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Willard Whittaker is interviewed by Dean Warner on March 20, 1970 in Fairbanks, Alaska

Series title: This is Your University series tapes

Dean Warner asked Chief Whittaker about the size of the student fire department on the university campus and the size of the area they protect. Willard Whittaker said that there are usually twelve students involved in the program. They cover the university property and they respond to assist the city, the airport, the Lemata volunteers, and with Fort Wainwright. They have a reciprocal agreement with these groups meaning when they go the other groups go, too. Dean asked about the quality of students in the program. He said he thinks they have a very good department. Their rating is high in the area among the volunteer and professional firefighters in the area. Dean asked about the biggest fire they have been to. The biggest fire they have had to go to was the Commons fire on campus. The building was completely demolished on the inside. Dean asked why a student would want to be involved in the fire department. He said in their application they request three reasons for becoming a fire fighter. Chief Willard said they pay attention to the financial reasons. The student firefighters are able to live in the building and fix their own meals. They are given \$60-70 a month. Some students say they want to do some good. Another reason is the basic training for a firefighter is good for a man for the rest of his lifetime. It can be used for their community as a volunteer fireman for the rest of their lifetime