

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: Earle Kalikolehua Vida, 84, retired executive for Alexander and Baldwin

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Earl "Liko" Vida, Hawaiian-Spanish-English, was born October 23, 1901 and raised in the Kālia section of Waikīkī. His father, Henry Cornwall Vida, a superintendent for Hawaiian Dredging Company, supervised the construction of the Ala Wai Canal in the 1920s. His mother was Lena Hart Vida from Waimea, Kaua'i.

Vida, a member of McKinley High School's class of 1918, also attended Ka'ahumanu and Kamehameha Schools.

An ace baseball pitcher, Vida played baseball in the fields around Kālia Road and at Fort DeRussy. He was a star in the fledgling Hawai'i Baseball League and went on many all-star tours. Vida is considered to be one of Hawai'i's outstanding pitchers.

Vida began working as an office boy for Alexander and Baldwin in 1921. Forty-five years later he retired as assistant to the president.

Now living in Waialae, Vida and his wife have one child and four grandchildren.

Tape No. 13-20-1-85

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

with

Earle "Liko" Vida (EV)

March 18, 1985

Wai'alae, O'ahu

BY: Warren Nishimoto (WN)

WN: This is an interview with Mr. Earle Kalikolehua Vida on March 18, 1985 at his home in Wai'alae, O'ahu. The interviewer is Warren Nishimoto.

Okay, Mr. Vida, where and when were you born?

EV: I was born at 1713 Ala Moana Road on October 23, 1901. And we lived there practically until I married my wife in 1924.

WN: That area that your house was at, what is there now?

EV: The present location of the house that's on the premises is the Kaiser Hospital. That's where I was born. And alongside of it, on town side [i.e., 'Ewa] of our property, was the Ikesu Tea House. And beyond that, next to it, was P.Y. Chong's. Then, going on down towards the end of the road before we hit a river, the Jarretts lived in that area, too.

WN: That river, is that where the [Ala Wai] Canal is now?

EV: That is the present canal. It was just a river in those days. It took all the overflow from Mānoa and Pālolo Valley. It came into that stream along where the present canal is now. That was just the stream. It overflowed all the time. And across on Kalākaua Avenue at the connection of McCully, all that area was nothing but duck ponds. All duck ponds. In fact, all the area down here in Kālia was practically duck ponds. And we lived either on the ocean or alongside of a river or a duck pond. Now, where the present Ala Moana Shopping Center is, that was all duck ponds. All water.

WN: Who owned the duck ponds?

EV: Individuals. Most of them belonged to. . . . Finally, later on, the Dillingham people took over in exchange. In dredging the canal and things like that, they, in exchange, received some of that land. That's how they acquired all that land down there at Ala Moana.

WN: So, where you have the canal today [i.e., near the present Ala Wai Yacht Harbor], and then the first house was the Jarrett house?

EV: Yeah. Down on the ocean side, yeah, it was the Jarretts.

WN: Tell me something about the Jarretts.

EV: Well, it's an old family. Paul, Eugene, we all were very close. In that whole area, all the boys and girls always used to play together. We used to walk from there to Ka'ahumanu School, where we attended school. Also near the Jarretts, we had the Luttards. There was one boy. And then, of course, P.Y. Chong and Ikesu had family, too--little kids. We all played together all the time.

Now, on the Waikīkī side of our home where the Kaiser Hospital (is now) were the Fernandes'. Charley Fernandes, who came from Kalihi. He was one of our opponents as far as baseball was concerned. Finally, he joined us. Well, he married a Espinda girl. And that's how they lived down in that area. And Lena Machado lived right next.

WN: Oh, the entertainer?

EV: Yeah, Lena, yeah. In fact, she and my mother were very close. My mother used to help her (with her) music, composing different (songs). My mother was a schoolteacher way back in (the) early days when she married my father.

WN: What was your mother's name?

EV: She was a Hart from Waimea, Kaua'i. From a Nauwele family. (There is) quite a large family living at Waimea. That family you will find the offsprings today. The Brandts, B-R-A-N-D-T, that's part of the family. And the Schimmelfennigs was another offspring from the Brandts. Charley them, that's another part of the family. We're all cousins, first, second and third cousins. That's part of the group in that area.

WN: So, Jarretts and the Luttards, do you know what occupation they were in?

EV: Jarrett was--I'm not so sure whether he. . . . He worked for the county, I'm almost certain of that. Now, the Luttards were quite well-to-do. They owned a lot of land from the Mainland and (made) investments which we did not go into because they were a little more sophisticated than we were, you see. P.Y. Chong bought that beautiful three-story building right next to the Luttards. They built a beautiful teahouse there and had nice parties there.

WN: This was Ikesu?

EV: Yeah, yeah. Of course, they'd make a lot of noise and things like that, but every evening after the show (was) over, out (came) some

food for us. Give it to the family. So, I thought that was very nice of them to do that.

WN: So, P.Y. Chong bought the Ikesu Tea House later on?

EV: Yeah. Later on, acquired the whole thing. Now, going towards Waikīkī in that little area, after we pass Charley Fernandes', and then you'll find at the corner--see, the Hobron Lane ends right at Ala Moana, but there was an (unpaved) extension that (went) down to the ocean. Well, in that corner was Kaimi. He was an old, old fisherman. In fact, a crackerjack. So, I used to go out fishing with him all the time. All I learned, fishing, was from him. And he knew exactly where to go to get what type of fish. Seaweed, limu, crabs, all kinds of stuff. Well, he lived there on the corner.

WN: What kind of fishing did he do mostly?

EV: 'Ōpelu, and go out and get ulua, pāpio. He'll get the pāpios right in the waves. As the waves break, you can see them. He goes in his little canoe, and he has a drag line all the time with floaters. And when the float comes in on the wave, bang, then he pulls it in. So, he was a crackerjack. I used to do the same thing and watched him. I'd go into the channels with my little outboard motor. Of course, he never had an outboard motor. He always paddled his canoe.

WN: Was he a commercial fisherman?

EV: Semi. Semi, yeah. He made nets and sold (them). In fact, I had three throw nets that he made for me. The biggest one was a thirteen-foot spread. And I used it quite a bit. In those days, there was no such thing as nylon. They were made with regular linen. And if you pull it from the reef on the rocks, it would just tear right apart. So, we never did pull our nets. We used to (throw) it, (gather) it together at the bottom, and then pick it up.

WN: You used to gather it?

EV: Yeah, gather it at the bottom. Now, beyond that little section right there was the Espindas. They're part of the Hobron family, see. Molly [Ryan Espinda] was a Hobron. Now, beyond that, towards Waikīkī, (was) Kirky Clarke. R.K. Clarke. C-L-A-R-K-E. He came from a well-to-do family. They stayed there, and then he moved out to 'Āina Haina, I think it was. But he passed away. Then, beyond that was the Mochizuki Tea House. Well, before you get to the teahouse, before you get to the bend of Ala Moana Road going up to connect with John 'Ena, right at the corner, Gay Harris used to live there.

WN: This is where the Waikikian is now?

EV: That's where the Campbell's (live). That's where the 'Ilikai is today. Now, that's a Campbell. Old man. It's not the Creole Campbell, it's

the White Campbell. And across the street we had Ku'ei Campbell, but she was a dark Portuguese. She was a very, very nice lady. Coming along the bend where Gay Harris lived right at the corner, there's a little alleyway that goes down to the beach. Now, that alleyway, on the left of it, well, as you go down to the beach in that alley, you'll find there's a restaurant way down towards the ocean. (Tahitian Lanai.) It's well-to-do. They had parties there every day. They had lunch. Well, anyway, going back to the corner. Before you go down to the beach on that particular road, stay on Ala Moana, and there's that bend that goes up toward John 'Ena, and across the street, today is a hotel. Apartment setup, condominium. And across the street from that is the Waikikian.

WN: Mm hmm, today.

EV: Right at the bend. Today. The Waikikian is right there now. Next to the Waikikian was the Harbottle (family). They are Hawaiian people. I think he was the searcher of records in (the) Bureau of Conveyances. And then, next to him going up the road (was) the Simersons. He used to be one of the world's champion plungers. He was quite a heavysset boy.

WN: What's a "plunger"?

EV: Diver. Plunge for distance and things like that. He was a swimmer. And then, next to him was the Kahanamokus. That's where Duke, and Sam, "Tarball," and all of them were born right there. Then next to that was the Paoas which is all part of--at the corner. Now, today, Malcolm Paoa built a condominium just between the Kahanamokus and the Paoas at the corner. That's still standing in existence today. Now, if you come around the bend, from Ala Moana to connect with 'Ena, then you head towards Waikīkī, then you're going towards Fort DeRussy. Then, there are very few changes there because that is still owned by [Hilton]. Right at the corner now is the [Hilton Hawaiian Village] Dome. Right there where [Al] Harrington has his show and stuff like that there. And then, of course, you have your highrise where you have big parties, big setup there.

And going down to the beach. That's where we used to swim all the time, at Pierpoint. That used to be called "Pierpoint." And this pier extended 1,000 feet out into the ocean into a (shallow) sandy area just before you hit the reef. There was a little channel that came in on the side that created turbulence and the sand moved in there. They had a beautiful little pool there where we all went for a swim. And Sunday nights, our group of boys would go down there and a couple of our girls, and play music and pass the hat around. That's how we worked. Get a little money for the gang. We did that all the time.

In olden days, the barges, sailing vessels, used to come in with coal. They spotted the light [from the pier] as they were coming in late (one) night. So, they thought that was the right place to come in. They thought that was Honolulu Harbor, so they (came)

in there. And my God, they just pile right up on the reef right near the Pierpoint, because the light was on. Somebody forgot to turn it off. (The barge) came right in and landed right on the reef. And that was the end of the old Helga. H-E-L-G-A, I think it was. There, for years, we'd go out and pick up coal and sell it. Sell it all the time there.

WN: You mean, the Helga was still there . . .

EV: That barge, they never did pull it off. It just stayed there. We used to go out there and, oh, two, three, four, five years afterwards, go out and cut the brass rail, and sell the brass. We did that, too.

Now, at the Pierpoint, Old Man Cassidy was one of the top men in the Mutual Telephone Company at the time, which is Hawaiian Telephone [Company] today. Pole and line, and everything else, he had charge of all that stuff. Well, he was the one that owned that area there. Eventually, it was sold. And then the pier was knocked down. So, we never did use that anymore.

WN: Do you know when that pier was knocked down?

EV: No, I don't know really. But it didn't last very long. I mean, it lasted, oh, I would say, till about. . . . It was very seldom used afterwards. I would say about maybe ten years after the Helga. (It) was dangerous, because the uprights were rusted, rotting off. So, they tore it down. And furthermore, Cassidy, I don't think, got any permission (chuckles) to build a pier, extend it out in that ocean like that. Before, in those days, it was perfectly all right, because nobody complained about it at all. So, that's the setup. And right to this day, when I go out there, I always look at that little hole there.

Of course, I worked for my dad my last two years (of) high school. My father was superintendent of the Hawaiian Dredging Company. That's how we put the new canal in. I worked with him on that in the afternoons after school. And also, we dredged Fort DeRussy and built the big area there. That's why they dropped the Pierpoint. They never used it anymore because they all (went) over to the other side, Fort DeRussy.

And there were lot of fishing holes there, too. If I wanted my pāpios, little fish, I knew where to go to get it. I went with my outboard motor, come right in, and right on this corner, I'd catch with a hand line, catch my fish. All that I want. Till the Filipinos came in, threw Clorox in there, and that was the end of it. We had no more fish. But today, that pool is beautiful. They have lot of swimming areas there now. And I think eventually, I hope, that will be a perfect spot for a convention center. It really is. It has all the facilities there. Parking, atmosphere. And you're not in trouble with traffic because you can create your own setup. It's really beautiful.

WN: So, the pool is still there?

EV: Yes. The sand, that's all natural sand there. That's never been touched anymore after that. And the sand comes in on the waves, you see, brings it all in. And the sand shifts. Two to three years, it shifts. Then we have no sand at all, no beach down in our little area. Then, certain time of year, all our sand would come back again and I have forty, fifty feet of sandy beach. And then, no beach. That holds true right to this day. Of course, I'm not familiar with it (now), it's all changed with the modernistic setup down there at Waikīkī.

But down at Waimānalo at the Shrine country home, we have a nice area right on the ocean. We have a nice area where we swim with a lot of sand and stuff like that in the ocean. We have a breakwater that takes care of it, where the little kiddies can go out and not be bothered with waves and things like that. But today, there's no sand there at all. Nothing. All shifted. And there's nothing but rocks. So, in April, every year, we have a big group of Shriners and their ladies. (It is) a special day down there. We take them all down (and) their children, and then the big, heavysset boys go out and move these big rocks and build the breakwater again to protect the sand and bring the sand back in again. So, that's going to be worked out next month.

WN: That's good. You said that some Filipinos poured Clorox? Why did they do that?

EV: Yeah. (To) kill the fish to get it. Because they don't have any equipment to work with.

WN: Oh, they're fishermen?

EV: Yeah. They get a plastic bag or paper bag, put it down into the hole like that, underneath the ledge, you see. This coral ledge comes out, and that is all underneath. And they put it under there and poke the bag. Then the fish all come up, then they scoop (the fish) up, you see. That was stopped. We caught them twice.

WN: When was this? About when?

EV: Oh, God. Oh, 1912, 1913, 1914. During the war. Right before the war.

WN: World War I?

EV: Yeah. Then they couldn't get around there anymore after that, see. But we, three or four of us, had permits.

WN: Were there a lot of instances with people fishing illegally?

EV: You mean, down there?

WN: Yeah.

EV: Yeah, quite a few. All of us that lived on the beach, our food (came) right from the ocean. Of course, we raised pigs and stuff like that. I had a little piggery there that I raised (pigs), and Mother would kālua a pig. And we had our chickens. It was just like a regular farm. Planted everything in the ground. Potatoes, tomatoes, everything right there. It's all semi-sand. Every bit of that stuff. You see, was all ocean at one time. The same with Fort DeRussy, same way. Yeah.

WN: You were talking about Pierpoint. Was there a hotel there, too?

EV: Yes, uh huh. Yeah, that's Cassidy's. There were two. The Seaside was another one. They were all apartments. And Cressaty was another one. That was on the other side where the Halekūlani Hotel was in (the) olden days. Halekūlani, Cressaty, Cassidy, and all the way down like that. All little bungalows, bungalows, (and more) bungalows. Until they tore down the Halekūlani Hotel and rebuilt it.

WN: Who lived in those apartments?

EV: Rented out.

WN: Was it pretty well-to-do people or . . .

EV: Yeah. The Kimballs ran the Halekūlani Hotel. Clifford Kimball. That memory I have because they're well-to-do people. Because rent in those days was nothing. I mean, it was high as compared with all the other. . . . The transients that came in always went there. Real nice, on the ocean. They had stone walls, (and a) swimming hole. And I'd come in with my outboard motor, and go right around, and fish, you know. And hope (to) catch a fish right there. They all (watched) me and I (would) pull the fish in. (Chuckles) Oh, it was very interesting.

WN: And the Pi'ināi'o Stream was there, too, right?

EV: Yeah, yeah. Well, that one connected to the canal. Then they stopped it. And we ran it down the other way, see. [EV examines map.] You don't have this anymore.

WN: The stream?

EV: Yeah. That was connected up here and brought down here.

WN: After the canal was built?

EV: Yeah. When the canal was built, we tied it in with that. They wanted to put the opening of the canal down towards Kapahulu Avenue down into the ocean. And Dad says, "You foolish if you did that." On account of the sediment and all that (debris) that comes off the mountains. And he said, "You'd ruin the ocean down there at Waikīkī

at Kūhiō Park." That's where the outfall was, you see. And, "It'll pollute all that water." By God, they listened to him. And so, they blocked it off right at the [Waikīkī Kapahulu] Library near the fire station there. That stopped right there. Every once in a while, in fact just two years ago, the Hawaiian Dredging Company--no, Dillingham came in--and had to dredge that canal again, only, with a suction dredger and sucked all that silt out. That is all mud and stuff that comes off Wilhelmina Rise, Pālolo, Mānoa. All empty into that stream. Well, what they did, they took that and pumped it into 'Iolani School grounds. This is a few years back. And that 'Iolani School was just absolutely leveled and raised up. Same holds true with the baseball diamond there. That's all fill from the silt that was in that canal.

WN: Let's talk about the canal and your father's involvement little later, okay? Let's talk about now the families up Hobron Lane.

EV: Going up to Hobron Lane, the corner of Hobron and Ala Moana, that's near where we lived. There was Kam Look Store. The Lee family used to own it. Going up towards the mountains just back of that store, this stream led down in there, and then emptied out into the ocean. See, this [map] doesn't show that.

WN: Oh, doesn't have it? Yeah, the . . .

EV: There was the little stream that went down in here.

WN: So, the stream ran along Ala Moana Boulevard [i.e., Road] and cut across Hobron Lane?

EV: Yes. Right across, a bridge.

WN: There's a bridge across Hobron Lane . . .

EV: Right across. And then, it connected with a stream that came down [toward the ocean]. So, when Dad and them built the canal, they eliminated all that [streams]. Did away with it. Now, you're going up Hobron Lane, there's a road here that goes in it. It's a private party setup. Of course, these people now are all new people. This was all owned at one time by . . . I can't think of his name. He owned all that property in there. I can't think of his name. Anyway, the Holts lived right in the back there. And then, well, the Masons lived down there. Then you have Joseph Ikeole. And Manoha. George Manoha was in the armed forces. And Kauha was one of the old fishermen (in the) olden days. They lived all in that little area there. Mostly Hawaiians all in here. Then the Lings (came) later because that was [once] all owned by one family. Some missionaries that were here. Across the street, across Hobron Lane, there's a Hobron Estate. That whole area, that's where Coit Hobron lived.

WN: So as you're going up Hobron Lane . . .

- EV: Yeah, going up towards the mountains.
- WN: . . . toward the mountains, you're talking about the left side?
- EV: The right side going up (was) all Hobron's property. And Kalauokalani married into the Hobron family. So, they occupied a portion of that up in the corner. Now, when we went to school, we'd go up Hobron Lane and go across the duck ponds and into Ka'ahumanu School. That's how we used to walk to school because there (were) no roads in those days.
- WN: So, you'd walk up Hobron Lane . . .
- EV: We walked up Hobron Lane, and then turned right to 'Ena, (as) there was no road going left because (of the) canal [i.e., stream] over there. Then, we'd cross the canal by a bridge--I should say some boards. Then go across the duck ponds. Then we hit Kalākaua Avenue, way up above, where Sheridan Street is. And then, into Ka'ahumanu School. That's how we went to school.
- WN: This is before the canal came up.
- EV: Yes.
- WN: Oh, so, you crossed the river, not the canal. I see.
- EV: Yeah, the river.
- WN: How long did it take you?
- EV: Oh, it took us about three-quarters of an hour to go to school. And then, little later on, when they started improving the duck ponds down here, well, we'd go down this other way [i.e., via 'Ena Road]. By that time, I was just about finishing school. And then, I went to Kamehameha School after that. I was a boarder at Kamehameha.
- WN: Besides the Kam Look Store, were there other stores in the area?
- EV: Kam [Look] Store, and the other one above this. The Japanese store on the corner of Hobron and John 'Ena. Right over here. That's where another store was right up in this area here.
- WN: Didn't you say there was a poi factory at one time?
- EV: Oh, yes. The poi factory was near the Kalauokalanis and the Hobron Estate. Right here, where the old stream used to run. Now, this is the poi factory on John 'Ena Road and Hobron Lane, right in here.
- WN: What's there now? Buildings . . .
- EV: Kālia Apartments, they're there right now.
- WN: Who owned that poi factory?

- EV: Woolsey. W-O-O-L-S-E-Y. And she still lives up in Mānoa. Way up on upper Mānoa Road.
- WN: There's a Woolsey Place up there.
- EV: That's it. Tillie (Woolsey) was the one. Her father and mother owned that [poi factory].
- WN: Any other businesses you remember in that area?
- EV: Now, these are mostly squatters, you know, that lived here. They'd go and work. They were county workers, and fishermen. Now, A.V. Gear, G-E-A-R, owned a lot of property along the ocean side. We couldn't buy anything there. It was leased to us. That's how we got that piece of property.
- WN: You were leasing from A.V. Gear?
- EV: A.V. Gear, mm hmm [yes]. All this property around here, except the Hobron Estate, they all owned that.
- WN: When you were a kid growing up in that area, can you remember some of the things you did to have a good time besides the fishing?
- EV: Well, we played baseball on solid coral ground. There (was) no grass, nothing. We played our games across Fort DeRussy. That big area where today is the parade grounds. That's on [Kālia Road] on the ocean side, Kalākaua Avenue on the mountain side, Saratoga Road on the Diamond Head side, 'Ena Road on the town side. That whole big area was just a playground controlled by Fort DeRussy. In [1915], my mother married a Lieutenant [Dykes] who was in the engineers. He was brought down here to build Fort DeRussy. He was an architect and engineer. That's how we got to know him. He was a very good stepfather. They were married in 1915. Then, he passed away in 1947. Mother died in 1946. He was a big help to me.
- And he would watch us every time we'd go into different types of sports. We played soccer, and we played baseball, and we played basketball. They built two big basketball courts where the present fourteen-inch guns were put in. Later on, they took the courts away from there, so we had to go across the street. But we were more interested in baseball. Although the coral ground was rough, we played there.
- WN: Was that DeRussy land, where the coral was, where you played baseball? Was that DeRussy land?
- EV: (Yes.) That was all government land, every bit of it. That was all filled in when the canal was built. Then, gradually, it deteriorated, and they planted grass on it. It's a beautiful setup.
- WN: Prior to the canal being built, what was there?

EV: Ponds. Duck ponds. [From] Kalākaua Avenue, mountain side, all duck ponds. That's where the streetcars used to go. And I used to go down and catch the streetcar there [on Kalākaua Avenue], jump on while the car (was moving). There (was) a switch (which) slowed (the streetcar) down. I jumped on and (went to) sell my papers all the way until it started going up McCully. Then I jumped off. That's where I (sold) my papers, on that little route, just that distance. And (some) times, I (had) not (yet) finished selling papers when we'd make that turn going up McCully. I stayed on the rapid transit all the way up to King Street. Then the conductors used to make me pay five cents.

(Laughter)

EV: Have to come back again. But they were very . . .

WN: They wouldn't let you jump off?

EV: You can't. Because lot of times, we (went to) the back. We got way back on the cow catcher. Then we (could) jump off quick if the car's not going too fast because it's all rocks on the tracks. There's only two rail tracks, that's all. There's no road. Just an area where the tracks are put in. So, if they go slow, then we can jump off quick, then walk all the way back to Waikīkī again. Now, Johnny Traut, T-R-A-U-T, his father was a motorman. He's still alive today. He was one of the top men in Consolidated Amusement Company.

WN: Did you go house to house to deliver papers?

EV: Yes. I (hand) carried. I had the Sunday morning paper. That's when we used to walk down, two of us, Sam Kahanamoku and I, from our house all the way down till we got to Kalākaua and King Street, and then start walking down King to the Advertiser. That's the McCandless Building, on the corner of King and Bethel, down in the alley. When we [walked] right on King Street near the Catholic cemetery [across the street from the present Straub Hospital], we walked in the middle of the street, singing. We (didn't) walk on the sidewalk because it was too close to the cemetery. (Laughs) Little superstitious, after all.

WN: You mean, you sang?

EV: Oh, (yes), we sang, going down the street. Right in the middle of the road. (There were) no cars, nothing. Then we came home. Then we'd pay our way home on the streetcar.

WN: Where did you catch the streetcar?

EV: Bethel and King Streets. Come right back up, and catch the streetcar, and go back home. We got home around 6:30, 7 o'clock. We (left) the house around midnight. That's on Sunday morning, midnight, and then walk down and get our [newspapers]. About 1:30, 2 o'clock,

were ready to come back home again, see. So, we waited and got our papers all marked and everything else. Then (caught) the 5:30 streetcar, (to) come on home. We did that every Sunday. I (had) seventy-two papers to deliver in addition to my papers that I sell.

WN: Where did you sell?

EV: [EV mishears question.] I sell twenty-four, sometimes thirty-six. But the papers are not big like they are today.

WN: Where did you sell the papers?

EV: On (the) corner (of) McCully and Kalākaua. That area to Fort DeRussy (and) back. That was my area. We never went beyond that.

WN: You would sell to people on the streetcar?

EV: Streetcar, mm hmm [yes]. They all knew we were there on Sundays, you see.

WN: What about Sam Kahanamoku? Where was his route?

EV: Same place. But he would deliver on (the) Fort DeRussy side, and I would deliver on the Ala Moana side. There weren't too many houses there. Altogether, between Sam and I, we had sixty-nine subscribers. I'll never forget that. Never. And papers in those days were cheap. Two and a half cents a piece. We made a 100 percent profit on it. So it helped me in my schooling.

WN: Did you do anything else to make money when you were a kid?

EV: Well, in my last few days at school, as I mentioned, I went to work for my father and dredged the canal. But prior to that. . . . No, after that, after the canal was built and I didn't work anymore there with Dad because no more work to be done, I went to work for Schuman Carriage Company. At three o'clock, after school was over, I'd come down to the old Schuman Carriage Company building on the corner of Merchant and Alakea. And there, I would check in with a fella by the name of Sills, S-I-L-L-S. He was in charge of the retail outlet selling Delco Remy parts and stuff like that. Well, it was my job to stack the bins. Because in the back of the building---in that same building but behind the store, was the repair shop. Scotty Schuman, his father, owned that area. They were the agents for it. Bob French was the head mechanic there at Schuman Carriage Company. I learned a lot from him repairing cars. It helped me when I went to Kamehameha School in my manual training setup there. I learned quite a bit about working on automobiles and stuff that when I went to work for Schuman Carriage Company, I did very well. I knew exactly what these parts were and what the batteries were, and all that kind of stuff. So, I worked there for quite a while.

I was a member of Troop Five, boy scouts. We would meet in the

Doby house at Kawaiaha'o Church every Friday. Well, I put an application in. Wade Warren Thayer was the scoutmaster. He said, "Earle, I understand you want to work for a big concern."

I said, "Yes, I do. I put an application in."

He said, "All right, I'll work on it." So, they did.

On September 1, 1921, I was called. And I went to work for Alexander & Baldwin (Ltd). I was getting \$125 a month working for Schuman Carriage Company taking care of Delco Remy parts and batteries. I went to work for A&B. I didn't ask 'em what my pay would be. I went to work. And on the 15th of September, 1921, I got a twenty-dollar gold piece. I said, "What is this for, Jim?" Mr. (James) Morgan was the cashier, and Podmore was the other one.

He said, "Well, that's your two weeks' pay." I was getting forty dollars a month. All I did was clean inkwells, clean desks, and get the mail. Little things like that. Now, the post office was right there on the corner of Bethel and Merchant Streets. The police department was right in the back, right alongside of it. Yokohama Specie Bank was on the other corner. A&B was in the Stangenwald Building. That Stangenwald Building is still standing today on the corner of Fort and Merchant Streets. We were on the second and third floor. Come January 15th of 1922, I got a check for sixty-two dollars and a half. I said, "Jim, what is this?"

He said, "Oh, that's your pay, you've been raised." So, I was getting \$125 a month. We were happy because I had saved quite a bit of money by shining shoes, and things like that. It was really interesting--an interesting life. In 1966, I retired. I moved to another office and represented Maui Pineapple Company here because it was a part of A&B at the time. I worked with them until 1974. (After) I left Maui Pineapple Company in 1974, (a representative from) S&W Fine Foods flew down here, and got ahold of me, and gave me a contract to work for them. Then I retired from this whole setup.

WN: At A&B, what was your title when you retired?

EV: When I retired, assistant to the president. I went to every department. I was a stock clerk. And handled everything-- personnel, recommending firing or hiring. I knew A&B like a book. I have a complete file upstairs and I was just looking at it last night. And Warren, I always remember these kids that are still there working for A&B. They get a little birthday card from me. "Happy Birthday--Liko." They're shocked when they get a little card from us, it's really nice. Creates good fellowship. We do have some old-timers that are still there that I used to work with.

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

WN: You said that you helped your father out dredging the Ala Wai Canal. What was your father's position?

EV: He was superintendent of Hawaiian Dredging Company. He not only had the canal. I helped him dredge the Honolulu Harbor, also. Pier 5 and the Kewalo Basin, for instance. We dredged the Kewalo Basin. I'll never forget the day that we built the channel out to the ocean at Kewalo. The only trouble with that area, as I mentioned before, (was) how (the) sand shifts. The reef is quite abrupt. When they dug down deep, the sand comes in, and then it stops here. It builds up. And then, (when) the big boats came in, they hit the bottom. Fortunately, it's all sand and not coral. So, every time, they have to dredge that all out.

Well, a funny incident happened. On Sundays, we never did work there, being a territorial setup. But we had to stand watch. Hal Lloyd, the chief engineer, and I, (who) was just an operator on board, had to stand watch that Sunday. Hal waved at me and said, "Look what's coming in." And there was a school of mullets coming in. And swimming around, you could see them all down (to) the bottom. So, he went down below, into the storeroom, got a stick of dynamite, cut it in half, taped it together, and put it on a big rod, and then threw it out like that. And the mullet all came around. Poom! Just like that. But we did the second one, and when he threw it out, it had stuck right down underneath the barge. (Laughs) Poom! The dredge started to leak.

(Laughter)

EV: So, we lied. But we had to admit what had happened. My father was furious. But however, they took the dredge out, put it on drydock, and patched it all up again, came back. But those were some of the things we used to do.

WN: When the canal---when was this? How old were you when you were helping your father out?

EV: That was 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921. I was through with school in 1918, then I went to work for Schuman Carriage Company, afternoons. Then, 1921, started with A&B.

WN: What was your job when you're helping your dad?

EV: On the dredger?

WN: Mm hmm [yes].

EV: An operator.

WN: What was the name of the dredger?

EV: Kewalo. (Chuckles)

WN: I read somewhere where your dad was the captain?

EV: (Yes), he started as captain. Then he was a superintendent, overall setup. Because we had a Pearl Harbor job, we had a drydock at Pearl Harbor. We had that for two months. [Once,] after we dredged and we raised the ship up (to) drydock, then put down, let it out. And then, we closed the gate after the water (came) in. Well, we found big sharks in there. (They) had come in with the water.

WN: So, for the canal, where did the canal start?

EV: Where? It started where the [Waikīkī-Kapahulu] Library is today.

WN: I mean, is that where you started dredging? Or you started from the ocean side?

EV: No, from the ocean side. Oh, (yes), we had to start from the ocean side.

WN: Down by where---near your house?

EV: Where the Jarretts were, mm hmm. Yeah. We started from outside, from the channel all the way in. And then, we dropped the dredger in. There were no bridges there at that time. Then they finally put a couple of bridges in. And then, gradually worked up all the way (to the Kapahulu Avenue fire station).

WN: So, you started way out in the ocean?

EV: In the ocean.

WN: About how far out?

EV: Oh, out--there's a buoy out there, oh, about a half a mile out, I'd say, roughly. Beyond the reef. We had to.

WN: So, you started dredging out there.

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. That channel today is not being used at all anymore, as far as boats are concerned. They'd come in and go out because it's deep enough all the way through. There's lot of sailing boats and stuff like that.

WN: And your job was to skipper the . . .

EV: Yeah, I was the operator.

WN: Operate the dredge boat?

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. I had the dredge where I could swing around. I go down a certain depth, and then lower it little more and go back.

Then after the indicator shows that it is clean, drop another one, and go back and forth like that. And every once in a while you hit a coral, and [EV makes sound] you could feel it. Then you hold it until they cut it. They're all finger corals, all that area. In other words, a coral ledge just like this. It was just like a ledge. There's no solid boulders. So it was easy for the cutter head to just go right through it.

WN: So, as you worked your way inland, you had to blast the area for the canal?

EV: Did very little blasting because it's all coral. All the ponds were all coral bottom. Right to this day, it's still coral. That's the trouble they had at Fort DeRussy when they built those big fourteen-inch guns--the batteries there. My stepfather supervised the whole thing and engineered it. They had to build banks and banks of sand all the way up like that, and then hold it together, because every time you shot, the whole thing would. . . . Oh, hell, even our windows, way down our area, would shatter. Just like an earthquake. Those guns were too big.

WN: So, they didn't blast the canal. So, what, did they just dig and . . .

EV: Churn, churn. They had a few areas where they had to blast. Few areas, but not big, on account of the environment and things like that. Especially down below where the homes were.

WN: So, when the canal was being dredged, what did you do with all the silt and all the coral?

EV: Filled all the duck ponds. Especially across, all the way up McCully to King Street. All that, where the Willows (is today). In fact, right to this day, there's water that comes down underneath that coral ledge and comes up at the Willows. If you remember, not very long ago, when they worked on King Street and Beretania Street, up by University Avenue, they blocked off that subterranean tunnel. Water came in from Mānoa. Blocked off, and water did not get into the Willows. And the Willows sued. I think it was the State then. Sued them because all their fish died. So, what they did, they had to come back and bring tanks and tanks of water in there, and circulate the water in the (pond at the) Willows. Ma Husten, that's the Maguire family, owned (the Willows). That's how they were furnishing water in that area while they were working on the University Avenue tunnel. So they finally put the new pipes in and everything else. And then, they let open the water again. That's where the Willows gets their water. Then there's a little offshoot, waste water, from Willows, goes down a little stream. If you will notice, by Date Street, that little stream goes down into the canal. Right near the [Ala Wai] Golf Course.

WN: The golf course was also filled in with the coral?

- EV: All filled in. In fact, some of it was filled again just lately when they dredged the Ala Wai Canal. That and 'Iolani School. That stream still comes down there. They have to do that because that's an outfall from Mānoa. If you don't, you're just stuck. Pāloalo's the same thing. And the same way with us right here [i.e., Wai'alae]. We have a problem. Because that stream comes right down over here. Down by Jolly Roger's. It comes down, it goes right past the house that we used to own before down here on Farmer's Road.
- WN: What about the farmers that were in the area where the [Ala Wai] Canal was? What ever happened to them?
- EV: Well, they had their taro business there. Taro, and of course, they had ducks and stuff like that. Well, they moved out to other places. Most of them went to Pearl City because they still had that spring setup down there. The water still exists there. Taro patches. And also, in addition to that area, they went to Waiāhole. That's where Matson had a big piece of land. So, all that's all into taro patch land and banana. Waiāhole is very strong in that area for (taro). All the farmers that were living in Waikīkī and Kālia who were utilizing the water area there for their profession moved (to) that area.
- WN: Why do you think it was that the State or Dillingham made the canal? Why did they dredge the Ala Wai Canal?
- EV: Well, number one, this wasn't my way of thinking, but I gathered from that, that they needed not only soil, but they needed fill. Where were they going to get it? You can't barge it in. It cost too much money. They were getting sand from Moloka'i there for a long while from Kamalo. Hauling that sand in. It was expensive, I know, because I had some of the accounting end of it. But when they got this deal, well, then they dredged it. They were willing to dredge anyplace, practically, to get the fill to fill in the entire Ala Moana setup. Not only that, Fort DeRussy. Not only that, Kālia. Not only that, in front of the Moana Hotel. All that whole area. Kimball, Seaside was all fill. Especially at Ala Moana.
- You go way out to Hawai'i Kai, and you see them filling that place up there, all that, that's from the ocean. And that was fill, six to eight feet above the street level. You go out there now, Warren, and it's below the street, because the whole thing has dropped. Now, they're going to refill it again. Of course, [Henry J.] Kaiser's got that. Refill that again and build. Because that soil is ready. It's all settled. And they're going to build pretty soon. But you don't build for 30, 40, \$50,000 anymore. You're going to build 250[,000] to 300[,000] to \$1 million out there.
- WN: The land that Ala Moana [Center] sits on now, did Dillingham have it before they dredged the canal and filled it in or . . .

EV: A portion of it, not all. Most of it, though. But they've acquired it since. Buy, buy, buy. I'm a stockholder. But they're gradually buying me out. All of us. It's dissolving. Yeah, Dillingham's closing up.

WN: So, you said one of the main reasons for dredging the canal was to create fill. Was that THE important . . .

EV: That's number one.

WN: Oh, number one? So, more important than the canal itself?

EV: That's right. He said, "Well, we needed a canal to take care of the drainage off the mountains. We definitely have to have that. But what you going to do with the stuff? All the . . ."

"Oh, we need that. We can fill in the ponds. We don't need the ponds. We need the land." So, that tied right in perfectly. So, that's the way the setup is.

WN: I read where the original width of the canal was going to be a certain number of feet. And then, it widened . . .

EV: Widened, that's correct.

WN: . . . and widened. Why was that?

EV: Well, nature took care of that. Because the banks of the canal are all mud, and clay, and coral. With erosion, they rotted away. Got wider, and wider, and wider. Not so much on the Ala Wai side, as it was on the ma uka side, the mountain side. That's where it rotted away. And (a variety of) 'ākulikuli grows there. In fact, that's about the only thing that'll grow in an area like that.

WN: What is that?

EV: 'Ākulikuli.

WN: What is that?

EV: It's a rough weed, just like a watery stuff. You don't eat it, it just grows. It's like a ground cover. Nature takes its course there. That has held some of the soil until all the mud just flowed back into the canal. Then you (have) to suck it out. And what happens? That bank has no more fill. So, it gets wider, and wider, and wider. That's it. And there's certain areas where there's a concrete wall on the ocean side of the Ala Wai Canal where they put the retaining walls up while the road, the Ala Wai [Boulevard], was being built. They've put a stop to it, they don't do that anymore. But you will see that the bottom part of the wall is hollow because all that stuff's been taken out--nature. So, they have a problem. That whole thing's going to cave in someday. Then,

of course, what's helping to hold it together, there's these coconut palms that (are) growing in there (with large) roots. But I understand they had to cut a couple of coconut trees down, and, oh, environmental people just raised holy hell about the whole thing. Because the beautification is gone.

WN: So, the canal was dredged through contracts from the city and the territory?

EV: Mm hmm [yes], territory. My dad did a beautiful job, too. Fortunately. Of course, now, Warren, you're having, (chuckles) almost every week, a big water main bursting in that area out at Kapahulu, Kūhiō Avenue. Poom! Poom, just like that. Well, they just had a bad one right alongside of Jefferson School (which) flooded that whole area. Of course, that's all low there. See, all that land has dropped. Some of the buildings that are there, which (are) heavy, didn't put a plate underneath to hold it because they went down to a basement to build a garage down below. Well, lot of times that place is covered with water seeping through the walls.

You have the same thing right now, right to this day, at Wai'ālae Country Club. Next to it there's a condominium there. And the garages are down below. When a constant, continuous rain (comes), things flood. So, they got the pumps going full blast. Oh, yeah, we have that trouble. We know. Kāhala Hilton, they're not down below; they're all up high. Because they do have spring water. They have a natural waterfall. And that water is recycled. It's a beautiful setup. That water is from our well, from Wai'ālae Country Club. So, that's how it works.

WN: So, you were saying that your father didn't want the canal to continue past Kapahulu?

EV: Yeah, and empty into the ocean. He thought that was wrong because it would pollute all the Waikīkī area, the ocean. All that silt and sediment from the valleys. Ice boxes, stoves, and stuff, they throw into the canal would be rolling down out into the ocean.

WN: But on the other side it empties out, right by the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor?

EV: Yeah, that's right.

WN: Why isn't there that danger?

EV: No, because the bridges that they have to pass, all the big stuff like that settles underneath the pilings, underneath the bridges, on McCully. That's where the catch is. That has created quite a back flow on the canal itself. That's why it floods up. The lowest part of the canal between McCully and Kapahulu is at Paoakalani, right in Waikīkī. If you notice when we have a heavy, heavy rain, all the water settles right there. Now, they just got through digging in there where the big water main had broke. That helped

them out because they not only put a new pipe in, but they had a better (chuckles) drain off into the canal. I saw that because I went there, myself.

WN: Why was it shallow over there?

EV: The pond that was there before needed more fill. It's just like resettling. Just like I talked to you about Hawai'i Kai where the whole thing drops down. You get your finger corals and stuff like that. They get 'em underneath like that, and then bumbai, they'll rot, you see. And then, you got space in there. So, it's got to be filled somewhere. So, you get your turbulence every once in a while and it settles it.

WN: That's interesting when you talk about your father because the newspaper accounts say that they ran out of money, so they couldn't continue it.

EV: Yeah, that's right. Well . . .

WN: But you're saying that your father was actually the one.

EV: The territory saved a hell of a lot of money. Because they were very, very, very smart to take this dual job--not one. Canal and the fill. Lucky they got the fill. If somebody said, "No, you can't get the fill," then you're stuck. They'd have to take it out in the ocean. Then what you going to do with the duck ponds? Nothing. Leave it like that? I give Old Man [Walter] Dillingham and Bob Atkinson all the credit. Of course, they had good men, engineers, working with him. A fella by the name of Harold Lloyd was a very, very intelligent individual--engineer with my father. They did a good job. Yeah, fortunately.

WN: If the canal did continue past Kapahulu, what would have been the route?

EV: Right out in the ocean.

WN: I mean, along Kapahulu Avenue . . .

EV: Yes. Turn. You're facing Diamond Head now. All right, right at Kapahulu Avenue [where the canal ends], turn right, go right down the ocean. Right alongside Makee Island, all the way down. That's where the stream used to empty out in the ocean, at Makee Island. That's where the zoo is [today]. And all the sediment in the zoo and stuff like that, used to go down in the ocean. Elephants and everything else. All that junk went down in there. They just poured it [waste] down the sewer hole right there, and then they let it run out. Well, that stopped.

They did the same thing to Hawai'i Kai. Out there, with all their sewer outfall, well, all that is churned now right there at Hawai'i Kai. And the water from the wells there are used for irrigation

purposes at Hawai'i Kai Golf Course. You'll notice there's a fountain that shoots up like that down at. . . Well, that's how it's used. Yeah, I'm very familiar with some of these things that have been going on.

WN: Tell me something about your father. What is his background?

EV: Well, he's from the Cornwall family from England. He was raised here in Hawai'i. Then he worked with the old dredging company. Well, first of all, he was in politics. And graduated from school. Then he worked for the city--oh, it wasn't the city then, it was for the territory. One of his main jobs was to go to Portugal, to the Azores to bring in immigrants to work on plantations. He went there and got them. That's how the Mulattos, the Creoles, the Portuguese were first brought in here.

WN: Under what capacity? Do you know what position he had?

EV: At that time, (he was a sheriff).

WN: But this was before he became . . .

EV: Yeah. Before he went to work for the Hawaiian Dredging. Long before.

WN: But he's not Portuguese, right?

EV: No, no. He's Spanish-English. See, the vida is [Spanish for] "life." The Cornwalls are from England.

WN: Spanish-English?

EV: Yeah, and he spoke Spanish quite a bit, too. He didn't get paid for it, but he was working for the consulate. He assisted them.

WN: The English consulate?

EV: Spanish.

WN: Oh, Spanish consulate.

EV: Knowing that he was going to Spain, to Portugal, to bring these immigrants in to work on the plantations because HS[PA, Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association]--the sugar plantations needed help. They were getting the Chinese laborers in. But they were different type of workers. So, these people from Portugal wanted to come in. So, at the Azores, he got a big group there, brought them in to work. That's what started. And then, that's where they lived, up in Punchbowl, the first thing. Where that graveyard is, that's where all Portuguese started. All that area.

WN: So your dad was like a labor recruiter?

EV: Yeah.

WN: So maybe he was working for HSPA.

EV: No, I think the department. Was hired by them to go, knowing the police work and stuff like that. I can't think of the name of the place of business. But he was one of the leaders and instrumental in getting the individuals here.

WN: So, he was in the police force?

EV: Yeah. In fact, Warren, when they brought these people in, families and all, they brought in diseases, too. Like trachoma and stuff like that. Our family really got it. Boy, we had a blue stone in our eyes all the time.

WN: What is that?

EV: Trachoma, where they have the blue stone that you put in your eye. You burn it. Oh, was really rough. My sister had it, and I had it, too. But they come in with all kinds of disease. And then, of course, they had some doctors, too, on the other hand. So, it worked out very well after they got. . . . Laborwise, they did very well. I'll never forget the old-timers who were brought in. (The Britos). That's one of the families. And the Centeios, another one. See, they're dark Portuguese. What they call "Creole." They don't call 'em "niggers." But they are the intelligent ones. They're the ones who own the stores here. They're the ones who own real estate here. You go down--well, down near Maunakea Street, Pauahi Street, all in that area. Who owns practically all that place? The Mendoncas. You go up to Punchbowl and see who owns all that whole big block in there. The Centeios. All little things like that. They own a lot of land. That's what they'd buy--lot of land. And they hung onto it.

WN: Mainly Portuguese from the Azores?

EV: Oh, yes, uh huh. Well, they were very close together and they spoke Portuguese.

WN: Did your dad go to the Madeiras, too?

EV: I don't know. He went to (many) areas. I know he went to that whole area. And Spain, Portugal, all that area. He brought in a whole batch of people. I think he made two or three trips. He did a very good job for the consulate here for the government. And then, he did a lot of police work, and then went to Hawaiian Dredging.

WN: You told me once that he was City and County sheriff at one time?

EV: Yeah, mm hmm. That's what started it, see. Politics. It's a lousy, lousy job. (Chuckles)

WN: What did a sheriff have to do?

EV: Well, subpoenas, go out arrest people, stuff like that. He was just like an ironman, you know. Ah--you had no friends. Every time they see him coming, they walk away or run away. But he did very well. Then he went into Hawaiian Dredging right after that, so that stopped everything.

WN: How about your mother? Little bit about . . .

EV: My mother was born in Waimea, Kaua'i. She's from a Nauwele family. Pure, full-blooded Hawaiian. They had quite a family. They lived right near the ocean. They did a lot of fishing. They did a lot of plantation work, too. Some of the offspring today--see, we don't have the Nauwele family anymore. They intermarried, all. The Harts are not there anymore--some of the Harts are still [living]. Jimmy Hart, about the third, fourth generation. And some of them are married. Some of the Brandts, B-R-A-N-D-T, that's one of them. Then, there's another, Schimmelfennigs, another one. They're all part of the original Hart family, Nauwele. They're all Hawaiians. But their offspring are not. They're Germans, they're Russians, they're Japanese, they're Chinese. They all intermarried.

WN: So, your mother was originally a Nauwele?

EV: Nauwele.

WN: Nauwele. Then, how did she get Hart?

EV: Her [mother] married a Hart.

WN: I see. And then, she . . .

EV: No, no. She's from the Nauwele family. Her mother married a Hart. Yeah, that's how it is. She was Lena Hart.

WN: Oh, okay. I see. So, what percentage Hawaiian was she?

EV: Well, she was practically full-blooded Hawaiian. Because Hart was a Hawaiian, too. He could have been English, too. One of the early missionaries.

WN: You also told me that you were a member of the Hui Nalu?

EV: Yes. I was one of the black sheeps of the Hui Nalu setup. (Chuckles) It was organized by my second cousin, "Dudi" Miller. See, he's (a member of) the Lemon family. Auntie Gussie, my mother's sister. "Dudi" Miller ran Hui Nalu setup. There were the Kahanamokus, the Simersons. I'm talking about all the people living down at Kalia proper, right around here. We didn't form our own club. We were members of Outrigger, members of Hui Nalu, things like that. We swam for Hui Nalu or we swam for Outrigger Canoe Club in championship tournaments and stuff like that. The Hui Nalu was known all over

the world on account of Duke [Kahanamoku].

Last time, we sent some surfboards up to [the 1964] World's Fair. Mr. Kealoha from Hilo was running the world's fair in New York.

WN: Jimmie Kealoha?

EV: Jimmie Kealoha. We sent our surfboards up there on display with all our names on it--Pua, Paoa, Liko, all these boards.

WN: Who was Pua?

EV: Pua Kealoha, that's another. He's a swimmer. He and Warren [Kealoha]. The two swam same time I was swimming and diving. They [i.e., World's Fair] went bankrupt. They lost money up there, and so the boards had to be given away because they couldn't get 'em back here. I left mine up there, the Smithsonian Institute. So, it's up there (now). So, the boards are still there. Some of them came back. I don't know whether Kealoha is still alive. I think he is. We had quite a swimming team from Kālia. Our 400-yard relay team was--there were no meters in those days, 400 yards. We had a four-man team. Gay Harris, Warren Kealoha, Pua Kealoha, and Duke. Geez, we had a fast team.

WN: Who did you compete against?

EV: Ludy Langer, Mainland, Los Angeles Athletic Club. Ludy Langer, and a couple of others.

WN: Was there a big rivalry between . . .

EV: Oh, yes.

WN: . . . Outrigger Club and Hui Nalu?

EV: Hui Nalu? No. They were competitors. I mean, they'd compete against each other and stuff like that. But, no. They were good rivalry, but no ill feelings in any way, shape or form. They [Outrigger] wanted some of the Hawaiians over there, too. But no, all the Haoles went over to the Outrigger and the Hawaiians went with Hui Nalu. Then we had Ah Kong Pang. He was another one that swam, too. A Chinese boy. Did a good job, too. These names, I don't forget. I remember those days. But Gay Harris was a good swimmer, too.

WN: Besides swimming, were you folks beach boys, too? You know, instructing . . .

EV: Yeah. Oh, yeah, but we can't do it on our own when over at Hui Nalu. When we go over there, we're either sitting around playing music, or going in for a swim. Or, somebody wants lessons, "Dudi" Miller's got to do it. He'll tell you. You go out there. One dollar, two dollars, and stuff like that. He gets the money. So,

he gives it to the club, see. And then, there was a pier that extended out, too, at the Moana Hotel.

WN: Is that where Hui Nalu hung out?

EV: Right underneath there, uh huh. Right on the beach. Then we were going to build an extension on that, and then the territory stopped it. Nothing below (the) high water mark. But we had to do something with the pier. The pier was rotting. We couldn't improve it. We couldn't build on it. So, they had to tear it down. So, that's the thing. It was sad, because it was a nice, nice. . . . But they couldn't put the uprights. You see, we had these hollow tile black pipes holding it up. They just rotted away. We used to come in, surf. Come right in. We call that "cornucopia surf." Because they're small waves, see. And we had these big boards, fourteen-foot boards. You stand on it, you can sit down on it. We come right in and go right between the pipes. Just to show off, you know. Oh, we used to have a lot of fun. Then everybody looked at (us). People stand on the pier, looking at us. Then we go, zhhh, right underneath. Cut down sideways on the wave, you know. It was quite an art, but we used to do it.

We had a Major Clark who was in the Air Force. There were bi-planes here. Little two-wing deals. And Major Clark had a crush on Kahanamoku, one of the girls. One Sunday morning, he flew his plane. And those things don't go fast at all. Bzzz, and go back up again. Bzzz, like that. And then, bzzz, he got down too low. And when he went up like that, the tail hit like that, down he went.

WN: The water?

EV: No, hit the pier. He went bzzz, like that, and the tail hit. And down he went into the water there. Lucky the water was all shallow there. You know, about four or five feet. Down he went. Bang! went the plane. And lucky he wasn't killed. He didn't even get hurt. But was the end of the plane. Everybody saw it. (Laughs) They sent him away. I'll never forget the day that he--bang!--down into the water.

(Laughter)

EV: Major Clark. Yeah, what a guy. Those were some of these things that you don't forget.

WN: So when you folks gave instructions to tourists and stuff, "Dudi" Miller was the one who . . .

EV: He was the boss. He was the . . .

WN: Did you get any tips or could you keep anything?

EV: Yeah, yeah. You keep the tips. Mm hmm, keep the tips. And Sunday

nights, we play music there. Had a regular group who play. No cutthroats. All handled by "Dudi." No fight, nothing. You get tip, that's entirely up to you. The rest goes into the pot. Then we have a big celebration afterwards. Every year we'd have. Sometimes we'd have two. "Dudi" didn't need the money. All he was, being the father of the group. Of course, being a cousin of mine, too, they all said, well, I was getting a lot. (Laughs) But that wasn't true at all. "What are you doing here? Why don't you go home!" Like that. Just like that.

I used to paddle, Warren, with my board from way down our house. Paddle in the water all the way to Hui Nalu.

WN: To Moana Hotel?

EV: Yeah. Just paddle. Sit up and paddle like that. Oh, I get my board and paddle. Because I had a big board. My board weighed eighty-five pounds. Big, big one.

WN: Fourteen feet long?

EV: Fourteen feet, six inches. Four inches thick at the center. Almost as wide as this table.

WN: And you had your name on it?

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. Liko--L-I-K-O. Yeah. Those were the days. Warren, when I paddle over to the [Hui Nalu] or go home from Hui Nalu, I always took a little nigger line.

WN: Why'd they call it "nigger line"?

EV: Because no poles, nothing. Tie it onto my toe, I'm paddling. Or if I'm sitting up, paddling, and then, (EV makes sound), I (chuckles) pull it, I got a fish.

WN: Oh, yeah?

EV: Yeah. Because I paddle just slow enough so that the floater would take the--the hook be hanging down.

WN: You had bait?

EV: Oh, yeah.

WN: Oh, you had bait.

EV: Bait, yeah. Yeah, we get 'ōpae or we get squid. The 'ōpae rots on you, you see. When you're paddling all the time, it just disintegrates. But the squid will not. And with the tail hanging down like that with a little--about that long, see. They go, wham, and bite it, and that's the end of it. Then you pull it in, see. I used to get two or three pāpīos going home like that, or coming down. If I

catch 'em coming to the Hui Nalu, I can't take 'em home, because "Dudi" Miller would take 'em all.

WN: The fish?

EV: Yeah. Then he pūlehu them right there. Broil 'em right there.

(Laughter)

WN: Anything to show the tourists, you see, how we can do things. Yeah. In the Moana [Hotel], you still have that big patio, open-air (area) out in the middle, out in the ocean side. Well, that's where we used to have our shows on Sunday nights, too.

WN: What kind of shows?

EV: Dance, hula, we had. And Lena Machado, she was one of the new ones just starting in. Of course, we were just kids, too, in those days. "Go on home. Go on, beat it."

WN: Who would say that?

EV: "Dudi" Miller. Oh, yeah. "Go on home." He was strict, very strict. Yeah, he was quite a guy.

END OF INTERVIEW

Tape No. 13-29-2-85 and 13-30-2-85

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

with

Earle "Liko" Vida (EV)

March 21, 1985

Wai'ala'e, O'ahu

BY: Warren Nishimoto (WN)

WN: This is an interview with Mr. Earle Kalikolehua Vida on March 21, 1985, at his home in Wai'ala'e. The interviewer is Warren Nishimoto.

Okay, Mr. Vida, when you were living out in the Kālia area when you were growing up, what do you remember about the family or neighborhood gatherings, or parties, or anything like that?

EV: Well, under the old setup there, tradition, all in that area was just like one big family. You had the Jarretts way down the ocean. Then you had the Paoa family in Kālia near Fort DeRussy. And in between you had the Clarks, and the Nauweles, and the Campbells, the Vidas, and the Harbottles, and the Simersons. We were all practically one family.

We'd always go over to the teahouse, Kobayashi Tea House there, because the place was big and right on the beach. Then we'd climb coconut trees for their guests. So, it was really interesting.

WN: Climb coconut trees?

EV: Oh, yeah. Just like nothing. We didn't have to use spikes in those days. And sometimes we slide down fast and you'd get all blisters on your feet, below the [soles] of your feet, both sides. But those were the days. You ask me to do it now . . .

(Laughter)

EV: . . . I would never.

WN: You mean, the guests, the tourists there, would watch you folks?

EV: They watched us. See, Old Man Cassidy who lived right next door near the teahouse had been working for (the) telephone company. He'd have the spikes to climb up the trees, you see. But if the tree (was) on a slant, on a slope, well, we (could) just practically hang on and walk up. And those were large, tall, coconut trees, too. That Mochizuki Tea House was another place (that) had coconut trees.

And we had (some) in our own yard, too. But the family--we were all one. All knitted so close together. That's the beauty part of that area.

WN: Did you have any parties together? Luaus?

EV: Oh, yes. All the time. We'd have a birthday party. We'd have Christmas party. Any special occasion, especially Hawaiian holidays, we'd always get together. A can of beer or bottle of beer was nothing in those days, because we used to go down to the Primo Brewery. It's just about two miles down on South and Cooke Street. Go down there and get kegs of beer, and bring it up. We put it right in the barrel, and ice it, and that's how we had our beer with our parties. Cook our own pig right in the imu because we had all the ingredients there. We had our own taro, potatoes, everything right there. Not (today). Things are altogether different. Everything's money. (Laughs) It was interesting. I sit back every once in a while and reminisce.

WN: What were some of the big holidays? You know, the ones that you folks really got together?

EV: Well, Duke's birthday was one of them. That's number one. And of course, we had [Prince] Kūhiō['s birthday]. We remember Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole very, very well because he used to live out at where the Kūhiō Beach is today. He had a pier that extended out. We used to surf on that area, too. We did a lot of work for him. I mean, not work but entertaining, and things like that. So, we were all together on different birthdays. And then, the Simersons was one of 'em. Another birthday party. Kaimi, we always had a birthday for him because he was the oldest in the entire group. Because he'd go out and get all our raw stuff for the imu--mullet and things like that.

WN: He was a fisherman?

EV: Oh, yes. He'd have all these nets out and wire traps outside with lobsters and everything else. He was living right on the beach. He can see out there if anybody (was) taking anything from the traps, but they never bothered his things at all. Because he was always--"You want anything? Come, I give you." He had two nice canoes. Beautiful canoes. Never used an outdoor motor. He said I was chicken because I'm too lazy to row. (Chuckles) I had an outdoor motor. And he was very much against it. But when we (went) out (to) lay big traps, he'd ask me to help him. Well, the hint was, (to) go out on my flat-bottomed boat with an outdoor motor to take the nets out and the traps. Oh, he was tricky. But he was a nice, nice individual.

WN: What was his first name?

EV: John Kaimi. But you never called him that. We always thought that his first name was "Kaimi." I don't know whether I have the records

of him. See, A.V. Gear owned all that land down there. Whether the place was used as a squattersville for him, I don't know. Because we did have squatters like there are down at the [Ke'ehi] Lagoon now, near the airport. Well, we had 'em there. People lived right on our beach. They'd go out fishing, come back in. Give us part of their catch. So, they never bothered us, we never bothered them. They used our water. We didn't have to pay for water in those days.

WN: Did Kaimi live in a house?

EV: Yes. He built a house. He had a nice house. The house was high. There were only two rooms. There was no toilet. The toilet was downstairs, an outhouse. But upstairs was high. The reason for that was because he hung all these nets underneath the building. All his property. He didn't want to leave it out. It was all underneath the house. The house was about this high, about eight feet above the ground, with steps going up. And he lived up high on top of that with that big room overlooking the entire ocean. So, he could see from the Honolulu Harbor all the way to Diamond Head, in that area. He was quite a guy. We buried him there, too. We buried him right out in the ocean there when he passed away.

WN: Do you know when he passed away?

EV: No, I don't. I don't have the records of that. He was quite a guy. Quiet. Never bothered anybody. Anybody wanted fish, if he didn't have it available, he'd go and get it. They'd come and get it later on, and he'd sell it to them. That was his livelihood. He was about the only commercial fisherman we had there in Kālia.

WN: You know where he sold his fish?

EV: People (came to) buy it. He never (went) down (to) the market at all. Because he had no way of going. He had no car. (If) he wanted to go anyplace, like (to) doctors or (to see friends), we would take him. Right next door to (him) was Harold Godfrey. Godfrey, I think he passed away just lately. And then, next to (him) was Charley "Fat" Fernandes. And then, us. And then there was the [Ikesu] Tea House. Alongside [i.e., the other side] of Kaimi was the alley that went down to the beach. Next door was the Espindas who were part of the Hobron family. Yeah, oh, those were the days.

WN: The Beach Road that ran right along in front of your house . . .

EV: Yeah. It was never called "Ala Moana."

WN: Yeah, what did you call it?

EV: "Beach Road."

WN: How wide was it, when you were young?

- EV: Oh, I would say about a two-lane highway. That's about all. Of course, there (were) no sidewalks, nothing. Two-lane highway. Then, after you go over the bridge, down towards where the Ala Moana Shopping Center is, you go over that old dilapidated bridge, then down below, that's all duck ponds. On both sides, 'ākulikuli and things like that. And then, the animal quarantine station was right at the corner of Pi'ikoi and Ala Moana. Over there, there's a lot of fishermen down that area, down at Kaka'ako. I look to see, within the next ten years, that Kaka'ako will be one of the top areas here in the City and County of Honolulu. It has all the potentialities there. Beautiful setup.
- WN: Potential for what?
- EV: Subdivide into business, commercial, industrial area. It has all the makings. And they're going at it in the right way. Putting millions of dollars into it, filling it in, building it up. I was so happy to read about it. I think [Mayor] Frank Fasi has a lot to do with it, too. It's coming. It's one of the latest. That, and of course, your convention center, too. I think the convention center should be at Fort DeRussy. Definite. It'll be a honky-tonk if you don't. (Chuckles) But they need it, definitely. You can't use the [Waikīkī] Shell. Parking facilities are no good. Here, you plant it, and get everything all set. Then you build. You have no problem. Parking and everything else. Centrally located four different ways. It's a beautiful setup.
- WN: You were talking about birthdays and holidays. Was New Year's Day a big event in that area?
- EV: Mmm--yes, it was. Mostly parties. But we always went out fishing. (Chuckles) But it doesn't conflict. They have one big party, they plan it, and that's the way. We all go there. Birthdays are the biggest. A lot of our boys were athletes, too. When we are recognized in school for a certain activity, well, our community down there recognizes that individual, too. So, they have a party for 'em. In my baseball career, it's the same way. Something happen, they have a party.
- WN: You mentioned Duke Kahanamoku's birthday. How did the community feel about Duke Kahanamoku and his accomplishments?
- EV: Well, going back to early days, he was just like an individual that practically the Hawaiians worshipped. But he didn't like that. Never did like that. He was very timid. He was interested in going into Masonry--into Shrine. And finally, I heard him say that to me. That's the only way you can get in. So, I made sure that he got a petition. We went through all the processing all the way through. He went right up to the top into Scottish Rite, into York Rite, and into the Aloha Temple. And they made him an ambassador. So, all these little things like that, he was recognized. Not only here in Hawai'i with Aloha Temple but all the Shrinedom in general.

In my year in '67 when I was potentate of Aloha Temple, being the first Hawaiian to get that title, I took him with me all over as one of my aides and my ambassador of goodwill. We went to the Orient, to Tokyo, Nagoya, Kumamoto, Hiroshima--where I pitched a ball game--down Kure, then over into Manila, Calcutta, all different areas. He was with me all the time. Then, down here. And then, when we made trips to the Mainland over to Maryland or down to Arizona, Mexico, he was with me all the time. He would never present himself to be recognized ahead of, say, me, for instance, being potentate of Aloha Temple. He was always right behind of me all the time. I always recognized him and introduced him to the people. Then, they all flooded around him. Of course, he didn't speak English too well because he was so backward. But he was very understanding and very clever, very smart. But he didn't like to present himself ahead of the others. Quite backward.

WN: What did Duke mean to the Kālia area?

EV: Well, just like one of us. That's why he was happy. We never did call him "Duke." We called him "Paoa." P-A-O-A. Because that's his middle name, see. That's the old family name. The old Ho'olae family, Pi'ikoi family, they're all one. But he was really nice. And he's recognized all over. Oh, the funeral was a big one. Big, big funeral procession. We took him out in the ocean. Beautiful setup.

There wasn't another Hawaiian boy like that, never. Apaka was close. Alfred was very close. In fact, Alfred Apaka lived right next to us. Ray Kinney was another one that we recognized quite a bit, too. He used to come down there. His wife is my second cousin. She just passed away yesterday. Dawn Holt Kinney. Well, Apaka was recognized very, very much there at Kālia because he was an entertainer. And so was Ray Kinney.

But going back to Duke, we had another individual in the limelight, too, that did a lot of swimming on relay teams, not as an individual. And also, he was a plunger. He did all the dives and plunging. That was William Simerson. He was very good. He was a champion for long while. We had all different types of people there from the ocean. And Gay Harris was another one. He did lot of swimming. He was on the relay team. It was the same way I was. Sam Kahanamoku, same way. One Chinese boy, Ah Kong Pang. They lived up the road, up the Hobron Lane. The 400-yard relay team, we held the championship for long, long time. Then, of course, we were nothing (chuckles) nowadays.

WN: You know, you talked about Prince Kūhiō. What do you remember about that home? Or did you ever go to that home?

EV: Oh, yes. Just normal. It wasn't too big. It was right on the beach right on Kalākaua Avenue. It wasn't too wide because there wasn't enough land area. Because they had a high board fence practically around the place. And then, the pier extended out

right in that area. We'd go there. But very few people are allowed in there. He was not one of the socialites that like to entertain all the time. No. But people that he knew very well, was different altogether.

WN: Could you walk along the beach? What happened when you came to his house?

EV: There was a stone wall.

WN: On the beach?

EV: On the beach. You had to go around. And lot of it's water there. There was no beachway where he lived. Because that wall extended out. It connected with Alec Cleghorn's and the Heine's Tavern. And then, from Heine's Tavern, the Moana Hotel. See? That's the way that area was.

WN: He [Kūhiō] died sometime in the early '20s. Do you remember his funeral at all?

EV: Yeah, we went all the way through it. Our gang was all together. I don't have this record. I have it someplace. I have so many (chuckles) boxes upstairs. I wanted to get different things, you know. Get it all lined up. I had my daughter come down couple of times to start working on it. Then she gets started, then she gives up.

(Laughter)

EV: No, but he was quite a guy.

WN: In 1924 you got married. What is your wife's name?

EV: Her name was Edythe, E-D-Y-T-H-E. Alden, A-L-D-E-N. That was her name.

WN: How did you meet her?

EV: She was a teacher in Normal School. The gang would get together with some of the teachers. That's how we happened to (meet). And then, when she graduated from Normal, she went to 'O'ōkālā. She taught up there. And then she transferred down here. Then she taught at Pauoa School. That's where I met her. She had a couple of girl[friends]. We all get together. We got married in '24. We were living up (in Pālolo). And then, we had one girl--one child. In fact, it's her birthday on April 26. After that we moved (to) different places.

WN: So you moved out of the Waikīkī house because you got married?

EV: Yeah. Nineteen twenty-four, we moved out of Waikīkī and went up Pālolo. And from Pālolo, we went up, top of the hill. (Nihipali Place.)

WN: And your parents stayed at the old house?

EV: (Yes.) My mother and my stepfather stayed there.

WN: Until how long did they stay there?

EV: Nineteen forty-seven. Mother died [in 1946], and my stepfather had phlebitis. His legs would bother him. My sister and I used to go down and take care of him quite a bit. Then, finally, one morning we got a call that he had passed away. He just passed, went to sleep.

WN: So about the time you were moving out, that's when the canal was already in. That was more or less . . .

EV: Yeah, all finished.

WN: What changes did you notice in Waikīkī after the canal was . . .

EV: All modern. That place just built right up so fast, especially the Ala Wai setup. There was no such thing as a road like that.

WN: Ala Wai Boulevard?

EV: No way, no way. Not even Kapi'olani Boulevard. It was just a road. After they got that all finished up, then they had a problem with the streetcar. So, they built a road alongside of the tracks. That's why we have McCully Street there now. Oh, that canal really did help that entire area. Now it goes right back to what I just mentioned little while ago that within the next ten years you're going to see Kaka'ako come up [as] one of the biggest industrial areas in the City and County of Honolulu. You watch it.

WN: There was an amusement park [i.e., Aloha Park] that came out after the canal.

EV: Oh, yeah. Fly-by-night outfit built up that. E.K. Fernandez come in and out, in and out. In fact, after the canal was built--this was later on--then they had the amusement park [between 1922 and 1930]. And then they stopped. Then we had a baseball diamond we set up. I was the one who pitched the first ball game there at that park. Not the one there now, but one in the same area. We opened it up. The Kālias. That's our baseball team. Our ball club played with all the high schools--trained them, broke them in, before the interscholastic league started. We were the ones who went to play against them and practically coached them along. We didn't coach, but we played against them. And they watched us play. That's how they all learned.

WN: The name of your team was the Kālias?

EV: Kālias.

WN: So was it all Kālia boys?

EV: Oh, yes.

WN: Who was on the team? What names do you remember?

EV: Well, Tsuji was my catcher. First base was Allen Steward. He's on Moloka'i now. And Fred Paoa. Second base was "Biggie" Harada. Shortstop was "Red" McQueen. Third base was Shimogawa. In the outfield was Gilbert Paoa and Tom Nunogawa. He lived on Seventh Avenue, right down below us. And we had a soldier that played with us, too, from Fort DeRussy. Fellow by the name of "Hub" Ferris, F-E-R-R-I-S. When I wasn't pitching, he'd come in to pitch. Or we'd have Tom Nunogawa pitch. We had a good ball club. We were strong. We'd play Punahou. And Punahou, the field was so small in those days, some of us would hit a home run. Same way with Makiki Park. We played ball there all the time. When the Honolulu Stadium was built, I pitched the first ball there, 1925.

WN: You pitched the first game in Honolulu Stadium?

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. I was the first. I threw the first ball there.

WN: You were with the Kālias?

EV: No, then, those days, the Hawaiians. See, we had a Hawaiian ball club. Bill [Inman] was one of our first catchers with the Waikīkīs, see. Because a lot of us players that were playing for Kālias went and played in bigger leagues. And the Waikīkīs was in another league, higher up. An organized setup. Kālias was just a barnstorming team that would go around and play. Then, of course, we had players on the Kālia team was playing with different ball clubs or playing with the other guys in the--we call them the "semi-pro."

WN: Waikīkīs?

EV: Yeah, Waikīkīs.

WN: Were those like the better players?

EV: Yeah, yeah. They were more men that were down here in the service. The 25th Infantry was here, one of the first groups. All Colored people. Fellow by the name of Sam, and Goliath, and all those fellows. I know them very well. That stays in my mind. And Satchel Paige was another one.

WN: He played for the Waikīkīs?

EV: No, he didn't. Twenty-fifth Infantry. I remember pitching against him in 1935, as I mentioned before, down in Arcadia [California] when we went down with the ball club. We went down on our own and I played with MJB Coffee team. And we played--no, at L.A. playing

against him, I played with the Ann Dvorak Stars. Every time we'd go to the Mainland, "You want to play?"

"All right."

"We're playing Sunday. We pick you up."

Then we go and play. So, it was interesting. But here, in Honolulu, the Waikīkīs were local boys and mostly semi-pro. Boys that played on big leagues on the Mainland, or semi-pro leagues and were down here in the service played for the Waikīkīs. Or they played for the Wanderers, or they played for the Chinese, or for the Asahis. We had a big league there.

WN: That's the senior league?

EV: (Yes.)

WN: Okay, so what were the teams? It was the Waikīkīs . . .

EV: Waikīkīs, Chinese, Asahis, and PAC was a Portuguese setup. They call it the "Braves."

WN: And the Wanderers?

EV: The Wanderers.

WN: Wanderers were . . .

EV: White. Caucasian.

WN: So you played primarily for the Waikīkīs?

EV: Mm hmm, (yes). We played at old Mō'ili'ili Field. We never played there at the stadium. Right across the street. In 1925 when the league started at the Honolulu Stadium, well, it was the end of Waikīkīs. Because we went and played with different ball clubs in there, see. Then I went and played with the Hawaiians. The Hawaiians were organized then, instead of the Waikīkīs, in the Hawai'i Baseball League.

WN: The Waikīkīs became the Hawaiians in the Hawai'i Baseball League?

EV: (Yes.)

WN: How come? Why did you drop the name "Waikīkīs"?

EV: Well, new owner. Bill had all these players getting paid in Honolulu Stadium. Waikīkīs, we never got paid. We played for the fun of it.

WN: Who organized you folks? First, well, the Kālias. Who organized the Kālias?

- EV: I did. Just some of us. Fred Paoa. All these boys that helped. We all got in together.
- WN: Did you have uniforms?
- EV: Oh, surely. Yeah, sweatshirt. (Laughs) Played on coral. We had to go shine shoes to buy spikes. Baseballs don't last long. We used to steal baseballs at the old Mō'ili'ili Field. Balls would go out in the street. We'd grab it and put it in our pocket. Or at the schools when we go and give them their training, give them practice games. The coaches would give us the balls. We take it home. That's the only way we get along. In fact, I still have my glove and stuff upstairs. Oh, yeah, those were the days.
- WN: When you guys became the Waikīkīs and the Hawaiians, you got a little more sophisticated?
- EV: (Yes.) Then they had a problem. They had a problem in the Hawai'i League at the stadium. It wasn't a strike, but I think--I'm not sure because I wasn't part of that setup. Then we moved to Makiki Field. Then we played ball there for a while. Then sooner or later, went back to the stadium again.
- WN: Where was Makiki Field?
- EV: Way up on Ke'eaumoku Street. You know where the Maikiki Field is today?
- WN: Oh, Cartwright [Field]?
- EV: Cartwright. Well, Cartwright, in those days, was down in Kaka'ako. Way down in Ala Moana, see, where Cooke Street is today. Just behind of Cotton Neill Foundry. Makiki Field is right where it is today on Ke'eaumoku and Lunalilo. And we played up there. We were barnstormers. Every time the Hawai'i League would be playing, we'd be playing there, too. So, finally, they got together again.
- WN: So did lot of your Kālia teammates play for the Waikīkīs?
- EV: (Yes.) And then they went into semi-pro.
- WN: The Hawaiians?
- EV: Yeah, Hawaiians. Fred Paoa did that. And Allen Steward, (too).
- WN: Did you have to be Hawaiian to play on the Hawaiians?
- EV: Not necessarily. But practically, though. Because they had a ruling then, see?
- WN: What ruling?
- EV: Well, you had to be of that nationality. It was a racial setup, but

it was no conflict at all. But they felt that that would draw the crowd, and it did. Then we'd have big teams come down. Fellow by name of Lozier, L-O-Z-I-E-R. "Big Six" Lozier, he was the one that organized the Wanderers ball club. He's from the Mainland. He had a beautiful ball club. He had "Doc" Braly, who played first base. All these--they were professionals in their field and also playing baseball. And "Boob" South, another one. A lot of these people that played for the Wanderers practically organized the Hawaiian Electric Company ball club who won. . . . And I started the Commercial Athletic Association here. I was one of 'em. They played--"Doc" Braly, Lozier, Corn, Goliath, played for the 25th Infantry Oh, there're quite a few of 'em that played, but I remember "Doc" Braly playing first base. Bill Inman was the organizer of that setup. In fact, he was the one that started the Waikīkī's. Bill Inman. He was my catcher.

WN: The 25th Infantry team, were they in the same Hawai'i League, too?

EV: (Yes.) They were from Schofield. And that stayed here ever since.

WN: The Wanderers having a lot of semi-pro players from the Mainland . . .

EV: Yeah, they bring 'em in.

WN: . . . were they always good or better than the other teams?

EV: Oh, they've been in the business for a long time, see. They'd come down--Hawaiian Electric has an opening or they see a good ballplayer, well, all right, they go grab him. They give him a job down here. So, he comes down. Now, we had an individual by the name of Ted Shaw, S-H-A-W. I think you remember him. He was a pitcher. Well, I started him. He came in and he played. He's a lefthander. He's a very good, very cagey boy. I took him with me in 1932 to the Orient to play there. Came back, and I got him a job in the post office. He worked there all the way. Did a beautiful job. He coached baseball in schools. Same way with Joe Rose. Was a second baseman for the Wanderers. He coached Punahou after I left Punahou. Little fellows like that. "Pump" Searle was another one at University [of Hawai'i]. All these boys used to play ball before.

WN: So they used to play in the Hawai'i League . . .

EV: Yeah.

WN: . . . and then when the Commercial League was started, they started going into companies?

EV: Some of them. Yeah, uh huh. Or you'd play in both leagues. The old Mō'ili'ili Field league folded up then.

WN: Did you coach Punahou?

EV: I coached Punahou.

WN: When?

EV: Oh, God, don't ask me. I can remember couple of boys playing. The fella, this little Andrade, a lefthander, was going to Punahou at the time. And Kneubuhl was another one that went to Punahou. This goes way back.

WN: Jimmy Kneubuhl?

EV: I think was Jimmy--Jimmy or his brother or somebody. This goes way back. I'm jumping. After we came back from the Orient in 1932 I didn't play much ball after that. I helped organize the new league, the Hawai'i League and organized all the different teams. I organized the Chinese, helped them out. The owner of that Chinese ball club then was a man that worked at Liberty House. (Harry Yim.) And then the Portuguese team was owned by Adam Ornellas from [Theo H.] Davies and Company. You see how it ties in? And the Asahis was owned by Oki, O-K-I, but Andy Yamashiro from Yamashiro Hotel ran it. The Wanderers was "Big Six" Lozier. He ran that. Little things like that. All these different setups. But these fellows were instrumental. If they saw a good ballplayer or was told about a good ballplayer, they'd go to the company and say, "Look, get this fellow a job." So, they'd bring him down. That's how Ted Shaw started in here. He wouldn't go back to the Mainland, being a Negro, a Colored individual. He intermarried here. He just passed away not very long ago. I think I'm about the only (chuckles) one left practically.

WN: Going back a little bit, you told me that in 1921 you got a pro tryout?

EV: At Detroit. Lasted three months. Went up there, and they didn't like my color. They thought I was a Negro. I got a leave of absence from my company, from Alexander & Baldwin. Charlie Hemenway, [who] in 1902 was a baseball player for Yale, said, "Earle, you got the makings. Go ahead. Take six months. I'll give you six months' leave of absence with Alexander & Baldwin. Go out, give yourself a try. If you like it, let me know."

All right, I went up there. I noticed little things were not being run right as far as I was concerned. There was a racial disturbance. So, I approached him. I said, "Now, why do you do this?"

Fellow by name of Ray Shock was one of the assistant coaches. He said, "I'm running this ball club. You get there. You play where I tell you to play." Well, I never played. I was on the bench all the time. I wanted to pitch to the batters at practice. No, he wouldn't do it.

So I said, "Goodbye." I went to my hotel, changed my clothes, came home.

WN: Where was this?

EV: That was in Detroit.

WN: Oh, in Detroit?

EV: Yeah. They were ready to go down to. . . . They were practicing not in Florida at the time. They were down in another area. Not that far down. They were around in Texas area. Oh, Beaumont, Texas. And so, I came home.

WN: So Hemenway was the one who arranged the tryout?

EV: Mm hmm, yeah. I tried out--it didn't appeal to me at all. I mean, for my livelihood. I love baseball. I enjoy playing it. I was very sincere. And making money on it, I didn't go for that at all. So, I came home. Got ahold of Charlie Hemenway. He say, "Get back in there." So, I started working back with A&B. Forty-six years, they kicked me out. (Laughs) (I retired on October 1, 1966.)

WN: Were there Blacks on that team at the time in Detroit's team?

EV: No. Oh, God, no. No Orientals, nothing. And so, they were awfully partial. Whether it was an individual or higher-ups that caused that, I don't know. I didn't go into it fully at all because I was more or less excited being given a chance to participate. If I did it individually I never would have gotten in there. But Charlie Hemenway was the one that did it. So they never gave me a chance at all.

I was satisfied. Came back and played semi-pro here, semi-pro on the Mainland, semi-pro in Japan.

WN: Semi-pro--you mean the Hawai'i League was semi-pro?

EV: Yes.

WN: How much did you get?

EV: Well (chuckles), I think the best we ever got was \$350, in round figures, for the year. When I was playing for the Wanderers, I got a check for eighty-five cents. And I still have it upstairs. I have it somewhere upstairs.

WN: (Laughs) Why eighty-five cents?

EV: That's the distribution of the profits after all expenses were paid. But the coach was getting a lot of money. Of course, we had nothing to say about it.

WN: Who was your coach?

EV: Well--what is his name? He was from the Mainland under Lozier, see. "Rhiney" Rhinelander played for us on that ball club. We had a good ball club. Fellow by name of Captain Hogan was our third baseman.

He was a crackerjack.

WN: So you played for the Hawaiians first, then you switched to Wanderers?

EV: Yeah. I played for the Chinese. Organized the Chinese with Johnny Kerr and all of them. Got that all organized. Then I went over and played with the--at that time, in that league, they call it the "Elks" ball club. They finally all merged together as "Wanderers." They changed all the time because they were open league. I went to the Wanderers.

Then in 1926 the whole bunch of us were picked--the Hawai'i All Stars--to go to the Orient. They were picked from all of the teams. So, that practically killed the Hawai'i League here because there were fifteen of us that went to the Orient. Andy Yamashiro was the coach. Oki was the financial backer. That's from the Asahis. Catcher was Kozuki. Pitcher was "Hub" Ferris, and myself, and Tom Nunogawa. First base was Sam Suzuki. Second base was. . . . Oh, what is his name? Japanese boy. (Iwa Mamiya.) Shortstop was Louis Camacho. Third base was "Crook" Suzuru. When I wasn't pitching, I was playing the outfield because I could hit. And we had (Nobu Tokuda). In the outfield, the right field, if I was pitching, Tom Nunogawa would go out and play out there. And "Hub" Ferris would play center field. That's how we branched around. So we had a good ball club. We played fifty-seven games and only lost three. And I lost three. (Chuckles)

WN: How long was the trip?

EV: Three months.

WN: Wow.

EV: Yeah. Three months. Cold weather, and then it started getting hot. February, March, and April. And then, 1932, I went a different time. I took the ball club. I got a \$10,000 guarantee from promoters down there. We didn't do so well because we didn't have too good a team. But we had a lot of experience there. Played in areas that we were otherwise not allowed to participate into. Like Yokosuka Naval Base is completely surrounded, just like Punchbowl.

WN: When you went in 1926 you said that when you went it just about killed the Hawai'i League. What do you mean by that?

EV: Well, we took all the good players out. Lot of the players that went with us were playing for all these different--playing for the Wanderers (and) Asahis. Practically all the Asahi ball club there, see. The Chinese.

WN: What happened to the league?

EV: Oh, they played. They added substitutions.

WN: Oh. What happened when you got back?

EV: We all played. But by that time, they were almost pau [for the season], see. When we got back, we started to play with them. But lot of us, we got back, and some of them didn't play at all. But the following year, they played.

WN: Oh, was back to normal the following year?

EV: Mm hmm. (Yes.)

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

WN: So you were a pitcher, then, primarily?

EV: A has-been.

(Laughter)

EV: Oh, yeah.

WN: What did they call you? "Liko"?

EV: "Bud." Yeah, "Liko," here. But on the Mainland. "Liko" in English is "Bud." I played on the Mainland in 1935. After we come back in 1932, then we stayed three years, then you're entitled to another trip. So I went to the Mainland for three months. In San Francisco, we stayed on Nob Hill on Jones and Jackson. I'll never forget that. We had a beautiful apartment there, overlooking the bay. My wife's uncle, he was very interested in baseball. He worked for Moffitt Manteca--beef setup. He's the one that used to cut carcasses right in half. After it ends up, the weight is practically the same. He was a crackerjack.

On Mondays, these different teams would make bids to go out and play--Avon, Lodi, all the different places--and play Sunday baseball. So, he happened to know some fellows at the MJB Coffee team. And so, they got me in there. They gave me a "MJB Coffee"--all green. I still have it, uniform. So, we would play. My first game, I warmed up. This fellow, Shellenbach, was a coach, and he was the manager and catcher. In fact, later on, he went into the big leagues. Went up and played for Seattle after--about '38 or '39, or something like that. Anyways, I could see that he was watching me all the time to see what I would do. But my age was against me as far as going into playing in the league. Because I had a good arm in those days. So, we played there. My first paycheck was \$325. So, I gave it to Uncle Gus, let him spend it. "No, no," he said, "you keep that." Just like that.

I says, "All right."

Then, next week, we played someplace else. I didn't go in to start that game, but I went in and played the last three innings. But we lost that game. And then, we went down in the third Sunday. We played in Avon, that's the Associated Oil Company place, and that's up quite high in altitude. I could feel, in throwing that ball, that ball would float differently. I had to change my way of throwing that ball. See, when I throw my ball, I either throw it this way, this way, or underhand. And when I throw underhand, my knuckle scrapes on the ground. Because my ball comes up. Just like you throw a drop ball, goes down. Well, I can bring it up that way.

WN: Not too many people pitch like that now.

EV: Well, Babe Ruth was the one that saw it. I pitched against him here in 1931. I didn't tell you about that one.

WN: No, no. What . . .

EV: (Laughs) Well, the major league all stars came down here.

WN: Came here in Hawai'i?

EV: In Hawai'i. I was told to pitch. All right, I pitched. Now, the starting lineup that played against us, Mickey Cochrane was catching. Herb Pennock was pitching. Lou Gehrig was playing first base. Charley Gehringer was playing second base. Listen to that one. Shortstop, ("Rabbit" Maranville). And third base, I wasn't quite sure. Oh, yeah, Willie Kamm at third base. Then the outfield was "Babe" Ruth, [Bob Meusel], and one more. I can't think of his name. I have it upstairs.

Well, I went to pitch. And, well, did fine. They were leading us two to nothing. Apparently, Waite Hoyt, who was pitching with Herb Pennock, kinda slipped a couple of them in there, see. So, we got three runs. Because Louis Camacho hit a homerun and got three runs.

WN: This is in the stadium?

EV: Yeah. At the old Honolulu stadium. Well, come into the sixth inning. The score was still three to two. And I got myself in a hole. I got two outs. Lou Gehrig was up at bat, followed by "Babe" Ruth. So, (chuckles) Kozuki looked at me and says. . . . Just like that, see.

WN: You mean, what?

EV: Walk 'em. I couldn't get that ball over to him. And I was afraid because he's liable to step out in front before it breaks, and then, wham goes a home run. And a man on first and second. So, I walked him. Two outs. Got him on. Everybody yelled to beat the band.

And "Babe" Ruth comes up. Well, I get the good feel, that ball. I could feel that ball just right. So, I threw the first rise ball. He swung at it, missed it. Then I threw another one, a slider, went that way, away from him. He's a lefthander. It was a good strike. And he looked at the umpire. The umpire was "Red" Zimmerman. See, after this memorizing, these names come back. So, I had two strikes and no balls on two outs, bases were loaded.

WN: What inning?

EV: The sixth inning. I threw the rise ball on that. The ball came, see, right up like that. And he swung at it. Bang! And missed it a mile. They all yelled to beat the band and all that stuff, you see. So anyways, he throws the bat down, comes running out. He says, "Listen, kid, they didn't come here to see you pitch." Just like that. Well, they beat us. They beat us ten to three. I went out in that inning--seventh inning. They scored. Let's see, who was it that went in to pitch now? We were leading three to two. I don't remember now, anyways. But they scored and beat us ten to three. But I'll never forget that day when I struck out "Babe" Ruth, bases were loaded. That's in the records.

WN: Nineteen thirty-one?

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. That's when the major league all stars went to the Orient. They never lost one game down there. And they didn't lose a game here. They won this one here, too. But they only played one game. So, I pitched my three innings and I was through. Another pitcher came in. Three, three, three, see. I don't know who followed me. I can't think of it. It was a lefthander at first that pitched. And then I came in, fourth, fifth, sixth. And seventh, eighth, ninth, was another. It was an exhibition game, anyways. Oh, I'll never forget that. "They didn't come here to see you pitch." He's running out to center field.

WN: (Laughs) Was he really mad?

EV: Sure, he was. Absolutely. Those were the days. Some of these little things like that, you know, it just stays in one's mind. The same way I mentioned to you the other day about going into Yokosuka Naval Base where I pitched against the Japanese all stars in 1926 when this navy lieutenant, Japanese fellow--all Japanese Navy--he apparently spoke English. When I was throwing a ball to him, he'd say, "Pitch 'em in, pitch 'em in. You yellow, you yellow." Just like that. So, Kozuki went like this (EV hits palm), so I let him have it. I threw that ball. He was standing. Threw that ball, bang, down he went.

WN: You hit him on the head?

EV: Right square. Yeah, down he went. And I'll be damned, Warren, he got up and ran to first base. I thought that guy was killed. Of course, it wasn't a fast ball, but it went up and into him. And got

on first base. Cocky as hell. Everybody clapping for him. And me, boooo, and all that stuff, you know. I didn't know what the hell to do. Andy Yamashiro yell out, "Cool head, cool head, cool head." So, all right, and he step out. I get my signal from "Crook" Suzuru, my third baseman. He does it two times. The third time, he was way out. And I got the signal again to throw it down to first base. And I did. And this guy went right into Sam Suzuki's ankle, spiked him, bled. Sam took his glove off, wham! And down they went. They played the national anthem.

(Laughter)

EV: Oh, God, we would have been killed. Boy, I tell you, talk about scared. We beat 'em twenty-three to one. That game, I'll never forget it. Oh, I had lot of stuff in those days.

WN: This is '32 or '26?

EV: No, that was in '26.

WN: Did people throw a lot of spitballs then?

EV: No, there was only one individual that did and they barred it. They wouldn't let him do it. "Boob" South. He worked for Hawaiian Electric Company afterwards. He'd throw a spitter all the time. They didn't like it. So "Red" Zimmerman put a stop to it. And every time he put a spitter on it, you take a base. Just like that. So, he stopped. "Boob" South would always pitch with his cap [to] the side like that. Funny, he had a habit of doing that. Little odd things that you bring up something, and then it refers me to something else.

WN: Was there any team in the Hawai'i League that won consistently, who was always a powerhouse?

EV: Asahis. Oh, yeah, those stinkers would win all the time. They had a good ball club. Oh, yeah. They had a good team.

WN: I guess, they probably had a good organization.

EV: Yeah. And they were well paid, too. This fellow, Oki, was quite a guy. And Andy Yamashiro, too. Yamashiro Hotel. When we got back here [from the Orient], they gave me a present. I'll never forget that. He was quite a guy. They gave me a check. He said, "You didn't make much money down there." We didn't get paid at all, see. Only one time when I went down in '26 when "Hub" Ferris was supposed to [pitch].

That's when "Hub" Ferris hurt his arm. He pitched the first game. We landed on September 2. We played at the Meiji Jingu grounds, I think, ball diamond. And had all the students, thousands of 'em, around. Was hot. He got smart. He took his sweatshirt [off] and everything, he pitched bare. Just to let everybody know. Everybody

clapped for him and all that stuff, see. Well, the next day, he just couldn't lift his arm up. Well, that was the end of his pitching career down there. In fact, anyplace. So, he played in the outfield all the time. He had a contract to pitch so many games. So I got his contract. So, they gave me a thousand dollars to pitch his games. I would pitch one game, three days, pitch another one. When I was up in Sendai, I would pitch two games in a row. Today and tomorrow, and things like that. It all depends on how strong-- if I had to ease up. I said, "I'm ready for tomorrow." Just like that. So, was really interesting.

No, the Asahis were the best team. They had teamwork, things like that. They could always depend on players. They were all local boys, you see.

WN: Whereas, like the Wanderers, they had to . . .

EV: You don't know who you're going to play. You don't know who's going to come out. They don't practice. About five or six would come out and practice. The rest are all in Schofield, all over the place. The Chinese had a good ball club, but they weren't strong enough. They weren't strong hitters. The Braves were strong. They won, too. Adam Ornellas' team. They won two years straight once, with Louis Camacho and all them. When Louis went away to play Pacific Coast League, that was the end of the Braves.

WN: Braves was Portuguese, huh?

EV: Yeah, Portuguese, mm hmm. Fred Paoa is the only one left, I think, of our ball club, our ball players. I'm just trying to think. Yeah, that's the old Kālia ball club.

WN: You and Fred Paoa?

EV: Mm hmm [yes], Fred. We never called him "Fred," we called him "Boy." "Boy" Paoa. His brother, Gilbert, passed away. He was another ball player, too. Played in the outfield. We had him playing as a hitter. Oh, we had a good ball club. Those were the days. I never used to worry. We used to think about the last minute when something--we have a man on base. When our player's coming up, we know exactly what to do. We might do this, might pull this off, might pull this off. And we pull off something different. My God, it worked. (Chuckles)

WN: Did anybody from outside of Kālia play on the Kālia team? Like from other areas of Waikīkī?

EV: No, no. All that stayed right there.

WN: Did the other side of Waikīkī have a team?

EV: No, no. Well, the old Diamond Head gang had one, but they weren't the same time we were. They were afterwards. That Diamond Head was

Lono McCallum and them. That's another gang. They played in a league that played only at Atkinson Park. That's down in Kaka'ako.

WN: Oh, Atkinson Park is in Kaka'ako?

EV: Yeah. The Commercial League played down there. The Commercial League was practically started by E.O. Hall & Son on King and Fort [Streets]. And who started that? None other than a man by the name of Mackey Yanagisawa. He's still alive. If you ask him about our Commercial Athletic Association, he'll tell you all about how I participated with him and how we started the whole thing. Steve Cronin was another one in there that worked there and worked for E.O. Hall & Son. The other one was. . . . Oh, he worked for Hawaiian Electric. Nolan, N-O-L-A-N. He was a pitcher. That's all the Wanderers ball club. Steve Cronin, "Pump" Searle, all Wanderers. It was quite an outfit.

WN: Were you involved with barefoot football at all?

EV: Mm mm, no.

WN: You started at Alexander & Baldwin from (1921), right? Tell me something about the jobs that you've held at Alexander & Baldwin.

EV: Well, I went in as an office boy. Cleaning inkwells, cleaning desks, never swept the floor or anything. Just pick up the mail, take the mail, things like that. That was my job. Make deliveries to different companies around. Then I went for a [baseball] tryout, I came back. I had my old job back again, but in the meantime, they had another individual that they hired. So, we had two. Two of us were working on that job. And then, in January of that following year, I was promoted to stock clerk. I handled all the stock certificates, transfers of corporate stock. Make out certificates, transfers, and stuff like that. I didn't sign the certificate, the bosses would sign it. But I handled all the bookkeeping end of it. I stayed with that.

Dick Bell was bookkeeper then. He was moved up. I went in as the bookkeeper of the corporate. Handled all the books, profit-and-loss statement and everything. I stayed with them until 1932, and my eyes went back on me. Because I worked under fluorescent lights on a high-top desk. These lights in the olden days, they used to flicker. They were never true. Well, my eyes went out on me. So, I got transferred from the books to the shipping department to go with a cousin of mine, "Nani" Lemon. Ululani Lemon who was the manager of the shipping department who handled all of the sugar shipments from all of our plantations, and pineapple. Made shipment reservations and all that stuff. And so, I went in with him, he and I. And finally, he retired and I took over in 1946. I took over the shipping department setup, and I stayed there until 1954.

And then, moved out of there into assistant to the president, handling personnel. I went to every place of business there in A&B. I knew

them like a book, every bit of it. I handled that up to the day I retired. I handled customer relations, together with personnel. All these customers would come down from the Mainland because we sell pineapple to them and stuff like that. I would entertain them here in Honolulu and see that their outer island (trips) are taken care of and all that. If need be--they were bigshots--I would go with them. So, it was quite interesting, very interesting work.

And then, I retired in '66. Then instead of retiring completely, Maui Pine[apple Company] wanted me. A&B owned Maui Pine at the time before Walter Cameron sold it. So, I handled their accounts here. Taking care of their customers and stuff like that until 1974. And then, they eliminated that position in Honolulu because it cost too much money. They had to pay rent and pay me a salary. So I told them to forget it. So, they did. They forgot it.

In 1974, S&W Fine Foods got wind of it. They flew down here and asked me. "Earle," he says, "why don't you work for us? Handle all our customers when they come down here. See that they're taken care of down here. And we'll pay you a salary."

I said, "Look, I don't want any more money. I'm all through, I'm retiring. But I'll be very happy to help you people on straight and expense account. You take care of my car, take care of the expenses and everything else on it. Take care of my expenses, I will work for you." Which I did, from 1974 to 1978. I stopped it.

WN: You were seventy-seven years old at the time.

EV: Mm hmm [yes]. I stopped everything. I get letters from them, "See that so-and-so is taken care of." I don't go and entertain them anymore. I don't. I give 'em a call or if they want some flowers or something like that, I send 'em flowers.

WN: So, in the next twenty years, what do you see for Waikīkī? What kind of a place do you think it's going to be?

EV: It'll still be Waikīkī, but it'll be just like what Kaka'ako is today. Because your next setup in addition to Kaka'ako--you're young enough to remember this--'Ewa. If you ever get the money to invest, you try and buy something down at 'Ewa. Because there won't be any more cane land down there anymore. Sooner or later. And you're going to have causeways going across Pearl Harbor to connect with the freeways. That area, 'Ewa Beach, will always be an 'Ewa Beach. You don't have a Waikīkī Beach anymore. No more. They had to put groins up, they had to put walls up, and everything else, to hold the land. Down there ['Ewa], it's all beach because you're inside just like Maunaloa is, way out in Hawai'i Kai. Same way. So, you're in the cove and that's protected. You go on the other side of the island, Waimānalo, you got no beach there anymore outside of Bellows. It's all lost, all gone. Our Shrine country home there at Waimānalo, there's no beach there anymore--all the rocks.

WN: Same thing's going to happen to Waikīkī Beach?

EV: Unless they build a groin. And that's been said so many times. That Kapahulu drainage leading out from Kapahulu Avenue--when I was talking to you about my father and the Ala Wai Canal--they wanted that to drain from Makee Island, not the Ala Wai Canal. Out at Stonewall, way outside. A drain is not a sewer outfall. It's just to take care of the water that goes out there. By building that, you'll have a catch basin where the current comes in and it brings the sand all in this area and it stays here. The water goes down, but the sand stays here. They will eventually. Fred Ohrt, Board of Water Supply, way back twenty years ago, talked all about this. I remember when I was a kid when I working for Hawaiian Dredging Company, I remember some of these things that came up, especially out there. Now, they got that one groin where. . . .

WN: What do you mean by a "groin"?

EV: A concrete wall, outfall. They have one out there right now where Kaimana Apartments are. Where the War Natatorium used to be. Well, there's a little beach area there, and there's a stone wall that goes out into the ocean. Well, that's exactly it. That's why you have a beach there. That's why you have a beach. They had another groin that went out where old Bertha Young's [home] used to be. You remember that . . .

WN: Is that where the Sheraton-Waikīkī is [today]?

EV: Right. They used to have one groin going out there. What happened to it? I think the people down below complained.

WN: How does a groin prevent erosion?

EV: Because it brings all the sand in and stays. Otherwise, if it's just bare like that, the current takes it all the way down to a spot where something will stop it. The same way with Waimānalo, Warren, where you come down Waimānalo, starting way out on the other side of Waimānalo. All that sand's all gone. Where has it gone to? Into the bay at Bellows Field. But you can't go beyond that because the point sticks out there at Lanikai that holds the sand all in there, see? It's funny, erosion. We have the current that runs that way here. The same holds true on Maui. You take, when you're on Maui, that Kā'anapali. You get any sand at Kahului? No. See, that's your trade winds that come in. All right, now you take the new setup that Alexander & Baldwin owns on the other side at Mākena. That point goes out, but on the other side, [there is a] beautiful beach there. Oh, God, a beautiful beach. No rocks, nothing, all sand all the way out. You get the same thing from Hilo all the way down to 'Upolu, no beach. But you go around the other side to Kawaihae, then you got beach because that's on the leeward side.

WN: So that's why you're saying 'Ewa may be the next tourist place . . .

EV: Beautiful spot. You watch it. If Castle & Cooke sells, that's the place to buy. They own that land. Not all of it. I think the Campbell Estate has something, if I remember correctly.

END OF SIDE TWO

TAPE NO. 13-30-2-85; SIDE ONE

EV: Now they're picking on Bishop Estate now. Of course, I remember the days when those people [i.e., Bishop Estate Trustees] used to get \$25,000 a year. Look at them today--\$200, \$250,000. Well, that's money.

WN: When you look at Waikīkī now, and then you look at Waikīkī when you grew up, how do you feel? What are your feelings toward Waikīkī now and how it's changed?

EV: Waikīkī is not what it used to be. It's altogether different. It's strictly a commercial setup, Warren, every bit of it. All the hotels and stuff like that, that's for tourists. Convention center, it doesn't work out at all there. I mean, as far as the Waikīkī area. It's all hotels all the way. Beaches, where are the beaches? You want to go on the beach at Waikīkī, you want to go to Outrigger Canoe Club. Is Outrigger Canoe Club on the beach? Yeah, right off the beach. They used to have a beautiful space there when I was a member. Hui Nalu used to be under the Moana Hotel. Where is the Moana Hotel? That's gone. Only the present Moana Hotel, but we used to extend right out. They had their own pier, also. Then Heine's Tavern. Then Prince Kūhiō's area. And then, open beach because that was an outfall. And then you have your groin that goes out, and then you have your beach on the other side of the groin. Then you have the Elks Club. Then you come around the point, the Black Point. Then you have beaches over there, and that's eroding right now.

WN: How about in Waikīkī? Are there some of the original landowners still owning land now?

EV: No, I don't think so. I'm not sure.

WN: When people think of Waikīkī today, they think of tourists, and they think of the crime problem, and so forth. When people say that, what would you say to them about how Waikīkī used to be?

EV: Well, what's the use telling them about it? Because they won't listen to you. "Oh, that's before. We're looking at it today." You talk about your tourists, you talk about your influx of business people, too. The business trend is altogether different nowadays.

WN: How about your own life? Would you have done anything differently?

EV: No. (Chuckles) I wouldn't dare.

(Laughter)

WN: Do you have any last things you want to say before I turn off the tape about your life and about Waikīkī . . .

EV: (Laughs) I'm still alive. No, I've enjoyed my life. Enjoyed it very much. My wife and I have been together now for sixty-one years. Thank God, I'm not like my father who was married seven times.

(Laughter)

EV: She didn't hear me. She can't hear. No, it's been an enjoyable life, Warren. Thanks to you. If I can be of any assistance to you in the future, please let me know.

WN: Thank you very much. I enjoyed it.

EV: Okay.

END OF INTERVIEW

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Volume I

**ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
Social Science Research Institute
University of Hawai'i-Mānoa**

June 1985