

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

DATE OF INTERVIEW: December 8, 2010

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NAME OF INTERVIEWEE: Dom Romeo

NAME OF INTERVIEWER: Travis Tomchuk

NAME OF VIDEOGRAPHER: Melina de Guglielmo

TRANSCRIBED BY: Grant Karcich, Krystle Copeland

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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.

ABSTRACT

Dom Romeo was born in Calabria on October 9, 1929. He arrived in Canada with his mother, Teresa, and sister, Maria, in 1935. His father was a tailor from Naples who first worked at WR Johnson and then at Eaton's until his death in 1957. Dom at five years of age arrived by way of ship to New York and then by train to Toronto. As a young boy he went to Grace Street Public School and to Italian school in Toronto. Later Dom went to Central Tech High School and received an education in motor mechanics. Dom's sister went to Italy in 1937 on an Italian government-sponsored trip where she visited Venice, Florence, and Rome. Dom also recounts his time in Italian school with Louie Geneta and of two Japanese-Canadians at Central Tech, one of who was called Seito Matsamoto. Dom started work as a mechanic first for his brother-in-law at Rogers Rd. and Earls Crt., and then at West York Motors where he went into sales. He sold General Motors vehicles for over 60 years. Dom opened a car dealership with a partner in 1970 and after 1978 he worked alone. During June 1940, Dom mentioned the arrests of Franceschini, Pasquale, and Fr. Ricardo and of the food preparation at the internment camp. He recounts

that the police came to their house several times in 1943, though they did not arrest his father, who had to register monthly.

INTERVIEW

DR: Dom Romeo, interviewee

TT: Travis Tomchuk, interviewer

MD: Melina de Guglielmo, videographer

TT: This is Travis Tomchuk interviewing Mr. Dom Romeo um, at the Pineview Auto at the corner of Weston Road and Highway number seven. In Vaughan, technically Woodbridge.

DR: Could I—I'm sorry I've got to get you to start again.

MD: No problem.

DR: Now it's Pineview Hyundai and it's important. [Smiles and laughs]

MD: No worries. We'll edit that.

DR: Because it's a new franchise. We were a General Motors franchise for over 40 years.

MD: I remember—

DR: Yes, yes okay so now we're Hyundai. And as we pronounce it "Hundai." Travis, I've always pronounced it Hyundai.

TT: So it's Pineview Hundai. Yes. [Camera fades out and back in at 00:55]

TT: This is Travis Tomchuk interviewing Mr. Dom Romeo at Pineview Hyundai at the corner of Weston Road and Highway seven in Vaughan. It is December 8th, 2010.

TT: So first off, could you state your full name?

DR: Yeah Dom Romeo yes you got it right

TT: And uh, when were you born and where?

DR: I was born in Italy in southern Italy uh um in Calabria 1928 um, 1920—I'm sorry...October 28th, 1929. You're asking difficult questions. [Says with a smile]

TT: So what can you tell me about your family, your parents, uh any brothers or sisters?

DR: Uh hm, well my dad immigrated to Canada in 1921 and uh my mother never came until 1935. It took her a little while—but my dad made about five trips. I was born on one of them. And I came with my mother and sister in 1935 and we settled in Toronto and right in the Italian district of College, College and Clinton area...yeah and we've been here ever since and that was some many years ago as you can appreciate. Yes.

TT: And what was your father's uh name?

DR: Francesco.

TT: Francesco. And your mother's name?

DR: Teresa.

TT: And you also mentioned a sister?

DR: Sister. Maria.

TT: Um, now your father's migration. Uh what spurred that? Do you know?

DR: Uh yes he, he was born and grew up in Naples and he was a tailor. He had a trade. And when he married my mother in this small town in uh southern Italy , it was—he couldn't be—it was really difficult for him. Being a tailor in a small town it wasn't really going to do much, so um he ah...my mother was reluctant to move to Naples so he thought if he came here he would be able to convince her to come to Canada...ah, and that's the purpose and the reason why, why he came here.

TT: So ah when he travelled to Canada it was always to Canada. His five trips— it was?

DR: Yeah. Yeah.

TT: And he was able to find work in his trade?

DR: Oh yes, he worked for WR Johnson which became Tip Top Tailors and then he left after ah, many years, he left ah Tip Top and went to ah—excuse me [clears throat]—and went to Eaton's.

[2:45]

DR: And he was at Eaton's until he passed away in 1957.

TT: [Pause] Roughly how old were you when you uh migrated here?

DR: Five.

TT: Five. Did you—do you recall any first impressions of uh Canada when you arrived? Ok Toronto?

DR: It's interesting you say that because the only thing that came to mind was of course—my father was kind of strange to me because he never came back really after I was born, and ah I remember when we were, when we were ah we took the train from New York to, to Toronto and in Italy the trains operated on electricity. Here they operate on steam you see and coal and ah so we went through a tunnel and I had the window open and my head out, [laughs] and of course I got you know you got messed up a little but yeah so that something. Amazing it stayed with me all these years yes. Uh huh. Yeah but Toronto of course you know—automobiles. You know I'd never seen an automobile until I came here, or I should say that, I had never seen an automobile in a town you know because we had to go to Naples to where we embarked in Naples, but um of course you know you see the number of cars on the street was different than what I had experienced.

TT: Can you explain how you felt about leaving Italy?

DR: No, I couldn't uh, yeah I don't think I really had—you know really didn't know. Or understood too much at that time. [pause]

TT: Um can you tell me, um about the neighbourhood that you grew up in in Toronto?

DR: Yes it was an Italian neighbourhood and, and everyone spoke Italian you went to the grocery store and...by the way there was a grocery store on every corner...ah and I ah um yeah everyone spoke Italian, and you went to the store your neighbours and ah um we had the church ah and ah it was a very small district. The northern boundary was College. The southern boundary was Dundas. The eastern boundary was Manning and the western boundary was Grace. But it was—of the three Italian communities at that time in Toronto—it was the largest. Not that it was large but it was the largest. But it was a small very condensed community and um ah and during the 30's things were very difficult there because there wasn't too much work and

most Italians were in the construction business and there was no construction work. So things were pretty difficult at that time.

TT: And so how did people um meet their needs during the Depression?

DR: That would be very difficult for me to explain but they managed and um, ah, with my experience with the Italians, the early Italians who came here post war in the 50's and 60's was the Italians are uh very able to manage ah. You know they came here and they would buy a house with very little down. Buy a car with very little down, ah and you knew that they were going to make the payments. You know there wasn't too many delinquents, of, in the uh Italian community. They met their obligation somehow. [Sips coffee from his Tim Horton's cup.]

[6:36]

TT: And ah do you know, was your father affected uh by the Depression?

DR: No well, ah everybody was affected [clears throat] but my dad always had some work I remember the did always had at a full week. Many times he would only work two or three days, but he always worked. Ah of course working for Eaton's would have been one of the advantages.

TT: And ah did your mother uh work outside of the home or?

No. My mother uh, no. [shakes his head gently]

TT: Now how 'bout schooling. Where did you go to school?

DR: I went to uh public school, ah it was ah right around the corner from me. Uh I didn't have to cross the street, which was—my mother always was concerned about these cars you see and oh.

Uh I went to high school. I went to Central Tech and uh I finished a four year course. Yeah and that was the limitation of my education.

TT: Uh can you tell more about your school experiences? Anything that uh sticks out?

DR: Oh no oh I uh, uh not really. There there wasn't a whole lot. There wasn't any great event that transpired in my life uh during that period of time. No it wasn't until I left school and uh went out to work and of course you experienced a different type of experience.

[8:32]

TT: And was your— like the school you attended, were they predominantly Italian kids or—?

DR: Uh no, no. Grace Street School as a matter of fact uh we had the Catholic school which was St. Francis and that was predominantly Italian, but I went to Grace where there was only a few Italians in the classroom. That rest were really Jewish people. Because we had a Jewish community that, that surrounded uh the this Italian community [Yeah heard in the background].

TT: And how would you characterize the relationship between Jewish and Italian students?

DR: Oh fine. At that point in time, yeah it was fine. We got along fine, yeah, yeah.

TT: And did that relationship change over—at a certain point?

DR: Oh I didn't think so. I had a lot of Jewish friends, yeah, yeah. [takes a sip of coffee]

TT: So after school you got a, you looked for a job. Uh what kind of employment um involved— [word unclear]?

DR: I went to school. Um I started school, high school I was going to uh em I was going to become uh a draftsman, an architect, uh a draftsman type of a thing, you know ah but I uh my brother-in-law bought a gas— repair shop with a gas station and a body shop. So it was mechanical, body and uh at that age being exposed to cars was very exciting and so I decided to take up motor mechanics. You see so I switched gears I guess [says while laughing] and I took up motor mechanics. And I uh graduated as a as a motor mechanic and I was working in my brother-in-laws garage during this time like after school and weekends you see and that was very exciting because being around cars was very exciting. Yeah.

TT: And whereabouts was your brother-in-laws garage located?

DR: Rogers Road and Earls Court, yeah [10:46]

TT: And how long did you work there?

DR: Well I worked there uh while I was going to school. Once I, once I, I um left school I started at West York Motors [clearing of throat heard] and on a full time basis. I wanted to get my mechanics license and ah you had ah you had a credit because you went to school of two years so I had to work three years for my mechanics license. But I ah, I went into sales though. I didn't spend much time as a mechanic. I went into sales at West York and I sold the General Motors products right up to until a year ago. So that was 60 years, over 60 years that I was involved selling General Motors products.

TT: And ah why the shift from repairs to sales. [A woman makes an announcement over speakers in the background.]

DR: More exciting. More challenging.

TT: [Pause] And what are some of the challenges then with sales then that made that job more appealing to you?

DR: Oh sales is sales is a uh there is a lot—you have a lot of rewards in sales. The satisfaction you get and you know I, I sold cars for 20 years before I went into business for myself and um it was just as exciting selling a car in my 20th year as it was in my first year. Yet there's always a certain amount of satisfaction any time that you're able to uh make a sale, yeah and I guess that exists with most sales people. If it doesn't it should.

TT: And then uh how about the process of having your own dealership how did that come about?

DR: Well ah I always had the ambition of some day have my own, my own dealership, a franchise and so I pursued it and um I finally was able to get it in 1970. And uh I started with a partner ah we both had similar backgrounds. We had no money. [Laughs] A lot of ambition. And ah, yeah we started in 1970 and in 1978 another franchise became available in Toronto. So therefore uh my partner, um we broke up the partnership. He went with the other franchise and uh that he was able to get and—and we both did well. He retired a couple of years ago and ah, yeah and that's how we ended up—uh that's how Pineview Pontiac Buick started in 1970.

TT: Um to backup just a little bit um, when you were going to school and were there certain social activities that you might have been involved in or anything outside of going to school and working in your brother-in-laws garage?

DR: Um no we had you know like little sporting things. I like to play hockey. Not that I was a great hockey player but we had a General Motors league. Uh I actually managed the team as well as play on it, and ah. The one event that really stands out back then we never had that plastic protection of the back of the blade, skate and uh we were playing in Varsity Arena one night and one of the players got cut with the back of his skate and cut right under the jugular

vein [makes a sign with his hand on his throat]. Now he was the same age as me. He had three children and we had three children and he died from it ah. A similar occurrence took place in the same arena a couple of weeks before with a St. Michael's player but there was a doctor happened to be uh in the stands and he jumps over and grabbed the jugular vein [makes a sign on the throat] and they took him to the hospital and he didn't die. But our guy died and that really started a campaign to do something about these skates and they came out with a little plastic thing that you could...it was like a 15 cent item if you could believe it but any ways that's how that thing originated like [here in?] in the Toronto area, yeah so that always stayed in my mind. As you could appreciate how that would.

[15:41]

TT: And outside of ah playing hockey what other kinds of activities did you do for fun?

DR: Well I ah started playing golf. Um and uh well you know we had we had. In our district we had like you know a little club that different groups kind of associated with you know. Well it was just like the growing up you know and we got ourselves in trouble many times you know and ah it was interesting thing you know—. From our neighbourhood we had we had some ah um some young individuals who turned out to be pretty successful people in ah Toronto. And we had some that got into a lot of trouble. You seem to have had both extremes. There were a lot of individuals who didn't turn out too well, and got themselves in a lot of trouble and continued the same course of ah as they grew up unfortunately but we also had a lot of what became very successful very successful people and prominent uh citizens.

TT: All right to back up a bit more again um. After Italy had uh declared war against England and France in June 1940 um how— and you know Prime Minister was on the air etc. explaining that some Italians were going to be interned as a matter of, of I guess so called public safety so

during that time um how would you describe uh the reaction to this to the neighbourhood you were living in?

DR: Well it was devastating um to many families the um—when the war broke out and when Italy entered the war ah the Mounted Police seemed to be all over the neighbourhood and uh they were uh hauling in people em to be to be questioned and interrogated [clears throat] and ah, ah it was ah well you could imagine a family you know depending on the bread winner, and he was being hauled off to concentration camp. You know it was, it was a very bad time, a very difficult time. Um and there was some em very prominent people that were interned um I recall Franceschini who had build the Queen Elizabeth High- it was his company that built the Queen Elizabeth Highway. And I believe at that time it was the first superhighway in Canada and ah he had just finished it really shortly before. And he was interned. Pasquale brothers, the big importers of Italian, Italian foods and he was interned, one of the brothers was interned, um of the two Pasquale brothers. Father Ricardo our priest was um taken down and interrogated and that uh that really caused a lot of commotion because that was you know that was really going too far. This was a humble man, and elderly man. And that took its toll on him too you know it wasn't good time. Yeah it wasn't a good time. So many people were interned.

TT: Um do you know the first name of the Pasquale brother who was interned?

DR: Yeah, oh no. I could give you the name of the other brother, Edward because his son Ted was a very good friend of mine. And he would tell me I remember him telling the story that um because remember I was ten years old when the war broke out. Ah and he was telling me the story in later years what ah his uncle who was interned—his father would take, uh take up a bushel of food up to ah and other families would do the same thing. You see one thing about Italians when it came to food they excel, ah. Anyway he would tell me that they would have like and Italian men may of them are excellent cooks so they prefer—they would have uh quite a spread you see on Sunday.

[20:52]

DR: And they would invite the guards you know, they befriended them you know and they had this big thing that the guards used to look forward to on Sunday you know and interesting the, they were releasing a lot of these, a lot of these prisoners. It started around 1943 because they were no threat to our security, to the Canadian security, and I guess they realized that. And they started to release them well before the war ended. And they say that the judges were really saddened by the fact that this feast that they looked forward to was coming to an end. Yeah a lot of interesting stories came out of the internment.

[21:47]

You had a lot of stories coming out of the internment.

MDG: Wow [heard in the background]

TT: So this would be food then that was brought from the Pasquale brother's store, that would be sent up to the camp

DR: Yeah but not just them.

TT: Oh, okay.

DR: Oh other families would ah you know, would go up there. They'd bring food um the Italians are very ah aware of you know to make sure you're going to eat well...not going to eat the food that they serve you there you know and they had a good point. Travis, yes. [laughs]

TT: And you also mentioned that um Father Ricardo had been interrogated by the RCMP um is any, any—do you have any other information about uh his experiences in particular like?

DR: No it was just that, that they would haul them down and put them in a lineup. Which he was—that's what I understand anyway that he was put in a lineup and uh—and searched and so forth whatever they do you know. Yeah I didn't—I don't think too many thought it was necessary to go to that extent uh. They really overdid it you know [DR drinks from coffee cup]. It was quite evident there was so many good people. [DM: gives a laugh] There was nobody there that I could say was a threat, you know a security whatsoever, you know uh there was an overreaction at that time.

TT: And then how about your own families experiences during that time?

DR: Well it's interesting because, my dad belonged to Casa d'Italia, which is I guess you would say is the House of Italy in translation ah and he belonged to many of the organizations and and parties there. And um he wasn't uh somehow or other. They never, they never come to our home until 1943. I guess that is when they came upon his name or whatever happened and I'll tell you my mother was devastated you know she thought they were going to interrogate, interrogate and they were going to intern him ah but they made many trips to the house and um they didn't because, they didn't intern him and I suspect the reason why at this point they were lettin' the prisoners out of Petawawa you know so therefore you know why, why intern anybody at this point in time. But he had to register every, every month. He had to go down and register and one of the interesting—one of the Mounties that came to our house ah, was the son of Italian parents and ah actually he was ah very nice with our family. Might have been something to do with maybe why my dad not being treated too harshly um. Yes so we had, ah had some experience.

TT: Were you home when the RCMP paid visits to your father?

DR: Oh yeah well there was many visits yeah. I wasn't always there but I was there I remember.

TT: And what do you recall about the visits by the RCMP?

DR: Oh, I I yeah...it's hard for me to say other than, then it was an emotional thing and in the family you know but uh um you know we were all concerned you know because what do you stop and think you know you rely on your, your father to be able support the family.

[25:27]

DR: They didn't have the welfare system that exists today. Um it would have been it would have been a terrible thing as so many families had experienced in that area. We also had experience with my sister, ah because she ah, we—. Both my sister and I went to an Italian school which was [clears throat] took place after regular school and it would be I believe it was a couple of times a week that we use to go. My sister is six years older than me and um, um being that she came from Italy and she had some schooling in Italy. She spoke Italy...spoke Italian very fluently, very fluently and ah she was a honour student in this Italian school and in 1937 the Italian government sponsored a trip for a select number of students to uh on an Italian tour to...tour uh certain cities all paid for by the Italian government and that was quite a thing. I mean if you could um imagine you're in a Depression years and to be able to...ah to have such a, such a such a um trip all paid for was, was quite a thing. But there was some repercussions from that, from that um occasion um. Some of the parents when the war broke out that was 37. When the war broke out some of the parents of the, of these students were interrogated. On that particular point and as I understand some of them were interned. The reason why, I don't know but ah but they had something to do um because the Italian government was the Fascist government and um um I don't know what connection um they could possible make out of this but anyway it was um--but we weren't, ah we weren't but they definitely were questioned and um anyway that wasn't, that wasn't very nice yeah.

TT: And did your sister ever speak of her trip to Italy and if so what did she say about it?

DR: Oh well of course you know as you can imagine she would have been maybe 17 or 18. Um you know how exciting that would have been. And how thrilling it was oh yeah they often spoke about that yeah.

TT: And do you recall what the tour consisted of? You said they had visited a bunch of different cities but did they meet like people in the government or other students of a similar age or?

DR: I can't—I couldn't be specific um um but um they visited um I remember well of course Rome um but they also visited Venice and, and Florence and if there was any other city I don't know but and um and I would imagine they were probably addressed by some government official um you know making comments of course on the fact that they were studying the, the um Italian language and whatever else the curriculum was and you know in the in the school.

TT: And what do you recall from the Italian School? Like you said you had attended classes as well, so what...was it language program or to get more, more information?

DR: Well, I um [laughs] I really can't give you— I really can't answer in the way you would like me to answer. But I can tell you that our teacher was a very short teacher. I'm not that tall myself [laughs] you know but she was very short and um um the ah we were more anxious to go out and play then. We really didn't want to go to school you know because this was after, after our regular school you see. So it's not something that we looked forward to and ah ah it's not something that we wanted you know. But ah yeah there was always some, some occasion. I always, I have to tell you one of the things that really stood out. Louie Geneta who uh—I don't know if you have heard of the name. Louie Geneta was a majordee at Royal York for 40 years you know and uh he was well known in Toronto um. Well he attended, he attended Italian school and Louie always had a good appetite you know and ah in those days you know you didn't have much money to buy sweets and that so he would have, he would have bread in his pockets [laughs] and he would be, he would be munching on this bread while, while school was going on and I always, I always kidded him in later years.

[30:49]

DR: I said Louie when we were ready to leave around your desk there was a ring of breadcrumbs you see from him pulling the bread out of his pocket um yeah there wasn't ah...there really wasn't a lot you know that I could really talk about. This was just one of the things that I always remembered. We've always had a few laughs about it yeah.

TT: To go back then to ah your father's oh monthly reports to the police, do you have a sense of ah what was required of him besides going down to the police station did he ever speak of um you know what the process was when he made those visits?

DR: I couldn't say, yeah no. I couldn't say.

TT: Alright and at what point did he have to um stop reporting to police?

DR: I would say probably when the war finished.

TT: Okay.

DR: That uh, it's really—that's when it terminated.

TT: Okay. And you know from June 1940 on how did, how did the Italian community in your neighbourhood um respond to um you know having some people being visited by the RCMP. Some people being detained. Some people are being interned um can you speak on how the wider population um reacted to this?

[32:34]

DR: Well when it when the war broke out. At the end of the war as I said at the beginning the area was really devastated. I mean there was a lot of turmoil. You know because nobody knew who was going to be next you know and um and ah it just seemed as if the ah Mounted Police

[voice on intercom heard in background] were all over you know but as the time went on ah that uh became a more moderate and uh as I say by 1943 um it was changed, uh it had changed considerably I mean there wasn't any um any you know any intrusion of any kind by the police at least I don't, at least I I don't remember you know.

TT: [voice on intercom heard in background] And if for instance if um if a husband had been interned um and then a wife was left behind potentially with some children to support um was there extra support from the wider community in those situations um?

DR: [voice on intercom heard in background] I really can't answer that um as I said they didn't have a welfare uh program that we have today, nowhere near it. They had, they did have some assistance my recollection--we used to call it relief [voice on intercom heard in background] and I'm not sure if that was the right terminology okay and um the slang, the slang term in the street was *pogey* you know, but ah yeah I would imagine that I don't think that any one would have been allowed to starve. I don't know how they manage to making their payments on their mortgages or how they bought clothes and stuff. I don't know. But it was difficult. But it was difficult even before the war. [voice on intercom heard in background] We are talking about people not working you know and um having responsibilities and obligations that they had to um they had to meet.

TT: [Pause] So I pretty much asked you the questions I had prepared for today, but is there anything um you would like to speak about that I haven't touched on so far or any other reminiscences?

DR: Yeah um no not really ah as I said then it was a very difficult time for the community and um but you know but ah it's amazing how resilient um the Italian people were in during those times um there was no question there was an overreaction on the government's part. You know these are hard working people, responsible people and ah good citizens and ah, the Italian community has made a tremendous contribution to the growth of Canada uh. It was just

too bad that we had to go through that bad period and it's something that I guess we like to forget really. I wish it didn't happen yeah?

TT: And I'm sure you are aware of some of the redress um. Some people as asking for compensation um for the Italian community um based on what happened during the second world war so was wondering if you had any thoughts uh you had just suggestioned that needs to be forgotten but I was just wondering if you had any thoughts on the redress process?

DR: No I um no I don't not on that I know a lot of this um goes on you know—different um. The Japanese were treated uh much worse than the Italians. At the Japanese their homes were confiscated and ah many of them were shipped east. I remember two Japanese students um when I was going to Central Tech um coming into ah my class yeah...being placed in the same class as I was um these were good people you know. They lost their homes and everything and were shipped out here.

[37:10]

DR: That was that was terrible you know and I would say compensation there would probably be well warranted you know I don't know I really would not want to comment on this compensation thing.

TT: Okay and with regards to these Japanese students um that you went to school with did they speak about what happened ah in BC?

DR: Unless you asked them a question they wouldn't even no they wouldn't talk about it and they never at my experience with the two and you know remember their names. I have a difficult time don't remember much these days but yeah Seito Seito and Mats-, Matsamoto um that was their last name yeah. They were two fine boys but no they wouldn't speak and even if you asked them questions they oh they oh there was no malice in their response no, no they were yeah they ah seemed to accept it you know.

TT: And how were they treated by the rest of the students?

DR: Oh they were fine. Yeah, yeah we never seemed to um there was no uh discrimination as I grew up at all ah of course it were—well I shouldn't say that. If there was any discrimination there was discrimination against the Italians back in the 30s in particular. It was my dad experienced a lot of that you know but I didn't experience that it in school. Yeah but you know um the large majority were, were it seemed to me anyway you know the large majority when I was going to school were Anglo-Saxon of some sort and yeah but I never no, I can say that, that I experienced or any of the uh others experienced um any discrimination.

TT: So about your father's experiences then um was the discrimination he faced was it while working or was it? And how—can you comment how um that discrimination took place. Was it physical? Was it verbal?

DR: Well I guess it was the different innuendos that were batted around. There was nothing physical. No my father was never [clears throat] uh involved in anything like that. Um not that I know of any uh way I would think it was all you know just different words that were said you know and I guess attitudes more than anything else you know yeah it was [unclear] Toronto was a very Anglo Saxon, a very WASPish community very much so. Um that all changed. It started right after the war...post war. It changed drastically and quickly uh in 50s and 60s. We had a large Italian community here in the 50s and 60s. At one time 25 percent of Toronto were post-war Italians. That's changed since.

TT: Okay so now I've exhausted my questions [laughing in background] so again if there was anything else you would like to comment on or speak to that we haven't touched on so far by all means.

DR: Well thank you. Yeah, yup. But I don't, I think that yeah you pretty much well covered, covered everything.



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Memories of World War II*
901 Lawrence Ave. West
Toronto, ON M6A 1C3
T: 416-789-7011 F: 416-789-3951

TT: Okay. Alright well thank you very much for your time.

DR: Yeah it wasn't bad...an hour and 15 minutes? [says jokingly]

[End of interview]