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TAPE1, SIDE1

LORA DOUGLAS: 3302 Jefferson Street, Owensboro. Today is Friday, the 15th of August, 1986. Oh alright, let's just start out then about your early childhood. Ah, when did you all begin school and what are your early remembrances of school?

THOMAS HAMILTON: I, started…

LD: State your name.

TH: I'm Thomas Hamilton, and I started when I was 6 years, at St. Joseph. It was about 6 miles we had to walk, at that time.

LD: Six miles from home?

TB: Six miles from home. About six miles from St. Agnes, you'd come out of West Louisville and uh, we'd continue to school from ?? from there to Curdsville and uh, ?? 235 ?? moved to Owensboro.

LD: Well, how far did your formal education go? Through what grade?

TB: Well, I went to high school and about 6 months of college.

LD: Oh, really. Was the rule then or the exception?

TB: About the rule. ?? That's about it. I went into the service after I came back then. I went 6 months ?? and 6 months ?? away to college ??

GERTRUDE HAMILTON: Ok, all I got uh, elementary education for my health.

LD: ?? elementary education

GH: The only education I had was in a three room school house. Taught by the Ursuline nuns, and I started to school when I was seven. In those years because we only had a three room schoolhouse, and uh the Ursuline nuns taught there, and I, we walked, I lived about 2 and a half miles from the school, and we walked backwards and forwards to school. ??

LD: ?? Is that right?

GH: Yes, we did. And uh, course there was an epidemic of childhood diseases one year when I was about third grade. Everybody out there almost missed a year of school.

LD: Is that right?

GH: ?? of the epidemic, of measles, chicken pox, scarlet fever, diphtheria and mums, all of the, and everything! We were quarantined for scarlet fever.

LD: Your family was?

GH: My family was. I was the only one in the bed, that had the scarlet fever, but, uh, they quarantined us.

LD: Hmm, so what was treatment like back then?

GH: Ah, that was the only time I ever had a shot before I could tell before I got married.

LD: Oh really.

GH: {Laughs} Uh, you see I had to go get my physical, check-up for marriage in 19and46 and, and ?? the flu shot, I never had a shot, uh, til I guess I was about eight.

LD: About eight years old?

GH: Uh huh, when I had scarlet fever.

LD: Uh huh.

GH: And of course it was all country doctors, you know, that would come out to my house on horseback. We were all delivered at home by the country doctors and I think as I've said before, there wasn't any exchange of money. It was bartering, you know, for whatever.

LD: Uh huh.

GH: For whatever the doctor liked to have there on the farm, country ham, chicken, or whatever.

LD: Wonder what you were worth ??

GH: [laughs] I don't know, we often laughed and talked about it. One was for a ham and another was several chickens.

LD: Uh huh, calf maybe??

GH: ?? {Laughs} But it was wonderful, you know, um it was a wonderful hard life, you know, but we didn't think that it was hard, and we weren't poor because we didn't know we were poor, you know. We were all happy. There was eight in our family. Um, like I said we went to a three room school house. And of course at that time the water pump was on the outside and we took our lunch and dinner buckets and put it in the coat room.

LD: Oh really, what did you take for lunch?

GH: Oh, oh, you'd be surprised. We had cornbread and jellies and boiled eggs and anything, you know, just what our parents could find to put in the bucket. That's what went. And, cookies was something of uh, uh rarity. When we got cookies it was something very special. We had, our parents would go to Knottsville, to the stores, you know. Maybe once or twice a year you'd have cookie treats.

LD: I guess that they didn't buy cookies at the store, did they?

GH: Oh, no. You, you know, you bought the sugar and make it. You know, if you got a bought cookie, it was a very special treat.

LD: [laughs]

GH: And at Christmas time, it was uh, oranges and fruits of all kinds and candy.

LD: Oh really?

GH: At that time. And dolls with um, um, oh, I can't think of what they were made of but their faces would melt if you left them outside. What was that called? Um. They were molded faces with heads and the paint would peel off if you left them outside.

LD: Did you have one?

GH: Red, red ??. Oh, yes, yes, {Laughs} that was wonderful if you got a doll like that.

LD: Well, let's let you talk about your little doll then?

GH: Oh, well, you know, we all believed in Santa Claus until we were about 10 years old. I mean that that was the big thing the children had. I think that the mystery has been taken out of the life of children, and I think that uh the mystic is gone. It's harsher just now because we know, we did , we know everything. And uh, back then you didn't. You lived in dreams and hopes and mystery and uh, uh, life was just beautiful for us. We didn't have anything to worry about. 'Course our parents did, but they didn't bother the children with all the worry and harshness of life.

LD: Mhm. I see what you mean.

GH: They kept it from us. Because children were supposed to be children, and not have to put on a grown-up's head, on a child's shoulders, you know, so we were, we grew up all happy, big family. Had lots of fun but we when we got to school, walking to school, we had to go to build a fire in the stove. First one there had to build a fire in the big pot belly stove.

LD: First child there?

GH: The first kid got to school in the mornings had to build the fire.

LD: Wow.

GH: And we had the coal house out on the outside of, out back together

LD: Uh huh.

GH: To carry the coal. We laid the fire even before we went home. We didn't get home 'til almost after dark. We'd walk home from school because {Chuckles} in the fall, you know.

LD: No one thought that it was dangerous then?

GH: Oh, no, it wasn't dangerous then. There was nothing to worry about.

LD: Huh?

GH: Country.

TH: ?? very few ??

LD: Uh huh. But it was pretty much understood that that was the only way to get home then.

GH: Well there was no ?? coach then.

LD: Uh huh.

GH: For the school. And uh, and we had uh three grades in one room in the three room school house. We'd have a big play every year. Uh, ?? all the partitions were taken out and the school became an auditorium, and everybody from miles come to the, to the play. It was wonderful.

LD: Do you remember being in any plays?

GH: Uh. Oh, ??. "Over the Hill to the Poorhouse" was one of them. That was the name, "Over the Hill to the Poorhouse".

LD: Ok, what, what character did you play?

GH: {Laughs} I can't, I can't really remember the characters but we, I, I, I remember playing uh, uh, singing, singing and dancing, and uh singing songs about Red Riding Hood and Hiawatha, the poem "Hiawatha."

LD: Uh huh.

GH: We recited poems and all of those things.

LD: Mhm.

GH: And uh, oh, it was just wonderful. The Ursuline nuns were our teachers, they were our second mothers, really. They were just, we loved them. They were just, wonderful people.

LD: I never did ask you this, excuse me, what year were you born, did you say?

GH: 1924. ??

LD: And you sir?

TH: ?? 1924. ??

GH: ?? 1924 also.

LD: You share the same memories, is that right?

GH: Yeah {Laughs}

TH: ?? she's ??

GH: Uh huh.

LD: Both of you lived in small towns when you were younger. Is that right?

TH: Oh yes, I lived in West Louisville and then ?? actually ?? then moved to Owensboro.

LD: Were small towns then much like they are now ??

TH: Uh, ?? just about.

GH: Well, I think that the

TH: population of the ??

LD: Huh.

TH:

GH: I think that the small towns have changed in one sense or at least that's what I think. I think that there's a migration away from your farm life to working in ?? to working in the industrial area of the county. Where, when I was growing up, there was no industry. There was farming.

LD: Did both of your parents farm?

GH: My parents did.

LD: Yours?

TH: No, worked the coal mines.

LD: Oh, really? What about that, was it considered dangerous work?

TH: ?? coal mine ?? dangerous ??

LD: Uh huh.

TH: ??

LD: Oh really.

TH: ??

LD: ?? in a cave? Was anyone killed?

TH: ??

LD: Get involved in one of those ?? was any.

TH: ??

LD: ?? Oh, really.

TH: ??

LD: Mhm. Well, they've had several others talk about some, some of those are pretty wild times

TH: Oh ?? I think that ?? years ??

LD: Uh huh.

TH: ??

LD: Uh huh.

TH: I didn't ??

LD: ?? exactly. Did coal miners make a plentiful living back then?

TH: At that time to ?? it was cheap.

LD: Yeah.

TH: ?? Depressing days.

LD: Oh, it that right. So ?? of the day? What was considered good money then?

TH: ??

LD: So you were fortunate during the Depression then?

TH: I grew up in the Depression but I don't exactly remember.

LD: Oh, right.

TH: Too much of it I was little.

LD: Well, five years old

TH: Six years old and he worked in a coal mine: we lied ?? Me and my brother??

LD: ?? oh did they really? Did you

TH: No.

LD: Okay [laughs]

TH: So ?? pick and shovels. ?? Pick up the coal and put it in the troughs ?? {laughs} Lucky.

LD: You can take a ??

TH: ??

LD: ??

TH: ?? pick and shovels. ?? Pick up the coal and put it in the troughs ??

GH: ??carbide by ??

TH: ??

GH: ?? use that carbide to set off, uh fourth of July ?? They were very dangerous, too. ?? carbide ?? on cans, or tools or things that ??

TH: ?? take that…

GH: ??, but gas forms, gas is??

TH: ??

GH: {Laughs} Oh

TH: ?? in 1936. ?? kind of a…

GH: Boys will always be boys ?? carbide ?? during the ??

TH: ??

LD: Carbide cans?

TH: ?? put the carbide in gallon cans and shake it up ?? the next day ??

GH: Boys would always be boys, you know. They were always thinkin' of something to do, somethin'.

LD: I guess so.

GH: Uh huh. They haven't changed a bit. {Chuckles}

LD: Do you all remember, um, I'm not real sure what year the car was invented. I guess that was pretty well here by the time you all were around?

GH: Yes, yes, cars were here.

LD: Okay. Let's see here. Um.

GH: There weren't very many out in the country though. Not where I lived. There was about 2, 2 or 3 people that had cars when I was ?? had cars. And uh, and uh, people just hated them because the roads were dusty, no gravel roads or paved roads or anything, and the cars would come by and we couldn't ?? And then uh people would come out and ?? the cars, you know. In Owensboro, drive out to the county, the countryside and just see what was out there, you know. It's sort of like exploration. Let's go to the countryside. And it was just, we used to look at them while they looked back at us, you know, like was really strange. It was weird and different.

LD: Like two different cultures?

GH: Yeah, like two different cultures coming out. They'd stare at us and we thought they was weird and we thought that they thought we were weird people, you know {Chuckles} we were sitting on our front porch, doing nothing. We were resting on Sunday. We didn't work on Sunday

LD: Oh really? Was that pretty strict rule back then?

GH: Oh, yes. Oh, heavens nobody worked on Sundays, even in Owensboro, so. Ten or fifteen years ago when the stores all started opening on Sunday. Even, if you were employed, your employer had to let you off to go church of your choice on Sunday.

LD: Uh huh. Oh really?

GH: Yeah, and uh, they couldn't keep you from, the Jews even closed down on Saturdays, you know, because that was their Jewish holiday. And uh, no it was against the law to get off early to go ?? time but you had to be back. You had to be allowed an hour to go to church.

LD: So even though you work on Sunday, you had the time

GH: You had the time off to go worship. At the church of your choice. But uh, that's all been changed, see. Anyone workin' on Sundays now and I think that's a, a rather bad law because families don't have time to be together. You can no longer sit down, at a table, you know that changed that whole culture because before you had a family grouping together and we could sit down at a table and eat with your family. All together, because ?? busy now running here and running there and you know, different schedules.

LD: Well back then, did families…?

GH: Oh, Lord.

LD: Even as they grew older, did they pretty well stay in contact?

GH: Oh, yes. They stayed together and played together and played together. It was, it was very, back in 1959, when we moved down here, things were changing, and uh, they would say, things like leave your children at home and come, come visit, don't bring the children. It was, it was horrible because we had four small children and I thought, well this was terrible, I, if my children aren't welcome, I'm not welcome.

LD: ?? Yeah…? mmhmm??

GH: But yeah, see and so. It was a horrible to me, it was a breakdown in family unity ??

LD: Wonder how that came about?

GH: Well, it was because after World War II, uh, people began to buy and build, new homes, and supply them with all the ?? things you could ever hope to have in them and they didn't want them destroyed by small children, small children, you know, they would be in the way.

LD: ??

GH: That was part of it. Uh, people I know, people that were would visit, would even allow grown up in the living room. It was like a showcase. It was like a magazine. We'd go and say 'This is my living room,' stand at the door. It was beautiful. It was, it was all fixed up and would be like something right out of a magazine. You couldn't believe it.

LD: ??

GH: But it was a time of, of, of proud, of, bigotry. I don't know what it was, but it was, it was just a time that people was achieving things that they'd never had before. They thought, you know, didn't want ?? destroyed.

LD: What do you mean? After the war the economy started ?? people would ??

GH: Yes. Oh, yes. Oh, yes, and the people that fought in the war like my husband.

LD: During World War II ??

GH: Uh, they came back and they said that we missed so much of our lives and our kids are going to have everything.

LD: Mhm.

GH: We aren't going to deny them anything because we didn't have, we didn't, we had to go off and was gone for so long, you know, during World War II. And then even when they were growing up, the Depression their parents couldn't afford them to ?? have anything. the Industrial Revolution and jobs opened up and people were making beaucoups of money. They just cast everything to the women. Looked down on our morals, our values, just look at your women.

LD: I never connected it like that.

GH: Live it to the limit, and that was the, that was really the theme behind everything. Don't deny yourself anything. Let's have it all.

LD: Mhm. I never connected it like that. I never did.

GH: Really.

LD: ?? Mr. Hamilton, you were in the war? Where did you serve?

TH: In the Pacific.

DL: What branch of the army were you?

TH: Marine Corps.

DL: Oh, really. Well, were you, did you, uh join, or were you drafted?

TH: I joined.

DL: Why?

TH: Well, the war broke out ?? {Chuckles}

GH: I was too.

DL: Was there any fear involved?

GH: No.

TH: ?? at seventeen years old ??

DL: ?? was World War II then. Were you at home, I guess?

GH: Oh, we were, we were uh ??

TH: We weren't married at that time.

DL: Okay.

GH: I was at home thought 'cause I had four brothers in the service. I had one in the Pacific Theater, one in the South Pacific Theater, and then I had two that ?? overseas, you know, uh, but the uh, the thing back about the women. They were afraid that there were sons and husbands and ?? that wouldn't come home. We were full of fear but I think that we put it to the back of our minds because we were working 10 hours, 10 hours a day, uh, in the shops and factories, you know, speeding up, making more war materials. They were burning them up faster than we could make it. And they hired everything that was lame, blind and dumb. And that's, that's no lie. Putting them into the workforce, you know. Everything that could walk.

DL: Is that when you joined the workforce?

GH: Yes. ??

DL: At Ken-Rad?

GH: Uh huh. After the breakout of World War I, uh II, World War II. It was World War II. It was '44 when I went to work.

DL: ?? homefront

GH: I was 24

DL: While you were fighting the war, what were your thoughts toward the enemy? What did you think? How much of a threat did you consider them?

TH: Oh ?? it's because ??

DL: Did you have a clear cut idea of what the war was all about?

TH: ?? But uh, ??

GH: Did you ever know why ?? I don't ?? why they attacked ??

TH: Why they attacked us??

DL: ?? I think.

TH: Why they attacked us ?? Germany ?? and the Germans ?? so.

DL: Were the people ?? aware of like the concentration camps and the extermination of the Jewish people??

TH: ?? no.

GH: ??

DL: Is that right? Not till after the War?

GH: We, I, didn't know that we had a prisoner of war camp here in Owensboro, down at ??

DL: I didn't know that 'til we started ?? some of our history notes myself.

GH: I didn't know that and uh, we lived right here and they were, they were being ?? officials here in Owensboro.

DL: Uh-huh.

GH: and we didn't know it was so ?? secret.

DL: Oh it was kept…?

GH: It was kept, it was kept uh,

DL: I guess they thought…??

DL: Just ??

GH: Well, they were all Japanese prisoners you know.

DL: Uh-huh.

GH: They were, they were Americans, I heard, but uh, that uh, uh, they were Japanese that lived in America.

DL: I see.

GH: But they put them all in, in camps because uh, I don't know if it was to protect them from the civilian population out of fear, or what it was. Or out of sabotage of this country, or.

DL: I think it was

GH: Security

DL: It was security.

GH: But I didn't know that they were there. {Chuckles}

DL: Someone else mentioned that uh the early part of the century, the Ku Klux Klan was active, in this area. Do you all ??

GH: Now, that is something that I know nothing at all about, the Ku Klux.

TH: It was ??

DL: Or something called the Coon Hunters.

TH: ??

GH: Coon Hunters? Now Coon Hunters I know. Coon Hunters.

DL: Oh, do you?

GH: I know about the Coon Hunters, but they weren't the Ku Klux Klan.

GH: Yeah, the Coon Hunters.

DL: Ok, what can you tell us about them then? Either of them…

GH: Fox hunters or coon hunters. Yeah, they were all out in the county where I lived. Older men and the boys would all go out fox hunting and they'd they keep the foxhounds. And they'd start a ?? at night you could hear them howling across the hills. ?? dogs would just be howling. But uh my, my favorites were fox hunters. ?? But the coons, they killed for the coon skins and sold the skins and everything that they could skin, they sold the skins.

DL: Oh really.

GH: Yeah, for coats, fur coats. There was a history behind those skins.

DL: Where, did they sell them locally?

GH: They were sold locally but I don't think they were uh, made up locally here. But they, sold it to a dealer and a dealer probably had ?? New York deal or something. I don't know who it was. Or who bought them. But uh, there'd be somebody come out through the county and buy them ?? For fifty cents or something. {Chuckles}

DL: That was pretty good money back then.

GH: ?? The ?? root ?? was sold.

DL: You all are both Catholics.

GH: Uh huh.

DL: One of our questions here from the ??, uh. Do you remember when Owensboro was made the headquarters of the Catholic Diocese?

GH: Uh yes, over at Bishop Cotton?

DL: Uh, I'm not real sure what the bishop's?

GH: Yes, Bishop Cotton was our first uh, was Louisville archdiocese. And uh Bishop Cotton was our first official.

DL: Uh huh. And how did that affect the Owensboro community, was that a pretty prestigious thing?

GH: Bishop Cotton was well-known here. ?? well-liked by our city, yeah.

TH: ??

DL: The big thing was there a lot of competition for that, or?

TH: No competition, didn't have any competition.

GH: No.

DL: Okay.

TH: The bishop was ?? archbishop in Louisvile.

DL: Ok.

TH: ?? became a priest?? and then the bishop, he ?? from Louisville.

DL: I see.

TH: They select from Louisville.

DL: Mhmm.

TH: ?? bishop out of Louisville ??

GH: Kelly.

TH: Kelly.

GH: Bishop Kelly.

TH: ?? came down here two years ago.

GH: and ordained him

DL: ??

GH: uh-huh.

TH: ?? of this diocese.

GH: ?? the Vatican chooses them.

DL: I see.

GH: But they are uh the Bishops here in this country or this Diocese or country, are based on recommendations ?? And then he's selected on his uh, selected on his uh, I suppose it, whatever his qualifications

DL: You said that that pretty was uh

GH: Oh yes it was very big thing

TH: confirmation classes ?? bishop out of Louisville.

GH: Louisville

TH: Which was only every so many years.

DL: Oh I had no idea.

GH: Uh, the confirmation classes seemed, which is the confirmed in the Holy Spirit.

DL: Yes ma'am.

GH: Uh, the bishop from Louisville would come down, about every two years they would come down.

DL: ?? You all could do it ??

GH: Oh yeah.

DL: More often.

GH: Now they don't do that per se any more. Only by acceptance. ?? It's been changed, changed the, the Vatican too. The bishop approved the change, the holy bishop ?? changed. He feels that, uh, when people are ready for, to confirmed, or to accept Christ, uh they will ask and then be confirmed because they're ready and they know more about what they believe.

DL: So it's not just done at a given age.

GH: It's just not done at a give age. They used to do that every, uh, from the fourth grade on and then anyone that had converted to the faith, adults would be confirmed at that time too. But it's changed and I think since Vatican too, our whole church has changed and I think that it has changed for the better. Uh, we have much more knowledge now and I think we have a better understanding of all religions, and ??

DL: Mhmm.

GH: ??

DL: Back in the, in the early part of your lives, was there a good bit of mystery abo9ut other religions and ?? other people, maybe fearful or unsure of the Catholics?

GH: Oh there were a lot of condemnation of Catholics.

DL: Oh really.

GH: Oh yes.

DL: experiences??

GH: Oh yes. When I came to work in ?? We used to, I used to sit on the line up there because I didn't know anything about, and to this day I still don't know an awful lot about other religions because I was never curious. And course, we were never taught or anything except Catholicism.

DL: Well sure.

GH: And I was never curious about other religions. I had visited a girl friend and visited her church and everything but it never interested me enough, you know, to really ?? into their freedom.

DL: There's not that much opportunity.

GH: No, and so uh, but when I came to work at General Electric, and, well Ken-Rad at that time, all the ?? that you work with, there were an awful lot of condemnation of Catholics, you know. Catholics were going to take over the world because they were having so many kids. They would keep on having kids until they take over the world. {Chuckles} Catholics would say, you know

DL: You were a minority here.

GH: We were a minority, uh huh, oh yes.

DL: And you said some people treated you badly?

GH: Oh, well they wouldn't treat you badly but they talked about your church, you know your faith as, as a you know those Catholics don't really have anything but kids, you know. {Chuckles} That's what they would say, but uh I don't know, it didn't bother me.

DL: Did you not have any real reactions to

GH: Oh no, because I knew, I knew they were wrong. I'd say "well, listen honey, you've got the same opportunity if you want to compete. Just hop right in here." That's what I would tell them.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: {Chuckles} Just hop right in anytime you feel like having a baby. ??

DL: It never occurred to me.

GH: They used to tell us that the Catholics, you know, would keep on until they overpopulate the world and go on and they're gonna take it over.

DL: Hilarious.

GH: {Laughs} That's what I felt, that's how I felt about it, you know.

DL: Well, that's what ??

GH: And I was ??

DL: Uh-huh.

GH: Because ?? a lot of ignorance ?? and it was just everyone that doesn't know about anyone else until ?? because you don't know ?? You had to say something. {Laughs}

DL: Do you all, do you all see our Sunday editions?

GH: Yes.

DL: ?? Fiftieth anniversary of the hanging of Rainey Bethea.

GH: Mhmm.

DL: Well, do either of you remember or?

GH: Well see, I was, I made the comment and Tom, Tom brought that up at the last, uh, I remember. You see, ?? talk about that.

DL: ?? Mhmm.

GH: I remember, I don't, you see, I was eleven years old. I wasn't down here then. I was out in the county, but I remember very well the things in the papers and all the grown-ups talked about, you know. It just made me sick when they said they've hangin' a man today, you know.

DL: What was the idea then? Were people glad to, to see him hanged or think that that was the right thing to do at that time?

TH: At that time,

GH: A lot of animosity ??

DL: Uh huh.

TH: I was uh, ??

DL: Did you see it?

TH: ??

DL: Do you think that the hanging was made more of a spectacle by the fact that he was black?

TH: I would say so, yes. Yeah. I can't remember too much about it. Matter of fact I never even thought about that until ??

DL: Mhmm.

TH: ??

GH: Yeah, the ?? store.

DL: ?? store

TH: ??

DL: Mhmm and so you ?? How did that affect you?

TH: ?? well we ?? but a locust tree ??

GH: That was the one time that we was glad lived out in the county. {Chuckles}

DL: Let me ask you this, Owensboro, the city itself was flooded. Were businesses just closed?

GH: Mhmm.

TH: ??

GH: Up through main street

TH: ?? the downtown ?? the downtown was flooded.

GH: First Street was flooded, Second Street was flooded.

TH: ??

DL: Just ruined the stores?

TH: ??

DL: Uh huh. How much? Was there a big rain? I don't mean to sound ignorant.

TH: ?? It started, in, in, I don't know exactly ??

GH: That was in 1937.

TH: ?? stores ??

GH: We lived out in the county. I was so happy that we lived in the county, up on a hill and dry, hill we were dry. The papers was full of it.

DL: Yeah.

GH: We'd say "This is the one time, I was glad I'm living out here and we was down at ?? if you think water's gonna get out here, listen, they said if it gets up, honey, you might as well ?? {Chuckles}

DL: You all, the flood, didn't get out that far. You took the newspaper then?

GH: Yes, of course.

DL: ?? brought to you??

GH: Well, by horse and buggy.

DL: Is that right?

END TAPE1, SIDE 1

TAPE 1, SIDE 2

GH: I just like the table.

DL: I think that

GH: ?? writing ??

DL: You just feel more at home at the kitchen table.

GH: Mhm. So, uh, it was, I don't have any, you know, I look back on my life and growing up. We were poor, but we had lots of um food, course we were farmers. We had a sawmill ?? potatoes, we uh, had a ?? We grew our own vegetables and canned everything we could get our hands on. Chickens, turkeys, ?? turkeys, cows. You know, all of those kinds of things on farms.

DL: You were self-sufficient?

GH: We were self-sufficient. The only thing that we had to go the store for was sugar and coffee.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: And ?? salts. About all that was there.

DL: Did people seem, did they have much

GH: It was pretty much the same thing. You purchase it at Knottsville, the little store ?? It was, was a good way of life, ?? people looking back now what call that now poverty, but it wasn't. It was a good, clean family way of life. It was an all Catholic community. There wasn't, there wasn't a non-Catholic family in the area.

DL: About how many people were there?

GH: We had about 100 families in the St. Lawrence Church. ?? That was your social life, too.

DL: The church was?

GH: The church was the center of the social life, and uh,

DL: Was the rest of the community Catholic?

GH: All of it.

DL: So that was the way it was, just…?

GH: I don't know why the community was all Catholic. I think that the farmers, uh each, each ?? the grandfather owns the land and then the sons came in and stayed on the land. It was just like a, like father like son.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: And uh, back after the war, people began to leave the farm because of the land had ?? started buying up the land, and uh ?? the farmer, you know.

DL: Why did they do?

GH: Well, the time was changing for the big corporate farms to take over.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: The little farmer was coming to work for the uh, for the industry. Many were losing their farms and coming to work at Ken-Rad. Six thousand or five thousand working there now.

DL: Mhmm.

GH: I think that it's about six thousand people at one time. {Pause} And people just didn't want, the young people didn't want to live on farms. They didn't want to stay on the farms. How are you going to keep them down on the farm after they ?? you know, the cars, and the telephones, and all of these ?? part of the action. {Chuckles} I think that they were, uh, becoming more educated and getting more knowledge through radio, that there was something different than the farm out there, that they wanted to see. My older brother used to want to get on the train, and ?? go to ?? and see what was up there, you know. {Chuckles} That was the way, the beginning of the change…

DL: I think that's why, you know, these interviews are so important ?? brought out a lot ??

GH: You can see these things as time goes on and tie it all together, whereas with me, it's like, what ?? person can do, you know. And it's hard to imagine what it was like to adjust from one to the other.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: With the all, all of the people when they were young, there was no electricity, there was no heat, no running water.

DL: No running water in the home?

GH: No, nothing, and now, well we used to have to use an outside toilet.

DL: When you were young?

GH: When I was young we had an outside toilet. We carried our water from the springs. ?? No such thing in the world.

DL : There was no such thing?

GH: No, not in that part of the country we are talking about. No way on Halloween night ?? {Laughs} On Halloween night, we {Laughs}

DL: You look guilty {All laugh}

TH: No.

GH: The boys used to go out and get the cider. You used to go get the outside toilets and bring them and set them on people's front porch. ?? They used to take them and set them on, at the school house and ??

DL: Yeah.

GH: And uh, about 4 guys could carry the whole thing.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: And they would put them up in the tree tops. And you were always kind of afraid to go on Halloween night.

DL: Well, how old were you when you saw your first indoor commode then?

GH: ??

TH: ??

DL: No kidding.

GH: Uh huh. Yeah. ??

TH: ?? living out in the country

DL: Yeah, that's when you're like, ??

GH: Yeah. Oh, yeah.

DL: That would be kind of a tough thing to get used to.

GH: Yeah. We walked most all of our life.

DL: Just to use the bathroom.

GH: No. {Laughs} No, I was walking, you know.

DL: Oh, I'm sorry.

GH: I was walking. Not use the bathroom. {Laughs} No, no, you used the cold and hot, though to go to the outdoor. You used the cold water…

TH: The commode.

GH: Out, out to, outside to the bathroom. ??

DL: Uh huh.

GH: That's what I say. You weren't afraid. I mean that there wasn't anything to be afraid of back in those days.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: You could walk for miles and miles and miles in the woods, and anywhere you wanted to go and you didn't have to lock the doors. You didn't have to, you could ?? the night there and nobody would bother you.

DL:

GH: No, and uh people have moral, uh values and they had respect for each other's property and uh, just, well just, you know, we lived a different life, and we valued each other's privacy, and uh respect for our parents. Things changed. I think there's a different set of values for people who have worked, either liked farmers,

DL: Yes, ma'am.

GH: Uh, and then people who have been born and bred in the city life. Because I, I don't think it's a deliberate way, a deliberate thing, but I think it's different values. They never

have the opportunities to work with God's creation and to touch Mother Earth, just like the farmers have.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: And I remember used to come down here and go to the ?? shop in the grocery stores. You know, they didn't know, they didn't have an opportunity. They didn't have. Now they do, you know, have an opportunity. With television and ?? media ?? and more knowledge and but still, still, uh they have a different set of values here in Owensboro than what we had when I came to live in Owensboro.

DL: Did you notice the change?

GH: Oh yes. I know, I can notice it by just talking to the people because they didn't have, uh, the respect for each other. They didn't ?? what's mine is mine, and uh, you know, don't get on the grass, and this kind of stuff, you know, and that was because they lived, you know, in a different state, you know, we grew up on a hundred acre farm and everybody, you know, people from Owensboro ?? to our farm because we did everything ?? because what was out there, you know, because people ?? lived a different life and I think that ?? values,

DL: Mhm.

GH: And that was different.

DL: Mhm. So, I don't know what to think. I, I, I think, I believe in my opinion, you know, that ?? I don't know what that means exactly but I think, you know, if you take in what is around you, and you learn the values of your, your uh, sense of responsibility.

DL: ?? Now, if you're looking back at uh comparing your uh life on the farm to your life when you first moved to Owensboro, at the time did you consider moving to Owensboro as a move up? A move to the better, at the time?

GH: Well, I, I still think it is.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Uh, it's a different way of life. Now, I'm not so sure that I have uh, that it has uh, I think that it's given me a different set of values and I'm not so sure that it is all good. Uh, I don't know. I think that all, ultimately, I think that this generation of people have lost their sense of values. I just don't think they respect, for each other, for humanity.

DL: About how children were taught then? Did they, was there a good deal of uh ?? in the religious community ?? Was there a lot of, did your parents sit down and tell you things or was it just taught by example, or ?? How, how did you ??

TH: By example.

DL: Uh huh.

TH:

DL: How about a child who was just, you know, had a temper, was just a little trouble maker as a child. How was he?

TH:

DL: What was that?

TH: Used a strap.

GH: Used the board of education. That was what was used, that and the paddle. {Chuckles}

DL: And that was just?

GH: And that was it. It worked, and they weren't mistreated.

DL: There was one set of rules?

GH: There was a set of rules and parents were to be uh firm

TH: ??

GH: No, we were uh,

TH: Til we were 18.

GH: Uh huh.

TH: ?? the switch and the strap, and ?? parent use the strap ??

DL: Uh huh.

TH: The belt.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: ?? whipping

TH: ?? it wasn't, it wasn't, the parents didn't mistreat you. But you remembered what you had done and what you received.

DL: You feel like the best, best part of what

GH: Well, the parents were in control of the children. Let's put it that way. Uh, it's the same principle I think as a teacher being in control of a class.

DL: Mhm.

GH: Uh, the children will respect her if she respects herself. If she loses control, she might as well just hang it up because they're not going to listen to her anymore. She has to be in charge of the class, and the parents were in charge of the children.

DL: Well, if you've got a four room school house, somebody better be in control!

GH: That's right.

DL: So what, what were you, you know, what was understood that you sit down and be quiet?

GH: That's right, that's right.

DL: ??

GH: And you would, you would write ?? times "I must not speak out in class." And we would be kept after school ??

DL: Oh?

GH: Mhm. Yes. You might not get home til after midnight. Parents were right behind that teacher. They knew where you were. And they would be there to pick you up. If you weren't home by a certain time, they'd be there on horseback or something to pick you up, because, and when we would go to school the, the parents would tell the teacher, if this child misbehaves, I want to know about it and you send a note home by this child. We weren't stupid and we would carry it home to the parents.

DL: I bet that was a fear of punishment??

TH: Mhmm.

GH: We knew well…

TH: ??

GH: And we knew better not to tear that letter up because that, that, that teacher ?? off us ?? and that Sunday, the following Sunday when ?? all went to church, "Did you get my letter? I did not get a letter back from you," ?? would write back to you, and they stayed in touch with each other. Parent and the teacher, we had no parent teacher organization per se.

DL: Mhm.

GH: Uh, but it was uh, well understood because the day the child ?? you could say that ?? You were in charge of this child while every day at school and I expect him to mind and to be obedient, to do as he is told and if he isn't, I want to know about it, and when he gets home, he gets another punishment.

DL: Mmmm.

GH: ?? punishment twice, ?? whatever the punishment was,

DL: Yeah.

GH: The parent corrected him again at home. So there wasn't anything uh, you didn't have to correct a lot of times because the child just didn't want to have to go through that. They listened, and uh they ?? shot with a{Chuckles} with a rubber band or something in school.

DL: Mhm.

GH: No, ?? but there really wasn't any ?? drugs and alcohol, and anything like that ?? children of our time, of our society today.

DL: Mhm.

GH: No, I think that the parents uh, I think parents have to be in control of their children. They're the ?? after all.

DL: Mhmm.

GH: If they do wrong.

DL: First real ?? outside of family, that's for sure.

GH: Yeah. Uh huh. And, and now I think that those sociologists and psychiatrists are saying uh, uh, that the child, from the time it's born until it's about six, could ??

DL: Uh huh.

GH: And that's true. ?? things happen to our children ?? but uh, so, so uh, you know, we, we ?? but I worry about, you know, my grandchildren. ?? uh, uh ?? that parents ??, and, but I listen to the women's movement now, which I'm a housewife, and I've had a happy life, but I made a commitment. When I married. It was a commitment. For life.

DL: For marriage.

GH: For marriage. Our love and courtship was discussed and talked about and it was a commitment for life and we knew it wasn't going to be any party, you know, ?? be a hard life. It wasn't going to be a bed of roses all of the time. ?? we agreed ??

DL: That's something I been meaning to ask you about, what was courtship like back then? Did you lay eyes on her just ??

TH: Well,

GH: {Laughs} That's a good question, honey. All right, come on, ?? {Laughs}

TH: ?? and she was living at my mother's ??

DL: Uh huh.

TH: And my mother got her to write to me over there and send a picture.

DL: I see.

TH: So the first time

DL: You were pen pals.

TH: We started ??

DL: Uh huh.

TH: ??

GH: ??

DL: You're kidding.

GH: No. We got married a year after he got back from overseas.

DL: What was your idea of a big date?

TH: ??

DL: Yeah.

GH: Oh, tell her honey.

TH: ?? uh ??

GH: {Chuckles}

DL: You remember, uh?

GH: Yes.

TH: We, after I got back home from the service, we, I guess we, we went out, and uh dancing ??

DL: Really?

TH: ??

DL: Uh huh.

TH: We went to Owensboro, Evansville, Henderson.

DL: Would you have places with live music?

TH: Oh yes.

GH: Oh, yes.

TH: ??

GH: ?? the Oriental, the Club 71. Yes , that was the biggest thing. And you know, there was no problem with people drinking and getting drunk.

DL: Yeah.

GH: They would have a drink but they wouldn't get drunk and just destroy everything, you know. It was a good time. Every Friday night and Saturday night we would go out with a group.

DL: Well, what did you wear? Tell me about it.

GH: Oh, we wore high heels and skirts, and ruffle skirts with ruffles on them and just to dress up and put our white gloves on, you know, flowers in our hair, like they wear now.

DL: You're kidding.

GH: Yeah, ?? all that stuff, like ?? you know you'd

TH: It's kind of a ??

GH: Powder your ??

DL: Yeah.

GH: That was in, that was the thing. Yeah.

DL: Well, what about the boys, how'd they look?

GH: The boys would wear sportscoats, like, much like they wear now.

TH: ?? no jeans ??

GH: And uh wing toed shoes of white and brown, toed shoes

TH: ??

DL: Oh yeah, ??

GH: Yeah. And the main thing

TH: ?? dressed in suits and ??

GH: I ?? come in

TH: They dressed, they dressed like women, and ?? dressed like men. You couldn't tell the difference.

GH: Women didn't wear slacks in those days.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: They were the beginning, though, ?? and I remember when they were wearing the striped pairs. I wore my first pair of pants. A snazzy gabardine suit that I bought it at Levee's.

DL: {Makes a noise}

GH: Most I ever paid for a garment in my whole life. It was blue gabardine, a navy blue gabardine suit.

DL: Okay. How'd you feel wearing that for the first time?

GH: Yeah. Felt like a man?

DL: Did you like it?

GH: It took me a long time, and I didn't wear it very much. ??

DL: Yeah.

GH: But, it was coming in, so I bought one.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: But uh, used to wear it to go to work nights. And they used to really dress up at work. Uh, they dressed up more to go to work at GE than they did ?? oh, they'd ?? come in their high heels and their jewelry. {Laughs} Yes, and I'll tell you that they would wear the same thing, the big thing, Levee's was the biggest store in town.

DL: Downtown?

GH: Levee's was a huge store and ??

DL: Uh-huh.

GH: Two stores that were ?? spent all their money there.

DL: Was it a shoe store?

GH: No, but this ??

DL: No? Ok.

GH: The ?? Shop, ?? , uh

DL: Was still there?

GH: No.

TH: ??

DL: Oh yeah. Ok.

GH: But their, yeah. oh yeah. And of course Anderson's was always the elite shop.

DL: And that was there then too??

GH: And then, uh huh. And ??

DL: ?? did you go downtown and just stroll the walkway?

GH: Oh, yes.

TH: ??

DL: Tell me about that.

TH: Oh ??

GH: Oh, honey, on Sunday afternoon honey, you put on your fancy hats and your white gloves and your high heels and then you'd go to Gabe's for dinner. ?? was over here on Frederica then.

DL: Yes. Uh huh.

GH: Oh, the white linens, the tablecloths and the napkins and you had your six course meals and fancy.

DL: That was the place?

GH: Yeah, it was the place to hang out. Or the country club. And the Hotel Owensboro.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: They had a smorgasbord place there and you would go to the bar. And Weir's Drug Store had a place and Walgreen's. Walgreen's was down on the corner there uh, St. Ann and Main St.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Honey, you would dress up and you would go out for dinner and then you would go to the movies.

DL: Downtown?

GH: Downtown movies. Malco, Strand, uh

DL: Seville?

GH: Seville. ?? the Bleach.

DL: The Bleach.

TH: ??

DL: She worked at the Strand and the Seville.

TH: She did?

DL: Yeah, she did.

TH: ??, you know.

DL: That's all right.

TH: I used to go to the movies 'cause he would work there and he would cover for us.

GH: {Laughs} ??

DL: That sounds like a good deal.

GH: Oh well,

TH: Yeah.

GH: Uh, during the war, the women used to ?? their babies around Saturday morning. Young babies and instead of getting a babysitter, they'd take 'em all in to the Strand Theatre and

let 'em watch a show for a couple hours while they shopped, you know, that, that was the thing they did.

TH: ??

GH: Put their kids ?? and shopping.

DL: On Sunday, people would just stroll downtown ?? see who all was there.

GH: Oh yes.

TH: ?? the big thing downtown was uh, usually, The biggest thing downtown was the Halloween. It was just like Mardi Gras.

GH: ?? Masquerade dance at the parties down the street.

TH: ?? bridge

DL: I didn't know that.

TH: Oh yeah.

GH: Yeah.

TH: ?? or bridge ?? orchestra

GH: It stopped when the war broke out. That was the last of it.

TH: ??

GH: When the World War broke out, and they stopped it because of that.

TH: ?? But it was one big show.

GH: ?? You know, it was just really crazy?? everything. We didn't get to do anything after the war.

DL: Do you remember going to some of these Halloween dances?

TH: Oh.

GH: Oh, they were just

TH: They were just, a block the street off at the bridge. ??

GH: I do remember the sock hops. I guess you remember those.

DL: Ntnm.

GH: You don't remember the sock hops?

DL: No.

GH: School dances?

DL: No. This is all fascinating to me, I, I, no one's ever mentioned this before about the Halloween ??

GH: Ooooh.

TH: Ooooh.

DL: I'll go back here where the ??

GH: {Laughs}

TH: ?? looks like, ??

GH: I ?? {Laughs}

TH: ?? dress like ?? Oh it was just.

GH: ??

DL: Would you really?

GH: Yeah. We would dress up in long underwear and everything with the backs, backs hanging open, you know.

DL: {Chuckles}

GH: But now, they began to get into fighting. That's, that's when I remember there was this real big fight. Somebody was going out with some other man's wife or something, and he ?? really getting to be ??

TH: ??

GH: ?? But the war ??

TH: ?? it was just like ??

DL: It was the community?

TH: Oh yes.

GH: Oh yeah.

DL: Uh huh. Not really sponsored by anybody?

TH: Nobody. This was Halloween.

GH: There was no such thing as Trick-or-Treat though, was it?

TH: ??

GH: Back when I first came down here, there was no such thing as Trick-or-Treat. Big party, big open Halloween thing downtown.

DL: Did it have a name?

TH: No. Just

GH: All Saint's Day, Halloween. {Chuckles}

TH: ?? it's just Halloween.

DL: That's really ?? I've never heard that.

GH: ?? was the Mayor. ??

TH: Uh huh.

GH: ??

TH: ?? uh, he was ?? now I don't ?? uh?

GH: Now I don't remember ??

TH: He was the mayor after the war?

DL: Was he down there ??

TH: No, you wouldn't know.

GH: Oh, you wouldn't know, nobody would. {Laughs}

TH: ?? al dressed up, didn't know who anybody was.

DL: Oh you mean?

TH: ?? costume.

GH: That is what they used to say. That's when they let all their inhibitions out, and you know, they just

DL: ?? no one will be ??

GH: They didn't know who you are. Just do your thing. People would really act stupid and crazy.

DL: What'd you dress up as?

TH: I was ??

GH: {Laughs}

TH: ?? I'd go down and look.

GH: {Laughs}

TH: Go down and look.

DL: Okay.

TH: But it was something??

DL: Wow.

TH: ?? pretty good stretch and more so in the ?? than now.

DL: Mhm.

TH: ??

GH: Going back to the history of the ??, doesn't say anything about the strike ??

DL: Were you working during the strike?

GH: Uh huh.

DL: Tell me about that.

GH: Well, it was, the strike, the union, you know, was uh tightly formed there and uh it was just a thing at the factory that we didn't talk about this stuff.

DL: Uh huh. And what did you think?

GH: Well, okay, I was just new from the country and I didn't know anything about the union. I couldn't really, I mean, I, I wasn't going to sign my name to something because I didn't know, ?? it was kinda weird to me.

DL: Yes ma'am.

GH: I was glad to have to have a job, you know, and I thought, whoa, I'm not, I'm not going to leave my ?? now. Course I could, I could have ??

DL: Uh huh.

GH: ?? But I didn't tell anybody. Uh, they would threaten you, you know, they would come up to you and uh, try and tell you what it was all about and say if you don't sign this piece of paper by next week we are going to give you two weeks and you're gonna get fired outta here if you don't sign this, you know what I am saying. It was just, all kinds of stuff like that. Course I was a ?? from the country, and I, you aren't going to scare me, you know. So, finally, uh they wasn't supposed to talk to the workers during working hours. It was one of, was one of the foremans caught one of the union guys talking ?? been working.{Chuckles}so they would get out. So they, they kind of quit harassing.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: There was a lot of harassment and uh, a lot of ill feelings, and uh Mr. ?? was put out right on the street. You didn't leave the plant. ?? They picked him up, set him out and left him ??

DL: He was the one who was trying to get the union started then?

GH: No, he was the owner of the company.

DL: Oh, excuse me.

GH: Yeah, he was the owner. He just stayed in his office. He didn't go home, you know, because he was really

TH: The army took over.

GH: The army from Camp Breckinridge came over and for about 3 months, I believe, ?? us for about 3 months.

TH: ??

GH: But it was rather scary because of, the soldiers from Camp Breckinridge guarded every door. ??

DL: Mhmm.

GH: With guns and everything and it was just really weird.

DL: While they on strike? While you were still working or?

GH: No, no, no. {Laughs} Nobody was working.

DL: Ok, they shut the whole thing down?

GH: Uh, well, the foremans, I guess, did whatever they could, you know.

DL: Yeah.

GH: But I like every company, kinda takes over and does whatever.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Does whatever

DL: ?? about inside?

GH: Yeah, well, I don't know what was going on inside the place, because I wouldn't dare cross the picket line. I was a union member, but I didn't dare cross the picket line. I went back home to the country and stayed home for about ?? There was talking about union people and all that kind of stuff.

DL: So you weren't paid then either?

GH: Uh, no. Huh un. No we weren't.

DL: So it was kind of a hardship?

GH: It was, it was a hardship on people, because uh I remember I had saved $1,000, and you know I worked for $.44 an hour.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Worked 10 hours a night, and of course everything was cheap at that time compared to what it is now, and I was able to save $1,000 but see, that time I spent it all.{Chuckles} ?? I had to in order to ??

DL: Yeah, uh huh.

GH: Course we purchased a lot of clothes ?? for a long time and ?? put it on the charge account at that time. Still,

DL: People did that?

GH: Oh yes. Honey, you'd get your check, uh, you know, soon as you go down to ??

TH: ??

GH: ?? soda fountains, that's a song. Yeah.

TH: ??

GH: Oh, all the songs back in those times was {singing} "Milkman, milkman, keep those bottles flat because ?? we've got a ??" you remember that song? {singing} " Milkman, keep those bottles flat…"{Laughs}

DL: You got another one? ?? sing for us.

GH: {Laughs}

GH: {Laughs} Oh yeah ?? " ?? the Country Store." That was a song that came out.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Um, oh, I don't know, about all the songs had meaning back in those times. Today they don't have much meaning. I guess they do, just to certain people of our day.

DL: They were songs of the time.

GH: Yeah, songs of the times and they were, were created for what was going on.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: ?? You know, the drug revolution is prominent in the songs today

DL: I guess you're right.

GH: Yeah. And uh, I don't know if uh, I don't really know that much about Owensboro, you know. I remember when the war ended.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Uh, the bells was all ringin', I mean, and people were out in the streets a'jumpin' and a'dancin' and a'huggin' and a'kissin' {Chuckles} a'cryin' and seems like their

TH: ??

GH: Yeah. He wasn't ?? {Laughs}

DL: Get you over there ??

TH: ??

DL: How did you all get word that the war was ended? Who told you?

TH: Oh, the radio.

DL: Oh really.

TH: We had the, radio, short wave radio.

DL: Yeah. Okay.

TH: And uh, in World War II, I mean uh, Germany, surrendered…

DL: Uh huh.

TH: ?? we kept on fighting.

DL: Why?

TH: 'Cause we were ??

DL: Okay. So it was like 2 different ??

TH: And we was training to go to the ?? and drop the bomb and ?? people against dropping the bomb.

DL: Yeah.

TH: It, it could have been ?? hadn't been dropped ?? wouldn't ??

DL: ??

TH: ?? trying ??

DL: Were you all able to comprehend, you know, the magnitude of that explosion? ??

TH: Huh un. ??

GH: Well, I don't think that uh, people uh, felt that that was it, like they do ?? like they do now. They were so anxious to have that war over with, I think that they looked upon that as a blessing to end the war. Uh, at that time, it was a lot of killing going on and they think, and I think that people of our time thought that there would have been more killing had the war continued on.

DL: Mhmm.

DH: Then what would happen if ??

DL: Uh huh. So you ?? the bomb then ??

GH: Well, I uh, I don't know, see we didn't know the impact of all this horror.

DL: That's right.

GH: At that time. Of what it meant.

DL: Uh huh.

GH: Except that it just meant the end of the war.

TH: ?? the war, but uh ??

DL: How did you ??

TH: ??

GH: We didn't know the extent ??

DL: ?? impact on

GH: We didn't know the extent!

DL: ?? had an impact ??

GH: I, I would like to see now all of that stuff. I mean, I would just wish that Russia and everybody could get together, and I just don't see any more reason for killing any more people, and?? to me.

DL: ??

GH: {Chuckles} ??

DL: ?? fighting ?/ Hitler and the Germans and the Japanese families? ?? was there, I know things went awhile. ?? feel badly for them all.

DL: Was there fear that we might lose?

TH: No.

GH: We never thought that we would ever lose.

DL: Is that right?

TH: No.

DL: It was just understood that we would fight til we won?

TH: We

GH: We were at war.

TH: ??

GH: We didn't ??

TH: ?? fight.

GH: We were at war.

TH: Yeah, ??

DL: Ok, so you…

TH: ??

GH: ?? faith in what we were doing and faith in them.

TH: Even the ??

GH: Even the workers back here in the factories knew that we were going to win. We were working to win, and we were going to win.

DL: You weren't uh, so it never occurred to you what might happen if you lose?

GH: No. No.

TH: No.

GH: Not, not that, that I can remember. I don't know if anybody else felt that way or not but, I think that we were very patriotic people. Uh, to have the flags uh, touching the ground and destroying them like it was, in this generation of people, like they do today is a disgrace on our country. I mean when I think that we, our own war was a disgrace, because they could have won that war and saved many, many lives. But they let it go on, and that was the disgrace ?? that we, that I feel, in my opinion, Americans, the disgrace was that they let it go on and on and on and on because of politicians.

DL: So, so it wasn't the blame of the president?

END TAPE1, SIDE 2