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BERDING

BERDING, ANDREW H. (OH-16) 39 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Journalist; Assistant Director, and Deputy Director, United States Information Agency, 1953-57; Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, 1957-61

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Discussed development of USIA, its establishment as an independent agency, objectives, and role of its director; Atoms For Peace program; USIA's role in selling Atoms For Peace; comments on role of C.D. Jackson in administration; USIA's relations with Congress; references to Senator Joseph McCarthy; selection of books for overseas libraries; Berding's appointment as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs; comparisons of Arthur Larson and Theodore Streibert as Directors of USIA; lengthy evaluation of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles; comments on press treatment of Dulles; Dulles' illness; explanation of concept of brinkmanship; Dulles' relationship with President Eisenhower; Suez Crisis of 1956; Dulles' negative attitude toward Gamel Abdel Nasser; Dulles' relationships with Anthony Eden and with Konrad Adenauer; Dulles' emphasis on personal diplomacy.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, June 13, 1967]