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SHELTON

SHELTON, WILLIAM T.

OH-152

36 pp.

PRCQ (M)

City editor of Arkansas Gazette, Little Rock, 1952-70

DESCRIPTION: As city editor, assigned reporters to cover Pulaski County; school integration plans widely publicized; crisis builds during late August 1957; rumors that Governor Faubus would use National Guard to obstruct integration; "outsiders" at Central High School; National Guard called out; Faubus issues statement; effects of Faubus's actions; Faubus's political advisors, Harry Ashmore, Winthrop Rockefeller, William J. Smith; Bill Lewis article in Gazette and subsequent charges that newspaper was pro-integration; Gazette cut off from access to news from governor's office; White Citizens Council initiates boycott against Gazette; Amis Guthridge, Wesley Pruden, Malcolm G. Taylor; reporters arrive from New York and Chicago; School Superintendent Virgil Blossom; other Little Rock schools proposed for integration; Mayor Woodrow Wilson Mann; Bishop Brown; Police Chief Potts; Deputy Police Chief Gene Smith; attorney Wayne Owen Upton; Brooks Hays; Dr. Dale Alford; why Little Rock was chosen for integration; closing of all Little Rock high schools; Everett Tucker, Jr.; Little Rock Industrial District; attorney Winslow Drummond; Warren Bass.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, December 28, 1970]