INTERVIEWEE NAMES:
Arthur Barlow 4700.0605 Tape 885.1 (Tape 3 of 4)
Colonel and Mrs. John R. Hainsworth 4700.0606 Tape 885.2 (Tape 1 of 2)

IDENTIFICATION:  Britons in Pre-Independence India

INTERVIEWERS:  Frank de Caro, Rosan Jordan

SERIES:  British Voices from South Asia

INTERVIEW DATES:
Barlow:  7/5/1978
Hainsworth:  7/7/1978

TOTAL PLAYING TIME:  1 hour, 34 minutes
Barlow:  47 minutes
Hainsworths: 47 minutes

OTHER MATERIALS:  None

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Tape 885, Side A
Barlow (Part 3 of 4) (885.1)
001  Soviet people were friendly on the whole; doesn’t think they made more trouble; had personal influence
007  revolution right before he arrived; Chinese city been destroyed by Turkish rebels; unsettled as to who ruled; division of loyalties
015  everyday life was uneventful; had to find ways to pass the time; spent time entertaining; played polo twice a week; played a game almost everyday
028  was involved in intelligence
031  was a radical change from India
038  cross the Himalayas, then the Hindu Kush on the border of China and Afghanistan; goes into immense plain that stretches for miles; rarely rains; describes terrain
canals provided water and irrigation; water rushed down several times a day; extensive system
spent two years in [Kashgow?]; usual tour length; council stayed there about the same time, maybe three years
got polio the last month he was there; one leg was saved by daily massages; remembers getting up for the first time
reputation of living long lives
went to [Breshaw?] for six months for electric treatment
beginning of 1938 to 1940 was stationed in eastern states; interesting living quarters
dealt with tribal matters and primitive tribes; tribes were very primitive; small states
[Dinkinof?] was poorly governed; [keener?] used to capture wild elephants; shown how to tame elephants
wished tribes were all under one service; would have been better looked after
president of eastern states lived in Calcutta; house was supposedly haunted; president’s wife claimed to see ghost hovering over her when she slept
hated city of Calcutta; liked where he was, though; spent time there on tour
last position as political agent; was the meaning of one’s career; enjoyed it very much
excitement of going between primitive tribes and life in Calcutta
learned different languages of the different regions; learned Urdu a little; in Western India, didn’t learn language; learned a little Turkish and Russian; was beginning to learn Pashto
disadvantages of moving people from different areas and languages; had to learn as fast as you could
in India, had large household with servants; cook and assistant cook; it was the way society was; never mixed work then, although may have to now
names of servants depended on the region you were in
personal servants tended to be Muslim but not always; sweepers were all low-class Hindus
used to spend all his money on books; not fair that ICS men not seen as intellectual; many places in India had very little art and knowledge
British seemed interested in Indian dancing; was more of a personal matter whether you were interested in Indian culture; very different culture that needs to be experienced for a while before it is really appreciated
India baffles British visitors; services devoted to such things like forestry and such; ICS devoted to interests of the people
class of person ICS was recruiting mostly from professional upper classes or smaller Indian classes that had lived most of their lives in the countryside; they had sympathy for peasants
ICS was trusted and had strong influence over people
ICS preferred to be in countryside rather than in the city and under the eyes of the government
was the secretary to the resident; valued time spent; not much contact with the people living in the state
doesn’t have special moments to distinguish that time from his time in the eastern states; people really different
lines of succession
very interested with elephants
states are fairly remote, not as much in the eastern states, though
sometimes barriers in the minds of some of the other services on mixing with others; in big
cities, some services jealous of others
333 political barriers made some soldiers jealous
339 only contact with other British ranks was during the summer
356 mostly came in contact with those from the same class and background, but not exclusively
368 afraid of what would happen when India would gain independence
387 had thoughts when he first went to India that he would not finish his full term
395 had option go to colonial service; went in 1947; wasn’t what he wanted; no one over forty-five years old allowed into personal service
409 went to Africa in 1948 after time of leave
416 ICS reputation
420 in Africa, never was able to interact with the people because of position
426 liked both places; India and Africa can’t be compared because so different; one has such long history and deep culture while the other has none
441 life is less comfortable in Africa verses India; Africa not as refined as India; touring is different in both countries
473 administrators in Africa verses India
485 major contribution of British was skeleton of civil service; always impartiality between classes; reputation of being incorruptible
508 just as British mediated between Muslims and Hindus in India, British mediated in Africa between different groups
529 fear of being unwelcome keeps many from going back; feels their administration would be criticized if things hadn’t happened the way they did
545 end of tape

Tape 885, Side B
Hainsworths (Part 2 of 3) (885.2)
002 was in Peshawar for thirteen years; depart from war, duties in the province
007 was granted leave to England in 1929; returned at the end 1929 while wife stayed in England; daughter born 1930
011 we went back, was posted to [Aserystan?] for short time; was brought back as patent clerk officer at north command headquarters; wife and daughter joined him there at end 1930
015 nice job because they moved up to the hills in summer; spent winter in Rawalpindi and summer in [Merhia?]; avoided separation; was there for three years
020 was almost entirely an office job; concerned with building projects and estimates throughout northern command area; made comments and reported them to senior officers; remained there until 1932
028 up until 1932, northwest frontier public works department (PWD) had been run by public works department of the Punjab; northwest frontier decided to establish its own public works; volunteered to help establish public works
042 in the department, was there as executive engineer from 1932 to 1935; had interesting jobs; dealt with rebuilding of government house
049 rebuilding government house was big job; had nine bedrooms, each with its own bath; large dining room and reception lounge
054 also dealt with bridges and road construction; very busy time
055 one advantage of job was nice PWD bungalow; first bungalow they ever had that had hot
water and sanitation; was about 4000 feet in 1935 received another leave for England; when returned, posted back to Peshawar
was in charge of canals; covered four major canals that irrigated the main part of the province; from 1935 to 1939; dealt with diverting water from [Cobra?] River; covered 500,000 acres
also did all the revenue work; kept record of summer and winter crops, along with duties for each crop; kept track of individual farmers
good shooting at this time
daughter returned with them in 1935; stayed until 1945; son born 1938
got home leave in 1939; was home a month then war started; recalled back to army
wife went out in 1940 and was India during the war; took one of last boats out to India; daughter was in boarding school; son was with them
daughter decided wanted to go to India; came with 300 other school children; was there for the length of the war
he was away for three years; wife and children were left in Peshawar; difficult because no claims to accommodations, especially in winter; relied on those kind enough to take them in during the winter
son was too young for school; daughter went to school in [Senya?]; opened wonderful school and headmaster; staff composed of wives with previous teaching experiences; about 300 boys and girls; stayed there until she returned to England; never fell behind children in England
schools weren’t available before because children went back to England; went back home around age nine or ten
was with daughter until she was fifteen, which was uncommon
tavel experience seemed to be an advantage his daughter had over other British girls
in 1945, wife decided to go back to England because war was out of Europe; wanted to get children to school
in same month, he was transferred to Delhi; she had no idea where he was; “hoped for the best”
was released back to public works in beginning of 1946; took over old job; stationed in Borneo; in charge of southern part of province
Partition was a dreadful time; saw some violence; on actual day, passing through Peshawar and could see the burning Hindu villages; was stopped by road block, but eventually got through
office was in the middle of long line of offices; gang came through searching for Hindus; Hindu staff members ran into his office for shelter; gang didn’t hurt anyone
after Partition and up until he left in 1952, never ran into any more trouble; never any bad feelings toward Europeans
after Partition, British population became smaller because of those retiring
believes ordinary villagers were saddened to see British leave
during this time, children were at school
[Percharms?] were nice tribe of Indians on frontier, much better than the southern tribes; southern tribes were known to be fighting tribes; [Percharms?] were lighter skinned, some were tall
good many British stayed on in Pakistan for one or two years, but not as long as they did; when they left there were only three British left
everything carried on the same up until they left; clubs still running; not many changes in everyday life

social life completely changed because there were no British to go out with

after Partition, tribal fighting decreased; large army camps were abandoned and troops withdrawn; tribes didn’t surrender independence, but stopped raiding; became more willing to deal with local government

believed there was trouble now, mostly due to Afghanistan

after establishment of army camps in 1922, tribal raiding decreased; tribesmen began visiting and becoming more civilized; believes these are the reasons for the changes

shortly before leaving, was visited by former body guards; back in 1922, none of them would have left the tribal area; enjoyed being able to go into various shops

was there during the Quetta Earthquake in 1935; got on ship at Bombay, but was diverted to pick up seriously injured from the earthquake; because was senior officer, was put in charge of the women and children; had to report their status when reached Southampton

had friend there during earthquake; bungalow collapsed, killing the nurse and child; the husband was away on tour; wife had to be pulled from rubble, but survived

stories from survivors from earthquake; one woman ended up with the roof on top of her bed and her on the bottom; another couple had been in the garden and watched their car roll out the garage

never did any big game shooting

went shooting for the day; one day, friend from another office came in and decided to go shooting that afternoon; by six in the evening, had killed 102 ducks; very good duck shooting

went on various duck shooting trips; had sixteen shooters; killed between 500 to 800 ducks in one trip

toured half the time while executive engineer; did not tour as much when became chief engineer; was largely administrative

toured mostly during the day; had PWD bungalows in most places so would tour between bungalows, not necessarily in tents

passed the [?] exam in 1926/1927; once passed exam, got extra 100 rupees a month

end of tape