

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/2
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/2

They knew the war was going on but didn't have information from telephones, newspapers or radios. They knew the Arabs were against the Turks, but she had not heard of Lawrence of Arabia then; she heard of him later.

No Lebanese immigrated to avoid being drafted; they were exempt from conscription in the Turkish army. People relocated in Lebanon and Syria where they could find food but immigration to the U.S. or anywhere else was impossible because of the war.

(Informant at first misunderstood question concerning emigration, thinking interviewer was suggesting draft-evasion as a motive rather than the hardship of the famine; so she contrasts them with those in the U.S. who went to Canada to avoid the (Vietnam?) war, seeming to indicate her disapproval of that.)

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/2 12
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 2 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

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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 Alice Abraham Sex F Age 68 Interview Schedule Code VII/2
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 I but later found no one had died there.

VI/10

VI/18

VII/2

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan Sex F Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VII / 2
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 _____

IIA3

Re: World War 1She remembers that everyone was talking about the mustard gas, the massacres, the Russian revolution. The Syrians thought that the war would rid Syria of the Turks. They would discuss the war at church. The young boys would say that they would soon be old enough to fight.

Informant Mr. Eli Busada Sex M Age 87½ Interview Schedule Code III/2
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 _____

II/A

World War I:

Joined military in 1917--was 25 years old.

Was going to be drafted so enlisted since he had mechanical trade and skills.
Picked branch he preferred--naval air service.

Homeland not on him mind at all. "nothing going on there".
knows nothing of immigrants entering U.S. during war.

Left Worcester, Mass.; unmarried.

First went to Pensacola, Florida; week later to Norfolk, Virginia--never traveled
that far from Worcester before. He spent 6 months in Norfolk.
Didn't see much of Pensacola--no time.

VII/2

VII/3

VI/6/6

Informant Mrs. Madeline Bolis Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VII/2
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/1

The news came via teletype and they would gather around and the one who could read would read it.

VII/2

Informant Mr. Peter Aref Solomon Sex M Age 70 Interview Schedule Code VII/2
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 was too young to be ware of WWI.