

INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS - TAPE NO. 87 - SIDE A - LOUIS CHALLIS
INTERVIEWED BY RICHARD RAXWORTHY - 2/8/95

012 Was born at Newtown in 1936 - formative education at Hurstville public school. Strong influence from parents - mother an academic at heart. Father very intelligent - he had to stop school at ten - this in Russia. INTERESTING.

025 High school Canterbury. Wonderful people in science department. Went to Sydney University after a year in Israel to study at Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad.

039 Professor Myers great influence - competent engineer, lovely human. Describes first year in particular.

065 Had Janet Britten, one of first women in Australia to seriously take on Engineering, in my year. Had tremendous skill and ability.

076 Knew of David Myers work into scientific research during second world war.

095 On graduation decided I wanted to have professional training in most exciting area so looked for a position - found a job at R.A.N. experimental laboratories - top secret work done.

105 Met finest engineer - G. Jackson.

115 Describes some of the secret work relating to submarines. This in 1961.

145 Left - salaries poor. Went then to OTC - more money - was marrying.

175 Describes some of the work done at OTC.

195 Description of technology in the 'sixties.

216 Early use of transistors.

245 Circuit boards.

272 Comment on work at OTC.

298 Became involved in student training.

308 First visit to New Guinea - design work there.

332 Interest in acoustics and going into own business.

376 Financially not "making a go of it".
TAPE ENDS

PROF. DAVID MYERS, JANET BRITTEN, G. JACKSON | PF1.

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RAXWORTHY - 2/8/95

028 Felt acoustics was a growing field. Spoke with Warwick Mahaffey(?) acoustics engineer at ABC, and Prof. Lawrence at Uni. of NSW., and Peter Nowland.

046 Met Vivian Taylor from Melbourne.

050 Growth of acoustics - I was probably first qualified engineer working in acoustics.

055 Other people involved - Roger Wilkinson, Peter Nowland. Now about 60 to 80 people involved.

067 I have done work at the Opera House.

082 Did work for Vokes - worked on mistakes of others.

096 Involved in F18 fighters' test facilities.

105 A lot of people made advances in design.

125 In 1974/5 was approached by Arthur Watchhorn, agent of Curtis Wright Corp. to design gas turbine power stations in N.Z. acoustically.

172 From that, still do work for N.Z. electricity department.

177 Describes testing power stations experimentally.

198 Haven't made a brass razoo from patents I have taken out.

212 I designed F18 engine test cells.

244 Designed the Hong Kong China Light Gas Power turbine station - without reward from Curtis Wright. Subsequently designed for C.W. and John Holland another station in S.A.

265 Story of problem.

282 In late 'seventies designed Parliament House, Queensland. INTERESTING. Worked on Federal Parliament.

310 Worked as consultant for Public Works Dept. - sound systems, etc. for Parliament House, NSW. Got an award for that. Interesting equipment.

379 Everything I do costs money. Advice costs.

TAPE ENDS

WARWICK MAHAFFEY(?), PROF. LAWRENCE, PETER NOWLAND, VIVIAN TAYLOR
ROGER WILKINSON, PETER NOWLAND, ARTHUR WATCHHORN|PF1.

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014 Indirect acoustical work - in early 'seventies Gary Cutler, who started an Australian Hi-Fi magazine, asked me to contribute.

030 Colin Rivers, of Electronics Today International, asked me also. Accepted.

058 For 20 years have been on NATA Registry Advisory Committee.

062 Designed Radio Australia studio in Burwood, Victoria - received an award.

074 Have a "museum" of equipment.

082 Equipment for Court use.

101 Involved in the curfew studies for Sydney's airport.

128 Had to consult a barrister re result.

143 RAAF base, Tyndell re acoustical isolation. Describes.

195 I look at problems and think about solutions - don't necessarily predict ahead. Think laterally.

223 The new Parliament House one of the most exciting projects I've worked on. Ric Thorpe shown documentation standards - most impressed. Describes fine details.

277 Carried out measurements in the old Parliament House - describes characteristics of acoustics, etc. there.

292 Credit taken by mechanical engineers, Norman, Disney & Young, although they didn't design it.

298 There was not a single problem with the air conditioning/ acoustic systems in the whole of Parliament House.

301 Story of the Peacock/Howard spill. My acoustics not at fault.

326 None of my doors have louvres. Barrier walls described.

350 Have done a lot of work with ASIO - can't talk about it. Also with Director of Public Prosecutions in NSW and Queensland. Involved in The Age tapes. NSW, Federal Police.

373 Have designed equipment for ASIO.

382 Developed a whole lot of new concepts for material.

GARY CUTLER, COLIN RIVERS, NORMAN, DISNEY & YOUNG, PEACOCK/HOWARD|PF1.

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RAXWORTHY - 2/8/95

011 Developed a number of other solutions and concepts for new
Parliament House. Describes difficulties with construction manager.

025 Got helium balloons from Bureau of Meteorology - placed
microphones therein searching for sound leaks.

038 Describes other solutions made.

051 Another award given.

058 Solutions for the kitchens in Parliament House.

067 Designed an unusual cupboard storage system for the printing
offices of House of Reps.

078 Designed recording studios in Parl. House.

091 Papua New Guinea work really exciting - their Parliament House
using local products.

108 Double roof for the torrential rains.

114 Work for National Broadcasting Corp. there.

116 INTERESTING STORY about an Albert Punginil in PNG.

144 Work on pedestrian crossings - sound and tactile systems for
the blind and deaf - RTA job. Anecdote about a blind pedestrian.

188 Computer environmental acoustic modelling system described.
Received an engineering reward for that.

228 Interesting work on the eastern suburbs railway. Comment about
many judges living near the Woollahra cutting.

264 Woollahra cutting created not a single complaint since its
opening in 1981.

283 I designed the new bridge for the East Hills to Campbelltown
railway.

292 I have a solution for the trouble under the Conservatorium of
Music.

306 My involvement with the Institution of Engineers has been
limited. Was on the environmental committee for 2 years. Acoustics
not really involved. Given time to the Standards Association of
Australia instead.

320 Represented Australia in Russia in 1974 - IIC(?) meeting.
Russian secret police didn't like me.

ALBERT PUNGINIL|PF1.

369 I recorded the sound of the Concord 01 and 02 for Greenpeace. I published the results - was rubbished by the National Acoustics Laboratory!

TAPE CONCLUDES

INSTITUTION OF ENGINEEERS - TAPE NO. 89 - SIDE A - LOUIS CHALLIS
INTERVIEWED BY RICHARD RAXWORTHY - 4/9/95

006 Involved in the design of some recording studios with some notable results. First was 26 years ago. Describes.

026 Involved with the design of the sound systems for the ABC Studios at Gore Hill and air condtg. studios for ABC in Adelaide.

032 Most exciting project was for the Channel Nine studios in Sydney. Had to think laterally. Results were meritorious.

065 Involvement with National Acoustics Laboratory (now known as Australian Hearing Services Laboratory) was limited.

070 Designed by someone else - not successful.

092 They are the best laboratories in use in Australia but not usable the way they ought to be.

103 Have created my own competition - unfortunately. However, best for all concerned.

112 Courses don't provide experience in trouble-shooting.

116 There is a need for full-time course in acoustics.

123 Was asked by Mr Ray Peece, retired Director of Nat. Acoustics Lab., to replace Anita Lawrence when she retired from Uni. of Sydney and run a course in architectural and/or engineering acoustics.

129 Decided to accept, but academic staff at Uni. not at all interested.

139 Adelaide runs an excellent course, but it is a small centre.

146 Great advances in acoustics over 30 years.

168 Comment by (my) wife.

192 Ability to measure with new equipment has increased but the interest has decreased. I find this deplorable.

203 Actively involved in community liaison. Elaborates.

250 I have set forward in written form a series of criteria taking into account levels of noise source....peak levels, etc.

274 Have an interesting tale to tell about aircraft noise.

RAY PEECE, ANITA LAWRENCE|PF1.

296 I went into studies of airports. Most notable study in which I was involved was the curfew of Kingsford Smith airport.

314 Senator Evans wrote to me.

322 Dept. of Civil Aviation staff had a different idea.
QUITE INTERESTING TALE.

362 Involvement with Consumer Electronics and Electro-acoustic Committee. Describes.

380 Interesting brief with New Zealand Electricity.
TAPE ENDS

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005 Mention of places worked in New Zealand and description of power stations.

034 Made a promise to reduce noise level at the new and the old stations.

044 Describes how this was achieved.

072 Was asked to go to Sweden to investigate design performance goals for the station in N.Z.

087 They accepted all my recommendations.

096 Had the satisfaction of knowing that I did what I promised.

104 We developed interesting monitoring systems.

118 We have done a lot of wind studies.

140 Designed, for the Olympics 2000, some simple noise control procedures.

149 Use of water in sprays and fountains - problems.

160 Testing of hearing protectors - I set up a laboratory facility. Elaborates.

204 I have not been designing equipment for sale to others. If asked, would have been prepared to do so.

222 Describes first patent. Market wasn't ready for it.

250 Took out various patents on steam blow-off silencers which were effective in some power stations.

262 Particular mention of Huntley power station in New Zealand.

304 Some patents I can't talk about.

316 Have signed agreements with a number of clients that, anything we developed for the project, they would hold the patent rights. One was Parliament House, NSW for the Public Works Dept.

346 Regrets/mistakes. I've made a few. One was that you don't get involved in projects where you don't have sufficient and valid data.

370 After a career of 30 years I have the satisfaction of "doing it my way" and, more significantly, I have been able to achieve results with which I am perfectly satisfied. My philosophy has been that knowing it has been right is more important than what other people think.

TAPE CONCLUDES|PF1.