

INTERVIEW I

DATE: January 13, 1984
INTERVIEWEE: MORRIS ROBERTS
INTERVIEWER: Ted Gittinger
PLACE: Mr. Roberts' office, Victoria, Texas

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G: Mr. Roberts, when did you begin participating in Democratic Party activities?

R: Ever since I've been voting age I guess; the participation is in local--just going to conventions.

G: Right.

R: Then, of course, I served a term in the legislature.

G: When was that?

R: From 1932 to 1940. Four years in the House of Representatives and four years in the Senate. I left the Senate in 1940; that's when I moved to Victoria.

G: Does that make you a contemporary of Senator [Archer] Parr? I'm trying to think when he was up there.

R: Well, Parr was in the Senate when I was in the House; my first term in the House was his last two years in the Senate. I knew the old man.

G: The old man, Archie?

R: Yes, I knew him, but I was just a youngster and he was an old, old senator.

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G: You were representative from this district?

R: From the Bee County district.

G: From the Bee County district, okay.

R: From the Senate, Victoria County was in the Senate then.

G: I see.

R: Eighteenth Senatorial District. That's how come [I was] on the Democratic Executive Committee from this eighteenth district later on after I retired from the Senate.

G: Did you know Lyndon Johnson before 1948?

R: Yes, I've known Lyndon Johnson since he was secretary to Dick Kleberg.

G: Oh, you did?

R: Oh, yes.

G: How did you come to know him?

R: Well, I lived in Pettus, over in Bee County, and Kleberg was our congressman. They used to come by there, and I knew him then.

G: You knew him personally, then, as far back as the thirties?

R: Yes.

G: I see.

Let's go to 1948. Let me lead us into that a little bit. Now, you were in what capacity in the party organization in 1948?

R: None, just on the executive committee. I was elected, I think, at the convention. Was it Beauford Jester's convention?

G: I think so.

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R: Well, in San Antonio. I was selected by the caucus to be the committeeman from this district and Emma Huddleston from Refugio was the committeewoman. We were just on the committee, and that was it. The first official function of the committee that I remember was a meeting in Fort Worth where this contest came about.

G: Now, before we go to Fort Worth, let me ask you what had you heard about the alleged irregularities in Jim Wells County and, of course, other counties as well, it was alleged. What kind of opinion had you formed when you went to Fort Worth?

R: Well, there wasn't any doubt in my mind that two-hundred vote deal was just a false deal. (Laughter) As a matter of fact, I was pretty active in [Coke] Stevenson's campaign during that summer and all the way through. I had served in the legislature in the House under him when he was speaker, and I worked with him when he was elected lieutenant governor, and served four years under him as lieutenant governor, and [I was] chairman of his Finance Committee in the Senate the last two years I was there. Consequently, when he became governor, I was a friend of his and, as a matter of fact, served under him on an appointed board, state liquor control board.

G: Oh, I see, yes.

R: He appointed me on that out of the clear blue one day. (Laughter) As a matter of fact, I was serving as a member of the Board of Trustees at [Texas] A&I College, having been appointed there by Governor [W. Lee] O'Daniel. I got a call one day from Coke when he was governor, and he said, "How would you like to step down out of a dignified college job and take a common liquor board job?" (Laughter) I said, "Well, what's the deal?" He said he'd just appointed somebody to the board, and some controversy came up, and he couldn't

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serve, and he said, "It would help me a whole lot if you would take it." I said, "Well, okay."

So I took it, and that's how he got me to serve on that board.

G: Did you know Truman Phelps?

R: Truman Phelps. I can't place him.

G: He was an attorney that, I think, was working for the board at one point, but I'm not sure precisely when except it was early forties.

R: Well, he could have been. I didn't know all of the employees of the board, but that name's familiar, but I can't place him.

G: Well, you may remember him because he went to Laredo afterward and was appointed district attorney over there.

R: Well, the name's familiar.

G: Okay.

R: So we get back then when Coke decided to run for the Senate after he had left the governor's office. I had a conversation with him, he told me, and I said, "Well, count me in. I'm going to do everything I can to help you," which I did. So I stayed pretty close with him during the campaign, and so I was a strong Coke man, more so than anti-Johnson. I didn't have anything against Johnson and, as a matter of fact, stayed on good relationship with him the whole time, except that I was on the other side. So, there wasn't any doubt in my mind that the election was a grab-off deal down there in Alice, wasn't it?

G: Do you remember how you arrived at that conclusion? Did you--?

R: Well, of course, Kellis Dibrell and Coke and the boys were down there working on it. I never did go down there myself. I was down here trying to take care of my business, but I

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kept in touch with them. After they found that list and the condition of that list, well, it just was evident to me that it was a bogus list to begin with. I never did see the list, but Kellis Dibrell saw it, Coke, and was written in the same ink and same handwriting and some of those people weren't even in the country down there. There wasn't any doubt in my mind what that two hundred votes that was placed in there was put in there for that purpose.

G: Did you ever talk to any of those people that they got up to Fort Worth to testify that they--

R: No, I never did participate in the investigation. Of course, then they were going to have the convention after this whole thing was over, and I was there at the convention, and when we had the meeting, the record shows how I voted. There wasn't any doubt in my mind, though, whatever the executive committee did, that that wasn't going to settle it, because the convention was pretty well stacked already. The Johnson crowd had already worked the state, and they had their firms there at the convention. Coke didn't have any organization. He was just there. I remember that I and Clint Small and Dan Moody were there arguing for Coke at the meeting. Of course, we were all hoping that we could win, but we had the noses counted and there was one man that was counted on that ran out on us, and so--

G: Who was that?

R: Charlie Gibson from Amarillo.

(Laughter)

G: I want to ask you if that story is true, about Charlie Gibson running into the room and jumping on a chair or a stool or something and saying, "I'm Charlie Gibson from Amarillo, and I vote for Lyndon Johnson." Was that--

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R: I don't recall that scene. I know that he came in. They rushed and found him somewhere out there and rushed him in. He said, "I'm Charlie Gibson." He might have jumped up, I don't know. I remember that our calculation--we were all in huddles, you know--that Charlie was one that [was] one day one way and one another. Charlie had always been on our side, and it looked like we were going to lose him, and sure enough we did.

G: Do you remember the lady from Conroe who changed her vote at some point?

R: No, I don't. I don't remember too much about the arguments except Clint's argument about what we called was the steal. But I don't remember those little deals like that.

G: Let me ask you something that puzzles me. The Chairman, Mr. [Robert] Calvert, Justice Calvert--

R: Yes, Bob Calvert.

G: --had written a sort of a legal opinion beforehand in which he advised the committee that they didn't have any authority to go behind returns. Now, if the committee had refused to recognize Lyndon Johnson as the nominee, what could they have done?

R: Well, like I told you, like I mentioned a while ago, I don't think the action of the committee amounted to anything anyway, except it was a political contest. That's what it got down to. Because the convention was going to be the deciding factor anyway; the convention could overrule the recommendation of the committee anyway. So that night they did.

G: Who was--was there any one person who was sort of leading Stevenson's side on the committee?

R: Well, I can't recall of any one particular, because we was--Clint Small and Dan Moody were kind of the ringleaders of the--the managers of the contest and all that. Of course, those of

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us who were on the committee who were friends of Coke, well, naturally listened to them, what to do. As far as anybody on the committee itself being--this fellow from San Antonio, I believe his name was Groce.

G: Josh Groce?

R: Joshua. He was a lawyer, and he was pretty active, too, there, and those of us who weren't lawyers, we didn't know a damn thing. I didn't know anything that was going on. But after the vote was taken, then that broke that up, and I never shall forget, I walked over and spoke to Lyndon and he and Lady Bird. Lyndon said, "Now, damn it, you be on my side next time."

(Laughter)

G: He wasn't angry.

R: Well, you know, he was a--no, he was a cool cucumber. As a matter of fact, he knew what the score was, we were politically divided. I had supported him when he ran for the Senate the first time down here as an individual, but, of course, he didn't win that. I probably would have been on his side then if it hadn't been for Coke, because you couldn't be for two people and Coke was a friend of mine.

G: Right.

R: So we got along and when later he ran for the Senate again, I was always helping him what I could. But that contest up there--after this committee meeting, of course they went up then to the convention hall to have the convention. It was just a bedlam then for celebration for the victory. We all came back. I was up there, maybe one or two of us, and we all came back to the hotel, and Coke and Dan and I forget, two or three of them, they were getting

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their heads together, what to do. That's when they decided to get in touch with the old judge over in East Texas. I forget who--I think Dan and somebody else went over there to see him and got the injunction. I came on home the next day and from then on, it was just legal matters and, as you know, the history, when the Justice [Hugo] Black, I believe it was, said, "That's all she wrote," well, that was all she wrote. Then, of course, those of us who were beaten, we didn't like it at all. Then some fellow ran for the place as a Republican or an Independent; he was Jack Porter. Well, Jack ran for--like I say, I don't know whether he ran as a Republican or an Independent [Porter ran as a Republican], but anyhow he ran against him in November. And, of course, some of us who were diehards, we stayed with--we went with Jack and did what we could.

G: Well, Coke Stevenson went for Porter, didn't he?

R: Yes, yes, we weren't going to vote the other way.

G: Did you talk to Coke Stevenson about these things in later years?

R: Oh, yes, well, we talked about it lots of times, but no more than--no particular details, just referred to it.

G: Is it fair to say he was embittered by that defeat?

R: Well, I'd say yes, he was embittered. He felt like the election was stolen from him, and I don't think there's any doubt about it, he was embittered about it. He never could forgive Johnson, even when Johnson [was] later running for president, he wasn't for him; he never would be for him. But, no, he never did soften up at all.

G: Some people have speculated at the time that he might run against Johnson in 1954, the next election year.

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R: No, I don't think so, I don't think so.

G: You don't think he ever seriously considered doing that?

R: No, I don't believe so. I didn't know anything about it if he was. I think this thing just--of course, people always thought that Coke had a lot of money behind him and his big organization. Well, he had the least money to run on, I know that because I was kind of his campaign treasurer. (Laughter)

G: Oh, were you?

R: That is--and, by gosh, we didn't have any money. A lot of times they'd have to hold up a radio talk till I went out and hustled a little more money to--

G: Did you have any reliable sources of money? Who were--? Surely--

R: No, except just friends of his. If we got a thousand dollar contribution, it was a big contribution. And Coke had told me, and we had discussed it during the campaign, that when this campaign was over, we didn't want to owe a dime. And when we closed house, we didn't owe a dime. That was how close it--so I know that happened. I know this, on one occasion--I stayed in Austin quite a bit during that campaign--that we had a--Booth Mooney was there in office; he was writing his speeches. We had a speech scheduled, say, for Friday night, Saturday, whenever it was, and we didn't have any money to pay for it. We had to pay for it in advance. I came to Victoria and got a hold of a few of my friends here, and we raised four or five hundred dollars, just a little contribution, then went back and paid for the deal and cleared it. (Laughter)

G: That's living hand-to-mouth, isn't it?

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R: Oh, that's about the way that campaign was run. Coke was a poor manager. He was running that campaign just like he was running for county judge, standing on the street corner and shaking hands. He had had some of the oil people, producers, back of him when he was governor, but when Peddy, George Peddy, ran in this race, most of them supported Peddy. We figured that when this first primary was over, if Peddy was eliminated, they'd come to Coke's side, and we'd get plenty of financing. But when it was over, they didn't come to Coke; the biggest part of them went to Lyndon.

G: Why was that?

R: It was because of the controversy on the Taft-Hartley Law. The Taft-Hartley Law was the law that the labor unions hated, and Lyndon had come out in favor of repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law--I mean in favor of the Taft-Hartley Law. He kept driving old Coke, said, "How do you stand?" Coke wouldn't say. Booth Mooney and I knew it, that we were getting in trouble if Coke didn't come on out and take a stand on it. We'd talk to Coke. "Oh," [he] said, "We'll get to it." So I knew what was happening, I felt like it, because I had called some of these boys, friends of mine. They said, "Aw, to hell with him, he's for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law."

G: How did Coke Stevenson really feel about Taft-Hartley?

R: Well, I'm getting to that.

G: Oh, I'm sorry.

R: We just pleaded with old Coke to take a stand on this, and Booth said, "If he doesn't, I don't know what we're going to do." It was getting down close to the primary, the first primary election, Coke hadn't taken a stand, and Lyndon was driving it to him on it. After the

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primary, the first election, the first vote determined that he and Lyndon would be in the run-off. Then I forget who it was, maybe Booth and I, I said, "Booth, we've got to figure out some way to get this thing resolved now," because I was already running into some opposition from some of these oil people and old conservative friends of Coke on that question. So Coke had decided he wanted to go to Washington, which we argued against, but he wanted to go. He decided to hold a press conference before he left Austin to go. He set the press conference up, or we set it up, for one o'clock, one-thirty that day, and he was going to leave that night. I forget the fellow's name--he was the Capitol bureau manager for the *Houston Chronicle*.

G: It wasn't Les Carpenter, was it?

R: No, no. He was the *Chronicle's* representative in Austin and a good friend of ours and a friend of Coke's.

G: Bo Byers perhaps?

R: No, it wasn't Bo.

G: I'll stop guessing.

R: Bo wasn't up there then. And, aw, this fellow I knew him just well. Anyhow, I got a hold of him. I said, "Now, look, we're going to have a press conference at one-thirty this afternoon and you be there and you ask this question. You ask Coke this question of the Taft-Hartley Law hasn't been resolved. What is your position on that?" And Coke's answer would be, "Well, I thought everybody knew how I stood on the Taft-Hartley Law. I've always been for it." Just pass it on off like that. [I] talked to Coke that morning and he said, "Fine, that's okay." Well, about eleven-thirty Ernest Boyett, who was Coke's right-hand

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man and secretary, he called me and said, "Come down here." I went down to Coke's room and he and Ernest were there, and he said, "We'll have to call that press conference off. We're not going to have it." I said, "Well, what's the matter?" Well, Coke decided not to-- Coke said, "I decided not to have it. We had a meeting while ago with the," and I don't remember this fellow's name; he was the head of the labor union deal in Austin, he was labor's representative up there. Oh, what was that fellow's name? Holloway, Holladay [Holleman]. Anyhow, he said, "We had a meeting with him, and he just had a fit when we told him what we were going to do, so we just--" I thought to myself, "Well, Coke's fishing for that vote." And of course he didn't have it; we knew it. But anyhow Coke left, and I called the *Chronicle* boy and told him. He said, "Oh, heck, that show [inaudible] rough."

So Coke went on up to Washington and the press ate him up up there. And when Coke came back, Booth and I [were] sitting there talking--we usually grabbed a bit to eat together--said, "You know, we've got a rough row to hoe now." So that's the way she turned out, and I don't think there's any doubt but what it cost Coke ten or fifteen thousand votes. But that was his decision.

G: Do you think it got him the labor vote?

R: No, he didn't get the labor vote. All of that where you could measure the labor vote was Jefferson County and that all went to Lyndon.

G: So he got the worst of both worlds.

R: Yes, this fellow soft-soaped him up there, I guess. (Laughter)

G: Who went to Washington with Coke Stevenson? Do you recollect that?

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R: I don't know. He might have gone by himself. I don't remember. It wasn't anybody unless it was just somebody, one of his clerks or somebody like that. I don't think Boyett went with him.

G: Bob Murphey didn't go with him, did he?

R: No, Bob was his driver and Bob's his nephew; he drove his car all the time. I don't think Bob--he was just a kid. As a matter of fact, I don't remember whether anybody went with Coke or not, because he stopped off in Houston and had a meeting with Mrs. [Oveta Culp] Hobby and the Governor and found out that they weren't going to support him, and he went on.

G: What do you think the purpose of that Washington trip was?

R: It was just his--I don't know who put it in his head or what the purpose was, because I know I and one or two of us, we couldn't see the purpose of it. Of course, Coke was a fellow--he didn't explain himself too much. He just--"Ah, I just want to go up and look around." I don't know just what prompted him to want to go, but he did.

G: Do you recall what reasons you advanced against his going?

R: Well, I just had no particular reason against it except I couldn't figure out why; I just wondered why he wanted to go. We better stay here and work on this thing. But I figured he had his reasons, so he did. Of course, when he got off the train up there, the Washington press bunch was after him, and they cut him to pieces.

G: Over Taft-Hartley?

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R: No, just over the whole thing, just general interview. It wasn't like sitting down here at Austin, talking to some of these old boys that he knew, you know. Because that's a little different game.

G: Yes. I know Lyndon Johnson introduced Chancellor [Ludwig] Erhard one time at the Ranch by saying, "Chancellor, I am going to turn you over to the press, and then you'll know how the deer feel."

So after the convention, then you came back. Did you follow the subsequent controversy? I believe there was still some question as to whether the Senate Committee on Credentials and Elections was going to conduct its own investigation.

R: Well, of course, there was a whole lot of speculation. When I came on back down here, I wasn't--I didn't know what was going on except what I read in the paper.

G: Yes.

R: Because there wasn't much of anything for me to do, but every day there was something new coming up. The only thing I did was when Porter ran against him, I told Porter I would vote for him, and that was it.

G: Did you have contact with Lyndon Johnson in subsequent years after that?

R: Well, no particular contact. He was down here a time or two, and I was with him and, as a matter of fact, introduced him down here to a banquet. When he was majority leader, I think, when he came down here to make a talk to a big bunch of folks gathered. I went out to the airport with another friend of his and picked him up and brought him down and introduced him to the congregation.

G: Do you recall when that was?

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R: Well, it was--no, I don't remember what date it was. He was majority leader and maybe running for re-election. I don't remember whether he ran again--

G: He only ran once in 1954, I guess, and then the next time, of course, he was on the vice presidential tab.

R: Yes. I don't remember just what year that was, but he was, oh, I think I could--I don't remember what it was.

G: It's not all that important.

Did he remember your connection with 1948 when he would see you?

R: Oh, yes. Well, we didn't talk about it. I never did refer to it, and he never did refer to it, either. I know when he was in the Senate later and I'd hear from him occasionally, and he'd refer a time or two to the "old Pettus days, when we used to see you over at Pettus." As a matter of fact, I had breakfast with him and his wife when he was working in Austin for Kleberg before he was--well, he was still secretary to Kleberg--and two other fellows or friends of his. We were in Washington and went up to see Lyndon, and he was glad to see us, of course, and he said, "Let's go down the street here"--it was supper time--he said, "There's the best chili joint in Washington right down the street."

(Laughter)

We all went in and set on little stools and ate us a bowl of chili. So we went out to his apartment the next morning to breakfast; Lady Bird cooked breakfast, and we all ate breakfast together. He was just like the rest of us, you know, then.

But I never was close to Lyndon. When he was in Austin as manager of the [National] Youth Administration, I was in the Senate then, and I'd see him all the time, just

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friendly, I mean, had no reason not to be. But I was never a confidant of his and never intimate with him except just a casual acquaintance.

G: What did you make of the--you know, the Johnson side charged that it was unfair to go behind the returns just in Jim Wells County. They wanted to go behind all the returns.

R: Well, a lot of that argument I don't know about. That was legal arguments. They were pulling every thought they could, I guess, to try to save the situation. I don't know of any particular reason why that argument was--

G: Well, they claimed that they were losing more votes to Stevenson than they had gained by irregularities. They said there were lots of counties that had irregularities, and a lot of them were in Stevenson's favor.

R: Well, I don't know too much about that except what I read about that. The only thing I knew, what I said a while ago, when the boys went down to Jim Wells County and got into that ruckus down there, I was told by Coke and Kellis and fellows who were there what the situation was. Well, of course, I formed my opinion just like they had, and that was it; I knew George Parr and had known him for a good long while, and I wasn't surprised that they'd do anything that was necessary to do it, because those votes were put in there on Friday after the election the previous Saturday. There might have been some other juggling of votes over the state, both sides, I don't know.

But I know this, that as far as I knew that there wasn't any effort on Coke's part and out of Austin to get anything done, because they didn't have any organization. We didn't have any big headquarters. We had a couple of little offices up there on the floor of the Driskill Hotel and two secretaries, two ladies, old Booth and I, and that was it. Booth was

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then and the two girls were the only paid people that Coke had working for him. He might have helped the boy that drove him around. He didn't pay me anything; I was just up there helping the best I could. And wasn't anybody--now, the Johnson--the manager of his campaign, old Claude Wild, was a good friend of mine. I'd see Claude all the time; we were good friends. And old Claude knew what he was doing.

People just never did realize the weakness of Coke's organization; we didn't have any. If Coke would have been elected, it was just because he did just what he did, by his own standing around on the street corners. We'd go to Corpus Christi; I went with him a time or two. I remember we went to Corpus, spent the night down there and got in there after dark, got up the next morning and ate breakfast. He gets up about five o'clock. By daylight, we had already eaten breakfast. He said, "Well"--he was standing out on the street—"I guess we better get going." I said, "Aren't you going, too?" He said, "Oh, no, we've made our stop here." (Laughter)

G: Pretty low-keyed campaign.

R: Yes. He was just a low-key. I don't think--I often wondered whether old Coke could have ever been elected governor if [W. Lee] O'Daniel hadn't have vacated the place. Because when he ran for the lieutenant governorship, it wasn't much of a job then to run for office. As a matter of fact, I was his state campaign manager for when he ran for lieutenant governor the first time and we didn't have anybody, didn't have any office or anything, just had one little room. He'd make a few radio speeches and made his contacts around that he had when he was speaker, and we got in the run-off. And Hobart Nelson from Lubbock was his opponent. We beat him. Hobart was a good man to serve in the Senate with him.

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Coke got elected and that was it. But Coke never did have much of a platform. He'd just rather smoke his pipe and cool his coffee. That's the type of fellow he was.

G: Did anybody try to get him to campaign more vigorously?

R: Oh, yes, but you didn't hurry him. He had his way and that was the way it was. And I don't know how many times he said, "Now, Morris, when this thing's over, don't owe a dime. If we can't afford it, don't do it." (Laughter) That's the way it was.

G: Well, it's kind of difficult to get a man to campaign more vigorously if he just doesn't want to.

R: Yes. Well, Coke would have been elected senator if he had conducted an aggressive campaign and had, like I say, I think that Taft-Hartley Law alone was enough to make the difference. Because even in that run-off, I couldn't get any help from any of the Peddy people.

G: What did you all think of LBJ's campaigning style?

R: Whose?

G: Of Lyndon Johnson's campaign style.

R: Oh, he was the best campaigner that ever hit the country down here. He was a heck of a good campaigner. We could see it; we knew it. Coke's identification and popularity in the state was what he was still running on, and that's what he tried to carry through. But there wasn't any criticism of Johnson's campaign, as a matter of fact, except the fact he was pouring it on us.

G: Did he come to Victoria in that helicopter?

R: Yes, yes, he was down here.

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G: Did you see him?

R: I didn't see him. I wasn't here the day that he came in here, but he was down here.

G: What kind of reception did he get, do you know?

R: Well, that was early in the campaign and he was flying around talking, and there wasn't any great turnout for anybody. But I think he flew over town a little and talked through the speaker and got people curious and out--I don't know whether he landed or not. I don't remember, but I know he was here.

G: Well, sir, have you got any other anecdotes, information? What haven't we talked about that you think ought to go on the record on this matter of 1948?

R: Actually I don't know of anything except what we've just gone over. About everything I can think of, my connections with either one of them, and why I was and what I knew, because--

G: I know what I wanted to ask you. What was Jesse Jones during this--I mean, politically, where was Jesse Jones during this campaign?

R: I don't know. Was Jesse Jones active in that campaign? I don't think--

G: Well, I was just thinking he might have contributed, if nothing else.

R: Well, if he had--see, a lot of people contributed to Coke directly that I didn't know anything about. The only people that I [knew about] was the people I hustled myself. We didn't have any central clearing house, except Ernest I think kept the books and turned his--but I don't recall Jones even being in the picture. Of course, the Hobbys were, and Coke had hoped the Hobbys would be on his side, but they of course weren't.

G: And the Fergusons--what was left of the so-called Ferguson machine had gone to--

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R: Well, I think the Fergusons, old man Jim was Coke's friend. See, when Coke was speaker the first time when Mrs. [Miriam] Ferguson was governor, well, he was considered a friend of the Governor's. The Governor supported him when he was elected speaker, Governor Ferguson did. So, as far as I know--Coke, I mean I know that old man Jim was doing everything that he could to help Coke; I know that. But what it was I don't know. I don't know that he had any particular machine except just his old following, his old friends.

G: What about Jimmie Allred, now, he was in the Johnson camp.

R: Jimmie was a friend of--he supported Lyndon. As a matter of fact, he was up there at the convention doing everything he could to help Lyndon then.

G: Well, all right, sir, why don't we cut it off and we'll--

R: Well, that's about it, I guess.

End of Tape 1 of 1 and Interview I

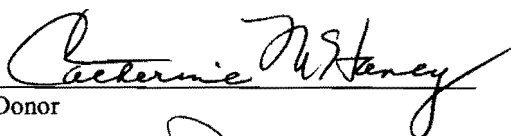
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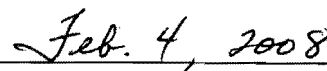
Legal Agreement Pertaining to the Oral History Interview of
MORRIS ROBERTS

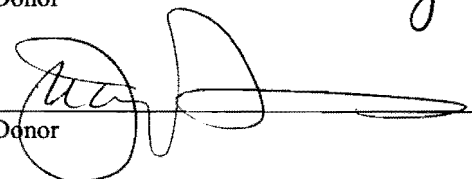
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 21 of Title 44, United States Code, and subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, we, John Roberts and Catherine McHaney, of Victoria, Texas, do hereby give, donate, and convey to the United States of America all our rights, title, and interest in the tape recording and transcript of the personal interview conducted with our father, Morris Roberts, on January 13, 1984, in Victoria, Texas, and prepared for deposit in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library.

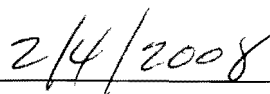
This assignment is subject to the following terms and conditions:

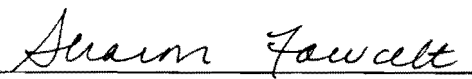
- (1) The transcript shall be available for use by researchers as soon as it has been deposited in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library.
- (2) The tape recording may be made available to those researchers who have access to the transcript.
- (3) I hereby assign to the United States Government all copyright I may have in the interview transcript and tape.
- (4) Copies of the transcript and the tape recording may be provided by the Library to researchers upon request.
- (5) Copies of the transcript and tape recording may be deposited in or loaned to institutions other than the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library.

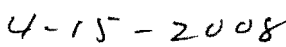

Donor


Date


Donor


Date


Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries


Date