

Katelynn Galluzzo
Alexis Diaz
Katelynn Lee
Period 3

Adam Fischer
Air Force

Adam Fischer

Adam Fischer entered the military as a Cold War kid in 1989. He grew up in a period where there was underlying communist-capitalist tension and the threat of mass nuclear war. In the Air Force he was trained for Cold War contingencies. These contingencies were never revealed to personnel, but they had a good idea what they were by the contents of their “go bags”. These were bags that were prepacked for mobilization of the entire unit. Their bags contained gear for extreme cold temperatures and Temperature rising. Their training was for rapid runway repair and forward operating base construction. Their expectations of war were of mass civilian and military casualties on domestic soil. The Gulf War was far different than their expectations. They were also not ready for arid climate warfare involving very limited mobilization of personnel and often they would joke around about it.

Fischer’s dad was an Army combat veteran serving in the special forces in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. he was injured in a combat several times and saw a lot of his friend get killed at Hamburger Hill. he had volunteered, but many were drafted in. his belief was that war was an inevitable political consequences and raised his sons for that horrible moment. He taught Adam Fischer how to clean guns before he could drive, he also taught Adam to never ever to profile yourself on the horizon when coming over ridge. Adam’s dad died at about the time Adam was

discharged. He never felt that Adam was ready for the combat, he truly expected that Adam would experience it. His dad was highly disagreeing for Adam to join the military.

Before Desert Storm started it took the military a year to build-up. At one point Adam's group had to make a hospital for the wounded so they decided to turn the military gym into the hospital. They had finished building and were psyched for the injuries to arrive. they expected bus loads but at the end only one guy came in. Talk about disappointment. During the Gulf War they had to neutralize the threat. In order to do this they bombed the enemy and the Highway of Death was created. The Gulf War had been turned into a slaughter. Adam's unit was never fully mobilized. Of the 212 people in his unit only HVAC had been mobilized the most.

Adam Fischer was raised to expect it and was prepared for combat. He was a "good soldier" and was recognized for it with a commendation medal. When Fischer was discharge and the clerk finalizing his papers referred to him as a veteran, he was shocked. it had never occurred to him that he would have been given the same label as his father or anyone who saw combat.

When Adam Fischer would be in the war his father would be worried because he was also in the military and he knew what it was like. Fischer's dad was mentally freaked out after the Vietnam War and all the memories came back with him when the war had ended. one time when Fischer had a girlfriend who was Vietnamese, his dad was 100% against them dating because he felt that they were going to get him and his family. Fischer feels bad for putting his father in that position. Fischer has two brothers who also went into war. The older brother did the same thing that Adam Fischer, he had a plan for the future and served two years. On the other hand Fischer's younger brother wasn't so lucky he had 12 hour shifts and he didn't get much education as his

older brothers. Plus he was scared because he was laid off and he didn't know what to do after that.

Adam Fischer found a lot of things that surprised him in the war. First, his Filipino friend had too much fun with a girl on base while having a girlfriend in the Philippine Islands. Second, military men are suppose to get their head in the war and not pay too much attention to family and friends. There's a lot of racism during the Gulf War. The military men didn't have the right camouflage; one guy said, "If a bunch of guys cramp up together they would look like a bush."

Fischer's ancestors all went into the military. There were generations of conflicts. Fischer met his wife when he was enlisted in the military. Later, when he was done with the war he learned a lot and experienced many things. He has a passion for tools and mechanical things. He had a friend named Larry Jones who he looked up to and thought of him as a mentor. Jones gave Fischer an advice, "You'll never make a mistake, if you learn from other people's mistakes." In the Air Force Adam Fischer was ranked E-4 and has three rows of medals.

Fischer is concerned about the motivations of many young men entering the military in the current problem. he feels that the military was a very good experience for him because he went in to achieve something and he did. However to many enter and leave 4-years older and with so little to show. Some will leave permanent job injuries too. Adam fischer's quote "the new guys should have more to aspire to than heroics, look past their term of service, and know the potential outcomes. they should enlist with both eyes wide open."