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DEWEY

DEWEY, THOMAS E. (OH-507) 44 pages PRCQ

Lawyer; Governor of New York, 1942-54; Republican nominee for President of the United States, 1944 and 1948; active in the Eisenhower campaign, 1952.

DESCRIPTION: First meeting with Eisenhower; his view of Eisenhower as a candidate for President; strengths in Washington and world wide; pre-campaign work and political help for the nomination; pre-convention work with Lucius Clay, Brownell, and Cabot Lodge; winning support from Texas delegation; the Governors Conference and Fair Play amendment; support for Nixon as vice-presidential nominee; TV changes in election campaigns; Eisenhower campaign problems: McCarthy, travel time, exhaustion; Eisenhower in office; balanced budget, tax laws, government contract policies; Foreign affairs: Egypt/Israel crisis in Middle East, relations with Europe and the Soviets; Dewey's place in the Eisenhower administration (not in Cabinet)—friend to many (Nixon and Sherman Adams), advisor when asked, private citizen; comments on the Eisenhower presidency; comments on foreign policy, including U.S. position on the Hungarian uprising, Communist China and the handling of Quemoy and Matsu; Vietnam policy; continuing problems since Eisenhower left office, such as inflation, the recession and balancing the budget; Latin American policy; Cuba and John F. Kennedy.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by Pauline Madow, December 1, 1970]