

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Phil Krone

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Illinois Statecraft Oral History project

Interview # IS-A-L-2008-014

Phil Krone, an Illinois political consultant from the early 1960s through the early 2000s, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Illinois Statecraft* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: March 14, 2008	Location: Krone Residence in Chicago, Illinois
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Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Ted Hild and Bill Wheeler, IL Historic Preservation Agency employees

Transcription by: Audio Transcription Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Edited by: Cheryl Wycoff and Rozanne Flatt, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 96 pages Total Time: 56min + 1:45 + 2:44 / 0.93+ 1.75 + 2.73= 5.41 hrs

Session 1: Krone gives a broad overview of his entire career in politics.

Session 2: Krone's career as a political consultant from roughly 1975-1985.

Session 3: Krone talks about his love for the arts, traveling, and foreign affairs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on February 3, 2012.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Abstract

Phil Krone, *Illinois Statecraft*, IS-A-L-2008-014

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Phil Krone was born on March 1, 1941 in Chicago, Illinois. Growing up in Chicago, Phil was the son of very active liberal Democrats. He attended Lakeview High School, where he graduated in 1958. In 1959, Krone began his college education at Haverford College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He transferred to Roosevelt University in Chicago where he graduated in 1962. It was also in 1962 that he began voting in Republican primaries. It was during his time at Roosevelt College that Krone met future Illinois Senator Chuck Percy and future Illinois Governor Dick Ogilvie. For several years after college he took several different teaching jobs in the Chicago area, including a position at Dunbar High School.

In 1969, Krone began a career as a political consultant which led to him travelling across the world, including an extended period of time being a consultant to the Chinese Ambassador in the United States. After only 12 years as a republican, Krone became a liberal Democrat in 1974. In 1977 he worked on the campaign staff for Senator Tom Hines during his election for president of the Illinois Senate. In 1980 Krone as a consultant for state Senator Richard M. Daley in Daley's campaign for the State's Attorney. In the late 1980s, he gained access to Hungary for a week by pretending to be the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Illinois. In all, Krone has been to Europe somewhere between 150 and 200 times for either business or personal reasons. Krone was diagnosed with gallbladder cancer in 2005, and he was later diagnosed with liver cancer. He passed away in August of 2010.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Lakeview High School; Haverford College; Roosevelt University; Better Government Association; Senator Chuck Perry; Governor Dick Ogilvie; University of Chicago; Illinois Governor Campaigns of 1968, 1977, 1990; Presidential Campaign of 2008; Illinois Comptroller Dan Hynes; Political Advisor David Axelrod; President Bill Clinton; President Barack Obama; Chinese Embassy; Illinois politics; United States national politics; Adlai Stevenson; President Richard Nixon; President Ronald Reagan; Urban Chicago Politics; Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley; Russian Parliament; Hollywood Director Oliver Stone; Chicago Symphony; Hungary; House of Lords; Architecture; Historical Preservation;

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