**Paul:** Good afternoon this is Paul Securest for the National Park Service. Today is Sunday 10 April 30th 1995. I’m in Greenfield Center in upstate New York with George Muller. Mr. Miller came from Norway in 1924 when he was 16 years old. In fact he turned 16 on the voyage to America.

I may also say for the sake of the tape that we are not very far from the wood stove and that may pick up some sounds and also there are various family members in other rooms in the house and we may hear them on the recording also. Mrs. Muller let me ask you what your birth date is. When were you born?

**George:** I was born March 20, 1928.

**Paul:** And where in Norway were you born?

**George:** I was I was a little bit different from the village of [inaudible00:01:01]a little bit East of Austin maybe three quarters of time walk from [inaudible 00:01:01]till I was born.

**Paul:** What was the name of the area where you were born?

**George:** They called Bokker Haven.

**Paul:** Can you spell that?

**George:** B-O-K-K-E-R H-A-V-E- N.

**Paul:** And what is your name when you were born? What is your name in Norwegian?

**George:** Georg, Georg yes.

**Paul:** Is it spelt the same way as George?

**George:** There’s no *e* over there and is pronounced Georg and here’s pronounced George. I don’t like George’s name but I like that’s how as we grew up Georg

**Paul:** And do you have a middle name?

**George:** Yes. Lawrence.

**Paul:** And is that how it was said in Norwegian Lawrence?

**George:** Lawrence yes.

**Paul:** Yes, did your mother ever tell you anything about your birth?

**George:** You know I even had a second name that was called after my uncle. My name is also Stilo there’s something with the German side.

**Paul:** Stilo.

**George:** Gablon Stilo.

**Paul:** How d’ you spell Stilo?

**George:** S-T-I-L-O?

**Paul:** And that’s named after an uncle?

**George:** Yes, my father [inaudible 00:02:42]border town and with a boat a Sailboat in from Norway to England and they went down we never found the boat and--

**Paul:** Do all Norwegian men get three names when they are born like you have?

**George:** No, no. Some has-- Quite few has two names [inaudible00:03:13]that’s it at that time and then and that’s how they gave it to me.

**Paul:** Did anyone in your family ever tell you anything about when you were born?

**George:** oh my, my mum no my father yes my father has come home from American and then that’s why I took five years between me and my brother. Because my father had gone out to Montana to-- they want-- he wanted land mum always didn’t want to go to Montana because she was scared of the Indians so she didn’t dare to go over that way so they never went to Montana.

**Paul:** Why did your father go to America in the first place?

**George:** Lack of work he was supporting, he was a seaman and he didn’t do the he’s two older brothers did. There are some rich relatives in [inaudible 00:04:44]andNorway and they said you guys can come to Kensington and you can live with us the whole time that you study and that was about six years learned be a [inaudible 00:04:43]maker real [inaudible 00:04:44]maker in them days.

**Paul:** What year did your father first go to America?

**George:** He probably he first went and he was probably only about 19 20 years old and then and he was born in 1880 so he was about maybe 20 years old.

**Paul:** What was his name?

**George:** Frederick.

**Paul:** Frederick.

**George:** And that was all.

**Paul:** And tell me tell me about a little bit about your father’s personality what was he like as a person?

**George:** Well he comes to he comes strict, quite strict. My mother was a super lady when he went back to America I was soon born, he went back to America and he went down to Montana I think and my mum didn’t want to go. So then after about almost 5 years he came back to home and then my brother was born that’s why there was such a big jump between me and my brother.

**Paul:** You say that your father was strict. Do you have a story about that that reflects how strict he was?

**George:** Yes, he could look at me, put it off and maybe I think it even happened that he—oh yes I remember now some other money had disappeared, that was on the corner shelf home and then he had put some money there and then he [inaudible00:06:25]found money was hiding found the money.

**Paul:** And how did he punish you?

**George:** Oh yes. I have a little bit on that. I he could put if off and he could and he could take a piece of wood like this and bang my rear end and I remember my mother saying something to him. And I and I was probably eight nine years old at that time. And00 she say do not [foreign 00:07:01] that means do—you must do not hit the boy the boy that way?

**Paul:** Do you know how your parents met?

**George:** They come from Parkson the same area and there was a little town over that way east and a little bit west and then and then and then that is how with the young people they get to be 18 years old and then they go out a little bit with girls. And then and then his dad hi father Regan my father’s father he was a Sail maker. He made sails for the sail ships in them days. And then something he started drinking.

**Paul:** Your grandfather started drinking.

**George:** Started drinking and that was towards the end of him.

**Paul:** Do you--What do you know about your grandfather’s business as a sail maker?

**George:** I guess he was a one good sail maker.

**Paul:** Do you know how they made sails back then?

**George:** Yes, they had a great big house and the second floor was all open like that and that’s where they were sitting on the floor and sewing with heavy thread, sewing the sails together for the boat.

**Paul:** What kind of fabric did they use to make the sails?

**George:** Some tough stuff, I don’t know some tough stuff.

**Paul** What was your mother’s name?

**George:** Olga Maria.

**Paul:** Olga Maria.And what was her maiden name before she was married?

**George:** O Nonsen.

**Paul:** Can you spell that please?

**George:** Oh my, theycall O is two *As* together in them days and then then was changed a little bitto an A without [inaudible 00:09:30]like that that for the pronounced O. What was the question you asked?

**Paul:** The question was your mother’s maiden name?

**George:** Oh yes, there was O Nonsen. You want me to spell it?

**Paul:** Spell it please.

**George:** O see there was O. see when you fix it like that then its pronounced O, O Nonsen O N-O-N-S-E-N that’s all.

**Paul:** And what do you know about her back ground?

**George:** Her father was a sailor all his life and he was 10 years older than my-- his wife my grandmother and they had quite many children maybe eight around there and then and then he and then all the time and then [inaudible 00:09:48] all the timeand thenhe was he and thenhis brother younger brother he was the captain on the boat but maybe he was more smarter than my grandfather I don’t know but my grandfather was next in line after was bored of being captain.

**Paul:** So was grandfather’s brother who was the captain of the Ship?

**George:** Yes my grandfather Bolo my mo--

**Paul:** And your grandfather was a sailor, he was a common sailor.

**George:** Yes but he went out from [inaudible 00:10:24]to the east that’s whereI think he usually got his jobs and where was [inaudible 00:10:33]between [inaudible 00:10:35]I think quite few went [inaudible 00:10:40]on the boats.

**Paul:** What was your mother’s personality like?

**George:** Oh A1 I will never forget her.

**Paul:** Is there a story that you remember about your mother from when you were a little boy?

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** Something you’d like to tell us about your mother.

**George:** I remember when my father was in America and of course my mother and I we had such a super duper good time when I think of it. I didn’t know I said I had a special mother at that time but I found it out in later years. But anyway the time when [inaudible 00:11:18]and then an then there was no work and there was end of the World War One but anyway but then then--

**Paul:** What kinds of things did you enjoy doing with your mother when you were a little boy?

**George:** I can remember going to different in the neighborhood yes was quite many people from my grandmother grandfather time. And then and then we used to go visiting and then and maybe on Sunday afternoon, we sing the old people had cup of coffee and then so fourth and then I can remember them saying to my mother, “Can we go home no mama can’t we go home now mama”. Yes said, I remember her saying yes a few minutes more now then we’re going to go home. And I was happy, I liked to be home best when I went I liked to be home the best of all.

**Paul:** What kinds of chores did your mother do around the house?

**George:** All kinds of chores. Even outside clean and so forth when my father was in American and she used to clean outside and she I think maybe she had a little garden. I think so. And then and then of course I too all the sisters and they start to help her with housework and so forth yes and my older sister was four years old and my-- the next one two years and the one two years one they all went to Norwegian home [inaudible 00:13:16]yes and then Ithink my older sister died about a year ago.

**Paul:** I see, tell me what kind of house you lived in when you lived in.

**George:** Just a little house over the gate like that well the house that we owned just a little house but big enough for us and my mother but then then I remember when yes that’s right when my father came home and then they sold it. And then and they went to rent because they thought maybe he was getting a little too small for the family so they rent that place called Troll is Troll yes, yes.

They was little bit closer to the ocean they lived there maybe one and half years. And then I remember that dad soon was going to come home from American and we had to move maybe after about one and a half and then they moved from Troll to a place called Skoda there was there was much near Greenstar City and but also away far out in the country but then--.

**Paul:** What did they build houses out of? How do they make houses in Norway?

**George:** Wood planks on top of another and they [inaudible00:14:53]and so forththen and then they put maybe if they could afford it after a while they put pandelin on the outside and so forth. And then something much smaller than that but they that’s how they cut warm.

**Paul:** What kind of a floor do they have in the houses in Norway?

**George:** And then they was quite heavy floors maybe on the maybe [inaudible 00:15:23] also but there was only that one--

**Paul:** But there were wooden planks?

**George:** Yes, maybe about that wide

**Paul:** About [crosstalk]

**George:** And they were nailed to into the whatever beam.

**Paul:** What kind of roof did they have?

**George:** Like that that’s all.

**Paul:** [inaudible 00:15:41]what was the roof made of?

**George:** Yes the tile I mean made out of wood and then like this.

**Paul:** But they scooped--

**George:** Yes one after another maybe by that long and then like this and they one fit into other and they lasted maybe only two years.

**Paul:** How did you light the inside of the house?

**George:** Lamps if you yes most people had lamps hanging from the ceiling and then then I can remember more my father you see my father had come home I think. And then the-- it slipped through roof like that thing there and then they slipped through they down on the floor and broke the whole thing and let me see--

**Paul:** What kind of a lamp is this?

**George:** Oil.

**Paul:** Oil.

**George:** Yes Kerosene.

**Paul:** Where did the oil come from?

**George:** They came from they came they came from the warm counties.

**Paul:** You went and the kerosene you bought it you bought.

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** How did you keep the house warm?

**George:** Well we had a stove maybe half of that

**Paul:** Power stoves?

**George:** Maybe half of that a little bit more than half maybe and that kept us warm

**Paul:** Did you have running water in your house?

**George:** No.

**Paul:** Where did the water come from?

**George:** That came from a Bren thing called a Bren made by hand and then stones there was Bren makers in them days.

**Paul:** Can you spell Bren for me?

**George:** Bren B-R-E-N.

**Paul:** And that’s a well what we could well.

**George:** You could get a ladder down there. Once in a blue moon they have to clean it. I remember after I had been in American I came home and I had to clean the bottom and so forth yes once in a while did that.

**Paul:** Did you have a bathroom in your house?

**George:** No the bathroom the bathroom was outside. There was no such thing were cities they had they maybe I don’t think I hadn’t seen a bathroom since before I came to Oslo in 1924 when the other kid and I was going to America

**Paul:** So when you were Oslo it’s the first time you saw a bathroom

**George:** That was Christiana them days--

**Paul:** Did you have animals when you were growing up?

**George:** My grandmother had a cow and a pig and chickens but we had when we moved in Skoda there we were allowed we rented and we were allowed yes we had a pig there and some chickens but no cow that we never owned on our own.

**Paul:** But you grandmother had a cow?

**Paul:** My grandmother had a cow.

**Paul:** Is that your mother’s parents or your father’s parents.

**Paul:** What do you remember about your mother’s parents? What sticks out in your mind about them?

**George:** They was a sailor

**Paul:** Was a sailor--

**George:** And then she was she took care of the cow milk and the cows and so I could see her before me and then of course when we came to grandmother I suppose once in a while we could get a cup of milk. Otherwise we couldn’t get milk there was very few cups of milk that I had when I was growing up. And my sister said the same thing to me. She-- her and I we liked milk was all but my older sister didn’t like milk we couldn’t get a cup of milk.

**Paul:** Can you name all your sisters and brothers for me?

**George:** One thing thatwe had one egg, once a year for Easter. One egg.

**Paul:** Why milk and egg were so scarce?

**George:** Because people didn’t have the money for it.And used was have some kids couldn’t have it.

**Paul:** What kinds of foods did you eat in Norway?

**George:** Once in a while my mother could be have afford to send me to the store and buy a little bit of meat we could make kjoottkaken we used to call it that was meat cakes with the flour whatever but very good and then she used to cook potatoes.

**Paul:** What was the name in Norwegian of the meat cake?

**George:** Kjoottkaken.

**Paul:** Can you spell that?

**George:** K-J-K-J-O-O-T-T-K-A-K-E-N.

**Paul:** And this is a meat and flour or? How did she make it?

**George:** She make she put a little bit of a little bit of milk what do you make bread from?

**Paul:** Flour?

**George:** Flour little bit little bit of that and then and then she mixed it up and put something on whatever and then she fried with -- we had to wait for the time come to eat the whole we couldn’t take any of that. When I think when I think I came to America, my father said, “You're going you’re going have a lot of cup of milk”. I thought, “Can I have a lot of milk” And egg can eat all the eggs you want what? “I can eat all the eggs I want and all the milk I want? What kind of country is this”? I thought it was great in America I thought it was wonderful

**Paul:** Tell me what religion your family was.

**George:** Sure, they were they were they were the pastons and then they and then they the Luttons

**Paul:** Luttons.Was there a church in your town?

**George:** There was small church maybe even two. One was Pentecostal I think. And when I was home eight years eight or nine years ago I liked Pentecostal church the best so and I used to go there and once in a while send some little money home they say hi to George Georg from all us they say.

**Paul:** Who was more religious your mother or your father?

**George:** My father used to come home from work and then go out preaching but then my mother [inaudible 00:23:19].

**Paul:** Do you remember any prayers in Norwegian?

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** Can you say a prayer for us on tape in Norwegian?

**George:** Yes I can say it.[Foreign 00:23:36]My mother taught me that when I was three years old, three four years old

**Paul:** And what does it mean?

**George:** [Inaudible 00:24:08]my-- meansin English?

**Paul:** Well, no you don't to do the whole thing? But what are you praying for?

**George:** Can you my father my father art my father who art in heaven my father who art up in heaven.

**Paul:** Is that the Lord’s Prayer?

**George:** Yes, yes it is. Hallowed be thy name and so thy kingdom come, thy will be done exactly.

**Paul:** And your mother taught you that as a child?

**George:** Yes she did a little bit as a kid.

**Paul:** Were there any other ways that you practiced your religions at home?

**Paul:** I could, I could stand by the window and look out there maybe winter snow like crazy but she used to tell me wonderful stories from the Bible oh yes very good Bible tell her to me.

**Paul:** Can you tell me how they celebrate Christmas in Norway?

**George:** Yes we went out so we could out in the woods and get a tree and then we take them home and my mother and my two older sisters they used to make it look nice with the things. Then they put away for next year again like that.

**Paul:** And did you have to go to church for Christmas?

**George:** No, in them days I think they came to be a little more because Christmas eve that was the people families oh that night that evening we had bought the presents for everyone and then and then and the next day early in the morning get off early morning was dark went to church early first day of Christmas.

**Paul:** Is there a Christmas present that you received as a child that you remember?

**George:** Oh boy. There was no money in our house for presents. And then when they came to-- I remember mum made special good cookies and we were allowed to get a few eat you see and then the other were put away for Christmas time you know.

**Paul:** Tell me about what you remember of the World War One period 1914 and 1918 what sticks out in your mind about that time?

**George:** 14 in 1914 yes, I was six years old because of course you know we didn’t pay so much attention but then as we grow older--.

**Paul:** How was your family affected by the war going on in Europe?

**George:** That First World War?

**Paul:** The First World War.

**George:** I can never remember that we were so hungry that there wasn’t something to eat. And I used to go with there was a brook running through the land there and then into the ocean. And then the trout used to swim up there and I wait was six seven years old I used to go and sit lines like this with the hook on there and I go find also underneath stones and I put it on the hook and after a couple of hours there was a trout hanging there. I’ll never forget it.

**Paul:** Did you go to school in Norway?

**George:** Yes, yes.

**Paul:** How old are you when you start school?

**George:** Seven years

**Paul:** And how long do you go?

**George:** Seven years.

**Paul:** You go for seven years.

**George:** Go for seven years. And you know, we were so stupid those kids that we [inaudible 00:28:46] to slavery there was saying again between us those kid boys I can’t remember saying girls saying but for say we are no free for that it was a slavery it was a slavery, I want but I didn’t care about anything I wanted to be a carpenter. Mother had printed into my mind that I was going to be a carpenter. And then she bought me nails and there was an old hammer or something I used to and there was and a wooden step outside and I used to bang that with a nail. And she showed me I suppose and then that was my life to be a carpenter. So then I couldn’t get to work. I got a job in the bakery few coins next to nothing and then and then after about two years almost two years, working there and cutting the wood for the bakery and delivery the bread here far away up and down hills but then.

**Paul:** Did you do you remember some of the things that you built when you were learning to become a carpenter what were some of the things that you built?

**George:** Well I was I was getting pretty good at making frames other all cut out things yes.

**Paul:** Like picture frames?

**George:** Yes, and they were all fancy. And I-- was sitting there saw with the high that high that up and down and then over that that much.

**Paul:** Yes, five six feet.

**George:** Like that and then I used to go and add more wood [inaudible00:30:38]See yes.

**Paul:** Now were you able to be apprenticed to a carpenter at some point?

**George:** Probably maybe that was the reason that I came to American and if somebody had started some carpenter or carpenters had started something. And then they said to me I you we’ll teach you how to become but you’ve got to keep this place clean in when we come in the morning has to be clean and so forth but there wasn’t anything all these other kids and I[inaudible 00:31:22] until here. “What we going to do”. So my father has gone to America and almost all the other fathers in their village had gone to America. And there was plenty work. And then this other kid he was almost a year older than me. He had somebody build him a toolbox in Norway and then and then he had a couple of things maybe hammer or something. So then okay let’s go to America then. So then he had easy way to get money because they had more than us and they --I on the boat and then I-- wasn’t easy for me but anyway so

**Paul:** What wasn’t easy for you?

**George:** To get that 125

**Paul:** How did you do it?

**George:** Yes I been, I suppose, my mother wrote to America or me and tell them-- So yes. He was going to borrow money from somebody he knew and send it on to me so I could go over there go to America.

**Paul:** Where was your father living in America?

**Georg:** Brooklyn.

**Paul:** He was living in Brooklyn and what was he doing for a living in Brooklyn?

**George:** He was doing working in the shipyards.

**Paul:** Had he done that kind of work in Norway?

**George:** No. He could have gone to these rich people in case of something like his two brothers they done for six years but no, he didn’t want to be a carpenter so, “What do you want to be then?” The rich people say. They were maybe uncles and aunties to my father oh he wanted to be a cook and he went on to be a cook. So he could go out on the ocean and be his own boss just make food for the sailors on the boat. And so they come out there and they told him the story and then of course there was in a hurry to do something about it and something bad could happen and sure enough one day the boat goes this way and go that then all the pots and pans came off and fell down on the deck. And then then after that, he got sick of that job. After going maybe six years to learn the trade, he got sick of and came home strict and came home went to America.

**Paul:** When you were growing up in Norway, now of course you had a father and he was in America and he was back, he visited back when you were about five years old remember your father came back from America to Norway.

**George:** Yes that’s correct.

**Paul:** But then he went back to America after that yes or no?

**George:** Yes he did.

**Paul:** He did.

**George:** As far as I can remember he didn’t stay home and he worked in the shipyard for a while home.

**Paul:** When you were in Norway, as a-- growing up what did you know about America how did you think about America?

**George:** Except for a great land. A great land and maybe I May I had somebody told me America you can drink milk and you can eat eggs there was no-- you couldn’t do things like that over here. Piece of bread going to my mother when I’m hungry and she was making homemade it was homemade was special but anyway we lived mostly on bread and [inaudible 00:35:41] then a little tiny little bit of sugar that was it.

**Paul:** And you make a meal out of that.

**George:** That was a meal.

**Paul:** What was the name of your friend who went with you to America?

**George:** Earling Samuelson.

**Paul:** Can you spell his name please?

**George:** E-A-R-L-I-N-G S-A-M-U-E-L-S-E-N.

**Paul:** And was he-- why did he want to go to America?

**George:** His father also had gone to America but his father was a land man and he was in the shipyard them days there plenty of work during the war first world war. The he was an architect for the boats. So he had maybe twice as much pay as my father. So they were rather well to do compared to us. But they-- he was laid off too, everybody was laid off. So they just about all went to America.

**Paul:** But you said before the whole town all the fathers had gone to America.

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** That’s interesting. How did your mother feel about you going to America?

**George:** Somehow we must have gotten it into my head this other kid and I he was maybe almost maybe a year older my dad say we were going to go to America and sure enough oh yes, then then of course he had gotten his money from his father I don’t know his father had money, maybe borrowed and sent it home to him and I was waiting and waiting and the day come closer and closer. And then then then one day or two days was the best had to go to town to pay for the ticket then we could go was long take the boat to America.

Time went by and by and no money couldn’t go. So my aunt Onina she heard that an elderly lady over there, her youngest boy had gone to America also so he had a big brother and then she had that old lady had gotten a big check from her youngest son that had gone to America. And just 100 that we needed and Aunt Onina went over there to that lady and asked if she could borrow so that she could give it to me for the time being and so that I could go town and pay for the tickets sure, “Sure here’s the money”. The day money came was the same day that the man come with the money so I went I went right back and gave it to her and she gave it to her right away.

**Paul:** Okay right on.What was the name of the aunt? You said aunt your, your aunt who was talking to the old you said her name twice and I just want to make sure I get the spelling right, aunt Tanta something.

**George:** Yes was the one who borrowed the money?

**Paul:** The aunt who went over to ask the lady if she could borrow the money.

**George:** Oh yes there Tanta is aunt see

**Paul:** Tanta oh you’re saying Tanta

**George:** Tanta Onina

**Paul:** Onina.

**George:** She was she was uncle Christian and uncle Christian and my [inaudible 00:39:32]they she was and they were both sister so Onina was uncle Christian’s second wife, the first wife had died.

**Paul:** And her name is spelt how? Onina how do you spell Onina?

**George:** O N I N A

**Paul:** And Tanta would be T-A-N-T-A.

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** What did you pack to take to America?

**George:** I only I only had my birthday was coming on. And it did happen on the boat was it two or three days before I landed. So mother had packed in a little present for me but I wasn’t allowed to open that. But of course there was something hard in this bag there and I was wondering but I but I couldn’t open it but something so my birthday came, I was allowed to open it up and there was slips like you have here those are slips in Norway.

**Paul:** Like a necktie.

**George:** Yes a strict a strict.

**Paul:** Straight?

**George:** Strict is with two like that and then they make

**Paul:** Like woven somehow

**George:** Woven yes and then--

**Paul:** And then what about before you left, what did you pack to take with you to America?

**George:** I had to have a new shirt I remember. Then I had a nice tie look nice when I land and we took a bath, he other kid and I we took a bath before next day when we went and then and then then I don’t-- I can’t remember but I’ll never forget we came to Oslo.[Inaudible 00:41:42] So we got into a hotel and we got to stay the whole night and I think we stayed for two nights but anyway compared to poor the poor the people of the way where I come [inaudible 00:42:05] but anyway then then--.

**Paul:** What did you think when you saw the ship that you were about to get on? Had you been on a big ship before?

**George:** No.

**Paul:** So what were you thinking when you saw the ship that you had to board?

**George:** You see now, yes I think I think around early in the night the next day we went out in the Ocean in the dark in Oslo Christiani and we saw the boat I’m quite sure and then and then wasn’t so terribly big, not that boat but was rolling plenty and diving up and down like that.

**Paul:** What was the name of the boat?

**George:** Dagenstor.

**Paul:** And I should have asked you earlier, do you remember saying goodbye to your mother?

**George:** Yes you can be sure about that. But you know something. It was just like going away for a couple of days. And it took nine years before I saw her again nine years when I come to America so well, because I have a job. Job my father didn’t care so much. “You just came, you just came over, hold it” And no, “I came over to get job, I got to have a job”.

So we went to some place down [inaudible 00:43:33] there was a Norwegian and he bought a—they had this shop there there’s some shoes stores but anyway so then no working for them and they were sort of tough in the mouth. And they answered back to the boss and so forth. I couldn’t understand. And so they had quit the-- and gone to Chicago. And sure enough I said I guess they say to my father we will try. So they-- within the two or three days in America, I had a job already.

**Paul:** You were working at the shoe store? This was at the shoe store.

**George:** Where they big store for the big company.

**Paul:** How much did you get paid for your first job?

**George:** That’s almost a joke I had to we had $4 a bed and then and then he gave the boss gave me $11 dollars a week and I have to pay for food and I just barely squeezed by pay for the room and then food but food was cheaper them boats.

**Paul:** Let me let me get you back to the boat and get you over to America before we talk about the ship you got the [inaudible00:45:14] that was the ship you picked out at Christiana.

**George:** A memory you’ve got it’s amazing.

**Paul:** And how long how did it take to go from Oslo to New York?

**George:** I think it was 12 days.

**Paul:** And did the ship stop anywhere else?

**George:** The first stop was way up and North of America there it belong to it belong there was-- Canada owned that city but now I don’t remember that city but it was right out in the point here that’s where the big boats used to come in and then see we wasn’t allowed to get off the boat.

And then we went a little bit from there on we went down to I think it was [inaudible 00:46:08] the start Norway of course and then and then we had to take off some stuff from [inaudible00:46:20]and I remember our boys they have come there was going to America. They must have a little money little money out to the boys on the dock.

**Paul:** What--Do you have any stories that you would like to tell about being on the ship?

**George:** Yes. Here's the rear end and here's the bow. Earling and I was--oh yes we used to go all the way in the back and when the when the bow went down and--

**Paul:** Okay so when the when the bow went down--

**George:** The bow went down and they just turn off and we used to like to go back there on the stern because off the water in the propeller make a terrible lot of noise and shake in the back and the boat. We didn’t think anything would go wrong but something could have. But it was rolling and so forth I will never forget that enormous shaking when the stern went up above the water with the propeller fast like that.

**Paul:** Can you describe for me where you slept on the ship?

**George:** We were—I think I think there was enough was it eight I think eight guys in that little place and my mind was at first then another one here and there was these three walls there and then was an old man and he was even says he’s cousin to my mother and he was I can she said take good care of my boy and so forth but anyway.

**Paul:** There were eight men in this in this room what king of beds did you have?

**George:** [inaudible 00:48:51].

**Paul:** So you were like stacked on top of each other.

**George:** Yes, one here two here two here. So how could it be more than six because there was a door but I don’t know I thought there was eight but anyway--?

**Paul:** Did you have a pothole in your bedroom?

**George:** Happened in my wall my bed there was one and I could open it and look out and I could see boat going fast along like that.

**Paul:** Where did they feed you on the ship?

**George:** A nice dining room food, much fancier than we had ever seen.

**Paul:** What did you remember about the [inaudible 00:48:38]?

**George:** Milk all the eggs we want and good food and good dinners everything A1 amazing and we came to America same thing .The Norwegians they had a long room much longer than from here to there.

**Paul:** That’s 25 feet.

**George:** And we used to sit on both sides.

**Paul:** Did they feed you on any kinds of food that

**George:** Used to be all Norwegians stuff but very good and lots of it meat we could hardly ever get meat all kinds of cake and coffee and milk. It was like a king’s place compared to the way we grow up.

**Paul:** You said you celebrated your 16th birthday on the ship.

**George:** I sure did.

**Paul:** Did-- how did you celebrate your birthday on the ship?

**George:** I opened the package that my mum--

**Paul:** And that had the necktie

**Georg:** A necktie and what else?

**Paul:** A necktie and you told me. I forgot.

**George:** Necktie and --

**Paul:** Socks no, cookies food.

**George:** Candy some very good Norwegian candy couple of things and I hadn’t opened the package.

**Paul:** You were a good boy.

**George:** I wasn’t allowed to and I didn’t do it. But there was a lot of candy was expensive but anyway--

**Paul:** What about Earling? What’s he doing on the ship?

**George:** Earling. He didn’t do-- he didn’t get seasick. And he and he one day I was seasick I was up in the deck still and [inaudible 00:50:00] and then and then one day Earling came up we’re going to have salt fish for dinner sword fish was the best thing we could get in Norway. Sword fish and potatoes of course so then I just decided and he comes up with a big plate with sword fish and potatoes in there. And you know oh it tasted so super-duper, no more no more no more sea sickness, no more, was all gone and I never forget that dinner my friend came up with for me, never forget it.

**Paul:** Did you see the captain of the ship while you were on the boat?

**George:** There was-- that-- that was after we got married we went home and came back then there was a captain’s dinner for us and then and he was there.

**Paul:** So that’s a different, that’s a different voyage was a later voyage.

**George:** Go home was different many years later 9 10 years later but then we he was there. The boss I mean the captain I’m sure he was there but [inaudible 00:53:32] short tiny thing but he was there,

**Paul:** Someone had been driving the boat so he must have been there.

**George:** Yes he was there and nice people they were so nice.

**Paul:** Were they all Norwegians travelling? Were they mostly Norwegian people?

**George:** Yes unless they had had been out earlier had got some Norwegians and gone to Norway but because those boats were packed all the time all the people going to America.

**Paul:** Andyou said earlier how much did the voyage cost? I just would you to repeat that.

**George:** $125.

**Paul:** And how much in Norwegian money how much was that?

**George:** That was probably about almost 600.

**Paul:** And did you-- how did you get you steam ship ticket where did you have to get that?

**George:** Arendal, the city of Arendal we used to go by boat. Down the coast to go to Arendal and there you could buy you had the money write out the ticket like that. Was it funny money you can do a lot of things.

**Paul:** Right, right.Do you remember seeing the Stature of Liberty when the ship came into New York Harbor?

**George:** Yes we were told the Statue of liberty oh Statue of Liberty yes oh yes that was right there where the boats go?

**Paul:** Then tell me what happened to you, the ship came into New York harbor

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** And it**--** How did you get to Ellis Island from the ship.

**George:** Yes, well we came on a Sunday, and then and then this little boat from the place--

**Paul:** The little ferry boat or something

**George:** What did they call?

**Paul:** Ellis Island?

**George:** Ellis Island they didn’t work that little boat didn't work on Sunday. So we had an extra night on the boat and early next morning early that boat came and we came around and there was somebody standing there yes writing paper and do you have. We had to have somebody from 100 feet away maybe. And we could see we looked good there was my father. He was standing there waiting for me to get my papers okay so that I could go and then they asked a question do you have-- someone now waiting for you over there? Okay who is that? I guess we had to point him out and so forth. And sure enough, here’s your papers, you could go.

So I walked over there, sure my father standing there waiting for me and then we got off and began to Southern Manhattan then and we went and did a whole lot of down to the subway and then we went on so train came and then we went in there they opened we go in there my father and I yes. And started off again we then we’re going to go to over Brooklyn and then underneath the water, deep underneath the water. “Well”, says my father. “We are in the ocean now”. How can how can the thing go in the ocean? Place we didn’t get wet or anything about go all over New York with the subway coming.

**Paul:** How did you feel when you saw your father? When you when you recognized your father?

**George:** It wasn’t it wasn’t so long before I seeing was it 24? He probably had been here maybe a year or so?

**Paul:** So you had seen him just not so long ago.

**George:** Yes, no so long ago.

**Paul:** At Ellis Island did you have to go any kind of medical examination?

**George:** Yes, there was. [Inaudible 00:58:12] In Oslo too they had to look anything there. So when we came here they did the same thing. And as far I remember saw anything in my hair they didn’t tell me that they saw anything in my hair

**Paul:** And did they ask.

**George:** You know what I can remember? I thought there was. There was two men and a girl going to America. Somehow they had they had gotten to one another and sure enough they got caught. First I know they had to get married before they could come to America.

**Paul:** They caught them at Ellis Island.

**George:** They caught them in Ellis Island.

**Paul:** We’re going to pause for a second and I’m going to put another tape in the machine and then we’ll begin your life in New York.

Okay we are now beginning tape two with George Muller who came from Norway in 1924 when he was 16 years old. And again I will say I am in Greenfield Centre in New York that we are in Mr. Muller’s house you’re going to hear chiming clocks there are several of them and there are family members that you may hear in the background. There’s also a wood stove near us which will probably crackle on the recording.

Your family has asked me to ask you about the fish in Norway. There was a good story that we kind of lost over. So can you tell me about the fishing in Norway?

**George:** My first fishing was the brook that was run through our village and out into the ocean. And I used to-- six years old maybe? And like the other boys and we made a line like that here that and they put it away underneath some bushes or something one here and one there walking so that was the beginning of my fishing. But after that, then then of course then I used to go and a couple of times.

My father didn’t like to go fishing at all. But I was crazy about it. Anyway so then of course by and by I went myself way out in the ocean and of course. We didn’t have no boat them days. We didn’t have boat so I came home after about 10 years in in America then I could buy my own boat and so forth then I sailed and I went way out.

**Paul:** So who’s boat was it who’s did you did you use?

**George:** That was my boat that I boat when I came home.

**Paul:** That was the boat when you came—

**George:** Otherwise I remember one guy saying to me, he had a boat. So if [inaudible 01:01:21], was the beginning of rotary in Norway. So you do that for me, you can take my boat anytime you want to. But the-- So I did but I remember one time he wanted to go fishing his boat wasn’t there because I was out in the ocean but anyway I was allowed to use his boat and I thought that was super. We were too poor to have a boat before I got too old and I came back from America

**Paul:** How many fish did you catch?

**George:** Codfish that’s what we liked the best. Codfish.

**Paul:** And how was the codfish prepared?

**George:** Cooked, then my mother cooked it, not too much but enough. And then we had cooked fish and a little bit of America margarine for sauce and then some potatoes.

**Paul:** How did you catch the cod from the boat, what method did you use to catch the cod?

**George:** Lines. Long lines that could go down to the bottom and we have everything down there. And then line like this yes in there and then we went to the bottom because that’s where the fish is near the bottom. So we pulled not so much until maybe the hook with something else. So anyway that’s where we could sometimes we had some shiny, quite big hooks with like this that was--

**Paul:** Curved.

**George:** Yes curved and then we could sit like that a little bit and it looked like a shiny fish the rest of the hook where the hook was in this anyway so --

**Paul:** So that would fool the cod into thinking that was a baby fish?

**George:** Sure, he goes first like that and comes and they caught with a big mouth and then they grab it and then of course catch fish like that beautiful, beautiful, and beautiful.

**Paul:** How do you clean a cord when you catch it?

**George:** You just take it home. Some of do it right there on the boat or the ocean cut open and that was in the river that cooked with the fish liver but anyway never forget we couldn’t have cooked with the fish and a little bit of but anyway in not and we had never we couldn’t have cooked fish and a little bit of not real butter.

**Paul:** The margarine.

**George:** I’ve never in my life had ever I tasted the real margarine real butter never before we I came to America.

**Paul:** But we should try and get you back to America**.** We’ve digressed a little bit. Let me just recap. You come into New York you went through the process at Ellis Island, you met your father at Ellis Island and to Brooklyn. How did you spend your first night in America?

**George:** I came home in the afternoon say, somewhere in the afternoon. Well, I suppose we went so some place to eat see and then. And there was the next day but saying I don’t know my father said we had to go to clothes seller. Because had old country clothes, funny clothes.

**Paul:** Let me ask you about that. What clothes were you wearing when you met your father on Ellis Island?

**George:** Were they clothes.

**Paul:** Describe your clothes?

**George:** Maybe fortunate to have a Jacket down here and then and then and then a sweater maybe and a shirt and then of course we got two [inaudible 01:05:47] on the deck. Earling quite around then we went down and we felt good we were in good shape and so forth.

**Paul:** So your father took you to buy new clothes?

**George:** The next day.

**Paul:** What did he buy for you?

**George:** I was surprised because why I got clothes. “No, you got to be like everybody else or they will look at you”. And I could sit here and there was this street here and the boys used to play ball on the street. I could sit here and I wish I wish I could go out like that I didn’t what they were saying even ask them. Wouldn’t know what to say?

**Paul:** Where did your father live in Brooklyn?

**George:** 555555th street and also 555755th street we lived

**Paul:** The first place your father took you your first night in America, can you tell me what kind of a structure it was.

**George:** He only had something they call a hole home. A little bit of a home. There was just one enough for a bed maybe like that but you know something we both slept on that bed the first night and then after that I guess the lady in the house had a bigger bed for us.

**Paul:** So he was living in a boarding house?

**George:** Of course I slept like a log I don’t see how my father could sleep.

**Paul:** You gestured that the bed was roughly three and a half feet wide or so. Smaller? Yes barely three feet wide.

**George:** I was tired I suppose of the trip and I slept like a log but I could understand my father because the next day I’m sure that he spoke to the lady and got a bigger room.

**Paul:** Got a bigger room. Explain to me a little bit about what the relationship was like with your father when you first came here.

**George:** Fine it was okay. But I tell you something. And Elizabeth but anyway so, so the time went on and on and everybody taken all the men taken all their families, not all but most had taken their family over to America. They borrowed money or made money or whatever but then, I never forget it, I never forget it. My father comes with his hand like that.

Well what’s the matter? I got to have your money couldn’t take my family to America. And my younger brother tells me the story well he was the only kid he was only one year month one year old when I left the whole country. So he was thought he was going to get my I sent $4000 so I said no. “I'm not going to pay for—“then my younger brother said to me, forget about America I don’t have the got the money but I wasn’t going to give the money because most likely I would have been supporting. Even though I didn’t work in a regular carpenter at that time, I had work.

I wouldn’t have been able to save anything. But of course I guess my mother had made arrangements according to my younger brother that they were going to go to America. When came from America no, you can’t take them I don’t have the money. And then they never went to America mu mother never liked in America and she was here and she lived downtown Brooklyn and in them days it was terribly hot and house close to one another and she didn’t like it and there was funny people there and so on and so forth. So if she was here a few years then she went back home she was glad to be back home. She wouldn’t like to come back to America would have been a waste of money.

**Paul:** What year did she first come over?

**George:** That must have been, let’s see. My father went to America and then she came maybe a year a year and a half after--

**Paul:** So it’s before you were born?

**George:** Long before.

**Paul:** Long before and she just didn’t like it and she went back. She didn't want to go to Montana because of the Indian she was happier in Norway and--.

**Paul:** Tell me a little bit of the neighborhood that you lived in in Brooklyn. What kinds of people lived in the neighborhood?

**George:** When I came to America?

**Paul:** Yes.

**George:** Nice, the street was nice and there was a guy who came up with a thing and he swept along the sidewalks and kept had machinery doing it by itself like that. And then then of course we had gas lights out there. And the guys who used to come had a long stick and stopped there and he turned on the lights in the morning, then he came back before dark and he turned it on again. That’s how it was then.

**Paul:** Did you have gas lights in your apartment?

**George:** I think I think there was but I don’t know gas lights but must have been wasn’t too long after electricity, not too long.

**Paul:** But you remember the gas lights on the street light the street lamps being installed the gas.

**George:** Yes this man that was his job go up and down the street like that.

**Paul:** What are some of the other things about the neighborhood that stick in your mind do you remember like a store?

**George:** Do you know what. I was used to work hard, working hard. [Inaudible 01:12:16] Up and down barefooted in the sandy roads so what was I--?

**Paul:** We were talking about the things that you saw in the neighborhood like things that stick out in your mind that you remember. Maybe a store that you used to go to or a restaurant that you used to go to that were right near where you lived.

**George:** Yes, I remember my father saying, “Maybe today we’re going down to the place on the corner down 55th street, they sell men's clothes”. So then he bought be nice brown set of clothes poor guy he didn’t have any money but I was a kid.

**Paul:** Tell me about how you learned English.

**George:** Yes, within a year, I could understand anything people were telling me on the job specifically because there was more Norwegians on the job we talked our own language but anyway, I could understand everything.

**Paul:** Was this the first job that you got in the shoe store?

**George:** Yes helping. I had to clean the floor and so forth and take care of things.

**Paul:** Do you remember what your first word in English was that you understood?

**George:** Maybe yes, maybe yes and no maybe something like that.

**Paul:** Did you did you ever remember making a mistake trying to say one word and saying something else that sticks out in your mind?

**George:** I can’t remember, how make mistakes I can’t. And then I got to work with the painter that used to paint [inaudible 01:14:24] he I remember he drunk soda like another person another guy same name and me guy has kids for some reason because I came from my family but anyway, he told us about-- he had such a nice daughter but that’s it maybe she came to visit her father.

Maybe once in the shop there he was fixing-- doing the painting and so forth but anyway was a very nice guy and his parents as far as I remember they were German they came from Germany and he liked those guys they were good people from the old country. George was born in America with Norwegian parents. So he could he could talk Norwegian just as good as my wife my wife was my wife was Norwegian parents.

That's all they talked in the house. She could read and write and talk just as good as me. What I said to my daughter that I wish that Elizabeth her mother had talked Norwegian to you so that you could learn her language just like I did just like there was nothing to it. English came by itself and by and by I make all kinds of mistakes even today when I write English, but I’m not particular anymore.

**Paul:** Did your father speak English?

**George:** He could talk to people.

**Paul:** Of course he had been here so much longer

**George:** Within a year, I could get along okay.

**Paul:** Tell me how you became a carpenter? That whole process.

**George:** So the next day I guess it was I don’t think it was the same day, “Dad I got to have a job.” “What's the matter, dude you just came take it easy will you, no I don’t want to take it easy, and I want a job”. Sure enough he takes me down to Hammerton on 14 Street because he knew [inaudible 01:16:57] even from our village in the old country. He brother had a shop there and he had by that time started to make shoes for some big company well he didn't care much for me I was 16 years old then never had any experience this and that but somehow said, Okay.

So the next day, I went to work and got along fine he couldn’t speak Norwegian he was from German people and then then George Nicolson yes he could speak Norwegian just as good as me and had never been in Norway. But they were Norwegian parents so what we had a good real time lunch hour half hour talk about things like that I could understand all they were talking about. Very interesting nine years. Then mum and I got married know this girls parents and she could speak Norwegian just as good as me.

**Paul:** What was her name?

**George:** Esther.

**Paul:** And what was her maiden name? Let me fix your microphone you keep pulling it down. You can say her name Elizabeth.

**George:** That was Esther. Hey mum? Elizabeth?

**Paul:** You can say.

**Elizabeth:** Trulsen

**Paul:** And when you first met Esther what was it about Esther that you liked?

**George:** Well let’s see. Let’s see now. She--We went to same church and her parents came there with the two girls Esther and the young girl two years younger and they were good looking and so forth there was in years.

**Paul:** What was your first date with Esther? Where did you go for the very first time?

**George:** I think there was different boy that walked Esther home from Church because but [inaudible 01:19:41] was not serious [inaudible 01:19:46] like it is today so there wasn’t so now even they write to me from Norway you cannot go out after dark. This is what my sister wrote to me.

**Paul:** But you used to walk with Esther.

**George:** I used to walk home all the time. She had they had a nice one family home on 80 state and between 10th and 11th  avenue very nice so one day I don’t know week or two George I would like to take you in the house and meet my mother and father. I felt it was funny but I did go ahead and beautiful find whole house like this beautiful. Norwegian people are very particular so most of them.

**Paul:** Her parents were born in Norway but she was born in the United States.

**George:** Yes.

**Paul:** Did you speak English with Esther or did you speak Norwegian with her?

**George:** Well at that time-- By that time I think that I had done fairly good but I think that mum would rather speak Norwegian but she could speak, read and write just as good as me.

**Paul:** What year did you get married?

**George:** 33

**Paul:** 1933.

**George:** And one week later we went to Norway and we stayed in Norway one year-- no two years.

**Paul:** Did you see your mother when you went 1933?

**George:** Oh yes.

**Paul:** Tell me what it was like, as that the first time you had been back to Norway?

**Paul:** Tell me what. Tell me what it felt like to see your mother after that time.

**George:** Oh my was super. When mum had come to America to visit us kids and I’ll never forget what my mother told me that she said, can you here Liz?

**Elizabeth:** Yes.

**George:** My mum also said to Liz that the doctor in Norway said about her, about my mother and [foreign 01:22:17]they think probablythat my mum need oil for her stomach there’s no stomach soft as what do they call it. Bellies

**Paul:** Like liquid, juice.

**George:** There’s no there’s no mother that’s belly there’s no in

**Paul:** Your stomach

**George:** Stomach. I’ll never forget that. And then I wouldn’t be surprised I have taken something like that because I have taken something that I take a little bit with food and it keeps my stomach nice

**Paul:** Did you ever consider moving back to Norway to live?

**George:** Well, I tell you one thing. I said who was it I said that to-- Was it yesterday today. Yesterday I think it was. But now I can remember who I said it to but I said oh yes I was sitting beside somebody in [inaudible 01:23:50] I hadn’t had Elizabeth, I could just well have gone right home I could have gone right home.

**Paul:** Can you can you name the children that you had for me please?

**George:** Oh yes, Frederick, was the oldest of our—Nebl**.**

**Elizabeth:** Yes you’re right.

**George:** I say this right now and Frederick was the oldest George was the next.

**Paul:** Frederick George.

**George:** Who was--?

**Elizabeth:** David.

**George:** David died 57 years old. Who came next?

**Elizabeth:** Robert.

**George:** Robert he’s an esthetes

**Elizabeth:** Daniel.

**George:** Daniel.

**Elizabeth:** Leonard

**George:** Leonard

**Elizabeth:** Glenn

**George:** Glenn

**Elizabeth:** Me

**George:** Elizabeth

**Elizabeth:** John

**George:** John

**Elizabeth:** And Peter

**George:** And Peter that was 10

**Paul:** That's a big family.

**George:** Big family. How God provided us with food down through the years I [inaudible 01:25:03**]** in order to keep food in the house, I had to I had to put in twice as much time but I-- you know I stay healthy isn’t that Liz?

**Elizabeth:** You sure do.

**George:** Yes. I stay healthy.

**Paul:** I should say for the sake of the tape, that Mr. Muller is referring to Elizabeth which is fine, which is okay, just for the transcriber’s sake so they’ll know to put Elizabeth instead of voice of mic.

Tell me about, I want you talk a little bit before we end and we do have to end soon a little bit about your profession as a carpenter in your later years? How that happened and what kinds of things you made?

**George:** I got a job in in [inaudible 01:25:49]was Edmund [inaudible01:25:55] his brother was the foreman.

**Paul:** And this was in Brooklyn?

**George:** This was in Brooklyn yes. And then me they didn’t know if I had [inaudible 01:26:06] to done the trade but I was so interested in being in learning the carpenter trade that was my everything and sure enough I started, I got a job and of course I could stay a little late sometimes and make something for myself. And of course Edmund have say there is he must he must have said there’s a guy that going to go far and I did.

One with $11 a week and not a dollar not a dollar, pretty soon within 4 years or so I was right up there, full pay. And then how old was I then? Just 20 years old by 20, 21 I loved I to go to work in the morning as my trade always did.

**Paul:** And what kinds of things were you making?

**George:** We were making anything for the store.

**Paul:** Like cabinet--

**George:** Like shelves that and already put together in the shop, take them they had a truck, take them out of the job, there was a guy who used to set it up and I do other things and I can remember in the beginning there that I had to ask Edmund, maybe about but he was nice to me and he told me how to do that way and he is not that particular or something like that.

**Paul:** How did you buy your tools? Where did you get your tools?

**George:** Hardware store in Brooklyn. I used to like to work with them tools, plains and hammers and chiseler and files and everything there I need.

**Paul:** Now did you always your whole life make store fixtures or did you open your own carpentry shop?

**George:** After we came back home from Norway we set in Brooklyn in four months’ time but anyway I sometimes he works for the bank was but I think that was through a contractor and so forth the but I was always working.

**Paul:** Well as I've come up to your home today you have a big shop out there that big yellow

**George:** The whole thing was a shop well so later in years you were still doing this I assume.

**George:** See maybe some years but I did very

**Paul:** Have you ever taught anyone how to be a carpenter?

**George:** None of my, none of my kids has ever shown that they or told me that they want to be carpenters that I may or if I had brothers they could have my father could have showed me didn’t know anything about carpenter work.

**Paul:** What is your favorite wood to work with?

**George:** Oh well. See that here, see that?

**Paul:** You might need to describe what that is. Remember this is just an audio tape.

**George:** That is that is a-- what do you call that Liz

**Elizabeth:** Ceaser wheelchair.

**George:** Ceaser wheelchair.

**Paul:** It's a large chest with an open lid its dug tailed its dhow.

**George:** Yes and the lady I build one like that for a lady and I think it was 550 bucks for it lot of work.

**Paul:** What is the one thing that you’ve made in your life that you a proud of? The one object that you made with your hands?

**George:** What in the world could that be? Well you see you see now this was I paid $800 for that.

**Paul:** Are you referring to a large grandfather’s clock, one of the clock’s we’ve been hearing through the interview?

**George:** Yes, and then I, then I then I put together only I put the dhows a wooden to just anybody unless they [inaudible 01:30:42] are to put one close together because he was taking through something and with-- can ruin the whole thing you’ve got be exactly right.

**Paul:** Let me ask you a couple of final questions.

**Paul:** One question is could you consider yourself Norwegian or American? We are looking at some Norwegian books that Mr. Muller is showing me. Yes, this is a Norwegian Bible.

**George:** I like that best. The best English I use my own.

**Paul:** But you yourself do you consider yourself Norwegian or American?

**George:** Well I am first I know that had to go through things in order to be become an American citizen.

**Paul:** Tell me a little bit the process of becoming a citizen what did you have to do to become an American Citizen.

**George:** We had to put inapplication. And then I remember one funny thing. So I came before somebody. They wanted to ask me some questions. So they ask me a question. So they so I so I not much the question but I didn't know what to say. And they and the guy that got the gun, he maybe got a little tired of me I don’t know but there was something like that. But then the way he said to me oh yes said, did he say.

He said, why you didn’t tell me that? Because I didn't think, I didn’t think it was a decent answer but he said what is the biggest law in America? That’s what he said. And me fun but he this is what he said to me. What is the biggest drawer in America? Can you imagine that but anyway I don’t know haven’t you ever heard about no that’s not my point. Haven’t you ever heard about in the Washington big haven’t you ever heard of course “I say”, “why didn’t you tell me that sir? “I was okay, I was okay.” he didn’t ask me anymore.

**Paul:** How did you feel when you became a citizen?

**George:** Great to be an American citizen then it was good thing have no doubt about it and not only think of think of how this great land has been to me down 20 years with work but I had to know my business.

**Paul:** What advice do you have for young people who might be listening to this interview what advice would you give a young person about how to live their life?

**George:** Yes if they if they like to hand tools saws, planes, chiselers and anything well then go for it. If -- oh my, oh my I could buy save up enough money so I could have another plane or different kind of plane I like my trade if anybody ever didn’t. I did.

**Paul:** WellMr. Muller I want to thank you very much. You’ve been, you’ve been a wonderful interviewee and we’ve been talking for 1 hour and 35 minutes. I appreciate you letting answer my questions

**George:** You know I’m also thank you for your kindness and come here and do this. Very nice.

**Paul:** I'm happy I did. This is Paul Serves signing off with George Muller on Sunday April 30th 1995 here in Greenfield Centre New York with his daughter Elizabeth in attendance throughout the entire interview and a lot of clocks we’ve been listening to. Thank you very much.