

time to discover and understand. Most of the cassettes used on this Project were C-90's, rather than C-60's. However other factors were involved in the selection of equipment besides the problems of transcribing. Although the C-60's were found to be somewhat easier to transcribe, the C-90's could be transcribed easily enough, and several field workers felt that the C-90's were considerably more convenient in the field because they were longer--that is, field workers could conduct a more relaxed interview when they did not have to spend so much of their time watching for the tape to run out.

Overall, the decision to use mainly cassettes and equipment designed for cassettes was made because of the features of portability, convenience, and inconspicuous appearance offered by cassette equipment, all of which were judged to contribute to a more relaxed, less self-conscious interview than would be possible with bulkier equipment. The technical difficulties mentioned here were sometimes frustrating, but not insurmountable, and it is felt that the final typescripts in the collection are accurate renderings of the original tapes. In weighing all factors, the Project personnel are satisfied with their decision to use cassette tapes and equipment. It is hoped that these mechanical problems will eventually be resolved by the audio equipment industry. One other minor point concerning the equipment is that cassettes which are assembled with screws can easily be taken apart to splice a broken tape or unravel a kink and then reassembled, whereas cassettes which are welded together may require a service call to repair.

The only other personnel on the Project were several part-time Library Assistants who worked on the indexing of the typescripts in the