

Call number: 02-00-62-20 CD 1

Peter Carlock

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Harry Hughes begins the recording saying that they sat there for an hour talking to Albert Trana. Jack Corbin, Harry Hughes, and Albert are in Trana's cabin. They've been around to visit Bill Sherwin first and Victor Hugo and Dick Rasmuson and Harry forgot to turn the tape recorder on. The day is September 4th, 1962 and this is an interview with Peter Carlock. Peter is from British Colombia where he was raised and born. Peter was born in Nelson, B.C. in November 1914. Peter's first time in Fairbanks was 1939. Peter was in Juneau quite a few years before that in 1935 where he worked up the Taku River doing mining. Peter comes from a part of the country where it is all mining. It is the home of the largest smelting in the world the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada. Not very far from there is the largest lead and zinc mine called the Sullivan Mine. Compared to the area where Peter comes from the mining in Alaska is very small. He says in the area where he comes from there must be close to 500-600 miles. There is a trail 48 miles from where he is. It's located from just about 5 miles from Osman where there was a big gold strike in 1898. There were two smelters, one in North Port Washington about 20 miles down the Columbia River from the trails. They were all getting their ore from the Rosalyn Plant and as time went on the smelting trail got bigger and bigger and to this day it was a large operation. There are seven big mines right in the immediate area. They haul the ore to the smelter. Lake Chelan is further to the west. Harry says he drove through there several years ago. The Sheep Creek Country is 26 miles south of Nelson and primarily a gold mining company. The Spokane country is practically base metal. During the war they found the largest tungsten mine in the world it was basically silver lead mine. They ran into a large body of tungsten and it is still operated today. When Peter arrived in Juneau he worked at the White Water Polaris mining company. He worked there for four years and then he went back into British Columbia. He worked on various properties throughout the country. Premier is one of the largest gold producers on the pacific coast. He was in the Cassare [?] country. Harry says he heard stories about that from the Klondikers. Harry says by Peter coming in later year it is a continuity of history. Peter says the Cassare country is very virgin country which was when he was there in 1937-1938. Peter says you can see the places where the stampedeers had come through and there is a settlement called Glenn Dural that was active during the Klondike gold rush. Peter says he doesn't remember anyone from there. He says the family's name was Ball.

At 7:15 of the recording Peter says the first outfit he worked for in Fairbanks was the Fairbanks Exploration. From that time on he has worked for various electrical contract companies. Peter did electrical work for the mines. He says he knew Bob Clarke very well. Charlie Olmsted is mentioned. Harry says he runs an electric shop in town and Charlie came in town broke and Harry gave him his first job. Charlie rode in on a motorcycle. Peter says the only thing he knew about Charlie was that he was in the Navy in Kodiak. There was a time there when Peter happened to be in Bellis [?] Gold camp when the

World War broke out. The military operated there a year after the war started from 1939-1940. He let there and went north of Prince George where they were developing an Elijah Mercury operation. Peter mentioned the consolidated mining and smelting and he was there for a year or two and he left there and was being rejected by the army on the account of physical and he went back to premiere mining where he stayed for several months. They got to the point where they had to close up because there was no manpower and they couldn't get any material. Harry asks peter if he remembers any of the comic or tragic things that transpired. Peter says he remembers. He says when he was in the Bridge River area there. Back in the Bridge River in a place called Minto [?] they had been working there for one summer and left in the fall of the year from August to the beginning of November. There were 8 or 10 men and they came back in the following spring and they couldn't locate the camp. They knew where it had been but a snow slide came down and wiped out the camp completely, killing everyone. They did do a little more prospecting there but it never proved up to being anything big. He has been through Skagway. During the last two years of the war he came up from Whitehorse and they spent several years prospecting round the highway while it was still under army jurisdiction and when that was over he went up into Dawson. He worked for the Yukon consolidated in Dawson. Arden Nordale at the time was the superintendent of [inaudible]. The manager at that time was Mr. Mcfarland, who is Ben Mcfarland's father. Peter stayed there for a number of years. At the time that he got there, there was a man who had been manager and left there and took over an operation in Columbia and South America. Peter had been there for 5 years and had an offer to go to Columbia where a lot of the Yukon Consolidated employees went. Peter went down to South America for five years in Columbia. He was 75 miles of Boerenkiel. It was a Canadian and American outfit. The head office is in Vancouver and administration is in San Francisco. Harry mentions Mr. Anderson being from Vancouver and published the mining and oil journal in Canada. Apparently Harry met Mr. Anderson in 1960 and took him on a trip up to Dawson.

At 14:40 of the recording Peter says the company is a large holding company and they have people all over in New Guinea, north of Australia, Canadian lead and zinc, and dozens of other affiliates. Harry asks what he thinks about the Fairbanks area in regards of the possibilities. Peter says he is going to reiterate what Tury said, that Fairbanks looks promising and encouraging but it needs a lot of prospecting. Peter says it is going to take time and money and it will have to be different people who do it. Peter says he has been around and spent a little time and some of the properties in Fairbanks looks very encouraging. Harry says the present generation's outlook has been changed because of the war and even the First World War is a reflection of this. The people with experience aren't given the opportunities that they should be getting. Harry says there is a dyke located between Fairbanks and Murphy Dome. There's a lot of hole sunk but nothing is ever done. Peter says he has stayed in the Haute [?] Mine with Bill Bashen and they have done quite a bit of prospecting and looking around the area. There are a lot of promising things and encouraging things. He was just staying out there with Bill Bashen. Bill has an interest in the grounds out there. Bill is a big stock holder in the Haute [?]. Last year Peter stayed out there with Bill. There are a lot of encouraging things but it all takes capital to get started. Peter says he went to visit Bill and Bill has been sick. He has local land out there and they are in the process of creating a course oil bin that they can dump ore in and then clam it by small mine cars into the mill. They are getting to mine on the Nordale property which is located about four miles to the

southeast of Fairbanks. The roads are fairly good. Harry says when he first went down there it was all willows and brush. Harry asks if there is anything at the Cleary Hill Mine yet and Peter says no. Peter says there have been leasers that have used the mine for the past three years. They were leasing on the Nordale property and there was no material shipped. The first bunch of ore that they took out Bill milled it for them. The mill is a 10 stant [?] mill. They have a flotation plant too. Peter says mining is something he's been interested in since he was a young boy and could see mining in the back door and front door of his house. Peter says he has no family. He says he has a brother who lives in the Okanogra part of British Colombia and two sisters in eastern Canada (Montreal). He lost a brother in the Hong Kong invasion during the war. He says his parents are still alive. He says he has settled down in Fairbanks and been living in Fairbanks for longer than any place before. Peter says he has been interested in the mining and as he has seen the mining before the war, the mining was quite active. After the war the mining didn't make a comeback. He wandered all over the country including the Mayo area. Before the war he was up there for a short period and he kind of drifted all over the country. Harry says thank you to Pete and the recording stops.

The recording resumes at 23:40 of the recording. Harry is saying the date is September 6th, 1962 and this is an interview with a visitor from the Fairbanks area named Brade Knudson. The recording is a duplicate of record 02-00-63-02.