll just go back a bit)was when Jock Fotheringham was killed, that was the night of our first operation when 3 weeks there we were mortared, that was the first news I got, he was the first man killed in Vietnam from Australia.

J.R And he's the one on the memorial here?

P.B I didn't know him personally, but he was killed on that night, it *was* from shells, no it wasn't from shells it was actually from taking grenades, he blew himself up, but not purposely it was enemy grenades. It's very hard for me to go op by op, if you can understand me, I can give you the general idea, the Americans did reconnaissance by fire.

J.R What does that actually mean?

P.B It means that if they thought someone was behind the bush they'd blow the bush apart. We had to wait until *we* were fired on, then we could shoot.

J.R And you were operating against regular N.V.A type people or the local Vietcong?

P.B The local Vietcong, actually at that stage we also had Red Chinese—in our dead.

J.R How could you tell?

P.B Uniforms and whatever. You see the Chinese were advisers, they were wearing different gear, but there wasn't a unit or anything. It was actually like our advisers went over there for a start in the early 60's, but the Chinese were down doing a bit of advising then, and we got a couple in the 11 months I spent there the first time. I'm sticking to the facts as much as I can, I never... Nerve-wise it was probably awful, we played it down, if that makes sense.

J.R Was that so you wouldn't frighten yourselves?

P.B So we wouldn't go mad I guess, we joked about things that you wouldn't normally joke about. It's very hard for me to sit here and tell you what happened up here…over there. We... we had a lot of bills, we had a lot of contacts, I was a scout, as I said the Americans used to give us extra ammunition,. and we'd, well if you fired a shot, they call it an A.D, an accidental shot, you could lose up to 3 months pay, yet you had to carry your rifle cocked and off safety, that's as a scout. I've seen some shocking things..as a scout, some shocking things.

J.R Were you a good soldier?

P.B I believe I'm a good person.

J.R But were you happy that you were doing a good job, that you were doing It the right way?

P.B I believed I was doing it for you people here.

J.R Yes, but by the army standards, I dean you were a scout, so you weren't going to stuff up?

P.B Yes, I was regarded as a good soldier, yes, I was regarded as a good soldier. I was a scout, I witnessed some pretty shocking things while I was there. It wasn't all copy book stuff.

J.R No.

P.B I mean they make out that the first scout walks here, the second scout there and the rest of the troop here, that doesn't always happen, you get sent out to check things out, if you were good at your job, I'm not singing my own praises but I did get sent out to do these sort of things. Do you want me to talk about some of the things?

J.R Talk about what's important to you, when you remember.

P.B I spent 6 months in Concord when I came back.

J.R You volunteered for a second tour, didn't you?

P.B I'll tell you about that too.

J.R Why did you go back, I mean when you got to the end of your first tour were you gung-ho for some more?

P.B No, I wasn't gung-ho for some more, it was, the best way I can put it is, the men and the Captain that was in control of my Company thought that I was pretty good, and the boys in my section (see I had two stripes up then) so they pressured me to go back and I was classed as medically unfit.

J.R On what basis?

P.B For non tropical, on the fact that I'd broke out in a skin problem, dislocated shoulder and nerves.

J.R How did you feel, did you feel fit?

P.B I was fit, physically, yes, I didn't feel mentally fit I suppose, it's a bit hard to say because I went into a different situation. I had a lot of men under me" and this was probably the first step I took into the psych area, working with the men and trying to solve their problems and what was happening in their families, whatever.

J.R So you were really involved with other people?

P.B I'm probably a person that gets really involved with other people.

I'm up to my second trip now?

J.R Yes, we've got you back from your first trip.

P.B I was a medevac.

J.R When?

P.B In April '66, April 3rd I think.

J.R So you were still at Bien Hoa then?

P.B Yes, I was a medevac from Bien Hoa.

J.R And that was because of the shoulder and the skin?

P.B Yes, the shoulder, skin and nerves. Not so much the nerves, my nerves weren't really worrying me I didn't think.

J.R What happened to your shoulder?

P.B It was dislocated when I got slung out of the jungle, I was picking up a mortar, I grabbed a mortar before they could get it. I put it up quick, and threw my shoulder out, it wasn't a hit.

I got medevaced back, it was on a Hercules and it took about three days to get back. A lot of our blokes hated the Americans.

J.R That's why I was asking you about them, you see things, we hated the Americans, this and that, then others say they were so generous, they'd give you anything.

P.B Not just going on generosity, I think they were good people.
We were more higher paid than they were in Vietnam.

J.R Were you, why?

P.B I as a Corporal was getting the same as a Buck Sergeant, which would be equal to one of our warrant officers, I think, but that was the pay part of it. Most of our men,- not most - a lot of our men put the yanks down because of the 2nd World War and what their fathers had said to them.

J.R So it wasn't just the fact that they said they don't worry about lives?

P.B There was a lot of garbage come back, as I said to Roger, I'll come in here and tell the facts and they'll probably be different to a lot of other people.

J.R No, you're right. What did you think about the war at this stage? You were in it, did you think about it much?

P.B Well, about 10 months over there I would have given every cent I'd earnt to just get a rope tied to a ship to come back and I'd drag in the water behind, for the reason, I don't know I suppose I was homesick, I was frightened, you name it.

J.R You weren't enjoying it?

P.B No, I didn't enjoying it after about the first two weeks. I had to do and done what I had to do, as I said I had some shocking experiences, not so much happening to me but what I saw happening to people.

J.R But being a scout was more than you had to do, wasn't it?

P.B I couldn't refuse to be a scout, I was put out as a scout and that's what I did.

J.R You didn't volunteer to be a scout?

P.B No, I didn't volunteer, you're picked for what you're best at.Being reared in the bush, I suppose... I showed it through training. That I was fairly handy... I seen some awful things happen in villages, I saw some awful things happen in the bush.I was laying from here to there, and I'm talking about a metre and a half and couldn't move or breathe, I had to breathe I suppose; but I couldn't make any sound and watched some shocking things take place, but if I'd moved I'd give the game away.It was mainly the kids, the kids got to me, I'm a very strong believer in kids, I don't think I was before I went over there, but I certainly was when I came back.

J.R It makes you think about things, What can you do with memories like that?

P.B You dream about them for 12 months and then, I found the people that locked them in have got the biggest problem, if you can get them out, probably the best thing is to talk about it. Now, a lot of people say "I won't talk about it", it possibly takes half the load off your mind, it makes me feel relieved to get it out.

J.R When you were first over there and you were being shocked by these things

P.B Yes, but you wouldn't understand, you would have no idea what I am talking about.

J.R No, I haven't, but I'm wondering when you were over there and it was happening could you cope with it at the time. I mean all these soldiers were having these...

P.B I had a night where I felt a blanket was chucked over me and everything started to go black and I panicked. It was what you call a panic attack, I know it is now. I run for the RAP which was underground and fell down trying to breathe and hyperventilated. That particular day I experienced a little girl about 8 year old, being raped and then split open with a bayonet. Possibly about the length of this room I guess, I couldn't move I couldn't do anything to stop it.

J.R Was it in a village?

P.B No, it was outside a village. Had I been able to do something about it, I think...

J.R Who was doing it?

P.B It was Cong, I can't tell you whether it was hard core, North Vietnamese or South Vietnamese, but it was Cong. They'd taken that village and shot the old people, to get the kids to join. I didn't understand Vietnamese very well, could catch an odd word here and there. My job was to report back what was happening on this particular operation. They took the boys probably from 8 to 16, I don't think there were any boys there over that, only old people and little kids. And they took the girls for their own use, and I saw this happen. That night I got this... and I remember when I fell into the

thing they gave me these 3 blue tablets, I found out since that they were called Steralzine or something, a nerve tablet anyway. I took them and then I went on, I came good and went on. I can't tell you why. There was a million things, I can't tell you what happened, in that first year. There was the rain, you were worried about your mates coming back. The whole thing in that first year was, or first 11 months was, I tried to write a book and I started to write it and one of my sisters read it and broke down and I tore the book up.

J.R Did it help you to write?

P.B I was still getting it out you see, I was getting it out. I think it helped me.

J.R At the time you were over there on the tour, did you ever at the time try to deal with what you were seeing, or do you think everybody just kept it to themselves.

P.B You tell me how you deal with it?

J.R I don't know, I'm just wondering how you do deal with it.

P.B We would walk up to each other and say "Where did you hide your wallet this time, 'cos if you don't make it back I'm going to snaffle your money" And, you sort of joked, or if you were staying back at base "I hope you get one fair in the guts", joking. We got very sadistic, I found that we all did, including me.

J.R But you all kept going, it was sort of all stored up there but you didn't do anything with it.

P.B We used to catch rats and pour petrol on them, I don't know how many times we got into strife for burning tents down. Does that make sense to you? It doesn't make sense to you does it? It wouldn't make sense to anybody, but that's what happened.

J.R It was a crazy place.

P.B We'd catch rats and pour petrol on them, chuck a match on them and let them go, first thing they'd do was run into a tent and then the tent would go up, because they had this stuff sprayed on the tents to make the canvas last, and it was highly inflammable. If we killed a Cong we'd chop him up to fit the hole, rather than make the hole big enough to fit him.That might sound very sadistic too.

J.R No, a well a dead body's dead.

P.B We didn't carry any wounded, we killed them.

J.R So you've got all this stuff inside your head and you get nearly to the end of your tour and you get medevaced out, how in heavens name did they get you back again?

P.B I was at Holsworthy and they gave me a job in hygiene, so I walked up, (that was cleaning out toilets and whatever)

J.R But you got medevaced back?

P.B I got medevaced back, waited for 1 Battalion, marched through Sydney with them.

J.R But you got fixed up alright?

P.B We got the paint over the C.0, paint over my clothes. I went back to the Battalion after my leave and they put me in hygiene. So I threw me swag over me shoulder and walked up to the Company Commanders Office and chucked it all outside the door and just bowled in without being asked, I said "I'm either out of hygiene or gone", he said, "I'll keep them here", I said "It will take more than you to keep them here", he was a bit of a fresh fellow, so they decided I could be used in the Q, so I then went, I was transferred up to see this Captain in Q, Captain Bennett his name was, and they made me the Internal Auditor, I was pretty good at Maths so they made me Internal Auditor for the Battalion.

J.R This was not 1 RAR?

P.B This was still 1 RAR, so they sort of treated me, because I was medevaced out, they treated me badly, I thought, especially all the work I'd done.

J.R You wanted to go back to your original...

P.B I wanted to go back to my D Company, but I was just put into administration, Administration Company. I went through the true setup, like it was nothing, I've been a person who is very ambitious to fire ahead, so I, as I said I was in a terrific position, I was Internal Auditor so I cut people down, I shot them down real fast. I feel now and I can see now that I was still coming flown-from over there. Good friends of mine I ripped apart, I mean not physically..

J.R You were very angry were you, or aggressive?

P.B I think I was angry at the world.

J.R Were you under any sort of treatment?

P.B No.

J.R Your skin was alright, your shoulder was alright?

P.B Yes, shoulder was okay, it was bandaged up for a couple of months, skin used to break out occasionally.

J.R Was that a tropical sort of thing?

P.B Yes, it can never be cured they tell me. I haven't got any sign of it now, it will come back, it will come back on my hands.

I went...that's where I made me way up to a couple of hooks, by shooting people down.; If someone wasn't good enough I'd put them out, they'd have to be spot on or else...

J.R Did you get satisfaction out of that?

P.B I felt real bloody good when I did it, real good. I made a lot of friends too, I can tell you, which amazes me when I think back now. When I think back, I live it all the time, I've never slept for more than 2 hours a night since I came home, I don't think.

J.R Was it like that then, after your first tour?

P.B Yes, it seems like it's been all me life, but it started then. Well, they wanted me to go then for my 2nd trip, so, people in my section and the Platoon Commander definitely wanted me, and a couple of me friends who'd been there the first time who'd been in the same section as me definitely wanted me there, especially as they had to go back, they had no choice.

J.R There were a lot of people doing 2nd tours then were there?

P.B Yes, I lost 2 good mates during the 2nd tour. As a matter of fact, on the 2nd trip to Vietnam you would find that about 80% of the people killed in Vietnam on the 2nd trip of 1 RAR were 2ndtrippers,and you can check that through research if you like, I know their names.

J.R That's interesting.

P.B We took the risks.

J.R Because you were more experienced?

P.B No, we were trying to protect the kids, I think.

J.R Were you, yes.

P.B I think we were trying to protect the kids, that's the way I looked at it.

J.R On your first tour, there wouldn't have been any National Servicemen, would there?

On the 2nd tour there would have been?.. Did that make a difference?

P.B Yes, I had 2 regulars and the rest were National Servicemen in my section of 9.

J.R You were still a Corporal?

P.B Yes, I was a Corporal and both the 2nd trippers were killed in my section. I came back with a section of National Servicemen, medevaced again.

J.R Tell me when you went for your 2nd tour?

P.B Early in '68, I started to lose track of things at that

stage, I went to Victoria Barracks, I was knocked back on medical award, unfit. I went back and I told the Company Commander and he said to slip over to Ingleburn and we'll get you another and I went to the Medical Board and I passed it, you know how I passed it?

J.R How did you pass it?

P.B I wasn't even checked it was a mates job, they wanted me, now I'll be honest with you, I wanted, I started to get rapt in being praised up.

J.R They said we can't do without you and you lapped it up.

P.B They wanted me to come and I'd look after them and I definitely would. I suppose you'd call it impressing people, they treated me well and I felt good about it. I done me girlfriend at the time who I was engaged to, I had a choice between her and going back and I took going back.

J.R What did your family think about it, were you close to them?

P.B My close friends, I was impressing everyone by doing it, so I went, back. That's the only way I can explain it to you. I wanted to impress. Before I ever went to Vietnam in the first place impressing people didn't worry me, it was the last thing on my mind, After that first trip I had to impress, I had to stand out, I was nothing. I'd never ever been in a fight in my life and I came back punching and throwing and beating everybody. Do you understand that I had to stand out?

J.R Right

P.B Whereas before I never had to.

J.R Was that a common sort of thing with people coming back, do you think?

P.B Yes, I think so because a lot of my friends, they were married and whatever, there is only one I know, I think he's coming in to see you next, he's the only bloke I know that actually got through and stayed married.

J.R Because you changed and the wives didn't?

P.B Possibly, I'd say. I wasn't married before I went, I got married after I got back, it lasted 18 months, that's not bad. I've got a beautiful little boy, I think it was probably more her fault than mine, but that's not part of the story. In a sense it is. I went back the second time. We did op after op, I went over as the advanced party.

J.R You're at Nuidat now?

P.B Advanced party landed at Saigon flown down to Nuidat, hadn't been there, went out with two hooks up with a patrol of the people that were there. I can't think of the Battalion we were with, I think it was the 7th Battalion. I remember 2 people there with, 2 blokes that had this particular VD that kept them there and they were laughing and waving at the trucks, they died within a couple of weeks. That shook me up a bit, it sort of cut all that type of thing out, which on the 1st trip it wasn't, well it happened, I think it shook everybody up. I went out on a patrol and the first I knew that my nerves were crook was on the first patrol about a week after I'd got there the second time. We got the signal from the scout that there was an ambush on and I can remember that I was shaking like a leaf. I started to think what's going on, something's gone wrong.

J.R Were you surprised that you were like that?

P.B I was because I'd not only shot at people and killed them, but I'd physically killed them with a knife and whatever.

J.R You thought you could handle it again?

P.B I couldn't see any reason why not, because I'd seen what they'd done to other people. I didn't hate anybody.

J.R Did you want to kill them?

P.B No.

J.R I mean did you think as them as the enemy or?...

P.B They were just the enemy that's the best way to look at it, I used to hope that everything would go black, I'd be out on a patrol and everything would go black and find myself waking up in a hospital in Australia with some superficial wound that could be cured real quick, do you know what I'm getting at, I wanted it to happen.

J.R You wanted to be out?

P.B I always wanted it to happen. I don't think I was alone there.

J.R So what sort of operations were you on?

P.B All search and destroy.

J.R So this was with 1 RAR?

P.B 1 Battalion, Probably one of the worst nights I spent there was the night of Fire Support Base Coral, I awoke about 2 in the morning and I threw up until 7 with fright. We killed 500 of them, there was 1500 of them overrun our camp, they carried their mortars away, we shot them off for mortars we shot them off for guns, that's where I lost me two best mates.

J.R Was there a lot of artillery involved in actions like that?

P.B No, there was only one occasion that I know of that they lowered their guns and fired point blank. But the Americans saved us in the war, they really did, they came in with gunships over the top, they hammered hell out of them. I wouldn't be sitting here talking to you today except for them.

J.R Did you ever get any air support from the Australian gunships?

P.B You couldn't get a medevac from the Australians, you couldn't get a man shot and picked up, we had to call the Americans in and they'd come straight away.

J.R Were there not enough choppers or what?

P.B They had them, the 2nd trip they had them.

J.R Too much red tape to get them?

P.B No, it was just a matter. of a call sign, they were sitting up there, they weren't game to come down under fire.

J.R Anyway, you were telling me about your 2nd tour.

P.B Any idea where I was up to? Sorry.

J.R We were doing 'lots of things, you were talking about Lire support Base Coral and then we were talking about dustoffs.

P.B Yes, dustoffs, if you want to call them dustoffs...

J.R Medevacs.

P.B Yes, we always relied on the Americans, I would no more call in an Australian helicopter than fly, and I don't care if Bob Hawke is listening or Gough Whitlam or whoever they are, not only them but the Liberal lot as well, I've got no time for any Politician, I think it might have been Bob Menzies who sent us there. They would come in, I've seen them come in under the jungle and fly back out again in the night, I've seen the glass smashing in the windows and they are picking our blokes up, and we'd keep calling our blokes and they wouldn't come.

J.R Why do you think it was?

P.B $100,000, $200,000 worth of helicopter and the Australian Government couldn't afford it.

J.R It wasn't the pilots?

P.B I don't think it was the pilots, I think the pilots were just as good as us.

J.R Was it the policy?

P.B I think it was the equipment. I don't know of an Australian helicopter that was shot down over there. There possibly was but I didn't see any. I saw a hell of a lot of Americans go down. Actually I saw one shot down with a crossbow.

J.R Good heavens.

P.B Well, some of the gear they had. They weren't as well equipped as you?

P.B I killed a tong one night and when I checked his gear he had a rifle and he had 5 different types of ammunition that all fitted the one rifle that had been doctored. They never had good gear, this is going back to the 1st trip, '65, they never had good gear.

J.R Was it a lot different for you operating as part of the Australian task force as opposed to being attached to the Americans?

P.B The best ever, and I'll swear this till the day I die was while I was attached to the Americans. Now I'm not pro American, okay I'm not, there's no American in me, I'm of Irish descent, there's no American in me, possibly it was through me father, he was in the ‚2nd World War and he thought a lot of the Americans. A lot of the blokes over there hated the Americans before they even met the Americans, it was mainly from American troops in Australia and the things they did to their girlfriends and mothers and whatever might have happened. I think that was sort of a bit of hand me down job that, I take people as I find them and as I said to you I'm not overly impressed with aboriginals at the best of time. But I think I stated earlier that I think the American negro was probably better than the American white man, but it would be very close, so I've got no colour prejudices, I don't think I've got any prejudices of any sort.

J.R We've all got prejudices.

P.B I hate dirty women. That’s about it.

J.R Fair enough, fair enough. Did you find you weren't coping that well on the 2nd tour, you kept functioning alright...

P.B I was functioning alright, but what brought me undone, possibly w*as*, I was caught, in an ambush and I had tw000d mates and about 8 good Nashos, we got hit in an ambush and I sent me best mate one way and me second best mate the other way, to cover us, and I said I'll get ‘em out and I'll come back for youse. I got them out, I skulldragged them back out, I was caught fair in the middle of it, when I got back one was taken fair off the base with a rocket and the other bloke was in a stump, I could feel his hand, I got hold of his pulse, I couldn't feel any pulse and in all appearances he was dead.

P.B I blamed myself for both of them being killed which caused my nerves to get thrown out. I went back to the Battalion, tore my stripes off and threw them at the C.O, that was after knocking the Sergeant about and telling the Captain to get stuffed and whatever, I confronted the C.O, it was a shooting job over there of course, and got charged with disobeying lawful command, the charge should have been conduct to the prejudice, which the C.O then tore the charge up, as soon as he tore the charge up I tore me hooks off, then I tried to get myself killed. I volunteered myself to be a scout again, as a Private, and I went out scouting. I had no mates left and I tried to get myself killed.

J.R You didn't succeed?

P.B No I didn't...

J.R What did they think of you, I mean your Sergeant and your Platoon Commander, did they think you'd gone a bit troppo or something?

P.B No, they were getting me to handle the troppos.

J.R They thought you were still...

P.B I was handling the troppos, don't worry about that, they used to come and grab you around the arms... and run around laughing, this kind of thing, I seem to have a way of being able to get through to them. They used to use me for that.

J.R So you were still okay to all appearances?

P.B Yes, I suppose outwardly I was, I felt okay too, but I wasn't. You know when I look back I wasn't.

J.R And that was fairly early on in your second tour, was it?

P.B Yes, it would have been in the first couple of months. I stuck it out for about 5 or 6 months or 7 I'm not exactly sure about the time and the skin thing broke out again and I went up to this Doctor and he just wrote across my medical records "This man should never have been sent back the second time." No question about it, and he said to me "well your nerves are shot to pieces, God, strewth you should never have come back." I'd already been rejected by one medic.

J.R How did they assess you?

P.B F.N.T (For Non Tropical) in other words I was totally fit but non tropical.

J.R Do they do it by talking to you?

P.B Yes, you have a yarn to them, Psychiatrists, every type of Doctor checked you out.

J.R What did you think of the Psychiatrists?

P.B I don't mind Psychiatrists, I'm half one myself.

J.R You probably are by now. No, I think because some veterans say they hate the Psychiatrists because they think they don't give them a fair deal, did you find they helped you, did they want to help you or did they just want to get you back?

P.B They want to help you if you want to help yourself, it's a matter of the drive I think, if you want to get better. I would have given every cent I'd got over there to be back to what I was, but now I think about it I think I'm better now than I ever was, in one sense.

J.R You've got more understanding?

P.B Yes, I've got much more understanding, well I've been counseling and everything, I can see other peoples point of view. I think the psychiatric treatment I've had was probably one of the best things that ever happened.

J.R What sort of treatment did you have?

P.B It was mainly talking.

J.R Did they give you a lot of drugs?

P.B No I never had like shock treatment or that. I was given tranquilizers which I still take, I'm on 8 valium tablets a day which I'll take for the rest of my life. Well I've been told, it's like a diabetic with insulin, I have to have it.

J.R You have to keep taking them.

P.B I've tried to come off them, but there is no way.

J.R When you got back from your second tour, how were you then? Did you feel okay?

P.B Yes, I felt okay but the slightest thing would put me out, and I'd go...

J.R You came back, you were still in the army, still in your unit?

P.B No, I came back, I had some leave and my discharge came through, see that's why I came back.

J.R You'd been in for?

P.B 6 years, 17th January, 1969. I got there on the 18th, I, I was A.W.L.

J.R Not a good way to finish?

P.B And I couldn't have cared less either.

J.R So when you got back from Vietnam the second time, did you feel strange or wild or?

P.B Australia didn't, I won't say Australia, our society didn't suit me, I don't know if that makes sense.

J.R Did you come back to Sydney?

P.B I landed in Sydney, spent one night there and went to Newcastle where my parents lived and I think 2 days later I was back in Inverell and I've never been able to settle down since, I keep moving. It's only been in the last 12 months, and we're talking about 20 years ago, it's in the last 12 months that I've bought myself a house and settled. And when I say settled I mean, now I rode a bullock at Ashford Show last year, Ashford Show was on yesterday, I didn't go, I didn't happen to go yesterday, that's the impressing bit, do you see that, I've got nothing to prove, I won a Southern Queensland Championship Bull Ride.

J.R You were a Rodeo man?

P.B I always have been, I went.. when I came back here, do you follow what I'm getting at there?

J.R The same pattern.

P.B Everything was, I had to get harder and harder at, I had to stand out. Now my hardest, job here is being completely factual to you and not try to impress you, do you know what I'm getting at?

J.R Yes, yes.

P.B If anything I'm toning things the other way/to stop this impressing, 'cos I know me own faults.

J.R You've got a lot of insight then, do you watch yourself now, do you listen to yourself?

P.B I have to, I have to. Well I have picked up a fair bit of knowledge working on this degree so I start to look at everything I do, and what makes me do it. J.R

J.R Does that help or do you get a ...

P.B Yes, it does help, I think anyone's a fool to think that it wouldn't. If I do something that's a bit off the ordinary, or what I call ordinary I check back on the psychological side of it, see what is causing me to do that. Whether it might be just saying something or whatever, I think there is a reason behind everything we do.

J.R Yes, there's a reason why we do it.

J.R What about, when you came back and you got out of the army, what did you think you'd do with the rest of your life?

P.B I wanted to go and sit on the bank of a creek somewhere and just hang me feet in the water and lay back under a tree.

J.R What, you felt sort of apathetic or...?

P.B I thought that’s be glorious that's my ideal, I wanted to go into a cafe and sit down with a girl and drink a glass of coke. You know these sort of things, they were my dreams.

J.R So they were what you missed when you were over, there did you think at the time?

P.B Yes, I think it was the fact that I felt a lot had been taken off me in that area, I was never allowed to be a kid, if that makes sense.

J.R You went straight into the army.

P.B I think that had a bit to do with it. It was the last thing I done though, that wasn't what I done at all, but it was what I wanted to do.

J.R It's a pretty rough way to spend 6 years at that age, isn't it?

P.B I'm good at 2 things, breaking in horses and killing people, does that make sense?

J.R Well, in a sort of a way I guess.

P.B It doesn't give you much of a life does it really when you think about it.

J.R No, no it doesn't.

P.B Before I even knew you were going to be here, before I came down here this morning, I was thinking to myself, well that's what I'm good at, I break in horses, I'm good at that, I'm also good at killing people, so it gives me one option doesn't it, breaking horses.

J.R Well, hope so.

P.B No, I wouldn't kill people.

J.R It's more acceptable isn't it?
But what do you think people should do, I mean I said to you before, what do you do with all these things that are in your head, I mean what should soldiers do when they've been taught to kill people?

P.B Soldiers should be rehabilitated.

J.R But how?

P.B Can I be honest with you, I'll just make one statement, if I won Lotto and hopefully about 7 or 8 million dollars, I would put it straight in and set up a rehabilitation unit for soldiers to rehabilitate them back into society. They trained us to kill but they left us there.

J.R But how do they get you back, how do they rehabilitate you, is it counseling?

P.B I think you'd have to mix normal people in, and let the soldiers see what happens with normal people and gradually bring them back, because you're trained, that was like training for football and not playing the game, or something, you're at a high and you've got to get back. I've never, as I say I bought a house last year, and I reared a little boy from 9 months old, I don't blame my wife for leaving, I probably would have left me myself, I do blame her a little bit for leaving the boy, but she wouldn't have got him anyway because I went straight to the court and got total custody, but I just feel that I was left dangling, there was no...they should have a way back.

J.R Yes, it's interesting, you know I've read a lot about the 1st World War and there's a lot of stuff there about when the soldiers finished it took them so long to get home because in those days, you know there was one chap who went on a big long train trip through the Middle East, it took him a month or something then he got on a Boat and it took him 2 or 3 months and all the time he was coming back he was thinking about it and he was sort of gradually coming down, whereas you blokes were flown home and given your pay and out into the street.

P.B 3 days from being shot at, I was standing alongside me Grandmothers bed in Uralla.

J.R It's weird isn't it? It's certainly sounds weird so it must be really weird to

P.B Jimmy O'Neil, I don't know whether you've met Jim but he's Assistant Secretary Manager.

J.R I think I did meet him.

P.B I was walking into the house with him 3 days after I left Nuidat, a kid set a cracker off in the yard next door and I landed in a rose bush. Do you see, there was no coming down. A bit of a fight started in the Hotel down here, the Old Imperial, I didn't go in to fight I went in to kill, do you see that?

J.R Yes, it's just a different country over there.

P.B But it's taken me a hell of a long time to get back.

J.R And do you think if you had’ve got help on the way back?

P.B I feel that I should have been rehabilitated back.

J.R So when did you start, you came back to Inverell?

P.B I came back to Inverell and I started going mad on rodeos and I'm still trying to get myself killed, does that make sense to you, it doesn't make sense to the normal person I know that, but does what I'm saying make sense?

J.R Yes, yes.

P.B I done me best to get killed over there, and I couldn't; I came back here and done me best to get killed and couldn't; I then tried to fit in, but the problem was that the people in Australia didn't understand. That's how I saw it.

J.R Well they probably didn't.

P.B Well I didn't understand them.But I thought Australia had• changed, does that make sense?

J.R Yes, but you'd changed?

P.B It was me that had changed, but I thought that they had, and to this day there's a lot of things that I sort of don't believe in our society's right. I'm the first one to get up and argue at College over it, and I usually put up a pretty good argument, do you know what I'm getting at there, there's something wrong'.

J.R Well there's a lot of things wrong, yes. But when did you start, when you started going to rodeos, did you follow the rodeo circuits?

P.B Yes, I done the circuits, it was all called therapeutic.

J.R And did you have any contact with Repat, or anything?

P.B Yes, I was discharged on 20%.

J.R On what basis?

P.B Nerves, shoulder the whole works, I was discharged on that.

J.R So could you live on what you earned at the rodeos?

P.B No I couldn't, I started a job, start at the bottom and then go to the top and then walk out. I'd start at the bottom then go to the top, that happened at about 5 jobs, you named it I went through the lot of them. I was an undertaker, I'd done the lot, but I'd always start at the bottom and work to the top, but that worried me, why couldn't I stick to a job. I still can't, I suppose I don't have to now I'm on T.T.I and War Service, they have classed me as being totally disabled.

J.R And how long have you been on a T.P.I?

P.B It's a T.T.I.

J.R T.T.I, sorry.

P.B 4 or 5 years, something like that.

J.R And at what stage did you go to Concord?

P.B I went in '72 and I went back again in '78 I think, I had 2 to 3 months, but the second trip they had me working with the kids... so they were using me then.

J.R You didn't like being used?

P.B I didn't like being used in the fact that some of the kids got very attached to me, and you know yourself if you've got someone dependant on you there should be a cutoff point, if you don't cut off, well...

J.R You're not helping them.

P.B You're certainly not helping them, it would only cause a couple of suicides. I felt that strongly over there on a couple of occasions.

J.R How did you feel, well at the time and looking back, what did you think about the war as a whole, was there any point in it?

P.B I believe that we done a lot of good, I believe that we should have been there and I believe that we done it.

J.R Did you think that at the time?

P.B I believed it then and I believe it now.

J.R And how did you feel say in 1975 when the communists took over?

P.B I got very dirty about it because I believe the communists took over here too, and in America.

J.R But not with tanks.

P.B No, I'm saying the reason we were pulled out, the Australians got pulled out of Vietnam and we had Nixon in America and Whitlam in Australia.

J.R Although the Liberals decided to pull out too, before Whitlam got in.

P.B Well let me put it this way how would you like to start playing me table tennis here and you were beating me 11 — 10 and Roger came in and said get out.

J.R Yes, disappointed. But do you think, were we that far in front?

P.B I'm quite sure we were when I was there. Now there's a lot of bloody propaganda garbage comes back as to how mad they were beating us, I don't wear any of that, I was there.

J.R You don't think they were just waiting till we left?

P.B They never had a hope. If it was a money making situation okay the South Vietnamese were as bad as the North Vietnamese, if you want to know my real opinion.

J.R No, that's what I was wondering, do you think they were..

P.B No, I'm not pumping the south up.

J.R But do you think, how do you think the, say in Phuoc Tuy, how did they feel about the Australians, the Americans, the Viet Cong?

P.B They loved our money, so they played one against the other.

J.R But do you think they preferred one to the other?

P.B Yes, I think so, I think that the major or the majority of South Vietnamese didn't want to go under communist rule, but I can only talk about the people I talk to.

J.R But did they try hard to stop it, do you think?

P.B When you say that it's like saying if Queensland and New South Wales were fighting each other did they try hard to stop it. We might have 10 South Vietnamese with us and one of them would leave a grenade in the chopper when they jumped out, so you can't blame 10 for what one did. I think that possibly 9 out of the 10 wanted us, I didn't. I got set up in Baria, in a second situation, I nearly got myself knifed except that I shot both, this is fact. She was a trap.

J.R What were you doing in Baria?

P.B I'm not going to go into details, you can imagine.

J.R But was that a normal...

P.B Baria is only a couple of miles down the road from Nuidat.

J.R Was it a normal haunt.

P.B It was a normal place if you could sneak away, yes.

J.R Was it easy to sneak away?

P.B If you were a scout, it was fairly easy.

J.R Did you sneak away from the base or when you were out in the bush?

P.B No, you didn't sneak away in the bush, no, you had your men to look after, you were responsible...but back at the base...

J.R You could do whatever you could do?

P.B How would you go after 12 months? We're all human.

J.R I don't know.So do you feel you were used, do you feel sort of resentful that you were there, or were you just sorry it didn't work out better... If you were trying to sum it up

P.B I'm very sorry that we, if I had to sum it up, were pulled back, that it wasn't completed, I'm very resentful to the Australian people in general for the reception we got, but I believed it was a cause, it should have been, we've certainly lost ground in that area.

J.R Did you find war experiences, did they do bad things to you?

P.B They certainly have, I think. I think you could possibly see that.

J.R How could you say, we should have kept going?

P.B I'd hate all this to have happened to me for nothing.

J.R But do you think if we kept sending more people and they all...

P.B If we'd won out it would have made a hell of a lot of difference.

J.R So you would have felt better about it, if you could look back on it..,

P.B Well, I could have looked back and said, well at least we did it.

J.R It's hard isn't it, to be sort of the losing side?

P.B I don't believe we're the losers, we weren't the losers, but the Australians were.

J.R Because of the lack of will?

P.B Well, it was more the Government at the time, but I don't believe that the Government runs the country.

J.R But do you believe the people in Australia were sick of the war or not interested in it, or wanted out?

P.B They certainly didn't support it, the majority, or when I say the majority, how would you like to be over there fighting your guts out, getting shot at and then finding out the ships weren't being loaded with your tucker. Now when I came back between tours, I was sent down to the wharfs to load ships for the blokes who were over there and the wharfies were sitting there, and I just walked up

with my machine gun and said "you bloody load them ships or I'll gun you down where you stand", they loaded them.

J.R You meant it?

P.B No, I'm dead serious, you get tins off red paint chucked all over you.

J.R It's difficult, but what should the people in Australia do?

P.B Should I shoot a woman who's chucking hand grenades at me? Or should I pat her on the back and say, well you can't shoot a woman.

J.R Well, all's fair.

But what should the people in Australia have done?

P.B We were called women killers and kid killers, now I don't know if you've ever experienced going into a village and people are running in all directions and you're being shot at, you shoot everything that moves, now you're very sorry later when you find out that you shot a 5 year old kid, but what can you do about it? Probably about the most jarring moment of my life over there was a little girl of about 12 year old with a baby, and she'd been carted from the village and she was burnt completely up one side and the baby was burnt clean up the back from flame throwers that we'd put the tunnels and she just looked at me with a real pleading look in her eyes and I just poked her with the rifle and said get going.

J.R Where was that?

P.B That was, oh God, in the Iron Triangle, we'd been flown out over the Cambodian border, did an op out there which was strictly not on the records, and then we were flying back to base, and it was because of the Cong that were mixed in with the Interpreters, they just swung the choppers, but they made a blue and landed us in the middle of a Viet Cong base and the Americans landed their 2 Battalions as cut off and we came in to drive it through, but what happened we landed in the middle, I think we captured 500 or something, and there were 17 or 15 of our blokes killed and a lot of wounded.

J.R Yes, yes. But what do you do if a country's divided about a war?

P.B They weren't divided, except in the fact you got the odd one that would set you up.

J.R When you came back, how did people react, I mean did they call you women killers?

P.B Yes, I knocked a bloke out in Uralla, oh yes we copped that, the red paint in the march through Sydney, but I went into a Hotel in Uralla and this, actually he's some distant type cousin and he said "I'll pick up me rifle when they come up the moombies", that's the ranges between Tamworth and Uralla, I just walked over and knocked him out. Now I don't know whether you can understand that, but I could.

J.R It's very difficult isn't it, if you're opposed to the Government, I mean people might have been opposed to the Government but not opposed to you.

P.B There were two different Governments, I wasn't opposed to the Government policy, I was opposed to the way some people thought about it and others didn't. Some were praising us and some were knocking us.

J.R But, say the people who said end the war at all cost, just pull out, forget about it, just come back, what should they have done?

P.B After what I've been through, I still don't believe that people should sit and let other people do their fighting. I believe that you're in your house and I'm in mine, you shouldn't rely on me to protect you.

J.R But if they said, we don't need to be protected. Do you see what I'm getting at, you're up there fighting and sure that's one thing and people said well we've got to bring them back and without criticizing the soldiers....

P.B Look, if our society wasn't based the way it is, we wouldn't have a society, in other words people would do exactly as they wanted to do. I believe that it's the strength in our society that would hold us together. I believe that as much as I hate war, war is part of it. If I haven't got a rifle in my house I can be robbed at any time, if I was known as a soft person anyone can walk in and take what I've got. I think you have to have something to baulk people because people have got this drive to take what they can get.

J.R So why not Anzac Day, why don't you like marching?

P.B Well I know about 9 blokes near Inverell went to Vietnam and when I first went down there, they thought, well they'd better mix us in with people. ... But I found out that there was 35 marched.

J.R A few extras?

P.B Well, they jammed a bush in their shirt...They went for the free grog. I go to church, a couple of mates and me, I pray in church on Anzac Day, I don't celebrate Anzac Day.

J.R What do you think Anzac Day does?

P.B Glorifies it, glorifies something that wasn't meant to be glorified. I think it's got itself into the wrong perspectives. There's something wrong there.

J.R You're obviously proud of your country and will defend it, I mean you have, so what should Anzac Day do?

Anzac Day should be a day of remembrance, and if you've got a God, pray to that God for the people that gave their lives for Australia, it's got nothing to do with drinking as much grog as you can. I've killed more people in this bloody R.S.L. Club, I'm not proud of it, I don't have to tell warries.

J.R Are you proud of your army service?

P.B I'm proud of the fact that I was defending my country, yes. The same as I'd be proud of the fact that I was defending my own home, I don't know if that sounds, or what you want to hear?

J.R No, no, no, no.

P.B I could write a book.

J.R You ought to. When you started writing, what did you write about?

P.B I wrote about the bad things.

J.R Did you, not anything about the good things?

P.B No, I can look back and have some good laughs too, jumping on a bullock cart and galloping up the street. I'll tell you this yarn I've often told, it was funny you'll get a grin out of it. There was a Canadian, two Americans, Lonnie Lee who was an Australian and myself in a bar in Saigon, and I was talking to the Canadian and he was talking to the two Americans, but the Canadian was in the American army and he just called out to me, he said, hey bogie you drove cattle didn't you?' And I've rustled cattle on and off, and I said yeh mate, sure, so about an hour later, come on we're going and they walked out and grabbed this noggie we used to call it, just grabbed this noggie off the bullock wagon, and said, 'here bogie you take over and handed me this great cane whip. I panicked to tell you the truth, I thought I can't drive this and the Americans were full of confidence and they were all sitting there drinking so I tapped the bullock on the rump and away we went up the street. I remember Dad telling me about the bullock team about making them turn and all that and I reached down and gave it a swipe and broke into a gallop straight up the street, and they were all laughing, thought it was a great joke, they thought I was in full control but I had none, no reins, nothing. Anyway it ran up into a sort of T intersection and there was a bar just there and it ran up to the fence and it stopped and I looked around and I saw the ... and I said "there we are" and they bounced off and as far as I knew the bullock could still be standing.

J.R Didn't speak Australian.

P.B There were some funny things.

J.R I suppose there always would be.

P.B It has to come in time.

J.R And can you sort of get it more, how can I say it, can you control more what you remember now, can you balance the bad with the good more now?

P.B Yes, I'd be completely insane if I couldn't. I balance it out a bit. I balance Australia against it too, things that have happened since and before, it's a mixture of the lot. I don't think that the good outweighed the bad over there, but I think the good here, the funny things over there and the good back here, balance the bad there.

J.R So was it worth it, overall for you?

P.B (Pause) No, I don't think so.

J.R You wouldn't choose it again?

P.B No, no I wouldn't choose it again, no.

J.R Yet you've got something out of it?

P.B I got a lot of insight, I learnt to understand other people and other people's feelings.

J.R And your own?

P.B And my own, yeh. I think to understand other people you start to understand yourself.

J.R So what's going to happen for the next 40 years, 50 years?

P.B I won't live that long.

J.R Why not, you might. Is your father still alive?

P.B No, he died, he died at 62 with leukemia. I'm going to rear me boy, I've reared him from 9 months old to 7, nearly 7, he'll be 7 in June, on me own, when he's old enough to take care of himself, I don't care, I don't really care to be honest.

J.R How would you feel if he had to go into the army, if he got called up?

P.B It would be his duty for his country. I believe that people should be responsible for their own actions whether it be two 14 year olds out, boy—girl, they should be responsible for what they do. If I say something to you, I should be responsible for it, while we're sitting here. I believe if I walked out there and drank too many whiskeys and punched somebody at the bar, I should be responsible for that. If Australia does something, I think Australia has to be responsible for that. I don't know if that's clear to you,

I live by one creed only and that's it, responsibility for your actions and whether it be an individual, town, city, country, whatever, I think that everybody's got to be responsible for their actions. Now I don't know if that makes sense to you?

J.R Yes, it makes a lot of sense to me, yes.

P.B That's how I sort of look on life, I didn't look at it like that before, I didn't give a bugger about anything, go out and jump on some bird out able op and think it was great fun, but since I've come back, I've got a different opinion on life. I couldn't handle it to see little kids getting torn apart, they weren't responsible.

J.R No, no choice.

P.B So why not kill them, does that make sense to you? Would you? Now be honest with me, you answer me a question?

J.R I don't know, I don't know.

P.B If you saw a little boy or a little girl being abused, do you think that you'd kill?

J.R I have no idea.

P.B You've got to be in that position, haven't you? I found that I had to be in that position before I knew.

J.R I was saying to Gary before that when you grow up as a woman you never have to think about these things you're not faced with the idea that you might have to be a soldier or go and kill people or be drafted, you're spared a lot of those choices.

P.B Women are very lucky in one respect, I feel, they do cop a lot of abuse in a lot of areas. Women are allowed to be dependant and they grow up with that knowledge and if you were drug dependant, or whatever, you're allowed to be, whereas a man isn't. You know a man is supposed to be able to stand on his own two feet, there's nothing worse than to see a man cry, now I cried me eyes out in hospital up here one day, I'll never forget this Sister in the ward, I wouldn't know her name, if I knew her name I'd send her a hundred dollars every week, I seen her once, I totally wet me pyjamas from tears, and I said "you must think I'm bloody hopeless crying like this?" And she just sat on the bed, put her arm on me shoulder, and she said "you've got a heart".

J.R I don't know how you feel about this, but I think Australia's getting to accept emotion in men more than it used to.

P.B Men do have emotions.

J.R Course they do.

P.B But we're not allowed to show them yet, not openly.

J.R But it's improving don't you think?

P.B Hopefully it is, I'm very upset about this fact of women's liberation, if they're not going to go the whole distance.

J.R Yes, well that's sort of a contradiction isn't it?

P.B Now you take a young girl out for the first night, now you wouldn't but I would, and you're expected to virtually rape them if you're going to go to the cot. I've tried it, and you say "oh no, if you're saying no, well no, ok", and then they'll darn near drag you on. Do you get what I'm getting at, they'd like to be taken rather than give their permission, 'cos they can always <u>blame</u> you.

TAPE ENDED HERE.