

1194-13-08-01/02

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: DOUGLAS BYER COLP
(first) (middle) (last)

(NICKNAME:) DOUG (MAIDEN NAME:) ---

MAILING ADDRESS: 1101 Barnette Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4503
(city/state/zip)

DATE OF BIRTH: 25 Oct. 1914 BIRTHPLACE Petersburg, Alaska
(city/state)

SPOUSE: MARCEL SILVEN COLP

MARRIAGE DATE: 27 Feb. 1943 PLACE: First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, AK

CHILDREN: LARRY DOUGLAS COLP

GERALD (Jerry) SILVEN COLP

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: Petersburg, AK-1914-1935; Sept. Fairbanks-9/1935-6/1945
Anchorage-6/1945-4/1946;
Fairbanks, AK-4/1946 to present

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: CONSULTING MINING ENGINEER--semi-retired

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY:

Life long Alaskan Doug Colp talks about spending his early childhood on a fox farm about 5 miles by water from Petersburg. (1916-1928) The family lived off the land by fishing, hunting, gardening and raising chickens. Schooled at home until 7th grade, Colp completed his public school education in Petersburg before enrolling at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks where he graduated in mining engineering in 1940.

His career in mining took him to most areas in Alaska. He served in the Army Corps of Engineers during World War II. After the war, he mined in Livengood and Klery Creek in the Kobuk region. During the 1950s and 60s he worked at Usibelli Coal Mine and was the mine superintendent when

Emil Usibelli was killed at the mine on Good Friday, March 27, 1964

INTERVIEWER: Margaret VanCleve

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 20 January, 1994 TAPE NUMBER: 547

(over)

Names mentioned

Charles Bunnell
George Hinton (prof)
Russ Huber
Brinker and Johnson (company)
Hendrickson (mining prof)
Bramhall (physics)
Emil Usibelli
Joe Usibelli
Morris Knudson (a company)
Bill Waugaman
Tim Twitchell
Arthur Barr
Earl Beistline
Bruce Thomas
Nick Lean

Place Names

Kiana
Kobuk River
Chistochina
Klery Creek
Livengood
Galena
Ladd Field

the day of the Anchorage Earthquake.

Colp also taught for the school of mines at UAF for 10 years along with doing consulting work. He designed a sluice box that allowed for continuous operation, allowing operators to shut down part of the machine for clean up.

Cop has received professional awards including one in recognition of his 50 years in mining, presented in 1987.

Active in Pioneers of Alaska for many years, Colp served as Grand President of the organization presiding over all the igloos in the state during 1993.