

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Sargent Shriver

**COLLECTION:** 4700.1752

**IDENTIFICATION:** International lawyer, administrator and ambassador; Political ally of Gillis Long

**INTERVIEWER:** Gary Huey

**PROJECT:** Gillis Long

**INTERVIEW DATES:** July 29, 1987

**FOCUS DATES:** 1970s-1980s

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 1752, Side A**

Shriver's father-in-law was active in Gillis Long's campaign's for governor, but he didn't meet Gillis until 1976 when he (Shriver) won the Democratic nomination for Congress; Gillis Long lived for politics; Long would frequently keep in touch with people in Louisiana while in Congress in Washington, D.C.; the issue of race and civil rights played roles in Long's elections; Long may have been the only member of Congress from Louisiana who supported civil rights at that time; Long, though, would distance himself from civil rights in the media for political reasons; Long's liberalism might have prevented him from being elected governor of Louisiana; Gillis Long closely allied himself with Bolling [Richard Walker?] in the Congress; Shriver had voted for Jim Wright in a secret ballot and this offended Long and Bolling; 1979 race which included Long, Treen, Paul Hardy, Bubba Henry, and Louis Lambert; Long was on the Rules Committee; Long also worked with the Caucus as chairman in 1980; Long preferred to be called a moderate to liberal democrat instead of a liberal democrat; Shriver active with the boll weevils, or conservative white Southern Democrats in the House of Representatives; Shriver and others were not able to get on a major committee because of the way they voted and Gillis would not support them; Gillis was closer to the center of the political spectrum; Gillis worked at building coalition, but he would isolate himself at times; Gillis Long was not very well known nationally; Long was an outstanding fundraiser;

**Tape 1752, Side B**

Gillis Long came from a poor, rural background; he was very determined in politics

**TAPES:** 1 (T1752)]

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 1 hour

**# PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 19 pages

**OTHER MATERIALS:** Transfer and copyright to Gary Huey

**RESTRICTIONS:** None