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QUESADA

QUESADA, ELWOOD R. (OH-308) 89 pages PRCQ (M)

Military associate of General Eisenhower during World War II; Special Assistant to the President for aviation, 1957-58; Chairman, Airways Modernization Board, 1957-58; Administrator, Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), 1958-61.

Interview #1. Service during World War II: meeting Eisenhower; his role with the air force and the Normandy invasion; army and air force cooperation. The Curtis Report, and recommendations to improve airplane traffic. Special Assistant to the President: implementing the Curtis Report recommendations; setting up the Federal Aviation Agency. Appointment as FAA Administrator. Problems as FAA Administrator: absorbing functions from several other agencies; fight over Federal Aid to Airports bill; fight over ruling of maximum age for air carrier operations pilots.

Interview #2. Administrator of FAA: controversy over Lockheed Electra accidents; DDE's views on military versus commercial needs for air space; relations with Congress; fight over ruling of maximum age for air carrier operations pilots; the "third seat" controversy (question of having three pilots in the cockpit); fight over Federal Aid to Airports bill. Implementing the Curtis Report recommendations.

[Columbia Oral history Project Interviews by John Luter, 1967, 1968]