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SAMUEL

SAMUEL, IRENE

(OH-148)

49 pages

PRCQ (M)

Member of the Women's Emergency Committee during the Little Rock school crisis, 1957-1959.

Interview #1. Personal background. Comments re the formation of the Women's Emergency Committee; the economic impact of the crisis on the city; activities to prevent the closing of the schools; alternative schooling; the referendum on total integration; resignation of the School Board; the firing of teachers and principals; the Citizen's Council boycott list; lack of support from the community; her opinion of Gov. Orval Faubus; Virgil Blossom and his plan for integration; her opinion of Eisenhower's actions; legacy of ill-feeling in the city; the lasting effects of the crisis on the children; Daisy Bates; press coverage of the crisis. A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, 1970]