



Guide to the Burton Cohen oral history interview

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on September 21, 2022. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f19j25>

© 2022 The Regents of the University of Nevada. All rights reserved.

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special
Collections and Archives.**

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

special.collections@unlv.edu

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Cohen, Burton M., 1923-2014
Contributor:	UNLV Gaming Law Journal Oral History Project
Title:	Burton Cohen oral history interview
ID:	OH-03187
Date:	2013 July 09
Physical Description:	3 Digital Files (0.0828 GB) MP3, PDF/A
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Burton Cohen conducted by Claytee D. White on July 9, 2013 as part of the UNLV Boyd Law School project, <i>UNLV Gaming Law Journal</i> . In this interview, casino executive Burton Cohen begins with his early life in Miami, Florida where he "fell in love with the hotel business" while working in his father's hotel as a boy. He recounts how he abandoned his law career to return to the hotel business and how he came to Las Vegas, Nevada in the 1960s to build up and manage operations at The Frontier. Cohen discusses his long career as a chief operating officer, touching briefly on some of the hotel/casinos that he helped launch and oversee in Las Vegas, including The Frontier, Circus Circus, Flamingo, Caesars Palace, the Desert Inn, and the Dunes. Cohen discusses some of the major changes that have occurred over the years in hotel/casino management and expresses respect for some of his contemporaries in the hotel industry such as Kirk Kerkorian, Billy Weinberger, and Gary Loveman.

Preferred Citation

Burton Cohen oral history interview, 2013 July 09. OH-03187. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interview with Burton Cohen conducted by Claytee D. White on July 9, 2013 as part of the UNLV Boyd Law School project, *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*. In this interview, casino executive Burton Cohen begins with his early life in Miami, Florida where he "fell in love with the hotel business" while working in his father's hotel as a boy. He recounts how he abandoned his law career to return to the hotel business and how he came to Las Vegas, Nevada in the 1960s to build up and manage operations at The Frontier. Cohen discusses his long career as a chief operating officer, touching briefly on some of the hotel/casinos that he helped launch and oversee in Las Vegas, including The Frontier, Circus Circus, Flamingo, Caesars Palace, the Desert Inn, and the Dunes. Cohen discusses some of the major changes that have occurred over the years in hotel/casino management and expresses respect for some of his contemporaries in the hotel industry such as Kirk Kerkorian, Billy Weinberger, and Gary Loveman. Digital audio and transcript available.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

The final transcript of this interview was published in 2013 by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas: "The Oral History of Burton Cohen, Board of Directors, Member: MGM Resorts International," *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 5. Available at: <https://scholars.law.unlv.edu/glj/vol4/iss2/5>

Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by Claytee D. White as part of the UNLV Boyd Law School project, *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*. As of 2021, the project is ongoing.

Processing Information

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2017. Cyndi Shein wrote the collection description.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials Note

An annotated version of the transcript of this interview is available here:

UNLV Gaming Law Journal, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law (2013) "The Oral History of Burton Cohen, Board of Directors, Member: MGM Resorts International," *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 5. Available at: <https://scholars.law.unlv.edu/glj/vol4/iss2/5>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Casinos -- Management
- Hotels -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Gaming -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Kerkorian, Kirk, 1917-2015
- Weinberger, William S., 1913-1996
- Loveman, G. (Gary)