

Lucy Damiani April 18, 1972

1 hour

Reg Doan

2. Irma Dalan (wife)

3. 109 Earl St.

4. 679-8291

5. Shift Sergeant, Dept of Correctional Services

6. Cobalt Ontario

7. Manitoulin Island

8. Married - 2 children

9. 43 years old

10. My impression of Cobalt is that it is a nice quiet unpretentious place to live with plenty of clean air and water. It has always had excellent educational facilities up to and including High School level. It is presently a very depressed town economically because of unemployment. There are little or no job opportunities and no immediate prospects for improvement. Yes changes should be made in Cobalt some year by way of local improvement such as sewer and water line replacements, widening of streets, construction of homes etc. \_or else one day we shall wake up to find the total cost too prohibitive \_and cheaper to abandon the town. Very little changes have occurred in Cobalt over the years. Planning by locals and provincial governments will possibly help bring about necessary changes. I trust there will be time for nostalgia at some future date. Right now I haven't the time and there are many recollections.

I have through the years collected some mining souvenirs and I have quite a few photos. As teenagers my wife and I worked as clerks in local stores. My first job paid \$7. a week. I have had a variety of local jobs since. Local wages were never very high. Those in search of higher wages have always had to leave the area. I have spent most of my working life commuting to distant jobs and I am presently employed in Sudbury. In the early days we lived mostly in wooden frame buildings and they were heated by coal and wood stoves. Now most homes are fairly new or well constructed some old ones completely renovated with all the modern appliances and for heat most have converted to oil, gas or electrical heat. Cobalt was at one time the shopping centre of the area, with stores and shops of all kinds. But it's now reduced to barest minimum and most residents shop elsewhere to find variety and lower prices. The town's history is in the making id the telling of it is best left to someone less subjective than I could ever be. For those who like outdoor sports and activity we have always had and still have a great variety to choose from. The town has a bowling alley, theatre skating rink, pool hall and many assorted clubs and group activities.