

DATE: August 24, 1987

INTERVIEWEE: THOMAS D. MILLS

INTERVIEWER: Ted Gittinger

PLACE: Commander Mills' residence, Johnson City, Texas

Tape 1 of 2, Side 1

G: You will have to forgive me if I lapse sometimes and call you Chief Mills because I have seen Chief Mills in writing so many hundred times--

M: That's fine.

G: And I know that that is not accurate. But Commander Mills, if you'll begin by telling us how you came to be associated with the White House navy operation.

M: Okay, I was stationed at Main Navy Dispensary in Washington, D.C., under Dr. [George] Burkley. Dr. Burkley was the commanding officer there, and when Dr. Burkley was chosen as physician at the White House under President Kennedy, I was one of the persons that went up there. I was a hospital corpsman, had a background in lab work, and that was the main reason that I was taken up there, to do the lab work and to help Dr. Burkley.

G: What kind of an operation did they have in the White House? What kind of offices and facilities were there?

M: Dr. Janet Travell was actually physician to the president, and Dr. Burkley was White House physician, and we had a small treatment area. We did lab work, was able to do lab work, and we did ear, nose, and throat, the routine-type treatments.

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G: If somebody in the White House got a sore throat, they didn't have to go far for treatment, is that right?

M: We took care of most of the White House staff and also the White House police force, signal corps--we tried to take care of anybody that had a problem so they wouldn't be off of work or off the force and have to go some place else.

G: How many people--?

M: We had two doctors, we had one navy nurse, a civilian nurse, and three corpsmen, and sometimes four corpsmen. Dr. Burkley eventually had another physician brought in. When Dr. Travell left, Dr. Burkley became physician to the president, and he brought in another doctor, and we utilized Bethesda and also Main Navy [Hospital] for any specialists that we needed to call in.

G: Right. You came in then in 1961. Is that correct?

M: I was--in say--yes. Late--I guess it was what--late 1960? 1961. Thereabouts.

G: Did your operation give immunizations when they were required?

M: Yes, we gave all the overseas shots for any of the trips, and took care of the Secret Service as well.

G: Do you recall when you first had contact with LBJ?

M: The first time that I recall he was still vice president, and he came in with a sore throat, and Dr. Burkley treated him for a sore throat, and I think a few days later--I think this was the same time--I went out to The Elms early one morning and drew some blood work on him.

G: What was that for?

M: Well, it was just a follow-up to see if he had infections, fasting, chemistries, and things. I

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really didn't have much contact with him during that period. I think I only met him a couple of times while he was vice president.

G: Did you give him any shots, any of his immunizations?

M: No. No. I didn't.

G: What were your first--?

M: Normally the doctors did that for the President.

G: The doctors did that--I was thinking about that 1961 trip to the Far East. He may have had to have a number of immunizations for that.

M: I'm sure he did, and I'm sure Dr. Burkley gave those shots to him, but I don't recall that.

G: How did he react to needles? Did he have any phobias?

M: He didn't like needles. He was like the majority of people. Most people don't care for needles.

G: Now, the records seem to indicate that you first came to the Ranch in the Christmas season of 1963. Is that accurate? Right after the assassination?

M: Yes.

G: The *Air Force One* manifest shows that you went back on *Air Force One*, but I don't recall that it showed that you came on *Air Force One*. Do you remember those circumstances?

M: I'm not sure whether I was on the back-up plane on the original trip down or--and there's a possibility that I didn't come on the initial trip. There were four of us, and sometimes we switched off, and sometimes I didn't make the trip with the President, and I do not recall that particular trip whether I came down on *Air Force One* or came down a little later.

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G: You were pretty much a regular after that though, weren't you?

M: After that, yes. I--most of the time, I flew *Air Force One* with him.

G: He liked to have you close?

M: He preferred me to some of the other corpsmen.

G: Why was that?

M: Oh, I think--I was a little older for one thing, and I really can't answer that for sure, but I think that had something to do with it, and I guess he liked the way I gave massages maybe a little better.

G: That's an interesting point. He really liked to have his massage in the evening, didn't he?

M: Oh, yes. Well, not only in the evening. Sometimes in the afternoon if he laid down to take a nap, or if he was flying on the plane, normally if he'd lay down, we'd give him a massage on the plane in or out to wherever we were going. It relaxed him.

G: Can you characterize--

M: We gave him one every night, you know, while he was doing his night reading at the White House.

G: How was--describe that scene. Would he lay on his belly--

M: Yes.

G: --and have his papers in front of him?

M: Yes. He had a small table that we brought up in front of the massage table and fixed the light for him to read, and he'd go through his night reading.

G: Yes. Where did you learn massage?

M: One of the chiefs was a registered physiotherapist at--Chief Ellis Hendricks, and he gave me training at the White House.

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G: For those of us who don't know about massage, how do you characterize the kind of massage that you gave him? Is this a Swedish massage or an alcohol rub or what is it?

M: No, we used--we used--normally, we used Lubriderm just to keep the friction down, and it was--it's not a Swedish-type massage. It was just the relaxing-type massage, you know. Did a full-body massage, deep-kneading type, but not the beating-type that some people do.

G: What are the effects of a massage like that, physically?

M: I guess it eases the tension in the muscles and relaxes people, and a lot of times he'd go to sleep while you were giving him a massage. He very seldom did that at night because he had so much reading, and normally it would take him an ho[ur]--well, we would give him a massage as long as he had night reading. You know, some nights we would massage him an hour-and-a half. He just liked to have somebody around him most of the time.

G: Did he talk to you much during those periods?

M: No. Not too much. He was always occupied with doing the night reading.

G: That's a long time to give a massage. Is it pretty fatiguing work?

M: Oh, it's tiring, but you learn to move from one section to another, you know. If you're doing an arm, it's not as hard as it is if you're doing the deep thigh muscles and things, and so you do switch back and forth and do long strokes on the back when you got tired of doing kneading-type muscles, and so you kind of paced yourself.

G: Did he ever direct you how--what felt good or when to stop this or start that?

M: No, not normally. You know, sometimes if he had a slight ache in a muscle some place, you'd spend more time on that, but--

G: Right.

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M: But most of the time, it was at our discretion, and if he didn't have night reading to do, you know--normally, we'd spend about forty-five minutes doing a massage if he was on the plane.

G: How often would he call and say not to come, that he wouldn't want a massage that evening?

M: During the presidency, not very often. Now if they had a state dinner or something and it ran late, but--there were very few nights that he didn't have a massage.

G: Could I ask where you're from?

M: I'm from Indiana originally. Grew up in Indiana. Joined the navy a couple of years after I got out of high school.

G: So many sailors seem to come from the Midwest. It's kind of incongruous.

M: Well, I joined the navy because I was going to Butler University in Indianapolis, and they had an air force ROTC program. I decided I didn't want to go to college, and it was during the period where everybody was being drafted, and so I decided to enlist rather than be drafted. The air force told me that I would have a desk job because of my eyesight, that I couldn't be in the flying, so I decided well, I'd just go in the navy, and I ended up in the navy. I had a medical background at that time. I had been working for a pathologist, right after I got out of high school--well, I guess--I'd worked during the summer, and I started working for this doctor in the late fall, and he was training me in lab work and everything, and so when I got in the navy, that's how I ended up in the Hospital Corps because--I really didn't want to be in the Hospital Corps, but that's where they put me anyway.

G: That's a familiar story.

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M: Yes.

G: Let me regress a little bit to that first Christmas at the Ranch and just ask you to tell me what your memories are of that occasion.

M: Well, it's kind of a hectic period. We stayed in Johnson City at the Hobbs Motel, and was basically on call. We went out to the Ranch during the daytime and checked on things to make sure that we weren't needed or anything, and then we went back late in the afternoon in case he laid down and wanted a massage, and then we were out there at ten o'clock at night or so and waited until he called for us. We stayed out in the Secret Service shack until he called for us.

G: How did you pass the time?

M: Oh, sometimes we played cards, and sometimes we sat around and talked.

G: Of course, that was the first Christmas after the assassination.

M: Right.

G: I guess that was an influence on the atmosphere to some extent.

M: A little bit, yes. Of course, he had friends in all the time during the course of the evening, his local friends: A. W. Moursund and Jake Pickle and the Don Thomases came out a lot. I'm not sure all these people came out during this particular period of time, but--

G: Where was your family at that time?

M: We were living in Hyattsville, Maryland.

G: Well, I guess you were more or less used to being away.

M: We did a lot of traveling at the White House. I kept a suitcase packed in the trunk of my car all the time in case we had a trip during the daytime, or in case we went on a trip

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without any advance notice.

G: Was that pretty common?

M: No. Normally we had advance notice on trips.

G: Who would notify you? Would the doctor get the word?

M: Yes. The doctor would be notified by the military aides' office and tell us what trip was coming up and who was going on the trip so they could make up the manifest.

G: Was there any one trip to the Ranch that was more or less typical, or were the arrangements always somewhat different?

Now you said that you usually came on *Air Force One* with the President, but how would you get from Bergstrom to the Ranch?

M: Occasionally, I'd be on the Jetstar, or most of the time we'd drive. They had cars waiting at--and we would drive to the Ranch.

G: Now later on was there a place for you to stay at the Ranch?

M: Yes, and I don't remember exactly what period of time it was. We stayed in the Jordan house, the corpsmen and the two air force boys, Paul Glen (?) and Kenny Gattis, and normally the pilot, Colonel [James] Cross, stayed at the Jordan house. There was about seven of us that stayed there in the Jordan house, and then eventually, the four--the two corpsmen and the two air force boys, Kenny Gattis and Paul Glenn (?)--would start staying back at the Martin house, a sort of small house back by Lila Martin's house.

G: What did you do for meals?

M: We fixed our own meals, or we went to Stonewall. They had a cafe in Stonewall.

G: Was that the Kasparis Cafe?

M: No. The Kasparis Cafe was here in Johnson City. The Stonewall cafe was run by Kermit

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and Tilly Hahne. Tilly's working for Mrs. Johnson now. But a good percentage of the time we fixed our own food.

G: Let me ask you to just characterize the President in general terms, your impression of him as a patient, when he was not feeling well.

M: He was not too good a patient. He always wanted to be well faster than you could get over things, and I think he was probably a typical patient. He always felt that he had it worse than anybody else ever had it, and he needed a lot of tender, loving care when he was feeling bad.

G: Was he prone to some kind of ailments more than others, in your opinion?

M: Oh, I don't think so. He had a lot of throat problems. Of course, he did a lot of speaking, and most of the times he had throat problems when he was campaigning, and he was giving some days as many as five speeches, and then when he wasn't giving speeches, he was talking to reporters or was talking to somebody on the plane en route to the next place about what they were going to say, and so he did a lot of talking.

G: Was he prone to colds or allergies?

M: He had his share of colds. I don't think any more so than anybody else. He didn't have any allergies. He had a few flare-ups of fever blisters occasionally.

G: On his lips?

M: No, occasionally he'd have them on his buttocks. Mostly, it was the type--and I think most of them were from some of the hot, spicy foods he ate. He loved chili, and that form of herpes sometimes happens from hot, spicy foods.

G: I've heard that he did like hot foods, and that reminds me of the whole question of diet. Did you have anything to do with that at all?

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M: I tried to control his diet when he'd decide he wanted to go on a diet. I did not tell him what to eat, normally. One of the dietitians from either the Bethesda Naval Hospital when he was president or, after he was out, Brookes [Army Hospital] or wherever we'd--you know, sometimes Dr. [James] Cain or sometimes Dr. [Willis] Hurst would tell him what type of food that they thought he should be eating, and I'd talk to the cooks about it and Mrs. Johnson would talk to them, and we'd try to control it that way. He didn't have much success when it came to dieting.

G: Did he have a weakness for certain kinds of foods other than spicy foods?

M: No, I--he liked desserts once in a while, but he just liked to eat. It is kind of like crime. Most of us have that same problem.

G: I've heard he had a hard time passing a Dairy Queen.

M: I really can't say that he had that problem. I don't think he ate that much ice cream. On the trips that I was on, I don't ever remember stopping for a Dairy Queen.

G: What about his smoking? I know that he had been a heavy smoker early on, and then had quit, or at least was supposed to have quit. Did he in fact quit?

M: Yes. I--he did--one period of time, he did smoke a little while, and then he quit again.

G: Do you remember when that was that he smoked a little while?

M: No. I really--I really can't say that. Occasionally, he'd have a cigarette but not very often. Most of the time that I was around him, he never smoked.

G: He went back to it though when he retired eventually, did he not?

M: A little bit, but not to any great amount, and he did quit, and occasionally late at night when he was around his old cronies, he might smoke one cigarette, but he really didn't smoke.

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G: What about drinking? Was he restricted on that?

M: No. Except when he was trying to lose weight, he did enjoy having a drink late in the evening. He liked to drive around and watch the deer and sit up on the hillside and watch the sun set and have a drink or two. He wasn't a heavy drinker.

G: Now with your background, you would have been a natural for any kind of exercise program for him, I would think. Did he make any attempt to exercise regularly?

M: Not too much. He swam. He liked to swim, and he would try to swim laps, but then he didn't stay with it very long. He bought an exercycle one time and stayed with that for a while, but he didn't like to exercise. He used to go with walks up the runway with Lady Bird, and during his presidency, he--after dinner, they all used to take a walk, and one of his favorite things was to walk down to Cousin Oreole's and talk to her for a few minutes, and everybody that was a guest went walking with them.

G: How long a walk was that?

M: Oh, say a short way, I guess a quarter of a mile from the main house.

G: Did he walk hard, or did he more [inaudible]?

M: No, it wasn't a fast-paced walk.

G: Did he really swim that much, or did he just like to get in the water?

M: He was mainly in the water. He really wasn't an exercise swimmer. No. He would swim some laps, but he would take his time doing it. He used the pool every day, practically. They had one of those plastic bubbles that they'd put over it in cold weather, and Mrs. Johnson and the President both used it frequently. She used it more than he did.

G: How would you characterize the President physically? We know he was a large man, but was he a powerful man?

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M: He was in good physical shape. I wouldn't say he was real powerful. I wouldn't classify him as powerful. He didn't do much in the way of physical-type things so--

G: How was his muscle tone?

M: He had good muscle tone. I think--of course, part of that was from massages, but he was on the go all the time, so--

G: Why do you think he had so much trouble keeping his weight where he wanted it? Was it simply not controlling his diet?

M: I think like most people he just ate more than he needed. I definitely have that problem, too.

G: Well a lot of us do.

M: Yes.

G: I have a note that I'm going to find. What about that gall bladder thing? What are your recollections? He came back from one of the long trips, I believe, and then he went almost straight to the hospital, did he not?

M: Yes, and he was like any other patient. Of course, we stayed with him around the clock, the four corpsmen that were assigned at the White House. One of us was there at all times, and we slept in the room when he was sleeping.

G: Let me ask you about the preliminaries to that. Had he been complaining of symptoms very much before that, or how did that whole thing get started?

M: He'd been having some problems with pain and had been trying to control it with diet, and they just kept progressing, so they decided that they would have to come out.

G: Was he apprehensive about going in?

M: No, I don't believe so. I really can't say that he was.

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G: When did you first see him when he came out of the operating room?

M: When they brought him out of the recovery room into the room.

G: Was he conscious?

M: He was very groggy.

G: Did he have any pain yet, or had he not waked up enough?

M: I don't think he was awake enough at that time.

G: What kind of special duties did you have during his recuperation there at the hospital?

M: We were just there available to take care of any request that he had. The nursing staff did most of the work; we were just there to be there so that he would know somebody was there that he knew. There were no complications from it. He recovered quite rapidly, really.

G: Did you just have to discontinue the massages for a few days?

M: Yes. During that period, there were no massages.

Blood clots is one of the things that you look for, and of course he wore the special stockings after the surgery and everything, so it's no massages, other than--after he started feeling better in a couple of days, you know, we'd do--maybe just do a hand massage and rub his feet just a little bit, but nothing on the major muscles.

G: And you say he made a rapid recovery.

M: He recovered as fast as most people where there weren't any complications or anything.

G: Was he hard to get along with during recovery?

M: Probably a little more so than usual. I think [he was] anxious to get out of the hospital and get back to work and everything, and it was hard to control the number of people that all--because he wanted to talk to this person or that person when he should have been

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resting, and he was always on the go. He was a hard-charger and wanted to get things done regardless of how bad he was feeling most of the time.

G: Did you have anything to do with his contacts and his eyeglasses and so on?

M: I helped Dr. Burkley when he was wearing the contact lenses. That was one of the episodes that was kind of hectic because when he was making speeches--he didn't like to wear the contacts, and we'd have to put them in each time before he went into a speech, and when we were campaigning, that got to be quite a procedure.

G: Describe that if you will. How did you get them in?

M: Dr. Burkley placed them in his eyes all the time, and I would assist him and help clean them, and every time we cleaned them--that's one of the disadvantages of contact lenses. It's easy to get an eye infection, and the fact that we were taking them in and out so many times was--and it was always in a big hurry, and some of the places wouldn't have very good facilities, and it might be in a restroom, or it might be in a hallway, or it might be in back of some curtains on the back of the stage before he went on the stage to wherever the podium was set up.

G: Now, I'm not a contact wearer, so I'm not familiar with this, but why couldn't he put them in himself?

M: He probably could have, but he just never did, and that was--I guess he thought that was one of the functions that we could do because we were always there.

G: Was he sensitive about being seen with glasses on? Is that why he insisted on contacts?

M: No. I really don't think he was. He wore glasses all the time. I really don't--I think that was probably as much somebody else's idea, the public relations people and things of that nature, as much as it was his.

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G: Did he ever get an eye infection in fact?

M: No. Never had an eye infection. I think a little irritation, you know, because of the fact that they were being taken in and out so much and the fact that he didn't wear them continuously or all day long; I think he never did get used to them. You know, it's something that you have to get used to, or at least that's what they tell me. I've never worn contacts either.

G: One of the health problems that never did get publicized during the presidency was the skin cancers that he would periodically have treated on his hands. Can you give us any insight into that?

M: Those are the type things that most people who are in the sun a lot have. None of them were ever serious types. Most of them, they used the liquid nitrogen to blister them off. Where they just burn them, and they blister off. He did have that done numerous times. I can't tell you how many, but I would say at least five or six different occasions where that happened, and I think most of that was after he retired, though. There may have been one occasion while he was still president, but I believe most of those were after he retired.

G: Is that a painful process?

M: It burns a little bit when you first do it. The main thing is that most of them are not burnt real deep, so--and then you just have to make sure that you keep your hands clean and don't scratch them to keep them from--it's kind of like a sunburn. It peels off, and there's a chance of getting infected, but normally there's no problem with it. I don't ever recall him having a problem with it.

G: Were there any instructions about keeping that kind of quiet because of the possibility of the media getting it blown out of proportion.

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M: No, I don't recall that. It's--

G: Did the media--I'm sorry. Go ahead.

M: It's really not that obvious on--unless you're just looking for it--when they burn those little spots off the hands, and I--most all the spots that he had was on his hands. I don't recall--there may have been a couple of lesions on his face, but I don't recall, though I really don't think so. I know Mrs. Johnson had a few on her face, but I don't--

G: How did they treat those? The same way?

M: The same way.

G: Those would be a little more noticeable.

M: Right.

G: Well, would she use make-up or something to sort of cover up the mark?

M: Well, normally, that's one of the things that, you know, if you know you're going to have it done, you do it when you're going to be away for a while, not--but it doesn't take long for them to clear it up. You know, within two days, normally it's--they're not that noticeable.

G: What other kind of ailments was he treated for during the presidency, that you recall? Of course, he had that throat polyp, didn't he?

M: He had the throat polyp removed. I'm trying--other than gastroenteritis, and his throat problems. During the presidency he really didn't have any heart problems.

G: Of course, you were well aware that he had had a serious heart attack.

M: Yes. Yes.

G: Were you under any special instructions to watch him for any symptoms or anything?

M: No, other than routine. You know, Dr. Burkley routinely checked him. We checked his

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blood pressure and that sort of thing. But we weren't really that concerned about it other than that we knew that he'd had those problems, and we did spend the night. One of us spent the night at the White House all the time. We had somebody on duty all the time around the clock.

G: What would you have done if he had had an attack or what seemed to be an attack?

M: Well, we'd have done the preventive type things that we could, and we would have called the doctors immediately, and--

G: How fast would a doctor have been able to get there, do you think?

M: To the White House, we could have had a doctor there within five minutes because there was always a doctor on duty at Main Navy Dispensary, and that was at 19th and Constitution, so it was just a short, short ways. Dr. Burkley--it would have taken him about twenty minutes to arrive there.

G: Was there any special equipment to assist you in CPR at the White House? Was there oxygen, for example?

M: We had oxygen, and we had an EKG machine, and we had the defibrillator. We had good equipment. In the basement, we had an X-ray facility. We had an X-ray machine.

G: Was LBJ on any regular kind of medication in the White House, that you recall?

M: Not regular medication, no.

G: Just as things--

M: Just as things--

G: --appeared?

How difficult was it for you to get time off in that job?

M: Well, it--as I said, we had four corpsmen, and two of us stayed. Normally, I worked

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every day, and then I normally stayed every fourth night when I was at the White House unless--occasionally, I would stay a little more often than that but normally just every fourth night.

G: Now when you--

M: And then when we traveled--sometimes he'd come to the Ranch, and I didn't come with him.

G: Were all four of the corpsmen trained in massage?

M: Yes.

G: Okay. Now I know that there may not have been a typical day, but what time would you come to work in the morning and what would you do?

M: I--it depends on a--do you mean while we were at the White House?

G: Yes.

M: During the presidency?

G: Right.

M: We'd come to work at seven-thirty, a quarter to eight. We'd see patients as they came in.

Normally, there would be one corpsman off. One corpsman would have the day off.

The doctors were there, and the nurses were there, and we'd just routinely treat patients as necessary and do whatever was necessary during the daytime. During the evening, there'd be two corpsmen there, and unless there was a state dinner or some special function going on--one of the doctors would remain then--we had a small room in the dispensary that had a daybed in it, and we had a small TV set, and we'd watch TV until we received a phone call from the President to come up and give him his massage. One of us would give the President a massage, and one of us would give Mrs. Johnson a

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massage, and then whoever was taking care of Mrs. Johnson, when he finished up, he'd go on and leave for the night, and the other corpsman would spend the night.

G: Do you recall any incidents that required the doctors' intervention during one of these times when the doctor would stay? Anybody get sick, or--?

M: I don't recall them, but I know the doctors did stay overnight a couple of times, and I don't recall why. Sometimes it would be for Mrs. Johnson if she wasn't feeling good; sometimes it would be for Luci or Lynda. Anytime that somebody was sick the doctors tended to stay there more.

G: Any visiting dignitaries fall ill during a visit to the White House, that you remember?

M: No, not that I recall. Occasionally, we'd see some of the guests. They'd have a complaint, but we never had anything of any emergency natures.

G: I want to go into detail at a later day if we can about specific incidents in the White House when you get a chance to study the diary and things that I'm going to give you, but if we can, let me skip to retirement and ask you how it was that you came to accompany LBJ back to retirement.

M: I was giving him a massage one night, and Mrs. Johnson was in the bedroom. She was already in bed. She liked to read, and she was reading, and he said, "Bird, don't you think it would be nice if Tom's kids went to The University of Texas?" And that's the first time he had said anything about me coming to Texas with him, and then he asked me if I would consider coming to Texas after he got out of office, and so I told him I really hadn't thought about it, and I didn't--I'd see what Dr. Burkley said and what the navy said, and he says, "Well, you don't need to worry about that. If you want to go, you're going to Texas!" So I talked it over with my wife, and we decided that we would do that. So I

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was transferred to Texas in August before he got out, and located my family, and we lived on Scharnhorst Ranch, one of the ranches the President had.

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M: After I got the family settled in, I went back to Washington and was there--not completely because I was back and forth, but I was back in Washington, D.C., until he did get out and retired.

G: Would you have been on TDY [temporary duty] while you were back in Washington?

M: I really wasn't, and I was in Texas most of that time. I have to--I don't recall the exact dates I was back in Washington, D.C., but I was in Texas a good portion of that time, too, and I stayed with friends when I was back there. I'd lived in Washington--well, I spent most of my navy career in Washington, D.C.

G: What changes did you notice in him, if any, when he came back to the Ranch for good?

M: Oh, he got more relaxed. I guess he had a period of adjustment, because there wasn't as much to do.

G: Was he irritable during that period?

M: No, I don't think so. I think he missed being in the middle of things. But he enjoyed being able to relax and go swimming when he wanted to. He got active in trying to run the Ranch. He was out in the fields a lot and out--we had an irrigation system where they irrigated the coastal [Bermuda grass] fields, and he used to go out and ramrod that, having the pipe moved and everything. He used to go up to the cowpens when they were working cows.

G: Someone said that he went from being president of the United States to president of the LBJ Ranch. Is that about it?

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M: That's a pretty good description.

G: Did you ever feel sorry for Dale Malachuk?

M: [Laugh] Yes. See, Dale and Jockey [?] and James [Davis] and even Tom Mills--because I ended up being a ranch hand too.

G: That was my next question. What did you do?

M: Well, the President was one of those people that expected everybody that was around him to be working and to be an expert on whatever field that he happened to think about at the time, so I ended up being a ranch hand.

G: What field were you an expert on?

M: Well, I never was an expert on anything, I don't believe, but I ended up working cattle quite a bit, and he also had a fertilizer plant and liquid feed plant up where the bus barns are now, and I delivered liquid feed, and I learned how to run the Valley System.

G: What is the Valley System?

M: Oh, it was the big irrigation system. Or tried to learn how to run the Valley System. None of us were very good at running the Valley System. That was one of his pet projects toward the end when he got that installed.

G: Did you ever have to move pipes when the river got up?

M: I helped moved pumps out with Dale when the river was coming up, but I never did carry pipe.

G: Had you been much of a horseman before you went to the Ranch?

M: I had horses when I was a kid. While I was going to seventh and eighth grade in high school, we lived out in the country. We lived on a farm. I worked for a farmer during the summer, and I grew up on a farm, and me and my brother had horses that we rode,

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SO--

G: What kind of a horseman was LBJ?

M: He really didn't ride that much. Right after he got out, he used to go riding every morning, but he got away from that. I don't know that he really enjoyed it that much. He just never did ride that much--he went through a period right after he got out where he went riding every morning; he tried to talk Mrs. Johnson into it, and she didn't. Jewel Malechek normally went with him, and Dale, but that didn't last very long until he got away from that.

G: He never got away from jumping in the car and riding around the Ranch, did he?

M: No. No. That was his favorite pastime, riding over the Ranch and finding things for somebody else to do.

G: Well, now, when you came back to Texas, what was your official naval duties? You were the chief medical officer at the Ranch?

M: I was actually medical liaison. I worked with all the different doctors that he had; whenever he had any problem, I'd call them and alert them and schedule--if there was a dental problem, I'd schedule him for a dental examination. And then I took care of the routine problems that I could handle for the President and for all the staff, the Secret Service--

G: You mentioned dental, and one of the impressions that one gets from reading the diaries is that he did go to the dentist an awful lot. Was he a chronic sufferer from dental problems?

M: I don't think chronic. I think he just had a lot of problems with his teeth. I know we made quite a few trips after he retired, but I don't--but I think it was mostly the problems

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that most people have as they get older. He started having more problems.

G: Nothing out of the ordinary?

M: No, nothing out of the ordinary other than just having to replace fillings and that type thing.

G: He never complained about toothache or that sort of thing?

M: Occasionally, and when he did, that's when we would make an appointment to go the next day to see the dentist.

G: When did you notice his health starting to slide when he came back to the Ranch? What were the first signs you had that maybe he was not a well man?

M: Oh, he started complaining about shortness of breath, and he had some angina problems; when he'd exercise or exert himself, he'd say he was having some problems. He really--it--I guess the trip when he was in Richmond when he had the heart attack. Up until that time, he really hadn't had many problems.

G: Were you with him on that trip?

M: I was not in Richmond when it happened, no. I went up the next day. I'd been up at the Ranch to be a ranch hand, and I--after he retired and everything, sometimes he'd take trips that I didn't go on. Now if it was an overnight trip to Dallas or sometimes he'd go to Houston overnight, and a lot--most of the times it was because of space availability on the small planes and everything, I wouldn't go.

G: Well, his slide downhill was pretty rapid after that heart attack, wasn't it?

M: He had a lot of problems after that. He took a lot of nitroglycerine.

G: Did he take digitalis?

M: A form of digitalis, digoxigenin.

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G: That's for congestive heart failure, isn't it, to stimulate the heart?

M: Yes.

G: Did he have swelling of the limbs? Did he have dropsy?

M: No. No, he didn't have the edema that is associated with it most of the time.

G: Did he modify his lifestyle at all after that heart attack?

M: Not too much. He normally didn't--I mean, he watched his diet a little more after that, but he still did the things that he wanted to do.

G: So your days were occupied with more than being a ranch hand?

M: I was mainly being a ranch hand. Normally saw him at lunchtime. Dale and Jewel and I normally had lunch with him at the main house, and then I'd see him in the evenings for the massage. I was not at the Ranch when he died. Dale and myself and James Davis and Jockey Wade, we were all in Omaha, Nebraska, going to school on the Valley System. He had sent me up there to learn about the Valley System.

G: How soon did you get back after it had happened?

M: I guess it was about eleven-thirty that night, or thereabouts, when we got back to the Ranch house.

M: What were you able to learn about the circumstances and cause of his death and so on?

G: He just had a massive heart attack. I felt pretty bad about it because I wasn't there, but the doctors told me that it wouldn't have made any difference, that if he'd have been in the hospital that they probably couldn't have saved him. It was that massive.

G: Why couldn't he have done something preventive about that? I mean, he knew Dr. [Michael] DeBakey, didn't he?

M: I think it was probably--he did know Dr. DeBakey, and he did take a trip to Houston, and

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he talked to Dr. DeBakey about it. I do not know, other than knowing that he did talk to him--he probably was a very poor candidate for--I really can't answer to that because he never did talk to me about the trip to Houston, and to my knowledge he didn't talk to anybody about it.

G: Was he sensitive about it?

M: I can't answer that. I really don't know. I just know that he went to Houston and that he did see Dr. DeBakey while he was in Houston. But he did not tell me that; I found that out from one of the Secret Service agents.

G: You worked pretty closely with the Secret Service, I guess.

M: Yes. On most of the trips Mike Howard and myself shared a room when we were traveling.

G: When was the first time you went to Mexico? Do you remember?

M: I am not--I can't remember. I know we went to Acapulco practically every February and spent almost a month in Acapulco, and I don't recall--I'd have to look back on some of the things. I don't recall whether we went the first year right after he retired or not, and then he got involved with a ranch near Camargo, Mexico, [Las Palmas] and we made quite a few trips to there. That was one of the things that he enjoyed doing, was going to that ranch and trying to get their cattle production up. We made a lot of trips to that ranch.

G: Those were kind of tough trips, weren't they?

M: They were hard trips.

G: Describe what one of those trips was like from your point of view, from when you'd get notified until the time you arrived.

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M: Well, they were all working trips. We'd leave and get down there, and the first thing he would want to do was to go see what progress they'd made. We took Taylor Redell down on one trip, and we reworked all the wells on the place.

G: How do you mean, "reworked them?"

M: Well, they were all open-type wells. All the pipes and all the windmills, and we replaced the pipes in all of them and made them sanitary-type wells, chlorinated them so that they'd be decent wells. They had one big irrigation well that was not working that he wanted to work, and they'd had a big diesel engine on it, and he took a mechanic down and had that repaired, and all the pipe in the well had to be pulled and a new pump put in the well, and [inaudible] say we helped with that. He took down some Johnson grass seed, and they planted a field and irrigated it so that the livestock would have better grazing.

G: That seems a little strange from our point of view, to plant Johnson grass.

M: Yes. Yes, it is, but it's actually a good grazer, and it was good for that area. He took a lot of his own bulls from the Ranch to improve the herds of the cattle that they had down there. He took an interest in all the people that worked on the ranch, and he asked all his friends to bring their old clothes and things. He took clothes to Mexico for all the ranch hands down there, and one year at Christmas time he brought a lot of toys. We took a whole planeload of toys down--spent two days putting all the--so every kid there had a bicycle or a tricycle or a riding toy of some sort. He enjoyed going by the school--they had thirty-five or forty students at the school there on the ranch, and he used to go by there. He really enjoyed going down there.

G: Were there any special security precautions on those trips that you know of?

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M: No, we were pretty much out in the middle of nowhere. There wasn't much need for a lot of security. The Secret Service always went, and normally we flew down in a military airplane or his small plane.

G: Were there any special injunctions to secrecy about those trips?

M: I don't think so. I can't answer to that for sure. I know that the Secret Service normally scheduled them and everything, and I really don't think there was any secrecy about them.

G: How about the food? Were there special precautions about taking things to eat and drink?

M: Well we mostly took the food because there wasn't any place near by. El Camargo was the closest town, and it was over an hour drive into that town, so all the food had to go from the Ranch.

G: Did you have any special duties about the health situation down there, or did the kitchen take care of that?

M: The kitchen took care of all the food problems. I didn't have anything to do with that.

G: Did he ever get sick on any of those trips?

M: He got very sick on one trip. We came back early. He had diarrhea real bad.

G: How do you treat that?

M: We were treating it with Lomotil, and that's the main drug that we used.

G: Apparently it didn't work as well as it should have.

M: He was quite sick. I think he ate some food that hadn't been taken from the Ranch. Occasionally, he would want to go into Camargo, and they'd drive into Camargo, and he didn't eat in town or anything, but I think that particular time that he got sick was, when

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he came back he ate some refried beans and things that had been left on a stove in the kitchen that had not been prepared by the cooks that we took down. I think it was some of the local people that stayed there at the house.

G: When did he take up golf? Do you know?

M: I don't recall the exact dates, but he did enjoy golf, and he always played golf in Acapulco.

G: Did he play while he was in the White House?

M: No. No. That was one of the things that he started doing after he retired. They had a golf course at Fredericksburg, and he played there some, and he always talked about wanting the [LBJ] State Park to put a golf course in there between Ranch Road 1 and the river. But he played, not every day, but most every day when we went to Acapulco. And then we were on one trip where we went to Florida, and he was on the--and then they went by boat on the *Flying Eagle* that belonged to August Busch, and went to some of the islands down there, and he played golf at some of those islands on that trip.

G: Did you get to go out to those islands on that one?

M: I was on that trip. Yes.

G: What was he like on publicity during the post-presidency years? I've heard reports that he was rather shy about photographers and so on.

M: He was. He didn't care for people to know where he was going and what he was doing. I think he really wanted to be in retirement.

G: Did the press ever approach you? Were you ever a target for stories?

M: No. No.

G: Why was that? It seems to me that you would have been a natural for them to home in on

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and try to pump for information.

M: I really can't answer that, other than that I normally was in the background. The press really didn't bother him after he got out. The local press, Johnson City, Fredericksburg, you know, they didn't call the Ranch or anything. Everything was handled through his office in the [LBJ Presidential] library.

G: During the post-presidency, then, I'll ask a similar question before his heart attack. Was he on any kind of regular medication for any ailment?

M: No.

G: Did he have the allergies that the Hill Country brings out in so many people?

M: No. He didn't have that type of problem . . . luckily.

G: [Laughter] Did you?

M: No. I have not had those problems either.

G: Why did you say "luckily"?

G: Well, that would have made my job a whole lot tougher, because that's one of those things that you have to suffer through, and there's hardly any medications that really do that much good for it.

M: That would have made him rather difficult to handle?

M: I believe so. I think it would definitely have been a problem.

G: Now, there's some indication that he developed diverticulitis in the last couple of years. Is that correct?

M: I'm sure he did have some problems. He had gastroenteritis quite a bit after he'd had a lot of hot spicy foods, and I'm sure that was part of the problem.

G: What symptoms would he manifest?

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M: He'd just have an upset stomach.

G: Didn't he get awfully sick on one of his Florida trips and have someone called in for treatment? I believe when they went to visit the Englehardts at one point?

M: He had some muscle spasms on one trip, but I don't recall--I guess maybe--I think maybe one trip he did have some upset stomach and diarrhea, and I think the Englehardts' doctor saw him. But--

G: What would you give him for his gastroenteritis?

M: Well, Lomotil, which is a smooth muscle relaxant thing.

G: That wouldn't discourage him from eating spicy food the next time?

M: No. No. He enjoyed it, and he thought it was funny when somebody couldn't eat his hot chili. And it was hot!

G: Was it the traditional red Texas chili that we're talking about?

M: Yes. And Mexican food. He really loved Mexican food.

G: Would he play pranks on people in that way, give them something hot to eat when they were unsuspecting?

M: I don't think you'd call it playing pranks, but he enjoyed it when somebody complained about it being too hot to eat. He'd kid them about not being able to eat the food.

G: Do you like hot food?

M: No. I wouldn't eat his chili.

G: Did he kid you about that?

M: A little. Not too much because I've got--not an allergy to it, but when I eat hot spicy food I need a bath towel instead of a napkin. Sweat that drops off the back of my hair, and my hair gets soaking wet, so I shy away from hot spicy foods.

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G: Well, who would make that chili so hot? Would he supervise that himself, do you think, or--?

M: Well, they knew he liked it that way, and that's the way it was made, you know. They didn't serve any food that he didn't like.

G: I heard he liked his sausage pretty spicy.

M: Sausage with lots of pepper in it.

G: I guess there was always venison sausage around?

M: There was normally plenty of dried sausage when he wanted some dried sausage, and that was one of the snacks when they were--normally they would have snacks when they were out driving around, checking the deer and sitting up on the hillside watching the sun go down.

G: Did you get to go on those trips pretty often?

M: No. I didn't go on those trips. I was normally still working cows.

G: Now, you said you knew how to ride a horse from your early days. Did you know about working cows from your early days, too?

M: No. I had been around cows, but not beef cows. We had milk cows. I used to milk cows when I was a kid, but I'd never been around beef cows. But that's pretty easy to learn . . . and I--

G: Who was your teacher?

M: Dale. So I used to--during his presidency when I'd come down, there wasn't anything to do when we lived over at the Jordan or on the Martin house, and there wasn't much to do all day long, and to have something to do, I'd be out with Dale and I got to helping him with the cows back then, riding around with him and so I kind of worked my way into

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that.

G: Technically, who was your boss? Who wrote your efficiency reports?

M: The President. After he retired, he wrote my efficiency report. Before that, Dr. Burkely.

I was--

G: [inaudible]

M: I was attached at BUMED [Bureau of Medicine and Surgery] and was assigned through Corpus Christi [Naval Air Station] for further assignment to Bergstrom Air Force Base, for further assignment to the LBJ Ranch, and my health record and my pay record was kept at Bergstrom Air Force Base, and all my personnel record was kept at Corpus Christi.

G: The reason I was asking is, I wondering if there was technically any problem with your military occupation specialty, not including being a ranch hand.

M: No. I had an unusual naval career, I must say. I've had a lot of people asked me why I was assigned to the LBJ Ranch, and I told them that the navy had put a canoe on the Pedernales for me, so I--but I didn't have a canoe on the Pedernales. See, I was a dry-land sailor. I spent twenty-six years in the navy and was never assigned to sea duty. I was overseas in Argentina/Newfoundland for a little over three years, and the rest of the time the rest of my duty was all in the Washington, D.C., area.

G: You did have some speedboats, I guess, to be around, anyway?

M: Yes. I have been on Lake LBJ in a speedboat.

G: Were you expected to show any expertise in piloting boats?

M: No. No. After he retired--I guess he'd been retired for about three years--he decided he wanted me to learn how to run his boat, and I took a few lessons in that, but then that

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ended. He wanted all the ranch hands to learn how to run his boat, too, but we never did take him out in it.

G: He liked to pilot himself a good deal, I think, didn't he?

M: Yes. And I normally didn't go to the lake with him. He normally choppered over there, and there wasn't room or anything, and so I normally didn't go. If he was going to spend the night over at Haywood Ranch[?], I'd drive over, but I wouldn't stay over there. I'd just drive over and give him a massage, and then I would come back.

G: I have the impression that you put in a few long, long days in that job.

M: I put in a lot of long days. Finally, I had a talk with him, and I had Wednesday evenings off, and I had Saturday evenings off, and I was off Sundays during the daytime, but normally I'd end up going in Sunday evening and showing a movie. I also had learned how to run the projection. I was the projectionist for all the movies. And he enjoyed seeing movies, or sleeping through them.

G: Was he good at sleeping through them?

M: If it was a good movie, he didn't. Sometimes, he'd fall asleep. Sometimes he'd go to the main house.

G: Did he have favorites?

M: Depending on--that's one of the things he'd--he invited the whole community, when he had regular movies, as well as the house guests. Sometimes we'd have as many as a hundred or a hundred and twenty people in the hangar for the movies. A lot of times it would be some of his presidential films, some of the monthly films that they made every month. And I don't really think that he had any special favorites in the way of commercial movies.

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G: Where did the movies come from? Would Arthur Krim supply these?

M: They--Arthur Krim--we normally had the new movies that came out from United Artists, but normally they'd just order them like any movie theater would. You know, they were sent out on the mail pouch. They'd get them through the TV station.

G: Did you have any duties that involved the TV and radio stations?

M: No, other than going there when they spent the night there. Sometimes they'd spend the night in the apartment there at the TV station, but I wasn't associated with the--

G: How much service did you have when LBJ died?

M: Let's see. I had twenty-three years.

G: So you were in another three years after he died. Is that right?

M: Well, I stayed at the Ranch--let's see. I'm telling you wrong. I stayed at the Ranch until June of 1975.

G: So that's almost two and a half years.

M: Almost two and a half years, and then I went back to Washington, D.C., Bethesda. I was assigned at the Naval Research Institute, and then I retired in November of 1978.

G: I see.

M: The navy left me here until President Nixon messed up.

G: Do you make a connection between those two?

M: Oh, definitely. Definitely.

G: Tell me; what do you mean?

M: Well, they--everybody was running scared at that period because--and so I got a phone call one morning and was told that I had twenty-four hours to make up my mind whether I wanted to come back to active duty or retire, and they told me that that was the reason

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for it, that all the military was being pulled from all the former presidents and first ladies.

G: Well, now a great deal has been made about, shall we say, "unusual" support activities on the part of the military for LBJ, in the way of communications and construction and so on. Do you think there was an awful lot of that, or was he maligned being thus accused?

M: I think he was maligned, but I don't think it was any more for him than it was for any of the other[s]. I know one of the corpsmen that worked for me at the White House went to--was with President Truman after--Don Mouser[?] went out with President Truman, and Bob Dunn[?] stayed at the White House, and he went with Nixon. And I don't know how long he stayed with Nixon, but I know that President Nixon had a transition period. So I don't think any more so than any of the other presidents.

G: This is a little off the wall, but I bet you have an insight into it, and that's that famous shower that LBJ had installed out at the Ranch, the one that had the powerful jets coming out of the wall.

M: He had that at the White House, too. He just liked a lot of pressure in his shower, and I can't answer why he liked it that much. The normal person, he'd walk in and turn it on, and he felt like it was almost going to knock you down. I really don't know why he enjoyed that type of pressure, but they had that at the White House, too. He had it installed there.

G: I understand he'd get irritated if it wasn't working properly.

M: True. They had special pumps put in there at the Ranch to increase the pressure.

G: I guess that was Lawrence Klein's bailiwick.

M: That was one of Lawrence Klein's jobs. And Lawrence Klein put in a lot of hours, too. Well, everybody that worked for the President put in a lot of hours.

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G: Was he a generous man in that regard?

M: He really--that's one thing that he was. He was very generous. He took care of everybody that worked for him. He did special things for them. I don't remember if it was Christmas--I think it was Christmas of 1971 that they leased cars through the TV station, and he gave everybody on the Ranch a car to use as their own car at Christmas time. Lawrence Klein received one; I received one; Dale and Jewel received one; James Davis and his family; Jockey Wade and his family; I think there was--I can't remember whether it was--it was either eight or ten cars. He knew about all the people that worked for him, about their families. He was interested in their children, and he was generous to them at their birthdays, and he always gave the kitchen help--on their birthdays, he'd give them money and tell them to go buy something. He was very generous. That was the episode I talked about Mexico; he wanted to make sure that every child there had some riding toy for Christmas, as well as a lot of other toys. He took a lot of other things.

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G: You were saying you did have some responsibilities or duties regarding the health of those people in Mexico. What did he ask you to do?

M: Well, any time we were down there and anybody was complaining of being sick or anything, we would take care of them.

G: When you say "we," do you mean yourself and the doctor, or was it just you.

M: Occasionally there was a doctor there. And if they had prescriptions, I'd bring them back, and sometimes I'd get the medications for them.

G: That put a lot of pressure on you, wasn't it? I mean, even with all your experience, you might be called on to make a diagnosis that might be a pretty tough job.

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M: No. I only did things that I knew, and if there was any question, I always called a doctor in. If there was a serious problem with somebody in Mexico, they were seen by a doctor.

G: What kind of problems were you prone to run into?

M: Oh, I--just normally the routine type things. One of the ranch foreman's wives was having the typical female problems, and--but--nothing serious-type things.

G: By and large, were they pretty healthy people?

M: They were all, for the most part, healthy people. Most of the ranch hands were brought back to the Ranch to learn how the cattle and everything were worked on the LBJ Ranch, and they'd bring them up here for a couple of weeks and take them back down. But there were never any serious problems.

G: I was trying to think where to go from here.

M: Well, you were talking about the generosity of the President. I--

G: Yes, that's fine.

M: For instance, I lost a son in a car accident. By the time I got--well, he [LBJ] was on his way to Austin to the library for something, and I don't remember what, but he was going by chopper, and he set the chopper down at the accident site and volunteered the chopper if anything was needed. He sent Tom Johnson out to my house to assist and answer the telephone and help in any way he could. He called the funeral home and told the funeral home that he would pay the bill if I didn't have any insurance or anything, and those are the type of things that people don't know about, and he did a lot of things like that for a lot of people.

G: And he could be ornery, I've heard, too.

M: Well, he expected the best out of everybody. He pushed everybody to their limit, I think,

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and that tends to make you think that he's ornery and mean and wants more out of you than what he should be asking, but I think that just was his way of trying to get everybody to better themselves, really. I think he'd done that himself his whole life. He pushed himself to do more than he should, and I think that was his nature.

G: Did he ever get angry at you when you really thought you didn't have it coming?

M: Oh, he's been angry at me. There's a possibility that sometimes it might have been justified, but I think that happens to anybody when you're around people a lot. I'm sure I did things that he didn't want me to do. I know he wasn't too happy with me about my wanting Wednesday nights off and Saturday nights off, but he realized that that was necessary. And he enjoyed massages, so that meant that two nights a week he didn't get massages.

G: I've heard that after the second heart attack that he pretty much had oxygen around all the time, and used to go lay down after lunch every day.

M: We had an oxygen system installed in his bedroom. He didn't use it every day. He did use it, and I think sometimes he used it when he didn't need it. I think, you know, it's kind of like anything else; it gets to be a habit. It's there, and I think that's--he normally took a nap in the afternoon, but I don't think that he really needed to use it all the time that he did use it. And he didn't use it all the time. Sometimes he'd wake up in the night and use it for a few minutes. He'd tell me about it the next day, and of course I had pressure gauges. I could tell when he used it. I checked those every day to make sure that we didn't run out of oxygen.

G: Did he ever get airsick or carsick or seasick that you know of?

M: No, not that I recall.

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G: He never needed Dramamine or anything like that?

M: No.

G: Did he ever depend, that you know of, on Dr. Bailey in later years for medical advice?

This is an old doctor friend of his from Austin.

M: No. I've met Dr. Bailey, and I don't think that he ever did. Now I can't say that he didn't call Dr. Bailey and talk to Dr. Bailey when he was in Austin or from the Ranch or anything, but to my knowledge, he did not.

G: He seems to have aged awfully fast that last four years. Was that apparent from your point of view?

M: I'd say probably the last year. I don't think he aged that much right after he got out of office.

G: Yes.

M: I would tend to say more the last year.

G: Would you put that down primarily to his heart trouble or--?

M: Yes. I think he was concerned about it more than he let on.

G: He did talk about it though, didn't he?

M: He did talk about it. He always wanted somebody around him. That was one of his fears, that he would be by himself when he died, and that's what happened. I know that he used to go up to the Malecheks and spend the night when Mrs. Johnson wasn't at the ranch, but--

G: Did they have oxygen up there, too, for him?

M: They had portable oxygen. It's a red--there was portable oxygen in the back-up vehicle, Secret Service, and there was portable oxygen up at Dale and Jewel's.

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G: What was the general feeling for LBJ among the people that worked for him out at the Ranch? Was he admired, loved, respected, hated, or some mixture?

M: I think it was probably a little bit of a mixture. I think most everybody liked him. I know everybody got a little upset with him at times for the amount of work that they had to do, but I think everybody admired him and respected him, really. I was unhappy with him at times, and I'm sure Dale and Jewel was, too. I know the kitchen help were, occasionally.

G: What would he do to irritate them?

M: Well, he'd tell them he'd want dinner at a certain time, and then he'd go out and ride around and come in two hours late. It was just the little routine things that are annoying.

G: It's kind of hard to keep the roast ready to eat under those conditions.

M: That's true. That's true.

G: Did you ever go riding with him in the same automobile?

M: Not very often.

G: Well, in your observations--

M: If we--you know, if he wanted to show us where--some things on the Ranch that he wanted done, we'd ride around with him. I recall making a couple of trips to the lake in the car with him, and to Round Mountain. He went over to see Judge Moursund one time, and Dale and I was riding with him. But most of the time, I was not riding around with him.

G: What kind of a driver was he?

M: He liked to speed. Those stories are true. He was a good driver.

G: But he liked to go fast?

M: But he liked to go fast when he was on the highway. Most of his driving, though, was on

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the Ranch, but he normally choppered when he went places.

G: Let me cut this off here.

End of Tape 2 of 2 and Interview I

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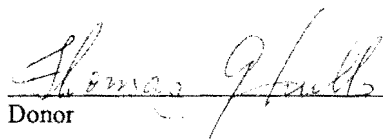
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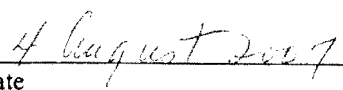
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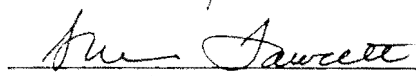
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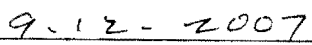
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