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[Begin C 1907, Side A. Begin Session I.]

Anu Dudley: So, this is Wednesday, August 16, I'm in the home of Mr. Wesley Gray, and we are going to talk about the CCC project. Mr. Gray, I have explained to you that the tape will go to the Northeast Archives. And you have signed a release. Is that right?

Wesley Gray: Yes, I've signed a release and I understand.

Dudley: OK. Very good. Thank you. Well, let's get started on this interview. First off, I'd like to get a little bit of personal information on you. We're asking these questions of everybody, just so that we have a little background before we start the interview. Can you tell me what your full name is?

Gray: Yes, Wesley Francis Gray.

Dudley: OK. And your date of birth.

Gray: 4/13/21.

Dudley: All right. And where were you born?

Gray: Old Town.

Dudley: OK. Give me your parents' names.

Gray: Leland Gray was my father's name, and then my mother's name was Maude Gray.

Dudley: OK. And can you tell me what your parents' line of work was?

Gray: Well, they both worked in the woolen mill in Old Town.

Dudley: OK. Good. Did you live anywhere, anywhere else besides Old Town, before going into the CCC?

Gray: No

Dudley: OK, so you went directly from Old Town into the CCC.

Gray: That's correct.

Dudley: OK. Now, what level of formal education had you achieved?

Gray: Graduate of high school.

Dudley: OK. And had you had any other specialized training?

Gray: Well, I had a few courses now and then, short courses and various kinds of accounting.

Dudley: OK. And had you had any jobs previous to going into the CCC?

Gray: I had a job briefly while I was waiting to be called into the Cs, which was working in one of the shoe factories in Old Town. Very briefly.

Dudley: OK. You were working on the line?

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. Now, in terms of the effect that the Depression had on your house, on your household, on your family. Did either of your parents lose their job?

Gray: Well, my mother passed away when I was about ten years old.

Dudley: OK

Gray: But the Depression was really severe on my father and I. That's one of the reasons I went into the Cs, because there was nothing left in Old Town for jobs to speak of. So I went right into the CC's.

Dudley: OK. Did you, now you said that the effect was very severe. How did life in your household change as a result of the Depression?

Gray: Well, it was a case of not having much to do with. And jobs were scarce. My father even had a period of unemployment.

Dudley: So he did lose his job in the Depression?

Gray: Yes he did.

Dudley: And from, from the shoe factory? And then he went back to the shoe factory?

Gray: No, he worked in the woolen mill.

Dudley: Oh, I'm sorry, the woolen mill.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So and then did he then go back into the woolen mill?

Gray: No, he took a job working for the draft board. About that time, along came the draft. So he worked for the draft board in the city of Old Town. He was the head of the draft board.

Dudley: Oh! OK. How do you think your family fared during the Depression compared to the rest of your neighbors?

Gray: Pretty much the same. Everybody was having a hard time.

Dudley: OK. Did the Depression affect your schooling or any plans you had for further education?

Gray: Well, it affected the fact that I wasn't able to afford to go to college. That was one of the reasons I went into the CCs to earn money for that reason. To help out. And I would have done so had it not been for the war coming along.

Dudley: You would have gone to college?

Gray: I would, yes.

Dudley: OK. And applicants to the CCC were supposed to demonstrate need. And how did you justify that on your application?

Gray: Well, I guess I would have to say that I was unemployed and there were no jobs available. And so rather than loaf around I just went into the CCs.

Dudley: Now, in terms of how you went about applying, and how you got into the CCCs, did you want to join or did you feel like you had no other choices?

Gray: I wanted to join. I wanted to do something to, to earn some money, to be busy. Not to just loaf around doing nothing.

Dudley: And, but, you wanted to join, but did you also feel like you had some other choices then? Was it just loaf or join? Or...

Gray: [laughs] That's just about it. There wasn't much else to do. Yes.

Dudley: OK. And what were you doing just prior to enrolling?

Gray: Well, I had, as I said, I had taken a job in a shoe factory.

Dudley: That's right, you did say that.

Gray: Yes

Dudley: OK. All right. So, and so, while you were working in the shoe factory, then you were applying to the CCC.

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: OK. All right. And then, all right, so, let's talk about the actual application. How did you hear about the CCCs?

Gray: Frankly, I don't remember at this point how I found out. It must have been....well, Franklin Roosevelt started it and I guess the word spread, you know, throughout the papers and what all.

Dudley: OK. So maybe the newspaper, or word of mouth?

Gray: Well, probably newspapers, yes.

Dudley: OK. So where did you end up going to apply? Where was the recruitment office or whatever it was called?

Gray: I don't recall at the moment where that was. It must have been, it must have been in local area somewhere. But I don't recall just where it was.

Dudley: Mr. Caswell said he went to Bangor.

Gray: I think I did, too, as I recall. Yes. I think I did as well.

Dudley: And when, what was the exact date that you applied, do you remember? Or the month?

Gray: [laughs] No, I don't.

Dudley: OK

Gray: I graduated from high school in June. I went in in the fall of '38. I think around maybe like October.

Dudley: OK. I suppose that's close enough. Did you apply by yourself or did you go with some friends?

Gray: No, I applied by myself.

Dudley: And could you describe what happened to you during the, during the application process? You know, you went in there, do you remember, like, what the procedure was? What you went through? How long it took?

Gray: I don't recall just how that went.

Dudley: And do you feel that, this may not apply, but was there anything unusual about this application, like were you a little too young or was there some, some technical reason why you shouldn't have been accepted but you were?

Gray: No.

Dudley: No.

Gray: No. Everything went along fine.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: I applied and they accepted me and that was it.

Dudley: OK. Did you, now, OK. Were you given a choice of locations or were you, did you have to, were, were you just sent somewhere?

Gray: I didn't have any choice, no. They sent me.

Dudley: And where exactly were you sent?

Gray: At first I was sent to Southwest Harbor.

Dudley: Southwest Harbor.

Gray: Where I spent a year and a half at Southwest Harbor, and six months in Camden. That was my total, two years.

Dudley: OK. OK. Now, did you, were you happy to go to Southwest Harbor?

Gray: Yes I was.

Dudley: Did you consider that to be a desirable location?

Gray: Yes I did.

Dudley: OK, that's where you wanted to go rather than somewhere else.

Gray: I didn't have much choice. But yes, that was fine with me.

Dudley: OK. Now you served for two years, and you served in Southwest Harbor and Camden, OK. All right. Let's go to the section about your first impressions when you got there. Were you familiar with Southwest Harbor before arriving at the camp?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Had, you'd never visited it before?

Gray: No.

Dudley: No. So this was all new to you.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: What did you, did you, do you remember what you expected it to be like and then, and then, what it actually was like?

Gray: I had a feeling that it was going to be just what it was, working on Mount Desert Island, and with a background of, army background. In other words, life at the camp was the same as living in an army barracks with the exception that we didn't have any guns or ammunition or anything like that. Very comfortable. It was nice. I enjoyed it.

Dudley: OK. How did you get to the camp? Do you remember?

Gray: How did I get to the camp?

Dudley: Yes, after you signed, after you were accepted and you signed up, did you, how did you get there?

Gray: I don't recall

Dudley: OK. OK. Once you got there, did you know anybody else?

Gray: No.

Dudley: What was the biggest adjustment that you had to make to camp life?

Gray: I suppose it would be the regimentation that I had never experienced before.

Dudley: Can you give me some examples?

Gray: Well, like, for instance, in the morning, it was get up at reveille, go out to muster in the street, raise the flag, go to meals at certain times, in response to the camp's regulations, you know. Which I didn't mind but I had never seen it before.

Dudley: OK. Did you feel that the location of the camp presented any particular problems or benefits for you? It was a long way from home, wasn't it?

Gray: Yes, but it didn't bother me at all. And in those days, everybody hitch hiked. And I used to go home once or twice a month. And it was no problem there. And so this wasn't a problem at all being that far away from home.

Dudley: Now, did you have brothers and sisters?

Gray: No.

Dudley: OK. So how often did you get, get home, or did your family come and visit you?

Gray: No, I would go home about twice a month.

Dudley: Twice a month. OK. But your family never came to visit you?

Gray: No.

Dudley: OK. Tell me something about the mix of people in your unit. Who were the people that were in your unit? Where, where were they from? Were they from mostly, from Maine?

Gray: Yes, they were. Mostly from Maine. And mostly within the radius of Portland to, let's say, Presque Isle.

Dudley: OK

Gray: That general area. But mostly they were within a 35 mile radius of the camp.

Dudley: Oh, really.

Gray: 35, 40 miles. Yes.

Dudley: Were there any people from out of state?

Gray: No, I don't think so. No.

Dudley: OK. Now, in terms of the accommodations at the camp, were the camp facilities completely constructed when you arrived, or, or did you have to live in a temporary shelter while the barracks were being built?

Gray: No, they were already constructed.

Dudley: They were.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. So, describe the barracks.

Gray: Here again, simply an army barracks. We were, a long rectangle building, probably housed, oh, probably 25 or 30 guys in the barracks. And we all had our own bunk. And we cleaned up around our camp site. We cleaned up inside. We made our own beds, we washed our own clothing, we stood inspection at the barracks to make sure everything was clean, and so forth. It was like that.

Dudley: So you had your own bunk. And what was your, what was your personal space like? Like where you put your clothing, and....

Gray: Well, we had a big foot locker that fitted underneath the bed, underneath the bunk. And we operated out of that.

Dudley: Was there any, did you have, like, where did you hang your clothes? Or did you have any shelves?

Gray: No, we didn't have any shelves and we didn't have anything to hang clothes on.

Dudley: So everything got folded up and put in the footlocker.

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: OK. Was anything done to personalize the barracks? Did you hang up pictures or decorate it in any way?

Gray: No, there was nothing like that. It was strictly like an army barracks. There was nothing frivolous about it.

Dudley: OK. So, in your opinion, how well were the structures built? Were they, were they warm enough? Were they clean enough? Dry enough?

Gray: We didn't seem to have any problem with the heat and the cold. There were stoves, I think there were three stoves, one on each end and one in the middle. Coal stoves. And they kept us warm in the winter. And, no, everything was fine.

Dudley: And what kind of routines were followed by all of you to keep your accommodations clean and in repair?

Gray: Well, we all had to take care of the space around our, our area. Our bunk area.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. And then what about cleaning the barracks and keeping it, like, painted or whatever was done to it? How was that taken care of? Like cleaning the floors and windows.

Gray: Well I think there was a couple of guys that used to take care of that. Cleaning the, sweeping out, you might say, sweeping out the floors and all. It was always quite clean in there so it wasn't much dirt around.

Dudley: So, so, now, were these CCC recruits that did the sweeping up?

Gray: Yes, oh yes.

Dudley: And would they clean the windows, too, or whatever else had to be done?

Gray: Oh, I don't recall much window cleaning going on, but there must have been some way. I don't recall.

Dudley: OK. OK. And do you remember any major repairs or modifications to the barracks while you were there?

Gray: No.

Dudley: All right, now, what about daily routine? Can you begin by describing a typical work day?

Gray: Well, to start with, there were two, you might say, departments, at a camp. There was what they called the forestry department, and the army department. The forestry department,

those people, went out into the field to do work. Like at, on Mount Desert Island. Bar Harbor. All the trails, all the roads, they were kept up clean. And that was the forestry crowd.

Now the army camp was administration. They took care of the camp, everything in the camp. All the grounds, all the buildings, all the carpenter shops, all the truck drivers and trucks and so forth. So, if you were in the forestry department, you'd get up in the morning, after you had your breakfast, you got on a truck with the rest of the guys and you went to wherever there was work to be done. If you were on the army side of the camp, you stayed in camp and you took care of the barracks, the rec hall, the administration office and so forth. And I participated in both at one point in time.

I started out in the forestry end of it. I went out with the rest of the guys and we, in the wintertime we'd burn brush, in the summer time we repaired roads. We took care of the tourists on, along the coast line down in Sea Wall. We brought kindling to them and firewood to them. We cleaned the area. We took care of all those people who brought tents or campers down there. Now the last six months I was on the overhead where I was in the office, I worked in the office.

Dudley: That was in Camden.

Gray: That was in Camden. Yes.

Dudley: OK. Now, what time did you, what were the times of getting up and meal times and lights out. Do you remember any of those details?

Gray: [laughs] I think, I think we got up fairly early, which was probably 6:30 or something like that. And go to breakfast. And after breakfast back into the camp, get your winter gear on if it was winter time, or prepare yourself to go out into the trucks if you were working out in the woods. And I guess by four in the afternoon we would get back in the trucks to head back to the camp.

Dudley: OK. And then, what time was the evening meal, usually? Do you remember?

Gray: Yes, I think it was around five o'clock as I recall, 5:30 perhaps.

Dudley: And, now, during the day, if you were working in the forestry section of it, then, how did you, did you come back to camp for your meals?

Gray: No, see, they sent trucks out with these containers. These large containers with all the food. And they'd bring them out to where we were working, and distribute food on the, on the line, you might say. We brought our mess kits along with us and we ate out of mess kits and they brought those hot foods to us there.

Dudley: OK. And did you have any kind of break during the day when you were working out in the field?

Gray: No.

Dudley: You just worked straight through.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. And how did you spend your evenings?

Gray: Well, a number of ways. In the camp we had a pool table, we had ping pong tables, we had a volleyball net and, at various times, they would take us on these, what they called rec trips. So they'd put a sort of rack truck with seats in the back of the truck and they would take us to various towns for whatever was there. You could go into the town and do what you wanted to do. A lot of us went roller-skating, some went dating with some of the guys and gals. And there were various things you could pick up.

Dudley: So, which towns did you go into?

Gray: Well, when we were in Southwest Harbor, we would go onto Mount Desert Island. When we were in Camden, we would go to Rockport and Rockland. And Camden itself. There were various things that we would do for entertainment.

Dudley: And, and, like what?

Gray: Well as I said roller-skating, some guys would date gals and they'd go walking on a trail somewhere and there was, there were baseball games in the vicinity. There were things we could see and do.

Gray: Movie theaters?

Gray: Yes. That, that too. Yes.

Dudley: OK. All right. Now, did the, the times for getting up in the morning, having meals, lights outs, and those sorts of things, did they depend on the seasons, or were they pretty much the same all the time?

Gray: Much the same all the time.

Dudley: So your schedule really didn't change throughout the year?

Gray: No, that's right, it didn't. No.

Dudley: OK. And did everyone follow the same schedule?

Gray: Oh yes.

Dudley: In other words, the army branch followed the same as the forestry?

Gray: Yes. Yes. That's correct.

Dudley: OK. Was there any, all right. Now you've talked to me about how meals were served. Let's talk about the mess hall, then. How was it laid out and what was it like to eat in there?

Gray: Well, it was a large mess hall and there were tables along both sides of the, of the wall. And I think we were something like six or eight guys to a table. And there was always, the utensils there. And we would have cold cereal. We'd have, and then, after that, we would get these, hot meals. Various hot meals. Very good. Milk, everything was fine. There was no complaint about the meals. And we, as I say, there was tables along the wall, and you'd come along and they'd serve you your meal.

Dudley: Oh, the food was brought to you or was it a cafeteria style?

Gray: It would be put on the table.

Dudley: It would, oh, OK, like family style.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: And you would just serve yourselves from that.

Gray: Yes. Yes.

Dudley: Oh. OK. All right. Now, were there any particular rules that had to be followed during meals?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Did you, try, did you, like, have assigned seating at the tables?

Gray: No.

Dudley: You could sit wherever you wanted to?

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: All right. What, OK, and you said that you liked the food.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: You thought it was pretty good. Were there any favorite dishes or some things that you really didn't like at all?

Gray: No. We had a good variety of well-planned meals and it was all fine. But, maybe some camps were different, but in our camp, we, we felt that we did well on food.

Dudley: Yes. Did you have any favorites?

Gray: No.

Dudley: No?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Now I understand that the camps were run by military men.

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: How much did the military rules and conduct influence the life of the camp?

Gray: Well, I don't think too terribly much. Each camp, the army part of the camp, was by a lieutenant. Army lieutenant. And he had a junior officer, and then he had others who were in

charge of various positions on the army side of the camp. Like the PX, for instance, and the carpenter shop and some of those areas were handled by the army. And it wasn't very bad. None of us minded it. It was, it was, as I said, it was structured with the military in mind. But it didn't bother us at all. We all thought it was fine.

Dudley: OK. Did you have uniforms?

Gray: The CCs did provide us with CC clothing. But it wasn't a military type clothing. It was more of a forest-green garb, you know.

Dudley: So describe what it was like. It was, it was just green shirt and green pants?

Gray: Yes, more or less like that. Not military style or anything, just a plain, you know.

Dudley: OK. And, how did that change for winter? Like, what was your winter gear like?

Gray: Well, we had the same kind of clothing. Only in the winter time, of course, they gave us these heavier coats to wear. Yes.

Dudley: OK. And did you have any special hat that they gave you?

Gray: Well, yes, they'd give us a hat.

Dudley: What did that look like?

Gray: [laughs] I don't remember the exact

Dudley: Was it like a fedora, or

Gray: No

Dudley: Or a bill cap, or

Gray: It was more like, as I recall, let me see, I tend to get the impressions I recall as more like a Boy Scout cap.

Dudley: Oh, one of those little . . .

Gray: Yes. Something like that, I really don't quite remember. [laughs]

Dudley: OK. Were you required to show any sort of respect for the officers? How did you, what was your relationship like with them?

Gray: No. There was no saluting or anything like that. No.

Dudley: OK. OK, now, in terms of camp structure. Who were the camp officials during your time? You said that there was a lieutenant.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: Do you remember the name? Ah, that's where the picture comes in handy.

Gray: William J. Williams, commander.

Dudley: OK

Gray: And the forestry person was Jesse Atwood. He was the superintendent of the forestry side of it. And then there was a, subaltern, they called it, subaltern, J.C. Peck, Junior. He was, you might say, second in command, I guess. That was one camp. I don't really recall the other one.

Dudley: OK. Good. Now can you tell us something about the personalities of these officials?

Gray: They were all very good. They were very, very nice to work with. There was no caste system, as you might say. It was very, very compatible.

Dudley: So you got along well with them?

Gray: Absolutely.

Dudley: Now we have a question here about working with people like George Dorr. Did you know George Dorr?

Gray: No.

Dudley: And of course, John D. Rockefeller, who was responsible for helping to fund the project. Did you ever meet him?

Gray: No.

Dudley: What was your, what was the idea about him at the camp?

Gray: I don't recall anything like that.

Dudley: Now, you mentioned the commander of the camp. Who were your immediate supervisors? What were the words Mr. Caswell used....job leader, team leader, barracks leader, do you remember who those people were?

Gray: Well, no. In going out into the field, if you were in the forestry side of it, the forester was there to instruct everyone what to do. There wasn't any head pushers or any second in commands. There was just the forester and he showed what he wanted done and we did it. In the army side of the thing, here again, the lieutenant, these duties were all well known, and if you

accepted the duty of a certain job, you knew what to do. Nobody was looking over your shoulder or anything like that.

Dudley: So you had quite a bit of freedom

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: In getting your work done.

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: How were the work crews chosen?

Gray: Well, when you went into the camp, there were X number of men there. Let's say there were 150 people. Well, they knew that the forestry department needed 125 and the other 25 were going to take care of the camp. So, you just went out all together, and did the work together. There was no selection and nobody knew any more about the job than the next guy. And there was no way to increase your status in the camp. You were all the same. So there was no problem there. Can we stop it for a minute?

Dudley: Sure. [tape shuts off, resumes] I think that you were, we were talking about camp structure. And I was asking you about work crews and work, well, the next question had to do with work assignments. How often did you change work assignments? How were assignments made? How did you know from day to day what you were doing and where you were going?

Gray: Well, when we were doing, let's say, repairing roads, well, we knew that a certain road needed repairs and after, and we repaired the roads. Then it would be another area where something needed to be done. We never knew a week or two in advance where we were going. But we knew when we were on a certain project what we were going to have to do until that project was finished. Then on to something else, you see. Especially on Mount Desert Island

where there were so many roads and trails and things that had to be cleaned up, and that brush had to be burned and all that good stuff, you know? And that's the way it was.

Dudley: OK. And did you stay on the same work crews all the time? In other words, did you go from project to project with the same people?

Gray: Well, no. Sometimes the crew would be split up. Maybe it was 100 guys go out into the field, well, all 100 didn't stay in the same place. Maybe 25 or 30 were over here, and 25 or 30 were over there. But at the end of the day we all met together to go back in the same truck, you see? Yes. There were several different locations at the same day.

Dudley: OK. But then, depending, then, on when you were done working on this particular road and you had to go somewhere else to cut brush, say, would that be the same group of people that moved from...

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So you, basically had your same work crew that you worked with all the time.

Gray: More or less, yes, yes.

Dudley: Did you work, was there ever any time that you worked with crews from other CCC camps in the area? Did you get together for larger projects?

Gray: No

Dudley: No. All right. And did you ever work under the direction of other non-CCC laborers or contractors?

Gray: No.

Dudley: OK. So you only worked with CCC people.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. All right. Well then in terms of your particular work, what kinds of projects occupied most of your time? What was, I know you mentioned building roads, but, did that, did that occupy, is that what you did most of the time?

Gray: No, not most of the time.

Dudley: OK.

Gray: There was various things that needed to be done in the Bar Harbor/Southwest Harbor area. Like for instance, one time we, we built a horseshoe drive in front of a local high school down there. Well, we did projects for towns and different things like that. We built a beautiful road around that high school, Pemetic High School. And we fought forest fires once. We've done a lot of different things, you know.

Dudley: OK. So you, you feel that there wasn't any particular job that you did more than others, then.

Gray: No, I wouldn't say so.

Dudley: There was a good mix.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. And, did you, did you, do you feel like that you had any particular specialty in any of these projects?

Gray: No, only when I worked in Camden, I used my high school experience in, you know, working in the office. I took the commercial course in high school so I was a, they needed people to work in the office, and not many people knew anything about it in those days. And I was very good at that. So I worked in the office for six months.

Dudley: Now how did that happen? Did there, was there an opening that happened in Camden?

Gray: Well they ask, you know, if there are people who are able to do certain, certain office work. And very, very few did.

Dudley: So then at, at some point, they said we need somebody to do office work and then you volunteered.

Gray: Yes, that's right.

Dudley: And when you, when you went in and did office work, then, how did that change for you? You went to a different camp. Was it more money for you? Was it, how was it different?

Gray: No, no there was no difference in money. Just a difference in the type of work, that's all.

Dudley: OK. OK. Now this is a little bit difficult because they're asking about specific projects here but you did so many different projects. But let's ask in general. When there was a particular work project, like, for instance, this, this horseshoe drive at this school, who designed it? Who was responsible, who sort of did the overall planning for it?

Gray: Well, we never knew who did it. We presume that the forestry people worked with the town people. I would have suspected that would be it. I really don't know, but it sounds logical.

Dudley: OK. Was that true for all of the projects that you worked on? You just assumed that the forestry people designed it?

Gray: Well I suspect that the forestry people, the forestry superintendent must have, must have had meetings with the federal government or whoever was in, where we were working, to know what they needed done so that he could have us do it. He just couldn't take us out and say go burn brush. We had to know, he had to know, what was needed to be done and then we would do it, you know. So I suspect it was a combination of this forestry person who was a college grad and everything, you know, and he was a professional. And he would work with the town of Bar Harbor perhaps, or Acadia National Park, the national parks, you know, sort of like that, I suppose.

Dudley: OK

Gray: We were never told. [laughs]

Dudley: Yes. OK. Were there ever projects that were started but not completed?

Gray: Well, I don't think so. Of course, burning brush is an ongoing thing. It happens year out, every year, and it has always been that way. Roads get fixed, there you are. New trails get, get fixed up again. It's an ongoing proposition, mostly, you know.

Dudley: But you're not aware of any buildings that got started or trails that got started and then they decided to not finish them.

Gray: Oh no. No. No.

Dudley: OK. Who made sure that the work was done properly? Who checked?

Gray: Well that's where the forestry superintendent came into play. He, he oversaw everything. He was there. He knew what was going on. Of course, he had to tell us how to do it.

Dudley: OK. All right. And then there's the question of how the work regimen changed from winter to summer. How were your jobs different between winter and summer?

Gray: Well, as I said before, in the winter time, basically, we tried to clean up the forest handy to the roads and trails. Not going very deep into the forest. But clean up all the old dead branches, dead trees, burn that stuff all up, clean it all up good. That wasn't the only thing we did, but we did some road building in the winter, when the weather was such that we could do it. And down on the coast it wasn't as bad as, you know, we didn't have as much snow. And I guess that's it.

Dudley: OK. Well you've already spoken to some of these things. How, how were, how were areas selected for doing the brush clearing? You mentioned that you wanted to keep trails cleared. Was brush clearing mainly for keeping trails clear?

Gray: No, burning brush was [mic falls off? Some awful noise]

Dudley: Well we'll just clip that right back on again. There. OK. Go ahead.

Gray: Well, of course, burning the brush was something that is needed to be done every year. Because forests decay, you know. What else did you want to know about that?

Dudley: Well, how were areas selected for clearing? I know you had to keep trails clear. But were trails the only things that you burned brush for? In other words, just the stuff you cleared off of trails and on the sides of the trails. Was there anywhere else that you did brush clearing?

Gray: Well, anywhere that the public was, walked around, or, you know what I mean. Wherever the public prevailed in these different areas is where we did the work.

Dudley: OK

Gray: It depended on the public. And the forestry person, he must have known with the help of the town or wherever it was, what needed to be done. I don't know too much of that because that was none of my business, you know.

Dudley: Yes. Yes. OK. All right. Were there any particular kinds of trees or shrubs or plants that were targeted?

Gray: No. No.

Dudley: Just anything that fell down?

Gray: Oh yes. Yes.

Dudley: You weren't, were you involved in any kind of selective forestry, in other words? You wanted to clear out the gray birch or something like that?

Gray: No.

Dudley: OK. Were you taught anything about forestry in terms of how to identify certain trees and shrubs?

Gray: No.

Dudley: All right, now let's talk about what kinds of tools you were using at that point. Probably, they weren't using chainsaws yet, were they?

Gray: No. No. Basically it was, the dead trees and so forth, the dead branches, we would just haul them to a big, we'd build a big fire out of the dead branches and we kept just bringing it to the fire to be burned.

Dudley: OK.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So, but, if you had to make it smaller, would you use a, saws, yes, bow saws?

Gray: Well I don't recall that there were any large trees, no. These were small trees and bushes and brush and stuff that they'd maybe trampled on or fallen down or whatever else. Yes.

Dudley: OK. So you didn't need big tools to break it up.

Gray: No. No we didn't.

Dudley: OK. Now you cleared brush but did you do any other kinds of alterations to the landscape like filling or draining wetlands or making ditches or making embankments?

Gray: Yes, we would repair embankments and improve the drainage along the sides of the road. And things like that.

Dudley: Did you ever build any bridges?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Or any buildings?

Gray: We, we repaired some walkways over little brooks. Little streams. And what else?

Dudley: Any buildings, shelters, anything like that?

Gray: No.

Dudley: No. OK. Were there handrails? Did you have to do anything in terms of handrails?

Gray: No.

Dudley: All right. Tell me something about the fire fighting work that you did. Did you ever actually do any fire fighting?

Gray: Yes, there was a small forest fire down there. And we had these Indian pumps that you carry in your back. And a bunch of us guys went in and helped to knock the fire down.

Dudley: And tell me, explain what an Indian pump is?

Gray: Well, it's a metal container they strap on your back and it has a short hose, sort of, and you pump the water out of the tank and squirt it on the fire area on the ground, you know.

Dudley: OK. All right, now here's some questions about road building. When, do you know anything about how the roads were chosen and planned. In other words, where the roads were going to go?

Gray: No, I don't. We were just taken to the areas and told what to do.

Dudley: OK. OK. Do you, do you know if any of the roads were built with particular views in mind? I mean, it sounds like what you're saying is that you just did what you were told. I wonder if, you know, these are more questions that have to do with, like, the planning. Was there a road that you built that had a particular view that you, you knew this was a focal point?

Gray: No. Everything was already done down there. We did most of this stuff around the Bar Harbor area and the mountain, you see, and the trails and the roads. These were already

constructed long before we ever got there. So we would go around and repair what roads were broken down due to a heavy rain or whatever cause.

Dudley: OK. OK, so, all right, I understand now. So you were involved with maintenance, really.

Gray: Yes, that's about it. Yes.

Dudley: All right. Now, but, in terms of the materials you got, for example, do you know where the gravel came from?

Gray: Yes, there was a particular pit on one side of the island down there that had gravel and also had fine sand. And our trucks would go over there and we would load the trucks and bring them back to wherever they were doing the work. So there would be a crew over there filling the trucks and there'd be a crew over there waiting for them to come back, you see? So that's what I mean, we always around the area, there were different crews for different jobs. Yes.

Dudley: OK. And how long would it take to repair, say, a mile of road. How long did that take you?

Gray: I don't know. I don't, I don't remember.

Dudley: Sometimes it went slower or faster than others.

Gray: I really don't have a, recall anything about how long.

Dudley: Tell me something about the equipment that you used. It sounds like you must have used shovels. What, what else?

Gray: Yes, we had those, I don't know, remember if I can, the name, but a blade on one side and a hatchet on the other side. We would chop them, or if we needed to, to cut something, we'd

use that blade part. It was a tool that we had. We had several different kinds of tools, yes, to help us do whatever needed to be done.

Dudley: OK, now, so, OK. I don't remember the name of that tool either. An adze? A mattock!

Gray: Mattock, I think that, yes.

Dudley: That's right, mattock.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So you used a mattock and a shovel and what else?

Gray: Oh, axes, rake, pick axe.

Dudley: Wait a minute, I'm going to turn this over.

[End C 1907, Side A.]

Begin C 1907, Side B]

Dudley: All right, this is side two of the interview with Mr. Gray. So, you used mattocks and pick axe and

Gray: Shovels.

Dudley: Shovels.

Gray: Rakes, hoes, all kinds of different tools for the different kinds of things that needed to be done.

Dudley: OK

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: Good enough. Now, do you remember that, here are some questions about how terrain and season and weather affected work. Did you, do you feel that you ever worked under any dangerous conditions?

Gray: No.

Dudley: There weren't, you don't have any scary stories to tell.

Gray: No. We didn't go out in rainstorms.

Dudley: OK.

Gray: We didn't go out in snow storms. But in the winter time the weather was cold. We would dress for it. We worked. There was no problem. No, we had no dangerous conditions. And they wouldn't send us out in inclement weather that was bad.

Dudley: OK. Are you aware that there were any measures taken to use or enhance existing natural features, in other words if there was something particularly attractive feature, do you ever remember specifically working with that?

Gray: Yes, there were times, especially when I was down in Camden camp, where we worked along the ocean front and there were nice areas down there that were there before we got there that had nice bushes and trees and so forth. And we would work around them, clean around

them, make sure that they were tended to as best as possible. And the camp sites down there, we kept the camp sites very clean for the tourists that came in in the summer time. Yes, like that.

Dudley: Was this, so, do you feel as though this was part of your own particular aesthetics, or was this part of park policy?

Gray: Park policy, yes.

Dudley: Did, now, here is a theoretical question. Did the fact that you were developing a national park affect, affect your outlook on the project? Did you, did you relate to the fact that this was a national park, did this affect how you thought about it?

Gray: Oh yes, I think so. Yes.

Dudley: In what way? How did you

Gray: Well, we wanted to make sure it was nice. We did a good job. We were proud of our work and we did the best we could, knowing that people would be there.

Dudley: Did you fully expect that, being a national park, there would be people from the entire nation coming? Is that something that was . . .

Gray: I guess we didn't realize it at that time way back then, but, there were people, there were, we knew there were out-of-staters in quite a few of them. We knew that. We'd talk with them from time to time.

Dudley: Oh, you did.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: And where were they from?

Gray: [laughs] I don't recall the states. But New York, Massachusetts, for sure.

Dudley: OK. Now you told me, this is a question about the buildings. You said that you didn't build any buildings. You weren't involved with that. OK. So we'll, I think what we'll do is we'll skip over those questions. Were you involved in, in developing any camp sites? Or was it mainly maintenance of camp sites?

Gray: It was mainly maintenance of camp sites. They were there when we got there. I don't know who, see, this was basically down in Camden. And I only spent the last six months there. There had been work done there by CC camp before I got there, so I presume that, I presume, well, actually, I don't know who built them but they were there before I got there. And we kept them up, we, as I said before, we brought the kindling wood to them, we cleaned the whole area, you know, we policed the area, and we brought them firewood and we did everything that they needed.

Dudley: Now when you say that you brought them firewood, were you the little elf in the night that delivers the firewood so that, you know, it was, then it was just there when the next, when the next group came in?

Gray: We brought the firewood daily.

Dudley: Daily.

Gray: Yes. For an open, for an open campfire for them.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So you brought a bundle of wood around to each site?

Gray: That's right. And kindling wood to start the fires.

Dudley: And, they didn't have to pay for that?

Gray: No. Not to us, anyway.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: I don't know, I don't know, who was running the property, I'm sure. We didn't know anything about that.

Dudley: OK. And then, policing the area meant picking up litter

Gray: Yes. Yes.

Dudley: OK. Was that a problem?

Gray: Well, not really, but we policed the area. If there was anything there we'd scoop it up, you know. But it was not a big problem, no.

Dudley: OK. Tell me something about how the summer campers, well, did they interfere with your work? Did they, you know, what kind of relationship did you have with the summer campers besides bringing them wood? Was there any interaction?

Gray: Not, not at all. Hardly anything. They would thank us for helping them out, but no. They were aloof and we were not fraternizing with them at all. But everything was OK, I mean there was no animosity or anything.

Dudley: Yes. Now was that part of the policy, was that part of official behavior on your part that you just, you don't fraternize with the campers?

Gray: Well, they didn't tell us not to. But I mean, we were doing a job. They were, maybe they were somewhere else and we would get to their camp site. Maybe they were gone shopping someplace, or whatever. So there was no...

Dudley: OK. Now we're going into a section called "education and training." What aspects of the work were considered skilled labor? Who, what kinds of skill, what skilled labor was there and who did that?

Gray: Well I don't think there was an awful lot of skilled labor on the forestry side of the camp. Because we were all doing what you might call manual labor. But on the army side of the camp, we had to have some people who had a skill, like, just for instance, a carpenter shop. We needed some guys who could do carpentry. And then there would be, I guess, some electricians. And the kinds of people who maintain a camp site, a camp, like an army camp. Those kinds of people had to know a little more than just the average person. Cooks. Cooks, for instance. You know, all those sort of things.

Dudley: OK. And, let's see. What about health care?

Gray: Yes, we had a, I think, about a six bed ward there for if you got ill. But it wasn't, there was no doctor there, or nurse, it was there for people who had an illness that was just going to lay them up for a day or two or three, you know, that sort of thing. We had a dentist who came around about once or twice a year. And if you were really ill, of course they'd take you to the hospital.

Dudley: So, so there wasn't anybody there who provided health care?

Gray: No

Dudley: Nobody who would do any first aid for you?

Gray: We had a, well yes, we had a guy, a guy or two who worked in this so called little ward. And they, they would take care of you for minor things, you know, an aspirin tablet or whatever. Nothing very big.

Dudley: Were there any big accidents when you were there, anybody who needed . . .

Gray: Yes, there was one real bad accident. As a matter of fact, he was a friend of mine. He fell off a cliff in Bar Harbor and lost his life. While working on the, up there.

Dudley: Wow. That sounds like dangerous, must have been dangerous up there on that cliff.

Gray: Well, yes.

Dudley: Well that sounds pretty serious. Was there anything else that required somebody being taken to a hospital?

Gray: Yes. One other time a man was in the carpenter shop and there were some boards stacked up along the wall. Like plywood, for instance. And there were about eight or ten sheets of the plywood. And they toppled over and landed on his leg and broke his leg. And of course he had to go to the hospital. Outside of that, I don't recall anything.

Dudley: So it was a pretty safe place to work.

Gray: Oh yes. Yes.

Dudley: Yes. OK. Did you, now, did you have any special training once you got to the camp?

Gray: The only special training that I had was when I wanted to become a life guard and I did all the duties and passed all the tests and finally I went to Fort Devens in Massachusetts to become a senior life guard which then would allow me to be a life guard at a beach anywhere. And I passed all of that, and I came back and I was going to be a life guard at a particular beach. And the beach got closed for some reason, I think it was a water problem. And I didn't get to do that. Because that was near the end of my six months at Camden. But I was a good life guard at the time.

Dudley: Now, what made you decide to, to get life guard training? Were you asked to do that?

Gray: No, I don't recall for sure how it happened. I think that probably there were opportunities for people to train for that if they wanted to. There was only two of us at the camp who wanted to. We both did.

Dudley: And, so, the plan was then to be a life guard at one of the public beaches at Southwest Harbor.

Gray: Camden.

Dudley: I mean, I'm sorry, in Camden. Yes. And then, would you then be paid by the city of Camden to do that?

Gray: [laughs] No.

Dudley: No you wouldn't be.

Gray: No.

Dudley: It was free?

Gray: Yes. Yes. It was something that the CC camp people did. It was like burning brush. We were there . . .

Dudley: Oh, I see. It was just one more responsibility.

Gray: Yes. That's, that's right.

Dudley: OK. So, so, let's see. So you got training in Camden and then you went to Fort Devens to get more training. Who, who trained you in Camden? How did that happen?

Gray: In Camden?

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: There was a Red Cross person who came around and we performed in front of that person. And the junior life saving wasn't all that strenuous. So this person could see if we were doing it properly and pass us if we passed. But when we went to Fort Devens we were trained out there by the army, U.S. Army. Yes.

Dudley: OK. And how long did that, did that training take place? How long did it take?

Gray: A week.

Dudley: For the junior life saver?

Gray: Well, let me see. That wasn't very long. I guess about, I think just about a couple of days at the most, I think. Maybe one.

Dudley: But at Fort Devens it was a week.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK.

Gray: Five days.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: OK. And when you, OK, how were these sessions, I'm particularly interested in Camden. These training sessions, a Red Cross person trained you. How were they organized? Did you actually sit in a class?

Gray: No, most of it all took place in the water.

Dudley: OK.

Gray: And there was a book demonstrating what you were supposed to do in case of an emergency. So, we had to, well, he and I would practice on each other with the Red Cross person in attendance. And if we did what was supposed to be done, that was fine. And we kept doing these different tests in the water.

Dudley: OK. And it was just you and one other person.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: That did this. OK.

Gray: But it was only about one day, I think, in camp, in Camden, because it wasn't that very, that advanced of a course, you know. But in Massachusetts it was a different story, you know.

Dudley: Right. Now, but, did you say that you then, you never worked as a life guard? Or did you work?

Gray: I didn't get a chance to.

Dudley: You didn't get a chance to.

Gray: No, I was, we were going to, and something happened at the lake, I've forgotten just now what it was, and they shut the lake down for a bit.

Dudley: Yes. OK. Now, so you trained as a life guard, but that was the only special training that you, particularly, got.

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: Were you, you didn't get trained in, like, fire, fire service or fire fighting? No? You were just told to go in there and spray the fire.

Gray: Yes. That wasn't very hard to do.

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: I mean, anybody could do that.

Dudley: OK. Right. Were there any academic classes available or was there any other kind of training available for people? Vocational or academic at the camps?

Gray: I don't recall there were. No.

Dudley: People wanted to finish a high school class, or, something like that.

Gray: No, I don't think there was.

Dudley: OK. All right. And so you ended up with certification in life saving. But you don't think that there was any other kind of class or training that anybody could have gotten. Any, any other sort of certification people could have gotten there.

Gray: Not that I recall.

Dudley: OK. And, well, here's a question. So how relevant was your CCC training to your future career prospects? Were any doors opened as a result of CCC experience or training?

Gray: No, I wouldn't say so. Excepting for the fact that due to the regimentation that we had there, I didn't find going into the service to be such a, I didn't figure that as a bad deal at all. Whereas a lot of guys had trouble going into the service right off. It was new to them and they found it a little hard. But I didn't find it hard at all. I went into the navy and it was no problem.

Dudley: How soon after Camden, I guess, did you go into the navy?

Gray: Well, I came back home and I got a job. And I hadn't worked very long in that job when Pearl Harbor happened. And that was it right there. I enlisted.

Dudley: OK. Now, they want to know something about recreation and how you spent your leisure time. I know that you said that you often went into town and hung around and did various activities. Were you, were you involved in any kind of sports? Did the, did the camp have a team or that sort of thing?

Gray: No, they didn't. But we had groups that we formed. And we had teams of our own. And we played, we played a lot of volleyball. We played a lot of pool in the recreation room. We played a lot of ping pong. We threw the baseball around a lot. We threw the football around a lot.

But there were no fields, as such, except for the volleyball field. So that was about the size of it right there.

Dudley: OK. But you did have your own, you had your own volleyball teams, though.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: And, and, so, so actually what you're saying is that you weren't aware of any other sort of sports activities going on outside the camp. You didn't go to them?

Gray: Yes. I mentioned that earlier. We did go to some baseball games.

Dudley: Baseball. That's what you said.

Gray: Yes. That was basically it because we didn't have much transportation to speak of. But we could walk to a baseball field down in Camden, you know.

Dudley: OK. Did you, were you aware that other camps had, or, had, or, at that time, or had had in the past, any teams?

Gray: Yes. They, some of those camps as we, as I recall, that they talked about some camps having teams. We didn't seem to have a team that would go anywhere and play as a team. We just did it in camp. I heard that some camps had teams that would challenge another camp somewhere. But we didn't.

Dudley: You didn't do that.

Gray: No

Dudley: No. So, but, within your camp, did you have any noted athletes?

Gray: Yes, we did, as a matter of fact. We had a boy from Cheverus High School in Portland who was an excellent basketball player. We had some boys from up in Brownville Junction who are excellent basketball and baseball players. I played with them and there were one or two others who were noted for their high school days. I played ball myself.

Dudley: What about crafts and hobbies? What kinds of opportunities were there?

Gray: Well, there were some crafts there. And here again, I don't recall too much. But I mean, I know, I got into, a lot of us got into making things that were pieces of leather. And we'd sew them into different things. Like, for instance, a cigarette case. You put your cigarettes, pack of cigarettes in this case. Pocketbooks. We made those kinds of things. There might have been something else but I don't recall. There might have been others.

Dudley: OK, so leather work was one of the things that you got involved in.

Gray: Yes. That's right. Yes.

Dudley: And, but, you don't remember if other people were involved in other things? Was there like woodworking?

Gray: I don't recall at the moment if there was or not. There might have been. I don't recall.

Dudley: You still have any of that leather stuff that you made?

Gray: [laughs] I had it for a while but it kind of disappeared. I don't know where it went to.

Dudley: OK. What about music and theater? Did you do any of that stuff?

Gray: No, they didn't.

Dudley: Not at the camp? No?

Gray: No

Dudley: OK. And how about educational pursuits such as reading? Did the camp have a library? Were there books and magazines and newspapers around?

Gray: Well yes, there was a limited supply of reading material. Yes.

Dudley: And where did that come from? Was there like a library on camp?

Gray: I don't know where it came from.

Dudley: OK. Did you have a camp newspaper?

Gray: No.

Dudley: All right. Were you aware of anyone who may have learned to read or write in, when they were in the camp?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Now. One area that's apparently somewhat controversial, some people had problems, some people had really good experiences, were in the camp/town connections. Now you talked about the recreation that was available in Bar Harbor and Southwest Harbor and elsewhere and that you participated in that. And let's see, I think you said that you went, you went into town a couple of times a week? I, what did you

Gray: Something like that, yes.

Dudley: OK. And you told me what you were doing in there. Did, were there particular establishments in these areas that especially catered to CCC men? Like, were some places that you went...

Gray: We were not appreciated by anybody.

Dudley: And why was that?

Gray: Well, I don't know. They just looked down on us, that's all.

Dudley: And so you felt that strongly when you were in town.

Gray: Oh, sure. Oh, sure. Everybody knew it.

Dudley: Now how was that demonstrated? When you say they looked down on you, what happened?

Gray: Well the townspeople were not friendly, to start with, you know. And if you'd go into a restaurant or something, they'd wait on you because they had to, but there was no great feeling there, you know. One of those things, back in those days that was the way it was.

Dudley: Did you wear your, your, your greens? Your CCC greens in town?

Gray: Yes. Yes. Yes.

Dudley: So it was pretty obvious who you were then?

Gray: Oh, yes.

Dudley: Wow.

Gray: Oh, yes.

Dudley: That must have been really . . .

Gray: Some of our guys had fights with some of the town guys.

Dudley: Really?

Gray: Oh, yes. Once in a while. Once in a while.

Dudley: But you did mention that some of you dated some of the island women?

Gray: Well, some of the guys did, yes. It wasn't, well, as I say, most of the families didn't want their kids associating with us. So, you know, I didn't do any dating around with any of those kids down, those girls down there, because...

Dudley: Yes. So, does that mean you didn't get to know any of the local people? I mean, you didn't have any good relationships with any of them?

Gray: No, I never did. And I don't think, I don't think most of us did. No.

Dudley: So you don't know of any success stories where, where a CCC man actually met and married a . . .

Gray: No I don't.

Dudley: . . . girl in the area. So, OK, now, here's a question about the summer residents there.

Did you have any relationships with, was your relationship with summer residents any better?

Did you actually have any relationships?

Gray: No, we didn't have much, we weren't around them hardly at all.

Dudley: OK. OK. Was, well, this question says, was the affluence of summer residents apparent? Were you aware of a certain affluence there?

Gray: No. They kind of appreciated what we did and they were friendly and it was good. Yes.

Dudley: So they were more appreciative than the locals.

Gray: Oh, yes. Definitely. Yes.

Dudley: Ah. OK. That's interesting. Do you have any, do you remember any particular personal experiences about, about friendly summer residents and how appreciative they were? Did you have any particular. . .

Gray: No, it was just a case of, it was basically when I was in Camden and we supplied these tourists with, as I mentioned before, their needs for the camp site, and they would speak to us, you know, and ask us about the CCCs and so forth. But we didn't have time to stand around talking, but it was an amiable situation.

Dudley: Yes. OK. After you were done with the CCC, you said that you went back and worked for a while before joining the navy. Can you briefly outline your, your war experience?

Gray: My war experience?

Dudley: Yes.

Gray: Yes. I joined the navy and got aboard a ship and the ship was what they called an attack cargo. And the vessel was mainly to make invasions with. We would train troops and personnel how to get on board our ships with their vehicles and their things and their troops and make an invasion. We practiced it in the Chesapeake Bay area before taking them to, across. So we made,

so I went ashore and made the invasion of North Africa, made the invasion of Sicily, Salerno, and Southern France and Okinawa. Five major invasions plus one up in North China.

Dudley: Wow.

Gray: Yes.

Dudley: So you were in the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Gray: Right. The Mediterranean and everything else.

Dudley: Wow.

Gray: Yes. I worked my way up to becoming radar man first class.

Dudley: And then, when you then left the navy, what, what career did you pursue?

Gray: Well, I was in love before, and, as soon as I got home, and as soon as we could, she and I got married. My wife and I got married. And a family followed. And a happy marriage. And here we are. With four children.

Dudley: All right. So what sort of work did you do when you left the navy?

Gray: I did basically bookkeeping and accounting.

Dudley: So, OK. So that high school interest, you followed up, then?

Gray: That's right.

Dudley: Yes. Did you, did you go to college to get more, a degree in that? Or did you . . .

Gray: No, I didn't. I learned from CPAs. I got a little course here and there. And picked it up as time went by until the point where I got to be working up here at the university. Yes.

Dudley: Oh. So is that where you spent most of your career, then, at the university?

Gray: No, I didn't. That's, that's a long time period right there. You're talking about, I worked at several jobs. I worked in downtown Bangor for 17 years. But my last job, being the university job, I worked a little over 20 years and retired from the university up here as the supervisor of accounts.

Dudley: OK. Do you, do you feel that your CCC experience influenced your career path in any way?

Gray: No.

Dudley: No.

Gray: No

Dudley: OK.

Gray: It just made me more independent. That's about the thing. It made me very independent. I could take care of myself.

Dudley: OK. Did you meet people at the camp that later became important connections for you?

Gray: No.

Dudley: Have you maintained friendships with people?

Gray: Yes, I did for quite a spell. But, two or, the best guys I knew down there, my closest friends, all but one, have passed away. And I mentioned earlier on this guy up at Monson, and I see him once in a while. Yes.

Dudley: OK. OK. Well, you know what? You're a fast talker. I got through all my questions with you. Now, Mr. Caswell, we really, we went on and on.

Gray: Well, I hope I didn't mislead you or give you any bum dope there.

Dudley: No, this is great. No, this is very, very helpful. I, I appreciate it. And what will happen is, hold on, just a minute, this is the end of the interview with Mr. Gray on August 16.

[End C 1907, Side B. End Session I]