

3-16-1995

Interview no. 874

Pollard Rodgers

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

INTERVIEWEE: Pollard Rodgers

INTERVIEWER: Michelle L. Gomilla

PROJECT: Chamizal Oral History Project

DATE OF INTERVIEW: March 16, 1995

TERMS OF USE: Unrestricted

TAPE NO: 874

TRANSCRIPT NO: _____

TRANSCRIBER: _____

BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSIS OF INTERVIEWEE:

Former construction engineer with International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), U.S. Section, during Chamizal Construction Projects; longtime El Paso resident; born 11 February 1915 in Pyote, TX; Mining Engineering graduate of Texas College of Mines; served in U.S. Navy during World War II; retired from IBWC in 1979.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW:

Shares recollections of work experiences with IBWC as construction engineer for the Chamizal Construction Projects; briefly describes settlement of Chamizal issue; Chamizal area and neighborhoods; detailed description of organization of Chamizal construction field force; construction of principle projects, including temporary port of entry facilities and detour; Franklin Canal relocation; relocation of railroad yards and trackage, two international vehicular bridges, Rio Grande Channel, and garbage transfer stations; construction of Adolfo López Mateos Channel; sludge centrifuge facilities at Delta Street Sewage Treatment Plant; obliteration of Eighth Avenue Canal; reflects on cooperation between U.S. and Mexican Section Commissioners of IBWC, Joseph F. Friedkin and David Herrera Jordan; mentions other IBWC projects at Nogales and Presidio.

Length of Interview: 1 hour, 20 min. Length of Transcript