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Tape 850 Finding Aid

INTERVIEWEE NAMES: Colonel W.H. Salmon and Mrs. Jean Salmon

COLLECTION: 4700.0582 Tape 850 (Tape 2 of 3)

IDENTIFICATION: Britons in Pre-Independence India

INTERVIEWERS: Frank de Caro, Rosan Jordan

SERIES: British Voices from South Asia

INTERVIEW DATES: 3/6/1978

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 1 hour, 33 minutes

OTHER MATERIALS: None

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Tape 850, Side A

Salmons (Part 2 of 5)

- 002 grandfather's service in India, long boat trip to India in those days
- 006 getting passport to India
- 011 when he tried to get a replacement passport, he was denied because he'd been born in India, even though he was a British officer
- 018 had to prove his right to British citizenship, claimed he was entitled by right of conquering, since his ancestors had conquered England from the apes
- 026 went to ambassador, whom he knew, in person, told him story of denial of his citizenship
- 035 government officials enjoyed reading his form about citizenship for years
- 047 born in Poona
- 054 showing them places on map of India, photos
- 077 on probation for first six months of service, then commanding officer reports on you
- 082 Salmon was appointed to home service, very much wanted to go to India, tried to trade service with another officer, commanding officer overheard and called him into his office
- 095 commanding officer told Salmon he should have negotiated, got other officer to pay him to take his place, commanding officer told him to get 2,000 pounds out of the other guy, Salmon got 1,500 pounds

- 103 ways in which soldiers could get out of foreign service, changes in the law
- 113 prime ministers of various religions
- 120 discussions in parliament
- 135 first appointment in Malta, aide de camp, places stationed in India, including Peshawar
- 146 shows interviewers old invitations
- 160 European community in Karachi
- 169 looking at photos
- 180 story about one of the wealthiest men in Karachi
- 190 Indian photographer who took the photos
- 195 looking at photos
- 203 had to wear topees; grandchildren now wear them for dress up
- 220 planning a special dinner, trying to borrow band from Scottish and British regiments
- 240 local being very confused by toast, people singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow"
- 251 many Scottish people in business community
- 258 Salmon was in Scottish regiment, history of his 73rd Highland regiment
- 282 origin of regiment, ordered down to Portsmouth to fight with fleet
- 294 loyalty of 73rd Highland regiment
- 300 more history of regiment
- 313 possessions of regiment's founder
- 325 toasting an emperor
- 330 table settings, toasts
- 346 stick religiously to traditions
- 356 being called a "new boy"
- 385 use of calling cards, calling on people
- 400 knowing how to call on Hindus and Moslems properly
- 422 woman who was offended at him not calling on her
- 442 how people became aides to governors
- 475 responsibilities for running governor's house, arranging dinner parties
- 510 looking at photos, souvenirs
- 530 his first post at Cawnpore
- 549 haunted places, ghosts

Tape 850, Side B

Salmons (Part 4 of 5)

- 004 walking to dinner in order of seniority
- 009 Sunday evening was the only informal night
- 015 amazing dinners they had, times he ate for two hours solid
- 023 ate curries, but not chapattis
- 029 battle days celebrated by different regiments
- 034 book called *The Officer's Mess*
- 038 the mess was home to officers, special traditions, atmosphere
- 041 initiation ceremonies to regiments
- 045 many people in picture of his regiment who are now dead
- 057 Indian pipers, many trained by pipers from Highland regiment
- 064 etiquette
- 071 looking at map of Khyber, Peshawar area

- 080 hill station of Peshawar
 088 Jordan mentions that Bengal tiger is mascot of LSU
 098 signature of an illiterate
 105 English novelists blaming things on women, very difficult life for women
 123 women had to take interest in local culture to survive, because husbands were very busy
 128 Mrs. Salmon on expectations of British women in India
 147 books on India
 153 sports in India, tennis, importance of keeping fit, healthy
 172 postcards of India
 181 Governor Paine, a born artist, who did many sketches of India
 190 pig sticking
 195 Indian plains
 203 Indians couldn't pronounce letter "s"
 210 played polo, preferred hunting
 214 to enjoy polo you needed at least four ponies
 222 polo played year round, except during monsoon
 227 hunting mostly during winter
 232 few pastimes during rainy season
 238 hockey very popular in India, Indians were master of hockey
 250 "bundabus" word used for many purposes
 260 throwing a dinner party with some other bachelors, had to borrow plates and decorations, guests recognized candlesticks
 280 tablecloths at dinner party also served as sheets for their guests
 288 Anglo-Indians formed close community
 292 serving with Indian regiment
 300 "whips" were hunt servants in Peshawar
 308 corresponding with bearer many years later
 316 difficulties for Indians at time of partition
 329 took course with Indian regiment
 347 long separations from home, how things changed while he was away, new telephones
 365 moving around within India, transporting belongings of regiment
 375 comparison of mess buildings
 388 provided guard for small arms factory, site of ambushes
 404 history of his bungalow, description of typical bungalow
 415 looking at photos
 435 published articles on India to pay for his hunting exploits
 447 length of Kashmir hunting trips
 453 camera he used
 460 bearers and porters on hunting expeditions
 468 had to bring food, couldn't live off country
 471 preparing tea, serving tea to Jordan and de Caro
 482 gave his hunting trophies away, displayed in mess
 491 size of staff for governors, living arrangement for staff, tasks of different servants
 506 the "dog boy," servant who looked after dogs
 522 tour schedules, dinner programs
 530 showing interviewers their souvenirs from India