

Informant Amelia C. Unes Sex F Age 66 Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IIIA2 In Peoria her family lived in a Lebanese neighborhood. People from Itoo wouldn't let anyone who was not from Itoo join their clubs. There were more than 50 families from Itoo in Peoria, besides other Lebanese from other villages.
- IIIB1 After some people from Itoo, Lebanon formed a club in Venezuela, one member sent a copy of the charter to his cousin in St. Louis, Missouri. The cousin brought the copy to Peoria, Ill. and started forming the Itoo Club in Peoria. The purpose of the club was to help Itoo people wherever they are in the world and to help their relatives in Itoo.
- During the Depression the Club paid the rent for some people. They also sent money to Itoo to needy people. People in Itoo had to sign a paper to prove they received the money. There was a division in the club over the budget and another Itoo club was formed, membership for men only. Later they let everybody be a member. The Itoo Club started as a charity and it now has branches in some countries, including Australia. The club also helped non-Itoo people.

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- IB1 Uncle and father went back to Lebanon to marry in their village. Uncle married his cousin in Ihdin. Her father married her mother, who was the sister of his friend. Before her father married, he had a "big love affair" with a girl in Itoo, but his parents wouldn't let him marry her, they preferred marriage within the extended family.
- IB1 Her father and her uncle went back to Lebanon after the Chicago world's Fair to get married with Maronite girls, in 1895.
- IIB2 Only 2 of the informant's brothers married Lebanese in Peoria. The others married Americans, one of them married a German in Minneapolis.

VI/13/a

VI/13/b

VI/18

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IA2 She thinks her father was the first to come to the U.S. from Itoo. He came in 1881 to Peoria.

IB3 Father came back to the U.S. in 1896 after visiting his village, with his wife. They came through Ellis Island. Informant's grandmother came with her son-in-law. They stopped in Marseille, where they were cheated by "Syrian and Lebanese agents."

IA2 On first trip to U.S. her father was with his cousin, they were boys, who wanted to go and see the world. They took a boat from Tripoli and ended up in France. in LeHavre, where they took a boat for New Orleans. She claimed there was no medical examination in the Port of New Orleans because it was predominantly French and American laws didn't reach there.

Claimed that Lebanese were cheated in Marseille by "Syrian and Lebanese agents" Her father, in Marseille, tried to get her grandmother and mother to change their traditional clothes. He talked with a Lebanese policeman who took the two women to a hotel and told them they had to change their clothes. The policeman wanted to help his father. The women did so before they boarded the boat.

Informant Mr. Mohamod Habhab Sex M Age 61 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date July 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1	Informant's father immigrated in 1908 and never returned until after WWII when he traveled three times to Lebanon and once made the pilgrimage to Mecca. During one of his trips to Lebanon, in 1948, he got married again, after his second wife's death in 1928, and then made the pilgrimage.
I/A/1	Informant's father married woman sent to marry someone else in the U.S. before WWI.
I/B/2	Informant's father sent remittances to the homeland and received letters; informant doesn't keep in touch with family in Lebanon.

Informant Mr. Mahomed Forge Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 26
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Dearborn, Michigan community:

Informant moved to Dearborn, Michigan in 1932 and started a business there in 1936.

There were some coffeehouses and a mosque in Dearborn.

I/A/1

Notes on conversation after tape recorder was disconnected at end of interview.
Informant Nellie Khouri Jacobs Sex F Age 71 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill. Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She and husband were concerned with what happened in Lebanon. They were aggravated by what happened, especially after Israel was established. At the time of the 3-Day war with Egypt she was working as a clerk and people would come in the Drug Store and make fun of the Arabs. She would get very angry, because they knew she was a Syrian, and she would say: "Our people are not fighters, our people are lovers. They love each other"

Notes on conversation after tape recorder was disconnected at end of interview.

Informant Nellie Khouri Jacobs Sex F Age 71 Interview Schedule Code 41/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill. Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Her mother and father loved their old country, but they also loved it here.
They would always say "May God build this country."

Her parents sent money to the churches in their home towns, during the 50's.
She and her husband never sent money.

Informant Mr. Oscar Alwan Sex M Age 65 Interview Schedule Code II/P
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Illinois Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1	Informant visited the homeland in 1947. He knows Lebanon and is very familiar with the area in N. Lebanon where he lived.
I/B/2	Still has relatives and writes to them.

Informant Mr. Oscar Alwan Sex M Age 65 Interview Schedule Code V//8
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Illinois Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

The Itoo Club started in 1914 in Peoria. Informant joined the club about 4 yrs. after arriving, about 1932.

I/B/2

Itoo club purpose was to help Itoo people in homeland and in Peoria. Club started when poor Itoo man died in 1914 and Itoo people didn't have enough money to bury him. Then decided to form a club to help such needy people in the U.S. and homeland. There is a committee in Itoo appointed by U.S. Itoos who write to Relief Committee of Peoria Itoo Club and inform them of people who need help in Itoo. This happens 4-5 times/year. Itoo Club of Peoria sends \$1,000 annually. In U.S. it takes care of its needy here.

Another purpose of Itoo club was to "keep up Itoo ancestry". This was intention of older people who formed club "so their children and grandchildren get to know each other and not lose their identity, to keep coming to club. That's why called it Itoo--at one time every member originated in Itoo or parents did. Now club allows non-Itoo spouses, which it never did before. Itoo Club gives all kinds of charity in Peoria and also gives scholarship to 2 Itoo children each year. Example of charity--giving an affair to support St. Jude hospital and will give about \$100 to heart fund and other similar charities.

Informant Hasebe Assalley

Sex F Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Melkite Catholic

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Spring Valley, Ill. Date July 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Father left mother and came to U.S. in 1894. Her mother was pregnant with her. Stayed 3 years and returned to village. Stayed one year in village and returned to U.S. and stayed there 10 years. Then sent for wife and informant. In 1898 he returned to U.S. with his 10 year old daughter. In 1908 sent for his only son Nick. In 1911 sent for wife and 2 remaining daughters. By this time informant was married and her husband was with her.

IA2

People left the village in groups but they weren't all going to the same destination. In N.Y they separated to go separate ways, some to Fort Wayne, or Detroit, or Spring Valley, or Streator. Her brother in law Essa and Salem Busa'ad were in Streator before moving to Spring Valley.

Informant Hasebe Assalley

Sex F Age 86

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Melkite Catholic

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Spring Valley, Ill.

Date July 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

When informant's husband first came to America he came to 2 brothers in Canada who had a supplier's store. He was 16. He peddled. They stayed in Canada 5 years. One brother returned to village, other brother died, he remained in store alone. He sold the store and returned to the village for a year. Informant and her uncle & grandmother were preparing to come to the U.S. They visited him when he arrived in the village. He asked her aunt about marrying her, the informant, some day.

Informant Hasebe Assalley

Sex F Age 86

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Melkite Catholic

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Spring Valley, Ill.

Date July 10, 1980

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IA2

Relatives in U.S. always sent money to family in village. Remittances sent once a month or 2 - 3 months. Mother and informant needed this money to live.

IB3

Assaleys have always been a close family, the five families of 5 brothers lived close together in Rachaya. Built Catholic church in their hara. Her father and mother were first cousins.

Conversation with:

Informant Mrs. Fatme Askker

Sex F Age 78

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim

Country of Origin Syria

Immigrant Age 32

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Dearborn, Mich.

Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She married at the age of 32 for the first time. Her husband was a widower with 4 grown children who had returned to his village of Tebnine after the death of his wife to find another wife. She didn't like him but wanted to go to America. She claims she raised his children as his own but now no longer hears from them. She never had any children of her own and is now left alone.

When her husband died he left her a duplex and a lot next to her house. She had planned to leave this property to her brother and his children, but has decided to leave half the property to her husband's children since she would have to answer for her actions in the grave.

Informant Mrs. Helen Dow Sex F Age 67 Interview Schedule Code IV//8
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Fenton, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Father sent money to the homeland.
Grandfather bought property in Lebanon from money earned in the U.S.

Father sent a lot of money home every couple of months and grandfather bought a lot of property in Lebanon with her father's money.

Informant Mrs. Helen Dow Sex F Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Fenton, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- I/A/1 Informant is not sure of father's first departure date to the U.S. Guesses it was between 1906-1910. He returned to Lebanon before 1913, married, then returned to the U.S. before 1913.
- I/A/2 Father didn't have a lot of money when he emigrated. Some people borrowed money from family members.
- I/A/3 After marriage, informant came to the U.S. and brought her sister with her.
- After coming to the U.S. in 1931, her uncle went to Lebanon and brought another sister to the U.S. (1938). Brother came to the U.S. Then informant's mother came in 1940 and lived with informant's uncle in Detroit.
- High class people for whom the informant's mother worked in Lebanon, after the informant's father's death, helped the mother to come to the U.S.; they helped her to go the American consulate to get visas.

Informant Mrs. Helen Dow Sex F Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Fenton, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- I/A/2 Informant's family consisted of 2 boys and 3 girls. One-child was born after the family's return to Lebanon. The informant and 3 others were born in Pennsylvania.
- I/A/3 Informant's mother would never live in a village because she came from Damascus to Beirut and village life is different and because Beirut is more modern than the village.
- I/A/3 Informant's mother didn't want to go to the informant's grandparents in the mountains because there was no school. Informant's mother wanted to come back to America.
- I/A/3 Informant's father died when she was twelve. Her husband gave money to
I/B/1 the informant's mother as support.
- When father sent money to grandfather, the latter used it to buy property in his own name. After father's death, grandfather claimed the property. Informant claimed "My grandfather took everything from us".

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/1

Family (father, mother and the informant) returned to Lebanon in 1921. Father came back to Battle Creek, Michigan in 1927. The informant came back to Dearborn, Michigan in 1928. The mother stayed in Lebanon (in Tebnine).

II/A/3

Father went back to Lebanon in 1934. In 1937, Informant started bringing his brothers and sisters to the U.S.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

When family went back to Lebanon in 1921, father built a home and bought 2 pieces of land.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

Informant went back to Lebanon in 1950 for a visit.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/1

Informant washed dishes--17 hrs. a day--in different places; was paid \$1 a day (this was in the 1930's). He slept on a chair. During that time, his father was in Battlecreek, Michigan. But he was going from one town to another to look for a job.

Informant "never" asked his father for help "because," informant said, father had problems himself. Father was not fully employed, and had to send money home to informant's mother and sisters. Because of "pride" informant didn't ask father for help.

II/A/1

One day father sent him \$15 (bought clothes). (This was during the Depression; he was 18).

He worked as a milkman for \$5 a week (1932).

factory in Highland Park. Wages were 35¢/hr for 2-3 months.

His first job was in a
He was out

of/work for eight years (1928-35).

steady

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

His father came to the U.S. in 1907 or 1908, got married in Michigan City, Indiana in 1911; went back with family to Lebanon in 1921 where he built a house and bought 2 pieces of land because he didn't own any land before. He bought the land with money he earned in America. "Father took with him about \$1,000 to Lebanon".

II/A/3

~~informant~~ Father went back to Lebanon in 1934 to join wife and children because he was sick. He sent money home "all the time". In 1937 he started bringing his brothers and ~~informant~~

sisters to the U.S. All brothers and sisters sent money home.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/2

Has 3 sisters and 4 brothers, all born in the U.S.

Family members were very close to each other.

All contributed to the family and sent money to parents' home, *in the homeland.*

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

Went to Lebanon at age 9 in 1921; stayed for 7 years, learned Arabic.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code V//8
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Ford Motor Company

Dearborn was called Fordson---named after Henry Ford and his son Edsel. Before that, it was called Spring Wells. Some people called the west part of the city "old Dearborn".

Ford Motor Co. started in Highland Park. Ford "owned all the land" in Dearborn and around. Ford had in mind that someday he would move to Dearborn because there was a river, a lake, an airport and railroad.

There were about 45,000 people in Highland Park and it was considered "the richest little city in America because of Ford Motor Co.".

Manchester was booming economically in the 1920's and early 1930's. Life was cheap ut the rent was high. (Was Manchester a street?)

"The mayor" raised taxes on Arabs on Manchester and Victor (streets?). When the Arabs were emigrating in 1920, they were coming to Michigan City, Indiana in large numbers. When Ford moved to Dearborn, the Arabs started moving to work in the Ford Co. (there were 110,000 workers at the Ford Co). Edsel Ford wanted to move the company somewhere else, but Henry Ford wanted to stay in Dearborn.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code V/11^R
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 2

I/A/1 When Edsel Ford died, Henry Ford II took over the company; he was 28 yrs. old. He fired all "the old timers" and started business up again and expanded it all over. There were then only 20,000 workers in the Rouge Ford plant. Ford was the first to open the "Henry Ford Trade School" around 1929-30. People "learned the trade 4 hrs. and put to work 4 hrs". Workers were paid 75¢/hr.

Back in the 1930's, there was a General Motors Chevrolet plant. Foreigners could not get jobs there because citizenship was required. Blacks could get jobs, as sweepers mostly.

On the other hand, Ford Co. hired "everybody". Henry Ford II was the first to pay \$1 an hour wages, but when the company needed money (almost bankrupted), Ford opened a bank in the company and told the workers to deposit \$20/week and they would get interest. In this way he saved the company. At that time there was no income tax. A pack of cigarettes cost 8 or 9 cents; a quart of milk cost 4¢; a whole lamb cost \$4. Gas was 9¢/gallon.

Another man present at the interview with Mr. Osman stated the following:

Emigrants used to come to Dearborn because of the availability of jobs at Ford and the relatively high wages. Moreover there was training for younger people.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 3

Ford then opened factories in Germany; some of the Arabs who got jobs at Ford, when experienced, became foremen, even though they didn't read or write English. Some uneducated Arabs showed a lot of talent at Ford and they were given responsibilities. If a worker got sick, he would be taken home by a service man, but later he would be checked by an investigator who was sent to the worker's home from the company to see if he really was sick.

Ford also opened a grocery store for workers in Dearborn. When asked if workers liked Ford because of what he was doing, he replied "Yes, they did". (This was in the late 1920's.)

When a worker had to go to a toilet--toilets had no doors--he had to put his pants down and sit. The service man had to check the toilet before it was flushed to be sure that the worker had actually used the bathroom. If there was no evidence of using the bathroom, the worker would be fired. White shirts were not permitted at work. Workers had to wear blue shirts (working shift); otherwise they were sent home for the day. No smoking was allowed.

He (i.e. Ford?) thought that if a worker was really a hard worker, he would be rewarded.

I/A/1

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 4

Mr. Ford, founder of the company, claimed "There was no such a thing as IQ test". It's the production that counted. Experience was important. He said "A worker is like a machine, when it breaks, fix it".

When asked about the union, the informant

"The Union was good". *And he added:*

"Henry Ford done a lot good, but he was bad to the people".

Workers had to buy the product of the company. If a worker drove a car made by another company, he was fired.

"Henry Ford and his people used to check the parking lot. If they found non-Ford product, they would find out who was driving the car, and the man would be dismissed". During late 1918 to early 20's Ford stopped production of cars for about 1½ yrs. There was an old saying in Dearborn "Henry Ford said: you can have any color you loved in a Ford car as long as it was black".

Ford wanted to see a man elected mayor of Dearborn in the late 30's or early 40's, so he layed everybody off who lived in Dearborn and rehired only those who voted for this person. Ford would tell a worker "If that particular man won't win election, I'm going to fire you".

People had to vote for Ford's man to get their jobs back.

There was "a conspiracy" in that there was a campaign office where workers went and got letters to get their jobs.

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 5

I/A/2 "If you wanted a job in Ford Co. go to City Hall".

I/A/3 The Arabs in Dearborn paid an Arab businessman (\$50 to \$100) to get jobs at Ford. The businessman paid the Ford Personnel for hiring Arab workers.

II/A/2 In 1935, the Ford Co. police, which were the city police, fired ^{at} the crowd of workers' demonstrators and killed 4 people.

II/A/2 If a worker mentioned "the union", he was fired. Even if a worker looked like he thought about the union, or wore a white shirt, or spit on the floor, he was fired.

II/A/3 Father of informant was respected by Arabs who were selling and buying jobs because father did a lot of favors for them.

In normal circumstances, he could get jobs for himself and son (informant) free, because "Arabs owed him a lot of favors". But in 1932 when the Depression was deep, father offered to apy for jobs for him and his son, but he couldn't get any job, knowing that Arabs were selling and buying jobs. (Arab job sellers couldn't sell or give father a job so father was a victim of an Arab value:

Informant Mr. Kamel Osman Sex M Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/R
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/3

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 6
shame of taking money from someone who did favors for them, and Arabs couldn't pay the job from their pockets.)

When Mr. Ali Turfe walked in the store, everybody would drop everything and welcome him enthusiastically because he was well-known.

II/A/3

"What was missing in Dearborn was communication", lack of leaders.

I/B/1

Helped people to get their driver's license without asking for money.
He criticized some Arabs for being dishonest.

Turfe was working in Ford Co. Turfe knew servicemen, and helped Arabs to get jobs at Ford, and helped them to solve their problems.

In 1935, informant wanted to get a job so badly but he was turned down because he couldn't see--he had bad left eye, so his uncle went to Ali Turfe and asked him to help informant get a job at Ford.

Turfe asked uncle to do one thing: to send his ~~uncle's~~ next payment to his (i.e. the ~~uncle's~~ ^{own}) ~~uncle's~~ ^{relatives} parents in Lebanon. *

I/B/1

Turfe was only a worker, not a supervisor, but he knew a lot of people in Ford Co. He was helping his people--the Arabs.

The Arabs "were closer together in old days"--1920's and 1930's--"we shared what we had".

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Interviewer Alixa Naff City Taylor, Michigan Date June 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Ford Motor Company, continued, note 7

I/B/1

Bill Abbas was called a gambler. Informant said "but he was not a gambler". Bill worked at Ford and knew the sheriff, the governor, and all prominent people. Bill came to the U.S. in 1922. He couldn't walk well, so he was asked by 2 Russians in Highland Park to go to WMCA to exercise. He was cured after 6 months and became "strong wrestler".

Informant Mahomed Wazney Sex M Age 90 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 25
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 3, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IIA1 He claimed that "after 1933, when Lebanon took over" the government told people that they had to pay for each Lebanese emigrant in order to be registered as Lebanese. Informant's father wrote to informant and told him that he had paid 2 liras. So informant wrote back to father and included his citizenship number. He asked his father to go to the American Embassy and ask them to help so that he wouldn't have to pay for informant as he was American citizen. Father went to the American Embassy in Beirut and told them, so he was handed a paper that he took to court and got a refund.
- IIA1 Informant went back to Lebanon in 1972.
- IIB1 Has two sisters in Lebanon to whom he sends about \$200. a year.

Informant Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIB1

Values:

Sending money home is loyalty to family. Mother expected it and asked, she was in need. Mother refused to come to U.S. even after Mr. A made arrangements. Wanted to stay with rest of family.

A person who doesn't respect older people must be lower than a dog.

People used to be fanatic about honor of family but no more.

Used to be important to lay out big spreads to save face but not any more.

Informant Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA3

Still has a brother in Aythu, same age as wife, never knew him until his brother visited 2 years ago.

Was always lukewarm about going back to village. But interested in what happened there, read about it in newspapers. Wrote to mother and brother. Only recently stopped sending money. Sent \$30. a month when he lived in Lowell.

Informant Mr. Joseph Couri Sex M Age 65 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Illinois Date July 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/2

Father sent money to Itoo (didn't say to whom).

Informant didn't have ties with the homeland; he felt "remote" from Lebanon.

Informant Mr. Alex G. Haddy Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Grant Farr City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2 Father sent money home to mother before she came to U.S. in 1914.

I/B/2 Informant never went back to Lebanon.
Brother wanted to go back to Lebanon but died in 1972 before he went.

Informant Mr. Edward Ellis Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
275-302

People love their homeland because it is one's native land, not because it is better. Life in the U.S. is better but it is the land of one's birth--relatives, background, and Syrians and Lebanese have a background to be proud of, not ashamed of. We are ashamed of the Turks who ruled us for 400 years, but that cannot be held against the Arabs.

Some Christian Arabs in America criticize the Arab Muslims, but the Arab Muslims were never bad to the Christians. They were taught that way. Even among themselves, Maronites, Orthodox, Melkites, we were taught to hate one another by the Turkish government, to divide and rule. They didn't want us not to fight, to be educated. The Turks would take the prominent young man, educate and indoctrinate him in their ideology/and send him back to his village to rule in their name. This man would become Turkish, in Istanbul a dictator.

IV/18

Values - Pride in heritage

Values - Education

VI/3/f

II/3

II/4

II/6

II/5

Informant Alexander K. Malik Sex M Age 71* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 19*
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962
* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
111-540

Mr. Charles Malik, one of the greatest statesmen from the Near East and who represents Lebanon and whom Mr. Malik says is a distant cousin of his, was such an able representative of Lebanon that he brought the name of Lebanon to the American attention and "since then we were all who come from Lebanon proud for two reasons: to have such a good representative and to belong to such nice great country with a great background".

Mr. Malik remembers once when he was going to Canada via Detroit/Windsor, he was asked where he was born. When he answered Lebanon, he was asked "Lebanon, Pennsylvania?" But now almost everyone knows Lebanon as much as they know Charles Malik.

He was the president of the General Assembly (UN) in addition to representing Lebanon, and he was on the human relations (rights???) committee with Mrs. Roosevelt. and he was one those who drew up the constitution and bylaws for the UN.

All the Syrian population knows of him; he has a book "Christ, in Crisis". It was printed in Grand Rapids Michigan and is selling like wildfire.

Informant Mrs. Selma Bonahoom Sex F Age Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin United States Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
418-483

Informant's husband (???) tells the story of Barhoom, son who returned home from America only to be murdered by his mother (and father) thinking he was a rich man. (My comment: interesting that women are evil-motivated, agents)

Informant Mrs. Ramza Abdelahad Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
000-053

Informant refused to get married before she brought her mother to this country. Her brothers and sisters helped her (akhwatni--I'm not sure if this means both of if she had brothers); she couldn't afford to bring her from her own earnings exclusively.

Informant Mr. Thomas (Tannous) Cory Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
121-320

After their return from Lebanon to Napponnee, the informant opened a dry-goods store for a while and then moved to Montreal, and then moved to Windsor in 1926.
for a year

They had intended to move to Port Huron but for some reason, perhaps related to business opportunity (???) they changed their minds and moved to Windsor.

Informant Mr. Herb Bojrab Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria? Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date June 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
072-195

In 1910, the informant's brother who had returned to the old country and bought land for himself and the informant, was called to serve in the army.

Someone spoke on his behalf, stating that he had a wife whose father was dead and who had three brothers. He claimed to be ready to fight, but in actuality wanted to return to the U.S. Both he and his wife did so toward the end of 1910. Apparently, he was exempted/excused from military service.

Informant Mrs. Ramza Abdelahad Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Maronite? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
055-491

The Syrian community did not have an entire range of stores to satisfy the community's needs. They would go to the large American stores, especially for clothing (dresses-fasatiin) Syrians did not have dry goods stores at first. This next section was difficult to understand:
The community was not closed in on itself. lot???
She talks about "istarjah" (everything was cheap) and relates this to "job-lock???"
Everyone had someone who would explain to him in English. They would have an agreement where everything was cheap (I think she may be using an Arabicized English expression store-job, and meaning that people could buy things cheaper-- perhaps if they worked in the store.

The Syrians adapted, they worked with Americans and saw everything. They learned how to recognize prices of items (???)--\$10, \$15. *It was not difficult. marked with price tags*

One grocery store would bring Arab products from Syria or Lebanon or New York. where there were wholesale grocery stores. ~~I think she may mention the names of the families who operated the wholesale stores in NY.~~ *I'm just not sure.*

Informant Mr. Assad Shabo Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Country of Origin Syria* Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962
* Informant is an Assyrian, born in Turkey (Mesopotamia)

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
213-829

Mr. Shabo brought his people over, his friends, his brother-in-law, etc. And when he got married, he brought all his family to the U.S. after

He used to sell his shoes in order to bring someone (to make enough money to pay for passage???)

At one time, the fare was reduced from \$50 which was the usual fare to \$28. He bought as many tickets as he could/at this price.
afford -- as much money as he had

This was the fare from Beirut to Boston.

After a couple of weeks, two companies competed in lowering fares, down to \$22. He went back and bought some more (he may have said that he borrowed some money to do this???) tickets. Then they reduced it to \$18; he bought 20 tickets at that price. This was a heavy responsibility, to bring 20 people over at one time, feed them, find them jobs. Mr. Shabo, did manage. He never cheated anyone.
worked hard

Informant Hasibe & Abe Aossey

Sex F & M Age 74 & 82 Interview Schedule Code U1/18

Religious Sect Muslim Shi'i

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 21 & 15

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1 She used to send money to her family in Insar and they both still keep in touch with their families there.

Informant Victoria Trahd Atalla

Sex F Age 68

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin U.S. born

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Mark, Ill.

Date June 3, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

After her father's marriage to her mother, he sent for his two sisters in Lebanon to come to the U.S. This was around the WWI.

Informant Hasebe Assalley Sex F Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill. Date July 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA3 Nellie Khuri Assalley formerly of Streator worked in truck gardens and brought produce to Spring Valley. She used to work harder than her husband.
- IB1 Amelia worked in her parent's dry goods store. Informant worked in husband's store. In the homeland the division of labor was clear - there were the fields and there was the home.
- IB2 Tom Assaley's mother left her sons and husband in the village and came to U.S. to make money. Her husband had an eye problem and couldn't come. She stayed here 3 to 4 years, then returned to the village.

VI/20/6

VI/18

Informant Mr. William Darwish Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox/Baptist Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- I/A/3 Father came to U.S. as single man, young, very early (probably mid-1890's) and went back to village (before 1901 because informant born in 1901).
- I/B/1 (Apparently father and mother returned to U.S. without family and sent for them in 1910.)
- I/B/1 Doesn't know with whom father originally came, but remembers groups of 15-20 immigrating together. Some were married. Women came few years later. Many of them got married here and many went back to families. Many travelled back and forth 2-3 times. A cousin would spend 2-3 yrs. in U.S., return to village 2-3 years until money was spent. That's how he raised his family.
- Money earned in U.S. went for improvements in village but not for land; there was no land to buy.
- There was an agent in Rachaya who sold tickets for d.S. after WW I, he claims.

Informant Mr. William Darwish Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox/Baptist Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

Father sent tickets for his family in 1910.

Informant came to U.S. with grandmother (apparently parents had left the children with her) who came according to mother's arrangement, with wealthy couple from N.Y. who were visiting Rachaya. Travelled 3rd class, enjoyed trip.

Informant Mr. William Darwish Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code IV/R
Religious Sect Orthodox/Baptist Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

Spring Valley, Illinois community:

Informant's father moved to Spring Valley from Ft. Wayne, but doesn't know if it was directly or how it came about. Then mother and father returned to Rachaya, informant was born; after 9 months parents returned to Spring Valley and father would send money back to Rachaya.

I/B/2

Syrians came to Spring Valle because it had 7 mines around it; coal company payroll was \$200,000 every Saturday. "Spring Valley was as busy as Madison Ave.". This was true until the Depression. Informant thinks there were more than 36 families here in 1920 because when he helped in remodelling home that was the church, there were 32 families.

Informant Mr. William Darwish Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/12
Religious Sect Orthodox/Baptist Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1 Rachaya al-Wadi, Lebanon:

Rachaya was a village of 5-6,000 people. Informant's family lived in lower part of this mountain village in neighborhood of the Siryan (Jacobites, a Uniate church);

I/A/2 No Muslims in the village; mainly Christians and a minority of Druze.

I/A/3 Asked if people were poor, he said they never were hungry, "never heard of case at that time--everyone helped each other. All went to church, no crime--very peaceful; crime was severely punished consequently no crime.

I/A/3 Women filled jars of water for home use from village well. When remittances began to flow into village from emigrant, families began to dig own wells.

I/B/1 Remittances from U.S. would go for improvements but not for land purchase; no land to buy. Land was valuable to those who owned it; the only way for them to make a living. "If he had an acre of grapes, he could sell his grapes, or make wine or liquor. It's impressed on their minds the only thing is to own land if you can and hold it until you're old".

Informant Mr. Mike Aossey Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 8
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant would like to have retired to his native village of Insar in Lebanon except for "CIA and Israelis and all mixed-up deals. I wouldn't want to have anything to do with it".

II/A/1

Has no ties with homeland; there's no one there anymore except a niece who married and lives in Beirut.

Sometimes when his family (before 1940) asked for it, he and brothers sent money to them in village.

Informant Ali Turfe

Sex M

Age 77

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17

Interviewer Alix Naff & Grant Farr

City Dearborn, Mich.

Date June 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IA3

Most of the people in Dearborn were single, they sent money to their families in Lebanon.

Informant Ali Turfe Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff & Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 7, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1 Had five brothers and one sister. Four of them came to the U.S. three died later in Lebanon.

IA3 One brother went to Cuba and lived there for 15 years then returned to Lebanon. The other brother also went to Cuba, stayed for 2 years, then returned to Lebanon. They went to work and make money.

Informant Imam Muhammad A. Karoub Sex M Age in 50's Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Mich. Date June 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Father and uncle sent remittances home. Early immigrants had almost a religious responsibility to care for parents, brothers and sisters.

Informant Imam Muhammad A. Karoub

Sex M

Age in 50's Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Sunni Muslim

Country of Origin U.S. born

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Detroit, Mich.

Date June 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Father and father's eldest brother came to seek fortune. Heard that the streets in the U.S. were paved in gold. They didn't seek religious freedom, as Muslims they already had it. Also escaping conscription was not a factor.

They intended to return within a couple of years, but WWI broke out and father returned in 1920 to marry, then returned to U.S. with new wife and son a year later.

III / 2

III / 1

VI / 18

Informant Abdullah Igram Sex M Age 57 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 23, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA1 Claims father never experienced discrimination as a Muslim or Arab while peddling. Claims Syrian peddlers in northern part of midwest took liking to Swedish people because they were most hospitable.
- IA2 Claims he never felt any difference between himself and other ethnic or religious groups because his father's house was open to all.
- IA3 Complained only of false teaching about Islam in college before WW2. Talks about Operation Boulder - U.S. policy to watch Arabs in U.S. and injustice of Zionists and Zionist control of bureaucracy dealing with Arab - Israeli issue. Muslims excluded and discriminated against. Talked about his bitterness and attempts to be objective and how he worked for American charitable political agencies.

Informant Mrs. Edna Sears Assalley Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill. Date July 4, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3	Talked of LaSalle Syrian family who still owns a home in their village in the old country.
-----	--

Informant Mr. Eli Busada Sex M Age 87½ Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Washington, D.C. Date April 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B

In 1950, visited village, slept on floor. Druse neighbor/friend (went to school together--son was attache in Syrian embassy during mandate period--about 1936). Druse son helped and invited by Busada here in D.C. So when returned to village, all village came to see him. Father of attache insisted on inviting Eli for dinner and on putting up on a bed.

Hospitality very important. Even poor people served everything they had--made you feel guilty to eat it--you'd feel you were denying them.

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/B
155

He tried to introduce soybeans into Syria.

Informant Mr. Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/3

Still has brother in Aythie; same age as his wife, never knew him until brother visited 2 years ago.

Was always lukewarm about going back to village--always interested in what happens in homeland; reads about it in American newspapers. Wrote to mother and brother and only recently stopped to send money. Sent \$30/month from Lowell.

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Mr. Sadaqa has sisters in the homeland and a large extended family in his village of Majdel Ba'na; he still owns property there and returns every year.

Informant Mr. Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/1

Sending money home is loyalty to family. Mother expected it and asked. She was in need. Mother refused to come to the U.S. even after I made arrangement. Wanted to stay with rest of her family.

When Arabs first came to U.S. they brought this closeness with them. When a person married to nearest village, his family would say he has become estranged from family. After families became separated by travel--U.S., Mexico, Brazil, closeness is attenuated. When I sent money I felt they needed it. Charity begins at home.

Re: family fanaticism: I suppose there was some of that here--doesn't amount to much.

VI/18

Values- family loyalty

- closeness

- priority of family

- family fanaticism

Informant Mr. H. K. Igram Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 18, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Sent money to family in homeland.

VI/12

VI/18

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/0-

In 1918, his father died. He sent a letter saying that he would not return because there "no religious man here to stop him from going to school".

His mother put a great deal of pressure on him to return.

He sent a lot of money home.

He has a letter he wrote to his father in 1914. His father wanted him to send money home to buy property. He told his father not to buy property because the world was going to war and he would be back soon.

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr. City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I-184

Describes home (He sent money back to fix up the house).
The system of herding goats--a common herd.
House--medium-sized
Family was well off.
Neighbors mostly relatives (Most of the villagers were relatives).

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/500

He used to meet with other Syrians, both Christians and Muslims, to read poetry and to discuss politics.

He discusses the corruption of modern life; tells of a speech by Amin ar-Rihani at AUB in 1907.

II/A/575

He kept up on politics.

Joined the services. Tried to join the air force. Then he tried the marines, but he wasn't a citizen. He got a letter from his teacher and they accepted him in 1918. He registered and he is proud that he didn't ask for an exemption as a foreigner. Discourse on how it is important to be an American. Finish marines story. (The war was actually over before he started his service.)

Informant Mr. Peter Aref Solomon Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Grant Farr City Sterling Heights, Michigan Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

He went back to his home town in Lebanon and took his daughter who met and subsequently married a man from his village, a cousin in fact. This marriage has given him connections and many cousins have recently come over from Lebanon.

Informant Mr. Osman Mohammed Chamie Sex M Age 73 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin United States* Immigrant Age 32*
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date May 31, 1980
* U.S. born in 1907 but taken to Syria in 1913; immigrated to the U.S. in 1939

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

Occupation continued:

Arrived in 1939; after 6 months of unemployment, friend got him into WPA; worked 6-7 months; worked on roads--"FDR started this--he got country "fired up" again." 1940 entered Ford--times had changed. workd became plentiful. Earned \$40/month. It was child's play--loaded dirt on trucks, very easy, FDR believed that instead of giving a man \$40 on welfare, let him work for it. Opened roads. He and his brother went to work at Ford. Soon began to earn 75¢/hr. For 6 months he didn't join union. Union was there but it was "hidden--underground". We used to pay dues secretly. After 6 months, the Union conflict began; unions had great strike--there were battles. Strke lasted 2 months--men were at the gates and in the factory. He was not involved. Strikers took over the plant until Ford allowed the Union.

1942 war started--"I had made money and wanted to bring my family here but it was impossible. After war, 1947, in F/February, they were here.

I/B/3

Mr. Chamie's son has farm and also works at Chrysler. He has cattle.

Informant Mrs. Zahdi Barsa Sex F Age 81 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City St. Claire Shores, MI Date May 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I X 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Came at age of 14. Everyone was coming to America; sent Zahdi to grandmother who was in U.S. with thought that she would help bring rest of family. Mother wanted to come to her mother. Grandmother came in 1906 because her husband was here; grandmother followed her husband who worked and sent ticket for her and 2 children. Grandfather worked in steam factory in Boston. Grandfather never peddled; father of Zahdi paid her fare and grandmother helped with expenses of travel. Travelled with wife of mother's uncle who had returned to Damascus for visit from U.S. She returned to visit her mother. Had husband and 2 children in U.S. Took her niece and Zahdi with her to U.S. (women travel alone) est of Zahdi's family were prevented from coming to U.S. later, as planned, because of WWI. Mother died one year later in ~~1904~~ (1914???).

Informant Mrs. Bahieh Kappaz Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

~~I/A/3~~

~~Boston with sister.~~

I/B/1

Informant worked long hours and sent for 3 members of family. Mother and 2 brothers travelled first class, arrived in 1920.

IV/3

VI/18

Informant Mr. Osman Mohammed Chamie Sex M Age 73 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin United States* Immigrant Age 32*
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date May 31, 1980
* U.S. born in 1907 but taken to Syria in 1913; immigrated to the U.S. in 1939
Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Father in 1896 did not work in railroad tracks in Sioux Falls, S.D. Most Syrians worked on RR. Peddled to accumulated money then returned to work on R.R. Father bought horse, buggy and expanded his peddling. Sometimes remained on road one month.

1900 he brought his brother--also peddled with own horse and buggy; had few expenses--living was cheap. Ticket was very cheap. Could save money.

Father returned 4 times 1896-1900 build home; returned with brother; returned 1906, then 1913 and 1921. Relative to others, father did not succeed. Others bought stores--large ones--our family was large and he had many expenses and we had difficult time. Remained in Sioux Falls until final return to village in 1921. As widower, wife died in childbirth. Left daughters in Sioux Falls.

Informant Mr. Osman Mohammed Chamie Sex M Age 73 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin United States* Immigrant Age 32*
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date May 31, 1980
* U.S. born in 1907 but taken to Syria in 1913; immigrated to the U.S. in 1939
Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Father went directly to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Don't know why; must
had someone there who worked on railroad tracks. There were also peddlers there--kishie.

I/B/1

Dearborn good work opportunities. Had friends and fellow villagers in Dearborn--
used to communicate by letter with village. And father advised him to go to Dearborn.
Laborers could find work.

I/B/2

Mrs. Chamie went straight to her husband's home.

Informant Mr. Harry As'ad Bousamra Sex M Age 85 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Michigan Date May 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

He went back to the old country in 1965.

Informant Msgr. Aghabius Riashi Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 26
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Came to see sister; well established with her husband in Colorado.
Came for 1 year; people came to U.S. by chain action--came to make a living.
People in village would know relative went to America and they would take
money (from relatives in America) to build a home; they got enough money to
build a home; people in Khonchara did not emigrate because they were home
builders and contractors (of stone).

Informant Mr. Woodrow W. Woody Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/8
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 4
Interviewer Alix Naff City Mt. Clemens, Michigan Date May 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Communications were through letters and newspapers.

Informant Mr. Ollie Okdie Sex M Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Grant Farr City Lincoln Park, Michigan Date May 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

They still have relatives that they write to, but they don't follow politics in the homeland.

Informant Mr. Ollie Okdie Sex M Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Grant Farr City Lincoln Park, Michigan Date May 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

He became a citizen in 1937 so he could go back to Lebanon to see his grandparents.

He went in the service in 1942.

VI/6/6

VI/18

Informant Mr. Ollie Okdie Sex M Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Grant Farr City Lincoln Park, Michigan Date May 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Although his father went back and forth many times, he thinks his father always wanted to stay in the U.S.

III / 4

VI / 18

Informant Mr. H. K. Igram Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 18, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

In 1924 he returned to Jub Jenine to marry; stayed 3 months. Local rebellion in Lebanon in 1925 caused him to return to U.S., leaving pregnant bride in village.

Cost him 8 gold liras as his contribution to remove quartered troops from village. Very difficult times. She remained in Jub Jenine, escaping from effects of rebellion, until he sent for her 2 years later.

Informant Mrs. Madeline Bolis Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin United States* Immigrant Age n.a.*
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 27, 1980
* parents were immigrants from Mt. Lebanon

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/3

They worried mostly about their relatives in the old world.

Informant Mr. Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

1901 Mrs. Abodeely's mother peddled; had one child then returned to homeland. Peddled while she was pregnant. Took train to small towns around Cedar Rapids. Mrs. Abodeely's mother told her that during this period all the women peddled; Mr. Abodeely said that in his time (1912) no women peddled, only few. Even Mrs. Abodeely's sister-in-law and another woman peddled. Women slept in homes in farms, stayed on road, carried suitcases and went door to door; no children peddled.

By 1912, men were married and had homes and families so women didn't peddle; not that peddling had declined.

When women had babies they didn't call doctors; gave birth alone. Used to sleep 10-14 people in a room. When her mother gave birth to first child, she had it in room with all men around. Her uncle helped in delivery. There were no shades on windows or nothing. They would eat outside on sidewalks.

Informant Mr. Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Brother of wife born in U.S. Returned to Ain Arab and in 1926 or 1927 returned to U.S. via Mexico; believes they went to Mexico to find work with relatives (probably also because U.S. had closed doors of immigration in 1924).

I/B/2

Married in 1932; never had met before; her family lived in Sioux City, Iowa; he is distantly related; then when married moved to Cedar Rapids. It was arranged marriage; he is 15 years older than she; she agreed and still agrees. Visited his brother in Sioux City, Iowa.

They didn't date alone. They went out but he had a bunch with them. He didn't care. It wasn't chaperoning. Her sister and cousin, etc. He paid; he held her hand in show and even kissed her. This wasn't done--this happened only 4 Or 5 days before wedding and they knew they were going to get married.

Informant Shaikh Kalil Bazzy Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/10
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date June 9, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

I/A/3

Highland Park, Michigan community

Brother lived with a fellow villager; he lived there also; then moved to Hamilton St. from 191 LaBelle.

Brother returned to the homeland before WWI, in 1914, to village; he had been married but not consummated the marriage. Informant remained alone on Hamilton St.

The entire neighborhood on Hamilton St. was Arab Shi'i Muslim was Bint Jubail and Tibnine. Many Christians also but informant didn't become acquainted with them.

There was no mosque when informant arrived; first mosque sometime before 1924; can't remember. In 1924 informant moved to Detroit. First mosque built probably during WWI, a small simple building built from scratch.

Informant Mr. Mahmoud Sadak Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code ~~VI~~/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Grant Farr City Washington, D.C. Date April 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/A
445

1930's

He returned to Syria in 1932 and his wife died.

VI/18

IX /1

Informant Mr. Alex Ecie Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15-17*
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 2, 1980
* Informant provides conflicting data.

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1 Informant has been in this country for 60(?) years. He went back to Lebanon for 2-3 month trip. In all he has made ten trips to visit; he said he tried to go every year.

I/A/2 When a new mosque was built in his village, 1977, he sent \$300 contribution.

I/A/1 Informant always writes letters to his relatives and friends in Lebanon.

Informant Amelia C. Unes Sex F Age 66 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA3

In Peoria there was chauvinism and competition among families. Informant said "they couldn't look down on me, because they were still aware of my grandfather's family." (her grandfather was a big landowner in Lebanon.) There was a lot of jealousy between families in Peoria. Example: someone who belonged to the Republican Party in Peoria gave her brother a job during the Depression. Other Lebanese got jealous and made a lot of comments.

However if a Lebanese did something wrong, the Lebanese would try to cover him, "they would even lie to the authorities" to cover up one who was in trouble. Although the Lebanese lied to each other and sometimes disliked each other.

Informant Amelia C. Unes Sex F Age 66 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IIA1 In the early 1900's her father decided to go back to Lebanon, to take over the family farm because they didn't have any sons there anymore. He took the 5 oldest children with him. Her mother joined him in Lebanon two years later, (1906) She had been sending him money from the U.S. which she made peddling and he bought some land with it. Her mother and father stayed in Itoo and spent all the money her mother had brought with her.
- IIA2 Her father came back to the U.S. because he thought they could have a better life here. Her mother joined him in the U.S. in 1908. All the children were left in Lebanon with the grandparents except one who was in the U.S. After 1914 her parents contacted the American embassy in Beirut for help in bringing the children to the U.S. The children were being held as "hostages" by the grandparents. There was a complete breakup" between the parents and the grandparents.
- IIB3 Says grandparents refused to send them because of the conditions of WWI. The only contacts with the homeland during the war was through the newspaper news.

Informant Amelia C. Unes Sex F Age 66 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIIA2 After her parents' death, informant went for vacation in Europe and Lebanon.
(This was after WW2)

IIIB1 Informant thinks that the Lebanese immigrants didn't send enough money to the homeland. When she came back from Lebanon after WW2 she talked to some Lebanese and urged them to send money to people in Itto, because people were very poor. She thinks even people who succeeded in their jobs or businesses didn't help anybody in Lebanon. She thinks Lebanese gained money to look for prestige and "security" but that they don't spend their money on themselves, they just keep it to look at.

Informant Amelia C. Unes Sex F Age 66 Interview Schedule Code 51/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

IIB1

One of the informant's brothers who came back from living in Lebanon from 1906 to 1920 apparently had a hard time adjusting and communicating with his brothers and sisters here in U.S. He wanted to go back to Lebanon for this reason. Two years after arriving though, after learning English and mixing with Americans he forgot about going back. In fact he was amazed with his new life especially because his mother cared for him a lot and helped him to Americanize. The other brother who came in 1920 at age 22 was also not adjusted to American life for the first few years but he didn't think about going back to Lebanon.

II B1

The family had a hard time understanding the four brothers who came back from Lebanon, because these boys had been brought up in a Lebanese way for many years, and the rest of the family was already Americanized. Example: the four boys acted as heads of the family and wanted their mother and sisters to do what they told them. Her mother and father and also the informant didn't like it. After some years they all got along fine.

Informant Amelia C. Unes

Sex F Age 66

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Maronite

Country of Origin U.S. born

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Peoria, Ill.

Date July 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I

World War I

1920's

1930's

IA1

After two years of peddling in Wyoming and Montana, informant's mother had saved \$3,000 plus the money she sent to her husband in Lebanon. Then her mother joined her husband in Lebanon in 1906.

Informant Mr. Frank Abodeely Sex M Age 83½ Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 17, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Brother-in-law and wife-to-be came to U.S. via Mexico in 1926 or 1927, to find work and also because of conflict with Muslims (probably 1925-26 rebellion in Lebanon); went to Mexico rather than U.S. at that time probably because U.S. immigration was restricted in 1924.

I/A/2

First to come to U.S. from his family; came with uncle. Many came from village; many of them in Toledo, Ohio, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Charleston, W. Va.

Uncle probably first came to U.S. about 1895; married in U.S. to Arab girl. She returned ill, died; about 1911 he returned to village, married deceased wife's 1st cousin.

There was a rumor that war between Italy and Turkey would spread; ruins of bombed ship was in Beirut Harbor. Uncle said "There will be war, want to take 2 boys with me to U.S.; reluctantly parents allowed us to go." Uncle and father paid fare, bought from broker.

Conversation with:

Informant Nicola Shamiyyi

Sex M Age 70

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Unknown

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Rashaya al Wadi, Lebanon

Date April, 1965

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

In Rachaya there were coffee houses where men would sit when they were not working and smoke the arhgili, and talk, gossip. Most were muleteers who would be on the road a week, month or more at a time. There were many muleteers in Rachaya. They traveled as far as Gaza, Palestine, Egypt, carrying roasted chick peas, and araq (liquor) and return with soap from Nablus and other goods. There were also story tellers in the coffee houses who would tell tall stories about jinn and dwarves.

In the old days they told stories and listen to them. Some stories never ended. But times have changed, they don't have time to waste. They saw others who had become wealthy and successful and sought advancement so they also now give their time to work and advancement.

The sectarian fanaticism has also gone. People look forward more to the future rather than the past.

II/1

II/15

VI/18

Conversation with:
Informant Nicola Shamiyyi Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Unknown Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Rachaya al-Wadi, Lebanon Date April, 1965

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

The emigrants who went to America first soon adjusted and opened businesses. Later emigrants didn't have money and would go to their relatives or fellow villagers. The older ones would give them a kishie (notions case) teach them a few words and they would go out and sell by sign language. After a year or two of adjustment and learning the language, a Lebanese would open a business for himself.

The people of Rachaya and other nations owe a debt to America for opening its wealth and opportunities to them. All of us, even me, who live well and who educated their children, owe it to the U.S.

Conversation with:

Informant Nicola Shamiyyi

Sex M Age 70

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Unknown

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Rachaya al-Wadi, Lebanon

Date April, 1965

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Asked if the emigrants seemed changed when they returned to the village, he said if they changed their traditions and customs, this comes from association. Those who first went to America and succeeded stimulated travel back and forth. This changed life in the village and in Lebanon.

The people from Beirut and Zahle left before the people of Rashaya. They knew about the U.S. before the others. They were the first to go to the U.S., Africa, Australia, and South America.

Those who went to Australia began going 70 or 80 years ago, so that they have no relatives left in Lebanon. The Saliba family of Rachaya are all in Australia.

Informant Christine La Hood Sex F Age 85 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 5
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Emigrated to U.S. in 1895 with mother, 2 brothers, and 1 sister. Came to father in Peoria. Father had come earlier, had made 2 or 3 trips back to homeland before his final trip with one daughter and one son in 1898. "He used to work here and go back and forth like nothing." On father's first trip, he brought back to U.S. 2 of her sisters and 1 brother.

She claims her uncle went back and forth 35 times..

Informant Jack A. Hamady Sex M Age 71 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 11
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Flint, Mich. Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Informant's family didn't suffer as much as other families during the WWI in the homeland because his father sent them money from the U.S. and there was a relief supply that came to the village sometimes.

Informant Rose Canty Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 1
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Had 3 brothers born in the U.S.

When a friend's brother went back to Lebanon before WWI to bring his parents back to the U.S. informant's mother asked him to bring her other daughter who was left in Lebanon in 1906. When this daughter, informant's sister, arrived she was very unhappy. (she didn't speak any English and was 9 or 10 years old)

Informant Sam M. Haddy Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

His father's cousin - Tom Beshara - brought people over from his own village in Lebanon. He financed their trip and supplied them with merchandise for peddling. Tom helped peddlers, even bought horses and wagons for them. Peddlers bought merchandise on credit, paid for what they sold. In C.R. there was only one store that supplied peddlers. The supplier got all his merchandise from Chicago.

X/3/0

11/18

Informant Sam M. Haddy Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code ✓1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. Born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

His parents sent money home to relatives in Lebanon.

Informant Sam M. Haddy Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. Born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

His father probably read about America before he came in 1900.

IB3

Father read newspapers and told peddlers about what was happening in the homeland. He got Mirat Al Gharb from N.Y. The few educated peddlers in C.R. read the newspapers for the illiterate ones. Informant read about Lebanon in the papers during the 1920's.

Informant Thelma Wehby Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Her parents went back to Lebanon around 1902 to bring back 2 of informant's sisters, they had to leave one with the grandmother because the latter wouldn't let her go in order to make sure the parents came back to Lebanon.

vi/12

vi/18

Informant Rose Canty Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 1
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Came to U.S. at age 1 with parents in 1906. Her mother's parents were in U.S. When informant's parents wanted to come to U.S. her paternal grandparents kept informant's sister, who was 3 years old, in Zahle. This was because informant's father was the only son they had and they wanted a member of his family with them, not because they wanted her parents to stay in Zahle. Her mother left her child in Zahle because "she was desperate." Her mother sold her jewelry for the trip.

IA2

Her maternal grandfather came to Peoria from Lebanon in 1901 then sent for his wife and her mother and brother to join him.

51/12

11/10

51/18

Informant Laurence Sophiea Sex M Age 57 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Ageborn at sea
Interviewer Alix Naff City Oak Park, Mich. Date May 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Parents marriage pre=arranged, married in Lebanon. Father left for U.S. sent for wife 2 years later to join him.

vi/13/a

vi/18

Informant Eugene A. Myers Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alix Naff City Washington, D.C. Date Aug. 27, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

IIA1

During second visit to Lebanon during WWI father bought food supplies for the Turkish government from the Lebanese people, for a year and half. He also worked a few years as a tax collector to the Turkish government. Father was an American citizen at this time, he was "forced" to do the job. He agreed on the condition that the Turks pay in gold rather than paper money. Muslim agent of Turkish gov't sent to father's house to watch him. They were very well off during WWI in the homeland but many weren't. His father helped keep about 50 people alive but they were mostly relatives.

II/6

II/9

IV/18



Informant Albert Peters

Sex M Age 79

Interview Schedule Code 18

Religious Sect Orthodox *

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 14

Interviewer tape sent by Mary Welch

City Wilkes-Barre, Penn.

Date 1979

*deduced from information given.

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Has 3 brothers in Syria, visited them in 1965, but didn't know any of them. After he got married he visited his parents in the homeland in 1927. His parents knew his wife's parents in the village of Mishtay, Syria. (Lebanon) When he decided to get married he wrote to his parents for permission which they at first refused thinking he would never return. He wrote again promising to return, and they agreed to the marriage, which was in 1924.

Informant Eugene A. Myers Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Washington, D.C. Date Aug. 27, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

His family owned land in Amyun, Lebanon.

Father came to U.S. to earn money, went back to Amyun, Lebanon and bought more land and built a house.

When mother returned to father's village in 1907 she was accepted by the people although she was Maronite. She went to the Orthodox church, and had lots of friends. She read letters written in English that were sent by emigrants to the U.S. to their relatives in Lebanon.

Informant Haifa & Jamal Richards Sex F Age 71 & 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Delweir, Iowa Date June 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1 Jamal: "We are still interested in our country."

Haifa: "You can get Americanized as much as you want but you still can't forget your first country. If you don't love your first country, you can't love your adopted country."

Informants' husbands sent money to family and relatives in Lebanon.

x/1/a

vi/18

Informant Lillian Haddy F 72
Sam George Haddy Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin she: U.S.born
he: Lebanon Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 29, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Sam's father came to U.S. first time in 1892, stayed 2 years and returned to bring his family from Lebanon. Came back to U.S. in 1905 with his oldest son. In 1910 he sent for 2 sons, and in 1913 he sent for his wife and other 2 sons.

Lillian's father came around 1895.

Both of their fathers came to make money, her father planned to return to Lebanon.

Informant Lillian Haddy Sex F Age 72
Sam George Haddy Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin she: U.S.born Immigrant Age N/A
he: Lebanon
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 29, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Sam's father peddled in Thompson, Iowa, probably got his merchandise from a supplier in Cedar Rapids. Father peddled until 1917 until all his family had come to U.S.

Lillian's father peddled in the Ohio hills for 9 years before coming to C.R. to Tom Beshara, the first Syrian in C.R. Father was related to Tom Beshara who was from the same village - Ain Arab.

Her father was an early supplier in C.R. He sent goods to peddlers in small towns around the area. They wrote to him re: recruiting peddlers, and correspond with the people in their village, and the people from the village would come to where they knew people.

IA2

Her father had rooms in back and above the store, where peddlers would sleep. There was also a boarding house in CR. where peddlers were directed to by suppliers. Three families lived above the store. All they needed was a bed and a stove. The Ain Arab knew each other and got along very well. Her father had a barn for their horses and wagons, very few peddled on foot. Peddlers were well acquainted and got together to decide on routes.

v/1

v/3

v1/18

Informant Zbayda Raya Maloof Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Charlie Raya Sex M Age 85 Interview Schedule Code 14
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 12, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

A brother returned to Lebanon to bring the family to the U.S. after their father died. This brother came in 1906 to U.S. to Chicago where he had a uncle. He peddled. Others of the Raya family came early to the U.S. Informants emigrated when they were sent for by this brother, 1912. Brother brought rest of family later. (around 1913)

Charlie came to keep his brother company, Zbayda to "serve" her brothers.

Informant Haifa & Jamal Richards Sex F Age 71 & 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Delwein, Iowa Date June 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA1 Haifa's father came to U.S. in 1905, peddled for one year and returned to Lebanon. He also went to Australia, and South America, each place for one year and then returned to Lebanon..
- IA3 Jamal's father came to the U.S. in 1914 and never went back to Lebanon, although he had intended to return.
- IA3 Haifa's husband came to U.S. in 1914 with his brother, Jamal's husband. Their oldest brother emigrated in 1910 or 1912.
- IA3 Haifa's father didn't want her to go, but she told him she would return in 5 years, but she didn't go back.
- IIA2 Before 1920 the Druze elders didn't allow Druze women to come to the U.S. but changed their minds because they were losing their men and the women were unmarried. Only 2 Druze women came to the U.S. before 1920, one from Beit Mary.
- IA1 Jamal's family had a lot of relatives in Australia, who were there since 1875. One of her husband's brothers was helped to enter the U.S. by a Congressman in 1927 after having been rejected in 1922.

Informant Alexander K. Malik Sex M Age 71* Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 19*
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962
* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
111-540

as
Mr. Malik wrote the State Dept. recommending that they send/representatives to the Arabian nations, American boys who are of Arabian descent.

((Mr. Malik uses Arabian for Arab))

Mr. Malik tells the interviewer that this is a private matter and does not like to talk about it.

Informant Mrs. Selma Bonahoom Sex F Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin United States Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
160-280

Informant's father was very hospitable. Would come home with meat under one arm and guests on the other and tell his wife to prepare a meal (dinner).

Informant's father was a good singer. Informant doesn't remember his songs, but she remembers guests from Australia (Syrians). Her father improvised songs about their youth/friendship in the old country. One man left the room weeping.

Informant's father wrote songs, etc. down, but informant gave them and Arabic books away (to others who presumably could read Arabic) because she couldn't read Arabic (to Julia Tawil in L.A. and another friend in Chicago).

her husband

/
who lives near the Syrian church in L.A. (St. Ann's--Melkite
???)

Informant Mrs. Ramza Abdelahad Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alixa Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
000-053

Informant's husband worked in a hotel (Essex), about 7 years.
They were living at the time in her sister's home. He was 21 years old at the
time (wulid ibn 20-21 sinii).¹
Her husband could write Arabic; her sister's family could not.
He was the one who wrote the letters to the old country for the family.

¹This was before their marriage.

Informant Mr. Dan Sickrey Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
373-470

When informant returned to America after being in the old country, he opened a grocery store in Grand Rapids.

When he returned to the old country he got married.

He would start to work in his grocery store at 5 a.m. (he actually says he opened the store-niftah) and stayed open to 10 p.m. He says something about sleeping an hour during the day. ~~(????)-or-an-hour-after-closing-(???)~~.

Informant Mr. Herb Bojrab Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria? Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date June 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
072-195

One of the informant's brothers who had been in the U.S. returned to the old country in 1908.

The informant and another brother and his paternal uncle's son remained here.

They would eat together, cooking for themselves.

I think the informant says they wanted to move from Dayton to Michigan.

They stopped enroute in Ft. Wayne. The informant's brother met a girl from their home village there and he married her. So they stayed in Ft. Wayne, eating together.

Informant Mr. Dan Sickrey Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
373-470

There was a pharmacy in Rashayya, but no doctor. When the informant had returned to the old country and his wife became ill (I think he says his first wife), he got a doctor (a Greek, in service to the army) from Hasbaya, a nearby village. The pharmacist in Rashayya considered himself (made himself) a doctor.

The doctor from Hasbaya prescribed medicine; the pharmacist diluted it considerably, mostly water, just enough medicine to change the taste. Informant's wife consequently did not improve. Informant got the doctor a second time (expensive--2 liras to bring him); doctor examined the medicine, told the pharmacist he was going to file a complaint with the government, to have the pharmacy closed, since he was endangering people's health/for the sake of saving a little more money.

lives
undiluted

The doctor's medicine/however was ultimately effective in a day or two with the informant's wife.

The interviewer comments that the pharmacist was a man who loved money more than people (the informant completes the last part of the sentence).

Informant Mr. Herb Bojrab

Sex M Age

Interview Schedule Code II/18

Religious Sect Orthodox?

Country of Origin Syria?

Immigrant Age

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Date June 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I

World War I

1920's

1930's

Side II
072-195

The informant and his brother who was returning to the homeland had each saved \$750.¹ They bought the land together. The land they bought was good, near the village and had water on it.

The informant's brother returned to the old country in 1908.

¹It would take about 4-5 years to save this amount of money.

The informant had saved \$700 before he got married.

Informant Mr. Assad Shabo Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Country of Origin Syria* Immigrant Age

Interviewer Alix Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

* Informant is an Assyrian, born in Turkey (Mesopotamia)

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
000-096
2

Mrs. Shabo came to the U.S. in 1909. Mr. Shabo went back to Syria, married her and brought her back to Boston.

VI/5

VI/3/e

VI/15

VI/18

Informant Alexander K. MalikSex MAge 71*Interview Schedule Code VI/18Religious Sect OrthodoxCountry of Origin SyriaImmigrant Age 19*Interviewer Alixa NaffCity Grand Rapids, MichiganDate July 1962* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
0-820

Besides the conventions to maintain contact with each other in the U.S., the Rashayya Unity Club assisted the village in the homeland which was having a terrible depression. Mr. Malik received requests for help from the old country. And while one or two small groups in the U.S. could not by themselves be of much assistance, Mr. Malik organized clubs which worked together. They sent 2 cargoes of wheat to the old country. The interviewer's father worked very hard in this endeavor.

Informant Mrs. Nazha Haney Sex F Age 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
195-267

Informant's father's third wife joined the church society and became its president. She wrote a letter to the informant in Spring Valley, from the old country, asking her to aid the church. The letter was delivered by mistake to the informant's uncle's wife who could not read and thinking the letter was for her, took it to her son who told her that the letter was not for her but for the informant. So they brought the letter to the informant who read it. The informant's aunt offered to collect money from some of their guests (???) and the informant agreed to match whatever amount was raised; so her aunt and her son raised \$120 from the men staying with them and from going around to collect. And the informant matched the amount, according to her word. "I don't go back on my words". (karamat immik, karamat al-kanisi)

The informant's aunt's son said he would go to the bank¹ and exchange the money for a check to send to the old country. The informant asked him to write an accompanying letter since he was more advanced in Arabic than she.

1 Informant had only recently arrived in Spring Valley from a long residence in Canada-- implication is that otherwise she would have gone to the bank herself.

Informant Mrs. Mary Maloley Sex F Age 65 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
245-445

The informant did send her mother money, as much as she was able, in the old country to help her support her family.

Informant Mr. Herb Bojrab Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code ~~V~~/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria? Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date June 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
072-195

They sent some money, a little, to the old country, from their earnings.

Informant Mrs. Ramza Abdelahad Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Maronite? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alixa Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
000-053

Informant refused to get married before she brought her mother to this country. Her brothers and sisters helped her (akhwatni--I'm not sure if this means both or if she had brothers); she couldn't afford to bring her from just her own earnings.
She was still crying and missing her family.

Informant Alexander K. Malik Sex M Age 71* Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 19*
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962
* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
111-540

The Rashayya Club broke up about five years ago (1957).

The money of the club was sent by the treasurer, the interviewer's father, to Mr. Malik and they divided it up among all the churches in their hometown in the old country.

Mr. Malik says that when circumstances require it, he calls the members and they meet, so rather than saying that the club has died, it is inactive. The club will be active if Mr. Malik calls a meeting; the members always listen to his call.

lots of

Mr. Malik says there are/others who could be leaders like him, but it is just because he loved the people and liked to do it.

The interviewer remembers Mr. Malik as an active leader and the respect the community had for him.

VI/3/e

VI/5

VI/18

Informant Mr. Edward Ellis Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
558-584

Mr. Ellis believes in miracles, after going to Palestine and to Saidnaya and seeing the crutches left behind. He tells one miracle, oil flowing from the icon of our lady at Saidnaya, curing a crippled man. There were 3 witnesses to it. He just read about it in a Damascus newspaper last month.

He has a subscription to this Damascus newspaper.

Informant Mr. Charles Bojrab Sex M Age 40's* Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin United States Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date July 1962
* approximate, inferred from information given

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
053-088

Informant sings the folk song "Barhoom, ya Barhoom"; this is a song about a mother who killed her son, returning from America, whom she mistook to be a rich man, for his money. The informant does understand some of the words of the song and the basic story.

VI/7

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Rasmiya Barakat Sex F Age Interview Schedule Code V/16
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
000-072

Informant returned to the old country at the beginning of the Depression, 1933.

Informant Mr. Assad Shabo Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Country of Origin Syria* Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City West Roxbury, Mass. Date August 1962

* Informant is an Assyrian, born in Turkey (Mesopotamia)

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
213-829

The people Mr. Shabo brought over were from Syria, but they were his people (Assyrians) from Mesopotamia. In Syria, they are called Mardiniyi because it is the biggest city. They do speak Arabic. Some come from Midyat, some from other countries. Anyone who got Mr. Shabo's card and let him know they wanted to come to the U.S. he would help, to do all he could for them.

Informant Mr. Dan Sickrey Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code V/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
000-047

Some immigrants would use their savings to build a home in the old country.
And then he would return to America, when the money ran out.

Informant Mr. Herb Bojrab Sex M Age Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria? Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date June 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side II
072-195

Mr. Bojrab planned to return to the old country with his brother.
His other brothers¹ dissuaded him because they felt he would spoil (???)
his brother's trip, since the informant was a little devil (shaitan).

At that time the informant didn't know as much as he does now (i.e. was not
as mature) and used to yell at his brother.

His brother told him he was going to buy some land in the old country and
asked him if he would like to buy some too. He said yes, although their oldest
brother said he wouldn't buy land there, even if he could buy the entire homeland
for \$100.

¹ukholi (2 of them)

IV/4

V/2/c

VI/18

Informant Mr. Eli Busada Sex M Age 87½ Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alix Naff City Washington, D.C. Date April 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B

Village of Mhaithie:

Remittances continued as long as one had family there.

Mhaithie society purpose: to get together and send money to village--for poor--none of the old group left.

Village people decreasing all the time.

Homes in village built of timber and sod; village had no electricity. Mhaithie society had one phone installed--were going to help with electrification but quarreled and gave up.

Had one doctor, no newspapers; people didn't read much; sent seriously ill to nearby hospitals.

People in U.S. sent money to family of a deceased.

Informant Mrs. Rose LaBa Sex F Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Catholic* Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date July 1962
*possibly Orthodox

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
456-491

Informant married her husband, who was Syrian, before she came to the U.S.
I think he may have been in the U.S. and returned to the old country to
marry her. In any case they came to the U.S. together.

II/11

IV/1

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Selma (Salimi) Salhaney Sex F Age 84 Interview Schedule Code ~~VI~~/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 32
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II 0-020	akh Ah, ala bledna, lakin Allahu yibathni budi al-ard al-mqadissi	budi rouh mout houniki
091-121	Our country is a blessed country a holy country. (mqadissi)	

Values - Love of the homeland

VI/18

Informant Mr. Edward Ellis Sex M Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox? Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 13
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
275-302

Mr. Ellis thinks that Syrians immigrated to the U.S. because they didn't think their own homeland country belonged to them. Under the old rules, everything belonged to the Sultan and they were just his subjects. They could order you out of your home, which they cannot do in America, to move from one town to another.

This is one reason why the Arab people did not try to help in the Middle East like the Israelites/Jewish. We didn't help our country because we didn't think it was our country at all; we left it; we never cared for it. We didn't start caring for it until after WWII when we became independent, Syria and Lebanon after 1945.

We all came here with the understanding to gather a few dollars and go back to the homeland. Up to the first world war, we were closer together, never mingled with other nationalities, never integrated with them, never intermarried, because of this expectation of return. Even though they didn't like the regime, he cites an Arabic proverb whose meaning is "If the the native land under bad rule isn't loved, it, will be ruined. "Doun ma kun al-watan ka-sal, kanat bilad as sawf kharaf???"

Informant Mrs. Rasmiya Barakat Sex F Age Interview Schedule Code ~~V~~/B
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
000-072

Informant returned from the old country in 1957.

Informant Mrs. Nazha Haney Sex F Age 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side II
267-400

Informant treasured picture of her step-sister, sent to her from the old country. Picture was of her step-sister as a baby; she looked like a boy.

Informant Mrs. Nazha Haney Sex F Age 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I X World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I
126-331

Her maternal uncle suggested to her father that they use the \$200 each had saved to invest in land there in Texas, where they were doing a good business, which was selling for 50¢/acre-- "Look how much land we would own." Her father preferred to save his \$200 in expectation of increasing it to \$500 (= 100 pounds) in order to return to the old country.

(Given the possibility that there might have been oil on the land, and his increased awareness of the value of land, he later regretted his decision not to buy the land in Texas or later in California).

Informant Mrs. Nazha Haney Sex F Age 64 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I X World War I 1920's 1930's

Side I

126-331

Informant's father returned to the old country after he had saved the \$500 for the trip; informant was 5 years old.

Her father stayed in the old country for 4½ years. Then the three of them (father, mother, and informant) returned to the U.S. together and informant did not return to the old country after that.

informant's aunt lived there; they stayed 3 months
When they arrived in the U.S., they landed in Rochester, Pennsylvania and then came to Ft. Wayne, where informant picked coal on the railroad tracks.

(They were poor, and her mother told her to pick the coal which fell from the train cars--they lived alongside the railroad track--so she took a bucket and picked up the fallen pieces of coal. The train men began to recognize the informant; they called her "Dutch"--she didn't know what the word meant, but she had fair skin--and throw her some coal. These men were kind to her.

Informant Abraham Gilade

Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Went to Texas and stayed about 8 months at age 18 before returning to Lebanon. He didn't have to work in the U.S.-he had money, so sometimes he worked and sometimes not. He came 2 or 3 times to the U.S. before getting married and remaining here. He didn't return to Tripoli, Lebanon until 1947.

He came with plenty of money. After his father died he got about \$250. a year from the rental of his father's property in Lebanon. This money came to him in Los Angeles.

Informant Wagha Sophiea Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Royal Oak, Mich. Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

Never paid much attention to homeland politics after they emigrated. Had relatives there but they were not close. They made up their minds they were going to stay in America and gave up their homeland: "This is my country."

Informant Wagha Sophiea Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Royal Oak, Mich. Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

Subscribed to Al Sameer and Merat Al Gharb from N.Y. and also a Syrian newspaper. She reads Arabic newspapers and sent for books from Syria. She reads poetry and news about her homeland and about Syrians in America. She shares newspapers with other members of the family.

Informant Wagha Sophiea Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Royal Oak, Mich. Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1 Informant got her citizenship in 1939 in order to bring her mother here.
She voted only recently.

IB2 Her husband never got involved in politics, didn't vote. She has gotten involved in American politics very recently. She was too busy working before and didn't know a good from a bad candidate and couldn't read English.

She knew about and liked FDR because he repealed Prohibition, because she heard him on the radio, and because he was in office so long.
Her son votes Democratic sometimes and generally for the individual in presidential elections.

Informant Wagha Sophiea Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Royal Oak, Mich. Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

- Her father emigrated in 1905 with his brother and father to South America. Planned to make money and return to village. His brother in Streator, Ill. wrote to him and he (informant's father) joined him in Streator in 1907. Her grandfather came to the U.S. in 1900 and her brother in law in 1902 to S. America. They all came to the U.S. and S. America to peddle.

Informant's father died in Streator when she was young. She emigrated to the U.S. in 1920 with a sister. Her mother emigrated to the U.S. 1940 when informant sent for her and a remaining sister.

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Her father first went to South America in 1878, returned to Lebanon, then went to the U.S. He had a brother in S. America. When he came to the U.S. he went to Omaha, Neb. then to S. Dakota. He returned to Syria, got married, then brought his wife over to the U.S. Informant's mother had three children in Lebanon and it was 10 years later that she came to the U.S. with her children.

Aux. tape

IA2

Informant's father migrated to the U.S. in 1876 the first time, spending some time in N.Y., Boston, then to Mexico and S. America to Lebanon, returning to the U.S. in 1878.

(Informant contradicts herself on other sections of the tapes regarding the date of her mother's entry into the U.S.)

14/3

21/18

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code V / 18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Sioux Falls, S. Dakota was a farming town of about 30,000. There were about 150 Arab families both Christians and Muslims, but more Muslims. The two main Christian families were the Haddads and the Solomans.

There was no mosque but they used a room and later a store front in about 1920. Both Sunni and Shi'i prayed together.

Aux. tape

IIA1

Syrians from Sioux Falls would send for their relatives, most were from Karaoun or Mashghara, Qub Elias and Zahle, etc. There were about 10 families or 75 people in all around S. F. Christian families were: Hagars, Haddads, Solomans. Muslim families were Ogdies, Manways, Swaydens, Badhers, As'ads, Hamrods and Haymoors. Many single men - 15 of them. She was 6 to 10 years old then. Now there are about 500 families in S. Dakota, half in S. F. Many of the Muslim families are related.

This refers to the time period between 1914 and 1920.

vi/1

vi/2

vi/9/a

vi/18

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code 241/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

- Informant's father heard about the U.S. that there was gold here. People in the village got letters from kin in the U.S.

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City 'Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IB3 - Her father prospered in peddling and would bring over members of his family - first a brother then 2 cousins. He would then start them at peddling with a small box at first. Her father took her brother out about 20 miles and told him he was on his own. This brother spoke very little English. There was a small pox epidemic at the time and every farm he tried he would hear "small pox, go away." He thought they were referring to his box. When he finally got back to town he asked for the biggest box they had.
- IIA1 The farmers in that area were Germans, Norwegians, and Swedes and their English wasn't much better so they were nice to peddlers.

Informant Rose Canty Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 1
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

Her parents followed the politics of the homeland.

VIII / 2 / f

VI / 18

Informant George F. Addes Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff & Grant Farr City St. Claire Shores, Michigan Date June 14, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

(to Lebanon)
A lot of people sent money home to support their families or relatives. Parents sent money to mother's brother who was in South America and had problems. Mother's brother had 12 boys.

Didn't know about any rebellion or war in Lebanon. But father told him once in a while about "somethingsthat were going on in that part of the world."
He didn't have any 'particular feelings' about Lebanon. "That was another country, they had their own problems. We had our problems here too."

Conversation with:

Informant Zenib Sabaugh Sex F Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
 Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 17
 Interviewer Alix Naff City Dearborn, Mich. Date May 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She praises the French for their improvements to her country, such as electrification, and making the country safer and more secure. She does not seem to be concerned with events in the homeland today. She is not even concerned with the fate of Lebanon because all of her family are here and have been for some time. For all intents and purposes, ties with the homeland no longer exist. They get some letters but nothing of significance. She is fully aware of current events in the Arab world and has opinions on it. She said that there were Jewish fruit peddlers in her village with whom they got along very well. But the U.S. connection with Israel spoiled that relationship. Until the French came the Muslims used to protect the Christians from harm during uprisings or local conflagrations aimed at Christians. Christians and Muslims may have lived in separate quarters but they were friendly. She does not know if the Turks treated Christians in the same way that they treated Muslims.

VIII / 2 / f

II / 3

VI / 18

Conversation with:
Informant Zenib Sabaugh Sex F Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Mich. Date May 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She talked about the violence of the Turks in her village during WWI. The Turks were enforcing conscription laws on Christians and Muslims, but the Muslims were more affected. If the Turks could not collect the expected amount of taxes or conscript the expected number of men in the village, they quartered themselves on the people of the village. They burned her parent's mattresses and killed the only young lamb the family had. There was starvation in the village. Her family had to sell its cooking pans to buy food and many people fled across the valley to Hawran, a Druse stronghold and a major grain producing area. They found nothing there and had to return to live off unripe grapes from their own vineyards in the village. Her father owned land. ~~THEY XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Since her father was a sheikh in the village, he was able to keep the Turks from inflicting bodily harm on his family. But the Turks did confiscate all of their grain and other food in storage and in the fields. She hates the Turks and the old country, doesn't like any of its ways and doesn't know why anybody would want to go back.

II/6

X/2

VII/1

VI/18

Conversation with:

Informant Mrs. Fatme Askker Sex F Age 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 32
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Her husband worked for Ford Motor Co until he died. He had moved to Dearborn from Michigan City, Ind. via Highland Park, Mich. She came directly to Dearborn in 1939. Later she sent for her mother who died within three months in a U.S. hospital.

VI/11

VI/18

Conversation with:

Informant Mrs. Fatme Askker

Sex F Age 78

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim

Country of Origin Syria

Immigrant Age 32

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Dearborn, Mich.

Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She praised America for the freedom given to women here. Although her life was difficult here she felt free of the constraints of the village.

She visited her village after WW2 but couldn't wait to return to the U.S. She was proud when younger villagers identified her as an American. She said she felt more comfortable talking with a Christian in her village.

Once she overheard her husband telling his children that he married her to take of them. She felt hurt and reproached him, saying either to retract the statement or she would move to her brother's house. The husband raised his hand to slap her, so she left the house and went to her brother's. Her brother advised her to return to her husband but she did so only when her husband apologised. Things went better between them after that but she never forgot the incident.

VI / 13 / a

VI / 13 / b

VI / 20 / c

VI / 18

Informant William Abbott Sex M Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill Date July 9, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

Never had strong ties to homeland; parents couldn't write Arabic and didn't hear from anyone. Never sent money, didn't have anyone to send it to. No relatives there.

Informant Joseph M. Couri Sex M Age 65 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

His father sent money to Itoo.

He didn't have ties with the homeland, he felt remote from it. (informant)

Informant Jack A. Hamady

Sex M Age 71

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Druze

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 11

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Flint, Mich.

Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

He went back to Lebanon in 1935 for a vacation and met his wife who was a teacher in the missionary school in Bagline. He married her and brought her back to the U.S. His wife's father got a Doctorat Degree in the U.S.

Informant Christine La Hood

Sex F

Age 85

Interview Schedule Code

VL/18

Religious Sect Maronite

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 5

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Peoria, Ill.

Date July 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IA1

All her relatives from Itoo are in the U.S. now, except for one male relative.

IB3

During WW1 they lost a lot of their people in Itoo, many starved. They sent money to relatives who had to mortgage everything to keep alive.

VII / 1
VI / 18

Informant Mr. George J. Bouhana Sex M Age 67 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite-R. Catholic Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Warren, Michigan Date May 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/2

Father used to send money to his relatives in the homeland.

II/B/1

Father never went back to the old country.

Informant Mr. Mahomed Forge Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 26
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant visited in Lebanon in 1936 for 9 months.

He also returned to Lebanon in 1947 for a 3-year stay.

In 1962 informant went to Mecca on pilgrimage (hadj) for 105 days.

Informant took his oldest son with him on his 1947 trip and sent him to school in Lebanon for three years. He also bought Arabic books for his children from Lebanon.

I/A/2

He sends money home once in a while.

II/18
II/19/6
II/7
II/8

Informant Mary Shamey Sex F Age 67 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dearborn, Mich. Date May 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA2 Her parent's marriage was pre-arranged.
- IA1 They were married before they emigrated to the U.S.
Father emigrated in 1910, then went back for his wife around 1911.

Informant Mary Shamey

Sex F Age 67 Interview Schedule Code V/18

Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim

Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Dearborn, Mich. Date May 30, 80

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

Her mother continued to have correspondance ties with the homeland,
she would have someone write letters for her.

Informant Najla Nouhan Simon Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Mich. Date May 23, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Informant started school at age 5 at French school, taught by French nuns and Arab teachers. Loved school, remained there until age 12. Two uncles living in U.S. told her parents to send the children to English school, because they hoped that the rest of the family would emigrated also ultimately. Attended English school for 2 years, British school, but with Arab teachers. When she left for the U.S. she could read and write French, Arabic, and some English. Memorized much poetry.

Informant Najla Nouhan Simon

Sex F Age 82

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Melkite

Country of Origin Syria

Immigrant Age 15

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Detroit, Mich.

Date May 23, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Informant's father, his two brothers and other members of the family came to the U.S. as a family in 1913. Each uncle had 7 children, and all came with them.

IA3

They came because they would hear of other in the neighborhood who had left and the idea spread. Doesn't think they came because they heard money grew on the street. Mostly single men came. Her uncles used their savings, didn't borrow. Doesn't know if they planned to stay.

Came because uncles in the U.S. read in the newspapers that WWI was approaching and they sent for the family. Arrived in the U.S. just in time before the war stopped travel. About 20 people came together. They sold their property and businesses.

III / 1

III / 3

III / 2

VI / 18

Informant Afif I. Tannous Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 33
Interviewer Alix Naff City Annandale, Virginia Date September 10, 198

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

Before he came to the U.S. he was aware of the existence of intellectuals of the Syrian-Lebanese community in N.Y. area and read writings of Gibran, Naime, Haddad, Ilya-abu-Madhi. When he was a student in N.Y. in 1938 he got in touch with some them.

There were some Arabic newspapers like Al Huda, but mostly with Maronite Lebanese orientation. A paper which was more oriented toward Arab politics was related to the Druze community published in Washington: Al Bayan, which was pro Arab because the Druze are related to all factions of Arabs, since they can't stand alone by themselves.

IB2

The newspapers dealt with the feelings and the cultural background of the old generation because they were printed in Arabic which the new generation had forgotten, or at least only spoke, and didn't use to read and write.

The papers dealt with the rights of Arab immigrants but also with the special religious communities rather than the overall.

A rift started to appear after Lebanon became independent This rift was in community orientation vis a vis the Lebanese background, where people were saying "we are Lebanese" or "we are Maronite." The other orientation was vis a vis the Arab background "We are all Arabs."

Arabic publications in N.Y. were for the goal of keepin their culture alive, not in aiding the Americanization process.

Informant Afif I. Tannous

Sex M Age 75

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 33

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Annandale, Virginia

Date September 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

After coming to the U.S. in 1937 he went to St. Laurence U. for one year on a teacher fellowship. Then he went to Cornell for two years and finished his graduate work. While studying he taught in both universities and also taught 2½ years at the U. of Minn.

Informant Afif I. Tannous Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 33
Interviewer Alix Naff City Annandale, Virginia Date September 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

The Arab League:

Informant contacted the Arab League, a club formed by some Arabs in N.Y., and became a member around 1938 or 1939. It was "a group of people in Washington who espoused the idea of Arab unity and total Arab identity." The founders were people who were successful in their businesses and professions, like Elias Audi, who came from Kora near informant's village, and Fuad Shatara, and George Khayralla. They were all educated and came from different places in Syria and Lebanon. The leaders had grown up in the homeland before coming to the U.S. The purpose of the club was to "encourage Arab identification with the Arab Renaissance, with the Arab political development, and ... (shirk) the device of ideas: Lebanon for the Lebanese, Syria for the Syrians, etc. " The Arab League was not a large group but had followers in the Arab speaking community in N.Y. They tried to develop the same spirit in other states but it didn't move and gradually died out.

If someone just came from the homeland the group would have a special meeting to talk about what's going on there. They had special meetings to raise funds to help certain causes in the homeland. The tried to develop an understanding among the bigger American community of the Arab unity and background.

over.....

Also the League encouraged teaching Arabic in the U.S. For example, they related to Philip Hitti's work at Princeton because "he is a Maronite Lebanese who stands as the scholar for the whole Arab world."

He believes the League published some newsletters.

The League was dissolved after WW2 It's ideas didn't spread because it was before its time. After the war the new Arab independent countries made it difficult to create a sense of Arab unity and therefore splits within the organization made it dissolve.



Informant Afif I. Tannous

Sex M Age 75

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 33

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Annandale, Virginia

Date September 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

He met his wife at the U. of Minn. where he was a teacher and she was doing her graduate studies. His wife's grandfather emigrated from the informant's village. His wife studied in Lebanon and finished the university there then came to the U.S. to take graduate courses. They were married in the U.S.

Informant Afif I. Tannous Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 33
Interviewer Alix Naff City Annandale, Virginia Date September 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

During the winter, the family went to Tripoli, 15 miles away where his father had a business. The informant went to the American grade school there and to the village school in the summer. His school in Tripoli and ten or fifteen other school were set up by the Presbyterian Board of Missions. Speaking of the Ayube School: it began as a mission school but later during the mid-1920' it had its own board of trustees and became non-sectarian.

IA3

"The American mission school rendered tremendous interest to the villages of Lebanon."

Informant's mother in the mid'1880's was one of the first girls to go to the mission school in Tripoli. His sister also went to the mission school.

Informant graduated from the American mission school in Tripoli and went to the Ayube School, where he studied biology and agriculture. Because he was interested in the human side of development he took social sciences. After several years working in the rural areas of Lebanon, Syria, and Palestine, and teaching in the university he came to the U.S. to finish his graduate work in 1937.

Informant Afif I. Tannous

Sex M

Age 75

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 33

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Annandale, Virginia

Date September 10, 198

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

Emigrants from Lebanese villages were so attached to their land that they always sent remittances home to buy back the mortgage and to buy more land.

Informant Afif I. Tannous Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 33
Interviewer Alix Naff City Annandale, Virginia Date September 10, 198

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA1 Informant went to a 'community school' in the village. There was one teacher who taught everything. Besides being a teacher this man was a tradesman. Boys and girls went to the same school, but to different classrooms. Informant learned English, French and Arabic.
- IA2 "It was the spirit of emigrants to the U.S. that developed that school." Before the teaching was very primitive, pupils learned "how to write a little, how to read a little, subtract and multiply but not division." Emigrants who went back to the village spread the American idea of education. This happened in other villages also. The influence of emigrants was tremendous on village life and on education. The emigrants sent money and ideas back to the village.
- Informant remembers hearing one emigrant who returned talking about the rights of the individual, "human beings in America are highly respected."

Informant Afif I. Tannous

Sex M Age 75

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 33

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Annandale, Virginia

Date September 10, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Bishmizzine, Lebanon, located in northern Lebanon, is mostly Orthodox with small percentage of Muslims and one or two Maronite families, who came from other villages. The village grew around the original church which is located in the center. The village community contributed money and solicited funds from emigrants in the U.S. and other areas to build a new church - called St. George Church. Now the village has two churches. Informant claimed there is no religious factionalism in the village, the two churches were for everybody.

Informant Mr. Nafe Katter Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 22
Interviewer Alix Naff City Saginaw, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

During informant's visit in Lebanon in 1955, he realized that his village needed a school, so he contacted the government education department and asked for support to build one. The Lebanese government, with the assistance of U.S. Lebanese immigrants, financed the project of building a school, which was attended also by students from other villages.

81/18

Informant Jack A. Hamady Sex M Age 71 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 11
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Flint, Mich. Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

Informant's family read Al Bayan from New York. They still receive some periodicals from Lebanon, from Druze Home in Beirut, just to keep in contact. In 1930' and 40's there was a movement in Beirut to build a Druze Home and this organization published some periodicals.

Family also read Al Doha.

Informant Jack A. Hamady Sex M Age 71 Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 11
Interviewer Alix Naff City Flint, Mich. Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Some Lebanese from Bagline went back to their homeland and didn't come back because they bought land in Lebanon. One of his uncles who was in business with his father returned home to "finish his days there."

IIA1

To keep ties with the homeland informant's family read periodicals that the Druze Home in Beirut published. Informant and other Druze in Flint sent money to homeland to relatives or contributed to building a school.

Informant Mr. Mitchell J. Maloof Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Roman Catholic Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Illinois Date July 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

Informant's father sent money to relatives in Zahle through relatives in Egypt to assure its delivery.

Informant Thelma Webby Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Her parents left their three daughters in Lebanon when they came to the U.S. in 1896. Informant was born two years later in Cedar Rapids.

Informant Thelma Webby Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 19, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2 There were some Muslims and Maronites who came to Cedar Rapids.
Her father had some Muslim friends from Lebanon who first stayed in their
house for 3 or 4 months.

Informant Najem & Bahia Basheer

Sex M & F Age 84 & 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Druze

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 24

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Richmond, Va. Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

He made good money from peddling but he sent "practically all of it" home.
He stopped peddling in 1914 because he "didn't like it" and went to Cleveland,
Ohio.

V / 1

VI / 18

Informant Najem and Bahia Basheer Sex M & F Age 84 & 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 24
Interviewer Alix Naff City Richmond, Va. Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIB1

In 1935 he traveled to Australia to visit his brothers who had a hotel there.
He stayed 6 months and then went to Lebanon to get married.

Informant Najem and Bahia Basheer Sex M & F Age 84 & 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 24
Interviewer Alix Naff City Richmond, Va. Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- IA3 No intermarriage between sects in Beit Mary.
- IB1 Druze marriages were arranged, but the boy could choose his own wife. Girls were supposed to marry at an early age - 14, 15 or 16, otherwise people would think there was something wrong with her.
- IB2 At a Druze marriage the two fathers go to the sheikh al aql and write the kitab, Dowry which is in money is necessary.
Divorce is acceptable but it's a shame for the family to have a divorced woman.
- IIB2 He went to Beit Mary in 1938 to marry her. She was in Egypt vacationing with her brother and he wrote asking her to come home. They dated a few times before the marriage. They went to the Kaddi in Beirut to write the kitab. They had a big wedding celebration with dancing and singing.

II/11

VI/13/a

II/16

VI/18

Informant Najem & Bahia Basheer

Sex M & F Age 84 & 64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Druze

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 24

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Richmond, Va. Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

When peddling in 1914 he sent most of his money home but when he stopped peddling in the same year he sent only small amounts home.

Informant Najem and Bahia Basheer

Sex M & F

Age 84 & 64

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Druze

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17 & 24

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Richmond, Va.

Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

His aunt was the first Druze woman to come to America in 1902 or 03.
It was the missionary school in the village of Beit Mary that brought her.
She had taught in the missionary school in Beit Mary.

IB3

Informant told his father that he wanted to come to U.S. and when the father agreed his oldest brother, who had just returned from Australia, bought the ticket in Beirut.

Informant Zbayda Raya Maloof Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Charlie Raya Sex M Age 85 Interview Schedule Code 14
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 12, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Lebanese returning from America carried their money in gold, and greatly impressed the villagers. They made this money peddling. Row buildings along the main street in Zahle is built with money from Zahle people in Brazil, they made more money than the U.S. immigrants.

Informant Eugene A. Myers Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alix Naff City Washington, D.C. Date Aug. 27, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA3

Has two cousins in Lebanon who they correspond with. They sold the rest of their property in Lebanon after WW2.

Used to send money to their uncle and other relatives before WW2.

Parents returned to Lebanon for a 6 month stay in 1907 after their marriage.

Informant Zbayda Raya Maloof Sex F Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Charlie Raya Sex M Age 85
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 14
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 12, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

Asked how he was able to purchase 2 homes, a restaurant, expensive jewelry for his bride and pay \$6,000 for the wedding, informant at first attributed it to his success, later admitted that when his family all came from Lebanon, they sold their property and furnishings and came with a lot of money in which he shared.

Informant Haifa & Jamal Richards Sex F Age 71 & 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Delweine, Iowa Date June 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Haifa got married at age 16 in Beit Mary (in 1925) before she completed high school. Her husband's oldest brother owned a restaurant in Delweine, Iowa and returned to Lebanon in 1925 to get married, then returned to U.S. with his wife. Her husband came at the same time and returned to the U.S. with Haifa. Her husband's parents knew Haifa and recommended her. After Haifa came to the U.S. she recommended Jamal to her husband's brother and the brother went to Lebanon to marry Jamal and returned with her to the U.S.

vi/13/a

vi/18

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3	Father went back to Lebanon in 1935 got married to mother and returned with her. Father was 27, mother in early 20's
IB1	Although his father lived in the U.S. for 15 years before marriage, he preferred to marry a Druze girl, because he respected his faith, and there weren't many Druze girls in Flint.
IIA1	Informant married a Druze. Some of his cousins didn't marry Druze; one cousin married a Jewish girl.

v1/13/a

v1/13/b

v1/18

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code VI / 18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA3

The Lebanese community sent money to the village of Bagline, Lebanon for the needy. (didn't say when or who)

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code 44/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Some people from his parent's villages who lived in the US went back to Lebanon to get married or to stay.

v1/13/6

v1/18

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2 The Lebanese community had a strong sense of religious identity. (in Flint, Mich.)
IA2 First the Arab immigrants called themselves Syrians, then when Lebanon got its
independence, they called themselves Lebanese.
IIB3 Informant grew up with a sense of being Druze as an important factor in his
ethnic identity, and being Lebanese came after. He didn't feel a sense of
Arabism until recently when he started reading about history of Lebanon and
began contacts with Lebanese. Informant "senses" that there will be no unity
between Arabs.

x/1/a

vi/18

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Supplement

Asked how much religion is coming to replace nationalism as a basis for unity in the Arab world, informant said that there is a unity of sorts in Lebanon, but it may not be valid to talk about Lebanon as a microcosm of the Arab world, because there is a large Christian element, western influences, and interest over the last 100 years. Something that has not existed in other Arab countries. In Lebanon "you had pressures that tore up the country.. you have the Palestinians, the rampant inflation, economic inequities.. we've labeled them the Christian elements. We had power by virtue of the French legacy, so to speak, and the Muslims didn't have that much power.. who were poor. Whether that unity can be re-established is a question that people are becoming increasingly pessimistic about."

Informant said although he is physically remote from Lebanon he has strong emotional feelings about the inequities that he saw there and would be in favor of foreign intervention if it contributed to stabilization. In response to questioning he said his interest in the Arab world focuses on Lebanon in particular and with the Arab world as a whole in general, and its image in the world. He thinks the image of the Arabs in this country is a poor one, and would like to see it changed.

Informant Theodore M. Hamady Sex M Age 43 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Alix Naff City McLean, Va. Date Sept. 1978

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2	Grandfather read the Arabic newspapers; but wasn't interested in the politics of the homeland.
IIB1	Informant didn't hear about Gibran or other Arab writers in N.Y.

vi/10

vi/18

Informant Mrs. Madeline Bolis Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin United States* Immigrant Age n.a.*
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 27, 1980
* parents were immigrants from Mt. Lebanon

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/1

Her father always wanted to go back. In fact he had property in the old world until the 1930's.

Informant Mrs. Bahieh Kappaz Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code IV/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/1

We saw Hitler on film but what could we do about it.

Not concerned about what was going on in homeland; all of your people emigrated here--
There was nothing to worry about.

"Can you help Lebanon or I help Damascus?" They can help themselves. Here we married and raised our children and we will die here. "Let them worry about themselves" We had cousins and aunts in Damascus, but they had children in America. It's their business not ours--We stopped send money or being concerned when our families-- mother and brothers came.

IX/2/c

VI/18

Informant Mr. Peter Aref Solomon Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VII/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Grant Farr City Sterling Heights, Michigan Date May 28, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

He remembers that there were no newspapers during the war, but that people heard about the riches in the U.S. by word-of-mouth, by letters and by people returning.

His father came and went 3 times: 1902, 1910, and 1920.

Informant Mrs. Rahmy Francis Sex F Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Maronite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Grant Farr City Detroit, Michigan Date May 15, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's X 1930's _____

II/A/3

Her husband continued to write until his sister died.

At first they sent money back.

Informant Albert Peters

Sex M Age 79

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox *

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 14

Interviewer tape sent by Mary Welch

City Wilkes-Barre, Penn.

Date 1979

*deduced from information given.

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IB1

People in the village of Mishtay used to gather twice a year, once during St. George week when they would have a market, and dancing, and music for the whole week. They would gather at his father's store and tell stories.
This is where he heard about the U.S.

Informant Zbayda Raya Maloof Sex F Age 82
Charlie Raya Sex M Age 85 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 12, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Their maternal uncle used to peddle linens in Chicago. Their mother in Zahle would send her brother every two weeks a box of crocheted and tatted linens. Many girls worked for her making them, they'd be paid 15 or 20 cents, making doilies and table cloths, immitating Italian cloths which sold for \$500. to \$1000. Many families did this for their relatives in the U.S. It was a real trade. Mr. Balish had most of Zahle working and supplying his huge store, sending money to pay the workers, like their uncle did. Their father used to go to Beirut and Damascus to buy spools of thread.

Uncle Rasheed and Mr. Mutran from Zahle had supplier stores in Chicago. Peddlers sold watches and rosaries saying they were from Jerusalem when they bought the things in Chicago. The watch cost about 25¢ and was sold for 4 to 5 dollars.

Peddlers traveled as far as Indiana and would write to his uncle in Chicago who would supply them by train. Mr. Balish, another supplier, had 20 to 30 older women peddling from his store.

Informant Eugene A. Myers

Sex M Age 70

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 10

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Washington, D.C.

Date Aug. 27, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IA1

IB1

IB2

IB3

Informant came to U.S. in 1920 with parents and two sisters.

Mother first came to U.S. in 1886 or 1887 at age 8 or 9. Father came in 1889 at age 14. Came with an old lady from Amyun. Grandfather came to Cuba in 1881. Later he returned to Lebanon after 1½ years in Cuba. His uncles came to Waco, Texas.

Father's sister was living in Periopolis, Penn. when the family came to U.S.

Uncle had a big store in Periopolis. Another uncle went to Mexico in 1921.

IB1

When informant's father arrived he was wearing a hat saying Waco, Texas, which was his destination. His two brothers were there.

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

After giving up peddling in 1923, her father opened up a general store. This bored him, so he went into business making road repairs. He bought some trucks, and he and his sons began trucking and later they started a construction company. His son's never went to school, as he wanted them to.

Her father homesteaded before 1910 in Padoha, S.D. Had 120 acres in 1890, returned to his village to marry bore 3 children then left them and returned to S.D. Her mother joined him later. Father kept the homestead until 1918 or 1919. He brought a stallion and a mare with him from Arabia when he returned from the homeland.

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age N/A
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Mich. Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2 - Her father followed the politics of the homeland. He was angry when they partitioned Syria.

IIB2 Aliya also follows political events in the homeland. She believes the current civil war in Lebanon is political rather than religious.

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IV/A/2

Her aunt Rose, her father's sister, had been in the U.S., in Colorado, long before she was born. She met her here after she came. Before that, her aunt used to send packages to them, beautiful clothes to her, for Easter and Christmas. Her aunt had a picture of her and they had a picture of her aunt. Her aunt used to write them. She thinks her aunt came to the U.S. for a better opportunity as everyone else did "and you get rich quick, I suppose, the gold that you find in the street". She doesn't know if she came married or single but married an Arab, from Bteghrine. She raised a nice family (in Colorado); informant has lots of cousins and their families there. Informant's aunt Mais, also her father's sister, had lived in Colorado but had died before she came. Informant has visited with her daughter, her cousin Nesebe. Her aunt Mais' husband was also from Bteghrine from the extended family. She thinks her aunt Mais lived in Walsenburg and her aunt Rose lived in La Jara and Trinidad (Colorado) and that they had both grocery and dry goods stores. One of her aunt Rose's sons is now a rancher, has a large number of sheep and vast holdings.

Informant's brother, after visiting her aunt Rose in Colorado, moved to Phoenix because of better opportunities for work and he did very well there. He lived there three of four years before his death.

III/1

III/2

VI/14

VI/12

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1981

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2 Informant's father would send them money from South America. "That's how
II/A/3 we lived". He sent them enough money to live on two or three times a year.

I/B/2 Informant's family received letters from her father in South America. "He
also sent us money enough to build, to add to the house... two big rooms", which were
II/A/3 lived in by a returned immigrant family.

" Then the war came and they received no more money.

III/B Asked if her mother ever wanted to go back to the old country to visit, she
/1 replied: "We all, everybody says they would like, sure" but "not very many" (in
Cairo) went back to visit. "They talked about it and they wished and they would
and they wanted to but not very many of them went back". Other than the man who
sold her husband his store, she doesn't know of anyone else who went back to stay.

III/B The Syrians in Cairo didn't bring additional family members from the old
/1 country because "... everybody that had a family here had already brought their
families here and most of these families had children here...".

" Her grandmother, her mother's mother, came to this country because "she hadn't
seen her son and daughter for years and years and she did want to come and they
wanted her to come and she came...". She doesn't remember exactly when she came
but it was in the early Forties or late Thirties; she lived here about 15 years
and died here. She came to stay (here) with uncle Najeeb, her son.

Informant Mr. Wadie Nicola Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 12, 1971

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3
I/B/1

Informant returned to al-Munsif in 1924 and married and came back. He knew his wife when she was a little girl; he went home for a visit. In 1924 Lebanon was under the French mandate.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Darwish Raya

Sex M & F Age 74 & 72 Interview Schedule Code VI 118

Religious Sect Melkite

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 22

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

On his return to the U.S. in 1912 from Lebanon he went to visit his cousin in Muskogee, Oklahoma and then back to Tucson where he had been before. He opened a general store, grocery, fruit, vegetables, and merchandise.

Informant Mrs. Malaki BhennessySex FAge 74*Interview Schedule Code VL/18Religious Sect MelkiteCountry of Origin SyriaImmigrant Age 15Interviewer Alix NaffCity Los Angeles, CaliforniaDate 1962

*deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

The informant and her husband were married in Zahle and his folks didn't want her to come to the U.S. with him because they wanted him to stay in Zahle, but he wouldn't agree to that.

Informant Mr. Wadie Nicola Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 12, 1979

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Informant's Occupation, note 4:

I/B/2 Informant's first store opened about 1921; he sold it to a Syrian to go to Lebanon in 1924. Then (he had different jobs) and then borrowed to buy a bankrupt store across from the National Park Hotel; he then moved to another store and then rented Sam Khuri's store and stayed there until 1926 when he moved to Washington St. Then he moved to Texas (this part is not very audible) selling the store piecemeal before he left. He stayed there 1 or 2 yrs. and came back to Vicksburg and opened a store, which he then closed and went back to Texas and then back to Vicksburg again, after 2½ years in Texas. He returned to the store on Washington St. (It seems all this moving went on from 1924 when he got back from Lebanon until 1946 when he came back from his last move to Corpus Christi, Texas. This also took him to Marshall, Texas and right through the Depression.)

I/B/3

In Vicksburg he bought a \$10,000 store (next part is inaudible and confusing). He stayed in the last store (lapses into a loss of memory) until 1967 when he retired and sold the store; he can't remember; he was sick all the time and had many operations.

11/11

11/18

VI/18

Informant Mr. George Malooley Sex M Age 73 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 24
Interviewer Alix Naff City Lexington, Nebraska Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/1

Mrs. Malooley, asked if she found anything in America difficult to adjust to, said: "No, when we first came, I stayed with my mother in Spring Valley (Illinois) and when we came out here to Nebraska we got into farming and I worked as my husband did--round up cattle, milk them, keep house, raise children.

(Mrs. Malooley was born in Spring Valley, Illinois and went back on a visit to Rachaya with her parents and younger brother at about age 3. Her father died accidentally soon after they arrived there--See Budelia Malooley interview.)

After my father died, my mother left my brother and I in Rachaya and came to America with my 9-month old sister. I was raised by my grandmother. We stayed with my grandmother 7-8 years. I was 13 years old when I came here, already married. My mother went back to the old country and brought my brother and I after I was married. But the marriage was not consummated (She then asked the interviewer to turn off the tape recorder--too embarrassed to discuss this matter further and changed the subject.)

III / I

VI / 20 / 6

VI / 18

Informant Mr. Wadie Nicola Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 12, 197

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Informant left his father, mother and all of his brothers in the homeland. His sister Saada and two other sisters were married. Saada and all but his oldest brother came. Three of them lived in Vicksburg. One went back and died in Lebanon. They traveled to Texas, didn't like it; lived in Shreveport (Louisiana) for a while and came back to Vicksburg and opened a small grocery store.

His brother Tewfiq was married in Lebanon before the informant came. He didn't bring his wife because he divorced her. He came after the informant, then returned and remarried. Divorce was difficult because the Orthodox church doesn't allow it, but he didn't have any trouble. Now he has 6 children by his 2nd wife; he had one daughter by his 1st wife.

Informant Mrs. Mayme Farris Sex F Age 75* Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Religious Sect Episcopalian Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 10, 1979
* in 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____, 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant's mother's parents, George and Ann Moses, came from Bishmezzine in the district of al-Kura (Mt. Lebanon), about 8 miles from Tripoli. Informant's mother followed them with 2 nephews.

I/A/1

Informant's father's family was from al-Munsif. His father was dead. He went back for a short visit in 1908 when the informant was 5 years old; she was born in 1903.

I
VI/18

Informant Mrs. Mayme Farris Sex F Age 75* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Episcopalian Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 10, 197
* in 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____, 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

(Informant seems to be referring to what she heard about the WWI period:)

There was oppression and wars and I think it was under the Turks. But we called ourselves Syrians; we called ourselves Lebnaes after independence.

When they first came here they saved their money but sent a lot back to their people because they were a denied and oppressed people and religious; there were too many wars and controversies. (She is confusing the hard times of WWI with the pre-WWI period when there was no war, starvation or hard times.)

I/B/2

Informant says that that she didn't witness what she told about the old country but they told her about it and it photographed in her mind.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Darwish Raya

Sex M & F Age 74 & 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Melkite

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 2

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

It was good to go back to Zahle in 1910 and see the family but after 2 years business and life there is not like here. Life is more easy here, business, pleasure and everything.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Darwish Raya

Sex M & F

Age 74 & 72

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Melkite

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17 & 22

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif.

Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IA1

Informant came to stay a short while and then to return to Zahle where he was engaged to marry his cousin. He went back in 1910 to marry then returned to the U.S. in 1912, with his wife and baby.

IA2

Back in Zahle his father offered to give him a house, but he refused because he wanted to return to the U.S. didn't like Zahle after he got back from U.S.

Informant Mrs. Mayme Farris Sex F Age 75* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Episcopalian Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 10, 197
* in 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ . 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant's father, Michael George Farris, came around 1895 to Hermanville, Mississippi; her mother, Helen Moses, came around 1899. The informant's maternal grandparents came shortly before her mother with some of the family; it could have been in 1888 (1898?). Informant's father's two brothers followed him to Hermanville, Mississippi.

I/A/1

Her father came to his two uncles in Hermanville, Mississippi; (she then says) he came to his brothers Sam and Mike, who came before he did. Many people of his village settled there when they first came. They came there because it was close to Jackson and Ft. Gibson where 3 brothers and the mother of the Ellis family lived... So many people from surrounding villages settled here from Jackson, Meridian and perhaps Greenville and Clarksville.

I/A/2

Informant's mother's parents came shortly before her with 3 boys and her widowed sister, Sarah Jacobs and her 2 boys. Informant's uncle George had a store in Edwards (Mississippi) so they believe that her grandparents, the Moses, are buried there; they're still searching. They all came to Vicksburg. Uncle Moses lived to a ripe old age and his children are still in Vicksburg. Aunt Sarah and her boys died in Vicksburg.

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VL/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IV/B/2

Her home, her father's home is still there (in Lebanon) and their property. They had two vineyard plots, maybe about 20 acres each or maybe less. Although it's still in her family name, she doesn't know who's living on it or cultivating it now. No one in America has to look after the property or go back periodically to take care of it. She supposes someone there is taking care of it. Even when her uncle Najeeb went to Lebanon in the Fifties, his property had already been taken (by the city to widen the road; they were compensated) care of and her grandmother had come to the U.S. and died.

II/2

II/18

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury

Sex F

Age 72

Interview Schedule Code VL/18

Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 12

Interviewer Richard Coury

City Cairo, Illinois

Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/A
/2

Regarding communication between America and Lebanon, she didn't write letters but her mother did to her sister Adele and her mother.

People didn't receive newspapers from the old country but they did subscribe to Arabic newspapers of which she doesn't remember the names. She read some of them and her mother read them. The newspaper talked about different things that happened in the old country and what was going on in this country in the Arab communities in different places.

Her uncle Najeeb subscribed to a newspaper.

01/10
11/18

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nassif

Sex M & F Age 73 & 69 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 9 & 12

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

When Carl went back to Ayn Arab for the first time he felt like a stranger there. He wanted to go back to America because they had things there which they didn't have in Ayn Arab. He was a young man and had had a good time in the U.S. with no worries, so he went back. He was the only young man of his age that he knew of who went back to the homeland. This was in 1905.

From 2nd interview, March 21, 1980
Informant Mrs. Mayme Farris Sex F Age 75* Interview Schedule Code v1/18
Religious Sect Episcopalian Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 10, 1979
* in 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

She claims that because so many early immigrants sent money to families in the homeland and paid for tickets to bring them here, they didn't have money to invest in real estate. They could have invested but sent money back against the advice of friends. No. they had to sent money back or bring them here or put them in business here. "I have heard so many say I should have invested in that or bought that land or hotel".

Informant Joseph Howar Sex M Age 84 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin Palestine Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer taken from articles City Washington, D.C. Date 1973

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

He returned to Palestine in 1918 to visit, carrying with him 10 trunks with goods for the folks back in Mount of Olives.

Later he built a mosque and school there.

In 1927 he returned to marry in Palestine. He married one of the daughters of the mayor of Acre in what is now Jordan. He returned to the U.S. with his bride.

Conversation with:

Informant Khalil Goushe Sex M Age 44 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
 Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin Palestine Immigrant Age 4
 Interviewer Alix Naff City Oxen Hill, Md. Date Jan. 26, 1981

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Back in Jerusalem in 1930 his father established a banana business at the same time that he resumed his slaughtering and tanning business, remaining there until 1940.

Conversation with:

Informant Khalil Goushe Sex M Age 44 Interview Schedule Code 51/18
 Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin Palestine Immigrant Age 4
 Interviewer Alixa Naff City Oxen Hill, Md. Date Jan. 26, 1981

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

His father returned to the U.S. in 1940 after the Depression and went directly to Austin, Texas where he had been peddling and liked the climate.

Conversation with:
Informant Khalil Goushe Sex M Age 44 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Sunni Muslim Country of Origin Palestine Immigrant Age 4
Interviewer Alix Naff City Oxen Hill, Md. Date Jan. 26, 1981

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

His father, came in 1920 also for economic reasons. Found work in a factory making home cooking utensils. Worked there for 9 months then decided he would prefer working alone. He joined with 4 other Arabic speaking men, one of whom owned an auto, and together they sold linens and rugs and traveled into 30 states, one of which was Texas. Texas apparently impressed his father because the climate was closely resembling that of Palestine. The five men shared the profits.

The father continued to peddle in this fashion from 1920 to 1929 when he returned to Palestine to marry. While peddling he took out U.S. citizenship and sent money to his family in Jerusalem.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nassif Sex M & F Age 73 & 69 Interview Schedule Code VJ/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 9 & 12
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Carl came to U.S. because his father had come in 1893 for the first time and returned home to Ayn Arab for a 3 year visit. He took Carl with him when he returned to U.S.

His father had come to make money and go back. He came with a group of people who had heard about the U.S. through letters and from returning people. He heard there was prosperity and liberty.

III / 2

VI / 18

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nassif

Sex M & F Age 73 & 69 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 9 & 12

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Mrs. Wardie Nassif came to the US. because her father was here. He had emigrated in 1893, returning to Lebanon around 1898. He sent for her mother to join him and the informant Wardie was left with her grandmother, who wouldn't let the mother take Wardie because she thought they would never return to Lebanon. Her parents were gone 3 years and then returned to Lebanon to build a big beautiful house with their American money. Her father then returned to U.S. alone in 1898 and stayed away 7 years, then sent for her and her mother and brother, in 1905.

Informant Mrs. Malaki Bhennessy Sex F Age 74* Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, California Date 1962
*deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant came to the U.S. in 1903 just before Christmas, to N.Y.; she was almost 15 years old and was already married.

Her husband had already been in the U.S. since he was a little boy and was educated here. He came because he liked to come to America and because he wanted to study. He came with his uncle.

He stayed here all his life but every year he went back to visit his folks. His parents came from Zahle (she would not answer what their occupation was). They had their home.

Her husband first came to the U.S. in 1889.

He brought her to America and they were married.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nassif

Sex M & F Age 73 & 69 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 9 & 12

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

After 3 years Carl and his father returned to Lebanon. His father didn't want him to get spoiled, i.e. go with bad company, if he stayed. They returned to Ayn Arab to farm. Informant didn't like farming so his father sent him to Zahle to learn a trade - shoemaking. His father said if he was ever unable to work standing on his feet he could always make a living shoemaking where he could sit down. Then his father sent him to learn carpentering and painting. Then he sent him back to America to see what he could do for himself. (in 1906)

Informant was 17 years old when he returned to U.S. by himself, with his wife. She was a distant relative, aged 12. They were married 2½ years later.

II/7

VI/18

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nassif

Sex M & F Age 73 & 69 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 9 & 12

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

When Wardie arrived at her parent's home in Cedar Rapids for the first time in the night her first impression was puzzling. They lived in the back room of their little confectionary store, the only things in the room were a wood and coal burning stove and a pail of coal and a broken shovel, about which her father was complaining. She thought why is he worrying about such a little thing in America. Then she realized that America was not as she had imagined. The next day she looked around and couldn't see the gold in the streets. Things looked poor. Her parents weren't in the best neighborhood. After visiting 3 or 4 different families each of whom had a single room, she felt very disappointed.

Carl illustrates the kind of exaggerated stories told in the homeland by those returning from America. A hundred dollars could support a family in Ayn Arab for a whole year. He heard that if a man dropped 5 or 10 dollars he wouldn't bother to pick it up in the U.S. People believed these stories because of the remittances that emigrants were sending back to their families and the beautiful homes they were building in Ayn Arab when they returned.

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/B
/2

After her maternal grandmother was here, informant's family didn't send any money back to the old country because "we didn't have any family left" by that time.

IV/B
/2

Asked if she, her mother, uncle or aunt ever expressed a desire to return to Lebanon to visit or stay permanently, she replied: "Oh, yes, for a visit; even I would love to go back and I would if it hadn't been for this conflict going on now". Her uncle Najeeb and his wife and son went back for a visit in the Fifties. None of them thought about going back to live permanently. She never heard any of the Syrians say they made the wrong decision in coming to America and that they should go back. "And I have always felt like I would like to go back for a visit".

"

She still has her maternal aunt Adele living in Beirut. She married a man from Beirut, a distant relative whose family was originally from Bteghrine. She has three children: a son, Fu^Cad; a daughter Latifee, who completed her education at Cornell University and is now the director of the Orthodox school in Beirut (Zahrat al-Ihsan); and a son Elie, in the U.S. (McLean, Virginia), whom she thinks does construction work.

Her uncle's property in Lebanon was taken by the city to make the road wider because it was an important spot in the whole town. Her home, her father's home, is still there and their property.

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code 51/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I
/B/1

Informant didn't know her father very well because he went to South America when she was maybe a little bit past three years old. "I barely remember him. I do remember him, I remember him very well but, I didn't grow up with him". "And the only way I knew him was by correspondence, he, when he used to write us and send us money".

I
/B/2

Informant had just one brother, Elias (Ellis in English). Besides her mother and brother, her grandmother (father's mother) and her two paternal uncles, Salim and Guriros) lived in the house with her. This was her father's family's home in harat ^cAli; it was customary for a family to live in the husband-father's home.

The family ate breakfast together; informant took lunch to school; they ate supper together.

Informant went to church with her family every Sunday and every Wednesday and Friday night for prayer. Women sat in a balcony, high up, with a lattice-work in front of them; they could see out but couldn't see in. That's where she and her brother sat; boys could sit in the balcony until they grew up.

The priest at Mar Guriros was the interviewer's father's grandfather, al--Khouri Musi. There was also al-Khouri Mikhail from the Murr family who said mass at Mar Mikhail. He was the only priest she remembered; "he was still a priest when I came".

II/2
II/10
II/18
III/1
IV/18

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/B
/3

Asked if the (Syrian or Lebanese) people were disillusioned with America because of the Depression, she replied: "No, I don't think they became disillusioned, only the fantasies wore off. The fantasies wore off because they suddenly realized America is another country just like any other country; they did have bigger opportunities and better opportunities, but they did not find the streets paved with gold and they did not find where you can sweep up gold anywhere you choose". "They found out they had to work and work hard to earn money". (She then tells how, before her time, when somebody came from the old country, a picture of him, dressed in a suit with a watch and gold chain, would soon be sent to the old country where they would think that he came to America and became rich. The truth was that anyone could wear that suit and take a picture; everybody wore it to take pictures and they thought that's how quick he got rich.

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18/a
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/A
/2

Informant was married in June 1923; she was 15½ but said she was 16, not for the license but because she felt that was too young. She met her husband through association. He was a resident in Cairo and a friend of the family. He was working as a butcher, cutting meat in a big store when she met him. His father worked as a manager in a wholesale produce house; his mother didn't work.

IV/A/2

None of her children expressed an interest in marrying other Syrians or Lebanese, probably because there weren't any around that they knew or associated with. They (the two oldest) met other students at college and got married.

"Probably we would have preferred it that they married (an Arab), but they didn't and we accepted it and I love all my daughter-in-laws; they are great, no matter what".

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/13/6
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/B
/1

Informant thinks people married mostly Syrians then; she doesn't know anyone who married a non-Syrian in Cairo in the Twenties; probably they did in other places. No one went back to the old country for a husband or wife and no one came to marry someone here. All the weddings in Cairo were between Cairo people. People from other communities would meet when visiting in Cairo. There was a couple of marriages between some Cairo people and Terre Haute (Indiana) relatives before she arrived.

In her own case, her husband's father was from her same village and his mother was not.

She agrees that since most of the people in Cairo were Orthodox in origin, they probably didn't have any difficulty marrying one another; had there been some Maronites there, they possibly would have intermarried (as did her husband's parents).

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18/6
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/A
/2

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IV/A/2

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"Probably we would have preferred it that they married (an Arab), but they didn't and we accepted it and I love all my daughter-in-laws; they are great, no matter what".

Informant Ellis Khouri Sex M Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Elaine & Chuck Audy City Grand Rapids, Mich. Date Nov. 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Made first return visit to homeland in 1931, after his father died in 1930 and he wanted to see his mother and the family. He stayed until end of 1934 to escape the Depression. Life in Lebanon at this time more harmonious, more happy. Children were sent out of town to school.

Informant Ellis Khouri Sex M Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Elaine & Chuck Audy City Grand Rapids, Mich. Date Nov. 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

He decided to remain in the U.S. permanently in 1927 when he got citizenship.
Family applied pressure on him to return to the village to become a priest.

VI/18

Informant Mr. Abe Kacere Sex M Age 69 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Grant Farr City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 23, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- I/A/1 Grandmother returned to Lebanon before father emigrated to the U.S. in 1895. She later returned to the U.S. (date not stated).
- I/A/1 Tom Beshara went back to Lebanon in 1905; informant's father then opened a store.
- I/A/2 Grandmother wrote to informant's father and asked him to go back and get married (to informant's mother), but father didn't go back for a long time; each time he wrote to her, he told her he was coming.
- I/B/2 Grandmother went back to Lebanon and stayed until 1928; then uncle and father of informant brought her back to the U.S.

V/2

VI/18

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Negebe Sheronick Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Sunni Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Cedar Rapids, Iowa Date June 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

Informant's trip across was problem free. Informant loves to travel by boat; has made three trips to homeland by boat; first trip was like a honeymoon.

III/3
II/4
II/18

VI 118

Informant Mrs. Latify Cory Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Louis Cory City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/3

Asked in what order her older sisters preceded her to U.S., she said that her older sister Nazlie came first. Her Husband Ameen had been here from Damascus. On his first trip he missed taking a ship which sunk. He returned to Syria, married Nazlie from Rachaya and brought her to U.S. Then brother As^Cad and sister Naseebie came to join their sister.

IV/A/3

Informant's husband came to Canada at age 14 in 1892 to his brother who had preceded him.

Informant Mrs. Latify Cory Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Louis Cory City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

Returned to homeland in 1913, 8 months after married; Turks conscripted men from village but in lieu of service in military, Turks allowed men to pay a tax (bedel--an exchange tax). Her husband paid it twice. The third time, he went into hiding in the village, sometimes disguising himself as a woman. He didn't have any more money to pay bedel tax. Once, his brother slept at their house; used to all sleep in one room. His brother, age 15, was at one end. Husband was in the loft. Soldiers broke the in chekcing conscription; saw only her and and her children. She lived with her parents-in-law.

Returned to Canada in 1924. Before returning to Napanee, she bore six children.

I/A/1

The exchange tax was about 30 liras or about \$30.

V/A/2

It was very difficult in Rachaya during the war, but no starvation--not like the Lebanese who would have to go into Syria for food. It was very bad for them. They starved.

V/B/1

French promised Faris Ghanous, a Christian leader in Rachaya that if they convinced Christians of Rachaya to join France's idea of Greater Lebanon, they would appoint him as official. He did but they did not give him the position--that's how Rachaya came to agree to become part of Greater Lebanon.

VI 118

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code _____
 Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
 Interviewer Alixa Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
 * 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

VA
II/A/2

Informant's father died from a gunshot wound when bullet ricocheted from a stone fence in a vineyard in the old country; a nearby lady told him he was just showing off. People thought he might have been carrying money and were after him. They found him at the edge of the wall. "My gun shot me (baroudti qatalatni)". Grandfather, priest, and doctor were sent for to check for foul play. By the time he was carried back to the village, he was bleeding to death.

BM
I/A/1

Informant's brother and sister were born in Spring Valley and father was so proud that he was married and had a family and a business. No record is available of when informant's brother and sister were born. Mother, in her grief (husband's death), probably left all her papers in Syria.

BM
I/A/1

Father accidentally shot himself in the shoulder while on visit to village, watching over the vineyards. A woman in the next plot heard a shot and her son found him. By the time the people went the mile or so to town for help, he had lost too much blood and he died.

Informant Nemer Kaleel (and wife) Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Earlville, Ill. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Mrs. Kaleel:

Her mother worked in Rachaya to be able to send informant and her brothers to school to learn English because she would say "we're going back to America." They also learned Arabic in school.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Najem Basheer

Sex M/F

Age 84/64

Interview Schedule Code 51/18

Religious Sect Druze

Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon

Immigrant Age 17/24

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Richmond, Virginia

Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/3

Mr. Basheer's two brothers came to visit him from Australia (he didn't say when) and then returned there.

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code 21/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

VA
I/A/2

Father had intended to return to the old country, but her mother was pregnant with the informant and objected. Father said a Zurayiq wanted to buy the store now--we can impress mother and father how well we did and we got two children--Mary and Norman--and then return and have third child in the U.S. So he sold the store on W. St. Paul Street; he wanted to buy a bigger business upon return.

VA?
II/A/3

Men ruled women, had the upper hand at that time. So they returned to the old country where her father died. Her mother had to come back here where informant's two uncles, Nick and Aleck, were.

BM
I/A/1

Informant's father wanted to go back to show his parents what he had accomplished in America--marriage, family and business. He had an opportunity to sell the store to some Syrians across the river in Granville. He did and had a few dollars saved--just enough for the tickets. He was going back for only a couple of months.

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

BM
I/A/1

Informant was born in Rachaya al-Wadi in December (1903) because after her father's death there, her paternal grandmother would not let the informant's pregnant mother return to America. Three or four months later, mother wanted to return to the U.S. but her in-laws wouldn't let her take informant's brother and sister saying "you can't take all the children from us. Take the baby and raise her". "So what could my mother do. She brought me and came to Spring Valley and resumed peddling".

BM
I/A/2

Informant's sister, 14 yrs. older, was married to her paternal first cousin to keep him from being conscripted--if he married a cousin, he wouldn't be taken. She and her husband came to the U.S. (in 1912) when informant, mother and brother returned to the U.S. just before WWI broke out.

VI/18

VI/12

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

VA
II/A/2

It was important to send money home to relatives in the old country for the sake of your reputation. She thinks her father went to the old country for this reason, which cost some money, in order to impress; it was a must to take gifts.

VA
II/A/2

Receiving money from son in America was evidence of her (a woman's) son being in America (impressing others motive).

VA
II/A/3

Mother made \$5-10/wk. from peddling and she had to send money back to Rachaya to support informant's sister and brother.

After 4 or 5 yrs. mother wanted to see her children so she took informant and they went back and stayed about 2 years.

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

VA
II/A/3

Father wanted to return to the old country to impress mother and father with how well he did and with his two children and then return and have the 3rd child in the U.S.

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

VA
II/A/2

Receiving money from son in America was evidence of her (a woman's?) son
being in America.

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14 & 26
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I, _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

Tells of incident with Turkish officers entering his aunt's house in Beirut to question him. He was ready to return to the U.S. the same day but was restrained by his aunt. He felt that life there in Lebanon was oppressive, especially after growing up in the U.S.

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy

Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14 & 26

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA1

Mike peddled before his wife came from Lebanon, then opened a dry goods store in Hot Springs, Nebraska. (In 1910)

v1/11

v/1

v1/18

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 12 Interview Schedule 0000 11/18
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 198

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I
/B/1

Informant didn't know her father very well because he went to South America when she was maybe a little bit past three years old. "I barely remember him. I do remember him, I remember him very well but, I didn't grow up with him". "And the only way I knew him was by correspondence, he, when he used to write us and send us money".

I
/B/2

Informant had just one brother, Elias (Ellis in English). Besides her mother and brother, her grandmother (father's mother) and her two paternal uncles, Salim and Gurios) lived in the house with her. This was her father's family's home in harat 'Ali; it was customary for a family to live in the husband-father's home.

The family ate breakfast together; informant took lunch to school; they ate supper together.

Informant went to church with her family every Sunday and every Wednesday and Friday night for prayer. Women sat in a balcony, high up, with a lattice-work in front of them; they could see out but couldn't see in. That's where she and her brother sat; boys could sit in the balcony until they grew up.

The priest at Mar Gurios was the interviewer's father's grandfather, al--Khouri Musi. There was also al-Khouri Mikhail from the Murr family who said mass at Mar Mikhail. He was the only priest she remembered; "he was still a priest when I came".

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14 & 2
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

Ghandura and Mike were married in Ayn Arab when he returned there from the U.S. She followed him to the U.S. in around 1910 with their son. She was 20 years old. Her mother in law didn't want her to leave thin king she would never see her grandson again.

She came with 12 others from Ayn Arab. They traveled for 6 months on a cargo ship that went all over, including Brazil and someplace where there was a volcano, and Mexico. They were with a cousin who had been to the U.S. and thought he knew where he was going because he had a map. They finally debarked in Mexico and her husband met her there, in El Paso, Texas.

Their money held out on this long trip.

Mike explained why the cousin took that ship: His wife (the cousin's wife) was rejected in Marseille and he hoped to get her into the U.S. through Mexico where there was no border check.

Informant Essa Malooley Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Came to U.S. because he married young and had no money. Came to make money after he heard about opportunities here from other villagers who had gone. Heard about the kishie before he got here.

Intended to stay only a short time.

Was planning to send for his wife and children from Rachaya but WWI intervened and they all stayed in the U.S. (he and his relatives here) He never went back, but his wife came later.

Informant Essa Malooley Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Wasn't interested in American politics only Arab politics. In the U.S. Arabs would discuss whether they were Lebanese or Syrian. There shouldn't be this discussion. Our country should be united, not Syria and Lebanon. They're divided by religion too.

x/1/a

vi/6/3

vi/18

Informant Victoria Abdanur Saliba Sex F Age @ 65 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox/Episcopal Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Came to U.S. in 1921 at age 17 because her brothers were here. Her oldest brother came before she was born, then two other brothers came, one was a doctor, the other owned a gold mine. Her mother and a girl who was to marry one of informant's brothers, came the year before the informant, but she and her other brother had to remain in Lebanon to finish school

Her oldest brother came in 1895 . Then two other brothers came in 1905, one was 8 years old. They came without money or language and made a great success. The oldest went back to Lebanon to get married in 1911.

III / 1

III / 2

VI / 18

Informant Mrs. Queenie Nassour Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Miss. Date Aug. 11, 1979

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Parents left her in Lebanon with her paternal grandparents when they came to the U.S. Her mother died in Meridian and her father sent for her a year later (1920) When her parents left Lebanon she was 6 months and grandparents wouldn't allow them to take her with them fearing she would die at sea.

Her father sent for her in 1920 because he needed her. He never remarried. She had 4 brothers born in the U.S.

Never saw her grandparents again.

III / 1

III / 2

vi / 18

Informant Elizabeth Beshara

Religious Sect Roman Catholic

Interviewer Alix Naff

Sex F Age 79

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Interview Schedule Code VI/18

City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Immigrant Age 10

Date July 1, 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB1

Before WWI everyone thought of going back to the homeland, they'd do anything to make money so they could return. After the war they began to realize that there was nothing for them in the homeland so they decided to remain here and bought homes and no longer thought of going back.

vii/4

iv/4

vi/18

Informant Charles Teebagy Sex M Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dorchester, Mass. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

There was one Orthodox church in Boston. Fr. Jeryus Maloof was there with a beard to his waist. He (Maloof) married the informant in 1906 to a woman who had lived next door to them in Damascus, and he had known her as a child. They used to play together. He came to the U.S. before she did. She had sisters here who sent for her.

v1/9/a

v1/13/a

v1/18

Informant Widad Naff Frenn Sex F Age 47 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City North Hollywood, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Their destination was Spring Valley, Ill. where her father had been living before. They traveled there directly from New York by train. His daughter (Nazhar Haney) by a previous marriage, and his first cousin Salima were waiting for them.

iv/3

vi/12

vi/18

Informant Widad Naff Frenn Sex F Age 47 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City North Hollywood, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Father came to the U.S. with very little money. His daughter by his previous marriage who lived in Spring Valley, and was married but couldn't give him much to get started again. They had it rough when they first came.

Adjustment was especially hard for her mother who was very young and very homesick for her family. She was from a wealthy family and here she was with very little and four children. Informant's father was very tolerant and taught her everything about this country and about cooking etc.

Informant Joe David Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 21
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Visited Rachaya in 1925. He was very homesick, and thought constantly of his homeland. He was at this time a citizen of the U.S. having gotten his papers in 1918, when he went into the U.S. army. There was a rebellion going on at the time in Hauran and Rachaya.

He met his wife and was married in Lebanon in 1926. Then brought his wife back with him. Their son was born the day after they arrived.

Informant Mrs. Latify Cory Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Louis Cory City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Had 2 sisters and 2 brothers. Father died at 32 and mother at 52 in Rachaya. Informant was 2-2½ yrs. old when father died. Father was blacksmith in Hawran when he died from probably heart attack. Mother came to America and stayed 9 yrs. On her return to Rachaya she built a more modern home, with tile floor, 2 floors, it was good and beautiful. She was working in Hawran at the end of WWI. Then typhoid epidemic struck and she died there and is buried in the same tomb as her husband, who died in 1900, in Hawran.

III/A/1

III/A/1

Fiance of informant's older sister was supposed to go to Marseilles, missed the boat because lost his luggage and it sunk. Informant was born the year that ship sank in the Atlantic.

Informant Harry & Sadie Unes

Sex M & F Age 83 & 74 Interview Schedule Code V1/18

Religious Sect Maronite

Country of Origin Lebanon & U.S. Immigrant Age 4 & N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Peoria, Ill. Date July 14, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

They still keep in touch with relatives in Itoo, Leb. Her parents couldn't afford to send remittances, but his parents did. Relatives needed the money for food not land because they were poor in Itoo. They (informants) are very interested in the politics of the area.

Informant Mr. Abe Abraham Sex M Age 60 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 23, 1979

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

They always sent money back home. Mostly the relatives would write and say we need such and such, someone is sick and the relatives here would send some.

Informant Mr. Don Unis Sex M Age ca. 40 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date May 30, 1980*
* during the interview with his mother Mrs. Mary Shamey

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A

Comparing Arab males to females he said that "historically, Arab males have always thought about going back home"; he tells a story about a man who stayed in the U.S. for 35 years who then went back home.

Informant Mr. Johnny Nosser

Sex M

Age 81

Interview Schedule Code 01/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon

Immigrant Age 22

Interviewer Elaine Hughes

City Vicksburg, Mississippi

Date August 12, 197

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

I/B/2

I/B/3

When people left the village and came to America and left their land and houses behind and no one claimed it, people of the village took it over. When an earthquake destroyed their house in 1918, they lived in an abandoned house. He still owns his land; he paid all the mortgages.

Informant Mr. Johnny Nosser Sex M Age 81 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 22
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 12, 197

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

Informant visited Gharzouz in 1955 and stayed 3 months.

Informant Mr. Johnny Nosser Sex M Age 81 Interview Schedule Code V1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 22
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 12, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Asked if relatives helped him and his mother, he said (hesitantly): "Well, once in a while we'd get some money from Uncle Tom and cousin T.D. We'd get a little help". "My mother died in 1922" in Lebanon.

Informant Mr. Abe Abraham Sex M Age 60 Interview Schedule Code 51/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 23, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

Informant's father, who made 3 trips back to the homeland, "always told us 'there's no country like the good old USA'". It wasn't because it was the land of opportunity; it was here, but because they could live (goes into a distorted understanding of Middle East history, oppression, Phoenicia, etc.; goes on to say:)

The Christians and many other people of Lebanon had a tattoo on the left hand between the little and ring finger, of a cedar of Lebanon; that was the way to let people know they were Christians of Lebanon. Informant's grandmother and his father had one; he doesn't know why it was tattooed in that spot. Some tattooed a big tree on their forearm. This probably changed at the turn of the century because the informant didn't see it on people who weren't as old as his grandmother.

Informant Mrs. Watfa Mitchell Sex F Age 86 Interview Schedule Code √1/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 19
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 11, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

When the informant worked for the Azar family (in Lebanon) she was like one of the family. She made \$2 a week. He was a very rich money-lender and a big lawyer. Everyone from America sent him money and he charged interest (meaning he loaned money to emigrants and they paid their debts from earnings in the U.S.). Also emigrants sent him money to ~~loan~~ out for them so they could make interest on their money.

Informant Mr. Abe Abraham Sex M Age 60 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 23, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Due to his medical condition, informant's father went to work for Anheuser-Busch (beer company) as a bottle rinser; they paid \$7.50 a week plus all of the cheese, pretzels and beer they wanted. He was always standing in water.

He started peddling in East St. Louis to miners; he was very successful. During this period he became a U.S. citizen. Then he went back to Lebanon, in 1904-05, bought property, built a home and married the informant's mother in 1906. He had one daughter and in Dec. 1907 came to the U.S. with informant's mother to Jackson, Mississippi. he left the daughter with his parents. In 1910 he went back to Lebanon, had a son and he and the informant's mother and the informant's brother came back to Meridian, Mississippi in 1912. He left his oldest daughter still with the informant's grandmother in Lebanon. He had made a lot of money and could afford this travel. Informant doesn't know anything about the 4 years he came back alone.

vi/6/6

vi/11

v/1

vi/18

Informant Mrs. Watfa Mitchell Sex F Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 19
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 11, 1979

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

She didn't go to school (can't read or write); her mother was blind and she had to stay with her. She is the oldest; her 4 sisters and 1 brother went to school. She had to work hard.

I/B/1

She had never been in school in her life. She had to stay home. She has no family (in Lebanon); her six year old brother, father and mother, sisters and brothers all died from starvation in Lebanon during WWI. "I don't have anyone". We heard only after the war was over. Her brother and youngest sister lived until 1918; the others died in 1916-17. Some people took their property away from her brother and sister, telling them they'd give them money for food so they could buy something to eat and they took it for nothing. Now it's been sold 2 or 3 times. They had 6 or 7 more pieces of land; we had a piece where we planted and dried tobacco. Her brother went to beg money and food from this rotten man and he pushed her brother down the steps and he died. Their "corner" was the worst hit by starvation. Her husband was going to send \$500 to them but it was too late.

She went back there in 1959 and 1963. She still has cousins and aunts there.

II / 7

VI / 8

VI / 12

VII / 1

VI / 18

Informant Mr. Abe Abraham Sex M Age 60 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Mississippi Date August 23, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

His father had sent money to bring informant's grandmother and sister here but WWI broke out and they couldn't; they got caught in the famine; his mother lost 2 sisters.

I/A/2

After the war, his father brought his grandmother and sister here in 1920. his sister was 13 and hadn't seen her father since she was a baby. Informant has 2 brothers and 4 sisters. His oldest sister went to school at sister's (Catholic) school; she married in 1924 or 1925.

vi/12

vii/1

vi/18

Informant Abraham Gilade Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Informant was a tailor in Tripoli, Lebanon. Worked as an apprentice for 2 years from age 14. Worked in Damascus with his brother for 3 months before coming to U.S. Returned to Lebanon at age 17 and father opened a shop for him.

His father traded in buffalo skins which he got from Alexandria, Egypt.

II/9

VI/18

Informant Alice Abraham Sex F Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1 She had a brother who had left for the U.S. 5 months before her, with whom she had been very close. She convinced her mother to let her go to her brother, uncle and other relatives in Cedar Rapids. Her father had died when she was six. It is unusual for a mother to let her daughter travel, but her mother wanted a better life for her than the life in Ayn Arab.

Her brother came to the U.S. because he feared being conscripted by the Turkish army. He was 18 when he left. Attributes emigration to Turkish rule - they had the upper hand in Ayn Arab.

Her husband had come to the U.S at age 10 from Rachaya.

IA2 Her mother had many relatives in the U.S. also her father's brother, was here.

III / 2

IV / 3

III / 1

VI / 18

Informant Abraham Gilade Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1 Came to U.S. from Tripoli, Lebanon by ship by way of Marseille and Cherbourg, in 1907 Travelled first class. Had fun on the boat, playing cards, and dancing. French and Syrian girls asked him to marry them. He paid \$125. for a place in a cabin with 4 beds. Those who traveled steerage slept on deck like cattle and smelled bad. He brought only his clothes with him.

In Marseille and Cherbourg he bought things for other Lebanese on the ship because he could speak French - they paid him a few francs for this. He did this in Paris also. 50 to 60 people came at the same time (from Lebanon?)

IA2 In 1912 he returned to the U.S. for his 3rd or 4th trip and had to hide his American citizenship papers because of the war with Turkey - the Turks would be angry that he had changed citizenship.

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy

Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14 & 26

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

In 1901 when informant and his brother returned to home to visit they paid \$61. from Cedar Rapids to Beirut. They stayed in the U.S. 6 years before returning. Informant didn't want to go, but his brother convinced him. Informant was 20 years old. They sent money to their parents while they were in the U.S.

vi/18

Informant Essa Samara Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI 18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Was planning to return to Lebanon after he saved \$400. they thought this was alot of money. But when they made that money they never went back.

Informant Essa Samara Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Despite the hardships of peddling he never wanted to go back to Lebanon.
Conditions were worse there than here, why should they go back?

Informant Joe David Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 21
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

~~Still~~ Has his parents and 6 sisters still in Rachaya, Lebanon.

Informant Joe David Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 21
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Date 1962
Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

The people of Rachaya here would send money to the homeland to their church and to the needy as well as to their relatives.

Informant Joe David Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code 01/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 21
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Informant wanted to return to Rachaya in 1913 after 2 years in Brazil. He was in the U.S. visiting his sister when his mother wrote warning him not to come back to Rachaya since the authorities were still looking for him. She was afraid of losing him to the army. When WWI started he couldn't return, and so that's how he remained here.

Conversation with:

Informant Nicola Shamiyyi

Sex M

Age 70

Interview Schedule Code VI / 18

Religious Sect Unknown

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Rashaya al Wadi, Lebanon

Date April, 1965

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

He did not leave Rashaya, although his two brothers emigrated to America, because he had to take care of his aged and ailing mother to the end of her life. He said he wanted to go very badly.

People who went to U.S. from Rachaya and wrote letters and/or returned said U.S was beautiful, had good government, and life was good, there was plenty of work and lots of money.

The Lebanese who emigrated had every intention of returning when they left, but some returned and some didn't. When one sees what is in their best interest they stay. Many didn't like to return because there were less problems, no more rebellion.

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy

Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code' VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age¹⁴

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 196

Life in America: Pre-World War I World War I 1920's 1930's

IIA3

MIke got citizenship in 1908 before he went back to visit Lebanon. He lied about his age, wasn't 21 yet. But didn't complete the application until 1912.

Informant Tafeeda Beshara Sex F Age 65 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne , Ind. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

The Syrians and Lebanese peddlers never knew what hardship was until they got to America. They yearned and talked about their life in the homeland and wrote and received letters through Salem Beshara.

v/3

v1/18

Informant Faris Naff Sex M Age 76 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 19
Interviewer Excerpts from 1952 Memoirs City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1952

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Informant returned to Lebanon with his wife and daughter after two years of marriage but in Rachaya his marriage and life were intolerable and he returned to the U.S. alone

Six months later his wife joined him and they moved to Montreal in 1900 to her brother and others from Rachaya. His wife contracted typhoid and he had to send her and the child back to Rachaya to regain her health. He returned to Rachaya in 1904. He returned to the U.S. 1909 with his family. He went to Spring Valley where his wife died in 1911. He returned to Rachaya in 1914, remarried, had children, opened a business - returning to the U.S in 1922.

Informant Alice Abraham

Sex F Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB3

Her husband was reading a lot about politics. Read American newspapers and also Mirat al Gharb. When the family got bigger he didn't have time to read any more. They were very concerned about Ayn Arab during the WW 1 but later found no one had died there.

Informant Essa Malooley

Sex M Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 18

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

While in Canada he was a British subject, when he came to the U.S. became a citizen of U.S. for practical reasons, in case he wanted to go home.

vi/6/b

vi/18

Informant Mrs. Queenie Nassour Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Miss. Date Aug. 11, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Father and uncle came to U.S. in 1906 to Meridian, Miss, for three years. Uncle's health was bad so they returned to Lebanon, where her parents were married and informant was born.

Her father and his brother built a home in Lebanon.

VI/18

VI/13/a

Informant Victoria Abdanur Saliba Sex F Age @ 65 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox/Episcopal Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

In the 1920's immigrants from Duma, Lebanon formed a society in Los Angeles and a branch in Boston to help the town of Duma. They got electricity and water supplied to Duma and now are sending money to build a hospital. Duma is poor. They are also trying to build a hotel there on a profit sharing basis.

When a Duma person married a non Duma person they were out of the society. She married a non Duma person and was out until after her husband died.

Informant Charles Teebagy Sex M Age 80 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dorchester, Mass. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

He got his citizenship about 30 years ago (1930's). "Why should I return to Damascus? I had no one left there."

Informant Selma Dimyanus Ni'mi Sex F Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Ill. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Came to Chicago first upon arrival to U.S. Her mother had been in the U.S before and had gone back to get the informant and her brother.

Informant Widad Naff Frenn Sex F Age 47 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City North Hollywood, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's ----

IB1

Her father brought two of her mother's sisters to the U.S. The third sister in 1922 had emigrated with informant's parents but couldn't get into the U.S. so she went to Montreal entering the U.S. a few years later. She lived with them also in Spring Valley until she got married.

w/1
v1/r8

Informant ^{Conversation with:} Nemer Kaleel

Sex M

Age 92

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Lebanon

Immigrant Age 18

Interviewer Alixa Naff

City Earlville, Ill.

Date July 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Joe Farah, his father in law, came to the U.S. to a farm in Deergrove, where he worked in partnership with his paternal first cousins. Later he went back to Lebanon with informant's mother in law, their son John and informant's wife, who was five years old. They stayed until after the war and then came back to the U.S.

11/11

8/11

Informant Essa Samara Sex M Age 77 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Manchester, N.H. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

Used to read the Arabic newspapers from beginning to end, for news of the homeland because he had relatives there.

Informant Nemer Kaleel Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Earlville, Ill. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Heard about the U.S. in Rachaya, that it was good here and those who came made a living. He came with the intention of staying because there was no work in his country. He worked as a shoemaker for practically nothing. They lived off money his father sent from the U.S.

III/2

VI/18

Informant Nemer Kaleel (and wife) Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Earlville, Ill. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Mrs. Kaleel:
She wouldn't give up her experience in Syria but wouldn't go back there for anything.

x/z/c

v1/18

Informant Nemer Kaleel (and wife) Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Earlville, ILL. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Mrs. Kaleel:

Father ran away to America because school teacher in Ayn Ata made him mad by making him kneel on pebbles & hitting him. His father mortgaged some of his land and borrowed money to send him to America. He never returned to Lebanon, he loved America so much.

III/2
v/18

Informant Nemer Kaleel (and wife) Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Earlville, ILL. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Mrs Kaleel:

Her mother returned to Syria with the informant and her brother in 1912, intending to stay 6 months to a year. Then the starvation, rebellion and killing started in Lebanon. When her mother wanted to go back to the U.S her paternal grandparents hid informant's brother and herself to prevent the mother from leaving. They begged her to stay hoping their son would come back. She grew up in Rachaya and didn't get back to U.S. until she was 13.

Informant Nemer Kaleel (and wife) Sex M Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 18
Interviewer Alix Naff City Earlville, ILL. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

Mrs. Kaleel:

Her mother always planned to return to America, where she had left her husband. The children didn't want to go they didn't remember their dad, or America. Finally, in 1920 their father sent a letter to his cousin Fr. Habib asking if his wife and three children were still alive. When he got the answer, the father sent them passports and tickets. They arrived at Christmas. Their father was like a stranger, and they wouldn't let their mother sleep in the same room with him.

Informant Skiyyie Sahha Samaha Sex F Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dorchester, Mass Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA2

At age 13 informant, her father and uncle returned to Rachaya. In 1913 she returned to the U.S. with her husband at age 20. Her father built a beautiful house in Rachaya and convinced her husband to go to the U.S. Her father came 2 or 3 times, living in one room so he could save to take back to Lebanon.

Her husband came first, leaving her and their children with his aunt in Rachaya. Informant would write letters to herself as if they were from her husband saying she should come join him in the U.S. The aunt wouldn't let the children go with her. Informant kept writing stronger and stronger letters until she was finally allowed to leave with the children.

Informant sold her jewelry to pay for the ticket. Her husband had only been gone a year and didn't have enough to send her. The aunt helped her and informant repaid her when she arrived in the U.S.

Informant Mike & Ghandura Haddy Sex M & F Age 81 & 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 14 & 26
Interviewer Alix Naff City Los Angeles, Calif. Date Spring 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA3

There was a close social and economic relationship between Rachaya and Ayn Arab and the surrounding smaller towns, and between Ayn Arab and Druze who came to the village to work in the fields.

One of the poorest men in Ayn Arab was the first to go to America. In 1892. This family went to America and wrote back and others followed them. They stayed 3 years and made about \$1000.

When people saw this, all of Ayn Arab rushed to go to America. "Like a gold rush"

II / 1

II / 2

II / 3

VI / 18

Informant Faris Naff Sex M Age 76 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 19
Interviewer Excerpts from 1952 Memoirs City Los Angeles, Calif. Date 1952

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

In Rachaya in 1904 there was a confrontation between Christians and Turkish rulers. Christians refused to obey law not to shoot guns in town and would not succumb to arrest. Both sides employed duplicity and with their priest as their leader the Christians threatened to turn the incident into an international one.

Informant organized a young men's society in Rachaya to protect the town and the Christians. He also formed a band in which he played coronet, and directed. He taught Arabic. He also made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Returned to the U.S. in 1909.

Returned to Rachaya in 1914 and went into business there, buying goods from Homs and Hamma and selling them to nearby towns. He was caught there during the war.

Informant Mrs. Amelia Malooley Sex F Age 49 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin U.S. born Immigrant Age n.a.
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date August 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

AM
[A/1

They (informant's parents) never did come with a sense of permanence-- they were always going to go back. So mother was left in Rachaya. There's a 14 yr. difference between informant and next oldest sister in age, so parents must have been separated 14 years.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Najem Basheer Sex M/F Age 84/64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 17/24
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Richmond, Virginia Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

- II/A/1 He made good money from peddling but he sent "practically all of it" home, but after peddling he sent only small amounts of money home.
- II/B/1 He went to Australia to visit his brothers who had a hotel there in 1935; he stayed there six months and stopped in Lebanon on the way back to the U.S.
- II/B/2 He went to Lebanon in 1938 to get married.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Najem Basheer Sex M/F Age 84/64 Interview Schedule Code VI 118
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 17/24
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Richmond, Virginia Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/2

Mr. Basheer went to Lebanon in 1938 and got married. Mrs. Basheer was vacationing in Egypt with her brother. Mr. Basheer wrote to her asking her to come back to Beit Mery, which she did after her vacation. They dated a few times before marriage. They went to Beirut to a qadi (judge) who wrote the kitab because they didn't have a qadi in Beit Mery. They visited a lot of people for the wedding; they had a big celebration; people danced and sang.

Informant Mr. & Mrs. Najem Basheer Sex M/F Age 84/64 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 17/24
Interviewer Alix Naff City Richmond, Virginia Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1 Mr. Basheer claims that his aunt was "the first Druze woman to come to America" in 1902 or 1903; she was sent here by the missionary school.

I/B/1 Mrs. Basheer came to the U.S. in 1940 after her marriage.

I/B/3 Mr. Basheer, who immigrated in 1913, had a relative in the U.S. before then.

I/B/3 Mr. Abu-Hanna's (another Druze informant) uncle came to the U.S. in 1880 and went to Hannibal, Missouri where he knew someone from Lebanon.

Mr. Basheer told his father that he wanted to come to the U.S. When his father agreed, his oldest brother who just returned from Australia bought the informant a ticket in Beirut from a samсар in 1913.

II/A/2 No one came from Mr. Basheer's family to join him in the U.S. After his marriage
II/B/2 in 1938, he returned to the U.S., sent the necessary papers to bring his wife but she was delayed by WWII until 1940 when the American embassy issued her a visa.

III / 1

VI / 18

VI 118

Informant Widad Naff Frenn Sex F Age 47 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 6
Interviewer Alix Naff City North Hollywood, Calif. Date 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's ---

IA1

Her father first emigrated from Lebanon in 1887 or 1890's. He would stay in U.S. for 2 or 3 years then go back "and live like a lord in Rachaya until his money ran out or his citizenship threatened to expire. He got his citizenship in 1900 - He made 5 trips back and forth."

In 1914 he went back, but WWI started so he stayed longer and married her mother and bore 4 children.

Her father dealt in grain during the war, took it from town to town. But spent much of his time in hiding to avoid conscription by the Turks. Her maternal uncle also. He left his wife and children in a monastery to safe keep them. Her father smuggled the wheat and sold it at night. After the war he sold grain and helped his father in law.

He returned to the U.S. after the war as his citizenship was about to expire.

VI 118

Informant Miss Budelia Malooley Sex F Age 77* Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age ca. 1 year
Interviewer Alix Naff City Spring Valley, Illinois Date July 4, 1980*
* 59 at the time of the August 1962 interview

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

BM
I/A/1

Mother arrived and started to peddle in Spring Valley things like socks and handkerchiefs and a little material and dresses from house to house. She must have been in her mid-teens at the time.

She resumed peddling on her return to Spring Valley from Syria after her husband's death and the birth of the informant (about the first part of 1904). She'd make \$5 or \$10/ wk. She'd have to send money back to Rachaya to support the informant's sister and brother.

BM
I/A/3

Mother peddled until the day before she died in 1946 at age 70; she used to carry 2 suitcases and a bundle, door to door. Toward the end as she got older, she carried only one suitcase and a small bundle.

BM
I/A/3

Informant's mother wanted her merchandise she'd send informant to buy at one of the 2 Assalley's stores by 10 a.m., the hour when she had to take the interurban streetcar.

BM
I/A/3

(Informant completes a statement by Amelia Assalley regarding the latter's helping to make pillow cases and embroidery and dusting caps with wide ribbons) fringe and rick rack.

IV 118

Informant from Sun News (Burlington, N.C.) article, 1958
John and William Koury Sex M Age 72/65* Interview Schedule Code _____

Religious Sect Christian*** Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon** Immigrant Age 19/14**

Interviewer newspaper article City Burlington, N. Carolina Date 1958
* in 1958; ** deduced from information given; *** sect not given

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

John returned to Lebanon in 1906 or 1907. He returned to the U.S. to Burlington, North Carolina with his younger brother William who was 14 years old. They had six other brothers and sisters.

Both peddled; bought a horse and buggy and expanded peddling route to include all of Alamance County (North Carolina).

In 1910, they opened a dry goods store. They bought a house a few years later (just before WWI).

When war broke out, they sold the store and returned to Lebanon to help their country (Lebanon).

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Latify Cory Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Louis Cory City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

The same year she was married, Dec. 24, returned to Rachaya. She was pregnant. The war broke out and they remained there 11 years. It was supposed to be their honeymoon.

II/A/2

Her mother-in-law with whom she lived for many of the 11 years she spent in Rachaya was very strict with her daughter-in-laws, particularly with informant unlike father-in-law. The mother-in-law and one daughter-in-law fought, the latter moved out of the house. Then another son married and moved in and informant's husband and his new sister-in-law didn't get along. Informant said she tried to get along with her mother-in-law.

II/A/2

She adapted to her marriage easily.

IV/A/2

She settled into her marriage after a few weeks. She said she had to, had no choice. "I had to tolerate that". Asked if she enjoyed any part of her marriage, she said "I was a dumbell". Her husband was very difficult--but marriage was just like "passing by" (resigned?).

Informant Mrs. Latify Cory Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Louis Cory City Windsor, Ontario, Canada Date July 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

When informant and husband returned to Rachaya in 1913, they borrowed to purchase ticket from husband's nephew. Years later in Rachaya, nephew demanded payment. They gave him wife's family's land (informant's husband was very poor then) in Rachaya plus all available cash. Husband's temper was explosive--gave him all the cash and keys to his store (in Canada). Nephew was then able to sell dry goods at twice what it cost.

I/A/3

Informant serves Syrian food at home daily--all of her married life.

II/B/3

Her sister Nazlie was 13 yrs. older than informant and her sister Naseebie 4 yrs. older.

IV/A/1

Her mother's sister, Taqla, left her daughter, Malaki Maher in Rochester with informant's mother because Taqla was sick--all lived in same house.

I/B/1

Informant was pregnant with her first child, Malaki, when she and her husband returned to Rachaya.

Informant Elizabeth Beshara Sex F Age 79 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Roman Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 10
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Ind. Date July 1, 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IB2

People would come to Salem Beshara in Ft. Wayne labelled on the train. The people from Aythi would come carrying t'heir bundles on their shoulders and wearing long colored dresses. 50 or 60 would come to Salem at a time and he gave them everything they needed, places to sleep and everything.

Later they all separated the Ayathni opened stores of their own and Salem would help them by giving them goods. So did Mr. Shaheen. 50 or 75 wouldn't want to buy from Salem they wanted to be on their own, so he'd open a store for them and leave them to themselves. In the end they cheated him plenty.

Salem was well know by everyone in Ft. Wayne, including Americans. He was influential with police and officials & the bank. Once when there was a run on the bank because people thought it was going to close, the banker came to Salem to ask for help and Salem deposited \$20 or \$30,000. When people saw him do this they saved the bank.

Salem helped people get citizenship papers. He was a democrat, as was the whole family. Peddlers always did what he told them to do. Salem would fill out the papers for people and they would get their citizenship quickly no questions asked for voting purposes.

v/3

vi/1

vi/2

vi/5

vi/6/b

vi/18

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Queenie Nassour Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Elaine Hughes City Vicksburg, Miss. Date Aug. 11, 1979

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

She met her husband in Meridian, Miss. He was from Gharzouz, Lebanon. He told her he knew her from Lebanon, all the villages there are so small. She married in 1937 at age 32. Couldn't get married younger, had her brothers to take care of and support by working in her sandwich shop. Had to quit school in 6th or 7th grade to help father in his grocery store.

Informant Harry & Sadie Unes

Sex M & F

Age 83 & 74

Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Maronite

Country of Origin Lebanon & U.S.

Immigrant Age 4 & N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Peoria, Ill.

Date July 14, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____

World War I _____

1920's _____

1930's _____

IA1

In Peoria there are over 220 families now from Itoo. Before WW2 there were about 100, but their children now live in Peoria along with other new arrivals.

IA3

Informant went back to Leb. in 1905 with his mother, returning to the U.S. in 1912. At this time there were 25 families from Itoo living on Washington St. in Peoria in the section where all the Syrians lived.

IB1

Peoria has many different kinds of people; Italian, Greek, Irish and Polish. They are immigrants and laborers.

IB1

Non-Catholic and Maronite Syrians were friendly and used to exchange visits and celebrations. Mrs. Unes had both Lebanese and non-Lebanese friends, fellow workers of her husbands, who they would visit or meet in church.

IA3

When they had weddings and got noisy the cops never bothered them, but would watch them dance.

Informant Mr. Tom AssalleySex M Age 64-67*Interview Schedule Code VI/18Religious Sect OrthodoxCountry of Origin SyriaImmigrant Age 22-25*Interviewer Alix NaffCity Spring Valley, IllinoisDate August 1962

* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

"I was going to Brazil because I heard there was a lot of money there-- more than here.

Interviewer's father, Faris, arranged his papers for departure. They got to Marseilles and found a strike there. "I was not one to stick around and wait, so I turned the palce upside down to change my papers to come with Beit Essa Abdo, who we saw in Marseilles and who was going to Haiti. He tried to talk me out of it saying we're going to N.Y. first, so I said I would go to N.Y. too".

So when we got to N.Y. I decided to that first I'd go visit my 2 brothers and 2 maternal uncles I'd not known". So informant came to Spring Valley and "I'm still here and every year I'd say next year I'm going back to Rachaya and I didn't get back until 1959. I saw there that nothing had changed. Things improved maybe 25% only. I couldn't wait to get back to Spring Valley".

VI /18

Informant Mrs. Eva Frenn Sex F Age 56 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alixa Naff City N. Hollywood, California Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant married her third cousin; they knew each other through pictures. Her husband's sister, on a trip to Zahle one summer asked informant's father for her as a wife for her brother, Mike, who was in the U.S. army at that time. When her husband's sister returned to the U.S. she sent informant money and a telegram to come, so she came, in 1906 at the age of 17.

She left her parents and sisters and brothers; she was the youngest and the only one unmarried.

She was anxious to come to the U.S. "We got in easily into the U.S. We thought I would be an American citizen automatically and I voted all along in Oklahoma. But when Mike (her husband) passed away, I found out I was not a citizen because they changed the law before 1923.

"No I didn't bring much with me. My mother-in-law aid I'd find everything I wanted in the U.S.".

v1/16

v1/13/a

Informant Mr. Matt Iube Sex M Age 78 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detorit, Michigan Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Informant intended to stay here 3-4 years and go back to his mother (in the homeland). " I liked the U.S. but I wanted to go back because I left my mother and brother behind alone. I never went back. After WWI started, my mother and uncles died--from starvation and were killed by the Turks".

VI/18

Informant Mrs. Eva Frenn Sex F Age 56 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17
Interviewer Alix Naff City N. Hollywood, California Date 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

She used to subscribe to the Zahle newspaper--Zahle al-Fatat--and they also got an Arabic newspaper from New York. And her sisters would write to her twice a week. "So I kept up with news from the homeland".

I/B/1

"Yes, I have many books from the old country".

vi/10

vi/18

Informant Harry & Sadie Unes

Sex M & F Age 83 & 74 Interview Schedule Code VI/18

Religious Sect Maronite

Country of Origin Lebanon & U.S. Immigrant Age 4 & N/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Peoria, Ill.

Date July 14, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IA1

Harry's father and uncle heard about "picking money off the street in America."

IA2

He intended to return. but only uncle returned, father never returned.

Sadie's father came to make money and return.

Harry's mother returned to Lebanon with the children and the uncle because uncle's wife had died in Peoria leaving 3 children in Lebanon. She returned to care for them, in 1905.

VL 118

Informant Mr. Louis Faris Lutfy Sex M Age 88 Interview Schedule Code _____
 Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
 Interviewer Alixa Naff City East Detroit, Michigan Date May 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/B/2

Informant has only a few cousins in Damascus; hardly has any more contacts with the homeland; no communications. He is not too concerned about politics in the homeland; feels something is wrong there, but America is his country.

VI/18

Informant Mr. Louis Faris Lutfy Sex M Age 88 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City East Detroit, Michigan Date May 20, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

Neither informant nor his brothers were educated. Older brother learned to read and write Arabic and English from a Syrian roomer (in his home?) who had been in the U.S. a long time; this man was educated. So brother was able to write letters in Arabic to his family in Damascus before they too migrated to the U.S. On his trips to N.Y., brother would buy books in Arabic and read them as well as newspapers which he subscribed to.

Informant reads a little English, self-taught.

II/7
VI/7
VIII/8
XI/18

Informant Mrs. Samia Salem Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code II/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Bethesda, Maryland Date August 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/2

Brother-in-law wrote letters to his family in Lebanon; communication was interrupted during WWI.

II/A/3

Husband sent money home to his sister who took care of the four children after parents' death.

Brother-in-law and sister-in-law didn't like their school so informant wrote a letter to Sitt Amelia, directress of another school offering to pay their tuition if she would accept them in her school; they were accepted.

II/B/1

Informant promised her father to return to Lebanon after 5 yrs.; she returned after 9 years, in 1929.

II/B/1

She and her husband returned to Lebanon, taking a car; she had \$10,000 with her. She returned again in 1938 because mother was ill and husband wanted to educate the children in Lebanon (language, heritage....). She rented a house in Beirut and brought mother to the house and put girls in an English school.

II/B/2

Husband sent her a cable telling her she should come back to the U.S. She said: "He knew the war was going to start". She didn't leave Beirut until 1945. Mother died in 1939.

81/IV

4/III

VI 118

Informant Mrs. Samia Salem Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Bethesda, Maryland Date August 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/2

Sleeping on mattress on the floor was traditional.

I/B/3

After slaughtering a sheep, sacrificed to celebrate her brother's return to Lebanon, the brother passed over it (tradition to thank God for bringing family members together--researcher's comment); mother kissed the ground.

II/A/1

Uncle gave informant "tahwita" (amulet) and asked her to learn modern dancing, although dancing for women was a shame in the Druze religion. (Amulet was to protect her just before she came to the U.S.)

When she left the village to come to the U.S., she didn't cover her head.

Informant Mr. Nafe Katter Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VI/18
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 22
Interviewer Alix Naff City Saginaw, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/1

Informant kept ties with his mother in the homeland. Mother was better off financially.

I/B/1

In 1931 he went to Lebanon to bring his mother to the U.S. After he prepared all necessary papers, she changed her mind because she consulted the family of the supreme court judge for whom informant's father used to work. The judge's wife discouraged her from coming to the U.S., telling her she couldn't spend time with her two children because they will be too busy with their business. She also told her "religiously, I don't advise you to go". She also told her that she was too old to come to the U.S.

I/B/1

Brother went back to Lebanon in 1932. Informant said: "We kept the communication to keep mother happy as much as we can".

II/12

IV/18

Informant Elizabeth Forsa

Sex F Age 74

Interview Schedule Code 11/18

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin U. S. born

Immigrant Age n/A

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Spring Valley, Ill.

Date July 8, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIB1

Her family sent money to the homeland, and always had contacts with the homeland.
She didn't say who.

VI / 18

Informant Mrs. Samia Salem Sex F Age 80 Interview Schedule Code _____
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 20
Interviewer Alix Naff City Bethesda, Maryland Date August 22, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

II/A/3

Informant's husband emigrated to "make a fortune" and return home, but he stayed until 1920 when he got married, and returned to Lebanon to take care of his family. His parents died during WWI and left four children.

III/2 IV/4

V/18