Dorcas + Warren



#1

97-64-13_PT. 2
+ beginning of 97-64-12

"500"

NOTEBOOK

36-500
6 x 9
80 SHEETS

A

absence
accom.mo.date
accrual
advan.ta.geous
advis.able
adver.tise
affect (influence)
agree.able
allow.able
all right
already
alter (change)
alto.gether
amor.tize
anal.y.ses (plural)
anal.y.sis (sing.)
ana.lyze
anx.ious
apol.o.gies
apol.o.gize
apos.tro.phe
appa.ra.tus
appoint.ment
appraisal
appre.ci.able
approx.i.mate
apti.tude
arti.cle
ascer.tain
assess.ment

Warren + Dorcas Neakok, 1/5/1980
Interview starts with:
97-64-13_ PT. 2
Interview continues on:
97-64-12

001 Dorcas + Warren

R- This is Dorcas _____
and this is Jan 5 1980
and were talking about
the Pt Lay map

D Only thing I know
this one down to
Beaufort -

R Cape Beaufort

D yeah - cause I been
running it to Barrow
with snow machine and
down this side to
Pt. Hope to _____
Kotzebue way with
dog team - that's why
when they make -
I know the names

anyway - Every stop they got little names that's where my Daddy is - little house right here.

010
R near Cape Beaufort

(Warren) this the time she climb over the hills _____ for her boyfriend _____ climb over the mountains

R I see

D that was in 1930

R 1930? you climbed the

mountains

D - no way! Shoot. I go over from ~~Kiana~~ you know ~~Kiana~~? It's back of Kotzebue

---

Narwhal - I go through and stay there every year and then from there we start home. I don't know. I didn't know how to find a home and then we travel from there
019 you know. On the coast with my Daddy and Momma and my ~~sisters~~, they small. We travelled around

going home. My Daddy
he a reindeer herder -

R Who was your Daddy?

D _____

R _____

D I only have one brother
now - living - John
_____ in Pt Hope
now. He's Whaling

R Captain

D Captain - He got one
Whale this spring too.
That's why we go to
Pt Hope this spring -

026

June, I couldn't believe it. It was his third whale

R In this year or-

D No, since he start to be a Captain, you know

R I see

D Since he start to be a Captain. How many years his been a Captain? I have to ask maybe- How long John been a Captain Whaling? Five - seven years -

maybe 7 years or 10 years but 7 or 10 years - I can't keep track, anyway he's my brother. He kill a whale. I didn't believe it that he kill a whale. I didn't go _____, first whale -

K that's good.

D Second whale I didn't go. Some years after you know.

K But this year you went

D But this spring June

I go - third whale - how many years

R 2 years - maybe OK - Where were you born and when were you born

D I was born between Pt Lay and Pt Hope

R Your family was traveling then or you lived there.

D Once they take me to Pt Lay and then it was 1930 and from then on I was 12 years old - 11 years

050

old

R then from 11 years on you lived at Pt Lay

D this 1930 - 31 something like that

R you were born in 1919

D Yeah and from then on from Cape Hubert when we start to travel on the flat I tell Mama and Daddy I don't want to go flat area. I like my Mountains

055

R So you grew up around Cape Beaufort between Pt Hope.

D Reindeer herders around Pt Hope - you know reindeer herders. My Daddy was a Reindeer Chief you know Superintendent something like that.

R Boss

D yeah - I follow my Daddy walk over these mountains

R down to -

062

D before I go to Ft Lay any way - before 1930. I follow my Daddy walking up there

R the Delta

D When I get tired I go to sleep

R I see

D I see Mama's house over there and I go to sleep. They know where I am. They just <u>let</u> me - "She's still sleeping" - When I wake up I go.

067

R Didn't rain & guess. Sunshine

D They never worry about me

R Were you the oldest

D I'm the oldest - my sis the one Dorcus, Mary, Rose, Erma, John, Grace - How did Mama have this much?

R 7

D and I have 10

R You have 10

075

D Yeah

R Wow that's a lot. OK, let's do ice questions. We're interested in the ice movement you've seen. The year that you saw them, their location, the time of year they happened, how big they were and the weather when it happened

D Yeah

R Did you ever see ice pushed up on the beach forming large piles?

D Yeah

R Where

D At Lay

R Where - What happened? can you remember?

D It's a April. I see it about the 60's

R In the 60's. What happened can you remember? How did -

083

What was?

D - South wind bring the ice - Pt Hope break up the ice and then Pt Hope area ice go right in then heap around this -

R Can you show me on the map?

D Yeah - around this you know Pt Hope is down here. This is Cape Lisburne Pt Hope ice heap this one and then it go around and heap this area. You

092

it make heap this one in a quick and then heap it back around here. Anyway this area.

R OK - so what

D So it made a big round circle the ice is polar ice it's a April

R OK in April you've got a south wind

D South wind

R Which is raising the water level

D all the way to coast

R raising all the water and the ice is rotating in this

D the way I think about

R OK and it kind of rotates in and comes in against Cape Beaufort and

D Pt Lay - really hit it

R really comes in at Pt Lay

D yeah - some of the ice go over the

R go over the islands?

D go over the islands

R into the lagoon

D to the lagoon - How many feet - 8 ft 10 ft 12 ft ice

R High - what high

D yes

R now, was this first year ice? or polar

106

ice

D This is April

R OK so

D all winter ice

R all winter ice

D all winter ice

R So maybe 7

D 12 ft I know it is _____ 12 ft.

R OK - What about the last pile up

W- Oh, that was way back in early year of 60.

R Early 60's

W part of about the 40 - 40 Almost about a 100 ft pretty close to it. Right in Mama's house you know

D yeah that's what I was talking about.

W that's the worst part

R Where was that house? Is that in the old

Village here

D Old Village

R - Itkaulik

D yeah

R OK and it piled on the beach

D Pile up in the beach

R and it was higher then that house

D no, Mama's house down there

W Hey Ron if I can find that picture when I get back home, I could send you that in. I took a picture of it the highest ice piling right in front of my Mama's house. My Mama's house is down below and that ice bung there right on the beach. We got them out of right over there.

R I see - how - what kind of house is your mothers house?

Is it one story - 2 story.

D one

R One story house -

W Yeah with a sod house - That lumber inside of it - that was a sod house I got a picture of it. If I get home I send it to you - make it and write you or something like that you know -

R OK that would be good

W Yeah I'd like to see that. I sort of like that picture. I was taking it with a polaroid you know

R OK it's a polaroid picture

W Black & White yeah
D Mama's house - his home

R Yeah, I'd like to see that picture

W I still have it

D I don't know

R We want to be careful not to lose it though

D I don't know we lose our own house in the fire

R You lost your house in the fire - that's a shame - Was it in the old village at

---

D at D.E.W. line

W No, its still down there

mom, still down there but last night before I took over the pictures

D that plastic bag

W black & white

R OK Was it just a south wind

D It just a south wind

R a strong - how many days before it

D Well you know - before south wind hit - when

the next wind you know — Kotzebue send a weather forecast that Aleutian have a strong safe wind and then we listen to it over radio we know what's coming

W you know that a high seal pressure out in the ocean water you know that's supposed to ———————

D We went before the wind catch with the water - current

R yeah - uh huh

D that current hit first

R the current first before the wind

D and that wind start coming in Pt. Lay

R So there was

D because a we got high ridges here between Kotzebue and Nome we got a these ridges

R Mountains

D yeah

R the mountains between

D yeah - that goes to Cape -

R Lisburne

D Thompson and Cape Lisburne

R Ok

D that goes up to Barter Island you know

R OK - the mountain chain

D yeah - I mean We got

that mountains and we live in Pt Lay close to the mountains and before the wind hit us this wind go over the mountains and hit Barrow first and then when it come kind a come down village go to us to Pt Lay - We know it by the current - before the wind hit us in Pt Lay

K you see the currents

D We see the ocean current then we know that wind was

coming

R Do you ever see large leads open in mid Winter big leads or leads open in Winter time

D Ah yeah -

R When - what happens - what makes the leads open

D East - mostly in Pt. Lay east

R East Wind

D has South wind you know and then east wind

We are in the Bay

R So the south wind

D South wind coming
and mostly before
south wind coming
We always have east.
Even Barrow have
south wind

W You know by the
time We talk about
that ah what I
was saying about
feet thick of ice

R yeah

W that goes in - if that

slushy ice didn't come in & think we all could be washed out all right

R now when was that,

W Way back in 30 - 36 - 37

R That's a different time OK - ah - OK well remember to talk about that 36 thing. OK - so you're saying that you get a south wind first and then an east wind that makes the leads

D Before we know the south the current coming first

R Which way does the current come when it comes first

D like south wind the water like south wind

R Can you show me on the map - which way would the current go

D really go this a way

R runs up the coast towards Barrow

R current first and then the wind

D yeah

R OK then when does the lead open

D anytime - Now we don't have no open area now. Cause the whole east ~~_____~~ - but when it hit wintertime upon brow - really hit - when it go around this islands this way

R really hit the beach

205 and hit the beach and
D then go around and
hit us - _____
try to hit first
this way

R Cape Beaufort and -
W then hit Cape Lisburne
And then further up
hit this one - first then
go around and this one
and really hit this one

R Cape Lisburne, Cape
Beaufort and then
Pt Lay - What happens
with north east
Winds when the
Winds blowing like
this

D That's a bad wind

R What does that do

D Bad wind -

R Why is it a bad wind

D We like to hunt
ugruk in the spring-
time

R You like to hunt
ugruk in springtime

D I don't like that
wind

R Why, what does it

do

D Take me out

R OK so if a wind from the northeast moves the ice out it might take you out

D Take me out speak him + I.

R So what kind of wind do you like for hunting ugruk in the spring

D West

R Ok, West wind is good. South wind is bad because it breaks

D It take me out

R North maybe

D not too much - ice came - up to Key Cape it too close at Key Cape

R It's close

D after that, we go

R too far - north

R- OK let's see - Did you ever see ice pushed up on top of the islands

D Islands - speak Utukok?

R Utukok? here

D that's after it hit it lay then go around and hit Utukok

R it hits in Utukok

D go over these little islands

R the islands just south

of Utukok at the mouth of the river those islands - the ice sometimes goes over the top those islands

D yes, I've seen it

R When did you see it.

D Sometimes we don't get it sometimes

R Sometimes it doesn't push at Pt Lay.

D Yeah it doesn't hit us

D But when it make round long trip

R When it hits near Utukok -

D near Utukok - Icy Cape and Utukok - thats where it hits mostly

R OK so you see piles

D thats why this island is broken up -

R from ice hitting

D from ice hitting

R So you see ice piling at Lay Cape and the islands first south of Utukok and sometimes at Pt. ~~Kelly~~ ? Collie and sometimes at Cape Beaufort

D Yeah - pretty much this is smooth travelling

R Smooth travelling from

D November ice - smooth travelling this is a - [illegible] ?

R from Kuguachiak to Cape Lisburne ?

D Cape Beaufort

R Kugachiak to cape Beaufort it's pretty smooth

D just hits first - hit them and then hit us

R OK so you think of it as hitting and bouncing in a spiral

D maybe really not go around but might be like this. when the ice no room to

push around it's like ___ out post?

R It's pushed ___?

D It's pushed anyway and it like this

R Ah so maybe a piece comes over

D but

R because there's no room

D but Pt Lacy is the one that pile up high

D one time it goes 2 stories

R 2 stories

D, too small

R It's higher then 2 stories

D yeah smaller than that

R That was in the 60's. Is that the one we talked about earlier

D That's the one we

talked about

R he has a picture of

D little ones they come in - lower than that - When Anchorage have an earthquake - that's the time it break up too

R What happened then that was 64

D that's the time
R Easter of 64
Was that the year that upon -

290

D no no no

R no different year but you had pile that year

D no -

R first broke up the ice

D our ocean first like glass - first like you shattered it

R the same day that the earth quake happened

D Same day - same hour

D Same - only few minutes after

R the ice all crushed

D cause Warren + I feel that earthquake at our house

R did you

D We did - We were going to church ——— We start to put on our parkas ready to go out last minute we have hot tea - We look at each other - have

hot tea because
We going to church.
- our radio is on
anchorage - and all
of a sudden its like
break up - like cut
off

R oh - the radio stopped

D radio stop Anchorage
station and Warren
and + look at each
other - We go like
this

R and the house is
shaking -

D - bang - our house bang - we got a big pole outside of us - radio pole I told him - maybe that radio pole hit our back roof

☆

R ah I see -

D and he go out and ~~he say~~ "It still standing." but it was really bang. Warren and I look at each other with our cups - the radio start and he move it to Fairbanks

R Who moved to Fairbanks -

D the station

R Ok the station he changed it to listen to Fairbanks station

D radio station from Anchorage to Fairbanks station - Fairbanks station - we listen to it and it say Anchorage had earthquake right now - and we even turned the radio on ——— maybe we prey much

D our children down at Wrangell + _____ We go out we see the ice all broken up - like glass

R shattered

D shattered

R I see that's interesting

D Pile up

R it just all cracked

D it just all crack up it just doin know where to go

R yea - ok lets see whats next - Did you ever see barrier islands scraped flat or anything by ice

D yeah

R where was that

D these little islands at Pt Loy We got these little islands inside - inside the lagoon -

R little islands in the lagoon behind these islands on the map

D yeah - they are scraped.

R by ice

D lagoon move it you know

R When does the lagoon ice move

D in November - September it freeze there - Sometime it's water low and then after it freeze and then it water come up

R and it's lifted by -

D and it lift um up

R by the water coming under

D and then it start scraping where ever they go

R I see - so you get - What makes the ice inside the lagoon lift

D South Wind

R South Wind?

D It's a current you know these inlets

R all along there

D they water coming like anything

R yeah, through the inlets

D come in or go out it's a tide what you call em it's a tide

R yeah

D that's where - what you call em - spots seals

376

R Spotted seals

D this is a spotted seal area

R all inside the lagoon lots of spotted seals

D yeah - that's their home

R they like that

D sure - 'cause they know they got inlets to go out and go in

R lots of inlets

D but Utukok! that's where we go hunt, and Kukpowruk inlet that's where we get spotted seals

R Yeee

D Mostly Utukok

R Mainly Utukok - So its mainly November when the ice moves in the lagoon because of the water coming in?

D coming and go

393

R coming and going

D When the water coming first break up the lagoon ice and scrap the islands

R & see - the little islands inside the barrier islands

D yeah - thats why there is not much left - maybe there will be not much left later on

R on the little islands

D yeah that _____ or our ground is washing out

R How high does the water get in here when it overflows like that or breaks up the ice

D go over

R does it go over sometimes - over the ice

D You mean the water

go over this

R Yeah - how high does the water get inside there

D I wish I know how to measure it.

R Is there - I heard somebody got killed Thanksgiving a few years back.

D speak

R Who was that. How did that happen.

4/13

D We were in Pt Lay cause that ~~ella~~ the whole village don't know why their coming - before south wind -

R the water came before a south wind

D yeah, that's what I was trying to tell you about and then it go over the water. go over the ice

R/F and it flooded

D ~~and it~~ flooded cause

4/22

We got a November ice like glass too and when water breaking it look like ice too. and she was diving

R a snowmachine

D yeah - the first.

R went in~~to~~ the water

D _____ in

R under the water

D no - there's ice in there main ice and then water come in and

we don't know it. That Whole village don't know it and it's the moonlight and she thought it was the same as the road like ice - glassy ice you know. She just followed that road and she just slug in - the water is too high then her snowmachine

K uh huh - the water was higher then her snow machine and then

D and that's it - that

she just dropped

W I don't trust that snow machine out in the open spring ice you know - I like dogs better - they know - they know

K right

W I hate those snow machines

D and we couldn't find her

K You looked pretty hard

D the road water - water finally water go out to there

R inlets

D Water go out and her snow-machine ~~won~~

R windshield

D show up

R showed up

D and that's how we finally find her - anyway maybe she _____ forward or she tried

4/62

To _____,
she was by herself

R that's a shame

D that's what I was trying to tell you
I didn't know how to explain that water hit us first

R before the wind

D high tide

R comes first before the wind

D yeah, lots of times

our boats go under the water over night

R where do you keep your boats

D you know we live inside the river now

R you live on the river

D yeah- no matter how many feet we beach our boats

R the water at night

478

D Sometime high
Wind - We never know
Water come up - Windy
in the morning

001
R This is Jan 5, 1980
and Weir continuing
with Dorcas stuff
that we may not
have gotten on the
last tape because
it stopped and didn't
click off in that
she never - that
she saw - one of
the times she saw
grounded polar ice
that stayed all

Beginning of tape
12-69-74
2:52
min 0 to

summer was the year they couldn't get to Prudhoe Bay and the other thing she said that may not be on there was that the south wind raises the ice inside the lagoon and that in the lagoon the water flows over the top of the ice where as outside the sea ice lifts together all with the high water and that the staff can lift the ice in the lagoon any time of year if the water is right. the

water and the wind and that when it's lifted it moves around and can make ridges or scrap over the little islands inside the lagoon if the water lifts it and it moves OK -

Would you talk about that flood the big flood in Kali in the 40's or the 30's - When was that the really bad flood

D Oh yeah

R Everybody moved to the

016

D Cause we have to move it? (This ah Kali) (Kasegaluk) It's like a little hill. right on the beach Kali - It Ray It's a hill - we call it Kali It's on the beach one of the beach you know

R OK

D I don't know how to - maybe I should tell story about it

R OK sure

D There's an old lady that ~~to~~ ? hunting he cut it from the main side from the main side cut it with his ~~uhu~~ because his grandson want to have a green leaves ? upik

R so she was cutting

D She cut piece off and drag it home

R pieces like a piece of tundra

D right across _____ and it's there

R and that's where the hill is there

D that's where we keep our whole storage. 40's that's where we go up -

R Is it in the hill

D cause Water

R What happened in the 40's - how did this - What happened

D South Wind - Nov 16 I never forget it

R Nov 16

D I was 15 - about 15 I don't know I was teenage

R OK and in the 40's it was Nov 16 and what happened

D South Wind

R Did water come first

D Water come first - first

like tidal waves start to run over the house - between the house

R and so everybody - what happened

040

D I was baby sitting all the time for ? I put one of them in my back - dog team. With their Mother and Daddy we have to go on dog team, Water run over us we just hold on to the sleds and then stay up there - ice

house with a cold storage
a little house South
wind blow right in

R How long did you
stay there

D overnight

R It was one day
that the water
was so high

D so high

R and then it went
down

D I couldn't break up this part you know - the ice was Nov 16 about 2 ft

R OK and the water was so high everybody had to go up to the hill

D yeah, and after that we never really do that again

R So there's not been another storm

D Not bad as that.

D the ocean you know didn't have any slush

R No slush - just open water

D yeah.

R oh - when that storm happened

D anyway, that take ehd ice out you know keep that water clean - no slush ice - that's why the water lit us - start to run

over between the houses and then overnight slush ice coming - break the breakers that's blow it down

W You know what time of the year that slushy ice ——— and that slushy ice

D maybe I should stop talking

R Pretty soon

W No - No I mean a —

067

D Eblecauchenibiancion!
(something in eskimo)

W before the mid part of November

D ahnourstdeliver!

R OK Warren - your next just a second. Another thing that may not have gotten on here was that Warren and Dorcas were listening to the radio Sunday when the earthquake happened in Anchorage

D yeah

R they were listening to the Anchorage station - ~~w/ the~~ Anchorage station quit and then they heard a bang

D it hit us

R and they felt it and the ice was all cracked up off shore they switched to the Fairbanks station and they said there had been an earthquake in Ank that was Easter

D it was Good Friday

R Yes I'm sorry

D It even hit our cold storage - It was cracked this much

R really 2 or 3 inches

D you know down parkas? We had to put - to dip them in water down blankets + sleeping bags - We had to patch -

R Oh to fill a crack in your

D sure about that much

R oh 4 to 6 inches or about that much.

D We use mops, ~~I~~
R to stuff stuff in the cracks

D ~~Icellick~~ Icelick? It's a cold storage - in summer time all the meat stay frozen like refridgerator

R OK ah

D Warren's turn