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Interview with Miss Madeleine Forwood, July 8, 1970, regarding the Foreign Study Committee of the University of Delaware, for which she was a secretary. The interviewer is Myron L. Lazarus.

A I'm expecting my family from Nebraska any time now, so if they should barge in . . .

Q Don't worry. This is a recording of the Oral History Program of the University of Delaware, and we're interviewing Miss Madelaine Forwood, and we're interviewing her concerning the junior year abroad designed by the University of Delaware in what year was the original program?

A It was--we started it in 1923.

Q 1923.

A I didn't go with it, however, until 1931.

Q I see. Where were you born, Miss Forwood?

A Where?

Q Yeah. Where and when.

A Wilmington. There isn't anyplace else.

Q In Wilmington? That's rare, these days, a native Wilmingtonian.

A Yes, I know.

Q Uh huh. And when were you born?

A 1903. I'm not ashamed of it.

Q Uh huh. Well, that would be your right to say nothing if you didn't want to tell me. And you went to school in Wilmington, I take it?

A Wilmington Public Schools and then . . .

Q Wilmington High School?

A Wilmington High School and the University of Delaware--which was then the Women's College, because I was graduated in 1926.

Q I wonder if you knew my aunt, Helen Cullen was her name.

A She was in my class.

Q Is that right?

A Yes. Helen Cullen and Helen Levy were both in my class in high school and college. They were lovely girls. I thought a lot of both of them.

Q Um hmm.

A And we were all French majors.

Q Miss Levy also?

A Yes. Um hmm.

Q And none of you got to go to France.

A Well, no. You see, it hadn't been tried as far as girls were concerned at that time. Just boys had gone. So in 19 . . .

Q In the original program.

A Yes. In 1925, they decided to send--or '24 was it, I forget--but they decided to send two girls. And it happened that Helen Simon and I were called in before Thanksgiving to--the Dean told us we had been selected to go if our parents agreed and so forth. Well, I hadn't been very well that year, so my parents weren't keen about it. They thought to go away for a year was just terrible, you know, that far away. So Helen Simon went on, and she--I think I remember correctly--she was second high of all the foreign students at the Sorbonne at the end of the year. And I said maybe it was a good thing I didn't go. I never would have come up to that record.

Q What did you--you say you majored in French in college at Delaware, and you graduated in what year?

A 1926.

Q Uh huh. What was your minor? Was there a minor then?

A Well, yes, there was, but actually I don't know what mine was, now, because I didn't seem to dwell on anything other than French, although I guess foreign language, because I took a couple of years of Spanish and . . .

Q Uh huh. Now, you say that Mr. Brinton was one of your professors at Delaware?

A My freshman year I had him in French, yes. And he was quite a character.

Q How about Mr. Bayem [sp], did you have him?

A I didn't have--Dr. Bayem came to Delaware while I was a student there, but I didn't have him.

Q Um hmm. And after college what did you do?

A Well, I prepared to teach, but I didn't want to; when I finished--when I had my student teaching, I didn't like it, particularly, the age group. So I decided then that I didn't want to teach and my father sent me in to Goldie College for an executive secretarial program, which I stretched out a bit. And then I went to work--well, before I finished there, I worked with an

inventor who had come to Wilmington, and that was . . .

Q What was his name?

A Well, that was rather bad news, so it didn't last too long. And then I went with Ernst and Ernst, who were accountants--I mean auditors. They opened a Wilmington office. But with the Depression, they decided to close it and just use their Philadelphia office. So then Mr. Wilkinson, who was business administrator at the University, and the father of my college roommate, asked me about coming to Delaware in the foreign study work. They realized it was growing and they needed a full-time secretary and so forth, so I accepted that with glee.

Q Yeah. It was continuing somewhat what you were studying at Delaware.

A Yes. It was my interest, of course, and my aim was to . . .

Q Could you speak French, by the way?

A At that time I did fairly well, but . . .

Q You didn't really need it at Delaware, did you? Well, maybe with the communications, on letters . . .

A Well, I wouldn't say that. But it was very, very convenient, because Dr. Bayem and Mr. Brinton were both wonderful linguists and they would throw in many phrases and so forth, and I didn't have to hesitate at that time. It would be different now.

Q What was your title, really?

A Well, I was secretary to the Committee on Foreign Study.

Q O.K. And very specifically, what was your job? I mean, what did you specifically do?

A Well, of course it changed. When I first went, I just took the dictation, and, well, the usual office work, the filing . . . And then a little later, of course, I was given more responsibility to see--when we organized groups of students to go abroad, they were from all over the United States. And of course Dr. Bayem did all of the selecting and so forth, but later on, as I matured and knew what they expected, I could fairly well do some of it myself. Toward the end of the time when--it was after the war, and they decided to start up all of a sudden one spring, I think it was 1946. And I had gone into the Placement Office for a couple of years during the war. Well, they just took me right out of the Placement Office early that spring and they said, "Now, Dr. Bayem will have to go to Europe to get things organized over there," and also Mr. Grubb [sp], who was the business administrator, would have to go over and take care of some other financial part of the business. So I was left here to get a group organized, . .

Q Pretty much on your own.

A . . . take care of everything pertaining to the getting the group off for

Europe and so forth.

Q Now what did that all involve?

A The steamship . . . well, from the time we started organizing the group, we would send the group notices throughout the months before sailing, letting them know what to take with them and about the financial arrangements and all sorts of things. Then this money . . .

Q Did you do any selecting at this time?

A Well, some, yes. But Dr. Bayem did the majority of the actual selecting. Toward the end I did more, too. But I had the full responsibility of getting their passages arranged by the Cunard line, and assign their cabins to them and make all the arrangements about their arriving in New York and a hotel--we usually engaged rooms for them at a hotel.

Q Now, they came from the various colleges to New York.

A Well, they came from their homes because it was in August as a rule. And we would have a block of rooms in a hotel.

Q What hotel was that?

A Well, we used the New Yorker and the Roosevelt and I think for one or two groups we used the old Astor, but mostly the New Yorker, which was then a fine hotel. It was fairly new and they were wonderful to us. Then the students all sent us their passports. I had to get them in and see that they were all in on time and take them to Philadelphia and get the French visas on all of them. And I assigned the cabins and arranged for all the steamship tickets. And I arranged for the reception in New York before the group sailed.

Q Did they have a party or a dinner party?

A Well, we had--for two days . . . they were supposed to arrive by a certain time, and I had an office set up in the hotel, which was usually adjoining or in a very big room where we could have a meeting of all the students and their parents or anyone with them. And our president usually welcomed them, and . . .

Q That was Dr. Hullihen?

A Dr. Hullihen and then later Dr. Carlson I think was there one year or two, I don't remember.

Q Of course the program was dropped during Dr. Carlson's [inaudible] .

A That's right. And the business administrator was always there and our--actually, now you asked me a question what my title actually was, well, Dr. Bayem was secretary--you see, we worked under the auspices of the Institute of International Education. Did Mrs. Brinton mention this?

Q No, I don't think she mentioned it.

A Well, we were under the auspices of . . .

Q Now, is that part of the university, or . . .

A No, no, that's an independent organization which governs foreign study.

Q I see.

A And then we had the Committee on the Junior Year Abroad, and Dr. Bayem was secretary of that committee, and then I was secretary . . .

Q To the secretary.

A Yes. But they always said Secretary of the Department of Foreign Studies, but as far as I was concerned. . . .

Q Was there, by the way, any kind of indoctrination before they left? In New York.

A Yes, an orientation, more or less, and this was this meeting. They came to me and left their baggage tickets with me when they arrived in New York. And that's one way I checked them all off to make sure they were all there. And then the meeting was scheduled for a certain time in the afternoon . . .

Q In the New Yorker?

A . . . and they were all supposed to attend. Yes. We usually had a big ballroom, or . . . and it was a wonderful affair.

Q How many people were actually involved in one year's [inaudible]?

A Well, we had 91 in the largest group.

Q I can see why you might use the ballroom. Who was in charge of this orientation?

A Well, Dr. Bayem or the president of the university was really the main person in that. He greeted the students and parents and gave a very nice little talk. And then he would usually have the roll called by the business administrator, because these boys and girls didn't know each other unless they came from the same college. And it was nice to have them stand up so that they could see who was going to be in the group for the year, you know. And then after--well, then we had a very outstanding speaker, as a rule, often from the Institute of International Education. Dr. Duggin, who was then head of that whole organization, used to speak, and different ones, I can't remember now who they were, but they were always . . .

Q Generally, what were they told, do you remember?

A Well, they were told what would be expected of students in a group of this caliber in a foreign country. In those days they could, you know, tell young people what was expected of them and they usually adhered to that rather well. But I imagine today that's a little different. Their dress, for one thing, because in those days in foreign countries, the students wore

full suits, the boys, and ties and so forth, and girls dressed very nicely, not elaborately, but very nicely, as in those days you expected students to do.

Q Is this when they went to class or . . .

A Always. Well, when they're on vacations, of course--that's another thing, they had their fairly long vacation periods, and some would go on skiing trips in winter or go to visit relatives or friends in Europe somewhere. They had to have permission, of course, to go off to themselves at all, or permission of their parents.

Q Um hmm. Can you think of any more rules and regulations?

A Oh, there were--well, we had the rules and regulations about living in the French families, you see. They all lived in French families we had on our list, and they lived in three or four different categories. Those paying the most, naturally, lived probably in homes maybe where they had central heating or maybe not; depending on what they paid, they lived according to that. We never permitted the girls to go in the lowest price because some of the boys had to save every way they could, and in the lowest rate, they didn't always have a bath in the house. They might have to go to a public bath. And of course we wouldn't permit the girls to do this, but a few boys did live in . . .

Q Do you remember anything about costs, and what this trip cost.

A Well, it varied. Even while I was in the work, it changed from maybe \$11--\$1200 was the lowest for the year, and that was for as I say, some boys might feel they had to go under that rate, but usually--it started out, I think around \$1850, the high rate, but remember, this was back in the early '30s. Then it went up, and it seemed to me toward the end it was \$2400, maybe, \$2500--I can't remember the rates.

Q This was expensive for those days, then, wasn't it?

A For those days, yes, but remember, too, that included the whole year.

Q Did that include transportation?

A Tuition, room and board, transportation.

Q And transportation?

A Yes.

Q Mrs. Brinton wasn't sure whether it included the travel.

A Yes, steamship fare. Now, it didn't include spending money, and that would be--one of the notices that would go out before sailing would be how much spending money the parents wanted to allow their child, and we would take care of that if they wanted to send it to us and have us forward it to Europe say twice a year or three times or monthly, whatever they wanted. And there again I took care of the getting the money in and seeing that it

was dispersed.

Q What kind of accomodations did they have on the ship?

A Very good accomodations on the ship. Not . . .

Q What did they go, second class?

A Well, in those days it--I think they gave us special rates more or less. They'd really travel second, but maybe didn't pay--always pay what second . . .

Q Were they in a room with a group, or . . .

A Well, there'd be two.

Q Two in a room--cabin?

A Yes, usually . . . a few singles, mostly two in a room, sometimes three.

Q Now, they spent two days in New York, you say.

A Um hmm. Yes.

Q What else did they do . . .

A Well, they paid, of course, for that individually.

Q Right. But what else did they do in New York? That seems like a long time to get started.

A Well, they arrived at the hotel and come to give us their baggage checks, because we would send all the baggage checks to the pier by someone and he would check to see if all their trunks and everything was there. If not, they'd start an immediate search for one to make sure it got to the ship, you know, before sailing time. Therefore, they needed to come the day before, and they had previously been told in a notice when to have their trunks and so forth shipped and just exactly where to have them sent. And then they were kept--the Cunard Line arranged that all these trunks would be kept together, so that our man who would go down to check them could make sure everything was there. They would tell us how many they were going to have . . . but then when they arrived in New York, they'd bring their checks to us. And as soon as our man checked them, then they were put on board the ship. And that had to be done the day before, because sometimes sailing would be in the morning of the next day. Then that afternoon they'd all come back to the hotel for this afternoon affair. And it was quite a nice social gathering after the formal meeting, and we always had a reception, which I would arrange for ahead of time with the banquet manager at the hotel.

Q Was this pleasurable for you, this experience in New York?

A Very. I loved it. I got to meet--you know, when you work with these students for months before they sail, you feel as if you know them. And

it's interesting to see them, then.

Q Plus the fact that it's the most exciting thing they've ever done, probably.

A It is.

Q Everyone is keyed up.

A Um hmm. And they're so elated about going abroad for a year's study, you know. And what was extremely interesting to me was to see them leaving, and they were typical college students in those days, and then to see them return. They had matured so much in the year, it was amazing.

Q In what way?

A Well, their whole poise and they even looked older, I think.

Q They weren't kids anymore, they had seen the world.

A No, they had grown up. And you know, that's the very thing Jackie Kennedy has said. I know I've read in her biography and in an article I read I think a week or two ago, that she told about her study abroad, and she didn't even want to go back to Vassar for the next year. She went to George Washington.

Q She'd been too mature, even for Vassar, is that right?

A Well, not exactly that. I think it was just that it opens your eyes so greatly to the world, I think, that then when you thought that . . . although most of them, I think, went back to their college for their degree. But this just happened to be an expression that she made.

Q You mentioned before something about Vassar taking the credit for the junior year abroad.

A Well, I remember in this article that appeared in Reader's Digest--I remember Dr. Bayem's expression when he saw this article, and it didn't take him long to write and let them know that Delaware originated this plan, because Professor Kirkbride had worked on it quite a long time before Delaware really entered into it. There was much preliminary correspondence and foundation work to be made to get--see, we offered special Delaware courses over there in France. Our students went to Tours for a six-weeks concentrated preliminary study before going to Paris in the fall.

Q Before the Sorbonne.

A Yes. Well then we expanded.

Q And this was the part that the university had the most to do with, is that right? The University of Delaware.

A The special--we had our office over there and classrooms where these special Delaware courses were given, and . . .

Q These courses were given in the building . . .

A In conjunction with the others--the courses they took at the Sorbonne. Then they would come to the Delaware offices for these special courses like in phonetics and dictation and . . .

Q But they had those courses before school opened at the Sorbonne.

A No, even after--no, the preliminary work was done in Tours, that was a very concentrated program, six weeks to prepare them for the type work they would have at the Sorbonne. And they even brought down lecturers from Paris, some very outstanding French professors.

Q Now, this was before they went to the Sorbonne.

A This was six weeks . . .

Q And you said this was part of the tour?

A No, Tours, France, T-o-u-r-s.

Q Oh, I'm sorry. O.K.

A Because it's such a pure French.

Q Do you know anything about where they stayed in Tours?

A Stayed?

Q Where they stayed, with a--their office was in Paris.

A Our office was in Paris and students lived with private families, and they did also in Tours.

Q Oh, I see.

A They may have had a--it's called the Institute of Turin [sp]. Now whether they had rooms--I didn't stay down there. I don't know whether many of them were in a hotel or in this institute, I couldn't tell you that now.

Q Um hmm. What kind of communication did you have when this program was going on from France, from the program?

A Well, we were in constant communication because our director over there, and the director was always selected from the modern language department of an outstanding college, and that director and assistant director, who was usually a woman, and she had more or less charge of the girls in their homes and everything pertaining to them, they were in correspondence with us fairly constantly. The director would let us know when money was needed. We had a good idea of the time, but sometimes something would happen that he would need extra, and of course we would have to get money off to him. He notified us about certain professors, about courses that were offered. Maybe he would suggest a change in a course or two or--well, there was just constant communication about the individual students in the group, grades . . .

Q Why would there be communication about individual students? Problems?

- A Well, a few problem cases where--one year, I remember, a girl was very seriously injured. Well, that's another thing, we had to arrange for insurance for them if they wanted it. We got that through a firm in Boston. That was another notice we'd send out to the students before they sailed, whether they wanted this health and travel insurance for the year. Well, one girl was very seriously injured in a skiing accident. There were always things, just the same as any other group.
- Q If you have that large a group, something's going to happen.
- A That's right, or someone taken ill. Just all sorts of problems.
- Q Did they have any academic problems? I couldn't imagine too many of those.
- A Few, very few, because they were very well selected. They understood that they were returned to the United States if they didn't adhere to the rules and regulations. And a few were returned, but very few.
- Q How did they do in terms--comparing them with other students in Paris at the Sorbonne? Do you have any idea?
- A Well, as I say, here's our girl from Delaware was second-high of . . .
- Q Of the group that went.
- A . . . 400 foreign students. No! 400 foreign students in the Sorbonne that year. And our students came out very, very well.
- Q Do you know of any who stayed there to get a degree at the Sorbonne?
- A I think there were very few. Most of them wanted to return to get their degree from their home institution, I think. I have heard that a few went back after finishing here, but I couldn't tell you.
- Q Do you remember particular students in this program?
- A Yes, um hmm. Of course I didn't have too much with the individual student. But after I was working in admissions at the university, and they would refer phone calls to me if someone asked about foreign study, because I was the only one left at the university who had worked with it.
- Q Otherwise, after this program was through, you worked in the admissions office.
- A Yes. And oh, not too many years ago, I had this phone call from a woman, and she said she was Mrs. So-and-so. Now, I can't tell you her married name, but she said, "I was a member of one of your foreign study groups in France, and I want my daughter to go because the year was so--meant so much to me that I want her to have the same experience." And I said, "What was your name when you were in the foreign study group?" She said, "Suzette Morton." She's the Morton Salt people. I said, "Oh, I remember you very well. You were a tall, blonde girl." And she said, "Well, who are you?" And I told her. I said, "You probably don't remember me." She said, "Oh, yes, I do." So we had a nice little chat. And she was just sick that Delaware no longer

had the plan.

Q What were your memories of Dr. Bayem? And Dr. Brinton.

A Well, I thought the world of both of them. They're very, very different. But they were both wonderful men. Dr. Bayem--I think it was Professor Brinton who told me that he thought Dr. Bayem was one of the finest linguists he had ever known in his whole life, and yet Mr. Brinton was a fine one too, so that I thought was a wonderful compliment.

Q Pretty good coming from a fellow linguist.

A That's right. Dr. Bayem was meticulous in every way. Everything he did was just perfection in detail. Mr. Brinton was a brilliant man, but he just didn't care about so many things, you know.

Q Comfortable sort of individual, relaxed.

A Uh huh. But they certainly were very, very different, but I learned a tremendous amount with Dr. Bayem.

Q Were you involved with any of the situation where the university had to drop the program?

A Well, not directly involved, but I of course knew what was going on, and . . .

Q What was going on?

A Well, the way I understood it was that Dr. Carlson felt that the university being more or less a state institution should not or could not use any funds for this particular plan. And he felt that it didn't benefit enough Delaware students. So I think Dr. Bayem and Professor Brinton and some of the others were very upset about it, because they had put so much work, and it was a big part of their life for a while, and it was a wonderful idea, because their idea was if we could have boys and girls live in families in Europe and get along as they did, and they were thought so highly of that it just couldn't help but better feelings between the two nations, and broaden the young people greatly. And it did a lot of good, we know that. But Dr. Carlson just would not see it in this light at all. He thought unless it benefited many Delaware students that it wasn't worth what Delaware was--the time and everything else--putting on it. So . . .

Q I take it, though, the students were paying for the program.

A Well . . . the whole point was, it had to be completely self-supporting.

Q Was it?

A Well, I think there were a few times, maybe, when they had to get some help. But Dr. Bayem and Professor Brinton knew that they could have had it subsidized, because there were some really well-to-do families that had been connected with it and thought so highly of it that they could have subsidized it very well.

Q And it was subsidized to a degree.

- A But Dr. Carlson just made his mind up that he wasn't interested . . .
- Q It was true, though, that as the program progressed, there were fewer Delaware students.
- A Well, there were . . .
- Q The first few programs were all Delaware.
- A . . . because there weren't as many majoring in French at Delaware. And at that time, they had to be French majors, but then they branched out. They could be history majors, or art or political science, because I remember two or three of the girls went to the art institute over there for the greater part of their work. And several of the boys went to the--I think it was called Ecole Libre de Science Politique. So this was a very fine thing, because they were branching out, and then you know we also had junior in Germany and Switzerland. And Dr. Hullihen's plan was to expand to Spain, Italy and it seems to me that he was talking about Scotland, the University of Edinburgh, and even South America, because Herb Lank at that time was representing DuPont in Buenos Aires. Herb had been a member of the first group, Delaware group, and he was looking into the possibility of carrying out this idea with--down there in Buenos Aires. But of course the winter and summer are just the opposite, and the school year wouldn't coincide very well, so it didn't get very far.
- Q Do you remember any amusing incidents that happened to them abroad in this program? Any stories that got back?
- A I can't remember any in sequence, really, now. Mrs. Brinton would probably know much more about that than I would. She was over there.
- Q Well, she did remember a few, but she wouldn't tell.
- A Oh. They're personal, more or less, so . . . you know . . .
- Q You mentioned that after the program ended, you became--you worked in the admissions office. What did you do at the admissions office?
- A Well, when I retired two years ago, I was assistant to the director of admissions.
- Q And this was what has been your job--otherwise, you worked for the University of Delaware pretty much . . . all your career.
- A Since 1948 or '49--yes, '48 I went into admissions. Dr. Carlson ended--let's see, we went back to France after the war. And that was '46, we sent a group. And '47 we sent a group. And we had one organized for '48, but it didn't get off.
- Q Can you think of anything else about the program that we ought to discuss or know about? Anything else that comes to your mind about the program?
- A Well, of course really there's so much about it you wouldn't know where to begin. I think Professor Kirkbride's part in it is worth strong mention,

because actually he was the one who conceived the idea of foreign study and what a wonderful thing it would be, and he was--when he organized the first group and had it in Europe and in France, they went to the University of Nancy instead of Tours for their preliminary work, in the beginning. He was taken ill and he came back--they brought him back to the University of Delaware. I think Professor Brinton or maybe Dr. Bayem went over. This was before I went into the work, because I was in college when Professor Kirkbride came back, and he gave a no-credit course in French conversation. So I think seven of us who were French majors in college took this course with him, and we all marveled about the wonderful opportunity we had to have him. He was a wonderful young man, but he didn't live long after that. Professor Brinton was director over there for seven years. I suppose Mrs. Brinton told you that. But I can't remember the exact years. And David Dougherty, who was a member of our first group of students, later became a director in France. He was head of the Modern Language Department at Grinnell College, I think, in Grinnell, Iowa, at the time.

Q Was there any follow-through, by the way, on what these people did after graduating?

A Well, there was for a while, but it--we didn't have a big enough staff to do this sort of thing, and it was something that both Dr. Bayem and Mr. Brinton wanted to do. And we did keep up with them quite a while, but of course the time came when it just wasn't possible. However, in the history of foreign study, there is, I remember, a list of all the students who were members of the group and the year he or she went over the college from which they came.

Q This is part of the archives, now, at the university.

A Yes. And Mr. Brinton had that done, because I remember looking up all the information for him.

Q They even had reunions . . .

A Then--Dr. Bayem can tell you about the publication--Foreign Study Notes--that was published in France by the students. It was a beautiful publication. Have you ever seen it?

Q Yes, I have. I just glanced through it. Mrs. Brinton had a copy.

A Um hmm. They did a good job, very good job with it.

Q Well, I want to thank you very much, Miss Forwood.

A Well, it's a wonderful thing and it's been a highlight in my life because of so much that was associated with it. But when you start to think about it, you hardly know where to begin. In the cornerstone of Hullahen Hall, there are booklets of the foreign study plan--I think a little booklet on the junior year in France, one on the junior year in Munich and Switzerland.

Q To be opened when, huh?

A Yeah, when. What is that usually, 100 years hence? I know I wrote my name

in one of them.

Q Is that right. You say--what year did you go with the group?

A 1932 I went over with the group. And then I met friends in Paris, and then I left them and went down to Tours. I did want to, you know, see where the group was studying, and I went down there for just a few days. Then back to Paris and I flew over to London to meet my friends again. But the trip that was really outstanding in my life was in 1939. And of course that was when war was rather imminent, yet we got in touch with Washington and everything was go-ahead, so we . . .

Q With the program, you mean.

A The group sailed in August, and on the ship going over, we saw all these white slips being handed out to men on board. We couldn't imagine what these white slips were, but they were Frenchmen being called to duty. And I got off the--I had a friend with me, and we got off the boat in England because we were to meet this friend's daughter who had been over in Europe for the summer. And our group went on to France. Well, the very next day after we arrived, or that day, I guess it was, England declared war. So I had an introduction to the French line manager in London, and I thought, "Well, I'll rush to that office to see if I can get a return passage," while my friend had lunch with her daughter. So I rushed down to the French line office, and the lines were three deep about a block long then. But I went through and when I got up to the doorman, I told him I had a letter of introduction to Mr. So-and-so, so he directed me upstairs. And I had a very nice conversation with this man, but he said he'd do his best to try to get us a passage, but he couldn't guarantee anything. And our passage was on the De Grace [sp?] to return. He said, "Well, the De Grace has already been taken off as a troop ship." So from then on we stood in lines for weeks trying to get passages back, and every time we'd get near a door, we'd stand maybe for four or five hours, and we'd be getting near the door to go into the office, they'd put a sign out, "Closed for a day," or two days, to catch up on passages and so forth. So we had five different passages that were all cancelled. And it took an awful lot of time to stand in lines trying to get another one.

Q Meanwhile, the program was going on, huh?

A Well, I cabled--I sent a cable to our Paris office, because my thought was, "Well, they can get them back from this side," you know, our office could probably make arrangements to get the group back promptly.

Q From France.

A Yes. So I sent a cable to Dr. Dougherty who was head of the group, director of the group, asking him if they'd get the two of us on with them. But I didn't hear from him for five days, that's how long it took the cable to get from London to Paris. But the students were scattered then, they were trying to keep ahead of the troops. The boys were handling all the trunks and everything. They were traveling by buses and any way they could get, to a port.

Q Now they were trying to get from where to where, now?

- A Well, I think at that time--some of them got on the Washington, but the rest of them got on the ship that I was on, which was the last sailing of the Manhattan before it became a troop ship. And I was up on the deck--they took us into this little port, [sounds like "Le Verdon"], where an ocean-going passenger ship had never been. Planes directed us in. And they sent the commander of the Atlantic Fleet over to take the ship into this port. So I had asked the commander if I could go down, I saw our students down on the pier at this little god-forsaken port. And I thought I might be able to help some of them with something. But he said if he would let anybody go down, he would let me go, but not a person would go down the gangplank. There were guards with guns everywhere. So the students started coming up the gangplank and I was over as close as I could get to it, and they were calling, you know, and I asked where some of the others were, and they said they had gone on another ship.
- Q When was this, what part of the year, now? How long had they been there in France?
- A Well, we went over in August. This was September.
- Q Oh. Hardly any time at all.
- A Oh, they had just kept ahead of the troops.
- Q When did the program in Germany stop? They did start a program in Germany, didn't they? And Switzerland. Do you remember anything about that program stopping with the rise of Hitler and so forth?
- A Well, I can't give you dates now. We had the junior year in Munich for two years. And the one in Switzerland--I can't remember whether it started before . . . I know we had it in '46 and '47, but I'm sure we had it a little earlier than that, one or two before the war. But the French one was the--you know, the longest term.
- Q Do you remember much about the trip abroad when you went with the students--what they did on the ship?
- A Nothing different, really, from anyone else. They played the deck games, and they were outstanding in the masked--well, not exactly a party, you know, that they have and they wear costumes . . .
- Q Costume ball, was it?
- A Yes, costumes, and I remember that I thought that they were exceedingly clever in some of their ideas, just made from nothing almost. But nothing that I can really put my finger on right now. We were exceedingly proud of our groups.
- Q Do you know of Delaware getting any national reputation from this program?
- A Oh, yes. Colleges--or people from out West would write us all the time about they'd heard about our wonderful junior year abroad plan, and I really think Delaware was known throughout the United States for it.
- Q Any rumors of continuing the program?

- A We had hoped so, but I guess not, not any more. Dr. Perkins was sorry that it ended before he came in.
- Q Mrs. Brinton said that would be the greatest thing in her life if she could [inaudible] . . .
- A Well, if it could be run as it was then, yes. But I think there's so many-- I think foreign students now--American students--are flooding Europe, and there's a different idea about them. So it may not be the . . .
- Q And students are going on their own, anyway.
- A That's right. But you see, we worked out a wonderful system of grading, because over there they didn't grade like we do. And for students to get credit in their colleges here toward their degrees, that required a great deal of time to work out a comparable grading system.
- Q Do you remember any of the mechanics of this?
- A I wasn't really--I received the grades for all the students and we had them all down there at Delaware. And they would come--we would get the grades for a six-weeks preliminary period, and then for the January, the first term and the second term--of course their terms weren't exactly like ours because they had a much longer vacation in winter. But the first term and second term grades. And then at the end of the year, we would get a report from the entire year's work. And these were sent to the individual colleges from which the students came.
- Q I was wondering if they actually had tests at the end of a course in Europe, or whether they had tests at the end of a year.
- A Well, the end of a term, um hmm. Dr. Bayem could give you every detail about the courses.
- Q Good. I need to get some addresses from you, by the way.

[END OF INTERVIEW]