EISENHOWER, D. MILTON S.  (OH-292)  115 pages  PRCQ (Columbia)

President, Pennsylvania State University, 1950-56; President, Johns Hopkins University, 1956-67; Member, U.S. President’s Advisory Committee on Government Organization, 1953-60; Special Ambassador and President’s personal representative to Latin America, 1953-61.

Interview #1. DDE’s entry into 1952 Presidential race, and his Presidential leadership. Milton’s service on U.S. President’s Advisory Committee on Government Organization. Milton’s work on Latin American affairs: DDE’s choice of Milton as his personal representative; economic aid and social change; collective intervention (Inter-American Bank, Act of Bogota). Milton’s position as DDE’s confidant and advisor: brother-to-brother talk; DDE and J.F. Dulles; U-2 incident. Heavy load of responsibilities carried by the President: time spent on trivia; DDE’s use of Cabinet, National Security Council, and key staff members; Milton’s suggestion for an Administrative Vice President.

Interview #2. DDE’s entry into 1952 Presidential race. DDE’s decision to run again in 1956. DDE and the 1960 campaign: his actions and feelings; R. Nixon’s position as his Vice President; N. Rockefeller. “Military-industrial complex” phrase. Position papers produced in 1964 by Republican Critical Issues Council. DDE’s feelings toward: H.S. Truman; D. MacArthur; J. McCarthy. Comments on the Eisenhower brothers. DDE’s heart attack, and conduct of foreign policy during the illness. DDE’s relations with Congress: “cooperative leadership”; bipartisan foreign policy; relations with Senator L.B. Johnson, Speaker S. Rayburn, and Senator R. Taft. DDE’s work on revitalizing the Republican party. Supreme Court appointments. Milton’s work on Latin American affairs: relations with J.F. Dulles; Inter-American Bank; Latin American common market; F. Castro and Cuba; DDE’s 1960 visit to South America; recommendations for increased cultural-informational contacts to build understanding; guerrilla warfare training for Cuban refugees.

[Columbia Oral History Project interviews by John Luter, 1967]