**Interview Opening Statement**

Today is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am interviewing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Connecticut. The interviewer is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, working with the University of Connecticut. Also present is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (State names, including camera operator, and relationship to the Veteran).

**Segment 1: For the Record**

* Please state your full name, date of birth, and city and state in which you live.
* In which war did you serve?
* What was your branch of service?
* What was your highest rank?
* In what general locations did you serve?

**Segment 2: Jogging Memory**

* Were your drafted or did you enlist?
* Where were you living at the time?
* Do you recall the date?
* Why did you join?
* Why did you pick the service branch you joined?
* Tell me about your first days in service?
* How did it feel?
* Tell me about your boot camp/training experiences.
* Do you remember your instructors?
* How did you get through it?

**Segment 3: Experiences**

* After boot camp, where did you go?
* What were your first impressions when you arrived there?
* What was your assignment there?
* Then where did you go? What did you do? **(Repeat this question – and those about assignment or first impressions, as necessary – until the veteran has chronologically covered all assignments/deployments).**
* Please describe a typical day for you in the service.
* Did you see combat?
* Were there casualties in your unit?
* Were you a prisoner of war (If yes: tell me about your experiences in captivity and when freed).
* Were you awarded any medals or citations? Which ones, and how did you get them?
* (if Veteran is of high rank) Tell me about battle planning.
* Did you sustain any injuries? What were the circumstances?

**Segment 4: Life**

* How did you stay in touch with your family?
* What was the food like?
* Did you have enough supplies?
* Did you feel pressure or stress? How did you handle it?
* Was there something special you did for “good luck?”
* How did people entertain themselves?
* Were there entertainers?
* Did you see any USO shows?
* Did you go on leave? Where did you go, and what did you do?
* Do you recall any particularly humorous or unusual events? Share a few.
* What were some of the pranks you or others would pull?
* What did you think of the officers and your fellow servicemen?
* Did you keep a journal?

**Segment 5: After Service**

* Where were you when your service ended? Tell me about that day, and being discharged.
* What was your homecoming like?
* What did you do in the days and weeks afterward?
* Did you work or go back to school?
* Was your education supported by the G.I. Bill?
* Did you make any close friendships in the service?
* Did you continue any of those relationships?

**Segment 6: Later Years and Closing**

* What did you go on to do as a career after your service?
* How did your military experience influence your thinking about war or the military in general?
* Did you join any Veteran organizations? Which ones? Are you active?
* Do you attend reunions?
* How did your service and experiences affect your life?
* Is there anything you would like to add that has not been covered in this interview?

**Interview Closing Statement:**

I’d like to thank you for your serve, and also for taking the time to be interviewed today.