Civil Rights

Representative Bill McCulloch, Part Two
Robert Kimball, Legislative Assistant, Representative John V. Lindsay of New York

Robert Kimball remembers Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Bill McCulloch of Ohio.

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Even when he ran for re-election in a pretty safe Republican district in western Ohio, he decided to organize, and put together, and assemble his own campaign, and do all of the voiceovers himself. Well, we all used to roar with laughter listening to him, basically extolling himself as a candidate for Congress. And they had early-morning commercials, and people would wake up to hear the egg prices, and there was McCulloch’s gravelly voice talking about “Bill McCulloch for the republic,” and so forth. And we thought that was very funny, that he would do that. And he had wonderful phrases that he used to throw at us—he’d say, “Out of an overabundance of caution,” or “Commensurate with your family obligations.” He would throw things like that at me constantly. With a twinkle, and he’s someone I, I will remember for the rest of my life. He was a great Congressman. He was so funny, on the weekends, he’d come into the office in his shirt sleeves and stamp Congressional Records to send to his constituents. Now, he didn’t have to do that, but he thought it was important. So, there with his Fourth District of Ohio, right on the front of the Record out to the farmers of Greenville, and Piqua, Sidney, and Troy, and, and they all appreciated him. And he was re-elected as long as his health held up. He was re-elected from ‘47 into, I guess it must’ve been into the ’70s, when he had a fall in his house, and no longer could serve. But great guy.