

BUCHANAN, WILEY T.

OH-283

174 pgs.

PRCQ

U.S. Minister to Luxembourg, 1953-55, and ambassador, 1955-57; Chief of Protocol, Department of State, 1957-61.

DESCRIPTION: INTERVIEW #1: Personal and family background; beginning of career in Washington; meeting with Vice President [John Nance] Garner; Jesse Jones; taking on business responsibilities in Texas due to his father's poor health; desire to enter foreign service; conservative political tendencies; Eleanor Roosevelt's political associates; life in Washington during the New Deal era; World War II work in technical intelligence; John Chaffee; machine tools during the war; Herbert Hoover; serving as trustee at George Washington University; staying at Camp David with Richard and Pat Nixon in 1960 while Nixon wrote his nomination acceptance speech; campaigning for Eisenhower-Nixon in 1952; appointment as ambassador to Luxembourg; the beginnings of the European Common Market; Joseph Bech; developing relationship with President [Dwight D.] Eisenhower; Christian Herter; failure to 'clean house' in the State Department; Eisenhower's relationship with Nixon; effect of Eisenhower's military training on his style of leadership as President; Konrad Adenauer; duties of the Chief of Protocol in the State Department; meetings between Eisenhower and new ambassadors; visit of Nikita Khrushchev in 1959; custom of the President meeting the plane of incoming foreign heads of state; arranging the guest lists for heads-of-state dinners; visits by heads of state from Middle East; visit of Queen Elizabeth; Eisenhower's reaction to overpopulation in India; funeral for the King of Denmark; King of Denmark's visit to the Buchanan house; Winston Churchill and Bernard Baruch's visit to White House; Eisenhower's trip to Paris after his stroke; 1960 Presidential election; protocol at official functions; anecdotes from visits of various heads of state; stag dinners at the White House; Eisenhower's advice to John F. Kennedy regarding Vietnam; 'Bunny' Monell and Nixon's 1960 campaign.

INTERVIEW #2:

Political appointments of ambassadors versus appointment of career diplomats; importance of the ambassador's wife; importance of Buchanan's business background to his position in Luxembourg; qualifications for the position of Chief of Protocol; physical exhaustion resulting from diplomatic travel; coordination with the Chief of Protocol at the UN and the US delegation; official and unofficial visits of Konrad Adenauer; unofficial visits by other world leaders; taking George Adenauer to jazz clubs; Harold Macmillan and Eisenhower; Eisenhower and Nixon visit Great Britain; State visit of Queen Elizabeth in 1957; wedding of King Baudouin; itinerary of the Queen's visit; Prince Philip; Chief of Protocol for New York City; handling of protocol for Nixon's Latin American trip and return to the US; scandal of a foreign service office taking gifts from Saudi Arabian officials; Camp David; death of John Foster Dulles; visit of First Deputy Premier [Frol. R.] Kozlov; Eisenhower's 1959 trip to Europe; Mamie Eisenhower; traveling with Mrs. Buchanan; visits with President and Mrs. Lopez Mateos of Mexico; Eisenhower's 1960 Latin American trip; preliminary arrangements for the trip; importance of personal wealth in diplomatic positions; Latin American trip; Eisenhower's personal appeal;

education and social structure in Latin America; Paris summit and Khrushchev's reaction to the U-2 incident; impressions of and anecdotes about Eisenhower.

NAME INDEX.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interviews by John T. Mason, Jr., December 6 and 11, 1972]