agreed. The *Heart of Atlanta* opinion, upholding the Civil Rights Act, was issued three weeks later.

Conclusion

My father was a true Californian who never forgot his Missouri roots. He did not judge people by their race, gender, personal preferences, economic or social status. He believed in and practiced equality for all. He had very strong principles and ideals, but could sit down happily with his strongest opponents and share a drink and a laugh.

At my father's memorial tribute at the California Supreme Court in 1984, Justice Stanley Mosk said, "There were no sacred cows to Phil Gibson. Wrong was wrong, no matter how influential the perpetrator."

This award is not just about my father. He would be very honored that it carries his name. It is about something much higher, the standards attorneys should uphold, and commitment to public service. Over and above one's practice of law, in whatever field it may be, lawyers should make some sacrifice for the public good. . . . I thank you for continuing to honor my father by giving this award in his name, and honoring the recipients for their contributions to public service.

I would like to leave you with the words my father told the graduating class from San Francisco Law School in 1940:

"There is every reason to believe that we will be called upon again and again to defend our liberties. We must prepare now for their defense against attacks from within as well as against attacks which may come from without. It is not necessary, however, to suppress the liberties of our people in order to prepare for their defense. In periods of national emergency, when we are all under great emotional stress, we are likely to be intolerant of others, whose views are not the same as our own. Many good intentioned but unthinking people seek to deny constitutional freedoms to persons who do not agree with the course our government has determined to pursue. In dealing with such situations, we should not allow ourselves to be carried away by hysteria. We should be careful not to violate the rights guaranteed by our constitution. Liberty cannot be divided: it cannot be granted to a majority and denied to a minority. In democracy, freedom means freedom for all. Denial of freedom anywhere in this country means its eventual disappearance everywhere."

Endnotes

1. *Times-Mirror Co. v. Superior Court* (1940) 15 Cal.2d 99 at p. 126.

2. *James v. Marinship Corp.* (1944) 25 Cal.2d 721.

3. *Perez v. Sharp* (1948) 32 Cal.2d 711.

4. *Sei Fuji v. State of California* (1952) 38 Cal.2d 718.

5. *Jackson v. Pasadena City School District* (1963) 59 Cal.2d 876.

6. *Robinson v. Pioche Bayerque & Co.* (1855) 5 Cal. 460.

7. *People v. Cahan* (1955) 44 Cal.2d 434.

8. *Griffin v. Board of Supervisors* (1963) 60 Cal.2d 318.

9. *Warne v. Harkness* (1963) 60 Cal.2d 579.

10. *Los Angeles v. Superior Court* (1959) 51 Cal.2d 423.

Quiet Legacy

BY RICHARD M. MOSK

The Judge: William P. Clark, Ronald Reagan's Top Hand by Paul Kengor and Patricia Clark Doerner, Ignatius Press (Fall, 2007), ISBN-10: 1586171836

William P. Clark has been one of California's most influential public servants. Yet, for most of his career, he has operated below the radar screen. He has served as a top aide to Gov. Ronald Reagan, a San Luis Obispo County Superior Court judge, a Court of Appeal justice, a California Supreme Court justice, deputy secretary of state, national security adviser, secretary of the interior and a special emissary of the president on many occasions. In addition, he has declined many other significant positions, even the United States Supreme Court.

With this resume, one would expect a number of biographies of him, but Paul Kengor and Patricia Clark Doerner have supplied the first. The authors have the benefit of other works covering the lives of the many major figures that intersected with Clark's.

I appeared before Clark when he was on the California Supreme Court, and he was responsible for my appointment as a judge on the Iran–United States Claims Tribunal. I have stayed in touch with him over the years and was interviewed for the book.

The Clark forebears came to California in the late 19th century. Clark's grandfather had a colorful career as a ranger, Ventura County sheriff and United States marshal. His father had an equally storied career as an

undersheriff and an Oxnard police chief. It may come as a surprise to many, but the parents of Clark, aide to Reagan, were Democrats. They were also supporters of my father, Stanley Mosk, when he successfully ran for California attorney general as a Democrat.

Clark grew up in a ranching area of Ventura. When, as a young boy, he made his first trip out of the area, it was to Sacramento. His class was given a tour of the governor's office by Gov. Culbert Olson's young executive secretary, Stanley Mosk. A couple of decades later, Clark was the executive secretary to Reagan. Some years later, Clark and Mosk served together on the California Supreme Court.

As a young man, Clark played high-school football—some of his teammates went on to play on a UCLA Rose Bowl team. After high school, though, he dropped out of Stanford and did not complete Loyola Law School. This academic record would plague every political confirmation process that he ever endured.

Clark developed a successful law practice in Oxnard. He was involved in Reagan's campaign for governor—and the rest, as they say, is history. Reagan brought Clark to Sacramento, and the two became very close. Reagan appointed Clark to the San Luis Obispo County Superior Court, ignoring substantial opposition and myriad suggestions for other candidates.

Clark was elevated to the Court of Appeal, then to the California Supreme Court. When nominated for the state's highest court, he faced opposition based on his lack of academic credentials and experience. In fact,

the chief justice voted against him on the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

Clark was generally viewed as a "conservative" on the court. Yet he and my (nonconservative) father forged a friendly relationship. Indeed, they voted together on a number of important cases, some of which are chronicled in the book.

When Reagan became president, Clark was named deputy secretary of state. When Clark was up for confirmation, some senators opposed him, again for lack of experience. He later served as national security adviser and secretary of the interior. While in Washington, Clark was recognized as a powerful figure and Reagan's most trusted aide. He was involved in many of the most crucial aspects of American foreign policy.

Kengor and Doerner do an admirable job of chronicling the history that Clark was a party to during his years in the Reagan White House. The authors also provide a valuable perspective on Reagan's commitment to the Strategic Defense Initiative, the administration's covert actions around the world and the president's efforts to end the Cold War.

Clark is a most courteous, humble and unambitious person. Thus, it is surprising to read about some of the conflicts that developed in Reagan's inner circle while Clark was a part of it. I guess this is inevitable, and in Clark's case, I suggest he bears little responsibility. Somehow, some of Reagan's aides, including William Clark, even drew the ire of Nancy Reagan, as well as Deputy White House Chief of Staff Mike Deaver.

"The Judge" is a favorable account of Clark's career. Indeed, Clark supplied much of the information. Thus, this book serves as a substitute for a Clark autobiography that may never be composed. From this work, we are able to understand how a man who was always underestimated held some of the most important positions in both California and the nation.

If I had any criticism of the book, it would be that it did not cover some of the more engrossing events of Clark's life in more detail. But if it had, the book would have been too lengthy and not nearly as readable. This work effectively covers a great deal of material in a concise fashion.

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