

Henderson Libraries

Henderson Oral History Project

Harry Clough

Oral History of Harry Clough

conducted by

Anne Marie Hamilton-Brehm

August 21, 2014

Interviewer: *Today is August 21, 2014. We're at the Paseo Verde branch of the Henderson District Public Libraries in Henderson, Nevada. My name is Anne Marie Hamilton-Brehm and I'm interviewing Harry Clough as part of the Henderson Oral History Project of the Henderson Libraries. Thank you so much for joining me Harry.*

Harry Clough: You're welcome.

Interviewer: *I'd like to start out by asking about your childhood. Can you tell me a little bit about where you were born and raised and what your parents did for a living?*

Harry Clough: I was born in Butte, Montana, 1937. My mother had a whole lung removed when I was six months old. She was very fortunate because Butte, Montana was all caught up in mining. That's all it was back then, one of the biggest copper mine fields in the world. They had the top doctors of the world at a place they called Galen. It was about eight miles out of Butte. It was a TB [tuberculosis] sanatorium, because a lot of those people in the mines got black lung and all that so they hired...ACM hired that doctor. She was very fortunate because she was right in Butte and everything when this happened and they operated on her. They took a whole lung out which was quite a thing back in 1937.

Interviewer: *Because she was having trouble breathing or did she have black lung?*

Harry Clough: No, she had a bad lung. She had TB. They took one whole lung out. You know what surprised me...she always coughed a little bit, she was always coughing a little blood up all of her life you know. But she was a goer you know. I lived out there...we moved out west of Butte, a little town called St. Regis. It was about seventy-two miles west of Missoula on Highway-10 which is now Interstate-90. My dad, he logged and worked in the woods. I went to school there and graduated there. I worked for him for about a year and a half then I said to myself one day, I'm out in the middle of the wintertime at about ten below zero and I had these big heavy wool pants on with my logging boots...there were three of us, my dad would fell the trees, his partner would buck them up and I'd knock the limbs off and mark

the logs out with notches so they knew where to cut the logs...and I said to myself 'I'm not going to get anywhere here.' So I joined the Air Force.

Then when I got in the Air Force, I played it real smart, I went in on a buddy ship plan. They give you all these tests and everything...so they put me in ATC-Air Traffic Control. So I went to Keesler Air Force Base and they had a back log there, it's a beautiful base. They fed you real good...they all are technical schools down in Biloxi, Mississippi. They said one day 'we've got a big back log, would some of you guys like to transfer over to Air Traffic Control in Warning?' That sounded pretty good, you know. So anyhow, I just did that. So I put in places you want to go when you get out of tech school. I always loved fishing, so I wanted to go to Canada. I ended up as far north as you can get in Canada, it was what they called the doolang [sp?]. What that was...right north of us by about thirty miles is a line that runs across northern Canada and they've got what they called...they don't have it anymore...they had what they called the Doppler System. Any aircraft that came through at a low altitude that entered the radar, well that would pick them up and signal that the Russians were coming in...the bombers, right. So they called that the doolang. Well we were right south of that, we were a gap filler. You had to do a tour of twelve months of isolated duty, but I was only there eleven because what they would do is keep you eleven months then let you go a month early because they had so many guys that would come back in six months, then go AWOL and never come back again. But we flew up...you know we had the Russians up there, we had missions up there and Russian air craft would fly around there and that. Everybody knew where they were at, the United States wasn't concerned. They knew when they crossed, you know.

Interviewer: *About what year was there?*

Harry Clough: That was 1959 when I went up there. I went in the Air Force in the spring of '58, it was the fall of '58 and I left there in June '59. But it was interesting. The thing I liked about it was I was always a little bit interested in the area. If you've ever been up in that country, it is the most beautiful place

you've ever seen in the summertime. I got up there in July, so I was real lucky there. There is no dirt, the whole terrain is just blown rock that's aged. It's not sharp rock, it's been windblown. There's a lot of iron in the rock and the whole terrain is like a dark brownish red color with moss growing on it. So you can imagine in the summertime...it's daylight just about all of the time...the sun would just about go down and come back up. Well, it's just that everything is like looking through a pair of amber sunglasses. Yea, it's beautiful. Then because the base started there, they had an airport there. All of the flights at that time coming from Seattle, Vancouver, L.A. and that, that was what they called the arctic route. They'd come over there and they'd refuel, then they'd go on to Copenhagen, Denmark, Roseburg, Germany, and a bunch of different places. The airlines that flew over there was Scandinavian, TWA, Northwest, Nordair, and there was another small one too, but they all stopped there and refueled. They were running DC-6, a four-engine aircraft you know.

That was very interesting and at the Hudson Base, you wouldn't believe the stuff they had. They had Eskimos that came down with their sleds. They had villages out there. They would bring in homemade stuff and everything. I got the most beautiful set of carvings at home you've ever seen...Sheffield steel with walnut handles on them, I bought it for two dollars back then. Something like that would probably be worth three or four hundred dollars now. I gave it to my mother, of course she's deceased so I've got it at home. But I was always interested...this one military police...there were two families up there that were military police, not military police but Canadian Mounties...and I said 'where do these Eskimos live?' He said 'oh, their closest village is about thirty miles from here. Some of them come in from about one hundred and fifty miles away to sell their goods.' They bring them in to the Hudson Base there you know. They had pretty big walls that had polar bear rugs hanging on them. You could buy a polar bear rug for one hundred dollars. Do you know how much money that would be worth now?!

Interviewer: *Well, I don't know if they'd allow you to buy one now.*

Harry Clough: I think they would, if they were licensed. You have to have a special permit though you know. Anyhow, I said 'what do they do with their dead? How do they live?' That was very interesting. I knew it was going to be a bad thing, that's why I asked that. I couldn't see them digging rock, you know. Well, what they would do when somebody would die is they would take them away from the village, pile rock on them. Well, you know the outcome of that over time is because all of the wolves and everything are out there...but that's what they did. Then they live primarily on seals and that's about the main thing they lived on. They had a few birds they could catch and everything. But I thought that was really interesting, how the people lived you know. The average lifespan is only about fifty-five years old. When we got up there...you had one hundred and fifty on the radar site, total. Every time we would go up...the planes wouldn't get in there all of the time because the winds would just snarl at everything. So they'd always bring six or eight or ten of us up at one time. I was lucky, I flew out of Idlewild [later John F. Kennedy International Airport], McGuire Air Force Base in New York...flew to Labrador, Goose [Bay] Air Force Base Labrador on a C1-18. Then we got off that and got what they called a "Gooney Bird," C-47, there were seven of us, we got on that and took it right up to [can't understand] Bay. You'd look out the windows and all you'd see was rock and water, rock and water. Anyhow we got up there, we were there for about two days, so the commander called us all in and he had a Mountie in there with him...this is all so you would understand, you were told 'don't play around with the Eskimo women.' They said 'after you've been here about three or four months, their legs get longer even though they're short' [laughs]. But if you had three options...if you got one private...let's see, one option was you could take a dishonorable discharge, go back to the states and after you got back [can't understand] that was up to the government, or you could stay there and live with the woman, marry her, or you could take an undesirable discharge and support her until the child was twenty-one. But you couldn't bring her back. That was the problem. You [can't understand] on the TB rate. They don't have those diseases up there, because everything is so cold. It's like if you remember...you probably know your history a little bit,

when the French came in all of the Indians on the east coast got small pox...you remember that? Well, that was the problem. Up there, it's the same thing. They bring them down here and the most deadly disease at that time was TB, so they can't even bring them down into southern Canada. They have to stay up there where they are. But we had one guy up there, he was out getting caught. I don't know what ever happened to him [laughs].

But I spent four years in the Air Force then I came back to the states out of Spokane. There was a [*can't understand*] center back there, which is really nice. That's where we got married, back there in Spokane. But anyhow they had a super...we tracked UFOs on radar. We scrambled fighters on radar. We're sitting here crossing the scope, we're all laughing...flying one hundred and ten thousand feet at nine thousand miles an hour. We've got fighters that only go up to fifty thousand feet and they only go eleven hundred miles an hour [laughs]! That was a joke, but you know what happened was...you've probably heard this before, if any of the [*can't understand*] that they get rid of you. Well that was so there were seven of us on shift...we were on swing shift when it happened...within eighteen days not one of us was in Spokane, they shipped us all out. Me and my one buddy went to North Dakota, some went to South Dakota, some went to Key West, Florida. They shipped everybody, they spread everybody out...because they didn't want any rumors starting in Spokane. That was the whole thing behind it. But that's about the most interesting thing I had in the Air Force. You know I was going to go in the Airborne Radar and then I decided I didn't like the Air Force anymore. I was really lucky, I made airman first in four years which was pretty hard to do at that time, in that field...same as a buck sergeant. When I got out of there and came back, I went to work in my home town, me and my wife did...I had my boy, he was born in North Dakota, Dickinson, North Dakota and my daughter was born in my little town of St. Regis there. She's the one that I told you, that I know from Henderson, Laura Fewsie. Anyhow we stayed there for about one year to a year and half then my dad came down here. This is sort of interesting...we bought a motel, he bought a service station out heading for Lake Mead, it was [*can't understand*] trailer court out there. It's

right at the edge of town, going up toward the lake. He ran that for a year and a half. He made good money at it but didn't like the business. He had a motel back in St. Regis, Montana.

Interviewer: *It seems like a good location to have a trailer court and a service station, right on the edge of town.*

Harry Clough: He was going to go back and build another motel, which he did in Hamilton, Montana. It's called the City [?] Center Motel...he built that and it's the second one he built. The first one, I helped build the first one...of course, then I went in the Air Force.

Interviewer: *So that was in the '60s that you came here?*

Harry Clough: '65. I actually came down here in '63 to start with. When we sold that...do you know who he sold the service station to when he left? Tanya Tucker's dad. She's from Henderson and he sold it to her dad. Whatever happened to that, like I said I wasn't interested. He sold that station. After he sold that, I went back to Montana...I went back to Missoula and worked at a plywood plant for six months. I came down here the day of 28th of January of 1965 and the 4th of February I hired in to Timet. Do you want to hear about Timet?

Interviewer: *Yea, sure!*

Harry Clough: Well, up until about ten years ago...I'm guessing at that date, I'm pretty clumsy. I've been retired now for...fourteen years ago. Up until about fourteen years ago they used what they called a process of making titanium. That was developed by Dr. Kroll out here in Boulder City. I think that was developed, if I remember right, back about '36 or '37 something like that. They needed a real dry atmosphere to make a pretty good metal. Then they've got this power out here at the plant, it was a dollar a year for electrical power at that time. It didn't expire here until not too many years ago. But, that was the big factor and the other is the atmosphere is so dry. So they made titanium. They started

producing in 1953. Back when I went to work there, there were guys that had been there about ten, eleven, twelve years you know. Like I said, they hired me in '65. They used that same process...which I worked as a regular production worker there. I worked there for about ten years...or fifteen years let's say. Then I went to the auto shop. I was going to go to school for it. I passed the test to go to community college right there, Yosemite College. But I knew so much about mechanical work...I read all of the books, I was working on everybody's cars and all of this stuff. So I took the test and I got about 98 on the test and this guy said 'why should we send you to school? You're going to be [*can't understand*] titanium anyhow.' So I went to the auto shop and I worked in the auto shop up until about '97, in the machine shop. A lot of people don't know it but that the machine shop is about the third biggest machine shop in the south western United States. We've got one hundred and twenty machines in that machine shop. Do you know where Nevada Power is? It's right in that area there, T-2 and T-3 are the two buildings there. I worked there until I retired you know. Speaking of titanium though, now they use a vacuum distillation process they started after they dropped the Kroll...which is a really good process. It's a really good metal, they use it for everything you know. It's all hydrated, most of it is hydrated metal where the Kroll process...the one reactor, let's say we had five thousand pounds in that reactor. There's only about fifteen hundred that's grade A sponge, they call it sponge. The rest of it is for making tools. Grade A is what they call rotor grade. They use it for jet engines and all of that stuff.

Interviewer: *Why do they call it 'sponge?'*

Harry Clough: When it comes out, it looks like a sponge. What they do...the reactors...about two blocks down, that seal in there is how high they are, they're about four feet in diameter. They put magnesium in them and then they feed titanium tetrachloride into the reactor when it's hot and it reacts with the magnesium. That titanium tetrachloride has rutile, it's a black sand...the most common sand on earth. There were only two places where we mined it and [*can't understand*] mines it to of course. They mined it in Florida and Australia and it's all shipped in. It's a really heavy metal, it's black sand. If you go along

the beach you'll see a little piece of the black sand, well that's what that is, it's called rutile. Well when we put all of that in there, they feed it in and it's dissolved by the acid...they use sulfuric acid to dissolve that rutile, it's liquid clear. They feed it in with the magnesium and it reacts with the magnesium and separates to give you the black metal, then the rutile turns to titanium. It sticks to the side of the pots and it looks just like a sponge. They'll lay it horizontally and take a big bore mill and bore it out. There's only about that much in the center, I'd say about fourteen inches that's grade A sponge. The top part and the bottom part is not waste but it's a lot cheaper. The reason it turned out that way is that they couldn't use electricity to heat it with because it was too expensive, besides that they couldn't get that much power, so they used gas...and gas is very, it would be hot in the center and cool in the top and bottom. That's why they got the variation in the metal. What people don't realize on titanium out here...I bet you could ask about ninety percent of the people living here right now, they could tell you, what do they do out here? They make titanium, they do. Do you know something else they make that they can sell a lot of? Chlorine.

Interviewer: *Right.*

Harry Clough: You knew that.

Interviewer: *Yea. That even after the War, there was still a market even though there was no more market for magnesium after World War II there was still a market for the chlorine production.*

Harry Clough: They make a lot of chlorine. In fact, when I was here...well, they probably used the same amount of chlorine. We were selling about three fifths of the chlorine they made. I worked in that one department for a while, where the chlorinators were and that's...

Interviewer: *Noxious.*

Harry Clough: Did you ever go through that plant?

Interviewer: *No.*

Harry Clough: You should go...I don't know if they do that anymore or not.

Interviewer: *I don't know if they give tours. I'd take a tour if they offered one.*

Harry Clough: Oh yea, my daughter's toured...of course, I was working there. On certain days or certain times of the year they'd have tours you know. She said 'you work in this place?' Oh, the chlorination stinks. I worked in reduction and it wasn't too bad. But back in those days, when I was working there, the EPA and everything was...the chlorination department across the street from our department...at about ten o'clock at night when everybody was about ready to go to bed and it's dark out, they'd release that damn chlorine out of the chlorinators. You could see the green stuff coming for you [laughs]! You'd have to grab a respirator and put it on, then wait for it to go by. We did that all the time. They don't do that anymore; they've straightened the whole thing out there. You don't even smell anything now, it's all clean now. That was interesting.

Interviewer: *I grew up in El Paso and we used to see the ASARCO plant putting out more at night. They'd have a little thin trail during the day and then at night, more would puff out.*

Harry Clough: [laughs] Not as heavy, then it comes down.

Interviewer: *Luckily not on my neighborhood. But it was bad for Mexico.*

Harry Clough: They had a big dump here when I first went to work there. I bought a house in 1967, it's the same one we're still living in. It was three years old when I bought it...no, it was built in '53, so fourteen years old. We had a peach tree, it was a little peach tree in the back of the house there beside the garage. We really didn't like it; it was a half dead tree all of the time. About three years after we got it we had a great big chlorine smell. You could smell it and about two days later, the tree was dead. Oh, good, I can take the tree out now!

Interviewer: *I've heard that, that sometimes there would be a chlorine release and all of the leaves would fall of the trees. But I didn't know it totally killed the tree.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah.

Interviewer: *Well what did that do to your lungs?*

Harry Clough: Well you know, everybody talks about different things hurting you...the asbestos, I could tell you a little story about that, but I don't want to get into it. Anyhow, chlorine is so dangerous but people don't realize it. What happens to it...if you get a good shot of it, you really don't notice it much. You will cough and gag and that, but the problem is that it never leaves your lungs. It stays in your lungs. Without a doubt, I have chlorine in my lungs. It will show up. Anytime I go and get an x-ray...which I haven't for a long time, they'll always say "did you work at Timet? Were you exposed to chlorine?". The reason they ask you that is because they know what to look for. They know it's there. They just want to make sure it's not something else.

Interviewer: *What does it look like?*

Harry Clough: In your lungs? It's black. I asked the technician about that one time. A lot of the impurities in your lungs will show up black. If you smoke a lot, it will show up black. But if it gets concentrated in the very bottom part of your lungs that's usually the chlorine, if you've been exposed to chlorine at all. The guys who worked out there, we knew you know and we watched it pretty close. But it's very heavy. You could get thirty feet up in the air and you could see the chlorine below you. It will come down to the low spots because it's real heavy.

Interviewer: *It's heavy, yeah. That's interesting.*

Harry Clough: We were doing that, one night we were on top of the roof, and we seen it coming and we were already up there. Some guy at work says, I hope they don't let very much out because we can't go any higher. They were having a rest period.

Interviewer: *Oh, no. You would have to hold your breath.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, yeah right. That's how you think about. All you do is take one breath, man, it just cuts you right down, straight down. Just put you down, you know. And they used to use that in World War I, you know, chlorine. It killed a lot of people. Ones that it didn't kill right away, it would kill them in time. They say it takes a lot of chlorine though to really screw your lungs up, you know, and everything. You got a big charge, and it might cut your breathing down a little bit. It's not a good thing.

Interviewer: *Well, how did you happen to decide to come to Henderson of all places?*

Harry Clough: Well, it's like I said. My dad came down here in '50.

Interviewer: *So you were following your dad.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, right. Well, first of all, he came down here, brought my mother down. He asked me if I wanted to go along. My grandmother, my sister, my younger brothers, [unclear]. So, it was in December. See I was out of school, yeah, I was out of school.

Interviewer: *Did he know somebody down here or did he hear about Henderson as being an opportune, a place for opportunity?*

Harry Clough: Yeah. There was a guy back in the hometown, not in our hometown, our little towns are about 13 miles apart, right? I mean little towns. Our town is only about 500 people. In fact, it's still only about 500 people. But this guy, he came from Las Vegas. Real nice guy. He bought a bar in this other town. And him and dad were good friends, that's how dad got to meet him, and he told my dad, he had a lot of money, you know, and told my dad, he says, Frank, if you're going to make some money, he

says, take some of your money you made off of that motel and go to a little town south of Henderson. Now he knew dad had been down to Vegas, you know. He, there's not much there, he said, I tell you where to go, you buy this three acres of land for \$3,000, three acres. You know, back then, three acres, \$3,000 quite a bit of money. But dad got down here, and they had ten acres for \$3,000. And dad looked at it, and all it was nothing, nothing there, you know, it's just like going out here somewhere in the desert. It was over there in that metropolitan area, right the other side of Boulder Highway. That whole area down there, he could have bought it. He didn't buy it, and he came down here in 1963, right in that area, bought that house on Metropolitan for \$17,000. He was right, if he'd had bought that land.

Interviewer: *He should have bought it in the first place.*

Harry Clough: Oh, my god. Our neighbor bought a chunk. He's dead now. He was 92. He died here about two years ago. He bought a chunk. When he first came out here, he, see, I came out in '63. He came out, yeah, he came out in about '61, '62. And that area down in there, Hickory, down in that area. He didn't buy that much, but I don't know how much he bought. When he died, his son, adopted son, his adopted daughter, they got the, you know, his wife's already dead. \$500,000 worth of land there. And you know, he probably only paid \$2,500 for it, something like that. So they got the land. They haven't done much with it, I don't blame them. I wouldn't do nothing with it neither if you don't need the money. It ain't going to go down. You know that, it's going to go up. And a lot of money was made during that certain period of years down here, you know. No more though. The big corporations buy it all up. Chinese are buying a lot of land.

Interviewer: *A lot of people are buying land.*

Harry Clough: The Chinese, too, they're. They got the bucks. They come in here and just buying all that. Down where I live in National Street, on the other side of Major, you know, all them streets there.

You'd be surprised at people that, guess they just lost their homes. A lot of them did. And the Chinese came up, they bought them up, renting them out.

Interviewer: *How about that? That's interesting. They saw an opportunity.*

Harry Clough: Oh, sure, and they got the money. They're moving in on us, you know that? They're moving in. Wait until they start selling their cars over here this fall.

Interviewer: *Oh. Are they going to open a dealership in the Auto Mall or something?*

Harry Clough: They probably will. They probably get down to the Auto Mall. Subaru, I had a Subaru years ago, and I bought a brand new one here. It's the second one I had, I bought it here in February. There's that one dealership out there in the 3500 block on the West Sahara.

Interviewer: *How odd. They should be, everybody should be in the Auto Mall, it's a great place.*

Harry Clough: Well, I can't figure out what, see, Pete Finley owns all, a lot of those dealerships.

Interviewer: *Yeah, he owns that whole street practically.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, he owns down here in the Mall, too, Auto Mall. And [unclear] Pete Finley Subaru up there, when I bought one in 1980. In fact, I bought the first hatchback they sold in Clark County.

Interviewer: *How about that.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, I bought it from, they had a special on, try to get them to move. Me and the wife went down and looked at it, and she was going to community college in Henderson back then. I mean, in Vegas, they didn't have the one down here. And we had a '76 Ford Torino that was killing us in gas mileage, you know.

Interviewer: *Oh, yeah, I had one, and it was like eight miles to the gallon.*

Harry Clough: No power.

Interviewer: *The way I drove it.*

Harry Clough: No power either. I sold that to my boy. He just graduated out of high school. I sold that to him, then I, we went up and bought that hatchback. That's a good car. 240,000 miles we put on that car. They don't break down, they don't, they're built. And they're not that expensive either. If you watch what you buy and you buy what you want to get. I didn't want all kinds of fancy crap. I said, all I use it for is going fishing, running around a little bit. So I got the smaller engine, I got a few options in it, but nothing big, you know. That thing gets 30 miles to the gallon average, 30 miles to the gallon.

Interviewer: *That's great. And then that's good if you're fishing, because you might want to travel to a fishing spot.*

Harry Clough: Well, I can travel 40 miles every day, up to the lake and back. Every day, seven days a week, unless it's. Only time I don't go out there is on Christmas. If I was [unclear], I'd probably go out there on Christmas too.

Interviewer: *What was Henderson like when you came here in the '60s? How was it different from today?*

Harry Clough: Well, 215, there's probably a highway, I think it's highway 41 then, two-lane all the way out to Timbuktu. And we didn't have our freeway, they were working on it. Interstate 15. So, I think we got out there quite a ways and went to four lane, but it wasn't interstate. And we didn't have no 515 or nothing like that. I used to go every Friday night, if I was off, I'd go to Boulder City, I mean I'd go to Fremont Street, Fremont and play keno for about an hour. But you know, that's when the Mafia running everything, right? And you know, you'd go in there, I'd take \$5. I had a '60 Mercury Comet. My mother-in-law had died, and my father-in-law gave us the Comet. And I'd go in there, you know, and play keno, \$5. I was surprised. I won quite a bit of money there at different times, too. I'd play a four spot or a six spot. I wouldn't play two tickets, either a four spot or a six spot, no a four spot or a nine

spot, take it back. And I'd hit some four spots pretty good once in a while. But you know what I'd do? I was always a small crook until about 20 years ago. You'd go in there, and you'd ready to go over to a 21 table and get a handful of cigarettes. What the hell, these big trays of cigarettes, you'd pull a cigarette, they didn't care. The guy walking around, he was sort of the overseer. He'd walk around there, he'd see you were getting ready to go. He'd walk up and give you a meal ticket.

Interviewer: *Nice.*

Harry Clough: That's where I ate supper every Friday night. If I was at work every Friday night.

Interviewer: *They wanted to keep you there.*

[unclear]

Harry Clough: My kids would say, play keno, eat supper. [unclear] was a funny organization. You didn't screw with them, nobody screwed with them, you know. But they always treated, they always treated everybody fair. I went up there one night, I will never forget this, this is, that's before [unclear] by the way, I was [unclear] at the service station. I played the nine spot, I hit eight out of nine, for \$1170. But what was weird about it, I played the ticket three times, and I was talking to somebody there in the line. They were putting their tickets in, and I was talking to this guy, I put a four spot in, played a four spot. And went back and sit down, and these numbers came out, and I looked at it, and I said, oh, jeez, why didn't I play that nine spot back? I didn't know I got seven or eight numbers out of it, I knew I did. I went up there, and this little Chinaman said, same guy, [unclear] it was the same guy, went up there and I said, he said, where's your other ticket? I says I don't have another ticket. He said your nine spot, I said I didn't play it, yes you did play it. We have a copy of it right here. What I'd done, he, I played and I wasn't paying no attention, it was laying there, and I thought it was the ticket I'd played before, and I threw it into the trash.

Interviewer: *Oh, okay.*

Harry Clough: But the trash guy came down, and he was emptying the things, you know. You know this guy came up, and it took them 45 minutes to find that ticket.

Interviewer: *They looked for it, wow.*

Harry Clough: You think they'd do that now?

Interviewer: *No way.*

Harry Clough: No way.

Interviewer: *No way.*

Harry Clough: In fact, a lot of them places, you got to be in there to even win, to get the money, you got to show your, you got to show social security number and everything. But I always thought they treated people pretty good.

Interviewer: *Well, yeah, it was different back then.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah.

Interviewer: *When did it start to change?*

Harry Clough: In the 80s, early 80s, that's when, supposedly that's when the Mafia got pretty well, I think they're still around, but I mean, they got big time run out. I think so. It was interesting. I always liked it down here, though. Weather's nice.

Interviewer: *How did you adjust to the weather coming down here? Wasn't it hot?*

Harry Clough: Damn near died of pneumonia one time when I first came down.

Interviewer: *Oh, how come?*

Harry Clough: Well, I left Montana in October. And I came down here. That was the second time around because I was working. Up there in October, you're looking at, oh, high 40s at night time, day time low 50s. I come down here. You know how October is down here, it's still hot. Well, I was running around with my tee shirt on. But at night time it gets chilly.

Interviewer: *It does.*

Harry Clough: I was still running around with my tee shirt on, because to me it was warm. Pretty soon I didn't, I began to feel not right and everything and went to the doctor, Connelly, he's gone, I think [unclear] that other meeting we had down there or not, the one run in Henderson, you there when we had that?

Interviewer: *Yeah, the Heritage Days.*

Harry Clough: Remember when I talked to them down there, they said anybody knew a Dr. Connelly? Nobody, nobody did know what happened to him. Nobody never knows what happened to him. But anyway, he was the plant doctor, course that was then before that. Went to Dr. Connelly, and he said what's the matter? I just don't feel good, have I got an allergy or something? No, you got walking pneumonia, son. What's that? I didn't know walking pneumonia. He gave me a shot of penicillin, and some salter [?] tablets, you know. You'll be OK in about three days. He said stop wearing this shirt.

[Laughter]

Interviewer: *That's funny.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, but that's how I got, the irony of it when I came down here, you know, it's just like I couldn't adjust. [unclear] something you really had to adjust to. Oh, by the way, something's very interesting, I thought. Every bit, I think animals are the same way. Everybody adjusts to the climates and everything, you do that automatically. Well up there in Canada, northern Canada where you're

[unclear]. Night time, winter time, you don't see no daylight at all. It's dark all the time. OK, I didn't have no, nobody had any physical work up there. The radar, you walk up the hall, you go into the operations building for your shift. There's three or four guys in there and a pot of coffee on. You sit there and everybody talks, you smoke cigarettes and watch the scope. And once in a while you go outside and look around, come back in, and that's it, right? You could sleep, I'm not lying to you, you could sleep for 16 hours and never wake up. Just like you're going into the hibernation.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I guess.*

Harry Clough: If you had, if you had to do something or there was something you wanted to do, you better set the alarm. You just wouldn't wake up, why? You're not tired, you're not tired from exertion, you're not using no calories or nothing. I guess you adjust to that, I don't know.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I've heard of people like in caves, when they spend a long time in caves that they sleep longer.*

Harry Clough: Did you ever hear about how they make out in the space stations? I've never heard nothing about that, how they work that.

Interviewer: *Yeah, no, they have to have alarms.*

Harry Clough: Do they?

Interviewer: *That's why, that's why Cape Canaveral calls them every, or Houston calls them every.*

Harry Clough: [unclear] to sleep. That's interesting.

Interviewer: *They have a wakeup call every morning just to, because they go around the world like several times a day, so.*

Harry Clough: They must have to be woke up. You know, even right to [unclear] I got a pretty well schedule and I sort of got a built-in alarm clock. I don't want to go out to the lake too late. I got my own spot I like to fish out there, course nobody comes out there any more, hardly at all now anyhow. But I usually wake up every morning between about 20 after 4, and 25 to 5. I got the clock set to about a quarter to 5. Very seldom I ever. If I get a little sore throat coming on, or something, I get some Nyquil, then if I take that, I'd better have the alarm set.

Laughter

Interviewer: *That's great. So what do you fish for?*

Harry Clough: Anything that bites. And I'm telling you, I've caught fish out there. Of course, you fish there enough. To me, fishing's fun, but another thing I enjoy about fishing, it's a challenge. If I catch a fish, I want to see how many times I can catch these fish in different dates and different ways. That's the best part. I got pictures at home, this one guy I sort of fish with, he's a professional photographer. He's from [unclear]. \$20,000 camera. I caught an alligator gar.

Interviewer: *Cool. Those things are scary looking.*

Harry Clough: Oh, this one was a small one. Four feet long and I gave it to Toni, she's retired now, she was, we call her the fish counter, she's Fish and Game. She counts fish that come in the boats and that, that was her job. What a job. But anyhow, I gave it to her and she, I froze. First I give it to [unclear]. He worked for the [unclear]. Then he give it to her, she froze it. Went around different places showing it to people. And then they took it, because then the California. Cal State Santa Barbara, I think it was. And yeah, they got a big fish laboratory. They handle fish there. I think that's the one we sent. Either that or it was Fullerton. Anyhow, the fish was born in a lake. They could tell that. Well, I could have told them that. And about a week later, I caught another one. But the other one I caught was about that long. And Toni said, if you catch another, make sure you keep it, give me a call, I got her card.

Interviewer: *Yeah, they need to track them.*

Harry Clough: I laid it down on the damn bank, and I beat it up [unclear], and I seen this big shadow behind me. Osprey came down. Took the fish.

Interviewer: *How funny.*

Harry Clough: But everything's so full of teeth, you know. Just, Jesus, all they got is teeth. And I guess they're good eating, too, if you know how to cook them.

Interviewer: *I don't know; they don't look like good eating. They look like they're pretty bony.*

Harry Clough: They say they're not, they say, what you do. You can filet them. First you soak them in milk. Then you can filet them. And the little spines, bones, dissolve. Now I talked to guy, we got a lot of Hawaiians that live out there. I mean, live here. And there's a lot of Hawaiians love to fish. Of course, they, a lot of the people live on fish too, you know. They eat a lot of them bonefish over there. And I was over there, we were over there in Hawaii one time on the main island there, right, with them homes are all, those hotels are all down there along the beach. Ever been to Hawaii?

Interviewer: *No, but, I can imagine.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah. And they got a big, a jetty that goes way out. I looked way out there, and I said to my wife and my daughter, I says, I know you guys don't want to talk out there, but I see a white pail sitting out there. I'll bet you that guy's fishing out there with that white pails. It was about a hundred yards out there, way out there. I walked out there, yep, he was fishing. He was a Hawaiian guy, young guy. And he had, the pail was about that high, and he had these fish in there about that long, had the tails sticking out of the top. He had three of them, they were bonefish. Well, they say those bonefish are real good to eat, and I said, well, how do you cook them? Well, he says, they're different ways. He said, the way I do it, he said, I skin them, and then I scrape them. Scrape the meat

off, you make meat patties and stuff like that, or soup, whatever you want to make. He says it's real sweet meat, but they're all bones, you know. They're like carp, they're all bones. Ever eat carp?

Interviewer: *No, well. I don't know, I don't know, I doubt it.*

Harry Clough: I'll tell you one thing. I'll tell you one thing. And this is no lie now. If you had anybody that lived up north, Oregon, Washington, whatever, and they smoked their own meat, which I smoke my own meat. I used to can my own meat. He would tell you. King salmon or any kind of salmon, as far as that goes, like a Chinook or King, or a Coho, that's [unclear] of course. And you can them, cut them in chunks, have two pressure cookers and can them up. While you're doing it, you take, you can up a carp. You never tell the difference. It's the carp even got the right color to the meat.

Interviewer: *Oh, interesting.*

Harry Clough: What it does. The only thing about a carp, you got to scale them real good, clean them real good. When you catch one, the first thing you want to do unless it's real hot, then you can put them on a stringer and leave them in the water until you get ready to go. Before it dies, you cut its gills and let it bleed real good, then you scale them real good, then you cut them in chunks. Don't filet it, cut them in in chunks about that wide, so your carp's about that long. Then you go ahead and can it up, it's really good. The reason I say this, carp is a bad fish because it's got a bad name. They live in swamps.

Interviewer: *Yeah, they're supposed to be bottom feeders or something, like catfish or something.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, but they live in such warm water, they get soft and mushy and without a doubt in that atmosphere they're going to be muddy. These fish out here are hard as a rock. They're just a solid fish. And then you can take one of those things and you can, well, that's the best way, just can it up. But you can smoke it, it's real good, too. I smoke quite a few of them.

Interviewer: *Are some of the fish that you catch out there, are they invasive species that people have dumped in the Lake? What do you know about that?*

Harry Clough: Well, that's what we thought about the gar, but it wasn't. Somewhere along the line, it got in there, and probably somebody did dump one in there. Maybe ten years ago or something. I've caught tropical fish out there, looks like blue [unclear]. People dump them, dump all. The game warden told me about five years ago they found a piranha out there.

Interviewer: *No, really?*

Harry Clough: When I caught that alligator gar. You know that whole beach is a mile, well it's a mile and six-tenths long, one end to the other, right? And I think people there feel safe, I don't know why they do it, that's the. But you can be fishing by yourself there. They'll come down to jet ski. They got the whole beach. What they do, they'll go about near that thing there, and that's where they'll put the damn thing in the water. They're right beside you, you know. Say, I didn't mean.

Interviewer: *No respect.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, I wasn't mean enough, I didn't even give it a thought. I was pretty proud. Had that fish on a stringer and like I said, the mouth was that long by itself. And they got some power, I tell you.

Interviewer: *They scare me. I don't know what I'd do with one if I caught it.*

Harry Clough: Well, how are you gonna catch? You know, when I caught it, even what I had, at first I thought I had a [unclear] pike. Then I got in real close, and I seen his head, head wasn't right. So I got up pretty close, I felt with my foot, kicked him out of the bag, well, what am I going to do with him now? So I went right down, I could do a [unclear], went right behind him, got right behind his gills and tied him down. Then I couldn't, you know, I couldn't get his mouth open to get the damn stringer in there. So I

took a knife, got ahold of him, I went in from the bottom, that's the only way I could get in, and then I put him on the stringer, and his [unclear] that or son and daughter with him.

Interviewer: *So it must be like an alligator where you can't, like you can't, what is it, an alligator, you can't.*

Harry Clough: They can't move their upper one.

Interviewer: *Yeah, like there's some way that they can't move their jaws easily.*

Harry Clough: You can wrap them, and they can't open it up. But these here alligator gar, I don't think they're that way. But anyway, people put their jet skis in there, and I didn't give it a thought. They just got out there, nice day out, you know. I'm getting ready to leave anyhow. So anyhow, I walk down there, say, do you want to see an alligator gar? They say, what's that? I said, come down here, I got it in the water, I'll show it to you. He walked down, the four of them did, you know, and I took it out of the water like this. His little mouth gone whomp, whomp. Where did you get that? Oh, right out there. What is that? I says it's an alligator gar. This is a gar fish. They got them all over in Texas and the southern states. Oh. You catch very many out here? By this time, it irritates me. Oh, yeah, they're all over out there. They went back, loaded their jet skis up.

Interviewer: *That's great, you totally scared them off, that's great. That's funny. You didn't even have to tell them about the piranhas.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, they got that one. They don't think they would survive in that Lake, though. But don't believe that. Fish can, I got two aquariums at home. I got two aquariums at home, and I'm telling you, you go down here at Lake Mead Marina. [unclear] You gotta go down to the [unclear] Cove, that's where the Marina's at now. [unclear] But you go down there, the water temps will be 85, right in the

dead middle of summertime. And these big old carp are swimming around, carp swimming right with, I mean stripers swimming right with them.

Interviewer: *Well, it's such a big lake, too, there's probably different temperature levels, so the fish, wherever they're from, they can find the level that they like, and just exist in that.*

Harry Clough: You see, that's why when I'm fishing down here at the Lake I, everybody says, do you catch any fish? And I don't care if they believe me or not. I could probably do better if I really got along to it [?], but I go out there for something to do, I walk the beach in the morning, keeps me exercised. I got circle hooks, I don't have to worry about being there when the pole goes down, it will hook themselves. I got good reels and good poles, so I ain't worried. But I found out, right now we got a problem, the wind blew so hard all summer long that the crawdads aren't in there, the Lake's starting to come back up now, it's been going down for two years, you know. But those fish will come in, and they'll feed for about ten minutes max, and then they'll leave again. Well, for a long time, I thought they were going up and down the beach. But that ain't the case. In certain areas, they know where the big fish is going to be at, so they go out there in the deeper water, and then they'll get, that's where they get the oxygen. And they stay there. And when they get built up pretty good, then they'll come in, feed, and then go back out again. So you gotta be patient. If I wanted to catch a lot of fish, I could stay there about five hours, I probably could get seven, eight or nine fish every morning. I don't do it now. I go out, I start fishing usually about 5:30, quarter to six, and leave there, it's like clockwork, I'll leave there about 6:00, I mean about 8:00. Eight o'clock I'm gone. I filet my fish in a nice big sink in my garage. I have a washer out there, and a dryer out there, and a toilet out there. I'm one of these people that keeps their garage clean. I can actually get the car in there at all time. The wife keeps her car in there, I got bumped out on the street. It's a one car garage. But anyhow, I.

Interviewer: *So you never go out on a boat or anything?*

Harry Clough: We used to, all the time. I haven't, we don't do that anymore at all. We used to, three of us had a boat. We'd go out and do a lot of Indian fishing then, though.

Interviewer: *Did you own the boat? Did you partner in the boat ownership with some other people?*

Harry Clough: Well, this one guy, he owned the boat, me and [unclear] were both mechanics, so we'd buy the fuel. We didn't have no major problems with the boat anyhow. We'd, prop would go out once in a while, or the pump would go out once in a while or something like that, you know. He had a Chevy 2 engine in it, inboard-outboard, nice economical boat. You could drive that thing all day on about ten gallons of gas.

Interviewer: *Oh, that's pretty good.*

Harry Clough: The outboards and that, they really gobble up the fuel, you know. But we did that for about, oh ten years, I guess. Then Ron, he traded that boat off, he got a bigger boat, little bigger. This was a 16, that one he got was an 18, and a [unclear], that was inboard-outboard too. But.

Interviewer: *And was that one of your friends or a neighbor, or how did you know them?*

Harry Clough: Well, the guys worked in the plant. Ron, he worked, well, all three of us worked in the plant. Ron, he died, he died here about two years ago.

Interviewer: *Your dad worked at the plant, too?*

Harry Clough: Huh?

Interviewer: *Your dad worked at the plant?*

Harry Clough: Oh, no, no. My dad had a, all he did, he came down and had that service station, and then he, like I told you, sold that, went back to Montana, Hamilton, on interstate, well, not interstate, it's Highway 93. It goes right through, right through Hamilton into Missoula. He built a motel there, he

sold that, and he came back down here. He was going to retire. Then he got down here. I don't know how he did it, he got tangled up with this one guy by the name of Goodman and I can't think the other guy's name, and he ran the Western Hotels in Vegas. He did that for, four or five years. It was the El Cid. Three or four of them. El Cid, the Western. That was before Jackie Gaughan bought it. The Western and the El Cid, there's two other ones.

Interviewer: *You said he ran it...he was the manager?*

Harry Clough: Yeah. Just ran them all. He was head over all of them. Then my brother came down, one next to me. I got two brothers. He ran it for a short time, then Jackie Gaughan bought it from this Western Hotels Corporation, the one that owned them. And Jackie bought that. And my brother ran, he ran the hotel, the Western, for Jackie and his wife, Frank's wife, she ran the laundry, head laundry for all the. Then they stayed here, then finally Frank, my brother likes to travel. He went down to California, the Indian casino they opened up south of LA there, around San Diego. He ran that for a while. And then he, he had a nice home. He sold the one here, went down and bought a house, sold that, now he's in Memphis. I think one of these days he'll [unclear]

Interviewer: *Yeah, he's traveled around, that's interesting.*

Harry Clough: I got my sister, she's living down here. She was in Oregon, she moved down here. She was here years ago, and she left here about 15, about 18 years ago.

Interviewer: *So it sounds like your family really loves this area of the country.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah, it's a nice area. You know, my sister liked Oregon in a way. She lived there in [unclear], right beside Corvallis there. But she got, older she got, the more the weather bothered her. You got a lot of rain, you know. You get sort of tired of the cloudy days. And then her boy, he moved down here, he's 50, I think Tally's [?] 52, 53. So he was down here. She got divorced quite a few years

ago. Then she was in real estate up there for 32 years, she was a real estate broker. So then, her partner, he died of cancer. Oh, she, she helped put him to sleep. It was one of those deals, you know. She said, I got the recipe for that. I said, you keep it. It's real interesting, you know. They mix certain type of sleeping pill, they get them, they smash them all up, they powder them up. They mix them with applesauce. And then, I think there's a doctor present, I'm not sure. I know there's lawyers who are there. She had a, they had a, first time they ever had it done a hospital. She had it done in Salem. Anyhow, he went out there, he got the pain, he got to the point, you know. He had it all set up. It costs \$5,000 just to set that up, you know. Anyhow, he lays down on the bed. It's like you're going to eat, if you're in the hospital, you're going to have lunch or something, you know. And he takes a great big tablespoon of the applesauce. You never get to the second one.

Interviewer: *Wow, that quick.*

Harry Clough: The doctors claim it's quicker than, you ever see these movies, not movies, documentary, how they take electrocution and the injection and all that. They say this is a lot better. Even that injection, I didn't realize, I seen that on TV the other night, that's bad, you know? You don't die right away from that crap, you know, takes about 15, 20 minutes to die.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I've never heard of that, what you're talking about.*

Harry Clough: That's what they use up there in Oregon. See, they're one of the states that.

Interviewer: *That allows it.*

Harry Clough: That allows that. Abortion thing is now, too. I think, is it Oregon an abortion [unclear]. Massachusetts must be.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I was reading in the news today that people are still traveling to places like Switzerland for that service. And I wondered, you know, why people were still going overseas for that?*

Harry Clough: You know. I'd rather die, she died pretty hard. They had her doped up pretty good, though. She died of cancer years ago. She was about 80 something. But if you get to the point, oh like, her partner was. He got to the point where nothing worked, you just got straight down pain. Now why isn't it legal to have that? You know, it ain't hurting anybody?

Interviewer: *It's just awful, it's just awful when you're in that state.*

Harry Clough: You know, they always, well the doctors are trying to get as much money out of you as they can. Maybe that's true, I don't know. Of course, I know the doctor says, he says, well we can't take lives, we're here to save lives, that's true.

Interviewer: *That's their mission.*

Harry Clough: But they could say, well, if you get to that point, we're not your doctor anymore. That's the way you could get around that if they wanted to, say, well, that's it, we're done with you. Do what you want to do, right? I don't know.

Interviewer: *Tough. Tough issues. When you were, when you moved here, that makes me think of another question. What was health care like in Henderson back in the old days? Back in the 60s?*

Harry Clough: Well, we had a. When I first went to [unclear], of course, when I worked for my dad, but, 21 years old. I don't think we had any insurance then. No, we must have. No, we probably did [unclear]. Laura, she was born in Butte, St. Regis, Montana. \$50 for the doctor. That's when they made house calls, too, back then. Anyhow, and of course, my boy, he was born in Dickinson, North Dakota, that was underneath [?] the Air Force. He was born in Catholic hospital there. They paid for all that. So, I went back to Missoula. That's the plywood plant. We had, I forget, one of the major insurance companies. We had the same one down here, too. Anyhow, I worked back there for a few months and came down here and got a job down here with Timet. I forget the insurance company. And anyhow, we

went to. Oh, Blue Cross, that's what we had. We had Blue Cross in Missoula, then we had Blue Cross down here at Timet. And Timet went to Cigna. And then they dropped out of Cigna. They were going to go to self- insurance, you know how that works. Cigna still got them to pay for it, but Timet had had their own. In other words, Cigna was just the administrator. So anyhow, they did that, and we never had no problems at all with the insurance. Course I'm on, we're both on Medicare now, you know. We got Senior Dimensions, which is seems like, they're OK. There's probably better ones, but they all work about the same. They pick up 20%, you know.

Interviewer: *Did you ever have to go to St. Rose?*

Harry Clough: I haven't. I've only been in the hospital once in my life, when I broke my leg.

Interviewer: *How did you break your leg?*

Harry Clough: Well, that's another story. I was drunk one night. That was before I quit drinking. I didn't drink, I didn't break my leg because I was drunk. If I'd been in that position, I wouldn't have broke my leg. I was working on the sprinkler system. I always went out Friday nights, right? Went down to the clubs and danced around, had my [unclear] dancing boots on and all that. They had them damn leather soles on it. And I had put the sprinkler system in on my front yard, had to replace the line. Getting pretty late. So the line was there, turned the water on, checked the sprinkler, everything worked OK, too late to screw with it. So I go in, take a shower, go downtown, come home. Well, during that night, my sprinkler system came on, of course. And water laying on the driveway, of course. And that line's about that far from the edge of the driveway, and I slipped my foot off it. Six months.

Interviewer: *Oh, my gosh, off the job? Oh, my gosh.*

Harry Clough: Compound fracture. I'd have done OK, but I didn't realized I broke my leg. I heard something snap, and I went to get up, the second time I went to get up, went to get up, heard another snap. Well, that didn't sound good at all, you know.

Interviewer: *I bet. But did they treat you at St. Rose?*

Harry Clough: Yeah. I like that. You ever been to the hospital there?

Interviewer: *I have, yeah, and I love the nuns.*

Harry Clough: And you know something? They, I understand, talking to different people. Before they put this other hospital out here, you know. They took a lot of load off this hospital. And they say it's now the services is a lot better, you know, and everything. I believe that's probably true. Of course, when I was in there, I was only in there overnight. My wife, she spent quite a bit of time down there at that hospital. But they were always good. Did you know Doverstein [?]. Did you ever hear that name? They were good friends of ours. She was a volunteer. She worked at both the hospitals back [unclear], you know. And she died here about eight months ago. But her son is Eric Doverstein. He works for the City. He's a City Attorney. That's her son, Eric. Yeah, they were good friends of ours for a long time. Anyhow, she worked there, and she always said that if she ever had to go to the hospital, she was going to go down here. She wasn't going to the [unclear]. But I've been pretty lucky, like I said, haven't been to the hospital. Knock on wood.

Interviewer: *Was she, how did you meet her? Was she one of your neighbors, or?*

Harry Clough: Oh, I took her off her feet. My wife, you mean?

Interviewer: *No, your, Doverstein?*

Harry Clough: Oh, they used to live over here on Hickory. And he was a, what do you call it, triple dipper. He worked, he had 20 years in the Navy, he had 20 years in the, worked out here on the F-111s.

That's the story. You know that guy, he was so quiet, nice guy, too. He died of cancer, here about 12 years ago. And, such a nice guy, you know. He took care of the Presbyterian Church. He was the finance director for that, and all that, you know. And they were flying that F-111, F-17 around. Well, they always said it was the F-111, right? [unclear] that guy all the time, he never said nothing. They crashed three of them up out here. Up around the test site. Yeah, he was a real nice guy. And then, Eric, when he was growing up. He was about the same age as my daughter. And he went to the University of Houston, lawyer, he went to law school. And he had his cars, he liked to fix his cars and all that, you know. I see him once in a while. I always had a lot of his, before his dad died. In fact, it was right before they found out that he had cancer. They had their 50th wedding anniversary, you know. And Eric had this beautiful, he's got this beautiful home out at Anthem. I mean to tell you. And you go out on the patio out behind. And he had a bulldozer come in below him. Cost a lot of money. He had all the dirt removed. But he owned that land. He didn't let nobody build below him. He wanted to be able to look straight out, right? Oh, it's beautiful. And, you know, we had their 50th wedding anniversary there. And he got a couple of kids, they're all grown up now. But anyhow, I said to him, I said, do you remember [unclear] lived on Hickory Street? Oh yeah, I said, you miss that? Yeah, he said, I sure miss that once in a while living back there, you know. But then, he went, he took his mother and his dad to Hawaii for their 50th wedding anniversary, right? So, there's a bunch, he had a bunch of people there, you know? We got ready to leave, and he walked, I had walked around the side of the house, me and this other guy did, and he's got a big double car garage on the side of the house, too. I looked in there, and there was a 3000 Porsche sitting in there. I said, where did I go wrong? I said, Eric, would you ever drive that thing? Not very much, he said, I'm just sort of. He said, I don't know why I even bought it. He said I'm just sort of, I look at it every once in a while.

Interviewer: *He's probably scared to take it out.*

Harry Clough: It's like this one guy I fish with. They are nice people. He used to be the head guy for, the CIO for [unclear], that big, you've probably heard about it. He worked for them a long time. He had a Lamborghini. And he said, I want to sell, I'll sell that Lamborghini to you. I'll give you a good buy. I didn't even bring it up to the wife. Wouldn't even think about telling her about that. I said, well, what do you want for it? It was not a new one, a '97, I think it was. He said, I'll sell it to you for \$80,000, he said [unclear] \$110,000 out of it, you know. He said, it's cheap, it's only got 80,000 miles on it. I could have made some, oh, yeah, I could have made some. But I, you know, I couldn't afford to even license the damn thing. I'd just buy it and sell it.

Interviewer: *Insure it. You wouldn't be able to insure it.*

Harry Clough: No. I could buy and sell it, right? But he said, he wanted to really get out. He's a really short guy, he's 76 years old. He said, I want to see what kind of mileage, what kind of trip I can make [unclear] one day. And his wife, she just turned 60, and he's 76, right. And he's got two nice, had three nice dogs, he's got two now. Golden retrievers. That's the ones he brings out to the lake every morning. Throws ball out. He said, I took that thing to Reno. He says, what was it, six hours and 48 minutes, I think he said. Six hours and 48 minutes up, seven hours and ten minutes back. I said, what were you over a hundred? Oh, yeah, he said I was going a lot over a hundred. Hundred, I was going slow. I was going 150-160. Figure, that's 600 miles up there, you know.

Interviewer: *Yeah, that's a long trip.*

Harry Clough: So, the bad part about it was. When he got back here, he had to put new tires on it. You never think about things like that. Like those race cars. You drive that car that long, that fast. Course, the tire's only \$3,000, you know. I don't know, I said, I'm going to take a rain check on that Lamborghini. But he's a nice guy. He comes out there about every morning. And she had cancer, but she whipped that. Sharon, my sister, my daughter, you know, she had cancer. I think she's got that whipped, too. If

you catch it early enough, you know. Sometimes they can whip it. That's like [unclear], she was out there, she didn't know she had nothing, you know. She went to the doctor one time. It was her regular. No, no she started to get headaches. And this one doctor said, well, you've got this or that, gave her some medicine. There were so many of the doctors, one of them said I might give you a cat scan. Right here. There was a little tiny. Inside. It was starting to move a little bit. What they do. They go up through, somehow they go up there, and they, you know, take it out. Anyhow, she had that done. She's sort of a weirdy. Nice lady, though. She's vegetarian. She's eating all this crap. Now, she says, I get the flu, I get all this. I said, Karen, you eat all that crap, start eating regular food. [unclear] said, forget it, you can't tell her nothing. You can forget it, she ain't going to listen to you.

Interviewer: *That's funny. Who are some of the other personalities that you remember from old Henderson?*

Harry Clough: Oh.

Interviewer: *Did you know any of the politicians back in the 60s?*

Harry Clough: No. I knew one guy that ran. He was a nice guy. You ever heard of the Bayers? He ran for, I think, something to do with Henderson one time. Big guy, big burly, real nice. He worked, he used to, bricklayer, and a cement finisher for years. Got into his system and ruined his hands. So he retired from that business, and [unclear] worked out there for, real nice guy, and he had two boys in the state champions in wrestling. That was, you're looking back, the 80s. Floyd was his name, I forget his boy's name, his wife, she was for years, she was the head woman down at the Eldorado, over the slot machines. I remember the highway coming down. Like where I live on National Street, over there the frontage road going down First to the theater, you know. That used to be the highway, you remember that? A highway running down to.

Interviewer: *Now, how come you went to Fremont Street and didn't go to the casinos in Henderson?*

Harry Clough: Well, they didn't have keno. I like to play keno. Oh, I'd go down at the, the old Royal Club, near the, you probably don't remember that. That was, Eldorado used to be two clubs. One was the Royal, that was on that side. And the one where the Club is now, that was the, part of that was the Eldorado Club. They had a dancing room for a while. Then they changed it to a bingo parlor. Then they had live music. They experimented, that's when the old man was still alive. Sam Boyd [?] And the Royal Club. I forget who owned that. In fact, I don't think I know who owned that.

But, our neighbor, sort of kitty corner from our house. Lynley, Bill Lynley. He had three daughters and one son. He hated his son. His son stole from him and all that stuff. He turned out to be a druggie and all that. But his daughters, they're all around here. They still live here. Well, he used to own that video store on Water Street. He owned that. And he owned the Sebrig [?] photograph outfit in Vegas. He owned all that. And he built that one house out here on Pacific, that one big brick house, sort of by itself. It was, I think it's surrounded now. He had that built. Anyhow, we were on, the plant had shut down, the only time it shut down as long as I worked there, outside of the strikes, you know. It had a financial shutdown, that was in '76 or '77. Maybe it was before that, maybe it was '74. Maybe it was '74. They shut down for six months, whole plant. So anyhow, I, we always had New Year's parties at his place. He had this big phonograph, [unclear] play-area thing, one of them big jobs, you know.

Everybody would go over there, and nobody wanted to take anything over there to drink, though. He supplied everything, he was a [unclear]. He'd have tubs full of beer, you know, all this, you know.

Anyhow, there was always about 20 people over there, course like I said, it was right across the street from my house, down one. So anyhow, we got talking, and I was out of work, you know. First thing you got to remember now, the kids were, about the time they were starting to use money up, 14, 15. Harry said, I want to make you a deal. Would you like to learn my business? Said, I'll teach you my business. He says, when I retire, you can have the business. There was no way he was going to give it to his son. Course, this could have turned out to be a big legal deal, too, you know how that goes. But anyhow, I

just about did it, but the wife says, you know, you can't look at it, this is all afterthought, too, you know. Course we knew he had a lot of money, he had the business. She says, you know, we got them two kids, and that plant's probably going to start up pretty quick anyhow. And I had seniority there. I probably had nine years seniority in there, you know. I also thought, where would I have been today if would have done that, you know.

But anyhow, he had that house built up to Grand Pacific [?]. He moved into that. Then about 1980, around in there, something like that. I seen him down at the gas station one day, and he had this Cadillac Eldorado down there. He bought it for his wife, for her birthday, for her Christmas present. He went up to Cashman, picked it up, he brought it down, and filled it full of gas, he come to take it home. That was Christmas Eve. Then the next thing I heard he had cancer. It was quick. Of course, back then, they didn't have the treatment like they do now, you know. He died. Then she died about a couple of years later.

My neighbor had his 90th birthday here a couple of years ago. I told you, the one that died, that lived across the street. Well, then, this one daughter, she was down at his brother's place down in Boulder City. We were all down there. I used to fish with his brother all the time. I said, where have you been keeping yourself? I last time I seen you, you worked at the Sizzler? And she used to be right down on Boulder Highway, you know, you know what I mean. And she worked down there, that's the last time I seen her. She said, that's been a long time ago. I said [unclear]. She said, that's my daughter. I said, well, I'm getting younger every day.

Interviewer: *Well, that's interesting how people, their children even stay in Henderson.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, yeah. Or they leave and come back.

Interviewer: *That's right, yeah.*

Harry Clough: I know different people, you know, offhand, left here and came back.

Interviewer: *It's a great place to live.*

Harry Clough: Yeah. My daughter, my granddaughter, Holly, she's, I got two granddaughters. Holly's the oldest one, she's 19. That can't be. She has got a natural for a home for stage management. And when she, her last two years, she went to school, all of her high school. Yeah, she completed that one school up there they have in Vegas for that, high school. She went to that, and she graduated out of there. And my daughter, she ran through the net, and found all these different schools for that. She's going upstate New York, one of the universities in New York. She'll be a sophomore this year. But she came out here, hard to get work out here, you know. She came out here for the summer, and she, they always went to [unclear]. Well, last year she was up there. She worked at [unclear]. So this year they wanted her back, so she came back, got here for the summer, and she went right back up and worked all summer at [unclear]. And then she went back to New York. But before she went back, John drove her, her little Rave back, he bought a Rave for her. That little Toyota Rave for her, you know. She's got that. And she drove that, he was, they were going to drive back together. She had to stay here and see this one play, take Amy to it. That's her younger sister. But before she left, she had to make the rounds with the guy, I think it's from the Bellagio. [unclear] That the name of a play? That right?

Interviewer: *The Bellagio, yeah.*

Harry Clough: Anyhow, the manager of that. She made the rounds with him for the night. He invited her to go around with him. He's the stage manager. Anyhow, she's back there. Anyhow I'm going to tell you. [unclear] She got a, I think it's an old Ford, an '02. Chrysler PT Cruiser convertible. And that was her car as long as she was here, you know. They were going to take that back. Well, then, John got to thinking, well she never drove in snow, I don't think, New York, it's a convertible, the weather and all that. He says, I think we'll, why don't you just sell that car, here I'll sell it for you, and you'll buy an SUV

and take that back. So now he's got the other car setting at home. [unclear] He takes care of that, too. Somebody was looking at it the other day. He took it, had it serviced. I said, that's what you do, John. You get it all serviced, and then you're going to sell it. It's all black, but it's really a nice little car. And if you ever hear of, know of anybody who wants to buy one, I got that. I think they're going to sell it pretty fast. It is in good shape. John's one of these kinds of guys, if the thing won't start on the first turn, he's going to take it to the garage.

Interviewer: *When you worked for Titanium, I was thinking of this a while back. Did you, were part of the union or?*

Harry Clough: Yeah. United Steel Workers. They always had it out there.

Interviewer: *Tell me about the Union, what was that like?*

Harry Clough: Well, back then it was real good. We had no problems. Everything got along good, and we had one great big strike. When I first went to work there, I went January 4, 1965. We didn't have nothing. I had to [unclear]. My dad was down here and run the station. So I went up to Selma, you know, I worked there three days. What the hell I got to lose? I didn't like to borrow money from my dad. I probably could have borrowed, it, you know. But I didn't like to do that, never did like to do that. In fact, I never did borrow any money from him. So anyhow, went up to Selma. [unclear] back down here, Water Street. And I walked in there. I don't know if she knew who I was when I walked in. I don't think so. I don't think I was ever in the bank. I had no money. No reason to go in there. Anyhow, I went in there. I said, I'm Frank. My dad's name is Neal. I wasn't adopted, that's a long story, I don't like Neal. I'm Frank Neal's boy, Harry, Harry Clough. Oh, I heard a lot about you. How is your dad doing? He's back in Montana now, isn't he? Yeah, she says, I know, he must be, I know he's got money out here yet. Yeah, he got money in the bank. I says, I want to know if I can do something. He says, what's that? I says, I got my wife and the two kids up in Missoula, Montana. I'm staying over here at Victory

Village. You know that place. And I says, I got to get them down here. I need, I got to get a U Haul, not a U Haul. I ain't got my truck, I got to get a van, you know. I think United brought it down. How much you need? I said, I need about \$500. She said, no problem. You know, she's still alive. They eat lunch out here at a certain place all the time. Here, you probably know about that. We were out there the other day. My daughter says, yeah, she used to come in here every day, but now she's only coming in, I think she said, two days a week. But I haven't seen her for a long time.

Interviewer: *Well, she was still working hard the last time I met with her. She was working at the bank and doing business.*

Harry Clough: Well, you know, you were speaking of unions. I went in there, we paid \$5 a month union dues, United Steel Workers. It was a very strong union. I worked, like I said, I went to work there February, February 4. Then we went out on strike, first of, 15th of October. And I had a Pontiac Le Mans convertible, that [unclear] car. And I was making \$53 a month payments on it, and I thought, what the hell am I doing to do? My last check was coming up in about a week. Back then I was making \$2.38 an hour. Yeah, it was \$2.38 an hour I was making. Gosh.

Interviewer: *That's a high car payment.*

Harry Clough: Anyhow, somebody said, why don't' you go up to GM? We had financing through GMAC. Says, why don't you go up there and find out. I think all you got to do is pay the interest on that, as long as you're on strike. That's interesting. So I went up to Vegas, to the GMAC out there. He was right. I paid \$14. They said, when you go back to work, let us know immediately, said, won't be no overcharge. And you can pick the payments up at the end of the contract. I had it on a two-year contract. That's why it was so high, you see. It was a used one. Anyhow, I had to pay \$14. I think I paid the October payment, I think. November, December, and January, I paid three months at \$14 a month. The override

was at the end of the contract. Never did make it up. They sent my title. So I had three months, only paid \$14.

But we had a guy that came in, this is how everything's so damn political. I'm telling you. Getting bad anymore, real bad now, you know. We, this guy came in, forget his. He was an Italian guy from New York. Be our negotiator, run the union during the strike. This guy really was, he knew what he was doing. He was one of these kind of guys, he'd leave ice, he'd leave the Eskimos the ice, and they'd buy it. One of them kind. Anyhow, he was a real nice guy. He appeared to be, anyhow. And we went on strike, and we were building these F-104s. And Timet [unclear] TMCA then. They were the only ones that made any titanium in the United States at that time. They were, the government was really under a gun, because they had these contracts going for the F-104. So anyhow, we went off for a month, we went off for another month.

We'd have a meeting every month, and it made no difference. Nobody would change, he made sure nobody changed their way. So, we went in there, and he said, I got a special meeting. See, that's the way he operated, he wasn't going by hearsay. Everybody got to have a special meeting. He had to press the union, get on the phone, he made sure they did, and call everybody up, you know. The ones that didn't have phones, he made sure everybody got in touch with them. Next Thursday at the Armory, we're going to have another meeting, a special meeting. Everybody come. Boy, this may be something good, you know. We went out there. The government's giving us food. Vegas. We went up there, and we got everything but Kotex and toothpaste. Everything else, only two things. We can use salt water. [unclear] the Kotex, I never asked him. Anyhow, we got great big bricks of cheese. You got the car up there, and you lift the trunk up, and people would just throw food in there. It was all supplied through the test site. Well, that really hurt Timet, because everybody was going to get this free food, right? Well, then this guy, this negotiator, really started putting pressure on Timet then. And this guy, he knew, he was going around the political end, I know. He knew what was going on. So he said, they

offered us \$3.60 an hour. This is a helluva lot more than \$2.38. You know what, we're going to go for \$4 and a half, and we're not gonna go for a dime less. Everybody said, yeah. We went for \$4 and a half, right? Three days later, they got \$4 and a half. Yep.

Interviewer: *He was good.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah. But he was the one that really turned the wage scale around. Ever since then. What did we get? One time we got, what two pair of boots. Five cents an hour raise or some stupid thing like that. And, you know, that's why a lot of the unions are getting in trouble now. Everything's dropping off.

Interviewer: *They don't have as much power as they used to.*

Harry Clough: And it's a way, it's a shame, but it's these corporations are still making a lot of money, you know. They're making a lot of money. And what really gets you, look at all the money they're making and they pay a lot of these executives like \$4 and \$5 million a year bonuses and crap like that.

Interviewer: *It's unreal, unreal.*

Harry Clough: It is, it's unreal.

Interviewer: *What were you making for the F-104s? What part of the plane were you working on?*

Harry Clough: Well, the F-104 is primarily Timet, I mean titanium, so I'd say 2/3 of the plane is titanium.

Interviewer: *Is that because it's lightweight?*

Harry Clough: Titanium. OK, here's the thing about titanium metal. It's sort of a dream metal, you might call it. It'll take heat up to better than 3000 degrees before it starts to melt. And it's very light, it's very, just a little bit lighter than aluminum, a little bit heavier than aluminum, not a lot heavier. And it's, like I said, it's very expensive, though. Now to give a good example of how that metal works. They

we're going to build a space shuttle out of it, they looked at the cost, they didn't know what they were getting into, and they looked at the cost of it, you know. Oh, my god, we can't do that. So what do they do? They build it out of aluminum, and they put tiles all over it and all that stuff, you know. Before they got done, the overall upkeep, they had been better off just building it out of titanium.

Interviewer: *Yeah, probably so. Because they didn't realize all those tiles would fall off.*

Harry Clough: It would have saved some of them lives, too. That one tile came off, that one, you know. But anyhow, I tell you how you get an idea how good that is. Two ways. England uses a lot of cookware. Now, I don't know if you know this or not, England, they run 220 volts in everything. They don't run 110, because it's cheaper that way. OK, but the trouble with titanium is, it's good for cooking in the sense that it takes a little longer to heat it up, but it heats even. I brought a piece of titanium scrap home from work, a piece of scrap back from the recycle. It was a sheet about that long, about that thick. I drilled it, put a handle on it. Put it on a skillet, on the stove, electric stove. An experiment, right? I turned it on, I put one little hotcake in the middle, one on each corner, a square one, and they all cooked even.

Interviewer: *Wow, that's nice.*

Harry Clough: The heat distributes evenly throughout. Now that SR-71, that's that big black plane. Well, it's, people know this now, but it was capable of 3000 miles an hour. In fact, it went across the United States at, my brother [unclear] over at Edwards when they were flying that thing, you know. Eighty-five thousand feet, an hour and fourteen minutes to LA, I mean from LA, from Edwards to New York. Made the round robin and came back. And then that one big battle they had, that one reconnaissance mission they had in, one of them countries over there, forget where it's at. They sent the SR-71 over there to take them pictures, and they'd take pictures from 85-90,000 feet. You know, they pick a Budweiser can out at, you know 80,000 feet. They got what they call radar lens. The

cameras were made by Polaroid. But anyhow, those planes fly at that speed. When they take off from the ground, they take them up, up for about ten minutes and fly them around. The reason they do that, if they fill up to start with, all the fuel will run out. You got to heat the metal up, expand it. Then they come back, they land. Sometimes they land, sometimes they get refilled in the air. Depends where the fueler is at. A lot of times they come back, they land and fill up.

Interviewer: *So they have to expand the gas tank. Interesting.*

Harry Clough: Right, fuel tank, yeah. And another thing a lot of people don't know about them. Of course, I know the Russians and everybody knows about now. They had a, my brother says they had a, people didn't know how it could fly so high. They had a hydrogen converter on them. When they'd get up to where the air is real thin, it would kick over to the hydrogen. Then that mission they were running in, when that, what country was that? Damn, I can't think of that country. Anyhow, they went over on a reconnaissance mission. They knew the Communists knew they were coming, right, one of the Communist countries.

Interviewer: *It wasn't North Korea, was it?*

Harry Clough: No, it wasn't. Had the SAM missiles there, I know that. But anyhow, all they had on it was the pilot and the navigator. The navigator, he runs the navigation system. He also runs the, what do they call that, when they let the chaff out, it's electronic.

Interviewer: *Oh, the anti.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, you know what I mean. Anyhow, they were going along, and the pilot says, or the navigator says, we got a hot one. What that means, missile's on its way, right. He says, now we're going to show these boys what we've got. He pulled that thing into a 90 degree turn and opened it up, outrun the missile.

Interviewer: *Wow.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, outrun the missile. So the missile's going to go about 2,500 miles per hour, and that SR-71 left him.

Interviewer: *Yeah, they were firing, it was, where'd it go?*

Harry Clough: Can you imagine the guys on the ground watching the radar, saying what in the hell do those guys got up there?

Interviewer: *How about that?*

Harry Clough: You know, they're still flying.

Interviewer: *Talk about a UFO.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah, they're still flying them things around, you know that. But they were so expensive. They, you know damn well, I'll bet they're flying those things around Ukraine right now, checking everything out. That's they only thing they got. See, they can't depend, ever get, I tell you what you ought to do. If I got it back, I'd give it to you and you could read [unclear]. You ever read that book on Area 51?

Interviewer: *No, I haven't yet. I've heard it's good.*

Harry Clough: Oh, you got to get that. That is really interesting on that, yeah. In fact, there's a guy that owns some land up there, and he's dead now, but his two sons, they live right close to me. And they tried to run him out of there, Area 51. They tried to run him out, they couldn't do it legally. So they negotiated with him. So he owns a cabin up there, he's still got it. But when he was alive, he'd go up there hunting, and they wouldn't let him go out unless two officers went with him, right. All they'd do is go up there and have big parties. You got to get that book and read it. It's really good, though. But they

were saying about the satellites flying over, you know. I'll just tell you one little part about that. This was on one of the TV deals here a while back, too. The Russians would send their satellites over. Well, they knew when the satellites were coming. So they had this, I think it was the A-12, yeah, the A-12. That's the predecessor, the earlier model of the SR-7. They have it up and had this great big thing up in the air. They'd lift that whole plane up there. They had to check something, had to have it up in the air. Well, then they found out the Russians, every time the Russians would get close, they'd let it down and run it back in the hangar again. And when the Russians left, they'd run it back out again. Well, then they found out the mistake they were making. It was leaving that heat signature. And the satellites would pick it up. And all of a sudden they realized, how were they getting the picture of this plane at, you know? Then they realized what was going on. Then they got real smart. Then they made fake ones. Like flying saucers and all of them.

Interviewer: *Oh, that's great, that's great.*

Harry Clough: You got to get that book and read it.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I've got to check it out.*

Harry Clough: I was down there when that one plane crashed that killed all them people up here on Mt. Charleston. They got that in there, too. They were all big wheels in Area 51. They were flying out of that, flying in from Edwards. Then that one TV show they got it on, it showed them bringing that plane, that SR-71 in. Three, had the plane on one truck, they had the wings on the other truck, and they had the highway patrols, bringing it down the highway. They put it back together out at Area 51. That was pretty interesting.

Interviewer: *What other events from around the area do you remember over the years?*

Harry Clough: Oh.

Interviewer: *Were you, were they still doing tests at the test site?*

Harry Clough: No, they just got done.

Interviewer: *They were done with that?*

Harry Clough: I think the last test they done was '61, I think.

Interviewer: *Probably so, yeah. That's what I was thinking.*

Harry Clough: Right around '63.

Interviewer: *When they were doing the above-ground tests.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, yeah. Oh, the underground. Oh, that's something. I was never directly involved with it, but we had a guy that got laid off up there when they stopped testing, you know. Completely, you know. They might still [unclear]. Anyhow supposedly. But he was a numbers man, and he went to work out there at Jean, at the prison. Finance, something with finance. He worked out there for awhile. He was a real good machinist, where he learned that trade out. Then he came out to Timet. He's medically retired, I forget what was the matter with him, nothing good with radiation, nothing like that. Something else, but not cancer neither, something else he had. But anyhow, he medically retired. But he said, he was telling little stories about all the stuff out there, you know. Can you imagine, you have a cow, you take about three of her ribs out, they put a plastic in there. And they see what the radiation effects would have on her. The cow's still alive.

Interviewer: *Radioactive glass?*

Harry Clough: No, so you could look inside the cow.

Interviewer: *Oh, oh my gosh, really?*

Harry Clough: And he said it was about. He takes about three ribs out, and he cut a slot, and he put a glass in there.

Interviewer: *I had not heard of that.*

Harry Clough: You know, a lot of stuff they did around there, you never of it. I think there [unclear] now.

Interviewer: *Oh, who knows?*

Harry Clough: Oh, they're doing stuff.

Interviewer: *I know they're testing water and things like that at various wells. I know they do that.*

Harry Clough: That's bad. You know what's real bad about it? I think the day has come when, we'll be saved by it. But after where they put this stuff underground, in time it's going to leak. You know, it will, it will leak. They going to, in time. So I don't blame everybody for fighting about putting it Nevada, everybody's going to fight any place you put it. But I think the day's coming there's going to be some way of neutralizing that, you know.

Interviewer: *They have to find a way.*

Harry Clough: There's definitely got to be a way. But you know what gets me, though. That Russian deal where they had that leak in that big reactor over there.

Interviewer: *Oh, yeah, Chernobyl.*

Harry Clough: They got people living around there now. They got, they just showed the bulls running around there, and coyotes and all that. What the hell is that all about?

Interviewer: *Well, the wildlife came back, but now people go to hunt the wildlife. So I, you know, if I went to Russia, I wouldn't eat any of the deer in Leningrad, because all of that is coming from Chernobyl.*

Harry Clough: I know, it's like that place where they, what's that island where they blow all the bombs out there, after World War II? Remember, they were testing their bombs out? Some real pretty islands they had. They had to move all the people out. I forget where that was. They blew them ships out of the water and all that crap. They got people living back there now, too. But yet, they come out [unclear] supposed to be 200,000 years, there's supposed to be nobody can go around there or nothing.

Interviewer: *I guess it depends on what they used in their bombs, as to what the half-life is, but, a half-life is a half-life, it never goes away.*

Harry Clough: I tell you one thing. You aren't going to get me moving to Japan. No way.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I might visit.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, it would be quick, too.

Interviewer: *Yeah, with that reactor problem they had with the tsunami.*

Harry Clough: Well, that one guy went over, that tsunami, you know. He took that little radiation detector over, little tiny one, looked like a wristwatch. It was supposed to be real good there. He says that thing didn't even just register off scale, he didn't know what was happening. Went clear off scale. But yet they say, oh, it's OK there.

Interviewer: *Yeah, and nothing to see here.*

Harry Clough: And nothing to fear.

Interviewer: *Were you, I guess you were here when Pep Con went. What was that like?*

Harry Clough: Well, that's interesting you brought that up. We were eating lunch when that went up. We were right at noon. I was in the auto shop. And my [unclear] this spot where my table's at, and I'm sitting here. And we were all in there eating lunch. I got my thermos bottle sitting there and part of my

coffee. Bunch of pills sitting there. We heard this first boom, and we knew it was an explosion, but we didn't know where in the hell it was coming from. And Fred [unclear]. I don't know if you know that name or not. He was our boss there. He said, what in the hell is that? A helluva explosion somewhere. And about, the other table's sitting about right where that's at. There was about this much space between our table and that table. And that table there had the coffee pot sitting on it. I always brought my own coffee, though, and the coffee pot sitting on it and some other crap. Then the second one came. And when that one came, it was just, everything went real silent in the room, just like it was in a vacuum like, but it wasn't. It was the waves coming through. It took my thermos bottle just like this, whisk! It just slid, it slid in space, it slid right across the other table.

Interviewer: *Wow, like across the air to the other table. That's amazing.*

Harry Clough: And we didn't notice it at the time. But next morning we didn't even notice, the next morning the whole building's concrete like this, you know. Next, of course, it was really built, they were built for the War, during the War. They had rebar every inch and a half apart. And the top of the wall was moved out about that far. Just pushed the wall out. I heard nothing. Then when the big one came, we were outside. We went outside, outside. We got out of that building. We seen the shock wave. We could see it coming down, coming down the street. You see it rolling.

Interviewer: *So what did you do?*

Harry Clough: The only thing we could do is lay down. We knew we were either going to get knocked down or lay down. We laid down, and we heard this big whoosh. And it hit, it went down, it hit the side of the melding building. The side of the melding building is all like galvanized metal on the side. Hit it, and all that metal went whoosh. All that was left was the frame. That was a trip. And then we. That was something that really teed me off. We were going to welding school, me and this other guy were, down at the community college. I think it was on a Thursday. I remember that was one of our days

when we had to go to school. And our school started at 3:00. So we, the guy the head of the safety in the plant, Blackburn. He got everybody together and got them out on the football, on the baseball field. Except the guys that monitored, stayed with the furnaces, right. Because nobody knew exactly what was going on yet. And we all got out there, and we finally found out that Pep Con blew up. So, by this time, we only had an hour to go to work. Well, we said, me and [unclear], and he said, go on down and go to the school, you know, because nobody's going back anyhow. You ain't going to believe it. We went down there. We didn't give it a thought. School's closed at the community college, closed down. So I just went home. He went home. You know, they give us a letter for not reporting back to work. It [unclear] said, you want to make a grievance out of that, forget it. I worked there for 41 years, never got a letter. I said, I had one, I said I'll take that. Can you believe that? I mean, just because we didn't come back, you know.

Interviewer: *Yeah, it seems like that's outside the normal occurrence of events, you know. That should be. You should get a pass for that.*

Harry Clough: Then I went home, and my brother-in-law and my sister-in-law were down here from Oregon. And Judy and them were up in Vegas. And they thought there was, they thought an atomic bomb dropped. A lot of people did. So anyhow, they were up town. I went home. And I'd just about got there, and I heard this horn honk. Here was Mark [unclear]. He lives right on the other side of, the next street behind me. He still lives there. He says, come on, jump in. Let's go over and see [unclear]. OK. So we went into my house. Nothing the matter in my house. Opened the store room door. And it blew the cover off the refrigeration unit. Just blew it off, just blew it open. No problem, I shut it back up. Went into the garage, in the garage. The garage door was open, thank god, I think that was a good deal. And what happened was, we got fluorescent lights in the garage, right. Two bulbs per unit. I don't know how it happened. Those bulbs, two of them came straight down to the floor and broke. They were still, they were still there [unclear], laying there broke.

Interviewer: *Yeah, they got, somehow the wave expanded.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, expanded and just dropped straight down, yeah. That's the only thing. All I had, oh, I had another little thing, too. I had the separation [unclear]. Tie it on the side in there, hadn't noticed it for a long time, but that was no big problem. I just [unclear] filler in the crack out there, like the other one. But anyhow, they came down, insurance. They must have made a lot of money. Oh, yeah, we see something. [unclear] We got a check for \$1100.

Interviewer: *That's nice. Yeah, I heard the insurance companies were very good to everyone when that happened.*

Harry Clough: You live here then?

Interviewer: *No, but I heard all the stories. I heard they were very good.*

Harry Clough: They made some money out of it. You know that. They didn't do any. They did OK for us. We made \$1100, they probably made \$2500, you know how that works.

Interviewer: *I bet all the insurers in town had a lot of the accounts, like the La Portas?*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah. My neighbor across the street, it blew his doorknob right off his house, right off his door. Those shock waves are a weird thing, you know. But you know what was real nice about it, what really was lucky? They just got through building that extra piece, that freeway over there. If that wouldn't have been there, it would have destroyed Henderson.

Interviewer: *You think, yeah.*

Harry Clough: Sure, because it was, that hit, that went up.

Interviewer: *Oh, that's lucky.*

Harry Clough: It went up, then it leveled off, it went over there and blew all the windows out of the Calaban [?] Casino over there on Boulder Highway.

Interviewer: *Did they have to rebuild the road?*

Harry Clough: [unclear]

Interviewer: *I mean, that thing was a mushroom cloud. That thing was practically as big as an atomic bomb.*

Harry Clough: Oh, yeah. That's the power. There is one place where firemen really earn their money. [unclear] went right straight into that place. Blew the window right out of the fire truck.

Interviewer: *I heard about that.*

Harry Clough: Charley Thomas, one of the engineers, head engineers there at the plant. In fact, he's the head engineer of the State of Nevada, still is. He was driving down to see if anybody was hurt, company lost their communications. He seen something coming, he was smart. He stopped real quick, jumped out of his truck, blew the windshield right out of his truck. If he'd stayed in there, he'd been mushed. He was smart, he seen that coming. You know, if you understood, you could see the wave coming, you know. It's like down here at the lake sometimes, you get those electrical storms coming in there. You can get feeling funny, you get in your car and go like that.

Interviewer: *Yeah, the hair on your arms goes up. Yeah, that scares me.*

Harry Clough: You walk up and go like that. Never want to try to get your gas cap off.

Interviewer: *That's a bad scene. Well, what do you think are some of the issues that Henderson faces now. Henderson's kind of moved away from the industrial days, although the plants are still here. They still have a good presences here. How do you think that's changed in Henderson?*

Harry Clough: Well, a lot of these corporations just went bigger. Like I don't deal with any of the other ones, but I read about it. They went bigger. It's like Timet. They used to be owned by, originally it was, they were owned by Allegheny [unclear] and National Lead. We got a big discount on Dutch Boy paint. [?] They made Dutch Boy paint and all that. A lot of your paints got titanium, you know that. You ever read up on that?

Interviewer: *Oh, yeah, I've heard of that.*

Harry Clough: But they were, this is like a starting community for. See, when National Lead and Allegheny [unclear] got together and bought Timet out, they bought it for a write-off. Wasn't supposed to make money. It was a tax deal. Then, all of a sudden, hey, we got a gold mine here.

Interviewer: *Yeah, they figured out they could make money, right?*

Harry Clough: Right. Then they started putting money into the plant. Fixing things up. Getting with the community. You probably heard this. They had the Industrial Day parade. Timet always took first in that. They had that great.

Interviewer: *They had the great floats, yeah.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, great big floats they'd build. And they had the yearly picnics and all that, you know. They don't have none of that stuff anymore. Well, [unclear] Simmons, he was a, he bought Timet out, and he tried to destroy the company. It didn't work. He got, he finally got run out, stockholders got tired of him. And then, who bought them out? I forget now. And then this company that owns them now is the third biggest manufacturing company in the United States. I forget the name of the company. And they make all kinds of different stuff out of titanium. They bought three companies up. You know what that is, they got all that titanium real cheap. But they're like everybody else. They're

such a big corporation that they just don't. They shut a lot of these places down out here right now. They got a lot of it shut down, you know.

Interviewer: *They're trying to do some, I think, environmental reparation too, aren't they?*

Harry Clough: Yeah. Of course the government, what do they get? [unclear] fine you awhile back. You seen that?

Interviewer: *Yeah, I saw that. Yeah, that's pretty recent, wasn't it?*

Harry Clough: Yeah, but that ain't nothing to that corporation, that's just.

Interviewer: *Yeah, chump change.*

Harry Clough: But I was, you know what I didn't like about it, had these other companies being honest like Simmons, he's the one that screwed everything up. When they stopped the, when they stopped getting into the parade, he said, there's too much time being wasted on hourly people working out there, working on the float. They wasted more money, the company wastes more money in a half an hour than anybody making a float, you know. But that was a bad thing.

Interviewer: *That's just a morale booster. You need that.*

Harry Clough: Oh, no, they don't believe in that, no, no. And then they came out. We had that big strike, not the big one, but the last one we had. That's how I got into the machine shop. I was in the auto shop. We had that strike. Then they brought these replacement workers in. OK. Well, then, when the contract was signed, Clinton signed that bill, made them permanent replacement workers. So that made the guys that went in the auto shop made me the last man. Well, I'm not going to go back, you know, and work with some of those guys in the auto shop. So Dale, he had more, he had about twelve years in the auto shop at that time. I had ten years in the auto shop. Neither one of us went back. But

Jim States, that other guy I told you about, he had two more years in, so he went back. And then they had these two other replacement workers.

Interviewer: *They lost all that expertise by doing that.*

Harry Clough: Yeah. Well, what happened was, they had a, I'm going to tell you now. They had 128 when they started the plant back up. They had 128 replacement workers. OK. When I left there, there was one left. The first three months, three or four months, Metro was out there every morning, taking guys out of there in handcuffs. Sex offenders, you name it.

Interviewer: *That's awful.*

Harry Clough: You see, what happened was, this is not right. When I went, I couldn't go back to work, Dale couldn't go back to work. There was a lot of guys in our position. Well, I was in the mechanical department. You had RPs, you had welders, and you had machinists, auto mechanics. OK. My job was no more. That permanent replacement kicked me out. So I got to thinking. They ran an ad in the paper finally. They needed replacement, they needed RPs, repair people. Well, I'm still in the mechanical department. Well, Howard says, geez, I don't know what we can do about that, you know, you had the job in the auto shop. I said, yeah. I said, well, Howard, I'll, I think I'm going to go the other route. I said, you sign a release, saying there's nothing you probably can do for me. That takes the union, releases the union's responsibility. Well, Harry goes up to the Labor Board. Told my story. Now that's funny. This is about, I got up there about 9:30 in the morning. The guy was in the office about 10:00 o'clock. I was home at quarter to 11. You see, we only talked about five minutes or so. He said, I'll take care of it, you're right, it's not right to do that. I was sitting down eating lunch at the house about noon when the phone rang. Nancy [unclear] IR. Harry, we want you and Dale to report out here in the morning. We went out, so what we done, they sent us to welding school at community college. That's the second time around for that. They sent us to welding school again. And then Charlie Thomas, the head

[unclear], for some reason he always liked me, and he was a real nice guy. He was the head, in fact, I think I said that, he was the head engineer over the State of Nevada. Well, anyhow, he said, Harry, would you like to go down [unclear] at the machine shop and learn how to work on, rebuild these crushers? Yeah, I said, [unclear]. Yeah, he said, I think I will do that. But before you do that, you know you got to go through these different departments for thirty days at a time. I spent thirty days in coronations [?], thirty days in welding, thirty days in BDP, I mean, not BDP, but thirty days in mag [?] recovery. Then I went down to the, and then thirty days I went down to the P3 [?]. Well, then, Benny Pipes, he was the foreman there, he's retired now, too. So I learn about these crushers, and then I, with my mechanical background, I learn about all these different machines. So all I did there is rebuild stuff, I mean, repair stuff. Stuff like that, you know. The machine would break down, I'd go down and fix it. Give them their oil changes, give them their PM [?], you know. You know, all that stuff. I did build up three [unclear] down there. They're using them. Can't believe. I designed them all. What's nice about working in the machine shop, you design it, you can get it built right there. They got the machine, right? All these different machines. That's about the life of the story at Timet. Except when they, like I said, when they decided not to have the party. Everybody went on strike, and replacement workers came back in. This was a company I thought they really showed their colors. We went back to work and everything, and eventually everybody, just about everybody's back to work. But these replacement workers are still working, you know. And we went up production, and we said [unclear] those guys came back. But, we can't have the picnic anymore, because we'll think there's going to be a confrontation between the replacement workers and the regular workers, right? And we never had one since.

Interviewer: *Yeah, that's too bad.*

Harry Clough: That's just, you know.

Interviewer: *That just changes the company culture forever.*

Harry Clough: That's right. You don't get that. It isn't really the work out of the people. They're not getting the quality of work out of the people. That's the, there's a difference there. You can force a guy to work, but you're not going to get the quality out of him.

Interviewer: *Morale is a big deal.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, right. And these people made up their minds. Like that one guy they finally, the company finally fired him. He was trying to break the union. [unclear] You know, you can spot a guy from a mile away, you know. We have a meeting set up, and he'd call a bunch of the guys up, guys were in the coveralls, they'd been working, you know. Not long, maybe an hour. He worked from 9:00 o'clock in the morning [unclear] Most of the guys that went to work at 7:30 or 8:00. Everybody goes into this big room and set down. Well, he's setting pretty well in the front. I was about three down from me to you. And I seen him over there. Forgetting his name now. And this guy sitting next to him goes like this, this big [unclear]. He gets up and moves. [unclear] kind of guys, right? They finally got him, though. The company fired him.

Interviewer: *Well, what's your favorite part of having lived in Henderson all these years?*

Harry Clough: The best I like, you mean?

Interviewer: *Yeah, the best part of living in Henderson.*

Harry Clough: I'll put two of them together. I'll say my, I think I had about 12 years in the machine shop. I really enjoyed, you know there's a difference between going to work and having to go to work and enjoying going to work, you know. And I enjoyed going to work every morning there. It was by itself. It was away from the main plant. We didn't have no gases or nothing down there, you know. And my retirement, I love to fish. And I like going out to the lake every day. And one thing I always, one

thing I always did remember about Timet, though, about the machine shop. Like I said, they had one of the best machine shops in the whole southern part of the United States. You would think it unless you went into that building. That is a monster building. They got all these different lathes and all that stuff. There's a lot of stuff that they can do in that machine shop, they can't do anywhere else in the United States. And I don't know how it's working out now, but we had guys there that were World War II, Korean War type guys, that knew how to run that old equipment. And this old equipment is so much better than the new stuff. And most of the machine work done down there at the titanium required that old equipment. But you got brand new lathes down there only would run a year and a half. They'd fall apart, because they couldn't take the stress of the titanium, you see. And we had, they did a lot of stuff for Nevada Power, they did a lot of stuff for BLM, a lot of machine work for them. Because it was, we knew we weren't going to get in trouble, right? But you had to watch what was going on, on the outside getting stuff, because they can have a lawsuit against you. Because you're not insured for it. You see what I mean? You're not, we didn't, they didn't insure for that. They had that plant to run the other plants, what you might say. They didn't want a bunch of other crap coming in there. We had one guy came in there one day, there was three cars came in. I'll never forget this, this was about 2003 or 2004. And all these guys got out with these white hats on. Suits and white hats. Mobil Exxon. And Bob Benny, he says that [unclear]. This is our boss, right? They went into the office, and they talked to him about five minutes, and they all got out in their cars and headed north. Benny, I said, Benny, who in the hell are them guys? He said, they're engineers, and they all, from Exxon pipeline, from Exxon Mobil. They got a big pipeline broke off the coast of San Diego. What do they want? Oh, they got an 18 foot pipe, big pipe made out of titanium, they said they didn't machine it right. They said it's all banana shaped, and we got to get it straightened out, put new threads on it. He said, I can't do nothing for you, he said, you've got to go up to the head shed [?]. Find out what's going on. See what they say, they're the boss. They all got up [unclear], Benny called up, told them they were coming, you know. Pretty

soon they came back down. And about right after lunch, here comes this guy, [unclear] with a big pipe on it. Eighteen feet long. You're looking about from here to the wall, you know. Eighteen feet in diameter. They came in, and they brought it up, and took the forklift, and took it up, and put it in the shop, lifted, big crane, took it down. All the engineers, they were standing around, measuring it and all that. Benny came out, and they were, they had two [unclear] of machinists come over, and they were measuring stuff and everything. Anyhow, to make the story short, they said they need that just as quick as they could get it, if not quicker. Whatever time you give me, we need it quicker. They said, we're losing oil out in the ocean, right? They said, well, Benny said, well, I can put, I don't want the machinists to work over six hours apiece, because it's too much of a strain. He said I'll put four on, then I have relief. They work six hour shifts. He said, I can probably get it done, he says, probably in 36 hours all together. Well, can you make it thirty? Well, he said, you get 36, but he said, whatever it takes, that's what. He says, well, OK, go ahead and do it. Guess how much? One million dollars.

Interviewer: *Nice.*

Harry Clough: One million dollars. You know what the company gave them machinists for that? They had pizza. Of course, they couldn't give any money, because they were hourly. They get pizza. They give them some kind of certificate or something, you know.

Interviewer: *Yeah, that's good, that's all right.*

Harry Clough: They give one million dollars. It took us quite a while to get that out of Benny. I mean, Benny says, yeah, we got a million dollars for that. I said, I didn't think they'd get that much, but I knew that if they were going to do it, this Mobil Exxon, they must know. You know, I was looking maybe \$100,000 or \$200,000. A million bucks. They probably went up and said, hey, you do this work, we'll give you a million dollars, they probably pull didn't pull no strings, you know. Yeah, we'll do it, you darn

right, we'll do it. Then they probably had to sign a release where we wouldn't be responsible, too, you know.

Interviewer: *Well, did they do it in the 36 hours?*

Harry Clough: Thirty-one.

Interviewer: *Thirty-one.*

Harry Clough: Thirty-one hours, yeah. Had to run right around the clock.

Interviewer: *That's amazing.*

Harry Clough: But they, like I said, though, they had the machinists knew how to run them machines. Right now, they got a guy come down, he went to one of them schools, they don't know how to run them machines.

Interviewer: *No, yeah. You lose a lot of expertise over time, yeah.*

Harry Clough: The only thing that we changed on the machines, we went to a frequency-drive motors. And that is something very important. What a frequency-drive motor is, you heard about them? They go right down to zero. They're like a light on a rheostat, same way. They go right down to zero, and as you turn the voltage up, it increases the motor. And for a machine, any type of machine, that is really something. You can control your RPM. Without going to different gears and all that, you see. That way you got rid of your gear box and everything. We took about ten of them there. This one guy, he was an electrician, and he was also an instrument man, he was really good, Mexican guy. He retired here about two years ago. And I worked with him on it, man, we took a lot of them machines. [unclear] Machinists, they just really love that, they still have the old. But you see, what the deal was, Benny got, he got behind them. We had one machine we bought out of Salt Lake, a federal warehouse. They got all this old stuff, World War II stuff and that. You could get it dirt cheap. We bought this one big lathe for

\$2,500, and even a new one would cost about \$12,000, you know. And this was old machine, but it was an old one, but a new one, instead of a new one, it was an old outdated machine, right. But that's what we needed. And we can do a lot of titanium work that nobody else could do because of that. We had that real heavy bulky machine, you know. But try to buy all that stuff now. Everybody got smart, see. They were buying it, just like we did, putting frequency drive motors on them and stuff and updating them. Smart thinking.

Interviewer: *Very good, yeah, very good. Well, Harry, is there anything else you'd like to share about your experience in Henderson over the years that we haven't talked about? We've talked a lot about your work.*

Harry Clough: I don't know. Like when I was working, I was working. I worked a lot of double shifts, you know, when the kids were growing up and everything. I never did work 24 hour shifts. I did a lot, we did a lot of 16 hour shifts, you know. But one thing I think I told you about before I worked there, for 41 years, right? Missed three days' work.

Interviewer: *You missed only three days of work, that's amazing.*

Harry Clough: That is, ain't it?

Interviewer: *Wow, that's.*

Harry Clough: I had a broken, leg, but I can't, I ain't counting that.

Interviewer: *You don't count that, you don't have to count that.*

Harry Clough: Missed three days, three days of work.

Interviewer: *That's amazing.*

Harry Clough: But my health has always been good, you know. You know, I used to drink. I never drank except on Friday. When I'd go out Friday night, I'd make up for the other six days. No, I'd drink a beer or two during the week or something like that.

Interviewer: *You were a very responsible worker.*

Harry Clough: Yep, I always. Me and another guy had a race out there, black guy. And he was about the way, though, I think he's dead now. But I think he only missed more than me, though, I think he missed. He retired before I did, he was older than me, though.

Interviewer: *Did he live in Henderson?*

Harry Clough: No, him? No, he lived, what's that big club they used to have in, Moulin Rouge?

Interviewer: *The Moulin Rouge. He lived on the west side.*

Harry Clough: Yeah, his brother owned that.

Interviewer: *He commuted all the way out.*

Harry Clough: His brother owned that. I don't know if, he didn't live, but his brother owned that.

Interviewer: *How about that? Well, that's neat. Well, thanks for joining me today, Harry. This has been great.*

Harry Clough: I had a lot of fun.

Interviewer: *Yeah, I loved your stories.*