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CURTIS

CURTIS, THOMAS B. (OH-176) 47 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Congressman from Missouri, 1951-69.

Interview #1. Observations on DDE running for Presidency in 1952: meeting with DDE in Paris while DDE with SHAPE; opinion of Robert Taft in 1948, 1952; Missouri politics in 1940's and early 1950's. Comments on combining Attorney General position with dispensing party patronage: J. Howard McGrath; Herb Brownell. Restructuring Republican leadership in House of Representatives: Joe Martin; Charles Halleck; communication with the White House; "wheeling-and-dealing" politics compared to rational study and deliberation. Philosophy of government: the President as a super-legislator; power of Congress versus the power of the President; Presidential responsibility in foreign affairs. DDE's domestic economic policy. DDE as President: assessment; liking for politics; relationship with Vice President Nixon.

[Columbia University Oral History Project interview by T.H. Baker, 1972]