

12:00pm

Fisher Body Historical Team

12-12-05

Interviewer - Jenn Smith

Interviewee - Sam H Mc Ghee

Security = 5-19-71 26 years old. Then to security.

Married = Yes 1 child

Education = High School, 2 years Florida, then military training

Military = Army 64-66

* First Day = He thought it was a total disaster, he determined that he wouldn't be here long

previous a John Bean company in Lansing.

(He came for better job and money at Fisher Body. On his first job was body shop on 2nd shift worst job in the dept welding wheel housing on the car, fender to the body panel.

7 months later he went to security job.

2 weeks of training for job with a different experienced person each day. At this time there were about 30 people on security with only (5) minority employees. The wages were more on security than hourly.

(3) Cousins of Sam's were employed here.

* From 1971 till now differences = Early on there was a Fire Inspector who wrote beam permits etc. Later on all security were able to write permits.

Back in the old days security had the power to discharge you or time off. So employees were actually afraid of security.

* Almost all times of fights or discharges Sam was dispatched to the location

of the altercation. He was 6'2" and weighed about 230 lbs. and very intimidating.

* Fisher Body Seimens = Always invited to dinners. a special relationship for the maintenance dept. because working on the midnight shift.

Changes in Security from Fisher Body security to Pinkerton, to Securitas. The later people coming in were smaller and less experienced.

* Pranks = Bells put in his locker so they would ring when he opened the door. People take his clothes out of his locker and put a booby trap in there.

* Strikes = safety, fire protection, patrols inside and outside, watch the strikes both day and night. Changes in Plant from 1974 to now = Plant changes and when new equipment was brought in, security did more in a daily schedule. Sam was the only Fisher security officer that was there when the company went to Pinkerton.

* Cameras - they were very sophisticated and could see someone in the parking lot or even someone inside the vehicle, and their behavior.

Best Memories = The repair with all the workers in the plant from time to time. People in general.

* Bonnie Beard came on as a summer replacement for security. Sam and her met and they were married to this day.

When the security went from Fisher Body to Pinkerton there were alot of turmoil and a

loss of respect and discipline. Because the later employees were not properly trained for some of the different situations that you would encounter.

A Worst day = when the gentleman died in the paint shop pit. This was a serious loss of life. There were some questions, about everyone not doing all they could do. In the trim department where a man was crushed by a wagon in the trim shop.

A ~~There~~ There was a man in paint, on every Friday would get drunk. One night this man covered himself with grease and Sam caught him and got grease all over him.

A. There was some times that drug bust was determined about 5 years ago. Antidote agencies come in and escorted out about 20 people for these offenses.

A Sam spoke about substance abuse happening on a daily basis especially on the night shift, alcohol and cocaine. So eventually something had to be done.

A Theft = basically small theft, gloves, screws, bolts, knobs from the interior. And mostly other co-workers would call security and let them know who was stealing and catch them at the gate before they were able to steal the merchandise or take it out

- * Security could not touch someone because this was not professional behavior. Pepping locks meant that cutting a lock off someone's locker to suspect the individual for theft, drugs, ~~alcohol~~ alcohol etc.
- * Back in the 70's There were some people that actually lived inside the plant. Some people lived here every weekend. Most of these were actual employees.
- * Smoking Ban = This was for security also. They couldn't smoke in the gate houses or only in designated areas of the plant.
- * Once a month, 3rd Thursday of the month the security guys get together for breakfast.
- * Community Service. Bombing baskets, also Christmas wreath or baskets. Cross walk for Verlinden Street school children. Son has worked in the City of Lansing for the past 30 years.
- * Plant Closing = Being ~~retired~~ retired it really doesn't affect son but the people he has met over the last 10 years and have left to go somewhere else.
- * The flower pots were put in front of the building so someone could not drive a car into the building
- * Lunch box checks were escalated.