

Gift and Release Agreement

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Interviewee Interviewer

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Anniston, Alabama

on the date(s) of November 11, 1994

for the oral history collection being compiled by Dr. Marshall.

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Historical Chronology Sheet
Alabama, United States, and International

1930 - 1970

1930

Supreme Court rules that buying bootleg liquor is not a violation of the 18th Amendment

1931

President Hoover proposes a one-year moratorium on all World War debts and reparations in order to break the world wide depression. Congress and U. S. Financial leaders support it.

1932

Veterans of World War I camp out in Washington D. C. to force Congress to pass a bill for payment of their bonus certificates.

1933

TVA becomes an independent government agency to develop the natural resources of the Tennessee River Basin.

Twenty-first Amendment to the Constitution, repealing Prohibition, is ratified.

1935 - 1938

Social Security Act provides a federal-state program of unemployment compensation and a federal program of old-age retirement insurance.

Huey Long, a Senator from Louisiana, a critic of President Roosevelt, is assassinated in the state capital of Louisiana.

1939

Thirty Americans drown when German submarines sinks the British passenger ship Athenia.

1940

United States gives fifty outdated destroyers to Britain in exchange for ninety-nine year lease on naval and air bases in Newfoundland and the West Indies.

Selective Service System is started.

1941 - 1943

Lend Lease Act lends war material to friendly nations.

President Roosevelt orders the freezing of all German, Italian, and later Japanese assets in the United States.

German submarines sink two U. S. destroyers, Kearny and Reuben James, in the North Atlantic. More than one thousand lives are lost.

Japanese attack Pear Harbor, approximately two thousand are killed.

United States declares war on Japan.

United States declares war on Germany and Italy.

Burma declares war on the United States.

1944

United States bomb Berlin for the first time.

President Roosevelt is reelected for a fourth term. Harry S. Truman is elected Vice President.

GI Bill is established.

1945

President Roosevelt dies and Vice President Truman becomes president

Germany surrenders.

Japan surrenders.

1946

United States holds trials of German war criminals at Nurenberg Germany.

1947 - 1949

War time draft ends.

1950

Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia become independent states within French Union.

United States recognizes Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, as associated states within French Union. USSR and China recognizes Viet Minh government.

An estimated 75,000 North Korean forces invade South Korea.

1951

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are sentenced to death after being convicted of treason for passing atomic secrets to Soviet agents.

1952

United States ends occupation of Japan.

1953

A Korean armistice is signed at Panmunjon providing for a demilitarized zone along the present fighting front.

1954

Viet Minh forces capture the French Union fortress at Dienbenphu after a fifty-five day siege.

1955

Supreme Court unanimously bans racial discrimination in public parks, playgrounds, and golf courses.

Martin Luther King Jr. leads a bus boycott by Negroes in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mrs. Rose Parks is fined \$14.00 for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger.

The Supreme Court orders that desegregated bus service begin in Montgomery, Alabama.

1956

U. S. Supreme Court orders the University Of Alabama to admit Autherian Lucy, as its first Negro student.

Negro ministers in Montgomery, Alabama, urge their congregations to observe tactics of "passive resistance" and avoid violence in their boycott of city buses.

Governor James Folsom signs a bill giving parents "freedom of choice" in sending their children to segregated or integrated schools.

1957

Bomb damage the Montgomery, Alabama, homes of Ralph Abernathy and Robert Graity.

Governor James Folsom orders state police to aid local authorities in putting down illegal Ku Klux Klan activities in the wake of reported Negro beatings.

1958

Martin Luther King Jr. is injured when she is attacked by a Negro woman in New York.

1959

Governor John Patterson tells a Senate Judiciary subcommittee that "the citizens of my state will not tolerate or support an integrated school system."

Governor John Patterson urges state officials not to cooperate with Federal Civil Rights Commission agents investigating Negro voting registration complaints.

1960

Montgomery police led by club carrying Sheriff MacButler, clears 2 Negro demonstrators from the county courthouse lunchroom in the first of recent sit-in to be staged.

Governor John Patterson files libel suits against The New York Times and five Negro leaders because of statements in an ad seeking funds for the legal defense of Martin Luther King on perjury charges.

1961

A group of 30-40 white youths attack and several beat Negro and white Freedom Bus riders in Birmingham, Alabama. CBS reports the attack occurred "under Police Commissioner Eugene Conner's window. The police did not arrive until ten minutes later.

Attorney General Kennedy telephoned Alabama officials asking police for safe protection of the Freedom Riders. Governor John Patterson issues a statement saying he will not "guarantee their safe passage."

Republican George Huddleston Jr., told newsmen that the Freedom Riders got "just what they asked for" in trespassing upon the South and its well established customs.

Ten Freedom Riders, four newsmen, and five Negro bystanders are injured in Montgomery Alabama, as mobs attacked the Freedom Riders as they entered the city by bus.

President John Kennedy announced 350-400 U. S. Marshals will be sent to Montgomery, Alabama to help restore order.

A crowd of over 1000 Montgomery whites gather in an apparent design to attack 1500 Negroes attending a church meeting. Dr. Martin Luther King and Governor John Patterson declares martial law in Montgomery. Nation Guard troops are called out to restore order.

FBI agents arrest four Anniston, Alabama, whites in connection with the May 14 fire-bombing of a Freedom Bus .

Montgomery Police arrest six white youths in connection with the gunshot wounding of Rev. Solomon Sauy, a Negro minister prominent in the recent anti-segregation campaign.

Three Negroes are arrested for seeking to use segregated dining facilities at the Jackson, Alabama, Municipal Airport following their arrival on a Freedom Flight from St. Louis, Mo.

Alabama Circuit Court Judge Walter Jones issues a permanent injunction barring the NAACP from interstate activities in Alabama.

1962

Alabama Supreme Court upholds a \$500,000.00 libel judgement awarded Montgomery Police Commission L. B. Sullivan against The New York Times for a pro-right ad that appeared in 1960.

University of Alabama ends the processing of applicants from the 1963 spring semester without taking action on three pending application from the Negroes.

1963

A pledge to fight for "segregation now and ...forever" is made by George C. Wallace as he is sworn in as Governor of Alabama.

Martin Luther King Jr. is among more than 60 persons arrested during anti-segregation march in Birmingham, Alabama.

William Moore, a white who embarked Apr 22 on a personal anti-segregation march across the South, is found shot to death near Attalla, Alabama.

Governor Wallace offers a \$1000.00 reward for the arrest and conviction of the killer(s) of William Moore.

Martin Luther King Jr. is among eleven Negro leaders convicted in Birmingham, Alabama, for violating a state injunction barring demonstrations.

Attorney. General Robert Kennedy completes a three day visit, including a meeting with Governor George Wallace.

Birmingham, Alabama, police use fire hoses and police dogs to disperse groups of Negro youth participating against racial discrimination in the city. Approximately 250 are arrested.

National attention is turned toward Birmingham, Alabama where thousands of Negroes and white integrationists are continuing massive protests against segregation.

More Civil Rights demonstration in Birmingham ends with rock throwing disturbance by 3000 Negroes.

A bomb rips through the Birmingham home of A. D. King, younger brother of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. No injuries were reported.

Governor Wallace ask the U. S. Supreme Court to declare unconstitutional President Kennedy's recent order dispatching federal troops to Alabama because of the Birmingham, Alabama, racial strife.

Justice Department files suit in Birmingham, Alabama to prevent Government Wallace from interfering in the court order desegregation of the University of Alabama.

U. S. Supreme Court rejects Governor Wallace's suit. President Kennedy sends federal troops to Birmingham, Alabama.

Governor Wallace issues a order delaying the opening of public schools in Tuskegee and Huntsvill. The two cities have been ordered to begin desegregation of their public schools.

Two Negro students register in a Birmingham, Alabama school without incident.

Governor Wallace uses state trooper to block the already delayed opening of four white Huntsville, Alabama, schools under order to accept one Negro student each.

1964

Albun University enrolls its first Negro student without serious incident.

Tuskegee High School, currently attended by only twelve Negro students is ordered closed by Governor George Wallace. All white students withdrew from the school following the 1963 desegregation order.

1965

President Johnson calls for an end to all barriers for voting in the South.

U. S. sues Alabama, charging that its new voter registration test is too difficult.

Civil Rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr. seeks an injunction against Sheriff James Clark of Selma, Alabama.

Alabama officials arrest 700 Negroes as they demonstrated against the state's voter registration requirements in Selma, Alabama.

Alabama officials arrest 500 more Negroes as they demonstrated in Selma, Alabama.

Alabama officials arrest 1000 more Negroes as they demonstrated in Selma, Alabama.

An Alabama federal judge issues an order making it easier for Negroes to vote in Selma, Alabama.

Whites say that President Johnson will ask for new legislation to eliminate voting barriers from Negroes in the south.

Alabama officials attack Negro protesters with night sticks and electric cattle probes in Selma, Alabama.

Martin Luther King Jr. leads 2800 Negroes in three Alabama voter rights marches.

U. S. authorities begin an investigation into the recent attacks by state troopers on Negro demonstrators in Selma, Alabama.

Seventy white stage a march to support Negroes in Selma, Alabama.
Police use gas and clubs against protesting Negroes in Selma,
Alabama.

Martin Luther King Jr. leads civil rights demonstration in Selma,
Alabama.

Martin Luther King Jr. leads 1500 Negroes and whites in a second
attempted march in Selma, Alabama.

U. S. sues to void a state ban on marches in Alabama.

U. S. officials say they will prosecute Alabama police for tear
gas attacks on protesting Negroes

President Johnson reveals he may send Federal Troops to Selma,
Alabama.

President Johnson condemns police action in Selma, Alabama.

Selma, Alabama officials stiffen their ban on marches.

Police arrest 600 civil right marches in Montgomery, Alabama.

Selma, Alabama officials arrest ministers picketing the home of
Mayor Joseph Smithers.

President Johnson offers to mobilize the Alabama National Guard
in order to protect civil rights march.

Governor Wallace says that the state is too poor to pay the
mobilization of National Guard.

President Johnson issues an order to mobile the Alabama National
Guard.

Approximately 3200 protester march from Selma, Alabama to the
state capital at Montgomery, Alabama.

A Selma, Alabama, protestant church is integrated for the first
time.

The first Negro female college student graduates from the
University of Alabama.

All white jury sentences a segregationist to ten years in prison
for the slaying of a Negro in Anniston, Alabama.

1966

U. S. District Judge order the Alabama Jury Commission to compile a new list which does not discriminate against blacks.

Birmingham, Alabama mayor Albert Boutwell public appeals for qualified Negro applicants for the city's police department.

Governor George Wallace says that Alabama will refuse to comply with Federal guidelines for school desegregation.

Governor George Wallace orders restrictions of his state's mental hospital which were order desegregated a week earlier.

Governor George Wallace's wife, Lurleen, overwhelmingly wins the state's Democratic gubernatorial primary.

Governor Wallace signs into law a bill declaring U. S. schools desegregation guideline unconstitutional.

1967

U. S. Public Health ends its funding of Alabama programs because of noncompliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Lurleen Wallace, wife of former George Wallace, becomes Governor of Alabama.

Lucien Anderson, Sheriff of Tuskegee, Alabama, becomes the first Negro sheriff elected in this century.

A Montgomery Alabama, court orders the state's officials to begin desegregation of all public schools.

1968

Former Alabama Governor, George Wallace, announces his third party presidential candidacy.

An assassin kills Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in Memphis, Tennessee.

Negro students hold Tuskegee institute trustees captive for 12-13 hours, protesting their refusal to adopt student demands for reform.

1969

One thousand marchers pay tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Montgomery, Alabama.

Alabama legislation backs Governor Wallace's call to parents to enroll their children in all-white schools.

Interviewee Chronology Sheet

Frank Johnson was born in Jacksonville, Alabama, August 3, 1933.

Father: Huey Johnson, worked as a carpenter

Mother: Ada Johnson, homemaker.

Eleven brothers and sisters.

Married Sara Johnson, 10 October 1956, died 5 February 1963

Children: Karen Johnson, born 1957
Rodney Johnson, born 1960

Married Judy Johnson, 17 May 1968

Children: three stepchildren

Employment: United States Air Force, 1952 - 1956.
Hays Aircraft, Birmingham, 1956 - 1959
Monsanto Chemical Company 1959 - 1989
Retired 1989
Part time plumber 1989 to present

Mr. Johnson lived and worked in the Birmingham and Anniston, Alabama, most of his adult life. He witnessed and lived many aspects of the Segregation problems that happened in the area.

Oral History Questions
November 11, 1994

Mr. Frank Johnson

1. Mr. Johnson, where were you born?
2. How many brothers and sisters do you have?
3. What were the names of your parents?
4. Where did you go to school?
5. Where did your father and mother work?
6. What did you do for a living?
7. When did you get married?
8. How many children did you have?
9. In 1955, Ms Rose Parker was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white? What did people in Anniston think about this?
10. What was the attitude of forced desegregation?
11. Were there any racial problems at your work?
12. What happened when a group of people gathered to watch announced protesting?
13. What happened with the Freedom Riders when they came to the bus station in Anniston?
14. What happened when Governor George Wallace announced "segregation now and forever?"
15. Did you know of any KKK activities in the Anniston area?
16. What did you know about Willie Moore?
17. What did you think when President Kennedy sent troops to Alabama?
18. Did you or your children experience any problems when schools were integrated?

19. When Selma, Alabama became a hot spot in the news, were there any problems in this area?

20. What happened when President Kennedy mobilized the Alabama National Guard? Did any of the troops refuse to go?

INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

NAME: Frank Johnson Male

Address: 178 Blue Bird Drive
Anniston, Alabama 36206

Phone number: 435-4486

Mother's Name: Ada Johnson

Father's Name: Huey Johnson

Place lived: Jacksonville and Anniston, Alabama

Education: Jacksonville School District, 9th grade

Religion: Baptist

Business, political and social memberships: Union member while at
Monsanto Company.

Present occupation: Retired and self employed as a part time plumber.

Former occupation: Worked approximately thirty-one years for Monsanto
Company, Anniston, Alabama.

Special skills: N/A

Major Accomplishments: Raised five children

National Events in which interviewee has participated: N/A

Local Events in which interviewee has participated: N/A

National born U. S. Citizen? Yes