Interview #1. Personal background. The 1952 Presidential campaign: helping to convince DDE to run for President; helping to prepare DDE’s legal case for the Texas delegates’ votes at the GOP convention; formulating a position for DDE on the Texas tidelands issue; speech writing. Work on the Draper Committee: comments on the usefulness of the Committee, and its final report; his assignment to study the newly-developing nations of Southeast Asia; Indonesia and Sukarno; South Vietnam and Diem; DDE’s opinions re a land war in Asia. Setting up the National Security Council (NSC): Bobby Cutler; purpose of the NSC Consultants; how the NSC meetings were conducted; Planning Board; DDE’s use of the NSC; how each member contributed to NSC meetings. Geneva Summit Conference of July 1955, and the genesis of the Open Skies Proposal.

Interview #2. National Security Council: formulation of long-range policy; membership, and attendance at meetings; records of actions; how DDE viewed the use of the NSC; Anderson’s briefing of DDE before the NSC meetings. Relationship between DDE and John Foster Dulles. Geneva Summit Conference of July 1955: DDE’s reasons for attending; problems of Germany, and disarmament; J.F. Dulles, and the Open Skies proposal; final communiqué; DDE’s feelings on the results of the Conference. Quemoy and Matsu: DDE’s position on their defense, and possible use of tactical atomic weapons; attitudes of Chiang Kai-shek, and Admiral Radford. Relationship between NSC, CIA, and President Eisenhower. Work on committee headed by Sinclair Weeks on questions of oil import quotas and possible over-dependence on Middle East oil supplies. Draper Committee work on Laos and South Vietnam, and effectiveness of U.S. economic aid. Assessment of DDE as president.

[COHP interviews by John Luter, 1969]