

INTERVIEW #1 - INDEX  
KAIPO ROBERTS - INFORMANT  
CHARLENE SUMARNAP - INTERVIEWER

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CS: THIS IS AN INTERVIEW FOR ANTHROPOLOGY 445, WITH KAIPO ROBERTS AS THE INTERVIEWEE. THE INTERVIEW IS TAKING PLACE AT HIS HOME IN HAWAIIAN BEACHES. : TODAY'S INTERVIEW WILL BE A GENERAL TALK STORY INTERVIEW. WE WILL GET TO KNOW HIM, A GENERAL LIFE STORY, BIRTHDATE, PARENTS, BROTHER AND SISTERS, ETHNICITY AND A BIT ABOUT HIS OWN FAMILY, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN AND RECOLLECTIONS OF EVENTS IN KAPAAHU.

KR: I WAS BORN MAY 2, 1921 IN HILO HOSPITAL, BUT I WAS RAISED IN KAPAAHU. AND I LIVED WITH MY MOTHER AND STEP-DAD, AND WE ALSO HAD A HOME UP IN KURTISTOWN WHICH WE OCCASIONALLY WENT UP TO AND STAYED OVER THERE, BUT MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT DOWN IN KAPAAHU.

CS: WHERE IN KAPAAHU?

KR: DOWN THE BEACH, MY PLACE. WE HAD A HOME DOWN THE BEACH WHERE MY MOTHER WAS BORN. A FAMILY UNDIVIDED ESTATE HANDED DOWN FROM KING KAMEHAMEHA IV TO OUR FAMILY. IT WAS HAVDED TO MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER WA'AIKI, WHO IS (24-25 NOT CLEAR) TO ALL HIS HEIRS WHICH WE ARE. AND AH...WE LIVED ON THE LAND. I'VE GROWN UP MOST OF MY YOUNG LIFE IN KAPAAHU. I WENT TO SCHOOL IN KALAPANA. I DON'T RECALL WHAT GRADE IT WAS, BUT MY TERACHERS WERE, I REMEMBER MARGARET BROWN, MRS. EWALIKO WAS OUR PRINCIPAL. THAT TIME WE HAD TWO ROOMS AT SCHOOL, THE FIRST TO THE SIXTH GRADE. EACH TEACHER TOOK 3 CLASSES-1ST, 2ND 3RD, AND 4TH, 5TH, 6TH. AND UH, I USED TO WALK TO SCHOOL EVERYDAY FROM KAPAAHU TO KALAPANA, WHICH IS ABOUT MILE AND A HALF TO TWO MILES, SOME WHERE AROUND THERE. I'M NOT TOO SURE. BAREFOOTED ON THE LAVA, OF COURSE THEN WE HAD NO SHOES.

CS: WHO DID YOU WALK TO SCHOOL WITH?

KR: OH, WITH THE REST OF THE FAMILY. WE WOULD MEET UP ON THE ROAD, 'CAUSE I LIVED DOWN THE BEACH AND THE REST OF THE FAMILY LIVED UP CLOSE TO THE HIGHWAY. SAM KAAWALOA, ED KAAWALOA AND AH ALL THE REST OF THEM. SO, WE'D WALK TO SCHOOL IN THE MORNING. I HAD NO BROTHERS, NO SISTERS, BY MYSELF.

CS: WHAT KINDS OF SUBJECTS DID YOU HAVE?

KR: I KNOW WE HAD ARITHMETIC, WHICH I HATED (LAUGHS).

CS: WHAT DO YOU REMEBER BEST ABOUT SCHOOL?

KR: OH! IT WAS LOTTA FUN. MOST OF THE KALAPANA PEOPLE THEY ALL RELATED, INTERRELATED. WE HAD A GROUP FROM KAPAAHU, AND MOKUHULU, WHICH IS WHERE AH, FROM KALAPANA GARDENS DOWN TO KAPAAHU. THE MOKUHULU WHICH STATS FROM KAIMU UP TO WHERE AH, KELIIHOOMALU'S PLACE. SO I THINK WE HAD ABOUT 25 OR 30 STUDENTS, I THINK IN THE WHOLE SCHOOL.

CS: WHAT ABOUT LUNCH?

KR: LUNCH YOU BRING YOUR OWN. SOME OF THE CHILDREN BROUGHT.



THEY BRING POI, WHATEVER THEY HAD. BUT, AH MOST OF THE TIME WE'D GO TO THE STORE, AH MU'S STORE. THE CHINESE STORE DOWN THERE WAS RIGHT ACROSS THE SCHOOL AND WE USED TO BUY CRACKERS. WE EAT CRACKERS FOR LUNCH. AND AH, IF WE HAD ENOUGH MONEY WE BUY CANDY IF WE COULD, OTHERWISE MOST TIME WAS JUST CRACKERS.

CS: WHAT KIND OF CRACKERS?

KR: SALOON PILOT. THERE WAS A CHINESE LADY WHO WAS MANAGING THE STORE.

CS: WHAT ABOUT GAMES?

KR: OH WE USED TO PLAY BASEBALL, KICK THE BALL, KICKBALL AND AH RACE, AND AH YEAH, THAT'S ABOUT IT, BASEBALL. I DON'T REMEMBER WE HAVING ANY VOLLEYBALL AT THAT TIME. YEAH, BASEBALL, KICKBALL, WE USED TO RACE, AH, AH AND HIDE AND SEEK.

CS: HOW LONG WAS THE SCHOOL DAY?

KR: AH, THE HOURS WERE LIKE THEY HAVE NOW, 8:00 O'CLOCK TILL 2:00 O' CLOCK. YEAH AFTER SCHOOL THE KAPAAHU GANG WOULD GET TOGETHER AND WALK HOME TOWARDS KAPAAHU AND THE MOKUHULU GANG WOULD GO BACK TO MOKUHULU AND KALAPANA, THEY, YOU KNOW, THEY JUST RIGHT AROUND THERE.

CS: WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER SCHOOL?

KR: OH, WE USED TO COME HOME AND WE'D GO KAMAKOLE, GO FISHING, OR ...WELL, NOT TOO FAR FROM OUR HOUSE THERE'S WAIKA, A POND THAT HAD GOLDFISH. WE USED TO GRAB GOLDFISH, CATCH PLENTY. WE'D GO SWIMMING TOO, GO DOWN QUEEN'S BATH, GO SWIMMING. THAT'S WHERE WE USED TO BATHE. IN FACT! YOU KNOW KALAPANA, WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY TANKS WE USED TO GET 55 GALLON DRUMS FOR WATER, OUR DRINKING WATER WAS PRECIOUS, WE COULDN'T WASTE THE WATER SO WE'D GO DOWN TO QUEEN'S BATH. WE'D GO DOWN THERE BATHE, GO DOWN THERE WASH CLOTHES. THOSE DAYS WAS CLEAN, VERY CLEAN. THEY AH, THE PEOPLE WOULD WASH WAY UP THE EAST END OF THE POND. THERE'D BE SOME SHALLOW PLACES AND BIG FLAT ROCKS. MY MAMA WOULD GO AND WASH CLOTHES ALL THE TIME. WE'D SEE THE WATER GET ALL WHITE WITH SOAP YOU KNOW, THEN AFTER A WHILE THE TIDE ALL DRAINS OUT THE WATER IN THE POND. THE POND WOULD BE NICE AND CLEAN AGAIN. THOSE DAYS WAS REAL CLEAN, THE PLACE WAS SO NICELY KEPT. BUT THESE PAST FEW YEARS, PEOPLE SO KAPULU, NOW THOSE PEOPLE COME DOWN THERE, THROW THE PAMPERS IN IT, LET THEIR DOGS GO SWIMMING IN THE POND.

CS: HOW FAR FROM YOUR HOME WAS QUEEN'S BATH?

KR: TO QUEEN'S BATH? OH, ABOUT HALF A MILE, NO TOO FAR. IN FACT WE USED TO TAKE A SHORT CUT AND GO THROUGH THE BUSHES. WE HAD OUR OWN TRAIL, TAKES ABOUT FIVE, TEN MINUTES, WE'D GET OVER THERE. ABOUT FIVE MINUTS WALK THROUGH THE BUSHES. AND

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AH, HAD HORSES. I HAD A COUPLA HORSES TOO, AND I USED TO RIDE MY HORSE ALL THE TIME. MOST OF THE TIME BAREBACK. THAT'S ABOUT ALL WE'D DO--BETWEEN SWIMMING, FISHING AND PLAYING. SOMETIMES AH, YOU KNOW OUR CLOSEST NEIGHBOR WAS ABOUT A QUARTER OF A MILE AWAY FROM OUR HOUSE. OUR HOUSE WAS DOWN THE BEACH AND, YEAH ABOUT A QUARTER OF A MILE, I THINK.

CS: WHO LIVED CLOSE AROUND YOU?

KR: WELL AH, SAM KONANUI, OLU, UNCLE OLU, HIM AND HIS CHILDREN. THE JOHANSEN'S WERE THERE AND AH, EMMA KAUI, LEI PAVAO, AH SAM KAAWALOA, KAM KAIPU AND HIS FAMILY, YOU KNOW HIS FATHER, MOTHER AND HIS BROTHERS. AND AH, WE HAD THE WAIPA, AND THE AH HEE. AH, THE AH HEE'S WERE LIVING WAY UP THE END OF THE ROAD, AND AH THE KEKAULAS AND AH, OF COURSE THE QUIHANO'S, TOO, WERE THERE. AND AH, SOME OTHER FAMILIES, JACK PHA, HE WAS A BACHELOR, HE LIVED DOWN THERE TOO. AND AH, JOHANSENS, KAY LEITE, YOU KNOW SHE'S MRS. LEITE BUT HER NAME WAS JOHANSEN, THEY LIVED DOWN THERE TOO. AND AH, JUST SOWN KAPAAHU YEAH? AND AH, OF THERE'S AH, OF I CAN'T REMEMBER HIS LAST NAME, LOUIE AH... HE LIVED UP THERE TOO. WELL AH, THAT'S ABOUT ALL THE COMMUNITY DOWN THERE, DOWN KAPAAHU.

CS: ABOUT HOW MANY?

KR: AH, THE PAIS, NO THE PAIS WEREN'T THERE YET. OUR FAMILY, THE QUIHANOS, UNCLE OLU, JOHANSEN, EMMA, HELELANI, KUULEI, JACK POHA (170?), WAIPA, AH HEE, (171?). YEAH ABOUT TWELVE TO FIFTEEN FAMILIES.

CS: WHAT DID THE HOMES LOOK LIKE?

KR: MOST OF THE HOMES WERE JUST SINGLE WALL CONSTRUCTION. THEY WERE ALL WOODEN FRAMED, WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY OF THOSE GRASS SHACKS THEN. THOSE DAYS WERE ALL PAU. ALL WOODEN FRAMED HOUSES AND AH, LIKE MOST OF IT WOULD BE AH, UPSTAIRS WHERE THEY WOULD SLEEP. AND DOWN, THEN DOWNSTAIRS WHERE THEY WOULD COOK UNDER THE HOUSE. SO THEY WOULD COOK DOWNSTAIRS AND SLEEP UPSTAIRS. OR SOME HAD A LITTLE SHED ON THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE WHERE THEY, AH, THEY HAD NO STOVES THOSE IN THOSE DAYS. IT WAS ALL OUTSIDE FIRES. WE USED TO BURN WOOD, AH GUAVA, OHIA, WHATEVER WOOD THEY COULD GET FOR FIREWOOD. AND AH WE USED TO GO UP THE MOUNTAIN AND RAISE OUR TARO UP THERE. WHERE ROYAL GARDENS IS NOW. THOSE DAYS WE WOULD GO UP BY EITHER HORSE OR DONKEY OR WALK UP. WE HAD LITTLE SHACKS UP THERE WHERE ER'D STAY COUPLA NIGHTS AND MAHIAI, RAISE TARO, COME HOME COOK IT UP AND MAKE POI. THAT WAS SO.... FROM WHERE THE TARO PATCH WAS TO WHERE OUR HOUSE WAS I'D SAY ABOUT MAYBE FOUR MILES, BECAUSE WE COULDN'T RAISE IT DOWN KALAPANA. KALAPANA WAS TOO DRY, SO UP ROYAL GARDENS, I'D SAY THAT AREA IS ABOUT 800 FEET ELEVATION, BETWEEN 500 AND 800 FEET ELEVATION, LITTLE MORE WET UP THERE SO THAT'S WHERE WE RAISED OUR TARO BECAUSE WE COULDN'T RAISE IT DOWN AT KALAPANA, TOO DRY.

CS: WHAT DID YOU RAISE IN KALAPANA?



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KR: WELL, NOT REALLY, NOT WHEN WE WERE YOUNG BECAUSE AS I RECALL KALAPANA WAS AUFULLY DRY, VERY DRY. AND THAT'S WHY AS I SAID WATER WAS VERY PRECIOUS TO US. WE HAD TO CONSERVE OUR WATER. OF COURSE WE HAD A BRACKISH WATER WILL, AND AH, THAT'S WHAT WE USED TO BATHE, BUT MOST OF THE TIME WE'D GO DOWN QUEEN'S BATH. AND WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH CLOTHES, WHATEVER CLOTHES WE WASH WE JUST PACKED DOWN IN OUR HACK AND PUT 'EM IN THE BUCKET. WE WERE VERY POOR IN THOSE DAYS.

CS: HOW OFTEN DID YOU GO TO PICK TARO?

KR: YEAH, ABOUT ONCE A WEEK. AND AH, OF YEAH, WE'D RAISE POTATOES, SWEET POTATOES. SWEET POTATOES USED TO GROW GOOD OVER THERE. THAT'S ABOUT ALL, KALAPANA, KAPAAHU SIDE WAS VERY DRY IN THOSE DAYS BUT, RECENTLY THE PAST EIGHT, TEN YEARS THINGS GROW SO NICELY DOWN THERE NOW BECAUSE THE WEATHER HAS CHANGED. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THE RAINBELT MOVED OVER A LITTLE MORE DOWN THAT SIDE OR WHAT. BUT YOU KNOW ITS A LITTLE MORE WET DOWN THAT SIDE NOW WHERE AS IT WASN'T BEFORE. AND AH, OF AROUND KALAPANA WE'D RAISE LIKE CHILI PEPPERS, OR YOU KNOW ONIONS. AH, WE DIDN'T EAT TOO MUCH VEGETABLES THOSE DAYS OUR STAPLE WAS MOSTLY POTATOES AND POI AND AH, YEAH...

CS: WHAT ABOUT PROTIEEN?

KR: WELL AH, WE USED TO GO FISHING ALL THE TIME BECAUSE OUR HOUSE WAS CLOSE TO THE BEACH. OUR HOUSE WAS ONLY ABOUT 300 FEET TO THE BEACH SO WE'D GO FISHING ALL THE TIME. BUT WHAT WE'D GO FISHING FOR WAS MOSTLY PO'O PA'A, BECAUSE THEY WERE THE EASIEST THINGS TO CATCH. YOU DON'T NEED THE POLE, YOU JUST HANG THE LINE DOWN AND YOU CATCH ABOUT 2 PO'O PA'A. THAT'S ALL YOU NEED, YOU NEVER GONNA GO FOR A RECORD KFOUR, FIVE, SIX. WE GO DOWN AND PICK OPIHIS, LOTSA OPIHI AND LOTTA LIMU DOWN THERE, LIMU KOHU, LIPE'E, LIPOA, THAT'S WHAT WE USED TO DO.

CS: WHAT OTHER KINDS OF FISH?

KR: OH WELL MOSTLY AH, THE HAWAIIANS THEY WERE... LIKE MY AH, SAM KAAWALOA'S FATHER, UNCLE KAIPO WE'D CALL HIM. HE WAS A REOFSSIONAL FISHERMAN, HE'D GO FOR MOI ONLY. HE WAS A MAN THAT ALWAYS BROUGHT HOME MOI. HE HAD A PRETTY BIG FAMILY SO HE'D GO CATCH ABOUT THREE, FOUR GOOD SIZE MOI. WE'D NEVER CATCH MORE THAN WE NEEDED, JUST WHAT WE NEED. YEAH LIKE OPIHIS TOO, HAD LOTSA OPIHIS DOWN THERE AND WE'D JUST GO PICK MAYBE ABOUT ONE, TWO POUNDS, YOU KNOW THAT'S ALL. SO WE ALWAYS HAD OPIHI. THESE PAST FEW YEARS GUYS GO DOWN THEY JUST RAID THE PLACE DOWN THERE. THERE'S NOTHING DOWN THERE NOW. WE ALWAYS HAD FOOD.

CS: WHAT ABOUT MEAT?

KR: OH! THE MOUNTAIN, WHEN WE GO UP PLANT TARO, PICK TARO, KNOT TOO FAR AROUND THERE, THER'S A LOT OF WILD PIGS. YEAH WE USED TO CATCH WILD PIGS. AND AH GO FUTHER OUT TOWARDS THE

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VOLCANO SIDE HAD LOTTA WILD GOATS THERE, TOO. SO MEAT WE USED TO GET A LOT OF. IN FACT THE PIGS, WE DIDN'T HAVE TO GO UP TOO FAR, RIGHT IN BACK OF UNCLE OLU'S PLACE THE PIGS USED TO COME DOWN. WE ALSO GO JUST WHAT WE NEEDED.

CS: HOW DID YOU CATCH THE PIGS?

KR: DOGS, ALWAYS USED DOGS, JUST GO GET WHAT YOU WANTED THAT'S ALL.

CS: HOW DID YOU PRESERVE YOUR MEAT?

KR: WELL AH, LIKE PORK MOSTLY WE'D SALT IT UP. PACK IT IN THE CROCK. WE ALWAYS HAVE SALT MEAT EVEN THE FISH. SOMETIMES WE'D THROW NET GET MORE THAN WHAT YOU CAN HANDLE WE'D DRY 'EM UP AND ALWAYS HAD DRY FISH. SO THAT'S WHAT WE USED TO EAT MOST OF THE TIME, WE DIDN'T EAT TOO MUCH VEGETABLES.

CS: DID YOU EAT THE POTATOE LEAVES?

KR: WE DIDN'T, JUST THE POTATOES. WE LEARNED TO EAT THE POTATOE LEAVES IN LATER YEARS BUT NOT IN MY EARLY YEARS.

CS: DID YOU GO DIVING?

KR: NO, I NEVER DID BUT THE FAMILY USED TO GO. LIKE MY COUSIN SAM, THEY USED TO GO SPEAR FISHING, THEY'D COME BACK WITH SOME BIG UHU, THEY ALWAYS SHARED. SOMETIMES THEY GET MORE THAN WHAT THEY NEED, THEY'D PASS IT ON TO THE REST OF THE FAMILY. SO, THAT'S ONE THING WE NEVER DID WAS STARVE, I MEAN WE ALWAYS HAD FOOD.

CS: WHAT DID YOUR PARENTS DO?

8 KR: WELL AH, MY STEP FATHER AND MY MOTHER DIVORCED WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG SO ACTUALLY MY MOTHER AND I USED TO BE TOGETHER MOST OF THE TIME. AND AH, MAMA USED TO BE STRONG, SHE COULD SHOE A HORSE, SHE COULD AH, SING A PIG, SLAUGHTER PIGS. MAMA WAS GOOD, THAT'S HOW I LEARNED, THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE.

CS: HOW DID YOU GET TO KURTISTOWN?

KR: WELL AH, MAMA HAD SOME FOSTER PARENTS, THE McCOMBERS. THEY HAD THIS LAND UP KURTISTOWN AND THEY GAVE MAMA A PORTION OF THE LAND. AND AH, SO WHEN MAMA WAS VERY YOUNG HER MOTHER DIED. SHE HAD NO ONE TO TAKE CARE SO SHE LIVED WITH THE McCOMBERS. THE McCOMBERS TOOK CARE OF HER SO SHE LIVED WITH THEM FOR A WHILE. AND THEN I GUESS, IT'S ABOUT HALF AN ACRE. A PIECE OF LAND, WE HAD A HOME UP THERE, A WOODEN FRAME HOUSE, TWO BEDROOMS, AND WE HAD AN OLD MODEL-T, MAMA USED TO DRIVE. AND, THOSE DAYS, WELL, FROM KEAAU ON UP THE ROAD WAS ALL PAVED BUT AH, KALAPANA ALL THE WAY UP TO THERE WAS ALL DIRT ROAD.

CS: HOW OLD WERE YOU?



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KR: ABOUT 9, 10, SOMEWHERE AROUND THERE. BUT YOU KNOW, WE HAD THE HOME FOR A LONG TIME, BUT MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT IN KALAPANA. THOSE WERE THE GOOD YEARS. IT'S ALL GONE, THE HOMES ARE ALL GONE.

CS: WHAT ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS, CHRISTMAS?

KR: I DON'T RECALL TOO MUCH ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS, I REALLY DON'T. (LONG PAUSE)

CS: WHAT ABOUT LUAUS?

KR: OH, AH WE HAD LUAUS. IN FACT WE HAD LUAUS ALL THE TIME DOWN THERE. WE AH, LIKE I SAID TOTTA WILD PIGS, WE JUST AH, GO AHEAD CATCH A WILD PIG AND THROW 'EM IN THE IMU. ALL THE FAILY GET TOGETHER. THEY USED TO DO A LOT OF DRINKING. THEY USED TO MAKE AH, WHAT THEY CALL SWIPE. AH, FRUIT JUICE, FERMENTED YEAST, PINEAPPLE SWIPE. PINEAPPLE USED TO GROW WILD DOWN THERE. THE SMALL PINEAPPLE, IT WAS PLANTED A LONG TIME AGO BUT NOT MAINTAINED. YOUR KNOW THEY JUST GROW ALL OVER THE PLACE.

CS: DID YOU LEARN HOW TO MAKE IT?

6 KR: YEAH, YEAH. WELL AH, YOU TAKE THE PEELING OFF, SMASH 'EM ALL UP PUT 'EM IN THE CROCK AND, I REMEMBER PUT BROWN SUGAR IN 'EM. YEAST AND WATER TOO, LET THE THING FERMENT AND THE STUFF WOULD FOAM. YEAH, A THICK FOAM AND THE SMELL---WOAH! MY GOODNESS! THEN AFTER ABOUT, OH TWO, NOT TOO SURE, AFTER ABOUT A WEEK AND A HALF, TWO WEEKS THE THING WOULD BE FERMENTED ENOUGH, STRONG ENOUGH THEY COULD DRINK IT. AND OH YEAH, WE HAD OLD MAN KEKAULA, HE USED TO MAKE HOME BREW ALL THE TIME. HE USED TO GET THIS MALT IN THE CANS AND HE USED TO MAKE IT ALL THE TIME.

CS: HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU LEARNED?

KR: OH, 10...12 I GUESS. 'CAUSE I STAYED IN KALAPANA UNTIL I WAS 15, I THINK, AND THEN I JOINED THE CCC CAMP.

CS: WHAT'S THE CCC CAMP?

KR: THAT'S THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORP AT VOLCANO. IN FACT, ALL OUR KAPAAHU BOYS WENT UP TO THE CCC CAMP. WE STAYED UP THERE. AND AH, I WENT AH--I GRADUATED NINTH GRADE AND THEN I QUIT SCHOOL. YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. I FINISHED NINTHE GRADE AND I QUIT SCHOOL BECAUSE WAS ONLY MAMA AND I. AND SO I HAD TO GO WORK BECAUSE WE HAD NO INCOME. SO I WORKED, I REMEMBER MAKING \$36.00 A MONTH. SEND IT HOME TO MAMA, I USED TO GET \$5.00FOR MYSELF, MAMA GET \$31.00 A MONTH SHE COULD LIVE ON. BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO PAY RENT, NO MORE ELECTRICITY. THOSE DAYS WE USED TO USE KEROSENE LAMPS AT NIGHT. KEROSENE WAS WHAT, TEN CENTS A GALLON, SIXTEEN CENTS A GALLON, SOMETHING LIKE THAT. SO WE COULD LIVE ON THAT KIND OF MONEY BEFORE. FOOD WAS VERY CHEAP. YOU KNOW, A CAN OF SARDINES WAS ONLY

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ABOUT TEN CENTS A CAN.

CS: WHERE DID YOU GO SHOPPING?

KR: OH, PAHOA. WE USED TO COME TO PAHOA TO SHOP. THEY HAD THE STORE OVER THERE, BECAUSE THE STORE DOWN KALAPANA, AH MU HAD HARDLY ANYTHING. YOU KNOW JUST A FEW LITTLE THINGS, CANDIES, AND SODAS, CRACKER AND THAT'S ABOUT ALL THEY HAD. NO MORE REFRIGERATION, NOTHING YOU KNOW. THOSE DAYS WE HAD NO ELECTRICITY, TOO. EVERYTHING WAS ALL KEROSENE LAMPS.

CS: HOW OFTEN DID YOU GO UP TO PAHOA?

KR: NOT TOO OFTE. NOT TOO OFTEN, BUT WHEN WE DID THEY USED TO SAY HERE COMES THE COUNTRY JACKS. WE GO TO HILO, THEY COULD SPOT US A MILE AWAY, THEY USED TO CALL US COUNTRY JACKS. (more hilo)

CS: HOW DID YOU GET TO PAHOA?

KR: THE MODEL-T CAR. WHENEVER THEY COME THEY ALWAYS USED TO ASK THE FAMILY IF THEY WANNA GO WITH THEM. BUT ACTUALLY WE REALLY DIDN'T MUCH. WE'D SHOP ONCE A MONTH AND IT WAS SUFFICIENT, YOU'D HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO LAST THE WHOLE MONTH.

CS: WHAT ABOUT CHURCH?

KR: YEAH WE HAD. FROM KALAPANA SCHOOL THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WAS RIGHT THERE. STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH, THE SAME CHURCH. WE HAD FATHER EVEREST, HE WAS DOWN THERE A LONG TIME. YEAH, THAT'S HOW A LOT OF THE YOUNG ONES, THEY USED TO GET AROUND WITH HIM. HE HAD A CAR HE USED TO GO PICK THEM UP. THAT'S RIGHT! WHEN I GOT A LITTLE OLDER WE HAD A VOLLEYBALL TEAM. I USED TO COMPETE. KALAPANA HAD A GOOD TEAM, WE HAD GOOD SLAMMERS DOWN THERE. YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. WE ALSO HAD A PROTESTANT CHURCH, KALAWINA CHURCH THEY CALL IT.

CS: WHAT ABOUT FATHER DAMIEN'S CHURCH?

KR: AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER THE CHURCH WAS ABANDONED. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYBODY USE THAT CHURCH. I HEAR PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT FATHER DAMIEN CHURCH BUT I DON'T RECALL FATHER DAMIEN'S CHURCH. I NEVER HEARD ANY OF THE FAMILY CALL IT FATHER DAMIEN'S CHURCH. MAYBE IT WAS I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T REMEMBER WHEN THE STUFF WAS BUILT BECAUSE WHEN I WAS A KID IT WAS THERE ALREADY BUT, IT WAS ABANDONED, DIDN'T HAVE NOTHIN' INSIDE. THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE THE LAVA COVER IT UP, THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS WHEN I WAS A KID. JUST THE FRAME THAT'S ALL, JUST THE FRAME, NO ROOF, NO CHAIRS, NO NOTHING. SO AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER NOBODY WAS USING THE CHURCH AT THAT TIME.

CS: DID YOU GO TO CHRISTMAS MASS?

KR: I DON'T RECALL. BUT THE FAMILY IS STRONG CATHOLIC. VERY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE, I WASN'T AWARE OF THOSE THINGS.



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CS: WHAT ELSE DID YOU DO?

KR: OH WE ALWAYS USE TO GO VISITING THE FAMILY. THE OHANA WAS STRONG OUT THERE ALL CLOSELY RELATED.

CS: IS KAIPO YOUR FULL HAWAIIAN NAME?

KR: YEAH, KAIPO.

CS: DID YOUR MOTHER HAVE A HAWAIIAN NAME?

KR: KALAKULAAU, HER NAME IS MARAEA KALAKULAAU. MY GRANDFATHER WAS AN IRISHMAN, HE WAS A WHALER. HE LANDED IN HAWAII AND HE MARRIED MY GRANDMOTHER AND HAD THREE GIRLS. MY AUNTY EMMA, SHE PASSED AWAY, MY AUNTY KAWAILANI, SHE PASSED AWAY, AND AH MAMA. MAMA IS STILL LIVING SHE'LL BE 90 ON MARCH 5TH.

CS: HOW MANY CHILDREN DO YOU HAVE?

KR: I HAVE FIVE CHILDREN. FIVE CHILDREN AND I GOT AH, FIFTEEN GRANDCHILDREN. AND, AH ONE OF MY GRANDDAUGHTERS, LAURIE, WE ADOPTED HER. LEGALLY WE ADOPTED HER BECAUSE WHEN I WORKED FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WE HAD BENEFITS. IF SHE WASN'T ADOPTED SHE WOULD BENEFIT SO WE ADOPTED HER LEGALLY AND WE LOVED HER VERY MUCH TOO, AND SO WE ADOPTED HER.

CS: WHAT ABOUT YOUR PLAYMATES, WHO WERE THEY?

KR: AH, ALL THE FAMILY. THE FAMILY DOWN KAPAAHU, WE'D GET TOGETHER AND PLAY, TALK STORY, JUST LIKE ANY OLD HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY, THEY JUST GET TOGETHER AND TALK AND LAUGH.

CS: DO YOU REMEMBER THE TRAINS?

KR: IN HILO, YEAH. AND I REMEMBER THE TRAIN USED TO GO UP TO GLENWOOD BEFORE. AND, AH FROM HILO WHERE WAIANUENUE AVENUE, ACROSS THE BRIDGE WAS THE TRAIN STATION. AND AH, WHEN I WAS SMALL I RODE THE TRAIN AS FAR AS PAUUILO, I THINK.

CS: WHERE DID IT START?

KR: I NEVER RODE THE TRAIN DOWN THIS WAY, THE TRAIN USED TO COME AS FAR AS KAPOHO. THOSE DAYS THEY USED TO HAUL SUGAR CANE BUT, AH YEAH, FROM HILO. I RODE THE TRAIN SEVERAL TIMES NOT TOO OFTEN BUT SEVERAL TIMES. YEAH, I REMEMBER RIDING TO GLENWOOD AND BEFORE, YOU GET TO HIRANO STORE THERE WAS A STATION WHERE THE TRAIN WOULD, THE TRAIN WOULD TURN AROUND.

CS: WELL THANK YOU I THINK WE HAVE COVERED QUITE A BIT TODAY.