

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Oliver Mack

COLLECTION: 4700.0657

IDENTIFICATION: First African-American to graduate in Engineering from LSU

INTERVIEWER: Forest Dent Smith

SERIES: University History - Integration and the African American Experience

INTERVIEW DATES: June 26, 1996 and July 10, 1996

FOCUS DATES: 1960s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 948

Mack and interviewer look through the 1968 yearbook and discuss photos especially ROTC photos showing Mack; cadets Mack remembers Kernel Harris, and Ralph Tyson; being a member of the National Society of Scabbard Blade; studying at the library; attending graduate school.

Tape 949

Reasons given by high schools in East Baton Rouge and LSU for not admitting Mack; activities that Mack missed out on by attending LSU; living at home while attending LSU; seeing other African-American LSU graduates; Johnnie Butler; racial incident regarding teacher; looking over the 1967 Gumbo; combined Army and Air Force ROTC; voting in Student Government Association; memories of Governor McKeithen; African-American students attempting to join sports teams; Ralph Tyson; working for the Louisiana Department of Highways Research and Development section at LSU as a junior; choosing to attend LSU and getting his first job with Exxon; community support; other LSU graduates who are working at Exxon.

TAPES: 2 (T948, T949)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 1 hour

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 43 pages

RESTRICTIONS: None