

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Juan Colón

Date 2000 May 25

Primary Maker Juan Colón

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description Audio cassette tape of an interview with Juan Colón. Interviewed by Ruth Glasser and Amanda Rivera-López on May 25, 2000. The interview was conducted in Spanish. A transcript of the interview is available in both English and Spanish. Juan Colón was born in Gurabo, Puerto Rico in 1950. He was one of six children. His father, Ramon Colón, worked as a carpenter, bricklayer, and machinist in Puerto Rico. His mother, Luz Maria Ramos, worked at a factory in Puerto Rico. His family worked at the Consolidated Cigar Corporation in Puerto Rico processing tobacco. Colón's family came to the United States in 1964. His father worked at Colt Manufacturing Co. and the Royal Typewriter Co. in Hartford. His father had previously traveled to Hartford, and he was recruited to be a crew leader at a tobacco camp since he knew English. The crew leaders were in charge of the administrative part of the camps. Colón attended the University of Connecticut and graduated as a health educator and then took the police exam. He worked as a coordinator for health programs for the migrant workers in the tobacco camps in Windsor. He explains that the agricultural workers' conditions were poor. He describes the different areas of Hartford where the Puerto Rican community lived and the discrimination they faced. He explains that a number of factories in Hartford hired Puerto Rican workers - Colt

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Mfg. Co., Underwood Typewriter Co., and Royal Typewriter Co. - and that they

were treated well at these companies. Colón worked at Arrowhead Electric

Company. He explains that women didn't work on the tobacco farms, but they

did work in the tobacco sheds. He also discusses protests he participated in

within the Hartford Puerto Rican community and the 1967 Hartford Riot. He

discusses how the Puerto Rican community wanted to become involved in

politics, so they could make improvements from a position of power. He

explains Maria Sanchez's involvement in politics. He discusses Title 7 of the Civil

Rights Act, which makes it unlawful to discriminate against someone because of:

race, color, religion, sex, or natural origin. 2013.27.6a-d: two digital files, J-card,

and tape

Dimensions Duration (side 1): 46 Minutes, 24 Seconds Duration (side 2): 22

Minutes, 15 Seconds Duration (total runtime): 1 Hour, 8 Minutes, 40 Seconds