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Paul Bobenhausen Oral History

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1. What were your first emotions directly after 9-11?
2. Was 9-11 the reason you joined the U.S. Military? Why did you choose the branch you chose?
3. What was your family and friends reaction?
4. In boot camp what was the atmosphere like? Could you tell that you guys were getting ready for a war?
5. When you found out you were going to Iraq even though they weren't behind the terrorist attacks how did you feel? Do you wish you had been sent to Afghanistan?
6. When you got to Iraq, how did the Iraqi citizens treat you?
7. What was your comrades feeling about invading Iraq?
8. What was the daily life like?
9. What was your job? Details?
10. What was hard for you? What discourage or encourage you?
11. Were there any combat experiences or any other moments you would like to share?
12. How did you and your comrades feel about Congress and the president at the time?
13. Do you feel that the Iraq invasion was justified or wrong? Why?
14. Did you or do you know anyone who found weapons of mass destruction? Can you share details on that?
15. When you saw your Brother-in-Law in Iraq, How did this feel? Was it different hanging out with him in the states after you both had served in Iraq?
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17. How did you feel when Sadam was captured? What about your comrades?
18. When you came back home in 2004, what had changed in America from when you left that you could see?
19. How was going back to civilian life? Why?
20. What do you think was America attitude about the Iraq war? How did this make you feel?
21. When you found out you were going back to the Middle East in 2010, what was that like? How did your family take it?
22. What was the armies attitude in Afghanistan when you got there towards the President and Congress?
23. Knowing Osama was still alive, how did you feel about going back to where he was? Did you believe his death would bring a collapse to Al Quada?
24. Looking back do you feel the 10 year man hunt was worth it?
25. Your deployment in 2011 was part of a troop surge. Did this surge help?
26. What was your and your comrades reaction to Bin Laden's death?
27. What was your job this time?
28. What was the daily life like?
29. What was encouraging? Or discouraging?

30. Do you have any combat experiences you would like to share or any other experiences?
31. How did Afghan civilians receive you?
32. Can you compare and contrast Afghanistans and Iraq? What was more dangerous? Were the militaries tactics different? How did this affect you?
33. What was it like to lose your dad while you were over seas?
34. Was it relieving to come back? Was there any stress involved that you didn't expect?
35. Which deployment do you feel was harder Physically and emotionally.
36. xDid anti-war movements ever cause a drain? Did they ever cause you to want to come home?
37. After both deployments whom do you feel you were truly fighting for? Do you think Congress and the president had an agenda besides getting the guys from 9-11 and getting weapons of mass destruction?