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A If I got a chance to overseas and leave the country, even if they are going to put me over there for example: France, Germany, or America. All my life I take the broom and clean and I'd be the happiest man in the world. That was my dream. To marry another girl from...like younger I didn't make it. I was too poor and I have so many friends to help me to go overseas. Especially it was my idea to go on the last, not because I hate communism or socialism, not because I love the capitalism, just to go overseas to the see the world, that was my dream. I finished school and I have a pretty good job.

I am married and I have a wife and two kids. In the army I have one very, very good friend. I receive the letter that he is in Sweden. In 1966, actually I started college, but I didn't finish college. My friend, he graduated when...he was, I think, a lawyer or something like that. His wife finished professor musician. One time the president came to _____ is one of the six of Yugoslavia.

Q One of the six republics in Yugoslavia. Republic is like a state?

A Like a state. And _____ usually before we start to say something and you know I like to sit and talk to you and who is going to start first. How do you know if I'm not going to tell you. I don't know how to say, he started with different words. He was a student from the university and he was pretty close to the microphone and he say if you don't know stay back, we got the man, the right man who know what to say. They put him in jail. They put him in jail for two years. He stay in jail just one year and after he got out of jail he say no place for me right here. He go away with family and friends. He was my very, very good friend.

Q Good friend went to jail because he was suppose to introduce Tito

and he didn't know what to say?

A No. Tito he was pretty close to the place where he . Tito stopped to talk to the people you know and he first words...

Q Oh your friend made a joke. Your friend made a joke.

A No friend was very serious with that. Tito start when this was and I don't know how to say and he was pretty close to the mike and he said step back we got right person, who knows what to say.

Q But he took the microphone away from Tito.

A Yeah and they put him in jail.

Q That would be like taking the microphone away from Reagan.

A From Reagan.

Q So it was a serious act?

A Yeah. I don't know how to say, you to say heh step back we got the right person who knows what to say.

Q Because he didn't know how to speak Mesodonian?

A No. He usually does that, I am not able to find the right words you know.

Q He usually says that as an introduction. He says I don't know what to say and your friend went up and took the microphone and said step back we got the right person.

A He said we got the right person who knows what to say and they put him in jail. I find out that he was in there and he was in jail for one year. The judge say he had to stay for two years, but after one year in jail they say okay. They let him go out early. He was in France. In 1966, I think, he left the country and he got to France. I find out that in 1967. My wife and I go to France. At that time he was working for some organization, it is

called in Paris France. That was organization to help the people who get out of the east to go into the west. Now I say I have the right person in the right place. Now my friend going to help me go to America. After a while, I don't know how long I was in France with two small kids, one morning come actually in the evening...I was living in his house...everyday he was so close, more than brother, we became very close friends and that night he come from work and he didn't talk...I say maybe I know what is bothering him and he got some problems on the job and in the morning eight o'clock the police came and took him to jail.

Q Took him to jail.

A They took me to jail.

Q Took you?

A Yep, after a while I found out that somebody said I was a spy for Yugoslavia. I was in jail for three days. After three days they sent me back to Yugoslavia. No place for you in France. I go back to Yugoslavia. I take my wife, my two kids and I was very disappointed. You know, I was thinking what can I do now. That is not true. I didn't scare, because I know for sure I am nothing, so far from that stupid thing and I go back in Yugoslavia. Then I found out, I find an address from another friend. He was 12 years, full 12 years in jail in Yugoslavia. He is Romanian. My neighbor of mine, very close. He is older than me, but he is a friend to my father and I know him and he know me very well. Then I get the address and he say I am going to help you for America. He says you are going to go and okay I say. I take my wife to

Q How did you travel? Did you go by train?

A By train. Then I go to Rome. In Rome I stayed one year.

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Q So it was easy to leave Yugoslavia, but it was difficult to find a place where you wanted to go.

A Yeah.

Q But you could leave any time you wanted?

A Yeah, not just Yugoslavia, even people from...neighbors from Bulgaria, Romania.

Q They could all leave any time they wanted?

A They are from Yugoslavia,...In Yugoslavia before I left I had a pretty good job. Actually, I get the job better than somebody who got university, but I didn't finish, I started in college. But still my paper is college 25 years ago and I didn't even look at them, probably they lost them. I found a pretty good job in the factory. Of course, I was not plant manager, like director they call them over there. But the position, the people who respect me, they respect me like I am the highest man in the factory. The factory give me an apartment too, but that was a contract that if you stay five more years after you get the apartment the apartment is yours. It is going to be yours, but as soon as they give it to me I left for Italy and I loose that apartment. I had a pretty good job. I started, I didn't graduate, I didn't finish economist. I was working in the stock department.

Q You worked in the stock department?

A Yeah.

Q How big was the factory?

A The factory was 2,000 people all together. New factory. I had a pretty good life.

Q What did they make?

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A They make everything: refrigerators, freezers, software for the kitchen.

Q What is that?

A Software for the kitchen and those things. I have a pretty good life. To tell you the truth I have a better life over there than here over in America. Like I say the first time, I didn't get out of Yugoslavia because I hate the communism or because I love the capitalism. I was not involved in those things. I know I didn't want at that time to think what society is better, what society is good, what society is bad. Of course, at that time, same as I know right now, the world was rich and poor country. They was and they are going to be that way for a very, very long time I think. I come to the United States and as soon as I can I find a pretty good job at Ford Motor Company. The best company in the world.

Q When did you get here?

A 1968 in December I come to the United States. In 1969, after five or six months I find a job in Ford Motor Company...the best company in the world. They say, but only one thing is no good.

Q What is that?

A For seventeen years I work at Ford's ten hours a day and that is too much, REAL too much.

Q How much did you work in Yugoslavia?

A Eight hours. No overtime over there in Yugoslavia. Now like I said, not because I hate communism or because I love capitalism...but today...

Q So why did you come?

A Today I come just like that.

Q You just wanted to see...

A Today I come just like that...to see the world. Before I was married I said I would be the happiest man if I find some French girl, German girl, English girl...

Q You just wanted to see...

A Something other than my country. Now I think after 20-25 years, seventeen years in the United States, I can say that in this country...this is the best country in the world. I mean just because it is too rich or too powerful, but I find something in this society better than communist society which at that time I believed in that society. So many things is better than communist society.

Q What are some of the things that have been important to you and that are better?

A Better than this society, I can see it, care for the people. If communist society get 50% what this society get, they are going to be the greatest country in the world.

Q But that is in terms of money, right?

A No.

Q In terms of things?

A Things.

Q Food, housing, clothing. This is a wealthy country.

You are saying something else aren't you?

A For example, I have a pretty good job in Yugoslavia...very, very good job and I have pretty good pay for that job. My wife was working production same factory and the factory gave me an apartment which was very hard today to buy the apartment over there in Yugoslavia. That was very hard and today it is very hard too. You have to \$50-60,000 or \$100,000 to build a house in Yugoslavia.

Same right here. I had a pretty good life over there in Yugoslavia, but freedom is not going to give you nobody, every government is the same. Same, if you look for trouble you can get the same trouble that you're going to get in Washington, Tokyo, Moscow, Peking...same trouble...government is government. Same government, different names of government, but this society give you an opportunity...for example...like I started in the first place...because he say something wrong for the president they put him in jail for three years. No lawyer can save him, can help him not to go in jail. Maybe he didn't hit him, maybe he was joking, maybe he had something in mind. Let him to speak to tell why he did that. I didn't say that Tito was a no good person. He was for four years president of Yugoslavia until he died. All right maybe he have something good. He make something good. Maybe the people like him very much. I too, but nobody perfect. Even God is not perfect. Okay we can say God is perfect, but people make mistakes. For him he was 100% right, like everybody is wrong and that is not society.

Q So what do you like about it here?

A Here is better. If you...Nixon was wrong, Carter was better for that time...for somebody. Now Reagan is better for somebody.

Q So when you came here you hired into the plant...what was it like the first day you hired into the plant? When you went to work at the Ford plant?

A Terrible.

Q Tell me about it.

A Same like today.

Q Tell me exactly what you did. What did you do?

A Too much working. As soon as I come, for example, back in Yugoslavia you have to go three to six months in the school, training to learn that job. In Ford's they give you two or three hours and you have to do it. If you don't like then quit.

Q They train you for three months to work on an assembly line?

A Assembly line in Yugoslavia.

Q What do they teach you?

A To do the job. Right here they give you two or three hours to learn a job. You're okay and you are pretty good. You know I could quit.

Q And what job did they put you on?

A Body shop, spot welder.

Q What did you do as a spot welder?

A Weld. Of course I was not working the first day, time to time. Otherwise you have to use...you just push it one time and it moves it out. The first day I started

Q The first day you pressed spot welding gun one time.

A After two or three days I got my job.

Q You put it on automatic.

A And I got the job.

Q What did you weld? What parts did you weld?

A In the Bronco line.

Q Bronco?

A Bronco.

Q Did you wear a helmet? Was it safe there? Did you wear glasses?

A Yep, glasses, gloves, everything.

Q Did you have the same kind of protection in Yugoslavia? Did people wear the same kind of safety protection?

A Yes for the job they are the same.

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Q And how did your fellow workers relate to you when you started working?

A Oh they were truly friendly. Even the foreman and the supervisor and general foreman. I know after three or four months, I think it was the general foreman...who was the general foreman? The general foreman was Frenchie. You know him I think. Nobody like him, even me. He start fighting and he say you have to do that and I say no I am not going to do that. You go to labor relation. I didn't speak good English, the same like today and he said you go to labor relation and I said no you go to labor relation. He grabbed my gun to take my gun and said stop working, go to labor relation. No I'm working you go to labor relation. He pulled the gun and I pulled the gun.

Q Pulled it back and forth, huh?

A Still my friends say, I remember that.

Q So what happened, did you go to labor relations?

A Nothing, nothing, nothing happened and I didn't go to labor relations. He said let him go. In Yugoslavia there is no way or in Russia or in the Phillipines or South Africa or Nicaragua. They got different, I don't know this...maybe I am wrong...I think what I see, what I have seen, what I have a chance to see in this country this is the best democracy in the world. We got to fight for it and to save this democracy I think. There are some wrong things...yes.

Q What are some of those wrong things?

A Crime, dopes, some people are too rich, some people are rich and they know why they are rich, working with the people who are poor,

all right for me that way, but some people are too rich and they don't care for the people. They play games, they do what they want. For example in the movie, Lee Iacocca, the chairman of Chrysler, he wants to be a movie star, A Team you know what I am saying?

Q Yeah.

A He was in the A Team and that is some crazy things. He is now going to be a movie star because he has the money. That is not democracy.

Q What is that?

A Huh? Somebody played the game how he wanted it. He can do anything he wants because he has the money. He can kill if he wants to kill you.

Q Let's talk about the plant a little. Was the union helpful to you in the plant? What do you think of the union?

A I can say no, I didn't get no help because I never tried. I never wanted to get the help because I never was in trouble in the plant. For example, after two or three years working so many of my friends got red ticket and in the morning if you are not coming in...

Q Pink...

A Yeah pink card, but if you missed something they would say how come I didn't get it? They say, another guy, you know you are every day on the job and he say take some days off so you will see it. You are going to get a pink card. So I want to find out if they are going to give it to me. Why not? I try. For your record, who cares for my record. I am not in the army. If I got a good record they are not going to give me another star or from captain to

major. I don't care if they say stupid worker on the production line. One day I come in at five o'clock and I say I will wait in the car until six o'clock to find out what they are going to say. I come in at six o'clock and they don't say nothing. They didn't ask me where you are. They don't care for me. I said like I am nothing. The next day same. I come seven o'clock, the next day eight o'clock...I find out if you are late over one hour they have the right to send you back and I come an hour and a half late and they put me on the job again. Next day I was late two hours, good morning, good morning. He didn't ask me where I was. Take the gloves and go to the job.

Q Why do you think they did that?

A I don't know. That was the first week, one week in a row and five days late.

Q Five days late in a row?

A Five days. Next week I didn't come to work one day. I didn't come to work and on Tuesday I come good morning, good morning. I took the gloves and he didn't ask me where I was or why I didn't come yesterday. Okay. Next time I work from Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, two days in a row. I don't bring no excuse, no nothing. I come in Friday and they don't ask me again.

Q And you were doing this just to find out...

A Just to find out how it is going to go. Two days in a row, Friday and they didn't ask me again. I got my pink card and I walked in Friday. Next week I said to my wife anyway we work ten hours so long I make pretty good money, I am so tired. I take five days. From Monday to Friday I didn't come in. Next Monday I come in, good morning, good morning, I went to find the money to punch the pink card and I didn't know because I got to go with that pink card

to labor relation and I find my regular card, no pink card...five days in a row I don't come in...good morning, good morning. I start working and nobody ask me where I was for five days.

Q I don't believe it.

A Tuesday, not Wednesday, well they call me in labor relation. I go into labor relation and they say where you was last week, five days? I was sick. They call a healthy black guy...he was union...you know him.

Q Sure.

A And he was sitting close to me and he said...the labor relation, tall guy, he was smoking a cigar...he say where have you been last week? Home. Why? I was sick. You got some paper to give from doctor? No. I didn't see the doctor. Why not? Well it was not so serious to see the...I was sick, really sick, tired, too much working. I feel like sick in my body, but I was not that much sick to go to the hospital or to see the doctor. You didn't go? You are in trouble. No he is not in trouble. You was in the doctor, you are going to bring some excuse...I know that. He didn't speak English he didn't know how to explain to you. He was sick I know that. He is going to bring tomorrow and excuse from the doctor. No I say. I am not going to lie. I didn't see the doctor. But you are well today and he say I'll find you some doctor. No I don't need no doctor. I am not a sick man to see the doctor.

Q This really happened? You are telling the truth?

A Honest to God. Yeah, I tell the truth, why should I lie?

Q I agree, all right.

A I'm darn tired, I'm more than sick...I'm tired. Ten hours a day, six days I was working that time. I am more than sick. Ten hours

six days, Saturday eight hours. That is too much. I was more than tired. I am telling you. I can't lie. Why I should lie?

Q What did they do?

A They sent me back to the job. Go back to work and they said nothing. When I say why this is serious and the next time they are going to get me. I better start to work.

Q So you worked everyday?

A Every day, but in the east country...this is not east or west...you can't find a crazier country in the world...you are not going to find things, what I find right here...it is a really good country. But being honest to you it is never going to be my country. I am a citizen of the United States...I love this country. I am going to love this country all my life, but still this is not going to be my country. I don't know...what I see in the TV, for example, Bob Hope or somebody else. They are still not citizens of the United States and every day they talk we love our government, God bless America, we love America...he lied. He is doing that for money, just for a great name...for the name, that's all. He got his own country. Soon as the day he help he is doing something over, probably he is making money here, make a good position and a great name...

Q Who is that?

A Bob Hope.

Q Bob Hope is not a citizen of the United States?

A No. He is not a citizen.

Q Where does he live? Where is he a citizen?

A In America. I don't know where he from...Great Britain or something.

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Q I didn't know that.

A I learned that for a celebration for Statue of Liberty and he got honor from the United States.

Q How has the worked changed in the plant over the twenty years you have been there, seventeen years? How has it changed for you?

A It is not changed, nothing changed.

Q Nothing changed.

A Nothing changed.

Q You are still a spot welder?

A Spot welder, same job.

Q Same job, exactly the same job?

A Exactly the same job.

Q Is that boring? What do you think about during the day?

A Nothing I can do. Even if I'm...

Q What do you dream about when you are at work? It is too noisy to talk to people, right?

A Yep.

Q So what do you do for nine hours. What do you do with your mind?

A Even if you are, if I am now...I am worker, I am a spot welder, tomorrow I am going to be a boss, all right, supervisor, general foreman or production manager, manager...I got to do the same thing. If no working, no production, if no production company go down...if no company, Michigan Truck Plant Company go to bankruptcy. Ford is not going to lose money, we are going to lose money. Where are we going to go? Because Ford Motor Company has got owners, somebody put the money, somebody is owner, big boss, not the production manager or plant manager. Somebody owns that

company.

Q Stockholders.

A Stockholders, all right.

Q Ford family.

A Ford family, all right. Maybe workers should get more control of that. For example, you are the boss of the company...that isn't true, but the law in America is the best law in the world. Should the workers of Ford Motor Company get more control and of course you have to make some money. You are owner of the company, but not much as you want. Like before, for example, I am talking politics...you don't have to write in the book everything. For example, we go back for 100 years back and we can see so many great names, like Marx, Lennon, or somebody like that. At that time there was fighting against capitalism, but that time and this time is different. If I'm going Marx way today I am wrong. I make a mistake, because the system before 100 years and today is different. Still like I am living now. I got a little bit of profit. I share the profit and the boss, for example, Ford Motor Company...the owner, he got 100% a 100 years ago.

Q So you are getting the share of the capitalist pie now?

A Yes. For example, how many years ago Ford can tell you if you don't want it they shoot you you know. If he wanted to pay you he would pay, if he didn't want no pay, no pay. Get out of here. If you got no rights where are you going to go. Nowhere. That time people is what I say, Marx and Lennon, and that kind of people...they were somebody. Today they are nothing. We got so many laws today.

Q How is like in Yugoslavia in terms of work? How were the workers

treated in the plant by the company? Is it different?

A I can say the same.

Q Same.

A Same. They say 1966-67 Yugoslavia, the company, for example, Michigan Truck Plant... hands of the worker, not dictator, not government, not state, not city, nobody can control, it is going to be 100% control of the labor. We say we are happy and we want to control that. Oh you do, what are you going to do? We make the profits and we share the profits.

Q That's how it was organized?

A That was the organization, but that was only on paper.

Q Only on paper.

A Only on paper. Tomorrow it starts, you say something, you loose the job. The man come from the city or some state, he got everything, the paper, you, you, you, you are going to do that. You do that. You do that.

Q So do you think that the EI program, the employee involvement program at the Ford Truck Plant is a way to get people involved and get them active and having democracy in the plant?

A I don't see, I don't see too much help for me on both sides. Not just on the labor side. Even the company's side. EI program is not going to work.

Q Why not?

A Because it is like this, where I was working...going back twenty years in Yugoslavia...they say that the company going to get control 100% of the workers, the company is going to enhance the workers, now come one day we have EI program, same way we talk and discuss it and we say today we doing this, but employee labor is

not educated enough. He is not educated enough and he is not smart enough to make decisions. The finance manager, he say we do this, we bankruptcy for two or three months. I don't want to hear you. This is the EI meeting and we the laborers from body shop, we make the decisions. I don't hear you you are from the company, you are from the governement. But okay he says no matter from where I am if we are going to buy that machine we go bankruptcy. We are not going to produce how much the machine costs. We don't hear that. Labor is not qualified to run the company. Same thing in union. If you are going to give everything to the union, for example, we going back ten years ago, or fifteen years ago in the union, you know that is was more powerful.

Q The union was more powerful then?

A It was more powerful than today, but what if you see the same picture. You see maybe 300-400 people making money, doing nothing...okay to be honest they didn't get Ford's money. They get my money and your money.

Q Which 300-400 people?

A 200-300 people doing nothing in the plant. Today maybe it is 30-40, they curb. clean up, helping making the paper.

Q Which people did they eliminate? Are you saying that they eliminated people who are doing nothing in the plant?

A No they eliminated everywhere because the now the robots help and the computers help and the job is not...you got work today...you got to work to make that money. We make pretty good money, but we have to work for it. Not like before.

Q What happened before?

A Before I remember that almost everyone go in the bathroom and take ten to twenty minutes two or three times a day. Or almost 80% of the people was at first aid to get some tablets, because they have headache or something like that. Today you are not going to see so many people running over there.

Q Why don't they go now?

A Well the situation, this economy the last two or three years is killing people. Really they are scared. Of course, if you loose your job, what are you going to do today. Everything costs too much....you got family, you got two or three kids, what are you going to do with \$200 if you go to a restaurant and they find you work for \$4.00 an hour. No way for you to find \$14.00 an hour, no matter how much you are smart. Even if you work at a university today, if you are a professor...you got to start with \$10.00 even if you work at a university. If you are just labor you are not going to find a job for \$14.00 and hour.

Q So people are afraid?

A That' right.

Q If they are afraid are the free?

A For some things you have to be free, for something good because the world is still...doesn't matter where 1986 today, maybe we need another 1986 years to get more smart. People is not smart now. They don't want think it. Welfare in the United States is the best things in the world all right? But I hate that, why? Because I know at least thirty-forty people who are from Yugoslavia and they are healthy, they have the job, they can have the job, they can handle the job, they don't want it because they are on welfare.

Q They are on welfare.

A They are on welfare, why? That is crazy. We got to have state something, if I give you something...a glass of water, water costs nothing, but still you got to have to say thank you for giving me the glass of water. I can see that we are still not smart enough. If the government spent too much money at the time, of course it is not just regular people and the crime is involving people who work in the government. Even the police are involved in things. Too much money going for that. Too much money going in the army, but it got to be that way. There is too many crazy people in the world. I am not talking with the sympathy of capitalism or I am not talking about sympathy of communism. I am not thinking about other society. I don't want to feel for society. Societies mean nothing. You can call super capitalist if we have the good life in America. You don't need to be called this is the United States socialist states of America. You can call it life. So even for the company, even for Ford's, for example now we are talking about Ford's.

Q When you are in the plant, paint me a picture of what happens Tuesday morning when you wake up. What do you do? The alarm goes off?

A Yeah.

Q What time does the alarm go off?

A 3:30.

Q 3:30 in the morning. What do you do?

A Wash my face, drink coffee, and usually my wife makes the coffee but now I got to do myself. I drink Turkish coffee. You ever drink Turkish coffee?

Q Yes.

A It is very hot. I drink the coffee and if I have something to read, because I wait for my friend on Michigan Avenue, Roger...I pick him up on Michigan at a small restaurant and I have some small sandwich over there and then I go to the factory.

Q What time do you pick up Roger?

A Four o'clock. As soon as I go inside I am allergic. I am sick. I don't know.

Q What do you mean you get sick?

A All I know is as soon as I go inside I am sick. Seventeen years at the same job and that is too much. Ten hours a day, that's really too much. For me, everybody of the United States says God bless America...for me I say God bless Ford's. I got a beautiful family and my family grow just from the money that I make from Ford, but I didn't make it just like that...easy money. I really worked for that money. I got no choice.

Q You pick up Roger at four o'clock, you drive...

A I go a half hour early because Roger starts at five o'clock.

Q I see.

A I start at 5:30. I got to help him and he pays me \$20.00. That is good for me, not for \$20.00. Every day a half hour if I got a half hour he got to be twenty-thirty minutes before five, that is one hour, but I am 4:30 over there and I start at 5:30. I got to help him. First he pay me \$20.00 and I still have to help him. He is my friend and he got no car. He lost his driver's license and he never got a driver license back. He didn't want to think about it.

When he was young he was crazy, same like he is right now. He has

lost a family. He lost everything. He don't know what he wants. During this interview I was thinking now we are going to be all three together and he got some crazy idea, and I say it is better this way then...

Q So you get to the plant an hour before your line starts and what do you do? When you say you are allergic to it, what does that mean? What happens to you?

A I don't know...headache comes.

Q You get a headache? Do you sneeze?

A I get a headache, thinking at 4:30 I got to finish at 5:00 and that is a long time. I take the paper and sometime I read the Free Press. I drink coffee or sometimes sleep.

Q Do you talk to people?

A Oh yes. Somebody makes jokes, somebody talks serious things.

Q What do you like to talk about with people?

A Everything.

Q Everything. Then the line starts at 5:30?

A 5:30 and I finish at four o'clock. You have no right to talk, you got a right to work. If you are not working quit. No work, no money.

Q And you have a break? What do you do during your break?

A Sit, relax.

Q Then you get finished at four o'clock?

A Then you go home and come back home and you are so tired, even if you must have a shower, take a shower every day, some days you are so tired you are not able to eat or take a shower. Ten hours every day is too much because we don't live close to the plant. We at least, almost everybody, maximum drives ten miles a day, one way and ten miles back. For example, I drive seventeen miles one way.

Thirty four miles every day. You leave the house at four o'clock and you come back at five o'clock or 5:45 and in the morning you can drive faster because there is no traffic, but coming back you have more traffic and it is almost five o'clock, from four to five. That is thirteen hours.

Q A long day.

A Very long day.

Q How long did your father work?...Your grandfather work? Did they have long days like that?

A Over there they no work ten hours. They don't work ten hours. We are talking, you are not going to mix the society now...socialist, communist, capitalist. In Europe they don't work overtime. In Europe they got more vacation time off.

Q They do?

A They have even not just in the socialist country, even in capitalist country, west country. There are more vacation time. They get paid monthly, not weekly. So before Christmas and New Year's they get, every year, they get thirteen months pay...one month's pay extra. Wherever you go to Germany or Great Britain, France or Yugoslavia. Of course, the pay check is smaller than here and they make less money, but got paid vacation and they get some extra money before vacation. If you want a vacation for a month or six weeks and you need some money, the company will give you some extra money for vacation. That is very good. I don't why in America the workers think work and nobody gets paid. We got short vacations.

Q You have short vacations?

A We got too short vacation. For two weeks you are not able to do

nothing. You are not able to see Michigan, not United States. For example, for me and so many Americans that I talk with. They don't know so many places in America, whether you are born in America or not.

Q They don't go...

A Because they don't have no money or time. For two weeks you got no time to go.

Q And we are some of the best paid workers in the country and we don't have the time or the money.

A Yeah.

Q But you would have time and money to go if you lived in the old country?

A For example, my son-in-law he just graduated in Yugoslavia, I am talking Yugoslavia...which is not so much different than Italy or Spain. He's company and he started with \$150.00 a month.

Q He is a company lawyer?

A Yeah a company lawyer. He is making \$150-\$160 a month. While my brother he is working in the same company, where in the factory, where his wife is working. He got no money in the bank. He started to build a better house than me. He is on vacation every year all over Europe. This year he go for example, last year he was in Bulgaria. Before last year, year before last year he was in Greece for one month.

Q For a whole month?

A For a whole month. Now he is going to go and this year he plans to go to Spain, France, Germany. We didn't do that in America.

Q What do you do when you get your vacations?

A Right here? Nothing, stay home. It costs you too much money wherever you are going. Today we, of course, are making pretty good money, but the workers of America is not able to save so much money because the prices, everything is too high too. We deserve that money. We got to have that money. If we don't make that money I don't know what is going to be. Of course, this is a rich country. It is the richest country in the world, but what we make...we don't make extra money. We are the highest paid in the world and no worker in the world makes more money than us in America, but still the life costs too much. For example, he makes \$150.00 in Yugoslavia, but he spends \$140.00 and still he got \$10.00. I make \$2,000.00 for four weeks, \$500.00 a week, but if I want to have \$10.00, \$100.00 a month extra on the side or not, cost today is a lot too much in America too.

Q Probably about 20% of the folks in the plant travel. They go to Florida.

A Maybe I can say 30%.

Q They go down to Disneyland or go up north to a cottage right?

A. 30% of them go and I can say 30% they no go not because they don't have no money, but because they like to save their money so they can have 60%. 40% are not able. They have two or three kids, payments for their house, payments for their car and I don't think they are able to go to Florida or to go somewhere.

Q Would you say that you have been happy working in the plant? Or happy being an auto worker?

A Of course, I work so hard. Work nobody like. Nobody in the world like to work. I don't know if somebody like to work. I don't who he is and I would like to see him. But I am happy. I make pretty

good money.

Q Why are you happy?

A Because I make money. I know why I am working. I get paid for my job. That money I get a beautiful family. Now yesterday I get some picture I am grandfather.

Q Oh congratulations...is this your first grandchild?

A Yep and I am happy because what I did at Ford's I got a beautiful family, but that is Ford's money. Of course, if I didn't work for Ford's and I was working for somebody else it would be the same, but you have to work and I am happy.

Q Let me see these pictures. So your wife just returned to Yugoslavia to see her grand-daughter?

A Yep.

Q Are you going to go too?

A No I am not going now.

Q Boy or girl?

A Girl. This is my son-in-law, his father, just look at the face.

Q A little fat face.

A My son, my daughter, wife of my son and her daughter.

Q What kind of work does your son do?

A My son do nothing.

Q Nothing.

A Nothing.

Q How does he live? Do you send him checks?

A Checks.

Q Do you send him money?

A Yep.

Q That's why you can't go on vacation.

A My son he no go on vacation.

Q No you can't go on vacation.

A Yeah. My son and his wife. I am going to bring him now if they are going to let me.

Q Will you bring him back here?

A Yes.

Q When?

A As soon as he get his visa.

Q And you hope he'll get a job here?

A Yeah.

Q What kind of job do you think he'll get here?

A I don't know. First I am planning for any kind of a job, \$2.00 an hour, I don't know. He got to finish some college. He must finish some college. He graduated from high school right here in America.

Q He graduated in Wayne right?

A In Wayne. He graduated in Wayne and he started college in Yugoslavia and he didn't finish. He was not able to, the problem was his English too. When he come to America he was four years old.

Q So now you are thinking that he'll come back here and you'll put him in college.

A Because he is smart and he is going to take some...

Q What would you like him to take?

A Computers or electronics you know. Something like that.

Q Will he live here with you and your wife?

A Yeah. I get the lawyer now. My wife, four months ago, she lost her green card. You know green card? Alien card. She lost it and I go to immigration and I say my wife lost her card and the lady

who works in the office say you got to fill out some paper. Okay I say. She did it and I ask when is she going to get a new one. From two to six and I say okay that is not bad. I hope it is not going to be the same like my son. She said what with your son. My son, I said I was joking and then I started to talk serious and I make lie. I say he got two or three years, he lost it and still he got no green card. I know that if you leave the country, the United States, over two years all America it doesn't matter if you got the green card in your pocket it is no good over two years. So that means you have to apply for more green card and then I say my son he lost it and he never got a new one and I was hoping she was going to say fill out this application for him too because you are his father. Oh okay I'm going to check. She checked on the computer and she said I don't know why he should get the green card. Okay I said, thank you and maybe you are going to help me. After two or three weeks, after a week...I get the letter from immigration office to my son. You got to come to pick up your green card and I say what time...there is something wrong I said...my son is not here how he going to pick it up? And then I pick up the letter and I get a lawyer and I said and I tell the lawyer the truth...my son in 1981 left the country and he wants to come back here and I got this letter from the immigration saying now I am not going to make any lie because...

Q You'll get in trouble.

A To get in trouble. He said don't worry we will make the paper. He sent it in to immigration for new green card and we told him that he is in Yugoslavia and we got approval from immigration and we

he got to go to the United States Embassy building. Now probably that is why I don't get no telephone call because they waiting for to go to the United States Embassy now.

Q Would you want your son to work in the plant? Would you want him to work in the body shop with you?

A No.

Q Why not?

A It is very hard work. For example, like I say God bless Ford's. I am very happy and if I am going to make another thirteen years...I need thirteen more years to be retired. As soon as I get a chance to retire I will retire. No matter how much they are going to pay me. They decide they are going to give me \$200.00 a month I will take it today, but somebody say when I make twenty-five years seniority I will have the right to retire, early retirement of some way, I will take it. I don't want to be retired on disability. Disability, until you get 62, the company has the right to call you any time. So I don't want that. When I go and retire to say good-bye to the company.

Q What will you do when you retire?

A I will find some way.

Q Will you stay here?

A Maybe I will still here if I open some business. If not, I will go back to Yugoslavia. If we are looking for the sympathy of some society. For example, I make a mistake for my wife because she flies with Yugoslavian airline. If I take PanAm what is better than Yugoslavian airline. You know TV, radio and VCR I have. I know they are no good for . is 240 not like 120 like this electricity they use over there and all not just in

Yugoslavia it is no good, but I say I am going to have it for souvenir even I want to put in that house and I told my wife to take it. We make pretty good package. Do you see that?

Q Uh ha.

A They wanted \$85.00 for that package extra for the flight and I say I will not pay you. I find a different way.

Q I want to get back to...what I really want to...if you could get your son a job in the plant.

A It is very hard work. We make like I say, we make very good money. The best, highest paid, \$14.00 an hour, but I am losing for my health.

Q How do you lose for your health?

A I guarantee that 90% of the workers in Michigan Truck Plant they are not going to make thirty years seniority. Health.

Q What will happen to their health?

A Hard work.

Q Hard work didn't hurt people before. How will you be hurt?

A How many people there, they got thirty years seniority in the plant another ten or fifteen years retired life. How many do we got of them?

Q Not that many.

A Not that many. When I come from work I can see it with my eyes, when I make the shower how many smoke this is still from the sparks on my body. I got ulcers of the skin. That what I got inside from the breathing.

Q You mean you are breathing in the metal, the sparks?

A The smells, they fly, they are too small you know.

Q No I don't know explain it to me. What happens? What do you do that gets sparks in your...

A When you are welding, the sparks they are small metals you know. There are very small metals and they are a danger to your health. They are very sharp and too small and you easily breath them. Even if you work in the paint too, ten years, ten hours a day and you expect to be retired to have a retired life? No way. So if I put my son just for money I lose my life for money. Nobody force me. No society in the world forced me or government or the company. I like it. I love it, but why should I let my son do that. Second, if my father had no chance to help me...I got a chance now to help my son. So that is where I am not going to put my son in the body shop. I will put my son if he finishes to be an electrician. I will be more happy if they are going to give him that job.

Q Electricians have better jobs?

A Better jobs than production assembly line.

Q Do you think the assembly line will be there in ten years, fifteen years?

A I don't think so. How many people, we are a thousand people now after ten years, there are going to be maybe 150-200 people. All the computers and I love computers are going to be a great help from the people, for the people. Not for the company, they are going to be a big mistake for the company, rich people are going to use the computers for making money. Computers is the best things, but you have to help the people. So we got no computer and no robots in Michigan Truck Plant, we got to get less job. We got to get them, but opposite of that more robots, more job we get. That is wrong, but there is nothing you can do. He pay for that robot

and you are not going to control it. How are you going to control it? If I buy something it is mine. I am not going to let you, why should I give it to you?

Q Have you ever tried to get another job in the plant?

A So many times.

Q Yeah?

A So many times.

Q What happened? What kind of jobs did you try to get?

A I will take any job except for body shop and paint. I am not able to smell. I have to...I hate that smell, the paint smell.

Q Have you wanted to go to the chasis line?

A Chasis, trim, everywhere. They no let me. Even I got eight years seniority in Yugoslavia in the stock department and they don't give it to me. I got no seniority for that here.

Q You have been screwed over. If you wanted to go to trim or chassis you could go to trim or chassis.

A After Christmas.

Q That's what they told you now?

A No. We are going to try because you are going to help me.

Q Okay.

A Because for two months I am in inspection.

Q You are in inspection now?

A Temporary.

Q How did you get that job?

A It is just temporary and they give it to me.

Q So what do you do as an inspector?

A I don't know where they are going to put me and I got to inspect something.

Q That is very nice. That will be easy huh?

A I don't think, I was for a while, for two years.

Q I thought you worked in body shop for seventeen years.

A Well I was a body shop inspector too, for two years.

Q I see and what did you do as an inspector? Tell me what an inspector does.

A I was metal inspector. To see what is wrong. I was on the box line.

Q What would you look for?

A Damage.

Q Was there a lot of damaged metal?

A We do good work.

Q We do good work? Why are they always complaining about the quality of the work? People on the street when they buy a car say the quality always stink. American workers are lazy. The company says quality is no good. We are going to close down the factory.

A That is wrong. That is not true. That is wrong, really. American people, American workers do really...they work and they do very good job. I don't know why they complain, but we are really disciplined people and we got to know so many people who is in America and this is really tough. We no got so many who they don't come to work. We no got so many people who just come and do nothing. We no got so many people who they no respect the boss or supervisor.

Q We don't have many people that...

A No we don't have many.

Q Most folks respect their boss, most folks come to work, most folks

don't get sick, most folks do their work.

A For example, if we match what we are doing in the Michigan Truck and we match the workers to the accident up in that, what city was that?

Q Chernobyl.

A Chernobyl, the workers what they are doing over there and what we are doing...I can say 20% we are better than them. Even if they are going to be more discipline over there because it is nuclear power than here, or people at Ford Motor Company is 100% same like people who is in pentagon in the army.

Q What do you mean?

A One soldier got to say yes sir, we know the rules of the army. You are not going to say no or I can't. If you say I can't you are sick you are going to see the doctor. If you say I don't want it you are in jail or you got to no complain in army. Same thing is in Michigan Ford's worker, same thing. We do quality work.

Q How do you know you do quality work? How many welds do you weld a day? How many?

A A day?

Q I mean a job.

A Forty-five spots I got on each job.

Q Forty-five spots on each job, you run twenty...

A Twenty-eight an hour times twenty-eight, times ten hours...that is many...no we do quality work.

Q You do forty spots on twenty-eight broncos an hour times ten hours a day, five days a week.

A Japanese, first the cars in Japan are not better than the United

States cars. Second, maybe some car in Japan is better, but the sign is better. The engineering make the things, not stupid production workers. We are going to build a new model, how are they going to say? We are going to do the same spots and new Japan person can put better spots than me. And no way.

Q No Japanese worker...

A Can do a better job than me and than anyone in the body shop.

Q They have robots. Do the robots do a better job than you?

A Second, second, they make pretty good money because they build the cars cheaper and they sell right here in America and America is high life. It costs too much, costs cars too much. Now he get the less pay over there in Japan. He get less pay, but he don't pay \$300.00 rent a month. He don't spend \$150.00 for groceries a week.

He don't pay \$70-80 for the shoe. The cheapest life over there. He gets less pay, he gets less expense, but he sells the car in America the same like he, of course, is going to beat us. Do you know what I mean?

Q Sure.

A Even Yugoslavian workers they work for 60¢ an hour. They work for 60¢ an hour and they say the sold the car, a stupid small car for \$4,000, \$5,000. Yugoslavians don't make money, \$4,000 American dollars, he pay over there workers 60¢ an hour. He is happy over there. People who work for that company they are happy.

Q Yugo?

A Yugo. They make pretty good money over there. The workers are happy and the company who sells the car is happy. We are not happy. America is not able to build a car for \$4,000 because America pays you \$14.00 an hour, but it not wrong you. It is not

the system...I don't know what is wrong.

Q What is wrong? What is wrong? What doesn't work? What doesn't work? Yugo. You don't buy a Yugo. Why don't you buy a Yugo?

A It is too small. The engine is, may the Yugo is ok, but the engine is too small. That car got no power. It is like a motorcycle, bicycle.

Q It would be good to go and up down the street.

A You gonna buy that for \$4,000 and you are going to drive it for two or three months and after two or three months you are going to put it in the garbage. If you wait for some parts, even Volkswagon, Volkswagon is the best car in the world all right? We know that Volkswagon, we got proof of that a long time ago that it is the best car in the world and then after a year it broke down and I go to buy some parts and they say we got to order from Mexico. They build some parts in Mexico. Parts cost more than the car. You live in America, drive an American car. You live in Yugoslavia, buy a Yugoslavian car. You live in Germany, buy a German car. Go in Japan, buy a Japan car.

Q Do you drive an American car?

A Why?

Q What do you drive?

A Right now? No of course not...I drive Ford's car.

Q What kind of Ford car do you have?

A Mercury Cougar the best car in the world.

Q Do you like it?

A Yeah I like it.

Q What did you pay for it?

A \$16,000, too much. I got to work four years for the car.

Q You have four years payment?

A Four years.

Q How much payments do you pay a month?

A \$300.00, \$294.00, \$293.60 or something like that. Too much. I pay telephone bill, utility bill, electricity, food and I'm broke.

Q You make \$2,000 a month.

A I spend \$2,000.

Q You pay \$300.00 for your car now. How much do you pay for gas?

A Gas for car?

Q Gas house.

A \$200.00. Summer is too short in Michigan you know. Pretty soon it is going to start winter time.

Q What do you do when you are not working on the weekends? What do you and your wife do on the weekends?

A Nothing watching TV.

Q You watch TV. Do you go to the ethnic festivals? Do you go to the Yugoslavian ethnic festival?

A No. I was in the festivities.

Q You did go?

A Yes. I saw that demonstration too. I was ready to join them. I don't hate Yugoslavia, but I don't care for...if they make the demonstration...of course I respect them. They got something. They are not...like somebody use language and say they are wrong...no they are not 100% wrong. They got something right. They do something for...I was ready to join them, but I was looking for somebody I know so I can...it is no good, it's crazy...nobody know and you go in. Nobody you know and you go in, how are you going to join them? If I saw him, somebody who was my friend I

would join them. I was ready to join them.

Q When you work at the plant and has it been hard being an immigrant?

Coming from another country to work in the auto plants or were you welcomed and people were friendly with you? Did you find it difficult not speaking English when you came here?

A Yeah, I find it difficult. Still I got problems with speaking English. I got a class right now for English. Last year I took it and I got it this year too.

Q In the plant?

A In the plant. I got computer class too.

Q You take the computer class to?

A It is very hard to understand. The teacher speaks too fast and she treat me like I am American, like all the other guys. She think that I can catch on and I can't. I am lost.

Q I took the class a few times. I didn't continue. I took it on Saturdays.

A Oh yeah.

Q Yeah, we should take it together. Then I could help you. Do you remember any stories or can you give any examples of some of the difficult times of feeling like you were a foreigner?

A Well, I don't know any stories, but all the time I think even if I live forever I never am going to change and still I'm gonna be a foreigner.

Q Why this is America and we welcome you into our country? Why do you feel that way?

A America is the best country in the world. I told you that and it is the richest country in the world. The most powerful country in the world. That is true, but when you ask me what is wrong like I

say the crime is wrong, the dope is wrong, some bureaucrats are too powerful and they can do anything they wanted. Some is too powerful to reach and they do pretty good things to help the people, some not, but one more thing is wrong. There are too many organizations. Too many Jewish people, too many Russian people, too many Chinese people, too many Yugoslavian people, too many English people right here for okay welcome this is like the immigrant country. Everyone is welcome, that is good, but when you come here you got to forget about your country, where you are born.

This is your country. You got to start thinking and living in this country, not...you come from Turkey or from China and you make organization and tomorrow you are leader of some organization and you are going to fight against the country. That is wrong.

Q What do you mean?

A If, for example, if I am from Yugoslavia...I come here and now I fight against the communism of Yugoslavia and I don't like Yugoslavia. That is wrong. If I no like Yugoslavia, if I no like Yugoslavia, if I go to fight with Yugoslavia I got to go over to Yugoslavia, not here.

Q I agree. You said, but when you are here you are expected to fight Yugoslavia?

A Yeah.

Q Who expects you to fight Yugoslavia?

A Nobody expects, they give me a chance. They give me a lessons. For example, for that demonstration...Yugoslavian festival, all right the ethnic festival...you know who made that trouble? Mayor Young. One day I go over there and I say give me license I want to make demonstration. No before that I go to Mayor Young and I say

give me license I going to have a Yugoslavian festival. Here is your license and you can have it, Yugoslavian festival. Next day I go, the same person, I want license to make demonstration against that festival. Here is your license. So people who make them demonstrations they have right, they have license. People who make that festival, they have a license to make the festival.

Q So that is the way it is in America. Right?

A I love democracy.

Q I understand.

A So many die for that democracy and for that freedom.

Q My question is do people say go back to Yugoslavia? What has been the hardest part? Do you see yourself as an American auto worker or do you see yourself as a Yugoslavian who is working in the United States? Or are you both? Has it been more difficult for your wife to be in the United States?

A Oh no she is she got in this country. No we are talking about that festival, no. Why they give them the license to make the demonstration?

Q Because they are allowed to do it. They want people to fight communism.

A Why don't they go over there? They don't go over there.

Q Because people really don't want to fight it, they just want to yell. I mean, why do they do it? I agree with you. I think if people want to change a country they should stay in their country and change it. They shouldn't leave. Because once you leave you are not changing that country. Whether you agree or disagree, but I think sometimes people find it necessary to leave.

A The United States help all over the world. So many country gets

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help, but she is making a mistake because she helped the government, some people, for example, United States helped Israel. She no help the Jewish people. She helped some people of the Jewish people, you know?

Q Right, sure. Do you have these discussions with people in the plant?

A No, no.

Q Why not?

A Why I should?

Q Because you like to talk about it.

A For example, we got now South Africa over there...the trouble with South Africa. The government of the United States make right things. He own that South Africa. United States spent so much money investing in South Africa. She is not going to give up just like that.

Q It is not whether or not she will, it is whether or not we should.

A For example, for Israel...you know how much money United States spent for that country?

Q Two billion dollars a year.

A Yeah and now because just Arabs no like politics she is not going to give up just like that the money, not because she loved that small country or she got some interest. This is mine. I spent all seventeen years just for this, how am I going to just give up and give it to you?

Q Do you own your own house?

A Yeah.

Q You bought it?

A \$10,000. Cheap, but it is a pretty clean house. It got three bedrooms, basement, small garage...pretty good. The street is no good, too much traffic.

Q Too many people drive by.

A Driving too fast. They want stop light. They are crazy.

Q If you were going to change the plant to make it a safer, better place to work what would you do?

A I would work for CNA.

Q If you were going to change the plant in the factory.

A Change departments.

Q If you were going to rearrange the factory, you were going to design a factory, an auto plant in 1995 how would you change it? What would you like to see different in the plant?

A More computers, more robots.

Q Less people.

A Less people.

Q Then you wouldn't have a job.

A If I do that I would be boss.

Q You would be the boss. What would you like to see the EI program do? What do you think of the EI program?

A EI program is going to be nothing pretty soon. Not pretty soon, maybe it is going to be forever, but not company going to get help, not we workers gonna get help. Because their leaders over the EI, they are only leaders. Nobody is able to say to the plant manager or production manager or general foreman, he run the department...my general foreman, he run the department...body shop and no EI leader nobody can help something to Sam or he can change or he can do something.

Q What would you tell them if you could?

A Nothing. What am I going to tell them? Why I should tell them? If I am going to tell them heh give them less work to the workers, everybody got more over job...we got more jobs...there is too much to do. Automatically we lose money. If today working in the body shop one hundred people, tomorrow I am boss and I am going to put one hundred-fifty. What am I making? Nothing. For two or three months I am going bankruptcy. I am going to lose the job. I got to back to Yugoslavia and work for 60¢. To join the communists. Or I got to go to Lebanon to fight with the Jewish people.

Q See God is angry. Do people in the plant tell you to go back to Yugoslavia?

A Some of the time, some of the time.

Q What happens?

A You just start talking, just joking or something and they say you got to go back. You no like it...

Q Do you joke a lot with folks?

A Oh yeah.

Q Yeah? Do you like the sense of humor, the jokes that guys tell?

A American people is very good.

Q Yeah, what do you like about American people? What example. What makes you laugh when you think of American people or smile?

A American people is I think they are very intelligent people, understanding people. For example, a year ago I was in airport in Delaware, they go like people's some where like bees who make the honey. You open the door and they zoom. The same there. In America you are not going to see that. People go into store and make a line.

Q Are they more courteous?

A Yep.

Q This is compared to the airport in Yugoslavia.

A In Yugoslavia, Yugoslavian people. The same picture you are going to see in Israel, in all over the world except here in the United States.

Q We know how to stand on line here?

A We stand in line here, yes.

Q Because we work on assembly line.

A The workers in the United States welfare, so many people doing nothing making money. That is not very acceptable. Reagan got right to cut the spending on welfare.

Q Yeah? You like Ronald Reagan?

A Yep, I think he is going to have another four years.

Q Yeah.

A It depends on how is feeling the health.

Q Yeah he is probably going to die.

A Or his brother is going to be...George Bush.

Q What about the union. Do you think the union is more powerful or less powerful now?

A Less powerful.

Q How do you know that?

A I can see it.

Q What did it used to do?

A Whenever you need the help you are going to get more help from the boss than from your union.

Q When you first hired in did the union give people more help?

A I think so.

Q How do you know that? Can you give me an example?

A There was more grievance at that time. Almost everyone worked in grievance and...

Q What did they write grievances for?

A Today nobody can write grievance and even if you write a thousand grievance you are going to get nothing. Still company is going to say that is very good because the company pay you.

Q What did they used to write grievances for?

A Too much work or everything. Everything at that time. Today no.

Q I want to know what they used to write grienvances for. That is what I am asking you...too much work, what else?

A Bad attitude of foreman.

Q The foreman was disrespectful.

A Yeah and something like that.

Q And now folks don't write grievances?

A What is crazy when the grievance is with somebody, like Roger doing the same thing today too...if he some foreman working here write the grievance. I no like that. I like to see the foreman work. I am happy when I see him working.

Q Why?

A I don't want to see him sit and stay at the desk and no nothing making money. If he is working so what?

Q But the reason the union didn't want him working was because he was taking someone else's job.

A If you are going to write the grievance or not, if my boss is working or not...company not going to hire another man. Just put

on the job with you to help you all day better that way. Company is not going to hire another man. That is for sure. We got so many intelligent people. So many educated people in the company who work for their salary people.

Q How can you tell me that the American people are intelligent and then at the same time you tell me that they can't, they're not educated enough to run the plant?

A To under paint you got to be specific for something. You can be intelligent even if you are regular labor, intelligent, but educated is different. For example, two doctors, one is...they both got the same diploma. They are doctors, but one of them can be intelligent and the other one not. You know, you understand me? How one stupid worker like me...I am not able to make decisions to care for the plant, for all body shop, for all department. It is going to be so much help if I'm going to do just my job, but good job and quality job. Everyone got to care for his own job. If I am doing my work and looking and thinking and caring for your job, all I am losing my job. I'm just spying on you and making trouble, that's all. I'm looking how you do it...I'm looking to find something wrong for you to tell my boss that you miss and all Americans at that time are paying attention to your job and I have no time. I don't know how to do two jobs at the same time. If everyone do same job, his job, foreman do his job what he is suppose to do...I do my job, processing engineer does his job everything is going to be okay.

Q You work in the body shop. I know a few people who drink a lot and do a lot of dope. Do you know some of those folks? Is there a lot

of alcohol and drugs in the plant? In your department?

A For alcohol I don't think so.

Q No.

A Even for dope, no. I am not able, not because I hire somebody. Ten years ago an old man I know for sure he was drinking, but he come drunk to the job. You could see he was drinking, but he still was doing his job. We got no alcoholic problems in the and people are working pretty good.

Q Last question, we are getting close to the end of questions. What makes you the proudest of being an auto worker?

A My check.

Q Your check. What is the most difficult part of being an auto worker?

A Hard work.

Q What do you think you have sacrificed the most being an auto worker? What have you given up?

A I don't think I have that.

Q Would you do it again?

A If I must.

Q How do you think your other workers look at you, look upon you? What do you think they think about you?

A I am normal. I don't expect more or less.

Q Do you think the company respects you?

A I don't think that the company respect me because she look for the sympathy of me, but she respect me because I am doing the work. I am doing the job.

Q What else would you like to say? Do you want to say anything else?

A I don't think, I don't know.

Q When you were young you said your dream was to travel and see the world, experience the world...do you dream now? Do you have any dreams about the future and what you would like to do in the future? Dream it, what...

A I have no dream of what I do now. If I got chance to be born again and before I be born...if somebody asked me do you want to be born or not I would say no.

Q Why?

A What I see today in the world...everything is crazy. I know for sure I never going to have my life how I like my life to be.

Q Does that make you sad?

A Yep, very sad.

Q How would you like your life to be?

A Free and independent.

Q From whom, from what? To do what?

A To have enough food to eat, enough clothes, to do something smart things, not crazy things. I to respect the people, people to respect me. Today I don't know if somebody respects each other. Everything we are doing, we are doing for the interest. Against each other and for the money. I don't know for what. Wherever you go in the world it is the same thing. Same thing, same thing.

Q What do you think has made it that way?

A I think the money.

Q So when a hundred years people lived differently. Most people didn't live based on money, two hundred years ago. They lived on a small farm or village, a different way of life.

A No it was the same.

Q So how long has it been like this?

A Since the world start and I no think there is gonna be a change. For example, today we start with politics again...the west against the east. They spend so much money against the east because they are communists. The communists, of course, they are making so much mistake. Communists are making big mistakes today.

Q Which ones? What are their big mistakes?

A East make big mistakes and very, very big mistakes. The capitalist system, the west system spend so money to against them. They are making mistake because they try to against them. West, I guarantee are going to hurt the east, but never gonna destroy it because when we are talking for east or west you can find, if you are looking for the west...go in the east and you are going to find the west or if you are looking for the east, go in the west and you are going to find it. You understand?

Q Yes.

A And that is one of the biggest mistakes in the politics in the world today what we are doing. We spend money and we waste time just...

Q Fighting each other.

A Yeah, we fight each other and if we ask each other why we fight we don't know.

Q Well aren't you afraid that the Russians will come over to the United States?

A They are never gonna come. They are not able. They are not powerful enough. They never like to come here. They are never gonna like American people. West is never going to like go over there.

Q So why are Americans so afraid of the country?

A I don't know, just the politics...I don't know. Somebody making in that way. American got big company. American people do, make production, so much production today. American, she no look to go in some right place. We got so many countries today still too poor. American can send a company to build over there, to build the roads, to build the highway, to build the factory. Just they play some games. I don't know. Even I don't know what they are doing.

Q When you were little did you have heroes in books that you read or people that you respected, heroes in history or heroes that were presently living?

A Yeah.

Q Who were they?

A George Washington.

Q Was he?

A Yeah.

Q Why did you have George Washington as your hero?

A Because I have no chance to get bigger than dollar. I was happy. When I was 10 years old, a little kid, I got the dollar...the American dollar. My grandfather gave it to me and I was the happiest man in the world. I said I love this picture.

Q Are you telling me the truth?

A Huh?

Q Do you lie?

A No I don't lie. I am honest.

Q Who else besides George Washington because he was on the dollar he was your hero?

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A Now Ronald Reagan.

Q Ah come on.

A I like him very much. I really like him.

Q I didn't say somebody you like.

A He is more than hero. He is going to be in American history.

Q So you respect him a great deal?

A I didn't like respect him or like him three or four years ago.

Q But now you do.

A Now he is on his fifth year and now I like him very much. I like President Carter. I say he is a smart guy, very educated man and intelligent man. Now I got Reagan and I say he is 50% better than Carter. I don't care if he is a democratic or republican, same thing, socialism or communist...to me I don't make no difference for me.

Q How do you decide what you like?

A Huh?

Q How do you decide what you like?

A What he is doing.

Q What is he doing?

A Huh?

Q What is he doing and then I am going to stop.

A Well in the first place he put the people back to work, second he no like dope, he no like crime. He care for his country. He really care and when he talking, if he doing, when he talking I listen to his speech like two or three days ago when he talk to the United Nations. I listen to his speech. If he doing what he talking I can say that he is a man pretty close to the God.

Q Is he doing what he is talking?

A What a minute...I understand that nobody can change in two or three years to change the debt in Washington, there is so much power...billionaire, millionaire and who is the one president to change all over the night everything. Even if you won today and you were president of the United States what are you going to do? You have to work with the senate, work with the people over there.

Q Would you like your son to be president of the United States?

A My son? Why not.

Q You just told me what your father said about working two hours, from sun up to sun down...tell me that story again. What did he say?

A No matter how much you work, even you can work twenty-four hours a day and you don't know why you are working or how you are working or if you are working two hours a day, but you are working the smart way and you know why you are working and how you are working, then you are going to produce more than what...you are going to be better than the one guy who worked twenty-four hours and he don't know why he is working.

Q Which one do you think you are?

A I am like the guy who works twenty-four hours a day.

Q Okay the other thing you were just telling me was how you respect different foreign leaders as well as respecting President Reagan, why don't you share with me those thoughts.

A Like I say I respect very much Reagan. I think he is the smartest guy. Well we are going back to George Washington or President Roosevelt or President Kennedy and we open that side to the booth and see what President Reagan doing right now. I can say that he is better than them.

Q What about other people in the world like Kadafy or Fidal Castro?

A Kadafy is a smart guy. How much sympathy I got with President Reagan is the same I share with Kadafy. I think Kadafy is a smart guy too. Maybe he make a mistake because he is talking too much, Kadafy. He want to, for example, fight with President Reagan, but of course he is not strong enough. Of course, Libya is a small country, but he do nothing wrong.

Q So you don't see the...

A If we got enough proof that I think we are saying that Kadafy is terroist, we talking just because we no like him and we against him just like that. I am not sure that he is responsible for all that terroist in the world. Of course, I am against that I no like terroists. Terroists are never going to win. Never gonna make nothing, just so you hurt innocent people that's all.

Q So what causes all the chaos in the world right now?

A Crazy politics.

Q Crazy politics. All right.