

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY
ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Oral History Study of
Senior Citizens
O.H. 77-11

Interviewee: Earnest Crawford
Interviewer: Joel Converse
Subjects: Childhood Depression, World War II, Race Relations
Date: 4/26/77

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

INTERVIEWER AGREEMENT

I, Joel Converse, in view of the historical and scholarly value of the information contained in the interview with Ernest Crawford knowingly and voluntarily permit Jackson State University, Jackson the full use of this information, and hereby grant and assign to Jackson State University, Jackson all rights of every kind whatever pertaining to this information, whether or not such rights are now known, recognized or contemplated.

Joel Converse
Interviewer (signature)

Interview Number

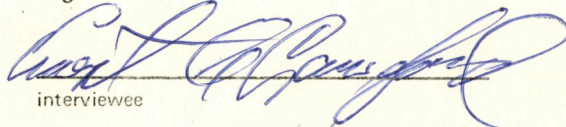
5/4/77
Date

Consent Form

I, hereby release my taped interview for use by researchers subject to the following conditions:

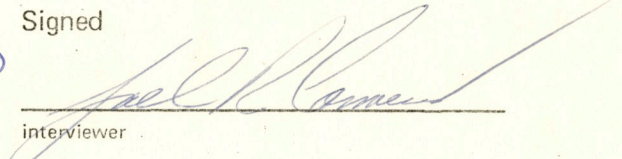
- 1) Use by researchers only
- 2) Open to public
- 3) To be made of use to researchers and/or public only after _____
- 4) Special conditions: Released to Jackson State University

Signed



interviewee

Signed



interviewer

Date

5/1/77

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF INTERVIEWEE

Earnest Crawford was born in Flora, Mississippi. He is the fourth son of Emmett and Alice Hames Crawford. Emmett Crawford is the son of Joseph and Sally Crawford; Flora, Mississippi High School in May of 193-. He moved to Jackson, Mississippi in 1940 to go to work for the Coca-Cola Company. At the beginning of the war he joined the Air Force and was a mechanics instructor and inspector for the war's duration. He went back to work for the Coca-Cola Company and remained there until retirement in 1965. He then went to work for the City Water Works Department where he is still employed.

SUMMARY INTERVIEW

My conversation with Mr. Crawford took place in his home at 1049 Auburn Drive. Mr. Crawford talks about his life on the farm, he lived there until 1940. He gives a good description of how a sharecropping farm worked. He also gives us some information on local politics and prohibition. Mr. Crawford was in WWII for the entire length of the war. During this time he served as a mechanics instructor for airplanes. He also gives us his reaction to the atom bomb.

TIME SEGMENT INDEX

- 00-05 Early Farm Life in Flora, Mississippi, Food Entertainment
- 05-10 Early Farm Life, cars, church activities
Jobson the farm, stories about family
- 10-15 Stories about family, Dividing of the farm
Plantation house, High School-sports
- 15-20 Politics, local, Gov. Bilbo, Blacks feelings on politics
Accessability of politicians, voting prohibition
- 20-25 Prohibition, Hip-pocket dealers, Depression, Sharecropping-
How it worked
- 25-30 Sharecropping-How it worked, 3rd and 4th system, effects of
family leaving farm, adjustments to new life, Jackson 1940
- 30-35 Jackson-1940, Type of work, W.W. II
- 35-40 W.W. II, atomic bomb, Vietnam, Jimmy Carter
- 40-45 Jimmy Carter, Kin in Civil War, Racial situation in Flora
during early life
- 45-50 Racial situation continues, Jackson rapid growth, City planning
work with city wander department
- 50-52 Work with city

Life Experiences of Senior Citizens

O.H. 1977-10

Converse, Ray B. 10/15/12 Statistician

Mr. Converse discusses his experiences of growing up on an Oklahoma farm. He also discusses the depression and W. W. II.

Date of interview: 3/20/77

Interviewer: Joel Converse

Status: Open

Length: 43 minutes

Place: 1109 Adkins Blvd.

Tape #1

O.H. 1977-11

Crawford, Earnest 5/18/20 City Water Works

Mr. Crawford discusses his experiences of growing up on a farm in Flora, Mississippi. He gives a good description of sharecropping, depression, prohibition, and W.W. II.

Date of interview: 4/26/77

Interviewer: Joel Converse

Status: Open

Length: 52 minutes

Place: 1049 Auburn Drive

Tape #1