



Summary Information

Title: Jesse Carr "Hobbs Knight of the Road" Collection

Collection Number: 2007:004

Creator: Jesse Carr

Collection Dates: 1954-1961, bulk 1958-1959

Extent: .5 cubic feet (2 boxes)

Language: English

Collection Abstract: Temple Industries trucker Jesse Carr was nominated for the Hobbs Knight of the Road Award in 1958. The Hobbs Knight of the Road award was annually awarded to an unlimited number of truck drivers who had performed an exceptional act of courtesy and was subsequently nominated by a Texas Department of Public Safety officer. This collection contains correspondence, clippings, photographs, a plaque, certificates, and other items pertaining to Carr's receipt of the award.

Repository:

The History Center
102 N. Temple
Diboll, TX, 75941
936-829-3543
<http://www.thehistorycenteronline.com/>

Author/Processing Information: Processed by Emily E. Hyatt February 12, 2007.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Temple Industries trucker Jesse Carr was nominated for the Hobbs Knight of the Road Award in 1958. In February 1959, at an awards banquet in Austin, Texas, Mr. Carr was singled out as the Most Representative Knight – a tribute to his great courtesy and helpfulness. He received the award for an incident on July 28, 1958 on U.S. Highway 77, eight miles south of La Grange, TX. As Mr. Carr drove his Temple Industries truck north on highway 77 about 4 a.m., he noticed a truck carrying cotton pickers stopped on the road. After passing the stopped truck, Mr. Carr looked back in his rearview mirror just as a car traveling south on the road crashed into the truck. He stopped his truck, ran to the accident scene, set up flares and directed traffic around the disabled vehicles. He flagged down a passing car and sent them for help. Mr. Carr remained at the scene, eventually helping the injured driver and passenger out of their car and ensuring the safety of everyone at the site until Department of Public Safety troopers

arrived and took charge of the scene. Mr. Carr's driving record also led to this award, as he logged more than 500,000 miles without an accident in his six years as a Temple Industries driver.

The Hobbs Knight of the Road award was annually awarded to an unlimited number of truck drivers who had performed an exceptional act of courtesy and was subsequently nominated by a Texas Department of Public Safety officer. Each year, five nominees were chosen to attend the awards banquet in Austin, Texas, and from among those five one was awarded the title of Most Representative Knight of the Road. Mr. Carr received a plaque and a new color television at the ceremony. His wife, Mr. Clyde Thompson, Mr. Willis Jordan, and Mr. Latané Temple accompanied him to the ceremony. In addition he received congratulatory telegrams and letters from the White House, the Texas Governor, Joe Denman, Martin Dies, and the heads of safety organizations from around the country.

Collection Scope and Content:

This collection contains news articles, photographs, letters, telegrams, a plaque, 2 framed certificates, and Temple service pins. Most of the collection is dated 1958-1959 and pertains to Jesse Carr's receipt of the Hobbs Knight of the Road award in 1958 and the ceremony where he was named Most Representative Knight in 1959. He was invited to subsequent ceremonies, reflected in correspondence and ephemera from the following years. The service pins reflect a wide time span, marking several significant service anniversaries. Earlier correspondence from ca. 1954 reflects Mr. Carr's successful driving and customer service record as a Temple employee.

Arrangement:

When the collection arrived at The History Center, it was divided between a scrapbook containing photographs, articles, and correspondence (which appears to have been assembled by a representative of Hobbs Trucking and sent to Mr. Carr), a divided box filled with randomly arranged articles, correspondence, and envelopes, and the artifacts, which arrived separately.

The archivist removed the items from the scrapbook, since it no longer had either a front or back cover and because the news articles and photographs were no longer reliably attached to each page. The items were divided by type and foldered together. The other items were divided by type and arranged together. Each news article was copied onto acid-free paper for preservation. The original articles were returned to Mr. Earl Carr, the donor.

Subject Terms:

Topics

- Awards -- Texas

Corporate Names

- Temple Industries

Personal Names

- Carr, Jesse

Occupations

- Truck drivers

Locations

- Texas
- La Grange (Tex.)
- United States Highway 77

Access and Use

Access Restrictions: There are no restrictions on this collection.

Acquisition Information: Donated by Earl Carl in February 2 and 9, 2007.

Custodial History: Jesse Carr and his family assembled the collection and kept it together at their home until donating the paper portion to The History Center on February 2, 2007 and the artifacts on February 9, 2007.

Citation: Jesse Carr "Hobbs Knight of the Road" Collection, 1954-1961, 2007:004, The History Center, Diboll, TX

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Collection Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1	Correspondence (Pre-Award) 1954-1956
Folder 2	Correspondence (Post Award) 1958-1961
Folder 3	Envelopes
Folder 4	Awards Banquet Invitations and Programs
Folder 5	News Articles
Folder 6	Letters and Telegrams, 1959: Scrapbook
Folder 7	New Articles, 1959: Scrapbook
Folder 8	Awards Banquet Photos, 1959: Scrapbook

Box 2

Temple Service Pins
 Hobbs Knight of the Road Most Representative Knight 1958 Award Plaque
 Framed Certificate
 Framed Certificate