

INTERVIEW, EDWARD LYNCH

Worked as consultant (SBA) in Public Liaison, working on Central America Outreach Working Group (there to help with writing)

December 1983-December 1984

Directly reported to Blackwell; Blackwell left in January 1984 for the "Leadership Institute" Which he founded in 1979 to groom, train and place conservative leaders – Robert Reilly took his place, but 70% of his time spent as Liaison Office link to Catholics and 30% on Central America. – Faith Whittlesey

His father was county commissioner in PA, and he and Whittlesey served as state reps together

Per Lynch he started in May/June 1983

He was with the Heritage Foundation and had just written about Grenada on the day we invaded. Got him some attention.

Faith felt very strongly on Central America and pushed to have the outreach group work through her office – working with Office of Public Diplomacy at State – Otto Reich Also worked with Constantine Menges, Jackie Tillman, Oliver North

Lynch strongly disagreed with my assessment of the Reagan White House as "organized" – he said it compares very unfavorably to the current (Bush W. White House). He was referring to political discipline at the White House. Brought up the battle between Reagan "True Believers" and the Pragmatists. He stated that "Frank Donatelli was James Baker's spy in the Public Liaison office." He also spoke disparagingly about Frank Lavin. When I mentioned it was organizational issues I was referring to, he didn't disagree.

Faith Whittlesey became ambassador to Switzerland, December 1984 – Reilly went with her.

He left right before Faith – with no benefits, etc., and no permanent position in sight, he needed to move on.

Kojelis took over, outreach group died a natural death due to lack of time and interest.

His folders will probably consist of his writings on CA for the White House Digest. Kojelis should have a full set of these and/or Reilly and Wednesday afternoon briefings for CA Outreach Working Group

Lynch mentioned that Regan and the "mice" did not work Liaison as well as first administration. They didn't respond to scheduling requests and then would call up at the

last minute asking them to round up supporters of a certain issue. He said it often led to some pretty funny mismatches. Whoever was visiting going to a press briefing, etc.

Political background –

Worked in GOP – Delaware County, PA Campaigned for Dad

Not active in N. Va – no 1980 activity worked for Bush, Sr. in 1980 PA primary

Currently active in Roanoke GOP, 1999-2002

Associate Professor Political Science – Hollins University