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LAGS Field Records: Form and Content

Marvin Bassett Susan E. Leas LAGS Field Records: Form and Content

INTRODUCTION

The term field record in the Linguistic Atlas of the Gulf States (LAGS) Project designates the tape-recorded interview conducted by the fieldworker with the informant. This paper presents information about both the physical characteristics of the tapes and the ways in which they were recorded in order to provide practical assistance to auditors of the field records. First, the practice of LAGS fieldworkers in the selection of magnetic tape and a recorder is explained, accompanied by a list indicating the number, tape capacity, and size of reels used in recording each interview. Second is a discussion of incomplete field records, together with a tabulation of these interviews. The third part summarizes types of mechanical difficulties that fieldworkers experienced with recording instruments and the consequent effects on the audial quality of the tapes; a list identifies records affected by these problems. Fourth, sources of external interference during recording that tend to compromise the fidelity of the tapes are characterized and illustrated. In considering the problems identified here, one should remember that most of the field records in the LAGS corpus have good sound quality (especially those conducted by regular fieldworkers) and that, usually, only a portion of each of the records listed below suffers from poor fidelity.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The audial problems of field records may in some instances be attributed to the particular brand of magnetic tape and/or make of the recording instrument used by the fieldworker. Records were made on reels and cassettes of varying grades of fidelity. Although all regular fieldworkers and many student fieldworkers selected high-fidelity products for their assignments (e.g., Scotch Brand AV 178 magnetic tape), a few volunteers, no doubt because of financial considerations, used inferior brands whose sound reproduction capabilities fall short of desired standards. Used on good tape recorders, however, these tapes often produced adequate results, but if they were recorded on unreliable machines, audial difficulties were predictably compounded. Again, most fieldworkers, especially the regular interviewers, used high-quality, precision instruments in their work (e.g., the Uher Report 4000 IC or the Sony TC-860), but some volunteers, particularly those who owned cassette recorders, relied upon substandard equipment. Regardless of the results, one cannot fault the good intentions of the volunteer fieldworkers. Their errors in judgment were likely the result of any one or a combination of factors involving 1) a desire to reduce costs, 2) a lack of familiarity with the capabilities of available audio equipment and products, and 3) an insensitivity to the demands of atlas fieldwork due to their minimal experience.

After having been recorded, each tape was labeled by the fieldworker. The basic information recorded on each box housing a master reel of a LAGS interview is illustrated below:

- (b) Side A: Personal Data and Free Conversation Side B: 7A 17.5
- (c) MLY 73 1A
- (d) Name of the informant
- (e) Troy, Alabama
- (f) Pike County
- (g) CF 279.03
- (h) 3,6 September 1976; 3 December 1976
- (i) Guy Bailey and Marvin Bassett

Reel copies of all interviews are to be prepared by the LAGS staff, and the boxes for those reels will reflect the same information as on the masters, except as noted. The fieldworkers' notations may be explained as follows:

- (a) identifies the particular reel among the total number of reels used to record the interview;
- (b) identifies the portion of the interview recorded on each track of a two-track reel of tape (e.g., side B covers page 7A to page 17, line 5 of the questionnaire);
- (c) identifies the informant as M[ale] L[ower-middle class] Y[white caste] 73 [years of age] [type] 1 [grammar school education] A [insular general perspective];
- (d) identifies the informant by name (omitted from the copy);
- (e) identifies the city (locality) and state where the informant resides;
- (f) identifies the county (community) where the informant resides;
- (g) identifies the appropriate grid unit and accession number;
- (h) identifies the date(s) on which the interview took place;
- (i) identifies the fieldworker(s) who conducted the interview

The entire corpus of 1,118 field records is preserved only on reels of magnetic tape. All interviews originally recorded on cassettes were copied onto reels, each 5 inches in diameter with a 1,200-foot tape capacity. The following comprehensive list of field records—grouped by zone and identified by grid unit and accession number—indicates both the number of reels comprising each interview and the capacity of the reels in feet. All reels are 5 inches in diameter. After this list was compiled, 20 more field records were added to the collection. These interviews appear at the end of the tabulation.

NUMBER AND CAPACITY OF REELS PER FIELD RECORD

East Tennessee

A 001.01	5 @ 900	
A 001.02	2 @ 900 2 @ 1200	
A 001.03	3 @ 900	
A 001.04	3 @ 900	
A 001.05 A 002.01	2 @ 1200 4 @ 900	
A 002.01	4 @ 900 5 @ 900	
A 002.03	5 @ 900	
B 004.01	3 @ 900	
B 004.02 B 005.01	3 @ 900	
B 005.01	3 @ 900 1 @ 900	
C 006.01	1 @ 1200	
	2 @ 900	
C 006.02	3 @ 1200	
C 006.03 C 006.04	1 @ 1200 2 @ 1200	
C 006.05	1 @ 900	
	1 @ 1200	
G 007 07	1 @ 1800	
C 007.01 D 009.01	3 @ 900 3 @ 900	
D 009.01	3 @ 900	
D 009.03	3 @ 900	
D 010.01	3 @ 900	
D 010.02 D 011.01	4 @ 1200 3 @ 1200	
E 014.01	3 @ 1200 4 @ 900	
E 014.02	2 @ 900	
F 015.01	2 @ 900	
F 015.02	2 @ 900	
F 016.01 F 016.02	1 @ 1800 1 @ 1800	
_ 010.01	1 @ 900	
G 017.01	2 @ 900	
G 017.02	2 @ 900	
G 017.03 G 017.04	4 @ 900 3 @ 900	
G 017.05	2 @ 900	
G 017.06	2 @ 900	
G 017.07	2 @ 900	
G 017.08	2 @ 1200	

H 019.01 2 @ 900 н 019.02 3 @ 900 H 020.01 1 @ 1200 H 020.02 2 @ 1200 н 020.03 3 @ 1200 I 021.01 2 @ 900 I 021.02 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 J 024.01 6 @ 900 J 025.01 2 @ 1800 J 025.02 1 @ 1200 J 026.01 5@ 900 J 026,02 5 @ 900 J 026.03 2 @ 1200 K 028.01 3 @ 900 K 028.02 2 @ 900 K 028.03 2 @ 1200 L 030.01 2 @ 1800 L 031.01 2 @ 900 L 031.02 2 @ 900 M 032.01 2 @ 900 M 032,02 4 @ 900 M 032.03 3 @ 900 M 032.04 4 @ 900 M 032.05 4 @ 900 3 @ 900 2 @ 900 M 032.06 M 032.07 M 032.08 5 @ 600 M 032.09 2 @ 900 M 032.10 2 @ 1200 M 032.11 4 @ 1200 3 @ 600 N 034.01 3 @ 900 N 034.02 3 @ 900

Upper Georgia

\circ	036.0I	2	a	1200
		1	@	1800
0	036.02	3	@	1200
0	037.01	3	a	600
0	037.02	1	@	1200
	001.01	4	@	600
O	003.01	7	a	900

Upper Georgia (cont'd)		
P 038.01 4 @ 900	т 052.04	4 @ 900
P 038.02 3 @ 900	T 052.05	
P 038.03 4 @ 900 P 038.04 1 @ 900	T 052.06	3 @ 1200
P 038.04 1 @ 900 Q 043.01 4 @ 1200	T 053.01	3 @ 1200
Q 044.01 3 @ 1200	T 053.02	3 @ 900
Q 044.02 3 @ 900	T 053.03	4 @ 1200
Q 044.03 3 @ 1200	T 053.04	2 @ 1200
Q 044.04 3 @ 1200	T 053.05	2 @ 900
Q 044.05 3 @ 1200		1 @ 600
	T 054.06	5 @ 600
Q#004.01 3 @ 1200	T 053.07	4 @ 1200
Q#005.01 4 @ 1200	T 053.08	4 @ 1200
Q#006.01 3 @ 600	T 053.09	3 @ 600
1 @ 900	T 053.10	1 @ 900
Q#006.02 4 @ 900	T 053.11	5 @ 1200
Q#006.03 3 @ 1200	T 053.12	3 @ 1200
1 @ 900	т 053,13	2 @ 1200
R 045.01 4 @ 900	T 053.14	3 @ 1200
R 045.02 4 @ 600	T 053.15	5 @ 1200
R 046.01 3 @ 900	T 053.16	4 @ 1200
R 047.01 3 @ 900	U 054.01	3 @ 900
R 047.02 5 @ 900	U 054.02	3 @ 900
R 047.03 4 @ 900 R 047.04 2 @ 1200	U 054.03	3 @ 900
R 047.05 4 @ 1200	V 057.01	4 @ 900
S 049.01 4 @ 900	V 058.01	3 @ 900
S 050.01 3 @ 600	V 059.01	4 @ 600
2 @ 900	V 059.02	4 @ 600
S 050.02 2 @ 900	V 059.03	2 @ 1200
1 @ 600	V 059.04	3 @ 900
S 051.01 5 @ 900	W 060.01	4 @ 900
S 051.02 3 @ 1200	W 061.01 W 061.02	4 @ 900 4 @ 900
S#007.01 1 @ 900	W 061.03	4 @ 900
S#007.02 7 @ 600	W 062.01	3 @ 900
S#008.01 4 @ 1200	W 062.02	4 @ 900
S#009.01 4 @ 600	W 062.03	4 @ 900
S#011.01 2 @ 900	W 062.04	3 @ 900
S#012.01 2 @ 1800		1 @ 1200
S#013.01 3 @ 900	W 062.05	3 @ 900
S#013.02 3 @ 900	W#022.01	1 @ 1200
S#014.01 3 @ 1200	W#022.02	1 @ 900
S#015.01 2 @ 1800	W#025.01	2 @ 900
S#015.02 4 @ 900	X 063.01	3 @ 900
S#015.03 3 @ 1200	X 063.02	4 @ 900
S#019.01 3 @ 900	X 063.03	4 @ 900
T 052.01 3 @ 900	X 063.04	3 @ 1200
T 052.02 3 @ 900	x 063.05	4 @ 600
T 052.03 3 @ 900	X 064.01	4 @ 900

Upper Georgia (cont'd) Y 065.01 3 @ 900 Y 065.02 4 @ 900 Y 065.03 4 @ 900 Y 065.04 4 @ 900 Y 065.05 4 @ 900 Y 066.01 4 @ 900 1 @ 600 Y 067.01 3 @ 600 Y 067.02 2 @ 900 Y 067.03 4 @ 900 Y 067.04 3 @ 900 Y 067.05 3 @ 900 Y 067.06 1 @ 1800 1 @ 1200 Y#026.01 2 @ 900 Y#028.01 4 @ 900 Y#029.01 1 @ 900 Y#031.01 1 @ 900 Y#033.01 1 @ 900 Y#034.01 2 @ 900 Y#036.01 4 @ 1200 Y#037.01 4 @ 900 Y#037.02 2 @ 900 Y#038.01 1 @ 900 Z.068.01 4 @ 900 Z 068.02 3 @ 900 Z 068.03 3 @ 900 Z 069.01 3 @ 900 Z 069.02 4 @ 900 Z 069.03 4 @ 900 Z 069.04 3 @ 900 Z 069.05 4 @ 900 Z 069.06 2 @ 900 Z 069.07 4 @ 900 Z 069.08 2 @ 900 5 @ 900 Z 070.01 Z 070.02 4 @ 900 Z 070.03 2 @ 1200 Z 071.01 3 @ 900 Z 071.02 5 @ 900 Z 071.03 2 @ 900 AA072.01 3 @ 900

AA072.02

AA073.01

AA073.02

AA074.01 4 @ 900

3 @ 600

3 @ 900

3 @ 1200 1 @ 900

AA074.02 AA074.03 AA075.01 AB076.01 AB076.02	3 @ 900 2 @ 1800 1 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 3 @ 1200 4 @ 1200
Lower Geor	rgia
AC 080.01 AC 082.01 AC 083.02 AC 084.01 AC 086.01 AC 086.01 AC 086.02 AC 086.01 AC 086.02	3 @ 1200 3 @ 1200 3 @ 900 3 @ 1200 3 @ 900 4 @ 900 1 @ 1200 3 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 4 @ 900 4 @ 900 4 @ 900 4 @ 900 4 @ 900 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 3 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 3 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 3 @ 1200 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 900 1 @ 1200
AD 086.03 AD 086.04	2 @ 1800 2 @ 1200
AD 086.05	3 @ 1200
AE 087.01	1 @ 900
AE 088.01	2 @ 1200
AE 088.02	2 @ 1200
AE 089.01	5 @ 1200
AE 091.01	2 @ 1200
AE 091.02 AF 092.01	1 @ 1200
AF 092.01 AF 093.01	1 @ 900
AF 093.01	2 @ 1200 1 @ 900
AF 094.01	1 @ 900 6 @ 600

AF#060.01 3 @ 1200

AF#062.01 1 @ 900

Lower Georg	ia	(cont'd)			
AF#063.01	3 @	1200		AM 118.01	3 @ 1200
AF#063.02	3 @	1200		AM 118.02	
AF#063.03	2 @			AN 121.01	
	4 @			AN 121.01 AN 122.01	
	1 @	900		AN 122.01 AN 122.02	
	2 @				
	4 @	1200		AO 123.01	
	4 @	1200		AO 123.02	4 @ 900
	1 @	900		AO 123,03	
	7 @	900		AO 124.01	2 @ 900
	1 @	1200		AO 125.01	3 @ 1200
	3 @	1200		AO 125.02	4 @ 900
100	3 @	1200		AP 126.01	4 @ 900
	3 @	1200		AP 127.01	1 @ 1200
	3 @	600		AP 127.02	3 @ 1200
	1 @	900		AP 127.04	1 @ 1200
	3 @	1200		AP 127.05	1 @ 1200
		900		AP 128.01	4 @ 900
	2 @	1200		7.7. 7.00 07	1 @ 600
AJ 106.02 2		1200		AP 129.01	2 @ 1200
AJ 106.03 1		1200			
AJ 106.04 3		1200		East Flor	<u>lda</u>
AJ 107.01 2		1200		AQ 130.01	5 @ 600
AJ 107.02 2		1200		ÃQ 130.02	5 @ 1200
AJ 108.01 3		1200		AQ 130.03	4 @ 1200
AK 109.01 1		900		AQ 130.04	3 @ 1200
AK 109.02 5		1200		AQ 130.05	4 @ 1200
AK 111.01 1		1800		AQ 130.06	5 @ 1200
AK 111.02 1		900		AQ 130.07	3 @ 1200
AK 111.03 2		900		AQ 130.08	3 @ 1200
AK 112.01 3		1200		AQ 130.09	3 @ 1200
AK 112.02 1		1200		AR 134.01	2 @ 1800
INC 112.02 1		1200		AR 134.02	1 @ 1800
AK#064.01 2	. a	1200		AR 134.03	2 @ 1800
AK#064.02 3		1200		AR 134.04	1 @ 900
AK#064.03 1		1200			2 @ 1800
AK#064.04 2		1200		AS 139.01	2 @ 1800
AK#064.05 3		1200			1 @ 900
AL 113.01 1		1200	0.7	AS 139.02	2 @ 1800
AL 114.01 2		1200		AT 141.01	3 @ 1200
		1200		AT 141.02	2 @ 1200
AL 114.02 1 AL 114.02 1		1200		AT 142.01	1 @ 1800
AL 114.02 1 AL 114.04 1		900		AT 142.02	2 @ 1800
AM 117.01 4		900		AT 142.03	2 @ 1800
		900		AU 143.01	2 @ 900
				AU 143.02	6 @ 1200
AM 117.03 3 AM 117.04 3		900		AU 144.01	3 @ 1800
AM 117.04 3 AM 117.05 3		900		AU 144.02	2 @ 1800
		1200	· ·		1 @ 1200
AM 117.06 2	<u>u</u> .	1200			_ C

E	ast Flor	rida (cont'd)	
A	U 145.01	1 @ 1800	AZ 183.06 4 @ 1200
		1 @ 1200	AZ 183.07 4 @ 1200
A	U 146.01	3 @ 1200	AZ 183.08 3 @ 1200
A	U 146.02	2 1 @ 1200	AZ 184.01 3 @ 1200
A	V 148.01		AZ 184.02 1 @ 1200
A	V 150.01		AZ 184.03 1 @ 1200
	V 150.02		AZ 184.04 4 @ 1200
	V 150.03		12 104.04 4 6 1200
	W 153.01		Middle Tennessee
		2 @ 600	riddie remiessee
		2 @ 900	BA 185.01 4 @ 900
A	W 153.02		BA 185.02 3 @ 900
	W 153.03		
		2 @ 900	
ZΙ	W 154.01		
	. 101.01	1 @ 900	BB 191.03 1 @ 1200
ΔΙ	W 154.02		BB 191.04 2 @ 1200
211	134.02	1 @ 900	BC 192.01 3 @ 900
- Z\ \	x 156.01		BC 192.02 3 @ 900
	x 156.01		BC 193.01 2 @ 1200
132	130.02	1 @ 1200	BD 194.01 2 @ 1200
7/ 7	157.01	2 @ 1800	BD 195.01 1 @ 900
	158.01		BD 196.01 3 @ 900
			BD 196,02 4 @ 900
	160.01	4 @ 1200	BE 198.01 3 @ 900
	160.02		BE 198.02 2 @ 900
	160.03	4 @ 1200	BF 202.01 4 @ 900
	162.01	4 @ 1200	BF 202.02 2 @ 900
Ai	7 166.01	5 @ 1200	BF 202.03 6 @ 900
7/7	7 167 01	1 @ 600	BG 204.01 3 @ 1200
	7 167.01	4 @ 1200	BG 204.02 3 @ 1200
-	7 167.02	5 @ 1200	BG 204.03 3 @ 1200
	7 167.03	6 @ 1200	BG 204.04 3 @ 1200
		4 @ 1200	BG 204.05 3 @ 1200
AY		4 @ 1200	BG 204.06 3 @ 1200
		3 @ 1200	BG 204.07 3 @ 1200
	167.07	3 @ 1200	BG 204.08 2 @ 1200
	167.08	1 @ 1200	BH 205.01 2 @ 1200
	171.01	2 @ 1200	BH 206.01 3 @ 1200
AZ		2 @ 1200	BH 207.01 6 @ 900
AZ	176.01	1 @ 1800	BH 207.02 3 @ 900
		1 @ 1200	BH 207.03 4 @ 1200
		1 @ 900	BI 209.01 3 @ 900
7/ 12	100 01	1 @ 600	BI 209.02 3 @ 900
	180.01	3 @ 1200	BI 209.03 4 @ 900
	181.01	2 @ 1200	BI 211,01 4 @ 1200
	183.01	4 @ 1200	BJ 212.01 3 @ 1200
	183.02	2 @ 1200	BJ 214.01 5 @ 900
	183.03	4 @ 1200	ВЈ 214.02 3 @ 900
	183.04	4 @ 1200	BK 217.01 2 @ 1200
ΑZ	183.05	4 @ 1200	BK 217.02 3 @ 900

Middle Tennessee (cont'd)

	217.03	6	a	900
BK	217.04	3	@	1200
BL	219.01	7	@	900
BL	219.02	3	@	900
BM	221.01	4	@	900
BM	222.01	5	@	900
BM	222.02	2	@	1200
BM	222.03	7	@	900
BM	224 01	3	a	1200

Upper Alabama

BN	225.01	2	. a	1200
BN	225.02	2	@	1200
BN	225.03	3	e a	1200
BN	226.01	2	_ @	1200
BN	226.02	2	@	1200
BN	226.03	2	@	1200
BN	226.04	2	_a	1200
BN	226.05	2	@	1200
BN	226.06	3	@	1200
BN	226.07	4	a	900
BO	227.01	2	@	900
BO	227.02	5	@	1200
BO	228.01	2	a	1200
BO	229.01	3	_a	1200
BO	229.02	2	@	1200
BO	229.03	3	@	1200
BP		2	@	1200
BP		2	@	1200
BP	230.03	3	a	1200
BP	230.04	2	a	1200
BP		2	@	1200
		1	9	1200
		1	@	1200
			@	1200
BQ	232.01	3	a a	1200
				1200
				1200
				1200
			_	1200
				1200
				1200
				1200
			0.00	1200
				1200
BS	238.02	2	a	1200
	BN BN BN BN BN BO BO BO BO BP BP BP	BN 225.02 BN 226.01 BN 226.02 BN 226.03 BN 226.04 BN 226.05 BN 226.06 BN 226.07 BO 227.01 BO 227.02 BO 229.01 BO 229.01 BO 229.03 BP 230.01 BP 230.02 BP 230.03 BP 230.05 BP 230.06 BP 230.06 BP 230.07 BP 231.01 BQ 232.01 BQ 233.01 BR 234.01 BR 234.01 BR 234.01 BS 237.01 BS 237.02 BS 237.03 BS 238.01	BN 225.02 2 BN 226.01 2 BN 226.02 2 BN 226.03 2 BN 226.04 2 BN 226.05 2 BN 226.06 3 BN 226.07 4 BO 227.01 2 BO 227.02 5 BO 228.01 2 BO 229.02 2 BO 229.03 3 BP 230.01 2 BP 230.02 2 BP 230.03 3 BP 230.04 2 BP 230.05 2 BP 230.05 1 BP 230.05 1 BP 230.06 1 BP 230.07 1 BP 231.01 2 BQ 232.01 3 BQ 233.01 4 BR 234.01 2 BR 234.02 3 BR 235.01 2 BS 237.01 4 BS 237.02 2 BS 237.03 2 BS 237.03 2 BS 238.01 2	BN 225.02 2 @ BN 226.01 2 @ BN 226.02 2 @ BN 226.03 2 @ BN 226.05 2 @ BN 226.06 3 @ BN 226.07 4 @ BN 226.07 4 @ BO 227.01 2 @ BO 227.02 5 @ BO 228.01 2 @ BO 229.02 2 @ BO 229.03 3 @ BP 230.01 2 @ BP 230.02 2 @ BP 230.03 3 @ BP 230.04 2 @ BP 230.05 2 @ BP 230.05 2 @ BP 230.06 1 @ BP 230.06 1 @ BP 231.01 2 @ BR 234.02 3 @ BR 234.01 2 @ BR 234.02 3 @ BR 235.01 2 @ BR 237.01 4 @ BR 237.02 2 @ BS 237.03 2 @ BS 237.03 2 @ BS 237.03 2 @ BS 237.03 2 @ BS 238.01 2 @ BS

BS 239.01	3 @ 1200
BS 239.02	2 @ 1200
BS 239.03	1 @ 1200
BS 239.04	2 @ 1200
BS 239.05	3 @ 1200
BT 240.01	2 @ 1200
BT 241.01	2 @ 1200
BT 241.02	2 @ 1200
BT 242.01	3 @ 900
BU 243.01	1 @ 900
BU 243.02	4 @ 900
BU 243.03	3 @ 1200
BU 243.04	1 @ 1200
BU 243.05	3 @ 1200
BU 243,06	3 @ 1200
BU 243.07	2 @ 1200
BU 243.08	2 @ 1200
BU 243.09	3 @ 1200
BU 243.10	1 @ 1200
BU 243,11	3 @ 1200
BV 244.01	3 @ 900
BV 244,02	2 @ 1200
BV 244.03	2 @ 1200
BV 244.04	1 @ 1200
BV 244,05	2 @ 1200
BV 244.06	3 @ 1200
BV 245.01	3 @ 1200
BV 246.01	2 @ 1200
BW 248.01	3 @ 900
BW 249.01	3 @ 1200
BW 249.02	6 @ 600
BW 249.03	2 @ 1200
BX 250.01	2 @ 1800
BX 250.02	1 @ 1800
BX 250.03	2 @ 1200
BX 251.01	4 @ 900
BX 251.02	3 @ 900
BX 251.03	4 @ 900

Lower Alabama

BY	252.01	.3	@	1200
BY	254.01	3	@	1200
BY	254.02	2	@	1200
BY	255,01	4	@	1200
BY	255.02	1	@	1200
BY	256.01	2	@	1200
BZ	257.01	4	a	1200

Lower Alabama (cont'd)

BZ 257.02	3 @ 1200
BZ 258.01	
	4 @ 900
BZ 258.02	3 @ 900
BZ 258.03	3 @ 900
BZ 258.04	4 @ 900
BZ 259.01	2 @ 900
BZ 259.02	3 @ 1200
BZ 260.01	4 @ 600
BZ 260.02	3 @ 1200
CA 261.01	3 @ 1200
CA 261.02	
	3 @ 1200
CA 262.01	4 @ 1200
CA 262.02	1 @ 1200
CA 262.03	4 @ 1200
CA 263.01	2 @ 1200
CA 263.02	1 @ 1200
CB 264.01	3 @ 1200
CB 265.01	5 @ 1200
CB 265.02	3 @ 1200
CB 267.01	3 @ 1200
CC 268.01	
CC 268.02	2 @ 1200
CC 268.03	1 @ 1200
CC 268.04	3 @ 1200
CC 269.01	3 @ 900
CC 269.02	2 @ 1200
CC 269,03	1 @ 1200
CC 270.01	3 @ 1200
CD 271.01	4 @ 1200
CD 272.01	3 @ 1200
CD 272.02	3 @ 1200
CD 272.03	4 @ 1200
CD 272.04	1 @ 1200
CD 272.05	3 @ 1200
CD 272.06	1 @ 1200
CD 273.01	1 @ 1800
CD 273.01	1 @ 1200
CD 273.02	
	3 @ 1200
CD 273.03	5 @ 600
CE 274.01	3 @ 1200
CE 274.02	3 @ 1200
CE 275.01	3 @ 1200
CE 276.01	4 @ 1200
CE 276.02	5 @ 1200
CE 276.03	2 @ 1200
CE 276.04	4 @ 1200
CE 277.01	3 @ 1200
CE 278.01	3 @ 1200

CE 278.02 2 @ 1200 CE 278.03 3 @ 1200 CF 279.01 4 @ 1200 CF 279.02 3 @ 1200 CF 279.03 4 @ 1200 CF 279.04 2 @ 1200 CF 279.05 4 @ 900 2 @ 900 CF 279.06 1 @ 1200 CF 279.07 3 @ 1200 CF 279,08 4 @ 1200 CF 279,09 2 @ 1200 CF 279,10 3 @ 1200 CF 281.01 3 @ 1200 CF 281,02 2 @ 1200 2 @ 1200 CF 281.03 CG 282.01 2 @ 1200 CG 282,02 3 @ 1200 CG 282.03 5 @ 1200 CG 283.01 4 @ 1200 CG 283.02 3 @ 1200 CH 284.01 2 @ 1200 1 @ 1200 CH 285.01 CH 286.01 3 @ 1200 CH 286.02 3 @ 1200 CI 287.01 2 @ 1200 CI 288.01 3 @ 900 CI 288.02 4 @ 900 CI 289.01 4 @ 1200

West Florida

CJ 290.01 2 @ 1200 CJ 292.01 2 @ 1800 CJ 292,02 2 @ 1800 CJ 292.03 2 @ 1800 CJ 292.04 1 @ 1800 2 @ 1200 CK 294.01 CK 294.02 4 @ 1200 CK 296.01 3 @ 1800 CK 296.02 2 @ 1200 1 @ 900 CK 296.03 1 @ 1200 3 @ 1200 CL 298.01 CL 298.02 2 @ 1200 CL 299,01 3 @ 1200 CL 299.02 3 @ 1200 CL 299.03 3 @ 1200

West Florida (cont'd)

CM	300.01	3	@	1200
CM	301.01	3	@	1200
CM	301.02	2	@	1200
CM	301.03	3	@	1200
CM	301.04	3	(a	1200

Gulf Alabama

CN	302.01	2	@	1200
		1	_@	1800
CN	302.02	4	@	1200
CN	302.03	4	a	1200
CN	302.04	3	@	1200
CN	302.05	3	@	1200
CN	303.01	3	@	1200
CN	303.02	3	@	1200
CN	303.03	3	@	1200
CN	303.04	3	@	1200
CN	303.05	3	@	1200
CN	303.06	2	a	1200
CN	303.07	2	@	1200
CN	303.08	2	@	1200
		4	@	900
CN	303.09	3	@	900

West Tennessee

DA	304.01	1	@	1200
DA	304.02	3	a	1200
DA	306.01	2	@	1200
DA	306.02	3	@	1200
DA	307.01	3	a	1200
DB	308.01	1	@	1200
DB	309.01	4	@	1200
DB	310.01	3	@	1200
DB	310.02	3	@	1200
DB	311.01	3	@	1200
DB	311.02	3	@	1200
DC	312.01	4	@	1200
DC	314.01	2	@	1200
DC	314.02	2	@	1200
DC	316.01	2	@	1200
DC	316.02	1	@	1200
DD	317.01	3	@	1200
DD	317.02	3	@	1200
DD	319.01	2	@	1200
DD	319.02	2	@	1200
DE	320.01	3	@	1200

DE	320.02	5	@	1200
DE	320.03	2	@	1200
DE	321.01	1	@	1200
DE	321.02	2	@	1200
DE	321.03	4	@	1200
DF	322.01	2	@	1200
DF	322.02	2	@	1200
DF	322.03	1	@	1200
DF	322.04	2	@	1200
DG	324.01	4	@	1200
DG	324.02	2	@	1200
DG	324.03	7	@	1200
DG	324.04	3	@	1200
DG	324.05	3	@	1200
DG	324,06	4	@	1200
DG	324.07	3	@	1200
DG	324.08	4	@	1200
DG	324.09	2	@	1200
DG	324.10	3	@	900

Upper Mississippi

DH	325.01	1	@	
		1	@	1200
DH	325.02	2	a	1800
DH	327.01	2	@	1200
DH	328,01	2	@	1200
DH	328.02	2	@	1200
DI	330.01	2	@	1800
		1	9	1200
DI	330.02	2	0	1200
		1	@	1800
DI	330.03	1	@	1800
		1	@	1200
DI	332.01	4	@	1200
DJ	333.01	2	@	1800
	334.01	1	@	1800
DJ	335.01	4	@	1200
DJ	335,02	3	@	1200
DK	338.01	4	a a	1200
DK	338.02	2	@	1200
DK	339,01	3	a	1200
DK	339.02	2	a	1200
DK	340.01	2	@	1200
		1	a	1800
DK	340.02	3	@	1200
		1	_@	1800
DK	340.03	3	@	1200
		1	@	1800

Upper Mississippi (cont'd)

	340.04	2 @ 1200	
DL	343.01	3 @ 1200	
DL	345.01	2 @ 1200	
DL	345.02	1 @ 1200	
DL .	346.01	2 @ 1800	
DL .	346.02	4 @ 1200	
DL :	346.03	3 @ 1200	
		1 @ 1800	
DL :	346.04	1 @ 1200	
		1 @ 1800	
DL 3	346.05	2 @ 1800	
	347.01	3 @ 1200	
	348.01	4 @ 1200	
DM 3	349.01	3 @ 1200	
	350.01	2 @ 1200	
	350.02	2 @ 1200	
	351.01	2 @ 1200	
	351.02	1 @ 1200	
	351.03	1 @ 1200	
	352.01	4 @ 1200	
	352.02	2 @ 1200	
	352.03	2 @ 1200	
	354.01	3 @ 1200	
	354.02	1 @ 1200	
DN 3	354.03	3 @ 1200	
DO 3	56.01	2 @ 1200	
DO 3	56.02	1 @ 1200	
DO 3	59.01	1 @ 1200	
DO 3	59.02	1 @ 1800	
DO 3	59.03	1 @ 1800	
DO 3	59.04	1 @ 1800	
DP 3	61.01	5 @ 1200	
DP 3	61.02	2 @ 1200	
DP 3	63.01	1 @ 1200	
DP 3	63.02	2 @ 1200	
DP 3	63.03	1 @ 1200	
DP 3	63.04	1 @ 1200	
Lowe	r Missi	ssippi	
DQ 3	64.01	4 @ 900	
DQ 3	65.01	4 @ 900	

DQ	364.01	4	@	900
DQ	365.01	4	@	900
DQ	367.01	3	_@	1200
	367.02	3	@	1200
DQ	367.03	1	@	1200
DR	371.01	2	_a	1800
DR	371.02	2	@	1800
DR	371.03	2	a	1800
		1	a	1200

	1.04	2	@ @	180	
טס טוי.	2.UI	2	a a	180	
DS 37:	2.02	3	a	120	
	2.03	3	@	120	
	1.01	2	<u>a</u>	120	
	1.02	3	<u>a</u>	120	
	1.03	1	<u>a</u>	120	
	7.01	1	<u>a</u>	120	
D1 377	. 01	1	a	180	
DT 377	7.02	2	@	180	
	3.01	2	@	180	
	0.01	3	a	900	
	0.02	5	@ @	900	
	0.03	2	@	900	
	0.04	3	<u>a</u>	900	
	.05	4	@	900	
	.06	3	a a	120	
	.07	4	a a	120	
DV 381	-01	4	@	120	0
DV 381	.02	3	@	120	0
DA 381	.03	1	@	120	0
		1	@	180	0
	.01	4	@	900	
DW 384		3	@	120	0
DW 386		4	@	120	С
DW 386	.02	2	a	1200	C
DW 387			@	900	
DW 387			@	900	
DW 383	.03		9	900	
				600	
DW 387	.04			900	
				600	
DW 387	.05			900	
005				600	
	.06			900	
DW 387				900	
DX 388				900	
DX 388				900	
DX 392				1200	
DX 392				1200	
DY 394				1200)
DY 396				900	
DY 396 DY 396		7 (900	
DZ 399				1200	
DZ 399.		3 (L200	
DZ 399.		6 (500	
DZ 399.		1 0		1800	
		1 0		200	

Lower Mississippi (cont'd)

DZ	400.01	4	@	900
DZ	400.02	1	@	1800
		1	_a	1200
DZ	400.03	2	@	1800
DZ	400.04	1	9	1200
		1	@	900

Gulf Mississippi

EA	401.01	3	@	1200
EA	401.02	4	@	1200
EA	401.03	4	a	1200
EA	401.04	1	@	1200
EA	402.01	4	@	900
EA	402.02	3	@	1200
EA	402.03	4	@	1200
EΑ	402.04	4	@	1200
EΑ	402.05	1	@	1200
EΑ	402.06	2	@	1200
EΑ	404.01	3	@	1200
EΒ	405.01	4	@	1200
EB	405.02	2	@	1200
EΒ	406.01	2	@	1800
EΒ	406.02	3	@	1800
EB	406.03	1	@	1800
		1	@	1200

East Louisiana

EC	407.01	3	@	1200	
EC	407.02	6	@	1200	
EC	407.03	1	@	1200	
EC	408.01	4	@	1200	
EC	408.02	3	@	1200	
EC	409.01	1	@	1800	
		1	@	1200	
EC	409.02	2	@	1800	
		1	@	1200	
ED	410.01	4	a	1200	
ED	412.01	3	@	1200	
ED	413.03	1	@	1800	
		1	@	1200	
ED	413.04	1	@	1800	
		1	@	1200	
ED	413.05	1	@	1200	
		1	@	1800	
ED	413.06	2	@	1200	
ED	413.07	1	@	1200	

EI			5 6	1200
EE		1	. @	1800
EE	416.02	1	. @	1800
		1	. @	1200
EE	416.03	1	. @	1800
		1	. @	1200
EE	417.01	4	<u>a</u>	1200
EE	417.02	4	. a	
EE	417.03	3	a	
EE	417.04	3	a	
EE		3	_@	
EE	417.06	3	a	
EE	417.07	3	a	
EE	417.08	5		
EE		1		
EE	417.10	1		
EE	418,01	3	a	
EE	418.02	3	a	1200
EF	421.01	3	5.75	
EF	421.02	1		
		1	<u>a</u>	1200
EF	421.03	1		1800
		1		1200
EF	422.01	3		1200
EF	423.01	2	_	1200
EF	425.01	4		1200
EF	425.02	\$	-	1200
EG	427.01	4		1200
EG	427.02	1	@	1200
EG	428.01		a	1800
	-20.01	1	@	1200
EG	429.01	1	a a	1200
EG	429.02	1	a a	1800
		1	a	900
EG	429.03	1	@	1800
EG	429.04	3	a	1200
EG	429.05		a a	1200
EG	429.06	1	a	1200
EG	431.01	6	a	1200
EG	431.02	4	a	1200
טע	101.02	4	E.	1200
Ark	ansas			

	432.01	5	@	1200
FA	432.02	2	@	1200
FA	434.01	3	@	1200
FA	434.02	1	@	1200
FA	434.03	1	@	1200

Arkansas (cont'd)

FA 435.01	4 @ 1200
FA 435.02	2 @ 1200
FA 435.03	1 @ 1200
FB 439.01	4 @ 1200
FB 439.02	2 @ 1200
FB 439.03	3 @ 1200
FB 439.04	4 @ 1200
FB 440.01	3 @ 1200
FB 441.01	3 @ 1200
FB 441.02	4 @ 1200
FC 444.01	2 @ 1200
FC 444.02	4 @ 1200
FC 444.03	3 @ 1200
FC 444.04	2 @ 1200
FD 448.01	2 @ 1200
FD 448.02	4 @ 1200
FD 450.01	3 @ 1200
FD 450.02	4 @ 1200
	1 @ 600
FE 452.01	5 @ 1200
FE 453.01	3 @ 1200
FE 453.02	1 @ 1200
FE 453.03	2 @ 1200
FE 454.01	3 @ 1200
FF 455.01	3 @ 1200
FF 455.02	2 @ 1200
FF 456.01	5 @ 900
FG 458.01	3 @ 1200
FG 458.02	3 @ 1200
FG 458.03	3 @ 1200
FG 458.04	2 @ 1200
FG 458.05	3 @ 1200
FG 458.06	3 @ 1200
FG 458.07	2 @ 1200
FG 458.08	1 @ 1200
FG 458.09	6 @ 1200
FH 459.01	3 @ 1200
FH 459.02	3 @ 1200
FH 462.01	3 @ 900
FI 463.01	3 @ 1200
FI 465.01 FI 465.02	2 @ 1200
	1 @ 900
	2 @ 1200
	3 @ 1200
FI 468.01 FJ 469.01	3 @ 1200 4 @ 1200
FJ 470.01	
FJ 470.01	2 @ 1200 3 @ 1200
TO TITEOT	J € TZUU

```
FJ 471.02
           3 @ 1200
FJ 471.03
           1 @ 1200
FJ 471.04
           1 @ 1200
FJ 473.01
           3 @ 1200
FJ 475.01
           5 @ 1200
FK 477.01
           3 @ 1200
FK 477,02
           2 @ 1200
FK 479.01
           2 @ 1200
FK 479.02
           2 @ 1200
FK 479.03
           3 @ 1200
FK 480.01
           2 @ 1200
FK 481.01
           2 @ 1800
FK 481.02
          1 @ 1800
FK 481.03
           1 @ 1800
           1 @ 1200
FK 481.04 1 @ 1800
FL 483,01
           2 @ 1200
FL 483.02
           4 @ 1200
FL 483.03
           2 @ 1200
FM 488.01
           3 @ 1200
FM 488.02
           3 @ 1200
FN 491.01
           3 @ 1200
           4 @ 1200
FN 491.02
FN 494.01
           3 @ 1200
FN 494.02
           1 @ 1800
FN 495.01
           1 @ 1800
FN 497.01 4 @ 1200
FO 501.01
           5 @ 1200
FO 501.02
          4 @ 1200
FO 501.03
           3 @ 1200
FO 501.04
          2 @ 1200
FO 501.05
           1 @ 1200
FP 503.01
           5 @ 1200
FP 503.02
           3 @ 1200
FP 503.03
          5 @ 1200
FP 503.04
          3 @ 1200
FP 506.01
          3 @ 1200
FP 506.02 4 @ 1200
```

West Louisiana

FQ	507.01	4	a	1200
FQ	507.02	3	@	1200
FQ	508.01	3	@	1200
FQ	509.01	2	@	1200
FQ	509.02	2	@	1200
FQ	510.01	4	@	1200
FQ	510.02	2	@	1200

West Louisiana (cont'd)

FR 514.01	3 @ 1200
FR 514.02	3 @ 1200
FR 514.03	1 @ 1200
FR 515.01	3 @ 1200
FR 515.02	3 @ 1200
FR 515.03	3 @ 1200
FR 515.04	
FR 515.05	2 @ 1200
FS 518.01	4 @ 1200
FS 518.02	3 @ 1200
FS 521.01	4 @ 1200
FT 523.01	3 @ 900
FT 523.02	3 @ 1200
FT 523.03	3 @ 1200
FT 523.04	5 @ 1200
FT 523.04	
FT 523.06	
	1 @ 1200
FT 523.07	3 @ 1200
FT 523.08	3 @ 1200
FU 524.01	3 @ 1200
FU 525.01	3 @ 1200
FU 525.02	4 @ 1200
FU 526.01	3 @ 1200
FU 526.02	3 @ 1200
FU 526.03	3 @ 1200
FU 526.04	3 @ 1200
FU 527.01	4 @ 1200
FV 528.01	3 @ 1200
FV 528.02	4 @ 1200
FV 528.03	4 @ 1200
FV 529.01	4 @ 1200
FV 529.02	2 @ 1200
FW 531.01	4 @ 1200
FW 532.01	2 @ 1200
FW 533.01	3 @ 1200
FW 533.02	2 @ 1200
FW 533.03	3 @ 1200
FX 535.01	1 @ 1200
FX 536.01	2 @ 1200
FX 536.02	3 @ 1200
FX 537.01	4 @ 1200
FX 537.02	1 @ 1200
FX 537.03	1 @ 1200
FY 538.01	1 @ 1200
FY 538.02	1 @ 1200
FY 539.01	2 @ 1200
FY 539.02	3 @ 1200
FY 539.03	1 @ 1200
	_ CC

FY 540.01 1 @ 1800 1@1200 FY 540.02 1 @ 1800 1@1200 FY 540.03 2 @ 1800 FY 541.01 4 @ 1200 FY 541.02 4 @ 1200 FY 542.01 4 @ 1200 FY 542.02 4 @ 1200 3 @ 1200 FZ 544.01 FZ 544.02 3 @ 1200 FZ 544.03 1@1200 FZ 545.01 4 @ 1200

Upper Texas

GA 547.01 2 @ 1200 GA 547.02 3 @ 1200 GA 547.03 1 @ 1200 GB 558.01 3 @ 1200 GB 558.02 3 @ 1200 GB 558.03 3 @ 1200 GB 558.04 3 @ 1200 GC 560.01 3 @ 1200 GC 560.02 3 @ 1200 GC 560.03 4 @ 1200 3 @ 1200 GC 567.01 GC 567.02 2 @ 1200 GC 567.03 3 @ 1200 GC 567.04 3 @ 1200 GD 570.01 1 @ 1800 1 @ 1200 GD 570.02 1 @ 1800 GD 573.01 3 @ 1200 GD 576.01 1 @ 1800 3 @ 1200 GD 576.02 1 @ 1800 2 @ 1200 GE 579.01 3 @ 1200 GE 582.01 4 @ 1200 GE 583.01 4 @ 1200 GE 584.01 5 @ 1200 GE 585.01 5 @ 1200 4 @ 1200 GF 586.01 GF 586.02 3 @ 1200 GF 586.03 6 @ 1200 GF 586.04 5@1200 GF 586.05 4 @ 1200

Upper Texas (cont'd)

GF	586.06	4	1 @	1200
GG	591.01	2	9 @	1200
GG	593.01	5	a a	1200
GG	594.01	4	1 @	1200
GG	595.01	3	a a	1200
GG	598.01	4	. a	1200
GG	598.02	3	a	1200
GH	600.01	3	@	1200
GH	600.02	1	<u>a</u>	1200
GH	604.01	5	a	1200
GH	611.01	5	@	1200
GH	611.02	4	@	1200
GH	611.03	3	@	1200
GH	611.04	3	@	1200
GH	611.05	3	@	1200
GH	611.06	5	@	1200
GH	611.07	3	@	1200
GI	616.01	3	@	1200
GI	616.02	2	a	1200
GI	616.03	2	@	1200
GI	616.04	3	@	1200
GI	616.05	1	@	1200
GJ	618.01	4	@	1200
GJ	618.02	5	@	1200
GJ	618.03	4	@	1200
GJ	618.04	5	@	1200
GJ	618.05	3	a	1200
GJ	618.06	3	@	1200
GJ	618.07	3	@	1200
GJ	618.08	3	@	1200
GJ	619.01	4	@	1200

Lower Texas

GK	623.01	3	9	1200	
GK	623.02	2	@	1200	
GK	623.03	2	@	1200	
GL	625.01	3	a	1200	
GL	625.02	3	@	1200	
GL	625.03	3	@	1200	
GL	628.01	4	@	1200	
GL	629.01	2	a	1200	
GM	636.01	3	@	1200	
GM	636.02	1	@	1200	
GM	638.01	4	@	1200	
GM	638.02	4	@	1200	
GM	640.01	3	@	1200	
GM	640.02	2	@	1200	

GN	645.01	3	@	1200
GN	645.02	4	a	1200
GN	645.03	4	@	1200
GN	645.04	4	a	1200
GN	645.05	3	@	1200
GN	645.06	4	@	1200
GN	645.07	3	@	1200
GN	645.08	4	@	1200
GO	647.01	3	_a	1200
GO	651.01	3	@	1200
GO	651.02	3	_a	1200
GO	651.03	3	@	1200
GO	652.01	2	@	1200
GO	652.02	1	@	1200
GO	653.01	2	a	1200
GO	653.02	4	a	1200
GO	655.01	3	a	1200
GO	655,02	3	@	1200
GP	659.01	3	@	1200
GP	660.01	2	@	1200
GP	660,02	3	@	1200
GP	660.03	2	@	1200
GP	660.04	4	@	1200
GQ	664.01	4	@	1200
GQ	664.02	3	a	1200
GQ	664.03	2	@	1200
GQ	665.01	4	@	1200
GQ	665.02	3	@	1200
GQ	665.03	1	@	1200

Addenda:

Upper Georgia

P	039.01	1	@	1200
R	048.01	1	@	1200
AB	078.01	1	_a	1200

Lower Georgia

AE	088.03	2	a	1200
AH	100.01	2	_@	1200
AM	116,01	3	@	1200
AP	127.03	3	@	1200

Upper Alabama

BN 225.04 2 @ 1200

Upper Alabama (cont'd)

BQ 233.02 2 @ 1200

BQ 233.03 2 @ 1200

BW 249.04 2 @ 1200

BX 250.04 2 @ 1200

BX 250.05 2 @ 1200

BX 250.06 1 @ 1200

Upper Mississippi

DO 359.05 2 @ 1200

DO 359.06 2 @ 1200

Lower Mississippi

DT 375.01 4 @ 1200

East Louisiana

ED 412.02 4 @ 1200

ED 413.01 2 @ 1800

ED 413.02 3 @ 900

INCOMPLETE FIELD RECORDS

For a variety of reasons, including mechanical difficulties and the unwillingness of some informants to complete further sessions, a number of the field records in the LAGS sample are incomplete in their coverage of work-sheet items. Some of the fieldworkers who were best at encouraging long stretches of interesting free conversation, excellent for recording natural syntax, were reluctant to inhibit the informant by resorting to the direct question-andanswer approach. As a result, though their field records contain much valuable supplementary material, they sometimes lack a large percentage of the primary items. Other fieldworkers, including many inexperienced student interviewers, stuck to the main task: i.e., they followed the work sheets strictly and elicited a response to almost every item, but often went no further. Consequently, the "incomplete" LAGS record, if it is several hours in length, may be of greater value for the syntactical studies than many of the briefer "complete" interviews. The proposed typescripting program, described in Working Paper #16, will, if implemented, demonstrate the importance of retaining even the most marginal field records for further study of the idiolects of the LAGS informants.

In general, a field record less than two hours in duration cannot give complete coverage to the work-sheet items, not even the 85-page format used as a preliminary instrument during the early years of the project. A skilled fieldworker, interviewing a quick-thinking informant, however, can cover most simple work-sheet items in three hours, although these records will be virtually without free conversation and will be far less satisfactory than those of greater length. Therefore, the duration of the interview is the first major consideration in determining a record's relative completeness.

On the other hand, some longer records--four to six hours--may ultimately

be "incomplete" in covering the work sheets, either because the fieldworker is unskilled or because the record consists primarily of free conversation. The interviews that are "incomplete" for these reasons cannot be identified without full typescripts unless the lack of coverage is noted on the data sheets with the protocols. Several of the LAGS scribes always note interviews that are less than adequate because of problems with sound, background noise, or relative completeness, but other LAGS scribes seldom allude to these aspects of the interview. A final means of identifying an incomplete field record, without auditing the tape of the interview, is to examine the Idiolect Synopses, Part III of the Basic Materials. Those synopses which have many blank spaces in the lexical section and many substitute words in the phonological section are indicators of records that are probably seriously deficient in their coverage of the work sheets.

All of these methods for determining a field record's completeness—the duration in hours and minutes, the notes on the data sheet, and the appearance of the idiolect synopsis—were used in compiling the following table. This list of 228 LAGS field records, identified by informant number, grid unit and accession number, and interview length, constitutes approximately 20% of the entire sample of 1,118 informants. The sector with the highest proportion of incomplete records is Upper Mississippi; these interviews include both very short records and some longer records that are primarily conversational. Conversely, the largest percentages of complete records were done in East Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, and Upper Texas. Approximately half of these 228 have been classified as secondary records; many of the others are primary because they are the best available representatives of the speech of their communities. In any case, even the shortest LAGS field record (200A) is likely to be an interesting example of a local idiolect.

INCOMPLETE FIELD RECORDS

East	Те	nnessee	(6	Of	70), 9%)		156	AC	#050.0	1 1	hr	30	min	
								157		#051.0				min	
llA	В	005.02	1	. hr				157A		#051.0				min	
27A	F	016.01	1	hr	30) min		158		#054.0				min	
38A	H	020.01	1	hr						#056.0		hr	50	111.111	
43A	J	025.02	1	hr						#059.00			15	min	
54B	M	032.06	6	hr				168		087.0		hr	10	111.11	
55A	M	032.10				min		169		088.0		hr			
										091.0					
Uppe	r G	eorgia	(33	of	14	.8 22%)				092.0		hr			
				0 =		0, 220,		173				hr		4.0	
63	0	037.02	1	hr	55	min				092.0				min	
63A	0	037.01				min		174		093.02				min	
66A	P	038.04				min		175		093.0		hr			
66B	P	038.03				HILLII		182		096.0				min	
68	P	039.01		hr		2.0		187		101.0			25	min	
						min				105.03		hr			
70A	Q	044.02				min				106.03		hr			
75A	R	045.02				min				106.02		hr			
77A	R	047.05				min				106.03		hr	30	min	
80	R	048.01				min		193A	AJ	107.02	2 2	hr	40	min	
82	S	050.01				min		196	AK	109.01	1	hr	10	min	
86A		007.01			10	min		197	AK	111.02	2 1	hr	10	min	
89		011.01	4	hr				198	AK	111.03	3 2	hr	10	min	
90		012.01		hr				199A	AK	112.02	2 1	hr	55	min	
98A	\mathbf{T}	053.02	4	hr	15	min		200A	AK	#064.03	3		35	min	
98B	\mathbf{T}	053.10	1	hr	30	min		203A	AL	113.01	. 2	hr			
98C	\mathbf{T}	053.09	2	hr	30	min		203B	AL	114.02			55	min	
105A	U	054.01	4	hr	30	min				114.03		hr			
109A	V	059.03	2	hr				204		114.04			20	min	
109B	V	059.04	2	hr	10	min		205		116.01		hr		111-11	
109C	V	059.02	2	hr				218		124.01			10	min	
111A	W	061.01	4	hr	30	min				127.05				min	
113D	W	062.05	4	hr	30	min				127.04		hr	10	111111	
114	W#	022.01				min				127.01		111	15	min	
114A		022.02		hr				2230	211	127.01	•		45	1117711	
		025.01			40	min		East	Flo	rida	/10	of	70	14%)	
		026.01		hr				Павс	110	<u>JIIua</u>	(10	OI	70,	146)	
		029.01				min		2357	7\ TO	134.02	1	hr	20	min	
		031.01				min		241				hr	30	штп	
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		034.01				min				143.01		hr	20	mın	
		038.01				min				146.02		hr			
		070.03				min				153.02		hr			
		078.01						268		167.08		hr			
7.4 /	MD	070.01	Т	IIT	22	min				183.08		hr			
T 01 -0 -		onai -	120			27 2425		285		183.02		hr			
Lower	<u>- Ge</u>	orgia	(36	01	т(07, 24%)				184.02		hr			
1507	7. ~	002 03	2	1.	7 -			288B	ΑZ	184.03	2	hr			
		083.01													
153	AC#	044.01	Τ	nr	20	mın									

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Middle Tennessee (4 of 49, 8%) West Tennessee (11 of 40, 27.5%)
                                                         486 DA 304.01 2 hr

491 DB 308.01 1 hr 30 min

493 DB 310.01 6 hr

500A DC 316.02 1 hr 25 min

500 DC 316.01 4 hr
  294A BB 191.03 1 hr
  298 BD 194.01 2 hr 45 min
  298A BD 195.01 1 hr 30 min
 318 BH 207.02 3 hr 45 min
                                                    500 DC 316.01 4 hr

505A DE 320.03 2 hr 45 min

507A DE 321.01 2 hr

509A DF 322.03 1 hr 5 min

510 DF 322.04 4 hr

512 DG 324.09 2 hr 30 min

515A DG 324.10 2 hr 30 min
 Upper Alabama (15 of 80, 19%)
 337A BN 225.03 2 hr 5 min
 339 BN 225.02 2 hr 35 min
 340A BN 226.02 2 hr 20 min
 349A BP 230.07 2 hr
 350D BP 230.06 1 hr 30 min
 365A BS 239.03 1 hr 5 min
                                                     Upper Mississippi (24 of 57, 42%)
 370A BU 243.01 1 hr 25 min
370A BU 243.01 1 hr 25 min
375A BU 243.10 2 hr 520 DH 325.01 2 hr 30 min
375B BU 243.04 1 hr 45 min 523 DH 328.01 2 hr 35 min
377A BV 244.04 1 hr 30 min 525A DI 330.03 3 hr
382A BW 248.01 3 hr 35 min 526 DI 330.01 5 hr
382B BW 249.03 2 hr 5 min 529 DJ 334.01 3 hr
385A BX 250.03 2 hr 5 min 531 DJ 335.02 4 hr 55 min
385B BX 250.02 2 hr 50 min 536A DK 340.04 2 hr 5 min
385C BX 250.06 1 hr 540 DL 345.02 2 hr
436A CF 279.04 3 hr
                                                                568 DP 363.01 2 hr
 446A CH 285.01 2 hr
                                                                 Lower Mississippi (11 of 56, 20%)
West Florida and Gulf Alabama
 (4 of 34, 12%)
453 CJ 292.04 1 hr 30 min
459 CK 298.02 1 hr 30 min
580 DS 374.02 5 III
580 DS 374.03 1 hr 20 min
580 DS 374.03 1 hr 20 min
580 DU 379.04 4 hr 10 min
600A DW 387.07 1 hr 15 min
600B DW 387.07 1 hr 15 min
600B DW 387.02 4 hr 30 min
                                                                571A DQ 367.03 2 hr
                                                                600C DW 387.01 45 min
                                                                 603 DX 388.01 2 hr 35 min
                                                                 605A DX 392.02 55 min
                                                                 609A DZ 399.01 6 hr 20 min
                                                                 614 DZ 400.04 2 hr 20 min
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Gulf Mississippi and East Louisiana West Louisiana (continued)
(16 of 77, 21%)
                                      806A FY 539.03 2 hr
616A EA 401.04 2 hr
                                      815 FZ 544.03 1 hr 30 min
618 EA 401.01 4 hr 30 min
623A EA 402.05 1 hr
                                      Upper Texas (4 of 60, 7%)
626 EB 405.02 3 hr 15 min
630A EC 407.03 l hr
                                     818 GA 547.03 1 hr 45 min
                                  818 GA 547.03 1 hr 45 min
847 GF 586.06 6 hr 50 min
854A GH 600.02 2 hr
631 EC 407.01 4 hr 10 min
642 ED 413.06 2 hr 45 min
644 ED 413.07 2 hr
                                     861A GI 616.05 1 hr
647 EE 416.01 3 hr
650B EE 417.10 1 hr
                                      Lower Texas (9 of 43, 21%)
651 EE 417.09 2 hr
654 EE 417.05 5 hr 55 min
                                    872 GK 623.02 3 hr
                                  879 GL 629.01 3 hr 30 min
881 GM 636.02 1 hr 45 min
884 GM 640.02 3 hr 5 min
896 GO 651.01 4 hr
670A EG 429.03 55 min
670B EG 429.05 2 hr 50 min
670C EG 429.01 1 hr 15 min
670D EG 429.06 2 hr
                                    897 GO 651.02 2 hr
903 GP 660.03 2 hr 45 min
Arkansas (16 of 89, 18%)
                                      908A GQ 664.03 2 hr 30 min
676 FA 434.03 2 hr
                                      909 GQ 665.03 2 hr
677A FA 434.02 l hr 30 min
680 FA 435.03 2 hr
684 FB 439.02 4 hr
698 FE 453.03 2 hr 30 min
                                      Summary by State:
699 FE 453.02 1 hr 45 min
700 FE 454.01 4 hr 10 min
                                      Alabama: 30 of 176 (17%)
702 FF 455.02 2 hr 50 min
706 FG 458.08 2 hr
                                      Arkansas: 16 of 89 (18%)
717A FI 465.02 2 hr
723A FJ 471.04 2 hr
                                      Florida: 13 of 90 (14%)
733 FK 480.01 3 hr 20 min
736A FK 481.02 1 hr 30 min
                                      Georgia: 69 of 225 (27%)
739 FL 483.03 3 hr
748A FO 501.05 1 hr 10 min
                                      Louisiana: 27 of 117 (23%)
750 FO 501.04 2 hr 20 min
                                      Mississippi: 39 of 129 (30%)
West Louisiana (15 of 66, 23%)
                                      Tennessee: 21 of 159 (13%)
759 FQ 509.02 2 hr 45 min
760 FQ 509.01 2 hr 25 min
                                      Texas: 13 of 103 (13%)
762 FQ 510.02 4 hr
763 FR 514.03 l hr 30 min
                                     Total: 228 of 1118 (20%)
774 FT 523.06 2 hr
774A FT 523.05 2 hr
793 FV 529.02 3 hr
795 FW 532.01 3 hr 5 min
799 FX 535.01 2 hr
803 FX 537.03 2 hr
803A FX 537.02 2 hr
804 FY 538.01 1 hr
804A FY 538.02 1 hr 40 min
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PROBLEMS IN RECORDING

Mechanical difficulties with the tape recorder, due either to improper use or malfunction, had an adverse effect on the sound quality of some of the field records. As would be expected, those tapes having poor fidelity as a result of uninformed handling of the recorder were usually made by the less experienced student fieldworkers. Audio problems created by mechanical and/or electrical malfunction, however, were the bane of regular and student interviewer alike.

Careless or inattentive use of recording equipment produced a variety of audial defects. Improper settings for volume, tone, and recording level are responsible for much of this trouble. A volume control that is set too low may cause the sound track to be nearly, if not wholly, inaudible; setting the control for an excessively high level, on the other hand, may produce distortion. If the tone control is adjusted so that bass response is boosted, the recording acquires an annoying muffled quality. The recording-level control--a feature of the Uher Report 4000 IC often ignored even by experienced fieldworkers--can create a peculiar ringing or buzzing effect if improperly set. Other sources of inferior sound quality included faulty microphone placement, incorrect threading of the tape, and battery discharge. The ideal positioning of individuals in an interview would have the fieldworker and informant facing each other with the microphone between them, about 3 feet from the informant, thereby placed so that the informant must talk "through" the microphone to the fieldworker. Unfortunately, the microphone is sometimes located too near the fieldworker, consequently attenuating the voice of the

informant. At least 2 types of aberrant sound may be attributed to incompetent or careless handling of the tape: 1) improper threading of the tape through the magnetic heads of the recorder may result in an overdubbing of one track upon another, and 2) failure to note whether a track has already been recorded may cause accidental erasure of that portion of the interview by recording over the track. Finally, trouble results if the fieldworker relies on the recorder's DC power supply without periodically checking the battery-level indicator. As the battery gradually discharges, the recording speed imperceptibly diminishes, thereby creating the illusion of accelerated speech when the tape is played back at normal speed.

Despite knowledgeable use of the tape recorder, even the most capable fieldworkers were occasionally victimized by mechanical and/or electrical malfunction. Because a technical account of these episodes is neither appropriate nor essential here, only a few examples of machine failure known to have occurred will be mentioned. These include problems with the microphone circuits, faulty recording heads, and internal hum. A short circuit in the microphone connection is a particularly insidious threat to the field-worker because, usually, there are no overt symptoms of malfunction unless the recording-level meter is continuously monitored. A short-circuited microphone typically breaks up recorded speech or, worse, obliterates it altogether. Similarly, magnetic tape, even though properly threaded, is sometimes impaired by defective recording heads, unknown to the fieldworker. Although the machine appears to be operating normally, this type of problem characteristically bleeds one sound track onto the other so that, on playback, the recorded passages are superimposed, one of them occasionally being recorded in reverse.

More apparent, however, is internal hum, possibly from the recorder's power source. Because this noise was usually picked up by the magnetic tape, diligent fieldworkers tried to remedy the difficulty by switching power sources or reversing the polarity of the plug in the AC outlet. This failing, most interviewers (especially those having no back-up recorder) proceeded with the interview, hoping that the impairment to the recording would not be severe.

The following list of field records—grouped by zone and identified by grid unit and accession number—specifies those interviews affected by problems with the tape recorder and describes the effect on the sound quality of the tape. Further information of this type can be found on the data sheets for these field records.

SOUND PROBLEMS

East Tennessee

- D 010.02 short circuit in mike; 1A.5-6 1B.4-5 repeated on reel 4
- H 020.02 hum for first 5 minutes or less
- M 032.06 whistle on tape 1B, reels 2-3 (not a serious problem)
- M 032.07 bad sound on first half of reel 1A
- M 032.08 "introductory comments by interviewer are overprinted"
- N 034.01 low sound level, especially reel 1

Upper Georgia

- 0 036.02 sound level a bit too low
- O#003.01 tape distorted at 2A.7 ff; flawed at 6B.8 ff
- P 038.02 entire 2nd reel very poor sound quality
- P 038.04 malfunctioning tape recorder
- Q 044.02 sound quality poor on reels 2 and 3
- Q 044.04 sound problems at beginning of first reel
- Q#006.01 fieldworker too far from mike; informant sometimes too close; evidently, part was accidentally erased
- Q#006.02 minor sound problems on reel 3
- R 045.01 bad sound 4A.1-2
- R 047.05 low recording level on 3A.7-10; poor sound also on 2A.1, 15-7
- S 050.01 recording quality extremely poor
- S#009.01 sound low on 3A.1
- S#013.01 recording quality poor in places, especially reel 1A
- S#015.02 mike interference throughout
- T 052.06 poor sound lA.1-5, lB.1-7
- T 053.05 sound not too good on 2A; fieldworker too close to mike
- T 053.09 recording quality uniformly poor
- U 054.01 sound very bad in places
- V 057.01 faulty recording procedure caused background noise
- V 059.01 first half of 4B has poor sound; faulty tape
- V 059.02 only first 5 minutes of 1A are audible; 2B and 3A are blank; fieldworker has difficulties with tape recorder
- V 059.03 recording defects
- W 061.01 reel 1B is inaudible after first few minutes; 4A is muffled; 2B is unintelligible; 5A is blank
- W 061.03 recording quality is only fair
- Y 067.06 playback too fast on most of lA
- Y#037.02 very low recording level
- Z 069.03 poor recording on 2A.7-9
- Z 069.04 poor recording on 1A.8-9, 3A.9-3B.2
- Z 069.06 quality is poor throughout, especially on reel 2
- Z 069.08 poor sound
- Z 071.02 reels lA.1-3A.2 have low-level sound; 3A.3-end has fair-poor sound

Upper Georgia (cont'd)

- Z 071.03 recorded in stereo; 2nd track obscures responses on first reel; reel 1: fieldworker too close to mike; reel 2: fieldworker inaudible (informant OK)
- AA 072.02 part of reel 3A recorded over another part; fieldworker too far from mike; sound is adequate to poor
- AA 074.03 problems with sound on recorder
- AB 076.01 last part of 1A and 2A is defective; buzz at 2B.1; record-over at 2B.5

Lower Georgia

- AC#054.01 level of volume is a bit low
- AC#059.02 noise on tape during first half of 3A
- AC#059.04 minor sound problems on reel 2--wavering volume
- AF#063.04 recorded at very low sound level
- AJ 106.03 battery weak on 1A.7-8
- AK 112.02 sound is bad on first half of reel A
- AL 114.04 sound quality is bad--hollow tone
- AM 116.01 sound is bad on 1A, 2B; 1B is blank; 3B is untranscribable (mal-functioning recorder)
- AM 117.04 bad hum on 3B
- AN 122.01 reel 4: weak battery

East Florida

- AT 141.02 sound is fuzzy on lB.6-9
- AU 143.02 some problems on 2nd half of 2A
- AV 148.01 muffled sound on 2A to end
- AX 158.01 sound level varies occasionally
- AX 160.02 tone is too low
- AX 160.03 bad sound in some places
- AX 162.01 sound quality varies; overall sound quality is only fair
- AY 167.02 mike defect mars about 1 hour of interview
- AY 167.05 sound is generally bad; fieldworker is having trouble with machine
- AY 167.06 tape is bad in places
- AY 167.07 half of lA is inaudible; bad at 2A.1, 2B.1, 3B.6
- AY 167.08 tape recorder malfunctioning; half of sound is poor
- AZ 176.01 noise from handling mike throughout

Middle Tennessee

- BC 193.01 low recording level; muffled tone
- BD 194.01 copied from cassettes; sound is not good
- BG 204.02 one hour did not record
- BG 204.08 minor sound problems from time to time
- BH 205.01 slightly muffled sound
- BM 222.03 side 3A did not record

Upper Alabama

- BN 225.01 uniformly poor quality--several blank sections
- BN 226.05 on lA, fieldworker is barely audible
- BO 227.01 mike is too far from informant
- BO 229.01 sound is poor to fair
- BO 229.02 recording quality is bad
- BP 230.01 fair quality; seems that mike or recording level is being tampered with
- BP 230.02 sound is only fair at best
- BP 230.05 sound is fair to poor; fuzzy quality; needs speed adjustment
- BP 230.07 poor quality recording
- BP 231.01 sound not too good
- BQ 233.02 muffled; generally poor sound
- BS 238.01 sound is generally poor
- BS 239.05 batteries run down at one point
- BU 243.02 faulty recording; 3A.1-7 did not record
- BV 244.05 very bad sound in parts of lA
- BW 248.01 rather low sound level
- BW 249.03 tape recorder did not function at one point; most of pp. 61-84 are lost

Lower Alabama

- BZ 259.02 hum on tape at 1B.4-6, 2B.8-9
- CC 268.01 part of 2A needs speed adjustment
- CC 268.04 last 40 minutes of 1A are erased
- CD 273.03 lA.6-9, lB.3-10: fieldworker apparently recorded these parts over the telephone
- CE 277.01 sound quality is very poor
- CF 281.02 recorded signal grows weak at 2A.7 and fades out; 2B is inaudible
- CF 281.03 sound is fairly bad
- CG 282.01 sound problems on 1A

West Florida

CK 294.01 fieldworker is often inaudible

Gulf Alabama

no sound problems

West Tennessee

- DC 314.01 bad hum throughout
- DD 319.02 rather poor quality; hum throughout
- DG 324.01 hum on 3B
- DG 324.10 lA is inaudible

Upper Mississippi

- DH 328.02 poor sound on 1B and reel 2
- DL 345.01 sound has muffled quality
- DM 350.02 muffled sound
- DP 361.01 sound is poor at beginning of 3A

Lower Mississippi

- DQ 364.01 pp. 33-44 of interview were erased; sound is too low on 4A.6-10
- DQ 367.01 sound is slightly muffled
- DQ 367.02 sound is not particularly good
- DS 374.02 sound is rather muffled
- DX 392.01 playback is too slow from 3A.8 to end
- DY 394.01 playback is too slow after 1B.5
- DZ 400.01 batteries run down and recording level is low on 3A.3-6

Gulf Mississippi

- EA 401.01 constant dull noise, especially bad on 1B
- EA 401.03 very poor sound on reel 2
- EB 405.01 sound is somewhat muffled

East Louisiana

- EC 409.02 batteries run down on 2B.8-9; fieldworker covers same items at 3A.1-4
- ED 412.01 recording quality is not good
- ED 412.02 sound quality is not especially good
- ED 413.03 batteries run down on 2A.10; some of this is repeated at 2B.1
- ED 413.06 poor sound quality
- EF 422.01 some problems in recording
- EF 423.01 some bad sound
- EG 427.02 some sound problems, especially on 2A.3-7

Arkansas

- FC 444.01 some poor sound
- FG 458.07 side 2A is not recorded
- FG 458.09 bad sound on 1A.1-3, 2A.1-3; part may be accidentally erased
- FN 491.02 battery runs down on 1A.9-10 and 1B.1

West Louisiana

- FQ 508.01 speed adjustment is needed; playback is too slow
- FQ 509.02 occasional poor sound
- FQ 510.02 sound is rather muddy
- FS 518.02 sound is not too good, especially 2A.5-3A.7
- FU 524.01 mike is too close to informant or volume is too high
- FU 525.01 speed adjustment is needed; playback is too slow

West Louisiana (cont'd)

- FU 525.02 speed adjustment needed; playback is too slow
- FU 526.01 battery runs down on 2B
- FU 527.01 sound average to poor, especially bad on 4A.4-5, 4A.8-end
- FV 529.01 muffled sound
- FW 532.01 speed adjustment needed; playback is too slow
- FX 536.02 parts of 1B.2-4 and 7-9 are almost inaudible
- FX 537.02 poor sound for last 45 minutes
- FY 540.03 humming sound affects audibility
- FY 541.01 mike is too close at times

Upper Texas

- GE 584.01 very bad static on 4A.3-4, 6, 4B.1-4, 7
- GG 594.01 copied from cassettes; mechanical difficulties near end
- GI 616.04 tone isn't too good
- GJ 618.05 some bad recording, especially 2B.9-10

Lower Texas

- GO 647.01 3B did not record
- GO 655.02 poor sound on 2B.9-10

BACKGROUND INTERFERENCE

LAGS interview situations are as varied as their informants, and in few cases were recording conditions ideal. Several otherwise first-rate field records were marred by background noise: other voices, children crying, dogs barking, chickens cackling, air conditioners, and interference from radios. A number of interviews, conducted outside on front porches near streets and highways, are rendered almost inaudible by the noise of passing traffic. This difficulty, part of the "living background" against which most of the interviews were conducted, is recognized in the LAGS <u>Guide</u> (Working Paper #5, p. 24): "Extraneous noises on the tape—from airplane, CB radio, or household activities—are a frequent source of audial interference and a clear restriction on cognitive responses to the message that is to be transcribed." Since in most instances the interference is only a minor annoyance to the listener rather than a major handicap, no list of records with background interference is provided here. The following brief discussion identifies representative types of interference along with specific examples.

The presence of other persons, whether family members, friends, or coworkers, can assist an informant in feeling at ease with the interview, but
the extraneous noise caused by the talking of these persons, often not noticed
by the fieldworker intent on his task, can render some of the informant's
responses very difficult to hear. The fieldworker in interview #129, however,
did note the interference, and commented on the data sheet, "Child was a royal
pain; I finally invited him out." In interview #63A, the scribe notes, "Too
many voices make it impossible to single informant out in the chatter." In
some interviews, the noise is unavoidable because of the interview site. In
#523, e.g., there is "background noise present from children in the Head Start

program where the informant worked."

Animals, particularly livestock, are a second hazard to the audibility of field records. The scribe of #172A mentions noise from roosters and chickens, and #505A is marred by a rooster crowing continually in the background. In Sevier County, Arkansas, the fieldworker had to contend with chirping crickets, which from time to time completely obliterated the voices. The problem is less severe in #666, in which the recording quality, according to the scribe, "is impaired only slightly by an itinerant tree frog." Yet the dogs, chickens, guineas, and other fauna wandering in the vicinity of the tape recorder, though at times disconcerting to the fieldworker, are a natural part of the informant's life and are thus illustrative of his everyday existence.

Other machines in the room with the tape recorder, such as air conditioners, fans, and typewriters, may produce sounds that are picked up by the microphone, although the fieldworker is not aware of the difficulty. This interference may be unavoidable, as in the case of #263, when the informant's lung condition required the continual use of an air conditioner that unfortunately obscured many conversational passages. An electric floor fan in #495 was "gladly tolerated by the fieldworker because of the 100° summer heat." An aquarium pump in #558 and a typewriter in #777 are also problems for the listener.

Most of the LAGS fieldwork was fortunately completed before the popularity of the CB radio reached its height. There is nevertheless radio interference in several of the field records. The fieldworker in Tampa was particularly afflicted by this problem. Interview #533 was several times interrupted by radio interference, here unavoidable because the informant worked at a radio station. The usual CB or police transmitter interruption, however, lasted only a few seconds and obliterated only a very small part of the interview.

Weather phenomena created other problems in audition, from the heavy rain in part of #47 to the pelting hailstorm of #66A. Wind noise, picked up by the sensitive microphones, caused difficulties in #492 and #714. These storms and other instances of bad weather could usually not be avoided by a fieldworker who was continuing the interview at the informant's convenience.

Noise from traffic, whether cars, trucks, airplanes, or a combination, occurs in a number of records. In #179A, the scribe remarks, "In some places, his voice is drowned out by the sounds of passing trucks and cars." Interviews conducted near airports in Tampa and Miami have nearly inaudible portions because of takeoffs and landings. The background interference caused by passing traffic is noted by the scribes in interviews #327, #344, #394, #821, and others. In some interviews, the conditions requiring outdoor recording may have positive features as well as drawbacks, as in #727, of which the scribe says, "The traffic and heavy rain are annoying, but the twittering of birds is pleasant."

Other miscellaneous sources of interference are occasionally noted:

a "very creaky rocking chair" in #151, the "loud talk of friends wanting to
go fishing with informant" in #128, "customers chatting" in the informant's
store in #327, and "various household noises" in #306. All of these, along
with the more serious problems caused by the malfunctioning of the tape
recorders and microphones and the unskillful handling of the machines by inexperienced fieldworkers, serve as reminders to the users of the LAGS materials
that the "real-life" circumstances of the interviews precluded mint-quality
recording. The "living background" of each field record must be kept in mind
in an evaluation of the content and quality of the LAGS collection.