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MOOS

MOOS, MALCOLM

OH-260

42 pgs./Index

PRCQ

White House Consultant, 1957-58; Administrative Assistant to the President, 1958-61.

DESCRIPTION: Biographical information; first meeting with Eisenhower (incl. purpose of interview, impressions of the man); support for Eisenhower at convention; Moos' political activities (incl. speech writing for various political figures, reluctance to accept governmental position, participation in 1956 campaign, anecdote concerning Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. and Moos at 1956 Gridiron Dinner); anecdote regarding how Moos came to Eisenhower's attention; Arthur Larson's background; joining the White House staff (incl. reason for decision, anecdote regarding President Truman, respect for Sherman Adams); writing speeches (incl. process involved in writing for Eisenhower, Eisenhower's input, Eisenhower's background in speech writing, problems involved in writing for others, anecdote regarding a speech in Los Angeles, disappointments over changes made in speeches, anecdote regarding a speech for Eisenhower); anecdotes regarding Eisenhower's temper; getting access to the President; Presidential speeches (incl. staff speech writers, working on Eisenhower's speech delivery, Eisenhower as a story teller, outside speech writers, Moos' influence on Eisenhower's speeches, effects of the stroke on Eisenhower's speech patterns, length of speeches); preparing the President for press conferences; the speech writer's role (incl. public visibility, anecdote involving Merriman Smith and Moos); Eisenhower's editing of speeches; influencing the President (incl. effects of term limitations, opposing the President, examples of arguments with the President, anecdote regarding Eisenhower, Sam Rayburn, and Lyndon Johnson, anecdote regarding the U-2 incident, concern for "cover stories"); background of the military-industrial complex speech (incl. Eisenhower's desire for a farewell address, Moos' interest in the growing complexity of military-government-industry-university relationships, origin of "military-industrial complex" phrase, Eisenhower's attitude toward the subject matter of the speech, impact of the speech); post-Presidential relationship with Eisenhower; Moos' activities following the White House Years. Name Index.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by T.H. Baker, November 2, 1972.]