Eric Lindstrom I inteveiwed Perry Palomaki Palimaki.

[redacted]

Me: When and where were you born

Mr. P: I was born at Bell Memorial Hospital
August
Agust 1947

Me: what are your names of your parents

Mr. P: Woody and Lucille Palomaki, Lucie Palimaki

Me: what did your parents do for a living

Mr. P: My dad was a contract minor miner mother was a (home Ed.?) teacher at Republic for 33 years

Me: what are the names of your bothers and sisters

Mr P: one brother the name of Patty who is a minister of Marquette

Me: are you currently married

Mr P: Yes I am currently married my wife's name is ~~K~~ Karen she has been in food servace for many years and I have two children Shawn who is a hole 12 years old and Brandi Brandy who is 15

Me: how long have you been working in the iron indusry

Mr P: 22 years

Me: why did you chose to work in the iron industry

Mr P: I started with CCI I was going to college and the mine was offering a higher paying job than teaching was at the time it was one of the reasons why I went into the iron industry to make more money as a minnor than a could teacher

include - lots of more did this

Me: Please name the ~~the~~ those relatives who worked in the iron industry

Mr P: aw I have so many it is hard to say my father worked in it for 38 years my Uncle (Cale)? worked in it for 33 years these are my dad's brothers my Uncel Urvin worked in it for 35 years he was a boss over the Empier Mine my Uncle (Cocry)? was a worked in the Iron Industy upat aw perral worked up inas a warhose man at Republic I have many cousins and relatives My Grand father worked in awat the old Lawyed Lloyd Mine My great grand-father worked at the old aw mine at North Lake so [it goes back 3 genner ations if not four] good quote

Check those names

family

Stress heritage as miners

Me: what are the names of your various mines that you have worked in

Mr P: I worked ~~in~~ at ~~the~~ Republic Mine the Empirer Empire Mine shopes and the Tilden Mine basically all the operating mines in the ~~area~~ area right now

Me: over the years what kinds of duties have you performed for C, C, I.

Mr P: I worked as ~~I~~ started as a labor and worked ~~the~~ in the pit as a drill helper starting and then I was on bulldozer and then I drove truck and the I was a plant repair man then I was a greaser who went around and greased every thing the I was elektrition I been elektrition for 19 years now electrician

ME: in as much detail as possible pleasedescribe the main duties of your current job

MrP: it is bacically it is trouble shotting and maintenance maintenance of all the eletric shovels drills and trucks plus the plat itself the buildings the pumbs the pocess we do all the instalation repair upkeep all the lighting anything that has to do with electricity aw the only thing we basically don't touch is some of the aw lectronical controls computer curcits that the eletronic repair usally work on

include

Me: Did this job require any special training or higher education

MrP; yes I had four years of schooling well 2 years of schooling in the Marrien Marine Corps Corr in eletronics, and when I came out or when I started with C.C.I. the had us on an apprenticeship program for 2 years to aw whell basically learn who they wantted us to do the job it's a whell you learn were everything is how to trouble shoot how to aw what kind motors motors and what type of equipment they have so it's the two year appenticip program at the C.C.I put us thourgh for tranning

Me: Please describe any special machinery or equipment that you use on the job

MrP; well we use high voltage testers aw meters meters aw well theres all kinds of hand tools we use pipe bends theaders and just about any kind of hard tool that you would use on any other job we use as electritions aw ratchet socats we are specalize equipment we would be a pump that puts out 15 thousand volts it a big box that generats voltage it probly to find faults in cables grounds and cables and

One of the most interesting ~~peaces~~ pieces of equipment because it makes a big crack like a rifle going off when you find the fault and the spot it snaps and it can scar raw a little bit include

Me: what is the most challenging or difficult part of your job

MrP: trouble shooting we have a lot of we troble shoot AC and DC circuts a lot of them motor control ~~circ~~ circuits that we have with the shovels are aw some interesting problems because it what happen with the equipment we have a normal mantinace maintenance program and we go through it a lot of times we make modifications and sometimes they are not done right or sometimes just through damage of mechanial means or aw water or just old age we have connections that just break down or just heat because electricity produces a lot of heat on the connections and it will break something down that normally we think it will go bad and you would have to sit there and trouble shoot it and sometimes it takes days to find a verry simple problem and its just the matter of hunting every thing down its you have to oper a lot of junction boxes and read a lot of wiers and its complicated because you have to find out were every thing is were how its run and start right from the motor and work your way back or start from the control circuts and work your way to the motor see if you can find your poblem its rather interesting it gives you a big variety of what you do every day you never know what problems you are going to run into next include

include possible quote

Me: thinking back over the years, what was the most challenging or difficult duty you had to perform and explain why

MrP: most challenging duty aw probably the time I had to climb up the wall to fix the crain? it was challenging I am not good at ~~hights~~ heights any more I had to climb all the way up

on the wall and the problem was it was a ventical wall it was probly about 50 feet ~~tall~~ high and we climbed up that to get to the crans (I dont know this and climbed up the beams) and when I got up I found out what the promblem was and it wasn't electicall one of the mechanics to ajust the breaks and ajusted the breaks to tight on the cran so I lossened up the brake and moved the cran over to the end and walked off so it Include

Me: over the years what have you enjoyed the most about your job

MrP: the varity aw doing diffent things all the time your many diffent places We cover the whole mill the plant the pettel plant We go all over the place We never know were we are going from to the next hour Include we ben in the middle of a major trouble shooting projet and had to go on something else basically it would be a safety item and then have to go back to the job you never know what you are going to do day from day

Me: what are the biggest responsibilities of your job

MrP: aw teaching the people about the dangers of high voltage on the job they call and ask us about problems with cables and they see to handle it a lacksidasical lacksidasical fashion aw passion sometimes the voltage running through the cable to the shovels and the drills is 4160 volts that 4 to 40 times than a 110 so your looking at a lot of voltage 1000 volts 1000 volts is basically you had a 1000 aw lets see 100 10 wat or 10 100 wat light bulbs and you put them ina series that would take care of 1000 vots so 110 so thats only 10 so if you multiply that by 90 aw the average house uses about 5,000 wats of eletricity so it would be about 8 times much eletricity as you use running equipment in your own house its lots "he chuckeled" Include the explanation of "high voltage"

Me: if it applies to you describe the most dangerous situations that you have been in

MrP: aw I don't know I haven't really been in bad ones aw I genss the one not most comfortable with is climbing poles aw we had to climb poles on the edge of the pit were we had to look over the side

and it has been in Rebublic it was 3 ~~400~~ hundred feet to the bottom of the high wall sometimes you get a little ~~nochis~~ nauseous when you look to the bottom you get a little scard or when you have the bucket upin the air working on a light that is sasose ~~to~~ bc ~~tuck~~ shinning down over thats all you see you have a tenisy tendency not to look

Me: have you been involved in or have you witnessed any accidents

MrP: there was one accident down at Rebuplic that I was aw the gentelmen was going up the shovel and fell off the ladder he broke his hip and his leg and he was off work for quite a wial

me: also describe the ways in which any friends or relatives may have gotten hurt

MrP: ~~enbay aaa thas~~ I have seen people that have gotten hurt aw friends or relatives basically through there own fault lot a times they just get too close to something they don't watch out for pinch points they get cut or burnt by looking by hot, metal was cut or welded right it wasn't marked right or they got into at Rebublic one accident I can think of that the plant repairmen went into the kiln to check on so piping there was so lead pipping and some operators had been steaming out the pipe cleaning out the pipe and it dropped out on the hot pelets and the steam came right up the tube and there was 3 people that ~~dot~~ basically steammed they one of them died well the steam was so hot it scorched the inside of his lungs one of them dide and the other 2 one of the had to retier of his skin condition because of that he couldn't be in any dust and the other was a relative Lee Besala

include

PG

and all he had was some minnor lung damage and he went back to work

Me!, could you describe either the most unique or perhaps humorous situations you have seen over the years

MrP! we had a foremane that came from well he was a sorry and he was for opperating and from the Empirer and he came over ~~from~~ ~~the~~ to the Tilden and made him a maintenance foreman well he had never worked with the shovels befor the shovel crew went up in the side of the shovel one day and came out side the shovel was falling apart and all it was ~~was~~ iron balls used for crushing ~~it~~ they were cover with gress so he though the barring were coming out well the foreman ran to his superior ~~supperior~~ he said ya those are the shovel barrings you better take them up to the pit enginer so he took them up to the pit enginer and showed him the shovel barring and the pit enginer could not stop laughing ~~so~~ hard ~~hard~~ so hard because it wasn't the shovel barrings all it was were greasy ~~iron~~ iron balls because the gentelmen did not know his that it ~~was~~ ran on roller barrings and thought shovel was falling apart and he though he was going to save ~~them~~ the mine by brining these gressy iron balls to the enginer so he could repair the shovel the other joke I got is the shovel swings around in a circle when it digs and he told one of the new wiers that was waching the operators to swing the other way so it dosn't unscrew the other little story is that they a summer student last summer they came I see all the yellow out house out in the pit but only the electritions have the keys P7

Comments & Includes

for it basically they are shovel shacks that have high voltage in it (power) for connecting and he though the were out houses. include

me! please describe your working conditions

MrP; very good dusty ~~Nasty~~ noisy pinch points and ~~closed corners~~ close quarters basically it is and dirty gressy outside all the time so it could be 30 below or 100 above and hot cold I am working some of the shonvels get up to 106 ~~[illegible]~~ 115 1200 the got fans for coolling it could be 35 40 degrees below 0 we had to climb under shovels at that temp and have your hand stick to the metel because you had to take your glove off or stick your hand into ~~grease~~ grease that is frozen and leave your gloves right there so there is a wide varrites of conditions of work conditions

me! how have safety standards changed and what improvements do you see are yet to be made

MrP; they made alot of imppovements ccI has awas been a ~~safe~~ safe company it just that they have learned more about safty in the last few years that they made an effort to push safty the improvements will come they are getting better equipment all the time they are setting better standards there is all wase rome for impprovement

me; How have you seen the duties of your job change over the years

MrP; well we went from mechanicall opperated cricitry to soild state circutry alot of it is going to computors we do a lot of putting our work and taking our work out of computors we proply have more information available to us than we did years ago about repairring equipment we always fine new information they are giving us better tranning when I first started the tranning was little and now they are giving

us tranning on the equipment wich makes our jobs go eassyer and makes the componny more productive

me; please describe what your co-workers are like

MrP; they are a bunch of nuts they are a got bunch of guys you have to realize that electritions are proplely a little more educated or a little more under standing of whats going on you have to have mechanical welding elecrtical experience befor you are like a jake of all trades you have to have experence in hidrolicts almost every form of mechanichs so you get some guys the know a lot of eletrical work and other guy that are very good in mechanical or trouble shooting the guys I work with are a real good bunch of guys

include

me; do you remember any special stories that stand out about them

MrP; no really I do have any stories

me; during your career were you involved in any special projects or have you implemented any new programes

MrP; as far a special projects go I guss all of us get in diffent arreas the I have help put equipment together shovels and drills and basically I don't I have any special projects outside putting new equiment.

Me; have you ever won any awards or have been recognized in any way for your job performance

MrP; no I haven't I haven't won any awards saftyawards we have safty awards every body gets saftyawards

me; at any time have you felt like changing jobs or your career

MrP; almost ever day well the money so good there

that it is hard to leave after you get into a job for some years its hard to leave the I like to be doing some thing else but that is because the monotiny of tring to do something you know you do the same thing monotony

Me; please describe what you enjoy doing in your spare time

MrP; well I like to sit around and watch TV no basically we do a little carpentry and little bit of cooking a little bit of camping a little bit of hunting a little bit of fishing

Me; if you had to do it all over again would you make the same career choice

MrP; basically its been a good life I think I would rather gone into teaching probly would of enjoyed it more

Me; looking back over the years what impressions stand out most in your mind concerning your association with C.C.I

MrP; C.C.I has been a good company to work for theres been times things been rough and just as much the compains fault as it the union fault on way things were done I think there were come dirty tricks playey by the company in the 80's or in it was all cost cutting measures but it made for a rough ten years in the 80's ] good quite

Me; before we end the interview is there any thing else that comes to mind that you would like to add

MrP; no not to mind but I will tell you what trouble shooting is it is trying to find a fault in an eletrical earror and it could take many hours

stress this.

Safty -
eletrical -
mechinary - x
family at the Mines - x
accidents -