Dartmouth College Oral History Project
The War Years at Dartmouth
Interview with George Foster
By Mary Stelle Donin
September 11, 2009

DONIN: Where were you on December 7, 1941? Do you remember?

FOSTER: Yes. I was coming in from would you believe hunting?

DONIN: Hunting! Okay.

FOSTER: And stopped up at a friend's house, and they'd had heard it on the

radio. I didn't believe it.

DONIN: You weren't expecting something like that. No. Where were you at

this point, geographically?

FOSTER: Walden, New York.

DONIN: Oh, Walden, New York.

FOSTER: Which is in Wallkill Valley about seven miles west of Newburgh.

DONIN: Uh-huh. And had you already finished high school?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: You were in high school?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: You see I graduated in '44 and this was... What would I be?

DONIN: So you would have been a freshman or sophomore, yes. So how

did you end up at Columbia?

FOSTER: Well, that's where they had the first V-12ers from my area. Then at

the end of the first term, they had a draft and sent us up here.

DONIN: So had you enlisted out of high school, or what?

FOSTER: Yes. But knowing I was going to be a V-12er.

DONIN: How'd you know that?

FOSTER: Took some kind of test.

DONIN: Oh, really.

FOSTER: At that stage of my career, I had a positive genius for multiple-

choice tests.

DONIN: Uh-huh. You did very well.

FOSTER: Did very well. Earned a New York State scholarship for going to....

DONIN: Wow!

FOSTER: Don't be impressed. It was a multiple-choice question, multiple-

choice test.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: And if you read a lot, why, they're duck soup.

DONIN: Were you given a choice? Or they simply said to you—

FOSTER: No choice.

DONIN: That's where you were going.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Had you intended to go to college anyway?

FOSTER: What can I say? I sure would have wanted—I sure wanted to. But in

ninth grade the guidance counselor called my class together and said we'd all signed up for college entrance course and we were entitled to do that but you must remember that the cost of going to college was greater than the average family income in Walden. What could I say? Not a chance in the world we could go to a first-

rate school.

DONIN: Hmm. But then the war happened and you signed up. Took this

test.

FOSTER: Yes. They sent around to schools, knowing this was an exam for V-

12. There was something very peculiar about my high school. New York gave out at that time, ten New York State scholarships to Orange County, New York. And there must have been at that time a thousand students, I guess, graduating from. And four of the places

were won by Walden.

DONIN: Wow!

FOSTER: And at least one alternate. Just a peculiarity.

DONIN: Hmm. It's a good high school. Must have been.

FOSTER: Might have been. What happened I think is that the old guard all

died off at once, and they got some bright new teachers. And in 19-

whatever, to get a job any place, you had to be very good.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Exactly. People were glad to have jobs in those days.

FOSTER: Unlike right now.

DONIN: Hmm. [Laughs] Okay. So off you go to Columbia for the beginning

of the V-12 training.

FOSTER: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And you were there for one term, I guess, is that right?

FOSTER: That's right.

DONIN: Is that what it looks like on here? Right.

FOSTER: Yes. One term.

DONIN: Summer term, 1944 to 1945. I'm not sure what that means.

FOSTER: It may have extended into '45. I remember it as coming up here in

November.

DONIN: You remember getting here in November of '45?

FOSTER: '44.

DONIN: Oh, '44. Okay. November of '44. Uh-huh. What did you know about

Dartmouth before you got here?

FOSTER: I had never even heard of it.

DONIN: The idea of coming to a faraway, out-in-the-boonies kind of place,

did that bother you?

FOSTER: Walden, New York, is not very far from the boonies.

DONIN: Oh, I see. [Laughs] So it was probably more familiar to you than

even being at Columbia in the city.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Yes. So what are you memories of arriving here? Did you come up

on a bus or on the train?

FOSTER: Came up on the train to White River probably.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: And I don't remember how I got from there to here.

DONIN: And my understanding—and you were Navy V-12, right?

FOSTER: That's right.

DONIN: I think Dartmouth had the largest contingent of Navy V-12 trainees

in the country.

FOSTER: The Army was A-12.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: And when the war in Europe heated up, they just took the A-12ers

and sent them overseas.

DONIN: Mmm. Do you remember the dorm that you were in here?

FOSTER: Yes, I could point them out to you. The only name I remember is

Lord.

DONIN: Uh-huh. And I've been told that they actually ran the dorms as if

they were a ship. They used naval terminology and—

FOSTER: They tried to.

DONIN: They tried? Four bunks in a room?

FOSTER: It was—There were twice as many of us as there would have been

had they had civilians.

DONIN: Right. They packed you in there.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: And they had reveille in the morning and you had to go out and do

calisthenics before breakfast?

FOSTER: Yes, you warmed up in front of the dorms. And then marched up to

the Green.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: My memories get conflated, so that I'm sure we did not march up

through Highland Avenue, whatever that street is there.

DONIN: Yes. Well I gather they did march on the Green though, often. Big

formations on the Green. We have photographs...

FOSTER: I hope you don't have the photograph of me doing a right oblique

when the rest of the company was doing a left oblique.

DONIN: Oh dear. [Laughter]

FOSTER: I've been trying to remember the names of people. There were

three of us that hung together, one named R. Glynn Reed. He was from San Jon, New Mexico, and liked to be called Tex. The other one was a guy named Reilly—some form of Reilly. And he had

played French horn with the Minneapolis Symphony.

DONIN: My goodness!

FOSTER: And he practiced once in a while.

DONIN: Uh-huh. Now were the three of you bunking in the same room?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: You were just buddies.

FOSTER: Just buddies.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: We hit it off.

DONIN: Did you keep up with one another?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: After you left here?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: So do you have any memories of what your sort of day-to-day life

was like during that training here?

FOSTER: Very—what can I say? We went to class.

DONIN: You went to classes. Were the classes only with V-12ers, or were

there civilians as well?

FOSTER: There were civilians towards the end.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: Geez, I have only two memories of classes: One was heat power

which to me was an easy A, but it was miserable to some other

people.

DONIN: Heat power?

FOSTER: Heat power.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: Steam engines.

DONIN: Yes, yes. What was the other memory?

FOSTER: [Laughter] I, by some awful mischance, took a.... Well, what

happened was after, you know, the usual differentiation in calculus, the next step up, was a more advanced course. And it was divided in two. The first was what amounted to a theory of calculus, and, uh uh, it just didn't. I've still got my mathematics handbook, and it's got a lot of penciled notations in it, not one of which do I understand. [Laughter] But the second course was linear differential equations,

which was a snap.

DONIN: Oh, my goodness!

FOSTER: It's how your memory is formed. And it's the same memorizing

process as chemistry, I think.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: But that I didn't finish because I left in the middle of that term.

DONIN: Left to go where?

FOSTER: To the Navy. Well, there were two reasons. I wanted GI time. As it

turned out I would have got GI time from the V-12.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: But I didn't come back because I had this New York State

scholarship and a girl up at Cornell. She introduced me to her

husband.

DONIN: Oh. [Laughter] So when you say you didn't come back, you

mean....

FOSTER: At the end of the war. I've often regretted not coming back and

graduating from Dartmouth.

DONIN: I guess a lot of guys did. They came back.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: And applied to become regular students here and finish.

FOSTER: Shoulda, coulda, woulda.

DONIN: Shoulda, coulda, woulda. Right, right. Did you remember any of

your teachers you had here?

FOSTER: Not by name.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: They were largely retreads, you know.

DONIN: Retreads in what way?

FOSTER: Teachers who had retired.

DONIN: Oh, that's interesting. Yes. Well, I guess they lost a lot of the

teachers to the war as well, to their service. And I gather some of them actually had to teach courses for which they were not trained.

FOSTER: Tell me about it. [Laughter] People who would sit in for the Navy

and talk about Navy stuff. I remember a history teacher who was a retread and had bad breath. [Laughter] And a mathematics teacher who was also a retread. This was the math teacher who gave me

the math that gave me so much trouble.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: I asked him one time: Gee, isn't this mathematics that Albert

Einstein used? And by the standards of the trade, Albert Einstein

wasn't much of a mathematician.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: And he said, Yes, it was for special relativity, not for general

relativity. And that started him off on it. He said when the general relativity was announced in the newspapers, the sensational press

said there were only a dozen men in the world who could

understand it. Then he started mumbling, Mmmmmm... Must have

been 35.

DONIN: [Laughs] Great. Now did you spend most of your time with other V-

12ers? Did you ever interact with the few civilians that were left on

campus?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: So it was mostly with the V-12s. What was your social life like?

FOSTER: Nonexistent.

DONIN: Yes. Because of the time or—

FOSTER: Who was I going to socialize with?

DONIN: Right. You just had your V-12 buddies.

FOSTER: You know in a very important sense, V-12 was not going to college.

Some of the people who were more socially inclined than I

managed to get something approaching college life, but I didn't. I

don't know how many did.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. They said that the schedule for the V-12s was pretty

intense anyway. You only had one day off, I think, a week, if that.

FOSTER: We must have had... I just don't remember. I know Sunday we had

off.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: And I would sleep, and then Tex Reed would come down and roust

me and say, "Come on, and get up. They're moving ahead."

[Laughter]

DONIN: Did you engage in any sports while you were here?

FOSTER: No. We had fairly intense gymnasium training.

DONIN: Oh, yes, you had to do the—Oh, we've got pictures of you having to

do— there was swimming. Did you have to do diving or swimming?

FOSTER: Jump off.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: I couldn't make myself jump off that 14-foot tower, so the swimming

instructor, who was also the jujitsu instructor, came up and tossed

me off.

DONIN: Oh!

FOSTER: And then after that I didn't have any trouble.

DONIN: Oh! This was in the pool, in the gym, inside?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: I have a tendency to vertigo. One thing I definitely learned in, what

do you call it? Body-building classes? Do not under any

circumstances piss off your jujitsu instructor. I learned that lesson

which is deeply ingrained in my mind.

DONIN: What did you do to make him mad?

FOSTER: I don't know. I'm a smart-ass.

DONIN: Uh-huh. And what was your punishment?

FOSTER: I was picked on to be the one to demonstrate.

DONIN: Oh....

FOSTER: So before class starts, take a couple of forward rolls and loosen up

and...

DONIN: [Laughs] So let's see. So you did a whole term and then half of the

next term, is that what you—

FOSTER: No, I did—I left in the middle of my fifth term.

DONIN: Oh, so you were here for quite a stretch.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Year and a half probably.

FOSTER: Uh-huh.

DONIN: Uh-huh. So you got to know Hanover pretty well being here a year

and a half. Were you a skier?

FOSTER: No. Several people were. They would talk about putting wax on

their skis. I don't know where they got all that booze. But they would

have hot toddies or something in there.

DONIN: Oh. In the dorm?

FOSTER: Well, that's where they loaded them up, their flasks.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

FOSTER: It wasn't really college and it wasn't really Navy.

DONIN: Well, it was sort of half and half, wasn't it? They wanted officers for

the Navy who had some education. I mean, do you think they

succeeded at that?

FOSTER: I don't think my education... I didn't get my education, well, until

graduate school. Although I certainly got the basis for it. I don't think I'll ever need to read a Molière diagram. That's what they used for

designing steam engines.

DONIN: But some of that so-called education was really a form of military

training, wasn't it? They wanted you guys to be good engineers and

good cartographers and stuff that would be useful on a ship, I

assume.

FOSTER: Well, I must have had a course someplace about fighting a fire on

board ships. You approach the fire through a fog. And also, how a gyrocompass works, which is very interesting. Having learned much more science than I had at the time, I've often wondered if only the world existed, would a gyrocompass work on it? Probably not.

DONIN: Now do you have any memories of the leadership of the college,

the president. I guess you were here, it was John Dickey was the

president?

FOSTER: None.

DONIN: No memories. No. And was there rationing going on when you were

here?

FOSTER: Oh, yes. And the townspeople who served the chow line must have

been very envious because we ate very well.

DONIN: Really!

FOSTER: Oh, yes.

DONIN: Interesting. Over there in what do they call it? In those days College

Hall, I think. Same place, the dining room over there. But were you

eating at the same time as the civilians?

FOSTER: There weren't any civilians.

DONIN: Oh, there were a few hundred. A few hundred students here who

were not able to serve for various reasons.

I didn't know. FOSTER:

DONIN: Your sense was there weren't any at all. Well, you far outnumbered

the civilians, to be sure.

FOSTER: I was unaware that there were any. As the war ended, of course,

which was... VE-Day was May something, maybe—yes, VE-Day.

DONIN: Yes. VJ was August, VE was May.

Yes. FOSTER:

DONIN: But you were gone by then.

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: Oh, you were here.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Oh, that was exciting.

FOSTER: Uh-huh.

DONIN: Do you remember those events here on campus? I guess it was

pretty exciting. President Hopkins came out and addressed the

crowd.

FOSTER: He did? Our chemistry teacher explained how the big bomb

worked. And I don't know that he understood it. I guess he knew

something about critical mass. At Penn, which is where I got my

doctorate, I described it as a ball lined with gold and surrounded by an explosive. The big problem was getting it all explode at once, I'd say. Yes. And the resulting implosion drove the uranium together and got a critical mass. And they tried to get the book published. And whoever was in charge of secrecy wouldn't let them publish. And they wondered how they got all this critical information. They didn't have any critical information. Well, he used a code word. He used the work implode. The book was not published.

DONIN: So do you feel like you learned anything at Dartmouth?

FOSTER: I don't know what I learned, but I sure developed the foundation for

learning, I think.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: One of the things I wish I had learned was this mathematics that I

studied could be applied to physical problems. Mathematics, core mathematics, is not my bag of tea. But mathematics applied to this.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Did you take any math courses when you were here?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: Let's see. Analytic geometry, differential, and calculus. Differential

equations and this theory of math that I told you about before.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And how did they assign you these courses? Was it

according to your-

FOSTER: You had required courses. And then within limits you could—The

arts and literature I avoided. The literature courses that I finally ended up taking seemed to me the same thing as high school or grade school kids telling the plots of movies they had seen. So in a very real sense I have never been educated. But thinking about chemistry classes, and the first course in physics, that was all right. And I took here a course in electricity and magnetism. And here's where I got into trouble because I could not apply the calculus to real problems. There's a gap there. And then the things that never sunk in. Most applying by the square root of -1 is equivalent to a rotation.

iotation

DONIN: So by the time you left here, you had about two years under your

belt then, of credit.

FOSTER: Yes, I had.

DONIN: And where did you go on to finish your schooling if it wasn't at

Union and at Brooklyn College? Where did you end up?

FOSTER: The reason I didn't want to go to Brooklyn College was polymers. I

ended up at Cornell.

DONIN: Let's see here. I forgot to ask you. Did you stay in Lord the whole

time you were here?

FOSTER: No.

DONIN: Where'd you move to?

FOSTER: I was, at one time or another, in three dorms.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

FOSTER: And I could—

DONIN: You could point them out to us.

FOSTER: Point them out.

DONIN: And they were all set up the same way with four bunks in a room?

FOSTER: Well, in a single room there'd be two bunks. In the first place I was

in, two-man rooms, separate bedrooms. It was at that time the Gold

Coast as it was known as.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. They still call it that.

FOSTER: Do they?

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: So there were four of us. There was a guy named English who was

a real salty, having gone down with the Ruben James at the start of the war. Hjalmar Sundin, an engineer, a year or two ahead of me. A guy whose name I will carefully omit who was having an affair with the night clerk—the male night clerk—over at the Hanover Inn. There were some pretty salty guys, as I said. My roommate English had been down. And there was a guy who had survived the sinking of one of the carriers.

DONIN: So some of the guys were a little rough around the edges, right?

FOSTER: Uh-huh.

DONIN: Did they struggle with courses, some of them, the course work?

FOSTER: They did not select dopes. One of the people in from the fleet was a

pharmacist's mate. And coming back from dinner, he would stop in at the sick bay and get a shot of an elixir of turpenhydrate. I have

no idea what that is, but it was clearly alcoholic.

DONIN: It was what? What did you call it? Turpen—

FOSTER: Elixir of turnpenhydrate.

DONIN: Oooh!

FOSTER: It sounds awful.

DONIN: But it had the same effect as a shot of—

FOSTER: Well, as I say, we didn't have any brandy.

DONIN: [Laughs] Right, right. So you spent a good stretch here. Why did

you decide not to come back to Dartmouth?

FOSTER: Oh, I suppose the main reason was New York State scholarship.

DONIN: But wouldn't the GI Bill have covered your costs here?

FOSTER: It certainly would have. That was a very foolish thing. But \$640,

wow!

DONIN: Yes. Was that your scholarship?

FOSTER: Yes, for four years. So it was \$160.

DONIN: That was a lot of money in those days, though.

FOSTER: Sure was.

DONIN: Because a lot of your V-12ers who did come back here came

because they knew they could make do with the GI Bill. But I think they all had jobs nonetheless. They had to work as well because

everybody was broke in those days.

FOSTER: You know we were pretty much a mystery to some of the teachers,

who were used to the prep school types. Maybe they didn't know what Eloise wrote to Abelard but at least heard the names before. We hadn't. It was a little bit snobbish... One of the guys advertised an Orvis fishing rod for sale. And I was a great fisherman, so I thought that I ought to go over and check on it. And he was a prep school boy and something of a snob, and he wouldn't sell an Orvis

to somebody like me.

DONIN: Really!

FOSTER: Oh, yes.

DONIN: So you found a lot of that here?

FOSTER: No, no. I found very little of it because most of us came from...

DONIN: Back in those days there was I think a bigger proportion of students

who were here from the prep schools, from the private schools.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Certainly more than today, that's for sure. But did you find the

teachers were snobs as well, or just the students?

FOSTER: The teachers weren't snobs. They just didn't understand us.

DONIN: Right.

[Break]

DONIN: Ok, today is Monday, October 5, 2009. We are here with George

Foster who is going to add a second chapter to his interview.

FOSTER: One story started off by remembering how the guy who bought our

white midshipman shirts and I realized he hadn't said anything

about being midshipmen, but we somehow became midshipmen. I wore the sexy uniform home at Christmas in '45.

DONIN: 'Forty-five.

FOSTER: 'Forty-five. And it was— You know I had—You'd get half price

tickets on the buses.

DONIN: Oh, that's right. All the military. If you were in a military uniform, you

traveled half price?

FOSTER: Half price.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: But once when I was wearing the midshipmen's uniform, the

woman I was buying the ticket from was very, very reluctant—in this sailor suit. But I think we were all made midshipmen someplace

along the line.

DONIN: While you were here?

FOSTER: Yes. I have no recollection at all.

DONIN: Of the actual ceremony of it happening.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Yes. So what did the uniform look like? We've probably got pictures

of it here. Was it blue or was it white?

FOSTER: It was blue.

DONIN: With a white cap? Was it the white cap?

FOSTER: No, no. It was a midshipman's rank between the two warrant

officers. At that time there were two. Now there are five? But anyway, when we—There were several of us who decided to leave.

And we had to turn this in. And there was a guy at the small stores who was buying the shirts. What he was going to do with them, I

don't know. But shirts were hard to come by in 1945.

DONIN: Now where were you selling the shirts?

FOSTER: Small Stores.

DONIN: What is that? Is that a chain? [Laughter] Small Stores?

FOSTER: [Laughs] Small Stores is the place where you bought your shoes,

your socks, your uniforms.

DONIN: Oh, I see, it's part of the Navy.

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Oh. Why is it called Small Stores?

FOSTER: It was the base exchange, so it was the difference between small

objects and larger ones. You wouldn't get things like desks or filing

cabinets or beds or-

DONIN: I see.

FOSTER: It's a name that goes way, way back.

DONIN: Before World War II?

FOSTER: Before World War I.

DONIN: Oh, really. Uh-huh. Okay.

FOSTER: Oh, incidentally, my father was in the Navy. And his last ship was

the USS Tennessee.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: And someplace along the line I was told that the captain in charge

of this installation was captain on the Tennessee.

DONIN: Oh, really!

FOSTER: I don't know if it's true or not, but it's a good story.

DONIN: When you were here you were told that the captain who was in

charge here?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Was that Damon Cummings? Was that his name?

FOSTER: I wouldn't remember.

DONIN: I should look it up.

FOSTER: Because he was at retirement age. He was retired and called back.

DONIN: Right, right, right.

FOSTER: My father was born in '88. So he must have been 30-something.

DONIN: So you had another story?

FOSTER: We had a Marine officer; I don't know his rank. Captain maybe. This

was after the war had ended and people were coming back. And on one of the islands he'd been shot; it went in his head and came out

under his eye.

DONIN: Oh, oh!

FOSTER: And so the corpsman came along, saw him. "He's dead." Put the

gizmo in his mouth after taking his watch and all. But he didn't die. And he never forgave the Navy enlisted man for robbing him.

DONIN: Oh! Unbelievable.

FOSTER: Oh, it was a scary look. He had a miserable scar here.

DONIN: Yes, I bet. It's amazing he survived.

FOSTER: There must have been a Marine contingent here.

DONIN: There was.

FOSTER: I had no contact with any of them except for getting extra drill for

not having my hair cut.

DONIN: Oh, is that right. But why contact with the Marines? Where was the

barbershop? Was it down on Main Street?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: They must have been busy keeping all you military types looking

well shorn.

FOSTER: Oh, one peculiarity. You know they doubled us up, and some rooms

would have their own toilet facilities and wash. But they'd be

crowded because there's twice as many.

DONIN: Sure.

FOSTER: And the rest of us had to make do with the community. And there

was one guy who was forced out of the double room because he

would take forever.

DONIN: Oh, dear.

FOSTER: He'd come along and he'd start.... You know we're in a great rush.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: Because we have formation.

DONIN: So some of the rooms had sinks in them, too, didn't they? Didn't the

rooms have sinks in them? No.

FOSTER: Let's see, when I was in Lord, there were four of us.

DONIN: In a double. Four of you in a double, right?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Bunk beds on top of each other.

FOSTER: Yes. And it had toilet facilities. What else? Oh, we got cigarettes.

DONIN: How did you get cigarettes?

FOSTER: People from Pall Mall gave them to us.

DONIN: Really! For free?

FOSTER: Probably. I can't quite remember. But it worked. They made

smokers out of a lot of us, at least in my case.

DONIN: Yes, well there a lot of smokers in those days. Who knew that it

was bade for you? Pall Mall was that nasty unfiltered stuff, right? So they used a lot—they used military language. Did they call it

mess hall and all that, the dining hall?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: Freshmen Commons, mess hall?

FOSTER: Yes.

DONIN: And what did they call you where you'd go shop for whatever, the

store?

FOSTER: The Small Stores.

DONIN: No, I thought there was another name that they called it.

FOSTER: Today they call them base exchanges—or post exchanges in the

Army.

DONIN: I see. So who—what'd they pay you for the shirts?

FOSTER: A dollar, dollar and a half.

DONIN: Yes, yes. And they'd reuse them and they'd reissue them to

another?

FOSTER: Oh, no, no. This was some scam that the clerk at the Small Stores

had.

DONIN: Oh, I see. What would become of all those shirts that you were

turning in?

FOSTER: Well, there weren't many of us. There were only half a dozen or so

who decided to leave.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

FOSTER: He did something with them.

FOSTER SON: Well, with rationing clothes were probably just awfully hard to find.

He could turn around and sell them at a profit.

DONIN: Yes.

FOSTER: That's certainly what his intention was though.

DONIN: Right.

[End of Interview]