

UPDATE: 2/16/08

2. HERITAGE

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The epigraph comes from Robert Penn Warren, *All the King's Men* [restored edition] (San Diego, New York & London: Harvest, 2001), p. 606.

In the surviving correspondence and notes among the Williams papers, Jerry's parents always use "Gerald." Jerry quoted his father in his 11/11/82 WRKO interview with Dr. Harry Sobel ("Dja hear my son on the air? My son, **Gerald**, on the air?") and used "Gerald" to refer to himself as a child in the 6/11/85 WRKO broadcast (see Chapter 16 [The Performance], p. 326).

In our interviews with her, Eve Williams remembered that her uncle Herbert was not called "Herb," and in fact the Williams kids had a joking rhyme about it – "Pass the sherbet (which they pronounced "sherbert"), Herbert." From these facts we have extrapolated Samuel's own insistence on the use of his full name, elements of his personality, and the manner in which he ran his store.

In several interviews, Jerry identified the corner of Nostrand Avenue and Church Avenue, one of the principal commercial locations in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Flatbush, as the location of his parents' store. The name and address of the store (Jacoby's Kiddie Shop, 1435 Nostrand Avenue) were identified in our 7/12/06 interview with June Koffi, a librarian at the Brooklyn Collection, after she conducted research in Brooklyn Business Directories from 1935-45. These data were confirmed by Samuel Jacoby's 1942 draft registration card, reproduced by the genealogical website, Ancestry.com, captured 8/3/06.

The occupations of Samuel Jacoby's neighbors in Flatbush are drawn from the 1940 census records, reproduced by Ancestry.com.

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We have reconstructed the details of the lives of Jerry's parents and grandparents and the sociological framework of their neighborhoods from census records and other on-line data compiled by Ancestry.com.

In our 8/22/05 interview with Eve Williams, she described the relative height of her paternal grandparents, Samuel and Frieda.

We reviewed the on-line record of 1900 census pages of lower Manhattan, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Samuel Jacobowitz, born in NY in 1893, on 8/3/06. It established the address of the Jacobowitz family as 94 Lewis Street on the Lower East Side. It also provided the name, address, relationship to head of household, marital status, year and month of birth, occupation, race, country of origin, mother

tongue, status regarding renting or owning of residence, and other data, for members of the Jacobowitz family and their neighbors.

We reviewed the on-line record of 1910 census pages of Manhattan Ward 12, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Samuel Jacobowitz, born in NY in 1893, on 8/3/06. It established the address of Sarah Jacobowitz, by that time a widow, and her family in a building she owned at 65 East 101st Street in East Harlem. It also provided the name, address, relationship to head of household, marital status, year and month of birth, occupation, race, country of origin, mother tongue, status regarding renting or owning of residence, and other data, for members of the Jacobowitz family, individuals renting rooms or apartments in their building, and their neighbors.

We reviewed the on-line record of 1910 census pages of Manhattan Ward 19, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Julius Post, born in Austria in 1869, on 8/4/06. It established the address of the Post family as 849 (or possibly 349) First Avenue, in Lower Manhattan. It also provided the name, address, relationship to head of household, marital status, year and month of birth, occupation, race, country of origin, mother tongue, status regarding renting or owning of residence, and other data, for members of the Jacobowitz family and their neighbors.

We reviewed the on-line record of 1920 census pages of Manhattan Assembly District 17, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Samuel Jacoby, born in NY in 1893, on 8/3/06. This confirmed that the family was still living at 95 E. 101st St. It also provided the name, address, relationship to head of household, marital status, occupation, location of employer, race, country of origin, mother tongue, status regarding renting or owning of residence, and other data, for members of the Jacoby family, individuals renting rooms or apartments in their building, and their neighbors.

We reviewed the on-line record of 1930 census pages of Brooklyn District 832, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Gerald Jacoby, born in NY in 1923, on 8/4/06, confirming the family's new address at 293 Martense Street, which we personally determined was less than a five-minute walk to the address of Jacoby's Kiddie Shop in our visit to the neighborhood on 7/12/06. This census also provided the name, address, relationship to head of household, marital status, occupation, location of employer, race, country of origin, mother tongue, status regarding renting or owning of residence, amount of monthly rent or value of home, and other data, for members of the Jacoby family and their neighbors. Notably, it established the fact that no family on Martense Street in 1930 was paying a higher rent than the Jacobys (\$80/month, or almost \$1000/month in 2006 dollars).

The character of these neighborhoods was described by amateur New York City historian Eric Kreitzer in emails to Steve Elman and telephone conversations with him, from 8/3/06 to 8/8/06.

Samuel Jacoby's 1917 draft registration card, found in the on-line records of ancestry.com, captured 8/3/06, establishes the address of the Jacoby family at that time –

including Samuel's mother and grandmother – as 65 East 101st St. in Manhattan. The form also shows Samuel's employment as a clerk at the post office in Grand Central Station, and claims exemption from service because he is the sole support of his mother and grandmother.

The birth dates for Herbert and Gerald Jacoby were confirmed from official records available on ancestry.com, and they correspond to information in the Erasmus Hall records for the boys, quoted to us by Fran Schenk of Erasmus Hall High School in our 2/23/04 and 9/22/04 interviews with her.

Information on the 1907 panic that might have made it possible for the Jacobowitzes to buy their East Harlem building is found in Jon Moen, "The Panic of 1907," posted as part of EH.net encyclopedia, <http://eh.net/encyclopedia/article/moen.panic.1907>, captured 8/8/06.

Historic data on the scope and dates of the 1918-1920s "Spanish flu" epidemic come from Unsigned, "The Influenza Epidemic of 1918," citing John M. Barry, "The Great Influenza" (2004) and Alfred W. Crosby, "America's Forgotten Pandemic" (2003), posted on line at <http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/events/ev-1910s/ev-1918/influenz.htm>, captured 8/5/06.

The initial success of Jacoby's Kiddie Shop is confirmed indirectly by the fact that no family on Martense Street in 1930 was paying a higher rent than the Jacobys (\$80/month, or almost \$1000/month in 2006 dollars), per the on-line record of 1930 census pages of Brooklyn District 832, accessible on-line through Ancestry.com by searching for Gerald Jacoby, born in NY in 1923.

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Jerry described the family's Essex and his resentment of his father's cigar smoking in his 5/22/81 monologue on WNWS, Miami.

Jerry remembered that his father "would never miss" Walter Winchell's program (WRKO, 6/11/85; see Chapter 16 [The Performance], p. 329). On other occasions, he mentioned hearing commentators H. V. Kaltenborn and Boake Carter.

Carter's use of the characterization "Johnny Q. Public," which passed into the vernacular as "John Q. Public," is documented at the latest by the publication of Carter's book, *Johnny Q. Public Speaks!* (New York: Dodge, 1936). Since Carter indicates on page ix of this book that he has been doing his radio program "during the last six years," we can assume that he introduced the phrase in the early 1930s.

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Jerry reminisced on many occasions about hearing many of the popular entertainment shows of the Golden Age of Radio. See the reference to *Amos 'n' Andy* and other

programs in his WRKO monologue of 6/11/85 (Chapter 16 [The Performance], p. 329). Since Jerry adopted the name “Gag Busters” for his Philadelphia comedy team after it was suggested by a listener, it is logical to extrapolate that he heard “Gang Busters” as well. We base our listing of other popular radio programs of the period from the information in <http://www.dg125.com/Gazette/BestOfTheBest/1930's/19321933PT.htm>, <http://www.dg125.com/Gazette/BestOfTheBest/1930's/19331934PT.htm>, and the listings for subsequent broadcast years. We fantasize the family’s reactions to programs Jerry did not specifically mention.

We base our description of the presidential campaign of 1932 and popular impressions of Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930s from period political columns of H. L. Mencken, originally published in the *Baltimore Sun* (“Looking Ahead” [12/8/30], “The Hoover Bust” [5/18/31], “The Impending Carnage” [5/2/32], “Where Are We At?” [7/5/32], and another column entitled “The Hoover Bust” [7/5/32]), collected in Malcolm Moos (ed.), *H. L. Mencken on Politics: A Carnival of Buncombe* (Baltimore & London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), pp. 224-270. Impressions of the Fireside Chats are derived from www.mhrcc.org/fdr/fdr.html.

Information about Rev. Charles Coughlin’s broadcasts is derived from Robert L. Hilliard & Michael C. Keith, *Waves of Rancor: Tuning in the Radical Right* (Armonk, NY & London: M. E. Sharpe, 1999), p. 19. In the first edition of *Burning Up the Air*, we erred in stating that the broadcasts came “from Chicago.” James Isaacs, who was kind enough to read the book and comment on it, pointed out that Coughlin’s broadcasts emanated from Detroit, and that information is corroborated by Hilliard & Keith, above. We regret the error.

Information about Huey Long’s broadcast speeches in 1935 comes from Philip Seib, *Rush Hour: Talk Radio, Politics and the Rise of Rush Limbaugh* (Fort Worth, TX: Summit Group, 1993), p. 151.

Our description of some of the principal news events of the early 1930s is derived from <http://www.answers.com/topic/franklin-d-roosevelt>, captured 12/20/05, and *World Almanac and Book of Facts 1986* (Newspaper Enterprise Association [Scripps-Howard], 1985).

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Jerry’s love for the Dodgers and his interest in Van Lingle Mungo are documented in many radio broadcasts, some of which we produced. The description of the National League pennant race and Mungo’s pitching performance on 9/29/34 is based on David S. Neft & Richard M. Cohen, *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1988), pp. 180-183, and http://www.baseballlibrary.com/baseballlibrary/ballplayers/M/Mungo_Van_Lingle.stm. The same site also describes Mungo’s performance on 9/29/35.

Information on the personnel of Dodger teams in the period comes from David S. Neft & Richard M. Cohen, *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988), pp. 186, 191, 195, 199, etc.

We base our retelling of Arthur Godfrey's pioneering talk radio broadcast of 1/19/34 on the extensive account found in Arthur J. Singer, *Arthur Godfrey: The Adventures of an American Broadcaster* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2000), pp. 45-6, citing Arthur Godfrey and Pete Martin, "This Is My Story" [part 5], *Saturday Evening Post*, 12/3/55, pp. 173-4, and Walter Winchell's newspaper column of Friday 1/26/34.

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We fantasize some of the details of Jerry's Brooklyn street days. We base our description of his stature and summer attire on a period photograph among the Williams papers.

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In an interview with psychologist Dr. Harry Sobel, broadcast on Sobel's program "The Thought Process" (WRKO, Boston, 11/11/82), Jerry said that he sold "magazines and things like that." The detail regarding egg creams and salt pretzels is suggested by comedian Stewie Stone's reminiscence of the candy store at the corner of Nostrand and Church, quoted in Myrna Katz Frommer & Harvey Frommer, *It Happened in Brooklyn: An oral history of growing up in the borough in 1940s, '50s, and '60s* (New York, San Diego & London: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1993), p. 100.

Jerry often spoke of his early interest in swing, and we connect that to the 1935 emergence of the Benny Goodman band, which brought hot music to wide recognition in the US.

One of Jerry's WRKO producers, Mark Kerry, described the yo-yo incident on Jerry's farewell show (WRKO, 1/9/97).

In the Sobel interview (WRKO, Boston, 11/11/82), Jerry described his work in the me-do department of his parents' store. We speculate on his embarrassment selling the me-dos, based on the way he spoke about this experience to Sobel. Since Jerry frequently discussed radio as a sales business, and enthusiastically embraced his role as an on-air salesman for sponsors, we extrapolate his reactions to selling and waiting on customers in his parents' store.

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We extrapolate Jerry's school attitudes from his later attitudes towards authority, his description of himself as "a cantankerous pain in the ass" at the time (Jordan Rich interview, 2/22/02), and his dismissal from Erasmus Hall in his senior year (Erasmus Hall records quoted by Fran Schenk in our telephone interview, 2/23/04). Another instructive indication of his opinion of teachers was his appearance on "Point of View," WLVI-TV

(Channel 56, Boston), May 1986, produced and hosted by Judy Jarvis, where he bristled at what he considered disrespectful treatment by attorney Alan Dershowitz, complaining that Dershowitz was treating him as if he was a student in one of his classes at Harvard; this exchange grew so heated that Jerry walked off the set (See Chapter 9 [Boston Forever], p. 257).

Jerry's passionate interest in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is documented in hundreds of radio broadcasts. We speculate that his first serious exposure to the history and concepts of American liberties would have been in his grammar school classes. We cite well-known personalities and events in American history based on comments Jerry made in his own broadcasts and typical curriculum of the time. Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, George Mason and Gouverneur Morris were delegates to the Constitutional Convention (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_signatories_of_the_United_States_Constitution, captured 1/13/06). Morris is credited with drafting the Preamble and much of the body of the document (Richard Brookhiser, *Gentleman Revolutionary: Gouverneur Morris, the Rake Who Wrote the Constitution* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2003)). The Bill of Rights is based on Mason's Virginia Bill of Rights, modified by Madison (Gary Williams, "George Mason and the Bills of Rights," *The Freeman*, <http://www.self-gov.org/freeman/920503.htm>, captured 1/15/06). We extrapolate his interest in the "regular guys fighting for what they thought was right" from his lifelong praise for such figures and his frequent self-characterizations on the air.

Jerry described his interest in the Tom Swift books to Alan Tolz.

We speculate on the reason Jerry was sent to summer camp on one of his asides in an interview on WNWS, Miami, 6/10/81 ("My father . . . slaved all year to . . . get me away from the city.")

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Jerry's own words, on and off the air, demonstrated his lifelong love of acting and the theater and the importance of his Gilbert and Sullivan experience at Camp Towanda in Honedsale, PA. He described his attendance at the camp in his interview with a fellow Brooklynite, comedian Jack Eagle, on WNWS, Miami, 6/10/81. "My mother put name tags on everything. . . and when I got down to Grand Central Station, when I was going away, I used to yell, 'Don't send me away! I'll eat! I'll eat!'" In his 11/11/82 interview with Dr. Harry Sobel, on "The Thought Process" (WRKO, Boston), he described the camp experience similarly and added, "they did Gilbert and Sullivan, and every week there was a new play, and I always used to participate in those things."

Camp Towanda still prides itself on its drama program, which is prominently mentioned on its web site (www.camptowanda.com, reviewed 8/06). Eagle gives us the reputation of the camp at the time – he says, "Rich kid. He was a rich kid," when Jerry mentions it, and we take "Oooh, a rich guy" from that comment.

We have fantasized that he learned to swim there, based on evidence of his enjoyment of swimming – his later choice of a house in New Jersey near a lake and his love of the family’s swimming pool in Glencoe, Illinois, as described by his daughter Eve in our interviews with her, and the description of the family seaside summer home on Cape Cod from our interview with Andi Williams.

In our 8/22/05 interview with Eve Williams, she indicated that neither Jerry nor his parents were devout Jews, and no one among our interviewees was able to confirm that he was in fact bar mitzvahed. However, in our 10/7/05 interview with Sandy Nagro, she said she believed that he had been.

The name of the temple which the Jacobys may have attended and at which Gerald may have been bar mitzvahed is based on an object among the Williams papers – a gold-colored key, 7” long, with a Star of David worked into the handle design, mounted on a dark wooden shield-shaped plaque, 10” x 12”. The key is engraved, and the engraving reads “Congregation Shaare Torah.” On the reverse, the plaque bears a metal manufacturer’s tag, reading “KRAUS & SONS, INC. FLAGS BADGES BANNERS 11 EAST 22ND ST. NEW YORK, U. S. A.” We do not know what event or honor this plaque commemorated, but it appears to be of the appropriate age to be a memento from the thirties or forties. There is no current Brooklyn congregation with the name “Shaare Torah.” However, one did exist, with a synagogue located at the corner of Albemarle and East 21st Sts. Although its records are now held by the Flatbush and Shaare Torah Jewish Center in Brooklyn, that organization does not have records going back to 1936, as we learned from our interview with them in July 2006.

Details of Jerry’s pre-high school life come from his own recollections (“There was Sheepshead Bay, and there was Coney Island, and there was Nathan’s hot dogs, and chow mein samwiches, all that good stuff when you were a kid in Brooklyn,” Jordan Rich interview, 2/22/02; other details come from his reminiscences in monologues on WNWS, Miami, 5/22/81 and 6/10/81, our 7/12/05 interview with Eric Lobenfeld, and Roger Kahn, *Memories of Summer* (New York: Hyperion, 1997), pp. 1-13. The spelling of “sandwich” as “samwitch” is derived from Jerry’s own pronunciation, which certainly was the way he said it as a child and the way he almost invariably said it on the air.

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We base our story of the Jacoby family’s moves during the depths of the Depression from Erasmus Hall records quoted by Fran Schenk in our interviews with her and Jerry’s own recollections. According to Erasmus Hall, the Jacoby family’s address was 250 Martense Street when Herbert Jacoby was attending the school. Since the school probably kept up-to-date records each year, this was likely the family’s address in 1936, the year Herbert graduated. However, Jerry reminisced on the air that his family lived at 205 and 221 Linden Boulevard in Flatbush, and his Erasmus Hall records show the family living at 201 Linden Boulevard, which was likely the address when he left school in 1941. We established the character of the residences – the bowfront home on Martense and the big apartment buildings on Linden – when we visited the neighborhood on 7/12/06. We also

confirmed at that time that these locales are within walking distance of the corner of Nostrand and Church.

Jerry related his experiences ushering the Benny Goodman concerts at the Paramount Theater in March 1937 when he was interviewing Goodman on WRKO, 6/11/86. He remembered that he saw the band rise from the orchestra pit playing “Let’s Dance” and descend playing “Goodbye” “hundreds of” times. We have added detail of these famous concerts and imagined Jerry’s reactions, drawing on these sources: band personnel lists in January and February 1937, along with text written by Mort Goode in the liner notes for “The Complete Benny Goodman, Vol. IV /1936-1937 (Bluebird twofer LP AXM-2-5537, released 1976), citing Russ Connor and Warren Hicks, *B. G. on the Record* (New Rochelle, NY: Arlington House, 1969); “Benny Goodman” (entry from *The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz* [Oxford University Press]), posted on line at http://www.pbs.org/jazz/biography/artist_id_goodman_benny.htm, captured 8/6/06; and “Paramount Theater” from “Benny Goodman,” including a 1939 photo of the marquee, posted at <http://www.tuxjunction.net/bennygoodman.htm>, captured 8/6/06.

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We fantasize some details of Jerry’s high school years from his occasional reminiscences on and off the air. We are more explicit than he was about his anger and restlessness, but we feel that these qualities account for much of the tension he described between himself and his parents, along with his four attempts to run away from home, described in his 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich.

We base our story of Jerry’s attendance at the first night game at Ebbets Field (6/15/38) on his own account in his 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich, with additional details from *Baseball Almanac*’s description and box score of the game, posted at <http://www.baseball-almanac.com/boxscore/06151938.shtml>, captured 3/3/06, and Adam Ulrey’s biographical sketch of Vander Meer, posted at <http://www.thediamondangle.com/sitt/vandy.html>, captured 3/3/06.

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Jerry identified his Erasmus Hall friends Freddie Fields and Dave Luckman in his 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich. Sid Luckman’s status as a football star at Erasmus Hall is documented at http://c250.columbia.edu/c250_celebrates/remarkable_columbians/sid_luckman.html. Jerry described his participation in the Erasmus Hall cheerleading squad on at least one occasion on the air. This is corroborated by an undated picture of the squad, wearing their letter sweaters, on p. 178 of Myrna Katz Frommer & Harvey Frommer, *It Happened in Brooklyn: An oral history of growing up in the borough in 1940s, ’50s, and ’60s* (New York, San Diego & London: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1993). Jerry is unmistakably the second boy from the left in the back row. The photo is credited to Gail Eiseman Bernstein.

In his 6/10/1981 monologue on WNWS, Miami, Jerry spoke about Irving Weber, Russell Weissman, and his high school band. (“We could never decide who was gonna be the leader. . . . Russell Weissman [and I] had the band. It was called . . . ‘Jerry Russell and the Band.’ . . . We used to play stock arrangements, of course. And we only had one white jacket. . . . I played baton. I played leader.”)

We speculate that Jerry, like so many other Americans before World War II, began smoking cigarettes in high school, and that he did so because smoking had a sexy, manly image. Since his father smoked cigars, he would have been familiar with tobacco. Since he hated the smell of his Dad’s cigars, taking up cigarettes would have been a way to demonstrate his independence. In photos from the war years through the early 1970s, he is seen smoking cigarettes, and he often seems to be using them as props to enhance his image. Irving Weber, the quintessential “cool guy” in Jerry’s recollections, is as good a candidate as any for introducing him to the habit.

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Jerry told everyone, on and off the air, that his first great influence in radio was the iconoclastic raconteur Henry Morgan. Morgan’s pioneering 1940 monologue program, “Here’s Morgan,” is described in Unsigned, “Morgan v. Mutual,” *Time*, 6/15/42, captured from time.com, 2/19/06, <http://www.old-time.com/commercials/adlershoes.html> and <http://www.radiogoldindex.com/cgi-local/p2.cgi?ProgramName=Here's+Morgan>.

Jerry reminisced about running away from home, his stay in a fleabag hotel, Beatrice Klotz’s physical attributes, and his escape to the basement of the Klotz house on Avenue K in Brooklyn in his interview with Jordan Rich on 2/22/02.

We fantasize the events between Gerald’s departure from Erasmus Hall and his entry into “typing school.” Our 2/23/04 interview with Fran Schenk established the date of his dismissal from school. However, we have no record of Jerry ever mentioning that he did not graduate, and therefore we have assumed that this was a matter of some shame for him. In the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich, he mentioned that his mother sent him to typing school before he was drafted. We believe that his parents would not have permitted him to drift aimlessly after leaving high school and that his mother must have insisted that he develop some useful skills. This was undoubtedly a period of strife in the Jacoby home.

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The release date of Orson Welles’ “Citizen Kane” is documented in the unsigned notes from the film’s 50th anniversary release on videocassette (Turner Home Entertainment, 1991). We speculate that Jerry saw the film in its first release, and we believe that he could not fail to have been impressed by Welles’ performance.

We have not been able to determine the name of the typing school Jerry attended. It was probably a small secretarial or business school. We have fantasized what he was taught and how he reacted to it. We have also fantasized that the school was the place that Jerry met Ilse Weiss. In his 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich, Jerry said, "My first love was a lady named Ilse Weiss, a German refugee." Since we know that he was sexually active in the service and that his early romances were with neighborhood girls, we surmise that Ilse Weiss must have come into his life shortly before he was drafted. The only opportunity we know of that he had to meet girls outside of his neighborhood and circle of friends would have been through typing school. We also have fantasized the reasons for Jerry's attraction to Ilse. In his later years, Jerry showed a sympathy for vulnerable or troubled women, and we imagine that the situation of a German refugee in America would have brought out similar feelings in him.

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Our description of the 1941 pennant races and the Yankees-Dodgers World Series is based on text and statistics in David S. Neft & Richard M. Cohen, *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988), pp. 208-211, and the World Series box scores, posted at http://www.baseball-reference.com/postseason/1941_WS.shtml. We do not believe that Jerry attended any of the World Series games that year, because he surely would have mentioned such a significant event for a Dodger fan.

Our description of the Dodgers' performance in 1942 is based on text and statistics in David S. Neft & Richard M. Cohen, *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988), pp. 212-216.

Jerry told the story of his selection for the Army Air Corps at Camp Upton because of his typing school experience in the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich. We have fantasized the interchange with the officer at the processing desk based on his story.

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In the interview with Rich on 2/22/02, he noted that he "went to places that the other guys were not going to, my Brooklyn friends . . . and a good many of them were killed."

Jerry had a lifelong attraction to the Miami area and an antipathy to the winter weather in the Northeast. We have fantasized his excitement at being in Miami for the first time, though he hints at this in his interview with Jordan Rich on 2/22/02. The fact that the Army used tourist hotels in Miami Beach as barracks during World War II is based on information in Bernie Gold's wartime recollections, posted at <http://community-2.webtv.net/bgold5/BerniesPage>.

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Much of the detail regarding Jerry's basic training and the bases he was shipped to is derived from his 3/23/83 monologue on WRKO, Boston.

Jerry's experiences at Chillicothe Business School in Chillicothe, MO are documented in the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich and two photos among the Williams papers. One of the photos is a "graduation" picture of 34 Army Air Corps trainees, dated 5/1/43, which allowed us to estimate the dates of Jerry's induction and basic training. The other shows a dining hall setting at a holiday, probably Christmas 1942, showing a five-to-one ratio of women to men and obvious chaperones at most tables.

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Jerry recalled the move to Kelly Field and his training in PT-19s in the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich. The web site at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/aviation/kel.htm> shows photos of the preserved base, and pre-flight school there is described in <http://www.buffalogal.org/strategy.htm>. In the same interview, Jerry recalled that the recruits used the planes for their R&R in Dallas. In relation to his stay in Texas, he mentioned Joanne McCoy, saying, "Oh. I have never forgotten her. Never, ever forgotten her." He also reminisced about her on the air, on 5/22/81 on WNWS, Miami. We fantasize that McCoy was one of the "Kelly Katies," support personnel hired as a result of the wartime expansion of Kelly Field (see <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/aviation/kel.htm>).

Jerry described his role as "second man in the cockpit" in the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich. The term "flight engineer" was provided by Ted O'Brien, who said in our 8/14/06 interview that Jerry had used that term with him. Wartime recollections at <http://oldkunnel.net/hgr18053.html> provided more detail to us about "second men." We have fantasized the way in which trainers selected first and second men, based on the widely-known bravado of military pilots and Jerry's recollection that "I was scared, scared to be in the airplane as it was."

We have fantasized the stages of Jerry's flight training, extrapolating from his descriptions of his R&R flights to Dallas, particularly from his 5/22/81 monologue on WNWS, Miami. This monologue gives us a very specific description of his feelings about becoming a pilot, and we have adapted the language ("A **pilot**. A **man!**") from that monologue. In at least two other monologues, he recalls the Richard Barthelmess character in "Only Angels Have Wings."

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Also in the WNWS monologue on 5/22/81, Jerry describes the practice of touching wings in midair. We fantasize his reactions.

Jerry described his experiences in India vividly in his 3/23/83 monologue on WRKO, Boston, and our account is based on what he said that day, along with photographs of his base and of his trips to Calcutta that he sent back to his parents. Some details of clothing, attitude, and work habits were added from Steve Elman's own experiences as a traveler in India.

We have surmised the location of the base Jerry called “Bengal Air Depot” in the 3/23/83 monologue. One of the photos in the Williams archive shows him standing in front of a sign with that name, and other photos from the same period have “Khaypur” or “APO 493” written in his hand on the reverse. We have not been able to find a flight base called “Khaypur,” but, according to a postal memorabilia collectors’ site (<http://www.postalhistory.com/xq/asp.results/task./y1./y2./searchtype./dt./cc./cd./dq./du./ct./cs.ii-ps/ts./st./group.20/pagenum.9/Postal+History.htm>, captured 3/3/06), APO 493 corresponds to a base near Kharagpur, a town close to Calcutta, which would have been well-situated for flights over the Hump. Based on this information, we have surmised that “Bengal Air Depot” was at or near Kharagpur. We speculate that “Khaypur” was Jerry’s phoneticization of “K-poor,” a typical military abbreviation of a name that some Americans might have found difficult to pronounce (as a contemporary example, note the contraction of “Guantanamo” to “Gitmo”).

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The Bengal famine is described in John Keay, *India: A History* (New York: Grove Press, 2000), p. 504, and Petra Kelly, “The Only Way To Peace,” International Foundation for Development Alternatives Dossier 35, April / May 1983, posted on line at http://www.dhf.uu.se/ifda/readerdocs/pdf/doss_35.pdf, captured 8/20/06, citing Amartya Sen’s *Poverty and Famines*. Our estimate of the number of deaths each day is conservative, based on the figure of 3 million deaths over a five-month period.

Jerry described the Calcutta riot and his narrow escape from it in harrowing detail in his 3/23/83 monologue on WRKO. Our description attempts to preserve the power and drama of his narrative.

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Jerry described his flights “‘over the hump’– the Himalayas, into India and into Burma” in the 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich. He described the “Cowards” sign on his plane and mentioned “Joanne McCoy, of course, at the top,” a reference that we have interpreted to be a pin-up mascot painted on the side of the plane. There is a similar mascot shown in one of the wartime photos of a plane among the Williams papers.

The amount of materiel shipped to China by the Army Air Transport in 1943 is detailed in <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/72-38/72-38.htm>. We have averaged the amount for the year to give a better sense of the task facing Jerry and his colleagues.

We have fantasized Jerry’s adaptations to military life, based on remarks made in his 3/23/83 WRKO monologue, statements in his 2/22/02 interview with Jordan Rich, and photos in the Williams papers that show scenes on his base (some showing a dog for which he has obvious affection) and his antics on an R&R visit to Calcutta with a sergeant identified only as “Lou.” “Lou” appears to have typical Italian-American

features, and we have surmised his heritage from his appearance there. The Hindi phrase “Aaj bibi maangta hai” which Jerry used in his 3/23/83 WRKO monologue (“That’s all I ever learned in Hindustani to speak . . . ‘Where are the girls?’”) was transliterated and translated literally for us by Warren Senders, an accomplished musician who has lived in India and travels freely between the worlds of Indian music and jazz. We have reinterpreted Warren’s translation (“Today woman wanted is”) to a phrase that is coarser than Jerry’s, but closer to the meaning he undoubtedly wanted to convey: “I want a woman right now.”

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A photo among the Williams papers, showing Lou, shirtless, with a bare-breasted Indian woman, is the basis for our surmise that Jerry and Lou visited the brothels of Calcutta together.

Jerry mentioned in his on-air monologues that it was during his wartime service that he began grabbing microphones whenever they were offered. We fantasize the actual occasions.

Our summary of wartime events from mid-1944 to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is drawn from the Deutsche Welle chronology of World War II, posted at <http://ww6.dw-world.de/en/1982.php>, captured 12/22/05, and from William A. McGeeveran Jr. (Editorial Director), *World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004* (New York: World Almanac Books [dist: St. Martin’s Press], 2004), pp. 539 & 564.

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Our description of the R&R trip to Calcutta taken by Jerry and Lou is based on photos of that trip in the Williams papers.

Jerry describes his return to the US from Calcutta in considerable detail in his 3/23/83 monologue on WRKO, and we have used or adapted much of his language in our text. We have added some shipboard details, basing them on practices described to us by Edward Elman, an officer on a troop transport ship during the war.

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Jerry describes his “enrollment” in the 52-20 Club in the 3/23/83 WRKO monologue.