

NAME OF PROJECT: *Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of WWII*

DATE OF INTERVIEW: July 7, 2011

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Sharbot Lake, ON

NAME OF INTERVIEWEE: Luc Salvador

NAME OF INTERVIEWER: Travis Tomchuk

NAME OF VIDEOGRAPHER: Lucy Di Pietro

TRANSCRIBED BY: Krystle Copeland

DATE TRANSCRIBED: October 21, 25, 26, 2011

ACCESSION No.: ICEA2011.0054.0001

PROJECT NOTE:

Please note that all interviews have been transcribed verbatim. The language in this transcript is as it was provided by the transcriptionist noted above. The project staff has not edited this transcript for errors.

KEYWORDS/TAGS

EnemyAlien, Internee, Internees, Interned, Internment, InternmentCamp, Camp, Discrimination, RCMP, ItalianCanadian, ItalianCanadians, Petawawa, Montreal, Italy, Women, Mother, School, WWII, EnemyAliens, French, English, EnglishCanadians, FrenchCanadians, WWI, Criminal, MP, FirstWorldWar, FrenchCanadian, EnglishCanadian, Arrest, Birthday, Bullying, CamillienHoude, Mayor, CampPetawawa, GroceryStore, Immigrant, June10, ClassicalMusic, Culture, Fruit, FruitCake, Cottage, Lake, Trees

ABSTRACT

Luc Salvador was born Luc Napoleon Augustus Caesar Salvador on the 10th of April, 1939 in Lachine, Québec. He is the youngest of three sons to Yvonne Salvador (nee Gagnon), and Luciano Salvador. Prior to his father's immigration from Carpenedolo, Italy in the early 1920s, the family name was Salvadori, and it was only when an immigration officer in Canada misspelled his last name did their name become Salvador. Luc's father created great success for himself in Lachine, Québec as Vice-President of a fruit and fruitcake company named Saxonia.

All of his achievement was lost when the RCMP arrived at the family home to arrest Luciano the day before his 50th birthday. Luc recounts that his eldest brother Romano was in the family's field when he noticed two men watching him and thought "there's something that's not right." So, he ran towards the house, and at the door there was another RCMP officer who did not want to let him in, but was finally permitted inside where there were two other RCMP in plainclothes. They questioned his father and his mother refused to let them search the house. His father was arrested and only had enough time to grab his razor and tooth brush before he was sent to *Île Ste-Hélène* as a temporary holding place since Petawawa was not fully constructed yet. He was later taken to Petawawa and transferred to New Brunswick when German POWs needed additional space at Petawawa, however the family had little or no information while he was away. Luc's mother was forced to sell his father's Packard car, and move out of their home in order to generate income from renting. Luciano was interned for 14 months before his wife's efforts working with their local MP paid off and he was released. He then returned to his home to find strangers inside before the renters explained that they were now living there, and he discovered his family had moved to a cottage while he was away. The family was then forced to sell the family home and rebuild with a new business—a grocery store called Salvador Market. Luc explains that it was a struggle but that his later years were happy with his career as an Air Traffic Controller, and retirement at Sharbot Lake—a place that reminds him of his youth at the cottage.

INTERVIEW

LS: Luc Salvador, interviewee

TT: Travis Tomchuk, interviewer

LDP: Lucy Di Pietro, videographer

[Title screen]

[Fades in at 00:00:10]

TT: Okay. This is Travis Tomchuk uh, it's July 7th, 2011 we're at Sharbot Lake interviewing Mr. Luc Salvador. Um, my first question is uh, I'd like to get your full name.

LS: Yeah.

TT: And uh, date of birth.

LS: Luc Salvador. Full name, you want all of my names?

TT: If you want.

LS: Luc Napoleon Augustus Caesar Salvador. That's a lot of names. [laughs] 10th of April, 1939.

TT: Okay. Um, and where were you born?

LS: In Lachine, Québec.

TT: Um, so what can you tell me about your immediate family, your parents, siblings?

LS: Well, uh...my father was Italian as the case may be right now. My mother was French Canadian uh...family name of Gagnon. Which there's about 75 thousand of them in Québec right now. [says with a laugh] Uh, they um, they were married uh...I don't have their uh wedding date but my dad crossed, came over after the First World War. He had, he was an officer in the First uh, First World War as an [lly of course. In the Italian army. And um, he

crossed in 1920, '21 approximately...I don't have the exact date. 'Cause Italy wasn't...it wasn't easy to live in Italy and he was looking for a better world [nods] and better, better...anyway he came over and joined and became friends with the Italian community and that's where he um, had all uh [winded up]—obtained all his contacts uh, in the Italian community where he, he uh started to work for an outfit actually they were at the very beginning of an outfit called uh, called [Saxonia] and he um, he uh, they produced maraschino cherries uh, things that you see in...and uh, and uh, fruit cakes. Uh, things like that. Anyway he was quite successful. And then that started in a place in Montreal called [Vio Ville] and uh, they became so big that they needed a larger location so they moved to Lachine on 18th Avenue uh, um, and that's where they became quite successful. [nods] And my dad was the director of that company then. He was working really...doing very well and very successful. And we lived quite well. But then uh, that infamous war of World War Two where the Italians uh, didn't quite agree with us and we became aliens and uh the RCMP one day just came to our home in 1941 I think it's '41, [nods] late '41 and uh, just took my dad away. Of course I don't remember this because I was only three years old. But uh, he was gone. My mother didn't even know where. Where they took him and why and eventually found out why. But uh, he was gone. So it was tough, he was interned in Petawawa um and uh, um, it wasn't part of Québec there. And uh, he was interned for 14 months. And thank—thankfully my mother had...being French Canadian, uh, was able to do a lot of pressure, and finally got him out uh, after 14 months. But it was a, it was a tough ride. They, they owned a home a duplex in Lachine and they had rented one side of the duplex to some, some folks. Um, and uh, when dad was gone, she had to rent out the whole house. Uh, 'cause to survive. Had to sell his car. I think they had some kind of a beautiful car, a Packard or something like that. Anyway, sell the car...and uh, she um, she uh spent the summer in um, she rented a cottage in the north of, north of Montreal. *Lac Louise* or one of those lakes anyway it was very rudimentary. But, she wanted the kids to be...to have a decent time and uh, that's where they went. Anyway, as it turned out when they—my father was finally released he came home [laughs] and walked into his home and there were strangers in his home. [laughs] And he

says, and they asked him who he was, and he asked them who they were, anyway, he found out that the place had been rented, his car was gone, because he loved his car and uh, he finally found where my mother lived uh, up north, through family and uh, that was, that was that. So anyway, they, they, they went back to the home and um, I, I don't know how—you know he had no job and times were hard so he um, he uh, decided to sell the house and they moved temporarily across the street to a rather inferior place. I remember that [squints or frowns in disagreement] I was just a few years old but I remember it wasn't very pleasant and uh, at that point he had to start a new business or something. So um, he found a location in uh, another part of Lachine on 10th Avenue which is eight, eight avenues over. Corner of Sherbrooke Street, and he uh rented this, this complex, which had an apartment and a store attached to it, some general store or whatever it was. So he started a grocery store business there and uh, after a while he purchased the line across the street and built had built uh, um...a block there where we lived upstairs and the store was downstairs and he also had another little apartment on the side for rental and uh, they, uh they managed that way. So he grew, he grew the business his grocery business. And uh, until he sold it. And uh, retired at 65 I think, 66 he was.

[6:20.1]

And uh, uh, um he had purchased eh uh small cottage, a small piece of land in uh, Lake of Two Mountains. Um, on the—oh, it was beautiful then. [says with wide-eyes] And um, he built a cottage there and uh, eventually after many years he, he upgraded the cottage and lived there after he was retired. And uh, uh, it was very nice. [smiles] Little polluted now though. But it was so clean and crystal-clear then. It was a beautiful place. So, um, those were hard times, they uh he really uh went through hardship, having lost everything like that and having to re-start his life all over again. But uh, it was a, it was quite an interesting life and I went through it of course. My, I...I was, my mother being French Canadian, I spoke only French and uh, and then uh, I think I was in grade three um, because we lived in uh 10th Avenue and, and in those years you

had to speak English. You know, you [I remember] how it was. Uh, if you didn't speak English you didn't get anywhere. So my father sent me to English school. [laughs] Yeah, I didn't— I had a rough time with that one. Um, I got beat up just about every day because I was French. And, when you do get beat up, you learn the language awfully fast, so it only took a few months and I was [laughs] I was bilingual. So anyway, I went through all of my schooling in English after that. Yeah. [smiles]

TT: Uh, just to back up a bit um, what, what was your father's full name?

LS: Uh, Luciano [Usenti Usenct] uh Salvadori. He had an "i" at the end. And when he uh, came over around 1920 I think it was the immigration officer forgot to put the i at the end, so he became Salvador and he stuck with the Salvador.

TT: And you mentioned your mother's surname being Gagnon?

LS: Gagnon, yes.

TT: And her first name?

LS: Uh, Yvonne. Yvonne Gagnon. She had a lot of sisters and brothers and my uncles and aunts and nice family. [smiles]

TT: Okay, and do you know how they met or?

LS: Gee, wiz, I was told that and I can't remember. [shakes head no in disappointment] I was told I just can't remember that, that particular thing.

TT: Okay. And uh, you had a couple of brothers?

LS: Yes. I was the youngest one. Uh, the next one is my brother Hubert, and he's seven years older than I am. And my oldest brother was Romano and he's ten years older than I am.

TT: Okay.

LS: So during those years, where we were living in 18th Avenue, um, my father had brought his mother over, she spoke only Italian. And uh, she stayed there for 10 years. And uh, that's how my oldest brother learned Italian so he can speak Italian, French, English some German too. So he was uh, and he went to University uh and he got his PhD and he was a pharmacologist. And my uh, next brother, Hubert the middle brother, he became an airline pilot and uh, my goal was to become his first officer. And but, I had joined bef— I had become an air traffic controller in 1959. And uh, I stuck with it. There weren't very many openings. But I got my, my commercial license and wanted to do that. But I never got to the airlines. Maybe that was a good thing I stuck with air traffic control. [smiles]

[10:08.3]

TT: Um, uh, with regards to your father's migration to Canada, did, did he arrive in Montreal first, or did he come by New York or...

LS: As far as I know he came to Montreal.

TT: Montreal okay.

LS: Yeah, yeah.

TT: And was there any particular reason Montreal was the destination, like was there family that might of been here proceeding him?

LS: No. There were no family. [shakes head no] He just came on his own.

TT: Okay.

LS: Um...I don't think uh, why he came to pick Montreal I don't know. It just happened that way. Must be a reason, but I just don't remember if I was told. At all...

TT: And with regards to um, his uh time at Saxonia...

LS: Yes.

TT: Um, what can you tell me about um like his role, in that, like you mentioned he was director of some sort.

LS: Uh, yes, after a while he was uh...his boss, the owner of Saxonia was a fella by the name of [Larizano] but [Larizano] was Italian but he was born in Canada. [nods]

TT: Hmm.

LS: Um, all I know is that he...not engineered but I guess he, he um organized the set up of the Saxonia [in Lachine] the boilers and all that. He was going to—because he was uh, not an architect, but he was ah a draftsman back in Italy and uh, he did a lot of drafting work and uh, and organized a whole company and structure of the mechanisms and all that. And he um, he

was, one of the— he was next to the owner, next to the boss I guess. Vice-President I guess you could call it. I don't know. He was doing quite well then. As far as I was told anyway, I don't remember I was too young.

TT: Um, and did you ever meet uh his employer's boss or anything like that?

LS: Well, all I know is that he used to have a lot of people over for dinners and we had, we had uh servant or we had a maid or whatever you call it then that used to set things up and we had a lot of silverware [says with a squint-ing expression and shrug] beautiful things. And a lot of people used to come. High dignitaries. And mayor or whatever. I keep on hearing stories about all these dignitaries that used to come to dinner and before all, before all this happened. Before the incarceration. So uh, it's interesting that uh, I was amongst all that but I don't remember. [shakes head no]

TT: And do you have uh, any sense of when your father started working for Saxonia?

LS: Uh, I think it was very soon after he arrived in Canada. Uh, through the Italian community. Yeah, and of course he learned the French language and the English language very rapidly. He was trilingual. Very, very cultured man. Very uh, very knowledgeable, he was his...knowledge of history and geography and world, world events. My God he was up to date on everything. Very, very, very cultured. [nods]

TT: And his learning of French do you know if it was something he picked up or...

LS: Just picked it up yeah. Like my mother was only, I think when they met my mother spoke no English so she used to by the Star, the English newspaper and that's how she learned English by reading the newspaper. And she was, she was quite bilingual. With an accent of course. My

father had an accent too. But he was able to converse very easily in both languages, English and French.

TT: And did your mother pick up Italian?

LS: Not very much no, no. [laughs] That's why I was only French, French speaking 'cause she spoke French at home. Yeah, things change. Look at my two sons—my, my two children, uh uh, my daughter is perfectly bilingual, and my son who is the younger one, he's only 35, he speaks only English. Very little French. So how, in one generation how things can change. Yeah.

TT: And your mother, did uh, was she born in Montreal?

LS: Oh yes. Yes, family goes back to the very first settlers. Yeah. [nods] Long ways.

TT: And you mentioned that at some point at Saxonia expanded there was a need to open up another location or a factory or something in Lachine. Uh, were you alive at the time when the family moved to Lachine, or were you born after?

LS: I was born right there yes. [nods] During that whole process. Yeah. Dad, dad had started off in a place like I mentioned [Vio Ville] and uh, the company was growing so fast that they had to move to, to Lachine. Now that was done way before the war. Quite a ways before the war. 19 uh...'42, '43. There, oh [shakes head] before that. Anyway, uh, yeah, that's when it uh well, you can edit this out, but I'm not sure what exactly it was when, when the Saxonia was created. Right now it's a funeral home. Bourgie, Bourgie Funeral home. Oddly enough, he was exposed when he died um, in that same building. [laughs and puts arms out] Oddly.

[15:38.5]

TT: And you said that the family lived at 18th —, on 18th Avenue in Lachine.

LS: Yes. [nods]

TT: Do you remember the house number or uh...

LS: Oh my. No, I don't know. [laughs] If I could drive by there I could show you where it was. But no.

TT: And did you, like was this uh, would you describe the neighbourhood how would you describe it? Were there different, like what kind of ethnic groups or languages that were being spoken in that neighbourhood?

LS: I didn't even speak any language. So I couldn't tell you. [laughs] Um, no it was French Canadian. Mostly French Canadian area. Yeah. It was a very nice, lovely area. Of course things change.

TT: And then it was once your father had been, was it after his release that the family moved from 18th Avenue.

LS: Yeah, we stayed there for a little bit. Uh, a little while in that house until he sold. I'm, I'm only guessing that he sold because he you know, he had no job and times were hard right after the war and he had to do something so he sold the house. And had to start a business after in this [points] 10th Avenue, started the business there.

LDP: What happened to Saxonía? Was he not able to return?

LS: No, no, no, no.

LDP: Did it close or?

LS: It closed down and uh, uh...I wish I knew all the details as to why it closed down. [shakes head] But uh...it eventually was purchased by uh this funeral home.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Yeah.

LDP: But that was, it closed down soon after the war then.

LS: Soon after—

LDP: It's not like it operated [unclear] of years afterward—

LS: No. Uh, I wish I knew that, I don't. My brother would probably know that. I don't. I'd have to call him. If you want I could call him?

LDP: No no, that's okay. [laughs]

LS: Okay. [laughs]

LDP: Could you tell us what Saxonia did? In its business?

LS: Yes, it was a, a product of uh, of various kinds of maraschino cherries, maraschino uh, all kinds of products that went into uh, uh...

LDP: [unclear] fruit.

LS: Yeah, fruit and candy yeah. What you see in a, in ah um, in a Christmas, what do you call it, cake? Um...

LDP: Fruit cake?

LS: Fruit cake, there you go. [laughs] That was hard, isn't it. [laughs] Um, all, all the stuff you see in a fruit cake, that's the product they were uh, they were producing. Along with candy and things like that.

TT: And um, do you have any uh, any sense of like how many people Saxonia might have employed? Or... [chime sounds]

LS: No. [shakes head] Maybe a dozen. I don't know.

TT: Now, you had also mentioned that uh, you grew up, your first language was French.

LS: Uh hmm.

TT: And uh, I was wondering if you could tell me uh, did you go to like a French language school [before your father]—

LS: Yeah, yeah yeah. [nods]

TT: And what was the name of that school?

LS: *L'académie Piché* I think it was. *L'académie Piché*. Yeah. [nods] It was, that's what it was the name of it. And they put me in St. Patrick's school which was at the end of 10th Avenue where I— where my new, new, new quarters. Which was English. And uh, it was just down the road so I was walk, walking to school and then when I finished there after a few years I went to Resurrection of Our Lord on 31st—34th avenue. And the teachers there were Christian Brothers. And it was all, male on one side, and females on the other side [divides the space with two hands] So we couldn't uh communicate with the ladies. [laughs] Or girls. And I did all of my schooling there until I finished uh high school. Yeah. [nods]

TT: And that's all those schools were in Lachine?

LS: Yes, yes.

TT: And so how many years were you at um the French language school before your father decided that you had to learn English?

LS: Uh, that was uh, 3rd grade. Uh, three years. Three years in French school. Yeah.

TT: And you had mentioned a bit earlier that you had some issues with the English speaking students in your new school.

LS: Well, yes. It's normal for a French kid showing up at an English school to be casted away. [laughs] So uh...that's how things happen. You know, there's always resentment for a stranger that comes in to a school, but I became friends quite quickly once I learned the language.

Rapidly. [laughs] My olde— my brother Hubert, I call him Bert, he used to defend me everywhere. I'd come home bleeding and he'd go out there and fix it. [laughs] He was a strong guy. He was the defender. Yeah, as a matter of fact, he was always helping me out on everything. He brought me everywhere and taught me everything. That's why today he comes and spends time here in the cottage. [points inside] Because it's his cottage as far as I'm concerned, it's his place. Payback time. 'Cause he really served as a father for me. My father was too busy. He was always going off somewhere. But, life goes on.

[20:48.5]

TT: [pause] Um, with regards to the uh— you moved from 18th Avenue and you said it was to 10th Avenue?

LS: To 10th Avenue where we had the grocery store, yes. [nods] Yeah.

TT: And again, was that, was that neighbourhood predominantly French-Canadian or was it—

LS: A lot of Polish people there.

TT: Okay.

LS: Yeah. Uh, French Canadian and Polish. There were some English, uh...mixed. Yeah, and uh yeah...

LDP: So you didn't really stay in the Italian neighbourhood or Little Italy? [bird chirps]

LS: No.

LDP: Okay.

LS: No, not at all. [shakes head no.]

LDP: Even though you had mentioned that your father was quite connected in the Italian community when he first came.

LS: First came, yes. Yes, this is what I was told. [nods] And that's how he got his—got going. Into what he's doing now. Interesting.

TT: And was he, did he maintain those contacts with the Italian community?

LS: He did, yes. [nods] Uh, but not that I...I mean I'm not familiar with how much he was in contact with him he uh, did his own thing, his own life. I, I, I really couldn't answer that. I don't know.

TT: Okay.

LS: If my oldest brother was here he probably would, because he was ten years older than I was and he was able to see more what happened.

LDP: Were you ever identified as being Italian, or did they always identify you as being French, like French Canadian—

LS: French. French. [nods]

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Yeah, French Canadian. [nods]

LDP: So, that's how the English community or the English kids would see you...as French rather than Italian.

LS: At the beginning, yes. And then it became English. [laughs]

LDP: Yeah.

LS: [laughs] Yeah.

TT: So did you, um was there any, at any point did you experience discrimination as a, as a kid growing up going to school as Italian?

LS: No, not at— no. Good question. I don't remember being discriminated against because I was Italian. Really I don't. [bird chirps]

TT: Hmm.

LS: Interesting. If I was I didn't notice it. Or I was too naive to see it. Could be. [laughs] You go, you go through life when you're young and certain individuals like me, I was so naive I...I didn't know what was going on. [bird chirps continuously though speaking]

LDP: You mentioned your brothers were older...did they ever, did you ever see anything from them coming home...maybe things? Did they ever talk about— you mentioned Bert being your defender, did he ever have to...maybe he learned those skills having to defend himself?

LS: I would think so, yes.

LDP: Yeah, but he never talked to you about it?

LS: Not much, no. He was there for me. Yeah, my oldest brother Romano, well he was gone. His...in his studies, he went to University and um, we didn't have all that much contact. You know, he was so much older. Yeah.

TT: Okay. So, um with regards to your father then you, do you know if he was involved in any political organizations or cultural organizations?

LS: No I don't uh, I don't think he was involved in politic— political organizations. If he was, I have no knowledge of it. And if he was maybe that's why they picked him up to incarcerate him. But uh, I really don't, don't think so.

TT: Okay. So um...

LDP: When he came back, did he ever tell you or the kids— or did you ever overhear why he thought he was taken? Why he thought that they had selected—

LS: Again, I was just too, too young to get an explanation...

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: If he had I would not have understood...

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: I just drifted along with the flow.

LDP: Were you aware that he was gone?

LS: Well, yes. Obviously because when he came back apparently I didn't recognize him, I didn't know him.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Because you know at that age when you're three, uh you don't see your father for 14 months...you don't know who he is when he comes— came back. So...

LDP: Do you— would your mum have ever told you where he was?

LS: I don't recall.

LDP: Would you have ever asked?

LS: I don't recall that.

LDP: Okay.

LS: She could have.

LDP: Okay.

LS: I don't remember. Too young.

LDP: Uh hmm. But do you remember not recognizing him, or they just told you that?

LS: They told me.

LDP: Yeah.

LS: Yeah. [nods] Huh. [half laughs and shakes head]

[25:28.7]

TT: So, what can you tell us then about uh, the day that your father was picked up by police?

LS: Well, um, it was very sudden. It was instant. It was one day and they came in, knocked on the door and "you're coming with us." And dragged him away [expression of surprise of face.]

LDP: So he was at home, he wasn't working?

LS: What I'm told is that he was at home. That day...it might have been a weekend, I don't know. But apparently he was at home.

LDP: Uh hmm.

TT: Uh do you have any idea about what time of day...it would have been or—

LS: No, no...I don't have that detail. I wish I did.

LDP: Uh hmm. But it wouldn't have been around dinner or lunch or...

LS: Uh, interesting...

LDP: Were the kids home? Do you know if the kids were home?

LS: [shakes head no and laughs]

LDP: Or if they were off at school? They never said?

LS: You know what I could do is um, put a pause on it and call my brother and he could tell me all that, and then I can fill in the...fill in the video. That okay?

LDP: If you'd like to I'll pause it, but it's up to you...

LS: 'Cause I'm really curious.

LDP: Okay [laughs] fine I'll pause it.

LS: Okay. [laughs and gets up from chair as camera fades out]

[video fades back in at 26:33.5]

LDP: ...recording.

LS: Okay, the day, the day that uh the RCMP came to get him in the house it was right after supper...

TT: Uh hmm.

LS: My oldest brother was in the field [points out away from him] and he just told me that um...they were two men out there watching...Romano, my oldest brother. And mumbling you know [frowns.] And my brother thought what's going on...there's something that's not right. So, he ran towards the house, to come into the house, and there was another RCMP sitting— he said, "you can't get in here." [points] "You can't go in there." He says, "this is where I live." So they let him in. And then, inside there were two RCMP and, and uh, not in uniform but in uh, um regular, regular dress. And um, they questioned him, they were they wanted to search the whole house and my mother, my mother was there. And apparently um, they wanted to search everywhere and my mother says uh, um told them that they couldn't that uh this was her home, and it was quite a battle. Finally um, they decided um, "you're coming with us." And they had no idea why. I guess they figured...they must have thought why but uh...and they said um, my father just had time to pick up a razor and a, and his tooth brush and that was it. And he was gone. And they had no idea. But he wasn't sent to Petawawa because Petawawa was not built, it wasn't ready for it, so they sent him to *Île Ste-Hélène*. As a temporary holding place. And then they had camps readied, in St. [Jéan], Québec. And that's where he was sent for several months while they were building Petawawa.

TT: Hmm.

LS: I didn't know that. So he was sent from uh, *Île Ste-Hélène* to St. [Jéan] Québec, and then to Petawawa. But after a while apparently Petawawa was getting kind of crowded during the war, because they didn't...they didn't have very much room in uh, uh Europe to hold onto the uh, to hold on to the captured Germans or the uh P-O-Ws. So, they brought the Germans by the boatload to Petawawa so that's where uh, they had to, they had to free, apparently free the camps uh, of Italian uh, im— detainees of Petawawa and they were sent to New Brunswick somewhere uh, until they were released. But fortunately my mother um, went to the um, a politician uh, what do you call them? Uh...one of the, the oh...I can't find the name. Um, uh a politician that cares for the whole area?

LDP: MP?

LS: An MP, yes, thank you. And the MP went to Ottawa to um, to uh, research whether he had been in trouble before. Whether he had a record and all that and uh, finally uh when he came back from Ottawa with the information that my father had done nothing. Absolutely nothing! Uh, that's when they released him. Uh, that was 14 months later. So, that's the story. Uh, the details I just got from my brother uh...

TT: Okay. Um, so, what—do you know if your mother began um, you know...working towards the release of your father like immediately, or was it...

LS: [nods] Well, it was after a while. It was after realizing that he was gone and uh staying gone and not knowing where he was she started the process. Now, how far, how far down the road I'm not sure. But uh, it took that long to get him out of there. 14 months.

TT: And uh, you had mentioned uh, at the outset of the interview that your mother um, you know had to cope—

LS: Yes, yes.

TT: With the family to support so can— could you tell us a bit more about um, you know what she had did and how was there money coming in...how was...

[30:19.7]

LS: Well that's just it, they had, they had um, renters renting the other side of the duplex and apparently the lady there um, prepared meals for factory workers because there were hardly any restaurants. There was no restaurants around. They had to eat somewhere and this lady used to produce uh...meals for these people. So, that was her living, but the rent was not much. It was something like 35 dollars a month, but in those days that was a lot of money. So that was one revenue, and then she rented out her own house. In order to survive and uh, lived as cheaply as she could. Um, other ways, in other ways, so it was tough. It was tough on her and tough on the kids.

TT: So, she didn't uh, like she didn't get a job or anything like that. Or she just...

LS: Not that I know of. No, no, no.

TT: And then how about your, your brothers, uh...[I know] they were a bit older than you.

LS: Yeah, but they were still being uh cared for by my mother. Who was the eternal mother of all mothers. [laughs quietly] She was, she was, struggling and doing her best. Not knowing, not knowing if— where her husband was or if he would ever come out.

LDP: Do you know if your family had applied for relief? Like government assist—

LS: No. [shakes head]

LDP: --ance?

LS: No, there was no...I don't think there was any relief in those days. Never. [shakes head no]
And my father emigrated and he was on his own. There's no, not like uh today.

TT: Now, when...you know, when your father got released um, and as you got older did he ever
you know, speak about his experiences at camp or?

LS: Not much. No, he was too busy trying to start his life over again I guess. And he wasn't one
to sit down with the kids and try to explain to them what happened. If he did I was too young to
understand it. But uh, no, it was just uh, struggle, struggle, struggle. But he did well. With the
business. [nods] The grocery business it worked, it worked out. It was hard work. [nods]

TT: Uh hmm. And what was the name of the grocery business?

LS: Salvador Mar- Market. [laughs and says with a big smile] Yeah.

TT: And did your brothers ever...like you know talk to you know about that time with the
absence of the— of your father or whether your father ever mentioned anything to them about
what it was like in camp or...

LS: Uh...well I know that one thing that my mother used to send him cakes and goodies. Cookies
and things like that for him in camp. 'Cause he was incarcerated along with the Mayor of

Montreal then, whose name was Camillien Houde. And Mr. Houde was against uh, conscription. So, he was telling everybody uh, "don't don't uh, apply to go into the army, they'll send you to England and you'll wind up in the war and all this." And um, because he was so against that he was incarcerated in the same camp. In Petwawawa, so he my...the Mayor and my father were in the same bunker in the...they knew each other quite well.

TT: Hmm.

LS: So they...it's a crazy world. [shakes head in disbelief]

TT: And were there any other people that your father was interned with that he spoke about?

LS: Yes, he did mention a few of his um...people he knew. But I don't remember their names. [looks up to think] [Cassini] was one. Yeah, I remember that name, [Cassini] and Cassini was quite involved in uh, I think maybe political opinions or something like that. And I remember him. As a matter of fact Cassini's son is also named Romano and Romano just told me that he...they stay in touch today. [nods] They're both the same age. They're both 70—82. They're both communicating with each other.

LDP: Hmm. Would they have known each other as children?

LS: Yes.

LDP: Oh.

LS: Yes, from from, back then. [nods]

LDP: How old was your father when he went to the...around the same time.

LS: Just found out. 49. It was the day before he turned 50.

TT: Hmm.

LS: June the 9th. June 10th.

LDP: Hmm!

LS: Yeah, so this...

LDP: So he had you later in life then.

LS: Yes, yes. [nods] Yeah.

LDP: Hmm.

LS: Interesting, eh? [chuckles softly]

TT: And while your father was interned, was you know, was he writing to your mother or your mother were they writing back and forth do you know?

[35:07.6]

LS: As far as I know, yes, there was some communication. Not much, but um, [sound of music or clock in background] There was a lot of exchanging of gifts— of um...cakes and goodies because

they weren't fed all that well. So, yes. And I remember him doing wine. Of course all Italians do wine. [says with both hands up in the air] He did wine. [laughs] He crushed the grapes and everything, of God. [laughs and smiles]

TT: Like, in the camp?

LS: No, not in the camp, uh back home. [smiles]

TT: Um, then you know, did he ever comment then if your mother was sending uh food to him, does that mean he was commenting on the food at camp? Did he ever mention that—

LS: I could probably find out if I call my brother. [laughs] I don't have those...I don't have those details.

TT: Okay. Um, alright so with regards to your father, he's released from, from camp and you'd mentioned that the family was up north, north of Montreal somewhere?

LS: Yes, they were camping or in a...my mother had rented this little camp. They had to go down a ways to get to water. There wasn't even any water or electricity in, it was very rudimentary but it was for the kids. For the kids to be out there in the summertime and, and enjoy their lives. Enjoy the nature and enjoy the water. It was uh...

LDP: It's not because of any discrimination to your knowledge then, it's not because she wanted you out of the city because maybe...

LS: I don't think so. No. [shakes head no]

LDP: Your mum was very much into the...being in open spaces...rugged kind of...it wasn't...

LS: Well...it was, she was child oriented. To her, her children were her, were her life. Was her life. And all she wanted was for the kids to enjoy themselves in the summertime. [smiles and nods solemnly] Yeah.

LDP: Was that a regular thing of your childhood, would you regularly go away in the summer?

LS: Yes. Yes, yes.

LDP: Okay, so even in the post-war years growing up you would often have these summer camping trips?

LS: Yes, yes. [nods] Yeah, and finally like I said on Lake Of Two Mountains, we, we had a cottage there. I remember building it. Well, I was trying to help because I was so young. But uh, we used to uh, we used to rent uh a farmhouse. And uh, play in the barn and you know, it was, it was good times. You know. Wasn't luxurious, but it was good times. Go out and do the hay with the farmer and uh, just, just uh...uh enjoying, enjoying life as best we could. Yeah. It wasn't all that hard it was just uh pleasant. Didn't wear any shoes...went swimming at the end of the pier and no safety [laughs] just did what we could. [shakes head with a smile] Had only one boat and it was a row boat where we, we found and had to stuff between the boards [motions shoving something down with hand] for it to, to prevent it from leaking an uh, that was it. But we enjoyed it. It was water and there were fish and uh we, we had that kind of thing. [smiles] Great fun.

TT: Okay, so your father, after his release, you had mentioned that he had some...he had trouble finding work.

LS: Obviously, yes. [says seriously] Yeah, it was hard times after the war. There wasn't much around.

TT: Hmm.

LS: I, I, I have— I presume that that's why he sold the house. In order to uh, start over again. [nods]

TT: And then opened a grocery store?

LS: Yeah. Yup, it was called *Marché Salvador*. [smiles] It was ah...it was hard. My older brother Hubert, he used to help a lot. Delivering groceries and we uh, used to sell beer and uh, boy did we sell beer! [says while rolling eyes] Holy mackerel. [shakes head] I mean the community just loved beer. [says with a laugh] And they were the big bottles you know. [holds up hand high] So, we delivered and delivered and delivered. I just followed [shrugs] because I was too young.

TT: Hmm.

LS: And my older brother uh, Romano, he was at the university and he went out and got his PhD in Purdue and became a...pharma— pharmacologist. [nods]

TT: [pause] Did your brothers ever comment on any changes with regards to your father, like maybe his personality from before he might have been interned and after?

LS: Somewhat. Yeah. [squints to think] Yeah, I remember dad as being [purse lips] irritable, uh...and didn't have much patience. Well, a little bit like me today, but I—for different reasons.

I mean after all when you come back after being successful and you have nothing and you've got to struggle though life and your family's suffering uh, I would think that uh, he was not in the best of moods all the time. So, you didn't hear much about him. And when something happened he was—he indicated displeasure. [half laughs] Um, he wasn't the flamboyant type that I, that I think he was before the war. [nods]

[40:32.7]

LS: Such is life.

TT: Hmm. Do you know if he, you know was he ever interested in, in some kind of compensation from the government for being interned or that kind of thing?

LS: Not that I know of. No. [shakes head no.] No, there was no compensation for that. When you think about it, that's a lot of suffering for, for and not having compensation isn't it? [nods] A lot of set-backs. [nods] 'Cause he was a...I think he as a bit of ah...really good aristocrat. [laughs] Yeah, his tastes were of uh quality and a lot of culture. And he was quite an artist. He did some wonderful uh, oil paintings and, and music. Well, classical music he was such a knowledgeable fellow for. Classical music, [throws hands up] and that's where I learned and knew of, the only music I knew when I was a kid was classical music.

TT: Hmm. [quietly]

LS: Until later when uh, when uh come...the hit parade come along and I realized oh! It's not just classical, there's other kind of music. [smiles] And I guess that's why I love classical music so much.

TT: Hmm. Were there certain composers that your father liked?

LS: Oh, he was uh...he was...I don't think he had a specific composer. [shrugs] All of the biggies. You know, Beethoven, Chopin, you name it. There was...I've got, as a matter of fact, I've got some of his 78 records. Uh, downstairs, I kept them. Can't play them because I don't have a record player for it. [laughs] But uh...it was all classical music. [nods]

TT: Hmm, and did he, did he...you might have said but uh, my apologies if you did, did he play an instrument of some kind?

LS: No, he didn't. No. When my, both brothers' left, one left for university and the other one left for the airlines, I was left alone and in order to compensate, for my loss he bought me a clarinet. [laughs] Which I still have today. I take it out once a year and make noise. [laughs] Yeah, that was great.

TT: Hmm. And uh, with regards to your own clarinet playing...was it, were you self taught, or did you take lessons?

LS: I took a few lessons, yeah.

TT: Yeah.

LS: I used to borrow my father's car and go all the way downtown Montreal to get lessons. Maybe three or four and that was it. But I don't...I won't let that clarinet go. It's a beauty.

TT: And did you ever play with other folks?

LS: No, no. Wish I did. Yeah.

LDP: Why the clarinet?

LS: I don't know. It was an instrument. He got it for me.

LDP: Oh, he gave it to you then?

LS: Yes. [nods] I don't know why clarinet. Maybe it was because I used to like Glenn Miller and uh, the big bands. And I guess he thought well, maybe I could play that kind of music. Which, which I enjoyed. But uh, I'm not very good at it. [laughs] It's a very fine clarinet. Uh, my parents, I was told that people who play in symphony orchestras would use that kind of quality clarinet. Anyway. Hmm.

LDP: Did your father enjoy opera?

LS: Uh, not so much as much as classical music. Which, is pretty much the same as I. I mean, I like opera, sure, but not crazy about it. I like instrument. [nods] He was naturalized, I was just looking at his documents yesterday, uh...I still have his passport. And he was naturalized on October of 1927. So, he was a full Canadian citizen. As the project goes. Canadian aliens.

TT & LDP: Uh hmm.

TT: Did, do you ever recall him like s— you mentioned he was kind of irritable when he was you know, when you were younger etcetera after his release, but do you know if he ever like, was he bitter about the internment, or did he resent it, or...did he just—

LS: He never specifically said it, at least not to me. But I'm sure he was. [leans in closer to the camera] I'm sure it marked him for life. Coming to a new country, and uh doing his best to succeed, obtains success, and then loses it all. Over this incarceration. It was a shame. He was away from his family, his kids. 14 months, that's, that's not easy. Not knowing what the outcome would be. [raises eyebrows] Had my mother not contacted this uh, MP and gotten results from the MP, he could have been in there for three years.

TT: Hmm.

[45:40.5]

LS: Worse scenario. Thank God mum was French Canadian. [nods] That's a long ways ago.

TT: And did, did your mother keep any type of correspondence that she might have carried on with this particular MP or anything like that...

LS: Oh. Apparently uh, he was a very good politician. Apparently he really served, served the people. He uh, was honest, he was uh, he reacted and he actually went to Ottawa to uh, get this, get this straightened out and get him out of there. [shrugs] Possibly because uh...and my brother just mentioned that uh...his name. How, how, how, effective he was and how good he was. French-Canadian MP.

TT: Hmm.

LS: You should interview him.

LDP: Hmm.

LS: He's got a better memory than I because I was too young.

LDP: Was he the local MP for the Lachine area? In which you resided, or...

LS: Yes, yes. [chiming in background] Uh, he mentioned which riding he was, he was in charge of. He had...I don't remember the name of, of it.

TT: Um, also too...with regards to your mother, was she involved in the uh, the running of the store?

LS: Oh yes. Oh, yes she would work her butt off too. Indeed. It was uh, well, we had a butcher and, and uh, we had all those supplies like you see in a store today. It just grew bigger and bigger. It was in ah, neighbourhood where there were a lot of Polish people there. That's what I remember, I, I, I, don't know why but I guess there was a Polish community, and uh, we sure sold a lot of beer. [laughs and bird continues to chirp]

TT: And, and, how long did this store exist?

LS: Oh, let's see...it was 1950. He sold it in 1957 I think. I was. '58. Yeah, and then he moved to Dorval, bought a house there. [bird chirping loudly in background] And that's where I lived for a while. In Dorval with my parents. And then, later on in life, I bought the house...my brother bought the house from my father [chirping] and he lived there, and then I bought a house across the street from him. And then my mother and father used to live next door in, in a rental. So we were all three families in the same corner street, in Dorval. Those were good times. [nods] Yeah. [loud chirping]

TT: And were you working as an air-traffic controller at this particular time?

LS: I, I joined air traffic control in 1959. Yes, I started with them um...I had, I was working when I was finishing high school, I was working weekends in uh, Dorval at a grocery store. A&P I think it was, yes. And I'd work Thursday night and Friday night and Saturday all day, and then on Sunday I'd go out and fly for an hour and get my pilot's license. Because my brother was already flying for the airlines, so I wanted to get my pilot's license, I wanted to bring it up to my commercial and get hired by the airline and go off with him. And, but uh...in the meantime I had my license but I was, right after high school I took about a week off and uh, worked in ah, in a hardware store. Until I finally was called and accepted to join transport Canada. Uh, today is Nav Canada... uh, Transport Canada on training. So I went to Toronto in training and came back to Dorval and uh, started in the tower there and stayed with them for 35 years. And uh, paid pension into it for 35 years and now I'm getting my pension from them. [laughs and smiles]

TT: And then you had mentioned a bit earlier that you, that you were living in Ottawa for—

LS: Yes, the last six years of my career I, I, I moved to Ottawa for...to, for a higher level and uh worked there in management and uh, then took my retirement. The day I had my 35 years. I didn't stay any longer. I had enough. [smiles with closed lips] It was an interesting career. [nods]

[50:21.7]

[noise of objects falling and LS looks to the side. TT & LD begin speaking at the same time.]

LDP: Sorry, what did you enjoy most about being an air traffic controller?

LS: The operation. [nods] Yeah, towers, when I worked in towers. I liked that, and then I worked in uh, in area control centers, radar and all that. For quite a few years. And then I moved out of the operation and became an instructor and then worked into an management job. I was manager of a division that handled operational requirements. And then from there moved to Ottawa and continued basically in the same type of field and worked on a project called CATS Canadian Air Traffic Control, uh...Canadian Air Traffic System. Modernization of the system. [nods] Uh, very major project and it's in full operation now, also worked in various towers, designing towers, designing [equipment] for towers and things like that. So...

LDP: You must have seen quite a bit of change in the technology. Over the years...

LS: Oh my. Tell me about it. Yeah. When I was working in radar it was just a blip and now it's got all these tags and all these conflict predication things and coloured and it's— it seems to be all done for them now. You know, with IDs, all their information is right there on the scope, and we didn't have that. Nope, we had basic radar and...and then the jets came in, while we were still having the prop aircraft. So it was a mixture...terrible mixture in different speeds. And that was, that was difficult. But, we managed. I never, I never welded two aircraft together. Which is, which is important. [nods and laughs]

LDP: Did the training change also substantially obviously for the equipment?

LS: Uh...not really.

LDP: No?

LS: No, basically the same thing. Uh, to become an air traffic controller in those days only seven percent managed to get through the whole thing and get their license. And today it's the same

thing apparently. Training is good, but you still get the same degree of success. It's very demanding you know. You have to be uh, a certain individual to be able to uh...to three dimensionally see all this and put it together. Not that I'm any good, it's just that it worked. So...

TT: Is there a lot of stress then involved in...

LS: Oh, I would think so, you know you're controlling a lot of aircraft with a lot of people on board and no room for error. So, that's stressful. But there are quiet times and there are busy times. I remember times that uh, pretty stressed out you know. You finish your shift and it takes you uh, eight hours to calm down and think of something else. And those were the days of operational stress. But now...

LDP: But the volume also probably has substan—substantially changed.

LS: Yes. Yeah...

LDP: Since the 60s.

LS: Oh yes, yeah.

LDP: The number of planes in the air.

LS: Yeah, yeah.

LDP: Versus now and how many you would be I guess responsible for?

LS: But you have better equipment and you have better secularization now. In other words, the sectors are broken up into smaller segments, where way back then you had to control everything. So...it equalizes itself I guess you could say. [chimes in background] But um, flying uh as a commercial pilot also helped a lot. Understanding the other aspect of it you know. Um...teaching flying and doing that kind of thing. That was fun. I enjoyed flying a lot. That's what I miss the most. If I could afford it, I could have my float plane right out here. [points over the balcony in the direction of the trees and water and laughs]

LDP: Out of curiosity, were you ever the air traffic controller for a flight that your brother was flying?

LS: All the time.

LDP: Wow.

LS: All the time, we used to have little codes. [laughs]

LDP: Really?

LS: Yeah. [laughs] He used to come in, his company was called Québec Air, and uh, we'd have a lot of flights like Air Canada would come in, Pacific Air, Pacific would come in and Québec Air, and sometimes you know...not that I was giving preference, but there was little tricks where he could get ahead. [laughs]

LDP: Oh.

LS: I shouldn't say that, should I, but uh...sure, all the time. And I knew. I knew by his voice when he was calling. Yeah. What flight he was on and all that. It was fun.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: It was fun. [nods] I always loved him dearly and I still do. [nods]

LDP: Uh hmm.

TT: What, what, again, to stay on this topic, [clears throat] as you had mentioned in the past, you just had a radar screen with some blips that would show up on them. So, to know what that blip would be, is that ma—do you know that just by radio contact with a particular—

[55:17.3]

LS: No, no. Uh, no uh...you would have an estimate and the air— and if he, if he were in radar range, um...you would see a blip and according to the estimate it should be him. So sometimes in order to identify him, we would either ask him to report over a specific fix and he was the only blip over that fix and who else could it be? Or you would tell him to turn a certain degree and if he turned a certain degree, 30 degrees or something, you would—positive identification. So, those were, those were, and you had to remember who he was, because sometimes you had a lot of blips. So you had to darn well remember which one was which. Whereas today they have all these tags on them, and they have all this identifications you know. So uh, it was very different. Very different.

LDP: Was there ever an un-identified flying object?

LS: Oh yes, I'd see them all the time. [laughs] Flying very, very fast. What was that?! He's going by at 5,000 miles an hour, it can't be...who...what was it? [shrugs with arms up]

LDP: Never found out?

LS: Well, no.

LDP: [laughs]

LS: It happens. Sometimes it's just an electronic anomaly. Would show like that...but uh...[laughs] not very often. We weren't too much...too concerned with that.

TT: And how did you get to Sharbot Lake?

LS: Well, when I was working in Ottawa...I knew I was retiring at such a time, and uh, I always wanted water, lake and it was because we were kind of raised in Lake of Two Mountains you know with the lake and the cottage and....so, you get to love it so much that when you get older you say one day I'll...I'll uh want this and that's what I did. I looked around for so many properties and finally we came across this one, with nothing on it, just the land. And so, I looked at the configuration, I looked at the lake, and I had a good friend I used to work with that lived across the lake, and I had seen the lake with him. And oh, I just fell in love with it. So many islands and so many bays and beautiful lake. So I bought the land. And uh, and built on it, and we've been here since— for 18, 19 years now. [nods] Hopefully for many more years to go. [smiles]

TT: Oh yes, there was one thing I wanted to ask you is kind of back tracking a bit here back to your father...

LS: Yes.

TT: As you've mentioned a very cultured uh man, um, did he...was there a particular culture that he was interested in? Like did he like Italian culture, more than like French culture or on par...I'm just trying to get a sense of...

LS: [nods] Well, he favoured Italian culture a lot of course. 'Cause he was— spent a lot of years in Italy uh, in Venice, because he was born in a little town called Carpenedolo not far from Brescia in northern Italy and um, after his university I think he worked or, I don't know what it is that he did in Venice, but he spent a lot of time in the northern lakes. In Lake Como was one of his favourite places. Uh, maybe he worked there and that's...he was uh, um uh not an architect but graphic designer I think he was and he worked in that field. Um...as far as I know, if he talks about Italy uh, [you know] especially Northern Italy uh...where, where he was from uh, he loved it. He...I uh went to his, went to his town his little birthplace once. Of course I don't speak Italian, so I managed to get to the cemetery and there were an awful lot of Salvadori's there. So I uh, there could be some, there could be some family back there. But, all I know is that he had a brother that we know of, but I don't know much about his family. [shakes head no] Goes back a long time his...mother was uh, I can't remember...yeah. [sighs]

LDP: Your father as you said, had that love for his homeland and for Italian culture and yet, he didn't— he required you to learn English but he didn't want you to learn Italian?

LS: No, no, no. He didn't push it.

LDP: And it never came up?

LS: No, the only reason my oldest brother spoke Italian is because my grandma who I've never met, uh lived uh for ten years lived uh here. And finally they got the point where my mother said...it was quite a burden having his, an Italian mother that was very demanding apparently. Uh, it's me or it's your mother [laughs] so, he sent her back home to Italy. [laughs] 'Cause it was very stressful apparently. So, Romano my uh...spoke Italian because she spoke to him in Italian so that's why.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: But I never met her, too long ago.

TT: Hmm. Do you know your grandmother's name by any chance?

LS: Yes, uh [Bontatti, Bondtatti?] ugh, [sighs and throws hands up in the air], I knew all that. I can't remember. [Bontaddi] I think it was. [nods] Yeah, [Bondtaddi].

[1:00:52.3]

LDP: What language did your father speak to you in then?

LS: French. Yup. Sometimes he would talk in English a little bit later on in life. But it was mostly French.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Too bad, I would have loved to have learned Italian. Lovely language. You speak Italian?
[nods]

LDP: Yeah, some.

LS: Some?

LDP: Uh hmm. Probably more than you 'cause... [laughs]

LS: I'm sure, I'm sure. [laughs] Yeah, anyway, that's how it goes.

TT: Hmm. Um, well I've asked pretty much the questions I had prepared.

LS: And I didn't have all the answers did I? [laughs]

LD & TT: No— [in a positive tone]

LS: I'm sorry. [laughs]

TT: That's fine, that's fine.

LDP: The point— what is your opinion of your father's um, how he felt overall about his treatment in the camp? Even if you don't know specifics. Um, what would his overall feeling have been about life and how he was treated in the camp?

LS: Yeah. I don't think he had that much, um, what's the word I'm looking for? He wasn't angry at them, at the English...angry at the RCMP, no he wasn't. As a matter of fact after they, after my... first wife was French Canadian and uh, things happened and he wasn't too pleased with her. And I got divorced and my second wife uh, was English and uh, he favoured her, and he

told her at one point just before he died he says, "you marry him." [nods sternly] "That's it." You know how Italians can be, eh? Fatherly. [makes stern expression again.] "I want you to marry him." [laughs and smiles] He wanted me to settle down and continue life, so he wasn't against English that's for sure because he encouraged me to marry an Anglophone.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: So, no he wasn't bitter against it. It's just a bad circumstance. Disappointing, dissappointing circumstance. [nods]

LDP: And how about his actual experience in the camp? Umm...did he find it a harsh, hard life or...

LS: I don't think so, [swats mosquito on his cheek] I don't think it was all that bad. Um...because the stories I hear is that it was rather friendly. [Dog barks] They had a lot of freedom. [nods]

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Um...yeah. It wasn't all that, it wasn't like the uh, they were starving to death and uh they were well treated. [nods and dog barks] As far as I know.

LDP: Did he ever, do you have any sense of whether he was expected to do work or do chores? Or something in the camp that [dog barks] he would have done?

LS: No, not that I know of. No, I think they were just held there and uh, and not treated as real POWs or uh...they weren't harshly treated like some stories we hear. Certain incarcerations, no I don't think it was all that bad.

LDP: Do you know if your mother had occasion to or could have visited?

LS: I don't think so. No. I was never told that.

LDP: Uh hmm.

LS: Too bad. [nods] Maybe she did and I didn't know about it. I could call my brother and ask him again. [laughs]

LDP: No.

TT: So, is there anything that you want to talk about that we have not asked you?

LS: No, I think you've covered it pretty well. Uh, thank you very much.

TT: Oh, well thank you for your time.

LS: My pleasure.

[camera fades out]

[1:04:23.2]

[End of Interview]