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Date: 12/02/09

BLACK

BLACK, LILLIAN “RUSTY” BROWN

OH-555

192 pp.

OPEN

Red Cross worker, World War II; secretary on White House staff, 1953-61;
personal secretary to Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1962-67.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background including education and secretarial training; her overseas work for the American Red Cross from 1945 to 1948 in the Philippines, Japan, and Germany (including her reaction to observed bomb damage, an anecdote regarding General Eisenhower’s inspection of the Marine headquarters at Sasebo, Japan where she was stationed at the time, and her observations of morale and attitudes of civilians and U.S. Marines in Japan); her overseas work for the American Red Cross in Japan from 1950 to 1952; her secretarial work at the Pentagon in 1952; her joining the White House secretarial pool in 1953; her impressions of Roger Steffan, White House chief of staff; the organization and work processes of the White House stenographic and typing pools; her impressions of the senior secretarial staff and the character and leadership qualities of senior White House staff including President Eisenhower, Sherman Adams, Wilton B. Persons, Earle D. Chesney, and others; her decision to work for John Eisenhower assisting in the preparation of *The White House Years*.

Interview #2. Setting up the Doubleday office at Gettysburg with John Eisenhower; the methods employed by John Eisenhower in researching *The White House Years*, and the manner in which the manuscript was developed.

[Dwight D. Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interviews by Dr. Maclyn Burg, March 11, 1974 and April 22, 1975]