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SHARP

SHARP, DUDLEY C. (OH-236) 68 pages PRCQ (M)

Assistant Secretary for Material, 1955-59, Under Secretary, 1959, and Secretary, 1959-61, U.S. Air Force.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Activities during the 1952 presidential campaign: supporting the Texas delegation to the Madison Square Garden Rally in February 1952; Texas politics in 1952. Service as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force: how he was appointed; system of parts supply set up by General Edward Rawlings; short observations on problems dealt with while Assistant Secretary. Comment on the so-called "missile gap" controversy of the 1960 presidential election. DDE's attitude towards thrift in government, and adequate military deterrent strength. Department of Defense reorganization in 1958. Observations on DDE, missiles, and the creation of NASA. Development of the U-2 airplane. Assessment of DDE: as president; reaction to his "military-industrial complex" speech.

[Columbia University Oral History Project interview by John Luter, 1969]