

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Jimmy Long

COLLECTION: 4700.1182

IDENTIFICATION: Gillis Long's cousin and member of the Louisiana Legislature

INTERVIEWER: Gary Huey

PROJECT: Gillis Long

INTERVIEW DATES: July 11, 1987

FOCUS DATES: 1960s-1980s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 1727

Gillis Long's political and social farsightedness; Gillis's support for integration and stacking the House Rules Committee to insure the passage of civil rights legislation; Governor Jimmie Davis and segregation; liberalism of Earl Long; assisting Gillis in his 1963 run for governor; reasons for Speedy Long's election to Congress in 1964; accusations by Speedy and other politicians that Gillis was a "Washington lawyer" and not a Louisianian; Gillis's reelection to Congress in 1972; reasons for the success of the civil rights movement; Gillis's rapid decision-making ability; fishing with Gillis; impact of the Long name on Gillis's political career; Gillis's childhood poverty; Gillis's commitment to helping the poor; the Long family's support for John McKeithen; 1963 gubernatorial election; reapportionment of the 8th Congressional District; efficiency of Gillis's congressional staff; Gillis's charisma; importance of education to the Long family; Gillis's role in the Democratic Party on the national level; Gillis's heart problems; accessibility of Gillis to his constituents; impact of religion on Gillis's campaigns; Gillis's political weaknesses; outlines Gillis's strengths and weaknesses in his run for governor against Edwin Edwards and Bennett Johnston; Gillis's commitment to integration; Gillis's unwavering support for the Democratic Party

TAPES: 1(T1727)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 1 hour

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 27 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Transfer and copyright to Gary Huey

RESTRICTIONS: None