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GOODPASTER

GOODPASTER, ANDREW J.

(OH-477)

49 pages

OPEN

Staff Secretary to the President, 1954-61.

DESCRIPTION: General subject area—development of nuclear weapons policy under Eisenhower; the NSC-68 study and Eisenhower's reaction to it; Eisenhower's "warning" to the Chinese and Russians concerning U.S. use of tactical nuclear weapons; the development of planes as deterrents (B-47, B-52, B-58); the effects of the Soviet hydrogen bomb; John Foster Dulles and the threat of massive retaliation; Eisenhower's understanding of Communism; the appeal to people, the totalitarian system, the limitations; Eisenhower's understanding of Communist leaders; Eisenhower's philosophy concerning Third World Nations; Eisenhower's concern with freedom of choice and self-determination; Project Solarium and its results; Eisenhower's strategies regarding the Soviets and his perceptions of their national character; the dangers of the military-industrial complex; Eisenhower's philosophy regarding the use of nuclear weapons and conventional troops; brinkmanship; proliferation in the development of nuclear capabilities; Eisenhower's perceptions of John Foster Dulles and Robert Anderson; nuclear capability and its effect on military policies (US and USSR); Eisenhower on arms control; USSR-aggressive behavior; Eisenhower's policy for a strong and independent free world; the costs of technology; the "absolute weapons" thesis; intelligence gathering (the U-2, the Berlin telephone taps, agents); paramilitary operations; limits of authority; Eisenhower's management style; the Gaither Report; Eisenhower on national security; Eisenhower's perceptions of Soviet intentions (nuclear, etc.).

[Interview by Malcolm S. McDonald, April 10, 1982]