

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Jesse and Larry Bankston

COLLECTION: 4700.1173

IDENTIFICATION: Jesse Bankston was campaign manager for Gillis Long when he ran for governor of Louisiana in 1964. Jesse's son, Larry, also worked with Long.

INTERVIEWER: Gary Huey

PROJECT: Gillis Long

INTERVIEW DATES: August 5, 1986

FOCUS DATES: 1960s-1980s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 1707, Side A

Populist Movement; Huey Long; Earl Long; Gillis Long as socialist; how Jesse first met Gillis; John Sherill; John McKeithen; Gillis Long decided to run for Congress after 1971; losing an envelope with ten thousand dollars; Jesse helped Long run for Congress in 1964; Jimmy Snyder; Julian Bond; 1963 race; Russell Long; Jesse as campaign manager; Blanche Long; Rules Committee; Voting Rights Act; McKeithen; Gillis Long's family was very poor; story that Gillis Long and his family had to live in a chicken coop at one time;

Tape 1707, Side B

Gillis Long's influence in Congress; Kohlmeyer; Howard Hughes; fundraising; John Breaux; Joe McPherson; Gillis would stay at the Bankston's house sometimes; Gillis Long's close friends; the Long name; Long loved to fish; Cold Water Commission; Long's victorious congressional campaign; raising money; Jesse helped Edwin Edwards; districts; black votes;

Tape 1708, Side A

Henson Moore; Blue Guercio; Long liked making lists; making the Democratic Party more acceptable to the American public; blueprint for the Party; Gephardt; Bankston doesn't believe that Long worked himself to death; Long's health; Claude Pepper; Bill Morgan;

TAPES: 2 (T1707, 1708)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 2 hours

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 50 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Transfer and copyright to Gary Huey

RESTRICTIONS: None

