

Prepared by: VJA
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SHELDON, JOSEPH

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Active in the Republican Party in Texas, and the Eisenhower campaign of 1952.

DESCRIPTION: Active in Republican Party in San Antonio; believed that DDE could attract independent voters better than Robert Taft; Old Guard in Texas supported Taft and threw the Eisenhower delegation out at the state convention; conferring with Herbert Brownell about DDE; Thomas Love, a Democrat whose party tried to prevent him from voting for a Republican; Eisenhower delegation willing to allow Taft delegates from areas strongly supporting Taft; Taft delegates refused; Eugene Nolte; difficulties faced by the contested delegation; Jack Porter; reasons Democratic governor Allan Shivers supported DDE; Tidelands Oil; Sheldon's campaign activities in San Antonio; DDE rally in front of the Alamo; DDE's victories helped make Texas a two-party state; Oveta Culp Hobby; Sheldon's role in the 1956 campaign; DDE's veto on the Gas Bill hurt fundraising; 1960 Richard Nixon campaign.; some thoughts on DDE as President; ethnic minorities and DDE as a candidate; campaign fundraising.

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[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, December 28, 1969]