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McKELDIN

McKELDIN, THEODORE R. (OH-222) 79 pages PRCQ (M)

Mayor of Baltimore, 1943-47, 1963-67; Governor of Maryland, 1951-59; made nominating speech for Eisenhower at Republican National Convention, 1952.

Interview #1. Personal background, and his entry into politics. Making the nominating speech for DDE in 1952: why he was chosen; why he picked DDE over Robert Taft. Usefulness of Sherman Adams to President Eisenhower. Anecdotes about meeting with DDE, both before and after DDE's Presidency.

Interview #2. His relationship with DDE: comments on several letters he received from DDE in the 1960's; reads the nominating speech he made in 1952; assessment of DDE as a person and as President. McKeldin's relationships with Jewish people in Maryland, and his concern for the nation of Israel. Nelson Rockefeller, and his Presidential campaigns. President Lyndon Johnson, Barry Goldwater, and the 1964 Presidential election. His appraisal of social reforms he helped initiate in Maryland, especially for blacks and low-income whites. Comments in general on the civil rights movement of the 1960s. His various campaign efforts in Maryland for the governorship, and for mayor of Baltimore. His philosophy of how to be a good elected government administrator (and comparison of his philosophy with DDE's). His work in 1968 on the Urban Coalition for Baltimore.

[Columbia Oral History Project Interviews by Paul Hopper, 1967 and 1968]