

Oral History Tape Recording Release

I, CHESTER STUDDARD, hereby give and grant my tape recordings and their contents to Dr. Suzanne Marshall, Assistant Professor of History Jacksonville State University, and authorize her to make them available for scholarly research purposes.

INTERVIEWEE CHESTER STUDDARD ADDRESS _____

INTERVIEWER JOHN PLEDGER

DATE OF INTERVIEW 4-9-93

NUMBER OF TAPES 1

DATE OF AGREEMENT 4-14-93

SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWEE/DONOR Chester Studdard

ORAL INTERVIEW OUTLINE

A. Early life

1. Father died very early
2. Raised on farm by mother with one brother and two sisters
3. High school sports
4. Graduation from Sand Rock High

B. Moving to Gadsden

1. First job as iceman
2. Playing baseball on mill teams

C. Working on radio

1. First job at WJBY
2. Early country music

D. Organizing a band

1. Playing schools on weekends
2. Promoting shows at city auditorium
3. Meeting Ernest Tubb

E. Playing at the Grand Ole Opry

1. Member of original Texas Troubadours
2. Playing shows with Hank Williams
3. Touring military camps during World War II

F. Returning to Gadsden

1. Working at ammunition plant during the war
2. Morning radio show
3. Began selling automobiles
4. Training beagles for competition

INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name: CHESTER ALVIN STUDDARD M/F M

Address: 258 MURRAY DR., GADSDEN, AL 35901

Phone number(s): 547-2792

Approximate age or date of birth: JULY 15, 1911

Mother's Name: MARY ETTA BECK

Father's Name: AUGUSTA STUDDARD

Places lived and when: COLLETSVILLE - 21 yrs, GADSDEN - 1944. present
NASHVILLE - 1942 & 43

Education: SAND ROCK HIGH SCHOOL - 1932

Religion: CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - TAUGHT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Business, political and social memberships (past and present) DODGE DIAMOND CLUB FOR SALES OF OVER 45 YEARS

Present occupation: CAR SALESMAN

Former occupations: RADIO ANNOUNCER, MUSICIAN

Special Skills: PLAYED SEMI-PRO BASEBALL IN GADSDEN

Major Accomplishments: PLAYING WITH ERNEST TUBB IN THE GRAND OLD OPPY

National Events in which interviewee has participated: DURING WWII, PERFORMED AT MILITARY CAMPS IN U.S.

Local Events in which interviewee has participated:

National born U.S. citizen? Yes

Naturalized Citizen: Yes/No Date:

Country from which he/she emigrated:

Documents, photographs, and artifacts which are in the possession of the interviewee: VARIOUS PHOTOS AND ADVERTISEMENTS OF COUNTRY MUSIC PERFORMERS

Individuals recommended by the interviewee who might be candidates for an oral history interview:

Additional information: