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Tape 871 Finding Aid

INTERVIEWEE NAMES:

Mr. Stephen Hatch-Barnwell and Mrs. Muriel Hatch-Barnwell

4700.0593 Tape 871.1 (Tape 3 of 3)

Ivan Ellis Jones

4700.0594 Tape 871.2 (Tape 1 of 4)

IDENTIFICATION: Britons in Pre-Independence India

INTERVIEWERS: Frank de Caro and Rosan Jordan

SERIES: British Voices from South Asia

INTERVIEW DATES:

Hatch-Barnwells: 4/13/1978

Jones: 4/22/1978

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 1 hour, 34 minutes

Hatch-Barnwells: 17 minutes

Jones: 77 minutes

OTHER MATERIALS: None

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Tape 871, Side A

Hatch-Barnwells (Part 3 of 3) (871.1)

- 002 Mrs. Hatch-Barnwell's mother-in-law dominated the household behind the scenes
- 012 Partition was the most amusing day to Hatch-Barnwell
- 022 after Partition, Hatch-Barnwell continued on as a district magistrate
- 029 there were practically no administrative changes after Partition; the departure of the British officers was one of the bigger changes, only a few stayed on for a short time
- 035 you were allowed to choose to serve in Pakistan, India or to leave; one had been involved in a communal riot and was refused, only to become a missionary; those on the "black list" were not given the option
- 048 no one thought Pakistan was going to survive, so no one really wanted to stay on there; India was very awkward

053 one fellow decided to stay on because he was stationed at a beautiful hill station; by the end
of a year, he found it difficult to stay because he had been accused of conspiring with the
Gorkhas and planters

061 there had always been Muslims that were not very keen of the British influence on
Pakistan; there were political agitations

072 Hatch-Barnwell was put in second command of a camp for political prisoners; he got to
know some of them and would gossip from time to time

082 during wartime, living in India was extremely difficult; Hatch-Barnwell was posted to a
high malaria district, struck during a meeting at the Supply Office in Calcutta

094 Hatch-Barnwell went all around Calcutta trying to find medicine; he asked the assistant to
one of the chief agents, knowing the assistant was big in the business world and probably
know of the black market, if he could get some medicine

109 it was difficult to get medicine and milk, as well as other things

133 once you got to Calcutta, having the children in India with you was not that bad

137 you had to trust a lot; when the lines were open; you would go down and had to trust that
you could get back

147 there were poor prenatal supplies in India; there was no calcium, no medications for
pregnant women

153 they would go down to the train station where Mrs. Hatch-Barnwell would ask the engine
driver to get her bread from where ever he was going and drop it off on the way back; he
brought her back two loaves of bread, but they had dried out from being in the engine room

160 living was very difficult the first year and during the war

162 sometimes they were able to go to hill stations to the supply shops and get wonderful food

164 the walls would be black from mosquitos

169 there was no ice available; keeping water cool was a common goal for the household

172 they had electricity from generators during the day, but it was turned off at night; there
were no fans at night, so it was very hot

184 it was difficult having to leave the children; it was one of the major drawbacks of India

189 Hatch-Barnwell still received leave after Partition and decided to remain in Pakistan, but it
became more difficult

208 end of interview

Tape 871, Side A cont'd

Jones (Part 1 of 6) (871.2)

209 beginning of interview

211 Jones was mildly interested in India from reading; he was born and raised in Dublin

216 he decided to join the British Civil Service; it required an extra year after his degree

222 during that year, two of his friends were participating in their probationary year and were
preparing to go to Burma; Jones was in close contact with them and the preparations they
were making

225 by the time Jones took the Civil Service Exam, Jones decided he wanted to go to India and
not to London

233 the general lifestyle of India found in his readings was the main attraction for Jones to want
to go to India; the life of a district officer seemed like a pleasant experience, in which he
later found out that it was

242 he stayed an extra year, completing his studies in law and such that were common to all
probationary ICS officers

247 you had to study language and law during your probationary year; there was a reasonable
amount of reading required, especially in the language studies

257 you did not know a whole lot when you chose where you would go; some people were so
ignorant that they asked for places that were not even available

268 you were allowed to write down preferences for stations; those with strong connections
were able to get higher preferences; preferences were made with very little information

293 most of Jones's colleagues did not have connections, but some had very strong connections

295 one fellow's father had been a member of the Viceroy's Council when they decided to
move from Calcutta to New Delhi; his grandfather had been murdered in Afghanistan; his
grandmother and great uncle were kept for a couple of years in prison

303 they were protected and well treated in prison and were eventually given back

307 it was not really important to have great connections in Jones's opinion; it may have
provided a social advantage

313 to decide seniority, they took the average of your qualifying exam and final exam; this may
have made a difference, finding two of you side-by-side in the service when promotion
time came; you may forever be placed below the fellow, depending on the luck of the draw

328 you were allowed to use reference books during the final exam

337 Jones went out at a good time because improvements had been slack for a while

339 at one time, the situation was so bad that the League Commission was sent out to exam the
financial position of the service because the service associations had briefed lawyers to go
around to the colleges, warning people against it

344 the League Commission found that an officer in the ICS or Indian police could not live off
the pay they were receiving; there was always the hope that you would recover the pay in
your senior years; this lead to a revision of the proper rationalization of the pay system

351 the revision lead to a proper time schedule so you knew that in a certain, provided injuries
or major sicknesses did not occur, you would have something to sustain; in addition, they
gave an extra amount of leave

365 there were also other benefits; this made the service attractive from a financial standpoint,
instead of being the reverse

371 Jones was able to receive early promotion to senior postings

374 he went out in 1927 and remained until 1947

379 Jones's first voyage out was very interesting; there were ten of them going out to various
stations, including several Indians that he came to know well; they went the long way,
cutting across France; it was a three week voyage after getting on the boat

389 some of those going out with Jones took more of the advantage of going out to see parts of
the country side; Jones stayed close because he did not want to chance getting lost

402 Jones laughs at one of his colleagues: he would walk up and down the deck of the boat with
War and Peace under his arm, but never seemed to read it; the colleague eventually
became an ambassador

419 in Bombay, Jones was walking through the streets with another colleague from the Punjab;
the colleague made the remark that "all these minor Bombay people" got out of the way
when they saw a "Punjabi" coming

433 Jones bought a limited amount of stuff before going out; there were specialized suits; Jones
was also supplied with a shot gun, which he was measured for

441 to be suited for a shot gun, they would take you down to a shooting range; you would use an
adjustable metal stock that had various other adjustable parts; you would fire at the target,
adjusting the gun accordingly

452 the theory was, that if your gun is made to measure, you will more or less hit whatever you
 are looking at

457 you would bring out light-wear clothing with you

466 the clothes you wore were somewhat determined by your position or status; if you were
 touring you would wear your riding clothes

468 a chief justice from Scotland came out and decided all magistrates and ambassadors needed
 to wear black jackets; this rule came in May, when the temperatures began reaching 120°;
 Jones was a district magistrate at the time and considered “worn” to be the jacket being
 carried under his arm

482 there are reasons why people wear light-colored clothing

490 Jones describes an alternative type of pant to the regular riding suit; it was suitable for
 walking or riding

509 they were unsure of which type of helmet to purchase

511 there is a story of two women in Baker’s in London: an army officer pointed out that one of
 their choices was unsuitable, but they insisted because they liked them. The army officer
 told them that only missionaries wore them. They replied that they were missionaries

521 it was common for new comers to come out, only to find they have been sold the wrong
 type of hat

524 one of Jones’s Punjab colleagues had his hat taken away by an army officer, just as he
 emerged on the deck of the boat

538 there were also accessories that protected one’s pants while riding

543 over the years, Jones’s believes the experience of war allowed for people to adapt and
 prepare for the climate and adjust to it; they seem to be able to withstand the sun longer

552 Jones did suffer from sun stroke once or twice

554 on an overcast day, one does not realize how strong the sun is; you think the sun is not
 strong on those days, but Jones has gone out and suffered for it

566 they talk about the book [*Fantail on the Raja?*]

574 the idea of protecting your spine from the sun seemed to be current about 1900 but could be
 found in catalogs dated 1927

585 when Jones came back after his first leave, he brought much more back; the first trip out
 was very light

592 Jones did not realize how much he would rely on books there; books were not easily
 available

594 there were two book shops in Bihar, but not in an ordinary station; some of the clubs may
 have some books available, but conditions varied from each station

604 Jones arrived in Bombay; they traveled up for two days; he tells the story of the two
 Scotsmen and their opinion about the St. Andrew’s celebration aboard the ship

633 Jones is Anglo-Irish, which means that there is a mixture of Welsh and Scottish immigrants
 in Scotland; he discusses his mother and father’s background

652 no particular country’s people were prone to go out to India; all types of backgrounds

655 Jones had a Scottish friend that once said that he thought the Scots and Irish were
 particularly successful in India because they did not have the Englishman’s assumptions,
 but everyone enjoyed being governed by the English

670 the Secretary of State services in 1927 were already on a 50/50 basis: they recruited and
 retained fifty percent Indian; out of 150 ICS members in the Punjab, 75 were Indian

693 there was a good system of integration in the services

703 in Jones’s first district, there were about a million people; the deputy commissioner had

two of them under training and a “very black Indian” that eventually became a chief justice
 725 Jones and another Englishman were the only Europeans
 727 end of Side A

Tape 871, Side B

Jones (Part 3 of 6) (871.2)

001 at that time, he could listen to arguments, try arguments, join in arguments on highly
 technical terms connected with tenant rights and so on
 005 Jones could not have given an intelligent speech opening a picture gallery, nor given a
 religious sermon because he would not know the name of the Holy Spirit
 011 most of them did not venture into Indian literature; there was a poet in the Punjab that was
 very popular and well-known
 019 some may have gotten into Indian writings however, but people like Jones only penetrated
 in friendship; it was rare for anyone to interact enough past friendships to develop
 relationships
 027 Jones is very conscious of this fact now that he looks back; it would have been a difficult
 thing to do
 029 Jones did enjoy some Indian music
 032 relationships did not seem to occur, although Jones would not say that they were
 discouraged; there were some things that, to some extent, did not encourage it
 042 it was an overwhelming experience; the cases they would hear when they first began were
 not of any real importance; they were clearly just under training
 047 by the time they were able to hear real serious cases, they were allowed to understand
 more, both language wise and the circumstances of village life
 052 they were put in a position of tremendous prestige and responsibility, to which most of
 them reacted in a way that allowed people to look up to them; they were conscious of this
 059 it did encourage a sense of confidence; Jones was more confident that he knew all the
 answers back then rather than now
 062 while in his first district, Jones sent up a proposal regarding the emission of land revenue;
 he lectured the government about it, sure that he understood the system and how he thought
 it was working and so forth
 067 the feeling of not knowing what exactly was going on did last for a while, but one soon rose
 above it; by the time Jones became a subdivisinal magistrate hearing cases all day in
 Indian, he became accustomed to translating the language whenever he heard it
 080 Jones was sometimes asked to use equipment and such, when he only had a vague idea of
 what to do with it
 084 Jones was not always exactly sure what to do with the orders he received; one of his Hindu
 colleagues was nicknamed “Under What Section” by his English colleagues
 090 Penderel Moon had a brush with his officers over a dispute in training camp on whether or
 not they had to dress for dinner or not
 099 they eventually moved the dispute to the district commissioner, who had no standing in the
 matter at all; the commissioner told them to dress, only to have Moon reply “Under what
 section?”
 103 the district commissioner asked Moon why he was questioning the order; Mon replied “Do
 you mean to say that the Deputy Commissioner orders me to do ‘so and so’ to my bearer in
 order to comply?”
 108 Mon found himself reporting to higher authority for insubordination and insolence; he

eventually had a meeting with the chief secretary and was told to either apologize or wait a year to do his training and lose a year of seniority; he decided to conform
122 formalities like dressing for dinner did go on; Jones's first deputy commissioner said that
he changed for dinner in order to receive a decent dinner from his cook
138 looking back, Jones thinks they were stupid for eating things like corn flakes, processed by
Kellogg so many miles away; some aspects of their diet was very sensible, which was a
great joy to Jones
153 their diet was livened by curries, but it was a fact that an Indian cook would use curries for
his English/European dishes; it would produce a milder variety than the Indian curry
162 if one went to a large Indian dinner party, they would often have a large serving of curry,
proceed by a full course European meal; one's reaction would be "I wish I would have
known this was coming and not have wasted time on these other dishes"
167 the English would get a lot of Indian food; on the whole the tradition was to preserve the
European style of meal
178 there was a good deal of tent living, but it was used to extend accommodations; they would
also use them for touring
188 Jones talks about the word Indian cooks would use to describe a small savory; Jones used it
for twenty years until an Indian friend of his told him what it was; it was literally "second
toast"
195 "first toast" were the hors d'oeuvres; "second toast" was the second toast
205 when not in tents they would live in bungalows; the Punjab bungalows were designed for
the hot weather, having high ceilings; there were doors that protected three-quarters of the
wall from the sun
212 each side of the house would have a veranda; the corner would have some other type of
protection
216 the protection could be increased by having some form of mats hanging down - flaps that
prevented the sun from reflecting onto the floor of the veranda
221 above the veranda was a clear story window that was kept closed in the hot weather; the
doors were kept closed during the hot weather as well
225 the doors included a mosquito net and netting; there were double doors that swung out
wards and double doors that swung inwards, usually with windows
228 your room may have one side that did have a window, but the other areas of the bungalow
did not
231 during the day, everything was closed up and you lived on that amount of air; when the
evening began to show signs of coolness, the mosquito netting doors were kept closed but
the others were opened, along with the top windows
235 the cool air would come in and take out the stale air; this is how the air was circulated
238 it was kept like this until six or seven in the morning, depending on the time of year
241 there would be a large bedroom with a wooden bed; a mosquito net was put up during the
mosquito season
246 each bedroom would have a small bath attached; in a typical 1920 bungalow in the out
stations that lacked running water and sewage
253 it would be unlikely that you would even find a tap in the house because of the lack of
water systems; you would have to depend on a water carrier
257 the carrier would bring the water in from the pump in a goatskin bucket or earthen jars
264 the bath tub would be a tin tub; the bath was prepared by putting enough cold water for the
purpose and adding the hot water that was brought in

268 the water was likely heated by being boiled in an old paraffin-type can with a handle across
the top on a charcoal fire outside; it was brought in and poured into your bath
279 there was a commode and other fixtures that were cleared periodically by a sweeper
281 a sweeper was required because his work would not be done by anyone outside the sweeper
class
283 the English tended to have more servants than they needed; besides the sweeper's duties,
any servant could do any other's job
287 there was a tendency to have a personal servant, along with someone to wait on the table
and a cook; in the early stages of the service, the cook would also serve; there would also
be an assistant cook that would help clean up
296 the minimum requirement was at least a personal servant; all or part time required servants
was a sweeper to serve the bathroom
302 there would be a cook house that was separated from the rest of the house, about twenty or
so yards away; the dining room would usually have an attached room that would allow for
the food to be kept warm
309 there were also separate servants' quarters
310 in some old-fashioned districts, there may also be a [bebehanna?], which would represent
the head of the women's quarters; that was unknown during Jones's time in the Punjab
316 things may have been a little different in Burma: Europeans would have some kind of
alliance with the native women; there was a smaller concentration of Europeans there than
the Punjab
330 the bungalows did have large chambers; some of the bungalows that were established in
colonized areas would be up to five acres
335 New Delhi lay out on a vast scale in respects to the size of the area and the width of the
roads; there would be a road, a grassy area then a foot path followed by another grassy area
345 the cost of land is disproportional; when a lot of expansion became necessary during the
war, the bungalow compounds were dismantled and smaller bungalows were established in
different areas in between; the standard bungalow was too big
358 a civil station was developed in bungalows; a cantonment was an actual military station;
there would be a wall city colony, with further development spreading outwards
372 New Delhi was built about six or seven miles outside Old Delhi, but the two are joined now
381 Jones believes the British took over the land and the openness of India; the British did not
consciously say, "Let's be grand" but to be in a comfortable position
394 it looks very different in hindsight however; the price of land rules these sorts of things
399 the mosquito doors were wire mesh, like a meat safe; the mosquito nets for the bed were
hung on poles
402 mosquitos were not a large problem in the Punjab; in New Delhi, the government took
steps to eliminate mosquitos by treating any breeding grounds
411 there were some areas where mosquitos were an epidemic; many unfortunate Indians had
been bitten and were inflicted
417 generally the Europeans tended to suffer somewhat from dysentery; Jones contracted
typhoid; they had injections to decrease the probability of contracting the serious diseases
428 Jones blames the typhoid from drinking locally bottled soda water; he was lucky to be able
to go to the hills after three weeks; he lost a lot of weight
441 Jones's Indian friend died of typhoid, although his father was in the medical service
463 Jones went back to headquarters for eighteen months, then went back to district for five or
six years

471 at the end of his third year, Jones went to a colony district as a deputy commissioner
 486 there was a government scheme for breeding horses locally; in the beginning, Australian
 horses fulfilled the duties; land in the new colonies was allotted for this purpose
 497 the colonist had to maintain a male approved by the government and bred regularly
 499 the government had the option to buy the animals; they would be taken in, trained and
 issued to cavalry regiments
 502 this meant that they were playing polo
 505 they had to keep a second pony to allow themselves to play polo, “the rich man’s game”
 509 Jones was able to form a team immediately after arriving at the station, three local Indians
 and himself; the Indians were not officers
 512 one of the Indians was a retired cavalry officer who provided all of their training (once
 almost being a professional polo player for one of the maharajahs); another was a
 middle-aged Indian; the third was a younger Indian, about Jones’s age at the time, that was
 a local landlord with a certain religious status
 533 they would practice riding before breakfast; they played in tournaments for about two years
 546 they were able to win one round the second year; they were beaten in the first year; it was
 very entertaining
 573 there was also a game that required a lance and a galloping horse; you would lean out (if
 you were professional enough) or cling (if you were not very professional); the object was
 to pick the ring up and to avoid being hit in the back of the head by your lance
 589 this was a local sport
 596 there were three deputy commissioners and other officers that had their “expert” teams;
 Jones’s and his team had to be their competition
 605 they were very skilled
 608 another sport was much like a more advanced game of tag; you entered in pairs (A and B, C
 and D, etc.)
 618 if “A and B” played “X and Y”, a complete round would be “A and B” chasing “X” then “A
 and B” chasing “Y” then they would reverse roles
 635 it was almost as if there was an imaginary cord between the two; the one being chased was
 not to cut the cord or he would be “captured”
 638 the goal was to run around the pursuers without being caught; he would come to the extent
 to almost slapping them without being caught
 648 they seemed to run just as good in reverse as they would by going forward
 657 there was a wall around the playing area to allow them to charge admission; they collected
 a good deal of money
 665 it was a national sport then and people came from miles around to watch; the local gentry
 would have their own special clearance
 679 they had begun without an enclosure and it was difficult to charge admission; it is probably
 highly developed by now
 685 the area would be about the size of a polo field; the local gentry would the judges
 698 they would cover half of the district by camels that were hired; the camel is used all over
 the Punjab as a beast of burden, even where it is not really necessary primarily for strength
 709 the camel is necessary in the desert areas; you would possibly go ten miles between two
 villages, with no source of water between the two or water that was extremely salty
 729 the central government controlled the mining operations for the rock salt
 734 Gandhi led an “agitation” about the salt tax; end of tape.