

used to have to go to Miami to Jackson Memorial and pick up case after case of raw blood and we rushed it. This was in the early days of those transfusions back there then. They didn't have as much chance of doing much Pasteurizing or whatever was necessary with the blood. And we had to rush it by FHP from Miami to the vicinity of Vero Beach for the merchant seamen who were on the ships that were torpedoed just offshore. Well this struck home to me one day when one of our own FHP was on one of those ships as a seaman. It was long ago and I've lost his name. I think it was Johnny Patterson, but I don't remember now. But I'll never forget waiving goodbye to him standing there on shore and he was up on the high deck there and waiving goodbye to me when he pulled out from Port Everglades.

CW: Was he with the Patrol and then went to sea?

AF: Yeah. He went to sea because of the fact he was like others in the Patrol that was not married. So consequently they got drafted. The draft board refused to take me. I tried my best to get them to take me but they would not do it. Because I was married and had a family. No, I didn't have family yet, I was just married. But they wouldn't take me. But he was taken and he did like others, he enlisted. It was my understanding that that was his first trip and his last trip. Because I understand that ship was hit as soon as they got out to sea. And, on the very first day. Well, we had not only that to go by, we had visual proof that things were happening because as much oil that washed ashore on the beaches and lot of tar that comes out of engine