

Matilda: Roballo, R-o-b-a-l-l-o. I have a certificate. (Note: should have been Rebola. Correctly, but made incorrect when they arrived in the islands)

Voice: Birth certificate?

Matilda: No, a sailor that arrived in Hawaii, one side has a Portugese sailor and on the other side have American sailor--up in my wallet. Governor gave it to me. When we were celebrating our 100 years arrival here. I went to the governor's office and we had something to eat and there was a little lady, she was 97 and she's still living.

Voice: What year did you arrive?

Matilda: I arrived here December 3, 1911. Now ask me the name of the boat.

E.T.: Do you have it?

Bea: That would be good.

Matilda: I don't think I have it in this book. [S.S. Wellsdon--she checked with an older friend who did remember it.] I think I have it in my other book.

Voice: What part of Portugal were you born?

Matilda: I was born in Madera. In the little town called Ponta do Sol, "point of the sun."

E.T.: Could you give us your birthdate?

Matilda: June 5, 1908.

E.T.: Are you a citizen?

Matilda: I'm still an alien, they're going to put me in Portugal pretty soon. And I dont' mind, it's such a beautiful place. I have it in my other book not in this book.

Voice: You said you came with your brother.

Matilda: My little brother, of course passed away. Joseph, his name was Joseph, Robello, Roballo. (Rebola)

Voice: You got talked into it now.

Voice: Everytime my family wrote to the uncle, back in Boston and put Robello, she (auntie) would get mad. Where did she get the name. The uncle's name is Roballo not Robello.

Miss Krauss: However there is a Portugese name Robello, isn't there.

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: You like to distinguish the two.

Matilda: My brothers didn't like Roballo so they put Robello. It's in my other book. But the boat suppose to start with a W.

Voice: That was a sail boat?

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: And it took you three months to get here?

Matilda: I don't know what date we went on, but I know the date we got off.

Voice: In addition to your brother Joseph, were there any others born after you moved here?

Matilda: Yes, my mother was pregnant on the way so she had my sister. People say it doesn't affect , but it does affect the baby when you're worried and excited. My sister was born deaf and dumb.

Voice: That's that one I remember you told me about her.

Voice: What was her name?

Matilda: Her name is Lenora. So I always think it was the excitment my mother had on the ship and worried leaving her family, and all that rough trips, and sometimes pretty rough. Sometimes you think the boat is going right to the bottom of the sea and not going to come back up again.

Voice: Did you hear this was a sail boat?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: That's interesting, three months.

Voice: Through the canal.

Miss Krauss: Through the canal. I was wondering.

Matilda: Bêcause it went to pick up some Spanish people too.

Miss Krauss: In Spain?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: What port did you sail from?

Matilda: Me?

Miss Krauss: Yes. Did you leave from Madeira?

Matilda: Yes. [Funchal is the town.]

Miss Krauss: So they went from Madeira to Spain?

Matilda: And picked up some more people there. Immigration---

Miss Krauss: That took a long time too.

Matilda: Yes. Well, the same time, same ship.

Voice: Was the boat chartered by the sugar planters?

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: So these were all people coming on contract to work in the sugar industry.

Matilda: And they had to stay here a couple of years until they paid the plantation and work and pay for their trip and food. After it was paid, then they could move out. Then we could go anywhere we wanted. But they had to stay here 2 or 3 years; they couldn't go nowhere. So some moved to Oakland, some to Boston.

Voice: But many stayed.

Matilda: Oh, yeah. Quite a few stayed.

E.T.: Did you say your father went to Ewa Plantation?

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: And did he stay there very long?

Matilda: Well, I don't know how many years. You see, I was three, and we moved to Kahuku. I think I was there 2 or 3 years. Then I went to school. I was about 7.

Voice: Did you go to school in Kahuku?

Matilda: Yes. First grade.

Voice: Then you moved to Tantalus?

Matilda: No. Then my mother had my brother Frank and my sister Agnes in Kahuku, 2 children. And then we stayed there, maybe about 5 or 6 years. How long they stayed in Ewa I don't know. I think we stayed in Kahuku, my mother had two children, and

of course when we left they were babies. We stayed for four years, I was then 7. I went to school there, first grade. I don't know how long I stayed in Ewa. And then she came up to Tantalus, by the Macadamia nut farm.

Voice: Was there a nut farm on Tantalus?

Miss Krauss: That was Van Tassel's nut ridge. That was tremendous. That was one of the first big macadamia nut farms.

Matilda: That's right.

Voice: Did your father work for the Macadamia nut farm?

Matilda: No, he didn't. When he worked in the plantations, he worked in the sugarcane. My father has a beautiful picture taken with a few men; [?] it's on the wall in the Kahuku mill office lobby. I don't know where they took the picture.

Voice: That has some historic value.

Miss Krauss: Yes.

Matilda: I hope it is in a museum someday.

Voice: Was this Ewa Plantation?

Matilda: No, Kahuku. You know Kahuku has that torn down sugar mill--where they did away with it, where they put the pictures, was in the library.

Voice: Have you ever gone out to tour the sugar mill?

Matilda: Many times. When I first went and saw my father, I use to take the family there to see their grandfather. And guide, the girl there said I saw you here many times. And I said yeah, and she said I could be a guide now, because I am always there with -----

Miss Krauss. However it would not have been the mill, it's the mill that has been converted. The manager's house was across.

Matilda: No, I mean the lobby was downstairs.

Miss Krauss: Of the mill?

Matilda: The lobby was right downstairs on the side where people enter to the mill.

Miss Krauss: Because beside that the plantation office was across the street. So I wondered if it maybe gone with what happened to the manager's house, I mean the manager's office.

Matilda: Well, I don't know, I have a friend who they took the picture, he took it home and he blew it up and he said he was going to mail one to me. So far I didn't get it. He said he lost it. There was a bunch of men, there was the boss on the mule, I forget, they had a man's name, but I remember them and I looked and I saw my father. And because this lady took me there, it was mother's day, we had a free tour for mothers.

Miss Krauss: Now on Makiki Round Top at Nutridge, did your mother or your father work there?

Matilda: They worked as farmers.

Miss Krauss: At Nutridge. And they had a house there.

Matilda: There was no Nutridge.

Miss Krauss: Then. Oh.

Matilda: What happened. I don't know if you folks know during the second, no the first World War, not the second, the first, well all this here on the side of here, they were all gardens.

Miss Krauss: Mostly sweet potatoes.

Matilda: Sweet potatoes, corn, they make a little shack. When it rains, they go in. The water was only rain water and they plant cabbage, kale, land cabbage, and potato, and they planted all along side that hill. And there was a man, I don't know his name, but his Portugese nickname was Cafea. Cafea meant coffee in Portugese, and they nicknamed him Cafea. Then when my father moved, from Waipahu, here, this is government peoperty. Even that hill the government gave to the people who wanted to make land to plant vegetables because hard to get and not too many goats run across so we had

to go plant our vegetables. We used it for salad, well anyway, so my father bought this place from these people, had one little house, and part of it had a floor, and we use that for the bedroom, and my father built a stable on the side of the house for the horse, and we had a little kitchen, and the kitchen was dirt floor, like the old country. The old country they no more, they had dirt floor, the cheap house, my uncle had nice floor, better home then I had, they got rich. So anyway, we had that house there, my father bought this place from this man for 600 dollars, and this man had a small little house, for him and his wife, I don't know where they moved to. Is another man. And on top of the hill they had a big house--Waterhouse's.

Miss Krauss: Still there?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: John Waterhouse, the son.

Matilda: They lived on the top and we lived below. And my father used to cultivate his land and plant vegetables. And then they didn't pay tax to the governor, they didn't pay property tax. They just lived there. My father lived there, I think, five or six years. And he worked the land, and we used to go Waikiki, from Ala Moana all the way to Diamond head, little shacks over there, with baskets of vegetables-- me and my sister, I me and my brother, "Want to buy some vegetables today?" My father used to make some extra money. Put them all on the top of the wagon and horse, my father never drove a car. I drove a horse and wagon but never a car either. And we'd go there and sell our vegetables. But it was good business. After my father would make about forty or fifty dollars, if anything left, he'd tell us go sell them and the money would be for us. Boy, we go like hell.

Voice: You have a lot of spending money.

Matilda: Spending money to go buy candy.

Miss Krauss: May I ask one thing, you said you came from Waipio.

Miss Krauss: Or Waipahu.

Matilda: Yeah, Waipahu.

Miss Krauss: Yeah, but you haven't told us when did you go from Kahuku to Waipahu?

Matilda: Yeah, but I don't remember the year.

Miss Krauss: So from Kahuku you went to Waipahu before you came up to Round Top.

Matilda: Yeah that's right. And how long we stayed in Waipahu, I don't remember.

Miss Krauss: Was that on the plantation too?

Matilda: Yes, my father, when my father came to Waipahu, he was promoted, he didn't work in the field, he worked in the mill.

Voice: Very good.

Matilda: He worked at the mill at night time and day time he stayed home with us. And then we came to Tantalus. And of course we stayed there one year. I didn't bring my release. I came back to school, first grade again. Every time I moved first grade.

Voice: You must know first grade well.

Matilda: When I came up here, I went up until fourth, then that's it. My father moved away and I didn't go to school after that. But anyway as I said, we lived up there. My father was a hard-working man, he lived up to 93.

Voice: Wonderful.

Matilda: And he worked hard.

Miss Krauss: Now did you go to school when you lived on Tantalus?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: What school?

Matilda: Manoa.

Miss Krauss: Oh you came to Manoa. Well, how did you get here?

Matilda: Down the hill and up the hill.

Miss Krauss: You mean walking?

Matilda: Yes, they didn't have escalators.

Miss Krauss: Well I thought your father brought you to school on the wagon.

Matilda: The only time I rode the bus was when my sister went to deaf and dumb school. And we walk down the hill to get the bus and went to Waikiki.

Voice: Was the deaf and dumb school down there always?

Matilda: Oh yes. When they first started, the children had to go down there and come home, so one year I took my sister and went to Waikiki School. Then the following year, my brother took her and went to Waikiki School. Then we moved, then she was a boarder. They decided to make the school a "boarder," keep the children there. She was a boarder and came home on weekends. We lived at Kapahulu then. So we used to walk down the hill, rain or shine, and I couldn't go to school everyday. No way. When my father was there, he worked in the forest, (Tantalus and Punchbowl) digging holes up on the side of the hills, and planted trees.

Miss Krauss: Reforestation for the forestry department.

Voice: So that was really his job, he was working for the forestry department.

Matilda: On the weekend he would work on his own garden. Then on Fridays, he'd load up his cart and we'd go Waikiki and sell and we had Mrs. Deering.

Miss Krauss: That was the Deering of the famous agricultural machinery.

Voice: Oh.

Miss Krauss: You know them, one of them came down here and had a summer home.

Matilda: No she owned the Waikiki Surf.

Miss Krauss: Well, where the Waikiki Surf is now. They built a beautiful home there. Then after, Chris Holmes, you know the famous Chris Holmes, bought it, and he is the one that bought Coconut Island, that Island off of Kaneohe. And had a zoo.

Miss Krauss: Yeah that was the Deering house.

Matilda: Mrs. Deering used to live there. We went as far as Ena Place, but she was so good. She had lots of maids. About ten to clean her yard, about ten to clean her house, ten to put her shoes on, ten to do this. She had lots of maids.

One side of her house was the garage, big garage and on top all the maids slept there. The house is not there any more. And it was a nice place, we used to drive in. So when we went there with baskets she was so nice, one basket was not enough to feed her family, so she orders and tells me to tell my father to bring by cases of potatoes, cases of bananas, cases of avocados. We used to take to her by cases. Mr father used to sell her very cheap.

Voice: Could you tell us where on Tantalus? Is there a street that we would recognize?

Matilda: Well they always had this Tantalus Road going around there.

Voice: Was it way on top?

Matilda: Was on a cliff. And you know who built it? The prisoners.

Voice: The prisoners built the road.

Miss Krauss: We could tell exactly where it is from the Waterhouse's house. You were just makai of the Waterhouse place.

Matilda: You know where it is. They have a macadamia nut farm there. And they have a beautiful house in the place where we went up.

Miss Krauss: Yeah. Your house was there where the big house is now?

Matilda: Yeah. Well

Miss Krauss: Wasn't it a little further down?

Matilda: Well I tell you I haven't been there since my

Miss Krauss: We'd take you.

Matilda: I would like too. Anyway she had our house and we went around the road and the prisoners built a little by little, very narrow, and they were building all around Tantalus. And they had a prisoners' camp there.

Miss Krauss: I know where that prisoner camp was. You know when you come from Round Top and make that swing, it was right in there.

Matilda: Yes. Just before you go up to the park, instead of go up to the park, you go straight down. The prisoners' camp was right there. Tall building. And they had prisoners' beds there, and on the side they had their kitchen and they used blue and white clothes, stripped. And they lived there, and they used to work on the roads. And one thing my mother used to worry about me, I was about 12, 13, 14, 15, and of course I always has a big chest, even though I was very young. She was afraid I might get raped. But you know, they were good people.

Miss Krauss: You never had to worry about it.

Matilda: But my mother did.

Voice: Mothers always worry.

Matilda: My mother would always worry about me. After school I would play a little while with the girls around there, houses like Judge Perry's; I used to go to his house and play with his little girls. He was Portugese, married to a haole, living down there in Manoa. I used to go play with the little girls. My mother was at the top of the hill, never had big trees then, those people cultivate their land for planting, so she could see me from the bottom of the hill coming up, to go around the prison camp. And she used to say "Don't come home too late. And the prisoners you never know what they going to do to young girls, you better come home early, and don't make mamma come wait for you". Cause she busy wait for me.

And we'd go in. I don't know if it was the big house, but we had a little driveway where daddy drove the horse and wagon. And we lived back there. Like I said 2 to 3 days a week I had to stay home and help my father weed the gardens.

Voice: Tell us about coming down in the rains when you went to school.

Voice: And the teacher keeping clothes for you.

Matilda: So I began to come to school whenever I could, because my hand used to be all cracked from pulling weeds and peeling potatoes, and feeding pigs, and feeding the cows, cutting grass; you ought to have seen my hands. They thought I had some disease in my hands. They thought I had liver trouble, when I came to school. I couldn't keep nice nails. I had those old man's hands. But anyway I worked very hard, I said I stayed home a few days, and then I'd come to school and go home, like I said week days I go Waikiki, my father buy the rattan, weave baskets, we put the things in and we'd go sell. We start from Ala Moana, had shacks over there all the way to almost Diamond Head. We'd park on the side of the road and get our vegetables. Not only me did that, had a lot of people who worked on the side of the garden here on the hill, used to come to Manoa too and sell, the parents used to say "Go down there and sell those potatoes."

Miss Krauss: But you did not sell in Manoa.

Matilda: No.

Miss Krauss: Only Waikiki.

Matilda: Only Waikiki, my father said it was good.

Miss Krauss: Well, there were too many people growing vegetables here already. Waikiki people didn't have any.

Matilda: But Waikiki was, that was a funny little town those days, a little house here, a little house there. Ala Moana was just a duck pond.

Voice: Yeah, swampy wasn't it.

Matilda: Yeah. And people that lived down in Waikiki, they said that every time it

rained, Waikiki would just get flooded. I mean their homes, the rain from the mountains would go down anywhere and that's when they had to build the channel to hold the water. Pretty dry now, but before no, it would just be an ocean there.

Voice: Tell about coming to school in the rain.

Matilda: Then when I came to school sometimes it rains, sometimes the grass is wet. And I would walk into the trail where the weeds are. Wet my clothes. So when I came down here the teacher had a little dress always hanging up, even panties, for me to change when I came all wet. I didn't stay in school with my wet clothes.

Miss Krauss: Well, we had to do that at Haiku. Every child had to have a whole set of clothes at school.

Matilda: Why?

Miss Krauss: Well at Haiku, it is very wet.

Matilda: Oh, I see.

Miss Krauss: And we had to walk a mile to school and we got wet, so that was just a regular thing.

Matilda: Well that's what they did to me. And the kids sometime they out in the yard saluting the flag, they always had to stand up, grades here, grades here, grades here, all saluting the flag, and they look up the hill and say "There's Matilda, she is coming to school, she'll be a little late, but she is coming down the hill."

Miss Krauss: I remember that trail because we used to go up weekends as kids, it went past Castle Home. You remember Castle Home and the telephone post, that was the path?

Matilda: Yes, that's right.

Miss Krauss: That must have been the one you came on.

Matilda: Right at the corner of the hill, come down through there.

Voice: Do you remember other class mates of yours? The names?

Matilda: I remember a few of them.

Voice: Can you give us the names of the people who were still in school when you were.

Matilda: Well there is Louis Reis, now he is in the rest home; Rose, I can't think of her last name now; Cravalho, there is a sister, her sister lives down here at Punahou, I can't think of her name now. There were three sisters, Rose, Constance, and Alice. There was lots of children from the Salvation Army Home. Most of them from Salvation Army Home. The boys would form a line all the (?) and they would walk down to school.

Voice: You mean they would go single file, double file.

Matilda: Double file. Because it was quite a--I have a picture taken. [See pic. of school 1919, or 1920.]

Voice: Of that would be wonderful.

Matilda: With all the school mates. Of course it wasn't very big. So we all piled up in one picture. And I have that picture.

Voice: I'd like to copy it.

Miss Krauss: Do you remember any of your teachers?

Matilda: Yeah. Mrs. Deverill. Mrs. Cross; there was another one, I can't think, was a Mrs. Brown.

Miss Krauss: Yeah, she was principal.

Matilda: Yeah.

Voice: Tell us about her.

Matilda: Well they were all good teachers.

Miss Krauss: Did you like Mrs. Cross?

Matilda: Yeah.

Miss Krauss: Because her daughter is very anxious to hear anything about her mother.

Matilda: I don't know, people now complain and say teachers are mean. But when I went to school, teachers were very nice. When they tell you to do things, you do it.

And you did it right. One time they made me go up to the board, this was in Kahuku, first grade, write my name. And I write my name, try my best. She goes over there, this is wrong, she scratch them all up, with the chalk, write it over again.

Miss Krauss: Were you spelling it wrong?

Matilda: No, the "T" was too high, or maybe too low.

Voice: That's when you had to take penmanship.

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: Well, Mrs. Frost was Hawaiian wasn't she?

Miss Krauss: Well she had a little bit Hawaiian.

Voice: Mrs. Brown is part Hawaiian.

Matilda: Mrs. Deverill was haole. She passed away some time ago.

Voice: She was the one that was in the legislature.

Miss Krauss: No that was her mother-in-law.

Matilda: No time to play.

Miss Krauss: No recess?

Matilda: Yes. At school we had recess, and lunch time. Those days we had to take our own lunch. Those days they don't serve you lunch in school. I wish they do that, because half the kids throw away their lunch. They should never serve lunch in school for kids.

Voice: What did you take?

Matilda: Let them take what they want from home. Because they wasting a lot of food.

Voice: And they trade with each other. Socializing.

Miss Krauss: Tell us what you would take for your lunch.

Matilda: Maybe just bread and jelly.

Voice: None of these vegetables that your father raised?

Matilda: No, my mother would make soup and we would eat that when we got home.

She'd make a big pot of soup. We didn't have much meat. My father would kill a pig and salt the pork and my mother would take a little piece and make soup out of it. Adn she could make soup too without no meat in it.

Miss Krauss: Did you have a Portugese oven? The round one?

Matilda: No. But my sister-in-law, when I married my husband, had one in Kalihi Valley. I used to go up there and make bread. And she used to light up the oven, and her and I used to put our breads in there, and my own and my parents', and she made her own. And she cleaned the oven. She was very smart.

Voice: What did you do for bread when you were growing up?

Matilda: My mother made.

Voice: In some other kind of oven?

Matilda: Wood stove.

Voice: Was there any Portugese community? Did you go to church? Or did you have other activities?

Matilda: We went to church was about all, with my mother.

Voice: Where did you go?

Matilda: We went to Punahou.

Miss Krauss: Sacred Hearts?

Voice: In the present location where it is now?

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: You know there was one a little closer to Wilder and Metcalf?

Matilda: I don't remember that one, I remember this one. And I know this one. The Portugese people living in Punahou built it.

Voice: Oh, did they.

Matilda: All the Portugese mason would. Because I talked to some people who live in

Punahou and they said they used to go there on the weekends or when they had a day off and build the church. The rock was all set by Portuguese people that lived in Punahou; there was a lot of them.

Voice: That is the same building that is there now?

Matilda: Yes. Of course the school is different and the priests' houses are different; the church is the same. The Portuguese built it, and put in all those pretty windows and everything.

Tape I Side II

Matilda: This man who owned that, he used to live up, going to the graveyard, cemetery, Punchbowl, lived on the side of the hill there. He was there for quite a while, his son ran the place, helped him, then the son got married. Then they started Safeway and they closed down the market, then they built a chop-suey house. Then the chop-suey house stood there for quite a while, and then Clara used to run it with her children, and her husband, and they had help. Then after that they sold. Clara, they called him Buck, and they called her Clara, and when you, we used to come to school in Manoa, they had no housing down here, and when I went to the waterfalls, we had a trail from Waioli Tea Room (it was then a boys and girls home), that was the end of the street cars. There was street cars, no buses. We took tracks on the roads.

Voice: I like street cars.

Voice: Me too, I wish they'd bring them back.

Matilda: And they had trolleys. And we got off over there, then we walk all through this narrow road up here, very few little shacks here and there, very small, all full of vegetables--lettuce, carrots, gardenias, gladiolas, and guavas on the side of the road. Now don't have any guavas. Then we walked up through there.

Voice: Do you remember any Portuguese families?

Matilda: I remember one who lived right around the bridge, Mrs. Texeira, she lived there, and right by where the Goodwill is, there was a little house there, but she moved to California and all her children moved there. She still living, she is close to 90, and she lived in San Francisco. Once in a while her daughters come here and visit me. But she has one daughter living here, Helen.

Voice: What's her name? Cause if she grew up in the valley she might be helpful to us.

Matilda: Oh, yeah. She might know more than me. Of course, we both came to the valley the same time. I'm not sure.

Voice: Did she stay here in the valley?

Matilda: Till she got married and left.

Voice: Do you know what her married name is?

Matilda: Helen Gonsalves. Once in a while I call her up, she is very nice. You know what she used to do for work, go up to the stores, and give samples to people, sometime maybe crackers, sometime maybe sausage, she takes them in her car, takes them to the store, and gives them samples, for you to buy. But she don't do that any more.

Voice: You mentioned that your father had pigs, did he raise pigs?

Matilda: Oh yes, he used to raise pigs, he used to buy some power (a food supplement mixed with the slops.) for them. And we used to cook our old vegetables and feed them. And Christmas time, they would slaughter them. He would take them to Punchbowl. Much Portugese over there, and they would buy, everybody would buy one fourth. And then they would make whatever they want for the holiday. We'd sell to them. They would take orders. Everytime we kill the pig, come hold the legs down or something, me I run, hide, behind the banana trees. Me, I hate to hear the pigs scream.

Voice: You must have had a quite a bit of land.

Matilda: Yeah, we had. Like I said, they took the land of my father.

Voice: The government took it back?

Matilda: No the people who wanted to raise macadamia nuts.

Miss Krauss: Did't they buy it from your father?

Matilda: No.

Miss Krauss: Then how did they take it.

Matilda: Well, it wasn't his land.

Voice: Oh, I see. He bought the house but not the land.

Matilda: He bought the house the shack was there, and the trees, which had a lot of avocado trees and different kind of fruits, and all kinds of shapes of avocados, and different kind of bananas, he bought that from them, the house, but not the land.

Voice: Oh, I see.

Matilda: My father never paid tax on it either. They told my father, this was during the war, that they would give him another piece of land, somewhere up in Tantalus, where ever he wanted. He said hell with them, what they want me to do, go up there and clean it all, and then take it away from me again, he said no way. I'm too old, I'm going to buy my own house.

Miss Krauss: So that's when we went to Kapahulu. My father worked in the quarry. They had this quarry in Kapahulu, and one in Moiliili. Well he worked all day in the quarry with a sixteen pound sledge hammer, breaking the boulders they blast from the hill that came down to the ground. And then they put them on conveyer belts and take it down to the quarry, break them up and make roads.

Voice: He was a hard-working man.

Matilda: He was.

Miss Krauss: Now, when did you come to Manoa? Is this when you got married?

Matilda: No, I was still single, I don't know what year I came to Manoa.

Voice: You said you were working as housekeeper for somebody.

Matilda: I was 15, I went to Kapahulu. I didn't come to Manoa until I was married.

Voice: Except for that one short time you helped this woman.

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: That was just one time.

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Kruass: What six months?

Matilda: Oh, was about six months. But she was down by St. Francis School, the last house overe there. Seh (Mrs. Minnie Silva) lived there, and I lived there with her for a while, then we lived in Kapahulu.

Voice: Where were you married?

Matilda: I was married October 19, 1929.

Voice: Gee, you were an old lady by then.

Matilda: I was just 21, and my ex was just 22.

Voice: What was his name?

Matilda: Henry Cambra.

Miss Krauss: Now, had he been living up here already?

Matilda: He used to live up in Kalihi.

Miss Krauss: But how was it he came to Manoa? Was it just when you got married, he came to Manoa?

Matilda: No, I met him through some friends in town, then we used to take a walk in Waikiki every Sunday. And my father go behind the bushes and watch me who I talking to. "Don't talk to soldiers."

Voice: Stick to the nice Portugese boys.

Matilda: "And don't marry soldiers because I cannot talk to them, marry Portugese so I can talk to them." So I believe what my parents told me so I did.

Miss Krauss: Where did you live first when you got married.

Voice: I was wondering first where she met her husband.

Miss Krauss: Oh, I'm sorry.

Matilda: I'm going with my girlfriends, we go Waikiki, walk from Kapahulu, becuase was close. Weekends we run away, we walk. And sometimes I'd take my sister. My father go behind the hibiscus and watch who we talking to. Whose car we by talking to. I come

home, I get licking. "Who's that you were talking to?" "Who brought you?" The neighbor down the street, he brought me home. Dirty licking. If I come home night time, kind of dark, he locks the door, I cannot come in. I have to sleep under the basement, make a little hole and go sleep. My sister can go in, I stay out. My mother worry because he was mean. So anyway I met my husband at Waikiki through a friend, a neighbor who knew me, and he lives out in Kalihi and I lived in Kapahulu. So we went together, his birthday was in March; a month before his birthday, I said to myself, I'm not going to marry a man that drinks, my father drink too much, and he hits us and he scolds us, I don't like this kind of man. When I met this man, he don't drink, his father drank, but he hates his father because he hit his mother. I said this is the kind of man for me, so I had other men when I was young, I don't want to get married, too young, so they go. After one year they come back, they said, you ready, I said no. My father said you better marry that man he is a hard-working man, Portugese. If you don't marry that man, I'm going to throw you out of the house. I said I don't care what you do to me, I'm not going to marry that man. You can throw me out. I don't care. Then they go, then somebody else. After two, three times they no come back any more. So then I met this one. I said I'm going to stick to him. We went February, March, April, May, June, July, 1929. I left on the S.S. Sonoma with my sisters and my mother, my father was already on the mainland, he went to work. And we took this boat and went to the mainland. Seven days on the ocean. We landed in San Francisco, my father was waiting for us. Then we went to a friend's house in Oakland. Then we went up to Redbluff, that's in Burbank. We lived there. My father was working in a dairy and he borrowed the money from this man, to send our tickets. so we could go. And my mother didn't want to go, because we had our own house in Kapahulu. She didn't want to go, but she figured she didn't have any money, I was the only one working giving her ten dollars a week, and that was pretty hard. So she decided to go, so we went. I was old enough to take care of them, because they was sick and my

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father waited for us in San Francisco, then we went to Red Bluff, and boy that was a terrible place. Hot, dirty, grass, I said I couldn't stand it. So I caught the train myself and come down to Oakland to my father's friend's house. It was my sister's God parents. I stood there and wrote to my, I left my boy friend here; my boyfriend never like get married. I said might as well get married, instead of staying here. I was old enough. He said no. I want you to go Japan, I want you to go see California, now is your chance, you may never get to have a chance. So I went with my parents. Then after I wrote to him, I told him where I was, in Oakland. So he went (to Oakland). He left Honolulu in July, August, I think September he went up, he went up to the house, where I was and he lived in Frisco, and he used to see me weekends. And then we decided to get married in San Francisco. So him and I went to get our license and blood test, and then we got married in church. My mother and father never had to sign my license so that was good. And him too. And then we lived in San Francisco, people had this big home, they rented little room with the little kitchen then we use the same bathroom. So we lived there for a while. He working Forester's Restaurant. They had that all over California. In the kitchen, wash the pots, we cook to take to the restaurant. This was the big kitchen--then they take in trucks.

Voice: Central kitchen.

Matilda: Yeah. They worked there for a while. I had, my Delphine was born there. Then she got sick, after she was six months old, I lived there two years. Then we came back,. We brought Delphine. Then we stayed here, I lived in Kalihi with his brother-in-law, then we moved to Kapahulu, Fourth Avenue, for a while. The people that was leasing my father's property, then we moved back to my father's property. Then he went to work, Navy Air base down Nanakuli, he worked there for a while and he didn't want to pay for his home, because I had borrowed money, to send up to him to bring my mother home. My mother got sick. So they came back here, and I had to borrow money, and he (her father) didn't want to pay for his property because he didn't want to leave his property to his children. I'll give it to the devil but not to my kids.

Miss Krauss: Now who is this talking?

Matilda: My father. He was mean. And my poor mother was sick. She was such a good mother and a good wife. So finally he did give it to the devil. He wouldn't even sell it to me. I could have had it for twenty five hundred. Two hundred feet long, 100 feet wide.

Voice: Big corner lot.

Matilda: So it went in the auction. I didn't go to the auction. Who ever bought it bought it for fifteen hundred. Those days, things were cheaper. I only bought my place for seven hundred fifty dollars.

Voice: Big lot she had.

Voice: Let's see you bought that in 1935?

Matilda: 1939.

Voice: The lot alone was 7995 square feet.

Voice: It's a big lot.

Matilda: Then I build my house for two thousand fifty dollars.

Voice: Where do you live now?

Matilda: Kahaloa.

Voice: 3013.

Matilda: I've been there for 41 years. That same house. I have one child in San Francisco. One child when I lived in Kalihi, and that was my boy. Then when I came to Manoa, I had Bernie.

Voice: Did your children go to Manoa School?

Matilda: No they went to Maryknoll. Those days it was so cheap. When Delphine started Maryknoll it was ten dollars a year.

Voice: Plus uniform.

Matilda: Yeah. My ex, when I came to live that house he worked for the country, pulled weeds in the park, Ala Moana Park, when they filled it in. They were paying him \$80 a month. Then they raised him to \$90 a month.

Voice: In those days you could live comfortably.

Matilda: Was very hard.

Voice: Several children, I suppose.

Matilda: You have your children, and you have to buy food, and pay for your house, my house was cheap though, and paying was cheap too. I wish I bought more, but it was hard to upkeep. And to Maryknoll was \$10 a year, then they raised it to \$15 a year. Then when I put two of them in there was \$30 a year. And they stayed for long time. Then Bernie and Norma went for \$30 and Delphine went to high school was a \$125.

Voice: Took a leap.

Matilda: Because Delphine was the only one to graduate from high school [Maryknoll]. The others went up to the eighth grade. They couldn't make the high school point. Norma couldn't because she used to play basketball, but the Catholic teachers, they are not very nice. They are supposed to help buy they mean. I belong to the church, lived up here in Manoa, Norma went there from first grade she took the test to go to the high school. They were taking the 85 points and she was about 82, and they wouldn't take her. I mean 80 something just because she was five points low they won't take her in. And they say no sense; let her stay back and let her try again, and so I said forget it. They say go see Father, [the priest] but I said no sense, if they don't like my daughter no sense put her there because they going to give her bad time. So she went to Washington school and finally she got married. She went to school one year more. The Bernie, I took her then, that was when I got divorced and I went to the mainland. She went to a few schools on the mainland. Then she came back here, she wanted to go to Roosevelt. Never had room, they put her in McKinley, she couldn't stand all the Japanese people there, so she won't go to school. So, I said okay, stay home. So she didn't go to school, she went as far as ninth grade.

Miss Krauss: Who built your house? Did you have a plan?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: And get a contractor to put it up? Did you make the plan or did the contractor show you some things?

Matilda: Well you go to this blueprint palce, and you tell them, more or less how you like the house, and they'll make it for you. Then you give it to the contractors.

Voice: Who was it?

Matilda: Was a little old man, I don't think he is living, with a little young boy. Just the two of them built the house. I got my lumber from the city mill, no,

Voice: Lewers and Cook?

Matilda: No, what was that lumber yard right here on Beretania Street?

Voice: Moiliili Hardward?

Matilda: Where they have the home plumbing, they had the lumber over there. I can't think of the lumber, any way the lumber that went there was from T. H. Davis. Was all T. H. There was a lumber yard there, I can't think of the name now. I must have the name behind, in my appliance.

Voice: Did you, when the church was built on Lowry Avenue, did you begin going there instead of down to Maryknoll?

Matilda: Well okay, another thing when my children went to Maryknoll, of course we went to Maryknoll Church. Caught the bus, or sometime we'd walk, not too far, those days, you young, you walk. And you pull the kids by your hands, come on walk too. Even if they six, it's good exercise. Then during the war, World War II, they filled all the low land. When I came to school here, the land here where Manoa School is was all taro patches. The Chinese father used to own. The Wongs.

Miss Krauss: That's Christie's father-in-law.

Matilda: I heard down in the tax office, he has a lot of property down over here. And he has leased the land to people and people build their home, they lease the property from him. The Safeway property belongs to him. But what happened, they told me down the tax office, he is selling a lot of his land. The people that build their home there was on lease land. He is selling it to them if they want to buy because he need the money to pay the tax. He is paying a whole lot, the tax office is getting rich with him. So anyway, he does that now. In fact Jean up the street, my lady friend, has a nephew

married to that Wong's daughter, which he has only one daughter.

Voice: Come out smelling like a rose.

Matilda: That's right. So he is a realtor, and he is married to that Mr. Wong's daughter.

Voice: He'll do very well.

Matilda: And he owns that land right next to Mr. Wong that they haven't built.

Voice: Who owns the property that the Catholic Church is on, on Lowry?

Matilda: I heard Mr. Wong owns it too. There was all taro patches too.

Voice: Where was the church built?

Matilda: Oh, I don't know.

Voice: Withing the last 30 years.

Miss Krauss: Oh, yes.

Matilda: Any way, during the war, they took Wong's place, and they put all quonset huts.

Miss Krauss: That was all was housing [WW II].

Matilda: But they were quonset huts, they weren't housing.

Voice: Temporary, some of them are half domes.

Matilda: Two or three living in one, and that was all full. The priest from Punahou, we had a hall there, used to come to the hall, where people used to come to pray and we had mass in the hall. Used to be close to your [she meant mine--Janet Gordon-Roach--on Lanikaula Street.]place.

Voice: That high up on the side of the hill?

Matilda: No, flat, but below your place.

Voice: I see.

Matilda: Had a nice big hall, and we used to go there.

Voice: Near where Woodlawn comes through now?

Matilda: I think, well,

Voice: That's where it is flattest. Or flat.

Matilda: It's on that road with

Voice: New road.

Matilda: Yeah, on the side there. I don't know if it was close to the university property or further up.

Miss Krauss: Well, it was a big space.

Matilda: Was a nice big hall and priest used to come up. We had chairs we'd put up, we'd sing and have service there. And after, I don't know what year they built, our Catholic Church on Lowry.

Voice: Do you go there now?

Matilda: Yes. And then they built a hall there. I know that Father Duffy has been twenty years a priest; we gave him a surprise party, several months ago.

Voice: Remember the list of names of Portugese residents in the Metcaff Street area? Do you know who Antoine Marcus was? Have you heard that name? He bought a lot of property and he leased it, I think, to a lot of other people, most of whom were illiterate. They had to write their name.

Matilda: Was Marcus a realtor?

Voice: Well, he was a lot of things. He may have been a realtor, but he was a consul for France and Portugal here in Hawaii.

Matilda: I remember some people that lived on Chamberlain Street. The Mederios house, the lady still lives there, on the corner is Mrs. Gouveia.

Miss Krauss: We should get in touch with her.

Matilda: She must know a lot about Punahou, and of course I knew her mother and father. Her father was my father's friend from Portugal. My father used to go down and visit every weekend, take us kids down there. On the side of her, we used to call her--I can't think of her name (Mr. Silva's auntie). There was a little old lady living there and they had a lot of these Portuguese grapes. So good, they'd make wine, those grapes are good. And then in the front was Mrs. Ferral ^(Ferro) (?). And of the side there was Mrs. Reis, then Mrs. Martin used to go down Chamberlain Street further down.

Voice: Where these all Portuguese families?

Matilda: Yes, all Portuguese. And Mrs. Ferro had a daughter, got married, the aunt was the one lived on teh corner, Mr. Silva and his brother got married to a Chinese lady, they all lived over there. In fact Isabelle Reis knows more about, my lady friend, about the Punahou, her parents lived there and her aunty's. She knows more about it. And then, she came on the same boat with us, and she was my age, a little bit young, my birthday is in June, hers is in November. And her mother was pregnant to have a child. The child was born, the child died. And she had a nervous breakdown. Then she went to the hospital, the hospital was on School Street and what do you call, School and Lanakila. Hospital was there, so she went there and stayed there. She made twelve years, and she came out on parole, then she got well. After that childbirth, she got well. Then of course the son lived in the mother's house when they got married, took care of her and the father, then moved to Wahiawa. And they both died and their son is a rich man. in California, with his wife. But Isabelle lives here. She lives on Date Street, some place by the golf course.

Voice: When did the housing such as mine get built in Manoa?

Matilda: Well, I couldn't tell you when it start building, but I was in Manoa quite a while.

Voice: It was after the war?

Matilda: Yes. Because after the war they weren't building. You know that we couldn't get material here.

Voice: Oh really.

Miss Krauss: The property was selling for nothing.

Matilda: That's why the government put up those quonset huts, because they couldn't get the material to build more houses.

Matilda: Nobody was building.

Voice: With all these rocks around. Why couldn't they build them with rocks?

Matilda: Nobody knows how to put up rocks. Now you get people from Medeira, they smart how to put up rocks, make walls. Because when you go to their country, it's just a high rock that sits over there. Smaller than Oahu, but they make a little wall here little garden here, little wall here, little garden here, and as you look up the hill all the terrace. Samll little Japanses garden inside.

Voice: Was your Tantalus garden built up this way?

Matilda: No.

Voice: Was it flat land.

Matilda: Not flat, but not too hilly. And not too many rocks up there. Nice dirt.

Voice: Tantalus has better soil.

Voice: Is this the map of Manoa?

Voice: Yes.

Voice: Let's stretch it out. Maybe we can find approximately where Mrs. Cambra lived.

Voice: This is the map that was first drawn in 1882, and other places were added on to it later. But it would show your area of Tantalus and shows this area around Lyon Arboretum, where there was a man named Silva lived around.

Matilda: Where I live now, that's a Silva property. Woodlawn area was a different name. Did you find out who was their name? Who owned the dairy?

Voice: Dillingham owned the property for a long itme.

Voice: During the war and the first day. (?)

Matilda: What we did during the war. During the war we had to learn first aid because the hospitals were really full and they had no room, so they had us mothers, who lived up on the street, go up to Mr. Crane's house, and the nurse would come up there and Mrs. Crane would furnish her house; he was the mayor. And we'd go there once or twice a week for a couple of hours and learn first aid, to give patients bath and to do minor first aid things to people who would get hurt. So it was very nice, we enjoyed doing that. And Mrs. Crane would make us some punch and cookies. And we'd have that before coming home. And I really liked that, and that's when I learned how to do first aid things for old people, and for my family. So I really enjoyed so then we did that during the war for a few weeks, until we graduate. There was quite a few women up on Kahaloa Way.

Voice: The Mayor's house was on Kahaloa.

Matilda: Yes, I have to show you where the Mayor's house is. It's just that, before you go up that little hill, it's on your left; in fact they have a new house building close to the road, and she is in the back.

Voice: There are some houses there.

Matilda: There is a little Japanese lady lives there, and her husband is haole, I think they bought the house from the Cranes, when her husband passed away. I guess they both passed away. But we used to go there and learn our first aid. But it was really good; I really enjoyed it.

E.T.: Tell us about belonging to the university extension, too.

Matilda: Of course after so many years, people say join the university extension, because you learn to do all kinds of things, first aid, and sewing, and make little things, it's good. Then we meet people, go to conventions, which I enjoyed. One year we went to Hilo and stayed in the Hilo Lagoon. I had a beautiful time. Our driver was so good

he took us riding all over the forest.

Voice: Oh really.

Matilda: And he dropped us in Kona, and people came back from Kona. I went and stayed with a lady friend for a few dyas and I came home.

Voice: What was it the university extension started to do, to perform?

Matilda: The university extinsion started off more for young children, the 4-H, to keep them occupied doing little things, girls and boys. Then they decided to put older people in, to keep them busy and give them ideas. And to do different things, we'd go on picnics, we'd go hiking, who ever can. It's very good. We used to have meetings twice a month. Now they cut it down to once a month. So I've been there twelve years now.

Voice: Someone from the University is the advisor.

Matilda: Yes, then the big official that takes charge of us, she's at the University, some room there. She takes charge of all the islands, not only Oahu, but all the islands. That's the high one; then we have one that takes care of the island alone. Then we have another official that take care of different clubs.

Voice: When you meet on your own you don't need any professional advisor?

Matilda: No. But whatever the University said for the club to do, well if we want to do it or else we just stay out. Like now they are having a convention at the end of this month at the University where they install new officers for the year. But I am not going, I said I live right here. Then they try to make the University extension meetings and convention every year at the University, but then we said no, we like to go and see different islands. I hadn't been to Kauai; we went to Kauai one year. Three of us women stayed in a hotel and we had nice dinners and nice installations and we went to this park where they make the movie ["South Pacific"]. We walked in there for hours, because the bus couldn't get in there. Then on the day we came home, we caught the bus about 9:30 in the morning, after breakfast, then we went right into Waimea Canyon. We had a nice time. Then we came down to the airport and came home.

Miss Kruass: What is the name of your club?

Matilda: Shamrock.

Miss Krauss: Did you meet at homes or at the University when you had your meetings?

Matilda: We meet in the homes. Some of the time different but most of the time the [club] president's home. The president is from the club and she takes it for two years; then we go to her home. Before, when I first started, we used to go to St. Patrick's Church, to the cafeteria; and the priest who was there liked us so the new one came in and didn't like us around there, so we go to our president's house.

Voice: Tell us something about the Portuguese Pioneers Club.

Matilda: The I belong to another club called the Pioneer Portuguese Club which is very good. You have to be Portuguese or marry a Portuguese to belong in it. We go once a month, we learn different cultures of the island, what goes on. The money they take in they use for put a child through high school, university, tuition. We have this club and we go there, we talk and we have our meeting and then they go convention too.

This year to Hilo.

Voice: Are there quite a few Portuguese in the valley who belong to that?

Matilda: No, not very many in the valley, because I have a hard time coming home because most of them all over Oahu, all over; some they come from Kailua, some they come from Ewa, some they come from Kaimuki. From Manoa there is me that I know of, and Mrs. Freitas that lives on upper Manoa Road now. You know where that island is, there from East Manoa and up, she lives on the upper road. Sometimes she goes to the meeting, she brings me home. Then sometimes I have to catch the bus early, leave King Street 9:30. I always have a ride. Then my sister, she is in Kaimuki, she joined because her neighbor's husband died and she wanted company [the neighbor was already a member].

Voice: Rougly how many in the whole island belong?

Matilda: To the Pioneer Club?

Voice: Uh huh.

Matilda: 300 Portuguese.

Voice: And most of these are Portuguese, not just husbands or wives or Porgutuese?

Matilda: Well you could be, if you was married to a Portuguese, you could join; but you could not become officers of presidents.

Voice: You have to be real Protuguese.

Matilda: And they don't even know how to talk Portuguese. We tried to talk, we tried to teach them, we had fun.

Voice: How many Portuguese families lived in the valley when you first moved here?

Matilda: Quite a few; I couldn't tell you how many, but there was quite a few.

Voice: Just scattered around? There was no special number?

Matilda: Yes, even now there is quite a few, up in Woodlawn.

Voice: Oh are there.

Matilda: There is Mr. Pereira who lives in Woodlawn, Mr. Texiera, Mrs. Souza, Mrs. Medeiros there is quite a few. Mrs. Medeiros owns a glass house on the side of the hill. I remember years ago my daughters used to go to school they used to say they were going to build a glass house, no wood.

Voice: No wood.

Matilda: No, just the frame, all going to be glass. She told me that one time. Years ago, I told her I see one right up here in the valley, so I had to go show her that house. Mrs. Medeiros fell in love with that house, and she wanted to buy it. And what happened, she didn't, then after a few years she wanted to buy it again and finally she bought it. So she gave her house down in her valley to her son, he is married to one haole but his father and mother is Portuguese, Medeiros and she bought that house up on the hill. But she made walls, it is a beautiful home. I've never been in, but when never had trees I could see the glass house up on the hill.

Miss Krauss: I want to bring something up. You talk about Portuguese and haole, and Portuguese are haoles.

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Matilda: Haole means white, and Portuguese are white. We all haole.

Voice: Essentially it meant foreign.

Miss Krauss: So Chinese could be haole too.

Matilda: Or Japanese, so long you white you are haole. We don't call us Portuguese; most of the people call us Caucasians.

Voice: You are Caucasian. The whites are Caucasians.

Matilda: I get mad, I'm Portuguese, not Caucasian. I think Caucasians are people of mixed nationalities. But they san no.

Voice: No.

Miss Krauss: Why do you say haole and Portuguese, is that something you learned as a child?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: And you still keep it up?

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: Didn't you resent this?

Matilda: No, I feel that haole is a different nationality and Portuguese is a different nationality. That is how I used to feel. But poeple have told me that all whites are haole, and we not Portutuese, we Caucasian.

Voice: Well, Caucasians are whites.

Matilda: So we put what color, what nationality on the card is Caucasian.

Miss Krauss: Did you know the Oliveras? Because the daughter was a contemporary maid and we were riding in the car one time and they were talking about Dr. Osario.

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: And we passed, and this one person of Chinese ancestry said to Julia, "Oh, did Osario marry a haole?" Oh, she was one the of the ones who resented it very much. She said another haole, sure.

Matilda: But the Oliveras didn't live up in Manoa.

Miss Krauss: No, no, but I just wondered if you knew.

Matilda: They live up in Kalihi Uka.

Voice: There is an Olivera on [?] Drive. He used to be a principal at Roosevelt High school.

Matilda: Oh yeah.

Miss Krauss: Is he still htere?

Voice: Not at Roosevelt.

Miss Krauss: No, but in Manoa.

Matilda: Up in Manoa? Maybe he does, there is quite a few, I don't know. I knew the Oliveras, I used to live in Kalihi too when I first got married. So I knew the Oliveras up in Kalihi Valley..

Miss Krauss: But she was very resentful, and this was one chance she could get back. But you didn't have any resentment?

Matilda: No, no.

Voice: You mentioned a few names of people that still might be around, you said Judge Perry

Matilda: Oh, he died.

Voice: Was he related to the Willows Perry family?

Matilda: No, I don't think so. He was Protuguese and his wife was haole.

Voice: You have to have a name for differentiation. It's not a ethnic scientific.

Voice: I don't think it is sort of a slur.

Miss Kruass: No but I mean, whyhave the Portuguese taken it out? The Germans haven't, the Scotch haven't or anybody else. This is the interesting thing to me.

Matilda: You know Portuguese for some reason, wherever they lived, they didn't want anybody to know they were Protuguese, they said they were haole. Because Portuguese-- they weren't very nice. They don't try to study, they don't try to make business, they don't try to do beautiful work.

Voice: They do beautiful lace work, crocheting.

Matilda: But I mean men. My daughter Delphine did't want nobody to know she was

Portuguese when she went to school.

Miss Krauss: Oh yes, I remember I'm old enough to remember when they wouldn't.

Matilda: They wouldn't like to be called Portuguese.

Miss Krauss: They had the awful designation to be called Portugee. That was it.

When she went to school, the kids would say Portugee, if they knew she was Portuguese, there was an air, just like the Hawaiians. The Hawaiians didn't want to be called Hawaiians.

Matilda: Kanakas. My daughter used to say she was Irish. Now Isabells goes around saying she is Portuguese. I said "I'm not," and she gets mad. But I just say that to get her more mad. "I'm proud I'm Portutuese" and I said you are, I'm not.

Voice: Think of what great navigators they were.

Matilda: Oh yeah.

Voice: Back in historic times.

Matilda: And they say they build concrete submarines, and they build concrete ships, they always tease the Portuguese, but some of them are really smart. In Portugal they build their own planes and they build their beautiful hotels. You ought to go there.

Voice: I've been to Portugal.

Miss Krauss: Now there's a woman librarian at the university who is Portuguese.

Genevieve Ferriera. She is trying to find out about Portuguese out marriages (?).

Matilda: And books, genealogies, Portuguese when they came here. When they arrive, and the name of the family, their history, where they came from. She said her sister had one, and when she passed away she wanted that book, but her grandmother said no you can't have it. But that's few people that have.

Voice: That would be very valuable.

Matilda: That's a lady that has, people ask to borrow Mrs. Agnes Periera, she lives in Kaimuki-----she said people that want to borrow, he

she no lend because they never return.

Miss Krauss: That's right.

Matilda: You know old things like that. You get into your trunks and you look down in the bottom and see if you find anything old, anything mention Portugal, anything mention when you got here, so we put in the library in the University. So I don't know if there is any there, I haven't been there.

Voice: Well, even if you Xerox things, even pictures Xerox very well.

Miss Krauss: Now going back to Judge Perry, he has a daughter living, Jacqueline, I think she is at one of the retirement homes. Call Janet Bell. She's retired there, because his daughters are quite old. One died and one is living. Jackie is living.

Matilda: I knew those girls, I used to go over there and play. And Mr. Perry used to love to talk to me, you know he spoke Portuguese and English. Took me a long time to speak English because my mother and father didn't talk English to me. When I went to Portugal I spoke Portuguese to my Uncle. He was surprised. He said "You haven't forgotten." I said, "Uncle how could I have forgotten when my mother and father only talk Portuguese to me."

Miss Krauss: Did you have a hard time in school because of that? Were teachers considerate of this?

Matilda: No, they knew and they thought if I tried harder I'd learn, and I learned. I didn't even know how to count in English when I went to school I knew how to count in Portuguese. But I learned. Took me a while. Of course I might not speak as good as the haoles do, go get more mad now, use that word "haole" all the time.

Miss Krauss: Now let's go to some of these other names. Because I think some of these people we could also talk to.

Matilda: Sure.

Voice: You said Louis Reis is in a nursing home.

Matilda: Yes.

And he doesn't know much about Manoa, he lived on Chamberlain Street.

Voice: And Rose Cravalho was just someone who was in Manoa School with you.

Matilda: Yes.

Voice: Is she around?

Matilda: No, she is in Kauai, I think. Another one you could talk to is Isabelle Reis, she didn't go to school with me, she didn't live in Manoa either, she lived in Punahou, so she wouldn't know much about Manoa.

Voice: We want mostly the valley.

Voice: And Mrs. Gouveia on Chamberlain Street, she is the one that is quite elderly?

Matilda: She is older than I am. It's down Punahou, it doesn't belong to Manoa.

Miss Krauss: We go as far down as Wilder Avenue.

Matilda: Well this is above Wilder.

Miss Krauss: Well I'm telling you so that you know that that's where we're ending.

Matilda: The funniest thing. The people that live on Wilder and people live on Chamberlain came up here to Manoa School and the people that lived on Wilder went to Kaahumanu School.

Voice: We got that document in the archives where a group of Portuguese living in the Metcalf area petitioned for their own school. And they gave names of the families and the number of children in their families. But they were unsuccessful, you see they didn't get their own school. So they had to go to either Manoa or Kaahumanu.

Miss Krauss: That was called Marquis Street. Isn't that interesting.

Voice: Or Marksville, maybe.

Miss Krauss: They wanted their own school so they wouldn't have to come up here and to up there.

Voice: Either one was quite a distance.

Matilda: They had to come to Manoa or go to Kaahumanu.

Voice: Would there be a few people who could come up here and we could have a Portuguese party someday and talk some more about the Portuguese. I'd be interested in knowing a little bit more about the Marksville. And I think they might like to see this (? which one is that?) document. They may not have seen it.

Matilda: I told her I haven't been up here, and I think this place is nice, beautiful. I'm going to bring my daughter.

Voice: She wants to bring her daughters who are visiting her. None of them is leaving before the next tour so....

Miss Krauss: I could take them up personally.

Matilda: They would like to because they were raised up here until they finally got married and left for the mainland. They would like to see this place before they go back so they can tell their children.

Voice: It's beautiful.

Voice: Especially when you get a Beatrice Krauss tour.

Matilda: I went to that--what do you call this place here?

Voice: Arboretum.

Matilda: I went to the one in Pasadena.

Miss Krauss: That's lovely.

Matilda: I used to go there all the time. I like to go there sit down, cool air, walk around. and it's free.

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Voice: You should go to Foster Gardens too.

Matilda: Oh I have gone there once or twice, but the Arboretum in Pasadena is a nice place. That's where Tarzan made his movies, hanging from one tree to the other.

Voice: Oh it is?

Miss Krauss: Would you be free next Monday, the]8th?

Matilda: Isn't the]8th this Monday.

Miss Krauss: This coming Monday, today is Thursday, it would be four more days.

Matilda: Yes.

Miss Krauss: What time do you want to come?

Matilda: I think if we come we come in the morning.

Miss Krauss: Nine?

Matilda: Nine or ten.

Miss Krauss: You say what so I'll be sure I'll be here.

Matilda: I don't know.

Miss Krauss: If you come at nine, it's nicer, it's cooler.

Matilda: I tell my girls to get up at nine and we come up.

Voice: Get up at eight and come up at nine.

Matilda: They drive their daddy's car so I come up with them. I tell them come up and see this beautiful arboretum.

Miss Krauss: I can take them for a walk through the woods if they like.

Matilda: They like that, they need some exercise.

Voice: Tell them to wear sneakers.

Matilda: That's me, I thought I was going too walk to so I brought my comfortable sneakers, that I bought in Alaska.

Voice: You do a lot of traveling.

Matilda: I bought these in Alaska to go out fishing, I had sandals. I went there last year.

Voice: Was it last year?

Matilda: Yes. The baby was, yeah was last year because she went after I didn't go

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and shoe bought this Alaska diamond and I had bought the ring, it was last year August. We went up on the 10th and came back on the 29th. We lived in Englewood, we landed in Anchorage. I get mine framed in a piece of wood, my nephew did a good job--he waxed it. I got mosquito bites, oh those mosquitoes in Alaska.

Voice: They are live dive bombers.

Matilda: I bought a T-shirt for Jerry with this big mosquito with his big thing going down and has four bloods, four bottles of blood in each side giving blood to the blood bank. He took it from me. I'm there fishing, not there looking at the mosquitoes. I'm looking at the fish, when you going to bit my line? And I never did but I didn't catch any, but my lady friend caught some. You're allowed three apiece but I didn't we had them smoked and brought them home. And I ate with poi; was good.

Miss Krauss: Could you tell me what time you left home to get to school?

Matilda: Very early.

Miss Krauss: What would you say, seven o'clock?

Matilda: Yeah.

Miss Krauss: 7:00 and school started at 8. And how long was school?

Matilda: 2:00 o'clock.

Miss Krauss: And it would take you a whole hour to get home.

Matilda: Yeah.

Voice: That's a long hike up there.

Matilda: Coming down was good.

Voice: You sort of slide.

Matilda: Run down, but going up, good thing I was skinny.

Voice: You were.

Matilda: If I go now I couldn't make it. I can't push all this weight up that hill. But I could rest and make it.

Voice: You came by yourself? None of the other children came?

Matilda: Well, when I took my sister to Waikiki, we both came.

Voice: But you went on the bus then.

Matilda: Then we caught the bus. Then when we went to Punahou Church we walked on the other side of the hill. Mr. Geer (?) had a little place up there with fruit trees. We had some Portuguese people Mr. Marcus, living there taking care of teh farm. We used to go down through there.

Miss Krauss: So you used to come in Makiki Valley, down on that side. Was that closer for you?

Matilda: Well, we come down as far as Mr. Geer's (?) place and we'd come down as far as you go to Tantalus and corss a cow patch over there and we come by Judd Street, one go straight down Makiki, I mean Makiki Street, and go down Wilder and walk.

Voice: That's really direct.

Miss Krauss: Yes, but think of anybody doing that today.

Matilda: Any boy I used to be so scared, one time my dad decided to come to our place he went up the other trail and he was down at this other friend's house and he yelled forus to bring the rope so he could tie the horse away from the wagon. And we had lanternsn and funny lights to read, and rain water, and lots of mosquitoes. But my mother was smart; my father smoked Bull Durham, and she used to wash the bags real godd and tie it to the pipe, and that's how we had our water clean.

Voice: Oh she filtered them out.

Miss Krauss: Now why didn't you, when you went to church, go in the wagon?

Matilda: Well my father worked planting those beautiful trees along side Tantalus all kind of trees, up the hill they used to make little hole, plant the tree, water the trail come down, make a little hole, plant it. He was working.

Voice: On Sundays?

Matilda: Well most of the Sundays he didn't care to go to Church.

Miss Krauss: He didn't go to Church?

Matilda: He went to church in his old country but over here he didn't understand what the priest was saying. But my mother went and she took us little chicks along.

Miss Krauss: That was a long walk back.

Voice: A long walk for your mother, for goodness sake.

Matilda: But when my father came to Punahou and visited his old friends from the old country, he'd bring the wagon.

Voice: Did your mother ever drive the wagon?

Matilda: No, I did.

Voice: Oh you did.

Matilda: Till I met an accident on Makiki and what do you call that first street going to Punahou school? Coming down Makiki.

Voice: Nehoa?

Matilda: I was turning there and I couldn't stop the horse coming down the hill the breaks wasn't strong enough so I turned the car was coming up and caught the stick from the horse and broke the stick that the horse was in and hit him in his leg and he started going so I pushed him toward the curb and we all fell off the wagon on the side walk.

Miss Krauss: Did anybody get hurt?

Matilda: Then I walked all the way to Kapahulu and called my father to bring the horse and the wagon home. So he goes walk with me down to Kapahulu and then he brings the rope and ties the shaft together and put the horse in this. That's when I was sixteen; I'm not driving that horse any more. We used to go up here to Makiki; we still had a garden, plant vegetables and everything. But wasn't too

bad to live in so we used to up.

Voice: One member of our group is Margaret Schmidt Young who used to live up on Tantalus when she was a girl.

Matilda: What part?

Voice: Way up on top.

Matilda: Oh, on top. Well, those are a few up there, plus Waterhouse, there was a few living up there.

Miss Krauss: The Frear's had one across the street.

Voice: I guess Kino Wilder came later.

Miss Krauss: Yes. There were only a few houses on Tantalus on those days, and they were just summer homes.

Matilda: Yeah, but now they have more. During the war, or after the war they build quite a lot. We used to go to Waterhouse house. There was a Portuguese couple there, upkeeping the yard and the house. We used to be friends, we used to go up and visit.

Miss Krauss: Do you remember.

Matilda: Rain all the time. Well it needs sun for blooming. I have some in my banana trees, they don't bloom as pretty. But I have a few flowers. You know one time, I went to a party, and this Jean picked some violets from her yard about three or four and gave me I said "Oh my, oh, my I'm going to put them in my hair", so I got a bobbi pin and stuck it up here, nobody said my muumuu was pretty, nobody said I look good, they said oh violets, you have violets, they're so pretty, I haven't seen violets for long time. They all admired my violets and my white hair, and nothing else.

Voice: You should see her yard, she has more growing in her yard.

Miss Krauss: Yes.

Matilda: You can't see my yard I have lots of plants in my yard just like here.

Voice: She grows everything, she's got a greenthumb.

Matilda: I don't plant those things.

Voice: But they grow. You should see her anthuriums.

Matilda: That I plant. Anything the birds brings and drops the seed in my yard, I let it grow. My yard is like a forest.

Voice: Small jungle.

Voice: Margaret Young is doing something about that nutridge farm, I heard it on the radio.

Matilda: What nutridge?

Miss Krauss: Because, I've done that, where they came and planted macadamia.

Matilda: They came on my father's property these nuts. I don't know how they're doing. My father was very mad. But he couldn't do nothing. But then he had enough money to buy a piece of property down Kapahulu by the Pizza Pie with an old house, 155-200 dollars.

Miss Krauss: When you got married and moved up here had you always liked Manoa, why did you.

Matilda: No I never did like Manoa.

Miss Krauss: Why did you come up here?

Matilda: We lived in Kalihi, we lived in Palolo, and then we lived in Kapahulu, and then we lived in Moiliili near Royal School. Mr. Gray had some apartments there, we lived there, then we lived up Manoa. The reason why my ex decided to come up to Manoa-- I didn't like it because rain and my kids was always with runney nose--was because my ex decided to raise cows and there was lot of grass after the taro went away, and they didn't grow taro so there was a lot of grass, so he used to tie the cows to a tree in the grass. We had a nice cow that my brother gave to my little boy as a calf. My father-in-law had cows up in Kalihi. So we raised that calf into a mother, and she used to give a lot of milk. My kids don't like cow's milk. So Cambra used to go buy little calves in the dairy and bring it to the house for \$5. And he used to train the mother to feed her and feed the others. And one time the poor

mother had four calves, one in each titi drinking milk. Poor thing. But we watch, when the little tummy pop out we take um away and then when time to feed we put them again. And we kept the cow, I don't know, about 3 or 9 years. And we raised a lot of little calves. And we raised a bull and he bring it to a heifer; then he used to sell the calves to the dairy when they had all the milk. Very cheap. Then that's where I got the extra money and paid up for my home. I couldn't pay up for my home with \$100 a month, even though it was only \$2,000. I was sending my kids to Catholic School. Was very cheap. Voice: High school wasn't very cheap.

Matilda: No, high school was \$125 or \$130 a year; but you figure two girls at \$30, \$60 plus one in high school.

Voice: Getting close to \$200.

Matilda: And I went to work and I paid them. One time I told Delphine, "I'm going to see the father and I think you should give one of my children free shcool, because I got three." "Ma, don't do that; you know you not poor, you own your house, because the other people who don't own the house and pay rent, they should go. You shouldn't do that Ma. that's not nice." I didn't go.

Miss Krauss: Did you have the same amount of land you had now when you raised the calf.

Matilda: No, we didn't raise them on our property, we raised them in the taro patch. Like where the school is, there was only grass, we raised them there. My ex used to tie them to a tree, put chains on them.

Voice: How long did you raise.

Matilda: When they get loose, the neighbors come and tell me, and I go get them out and tie them.

Miss Krauss: How long did raise calves?

Matilda: Quite a number of years. White lived here and before we moved near Kuhio School, we were raising them, and before we built our house we were raising calves.

Matilda: We did raise it for a while.

Voice: You didn't raise pigs did you?

Matilda: Yes, down here, we did.

Voice: Oh did you.

Voice: And chickens the same time you were raising the calves?

Matilda: Yes, around my house there we didn't raise cows, we used to tie them over there in the grass. When we first came, we raised a few pigs. I know we raised one and he got quite big. He was a big pig. We killed him and gave Norma and Bernie a luau for their birthday. When Delphine got married, Cambra had a pig offered to him and we bought another one, and gave Delphine a luau.

Miss Krauss: Right at your house?

Matilda: Yes, then we didn't have trees, we cooked the pig there right in the back.

Miss Krauss: Did you make your own imu?

Matilda: Not in my place, the ground no good, taro kind of wet clay not very good. But there was a man who worked with Cambra, he could make it in his yard and he brought it up.

Voice: Oh great.

Matilda: Then I cooked the chicken long rice and made the lomi lomi salmon and things like that.

Voice: Sounds like a good luau. You're making me hungry.

Matilda: Was good.

Voice: It's about 11:30.

Voice: I think it's about time to stop.

Matilda: I was taking care my children, washing clothes my day off, ironing till 1:00 in the morning, next day get up to go to work.

Voice: When did you start taking care of elderly people?

Matilda: I did when I was young, but mostly was housework. But after I took first aid at Mrs. Crane's house during the war, then I went out and take care.

Voice: So you've been doing that for a lot of years.

Matilda: A lot of years.

Miss Krauss: Are you still doing it?

Matilda: I still do it. I am taking care of a woman now, she is 92, but only two days a week. I'll be there tomorrow, from 9 to 3.

Miss Krauss: Now, do you have anybody besides her?

Matilda: No, not right now.

Voice: You took care of my father.

Miss Krauss: Oh that's how you know.

Voice: She took wonderful care of my father.

Miss Krauss: I can imagine.

Matilda: I took care of somebody and she find out, I didn't know her then, I knew her father, because he used to do a lot of walking.

Miss Krauss: Past your place?

Voice: She lives only three blocks from me.

Matilda: People would stop, you want a ride? No, no thank you. My father said walk while you can and he kept walking.

Voice: He did; he walked till his last 6 months of his life. He died at almost 95.

Matilda: He wouldn't ride in anybody's car. I didn't know Janice, but I knew her father. I didn't know how Hanice found out about me.

Matilda: How did you find out about me.

Janet: I asked my friend Lillian Felix if she knew anybody in the church.

Matilda: Oh that's right.

Janet: And she said she knew of you. And that you took care of people, but she didn't know how to get hold of you. Not by telephone, you didn't have a phone then, but she found out where you lived, and I left you a note.

Matilda: She knows some people that goes to my church and she asked them.

Miss Krauss: When you take care of older people, like this older woman, what do you do?

Matilda: Well, I've taken care of senile people, where I have to help them with their bath I took care of her father which I didn't do much, she did that bathing, she did the cooking, I just went to see that he was in one place that he didn't run away, because he liked to run away.

Janet: He liked to walk; run away wasn't quite right.

Matilda: Run away, that's what I call it.

Janet: He couldn't see, he was nearly blind and he was nearly deaf, and I'd worry myself sick that he'd get hit by a car.

Matilda: That's right. And I just watched him, stayed there, fed him. First she had young boys take care of her father.

Janet: Some boy had a n operation on his jaw, he had a protruding jaw, so it had been operated on, and he was all wired together, so he couldn't take a regular job because he couldn't communicate very well, but he could watch my father, and take care of him. So I had him come up. But he wasn't satisfactory, father really needed someone who could really pay more attention and consideration to him.

Matilda: So I took care of him, and I took care of another man, before your father, down Wailupe Circle.

Janet: Oh did you.

Matilda: Pass Wailupe Circle. Mr. Dow, Mr. Milton Dow, he was paralyzed, his wife worked so I went there 8 to 12:30, put him to bed, and his wife come home, cook for him. They used to take a walk. He used to walk with his cane and the brace on his leg, and she quit working, she retired and took care of him. But she didn't take him for walks, if he fell she didn't pick him up, but I picked him up. Sometimes his shoe or his cane would git in a little rock, and he'd fall and I'd pick him up. He was proud, he didn't want anybody hold his hand, hold his elbow. I can do it. But after he had his stroke, I heard he used to catch the bus and come to the University, study. When I get there, his wife leaves his breakfast on the table. Sometimes it is eaten when I get there, sometimes it is not. I give him lunch, the lunch is already made. If it was winter time, he eat soup everyday for lunch and a little yogurt. And if it was summertime he ate jello, he ate very little. Seh walked with him, he fell, and she had the neighbors pick him up. And she thought of taking him in a wheelchair, she made a plank in her house, but everytime she take him out he is like this. She said open your eyes look at the mountain, open your eyes look at the ocean, they close again, she said waste time. So he stayed in the house, he had another stroke, he land in the hospital, then he land in the rest home. I used to go see him once in a while. Then after that somebody at Laniolu, Waikiki, there was a lady there, a nurse, over 90, Mrs. Bushell, she had a daughter here and one in California a poor thing, she had a stroke and she went to a home, and that home has a lot of money and they don't take care of you. Homes is no good, so I ask God, drop me dead.

I know I have to go, take me fast. Because I don't want to see myself in a home. I don't want to be a burden to my family. But you ask God what you want, he'll give it to you, in time to come. Have faith. The poor thing went there, she had her room, and nurses and doctors are the worst patients we have to take care of because they still have to do something, they say they know everything, you don't have to tell them what to do. Poor thing she had been so pitiful, so one day she went in the home, there was a nurse working there taking care of a patient from when she was well till she died, slept in the room with her. She worked there and she knew about me because I used to volunteer, go there. And take the patients in the wheelchair, the nurses dress them up, to the penthouse, and our priest from Waikiki used to come there every Wednesday, and say mass for them, even if you Catholic or not Catholic. So we used to wheel them into the elevator and take them up there. Volunteer, so I used to go. And Miss Bernard, was her name so the nurses there got no time to feed the patients, they have no time, they just lazy, especially those Filipions. I'm talking to one, she talk to me in English, then the Filipino girl come. I said why they do that. They talking about me. So I told the Filipino lady why they do that and she said they talking about you. You should tell them speak English. I would just walk away. So she, this one patient, the daughter wanted somebody to take care her. So she couldn't get me right away because I have no phone. She couldn't get hold of me so I called her. Same time they got a nurse, and that nurse was very

expensive. And the daughter figured she couldn't afford to pay. Of course she had a beautiful home in New York, renting and she had retirement, but the home is over \$2,000. She had a little room to herself. And she didn't want to eat so I had to go over there and feed her.

Jante: She was very good at this, my father was a very reluctant eater.

Matilda: The nurses feed her breakfast, I feed her lunch and I feed her dinner, then I came home. Then when the Filipinos catch me there what are you doing here, I said I'm keeping her company, I roll her over, I change her, she never had the bag, she have to do it in the bed, so I have to change her bed pad and make her dry, so we used to do that. When the nurses saw me there they said I had to bathe her, I said no, they didn't hire me to bathe her, only to keep her company, and feed her.

Oh but the company should bathe her, I said no, I wasn't told to, so they had to bathe her, they had to do something, clean up her room, because they are getting more money than I am. She, they were paying me \$2.50 an hour, so finally I did what I could. Then she died, you know why she died, that home nasty, don't go into a home, go into a cave and pass away. She had a big bad sore in her leg and one on her hip, their patients not supposed to have that sores.