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BRIGGS

BRIGGS, ELLIS (OH-172) 139 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

State Department official; U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, 1944-45; Uruguay, 1947-49; Czechoslovakia, 1949-52; Korea, 1952-55; Peru, 1955-56; Brazil, 1956-59; Greece, 1959-61.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Comments re his views on the Good Neighbor policy in Latin America and American foreign aid in general; intervention into the Dominican Republic by President Johnson in 1965; role and functions of a U.S. ambassador in a foreign country; the growth in the number and roles of State Department personnel; personnel of the USIA, CIA, and Peace Corps in foreign embassies; the need for the Secretary of State to be the President's primary foreign policy advisor; the role of Congress in shaping foreign policy; Dean Acheson; John Foster Dulles; the effect Senator Joseph McCarthy had on the foreign service; his experience as ambassador to Czechoslovakia and to Korea.

Interview #2. Comments re his views on President-elect Eisenhower's trip to Korea shortly after the 1952 election; the Korean Armistice negotiations; Law of the Sea controversy; his experience as ambassador to Peru; Aristotle Onassis; expropriation of American business interests by foreign governments; Alberto Giesecke; Brazil; the Organization of American States; Milton Eisenhower's role in Latin American policy; Fidel Castro and Cuba; Vice President Nixon's trip to Latin America in 1959; John Foster Dulles; Clare Boothe Luce; Christian Herter; Greece; and Cyprus. A name index for both interviews is located at the end of interview #2.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview #1 by Douglas Scott, 1970, and interview #2 by John T. Mason, Jr., 1972]