

1494-13-13-01/02

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: MARTIN H OTT  
(first) (middle) (last)

(NICKNAME: ) \_\_\_\_\_ (MAIDEN NAME: ) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: 332 BOUNDARY ST FAIRBANKS AK 99701  
(city/state/zip)

DATE OF BIRTH: FEB 19, 1918 BIRTHPLACE RAMPART AK.  
(city/state)

SPOUSE: MARTHA J. OTT

MARRIAGE DATE: FEB 19, 1941 PLACE: TACOMA, WASH.

CHILDREN: 5

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: 76

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: MECHANIC, PARTSMAN, MINER  
RETIRED

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY:

Born in Rampart, Martin Ott spent the early years of his childhood there while his father mined. Ott and his two brothers lived at the Holy Cross mission as their father could no longer take care of them alone. Ott talks about life at the mission from 1925-1936 and spoke about several of the Jesuits including Father De Long who was killed in a plane crash with Father Walsh and Ralph Wien in 1930.

A mess boy on the Riverboat Nenana for one trip, Ott preferred gold mining and worked in several locations up to World War II. Served in the armed forces at Ladd Field during the war, operating heavy equipment to extend the runway. Although he worked other jobs, he always returned to mining even after retiring. Government regulations eventually forced him to abandon mining but in the meantime

INTERVIEWER: Margaret Van Cleave

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Mar. 16, 1994 TAPE NUMBER: 556

sparked his interest in politics. He was a long time friend of Joe Vogler and helped to organize the Alaskan Independence Party, serving on the central committee. The second tape contains information on the party and some of the events that led up to his involvement in it.

Names mentioned on tape

Julius Rampstorf (sp)  
Eugene Swanson  
Tommy Evans  
Mayo family  
Johnny Wheel (sp?)  
Jimmy Rodebaugh  
Dick Wood  
Ben Eielson  
Father De Long  
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Clemens  
Otto and Belva Bayless  
Frank Walker  
Red Anderson  
Fred Wilkinson  
Ralph Wien  
Brother Feltes  
Joe Vogler  
Dee Roberts  
Father Walsh  
Charlie Swanson  
Jim Hutchison  
Father Edward Cunningham  
Father ~~Rabeaux (sp?)~~ Robant  
Father Paul O'Connor