

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with William Goldberg

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Illinois Statecraft Oral History project

Interview # ISW-A-L-2008-003

William Goldberg, a legal advisor and close personal friend to Governor Dan Walker (1973-1977), 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: January 9, 2008 Location: Law offices of Seyfarth and Shaw in Chicago, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History, ALPL

Transcription by: Tape Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Jeanine Benanti & Rozanne Flatt, ALPL Volunteer

Total Pages: 52 Total Time: 3 hrs, 2 min / 3.03 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on 1/28/2008.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

William Goldberg, *Illinois Statecraft*, ISW-A-L-2008-003

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: William Goldberg was born on September 22, 1937 in the Highland Park neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois, where his father worked as a haberdasher. Goldberg attended Amherst College, then Harvard Law School. He also served with the U.S. Army Reserve unit in Waukegan for a short time.

Dan Walker, then a young lawyer, recruited Mr. Goldberg from Harvard for the law firm of Hopkins and Sutter in 1962. Goldberg subsequently worked closely with Walker on several cases, including cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and advised Walker when he was finishing up on the Walker Report, the report which addressed the incidents surrounding the Democratic Convention of 1968. Two years later he became involved with Walker's bid for Governor, and after Walker defeated Paul Simon in the spring of 1972, Goldberg served as his Director of Research. Together with Andy and Mary Lee Leahy, he filed a brief that led to Illinois' closed primary practice (23 month rule) being overturned days before the 1972 primary, and another law suit just days before the election which enjoined a practice that allowed poll watchers from the same ward to serve as an election official at a polling place.

Following Walker's victory over Republican governor Richard Ogilvie in November, Goldberg served as Counselor to the Governor, where he supervised the review of legislation, and advised Walker on legislative and policy issues. Together with Victor deGrazia (Deputy Governor) and David Green, Goldberg was one of Walker's most trusted advisors. He spoke extensively about the Walker administration, the influential members of the administration, and Walker's relationship with the legislature, the press, and Mayor Richard J. Daley.

Topics Covered: Counselor to the Governor, Dan Walker; Hopkins and Sutter Law Firm; Victor deGrazia; David Green; Mort Kaplan; Norton Kay; Paul Simon; Richard Ogilvie; Mayor Richard J. Daley; Mary Lee Leahy; zero-based budgeting; both Roberta Walkers; Archibald Cox; Jim Thompson

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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