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MURPHY

MURPHY, ROBERT D. (OH-224) 45 pages PRCQ (M)

President Roosevelt's personal representative in French North Africa, 1940-42; Chief Civil Affairs Officer on staff of Supreme Commander, AFHQ, 1942-43; U.S. Ambassador to Japan, 1952; Assistant Secretary of State for U.N. Affairs, 1953; Deputy Under Secretary of State, 1953-59; Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, 1959.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Background to first meeting with DDE: Roosevelt; work in North Africa; de Gaulle. First meeting with DDE: briefing DDE on North Africa; impressions of DDE; establishing an Allied headquarters in Algiers. Relationship to DDE: General Bedell Smith; J. F. Dulles. Comments re DDE: delegation of responsibility; General Goodpaster; contrast with Kennedy, Nixon, and Johnson; Rostow. Comments re: Mr. Rogers; Dean Rusk; Kissinger; comparison of Kissinger and Dulles; Dulles and Suez. State Dept. assessment of DDE. Comments re: U-2 incident; Khrushchev's visit; DDE's political instincts; planning DDE's visit to the Soviet Union; Dulles' opinion of DDE. Dulles: assessment of; health; death. Allen Dulles. Comments re DDE's: confidence in Lodge; opinion of Stevenson and of State Dept. personnel; personality and character; ego; political ambition; ordering of censorship. Comments re: military correspondents; Milton Eisenhower; shoot-from-the-hip decision making; State Dept. loyalty to Dulles over DDE; General Goodpaster; Nixon's involvement in foreign policy during DDE years; growth and change in the State Dept.; DDE's role in the growth; Kennedy administration; DDE and the Defense Dept.; conflicts between the State Dept. and Defense Dept.; assessment of DDE by foreign diplomats. Comments re: Roosevelt; Truman; Potsdam; Berlin blockade. Taking Berlin in WWII: General Marshall; DDE; Roosevelt; Dulles; Bedell Smith. Comments re: Stalin and the Potsdam agreement; Korean War.

A name index appears at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by David C. Berliner, 1972]