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INTERVIEW WITH  
Master Sergeant John A. Moaney

by  
Dr. Maclyn Burg  
Oral Historian

on

July 21, 1972

for

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

Gift of Personal Statement  
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to the  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

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John A. Moaney

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This is an interview with M/Sgt. John A. Moaney, at the Gettysburg Farm. Others present for the interview are Dr. John Wickman and Dr. Maclyn Burg of the Eisenhower Library. The interview took place on July 21, 1972.

DR. WICKMAN: Personal information, that's the one place where we are very short. Where were you born and raised?

SGT. MOANEY: On the Eastern Shore.

DR. WICKMAN: Of Maryland?

SGT. MOANEY: Yes, sir.

DR. WICKMAN: Uh-huh. You are a native of Maryland, then?

SGT. MOANEY: Yes, sir.

DR. WICKMAN: And you went to school over, near where, in what city?

SGT. MOANEY: Oh, Easton.

DR. WICKMAN: Easton--

SGT. MOANEY: Yes.

DR. WICKMAN: Uh-huh, O.K. I thought Eastern Shore, Eastern

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Shore of Maryland.

MOANEY: Well, yeah, it was.

WICKMAN: The town is Easton, Maryland.

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Yeah. And how did you get associated with General Eisenhower?

MOANEY: Well, he had to pick some men to work for him at the time.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: And when was that, Sergeant?

MOANEY: Well, it was the first day of September in '42.

WICKMAN: Where were you?

MOANEY: Oh, we was in London at the time.

WICKMAN: How long do you think you had been in the army then?

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MOANEY: It was nine months.

WICKMAN: Nine months. Were you drafted or did you enlist?

MOANEY: I was drafted.

WICKMAN: What did you do before you were in the army?

MOANEY: I was working in yard work, work on the farm.

BURG: What unit were you in when they contacted you?

MOANEY: 751st Trucking Company.

BURG: Uh-huh. Did they ask for volunteers, Sergeant, or--

MOANEY: Yes, they did.

BURG: Uh-huh. Did you know what kind of duty it was, or did they just give you kind of a general indication of what it might be?

MOANEY: Well, they just called me away from night shift, and they questioned me about, you know, what you could do and where you

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lived at, and you could say what you wanted, but they still didn't say it was for General Eisenhower. They told me it was General Lee. But when I got to London it was General Eisenhower.

BURG: Uh-huh. Had you heard anything about him by that time, Sergeant? Did you know much about him at all?

MOANEY: No, sir, I never knew him.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: In fact, I didn't even know a general when I'd see one, to tell you the truth.

BURG: Uh-huh. Just nine months in--you didn't see a lot of generals.

MOANEY: Captains, lieutenants and sergeants I'd seen, but I'd never seen any generals.

BURG: Yeah. Well, when they got you--I suppose they took you to headquarters--did somebody interview you there at headquarters?

MOANEY: That's right.

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BURG: Who was that, do you remember?

MOANEY: I think it was General, General, oh, I really can't think of his name. Anyway, he would have passed away now, but he was one of the advisors, but I just can't think of his name. But, now, Commander Butcher, he was in on it too.

BURG: I see.

MOANEY: And Colonel Lee he was in on it, but I think he's passed away.

WICKMAN: Yeah, Tex Lee.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: Did they sort of ask you again what you could do and--

MOANEY: Yes, sir, and what the job was and [lost this phrase].

BURG: Were you at that time still a private, or--

MOANEY: No, I was a corporal at that time.

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BURG: You were a corporal, uh-huh. And you thought you'd like to take on the job?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Well, one of the things I was curious about is, how did they describe what you were going to do? I mean, was this in a kind of mess arrangement that they wanted you to organize?

MOANEY: No, it was a house boy.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: It was house boy.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: They wanted, in a way, that it wouldn't be, when he come home from the office he wouldn't have to think about the military-- he didn't want no saluting or nothing like that--

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY:--or standing at attention or nothing like that. He just wanted to come home just like he was living a regular life.

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WICKMAN: Close the door and forget it, yeah.

BURG: Was it, then, kind of a white coat job for you, Sergeant?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: Uh-huh, uh-huh. And did General Eisenhower have any final interview with you before you took the job? Did he talk with you at all?

MOANEY: No, before I went on this job I was sitting outside the door, and he came in and I didn't know he was the General--he had a raincoat on, it was raining in England most all the time--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--and he was in and out; he was very busy. And Colonel Lee came out and told me to move some place else, that the General was coming in and going out. But he never said a word--

BURG: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY: --till after we went to his house, and then he talked.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Told me what he'd like, and he'd talk about farming and stuff like that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: That was right up my alley--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: --you know, I thought that was great.

WICKMAN: [lost this phrase] was very good.

MOANEY: He painted a house where I first met him at--Telegraph Cottage.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. That's where you went on, then, at Telegraph Cottage?

MOANEY: That's right. That's where I went on, at Telegraph Cottage.



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WICKMAN: You'd be interested to know that they did a great deal of renovation there a couple of years ago, and Mr. Jones, my museum curator, who's been up here with me--you know, the little fellow--

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN:--got the glass lights out of Telegraph Cottage.

MOANEY: Is that right?

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. They apparently took those out. They were modernizing the building or something, and we found out about it, and so we have the glass lights and the frames out there. I don't know how we're going to use them; we'll figure it out some way.

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN: What kind of, if you can remember, John, at that point, what kind of a routine did the General have--as far as, you know, getting up and getting out in the morning? Did he get up very early in the morning?

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MOANEY: You mean out there, or here, or--

WICKMAN: No, at Telegraph Cottage, yeah.

MOANEY: Well, he only mostly would come there weekends.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: Sometimes he would come there nights and spend the night.

WICKMAN: Where was he staying? Hi, how are you?

MR. HERB DIXON: Fine.

(Interruption)

WICKMAN: Well, this, I know this probably kind of sounds simple-minded, but this again is one of those things that gets lost over time, and what I was interested in was just the daily routine. Now, the General was just down at Telegraph Cottage, and that's just where you were. During the week he was where, he lived in a hotel or apartment or--

MOANEY: No, he lived in a hotel.

WICKMAN: In a hotel in London, right.

MOANEY: I think it was the Rochester Hotel--

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WICKMAN: Yeah--

MOANEY:--probably--

WICKMAN: O.K.

MOANEY:--if I remember right.

WICKMAN: Rochester, right. O.K.

BURG: Were you with him daily?

MOANEY: No, I stayed at the house.

BURG: You stayed at Telegraph--

MOANEY: I stayed at the house.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Because after he left and went to Africa, well, I was with him--stayed in the same house he did.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Stayed in the same house every time.

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WICKMAN: Yeah, O.K. Well, then, we'll just go past that period with Telegraph Cottage for a minute, and let's go to the period of time when you're with him all day long--all day long and all night long. Now, what kind of routine did he--was he an early riser?

MOANEY: Yes, sir, he liked to get up early in the morning.

WICKMAN: So if he had to get up early, you had to get up earlier yet?

MOANEY: Oh, I did--

WICKMAN: O.K.

MOANEY:--for a long time. I did it for the whole time, and I was with him for twenty-seven years, twenty-eight years--I overslept twice.

BURG: About what time did he roll out, Sergeant?

MOANEY: Well, it would just depend. If he was asleep I would always wake him by seven; sometimes, if he was awake he would get up at six.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: Then you fixed breakfast?

MOANEY: Most of the time--not all the time--most of the time, because he never ate very much.

BURG: Now, when you're in England, are you pretty much on English rations? Or did our people have their own?

MOANEY: Well, when we first went over we mostly had American rations.

BURG: So what, for example, would be kind of a typical breakfast for him? What did he seem to enjoy?

MOANEY: Well, orange juice, a little fried egg, a piece of bacon and toast and pineapple jam.

BURG: Fairly simple meal at breakfast.

MOANEY: Yes, sir, yes.

BURG: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY: All the other meals, he never liked them real fancy-- always liked just plain cooking.

BURG: Uh-huh, uh-huh. And then he would, he would then stay there--he would be at Telegraph House at this time, so he'd be there throughout the day?

MOANEY: Weekends, he would be.

WICKMAN: Weekends. He was only there during the weekends.

BURG: Weekends, he's there. Yeah, I want to see what the differences are in the routine. When he's there at Telegraph, is he trying to rest? Is that pretty much a relaxing--

MOANEY: Yes, on that order, yes.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He liked to go out and shoot targets, something like that, you know--

BURG: Yeah.

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MOANEY:--and walk around in the yard, and read or play the piano, something other like that--just lounge around.

BURG: Right. And your duties are simply keeping the house straightened up and--

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG:--squared away. Now, how about a lunch--what kind of routine there, Sergeant?

MOANEY: Well, he would just have an ordinary lunch. Sometime-- he always liked to make vegetable soup--and sometime that's all he would have for lunch.

BURG: He'd make that himself?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Of course, I'd wash the dishes up, but he--

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: But he taught me how to make this vegetable soup, and potato salad and stuff like that.

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BURG: So that you would learn how to make it the way he liked it.

MOANEY: Yes, sir. Most all his friends would like it. We had some the day before yesterday, I guess.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I made up four gallons of it.

BURG: Oh, yeah, right.

WICKMAN: Well, in North Africa, then, what were some of the complications, if any, of trying to run his household? Were there any--maybe there weren't any; you didn't have any problem getting food, you didn't have any problem--

MOANEY: No, there was no problem. There was not trouble to get food there; when we first got there, we used a lot of this hydrated food.

WICKMAN: Dehydrated, Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And, of course, Commander Butcher, he was in charge of the house; he--

WICKMAN: I see.



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MOANEY:--took care of everything. And then there was another sergeant, McKeogh--well, he mostly run the house.

WICKMAN: Yeah, Mickey McKeogh.

MOANEY: And that's the way it was.

WICKMAN: Well, what did Mickey do? What--

MOANEY: Well, he mostly woke him up at the time, when he was in Africa.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He used to wake him up--be the first one to see him in the morning.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, I see.

MOANEY: And, of course, if it was cold enough I'd build a fire--

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY:--and open the shutters and set the table up for breakfast.

BURG: Yeah.

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WICKMAN: Yeah. Did you have a chance, John--I realize when the war is on, of course, you probably had the same thing in your mind everybody else did, that you wanted to get through with it and get it over with and that was part of your service in the army. But I was just wondering if you ever had a chance, after you moved back to London from North Africa, to change your job-- did you have a chance to get out of that duty, or--

MOANEY: You mean did I have a chance--

WICKMAN: Yeah, did--

MOANEY: Oh, yes, I guess you could if you wanted to, but I didn't want to change.

WICKMAN: You didn't want to.

MOANEY: No, sir.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. O.K. Then after the war, by the time the war was over, of course, you were really interested in staying and wanted to stay--

MOANEY: That's right.

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WICKMAN: --with the General, so you just stayed right on in. Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But in '52, that's where we run into something, you know.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: And I had to get out then.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: For a year or so then.

WICKMAN: Yeah. Well, in the political, when he ran for office--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: You see, John had to get out of the military, so this was the problem we were discussing with Kevin [McCann].

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: Kevin had the same kind of problem--while he was in the military, why, he didn't want in the military--

BURG: Yeah.

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WICKMAN:--working in a civilian capacity until after the election was over, and then he could go on to the White House, White House staff.

MOANEY: That's right, that's the way it worked.

BURG: Well, I was wondering if you had any change of routine when you got back up to London? Were they still using Telegraph House?

MOANEY: No, we didn't; we had another house--I think they called it Hayes Lodge. That was close by Shepherds Martin.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, I know where that is. I know where Shepherds Martin is.

MOANEY: Well, it run just about the same as Telegraph Cottage.

BURG: Yeah. Now, you were having guests a certain amount of time?

MOANEY: Oh, yes, sir.

BURG: And overnight guests were they?

MOANEY: Sometimes there would be someone overnight.

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BURG: And then, what were your duties as far as they were concerned? They'd arrive--were you assigned to lend them a hand in getting settled in, or--

MOANEY: Yes, I helped with that, too. Of course, it would depend on who it was; some people come, they didn't want no help, but some did.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: And, of course, if he told me to shine their shoes-- whatever--

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: Was mostly--well, I think this book that Commander Butcher wrote--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--something about three years with Eisenhower--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--called me "Handy Andy" around there; I was doing a little bit of everything.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Only thing was, is get the job over with.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And they had coal stoves, and I used to get up in the morning and start the fire and put the coffee on, and then this other fellow would come in and get the breakfast--I mean, if they were going to have a big breakfast. But if the General was alone, why, I usually fixed his breakfast.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: Let me ask you this question, now--I know it's hard to capsule all this stuff, push it all together after this many years--but when in this period from Telegraph Cottage, North Africa, back to London--how did you ever get a day off, or did you?

MOANEY: Well, I never bothered about taking a day off.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I was just mostly was satisfied--

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WICKMAN: To settle in the routine.

MOANEY: --to work around the house and just get my job over with.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But there was one time the command, of course, would take some time off--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: --spend the night and be back the next day, and that's about the only time I ever took any time off.

WICKMAN: Where did you go?

MOANEY: There wasn't too far to go.

BURG: Not like [lost this word].

MOANEY: Well, that's the way it was.

WICKMAN: Yeah. Well, I was just wondering--you know, everybody gets tired. I just wondered if--it is true that we settle into a certain routine--there would be periods of time, maybe, when it's built into the schedule--you know, there is some relief from the whole thing.

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MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: Did you travel with him? During the war, for example, if he left--we'll just call it the home base rather than go into any long explanation. But, if he left his home base and went somewhere, did you go with him or did you stay there and keep--

MOANEY: Well, I--

WICKMAN: --things going?

MOANEY: --it just depended where he was going. Now, when he was in, I think it was Africa, and he went up to Tunis--I think Mr. Roosevelt came over to see him one time--well, he had a house up there, so a couple of we fellows went along--

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: --and set it up for meals, there. And then if he went somewheres for a couple of weeks like that--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: --we always would go with him.



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WICKMAN: Otherwise you kept the place going.

MOANEY: That's right. I used to do that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. Mac--

BURG: I was just going to ask you, During this period of time in England, North Africa, do any of these visitors stand out in your mind for one reason or another? Either because something funny happened while they were there, or because they were darned tough to deal with? For example, you've spoken of the fact some of them didn't want any help at all, and I wondered if any of the visitors, any of the guests, the military leaders that you happened to run into--any of those people stand out in your mind now?

MOANEY: Well, the only ones that I know--they were all very nice people, but they just going to spend the night and there wasn't nothing you could do for them.

BURG: Yeah, right.

MOANEY: And of course I have pictures from Field-Marshal Montgomery

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and Mr. Churchill. Of course, Mr. Churchill, you know, stayed with us when we went into the White House--he used to come there and stay.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But Field-Marshal Montgomery used to come there and stay, and Harold MacMillan, and oh, I've got pictures from those--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--people and--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--I've been to some of them homes and spent the night.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: Let me see if I can give you some broad questions here on the various changes. I was just in my own mind kind of going through the war--

BURG: Yes, me too.

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WICKMAN:--trying to figure out where--see, you're one of the few people, outside of Mrs. Eisenhower, where we have this problem of an enormously long association, and the same way with Milton, of course. And you look at the whole life and start saying, "Well, what happened here and what happened there?" It's an awful lot for the person who is being interviewed to handle, because he just can't remember everything all day. I was just wondering what kind of changes there were in routine, in your mind, as you went through the war? For example, when you get to the D-Day, you get back from North Africa and back in England--now, where is he all the time? Where were you all the time? Where did you live?

MOANEY: Well, we lived in a house in London.

WICKMAN: Wasn't there a house--

MOANEY: It wasn't in London; it was in Tunis, I guess it was.

WICKMAN: And wasn't there one down on the coast, too? Wasn't there a headquarters house that they used before the invasion?

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BURG: In England.

WICKMAN: England, yeah. I can't think of the name of it now.

MOANEY: Well, there was a lot of places that they called "Advance," as if you're going to advance; just like he was going to leave London and be gone--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--somewhere out of London, and then I think they had a canvas trailer job, and I saw something like that.

WICKMAN: The caravans?

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: For moving across the Channel.

WICKMAN: And did he live in a caravan--was he in any?

MOANEY: Oh, yes--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

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MOANEY: --he lived right--

WICKMAN: And you did, too?

MOANEY: Yes, we had tents there, we--

WICKMAN: And you pitched--

MOANEY: --ate right out in the woods, we ate right out in the woods.

WICKMAN: --pitched your tents around the caravan.

MOANEY: [lost this sentence] We ate right there.

WICKMAN: Yeah. Now, what kind of a routine have you got in a situation like that, then? Same thing?

MOANEY: Well, yeah, it'd run the same, but of course you had to cook on a field range, and things like that--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: --and then we had a big tent for them to come and get their meals.

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WICKMAN: Did you still do all the cooking, or did they bring somebody in--

MOANEY: No, it was another fellow--we used to go together, two of us--Johnny Hunt, he was the--

WICKMAN: John Hunt?

MOANEY: Yes, we used to go together. We were with him at the same time.

WICKMAN: How long was Hunt with you?

MOANEY: We went there together, and we stayed 'till I guess the war was over--he had points enough to get out.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And, of course, I didn't want to get out; I wanted to stay in.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: Did you ever hear from Hunt?

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MOANEY: It's been a long time. I haven't heard from him since the White House days.

BURG: Where was he then--do you remember, Sergeant?

MOANEY: I think he was somewhere in New Jersey teaching school--fifth grade class, I think, because he brought the whole class down to the White House and seen the President.

BURG: I see.

WICKMAN: So we've got that kind of routine established--when you're out in the field there's more help brought in, and it was just a typical field situation that everybody that has been in the army is familiar with.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: O.K.

BURG: Sergeant, do you--pardon me, John--

WICKMAN: Go ahead.

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BURG:--do you know, did you have the date of the landing--in other words, how much of the very secret stuff--

WICKMAN: How much did you know?

BURG:--did you know about?

MOANEY: Very, very little.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Very little.

BURG: Yeah, so you didn't know precisely when the invasion was coming off; yet, you would have to plan for the work you did for the General. Can you remember how that whole thing went, right up to the Sixth of June, and then him going over to France-- can you remember what your routine was there? How did all that take place?

MOANEY: Well, did you mean when the war was over with?

BURG: No, the invasion.



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WICKMAN: No, the invasion, D-Day.

MOANEY: Oh, well, I mean, I didn't know--really, we never knew anything about that.

BURG: Well, what happened to you?

MOANEY: Lots of times he would make a fast trip somewhere; we still wouldn't know what was going on.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Did you go--what Dr. Burg is really asking is, when the D-Day invasion took place, and of course the General then ultimately moved onto the Continent, did you go with him right away?

MOANEY: Not right away, no--

WICKMAN: You stayed--

MOANEY: --we stayed behind.

WICKMAN: And for how long did you stay behind?

MOANEY: Oh, I don't remember. Oh, about a week or so I guess.

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WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: And then we moved on up.

WICKMAN: So when you moved, in a sense, then--if I was a little bird in a tree--when you people moved with him, then obviously he was making a major move on the Continent.

MOANEY: That's--

WICKMAN: Yeah--

MOANEY:--right.

WICKMAN:--with his household, yeah.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: O.K., all right.

BURG: And then did you go back into the Caravan tent routine?

MOANEY: Yes, after we went over on the other side and got across the Channel. And for a while we still stayed in the caravans--

BURG: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY:--tents and things.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And then finally we moved in a house, we got a house.

WICKMAN: In Paris or--

MOANEY: Oh, this was in France; this wasn't right up in Paris, this was on the outskirts.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, we've got all the names down.

BURG: I want to ask one question--

WICKMAN: Yeah, go ahead.

BURG:--because it's typical soldier stuff. When you're there on the Continent, Sergeant, were you wearing a steel helmet and going through all of the, you know, the kinds of routines that you do when you're up pretty close to the front?

MOANEY: Yes, we had the rifles and the helmets, and we had to wear them when we would go outside when we moved in Germany. We had to wear them.

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WICKMAN: Did you wear your sidearms?

MOANEY: We'd carry our rifles and we'd wear our helmets.

BURG: Right. And how about your uniform, Sergeant--let's pick that up at this point--did you wear the SHAEF patch here?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: In this moving onto the Continent, were there any complications there for the routine, again, or was it just the same--were you able to keep it the same?

MOANEY: Like where we are now, or--

WICKMAN: Well, as compared with what you had in London, let's say, or in England. Then you move onto the Continent, and the fighting is going on--you're not too far from it now, you're a safe distance, but nevertheless--I was just wondering if that changed the routine any for the General?

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MOANEY: Well, there was only once; I think it was a little change. I think we was in Saint-Germain--we was living in Saint-Germain--

WICKMAN: Saint-Germain, yeah.

MOANEY:--had a house there. And his office was about a couple of miles away from me, and I don't know, but it was something that had happened around the front line. And he didn't come home from the office, so we was living down there now, but the next couple of days--I don't know if it was nine or ten o'clock--well, we had to pick up and leave that night. And it only was two miles we moved everything in the house that--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--belongs to him.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Of course, the most of the houses was already furnished; we just take, you know, food and stuff, and clothes and things like that.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And that's about all the changes I knew of.

WICKMAN: How did you move all that stuff, John--did you pack it in foot lockers or what, boxes--

MOANEY: Well, in foot lockers and bags and boxes, and that's all.

WICKMAN: After a while did you get any routine to this so that you always had the right size box handy or--

MOANEY: Oh yes--

WICKMAN: Yeah--

MOANEY:--we already--

WICKMAN: --had standbys.

MOANEY:--we already had things there for the movers.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Yes.

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WICKMAN: So that if you had to move on short notice, you didn't have to go scrounging boxes and whatnot?

MOANEY: I just had everything right there.

WICKMAN: Yeah, uh-huh.

BURG: And the food stayed the same--you were still, basically you're eating U.S. Army rations.

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: No marketing in French towns?

MOANEY: Oh, yes, we used to get some things, but the most of the stuff came from the States, here.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: But we'd still buy a few things from the other things over there.

BURG: Now, what was the next major move you made? As the armies move on towards Germany, the headquarters moved, didn't it?

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MOANEY: Yes.

BURG: From Paris?

WICKMAN: The headquarters moves right along.

BURG: Where was the next stop for you--do you recollect that?

MOANEY: No, sir, I really don't. It'll come to me, but I really can't think of it now.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Well, what they did is probably--the major move probably isn't until they get on up to Berlin, or towards that part of Germany--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--because, see, the surrender took place at Rheims, and I don't think--the General never moved to Rheims, did he?

MOANEY: No, sir.

WICKMAN: Yeah. See, they went on, and I think they wind up in Germany after they finally move their major base of operations out of Paris, or outside of Paris. O.K. So now you kind of



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settle down in Germany, then, for a time--right?

MOANEY: I believe that was at Frankfurt, Germany, I think--

WICKMAN: Frankfurt, yeah, uh-huh.

MOANEY: --we moved at after some time.

WICKMAN: Well, how was that? Did you see any difference there between being in England or Paris or anyplace else?

MOANEY: No, it was run about the same. We had a very nice house there, and when we got there he used to go up to see General [Lucius] Clay.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Used to go up there for four or five days at a time. And at that time I was going along with him. And then he went to see General [Mark] Clark--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: --up there in Vienna, up there in the Crow's Nest-- Eagle's Nest they called it.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He'd go up there and stay for awhile, and I used to go with him.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Take care of him.

WICKMAN: Now, this, time, John, we've got you over in Europe, and you've never been back to the United States all this time, right? Or did you come back with him when he came back on a couple of trips?

MOANEY: No, I came back, the first time I came back was in '45.

WICKMAN: So the whole war, the whole period of war that you were in, you were over there.

MOANEY: I went back again.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: He went back.

WICKMAN: Yeah, uh-huh.

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MOANEY: I think he came home twice in '45.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But when he come for to go to the White House, well I never came with him. I think he made a fast trip home once.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: I think he was in Africa at the time.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: But he did come home, but I never came with him.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I wanted to come, but I didn't think it was being quite fair when there were so many other soldiers over there, and I wanted to be a soldier too--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: --so I say, 'Well if they can stay, I can stay too,' and I forgot about it.

WICKMAN: Now, when the war is over and the General comes back to

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Washington, now we've got a different situation--now you still were not married at this point, were you? You were not married?

MOANEY: No, sir.

WICKMAN: Not married to Dolores? When were you and Dolores married?

MOANEY: '46.

WICKMAN: Of course that was right after you came back, and then you were in Washington. Did you live in with the General then, or were you living elsewhere?

MOANEY: Well, let's see, he was living in a hotel and I think-- I used to go up there once in a while.

WICKMAN: Worked part of the day.

MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: But it was in '46 he moved out to Quarters One.

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WICKMAN: Out at Fort Myer.

MOANEY: I stayed there--after I come back from overseas I just stayed there anyway. Even before they fixed the house up for me.

WICKMAN: What were you doing during that period of time?

MOANEY: Well, just opening up in the morning, and sweeping the floors and--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--feeding the chickens--they had some chickens up there.

BURG: Oh, gee.

WICKMAN: Was that left over from General Marshall?

MOANEY: Well, they was General Marshall's chickens.

WICKMAN: Yeah. I'll tell you this in advance so you won't have to worry about it: I've already heard about General Marshall's hunting dogs, but not his chickens.

MOANEY: Then they moved out there, and I still stayed--I had to stay in the house with them because I just didn't like to go down

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to the company; it was a long time. Had a time to serve breakfast in the morning, but the time I was down there having my breakfast that's the time I should be up here waking the General up--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, right.

MOANEY:--so I just decided I just wanted to stay with him.

WICKMAN: I see, so you stayed right with him.

MOANEY: I stayed right in the house with him--

WICKMAN: Right.

MOANEY:--and I asked for it.

WICKMAN: And after you were married did Dolores then move in, too, or did she live out--

MOANEY: No, she--

WICKMAN:--as a dependent?

MOANEY:--lived in Washington. She went with General Eisenhower, I think about '48, up to New York, when he moved up to--

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WICKMAN: Up to Columbia.

MOANEY:--president of Columbia.

WICKMAN: Yeah, uh-huh.

MOANEY: And she came up there--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--and started off.

WICKMAN: I see.

BURG: Now, is that the point where you had to make a decision about leaving the army--when he moved up to Columbia? What was your situation then?

MOANEY: It was all right, because I just was transferred from Virginia over to Governors Island.

BURG: I see.

MOANEY: Then John Smith, I think he was--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

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MOANEY:--in charge over there--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, right.

MOANEY:--at Governors Island, I think.

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY: Everything was fine along that line up until '52 come--

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY:--that's when--

WICKMAN: It was just the political campaign--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--and they thought they just did not want the--Bob Schulz had the same problem: they did not want the military openly associated, you know, for good reasons.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: No, as long as John could be transferred onto another



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post--paper work and that--you have no problem.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Well, now you must have had a change in routine, though, when you come back and now you've got not only the General, but you've got Mrs. Eisenhower to look after, take care of and whatnot.

MOANEY: You mean when we came back from overseas--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--when he was Chief of Staff?

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: There was a change, but I took care of his breakfast every morning, but they had three or four other boys come in.

(Interruption)

WICKMAN: Well, I know the staff got bigger. Now he had--you can see this in the papers we have--there are several people in the house working with you. He's got at least one or two drivers-- he can call on the whole motor pool if he has to. Did the thing

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get easier with these people or did it get more complicated?

MOANEY: Do you mean with the people that was working in the house with me?

WICKMAN: Yeah, people working with you, and now the fact you've got General and Mrs. Eisenhower, and maybe you've got more social activity going on.

MOANEY: Oh, yes, we were pretty **busy** two years there when he was in Washington. They had a lot of friends--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--that would come there all the time. But, really, I thought it was much better, because they'd go out every--well, he'd go out after breakfast and golf or something.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY:--and then one thing was, well, it was his turn to have the whole crowd come there.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And it wasn't too bad--I thought it was real nice--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--after we got settled down and everything.

WICKMAN: And you had more support people, too, on the post there.

MOANEY: Yes, that's right.

WICKMAN: Yeah, I can see where that would make a difference.

I was interested in this question, because we have an interview with the man who worked for the railroad as the, I guess the chief steward on the cars, the private cars, and I was curious about that--when they switched onto the railroad for an extended trip or something, did this make any complications for you? If they went by train somewhere--

MOANEY: No, sir.

WICKMAN:--you had a private car. Did it get easier, that you didn't have to do--

MOANEY: Well, I didn't have a whole lot to do going or anything; I'd do it when we was on the train. When anybody was on the train, we would get up in the morning and wake him up.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Go in the room and give him his medicine or--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--and he'd say what he wanted for breakfast; I'd get all his breakfasts for him.

WICKMAN: Yeah. I was wondering about--

MOANEY: Of course, you just had to be around practically all the time, and he had bells all over the place--all he had to do was get a bell, I had to be, go with him. Either he wanted General Schulz or his secretary, or wanted a pad and pencil or something, I'd never know.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

MOANEY: It'd just depend if we was on the train and how far we was going--I don't think he cared.

WICKMAN: You got more people involved, too. See, it's a similar situation, similar to what you have--it goes back to the Chief

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of Staff, because on the train he's got more people, there are more people who want more things, it just--

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: Well, that's interesting. Let's see, we've got the Chief of Staff, and we established a kind of routine there--a change in the routine. Then, at Columbia, what kind of situation was that?

MOANEY: Well, the house was all full of help--they had all kinds of help there: aides and cooks. That was before Dolores started cooking. She stayed there--she wasn't cooking in the beginning; she was just taking care of Mrs. Eisenhower, or Mrs. John Eisenhower. And he'd go to the office in the morning, and he'd have the same breakfast--I'd fix it for him--and sometime he carried lunches. Sometimes he'd have a steak for lunch; he'd go over there and cook it up on the little hot plates that--

WICKMAN: Oh, uh-huh.

MOANEY:--were over there and I'd get a basket--going on a picnic or something--and go over there and go on a picnic for lunch.

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WICKMAN: I see, yeah.

MOANEY: Put up a little card table and put a little cloth on it--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--take all this stuff and fixed them on there--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--cooked his steak for him, and he'd sit there and eat it. He'd come home at night about five or five-thirty.

WICKMAN: This is quite a change in General Eisenhower's life and routine--I mean, when he went up to Columbia. From what you could observe, do you think he enjoyed that change into a University community--you know, the schedule--or was it all the same?

MOANEY: Well, the whole time that I've been knowing him I think he enjoyed every place he went, everything he done--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--that's my opinion about it.

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WICKMAN: Yeah, just--

MOANEY: He never complained or anything--he seemed to be happy.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Wake up every morning, smiling, whistling--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But back down to Quarters One when he first started painting--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--he got these paints and things and he started painting in Mrs. Eisenhower's bedroom.

WICKMAN: His what?

MOANEY: He started to paint in their bedroom.

WICKMAN: Bedroom, uh-huh.

MOANEY: And of course after he went up to Columbia, well, he was up on the top floor, and he used to paint up there. He'd stay

on it--he'd get on it and stay on it a long time.

WICKMAN: He liked to paint.

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: We're not supposed to answer that phone.

WICKMAN: O.K., we won't.

BURG: Was he wearing civilian clothes there at Fort Myer? I know he would at Columbia, but was--

MOANEY: No, sir, I never seen him in civilian clothes until he went to Columbia.

BURG: Uh-huh. Then part of your job was to lay out the wardrobe of the day--you kind of picked that for him, huh?

MOANEY: Well, when he first went up there he didn't have but three good suits. He'd wear one one day and one the next day--

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--then he'd start back over again.



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BURG: Yeah--

MOANEY: Till he got back down to the third.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: But finally he just kept on and got a bunch of them. Yes, after he got up there I'd mostly give him his breakfast in the morning, and I told you about his lunch and how I used to take care of his clothes, wash and iron his shirts--well, just take care of his clothes and shoes and things.

WICKMAN: Normally, John, in the course of a day, when did he find time to paint? Did he have a special time set aside? I realize it would vary, you know, from the Columbia period to SHAPE and to the White House and all that sort of stuff--I was just wondering if he tried to, as some people do who have a hobby that's very important to them, they just try to set aside an hour here or an hour there or whatever they can.

MOANEY: At that time he would paint every chance he had.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY: If he was going to the office and he was thinking about painting, he would take his brush and he would dab in it, then get ready to go. He'd say, "Moaney, is it time to go," and I'd say, "Yes, sir." And he'd just stop and go right on.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Come right back in that evening and do the same thing.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: And sometimes he'd get up in the morning and do, you know, stuff that was going but not done.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: It would just depend on what he was painting on.

WICKMAN: One of the things that always amazes people--we have nine of his paintings out there, ten, not nine--and people are forever amazed that he took up that particular hobby. And there isn't any, I mean, as far as I know, outside of the fact that he liked it and that he was, that Tom Stephens--not--

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MOANEY: No, the other, yeah, yeah, the other one--

WICKMAN:--the other one, the other Tom Stephens--encouraged him to do this, did he ever give any indication of why he took up painting?

MOANEY: No, he just liked it after he--

WICKMAN: After he got started on it.

MOANEY: I think, though, this Mr. Stephens came there with a painting, and I think he was touching it up, and he asked him, 'What was he going to do with the old paint?' And he said he was going to throw them away, and he said, "Well, I'll just take them over, then." And he tried it, and that's when he got started.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: And I told him, if he'd do the painting I'd guarantee I'd keep his brushes washed up.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, I see that's the other job--very good.

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BURG: I was just going to say, you didn't offer any advice on his painting?

MOANEY: No, I didn't do that. No, sir, I didn't do that, no.

WICKMAN: Well, I know he certainly enjoyed it. Let's see, when he was at Quarters One he painted--where did he set up his easel and his paints?

MOANEY: When he was still at Quarters One?

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: When he first started--in Mrs. Eisenhower's bedroom.

WICKMAN: In her bedroom, uh-huh. And then when he went to Columbia, where did he set up?

MOANEY: On the top floor in the penthouse.

WICKMAN: In the penthouse.

MOANEY: That's the fourth floor--that's right up on top.

WICKMAN: And then over in SHAPE, when he went over there, NATO--

MOANEY: Yes.

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WICKMAN:--where did he paint there?

MOANEY: He had a room on the second floor.

WICKMAN: Yeah, by this time--now he's got a special room. Now he's got a place he can go--

MOANEY: Yeah, he had a room right by the window on the second floor there--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--in SHAPE headquarters, or when we were over there .

WICKMAN: At the office or--

MOANEY: At the house.

WICKMAN:--at the house.

MOANEY: At the house.

WICKMAN: Yeah. And then in the White House he had a--

MOANEY: He had a little paint room there.

WICKMAN:--a little paint room there, uh-huh. What kind of changes, then, do we get when he leaves Columbia and goes to SHAPE? Now you're back in the--well, you've always been in the military; so far we haven't got you out of it yet. But now you go over to France, and you got to pack up everything--

MOANEY: Yes, we packed up what they thought they'd need over there. They went over by boat, and they sent I, and I think Mr. Buchanan, and General Walters--he went there, too.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Well, I think we three went over on the plane, and lived in the hotel for six months. And then we got this house fixed up for them, Marnes-la-Coquette--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--and that's where we stayed until we came home.

WICKMAN: Can you remember any of the details about the house there--Marnes-la-Coquette? Is it a big house? Was it a big house or a little one?

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MOANEY: Yes, good-sized house.

WICKMAN: Pretty good-sized house.

MOANEY: Had a room on the, up on the second floor, I guess, called it. Rosie stayed up there. And two of the other fellows had another room they fixed on the outside, I think.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But everything else--I mean, the way food came out ain't no special thing, you know. Sunday nights they would have, General [Howard?] Snyder and the [Alfred M.] Gruenters would come over for dinner. They would have kind of a buffet dinner in the pantry and everybody'd help theirselves--just put it out there, everybody'd help theirselves--the majority of Sundays.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. Did Dolores go with you over to--

MOANEY: No, she didn't.

WICKMAN: She stayed here. ,

MOANEY: She stayed in New York.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh. This was, they figured this was a pretty temporary, a kind of temporary assignment for the General-- he'd get back?

MOANEY: They must.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I think he was away at that time about fourteen months.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: How about that house staff in France--how big was it? Do you have more people than you had in Columbia?

MOANEY: You mean when we left Columbia and went over there?

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: Let's see. Of course, we had a chauffeur--Sgt. [Leonard] Dry. And, well, it wasn't very large--Rosie and myself and three other fellows, that's all there was.



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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: Rosie is not a name I know, who--

MOANEY: Rosie Wood--that was Mrs. Eisenhower's maid.

BURG: I see. Had she been with you from Quarters One or--

MOANEY: Yes, that's right.

BURG: Uh-huh,

WICKMAN: What you have here is the merging of two staffs, actually--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--when they came back from Europe.

BURG: I see.

WICKMAN: And it's, it's a very interesting situation, because it's something that you simply had to do during the war. Everybody was, you know, while Mrs. Eisenhower was here and the General was over there--it was two separate households.

BURG: Sure.

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WICKMAN: Bring the whole thing together.

BURG: Sure.

WICKMAN: And it can be very complicated. When did Rosie leave?  
How long was she with Mrs. Eisenhower?

MOANEY: Oh, I don't know, she was with her quite a while. She  
came with her, I think, in '47 at Quarters One--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--and she stayed till '64--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--she passed away.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: So it was an all-American staff, Sergeant, there in France?

WICKMAN: You had no French involved at all.

BURG: You had no French involved at all.

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MOANEY: No.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: Now, did you go--while he was in NATO, the General traveled around quite extensively because that was the, that was the name of the game, you know, he had--

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN:--to go around and visit the countries--did you go with him or did you always stay at Marnes-la-Coquette?

MOANEY: Well, sometime I went with him. He go off for a weekend or something like that--he went up to Luxembourg to a Pearl Mesta sort of thing.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. And he went down into Austria.

MOANEY: He went to Bavaria anyway, yes.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. And the Cannons were over there at that time--  
Craig Cannon. We've interviewed them.

MOANEY: Gruenthers, Snyders--

WICKMAN: The Snyders.

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MOANEY:--Schulz~~e~~--they was there.

WICKMAN: As far as you could see, or from your viewpoint, did the General--while he was in NATO--did the General's schedule change, did his work day get longer or shorter or was no--

MOANEY: I'd say he went just the same, just like he did from up here--he got up in the morning and when he got through with breakfast he just went to the office--

WICKMAN: Got up and go.

MOANEY:--when he got tired down there, he just come back home.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Take a little rest and have his lunch, and then he'd go right back to the office.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Just about the same right straight through.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: And his outward actions--you described him as getting up and smiling and whistling--there were a number of points of

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strain it seems to me on him: just before D-Day must have been a terrific strain, and during the Battle of the Bulge must have been a big pressure on him, but he still remained the same kind of man, as far as you saw.

MOANEY: Yes, sir! Of course, you could see he was worried.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: No doubt about that.

BURG: How could you see it, Sergeant--was he more quiet than usual, or--

MOANEY: Well, at that particular time, well, he just was home there in the house, and we just had orders not to interfere with him.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And you could see that something was wrong.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And of course when the night come, he still had that

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smile and all that, you know.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: But we still knew there was something wrong.

BURG: The next to the last point of strain I was thinking of was over there in France and making up his mind about what he was going to do with the election coming up.

WICKMAN: Oh, yes, in NATO.

MOANEY: Well, in fact, to tell you the truth, I don't really believe that he was worried too much about anything like that. If there was a job to be done, well, he would just get in there and do it--that's all there was to it. I don't think he worried too much about it.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: That's my opinion about it.

WICKMAN: Did you ever meet the General's mother, John?

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MOANEY: No, sir.

WICKMAN: Or she passed away before you--

MOANEY: She passed away in '45 or '46?

WICKMAN: Yeah, in '46.

MOANEY: I think we got a call, and Colonel Stack--he was his aide, he was chief of staff at the time--and Colonel Cannon and his wife was to the house that night for dinner. Field-Marshal Montgomery was there as guest, and this call came in about five o'clock in the morning and I went up and woke him up and told him. And of course that evening, well, they, you know, left for Abilene.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And Colonel and Mrs. Cannon were going to spend the night so they sent in for them, and when it was done, I had about ten people for dinner that night. They stayed out there, you know, close to the General, and they went on to Abilene.

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WICKMAN: But you did not go with him to the funeral?

MOANEY: No.

WICKMAN: When was the first time you ever saw Abilene--see where he came from? That--

MOANEY: Let's see, the first time I was there he brought me out there, anyway, but I don't know--

WICKMAN: During the campaign of '52--the announcing that he was going to run, maybe?

MOANEY: No, I didn't come that time because we was in the hotel and he sent me back to New York to do some work in the house, put some draperies up--he had them all finished.

WICKMAN: Well, he was out in '45.

MOANEY: That was the first time I was out there.

WICKMAN: In '45.

MOANEY: And then we stopped by since that at different times--stopped by, I think, when he broke the ground for the Library.



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WICKMAN: Uh-huh, yeah.

MOANEY: We was out there then.

WICKMAN: And Museum.

MOANEY: I think he had Mr. Allen out there with him once--we was on the train and I remember we stopped there, and I think we stayed there for one or two days. But I always liked Abilene-- he used to talk about it quite a lot.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And I said, "Yeah, I liked it out there very much."

WICKMAN: What was his most recurring memory of Abilene that he talked about it?

MOANEY: Well, something about the ice house and--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--I don't know, it was so many things he told me about. When he was a little boy he wanted to go to town because his

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other brothers were going, and his other brother, or other two brothers, were going and this other one he got mad and he just cried and just beat his fists against trees and things like that--I don't know, there was a lot of little things he told me like that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: What did you think when you saw the house that he had come from?

WICKMAN: The first time?

MOANEY: Well, it was just about like he told me it was and I didn't think--I went around with him a couple of times, and he was showing me different things--this little room where he used to stay up there, and he used to come down on the post or something or other. I don't know, there was a lot of things.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, yeah. Yeah, they would just shinny down the post; you know, they'd get outdoors--

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BURG: Oh, yeah.

WICKMAN:--and come down the post.

BURG: Sure.

MOANEY: Told me what they had to do and how they arranged things. They used to grow a little garden, they used to sell cucumbers and tomatoes and stuff like that.

WICKMAN: Let's see, we got the campaign, the election campaign. So now he's going to leave NATO, come back for the campaign, and now we've got a problem: now we got to go; you're in the army so we got to do something with you. You know, the military--did you stay right with him all through the campaign?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Just went on a different salary.

MOANEY: Went right on the train with him.

WICKMAN: All the way through the campaign--out to the Brown Palace?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: What kind of, what--

MOANEY: That's where we got the orders from, that I no longer could stay with him in the service--had to get out or had to leave him, and I had to make up my mind.

WICKMAN: But you didn't resign, though.

MOANEY: No, sir, I stayed on. Yes, I resigned for a year.

WICKMAN: Yeah, for a year--you got the break in service.

When you're out at the Brown Palace, where did you stay?

Where did he stay--did he stay in the hotel?

MOANEY: Yes, he stayed on the second floor.

WICKMAN: And you had a room there?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And that's when he went there to stay, but when he was living out there during the summer we stayed at 750.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But when he was campaigning, well, he would leave the train for a weekend and fly to Denver, and we'd stay at the Brown Palace.

WICKMAN: Were there any changes in routine there at all, or any complicating factor, because with all the activity--now there's more people than ever involved, it seems to me?

MOANEY: Well, they all stayed back off him a little bit, you see. He still had his same meals about the same time--wasn't much difference. I think he did get up one morning--well, we all did--and left, and we left the secretary in the bed.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, left the secretary sleeping.

MOANEY: Yes, she had to catch up later.

WICKMAN: She had to catch up later on--overslept, yeah.

MOANEY: And I'd see sometimes where a little note come out or something, that they would like to have the President didn't

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get up so early in the morning--sleep in occasionally.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: It came out in the paper.

WICKMAN: Well, as far as, and I think I'm right in this--this is an assumption that I've gathered talking to Stack, and Dr. Burg interviewed Jim Stack, and talking to General Schulz over the years, and talking to various people--the pattern seems to emerge, now, as you get into this civilian business, either at Columbia or NATO, that the running of the house, so to speak, is always very separate. When you're in the army this is clear, but when you're out of the army it's not so clear. The running of the house is always separate from the kind of overall organization of his office--is that right?

MOANEY: Oh, yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Yes, it is.

WICKMAN: And, so, every morning the person you're getting direc-

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tions and orders from is either General or Mrs. Eisenhower in that operation, and then whatever the organization is down there, that's another problem.

MOANEY: That's another problem.

WICKMAN: Well that's what I thought, and I'd just like to get that on the record.

MOANEY: Yes, sir, that's the way it was.

WICKMAN: So, he goes off to the election campaign, and all of the hoopla and furor. Now, the election is over--what did you think about living in the White House?

MOANEY: Well, I thought it was great, myself.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: The White House I had been by, but I had never been in it.

WICKMAN: And what were--any complications there?

MOANEY: Well, it was quite a change when we got there; it wasn't like in other places.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Because things had to be done a little bit different. They had a lot of people there, and they'd come up and get his order, and they'd bring his breakfast up in the morning. I'd just be around there.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: They'd also bring his lunch up and then they'd serve dinner at night in the hall. But weekends or holidays, if he felt like he wanted to make some soup, why, he had a little kitchen up on the top floor, and that's where we made the soup at.

WICKMAN: Would you say that your particular job was easier when he was in the White House? Because there were all these support people helping out?

MOANEY: I really don't know whether it was any easier.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: I think it just took all day, anyway.



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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And of course he was a man--he didn't like for everybody to be doing things for him. He'd do without something before he would ask anybody for it.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And, of course, my job there was, like I say, just be around all the time.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

MOANEY: And of course if some guests come in, some of his friends come in, well, he wanted me to take care of them.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: And I don't think it was, I think it was much easier up here than it was in the White House with all the people up there.

WICKMAN: It was easier here?

MOANEY: Yes.

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WICKMAN: Why would that be? Just set your own routine and stick with it?

MOANEY: Well, it's just the two of us and just the two of them at that time--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--and it just went better than it was where a lot of people was.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

MOANEY: And, of course, if they needed anything else done--they had dinner parties nights or they'd go out for dinner--well, I still had to stay up till they come home.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: That was just something or other that, I never felt right about going out or going to bed until he come in and go to bed.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Say, "Well, if you can stay up, well, I can too."

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: So I just stayed around all the time.

BURG: What was that evening routine, Sergeant? When he came back, what would your job be?

MOANEY: What would I do?

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Well, I would be there, and I'd ask him if he had a nice dinner, and he would start telling me what they had for dinner, because I was very concerned about these people--what they eat when they go out, and concerned about what they eat when they're here.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And then I'd pick his clothes up and carry them upstairs to the pressing room, and of course his night clothes would be up there, and I'd find out what time he wanted to get up in the morning--by staying out till midnight, why, I don't know whether he want to sleep in a little bit or what. And he'd say, "Well,

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don't wake me up until I ring." I'd say, "Well, you got an 8:30 appointment." He'd say, "Well, you wake me up by how long you think it takes me to get ready." So he'd get ready in thirty minutes, thirty-five minutes, something like that.

WICKMAN: When he would go to Camp David, would you go up there with him or would you stay back in the White House?

MOANEY: No, I'd go up there with him.

WICKMAN: During the White House period, whenever he left the White House would you usually go along with him?

MOANEY: Just about every time.

WICKMAN: Unless it was a very short trip.

MOANEY: Unless there was something or other that I couldn't go, or something or other else going on.

WICKMAN: Now, in the White House, again, because everybody realizes that the Presidency is an enormously complicated job, and we've got you--was Dolores there too?

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MOANEY: Yes, she was there in the White House.

WICKMAN: She was in the White House too, and Mrs. Eisenhower still has Rosie?

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: So we've got several people, now, taking care of--one taking care of Mrs. Eisenhower, and you--or was Dolores--

MOANEY: Well, I and Rosie worked about the same, because we stayed right there in the White House.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: Dolores, she never liked the White House because she had a room to go to--

WICKMAN: A house, place there in--

MOANEY:--got an apartment.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And she worked like the maids already there in the White House worked--eight hours a day--

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WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY:--and had days off, and weekends, whatever, you know, come up.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh, yeah.

MOANEY: Forty hours a week. But we never bothered with that; we just went right on--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--and worked right straight through.

WICKMAN: I see. So she didn't have to travel--if you go up to Camp David, Dolores doesn't go with you then? She stayed here.

MOANEY: No, unless that Rosie didn't go.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: It would just depend.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: She would mostly fill in for Rosie whenever she didn't make the trip with him, you see.

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WICKMAN: It sounds to me like the ladies of the operation had a better deal than you.

BURG: Yeah, yeah, sure.

WICKMAN: You worked pretty hard. Let's see--

BURG: How about these long trips? Did you go with him on--

WICKMAN: Overseas.

BURG:--on the overseas trips--that eleven-nation tour, for example?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: So you saw a great deal of the world on this job.

MOANEY: Yes, fly in and fly out!

BURG: Yeah, yeah, I imagine!

MOANEY: But it was, it was a real, a lot to see. I seen a lot, and I don't know, it was really something.

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WICKMAN: [lost this phrase] try picking that phone up [lost this phrase].

BURG: Well, I'm sure they are. There's a persistent caller if I ever heard one.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: Would the routine be, that you'd arrive in a foreign country, let's say in Pakistan, you get off the plane and go with him to wherever they're going to house him?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: You're right with him every step of the way?

MOANEY: Yes, sir. They mostly seen--the Secret Service people mostly seen--that I was close behind as possible with the bags.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And then they would always have a room somewheres close to where he was. And then they would have a bell ring.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.



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MOANEY: And of course they brought his meals there, and of course we couldn't go get them--they'd bring them in and you'd have, you know--

WICKMAN: Did you--I know the Secret Service does this for the President, especially when he's in a foreign country--but did you have anything to do with overseeing how his food was cooked, or anything, when he was out of the country?

MOANEY: Nothing like that.

WICKMAN: You didn't do anything like that--

MOANEY: No.

WICKMAN:--you just--

MOANEY: No, because they always had someone around taking care.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: And I think they got some people from England to speak English when we went to Pakistan.

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WICKMAN: On these kind of ceremonial trips and whatnot--I know that General Eisenhower liked simple food, and not too much fussing and all that--did he ever try to break out of the routine? Well, the only way that I can describe this is that if Ike took my children to a formal weekend, we'll say, I'd probably have to have a jar of peanut butter, and that's why I'm wondering-- I'm wondering if he had, or if you had packed for him, a kind of CARE package of things he was familiar with, rather than all of this heavy ceremonial food that you got at dinners and lunches.

MOANEY: No, because the most of the places that he went they always would get in touch with somebody--

WICKMAN: They tried that.

MOANEY: --and find out what he liked to eat. And they always tried to get the things that he liked to have.

WICKMAN: Did he like to snack at night? Would he--

MOANEY: No.

WICKMAN: --come in and eat? He'd never come in and eat afterwards.

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MOANEY: I seen him do [it] one night up in Chicago, but I never bothered to get him nothing after he'd sit down at night.

WICKMAN: Yeah, uh-huh.

BURG: Did he ever express an interest--well, let's just say he's going to Pakistan--was it like him to say, "Now, they have something here that I'd kind of like to try?" You know, regional food that he might want to sample? Well, for example, if he went down to the Gulf coast, down to New Orleans, did you ever hear him say, "Well, while we're here I've got to try these Gulf shrimp," or was he that kind of a man?

MOANEY: No, sir, I never knew for him to say anything. But they always would find out what he likes to eat and stuff like that there--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: --and just have it, that's all.

BURG: On the daily routine in the White House or anyplace--  
(Interruption)

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MOANEY: The General wanted some oysters, and they had some shipped to him.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And we had guests for dinner--General Bradley. Now, to use these oysters up he wanted oyster soup and then have oysters, fried oysters, for the dinner.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And he come to find that General Bradley didn't like oysters.

WICKMAN: Oh, dear.

MOANEY: And I thought that was funny--had to fry him a couple of eggs.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: I thought that was real funny.

WICKMAN: Well, you know, I have this story from--I know I got it from Jim Stack and I also got it from Bob Schulz--about, I

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don't know if you were there or not, but they were down in Florida where the General was recuperating from an illness, I think maybe in '46 or so. **And** he was down in Florida, and the General got it into his head that there was something he was going to show them how to make--I don't remember what; maybe it was shrimp or something, I don't know what it was. It was a long ceremony, just dragged out forever, and he had them getting all the ingredients and whatnot, mixing all the stuff. This was one time when he was--

BURG: I say--

WICKMAN: It may have been oysters, too, on that occasion.

BURG:--there is a story that Schulz tells about the General making something, and Schulz didn't want it--

WICKMAN: Yeah, he didn't want it.

BURG:--and the General made him eat it anyway!

WICKMAN: Yeah. We know it's well documented that the General had a very good sense of humor that he had to get going.

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MOANEY: Well, one night out there at Quarters One it was quiet, and he turned all the other boys off, and of course I had a room downstairs like I say. Mrs. Eisenhower was upstairs. And he made some vegetable soup, so he say, "Let's try it." So I just figured that he was going to just get a spoon and taste it and that's all.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He got a cup, so, "Go ahead and get a cup." And I got a cup too, and he filled it up, and he said, "Sit down--now this ain't no five-star general now--sit down." I never had nothing like that ever happened to me in my life, and I didn't know whether to put this off in a spoon or just put it in mouth and turn it over, so I decided to put it in my mouth and turn it over. That soup was so hot, and it burned my tongue and my tongue was sore for a week. It was hard enough just to sit to the table facing the fire gauge.

BURG: Yeah, yeah.

MOANEY: Oh, it really was something.

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WICKMAN: Well, when did you get this house set up up here, John-- that was when they were in the White House, wasn't it?

MOANEY: This house here?

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: I think '55, I guess; that's what we all go by on the side out there.

WICKMAN: Yeah. Did you come up here then?

MOANEY: Yes, I come up here off and on with them.

WICKMAN: Was there a permanent staff here then, or what did they do--close it up when they'd leave and open it up when they came back?

MOANEY: There never was no staff here--

WICKMAN: Did you--

MOANEY:--I and Dolores and Rosie and Sergeant Dry.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY: Of course, if it was in the White House we'd come here-- there's always been a couple of Filipino boys up here.

WICKMAN: He sent help on up ahead--you'd come on ahead?

MOANEY: Oh, yes, they'd come up here and open the house up before he gets here, but nobody stayed here.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. And then you come up and set it up, and they'd be up here for however long they were here, and then back on down--

MOANEY: That's right. Weekend. Something like that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Of course a holiday come, the Fourth of July, something like that, they'd come up and go back. Sometime I and him would go back and Mrs. Eisenhower would stay up here.

WICKMAN: It looks to me that, you know, the more places they get, though, to settle in the more complicated it gets for you--getting the routine set in each place: Camp David, the White House, here--



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MOANEY: Well, you see when we got to Camp, go to Camp David, well, all I done was take care of his clothes and things, you know--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--and go in when he was bathing and go in the morning. But here it would be the same thing, too, but it would be people up at Camp David--they would do all the cooking and the service.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And I didn't have nothing to do with all that.

WICKMAN: But here the people from the mess took care of--did they take care of the cooking?

MOANEY: They, no, they come up here as houseboys--

WICKMAN: Just houseboys.

MOANEY:--they took care of the house. The girls would do the cooking.

WICKMAN: Would do the cooking.

MOANEY: And one time I think they did have a fellow up here to do the cooking one weekend.

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WICKMAN: But she would do the cooking no matter how big the party was?

MOANEY: Oh, yeah--we never had no more than seventeen people at a time.

WICKMAN: Just seventeen!

MOANEY: She liked to cook for a lot of people--she didn't want to cook for one person.

WICKMAN: Well, I've got the house going, and that goes on, and you think General Eisenhower was really looking forward to getting out of the White House and coming up here?

MOANEY: We was talking about that the other day; I don't think it took a bit more effect on him than that pair of glasses there.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He was just, he was just as jolly the day he--he was more jolly the day he left there than the day he went in there.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

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MOANEY: Because I can remember the day we went in there--it was the, let's see, the twentieth, I guess--

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY:--if I'm right.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: The twentieth of January.

MOANEY: And we was, all the clothes they had up in New York that they wanted, they was on the train--see, we come in from New York on the train. And of course they got dressed on the train that morning and then went to the ceremonial deal. And the furniture and stuff, well, it was on a van coming down.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And we sat out there, uncomfortable--how long did we review the parade?--I don't know, five o'clock. It was cold, and I went to the White House and I couldn't find his bags, and I thought they hadn't brought them off the train. Then I had to find somebody to go down to the train and get his bags. "Well," he said, "what's the matter, Moaney?" I said, "I can't find your clothes to wear to the ball tonight"--they didn't leave

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until ten o'clock--he say, "I'm glad you can't find them; I won't have to go." But I got them.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: And the day we left there--I and Rosie was the last ones left, about twelve o'clock--all the incoming people was in the White House--I mean, Mr. Kennedy and his wife. And his mother drove up, and it was rather cold and damp, and he just walked out there and brought her right on in and everybody had coffee.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: So I thought he was very happy.

WICKMAN: Now, when he left, then, did you all come right up here when you left the White House? Or did you ~~stay~~ stay down in Washington?

MOANEY: No, we came up here, but he had to go downtown for something or other--I don't know.

WICKMAN: Well, he was down in the Pentagon for awhile--he had an office in the Pentagon after Mr. Kennedy took over. You know,

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Kennedy--I don't remember all the ins and outs just out of my head--but Kennedy had asked the General to do something for him for about six months or four months--something like that. And I think that--now, they may have been up here, but I just didn't remember that he was.

MOANEY: Yes, they came up late that evening. We came up that morn--, we got up here, I guess, about two o'clock, and we came in on a helicopter.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Things was so much slower on the ground we couldn't even get off.

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY: We had to wait until they pushed the snow off so we could get off.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And they came up that evening, and I think the next day or so I and the General and one of the Secret Service men who

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used to drive, Mr. Flore--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY:--we left and went down to Thomasville and stayed down there for a week.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Then we came back here and ended up in California.

WICKMAN: I see. Mrs. Eisenhower gone out to California?

MOANEY: Yes, she went, too. We all went out there.

WICKMAN: On the train?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: Now we've got a different routine again, you see--here we got you settled in the White House, and get through that, and now we've got--

MOANEY: Going back to California.

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WICKMAN:--going back to California. Now, let's talk about that for a minute, because that gets--well, not in California; it's Augusta, too. Didn't he go down to Augusta a couple of times?

MOANEY: Oh, yes.

WICKMAN: I mean, in the beginning of his retirement, I think there were some times he went to Augusta--

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN:--before going to California. What kind of--and almost invariably he went to California on the train, right?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: So you got to pack up everything--what did you do? Did they have separate wardrobes they left in California? Did they pack it all up when they left?

MOANEY: No, they left some stuff out there, but it didn't help any; you know, we had to carry about half the stuff around with us.

WICKMAN:Uh-huh. Pack it all up.

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MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: Yeah, and take it out.

BURG: Was this house closed up, then, while you were out in California?

MOANEY: Yes.

BURG: Just as it had been during the White House period?

MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN: That's a job in itself--closing down an open house.

BURG: I would imagine so in this kind of climate.

MOANEY: Yeah, all them plugs have to be pulled, lamps all unplugged and everything.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Rugs rolled up. The ones out there on the porch we had to bring in.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. And of course Chief West was up here then,



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wasn't he? Was he up on the ground?

MOANEY: Yeah, from the beginning he was.

WICKMAN: And so, there was somebody on the farm--

MOANEY: Oh, yes.

WICKMAN:--the farm was operating, General Nevins was around.

MOANEY: They had, I think, three or four policemen out there at the time, I think--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--guarding the place at that time.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: I was just going to ask, did you like California yourself? Was that a place where you could be happy during that period of time?

MOANEY: Well, yes, I could be happy there, but it wasn't as much to say I had to like it or anything, but I could be happy there.

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BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: Because I had just, just myself to--wherever the General went, whether I like it or no, but I just was there to do a job.

BURG: Yeah.

MOANEY: And I never did go up there--well I suppose I was up there in Los Angeles a couple of times. But I just stayed right there in the desert and fooled around the house.

WICKMAN: You had a room at the house?

MOANEY: Oh, yes.

WICKMAN: In Palm Desert?

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: Yeah, El Dorado.

MOANEY: Had a room right off the kitchen there. I and Dolores-- she traveled out there with us.

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WICKMAN: Now, that house on the El Dorado, did you have to set that up and close it down, too, the way you did this one, or was there somebody in there when you weren't there?

MOANEY: No, no, there wasn't anyone in there. I don't think anyone ever did live in there at the time that they--

WICKMAN: No, I don't think anyone did either.

MOANEY: But we carried what we need out there, and then unpacked what we left out there in the cottage--

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY:--like clocks, and things like that.

WICKMAN: Yeah, packed that up in the closet.

MOANEY: And of course carry all the food and stuff from here.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Not all, but carry what they wanted--seven or eight foot lockers of meat and stuff.

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WICKMAN: Of meat?

MOANEY: Right.

WICKMAN: All the way out?

MOANEY: It was good.

WICKMAN: Why was that?

MOANEY: Well, at that time he was killing his own beef up here, you see.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: And had it in the freezer up here, and going out there for three months--

WICKMAN: How would you keep it that long?

MOANEY: Put it in a foot locker, see, and put dry ice on it.

WICKMAN: Put dry ice on it.

MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN: Whee!

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MOANEY: Put dry ice on it here, and put dry ice on it again in Chicago, and the next day we'd be in the desert.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: It was all right.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: Two big deep freezers out there, and then they had me unpacking all this stuff and packing it.

WICKMAN: Yeah, that's a complication there.

BURG: Yeah, it sure is.

WICKMAN: Because the General was on, as we go on with his retirement, with his illness, he was on a kind of special diet, too, wasn't he? Some special--

MOANEY: Well, I don't know; he mostly had just about everything-- some things wasn't too good for him.

WICKMAN: I was thinking, low fat, or no salt or something.

MOANEY: No, he didn't want no, nothing fat, nothing like that--

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WICKMAN: So we got you set up out there. Now, again, out there there's just the two of you to do all the cooking and all the rest of it?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: El Dorado--no other help?

MOANEY: Of course, if they have a lot of people come in they always would get a waitress from the club--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--would come down and help out.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: But it was very seldom they would do that.

WICKMAN: And some of the things were over at Miss Cochran's ranch, too. She had parties over there.

MOANEY: All things was.

WICKMAN: Yeah, right.

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MOANEY: They were always over there.

WICKMAN: Yeah. And, let's see, if there are any other--

MOANEY: Mostly, they had a lot of cocktail parties; they liked cocktail parties, with friends, golfers.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And they didn't like to go out too much, you know, and instead of going out, well, they'd bring people in.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: But up here it was a little bit different, because it was so far away from people. Take somebody living in Washington, come up here for cocktails--it'd be midnight before they'd get back home.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: If they don't spend the night.

WICKMAN: So by comparison, I suppose, John, this was--when you're

in California, there was a lot of activity; when they were here, there tended to be relatively little activity right here--

MOANEY: Oh, yeah.

WICKMAN:--it was always away somewhere. The General would go down to Washington--

MOANEY: Right.

WICKMAN:--and come back. So this is probably the most peaceful surroundings, in that sense, that he was in--

MOANEY: Yes--

WICKMAN:--for some time.

MOANEY:--that's right and it still is.

WICKMAN: Yeah, not much going on.

MOANEY: Yes, sir, it still is.

BURG: Out of all of this, Sergeant, you've seen a great deal of this country and of the world, you've traveled, you've lived in



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various places--what, of all of these places, was perhaps for you the most pleasant place of all to be?

MOANEY: Here.

BURG: Right here.

MOANEY: That's it.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And the second place is 60 Morningside--I liked there right well.

BURG: Oh, you did?

MOANEY: 60 Morningside Drive.

BURG: But this place is first?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: That's right. And of course Augusta comes in next, I guess. I like it down there right well.

WICKMAN: At Augusta?

MOANEY: Yeah, nobody much fooled around there, you know; everybody bypassed the house, unless they invited everybody, you see.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I think it's pretty nice down there.

WICKMAN: We haven't talked about that at all--what kind of a setup did you have there? I've seen the exterior of the house, but not the interior. Was it pretty much like this, where you have a room and--

MOANEY: Oh, yes, I have a room--

WICKMAN:--room right there. And did you have to set that up, or did the Augusta Country Club people do a lot of that for you?

MOANEY: Well, some things belongs to them down there, and, well, just about everything I guess pertaining to the club, and what she leaves down there.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

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MOANEY: Most of what we carry down is clothes and food.

WICKMAN: I see. Do they use that house at all down there when she's not there.

MOANEY: They haven't this year, I don't think, because we stayed there through the Master's this year.

WICKMAN: You were there some while, yeah.

MOANEY: And I don't think they did; they might have.

WICKMAN: Now, what kind of staff did you have? Just you and Dolores there, too?

MOANEY: No, that's the difference down there--they have a maid that comes in every morning and do all the maid work.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: So I just take care of her, and odds and ends around the house.

WICKMAN: Do you do any cooking down there, or do they take care

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of that too?

MOANEY: No, Dolores do--

WICKMAN: She does all the cooking.

MOANEY:--most of the cooking, and of course if she has a day off or something, well, I just pitch in--if she's busy with Mrs. Eisenhower, well, I fix breakfast every morning just like here, I fix the breakfast for everybody every morning. I ain't nothing but a poor cook--well, some toast and coffee.

WICKMAN: About anything, yeah.

MOANEY: Whatever I can get together.

WICKMAN: I never even thought about it. That's interesting--the difference in the routine, and having to do all that. Well, then, in California you had pretty much the routine we discussed until the General's final illnesses, and then you're back up here again--did you come up here or did you go down to Walter Reed?

MOANEY: I came up here; he always wanted me to stay here.

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WICKMAN: Oh.

MOANEY: I don't know what reason, but every time I'd go down to see him--I'd go down every Friday and go in and see him--and he'd just look at me and smile, and he'd say, 'Moaney, is you going or coming?' And he wanted me to go on back to the farm. Every time I'd go over Monday morning and see him, he'd say, "You going back to the farm now?" I'd say, "Just as soon as General Schulz gets ready, I'm going back up there." So I spent most of the time up here.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: I used to raise a vegetable garden, and he liked fresh vegetables.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And the doctor said it was all right for him to have them, and I used to take them down to him.

WICKMAN: But now, of course, your routine is even more compressed--there's just Mrs. Eisenhower, but there are still people coming up.

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MOANEY: Well, very few people come around these days. Sometimes she has guests up here to play cards a couple of days--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY:--something that she can get involved in. Everybody is getting along in age now and satisfied to stay home and read the newspapers.

WICKMAN: On this trip that you made to California, for example-- this is an example of where she's not going and staying a long period of time--I don't quite understand how they work out the logistics of something like that. She came out to Abilene for the dedication of the Museum, drove on down to Wichita, on down to San Antonio, and you're living out of a suitcase all the time--

MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN:--and then out to California and you still did--or when she got out there, was there anything set up for her?

MOANEY: No. See, we didn't go back to the same house--

WICKMAN: Yes.

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MOANEY:--we lived in one of those frame houses out there.

WICKMAN: Were the people there?

MOANEY: No, nobody there.

WICKMAN: Nobody there.

MOANEY: The house had been closed up.

WICKMAN: I see.

MOANEY: But he had someone go in, and had it opened up when we got there.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: I guess we stayed there about twenty-one days.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: And they had it opened up and had some canned stuff in the house there to feed them with.

WICKMAN: But there was no other, anyone to help except you and Dolores.

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MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Of course, you're right--everybody wanted her for dinner, lunch or something or other, and she was out part of the time she was out there.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: Especially in the evening, of course, but most of the daytime she rested up.

WICKMAN: One thing I just happened to think about, and chronologically we'll have to jump back a little bit, but when the General was in the White House, and even before, he went out to Colorado a number of times on vacation. Did you go along with him up to--

MOANEY: Frazer?

WICKMAN:--yeah, to Frazer.

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: He seemed to enjoy that--what he was doing--very much.



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MOANEY: Yes, he liked it very much.

WICKMAN: Liked to get outside.

MOANEY: Yes. It was pretty nice up there.

WICKMAN: You got to clean all those fresh fish!

MOANEY: Yes, sir, that's true!

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: We used to have a bunch of people from New York there-- meet him up there--and they played bridge nighttime.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And they always fished out there. After breakfast every morning they all go out and fished. I'd stay in and get things lined up for lunch.

WICKMAN: It's interesting; this is one of the very interesting things that I've found, studying General Eisenhower's life: the fact that the painting--you know, none of us can see into the future, and I think we'd all go nuts if we could--but the painting

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comes along as a recreation in a time of his life when there's not only going to be less activity for some of the things that he'd like to do, but also, gradually [that] he can't do, physically, as he gets older, some of these things--

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--that he really liked to do, like hunting and fishing.

BURG: Uh-huh.

WICKMAN: And so he's got the painting. You know, it's a marvelous case of having several interests, and being able to let one replace the other.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: I always thought that was a tremendous thing, because there are some people that--well, some of these golfers, you know, are absolutely crazy about golf, and if they can't play golf they can't do anything, then they just sit and watch television or something.

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MOANEY: Golf, fish and hunt and paint, those were the--

WICKMAN: He gave up the hunting, though, probably in the late fifties.

MOANEY: Yes, he--

WICKMAN: After his heart attack, I don't think he hunted any more, did he?

MOANEY: Not much.

BURG: Well, he was lucky, too, in another way--he loved to read.

WICKMAN: Yeah, this is true.

BURG: Which was another thing he could do--

MOANEY: Yes.

BURG:--and keep doing.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But, you know, the last two years of his life, was the

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only time that I can remember that he would really sit down and talk to anybody, because of having something else to do or doing something else. He'd have people come to the White House some-time, and he'd keep right on painting.

WICKMAN: I see--talk to them while he's painting.

MOANEY: Yeah. But just to sit down and relax and talk, you know, why, I've never known for him to do that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: He always was busy doing something.

WICKMAN: Yeah--keeping busy with his hands.

MOANEY: Always busy doing something.

WICKMAN: Well, in the Library we have a collection of "doodles" that he had done at various times, things people have picked up-- Bryce Harlow used to pick them out of the waste basket--

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--and save them and turned them all in when the administration was over, and some of them are very interesting.

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MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: And that's the same thing--he just couldn't sit there and listen to this; he had to do something--

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN:--and he'd "doodle" up one side of the report and down the other, all the way around till he's through. I always thought it's a good thing those reports didn't have to go anywhere--you know, they're coming to him as President and they didn't have to go anywhere, so he could do anything he wanted with them. But it would be too bad if they had to go out of there some place with all these things on the front and the back.

BURG: Well, it's pretty interesting to have this view of him that last two years when--

WICKMAN: Yes, very interesting.

BURG:--conversation was something that he was beginning to do.

WICKMAN: In the office down here in Gettysburg, was there any

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food service ever done down there--they didn't have any luncheons--

MOANEY: I think they used to have someone to come in to--

WICKMAN: You didn't go down there.

MOANEY: No, I didn't have to--

WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: I think he had a big luncheon one day for his classmates; I think that was the last luncheon he had them all together. They was up here--they came here for cocktails at lunchtime, around lunchtime. And I think they moved down to the office and had lunch. I think there was about twenty of them all together that was up here.

WICKMAN: Except for the family, there seems to have been little overnight traffic here--very few people staying overnight, most people coming and going during the day.

MOANEY: That's right.

WICKMAN: But at night not too much.

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MOANEY: Not too much, well, unless, you know, maybe some come up and play cards--something like that.

WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY: Maybe Mr. Cutler drop by--well, he'd been stopping by once a year for the last two years, but he hasn't been here this year yet.

WICKMAN: Let's see, have you got any other areas there, Mac, that you can--

BURG: There's just one that occurs to me--I think I know the answer to this one already--do you ever regret the choice of occupation you made back there in England?

MOANEY: Never once.

BURG: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: If I knowed now what I knowed then, I'd been in a long time ago. I would have volunteered for it.

BURG: Uh-huh.

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WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

BURG: Well, it seems to me that it has been a pretty rich and exciting life--

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

BURG:--all these years.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: You never had to worry about what you were going to do, anyway.

BURG: You sure never did.

MOANEY: Not if you can get up in the morning and you know just what you're going to do.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

BURG: Yeah. Well, I have no further questions, John.

WICKMAN: I just have one. I just wanted to get John's reaction to this, because I, too, think I know the answer--I have a feeling



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that when the General was here, and Mrs. Eisenhower was here, and John and the grandchildren were there, over in the corner, over in the corner of the lot, I think that that must have been a very enjoyable thing for him--to have them that close.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: He seemed to really enjoy them.

MOANEY: Yes, he did enjoy the children, and grandchildren too.

WICKMAN: And he always made a, I've just observed this--the holidays and the anniversaries were very important to him too.

MOANEY: Yes, that's right.

WICKMAN: And he really made an effort to get people together, and they would come up here--when they were over there they didn't have to go anywhere; they were right there. But that's that kind of western frontier sense--a lot of us still have to do something on the holidays.

BURG: Yeah.

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WICKMAN: It's just not another day.

BURG: Right.

MOANEY: Yes, he called and tell them to come on up. I know-- let's see, what year was it? Well, it was one year when all the Eisenhower boys were together--

BURG: The brothers.

MOANEY:--on a fishing trip up to Wisconsin, and I think we came back home--I think I'm right about this--the third of August. I think it was Colonel John's birthday or something.

WICKMAN: The third of August, yes.

MOANEY: I think it is, I don't know for sure, but I believe it is something like that.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: So we caught this plane and came back, and he invited them up for dinner. And of course we talked it over--he said,

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"Do you think we can handle it?" I said, "You name it." He said, "I will. All right." He tell you what he wants and everything, so I got off in this helicopter right out here, and he came on in the house and [lost this phrase]. I went downstairs and got this big piece of beef and put it in the oven right away to cook for that night for dinner.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: So he had them here that night for dinner on his birthday. So he really enjoyed it.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Having them come around.

WICKMAN: I had another question, too, for you, John. When was the first time that you met John Eisenhower? Because you went with his father, and you couldn't have met him till he either came over to Europe or you came back here.

MOANEY: Well, after he graduated from West Point--

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WICKMAN: Yes.

MOANEY:--well, he came overseas to see his father--

WICKMAN: Right.

MOANEY:--well, that's when I first met him.

WICKMAN: I see. That was right after D-Day.

MOANEY: That's when I first met him.

WICKMAN: And were you in England or France?

MOANEY: Well, I think we was down in this woods I was telling you about--

WICKMAN: Oh, uh-huh.

MOANEY:--Advanced C.P. this was; it was in England, we hadn't gone across the Channel at the time.

WICKMAN: Is it Toomley or something--

MOANEY: Somewhere, something like that--

WICKMAN: Yes.

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MOANEY:--if I have my memory straight. I remember him coming down there, and then I think he came home, and I think he came back again.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: And he was back and forth a couple of times over there.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: Germany, too.

WICKMAN: Yeah.

WICKMAN: I think this is very interesting, you know, because John just--the General became kind of a part of a family in there, and then he didn't get to meet the rest of the family, you know--

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--meet Mrs. Eisenhower and John, and then finally get them all back together, and sorted out and whatnot.

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BURG: Yeah, that's right.

WICKMAN: I have another question for you, too, because we've been involved with this Eisenhower Room at Culzean Castle, which I know you've not seen--and I wish you could see it. It's a rather interesting thing, because the British have really taken a great interest in this, and they've put--

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN:--some very interesting things into it.

MOANEY: Yeah.

WICKMAN: You were with the General at the Castle--

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN:--Culzean when he went there?

MOANEY: Yes, sir.

WICKMAN: What did you think of that? Well, certainly for the General it must have been a cultural crisis--I mean, he never had a castle before--

MOANEY: No.

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WICKMAN:--never lived in a castle. Did he seem to enjoy it?

MOANEY: Yes, he did, yes--

WICKMAN: He enjoyed the castle?

MOANEY:--he enjoyed it very much.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: All his friends would come over, and of course he had a suite of rooms up on the second floor, third floor--

WICKMAN: Third floor.

MOANEY:--and of course there were rooms--kitchen, dining room and everything right up there. And bedroom and living room.

WICKMAN: Now were you on the third floor, or were you up in the--

MOANEY: I was--

WICKMAN:--port? Way up, huh?

MOANEY:--way up on top there.

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WICKMAN: Yeah.

MOANEY: That's where I and Dolores lived at, and I think that one Secret Service man, Mr. Stu Knight--

WICKMAN: Uh-huh. And Mr. and Mrs. Miller, of course, ran the thing.

MOANEY: Yes. They had another place on behind--

WICKMAN: Yeah, behind--it was out behind the kitchen, I think.

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN: Yeah. So you didn't have to cook there, did you?

MOANEY: No, no, they done all the cooking.

WICKMAN: The cooking, uh-huh.

MOANEY: I got in and help out around.

WICKMAN: Uh-huh.

MOANEY: But there was another family of people run the tea room



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downstairs, because we used to go down there and, well, once a day and get our meals--get lunch down there.

WICKMAN: You and Dolores went down there?

MOANEY: Yes, we went downstairs for lunch.

WICKMAN: I see.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: Well, that's very interesting, too, because that side of--

MOANEY: It was very nice over there, I liked it very much.

WICKMAN: The General said one time--that was before this house-- that was the only house that he had, you know.

BURG: Yeah.

WICKMAN: It was his, and his home.

BURG: Right.

WICKMAN: Some kind of--

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MOANEY: I think they lived somewhere about twenty-three places during the time, I believe, because something, according to those pictures down in Augusta, I think there was about twenty-three places they lived.

WICKMAN: Yes, we have copies of those pictures; we had them up there for awhile. Yeah, they lived a lot of places and it's--

MOANEY: Yes.

WICKMAN:--they moved around here and there. Well, I don't have any more questions.

BURG: No, I don't think I do either.

WICKMAN: You want to shut that off?

BURG: So thank you very much, Sergeant Moaney.

MOANEY: Oh, you're quite welcome.

BURG: We appreciate it.