



## **Citation for this collection:**

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## **A note about transcriptions:**

Of the original 252 audio-recordings in this collection, 212 of these tapes were transcribed around the time of the original recordings (between 1966 and 1978). In 2012, Cabbage Tree Solutions was contracted to create transcriptions for the remaining tapes. Corrections to and clarifications for all transcriptions are welcome, especially for names and places. Please contact Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, for questions. [askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu](mailto:askspecref@winsor.lib.udel.edu)

*Verhey*

A Oh, yeah. I remember that very well. It was in 1938 in October when Chamberlain, Daladier and Hitler and Mussolini in the so-called Munich Feltrach (sp?) and they spelled the Sudetenland should go back to Germany because it was a whole German-speaking country, actually...you know? And well, that's what it...it came along that way.

Q How did you feel about that at the time? Did you understand what was happening?

A Well, I was...well, I was 16 years of age, and took my apprenticeship up at that time, and...I was going out from my home town. I lived in another town, and when the German troops came out I lived actually practically on the border, on the German border. You know we just had...could walk over to Germany. And for sure the German troops came to occupy that city first. And then they came in steps. You know, every day they make so many miles...they occupied and the Czech troops they went back, and the German troops, they came ahead. And there was always say about two to three miles of so-called no-man's land until the Czechs reached a so-called line, a so-called demarcation line where the Czech-speaking citizens, inhabitants, the Czech-speaking inhabitants, you know, start...it's like, we'll say for example, here and Canada. If you go to Canada and you move a little bit further up, from Montreal to Quebec, you go so-called...how you call it, a speech border?...between the English-speaking and the French-speaking...same thing with us. And then they...there they stopped.

Q Was life better under the German rule?

A Well, I will say the Germans in Czechoslovakia...we did not have much to say in the government...in the Czech government. We had only one or two senators--we should have had much much more, depending on the percentage of inhabitants. We were about 25 to 30% of the overall inhabitants of Czechoslovakia. There were about 3½ million Germans, about 6 millions--6½ million Czechs--and then came Ukrainians and the Polish, and Hungarians, couple hundred thousand and so on....It was like Switzerland, you know, a state where so many nationalities lived. And I will say the Czechs--they really didn't care too much; they just cared for themselves. You know, they disregard all the minorities there. And I think that was more or less also a reason why Hitler wanted to get the Germans all together. Because we had so many unemployed people in that time, you know, between 1920 and 1936 there was nearly...every third or fourth person was more or less unemployed there. And all the railroad and the post office was nationalized, you know, the Czechs took all...in the German-speaking region they took all these big jobs over, and government, you know, like in the post office, the railroad, and the police...and the Germans had to go out, you know. They were just pushed aside. And I think it was more or less a certain reason for some frictions between the Czechs and the Germans in that time that occurred. I think that was a reason why, more or less, Adolf Hitler wanted to get all the Germans together, you know, want to get them out of there, you know, and form one big German Reich. But, well,

that didn't work out the way he had it in his mind, you know. I mean, not...I don't like to go in any details, you know. I was more or less a young fellow, you know, but did I know some politics for 16 years.

Q What did your father do for a living?

A My father was a union official. He worked in Prague--he traveled sometimes for and back, you know. He had a bad time, too, because he was of German descent, you know, and what I said before, the Czechs wanted all the Germans, you know, to get pushed out of their positions. And there was always a friction between the Germans and the Czechs in Czechoslovakia, from 1900...or from the beginning of the creation of Czechoslovakia until 1938.

Q What kind of union was your father with?

A That was a so-called building...he was in the construction business.

Q Building houses?

A Houses...something like this. Yeah.

Q And times were hard for him, then?

A They were hard for him too, yeah. Naturally for the family too, then.

Q Did you have a large family?

A Well, we were six kids, but two died in the first World War, and we had four survivals, and they're still living.

Q Were you the only one that came over to America?

A Yeah, I'm the only one.

Q Now, when and how did you come over?

A Well, I came over here in 1958 to Canada, first. I didn't come to the United States. So people always ask me, how did you come, by ship or did you come by boat. I said...well, I didn't come...I came by ship, but I came to the United States by car. And they were puzzled, more or less. They say, "How come you can come to the United States by car? You come from Europe." I say, well, I didn't come from Europe, actually. When I moved to the United States I just crossed the border at Buffalo by car, you know. So...

Q How long did you live in Canada?

A Oh, just about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years there...something like this, yeah.

Q Why did you go to Canada?

A Well, I have some business relations and I traveled a lot in Germany.

B In Europe.

- A Well, in Europe. No...from Germany. My company where I worked was a machine tool company. And we performed service work.
- Q What was the name of the company?
- A It's very interesting. This company does not exist any more. An American company has taken it over. And it was just...I found out... there was a liquidation sale about two years ago. So it is practically non-existent any more, this company. It was a very, very big company.
- Q Do you remember the name?
- A Yeah, it was Falvey F for Einich Electric Machine Fabriken (sp?). But it's non-existent any more. It's just...I forgot the name here, the American company, you know, that had a liquidation sale there, so...and practically went out of business then.
- Q Did you have a sales position there--is that why you traveled?
- A No...well, it was a service position, service technician...service technician, you know...installing the machines and servicing the machines...all new machines.
- Q What kind of machines...
- A Machines tool--engine lathes...horizontal boring...vertical boring... there's planers and so on. All machines that industry really needs. Without these machines you wouldn't have any tools, you know. So I think it's a very important industry Germany had, you know...machine tool industry. So I went about out...my company sent me about out for eight years. Traveled all over the...Europe and a little bit further. And then finally I made a decision. I had some connection with Canada and I said I may try it, to go to Canada and see how life is there.
- Q Were times bad in Germany at that time?
- A Well, no. I wouldn't say it was bad, because we made pretty good money at that time, in fifty--we came over in '58. I mean the first years after the war were pretty hard. There's no question. I mean, everybody will tell you that. But 1952...no. People have a pretty good...make a pretty good living. There's no question. You have... I think more or less the second highest standard of living, Germany today...besides the United States. I mean, this is still the first country...nobody can beat 'em. But West Germany today has still... what I see, what I read and what I saw--I was a couple of years ago in Germany--what I saw, what people have today...I would say it's pretty similar to here. Nearly everybody is driving a car, and everybody has nice furniture, and the houses and apartments...and they go on vacations. They travel around to Italy, Yugoslavia, Spain and even to North Africa, make their vaca...because they do not have to save much money for their years when they get retired, because they have a pretty good social benefit package when they are 62. And therefore I think people do not save too much money for the years when they get about 60 or 65. They just spend the money and have a good time.

Well, on the other hand, I can't blame them because practically one generation, they went through two wars...and, you know, if one generation goes through two wars...and some people more or less...fifty percent of all the people lost everything, either through the bombing or that were refugees who were driven out by the Czechs like we, or by the purge, you know...and I can't blame these people today when they say, "Well, why should I save a lot of money when I have the opportunity to spend the money now..." And, well, we all just live once. There's no...they take the opportunity in order to enjoy their lives.

Q So would you say your business brought you to Canada?

A More or less, yeah. More or less, yeah. But it didn't work out in Canada....It's a good...Canada's a young country and you have nearly every company in Canada...it's also created by immigrants. You go up to Toronto or Montreal, and any little company up to about fifty men is...European businessmen--you know, English or Scottish or French or German. Some make their way there--there's no question about that. But, well...but you have to have a certain amount of let's say a business outlook. You know, a business--you have to be business oriented in order to stay in business. If a person doesn't have it, they just go down the drain. And, well, I have seen so many small businesses in Canada...they popped up, and in the morning the people came...wanted to go to work, and they found out there's no boss in there, and then the truck came along the road, and they said, "Well, how come we have to take the machines out?" And the people they are standing in and wanted to go to work, but the boss wasn't in, and the boss was gone, or he was in jail, you know, because they went bankrupt. And a lot of small businesses failed that way. And I think it was more or less, I was in a place with similar circumstances. So we decided then to take contact up this year, this business year, and....

Q Did you know anyone in the United States?

A No, I didn't know nobody here. I just went more or less by...looked into the paper and wrote to people here...to factories here...several. And then finally I got a message--I should put all my experience and resume, you know. I put it in. I wrote to these people and they said, O.K., let's go down, let's come down here. And then after about three or four months, it was really quick. I was really surprised. I got my passport, my immigration visa to come to the United States here.

Q There was no trouble getting the papers and so on?

A No. That company was my sponsor. You have to have practically a position, occupation, that the United States is in need of...you know what I mean? It is not...it wasn't so easy to come to the United States. I mean, today, you just cannot come in any more, unless you are a doctor...unless you are a doctor or you are a person what the United States, the government, is real short on...you know, like a scientist or something like this. If you are just a handyman, there's just no opportunity any more to come in here.

Q So you had no trouble getting your papers, or getting into....

- A No, we had no...I was really surprised. Here I sent all my papers in, you know, and all what I had, and it was in about four months, I guess, right?
- B Yeah.
- A Within four months we had everything.
- Q Which company was this that sponsored you?
- A That was a company in Richmond. Well, I came down and we came down in our car and belongings, and it didn't work out there too good, because...
- B They didn't keep the promise.
- A They didn't keep the promise. Well, nobody tells you things like this, you know.
- Q You drove all the way to Richmond.
- A Yeah, we drove all the way from Toronto to Richmond...and we started in, and I got all my informations...first of all, they wanted to me... there was a union company, you know, a union contractor. And they wanted to have me pay \$600 right away to become a member of the union. But my financial situation wasn't too good then...I just couldn't give these people \$600 on the table, you know, in order to be a member of the union. And if you are not a member of the union...money-wise I could have stayed in Canada, you know. They just would have given me a broom in the hand, for a dollar and...I don't know...a dollar twenty-five, dollar thirty, something like this. And I already made more money in Canada than they would have given me. I mean, if I could have given the money to the union, you know, then I would have made out very good. But there was no way...there was no way. And then I should go...what did he say...I think should go for a year or a year and a half to apprenticeship school here in the United States. I said, "Well, I don't know. I think I'm twenty years in business, and I took some schooling up in Germany after my apprenticeship, and if you'd like to test me, I'm willing to go along with you." He said, "No, we just...if you pay the money then everything will be O.K." So, I don't know...I must have been a little bit desperate at that time, because I just couldn't agree...because the company itself did not give me any information about the union, you know. You know, they just wanted to have me there, and didn't tell me the facts, the real facts, you know, because if you are there, then it's hard to turn around and go back.
- Q Was this a machine tool company?
- A Yeah, it was a machine tool company.
- Q Can you remember the name of it?
- A No, I don't know the name any more. It wasn't too...
- B ...We went back the next day...

Q Where did you go then the next day?

B Came here.

A Oh, I was on my way back to Canada.

B Yeah, but we stayed.

A I turned around...and my boy was about five years old...and said, "Well, I have nobody here, I have no relatives, I have no other people, and my little belongings what I have in that old car..."--it broke down about every fifty miles...it was an old Studebaker...a '51 or a '50 Studebaker. I had to put more water in the radiator and oil than gasoline in that vehicle. So I said to my family...well, my boy didn't know it...I said, "Well, what shall we do? Shall we go back? I mean, I still can go back, there's no question, you know." And then she remembered here a name here...my wife remembered a name. Then we had an address here...

B A neighbor from Germany....

A From Germany...we were in no contact whatsoever. We had no contact with these people here, because she was a little child when he left...

Q Well, maybe you can tell me now about your life.

B Yeah.

Q Where were you born?

B I was born in Bremerhaven--Noddingham by Bremerhaven in '21.

Q You grew up in that area?

B I was born in the house and it still is there when I go home.

Q Was it a large family that you were in?

B Yeah, we had seven children...I have three brothers dead now, and my sister died, so...my parents are dead.

Q What did they do for a living?

B My father was a businessman, and...wholesale man in beer and liquor. And he made his own...had a factory...

Q So how did you meet your husband?

B My husband came after the war, he was a policeman like...he was a prisoner of war...

A ...in '47...

Q You were a prisoner of war?

A Yeah. I was at one time soldier.

Q Being held by the Russians?

A No, I wasn't held by the Russians. First we were held by the Dutch, Holland, the Belgians...no, I was taken prisoner actually by the Canadians. The Canadians we were fighting on the Northwestern Front on the Dutch border...and the Canadians army was operating in that area. And so they took us prisoner. I was actually glad, because a couple of months before I was still on the Eastern Front in East Prussia and then in Silesia. And I was glad to get out there, so... I would say I still would never know if I would be alive today. That's the way it is....

Q How did you meet him then?

B I met him...we went out to a dance. He was...

A We had a ball there...we had...

B...dances. I was then young when the war broke out, so, that was the first dance, and my husband signed up for the police force, then he didn't know where his parents were. He had no contact with his family at all. So we met, and we wanted to get married, and there was no room. Even though my parents owned a big house, we had so many...what you say...

A Yeah, refugees from the East...

B We had three families we had taken in our house, and so we had to wait three years to get married to have a room, just one room.

A There there was no room available for families.

B It was overcrowded. There was lots of bomb damage. And then he started...my brother was the supervisor and he got him a job later after he quit the police force to get back in a job, and...

A I wanted to go back to work in my profession.

B But in '48 it was a bad time in Germany. There were all the layoffs, and one of them was my husband. So he got a job in Frankfurt--that was '49, no?

A No, '50.

B That is where he talked about.

Q Was your father still in business after the war?

A No. He sold the business after I was born. My father died young. So I lived with my mother alone.

Q Did either of you ever think of coming to Canada or to America?

B No. I never wanted to come.

A No. I never had an idea to go. I don't know...well, what I said



before. I had some connections...just business. And I think that was the main reason. And I traveled quite a lot, as I said before, in all of the European countries and a little bit of the Middle East in the later years. And if you travel a lot you meet so many people, and you get in contact with people, and you say, "What can you buy here, what can you do here with your money, what can you do there in that country with your money," you know, and you compare a little bit, you know. That may have been a factor, because it still was...you couldn't buy much in Germany in that time. More or less everything went up...food and clothing and furniture and so on and so on.

B Bread was very high...

A Not much money left...no question about that. And the rent what I said was high...

B And I think I never liked...I'm coming, like...Noddingham has 30,000 people. I never liked the big city. I never liked Frankfurt. I was lost there. I was stranger like in this country, and I think that's why I suggest to come over here.

Q You thought there would be smaller towns here?

B No. Just I mean it didn't matter to me if I stayed in Frankfurt... I wasn't at home. You know, when you live always in the same city and your parents and your friends go...I didn't like to move to Frankfurt, either, but there was no job opportunities in our home town.

Q Did you work at any time?

B No, I never did.

Q This neighbor that you mentioned before...what connection did you have with...

B He was a next-door neighbor, and he came once back after the second World War to Germany, and his parents are very good friends. His sister gave me once the address, and she says, "When you ever come to the United States, you have to visit Enge(sp?)." So, I had the address, and that's when we couldn't...

A I think that was our big help...

B Yeah. So we came at 11:00 at night, we just asked...we know it was near Philadelphia, that was in Delaware...so we came at night...we asked around, the liquor store was open, "Can you tell us where Claymont is?" And the people told us, and we knocked 11:00 on the door, and I called, and he says, "Who is it, who is it?" And he just couldn't believe it. So he had us...we stayed for two weeks with him, and then my husband got a job here...

Q With the company where you're now working?

A No, no. That company doesn't exist here any more.

Q Which company did you first...

A At Baldwin Line Hamilton.

Q Which was this now?

A Baldwin <sup>Lima</sup> ~~Line~~ Hamilton. That's in <sup>Eddystone</sup> ~~Eddiston~~, here, Pennsylvania. It's a machine tool company. It was once the biggest company in the world under one roof. They built locomotives, Baldwin ~~loco-~~motives, and...

Q That factory was located here?

A Yeah, in <sup>Eddystone</sup> ~~Eddiston~~, Pennsylvania, here, about 12-13 miles from here. And, as a matter of fact, today I was there and I looked in these empty buildings--they took all the machinery out...and I'm employed in a company here, in a machinery...

Q Which company are you employed in?

A Carny.

Q How do you spell that?

A C-a-r-n-y. Carny. And they are in machinery, used and...more or less in used machinery business. And today I went there, and I said there go the machines in auction there. They had a big auction sale. The company went two years ago out of business. They had about 20,000 employees in 1920, and they went steadily down to about 400-500 people they had employed in 1970, until they went completely out of business.

Q Was that just a couple of years ago?

A Yeah, two years...completely. But this was one of the biggest companies manufacturing locomotives. But some other companies, competitors, they went into better locomotives, the diesel, and this company didn't want to go along, or what, I don't know. And so it went just steadily down, down, down, until it ceased to exist. Today I was in, I said, "Jesus, look at all the holes here. There were hundreds and hundreds of machines in there--all machining tools...only two left, and we are pulling the last two of the machines out, dismantling." This machine got sold to Houston, a dealer in Houston, Texas. That's about \$160 or \$170,000 machine. This is the end for that company I started...and ironically, what I said here, I went in today, and I said, "Jesus, in thirty years, it's the company I started out here, and now after thirty years I go in and pull the last machine out of this company." That's funny, isn't it?

Q That's what America is, a lot of change.

A Ya, ya. It's so many changes...so many changes here.

Q Well, have you always lived in this neighborhood, or...

B Yeah, we lived two years in Claymont in an apartment and then we bought this house. So we've lived here for eleven years now.

Q Do you like this neighborhood, the people...

B Yeah, we have very good, nice neighbors.

A We are pleased with the people here, yeah, without question.

Q Are there any other Germans in this area?

B Yeah, there are some nice women...Wilsons...but they came here...they are 65 years old....There are lots of Germans here.

A Yeah, every corner somebody lives here.

B Two houses up are Latvian people that speak German.

A Ya, and three houses on this side...

B Even maybe some we don't know...

Q Was there any special reason you chose to live in this neighborhood?

B We had read about that these were good-built houses. These were the first houses what had central air conditioning and all-brick plaster walls, and...we made a good buy on the house. And I went back after two years to Germany. My mother's 80th birthday was then...and then I decided...I wasn't all that sure whether I would stay here or go home. But then when I saw what I could do in Germany and could do here, so...and I didn't like our apartment. So we decided to look around for a house, and we found this. Pastor Zimmerman helped us to get in a good neighborhood. He told us...

A Yeah, he gave us some hints.

B We wanted to come where...he said, "You have a boy and you have to look for a good school." He says, "See that you can buy a house in Mount Pleasant school district." He was a good help--he was a good friend to us.

Q Where did you say you first met him?

B Through the church. Through a German couple...

Q Zion Church?

B No, St. Mark's Lutheran. That's where we are members of. We still go to St. Mark's.

Q Oh, you're still going to St. Mark's.

A Yeah. It's located here on Bellefonte.

B Pastor Zimmerman was...he started in the church in Captain's Cove... We was out there. Mrs. Zimmerman painted the two pictures for the house.

Q Is that right? They're very good.

B Yeah, she did that.

A Well, like I say, I love it, I mean, what I have today.

Q Well, do you like living in Delaware? What do you think about the state?

A The state of Delaware? Well, I would say...I didn't live in another state here, except in Delaware.

Q Well, you lived in Canada.

A I lived in Canada, yeah.

Q Have you done any traveling in the United States?

B Oh yeah...we are campers. We are skiers. We are always on the road in the wintertime.

Q So how would this state compare with what you've found other places?

A Well, you have to live and work in a state, I think, in order to give you a picture, a real picture of it. Just visiting a state, or from saying that state is better, there's just no comparison about, you know, what's better in this state and what's better in this state. I think more or less, if you are willing to work you can live in any state, you know, and make your living...in any state of the United States, make your living. One has a little bit more advantage on taxes, or...you know what I mean?...or is a little bit more lenient to their people, or gives more in benefits to the people, you know. I hear a lot of things about the state of Delaware what other people do not have, like in the state of Pennsylvania, because the DuPont family here, they have given a lot to the public education purpose, like grants to the university, and other institutions...

B Parks...Longwood Garden and all this, no?

A And non-profit organizations...I mean, because Delaware is such a small state--isn't it the second one?--the second smallest state, yeah...Rhode Island is the first and Delaware is the second...and such a small state with about half a million inhabitants...all that money more or less should have an effect on the people. And I think it has a better effect on the people than a bigger state like Pennsylvania. If you read the paper, Pennsylvania has so many unemployed people, so many people, we'll say, who are on welfare. I think that this smaller state works out better that way.

B Are you from Delaware?

Q I'm originally from Indiana.

B From Indiana?

Q I was born in Indiana, yeah.

A Kansas.

Q No, not Kansas.

B Indiana!

A Ya. Is not Kansas City in Indiana?

B Evansville! Evansville!

A Ah, yeah. Evansville.

Q Indianapolis...

A Indianapolis, ya. Cincinnati.

Q No, Cincinnati is in Ohio.

A Ohio.

Q It's nearby.

B Oh, I know that.... You are mixed up. You went to Kansas, too.

Q Have you been to Kansas?

A I went to.

Q That's further west.

A Ya, further west.

B But we had some friends from our hometown who went to Evansville.

Q If you had to do it over again, in 1959 or '60, would you immigrate to somewhere else?

B No. I think today I wouldn't leave Germany.

Q Yeah, with the change in the economy...

A With the changing economy...very few people from Europe come over anyway...the immigration quota is so low for Europeans today; they favor other states more than Europe. Europe is so well off today we have to give the other countries a better immigration rate. Well, I think that's the way it is.

B It's...in our age is it...I think when you have to come to a strange country you should come young, not in our age. We were forty years old.

Q Put yourself back when you were young people, you know, if you would have come to America--knowing what you know now, and assuming that you were young, you know, would you do it over again. That's what I'm basically asking.

B Yeah, yeah I think so. Then your husband has a better start...

A Yeah, you have to be young. Say, up to 25. You got a much better chance and your English would be maybe much better than our English, than my English...it's not up to date; it should be better in all these years. But I think...

Q Did you have trouble with the language?

A No, actually not...

Q In the beginning?

A In the beginning, ya.

B Not really too much.

Q Did you know English when you first came?

A I had a little bit of English.

B I took English, but that was...I never used it for 25 years. I studied English in Germany. But I mean, you have to use a language to keep it up. You have to speak it.

Q So you didn't have any real trouble learning the language once you got here.

A No, not too much trouble in learning English, no.

B I mean, there's still some people today when I talk to them they act like they can't understand me.

A But, you may have realized it already, we may have...our grammar is not the way it should be.

B Yeah, we speak German at home.

Q Very few Americans have good grammar.

A I mean, to go into a real conversation you...in that conversation it shows if he speaks a real good English or if there's something, you know....But some people, that's what I think, also in my business, some people just...let's say they disregard if you do not speak fluently the language, you know. And more or less in some cases, people who do not speak perfectly English they may be in one or another way handicapped. It's natural. I mean, you just can't go along, sometimes explain things, you know, and people are acting funny sometimes, you know. They just act as if they do not understand you at all. I mean, that English we speak is not that bad.

B I mean, you can understand us.

A I mean, we cannot take our...

Q I think you speak English very well.

- B Yeah. It's like when you come younger over you get more fluent. Like our son, he speaks German at home, and in school he had a little problem in pronouncing. But they didn't know he was German. And when I went to the teacher, they called me in and they said they wanted to send him to speech class. And when I start she said, "Now we know what's the problem is--you're speaking German at home." It's the "th" what we Germans have the problem with. And so he went five hours to speech class, and he kept up. The teacher spent a little time with him, and in a short time he was a straight "A" student in English. And he speaks fluent German, he speaks fluent Spanish, now. He got lots of credits for his Spanish into college and he wants to keep the languages up now.
- Q Is that what he's majoring in?
- B No. He's not quite sure. He says he likes to major--how you say, geology? And Spanish, he says. He says geology is not too hard, so maybe he take Spanish too and get...
- A Or marine science.
- B Marine science--he's a good sailor. He goes to the Nationals. My husband is a good sailor. You see the trophies here from our...
- A Don't show him the little ones.
- B No, he got them all--ya, you are old--but my husband is more a ski racer. He goes ski racing. And yesterday the boy that was the Delaware state champion, the bicycle race, in Newark yesterday...?
- Q No, I didn't go to that.
- B It was in the newspapers. My Jim placed the second one. It was his first bicycle race.
- Q That's very good.
- B He's very active in sports.
- A Well, he is a boy who enjoys outdoor life. He wanted maybe to be an engineer first, you know. He thought about going into the technical field, and then he said, "Dad. I know--I hear too much people sitting on the drafting board all day long, you know, and you just grow tired of it."
- B He says he's sure he wants to take something up where he has the opportunity to go outdoor. He goes into some science field, I think... maybe take languages up.
- Q What do you think about the President right now, this Watergate affair. Have you been following that any? Does that make you sorry in any way that you live in America?
- B Oh, no, not this way. No.
- A We all are people. Everybody can make mistakes. I mean, there's no question about that. Every human makes mistakes...if he is the Presi-

dent or just a plain citizen. But what is it...I feel something is in that case...I mean, the power should be by the people. You understand me?

Q Um hmm.

A Should be by the people. I mean...

Q Do you think the President should resign because of what's been going on?

B He should clear himself. He should clear himself with the tapes.

A It has nothing to do with resign...just clear himself and say, "I'm an honest person." You know, clear completely himself. That's my view. I'm not bitter...or avoid any arguments, you know, because I'm not that person. But, well, that should be cleared up, you know, because...

Q There's been a lot of criticism by foreigners, you know, in the European papers and so on. They say, "You look at America, look what's happening over there, that just proves what we've said all along, that Americans are materialistic, greedy, corrupt."

B I don't think they say this too much in Germany, not where I come from.

Q Really?

B No. I don't think so. My niece was here from Germany, she is industrial buyer, so she earns good money, she's 21 years old, and she has a connection, she quotes here on General Motors, and she says, "I like to visit, but I want to live in Germany." But they like United States.

Q They do like the United States?

B Like, I mean, you still can buy much more for your money in this country. Like, you know, she went shopping. I says, "Why you buy slacks here?" "Oh," she says, "Twenty dollar, that's the best pair here, and I pay 80 demarks in Germany."

Q Which would be how much?

B 80 demarks...then it was...she got two demarks, she had to pay \$24.00, so it was like half the price. Prices are high in Germany. Now the dollar is going up today.

A Two and a half marks for a dollar.

B I mean, I was shocked. I went home after ten years, and I went home last year. And I always have bought good clothes and shoes, but last year I didn't buy much; it was too expensive for me. So I compared with here so I might buy it here, not in Germany.

Q Is there anything you miss, anything at all you miss in Germany?



B Yeah, I miss the nice streets to walk. Like, you know, I spoke with a friend, she went to New Orleans, and she said, "Oh, the cafes on the street..."--like the woman in the afternoon in Germany you go after lunch...noontime's the big meal, then everything closes in Germany, all the stores close from 12:30 'til 3:00...all the businesses, banks. The banks are open again 'til 5:00 and the stores close 6:30 and Saturdays noontime. So but then the woman really gets up dressed and goes out, does her shopping, and goes in the cafe, has a piece of cake, and they enjoy themselves. Here in many ways there's too much hurry. So I'm the walker here. I went this morning. My husband said, "What did you do?" I said I walked to the store and shopped. It's ten minutes...

A Well, different countries, different customs.

B But I mean now I'm used to it. At first I was lonesome, you know, when you are used to...here you do the shopping once a week and there you go every day what you need. But now there are supermarkets coming up like here. The small business...my uncle had a nice delicatessen store he had to shut down. He couldn't keep up with the big businesses and with the supermarkets. It's more coming like American style. But that's the whole world changes, it's not...

A Well, America is exporting all these goodies. Right?

Q Well, that's all the questions I have. Do you have any general comments to make about your life here in America? I get the impression you are very happy with immigrating here.

A So far we are satisfied and can't complain. I mean, you know, there are shady sides in life, you know, here and there, but in general, I don't think so I would be that good off today in Germany that I am here. There's no question about that.

B No, I mean, it's like we couldn't have a house. We have two cars. We have two boats. Go skiing. We couldn't do that in Germany. It's not possible. The boy goes to the university; we can give him a good education. I hope so.

Q Oh, yeah, the university will give him a good education.

A Oh, yeah, yeah, that's correct. But financially, financially.

B He's an honor student--he's straight "A"--he was.

Q But it's expensive--is that what you're saying?

A In some ways it's expensive.

B It's I think like...there are so many kids what can do so much, and we have to cut down in some ways, no?, and it's hard. He has a roommate what is so much better off, what says, "Oh, what you need is a rich father and you have a good time," you know? And he's surprised--he says, "You know, some kids just don't study. How do they get through?" But they have lots of troubles later on, no? After the

first semester?

Q Well, if they don't study and they don't get good grades, they flunk out.

B Yeah, how many credits do you need to stay in--is it twelve, the boy says?

Q Nine or twelve, I don't know for freshmen.

A Depending what type of subject you take, right?

Q I guess...full-time students.

B Oh, you didn't go for freshman here in Delaware?

Q No, just graduate school. Well, thank you very much.

B O.K. Maybe we were a little help.

END OF INTERVIEW.