

**RICHARD W. MURPHY**

**Legislative Assistant to Senator Hugh Scott, 1964-1969**

Oral History Interviews  
November 5, 2010 & November 16, 2011

Senate Historical Office  
Washington, DC

## Deed of Gift

I, Richard W. Murphy, do hereby give to the Senate Historical Office the recordings and transcripts of my interviews on November 5, 2010 and November 16, 2011.

I authorize the Senate Historical Office to use the tapes and transcripts in such a manner as may best serve the educational and historical objectives of their oral history program. I also approve the deposit of the transcripts at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Senate Library, and any other institution which the Senate Historical Office may deem appropriate.

In making this gift, I voluntarily convey ownership of the tapes and transcripts to the public domain.

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Richard W.. Murphy

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[date]

Accepted on behalf of the  
Senate Historical Office by:

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Donald A. Ritchie

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## **Deed of Gift**

I, Michael Birkner, do hereby give to the Senate Historical Office the recordings and transcripts of the interviews in which I participated on November 5, 2010 and November 16, 21011.

I authorize the Senate Historical Office to use the tapes and transcripts in such a manner as may best serve the educational and historical objectives of their oral history program. I also approve the deposit of the transcripts at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Senate Library, and any other institution which the Senate Historical Office may deem appropriate.

In making this gift, I voluntarily convey ownership of the tapes and transcripts to the public domain.

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Michael Birkner

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[date]

Accepted on behalf of the  
Senate Historical Office by:

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Donald A. Ritchie

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## Preface

At thirteen years old, Richard Watson (Dick) Murphy enjoyed a twenty-minute interview with his political hero, New York Governor Thomas E. Dewey, whose advice he asked about entering politics. Governor Dewey recommended that Murphy follow his own path and attend law school. Circumstances, however, led him to study international relations instead. Years later, Dick Murphy came to Capitol Hill on the staff of the man whom Dewey had selected to be Republican national chairman, Hugh D. Scott, Senator from Pennsylvania.

Dick Murphy was born on October 12, 1932, in Elmira, New York, the son of George R. and Dorothy Foote Murphy. He attended the Loomis School in Windsor, Connecticut, and then studied history at Yale, from which he graduated in 1954. Murphy enrolled in the Army ROTC and after graduation became a counterintelligence officer in Japan and Korea, from 1954 to 1956. Following his military service, he attended the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins University, and received a Master's degree in 1958. At SAIS, he met his wife, Ludmilla (Luda) Murphy. They married in 1961 and have one daughter.

In Washington, Dick Murphy did public policy research at the American Enterprise Association (later the American Enterprise Institute) until he was hired in 1964 onto the staff of Senator Hugh Scott. Scott had been elected to the Senate in 1958 and faced a tough race for reelection in 1964. As a civil rights advocate, Scott played a significant role in the bipartisan alliance that broke the long Southern filibuster against the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Murphy recounts these efforts along with his work on a Republican alternative to Medicare. In the background, Senator Barry Goldwater was campaigning against New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller for the Republican presidential nomination. Goldwater's subsequent campaign at the head of the national ticket further complicated Senator's Scott's own reelection efforts.

Senator Scott won his reelection in 1964 and then aligned himself with many of President Lyndon B. Johnson's legislative initiatives, and became a stalwart supporter of Johnson's policies in Vietnam. Dick Murphy assesses the Senate of the 1960s, where both parties were divided between liberal and conservative wings, and when cross-party alliances were commonplace. Often sitting on a couch at the back of the Senate chamber, he recalls his interactions with some of the more prominent senators of that era, and the legislation on which he worked.

After leaving Senator Scott's staff in 1968, Dick Murphy became director of government relations for Merck & Company, then worked for the National Food Producers Association, and for the International Service Agencies, representing a group of American charities working overseas. He then joined the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a nonpartisan research center, where he was director of external relations and executive director of the CSIS American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee.

Dick Murphy gave the first of these interviews to Professor Michael Birkner at Gettysburg College. Professor Birkner then suggested a collaboration on a second interview that was conducted at the Senate Historical Office.



*About the Interviewers:*

Michael Birkner is professor of history at Gettysburg College. He received his bachelor's degree from Gettysburg and his master's and doctorate from the University of Virginia. He covered the 1988 presidential primary in New Hampshire for the *Concord Monitor*, where he served as editorial page editor for two years. He continues to contribute op-ed pieces to the *Monitor* and other newspapers. His scholarship has focused on aspects of nineteenth- and twentieth-century America: political, urban, oral and biographical history. He has most recently written about the presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower, with special interest in the role of his Chief of Staff Sherman Adams. He has also written on James Buchanan, the only Pennsylvania-born American president, and an award-winning book, *A Country Place No More: The Transformation of Bergenfield, N.J., 1894-1994*, that traced the development of a small community into an increasingly urbanized suburb of New York City.

Donald A. Ritchie is Historian of the Senate. A graduate of the City College of New York, he received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Maryland. His books include *James M. Landis: Dean of the Regulators* (Harvard University Press, 1980), *Press Gallery: Congress and the Washington Correspondents* (Harvard, 1991), *The Oxford Guide to the United States Government* (Oxford University Press, 2001), *Reporting from Washington: The History of the Washington Press Corps* (Oxford, 2005), *Electing FDR: The New Deal Campaign of 1932* (University Press of Kansas, 2007); and *The U.S. Congress: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2010). He served as president of the Oral History Association and of Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR), and received OHMAR's Forrest C. Pogue Award for distinguished contributions to the field of oral history.