

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW #460-1

with

Hisao Kimura (HK)

May 20, 1993

Waimea, Hawai`i

BY: Holly Yamada (HY)

HY: This is an interview with Hisao Kimura at his home in Waimea, on the Big Island, May 20, 1993. The interviewer is Holly Yamada.

Okay, let's start with when you were born.

HK: When I. . . .

HY: When were you born?

HK: I was born in Waimea. The year is 1912, February 29. However, as time went on we had to change our birthday. So my present birthday has changed to January 15, 1913.

HY: Now, why is that?

HK: When we had to expatriate our Japanese citizenship, our parents had to get witnesses because we were not registered with the [*territorial*] board of health. At that time no newborn child had been monitored or registered with the board of health. And most of the childbirth are being done by, what do you call, by . . .

HY: Midwife?

HK: Midwife, yes. Midwife did all the work and see. . . . And so when they had to investigate when my right birthday was, they try to investigate the Japanese immigrant office [*Japanese Consulate*] and it wasn't there. The record wasn't there. So now they had to get our neighbors, witnesses, come in and say when was I born. So they finally settled one year later, January 15, 1913, so I lost one year. [*Hisao Kimura elaborates further in session 3.*]

HY: Okay. Can you describe the house that you lived in?

HK: Yes. I was born in---by the way, my parents [*were Masajiro Kimura and Hisamu (nee Mitsuda)*] worked for Parker Ranch. [*Hisao Kimura's father worked for Parker Ranch, his mother did not.*] My older brother [*Yutaka Kimura*] worked for Parker Ranch [*as a dairyman and cowboy*] and we did have a Parker Ranch home, an employee home rather. And I was born in that house and then when I begin to go to school at about age six years old, my father went into part-time farming as well as work for Parker Ranch [*as a handyman*]. So he went into

farming area and we lived in an unpainted house, farmhouse. And there I grew up to about age of nine years old. And then we went back to the same Parker Ranch home again, back again, and then live there until I was the age of eighteen. Yeah.

HY: Did your father lease land from Parker Ranch?

HK: My father had to lease that farmland from another farmer.

HY: From another farmer.

HK: Not necessarily from Parker Ranch.

HY: And how did that farmer acquire his land?

HK: The farm in that particular time, which we were still under the possession of the United States as a territory. The farmland was owned by the Hawaiians and the Japanese immigrants came in from Japan had a leasehold over the land. And my father (as an alien) had part of the sublease from another farmer.

HY: It was a sublease?

HK: Yes.

HY: I see. Can you describe the Parker Ranch employee home that you lived in?

HK: Parker Ranch employee home is quite interesting because of the . . . We lived by wood stove. The kerosene stove was not even known at that time. Every home had a wooden stove. And till today I won't forget that because the kitchen (walls are) usually black (caused by) the smoke, eh. We had a kitchen and then we had just one bedroom. One little room with---Japanese style is you have a mat and then you sleep on the floor. There's no beds, just sleep on the floor. And my father---my family, my father raised nine children. Actually ten, but we had a childbirth---death at childbirth. So we had ten, but nine living children.

HY: And you are---in the birth order you're in the middle?

HK: Yeah, I'm number six in the family.

HY: Number six?

HK: Yeah, number six, yeah. So a lot of hand-me-downs (chuckles) going down the line.

HY: What can you tell me about day-to-day life?

HK: During?

HY: On Parker Ranch. Your daily life at home with your family? With all those kids and . . .

HK: Yes. Parker Ranch, at that particular time, Parker Ranch was the only employer in this community. I believe at that time they had close to 200 employees, the biggest employer. And we had four general stores. And living our daily life those days was quite primitive way, you

know. Recreationalwise it was just making your own games, so there's no TV, no radio, no nothing. But school [*Waimea Public School*] was somewhat the area that we looked forward to go to school because this the only area that you meet your fellow, what do you call? Friends.

HY: Peers?

HK: Yeah, yeah, and then get together there. And we had up to sixth grade at that time. The life, as a whole, we live a very poor life, in fact. This is the reason my father went into part-time farming just to raise some vegetables to feed us. And then fortunately, Parker Ranch is a ranch even up-to-date. They were more like a paternalistic type of ranch that took care of the family, and every detail was looked into. The welfare of the family was very important to the employer. And they took care to even educate their children. So we had free meat and (that was like salvation, a lifeline of) our livelihood. To get the free meat was very important because that's the means of having food in the home. (Because of this we were able to help) our (farm) neighbors. The neighbor was the farmer, and we used to share our meat with the farmers because the farmers were in much worse condition than we were. So we used to share our meat to them, and ranch life was very, very difficult because everything was on foot. You go to work, (daily walk) one mile from home to the Parker Ranch office (to report, and walk back when the day is over). And as far as working conditions on the ranch, was not that primitive. They had the equipment and cars, so not bad. But the thing is to go---(travel) between home and employer's office is one mile away. Yeah, in all kinds of weather you had to go through.

HY: Did you work as a child?

HK: We didn't have any child-labor law those days, and I was fortunate to finish Waimea [*Public*] School in the sixth grade and then I continued on to school in Hilo. So when I got out from Hilo, Hilo High School, I was eighteen years old. So I began working, a full-time employee at Parker Ranch at the age of eighteen. Yeah. In spite of that I spent forty-six years on the ranch.

HY: When you were a kid, did you help your siblings or your parents?

HK: Yes. While we had---our heritage is that whatever you earn, you know, it goes to the parents. That's just the way we worked during that time. We try to help the parents and the parents will allocate so much for you to spend. Yeah.

HY: How were you able to earn money before you were eighteen?

HK: Before I was eighteen I was---my family was quite fortunate in the sense where my oldest brother [*Masao Kimura*] tried to run away from home to go to Hilo (for his education). In fact, he was trying to reach Hilo, go to Hilo on foot. And my father had to get on horseback and get after him and pick him up on the way while he was on his way to Hilo. Anyway, he, my father, was able to get acquainted with the minister in Hilo, a Christian.

HY: Do you remember his name?

HK: Yes. Reverend Kwan Higuchi. Kwan Higuchi. He's Japanese, what do you might call, (citizen) of Japan and ordained Christian minister. And he had a church in Hilo called the [*Hilo*] Japanese Christian Church [*presently Church of the Holy Cross of Hilo*]. And fortunately he helped my parents, my father, to take my oldest brother in. And to take care of him and give him room and board, although he had to do a little work at the dormitory. The church had a

dormitory both for students and working people. And he set a good example for us and we were all able to follow through the same way that he went to school, yeah.

HY: So when you went to Hilo High School you stayed in a dorm then?

HK: I stayed in the dorm.

HY: And you worked for the reverend?

HK: Yes. Yes. And I work at the church doing odds and ends (for) free room and board.

HY: What kinds of stuff would you do?

HK: Well, everyday's chore is to help Mrs. Higuchi in the kitchen. Wash dishes, set up the table, and then take care of the yard, mow the yard and so forth. And then they found another job for me, part-time work at another Portuguese Christian Church [*Portuguese Evangelical Church*] which is right in town, Hilo. I had to take care the yard and I was earning five dollars a month for that. Just to buy my shirt or clothing for school. Then later on I was also moved to another home to keep company with one of the sons. The parents had divorced and then they wanted---the only son in the family needed a playmate. So I was there for one year.

HY: Do you remember his name?

HK: Yeah, Rupert Saiki. Yeah.

HY: Going back a little bit to the Waimea Public School days, what do you remember about your classmates?

HK: Oh, well, what do I remember about my classmates?

HY: Yeah, like were there a lot of classmates in one---is it a one-room school or did you have . . .

HK: (Yes, one classroom for each grade.) I have never been able to adjust myself when I went to Hilo schools because the classes were, they had several classes in one grade level. In Waimea, we had such a small student body, the classes were small. Members in each class were small and then we . . .

HY: How many?

HK: (About fifteen students per class.) And then we---one instructor would take care all of the subjects for the whole day. We don't change classes (and teachers) at all. So you stay in one class all day. And we were very disciplined. Discipline was one of the top priorities in school.

HY: How would they discipline you?

HK: We had a courtyard in our school with a flagpole (at the center of the yard). And every morning we had to stand at attention in line and face the flagpole, and two students go up and raise the flag and we had to salute to the flag and pledge allegiance to the flag [*recite the "Pledge of Allegiance"*]. And the phonograph---we have a big phonograph on the porch of the school, the school---the classroom is still there, and they run the "Star-Spangled Banner," yeah. And we all

sing “Star-Spangled Banner” and then march into the classroom. And as you march in you had to be very careful not to play in line otherwise you'll get disciplined when you get in the classroom.

HY: What would happen?

HK: Well, I had several times (laughs) spanking with a yardstick.

HY: Oh, yeah.

HK: Yeah. The famous way---not a famous, but a popular way of being spanked by the yardstick is to present your palm open, open your palm to the teacher and she'll slap you with a yardstick. Once the yardstick break on my open palm and just—sliced incision you know, cut over there.

HY: How did you feel about being disciplined like this?

HK: Well, it was quite severe. To me it was very severe because I felt very inferior. Yeah the inferior complex was very much upon me because it seems the teacher was always picking on me and sometimes I can't imagine why. During that time singing was so important. We used to sing a lot and the teacher was very—well, you know, had a good voice and she can sing a lot, too. But if you cannot sing well (with mouth wide open), she'll poke the yardstick right into your mouth and keep it open, you know. And they were very, very strict.

HY: She did this to you?

HK: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. And then on the other hand, on the math, whenever you have a math problem, they send you up on the blackboard and then you have to solve the problem. And teacher is right in the back of you to watch whether you know. And if you hesitate and you cannot solve the problem, you know what happens? The teacher will pull your ear, keep pulling your ears to get your assignment done. And sometimes in the back of your ear will just rip, you know. And those are the type of things made me afraid of the teacher. I was very much afraid of every teacher that I went through. And when I entered the Hilo [*High*] School I felt the same way, (although teachers in high school were different). Yeah, very afraid of teacher. I was shaking sometimes. In fact, particularly in the high school level, when you had to take English and you go on the stage and present a short talk, you know. Today's children is no problem. They'll go up there and talk anything they want. But during our time we were afraid of the whole thing (making mistake and get spanking).

HY: Was that something you could tell your parents?

HK: My parents knew immediately. When I was about, somewhere about nine, ten years old, eleven, ten years old I refused to go school. I absolutely refused to go school. And if you---any tardy students stay home, we had a, so-called, a jail keeper at our Waimea Police Station. And he goes on a white horse, big white horse, and he (will) come and pick you up.

HY: The truant officer.

HK: Yeah. We call him a jail keeper, you know, yeah. Big, big Hawaiian fellow.

HY: So he came and got you?

HK: Oh, yeah, yeah. And my mother used to bribe me, giving me a nickel just to go to school to buy something at the store 'cause I just refused to go school. That was in me for a number of years.

HY: Was that true for your brothers and sister or. . . .

HK: No, (they did not) have much problem. No, they didn't express their feeling at all in that sense.

HY: What was the ethnicity of the other students?

HK: Ethnic?

HY: What was their racial background?

HK: Waimea was predominantly Hawaiian and Japanese, yeah. A very---no Filipinos. As far as I know there's no Filipinos. And Portuguese, just a handful of Portuguese. And Chinese maybe, one or two families that's about it. Majority [*were*] members of the Hawaiian and Japanese community. And so when you go to school your teacher know how to talk Japanese as well. You know, half Japanese, broken Japanese, and try to teach you English by trying to make you understand. Because at home nobody teaching us English. We go to school to learn English.

HY: Did you go to Japanese[-*language*] school also?

HK: Yes, I went to four years of Japanese[-*language*] school. We had Japanese school at that time and then Japanese school is not a mandatory-type thing. It's not compulsory that you should go. You attend the school after your public school is over. On your way home, you know.

HY: Did you have the same fear of your Japanese[-*language*] teachers?

HK: Japanese teachers, no. I didn't feel that way, no, no, yeah.

HY: Were they less strict?

HK: Yeah, very much so.

HY: What kinds of things would you do for recreation, for play?

HK: Well, those days was (popular)—recreation was playing marble and playing top. You know, we used to spin tops a lot. Fighting. We call it fighting tops with each other, eh. And marble, playing marble. Of course, we used to get spanking in school because our pants got dirty from playing marble on the way to school. The road was all dirt road, all the way. And the teacher used to search our pockets for marbles. Yeah. We didn't have much of a sport like basketball or baseball or whatever, until later years when basketball was introduced (years after my time at Waimea School).

HY: You say your mother would give you a nickel to try and coerce you into going to school. What kind of a reaction did your father have?

HK: I can't recall. I can't recall because he was out early in the morning to go to work. And we

never seen him as I left home to go to school. Except my mother was really---I feel sorry for her because I know how hard she tried to make me go to school (laughs). Yeah, it was not that easy.

HY: Who was the disciplinarian in your family?

HK: My father, yes.

HY: Was he strict?

HK: No, my father wasn't that strict. No, he wasn't. He had such a big family and then, you know, this is one of those areas where when you are in a big family, member of a big family, you don't really recall the closeness between yourself and your parents. They didn't have much time with you, more or less. That's the way I look at it. They were so busy working and trying to feed the family. Not much of a home life, children and parents together, yeah.

HY: Now, when you lived in the unpainted house when your father began doing part-time farming, what was that house like besides being unpainted?

HK: I used to like that house. It was more---in a while---in a way it was a . . . It's a farmhouse, we used to call it. . . . Every farmhouse had a room we call corn house, where we store up the corn. And we had chicken(s), and we had pigs, and what have you. So it was much of a---things to be done at home.

HY: Did your father grow corn?

HK: Yeah, yeah. Corn and pumpkin. I don't know why the pumpkin was one of the crops, main crops.

HY: And pigs and chickens?

HK: Pig(s), chicken(s). Chicken was a must. Every home had chickens, yes.

HY: Did he sell his produce to anybody or was it subsistence?

HK: Subsistence type of farming.

HY: It was just for your family?

HK: Yes, yes. Commercial farming was not known too well those days, yes. Shipping, transportation problem was great.

HY: So, getting back to your Hilo High School days when you were living in your dormitory, how was that for you adjusting to being away from your family?

HK: The dormitory life was very enjoyable for me. I mean, that was really a time that I really enjoyed. And you don't see your home too often either once you get into Hilo. Transportation was so poor those days. You come home twice a year, Christmas and summer vacation. And dorm life was very, very interesting to me because we played together and sports. And we live right next to a small little park (named) Lincoln Park. And I never played any particular

competitive sports, though, except in the church we had played a lot of ping pong.

HY: Ping pong?

HK: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Those days between churches we used to compete with each other.

HY: What other kinds of sports did you play at Lincoln Park?

HK: Well, I love my baseball. I used to play baseball. And then at high school, on the physical ed [education] period, the physical ed teacher will. . . . I didn't have to take part in any sport. I'm just like taking care of all the various equipment for the sports for the period of one hour, physical ed period. And sometime I have to take out the basketball and be in charge of the basketball and baseball. And I was able to referee and all that in high school.

HY: The baseball?

HK: (No, basketball.)

HY: Is that when you first became interested in baseball?

HK: Baseball, yeah, yeah. (But more so in basketball.) Outdoor court. We didn't have a gym, though. Hilo High School didn't have a gym at the time, you know. When I graduated (in 1931) they built a gym. We missed that. Anyway, so when I came back to Waimea, I started up, I began teaching boys how to play basketball.

HY: Who was on the team?

HK: My local---local boys, (Boy Scouts) from Waimea School.

HY: Oh, I see.

HK: What I did was I . . .

HY: Your former classmates?

HK: Not necessarily. No, no, they were much younger than I am. Junior age, you know. When I came back from school, A.W. [*Alfred Wellington*] Carter was the manager and trustee of the ranch, [*he*] saw that I wanted to get down to Honolulu and find a job there. So he called me in the office and he said, "Young man, you stay right here. And I want you to learn all the job on the ranch and so forth." In the meantime he sent me to Hilo [ca. 1936] for two weeks to learn about Boy Scouts, to organize a troop in Waimea. And these are the boys that I used for my basketball team and baseball team.

HY: How would you characterize A.W. Carter?

HK: A.W. Carter, he's one of the most, I would say, rare person. He's very, very strict, disciplined man. And he's very, very strict. Very stern, but very. . . . He's very stern and yet he was very (kind and caring). People would admire him because once he know you well he'll treat you like his own, as his son. Yeah, he's - that's A.W., the father of Hartwell Carter. Hartwell was the son that became the manager eventually when the father passed away.

HY: The father passed away in '49, is that right?

HK: [*Nineteen*] forty---yeah, yeah.

HY: So how would you characterize the difference in their management styles?

HK: A.W. Carter was very forward-looking manager, (and his selective judgement and executive ability are unmatched). He always looked to improve the ranch and Parker Ranch being a cattle ranch, it wasn't enough for him. He diversified the ranch to extend that. We had a dairy, a poultry farm, piggery, sheep industry, and a variety of produce in hay and big cornfield and all that. He was quite an aggressive man and he developed the ranch to the extent it was almost nationally known among the ranchers. Due to the fact that he believed in quality animals. So he had about the largest herd of registered Herefords cattle. And he has hired people to take care of those registered Herefords. And (he) selected one of the most prime land on the Parker Ranch as a registered herd area. And he built a station there and employees live there to take care the animals. And he's, of course, credited to the success of this ranch till today. And things have not been worked out well upon his death. After that, things became---Hartwell Carter took over the management, he was assistant manager while his dad was still living. When he took over the ranch nothing was done, as far as improving the ranch. Even to the extent of improving the employees' homes. So nothing was done in the sense of improvements and so, slowly, the ranch went down to a level where in 1960 they need to borrow money to maintain the ranch. And what happened was that the collateral was such that even the creditor wouldn't advance any money. So they sold a portion of their land. Prime land, mind you, was sold (on option).

HY: Who did they sell it to?

HK: Signal Oil. Signal Oil came around as more like a lifesaver to the ranch where Parker Ranch did not sell the land outright. They made an agreement of sale for twelve years, option sale. And option was given to Signal Oil for twelve years and I don't know what the monetary transaction, but anyway, enough money transpired at that time to operate the ranch for a while. And the twelve years expired in 1972. In 1972, Signal Oil says, "I'm going to buy the land." The option expired so they outright purchased the land, (situated at Waiki`i, [*at that time a*] section of Parker Ranch). [*Hisao Kimura acquired this information through Parker Ranch manager Gordon Lent. It was reported elsewhere that Signal Oil bought options sold to Christiana Oil, as well as another 14,000 acres in 1967. The sale of various parcels of land were negotiated at different times, this may explain the date discrepancy.*]

HY: Who was managing the ranch when that happened?

HK: Hartwell Carter managed the ranch up to 1960 and he retired at that year. And upon his retirement, the assistant manager, Richard Penhallow became the manager. However, his managership was very short-lived. Before the end of the year he resigned. So, we were without a manager. One of the cowboys was assigned to be a temporary manager.

HY: Who was that?

HK: Radcliffe Greenwell.

HY: Radcliffe?

HK: Yeah, Radcliffe Greenwell. And he was assigned as a temporary manager. However, the temporary managership went on almost eight years, eight to nine years [1962–1970]. And in that course of time, the ranch was still steadily going down and deteriorating in many ways. Unfortunately, Richard Smart had to be at home at that time. He decided to come home from New York to stay here. And he---when he came back he had to see all these things. You know, in the worst time of the ranch he came home to stay. He decided to stay and so he found, he immediately found out, of course, that ranch was not making money. So he hired a consulting firm [*Rubel-Lent & Associates*] from Arizona. How he found out about this consulting firm was due to the fact that ranchers, as a whole, they were not making money. They were on the borderline all the time. And Hana Ranch in Maui had the same problem. So Hana Ranch hired this consulting firm from Arizona. And Richard Smart heard about (them) and invited them over to Parker Ranch and finally was—they made an agreement and they were hired to look into the ranch. That's a three-(month) study. (The) consulting firm asked for three-(month) study and they'll make a report at the end of the three (months). And (upon the completion of) three (months), the consulting firm became the manager of the ranch.

HY: Who was it---was it Hartwell that negotiated originally with Signal Oil?

HK: That's a good---I can't answer that whether it was Hartwell or Radcliffe Greenwell.

HY: When you talk about A.

HK: Yeah.

HY: Did that differ from Hartwell?

HY: Somewhat yes and somewhat no. Almost the same. I would say they carried on the same family type of operation. However, A.W. was somewhat---much more, in a sense, [*he*] can see the quality of his employees much more readily than the son. The son played quite a bit of favoritism. And then he created, created among the employees people who like to go and make report (upon fellow workers). And he had several reporters that used to go to him. Very unrealistic when you think about today. Today when you look back you wouldn't believe it. (Example:) Monday morning, Hartwell Carter will call you in the office and he will tell you, "I understand you went to the liquor store this past weekend. And I don't want you to be drinking." So there were watchmen always watching each other, the employees. You know, there were people like that. That was created more by Hartwell Carter. A.W.'s time, nobody would dare do such (a) thing. They wouldn't even attempt to do it. There (is) a big difference there. Hartwell Carter, the weakness was there (lack of executive ability).

HY: How do you think people felt about having people watch and report them?

HK: Well, yeah. Very, very bad. We had (several) incident[s] where---our social life during those days was dancing. Every weekend you have dancing at Parker Ranch Hall or at the courthouse. Courthouse was considered one of the halls. Small, little hall but, to me, was large when I was a little kid. Anyway, that was the social life, dancing. And when you go to dance, sometime you go with coat and tie, you know, very formal. And when you get there, my gosh, you know some of our boys will get a hold of another employee and a fight would start. Normally a fight always starts that way. Because they're blaming each other for tattletaling on each other to the

manager, you see. Those things were going quite often.

HY: The people that came out for these dances, was it the whole community or just Parker Ranch employees?

HK: It was whole community as well as neighbor communities used to come. Yeah, we used to get regular dancing friends even from Honoka`a come out. We used to know each other quite well.

HY: Did you have live music?

HK: Yes, live music. And the (musical instrument) was saxophone.

HY: Saxophone.

HK: Yeah. We gotta get saxophone in that (band), yeah.

HY: Any big bands?

HK: Just a small group of. . . .

HY: Combo.

HK: Yeah.

HY: I think I should turn the tape here.

HY: Just to go back again, I don't think I followed up on your description of the farmhouse. You said you liked it better. How was it different from the ranch house?

HK: Well, in one way it was a larger house. And it was easy---accessibility was so good going in and out of the house. It was a low building and other than that I would say, well, it was more spacious of course.

HY: Was it still a one bedroom?

HK: Yes, one bedroom.

HY: So all you folks sleep together?

HK: Yeah, all sleep on the floor, yes. Then we had a number of peach trees around the house, you know. I have good memories of the place because the time we spent over there was much more closely knitted family-like.

HY: Did you help with the farming?

HK: No, not at that age. I was too young on the farm. I know we used to make a lot of Indian hut-like, with the corn stalk, you know. You know where the corn is . . .

HY: Like tepee?

HK: Yeah, tepee like that, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. And pile it up. And we used to play underneath and my father would go later on and burn 'em.

HY: Would you play with your brothers and sisters?

HK: Not much. And we just had a celebration here, older brother [*Yutaka*], eighty-eight years old. And we all spoke something about him, personal testimony about our own experience with our brother. We never, in our family, not only myself, we all did not have much of a relationship with one another—playing together. Somehow, the reason in back of it is our parents—father had to go out work (early) every day. My older brother had to go work, too. He started work at about the age of twelve on the ranch, mind you. So we didn't have much of a relationship together at home. Except my sister who had passed away, you know. My sister is the fourth one in the family. She was older than us and she used to take care of us, my oldest, do chores.

HY: So you have memories of her?

HK: Yeah, we have memories of her. Other than that, we have very faint remembrance of each other.

HY: Okay, now jumping ahead again to Hilo High School, when you lived in the dorm, who were the other students that lived in the dorm? Were they people from Waimea or all over?

HK: Who else? My older brother, the brother above me, Kazuo, was at the dorm. So I felt at home, too, because my brother was there. Because we all sleep in one room. And other than that we had another student who was an orphan and there were. . . . Oh, we had another student from Waimea that was with us at the dorm. (The) son of the Japanese-language schoolteacher here. He was there with us. And other than that there were some workingmen at the dorm and two schoolteachers from Honolulu, intermediate schoolteachers, they were at the dorm also.

HY: Why were they there?

HK: They didn't have any housing so the dorm was available for them.

HY: So was it a fairly small dorm?

HK: No, not that small. Two buildings, upstairs (and) down. And downstairs was used as a church social hall and the other one, downstairs was the dining for the dorm. Kitchen and then dining. And one of the teachers is still in Honolulu. I meet him now and then.

HY: So he's older than you, though?

HK: He's older than me, yes. He was a teacher at the intermediate school and I was a student at Hilo High School.

HY: So after you graduated high school, then you came back?

HK: Nineteen thirty-one is my year that—when I got out from school. And 1929 was the beginning of that big depression. The economic depression started off in 1929, '30, '31, it lasted till about '32, '33 I believe. And of course when I graduated we looked around for work in Hilo, but no job. So, my brother here, Yutaka, says, he was a foreman of the Parker Ranch dairy [*New*

Dairy Pu`ukikoni] and which was located about five miles from this town. And the (transportation) was all on horseback. And he says, "Why don't you come back Waimea and work at the dairy since there's no job for you." Better than not doing anything. So I came back home and work at the dairy for almost five years. And this is the time that Alfred W. Carter sent me back to Hilo to study about Boy Scouts and organize a Boy Scouts troop here.

HY: Can you describe your duties at the dairy?

HK: My dairy job was quite interesting because as I said, A.W. Carter was such a perfectionist, more or less, you know. Everything gotta be number one. Everything gotta be just the way he wants it. And when he started that dairy, he imported all his dairy herd. They're all registered, registered with pedigree. And their pedigree go back about three generation. Every cow has a pedigree and about three generation back. And underneath of that, the productivity of each generation by the amount of gallon of milk the ancestors of the cow have produced. So record of each cow was like a human pedigree. And my brother hate to be taking care of the books, so he gave me the job of staying in the office and keep record of all the registered herd. And every, every (available time) I go and milk cows, too, of course and do the regular chores of the other boys. But I spent part of the time keeping records. And every cow must have a record of gallon[s] of milk [*produced*].

HY: Where did he get the original dairy cows from?

HK: I wouldn't know where it was. Yeah, I have no idea.

HY: Did he start the dairy? Is that how he. . . .

HK: A. W. started the dairy.

HY: Pu`ukikoni Dairy?

HK: Yeah, Pu`ukikoni Dairy, yes, yes. Interesting. And my brother used to---every calf that's born, immediately we have to put a record on the calf, the date of birth. And then after about three to four weeks, I go out, in the pasture and draw (the) picture of that calf, the markings rather. But it's so easy because the outline of the calf is there. It's a blank outline and on top of that you put the black spot and markings, yeah, yeah. And then with that drawing, you send that as part of the registration of the calf. And we used to only register the heifer calves, female.

HY: Is that a common practice to do a drawing of the . . .

HK: Yeah, I believe so. Because holstein milking cows must have certain type of marking(—standard black and white markings).

HY: Are Hereford beef cattle?

HK: Yeah, Hereford is the beef.

HY: Beef, okay.

HK: Holstein is (for) milk. Guernsey is the same thing, but guernsey I don't know much about because we didn't have any guernseys. But holstein cannot have a (white) face. Totally (white).

(Otherwise, the animal is a crossbreed.) Had to get one or two (black) mark.

HY: So you began working at the dairy in kind of the aftermath of the depression?

HK: No, I was . . .

HY: Or you were right in the middle of it.

HK: Right in the middle. I recall as I started to work, two months successive, our payroll was dropped 10 percent because of the depression. And so what happened at the dairy was. . . . My remarks about the dairy was one of the golden years of the youth. We have so many young boys applying job up there because (jobs were scarce). And we had single boys, of course, all single boys. And they came from away. Not necessarily from here, they came from Kona, some of them. Kona had a difficult time, too, the coffee growers.

HY: Any from neighbor islands?

HK: Neighbor islands no, no. Yeah. Mostly from Kona. And as time went on, however, the boys got married and the employer—ranch—built a home for them up there at the dairy. (Came to the time when the) children had to go school. So what happened is that they had to do something about either relocate the dairy or transfer these married people with children to another position. So they decided to move the dairy down to Waimea. They discontinued the dairy and they moved it down to Waimea. And that was the end of the dairy. Yeah, they were. . . .

HY: Did they change names, then?

HK: Yes. And then that original dairy, there, we had another dairy above and we call it Old Dairy [Paliho`oukapapa Dairy]. The Old Dairy was strictly milking without any registered herd and no record keeping at all. Just milk and then transport the fresh milk on wagon, mind you, all the way down. I would say about four, five miles down to Pu`ukikoni Dairy. And at Pu`ukikoni Dairy—(the milk will be going through the milk churner) and get the cream out of that and make butter.

HY: So the Old Dairy was also owned by Parker Ranch?

HK: Parker Ranch. So we had two dairies.

HY: Who did they supply to?

HK: The butter was mainly sold right here in Waimea and where else I wouldn't know. They also make cheese, cheddar cheese, you know(—shipped to Honolulu market).

HY: Where were you living?

HK: We live(d) at the dairy. Yes, we live at. . . . We live(d) at the dairy and it was little over five miles from the main town, here. And it was a lonely life. Very lonely. And whenever you had to come down (to town) for any kind of special event, you had to come down on horse(back) and go back on horseback again that same night. (Dairy work requires) seven days work.

HY: Did you live with the other people that worked at the dairy then? Or did you have your own dwelling?

HK: Yeah, single men's quarters. (We lived together in a cottage.)

HY: Boardinghouse?

HK: Boardinghouse more or less. Yeah, yeah. It was a lonely life because whenever you go to school, you know, you meet your classmates for one thing. When you get out of school and you don't see the classmate at all. And I'm telling you it was lonely in that sense. In fact, I (have) never see(n) my classmate(s) after almost about twenty-five or thirty years later when (I went to my first class) reunion.

HY: How did you feel about A.

HK: I was very, very happy. You know, going back to my old school. . . . I was really happy because the reason (Mr. Carter has asked me to start a Boy Scout troop stems from the fact that I had asked him to be transferred from the dairy to Honolulu—the Hawai`i Meat Company). And he said, "Don't get there. I don't want you to go to Honolulu."

HY: Why was that?

HK: He says, "That's not a place for you. There's a bunch of crooks down there." That's the exact word he used. "There's a bunch of crooks there. Don't get down there, it's dangerous."

HY: Why did you want to go there?

HK: Because I was too lonely up (at the dairy). I wanted to be more active in my work, something of interest to me. That dairy (life) was not the life that I would prefer.

HY: Did you feel like if you had insisted on going to Honolulu, you would have been able to do that? Or was that an option?

HK: (If I had insisted, perhaps, I would be fired, and I would be forced to go to Honolulu on my own.) And then, in fact, after I spoke to him, not too many people would dare go down to his home. A.W. lived (in Waimea). The (ranch) house is still there, they call it Hale Kea Restaurant [*Hartwell's at Hale Kea*]. Anyway, he lived there and then I knocked at his door and he (came out) and (as) he saw me, he says, "Young man, what do you want?" He told me, "Come in, come in." And then he (told) me, "Young man sit over there." This is the way he always treat you. "Take a seat." And then he say, "What do you want?"

So I told him.

"Don't ever get to Honolulu, there's a lot of crooks down there. It's not a place to go."

And when---ever since then he call me back once to go into Boy Scout because he's a great believer in Boy Scouts, you know. Boy Scouts and baseball. And then he asked me to go to---at least two weeks in Hilo. When I went to Hilo to learn about Boy Scouts, a scout executive says, "Shee, we don't know what to do with you. You the first man we have to teach about Boy Scouts and we never had this kind of experience before. Anyway, take home all these books

and read it. And the next morning you show up and we'll tell you what to do." And the next morning (as I entered) the office and the scout executive says, "Do you know where Waiakea Waena School is?"

I say, "Yeah."

"Go over there and there's a Boy Scout troop and you go and conduct a meeting there."

At school hour, mind you, we used to have Boy Scout meetings at public school those days. Amazing. You can't do that today. I wish we had it. I wish we had that kind of program in school today with the Boy Scouts program is a wonderful program for boys. When I came back and organized a troop in Waimea, A.W. told me, "Young man, I want to have the best troop on this island. Remember that," he says, He said, "I'll give you all the help you need. I want the best troop." So the first meeting I conducted I asked Mr. Carter, and in fact, he asked me, "I want to go to the meeting." So I call the boys in, you know those days Boy Scouts was just like an army style: "Fall in line." "Stand at attention." "Right dress." And so forth and, "Right face." And then, "At ease." And then, "Mr. Carter, here, would like to speak to you boys."

The first thing Mr. Carter told the boys is, "Young boys, I want you folks to remember when the scoutmaster set the time, you got to be on time. Always remember to be on time."

And not too long ago I had a dinner, lunch with one of our former scout. He's an ROTC [Reserve Officer Training Corps] instructor in the Mainland and he's a retired teacher now. He came back and he says, "You know what, I had the best ROTC. You know why? I taught my boys be on time." (Chuckles) You see, he never forgot that. Yeah. A.W. was that way.

And then after a while he [A.W.] saw me coming down (from the dairy, which is five miles away) on horseback to conduct meetings every week at the Parker Ranch Hall. And I believe he felt sorry for me, and he called me in the office one day and he says, "I don't think it's right for you to come down every (week for your) scout meetings on horseback. So I'm gonna move you down to the main station here. I want you to work down here (at the main station) and I'm gonna put you everywhere on the ranch. And I want you to learn." So the first job I had was what we call the plaster gang. [*The plaster gang did jobs such as mending fences and cleaning pipelines, jobs related to plastering or mending.*] This man [*the foreman*] is Sonny Lindsey, his name. He has all boys, young boys, all those that didn't continue on to school, probably about seventeen-, eighteen-year-old youngsters. He had about twelve boys in his gang.

HY: Plaster gang?

HK: Plaster gang we used to call 'em. And he call the foreman in the office. Both of us, both of us together. He tells, "Sonny Lindsey, you know this young man?"

"Yeah." He said, "Yeah."

"Well, he's going to work with you tomorrow and I want you to teach him all what you know."

That created a commotion. I went to work the following day and the whole gang felt that I'm gonna take that man's job. Everybody suspected that I'm gonna take his job. That made me feel really bad, very bad. But knowing the fact that I'm not going to stay with this group too long, you know.

HY: Is Sonny Lindsey related to your wife's family?

HK: Yes, related, yeah, yeah.

HY: How is he related?

HK: They're cousins.

HY: So he felt threatened?

HK: Threatened, yes, yes. You know he wanted to get it out of my own. . . . Wanted me to tell him that, you know—get it out of me. So after work he makes an appointment with me. He says, “After work why don't we meet each other?” In the back of my house was a grass field. And in the back of my ranch house was a huge grass field. The grass was used for the stables, for bedding and feed for the horses. “We'll meet you over there in the back, the grass field.” And then he brings up his friend, the Parker Ranch store manager.

HY: Who was that?

HK: Pang Kawai. Chinese man. Pang Kawai. And two of them were coming in the back there, wait(ing) for me, and (as) I (approach them) they (had) half-gallon sake. Those days, long-neck, half-gallon sake, you know. They want to make me drunk so I would come out with something that they would like to know.

(Laughter)

HK: They smart, eh? Yeah.

HY: So what [*happened then*]?

HK: And this was going on for some time, you know. Then finally I told 'em, “Sonny, don't worry. I'm not going to stay with you long because (the) plan is that I'm going to another job and keep on doing that.” And finally I ended up in the slaughterhouse. See, we had an old Japanese man, [*Kosuke*] Ota, his name, he's the slaughterhouse man. Those days the slaughterhouse man (duties are): He kills the animal, he skin the animal, he dress the animal and bring 'em down to the butcher shop. And he had to make all the various cuts. Cut the. . . . No freezer those days so you just hang (the meat) in the chill room and that's it, see. And then you had to cut all the meat. So you gotta slaughter, skin, and then you gotta dress the animal and then you gotta cut in various pieces. And then I had to be his helper. I was in there for two weeks and (then one day) the superintendent of the ranch, Theodore Vredenberg tells me, “Well, are you ready to go to Honolulu?”

I said, “For what?”

“Well, as soon as you get accustomed to that job that you're doing at the slaughterhouse, the plan is you're going to be sent down to Honolulu to learn more about slaughtering animals and skinning the animals. And you going be the (butcher man). You going take the Mr. Ota's job.”

HY: Was that true?

HK: Yeah. Because Mr. Ota, physically, he was complaining. He's not well. And when I heard that, I told Theodore Vredenberg, "No, I don't want. I don't want. I refuse."

He tell me, "Why?"

I say, "I can't stomach. I can't stomach this killing cattle and then I have to eat lunch. And when I eat lunch, I can't even swallow my food."

HY: What was the method they used to kill cattle?

HK: Oh, boy, I tell you, it's primitive way, you know. The spear.

HY: The spear?

HK: Yeah.

HY: Where would they place the spear?

HK: Until today, yeah? Until today they do that.

HY: The same way?

HK: Yeah. They go in the chute. Because of the blood—it smells blood all in the slaughterhouse and on the ground, you know. The animal suspects. They know immediately. Their behavior is so different. It's just like they're going to their last breath life already. They get all worked up. And then you put 'em in the chute. Once you get 'em in the chute you---there's a squeezer, squeeze it. So the animal cannot move around, too. So you get a better target to spear the back of the neck. And that will only numb that animal. As soon as the animal is numb(ed), the chute opens. When it opens, the animal slide right into the slaughterhouse. It's a little slope and he slide right down. Roll down. And then there, immediately as a helper, you have to put the chain block, [and] tackle, on the animal's hind leg and hoist 'em up. No electricity, those days. Hoist with the hand. Chain block, we call it. And still the animal is numb, eh. Alive yet. Then, Mr. Ota will go over there and cut the throat. Bleed it, yeah, hang it. Sometimes the animal stands up (before getting to his hind legs to hang). So he has a .38 revolver on the side always ready. Yeah.

HY: And shoot them . . .

HK: Yeah, shoot the animal.

HY: And still today they do it this way?

HK: I believe yeah. Yeah.

HY: So did you do all of those things?

HK: Yeah. I couldn't stomach that. You know why, what happened was that what we used to give to the employees, the meat, supply meat to the employees. They were fat animals. Oh my gosh, they were too fat in fact. But most of (them had) cancer eye, we call it cancer-eye animals. One

side get big cancer eye, blind, smelly, stink, and what have you. And you have to go and kill that animal and, you know. And it's not only the blood and whatever, you go through all of that, you can't stomach that.

HY: So, was this A.W. Carter's plan for you to learn more of this . . .

HK: Yeah, he finally---I think he made a decision at that time that I'm gonna---that they're going to train me as Parker Ranch butcher man (because Mr. Ota, the butcher, his health was failing rapidly). And I refused. And he accepted.

HY: Did you talk to him about it?

HK: Yeah, he accepted.

HY: What were the other things that he had---you said that he was teaching—he wanted you to learn all the aspects of the ranch?

HK: Yes.

HY: What else did you do?

HK: From there I went mechanic helper, carpenter helper. Then I became a chauffeur like.

HY: Chauffeur?

HK: He liked my driving. Weekends when he used to come up (to the ranch from) Honolulu, well, I'm his chauffeur, you know. And after that what happened was that the cactus, the infestation of the cactus was terrible, you know, out this way in the dry side of the ranch. It was getting so thick. Wild growth or volunteer growth of cactus (were) everywhere. And the cowboys were having a difficult time driving cattle through that. So he finally decided that he (had) to do something. And he was a great politician, too. He tried to get some sort of *approval from the state [Territory of Hawai`I], the Board of Ag [Board of Agriculture and Forestry]* to allocate some funds and send people out and find out what can be done about this cactus. And he knew there (were) various ways of doing it. Number one was insects, disease, fungus disease and all that. Anyway, he couldn't do it because the other neighbor ranchers are against the idea of eradicating the cactus.

HY: Why is that?

HK: Neighbor ranch depends on cactus for the cattle feed. Dry land. And they eat the cactus leaf. The red cactus is the one that cattle really like.

HY: Did the cactus also feed his own herd?

HK: Own herd. Yeah, yeah.

HY: But it was too much?

HK: No, (not as a source of food). (Not feasible to feed [*the cattle*] cactus. Cactus nearly overtook the pastures.)

HY: Oh, I see.

HK: It makes it very difficult for the operation of the ranch as far as driving cattle through and mending your water troughs and all that. And cactus itself is not going to produce much weight on the cattle. So he put me on the job. Although I was under another foreman on the ranch, on the cactus job, but he assigned me a specific job aside from that with a crew to handle eradication with the University of Hawai`i entomologist. And (at that period of time,) we can't get the insects in. We can't get anything else imported in, so we were killing the cactus by chemical means.

HY: What kind of chemicals?

HK: Sodium chlorate which is very, very dangerous (as I found out later). Sodium chlorate is in (granular) form. (To be effective we dilute this to liquid form.) It comes in a granular form, but it picks up moisture so fast from the air, however when it dries up from the sun, it's equivalent to gunpowder. You know the powder in your ammunition or whatever. With a spark of a---any kind of spark catch that powder, it'll burst. It's very dangerous. It's a high, high sodium salt content. And I lost one man—burn to death. We were coming home from work and what happened was three of us in the front seat, I'm driving and this guy in the middle he smokes all the time. And like me, like a fool, I didn't know the danger of this sodium chlorate, nobody taught us that. He was smoking and he threw the cigarette out of the car and the wind blew (the cigarette) back to that guy sitting next to him. And his clothes saturated with that sodium chlorate is dry, dry. We (are) working in a dry area. Caught fire. Rush him to Kohala Hospital [*County of Hawai`i North Kohala District Hospital*] and he passed away over there. Anyway, I used to make a annual, I mean a bi-monthly report to A. W. Carter (in Honolulu where) he was operating the ranch business. And he wanted me to make a report every two weeks—"How are we doing?" And during the weekend he comes up, I'm his chauffeur. He wants to see what I'm doing.

HY: Did people just not know how dangerous or how flammable sodium chlorate was or did they just not tell you?

HK: Yeah, I often wondered over that, you know. When they---when we got in the accident, when that person caught fire, (we found out how dangerous this chemical was, highly combustible). But why weren't we warned prior to that from where we purchased that material? I think we purchased all through Brewer Chemical [*C. Brewer Company*]. That's where it was coming. And later on I found out that the sugar plantation, they were (also) using this material quite often, too, to kill weeds. In other words, this was being used as a herbicide also. It sterilized the soil, nothing would grow. We inject this material, liquid—diluted form—into the cactus foliage, inject it. And that section of the foliage will die. And so you gotta inject every darn foliage on the cactus. Cactus—every joint there's another leaf. And when you inject and you pull the injector out of the leaf, the (liquid) shoots back at you. Splash right back right into your face sometimes. That's how dangerous it was. (When) it was (in) liquid form or (in) a moist form, no problem. When it dries (it's dynamite). Oh, another accident I got out of that thing is that I caused a big grass fire. All the tools---I had about seven, eight men under my crew at that time. Each time they increase my working crew. And I had about six or seven guys in my crew and I had a fairly sizable truck with a pump and a tank and so forth. But after, just about quitting time, everybody throw their tools in the truck, you see. And [*the*] tools are metal tools, you know. And hit the floor of the truck and the floor of the truck get metal also. Metal [and]

metal hit, and you know, banging each other and scraping. The spark. The spark caused a fire right on the truck and the fire followed right through the bed of the truck out to the grass pasture. Big fire out there.

HY: Was anybody injured in that fire?

HK: Nobody, lucky thing. And you know how we used to fight fire those days? Man had to fight the fire and get a branch, get a lot of branch and just keep on doing this . . .

HY: Beat it.

HK: Yeah, we form a battle line; long line and you take so much section, so many space, and then the next one keep on going. And then the trucks will come in with milk cans, ten-gallon milk cans of water. cattle.

HY: So were they resentful, A.W. Carter being able to ...

HK: Yeah, eventually I believe they seen the light. They seen it was a sort of a saying that common sense will tell you that the cactus is not a way of raising cattle. You have to get good grasses imported and which A.W. Carter constantly brought in species of grasses from various parts of the country. And we had good grass, you know. Good high-protein grass and our neighbor [*rific*] name of that [*cactoblastis*]. And it's a larvae type. It comes in a form of a moth, lays an egg on the thorn of the cactus, a long spike egg. And lot of eggs on that little spike. And then when that egg will hatch, when it hatch it's gonna be a larvae, a little worm, a tiny little worm. Bright, nice looking worm that creeps into the foliage of the cactus. And lives inside there and eat all of the sap. And by doing—boring hole in the foliage, we have another mate transmitting the disease that this larvae will transmit the disease from foliage to foliage. That's the fusarium disease. That disease did the work. Transmitting all this from plant (to plant). And (to this day it is) still (working, transmitting plant to plant).

HY: That's . . .

HK: Yeah, I talked to Ernest [*R.*] Yoshioka, entomologist, [*State Department of Agriculture*], in Hilo. He said they (are) still finding. But not as much because of the fact that unfortunately this fusarium disease is not effective on the white cactus. You know there are two type of cactus we have, the red cactus and the yellow one. Not white but yellow, eh. Yellow fruit, red fruit. The red fruit had very high content of water in the foliage so that this fusarium disease works better on that. And less tissue in it, fiber, less fiber in that foliage. Whereas the yellow cactus has more fiber and less liquid in the foliage. So this fusarium disease not---they do get organized and start working on the leaf, begin the disease, begin to spread. But somehow, the plant will resist it. So they leave (a) dry affected area on the foliage, that's about it. And beyond that (the fungus growth ends). The fungus disease just fades away, dries up. (This reaction or behavior of the disease is true only on the yellow cactus.)

HY: So at this time when you were able to bring in the larvae and fungus too, was there still resistance from some of the other . . .

HK: Ranchers?

HY: Yeah.

HK: Yes. Our neighbor ranch, they were very much concerned.

HY: Who was that?

HK: We call Pu`uwa`awa`a Ranch. Pu`uanahulu Ranch. Because they actually had more cactus than we had, I believe. And their pasture, strength of their pasture is dependent upon their---not exactly all together on the forage they had, much of it is dependent upon the cactus because it is so hot and dry there cactus is somewhat of a blessing to them, to the cattle.

HY: So were they resentful, A.W. Carter being able to ...

HK: Yeah, eventually I believe they seen the light. They seen it was a sort of a saying that common sense will tell you that the cactus is not a way of raising cattle. You have to get good grasses imported and which A.W. Carter constantly brought in species of grasses from various parts of the country. And we had good grass, you know. Good high-protein grass and our neighbor ranch seen that and tried to improve their ranch on a similar basis. However, recently, we had another problem there. They have another undesirable thing that was beginning to infest, come through the neighbor ranch to Parker Ranch. Infested into our ranch here, that's the fountain grass which practically taken over the entire lower section of Parker Ranch.

HY: What's wrong with the fountain grass?

HK: Fountain grass. Fountain grass is a very high-fiber grass and that grows very wild. Ideal location is in the dry land, in the lava land. However, we found out that slowly, it was very slowly creeping into the good land, deep soil, and today it comes right into the backyard, so-called, of Parker Ranch. And it's all deep soil, good soil, and they taking over all our good land. (Fountain grass) has a very low (nutritive) value, practically nothing. Very high in fiber, dry, and if the animals are forced to eat, they'll eat it. But it's not the way of producing cattle. Economically you're not going to make a profit out of that type of---you're not going to get much production out of that type of grass.

HY: This was in the [nineteen] thirties still, is that right? Where you're working on the cactus eradication program?

HK: Yes, it was in the thirties.

HY: And how long did you do that for?

HK: Oh, excuse me. It was not in the thirties, it was in the forties.

HY: Oh, I see. During wartime?

HK: Wartime and after war, yes.

HY: How long did you do that for?

HK: I did it up to about 1950.

HY: I see.

HK: Yeah.

HY: Getting back to when you first started working for Parker Ranch, after you'd worked five years at the diary, is that right? Then A.W. Carter had you do these series of jobs so that you could learn all of the ranch.

HK: Yes.

HY: What were some of the other things you did—the slaughterhouse and eventually the cactus eradication, the chauffeuring. What were some of the other things you did?

HK: Well, he was very happy that when I had the Boy Scout troop I made a project within our, in my troop. My project was related to ranching. Collection of foliage—collection of various grasses on Parker Ranch land in which he was very pleased about because these are the grasses that he imported, the seed(s) that (were) imported. And they were imported and growing so well out here and he wanted to know in what areas these grasses had been located. And my boys collected all these grasses. And we had a way---we had a, what you call? We had an agronomist graduated from University of Hawai`i, Eddie Hosaka, Edward Hosaka. He wrote a book on pasture grasses [*Grasses of the Hawaiian Ranges*]. He's---I would say he was (a) knowledgeable man, A.W. Carter fell in love with him and asked him to – release him from university and borrow him for so many months on the ranch to study the entire ranch pasture, what we have on the ranch and made a report on 'em. And eventually he was more like a—retained by Parker Ranch. He used to come up ranch quite often. And Eddie Hosaka is the one taught me how to mount this grass and make a scrapbook out of 'em. And all the information on each grass, the description of the grass and so forth, and the value of the grass was taken out of Eddie Hosaka's book. And the boys took it out of the book and then they all had a scrapbook, and oh, A.W. was so happy about it. (I was like a coworker with Eddie Hosaka.)

HY: I think we're running out of tape again. How're you doing?

HY: This is a continuation of an interview with Hisao Kimura, tape two, session one.

HK: And then it came to 1939, about 1939 we started out that victory garden which was a time that I was out of the ranch for four months, you know. I was suspended.

HY: Why was that?

HK: I was suspended from Parker Ranch for four months. It was not planned as four months, but it lasted four months anyway. Because of my marital problem. My marriage. I had a problem as a young fellow.

HY: This was your first marriage?

HK: Yes, my first marriage. And Alfred W. Carter, I mean Hartwell Carter sent the lady over who was the Kohala Girls' School headmaster. She came and (spoke to me that) and I'm gonna be suspended. (She) didn't say how long. (After four months I was asked to return.) And when I came back my immediate boss was Hartwell Carter's sister, Edie Carter, Edith [*Carter Podmore*]. And she asked me to start the home garden because I---now the reason why the home garden started off as a Parker Ranch project because during the depression years, we still

had the effect of the depression, even the 1930s, late thirties, latter part of the thirties, we still have the effect of it. And we must prepare ourselves, and sustain ourselves with food. That's when the victory garden came in, you know. And then we started out a series of victory garden throughout the community and while working with this project, I got interested in ag [*agriculture*], growing things. And then one day while I was in the field, Harold Baybrook, graduate of Oregon State College came to the field and asked for me. And my boys told Harold Baybrook a way to find me in the field. And Mr. Baybrook came and see me he says, "Are you Hisao Kimura?"

I says, "Yeah."

"Well, Mr. Carter told me to come and see you. From today on you are to work with me."

So he was my immediate boss. So I worked under Harold Baybrook and that was the beginning of the cactus eradication program, planting grasses and so forth. Yeah.

HY: How did the---was this something that the community reacted to, your personal problems?

HK: No, not necessarily. My personal problems came about because the headmaster at the Kohala Girls' School, Mrs. [*Jane*] Hill, began—what you call?—complaint, you see. And through that complaint it mushroomed to a point where either I quit seeing my girlfriend, my present wife [*Elizabeth Lindsey Kimura*], or else you got to go, you know. And that was the beginning, yeah.

HY: It's very unusual to---divorce was not that common at that time. How did your family react to this?

HK: My divorce?

HY: Yes.

HK: My mother---my father had already passed away. I think I would have had much more. . . . I think he would have had much more to say to me. But my mother—my father passed away so my mother couldn't say anything much to me. It's just being a mother, you know, she was much more understanding and she was very quiet about the whole thing. Of course, she was not happy. I could sense that, naturally. And she was not to a point that she would put her foot down and ask me to do this or that. She didn't. Although the community itself, the leaders of the Japanese so-called association, they came and see me.

HY: What did they say to you?

HK: They say, well, number one they say, "I think you are not. . . ." In fact they discouraged me to a point where---saying that, "Your life is ruined. And you making yourself in a worse condition than ever if you going marry to a Hawaiian girl. Why you have to marry a Hawaiian girl?"

HY: Was that the main reason they were . . .

HK: The community, the Japanese association, yes. (Before the war, this organization was called the Kamuela Nihonjin Kai—meaning Waimea Japanese Association. Later, after the war it was

changed to Japanese Civic Association, and sometime in the late 1950s it was changed to Kamuela Japanese American Civic Association, which stands till today.) That was, yeah. Hawaiians were not looked upon as—Hawaiian girls are not looked upon as a good mother, so-called. But I stood my ground. I didn't argue back or whatever, I just listened to whatever they had to say.

HY: I believe you had an older brother who married a Hawaiian, or part-Hawaiian, is that true?

HK: My younger brother (several years after my ordeal).

HY: Oh, a younger brother.

HK: After me.

HY: So you were the first one?

HK: Yeah.

HY: I see. Just getting back, again, to some of the other jobs that you had, you had an opportunity to learn all the different aspects of Parker Ranch, what were some of the other things that you learned?

HK: Some other work that I had done, as I say I was a mechanic helper. And I was a Parker Ranch water-pump man which I had a—much of a leisure time on that because it's not much of a job that you would care to make as your livelihood because it's a monotonous job. You start the engine, pump water, and let the pump do all the work and you would just wait for the hours and time to quit and you just stop the engine and come home. You gotta check your water, of course. The volume of water that you have pumped. But other than that I . . .

HY: I'm sorry, is this water to supply . . .

HK: Cattle.

HY: For the cattle.

HK: For the cattle, yes. We had substation and booster pumps. You still have it throughout the ranch now, although it's all electricity. Then the other jobs I had done was truck driver. Truck driver was not for me exactly. It was quite a heavy job. But although Parker Ranch had only two trucks, you know. Just two trucks. And more like I was a substitute truck driver. You know when the truck driver had to get a sick leave or vacation time, they put me back on the truck driving.

HY: Were you transporting cattle or were you. . . . What were you transporting?

HK: All right. Mainly transfer, yeah. But one of the major job was hauling cattle all the way from Kahuku, which is on the other side of the island. Parker Ranch owned that ranch at one time. This is the time that Parker Ranch had so much acreage. We had to bring in the market animals all the way from Kahuku back to the main ranch here. And from here, ship it to Honolulu. And that was—usually last about two weeks. You gotta live out there and get up early in the morning, load the cattle, cowboys would load your truck, and all the way begin to—main ranch

here. And it takes one day, a day's job. One load a day.

HY: And you're supplying Honolulu—does the cattle go to the Mainland from there? Or is this just to supply Honolulu?

HK: Just to Honolulu. Hawai`i Meat Company—they had their feedlot and a slaughterhouse there, yes. This is the Hawai`i Meat Company that the slaughterhouse had to be closed just recently, end of last year. Just recent.

HY: What were some of the other things you did?

HK: Oh, let's see, what other things did I do? Shee, that's about it. Most of the---well the major job, though, that I worked for the longer period than any other job was planting grass, pasture grasses. Taking care weeds, eradication of weeds and so. . . . I had a big problem here when they introduced that grass called Kikuyu grass which I rejected. I rejected that. I fought back very vigorously. I said this is not the grass for pasture. Because knowing the fact of how much time and effort and the money that A.W. Carter has done to bring in all this good grasses from throughout the western country, midwestern states. And here they introduced Kikuyu grass. And knowing the fact—I don't know how I felt very strongly this Kikuyu grass gonna hurt Parker Ranch. Because it's so aggressive. This Kikuyu grass is one of the most unusual grass ever known till today. For example, a top farmer from—what do you call?—Dakota, North Dakota, came over to Parker Ranch and leased Waiki`i prime cornfield land and he got a lease on the land and he start farming and he came and see me. I said---first he tell me, “They refused to rent the land up there purely because lack of rainfall.” He asked me, “Is that true? Is that the reason Parker Ranch gave up farming there?” You know, planting corn.

I said, “No, to me it was not the rain. The rainfall, like any other farmer throughout the country, you depend on the rainfall. Some years you get bad years, some years you get good years. It's a gamble. Farming is a never-ending gamble. And those were the years, probably we had drought. But the rain comes back again. Good years come back. The reason back of the, what you call, Parker Ranch discontinued planting corn is because the person who went up there to plant corn didn't know how to plant corn.”

So he used to ask me, “What's the reason? What do you mean by not knowing how to plant corn?”

I say, “He knew how to plant corn, but he didn't know how to prepare the soil.” See, if the rain is coming in during May or June and you get your land prepared May or June. That's not the right way to farm. “The old ways when we used to farm,” I told him, “you get your land prepared before the rain come. Till your land, get everything done, kill all the grasses, you get good tilled soil ready for the rain to come. If your land is ready to be planted anytime as soon as the rainfall season comes in. So in other words, when the rain comes then you begin to plant, you see. The rainy season comes. Your land is prepared already, way ahead of time.”

Now, this other method this person was doing was the rain is gonna come, say May or June, start coming, he start plowing the land. So the grass is green, the grass is not decayed, you know, compost, there's no compost. So they asked me to go up there and plant the corn because I was the only one had the machinery down in Waimea. They used to plant by horse, you see. Horse pull the planter and the corn will drop. That's the old-style way of doing it, slow method. But I had a John Deere demonstrator from American Factors [*Limited*] and they

told us to use it and try. So I had a John Deere corn planter and it plants four rows at a time. I drove the tractor all the way from here up to Waiki`i on the tractor and so I told 'em, "Is this the land you want me to plant?"

"Yeah."

"No way, it's not going to work."

You know the planter, the machinery planting, the soil gotta be tilled really perfectly because as the planter goes in, [if] this grass is still green, you know, in the soil, mixed with the soil, it picks up all the grass together with 'em. And you look in the back, the corn kernels drops, eh, it's dropping all on the grass. There's no soil to cover it. So how can you expect to have a crop of corn? This is what I'm telling this guy, Wally Coleman, came from the Mainland. No way. (The pheasants took care of all the corn kernels.) Before the corn can sprout and germinate, lot of pheasants up there at the time. So I told (Coleman), "Don't believe what they tell you." (So he acquired the lease of the land and went to farm.) But I told him, "You going have problems. Not about the rainfall or whatever."

He tell me, "What's the problem?"

"The Kikuyu grass," I tell 'em. "You watch out for the Kikuyu grass. You got to---I would recommend you (budget yourself a) sum of money and destroy the grass first. Herbicide the grass, kill all the Kikuyu grass and then you till your soil, till your land and prepare whatever you want to plant after that. But first of all you gotta get rid of that grass."

He tells me, "You know, I'm a farmer all my lifetime, grass never bothered me."

I say, "All right."

Then he was farming for about a year and a half or so, almost two years or so, at which time I had another job on the ranch. Any visitor comes on the ranch, I used to drive 'em around and show them the ranch. And this guy came from North Dakota and he's a farmer. A cattle rancher and a farmer. I said, "Oh, I'm gonna take you up there, Waiki`i. There's a guy up there from your state. Not because same state you know him. But anyway, I'd like you to meet him."

I took 'em up there and this guy was fixing his equipment in the shop, Wally Coleman. And I introduce him, "Mr. Coleman, this is a man from your state."

And the two guys were talking and I hear them talking and this guy ask Mr. Coleman, "How is the farming out here? How is it? Is it like back home?"

He says, "Boy I wish I had listened to these old-timers here. All my lifetime I have never, never experienced such a grass as this."

So this man say, ask him, "What do you mean? Why this grass is so unusual?"

"You see this grass, you can't kill 'em with the equipment. He [the grass] rolls in the soil and that's it. He comes right back again."

A little sprig like this will come back. Because the roots is rhizome. Big roots. Doesn't have fine roots. Terrible, terrible grass. And today that whole---that grass is on the entire ranch. If A.W. Carter, Alfred W. Carter is living today and see all the grass, wonderful grass collection we made and showed him what we have on the ranch he would be a sad man. Not a single grass of that variety is living today. No more. All gone. So what happened now, the cattle boys say, the weight of the cattle has lots to do on the income for the ranch per acre and they not getting the weight.

HY: And you think that's a direct result of the kind of grass here?

HK: Yes, yes. And we all know. And our neighbor ranch, Monty Richards, yeah, Kahu_ Ranch, Monty Richards is a great farmer, you know. He's not only a rancher, he's a farmer. And he tells me, "We gotta do something about this grass." He has nothing but that grass. Before Parker Ranch he had 'em first, you see. So he say, "I know what I'm gonna do. I'm gonna get the county extension agent help me and put up an experiment plot on my ranch. And show me how much it's gonna cost to fertilize the land and how much my returns gonna be in terms of pounds of beef." So the University of Hawai`i research department [*Agricultural Experiment Station*] had to do something about it because Monty Richards want them to do experiment. And ranch of course supply all the expenses. And they did. They made a thorough, very, very comprehensive type of research, fertilizing program. And this was an area all ranchers would keep an eye on. Because Monty had a, you know, had vision enough to say that we gotta do something about this grass. And till today he's fertilizing. Until today he's getting the results. He's a smart man that fellow.

HY: Getting back to the beginning of your victory garden, this is with, is it Edith . . .

HK: Edie Podmore, (Edith Carter Podmore).

HY: What was the reasoning behind starting these victory gardens?

HK: Yeah, that's the thing that puzzled me a lot. That bothered me a lot, up to even till today. Well, I talked to several people after you interviewed me the last time. Why did we ever start this victory garden? And one of them told me, "I think it was because of the difficult time we had during the depression years. And if such-and-such thing should happen to Hawai`i, which you hope not, transportation would be hindered as far as importing our food from the Mainland. What are we gonna do in Hawai`i, you know?" So something must be done to be self-sufficiency type of program. So Parker Ranch was one of them to start right away our victory garden. And they name it as a victory garden, yeah.

HY: What did you grow in your victory garden?

HK: Okay. First of all on the ranch scale, on the ranch land, we planted Irish potato to experiment. On the experimental basis we had, I think we had three different varieties of Irish potato. And then next is kidney beans on a large scale. And on the individual employee and the residents of Waimea, whoever requested, I had a gang to go and establish a garden for them. Till the land, fence it off, and supply the vegetable seed, all varieties of vegetable seeds. Not much of type like corn, no, this was mostly lettuce or cabbage and beans and that type of vegetable. Beets, yeah. And I make my rounds every month: How are they doing? And I give them suggestions—how they like to know any kind of new method or how to fertilize for instance, and how to sow the seeds and all that. Some of the ladies, especially, they didn't know how to grow things.

HY: Was there any sense that these gardens were started because there might be war?

HK: That's the thing bothered me all the time. Now, how did we know that the war was gonna start? How did we know that we need to be self-sufficient? That we need food to begin with. And this bothered me all the time. And nobody really give me a good answer saying that it wasn't because the war was expected or what, you know. But. . . .

HY: Was there a food shortage, a vegetable shortage?

HK: No, not that I know of. Because as far as I can see, vegetables were the least of the food that was consumed by people around here. Meat was the main (food). Everything is meat, you know, yeah.

HY: Was there then an excess of produce when all these victory gardens were started?

HK: No, no, not to the extent that it was. . . . The volume of harvest out of this victory garden was not so great to say that we had an excess.

HY: Who were the people that would plant these victory gardens?

HK: Nearly all of the employees.

HY: Parker Ranch employees?

HK: Yeah, Parker Ranch employees. And then I had few farmers, (independent farmers).

HY: Were you the one to tell them what to plant?

HK: I would suggest to them what they should plant. They have a choice of what they want to plant.

HY: So this---you started doing this as a result of being suspended, right?

HK: After the suspension.

HY: Oh, after the suspension.

HK: After that they brought me back on the ranch and they thought, well, where they gonna put me. And probably they thought this. . . . A good area of my work. I assume that way (chuckles).

HY: What did you do during---did you say it was four months? Your suspension: What did you do during that time?

HK: Four months. All right. Four months I didn't stay idle. Was quite interesting to me because this was something that I had done and earned my own way by shipping the. . . . Are you familiar with *poha*?

HY: Not really.

HK: *Poha* food that they use in ice cream and so forth today. Jam and jelly. Well, there is a farmer

up above Hawaiian Homes land (Waimea Homestead) had about twenty acres of corn, planted with corn. And those days was---we didn't know sweet corn at all. It was field corn, eh. Anyway, after he harvested the corn that he plant in the twenty acres, a lot of *poha* plants came up. Wild growth established in that field. And when I saw that, I went to see this person. And his name is William Payne. William Payne was with the Board of [Water] Supply in Hilo, I believe. Anyway, he had a homestead here (at Waimea Homestead). I went to see him to---if I can harvest that *poha* and how he would—if he allowed me to do that—how he would charge me, what kind of arrangement would he offer me?

He said, “Well, you can go and help yourself. And whenever you go out, you report to the caretaker.” There's a caretaker. He had a house there. “Just report to him how many bags you got of *poha*, that's all. And I'll figure out how much (to) charge you.”

And I was picking those *poha*, I went to [I.] Oda Store, the owner [*Iwasuke Oda*] of Oda Store.

HY: Is that I. Oda?

HK: Yeah. And Mr. Wakayama was the manager of the (store). Mr. Wakayama will save me all of those orange crates. You know orange fruits used to come in a box, crates you know, with the partition in the middle. And all those orange crates he saved it for me to put the *poha* and ship it to Honolulu. Chun Hoon [*Limited Wholesale & Chun Hoon Market Limited Retail in Honolulu*]. And every shipment I make, Mr. Wakayama will tell me, “Eh, they want some more.” You know, “Can you ship more than what you shipping?” So that kind of encouraged me to work a little harder and pick more. And when I go and pick the *poha*, I take my mother-in-law, my wife's mother, and my wife's cousin, and niece, three of us, four of us altogether we go up there and pick. So I had helpers.

HY: Is this---what year is this about?

HK: That was 1940.

HY: Nineteen forty.

HK: [*Nineteen*] thirty-nine, latter part of thirty-nine or forty.

HY: So this is your current wife?

HK: Yes, yeah. I was already married.

HY: What year did you get married?

HK: [*Nineteen*] forty, forty, that's right. It was '40. [*Hisao Kimura later corrects himself: He was married in 1941.*]

HY: I thought it was '41. Oh, okay, 1940?

HK: Yeah, yeah, (1941).

HY: So all you folks would go up and pick *poha*?

HK: *Poha*, yeah, yeah. So the ladies whoever go up, you know. My mother, my mother-in-law, and another lady Mrs. Liana. They all liked to go up and pick for their own home use. So you pick whatever you folks want. That's okay.

HY: So you found that there was a market for. . . .

HK: Yes. Until today there is a market. So while I was doing that I sort of enjoyed it. And then Mrs. [Edith Carter] Podmore came see me to come back. That's when I started the victory garden. After the victory garden was. . . . The war broke out so naturally I was doing something else now. I used to pump water and mainly pumping water.

HY: Just for the cattle?

HK: Yeah, yeah. And then 1960, when Hartwell Carter retired as manager, Richard Penhallow became the manager. He put me in charge of the Parker Ranch [*Pu`u`opelu*] Tree Nursery, (a project of 100,000 Reforestation Program). The Parker Ranch tree nursery is a well-established, old, old, established nursery. A.W. Carter was such a, what you call, environmentalist, and he liked to have trees. So he established a nursery and he had full-time worker and a caretaker. He imported all of the seeds, different various type of trees, and mainly it was eucalyptus those days—eucalyptus (and) cypress. He prefer eucalyptus because you have a wide variety of selection of eucalyptus, (due to wide variation of type of soil corresponding with elevation and environment). There are about at least 200 varieties of eucalyptus that can grow well out here. And I had an idea about using the eucalyptus trees in the later years as a fence post. So that's the reason why he stuck to that—eucalyptus trees all over the ranch. So in 1960, when Dick Penhallow became the manager, he put me with the tree nursery. So I was on a full-time tree nursery. Reforestation program began in 1960, '61. And we had made arrangements with the state forestry [*and wildlife*] division to request that they import all of the species of pine trees, coniferous, needle pine trees. And the Parker Ranch will take the risk of experiment with all the different varieties. And the state did do that for us. They imported the seed, grew the seed, germinated the seed in Hilo at the Hilo nursery [*the forestry and wildlife division later moved its nursery to Waimea*], and when they're ready they call me up and I go and pick 'em up and we transplant that seedling into a bigger container. And when we get good size, we plant 'em out in the field. We did that practically all kinds of variety of pines. We have about 200 acres of pine forest up here. Beautiful pines, though, some of them. One variety turned out to be perfect Christmas tree. Slow growing but beautiful. So we were supplying that in our community, selling 'em through the youth center [*Waimea Youth Center*]. Two of our employee ladies, one is a doctor's wife, started a youth center here because they had teenage girls. And to keep them---good program, they started a youth center. And then I would harvest all the trees and bring 'em down and the youth will sell the trees as their annual project. Now---(those) trees are overgrown already so they're not doing [*selling*] anymore. But I insisted we should start a Christmas tree program out at Parker Ranch. So Tony Smart [*son of Richard Smart*] and I, we were just about to start. Then Tony left the ranch, so then that left me alone and that time I had to retire. I just retired. (I have all the necessary information on the Christmas tree industry.) We were just about to start. We get all the upper land in the highland. Douglas fir that we import from the Mainland can be grown on this island, you see. Yeah. One interesting thing happened when Libert Landgraf, I don't know if you knew him—Libert Landgraf dad, you know, the father Libert Landgraf, (Sr.). Mr. Libert Landgraf was a state forest ranger for many years. And at his old age he came on this island. And he told me let's try the Douglas fir, he (had acquired) the seed, the Douglas fir seed that he located on the lowland California area or some place that might be suitable for Parker Ranch in this area. So

the state nursery took half of the seed, I took half and we start planting 'em. And I (have) some of those Douglas fir growing up in a about seven- to eight-thousand-(feet) elevation at the present time. They growing all right. That made us all the more interested in growing Christmas tree.

HY: I would like to go back to the beginning of wartime.

HK: Yeah.

HY: You begun your victory garden and you're remarried. What do you remember about December 7, [1941]?

HK: What do I remember?

HY: What were you doing?

HK: (I was on the victory garden project, and with the ranch program of growing potatoes, corn and beans.) December 7 was just like a dream. Nobody had a---on the very outset when they first heard the news [*nobody*] would have believed. You know, nobody. Then it became---then the news came heavier, and heavier. And all of a sudden this is real. And the first thing that happened was Parker Ranch of course was the biggest employer here and has the heaviest number of employees and they had all the facilities in this area, community. They opened their office as headquarters and formed a home guard [*informal group, not part of the Hawai`i Territorial Guard*]. And they compelled every resident in the community to turn in all their firearms. We all had to turn in our firearms. They said, "It will be returned later on." But we never saw them back again. Never did.

HY: Was that a common item for people to have, firearms?

HK: I wouldn't say common. Yeah, I don't think it was common. Except this a great hunting area so most of the people had shotguns.

HY: Shotguns.

HK: Yeah.

HY: Where were you on December 7?

HK: On December 7 I was here. I was out of the dairy and I was living with my mother [*and wife*] at Parker Ranch home, house.

HY: Were you at home?

HK: Yeah.

HY: Did you hear the news on the radio?

HK: Yeah. Then everybody was just stunned. Then prior to that though, prior to that when I got back from high school, when I came back to Waimea I was very much of an aggressive guy. Fresh out of school so I was just like a know-*[it]*-all type of guy and nobody else. There were

no educated people around here except the schoolteachers. So I took some leadership role in whatever I did. And going to the Japanese association meetings, they didn't call it Japanese association I found out later [*originally called the Kamuela Nihonjin Kai*]. But anyway, it was a Japanese association, you know. And they had strong ethnic group here. (The population by race were) Hawaiians, Japanese [*and a*] (small number of other ethnic groups). There were just few. But Japanese were (about the largest single ethnic group). But they were having speakers come in quite often from (Japan). And I just got together with my brother the other day. "Do you recall those days?"

He said, "Yeah."

He verify with me that he recall. I say, you know, Mr. Iwashita, which was the carpenter foreman on Parker Ranch. I was with Mr. Iwashita as carpenter helper.

A. W. Carter put me all over the ranch to work with. And at that particular time I was with Mr. Iwashita as a carpenter helper. And I told Mr. Iwashita, he was one of the leaders of our community association, Japanese association. I said, "What is this going on that you folks are always bringing in speakers from Japan and Japan going be number one. I don't understand this and I don't like it," I said. This was my biggest complaint that I ever done. (Sometime later) when Pearl Harbor was attacked, suddenly something hit me, "Eh, this was expected like." You know to me, it was expected like. Why did they come out and telling us all these stories about Japan could have been number one? "You Japanese better wake up. You better be prepared. . . ." Or whatever. This is the reason why when I decided to---to even marry another nationality they was very, very much against. If I was another Japanese not interested in the association, not take an active role, they would never even bother with me if I marry another nationality. But because I was active in the role of the (Japanese) community, they felt that they should take care of me, too you know, the leaders of our Japanese association. And that bothered me, though.

HY: Did you express your, I guess your---did you express your questioning of them bringing in very nationalistic-type speakers or did you keep it to yourself?

HK: I kept it to myself except this argument that I had with Mr. Iwashita during the working hour. Right at the working site I did argue with him. "I totally disapprove of this type of thing. And I can't stand it," I told him.

HY: Did you think that was an uncommon response to that, or were there other people that felt the same way?

HK: Amazingly, amazingly nobody else really had the same concern like I had. They took it fairly—like anything else, they didn't express themselves strongly against it or for it. And then you gotta understand at that time, this community was an easygoing community. Even the politicians at one time used to say, "We don't have to worry about Waimea. They (are) too---so relaxed people. They don't care." It's just a really Hawaiian community. Lovable community. (They) don't want to hurt people's feelings. They satisfied for what they are.

HY: Do you remember any of the names of any of those speakers?

HK: I don't. Yeah, yeah.

HY: I think we're about out of tape again.

END OF INTERVIEW