

INTERVIEW I

DATE: August 20, 1987

INTERVIEWEE: LOUIS SHANKS

INTERVIEWER: Gina Gianzero

PLACE: Louis Shanks' Furniture Store, Austin, Texas

Tape 1 of 1, Side 1

G: Mr. Shanks, why don't we begin by your telling us a little bit about yourself; your personal background, where you're from.

S: My background is sort of a story book type thing, as far as my family is concerned. I was raised in an orphan's home. I went there when I was four years old. I graduated from high school there when I was seventeen, and that was the extent of my education. They gave me a choice of a four-year, paid-up scholarship to TCU [Texas Christian University] or a job. I asked how much the job paid; they said sixty dollars a month. I said, "I'll take the job." This was in 1931, when sixty dollars looked like quite a bit of money. And it looked like quite a bit of money to me, particularly since I had been raised in an orphan's home and never had over a dollar in my life.

Ninety days after I got this job doing office work for this big furniture manufacturer--they were the world's largest furniture manufacturer--I had a chance to go out on the road as a traveling salesman. I accepted the job immediately, although it was on a commission basis. And remember, this was in 1931, right in the depth of the Depression. The only catch to it was I had to have a car. And since we had no luxuries of an automobile out at this orphan's home, I didn't even know how to drive a car. I

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borrowed seventy-five dollars to pay down on a brand new Ford, a six-hundred-ninety-five-dollar Ford--that's what they cost in those days--and proceeded to learn how to drive in a week's time, and I was out on the road.

I stayed on the road until 1945. At that time, 1945, I had worked myself up to where I had made fifty thousand dollars a year. I was thirty-one years old; I had a wife and three children and decided that I needed to be home with them instead of being on the road all the time. So I resigned from that job in Dallas, Texas, and moved to Austin, Texas, and went in the retail furniture business. And I have been living here ever since.

G: So that was 1945?

S: [It was in] 1945 that I moved to Austin, yes. And [I] went into the retail furniture business, and we're still in the retail furniture business.

G: What was Austin like at that time?

S: Austin was a delightful, small town, around a hundred thousand people. I went on to get tied up in working here in Austin. The only time I took a fling at politics myself was in 1961. I was elected to the Austin city council and became mayor *pro tem* and served on the council through 1967, and retired from politics and have been a sideline-watcher ever since.

G: Okay. Maybe you could tell us a little bit about the circumstances of your meeting LBJ, how you came to [know him].

S: The first time I ever saw LBJ was in the Littlefield Building, down there at Sixth and Congress, and he was in the barbershop just shaking hands with everybody like he--I've never seen him when he wasn't shaking hands with somebody. Go into a restaurant, he

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was the biggest table-hopper in there. But he introduced himself to me, and I told him I was a newcomer there and so forth.

So then the next time I guess I ever met him was when he was a congressman. I don't recall whether he was a congressman at the time I met him or not, but the next time I know he was a congressman. He was a very affable man; we got along real well together. Our friendship goes back to where it never was a political friendship in any way, shape or form. It was more of a personal friendship based on trust, and like for one another, more so than based on any common thing we had in politics.

G: As a matter of fact, you did say that your politics were extremely different.

S: He thought they were extremely different. In fact, one time when I was a guest of his at the White House, he would introduce me to the different people as--what is that real ardent right-wing organization?

G: The John Birch Society.

S: The John Birch Society, yes. He'd tell everybody, "I want you to meet my friend, Louis Shanks. He's the only John Bircher friend I have." (Laughter) He could kid you pretty good like that.

G: So you got to know the entire family then too.

S: I got to know the entire family real well. Mrs. Johnson was a delightful person, still is. And Luci and Lynda--in fact, Lynda went to school with my youngest daughter in junior high.

Then the President had me out hunting at his Ranch with one or two people that worked here at the store. And the first time that he ever ran for the Democratic

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nomination against [John] Kennedy, we were at his Ranch, and I had gone to bed early because I had planned to get up and go hunting early the next morning. It was very cold, and I just had on this long underwear and went to bed. And I looked up and somebody was in the room and turning on the light, and it was Mrs. Johnson. She said, "Hello, Mr. Shanks. Get up. The Senator is in here with Luci and Lynda. Come on in." And I said, "Well I'm just here in my underwear, Mrs. Johnson." She said, "That doesn't make any difference. Come on in anyway." So I did. We went in and talked for a couple of hours and enjoyed it very, very much.

I had to laugh. About six weeks later I was in Chicago attending a National Furniture Association of Retailers convention, and we were at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. And a fellow said to me in the lobby, "Now, I see this fellow on the front of *Time* magazine here; it says 'from Texas.' Have you ever heard of that man?" And I said, "Well, I'm sure that you won't believe me, but I was sitting in that man's living room talking to Mrs. Johnson, the Senator and his two daughters. I was just sitting there in my underwear. And you ask me if I've ever heard of him. Yes, I've heard of him."

(Laughter)

G: That's a cute story. Okay. You've been described in an article in the [*Austin American-*] *Statesman* as "an active campaigner for industry in the city of Austin." Maybe you could tell us a little bit about--what did LBJ, the senator or the majority leader, the vice president, do for the city of Austin? In other words, how would it have been different had [Homer] Thornberry or [James P.] Buchanan continued as the congressional representative?

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S: Well, that's true that I was an activist in trying to bring industry and things to Austin. That's one thing that motivated my running for the city council, to be honest with you. LBJ did tremendous things for the city of Austin. For instance, a lot of people do not realize it but Bergstrom Air Force [Base] would have been gone from here if it hadn't been for LBJ. It would have long been gone. The Library itself, the LBJ Library itself, probably draws more attraction than any other one thing in the city of Austin--tourist attraction, if nothing else. But there are all kinds of things attributable to LBJ as far as this town and progress is concerned. And also to Mrs. Johnson. You have to give Mrs. Johnson credit for the beautification of Town Lake. It's been my ambition to see that that lake is someday not named Town Lake but named Lake Lady Bird.

LBJ is responsible for all the lakes--where the LCRA [Lower Colorado River Authority] operates. He was responsible for all those lakes being built. And I happen to live up in that Hill Country, and at the time those lakes were built back in the late thirties [there was] no electricity up there. For instance, where I live right today there wouldn't have been no electricity, just lamps. But now everybody has electricity and it's a different life altogether. You know, he was a great one to try to help the life of the people who had not, and he did a world of good. And those lakes have been tremendous so far as the growth of the city of Austin and all the Hill Country, as far as that's concerned.

G: At the time that he was in office, Austin was going through the whole process of--well, a lot of racial problems. Could you tell us a little bit about the process of desegregation?

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S: I can tell you about that firsthand, to tell you the truth, because I was on the council when so much of this was transpiring. Of course, we all know that the situation was not right. Here the black people--they were segregated. When I went on the council in 1961, a black person could not go into a public swimming pool. They paid the same taxes; they paid taxes for those swimming pools. They couldn't go into a public eating place. They couldn't go to a downtown hotel, or any motel. They had to ride in the back of the buses. They had separate fountains to drink water out of, separate restrooms. It was a terrible situation.

LBJ cleared that up more than any other one person. And after all, we must remember that he had been the Senate majority leader, and he had powerful, powerful influence in both houses of Congress. Chances are he was the only individual at that time that could have gotten all the bills that were necessary to clarify all that situation at that time when he did. And he pursued that; [that was] one of the first things he did when he became president. And today I think most black people credit him for doing more for correcting that situation than any other one man.

G: What about some of the--for instance, the big labor strike. Now we're talking about the Mexican-Americans. The Economy Furniture store. Can you give us any insights on that, or--?

S: Yes, but I don't think he [Johnson] was involved in that too much. That was a local situation; that was a very nasty one. Mr. Milton Smith and Mrs. Milton Smith, who own the Economy Furniture Company, are close friends of mine and they had helped these people a whole lot. Now, I've seen them pay for babies. I've seen them pay for burying

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their child--the children, the dead children. I've seen them have huge Christmas parties for all these people. And the union got into that some way, shape, or form, and became very, very nasty. I think that all worked itself out though, I don't think with the President's help one way or the other.

G: What about the relationship between LBJ and Mayor Tom Miller?

S: It was a very warm relationship between Mayor Tom Miller and the President. The first time they went to Los Angeles for the Democratic convention, Tom Miller went out there as a delegate. He was for LBJ a hundred per cent. When Kennedy got the nomination, it broke Mayor Miller's heart. It just absolutely broke his heart. He came back to Austin and he was never the same man after that.

They were very, very close. In fact, when--I go back to the time when I was on the council. We had a statue of Mayor Miller created, and it now stands in Palmer Auditorium. I was delegated to call the President up and ask him if he would speak at the dedication. Without hesitancy, he said, "It would be my pleasure, and I can think of no greater pleasure." Yes, there was a very close relationship there.

G: I'm not sure--in the 1937 congressional elections, I think he did not support LBJ, but then came around with time.

S: That was before my time of really analyzing politics. I was interested in trying to make a living. (Laughter)

G: Right.

How about LBJ and just the business community in general? And especially the fact that you probably had occasion to come into contact with many people who were

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more conservative than he was. What was the nature of the disagreement? Was it political? Was it personal?

S: That is something that is hard for me to really understand. There has always been a polarization between the conservatives and the liberals. Well, just because a man has a liberal philosophy, it doesn't make him no good. And just because a man is a conservative doesn't make him no good. But politics at that time got to be very heated. It got to the point where these people just didn't like Mr. Johnson; a lot of them just hated Mr. Johnson. And I guess a lot of it had to go back to the thing about they were southerners and that he was one of the main instigators on integration and so forth, and I think that rankled a lot of people right down to the bone. But there did turn out to be a tremendous number of people that just actually hated him. That caused friction among lots of groups, but in reality they didn't know the man; they were just politically committed to their ideology.

G: Because I imagine that a lot of the segregation problems did come through the business community with theaters and a lot of places--

S: You mean that wanted them?

G: They did not want integration at this point so he was--

S: Well, they did and they didn't. To the conservatives, they'd say they didn't want it. To the liberals, they said they did want it. Deep down in their hearts--we'll take the theaters, for instance--they did want it because they wanted to sell the theater tickets. It's the same old story. You've got to put your money where your mouth is, and those people they

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were happy in the long run because they profited. You know, there is no difference between the black dollar and the white dollar.

G: Can you recall some of the primary proponents or opponents of [desegregation] in Austin?

S: I can propose hundreds of them but I'm not going to do it. (Laughter)

G: Okay.

How about LBJ and John Connally? What can you tell us about [that]? Do you have any insights into that?

S: In a way I have some insight into that. LBJ took John Connally and groomed him as a very young man. John Connally was smart and he was a good servant, you might say, for the President. And as time went on, John became more conservative and there was a parting of the ways to a certain extent. But I don't think there was any slackening of his admiration for Lyndon Johnson, the man, or for Mrs. Johnson. And I think that still exists today.

G: What can you tell us about LBJ and real estate? Was he--?

S: In real estate?

G: Yes. I believe he actually influenced your life in that regard.

S: He influenced where I live today. A lot of people think I'm crazy, but I drive 140 miles to get to and from work every day. I live on a ranch out in Llano County. And one night the President told me, he said, "You better get up here in the Hill Country, and preferably Llano County, and buy some of this cheap land because someday we're going to have the biggest bunch of inflation you ever saw." Well, you and I both have lived to see that

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inflation come, and we're trying to recover from it now. But I took him at his word and I immediately got hold of a mutual friend of ours, Clyde Weatherby, and asked him to go find me a ranch. He was in the real estate business. And he found several of them and took me out to several of them. And the ranch I live on now is the first one that I looked at. I went out and bought the ranch. There's twelve hundred acres, and I paid a hundred dollars an acre for it, which is \$120,000 for the twelve hundred acres and the house where I live. It's worth a little more than that today. (Laughter)

G: Probably.

S: But let me say this: I love living out there. And on many occasions the President and his family have been over to my ranch on social functions. And I have many, many fond memories of those times and get-togethers. When we're invited to the Ranch, we leave our ranch and drive over to their Ranch.

G: I recall seeing some correspondence about--is it the Bluebonnet Festival or something that would celebrate at your--?

S: Well, my wife is great on having parties. And she usually tries to have a bluebonnet party, and we've always invited the Johnsons to our bluebonnet parties. Sometimes they can come and sometimes they can't come.

G: Right.

S: One time the President flew over in the presidential helicopter and that attracted more attention than the bluebonnets.

G: And like you said, you were also at the LBJ Ranch often.

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S: To say "often"--I don't want to put that in a bragging notion, but I've been there many, many times. In fact, this last summer I was there again. Mrs. Johnson is so very, very gracious. I had some friends from New York City that were dying to see the inside of Mrs. Johnson's home on the Ranch. So I didn't wish to bother Mrs. Johnson, and I called our very dear, dear mutual friend, Donald Thomas, and told him about my problem, that they wanted to see the interior of it, and asked from him if it might be permissible for me to take these folks through the Ranch House, because she knew that I wouldn't let anything be disturbed or anything. He said, "Let me check on that and I'll call you back." In about an hour, Mrs. Johnson called and she said Donald had told her about my problem. She said, "Louis, let me make a suggestion. Why don't you and June"--June is my wife--"bring your friends over to the Ranch for dinner Sunday evening and the five of us will just have dinner?" So we did.

Of course, these folks--we spent several hours there and these folks were just in hog heaven, because they never dreamed they'd not only get to see the Ranch House, but also get to visit the charming Mrs. Johnson.

G: Speaking of his family, what kind of a father was he? Did you get to see him with the girls?

S: He was a normal father. In other words, the girls are just like my girls, or any other girls. They could pull him around by the nose with love, or if he thought they needed correcting, he could be stern. And I've seen him be stern. I'd say he's a normal father.

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G: Maybe you could tell us a little bit about your connection in this regard with the radio station. First of all, how did the station fit in to the Austin spectrum with the other stations at the time? What role did Lyndon Johnson play in the business?

S: Well, originally, I couldn't tell you a whole lot about the radio stations because I didn't advertise much on radio. But 1952 is when KTBC, the first television station, went in. And Mr. Jesse Kellam, who was a very good friend of Mr. Johnson and manager of the proposed station, told me about the station going in and about advertising and so forth. He always quoted me by saying, "Well, Jesse, I don't know anything at all about television advertising but I want to buy some of it." I bought the first program that they ever sold on KTBC. Then I got to doing these television commercials myself. I must admit in retrospect that they were pretty hammy, but they got my name and my face out before the public pretty well, and that's what I attribute my election to at the city council when I--because I didn't spend any money on that race, but people did know who I was.

G: Because of the commercials.

S: That's right. Of course, we've been ever since then on television. We still are on television, not only here in Austin on three stations, but in San Antonio as well on three stations.

G: When LBJ was a senator, was he a vital element in the success of the station, or do you not know?

S: Well, of course he was a vital--I mean, whenever anybody is a senator they command respect immediately, and people go out of their way to oblige a senator by doing things that they thought he might like. I never was asked to buy anything on that program to

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oblige him, but if--one time my friend Jake Pickle was going to make a speech, or his opponent was going to make a speech. I'll take it back. The opponent of Jake was going to make a speech, and I thought it might be a good idea if we gave the speaker a little competition, so we aired Mayor [Richard] Daley's oration, showing and telling about the big drama they had in the Chicago convention that cause so much turmoil--the riots and all that. You remember that? That was about a thirty-minute episode, and we aired that at the same time that this other gentleman was giving his speech, and we blocked him out of lots of time. Now, nobody asked me to do that, and that was just--but you know, that's advertising.

G: Right.

S: And we sponsored it. I introduced the program myself, and it worked.

G: So LBJ didn't ever actually actively sell ads?

S: No, no. He never did ever twist anybody's arm to buy an ad or anything like that, that I ever heard of in my life. And he certainly didn't me. I was one of the first, and I advertised more on it than anybody else.

G: What would you say about his business acumen? Was he a good businessman?

S: He was sharp as a tack. You can put it just like that. (Laughter)

G: Okay.

S: And he didn't need any pencil to figure it out. He just thought and you could see the wheels clicking. He was sharp.

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G: You did do some business with him as far as--for instance, when he had heads of state, weren't you involved in--I believe you mentioned something about a German chancellor, was it?

S: Yes, Chancellor [Konrad] Adenauer from Germany was here. The President had built on the Ranch a special individual home for the Chancellor to live in while he was there. And he called us to decorate it. Now, this had to be done in three weeks' time. I got my decorator; we went out there. We told the President, "We don't know whether you're going to like it or not. If you don't like it, well, just send it all back. But if you do like it, you can keep it."

I went out to meet the President when they flew in, awaiting the Chancellor's arrival, and he told me, "Here, get in my car here with me," after he landed. Instead of driving to the Ranch House, we drove over to the Adenauer House before we even went to the Ranch House. He said, "Looks pretty good." That meant it looked real good, as far as I was concerned. The Chancellor came, enjoyed it. He [LBJ] never sent a piece of it back.

Then later on when Walter Cronkite did a series of interviews with him that aired on national television, CBS; he did those in that Adenauer House. The Adenauer House is still there and it's still furnished just like it was.

G: What about the characterizations of LBJ as a horse trader known for dickering or bargaining to get his price? Did you ever have any experiences with him in that regard?

S: Never had any; just read about them and so forth. He was known as an arm-twister in Congress and all that, but as I said, my dealings were on a friendship basis, and social

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basis, and somewhat of a business basis, but nothing that ever involved--he never put any pressure on me in his life. So that's all foreign to me.

G: You dealt a lot with Lady Bird, did you not?

S: I've dealt--because in our business, we deal with the lady a lot more than you do the man. And Mrs. Johnson was delightful to deal with, yes. And still is.

G: She still comes here?

S: Yes. We're dealing with her right now on her new home over here on some things, and just got through doing some things down at the Ranch House.

G: I imagine she, too, is a customer with high standards.

S: Very high standards. Well, let me say right now, I would like for anything regarding our business relations to be eliminated because I wouldn't want anybody to think we use their name for any business purposes.

G: Okay. Through some of the correspondence you can see that there was some gift exchange between the families. Was there ever a problem, say a legal problem or an ethical problem, of gift-giving to elected officials? Or you never had that?

S: We never gave that much. In fact, I can't even recall anything that I ever gave him. I can recall with great pride some of the things that he gave me, but some of them were done in a humorous fashion. Like one time on my birthday, I had stayed in Austin instead of going to the ranch. My wife and I had gone out and had dinner. We'd gone back to our apartment here and had gone to bed. About close to midnight the doorbell rang and I went to the door, and it was a Secret Service man wanting to know if the President could come in. Well, of course, the President could come in. You don't tell the man, "No, the

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President can't come in." So he came in, and I was in the worst looking pajamas you ever saw. I had old holey pajamas on. He came on up, he and Mrs. Johnson. And they knew it was my birthday--somebody had told him it was my birthday--and he had gone out and bought a bunch of funny little things. A little wind-up mechanical duck. I started to open up this present and he said, "Here, let me open it." He opened it up and showed me what it was, and I started to wind it. "No, let me wind it up." He was just like a little kid in that respect.

This man, contrary to what a lot of people think, was so down to earth and human that nobody would believe it. But anyway, he wound that thing up and put it down on the coffee table, and watched it dance around and laughed and laughed and laughed. He gave me several little things of that nature, and anybody could call that political if they want to, but I wouldn't and I'm proud of it. Besides that, he gave me on that occasion an LBJ hat which I still have. I have three of them, in fact, and treasure them. I don't care who knows it. I'm glad and proud of it.

G: I would be, too. Some of the letters--I don't know if you want to get into this--a friend of yours, I believe he was a friend of yours--Ernest Williger, is that the correct pronunciation?

S: Yes.

G: There was some exchange of an airplane, I guess. I'm not sure. Is this what they call the KingAir? Are you familiar with this?

S: Mr. Williger is president of Sealy Mattress Company, which at that time was, and still is, called Ohio Mattress Company. But it was a lot smaller then than it is now; it's the

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world's largest manufacturer of mattresses today. And he was here in Austin--he and his wife--and my wife and I took them out to the Ranch. Of course, this was prearranged that we could come, and the President was there. Mrs. Johnson wasn't there; she was away for the day for some reason. So there was no one there but the President. We spent the whole day. We had lunch, and we drove all around everywhere, all over the Ranch. We drove all over the Hill Country. He entertained these people just wonderfully, and they were so delighted and so proud. As Mr. Williger and his wife, [and I and] my wife started to leave, Mr. Williger said to the President, "I have something out here I'd like to give to you. It's that airplane I flew down here in." Well, the President liked the airplane, but you just can't take--you asked me about taking things like that.

G: Right.

S: Well, you can't take things just like that without having maybe some political repercussion. Well, Mr. Williger had nothing to gain from any type of politics. He'd never met Mr. Johnson before. But the airplane was costing him a lot of money to operate, just to be honest with you, and he wanted to get rid of it. So Mr. Donald Thomas, I think, worked out a program whereby it would be an exchange for advertising. I believe that was the way that went, although it's been so long ago I can't recall the whole details to it.

G: I'm not sure if that's the plane that they call KingAir. I don't know if you know that or not. I know he had a plane that that's what he called--

S: Well, I think they called this one, in nickname, the Wobbly Duck or something like that.

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G: Maybe you could tell me a little about your times in Washington. You did go to visit him at the White House, did you not?

S: I went as a guest three different occasions. The first time I went up there I was a bachelor, and I didn't go very well prepared in dress and so forth. But after I spent a night there, the next morning the telephone rang and it was a young lady and she says, "The President would like for you to come down and have breakfast with him in his room." Well, I told her, "I'm not dressed yet even." She said, "That doesn't make any difference. Just slip your slippers on and your robe and just walk on down. I'll show you where to go." Well, the truth of the matter is, as I told you, I was a bachelor at that time and wasn't taking too much care of my wardrobe at that time. And I had no slippers and I had no robe. So I just walked down there in these old holey pajamas and she looked at me, but she didn't say a whole lot, and took me up to his bedroom. We went in and he looked at me and he says, "My God, where are your slippers and your robe?" I said, "Well, I don't have any." He says, "You look like hell. Sit down. We'll have some breakfast." (Laughter) So we had breakfast, and it was just wonderful.

G: And that was one of three visits, right?

S: One of three visits. The second was very remarkable in my memory. My wife was a brand new bride and she'd never been to Washington before. So we went to a state dinner and she got a great thrill out of going in on the arm of this young marine, and then somebody announced, "Mr. and Mrs. Louis Shanks of Llano, Texas." And the President treated us very royally, and Mrs. Johnson treated us very royally, too. I just can't impress

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on you how, in all this talk about the President, nice Mrs. Johnson is. But the President just always treated us very, very nice.

G: How had he changed or what were the post-presidential years like? Did you have a chance to see him much after he returned to Austin?

S: Yes. [I] saw him quite often after he returned. He lived a happy life. He liked to visit; he liked his friends. He liked to talk. He liked to tell you about things. He wasn't bitter. He worked on business projects, like the Library; he was very enthusiastic about the Library. He was enthusiastic about his business association with KTBC and several other projects that he got into business with. Don Thomas was more or less his business manager--still manages the empire to a certain extent. But he lived a good happy life.

He was normal in this respect, that he had some heart trouble and he was supposed to be limited to certain things he could eat and couldn't eat, and watch his weight and all that. But he would fudge on that and Mrs. Johnson, the good wife that she is, would always chide him about it. If she would leave the room, well, he would tell the cook, "Bring me another one of those desserts." And the cook was afraid not to, because he could get tough about it if anybody didn't obey him on something like that. He'd be eating this and she'd come into the room. She wouldn't fuss or make a scene; she would just walk over and take it out of his hand and take it back to the kitchen, and he knew that was it.

G: So he was pretty obedient in the--

S: He was very obedient. He was very obedient, yes.

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G: Let me just give you an opportunity to--you've done a pretty good job, actually, of characterizing LBJ. Is there anything else you would like to add as far as LBJ the man?

S: I think LBJ's been misunderstood on lots of things, but one thing I think he's been particularly misunderstood is being called a womanizer. I think that's been exaggerated. He's like everybody else. There isn't a man alive that doesn't like to look at a pretty woman. He looked at pretty women just like I do or like any other man, but he loved his family. He loved his wife. And he had a great habit of loving to kiss all women. That was just him. A lot of people do that. I'm accused of that sometimes myself. But you don't kiss them with any malice or anything in your mind like that, but--

(Interruption)

G: So you were talking about how he was actually very open about his feelings with a lot of women.

S: Yes. He just showed you his feelings.

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S: And to tell you the truth, the talk got so rampant about that at one time I even asked one of his closest, closest associates if there were anything to that. And he said, "I'm just like you. There was so much talk about it that I just thought I'd watch and see, because as close as I am, I think, 'God, no. I can practically guarantee you that there is nothing to that.'" And I believe that.

G: Okay. That's it, and I really appreciate your sharing your insights about LBJ with me.

S: It's always a pleasure to share about great people such as those people.

End of Tape 1 of 1 and Interview I

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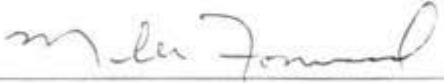
Legal Agreement Pertaining to the Oral History Interview of

LOUIS SHANKS

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 21 of Title 44, United States Code, and subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, I, Mike Forwood of Austin, Texas, do hereby give, donate and convey to the United States of America all my rights, title, and interest in the tape recording and transcript of the personal interview conducted with my late grandfather, Louis Shanks, in Austin, Texas on August 20, 1987 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 shall be 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.

	<u>3/3/03</u>
Executor	Date
	<u>4-8-03</u>
Archivist of the United States	Date