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Abel

ABEL, DEAN ELITE (OH-126) 47 pages PRCQ (M)

Correspondent, New York Times, 1949-59; Washington bureau chief, Detroit News, 1959-61; Correspondent, chief of London bureau, and diplomatic correspondent, NBC, 1961-69; Dean, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, 1969-79.

DESCRIPTION: Charles Wilson and defense policy; Pentagon reorganization—pentomic division; Martin Durkin, Secretary of Labor; comments on Eisenhower's Cabinet; Eisenhower's attitude toward wealthy people; Eisenhower's desire to be a "peace president"; Malcolm Moos and the idea of the military-industrial complex; Eisenhower's decision against armed intervention in Indochina in 1954; background on Indochina problem; President Roosevelt and Stalin re Indochina in 1945; U.S. commitment to Indochina and aid to French; Dienbienphu, 1954; General Ridgway; Admiral Radford; John Foster Dulles; Geneva Conference, 1954; SEATO; Bao Dai; Ngo Diem Diem; 1956 Vietnamese elections; President John F. Kennedy; Edward Gullion; Oppenheimer Case; Charles Murphy; Secretary of Defense McNamara; George Anderson; the TFX aircraft; Eisenhower's relationship with the press; Carl McCardle; Andrew Berding; Secretary of State Dulles—technique of using "backgrounder" briefings during Geneva talks; Marshall Plan; Eisenhower's image of Europe; USIA poll re American prestige overseas; Richard Nixon's relationship with the press. A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia Oral History Project interview by Don North, 1970]