4-1-1972

Cape Verdean Oral History Project: Interview with Charles Fortes by Alberto Torres Pereira

Charles Fortes

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ric.edu/verdean

Part of the Social and Cultural Anthropology Commons

Recommended Citation


https://digitalcommons.ric.edu/verdean/3
000-Tape running...Mr. Fortes discusses, "Lingua Crioula" dialect spoken by Cape Verdeans.

006-Open with comments and introduce Mr. Fortes.

025-Cape Verdeans working in Lisbon in construction work.

039-Visit to Cabo Verde a visit to "mecca" for Mr. Fortes.

045-His marriage, his parents, "lingua crioula" poverty; need to return to Cape Verde Islands.

056-Parents migrated to America; father and other young men in 1917; mother in 1920. In late 1920's Cape Verdeans owned shipping co. Did trade between Cape Verdes and West Africa (Cape Verde-W. Africa Packet Trade). Passengers, tropical food, (manioc) cargo, etc. Ships named; "Corrolias" Bradford D. Jones, "Berkin" all docked at New Bedford and Providence. Did inter-island trade (Cape Verdes) plus Dakar and coastal Africa. Mentions "Ernestina" also inter island trade vessel. (sailed to Providence years ago).

090-Mr. Fortes first reaction on viewing Cape Verde Islands from air was, "incredible how people survived."

105-Frustration due to no timetable; slow pace of islands. People fighting elements to survive. "Land that God has forgotten" student quoted by Mr. Fortes.

122-Islanders travel extensively by plane (between islands).

135-Mindelo, a cosmopolitan city has 25,000 inhabitants.

145-Education prized by Cape Verdeans; children of Mindelo walk miles to classrooms.

165-Twelfth grade highest level on Cape Verde Islands; to Portugal for university or college work.

208-Discusses "operation bootstrap" idea for Cape Verde Islands.

258-Young Cape Verdeans are more apt to stay put-less migration.

305-Comments on multi-racial makeup of Cape Verde Islands. Discusses Japanese settlement; comments on Cape Verde Airline.

384-200,000 people on Cape Verde Islands; about 300,000 of Cape Verde ancestry in U.S.
CAPE VERDEAN ORAL HISTORY
Tape #3
Saturday, April 1, 1972
Mr. Charles Fortes
Executive Director
Providence Corporation
Dodge Street, Providence, R.I.
Interviewer-Alberto Torres Pereira

495-Artists in Cape Verdes.

510-Writing in Creole dialect (writers, poets, etc.). Sees eventual nationalization of the language.

552-Art—mostly from West Africa.

600-political climate.
Summary
close.