

Male Speaker: I was a sign painter. I don't know what the hell it was. I probably faced, let me see.

Male Speaker: That's bad.

MS: About fifteen years all together.

MS: How many people though?

MS: I quit the next job although.

Female Speaker: They used to say named Doger name Johnson between. I grew up with you fish for a little while.

MS: I went shrimping, I shrimp for a long time.

FS: How long did you shrimp for and when did you shrimp?

MS: I think it was 1951 to [19]69.

FS: You were shrimping during the big years?

MS: Yes

FS: Or was that last?

MS: It was all that better than what it is now.

FS: Yes. [laughter] I know that but tell me what it was like. You go out on the boat there, did shrimping and stuff like that. I don't know much about it.

MS: It was all right then because we can go anywhere I wanted to. I fished all over the coast of Mexico. All the way around to top [inaudible] and all down through there.

FS: What was shrimping like here in the Keys for intruders and something like that?

MS: Yes, they were doing all right here.

FS: What? Just that area north of [inaudible] or all over them. So, you could just shrimp everywhere?

MS: Yes. Pretty good.

FS: You always have blue patches, right? So, then the regulations kicked in and changed a lot. What would you get in your net? What the size of the shrimp, what else would you get?

MS: What kind of fish? Not on this coast but all on Louisiana and Texas coast caught a bunch of little red snappers. I bet I've killed billion of them. Couldn't kick them overboard fast.

FS: What about down here? Do you have certain red snapper down here?

MS: No. Mostly crab and I will get the small fish. We will do fighting in the likes. Regular modern trash but over there with that coast you catch whiting and croaking and everything else fishing. Fishing at wintertime fishing at white shrimp at deep, shallow water.

FS: Once you shift seasons shift, when was really the shrimping season done when they were supposed work at Kiowa?

MS: Mostly the winter.

FS: Most in the winter times?

MS: Over times I used to go over Texas coast to Louisiana or Mexico.

FS: In the summer you will go up to Texas, Alabama and Louisiana, right?

MS: Yes.

FS: In winter everyone was here we. So, that is pretty much still kind the same then. How come you stopped shrimping?

MS: So, I went into the net business. The shop repair shrimp net.

FS: Excuse me? How big?

MS: Small shrimp bait business.

FS: So, that was just using fishing net or? [laughter] You talk too fast. What are the differences? You have to haul at different and doing the shrimp bait business versus the regular bat just different area? Is there a lot of people who do that or?

MS: Well, wouldn't be bolted down here.

FS: When did your bait business start? You cannot remember what year?

MS: I cannot remember what year. I have a long bit in selling baits.

FS: [laughter] That is true. Really.

MS: I was holding up around that's all.

FS: Well, what is your handline fish with? How did you fish? Tell me about how you fished.

Got in your boat, you went out. What kind of lawn did you use?

MS: Same thing doing that everyday [inaudible].

FS: Same stuff. It was easier to catch. Did you get much creepers when you were fishing?

MS: I wouldn't do fishing if it was my own money.

FS: When did your business become a market? Well, I mean when the price become decent that people would buy.

MS: As the years went by the price fell because they got much ice. Then the people say, "If they could make money on it, then you could go ahead and use the ice on." Before they couldn't afford either ice. We had small boxes.

FS: Was there ever much of a grouper down there you know? Because I have heard a couple different stories. Some people say was in the [inaudible] now people say yes, there was, and I am just trying to figure that is one of the questions that I cannot really get answer on.

MS: I get funny. It was red.

FS: [laughter] Was it red and black for the most popular or the most numbers?

MS: Just red.

FS: Just red.

MS: You got five, 600 pound you still could get pay for few.

FS: Pretty much it was yellow tail snapper.

MS: Yellow tail used to be main thing. You know what I mean?

FS: What was it like on the water? Was it really clear. The water could you see everything you are going over or do you remember everything sort of like algae blooms or something different size?

MS: Sometimes you could see, sometimes you can't. Marine, tide wind.

FS: Where is the last one out on April fishing or something?

MS: Went fishing seven years ago, August.

FS: Seven?

MS: Yes.

FS: What about you have any new worries about odd fish you got, anything about old swaying areas?

MS: [laughter] Well, Western Rogers used to be a big small airport.

FS: Western?

MS: That's how shore got the name through fish boat. If he was too big they didn't want to buy him.

FS: Right.

MS: It was away from it. Yes. We stay with the water glass. They killed that out too. I was fishing way back then then. I was there then.

FS: Looking to the glass.

MS: I quit [19]51 or [19]52 I wasn't there.

FS: I have heard that story recently to that.

MS: Yes, he at the bottom of this morning.

FS: Yes.

MS: You just got the one you wanted. I mean it was too big. You know they didn't want it.

FS: The time that they would be out there or?

MS: It's still the season. They are small and you save at the same time as capital. The summer can be summer, they used the small. Had to be because the water was calm. You know that boat didn't have high.

FS: June and I have heard July, August and then August, September so it depends on the area.

MS: Down when it's morning, your fish was morning. I mean July? Greatest time I have ever caught I caught them in August.

MS: I used to put hang line in the water until July. It was in July.

FS: That is it?

MS: Much what happens it's all according to the moon night in May. That's a late moon. Did you look at the late moon tonight?

FS: Yes.

MS: Hey, you catch him on this.

FS: Okay.

MS: May be wrong. I don't know. I'm just saying.

FS: Is knowing there is moons these little tricks like that. Anything else? What about the Navy bombing. Who used to tell that story? Back then, I do not know if it was John or if it was one of these guys or that remember when that?

MS: I had the inside. That fish must be staying here. The year they came around must been [19]81 or [19]82.

MS: [19]82 when I was fishing down there.

FS: The Navy testing. Is that the mainly?

MS: Supposedly off down and up the secondary repercussion booming as if my brother going and I thought "What was going on?"

FS: You pointed down to a decade [laughter].

MS: Soon sun gets in back by having him initial like a notary.

FS: I heard the Michigan. Used to be a lot of Mexican in Lake Michigan.

MS: [inaudible]

FS: They wiped it out. Big screeners that used to have big nets down here for the back in the eighteen.

MS: When I sell reduced my fine from \$10,000 down to \$700

FS: That thing that I heard.

MS: That truck's got a clear title.

FS: You were shrimping at all? Did that change the way shrimping was?

MS: Sure, it does. Does Whiskers on him, they catchy.

FS: What is a sixty-five count?

MS: Sixty-five to a pound. 65. The count gets down, lower shrimp gets bigger. I mean, you get

fifty count 40 percent, 60 to 40 percent.

FS: Why did they take that away?

MS: [inaudible] City council left. Same thing about the size of the mash is supposed to be dragging four down, four down to inch of seven, eight. That was the law too but that law went up.

FS: When was that?

MS: About two years ago. Vibrates? The head come off and they go across the bidding machine. It's a roller and watch that machine. When the head shakes loose then they're going across it's got rollers. They roll real sharp blaze on.

FS: I know if there was.

MS: Well, you know the reason why, I'll tell you reason why. They do have closed waters but they don't have a closed season.

MS: That's Bob Jones doing it himself.

FS: How long did it take for them to grill?

[end of transcript]