

**Civilian Conservation Corps  
In Hawai`i: Oral Histories of the  
Haleakalā Camp, Maui**

Prepared for  
Haleakala National Park  
NPS Contract #C8298090010

**FINAL REPORT**

**July 20, 2011**

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by

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## **ABSTRACT**

Started by Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) program, initially called the Emergency Conservation Work program, aimed to provide work on public land for young men and in exchange, these men would be provided compensation in the form of clothing, food, housing, medical services, and cash. In the case of the National Park Service, CCC labor provided a way to meet maintenance and construction needs within the parks.

From April 1934 until May 13, 1941, the CCC operated a “side camp” in the Haleakalā Section of the Hawaii National Park (HNP). During those years the Hawaii National Park included multiple tracts of land on the island of Hawai`i and the island of Maui. The Haleakalā CCC camp was part of the HNP-1 CCC designation which also included enrollees working at Kīlauea and other parts of what is now known as Haleakalā National Park and Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park. Oral history information and archive documents indicate an enrollee count of between 23 to an estimated 50 men worked in the Haleakalā CCC camp.

The objective of this project was to collect first-hand accounts of events and experiences of men employed to work in the Haleakalā CCC camp and place these accounts in context of the history of the CCC program in Hawai`i. Documentary research was conducted on-line and at various repositories between 2009 and 2010. Two former enrollees, one 91 years old and one 93 years old, were interviewed in 2010 regarding their experiences in the CCC at Haleakalā. A 1983 oral history tape recording of another former enrollee at Haleakalā, who is now deceased, was also transcribed and used in this project. These three enrollees knew one another and worked together, although their enrollment periods did not start and end at the same time. None of these three enrollees worked at Haleakalā CCC camp after 1937 and therefore did not have personal recollection of the events or experiences surrounding the closure of the camp in May of 1941.

This project resulted in a glimpse into the history of the CCC program in Hawai`i and documents how instrumental the CCC was in accomplishing many projects at Haleakalā. More research into the CCC program of Hawai`i is recommended to further tell this important story.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The objective of this project was to conduct oral history interviews with up to five former Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) members that worked at Haleakalā on the island of Maui during the 1930s and early 1940s, in order to understand the type and extents of their work as well as the broader effect that the CCC program may have had in the Hawaiian Islands. Archival research of CCC documentation for the Territory of Hawaii was also conducted to help place the work efforts and enrollee life into a broader understanding of the CCC program on a national scale.

## **METHODS AND RESULTS**

Historical documents or newspaper repositories that contained information on the CCC camp at Haleakalā were not stored in a single location. Documentary research for this project was conducted on-line, at the Haleakalā National Park archives and Maui Community College on Maui, and the Hawaii-Pacific Archives Collection at the University of Hawaii and the State Library of Hawaii on Oahu. Information from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C. was provided by the National Park Service (NPS). Information was also requested, but not received, from NARA in St. Louis, Missouri where CCC personnel data records were relocated in June of 2009. Of particular relevance were the rare book collections at the Hawaii-Pacific Archives collection which contained original hand-written memos, general correspondence and Monthly Reports from the Territory of Hawaii-CCC Headquarters Field Supervisor Everett A. Pesonen. Documentary research was carried out from October 26, 2009 to June 10, 2010.

Three potential interviewees identified by Haleakalā National Park staff were contacted by telephone and letter explaining the purpose of the project and inviting each individual to participate. Two of the individuals contacted, Alvin “Rex” Ornellas and Grant Bailey Sr., were able and willing to participate in the interview process. Rex Ornellas was at the Haleakalā CCC Camp from 1934-1935 and 1936-1937 and the Kīlauea CCC Camp from 1939-1940. Grant Bailey Sr. was at the Haleakalā CCC Camp from 1935-1936. The third individual, Moses Medeiros, was very ill and unable to participate in the interview process. He passed away March 6, 2010. Efforts were also made to locate potential interviewees based on names provided by Rex Ornellas. These additional efforts proved unsuccessful.

The list of interview questions was submitted to the NPS for review prior to conducting the interviews. Comments received were incorporated into the final questionnaire which was used as a guide for each interview. Because individual perspectives are unique, interview questions were modified as needed. Interviews with Rex Ornellas and Grant Bailey Sr. were conducted between January 15 and January 18, 2010 (Photos 1 and 2).



Photo 1. Alvin "Rex" Ornellas, January 15, 2010, Wailuku, Maui.



Photo 2. Grant K. Bailey, Sr., January 17, 2010, Kahului, Maui.

Each interview was conducted at the interviewee's residence on Maui and recorded by digital high definition video format. The interviews were completed in one or more sessions, each session lasting approximately 90 minutes. Release forms were signed by each interviewee and forwarded to the NPS.

The recorded interviews were then transcribed and both video and audio formats of the interviews were produced. Following the transcription, the written draft was sent to each interviewee for review and they were provided at least thirty (30) days to review and approve their interviews before the transcripts were finalized. Photographs of the interviewees were taken at the time of the interviews along with the recording of brief biographical statements. A 1983 oral history tape recording of another former CCC enrollee at Haleakalā who is now deceased, Lawrence Oliveira, was provided by Haleakalā National Park staff. Lawrence stated he was 70 years old when he was interviewed on August 29, 1983. Lawrence Oliveira was at the Haleakalā CCC Camp from 1934-1935 and the Ke'anae CCC Camp from 1937-1939. The recorded interview was also transcribed and used for this report after his sister (i.e., the next of kin), Gertrude Marciel, signed a release/deed of gift form for the recording. The release/deed of gift form was also forwarded to the NPS.

Brief excerpts of the interviews were included in the body of this report. The full interviews are included as appendices along with the brief biographical statements.

## DISCUSSION

### A. HALEAKALĀ HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

#### The Significance of Haleakalā for the Hawaiian People

Haleakalā was thought to have been known to the ancient Hawaiians by any one of five names: “Haleakalā,” “Haleokalā,” “Heleakalā,” “Aheleakalā” and “Halekalā” (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Monthly Report, December 1939: 2; Fornander 1918–1919: Vol. 5: 536–538). Historian Abraham Fornander wrote in 1918 that “Halekalā” was a misnomer and that the ancient name for the crater was “Aheleakalā,” which meant “rays of the sun,” and...th[o]se which the demigod Māui snared and broke off to retard the sun in its daily course so that his mother might be able to dry her kapas (Ibid.: 536–38). Fornander further noted that Lemuel K.N. Papa, Jr., insisted that the correct name was Alehelā “on account of Māui’s snaring the rays of the sun” (Ibid.: 538).

Inez Ashdown later wrote that “Aleha-ka-lā” (Sun-snarer) was the proper name and a more recent moniker attributed to Māui’s feat of slowing the sun. She noted that the name “Hale‘a-ka-lā” referred to the “entire east mountain of Maui,” while “Hale-a-ka-lā” was the peak over by Kaupō Valley. “Haleokalā” or “Heleokalā” were two variations of the moniker recorded by the USGS that had been suggested by Anglo settlers who claimed to have learned the native language (Dutton 1883: 199).

The significance of the summit was recorded in no less than nineteen mythic accounts associated with the demi-god Māui, six with the volcano goddess Pele, one with her sister Ka‘ōhelo, and one with Lilinoe, the snow goddess (Dagan et al. 2007: 10–14). The importance of Haleakalā to the Hawaiian people led it to being utilized in a variety of ways.

Archeologist Hal H. Hammett described the cultural sites associated with Haleakalā as including:

Platforms related to traditional Hawaiian ceremony [were] predominantly found along the crater floor and at high promontory locations. Caves [were] often found on the crater rim. Temporary shelters built against rock outcrops or boulders [were] found scattered along the crater rim and within the crater, but [were] concentrated on the leeward sides of cinder cones such as Pakaoa‘o. Cairns or *ahu* [were] scattered over Haleakalā (Ibid.: 44).

Vint wrote earlier in 1931 that “near the pass where the trail enters the crater...[t]here are some interesting ruins...[i]t was through this pass that Kamehameha I came when he captured the island of Maui” (Vint 1931: 10). In deference to Hawaiian culture, he recommended that “the inside of the crater be established as a sacred area, accessible only by trail” (Ibid.: 12).

In 1939, Harold A. Powers, acting District Ranger for the island of Maui, produced a paper entitled “Progress Report on Observations of Evidence of Hawaiian Occupation and Use of Haleakalā Crater Area” and began conducting research on the Hawaiian name that was

appropriate for use as the official park name (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Monthly Report, December 1939: 2).

Hawaiian cultural artifacts, burials, and skeletal remains or iwi, were noted as being encountered by NPS personnel and CCC enrollees as late as the 1930s. Lawrence Oliveira recalled:

[O]ur Camp Director – Gunder E. Olson. He was a retired policeman. He was a nice guy. And he was the one that found the cave one time on top of Halemau‘u when you come up the horse trail, you come on top, come down through the woods, with lot[s] of pieces of [sandal]wood, the roots and all. You can see they scraped everything, and tied in little bundles with the roots from the i‘ia plant. I don’t know if you know what that is. Yeah, okay. And the cave was all black. You can see people used to make fire and they used to camp inside there. So, I brought one of the little pieces of wood up and gave him. I don’t know why it looked so important. The roots scraped, the roots and all, and piled this up. So, he sent it to someplace for check up. And he said, “Eh, that’s sandalwood,” but it’s so old, there is no smell to it. The thing was in the cave. That’s when they used to trade with China, I think. The Hawaiians used to go out and get Sandalwood. So they must’ve had that cave as a – just like station where they go collect, and bring it in there, and put, but probably they forgot to haul it all out. So, had couple bundles in there yet. How I found it was the dogs chase the pig, and the pig went in the cave. And that’s when I seen the darn thing. (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 3).

He later related another incident involving a burial when he recalled:

I seen one fella one time, he made a mistake. I don’t know if you know that cave – not a cave. It’s a tunnel. Holua cabin, a little ways, and you go underneath with the light, and you come out...Yeah, the lava tube. Well, on the other end there, they had a skull of a human being. I don’t know if it still there yet...And this boy brought it back to the camp. And they said, “You better leave that there.” He said, “Ah, as only one skull. What the hell?”...And he never slept a wink that night. He couldn’t sleep. The next morning as soon as daylight, he took it right back (Ibid.: 15).

### Haleakalā and the Establishment of Hawai‘i National Park

Hawai‘i National Park was created by Public Law 171 (39 Stat. 432) through an act of Congress on August 1, 1916. Sole and exclusive jurisdiction over the park was assumed by the U.S. Government through an act of Congress on April 19, 1930.

The park was comprised of three sections: the Kīlauea and Mauna Loa Sections on the island of Hawai‘i, and the Haleakalā Section on the island of Maui. The total area of the Haleakalā Section was thirty-six square miles, or 17,130 acres, including 5,521 acres on government lands and 11,609 acres on private lands. The official conveyance of government lands by deed from the Territory of Hawai‘i to the Department of the Interior was made on September 27, 1922 (Acting Director, U.S. Department of the Interior to Thomas Boles, Superintendent, Hawai‘i National Park, October 4, 1922).

Hawai‘i Territorial Governor Wallace R. Farrington was instrumental in acquiring the private lands, through parcel exchanges and the maintenance of grazing rights, that were ultimately

transferred to the U.S. Department of the Interior for the Haleakalā Section of the park. This followed a conference held in the governor's office in Honolulu on February 6, 1926 to arrive at "a satisfactory arrangement with private property owners regarding the complete elimination of private lands (and buildings) within the crater of Haleakalā...and for [their] acquisition by the United States..." (Memorandum of a Conference, 8 February 1926: 1). The attendees included: Territorial Governor W.R. Farrington, Territorial Land Commissioner C.T. Bailey, Supt. of Public Works, L.H. Bigelow, Maui property owners Harry and Sam Baldwin, Arno B. Cammerer, Assistant Director of the NPS, Thomas Bowles, Superintendent of Hawai'i National Park, and E.S. Wheeler, District Engineer, U.S. Bureau of Public Roads (Ibid.).

The acquired lands were eventually received from various adjacent property owners, including: R. Von Tempsky (81.2 acres), Campbell Estate (1,983 acres), and Haleakalā Ranch (9,543 acres) (Marks 1944: 2). On February 19, 1927 (44 Stat. 1087), Congress expanded the park boundaries on the island of Maui.

### Tourism and Haleakalā

The first visit to Haleakalā by non-Hawaiians occurred in August 1828 when missionaries of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, Lorrin Andrews and Jonathan F. Green, along with Dr. Gerrit P. Judd, physician, visited the crater. They were followed by a U.S. Navy expedition led by Commander Charles Wilkes in 1841, C.F. Gordon Cumming in 1881, and another expedition by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey headed by C.E. Dutton in 1883 (Dagan et al. 2007: 25–30). Significant public interest was generated by written accounts of these visits that determined that Haleakalā would eventually become a destination for tourism.

In 1929, the tourism industry on the island of Maui appeared particularly promising with the long anticipated inauguration of air travel, but it was also affected by the Depression. Pan American Airways had initiated flights from the U.S. mainland, and flights from Rogers Field in Honolulu came to Mā'alaea Field on Maui by Inter-Island Airways and Hawaiian Airways, Ltd. in that year. Two Sikorsky planes, christened the Maui and the Hawai'i, were greeted by 1,500 automobiles that lined the edges of the Mā'alaea runway on November 11, 1929, and the newspaper reported the event with the headline, "Thousands Welcome Inauguration of Air Service in Islands" (*Maui News*, 13 November 1929: 1: 1–2). Within one month, regular flights connected Honolulu with Maui and the outer islands, but passenger numbers were lower than expected (Ibid.: 14 December 1929: 1: 6–7). The big draws for Hawai'i, referred to in the vernacular as the "Big Island," and Maui were the volcanoes of Mauna Loa, Mauna Kea, and Haleakalā, respectively.

For the Maui business community, represented by an organization called the Maui Chamber of Commerce (Maui Chamber), Haleakalā had long represented an unrealized commercial opportunity. Interest in Haleakalā Crater as a tourist destination by the Maui Chamber had been expressed since the organization's formation in February 1910 with H.P. Baldwin as its president. The first "moving pictures of the great crater, [its] cloud effects and trails to the summit" were taken by R.K. Bonine during a trip arranged by the Hawaiian Promotion

Committee, H.P. Wood, head of the Tourism Bureau, and the Maui Chamber in October 1912 (*Maui News*, 12 October 1912: 1: 3; 26 October 1912: 1: 3–4). Following that excursion, during which “the clouds hid [almost] everything in sight,” with the exception of “a glorious sunrise,” the film and a series of “panoramic photographs” were scheduled to “be shipped all over the world” (Ibid.:26 October 1912: 1: 3–4).

Wood sent a letter to the Maui Chamber in December of that year with a proposal to build “a fine hotel at about the 4,000 foot elevation on the mountain” (Ibid.:14 December 1912: 1: 1–2). He continued: “The [building] would be a large, roomy house and wide lanais would surround the structure. Then on the summit of Haleakalā, a large rest house would be erected and comfortable beds would make the tourist forget the cold snap in the air” (Ibid.). Wood presented figures that proved that a profit could be made as long as the Maui Chamber underwrote the project for the sum of \$50,000 (Ibid.). In 1914, after much consideration, the chamber instead finally opted to erect a small concrete building at the summit. Christened “Kalahaku Rest House,” it replaced an earlier building that had been constructed in 1894, and with several small additions it was valued at only \$25,000 (Vint 1931: 8).

Wood’s proposal appeared to have been an attempt to emulate, if not outdo, the Volcano House on the island of Hawai`i. In contrast with the latter, a twelve-room hotel that had been in existence since the late nineteenth century, the new facility was anything but “large and roomy.”

Members of the Maui Chamber may not have been aware that the Volcano House was probably not the best model to emulate. Thomas C. Vint, Chief Landscape Architect for the NPS, described the building earlier in 1931, following a visit that he had made the year before, as “a physically antiquated plant” with “accommodations...not up to the standard the rates warrant” and “not a profitable institution” (Vint 1931: 1). Conversely, he described the Kalahaku Rest House in the same year as “one of the best I have seen in any of the parks,” “operated on a standard far above any I have seen,” and “a good example for other parks to follow” (Ibid.: 8).

As late as 1938, however, even though Walsh continued to provide “excellent service...the business [remained] unprofitable” (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Annual Report 1938: 7). The reasons provided in that year included a temporary closure of the Maui Airport and a protracted shipping strike that “prevent[ed] tourist arrivals by plane or boat” (Ibid.). Even Wingate had conceded in a report in 1935 that “the value of this concession to the operator [was] doubtful” (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Annual Report 1935: 6).

Until 1935, the primary means of getting to Haleakalā was on horseback, and this continued to be the case for the first three decades of the twentieth century. As late as 1932, the Inter-Island Steamship Company and the Maui Chamber arranged trips on horseback to Haleakalā Crater. The trips were regularly announced in the local press.

Thomas Vint described the trip by horseback that he made in 1930:

The trip is now made from the town of Wailuk[u] which contains the principle hotel on the island of Maui that caters to tourist travel. From Wailuk[u] a twenty mile motor trip is made to Olinda where a base camp for saddle horses is operated by Worth O. Aiken. From Olinda the trip to the rest house at the rim is about eight miles...The combined auto and horse back trip to the 10,000 foot summit may be made from noon to noon from Wailuku, spending the night at the top. Trips into the crater are made from the rim rest house as a base (Vint 1931: 8).

Vint concluded that “another rest house at the far end of the crater is needed. To see the crater properly, one should camp overnight, making a two-day trip from the present rest house” (Ibid.).

Without a paved road to the summit, however, Haleakalā remained distant and inaccessible for the vast majority of the Maui public, except for adjacent property owners, tourists of means, and hunters who lived in the upcountry or Kula region of the island. The need for a road to Haleakalā had been the subject of interest by the local press as well as Maui politicians since 1912, when the Hawaiian Promotion Committee had to use “fourteen pack and saddle animals” to reach the summit from Olinda (*Maui News*, 26 October 1912: 1: 3–4). Three years before its designation as a national park, A.H. Ford of *Mid-Pacific Magazine* was quoted in the local press as stating:

In a little while the ditch trail and the Haleakalā trips are going to adjust themselves to the purses of the tourist and there will be sufficient traffic to encourage regular excursions to Haleakalā [and] through the crater...a wonder trip, unsurpassed by any three or four [hour] outing to be had in any other portion of the globe (Ibid., 9 August 1913: 1: 4–6, 4: 4).

After a failed attempt by motorcar in 1917, the first vehicle, a tractor driven by Joaquin Souza, finally reached the summit of Haleakalā on July 4, 1931. The stunt, which took two hours and thirty minutes to complete, was part of the local U.S. Independence Day festivities, and was reported by the newspaper beneath the headline, “First Vehicle [to] Ever Reach Top” (*Maui News*, 8 July, 1931: 1: 4–5). Although significant in underscoring the need for vehicular accessibility to the park, the stunt also illustrated that the effects of the Depression were also being felt in Hawai`i National Park. Thomas Vint, after a visit in February–March 1930, noted in his report in the following year that, “[t]ravel generally is declining...” (Vint 1931: 1). Economic conditions began to reverse, however, by mid-decade.

Haleakalā Road (now known as Haleakalā Highway) was finally completed on November 29, 1935, and the number of visitors increased substantially, reaching 16,300 within a year. In 1938, the numbers decreased slightly to 14,156 because of a maritime and shipping strike, but continued to rise in the following years until reaching 29,935 in 1940. Wingate commented in 1935 that the increase in visitors was “greatly in excess of expectations...compared with the few hundreds who visited the crater before construction of the Haleakalā [R]oad (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Annual Report 1935: 5).

After the completion of the road, which terminated at the wind-swept rim of the crater at an elevation of nearly 10,000 feet, Superintendent Wingate wrote, “it became apparent that a building of some sort which would permit visitors to have an unrestricted view of the crater and at the same time protect them from the wind and cold was a necessity” (Wingate, Final Construction Report 1936: 1). Other buildings such as public toilets and an entrance checking station and office were also needed.

Thomas Vint stated that, “the object of my trip was to make a beginning of a study of a general development plan of the park [and that] the tourist facilities [were] a dominating note in such a plan...” (Vint 1931: 1). Following his visit, a survey was conducted by NPS Landscape Architect John B. Wosky from December 1931 to February 1932, and NPS Landscape Architect Merel S. Sager prepared initial drawings in 1933 for a simple structure that addressed the park’s needs. Final design drawings were developed by the Branch of Plans and Design in San Francisco, the design program was expanded to include a small museum, and \$7,000 was set aside from Public Works Administration (PWA) funds for the new buildings in August 1935 (Ibid.). Bids were solicited from Maui contractors, the allotment was found to be insufficient, and \$3,003 in additional PWA funding was transferred to the project in January 1936.

The contract was re-advertised and E.J. Walsh was awarded the job for \$8,209 in February of the same year. Walsh first constructed the building at the Kahului Railroad Company’s lumber yard at the Maui port of that name, then disassembled and transported it to the summit. The building was completed and accepted by the NPS in June 1936, along with two public toilets and an office and checking station at the park entrance (Wingate, Final Construction Report 1936: 1–2).

### Environmental Impact of Adjacent Land Uses

By 1930, the slopes of Haleakalā included a forest reserve whose trees had been largely replanted after 1900 when what remained of the native trees began dying in large numbers from a fungus. E.P. Weinecke, Principal Pathologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, noted in 1932 that “[f]or several years a good deal of dying of forest trees ha[s] been reported, together with a general decline of vegetation,” and that this ha[s] included Koa, *Acacia Koa*, and ‘Ōhia Lehua, *Metrosideros Polymorpha*” (Weinecke 1932: 1).

The slopes of Haleakalā had originally been covered with forests but had been logged out for sandalwood for the China Trade (1788–1838), then for koa, ‘ōhia, and other indigenous trees for uses ranging from railroad ties to chord wood. The lands were then utilized to grow sugar cane and vegetable crops, or were left as pastureland and served as the locations of a number of small plantation or ranch settlements. From the summit to the coast, settlements included on its northwest–southwest slopes: Keokea, Kula, Pukalani, Makawao, Pa‘uwela, Ha‘ikū, Olinda, and Pā‘ia. On the northeast–southwest slopes, the communities included: Hana, Ke‘anae, and Kaupō. Adjacent land uses by 1930 included ranching, truck (vegetable) farming, and pineapple cultivation, along with some institutions.

A majority of the ranches on Haleakalā in 1930 had been acquired by members of the Baldwin family, but there were still some independent ranchers who opted to remain near the summit and in their employ. Such was the case of Louis von Tempsky, whose father, Gustav von Tempsky, had gained particular notoriety for his involvement and death in the New Zealand Wars (1845–1872), referred to by the Maori as Nga Pakanga Whenua O Mua. Louis had immigrated, along with his brother Robert, to Hawai`i in 1879. He started working for Ulupalakua Ranch, then purchased it with his brother from J.I. Dowsett in 1884, ran it through 1897, then sold it to the Baldwins, but remained employed as the new company’s manager from 1898 through his death in 1922. Louis was recalled by Lawrence Oliveira in 1983 as running cattle drives for the ranch as late as the 1920s. His daughter, Lorna von Tempsky, was also remembered as taking visitors on horseback through Haleakalā Crater (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 12).

Homesteading on the slopes of Haleakalā as well as other public lands in Hawai`i had been encouraged by the Territorial Government in 1910. This prompted a “rush for homesteads,” applications which were filed and adjudicated by a land court in Honolulu, including one petition by an unidentified applicant who attempted to acquire the entire “floor of Haleakalā Crater” (*Maui News*, 8 August 1910: 1: 1–2). As a result of the Homestead Act, a number of Hawaiian-born Chinese as well as Portuguese families acquired sizeable parcels on the slopes of Haleakalā. The largest tracts were held by ranches, however, among them: Grove Ranch (Kaonoulou Ranch), owned by the Baldwins and later sold to Senator Harold W. Rice; Kaupo Ranch, owned by Dwight Baldwin; Ulupalakua Ranch, owned by J.I. Dowsett and then J.H. Raymond, then was purchased by the Baldwins; and Haleakalā Ranch, owned by Harry A. and Frank F. Baldwin and managed by S.A. Baldwin.

Lawrence Oliveira recalled in 1983 that ranch owners routinely allowed their cattle to graze freely and drove cattle through Haleakalā Crater. Speaking in 1983, he said, “Kaupo Ranch used to haul their cattle through the crater, [and] Haleakalā Ranch[, too], and drive um up to the other side of the island ” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 17). He continued:

[Y]ou start coming down towards Palikū on the side there, you see a stone wall there? That’s a corral. That’s where they used to rest their cattle at night. And then the next morning you go up...Take the cattle up across... At one time Haleakalā Ranch had cattle on top this mountain, Halemau’u. If you look back, they used to raise cattle up there way back (Ibid.: 18).

Oliveira also mentioned that even some horses roamed free in the crater as late as the 1930s. He stated:

When we were up there, still had wild horses back where the ranger station is now on top. Down below where they have the headquarters? Inside there used to have wild horses – small, little Hawaiian ponies like mustangs, yeah? We used to see um. I don’t know if they still around there (Ibid.: 19).

Well after the park had been established, ranching activities appear to have been a source of particular frustration for NPS personnel in addition to visiting scientists. In a 1935 report to

Wingate, botanist Otto Degener detailed his discovery of a watering trough for cattle in the middle of an area where greensword plants had been growing in 1927: “a watering trough was there to make it more convenient for cattle to bro[w]se on the greensword and peculiar geraniums – plants growing practically in no other spot on earth!” (Otto Degener Correspondence to Superintendent Wingate, 18 October 1935: 1).

## **B. HAWAII ECONOMIC CONTEXT**

On Thursday, October 24, 1929, the stock market crashed on Wall Street in New York City. The event received mention two days later when the newspaper ran the headline, “Avalanche of Sales Cuts Stock Prices [at] New York Stock Exchange” (*Maui News*, 26 October 1929: 1: 2). The article stated that “panic ruled in the New York Stock Market,” described the date as “the most frantic day in the history of the New York Stock Market,” and noted that “In Honolulu and throughout Hawai‘i, the grand smash had its effects [and] some investors in the islands were hard hit” (Ibid.). For the majority of the plantation workers on Maui and in Hawai‘i, however, the “crash,” as it later came to be known, was as far away as the 4,968-mile distance from Honolulu to Manhattan.

### Financial Losses Lead to Social Strain: Families, Men Looking for Work

The effects of the financial calamity were finally felt in the Hawaiian Islands within twenty-four months. First, the Olowalu Sugar Company closed on West Maui. Its fields were absorbed by Pioneer Mill Company in nearby Lāhainā, and its factory dismantled in 1931. Next, the Hawaiian Pineapple Company Ltd. on Lāna‘i became insolvent by 1932, the company changed ownership, and an unidentified number of Japanese pineapple workers were let go and sent to Maui. In the same year, layoffs occurred at Maui’s principle mills: Pioneer Mill Company in Lāhainā, Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company at Pu‘unene, Maui Agricultural Company at Pā‘ia, Wailuku Sugar Company in Wailuku, and Kaeleku Sugar Company in Hāna.

For those fortunate enough to keep their jobs, the Great Depression in the islands led to both reduced wages and longer hours. As a result, workers in Hāna in 1932 and Pu‘unene and Pā‘ia in 1933 initiated labor strikes, but local police quickly quashed them (*Maui News*, 19 March 1932: 1: 6–8). Other strikes occurred in the shipping industry from 1932–1937.

In 1932, the newspaper reported beneath a headline, “Unemployed on Maui Reach 861,” that of the total, “200 were Filipinos, 300 [were] Japanese,” and the remainder consisted of various other “nationalities,” or their descendants, including “Koreans and Porto Ricans” [sic] (*Maui News*, 17 October 1932: 1: 1). Clinton S. Childs, in charge of government work in the county seat of Wailuku in that year, was confident that the majority of the unemployed could be absorbed in the construction of the Kula Road while others could be employed on three-day work weeks for other county projects (Ibid.).

From 1932–1933, unemployed and “destitute” Filipino sugar workers who had been laid off from various companies were sent to Honolulu to board freighters bound for Manila. Their fares

were paid by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association even though it was conceded that economic conditions in the Philippines were abysmal. Their departures were announced by the local press with the headlines, “124 Unemployed Filipinos Leave,” and “88 Are Being Shipped Home” (*Maui News*, 26 April 1933: 1: 8; 13 May 1933: 1: 3). Other laid-off workers were sent to work on the islands of O`ahu and Moloka`i. Their transfers were noted beneath the headline, “Maui Jobless List Lowered” (*Ibid.*, 13 July 1932: 2: 1).

Plantation workers and their families, already poor from wage reductions initiated in 1932, were also increasingly hungry. Juvenile crime appears to have increased with the arrests of “gangs” for petty theft and “holdups” made at gunpoint for sums of less than ten dollars in cash. Older offenders were arrested for stealing a variety of items that ranged from live chickens to canned goods and clothing. In 1933, two unemployed Filipino pineapple workers were apprehended following their burglary of K. Kamoda Store in Makawao. They explained in their defense that their thefts of canned goods and sweaters resulted from “hunger and lack of a job” (*Maui News*, 3 February 1933: 1: 5–7).

By far, the most common crime committed by Maui residents during the period was the illegal production of alcohol, and such violations became regular news in the local press. Prohibition had come to the islands in 1920, and the advent of the Depression caused an explosion of clandestine brewing operations and arrests. As a result, a Prohibition Administrator named W.P. King set up an office in Wailuku along with a U.S. Commissioner. They handled the cases from Maui County, including, after 1930, arrests made on Haleakalā for violation of park rules, regulations, and laws. Prosecutions were handled by Sanford Wood, U.S. Attorney in Honolulu, until Prohibition finally ended in 1933.

Headlines such as “BOOZE VENDERS ASSESSED \$2600,” “QUICK VERDICTS [FOR] BOOZE VENDERS,” and “Liquor Raids...Net Big Fines [for] Violators” became routine, and arrests were made of some of the most unlikely of suspects—women with children and persons with disabilities (*Maui News*, 27 February 1932: 1: 1–8; 17 February 1932: 1: 1–8; 2 March 1932: 1: 3). One case involved a Japanese mother of six whose husband had deserted her, and who “Ma[d]e Booze to Buy Babies Bread” (*Ibid.*: 21 September 1929: 1: 1, 5: 1). Another involved a former pineapple worker who had been crippled from a job-related accident and who chose to brew *oke* to make up for lost wages to support his wife and two small children (*Ibid.*: 2 April 1932: 3: 5–6). One year before “Prohi,” as it was referred to in the vernacular, came to an end, there were 120 cases on Maui, 50 percent of whom were Japanese, followed by 22 percent who were Filipino, and the remaining 28 percent divided among Hawaiians, “Porto Ricans” [sic], Koreans, Anglo-Americans, and others (*Ibid.*: 7 January 1933: 1: 2–4).

Foreclosures increased during the period as well. Grant Keoko`okolani Bailey recalled from his childhood that his father lost the family farm in Kula. He stated that:

My father had a farm, and our job was to work on the farm, do weeding job, and then pull out when there [was] too much lettuce, or too much cabbage. We space um out. Take out all the space. Give um the space. That’s the job we used to do during the time of the Depression

because my sisters and brothers, they had to work on the farm. And the youngest was about eight years old or younger than that. And we get contract, all of us kids. And I used to feel sorry for my younger sisters because they couldn't keep up. So I used to be one that helped them. That's the kind of job we used to do. We used to plant a lot of Filipino vegetables: *saluyot* [jute], *paria* [bitter melon], and some other[s]. And we liked doing that. And we used to have two cows. We had to go and cut grass for those cows... There was a lot of job for us... After that, my father had lost our land... My father always go to the bank for money until the money, I think, money ran out. The bank had grab hold the land...[Then w]e moved to Central Avenue [in Wailuku] (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 2-4).

In 1932, the economic conditions on the island of Maui were dire. Maui County established an unemployment office for displaced workers from the pineapple and sugar industries. From 1932 to 1933, an average of thirty to forty applications were received each day. The county attempted to distribute the large number of unemployed workers among a finite list of federally funded road and park projects, and this was ultimately accomplished by instituting three-day work weeks. For unemployed youth, however, no program was put in place until the CCC was initiated on Maui in 1934.

## C. THE CCC PROGRAM, SELECTION PROCESS, AND ENROLLMENT

On the U.S. mainland, following two years of staggering unemployment numbers and the worst economy the U.S. had ever known, the American public elected Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) as President in hopes that he could lead the country out of the Great Depression. FDR's administration introduced and successfully passed several measures as part of his "New Deal" legislation in March of 1933 (Salmond 1967: 31).

### Roosevelt's Tree Army: Creation of the CCC

During FDR's inaugural address to Congress in 1933, he told the lawmakers in his first message on Unemployment Relief:

I propose to create a Civilian Conservation Corps, to be used in simple work, not interfering with normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control and similar projects (*Time*, "Conservation: Poor Young Men", 6 February 1939: n.p.).

The Emergency Conservation Work Act, of which the CCC was a part, was established by an Executive Order in April 1933, with Robert Fechner appointed as the Director (Oxley 1936: 1). From FDR's inauguration on March 4, 1933, to the induction of the first CCC enrollee, only 37 days had elapsed (Stone, *American Experience: Civilian Conservation Corps*, PBS film, 2009). The goals of the CCC according to the law were: "1) To provide employment (plus vocational training), and 2) To conserve and develop 'the natural resources of the United States'" (*Time*, "Conservation: Poor Young Men", 6 February 1939: n.p.).

Within months, thousands of young men aged 18 to 25 from disadvantaged families were enrolled in camps and working on conservation projects. By May of 1933, FDR authorized additional war veterans to enlist regardless of age or marital status (Harby 1938: 37). By the end of the third year, there were 2,158 CCC camps in the nation and 1,600,000 men had participated in the program (Harby 1938: 23).

### Word of Mouth Spreads: First Enrollees Register

Although the Civilian Conservation Corps began on the U.S. mainland in 1933, "it was not until one year later, [on] April 1, 1934, that the first units of this Corps began work here in Hawai'i under the direction of the Territorial Division of Forestry" (Bryan, L.W., *Paradise of the Pacific*, 1 May 1938: 50: 5: 16). The Civilian Conservation Corps was defined by nine Corps regions (See Figure 1). The Territories of Alaska and Hawai'i were part of the Ninth Corps Area.

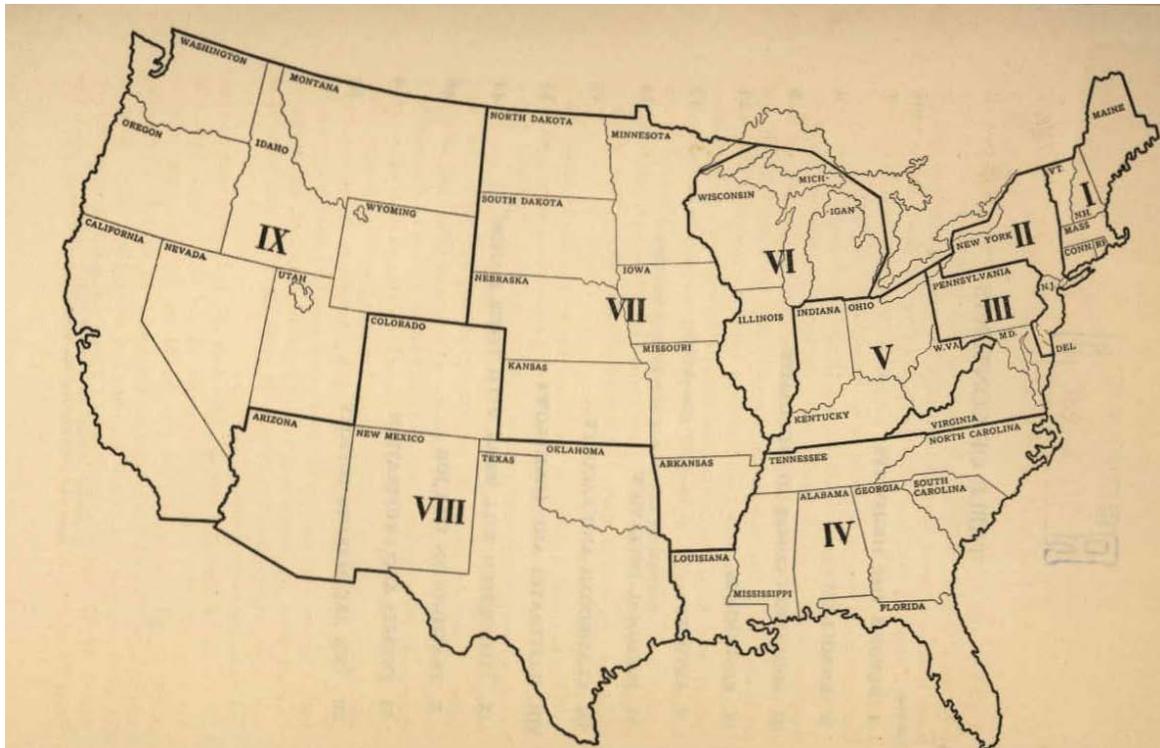


Figure 1. Map of the Nine Corps Areas (The School in the Camps, 1935: n.p.)

It was estimated that eight to 10 percent of Hawai`i's young men were enrolled by the Civilian Conservation Corps during its tenure from 1934 to 1942 (Honolulu Star-Bulletin: Work of CCC in Territory Terminated, 18 September 1942). There were TH-CCC camps on Oahu, Maui, Kaua`i, the island of Hawai`i and Moloka`i (Cornebise 2004: 250) (see Figure 2).

Announcement of the Civilian Conservation Corps was made by the Maui press on January 20, 1934 with the headline, "Conservation Program Will Be Launched Within Week or 10 Days." Subheadlines were "\$421,000 Is Provided" and "...To be Located at Ke`anae's Old Prison Site" (*Maui News*, 20 January 1934: 1: 3). No mention was made of the CCC camp at Haleakalā or the work that was slated to commence in that section of Hawaii National Park, or where those interested in the program could apply.

Twenty-three boys were enrolled for the Haleakala camp section on October 15, 1934 (Wingate, Superintendent's Narrative Report, 18 January, 1935: 5). The location of the Maui office that took CCC applications was the Alexander House in Wailuku. The names of the new enrollees were compiled on a list by the FERA office in Wailuku, Maui and provided to the Superintendent of Hawaii National Park (Ibid.: 5). Alvin Ornellas remembered that the CCC enrollees "all met at Wailuku...I think it was at the Alexander House Settlement at the corner of Main and Market Street" (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 5). The Alexander Settlement served as the address of the Maui CCC recruitment office from 1934 to 1941, when it was changed in February of the latter year to the "TH Employment Service, Wailuku, Maui" (*TH-CCC News*, February 1941: 8).

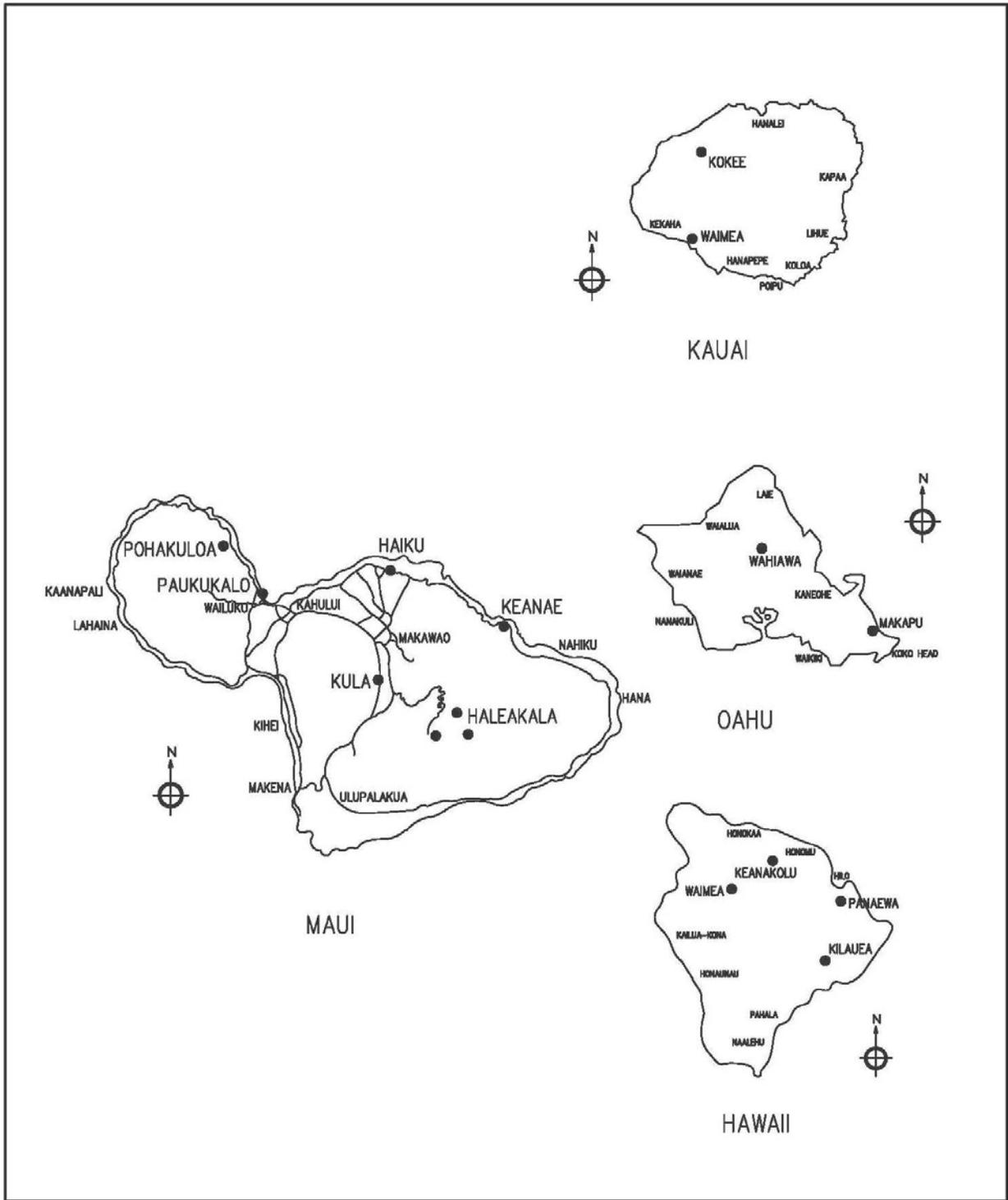


Figure 2. Civilian Conservation Corps camp locations in the Territory of Hawai'i.

Most enrollees appear to have heard about the program by word of mouth, and there is little or no mention of paperwork beyond “signing up.” Ornellas, who entered the CCC in its first year, recalled that he heard about the program from his father, a policeman. He stated:

My dad says, “Eh, Alvin...” (He called me “Alvin” at that time). “I have a job for you.” I said, “Yeah, where?” I wasn’t working. I got laid off from American Can. And he says, “CCC Camp.” Well, I had no idea what that was. He told me I had to go to Wailuku. I don’t know if he brought me to Wailuku. If I caught the train, I’m not sure, but I joined the group of young boys in Wailuku. Signed up for the CCC...[a]nd twenty-three of us piled up on the truck...[a]nd we went up to Haleakalā...(Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 4–5).

Lawrence Oliveira, who was recruited for the CCC from a county work crew in Ke`anae, stated:

So, this fella came and he was recruiting boys to go up the crater, see? And he just happened to stop there, and he look around us. “Any young boys around here that wanna go up CCC Camp?” So, I told um, “Well, I don’t mind, but I got one brother in the Ke`anae Camps. My younger brother work next to me was there.” He says, “No, this is different. This is Federal. So, you can go up.” I told him, “Okay.” I wasn’t sorry, boy. I was ready (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 10–11).

Grant Bailey related, “Well, a lot of my friends was talking about the CCC so I tell um, ‘I better join.’ That’s how I got in because they were going to join up, too, so I join up with them” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 4).

Selection of the enrollees was open to young males of all ethnicities between the ages of 18 and 25. In 1940, the age limits were expanded to include youths as young as 16 years of age.

Ornellas recalled that a few of the enrollees were younger and may have lied about their ages to get into the CCC. He said, “I think a few [lied]. The parents cheated their age because I found out later that they were a couple years younger than I” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 5). There were also a few who were older. Ornellas continued:

[S]ome were perhaps, older than 25...I remember two of the older boys became a truck driver and a truck helper because of their age. And of course, the guy that became a driver was from...Lāhainā. He [had] worked for the Baldwin Packers. He was a truck driver down there – [for] the pineapple company. So they made him a truck driver for the CCC (Ibid.: 6).

Bailey confirmed that there were some enrollees who were younger and older when he remembered that, “Yeah, [they were] mixed age, yeah. But I don’t know what age...” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 6).

Enrollment into the CCC was supposedly reserved for single men from low-income families and for periods of six months at a time. Ornellas recalled that income restrictions were not strictly

enforced in other TH-CCC camps. Speaking of the boys in the Kīlauea CCC camp later on, Ornellas said:

...On the Big Island, many of those boys that I was with were from well to do families, well-known families from mostly the Big Island.... They were not low income. You know, like Supervisor, Chairman of the Board, their children were going to the CCC (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 66).

### Hawai`i CCC Camps Were Racially Integrated

In the CCC camps on the U.S. mainland, African Americans or “Negroes [were] segregated in their own camps...[Native Americans or] Indians usually work[ed] in reservation groups, [and] live[ed] at home” (*Time*, “Conservation: Poor Young Men”, 6 February 1939: n.p.). In contrast, the program in the Territory of Hawai`i was not segregated by “race” or ethnicity. Ornellas recalled his fellow enrollees as being “all mixture.” He continued:

Solomon Kaleialoha was Hawaiian. His helper was Harry Pali of Lāhainā or maybe Honolulu. They worked together. He was Hawaiian. Quincy Kalama was Chinese/Hawaiian from Honokōhau...And of course, there was Japanese [and] Portuguese...I don’t think there was Filipinos back then. I mean, not in that camp. Chinese...a couple [and] Korean, maybe one (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 6).

Oliveira remembered: “[We] had a lot of Hawaiian boys, yeah [...w]e used to get along alright ‘cause we grow up together. We used to go to school mixed up” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 15).

Director Robert Fechner later wrote in 1938, following a visit to the territory that he undertook with Conrad Wirth, NPS Assistant Director, that he was most impressed with the “cosmopolitan character” of the enrollees, citing a camp that “included men of twenty-three nationalities residing [together]” (Fechner 1938: 1–2). The *TH-CCC News* published a chart illustrating that men from many different nationalities had enrolled in the Hawai`i CCC camps, including Hawaiian, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, and other ethnic groups (Figure 2).

Camp	DISTRIBUTION OF MEN BY NATIONALITIES IN CCC CAMPS							Total
	Hewn	Hawh	Port.	Japanese	Chinese	Filipino	Others	
TH-1 Wahieua	27	15	15	11	6	9	10	93
TH-3 Keane	31	34	16	32	0	17	13	143
TH-8 Kokee	7	22	18	15	0	2	7	72
TH-9 Molokei	9	11	0	2	0	2	0	24
TH-10 Pansewa	10	10	5	5	1	5	4	40
HNP-1 Volcano	35	19	37	20	3	7	14	135
TOTAL.....	119	111	91	86	10	42	48	507

Figure 3. Distribution of Men by Nationalities in Territory of Hawai`i CCC Camps (*TH-CCC News*, June 1941: 8).

The ethnically diverse character of the Haleakalā CCC Unit was further substantiated by Ornellas in 2010 when he identified 21 members of the CCC trail crew who posed for a group photograph in 1934 (Photo 3).



Photo 3. CCC Trail Crew, 1934 (Haleakala National Park archives).

They included: Stanley Bega, Steven Boteilho, Charley Brown, Henry Cabral, Daniel Caires, Woodrow Chance, Abel Chung, Joe Gomes, Manuel Gouveia, a youth with the surname of Kiha, Joe Kuhia, Tony Lawrence, John Medeiros, Masa Nikaido, another with the surname of Ogawa, Lawrence Oliveira, Alvin Ornellas, Tom Pico, a youth with the surname of Piho, Sam Rodrigues, and another with the surname of Souza.

#### **D. THE HALEAKALĀ CCC CAMP**

The Haleakalā Camp was initially established under the Department of Agriculture and Forestry as a side camp, and details about work accomplished in the first year of its existence are outlined in Supervisor's Reports for Haleakalā Park. Later, when the CCC Headquarters office was established in Honolulu, monthly reports for Haleakalā Camp were combined with those of the

Kilauea Camp and reported together as Hawaii National Park (HNP-1) CCC Monthly Reports. These reports itemized enrollee numbers, projects completed, and occasional details regarding specific duties or expenses.

Oral history information and archive documents indicate an enrollee count of between 23 to an estimated 50 men worked in the Haleakalā CCC camp (see Figure 4).

List of known Haleakala Camp enrollees  
(1934- May 1941)

Name	Town	Source
Grant Bailey	Wailuku	Ornellas 2010
Stanley Bega [George Vega?]	Wailuku	Park Archives, Bailey 2010, Ornellas 2010
Steven Boteilho	Kula	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Charley Brown		Park Archives
Henry Cabral	Makawao	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
David Caires	Makawao	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Woodrow Chance	Agana, Guam	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Abel Chung		Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
John DeCosta		Ornellas 2010
Dimas Deluz		Park Archives
Joe Gomes	Waihee?	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Manuel Gouveia	Puunene?	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Solomon Hoopii	Kahakuloa	Bailey 2010, Ornellas 2010
William Kahaai		Bailey 2010
Quincy Kalama	Honokohau	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Solomon Kaleialoha	Honolua or Lahaina	Ornellas 2010
Charley Kauamo		Park Archives
[First Name?] Kiha		Park Archives
Joe Kuhia	Kearnae	Park Archives
Joseph Kuhiiki	Honolulu	Park Archives
Tony Lawrence		Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
John Medieros	Puunene	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Moses Medieros	Kula	Park Archives
Samuel Milne		TH-CCC News , June 1941
[First Name?] Morita	Paia	Park Archives
Masa Nikaido	Paia	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
[First Name?] Ogawa		Park Archives
Lawrence Oliveira	Nahiku	Park Archives, Bailey 2010, Ornellas 2010
"Maggie" Lawrence Oliveira		Ornellas 2010
Alvin "Rex" Ornellas	Paia	Park Archives, Bailey 2010
Andrew Paimauna	Kaupo	Bailey 2010, Ornellas 2010
Henry Pali	Honolua or Lahaina	Ornellas 2010
Tom Pico		Park Archives
[First Name? Paulie?] Piho	Wailuku	Park Archives, Bailey 2010, Ornellas 2010
Sam "White" Rodrigues		Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
John Silva		Wingate 1946
[First Name ?] Souza	Makawao	Park Archives
Taro Tonai	Wailuku	Ornellas 2010
Dizzy [Last Name?]	Makawao	Park Archives, Ornellas 2010
Lawrence Wah Hin		Powers 1939

Figure 4. Known Haleakalā CCC Enrollees (oral history interviews, Park Archives)

Ornellas described the boss and foreman in 1934:

The first year on Maui, the foreman was a Haole. I believe he was from Canada. Nice man...His last name was [Kenneth] Williams. And I think he was a retired Army officer from the Canadian Army. I don't know if that's so, but that's what I remember. And I do know that he had a handgun, a weapon, and he was very good at it, because he showed us his skill with the gun. He would draw and shoot without aiming. You see, that's the way they were taught in the Army. And I always loved guns. So I'm very interested in him and his guns. Williams was the boss, and he had a Hawaiian foreman, an elderly man, you know, maybe 50. We thought he was an old man, but he must've been 50 or 60, probably, around. Pure Hawaiian...I remember him well. Good hiker. Simeon – Simeona. The Hawaiian man was Simeona. The head man was Williams and the foreman was Simeona. Then there was a Haole cook. Very rare thing to find a Haole cook back then...I don't know where he came from, but he was the cook and he was a white man (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 7–8).

Bailey, Ornellas, and Oliveira also worked under another boss. Bailey said that, “The guy that was in charge of us, he was a tall – I don't know – Swede...I forget his name. He was our boss of that place, yeah” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 9). Oliveira remembered, “That was our Camp Director – Gunder E. Olson. He was a retired policeman” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 3).

#### First Trip to Haleakalā and Job Assignments

Ornellas described his first trip to Haleakalā as a CCC enrollee. He remembered that:

[Twenty-three] of us piled up on the truck, a brand-new, Ford, V-8, Stake body truck. And we went up to Haleakalā on that truck. The road was not complete. The road ended up at about – the pavement ended...about 7–8,000 feet elevation. And then it was a little dirt road up to about 8,000 feet. And then we had to walk from the end of the road where the truck couldn't go any more. We walked to the...rim of the crater with our suitcases on our backs and goods (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 4–5).

Transportation of supplies and construction materials on Haleakalā was by mule or pack horse, even after the road to the summit had been completed. Ornellas said that:

The man that was in the charge of the horse and mules was John DeCosta, a man from Makawao. I don't know who his helper was. Then there was two truck driver – a truck driver and a helper. I gave you their names. And that was it as far as rank. They had higher rank, higher pay (Ibid.: 12).

Ornellas described his first months in the CCC as being “just an ordinary worker...” but then recounted the skills that he acquired. He said:

And I learned to handle picks, and shovels, and a crowbar. We didn't use dynamite. We did all the work by hand tools, all the breaking stones, making trails through lava formations, and all

that”(Ibid.: 13). “... We hauled supplies. We had to haul equipment down to the crater [where] they were building a camp...” (Ibid.: 13).

As part of the creation of a new camp in the crater, the CCC boys helped construct storage tanks for water from nearby springs. Ornellas described the project:

“Springs we built springs. Well, the springs were there. We kinda made a wall around the springs, and we built water tanks. ...They all staves. Hundreds of um and 5,000-gallon tank. And [we had to put] the cable around them. All of that had to be hauled down to the crater – three different locations. So this is what we did- the first camp” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 13).

## **E. LIFE IN THE HALEAKALĀ CCC CAMP**

Each CCC enrollee was paid \$30 a month and was provided with food, clothing, shelter, and free medical care (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, 18 September 1942). Of that amount, \$25 dollars a month was automatically deducted and sent home to their families. Enrollees who demonstrated additional skill or leadership qualities could be promoted to assistant leaders, leaders, or even foreman with higher pay (Tillett, Everett, *Paradise of the Pacific*, 1 December 1937: 49: 12: 80). Ornellas described the pay scale in more detail:

Base pay was thirty dollars a month for the ordinary worker. And assistant leaders, like the truck driver was assistant leader, and the mule packer was the assistant leader, they gave him that rank, he made thirty-six dollars a month. We kept five dollars of the thirty. Twenty-five went home. If you made thirty-six dollars, you kept eleven dollars. Your parents get the same – twenty-five. And later on, in another camp, there were leaders that made forty-five dollars a month. They kept twenty-three, I think, and the parents still kept the same – twenty-five (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 15).

He also indicated that during the first season there were no pay increases. This changed during the second season when he was promoted. He said, “I became assistant leader in the second camp...[and] I got the thirty-six [dollars]...The money was sent to our families...[And w]e saw the five...That’s it. It was plenty (Ibid.: 15).

### Provisions and Enrollee Quarters

Following selection at the Wailuku Office, the enrollees were given clothing to wear at the summit. Ornellas described the clothes that were distributed:

[At] Haleakalā, we had like fatigue clothes, Army fatigues. I don’t know if it was G.I., but it looked like the real thing, you know floppy, denim hat, but other than that, there was no uniform. Shoes were just work shoes that we were issued...We were issued good working clothes. Pants and shirt...[but] no jacket...Nothing, that first camp. Raincoat, we had. We were issued, rain gear, rain pants and rain top, coat (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 8).

When queried if the clothes that first season were adequate for working at Haleakalā, Ornellas responded: “I don’t think so...It got real cold. I went back to the volcano later on...On the Big Island...Over there we had warm clothes and it’s not as cold as Haleakalā” (Ibid.: 9).

Bailey described the food that was provided at camp. He said:

We had good food. No complaints...We had poi once in a while. We had all kind of food. And we had a Chinese cook. Once in while he used to make Chinese food, but the food was really good, for me. I don’t know about the other guys, whether they complained or not...I don’t want to complain.

[For breakfast,] we had cereal. I don’t remember if we have coffee or tea...Lunch, sometime we have sandwich. Most of the time, we have sandwich. Once in a while, we have poi. I guess at times, we have rice and maybe stew, or other kind good meals. [Stew]...I think mostly for dinner, yeah. Because lunchtime, we have light lunch (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 10, 17).

Enrollees usually ate lunch near the work areas, recalled Ornellas:

Quantity, we had lots of food. It was good. I had no complaints about the food. I don’t think anybody complained. I don’t really remember what we had for food. And I believe we took a sandwich on the trail. We wouldn’t come back for lunch. We stayed out until eight hours. We worked an eight-hour day, approximately...[For breakfast] I know we had lots of eggs. Eggs came in cases (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 10).

Oliveira added, “And once in a while we catch a pig. The cook tell, ‘Eh, you want cook mountain pig?’...He cook um for the boys to eat” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 16).

The Kalahaku Rest House at the rim of the Haleakalā Crater was used initially as a base camp for CCC enrollees. Ornellas recalled that, “On the rim, we had spring beds, double-deckers in the stone house. And the stone house was weatherproofed. You know, you close the shutters and the doors with the little stoves on. We were warm in the building...” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 17).

The park razed the Kalahaku Rest House in 1957 and built the Kalahaku Overlook at the site in 1966.

Spur or spike camps were also established inside Haleakalā Crater at Holua, Kapalaoa (referred to as Camp Wingate by Bailey, Ornellas, and Oliveira; the camp was named after Edward Wingate who was Park Superintendent at the time), and Palikū (Photos 4 and 5). Side camps were more temporary in nature and allowed enrollees to camp closer to work areas away from the main camp (Paige 1985: 70-73).

On the portability of the tents, Ornellas described them: “...the tents were two-man tents, so they were small, very small. And we had wooden bunks in those tents. Just pieces of boards that we put together. And we could disassemble them, and throw um on a mule, and take them to

another spot, another campsite. Very, very portable” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 20). Ornellas added, “The kitchen was a wooden building like maybe 6x6 wooden” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 32).



Photo 4. CCC spike camp in the crater (Haleakala National Park archives).

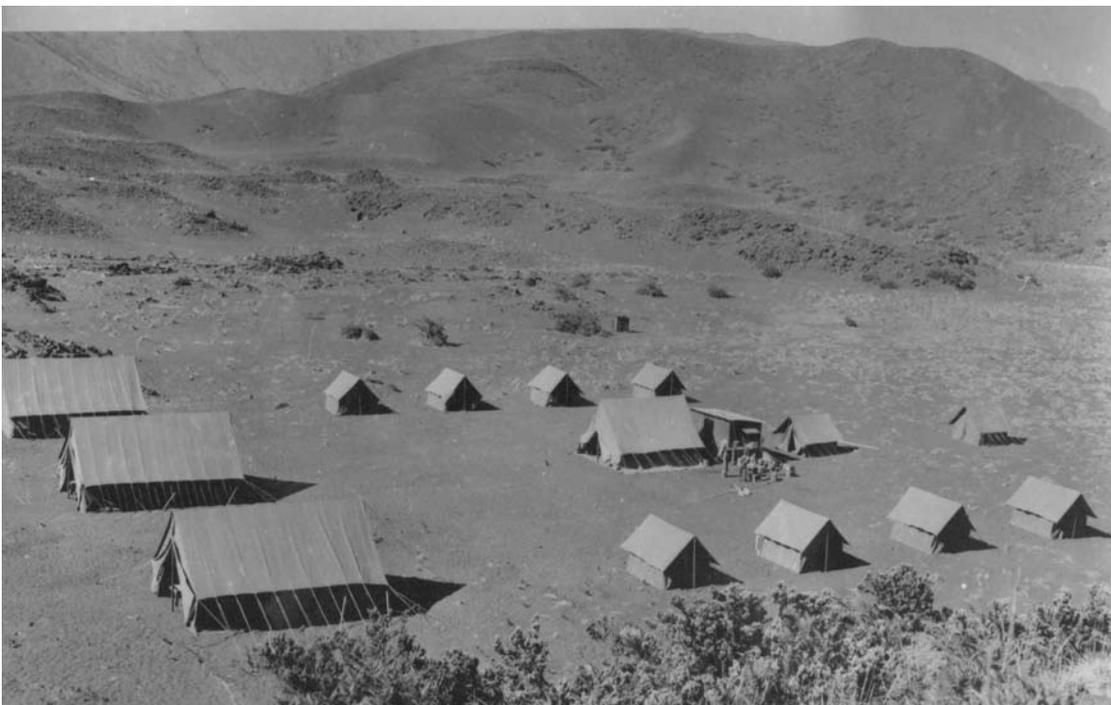


Photo 5. Haleakala CCC spike camp, 1935 (Haleakala National Park archives).

The Superintendent's Report described the facilities provided in the tent camp:

“The men are housed in eleven 9 x 9 canvas tents with a large 12 x 14 tent for a mess hall connecting with a small cook tent. Two 1000 gallon tanks were set up for water storage,...Fly proof toilets [were] provided and [ ] tent floors are of wood with wood bracing...” (Wingate, Superintendent's Narrative Report, 18 January, 1935: 6).

Bailey remembered, “...it was really, I would say for us young guys, it was comfortable living in the tent” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 11).



Photo 6. CCC Camp and water tanks in Crater near Kapalaoa cabin, 1936–7 (Haleakala National Park archives).

“That was heaven...That crater was a nice place...,” touted Oliveira. “Because I lived up there and I enjoyed it. Clean. You know what I mean? You no see ants. You don’t bugs and stuffs like that. You go out camp. You can take a chance just camp out in the open. It ain’t going rain. Certain places dry” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 6).

Construction of a new camp for CCC enrollees was underway at the park headquarters area in 1938 comprised of four small barracks, a mess hall, bathhouse, toilet, and two 5,000-gallon redwood water tanks (Balachowski et al. 2001). The camp was designed as a complex of buildings clustered in a “U”-shape, oriented in a northwest direction.

### Haleakalā's Severe Weather

Clothing was as important as food and water for living and working on Haleakalā. Typically 30 degrees colder than at sea level, temperature fluctuations on the volcano ranged from below freezing to highs between 50° and 65° Fahrenheit (10°–18° Celsius). Weather changes could occur quickly and were often extreme. They could change from balmy to overcast within an hour, and temperatures could be amplified by windy and rainy conditions. In January of 1935 a

violent storm “almost completely demolished the tent camp in the crater” (Wingate, Superintendent’s Narrative Report, 26 April, 1935: 2).

Ornellas also described the weather conditions at the CCC camp in 1934 as being cold. “It got real cold,” he said. “[We]...had heaters. I think it was white gasoline heaters for lighting, and for heating, and for cooking” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 9). Ornellas continued, “Several times it was below freezing...at Kalahaku, the stone house,...we had...two horses and four mules, and we had a – like a barrel, cut in half. We filled with water for drinking water. It would freeze at night. I remember was ice about two inches thick in that barrel” (Ibid.: 28) (Photo 7).



Photo 7. Alvin Ornellas holding a ‘disk’ of ice from the CCC water storage barrel in 1934 (Ornellas photo collection).

A few of the CCC enrollees from lower elevations appear to have not been used to the climatic conditions. Attributed to the high altitude and cold weather, the NPS reported “the health of the boys during the first two months was not satisfactory... Colds were common and it was necessary to operate for tonsillitis on three occasions” (Wingate, Superintendent’s Narrative Report, 18 January, 1935: 7). Enrollee No. 189 Solomon Ho`opi`i fell ill in the first month at Haleakalā and died on October 28 (Ibid.). Ornellas stated:

One died of pneumonia...His name was Solomon Ho`opi`i. We used to work sometimes in bad weather. We were building the trail from our campsite, the stone house, to White Hill, which is two and a half miles. We worked on the trail a lot in all kinds of weather building the [Halemau`u] trail from scratch through all that lava, three feet wide, like a sidewalk.

And then this young Hawaiian kid from Kahakuloa got sick. Went to the Kula Sanitarium. I think he went to the Kula Sanitarium for treatment, and then he died at the hospital there. So we went to his funeral in Kahakuloa...[at] the northern end of...Maui. I remember we went to his funeral on the Stake body truck. All of us exposed to the weather and it poured rain, I think, all the way. When we got to Kahakuloa, we were drenched, but the people there, the parents of that boy, the family, small community, very close. They all came out and they took good care of us. Gave us warm clothes (Ibid.: 9).

Following Ho‘opi‘i’s death, restrictions were put in place for working in bad weather and enrollees were kept indoors during rainy and cold weather. Ornellas stated: “After [Ho‘opi‘i] died, when the weather was bad, we wouldn’t leave the house, the stone house...The boss...I guess he was told by somebody – keep us indoors. So we took it easy for a long time...maybe weeks at a time” (Ibid.: 10).

### Weekends

Ornellas stated, “I never went home. I used to go hunting on my weekends and days off. Go pig hunting, goat hunting. We hardly ever went home. Some boys went home maybe monthly” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 21). He continued, “Most of the young men were not interested in chasing goats like I was, so they would wanna go home. Whenever they had the chance to go home, they’d home. Take their laundry with them, their dirty laundry” (Ibid.: 41). Ornellas also recalled that, “...the boys from Lāhainā had girlfriends so they would come and visit weekends” (Ibid.: 42).

CCC boys were often given rides to town. Bailey said on weekends, “We ride the truck. Weekend, when we go home, we ride the truck. And we go back to camp in the night, I think we reach camp about 7 o’clock, or 8 o’clock [Sunday night]” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 10). He added, “I forget how many time you allowed to go home – one or two times a month...Every time we get the chance to go home, I wanna go home” (Ibid.: 15).

Oliveira remembered that, “Well, we had a big truck. See, we had our own big truck to haul the boys back and forth weekends, like that. That same truck hauled the food and stuff...” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 16).

### Boys Will Be Boys (Getting Into Trouble)

Ornellas recalled one Christmas:

Christmas time, half could go home for Christmas – not half, but most of us. Somebody had to stay back in the [rest] house to keep an eye on the things. The boss was gone.

He told us a few of us had to stay back. I forget how many. Maybe five or six...So I stayed back...Me and a few other guys, we stole the truck, which the truck was parked nearby along on of those switchbacks....An we got on the truck and we went all the way to Kahakuloa – not, we went to Honolua to the truck driver’s house.

Yeah, in the middle of the night! And we were drinking. We found booze along the way. We all got back all drunk early in the morning, about three o’clock in the morning...The boss, Williams, had a keg of whiskey in his little closet...which was locked, but we pried that door opened, and we had a hose. We know how to do it. Put a hose in that little bar there, and we was sucking his whiskey – ‘ōkolehau! It wasn’t whiskey. It was homemade stuff...Williams came home around 8 o’clock, I think, and we were all passed out on the different beds. He was mad. He hit a few of the young boys.

...Nobody got fired or anything. No problem. He just forgot it all. He fixed us good, you know. I guess we had punishment, but that was it. He was a good man (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 23–24).

The following incident occurred in 1937 and was detailed in a report for the Haleakalā section of Hawai'i National Park in 1946:

Enrollee John F. Silva was arrested in January 1937 for breaking into a government building and theft of government property. He was turned over to a U.S. Marshal sent over by the U.S. District Court and taken to Honolulu on January 12, where he was convicted and sentenced to three years in O'ahu prison (Wingate, Edward G. "Memorandum for the Director," January 9, 1946: 1).

### Recreation and Free Time at Camp

Hunting served as a source of recreation for a number of CCC enrollees. Oliveira recalled that:

We never bother the cinder cones, but we used to hunt all outside...pigs and goats. The pigs used to come on top the Hāna Mountain. And then in the crater, we – What you call? Olson, the one that you talking about, he said, "No, no, dogs." I never know this till I came home for a weekend and I took a little dog back. I said, "Well, we gotta do some hunting." We had nothing to do up there, see? So he never like the idea. Then we got to talking. I said, "The boys got nothing to do. With the dog, at least they can have fun." So he went out and get permit somehow where we could keep two dogs in there, in the boundary...The goats, they don't care. Let them go chase the goats and pigs...(Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 4).

I remember one time we went down Ke'anae Gap. Way down they had three caves there. And we used to go camp down those caves. And I had dogs start chasing goats up on that high – you know by Pele's Pigpen up that high cliff there? We caught a billy and we roped that old billy to the...corner. We tied it up. With big horns. And tomorrow we take um back. And then they went after the [o]ther ones. So we wait for them. They never came back. So, was too late to go down to the caves, and we slept on the big rock. Just crawl underneath the rock and sleep until the dogs come back. And then we go down hunt pigs. The pigs was down low at that time. Good fun (Ibid.: 6).

This fun was later curtailed, as guns and ammunition were eventually banned in all CCC camps (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 19 January 1942). Ornellas stated, "We were not allowed weapons when I went to the second camp. Under Olson, no weapons. The first camp was alright" (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 53).

In addition to hunting, many enrollees participated in recreational sports. The Territory of Hawai'i CCC Camps offered intracamp tournaments as well as interisland tournaments in various sports (*TH-CCC News* June 1941: 8). The Haleakala Boys, as they were known, were pictured here after placing in the top five teams of the CCC basketball interisland tournament in December of 1940 (Ibid.)(Photo 8).



Photo 8. Haleakala CCC Basketball team, 1940 (*TH-CCC News*, June 1941).

Both Bailey and Ornellas participated in recreational boxing. Bailey described one event where he and Ornellas got involved in a boxing match with another CCC enrollee:

Yeah, [Rex Ornellas] he's my good friend. Yeah, he is a guy I really liked. He helped me out one time. Yeah, this big guy, he want somebody to spar with him. So I put on the glove. That guy gave me the worst licking I ever had...Rex seen that. He put on the glove. The guy had licking from Rex. And he's a big guy! And Rex and I, we about the same height, or I might be a little taller than Rex, but Rex tore him up (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 5).

## F. TRAINING AND SKILLS

### Educational and Safety Programs

Safety programs relating to the operation of equipment and construction hazards were incorporated into Corps camp training. First-aid instruction courses were also given (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin: Work of Civilian Conservation Corps in Territory Terminated*, 18 September 1942: n.p.). Basic instruction in reading and writing was provided in TH-CCC camps for "those enrollees whose literacy was insufficient for comprehension of written instructions or making of simple calculations" (Ibid.).

Beginning in February 1941, formal carpentry and mechanic classes were being taught to CCC enrollees at Hilo and Maui high schools in cooperation with the Department of Public Instruction (Pesonen, Volume 8: Report for the Governor On Activities of the CCC, 7 July, 1941: 3). Other training continuing in the camps was ongoing for truck drivers and cooks, in addition to citizenship courses taught to all enrollees (Ibid.: 2). It is likely that these courses either were not

offered in the Haleakalā Camp or were initiated after the three men interviewed had completed their enrollment periods. Ornellas stated that he was not given instruction in any academic subjects, “Not in the first camp” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 14). Bailey also stated, “...I don’t remember we had training up there” (Bailey 2010 Transcript: 10).

### Vocational Training and Certificates

First and foremost in any CCC camp is the responsibility to get the work done. “Learning to do by doing is the foundation of the CCC program” (Oxley 1936: 1). Many young men had opportunities not only to learn through various educational courses, but to master a trade for future vocation through on-the-job training. “In all field work there is first of all the man-to-man instruction involving the use of tools and machines” (Hill 1935: 7). Ornellas remembered they did the trail work by hand:

“I was just an ordinary worker, ordinary seaman on land. And I learned to handle picks, and shovels, and a crowbar. We didn’t use dynamite. We did all the work by hand tools, all the breaking stones, making trails through lava formations, and all that” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 12–13).

Later on in that same camp, Ornellas worked on horseback:

“See, when I became a mule packer helper in the crater under the Hawaiian guy from Kaupō [Andrew Paimauna], he was a good cowboy. I was his assistant” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 50). “He taught me all about tying ropes,...about mule packing and how to shoe horses. So we had to shoe horses, two horses and eight mules, and I got to be good at it” (Ibid.) (Photo 9).



Photo 9. Alvin Ornellas shoeing ‘Lio’ at camp Palikū 1936 (Ornellas photo collection).

As the CCC program became more structured and vocational training became an important part in preparing these young men for work after their time in the CCC, enrollees were offered opportunities to take examinations to certify their experience and skills mastery. Field Supervisor Pesonen instructed all Camp Directors to offer driver training courses and administer official truck driver tests for eligible enrollees (Pesonen, Volume 9: Memo, 16 January 1941).

“They must be instructed in the principles of timber improvement, which include a knowledge of how much to cut in a given area, what shrubs to leave...and often how to terrace the land. They must be instructed in cutting stone, mixing concrete, and doing simple masonry on bridges and shelters” (Hill 1935: 47). The American Association for Adult Education mentioned, “The Ninth Corps area [had] reprinted a number of forestry instructions for the use of camp teachers” (Ibid.: 38). Vocational training materials also included visual education in the form of films circulated by The Forestry Service. In 1935, Mr. Hill’s book reported “all camps in the National Parks [were] supplied with projectors for this purpose” (Ibid.: 33–34). It is unknown whether or not these forestry instruction booklets or films were provided to the CCC boys at Haleakalā who were serving in the Ninth Corps area in the Territory.

Many of the CCC camps across the country published their own camp newspaper. On the whole, “Most of the [journalism] work was done by the enrollees themselves during... weeknights and on the weekends” (Salmond 1967: 143). The *TH-CCC News* in Hawai`i published its first issue on September 1, 1940 and had correspondents from each of the CCC camps in the Territory (Corneise 2004: 28). Editors of the *TH-CCC News* encouraged articles, poetry, artwork, recipes and photographs be submitted from any enrollee in any camp.

“Under the Superintendents in National Parks and National Forests the practice of instructing on the job has always been applied in theory...” (Hill 1935: 48). By 1936, the summary report on the CCC camp education programs written by Oxley emphasized the importance of vocational training in forestry, stating that “The work in the forests, parks and fields, under the supervision of the technical services, provides training for the men in many practical skills, such as truck driving, operating of tractor and bulldozer, carpentering, stone masonry, and so forth” (Oxley 1936: 2). At least two CCC camps in Hawai`i, TH-1 Wahiawa and TH-8 Kokee, offered wood working classes with designated non-enrollee instructors (Pesonen, Volume 2: 5 December, 1941).

Ornellas learned more than one vocational skill during his multiple enrollment periods in the CCC. He recalls learning about electrical wiring while at the HNP-1 Kīlauea CCC Camp from Levi Maka:

He was a retired Hilo electric light employee, so he was an electrician. He taught me about house wiring (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 91). Just a few of us would do electrical work: me...and Freddy Robello, and the boss, Levi Maka, who was an older man, just the three of us did the house wiring...house to house to house.

I learned to climb a pole, you know, a telephone pole...And when you a beginner, you trembling up there...the boss tell me, 'Don't poke. Just walk. Walk right up the pole.' And if you have the right angle...You just walk right up the pole (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 88).

Ornellas felt the skills he learned in the CCC helped him further on in life. “Yeah, we all learned a trade. Most everyone learned a trade. Wonderful” (Ibid.: 56).

## **G. WORK IN THE HALEAKALĀ CCC CAMP**

Major park improvements that were produced contemporaneously with the CCC program on Haleakalā (1934–1941) included the construction of the approximately 11-mile Haleakalā Road, Haleakalā Observation Station, two Comfort Stations (public toilets), and the Checking Station and Office at the park entrance. These were in addition to the other projects that the Haleakalā CCC Unit undertook.

### Trail Construction and Reinforcement

Several trail projects are mentioned in NPS reports as having been undertaken by the Haleakalā CCC Unit (NPS 2008 and 2009).



Photo 10. Halemāu Trail switchbacks, 1937 (Haleakala National Park archives).

The Halemāu Trail was one of the first major construction projects of the CCC at Haleakalā. It was originally constructed in 1930 by “native laborers” and led into the crater where it joined at least six other trails. The trail was described by Park Superintendent Leavitt in the following year as “4500 feet long and 30 inches wide,” with “a maximum grade of 15 percent on straightaways [sic] and not more than ten percent on switchbacks” (Leavitt 1931: 1). The trail

was “scarified to grade for the whole distance,” had “banks sloped 24 inches, rock walls 10 to 14 feet long and 6 to 10 feet high” on switchbacks, with culverts and water breaks (Ibid.). Sections of this trail were continually repaired by the Haleakalā CCC Unit from 1934–1940 after they had been damaged by severe erosion and recurrent storms (Photo 10).

Oliveira recalled his work on the Halemau‘u Trail:

Well, that’s where I first went to work when this CCC Camp opened. And it was about halfway down from when the contractors started the thing and we finished it up. The CCC boys finished it up, the bottom part up to about, well, maybe three quarters of the way. We made it where a horse could go. It was just a surveyor line. They...shot the grade and every darn thing, and then we did it. Built little walls... (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 1).

He also noted that: “We had about 30, I think, boys altogether...[W]hen we first went in, was to complete the trail. That’s why we worked on that trail. I think took us about six months or more to complete it. Then they made up their mind to put up the cabins” (Ibid.: 11). He also said that, “We worked on the Kaupō Trail, all that trail going down to the National Park boundary” (Ibid.: 2).

Oliveira commented about the location of Halemau‘u Trail:

I think that’s the best spot we could’ve found ‘cause they had one above before, but it used to wash slide all the time, ah? That’s where we used to go when I first to used to go up there hunt way back young days. Then they made this one down here. That’s better. That’s all solid ground, see? Although take so long to get up there because all those switchbacks, but then the grade is good. It’s easy-going, see? We used to cut short. Every time when we get through working, we used to – instead follow the trail (Ibid.: 11).

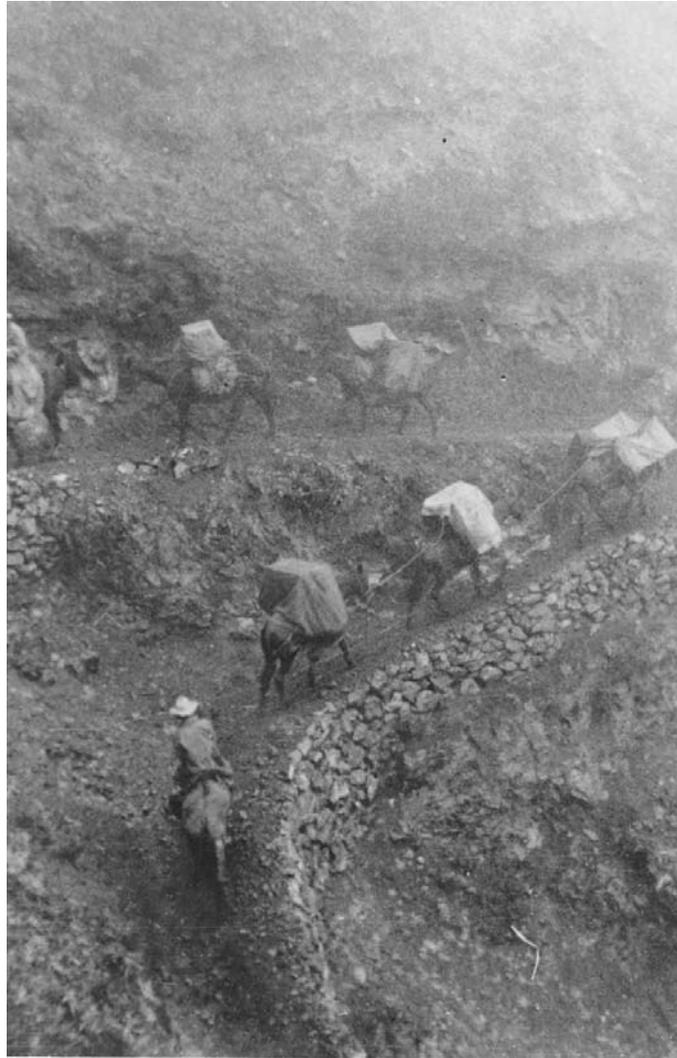


Photo 11. Halemau`u Trail with CCC, 1937 (Haleakala National Park archives).

Ornellas talked about the Halemau`u Trail being a more difficult trail project than the others because it was “Long, and dangerous, high, over 2,000 feet drop...It’s so easy to fall off the trail (Photo 11). Nobody did. Mules did, but people no” (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 34–35).

The CCC also constructed a trail to the Kalahaku Rest House, as well as a trail to the top of White Hill in the following year.

Ornellas remembered:

There was a primitive trail from Kalahaku where the stone house is – was – to White Hill where the parking lot is now. Very primitive trail that hunters used. We improved on that trail a lot. That was our first project...[U]p to where the parking lot is. And then we built the trail from scratch to the top of White Hill. There was no trail to the top of White Hill. The Park Service says we have to build a trail up. We kind of went around that hill and up to the top (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 15).

Regarding the CCC working on the Sliding Sands Trail, Ornellas commented that, “I did not work on the Sliding Sands Trail. When I was out of camp, they did work on that trail from Camp Wingate, which was closest to that trail. Rebuilt that trail from floor to the top completely, rebuilt. Abandoned the old trail which went almost straight up, and this new trail...The new trail, the Sliding Sands Trail, is very long and winding, but a better grade” (Ibid.: 32–33).

### Buildings and Infrastructure Systems (Including Roads)

In addition to trail work, the Civilian Conservation Corps also constructed water tanks, public shelters, enrollee barracks, and Park employee quarters, latrines, water supply lines, fences, and roadwork.

As part of the first CCC camp enrollees to arrive in Haleakalā in 1934, Ornellas recalled using mules and horses in addition to manual labor to carry the bundles of redwood from the Crater Rim area to the bottom of the crater for construction of water tanks. He said:

We assembled [those] water tanks. You know what water tanks look like? They all staves. Hundreds of um and 5,000-gallon tank...And the cable around them. All of that had to be hauled down to the crater – three different locations. So this is what we did – the first camp. Like I said, after a few months, I went to work with the animals – horses and mules. The rest of the boys, they worked on the trails. They hauled supplies on their backs. The mules hauled a lot, but the men also hauled a lot that they could handle on their backs (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 13).

The tanks were constructed of redwood planks assembled vertically around a wooden subfloor, and bound tightly on the exterior with 2 or 3 steel straps around the circumference. The National Park Service records indicate these water tanks are supported by a wood substructure and posts that rest on trapezoidal concrete piers (Haleakala National Park archives).

Oliveira remembered that between stints of trail construction, the CCC erected a small building at Halemau‘u, hauled building materials, and helped to build two cabins at Palikū. He said:

We camped Halemaumau [Halemau‘u] first. Put up that shack. Then we camped over Kapalaoa – what they called it. We used to haul the materials for the carpenters. They had carpenters, though. And then [we] finished that one. We moved down Palikū. We had our camp down there. All tents, though. And then [we] built those two cabins down there (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 2) (Photos 12 and 13).



Photo 12. Historic photo of Holua cabin built by the CCC (Haleakala National Park archives).



Photo 13. Interior of cabin at Palikū built by the CCC, 1964 (Haleakala National Park archives).

He continued:

[We] haul[ed] the gravel for the concrete foundation[s] and all that stuff, that we did, but the wood work was – they had regular carpenters, besides, they had the contractors up there doing it. All we did was haul the lumber in for them” (Ibid.: 5).

[The carpenters]...they were hired from outside. They were contractors that went up and do the work. They used to sleep – camp up there with us and they do the carpentry work. We were just like unskilled labor, see? Blue collar workers is what they called it. They were already journeymen carpenters. That’s their trade. We supplied them with all the materials. We used to carry on our back. We used to load what we can on the mule. Take um down. Long lumber. They used to tie um on the pack saddles from the mule. Poor mules – going with the long thing on their back. They go, though, yeah (Ibid.: 5).

Oliveira also built the footbridge at Palikū between the visitor and ranger cabins: “That’s all rocks set underneath, and then the māmane logs across, and then the rocks and dirt on top (Photo 14). I built that little bridge” (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 13).



Photo 14. Contemporary Photo of Palikū Footbridge built in 1937 (Haleakala National Park archives).

In March 1938, Park Superintendent Wingate responded to an inquiry by the Director of the CCC to provide a summary of the CCC work in the Haleakalā Section of Hawai`i National Park since its commencement in January 1934. It included the following:

Trail System, Haleakalā section. Fifteen miles of new construction, reconstruction and improvement; Public Shelters, Haleakalā section. Four shelters providing eating and sleeping accommodations for 12 persons each; Campground Development, Haleakalā section. Development of permanent water supply at three campgrounds inside Haleakalā crater; and, Information signs, Haleakalā section. Construction and erection of 20 signs to guide visitors in the Haleakalā crater (Wingate, Correspondence to Director, 15 March 1938: 2–3).

Other work details involving the CCC boys of Haleakalā included roadwork and repairing nearby highways. Park Service reporting seems to indicate that, on occasion, only a few of them were assigned to roadwork, while the majority of the men at the camp were assigned to other CCC projects. The Park's June 1938 Superintendent Monthly Report summarized, "three laborers were hired during the month for repair work on the Haleakalā Highway" (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Monthly Report, June 1938: n.p.). In the following month, another laborer had been hired and it was noted that "repair work on Haleakalā Highway was continued with four park laborers" (Ibid., July 1938: n.p.). In addition, "work on the construction of the Haleakalā CCC side-camp progressed satisfactorily" (Ibid.).

In other monthly reports, it is not entirely clear whether the CCC boys or the National Park personnel were assigned to road repair tasks. Park Superintendent Wingate indicated in 1939 that the projects then under construction included "one garage" and the "paving [of] ditches alongside road (rip-rap)" (Wingate, E.G., "Projects Under Construction" 1939: n.p.).

In 1941, the *TH-CCC News* reported that one of the last building projects completed by the Haleakalā CCC camp was the erection of a seismograph cellar "that looked for all the world like a bomb shelter" (*TH-CCC News*: June 1941: 6).

During 1934–1942, there was a steady increase in visitors to Hawai'i National Park. The National Park Service credited a portion of this to the improvements made by CCC work projects to provide water and recreational facilities for tourists and scientists alike (Wingate, Correspondence to Director, 15 March 1938: 2–3).

### Silversword Tenting Conservation Project

The Silversword plant or *Argyroxiphium macrocephalum*, known as Āhinahina to Hawaiians, grows almost exclusively in Haleakalā Crater and was threatened in 1930. This had occurred despite claims made in 1913 by Louis von Tempsky, then manager of Haleakalā Ranch, that "although the plants had been cleared out on one side of the crater, there were plenty more than ever before in places that [were] known only to the dwellers on the mountain side" (*Maui News*, 9 August 1913: 1: 1–2). The charge that "the plants had been exterminated by those who grab everything in sight when on a crater trip" was substantiated by a photograph of a visitor with an armful of half a dozen plants.

Efforts by the NPS, after the park's establishment in 1916, in reversing the trend were critical to the plants' survival. The plants bloom from June to late September and the seeds ripen between September and October. Experimental work conducted by the National Park Service to protect

and propagate the plant occurred in 1931 but the lack of funds in 1932 and 1933 precluded further work until the CCC program was inaugurated.



Photo 15. CCC with silversword; at right (Haleakala National Park archives); CCC securing silversword tents; at left. Floppy hats were standard uniform (Haleakala National Park archives).

Park Ranger and Assistant Park Naturalist Samuel Lamb headed up the project in 1935. He noted that no more than 100 plants were recorded growing in the crater in 1927 (Final Progress Report, 1935 Silversword Project: 5). Consequently, experiments were conducted to find the best means to protect the plants from insect infestation and predation from cattle and feral goats, collect healthy seeds, and propagate plants for reintroduction into the crater (Photo 15). Insect infestations were noted as having been “bad since 1854” (Ibid.).

#### Reforestation Project, Tree and Plant Propagation

Reforestation efforts on the slopes of Haleakalā began in 1900, coincident with the loss of indigenous forests, and were undertaken by member companies of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association. However, it was not until the CCC arrived in 1934 that a large-scale tree-planting program was actually inaugurated. Most of the work was undertaken by enrollees from the Ke’anae CCC Camp (TH-3) in the Makawao-Kula and the Ko’olau Forest Reserves. In the territory, “[a]bout 12,000,000 trees were planted on more than 25,000 acres” (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, 18 September 1942: n.p.).

Most of the related work conducted by the CCC in the Haleakalā Section appears to have been indigenous plant protection and seed collection such as with silversword and greensword plants, plant identification, koa seedling planting, and some landscaping. It was noted in 1935 that the

“CCC crew continued landscape work around [the] headquarters area with most satisfactory results” (Ibid.).

In 1937, an unidentified CCC enrollee, described as a “student technician” who was attached to the “side camp located in Haleakalā Crater,” began a plant collection of the species found in the Haleakalā Section for a herbarium under the direction of Ranger Fowler (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Monthly Report, September 1937: 3). Fowler had produced a fern collection and manuscript one month earlier, before his term at the Haleakalā Section ended (Ibid., August 1937: n.p.). Unfortunately, the performance of the enrollee was substandard and the report noted that “the student technician attached to the Haleakalā CCC Camp failed to produce satisfactory results and his services were terminated on August 10, 1937” (Ibid.). Nonetheless, three months later, the enrollee’s “collection of about [seventy] of the plants...[were] sorted, fumigated, and placed in the herbarium” (Ibid., November 1937: 3).

Two years later, at the suggestion of Ranger-in-Charge Howard A. Powers, sixty Koa seedlings or *Acacia Koa* were collected at an elevation of 6,700 feet and shipped from the Kīlauea section to the Haleakalā section for replanting by CCC enrollees (Ibid., February 1939: n.p.). Powers also established an “observational plot” in the vicinity of the “old Rest House” where Silversword seedlings were planted to study their lifecycle (Ibid., July 1947: n.p.).

### Animal Control

A report produced by an unidentified NPS official in 1934 indicated that “[i]n the Haleakalā section it is difficult to determine the number of goats...[and] also difficult to estimate the amount of damage done by goats” (Anonymous, “Haleakalā Section,” 1934: 3–4). The official conceded that this was because “the goats retreat to the precipitous walls of the crater where they are very difficult to locate” and enumerate, and that the goats were believed by some observers to “damage silversword plants for which the crater [was] famous” (Ibid.). In addition, the animals appeared to be reproducing in what was described as an “uncontrolled goat breeding ground in the center of a grazing domain” inside the park and also feeding on adjacent government and ranch lands (Ibid.).

On Maui, Park rangers and possibly a few members of the Haleakalā CCC Camp were involved from time to time from 1934–1940 in “goat control,” which entailed the construction of fencing and removal by shooting or live capture (Anonymous, “Haleakalā Section,” 1934: 3–4). Efforts continued through 1940, after which it was noted that “[c]onditions within Haleakalā Crater are improving due to the removal of wild goats” and “three hundred and seventeen were destroyed during 1940” (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Annual Report 1940: n.p.).

*Paradise of the Pacific* dedicated an entire article to the eradication of wild pigs within Hawaiʻi National Park in 1937, emphasizing that “...animals [did] considerable damage to the forest growth and pasture lands and should be kept under control” (Bryan, L.W., *Paradise of the Pacific*, December 1937: 31-2). The CCC boys assisted the Division of Forestry to reduce the number of wild pigs (Ibid.). Often, the CCC boys captured them, kept them in pens until their next approved leave, and then took them home to their families (Ibid.).

Removal of wild animals threatening the natural forests was performed by the CCC on five islands: “Kaua i, Maui, Moloka‘i, and Hawai‘i (Tillett, Everett, *Paradise of the Pacific*, 1 December 1937: 49: 12: 79).

### Emergency Fire Suppression (Fire Fighting)

In advance of and during the CCC Program, several fires occurred inside the park or on adjacent lands. One fire in particular, which occurred from August to October 1933, involved assistance from Dwight Baldwin, owner of the neighboring Kaupo Ranch, precursor to the later Haleakalā Ranch. Baldwin “hired [18] labor[ers] (at \$1.00–\$2.00 per day), supplied food (rice, corned beef, sugar, canned milk, coffee, canned salmon, and crackers), as well as equipment (cane knives) to fire fighters,” and filed a claim in the amount of \$249.35 with the Department of the Interior (Burdick, B.F., Correspondence with U.S. Department of the Interior, 14 August 1934; Baldwin, Dwight H., Correspondence with Edward G. Wingate, 20 November 1934). He included a receipt from Kaupo Store that was signed by the proprietor, Ny Soon. Authorization for Baldwin’s reimbursement was eventually received from Washington, D.C. on February 18, 1935 (Tolson, Hillory A., Correspondence with E.G. Wingate, 18 February 1935). Wingate noted earlier in October 1934 that “no authority was given Mr. Baldwin to fight this particular fire, but he did so on his own initiative and his action...undoubtedly prevented a much larger section of park lands from being burned...” (Wingate, E.G., Correspondence with the Director, National Park Service, 18 October 1934).

Another fire in January 1940 was fought by 23 members of the Haleakalā CCC Unit, including one CCC project assistant and one CCC foreman, and was a “fire on the ranch land outside the Haleakalā section,” which threatened to spread into the park from Ulupalakua Ranch (Wingate, E.G., “Memo to Ranger In Charge, Haleakalā,” 31 January 1940: n.p.). Wingate later sent a memorandum to Park Ranger Harold Powers indicating that it was “necessary to justify appropriation [of] funds for fire protection, maintenance of the CCC enrollees at Haleakalā, etc., [that] Mandays [sic] and so on consumed by the CCC in this work [be]...charged to emergency fire suppression[, and that] the use of [the] CCC in such emergencies [was] not only authorized but expected” (Ibid.). The fire had been started by a group of Ulupalakua ranch cowboys to clear brush and had gotten out of control because of strong winds (Powers, Harold A., “Individual Fire Report,” 28 January 1940: 2). The fire was ultimately extinguished by rain.

In that year, the fire-fighting capabilities of the Haleakalā Section were increased with the construction of two fire caches at Halemāu and Palikū, and described as including one CCC foreman, a CCC fire suppression squad of 20 enrollees, one park laborer, one junior park warden, and one park ranger, under the direction of the Ranger in Charge as Fire Chief (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Annual Report 1940: n.p.). In addition, it was mentioned that:

All men have been given training in fire suppression work. All CCC facilitating personnel and enrollees have been given instruction in safety practice[, a]ll fire caches have been inspected at regular intervals and equipment reconditioned when necessary[, and] sufficient tools and transportation [was] on hand in order to properly outfit these men (Ibid.).

In March 1941, a small brushfire was reported by a police officer from Pā‘ia “above the ranger station” to Park Ranger Frank Hjort. Hjort “asked [the] policeman to get [the] CCC boys out of the Kula picture show and send them up the hill” while he went ahead to the fire (Hjort, Frank A., “Individual Fire Report,” March 14, 1941: 2). Hjort discovered that the fire had spread from one built by CCC enrollee Dimas Deluz to warm himself while he was waiting for a ride from a passing car (Ibid.). Deluz was later charged with “Carelessness With Fire,” his weekend privileges were “suspended for three months and [he] was confined to Camp” (CCC Hawai‘i National Park, Record of Hearing, 15 March 1941: 1). It was also mentioned that “The value of the CCC...as a suppression crew was demonstrated during the Pu‘u Pahu fire” (Anonymous “Memorandum for the Superintendent, 6 January 1941: 1).

## **H. CCC CAMPS BECOME MORE STRUCTURED**

### CCC Agency Reorganized Under the Department of the Interior

Congressional appropriations secured funding for the CCC with the Emergency Relief Appropriations Act through 1937, and the Civilian Conservation Corps was legally recognized as an independent agency that same year. Its autonomy was short-lived. The CCC, fighting decreased enrollment, was reorganized and consolidated by the Federal Security Agency during the 1939 legislative session (Salmond 1967: 31).

In 1940, the Territory of Hawai‘i CCC camps were administered by one office on the island of O‘ahu. Field Supervisor Everett A. Pesonen was selected to run the Territory of Hawai‘i CCC Headquarters, with all Camp Directors reporting directly to him. With oversight of the CCC camps centralized in the new Territory of Hawai‘i CCC Headquarters, the rules and regulations in the camps were uniformly enforced. New procedures for enrollment applications, personnel records, and education and training programs were put into place (Pesonen, Volume 9: n.p.). Other regulations addressed work and camp life.

### New Rules, More Restrictions

Ornellas had fond memories of two of the CCC camp dogs that resided with the enrollees in 1934 and 1935. He even had photographs of the first dog and said that everyone enjoyed having her around. As time passed, the relaxed camp life at Haleakalā began to change shape. Even prior to the reorganization of the CCC agency, the Haleakalā Superintendent’s Report noted “Acting District Ranger Doust found it necessary to issue an order for the removal of all dogs and firearms from the CCC camp” at Haleakalā (Hawaii National Park Superintendent Monthly Report, April 1937: n.p.).

As the U.S. prepared for what appeared to be inevitable involvement in the growing war abroad, new regulations affected many camps and brought about military-style preparations for the nation’s “Tree Army.” Beginning in 1940, mandatory calisthenics programs began in all TH-CCC camps as ordered by the Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 31 July, 1940). Earlier that year, Camp Directors were told to cease granting weekend

leave to enrollees on Fridays after work. Instead, Saturday routines were to include educational and safety training, grounds and camp area cleaning, followed by inspection before lunch.

This directive was such a departure from life in the Hawai'i CCC camps that Field Supervisor Pesonen's memorandum even gave suggestions for Camp Directors on how to slowly "phase-in" the Saturday work hours and training to avoid causing dissention in the ranks (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 9 April, 1940). More emphasis on readiness of potential soldiers made headlines in Congressional debates. The CCC agency responded with new regiments for physical and mental preparation of the nation's largest nonmilitary work units. In 1941, Camp Directors and Foremen-in-Charge initiated daily marching, drill formations, and routine inspections in all TH-CCC camps (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 29 September 1941). As a result, CCC enrollees became familiar with military-style protocols.

New rules began to address enrollee conduct as well. Policies were enacted including forfeiture of pay and deductions from allowances for enrollees who destroyed CCC materials or property (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, October 1941). Liquor was longer allowed in CCC camps, including officers' quarters, mess halls, and barracks. Officers were informed that the presence of liquor within their camps would lead to separation from the service for those involved (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 16 January, 1941). Even uniform appearance became regulated; CCC boys were required to wear uniforms while not in camp (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 12 March 1942).

Despite the structured living, Ornellas said he had "No regrets. I loved the CCC. Good years. And like I said, I learned a good trade" (Ornellas 2010 Transcript: 59).

## **I. PREPARATION FOR WAR AND DECLINE IN ENROLLMENT**

### Funding Sources Are Shifted Away from CCC Tasks to Defense Work

From 1934 through 1941, the Territory of Hawai'i CCC was under the sponsorship of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry (Figure 5). The funds expended for TH-CCC conservation work peaked in 1935 and 1936, with work accomplished with allotted funds of \$787,583.21 and \$750,827.65, respectively (Pesonen, Vol. 1: "Work Accomplished by CCC March 1934 to December 1941, n.p.).

PROJECT	FROM MARCH 1934 to DECEMBER 1941								TOTALS
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	
*Nursery Production	429,904	1,257,893	1,541,190	1,586,165	1,313,887	1,185,682	374,696	51,350	7,740,767 Trees
Trees planted	846,426	1,619,726	2,020,808	1,472,437	1,697,343	1,855,847	1,679,656	533,788	11,727,031 Trees
Acres Planted	2,156	3,517	4,995	3,350	3,907	3,635	2,703	891	25,064 Acres
Acres Maintained	496	3,543	8,432	3,823	5,256	4,870	3,862	1,942	32,224 Acres
Truck Trail Construction	6.77	57.1	48.7	24.68	6.7	8.88	2.8	2.6	158.23 Miles
Horse Trail Construction	4.43	89.5	59.0	14.35	17.11	19.36	7.04	1.63	212.42 Miles
Foot Trail Construction	57.21	44.2	41.4	2.60				1.38	146.79 Miles
Truck Trail Maintenance	27.24	50.07	130.4	64.34	50.82	57.57	48.34	61.81	490.59 Miles
Horse Trail Maintenance	11.04	52.5	117.2	86.72	26.87	82.96	50.49	41.4	469.18 Miles
Foot Trail Maintenance	22.93	111.5	103.9	49.4	52.00			5.7	345.43 Miles
Fence Construction	12.03	39.64	43.70	10.26	12.95	32.77	20.49	5.8	177.64 Miles
Fence Maintenance	28.5	22.49	23.56	44.4	10.91	10.84	16.68	4.59	162.37 Miles
Telephone Line Construction		10.0	14.0	10.2	4.0				38.2 Miles
Shelter Cabins Construction		5	17		1			1	24 Units
Firebreak Construction	2.58								8.2 Miles
Firebreak Maintenance		11.9	8.2	8.0	16.8				44.9 Miles
Erosion Control, Check Dam				432	779	1,298	843	147	3,439 Units
Seeding & Sodding				3,600	4,840	56,840	1,043	3,425	69,748 Sq.Yd.
* NURSERY PRODUCTION FIGURES ARE BASED ON PROPORTIONATE EXPENDITURES ON NURSERY COSTS BY THE CCC AND BY THE TERRITORY									
CCC FUNDS EXPENDED	\$403,658.27	\$787,583.21	\$750,827.65	\$501,067.86	\$578,039.70	\$568,646.82	\$486,168.51	\$377,335.93	\$4,453,327.95

Figure 5. Work by CCC under Territory of Hawai'i Board of Agriculture and Forestry 1934-1941 (Pesonen, Vol. 1).

In 1937, the TH-CCC camps were directed to reduce their enrollment as appropriations for the CCC program were reduced. Allotted funds for 1937 dropped to \$501,067.86 and remained dedicated to conservation work, but never regained their prior fiscal priority in Congress (Ibid.).

With the increasing U.S. involvement in weapons production and defense agency jobs, unemployment numbers in the late 1930s were less than that during the first half of the decade. During 1939, enrollment applications for the CCC declined (Stone, *American Experience: Civilian Conservation Corps*, PBS film, 2009).

By the end of 1941, the majority of appropriated funds for the CCC were used to support defense task work orders.

### Military Recruiters Seek CCC Boys

Meanwhile tensions in the Pacific and the global conflicts led to an increase in military recruiting efforts. A logical “standby-army,” the CCC male recruits were already accustomed to following orders and working in close proximity under wilderness conditions. Not surprisingly, by mid-year new federal orders approved direct recruiting by the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps inside CCC camps (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 29 July, 1941).

### Junior Enrollees

Enrollment numbers in the TH-CCC camps began to dwindle in 1940. TH-7 Waimea side camp was abandoned in November of 1940 and all men were transferred to TH-10 Panaewa camp (Pesonen, Volume 1: November Monthly Report, 1940). Because of the success of CCC programs, in 1941 the age limits were expanded to include youths 16 years of age in the Territory of Hawai‘i (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 17 March, 1941). These new younger recruits were known as “Junior Enrollees” with the same pay rates as regular enrollees. However, enrollment numbers continued to decline. The closure of TH-9 Moloka‘i camp took place in September of 1941 given a lack of enrollment (Pesonen, Volume 1: September Monthly Report, 1940).

### HNP-1 Haleakalā Camp Closed

The Haleakalā CCC camp officially closed at the end of business on May 13, 1941 (Pesonen, Volume 1: May Monthly Report 1941). As reported in the *TH-CCC News*, “May 13, was the last day for the Haleakalā Side Camp and the 26 men who made it their home left the ‘land above the clouds’ and took the boat from Lāhainā for Hilo with Samuel Milne, their foreman” (*TH-CCC News*, June 1941: 6). These enrollees were assisted by Acting Camp Director Rennie and were transferred to the Kīlauea CCC camp on the Big Island (Ibid.). Mules, pack horses, and a station wagon remained on Maui and were reassigned while the Ford V8 truck, and beds from the CCC camps went with the men to Kīlauea (Wingate, Superintendent’s Narrative Report, 12 October 1935: 3).

## **J. ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR HALTS CONSERVATION WORK**

### War – The Attack on Pearl Harbor

On December 7, 1941, at 7:55 a.m., the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor with carrier-based aircraft. Following the attack, the *Maui News* printed two of its newspapers on December 7, as well as one dated incorrectly as December 6, with the heading “War Extra” and the following headlines: “JAPAN PLANES ATTACK PEARL HARBOR – HICKAM BOMBED,” “PEARL HARBOR HICKAM BOMBED,” “HAWAII UNDER MARTIAL RULE” (*Maui News*, “First War Extra,” 6 December 1941: 1; “Second War Extra,” 7 December 1941: 1; and “Third War Extra,” 7 December 1941: 1).

The Ranger-in-Charge of the Haleakalā Section on that date was Frank Hjort. Park Warden Plunkett later wrote in his annual report that:

On the afternoon of the 6th of the month Ranger Hjort accompanied six men from the local Naval Air Squadron to Palikū Cabin in the crater for the week end. This caused all of us to be in the crater and out of touch with the Commanding Officer of the local Air unit when the attack was being carried out at Pearl Harbor. The officer in charge for the Navy called Mrs. Hjort and asked who was the closest person to the men in the crater. Park Warden Plunkett was at his home in Makawao at the time so Mrs. Hjort stated that she was the nearest person to the men in the crater, whereupon the Naval Officer sent Mrs. Hjort in to tell the men to come out and report to their base immediately. Since she could not take her small daughter Anne it was necessary to leave her alone until help could be sent up from friends in Hāmākua Poko to look after Anne until Mrs. Hjort returned. Mrs. Hjort proceeded into the crater, making good time, and notified the men to come out which they did with great haste (Wingate, Edward G., Monthly Report, Hawai'i National Park, 20 January 1942: 4).

The only Japanese language newspaper allowed to go to press in the islands after December 7 was an English edition of the *Maui Record*, dated December 9, 1941, whose last issue included the headlines, “TERRITORY NOW UNDER MARTIAL LAW,” “Col. Lyman in Charge Here,” and the subhead, “LIGHTS OUT EVERY NIGHT – KEEP CALM” (*Maui Record*, 9 December 1941: 1: 4). The newspaper carried orders from Colonel Charles B. Lyman to the local Japanese community relating to blackouts, school closures, food and gasoline rationing, restrictions on telephones, suspension of all interisland sea and air traffic, radio communication, public assembly, and other items (Ibid.).

### Other TH-CCC Camps Are Transferred to Defense Posts

In the days following the attack on Pearl Harbor, CCC camp enrollees on Oahu “...worked with [the] chemical warfare division cleaning gas masks, digging shelters,...” and assisting with defense tasks (Pesonen, Volume 2: 26 December, 1941). The work of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps within the Territory of Hawai'i transferred to the Army in December 1941 and March 1942 (Pesonen, Vol. 1: Letter from William Crosby, Territorial Forester to Pesonen, 19

August 1942). This included TH-CCC camps on the islands of Kauaʻi, Oʻahu, Molokaʻi, Maui, and Hawaiʻi (Ibid.).

It is interesting to note that following the U.S. entry into World War II, Hawaiʻi's CCC camps remained integrated at a time when other States were either segregated or Japanese-Americans were being sent to internment camps. This fact was evident in the surge in enrollment of 117 new members on the island of Hawaiʻi in February of 1942. According to the TH-CCC headquarter reports, “[t]he men are mostly high school boys who did not return to school and Japanese boys restricted from other employment” (Pesonen, Volume 1: March Monthly Report, 1942).

According to the memo on page two of Field Supervisor Pesonen's July 1942 Activity Report, the Corps of Engineers, War Department took over the operation of camps TH(D)-2 Maui, TH(D)-3 Kauaʻi, and HNP-1 Pōhaku-Loa in previous months for the continuation of defense works (Pesonen, Volume 1: July Monthly Report, 1942).

Throughout the Corps Areas in the Mainland, as the U.S. shifted its eyes toward the impending war abroad, tens of thousands of CCC workers began to assist the Army and other defense agencies with defense projects, among them “developing target ranges, and completing airplane landing fields for our expanding army” (Holland and Hill 1942: 184).

#### CCC Boys Have “Leg-up” on Jobs

Once the United States had entered World War II and the CCC program was on the decline, Executive Order S743, Section 2 provided assistance to enrollees in pursuit of Civil Service positions through the administration of Civil Service Examinations for those who had studied and prepared for the test (Pesonen, Volume 6: Memo, 19 January 1942). These Civil Service positions offered a salary of \$1,320 annually or less to qualified former CCC members (Ibid.).

### **K. THE CCC IN HAWAII DISBANDS**

Over the course of eight-plus years in the Territory of Hawaiʻi, the ‘Triple C’ employed 7,195 young men (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, Work of CCC in Territory Terminated, 18 September 1942).

#### All Camps Were Closed

The Headquarters of the Territory of Hawaiʻi CCC was instructed to close or phase-out Hawaiʻi's Civilian Conservation Corps program in 1942. A memo in the Monthly Activity Report for July reiterated, “In accordance with instruction to liquidate the CCC, all enrollees except office staff were Honorably Discharged COB July 10” (Pesonen, Volume 1: July Monthly Report, 1942).

Territory of Hawaiʻi CCC headquarters staff were transferred to other government agencies, including Chief Clerk Clifford Davis who became employed by the Office of Civil Defense in

Honolulu (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, Work of Civilian Conservation Corps in Territory Terminated, 18 September 1942). Assistant Clerk Thomas E.C. Ching and Chief Clerk Apoliona were also transferred to the Office of Civilian Defense (Pesonen, Volume 1: August Monthly Report, 1942).

By July 1, 1942, all Territory of Hawai'i CCC camps had closed, been turned over to the military agencies, or abandoned. This was consistent with the majority of CCC camps on the Mainland, where CCC camps closed earlier than anticipated once the 77<sup>th</sup> United States Congress denied funding beyond the end of June 30, 1942.

### Liquidation of CCC Real Property

On January 25, 1942, Charles B. Lyman, Colonel, Infantry, issued a request to Everett A. Pesonen, Field Supervisor, CCC in Honolulu that CCC property at Haleakalā Section be released to the U.S. District engineer “for use as needed by the military forces on the Island of Maui” (Lyman, correspondence with Everett A. Pesonen, 27 January 1942: 1). The property included four portable eight-man barracks 18’ x 24’, single story; one 25-man mess hall, 18’ x 36’ single story; and two 5,000 galloon redwood stave tanks (Ibid.). On February 6, 1942, the property was officially transferred to the War Department from the Department of the Interior (Field Supervisor, CCC, to Col. Lyman et al., 6 February 1942: 1).

### Transfer of Records and Reports

Following the closure of CCC camps in the Territory and transfer of real property to other government agencies, the Field Supervisor’s office officially announced the completion of liquidation on September 18, 1942 (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, Work of CCC in Territory Terminated, September 18, 1942). According to the newspaper announcement, all administrative records were sent to Hawai'i National Park for safekeeping (Ibid.). Fiscal records were transferred to the Territory of Hawai'i Office of Civilian Defense (Pesonen, Volume 1: Letter from Field Supervisor Pesonen to Director of the CCC, August 28, 1942).

## **L. LASTING EFFECTS OF THE CCC**

The CCC program at Haleakalā produced buildings, trails, and structures from 1934 to 1941 that still remain. Oliveira summed up his experience in 1983:

[W]hen we left the cabins was all complete. The trails was all complete. You look right from the Rangers’ cabin going across to the other cabin, there’s a little bridge, and you cross that little bridge, that stream there, I built that (Oliveira 1983 Transcript: 13).

Although Haleakalā CCC camp units are not mentioned separately, in one article written by the Acting Territorial Forester L.W. Bryan in 1938, credit is given to HNP-1 CCC boys for the outstanding work improving trails and roads within the Hawai'i National Park:

The ease with which it is now possible to ascend...has been made possible by the road and trail building activities of the CCC Boys and much credit is due this organization... (Tillett, Everett Edward, *Paradise of the Pacific*, 1 March 1938: 50: 3: 38).

Forester Bryan explained that the increase in thousands of visitors to the Park in the previous two years was the result of their [CCC] efforts (Ibid.).

As a result of the CCC program, enrollees were provided with opportunities to acquire apprenticeship training in agriculture and horse care, as well as credentials including certifications as truck drivers, chefs, and carpenters. This was in addition to life skills and world views that appear to have been carried throughout their lives.

## CONCLUSION

This project resulted in a glimpse into the history of the CCC program in Hawai`i and documents how instrumental the CCC was in accomplishing many projects at Haleakalā. More research into the CCC program of Hawai`i is recommended to further tell this important story.

Because a lot of information exists regarding the Hawai`i National Park CCC camp at Kīlauea on the Island of Hawai`i, it would also be interesting to compare and contrast CCC camp experiences and work life at Kīlauea with the projects and work life at Haleakalā. The information provided by Ornellas, who served at both camps, suggests differences between the two camps. One interviewee's view of the Kīlauea camp also suggests a greater military influence or perhaps differing administrative views of the enrollees' support of wartime efforts in one camp vs. the other.

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**Civilian Conservation Corps in Hawai'i:  
Oral Histories of the  
Haleakalā Camp, Maui**



**APPENDIX A**

## EXCERPT OF INTERVIEW OF MR. LAWRENCE OLIVEIRA CONDUCTED ON AUGUST 29, 1983 IN NAHIKU HAWAI'I.

Mr. James Brenner: . . . or what I'm interested in, and what the Park's interested in, and that's one of the reasons why we're doing all is how much do you know about—and from what I understand is considerable—the Halemau'u Trail, the Park.

Mr. Lawrence Oliveira: Well, that's where I first went to work when this CCC Camp opened. And it was about halfway down from when the contractors started the thing and we finished it up. The CCC boys finished it up, the bottom part up to about, well, maybe three quarters of the way. We made it where a horse could go. It was just a surveyor line. They made a – shot the grade and every darn thing, and then we did it. Built little walls. Sometimes you see walls. Yeah, I built that for the houses.

Mr. Brenner: At the top, especially, I was looking at them yesterday. You see walls that are – they're enormous!

Mr. Oliveira: That part was done. When I got up there, we finished I'd say about maybe two-thirds from the park down.

Mr. Brenner: Can you tell us things that happened while you were working on that?

Mr. Oliveira: Was raining. All that cold. I know one time back when we started on the cabin, that Holua cabin, I went down with the pack mules to get gravel from down the flat. I mean, when you hit the bottom? Some washed, so they needed gravel. And we had boxes that you put on a pack saddle, one on each side, see? And I was stupid. I tied the mule to the box while I filling up the box with gravel and whatnot. And then the mule was eating grass, and he pulled little bit on the rope and the box started moving, and he got scared. So he pulled a little more and the box kept moving. He took off down that – you know, that ( ) go down the Ke`anae Gap all open with the box behind him. And he wasn't looking ahead. He was looking at the box and whatnot. That mule never went off the trail. He never fell down. And he went way down the bottom. He couldn't go no more. All I saw was his two little ears looking back and that box was all in pieces. That was the

craziest thing that happened I know.

And then I wasn't with the boys one time down the bottom about three switchbacks up, they had a team of mules going up, but, stupid, they had them all tied to one another. And the leaders was already on the switchback, and the other ones still coming underneath. So the rope was too short. They couldn't go around the switchback. They start pulling back. And three of them went roll down the cliff down on the bottom. They never die, though. One was laying for quite a while, 'cause was the first switchback, you know, when you come from the bottom, and you hit, come around like that? Was that one there, so they never fall too high. That's two of the accidents I know of.

Mr. Brenner: How long did it take to do the whole thing?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, I stayed almost two and a half years in the crater.

Mr. Brenner: You lived in the crater?

Mr. Oliveira: In the crater, yeah. We used to camp in there?

Mr. Brenner: Where?

Mr. Oliveira: We camped Halemaumau first. Put up that shack. Then we camped over Kapalaoa— what they called it. We used to haul the materials for the carpenters. They had carpenters, though. And then finished that one. We moved down Paliku. We had our camp down there. All tents, though. And then built those two cabins down there. We worked on the Kaupō Trail, all that trail going down to the National Park boundary. We worked on that through the ( ). And then we came up on top. Had the old rest house up there before. They teared it down I think, yeah?

Ms. Interviewer: Yeah, the stone one.

Mr. Oliveira: Below the observation station, we camped there for one winter, I think. Then they closed up. We came down Ke`anae CCC Camp. Then we went back above the Sanitarium, the Polipoli Camp. They had a camp there. From there, I quit, 1939.

Mr. Brenner: Was there a camp where the main station is now where the headquarters is?

Mr. Oliveira: Further down where the Rangers stayed? Nah, I don't think so.

Mr. Brenner: Did you know someone by the name of Gunder Olson?

Mr. Oliveira: That was our Camp Director—Gunder E. Olson. He was a retired policeman.

Mr. Brenner: A retired policeman? From where?

Mr. Oliveira: I don't know. Honolulu, or Maui, someplace?

Mr. Brenner: Olson sounds like a Swedish name.

Mr. Oliveira: I don't know. He was a nice guy. And he was the one that I found the cave one time on top of Halemau'u when you come up the horse trail, you come on top, come down through the woods, with lot of pieces of wood, the roots and all. You can see they scraped everything, and tied in little bundles with the roots from the i'ia plant. I don't know if you know what that is. Yeah, okay. And the cave was all black. You can see people used to make fire and they used to camp inside there. So I brought one of the little pieces of wood up and gave him. I don't know why it looked so important. The roots scraped, the roots and all, and piled this up. So he sent it to someplace for check up. And he said, "Eh, that's sandalwood," but it's so cold, there is no smell to it. The thing was in the cave. That's when they used to trade with China, I think. The Hawaiians used to go out and get Sandalwood. So they must've had that cave as a — just like station where they go collect, and bring it in there, and put, but probably they forgot to haul it all out. So had couple bundles in there yet. How I found it was the dogs chase the pig, and the pig went in the cave. And that's when I seen the darn thing. And then we found those two legs through hunting with the dogs. We found pigs, dogs. But, I see now they got mongoose up there. Never have when we were up there—mongoose in the crater. Now, they up there.

Mr. Brenner: Well, when you were in the crater, did you do much looking around up on the—? I mean, you found that cave where the pig went into, but did you go up in the pu`us at all or—?

Mr. Oliveira: No, that's on top coming over the ridge now facing down Ke`anae. That's Cinder Hill there. What you call now? Pualai? Is that right? The rocky one? Used to have a lot of silverswords there too. I don't know if get any there now.

Mr. Brenner: Where?

Mr. Oliveira: On top the Halemau'u when you come down on the forest line, was all silverswords there on those little hills.

Ms. Interviewer: Yeah, the goats, plenty goats in there now.

Mr. Oliveira: I don't know. I talking about outside now. You climb the ridge and you come down to the forest line.

Mr. Brenner: And there were a lot of silverswords there?

Mr. Oliveira: Oh, yeah! Had even the greensword! Greensword, the leaf is not as stiff as the other one. It's soft-like. And they had crop um. But I think the pigs had ( ) it all. We used to hunt and we used to see where the pigs used to eat the silversword.

Mr. Brenner: But did you go up in the pu`us at all when you were in there up on the – like Pu`u Maui, and Pele, and the large cinder cones inside the—?

Mr. Oliveira: In the crater one?

Mr. Brenner: Yeah.

Mr. Oliveira: We never bother the cinder cones, but we used to hunt all outside pigs and goats. The pigs used to come on top the Hana Mountain. And then in the crater, we— What you call? Olson, the one that you talking about, he said, "No, no, dogs." I never know this till I came home for a weekend and I took a little dog back. I said, "Well, we gotta do some hunting" We had nothing to do up there, see? So he never like the idea. Then we got to talking. I said, "The boys got nothing to do. With the dog, at least they can have fun." So he went out and get permit somehow where we could keep two dogs in there, in the boundary. He said, "Watch out that they don't bother the pheasants." The goats, they don't care. Let them go chase the goats and pigs.

Mr. Brenner: Who was caring about the pheasants? The ranch or—?

Mr. Oliveira: No, Olson himself. Being the Camp Director, he had—

Mr. Brenner: Well, pheasants aren't from the island, so why would he care about those?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, they wanted to preserve the birds.

Mr. Brenner: Why?

Mr. Oliveira: Because they nice. The pheasants are nice, see?

Mr. Brenner: Well, who hunted the pheasants in the crater?

Mr. Oliveira: No, the dogs—he didn't want the dogs go out and kill um. So he told us if the dogs start bothering the pheasants, we gonna have to get um outta there, see? So we used to keep the dogs. I mean, every time we see a pheasant, we say, "Eh!" We used to scold um. Only pig and goat they used to chase, so wasn't bad. But I know that pigs are destroying the pheasants. Not only pheasants, any bird that lay on the ground, the pig will destroy um. They eat um.

Mr. Brenner: But you helped build the cabins too: the Holua, Paliku—?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, very little. Like I said, hauling the gravel for the concrete foundation and all that stuff, that we did, but the wood work was – they had regular carpenters, besides, they had the contractors up there doing it. All we did was haul the lumber in for them.

Mr. Brenner: By "they" you mean the National Park?

Mr. Oliveira: What? Carpenters?

Mr. Brenner: Yeah.

Mr. Oliveira: No, they were hired from outside. They were contractors that went up and do the work. They used to sleep – camp up there with us and they do the carpentry work. We were just like unskilled labor, see? Blue collar workers is what they called it. They were already journeymen carpenters. That's their trade. We supplied them with all the materials. We used to carry on our back. We used to load what we can on the mule. Take um down. Long lumber. They used to tie um on the pack saddles from the mule. Poor mules—going with the long thing on their back. They go, though, yeah.

Mr. Brenner: I was going to say some of those boards for that cabin and the beams; they must've been really long.

Mr. Oliveira: The mules carry. They had a Chinese foreman up there from Ke`anae Camp—Alu, Harry Alu. He was good with animals so he helped us a lot. That was heaven, though. That crater was a nice place.

Mr. Brenner: Why do you say that?

Mr. Oliveira: Because I lived up there and I enjoyed it. Clean. You know what I mean? You no see ants. You don't bugs and stuffs like that. You go out camp. You can take a chance just camp out in the open. It ain't going rain. Certain places dry. I remember one time we went down Ke`anae Gap. Way down they had three caves there. And we used to go camp down those caves. And I had dogs start chasing goats up on that high – you know by Pele's Pigpen up that high cliff there? We caught a billy and we roped that old billy to the ( ) corner. We tied it up. With big horns. And tomorrow we take um back. And then they went after the other ones. So we wait for them. They never came back. So was too late to go down to the caves, and we slept on the big rock. Just crawl underneath the rock and sleep until the dogs come back. And then we go down hunt pigs. The pigs was down low at that time. Good fun.

Mr. Brenner: Were there a lot of silversword at that time in there in that area?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah. Had the silverswords, the way I see now on top, I was on top afterwards, I don't see any on top there. All those hills that had on top, no more.

Mr. Brenner: What about inside?

Mr. Oliveira: Inside, the last time I was there looked like is almost as good. The silverswords pretty good in there.

Mr. Brenner: As in 1939?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, looks pretty good.

Mr. Brenner: Because according to some of – Virginia Wirtz and some of the people like the von Tempskys who used to go in there back in around 1920, there were less than a hundred silverswords inside the crater.

Mr. Oliveira: It's more now than used to be. Could be. That's what I took note the last time I was up there. They really nice, so could be it's more now, but not on top. On top it's gone. On top used to have a lot of silverswords.

Mr. Brenner: You think the goats got those?

Mr. Oliveira: I think the pigs. The goats don't come that far down where we used to see the

silverswords. Gotta be the pigs because goats don't come in the wet, rain forest.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, they won't?

Mr. Oliveira: They stay only on the rocky side. They'll go down on the flats where it's dry, but they don't come on the wet side. They don't like the wet. Maybe they scared of the dogs. They catch um faster if they out in the wet forest, see? So they hang around the cliffs. If some dogs sneak up on um, they all run on the cliff. 'Cause our dogs used to track um, and we go and we pick one that we want with the little rope. Oh, this one is small. We used to rope um, see? They all hide on the ledges from the dog. That's how we used to catch um.

Mr. Brenner: And then catch um alive.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah. We used to catch um all alive. We never used to kill the goats. The boys used to take home as pets. And once in a while the dog catch um down the flat. Before they get chance to hit the cliff, they jump um. We go. We tie um up. Was good fun.

Mr. Brenner: How long has your family been on Maui?

Mr. Oliveira: Right now, we are third generation. My grandfather used to live across there near the slaughterhouse. They used to slaughter. They used to take meat to the plantation. This used to be plantation down here.

Mr. Brenner: Rubber plantations?

Mr. Oliveira: No, sugar plantation. Rubber was up here. The Hana side was all sugarcane. So he used to slaughter right over here, the slaughterhouse. Every week we used to take meat and deliver to the camps.

Mr. Brenner: Where did the beef come from?

Mr. Oliveira: He used to raise their own.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, he raised them?

Mr. Oliveira: This was all clean! All grass before. Not like this—all bushes. He had this all cleaned up.

Mr. Brenner: How many acres?

Mr. Oliveira: Right here, he had hundred-something acres. He leased the lot, and he had a couple other spots.

Mr. Brenner: Why he'd stop?

Mr. Oliveira: He died. My grandfather died and the four sons – no, four sons? Three, yeah, three sons, they took care of it for a while, then nobody cared to upkeep to clean. Just like now, see across there? It's all grass because we cleaned it. See, my sister got a home here. I just fenced it up and put a mule in there. But that used to be like that from here as far as your eye can see—all grass, see?

Mr. Brenner: All that in there?

Mr. Oliveira: All! Till way up to – way up high, miles up, all grass.

Mr. Brenner: How long ago?

Mr. Oliveira: I'm 70. I was a little boy. I'd say about maybe 50 years ago was all clean. The bushes grow back. Now, you take these African Tulip–

Mr. Brenner: Those aren't just brush. Yeah, those are African Tulip.

Mr. Oliveira: This thing isn't here too long in the islands. They brought it when the CCC Camp started. That's 1937, '36, around that, see? Now, it's growing all over. And the day will come when– Well, one thing good, the cattle eat it. They eat that. So a little plant, as long as there's cattle in the pasture, it won't have a chance to grow. The cattle will eat all the time, but once it gets tall, then you cannot eat it. But you try cut that tree down, then the cow is there. He eat all the leaves, all the branches. They go at it. That's not bad. It make good post too. You cut the darn thing, you make a post, put it in the ground–

Mr. Brenner: They really mess things up.

Mr. Oliveira: See, up on top this crater and going outside there where the – what you call? On top the ridge, anyhow, going towards Polipoli, all along there now, must be pigs all over there, they got one fern that grow up there. It's a nice little fern. And you try dig up the roots. A lot of roots under there with white meat inside. That's what they digging for. They eating those roots. That's why they dig a lotta holes–to get to the root of the fern.

Mr. Brenner: You think that's why? They like those roots from the fern?

Mr. Oliveira: Oh, yeah, because we used to see that on top of the mountain. They eat all those roots. It's just solid meat inside the roots. Black root with soft inside. And then they eat the berries, `ohelo berries, and all that. When it's berry season, they eat all that. I caught only one pig in the crater. When you going up that Hana Mountain, the horse trail, and you get that big, nice basin there with all grass as you go up on the right-hand side, you know where it is? The horse trail? Paliku? You go about halfway up, and there's a big basin there. We were going goat hunting. And the dogs, I don't know, sometimes when they see you getting ready, they know you going hunting, so they take off ahead of you. So we were walking from Paliku going up towards Kaupō Gap side look for goats. So we hear them barking. And you can tell, you know, your dogs. Eh, that not goat, the way they fight, the action. Eh, they not hunting goat. So we went up. Sure enough, there was a big boar. And I had a .38 special I brought from that guy, Gunder E. Olson. He made it in where I could get the thing because he seen where the boars used to rip the dogs. He told me, he go down, get it registered, get a permit and all kind stuff.

Mr. Brenner: Well, how old were you then?

Mr. Oliveira: I went in, I was 21. I was older than the rest of the boys, see? When I came out, I was about 24 or 25. So with that pistol, I remember, I was green. And all kind and I start firing. Pow! Pow! Was five rounds. Pow! The pig was still standing. And then the sixth one finally caught um on his back. He went collapse and roll over. I was lucky. Then one time I almost got killed because of that pistol because we not supposed to load it in the National Park, see? When you go over the – outside the boundary, then you load it, see? So we went up on top. Just so happen reach the ridge, the dogs took off after the pig. You can see it go down towards the forest line. So we run down there. And I went up close to the pig. And the thing don't fire. So I figure something wrong with the bullet and the pig ran away. So a couple of hours afterwards, I said, what the hell? I going see what's wrong with that bullet. Never had one – nothing! I never load the darn thing! With the excitement– Aw shucks, the thing could've killed me, boy.

Because if you don't have a gun, you won't go as near as that. Usually, you stay away. But I figure I had it loaded so I went close. He seen me, he took off.

Mr. Brenner: You say that your grandfather had three boys. How many children did your father have? You said your sister lives across.

Mr. Oliveira: On my dad's side, we had 13.

Mr. Brenner: Thirteen children in your family?

Mr. Oliveira: Four boys and nine girls. It's a big family.

Mr. Brenner: And they're all living here on Maui?

Mr. Oliveira: All scattered. Some up the Mainland or Honolulu.

Mr. Brenner: Why did you go in the CCC?

Mr. Oliveira: No more work those days. I was working County. I think it was five days a month, single boy. We were working down on that Ke`anae – right where the lookout is, we were widening the cliffs there. We used to go up on the road come down, and knock the loose stuff. They blast, and we'd knock the loose stuff down, because you don't wanna work if something come on top you, see? We almost got killed one day. Lucky somebody was there. They say, "It's coming down!" from on top. And we thought he was kidding, you know. When he yelled, we just– Then the big slide came down right there where we were working. And we thought, "Wow, must be one or two guys underneath there." Not one guy got caught. Everybody ran away so fast. We couldn't jump over. See, the road is cliff here. So you couldn't go this way from the slide. You have to run this way or that way, see? But, boy, everybody got away. It was lucky.

Ms. Interviewer: That's when they were doing the road? This is road work?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, the road was narrow when they first started. Cars could hardly get through. So the County used to blast and widen up little-by-little. So this fella came and he was recruiting boys to go up the crater, see? And he just happened to stop there, and he look around us. "Any young boys around here that wanna go up CCC Camp?" So I told um, "Well, I don't mind, but I got one brother in the Ke`anae Camps. My younger brother work next to me was there." He says, "No, this is

different. This is federal. So you can go up.” I told him, “Okay.” I wasn’t sorry, boy. I was ready.

Mr. Brenner: Who was this guy?

Mr. Oliveira: A recruiter. I don’t know what his name. He was picking up boys to go in there. Was Ranger Peck was up there at that time when we were up there. Maybe was him. I don’t know, see? Or could’ve been some – what you call this? Employment office agency just looking around.

Mr. Brenner: How many people in the camp?

Mr. Oliveira: We had about 30, I think, boys altogether.

Mr. Brenner: And your only job was to build the Halemau’u Trail and the cabins?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, when we first went in, was to complete the trail. That’s why we worked on that trail. I think took us about six months or more to complete it. Then they made up their mind to put up the cabins.

Mr. Brenner: What do you think of the trail itself—the way it goes? Do you think it could’ve been made different or—?

Mr. Oliveira: I think that’s the best spot we could’ve found ‘cause they had one above before, but it used to wash slide all the time, ah? That’s where we used to go when I first to used to go up there hunt way back young days. Then they made this one down here. That’s better. That’s all solid ground, see? Although take so long to get up there because all those switchbacks, but then the grade is good. It’s easy-going, see? We used to cut short. Every time when we get through working, we used to – instead follow the trail. (Laughter)

Mr. Brenner: You used to cut the switchbacks?

Mr. Oliveira: We had places we used to go straight down. We never like go back and forth.

Mr. Brenner: Not with the mules and horses, though?

Mr. Oliveira: No, no, just on foot. Not with the horses.

Ms. Interviewer: Well, when you were building that—the Halemau’u—people using the old switchback, yeah?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah. When we went down there, wasn't complete. So the mules, the horses, the Camp Director used to ride to the old trail go up.

Mr. Brenner: Well, how often did tourists and people come in that trail?

Mr. Oliveira: That time was very few people. All the time I was up there, very few people. Only one Makawao bunch used to come up. The guy by the name – well, Frank Freitas, he used to go lately, and Susan. They used to bring people up now and then go horseback riding.

Mr. Brenner: Did you ever meet or see any of the people from the ranch like the von Tempskys, or the Baldwins, or these people riding through, because evidently, Lorna von Tempsky used to take groups through all the time? She used to not take groups, but she used to ride through them, according to Virginia Wirtz.

Mr. Oliveira: It could be we used to be so busy we never used to pay attention.

Mr. Brenner: Well, I would think if you were up there for three years and some ladies started riding through the crater, you'd probably pay real close attention.

Mr. Oliveira: The only ones that came up was through Kaupō Gap one time was some ranch hand from Kaupō. And he stayed up there one or two nights. And the only lady that used to go in the crater once in a while was Lionel's wife. He was the Camp Director from the Ke`anae CCC Camp. She used to come up. She used to ride horse and all that through the crater. Mrs. Lionel, we used to call her—the wife. That was her nickname, see? Maybe was von Tempsky. I don't know.

Mr. Brenner: Well, von Tempsky, Lorna, was the daughter of a foreman of the Baldwin Ranch, of the Haleakalā Ranch, right? And according to Virginia Wirtz, she used to come riding up there into the crater a lot.

Mr. Oliveira: Maybe that's before, before the CCC days.

Mr. Brenner: So you only stayed up there then for about two years? Two, three years?

Mr. Oliveira: In the crater I think I stayed for about two and a half years. I'm not sure. I used to remember, but I forgot now.

Mr. Brenner: Was everything finished by that time?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, when we left the cabins was all complete. The trails was all complete. You

look right from the Rangers' cabin going across to the other cabin, there's a little bridge, and you cross that little bridge, that stream there, I built that.

Ms. Interviewer: That's nice. I like that bridge.

Mr. Oliveira: That's all rocks set underneath, and then mamane logs across, and then rocks and dirt on top. I built that little bridge.

Mr. Brenner: How long did that take?

Mr. Oliveira: Oh I'd say I was 22. I'm 70 now. So you can see how long ago. The last time I was there I was surprised. I say, "I gotta see." It's still there!

Mr. Brenner: Yeah, but how long did it take you to build the bridge?

Mr. Oliveira: Oh, I don't know, a couple of days, because the rocks are right here. In the stream, that where you get the rocks from. The mamane logs right there. We cut, go across. Because we used to go way down with the mules, hit the flat, and come back up because that ditch, that runs pretty deep all the way down, see? So we need a shortcut. The guy Olson told me, "You think you make something for the mules to come across?" We had a wagon roll up here before, see? And that's how they used to build it. They put the logs across with rocks on top um, and put dirt on, and the wagons go across. I say, "I think I can." So I built it. Still there yet.

Mr. Brenner: You must've done a very good job.

Mr. Oliveira: Where the ranger's cabin is, I know that one more thing I did, they got that concrete footing, and there's rocks. Put that in the cement. I did that, those rocks, I went put um.

Ms. Interviewer: Those cabins are great.

Mr. Brenner: Right now in Kapalaoa, you leave the door open, the nene will come in.

Mr. Oliveira: When we were up there, never have nene. I don't remember seeing nene. So must've been they brought it back.

Mr. Brenner: How about the uau? Did you hear them up there—the black-rumped petrel?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, that one, that's the one at night, they make noise. Sometimes sound like a dog. You think it's a dog. (Yelping like a dog.)

Mr. Brenner: You say it took about two, two and a half years. Then, you left the crater. What then?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, when I went to Polipoli, I was there for a while, then I quit. I went to Big Island, work one year, came back. I went to Honolulu. Then, the war broke out. December 7<sup>th</sup>, I was, I think, in Honolulu working for the old Tripler Hospital, Army Tripler Hospital.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, you were in Honolulu?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, when they attacked Pearl Harbor. So we got frozen. We couldn't quit our job because if you quit your job, you got drafted. I was working for the army, so I figure I might as well stay working, although I got drafted in June. Went in. Got all the basic training. Ready to go overseas. Then we were working for the army engineers. They were so hard up for men that they took back 500 of us that had our training, everything complete. Threw us in the reserves and go back work in our civilian job, but any minute they can grab you and go if they need men badly, see? But they never got to us. So I was lucky.

Mr. Brenner: So what happened, then, after the war?

Mr. Oliveira: Well, I was in Pearl Harbor. I kept working for the Army. Then I went back work for the Navy. I retired. I put in 30 years service with the federal government, then I came back here.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, you worked 30 years for the Army and Navy?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah. I had about 11 years I think with the Army and then I transferred. Went to the Navy yard, and I finished my – as a civilian, though. I worked my way up to carpenter. When I retired, I was a carpenter. So not bad.

Mr. Brenner: And then you came back here?

Mr. Oliveira: I had this land here. Bought from the old man, the one who inherit from his grandfather. So I figure, I was going build a house in Makawao. I said, what the hell? Why should I go buy? I got a piece of land. And I had 23 acres in here doing nothing so I put up this shack. Well, this house is only about ten years old now.

Mr. Brenner: You have 23 acres here?

Mr. Oliveira: Ah, no, I sold some of them. I get about six left down in here and two above. About eight acres. 'Nough.

Mr. Brenner: What do you remember of the Hawaiians that were here as far as their religion and things like that? Was there any Hawaiian guys in the CCC that were working up there?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, we had a lot of Hawaiian boys, yeah.

Mr. Brenner: Did they have any problems with working in the crater?

Mr. Oliveira: No, we used to get along alright 'cause we grow up together. We used to go to school mixed up. It was alright. I seen one fella one time, he made a mistake. I don't know if you know that cave – not a cave. It's a tunnel. Holua cabin, a little ways, and you go underneath with the light, and you come out.

Mr. Brenner: The lava tube?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, the lava tube. Well, on the other end there, they had a skull of a human being. I don't know if it still there yet.

Ms. Interviewer: Yeah, it's buried.

Mr. Oliveira: And this boy brought it back to the camp. And they said, "You better leave that there." He said, "Ah, as only one skull. What the hell?"

Mr. Brenner: Well, who is he?

Mr. Oliveira: One Hawaiian boy. Anyhow, get all kind boys there. And he never slept a wink that night. He couldn't sleep. The next morning as soon as daylight, he took it right back. (Laughter) Everybody was telling, "Oh, you think it's only a skeleton, but there's something in it." So I don't know if it's still there yet. But funny—only the skull. Where's the rest of the bones?

Mr. Brenner: Yeah, I know. So when you were living up there in the crater for those two years, you got all your supplies brought up from down below?

Mr. Oliveira: The mules, we had the mule team to haul it.

Mr. Brenner: You had plenty of meat, I guess.

Mr. Oliveira: We had three boys, I think, working with the mule packer all the time. That's all they do—go out, come in. After one, two days, they go out again. We had good food. Enough. Once in a while we used to catch—

Ms. Interviewer: Did you have to go all the way to Makawao to get supplies?

Mr. Oliveira: No, but when we went up the road, was open up till the — pass the — what do you call? Where they have the—

Ms. Interviewer: The headquarters?

Mr. Oliveira: The headquarters, where you come down the Halemau'u Trail. I know till there had car road because they used to come up with car. And then the mules pick it up there and then take it down.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, I see. So they only had to go out till headquarters, then. Well, only. That's quite a ride.

Mr. Oliveira: Well, we had a big truck. See, we had our own big truck to haul the boys back and forth weekends, like that. That same truck hauled the food and stuff. And once in a while we catch a pig. The cook tell, "Eh, you want cook mountain pig?" We said, "Okay, bring one down." He cook um for the boys to eat. In fact, we kalua'd one inside the Halemau'au side one time. I think I got some pictures. I'm not sure. Let's see. Get the album first. Because I know this had some of the crater. Am I going backwards?

Ms. Interviewer: Upside down.

Mr. Oliveira: That's Paliku, yeah. That's our camp in there. Let's see. See, that's where we used to be. That's down Paliku when we built the — no, the shack is on already, yeah? Before the shack supposed to have tents only.

Mr. Brenner: Must be in here.

Mr. Oliveira: Oh, yeah. Over this side maybe, yeah? Yeah, there's us. That's us carrying the pig in the crater, see? This is on top by the lake water. See, we brought this mother home pig alive and it had babies afterwards. We raised it down Paliku.

Mr. Brenner: Who's this guy holding the pig?

Mr. Oliveira: Oh, it's a Chinese boy—Chun. Him and I went camping that day.

Mr. Brenner: That pig's as big as he is.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, it's a long pig. One is me. I don't know which one. I think we carrying that pig home alive. Maybe we come back this way then, get some the pictures. How come we jump this thing? Yeah, see, this is up – well, this afterwards. This is in the crater. We went one day—a bunch of guys. This is way afterwards.

Mr. Brenner: Well, this guy's not Chinese.

Mr. Oliveira: No, that's not CCC boys. We working for the Geological Survey and we all went up.

Mr. Brenner: Geological Survey?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah. See, this is the cabin. We was coming up. That's down in the crater when was building. I think that's Kapalaoa, ah?

Mr. Brenner: It looks like it would have to be. Yeah, because there's—

Ms. Interviewer: Look at all the vegetation.

Mr. Brenner: Unfinished cabin, yeah.

Mr. Oliveira: Or Holua.

Mr. Brenner: Yeah, but out here was grass.

Mr. Oliveira: Kapalaoa, look like, yeah? Or Kaupō. I don't know. I'm not sure, anyhow. See, this is part of crater. I know I had some of us working on the trail. This guy shot those goats. This is Olson himself. He take that and then he take the picture. Now, here's the little bridge, see? Yeah, that's the one I built. That's it. (Laughter)

Mr. Brenner: And that's mamane logs. Held up so long.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, he – the Camp Director took that picture after I got through building it, yeah. I think this supposed to be the Halemau'u Trail when we worked on it.

Mr. Brenner: Yeah. That's how it looks.

Mr. Oliveira: This is on top Hana Mountain. Supposed to have some good ones in there. Okay, did I look all this? Yeah, this is in the crater. That's when we went with that Geological. We took dogs and we caught some goats.

Mr. Brenner: That's Chinese or Japanese.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, Japanese. Somebody had gone ahead of us couple days before us with rifles. They never got a single goat. We went up with couple dogs and we caught some goats. They said, "Nah." I said, "Yeah." That's how we used to live in the crater. That's one of our tents, yeah.

Ms. Interviewer: How neat! Radio and all! Heater—

Mr. Oliveira: And this is that lake on top the — that Wai'anapanapa Lake. Yeah, here, we kalua'd this pig in the crater. That's the boys. That's us in here. I don't know which one is me. Here, I think. Ah, someplace in there. Yeah, we cooked that pig in there, believe it or not. Here's a better picture from that lake. Here's the same bunch with that kalua pig in the crater. See, they getting ready with that bucket. That's us coming home, down, when we worked on the trail, Halemaumau Trail. That's the gang! Yeah, that's the gang coming home. I had fun.

Mr. Brenner: Yeah, but there's no place on the trail that looks like that now.

Mr. Oliveira: Here's the mules coming down the trail.

Mr. Brenner: Well, now, that, I recognize. That's on that one switchback—the long one.

Mr. Oliveira: This is on top Hana Mountain. I remember telling them, "Point towards here." And then we took the picture pointing towards Hana.

Mr. Brenner: That's pointing towards Hana Mountain?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, pointing towards Hana from on top there, horse trail. That's a pig there. Oh, here, we used to live. That's Halemaumau, I think.

Mr. Brenner: Well, that's interesting. Is that inside the crater?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, on top. You go on top Paliku on top the Halemaumau.

Mr. Brenner: I've never been up there.

Mr. Oliveira: This is Holua. That's our camp before we put the shack up.

Mr. Brenner: That's Holua?

Mr. Oliveira: Holua, yeah, right on the flat there. You're looking this way now, and now the cabin is around here someplace. Gotta be Holua. Cannot be Kapalaoa. Kapalaoa, the mountain be right there. These are the people that used to come down those days—Portuguese people.

Mr. Brenner: Well, there's women in there. Who are these women?

Mr. Oliveira: Some Portuguese people that used to come up. Here's that guy that you was talking about—Olson, Ranger Peck, a bunch of them. And one was Wingate. That's how they named that place "Wingate" through him.

Mr. Brenner: What place?

Mr. Oliveira: That Kapalaoa. This used to be Camp Wingate our days, then they changed the name. There, that's when we cleaned that pig to kalua in the — this is in the crater. That's me over there.

Ms. Interviewer: Hey, handsome bugga.

Mr. Oliveira: Here's Paliku. See the trees? That's way back. That's about 40 years ago. Long time. That's part of the crater.

Mr. Brenner: This is Pu`u Mane or Maile.

Mr. Oliveira: Silversword, in those days.

Ms. Interviewer: Oh, that's a good one. Fish. That's the first goat we caught in the crater. It's tied up. No look like it's tied, but it's tied. (Laughter)

Mr. Brenner: Big boy. He's big!

Mr. Oliveira: He's an old billy. I remember the first one we caught alive.

Ms. Interviewer: Oh, how'd you get so close to take the picture?

Mr. Oliveira: It's a big one. No, it's tied up. You cannot see the rope. It's tied on the foot, I think. We hid the rope.

Ms. Interviewer: How'd you ever catch um?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, here's that mother pig after she had the babies, see? That's the one that you see us packing. And this is some of the boys that just went hunting. That's in

the crater too. This is the gang. I think you've seen that lava tube.

Ms. Interviewer: It looks it would come down. Yeah, yeah, the beginning, yeah.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, that's in the tube. Olson is there someplace.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, yeah, here.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, he's over there, the Camp Director. Here the mules coming down the trail. Kaupō Gap. Ke`anae Gap. Little doggie. That's one tank. That's Kaupō Gap, I think. Waikane. If you wanna take couple to show–

Ms. Interviewer: Well, I'll tell Carmela, if she wants um.

Mr. Oliveira: This is on top Hana Mountain, I think.

Ms. Interviewer: That's gotta be Paliku.

Mr. Oliveira: Gotta be because the trees from different angle. This is Kaupō Gap. Here's the silversword, see? This is on top Hana Mountain now. See the pig in his hand? This is down towards the forest reserve. Used to have silversword, see?

Mr. Brenner: This looks like strawberries.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, that grows wild. This is Paliku. Paliku—you see the trees? That's how we used to live in little camps like that, yeah? I mean, what do you call that? Army tents, yeah? This is right next to Paliku. It's a hole in this rock. You can see through, you see? It's not far from Paliku. You walk up going toward the rift. It's a nice place. Coming up to the Hana Mountain. This is on top Hana Mountain. That's us with pigs, yeah? Not so good picture.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, here's a silversword in flower.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, that's tall, now, you see? Is that me standing there? That's on top Hana Mountain by Pohaku Palaha right down in the grass there. I remember that silversword.

Mr. Brenner: That thing must be at least six feet tall.

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, I remember that silversword. It's right by Pohaku Palaha on top. This is one gap. That is gap. This is one cabin. That's Kapalaoa or Holua. This bunch was way afterwards.

Mr. Brenner: Is it Kapalaoa? Kapalaoa was up sooner behind I think that's Holua.

Mr. Oliveira: Holua maybe.

Mr. Brenner: Well, wait a minute. I don't know. What is in there?

Ms. Interviewer: Well, from that other picture ( ) building.

Mr. Oliveira: No, I think that's Kapalaoa. I think that's Kapalaoa because get one the mountain in the back and this is flat.

Mr. Brenner: Oh, and there's Pigpen. That is Pele's Pigpen.

Mr. Oliveira: And that's the same bunch coming with the pigs. Funny, this book was full of pictures. All gone. That's the unfinished. I don't know which one that is.

Ms. Interviewer: That's gotta be Kapalaoa. See all the vegetation?

Mr. Oliveira: All the grass, yeah?

Mr. Brenner: That's gotta be the boundary, yeah?

Mr. Oliveira: Yeah, but that's tents, yeah? Could be Kapalaoa, but from on top facing down. I don't know. I really don't know.

Ms. Interviewer: Those are great!

Mr. Brenner: That's terrific!

END OF TRANSCRIPT

**Civilian Conservation Corps in Hawai'i:  
Oral Histories of the  
Haleakalā Camp, Maui**



**APPENDIX B**

*APPENDIX B*  
BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

**ALVIN U. ORNELLAS**

Alvin “Rex” Ornellas was born on July 4, 1916 in Pa`ia Hospital, Maui. Eldest son of John E. Ornellas and Joaquina “Jane” Ornellas (deMattos), in his early years Alvin lived with his parents in the servants’ quarters of Dr. Dwight Baldwin. His father and mother were both born in Makawao. Alvin’s grandparents emigrated from Portugal - from the islands of Madeira and Azores.

John and Joaquina had 10 children of whom only 8 survived. One died in infancy and Alvin’s younger sister Catherine died of pneumonia at the age of 5. His dad was a caretaker and driver for the Baldwin family, but later became a motorcycle policeman.

His early years of school were interrupted by family illness, changing schools, and moving in with his grandparents who lived at the Pahulei Camp in Grove Ranch. Eventually, Ornellas went to St. Anthony School and graduated from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Alvin had over 30 different jobs in his working career both in private sector and County Government employment on 3 islands: Maui, Hawai`i, and O`ahu. He valued his experiences with the Civilian Conservation Corps at Hawaii National Park during more than one enrollment and multiple years. Alvin was also a member of the U.S. Army Reserves, but did not serve in war and was not on duty during the Pearl Harbor attack.

Alvin enjoys hiking and has maintained physical activity until the present day, including a hike into Haleakala Crater last year, at the age of 90.

Alvin married and has 3 children, two boys and a girl. His daughter lives on the Big Island and both of his sons live in the U.S. Mainland. He is presently retired and lives in his home in Wailuku, Maui.

EXCERPT OF INTERVIEW OF MR. ALVIN U. ORNELLAS  
CONDUCTED ON JANUARY 15, 2010 IN WAILUKU, HAWAII.

Mr. Stanley Solamillo: Alright, and you wanna be called "Rex."

Mr. Alvin "Rex" Ornellas: Yeah, I prefer "Rex," not "Alvin."

Mr. Solamillo: You don't like "Alvin?"

Mr. Ornellas: My dad gave me that name, "Alvin." And later, much later, when I was married, they started calling me "Rex."

Mr. Solamillo: You just gave us your name. So where is the place where you were born on Maui?

Mr. Ornellas: My parents lived in Haiku. They worked for Dr. Dwight Baldwin, the famous Baldwin Family on Maui. My dad was a caretaker, a maintenance man. He took care of the horses. He also took care of the car. I think that was one of the very few cars on Maui. And I guess he learned to drive there. And I was born in the Pa`ia Hospital. My parents lived in Haiku at Dr. Dwight Baldwin's nurses' – servants' quarters, I suppose it was.

Mr. Solamillo: What is the exact date that you were born?

Mr. Ornellas: July 4, 1916.

Mr. Solamillo: What were your parents' full names?

Mr. Ornellas: My dad was John Ornellas, John E. Ornellas. And my mother's maiden name was Joaquina deMattos. Later on, they started calling her, "Jane."

Mr. Solamillo: And were they born here on Maui?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes, both of them were born on Maui, Upcountry somewhere.

Mr. Solamillo: And where did your ancestors come from?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm not sure, but they came from two islands: one, Madeira: the other from Azores. I don't know which one came from where.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: But that's where they came from—Portuguese Islands.

Mr. Solamillo: Your father, where was he born?

Mr. Ornellas: He was born up there in Makawao somewhere, not sure exactly where.

Mr. Solamillo: And how about your mother?

Mr. Ornellas: The same—up there in Makawao.

Mr. Solamillo: How many siblings did you have?

Mr. Ornellas: There was ten of us. My parents had ten children. Two died in infancy. One was just a few months old. The older one was five years old when she passed away of pneumonia, I understand. I remember her. And I remember the little one. I'm the first born. So I remember Catherine that died at age five, and another one died at a few months. Eight survived.

Mr. Solamillo: When the Great Depression happened on Maui, how did it affect your family?

Mr. Ornellas: The Great Depression?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah. So it's like 1929, we get the stock market crash that happens in New York in October 1<sup>st</sup>, I think it is. So how did it affect Maui and how did it affect your family?

Mr. Ornellas: It affected Maui, I'm sure. My dad was lucky. He worked as a policeman after doing other jobs, he finally became a policeman. Perhaps about that time, he became a policeman. He was a motorcycle officer. I remember him in his uniform, very snappy uniform, Persian collar, leggings up to his knees. Nice uniform. I had to polish his leggings and shoes for him as a little kid. Well, that's why the CCC started, because of the Depression.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. Right. Where did you go to school?

Mr. Ornellas: I went to Pa`ia School for one year, but it was broken up because my dad had goiter problems. He was in the County. He was a policeman. I remember now. And I had to live with my grandparents in Grove Ranch, the old Pahulei Camp, which is no more. So I lived with my grandparents. And I missed a lot of school. Later on, the following year I went back to Pa`ia School again, back to the first

grade, and I didn't complete the first grade. Then my parents decided to send me to Saint Anthony in Wailuku. I was the oldest so the first that went to school. And I went to school on the train. They put me back to first grade at Saint Anthony.

Mr. Solamillo: So where did you get the train?

Mr. Ornellas: The train in Pa`ia. Let me get back to my school first.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: I went back to the first grade in Saint Anthony, but after a couple of months and maybe a few weeks, they put me in the third grade because I was old already. The kids, all my classmates, were my age so they moved me up a little – I mean, up to the third grade. So I caught up although I had lost a lot in the beginning.

Mr. Solamillo: So you'd get a train in Pa`ia and go all the way?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, the train depot was in Pa`ia about three-fourth's of a mile from where we lived. We often walked to the depot, but many times, we got the County car. My dad was like second in command there. He was very close to the Deputy Sheriff who was in charge. And the County car was under the Sheriff's protection, I guess. And my dad had the use of that car a lot, so he drove us to school many times, myself and the Deputy Sheriff's children. There was a few policemen who lived in the same neighborhood, so we either walked or rode. I was the only one that went to Saint Anthony. The other kids all stayed at Pā'ia School.

Mr. Solamillo: How far did you get in school?

Mr. Ornellas: Pardon?

Mr. Solamillo: How far did you get in school?

Mr. Ornellas: Up to the tenth grade. I graduated from the tenth grade. That school didn't go beyond the tenth grade. I graduated with suit, tie, and shoes, and everything.

Mr. Solamillo: Did your brothers and sisters get to the tenth grade, or did they go beyond the tenth grade?

Mr. Ornellas: I think they all went beyond the tenth grade, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: What work did you do and what work did they do as children? Did you guys do

any work when you were children?

Mr. Ornellas: As children, no. We were not in the plantation, so we didn't work. The plantation kids all went to work, summertime, especially. I didn't have to work.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So, you got your first job when, as a teenager?

Mr. Ornellas: My first job after I graduated? Yeah, I was 16 when I graduated. In fact, I was 15 when I graduated 'cause I graduated in June, and I made 15 in July. So I went to work for American Can in Haiku.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, how about your brothers and sisters?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know what happened to them. They were all far behind me. Just below me was one of my sisters. I'm trying to remember now. The one that died at five, well, we don't count her—Tilly. Tilly was maybe ten years below me. Two died in-between. So I didn't know much of my siblings. I was like brought up alone. I was the oldest and the others were all below me. I wouldn't be bothered. You know, "Kid, get out of my way."

Mr. Solamillo: So what years did you work for the Civilian Conservation Corps?

Mr. Ornellas: I started at Haleakalā in 1934 when I made 18. I joined the National Guard as a 18-year-old. This was in July. And then October, I think it was, my dad says, "Eh, Alvin," he called me "Alvin" at that time, "I have a job for you." I said, "Yeah, where?" I wasn't working. I got laid off from American Can. And he says, "CCC Camp." Well, I had no idea what that was. He told me I had to go to Wailuku. I don't know if he brought me to Wailuku. If I caught the train, I'm not sure, but I joined the group of young boys in Wailuku. Signed up for the CCC. Somebody there showed us the ropes. And 23 of us piled up on the truck, a brand-new, Ford, V-8, Stake body truck. And we went up to Haleakalā on that truck. The road was not complete. The road ended up at about – the pavement ended, oh, about 7 – 8,000 feet elevation. And then it was a little dirt road up to about 8,000 feet. And then we had to walk from the end of the road where the truck couldn't go any more. We walked to the summit – not to the summit, but to the rim of the crater with our suitcases on our backs and goods.

Mr. Solamillo: You walked?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, we had to walk.

Mr. Solamillo: That is a long way.

Mr. Ornellas: Long way straight up.

Mr. Solamillo: Had you ever been to Haleakalā before or was this your first time?

Mr. Ornellas: I had never been to the top of the mountain before. There was no road and I didn't go.

Mr. Solamillo: So you said there were 23—?

Mr. Ornellas: Twenty-three of us.

Mr. Solamillo: CCC boys from Wailuku?

Mr. Ornellas: From Maui.

Mr. Solamillo: From Maui.

Mr. Ornellas: From all over.

Mr. Solamillo: But they all came here to Wailuku?

Mr. Ornellas: They all met at Wailuku and we all went up together.

Mr. Solamillo: Where did they meet in Wailuku?

Mr. Ornellas: I think it was at the Alexander House Settlement at the corner of Main and Market Street.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you remember what ages they might have been? Were they older and younger boys?

Mr. Ornellas: Most of us were at least 18.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: You have to be 18 to be eligible to join—18 to 25.

Mr. Solamillo: So nobody snuck in and said they were older, but they were younger?

Mr. Ornellas: I think a few. The parents cheated their age because I found out later that they were a couple years younger than I. We all supposed to be the same age or older. I know one guy that is in Kahului, he claims to be 91. I said, "How did you—

?” He was in my camp, the first camp. “Weren’t you supposed to be 18?” He says, “I don’t know.” He knows he’s 91 now.

Mr. Solamillo: So you got these guys that are saying that they’re 18, but they’re actually younger?

Mr. Ornellas: Couple were younger and some were perhaps, older than 25.

Mr. Solamillo: So how did the older boys treat these other guys?

Mr. Ornellas: No problem, but I remember two of the older boys became a truck driver and a truck helper because of their age. And of course, the guy that became a driver was from your country—Lāhainā. He worked for the Baldwin Packers. He was a truck driver down there—the pineapple company. So they made him a truck driver for the CCC. So he drove us up. It’s Solomon Kaleialoha from Lāhainā or from Honolua. You know where Honolua is, Art? Stanley, rather?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: They were from there. There was quite a few from – maybe four or five from Honolua and Lāhainā.

Mr. Solamillo: What ethnicities were all these boys?

Mr. Ornellas: All mixture.

Mr. Solamillo: You just told me you got Hawaiian, right? Solomon is Hawaiian.

Mr. Ornellas: Solomon Kaleialoha was Hawaiian. His helper was Harry Pali of Lāhainā or maybe Honolua. They worked together. He was Hawaiian. Quincy Kalama was Chinese/Hawaiian from Honokōhau. You know where Honokōhau is?

Mr. Solamillo: Yes, I do.

Mr. Ornellas: That used to be the end of the road. They lived way in the valley. I went to their house once – a few times. And of course, there was Japanese, Portuguese.

Mr. Solamillo: Any Filipinos?

Mr. Ornellas: I don’t think there was Filipinos back then. I mean, not in that camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. Any Chinese?

Mr. Ornellas: Chinese, yes, a couple. Korean, maybe one.

Mr. Solamillo: Maybe one Korean. Okay. Did you know that the CCC crews here in Hawai'i were the only groups that were integrated? It means everybody get together.

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, is that right?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, on the Mainland, they were all segregated.

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, my.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah. So it's really important. The foreman, who was the foreman?

Mr. Ornellas: Good question.

Mr. Solamillo: And what ethnicity was he? We're talking about your first year.

Mr. Ornellas: The first year on Maui, the foreman was a Haole. I believe he was from Canada. Nice man. His name was Williams. His last name was Williams. And I think he was a retired Army officer from the Canadian Army. I don't know if that's so, but that's what I remember. And I do know that he had a handgun, a weapon, and he was very good at it, because he showed us his skill with the gun. He would draw and shoot without aiming. You see, that's the way they were taught in the Army. And I always loved guns. So I'm very interested in him and his guns. Williams was the boss, and he had a Hawaiian foreman, an elderly man, you know, maybe 50. We thought he was an old man, but he must've been 50 or 60, probably, around. Pure Hawaiian.

Mr. Solamillo: What was his name?

Mr. Ornellas: That's why I have notes here. Time out. That Hawaiian man was— I remember him well. Good hiker. Simeon – Simeona. The Hawaiian man was Simeona. The head man was Williams and the foreman was Simeona. Then there was a Haole cook. Very rare thing to find a Haole cook back then.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, mostly Asian.

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know where he came from, but he was the cook and he was a white man.

Mr. Solamillo: You remember his name?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember his name.

Mr. Solamillo: You said that the supervisor, Williams, was nice.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: How about the Hawaiian? How was he?

Mr. Ornellas: He was a nice man, very nice man.

Mr. Solamillo: He was nice too. Okay. So these two people in charge, did they treat everybody alike?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So everybody gets equal treatment?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. They didn't pick on anybody or anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Were you given any kind of uniforms to wear, and can you describe them?

Mr. Ornellas: In Haleakalā had like fatigue clothes, Army fatigues. I don't know if it was G.I., but it looked like the real thing, you know floppy, denim hat, but other than that, there was no uniform. Shoes were just work shoes that we were issued.

Mr. Solamillo: So you were issued shoes?

Mr. Ornellas: We were issued good working clothes.

Mr. Solamillo: And you got pants?

Mr. Ornellas: Pants and shirt.

Mr. Solamillo: And a shirt. Did you get a jacket?

Mr. Ornellas: And no jacket.

Mr. Solamillo: No jacket?

Mr. Ornellas: No, nothing, that first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Kinda cold up there, right?

Mr. Ornellas: It got real cold, yeah. Raincoat, we had. We were issued, rain gear, rain pants and rain top, coat.

Mr. Solamillo: So the clothes, the first season, is the clothing adequate for working on Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't think so. I went back to the volcano later on, on the Big Island. Over there we had warm clothes and it's not as cold as Haleakalā.

Mr. Solamillo: What did you do to stay warm?

Mr. Ornellas: Stayed indoors a lot.

Mr. Solamillo: You stayed indoors.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, and we had heaters. I think it was white gasoline heaters for lighting, and for heating, and for cooking.

Mr. Solamillo: You said you did get rain gear, so that's like a poncho?

Mr. Ornellas: Hm-mm.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. That first season, did members of the crew get sick?

Mr. Ornellas: One.

Mr. Solamillo: One?

Mr. Ornellas: One died of pneumonia.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So can you describe what happened? What was his name?

Mr. Ornellas: We used to work sometimes in bad weather. We were building the trail from our campsite, the stone house, to White Hill, which is two and a half miles. We worked on the trail a lot in all kinds of weather building the trail from scratch through all that lava, three feet wide, like a sidewalk. Smooth. Very nice. Good work. And then this young Hawaiian kid from Kahakuloa got sick. Went to the Kula Sanitarium. I think he went to the Kula Sanitarium for treatment, and then he died at the hospital there. So we went to his funeral in Kahakuloa, Kahakuloa, the northern end of Maui. I remember we went to his funeral on the Stake body truck. All of us exposed to the weather and it poured rain, I think, all the way. When we got to Kahakuloa, we were drenched, but the people there, the parents of that boy, the family, small community, very close. They all came out and they took good care of us. Gave us warm clothes. Gave us food.

Mr. Solamillo: How long did you stay there at Kahakuloa?

Mr. Ornellas: We stayed for the service, the burial, and we had something to eat, then we went back to camp. His name was Solomon Kaleialoha, a very well-known name on Maui. I'm sorry. I take that back. His name was Solomon Ho`opi`i.

Mr. Solamillo: Ho`opi`i.

Mr. Ornellas: Kaleialoha was the truck driver.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you finally get more clothes after—?

Mr. Ornellas: No. We stayed indoors a lot. After he died, when the weather was bad, we wouldn't leave the house, the stone house.

Mr. Solamillo: Was it your choice or was it the foreman's, the boss'?

Mr. Ornellas: The boss.

Mr. Solamillo: The boss.

Mr. Ornellas: I guess he was told by somebody—keep us indoors. So we took it easy for a long time.

Mr. Solamillo: How long was a long time?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, maybe weeks at a time. Our outhouse was outside on a pile of rock — I mean, lava. That little outhouse was perched on the lava formation.

Mr. Solamillo: Tell me something about the food that you guys ate at the camp. Was it different from what you had at home like in terms of quality or quantity?

Mr. Ornellas: Quantity, we had lots of food. It was good. I had no complaints about the food. I don't think anybody complained. I don't really remember what we had for food. And I believe we took a sandwich on the trail. We wouldn't come back for lunch. We stayed out until eight hours. We worked an eight-hour day, approximately.

Mr. Solamillo: So you don't remember what you had for breakfast or what you had for lunch?

Mr. Ornellas: I know we had lots of eggs. Eggs came in cases.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you gain or lose weight while you worked for the CCC?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember. See, that was too far back, but I remember more about the

other camp. Yeah, but later on that comes up where I gained weight.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Alright. We're gonna do a slight pause right now. I guess at this point, you can talk about your photographs. I'm going to show you a couple of photographs. One looks almost like maybe you might have it. So you were talking to us about you had 23 boys that went through that first season.

Mr. Ornellas: I had a picture of all 23 of them and I don't know what happened to it.

Mr. Solamillo: You don't know what happened?

Mr. Ornellas: I had all their names in the back of the picture. This is the second camp, Stanley.

Mr. Solamillo: That's second camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Second camp. The first camp was six months. This was second camp.

Mr. Solamillo: And that was in 1934?

Mr. Ornellas: '34 to '35.

Mr. Solamillo: 1934 to '35. And that was—?

Mr. Ornellas: October to April, I think it was.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And that was at Haleakalā Crater?

Mr. Ornellas: Haleakalā Crater.

Mr. Solamillo: The second camp was where?

Mr. Ornellas: Same place—in the crater, though, mostly in the crater. This was on the rim.

Mr. Solamillo: Crater rim, then.

Mr. Ornellas: The first one, yeah. The second one, inside the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's with all the tents pitched inside the crater?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. And that was 1935?

Mr. Ornellas: The second camp?

Mr. Solamillo: Yes.

Mr. Ornellas: '36 to '37.

Mr. Solamillo: 1936 to 1937. Then what happened after that? There was another camp?

Mr. Ornellas: In '39 I went to the Big Island.

Mr. Solamillo: In '39 you go to Big Island.

Mr. Ornellas: Kilauea--for one year.

Mr. Solamillo: What happens between '37 and '39?

Mr. Ornellas: I worked here and there. I worked in Honolulu a lot. Many different jobs. I had over 30 different jobs in my working lifetime. I wrote it all down and she has a record of it somewhere.

Mr. Solamillo: So you were not with CCC from '37 to '39, then?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So what we're gonna concentrate on is your experience at the first two camps. Essentially, the crater rim and--

Mr. Ornellas: The first two camps on Maui.

Mr. Solamillo: And Crater Camp. Okay, Rex, I'm gonna ask you, do you remember if you got any kind of special training to do any of the tasks that you had to do?

Mr. Ornellas: You're talking about just the first camp?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah. We can do first and second camp. And maybe the best thing is to tell us what you did, job-wise, when you were at the first camp, and then what you did, job-wise, when you went to the second camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Alright. At the first camp, I was just a worker. I did trail work. Most of us. But one man handled a horse and four mules, and he had the helper.

Mr. Solamillo: Who was that?

Mr. Ornellas: The man that was in the charge of the horse and mules was John DeCosta, a man from Makawao. I don't know who his helper was. Then there was two truck driver -- a truck driver and a helper. I gave you their names. And that was it as far as rank. They had higher rank, higher pay. I was just an ordinary worker,

ordinary seaman on land. And I learned to handle picks, and shovels, and a crowbar. We didn't use dynamite. We did all the work by hand tools, all the breaking stones, making trails through lava formations, and all that. And later on in that same camp, I became helper to the mule packer. John DeCosta and I worked together. I was his assistant. We just had two horses and four mules. So I got to ride a horse. I didn't do any more trail work. We hauled supplies. We had to haul equipment down to the crater that they were building a camp down starting—

Mr. Solamillo: For the next season?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. Springs, we built springs. Well, the springs were there. We kinda made a wall around the springs, and we built water tanks. We assembled water tanks. You know what water tanks look like? They all staves. Hundreds of um and 5,000-gallon tank.

Mr. Solamillo: And you had to put cable around them?

Mr. Ornellas: And the cable around them. All of that had to be hauled down to the crater—three different locations. So this is what we did—the first camp. Like I said, after a few months, I went to work with the animals—horses and mules. The rest of the boys, they worked on the trails. They hauled supplies on their backs. The mules hauled a lot, but the men also hauled a lot that they could handle on their backs.

Mr. Solamillo: Alright. Your base camp is at the crater rim, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes, Kalahaku.

Mr. Solamillo: So how long did it take to get from the end of the road to base camp?

Mr. Ornellas: At that stage?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, the first year, 1934.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah?

Mr. Solamillo: How long did it take for you to get—? You get off—?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, we walked straight up to the— We had no trail. We just walked up the incline. I don't know. We were not acclimated. And when we had to carry loads

from the truck to the house, and we walked maybe 50 yards. We would have to stop for breath. Put the load down, and pick it up, and go.

Mr. Solamillo: So did it take a whole afternoon?

Mr. Ornellas: It take hours, two, three hours, maybe. Of course, we dillydallied a lot, too. Nobody wants to overwork.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. Did you get any kind of instructions in anything else like any academic subjects? Any math?

Mr. Ornellas: Not in the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Not in the first camp. Were you given a choice when you guys started to work or—?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: You were just told this is what we gotta do and here's the equipment?

Mr. Ornellas: The boss picked. He picked the mule man because I guess he interviewed this guy, and he had knowledge of horses, so they made him the mule packer. And later on, I took an interest in animals, so he made me his helper. His original helper probably quit, or went to do something else, didn't wanna work. So I became his helper. And I loved working with animals, so I worked with John DeCosta a lot.

Mr. Solamillo: Was there any kind of job that you really liked and any kind that you disliked?

Mr. Ornellas: You talking about just the camp or in my—?

Mr. Solamillo: Just the camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Just the camp. I enjoyed working with horses and mules.

Mr. Solamillo: That's your favorite?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, rather than digging, making trails.

Mr. Solamillo: And the worst one is making the trails?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, and hauling something on your back.

Mr. Solamillo: I'm gonna ask you a little bit about trail-making. When you first start, it's just lava

rock.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, there was no trail.

Mr. Solamillo: There was no trail at all. Did somebody stake it out?

Mr. Ornellas: I have to retract that. There was a primitive trail from Kalahaku where the stone house is – was – to White Hill where the parking lot is now. Very primitive trail that hunters used. We improved on that trail a lot. That was our first project.

Mr. Solamillo: That was your first project?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, up to where the parking lot is. And then we built the trail from scratch to the top of White Hill. There was no trail to the top of White Hill. The Park Service says we have to build a trail up. We kind of went around that hill and up to the top.

Mr. Solamillo: Up to the crater, okay. How much were you paid per day?

Mr. Ornellas: Base pay was thirty dollars a month for the ordinary worker. And assistant leaders, like the truck driver was assistant leader, and the mule packer was the assistant leader, they gave him that rank, he made thirty-six dollars a month. We kept five dollars of the thirty. Twenty-five went home. If you made thirty-six dollars, you kept eleven dollars. Your parents get the same—twenty-five. And later on, in another camp, there were leaders that made forty-five dollars a month. They kept twenty-three, I think, and the parents still kept the same—twenty-five.

Mr. Solamillo: Did your rate increase while you were employed by CCC at any time?

Mr. Ornellas: Not in that first camp. I was a buck private all the way, although we were not called “buck privates.” There was no military involved.

Mr. Solamillo: How about on the second season?

Mr. Ornellas: I became assistant leader in the second camp.

Mr. Solamillo: So you got more money. You got the thirty-six dollars?

Mr. Ornellas: I got the thirty-six.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Did you have to pay for food and clothing?

Mr. Ornellas: No, negative.

Mr. Solamillo: Negative, okay. You said you sent money to your family?

Mr. Ornellas: The money was sent to our families.

Mr. Solamillo: So the money, you never saw it.

Mr. Ornellas: We saw the five.

Mr. Solamillo: You saw the five.

Mr. Ornellas: That's it. It was plenty.

Mr. Solamillo: So you didn't know how the family spent your money?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm sure they made good use of it. They didn't put it away. They used it.

Mr. Solamillo: They used it. Okay. Alright. You've mentioned that you went on to Kilauea after you finished two seasons. So you were at Kilauea in 1939. Were you on Maui in 1941 or not?

Mr. Ornellas: '41?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: I was on Maui, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: You were back on Maui.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, '41, I was in – no, I was in Kua'i. I was in the Army when the war started.

Mr. Solamillo: So you joined before the war started or after Pearl Harbor?

Mr. Ornellas: I joined in '34—the National Guard. And all the time I was in the CCC, they put me on inactive duty. When I was out of the CCC, I went back to the Guard, back to active duty. I was a buck private all the time until 1940 when I was on Maui. I came out of the CCC on the Big Island in '39. I went to work for some company on the Big Island for one year – not quite one year. I came back to Maui in '40. I rejoined the CCC – I rejoined the National Guard. They put me back on active duty. I was always in the Guard from '34 until '40, most of the time inactive. So I'm trying to remember all these details. So in 1940, I went back to active duty, and then they called us in for one year. They knew something was up in Japan. So we were called into active duty, my company, Company C, 299<sup>th</sup> Infantry, in

Pā'ia. We were sent to Honolulu. After staying in Honolulu for about two or three months, they shipped us over to Kaua'i. So I served on Kaua'i for a long time.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Alright, we're going to go back to the two camps in '34. I'm gonna backtrack one more time. In '39, you only do one year in Kilauea, right?

Mr. Ornellas: One year.

Mr. Solamillo: One year. So that's '39 only or '39 to '40?

Mr. Ornellas: '39 to '40.

Mr. Solamillo: '39 to '40. Okay. You talked about the camp at the crater, Crater Camp, and one at the crater rim. White Hill is below that, correct? White Hill?

Mr. Ornellas: White Hill is below the summit. Is that what you mean?

Mr. Solamillo: Below the summit.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Crater Camp and the camp at the rim are above White Hill?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: No?

Mr. Ornellas: The rim is below White Hill. The rim is about 9,200 feet elevation. And the end of the road now is maybe 9,700 feet elevation.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Were living conditions different between the two camps: the one on the rim and the one in the crater? You said that the one in the crater was better?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, really different. In the crater, we lived in tents, two-man tents. On the rim, we had spring beds, double-deckers in the stone house. And the stone house was weatherproofed. You know, you close the shutters and the doors with the little stoves on. We were warm in the building, but down below it was cold. Of course, it doesn't get as cold down below as on the rim, but living conditions were different.

Mr. Solamillo: Did the CCC build that house—the stone house?

Mr. Ornellas: No, that was all built way back. I have some information about it. Later on, maybe we can look at this. In fact, there's a picture of it. Maybe not. Anyway.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. When they talk about the rest house, they're talking about the stone house?

Mr. Ornellas: The stone house, yeah. It was built in the early '30s, perhaps, early '20s.

Mr. Solamillo: '20s?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: It was reported that the CCC boys stayed in the rest house or the stone house until the camp could get ready. Do you know what camp they were talking about? This comes from one of the reports that was issued by the Park Service because they would do annual reports.

Mr. Ornellas: I got out in '35 and I went back to the second camp in '36. Until '37, that stone house was still there. They demolished that stone house sometime maybe after World War II. That's my guess.

Mr. Solamillo: So you stayed only in the stone house in the first season, right?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I went back to it later on, my second camp. That'll come later. But my first six months was in that stone house. We called it "the Rest House."

Mr. Solamillo: How many tents were erected in crater camp and by whom?

Mr. Ornellas: I have pictures here of this different camps. You want to look at um?

Mr. Solamillo: You were at each one of these camps?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I spent time at each one. The first camp is Holua. That was in my second camp, but the first camp in the crater for me was that one.

Mr. Solamillo: But this is your second?

Mr. Ornellas: 1936.

Mr. Solamillo: That's 1936.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, Holua. That was on the floor of the crater. That's when we had 36 men in the camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. We'll have to photograph these afterwards. Then you have another one there.

Mr. Ornellas: You want camps now?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: The second camp was Camp Wingate. Edward Wingate was the head of the National Park Service.

Mr. Solamillo: Correct. He's the one that writes these reports, yes.

Mr. Ornellas: What did you say about him?

Mr. Solamillo: He writes the reports that I reference a lot.

Mr. Ornellas: Is that right?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: Well, that camp, second camp, that I went to was named after him. It's Kapalaoa, the name of the area, Kapalaoa. We called it "Camp Wingate."

Mr. Solamillo: And then what year were you here at this camp?

Mr. Ornellas: That's probably in '36, '37, between those two years.

Mr. Solamillo: And the other one, the Crater Camp, that you just showed me at Holua?

Mr. Ornellas: '36.

Mr. Solamillo: That's 1936. Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: This is the first one. And then, later on, Palikū, that's down at the far end of the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: Palikū?

Mr. Ornellas: Palikū. The same group of us, 36 of us, moved down from Kapalaoa to Palikū.

Mr. Solamillo: And what year was this?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, I left in '39. I'm sorry. Let me think. '37, '37.

Mr. Solamillo: Were there any cabins built at Palikū?

Mr. Ornellas: After I left.

Mr. Solamillo: After you left?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, sometime after '37. In fact, I hauled some of the material for the cabin. But I left in '37, and then they started building the cabins. So I had nothing to do—

Mr. Solamillo: You did. You brought the materials.

Mr. Ornellas: I hauled material, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Without you, they could not have built those cabins.

Mr. Ornellas: Right, especially, for the tanks. And here's another picture of the same--  
Kapalaoa, Camp Wingate. It doesn't say. Oh, yeah, Wingate, yeah, but I think it was under construction, but it's the same as this other one here.

Mr. Solamillo: How many boys did it take to put up a tent?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember. I was a mule packer when all of these tent pitching was going on.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So you just brought the stuff.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. And the tents were two-man tents, so they were small, very small. And we had wooden bunks in those tents. Just pieces of boards that we put together. And we could disassemble them, and throw um on a mule, and take them to another spot, another campsite. Very, very portable.

Mr. Solamillo: So only two boys slept in each tent?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, two-man tent.

Mr. Solamillo: And at this time, you still got 36 men or boys at this camp, correct?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And you're still getting off at the end of the road, and you're still walking up by foot?

Mr. Ornellas: The beginning was 1934. In 1935, I have the date here I found in the paper. April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1935, the road was completed to the top. February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1935, the road was — there was a big opening shindig up there. We helped with the parking and

helped with all the visitors that were there. So we didn't have to do much hauling. Our truck went right close to our rest house by that time.

Mr. Solamillo: You mentioned that you were hauling materials for these 5,000-gallon tanks, right?

Mr. Ornellas: We hauled all the tanks down piece-by-piece.

Mr. Solamillo: And most of these tanks, they were assembled to collect rain water, right?

Mr. Ornellas: We had springs. There were springs in the crater, three springs, and that's where the three campsites were: Holua, Wingate, and Palikū.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so you had springs at each one of these camps, and that's why the 5,000-gallon water tanks were set up there?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So how did they work? You put a pipe in from the spring?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, gravity. The springs are usually on the little slope above the camp. And we would run a probably 3/4-inch galvanized pipe to the tank which was near our camp, right close to the camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And then did you have a shower connected to it?

Mr. Ornellas: No, nobody took a bath, never.

Mr. Solamillo: No bathing?

Mr. Ornellas: Except in Palikū, we bathed in the waterfall.

Mr. Solamillo: Oh, you bathed in the waterfall in Palikū. So how long you guys up there? For one week at a time or two weeks at a time?

Mr. Ornellas: I never went home. I used to go hunting on my weekends and days off. Go pig hunting, goat hunting. We hardly ever went home. Some of the boys went home maybe monthly. I remember when they passed through Makawao Town in this open truck, maybe 15 people or ten people would be on the truck. Talking about the first camp now. When we passed through Makawao Town, all those people held their noses. They knew that we smelled. We didn't smell bad up there, but when we got down to our homes, "Eh, you gotta get a bath! Get outta here!"

(Laughter) The Makawao people knew us. They knew our truck. Our truck had “USDI” on it—Department of the Interior. It didn’t say “National Park Service.” This is the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: So you didn’t bathe before you come down?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no way. There was not enough water to bathe, and we didn’t feel like bathing anyway. Too cold.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the death of the one boy who died from pneumonia.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I understand. I’m not sure. I may be wrong, but that’s what I understand, it was pneumonia. I know it wasn’t an accident. He landed in the hospital—sick.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. It was October 27<sup>th</sup>, I think, when he passed away in ‘34.

Mr. Ornellas: You have that information there?

Mr. Solamillo: I had found it in a report that I think Wingate had done. I don’t remember. No, it was Sager. Sager had written a report. The guy for the Park Service is named Sager, and he mentions the actual date. Were you guys kinda sad after he passed away?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, we were close. I was not close to him, but we got along. All of us got along well.

Mr. Solamillo: You mentioned that there were some changes. You guys kind of stayed indoors more.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Was that the only change that the Park Service initiated that might’ve been related to his getting sick?

Mr. Ornellas: It’s all I can remember.

Mr. Solamillo: It’s all you can remember. Okay. You had nothing to do with the road project to Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Did any CCC boys work on that?

Mr. Ornellas: No, except at the end of the road, the opening ceremonies, we participated.  
That's all.

Mr. Solamillo: Right, but none of the construction work?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Kapalaoa is Camp Wingate, correct?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, that's the same place.

Mr. Solamillo: Same place. There was a contractor who worked on that road. I think it was E.  
E. Black.

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And he had 152 men working on the Haleakalā Road. Did you guys have any  
interaction with him?

Mr. Ornellas: No, nothing at all. Except once we stole the truck, I remember.

Mr. Solamillo: No?

Mr. Ornellas: See, Christmastime, this is the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: So this was '34, '35.

Mr. Ornellas: '34, '35 camp. Christmastime, half could go home for Christmas -- not half, but  
most of us. Somebody had to stay back in the house to keep an eye on the  
things. The boss was gone.

Mr. Solamillo: This is the rest house?

Mr. Ornellas: The rest house. He told us a few of us had to stay back. I forget how many.  
Maybe five or six. The rest could go home out of 23. So most everybody went  
home for Christmas. And those that stayed back go home for New Years. So I  
stayed back. I volunteered to go home for Christmas, and New Years, I was  
supposed to stay back. Me and a few other guys, we stole the truck, which the  
truck was parked nearby along one of those switchbacks. And across the road  
there was a stone crusher straddling the road. This was before the road was  
completed, now. And there was a tractor across the road, so we couldn't go

down. You know, lava on both sides, a stone crusher over it, and the tractor parked in there. One of our boys could handle the tractor. He says, "Ah, I can handle it." He got on the tractor. He started it, and he drove it up the side of the mountain for a little bit. And we got on the truck and we went all the way to Kahakuloa – not, we went to Honolua to the truck driver's house.

Mr. Solamillo: That's a long way.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, in the middle of the night! And we were drinking. We found booze along the way. We all got back all drunk early in the morning, about three o'clock in the morning. And this, I don't know if you wanna tape all this, but we started cooking our breakfast. We were all feeling high and hungry. So we started cooking eggs. The cook wasn't around. He would've killed us if he was there. We got eggs from the crate. The boss, Williams, had a keg of whisky in his little closet. . . .

Mr. Ornellas: . . . which was locked, but we pried that door opened, and we had a hose. We knew how to do it. Put a hose in that little bar there, and we was sucking his whiskey–okolehau! It wasn't whiskey. It was homemade stuff. We were all feeling high as kites and we cooked I don't know how many eggs. We started throwing eggs at each other. You know how crazy young people can be? Williams came home about eight o'clock, I think, and we were all passed out on the different beds. He was mad. He hit a few of the young boys. I was smart. I got under the blankets. I was on the top deck of the double-decker. I was under the blankets. I didn't budge, but I think some of the boys was still up and about. He whacked um. I heard he hit um hard, but we deserved it.

Mr. Solamillo: Did he send some guys home?

Mr. Ornellas: No, nobody got fired or anything. No problem. He just forgot it all. He fixed us good, you know. I guess we had punishment, but that was it. He was a good man.

Mr. Solamillo: So you drove all the way?

Mr. Ornellas: All the way to Honolua.

Mr. Solamillo: To Honolua.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And drove all the way back?

Mr. Ornellas: And you know, that Ford truck was not broken in. We got a brand-new truck when we went up that first day. And the truck could hardly make it up that mountain. It was a V-8, but it wasn't broken in. I remember the truck driver says, "I have it on compound low." You know how slow that is? We would run alongside the truck because, you know, tired of riding! We rode hours on that truck before we got to where the road ended. So we would run alongside the truck. Of course, we were peeing from the truck on the way up, too.

Mr. Solamillo: Boys will be boys.

Mr. Ornellas: Boys will be boys. So easy with boys.

Mr. Solamillo: You mentioned that the CCC boys worked the dedication for the Haleakalā Road when they finally finished it. Were you there when they finished it for that?

Mr. Ornellas: When they finished the road?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, when they had dedication?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, we were there. We helped.

Mr. Solamillo: So tell me what you did.

Mr. Ornellas: Well, we helped parking.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you direct traffic?

Mr. Ornellas: And directed traffic, yeah. I'm not sure exactly what – how important we were, but we helped. We took the day off and we worked with whoever was in charge of that. There were no Rangers on Maui at that time, Park Rangers. I don't think so.

Mr. Solamillo: So who made sure who came in and left Haleakalā? Did anybody check? So was there a gate house or something—a gate house when you come up to the park?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: There was not.

Mr. Ornellas: There was no park entrance. No boundary. No nothing. Not marked, anyway.

Mr. Solamillo: Did local people like the Baldwins go up there often? Because we get a Baldwin Ranch that goes up to—?

Mr. Ornellas: No, they never went up, but local people went up to see their kin. My dad went up once or twice. And people from Lāhainā went up. I remember. They had some nice, young, pretty girls.

Mr. Solamillo: Oh, so the girls came up.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: All the way from Lāhainā?

Mr. Ornellas: All the way from Lāhainā.

Mr. Solamillo: That's a long way. Did you do any work with the silversword plants?

Mr. Ornellas: No, nothing at all.

Mr. Solamillo: Nothing at all.

Mr. Ornellas: There was lots of silverswords, but nothing, we had nothing to do with it. And there were no nene. Not a single nene.

Mr. Solamillo: You mentioned they had pig.

Mr. Ornellas: Outside of the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: Outside of the crater.

Mr. Ornellas: Wild pigs and many wild goats. The goats were in the crater and out of the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So were they eating the silversword, you think?

Mr. Ornellas: The goats would probably eat the silversword. They would eat anything.

Mr. Solamillo: So do you know anybody who did work on the silversword project?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Nobody, okay.

Mr. Ornellas: I don't think anybody. From the two camps that I was in, nobody touched the

silversword.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. In one of the reports, there's talk of the Base Camp and there's talk of the Spur Camp at Haleakalā. Do you remember which camps these are because you gave us Crater Camp, Camp Wingate, and the camp at Palikū?

Mr. Ornellas: That's all.

Mr. Solamillo: That's it?

Mr. Ornellas: There were no Spur Camps.

Mr. Solamillo: No Spur Camp, okay. Okay, do you know anything about the Haleakalā Visitor Center?

Mr. Ornellas: There was nothing up there.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's 1935 to '36, and then the observation station from 1936. You don't recall anything of that?

Mr. Ornellas: Observation station, that's the one that's on the – at the parking lot? Is that it?

Ms. Kathryn Ladoulis Urban: It's also called "The White Hill Observatory Center."

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. What do you call that, Maile? The clay thing that they made of the crater that's up at the observatory at the parking lot?

Mr. Solamillo: It's a model? Right, it's a model?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, a model of the crater. I took the man down. In 1936 or '37, I was in the second camp. My boss was Olson, Gunder E. Olson. Anyway, he told me, "Rex, you take one horse extra." I was in Palikū. I had to go all the way to the end of the road at White Hill with one extra horse, pick up this man, and take him back to camp. This man is the man that did the model. He did all the drawings. He told me what he was gonna do: taking pictures, and drawings, and whatnot. And many years later, I saw this model. Several years later, I saw this model. He did a wonderful job. I don't know his name. Do you have his name?

Mr. Solamillo: I don't know his name right off. I would have to find out.

Mr. Ornellas: That was about '36 or '37, I think it was. Yeah, we were at Palikū. '37, most

likely.

Mr. Solamillo: So you were the one that took him?

Mr. Ornellas: I took him, yeah, brought him back to our base camp. And of course, then the Boss Olson, took charge, showed him the ropes.

Mr. Solamillo: You brought him from where?

Mr. Ornellas: Pardon?

Mr. Solamillo: Where did you bring him from?

Mr. Ornellas: From the parking lot, I took him to Palikū, and I told him, "Okay, Mr. Olson was right here." They met, and I had nothing more to do with it.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Did you guys receive blankets when you got your clothes, because I forgot to ask you whether you got blankets?

Mr. Ornellas: We had lots of Army blankets.

Mr. Solamillo: How many did you get? Were you allotted one, two?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember. On the Big Island, I remember how many blankets we had, but on Maui, I don't remember. As many as we needed, I think.

Mr. Solamillo: Were you warm? Were you able to stay warm?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Usually in the morning when you got up, do you remember what temperature it was?

Mr. Ornellas: Several times it was below freezing because we had a – at Kalahaku, the stone house, we had a horse and four mules – two horses and four mules, and we had a – like a barrel, cut in half. We filled with water for drinking water. It would freeze at night. I remember was ice about two inches thick in that barrel. And I tipped it. I had a picture taken of me. Somebody took my picture with this disk, frozen disk. I had it up on end like this. I don't know what happened to that picture. You ever saw it, Maile?

Ms. Maile Walsh: No.

Mr. Ornellas: You never saw it? Yeah, I lost it. I don't know what happened to it.

Mr. Solamillo: So for the horses and the mules, you gotta bring food. So what were they eating—oats?

Mr. Ornellas: We had hay bales. No oats. Just hay.

Mr. Solamillo: Just hay. Okay. We already talked that you weren't able to bathe.

Mr. Ornellas: No, nobody bathed.

Mr. Solamillo: And you already told us that you ate a lot of eggs.

Mr. Ornellas: Even the Japanese didn't bathe.

Mr. Solamillo: That's amazing. Did you bring any things to camp?

Mr. Ornellas: Did I what?

Mr. Solamillo: Bring anything personal things to camp?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah, I'm glad you asked. I brought my 22-rifle to first camp. The boss was such a nice guy—Williams. I was kinda scared, you know, but I loved my gun. I couldn't part with it, so I brought it with me. And I, after a couple of days, I asked him, I said, "Can I keep this gun?" He said, "Yeah, what is it?" He was interested. So I showed him. A nice Mossberg rifle. "Yeah, you can keep it." I have a picture of another guy with a 25, 35-rifle, I think it was, Winchester. He kept it. We shoot goats.

Mr. Solamillo: Is that it?

Mr. Ornellas: That's it. Nobody else had guns. Just the two of us. [Mr. Ornellas later added that Maggie Oliveira is pictured with a gun in the photograph discussed on Page 81, but it was not his gun].

Mr. Solamillo: Just you two guys. Okay, we're gonna return to the gun incident later because there's actually something that involves a gun. Going back to the rest house or the stone house, you were there just for one year? No, six months?

Mr. Ornellas: Six months.

Mr. Solamillo: Six months. The sleeping arrangements in the stone house were bunk beds.

Mr. Ornellas: Bunk beds, double-deckers, springs.

Mr. Solamillo: How many boys slept in the rest house?

Mr. Ornellas: There was 23 of us.

Mr. Solamillo: Twenty-three. So all of you guys in the rest house?

Mr. Ornellas: In one room, yeah. It was a long room with double-deckers on two sides.

Mr. Solamillo: So was it crowded or everybody have enough space?

Mr. Ornellas: No, it wasn't crowded. It was comfortable.

Mr. Solamillo: The foreman and the cook, where did they sleep?

Mr. Ornellas: I think they slept in the main room when you entered the building. There was the kitchen and like an office, and they slept in that area.

Mr. Solamillo: So that is Williams, also Solomon, too? Solomon and the cook?

Mr. Ornellas: And the cook, yeah, three of them.

Mr. Solamillo: So the three of them are in the main room?

Mr. Ornellas: Three civilians, I would say.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Can you describe a typical day for us? What time you get up? What time you go to work? You said you had a sandwich that you took. What time did you have lunch? And then what time you get back?

Mr. Ornellas: Really, back then it's kind of forgotten. I don't remember. We worked a good eight-hour day, I would say, you know, traveling time included.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you get up before the sun came up?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no. I think we got up after the sun came up.

Mr. Solamillo: After the sun come up. Okay. Did you get back to camp before the sun go down or after?

Mr. Ornellas: Before the sun went down. We didn't do anything in the dark. I remember seeing

lots of beautiful sunsets and sunrises. Beautiful.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you stay up late? Go to bed early?

Mr. Ornellas: Probably went to bed early.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the work you did, the trail work you said was the one you didn't like the most and—

Mr. Ornellas: I didn't mind it, but—

Mr. Solamillo: It sounds really rough. Is it the roughest work that any of the CCC boys did—the trail work?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, I worked at several camps, at three camps, but that was nothing hard. We enjoyed.

Mr. Solamillo: How did you make it flat?

Mr. Ornellas: All by hand.

Mr. Solamillo: So it's all by hand.

Mr. Ornellas: Pick, shovel, sledge hammer.

Mr. Solamillo: So you gotta break up the rocks.

Mr. Ornellas: Crowbar.

Mr. Solamillo: And then how did you get it flat?

Mr. Ornellas: We moved rocks. I don't know. We built like walls. We went down this way. We'd make it flat. Built a wall on the low side.

Mr. Solamillo: So it's all done by hand?

Mr. Ornellas: All by hand. No cement.

Mr. Solamillo: How much progress do you make a day?

Mr. Ornellas: I wish I knew, but that road from Kalahaku to White Hills is two and a half miles, the trail, two and a half miles, I was told by the boss. And probably took us three or four months, yeah. Like I say, the trail was there already. We improved on it.

Mr. Solamillo: When you were working on any of the projects, did anybody get hurt?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Nobody got hurt?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no, accidents.

Mr. Solamillo: That's amazing. Okay. And you already gave us the date when the Crater Camp was set up. And we've got pictures that show us how many tents there are. And then you said that there were two boys that sleep in each tent, correct?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes.

Mr. Solamillo: Were you up at Crater Camp in January and February 1935? Do you remember a storm that blew down some of the tents?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, in '35, we were still in the stone house. Oh, I'm sorry. I left in April of – about April of '35. After that, I don't know what happened.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so this is actually before. This is between January and February of '35.

Mr. Ornellas: We were in the stone house.

Mr. Solamillo: You were in the stone house, and you didn't have to worry about the storm. Was anybody in the tents?

Mr. Ornellas: We had put up tents, like temporary tents down at the different locations to set the kitchen up. The kitchen was a wooden building like maybe 6x6 wooden. So we would maybe spend a night down there. So we had a couple of tents nearby. The wind might've knocked them over at night.

Mr. Solamillo: That's what it said.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. When it blew, it really blew. The horses couldn't face the wind. They would turn their back to the wind—strong. Cinders would be blowing like—

Mr. Solamillo: So it's almost like a sand storm.

Mr. Ornellas: Like a sand storm, yeah, real strong.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you recall anything like Sliding Sands Trail?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes.

Mr. Solamillo: Which one is that one?

Mr. Ornellas: That's from the summit, close to the summit near White Hill down to the bottom to the floor. I did not work on the Sliding Sands Trail. When I was out of camp, they did work on that trail from Camp Wingate, which was the closest to that trail. Rebuilt that trail from floor to the top completely, rebuilt. Abandoned the old trail which went almost straight up, and this new trail that— Have you ever been in the crater?

Mr. Solamillo: No.

Mr. Ornellas: Neither one of you? You gotta go. The new trail, the Sliding Sands Trail, is very long and winding, but a better grade. The temptation is, especially going down, the temptation is to take shortcuts. You don't wanna go back and forth, you know. You wanna run down. It's so easy, but they don't like that. It's bad for the silverswords. Bad for everything.

Mr. Solamillo: There's another trail called, "Halemau'u Trail."

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah, we built that one from scratch.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. What year was that one built?

Mr. Ornellas: When I went back in '36, they were working on that trail. Can we finish 193— the first camp? '34, '35, we all finished, yeah? I stayed out one year. My father found me a job.

Mr. Solamillo: Doing what?

Mr. Ornellas: I was an ice man and a delivery boy.

Mr. Solamillo: Out of Pā'ia?

Mr. Ornellas: Pā'ia Meat Market. I stayed one year. Drove a truck. I helped the butchers. And I made the ice, and prepared the ice, and delivered three times a week—ice.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you miss all your friends at Triple C?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I made my friends in Pā'ia. I had a lot of friends in Lower Pā'ia.

Mr. Solamillo: That's good. That's why you're still alive today. You have a good attitude. You don't get attached to specific groups of people. Going back to any of these trails, did all the boys, all 36 work on them, or they split the boys up into smaller groups?

Mr. Ornellas: I think it was just one group.

Mr. Solamillo: So they took the whole 36 and they say go and work on this trail?

Mr. Ornellas: A few were horse men, mule packers, truck drivers. You count all that, that's 36.

Mr. Solamillo: Right.

Mr. Ornellas: Cook helper, maybe. So maybe on the trail you have 20, 25 maybe. One man, that second camp that I went down, we had a leader, which was the forty-five-dollar a month man; and an assistant leader, which was the truck driver; and the other assistant leader was a mule packer, which was me. That's the second, '36, '37 camp. So just one man handled the work crew, the leader, the forty-five-dollar a month man.

Mr. Solamillo: And everybody else is ~~thirty-six~~? [Alvin later corrected this and stated it was thirty].

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: The White Hill Trail, do you remember that one?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, we built that—the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: That's the first camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, from Kalahaku to the top of White Hill.

Mr. Solamillo: That's the one that's built in 1934?

Mr. Ornellas: '34, '35, yeah. Completed in '35 sometime, most likely.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's pretty much the same amount of boys that you described?

Mr. Ornellas: Just the 23 of us.

Mr. Solamillo: Out of all the trail projects, was there any one that was more difficult than the

others?

Mr. Ornellas: The Halemau'u Trail. Halemau'u Trail, I have pictures, a few pictures of it.

Mr. Solamillo: Is there a reason why this particular project? Because it was so long?

Mr. Ornellas: Long, and dangerous, high, over 2,000 feet drop.

Mr. Solamillo: Can you describe what was the most dangerous thing on that one? Because of the height?

Mr. Ornellas: Pardon?

Mr. Solamillo: What was the most dangerous thing about Halemau'u ?

Mr. Ornellas: Probably, height, yeah. It's so easy to fall off the trail.

Mr. Solamillo: But nobody did?

Mr. Ornellas: Nobody did.

Mr. Solamillo: That's amazing.

Mr. Ornellas: Mules did, but people, no. Did you have any information about mules?

Mr. Solamillo: No. I was gonna ask you.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So how many mules?

Mr. Ornellas: Mule packers from Palikū to either to the top where White Hill is, we would go either there from Palikū. That's it. That's the longest trail either to the top where the parking lot is, or we would go Halemau'u come out at 8,000-foot elevation. We had a choice. Depends on many things. So this day, I was a mule packer. I was in charge. Supposed to have two horses and eight mules. So we would leave camp about seven o'clock in the morning, saddle up all the animals, leave camp about 7:00 or 8:00 in the morning, and go for our supplies twice a week.

Mr. Solamillo: What days?

Mr. Ornellas: I think it's Monday and Thursday. I'm not sure. So this day, one of the horses had a sore back. So I told my helper, you ride this good horse. I'll ride the last

mule in the back, and we work the mules. Normally, we have four mules tied together to one horse. The other four mules tied together to another horse. Easy, easy to control. This day we had only one horse, eight mules. We tied all the eight mules together to the horse, so – which was a big mistake, I found out later.

Mr. Solamillo: How many pounds did each mule carry?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know. Anyway, we went the Halemau'u Trail. From Palikū, we went up Halemau'u Trail. About two switchbacks up maybe, or three switchbacks up, maybe hundred feet from the floor up, the switchbacks are very sharp, you understand, and it goes up. You always climbing up. Eight mules. The fifth mule from the – the third mule from the – the fifth mule from the front – between the fifth and the sixth – the sixth mule from the front, instead of following number five around the bend, he started to jump up to go on the trail above him. I mean, he's tied, tied in the back, tied in the front to other mules, other animals. And it caused a lot of commotion. The mule in front of him started to push up ahead. The one in the back started to push back. It was a very wet, cold day. I was miserable. I had my all my rain gear on, raincoat.

Mr. Solamillo: So visibility is kind of bad, too.

Mr. Ornellas: Terrible! It was a bad day. Then I saw all this going– I was way in the back on the last mule. I saw all this happening. I got off the mule. And I tried to get my knife out. My idea was to cut the rope. I don't know what to do, but my idea was to cut the rope because these two mules were hung up between two trails. And before I got my knife out of my pocket, I couldn't get it out fast, and the rope snapped. Three mules fell down to the bottom. I thought I'm sure they all dead. So I told my helper, "Wait! Take care of all these animals!" I ran down, down to the floor. One was out completely—one we call, "Old Lady." I think the other two landed on her, but the other two was standing. They was cut up quite, you know, bad from rocks, but one was out, was alive. So we had to continue. I left the animals there. We left with a skeleton crew. We went to the top. We got whatever supplies we could put on these animals. We came back down. That mule that was lying down was still lying down, I think. I'm not sure now. And the

other two seemed to be alright, but we left them there. And I went back and I reported to the boss. Eh, he got all shook up! He said I shouldn't have tied all of those animals together. I agree. He say, "You have to write a report to the Park Service or somebody." So I wrote a paper like this all what happened. And then he said, "Okay, you did the right – you couldn't do any better under the circumstances." So one mule died, the one that was out. She finally died I think a day or two – one or two days later. We buried her right there.

Mr. Solamillo: She get a pile of rocks on her?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. So we had this bad accident, but no other – nobody else got hurt.

Mr. Solamillo: On Halemau'u Trail, did you guys use dynamite?

Mr. Ornellas: No dynamite.

Mr. Solamillo: No dynamite? Did you do any drilling or anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: No drilling, no explosives?

Mr. Ornellas: No explosives.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. How about the horse who was at the lead of all those mules? The horse was okay? The one that was the -- you said your the helper was riding?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, way up in front, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So they were fine?

Mr. Ornellas: They were fine, yeah. And the other horse stayed back in camp with a sore back.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. There was a camp called "Spike Camp."

Mr. Ornellas: "Spike?"

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, do you remember anything like that?

[Mr. Ornellas nodded "no"].

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you know how many buildings CCC built and where they were located?

Mr. Ornellas: On the Big Island, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: But nothing here?

Mr. Ornellas: Not on Maui.

Mr. Solamillo: Not on Maui. Okay. We talked about the water tanks. So you hauled enough for three tanks, right? Those were three 5,000-gallon tanks.

Mr. Ornellas: I believe they were 5,000. I'm not sure.

Mr. Solamillo: Any other water tanks?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: And then you hauled the wood for would've been the kitchen at Crater Camp, right? You said there was a little kitchen building?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. The fire wood, you're talking about? I don't remember hauling fire wood.

Mr. Solamillo: No, not fire wood, the wood to build it. I thought you said the kitchen was—

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, we hauled that. Many of it, lots of it was hauled on the boys' backs, if it's too long, yeah?

Mr. Solamillo: Alright, tell me about that one.

Mr. Ornellas: Halemau'u Trail, you see, the old trail went like this, straight up.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. That's with the switchbacks.

Mr. Ornellas: Switchbacks. And then we were building the new one which was much longer, maybe twice or three times as long that went around several noses of ridges. Anyway, to take lumber down, some of the lumber were maybe 12 feet long, 2x4s, or 2x6s, or whatever. They would throw them. I did very little of that. I was a mule packer, but I watched the other boys. They would throw lumber down, and then walk down, and pick up the piece, and throw it down again.

Mr. Solamillo: Are you kidding me?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So the lumber gonna be beat up by the time you get down there.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, some of it survived to build the cabin. The tanks we hauled everything by mules.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, because it's tongue and groove, the staves, right?

Mr. Ornellas: The staves, yeah. They fit together. It had to be perfect.

Mr. Solamillo: You can't beat um up.

Mr. Ornellas: No, you cannot. We hauled them all in bundles. And the pipe – I mean, the cable that went around, they were long. I would say 20 feet, maybe longer. We hauled that down the Sliding Sands Trail. Just dragged them behind us.

Mr. Solamillo: Then what's the cap for the tank, the water tank? What kind of cap do you have?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm not sure. I think it had a cover, but I'm not sure what it was.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember anything about a museum development program and that's informational signage that was built along the trails at specific locations? So it's just putting up signs that had information. Do you remember anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: Not on Maui, no. Not even today there's anything like that.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you remember anything called, "the Removal of Exotic Plants?"

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Nothing, okay. How about removing goats? Did you kill any goats?

Mr. Ornellas: We had nothing to do with that. We hunted them on our own. Yeah, we didn't do it as a–

Mr. Solamillo: As part of a goat removal program?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: How about removing fire hazards?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Getting rid of dead timber, cutting up wood, anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you remember any forest fires that happened while you were working at Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: No. Never have.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: Later on, there was forest fires. Much later.

Mr. Solamillo: Because we had a fire reported in 1940. There's also one in 1941, but you were long gone by then.

Mr. Ornellas: In Kula Sanitarium up there, State land.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. There's also a report one that happened in '33, a fire at Kaupō Gap. Remember hearing anything about it?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I don't.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Alright. Earthquakes—remember any?

Mr. Ornellas: '38.

Mr. Solamillo: '38?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I was not in the CCC. I worked for the County in '38.

Mr. Solamillo: Weekends and days off—you said you didn't go home very often when you were working for CCC.

Mr. Ornellas: At the camp, no, I hardly ever went home. I did capture a young baby goat at Camp Wingate in that vicinity, a young female goat. Very light colored, gray and white. Beautiful goat. Most of the goats was dark, black, or very dark brown. This was a nice goat. So I took it home to my sisters. I had three sisters. I gave it to them. They loved that goat. They raised it up until she was big. Two horns. She didn't have a beard, but she ate everything in the neighborhood, this goat. The ladies would hang their socks on the line. Ate the socks, the stockings. Eat the clothes. Eat the flowers. My father had to give it away, but we kept it for a lot of – many years in Pa`ia. We had a two-story house, and my sisters slept upstairs, and the goat would sleep with them.

Mr. Solamillo: So technically, when you working for the CCC, you said sometimes people go home – went home once a month. Did they actually leave on weekends or did they just get off once a month?

Mr. Ornellas: Weekends.

Mr. Solamillo: Weekends.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So everybody could leave, but not everybody did.

Mr. Ornellas: No, somebody had to be back in camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. So you always had to have a skeleton crew at camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, skeleton crew.

Mr. Solamillo: Were they able to leave like on a Friday night and be back Sunday?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm not sure.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So you don't know if there was a lead time when you had to be back?

Mr. Ornellas: You had to be back for Monday. I'm pretty sure of that.

Mr. Solamillo: And you said you didn't leave very often.

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: How about some other guys who worked at CCC? Were there some guys that always left on weekends or—?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah. Most of the young men were not interested in chasing goats like I was, so they would wanna go home. Whenever they had the chance to go home, they'd home. Take their laundry with them, their dirty laundry.

Mr. Solamillo: When you did go home, did you spend time with your family, or did you spend time with other CCC boys?

Mr. Ornellas: With my family.

Mr. Solamillo: With your family.

Mr. Ornellas: With my friends. Not with my family so much. Friends, but not in the CCC.

Mr. Solamillo: Alright. So those are the from—?

Mr. Ornellas: Pa`ia.

Mr. Solamillo: From Pa`ia. Did you go to the beach, or the town, or did you stay Upcountry?  
What did you do?

Mr. Ornellas: (Laughter) Are you telling me not to say anything more?

Ms. Walsh: No, he said “cause trouble.”

Mr. Ornellas: I drank a lot. I spent time with my drinking friends.

Mr. Solamillo: Your drinking buddies. Okay. Speaking of which, did you or anybody smuggle  
alcohol back up to the CCC camp?

Mr. Ornellas: Did we what?

Mr. Solamillo: Smuggle your alcohol back? Did you hide it in your backpack or—?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: No? Okay.

Mr. Ornellas: We swiped the booze from the old man, but we never hauled it up.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anyone get into fights in town?

Mr. Ornellas: No. Very good. No problems.

Mr. Solamillo: No?

Mr. Ornellas: Very good.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anyone have girlfriends?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, the boys from Lāhainā had girlfriends so they would come and visit  
weekends.

Mr. Solamillo: Oh my gosh. Their girlfriends would come and visit up at the camp?

Mr. Ornellas: All the way from Lāhainā to Haleakalā.

Mr. Solamillo: They'd stay over?

Mr. Ornellas: No, just puppy love stuff. Just friends. Hawaiians, they were mostly Hawaiians. Very friendly.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Let's see. There were some reports that some CCC boys got into trouble for various things. And one set fire to his mattress at Palikū.

Mr. Ornellas: Where? Palikū?

Mr. Solamillo: Palikū Cabin. The mattress caught on fire and he got blamed for it. But this happened after you've gone—1940. So you don't know about a CCC boy named Limas Deluz (phonetic)?

Mr. Ornellas: Deluz?

Mr. Solamillo: Deluz.

Mr. Ornellas: The Big Island had a Deluz, I believe.

Mr. Solamillo: He pled guilty for carelessness with fire, and lost his weekend privileges for three months.

Mr. Ornellas: On Maui?

Mr. Solamillo: I thought it was, but I don't know.

Mr. Ornellas: I doubt it because Deluz is a family that comes – Big Island family.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So might've been Big Island.

Mr. Ornellas: I don't think Maui had a Deluz. Now, there might be a couple of Deluzes here.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And then we had another mattress fire in '41. They had to file a fire report with the Park Service so— Okay. We talked a little bit about you being in Honolulu at the beginning of World War II. And you were at the hospital there. At that point, you were called into active duty with the military, so you don't have any more involvement in the CCC after that time?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, after '40.

Mr. Solamillo: Can you tell us the most interesting experience you had while working with the

CCC?

Mr. Ornellas: On the Big Island, I had – you know, it was a nice camp. You wanna talk about the Big Island?

Mr. Solamillo: I kinda wanna confine the conversation probably to the Maui–

Mr. Ornellas: I spent a lot of time in the floor of the crater. One of my experiences, which I thought was noteworthy at the time, me and my – I was a mule packer with John DeCosta, two of us, the first camp. We were going up to the – up the Sliding Sands – before we went up the Sliding Sands Trail for supplies, we decided to climb Pu`u o Maui, the highest cinder cone in the crater. It's a thousand feet high. And I told him, "Eh, you ever been up there?" He says, "No."

Mr. Solamillo: On foot or on mule?

Mr. Ornellas: On foot. So we tied our animals to lava stones and we walked up that cinder cone to the top. And I have pictures. Do we have a picture of that? I think we have a picture of John DeCosta, yeah?

Ms. Walsh: Yeah, but is that where you're pointing to Lake Wai`anapanapa?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no, no. That's another one. That's not a mountain. We went up on the top of this cinder cone, the tallest cinder cone in the crater, a thousand feet high. So I have a picture in here of my partner. I took his picture and he took my picture with one camera. I didn't have a camera, but he had a camera.

Mr. Solamillo: Did your family have any thoughts about you working with the CCC? Like you said your father found another job for you, and then you worked at the other job, and then you went back to the CCC. Was your father kinda disappointed in the CCC or–?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I think he liked it, but–

Mr. Solamillo: What was the reason why he found another job for you?

Mr. Ornellas: Maybe he missed me. (Laughter) The pay might've been a little– Well, I guess he figured there would be no future with the CCC, you know, with just– During the Depression they started this, yeah? Anyhow, he found me this job with the Grove

Ranch, Pā'ia Meat Market.

Ms. Walsh: But, Dad, you had a misunderstanding with Gunder Olson. That's part of the reason why you left CCC. Remember?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, Gunder E. Olson. Yeah, that was my second camp. I left for a good reason.

Mr. Solamillo: Tell me about the second camp.

Mr. Ornellas: Okay, so we all done with the first camp?

Mr. Solamillo: We're done with camp one. Actually, we were supposed to be covering camp one and camp two, but that's okay. So tell me about camp two.

Mr. Ornellas: Camp two for me. It wasn't camp two for somebody else. See, you signed for six months. You can stay until you're 25, 25 years of age. But I signed up the second camp for six months like the first camp—six months. Second camp—six months. I signed up again for a second six months—second camp. So I had stayed for over six months now. About the eighth month, the second month of my next term, we had moved back to Kalahaku, down in the crater--Palikū. We done all the trails in there. We were all completed. We moved back up to Kalahaku. And we were doing more work on the Halemau'u Trail between the trail head and the parking in the highway where we had a little parking area for the trucks. So we were doing extra work there. And I was not a mule packer then, although I was an assistant leader. So I was in charge of the gang of boys, men, working, doing work. And this day was a bad day. We had many bad days up there. Howling wind, cold, wet, and we had to work on these trails. So I told my crew, "Let's take shelter." Really bad. Freezing cold. Almost freezing. So we took shelter behind the corrugated iron garage that we had tied down with guy wires. We stood behind out of the wind and rain. My boss, Gunder E. Olson, you're gonna hear more about him, if you read about National Park, he was our boss. He came and gave me hell. He says, "How come these guys not working?" I says, "We cannot work. It's too bad!" "No, no. You guys getting paid. You gotta work!" I gave him a bad time. I said, "No, we cannot work. We wanna go back to our camp." He accused me of instigating a riot and stuff like

that. I said, "No! We just cannot work, Mr. Olson." So, okay, I think he finally let us go home. I don't know what happened. A couple days later, we had to work—me and another guy. We had to go get mules in Kula. We were running short of mules. Some mules got sick or something. We had to round up some mules to take back to camp at the top of the mountain. I remember working a weekend—Saturday and Sunday, me and my friend bringing mules to camp. A couple days after that, maybe a week after that, I had taken a pig home to my parents' months before that, maybe a year before that, a wild pig that we had caught, gave it to my parents, alive now. My parents raised it, and they made a party, and they told me come down, enjoy the pig. They had a party. So I told Olson, "I wanna take time off to go my parents'." He said, "It's not your week off. It's not your time." Because we had certain weeks we could go home. I said, "Yeah, but the party and all that." He said, "No, you cannot." He didn't like me. And I didn't like him, too. So I said, "Okay." I packed up my bag. I caught a ride with somebody, and I went home. I deserted the camp. That's what happened. And I never went back.

Mr. Solamillo: What year was this?

Mr. Ornellas: '37, I think. I never went back. So maybe a month later, I got a letter in the mail—dishonorable discharge. Very official looking discharge paper—dishonorable discharge for desertion. My father went crazy! He said, "You cannot do this!" I said, "Well, it's done already." He called up Wingate. My father was not educated, but smart. And he had connections. He was a police sergeant by that time. He knew all the big wheels. He got a hold a Wingate. Wingate came to Maui. We met at Grand Hotel and I told him my story. I told Mr. Wingate all my story. He said, "Okay, we'll look into it." He went back to Big Island. He sent me a letter with an honorable discharge. He said, "Destroy the old paper. You are honorably discharged." I had a good reason. He agreed.

Mr. Solamillo: What happened to Olson?

Mr. Ornellas: Huh?

Mr. Solamillo: What happened to Olson?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know, but later on, 1939, I went back to the Big Island. I went from Honolulu, I went to the Big Island. I was a truck driver there. And I went to Hilina Pali Trail with my crew, and they walked down the trail. And I told my boss, "I'd like to go see the trail." I didn't have to do anything. All I did was drive truck. He told me, "Okay, you want to-go." I say, "I'll take something with me, some lumber, some timber." They was gonna build a shelter. So I followed the crew. I was way behind. I went down the trail. And four horses were coming up. Now, Olson was just a foreman up here in Haleakalā, an ordinary working person, foreman. Four horses was coming up with Rangers. Beautiful uniforms. You know how they have that nice hat? Good-looking guys. The last guy was Gunder E. Olson, a Ranger, you know, with his nice hat and uniform. When he saw me, he thought he saw the devil. I guess he didn't know anything about what happened. He thought I was long gone, ah? He didn't say a word. And I knew I was in for trouble when I saw his looks. I said, "Wow." So I went back to camp after work. I went back to camp. The leader called me, "Ornellas." I said, "Yeah." "The boss like—" I forget. "The old man like see you in his office." We had Rangers' quarters, I mean, what you call that? Barracks. And of course, there was one office where the boss was. He wanted to see me. So I went to see him. Oh, he started reading the riot act to me. "They don't want no troublemakers in the camp." I said, "Why? What are you talking?" He said, "I hear you're a troublemaker." "You've been talking to Mr. Olson." He said, "Yes, he was here." I said, "Yeah." So I told him my story. He said, "Okay, we'll give you another chance, but I don't want no trouble with you. You make one mistake, you out of here." But I stayed one year and we signed up for six months at a time. But Olson was still there – a Ranger. He had a beautiful wife. When we were in Palikū, I took his wife to the camp, just she and I. And she was drunk, feeling high as a kite. She was pretty like you. And he thinks I fooled around with his wife is what he thinks because his wife had a bad reputation. I talked to many guys in Makawao that played with her because she drank a lot. And I think he thought maybe I had something to do with her. I never.

Mr. Solamillo: He picked on anybody else, or just you—Olson?

Mr. Ornellas: No, but nobody liked him.

Mr. Solamillo: No, but I mean, but he just picked on you?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, as far as I know, yeah, but he was mean, very mean. Not friendly at all.  
He was like an Army drill instructor.

Mr. Solamillo: So he like yelled a lot?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, very mean man.

Mr. Solamillo: He swear at people?

Mr. Ornellas: And I couldn't believe that he was a Ranger. I thought he was a bum, you know,  
one of those trash that come from the Mainland.

Mr. Solamillo: Did he drink a lot, too?

Mr. Ornellas: He did because the day I picked his wife up, he stayed back in camp in Palikū.  
But I went to the Halemau'u Trail to the top, to the road, and his wife was with the  
Ke`anae – Camp Director's Group. Nothing to do with the Federal. That man  
from Ke`anae, and his wife, and Olson's wife were all feeling high as kites. And I  
had to take Olson's wife down to Palikū on a horse.

Mr. Solamillo: On horse?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I had a horse and she had a horse. He told me, "You go up here and pick  
up my wife." On the way down every once in a while, she told me, "I have to get  
off the horse, Rex." She called me by my nickname. I said, "What for?" She  
said, "I gotta do something." I don't know. She told me. For pee, I guess. So  
she would pee on the trail, and then go a few miles more, and then she was  
offering me drinks all the way.

Mr. Solamillo: What was she drinking?

Mr. Ornellas: Some fancy gin. That gin that women drank a lot. I liked it. It was very – but I  
told her, "I don't drink." ( ) was her name. I lied to her. I said, "I don't drink." I  
didn't want to get involved. So she – I think the husband thought I was doing  
something with this wife. I don't know. He had no use for me.

Mr. Solamillo: And he was there the whole the time?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So even back in '34?

Mr. Ornellas: No, he was not there. Only '36.

Mr. Solamillo: You come out in '36?

Mr. Ornellas: '36 and '37.

Mr. Solamillo: So '34, '35, you're okay?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: You have a good time?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So Solomon and Williams are okay?

Mr. Ornellas: Very good. Olson is still there, I think, yeah? No, no, he's not there anymore.

Ms. Walsh: Well, while he was at Kilauea, he wrote a book about the Volcano House. And I actually found the book in a used book store or Amazon. Gave it to my dad as a prank on his birthday. It was written by Gunder E. Olson.

Mr. Ornellas: He wrote a book, believe it or not.

Ms. Walsh: Yeah, so he had a lot to do with Kilauea, but then he's passed away already.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. The book was about halfway houses. In early days, they had halfway houses to Kilauea, but the road was not built. So He wrote the book about these different halfway houses. He had researched the records.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the composition of your crew, everybody got along? Nobody get in fights?

Mr. Ornellas: No fights. Real good. Even in Kilauea.

Mr. Solamillo: And they all worked hard doing this trail work? Nobody complained.

Mr. Ornellas: No complaints.

Mr. Solamillo: Really? Okay. That's amazing.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, we enjoyed our stay up there. We sang. Couple guys had ukuleles maybe. We sang a lot. Played cards.

Mr. Solamillo: You talked a lot about animals, and you liked them, and you liked working with the mules. Can you tell me a little bit? Because I'm real curious. Mules played a really important role in Maui, actually. They play a big role in all the pineapple, you know, down in Hali`imaile, and it's kind of like— Do you realize no one's ever written about the importance of mules?

Mr. Ornellas: Nobody.

Mr. Solamillo: How often did you rotate mules? Did you go to get new ones? Did you put old ones out of commission? What was the life span of a mule say with the CCC because they're always doing heavy hauling, right, and they're doing it at a high elevations?

Mr. Ornellas: When I was in the crater, we had eight mules. And from the day that I was there for eight months, we had the same eight mules. Oh, I take that back. One died from that fall, yeah? So we got a replacement. We got our replacements from the plantation, Pa`ia Plantation. And they gave us mules that they didn't want, you know, bad eggs.

Mr. Solamillo: So they were already used.

Mr. Ornellas: And nasty. Very bad tempers. So we had some mules that were bad. See, when I became a mule packer helper in the crater under the Hawaiian guy from Kaupō, he was a good cowboy. I was his assistant. He taught me—

Mr. Solamillo: What was his name? You remember his name?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I have his name here. It'll come. [Mr. Ornellas later recalled his name was Andrew Paimauna]. He taught me all about tying ropes, about packing, to pack something on a mule. It gotta be done right otherwise it will fall off after a long trail. He taught me all the ropes about mule packing and how to shoe horses. So we had to shoe horses, two horses and eight mules, and I got to be good at it. We could shoe horses. The mules had to be shod at the front hoofs only.

Horses had to be four, four feet.

Mr. Solamillo: How often?

Mr. Ornellas: Whenever they needed to be shod. They would wear out. They'd fall off. We had to do it. See, we only would work two days a week as a mule packer. The rest of the time, we did maintenance work. Took care of the animals. The boss told me – in fact, Olson, he was a bad egg, but he told me, "Rex, you take care of the animals. You take care of the ropes, the saddles, everything. If you have spare time, you can go take a walk. Do what you want. Even sleep. You don't have to put in eight hours. Just make sure everything is up to date." So I did a lot of goat hunting on my own. But my job was to take care of the animals.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you shelter them? There's no stables? Is there a stable?

Mr. Ornellas: Up at the top, we had stables, one stable.

Mr. Solamillo: How many?

Mr. Ornellas: Four mules and one horse. Oh, no, two horses. They all slept in a wooden stable. It was not a wooden stable. I beg your pardon. It was a natural overhang like a large, long cave. Just an overhang and we built a wall in front of it.

Mr. Solamillo: And where was this? Is it still there?

Mr. Ornellas: At the top near the old rest house. But I learned to shoe horses over there, which is something that I learned.

Mr. Solamillo: How many pounds did a mule usually carry?

Mr. Ornellas: I wouldn't know. Olson came up with some – maybe it wasn't his idea, but he said, "Rex, from now on—" we were at Palikū, "from now on, we have to use this boxes." He had boxes made.

Mr. Solamillo: They like wood?

Mr. Ornellas: Of wood. Maybe three feet long and two feet wide, one on each side of the pack saddle. We had to put all the supplies in these boxes. I didn't like it. I said, "This is gonna hit the side of the trail, and the mule will fall off the edge!"

Mr. Solamillo: Because it doesn't give.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah! And he said, "Well, we gotta try it." I think he had to do it because it came from somebody else, somewhere else—Washington.

Mr. Solamillo: So before this time, you're using canvas?

Mr. Ornellas: Just bags.

Mr. Solamillo: Just bags.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, gunny sacks.

Mr. Solamillo: Gunny sacks.

Mr. Ornellas: Put everything in gunny sacks. Some things came in barrels. We'd tie the barrel to the pack saddle. Anything that loose, we put it in gunny sacks and tied it with a loop of rope and hook it over. It was very good, but they thought they could carry more in these boxes. The boxes alone weighed a heck of a lot.

Mr. Solamillo: So what happened? Did the boxes fail?

Mr. Ornellas: We finally gave it up. I told um too much trouble.

Mr. Solamillo: How long did you try using them?

Mr. Ornellas: A few months, yeah. I didn't like it at all. Thought it was dangerous, very dangerous, and heavy.

Mr. Solamillo: So you got no nene up there?

Mr. Ornellas: No nene.

Mr. Solamillo: You get mongoose?

Mr. Ornellas: Never saw any.

Mr. Solamillo: None?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Goats?

Mr. Ornellas: Wild dogs and wild cats. Well, I never saw any wild cats, but I saw wild dogs.

There might have been a few. I heard that there were cats, but I never saw one.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And then you had goats.

Mr. Ornellas: Goats, lots of goats.

Mr. Solamillo: And pigs.

Mr. Ornellas: Pigs.

Mr. Solamillo: The black ones?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, mostly black, but some were black and white.

Mr. Solamillo: And did the Park Service ever tell you shoot the goats or shoot the pigs or anything?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: So you were just free to do whatever you want?

Mr. Ornellas: We were not allowed weapons when I went to the second camp. Under Olson, no weapons. The first camp was alright.

Mr. Solamillo: So the first time, '34, '35 was okay, but when you went to Crater Camp, that's when the weapons are banned.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. Olson says no weapons are allowed, although I should tell you that I smuggled a Russian Army rifle. I was a mule packer, so I could get away with it. When the man that brought the supplies, he brought this box that I had ordered, by mail order, wooden box. In the box was this Russian Army rifle. And I loved guns. I have two books over there about guns. And I took the rifle out of the box, and I had it across my saddle going home on the Sliding Sands Trail. And one of the mules developed a problem. The gasoline can leaked, the five-gallon cans. I had um strapped to the mule. One of them sprung a leak, and the irritation was making that mule restless. Started running around. I got mad! I got off my horse and I tried to calm him down. I didn't know what was happening. I didn't know why he was running around like a lunatic. I took one rock, one of those lava stones that was big but light like a lot of pores in it and I hit it square on the face. I think I cut an artery. Blood was shooting out like a faucet. Big mule. And I got

scared. The mule couldn't – was getting weak. Couldn't run around anymore, so I cut one of the blankets from one of the mules or from the horse—I forget which. With my knife, I cut strips and I bandaged this mule up. I stopped the flow of blood, and I took all the load of that mule, and I put it on other mules, and we made it back to camp, but we got back to camp late that night. Very often we would work from morning till night. That's why we had a lot of time during the week off. The boss knew that we worked long days when we worked two days a week. So we got back to Palikū Camp at night, pitched dark. Before we got to camp, I smuggled my rifle under the bridge.

Mr. Solamillo: Gully?

Mr. Ornellas: No, under the bridge.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Foot bridge.

Mr. Ornellas: Foot bridge, yeah. No water in that stream. I hid my rifle there, and took all the bandages off the mule, and prayed that it wouldn't bleed, and the bleeding would stop because there was blood all over the place on the packages of the supplies. So Olson came out with the crew. They all came out to help us unload. There's eight mules now. Us went start to unload, so – with gasoline lights. Olson tell me, "Eh, what is all this blood about?" I tell um, "Oh—" I was smart. We had brought meat in big packages wrapped up in paper. I tell him, "Oh, the butchers, they didn't do a good job. When we were loading the meat, it ssplashed all over." He said, "Oh, wow. It's not good." So he went back to his tent, and he never found out what happened. He never found my rifle. I kept my rifle under my floor board. Each of the small tents that we had, we had a floor board between the two bunks, so my rifle was underneath that, and he never found out. He would tell me during the day, when I had nothing to do, I would go hunt with my rifle. When they working down here, I would go hunt the other side. He tell me, "Eh, Rex, you hear any hunting or shooting?" I said, "Yeah, I hear a lot of shooting going on." He said, "I gotta catch those guys." He didn't like people shooting in the crater. He was such a mean guy. He said, "You try tell me who it is. If you find out, you let me know. I'm gonna turn them in." But I was doing all the

shooting. I'd shoot wild goats, billy goats. I wouldn't shoot the nannies, but I'd shoot the billies.

Mr. Solamillo: So you said you were feeding these mules hay, and the horses get hay, too, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So you're packing everything up to Haleakalā including the bales of hay? The bales – the hay's coming up in bales.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And you're doing two trips a week.

Mr. Ornellas: From inside the crater to the top, yeah, twice a week.

Mr. Solamillo: And up to that point, everything's coming up by truck to the end of the road?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Outside the CCC people, were there other people up at Haleakalā that you might've met?

Mr. Ornellas: There was nothing up there.

Mr. Solamillo: Nothing. It's just you guys and—?

Mr. Ornellas: Just us.

Mr. Solamillo: And the people involved in CCC?

Mr. Ornellas: No installation. No nothing.

Mr. Solamillo: No visitors?

Mr. Ornellas: No visitors. Well, once in a while there was a visitor. When the road was opened, there is visitors. But before the opening of the road, nobody.

Mr. Solamillo: Would you say that working for the CCC was a good experience?

Mr. Ornellas: Very.

Mr. Solamillo: And had a positive influence on your life?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes, I think so.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Any bad things to say besides Mr. Olson?

Mr. Ornellas: No. No bad things.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. I guess the thing now is you've got some incredible photographs.

Mr. Ornellas: You don't wanna talk about the Big Island?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, if you want. Absolutely.

Mr. Ornellas: Because I learned a trade there.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, then we have to talk about Big Island.

Mr. Ornellas: Not only me. There were 200 of us in the Big Island, that camp, Kilauea Camp, 200.

Mr. Solamillo: So you go from 36 to 200?.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, and we all lived in barracks. I think 36 men to a barracks. Very good. We ate like kings. We ate really like kings. We ate in the dining room. We were seated at the table. Eight to a table. We had waiters wait on us. More eggs. More poi.

Mr. Solamillo: Waiters?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, KP duty. I did KP duty, too, sometimes. Like I said, we ate like kings. And we all learned a trade. Most everybody learned a trade. We built Rangers' quarters. Nice homes. If you ever go up there, go see if you can visit some Rangers' quarters.

Mr. Solamillo: This is all Kilauea.

Mr. Ornellas: Right behind the rest house. Kilauea, behind the rest house is where our camp house was back there, big camp.

Mr. Solamillo: And what trade did you learn?

Mr. Ornellas: I learned electrical work. I was the camp electrician. I drove a truck and then I became the right-hand man for the electrician, a civilian worker, a retiree from

Hawaiian Hilo Electric Light Company. I was his assistant, his right-hand man. I learned to house – to wire houses. The boys built cabins, houses, Rangers' quarters. I did the electrical work—me, and the foreman, and another – one of my buddies from Honolulu. We went Honolulu and we joined the camp together. He and I worked together. We were lucky. The third one had to go work some place else. Anyhow, others learned to be carpenters. Some learned to be stone masons. They built fireplaces with beautiful mantels, fireplaces out of lava with a chimney and everything; plumbers; automobile mechanics.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the mantels, the fireplaces, you using mortar, or no mortar, or what?

Mr. Ornellas: No, just lava, lava stone.

Mr. Solamillo: So it's dry laid?

Mr. Ornellas: I think so. I was not involved with that. I did the electrical work. When the house was complete, almost complete, we did the house wiring.

Mr. Solamillo: So you do that through 1940?

Mr. Ornellas: 1940.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And then you leave and go back Honolulu? No, you went to Kaua`i?

Mr. Ornellas: I worked on the Big Island on one of the highways on the Big Island for Moses Akiona as a laborer. Then I came back to Maui. And then I got into the National Guard and the service.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. What did you during World War II?

Mr. Ornellas: I was an infantry man.

Mr. Solamillo: And where'd you go?

Mr. Ornellas: We visited Kaua`i, O`ahu, Espiritu Santo, Guadalcanal, back to O`ahu, back to Big Island. I was stationed on Maui for a while with the Coast Guard, attached to the Coast Guard, back to Honolulu, Kahului, back to Honolulu, and then discharged.

Mr. Solamillo: So what did you do after the war?

Mr. Ornellas: After the war, what did I do right off the bat? Hawaiian Tel is the first job. No, no, I worked for the Navy, the Navy base down here, Kahului, Naska. Yeah, when I came back from the Army, they had an office in Wailuku. They would found jobs for us, you know, us, retirees, veterans. So I went to this office. He said, "What can you do?" I told um, "Well, I was an electrician on the Big Island." He said, "Oh, good, you go Maui Electric. They looking for somebody. Good place to work." I went there. I was interviewed. I didn't like the man, the Haole man that interviewed me. I not going tell you his name. Right off the bat, I didn't like him. He didn't like me, too, I think. He gave me such a bad time.

Mr. Solamillo: How would you describe a "bad time?"

Mr. Ornellas: Questions like, he won't stand trouble makers. He had no idea who I was. If he knew, I would say, well, maybe he has a good reason, but he had no idea who I was, you know, a total stranger. He can't stand trouble makers. You gotta be a good worker. Come to work on time.

Mr. Solamillo: So he threatening you.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, threatened me from the day one. He says, "Okay, take these papers, go get your physical, and you'll be hired." I went back to my office in Wailuku. I said, "I don't wanna work Maui Electric." "Why? It's a good job." I said, "I don't want." He said, "Well, Navy base, they looking for an electrician." So I went to Navy base, Naska, electrician helper. So we fooled around. I was lucky. I got into the telephone communications building. And I did nice, clean work. No hard work. All switching, you know, step-by-step switching, electrical, mechanical. I had no idea what it was all about. I had a little knowledge of house wiring, and a little knowledge of electricity. Before I went to the CCC on the Big Island, I had a few books on electrical work. I was a little interested in electricity. So anyway, I worked in the telephone building. I wanted to work for the telephone company. The next best to Maui Electric was the telephone company. I had applied. They said, no, they not hiring. So as I was working in the Navy base, I had worked there about one year, the telephone company manager was in our telephone – in

the communications building almost every day because the chief [Operator was a beauty.] – what did they call her? She was the chief of the switch of the operators, operator chief, chief operator. Young Portuguese lady. She was a beauty. This Haole man from the telephone company was there every day talking to her. So one day I told her, “Lucy, this guy–“ What his name? Not Olson. I forget his name, “He’s here all the time.” She say, “Yeah, we’re good friends.” I said, “Put in a good word for me. I wanna work telephone company. They say they not hiring, but try ask him if he would hire me.” She said, “Yeah, okay, I’ll try.” One day he approached me. Soon after that, he said, “You, Ornellas?” I told um, “Yeah.” He said, “You wanna work telephone company?” I tell um, “Yeah, I’ve been trying.” He said, “Come up. Sign up. Sign in and we’ll hire you.” So I got hired just because I knew this lady and she knew him. You gotta know the right people. So I got hired and I stayed there. I became a radio technician. I started from the ground.

Mr. Solamillo: So you’re always self-motivated throughout your life. So you stayed and you retired from the telephone company?

Mr. Ornellas: I retired after 32 years. Then I went to work as a tour driver.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: I had read in some of the CCC history for other camps in the Mainland that often they would have sports, divide the boys into sports teams.

Mr. Ornellas: Probably big camps yeah.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Did you do something like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No. On the Big Island, there was 200 of us, but there was no athletics going on. We played just, you know, throwing ball back and forth with each other. We had like a recreation ground. We played, but nothing organized. We went to camp – to Hilo as often as we could like weekends. We would have maybe every other week off we’d go. Truck loads, we’d go on. I was a truck driver for a while till I got fired. (Laughter)

Mr. Solamillo: But you have no regrets?

Mr. Ornellas: No regrets. I loved the CCC. Good years. And like I said, I learned a good trade.

I got interested in electricity and then radio. And I was happy doing radio work.

Mr. Solamillo: At any of the camps up here, you didn't comment too much on— You mentioned you were bringing meat up, right? On the mules, you don't remember whether they were steaks, hamburger?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I don't know. Left that up to the cook.

Mr. Solamillo: And at night, when everybody getting ready to go sleep, anybody playing cards, anybody playing ukulele? Anything? You don't remember anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No. Nobody caused trouble like staying up too late or nothing.

Mr. Solamillo: So you said you used gasoline lanterns?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, white gas.

Mr. Solamillo: That's like kerosene or not? No?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know. I don't hear about white gas now. I don't know what it is, but they say it's not as dangerous as regular gas. It had a little mantle. I think they still use those little lamps today. But we used them for heating and for lighting. I'm not sure what the cook used for cooking. They had a big stove. I don't know what he used for cooking. Like a wood stove. Maybe it was firewood.

Mr. Solamillo: But you don't remember hauling firewood?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember hauling firewood, yeah. That's a strange thing. Must've been gasoline. We hauled a lot of gasoline in five-gallon cans.

Mr. Solamillo: And it has to be gas?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And no other accidents with the mules except for the one?

Mr. Ornellas: Just that one.

Mr. Solamillo: How many goats you shoot when up there at Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: How many goats? I cannot count that many goats. I have to boast a little. I was a good rifleman. Mark – expert rifleman. And I got a gold medal for having the

high score in the National Guard, high score medal. I lost it. I don't know what happened to it. Had my name and date—'37, I think it was. I was a buck private. I just loved guns. As a kid, my father always had — gave me a gun: an air gun, a .22. I grew up with guns, handguns. I was good with a handgun. I used to go shoot with the policemen, you know, down to the rifle range, pistol range. And we'd go shoot rats. Lots of kiawe trees back then. Lots of rats in those kiawe trees.

Mr. Ornellas: I think Waimea, which is some distance from Hilo, 30, 40 miles, there was a large camp there, Territorial Camp.

Mr. Solamillo: How many people?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know. I know there were large. And I always heard from my — when I went to Volcano Camp, I hear from the older guys that they used to have fights with these Territorial guys—two opposing camps. They would say, "Ah, you guys, good for nothing. You don't have good food like we have." They would — that lead into fights, but I never had any experience with fights with anybody else.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Not in your camps, but you had heard of fights going in the Waimea Camps.

Mr. Ornellas: In another camp, between camps down in Hilo, you know, after a few drinks, but never occurred during my stay. One year I was there. No problems.

Mr. Solamillo: So the girls that used to visit from Lāhainā, who were the boys that they were visiting? Do you remember?

Mr. Ornellas: I remember the girls' name. One was the family of Amoral, Portuguese-Hawaiian, and Kalama, and Kukahiko,[]]. In fact, I became very close to a Kukahiko. Emily — not Emily. I forgot her name, but she died. When I came out of the service, I was single. No, I was married. When I got discharged from the Army, I was already married. I tried to find out where is so and so. Many of my girlfriends died. Why? I don't know. They died young.

Mr. Solamillo: So you have all the names of the men that you worked with—the CCC boys?

Mr. Ornellas: Quite a few names.

Mr. Solamillo: Almost all 23? You get 23?

Mr. Ornellas: I had the 23. I had all their names, but I don't have it anymore.

Ms. Walsh: No, Dad, you've got the list right there.

Mr. Ornellas: Not the 23.

Mr. Solamillo: How many you get?

Mr. Ornellas: Those in that picture. You know that picture on the wall? It's one of the big pictures you have. I have the names of those.

Mr. Solamillo: All of their names? That's 16.

Mr. Ornellas: Sixteen, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And this one—?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, that's Halemaw'u Trail.

Mr. Solamillo: That's Halemaw'u Trail.

Mr. Ornellas: That's a nice picture.

Mr. Solamillo: Is this all 23 all lined up?

Mr. Ornellas: I think this is the same picture.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, that's what I'm saying.

Mr. Ornellas: Gunder Olson took these pictures.

Mr. Solamillo: Oh, your favorite.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And this is one of the switchbacks, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Let me see that. Wow, might be me!

Mr. Solamillo: Might be you?

Mr. Ornellas: That's the way it is. That's the way it was.

Mr. Solamillo: Which trail?

Mr. Ornellas: Halemáu Trail.

Mr. Solamillo: Halemáu Trail. That's the one you lost the mule?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, not this particular switchback, but just like this. The stupid mule like this one here, instead of going around, he jumped up here, and he screwed everything up. I wonder who this guy in the back here.

Mr. Solamillo: It might be you.

Mr. Ornellas: I'm sure this was taken by Olson. Most likely. See, we didn't have the boxes yet.

Mr. Solamillo: So that one has the boxes or not?

Mr. Ornellas: No boxes.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so just duffle bag.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, but that's the way it was.

Mr. Solamillo: And you don't remember anything on this?

Mr. Ornellas: I never saw these pictures.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, we'll make sure we get a copy for you.

Mr. Ornellas: Amazing.

Mr. Solamillo: So you don't remember anything?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember that. We never did that. We never did this.

Mr. Solamillo: You were never involved with silversword.

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So the whole time you were there, nobody get sick except for that one guy?

Mr. Ornellas: Just one guy that died.

Mr. Solamillo: Just one guy that died from pneumonia. And you were warm and you were fed enough.

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And you stole a truck. You went partying one night. You shot a lot of goats.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I had a ball. I loved shooting.

Mr. Solamillo: You had fun.

Mr. Ornellas: I was National Guard, so I had lots of ammunition, 30'06.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: You keep in touch with anyone that maybe doesn't live on Maui from the CCC days?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know. I only know of one person that was with me in Haleakalā. He's at Hale Mahaolu, the senior citizen homes down here. I talked to him once. He has hearing problems, although he had hearing aid, but I never mingled with him. I wasn't close to him, but I knew he was with me in camp. And he remembers me. And he talks to my sister-in-law who's also down there. And he tells her that he knew me from Haleakalā. Grant Bailey, maybe you've heard of him.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: We're trying to contact him. We sent him a letter there.

Mr. Solamillo: But he's hard of hearing, huh?

Mr. Ornellas: Not too bad. He has hearing aid.

Ms. Walsh: We went down there yesterday to see if my aunt was there—( ). And apparently – well, she has another home in Kula. So apparently, she was in Kula at that house because of a family member that was going back to the Mainland or something, otherwise, we would've talked to her then. I forgot to call her. I was going to call her. I forgot, but I can still do that, but she won't be back to Hale Mahaolu until Sunday.

Mr. Solamillo: That's fine.

Mr. Ornellas: Grant Bailey is a good-looking Hawaiian. He's tall, slim, very good-looking. Looks like a full-blooded Hawaiian.

Mr. Solamillo: Where is he from? Where was he born?

Mr. Ornellas: From Wailuku.

Mr. Solamillo: In Wailuku.

Mr. Ornellas: He claims to be related to that Bailey House in Wailuku, that old historical house.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, I tried to research it, and from what I could find out, that's possible that he's a son of Harry Liliuokalani Bailey. So that's what I could find out.

Mr. Ornellas: That's a fancy name, Grant, you know, for a Hawaiian.

Mr. Solamillo: He had a Hawaiian nickname?

Mr. Ornellas: No, we called him "Grant."

Mr. Solamillo: It was always by "Grant?" Okay. Yeah, I've been doing names for Ka'anapali District. So they include some of the names that you were talking when you mentioned the folks from Lāhainā side. And the family where the boy died, what was the name of the place? The place name?

Mr. Ornellas: Ho`opi`i, Solomon Ho`opi`i.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but I know the name, but also the place.

Mr. Ornellas: Kahakuloa.

Mr. Solamillo: Kahakuloa.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Because it's all Ka'anapali District. It stretches over that side of the island. So the post office, surprisingly, they're closer to Waihe`e, right?

Mr. Ornellas: I think so.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but the post office, they would always get their mail from Lāhainā, and I couldn't believe it, you know, because they're all with listed P. O. Lāhainā. And yeah, I've been enumerating from 1902, writing down the names.

Mr. Ornellas: You know what's strange about Solomon Ho`opi`i? Maybe I didn't see the hole that he was put in, but I went to his family's house and to the church. The little church is still there. And I know he's from that village. And I know that we took him there, the body. We went to visit the family when he was going to be – when the services was going to be held in Kahakuloa. So sometime ago, Maile, and I, and my other son, my son, went that way. And I told them, "Let's go look for his

grave—Solomon Ho`opi`i.” We looked high and low. There’s a little cemetery there. Couldn’t find his grave. And we did that another time. I don’t know if you was with us looking for his grave. We cannot find it.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: It’s possible that someone is buried on top, too.

Mr. Ornellas: But that Ho`opi`i Family, you know, Richard Ho`opi`i? He plays ukulele and always on T.V., entertainer, very well-known in Hawai`i. He’s a relative. It’s the same family.

Mr. Ornellas: Big Island.

Mr. Solamillo: Wow!

Mr. Ornellas: Just like Army, yeah?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: It says “1939, ‘40, 4th of July, Hilo.”

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. Yeah, I think we did a nice showing. Boy, just like Army.

Mr. Solamillo: It’s beautiful.

Mr. Ornellas: You see, to join CCC, I don’t know if you know this, we had to be 18 to 25, single, male, of low income family. But on the Big Island, many of those boys that I was with were from well to do families, well-known families from mostly the Big Island, some from O`ahu, mostly, Big Island. So what happened to all that regulations?

Mr. Solamillo: They bend um.

Mr. Ornellas: They were well-to-do. They were not low income. You know, like Supervisor, Chairman of the Board, their children were going to CCC. Many of them had gone to Kamehameha School, I think. They became leaders. In the front of this platoon here, big guys. Many of them were leaders—forty-five dollars a month workers. They were well-disciplined people. I never had trouble with them, but they were very good-looking people -- I mean, educated.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And you said there were people who enrolled boys from the outer islands, like Moloka`i and Kaua`i?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah. Well, I enrolled to the Big Island from O`ahu, but when on Maui,

everybody was from Maui. But when I went to Kilauea, there was somebody from Kaua`i, somebody from O`ahu, and from Maui, mostly from Hilo, from the Big Island.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Any from Moloka`i?

Mr. Ornellas: No, I never ran across anybody from Moloka`i or Lana`i. Kaua`i, there was a couple—two or three from Kaua`i. And there was free transportation from wherever they lived to the camp. I was from Honolulu and I signed up for Hilo. I got a free ride to Hilo, me and two of my buddies, three of us.

Mr. Solamillo: How many Japanese up at Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: My good friend was Morita from Pa`ia. He died. Masa Nikaido, Pa`ia. Taro Tonai, very good friend of mine, Wailuku. He died in Italy. He was missing in action in Italy.

Mr. Solamillo: After which battle?

Mr. Ornellas: I`m not sure. In Italy someplace because I knew his younger brother. He was a pool player. He ran a pool hall over here. So I just have three Japanese names here.

Mr. Solamillo: So three Japanese. How many Chinese in there? You should read all the names.

Mr. Ornellas: Well, this is not the whole camp.

Mr. Solamillo: The ones from the picture?

Mr. Ornellas: From that picture, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Would you mind reading their names?

Mr. Ornellas: Steven Boteilho, Kula; Quincy Kalama, Honokōhau. I loved his sister. Piho, I don`t know his first name. Wailuku, I believe. Lawrence Oliveira, Nahiku. He was my partner. We lived in the same tent. Henry Cabral from Makawao; Joe Gomez (phonetic), I think from Waihe`e; Woodrow W. Chance; [from] Agana, Guam, my best friend. We have the same tattoo. Alvin Rex Ornellas; Taro Tonai, Wailuku; David Caires (phonetic), Makawao; Tony Lawrence, I`m not sure where he`s from;

John Medeiros, I'm not sure; Stanley Bega, Wailuku. He was Hawaiian, Puerto Rican-Hawaiian, I think. Abel Chung, one Pake, one Chinaman. You know what Pake is? Do you? Masa Nikaido, Pa`ia. Masa was a Japanese, but he used to go pig hunting with us. Very few Japanese went hunting. I don't know why. The Portuguese people, boys, loved to go pig hunting. Masa used to go with us once in a while.

Mr. Solamillo: Was there a ban on Japanese having guns?

Mr. Ornellas: Huh?

Mr. Solamillo: Is there a ban on Japanese having guns?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: No? Okay. I was just wondering.

Mr. Ornellas: No. And Dizzy, I have just his first name, he was Japanese. I can't think of his last name; and two dogs, Prince and Queenie.

Mr. Solamillo: You had two dogs up there.

Mr. Ornellas: The two dogs belonged to Lawrence Oliveira.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, thank you. And everybody got along?

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah. Very good. I enjoyed those days. That's why I remembered it, I guess.

Ms. Walsh: So is the dad the last remaining person out of CCC that you're aware of? Well, Grant Bailey as well? Were they the last two?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: I don't know if the John Medeiros there is the same as Moses.

Mr. Ornellas: Moses is a naturalist, yeah? Medeiros, not Moses. Moses is my pal from the telephone company.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Well, the Park Service gave us the name of Moses Medeiros.

Mr. Ornellas: Moses Medeiros?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yes. So I don't know if it's the same.

Mr. Ornellas: He might've been in the CCC, but not with me.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: He's here on Maui.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, he's still alive. [Moses Medeiros passed away in February 2010].

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: But he's elderly, and his wife said he's not really feeling well. So we weren't able— She declined allowing us to interview him. She said he's not feeling well.

Mr. Ornellas: Oh, yeah? Too bad. Moses is a character. He would make you laugh all the way.

Ms. Walsh: Isn't Moses a lot younger than you?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, he's about 85 maybe.

Ms. Walsh: So how is that he's in the CCC?

Mr. Ornellas: He wasn't with me. He might've been after me maybe for a short while. I worked with him at the phone company. He was a cable splicer and my son was his helper coming home from college summertime. I know him well. And I saw him just the other day. I talked to Moses. I just talked to him two weeks ago.

Ms. Walsh: That I've been around, he never brings up CCC days.

Mr. Ornellas: I doubt if he was in the – maybe he was, but I don't know about it.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Or maybe it's just a nickname. It says "Moses A. Medeiros."

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I'll be darn.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: That's where he lives, though, is Kula, right? And then there's a picture, and maybe that picture is a different picture. And the archaeologist at Haleakalā gave us a list of names that were under the picture, but I don't know if it's the same list that you have. Is that the same list?

Mr. Ornellas: I think it's the same. That picture is from Olson.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So we have not actually tried to look up more of those people. We've only tried to contact the people that they told us were interested in the project and might be willing to be interviewed.

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know of any of these people that are still alive. Some I know for sure are gone. The rest, I don't know.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Now, Lawrence was interviewed in 1983.

Mr. Ornellas: Lawrence Oliveira?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: He was interviewed in 1983. So that's 25 years ago, and we have his interview.

Mr. Ornellas: He and I was buddies. We had the same tent. And we always went to hunt together.

Mr. Solamillo: You need to speak about him. Tell us something about him.

Mr. Ornellas: Lawrence Oliveira, he never married. He was a real mountain man, we called him. Never smoked, never drank. He saved all his money. He was a leader. So he got twenty-three dollars a month, I think it was. Let's see, 25 and 23, what does that make? Has to add to 45. So it wasn't 23.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: He got 20.

Mr. Ornellas: His parents got 20, and he got 20. That's 45, right.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Twenty-five went to the parents. He got 20.

Mr. Ornellas: He got 20. So one day I looked into his little foot locker he had stacks of checks, twenty-dollar checks. I told him, "Eh, You gotta cash these checks." He never went downtown. When he had time off, he would go pig hunting. He loved – and goat hunting. So I went with him a lot. And his folks lived in Nahiku. You know where Nahiku is? Right near the highway. Oliveira. One day he told me, me and my friend, Woodrow, my best friend, Woodrow is here, he say–

Mr. Solamillo: Which one is Woodrow?

Mr. Ornellas: The guy in the middle, the Haole boy. He told us, "We go my house, my family house." And I knew he lived in Nahiku. I said, "Nahiku? How we gonna in Palikū?" He said, "We walk down."

Mr. Solamillo: So you went the back side of Haleakalā?

Mr. Ornellas: From inside the crater, we walked up to the rim, and down the mountainside to his house.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Must've taken hours.

Mr. Ornellas: Hours, yeah. Almost all day. We started early in the morning. We got there in the afternoon sometime all covered in mud from head to foot. No trail. And I told him, "Can you find your way?" He said, "Oh, yeah, easy." He say, "All downhill." He was a real mountain man. To him, everything was easy. The mountain was his home. He loved it. So we spent the day down there. The mother treated us like royalty. Gave us all clean clothes from his brothers. He had younger brothers. And he didn't have a father. The father had died. The reason why he wanted us to go his house, he wanted me to shoot the dog. He had a hunting dog that they loved. Was a good hunter. He praised that dog. The best of all of Maui. You couldn't find a dog that good, but the dog was old, and blind, and suffering. He say, "I cannot kill um." He knew I was handy with guns, so he brought a gun from Olson, a .38 special. Olson was a cop in Honolulu, I heard. So he got a gun from Olson and he says, "We go to my house, and you shoot the dog." 'Cause they couldn't do it. "Okay, we go." We got to his house. Like I said, he gave us clean clothes. We slept. The two dogs went with us: Queenie and Prince. Queenie was my pet. She always slept with me in my bunk. Prince was a strange dog. He never slept with us. Never mind where we slept, he slept in caves sometimes. He would sleep away. I don't know where he slept. He was always by himself. Very strange male dog. Queenie was a young female. So we went Oliveira's house. We all went to sleep all in one bed: me, Woodrow and Lawrence, the three of us, yeah? And he had some sisters. They were real, what you call, guavas. They were country people. They were peeking behind the doors looking at us, you know, teenage girls, yeah, and some younger brothers. Queenie, the dog, was crying out the window. She wanted to sleep with me! So I reached out and I grabbed her. Everything was wet and muddy. Brought the dog in with me. We all slept in the one bed: me, three of us and the dog. Like I said, Prince slept somewhere. I don't know, that dog. Strange dog. So the next day, we had big party. All of Nahiku and Hāna turned out. They threw a party. They

said nobody ever had hiked from inside the crater to the highway where his house is. We were the first ones. And his uncle was a Forest Ranger, Territorial Forest Ranger: Marion Cabral.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: That's probably why he's good with the mountain—his uncle was a Ranger.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, all mountain people. He opened up this big book. He said, "Nobody ever did this before." He wrote our names, all the information, he wrote it in his book.

Mr. Solamillo: And the book is where?

Mr. Ornellas: I wish I knew. He reached under his desk. He brought a gallon of wine. "We gotta celebrate." He was a big drinker, I heard. So he poured us all big cups, in white cups, coffee cups. Drink wine. Lawrence didn't drink, but he said, "Eh, you gotta drink." So Lawrence drank wine. We got drunk. Even Lawrence got drunk. The first time in his life. He was about 23 years old, I think, at that time. Much older than us. I was 18 or 19, 19, I think. And he got drunk. The mother cried, all talking in Portuguese to him. (Laughter)

Mr. Solamillo: And this was in the '30s and you guys were still talking Portuguese?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, the old lady was talking Portuguese to her children. And so we survived. We came home on a Sunday evening. I told him, "How we going home, Lawrence?" He said, "We walk up."

Mr. Solamillo: Walk up.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I said, "You must be crazy!" Me and Woodrow, my friend, "No, no, no, you go by yourself. We not going with you." So, okay, we decided. He got his uncle to find a taxicab. An old Filipino man with a Chevrolet, like a box car, Chevrolet Colts, they call um, I think, four-door. He came and drunk. That Filipino was drunk. We didn't know it at first. But when we got in the car, we agreed on a price we was going to pay him when we get to Pa`ia. From Pa`ia, my father was gonna to take me to the rest of the way. So, okay, ( ), okay, but we didn't pay him. Those days, you trust, yeah? So, eh, we found out he was drunk, that poor Filipino. Every time we went down a downgrade, he press the clutch. We went coasting down the hill, full tilt down those mountains. And was all dirt road!

Nothing was paved! We thought that was our last day. I was scared. I was angry. Lawrence told me I should shoot this guy. Lawrence still had the gun.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you shoot the dog? You shot the dog?

Mr. Ornellas: I shot the dog. They all cried like babies, the whole family. So we went home. And when we got to Ke`anae, there was a bang! I thought, "Wow!" I was sitting in the front. I thought Lawrence had shot the damn driver. But Lawrence didn't want one gun--only knife and dog. No guns. So it turned out he had -- the Filipino had a blowout. His back tire blew out. So we stopped right at that overlook, that Ke`anae overlook right at the edge of the road. So the old man got -- the Filipino man got all his tools out from under the back seat. All his tools were there. He started pumping the tire. The hole about that big. I was so angry. I told my friend, "You wait and see what I'm gonna do." I grabbed all the tools and threw um over the cliff down into the valley, and we started walking home. And he was yelling at us, "Hey, you gotta pay me! You gotta pay me!" We took off. We found a ride to Pa`ia and my dad took us home. We walked down to Palikū in the night, late at night. Talk about fun. That poor Filipino never saw a penny from us.  
(Laughter)

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: You have Lawrence in some of those pictures?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I have a picture of Lawrence. This is Lawrence here. Lawrence, Woodrow, and this guy. Some of the Rangers know him. He was Sam White, they call um. Sam Rodrigues--he had white hair like a Haole.

Mr. Solamillo: So he's the one on the far right? Who's in the middle?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm not sure. I cannot see now. The big guy was Lawrence Oliveira, and then Woodrow, and Sam White. Woodrow in the middle. And that's a wild pig that we caught. And then something that you may not be able to see it--on Lawrence's right elbow, there's a picture of what we think is the devil. You see something there in that picture? Some people cannot see it.

Mr. Solamillo: Why do you think it shows up?

Mr. Ornellas: Doesn't it look like a monster?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, I have to enlarge the photo.

Mr. Ornellas: It's just a grass, you know, a natural formation. You have to look at it.

Mr. Solamillo: That looks like a pretty big pig.

Mr. Ornellas: It is.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Oh, the pig is enormous!

Mr. Ornellas: We've caught many big pigs. And many we caught and--

Mr. Solamillo: Did you eat them?

Mr. Ornellas: We took them home alive, back to our camp alive. Those that were pregnant – I mean, not all, but once in a while, we would take it back to camp. That's why we had that imu, you know, we killed it. After we had it fattened after a couple weeks, we killed it and put it in the ground to eat.

Mr. Solamillo: So nobody bathed up there?

Mr. Ornellas: Nah.

Mr. Solamillo: That's amazing.

Mr. Ornellas: At Palikū, we took a bath, but--

Mr. Solamillo: So nobody got fleas? Nobody got anything like that?

Mr. Ornellas: No, not even lice.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: It's too cold. Too cold for the fleas.

Mr. Ornellas: Too cold, yeah. Yeah, they all died, I think.

Mr. Solamillo: And the other three people on the trail, this one here?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't know if you ever heard of the-- Yes, this is on the trail. I'm not sure where. This is a picture of Woodrow on the rim of the crater looking at the center of the crater. There's a mountain in the center.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's Woodrow looking at the crater?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, he's on the rim of this crater on the north side, north rim.

Mr. Solamillo: And what ethnicity was Woodrow?

Mr. Ornellas: Nationality?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: He was Haole-Spanish. His father was a Navy officer. Good friend of mine. Very close. We worked together in Honolulu, Haleakalā, and Big Island. After the war, he went back to Guam, and died there. This is us with a lot of pigs. Very faded picture. Me and Masa Nikaido in the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: And you are which one?

Mr. Ornellas: Rex Ornellas and Masa Nikaido.

Mr. Solamillo: So you're the one with the – sitting below?

Mr. Ornellas: Wait. Let me look.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Dark shirt or light shirt?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes, I'm the one with the white shirt. I had sprained my ankle.

Mr. Solamillo: And where are you?

Mr. Ornellas: This is Kaupō Gap.

Mr. Solamillo: That's Kaupō Gap.

Mr. Ornellas: Very remote part of the crater. This is a nice picture here: Piho and Lawrence Oliveira with a pig that we had killed, and we were preparing for the imu, for the underground oven.

Mr. Solamillo: That's Piho? Pihu or Piho?

Mr. Ornellas: Now I'm getting confused now. Piho. Piholo? I have it as "Piholo," but I don't know his name. I forget. I think it's Piho. I have it written over here some place. That's me shoeing the horse in Palikū. In the back here it says, "Notice the hammer."

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Your hair looks curly in this picture.

Mr. Solamillo: You had curly hair.

Mr. Ornellas: I had a regular hammer for shoeing horses, and it got lost. I think somebody stole it. So I was using a carpenter's hammer to shoe the horse, which is not good. It's too heavy.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And too wide, yeah? Too wide.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, too big. The regular hammer is tiny and square head.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: ( ) Farriers' ( ).

Mr. Ornellas: You ever shoed a horse?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: No, but I've watched very carefully.

Mr. Ornellas: Very, very hard. Once you get it, it's a beautiful thing to do. The nails all come out the same way. And you'd break it off with the claw of the hammer, and then file it down.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: It's not an easy skill, though. Every horse's hoof is different, and the angle is different, and the size and the shape is different.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, you have to study. You did the wrong angle, you'd penetrate a soft spot, and boy, the horse would jump, and you have a hard time shoeing it after that.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: That's a good skill.

Mr. Ornellas: That was Palikū. This is Lawrence, Woodrow, Quincy, and I don't know who the other guy is, pointing to Lake Wai'anapanapa. You know there's a lake up there at the 8,000-foot elevation?

Mr. Solamillo: No, because I've never been. I've heard.

Mr. Ornellas: You've heard of that lake? It's Wai'anapanapa. And down near the ocean, there's a pool of water called Wai'anapanapa also. And Lawrence knows all these Hawaiian legends. He said there is a connection between this lake and the lake down at the seashore. Right away I told him, "How come the water doesn't drain down?" He says, "Oh, there was a lava flow that blocked the passage. But prior to that Lava flow, they would use that lava tube as an escape route. From the ocean, if somebody wanted to escape an enemy, they would use that and come up on the top of the mountain, near the top of the mountain." Hawaiian

legend. Here's where we took our showers—Palikū. When it rained, it rained hard down there.

Mr. Solamillo: Is the waterfall still there?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, very green. It has large trees. It has cardinals, red birds. Beautiful, but no nene. I'm shaving. Here's a mother pig with two babies. This is a pig that we had captured and brought it back to camp. And she gave birth. She was ready to give birth when we caught her. We brought her to camp.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Oh, there she is with the little white and black baby.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I took the white one home for my folks and that's when I got into trouble. They killed it. They invited me. And I couldn't make it because Olson wouldn't give me pass because of this little white pig. Here's the lake on top of the mountain.

Mr. Solamillo: That's Wai'anapanapa?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. And I've been there.

Mr. Solamillo: Is this first or second season?

Mr. Ornellas: Pardon?

Mr. Solamillo: First or second season? '34?

Mr. Ornellas: This was second, my second. Yeah, '36, '37. Wai'anapanapa. You find this in some of the old maps, the name of this lake. It's always wet. It's always cloudy. It's at the cloud line between 7,000 and 8,000 feet. It's always wet. You cannot see the end of the lake. It's all covered with clouds. Lawrence with the wild pig. That's when I sprained my ankle—Kaupō. You know that other picture? The same day that this was taken. My ankle swole up and I had to go back to camp across the lava. No trails, now. Just the lava flows. Kaupō Gap. I had to hobble all the way back to camp at night, me and my two friends.

Mr. Solamillo: No moon or moon?

Mr. Ornellas: No shoe, only one shoe.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but no moon or moon?

Mr. Ornellas: I think was black, pitched black. The boys in camp were looking for us with gasoline lanterns all over the place because we was way overdue. Must've been a weekend that we went hunting or hiking. We didn't go hunting. We were just hiking. This was one of the pigs that we brought home.

Mr. Solamillo: Who is that?

Mr. Ornellas: My good friend, Woodrow.

Mr. Solamillo: That's Woodrow.

Mr. Ornellas: He was a ladies' man. The women loved him. Good guy. Very good-looking. On the Big Island, we had lots of girlfriends. They would buy tickets for us to go dance. They say, "Oh, come Saturday night. We all go dance in the gym in Hilo." "We don't have money." They would buy tickets and give us tickets. We'd sell the tickets to go drink. Show up about 11:30 at night. Free, 11:30, you can walk in free, ah? They'd get mad at us. (Laughter)

Ms. Walsh: That's why I don't tell anybody in Hilo my maiden name.

Mr. Ornellas: Here's Gunder E. Olson in the lava tube.

Mr. Solamillo: And who else? You got a lot of guys in there. And that's the lava tube going from Wai'anapanapa?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no, that's Haleakalā. This is near Holua. And it's off limits. You cannot go this. This is dangerous to go in here.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So this would've been one of your weeks off or one of the weekends off?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. We'd just discovered it. We thought we discovered it. Maybe somebody else discovered it, but it was off limits. The Rangers don't want people to go in there. Of course, at that time, there was no Rangers. So one, two, three, four, five, six, there's six of us in here. I'm not in here.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember anything about that lava tube?

Mr. Ornellas: I've been through that tube a couple times.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, what can you tell us about that?

Mr. Ornellas: Well, there's a small little entrance like just enough for a person to crawl in.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Hands and knees, yeah?

Mr. Ornellas: Hands and knees. And you go down, and then there's a great big room, a vault, then it gets dark when you go further in. Then there's a perpendicular drop about ten feet and you can get killed if you fall off that. In the beginning, we would go down with a rope. Tie the rope to a big stone and go down. And with lanterns, gasoline lanterns, we found our way to the end about. I would say a couple of hundred yards under the lava, and you come out. And then they put a ladder there, I think it was a metal ladder, years later. And now I hear there's nothing there. They don't want people to go near that place. Dangerous. Taro Tonai, he died. That's me on my horse.

Mr. Solamillo: The last picture you just showed.

Mr. Ladoulis Urban: The one before. Yes, that one.

Mr. Ornellas: That's not a good picture.

Mr. Solamillo: That's okay. Who is it?

Mr. Ornellas: Somebody at Camp Palikū. I think it's Taro Tonai.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. And then the next one?

Mr. Ornellas: Near Camp Wingate. Lio, is the name of my horse. That's me on my horse.

Mr. Solamillo: That's you on your horse.

Mr. Ornellas: That's me, John DeCosta, and I know him, but I can't think of his name, with my .22 rifle.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Now, did you say that it was John DeCosta who taught you how to shoe the horses? Who taught you?

Mr. Ornellas: A Hawaiian man from Kaupō.

Mr. Solamillo: Solomon?

Mr. Ornellas: Not Solomon.

Ms. Walsh: Levi Maka?

Mr. Ornellas: No, the guy from Kaupō. What was his name? How can I forget him? [Mr. Ornellas later recalled his name was Andrew Piimauna]. Of course, I was his helper, so I did just a little bit. But when I got to be a mule packer, I learned on my own with the help of Simeona – not Simeona, but Olson. He knew about shoeing horses. He would tell me how to place the nail. The nail has a taper on one side. And it has to taper the right way so it goes out otherwise it would go in. Little things I picked up. Simeona was the Hawaiian foreman.

Mr. Solamillo: And he came from—?

Mr. Ornellas: From the Big Island.

Mr. Solamillo: Where on Big Island?

Mr. Ornellas: I'm not sure. He was a civilian. Where are we? This is on the top of Pu'u o Maui, a thousand feet high cinder cone.

Mr. Solamillo: And that's—?

Mr. Ornellas: John DeCosta.

Mr. Solamillo: That's John DeCosta.

Mr. Ornellas: This is the same day just before we went up on that cinder cone. This is where we tied our animals to some rocks.

Mr. Solamillo: What year is this and what date?

Mr. Ornellas: 1935.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you have dates on it?

Mr. Ornellas: '34, '35.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so the first season.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, the first one, the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: These are great photographs.

Mr. Ornellas: This is me, I think, on the horse. John DeCosta was a real cowboy. He always wore a hat, but when we were at the top of this cinder cone, the hat blew off. I think he corralled it first. And he had chaps. You see the real cowboy chaps? He would never go anywhere without his hat.

Mr. Solamillo: And DeCosta is – he's Portuguese, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. And I never wore a hat. I went to Kaho`olawe once with some hunters. They go hunt goats. I was working for Grove Ranch. And they came pick me up. I was just out of the first camp when I went to work for the meat market. They found out I was a good rifleman. So, okay, the boss told me, "Get your rifle, if you have a rifle. You go to Kaho`olawe, and your job is to shoot goats." They wanna get rid of all the goats on that island because they eating all the grass.

Mr. Solamillo: What year was this?

Mr. Ornellas: '35.

Mr. Solamillo: '35?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, after I left the first camp.

Mr. Solamillo: This is the picture. That's the names that you had already read, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Sixteen names, all of them here. You got it already.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, I have a close up of that one from the archives. That's a good photo.

Mr. Ornellas: This is Maggie with his – I don't think it was a 30/30. It was 25/35 rifle.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And who is the person in the picture?

Mr. Ornellas: Maggie Oliveira, Lawrence's cousin.

Mr. Solamillo: And it's 1934 or '5?

Mr. Ornellas: '34, '34.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And he was not in the CCC? Just up there hunting?

Mr. Ornellas: He was. This is one of our men in the CCC.

Mr. Solamillo: And he's shooting at goats or pigs?

Mr. Ornellas: Goats. Just to put a picture, this is right next to our stone house, the Kalahaku rest house, right next to it.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: But his name is not on that list of 16?

Mr. Ornellas: No, it's not here, yeah. This is not the whole list.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Okay, so we add Maggie Oliveira.

Mr. Ornellas: Maggie was also there, yeah.

Ms. Walsh: His name is Lawrence also.

Mr. Ornellas: And his name happened to be Lawrence. He's cousin to my good friend, Lawrence, first cousins. This is a picture of the stone house. If this was enlarged, it would be a nice picture.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: . . .Yes, I have. That's in the archives, too.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but we need to identify it clearly so that we know it's stone house.

Mr. Ornellas: I have it written here. Maile wrote this.

Mr. Solamillo: Before you went to any of the camps, that's your first place where you sleep?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. Down here, on the lower left of this picture is where we kept our animals: four horses – two horses and four mules. It was like a cave with an overhang, natural overhang, rock, and we built a shelter in the front.

Mr. Solamillo: We need a wild goat shot.

Mr. Ornellas: You need that?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, we only have pigs. We wanna see goats.

Mr. Ornellas: I think I have a big picture of goats. I think I have two pictures of goats, yeah? Here's our two dogs. Great hunting dogs—Lawrence's. These are Lawrence's two dogs: Prince and Queenie.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So Lawrence brought these two dogs with him to camp?

Mr. Ornellas: He brought Prince, and later on, he picked this dog up after we were in camp.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Okay. Did the other boys bring other pets to camp?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Those are the only two.

Mr. Ornellas: That's the only two. But Prince was a strange dog. I think he was mistreated by his Filipino owner. This is a waterfall and this is the spring, Palikū Spring.

Mr. Solamillo: So that would've been the location where you gonna put the--?

Mr. Ornellas: The tank is below near the camp maybe a hundred yards away. You can see the pipe. And this is Holua. You can see part of the -- some of the tents -- no, all of the tents.

Mr. Solamillo: Now, that is before the boxes?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: There's some boxes there.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's after Olson's boxes? Is that Olson's boxes?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no boxes. This is before the boxes, I think. And ice, you've seen ice before. I think you've seen this before.

Mr. Solamillo: No, I've seen it.

Mr. Ornellas: This is -- I know all six of these guys. I'm in the front with the curly hair holding the horse. Woodrow is with the baby goat.

Mr. Solamillo: And where'd he get the baby goat?

Mr. Ornellas: He caught it, one of the wild ones.

Mr. Solamillo: And who are all the people in the photo?

Mr. Ornellas: David Caires, Woodrow Wilson, Taro Tonai, Joe -- I have his name over here, Joe's something, and myself over here.

Ms. Walsh: Woodrow Wilson is the same as Woodrow Chance.

Mr. Ornellas: The horse's name is Tony. We had two horses and ( ) knew both of them well. One of the other horse's name was Lio. This was the lava tube. This is the exit of the lava tube, the far end.

Mr. Solamillo: So where do you go in at and where do you come out?

Mr. Ornellas: You go into a small little opening.

Mr. Solamillo: Right, where is that small opening at?

Mr. Ornellas: Near Holua.

Mr. Solamillo: And you come out on—?

Mr. Ornellas: You come out maybe hundred yards. That was in the center of the crater. That's me with a block of ice. I told you about ice.

Mr. Solamillo: That's the one that fell out of the drinking trough?

Mr. Ornellas: I dug it out. It pitched down on one end and tilt up. It's maybe two inches thick, this ice. Real thick ice. Oh, here's me on the top of the cinder cone.

Mr. Solamillo: And that's where the—?

Mr. Ornellas: Thousand feet, yeah, thousand feet up with the silversword. And here's a nice picture of a wild goat. We had it tied by the hind leg to a rock. Looks like something in the wild.

Mr. Solamillo: So they were not – they're not short hair.

Mr. Ornellas: Well, because of the cold air, grew long.

Mr. Solamillo: That's a pretty, thick coat.

Mr. Ornellas: You can see how long it is.

Mr. Solamillo: It looks like a bear!

Mr. Ornellas: It's a nice picture.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, who took that picture?

Mr. Ornellas: I think this is Olson's picture. And that's it. Oh, the tents, you've seen that.

Mr. Solamillo: We need the camps. And then this one here?

Mr. Ornellas: And what was this now? Oh, on the mountain, yeah, we did that.

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but we need to show for the camera. And then the four camp shots.

Mr. Ornellas: This is Sam Rodrigues, this guy on the right. One of the ladies up the National Park is related to him, yeah? She's the niece of this guy.

Mr. Solamillo: Then the guy in the middle is who?

Mr. Ornellas: Woodrow.

Mr. Solamillo: Woodrow. The guy on the end is--?

Mr. Ornellas: Lawrence Oliveira.

Mr. Solamillo: All right. Then the next shot of the tents. And what camp is that?

Mr. Ornellas: Camp Halemau'u , 1936.

Mr. Solamillo: Halemau'u , 1936.

Mr. Ornellas: Next, on the picture marks, "Dad's tent." Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's your tent?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I don't know how I remembered that.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: I'm sure if it's that cold, it's a very strong memory.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. This is Camp Wingate, Kapalaoa.

Mr. Solamillo: Year?

Mr. Ornellas: Year, 1935.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Okay, one of the tents looks like it has an expanded room on the side of it. Is that just 'cause I can't see from far away or--?

Mr. Ornellas: No, those are tents in the back. The tents that we see in the front are larger probably, storage tents. And then the two-man tents are in the back. That's why it looks like a string of something in the back. Palikū. We're in a grove of trees. Tall grass. Tall trees. Very wet area. '36, '37. And this is a repeat of -- almost a repeat of Kapalaoa, not quite as finished as the other one. This is the Big Island. You want this, too? Oh, wait. Look, the trail--Halemau'u .

Mr. Solamillo: That's Halemau'u Trail.

Mr. Ornellas: Halemau'u Trail under construction. Wet day. Everybody with their rain gear on.

Mr. Solamillo: So do you have a list of all those CCC men? Do you have a list of all the guys in there or no?

Mr. Ornellas: No. From this picture, I cannot tell. I might be in here. In the beginning, I worked on this trail.

Mr. Solamillo: That was the one you hated.

Ms. Walsh: I think Liz has that picture.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: She does. I have that picture from archives, but it doesn't have names. The people are very small. It's difficult to tell who's underneath.

Mr. Ornellas: Big Island. No, wait, Haleakalā, some more. This is a picture of Sliding Sands Trail, but you cannot see the trail, but I drew it in with ink where I think it is.

Mr. Solamillo: I don't know. There's all these references, but I haven't seen a really—

Mr. Ornellas: You folks should go down into the crater. It's something that everybody should do, if you live around here.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: That was Sliding Sands Trail.

Mr. Ornellas: Sliding Sands Trail. This is working on the Halemau'u Trail, on the floor of the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: And what are you doing? What is everyone doing in that picture?

Mr. Ornellas: Cutting the trail, you know, just grass.

Mr. Solamillo: So they're removing the grass?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, I think, three feet wide. They had somebody had stake—

Mr. Solamillo: Were they using bush hogs, swinging things?

Mr. Ornellas: Mostly pick and shovel. The grass is thick over there, very thick grass. In fact, the horses used to live — horses and mules would eat a lot of that grass. So somebody laid out a stake line, and we widened it to three or four feet. Another

picture of the Halemau'u Trail.

Mr. Solamillo: That's after clearing.

Mr. Ornellas: 1936.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, I think we have that from archives as well.

Mr. Ornellas: And this one, you must have this one, a very nice picture of Halemau'u Trail.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, I do have that one.

Mr. Ornellas: See, this is after we worked on it. See how nice it is? Smooth.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, the switchbacks are more—

Mr. Ornellas: Lawrence would say, "Like an oil road." And of course, these are Big Island CCC, but Big Island, Kilauea.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And for a parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ornellas: Fourth of July parade, Hilo.

Mr. Solamillo: But you didn't have the same kind of uniforms here?

Mr. Ornellas: No, in Hilo, we had much better uniforms. We had very warm clothing. We had nice jackets. This is the dress uniform. And we had fatigues for work. This is almost the same.

Mr. Solamillo: Why were things different in Hilo? Because more people?

Mr. Ornellas: More people and the Park Service was there. They were lots of Rangers around, lots of people. The road went right up to that—

Mr. Solamillo: Did they have bathing facilities over there?

Mr. Ornellas: Yes. Yeah, we had showers.

Mr. Solamillo: Everything was high-end over there.

Mr. Ornellas: I remember it was cold showers. No hot showers, but cold. But we were right in the back of the volcano house. You've been to the volcano house, yeah? In the back there somewhere. I think we went to look for it. We couldn't find it where the campsite was. It's all different now. But the Rangers' quarters, we found it,

some of them, she and I, and Tom, the houses that we built. Nice quarters.

Mr. Solamillo: So the emphasis was pretty much on Big Island?

Mr. Ornellas: That's where the headquarters, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. So this is kind of the outback?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, right.

Mr. Solamillo: And was treated kind of that way.

Mr. Ornellas: Was very good, though. We were treated fairly and we ate well. That's the main thing.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And while your crews were building Rangers' houses, and maybe doing electrical work at the Big Island, were there other crews, because the camp was so large also doing trails?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, crews were working on trails, and some are building homes. Just a few would build a house. Just a few of us did electrical work: me, Woodrow – no, Woodrow didn't work electrical. Me, and Freddy Robello, and the boss, Levi Maka, who was an older man, just the three of us did the house wiring of all the houses. We went house to house to house. And I learned to climb a pole, you know, a telephone pole, over there.

Mr. Solamillo: With a belt?

Mr. Ornellas: Belt and hooks. And we climbed `ohi`a. Some of the poles were made of `ohi`a trees, about so big around, hard like stone, tough, hard wood. And when you a beginner, you know, you trembling up there, and you trying to poke the hooks. And the boss tell me, "Don't poke. Just walk. Walk right up the pole." And if you have the right angle, the hooks are cut to the right angle, too, so it doesn't slip out. You just walk right up the pole. You come down the same way, fast. Once in a while I would slide. The hooks would come out and you'd fall down the pole, scrape the front of your body.

Mr. Solamillo: Well, you have a wonderful memory and a wonderful mind. You've been very blessed.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, well, I learned a trade in the CCC. Wonderful.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, what's amazing to me is the stories that you've told on some of your outings out of regular days where'd you go up the crater, down the mountain, back up the mountain, and I don't recall, Stanley, do you recall anytime during this interview where he mentioned sore muscles, shaking, fevers from sleeping in a cave all night, you know, things that would be normal?

Mr. Ornellas: We hardly ate. Like I say, we would take Saloon pilots. Most of the time, the Saloon pilots would get soaking wet. We'd sweat, or would rain, and we'd scrape it off the cinders on the ground to eat. You know what Saloon pilots are?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, yeah.

Mr. Ornellas: One day this friend of mine from Lower Pa`ia, he was in the Ke`anae CCC, the Territorial Camp, and he boasted about how both of us had come out of the camp and whatnot. And he was telling me, "Oh, you know, in Ke`anae, we hike all over." I say, "Eh, you ever been up Haleakalā?" He says, "No." I say, "Well, that's where you really hike." He say, "Oh, we go try." This guy was Portuguese-Hawaiian-German. The Sheriff's – Deputy-Sheriff's son, same age as me. So, okay, we got my dad's car. I borrowed my dad's car. I never owned a car in my life until I got married. So we borrowed my dad's car. We went up to the top. We were going into the crater and come out the same day, which is what we did. We had a couple sandwiches. No drinking water. No nothing. He had never been to the crater. That was his first trip. So we started from Halemau'u , the 8,000-foot level. We went down Halemau'u Trail. I was showing him all the trails that we built. Proud of it. Walked across the crater to Camp Wingate to Kapalaoa, came back to the bottomless pit, which is in the middle of the crater, down to Palikū, back to the bottomless pit, and back up Halemau'u all in one day. Twenty, thirty miles, I think, we did that day. He thought he was gonna die. He said, "All of my life, I had never thought I would hike this much." Ke`anae was nothing. He did a lot of mountain climbing, up and down the

ravines, but we had long distances to go. But no problem. No water. We didn't have a can of water with us.

Mr. Solamillo: So when you were working, when you were young, did you have water when you were doing trail work? All the guys who were doing the trail work, did you have water can and canteens?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't think so, no.

Mr. Solamillo: Anything?

Mr. Ornellas: No. I don't think we had water. We didn't have canteens.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So where did you pause to get water? Maybe lunchtime? There was no water anywhere to go?

Mr. Ornellas: I don't remember water at all. I remember the three springs, but we worked far from the springs many times.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And nobody passed out from heat exhaustion or exertion?

Mr. Ornellas: No, no.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And there was no physicals? When you signed up, was there a physical test?

Mr. Ornellas: No.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So they had no idea if you could hold up to these circumstances?

Mr. Ornellas: Right. Just your age. You 18, you must be fit, 18 to 25.

Ms. Walsh: Yeah, it's not like today, huh, where you need a psychiatric review, approval from three doctors?

Mr. Solamillo: No, it is a different time now.

Mr. Ornellas: . . . And they found somebody else that was a real barber.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So they had a barber's chair. And then they had—?

Mr. Ornellas: The tools for a barber.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: The tools. Somebody was trained to cut hair, or it was just somebody who

came in?

Mr. Ornellas: Filipino maybe. They're natural barbers, and Japanese, too. They're born with scissors in their hands.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: But they normally cut – trailer work, and worked with everybody else during the day, and they'd just cut hair at night or the weekends?

Mr. Ornellas: Right, on their own. And I did it for free when I did it.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Right. And then he left? You said he left for some reason?

Mr. Ornellas: The barber left, and then I took over for a while.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: So then you would cut everybody's hair?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, and I would cut for free, but most people said, "Eh, nah, I'd rather cut my hair in Hilo and pay for it." They didn't trust me.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: They would pay you to cut hair? No, no. You'd just volunteer.

Mr. Ornellas: No, no, they wouldn't, and I wouldn't ask. I'd volunteer. I was having fun.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Right. Right. And so this, I wanted to capture. This last picture was about the boxing gloves. And this man here was your boss?

Mr. Ornellas: This is Levi Maka. He was a retired Hilo Electric Light employee, so he was an electrician. He taught me about house wiring.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And then these boys over at Kilauea were just doing a boxing club on their own?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, this is Kilauea.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Kinda after work hours?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, after work.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And you think the boxing gloves they gave you, they just supplied them?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, it came from somebody. I never had to pay for it.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And just for fun. And you didn't really compete against like the other--?

Mr. Ornellas: We did, but I had left. I didn't wanna get punched in the nose. So we was supposed to box with—

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: But did they like drive to Hilo and compete against the camps at maybe Waimea?

Mr. Ornellas: Right, that was the purpose—challenge them.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Oh, okay, okay, so you did.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, but I never went that far. But you know what we used to do? Some of us, we had weight classes. I think I was 145 weight. I'm not sure, but I was a little overweight. So me and a few others that were overweight, we'd put on our raincoat during training, put on raincoats, nothing underneath, naked, put on our raincoat that went down till here, and we'd run down maybe one mile to the sulfur banks. And they had cracks in the ground. Sulfur steam coming out of the ground. They called it, "the Sulfur Banks." And tourists drive down to look at all the sulfur banks. We'd run down to there and squat over those trenches with the raincoat over us to lose weight. And when the tourists would come by, they would see us squatting over these trenches, they'd take off! (Laughter)

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Oh, they probably thought you were using the restroom, right?

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah. I'm sure they must've complained to headquarters. Anyway, we did that.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: This is for the boxing weight class to meet your limits, right? You had limits you had to be under.

Mr. Ornellas: Yeah, yeah, we had to be maybe 145. I went to 155 pounds. I gained a lot of weight there because I ate well.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Right. Oh, that's good. That's great. Good story.

Mr. Ornellas: . . . the jackets that we wore. Very nice jackets.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Okay, so these are the uniforms up at the Kilauea Camp?

Mr. Ornellas: Kilauea, yeah. I don't know why he didn't have a jacket, but it was kinda cool. This is somewhere up there on the mountain. I think these are all Japanese. This, I know is Japanese. He's from Honolulu. I don't know who this guy is.

These two are from Maui, I think. I think all four of them are Japanese.

END OF TRANSCRIPT

**Civilian Conservation Corps in Hawai'i:  
Oral Histories of the  
Haleakalā Camp, Maui**



**APPENDIX C**

*APPENDIX C*  
BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

**GRANT K. BAILEY, SR.**

Grant K. Bailey, Sr. was born in Wailuku, Maui on September 29, 1918. His parents were Harry L. Bailey and Hannah Bailey (Kamahele) who were born in Wailuku and Waikapu, respectively. Harry & Hannah raised 5 sons, 2 step sons, and 5 daughters.

When Grant was young, his father and mother owned a farm in Kula where all the children would plant and harvest vegetables to help the family. All the children worked on the farm, under a contract. During the Depression, Grant said his father lost the farm after the bank took back the land. Then the family moved to Central Avenue.

Grant Bailey graduated from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. He joined the CCC around 16 or 17 years of age. We do not know more about Mr. Bailey's work life other than the CCC.

Grant Bailey married twice and has outlived both his wives. He currently lives in a senior apartment community in Kahului, Maui.

EXCERPT OF INTERVIEW OF MR. GRANT K. BAILEY, SR.  
CONDUCTED ON JANUARY 17, 2010 IN WAILUKU, HAWAII.

Mr. Stanley Solamillo: Alright, I'm gonna start out. I'm gonna ask your name.

Mr. Grant Bailey: You gotta talk a little louder.

Mr. Solamillo: Can you hear me now? Can you hear me?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah. You said, "Can you hear me now?"

Mr. Solamillo: Good. What is your name, and the place where you were born, and the date of your birth?

Mr. Bailey: My name is Grant Bailey. My middle name is Keoko`okolani.

Mr. Solamillo: Keoko`okolani. That's a beautiful name. And where were you born?

Mr. Bailey: I was born in Wailuku.

Mr. Solamillo: And then what year? In what year?

Mr. Bailey: September 29, 1918.

Mr. Solamillo: What were your parents' names? What were the names of your parents?

Mr. Bailey: Maiden name? Maiden name? Her maiden name was Hannah Kamahele.

Mr. Solamillo: And your father?

Mr. Bailey: My father's name was Harry L. Bailey.

Mr. Solamillo: And where was your father born?

Mr. Bailey: Where they were born? My father was born in Wailuku. My mother was born in Waikapu.

Ms. Kathryn Ladoulis Urban: And your father's middle name was Lili`uokalani, right?

Mr. Solamillo: Your father's middle name was what? Your father's middle name?

Mr. Bailey: Lili`uokalani.

Mr. Solamillo: What did your parents do for a living? What did your parents do for a living? What did your father do and what did your mother do?

Mr. Bailey: My father used to work for the County of Maui.

Mr. Solamillo: What did he do?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, he did all kind--janitor work. That's about all I can tell you.

Mr. Solamillo: What about your mom?

Mr. Bailey: My mom, she never did work. She was a housewife. She used to make leis. Something like what I do for - I don't know what you call-recreation or what.

Mr. Solamillo: During the Great Depression, do you remember the Great Depression?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Can you tell us how life was for your family during the Great Depression? The Great Depression start in 1929. So the stock market crash, and everybody starts laying off. Can you tell us how it affected your family?

Mr. Bailey: My father had a farm, and our job was to work on the farm, do weeding job, and then pull out when there too much lettuce, or too much cabbage. We space um out. Take out all the space. Give um the space. That's the job we used to do during the time of the Depression because my sisters and brothers, they had to work on the farm. And the youngest was about eight years old or younger than that. And we get contract, all of us kids. And I used to feel sorry for my younger sisters because they couldn't keep up. So I used to be one that helped them. That's the kind of job we used to do. We used to plant a lot of Filipino vegetables: saluyot, paria, and some other. And we liked doing that. And we used to have two cows. We had to go and cut grass for those cows. And sometime when you growing up as kids, you forget about going cut grass. And then we playing marbles, and then we bet. And we went in kinda late, and we started take off, and go and cut grass for the two cows. And we had pigs too. There was a lot of job for us.

Mr. Solamillo: How much brothers and sisters did you have?

Mr. Bailey: Ooh, we had a dozen brothers.

Mr. Solamillo: A thousand brothers?

Mr. Bailey: A dozen brothers. And my father, he had a girlfriend and he had children with her. And my real brothers: there's Archie, there's Terry, John, Edward, and that's me. All of them passed away. I'm the only one living. And what you call? My father's first wife, he had two sons and a daughter. And then his wife passed away. And I think

about two, three years after, he married my mother. And he kept my two half-brothers. The sister was given to one of the Uncles, the mother's brother--the Wells Family of Moloka'i. They kept the girl. And they all passed away--my two brothers. I don't know about the girl because we wasn't close to her. And that's about it.

Mr. Solamillo: How about your younger sisters, you mentioned? How many sisters you get?

Mr. Bailey: My real sisters? That living or all together?

Mr. Solamillo: Altogether.

Mr. Bailey: There's my sister Theresa. Well, let me start with the first one. Her birthday gonna be next week. She'll be 80 years old -- no, 90 years old. And for the girls, she's the oldest. And there is my sister Elaine, my sister, Eleanor. They passed away. My sister Theresa and my sister Lucille, this two stay living yet.

Mr. Solamillo: So a total--four sisters then, right? Four sisters?

Mr. Bailey: That living

Mr. Solamillo: No, that were born. Four sisters?

Ms. Bobbi Poirier: No, five. There's Hanna, Elaine, Lucille--

Mr. Bailey: There's Hanna. There's Elaine, Eleanor. There's Theresa and Lucille. Five, yeah. Might be six, but I don't know.

Mr. Solamillo: Where did you go to school and what grade did you finish?

Mr. Bailey: I only went to elementary school, and that was Wailuku.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so what grade did you finish?

Mr. Bailey: Five grade. They make me pass when I not supposed to pass up to the fifth grade and then I quit school.

Mr. Solamillo: Your brothers and sisters--same about of schooling? Your brothers and sisters, did they go to the fifth grade or did they go beyond fifth grade?

Mr. Bailey: Gee, I don't really know how far they went to school.

Mr. Solamillo: So nobody went to high school? Anyone go to high school?

Mr. Bailey: No. Yeah, I just can't remember.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. You mentioned your brothers and sisters were picking vegetables for

contract when they small.

Mr. Bailey: When they small, yeah. After that, my father had lost our land.

Mr. Solamillo: How did that happen?

Mr. Bailey: My father always go to the bank for money until the money, I think, money ran out. The bank had grab hold the land.

Mr. Solamillo: Did this happen during the Depression? Did this happen during the 1930s?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, yeah, 1930s.

Mr. Solamillo: So it was during the Great Depression. So you ended up losing the family farm, right? So you ended up losing the land during the Depression? Your father-you said he lost the farm during the Depression, the land. The bank took the land during the Depression?

Mr. Bailey: What he did with the land?

Mr. Solamillo: No, you said that the bank took the land?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, the bank took the land.

Mr. Solamillo: So what happened to all of you when the bank took the land?

Mr. Bailey: We moved to Central Avenue. We lived there till my mother had left my father, and went to Honolulu to live with my brother, Fred. And then my father had gone there. My half-brother, Fred, this Navy truck had run over his oldest daughter. She was about seven, eight years old. This was during the war. And then my dad had gone to Honolulu for the funeral. And my brother wanted me and my brother Edward to be pall bearer, but they wouldn't allow us to. Only your father can catch the airline to Honolulu. You two cannot. So we had to stay back. And he think that we did that on purpose. That we didn't wanna go. We wanted to go, but we couldn't because at that time, war time, they were strict, real strict. Only my father could go and we cannot go.

Mr. Solamillo: So let's go back to the 1930s. The CCC--how did you find out about the CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Well, a lot of my friends was talking about the CCC. So I tell um, I better join. That's how I got in because they were going to join up, too, so I join up with them.

Mr. Solamillo: What friends were they? What were the names of your friends?

Mr. Bailey: Paulie Paio (phonetic), William Kaha`ai (phonetic), George Vega. I can't remember the rest. Me, I got a short memory.

Mr. Solamillo: That's okay. You got a better memory than me.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: That's a great memory. That's 70 years ago.

Mr. Solamillo: Had you ever gone to Haleakalā? before?

Mr. Bailey: You mean after?

Mr. Solamillo: No, before you joined the CCC, had you ever gone to Haleakalā? before?

Mr. Bailey: I went up there many times, but I couldn't remember just when I went up there. I know before I joined the CCC, yeah, I went up there maybe about three times.

Mr. Solamillo: How many boys were in your group? In the CCC group?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know. Maybe about 20, 25 of us.

Mr. Solamillo: And when did you go up there? What year, do you remember?

Mr. Bailey: No, I don't remember.

Mr. Solamillo: So you don't know? Like maybe it was 1934 or something like that? Okay. Do you remember Rex Ornellas?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, he's my good friend. Yeah, he is a guy I really liked. He helped me out one time. Yeah, this big guy, he want somebody to spar with him. So I put on the glove. That guy gave me the worst licking I ever had. (Laughter) Rex seen that. He put on the glove. The guy had licking from Rex. And he's a big guy! And Rex and I, we about the same height, or I might be a little taller than Rex, but Rex tore him up!

Mr. Solamillo: Was this during the CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So this was up Haleakalā?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So you guys did boxing up there?

Mr. Bailey: Well, not that place- Haleakalā. And we used to camp right below. You know that trail that go down? We used to camp. I think that's Halemaumau Camp. That's where. And then we moved down Ko`olau - not Ko`olau, but Kaupo Gap. There's a

place that it was a nice, beautiful place where our camp was over there by the water. Hard to drink. It taste like it was mixed in with the fern. We had to drink that water, anyway.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the boxing when Rex tore the other guy up, is that at one of the camps?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, that's where.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's at Halemauu Camp? Halemauu Camp?

Mr. Bailey: Halemaumu, yeah. Then we went move down to Kaupo Gap. I forget what you call that place. Before that Kaupo Gap, on the right side on, the trail, on the right side have a wide area. That's where we have our camp. And we haul lumber from up on the road down to the camp. And we moved down to that camp. It's maybe about a mile from this Ko`olau Gap to this- I forget the name.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Is that Crater Camp?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know what they call that camp. Is that what they call um?

Mr. Solamillo: I don't know. We got Kapalaoa. We have Holua. We have Paliku. Do you remember Paliku Camp?

Mr. Bailey: No.

Mr. Solamillo: You don't remember? How about Kapalaoa? Do remember a camp there?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know.

Mr. Solamillo: When you went to CCC, you have older boys and younger boys, right, when you went to CCC?

Mr. Bailey: What about?

Mr. Solamillo: Did you have older boys and younger boys go together, right?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, mixed age, yeah. But I don't know what age they -- sixteen or-

Mr. Solamillo: They was supposed to be 18 to 25.

Mr. Bailey: No, younger than that.

Mr. Solamillo: But we think there were younger ones. Do you remember younger ones? Maybe sixteen? You don't know?

Mr. Bailey: No, but there were some younger boys.

Mr. Solamillo: What ages were they, do you think?

Mr. Bailey: Gee, I don't know their age. They must be 18.

Mr. Solamillo: Did the older boys - how did they treat the younger boys? They treat um all the same, or they pick on um?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, we never have any problem up there. Everybody get along real good, yeah. I wanted to know. I seen strawberry on Hana Mountain. And I don't know how. Must be from the bird. They throw seed. You know there's a lake on Hana Mountain? You know about that lake?

Mr. Solamillo: I heard about it, yes.

Mr. Bailey: Beautiful lake. We never been to that lake. We went hunting around that area. You look at that lake-blue, blue, blue. Nice lake. And I tell myself that someday, I going right up to that lake, but we never. We think too much about hunting and forget about the lake. And we used to carry that pig on our-

Mr. Solamillo: On your back?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, cross way. And grab the back leg, and the front leg, and hold um down behind your back. We carry um. We make the pigpen for the pig. And then a month later, the pig gave birth. And I don't know what became of all the babies. They all ran away. They say that where we was staying at the time, the guys said, "There's pigs over there." Maybe the pigs that ran away from us, they live at that camp.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you trap the pig? How did you catch the pig?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, we had one pig, which we not supposed to bring dogs in here, but they allow us just one dog. After that, we had a fox terrier, female fox terrier. She catch pig.

Mr. Solamillo: She catch pig?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So she just corner the pig?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, grab um by the ear and hang on. Hang on to the pig. And then we get up there and grab the pig. She was a tiny, little thing. The pig running off, try running

away, and she hanging on the ear. And then what you call? Till we get up to the pig and that was it.

Mr. Solamillo: How many boys? How many boys to catch the pig?

Mr. Bailey: We always was me, Lawrence Oliveira-- You heard about him? Did Rex talk about him?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, but you can talk about him too.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah. And there was an Okinawa boy. Only the three of us. Then in the night, we had this heater, kerosene heater. On top the heater, we put the jerk meat. Oh, that scent carry throughout the camp. The guys start coming in. They want to eat. (Laughter) So we make sure that everybody had something to eat. And we say, next week we go hunting, we want some of you guys come with us. Next week, the same three guys. They only want to eat. They don't wanna go and hunt.

Mr. Solamillo: How many guys have guns? How many boys have guns to shoot?

Mr. Bailey: No, he either carry a knife or a revolver. He go right up to the pig and shoot the pig. (Laughter) Well, actually, we don't need no gun.

Mr. Solamillo: You just chase um down?

Mr. Bailey: Just a knife. Stab um right through the heart.

Mr. Solamillo: What boy was the one that you were just talking about?

Mr. Bailey: That pig hunter, Lawrence Oliveira. He was our squad leader. He was really a nice, nice guy. They was telling he just passed away not too long ago, but I don't really know. You heard about him?

Mr. Solamillo: No, you tell me about him. Can you tell me about him? Say some things about Lawrence? What do you remember about Lawrence Oliveira?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, he come from Nahiku. The father was a Ranger. He take care all those places. And we used to go hunt pig. This is after CCC. We used to go open the nail. The chain wrap around, and this long piece of lumber from the other end to this end, we take off the nail, and take off the chain, and then open the gate, and let the two jeep go in. And then after that, we close the - we put back the nail, the chain. And we put the chain over the gate, and then we lock the thing. And we get branches and sweep the road, so they don't know we went through. And we go till

the dry, riverbed. We park our jeep over there and we walk all the way to that cabin. Hana Mountain-the cabin is down in Nahiku. One time from Hana Mountain, we came over there and down into where this cabin was. I think we the only one that ever made the trip through that way. And then when we try to get back to Nahiku, somebody would take us back to the crater. We say no, no. We better go back the same way. So when we came back, the camp was ready to go look for us. When we get back in camp, it was 8 o'clock at night. Walk, walk, walk all day.

Mr. Solamillo: What kind of work did you do? What kind of work did you for the CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Up there? We repaired the trail. If the stone wall, some of the stone fall down, we rebuild um again. What we had to do, we have to cut some of the trees, the branches that fall on the trail. And that was our job was taking care the trail.

Mr. Solamillo: Was Oliveira good to all the boys that work for him?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, he was the best. He was a slow-moving guy but everybody liked him. He was a nice, nice guy.

Mr. Solamillo: Who was in charge of Oliveira? Who was his boss?

Mr. Bailey: Who was the boss? I don't know. The guy that was in charge of us, he was a tall-I don't know--Swede, or what. I forget his name. He was our boss of that place, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Was there any work that you did not like to do?

Mr. Bailey: I like everything that we were doing. And I like to do more, if I can, because I like to work, keep myself occupied.

Mr. Solamillo: Were you given uniforms to wear? Did they give you uniforms to wear?

Mr. Bailey: No, no. No, no.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Did they give you any clothes?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, they gave me clothes. I don't remember if they gave us. I don't think they gave us clothes.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Were you warm or were you cold up there because Haleakalā? gets cold?

Mr. Bailey: We used to run around without shirt. Guys coming up there with overcoat seeing these crazy guys without shirt. We were nice and warm, even without shirt.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anybody get sick? Did anyone get sick?

Mr. Bailey: I think guys get sick, but I don't really know if they get sick or not.

Mr. Solamillo: How about the food? Did you like the food?

Mr. Bailey: Food? We had good food. No complaints.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember what the food was?

Mr. Bailey: We had poi once in a while. We had all kind of food. And we had a Chinese cook. Once in while he used to make Chinese food, but the food was really good, for me. I don't know about the other guys, whether they complained or not.

Mr. Solamillo: So you no complain?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah. I don't want to complain.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anybody lose weight or anything like that when they working up there?

Mr. Bailey: Losing weight?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, did anybody lose weight? Anybody get skinny?

Mr. Bailey: I cannot remember if anybody - in fact, we never have any fat guys come out up there. I don't really know if when they left the place, they came skinny.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Did they train you? Before you start working, did you get any training?

Mr. Bailey: No, I don't remember we had training up there.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So you went from Wailuku, right? You go from Wailuku to Haleakalā? Can you tell us that?

Mr. Bailey: We ride the truck. Weekend, when we go home, we ride the truck. And we go back to camp in the night, I think we reach camp about 7 o'clock, or 8 o'clock.

Mr. Solamillo: Is that Sunday night?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah. And then one night we was going home, it was snowing. That was a winter month, and us guys on the truck, but it was a light snow. Might be only one time that happened when I was up there.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember what year?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know what year we went up there.

Mr. Solamillo: That's okay. Did you do any studying? Did you study math or English or anything while you were up there? Okay. So you were there to work, right?

Mr. Bailey: I was a guy who know nothing, but come for work, yeah, I know plenty. But come to studying or further my education, no. I hate to say I'm stupid.

Mr. Solamillo: No, you not stupid. You just no like. Do you remember any of these boys? Anybody look familiar?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know.

Mr. Solamillo: When you work, did they give you a choice?

Mr. Bailey: For doing the work up there?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, for doing the work, or no choice?

Mr. Bailey: No. Some part of the trail that they wash away, we were there to have that place fixed. Oh, we used to carry lumber when they was trying to build the next place where we were gonna live-from Halemauu to that place down Kaupo Gap-that nice place on the right side. We used to carry two-by-four planks. We live in a tent and three in a tent. One here, one here, and one here in the tent. And we had a kerosene heater. And it was really, I would say for us young guys, it was comfortable living in the tent.

Mr. Solamillo: So no one get cold in the tent?

Mr. Bailey: No, we had enough blanket, yeah. We have problem with the mud over there.

Mr. Solamillo: Did they put wood on the floor? Did they put wood on the floor or just dirt floor in the tent?

Mr. Bailey: Food?

Mr. Solamillo: No, wood. Was it wood floor in the tent, or just dirt?

Mr. Bailey: No, the tent, yeah, we had a floor.

Mr. Solamillo: So you had a wood floor. And it's wood?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay, so you were pulling the wood - you were hauling the wood to the camp for use as a wood floor?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know if only for the floor, but we used to carry. And all the time, I was the

first guy back in the camp. I got there way before lunch. And then some guys, they no reach there till 2 o'clock in the afternoon. But I was there. Every time we had to go bring lumber to that camp, I was the first guy to- Yeah, way before lunch, I used to be at the camp. And I never stop on the way. They had this `ohelo berries. You heard about that--`ohelo berry?

Mr. Solamillo: You can tell me. Tell me.

Mr. Bailey: That thing was just loaded. All we had to do was just broke a branch. And while we walking, cowboy style, just eat away, and then you um throw away, and grab another one. Just one place where this `ohelo berries. Was just, I think, during the summer. And the thing was just loaded with this berries. And they were sweet. They were sweet. But I always get home first. First person to get back in camp. Some guys had their one-by-twelve, but when they reach back camp, they had two pieces. The thing break in half. Break in lengthwise. And then instead one, they had two-piece. But I never did throw my lumber down.

Mr. Solamillo: So those were the guys that they threw their lumber down?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, they throw their lumber, the thing break in lengthwise. Instead they come home with one, they come home with two. (Laughter)

Mr. Solamillo: At that camp, you had a cook at that camp, right?

Mr. Bailey: Goat?

Mr. Solamillo: Cook.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, like I say, he's a Chinese guy from Kula. He was our cook. He was a good cook.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember his name?

Mr. Bailey: No, I don't remember. Chang kai Chek (phonetic), I think.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. The money, how much were you paid? Do you remember?

Mr. Bailey: I think thirty dollars a month.

Mr. Solamillo: So how much do you get and then how much does your family get?

Mr. Bailey: I cannot remember.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. So your family get a certain amount of money, right?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know when.

Mr. Solamillo: You don't know when, and you don't know how much, and you don't know how they use the money?

Mr. Bailey: I think it's thirty dollars a month. I don't remember receiving the money. I think my parents the one receive the money.

Mr. Solamillo: And did it help out for them at home? The money that your parents received, it helped them out during the Depression?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you remember Crater Camp?

Mr. Bailey: The one we went speak is the only place I know about. Wingate, when you get on, it's on the right-hand side. I forget the name of the camp we were last living in.

Mr. Solamillo: So you don't remember Paliku?

Mr. Bailey: I think that's the camp, Paliku, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: That's the last one?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, that's the one going down Kaupo on the left-hand side. That's the camp, Paliku, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: So that's like Kaupo Gap?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, Kaupo Gap. That's where I seen these dogs coming down from that steep place coming down, chasing a flock of goats. I don't know whether they caught any. And they were barking and at the same time, running after them. And then what you call? They must've catch one or two of them. And they not big dog. They poi dog. And what you call? I wanted to know if whoever been up there come across wild dogs, because I heard there is wild dogs up there, but I never did come across anybody that seen. I seen them. Yeah, I seen them.

Mr. Solamillo: How many?

Mr. Bailey: I think was four or five of them from way on top. Hana Mountain on this side. It's on this side where Paliku. That's on this side, yeah, just starting of Kaupo. They chasing this bunch of goat, yeah, coming down.

Mr. Solamillo: So up there you saw dogs, you saw goat, you saw pigs. Any other animals you

see up there?

Mr. Bailey: No, no. They say had cattle on the Kaupo side, the mountain on Kaupo side. That's when you coming from Hana on that side. They said there is wild cattle there but I went up try to hunt wild cattle, but I never come across.

Mr. Solamillo: How often you go hunting? How many times you go hunting when you work for CCC?

Mr. Bailey: When I was up there? I think in a month, about two, three times. Sometime at camp, me - just Lawrence and I, we go. We catch once about that big or a big one, we sell um for three dollars. Pig, I was champion to catch baby pig. Get a bag. My friend, he hang on to the bag. My job is to catch um, and he come, and he put um in the bag. And I hear another one crying. The dogs must be holding that other one. So I take off and catch that one and put um. He come along with the bag, put um in the bag. I go for the next one. And then we came back camp. We sell um for three dollars.

Mr. Solamillo: Who did you sell um to?

Mr. Bailey: To the boys that going home weekend. But one time they left their animal at the Cantoneer (phonetic) where they have their trucks and whatnot. They was going home and come back because they not allowed to take the animal on the truck that was supposed to take us home. I don't know why they do that. So they left um there. They came back with a car to pick up the baby pigs. When they reach there, I think the Cantoneers, I think, they take the animals that left there.

Mr. Solamillo: What kind of rules did you have?

Mr. Bailey: Food?

Mr. Solamillo: Like no can drink, no can shoot. What rules?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, you talking about rules. Gee, I don't remember about rules. I used to go by myself go into the forest-that Ko`olau Gap. And they have this flowers? I don't know what they call um. Begonia--the name of those flowers? They extra tall. I know people there, they had the thing planted in their yard, but not as tall. This one, giant. They tall. Down in Ko`olau Gap, not Kaupo, Ko`olau Gap. And once in the while, the wild pig used to come on that side. I don't know. Yeah, Ko`olau Gap. The pig used to come up there, but there's no food for them. They come over there

looking for food and then they go back down in the forest.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you go home all the time when you could go home, or you just stay up there, like, on weekends?

Mr. Bailey: I forget how many time you allowed to go home--one or two times in a month. I don't even remember whether it's one or two time, but I know we go home. Every time we get the chance to go home, I wanna go home.

Mr. Solamillo: So you go down to Wailuku?

Mr. Bailey: Wailuku, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you also go down to Hana side?

Mr. Bailey: I know one time we went down Kaupo, we never come back till the next day, which we not supposed to do that. We supposed to come back that day, but we were having so much fun that we take the risk.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And where did you sleep when you did that? When you stayed out overnight, where did you sleep?

Mr. Bailey: Sleeping is no problem. We can sleep any place because they get nice lawn for sleep. We kinda used to being up the crater. It's no problem where we going sleep.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you take showers or baths up in CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, we take shower almost every day.

Mr. Solamillo: So you get showers up there?

Mr. Bailey: Halemauu, I think, usually we always out in the open. We take a bath.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember a boy who died from pneumonia?

Mr. Bailey: Huelo side?

Mr. Solamillo: No, a boy that died from pneumonia. You remember a Hawaiian boy? He died from pneumonia at Kula Sanitarium, Kula San.

Mr. Bailey: I don't know if I was there. Yeah, I don't remember.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Do you remember Solomon Ho`opi`i?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, yeah. He was the one that died--you talking about? No, I don't know. He died before or after me, so I don't know. And I know where he come from. He come

from Kahakuloa.

Mr. Solamillo: Correct.

Mr. Bailey: And he's my friend's brother.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember when they build the road to Haleakalā?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, I remember. Some guy was living in the cave. Yeah, this guy Rosa, Rosa.

He was working up there. And I don't know if he was living throughout the week, or just couple nights in a week living there. I heard about that, but I never come across. But I know the person that said he was living up there. He was a powder man.

Mr. Solamillo: So he blow things up?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember when they dedicate Haleakalā? Road?

Mr. Bailey: No.

Mr. Solamillo: Okay. Did you ever work on the silversword?

Mr. Bailey: No.

Mr. Solamillo: So you never work on the plants. Okay. You said three boys there were sleep in each tent.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: And that you have a wood floor in the tent.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, we have a floor.

Mr. Solamillo: Where was the stove to keep you warm, the wood stove to keep you warm? You get a wood stove to keep you warm?

Mr. Bailey: We had that heater.

Mr. Solamillo: Where was the heater? In the tent?

Mr. Bailey: And that heater only go up until 9 o'clock at night.

Mr. Solamillo: And then you gotta turn um off?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, you gotta turn um off.

Mr. Solamillo: So in the morning you cold when you get up?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know. We kinda used to the weather. Winter time, yeah, it's cold, but summertime, it's real warm, not too cold during the summer, only the winter time. But after the sun come up, it gets warm.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember what you had for breakfast?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, we had cereal. I don't remember if we have coffee or tea.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember what you had for lunch?

Mr. Bailey: Lunch, sometime we have sandwich. Most of the time, we have sandwich. Once in a while, we have poi. I guess at times, we have rice and maybe stew, or other kind good meals.

Mr. Solamillo: Is that for dinner at night? The stew, do you have that at night or for lunch-the stew?

Mr. Bailey: I think mostly for dinner, yeah. Because lunchtime, we have light lunch.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to the tent, how many blanket you get?

Mr. Bailey: Maybe two blankets, at the most, because we were kinda getting used to the weather up there, so it wasn't a big problem.

Mr. Solamillo: When you guys were working on the trail, do you remember that? When you were working on the trail, do you remember that work?

Mr. Bailey: Sometime the certain part been washed away. So we have to go and repair the part that got washed away. And that's about it about the trail. We always checking the trail. Somebody drop their rubbish or what, and our job is to keep the place nice and clean.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anybody get hurt, yeah, when they working?

Mr. Bailey: I don't remember guys getting hurt.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember any kind of building? Any buildings that the CCC boys were making?

Mr. Bailey: Building?

Mr. Solamillo: Yeah, like a cabin or they construct water tanks?

Mr. Bailey: Gee, I no remember when I was there if we had to build one water tank, or lay pipes, or what. I don't remember that we went doing that kind of work. I only know that - what you call? Cleaning the trail. Guys sometimes throw rubbish on the trail. Our job is to pick it up and make the place look nice.

Mr. Solamillo: How many goats did you see?

Mr. Bailey: Goats that we catch? I would say I think about a dozen, or might be less than a dozen. We catch all kind size. Sometime the big Billy give me and Lawrence a lotta problems. We had to almost go across the Kaupo Gap to the other end on the other side. What we do is get one big rock, and pound um on his head, and leave um there, and come home.

Mr. Solamillo: You just leave um?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, we leave um. We kill that bugga for giving us a lotta problem, and then we leave um.

Mr. Solamillo: So no like eat? You no like eat?

Mr. Bailey: No. That big billy, they smell bad, see? If you gonna eat um, you have to close your nose.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you remember any fires?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, yeah, up there? I think they have fire outside the crater, down on that side. But I don't remember, but they had fire, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: How about earthquakes? Do you remember any earthquakes?

Mr. Bailey: I don't remember. Maybe I don't remember what earthquake supposed to be.

Mr. Solamillo: Did anybody get into trouble when you were there?

Mr. Bailey: No, no. Might be we had trouble, but I don't remember.

Mr. Solamillo: Were you working for CCC when the war started, when Pearl Harbor happened?

Mr. Bailey: No, no, no. I wasn't up there when the war started.

Mr. Solamillo: Going back to CCC, what was your favorite memory, your favorite time?

Mr. Bailey: Coming home.

Mr. Solamillo: Coming home.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: Did your family like you working for CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, they figure they keep you out of Wailuku Town.

Mr. Solamillo: Did any of your brothers work for CCC?

Mr. Bailey: No, no, no.

Mr. Solamillo: Did you have mules when you were up at the camp? Mules, do you remember donkeys, mules? Do you remember any mules up at the camp?

Mr. Bailey: Mule? Yes, this guy from Kaupo. I forget his name. Andrew, yeah his name Andrew. He was the one that take care the mules, but sometime the mule give him hard time. I feel sorry for the mule. He beat the hell out of them. The poor mule, which he not supposed to do that.

Mr. Solamillo: So he mean to the mules?

Mr. Bailey: He was good to them, unless they kinda mean to him. He can get real mean to them, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: When you were up in Haleakalā, were there any people who were not CCC up there when you were at Haleakalā?

Mr. Bailey: There were a lotta people up there. Cantoneers, they supposed to care of the road--from I don't know from where--right up to the crater.

Mr. Solamillo: They were Cantonese? You said they Cantonese?

Mr. Bailey: Cantonese?

Mr. Solamillo: Were they working on the road?

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: How many?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know. Might be close to about six or ten, or maybe less that that. I don't know.

Mr. Solamillo: Do you have any pictures of CCC?

Mr. Bailey: I don't know if I have. Might be I had, but that was so long ago. I think 50 years ago. It's so long.

Mr. Solamillo: When you leave the CCC? It's before World War II, right? Before Pearl Harbor, you leave the CCC?

Mr. Bailey: Oh, was way before Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Solamillo: How many seasons you work for CCC? How many years you work for CCC?

Mr. Bailey: I think no more two years.

Mr. Solamillo: Two years only. So it'll be '34, '35, '36. Maybe '34, '35.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Or maybe '36, '37.

Mr. Solamillo: So after you leave the CCC, what do you do?

Mr. Bailey: I used to work for Wailuku Sugar, and I do all kind contract job, and which they don't like you doing that. The union don't like you working contract job because you taking another person job. But I like to do all contract job because I had three children in high school and the money is not enough. Even I was doing a lot of contract, more than a lot of the people who work in there, and still wasn't enough. And I used to ask my friend every month. He always carry money with him. I ask him, "George, can you lend me twenty dollars till payday?" And he always there for me. He always lend me money to get by for the month. Without the contract job, I don't know. I think my kids would starve, I think, yeah. But this guy, he always with money, so that was no problem. He was willing to lend me twenty dollars every month before payday. And I used to cut seed. You know this cane about that long? Filipino, he was one of the best. He said, "Grant, cut seed, you no can learn one month," he said. It take time. In about month and a half, almost two months, he tell me, "Grant, you like race? You like race me?" "Okay, up to you, if you like." I left him about 15 feet, 15 feet behind. He tell, "Grant, I think time for kaukau. It's time for eat." Never again he tell me race. And I used to help all the guys that couldn't make they quota. Me and this Okinawan guy, Tamashiro, when we finish our quota, we go help this guy, help that guy. And this union guy, he took over my job. And then guys, they tell him, "Why you take over his job? He's a father of three kids." They razz him down. He already took my job. He bump me for my job, so I tried to get another contract job. That was easy for get another contract job, but the union didn't like you do contract job. You taking another person job.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: One of two mules fell from the trail.

Mr. Solamillo: Right. Rex was telling us about that. Rex told us about the mules falling.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, yeah, yeah. I don't know what happened to the mules-whether they shot um or what.

Mr. Solamillo: I think one died and then two lived, but they were hurt.

Mr. Bailey: That Rex, he get good memory. He remember everything.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Did Rex leave the CCC before you did? Did he leave before you or was he always there-Rex?

Mr. Bailey: I think he was before me, yeah.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: But then together, also together?

Mr. Solamillo: You work with Rex, right? You work with Rex.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah. Yeah, we do about the same kinda work. In fact, everybody do the same kinda work. He's a real nice guy. I never know he was about two years older than I am.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Rex said that he thought you joined the CCC before you were 18. He thought maybe you were younger than 18 when you joined.

Mr. Bailey: Yeah, I think I been there before I was 18 years old.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: And you were born what year?

Mr. Solamillo: '16? You were born in 1916, right?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Or 1918.

Mr. Bailey: 1918.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Yeah, '18 is what I found.

Mr. Bailey: We used to carry the pig, one that ready to give birth about a month after. We carry the pig. The guys never put um down on the ground. He carrying the pig. You go right in the back. Three of us, he grab one side. The guy in the front. He grab this side. He pass um to you. Never put um down on the ground. And we go alongside Hana Mountain. There's a trail. Instead we go up Hana Mountain, we cut short. But stay cliff over there. And we carry the pig and the pig shake. If the bugga shake too much, you gotta let the pig go first, otherwise you and the pig go down

the cliff. Yeah, I remember that. A couple years after, we went up to that cabin up Hana Mountain -- below Hana Mountain. We caught couple pigs. And we had about six, seven guys, might be eight. I had that Marine packing bag. And I had that thing all loaded up. And they go lift my bag. "You can carry that?" I said, "Yeah." It's over hundred pounds, I think about 120 to 125 pounds, and it's a five-mile hike. And they pass me five to ten time, they pass me. But each time was getting longer for pass me. Then I pass them. They never pass me no more. I get back down where our jeep was, unload my packing bag. I went back and helped them. They were about a mile more to get to the jeep. One guy without his shoes. He was walking bare-footed. I think, the shoes, he not used to with that shoes. You not supposed to, when you go hunting or what, you not supposed to wear new shoes. So I carry his stuff and we come home. And they went pass me about ten time. After that, they never pass me no more. And I made in one hit. Never stop one time. Those days I had really condition. From my house, I used to run way over to Waihe`e, I don't know if you guys know where is Waihe`e, and then run come back home. I was really good, good condition. And then, that guys, I think not one of them had condition, because they stop so many time. They couldn't believe. Nobody said one word whenever we get on the jeep. We had to go to Hana and drop off the guys, and then turn around and come back, go home Wailuku. And that was the end of that hunting trip.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: What about cards, ukulele?

Mr. Solamillo: What did you do for fun? For fun, after you work at CCC, what you do for fun at night? After work, after work pau, what do you do for fun?

Mr. Bailey: Some time we play baseball, ( ) ball, and some other games. I don't remember what we used to play. We used to put on the boxing glove and spar. One time I spar with this guy. He was way bigger than I am, and he always cut me down. When I say something, he always cut in. He was a smart aleck. So that went going too far. So I asked him, "Eh, George, put on the glove. Let's you and I spar." The poor guy had his mouth all bleeding. From that time on, he respect me. We had no problem.

Mr. Solamillo: What was his last name?

Mr. Bailey: George Bayer. But he didn't go to CCC Camp, but he was the guy I had problem

with, because he figure he way smarter than I am. He always cut in. When I say something he cut me off.

Mr. Solamillo: So was that down in Wailuku or up Haleakalā?

Mr. Bailey: They live way over Waiehu and it's about two miles from Wailuku. You had to go through the cane field to get to that place. It's between Wailuku and Waihe`e. Waiehu is between.

Mr. Solamillo: So you box him where? Where did you box George? Where?

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Waiehu?

Mr. Bailey: Up Haleakalā?.

Mr. Solamillo: So he was up at Haleakalā?

Mr. Bailey: No. Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, this happened up Haleakalā, yeah.

Mr. Solamillo: But he doesn't work for CCC?

Mr. Bailey: No, no, he was, he was, yeah. He was a big guy. He was my friend, but he was a kinda cocky guy until he and I put on the glove. We become real close friends.

Ms. Ladoulis Urban: Okay, thank you.

Mr. Solamillo: Thank you. Thank you, Uncle.

END OF TRANSCRIPT