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BIRD

BIRD, JOHN A. (OH-318) 39 pages Open

Speech writer for Eisenhower during the 1952 presidential campaign; research assistant for Eisenhower's published articles, 1963-65.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Working with Milton Eisenhower in OWI in 1942. Writing speeches for DDE during the 1952 campaign: farm speech at Kasson, Minnesota; comment on DDE's whistle stop speeches. Drafting DDE's articles, 1963-65: how they worked together to write each article; anecdotes about interviewing DDE for the articles; drafting the article on presidential succession immediately after President Kennedy's assassination; DDE's leaving the Saturday Evening Post to write for the Reader's Digest. Personal background information.

[Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interview by John E. Wickman, 1972]