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ROCKEFELLER, NELSON

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Chairman. U.S. President's Advisory Committee on government Organization, 1953-58; Under Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1953-54; Special Assistant to the President, 1954-55.

DESCRIPTION: Chairman of President's Committee for Government Organization; Defense Department Committee; President's Special Assistant in International Affairs; Resignation in 1955 to run for elected office and Eisenhower's response to resignation; projects Rockefeller supported while Special Assistant in International Affairs that were not adopted; Secretary of Treasury's bitter feelings toward Rockefeller; Under Secretary of Defense job offered to Rockefeller and George Humphrey's opposition; Rockefeller's push for larger nuclear and space preparedness program; relations on CIA committee; differences of opinion between Rockefeller and other CIA committee members; Rockefeller's Quantico conferences in preparation for Geneva Summit meeting; suggested aerial overflights to relieve U.S./Soviet tensions; public opinion analyses on U.S./Soviet relations; Eisenhower's reaction to Rockefeller's suggestion; meeting with Eisenhower, Rockefeller, and John Foster Dulles on Geneva meeting; Rockefeller's opposition to John Foster Dulles' proposal and Eisenhower's reaction; Rockefeller ordered to Paris; Eisenhower at Geneva meeting; Rockefeller and Harold Stassen ordered to Geneva; United Nations (UN) conference in 1945; Act of Chapultapec; Alger Hiss and Leo Pasvolsky; Franklin Roosevelt's death; Rockefeller's opposition to Russian veto in UN Charter; Eastern European defense pact; Senator Vandenburg's opposition to UN Charter; Rockefeller's meeting with Stassen and creation of Article 53 of UN Charter; Geneva Summit meeting; draft speech of Rockefeller's proposal; meeting to discuss draft; Eisenhower's position; Eisenhower's speech at Geneva; positive Soviet reaction to speech including Khrushchev's reaction; Eisenhower's relations with his staff; reasoning behind action of sending Rockefeller and Stassen to Paris; Rockefeller's opinion of John Foster Dulles; Dulles later apology to Rockefeller regarding UN Charter; Rockefeller's involvement with Herbert Hoover, Jr.; Rockefeller's support of economic aid to Indonesia; Rockefeller's relationship with Vice-President Richard Nixon; Eisenhower's commitment to Committee on Government Organization; cooperation within the Committee; Committee's proposal for a First Secretary of the Cabinet to deal with international affairs; proposed Department of Transportation Cabinet position; Rockefeller's opinion on the need for more government reorganization; Rockefeller's opinion on main accomplishment of the Eisenhower administration; Rockefeller's April 1960 speech seemingly criticizing the Eisenhower administration; Rockefeller's suggested increase in defense spending and Eisenhower's opposition; responsibilities of the President; Rockefeller's conversation with Eisenhower on July 8, 1960; disagreement between Rockefeller and Eisenhower; Rockefeller's resignation and subsequent

development of Rockefeller Brothers Fund studies; use of studies in 1960 presidential debates; Richard Nixon request of Rockefeller to be his vice-presidential running mate; Republican party platform; "Fourteen Points"; Nixon's position on "Fourteen Points'; reason why Nixon asked Rockefeller to be vice-president; Nixon's campaign; rally at Buffalo, New York; Nixon's praise of Rockefeller's support and later criticism of Rockefeller's lack of support; reason why Rockefeller removed himself from the 1960 presidential race;

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by John Luter, August 6, 1967]