

Janis Kozlowski: Was that the first job you ever had?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Oh, no, no! I used to wait tables and all that stuff when I was younger.
[laughing]

Janis Kozlowski: Oh, ok. So, what were your reasons for going to work at Lockheed?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Well, it was mostly because of the government, you know. We wanted to do what we could for the government and what they wanted. It was something to be proud of it. We were doing something for our country and we were proud of it. We were anxious to be part of the government and doing the right thing. It wasn't just a toy it was something worthwhile and something important.

Janis Kozlowski: Sure. Was it, uh.... Well, since they wanted you to work there did they make it fairly easy for women to work in the factory? Because it was pretty new that women were working in those types of jobs, right?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Yes, but there wasn't any problem. They just interviewed you and they talked to you and then there was no problem. They were, of course, they were particular who they hired. If there was something unusual they wouldn't hire that person, but, no it was, it was a pleasant thing. We would go and get checked as we went in and checked as we went out to see we weren't carrying or doing anything we shouldn't. No, it was secretive and we didn't talk about it.

Janis Kozlowski: How old were you at the time?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Oh, gee. [laughing] I'm not very old ... during that time. I'd have to stop and figure back. Now, was that in '45? [both laughing] I'm 86 now, so that's a long time ago. I was young, but not old either. I was just starting into the industry. So, I was...I don't know, because I'm just guessing now because I don't remember—25, 28? -- somewhere in that range. I was young. [laughing]

I was proud, we had pins of the airplane--little pins of the P-38 and all that that you earned. I was very proud to be working there. It was...we had a good showing of the employees that were all good. We never had any problems.

Janis Kozlowski: And, so was the...? Do you think the factory was pretty well dominated by women workers at the time, then?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Oh, no. Oh no, it was mixed. It was very unusual for so many women but they had men as well as women, but mostly it was women where I worked.