

**THE WILLIAM BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM
ESTHER AND HERBERT TAYLOR
JEWISH ORAL HISTORY PROJECT OF ATLANTA
ATLANTA JEWS**

MEMOIRIST: WILLIAM SANCHEZ GAREY
INTERVIEWER: MARK BAUMAN
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INTERVIEW BEGINS

<Begin Disk 1>

Bauman: Hello, this is Mark Bauman. I am a retired Professor of History and I edit the journal *Southern Jewish History*. I am here today interviewing William Sanchez Gary. Today's date is December 22, 2015. This interview is being conducted at his home, 1718 Barnsdale Way, Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Garey, Bill, thank you for agreeing to participate in the [Esther and Herbert] Taylor Oral History Project of the Breman Museum. Bill, I am going to start out slow. What I want to do is go all the way back and get into your background, and then we will bring it forward. Why don't we start with your father's family? Tell me about your father's family.

Garey: My father's name was Harry Gottheimer . . . G-O-T-T-H-E-I-M-E-R. The name was changed somewhere in the 1930's. My suspicion, from what I heard . . . I had a much older sister who was brilliant. She got a scholarship to Harvard [University—Cambridge, Massachusetts], actually to Radcliffe [College—Cambridge, Massachusetts], which was the feminine side of Harvard, but there were quotas for Jewish people at colleges in those days, which was pretty bad. The name change, I felt . . . because of my father [who] didn't want to do it. He was well-known in the stationery field, and his name meant something commercially. He wasn't all that religious. He was a Reform¹ Jew. I always kidded him [saying] that's like

¹ A division within Judaism especially in North America and Western Europe. Historically it began in the nineteenth century. In general, the Reform movement maintains that Judaism and Jewish traditions should be modernized and compatible with participation in Western culture. While the *Torah* remains the law, in Reform Judaism women are included (mixed seating, *bat mitzvah* and women rabbis), music is allowed in the services and most of the service is in English.

Unitarian² Judaism, after I came back from over there. We were not raised . . . he didn't care whether we went to very much *shul* [Yiddish: synagogue] or not.

Bauman: Where did he come from? Where was his family from?

Garey: Athens, Georgia. He was born [there], but his parents came from, I was told, a town called 'Aschaffenburg,' which is in Bavaria [Germany] not far from Frankfurt am Main maybe. That is all I ever heard. He never told me much. When I came along, the last of the children, his parents . . . I have very little memory of them. I remember the heavy German accent.

Bauman: Do you know roughly when they came over from Germany?

Garey: It would have to have been after the Civil War,³ sometime between after the Civil War and whenever.

Bauman: Why did they settle in Athens?

Garey: I really don't [know], but there was quite a community of Germans for foreign Jews in Athens. The Boley family, who are distantly related and was a lawyer, and Bertram Boley is in Atlanta today. He [might be able to] tell you more, because he went to Germany. Bertram S. Boley [Jr.] . . . he is an attorney here in Atlanta. He might want to. I don't know. They had a Jewish cemetery in Athens, but we never could find any of my grandmother's or grandfather's graves. I suspect when everybody left town they used them over again. Some cemeteries have been known to do that. I don't know. It was the Athens cemetery.

Bauman: What type of work did your grandfather do?

Garey: I am telling you what he told me. They had bad weather there, and his father was running a little store which was also a post office in a town that then was called Rayle, Georgia . . . R-A-Y-L-E, I think. No, wait a minute. Back up. It was first called 'Helena.' He had the post office in his general store. His wife's name was 'Helen,' so they called the town 'Helena,'

² There is no 'Unitarian Judaism.' William is comparing Reform Judaism to Unitarianism, a Christian theological movement, which recognizes G-d as one entity. It is a very liberal and holds universalist ideals.

³ The American Civil War, widely known in the United States as the 'Civil War' or the 'War Between the States,' was fought from 1861 to 1865 to determine the survival of the Union or independence for the Confederacy. In January 1861, seven Southern slave states declared their secession from the United States and formed the Confederate States of America. The Confederacy, often called the 'South,' grew to include 11 states, and although they claimed 13 states and additional western territories, the Confederacy was never diplomatically recognized by a foreign country. The states that did not declare secession were known as the 'Union' or the 'North.' The war had its origin in the issue of slavery. After four years of bloody combat, which left over 600,000 Union and Confederate soldiers dead and destroyed much of the South's infrastructure, the Confederacy collapsed, slavery was abolished, and the difficult Reconstruction process of restoring national unity and granting civil rights to freed slaves began.

Georgia. Later it became 'Rayle.' Now it's [near] Athens [Georgia]. It was taken in by Athens. It was right near that river. The storm they had tore things up in his store, and him trying to save the goods out of the store he caught something and died.

My father never got to go to high school. He dropped out of high school, because he had a sister and a brother. I think there were three of them. He would be the only support, so they went to Atlanta. Somewhere, if they haven't been thrown out, [I have] the letters where he got the job carrying bags for . . . Montag Brothers,⁴ who were also German Jews, had a stationery place. You many know something about them. They were pretty big at one time. He went to work for a Montag [as a] salesman, and he eventually . . . he was with them 60 years, I believe . . . worked his way up to executive vice-president and had stock in the company when they incorporated, with very little education. He did know how to play a concert flute, and his father did, too. He used to play the flute. I think maybe in Germany they had some activity like that. I don't know. One interesting thing. My brother and I weren't doing good in school.

Bauman: What was your brother's name?

Garey: Harry Garey. My sister was Mavis Garey. We weren't doing good, and we got in trouble and all that stuff. He decided to send us to prep schools up North. He didn't want us to be in the same school or bad trouble. Harry went to Rutgers Prep[aratory School]⁵ in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He sent me to a little school called Pennington⁶ in Pennington, New Jersey, a town of 900. Pennington was actually about a 150-year-old seminary for Methodist ministers, but they had paying students there, too, to pay for the food and clothing that the Methodist ministers' kids got. The kids up there found out . . . they asked me, and I told them I was half Jewish. They weren't so bad with me, but a couple of other kids that were there . . . They called us 'halfies,' 'Hey, halfy!' but they were generally nice. They were not particularly . . . faculty and administration . . . prejudiced. I never got called any names up there, I will say

⁴ Montag Brothers Paper Company was established in 1889 by Sigmund Montag and his four brothers. The company's school supply products came wrapped in packaging stamped with the company's famous 'Blue Horse' logo, which could be collected and redeemed for prizes. In 1960, Montag and Champion Paper merged and then both merged with Westab, which was purchased by Mead Paper Company in the 1970's.

⁵ Rutgers Preparatory School (also known as 'Rutgers Prep' or 'RPS') is a private, co-educational, college preparatory day school located in Somerset, New Jersey. Established in 1766, Rutgers Preparatory School is the oldest independent school in the state of New Jersey and the sixteenth oldest in the United States. RPS ended its boarding program and becomes fully co-educational in 1952.

⁶ Founded in 1838, the Pennington School is an independent, co-educational college preparatory school located in Pennington, New Jersey, a small community midway between New York City and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the northeastern United States.

that, which was unusual. Down here [in] high school, the minute they heard the name ‘Gottheimer’ . . . up there . . . in New York, a particularly bad name was ‘*mocky*.’⁷ I don’t know if you have ever hear that name. Most people have never heard it.

I had a good friend who wasn’t Jewish, and we would go . . . Washington Heights in New York was a real nice place then. We would go stay in his parents’ [home] in a condo, I guess, or apartment. He was a mischievous guy and had a gang. His name was Petry Vance [sp]. He wasn’t Jewish. I don’t know if that was Irish or Italian or what. They were Episcopalians or no telling. I didn’t get any hassle from them at all. I don’t know why I threw that [in]. Washington Heights,⁸ last time I was in New York I wanted to go up there. I asked the policeman how to get up there, and he said, “Don’t go up there. The Dominican drug gangs run that place now.” It was a very nice, middle class sort of a place then. Pennington . . . finally I made it out of there.

Bauman: What a second, before you leave there. What subjects did you enjoy? Were there any good teachers that you remember?

Garey: Yes, I had very good . . . the teachers were very good and very nice. It was sort of a general high school course. I was interested in ham radio⁹ then, but I hadn’t gone ahead with it. That’s about all. I was mainly interested in mischievous things. You couldn’t smoke or drink anywhere there. The football players would bring it up on the roof. It was about a four-story, 150-year-old building. The teachers started to come up there, and the big burly football players would [say], “We’ll throw you off the [unintelligible: 8:40] of the school.” You know how kids that age are.

Bauman: Were you involved in any extracurricular activities?

Garey: No, I was not athletic at all. I liked to watch it. I joined the camera club. I had a little \$15 Argus.¹⁰ One thing we did [was] me and another kid, who became a Methodist minister later, bicycled over to Princeton [University—Princeton, New Jersey]. We got the idea

⁷ There are many variations of spelling for the word ‘*mocky*.’ It probably came from the Yiddish word ‘*makeh*’ meaning ‘plague.’ It was first used in the 1930’s.

⁸ Washington Heights is a neighborhood in the northern portion of the New York City borough of Manhattan.

⁹ Amateur radio, also called ‘ham radio,’ describes the use of radio frequency spectrum for purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, private recreation, radio sport, contesting, and emergency communication. All ham radio operators have in common a basic knowledge of radio technology and operating principles, and must pass an examination for the FCC license to operate on radio frequencies known as the “Amateur Bands.”

¹⁰ Argus was an American maker of cameras and photographic products, founded in 1936 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

and interviewed Albert Einstein.¹¹ We managed to locate him in his little house, and he was very, very nice to us. I've got . . . My nephew and everybody's got . . . I've got the school's annual that printed our pictures in it. He talked to us, and we asked him a few questions. He was very nice and kind. I think he thought we were funny maybe. That was about six miles through Hopewell [New Jersey] to Princeton.

Bauman: Did he say anything that influenced you?

Garey: No, we didn't talk about . . . I know later on students would call him for answers to physics problems. No, we didn't say anything about that. He just said very few words, and he smiled. [He was] very kind, with his wild hair, and that's about all there was to that. They did print the story and the pictures of it. They keep moving these books, but I've got my annuals and there's a picture of us in the camera club and the story of our adventure.

Bauman: Let's come back to your father. He is working in Atlanta at Montag Brothers.

Garey: Right. He travelled extensively. [He was] in sales, but he also did design . . . \$25 boxes of fancy stationery that we don't use anymore. He was good at stealing designs, we kidded him, from other products and adapting them, because the attraction of the box. He did. He would see something attractive . . . He went to New York [City] all the time. I went up there with him a couple of times. I went to Chicago [Illinois] with one of the other salesmen. I worked for Montag. My big problem [was that] about the only ones I could sell were the ones they couldn't ship to because of Dun & Bradstreet. In fact, I was working for them . . . That's further down the road.

Bauman: What about your father and Judaism?

¹¹ Albert Einstein (1879-1955) was a German-born theoretical physicist. He developed the general theory of relativity, one of the two pillars of modern physics. He was visiting the United States when Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933 and, being Jewish, did not go back to Germany, where he had been a professor at the Berlin Academy of Sciences. He settled in the United States, becoming an American citizen in 1940. On the eve of World War II, he endorsed a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt alerting him to the potential development of extremely powerful bombs of a new type and recommending that the United States begin similar research. This eventually led to what would become the Manhattan Project. Einstein was affiliated with the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, until his death in 1955.

Garey: He was very, very . . . in fact it disturbs me now. He said, “I don’t know about all that Red Sea crossing and all that.” I think he went on *Yom Kippur*¹² and *Rosh Ha-Shanah*,¹³ things like that, like the Christians who go on Christmas and Easter.

Bauman: Was he a member of the Temple?¹⁴

Garey: Yes. In fact, he helped . . . there were some Temple bonds, I remember, I guess when they built it or improved it. I remember he said he didn’t want them cashed anymore. He didn’t want any money back from them in his estate. He did go there when he went, but he didn’t care . . . My mother was Roman Catholic, and she fell out with him over the . . . it was legally enforceable.

Bauman: Before we get into that, let’s continue with your father for a little bit more. Was he a member of the Standard Club?¹⁵

Garey: He certainly was, and the [Jewish] Progressive Club,¹⁶ too. I don’t know if you knew this, but there was sort of a divide between the German-Jewish people and the Eastern European [Jews]. They were ‘*kikes*.’¹⁷ We were just ‘*mockies*’ or whatever other name you want

¹² Hebrew for ‘Day of Atonement.’ The most sacred day of the Jewish year. *Yom Kippur* is a 25-hour fast day. Most of the day is spent in prayer, reciting *yizkor* for deceased relatives, confessing sins, requesting divine forgiveness, and listening to *Torah* readings and sermons. People greet each other with the wish that they may be sealed in the heavenly book for a good year ahead. The day ends with the blowing of the *shofar* (a ram’s horn).

¹³ Hebrew for ‘head of the year,’ i.e. New Year festival. The cycle of High Holy Days begins with *Rosh Ha-Shanah*. It introduces the Ten Days of Penitence, when Jews examine their souls and take stock of their actions. On the tenth day is *Yom Kippur*, the Day of Atonement. The tradition is that on *Rosh Ha-Shanah*, G-d sits in judgment on humanity. Then the fate of every living creature is inscribed in the Book of Life or Death. These decisions may be revoked by prayer and repentance before the sealing of the books on *Yom Kippur*.

¹⁴ The Temple, or ‘Hebrew Benevolent Congregation,’ is Atlanta’s oldest Jewish congregation. The cornerstone was laid on the Temple on Garnett Street in 1875. The dedication was held in 1877 and the Temple was located there until 1902. The Temple’s next location on Pryor Street was dedicated in 1902. The Temple’s current location in Midtown on Peachtree Street was dedicated in 1931. The main sanctuary is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Reform congregation now totals approximately 1,500 families (2015).

¹⁵ The Standard Club is a Jewish social club that started as the Concordia Association in 1867 in Downtown Atlanta. In 1905, it was reorganized as the ‘Standard Club’ and moved into the former mansion of William C. Sanders near where Turner Field is now located. In the late 1920’s the club moved to Ponce de Leon Avenue in Midtown Atlanta. Later, the club moved to what is now the Lenox Park business park and was located there until 1983. In the 1980’s, the club moved to its present location in Johns Creek in Atlanta’s northern suburbs.

¹⁶ The Jewish Progressive Club was a Jewish social organization that was established in 1913 by Russian Jews who felt unwelcome at the Standard Club, where German Jews were predominant. At first the club was located in a rented house until a new club was built on Pryor Street including a swimming pool and a gym. In 1940 the club opened a larger facility at 1050 Techwood Drive in Midtown with three swimming pools, tennis and softball. In 1976 the club moved north to 1160 Moore’s Mill Road near Interstate 75. The property was eventually sold as the club faced financial challenges and the Carl E. Sanders Family YMCA at Buckhead opened in 1996.

¹⁷ ‘Kike’ is a derogatory word for a Jews. It appears to have derived from the fact that when illiterate immigrants came to the United States, they signed their documents with a cross or an ‘X’. Jews, however, who were illiterate or did not know the Roman-English letters, chose to sign their name with a circle. They came to be called by the

to think of. *Sheeny*¹⁸ . . . that's another one. When my mother would get mad at him, she would say, "Quit acting like a *sheeny*." He was a kind, good man. You couldn't have asked for a better father at all. He didn't really care what we went to. Mother got into a rather . . . I don't want to divert.

Bauman: Did he know [Rabbi] David Marx?¹⁹ I assume he knew David Marx. Was there any interaction with him and David Marx?

Garey: Who was David Marx?

Bauman: He was the rabbi at the Temple.

Garey: Yes. He did know him, and there were some later rabbis, too. When Dr. Marx . . .

Bauman: Rothschild? [Rabbi] Jack Rothschild?²⁰

Garey: I faintly remember. He didn't go often. I doubt if he went five times a year. My neighbors next door, the Morrises [sp] . . . she's Jewish. I guess he is, too. I didn't know it. I was talking to her at the door one day. "Did you have a good Christmas?" <makes a face to show that neighbor was surprised> She said, "We don't celebrate Christmas." I looked and there was a *mezuzah*²¹ on her door. I didn't see it. I said, "Our celebration was . . ." Of course, I'm a believer in Jesus Christ as the Messiah. The only difference, particularly after talking to a lot of the Orthodox²² and others in Israel, the only dividing line I see [is that] they think the Messiah is still coming. We believe Jesus was the Messiah. It boils down to about that, because I've had some very serious *Bible* teachers, and they spend more time in the *Torah*,²³ the *Old Testament*,

immigration authorities as '*kikel*,' which is the Yiddish word for circle. It refers to a cheap, low-class, ill-mannered or ugly Jew.

¹⁸ 'Sheeny' is a derogatory term for a Jew. It appears to be based on the way Jews pronounce the German word '*schön*' ('pretty,' 'beautiful'). It has come to mean a bum, a liar, or a base person.

¹⁹ Rabbi David Marx was a long-time rabbi at the Temple in Atlanta, Georgia. He led the move toward Reform Judaism practices. He served as rabbi from 1895 to 1946. When he retired, Rabbi Jacob Rothschild took the pulpit that Rabbi Marx had held for more than half a century.

²⁰ Rabbi Jacob Rothschild was rabbi of the city's oldest Reform congregation, the Temple, in Atlanta, Georgia from 1946 until his death in 1973 from a heart attack. He forged close relationships with the city's Christian clergy and distinguished himself as a charismatic spokesperson for civil rights.

²¹ A *mezuzah* (Hebrew for 'doorpost') is a parchment scroll often contained in a decorative case which is fixed on the right side of doorpost of a home. The parchment scroll made by a scribe contains the handwritten text of the first two paragraphs of the *Shema*.

²² Orthodox Judaism is a traditional branch of Judaism that strictly follows the Written *Torah* and the Oral Law concerning prayer, dress, food, sex, family relations, social behavior, the Sabbath day, holidays and more.

²³ Hebrew for 'teaching.' '*Torah*' is a general term that covers all Jewish law including the vast mass of teachings recorded in the *Talmud* and other rabbinical works. '*Sefer Torah*' refers to the sacred scroll on which the first five books of the *Bible* (the *Pentateuch*) are written.

generally speaking. They don't use the commentaries or *Talmud*²⁴ or . . . I forget the names now of some of the others. I looked into them, even the *Kabbalah*.²⁵ It's too far out for me.

Bauman: Was he a member of the Jewish Educational Alliance?²⁶ Did he go to the Jewish Community Center?

Garey: Most of his friends, not all of them, but I would say [unintelligible: 14:55] were Jewish people. He did the social things, but strictly with the Reform group. He had some friends that were Orthodox. Because of his lifestyle and upbringing, he just took it as normal. The name 'Gottheimer' was big in stationery, and he really did not like that. He did it to please my daughter, I guess. She went on to Harvard, and then she got a scholarship to the University of California at Berkeley. I said, "The little red school house in Harvard and the big red school house at Berkeley." I became very conservative.

Bauman: That was your daughter?

Garey: No, that was my elder sister, Mavis, who is deceased now. In the name change, I got a lot of questions in school. "What happened? Did your old man leave your old lady?" I said, "No." You know how kids are. Your name [is] suddenly not 'Gottheimer' but 'Garey.'²⁷ My daughter and my . . . I did some research in Israel. [The name 'Gottheimer'] might be equivalent to the name 'Bethel' [or] 'House of God.' There's a town [Bethel] over there [in Israel] with both a good reputation and later became false religion. You know the story better than I do probably. A lot of the Israelis change their names from whatever to Hebrew names. My memory . . . the guy I told you . . .

²⁴ Hebrew for 'study.' The legal code spanning 1,000 years and based on the teachings of the *Bible*, the *Talmud* interprets biblical laws and commandments. It also contains a rich store of historic facts and traditions. It has two divisions: the *Mishnah* and the *Gemarah*. The *Mishnah* is the interpretation of Biblical law. The *Gemarah* is a commentary on the *Mishnah* by a group of later scholars.

²⁵ Also spelled '*Kabala*' or '*Cabala*.' It is at one time a method, discipline and school of thought. In Judaism it forms the foundation of mystical religious interpretation. *Kabbalah* seeks to define the nature of the universe and the human being, the nature and purpose of our existence, etc.

²⁶ The Jewish Educational Alliance operated from 1910 to 1948 on the site where the Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium was located. The JEA was once the hub of Jewish life in Atlanta. Families congregated there for social, educational, sports and cultural programs. The JEA ran camps and held classes to help some new residents learn to read and write English. For newcomers, it became a refuge, with programs to help them acclimate to a new home. The JEA stayed at that site until the late 1940's, when it evolved into the Atlanta Jewish Community Center and moved to Peachtree Street. It stayed there until 1998, when the building was sold and the center moved to Dunwoody. In 2000, it was renamed the 'Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta.'

²⁷ The comparison here seems to be between 'Gottheimer' and 'Bethel,' which are similar in translation: 'Gottheimer' means 'God's homeland' in German and 'Bethel' means 'House of G-d' in Hebrew. The name 'Garey' appears to have been chosen randomly as a more 'American' name than 'Gottheimer.' It bears no relation to either 'Gottheimer' or 'Bethel.'

Bauman: Shulman?

Garey: What?

Bauman: Hyman Shulman?

Garey: Hyman Shamir [sp]. Hyman Scheckman [sp].

Bauman: Hyman Scheckman.

Garey: Yes. That's right. He became 'Hyman Shamir.' There are some prominent Shamirs over there, but I don't think he was related. He just decided to change his name.

Bauman: Let's switch over to your mother. Tell me about your mother's family background and your mother.

Garey: Old Spanish, from the discovery of Florida when Spain owned Florida. What . . . 1838, I think?²⁸

Bauman: Even before that.

Garey: When we bought it from . . . No, they went back to about 1500 in Florida, and her family went way back. 'Sanchez' is a very common name, like 'Smith,' in Spanish. She was one of 11 children, and her father was land rich. He had Spanish land grants, and he had rental property.

Bauman: Where?

Garey: St. Augustine [Florida].²⁹ They were all right in St. Augustine, the original town there. He got in the cattle business. Florida was open range³⁰ cattle like Texas in those days, and he spent nights out on the range. He was a very versatile man. I remember a little about him. He was a very kind man, I remember. They were crazy about my daddy. In fact, when he died, they made him . . . he didn't want to, but they made him executor of their will. They knew he was honest. The problem was he had land that today would be worth thousands [of dollars] an acre. He couldn't get \$3 an acre. [It was] waterfront, with the bay there. My mother's sister had houses right on the bay. I think they call it . . . where the Matanzas Inlet³¹ is. You are aware of

²⁸ The State of Florida was under colonial rule of Spain from 1513-1763 and then again from 1783-1821. It became an American territory in 1821.

²⁹ St. Augustine is a city in northeastern Florida. It is the oldest continuously occupied European-established settlement within the borders of the United States.

³⁰ A large area of grazing land without fences or other barriers

³¹ Matanzas Inlet is a channel in Florida between barrier islands connecting the Atlantic Ocean and the south end of the Matanzas River. It is 14 miles south of St. Augustine.

history where the Spanish murdered all those Protestants? French Huguenots,³² they were, up in Jacksonville [Florida]. They named the inlet there and the river ‘Matanzas River.’ ‘Murder’ [slaughters] in Spanish. He owned the land there. Beautiful beach and all, but finally he said his sister doesn’t have anything. I’ve got to sell it. I don’t want to sell it. You have to give it away. His own lawyer bought some of it, and that kind of smells to me. I guess he needed to sell it. I knew her brother well, and I knew her two sisters. In fact, I went to their funerals.

Bauman: Your aunts and uncles.

Garey: Yes, aunts and uncle. We weren’t close, but I knew them. <memoirist suffers a coughing spell, interview resumes> Whenever we went to St. Augustine, he had to stop and check up on them . . . <pause to recover and take a drink of water> Maybe I better cut to the chase. When the war broke out . . .

Bauman: Wait a second. You’re going too far too fast.

Garey: I was going to skip to get closer to Israel.

Bauman: We need the background so it makes sense.

Garey: I graduated in . . .

Bauman: Your mom was Catholic. How did your mother and father meet?

Garey: How did she what?

Bauman: How did they meet?

Garey: I guess he was traveling. I don’t know, but I suspect he may have been selling [to] her father who had some stores, because they traveled to Florida. That’s all I know about it. He never did tell me. He liked them, and they liked him. They used to come up here and visit us when they were alive. One of them . . . when my mother died he was 90, and he drove from wherever he was living all the way up. He was one of the young relatives. They were nice people. I’m not sure how seriously Catholic they were, but they went to a Catholic church. That’s about all there was, until the war came along.

Bauman: Your mother could not marry a non-Catholic.

³² A Huguenot is a member of a French Protestant denomination with origins in the sixteenth of seventeenth centuries. They suffered a series of religious persecutions from the Catholic Church, resulting in their relocation to Protestant European nations such as England, Denmark, Switzerland, etc., and also including the New World. They settled near St. Augustine, Florida, which was then colonized by Spain. Spain reacted by sending a fleet to Florida with the intent to uproot them and send them on their way. Although the Huguenots attempted to defend themselves ultimately, the small colony was massacred.

Garey: If you did, you had to sign a legally-binding document that your children would be raised Catholic. For some reason . . . my father didn't care really, but she didn't want to do it. She got kicked out or left, one or the other. They don't have that law anymore. They got rid of it. I know some Catholics that I consider a lot better Christians than I am. I also am totally aware of the history. Have you ever read the book *The [Anguish] of the Jews?*³³ I think a Catholic priest or bishop wrote it. [It] covered it better than anybody, because Catholics did most of it. A lot of it, anyway. I'm talking about 2,000 years in Europe.

Bauman: Who married them? Did they have a rabbi perform the ceremony? A priest?

Garey: I think a local . . .

Bauman: Justice of the peace.

Garey: Justice of the peace. Somebody like that.

Bauman: Were they married in St. Augustine or were they married in Atlanta?

Garey: I don't even know that. We've read in some of the documents, but I have just forgotten. It was hardly ever discussed in the family.

Bauman: She moved to Atlanta . . .

Garey: With him. He was already living here. When he got that job carrying the bags, she had to move here.

Bauman: Where did they live in Atlanta?

Garey: Before I was born, I don't know. Now . . . and the house is still a beautiful house, on 41 Peachtree Circle NE . . . not far from here at all. It's a big two-story house, but the upper story has never been finished. It was like a big attic. The guy that lives there now is part Jewish. He came over here from England, but his parents were Reform, too, I think. There have been several people [who have] owned it, and each one fixed . . . The house was built in 1911.

Bauman: When were you born?

Garey: [In] 1924.

Bauman: What date?

Garey: August 20, 1924.

Bauman: Were you raised Jewish or what?

³³ *The Anguish of the Jews: Twenty-Three Centuries of Antisemitism*, Edward H. Flannery, 1985.

Garey: No. My mother and her sister were investigating various Christian groups, and she got in one that I personally feel is cultish and that it has things in it that are not in the *New [Testament]* or the *Old Testament*. But they were very nice people . . .

Bauman: Christian Science?³⁴

Garey: That's what it was. How did you know?

Bauman: Your granddaughter told us.

Garey: I can't say anything against the people, like wherever we went . . . when we lived in California once, [we] met some of them. They would bring you to their house. They are just very nice, but doctrinely speaking I am kind of hard-nosed about that. If it's not in the *Bible*, I don't want to consider it if it's contra. I don't mean I shun somebody. It means I just don't believe it.

Bauman: What was your mother's name?

Garey: My mother's name was Emily Sanchez . . . Emily Claire [sp], I believe, Sanchez, as I remember.

Bauman: You were raised as a Christian Scientist.

Garey: That's the only church that I remember. They are very engaging people. I would say it is maybe 85 percent Christian, but the other part is hard . . . I don't want to get into that type of thing, but it is hard to get out of your mind. It's sort of very nice, but it ain't true. Unfortunately, there's a lot of things like that around.

Bauman: Did you go the Christian Science temple³⁵ on Peachtree [Street]?

Garey: I certainly did. One of my earliest memories . . . You know this big white church at the Christian Science Center? . . . is sitting on the steps there. We would walk up . . . her house is just about two minutes from there, at the corner of Peachtree Circle and Lafayette Drive. If you go out that way, you can go by it. It is quite impressive. The three different wealthy owners

³⁴ Christian Science is a set of beliefs and practices developed in nineteenth century New England by Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910), who argued in her book *Science and Health* (1875) that sickness is an illusion that can be corrected by prayer alone. Eddy and 26 followers were granted a charter in 1879 to found the Church of Christ, Scientist, and in 1894 the Mother Church, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, was built in Boston, Massachusetts. In the early twentieth century Christian Science became the fastest growing religion in the United States. The church is known for its newspaper, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and for its reading rooms, which are open to the public in around 1,200 cities.

³⁵ This is the First Church of Christ, Scientist. The Greek Revival-style church building was opened in 1914 and is located at the corner of 15th Street and Peachtree Street.

have fixed everything up nice. When my mother died, it needed a lot of work. Our kids were out of the house, so I said why take that on. It would have been a good investment.

Bauman: Was there anyone that was important to you or influenced you growing up as a teenager?

Garey: There probably were. A lot of the teachers in school were very nice and all, and I had my own friends. I can't think of any particular influence outside.

Bauman: No religious figure or anything like that?

Garey: No. At Methodist Pennington . . . which still exists . . . School, they had us read the *Bible* and *Bible* lessons. I listened to all that. Some of it I agreed with and some I didn't, but the people were nice. The headmaster was ninety-something years old. It was Dr. Francis Harvey Green. He was a retired Methodist minister. They didn't press Christianity on their students that didn't want it, like the Jewish boys. [There were] a lot of Jewish kids there.

Bauman: When did you graduate?

Garey: I think . . . If we could find those annuals [yearbooks] . . . I believe 1939, is nearest in my memory.

Bauman: What did you do after that?

Garey: It may have been later than that, because my father wanted me to live at home . . . he would pay for it . . . and go to Georgia [Institute of] Tech[nology—Atlanta, Georgia]. I did. I didn't like the work. I wasn't too good at calculus, so when we got into World War II . . .

Bauman: What was your major?

Garey: Electrical engineering, because I was an amateur radio operator . . . <greet someone off camera>

Bauman: How did you get into ham radio?

Garey: Just through friends. It was pretty popular in Atlanta then, and it was useful in emergencies. We had networks. People [could] communicate in emergencies. I stayed in it a long time. I had a little two-meter radio in my car for a long time. Everybody has cell phones now. You don't need that. That was my main hobby. Motorcycle riding, unfortunately. I beat on my father who didn't want me to have one, but I kept at him. It was close to the [World] War [II]. I had a 1941 Indian Chief³⁶ . . . big heavy motorcycle. I had a bad accident and broke my

³⁶ The Indian Chief was built by the Hendee Manufacturing Company, which later became the Indian Motorcycle Company from 1922 to the end of the company's production in 1953. It is no longer made.

back. I was laid up in a cast for a long time. While I was laid up, I said I don't ever want to see one again. When I went up to the Indian motorcycle shop, and they had fixed the bike and everybody is looking at me, I was too proud. I went over and humped up and cranked it and tore out of there like a big-ass bird . . . you know the symptoms. I stayed on the ground about as much as I stayed up. That was the only serious one up until then. Thank G-d I came out of it all right. We didn't even wear helmets. There was no requirement.

Bauman: Were you involved in fraternities at Georgia Tech?

Garey: No, I wasn't a frat[ernity] type. I lived at home. I didn't live in the [dormitory]. I had good friends that lived in them. One of my best friends from Connecticut, he was a motorcycle rider, too. [We] traveled in packs. The next important thing, I started at Georgia Tech, and I didn't really like the work. I didn't seem to have a head for it, so when we got into World War II I quit there and joined the Army. They had all sorts of ways to get you to join, and they told me and my friend . . . we both joined. He was from Connecticut. We would sign this paper, and they promised to send us to motorcycle school and make us dispatch riders on motorcycles. We joined.

I ended up a radio operator on an air transport, and he ended up a B-29³⁷ pilot. He never got any action, because he just finished up too late. Japan surrendered³⁸ and all that. They separated us and sent me to New Mexico for basic training out there and so forth through the war. What I want to get up to . . . my assignment . . . I was in the air transport . . . My eyes were bad. I hired a guy to take my eye test so I could go to the Army school, but the only friend I had was Chinese and that didn't work out. They caught us. [It was] the best thing that ever happened. All the guys that went to gunnery school went into the Eighth Air Force,³⁹ the 100th [Infantry Division] over in England, [and I] never heard from them again. I heard there were 35,000 airmen killed bombing Germany out of England, so that was good destiny there.⁴⁰ I didn't know any better. I wanted to shoot the machine guns and knock down those lousy Germans . . . Nazis.

³⁷ The Boeing B-29 Superfortress is a four-engine, propeller-driven, heavy bomber that was flown primarily by the United States at the end of World War II. It was initially used against Japan as a high-altitude strategic bomber but was more effective in low-altitude nighttime incendiary bombing missions. The B-29 also carried the atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

³⁸ Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945 thus ending World War II. The armistice was officially signed on September 2, 1945.

³⁹ The Eighth Air Force was based in England and participated in the air war in Europe during World War II.

⁴⁰ The actual figure seems to be 47,000 casualties with more than 26,000 dead.

I had assignments over here, and then they sent us all to Marrakesh, French Morocco. We had a base there. We were running cargo and passengers and so forth. Then, after not very long there, they transferred us. They built a new airfield at Cairo, Egypt. It's Cairo International [Airport] now. In those days, it was Payne Field.⁴¹ They named it after somebody over there. [Egypt] was right next door to Israel, and when we got time off and we were on base, you could go up there. We had a rest camp, Tel Litvinsky [renamed Tel HaShomer in 1948], up there, and you could go on all the tours. The contrast between Israel and the Arab countries . . . [the Arabs] were extremely poor. You go down the Nile River,⁴² and if you get to be 40 years old you they consider it a ripe old age. It was very bad. There were only 40,000,000 Egyptians then. Now there are over 80,000,000. Lord knows what they are doing now.

That's where I got familiar with Israel. I ran into . . . one guide we had I found out was in the *Haganah*,⁴³ and I talked to him. I was very impressed by what they were doing. I really was. We even had pilots who would fake engine trouble to land up there at Lod.⁴⁴ Tel Aviv Airport was 'Lod.' We would go . . . they had little nightclubs all along the beach with making your own beer in the basement. Just like Europe.

Bauman: Let's come backward for a second. Your father was Reform. He was a member of the Temple. David Marx was anti-Zionist,⁴⁵ even into World War II.

⁴¹ During World War II, the United States Army Air Forces built Payne Airfield to serve the Allied Forces, rather than take over the existing Almaza Airport located 3 miles away. Payne Field was a major Air Transport Command air cargo and passenger hub. When American forces left the base at the end of the war, the Civil Aviation Authority took over the facility and began using it for international civil aviation.

⁴² The Nile River is a major north-flowing river in northeastern Africa, generally regarded as the longest river in the world. It is 4,258 miles long, and its water resources are shared by numerous African countries. In particular, the Nile is the primary water source of Egypt and Sudan.

⁴³ (Hebrew: Defense). This was a Jewish paramilitary organization that operated in the British Mandate of Palestine from 1920 to 1948. Later, most of its members became the core of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). *Haganah* was originally created to protect Jewish farms and *kibbutzim* and to actively confront the Arabs. In the wake of the 1929 Arab riots the group grew and got more organized, acquiring military equipment and skills that turned them into a capable underground army. After the war, the *Haganah* carried out anti-British operations in Palestine such as the liberation of interned immigrants from the Atlit detainee camp, and attacking British installations. They also organized underground immigration into Palestine. Two weeks after Israel became a state, the Israel Defense Forces were created to succeed *Haganah*. All other paramilitary organizations were outlawed. This led to conflicts between David Ben-Gurion, the prime minister, and the *Haganah* leadership. Famous members of the group included Yitzhak Rabin, Ariel Sharon, and Moshe Dayan.

⁴⁴ Lod is a mixed Jewish-Arab city 10 miles southeast of Tel Aviv. Israel's main international airport, Ben Gurion International Airport, is located on the outskirts of the city.

⁴⁵ Zionism is a movement which supports a Jewish national state in the territory defined as the Land of Israel. Although Zionism existed before the nineteenth century, in the 1890's Theodor Herzl popularized it and gave it a new urgency, as he believed that Jewish life in Europe was threatened and a State of Israel was needed. The State of Israel was established in 1948 and Zionism today is expressed as support for the continued existence of Israel.

Garey: My father was anti-Zionist, too, because I went over there. That's the reason. I didn't tell my parents where I was . . . I won't say he was anti-Zionist. He was too busy working to wonder what's going on the Middle East. He just was disinterested, I guess. I really have been tempted to tell people I went over there because I was patriotic and wanted to help the Jews. No, I wasn't doing too well on my calculus test, and I didn't like school. That's why I went over there. I wanted to see a little excitement maybe.

Bauman: You were stationed in Cairo. What type of work were you doing on the planes?

Garey: I was on the crew as a radio operator. In those days, they carried a pretty well-equipped radio man with a trailing wire antenna. Today, you just press a button. No more radio operators on aircraft. In fact, a B-52⁴⁶ [has] a very small crew.

Bauman: You were a radio operator on a B-52 crew.

Garey: No, most of my time was on the C-130.⁴⁷ It's a big fat tub.

Bauman: Cargo ship.

Garey: Yes, cargo ship. You remember them. Cargo and passengers, but the passengers were in bucket seats.

Bauman: Where were you going?

Garey: What they did [was] they set up an airline and called it the 'Air Transport Command.'⁴⁸ We had our own insignia. I've got some. They went all the way from Liberia, or Robertsfield,⁴⁹ on the west coast [of Africa] all the way to the Chinese border. We had various military air fields, Iran, Iraq, all over . . . Habbaniyah, Iraq. We were supplying them and bring in people when they needed it. It was quite an operation.

⁴⁶ The Boeing B-52 Stratofortress is a long-range, subsonic, jet-powered strategic bomber. The B-52 was designed and built by Boeing, which has continued to provide support and upgrades. It has been operated by the United States Air Force since the 1950's. The bomber is capable of carrying up to 70,000 pounds of weapons and has a typical combat range of more than 8,800 miles without aerial refueling.

⁴⁷ The Lockheed C-130 Hercules is a four-engine, turboprop, military transport aircraft designed and built originally by Lockheed, now Lockheed Martin. Capable of using unprepared runways for takeoffs and landings, the C-130 was originally designed as a troop, medivac, and cargo transport aircraft. The C-130 entered service with the United States in the 1950's, followed by Australia and others.

⁴⁸ Air Transport Command (ATC) is a United States Air Force unit that was created during World War II as the strategic airlift component of the United States Army Air Forces. It had two main missions, the delivery of supplies and equipment between the United States and the overseas combat theaters and the ferrying of aircraft from the manufacturing plants in the United States to where they were needed for training or for operational use in combat. ATC also operated a worldwide air transportation system for military personnel.

⁴⁹ Roberts International Airport, informally also known as 'Robertsfield,' is an international airport in the West African nation of Liberia. The runway was built long enough for B-47 Stratojet bombers to land for refueling, giving Liberia what was for many years the longest runway in Africa.

We went down into Africa, Sudan. They called it ‘Anglo-Egyptian Sudan’⁵⁰ in those days. A little bit in central Africa. The war was in North Africa. We brought supplies for the Army. We were there after the Eighth Army turned [Erwin] Rommel⁵¹ around, but the United States was still fighting the remains of the German army. They finally put them out through Tunis [Tunisia] and Sicily and on. You know the rest. When they got up in Italy, we were flying supplies up into Italy, Ciampino and Naples Airport, wherever the Army needed people or something we could bring. Fortunately, we only went to the Chinese border, because guys that flew the ‘Hump’⁵² . . . that was the India-China wing. We weren’t in that. That was very, very bad. They had it rough. They had some Japanese fighters operating over there, too, but the mountains got most of them. We had C-47s,⁵³ the Gooney Birds . . . the DC-3,⁵⁴ to start with. The C-46⁵⁵ was a big improvement, but it had a lot of new stuff on it that caused a lot of trouble.

Bauman: Were you very close to the crew members on your plane?

⁵⁰ Anglo-Egyptian Sudan referred to the manner by which Sudan was administered between 1899 and 1956. The Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Agreements of January 19 and July 10, 1899, established the joint British and Egyptian government that ruled the eastern Sudan from 1899 to 1955 and, with some later modifications, lasted until the formation of the sovereign, independent Republic of the Sudan on January 1, 1956.

⁵¹ Erwin Johannes Eugen Rommel, popularly known as the ‘Desert Fox,’ was a German field marshal of World War II. Rommel was a highly decorated officer in World War I. In World War II, he distinguished himself as the commander of the 7th Panzer Division during the 1940 invasion of France. His leadership of German and Italian forces in the North African campaign established his reputation as one of the most able commanders of the war. He later commanded the German forces opposing the Allied cross-channel invasion of Normandy. He committed suicide in October 1944, after he failed to stop the Allied forces in France.

⁵² Following the invasion of China in 1937, Japanese forces controlled virtually of the China’s Pacific coast and large parts of the interior. When the Japanese overran Burma in the spring of 1942 the last land route to China was cut off. The United States needed to keep China in the war because its forces preoccupied hundreds of thousands of Japanese troops, but to do so they needed to get supplies to China. Thus, cut off by land, in April 1942 Allied pilots starting flying the “Hump” to bring supplies to China. The ‘Hump’ was a very dangerous 530-mile long passage over the Himalayan Mountains. They continued the airlift until 1945 when the Burma Road was reopened. Nearly 1,000 men and 600 Air Transport Command aircraft were lost in the operation.

⁵³ The C-47 Skytrain, or Dakota, was a military transport aircraft developed from the Douglas DC-3 airliner. It was used extensively by the Allies in World War II and continued in airline service, with passenger modifications long after the war.

⁵⁴ The Douglas DC-3 is a fixed-wing, propeller-driven airliner. Its cruise speed revolutionized air transport in the 1930’s and 1940’s. Its lasting effect on the airline industry and World War II makes it one of the most significant transport aircraft ever made. It was fast, had a good range and could operate from short runways, and it was reliable, easy to maintain and carried passengers in greater comfort. It was able to cross the continental United States, making transcontinental flights and worldwide flights possible. Civil DC-3 production ended in 1942. During World War II, many civilian DC-3s were drafted for the war effort and just over 10,000 United States military versions of the DC-3 were built, under the designations ‘C-47,’ ‘C-53,’ ‘R4D,’ and ‘Dakota.’ The armed forces of many countries used the DC-3 and its military variants for the transport of troops, cargo, and wounded. Thousands of surplus C-47s, previously operated by several air forces, were converted for civilian use after the war and became the standard equipment of almost all the world’s airlines, remaining in frontline service for many years.

⁵⁵ The C-46 (Curtiss Commando) was a transport aircraft that was used in World War II by the United States. At the time of its production, the C-46 was the largest twin-engine aircraft in the world. It still continues to operate a rugged cargo transport planes in the Arctic and remote locations.

Garey: Yes. There were just three of us. They were two officers, and I was a sergeant, an enlisted man. I had to do all the dirty work. We had a double-decker [plane and] down below we had some problems with the little 'putt putt,' the little engine that you had to start to get it going. You had to ride down there with the 'putt putt' on takeoff, and that wasn't very much fun. There was a lot of oil leaks and stuff.

Bauman: Do you remember of the names of the officers?

Garey: It comes to me. My memory is kind of fluid like that now. Sommers [sp]. I remember one name. I think [he] was a lieutenant then. There was one with a Polish name. Baranowsky [sp]. A little short, cocky guy. He was a good pilot. Lieutenant, or maybe Captain, Baranowsky.

Bauman: What did you do after Cairo?

Garey: I came back here, and I started back to Georgia Tech. I still didn't like it. Here [was] my dad offering to pay for it and let me live at home. I really can't remember. I was following . . . after meeting the Israelis and talking to them, and comparing their civilization and the Arab countries . . . I really had no hatred for the Arabs then. Some of the stuff they've done now, the hatred just eats you up anyway. I didn't go over there with a desire to kill a bunch of Arabs.

Bauman: You were going to Georgia Tech. You really didn't like it.

Garey: I don't think I was capable of probably the . . . I just had no flare for the higher math stuff and theoretical. I was interested in being a ham radio operator. I was interested in the hardware and techniques, but maybe I didn't have the brains. I don't know. Who knows?

Bauman: You left Georgia Tech?

Garey: Somebody . . . I can't remember whether I contacted one of the . . . It might have been . . . Lieutenant Greenbaum [sp], that was one of my pilots I was very close to. I don't know whether he contacted somebody and told me more about what was going [on] over there. He said, "Would you like some guys in New York trying to do something? The government is screwing us. They are locating all of our good equipment we had stashed." Fighter planes. They

had three B-17s⁵⁶ stashed. They had been out . . . this was a local organization affiliated with . . . Al Schwimmer⁵⁷ was doing a lot of it, most of it.

Bauman: Had you ever heard the name the Sonneborn Group?⁵⁸

Garey: No, I never heard that, as I remember. Finally, they sent me an airline ticket, and I went to New York. We were waiting around for instructions. Hyman Schechman . . . Shamir, . . . was running it. I don't believe the [Israelis] would have had an air force without him. He was a very able guy. He was a pilot, too, but he did mostly organizing. He worked with Schwimmer. I think it was Schwimmer or somebody asked me, "You want to go to Israel?" I said, "Yes." He said, "*Shlemiel*."⁵⁹ These guys wanted to help, but they weren't about to . . . which was probably wise.

They put me in a phone booth with a hat full of coins. "Every name you can see that's Jewish in the New York phone book, call them and try to recruit them." I said, "How do I know? I know some names [are] Jewish, but I don't know . . . New York has a lot of Jewish people." He said, "When they first pick up the phone, say '*Bist a Yid*'" I said, "Say it again, '*Bist a Yid*'" ["Are you a Jew?"] One guy said, "That cracker⁶⁰ ain't going to make it doing this. I can tell you that." I actually did talk to a couple of . . . somebody gave me the name. It was a guy named 'Harry Axelrod,' same name as [President Barack] Obama's⁶¹ buddy [David

⁵⁶ The Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress is a four-engine, heavy bomber aircraft developed for the United States Army Air Corps (USAAC). From its introduction in 1938, the B-17 evolved through numerous design advances and was primarily employed by the United States Army Air Forces in the strategic bombing campaign of World War II against German industrial and military targets.

⁵⁷ Adolph William "Al" Schwimmer (1917-2011) was an American-born Israeli engineer and businessman. He was the founder and first CEO of Israel Aerospace Industries. In 1948, he smuggled surplus aircraft into Palestine by setting up a fake airline that flew the planes via South America to Africa and Europe and from there to Palestine.

⁵⁸ The Sonneborn Group was headed by Rudolf Goldschmid Sonneborn (1898-1986), who was an American oil executive, businessman, and one-time president of the State of Israel bond drive. He visited Palestine in 1919 and became an ardent Zionist. In 1947, shortly before the end of the British mandate, David Ben-Gurion asked a small gathering of American-Jewish activists at Mr. Sonneborn's apartment to send supplies to the Jewish community and its military force, the *Haganah*. The group became a secretive, nationwide organization led by Mr. Sonneborn, which worked to smuggle badly needed materials to the Jewish people who were fighting to establish a Jewish state in Israel. They also helped smuggle tens of thousands of Jews from Europe after the Holocaust into Israel, in defiance of the British.

⁵⁹ Yiddish for a bungler, ineffectual person, inept person; a person who is easily victimized.

⁶⁰ 'Cracker' is a disparaging term for white people, especially poor rural whites in the Southern United States. With the huge influx of new residents from the North, 'cracker' sometimes is used informally by some white residents of Florida and Georgia as a proud self-description to indicate that their family has lived there for many generations. For the most part, however, it remains a slur.

⁶¹ Barack H. Obama is the 44th President of the United States, serving two consecutive terms from 2009-2016. He is the first African-American elected as president in United States history. He is a Democrat.

Axelrod].⁶² I recruited him, and he was very good over there. He went with Bedek,⁶³ which was Israel Aircraft Industries, and worked his way up, but I lost contact with Harry. He did his job good. He would roust the guys out of the tent in the morning and get them to work.

Bauman: You are starting in New York.

Garey: Right.

Bauman: Did they send you over to Israel?

Garey: Yes. Finally, after we did whatever they wanted us to do. We had warehouses with stuff hidden in it. Most of it was not guns because you don't want to get caught in New York [with guns]. It was war equipment that the United Nations said we couldn't send.⁶⁴ It was always the United Nations . . . the United States agreed to do what England, who was supplying and training Egypt, Jordan . . . Transjordan⁶⁵ [then] . . . but Egypt and all the rest of them . . . said, "We have treaties. We are not going to obey the United Nations' order." The United States . . . we can't send our ally . . . favorable to Israel. They didn't want Israel to succeed at all, that particular administration. I don't think it was Ike⁶⁶ [President Dwight David Eisenhower] as much as it was . . .

Bauman: It would have been [President Harry] Truman.⁶⁷

Garey: No, I believe . . . Eisenhower was in there, wasn't he? Maybe I am getting confused.

Bauman: Eisenhower was after Truman. Israel was established when Truman was president.

Garey: This was 1946, right after I got out of the . . .

⁶² David Axelrod was a senior advisor to President Barack Obama. Today (2016) he is director of the Institute of Politics at University of Chicago.

⁶³ 'Bedek Aviation Company' became 'Israel Aerospace Industries.' Founded in 1953, as Bedek, Al Schwimmer was the company's founder and first president.

⁶⁴ The western nations, led by Britain and the United States, had placed a universal blockade on arms for Israel. The British were flying patrols to interdict all shipments. The FBI was arresting and imprisoning any American caught "serving under a foreign flag." The only countries that could work with the Jews were those of the Soviet bloc, specifically Czechoslovakia, which was desperate for American dollars.

⁶⁵ Transjordan (also spelled 'Trans-Jordan') was an area east of the Jordan River. From 1921 to 1946 it was known as Transjordan and was controlled by the British. The modern country of Jordan was established in 1946, and was known as Transjordan until 1949 when it became Jordan and is ruled by the Hashemites.

⁶⁶ Dwight David Eisenhower (1890-1969), familiarly known as 'Ike,' was the 34th President of the United States, serving from 1953 until 1961. He was a five-star general in the United States Army during World War II and served as Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe. He was a Republican.

⁶⁷ Harry S. Truman was the 33rd President of the United States from 1945-1953. He served briefly as vice president in 1945 before being sworn in as president on April 12, 1945 upon the sudden death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was president during the final months of World War II, making the decision to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Truman was elected in his own right in 1948.

Bauman: Truman.

Garey: Truman was in? That's right. FDR⁶⁸ [President Franklin Delano Roosevelt] died. I always blamed it on Ike. I liked a lot of things about Ike, but . . . somebody told me that. They even sent prostitutes in amongst the . . . a lot of guys were pilots. The FBI⁶⁹ [Federal Bureau of Investigation] sent prostitutes among the pilots. One of them fell in love with one of the pilots and spilled the whole deal to them of what the [FBI] were doing, which was a good thing. It was pretty wild. We were at the Fisk Building, 250 West 57th Street, and they had formed an airline called 'Service Airways.' Then they formed an airline in Panama called 'Lineas Aereas de Panama.'⁷⁰ It was all a sham. The idea was they found they couldn't get the . . . they bought C-46s, transports, the bit fat one.

Bauman: Where did they buy them from?

Garey: Surplus. The war ended, and we had hundreds of them. They only paid \$5,000 apiece, and they bought two Constellations,⁷¹ the triple-tail . . . C-69s. They paid \$25,000 for those. They were getting them out of the country. They dreamed up this thing of two airlines, and they fly them in service for a while. Then they go to Panama. Next stop, over there in [Israel] . . . The base they had over there, the secret base was on [unintelligible: 44:52] Corsica,⁷² I believe that is. They were operating out of Corsica. This was all Americans and Israelis involved in that. Then, when the FBI found the Mustangs⁷³ and the Thunderbolts,⁷⁴ . . . great airplanes,

⁶⁸ Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945) was the 32nd President of the United States and a central figure in world events during the mid-twentieth century, leading the United States through a time of worldwide economic crisis and war. Popularly known as 'FDR,' he collapsed and died in his home in Warm Springs, Georgia just a few months before the end of the war. He was a Democrat.

⁶⁹ As an intelligence-driven and a threat-focused national security organization with both intelligence and law enforcement responsibilities, the mission of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is to protect and defend the United States against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, municipal, and international agencies and partners. The FBI focuses on threats that challenge the foundations of American society or involve dangers too large or complex for any local or state authority to handle alone.

⁷⁰ Service Airways was formed in the United States as a front for the secret buying of planes, parts and weapons and the shipment of all this materiel to Israel. This company later became the 'Lineas Aereas de Panama.'

⁷¹ The Lockheed C-69 Constellation was a four-engine, propeller-driven airliner pressed into military service during World War II. The first Constellation was delivered to the United States Army Air Forces later in the same year. They were mostly used as long-range personnel transport aircraft during the war. After World War II, they performed successfully as a fast and popular passenger aircraft.

⁷² Corsica is a mountainous island in the Mediterranean Sea belonging to France. It is located west of the Italian Peninsula, southeast of the French mainland, and north of the Italian island of Sardinia.

⁷³ The North American Aviation P-51 Mustang is an American long-range, single-seat fighter and fighter-bomber used during World War II, the Korean War and other conflicts.

⁷⁴ The Republic P-47 Thunderbolt is one of the largest and heaviest of the World War II fighter aircraft. It was built from 1941-1945 and was armed with eight .50-caliber machine guns, four per wing. The Thunderbolt was very

Thunderbolt fighter planes . . . they somehow or another . . . Czechoslovakia was in the process of being taken over by [Joseph] Stalin,⁷⁵ but they were building these . . . Germany had set up a factory in Czechoslovakia to build the Me 109,⁷⁶ but you couldn't get the good engine. I believe it was a BMW⁷⁷ engine. I'm not sure. They got the engine that went in the Stuka⁷⁸ . . . [Do] you remember the Stuka? . . . which is underpowered. That was part of the problem, but the main problem was the little narrow landing gear, which affected the German pilots, as well as ours. That was all they could get, so they started dismantling them and smuggling them in.

I remember, when I was with this group, they had a Messerschmitt covered in a tarp inside . . . disassembled . . . a C-46, and the Italian base inspector caught onto it. They told them, "This cargo . . ." and this and that. He said, "It may look like that to you, but it looks like the Messerschmitt like I used to fly in the German Air Force." They bribed their way out of that some way. I have forgotten. They were always doing things like they would send the Panamanian Ambassador cases of pineapple. [Unintelligible: 46:30] was a Panamanian. Of course, Panama . . . the ships they have there, phony registrations. They got the Messerschmitts in, and they brought some questionable Czech mechanics with them. There was a guy named . . . Did you ever hear of Mordechai Alon?⁷⁹ He was the head of our first fighter squadron, and his

effective as a short-to-medium range escort fighter in high-altitude air-to-air combat but was also adept at ground attack in both the World War II European and Pacific Theaters.

⁷⁵ Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin was the dictator of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) from 1929 until his death in 1953. Under Stalin, the Soviet Union was transformed from a peasant society into an industrial and military superpower. After Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin died in 1924, Stalin outmaneuvered his rivals for control of the party. Once in power, he collectivized farming and had potential enemies executed or sent to forced labor camps. Stalin ruled by terror, and millions of his own citizens died during his brutal reign. Stalin aligned with the United States and Britain in World War II but afterward engaged in an increasingly tense relationship with the West known as the Cold War.

⁷⁶ The Messerschmitt Bf 109 is a German World War II fighter aircraft designed by Willy Messerschmitt and Robert Lusser during the early to mid-1930's. It was commonly called the Me 109, most often by Allied aircrew and even amongst the German aces themselves, even though this was not the official German designation. During World War II, it was the backbone of the *Luftwaffe's* fighter force.

⁷⁷ 'Bayerische Motoren Werke AG', German for 'Bavarian Motor Works,' usually known under its abbreviation 'BMW,' is a German luxury vehicles, motorcycle, and engine manufacturing company founded in 1916.

⁷⁸ The Junkers Ju 87 or 'Stuka' (from *Sturzkampfflugzeug* or 'dive bomber') was a German dive bomber and ground-attack aircraft designed by Hermann Pohlmann and first flew in 1935. The Ju 87 made its combat debut in 1937 with the Luftwaffe's Condor Legion during the Spanish Civil War. It served the Axis forces in World War II.

⁷⁹ Mordechai Alon (1912-1948) was an Israeli fighter pilot who, with the formation of the Israeli Air Force in May 1948, assumed command of its first fighter squadron.

family, I was told . . . he didn't tell me . . . [he was a] very nice guy, a good pilot. He was in the Royal Air Force⁸⁰ during World War II. He was the squadron commander.

Bauman: Let's come back just a second.

Garey: I'm diverting you.

Bauman: No, you are doing great. Very specifically, how did you get over there? Did you fly to Panama, then Cyprus?

Garey: They gave us a lot of false stuff and bought us tickets on Air France. We got on a Connie [Constellation] . . . we got deluxe transportation to Paris [France]. I did something, me and the guys I was with, that I'm ashamed of now. When they were calling us to go from Paris to Italy and [from] there on . . . we were supposed to be going to Singapore, I think. [We had] phony papers if anybody asked us. We hid in the bathroom when they were calling us for the flight, and we missed the flight. It was all my idea. I cooked it up to spend the night in Paris. We came running out there raising hell like 'ugly Americans.'⁸¹ "Why didn't you tell us? Our airplane has left." The poor French. They booked us on the next day on an Italian airplane. We stayed in the old Palais Royale [Hotel] on the river there on the island. So we got to walk around Paris and see a few things. That wasn't really the right thing to do. It didn't cost the Israelis. It cost the French. Then we went on. I'm trying to remember.

Bauman: You went to Cyprus?

Garey: No, we went to Italy. I'm trying to remember the sequence of events. They had some . . . do you know what a Noorduyn Norseman⁸² airplane is? It's a big single-engine huge airplane with a 450-horse[power] Pratt and Whitney [engine]. It can carry a hell of a lot. They are Canadian made, I believe. They were military regiment. They bought a bunch of them, and they had to get them into Israel. They are very useful there. We equipped one with . . . to go, they had to fly way south of Cyprus, because the British radar was always looking. We had to put inside tanks in the cabin. The tanks were out of the DC-3, I believe, and then one of my jobs . . .

⁸⁰ The Royal Air Force (RAF) is the United Kingdom's aerial warfare force. Formed towards the end of the First World War on 1 April 1918, it is the oldest independent air force in the world.

⁸¹ 'Ugly American' is a pejorative term used to refer to perceptions of loud, arrogant, demeaning, thoughtless, ignorant, and ethnocentric behavior of American citizens abroad. The term appeared within a few years of the publication of the book *The Ugly American* by Eugene Burdick and William Lederer in 1958.

⁸² The Noorduyn Norseman is a Canadian single-engine, rugged bush plane designed to operate from unimproved surfaces. It had a powerful engine and an oversized cargo bay. It was originally designed in Canada to fly in and out of northern backcountry. Distinctive stubby landing gear protrusions from the lower fuselage make it easily recognizable. Designed by Robert B.C. Noorduyn and originally introduced in 1935, the Norseman remained in production for almost 25 years from 1935 to 1959.

we had a wobble pump . . . when the outside tanks, [which] had tubes going up into them, you would pump gas from inside to the outside tanks. Our flight ended up taking 16 hours, by the way. One of the hairiest things I have ever been on because . . . we had developed a relationship with the Italian Air Force at Brindisi [Italy] down on the heel of the boot [of Italy]. They were actually helping us, and I guess a little of this went on, too. <makes hand gesture indicating bribing>

We had some Avro Ansons,⁸³ which was the twin-engine ancient British bomber. We had some of those to get over there, too. These were disarmed. They didn't . . . guns and everything [were] taken off of them, so they were innocent. We had invoices for Singapore, too. The next thing they put me on was one of the Ansons. They had two . . . an American pilot and the co-pilot's name was Barry Riley [sp], I think, and me. A three-man crew. They were supposed to have the fix in at the Isle of Rhodes [Greece] to refuel. We come sailing into Rhodes, and the Greeks are in the middle of . . . the Communists were trying to take over Greece, and they had agents in Rhodes. Here we come in, and the guys who were supposed to put the fix in slipped up. Here come the good little Greeks out with submachine guns, "Who the hell is this coming in?" We were trying to [unintelligible: 51:10], and they locked us up and impounded the airplane.

I still remember this little Greek, a little short guy. Harry knew languages. He kept calling him '*mikro pragma*.' [sp] I said, "What does that mean, Harry." He said, "Little thing." I said, "That guy is going to shoot you." He would stick the machine gun, the little machine pistol, into Harry's gut and Harry would stick a screwdriver in his gut. I said, "You are crazy. [Unintelligible: 51:43] would put up with that." That's just the way Harry was. He bought a big, probably *prosciutto*, a big ham, and had it in a parachute bag. The little Greek pointed at that. "Open it. Let me see what's in there." "Atom bomb.⁸⁴ Atom bomb in there." Things like [that]. He was a clown, I am telling you. I was a little worried.

⁸³ The Avro Anson is a British twin-engine, multi-role aircraft that served with the Royal Air Force, Fleet Air Arm, Royal Canadian Air Force and numerous other air forces before, during, and after the Second World War. Developed from the Avro 652 airliner, the Anson, named after British Admiral George Anson, was developed for maritime reconnaissance, but found to be obsolete in this role. It was then found to be suitable as a multi-engine aircrew trainer, becoming the mainstay of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP). BCATP was a massive, joint military aircrew training program created by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, during the World War II.

⁸⁴ The atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. Nagasaki was bombed on August 9, 1945. Japan sued for peace on August 15, 1945.

They locked us up, and then finally they put us on . . . we could go out where the hotel [was], but we couldn't leave the [Isle or Rhodes]. They seized the airplane. Meanwhile, all the *schmeering* [Yiddish: bribes] was going on. Finally, they got us out one day. We said, "We're going to take the Greek airline up to Athens. I believe we are going to get out of here." We couldn't get the airplanes out yet. Harry . . . one of the Greek pilots we had gotten friendly with . . . Harry had disabled . . . done things to the engine. He said, "They may take them but they ain't going to fly them." He felt sorry about it . . . he told this [Greek] pilot, "Listen. Don't let them talk you into flying one of those airplanes. You won't come back." This little guy's eyes got big. He was friendly with the pilots in the air crew. We went to Athens [Greece]. I remember it was Easter, because I remember the parade. They have a big deal parade going up to the Acropolis.⁸⁵ I remember seeing that.

Bauman: Was this 1947?

Garey: I think it was. It was before the war started. It must have been 1947. It has to be. They got us out, and we went back to Italy. We were sort of based in Italy then. I can't remember whether it was Naples . . . I think it was Naples or Rome we were operating out of. They wanted us to . . . not the twin engine, not the Anson this time, but the . . . I have forgotten the name of that airplane, the one I . . . the big one, the big single-engine job. The [Noorduyn] Norseman, that's the one. I skipped over to that, with a tank inside, but it wasn't . . . it was after, later. We took off. I will never forget. Coleman ["Collie"] Goldstein⁸⁶ and I think Lou Lenart⁸⁷ was on that one. They plotted to try to scare the hell out of me, which wasn't hard to do. We were going down the runway, and there was a lot of discussion. We didn't know whether we have the right

⁸⁵ The Acropolis of Athens is an ancient citadel located on a high rocky outcrop above the city of Athens and contains the remains of several ancient buildings of great architectural and historic significance, the most famous being the Parthenon. In ancient Athens the most important festival of the year was a procession in which all the inhabitants of Athens assembled and walked up to the Acropolis, with their animal sacrifices, to honor Athena, the goddess of the city at her altar on the Acropolis. The goddess was also presented with a new garment woven during the year. A series of athletic contests, races and feasting accompanied the event. Today similar observations center around the Greek Orthodox Church and Holy Week, when a series of processions relating to Good Friday and Easter Sunday solemnities, including religious observances and candlelight processions through the streets, are observed by most of the population of Athens.

⁸⁶ Coleman "Collie" Goldstein was an American B-17 pilot of World War II. He was shot down over France in the fall of 1943, but managed to land the plane safely. Goldstein survived the winter, aided by the French Resistance, before crossing the Pyrenees on foot to safety.

⁸⁷ Lou Lenart serves in the Marines during World War II and led the Israeli Air Force's first combat mission on May 29, 1948, that stopped the Egyptians less than 30 miles from Tel Aviv. He later flew for El Al Airlines.

weight and balance. We didn't know whether this thing is going to get off the ground.

'Norseman' was the name of the airplane. I forget what company made it.

As soon as they were going down the runway, both of them turned around and one of them starts, "*Yisgadal v'yisgadash* [Aramaic]," reciting the [Mourner's] *Kaddish*,⁸⁸ trying to terrify me. I was already scared enough, because I knew we had a big . . . we had a third guy on there. What had happened, the Arabs had bought a load of brand new rifles and machine guns in Czechoslovakia. They had them on a boat, and it wasn't . . . they didn't call it Mossad⁸⁹ then, but they found out about it. They brought an Israeli frogman [scuba diver] over. The boat was in the harbor, and he put a limpet [mine]⁹⁰ on the boat and down it went. That was in all the [news] papers. We had to get him out of Israel. If I was him, I wouldn't have gone on that flight, but he didn't care. He was a very stoic guy. A young guy. All he did the whole flight . . . he had a big Smith & Wesson⁹¹ revolver, and he [was] polishing it and singing a little song. He was probably a *Palmach*⁹² guy. They were the toughest. [They] don't give a crap.

He is sweating out a 16-hour flight out with us. We get to the coast, and we can't see any sign. They said they would fix the airfield for us. We were asking him, and he [said], "I don't know anything." He was looking out the window. It was pitch black dark. By the way, there were two of us. The guy's name almost came to my mind, flying the other one. They made a mistake and landed in Egypt. They stayed in the can [jail] until the end . . . The Egyptians didn't mistreat them, but they put them in jail. That was the other Anson, I mean the other

⁸⁸ *Kaddish* (Hebrew for 'holy') is a hymn of praises to G-d found in the Jewish prayer service that is recited aloud while standing. The central theme of the *Kaddish* is the magnification and sanctification of G-d's name. Along with the *Shema* and *Amidah*, the *Kaddish* is one of the most important and central elements in the Jewish liturgy. Mourner's *Kaddish* is said at all prayer services and certain other occasions. Following the death of a parent, child, spouse, or sibling it is customary to recite the Mourner's *Kaddish* in the presence of a congregation daily for 30 days, or 11 months in the case of a parent, and then at every anniversary of the death. It is important to note that the Mourner's *Kaddish* does not mention death at all, but instead praises G-d.

⁸⁹ The Mossad is the national intelligence agency of Israel. It is responsible for intelligence collection, covert operations, and counterterrorism.

⁹⁰ A limpet mine is a type of naval mine attached to a target by magnets. It is so named because of its superficial similarity to the limpet, a type of sea snail that clings tightly to rocks or other hard surfaces. A swimmer or diver usually attaches the mine to the vessel.

⁹¹ Smith & Wesson is an American manufacturer of firearms. Founded in 1852, Smith & Wesson's pistols and revolvers have become standard issue to police and armed forces throughout the world, in addition to their popularity among sport shooters.

⁹² The *Palmach* (Hebrew: "Strike Force") was the elite fighting force of the *Haganah*, the underground army of the *Yishuv* (Jewish community) during the period of the British Mandate of Palestine. It was established in 1941 and by the time it was forcibly disbanded it consisted of over 2,000 men and women. Its members went on to form the backbone of the Israel Defense Forces and were prominent in Israeli politics, literature and culture.

Norseman, the Egyptians got. Finally, we see some flares. We had set out two flares. Coleman Goldstein was flying it, I believe. He said, “That must be the airstrip.”

We came down, and just as we’re coming on final [descent] they flash us red lights from a handgun. We pulled up and went around, thank goodness. They did that two or three times. “What in the hell? What are they trying to tell us?” He said, “Maybe there’s an impediment in line with the runway.” That’s what it was. A big tree. Why they didn’t cut it down, I don’t know. The next time he came in high and made that type of approach. We got on the ground, and I remember . . . What was . . . Ezer Weizman⁹³ was one of the ones who came out to meet us. I remember him saying, “These planes will save Galilee.”⁹⁴ I didn’t really know exactly what he meant. There I was. I remember . . . I don’t know if this has any import or not, but we had a big . . . I worked for a guy named Shlomo Monastersky [sp], who changed his name [unintelligible: 57:45], who was Latvian. He spoke every language spoken in Europe. He was sort of my boss. He was running the communications and stuff like that. He was in a big battle with the Army over some radios we had gotten over there.

We got them, and it was my idea. I said, “Listen. We need to have this stuff near where we’re going to use them. Let’s put them on the edge of the airfield.” We put them in huts on the edge of the airfield. The first night,⁹⁵ when the State [of Israel] was born and they had that broadcast, I’m sitting on a bench in Tel Aviv. The Egyptians decided to bomb us with DC-3s. They pushed them . . . they didn’t really have any heavy bombers . . . they just pushed bombs out the door. Here they come, and of all the bad luck they hit the huts that had our radios in them. I was the one that thought it was a good idea to put them there. That’s how much I helped Israel on that deal. Moni, Monastersky . . . ‘Moni,’ we called him . . . said, “Things happen.” He said,

⁹³ Ezer Weizman was the seventh President of Israel, first elected in 1993 and re-elected in 1998. He was a nephew of Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann. Before the presidency, Weizman was a combat pilot and received his training in the British Army. He enlisted in 1942 during World War II, and, in 1943, he joined the British Royal Air Force (RAF) and attended aviation school in Rhodesia. He served with the RAF in India in early 1944 and ended his service in the RAF as a sergeant pilot. Between 1944 and 1946, Weizman was a member of the *Irgun* underground in Mandatory Palestine, and between 1946 and 1947, he studied aeronautics in England. After the establishment of the State of Israel, Weizman was a pilot for the *Haganah* in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. Weizman joined the Israel Defense Forces and served as the commander of the Israeli Air Force between 1958 and 1966, and then as Deputy Chief of the General Staff. He retired from military service in 1969 and began his political career. In 1977, he became Defense Minister under Menachem Begin. After the visit to Jerusalem of Egypt's president Anwar Sadat in 1977, Weizman developed a close friendship with him. These relations were a crucial factor in the talks that culminated in the 1978 Camp David accords, followed by a peace treaty with Egypt the following year. In 1993, Weizman was elected to serve as the next President of Israel.

⁹⁴ Galilee is a region in northern Israel.

⁹⁵ May 14, 1948.

“I thought it was alright.” [If] he had them somewhere else, we would have left them there. I’m trying to remember the sequence of events what happened then. I can’t get it in order. We ended up carving a little fighter airfield up north of there. Herzliya, maybe. I’ve forgotten where it was. They brought the Messerschmitts in. That was all we had.

This guy I was trying to tell you about . . . I’ve forgotten what his name was. The guy that was head of the fighter squadron. Mordechai Alon. ‘Alon’ means ‘oak tree’ I think . . . Doesn’t it? . . . in Hebrew. His family, I was told . . . [he was] one of the nicest guys I ever met. He was a pilot and spoke English. He was a squadron commander. His family had stayed in Israel for the last 2,000 years. A few of them hid out. I was told this. He didn’t tell me. Mordechai Alon. He was a decent guy. A squadron commander. I am out there one day. [The Israelis] shot down two Egyptian Spitfires. The British had given Egypt Spitfire IX’s, which were a good model, and they painted a moon and star⁹⁶ over the British thing. They got shot down, and the pilots got them down in recoverable state. They built one good one out of it. A guy named Boris Senior [sp],⁹⁷ who was from South Africa, a South African Jew, flew Spitfires, so he was the pilot on those. I remember when we were test flying it, little Harry was running out to us. “It’s good to be behind a Merlin again.” The Merlin engine. He was a real warrior.

Bauman: This is Mark Bauman. This is the second tape of an interview with William Sanchez Garey. It is December 22, 2015. Bill, let’s continue where you were going. You were already in Israel. It is during the War of Israeli Independence.⁹⁸

Garey: I can tell you one event. It’s not in order, maybe, but . . .

Bauman: Go ahead.

⁹⁶ The insignia for the Egyptian Air Force from 1937 to 1958 was a wide green circle with a white circle inside it. In the center of the white circle was a crescent moon and three stars in green and white.

⁹⁷ Boris Senior was a central and pivotal figure in the dramatic story of the role of the *Machal* in the history of the Israel Air Force and War of Independence. ‘*Machal*’ is an acronym for the Hebrew words for volunteers from outside the land, and from 1947-1949, more than 4,000 volunteers from abroad came from at least 46 countries to defend and fight for the nascent State of Israel during its struggle for survival and independence. Senior, who was the son of an ardent South African Zionist family, was a fighter pilot in the South African Air Force during World War II. In 1947, while studying economics at London University, Senior became friend with fellow student Ezer Weizman, and both became involved in the activities of the *Irgun* underground.

⁹⁸ After the formation of the State of Israel in 1948, war broke out when five Arab nations invaded territory in the former Palestinian mandate immediately following the announcement of independence. Fighting continued until February 1949, when Israel and its neighboring states of Egypt, Lebanon, Transjordan, and Syria agreed to formal armistice lines.

Garey: [Israel] had built a relationship with Yugoslavia. It was going under Communist . . . it was in the interim period.

Bauman: [Josep] Tito.⁹⁹

Garey: Yes. What happened [was] the Russians were giving them jets, so they wanted to sell their Spitfires, which the British had given them. The Israelis . . . I forget, five or six . . . bought a good quantity of Spit-IX's. I wish I could remember that guy's name. It just flew out of my head. He was an engineer for Grumman,¹⁰⁰ and he had a . . . he was from New York. He was one of the guys we recruited. I just can't grab his name.

Mark: You'll remember it later on.

Garey: He was an engineer as well as a pilot. He went up there to prepare these for a long flight, to put on fuel and all that, to bring them from Yugoslavia to Israel non-stop. The sad part of it was they made it all except him. His engine went bad, and he crashed in the mountains. I don't know what happened to him. He was a nice guy, too. His wife was an invalid, and he left her reluctantly to go over there. It was one of those things. They told me to get a Collins radio¹⁰¹ off the C-130. They were going to put a boat out there, like an air-sea rescue, because that was a long over-water flight, just in case.

I went up there and put the thing on the boat, but the Israeli radio operator didn't know how to use it, and he didn't speak English. I figured . . . I didn't get permission. I . . . said, "I guess I'll have to go." He stayed, and I went out in the boat and we went out there. I remember some funny things happened. We ran out of drinking water. They weren't very well organized. They had a big .50 caliber Browning¹⁰² up on the front of the boat, so they keep approaching ships scaring the hell out of them, and all they wanted to do was get some water. They didn't know what was going on. They thought it was pirates coming to get them. We

⁹⁹ Josip Broz Tito was the supreme commander of the People's Liberation Army and Partisan Detachment, known as the 'Partisans,' in Yugoslavia during World War II. In 1933, Tito was appointed Prime Minister of a provisional executive body formed in Yugoslavia, called the National Committee for the Liberation of Yugoslavia. At the time, he received the title, "Marshal of Yugoslavia." The Partisans were recognized as the Allied Yugoslav resistance movement, and granted supplies and wartime support. Later, Tito became the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia.

¹⁰⁰ Grumman Corporation began as 'Grumman Aeronautical Engineering Company' in 1930 by a team that included Leroy Grumman. It is now a major multi-national national defense contractor.

¹⁰¹ Collins Radio Company, founded by Arthur Collins in 1933, initially designed and produced short wave radio equipment, flight control instruments, radio communication devices, and satellite voice transmissions.

¹⁰² The M2 Machine Gun or Browning .50 caliber machine gun is a heavy machine gun designed towards the end of World War I by John Browning. It has been used extensively as a vehicle weapon and for aircraft armament by the United States from the 1930's to the present.

finally got one [that] let us come close. “We want water. We want drinking water. That’s all.” They threw a line over, and they put a jug of water on it. I thought that was funny, because they could have called whatever coast guard they had up there to get these pirates [and] blast them out of the water. We went out there, and I talked to the airplanes as they went over. Nothing happened, so we went back. They wanted to know why the hell I went out on the boat. I said, “Because the other guy didn’t know how to operate the radio,” and they said, “Okay.”

Bauman: Tell us about your passports.

Garey: This incident where they caught me and turned me over to the embassy. They put me in jail first. That’s when . . . I can’t remember the other guy’s name. Have you read that big book about the war in Jerusalem?

Bauman: Yes.

Garey: Freddy Fredkens¹⁰³ was one of the bosses of the thing. He was Dutch. He was a Dutch Jew and very active. He was a pilot. How did he come into what I was going to tell you?

Bauman: You were talking about the passports in Italy.

Garey: Yes. Freddie came down. I heard him speaking Yiddish. He bailed me out, and I heard him telling the other guy in Yiddish it cost him ‘*finf hundert* dollars.’ I said I didn’t know I was worth \$500 to anybody. He <memoirist shows a look of surprise> . . . like that. I didn’t speak . . . My father wasn’t Yiddish speaking, but I learned a lot of it from friends. A very picturesque language.

Bauman: What was your name on the Italian passport?

Garey: It wasn’t . . . I had my United States passport when this happened, and they took it. They put a big stamp on it “Good only . . .” First they said, “You ain’t going nowhere.” I said, “I want my passport back.” He said, “You can’t have it.” Then he said, “I’ll give it you on one condition. I’m going to stamp it “Good only for return to the United States of America.” That was when I finally came back. I jumped to the end of the story there.

I thought I was being cute, if I would come back on the boat. I knew they were wise to the airlines. They would come get you. I knew I was going to get something when I got

¹⁰³ Harry (Freddy) Fredkens, an ex-RAF pilot, was sent to Europe in late 1947 on David Ben-Gurion's instructions to acquire aircraft. On the advice of Fredkens, Joe Sutherland, and John Harvey, all of whom had flying experience on Avro Anson aircraft, Emanuel Tzur, a *Haganah* agent, purchased five Avro Ansons in Europe. In March 1948, 20 Nordyne Norseman light transport aircraft had been purchased in Germany by Fredkens and were smuggled into Palestine via Prague, Czechoslovakia, a French airport in Corsica and a deserted RAF landing strip in Palestine.

back. I found there was one berth left. Do you remember the *SS America*?¹⁰⁴ It was our biggest cross [Atlantic] . . . when you did things like that. I got on there. A very nice ship. Five days, I think. I was in a stateroom with an elderly Armenian importer. I still use his name as a password, because I can remember it.

Bauman: What is it?

Garey: Now it flew out of my head, because I'm thinking about it. I better remember it. I've got it written down somewhere, though . . .

Garey: You're not interested in the part here what they did when I got into New York.

Mark: I am, but I think we . . . let's come back. You said you had two different passports in two different names.

Garey: Yes, and whoever has got them now has got them. The Italian one was more like a big sheet of paper. I had my picture on it. They did that . . . after they yanked me off the airplane and put me in the hoosegow and I got bailed out and then telling me I had to go back . . . I wanted to go back to Israel. They rigged up a deal where they were smuggling young South African guys to fight in the army there. They said I'll put you in with that bunch on the *Caserta* [sp: 1:08:15] It was some kind of a 5,000-ton steamer. I remember going down, and we were all in the black gang.¹⁰⁵ We were going down loading. The Italians liked to boss you around . . . [unintelligible: 1:08:28], "*Avanti!*" [Italian: Faster.] "Jew bastard" and all that. Finally, I said, "You *guinea*¹⁰⁶ son of a bitch," and I cussed him out. He said, "Americano!" [unintelligible: 1:08:38] I didn't have any idea. He made me mad, pushing me. "Americano! What are you doing here?" I said, "None of your business."

There were several thousand of others on that boat. I don't know how many, maybe 2,000 or 3,000 thousand. I noticed some of them looked different, and they were dancing the *hora*¹⁰⁷ out there. [They were] young guys, and I thought they were speaking German. It turned out they were South African volunteers, Jewish, and they were speaking Afrikaans.¹⁰⁸ It

¹⁰⁴ *SS America* was an ocean liner built in 1940 for the United States Lines and designed by the noted American naval architect William Francis Gibbs.

¹⁰⁵ The black gang are the members of a ship's crew in the steamship era who work in the fire room/engine room. They are also called stokers or firemen. They are called 'black' because of the soot and coal dust that is thick in the air.

¹⁰⁶ A derogatory word for an Italian person.

¹⁰⁷ The *hora* is a circle dance that originated in the Balkan counties and but also found in other countries, including Israel.

¹⁰⁸ Afrikaans is a West Germanic language spoken in South Africa, Namibia, and to a lesser extent, Botswana and Zimbabwe. It evolved from the Dutch vernacular of South Holland spoken by the mainly Dutch settlers of what is

sounds a little Germanic. They wouldn't speak to you. I finally said, "Look, I'm doing the same thing you are." There were supposed to be secret, black gang and all that. We got talking. They said, "Yes, we're going over there to fight this big battle coming up." We got in there all right.

One thing, I guess it's *apropos* tell you, I had this motorcycle, and my buddy, Lenny [unintelligible: 1:09:36], who I helped recruit, his parents had a little tailor shop in New York. Old country, strictly. A guy came along who we knew. I don't know whether he was Israeli [native born Jew] or *Machal*,¹⁰⁹ but he wanted to race. Bad idea, my motorcycle and a jeep down the mountain. I said, "I'll race you down." I took him up on it, which was stupid to start with. I said, "Lenny, you better get in the jeep, if anything happens to this motorcycle . . ." In thinking about it later, I probably was thinking, "I can go faster without him on here." The guy flipped the jeep and killed Lenny. That's one of the worst things that I went to over there, but it happened. That's when his girlfriend . . . she was heartbroken. I would wake up in the morning, and she is sitting there staring at me. I think she wanted to take up with me, but I just . . . I saw some pretty gals over there, but . . .

There was one thing. They had to bring me up to the north for some reason. There was an Israeli soldier, who was a girl, driving me up in a truck. It was the only thing they had available at the time. Going up, I made some moves on her. She said, "You've got to tell me that you love me before anything like that." I said, "Why should I . . . I don't even know you, and you don't know me. Why should I tell you that I love you? Come on." She wouldn't, and I had a bad headache, anyway. I wasn't really that eager. We got where I was going, and I never saw her again. There were plenty of good-looking babes over there.

Bauman: You had an Israeli citizenship, an Israeli passport and name. Tell us about that.

Garey: It's that *laissez-passer*,¹¹⁰ and then I had papers, which one of [his] kids has, both in Hebrew and in English, that I was a signal technical officer of the Israeli Air Force. I forget how it was worded. I had a lot of stuff like that. At that time . . . the reason I came back . . .

Bauman: What was your name?

now South Africa, where it gradually began to develop distinguishing characteristics in the course of the eighteenth century.

¹⁰⁹ *Machal* is the acronym for "Overseas Volunteers" in Hebrew.

¹¹⁰ A French term meaning 'allow to pass,' used to mean a document allowing its holder to come and go freely, especially in lieu of a passport

Garey: 'Ziv Gal' [sp] on the Israeli. 'Bernard Carp' [sp] on the Italian. That was only good until I was on the boat for use there. The Gal was all I had. They got my other passports. That's what I wanted. I wanted to stay over. I didn't want to go back. I could have just stamped it "Return only United States of America" and go back. I finally did go back after, supposedly, all the wars were over . . . ha ha. After the final truce.

Bauman: This was 1949? 1950?

Garey: Whenever that first war ended, within a month or two after that. That's when I came back to Italy, to the embassy. I said, "I want . . ." "Where the hell have you been?" He thought they had me several months before. He said, "Where the hell have you been without a passport?"

Bauman: Why did you decide to leave?

Garey: I didn't want to live . . . I saw how hard it was and how hard they had to work, compared to my idea of work. I said, "I don't think this lifestyle . . ." They thought all the truces had been signed, [with] Egypt, and they thought it was all over with. They have had four more wars since then, of course, as we know . . . but not for a while. They were able to do a lot of things. The Burma Road,¹¹¹ you know about that, I guess. I watched that. They were [just] about starving in Jerusalem. It was really sad. I did get to go to Jerusalem again and talk to the people that went through all that before the supplies did . . . I guess with war not going on and no cause for me to be over there, and I was still hurting about . . . I took blame for having that happen to Lenny. It wasn't too good.

Murray Pechner . . . that's the guy who was with me. P-E-C-H-N-E-R. He was one of the ones [who] came over with me from New York. He knew Lenny and Lenny's people [family], so we went to visit them. We came in the tailor shop, and as soon as they saw us they started screaming. What's the word for 'murderer' in Yiddish? They were yelling something at us and ran us out of the shop. Pechner was really hurt. He said, "It's me they are after, not you." I said, "I had something to do with it, too." He said, "That's 'murderer' what they are calling us." Murderers because their son got killed. That's not a very pleasant memory.

¹¹¹ The Israeli 'Burma Road' was a makeshift bypass road between the general vicinity of *kibbutz* Hilda and Jerusalem. It was built by Israeli forces headed by General Mickey Marcus during the 1948 Siege of Jerusalem. The name was inspired by the Burma Road into China.

I can't think of anything outstanding. One time we had a DC-3 down at, Akir . . . Akir and Ekron [sp: 1:15:00] are the same place, in the south. They wanted us to get the equipment off of it, because they figured the Egyptian air force would destroy it. We were out there, and I got the Collins [radio] off. I'm holding it, and here comes a Spitfire, started strafing. He wasn't a very good shot. I remember I jumped off. It was a very high door. I'm holding the weight, and I sunk in the hot melted tar up to my shoes. I managed to get out of that. We all carried Sten guns [British submachine gun], the little machine gun.¹¹² We all started shooting at this guy [as] they came down. Somebody hit his wing tip, and a piece flew off. It scared him so bad he went back to wherever he was from. He didn't hurt the C-46. Something happened to it where it couldn't fly. They hadn't had a chance to fix it, so at least we would get the radio and equipment off of it. I think they finally did manage to get it out.

One night with a C-47, they had to get it out of the hot spot they were going to lose. We went down there, and I had used the radio. When we got out . . . when the pilot tried to start it, the batteries weren't strong enough. I said, "Oh, me." We had a battery cart there, but the plug on it didn't mesh with the plug on the wing. You could hold it up there and push. I wasn't sure that would work, so I told them to try. I'm holding it up there, and it actually . . . that's the one good thing I remember doing. I held it up there, and he got the airplane cranked. Once you crank one engine, the others, the alternators and generators [start] going. We got that out of there. I went back in a truck with somebody. I'm trying to remember. That might have been down there at . . . Ekron [sp] and Akir was borderline. When we went down there to get that radio, I just remembered, they said, "We are going to have to send the *Palmach* with you, because there are Arab villages all along there."

Here comes the *Palmach*, and they had this big fake cannon made out of stove pipe. A big old fake thing. They put one in front and one behind, and they said [when] the Arab villagers see this cannon they'll know that if they fire on us we'll shell their village. [That] was the idea, and it worked. We didn't go in the main entrance of the base there. We went over the field, I remember. We had already gotten some of the machine guns that were on that boat. They got them in. You have got to read that book. I think it's called *O Jerusalem!*¹¹³ I have it here

¹¹² A family of British submachine guns used extensively by the British and Commonwealth forces throughout World War I and the Korean War.

¹¹³ *O Jerusalem!* By Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre (1972). The books tells the story of the war of independence and the struggle for Jerusalem.

somewhere, but the way people move . . . it's a very famous book. It's sold, even on the used market . . . the copies. It is mostly centered on the battle for Jerusalem, but it brings a lot of extraneous stuff, like Freddy Fredkens. His picture is in there and what he did. We got the DC-3. That was about the one thing I remember that I did that had a positive result maybe. I just went back because I realized I can't live this life.

Bauman: Were you involved in the creation of the Israeli Air Force after independence?

Garey: No, I wasn't. I was in it, but I didn't . . . in fact, it was just so wild. The headquarters of the Air Force was in the Yarkon [Hayarkon] Hotel [Tel Aviv]. We used to come up there when I was in the army. That's where we stayed. It was a mad house. People going and . . . very disorganized. I'm trying to remember . . . the guy that . . . It doesn't matter. His name keeps trying to come through.

One incident after that. The Egyptians, who were trained by the British and had British equipment, a big Egyptian armored column starts up the road toward Tel Aviv. They got about 16 miles away. We had a radio pit, and I was down in it with the radios. That's the one that [Lou] Lenart made that film about,¹¹⁴ I'm pretty sure. It sounds just like it. I remember Mordechai Alon . . . there were two planes, and Mordi was in one of them, the squadron commander. They made one pass down the road, and Mordi's guns screwed up. Typical of that airplane. It shook the Egyptians so bad. It probably killed a few. They turned around and went back down south to El Arish [Egypt], I think, or somewhere down that way. I'm listening to all the stuff. I'm down in the hole in the ground, but I'm listening to all the stuff. That saved Tel Aviv.

They had me billeted [rooming with] with a guy from Hungary that was supposed to be in intelligence. We had agreed . . . I didn't get into the part where we were buying from British soldiers. They were told to destroy everything, radios, [ammunition], and all. Instead they had a sergeant who was British intelligence, but he had been in the army 40 years. He said, "That's too good to throw [away]," so he was making a fortune. He set up a deal to peddle it to us. The Israelis had a big roll of British pounds that were wrinkled up like they had been under water. I don't know where they were. I remember this British guy wanted an officer in on it, probably for cover. He brought this young British lieutenant in. We were a little nervous about it. We didn't know whether it was a trap or what, but it wasn't. Mac . . . We called the guy 'Mac.'

¹¹⁴ Lenart's films included *The Prodigal Father*, *Iron Eagle* and others.

His name was 'Max.' He was from the Isle of Man.¹¹⁵ [He] talked like a Scotchman, and he was pretty old. He had been in the army a long time. He brought this young lieutenant, but he told Monastersky [that] any negotiations we do are in French. He didn't want the officer to know how much money he was getting. He was cutting him in, but he didn't want him to know he wasn't cutting him in good. He did us a big favor regardless.

We were buying radio equipment. Somebody else was doing the ammunition. They would bury it, and they would tell them where it's buried. I had to inspect it and the stuff we could use. Once our truck driver didn't show up, so I had to drive the truck. The only truck they had . . . it was a big thing I remember. I made the mistake . . . these were all British we were dealing with, speaking English. Scared the hell out of Moni. "When they hear that cracker talking, they are going to know you shouldn't be here." We did a good day of buying that equipment.

One morning we were on the *kibbutz*¹¹⁶ . . . What do they call that *kibbutz*, the northernmost one? The big one. They named the airfield after it, at least in our day. That should be right on the tip of my tongue. We were living in a tent there. We hear 'boom boom' going off. We went running out, and there were three or four . . . I can't remember that now . . . at least three Spitfires with Egyptian markings bombing the British airfield. What had happened [was] the British were telling them when they left, "We are leaving on such-and-such a day, and be sure to destroy the airfield before the Jews get it." You couldn't trust the British, some of them anyway.

What had happened [was] the British Dakota DC-3, had busted a landing gear landing, and it delayed their departure by about two weeks. They went to Cyprus . . . flying in parts to fix the Dakota, and they forgot to tell their buddies, the Egyptians. The British were really caught. Several people were killed, and they were really hot about it. Then these guys go back to Egypt [and] load up and come back for another taste. The British got two of these five-bladed Spitfires with the Griffon engine, the advance model up. It was murder. They just shot them down so quick.

¹¹⁵ The Isle of Man is a self-governing Crown dependency in the Irish Sea between Great Britain and Ireland.

¹¹⁶ '*Kibbutz*' means 'gathering' or 'clustering' in Hebrew. It is a collective community in Israel traditionally based on agriculture. They began as utopian communities that combined socialism and Zionism.

The Israelis saw one of them parachute, so we went out to get him. He was a young guy, nattily dressed, with a big . . . he was scared spitless, of course. They got him in there, and the guys questioned him. He spoke English, so he said, "I'm going to question you in English, so everybody can hear what's going on." He wasn't telling much. "How many airplanes do you have down at El Arish? How many fighter planes?" He said, "I can't tell you." He said, "I want to just tell you the rules up front. If you don't tell us what we want to know, we're going to bring you back to Cairo." He [unintelligible: 1:24:53], "But we will drop you out without a parachute over the town." He turned white, and he started singing like a canary. I don't blame him. After they got him out, I said, "I didn't think you guys did things like that." He said, "No, but he doesn't know that. He's already scared, so we have to find out what's going on down there." I remember one of the British guys . . . Did you know about the guy? . . . I think he was American or British . . . that hoodwinked [deceived] that Royal Air Force? He told them, "We are going to make a movie glorifying the Royal Air Force. We need Beaufighters.¹¹⁷ We need Spitfires." They turned it all over to them [thinking], "We're going to get free publicity." You know about that?

Bauman: No, go on.

Garey: That's actual fact. He got them to Corsica, and then he got them in there. I still remember these British Jewish fighter pilots. "We'll take the Beaufighter, and we'll skip bomb into that hangar and we'll shike [shake] them to their bloody tits." The way they talk was so comical. [unintelligible: 1:26:10] He says, "I was in the Dakota once, and the door started coming off and making the airplane curve. All they do was sit there and say, 'We've had it! We've had it! We've had it!'" Those Beaufighters came in real handy. But that guy hoodwinked him.

When I finally left to get out of there, there was a little wildcat airline called PAAC, Pan-African Air Charter, and they were using DC-3s, Dakotas. That's the only way you could get out. While on the airplane, after I got on, here's the guy that did the British hoodwink.

¹¹⁷ The Bristol Beaufighter was an English multi-role aircraft developed during World War II. It could be used as a bomber, a night fighter or in strike and ground attack roles.

He's on there, and there's Menachim Begin,¹¹⁸ who wasn't prime minister then. He was a terrorist.

Bauman: The *Irgun*.¹¹⁹

Garey: *Lehi* or *Irgun Ha-Leumit*. He was with his two big <inaudible 1:27:04> body guards. In fact, I was reading . . . I had an international *Time* magazine, and one of the body guards came back and said he'd like to read that magazine, so I gave it to him. He didn't have a very good reputation. They called the *Lehi* the 'Stern Gang.' They called them terrorists. In a sense, they were. It depends on how you think. They killed some British troops, and the British hung a couple of them publicly. It may have been that without that side of it the British wouldn't have left, but I don't know. Who can make moral judgements on something like that.

But I got thinking, here I am on this DC-3, and that guy that screwed the British is on there and Menachim Begin. The British would pay any price to shoot the guy. We're going to Cyprus¹²⁰ to go up to Marseilles [France] from there. We land in Cyprus, and lo and behold the guard that comes out is one of the guys we were working with Mac, that we were doing the gun thing with. They transferred him. 'Lofty' . . . he was a real tall guy . . . everyone called him 'Lofty.' I said, "Hi, Lofty!" He said, "Hey, Bill! How's everything going? I said, "I don't know. What happened to Mac?" We had set up a deal with Mac and set up codes. They were transferring him to the area of the [Suez] Canal¹²¹ down in Egypt, and he was going to do intelligence for us. We had a schedule and everything, but he never showed up on schedule. They got onto Mac with some of his moneygrubbing. He said, "I think they returned him to 'Blighty.'"¹²² I said, "I hope he'll talk. Mac will get out of it, I guarantee it, as smart as he was."

¹¹⁸ An Israeli politician, founder of Likud [the Labor party] and the sixth Prime Minister of the State of Israel. Before independence, Begin was the leader of the Zionist militant group *Irgun*, the Revisionist breakaway from the larger Jewish paramilitary organization *Haganah*.

¹¹⁹ These are separate groups: *Lehi* (*Lohamei Herut Israel*) was a Zionist paramilitary organization founded by Avraham Stern in Palestine. In English it was referred to as the 'Stern Gang' and its goal was to evict the British from Palestine for force and the formation of a Jewish state. *Irgun* was a similar group that operated between 1931 and 1948. It was an offshoot of the older and larger *Haganah*. It was based on the philosophy of Revisionist Zionism founded by Ze'ev Jabotinsky.

¹²⁰ Cyprus is an island nation in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, off the coasts of Syria and Turkey. At that time it was under British administration, making it 'hostile territory' for pro-Israeli people.

¹²¹ The Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez. The canal separates the African continent from Asia and allows ships to travel between Europe and South Asia without navigating around Africa, thereby reducing their voyages by about 7,000 kilometers (4,300 miles). The canal opened in 1869 and is owned and maintained by Egypt.

¹²² 'Blighty' or 'Old Blighty' was a slang term for Great Britain, or often specifically England.

That would have been a big help if we had somebody down there giving us what they are doing and what they are going to do.

Bauman: Did you meet Ben-Gurion¹²³ in Israel?

Garey: I saw Ben-Gurion, but I never met him. I didn't get that close to him. I saw him a couple of times. Ezer Weizman I knew real well. In fact, I used to reach around and wake him up in the morning and reach around and grab this gal's shoulder. He'd say, "What are you trying to do?" I said, "Get out of bed, Ezer. I'll take care of it." He was quite a character. He [Ben-Gurion] became prime minister later. He came to Atlanta, and I thought of going to see him. Everybody . . . he was quite a celebrity. Of course, he died.

Bauman: What type of interaction did you have with him?

Garey: He had a high position there, and he was over at the fighter squad. He was a pilot, too, and he was over at the fighter squadron a lot. We all knew he was Dr. [Chaim] Weizman's¹²⁴ nephew and who he was. He was friendly with everybody though if you started griping, he would chew you out. "It doesn't do any good," he said. He was a nice guy, really a nice guy. [There is] the story of the guy that made the Hebrew dictionary. They've shown that on public television two or three . . . You don't know about him?

Bauman: No, I don't. Go on.

Garey: You should look that up. There was actually a good film made about it. This was in the 1800's. Zionism was active. He said, "If they are going to go back, they need one language, and I think it ought to be ancient Hebrew." They said, "You're nuts. It's dead." Blah, blah, blah. He actually . . . He had TB [tuberculosis] in a very rough time, but he completed a dictionary [in] English . . . I don't know what language actually, because the guys coming in would have been . . . but a Hebrew dictionary. They made a movie about it that recognized what he did. I'm not sure of . . . other than sentimental/religious the Hebrew thing was a good idea, but I guess when you have people with all kinds of languages they have got to have one language. Hebrew is not very expressive, and they had to create a lot of words. Neither is Latin. Latin doesn't have a . . . Greek is the best language to . . . That's why . . . there's a story the way Christianity . . . how did they take over the [Roman] Empire from being murdered in 200 years . .

¹²³ David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973) was one of the primary founders and the first Prime Minister of Israel

¹²⁴ Chaim Weizmann (1874-1952) was a Zionist leader, President of the Zionist Organization, and the first President of the State of Israel. He was elected on February 1, 1949, and served until his death in 1952. He was born near Pinsk and today's Belarus and his father was in the timber industry.

. a form of Christianity . . . Constantine. You know that story. They said, “G-d saw . . .” and I believe that . . . the Romans conquered . . . first the Greeks conquered. Alexander the Great conquered the whole civilized world, and he impressed the Greek language on everybody. No matter what your native tongue, you have to speak Greek, which is the most expressive language, according to the experts in the world. Then the Romans came along and they conquered all these . . . They were great builders. They built roads throughout the Empire. If those two incidents hadn’t happened, which we attribute to God’s planning, there’s no way the two or three like Paul the Apostle . . .

Bauman: Now we are going too far off. Let’s come backward.

Garey: I drifted away. You should, since you would be interested . . . the guy that did that . . . there is a very good movie about him. It must have been made by Jewish people, because it was very favorable.

Bauman: Now you are in Israel, and Israel’s got its independence. You decide you don’t want the life of being an Israeli at that stage.

Garey: It was enjoyable, but I knew I would have to do something. The main thing there was farming, which I knew diddly [nothing or very little] about. Bedek had not really been formed, or any of that. Maybe if something like that had been there I might have . . . I wasn’t qualified, but I could have learned. They have a very good school there . . . Technion?¹²⁵ Is that [it]?

Bauman: Yes.

Garey: I said, “I’ll go back.” We had me on that Pan-African Air Charter, with those two bad guys. Good guys in my opinion. We landed at Marseilles, and we were going from there to . . . hang on a minute. Geneva [Switzerland] was our next stop. We’re going along in this old rust bucket. We get over to Geneva. They’re circling, and I look out at the mountains . . . you know the mountains on either side of the Rhone River? The clouds are up above the mountains. This guy starts what we used to call a ‘QDM¹²⁶ approach.’ They don’t use it anymore. I could read the key card. I used to crew C-47s in the army until we got . . . [unintelligible: 1:34:30] then they give you a bearing from the ground. You say, “I hope they’re right,” and you fly. Then you

¹²⁵ Technion, or the Israel Institute of Technology, is a public research university in Haifa, Israel. It was established in 1912 and offers degrees in science and engineering, architecture, medicine, industrial management and education.

¹²⁶ This amounts to be a magnetic heading to the landing place. The landing place supplies the compass information to the pilot who follows the directions in to land. It is no longer used having been replaced by modern avionics.

give them another key and they would work you down on code, not radio. That scared the pee out of me, because everybody knew that was a hairy process and I don't know who is flying this thing. That was more traumatic than a lot of other things, even in the Air Force.

Finally, I saw the lights under the river. They've got guiding lights in the river there at Geneva. Whew. We got down, and I was out of the airplane. I saw the pilot. He looked like a Prussian ex-*Luftwaffe*¹²⁷ pilot to me. He was about 60, and he had a saber scar. I said, "Hey, that was a good landing. Isn't that pretty tough?" [He said,] "No, no. We do that all the time." He was a very confident guy, and I guess he knew what he was doing. There are a lot of things that can go wrong on that type of approach, with the equipment and with your judgement, too. I was pretty scared by them.

I got in one thing in a C-46 once where we were in a *khamsin*,¹²⁸ a dust storm. You can't see one foot ahead, but if there is a light below you can see straight down. It was at Abadan, Iran, and they told everybody if you have got . . . We were incoming, and the guys that had fuel, they told them to get out of there and go to someplace that is in the clear. By the time we got there, we didn't have fuel. We were stuck. We couldn't go anywhere. What I would have done if I had been them . . . the Persian Gulf¹²⁹ is right there at Abadan. I would have kept going down until I saw water over the Gulf and then try to land, follow the water and land on the beach. I wasn't flying. I was the radio operator. There were 360-foot stacks. Some of the tallest, the biggest refineries in the world were at Abadan. They were just north of us, and every time they would head north I would nearly pee in my pants. One of the pilots was new, and the other one had been there. He is going north toward the stacks. He looked straight down, and he saw the runway under him, straight down. In his mind, he calculated a big turn and came around. He ran off the runway, which was all right. It was desert. He ran off the runway, and we ended up out in the boonies¹³⁰ there. There were a lot of C-46s parked there. Each one had an Iranian guard, and I had to go over there and BS [bullshit] my way onto one of them. "Officer. Me officer." I got on and called the tower and told them what happened and to get somebody out

¹²⁷ German air force in World War II. Today the aerial warfare branch is called the 'German Air Force.'

¹²⁸ A *khamsin* is an oppressive, hot, dry that blows from the south in Egypt in the spring.

¹²⁹ The *Persian Gulf* is a sea in Western Asia. An extension of the Indian Ocean through the Strait of Hormuz, it lies between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula.

¹³⁰ A slang American word for 'out in the country,' 'out in the sticks' or 'the middle of nowhere.' It is shortened from 'boondocks' which referred to rural areas.

there to tow the airplane and help us get back to the ready room. That was the hairiest thing. It went on for about a half hour.

Bauman: Let's come forward. You are coming back to the United States. What do you do back in the United States?

Garey: When I came back here. First, I thought I was being cute coming on the boat. They sent a little boat out after me with [United States Department of the] Treasury agents on it, not FBI. Someone told me they were from the Treasury Department.

Bauman: From Europe you come across on a boat?

Garey: On the *SS America*. The reason I did that . . . I got the last berth on it. The reason I did that . . . I thought [in] my stupidity, I know they are looking for me on an airplane. I figured they won't know I'm on this boat. They not only knew. They came and got me, and they went through my luggage. That was good, because I had some watches strapped around my legs, way more than the \$200 you were allowed. I had a disassembled [Walther] P38 German army pistol on my person. You know the Sullivan [Act]¹³¹ in New York? I was a little antsy.

It was winter. I know it was cold weather when we came back. I can't remember what month. They brought me up to this building, and they started asking me questions. They had a list of names. I knew most of them, but I knew which ones got killed. Anybody who got killed, [I said] "Yes. I knew him." Any that were still alive, I said, "No, I never heard of him." Then they asked me, "What was on the C-46s when you flew in them? What were you bringing?" I said, "I don't know. They were wrapped up and boxed. I believe it might have been wine glasses." They said, "Why?" I said, "They had a picture of a wine glass. Isn't that the international symbol for fragile?" I knew it wasn't. [Unintelligible: 1:39:30] They looked at each other like could this guy be this stupid? I got away with that part. [They] illegally would not give my passport back. There was no law involved. They just said, "Screw you." I wanted it back because . . . you know how they stamp your passport? . . . I had a lot more entries than I had exits. The Italian government said [unintelligible: 1:39:45], "Why do you have more entries . . ." "I don't know. I don't speak guinea. What do you expect me to do?" They would stamp it. We were leaving illegally, but we were coming in legally. You would think they would have . . . they never noticed that particular item. If they would have asked me, I would have had to BS my

¹³¹ The Sullivan Act is a gun control law in New York State that took effect in 1911. The Act required licenses for New Yorkers to possess firearms small enough to be concealed. Carrying concealed was a felony.

way out of that. They let me go, but I never got that passport back. I guess they destroyed it. I thought it would make a good souvenir. Someone told me later, Congressman [James C.] Davis,¹³² a long time ago here, could get your passport back.

Bauman: Congressman Davis of Georgia?

Garey: Yes. He was a Democrat back right after the War. He was nice. He got me a new passport. I wasn't going anywhere. I wanted my old one back, but he couldn't do that. He said he didn't know any mechanism.

Bauman: You come into New York, and then you fly to Atlanta?

Garey: My sister lived up at Mamaroneck [New York] on Long Island. I went to visit her a little bit, and then I flew back to Atlanta. That was it. Like I say, I'm sure it cost them some expense getting me over there. I don't know whether it was a profitable enterprise or not.

Bauman: I'm sure it was.

Garey: I did whatever they told me to do. They wanted people . . . at that time, it was so disorganized. They wanted people that would take an initiative. Monasterky was my boss. One of the things I didn't like [was] when we went to . . . were in Europe, and they had all this money they gave them. There was a lot of stealing of the money going on among the guys. I didn't like it. They gave me some, and I didn't like that aspect at all. I had a view they need this money. Maybe they had a room full of it. I don't know. That's the only thing. These were mostly poor people. That's the way it was. I remember one guy. I think he was from Germany, and we used to send him out. "Give me five quid in [unintelligible: 1:42:10], and I can find anything." He had a British accent, but he was German. That was one thing. You had people from all over there, all over Europe. I can't think of anything else.

One time there was a big battle between . . . on that coastal road, that narrow strip. They had to close that. The Arabs were coming down out of the hills there, fighting. I had heard something about it. I had my buddy and I on the motorcycle. We were going up that road, and we see two Israeli soldiers up ahead. I didn't know what they were about, so I sped up and waved at them and went on. Then I heard shots. They were trying to get our attention. They wanted to tell us, "You can't go up that road. There's fighting going on." We're going up the road, and I keep seeing remains of a car and machine gun shells. "What's going on here?" We

¹³² James C. Davis (1916-1992) was a Georgia politician when he represented the 5th Congressional District in the Georgia Assembly from 1947 to 1963. He ran for President of the United States in 1956.

went out the other end, several miles. There were Israeli soldiers up there. They said, “Did you come up that road?” I said, “Yes.” “That road has been closed for a couple of weeks. Arabs are coming down shooting.” I said, “We didn’t know.” They shook their heads. That could have been bad. That was a stupid thing. We took that motorcycle and went everywhere we could go, seeing the country, a good view of it. I was trying to think of any other important incidents.

Bauman: What was the country like?

Garey: When I went before, when I was in the Army, it was very nice. The British were keeping order. Later, both the Arabs and *Haganah* were shooting at them. That’s why they left, probably. The British were keeping order, and you could anywhere you wanted. The amazing thing was you could buy decent food. Cairo was a big city, and they did have some fancy restaurants, different from the whole Arab thing. I had read Pierre van Paassen.¹³³ Did you read that book?

Bauman: I’m familiar with Pierre van Paassen, yes.

Garey: He wrote a book about the contributions the Jewish soldiers from Palestine made in World War I that impressed me greatly. I’m trying to remember. I can’t remember the name of it, but you could probably figure it out. It’s worth reading, by the way. It’s strictly about the contributions of the Israeli Jews that got behind the German lines. A lot of it came from Germany. I don’t know why that came up. I had that knowledge, too, before . . .

I ran into a guy named Tuefeld [sp] when I was in the army, and he was supporting Israel and paying money to get Jewish children out of Iran. He was a little, short street fighter, and he was a millionaire. He volunteered in the army because he wanted to kill Germans. He always carried a big load of bills with him and offered to pay for everything. Once we were sitting at a table there . . . this was at Love Field in Dallas, Texas. We were in town. I had an old Model-A Ford¹³⁴ I had bought in Dallas to have wheels to get around in. Tuefeld pulls his fat wallet up. “Guard that for me.” He tears out there . . . he was a little, short guy, but [tough] like nails. There are two sailors there. They’re tall, and he’s yelling at one of them. What the guy had done was peed on the car we were in. That made him mad. “What the hell . . .” I would have

¹³³ Pierre van Paassen (1895-1968) was a Dutch-Canadian-American journalist, writer, and minister. In 1921 he moved to the United States and worked as a journalist. He gained fame reporting on the conflicts among Arabs, British, Jew and French in the Middle East. The author of numerous books it is unclear to which Mr. Garey is referring.

¹³⁴ It was the successor of the Model-T Ford and was produced from 1928-1931. The basic model cost \$500 and came in green, gray and black. Ford sold nearly 5,000,000 of them before it was discontinued in 1932.

said, “Who cares?” Peeing on the wheel. All of a sudden, Tuefeld pulls back and hangs one on that sailor, a big one. There were two of them. One of them grabs him and holds his arms, and the other guy started beating him up. Then all the air force guys go rushing out. We outnumbered the navy, so they . . .

Later on, a big, typical Texas sheriff comes up and wants to know what happened in there. I told him, “Nothing.” He said, “Look at the way they beat your friend up.” He said, “I tell you what you do. You go back to your barracks. You get your gun, and you come back and shoot them two sailors.” This was the sheriff. I was horrified. I said, “Listen, the army fights all the time. There’s nothing to it.” [He said,] “I wouldn’t let them get away with that.” He did look bad. He had a big black shiner. Tuefeld was laughing. He was a street fighter-type from New York. There were some pretty tough Jews from New York that I ran into in the army. Ready to go. He was doing all that, and he told me a lot about what was going on and getting the children out. That sort of whetted my interest in the place. Then when I got to go over there . . . it was after that, after I knew Tuefeld . . . I learned all I could. We would get . . . if you weren’t flying for three days, you would get a pass and go up there.

Bauman: You were influenced by the Holocaust and what you learned about . . .

Garey: Yes, yes. I knew all about that. I was following that naturally, because we were Jewish . . . One of the Montag brothers, Louis, had a nervous breakdown over the Holocaust. He recovered later. It was Louis, Harold, Sig, the one that run Montag. Later they sold out to Western Tablet, I believe.

Bauman: What were the influences leading you to go to Israel and help the Israeli War for Independence?

Garey: Just because I had a feeling that they were going to get wiped out or something, balanced by the fact that I really didn’t want to do what I was doing. I think that might have been a factor. It wasn’t any great surge of patriotism though I might have told some people at the time. It was just a . . .

Bauman: Did you identify at all?

Garey: Did I?

Bauman: Did you? Yes.

Garey: Yes, and I talked to a lot of particularly Orthodox over there. I doubt if I would have ever become a Christian if it hadn't been . . . I saw miracles over there. I knew it had to be the hand of G-d in it.

Bauman: The miracles you saw in the Israeli War of Independence led you to become a Christian?

Garey: It had a lot . . . probably had a lot of . . . I wasn't really a Jew. I was a 'halfy.' I was not . . . I was interested, but I finally got a great respect for the *Bible*. Both halves, as you would say. I will say that I have been through a lot of good teachers since then. I don't care for one . . . most of them use the *Old Testament* more than they do the *New [Testament]*.

Bauman: You've got an interesting background because it seems almost non-religious except the Methodist high school you went to.

Garey: I listened to what they said, but I didn't relate to it.

Bauman: You become very Christian and very religious after your experience in Israel.

Garey: Even some time after that. I started looking at the noted televangelists. Not the ones that were pulling stuff, but the straight ones. I learned the *Bible*, because I could sit at home. [I was] too lazy to read. I could have read it. I did read some. I got interested in that, so I started going to a couple of small churches. I saw what they were doing, particularly the ones that concentrated on helping the poor.

Bauman: What time period are we talking about? Early 1950s'?

Garey: These were Pentacostal . . . Baptist.

Bauman: What time period? 1955? 1960?

Garey: Yes, all along in there. I got deeper and deeper into it, and finally . . . my wife, Myrtle, was a Christian. Her whole family. They weren't pushy-type Christians, but they . . . Her father was one of the most Christian men I ever met, and he couldn't even read or write. He never said anything, but you hang around him a while and saw what he did. Finally, he did learn to . . . I got him at a pawn shop a big-letter [large-print] pulpit *Bible*, and he learned to read the *Bible* some. He was great. Her whole family was great. She was one of eleven kids, too.

Bauman: You are now in Atlanta. You have come back from Israel. What do you do at that stage?

Garey: I went to work for Rich's¹³⁵ as a TV [television] repair man. I had to tell them that I had worked on them in New York, and I had never even seen one hardly. I did as good as any of them did. I'm working there. I didn't tell you. When I got into New York . . . when we went . . . that's later, I guess. No, my wife and I actually went to New York, and I got a job up there. The guy that interviewed me at Picker X-ray¹³⁶ . . . did you ever hear of it? They've been absorbed by GE [General Electric] now. I got a job at Picker X-ray, and the guy that interviewed me had worked for the same organization in Europe that was disposing of the surplus war material. I happened to mention their name. That put me over the [top], because he worked for them. I didn't even know that. Finally, I was working for them installing . . .

The Puerto Ricans were just starting to come in. Rico Marc Antonio [sp] was flying them up in crummy airplanes to register them . . . he stayed in for life. They were citizens, of course. They could vote. One of the C-46s crashed once,¹³⁷ and they had air photos of the sharks eating the passengers. My wife didn't like it, [but] I was fascinated by New York.

Bauman: I'm starting to get a little lost.

Garey: We're way off.

Bauman: You're leaving Israel. You go to New York. Do you stay in New York, or do you come to Atlanta?

Garey: I came right back to Atlanta. I visited my sister [for] a couple of days.

Bauman: You're in Atlanta. You get a job at Rich's fixing televisions.

¹³⁵ Rich's was a department store retail chain, headquartered in Atlanta that operated in the southern United States from 1867 until 2005. The retailer began in Atlanta as M. Rich & Co. dry goods store and was run by Mauritius Reich (anglicized to 'Morris Rich'), a Hungarian Jewish immigrant. It was renamed M. Rich & Bro. in 1877, when his brother Emanuel was admitted into the partnership, and was again renamed M. Rich & Bros. in 1884 when the third brother Daniel joined the partnership. In 1929, the company was reorganized and the retail portion of the business became simply, Rich's. Many of the former Rich's stores today form the core of Macy's Central, an Atlanta-based division of Macy's, Inc., which formerly operated as Federated Department Stores, Inc.

¹³⁶ The James Picker Company was founded by James Picker in New York City in 1914 and manufactured X-ray equipment, film and accessories. They continued to manufacture all manner of medical equipment and in 1981 were acquired by General Electric of England, when the company became Picker International.

¹³⁷ This is probably a 1949 crash, which involved a Curtiss C-46D, which was flying from San Juan Puerto Rico on its way to Miami. It lost one engine and crashed into the Atlantic Ocean just off of Puntas Salinas. Of the 81 passengers and crew on board, 53 were killed.

Garey: Yes, fixing televisions, which I didn't know how [to do]. I don't think anybody else did. Then Lockheed Martin¹³⁸ took over the old Bell¹³⁹ plant [in Marietta], and they wanted people doing just what I do. I knew all the equipment, so I got a job real easy. Me and my buddy both got jobs at Lockheed. I stayed there 26 years . . . The only reason I left [was that] the C-5¹⁴⁰ program ended, and we went from 37,000 down to 7,000 [employees]. They wanted to transfer me to all kinds of places, but my mother was 90 [and] my daughter was a widow. I couldn't get up and leave. It would have really helped me with my pension if I would have stayed four more years, [for a total of] 30 years. They treated me very well. It was a good company to work for.

Bauman: What did you do at Lockheed?

Garey: Electronics. Finally, after about a year . . . I wanted to get on flight operations, on a flight job there. Lloyd Harris, who was one of their pilots, was a friend of mine. He managed to swing it to get me on a flight test crew. Any airplanes they built, we did the testing of them . . . B-47s. First, we were rebuilding B-29s.

Bauman: You were a technician on the plane.

Garey: They called us 'flight electronic engineer.' I called it 'glorified technician,' borderline between engineer and technician in that field. Usually an engineer doesn't get into hardware, and we were doing both. Actually, that was just flight testing on World War II B-29s. First they were being rebuilt to go to Korea for the Korean War,¹⁴¹ and then we built B-47s,¹⁴² [with] the six engines with the droopy tails on them. We built a lot of them and tested them.

¹³⁸ The Lockheed part of the company was originally founded by Allan and Malcolm Lockheed, who founded the Lockheed Aircraft company in a garage, in which they manufactured seaplanes. The other part was founded in 1912 by Glenn L. Martin in Los Angeles, California, which eventually became Martin Marietta. Martin Marietta and Lockheed Corporation merged and 100 later Lockheed Martin is major defense contractor in the United States that conducts research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services in the aerospace industry.

¹³⁹ During World War II, the Bell Aircraft Corporation was established in Marietta. In 1943 the plant began manufacturing B-29s to the United States Army Air Force. The plant closed after World War II and sat idle until 1951, when it became home to Lockheed-Georgia, later Lockheed Martin.

¹⁴⁰ The Lockheed C-5 Galaxy is a large four-engine, military transport aircraft built by Lockheed. It is still in use today although they are no longer made.

¹⁴¹ The Korean War began when North Korean forces invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950. American troops entered the war in defense of the Republic of Korea to the south against the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the north. Fighting ended on July 27, 1953, when an armistice agreement was signed maintaining a border between the Koreans near the 38th Parallel and creating the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between the two Korean nations that still exists today.

¹⁴² The Boeing B-47 Stratojet was an American long range, six-engine, turbojet-powered strategic bombers designed to fly at high subsonic speed and at high altitude to avoid enemy interceptor aircraft. Its primary mission was to drop nuclear bombs on the Soviet Union. It is no longer being made but is still in use.

Then we were rebuilding B-47s, after the air force was continually airborne with H-bombs¹⁴³ on them. Then the C-130 we started building. They're still building a few of them, I think. I heard Lockheed still is.

Bauman: When you returned to Atlanta, what was your parents' reaction to you working for Israeli independence?

Garey: They were glad I was back. I don't think my daddy knew much about Zionism. He was all business, all work. He wasn't . . .

Bauman: Did they oppose what you were doing in any way?

Garey: He just opposed me getting killed or hurt and not going to school. He was a believer in education.

Bauman: Did you ever finish your degree?

Garey: [I] never did. I got maybe two years. I never saw any reason for it, and I did not like school. I probably didn't like any kind of discipline. I was always coming in late at Lockheed. I had a coffee cup hidden somewhere, and I would come out of the tower like I was up there drinking coffee. We were salaried, so we didn't have to punch a clock.

Bauman: Tell me about your wife.

Garey: She was from a farm family, and her daddy . . .

Bauman: From where?

Garey: Right up north. No town there . . . right on the Tennessee border. A little crossing town called 'Tenna' . . . T-E-N-N-G-A. Chatsworth was the closest town, maybe Dalton. Her father made a living raising 11 kids during the [Great] Depression,¹⁴⁴ and all farming. Like I said, they were all great people. A couple of them, the boys, got mixed up with alcohol. It didn't do them any good, but they weren't bad. None of them were bad.

Bauman: What was your wife's name?

Garey: Myrtle. Myrtle Lucille Walker was her family name.

Bauman: How did you meet her?

¹⁴³ During the Cold War the United States kept nuclear-equipped bombers in the air 24 hours per day continuously in case of a surprise attack from the Soviet Union. Even if all ground-based missiles were wiped out we could still retaliate from the air. This was stopped in 1968 because of its high cost and an increased reliance on nuclear-armed submarines and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

¹⁴⁴ The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic depression in the decade preceding World War II. The time of the Great Depression varied across nations, but in most countries it started in about 1929 and lasted until the late 1930's or early 1940's. It was the longest, most widespread, and deepest depression of the twentieth century.

Garey: Some motorcycle-riding friend of mine. “I’ve got somebody you ought to go out with. You ought to go out . . . you got a girl?” I said, “I know a few.” He said, “This girl Myrtle . . . I’m going to get you a blind date with her.” That’s how I met her. I found out later that wasn’t the Myrtle he had in mind, but he got that Myrtle. He found out she was on drugs for one thing, so he had to find another Myrtle . . . that’s kind of funny . . . to take her place. When the kids asked me how I met her, I would say I was in ‘Moe’s and Joe’s’ . . . that’s this dive up here at Route 5, and she fell off a bar stool and knocked me over. I always tell things . . . then I told them I saw her name on the phone booth. “Call Myrtle for a good time.” [Unintelligible: 1:58:00] . . . make her mad. She would tell them, “That’s a lie.” She lived right near Moe’s and Joe’s, but she swore she had never been in there. I don’t really know. She was boarding with a family there when I met her. I was crazy. I remember one day I was going out with her, and I pulled up there. I saw a car leaving, and I thought she was in the car with a guy. I went up and cut him off. I jumped out of the car ready to go over there and get into something. It wasn’t her, and it wasn’t him. I looked, and I ran back to the car and took off and waved at him and then came back later. That’s kind of crazy [to do] stuff like that.

Bauman: Was she involved with your conversion experience?

Garey: She was always . . . maybe she encouraged me to go to church when I did. She never was the type to lay anything on you heavy. She wasn’t a real theologian, but she knew the rudiments of it. When you come down to it . . . there’s only one thing to the gospel, and that’s believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins. In the first place, you’ve got to agree that you have sins. Everybody does. The whole purpose of him coming . . . it’s in there, in the *Old and New Testament* . . . was to do that, because there’s no other way your sins could be forgiven. All the other things, which is plenty in Christianity and I’ve been through them all . . . [unintelligible: 2:00:00] . . . The secret is how do you believe something like that? In my opinion, that takes the hand of G-d. You will have doubts. In particular, we believe in Satan.¹⁴⁵ If you believe in . . . I believe if you believe in the *Bible* and you believe in God, you have got to believe in Satan . . . Satanic . . . there is an evil influence. Mrs. [Mary Baker] Eddy¹⁴⁶ said there wasn’t any devil, but

¹⁴⁵ Satan, in the bible, is the entity who brings evil and temptation to lead humanity astray. Some religious groups teach that he originated as angel who used to possess great piety and beauty, but fell from the side of G-d because of hubris (pride); others that he rebelled against G-d and took one third of the angels (now referred to as demons) with him into rebellion.

¹⁴⁶ Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) was the founder of Christian Science, a religious movement in the United States in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

she called it ‘mortal mind.’ Hers was half philosophy and . . . if you know anything about Christian Science . . . metaphysics, and stuff like that. Very attractive but I don’t think very much true except on behavior.

Bauman: After you left Lockheed, what did you do?

Garey: Some of the stuff I’ve told you, like TV repair. After I left Lockheed? I had a friend that was in the electronics business. He had a [unintelligible: 2:00:05] He got lung cancer. He had contracts to service the little microprocessor computers that the cafeterias use. He wanted somebody to take that contract over, because he hoped to recover. I said, “I’ll do it.” I had to travel to Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida. Very close in. I was picking it up, but they wouldn’t tell you a damn thing about them, because it was proprietary. Everybody was getting into computers, and they figured you would steal their design . . . <some talking, then interview resumes> All they did was give you a big printed circuit board, and you would go and swap boards.

Bauman: Is there anything you would add to this interview?

Garey: After you’re gone, I’ll probably think of something *apropos*. I’m thinking that I covered more than the highlights. I know I must have done more in Israel. Whatever they told me . . . some of the stuff was routine. I didn’t tell you about Mordechai . . . this is important. Mordechai Alon . . . I’m sure if you go to the right source, you can find plenty about him. I was more impressed with his family that stayed there for 2,000 years and hid out with phony names from . . . The one Spitfire we had, I was putting a new radio in it behind the pilots. I wish I could think of the guy that was flying. He was American. [A] Jewish guy. His father was a rabbi. Gideon Lichman . . . L-I-C-T-H-M-A-N . . . Gideon. His father was a rabbi, and he was very religious. He was always bringing that up, and Jewish [stuff]. I would say, “Come on, Gideon, what do you want . . .” I saw Mordi come back in, Mordechai Alon, [with] one gear up and one gear down. He couldn’t get a gear down. Procedure is . . . particular American . . . you shake them. Try to everything you can, because you didn’t want to lose the airplane. He could have made a landing and wiped out the gear anytime. He kept shaking them, and it was a lousy Messerschmitt. He went a little too far, and it stalled. He came into the ground about 200 [mph], and boom, a big fire. Giddy [Gideon] said, “What’s that smoke?” I said, “It’s . . .

<interview concludes in the middle of a sentence>

<End Disk 1>

INTERVIEW ENDS

Cuba Family Archives