

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

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Ted Holmes

**COLLECTION:** 4700.0467

**IDENTIFICATION:** Journalist; Graduate of the LSU School of Journalism

**INTERVIEWER:** Melisse Campbell

**SERIES:** University History – Distinguished Alumni

**INTERVIEW DATES:** November 18, 1994

**FOCUS DATES:** 1950s-1994

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 669, Side A**

Born in Forest, Louisiana, on March 23, 1930; father's name was Joseph Walter Holmes and mother's name was Inez Edmonson Holmes; father was a farmer and mother was a housewife; has a half brother, half sister, and one full brother; first in family to attend college; attended Louisiana College; Korean War broke out so volunteered for military service for four years; attended LSU with the goal of a master's in journalism; received bachelor's degree in social sciences in 1958; became editor of the base newspaper at K-9 air base in Pusan, Korea, for four or five months; moved to Japan and served as editor of the newspaper for the Seventeenth Bomb Wing for about sixth months; assigned to another squadron and started a newspaper; came back to the United States and assigned to Charleston Air Base in Charleston, South Carolina, and started another newspaper there; description of Dr. Frank James Price of the School of Journalism; started graduate work in 1958; took Military History of the United States with T. Harry Williams; offered full time position in the College of Agriculture and took one class a semester while working; most memorable class was Public Opinion and Propaganda taught by A. O. Goldsmith; description of A. O. Goldsmith; advisor for thesis was Dr. R. H. Wiggins; worked for *The Reveille* while Smiley Anders was editor; description of Smiley Anders; description of managing editor Jim Chubbuck; description of the facilities in the School of Journalism; thesis topic was newspaper and magazine reading among rural residents in two Louisiana parishes, West Baton Rouge and Morehouse; first job was a student job at Louisiana College at the College public information office; then held a part time summer position as assistant editor at *The Baptist Message*; after military service, received position with *The Monroe News Star*; became the first sport's editor of *The Monroe News Star*; description of Marjorie Arbour, chief editor for the Extension Service.

**Tape 669, Side B**

Offered position under the Agricultural Experiment Station by Marjorie Arbour; description of the Experiment Station; believes agriculture communications is a good area to get into; stayed with the Experiment Station until 1966; moved to Mussel Shoals, Alabama, and worked with the

Agricultural Development Division of Tennessee Valley Authority; moved to Dallas and served as the assistant director for nine months for the Dallas information office of the Consumer Marketing Service of the US Department of Agriculture; received position as director of public relations at Northeast Louisiana State College and stayed for three years; appointed as head of the communications program after Charlie Price died; served as head for four years; offered public relations position for the agricultural center by Chancellor Alvin Harper; left position to work with the agriculture staff by editing Louisiana Agricultural magazine; retired in 1992; currently does the newsletter for the Baton Rouge area chapter of the Federal Retirees Association and the newsletter for the Greater Baton Rouge Federation of Churches and Synagogues; most memorable experiences at LSU include the seminar with Willy Rainach, Barney Davitt's Law of the Press course, and working on his thesis; career was the greatest contribution of LSU to his life; credits Nick Plasterer for the high achievements of the students in the School of Journalism; speaks of a time when the Louisiana Press Association thought that the LSU School of Journalism was not up to par after Nick Plasterer left.

**TAPES:** 1 (T669)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 1 hour, 7 minutes

**# PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 36 pages

**RESTRICTIONS:** None