

GOLDEEN KALOPER with her daughter, Annette Ciketic

in 1-24-08 interview by CSU Fullerton student, Taran Schindler

Remembers working in Quality Control and issues with mercury content.

GK: At that time, I would clean the fish, later on I was packing fish in the can.

TS: When you cleaned the fish, who did you work with?

GK: Oh yeah, a lot of women.

ANNETTE CIKETIC: But she's asking, were you assigned a space at the table or did you just go anywhere?

GK: No, you had a place at the table. For a while I got to clean. Then when we moved to this other cannery, I became, working for them as quality control.

TS: And that was a different cannery?

AC: When they moved from French Sardine to Star-Kist. [Plant 4]

TS: Then she was quality control.

GK: I was responsible for how the fish went through and they had to weigh the cans every so often and you had so many girls under you. And any time they wanted to try something new, we trust Goldie. They really would depend on me and they trusted me, remember, for awhile there, if you remember they had trouble with fish having—

AC: Mercury?

GK: Mercury in it.

TS: Really, I didn't know about this.

AC: Way back then?

GK: They were-- the small fish small tuna did not have much mercury but the big ones did. So they had me working on it, mixing the little fish and the big fish. Packing it and cooking it to see how much mercury there was from the big fish, how much of it.