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KIDD

KIDD, GORDON

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Senior Canadian Technical Advisor during negotiations for the Columbia River Treaty.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal information: service in World War II; education background; beginning his work in British Columbia on water resources projects. Initial study of the Columbia River Basin: problem of water storage on the Columbia River by the International Joint Commission (IJC); comments on the top Canadian (General A.G.L. MacNaughton) and American (General Emerson Itschner) representatives. Negotiating the Columbia River Treaty: explanation of the relationship between the central government of Canada and the provincial government of British Columbia; importance of W.A.C. Bennett, Premier of British Columbia; how the technical advisors worked out the technical agreements to implement the treaty. Observations on the results of the treaty: problem caused by Bennett's selling of downstream power benefits; problem of the central government-province government relationship; problem of building the Arrow Lakes instead of renegotiating the treaty; advantages of the treaty to British Columbia. Personal information: comment on his career since the treaty negotiations.

[Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interview by Maclyn Burg, 1973]