

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

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** James Reddoch

**COLLECTION:** 4700.0174

**IDENTIFICATION:** [1924 - 2011] Former Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs at LSU

**INTERVIEWER:** Mary Hebert

**SERIES:** University History – Distinguished Faculty & Administrators

**INTERVIEW DATES:** August 20, 1992; August 31, 1992; January 20, 1993; February 17, 1993; March 3, 1993; March 31, 1993

**FOCUS DATES:** 1930-1970

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 234**

early life in Ellisville, in Jones County Mississippi; family information regarding his mother and father; the family farm, crops; the homesteading of the farm; memories of paternal grandmother and her garden; working the cotton crop and chopping cotton; Reddoch's chores on the farm; things provided for families living on the farm; food items available on the farm; butchering hogs; the impact of the Depression on the farm and Jones County; the educational background of his parents; names of Reddoch's siblings; how the members of his family influenced him; school memories; attending different schools; attending Jones County Junior College; going to primer prior to entrance into first grade; teachers he remembers; his uncle Carlos Reddoch, producing a world record for corn on an acre of land; going to church and Sunday school; growing up a mile and a half from his wife; being drafted into World War II 1944; attending Air Force basic training; going through armament school for airplanes; policy of assignment to bomber based on height; working kitchen detail; being sent to engine mechanic school; assigned to Germany after the end of the war as an armorer removing machine guns from 600 B-17s; destroying B-17s; supervising German war prisoners; situation of German war prisoners; attending Mississippi State once he returned; marriage; teaching courses and carrying a full class load.

**Tape 237**

Attending Mississippi State after WWII; teaching courses at Mississippi state; coming to LSU; compiling a statistical abstract for Mississippi; taking courses toward Ph.D. at LSU while teaching; working under Dr. Reyer; assistant dean to the College of Commerce under James Trant; attending Harvard Business School for summer program to learn through the "Case Method"; becoming assistant to President Middleton; duties as assistant to President Middleton; examples of disciplinary problems during his time as assistant to President Middleton; expansion of housing on campus; the establishment of LSU in New Orleans; Middleton's relationship to the Legislature and the Board of Supervisors; the anti-segregation case of Dr. McNeir.

**Tape 238**

Middleton's handling of the anti-segregation case of Dr. McNeir.

**Tape 310**

Becoming Dean of Student Affairs; Reddoch's involvement in the construction of new dormitories on campus; the development of sorority houses on campus; organizational changes to the administration on campus after the departure of President Middleton; the change from being dean of Student Affairs to vice-chancellor of Student Affairs; procedure and policy regarding bomb threats on campus; the problems, campus attitudes and official policies concerning the racial integration of the campus; official campus flag policy and the decision to lower the flag after Martin Luther king was shot.

**Tape 317**

University policy changes regarding the official rules of student conduct, especially the difference between rules for women and men; factors in changing the University position of *in loco parentis*; protest on campus and official policy regarding protest; Nick Canaday's role as a liaison between the students and the administration; the development and construction of sorority houses; the role of a "house corporation" in the operation of campus organizations; issues of campus integration; integrating the dorms; the petition by *Harambe* to have a campus African-American cultural center; the 1972 riot at Southern University.

**Tape 327**

Reddoch's involvement with the District Attorney's committee to study the riots at Southern University; the bringing on to campus speakers as part of student radical movement; how case law affected *in loco parentis*; the development of student handbook of rules and rights; Kent State; student groups and their rights including freedom of speech and to protest; administrative issues regarding student rights and freedoms; Senate Bill 21; program of how to present radical speakers on campus; the speaker policy; forming committees; the Ole Miss hell week riots; panty raids; streaking on campus; the impact of television on culture; the impact of the Korean and Vietnam War on the campus; students enrolled in classes to escape the draft during the Vietnam War; Vietnam War protests on campus.

**Tape 344**

Code of student conduct; University Court; court rulings on dormitory residence; following case law with respect of student rights; allowing peaceful protests to take place; the history and development of free speech alley; problems at free speech alley including David Duke; political use of free speech alley; undercover officers; Kent State; the role of police on campus; protest activity; the Board of Supervisors; policy statement procedure; the LSU Student Handbook.

**TAPES:** 7 (T234, T237, T238, T310, T317, T327, T344)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 7 hours, 45 minutes

**PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 238 pages

**RESTRICTIONS:** None