Fred Hutcherson III

FRED HUTCHERSON III: I don't recognize the old, I'll just put it this way, the older face. (laughter) You lost a little weight, haven't you?

M1: Yeah, I lost (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

FH: Oh, that's your father, oh OK.

M1: Yeah, that's my father.

FH: All right. Yeah. Since that (inaudible) like about --

(break in audio)

Q: I was friends with her daughter.

FH: Huh?

Q: I was friends with her daughter, (inaudible) the older daughter.

FH: Oh, I've never met her daughter. (laughter) That's how long we go back, haven't seen each other.

Q: OK, [you're all done?].

FH: OK. What are you -- oh.

Q: Your name?

FH: You need my name?

Q: Yeah.

FH: Fred Hutcherson, with an E-R-S-O-N, the Third. And I'm 68 years old, I'll be 69 October the 27th. I was born in Evanston, Illinois at 1904 Asbury. I'm not a hospital baby. And that was in 1935.

Q: Well what are your, what are the names of your parents?

FH: Oh, my father's name, he's Fred Hutcherson Jr., and my mother's name is Regina Hutcherson. Her maiden name was Laurent. L-A-U-R-E-N-T. Now he was born, she was born in New Orleans, back about 1916, I'd say. My father, he was born in 1912, the 6th of July, in Evanston. In fact, at 1904 Asbury, like me. And in fact, my daughter, my middle daughter, her birthday is the 6th of July also.

Q: Oh, interesting. Interesting.

FH: Yeah.

Q: My birthday is July 1^{st} .

FH: Ah, OK. Well you ought to come up and go to some of my daughter's parties.

Q: (laughter).

FH: I have no brothers and sisters. But I'm fortunate enough to have three daughters. My oldest is Lisa Anderson, she lives in Aurora. She's, I think she's working for Browns Chicken, I believe.

Q: OK.

FH: And my middle daughter, Orian, O-R-I-A-N, and Hutcherson. She's 29. She'll, (inaudible) 28. She'll be 29, that's right, July.

Q: OK.

FH: And my youngest daughter is Jeanine, J-E-A-N-I-N-E, just one N. And Hutcherson. She's 20, I got to get her right now, 28 I believe, 27, I'm sorry.

Q: It's OK.

FH: They're about a year and a half apart, she was born October 6th. And my wife's name is Sharon Hutcherson. Her maiden name was Alexander. And she was born here in Rockford, and her parents and what have you, the older ones, they're from Arkansas. So I've got loads of relatives here in Rockford on my wife's side. I have none on my side. I did have a cousin living up in Beloit, but he retired, and he likes to fish and play golf, and he moved to Missouri.

Q: OK. I think my father was born in Missouri.

FH: Yeah. And anything else I can help you with?

Q: (inaudible) general questions (inaudible).

FH: OK.

Q: What schools did you attend in Evanston? Well, let's start with this one. Your father, since the main topic of this is about your father --

FH: Right.

- Q: -- what schools did he go to?
- FH: OK, I'm quite sure he, back when he was coming, I'm sure he went to Foster right up through eighth grade, and then he went to ETHS, Evanston Township High School.
- Q: And after ETHS, did he go off to college, or did he go straight into the military?
- FH: I think he just did a couple of classes probably. I'm not too sure of that. Because back in those days, you got out of high school, you usually went to work. [05:00]
- Q: OK.
- FH: And his main, if that's what you want to know right now, his main thing back then was flying. But he was a doorman at one of the businesses in downtown Evanston for, until he got his flying career going. And he was manager of Sky Harbor Airport, I think that's an industrial park now just northwest of Evanston. And I guess he had a few other businesses I didn't know about.
- Q: OK. What, growing up in Evanston, (inaudible) were you a member of a church, or was the family a member of the church?
- FH: Well, I grew up in Evanston from when I was born, (coughs) excuse me, until about five years old. And I went to St.

 Mary's at that time, for a year. And then the war came, and I started going, moving from one place to the other.

We left Evanston because my father had joined the RCAF,
Royal Canadian Air Force. And we moved to Chatham, New
Brunswick. And we stayed there, I don't know, I think
maybe a year or six months when the war started, where we
were involved, I moved to Harlem, New York. And I guess I
was there maybe a year and a half, went to two Catholic
schools there. You might want to get a little piece of
paper out. Because I went to about 18 different grammar
schools. If you want them, I'll give them to you, but --

Q: [That's all right?].

FH: -- if not, we went from New York back to Evanston, I went to Dewey. And I never did go to Foster. And then I moved out to California with my grandmother, when I did that, my mother moved to Miami with my father, Miami, Florida. He was flying with the British West Indian Airways, and I went to, I was there about a year. (laughter) In East LA. And then I went down to Tuskegee, where my father was stationed for a year. And I think he got discharged after that, went to St. Nicholas, over in South Evanston on, I think it was Ridge and Washington.

Q: OK.

FH: And I finally settled down for, I think it was two and a half years with the, as a family. And then we got on the

move again because he opened a flying school in Haiti, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and --

Q: So did the whole family move to Haiti?

FH: No.

Q: So just him?

FH: Just him and my mother. And I went back to Los Angeles with my grandmother. And every, for two summers, I guess that was '49, '49 and '50, I believe, I would, for summers, I would go down to Haiti, which was nice. Had a tutor the first year who taught me French, but I learned more Creole than I did French. And then, we came back to Evanston, I believe, yeah. Oh no, he went from Port-au-Prince to Medellín, Colombia. He was flying for SAM Airlines, that's Spanish, I don't know what it meant. And I was back in California.

O: OK.

FH: In between there, I had came back to Evanston for a year, for I think it was what, seventh grade, yeah, it was seventh grade. I went to Havilland there. Let's see, I hope I, I think I got all my schools. And then when I came back to Evanston again, I was in, I was a junior in high school. And instead of going to ETHS, I went to St. George High School over in the 300 block of Sherman Avenue, South Evanston. Graduate, well I didn't graduate yet, because

somewhere along the line, all these different high schools and junior highs, I was a half a credit short. So I went over to ETHS to make up the half a credit, but I just [10:00] took for one semester, just took all kind of classes, which was nice. And I left Evanston High School in the, after the winter semester, after the autumn semester, because I had already got myself enrolled at University of Illinois. So I started spring semester at Illinois, and that would be in '54. You still -- yeah?

Q: Yeah.

FH: OK.

Q: This is good, this is giving good background here.

FH: OK.

Q: Because what happens is, it gives reference points for further research --

FH: Oh, OK.

Q: -- or point some directions. So you mentioned a lot of things that I can always double check on (inaudible) things.

FH: Oh, OK. Got you.

Q: So thank you.

FH: And at that time, I wanted to be a lawyer, so naturally, you know, when you're a freshman, pre-law. (laughter) And I (inaudible) for a semester. I did pledge Alpha Phi

Alpha, Tau chapter of course. Yeah, OK, [cool?]. I pledged, I didn't go over though. Because during the summer, I was lifeguarding. And in fact, I lifeguarded at the beaches for two years. My senior year in high school, and then the following semester of, you know, following summer. Because I was on St. George's swimming team, I forgot to mention that. And everybody was going back to school, I decided I'm going to go in the Air Force, I was 18 then. So I joined the Air Force.

Q: OK.

FH: And then sent me to Chanute, which is right next to

University of Illinois, so that was neat. I was back on

campus. (laughter) I went to weather school there, that

was a, ooh, 18, 17. That course started in Thanksgiving,

and we graduated from weather school Memorial Day. Yeah,

of '55. Yeah, '55. And I was a serviceman then, so they

sent me to Japan for a three-year tour. And I was

stationed outside of Tokyo. If you want the name of the

base, I forgot how to spell it, but [Gachikawa?]. G-A-C-H
I-G-A-W-A-Y-A-S. That's close. And I was also stationed

in Nagoya, N-O-G-Y-A, and it's called Komaki Air Force

Base. It's in between, it's on the main island, in between

Tokyo and Osaka.

Q: OK.

FH: Beautiful area. And left there after three years, and they sent me to North Africa, where I was out in the desert,

Sahara Desert, in Libya, of all places. Wheelus Air Force

Base. And I sent up balloons, weather balloons, five times a day, Monday through Friday. And if the combat units from Europe didn't fly the weekend, I had the weekend off. But it was nice. And I got out of the Air Force, after my --

Q: When?

FH: In '58. Came back to Evanston, in fact I went in the Air

Force in '54, I maybe should have told you that. September

of '54. And I went, came home, I worked at the post office

in Chicago for, until my retirement, after six months.

(laughter) Because I wanted to go to school, and I couldn't

be a sub and go to school the same, you know, I couldn't

get the hours right. So, that was my post office life. I

went to Kendall College and graduated from Kendall College,

I started in '58, and graduated in 1960. Are you familiar

with Kendall College?

O: Mm-hmm.

FH: OK. At that time, it was a two-year college. So I had got an associate of arts degree. Yeah, in fact it was a Presbyterian-based school then. I don't know what it is now. And I know they're known for their cooking school.

And I decided, in the [15:00] -- after I graduated, in fact

I didn't stay for graduation, I wanted to learn German, I'd taken German, so I figured the best way to learn German was to go to Germany. So I went to the Goethe-Institut [Faust von Faust?], a German language school. Well at that time it was famous, it might still be, I don't know. Now Goethe, that's the G-O-E-T-H-E, I believe it is, is the, some famous writer, I believe. And I went to a, about a six-month course, and I got my papers from there, my certificate, I could have gone, I was thinking about going to Heidelberg.

Q: OK.

FH: Because I had the language deficiency taken care of. I could have made it. But I made a detour, and went to Copenhagen, Denmark, stayed there for six months, and came home.

Q: Nice detour. (laughter)

FH: Right. And when I got to O'Hare, I had \$10 in my pocket.

Got on the L, came on back to Evanston, and there I was.

So for those oh, about two years or so, I was taking courses at Loyola and Roosevelt. Night courses. [So yeah?], Loyola Roosevelt. Yeah.

Q: OK. (inaudible) down there.

FH: Yeah.

Q: I want to put this on your father.

FH: OK, yeah. Enough of me.

Q: And his career.

FH: I left, when (inaudible) his -- the photography started.

Q: [Excellent?]. Your father was born in 1912 in Evanston, at 1904 Asbury.

FH: Right, June -- July the 6th.

Q: July 6th.

FH: I don't know about the time. (laughter)

Q: Well when you spoke to your father, I'm sure many times about his career in the military, I think you had mentioned he was always interested in aviation?

FH: Yeah, as a teenager, from what I understand.

Q: OK.

FH: And unfortunately, the way the family was, you know, in and out, breaking up like a rollercoaster. Back, you know, I was like a teenager, not even a teenager back then, in the '40s. But I never, I just knew that, excuse me, that he was the first black man to fly across the Atlantic when he was on the [Fair Command?], and as a Royal Canadian Air Force captain also. You know, I knew about all that, and I looked at the clippings and, but we never did discuss too much. You know, the stories I heard was maybe would, if he'd be talking to someone, I'd hear a few little things like that. But I wish now, I look back, I wish I would

have discussed, even wrote stuff down, but I didn't.

Because you know, I don't know if [Rose?] told you, but now he died on his birthday, 50 years old. On his 50th birthday. Which would be what, '62, yeah.

Q: Did he try to join the Air Force, the U.S. Air Force at one point, or?

FH: Oh yeah, he tried to join the Air Force, I believe before we got into the war, and they weren't taking any blacks at all, Negroes, as they called us then, or coloreds. So he went on up to Montreal, in Canada, and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. And he got to the rank of captain, I believe he taught bomber navigation, and flying, and stuff like that while he was there. In New London, I think that's right outside of Montreal or Ontario, yeah, the ---don't quote me on that one.

Q: OK.

FH: And then, when President Roosevelt started his lend-lease program, and so he was flying Lockheed Venturas initially, they called them Lockheed Hudsons also, from Canada, over to England. And he was getting \$1,000 [20:00] a trip. He said a lot of time, they wouldn't have any armament in there, they would, it'd just be maybe three people, a pilot, copilot, and a radio guy, and that'd be it. Excuse me. So they would go over there, usually land in Scotland,

I remember him saying that, and then they would all, all the pilots, or how many left, they would all crowd on one plane and fly back to Canada to pick up other planes.

Sometimes, one or two times, he came back by convoy. And the U-boats were prevalent at that time, and they were mainly getting ships that were going to England, and not leaving, so. So he didn't have the, he didn't get torpedoed or anything like that.

Q: OK. So was he involved in actual combat, or -- during the war (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)?

FH: I honestly don't know, I know that he did mention that, and when he was in Scotland, he had to fly some Spitfires, that was one of the planes that saved the Battle of Britain. He had to fly some of them down to the London area, the airbases around there, deliver them from the factory. He never mentioned about being in any combat though. I know he was, the Blitz was going on while he was in London, because he had, he took a lot of photographs of, where the blockbusters hit, just leveled everything for blocks. And he came back home, and he, I don't know how many flights, he never told me, I don't know how many flights he made from Canada to England. But he went down to Miami, Florida for British West Indian Airlines as a captain on the airlines there. But that was a British airline, so you

know, he wasn't the first airline captain, black airline captain, for the United States, but he was for over there, I guess.

Q: That's [what it sounds like?].

FH: Right.

O: For the British airline.

FH: Yeah, and from what I understand very vaguely, he may have made some deliveries there. I think I remember him saying something about flying the president of the Dominican Republic on a secret mission from somewhere to somewhere.

(laughter) His name was Trujillo, the capital they had named after him, he was, he ended up being like a dictator, I don't know what the capital of the Dominican Republic now is.

Q: (inaudible).

FH: They could send -- I don't know, I won't even go into that.

Q: OK.

FH: But he did stuff like that. And --

Q: And when he flew for the British airlines, do you know possibly what year that was?

FH: Let's see. I would say '39, or '40. Because I know I wasn't in Canada that long before we got in the war, and we had to leave. That was December of '41.

Q: When he went to Canada was in '41?

- FH: No, he went to Canada in I would say '39 or '40. Might have been '40, but I'm not sure.
- Q: OK. And obviously, (inaudible) that was probably something like '38, (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).
- FH: Right, yeah. Right.
- Q: He was denied.
- FH: Right. And then, or turned down, yeah. Then, he finally got drafted, because he was on, I remember him telling me, he was on six months' deferments, every six months he had to check in with the draft board, even when he was down in Florida.
- Q: OK.
- FH: And finally, the Tuskegee Project came up, and so then they drafted him, he was somewhere in Limbo, the rank -- he was a, I don't know what the name of that -- like instructor, but it was a rank between lieutenant and warrant officer.

 I think they're still debating that. And from what I understand, he was an instructor, a bombing instructor, bomber instructor. Teaching guys how to fly bombers, and I'm sure when he first got there, he probably instructed some of the guys who [25:00] went over to Europe in fighter planes, in 51s and P-40s and stuff.
- Q: OK. Well what years were (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)?

FH: OK. I would say '43 probably, up to the end of the war.

You probably would be able to get more facts than I would on that.

Q: OK. (inaudible) Tuskegee information, (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

FH: Right. They would have it in Chicago there, the Tuskegee Airmen.

Q: OK.

FH: Who I've never had any contact with, they called my mother quite a few times, but she never told me about it until a month or so later. (laughter) And by that time, "Oh I don't know who he was. Somebody called, wanted to know about Daddy."

Q: (inaudible). (laughter)

FH: Yeah. But I would like to have, some time or another, get in touch with the Tuskegee Airmen. And I would probably recognize some of them, but as they'd be in their nineties by now, the few that are left, and so, yeah, that was -- yeah, because I came back in '46 from California, living with my grandmother. So in '46, he was out of the service. You want me to go into the Haiti project next?

Q: No, just one minute.

FH: OK.

- Q: So when he got out of the service, did he kind of relax a bit? Or did he kind of go right into (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)?
- FH: Oh no, he was an instructor at Ravenswood Airport, and maybe a few other ones. Now that you mentioned it, in his early flying days, when I was a baby, back about '35 or around that area, he flew out of Harlem Airport. And that's in what's now Robbins, Illinois. And in fact, I just found out where Harlem Airport was, looking at Channel 2. (laughter) WTTW, whatever it is.

Q: OK.

FH: And --

Q: Harlem Airport, that's out of where again?

FH: It's in Robbins, Illinois, south, you know, in Chicago there. And I believe that's still a black town, more or less.

Q: OK, is that airport still there?

FH: No, no, no. No.

Q: It's gone? OK.

FH: But they have a museum there, I found out just recently.

And I'm planning on going there just to see the museum.

Now I'm not too sure of the, no, I won't even go into it.

(laughter) That's OK.

- Q: So after the war, he was an instructor at Ravenswood Airport. (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).
- FH: Yeah. A flight instructor. That would be northwest Chicago. It's no longer there either, it's probably a shopping mall by now.
- Q: And that was what, like '47?
- FH: Forty-seven, yeah, maybe -- yeah, about '47, '48 perhaps.

 Because that's when I went back to California with my

 grandmother, and he went down to Haiti.
- Q: OK. So shortly after being the flight instructor at Ravenswood, he went to Haiti.
- FH: Right.
- Q: Was he asked to go down to Haiti, or was (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).
- FH: He was approached, I think, by Perry Young, because they were partners, and a guy named Jimmy Clinton, he was a Tuskegee Airman also. I think Clinton was down there first, and then they all got together.
- Q: And that was to start a training (inaudible)?
- FH: Initially, I don't know what it was. They had some kind of project. But that didn't work out. So Perry Young and my father, they started a flying school down there, with -- well I think they ended up with, I can tell you later when we go through the thing, I think it was Taylorcraft, or

SkyRanger. Two Beechcraft Bonanzas. And he just may have been the first black distributor for Bonanzas, for Beechcrafts I should say, or for, you know, the major, because he had distributorship throughout the Caribbean, but especially Haiti. And he used to go to Wichita quite a few times and pick up brand new aircrafts, and deliver them to folks in [30:00] Haiti and around, that he had sold it. (laughter)

Q: And so that's about '49? (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

FH: Right, about -- right.

Q: How long did he do that for in Haiti?

FH: I'd say at least three years. I'd say, I have to think

back to where I was in school, maybe even four years. Then

he got an offer from SAM, SAM Airlines, I'll look at the

spelling when we get there. And out of Medellín, Colombia.

They, the people started the airlines, and they needed

instructors for the Colombian pilots. So that's where he

went. I don't know -- Perry Young stayed in Haiti for a

while.

Q: OK.

FH: And so, he was there, my mother and him lived in Colombia.

And I was still in California with my grandmother. And

let's see. Finally, yeah, he came home. (laughter) Him and my mother came home, and I moved back to Evanston.

Q: That was about (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)?

FH: Let's see, that'd be '53, '52, I'd say about '52, 1952.

Q: OK.

FH: Yeah.

Q: When he came back to Evanston, did he open an additional flying school? This is (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

FH: No, I think he, for a while there, he had applied for jobs with the airlines. In fact, when he first got out of the service, he tried, he applied with the airlines, but he didn't get anything. In fact, we even have a letter in here where he was sort of turned down, I believe.

Q: OK.

FH: You know, and he did start a whole, like I think it was like a charter, like a charter service, at Meigs Air --

Q: Meigs Field?

FH: Meigs Field, out of Chicago. And not too long, I think that, yeah, well other than service, so at least two years or more, was a gentleman from Chicago named Barnett. I can't remember his first name, I believe he was a Congressman. I think he was a representative, or a Congressman from the South Side. I forgot which ward. And

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Q: He did that until?

FH: I came home on leave. (inaudible). OK. (laughter) Until
19, let's see, I came home from Japan in 50-- yeah, from
Japan on leave, '57. So I would say until at least '56.

And for some odd reason, he let that go and was flying for
Midway Airlines. And I think they, yeah, I think they flew
out of Meigs, and out of --

Q: (inaudible)?

FH: No, no. Before all that. I think it was, oh, where was it? You know, the airfield there. And maybe Sky Harbor, I'm not sure. Because Sky Harbor was still there then. And they had another terminal somewhere, it might have been somewhere in Wisconsin, that I'm not sure of. That was, and then, because I was in service then, and then I went on back to Japan, North Africa. And when I came back from North Africa in '58, I don't think he was flying with Midway at all then. Maybe Midway folded, I don't know. And yeah, I guess he just settled down and decided to be a businessman, at 1900 Asbury. [35:00] Yeah, at one time, because Asbury was going through some changes in our family. It was a barbershop, the old timers will probably remember that, the building. And the poolhall has always been there, even during the Depression. In fact, I think that's -- I was told that sort of saved the family during

the Depression, the poolhall. And so, barbershop, and it was called the West Side Pharmacy. That was during the war, my grandfather really ran it then. And then when Dad moved in, it was still called the West Side Pharmacy, but he [thought?] to put in like a small mom and pop type grocery store in there, too. (laughter)

Q: OK.

FH: Then finally, a Mr. Golden from Wilmette came in to see him one day, and said, can I talk to you? My old man said yeah. So Mr. Golden helped my father make a decision to make the corner, let it become the Corner Spot, which was like a hot dog, hamburger to go type deal.

Q: OK. It was called -- was the name of the Corner Spot? FH: The Corner Spot.

Q: OK.

FH: And I think that was the last name we had under, you know, like the family. And then I took it over when he died in 1962, I was in the Air Force, I got out. I had already reenlisted, but I got a hardship discharge, which I could have gone back to in a year, but it was nice. So, you know, I'm a big time businessman, all this stuff, at 23 years old, 24. (laughter) And so I didn't go back inside that year's time.

Q: OK.

- FH: Because I had to run it for my mother and stuff like that.

 And he died in '62 of leukemia.
- Q: From leukemia.
- FH: If you want to put that in there, yeah. It was real quick.
- Q: When he passed, was there a big funeral service for him, or?
- FH: Yes. Yes there was.
- Q: (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).
- FH: At Ebenezer, I believe.
- Q: Ebenezer?
- FH: Yeah, he died in Evanston Community Hospital, I believe.

 The black hospital.
- Q: Yeah.
- FH: And you know where that was, of course.
- Q: Yes. [Well they're still there?].
- FH: Oh, what is it now?
- Q: Over the Rainbow Association, (inaudible) made into apartments for the severely disabled, (inaudible) living.
- FH: Oh yeah? OK.
- Q: So I guess (inaudible) it's getting a lot of use.
- FH: That's good.
- Q: They've put an addition to it, they tore down the penthouse, (inaudible).
- FH: (laughter) Right.

- Q: It's [not as simple?]. OK.
- FH: OK. Anything I might have missed that you'd like to ask me?
- Q: (inaudible) this is all new to me, so I don't know if I'm missing or not.
- FH: I meant, you know, normal type questions.
- Q: There's a lot here, but --
- FH: I'm going from memory, believe me.
- Q: I believe it. (laughter) I believe it. There's a lot of places I'd like to try and find out, like going down to the (inaudible) Harlem Airport and see if they have anything on your father there.
- FH: Yeah.
- Q: You mentioned another museum that had called you and asked --
- FH: (coughs) Oh, Schomburg.
- Q: Schomburg.
- FH: That's in Harlem. It's, I think it's like a biographical, bio -- biographical, a research-type place.
- Q: OK.
- FH: People writing books and stuff, that's where they would go to see if they have any information on certain people. I think it's predominantly black orientated, I'm not too sure, but I think it is.

Q: Did you send them information there, or?

FH: No.

Q: Or did they just call and ask you?

FH: I had a lady call me that was working there at the time, and she was writing a book. And she wanted some information on my father. And I started telling her, I said well, you know, I'll be in, I have relatives in White Plains, so we'll be there next month, maybe I'll, we can get together then, so I brought all the scrapbooks and stuff.

Q: OK.

FH: And she, oh man, she was happy. She took me back in the archives, which you don't normally do, and she took pictures of all the different clippings and pictures

[40:00] of, you know, that they could probably use.

Q: OK.

FH: And that was, it had to be in the '80s, probably '85 or something like that. I haven't heard from her since.

(laughter)

Q: [That's outrageous?]. See I like keeping in touch with people.

FH: Right. She was supposed to keep in touch. We were supposed to get a copy of the book. I don't know if she ever [stopped?] --

- Q: Did she ever tell you what the book title was going to be, or?
- FH: It was about black folks.
- Q: OK. But you don't know the exact title?
- FH: No.
- Q: OK.
- FH: And the funny thing about it, she was white. But you'd never know it. (laughter)
- Q: Yeah.
- FH: Yeah. What's the -- have you been to New York before?
- Q: Yeah.
- FH: That soul food restaurant that's right on the so-called strip in Harlem, famous, I guess.
- Q: I can't remember.
- FH: Yeah. Well if Sharon gets back, she can probably tell us.

 Anyway, she took us to the soul food restaurant, and that was really nice, one of the famous ones, I guess, for New York. And everybody knew her that was there. So she's been around there for quite a bit.
- Q: OK.
- FH: And I might run across her name through here, I don't, I'm not too sure.
- Q: Right, right. I think that's all the questions I can think of at this point.

FH: OK.

Q: If I do have other questions, I can call you (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)?

FH: (coughs) OK. Yeah, (inaudible).

Q: Again, this is going to be an issue of [Shorefront?], I'm shooting for --

FH: OK. Fall?

Q: -- probably not this coming -- we have one I'm working on right now, then we have another one coming out.

FH: Do you come out every month --

Q: We come out every quarter.

FH: -- or quarterly, bimonthly?

Q: Every quarter.

FH: Quarter, OK.

Q: So every three months, we have a new one. So before the end of the year, look out, (inaudible).

FH: Probably the fall or winter, OK.

Q: Exactly. And we'll send several copies to you.

FH: Appreciate it.

Q: No problem.

FH: In fact, yeah.

Q: It's the least I can do. (laughter)

FH: Yeah. Well as the, I'm trying to think where the relatives are. On my mother's side, just one sister left, because my

mother is deceased. And yeah, on my mother's side, it's just Aunt Fanny, she lives in Chicago with my cousin. I probably want to send her one, and a few other family members. Yeah.

Q: (inaudible).

FH: Don't send me too many. (laughter)

Q: No. You think you need, I mean --

FH: Right.

Q: -- I try to give like 10.

FH: Yeah, that's -- (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

Q: If you need more, just let me know, and I will ship some more to you.

FH: Yeah, when the rest of them hear about it, they can contact me.

Q: Exactly. (laughter) One last thing, I feel like, just another -- the names of your grandparents. (overlapping dialogue; inaudible).

FH: OK, my grandfather, Fred Hutcherson, Sr. I'd always thought he was from Augusta, Georgia. But he was born in some little town -- well he was from Augusta, but he was born in some little town in South Carolina, I may have it written down. But I'll have to check that one out.

Q: Not in [Abbeville?]?

FH: No, no, no, this was almost like an Indian name.

Q: OK.

FH: And my grandmother, her name was Orian, O-R-I-A-N, that's who I named one of my daughters after, and Orian Babcock is her maiden name. And she was born in Sandersville, Georgia. And that happened to be where Elijah Muhammad was from, I don't know if they knew each other or not, but they were probably about the same age, she might have been a little younger. And let's see, then my mother, yeah. My mother Regina Hutcherson, she was Laurent, she was born in New Orleans. My father in Evanston, you have that information. Anyone else you need?

Q: When did your grandparents come to Evanston?

FH: Oh yeah. Well, since my father was born in 1912, and he was the oldest of my aunt and uncle, I would say it must have been around 1900s, in that decade.

O: OK.

FH: Because my aunt and my uncle, who are both deceased now, they were born in Elcho, Wisconsin. Because my grandfather worked for a logging outfit, he was a mechanic as well as a chauffeur, you know? They [doubled with both?] there.

Yeah. And that's about it, what else do you need?

Q: I think that's it.

FH: OK.

- Q: Well thank you so much [45:00] for this opportunity to interview you. I'm sure I'm going to have a lot more questions, (inaudible) [autographs?].
- FH: That'll bring up questions, I'm sure. And a little more information that I may have forgotten.
- Q: So for now, I'm going to stop the tape, and I just want to review just a moment of it to make sure I did (inaudible) this.
- FH: OK. Oh yeah, please. (laughter)
- Q: And today's date is June 11th --
- FH: Right.
- Q: -- 19-- 2004, in Rockford, Illinois.
- FH: Correct.

END OF AUDIO FILE