

The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training
Foreign Affairs Oral History Project

BETTY ALLAN

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INTERVIEW

Q: Today is the 16th of August, 2013. This is being done in Arlington Hall, former Cryptography Center of the Army, which is now part of the Department of State's training center. And the purpose of this interview is to get information regarding the work here at Arlington Hall prior to the arrival of the State Department. And Betty Allan served here during the war; we want to pick up her wartime experiences. And Betty, let's start at the beginning. When and where were you born?

ALLAN: I was born on June 19, 1923 and raised in Salamanca, New York. Salamanca was a small city of about 10,000 people.

Q: All right. Salamanca. Where is Salamanca located?

ALLAN: It's in the southwest corner of New York State, south of Buffalo -- not far from the Pennsylvania border on the Alleghany River and most of the town is in an Indian reservation.

Q: Oh yes.

ALLAN: We leased our land from the Indians.

Q: We have a good number of interns who come from Alleghany College, which is in that area.

ALLAN: Yes. Saint Bonaventure University is near there too and I took some summer courses there while I was at Albany State Teacher's College.

Q: Well, your maiden name was Elsen?

ALLAN: That's right. E-L-S-E-N.

Q: Do you know much about the background of your family?

ALLAN: Not a great deal. My father was German. His father had come from Germany. His mother had come from Bavaria. His father's family was military. They being pacifists, came to the U.S. to get away from the military.

Q: They came over when about?

ALLAN: Well, I suspect they came over in the mid 19th century.

Q: There was quite a German exodus after the failed revolution of 1848.

ALLAN: Mm-hmm.

Q: I know on my mother's side they came over.

ALLAN: Yes, I know my mother's father's family came from Germany and her mother was of Irish background. Both parents were 2nd generation Americans.

Q: Mm-hmm.

ALLAN: My mother was orphaned at the age of about five and she and her younger sister were put in a Catholic orphanage. They knew they had an older sister and an older brother -- they remembered that -- but after two years in the orphanage they were adopted by families as part of the "Railroad Children" program.

Q: Oh yes, could you explain what the Railroad Children were?

ALLAN: Well, according to an article in the Smithsonian magazine dated August, 1986 which I have as part of our family records, New York's Children's Aid Society and other child welfare agencies ran a program to place homeless children, many from the streets of New York City, in the homes of families in the rural Midwest. Catholic agencies participated to make sure that Catholic children would be placed in Catholic homes.

Q: Mm-hmm.

ALLAN: Catholic parishes in New York State participated -- the priest would get up in the church and say, "There are some orphans coming from New York City. Would anyone here like an orphan child?" And of course they knew the families, so they wouldn't put the children with the wrong kind of people. My mother was one of those. She was taken by the orphanage nuns by train to Limestone, New York, which is not far from Salamanca. Her sister was placed with a family near Watertown, New York. They kept in contact with each other. Her sister was only five at the time. My mother was placed with a middle-aged single farm lady. Actually, she was not just a farm lady. She had come back home to the farm from the city of Bradford, Pennsylvania where she had been a professional seamstress to take care of her mother and father, who were at that time elderly, and a younger brother who was what the Irish called "fey" (other worldly and unable to care for himself in the real world). I believe the parents were dead when my mother arrived. But "Aunt Kate," as she was called, was left the farm and she farmed this small farm in Limestone, New York. So that's where my mother was raised, happily, as it turned out. Aunt Kate was a grandmother to me and my brother and came to live with us in her old age.

Q: How did your mother and father meet?

ALLAN: My father was from the neighboring town of Salamanca. He courted an older sister -- I say 'sister' of my mother -- since she had been partly raised by Aunt Kate who

did much good in the community. And she would come back to visit the farm and my mother and she became good friends. Her boyfriend, who later was my father, transferred his affections to *(laughs)* my mother who was younger. And that's how it started.

Q: Well, what was your father doing?

ALLAN: He was a machinist, a master machinist on the railroad, on the B&O (Baltimore and Ohio) Railroad.

Q: After the marriage, where did -- I assume your mother moved up to Salamanca?

ALLAN: Moved to Salamanca to the Elsen family farm that had been surrounded by the city and was considerably diminished in acreage by then. His father also had worked on the railroad and my father worked on the railroad most of his life. During the Depression he was sometimes furloughed and since he had more service than some of the others, he would be moved to a job in another town. So he often was away from home. He was a very intelligent man and very imaginative. He could invent and make needed tools so he often served as "tool and die" maker. However, working with the trains, whose steam engines were packed in asbestos, he later developed the cancer mesothelioma. Since he never smoked he lived into his eighties, whereas his younger friends who smoked died fairly early of that disease. He and my mother retired to Florida in their later years.

Q: Where did you go to -- well, I imagine you went to -- did you go to Catholic school or --

ALLAN: I went to a Catholic elementary school and then to a public high school.

Q: How'd you find Catholic public school?

ALLAN: I knew nothing else. I think it was fine. We had nuns for teachers and they could be strict and demanding. We took the Regents exams -- in New York State everybody had to take Regents exams. And Catholic schools did pretty well because it was considered important.

Q: What subjects in elementary school did you particularly like?

ALLAN: I liked and was good in math.

Q: That's really -- that was the scourge of this -- why we're talking you today, isn't it?

ALLAN: Yes. I suppose.

Q: But was this sort of unusual for a young girl to be that good in math?

ALLAN: Well, there were others who were good in math too, but through high school I took a lot of math. And then when I went to college, Albany State Teachers College, I majored in math and social studies and was prepared to teach math and social studies in high school. And of course that's why they were interested in me in the Army Signal Corps.

Q: Well, let's talk a little bit about high school. Did you find there was a difference in education in a public high school as compared to a parochial school?

ALLAN: I expect not, no. My brother went to a public elementary school part of the time because he and the nuns didn't get along. A number of Indian students joined us in the Salamanca public high school from an Indian elementary school outside of Salamanca.

Q: Were you pointed towards teaching?

ALLAN: Yes. I went to a teacher's college. My family wanted their daughter to be educated and teaching was an honored position in their eyes and mine. I thought I would like teaching.

Q: Where did you go to teacher's college?

ALLAN: Albany, New York. Albany State Teacher's College it was called then. Now it's the University of New York State at Albany.

Q: How far up in mathematics did you go?

ALLAN: Trigonometry, advanced geometry, advanced algebra, statistics and so forth. I was prepared to teach algebra and geometry in high school.

Q: How old were you when World War II started for us as December 7th, 1941?

ALLAN: I was 18 since my birthday was in June. And I graduated from college when I was 21.

Q: What brought you to work for the military?

ALLAN: I confess I never thought of working for the military (*laughs*). But I had no desire, having been interviewed at various parts of the state, to teach math in small towns and live in rental digs perhaps over the local funeral parlor. Also, the salary was not great of course and small towns were very strict about how teachers conducted themselves. Also, my father was acquainted with the school board in Salamanca. They assured him that I could have a math teaching job if I applied. And he said, "Isn't it wonderful? You can take Miss Champlan's place." Miss Champlan had taught him and she'd taught me math -- she was an admirable and a formidable lady (*laughs*). Since her demise they had preferred men math teachers but the men had been drafted in the war.

Q: Yes.

ALLAN: So he said, "You could be a Miss Champlan and you could live at home." I had a very peaceful, nice home and childhood. I would not have objected too much to living at home, but I objected to living in Salamanca -- I wanted some adventure, I wanted to go elsewhere.

Q: Oh yes.

ALLAN: Well, there were some recruiters who came from Washington to the college. I don't know whether they were just recruiters in general who were scouting for various agencies, or whether it was for the Army Signal Corps specifically. I somehow missed the recruiters so I just wrote to Washington and asked what jobs were available. I was contacted by the Army Signal Corps. I didn't know what the Army signal Corps was at the time. I went for interviews in New York State and then got on a train as my account here will tell you, and came down to Washington. My father had passes on the railroad, so I could just hop on a train there in Salamanca and come down to Washington.

Q: You wrote an account of this saying you got all dressed up and, you know, going to business meeting on the train. And it was in the middle of summer?

ALLAN: Yes, and it was an overnight trip. I didn't have a seat part of the time, because of the number of troops on the train.

Q: Oh yes, I remember that.

ALLAN: Sitting on suitcases in the aisles was common.

Q: Troops --

ALLAN: Yeah.

Q: You were lucky if you ever got a seat on a train. I stood in the aisles many a day, many a time.

ALLAN: Yes.

Q: So you were a pretty wilted young lady when you --

ALLAN: That's right. *(laughs)* I was. And I was surprised at the reception at Union Station in Washington.

Q: What sort of reception was it?

ALLAN: Well, we were supposed to meet at a certain place and we were gathered together by this WAC (Women's Army Corps) who took us out in the parking lot and put us in an open army Jeep sort of truck. We sat on either side of the jeep truck. The WAC driver stopped along the way, Fort Meyer or some place, and spent some time while we sat in the hot sun. I wasn't used to the heat of July in Washington. And then she brought us out to Arlington Hall, out into the Virginia countryside. I didn't know where we were going. And there we were photographed and were interviewed and they talked about training. I wrote about my experiences for a project years later at the Woman's National Democratic Club in Washington, DC.

Q: Well just, you can read --

ALLAN: I'll read this, which is a shorter version of one I had written for my memoirs.

Q: Good.

ALLAN: The project was to feature the stories of members of the Democratic Club who'd served in the war. I wrote: As you requested in our phone conversation I have put down a few sentences related to my government-related war service. You may use it as you see fit. I am not sensitive and neither is the U.S. government security at this date.

Having just graduated with a BA (bachelor of arts) from the Albany State Teachers College, later the New York State University of Albany, in early July of 1944 I presented myself at Union Station in Washington DC as instructed by the U.S. Army Signal Corps. I had been interviewed by a U.S. government recruiter, filled out a number of forms, and had been summoned by the corps to Washington to undergo further testing, a security check, and training for a position with the corps. They indicated they were interested in me because of my math background. I was qualified to teach high school math. After having been interviewed for high school teaching jobs in several small towns around the State it became apparent to me that I would vastly prefer the excitement of going to Washington to work for the war effort.

From July 1944 until the Japanese surrender in August 1945, my job at the headquarters at the Army Signal Corps at Arlington Hall in Virginia was code breaking, attempting to decipher the military communications of the Japanese Armed Forces in the Far East. It was an exciting job under sometimes stressful conditions, but it was also an exciting time. We worked in low temporary barracks-like, non air conditioned buildings on three shifts. And after that I stayed on another five plus years at Arlington Hall, the Army Signal Corps having evolved into the National Security Agency, working on Soviet Union communications in the Cold War.

It might be of some interest to add something about how I experienced life in Washington in wartimes. For my first appearance in Washington I dressed very carefully in dark blue suit with white lace at the neck, matched by a little lace hat and snowy white gloves. After a night sitting up on the train some of the starch was gone, but I thought I looked very presentable. I and a few other recruits were greeted by a WAC in uniform and

immediately loaded into the open back of a small army truck for a trip out to an unknown destination in the Virginia countryside. It was a terribly hot July day. We made a stop or two along the way while the WAC made some deliveries and we waited in the sun. After arrival at Arlington Hall we were unloaded from the truck and ushered into low temporary buildings.

Arlington Hall in its pre-war days had been a select girls school. Its lovely main building had been converted into an army headquarters, and a number of temporary structures were scattered about the extensive grounds. In the 90 degree heat we were given a series of lectures, filled out forms, and then were unceremoniously thrust in front of a camera to have a picture taken for our badges which were to be worn at all times when on the grounds. For six years I wore that sad badge around my neck.

After all this, those of us who did not already have a place to stay were taken by bus to Arlington Farms, which was located near Memorial Bridge and across the river from the Lincoln Monument. Arlington Farms was actually on the site where the Department of Agriculture once had an experimental farm, thus its name. Several dormitories had been constructed in this location to house the great number of new governmental employees who'd come to Washington to work in the war effort. I was shown to my 10 by 10-foot room that was equipped with a chair, small desk and chair, cot, and small closet. Washroom, bathrooms, and laundry were down the hall. On the grounds was a cafeteria, an infirmary, a small department store, and a beauty parlor. Housing was extremely tight in DC and in Northern Virginia at the time, and many lived there for months or even years before finding other quarters.

It was a very convenient location for getting to work or almost anywhere in Washington. We could walk over Memorial Bridge to see Washington sites or to attend a Washington National Symphony Concert held in the summer on a barge drawn up to Potomac shore in the shadow of the bridge.

Now, out here at Arlington Hall we walked down a long road to our barrack-like structure where we worked. And on the grounds were several other buildings. There were dormitories or barracks for WAC's, and some of them worked with us. And they had really a rough life because their barracks were not heated except for a potbellied stove at one end, which they had to get up in the morning to stoke. And then they had their breakfast and were delivered to the other temporary buildings. On the grounds was a cafeteria and I remember we had to walk outside the building we worked in to eat. We could have three meals a day actually. I worked a swing shift in the beginning, lived at Arlington Farms first. We were picked up by a bus and brought out. Later I lived in rental rooms in Buckingham.

Q: Ah yes. That's not far from here.

ALLAN: When I lived in Buckingham in rental rooms, I walked through the cemetery, across the highway or along the highway, a dangerous business in the darkness.

Q: Well, let's talk about the work you were doing. What did your work comprise of?

ALLAN: Well, we worked at tables in a fairly small room when I was on the swing shift. We had a military supervisor at first and later a civilian woman over us. Early on we worked with what were called overlays where we would move numbers or letters over the coded Japanese messages that were written in katakana, a syllabic form of Japanese writing. We had training to recognize military titles and military terms in Japanese. And if we saw a match we would holler out, "We think we see the beginnings of a word or we see a recognizable title or word appearing."

And our supervisor would come over, and if she thought it was a breakthrough she would yell, "Hot spit," (*laughs*) and we would all be elated.

Q: Ah. Well, you were working mainly on navy?

ALLAN: No, army and navy I believe. My memory's a little dim about that. But then came the computers of course which changed everything.

Q: Did the computer come during your time?

ALLAN: Yes. Came I think in '46 when I was working on Russian messages. I remember having a lecture by a German woman -- I don't see it mentioned anywhere in this literature that I've been reading -- who was an expert in computers. We were given a tour of the computer room, a gigantic refrigerated room. The only refrigerated place on the property. A great number of huge machines all working at once, were making a quite a racket and spewing out reams of paper.

Q: Yeah.

ALLAN: We would be given these machine runs and we would go through them to see if there was anything that seemed recognizable. At this time we worked at desks in large rooms.

After the Japanese War ended a number of us moved into the Russian Cold War operation. That's all part of this history here. Let's see. After the surrender of Japan in August of '45 I worked with the Russian unit. I had many Russian language courses at the agency and spent the summer of 1947 at Columbia University in New York studying at their Slavic Language Department. During this period I moved several times and had many experiences. After six years at the agency I was ready to do something else. And that leads to further tales. And I believe I contributed in some ways to the successful outcome of World War II, certainly my decision to abandon the teaching profession at least temporarily changed the course of my life and I believe happily so.

Q: Well now, I may as well continue, but I'd like to know a little bit more about your time here at Arlington.

ALLAN: Yes.

Q: What was the atmosphere like for a young woman here?

ALLAN: Well, it was fairly exciting in the early days, but after computers took over there were long periods of boredom, days while you just went over pages and pages of machine runs. I do remember for at least a month another girl and I wrote a codebook. And we did this by just taking numbers, adding a certain number or subtracting a certain number, and doing it with every number from one to 100. That somehow became a code book. After that the encryptors would do other things with the codes. They could put them in a machine and scramble them. It was very difficult to decode messages that were encrypted with what was called “one time pad”.

Q: Well, were you working mainly at night?

ALLAN: No, I was working mainly in the daytime. But I did work that swing shift for a number of months for the Japanese code breaking operation.

Q: Well, what about nights? I mean what was the social life like? Because I would think you'd need a social life to sort of, you know, loosen up after this very intense work.

ALLAN: Well, mainly you had a social life with your compatriots. You lived often with other Arlington Hall people. I lived in an apartment in Georgetown for years with two Arlington Hall girls and all three of us dated Arlington Hall men. Two of the three married Arlington Hall employees. Of course there were numerous cultural things to do in Washington – concerts, ballet, movies – to enjoy.

Q: Mm-hmm.

ALLAN: We socialized with the spy, Bill Weisband who was revealed to have done the most damage to the United States perhaps of any spy. Well, here he is. Here's a picture of him.

Q: Who is that?

ALLAN: Bill Weisband. And I didn't know that he was a spy for many, many years after I left the Signal Corp. I worked very closely with him because he was an expert in Russian language. At this time we sat at desks in a large room. And if you needed help with the Russian text you'd put up your hand and Bill Weisband would come and help you with it, interpret what it might be saying. And this went on for a couple of years. He also came to our apartment in Georgetown for parties. He was part of our social set. He had an accent and was supposedly from Hungary I think, but he spoke Russian very well. He had parents in New York who were in the gem business and he used to walk around, especially when he came to parties, with loose gems in his pocket. And he'd show you these gems. Once in a while he would present you with one of them, unset gems.

Q: Oh.

ALLAN: When I left the Agency in 1950 and then I didn't know what happened to him. My roommate dated and then married the head of personnel here at Arlington Hall, Maurice Klein. His secretary married Bill Weisband and he was best man at their wedding. Well, "Mo" Klein lost his job and I didn't know why. Somebody said it was something to do with his misrepresenting his educational background. He said that he graduated from Columbia University when actually he only attended there. That was the grounds on which they dismissed him according to rumor. There was never any indication that he was implicated in any way with Bill Weisband's activity.

Q: Uh-huh.

ALLAN: Actually it was because they had discovered Bill Weisband was a spy and a very seriously damaging spy. And Klein, having been a very good friend of his, was suspect, I suppose. When I went to the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) after having left the job here (Arlington Hall), it took me quite a long time to get clearance and I didn't know why. I think it might have been my association with this spy.

Q: Was there -- I mean did everybody go out and have -- I was just thinking because of the hard work and all I would think that it would be attractive to go out and, you know, drink quite a bit and all that.

ALLAN: Well, we partied a lot but there was not a great deal of drinking. It was fun living in Georgetown (*laughs*).

Q: Were there many military on the base here or?

ALLAN: Yes, there were. The name of the agency changed. It didn't just go directly to the name: National Security Agency. While I was there as a matter of fact the name changed from Army Service Forces Signal Security Agency to the Department of Defense Armed Forces Security Agency.

Q: Here in Arlington when the Japanese surrendered in the summer of '45 -- did you see that as the end of your job, or?

ALLAN: No. I had no worries about it.

Q: I mean were they -- were we already working on it on the Soviet side?

ALLAN: Probably they were and I wasn't aware of it.

Q: When did they put you onto Soviet affairs?

ALLAN: Very shortly after the Japanese War was over. My title was changed from Cryptanalytic Aide to Research Analyst to Research Analytic Specialist along the way to my departure in 1950.

Q: Well, you obviously had to learn a lot of Japanese military words, didn't you?

ALLAN: Well, yes. But they soon left me. I mean they didn't mean anything. Later I lived in Japan and with the CIA.

Q: Well, just when did you move over to -- did you get married while you were here?

ALLAN: No. I got engaged in Japan and married in the U.S. after my stint in Japan with the CIA. When I left Arlington Hall after six years on the job I took out my retirement funds and I went to Europe and I spent it all.

Q: Well, it's a good way to spend it.

ALLAN: *(laughs)*

Q: Money well spent.

ALLAN: And it took me seven months to spend it all. I came home and I applied to CIA, and they took me right on. Except that there was a lengthy period of getting security clearance. And I think some of that delay was from this association with the spy Bill Weisband.

Q: By that point had he been identified as a spy?

ALLAN: He was. But it was never out in the public until many years later after his death. He was indicted and jailed in New York on a perjury charge of some kind I was told by friends. They didn't want people to know; they didn't want the Soviets to know that they were on to him. They no doubt knew. All of a sudden all the communications we were able to read stopped. They used a different coding system. So we were aware something had happened, and maybe that's when they concentrated on finding the leak. I knew nothing about this until after I moved to the retirement home. One night we were listening to the TV, a special report on spies in our history. And all of a sudden Bill Weisband's image came on the screen and the narrator said, "This is perhaps the one that did the most damage for the United States."

I said to my husband, "That's *Bill Weisband*, whom I knew very well and who looked over my shoulder as I was working when I needed Russian language help from him and who was also part of our social set." So it was a big surprise. That was the first time that I found out that he was a spy.

Q: It's not a name that I've ever heard of.

ALLAN: Well, here's a picture of him in a booklet published by the Center for Cryptologic History, 2001. This is about the story, codenamed VENONA. I was unaware of that name at the time of my days at Arlington Hall.

Q: Mm-hmm.

ALLAN: To quote from this booklet The Venona Story, "There was a KGB agent inside Arlington Hall. This was Bill Weisband, a native speaker of Russian who returned to Arlington Hall from an overseas assignment in the summer of 1944. Weisband, who reportedly had been a KGB agent since 1934 was reactivated by the KGB at a meeting in New York City in early 1945. Found in Venona as, cover name, Z-V-E-N-O, he worked in the Russian section of Arlington Hall from 1945 until his arrest in 1950. He caused very grave damage to the U.S."

Q: Signal Intelligence.

ALLAN: Yes.

Q: I had my own little part in Signal Intelligence in that I graduated from college in 1950 and immediately ended up in the Air Force, sent to the Army and Language School in Monterey, took a year of Russian, and then spent the next three years monitoring Soviet aircraft broadcasts.

ALLAN: I see.

Q: So --

ALLAN: Well, here's a map of the way it was at Arlington Hall.

Q: I want to have a copy made of this.

ALLAN: And see, that's Bill Weisband's picture there.

Q: Well, just again, I realize we can't talk about your CIA time very much, but what happened? You left Arlington Hall and you went to Europe and you came back and applied for the CIA.

ALLAN: Mm-hmm.

Q: And what did they do with you?

ALLAN: Well, they sent me to Japan. There were several months when I was being investigated. I took a job in Washington at the Raleigh Hotel in the interim. And then they called me and I was about a year located in temporary buildings along the reflection pool.

Q: Mm-hmm.

ALLAN: And they sent me to Japan. And there I kept track of the Soviet embassy spies. I was not a spy. I was not an agent. I was a reports writer. And I had a file on all the known agents. It was NKVD I think at that point rather than KGB.

Q: Yeah.

ALLAN: And when one of the spies at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo defected he was whisked off to Okinawa, and what do you know? They sent me down there along with some army intelligence people, and we stayed there for close to a month I think while he was being interrogated, interviewed. I mean they treated him very gently. And whatever he told them was then passed by us to see whether we could find any discrepancies. I had my files about the other spies at the Soviet embassy and so did the army intelligence people. And then we wrote reports. I didn't know what happened to him until many years later when his death was reported in the Washington Post.

We were all housed at a U.S. installation on Okinawa where they trained agents to go into Korea. By then the Korean War was going on. I read later in Legacy Of Ashes. Did you ever read that about --

Q: Yes. As a matter fact, I'm mentioned in there.

ALLAN: Really?

Q: Tim Weiner used many of our oral histories.

ALLAN: Well, I learned in there that none of those spies that were sent -- they were young kids and they went to the base Catholic Church for Sunday mass. That's how I knew that they were -- there was this big lot of them. I asked who they were in the church and they told me that they were being trained there to be sent to Korea. And I read in Legacy of Ashes that none of them had ever been heard from again.

Q: Yeah.

ALLAN: So.

Q: Well.

ALLAN: So let's see, where I was? I served two years in "Tokyo, met my future husband there. Together we took the long way home via Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Europe. We had met first on a trip to Hong Kong, Bangkok and Macau in 1953. And then we went back, visited the places that we had known as we were courting (*laughs*). We visited Thailand, Burma, India, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and several European countries. Then came on home and got married.

Q: What was the Arlington Hall as a physical facility like at the time?

ALLAN: Well, there were the headquarters which I didn't get near. Once in the gate I walked down a long road to temporary buildings and I don't know how many of them there were, but I think there were a number. And I think I was moved from one to the other when I went from Japanese to Russian, but I'm not positive about that. There also were the barracks for the WACs. And I think for military men as well. And a cafeteria open 24 hours a day. I don't know very much about the entire facility, to tell you the truth.

Q: Were you ever tempted to joint he WAC's?

ALLAN: No, it never occurred to me. I didn't even know about them I guess until I encountered them here.

Q: Because you weren't under military discipline.

ALLAN: No. Never.

Q: I was noticing in your pay grade, just for somebody wanting to do this -- we have some pay things that you were hired as a cryptoanalytic aid at \$1,800 per annum.

ALLAN: Mm-hmm.

Q: And then you moved up to \$2,000 per annum, and then \$2,320 per annum, and then to \$3,021 per annum for the Army Security Agency in 1947. And I guess '48 you were a research analyst. You were getting \$3,397.20 per annum.

ALLAN: While I was there the name changed from the U.S. Army Service Force Signal Security Agency to the Armed Forces Security Agency. My title went from Cryptanalytic aide to Research Analyst to Research Analytic Specialist.

Q: And then by 1950 it was \$4,075 per annum. Gives you an idea of inflation. I came into the Foreign Service in 1955 and I was getting I think \$3,500 to start.

ALLAN: Mm-hmm.

Q: Times have changed, but when asked to put that into real dollars, which is not quite as bad as it sounds today. Well, Betty I think this has been very interesting.

End of interview