

George Keroglidis
Greek Immigrant
Cristoforo Columbo
August 12, 1968



Although I was but a child [of] 6 ½ years old, I have very vivid memories of the voyage, which brought my family and I to Canada in August 1968, through Pier 21. We left Piraeus, Greece on the Christoforo Columbo, which was to take us to our new country an ocean away. A military junta had just come to power in Greece and my parents felt a better future awaited us in Canada.

The voyage itself was quite enjoyable until we began the Atlantic crossing. It seemed the whole ship had a case of seasickness all at once.

We were glad to hit land at Halifax and I remember the very thick fog, which greeted us. After processing through Pier 21, we immediately boarded the train, which was to take us to Toronto.

Travelling through the countryside, the thing that struck me, as a young child was that all the houses seemed to have a television aerial on their roofs. Coming from Greece where we had 1 television set in the neighbourhood, which all us kids would gather around daily, I believed I had arrived to the land of milk and honey.

Canada has truly been a great land of opportunity for my family and I; it has been the best voyage we ever took, 31 years ago.