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Date: 10/30/73

ADAMS

ADAMS, SHERMAN (OH-162) 270 pages PRCQ

Republican governor of New Hampshire, 1949-53; Chief of Staff of Dwight D. Eisenhower's Presidential campaign, 1952; The Assistant to the President, 1953-58.

Interview #1. Getting DDE as a Presidential candidate: Finder letter; DDE's political philosophy and comprehension of world problems; prime persuaders to get DDE to run; Madison Square Garden rally. Adams' pre-convention role: Houston Governors' Conference and "Houston Manifesto"; his first impressions of DDE; speaking tours and rounding up delegates. Adams as DDE's floor manager at GOP convention: describes his duties; comments on important delegates and state delegations (including Stassen and Minnesota, and Warren and California). Campaign incidents: DDE and Jenner in Indiana; DDE and McCarthy in Wisconsin; Adams being picked as a key campaign assistant. Convention decisions: DDE's visit to Taft; choice for Vice President.

Interview #2. Work as DDE's chief staff assistant for the 1952 campaign; comments on DDE's campaign trips to the South. "Nixon Fund" incident. Campaign speeches and DDE's philosophy: "Middle Way" speech; economic speeches; agricultural speeches and "parity"; Korea speech. Campaign observations on Warren, Secret Service protection, and election day confidence. Comments on Clay and Brownell, and each individual chosen for a Cabinet position. Comments on a great many of the White House staff; how and why they were selected.

Interview #3. Observations about people and organizations involved in national security affairs and information-gathering: Cutler; Stassen; J.F. Dulles; Rockefeller (and the "Open Skies" proposal); A. Dulles and the CIA; NSC Planning Board and position sources: Commission on Foreign Economic Policy—Randall Report; individuals DDE often relied on for particular kinds of information; Council of Economic Advisors—Hauge and Burns; Fairless Commission on Mutual Security; Killian on scientific matters. White House staff organization and procedures: Cabinet secretary; calendar committee; staff meetings and preparations for DDE's news conferences. Interstate Highway Study Commission.

Interview #4. DDE's decision to run again in 1956, and related questions. DDE's relations with Congress, and White House Congressional liaison staff: DDE and GOP conservative wing in Congress; DDE's use of personal persuasion; members of the White House Congressional liaison staff: Cabinet members' liaison work; general problems on passage of bills and approval of nominations Supreme Court nominations of Warren and others. Comments on economic policies, emphasizing the importance of Burns and Hauge. Intergovernmental Relations Commission. P.L. 480 and Clarence Francis.

[COHP interview: #1-3 by Ed Edwin, 1967; #4 by Douglas Scott, 1970]