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SMITH

SMITH, MERRIMAN

(OH-160)

80 pages

PRCQ

White House Correspondent for United Press International, 1941-70

DESCRIPTION: Background information; Smith's opinion of DDE; anecdote about Troast Senate campaign in New Jersey; Meet Mr. Eisenhower; Eisenhower's thoughts on being a politician; Potsdam Conference in 1945 with Harry Truman; Eisenhower's visit to the White House in the late 1940's; anecdotes about Mamie; Eisenhower's boyhood friend, Hansen, from Abilene; anecdote about traveling with the 1952 campaign; anecdote about Eisenhower and his grandson, David, at Augusta; anecdote about Tom Stephens; fishing anecdotes; "Backstairs at the White House" column; television broadcast of "President Eisenhower and his Cabinet"; Eisenhower convalescing at Gettysburg; Eisenhower's decision to run again in 1956; Sherman Adams and the President's time; Eisenhower's thoughts on his decisions concerning the U-2 incident; Eisenhower and Nixon's 1962 campaign; Eisenhower's famous press conference remark about Nixon; "Checkers" speech; Mamie Eisenhower; Nixon as 1956 running mate; anecdote re 1964 visit with Eisenhower; Eisenhower's opinion of Goldwater; Dixon-Yates; Eisenhower's relationship with Sherman Adams; Adams and Goldfine; Homer Gruenther; ranking of American Presidents; opinion of Eisenhower and his administration; opinions on the White House Staff (James Hagerty, Ann Whitman, Tom Stephens, Robert Montgomery, Mary Jane Caffrey); personal anecdotes re Eisenhower (golfing, fishing, church, etc.).

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter on January 3, 1968]