

JAMES C. BOSTAIN

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INTERVIEW:

Background

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio; raised in Ohio and Kentucky
Army Air Corps
Oberlin College; Yale University
Linguistic studies

Army Language School 1951-195?

State Department - Foreign Service Institute 1955-1981

Linguistics
Foreign Service linguists
Techniques
Vietnamese
Native speakers
Written versus spoken
Gestures and responses
Cultural anthropology
Foreign customs
Myths and fables
“The Ugly American”
U.S. military
Ray Chambers

Retirement 1995

SPEECH (“READ YOUR NEIGHBOR”):

U.S. versus the world - linguistic and cultural differences

Foreigners
“Dirty” words
Vocabulary changes
U.S. self-preoccupation
“Crazies”
Set U.S. mores and morals
“Foreign” customs
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