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FAUBUS

FAUBUS, ORVAL E.

(OH-181)

137 pages

PRCQ

Governor of Arkansas, 1955-67.

Interview #1. Detailed history of the Little Rock, Arkansas, school integration crisis, 1957: Superintendent of Schools Virgil Blossom, and the school board's position on integration; Faubus' desire to prevent violence and bloodshed; Justice Department's attitude toward enforcing Federal integration orders; calling out the National Guard; conference with DDE at Newport (comments on attitude of DDE, Attorney General Herb Brownell, and Congressman Brooks Hays); press coverage (comments especially on Hugh Patterson, and the Little Rock, Arkansas, Gazette); use of Federal troops. Closing the schools in 1958. Dale Alford, and the elections of 1958. Federal agents investigating Faubus during the crisis. Senator William Fulbright. Comments on the 1954 Supreme Court school desegregation decision, and integration in general.

[Columbia Oral History Project interview by John Luter, 1971]