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84: 1
Norman, Howard &Gwen
(copy-1)

cultural communities series

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

84: 1
Norman, Howard & Gwen
(~~original~~)
copy 1

VANCOUVER, B.C.

HOWARD & GWEN NORMAN

June 3, 1972

Canadian Missionaries To Japan
1932 - 1971

Interviewed by: John F. Howes

Oral History Project, Vancouver. Cultural Communities Series

Interview no. 84, Tape no. 1 of 2, Tracks 1 & 2, Speed 3 3/4

Vancouver, Oral History Project, 1972

#84
(tape 1)

University of British Columbia Library

Vancouver 8, B.C., Canada

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Name Howard & Gwen Norman
(Interviewee)

PREFACE

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(signed) H. A. Norman
Gwen R. P. Norman

(date) July 29, 1972

Understood and agreed to

[redacted]
(Interviewer)

Aug 18, 1972
(date)

William J. Langlois
Head / Oral History Project

#84
(tapes 1 & 2)

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ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Name Howard and Gwen Norman

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(signed) H.R. Norman
Gwen R.P. Norman

(date) June 3, 1972

Understood and
agreed to

John F. Howes
(interviewer)

(date) June 3, 1972

A.J. Hayne, Head
Oral History Project.

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TAPE AND ARCHIVE WORKSHEET

ORAL HISTORY VANCOUVER PROJECT

INTERVIEWEE

NAME: Howard Norman BIRTH DATE: 6 July 1905 ~~3 June 1972~~

TITLE: Minister, The United Church

PROFESSIONAL ADDRESS:

HOME ADDRESS: 237 Jane St, Toronto 9

INTERVIEWER: John F. Howes

INTERVIEW TITLE: Canadian Missionaries to Japan 1932-1971

DATE: 30 June 1972

LOCATION: 4424 W. 3rd Ave, Vancouver 8

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW: Japanese-Canadians in World War II; life in Japan before and after World War II; the history of the Methodist mission to Japan.

QUALITY OF INTERVIEW: Sound: ok; Content: fine. No apparent self-censorship except one case. The "lawyer" referred to is Andrew Young.

DOCUMENTATION: Is the brother of Herbert Norman, famous Canadian historian and diplomat.

Interview no. 84, Tape no. 1 of 2, Track 1

Mr. Howes: This is June 3rd...1972...I'm John Howes sitting in the living room of our house with Reverend Howard NOrman and his wife ...Gwen Norman..and we're going to start taping now..Gwen..you were just talking for a minute about a Mr. Bawn...

Mrs. Norman: Bawn..I think it was..

Mr. Howes: How d'y..

Mrs. NOrman: B-A-W-N...I think..

Mr. Howes: Mr. Bawn..

Mrs. Norman: Yeah...I don't know what his background was not..not as far as being..you know...Anglo-Saxon..or what...I rather think he ..he..was Irish but he was a garbage man and he turned up on our front door step one day in his working clothes and apologized ..waving a little pamphlet that had been put out by the Consultative Council defending the Japanese..and he said.."I wanna know where I can get more of these..and your address was on them..can I get more..?"...And I said.."sure..I'll sell you any number you want..."..And ah..he said.."Well you give me fifty of 'em now.." he says.."I'm gonna...as I collect my garbage I'm going to the back doors and I'm gonna give it to the housewives and say read this and if it's worth the 25¢ you can give it..me the 25¢ ..if you don't want it..you can give it back...I'll give it to someone else.."..And he was very anxious to do his bit to see that justice was done..This was rather interesting since there was some U.B.C. professors at that time..who were very anti-Japanese...

Mr. Howes: Yes...now Gwen..you've just got into the one of the chief subjects that we want to deal with this afternoon and I think we'll take it up right away...that is the relationship of the

lives of the two of you to the problems faced by the Japanese and Japanese-Canadians during World War II...which is a problem which is arousing a tremendous amount of interest, among students of both...ah..those from the majority community who can't imagine how anything like this ever happened that..ah.. their parents or relatives took part in it and also by members of the minority...Japanese and other minority communities who...see it as the most blatant example..of oppression of their people and sort of thing that can happen in a democracy any time...ah..I think.. dear...we might just as well...this is the..there are sounds in the background of tea being wheeled in and I think probably won't bother the taping very much...Perhaps it's not best for our guests to ah...inflict upon them both recording and tea at the same time..however..shall we start..

Mr. Norman: I'll try not to gargle my tea....

(everybody laughs)..

Mr. Howes: Ah..Howard..what was your relationship to this whole thing...a pamphlet has been mentioned and a committee..and

Mr. Norman: Well..ah..after Pearl Harbour...ah...there was a great wave of course..you must remember that...during the war.. this war..there was a good deal of hysteria and..and hatred...Japanese prejudice against Japanese..had existed for a long time and my impression is that it was more widespread than against...say the Chinese or the East Indian..though that also existed...The Japanese had been successfully...had been successful economically..so there's a good deal of...ah..it really amounted to jealousy...that the Japanese would work harder and get ahead faster

than...say..the Ang...people of Anglo-Saxon extraction..So we ran into it everywhere...Then after...ah..after Pearl Harbour of course it was the nefarious Japanese and so on...and the ...ah...The British Columbia Security Commission was...was constituted by.....Ottawa...which was going to move everyone of Japanese extraction from the coast...ah...into the Interior of British Columbia...As this went on there was a great deal of injustice and the Japanese were uneasy and...and worried as was natural under the circumstances...The Civil Liberties Union of Vancouver should've jumped into the picture then..but they didn't...We contacted them so a group of people who were interested in seeing the rights of the Japanese...and let us remember that anyone born in Canada is by birth...a Canadian citizen..therefore all Nisei....all..ah.. people of Japanese race born here were Canadian citizens and had certain rights by law..which were ignored...Another particular point...a very sore point..with the Nisei....was that ah...Germans and Italians were equally enemy agents because the war in Europe had been going on for two years but there was not nearly the discrimination against them...So to make a long story short...we formed what was called a Consultative Council for Civil Liberties in Wartime..The Press made a great mock of this long awkward name that we searched for some m m name that wouldn't indicate that we were primarily interested in the Japanese...If we'd done that we wouldn't have got to first base...ah..with it...Doctor Norman Black..a retired normal school teacher..who was a very fine ah...he was quite senior to most of us...very fine fighting Liberal of the best type..was Chairman...I was Vice-Chairman..and the Reverend Archie McLachlan

...a Baptist Minister...was the Secretary-Treasurer...I think.. We didn't do a great deal...We called meetings and then we decided that the only thing to do was to ah...write propoganda.. We printed a little pamphlet..simply called THE JAPANESE CANADIANS...I think...and then we did a much better one..WHAT ABOUT THE JAPANESE CANADIANS??...which was illustrated..And he had a wonderful cover for it...It was..of course..just a little pamphlet ..oh..about 60 pages or something like that... but it was a picture which we got from the press somewhere of King George the VI..inspecting the Japanese...

..I mean the American Japanese battallion ...which fought in ah...Italy and..and covered itself with glory...I forget the number of it..but anyways..

Mr. HOwes: 442? (Check this number)

Mr. NOrman: Pardon?

Mr. HOwes: 442?

Mr. NOrman: 442...I guess it was..ah here was our King..inspecting American Japanese soldiers and here in Canada we weren't taking them into the army...We had other pictures and the whole thing was done in question and answer..Like..for instance.."ONce a Jap ..always a Jap...Is there any truth in this?"...I..I've got a copy' back home..and it's probably in the U.B.C. Library if there's anyone interested..in seeing it...But we..I think we printed 20,000 and we distributed it through Canada as widely as we could.. I don't know how we financed it..but we took up contributions here and there and ah..this is the interesting thing..ah..we felt we were very small and very ineffectual but SATURDAY NIGHT which at that time was a weekly..a Toronto weekly..published in Toronto

...ah...did very well by the Japanese Canadians...said it was largely prejudice against them.../which caused discrimination that the police..in British Columbia...the Mounties had had examined the Japanese...found few spies among them...ah...and ah..however..back in the east ...whenever...back in the East whenever anyone would speak.. they would say..."Oh well you live in the East..you don't know about the conditions...you don't know about the Japanese.. ".. and B.K. /Sandwell would say..."Well here is a group of Canadian-Canadians living in Vancouver who do know the Japanese-Canadians and this is what they say...

Mr. Howes:

Mr. Norman: ...at the beginning...was...how it all came out (interference and background noises...tape interrupts..)

Mr. HOwes: This is a question relating to the...one of the events during ah...the World War II period...ah..when the Japanese in general were found...it was found that none of the charges that were laid...in general...against the Japanese..in general.. were substantiated...Ah..but there appears to have been some ah.. interesting relations between the m...members of the Japanese community and some of the ah...peace-keeping officials..and this is a subject that Howard brought up earlier and I asked him to expand now...if he would...wouldn't mind..

Mr. Norman: Well...when re-location really got under way..I was employed by the B.C. Security Commission because I knew Japanese as a sort of trouble-shooter to Grant McNeil..M.L.A....he formed a...he was a C.C.F. member...had been member of..parliament in Ottawa..but ah..the B.C. Security Commission was charged with the re-location of the Japanese and then an Advisory Council was..was

formed and so that ah...the...well...that's what function was.. complaints could be laid and listened to and so on and so forth.. Well then...when re-location really got under way the ah.. Japanese community split into four groups...There's one group known as the Morii.... group...and then there was a group of Neesai...which ah..co-operated with the government tried to hasten the re-location..and then there was ah...the..the naturalized Japanese...the first...first generation Japanese with acquired Canadian citizenship..and then a Neesai group that were...that were...we nick-named the Gambare because they were gonna Gambare..and they were ...Canadian citizens and their rights were being ignored and so on...I found myself working with the naturalized Japanese..

Mr. Howes: Just for the record here the "Gambare" is spelled G-A-M-B-A-R-E ...it means to ah...be steadfast..or "fight"..

Mr. Norman: and ah...I found myself working with the first generation Japanese because they...they spoke ...Japanese much better than they did English...and as I met with them day after day..they this...this name "Morii"...Morii kept cropping up all the time...and I said..."WHo is this Morii..?"...And they said..."Oh he's a gangster..."..So I heard so much about him I went and called on him and had a little chat...just from just sheer curiosity but to make a long story short he was a manager of the Nippon Club...and I don't think there was a vicious underworld in Japanese society but ah...if there was one Morii could've been called the..the head of it..

Mr. Howes: He was the Head of what there was..

Mr. Norman: He was the head of what there was and ah..they said "Morii is..is a fascist.."..and "Morii should be interned...ah..

"Morii is receiving bribes from the Japanese in...in order to get the deferrment in re-location.."

Mr. Howes: That is you mean...Japanese..ah..Canadians and Japanese government...not the Japanese government..?

Mr. Norman: Yeah..but...No..by the Japanese residents in B.C....Yes.. ..and ah..the..they..they would tell oh...so and so his was due to be ah...re-located on February the first..but now he's been.. of course..put down two months later and so on..Well I said it's no use your trying to get any evidence of that because if the Japanese did give some money to Morii to get re-location and then Morii would..Morii was a stoollie of the Mounties..this..this he..he ...managed quite clearly from the Cameron Commission..ah.. I said.."You can't..you won't be able to get any information on that ..haven't you got something in black and white..?"..So Iwasaki..who was the editor of the "Tairiku Nippo Sha"...a Japanese language little four-sheet newspaper that was published here..said.."Yes.. I do have evidence.."".Well".I said.."I'd like to see it.."..And he produced Sokoku which means "MOTHERLAND" which was affiliated with the Kokuryukai the Black Dragon Society of Japan and anyone who knew about the history of Japan knew that it was an expansionist society which had existed before the war.. with great glorified dreams of Japanese empire in Manchuria..China ..and so on..So..ah..I ah...translated this from his first number.. of the magazine and gave it to Grant McNeil..of the Advisory Council ...who then produced it at the Advisory Council..and the R.C.M.P. said..."Oh yes..we know about Morii..he's a naturalized Canadian citizen..and he's a very loyal Canadian..he co-operates with the

government.."..Then I went back to my group and..ah told them this and they were still..course they were very..you couldn't blame them for fee..for feeling uneasy because the..the..the..the real grie..their real grief..was they felt that Morii had tremendous influence with the R.C.M.P. and ah...the ah..the Cameron Inquiry..later there was plenty of evidence of that..Well..ah.. these..these two magazines...I..I translated bits about Morii and I got..I got some of it ...this is what Morii gave in a speech in '39..now this was before Pearl Harbour ...before Japan was in the war...and Morii's speaking to a group of the Vancouver Branch of the Sokokukai said: "Remembering that the Empire of Japan is Japan of the gods...I beg of you all to continue marching splendidly on...let our hearts judge and our hands perform, carrying equally on both shoulders, the glory of the Emperor of Japan.."..

..this by..presumably..a Canadian citizen..."OUr Fatherland..the Emperor..the Empire of Great Japan..after a long history committed to a Holy War in fighting for the peace of the Orient...I would like to deepen afresh together with you the purpose in destiny of the National Policy of our Empire great Japan..and strengthen the national and spiritual mobilization...Our Imperial Japan was a country founded to carry to completion, the gods' wishes...On this broad globe there are many and various countries all of which are starting to achieve prosperity for country and individual..But among them all..only in Japan does there majestically exist ruler and subject..one body ..."..That's a quote from.. Sokoku "A self completely sacrificed for the fulfillment of God's will.."

Now anyone who..who ah...knew that..and then later he thanked the people who were there for contributing to Japan's war effort in..

...back in 1939..they'd been turning in their gold and..and other things which presumably he was sending to Japan..at least that was implied in what he said..Well..it's quite clear ..the sort of person he was and I thought it's fascists..the Nazis were being interned in Canada and Morii ought to be interned..But ah..the.. R.C.M.P...ah...had used him as a..he..he..and here..this is hearsay..or memory..and...and..so I won't say it's correct but this is what I was told...that back some years prior to 1941 the ah.. ..Immigration people were quite sure that there were illegal entrants from Japan in B.C...So they started trying to look for them...But the Japanese community clammed up on it..they couldn't get to first base...But they kept looking and looking and ah..Morii saw his chance and volunteered to go to the R.C.M.P. and said.. "I know of some illegal entrants up in the Skeena River.."..He went with the Mounties and they seized them and send them back to Japan...Now ah..the Japanese community being../small at that time..there/were only 23,000...of Japanese race in Canada.. they got the signal immediately...Here is a man who is solid with the R.C.M.P...we'd better be careful of him ah...and..if..since he has influence with them...if we want things done we can work through Morii..So that's why it was...now the..the..naturalized Japanese that I was working with were ah...respectable citizens.. They were paying their taxes ..they're good...good Canadian..and they resented tremendously the...influence which they thought Morii was having in the evacuation..just as any decent citizen in Vancouver would resent if there is an Underworld in Vancouver,,as I presume there is...if the boss of this Underworld should start dictating the policies of Vancouver...that was their resentment

against him...Well..ah..and nothing came of this and then later.. 1942...the months passed and I left the B.C. Security Commission because re-location was almost finished and one day I was chatting with Nigel Morgan, ...who was Secretary of the International Woodworkers of America and I just told him what I've just been telling now...He said.."Ted Ward would be interested to..to hear this"...I said..."Who's Ted Ward?"..He said.."He's a reporter for the News Herald.."...So I said.."Well..I don't want this to get into the paper.."...and well he said..."Oh well..you..Ted would be interested in hearing it and he's an honourable man..if he says he won't print it..you can trust him..."...So he rang..ah..Ward ..who came over in a few minutes...the office was quie near there and I told him this...And Ward said..."Oh I can't use that.. for the News Herald.."....I said.."I don't want you to use it..I'm just telling you because Morgan said you'd be interested in it.." But a week later he rang me...and said he wanted to run it..So I said.."Well wait a minute..I'll ring Norman Black and see if he approves of his being used.."...And Norman Black was very doubtful about the value of using it but I was..rather naive..at the time though I should have been wiser..and this was my reasoning..and here is evidence that the Japanese are willing to give information against one of their own race...maybe that Morii is a fascist and they want..they wanted to see Democracy win..that..and I thought if this were published this would ah...be patent..to anyone who read it...So..about a week later the end of September...I think it was...they...they had big headlines in the News Herald..."JAP BLACK DRAGON ACTIVE IN B.C."...And ah they told the story and so on and then the Cameron Commission...was appointed to inquire into the

charges that were being made by the News Herald...and it started sitting on NOvember the second, 1942...and went on for three weeks.. All sorts of witnesses were called...I was in the witness box..the ah...the..I was interpreter for the News Herald witnesses..Morii of course and his witnesses wouldn't have me as interpreter..he had his own...man...Nishiguchi interpret for him..but it was very apparent as...and the News Herald..and I expect the Sun and Province also..they followed this quite..ah..fully..but it was very apparent as the ah..inquiry went on...that this was precisely what Morii did...The..the best evidence that we had was a man called /MacKawa now Maekawa's sister ah..had been...was pregnant at the time of the re-location..and ah..he wanted her to be moved out...later..if possible...after the birth of the baby...So he gave 1500 dollars to Kagetsu and Kagetsu in turn..presumably..for the welfare of the Japanese because they were suffering a great deal and Kagetsu gave this money to Morii's treasurer..Nakayama..and there was also some more money that was given by a...Maekawa' brother..I think..and then Nakayama was put on the witness box and asked what he did with the money...And he tapped his breast pocket and he says "I have it here.."...Sensation in the court..here's a man that walks around with about $2,000 in cash in his breast pocket and I s'pose he thought ya somehow.."You know..I haven't used this on wine..women ...and song....here it is.."...But he..he..there's a pattern...Ahh...A man called Maekawa who doesn't want to be relocated he gi..he goes to someone that he knows is connected with Morii and then of course...the R.C.M.P. was...witness was called to the box and they..they gave him...evidence as to when Maekawa and his

sister actually were ah..moved out..and it was later, actually.. there was defement there...Ah..but..and then..of course..the ...the bits that I translated from ah were.. had been printed in the News Herald and as I said to anyone who could understand me it was very clear the sort of role that Morii fulfilled...Well now then the man in Morii's position isn't by any means..and then another interesting bit of evidence..that ah.. the Japanese or some of them...simply hated Morii's guts..they were out to get him..And the man called who had become a Sergeant in World War I came to the witness box and said he'd been beaten up by Morii and beaten up by Sasaki..one of Morii's strong arm men with whom I had a pleasant little chat two or three days ago...ah..and they were out..they were out to get Morii you see...They regarded him..th..it's partly this..the scapegoat psychology...they were unhappy and miserable and they wanted to get someone that they thought had been a traitor to their cause.. One man that they..I think the other side had produced that is the B.C. Security Commission and the R.C.M.P. had their lawyer..News Herald had Senator Farris..a..whose our lawyer and then ah..Morii had Alfred Beau ....King's Counsel..who..who was looking after his interests ah..now I forget just really what I was saying..ask me a question...(laughs..)..Oh yes!....I know!..this..one of these people got up..the he..the witness from the other side..you see. ..they thought they were going to testify to Morii's character..be a character witness for him...and they asked him what the Japanese community thought of Morii ...and he said..."The Japanese community hate Morii..."...And they said..'why do you hate him?'..And he said "Because he's a police spy.."...(laughing...)...So that sorta cooked

their goose...He wasn't as useful as they thought he was..Well here's another interesting thing and I won't quote the name of the lawyer but I was darting about and in and out in those days ..and I went to a certain lawyer who I understand is..is still practising in Vancouver..and he told me ah...that one of Morii's men...gave a certain sum of money..I forget what it was..a hundred dollars..to an R.C.M.P. who was detailed for Japanese work..And I said.."Well..you gought to give that evidence in court.."..And he said.."I'm certainly am not going to.."..And he said.."If you tell it outside of these four walls...I'll deny it and it's just your word against mine.."..But that's ah..that man was in the ..ah..Air Force at that time and he came over from whereever he was and this was the sort of evidence that he gave...

Mr. Howes: You mean the R.C....

Mr. Norman: This is the R.C.M.P...

Mr. Norman: Yes..he was ....oh yes..that's right..he was in the R.C.M.P. and then was in the Air Force..Ah..he said that during the ten years he'd known Morii he had never heard anyone cast any aspersions on Morii's character..which was remarkable in view of all that had been heard in the court.. Senator Farris.".How did Morii make his living..?"...."I'm not quite sure on that..probably on gambling.."...Senator Farris".Did it ever occur to you to wonder how he was doing all this..?" ..Ah...witness: "No..he vo..he volunteered his services.".. Senator Farris:.."You wouldn't say he made himself solid with the police?"..Answer : "I wouldn't say that...we certainly appreciated his services..he often helped us out..."..So ...well I say ah..it was ah...we weren't able to make

anything stick and ah..this of course was..This..the Cameron Inquiry was not ah...Criminal Charge ...it was based on special wartime legislation by which the Commission or Enquiry like this could be made if it was believed that..that Canada's safety was in danger ..if anyone was sp..spreading alarm and despondency..So Morii was not on trial...it was simply to examine the charges that had been made in the News Herald...And Morii didn't of course.. bring a charge of libel against it and the thing ra...ran for about three weeks and then ended and ah..Morii..went back to Minto where ah...he..the more well-to-do Japanese were located..it wasn't..I..I ..understand like some of the other re-location centres..But..I..I liked Senator Farris' closing speech..He said..he said something about the R.C.M.P. whitewashing Morii and he said "You used to hear it said that the R.C.M.P. got their man...I now learn that they get their man off.."...(People laugh..)..

Mr. Howes: Thank-you very much..this is a..ah..something that I hadn't heard about at all..Let me for the benefit of the transcriber just give the spellings...

Mr. Norman: This is a ...all this which I have been quoting from is from the News Herald..

Mr. Howes: Sources..

Mr. Norman: Sources which are in the Public Library..

Mr. Howes: ...Sources is the News Herald in the Public Library.. and just let me read over some of the names that have been read today and spell them out...The "Tairiku Nippo Sha"..the newspaper is T-A-I-R-I-K-U...new word..N-I-P-P-O..new word..S-H-A..."Mori" is M-O-R-I...

Mr. Norman: I-I...two I's..

Mr. Howes: Two I's??...M-O-I-....M-O-R-I-I??

Mr. Norman: ..That's right..

Mr. Howes: "KAGETSU" is K-A-G-E-T-S-U..."Nishiguchi" is N-I-S-H-I-.. ..G-U-C-H-I..."Nakayama" is N-A-K-A-Y-A-M-A ...."Maekawa" is M-A-E-K-A-W-A..."Shooji" is S-H-O-O-J-I...."Sasaki" is S-A-S-A-K-I.. ...When you were saying a few minutes ago that even some of the professors were not even some of the professors..but many of the professors were anti-Japanese..

Mrs. Norman: I don't think "many" of them were but..but there were one or two who were quite vocal..about the Japanese wanted them moved off...but of course there was a great deal of hysteria in the community about them..you were hearing all the time of the ah.. /the grocer on the corner was... a Japanese Admiral in disguise and this sort of thing...I mean it..this is..just incredible..

Mr. Howes: Ah..incredible..then..ah..you yourself couldn't believe it...Dit it affect ah..did you see other affects of it on your children..for instance..in the schools..what were they hearing in the schools about the... ?

Mrs. Norman: Oh they were...well there was only one of them who was really hearing anything in the school..that was our eldest daughter..Margaret...who is now in Toronto ..and I can remember that she used to come home from school quite indignant and stood up for the Japanese...they weren't all blacks an' chinks..and what have you..and that..I don't think it made her particularly popular.. I'm glad she had enough guts to speak her mind...(laughter)..

Mr. Howes: We've heard ah..Harry Angus ah..was a figure..I think then in...a public figure...Ah..in the Public Utilities Commission ..and..I'm not sure whether his story...this story deals from that

time or not..butit was some time around World War II..in his position in the Public Utilities Commission he forced the Cemetaries to cease their discrimination in terms of whom they would bury...ah..and this made a condition of the cemetary license ...that they could have no racial conditions attached to this... and ah..19...about 3 or 4 years ago..one of U.B.C.'s most distinguished professors who happened to be of Chinese background died..and Angus found himself standing next to the Director of the Cemetary who..was the same man that had been Director when all this started and he said he had the enjoyment of asking the Director of the Cemetary..he didn't really think..as he saw this huge crowd of people assemble for the burial of this particular Chinese.. the decision had been a right one..rubbing it in..ah... (Everyone laughs...)...extra special...

Mr. Howes: And it's certainly an area where thoughts have changed tremendously in this society since then...What were you going to say...Howard..you mentioned ah..something about the ranking of the various camps..re-location camps...that Minto was where the wealthy Japanese went...now this seems to give further justification to your early statement that there was..there were factors other than random chance operating here...how did the wealthy Japanese get to Minto?

Mr. Norman: Sorry...I can't answer that..I don't know..I Know that Morii was called back from Minto for this Cameron Commission and ah...went back there...That ah...that would be in the records of...should be into that of the B.C. Security Commission..on how it was done..The...may I tell you another interesting little experience we had??

Mr. Howes: ...uh-huh..

Mr. Norman: Tommy Shoyama.who had been editor of the "New Canadian"...

Mr. Howes: Is that Shoyama?

Mr. Norman: That's right...was..belonged to the Neesai group that was co=operating with the government..Now..we tried to persuade the Neesai that it was certainly unjust but there was a war on and ah...the ah...the..it would be advantageous to them in the long run to co-operate with the government so Tommy Shoyana was working to get a group of Neesai earlier on to re-locate to ...to co-operate and go quietly..

Mrs. Norman: Excuse me a minute ..I think you might mention that he was the editor..

Mr. Norman: Yes..of the New Canadian..didn't I say that?

Mrs. Norman: I didn't hear you say that...

Mr. NOrman: Oh..I didn't..well..he's the Editor..he was..had been the editor of theNew Canadian ..and ah..quite..it must have been January or Feb...January I think..of 1942..ah..he got hundred of Neesai...they were all single men..they could go easily..they were supposed to be at...ah..the c..Canadian..C.P.R. Station..in the evening let's say 6 o'clock..or 7 o'clock or whenever it was.. to go on the train...and so Tommy went down there and there were only 5 or 6..And he didn't know where the rest of the hundred were.. Now that was very distressing to him because he'd been on the R.C.M.P. and the guards that were s'posed to go with them..Well they're waiting and only few had sh..shown up..So he rang me up about 11 o'clock at night and said that he discovered most of them...They ..he said..they're in the office of the "Tairiku Nippo Sha"..and

would you come down and talk to them..So I got hold of Norman Black..the Chairman of the Consultative Council and we went down there together...And I can still see...after 30 years in my mind's eye..these young fellows..they were on the second floor of the "Tairiku Nippo Sha" building..they were..they were sleeping in chairs..and sleeping on the floor..spread out all over the place.. and ah..ah..first of all Norman Black spoke to them...though they were Neesai most of them were fisherman's sons and they didn't know much English...so I interpreted Doctor Black's speech for them.. and then I said to Tommy.."Now you talk to them.." I said.."You.. you've had a ,"..and he said.."I can't speak Japanese .."..This was astonishing to me...I think he came from Kamloops.. and his parents had decided that they were gonna be Canadians so they didn't even speak Japanese in the family...Tommy Shoyana was later /..in S-20...the Canadian Army Japanese Language School where I taught and he was one of /the Neesai ah..who always spoke his Japanese with an English accent right to the end..so I..so there's Tommy Shoyana (someone in the background laughing)...as Japanese as you could see in appearance...and he was I..interpreting for ah.. for him...Well..we simply told them that they ought to co-operate and so on..and then Tommy Shoyama and ah..Kunio Shinizu..who is now in Ottawa that...federal civil servant..

Mr. Howes: Kunio...?

Mr. Norman: K-U-N-I-O...S-H-I-M-I-Z-U...The two of them came back to our house and spent ah..the night phoning various people to really clinch the ah...this..what they were trying to do..Well that was.. that was just a little indication of ..of..the time these..Tommy had got their promise that they would go that night..but the

Gambare/group the..the ones that were trying to buck the re-location had got among them you see and persuaded them not to go...

Mr. Howes: Well now...you've mentioned the names of two newspapers.. the "Tairiki Nippo Sha" which is also known as the "Continental Times"...that's written...or at least at that time...was written in Japanese ah..and "The New Canadian"...now these are both still in existence..both published in Toronto..and both taking opposite sides of most questions...(laughter..)..

I was just mentioning a few minutes ago the question of the current project to do a history of the Japanese Canadians..

Mr. Norman: Oh yes...

Mr. Howes: And they're on opposite side to this one...The 'Tairiki Nippo Sha' is the one that is representing the Issei.. I-S-S-E-I..that's the people..who themselves came from Japan and they are working with Shimpo..S-H-I-M-P-O ..."The New Canadian" is representing the Nisea...N-H...N-I-S-E-I ...and they're working with the other man who has applied for a grant to do the Japanese Canadian History...Well...it's interesting to see if this distinction appears to have..have roots this far back..

Mr. Norman: Yeah...I'd like to get on the record that Tommy Shayama today is one of the Deputy Ministers of Finance in Ottawa.. he's done very well..

Mr. Howes: Yes..yes..I've heard a...I've heard of him in that connection..Well..now this ah..brings us ..I think..to a..a broader question...ah..Do you know other people from that period to this period that make interesting biographical comparison...Tommy Shayama..brought up in Kamloops..and now a Deputy Minister..what are some of the others..or are there others...that have a

Mr. NOrman: I really...there is a chap called Buck Suzuki..

Mr. Howes: Yes...??

Mr. Norman: Ah..you know him..?

Mr. Howes: I..yes..he was on television program in 1959 and I've seen that...ah..

Mr.Norman: I ...he was a main..but..I..I..can't place the connection but he was one of the leaders..of the Neesai group at that time..

Mr. Howes: S-U-Z-U-K-I...did you always know George Ishiwara..

Mr.NOrman: NO...

Mr.Howes: That's I-S-H-I-W-A-R-A ...he was...has been a post-war leader of the Neesai group...

Mrs. Norman: Shinizu is also...what's his position in Ottawa..do you remember..?

Mr.Norman:He's...he was originally in statistics..he's one of these mathematical sharps..But I think he's in mines now..

Mr.Howes: MMM.mm..O.K..Now..do we ah...one more question that's come to mind and I'd like to get information on..tell us what Japan Town looked like..

Mr.Norman:What Japan what..?

Mr. Howes: What Japan Town looked like..

Mr. Norman: ..well..

Mr.Howes:Take us on a tour through it if you can remember or..wasn't .wasn't there that much to it..?

Mr. Norman: It was Powell...Powell Street..was Japan Town..

Mr. Howes:Mmmm..hmmm..

Mr.Norman: It was ah..I haven't..I haven't been back to Powell Street since that time but it looked a little bit like the East end

there.you.take Hastings Street...east of Main..ah. Powell Street .as I remember. was East of Main..and south...No...north of Hastings Street..

Mr .Howes: Thats right...

Mr.Norman: Well.it was just Japanese shopfronts with Japanese names.Japanese grocers...and so on..as I remember it..

Mr.Howes:Ah..we're told that at one time they had a total population in a few blocks there over ten thousand..

MrNorman: Is that so..?

Mr.Howes: Ah..and there have been some attempts now ...to..to re-do Japan Town. a..ah...they're not making particular success..there are a...

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Mr. Howes: And eh..what was eh..I was just finishing off on Japan town...the..there are a few Japanese shops down there..perhaps 8 or 10 all together. There are many Japanese restaurants in Vancouver now, I think, a total of 10 or more..and there probably were that many there in 1941, but they've been slow in coming back and now they're eh..generally very high quality. Now what about the town meeting?

Mr. Norman: Well I think it was in 1942..or may..or maybe in nearly 1943..that one of the Vancouver radio stations eh..whose..whose name I forget, said that they were having a town hall meeting on the Japanese question and would I speak on it. And I said, I would. They said "Well you usually have two speakers on each side..who would you like to speak with?" So I said, Bob McMaster...who was a young lawyer who had taken up some grievances cases for us on behalf of the Japanese-Canadian..and they said..."Now..who should speak onthe other side?" "Well," I said, "that's not my pigeon..." (Laughter...) Eh..and then a curious thing..they said "We have asked several speakers..eh several people and they don't want to speak..." So the name that came to my mind was the President of the extreme anti-Japanese group..I forget the name of the league..we'll callit the exclusion league.. their idea was "Once a Jap, always a Jap..." and didn't matter whether a second or third generation..they should be sent back to Japan, right away. So I named him..and they said "Well hes rather extreme..." "Well," I said, "You asked me for my suggestion..." So as it turned out he and someone he had chosen were..eh..the four of us spoke that night. Well they told us that

Mr. Norman: (Continuing) the..eh..we would have 40 minutes divided among the ten..the four speakers..and the last 20 minutes we were not supposed to speak..but eh..we could be asked questions from the Town Hall and just that one hour would be recorded and broadcast the next night. Eh..so I..eh..rang Tommy Shoyana, who was then at the Canadian Army..eh...Japanese language school..that means it must have been at least '43 that this took place..and I said "I want you....and some of your buddies to come in uniform to this Town Hall meeting and sit at the bakc of the hall and don;t say anything till I give you a signal...(chuckles...)" So they and he said he'd be there and eh...the de..debate progressed. Now this was the interesting thing...that as we stopped talked back and forth... there were about a hundred people there as I remember it...and some of /them were in uniform..and the sympathies were all with us..eh..a group that were his..not to come to a meeting like that....were far more sympathetic to us than the extreme racists...stand on the other side.. I was watching the time and eh..eh..five minutes short of the recorded time..I said to the Moderator" I'm not supposed to speak but I want to ask a question someone in the...in the group here, may I do that?" And he said, "Oh certainly." So I pointed to the back of the hall and I said, "Soldier, I see you are wearing the Ki..the King's uniform..what race are you?" And he says, "Japanese race...sir..." and he got a big hand..but unfortunately or fortunately...this exclusionist president had made some dirty cracks about the new Canadian ...He said it professed to be a loyal Canadian paper but they had never openly attacked Japan for its atrocities and so on..well Tommy was of the floor and he got his chance and he let off a blast..himself and /regretting so on and so forth..and it hit the headlines of the News Herald the next morning. Eh..the eh..Major Mackenzie..Arthur Mackenzie was born in Japan..at that time was principal and Commanding Officer of S-20

Mrs. Norman: (Continuing) ...the language school...and he was too busy planning out materials for teaching the soldiers Japanese language..every newspaper so..first he heard about it with when Colonel Mulally Pacific Command, Intelligence, rang him up and "See here MacKenzie..I told you that you'd have to be very careful about your Neesai soldiers..can't you keep them in order?!" So then, MacKenzie read the newspapers and I was afraid because of that...because it appeared in the newspapers..eh..of what might happen to them.. So I rang the school this was on a Saturday and asked the Orderly Sergeant if they were..if they would get into trouble because of it and he said "Oh no, sir," he said, "they..a man in uniform can attend public meetings." So the eh..Major called them in and told them to be careful and all the rest of it but nothing would be done.

But now this is what interested me about/the C.C.F.....I got a call from an Ottawa..from Ottawa that night..from a C.C.F. M.P. asking what was going to happen to those soldiers and I said..."I checked all that and nothing's going to happen to them..."Well," he said, "If there's any trouble..ring me at this number and we'll see that ghey get a square deal." The C.C.F. in B.C. at that time..and I want this to go on the record..I think lost--oh several thousand votes..at the..the Provincial Election that followed because they did stand up..they did take a decent stand..for them, and the Communist Party eh.... who presumably are Internationalist didn't say..didn't say anything in defense of the Japanese Canadians..at all...and that I'd like to go on the record too. (Chuckles.)

Mr. Howes: Did you know Jack Norris?

Mr. Norman: Eh..I knew his name, I didn't know him personally.

Mr. Howes: He was eh..well you've mentioned the -eh- Japenese

Mr. Howes: (Continuing) language school..and of course..these schools, and there were a number of them, eh..this was the only one Canada, I think..wasn't it?

Mr. Norman: That's right...

Mr. Howes: There ware 4-5 down in the United States..a..and... several...in other parts of the world but they're now looked upon as eh...pioneer schools in the contemporary methods of language instruction.

Mr. Norman: Ya...

Mr. Howes: ..You were talking about the Director of this one grinding out materials..although..and you were teaching at the school at one time, or...???

Mr. Norman: Eh...this was a very...to me..a civilian..was a very interesting thing..eh..you may know, John, that at that time they d-dn't have conscription in Canada..there was conscription for overseas services because Quebec's attitute...and so a man would be drafted into the army..but he could then elect to be what was called

..eh..eh..Home Defense or General Service...and on the sleeve of his uniform he had the letters "GS" for General Service which meant he could be sent overseas and or "HD" Home Defense which meant that he couldn't be sent out of Canada. The S-20. Well, it..it seemed a ridiculous thing that eh...that...the eh..they would send Home Defense men..we got...we had several of them and it was an interest/ing study in Psychology to me who was teaching them, to see why it was that these people were Home Defense. There was a chap who for instance, he was a lieutenant, who had a grievance against the government. He was, I think an M.A. in psychology and he wanted to go into Personnel..well he.. he..hadn't been put into Personnel so O.K...he wasn't going to play ball with the..with the government,you see?...there are various reasons

Mr. Norman (Continuing) ...but the..naturally the general servicemen..disliked the Home Defense men and nickname at that time for them was Zombies...they're called Zombies. Now we were reading in the Japanese reader, a story..I've forgotten the name, you may be able to help me out here...during the Kamakura era...eh..the some politicals are planning a coup d'etat and one of the leaders..eh..shaved his head and when he was going throughout the country to sort of take the pulse of the country, and see whether the coup d'etat could...could succeed.. He became lost one night in the mountains and away off in the distance saw a light burning and he went there and it was a...it was a poor Samurai of the eh..of his party so to speak..so this political moved into it gradually and the eh...Samuri said "My hangs rusting on the wall and my horse is starving on the mountain-side, but at the cry "Iza Kamakura" he said, "I will polish my armour and sally forth in defense of the..of the country!" Now eh..a .. General Serviceman called Captain Kennelly..he was translating this and when he got that far he says.."In other words he wasn't a Zombie!!" (laughs...)

Mr. Howes: Yes so this eh..and obviously you were deeply involved...

Mr. Norman: Ya....

Mr.Howes: That I know very well, in this training programme...eh ...I think the only person that was in that was Lloyd Graham..as a student...but it's obvious that there were many others...do you know any from this group among students..and what's happened to them later on? Lloyd is one....

Mr. Norman: Y...he...he now the probably most distinguished of them all is Arthur Erickson.

Mr. Howes: Oh yes.

Mr. Norman: You did..you couldn't have read eh..Time a few months ago..

Mr. Howes: No...I haven't.....

Mr. Norman: He..e..it's a cover, small story on him ....and in it he mentions the fact that he was in this language school..I taught him and he's a very quiet, sort of person..a good student as I remember him, but..he's...he was in S-20. Judy LaMarsh.

Mr. Howes: Judy LaMarsh is another one..ya...eh..are there any others?

Mr. Norman: I can't think of any...

Mr. Howes: Was Llewellyn Fletcher...??

Mr. Howes: Yes he was in...

Mr. Howes: He was a student??

Mr. Norman: Yes..ya..ih-hmmmm.

Mr. Howes: He's now living retired..eh..East of here...

Mr. Norman: Salmon Arm...isn't it?

Mr. Howes: Salmon Arm, yes...

Mr. Norman: I got lettes..fr..every Christmas...(laughs)..general epistles....

Mr. Howes: Ya..Uh-huh..We..get those too...well I think that eh.. er've covered a lot of material on the..on the war itself..eh..Gwen why don't you just give us a brief...autobiography.

Mrs. Norman: Autobiography?? I was born in in London, England, of Welsh parents..my father was a minister..later he was Moderator of the United Church of Canada and I went to school at first in London, and hated it..in the college and..eh..then I got to a school in Brooklyn which I loved so much that I used to try to prevent my mother finding out that I had a cold in the morning where as in earlier years I had put on very good acts about having a cold...

Mr. Howes: This is Brooklyn, New York?

Mrs. Norman: Yes...Packer's Collegiate Institute, and then we moved to Montreal and there I went to Trafalgar Institute and later to McGill University where I took my B.A. and then my M.A. in History.

Mrs. Norman: (Continuing) And the same year I got my M.A. I married and then off to Japan with Howard and our life has been there and here in Vancouver ever since.

Mr. Howes: So that eh..and now, I understand, that you're returning back to yor History interests and that you and Howard are going to be working together on a History.

Mrs. Norman: Yes, the only touble is, we haven't decided who's... who's doing what..(laughs...) we think maybe I'll do the early part and he'll do the later....

Mr. Howes: A history of the ah..Methodist Church Mission to Japan?

Mrs. Norman: Yes...yes.

Mr. Norman: It will be eh..a hundred years next year from the time our first two missionaries went to Japan.. our first two men went in 1873.

Mr. Howes: Well now ah...Howard why dont you just sketch your own autobiography..because the Norman family are a big part of that history.

Mr. Norman: I was born in ah...Kuruizawa, Japan in 1905...my Father came to Japan as a missionary in 1897...Mother taught my brother and my sister and me at home...'til about Grade 6...Mother taught my brother, my sister and me at home..'til about Grade 6...in 1916 I was able to enter Grade 7 in p..in public school..at Mitchell, Ontario...and then after /that when I went back to Japan I continued in the Canadian Academy at Kobe. Wrote my Junior matriculation there, eh.. the papers were sent out by the Ontario Department of Education and mailed back to Toronto and marked there so that..there was /no trouble in entering University, actually...I took my Senior Matric..that is.. Grade 13..and wrote those papers in Mitchell. Then I took my eh.. Arts Course..English and History at Victoria College, Toronto...I ..Theology at Emmanuel College, Toronto... then I won the Travelling eh..Fellowship and took it at Cambridge ....Westminster College

Mr. Norman: (continuing) Cambridge...married Gwen in 1932 and went to Japan in that year. And I was there, we were in Kanazawa..from 1932 to 1940 with one year off in..for furlough, whoch we..which I spent studying at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Mr. Howes: Let me just put in those two places names...Kazuizawa where he was born in K_A_R_U_I_Z_Z_W_A...and Kanazawa where he went in 1932 is K-A-N-A-Z-A-W-A....

Mr. Norman: Then..eh..in 1941, we returned to Canada and I was minister of St. George United Church, Vancouver from '41 to '47....

Mr. Howes: Where is that in Vancouver?

Mr. Norman: It's eh...Fraser and 47th and it was during that period that what I have mentioned earlier took...took took place and from '47 to '59, I was on the staff of Kwansei Gakuin University..K-W-A-N-S-E-I.. G-A-K-U-I-N University which is between Osaka and Kobe and eh...Gwen and I taught there from 1947 to 1959. I had a furlough in '59 and since the secretary of the Board of Overseas Missions had died..just died I was acting Assistant-Secretary for a year on furlough and in '61 we went back to Japan to Matsumoto...we lived in Matsumoto till 1965 and Shiojiri from '65 up till last year.

Mr. Howes: That's eh...Matsumoto is M-A-T-S-U-M-O-T-O..and Shiojiri is S-H-I-O-J-I-R-I. All right eh...since you were born and brought up in Japan then, returning as a missionary to work there was no particular strain for you but eh...I imagine that Gwen had recollections of what it was like to hit Japan for the first time in 1932....

Mrs. Norman: Yes, I guess I do..eh..we had..ah..owing to the fact that it was Depression years we went directly out to the country instead of staying in Tokyo for language study...and eh..we had a very good Japanese friend there right from the start..Howard who was having to earn a part of his salary at the Toyama...

Mrs. Norman: (Continuing) Toyama High School..T-O-Y-M-A... T-O-Y-A-M-A...eh...and eh the tea...the head teacher there was a Mr. Nishisaki who took us under his wing and did everything possible for us...we were living in the same house as Howard's brother-in'law and I was left alone there one evening because Howard had gone with his brother-in-law to a church in outlying district...and Mr. Nishisaki turned up on the doorstep to because there was a shrine or a temple of something having a festival he thought we should see it..but he realized that it wouldn½t do for him to take me along so he said "Wait a minute..I'll go get my wife!" And she came along with us to see this festival. Now he was a teacher of English at..for a student English Literature and he knew that in the West ladies walked ahead.. and his wife spent an acutely embarrased evening walking ahead of him with me..(laughs...) Eh..he also learned...it was very hot that September...he learned that I reallyliked to swim..and Howard..and he of course would go to the high school where he was teaching and Mr. Nishisaki arranges to go to a girl's high school to swim and the two of us swam solemnly back and forth a few times in this pool watched by just about half the school...(laughing...) we never went again! And in those days the children used to...we..we weren't there were only about 7 foreigners all together in Toyama so we were something of a rarity if we went out from the main part of town..we went for a walk one day. And' we came back feeling some sympathy for the Pied Piper of Hamlin, we had about 60 children walking behind us...kept calling out "Ijin".."Ijin".... which was the dirty word for foreigner...

Mr. Howes: That's eh..I-J-I-N...just means a different kind of person.

Mr. Norman: Nishisaki was N-A...N-I-S-H-I-S-A-K-I.....

Mrs. Norman: And we got back into the centre of the...the..as we left the part of the town where these children belonged they sort of tailed

Mrs. Norman: (Continuing) off and we lost them/but I was still feeling somewhat shattered by all this when we met the Nishisakis and their little boy addressed us by name and I felt tht I was no longer a non-person but a person when they Called out... "NORUMAN..NORUMAN..!" (laughs)

Mr. Howes: That would be N-O-R-U-M-A-N, I think..to get that... significance then....

Mr. Howes: Well, then you do have very vivid recollection, certainly, of 1932. Did you get any sense of eh..impending disaster.. it was a..obviously the finances were difficult in North America and Japan was also in a economic slow-down at the time...eh..did you have much evidence of this in your own life among the...

Mrs. Norman: Not I would say, in the first 2 or 3 years...not..we weren't too conscious of it, but of course the Manchurian business was already on..we lived in a garrison town..and the garrison was in the old castle grounds. And it's perhaps a significant fact that we never saw the gate of the castle because it wasn't a good idea to look in that direction. Ah..they didn't like it.. if foreigners were too interested..it is one of the most beautiful gates in Japan..it'... very simple, Ishikakawamon...I-S-H-I-K-A-K-A-W-A-M-O-N

Mr. Howes: And its still exists?

Mr. Norman: Oh yeah...

Mrs. Norman: It exists...it is now the entrance to the University... at Kanazawa...

Mr. Howes: So the castle no longer exists??

Mrs. Norman: No...they didn't..it didn't..in our day either

Mr. Norman: It was the..the seat of the Maedas...M-A-E-D-A...who.. eh..I think..before nobility was abolished...eh..after the war he was Marquis Maeda..and he was one of the eh..what is the term...the ...used that were not pro.....?

Mr. Howes: Eh...Toza....

Mr. Norman: Tozama...

Mr. Howes TOZAMA...

Mr. Norman: Yes and he was watched very closely by..by the the Tozama spies..the story....good story about him, which I like, eh... when he was being shaved he didn't have eh hairs which grew out of his nostrils cut off..and one of his retainers said that people will think you odd, if you don't."No" he says, "maybe"he says "Maybe it's worth my life to be called a little bit odd". He was..he knew he was watched very closely and he wanted to throw off all sus-suspicion.... Do you know the name of..you know the name of Delmer Brown?

Mr. Howes: Yes...hu-huh...

Mr. Norman: He was in Kanazawa when we went there in 1934.

Mr. Howes: I see. you went from the city of Toyama to the city of Kanazawa...

Mr. Norman: Well we had a brief..we had a year in Tokyo....

Mr. Howes: A year in Tokyo between....

Mr. Norman: So that

Mr. Howes: Toyama..Tokyo..and then Kanazawa...

Mr. Norman: It was very interesting at that time Brown was..he was fresh out of college ...California, and he wasn't very studious... he told me then that he was..ahhe'd never read any of the English classics the..the novels of the 19th Century and he..and he got them out of the 4th High School there..He started studying Japanese, and from being eh..he's still a very jolly eh..sort of person, but I mean he..I don't think he intended at that time, he was just gonna teach for three years on contract, to the Japenese and from there he went on...he...I suppose one of the distinguished scholars eh...Japanese scholars, today...

Mr. Howes: Oh yes...

Mr. Norman: He's working now on Dukansh...

Mr. Howes: Oh, really?

Mr. Norman: Yes. Do you know that???

Mr. Howes: Uh..not that much...

Mr. Norman: Well, it's one of the early books in Historiography of that he..he and the Japanese Ishida are working on the translation and he hopes to publish it soon...

Mr. Howes: That would be ISHIDA is the man and the book is DUKANSH. Well that's eh..and so you've eh..say you've just been visiting the Browns...

Mr. Norman Yes...

Mr. Howes: Down in California...eh..where he teaches..Irene, are you about done or...

Irene: Mmm-hmmm

Mr. Howes: Can we be of any help to you now?

Irene: I think I'll just eh..move around and eh..go ahead...

Mr. Howes: Fine (chuckles). Can we take a look at tht one or ah...?

Irene: Yes.

Mr. Norman: Oh ya.

Mr. Howes: Yes Mr. Norman I don't have a very good subject to start with... (Everybody laughs...)

Mrs. Norman: Towards the end of course..we were beginning to notice things and right towards the end eh..food was becoming a bit scarce..

Mr. Howes: And the end in this case is 1940?

Mrs. Norman: In 1940, yes, and eh, I can remember it was eh..one of our eh..grocers producing a box of cream of wheat howev..where..he how long he'd had it, I don't know, but "Maybe you can..would like to buy this..."

Mr. Howes: Uh-huh

Mrs. Norman: Also, eh..sugar was rationed very severly, in those days and ah well...if..you went down to the shop with a container, well I used to take the tin I kept /it in and line up with the Japanese to get my rations and they would all get ten Sen worth and he..I presented with my box which would hold a lot more and he'd say "How much do you want?" And I'd say "How much can you give me"? And he'd give me fifty Sen worth and then the next guy in line....a Japanese, gto ten sen worth again..but nobody complained!

Mr. Howes: That was S-E-N is "Sen" and the 10 sen was for one person??, or you don't know?

Mrs. Norman: For the family

Mr. Howes: For the family..and you were able to get 50 sen...this was...I think later..during the wartime years, at least, the foreigners were considered to be twice as big as Japanese...so required twice as much food.

Mrs. Norman: Well I think there was a realization was that we used a great deal more sugar in our cooking...because Japanese buy their cakes and we don't.

Mr. Howes: Uh-huh....

Mrs. Norman: I think that this was the rationale behind it but nobody complained about that at all..and ah..on one occasion I sent /Margaret down to..whe was only about five years old..the grengrocer was just a few hundred yards from the house..and I sent her up to get some tomatoes and come back..I thought..."Oh.."Oh...what in the Sam Hill is keeping her " you know, the usual parental irritations but she came back and I was in a hurry and I got supper..I didn't even sy "Why were you late..?" Oh about half an hour later she said "I couldn't get home".I says, "Why not"? These children were throwing stones at me." And I said, "Well, how did you get home?" She said "A soldier came, and took my by the hand and brought me". (laughs)..

Mr. Howes: All right that says a great deal about eh..conditions at that time then, did eh..was the attending a Japanese school or...?

Mrs. Norman: No..it wasn't very much done in those days to send children to Japanese schools, I did..we did send her to Japanese kindergarten eh..and the whole set up was a mistake..some children adapt in a situation like that, well, and some don't...I know of another family, a Post War family, they had three children. The first daughter just swam right in...second daughter couldn't take it... It's just a question of temperament...

Mr. Howes: So whe went to a Japanese kindergarten and then.....to the....

Mrs. Norman: And then I taught her..no I taught her at home... for about a year and then, just before we came back to Canada, she... we all moved to Kobe because ah..all the men teachers from the Canadian Academy had..removed themselves..they were afraid of getting caught in Japan, if ther was a war and we had decided to go back to Canada anyway, because all sorts of doors were closing as far as doing any sort of Missionary work were concerned..so we just decided to go back and then then they asked Howard to fill in for a time, down there so she began at the Canadian Academy then.

Mr. Howes: Uh- huh.

Mr. Norman: I'd like to say something about that ah..period..during all that time..ah..while the press and the government was whipping up propaganda against the British..not against the Americans..this was why Pearl Harbour was such a surprise..you see the British were in the way of the Japanese army in ah..Shanghai because of the International Concession...and then they were in Hong Kong..by 1940 the Japanese navy had gone down to South China and I believe the British had a concession in Hankow...up the Yangtzei River so the blasts were against

Mr. Norman: (Continuing) the British, but ah..while we were..

..while we were very closely watched..plainclothesmen used to come around once a month to..to eh..very politely quiz me..and while we were regarded as potential enemy yet it was..we were never insulted, or made to feel uncomfortable in any way, which was quite different from what the Japanese got here in B.C.

Mr. Howes: That's a very interesting commentary...(chuckling)

Mr. Norman: Yeah..it..it's a difference in psychology..The Japanese regard the government as being /"they" you see, we were individuals they knew us...or if they iddn't know us, well we were just an individual and not necessarily anenemy of the country but that..that is a fact that I was never..ah..when we were leaving Kobe. I went down to the Police Station to get the permit to leave, and of course they knew I was Canadian, but the police officer seemed very sorry that we were leaving the country..he said "Why are you leaving" Why don't you stay on?"

Mr. Howes: Yes he was losing one of his charges, wasn't he?

Mr. Norman: Ya...

Mrs. Norman: One of the things of that time, though, that..we we had continual visits from the police. Wo wanted to know what we'd been thinking about and so on and so forth..(chuckles...)

Mr. Norman: They wanted to know what..what information we were getting about the war..Of course Japan was completely under censorship.. all the media were ah..controlled by the Japanese government so the Japanese people didn't know what were..what was happening..ah to their armies are abroad, except as permitted by the Japanese government...but they knew that we were getting magazines..This is 'nother interesting thing that just comes to mind we..we were getting the New Statesman at that time, and eh...I was due to preach in Kanazawa and eh..the

Mr. Norman: (continuing) New Statesman..Ca...the mail came in and with it the..the leader was a blast against Japan...what it was doing in China and so on..and eh..I read the leader and I scrapped the sermon which I had prepared and preached on the text "They that take the sword shall perish by the Sword" ...Well I didn't attack Japan in the sermon but I realized that it was a controversial topic and so I said when I ended the sermon that I realized this is controversial topic and ah..if anyone wants to stay and discuss it with me after the service, I'd be glad to do so..Well, some students and young men stayed and they wer very hot against me...they said, "Norman, semsei.. semsei..you were saying..talking about that but we know what you..you were thinking..you were thinking that Japan was a very bad militaristic country and what about the British Empire and what about the Amritzar Massacre and so on and so forth!?" Well, a couple of days later in the week, I met the Minister of that church, the Japanese minister and he said "You know, Sunday afternoon, a plainclothes-man called around and said Mr. Norman, was speaking at your church, what did he preach about?" And he said "Oh, he preached a Rehai Sekkyo.....R-E-H-I... R-E-I-H-A-I...the next word...S-E-K-K-Y-O...a service of worship sermon, and eh..there wasn't a single person in that congregation that eh talked on me to the police...

Mrs. Norman: We both had train experiances..I was travelling down with the children, by myself, I had forgotten why Howard wasn't with me... and ah..I had a magazine and so..a plainclothesman came on and he wanted to know where and how long it would take me to get there and all this sort of thing and he kept on at me and ah..I finally got rid of him (interferring knocks by the microphone interupts tape somewhat..) and I was turning loose the children on him and saying "Now why don't you tell jiisan/(uncle) about your books!?" (Mr. Howes laughs heartily..)

Mrs.Norman: (continuing) And of course being Japanese he wasn't about to be demonstrative to children so they gave him a tin ear for a while..Do you remember your...experience?

Mr. Norman: Yes well, the plainclothesman that called on me in Kanazawa was very courteous and very decent..I was as..as accommodating as I could be because I knew he had a job to do and had to turn in a report on me and so on..once when I was travelling between Fukui and Kanazawa ah..a plainclothesman got on the train and..he was a small town man and his..his manner of intrrogating me was so..rude that I finally said"Urusai" which...U-R-U-S-A-I...Urusai is one of these untranslatable words that mean "It's a nuisance..there..this is.." or whatever it is and he said..."Come with me...!" So I thought "Oh-Oh..in for it now!" So (chuckling in the background..) it was at a station then, I thougt he was gonna take me off, but he got to the end of the car, and he said to me, "You said I was a Urusai..." And I said "Yes, I did". He said "What would all the people in the train think

Mr. Howes: No! (Uproarious laughter from everyone...) That's som'in So that what you're saying then, is that really, at..at this personal level for a World War II Canadian attitude towards the Japanese hit in such a very vicious way..the opposite was true in the period immediately preceding World War II in Japan...

Mr. Norman: Yes.

Mr. Howes: For you..this is a very eh...

Mr. Norman: Well I think..now that didn't happen with all the..the with all the foreigners in Japan..as 1940...ah wore on..ah..the... there were various incidents that the ..gave foreign Community in Japan the jitters. One of them was eh..the Reuters correspondent in Tokyo..was arrested and taken to the Metropolitan Police Office..a large building which is still standing ther, and he either tried to jump out of the third storey..or fouth storey window, or else was thrown

Mr. Norman: (Continuing) out and fell onto the concrete and ah died shortly afterwards, and this sent a shock through the foreign community because nothing like that had happened before up to that time. I think that they felt they'd arrest him because they felt he was eh... sending out eh..oh I don't know..any...in any case..the correspondent /but tries to get hot news you know, and he was probably sending that out, and then the Burma Road had been closed, a gesture of appeasement..to Japan by the British government and it didn't make any difference to the Japanese military of course so theyre-opened it. And ah..there was great alarm in Japan, among the foreign community, they thought that when this was re-opened ah..that something would really happen, but nothing did happen. And then, in the summer of '40..ah..I think thirty Bri..British businessmen in Kobe were arrested and all of them were wer..released..and it was said at the time, of course, this is hearsay again, that the..gestapo which had moved into Japan..had been prodding the Japanese plice to..turn the heat on the British..and eh... probably it made a..made charges against some of these..ah these businessmen but they couldn't prove anything against them..except ah..Captain James was kept a couple of days and they said they dis-dovered a secret code that he was coding messages and sending them to the British and he said.."Oh," he said, "I don't have any code." "Oh yes, you do, we..we searched your house and found a code book." "Well," he said, "I'm sure you didn't!" "Well," they said, "In this code book it says...Knit 1...Purl 2..drop 3...knit 1...that surely is a code!" (Everybody laughs...)

Mr. Howes: Oh...so it wasn't eh..your..although the- got in his ..book..it..it..they were giving him a somewhat harder time..than you were...

Mr. Norman: Yeah..they released him right later.

Mr. Howes: Was it partly because you were a teacher that you got

Mr. Howes: (Continuing) this..or was it...I would say that it was also because you'd been..had enough experience in Japan as the missionaries had at the local level...so they...they could react more naturally...

Mr. Norman: Maybe so..now this is a very..eh interesting thing and Mrs. Bott who is still living in Toronto, says she doesn't know why it happened but after Pearl Harbour, Americans..

Mr. Norman: Mrs. Bott..B-O-T-T...ya after Pearl..ah..Harbour, now their enemy the nationals were interrned...except a few that were under house arrest..but Mr. Bott had been engaged in Social Service in East Tokyo, the..the poorer..the slum settlement of Tolyo, and eh, he wasn't even put under house arrest, much less interrned. They moved around, they were very careful, but eh, until they went back on the exhange ship they were at liberty to live in their house and were not under house arrest.

Mr. Howes: Were they actually living in the Eastern Section of Tokyo?

Mr. Norman: No, they were living in the centre of Tokyo....

Mr. Howe: Okay that's all of this tape.

End of Track II.

[illegible] Jan Nov. 13/
Morii rep. by Alfred Bull, K.C. – Archie Nishizawa acted as
interpreter.
Bull brings out 1923 incident when Shiozawa was killed in
altercation w Morii –, Morii released on suspended sentence
[illegible]
Higo + entered Can illegally in 1926 – when registration of
J. ordered went to Morii for help – Morii advised Higo
to say he entered Can in 1909-10 c his father. Denies
giving money to Morii

13 Jan Nov. 14 –
Morii in U-boat – despite residence in BC for 36 yrs – did not
speak or read Eng. well enough to testify – Hon [illegible]
Bull: Morii indefatigable worker for J. chamber for $500
& J. community
Davis cross questions Morii about 1939 speech – attempts to
Brit. & meeting Kita – Morii parried questions skillfully

[illegible] in Nov. 17 –

Taken from notes made by Howard Norman,
June 1972.

These notes dealt with the investigation in early
1942 as to the character of one MORII, a strong
man in the Japanese-Canadian group.

RCMP: [redacted] produced evidence showing Maikawa
for his evac. notice on May 12
Maikawa: Was to be evac. in April / but got a deferment
Crown: Did you secure a deferment? "Yes from the Buy-Low Club"
Mr Maikawa left the court his eyes met those of Morii & Both men
bowed slightly Smartly in keeping of Morii's impassive
countenance changed expression for the first time during
the trial. He smiled broadly at Maikawa.

Nakagawa quizzed about entries in his treas. record of NJ Japan Club
: paid $150 from Sadao Maikawa & $1000 from other
Maikawas who were in business here.
Crown: Where is this money now?"
Nakagawa: "Here", tapping his vest pocket
Crown: —
Crown: (to Nakagawa) are Morii's wealthy - Nakagawa: Yes. Morii was
~~Sort of~~ kind of woman who we have $300 —— $500 in her
purse & Morii " was " - - - $7000 — $3000

Exh. 12 Nov. 17. was Serg. in PPCLI

Shoji: was beaten up by Morii himself & by Sasaki, Morii's
further charge, was - [redacted] in Nov. 1940 when he visited NJ Club
that also beaten up by Sasaki - Shoji laid a charge & paid fine that Sasaki paid
Capt - Lieut Francis Henry / former RCMP constable, who was born &
raised in Jap said that during the 10 yrs he had known Morii he had
never heard anyone cast any aspersions on Morii's char.
Crown: How did Morii make his living?
Henry: I'm not quite sure on that. Profits on gambling
Crown: Did it ever occur to you to enquire how he was doing all this?
Henry: No, he volunteered his services
You didn't say he made most. solid of the Police
I didn't say that. We certainly appreciated his services, he helped us out.

Nov. 13.
Crown: asks to see Particulars on Morii. He said that file on Morii
Roche: I don't think so. It's a secret document

of being $400 or $600 & was sent to Japan
the accounting of fare had been given — & never returned
In 1931 exam by RCMP for illegal entrants

Kenichi Kinoshita for many yrs. employed at Royal Bank
Main & Hastings: People had a stiff fear of them
bec. of his rep. for beating men up.

V. 7. N.H.

~~Bradstreet~~ Alex. L. Wright Van. mgr. of Sun Life
Testified: Kobayashi, his best salesman in Vancouver, was absol.
confidence, was absol. insulted that Morii had any aff.
a police in exam.

V. 10. N.H.

Ted Ward: Mysterious Mr. X - presumably a FBI official
" " will not give his name. I suggest the help of the FBI
in San F. can be brought

Cameron: When did you get statement that Morii boasted
the 6 six Nisei would volunteer to stay in Nippon —

Ward: Got it from Dinsmore, husband of Emerson (a bus driver)
had a despatch from Portland:
"On Dec. 20, 1942, FBI men had raided the Shinkai &
arrested 24 Japs.

Mike Homan was on witness stand, report drafted by Consult. Conrad
on Morii was objected as being largely of hearsay.
4th: You might as well say evidence of J Caesar was just hearsay
then too.

V. 11. N.H.

Obviously frightened & speaking hesitantly Sakao Maekawa
Revelstoke to testify bef. the Commission; a young J born man
Morii admitted he had obtained a deferment by evacuation thru
the Nippon Club —

Kawai: I gave $1500 to Kageura to assist in relief of hard-up J;
his sister Mrs. Ogino was expecting & Maekawa wanted Ogino back to
Kalispell

Kageura, treas. of Nippon Club acc'd him $150 from Kawai
Maekawa saw Morii at " " & Morii said he'd see what he could do

Comm: Tell us what you said to Morii & why you went to him

A: As we went the 3rd stumped down in the witness box &
threw his fist — & he blanched white and the yellow

from J. [illegible] Mail did not [illegible] Marie has [illegible]
[illegible] can be received.

[illegible] "He (Mead) had an attitude of trust towards Marie, I
I don't know"

[illegible] Backlash, MLH - [illegible] of the JC See Com.

[illegible] City Jour & Sanitary Inspector - witness: Marie
[illegible] as much as $50 from some J. [illegible] families for
[illegible] of being moved to Friends.
[illegible] Toyama asked Smith to try to arrange accomodations for
J. families. " note Sec. Com. letter May 15—20
[illegible] Mrs Neil said he did find no trace of listed names.
[illegible] Smith was told not to [illegible] arrangements by
Toyama because Marie had the list -
[illegible] J. families were going originally to Sacramento but
didn't want to go there

[illegible] Elmore Philpott, editorial director of News Herald -
said that complete file on Marie could be obtained from
FBI file in 'Frisco. -

[illegible] of Inquiry CAMBRON (of Belleville) J.C.A. COMMISSION
he is called Commissioner Untouch

[illegible]. Nov. 5.

[illegible] H.S. teacher identified only as witness A - She
approached her telling tales of Marie

[illegible] R.C. Mounties, of Staff of H.D. Campbell, acting as agent of Enemy Control,
was advised by [illegible] Trustee of Fairview School, that
[illegible] corporate in self-supporting evac. schemes be
of Marie's dominant [illegible]

[illegible]-6-N-H.

R. Mahlakatsk. : w/s to whom Marie was [illegible] but after was
Pro-Canadian - Marie did not have complaints of J. community
because "he was" a spy for the M. Police"
[illegible] in 1941 Marie's name suggested in the Fisherman Union
as a man likely to have significant influence & contacts to
enable retention of certain fishing licences of those lost
to groups of them a technicality
To this end each of the K/K continents [illegible]

News Herald - Nov. 3 - Hr gives evidence

Transl. from Morris's speech in Sittard - Dec. '39 -
"Remembering that the Empire of J. is the J. of the gods, I beg of you and to continue marching steadfastly on --- Ax on hearts with + on banners person. carrying Japanese on both shoulders to glory of the Emperor of J." -
Cross Examination - started on Nov. 7

The Consultative Council sent copies of transl. of Morris's speech entitled Fundamental Duties of the Subjects of the Empire. Hrs sent to P.M. King, R.B. Hanson, Min of Justice St. Laurent by Consultative

Morris's speech - "Our Fatherland, the Empire of Great J. after a long history, committed to a holy war --- fighting for the peace of the Orient" - (Then said that the Can. J. Assoc. had called a mtg of reps from each Soc. - 4 thousand known for centuries of gold, silver written articles, until - "up to a point where it touches upon duty and ends, it is something that strikes my heart

1972
On May 30, Hr called on Morris - said he was age 84, was returning to J. c. his wife's ashes - to settle them - had never left Canada since end of War II

Morris's speech goes on - I and like to deepen afresh together with you the Imperial destiny of the national policy of our Empire of Gt. Japan & strengthen the national spiritual mobilization. --
-: Our mission I was a country founded to carry to completion the great wishes -- On this broad globe there are many various countries, all of us are struggling to achieve prosperity for country & mankind, but among them all only in J does there Majestically exist "Ruler & Subject, 1 Body" --- Self completely sacrificed for the fulfillment of the Gods will.

One of sponsors of Sittard was Toyama Mitsuru - head of Black Dragon

Hr terrified - employed in after '42 as "trouble-shooter" -
" " - was asked by Claude L. McMillan Co-counsel Co.
J. W. De B Farris Jr hers - H. if he dictated anything about Morris case in the J. embassy

Hr exam. resumed by C.L. Locke, K.C. counsel for Sec. Comm.
of RCMP. - Hr told Mand about collections Mori made

HERALD. - Oct. 9, '42

Dragon Still Active in B.C. - headlines

in Nanaimo

- 3 commissioners - AC Taylor, John Shinas, F.J Meade

Oct. 1 - 2520 J. still in Vancouver area to be evacuated

26. issue

Headlines: Plans Fascist Like Gang Extorts Funds from Victims among Intimidated Japanese

J. Fascist-like gang intimidates law abiding C-born J. Truck Gardeners, Nursery & Florist Industry affected by the extortions B. Dragon Sec. of J.

2. No of Nazis & Pres. Kiva, leaders of a Fascist group in the J. Dist taken in Stanley Park, — taken from Schools, Sept '39. Last Spring

BIG HEADLINES across Top of News Item.

"Jap Black Dragon Active in B.C."

- 20-odd yrs. of terrorization of the J. community in this province has gathered plenty of info valuable to the enemy Japanese but given to B.C. Security Commission. —

Nazis ~~Fascist~~ volunteered to form a 3 member liaison Com. 150 members, ½ of Suppressed Com. J nationals.

Nazis has several members of his Com. that they will be the last to leave the province and in order to raise this fund (to assist in keep of needy families) he has appealed to 4 Euro-C the Conservative prosperous persons for financial contrib He has used his influence & position to secure funds & Remain even "for persons dependent upon the large Contributions."

Headed: Nazis is in no internment camp as those who protested his actions are. ---- Nazis (& his pupils) are NOT in Internment Camps

Why was the head of these Can-J. & the leaders of the whole Com. Fascist Work ignored by officials in Ottawa?

Why is Nazis (who is implicated by his own articles in Stanley) not in an internment camp?

These are (mention of the Can-born J may still be enclosed -

Norman, Howard and Gwen

24-2

HOWARD & GWEN NORMAN

June 3, 1972

Canadian Missionaries To Japan, 1932-1971

Interviewed by: John F. Howes

Oral History Project, Vancouver. Cultural Communities Series

Interview no. 84, Tape no. 2, Tracks 1 only, Speed 3 3/4

Vancouver, Oral History Project, 1972

Interview no. 84, , Tape 2, Track 1

Mr. Howes: This is reel number 2 of Howard and Gwen Norman on June 3rd 1972..and I'm John Howes..Now these are very interesting little vignettes you've given us of what..how life imposed itself on foreigners resident in..in Japan..ah..right before World War II..In addition to these 8 years before World War II spent as missionaries and longer years for Howard when you were growing up in Japan..you've had 25 years as missionaries in..in ah..post World War II Japan..ah..What are the ways that the changes that everybody knows have occured..or at least we're told ..we're told have occured in Japan..affected you and the first place have there been significant changes?

Mr. Norman: Well of course..I remember..the Japan I went back to in 1947..ah..the..the poorer clothes of the Japanese..they..so many of them were under-nourished..ah..the trains had broken windows and were boarded up with veneer or thin pieces of board.. the general poverty..ah..the Tokyo..large areas..as you remember.. bombed out an ah..Kobe..then I visited Toyama..and Kanazawa now Kanazawa was not bombed..for some strange reason..the American planes..ah.levelled most of the Japanese cities..and they were working up the coast.....Tsuruga got it and Fukui... got it and everybody in /Kanazawa thought we were next..and some of them moved out of the city but they say it was a cloudy day so Toyama got it that day..I can remember the appearance of Toyama when I saw it in 1947...it..the whole city was pretty well flat..was just little shacks...the people were living in and just two

good buildings standing...one of them was what they call the Denki Building...D-E-N-K-I..ele..electricity building..a four storey building..ferro concrete..and also the Prefectual Legislature...These had been saved because the people..that they were two of the new fine buildings..and they were determined to save them..so they..ah..in the..at the time of the fire..they manned the roof and put out the incendiaries as they dropped..But the whole city was..apart from that was just a ruin..And of course now all these cities are rebuilt and Japan is..as everybody knows ..one of the top dogs economically in the world..

Mr. Howes: How does this..can you give us an equally ah..good specific points on how the..the top dog is..an..affects you..for instance you just returned from a..a Japan where the Canadian dollar was worth significantly less in the last few..No you hadn't..you've been back..

Mr. Norman: No ... we've...we've been home almost 12 months..

Mr. Howes: Right..o.k...Then the currency exchange..you ..has occurred since you were there..two years ago..

Mr. Norman: Well..one of the..the..now we went to Matsumoto.. M-A-T-S-U-M-O-T-O..just 11 years ago and ah..right from the start I had an English class in Shiojiri..S-H-I-O-J-I-R-I..which is 9 miles from Matsumoto once a week...I had this class and I used to drive back and forth..That is National Highway number 20..I think and this is the ah...highway between the two cities...was practically free of traffic and during that 10 year period..ah..the traffic has become very very heavy..and ah..I could do it easily in 20 minutes ah..ten..11 years ago..driving between the two cities..now it takes about an hour because the traffic is so much

heavier...Its really amazing the way so many more Japanese have cars today...Another thing which you notice in the..in.. many years ago when a building was being erected..ah..the workers would come by public transportation..and now..wherever you see a building going up...many workers come in their own cars just as they do here..you see the cars parked around the building.. They drive to and from work..

Mr. Howes: Yes..that's an outstanding difference..

Mrs. Norman: They say that ah..no girl can approach marriage unless she has in her /trousseau a driver's licence...(chuckles)...

Mr. Howes: Yes..so it's the car then even..and the ah..this area you were living in of course..is in the..in rural Japan..Shiojiri ..I think would be considered, would still be considered in the .. most of the textbooks..as rural..

Mr. & Mrs. Norman: ..Oh yeah...Oh yeah I think so..

Mr. Norman: It's farming area is seclu...it's largely fruit-growing..there's vineyards..vineyards..and apple orchards..apples.. pears..ah..and quince are grown there..then of course there..they' have paddy fields..and vegetable fields..

Mr. Howes: I'm told..I'm told they're making good wine there now..

Mr. Norman: Yes..they do..

Mr. Howes: You ah..what's the name of your friend that dropped by??

Mr. Norman: Mr. Yagasaki

Mr. Howes: Mr. Yagasaki

(chuckles)..

Mr. Norman: He's coming through in a..few days...

Mr. Howes: He's coming through in a few days??

Mr. Norman: Yes..I don't know where he's staying in Vancouver.. he was due to..see us in Toronto but he..we'll be away from there so I gave him Cyril Powles you know..Cy Powles

Mr. Howes: Yes..

Mr. Norman: I..gave him his name..(loud cough...).. I'm very sorry to miss him...

Mr. Howes: What is the difference in the ah..ah..the Christian church as you have seen it over the years..is ah..are there any influences at all..visible..?

Mr. Norman: Well..this last year or two..there has been ah..a movement of protest in the churches..you may know about it..but ah ..the district meetings and also the general assembly of the United Church of Christ in Japan have been disrupted by young radicals..who...back in 1968 when they started..they objected very strenuously to a Christian ....pavilion being built..and at Expo '70..because they said this was supporting the government and the government was monopoly capitalistic..and was also an ally of the United States..which was waging a nefarious war in Vietnam.. That was the reason why..ah..there seems to be much deeper frustration I think..ah..sort of feeling of helplessness..I don't know what it is..I've talked about it long hours with Japanese and they fee.. they say that this Christian Pavilion at Expo 70 was the occassion not the real cause of this discontent..but ah..the fact that they use the term Monopoly Capitalistic about the Japanese government shows that..as in years past..that they're deeply influenced by ah.. Marxist thinking...And..they want the church to be an agent of social reform..

Mr. Howes: Want the church to be an agent of social reform..what..

what's the relation between our..well what seemed to be the relation between this increasing prosperity in which the church people...I presume..share..along with everybody else..ah..so that in their own lives there seems to be less and less necessity for social reform,,,

Mr. Norman: Well they feel that..they feel that the society in Japan is ah.. Inhumanitarian..that people are treated not as persons..but just as....cogs in a wheel...bits of machinery to make the society progress...I think thats part of the trouble..and ah ..did you read in the Sun a couple of days ago..a..I forget the correspondent's name..he wrote for the A.P. an explanation of the ah..massacre..in Tele...Tel Aviv..

Mr. Howes: No..I have not..we don't see the Sun...

Mr. Norman: It's a...It's a very good ah...a ..ah..summing up of it ...ah..the Japanese people don't have any moral guidance..they feel lost...it's the competitive exams and all this strain and stress and ah...particularly the lack of moral guidance ...Another thing that he mentioned was the fact that most nations have...wage wars..even today..and so the hotheads can..if they want to use violence...can get in the army but there's no outlet for that in Japan..Now that's not quite correct..because they do have Army and Navy and Air Force in Japan..but it may be a reason..I don't know.. Its practically ...as you know..that in any country that is in war.. the suicide rate always drops..

Mr. Howes: Hmm...

Mr. Norman: Because..life is more interesting..war going on..

Mr. Howes: The suicide war is..is..the suicide rate is still high in Japan?

Mr. Norman: It's about sixth in the world..I think..

Mr. Howes: It's ...coming down though..compared to they..since they used to be first or second..I think...

Mr. Norman: Well..I wonder..I've looked at the 20..30 years ago.. and it wasn't a great deal different from other countries..Austria ..Finland..Sweden..Czechoslovakia..higher rates of suicide than Japan..

Mr. Howes: Uh-huh...they always have..

Mr. Norman: Yes..

Mrs. Norman: One great difference in Japan of Post-war and Pre-War is that Japanese people are much more open...they're willing to talk..in a way that they weren't...Pre-War..don't you think so?

Mr. Norman: Oh yes...yes..

Mr. Howes: Can you give us some examples..??of a...anything that's happened to you....on this?

Mrs. Norman: No..not that..but..well except that you see people talking on the trains..people rarely used to talk on the train.. during war because they wouldn't know who they're talking to..

Mr. Norman: Walking up and down the streets..too..they're..it seems to me they're gayer..

Mrs. Norman: Gayer..yes..

Mr. Norman: It seems...laughing as they walk along...I..I think there's much more of that...more relaxed than they were before the war...

Mr. Howes: And is this..do you see that the total ah..the totality of these things as pleasant..?

Mr. Norman: Oh yes..

Mr. Howes: It's..it's more fun to live in Japan now..than it was

during the war?

Mr. Norman:...oh yes..yes..

Mrs. NOrman: Well now here's...you'd say an incident..before the War..ah..I was in a taxi..and the guy wanted to know where to go.. we went to the Police stop and he took off his hat and bowed.. well people don't take off their hats and bow..at the Police Stops ..any more..

Mr. Norman: When I got back to..Ja..

Mrs. Norman: As I say it's a little..

Mr. HOwes: Yes..uh-huh..

Mr. NOrman: When I got back to..when I got back to Japan in 1947 ...I asked a ...an old friend what's various difference in.. in Japan now ah...and before the War..and he said...Police..the ah ..the occupation..you know.. /they told the Police they really had to be more Democratic..In their...the way they treated people and they were very cocky before the War..and what Gwen was just mentioning about...taking his hat off and bowing to the Police..

Mr. Howes: What changes do you see in Canada..perhaps of..I don't know which one wants to answer this but...you've been in Japan which we are told..about the tremendous rates of change in Japan ..and you give specific examples here but Canada is also one of the nations that has an extremely fast rate of change..(chuckling) ...they're pointing at each other on this one..

Mr. Norman: I don't see...really...a great deal of change..except in buildings ...and so on..in Vancouver...and Toronto..more buildings going up...

Mrs. Norman: Oh I think there is this..though.. for instance...in the city of Toronto..there's much more interest

in the ideas...of Public Parks being kept and places of recreation for peopl3...making them much more pleasant...There's more money to spend on this sort of thing...and thank goodness..they're spending it that way...that I would say..is one thing..and something that's rather indefinable...in stores now..for instance.. during the war years...nobody could care less whether they sold you anything or not...because they could always sell it to the next guy..anyway..and now in the stores..there's a much..ah..an easier pace of things...in the stores...and in offices and things ...like that...where you do business with these people...I don't know whether I'm exaggerating or not...I don't know..

Mr. Norman: Ah...I'm a minister and I...during this past ten months I've been going around in what they call Deputation work and one thing...this..of course...Canadians know as well..or better than I do...the much smaller congregations in the churches and the...the young people...mostly are absent...My son teaches ah.. in..he's a professor in Queens University in Kingston..and he says practically none of the University students go to church..whereas when he was an undergraduate...12 years ago..he was in residence at Victoria College..and he said not a great many went..but some did..And he feels that now hardly any of them go..And this..I say ..is a well-known fact..

Mr. Howes: Yeah..It's a well..it's a well-known fact..What about the relationship...say..or the attitudes towards foreign missionary work??

Mr. NOrman: That is dropping off a bit..ah..Gwen and I noticed a difference in country and city churches..ah...when I've been out speaking in country churches in Ontario...I'd find a far..a far

larger proportion of young...young people at church..and also I think..on the whole...keener interest in Overseas Missions..

Mr. Howes: Mmm..hmm...Do the ah...do they reflect also what you would consider a sophisticated understanding of what ah...the Mission is all about...?

Mr. NOrman: No...I don't think so...

Mr. Howes: So that..

Mr. Norman: They just feel that it's...it's part of the...duty of Christians to be interested in Overseas Missions...the..ah..I al.. wherever I speak...I always ask the Minister beforehand for a period...for dialogue afterwards...questions and so on...but most places they...the trouble is that they're too ignorant...they don't...about Japan...to be able to ask any questions and because of this most of them are afraid of asking questions...They're not greatly interested..not many of them stay..unless it's coffee hour...

Mr. Howes: (laughs...)..Well one change I noticed is much more coffee and less tea...I can say that in just 11 years..Oh which I don't like since I'm a...prefer tea myself..

Mr. Norman: You're a tea-man..heh?..Well they used to say..you know..that ah...an Englishman drank six cups of tea to two cups of coffee and an American drank six cups of coffee to two cups of tea..and Canadians drank four cups to four cups...

Mr. Howes: ..(chuckles..)...very likely..Ah..let's get back to the ah...what...your current research now...as you're going on to ah ...do some work in the history of the...ah..mission in Japan..ah Gwen..I think you're the one that is the...has a Master's degree in history ...and you were talking earlier about the way you were

going to divy up the work..

Mrs. Norman: ...uh-huh..

Mr. Howes: Could you give us a little bit more..detail..on this?

Mrs. Norman: Well...the ah..the material will largely stop in the archives of the United Church and ah..we just...well..on our last furlough we went through a good deal of it..ah..and while I was in Shiojiri I was working over what I had and discovered a.. large gaps in..what I did have and feel that I must get back and.. I did a cer.. early right job and would all have to be re-written.. Ah..one of the things that you notice..ah..is that..in the early days..the missionary was it..you see..and now of course the missionaries...isn't the case at all..I mean he's just a part of the Japanese church..but the thing that's ...or...another thing you notice is that the early missionaries were tremendous people.. had very little idea of even trying to understand what Buddhism was about...there were one or two here or there who did..but ah.. there was a general feeling of..that Buddhism was out..Shinto was out..and only..the only possible thing you could do was eradicate ...And that of course..has changed over the years...But...it's interesting..in reading the stuff how very...while they make references in the stuff they wrote home... to things that were happening locally in Japan..there's very little that they wrote for pu..publication or not for publication at home...that..that gives a sort of picture of the life of Japan as it was around there...

Mr. Howes: Hmmm..ah...that this..

Mrs. NOrman: ...it doesn't use..you've seen it..th..that's true isn't it..?

Mr. NOrman: ..yeah..

Mr. Howes: ...because they're concentrating more on ah..the..the question of Evangelization as they saw it or..?

Mrs. NOrman: Yes...A feeling that we have everything and we're going to teach the Japanese..they didn't have any feeling that there was something...perhps..that could be learned..

Mr. Howes: Now...this ah...this has changed...I presume within the last ah...up..the last ten years or so...

Mrs. Norman: Oh I think it started changing earlier..

Mr. Howes: Oh...all right...wh..when is it..when did it seem to change?

Mrs.Norman: Well the trouble..the trouble is I've only gotten as far as 1890..and the change came..was be...I think it was beginning to come then perhaps..a little bit...because ah...you do begin to get...a li...but the interesting thing is..at this point..is that Hiraiwa..who was later a bishop with the Methodist Church..was a young fellow at the time...he wrote a long article which was published in English and I think he wrote it in English himself.. ah...in our church paper at the time..the..oh what d'you call the thing?

Mr. Norman: 'Missionary Outlook'...

Mrs. Norman: Yeah...Missionary OUtlook..On the Evangelization of Shizuoka-Ken.....and he gave an analysis of all the different religions flourishing and believe me they had their 'new' religions then too..there were...things I've never heard of before..ah..but his attitude was very much the same as the missionary attitude..but these were things that we had to sweep out...

Mr. Howes: Mmmm...that's H-I-R-A-I-W.....W-A...

Mrs. Norman: ...W-A...

Mr. Norman: Our mission has not produced many scholars I s'pose Harper Coates who wrote "The Life of Honan"..which is still the best life in English...he was...I guess about the only scholar in our mission...

Mrs. NOrman: What about Dr. Armstrong..? He was quite...

Mr. Norman: Oh yes..Dr. Armstrong...R.C. Armstrong...wrote a book "Light From The East"...and then a posthumous book which is..is ..wasn't completed on Buddhism..which really isn't..isn't very much..

Mr. Howes: Ah both these people however...were scholars of Buddhism ...so they contradict your...your statement of

Mr. Norman: Yes..yes..

Mr. Howes:

Mrs. NOrman: Yeah...but they weren't amongst the very earliest to come out...Coates was out I think about 1890...see..and the atmosphere was..this...this I think would be true...not only of our own...ah..Methodist Mission..but all of...all the Missions...

Mr. Howes: So by the turn of the century..then..it was changing.. ah...Howard..you say your father went out in 1897..and ah..your first recollections ...of..how..what do your first recollections tell you about this generalization..what did you see about Missionaries and their interests in Japanese culture..?

Mr. Norman: WEll..ah...they..they had ah..a general...I think they had a general appreciation of Japanese morality as a whole..and also Japanese manners..the kind...the kindliness..and friendliness ..the Japanese..certainly my father had it...

Mr. Howes: Your father also..I havebeen told..your..one of your
your father's ah...great interest was Japanese baths and he brought one back to Canada with him..? (laughter)..Whatever happened to that?

Mr. NOrman: It's at..I don't think it was ever used it..it was in my Grandmother's farmhouse down in the cellar..I was..down there by accident...You know it's ah..board standing like this bound together...and ah..they'd all caved in...as I said..I don't know if he ever used at all..

Mrs. Norman: Ya know...missionaries go around taking what they called artifacts...(squeaking chair)...and Howard and I are not artifact-minded...(chuckles)..we don't...I've often had a mental picture of Doctor Norman humping that round on his back... (laughter)...

Mr. Howes: Well whether that was his intention..my..perhaps it was you who told me this story first of all..that he showed Mya the Japanese bath that he thought he wanted to..

Mrs. Norman: Ya I wouldn't mind bringing one home... (laughter)..

Mr. Howes: You're gonna...gonna be..you're gonna be working on the more modern period..Howard..and what ah...what seemed to be emerging is themes..with you...?...this...

Mr. Norman: Well I've been going through all the correspondence from the field...I..quite by chance..because I'm interested in that...I started reading correspondence from the field..1938 on.. I've got up to about 1950...I've been taking notes on it..cause I was there at the time...and ah...I really haven't..it's..I've ..I think It's going to be very difficult to do a history of that time...a history of the mission...because it's...part of the ah.. part of the Japanese Church history and the question that's

bothering me is..."how much history of the Japanese Church do I have to give in order to make the history of the mission...of the missionaries ah..intelligible,it's quite different from any other history that one might take..it's more ah..more of a chronicle sort of thing...you know..

Mr. Howes: At this..my feeling has been of this early period..the one that ah...Gwen is writing about one sees to his sorrow that there were certainly parallel histories...I mean there are Japanese language histories of the ...which ah..d.. w....really the..the..missionaries appear only as peripheral that at such and such a meeting celebrating or something..there's the such-and-such a missionary is there...ah..on the other hand missionary cases..sources often talk of the ah...native pastors.. ah..without even mentioning them by name and ah..you have some rude shocks when you're able to find out who the native pastor was and he turns out to be somebody who is extremely famous in Japanese chronicles and hardly referred to...Now I'm quite sure that's a characteristic of the period you're dealing with up to 18...

Mrs. Norman: Well..in a way it is..in a way it isn't..In the.. for instance...you see..in the...our..our early days..the conference of..the Japan..in the early days it was a...a district of the Toronto Presbytery...see..and later it became..as it grew..it became the Japan Conference of the Methodist Church..and the..where you can find the names of the ministers is in the conference minutes...of the ..of the Canadian Methodist Church.. they're all ...listed there...

Mr. Howes: The Japanese...

Mrs. Norman: The Japanese ministers..because they were on equal.. footing with the Canadian Missionaries..in the conference..

Mr. Howes: ...uh-huh...I see..

Mrs. Norman: Now there were two bodies..there was the Japan Conference of the..Ja..the Japan Conference of the Canadian Methodist Church..and then there was the Canadian Mission Council.. and this was ah..there was sometimes friction there..

Mr. Howes: Because the Canadian Mission Council was all Canadian?

Mrs. Norman: Yeah..it was all Canadian...they wanted to..they wanted to run certain things themselves..but the way the thing had been set up originally..was that th..it was part of the Meth.. and then in 1907...it beca..the Japan Conference of the Canadian Methodist Church and the similar conferences of the Methodist.. and...formed the Cana..the Japan Methodist Church was seperated from the...parent bodies...

Mr. Howes: Now..when this period you're dealing with..certainly Post World War II you can't deal with these separately..

Mrs. Norman: No..

Mr. Howes: at all the uncertainty because even in the earlier period..so you question is ah..as you say..you simply can't deal with the Missionaries simply any ..any longer..if..even if you can in the early period..ah..so you're faced with this question about how to work in the major.. ah..trends in the Japanese church...Well..I think that we've ah certainly talked your heads off..you've done you're work??

Irene: MMMMmmm..hmmm..

Mr. Howes: And maybe we can see the second one..I think..I think..

Irene:

Mrs. Norman: I'd like to see it..

Mr. Howes: I think we all..I think we'll end right here and I'll get the ah..the forms ah...signed..first of all..let's just rewind this tape...

End of Track One, Tape 2.....End of Tape 2 and Interview 84