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ANDERSON, JACK Z.

ANDERSON, JACK Z. (OH-321) 64 pages Open

Special Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, 1955-56; Administrative Assistant to the President, 1956-61.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Service as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture: his appointment; educating Secretary Benson and his aides on the legislative process. Service as a Special Assistant to the President for Congressional Liaison: his appointment; contacts with the President; discussion of this job, and working with Sherman Adams, Bryce Harlow, and Jerry Persons; problems with Alaska and Hawaii statehood; resignation of Sherman Adams.

Interview # 2. Liaison work regarding Alaska and Hawaii statehood bills: observations on how he handled his liaison work; DDE's concern for Alaska statehood, and living up to the Republican party platform; comment on the Congressional opposition to the statehood bills. Observations on White House staff work in handling a bill: collecting various recommendations for DDE to sign or veto a bill; anecdote on Secretary Benson insisting that DDE veto a farm bill; how liaison work divided among the staff, and his work with the House of Representatives.

[Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interview by John E. Wickman, 1970-1971]