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GATES

GATES, THOMAS S., JR. (OH-183) 59 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Commander, United States Naval Reserve, 1942-45; Under Secretary of the navy, 1953-57; Secretary of the navy, 1957-59; Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1959; Secretary of Defense, 1959-61.

Interview #1. Military service in World War II: Air Combat Intelligence School; naval duty in Mediterranean and Pacific Intelligence School; naval duty in Mediterranean and Pacific during DDE administration. Period as Under Secretary of the Navy: R. Anderson; Gates' responsibilities; C. Wilson; Admiral D.V. Duncan; Congressional liaison work (comments on J.F. Kennedy, C. Vinson, L.B. Johnson). Testimony before Congress while Secretary of Defense. DDE and J.F. Dulles. Navy people working together as a team—based on organization set up by J. Forrestal. Integrated War Plan: comment on Joint Chiefs of Staff, and traditional service disagreements on command structure; selection of SAC as command headquarters. DDE's use of the Cabinet, and the special importance of the National Security Council.

[Columbia Oral History Project interview by John T. Mason, Jr., 1967]