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**4700.2571 Tape 4513**  
**Session I**  
**August 28, 2015**

**[Begin Tape 4513. Begin Session I.]**

**JAMIE DIGILORMO:**     Alright. Let's see. Okay, now we're recording. This is Jamie Digilormo interviewing Mister . . .

**WESLEY MONTGOMERY:**     Wes Montgomery.

**DIGILORMO:**     Mr. Wes Montgomery.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Wes Jones Montgomery.

**DIGILORMO:**     **[00:12]** Here at 1606 Opelousas Street [Lake Charles].

**MONTGOMERY:**    Right.

**DIGILORMO:**     And it is Friday August twenty-eighth, 2015. So we are here to talk about your experiences in Mossville, Louisiana. First of all though, I'm going to get some background information on you. So what year, and where, were you born?

**MONTGOMERY:**    I was born in Duson, Louisiana.

**DIGILORMO:**      Duson, Louisiana. I know where that is.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [00:43] Yeah. And . . . 1934, October the fourth.

**DIGILORMO:**      Nineteen thirty-four. And you say you're eighty years old?

**MONTGOMERY:**    I'm eighty. I'll be eighty-one October the fourth.

**DIGILORMO:**      Very nice. So when . . . So how long did you live in Duson?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [01:03] When I made fourteen I moved here to Lake Charles [Louisiana].

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Well, to Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      Oh so you . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    Not to Lake Charles. I moved to Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    At fourteen. I moved with my older brother, Valerie. He's now ninety.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    He's still living, but he's got Alzheimer's. I moved with him.

**DIGILORMO:**      [01:22] Okay. So your whole family didn't relocate. Just you and him?

**MONTGOMERY:**    No, it was just me, and my brother was here.

**DIGILORMO:**      Alright. So, how many brothers and sisters do you have?

**MONTGOMERY:**    It was twelve boys and four girls.

**DIGILORMO:**      So sixteen total?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Sixteen total.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [01:40] And we were fifteen of us born in the house with midwives.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    The baby born to the Charity Hospital in Lafayette [Louisiana].

**DIGILORMO:**      In Lafayette? Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    The baby. That's just him.

**DIGILORMO:**      So what did your parents do in Duson?

**MONTGOMERY:**    They were farmers. They were crop farmers. Sweet potato, corn, cotton.

**DIGILORMO:**      [02:02] Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    That's what they did for their living.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    And my daddy was a . . . He had a gift from Jesus. My daddy was a faith healer.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    He cured people from all over the world.

**DIGILORMO:**      Now would you have called him a traiteur?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [Pardon]?

**DIGILORMO:**      Would you have called him a traiteur? Or a treater?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [02:21] He was a treater.

**DIGILORMO:**      A treater? Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    He was one of the best. He'd go get them out of the hospital. That's how powerful this man was. From God. He just . . . He worked for Jesus.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow. Did he use anything to help? As far as maybe medicinal herbs or anything like that? Was it just the power of prayer?

**MONTGOMERY:**    No. Just the power of God with his hands. And he had promised me his healing. He got his from his daddy.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [02:53] I was working at Conoco refinery, and he called me one day. And my daddy never called none of his children. I was shocked. He called me up, "Wes, son. I need you to come home." So I told my wife Agnes. My first wife. I said, "We got to go home Friday. Meet with my daddy. I don't know what he want. He called me." She said, "Okay." So we had

four little children. We had four kids. We had five, but the first one died. So we had four.

**DIGILORMO:**      I'm sorry to hear that.

**MONTGOMERY:**    And we come home. So we got home about nine o'clock, nine-thirty in the morning. And he had so many cars out there. People. So we come in the room where he treat. He had a room like this with just treating. Then he had another room about that size where he'd just pray. You couldn't go in there.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [03:56] He just prayed. So we come in the treating room. See he grab and hug me and kissed my cheek. Grabbed my wife kissed her, and he grabbed his four little grandchildren kissed them. "Wes," he say. "I'm busy right now." He says, "Go in the kitchen, meet your mother." He called her [May May?] for a nickname. Her name was Mary Montgomery. But he called her May May. He said, "Go meet May May." And he says, "Sit with her. About eleven o'clock when I clear all of the crowds out I'll come meet you. I need to talk to you." I didn't know what he wanted. He shocked me. Knocked me to my knees. And . . . So about eleven o'clock he done cleared the crowd. He come in there. And "Wes," he says, "You know you . . ." He had about ten children one time living in Los Angeles. He'd go there three times a year and treat people.

**DIGILORMO:**      [05:04] In Los Angeles?

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah. Oh, yeah he was all over the world. "So Wes," he said. "They want me to pass my treatment down." But he said, "I don't want to leave it in Los Angeles." He said, "I want to leave it here in Dusan." And he says, "I talked to your baby sister Diane. She was my first choice. She wanted it. I told her I'd give it to her. I asked her could she deal with the spirit." She said, "Oh no Dad." She said, "No, that I cannot do it." She said, "I can't deal with no spirit."

So he said, "Wes, I called you up. Can you deal with spirit?" "Dad," I said. "I'm ready today." He said, "You want to be a healer?" I said, "I'm ready today." He said, "Okay." He said, "You going to be the next treater in the family." He says he talk to Agnes my wife. "Agnes," he say, "You can't be jealous" like my mother May May. He says, "A jealous woman. You can't be like that now." He says, "Wes going to be dealing with people all over the world. Womens all over the world." And he said, "They going to be coming in here." She said, "Dad, what Wes wants I want."

**DIGILORMO:**      [06:27] And what made you so passionate? What made you say, "I want to do it today"?

**MONTGOMERY:**      Because I wanted to be a healer.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. You wanted to help people?

**MONTGOMERY:**      I had been reading the Bible. Yes. I wanted to be more powerful than my daddy.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTOMGERY:** [06:45] Oh, yes. I wanted to give the gift he going to give me from Jesus. Then I wanted to go back in the Bible and get it some more from Jesus, because I wanted to be huge and powerful. I wanted to help people. I wanted to cure people. Cancer. I told . . . I believe I could have cured anything if I'd have just . . . If I'd have followed the rules I could cure cancer. But, I'll admit I had two problem in my life was women and liquor.

And . . . So my daddy died in Los Angeles. That's where he would treat all the time. So I did not go to Los Angeles when he died. I didn't go. So when he died two of my brothers was at his bedside. Walter, the one that's one year older than me. We like twins. And my brother [Oren?], he's older than us. Oren died here about six, seven years ago. But Walter's still living. He was here last week with me from California. So Oren came here and visit me out here. He told me. "Wes," he say, "I got my dad." He say, "You miss Daddy's treatment. I heard he give it to you." I said, "Yeah." But I said, "I wasn't there when he died." Well he said, "I got it." But Oren went on he had lied to me. But I believed him.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [08:22] But he lied. And so here come my other brother. I call him my twin brother, Walter. The one who was here last week. He come here and we went out to, Montgomerys love to party and drink. We went out. Have a big time in a night club. Drank. Because I had three clubs at one time. Three night . . . oh, yeah I was . . . That was my problem. And so we was out partying having a good time. He said, "Wes." He said, "You miss Dad's



treatment." I said, "Yeah." He said, "I tell you what your problem." I said, "What?" "Wes," he says, "I ain't never seen nobody in the world that had women like you. Too many women, Wes. Women, Wes." He says, "You got women all over the world." I said, "Yeah Walter." I said, "You believe that's what happened?" He said, "God wouldn't give it to you."

And I knew I was anointed when my mother give me birth. She had sixteen. When she got to number seven Jesus told her, "No, that's mine. I want it." God anointed me. I've been anointed. I'm a blessed man.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [09:35] I'm blessed. It's just these women just took my life. I was a good looking man. I had a head of hair like Diamond [Neil Diamond?]. See on my mother's side there are white folks. And my mom . . . And my daddy the African. So I came here with just a pretty color. A head of hair. Oh, I look like Diamond.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Six foot. Weighing about . . . what woman wouldn't want that . . . weighing about a hundred eighty pounds. Them women came after me. I didn't go look for them. They'd come in in droves.

**DIGILORMO:**      [10:12] So your mother was white and your father was black?

**MONTGOMERY:** She wasn't completely white but she . . .

**DIGILORMO:** But she had it in her?

**MONTGOMERY:** Oh yeah. Her grandmother had . . . They had twelve children. They all came out like white children. And so that's why I came the color I am.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah. Right.

**MONTGOMERY:** And she . . . You ought to see her hair. So that's why I came here the way I am. You can look at my hand here. You can look at it and see.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** And . . . But I had so much of my daddy's genes and I went to losing my hair. Because my daddy was bald headed. When I knew him he was bald headed.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [10:50] So I had that genes from my daddy. I was a hundred percent Montgomery. So I had this.

**DIGILORMO:** So he was a farmer and a treater at the same time?

**MONTGOMERY:** Yes.

**DIGILORMO:** Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** Oh yes. He was . . . He was it.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** This man was so powerful.

**DIGILORMO:** [11:09] Yeah. So they must have done pretty good if raising twelve . . .

**MONTGOMERY:** Sixteen children out there . . .

**DIGILORMO:** Sixteen children, yeah . . .

**MONTGOMERY:** In the country.

**DIGILORMO:** In the country yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [ . . . ?] He raised some bulls.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** He has . . . he has some of the finest . . . Since I was young, them girl used to come to the house to meet me. And my daddy would tell me. Say, "Wes." He say, "Them girls coming here to meet you." And I was young. Twelve, thirteen years old. "Dad," I'd say. I'd come out the back door. And them girls be in the living room. Poor little thing waiting. They won't admit . . . Don't ask me why.

**DIGILORMO:** Well you told me why. [laughs]

**MONTGOMERY:** [11:57] Yeah, this was what they wanted.

**DIGILORMO:** Nice looking man.

**MONTGOMERY:** I was a star . . .

**DIGILORMO:** Or, boy.

**MONTGOMERY:** I was star. And they came. And I didn't ran. That's how I start up having. When my . . . Let me tell you a story.

**DIGILORMO:** Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** [12:14] When a girl got pregnant in Lafayette she was about thirteen, fourteen years old. I was about fifteen. Well I run off to California. They wanted to make me

marry her and shit I wasn't about to get . . . I said . . . I told them, "Look, I lied about my age I ain't nothing but a child." I said, "I can't support no wife." So I took off and went to . . . Got that old train. Went to Los Angeles. But God say you run, but you can't hide. I went to California. I got a friend of mine from Rayne, Louisiana. He took sick. He was working with my brother at Douglas Aircraft to make them airplanes. And they couldn't find no cure for him. No cure. All Douglas doctor . . . All my brother's doctor. He had something that nobody could cure.

So my brother Oren, the one that died, the one that said he had my daddy's gift, him. He says, "Let's take Preston to Mom." Mom was a prophecy like my daddy. She was a prophecy. She was seventy years old. So my brother said, "Let's go." So it was three brothers. I was the baby of the three. We went to Mom and didn't know her first time I saw her in my life. So she look at Preston. She told him what he had. She said, "Preston, there's a woman got a baby for you in Galveston, Texas." Shocked to hell. He said, "Yes ma'am." She said, "She got you messed up." And she says, "I can't treat you, because I'm too old. I'll have to take what you got into my body, and I can't live."

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:** [14:25] "I can't do it no more. I'm too old."

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**      But she said, and she point at me, "Here's a good man. He could bring you to your daddy house and your daddy will bring it to the treater. Now listen to me well. She

said, "You going to bring him home?" I said, "Oh no ma'am. I'm here to stay." I done got a woman pregnant down there so I ain't going back. She said, "Yeah, you going to bring him back." I said, "Mama," I said, "Oh no ma'am. I'm not going back to Duseon." I didn't want to tell her why. But I'm talking to a prophecier like my daddy. A woman from God. She's God's woman.

So she told us, "This women going to send you all a roast chicken in a shoe box." You know what you got your shoes in? She got roast chicken in there. "Don't you all eat . . ." And we was going to eat it. She said, "Don't you all eat that chicken. Bring it to Mama. But don't you all touch that chicken. That woman got [ . . .?] that chicken. Chicken is all screwed up. Don't eat this. Bring it here." So we told her, "Okay."

And sooner than she said, "Look what I did." So she finished with Preston. It was nobody but God. Are you Christian? Wasn't nobody but Jesus. I'm the baby. I said, "Mama." She said, "Yes, son?" I said, "Can you look for me?" She look at me. Seventy years old. Said, "Yes." I had my legs crossed just like you right now. She said, "Uncross your legs." So I uncrossed my leg and put it like this and put my hand like this. And she did this. About a couple of seconds.

**DIGILORMO:**      [16:28] Covered your eyes?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah. No, no she covered her eyes.

**DIGILORMO:**      Her eyes. Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Not me. Her.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** [16:35] She did this. A couple of seconds she took her hand down. She looked at me. She says, "You is a good man." Say, "What?" She says, "You is a good man." Said, "You going to be blessed." She says, "You going to be tremendously blessed. You going to be a wealthy man." I'm listening to this woman here. I'm a young child about fifteen years old. But a big man. I was big. I was a man. She says, "What are you running from?" I says, "I'm not running." She says, "Yes you are." She says, "Son, just tell me the truth." Said, "Don't lie to mama. I know everything. What are you running from?" I said, "I'm not running from nothing." Says, "You is running." I say, "No ma'am." She said, "I'm going to tell you something." Said, "You now just become a father."

She froze me. She froze me. I told it to priests. To the priest. I told it to many preachers. If you had stabbed me with a knife I never bled. My blood just froze in my body. I said, "What?" She said, "Yes." And she say, "I'm going to tell you something else. It's not a girl. It's a boy." She said, "I'm going to tell you something. I'm not saying you got to go back and marry that girl." But say, "I'm going to tell you something. Long as you can live, and you can breathe breath, that's your flesh and your blood. Don't you ever deny that's your son."

Honey, I broke down. I broke down.

**DIGILORMO:**      [18:37] I guess so.

**MONTGOMERY:** I said, "Mom." I said, "Yes ma'am." I said, "I run away from home. I got this girl pregnant. Well she said, "She got the baby." Say, "It's yours." I'm two thousand miles

from home. I'm two thousand miles. So then the girl name was Agnes. Just like my first wife. Agnes. Would you believe that? My first wife named Agnes, and this girl was named Agnes. She shown me a little picture. About as big as a [ . . .?]. With a little . . . Just about a two letter, in a little bitty small envelope. She say, "If it's your baby send me a dollar." And she say, "If it's not your baby don't send me nothing." Yes, that's right.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh yes, honey. This is in the name of Jesus. This is true.

**DIGILORMO:**      That's an incredible story.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh no, no this is . . . It is facts!

**DIGILORMO:**      No, yeah. I don't mean story. But that's an incredible . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    No, no. This a story. And God hears me.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [19:51] He want me to talk about it. Because he knows.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah



**MONTGOMERY:** [19:54] He know what I did. And I . . . When I come back home to bring Preston. I brought him home. Just like Mom say. Took him home to his daddy. His daddy brought him to one of them prophesiers. Cured him. And the first girl I met when I was here was Martha Poole. Six months. I had her pregnant. So she had a pretty child. She had my baby. So then I had two. A boy, and a girl.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. Well . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    Okay let's get . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      Let's go back a little bit.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah okay.

**DIGILORMO:**      Before the babies.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah.

**DIGILORMO:**      So alright. You were living in Duson.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Living in Duson.

**DIGILORMO:**      Your parents were farmers.

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah.

**DIGILORMO:** [20:38] Did you go to school in Duson?

**MONTGOMERY:** Just one year.

**DIGILORMO:** One year.

**MONTGOMERY:** I've no education.

**DIGILORMO:** Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** I went one year. I never forget the book. The book was named Bob and Nancy.

**DIGILORMO:** [laughs]

**MONTGOMERY:** That was the name of the book. They draw them little pictures on the book. And I never wanted to go to school no more. I did not go to school no more.

**DIGILORMO:** And your parents didn't make you?

**MONTGOMERY:** [21:01] No. They tried. I said . . . I told them no. I said, "No." So my

daddy said, "You have to go to work." I said, "Well I'll go to work." I went to work in a sweet potato field. Make forty cents an hour.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:**      Forty cent an hour. I went to work . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      Sweet potato field.

**MONTGOMERY:**      Willy Norman Sweet Potato Factory.

**DIGILORMO:**      [21:17] Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**      In Scott.

**DIGILORMO:**      Louisiana.

**MONTGOMERY:**      Scott, Louisiana.

**DIGILORMO:**      Right outside Lafayette.

**MONTGOMERY:**      That was my job. I was born in Duson, but I went to the . . . About five miles over in Scott. The next five miles you in Lafayette.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [21:31] You know they're all together. You got Rayne, Duson, Scott, and Lafayette.

**DIGILORMO:**      So how long did you work as a potato . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    I worked there . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      A sweet potato picker.

**MONTGOMERY:**    I worked there . . . I was twelve years old when I give my [ . . .?] Alberta Broussard. And then I went to work there at Taylor [?]. I thought I was a man. I got this woman here I'm working the Taylor [?]. Wes, you a man now. So I worked there until I was thirteen. When I made thirteen the work slowed up. So I went to cutting sugar cane in New Iberia [Louisiana].

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [22:17] Working with a bunch of men. The youngest one was about sixty years old. They was a bunch . . . I was sleeping in a camp with these guys.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** And I'm just thirteen, fourteen years old. I'm in the camp. But God, you see God was with me when I didn't even know. When we had dinner that woman would put us to eat in the house. I always wanted to eat milk, and cornbread, and couche [cornmeal mush]. And she told me, "Look we got steaks and beef." No, give me some couche couche like my mama did and some cornbread. She says, "Son you . . ." I said, "No, that's all I need. One day she looked at me. She said, "What your name?"

**UNKNOWN FEMALE:** Hey [?].

**MONTGOMERY:** Yes, baby.

**UNKNOWN FEMALE:** Hey, how are you doing?

**DIGILORMO:** [23:21] Hi! Good, how are you?

**MONTGOMERY:** Where we was?

**DIGILORMO:** Well you were telling me a bit about your mother's cooking. I was kind of curious about that, too. What did you grow up eating a lot of?

**MONTGOMERY:** Oh, yeah, well I was working in New Iberia.

**DIGILORMO:** Oh okay, yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** So the woman come to me one day. It was all about Jesus. She looked at me. You know, she thought I was a good looking man and looked at me. Said, "What your name?" I told her I said, "Wesley Montgomery." Said, "What's your daddy name was?" I said, "Abraham Montgomery." She says, "Was your mother named Mary Montgomery?" I said, "Yes ma'am." Then she began to cry. She says, "You been sleeping with them grown men. Them fifty, sixty years old." They had a camp. A big camp. In the wintertime it was cold with no heaters. And I'm only thirteen, fourteen years old. She said, "I don't want you out there anymore." And I didn't want to lose my job. I didn't know what she meant. She said, "From now on you going to sleep in the house." Said, "I got three sons." Ernie, Darrell, and the other name I can't remember. Darrell, he passed for white. Just like me . . . he passed for white.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [25:01] Then Ernest Junior. She said, "You and Ernest Junior you all going to share a bed. You going to sleep together in the same bed. And Darrell and the other boy they going to share that bed." I says, "I'm going to stay in the house?" She says, "Yes." Say, "Me and your mother is close kin." I said, "What?" She says, "Me and your mother. We is close relatives."

**DIGILORMO:** Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:** I told her. I say, "You is kin to my mother?" She say, "Oh yes close, close relatives." She said, "I'm going to take care of you."

So we started going out on the weekends. Me and them three boys. Well one of them he

was, he passed for white. Darrell. He looked like he was white. You know. See black folks, they not like you all. We got . . . Like in my family same thing. The other two brothers they were like me. But Darrell, yeah he . . . Shit.

[26:09] So we go to them [carton?] dance in the country. We'd drop him off to the white accordion dance and we'd go to the black one. The other two brothers. We'd come back and pick him up about twelve o'clock, twelve-thirty pick him up to the white place. We'd come on back to the house. We'd do that every weekend. So everybody thought he was white. But he was black. So that went on until . . . I work there a couple of years. Till I moved to . . . That's when I moved to Lake Charles. When I lived there I came on to Lake Charles and I moved with my brother.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    And then . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      And when you say Lake Charles, you mean Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    I mean . . . Nothing about Lake Charles. I don't know nothing about here. Was all Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      So what drew your brother to Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [26:59] [Pardon]?

**DIGILORMO:**      What made your brother move to Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    He left from Dusan, Scott, to get a job there. There were more jobs over there. He move here. And we couldn't get no job here, it was just bad.

**DIGILORMO:**      Really?

**MONTGOMERY:**    So what the peeling pole. Telephone pole . . . Went to peel it. Cutting trees down. The same thing we'd peel the poles, and they'd soak them in creosote. And they . . . That's where you got all your electric from. So we went into that because there was nothing else you could do.

**DIGILORMO:**      Now . . . so did . . . You lived in Mossville? Did you work in Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh, I stayed in Mossville. Mossville was my home.

**DIGILORMO:**      So the telephone pole job. That was in Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh yes, in Mossville. We'd peel all the poles. Poke wood.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    We did all of that in Mossville.



**DIGILORMO:**      What year was . . . What year about was that you think?

**MONTGOMERY:**      Oh, Lord have mercy.

**DIGILORMO:**      You were how old?

**MONTGOMERY:**      When I come to Mossville I was fourteen years old. When I moved there.

**DIGILORMO:**      So that'd have been 1948.

**MONTGOMERY:**      1948 that's about right.

**DIGILORMO:**      So what did Mossville look like in 1948?

**MONTGOMERY:**      [28:14] They had nothing. There was wood.

**DIGILORMO:**      Just wood?

**MONTGOMERY:**      Nothing but wood. All they had there was the Lemelle and the Hartman.

**DIGILORMO:**      Hartman?

**MONTGOMERY:**      Hartman and Lemelle.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    There was nothing but wood. Mossville wasn't nothing.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow. So how many people do you think lived there?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [28:34] Oh all together . . . I'd say everything in Mossville was maybe twenty-five . . . Twenty to twenty-five people.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:**    There was nobody there. Then we move in there. Then everybody started moving in from the country. Lafayette, Carencro, Sunset, Duson, Scott. Moving in to Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      So you saw an influx of people moving in?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yes.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [29:12] And when I came back from Los Angeles . . .when I ran away from home . . . when I came back here . . . Well I thought I was a tremendous man then. So I'm young, good-looking, so I got into politics.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Heavy, strong. I got in . . . I was . . . I got so big into politics . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      How so?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [Pardon]?

**DIGILORMO:**      How did you get in to politics? Like what did you do? Or did you . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    The way it started, my wife got in a wreck. My first wife got in a wreck on Highway 90 and Prater Road.

**DIGILORMO:**      On Prater Road. Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [29:55] And the state . . . She was . . . She was right. She run into a white girl. And my wife was right, and the white girl was wrong. I was then twenty-two years old then . . . I was a man then. Twenty-two. I was married. So when the state troopers come, they passed my wife up like she wasn't nobody.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Didn't even talk to her. They went to the white girl. That's the way it was

in those days. Give it here. Honey, that's the way it was in those days.

**DIGILORMO:**      Hey, I understand that.

**MONTGOMERY:**    So my . . . So he went on and I got pissed. What I had told that state trooper. See, I was building my first house. So I want everything both sides of the street. All these houses? That's all for me. Here all of this, that beauty salon . . . That's all my stuff. It's all Jesus. God gave me all of that.

**DIGILORMO:**      So you built a beauty salon in Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [31:08] Right here.

**DIGILORMO:**      Oh, you're talking about right here. Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    That brick place.

**DIGILORMO:**      I saw that. Yeah. Yeah. I saw that.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah I just built . . . Built from the ground up.

**DIGILORMO:**      You just built that. Okay, okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** [31:15] So, yeah. I built it for my wife. My second wife.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** So when my wife got in that wreck I raised so much hell the state trooper got scared. So he got in there and he called for backup. So he got a couple more cars, the state troopers come out there. And they pulled me aside, and they told me not to say anything. So I said, "Well, it's hell, but what can you do?" So I just zipped my mouth. I didn't say anything anymore. Because I was putting a roof on my house. Instead it come down on my . . . See a guy passed by my house on Prater Road in Mossville. If your wife got a wreck. I didn't got off the ladder. I jumped down on the ground from the house. Young, healthy, I flew from the top of the house. I hit the ground. I jump in my truck, and I went and met my wife. So when I got ready to go to court, that's how I got in politics.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** [32:21] Mr. Frank Salter was . . . Eddie Sheehan was the district attorney. Frank Salter was the assistant. And they both was dressed in some black suits pinstriped [ . . . ?]. So I touched him on his back. I didn't know him. I said, "Can I talk to you?" He come back he say, "Sure." That was Frank Salter. He was with his boss. He said, "What you need?" I said, "Look, my wife got in a wreck. She was right, but they give her wrong. I need to talk to you." Says, "Well I can't talk to you today. You should come tomorrow and talk to me. I'll take you then." So I come back and once I met him, it was on.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Then he run against his boss. He won! So he become the district attorney.  
He beat his boss.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    And I was involved.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Me and him stayed together for eighteen years. Assisting six years. That's  
twenty-two year we stayed together.

**DIGILORMO:**      And you worked for him?

**MONTGOMERY:**    [33:32] I didn't . . . I worked for him in politics.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Just politics. I was working for Conoco refinery.

**DIGILORMO:**      Right, okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** Had a job at the plant.

**DIGILORMO:** Right.

**MONTGOMERY:** What was coming.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [33:43] But politics I stayed in there. And I got bigger and bigger and stronger and stronger. And I got so big into politics that everybody starts coming to me. So we never had a governor here in the south since Sam Jones. Governor [Edwin] Edwards was a congressman in Washington DC from Crowley [Louisiana]. You know where Crowley at? So I called him up. I said, "I need you to come run for the governor of this state of Louisiana." He said, "Man, I can't win that. They had a governor there since Sam Jones." I said, "Come down." He said, "You Wes Montgomery?" I said, "Yes." He said, "You going to be with me?" I said, "Come down . . . Come down." And he was a good-looking man. He was just . . . When a man going to tell you this is a good-looking man, he was a good-looking man.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** So I knew we had all the women. I was good-looking. And I knew we was going to have all the black. So we going to get a black vote with the white women, black women. And Danny's going to get all the black votes. Then he's going to his [ . . .?]. I said, "Shit, we

going to win this damn thing." We went to work. Honey, I'm not lying. It took me over two years. I took a white girl. Now this is years ago. I'm about twenty . . . Twenty-six years old. Edwards was about . . . Edwards got me about ten years. You know he just got remarried? You know that?

**DIGILORMO:**      What was his last name?

**MONTGOMERY:** [35:35] Governor Edwards.

**DIGILORMO:**      You talking about Edwin Edwards?

**MONTGOMERY:** Edwin Edwards. He married this young little white girl, thirty-six years old.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** And she got a baby for him. A boy.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** And he's about eighty-two, eighty-three. She got a boy for him. Oh yeah, been with him. Oh yeah, I been there with him.



**DIGILORMO:**      I had no idea.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh yeah. You see . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      You do need to write a book.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [35:59] Honey, a man's sperm. Well I got to write this but . . . See a man's sperm never dies. Yours when you get forty-five . . . That's finished. You can forget about making another baby. They had one once in a blue moon. But to drop another baby? You better do something before you're forty-five. Or [ . . .?] the book. The nurse at Conoco refinery, I hate to break the subject, Ms. [Verna?] Day. She married Cecil Day. She married a white boy. He wasn't but about twenty-four years old. He married Ms. Verna Day, and she was about forty-three or forty-four. And she didn't give a damn. She didn't give a shit. She . . . Whatever comes through her mouth she'd tell you. And me and her was just like that.

I went to her office. She said, "Wes you know I got married." I said, "Ms. Day." "Wes, I married a young one. He's about twenty-four years old. Wes, he come crying to me he want a baby." She said, "Wes, you know what I told him? He better work fast, because I'm going to be turning forty-five." She was a trip.

**DIGILORMO:**      She sounds like it.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah! She had cancer in the breast, that cut one of her breasts off. Sure did. And she had that baby. Had that baby for Cecil. He name was Cecil. Had a beautiful baby.

And in life she lost . . . cancer . . . They had to cut off both her breasts. She was a doll. One day we had the big tower at Conoco refinery. She had to go way to the top because a guy passed out up there. And she had to go up there. And then time you all couldn't wear no pants. Against the law. You had to wear a dress. This was years ago. So she . . . They give her a ladder. So she had to climb up there.

**DIGILORMO:**      In a dress?

**MONTGOMERY:** [38:10] And she got this damn dress on. And we got about twenty-five or thirty men down there looking up. And we going to be looking at her bottom. She looked back down there at us who was all down. She, "Let me tell you men something." She was hell. She said, "I been looking at you all long enough. Now look at mine." [laughs] She was . . . Look, she was a trip!

**DIGILORMO:**      That's funny.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh that was my girl. Oh me and her we was . . . Oh, yes.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [38:47] Me and her was just like a set of twins. We was . . . But . . .  
Anyway . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah let's try to see if we can . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**      Let's get back to where we were.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. So you moved to Mossville with your brother. You started working telephone poles.

**MONTGOMERY:**      Peeling poles.

**DIGILORMO:**      Peeling poles.

**MONTGOMERY:**      And poke wood.

**DIGILORMO:**      And poke wood. Stuff like that.

**MONTGOMERY:**      Right.

**DIGILORMO:**      So were there any stores in Mossville at that time?

**MONTGOMERY:**      [39:09] Just one little store. Little store there was Reverend . . . Reverend . . . not [Gasaway?] . . . Lord Jesus, help give me that name.

**DIGILORMO:**      You remember where it was at?

**MONTGOMERY:** Oh yeah, right down . . . See I was raised on Prater Road.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** You go right to the Old Spanish Trail where I build the big rodeo arena, the store was right there.

**DIGILORMO:** Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** And . . .

**DIGILORMO:** [39:49] That was where you got your groceries?

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah, that was his grocery store.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** And he lived right next door.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** He had a young wife. He was aged. A preacher. But he had a young wife. And Ms. Irene, I remember her. And I can't think of his name for nothing.

**DIGILORMO:**      That's alright.

**MONTGOMERY:**   Ms. Irene and her husband. And she was way younger . . . Oh Lord, I got his name right here. I just can't put it off of my tongue. But anyway . . . And so I start courting this girl name, her name was [Eva?] Julia. When you get down to go to his house, you take a left to go to the Lemelle. There's one of the old family here. So they had a family there. They had a little girl was thirteen years old, her name was [Eva?] Julia. She still living right there in Mossville. Right now today. I fell in love with that child, and we was so young I just went hay-wild you know. I thought it was it.

**DIGILORMO:**      [40:56] Was there anywhere to go? Like any sort of social places?

**MONTGOMERY:**   We'd go on hayrides.

**DIGILORMO:**      Hayrides, okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**   Put some bales of hay on the wagon and crap.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**   You couldn't go . . . Them old folks, you know. They would . . . Shit. Back in those days it was hell. Especially a girl. Bad enough on boys.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [41:18] So . . . We fell in love, and I told her I had to leave because my daddy wanted me to go back to Duson to pick cotton. And she just . . . I'll never forget the day. She just broke down. And so she took sick. So I moved back with my daddy to Duson.

**DIGILORMO:**      Oh you went . . .

**MONTGOMERY:** To pick cotton.

**DIGILORMO:**      You went back to Duson?

**MONTGOMERY:** To pick cotton.

**DIGILORMO:**      How old were you then?

**MONTGOMERY:** I moved there I was fourteen. So I must have been about, right around fifteen years old.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** So I went back to Duson and she took sick. The only doctor they had was Doctor Phillis. For black . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      In Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:** [42:23] No, right in Maplewood [Louisiana].

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** Cross the street there in Maplewood. So . . . He was the only doctor they had there. And he had the black was separated from the white. We had our little pigeon hole there where we'd go in. The blacks. And the white had that big room. That's the way it was in those days.

**DIGILORMO:**      Right.

**MONTGOMERY:** So well, he couldn't find nothing wrong with Eva Julia. So he told Mr. Lemelle and Ms. Lemelle, he said, "I can't find nothing wrong with [Eva?] Julia." They say, well, Mr. Lemelle and Ms. Lemelle say, "She keep passing out. She got a problem." But he couldn't find nothing wrong.

So Valerie, my oldest brother that I was living with. That's where I was staying with when I went back with my daddy. So he went to Ms. Lemelle and Mr. Lemelle. And they loved me like I was their child. He said, "I'm going to tell you Eva Julia's problem." "What is the problem?" He says, "All about Wes." He says, "Wes. Her heart is broken."

**DIGILORMO:**      She love sick.

**MONTGOMERY:** [43:40] Give it here. Give it here. He say, "Why don't you let me take her home to my daddy and my mother in Duson? Spend the week with Wes. She can sleep in the bed." Says, he say, "I got two sisters there, Diane and Shirley. She can sleep with Shirley. And the next day she can be with Wes. She can be with him from the Friday, the Saturday, and the Sunday until we come back to Lake Charles for work." They said, "Take her." Oh, yeah she's ready, poor little thing. She thirteen, cute little thing. Pretty. I tease her about that today when I see her. I tease her today about it that. They brought Eva Julia over there, honey. Spend the weekend there with me. I was with her all from the Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

[Whistles] No more doctor. So Mr. Lemelle and Ms. Lemelle said, "Valerie, Eva Julia is fine. Oh, she sleep like a dog. Wes Montgomery is something." "Yeah," he says. "All about Wes." He said, "I know that. That's why I wanted to take her there. And he says, "Anytime you all want to take her, you all can bring her anytime you all want." Sure time my brother went home he'd bring me Eva Julia. Oh yeah, and then I fool around here and I got the girl pregnant in Lafayette. Well, then I had to haul ass. They wanted to make me marry her. I said, "No, I ain't getting married."

**DIGILORMO:**      And that's when you went to L.A. [Los Angeles]?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh I went to L.A.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:** [45:29] And then when I had to come back for Preston Junior, to bring



him back so his daddy can get him cured, so I went to Mr. Lemelle. I was gone one year. So I got back.

**DIGILORMO:** You left two girls broken-hearted when you went to L.A. [laughs]

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah. So when I knock on the door Mr. Lemelle and Ms. Lemelle come to the door. Say, "Wes, when you got here?" I Say, "I just got back." They say, "Come on in." I said, "Where's Julia?" They said, "She's back of the house. Why don't you go shock her?" Them times you remember? I don't know, you was probably too young. They had them washing machine . . . the old washer . . . and you . . . It had some rollers. You put the clothes through the roller. You see when it come out it dry off then you had to put them in the rinser.

And I didn't know she had no Protestant. I didn't know that. So she was . . . See, I'm a Catholic. She was Protestant, and she was singing that Protestant song. And cute, good-looking. She was out there humming that song. I'm right in her back. And I'm a man now. I'm . . . Wes is . . . He's a stallion now. And she humming it away. I put both my arm on her shoulder. I say, "Eva Julia." She looked back and she cough. Her false teeth fell in the washing machine [laughs]. They fell in the washing machine. I tell you, I had to reach in there and get them. And she rinsed them and put them back in her mouth.

[47:21] She said, she grab and hug me, she said, "Wes. What are you doing here?" I says, "I'm back." She said, "Not to stay?" I said, "Well, I don't know." I said, "My life has changed a lot now." I didn't want her to fall in love. I said, "My life has changed a lot now. And I want you to know. I still love you and I cares for you." Good-looking. Oh she was . . . Long hair down to her waist. But I had to spread my wings and shit. I was a good-looking man and I just

was all over the place.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**      And them girls was coming from every angle and I couldn't run.

**DIGILORMO:**      So you moved back to Mossville after your trip to L.A. a year later?

**MONTGOMERY:**      I moved back . . . I come back to Mossville. Then I start growing prosperity.

**DIGILORMO:**      How'd you do that?

**MONTGOMERY:**      [48:19] I opened a night club.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. Was it . . . ?

**MONTGOMERY:**      I was seventeen years old. Opened a night club.

**DIGILORMO:**      Were there any other night clubs in Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**      No, that's . . . I had the only club. There wasn't in Mossville. Opened that club way out in the woods. You heard about Boozoo Chavis?

**DIGILORMO:**      No.

**MONTGOMERY:**    He's a zydeco man. Well, right by his house I opened a club there.

**DIGILORMO:**      And where is that at?

**MONTGOMERY:**    That's up there. They call it Dog Hill. And they call that Prien Lake.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. Prien Lake.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Prien Lake. That's south of town.

**DIGILORMO:**      [48:49] Right.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Opened a club there.

**DIGILORMO:**      Right. Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    And I just became so famous. Here this young man got a brand new Mercury. Got a night club. Working at Conoco. He got everything. I mean even the [?]. The girls just came there, they came here flying, you know? And then they went to fighting. Them girls went to fighting. The cops stopped me one night on Enterprise Boulevard. You know where Boulevard at?

**DIGILORMO:**      No, sir.

**MONTGOMERY:** [49:18] Enterprise. The cops stopped me one day. Now this was not a white girl. It was a black girl. But she was . . . She could pass for white any day.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** Any day. She was . . . and the cop stopped me and that happened to be a cop I knew. He took his flashlight and he shine it inside. He said, "Put the [ . . . ?]." So he told me said, "I didn't know you crossed the line." I said, "Shit, this ain't no white girl."

**DIGILORMO:**      [Laughs]

**MONTGOMERY:** "Wes." He say, "Come on, Wes." I say, "No." I said, "We got them all colors man." [Both laugh] Yeah. Her name was Rita Victorian.

**DIGILORMO:**      Rita Victorian.

**MONTGOMERY:** [50:06] Rita Victorian. So she had a boyfriend when I met her. And he wanted to marry her. But she wasn't about to marry the guy. The guy came to me one day. I'll never forget it. "Wes," he said, "Do me a favor." I said, "What?" He said, "You got all the women. You got all the girls in the world." He says, "Give me that [name?]. I want to marry that girl." I says, "You serious?" "Wes," he said, "I want to get married." But he says, "With you

there she ain't going to do a goddamn thing." I said, "Well I tell you what." I said, "I'm going to back off."

So I did. But out there waiting I had a brand new Mercury, and when you blow your horn the Mercury people had to put a rim around there that you blow the horn with. I broke it in that wedding. I was at the wedding. Because she told me to make sure be there. I said, "Rita, I'm going to be there." And I blow this horn, and I broke that damn horn at the . . . I broke that rim around that.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** [51:18] Oh yeah. Well me and her went out, and we had sex together me and her for . . . She didn't want to see this guy. I told her I say, "Hey lady, you're getting married." I ain't having nobody, me.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** No, no I'm . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      Alright.

**MONTGOMERY:** [51:31] No, no. I was not a one man woman right then.

**DIGILORMO:**      So you own this night club and worked at Conoco?

**MONTGOMERY:** And worked at Conoco. I did that Club Sixteen.

**DIGILORMO:** When did . . . At sixteen years old?

**MONTGOMERY:** Six . . . The club was called sixteen.

**DIGILORMO:** Oh, oh, the club was called sixteen. [laughs]

**MONTGOMERY:** Club Sixteen.

**DIGILORMO:** Club Sixteen.

**MONTGOMERY:** [51:47] And I was seventeen. I put my age up to twenty-one to get a license.

**DIGILORMO:** Got you.

**MONTGOMERY:** Because I couldn't even go in the club at that age.

**DIGILORMO:** [Laughs] But you owned it.

**MONTGOMERY:** [51:56] I owned it. It was mine.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow. So you started working at Conoco at what age?

**MONTGOMERY:**    I went to Conoco . . . My mother and daddy had to sign a minor release. See at Conoco you had to be twenty-one years old. And when I made twenty Conoco called me to go to work then. So they didn't have . . . They just knew. They look at a man about two hundred pounds, about six foot. Built like a bull. And I was built. I mean I just was built. I had it. Had a head of hair looked like Diamond. And they brought me in and just took me in.

**DIGILORMO:**      And they knew you because of your work around Mossville?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Yeah, right there . . .

**DIGILORMO:**      They had just seen you around . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    [52:41] Yeah Conoco hired me. Matter of fact they hadn't hired a black there . . . I made history.

**DIGILORMO:**      Really?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Conoco hadn't hired a black there in ten years.

**DIGILORMO:**      Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:** I'm the first black they hired. I was such a man. They didn't want to lose me, so they hired me. One day they called me in the office they said, "Wes. How old are you?" [coughs] I said, "I'm twenty years old." "Wes," they say. "You older than that." Said, "What year you born?" I said, "1934, October the fourth." So Mr. Hank [Clement and Clyde Stuart?] told me, they was the personnel manager. "Yeah," they said. "That gives you twenty." I said, "Yeah." "Wes. Man, you can't work here at twenty. You got to be twenty when your mother and daddy got to sign." I said, "Well they're just like me. They can't read and write."

**DIGILORMO:** [Laughs].

**MONTGOMERY:** So they gave me some two paper. Tell them to just make an X here and an X here. "And you can keep your job. We won't even dock you." Going to do that. I took my car and I went to Duson. My mama made an X. My daddy made an X. I brought it back to Conoco. I stayed there until I was forty-four years old.

**DIGILORMO:** Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:** [54:02] Worked there twenty-four years.

**DIGILORMO:** Wow.

**MONTGOMERY:** Before I quit. When I quit I went to go in to business. I become a [ . . . ?] then.



**DIGILORMO:**      So where is Conoco located? Is it in Westlake or is . . .?

**MONTGOMERY:**    On Old Spanish Trail. Yeah, in Westlake on Old Spanish Trail.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay. Had they just built that whenever you started working? Or had it been there . . .?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh no, Conoco had been there.

**DIGILORMO:**      It hadn't been there whenever . . .

**MONTGOMERY:**    No, then they build a brand new [Conde Vista?] across the street.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay

**MONTGOMERY:**    [54:28] But both of them was Conoco. But the plant where I got hired at there was old Conoco. No, they were there when I come there.

**DIGILORMO:**      Do you remember how people felt when they started building those plants there? I mean what the general feeling was in Mossville? Were people glad that there . . .?

**MONTGOMERY:**    Oh, yeah, oh people thought this was it. There's going to be jobs for Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    You see. Just like Sasol [energy and chemical company] is coming out there now. They want . . . You heard about Sasol?

**DIGILORMO:**      Yes, sir.

**MONTGOMERY:**    Well they want to buy all . . . I own more land than anybody in Mossville.

**DIGILORMO:**      Okay.

**MONTGOMERY:**    [55:04] More than anybody. So Sasol done called me in a meeting. Me and my four children with my first wife. They done called me in. And they offered me right at a million, but I turned them down. I told them, "You got to give me more than that." And my other wife I got now, they offer us a hundred and . . . I got a . . . We bought a little house. A two bedroom to rent. Got it on rent. Don't you know they offered me a hundred seventeen thousand for that little house? I turned it down, too. My wife wanted to sell it. My new wife.

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:**    I said, "I'm not selling. I said, "When I sell they got to have to pay me money."

**DIGILORMO:**      Yeah.

**MONTGOMERY:** God gave me all of that.

**DIGILORMO:** Yeah. Right.

**MONTGOMERY:** And I says, "God wanted me to buy all this property. Why did I buy all this land in Mossville? I bought it." I said, "God knew Sasol was coming." We didn't know, but God know everything. "Wes, buy the land, because Sasol is coming. You going to be a wealthy man." That's right. That's God.

**DIGILORMO:** [56:16] Well Mr. Montgomery, we been talking for about an hour.

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah.

**DIGILORMO:** That's a long time, so would you mind if we maybe . . . I came back in the next week or two and we continue this conversation?

**MONTGOMERY:** Yeah! Anytime you wants to, honey.

**DIGILORMO:** Great, that's exactly . . .

[56:34]

[End Tape 4513. End Session I.]