

3-19-1984

Interview with Clark "Doc" Stonewall (FA 23)

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INFORMANT/FIELDWORKER DATA FORM

I. INFORMANT.

Clark "Doc" Stonewall

NAME [Include fullest possible name - first, middle and/or maiden, last.]

For example: John James Smith; Mary Franklin Smith (Mrs. John Smith)

Griffin, KY 8-7152

ADDRESS

PERSONAL DATA:

Age: 86 Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____ Sex: F

He claims to be an indian. His wife and children are black.

RACE/NATIONALITY/ETHNIC BACKGROUND

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: [Include education, occupation, places of residence, religion, etc.]

He had studied in Worm, Germany, Switzerland and in the United States.

II. COLLECTOR.

Mike Boggs and Kathy Kerr

NAME (Include fullest possible name as described above)

655 East 12th St., Bowling Green, KY 42101

ADDRESS, LOCAL

Rt. 4, Box 183, Kettle, Kentucky 42752

ADDRESS, PERMANENT

fieldworker to informant

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE INFORMANT, SUCH AS COUSIN, FRIEND, BOSS, ACQUAINTANCE, ETC.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

MARCH 19, 1984
GRIFFIN, KENTUCKY
CLARK "DOC" STONEWALL

Mike Boggs and Kathy Kerr drove about 15 miles on the highway and then had to continue onto a graveled road another 3 miles or so until we were given directions to follow to get to "Doc" Stonewall's house. We had to continue driving on an old logging road that was very narrow and quite muddy due to the excessive rain that had recently occurred. At one point there was so much water in a mud hole that Mike and I had to get out of the car and drain the hole using sticks that we had found.

After driving about an hour and a half we arrived at an isolated tiny house that was little more than a shanty. The outside of the house was put together with remnants of just about everything. There were chickens in the yard and the front door was open but everything was very quiet when we arrived,

We yelled for "Doc" and he came to the front porch and invited us inside. The day was very warm, about sixty degrees, still "Doc" had a very good fire going in his living room stove. The interior was dark and there were no lights on so we were in subdued lighting. Calendars adorned the walls as did pictures that had been cut out of magazines and placed in frames as well. I sat on a stool in front of "Doc" and Mike stayed in the background taking pictures. "Doc" sat in an old faded chair in a comfortable manner. Throughout the interview "Doc" remained in the same position; which was with his legs crossed and one hand upraised to hold an unlit homerolled cigarette. "Doc" was an elderly man with white hair and a white mustache. He had all of his front teeth still intact except for the lower middle one and it was missing. His teeth were stained a dark yellowish-brown. He had on grey pants that were held up by blue suspenders, a blue and white checked flannel shirt and striking blue tennis shoes which seemed at odds with his other clothes.

Interviewer's tape no.: 1 WKU FL, FL & OIA Accession no.: N/A

Interviewer: Kathy Kerr and Mike Boggs Address: 655 East 12th St.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Interviewee: Elsie Dobbs, Clark "Doc" Address:
Stonewall, Helen and Ed Bell

Place of interview: Wayne County at each Date: March 19, 1984
of their prospective homes

Other people present: None

Equipment used:

Reel-to-reel tape: Brand: Size reel: Tape Mil: Speed:

Cassette: Brand: AVX 60 Studio Master Cassette C-30/C-60/C-90/C-120 (circle appropriate size)

Amount of tape used: (Side 1): all (Side 2):

Brief description of interview context and tape contents:
Ms. Elsie Dobbs is singing one of her childhood songs, "Doc" is talking about his herbs and treatments and Helen and Ed Bell are talking about "Doc" and some of their own home remedies.

Footage	Detailed Index
<i>Minutes</i>	<u>Tape 1, Side 1</u>
00 - 02 min.	Elsie Dobbs Singing
02 - 20	"Doc" talking about his herbs and treatments
20 - 23	"Doc" explaining a specific cure he made
23 - 24	Helen Bell explaining stone root for bladder infections
24 - 26	Helen and Ed talking about their personal experience with stone root
26 - 27	Ed Bell relating another researchers topic
27 - 28	Ed Bell opinionating about Stonewall
28 - 30	Ed Bell telling a story about Stonewall

Interviewer's tape no.: 1 WKU FL, FL & OHA Accession no.: N/A
 Interviewer: Kathy M. Kerr Address: 655 East 12th St.
 Bowling Green, KY 42101
 Interviewee: "Doc" Stonewall (Clark Stonewall) Address: Griffin, KY
 Place of interview: Doc's living room Date: March 19, 1984
 Other people present: Mike Boggs
 Equipment used: Cassette Recorder

Reel-to-reel tape: Brand: Size reel: Tape Mil: Speed:
 Cassette: Brand: AVX 60 Studio Master C-30, C-60/C-90/C-120 (circle size)
 Amount of tape used: (Side 1) one half of it (Side 2): none

Brief description of interview context and tape contents:
 Clark "Doc" Stonewall is a man professing to be of indian origin who is married to a black lady and is known to be an herbalist. Kathy Kerr is interviewing "Doc" in an attempt to learn about his activities as an herbalist. Mike Boggs is taking pictures and he introduces the tape.
 The beginning of the tape is Ms. Elsie Dobbs singing one of her childhood songs.

1st 15 min

(Garbled)

KATHY: You can see we use real expensive equipment; this is my little old tape recorder. One more time, put it way down there.

ELSIE: (Singing) I washed my hands this morning so very clean and white, and lift them both to Jesus to work for him til night. Little feet be careful, where you take me to, anything for Jesus, only let me do,

ALL: Laughter (garbled).

MIKE: This is Mike Boggs and Kathy Kerr is with me and we are at, huh Mr. Clark Stonewall's house and are you, is this officially Griffin or is this still Coopersville?

DOC: Yeah.

MIKE: Or is it Griffin, okay Griffin, KY and we are going to talk to him a little about his uh, work as an herbalsit and today is what? the nineteenth of March and Monday afternoon so...

DOC: I keep up with the latest medicine.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: And they don't use it right.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: They use too many dangerous drugs.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: And they just go out here, they just go out here and (garbled) out and you , and you will either go into something like the allergic...

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: Or allergic to it or something and they don't know what to do. Why I just spent forty dollars there the other day, they sent my wife to, uh (pause) North Carolina. They sent the blood drawn to fourteen, they sent it to North Carolina and got it back and and anything the government don't pay for it ain't worth a dime.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: And the government wouldn't pay for it and I said and he charged me forty dollars and I just sent her this morning to pay it; she's gone to pay it and uh, uh while she was waiting on uh, for the test to come back- why we found it. I found out what the trouble was she was uh, she would eat anything, she got to where she couldn't eat nothing but it didn't break her out and they couldn't find it to save their lives. So I found it and I told her what to do. I told her, I, I, mighty embarrassed me, I said I come home and found it and said by God I'd do it rather than see you die or starve to death, and she would break out in sores, great big bumps, great big ones, big as the end of your finger, some of them as long as your thumb and uh, when they go down they leave a different color, turn white. So I just give her something to stop it so it stopped it uh, so when I...

KATHY: What did you give her?

DOC: I'm waiting now to find, uh (pause) I gave her something to break that acid down.

KATHY: But what did you, what did you give her?

DOC: She's got diabetes, and uh, I give her uh, ponderoa, that uh, sort of uh that broke it down and they, I've got to give her some to keep it from coming back.

KATHY: How long have you been practicing using your herbs and things?

DOC: Oh about (pause) let me see (pause), let me see, I come out of school in 1912.

KATHY: What kind of school did you come out of?

DOC: Germany. In Germany

KATHY: Germany?

DOC: Uh, huh (yes).

KATHY: What kind of school was that? Was that grade school or high school? or...

DOC: No; it was medical school.

KATHY: Medical School?

DOC: I'm eighty, probably eighty-six years old now...

KATHY: Your eighty-six?

DOC: Yeah.

KATHY: Hmm? Do you have certain herbs that you treat-

DOC: Oh yeah.

KATHY: People with?

DOC: I traveled the world over four times and I picked up everything I could from other doctors, you know and I saved it.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: But I did not know what would come the time that I would have to use it, so I would have to use all of it.

KATHY: Yeah. Do you grow your own herbs?

DOC: No.

KATHY: Where do you...

DOC: Some of them come from Africa, that's what I'm waiting on now. They, they, they, if I can ever get these from Africa, I'll cure her. I don't care how bad she's got diabetes, I'll cure her.

KATHY: How do you get the seeds from Africa?

DOC: I have to order them.

KATHY: What kind of seeds did you say they were?

DOC: They are Buldo. Buldo

KATHY: Buldo?

DOC: Uh huh (yes). They got the sheet from Buldo. It is a fine plum.

KATHY: A plum?

DOC: Uh huh(yes). It's a nice plum. It don't grow no where but England, and uh, I mean Africa and uh Queenland. It grows in Queenland and just a few of them but not enough to be, uh shipped anywhere but Africa has them and I sent the other day to get a catalog to get some more of them and there is war in there, you see. I can't get nothing out of there. (garbled).

KATHY: What can you treat with all your herbs, like what kind of diseases can you help cure?

DOC: Anything that comes up.

KATHY: Say if I came to you with a stomach ache what would you give me?

DOC: That's according to what's the matter with your stomach.

KATHY: Say like I've got the diarrhea and my stomach hurts and it cramps, what kinds of herbs would you give me?

DOC: Now if you've got the diarrhea, understand me, I can give you something for that, stop that.

KATHY: What would you give me for that?

DOC: I have to first give you something to clean you out.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: Before I, so I can help it, you see, when you are running off at the bowels like that.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: It's, it's nature trying to help itself there's something in there causing it to do that and I have to give you a dose of medicine to get that out of there. I can't get it no more either.

KATHY: You can't?

DOC: No.

KATHY: Why can't you get it anymore?

DOC: Cause, well, they stopped it on account of, they uh, they uh, claim it causes cancer.

KATHY: What was this stuff?

DOC: Mine mercury.

KATHY: What kind of mercury?

DOC: Mine mercury.

KATHY: Mine mercury.

DOC: And uh, there ain't nothing to it. They don't know where the cancer is from.

KATHY: How do you mix your herbs up for someone to take them, is it in a glass of water?

DOC: No. Some of them have to be dried and now this stuff here, if I ever get it, I'll cure her with the diabetes, I'll cure her sound and

well with the diabetes. But they have to be first extracted in alcohol and it takes quite a while to do that. Made into a fluid extract and then after it's made into a fluid extract, you have to take the alcohol out of it. You see, cause alcohol will work against that.

KATHY: Yeah.

DOC: And then give it and it will increase the strength of it too, from one to three grains. When you give one grain you got to know the nature of the drug and it heals going and coming.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: Now I'm trying to get my hands on another drug that will stop them ulcers.

KATHY: Oh, so you've got a cure for the ulcers too?

DOC: Uh huh (yes).

KATHY: I'd like to know about this. What could you give me if I had the ulcers and I came to you?

DOC: Well, I'd have to give you morane.

KATHY: Morane?

DOC: Uh huh (yes).

KATHY: Is that something that grows wild?

DOC: No.

KATHY: No?

DOC: It's a new drug they've got. Morane.

KATHY: New drug?

DOC: And it's uh, (pause) it's uh (pause), it used to be called tagamet.

KATHY: Oh, okay, yeah.

DOC: You see but they had to reduce it, it causes so many other things when you take it. Now the way you use it, to use a new drug is to give it one or two doses and watch what it does and pay attention to what your disease your studying if this disease that you're studying and if you've got your diagnosis exactly right it will take a hold, well then as soon as it falls, you understand, most any disease will yield when you get at it whether it cures it or not, as soon as it begins to yield. Give two doses or three doses, not over that and it will wipe it our completely. That's where these doctors make their mistakes. A doctor tried to show them that and they wouldn't listen. You know, most of these young doctors, they are trying to make money.

KATHY: Well, do you grow any herbs yourself?

DOC: I've got them on different mountains.

KATHY: Oh?

DOC: I go and get them see, I don't keep them here. I let them grow on the different mountains. I got a patch up here in the woods and I'm afraid somebody's going to find it.

KATHY: What exactly are these herbs that you are growing that somebody might find?

DOC: Well, one of them is uh, (pause) is uh, if I can remember... Euclebius.

KATHY: Euclebius?

DOC: Uh huh (yes). Another example is golden seal.

KATHY: Golden seal?

DOC: And another one is uh, (pause) is uh, (garbled). It will come to me right then as soon as I examined you and found out what's the matter with you. And uh,

KATHY: What would this golden seal and euclebius do, what would it cure?

DOC: Well, golden seal, it works a half a dozen different ways. I use it for women mostly, that's what I kept it there for and uh...

KATHY: What, what do you use it on the women for?

DOC: For things, uh, like uh, if uh, she ain't got nothing else to cause it to gush and go on like that.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).

DOC: Cancer of the womb and things like that. Now uh, there's a whole lot of dead beat in there. Too many people claim to use herbs, and use herbs and some of them ain't no account for nothing; there's not enough curative power about them and when you take them well then they discovered uh, maybe last year, and year before last too, they discovered that uh, one plant I used to catch these from grandmother with little chickens, catch the little chickens and hold them until they died and they don't have enough sense to get loose and it's got a whole lot of gum on it. And it's little bitty, a little bitty plant I found a bunch of them growing out here on a rock and called Mae to show it to her. I said here is something, it takes two ton to make enough medicine of that thing to cure cancer and they found out it would cure.

KATHY: And what was this called?

DOC: It was called uh (pause) uh, pennywink.

KATHY: Pennywink. Two tons of that would cure cancer?

DOC: Yeah. It takes two tons, it takes that much of it to treat a cancer.

KATHY: To treat a cancer?

DOC: Yeah. (pause) But now if you wait until it demortifies you... There's so many different cancers, there's skin cancer, malignant and different kinds and uh, and internal, stomach, pain like that.

KATHY: Going back again, where did you say you learned all this?

DOC: From my granddaddy. He brought me up from four years old.

KATHY: Your granddaddy?

DOC: Yeah. Then I went to Germany.

KATHY: Germany?

DOC: But uh, worm. Worm Germany and studied there; went to Switzerland studied there and then I came back to the United States and studied here. I get the, keep the latest medicine all the time in order to cure some of these deseases it wouldn't cure. You see, most diseases would yield to an organic. They yield as soon as they take to yielding they get better, you understand me, and then you give a new drug to wipe it out and then you don't have to give them no more than two or three doses to wipe it out completely, (pause).

KATHY: Do you have some herbs around here that you are that, are close that you could show us what they are?

DOC: No.

KATHY: No?

DOC: I got one bottle of medicine in there that a woman came to me a long time ago (pause) for uh, (pause) sores breaking out on her.

KATHY: Uh huh (yes).