

Forrest Kirkpatrick: *Race and Labor*

Michael Nobel Kline: Okay. Maybe start out by saying 'my name is Forrest.'

Forrest Kirkpatrick: My name is Forrest H. Kirkpatrick. A resident and long-time resident of Wheeling. I've been involved in educational, higher educational matters and in industry for many years. I was vice president of Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation. And before that was dean and professor at Bethany College. And for part time was a visiting professor at West Virginia University, and have been a visiting professor at several other colleges and universities such as New York University, Columbia and University of Pittsburgh.

MNK: That's a very, very impressive background. How did you happen to go from, from university work to being a vice president of a steel company?

(013) FK: But before I was a -- Sometime before I would, was -- Sometime after I left academia I was with the Radio Corporation of America in New York City in charge of personnel administration. And that led into another industrial assignment.

MNK: Now what did you find --

FK: I thought you were going to talk about the labor history not biography.

MNK: Well, let's talk about labor history then.

FK: All right.

MNK: What did you find when you went to work at Wheeling Steel? What did you find?

(019) FK: Well of course, Wheeling, West Virginia, has had a long and involved history of labor problems and responsibilities going back to its early beginning when it -- The first industry here was cottage industry as this, at the end of the National Road. Small enterprises built up around this section of the country. We had everything from boat building to calico making. Great wholesale stores, factories, not factories but plants and operations where they made wagon wheels and all sort of apparatus. And then we got into the steel making business by way of iron ore, iron making. And it was a -- Some, several iron mills in this area. Big industry came to Wheeling, West Virginia, in the early 1900s with such industries

as Hazel Atlas Glass, Wheeling Corrugating Company, Warwick China, Wheeling Tile Company, Sylvania Electric and a variety of enterprises of pretty good size. In 1920, Wheeling Steel Corporation was formed by a merger of three different companies. And it became a dominating, not dominating, the largest company, industrial enterprise in this area. One time employing as many as 18,000 people in plants on both side of the river up and down within a radius of 20 miles of Wheeling. That industry, of course, was subject to all of the ups and downs and the riches and blessings of the steel industry, which as you well know, is, has been and is a cyclical industry. But it brought a great deal of wealth and employment opportunities in this valley. And is still a very, very lively part of our local economy. It's a different kind of company than it was when it first started. Technologically an ... of volume and employment opportunities, but it's a very, still a very viable company. Wheeling Steel was joined with Pittsburgh Steel

(047) in 1968 by a merger. Pittsburgh Steel was merged into Wheeling Steel Corporation and the name became Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation with the corporate headquarters here in Wheeling. Wheeling Steel was -- Its first contract to the United Steelworkers of America in 1937 has been a labor ... United Steelworkers has been, has -- United Steelworkers as a union has represented the hourly employees of Wheeling Steel since that time. Wheeling Steel joined, affiliated with the U.S. Steelworkers in 1937 about the same time the other steel in the country did. And for many years we had joint bargaining, collective bargaining with 11 or 12 of the largest steel companies.

MNK: What were labor conditions like in the steel mills before 1937?

(062) FK: Well, we had an entirely different labor picture of course. Before the, the unions were, labor was represented by craft unions. And we had, didn't have an industrial union until the CIO was formed. CIO was formed as an organization of the craft unions called the Congress of Industrial Organizations. That then merged into a national labor federation and a few years later joined with the A F of L and became a combined CIO dash American Federation of Labor. But in the early days of organizing the steelworkers, we were, the organization effort was to simply organize across the mill and have what we call industry wide bargaining rather than craft bargaining. That was preceded of course as you, as everyone

knows, with several large and devastating strikes in the industry. Republic was one of the toughest companies to organize. U.S. Steel was one of the toughest. And -- But Wheeling Steel was in that pattern of resisting organization for a while and then eventually joining, making an agreement with the United Steelworkers. And we've had pretty good relations since then.

MNK: Why would they have wanted to resist a relationship with a union?

(082) FK: Well, unions in the early -- The reason for union organization in all industry, and of course this is true across the board in all industry, was to ask for greater take home pay. They were asking in the early days for lower, reduced working hours and premium benefits, higher wage rates, pension benefits, so on. None of those benefits existed of course in the, in the early days of unionism. The best union relations in this area were done by the, I think, according to my recollection or my history, was between the cigar makers and the, and the union. Had a very good, very strong cigar union here, and they had good relations with the tobacco makers and so on. But this was a problem all through the country. We never really had, as you know, until the National Labor Relations Act was passed in 1935, any, any real federal intervention in the union management relations. At that time we had first federal legislation which enabled unions to have, take more of a foothold in the industry bargaining. This community has produced a number of very strong unions, very strong union leaders. Walter Reuther, who transformed the bargaining at the autoworkers, born here. And some of his -- His father was one of the early leaders in the socialist movement in this community. His brother happened to be a, a employ, management employee of Wheeling Steel for many years. It was a ... family in that. But a very fine family. Reuther family very fine citizens. Walter Reuther happened to be, made himself a determined spokesman, leader in the labor movement and was recognized. And we're very proud to have him have, be a part of Wheeling fabric.

MNK: Were there, were there major strikes in, in Wheeling?

(112) FK: Very, very -- Number of very long strikes and very major strikes both in the coal industry and steel industry. Nearly every industry in town has had a series of strikes. It's been a very, very volatile labor movement.

MNK: How do you account for that?

(116) FK: Well, there's no accounting for it except you had strong leadership on both sides, determined management and this effervescent, every growing eagerness on the part of labor to have more rights and more privileges and more share of the, of the earnings. Wheeling was no different than many other communities. They happened to be a small community with lots of industry and very powerful industry. And community of a variety of ethnic groups, which adds, each having some solidarity of its own. But it was a good community in which labor people could communicate and, and speak out. I, I don't think Wheeling is a, has been a labor dominated community. But certainly been a community where's been a lot of power and influence from the standpoint of labor, both organized and unorganized. It's had more power of course after the Committee on Industrial Organization was formed. And we have industry wide bargaining, which gave unions much more power than when they were simply, when they were just craft unions bargaining ...

MNK: So do you, do you recall particular strikes that affected Wheeling Steel?

(135) FK: I can't give you the dates, but I recall a good many of them because I went through them. I was here in charge of corporate and industrial relations during some of the biggest strikes we had.

MNK: What a job.

FK: Yeah.

MNK: That was --

FK: That's the reason I look so old.

MNK: You started in '37 did you say with the company?

FK: No, '52.

MNK: Oh, '52. And you -- Fifty-two until?

FK: Seventy-five.

MNK: Seventy-five. I didn't realize that there were so many strikes during the '50s and '60s.

(143) FK: We had -- I don't remember; I'd have to look it up. We had several.

MNK: Well, what was the piece that -- How did you happen to write that essay on, on racism and -

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(147) FK: At that time -- In 1942 I was with the Radio Corporation of America. And at that -- I was trying to build an industrial, modern industrial personnel program in the Indianapolis plant of Radio Corporation of America. At that time I was located in Indianapolis, and I discovered that Indianapolis was a highly segregated community even though it was a community in the north. And Negroes were not employed by the company and were not allowed to be employed by the company. We were running short of manpower because of the war. We were working on war material. We needed more manpower and at that time I thought it would be a good time to integrate the company. And we had -- I took the first stand for employing black people in the RCA plant of ours in Indianapolis. And in that -- As a result of that, I wrote the article for *International Quarterly* on the, pointing out that there's tremendous amount of talent and resources were not being used because we were ruling out black employees. Now it's an entirely different world today. But remember 1942 black people were not integrated, the armed forces were not integrated. And the people were -- Black people were not employed in plants and industries where they were badly needed or where manpower was needed. And my point was that, just as an economist, what a waste to have black people shunted out of the mainstream of employment opportunities when we, first we needed them. My emphasis will not -- I was not writing it

(171) necessarily as a bleeding heart. It's quite the other side. Why not use this talent. Why deprive ourselves of talent that was, was available and could be used. And that's -- Now we've changed. That whole situation has changed. We have black people in all kinds of responsibilities, thank goodness. But that was in 1942 that article was written. It was an entirely different atmosphere.

MNK: That must have been almost a pioneer point of view, wasn't it?

(178) FK: It was a shocking -- And in fact, that article then was used to, was quoted quite a number of places because that was the first declaration. Not that we should be nice to black people, but that we should use them. That they're -- It was a waste of manpower, and that I was looking at it from the standpoint of why let all this talent of muscle and brains and so on go unused. Why not bring them into the mainstream and make tremendous, make them part of the whole economy and our whole manpower structure. And of course we've done that a

lot now. We have a black people in all kinds of responsibilities of science and technology and manufacturing and industry and marketing and so on. And I'd say thank God. That's where they should be. And -- But at that time people were not -- They were ruled out simply because they were of color. It was a color blindness at the employment desk.

MNK: What was the response to that article?

(195) FK: Well, I got lots of criticism from the people who were on the other side. But on the other hand, I was -- I can't take credit for bringing the, starting to change things around because fortunately, or unfortunately, were in the midst of a war. We needed the people. So there was a very favorable response in the fact people said, 'well, goodness gracious, why didn't we do this sooner.' Why let this talent go unused. But of course, there was still the strong prejudice. And when the black, some of the black people were brought into the plant, others walked out. And we had that kind of reaction. But you just gird up your loins and stand by your guns and eventually you win. I don't mean you win, you get the point across that this, here's something that ought to be done.

MNK: Yeah, I think everybody wins.

(209) FK: Yes, it was, it was not -- I was not trying to conduct a personal battle or be a crusader or marching ahead of the procession waving a banner. I was simply trying to say why be so unwise or so stupid that not to use people that are here and that have willing hands and hearts and brains and so on. Let's put them to work.

MNK: But you were arguing from an, from the point of view of an economist?

(216) FK: Yes. And a personnel manager. A person concerned with manpower. Manpower utilization was my concern. If you got manpower, womanpower, regardless of color, make use of it. Measure them on terms of their productivity and their talent and their accomplishments and their energy and forget about -- Well, just blind out, black out any concept of their background or their color. And I still, still believe that. And I think that of course is the way our country should proceed. Or our world should proceed. And I may say that in my experiment it worked out magnificently. Eventually people saw that these black workers could, were competent, able, dependable, conscientious, patriotic, did a good job. There was some who didn't. Proportionately not any more than the white ones who shrugged their

shoulders and were undependable. I don't have any statistics to point that out, but I certainly have the recollection of many wonderful black people in the organizations that I've been involved with who have been amazingly dependable, conscientious and competent.

MNK: What was the situation in Wheeling Steel when you, you came there in 1952?

FK: Yes.

MNK: What was the situation with regard to race and --

(241) FK: That was pretty much -- That was an -- It was an integrated society at that time. There were black people involved in all kinds of --

MNK: Was '52, that was before, before the mandate to integrate the schools.

FK: Oh.

MNK: Fifty -- That came in '54.

(246) FK: Yes, but that was pretty well accepted as far as -- Because this was a northern community. We had black people employed all over. But the schools was still segregated. Fortunately, Wheeling has not been a, a community where racism has been vitriolic or strong. It still -- There's still a ... of it, which we must be working at all the time, but I think the, the strong walls, the high walls are coming down day by day.

MNK: How many presidents did you serve under at Wheeling Steel between 1952 and 19 -- Was it '70 when you --

(259) FK: I -- Six or seven I remember.

MNK: Well, how, how did you survive all that? Must have been some cataclysmic --

FK: There were a good many changes because first place, the, the older men retired and then there were two or three changes and shake ups in the organization. Mr. Norton Simon bought a big chunk of stock, and he made some dramatic changes. And then there were important changes when we merged into, when Pittsburgh Steel was merged into Wheeling Steel. And a good many organization changes during that period of time. But the company survived and done well, and is still going strong.

MNK: Well I, I have a feeling that you have a very interesting story to tell about all that because, because anybody who's, who can survive that many changes must, must have a, a high degree of adaptability. And, and I, I just wonder how you, how you did it.

(276) FK: Well, I don't think there's any, any secret. I think if you do your job in a conscientious way and hold your ground and not, don't run scared, you can match anything. The minute you throw up, throw in your hands and say that you're halfway scared, then someone wants to shoot at you. I was determined to do a good job for Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel, for Wheeling Steel and then for Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel. And I was determined not to be pushed around by anyone, and I wasn't.

MNK: What were some, some examples of, of dramatic moments with, with labor, let's say? Is there anything that stands out in your mind as, as being --

FK: No that --

MNK: The moment when your metal was most tested or --

(291) FK: No, no. Getting up and coming to work every morning was a test of your metal. Not knowing what was going to happen.

MNK: But there are no, there are no particular --

FK: No.

MNK: Events --

FK: No.

MNK: Or strikes or anything that stand out?

(296) FK: Nothing very dramatic. No.

MNK: During your time as, as vice president, what, what changes did you see for, for labor in that period?

(299) FK: Well, of course they -- The principle -- I shouldn't say the principle. One of the major changes has happened in terms of labor situation the whole industry has become more, has gone through so many technological changes. The old blast furnace, open hearth system is gone. We have entirely different ways of making steel. Practically everything is computerized. Everything is operated by computers. It's a highly, much more highly technical industry now than it used to be. And the skills are required. A man who works in the steel mill today is a pretty able and competent man in terms of his own technology. He's not -- It's not back and brawns. It's brains. It's very qualified, highly qualified group. Wheeling Steel now is making more steel than when I first came. And better steel. And

making it cheaper and with fewer manpower, less manpower. That just didn't -- That's happening all over the country. That's not peculiar to this industry, to this company. I think the biggest change that I've seen in my connection with the industry is, is this tremendous technological change. When I first went with RCA, for instance, we were making vacuum tubes. Nobody knows what vacuum tubes are today. It's all solid state physics and so on. It's an entirely different industry there. When I first went with RCA, we were making radio receivers. We started making radar, sonar equipment for

(327) the war effort. That before television. Now that television -- We didn't have television. Now we're making -- That company of course -- RCA's gone out of business, been bought up by General Electric. They are still making RCA receivers and RCA equipment, but that didn't exist when I first went with the company.

MNK: So you've seen labor go from sort of a need for brawn and strength to, to a highly technical --

(326) FK: It's a -- People who work in steel mills or radio factory, electronic factories are really highly skilled, competent, sophisticated workmen. When you speak of the old steel hand and the, the brawn and sweat, sweat of the steel mill, that just -- There's a lot of the sweat, now don't misunderstand me, but there's a lot of brains too. A steel man -- A man who works in the steel mills is a pretty able, sophisticated, pretty competent individual. That requires also a more sophisticated competent management. Is that about enough?

MNK: Tell me about women in the, in the mills in your, during your time.

(349) FK: Of course during the war years we were very anxious to get women to come and work. And that was one of the problems, was to lure people, lure women into the industry because they were needed. This was true especially in the, in the electronics field where there was lightweight work and assembly work and so on was badly needed. Work that could be done by women. Now, of course, women are now useful and competent in every field and even the steel mills and so on. The idea of women not being accepted in any industry of course is gone by the board, but it's so different than in the early years of the war. We were coaxing women to come. That's when the song *Rosie the Riveter* was popular because Rosie was actually working as a riveter in the airplane factories. And after the war, they went back to home. Now because of the economic needs, both the women and of society, they're busy now

back in industry doing everything.

MNK: What, what techniques were used to lure or entice women into the --

(371) FK: Well, we actually made house calls, calling on, asking women to come. We set up schedules so they could work four hours a day, and do all sorts of things to get women into the industry. I had, had about 25 million people in the military. You take that many people out of the labor market, you got to fill it with somebody. So during the war, there were in and out about 25 million men taken out of our society. And -- So we did all sorts of things to get women involved in industry. I was with, spent some time with the War Manpower Commission. We had a whole section on how to recruit women into industry. We were begging them to come. And we set up -- Various industries set up programs so they could work four hours a day and four hours back home. All sorts of things were done.

MNK: But you went door to door?

(387) FK: We had people that went, would go -- We had sent people out to rap on doors and say, "Would you come take a job?"

MNK: Was there Madison Avenue style advertising?

FK: Oh, yeah.

MNK: Posters and --

FK: Oh, yeah.

MNK: Stuff --

FK: Oh, yeah.

MNK: Things to recruit women?

(394) FK: I didn't save any of those. I wish I had.

MNK: There's actually going to be a display of those.

FK: There is?

MNK: The Smithsonian is sending a display of those to town. Next month, I think. Down at the Independence Hall. Called the -- A display called *The Home Front*.

(398) FK: I'd like to see that.

MNK: So you were involved in industry war years --

FK: Yeah.

MNK: ... You didn't go to the service.

(401) FK: No, I, I -- I was expected to go, and they asked me to be deferred. In those days personnel work was a new field in manpower organization and organization structuring was very important in ..., which I was involved in.

MNK: Were there any parallels in, in trying to get women employed in the mills and trying to get blacks employed in the mills? Was, was there sort of a change in attitude or self concept or something like that?

FK: No, I don't think so.

MNK: ... involved in that. It was easier to get women, I guess than --

(413) FK: Oh, I think the women were -- As far as the heavy industry, it was very difficult to get women in the heavy industry. No one thought they could do it, and they were -- Steel mills were not equipped for women in the early years. They were not accessible ways for women. That's, that's changed now. You have equal opportunity resources all over in every industry now. Yeah.

MNK: What was meant by 'the bucket of blood' when people talk about the, the steel mills being the bucket of blood? What, what was meant by that?

FK: I don't know. Never heard it.

MNK: I heard somebody the other day refer to his father having worked at a time when the mills were thought to be a bucket of blood.

(427) FK: Oh, well --

MNK: People lost their hands and arms.

FK: Safety was not as important in the early years, but that, that's started back at the turn of the century not recent. Now you have ... before workmen's compensation laws were passed and so on. It's still a -- Every industry has a lot of dangers. Driving a truck is a pretty dangerous business. More truck drivers killed than there are steelworkers killed. But the -- I don't mean every industry has a lot of, has injury problems, but the steel -- I would say the steel industry is a pretty safe industry.

MNK: Well, what else have, have my ignorance, have I failed to ask you that we could talk about?

FK: Well, I don't --

MNK: Is there other, other areas of this --

(446) FK: I think -- Wheeling itself is an interesting sociological community because of what's happened here is what's happening in other small towns. We gained our position in the world by being at the end of the National Road and being the jumping off place for people who are going west. And became at that point a great service community for the, the travelers who are going by stagecoach to the west or down the Ohio River. And that's when we were building -- This is a warehousing community. And a housing -- Get people started west. And that's when I mention these hundreds of cottage industries that started here. Had hat makers and boat builders and all of that, all of that being made right in Wheeling, being made -- These little industries began to supply the people who are going west. And we had a calico factory here. And then they had china making and lantern making and all that sort of thing. Very ingenious ways to get people ready for their trips out west because the stagecoaches came through here. And the people got on the flatboats and went down the river to Cincinnati and St. Louis and so on. So this was a great supply center. And you have the remnants of that in some of the industries still here and that. But then many of the industries faded out. Then it became a center of interest to the coal, the steel industry, iron ore industry because of coal being available. So we had coal mining and steel forming a kind of a mutual relationship. And then our coal became less attractive and, and steel became less important. We learned how to make it quicker and cheaper so that has taken us down another notch. Then so many of these other small industries that were here were bought up by a larger industry, so Wheeling is short right now of, of major payroll producing industries. I think it's, it's dropped to a level that we prefer not to have it. But I think that is gradually being replaced by another set of small industries, the technology industries.

MNK: ... information.

(494) FK: I can see the -- What's happening is a fascinating story of sociological change tied to technological change, which, in turn, influences the manufacturing and producing changes. So it's a great, great story to --

MNK: Yes it is.

(500) FK: If you got the courage to sit through it. Now what happens is people get scared and run

away. But I think, I think Wheeling has a great, not a great, a very strong and impressive future.

MNK: I do too.

FK: As its people become adaptable and ingenious and imaginative. A lot of life in the -- Great opportunities here.

MNK: Well, during the, during the height of the employment in the steel industry during, sort of during the height of the, of the whole industrial life of the city, Wheeling had a, had a sort of a wide open aspect to it. Where those two things related at all?

(517) FK: Well, you had -- At, at one point we had -- Well, I would say, I don't know it in particular part, we had some bad government. And Wheeling became what was -- It's interesting how people today sort of like to talk about the days when Wheeling was a wide open town. I'd be pretty much ashamed of it, but it was a pretty wide open town. Was controlled by a very unsavory group of people who kept -- That was during the Prohibition Era when whiskey and bootlegging were the chief ways that some of these people had made money. And it was a lot of bootlegging and bad whiskey, gambling and prostitution here.

MNK: So much so that it had a reputation as a 'Little Chicago'?

(535) FK: I've heard that. Might a little bit. I remember it.

MNK: What was it -- What were those days like?

FK: Well, very -- It depends on who you're talking to. Some people thought they were great days. I think that's an era to be ashamed of. But -- We had several racketeers. Bill Lias was one of the famous ones that controlled a good bit of the vice related Wheeling activities. Bootlegging and illicit booze and that sort of thing. He ... gambling.

MNK: When did, when did his rise begin?

(550) FK: I don't remember. It was -- It would be during the time of the, of the prohibition. In Wheeling -- West Virginia became a prohibition state about 1918 ahead of the procession. Then in 1930 the whole nation -- I don't remember when the Prohibition Act or the Volstead Act was passed. And the whole country was, became under prohibition edict. And that was the time of the big racketing. And the local law enforcement officers evidently didn't do much really. He was really tracked down by the Internal Revenue Service, and they, they

sent him to the federal penitentiary for a while. He owned a lot of property. He owned this building for -- In fact, this building's the Laconia Building named for the town where he was born in Greece. And he owned the racetrack. I think he's been dead about 10, 12 years. His second wife died just within the last year.

MNK: Well, why wasn't a city of courageous people like yourself, nobody seemed to have the courage to stand up to, to Bill Lias?

(583) FK: Well, I think -- It had -- The standing up to him has to be done by the law enforcement officers. And the prosecuting attorney and the sheriff didn't do it that time. I spoke as much as I could, but I couldn't take the lead of raiding the place. I had no authority like that. But if you look in the history of the Rotary Club, you -- I, I gave a very powerful speech about what damage Bill Lias was doing to the community. And, and Bill Lias sent me a note after that. Had someone sent me a note that I ought to keep quiet. But that was a good bit of subterfuge and intimidation.

MNK: What year was that that you --

(605) FK: I don't remember.

MNK: Know what decade?

FK: It had to be in the '40s or '50s. Fifties.

MNK: And you got a, you got a threatening --

FK: Yeah.

MNK: Note?

(611) FK: Yeah. I had met Bill Lias several times. I solicited him for the Wheeling Symphony every year. Went over to the racetrack and saw him.

MNK: And was he a supporter of the arts?

(617) FK: No, no. If you just stood there long enough, he'd -- All you had to do was just stand there long enough that he, he didn't, he didn't want to throw me out bodily. He didn't want to have his bouncer throw me out bodily. So he'd give me some cash, and I'd beat it.

MNK: Very interesting. So he actually held sway until --

FK: I don't --

MNK: Around the mid '50s I guess.

(627) FK: I'd have to try and look up his dates. I don't -- His, his family's pretty well -- I think he still has a grandson in town here. His second wife died not too long ago. I went to call on her at the funeral home. I remember that.

MNK: Why do you suppose the prosecutor and the sheriff were so lenient?

(638) FK: Probably crooks. I don't --

MNK: Fascinating. Carrie, is there anything we've forgotten?

Carrie Nobel Kline: I was interested when you were, you were talking about having to work so hard to recruit women during the war. I was wondering if there was a challenge in encouraging women to go back home when the boys came marching home?

(651) FK: No. It's an interesting question. I, I can't answer that as a sociologist, but I'm sure what happened -- They were anxious to go home. They -- Not that they were -- Well, let me say it. They didn't all go home. But it was their husbands and brothers and sons were coming home, I think a lot of them went home to get married and settle down to a normal life. But a lot of them never, who came into industry then stayed on.

CNK: And there was room for all the women who chose to stay?

(666) FK: We had a woman secretary of labor at that time, you remember. Francis Perkins. First time that -- I think she was the first woman in the Cabinet. And that was quite a step to have a -- Francis Perkins was the secretary of labor. But I had a woman in charge of -- The woman's -- What was the women's army corps? I don't remember it. She was president -- Oh, Sara Blanding was the president of Vasser, was involved at that time. I don't remember the -- I think the people were anxious to get back to normalcy. As much normalcy as they could be. Of course the, the boys who were discharged from the service, many of them went to college under the G. I. Bill, which I think was one of the greatest pieces of legislation ever enacted. It made it possible for boys who, and girls who had been in the service to go to college, ways of which they could never have done otherwise. And they had tremendous influence, I think, on our whole society. I think that was a very smart move. Wish we'd done -- That's a pattern that I think could be followed in some of the -- Clinton's national service program is ... to build on the peace plan. But, you know, the peace plan really was never -- Peace Corps really never went over very big. It's -- A lot of

(717) people talk about the ... Not more than 15, 20 thousand people in the Peace Corps at any one time, which is very minimum for our society. We talk about it as if it a great event. I wish it had been. And I hope this service program of Clinton's will have some constructive effect.

CNK: I also wanted to ask you, did you say you went to pay your respects to Mrs. Lias?

(724) FK: Yes.

CNK: So, in the end --

(side 2) FK: ... from other people didn't mean that I couldn't be nice to him, you know. You don't spit --

MNK: That was in, that was in 1920 -- Can --

FK: Twenty-three I think.

MNK: Can you describe that as you, as you heard people talk about it? Just don't --

FK: No, I'd have to refresh my memory on that one. I don't remember the date.

MNK: Could we, could we ask your date of birth?

FK: Nineteen five.

(007) MNK: Nineteen five. The same year as my dad. What was the, what was the date?

FK: September the fourth.

MNK: Oh, he was the twelfth.

FK: Yeah.

MNK: Imagine that. Okay. And that was here in Wheeling you were --

FK: No, no. I was born in Ohio.

MNK: In Ohio.

FK: Yeah, I'm not a native.

MNK: Okay.

FK: Okay.