

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

with

GUY JONES

July 15, 1986

at

Fort Russell

Marfa, Texas

By Scott Ellsworth

Abstracted by Vanessa Broussard

For the Marlboro Oral History Project
INTERVIEW #21

Archives Center
National Museum of American History
Smithsonian Institution

TAPE ABSTRACT AND INDEX

GUY JONES

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

In the advertising business for nine years, Guy Jones was a grip at the time of the interview.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The interview focuses on the responsibilities of a grip on filming location sites. Major topics include: the difference between grip work in feature films and commercials, and Jones' experiences as a race car driver.

The interview was conducted outside of the former Officer's Club, Fort Russell, Marfa, Texas.

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Abstract of interview with Guy Jones, July 15, 1986
Marfa, Texas
Interviewer: Scott Ellsworth

Tape 1, Side 1

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

:55

Jones lived in Oregon for a few years. He has a family in northern California. He is a key grip and is on the road eighty percent of the time.

Jones states that he mainly does commercial jobs because people in this work tend to work closer together.

The difference between feature films and commercial films is that there tends to be more grips working on feature films. Generally there are two grips for commercial work but Jones has worked in situations where there have been five grips.

HEIRARCHY OF GRIPS

At the top is the key grip followed by the best boy, second hammer, third hammer, fourth hammer and fifth hammer respectively. A best boy can be as old as fifty.

8:50

Jones has been doing grip work for about nine years. It took Jones five years to become a key grip. He generally rigs cameras on different things such as trees or mountains. He states that he probably does more rigging than actual grip work.

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12:00 Each grip has an area he is particularly good in.

13:25 Jones has no problems working with cigarette advertising.

Before Jones became a grip he was a race car driver. He views grip work as being more challenging as opposed to anything else he has ever done. He got into the grip work through a race car driver who was a film producer.

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