
Duane Burnham Ford



From an email to his brother Kim Ford on August 30, 1998, we learn that Apostle Dallin H. Oaks was Grandpa Ford's Elders' Quorum president while he served in the military and was stationed at Fort Belvoir, VA.

Subject: Re: Short History of Military

Military Experience of Duane Ford:

I was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves upon graduation from Utah State University on June 1, 1957.

I initiated civilian employment with the Sacramento District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the purpose of serving part of my military obligation as an officer with the Sacramento District.

I had received orders for 2-years active duty but prior to serving, my orders were reduced to 6-months total active duty because the Korean War was winding down and many officers serving in the military were being reduced in rank to Msgt in order to stay in the military until retirement.

I began dating Rama Anderson in July of 1957 and by her birthday, we were engaged to be married in 2 years. However when my orders were reduced to 6-months active duty, we decided to get married before going on active duty on January 31, 1958.

Beginning on February 8, 1958, I served 3-months at BOMOP (Basic Officers Military Orientation Program) at Fort Belvoir, VA near Washington, D.C. Rama and I had an apartment at 108 Ladsons Lane in Alexandria, VA. **My Elder's Quorum president was Dallin Oaks who was working as a Law Clerk and attending George Washington University. The Bishop (Peterson) was also a lawyer and his two counselors were military officers serving in the Pentagon. I was always getting calls from the Pentagon which surprised many of my associates in the army. What they didn't know was I was receiving assignments from members of the Bishopric to get brethren from Alexandria Ward to work at the Stake Farm near what is now called Dulles International Airport.**



For the remaining 3-months I was assigned to Post Engineers administering Barracks Rehabilitation projects. I was given a letter of commendation by the Post Engineer for my service which ended in August 8, 1958. We returned to Sacramento, visiting New York City, Sleepy Hollow in the Adirondacks, Niagara Falls, the Hill Cumorah Pageant at Palmyra, and John, Shirley and Family as well as a few other Relatives on Rama's side of our family. I returned to work with the Sacramento District and worked on military and civil works projects for the remainder of my 18 month junior engineer training program. I was then given permanent assignment as an engineer on the Lock and Bridge Project in West Sacramento. Later, I became Office Engineer on the New Hogan Dam in Calaveras County. In 1962, I left the Corps and went to work for Bechtel Corporation on the Upper American River Project the next six years. During that time, my 8-year military obligation in the U.S. Army Reserves was completed in 1966. I had served in various army reserve units and on occasional 2-week active duty for training periods while on leave from my employers during the summertime.

Wikipedia articles:

1. List of Presidents of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2. Joseph Smith
3. Brigham Young
4. John Taylor (Mormon)
5. Wilford Woodruff
6. Lorenzo Snow
7. Joseph F. Smith
8. Heber J. Grant
9. George Albert Smith
10. David O. McKay
11. Joseph Fielding Smith
12. Harold B. Lee
13. Spencer W. Kimball
14. Ezra Taft Benson
15. Howard W. Hunter
16. Gordon B. Hinckley
17. Thomas S. Monson
18. Russell M. Nelson
19. Jacob Hamblin
20. Mormon Battalion