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## **UVa Miller Center Releases Clinton Presidential History Project**

*Interviews Available at*

<http://millercenter.org/president/clinton/oralhistory>

The University of Virginia's Miller Center has released a first batch of interviews conducted for the Clinton Presidential History Project. The release occurred at the conclusion of a symposium on the Clinton administration as part of the tenth anniversary celebrations of the Clinton Presidential Center.

Comprised of more than 100 interviews with Cabinet secretaries, White House aides, members of Congress, and foreign leaders, the project provides a detailed history of the Clinton administration in the words of those who knew it best. Teams of scholars conducted the interviews, many of which run more than 100 pages long. The interviews provide first-hand accounts from all perspectives on a wide range of issues.

Forty-seven interview transcripts are now available at <http://millercenter.org/president/clinton/oralhistory>. A second batch of interviews will be released on Monday, Nov. 24.

"A decade of interviews, with scores of individuals, went into the Clinton Project. We spoke to those most familiar with the Clinton administration. Preserved for the future use of scholars, historians and the general public are the memories, impressions and recollections about specific programs, people, challenges and changes of the eight consequential years of one president, Bill Clinton. Here the future will find great insights into the closing years of the 20th century and the enduring importance of one American's singular leadership," said Gov. Gerald L. Baliles, director and CEO of the Miller Center.

Russell Riley, co-chair of the Center's Presidential Oral History Program who directed the Clinton project said, "The value in these interviews is that they take us behind the scenes in the White House, into a world where human memory is often the only record of what transpired. These oral histories are conducted in such a way as to foster complete candor—and so the reader of these transcripts gets a front row seat to history. The portraiture of the Clinton presidency painted here will be indispensable for anyone who wants to develop a full understanding of the Clinton presidency in all its many dimensions."

Among the interviews released are those with: Secretaries of State Madeleine Albright and Warren Christopher; Defense Secretary William Perry; Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin; Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala; National Security Adviser Sandy Berger; White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta; Democratic Senator George Mitchell; and Republican Senator Alan Simpson.

Scholars who conducted the interviews discussed what they learned on Nov. 14 at a special event marking the anniversary of the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. They took part in panel discussions with former Clinton administration officials examining Clinton's domestic, economic and foreign policies.

The Clinton Project was launched in 2001 as a collaborative effort between the Miller Center and the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History.

The Miller Center also has conducted the oral histories of Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. These interview transcripts are available at <http://millercenter.org/oralhistory>.

Early next year, the Center will release the oral history of Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

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